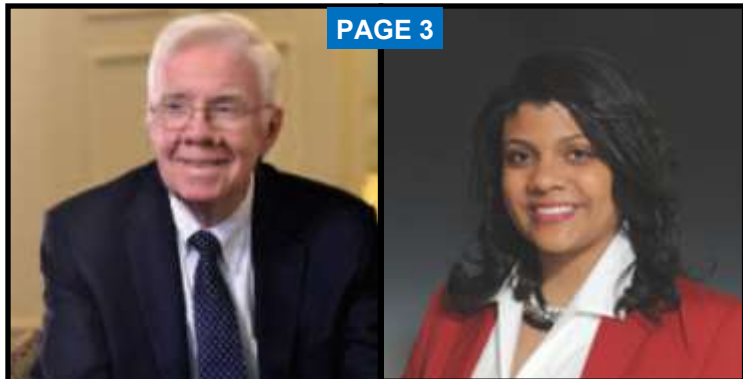


FAVORITIES WIN PRIMARIES

PAGE 3



Assemblypersons Tom Giblin (left) and Britnee Timberlake (right) were among the June 8 election night winners.

NEW JERSEY'S PUBLIC HEALTH EMERGENCY ORDER LIFTED

PAGE 7



NJ State Senators Steve Sweeney (left) and Craig Coughlin (right) brokered a deal with Governor Phil Murphy to end the emergency order that was put in place in the wake of COVID-19.

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LOCAL 108 & ESSEX COUNTY TEAM UP FOR SECOND FREE VACCINATION EVENT

Residents of the community patiently waiting for their turn to get vaccinated.



On June 8th, Local 108 and Essex County once again partnered to vaccinate the community against COVID-19.

On this occasion, the African American Heritage Parade Organization lent their support to make sure that the event was a success. After the excellent results at their May 11th event, more people from the community in need of vaccination came out as well. Their initial goal was to vaccinate 50 persons. However, with people returning to receive their second Moderna dose, the total number of persons who got vaccinated was between 70 to 80 persons, including new arrivals.

The next vaccination opportunity will be on June 28th at 1576 Springfield Avenue, Maplewood, NJ 07040. This time, young people between 12 and 15 can attend and receive their vaccination FREE of CHARGE. Please call to make an appointment at 973-762-7224 or 973-985-4789.

NEWARK BETH ISRAEL ANNOUNCES NEW NAME FOR EXPANSION PROJECT: "NEWARK STRONG"

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From Left to Right: Linda Kamateh, Senior Director of Public Relations; Denise Shepherd, RN, Chief Quality Officer; Amy Doran, RN, Chief Nursing Officer; Laura Budinick, Psy.D., Chief Administrative Officer; Darrell K. Terry, Sr., MHA, MPH, FACHE, President and Chief Executive Officer; Deb Dente, Site Finance Officer; Matthew Schreiber, MD, Chief Operating Officer; Atiya Jaha-Rashidi, RN, MHA, Chief Equity Officer and VP of Community Relations; Charles Cathcart, MD, VP of Medical Affairs; and Marilyn M. Harris, D. Min, VP of Ambulatory Care Services.

COLUMBIA HIGH STUDENT MOURNED

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Turn to
PAGE 16



Editorial

Dhiren Shah
Editor-In-Chief

Hello Readers,

President Biden revoked the Trump administration’s executive orders on China and its companies like TikTok and WeChat. Even though Biden’s policy has tried to restrict the use of information, can we trust China and the companies who have our information and sold it to Hong Kong. We must be very careful with China. Especially since the reports of the coronavirus leaking from a Wuhan laboratory, and China acting selfishly as if they don’t care about the rest of the world.

178 hospital workers who declined getting vaccinated have been suspended in the Houston Methodist Hospital system. They

were demonstrating their disbelief about the vaccines. Their protest might get them fired from work, which only time will tell. It will not be easy for the administration as well, because those dedicated workers are hard to find. Houston Methodist CEO Marc Boom said that out of 178 workers, 27 have been vaccinated once, and he is hopeful that those 27 will at least get their second shot. Boom added, “An additional 285 employees received a medical or religious exemption, and 332 were granted deferrals for pregnancy and other reasons.”

First responders and medical staff has worked day and night to save the lives of Covid patients, and they have worked with many departments, people and government as well. Some of the medical staff has lost their lives while working for humanitarian reasons. So, it is not a good thing to force them to do something and fire them, as medical staffs have not been fully

vaccinated all over the country. The vaccination rates are between 50 and 90%. So, by letting go the rest of the 10% and forcing them into a mandatory vaccination, this is not a good thing.

Also, Pfizer and Moderna have the best vaccines, as some experts say. However, none of the vaccines are fully approved by the FDA (Food and Drug Administration). Vaccination has been approved for emergency use only. I received both vaccination shots before April, and I believe everyone should take a vaccination to make our lives normal like pre-pandemic. But everyone has their own opinion, and as long as the FDA has not fully approved the vaccines, no one should be forced to take them.

According to CNN: “New Yorkers have a surprise gift to look forward to for this Independence Day: a second Statue of Liberty sent by France. This new bronze statue, nicknamed

the ‘little sister,’ is one-sixteenth the size of the world-famous one that stands on Liberty Island. On Monday, during a special ceremony, the smaller sibling was lifted and loaded into a special container at the National Museum of Arts and Crafts (CNAM) in central Paris, where it has been installed since 2011 in the museum's garden. It will be erected on Ellis Island, just across the water from the original, from July 1 to July 5. The statue, over 450 kilograms (992 pounds) in weight and just shy of 10 feet tall, was first made in 2009. It is an exact replica of the original 1878 plaster model preserved by CNAM.”

It’s good news for the U.S., as after World War II our relations with France have improved and it is good to have close ties with them.

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>
Partly Cloudy	Partly Cloudy	Partly Cloudy	Sun / Isolated T-Storms	Partly Cloudy	Mostly Sunny	Mostly Sunny
HI 81	HI 76	HI 80	HI 81	HI 84	HI 82	HI 80
LO 58	LO 60	LO 61	LO 64	LO 64	LO 61	LO 60

FAVORITIES WIN PRIMARIES

By Walter Elliott

NEWARK - Participating registered Democratic and Republican party voters nominated their respective General Election candidates by mostly wide margins so far June 8.

Democrats and Republicans throughout Essex County, for example, more than helped place incumbent sheriff Armando B. Fontoura and challenger Nicholas G. Parsini on Nov. 2's General Election ballot.

Fontoura, seeking his 11th term, won his nomination over two challengers by over a three-to-one ratio. Parsini received a four-to-one plurality over his challenger.

There were many party nominations on the state and municipal levels, however, where the party-backed incumbents and/or challengers received 100 percent of their votes.

The following results, as of 12:01 a.m. June 9 remains unofficial by County Clerk Chris Durkin. Durkin and County Board of Elections Superintendent Linda von Nessi are holding off certifying the results for traditional and nontraditional reasons.

Postponing certification for 14 days, ending on June 22, allows time for any challenges or recounts. Durkin and von Nessi are granting Vote By Mail Ballots postmarked June 8 to make it into their Essex County Hall of Records offices on or by June 14 for counting.

The following figures, while also lacking to-be-counted absentee and provisional ballots, will meanwhile provide readers with some voting trends to consider.

GOVERNOR / LT. GOVERNOR

Incumbent Democrats Phil D. Murphy and Sheila Y. Oliver and challenging Republican Jack Ciattarelli have been nominated by their respective county and statewide party voters to contest each other on the Nov. 2 General Election ballot.

Gov. Murphy, of Rumson, and Oliver, of East Orange, received all 33,664 countywide Democratic votes as of 11:57 p.m. Tuesday. Votes for write-in challenger Linda McCormick, of Rahway, were not immediately released.

Murphy and Oliver are seeing their second - and last - terms. State law limits them to a pair of consecutive terms.

A majority of Republican party voters in the state and county meanwhile chose Ciattarelli over three other balloted candidates.

Ciattarelli, of Hillsborough, was Tuesday's top county vote-getter at 4,386 votes or 55.72 percent of the vote. Philip Rizzo came in second-best at 1,963 or 24.94 percent.

Hirsh V. Singh came in third countywide at 1,353 or 17.19. Brian D. Levine rounded out the balloted field at 169 or 2.15.

STATE LEGISLATURE

27 Legislative District (South Orange, Maplewood, West Orange, five "West Essex," six Morris County Municipalities.)

State Senate

Essex County Democratic voters gave all 8,393 of their votes to incumbent Sen. Richard Codey, of Roseland. Republican voters meanwhile gave all of their 1,975 votes to West Orange's Adam Kraemer.

General Assembly (Two Seats Per LD)

Democratic voters re-nominated John McKeon and Mila Jasey.

McKeon, of West Orange, mustered 8,753 or 50.26. Jasey, of South Orange, drew 8,167 or 49.74.

Republican district voters gave an edge to Kevin Ryan over fellow Millburnite Jonathan Sym. Ryan registered 1,964 for 50.06. Sym received 1,959 for 54.94.

28th LD (Irvington, Bloomfield, Glen Ridge, Nutley, parts

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of Newark's South and West wards.)

Senate

Democratic voters helped incumbent Ronald L. Rice handily turn back Quadir Selby's challenge.

Rice, of Newark, drew 7,487 or 91.96 percent of the vote. Selby, of Irvington, received the other 655 or 8.04 percent. Republican voters gave all of their 1,338 votes to Nutley's Frank Contella.

Assembly

Democratic voters here returned incumbents Cleopatra Tucker and Ralph Caputo onto the general Election ballot.

Tucker, of Newark, was top vote-getter at 7,856 or 50.97. Caputo, of Bloomfield, carried 7,558 for 49.03. Republican voters gave their nod to Anthony D'Angelo over Monique Headen. D'Angelo drew 1,295 for 51.25. Headen tallied 1,232 for 48.75.

29th LD (Belleville and the Rest of Newark)

Senate

District Democrats handed the steamroller keys to incumbent Sen. M. Teresa Ruiz Tuesday. Ruiz, of Newark, garnered all 5,502 district party votes. The Essex Republican Party Organization did not field a candidate here.

Assembly

Democratic voters nominated or renominated incumbent Newarkers Shanique Speight and Eliana Pintor Marin for November's ballot.

Speight, seeking her first full term, amassed 5,233 for 50.70. Pintor Marin mustered 5,089 for 49.30. There were no Republican candidates fielded.

34th LD (East Orange, Orange Montclair and Passaic County's Clifton)

(Continued on page 12)



UNITED STATES

DOJ Reclaims Some Ransomware Money

After one of the most brazen hacks in history, federal authorities acted to ensure that it was not a complete success for the criminals involved.

On June 7, the Department of Justice announced that it has seized 63.7 bitcoins currently valued at approximately \$2.3 million. These funds allegedly represent the proceeds of a May 8, ransom payment to individuals in a group known as DarkSide, which had targeted Colonial Pipeline, resulting in critical infrastructure being taken out of operation. The seizure warrant was authorized by the Honorable Laurel Beeler, U.S. Magistrate Judge for the Northern District of California.

“Following the money remains one of the most basic, yet powerful tools we have,” said Deputy Attorney General Lisa O. Monaco for the U.S. Department of Justice. “Ransom payments are the fuel that propels the digital extortion engine, and today’s announcement demonstrates that the United States will use all available tools to make these attacks more costly and less profitable for criminal enterprises. We will continue to target the entire ransomware ecosystem to disrupt and deter these attacks. Today’s announcements also demonstrate the value of early notification to law enforcement; we thank Colonial Pipeline for quickly notifying the FBI when they learned that they were targeted by DarkSide.”

“There is no place beyond the reach of the FBI to conceal illicit funds that will prevent us from imposing risk and consequences upon malicious cyber actors,” said FBI Deputy Director Paul Abbate. “We will continue to use all of our available resources and leverage our domestic and international partner-

ships to disrupt ransomware attacks and protect our private sector partners and the American public.”

“Cyber criminals are employing ever more elaborate schemes to convert technology into tools of digital extortion,” said Acting U.S. Attorney for the Northern District of California Stephanie Hinds. “We need to continue improving the cyber resiliency of our critical infrastructure across the nation, including in the Northern District of California. We will also continue developing advanced methods to improve our ability to track and recover digital ransom payments.”

On or about May 7, Colonial Pipeline was the victim of a highly publicized ransomware attack resulting in the company taking portions of its infrastructure out of operation. Colonial Pipeline reported to the FBI that its computer network was accessed by an organization named DarkSide and that it had received and paid a ransom demand for approximately 75 bitcoins.

As alleged in the supporting affidavit, by reviewing the Bitcoin public ledger, law enforcement was able to track multiple transfers of bitcoin and identify that approximately 63.7 bitcoins, representing the proceeds of the victim’s ransom payment, had been transferred to a specific address, for which the FBI has the “private key,” or the rough equivalent of a password needed to access assets accessible from the specific Bitcoin address. This bitcoin represents proceeds traceable to a computer intrusion and property involved in money laundering and may be seized pursuant to criminal and civil forfeiture statutes.

The Special Prosecutions Section and Asset Forfeiture Unit of the U.S. Attorney’s Office for the Northern District of California is handling the seizure, with significant assistance from the Department of Justice Criminal Division’s Money Laundering and Asset Recovery Section and Computer Crime and Intellectual Property Section, and the National Security Division’s Counterintelligence

and Export Control Section. The Department components who worked on this seizure coordinated their efforts through the Department’s Ransomware and Digital Extortion Task Force, which was created to combat the growing number of ransomware and digital extortion attacks.

The Task Force prioritizes the disruption, investigation, and prosecution of ransomware and digital extortion activity by tracking and dismantling the development and deployment of malware, identifying the cybercriminals responsible, and holding those individuals accountable for their crimes. The Task Force also strategically targets the ransomware criminal ecosystem as a whole and collaborates with domestic and foreign government agencies as well as private sector partners to combat this significant criminal threat.

CANADA

Seeking Justice For Over 200 Children

Independent UN human rights experts have urged Canadian authorities and the Holy See of the Catholic Church to conduct prompt “full-fledged investigations” into a mass grave found in British Columbia containing the remains of over 200 children at a residential school for indigenous students, who had been forcibly taken from their homes.

They called on the authorities to probe “the circumstances and responsibilities surrounding these deaths, including forensic examinations of the remains found, and to proceed to the identification and registration of the missing children.”

“The judiciary should conduct criminal investigations into all suspicious death and allegations of torture and sexual violence against children, hosted in residential schools, and prosecute and sanction the perpetrators and concealers who may still be alive,” said the experts.

The children’s remains were found at the Kamloops Indian Residential School, run by the Catholic Church from the late 19th century to the 1960s, which

was then taken over by the federal government, and later closed in the 1970s.

It was part of the indigenous residential school system that between 1831 and 1996, hosted over 150,000 children in 130 schools - many run by the Catholic Church or the Canadian Government.

The 2015 report of Canada’s Truth and Reconciliation Commission determined that aboriginal children were subjected to abuse, malnutrition and rape and that at least 4,000 died of disease, neglect, accidents or abuse, while at these schools.

“Large scale human rights violations have been committed against children belonging to indigenous communities, it is inconceivable that Canada and the Holy See would leave such heinous crimes unaccounted for and without full redress,” the UN experts said.

They further called on the Government to fully implement the recommendations contained in the 2015 Report.

“For far too many years, victims and their families have been waiting for justice and remedy. Accountability, comprehensive truth, and full reparation must be urgently pursued,” the human rights experts underscored.

WORLD

800 Suspects, 32 Tons of Drugs, 16 Countries

An ambitious project from various law enforcement agencies has netted one of the largest hauls of suspects and contraband in history.

Officials from the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) and Australia’s Federal Police teamed up to create a phony encrypted device company to trick crooks into thinking they had a means to conduct their illegal business covertly. They were wrong.

Over the course of three years, authorities monitored their activity during a project called “Operation Trojan Shield” - or “Operation Ironside” in Australia - before finally dropping the net and bagging over 800 sus-

(Continued on page 5)

WORLD NEWS

(Continued from page 4)

pects, most of them in mafia-based groups.

The app ANOM was installed on mobile phones that were stripped of other capability. The mobile phones, which were bought on the black market, could not make calls or send emails. It could only send messages to another device that had the organized crime app. Criminals needed to know a criminal to get a device.

The devices organically circulated and grew in popularity among criminals, who were confident of the legitimacy of the app because high-profile organized crime figures vouched for its integrity.

"The FBI, with our international partners, will continue to adapt to criminal behavior and develop novel approaches to bring these criminals to justice," said FBI Agent Anthony Russo. "We appreciate our long standing partnership with the Australian Federal Police in the fight against transnational organized crime."

"ANOM was an influential encrypted communications app but there are even bigger encrypted platforms that are being used by transnational and serious organized criminals targeting Australia," said AFP Commissioner Reece Kershaw.

"They are almost certainly using those encrypted platforms to flood Australia with drugs, guns and undermine our economy by laundering billions of dollars of illicit profit.

"Organized crime syndicates target Australia, because sadly, the drug market is so lucrative. Australians are among the world's biggest drug takers.

"One of the causes behind domestic violence, sexual assault, neglect of children and unspeakable tragedy, is illicit drugs.

"Our first responders, our teachers and every Australian should be able to go to work and live in our communities without being harmed by an individual under the influence of dangerous drugs."

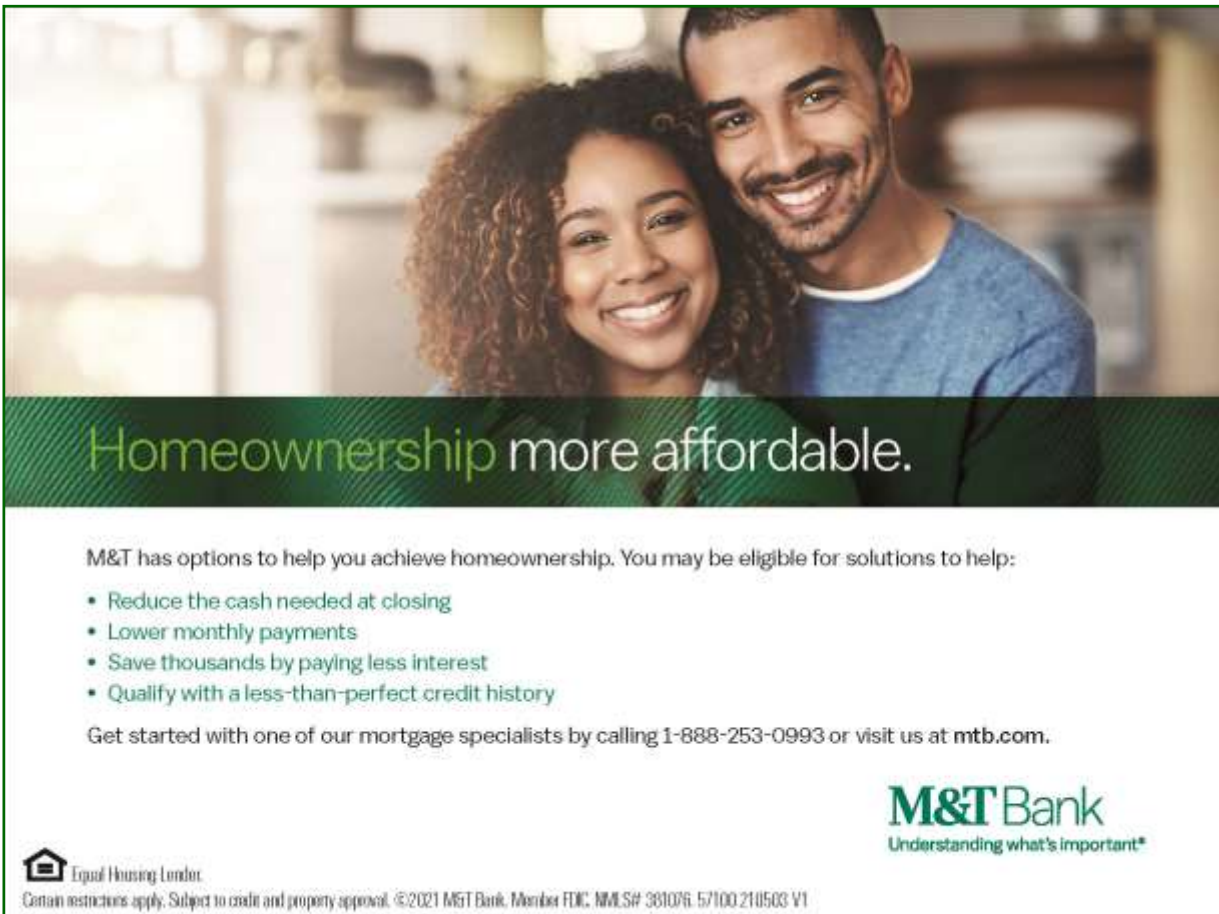
In all, at least 800 suspects were brought in, along with 32 tons of drugs, \$148 million in various currencies, 250 firearms, and 55 high-end vehicles from 16 countries, including New Zealand, Sweden, Finland, and others.

AFRICA

Congo Still Reeling From Volcano

The UN Children's Fund (UNICEF) and partners are working to restore water supply to roughly 200,000 people, including some 100,000 children, affected by the volcanic eruption last month in Goma, in the eastern Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC).

The eruption of Mount Nyiragongo on May 22 My melted mains water pipes and



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SPORTS WRAP

By William Hathaway, Jr.

For the first time in team history, the New Jersey Institute of Technology men's baseball team made it to the NCAA college baseball tournament. They even their first round game against over Northeastern in the Fayetteville regional at Baum-Walker Stadium hosted by Arkansas. NJIT won 3-2 and tied the program record with 27 wins, which dates back to 2006 when the Highlanders finished 27-17 and were crowned ECAC Champs in the final season of Division II competition. Their quest for a National Title ended when they lost to Nebraska on 18-7,

finishing the year 27-24.

In other sports news, the Nets have won their first two games against the Milwaukee Bucks despite not really having James Harden. The series heads to Milwaukee next. Also, fresh off their series win over the Knicks, the Atlanta Hawks won their first game over the Philadelphia 76ers 128-124. Whichever way it goes, it seems that the Hawks are not a fluke.

Finally, in sad news, former New York Giants head coach Jim Fassel has died at the age of 71. Fassel famously guaranteed that the Giants would make the playoffs in 2001, and they got all the way to Super Bowl XXXV, before losing to the Baltimore Ravens 34-7.

damaged a huge 5,000m³ reservoir, the agency said on June 7.

Without access to safe water and sanitation, children and families are at heightened risk of waterborne diseases, such as cholera.

"Cholera is particularly dangerous for the very young, the very old and the undernourished, so an outbreak could have disastrous consequences for children," said In Hye Sung, UNICEF emergency specialist.

"Children under age 5 have the highest incidence of cholera and are more likely to die from it, so it's critical we ensure that families have access to safe water as soon as possible."

Thirty people were killed and some 3,500 others lost their homes due to the volcano eruption.

In the wake of the crisis, scores of people fled Goma for neighboring towns, either because their homes were destroyed by lava or the authorities advised them to leave over fears of another eruption.

Together with domestic and international partners, UNICEF is working on the water issue, including through supporting the State-owned water company to redirect and protect a by-pass piping system that will send supply from the pumping station next to Lake Kivu, into part of the water system.

As previous cholera epidemics in Goma started when residents collected dirty contaminated water for drinking, UNICEF has installed 15 emergency station chlorination points close to the lake.

(Continued on page 10)

Finance At Your Fingertips



Moses Ayiku, Jr. MBA OP/ED

Increasing Your Income - Part 1

In last week's article we focused on dealing with a financial challenge that affects many people, debt. Debt can be referred to as good or bad debt. For example, student loans are typically referred to as good debt because it has led to an upgrade in qualifications that can increase ones' income. Bad debt refers to debt that has been incurred indiscriminately and without due analysis.

For example, maxing out one's credit cards on frivolous expenditure such as clothing, vacations and other luxuries. We are not interested in judging anyone because of the debt they have acquired. Everyone has a different financial profile and different circumstances. Rather, we are interested in guiding people to improve whatever financial situation that they are in. However, each of us need to identify past financial mistakes and ensure that we learn from them so that we do not make the same mistakes again.

We are human and we all will make mistakes in terms of our finances. The key is to learn from our mistakes and improve with time!

This week we are going to look at a much more optimistic area, increasing ones' income. The simple fact is that many people have financial problems that are as a result of not earning enough. If one is not earning much, the first step is to ensure a regular budget to assist one

make the most of the limited income that one is earning. Beyond that there are several options we all have available to us to increase our income.

In the long run, increasing one's level of education can lead to an increase in income. For example, if one does not have a degree, it is an option to work on obtaining one and as a result opening oneself up to increasing one's income. Others may also consider short courses or training in specialized areas as a way of increasing one's skills and in effect one's income.

These days, information is readily available on how much one can earn with certain certificates or short training programs. It is important that you conduct thorough research and identify the courses that are best for you. One note of caution, there are a number of courses and training programs that can provide with better job prospects as well as a higher level of income. Please select a course that will not only increase your income, but also one that you are prepared to undertake.

For example, these days most of us know that careers in the medical field tend to give strong and increasing income levels. However, if you have a strong dislike for anything to do with blood, this may not be the field for you. Not only must a potential course pay well, but it also must be a field that you are prepared to enter. Please do your own self-assessment to ensure that you choose the appropriate course to engage in. Take into strong consideration your likes and dislikes. In simple terms, you will do much better in a course that you genuinely like than one which you dislike.

In our current economic environment, it is clear that Covid has had an impact on many sectors. At the moment, there are a number of industries that are having problems hiring. These include the services industry as well as transportation. For some, this is an opportunity to add a second income stream to their

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ESSEX COUNTY COVID-19 CASE TALLY

Weekly Statistics from June 2 - June 9, 2021

Municipality	6-2-2021	Deaths	6-9-2021	Deaths
Belleville	5647	112	5657	114
Bloomfield	5320	121	5330	122
Caldwell	620	16	621	16
Cedar Grove	1541	120	1546	120
East Orange	7140	311	7144	312
Essex Fells	191	2	191	2
Fairfield	882	31	884	31
Glen Ridge	391	13	392	13
Irvington	4690	231	4695	231
Livingston	1830	87	1830	87
Maplewood	1304	36	1306	36
Millburn	824	10	824	10
Montclair	2270	72	2269	72
Newark	36900	998	36931	999
North Caldwell	490	6	493	6
Nutley	3021	66	3029	66
Orange	3540	132	3551	133
Roseland	476	16	476	16
South Orange	856	16	862	16
Verona	993	18	994	18
West Caldwell	1052	53	1053	53
West Orange	4568	230	4577	230
Total	84546	2697	84655	2703

OTHER COVID-19 TALLIES (As of June 9, 2021)

NJ: 889,408 cases / 23,631 deaths (Plus 2,685 probable)

United States (approx.): 33.4 Million / 598,500 deaths

Worldwide (approx.): 174.11 Million / 3.75 Million deaths

finances. Definitely, adding a second income stream will increase your overall income. The extra income can then be used to assist you pay down debt as well as increase your level of savings. It is also more of a job seekers market. This means that one could increase one's income by simply looking for a firm that is willing and prepared to pay a

higher level of income for the same job! That is yet another way to increase one's income, changing employers. Due to the supply shortage of labor, some employers are improving their terms of employment, providing training options, sign on bonuses as well as higher compensation packages to attract the right people.

(Continued on page 7)

NEW JERSEY'S PUBLIC HEALTH EMERGENCY ORDER LIFTED

TRENTON - With all COVID-19 capacity restrictions on businesses and gathering limits having been lifted due to the continued improvement of New Jersey's public health metrics, Governor Phil Murphy has signed legislation (A5820/S3866) enabling the end of the COVID-19 Public Health Emergency that has been in place since March 9, 2020.

Immediately following the signing of the legislation, Governor Murphy signed Executive Order No. 244, ending the COVID-19 Public Health Emergency. Under the legislation, the majority of executive orders issued pursuant to the Public Health Emergency will expire 30 days from June 4.

The legislation, which was negotiated with legislative leadership and sponsored by Senate President Steve Sweeney and Assembly Speaker Craig Coughlin, allows for the termination of the Public Health Emergency while also allowing the Administration to retain the tools necessary to manage the ongoing threat posed by the pandemic.

Specifically, the Administration is authorized to issue orders, directives, and waivers under the authority in the Emergency Health Powers Act that are related to vaccination efforts; testing; health resource and personnel allocation; data collection, retention, sharing, and access; coordination of local health departments; and implementation of any CDC recommendations to prevent the transmission of COVID-19. This authority lasts until January 11, 2022, and can be extended for 90 days with the passage of a concurrent resolution by the Legislature.

"Today's lifting of the COVID-19 Public Health Emergency is a clear and decisive step on the path toward normalcy," said Governor Murphy. "The past 15 months have been a challenge, and I thank every New Jerseyan who stayed home, masked up, took precautions to keep this virus in check, and got vaccinated for allowing us to get to this point. I also thank the Senate President and the Speak-

er for working with us to responsibly end the Public Health Emergency and meet the challenges ahead."

The legislation keeps the following 14 executive orders in place until January 1, 2022, though they can be modified or rescinded prior to that date by the Governor (See <https://www.state.nj.us/governor/news/news/562021/approved/20210604b.shtml> for details on each):

- Executive Order No. 106
- Executive Order No. 111
- Executive Order No. 112
- Executive Order No. 123
- Executive Order No. 127
- Executive Order No. 150
- Executive Order No. 159
- Executive Order No. 170
- Executive Order No. 178
- Executive Order No. 207
- Executive Order No. 229
- Executive Order No. 233
- Executive Order No. 237
- Executive Order No. 242

Further, any administrative orders, directives, or waivers that relied on the existence of the public health emergency, including Department of Health orders that govern vaccinations and testing, are extended until January 11, 2022. The Governor is authorized to seek a further 90-day extension of such orders, directives, or waivers, which can be granted by a concurrent resolution passed by the Legislature.

The legislation also states that while the State of Emergency declared in Executive Order No. 103 shall remain in effect, the previous seven-day requirement for Open Public Records Act (OPRA) responses will be restored for records unrelated to the COVID-19 response. Additionally, civil and criminal immunity given to health care professionals and facilities, including long-term care facilities, and existing waivers of regulations involving staffing ratios, overtime, shifts, and vacation time will expire on September 1, 2021. Civil immunity for health care professionals shall continue beyond September 1, 2021 only for individuals specifically engaged in vaccinations or testing related to COVID-19.

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CHAPTER 7 BANKRUPTCY
CHAPTER 13 BANKRUPTCY

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FINANCE

(Continued from page 6)

ple. This is an opportunity for you to explore the market and find a potential employer that will give you a better overall compensation package.

Another way to increase one's income that we have written quite a bit about is investing. There are diverse and numerous investment options out there. One can invest in financial securities such as stocks and bonds or one could start a new business. In terms of new businesses, there are increasing opportunities to start an online business or a brick-and-mortar business. We all have different circumstances, and these should guide our investment choices.

For example, if time is very limited for you due to a full-time job and intense obligations, an online income source may be your best bet. If you have always dreamt of starting a particular business because you have a

passion for it, that may be another way to go. Develop a simple way of determining the positives and negatives for any investment option that you are considering. Then you can compare the various options and select your preferred choice. Regardless of your final selection, making the effort to increase your income could be a great way to improve your finances and have the ability to live the type of lifestyle that you want to live!

Please feel free to share with me your questions and experiences on increasing your income. I will do my best to respond, and, in some cases, I will write on some of these questions.

Please feel free to share with me your questions and experiences on stocks and investments. I will do my best to respond, and, in some cases, I will write on some of these questions.

Your questions and comments can be sent to localtalk-news@gmail.com.



Mayor Dahlia O. Vertreese

Please Join Mayor Dahlia Vertreese and the Hillside
Recreation Department as the Township of Hillside
Celebrates the First Annual



Juneteenth Celebration

Saturday
June 19, 2021
1:00pm to 7:00pm



TOWNSHIP OF HILLSIDE



AAHPO & LOCAL 108

(African American Heritage Parade Organization)



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The Doctor Is In



Dr. Adil Manzoor OP/ED

Inflammation Of The Heart And The Covid Vaccine

Well, well, well...

There's a developing story in the COVID vaccine saga. As it turns out, many researchers worldwide are drawing up links to inflammation of the heart, myocarditis, and the COVID vaccine. When I say the COVID vaccine, what I actually mean is the second dose of the vaccines that work on mRNA, which are the Pfizer and Moderna vaccines.

It may have started as isolated reports, but the major agencies in the world are beginning to pick up on it, so it's not just something to dismiss or neglect. According to the Israeli Ministry of Health, the condition is commonest among men between the ages of 16 and 24. Women get them too, but only in rare cases.

Before I continue, let me quickly review what myocarditis is. Myocarditis is the inflammation of the middle layer of the heart wall. It is usually caused by a viral infection, although bacterial infections have also been implicated. And since we're talking about viral infections, there should be one that springs to mind. Hint - it's the same bastard virus that has claimed the lives of close to 4 million over the last year and a half. 4 million!

A severe case of the condition can lead to heart failure, abnormal heartbeat, and sudden death. Luckily for us and everyone else that has developed the condition, the kind of myocarditis caused by the virus is mild, and that usually resolves after a few days or a couple of weeks, at most.

Back to the report. According to researchers, the condition occurs between 1 in 3000 and 1 in 6000 men. That looks worrying, if I'm being honest. However, reports from the CDC in the United States and the European Medicines Agency have quenched concerns about the prevalence rate, stating that the actual number is closer to 1 in 175,000 doses of the vaccine.

It is yet to be confirmed why and how exactly the vaccine is linked to the heart condition. It may have something to do with the mRNA technology, which I should remind you has never been used before in any vaccine until the coronavirus. And it may also have something to do with

the spacing of the second dose of those vaccines.

As it seems, many countries are resorting to delaying the vaccine's second dose up to even months, as opposed to the regular two to three weeks. It will take time to be sure of the exact effects of this measure. There's also the added advantage of more people getting one shot from the vaccine, which will, to a very reasonable level, slow down the spread and progression of the virus.

Pfizer themselves have come out to also reassure the public, stating that there are always continual tests to ensure that the vaccines are safe as possible and to identify any possible side-effects, whether short-term or long-term. So, there's that.

There's also the CDC and the EMA working round the clock to ensure that the vaccine is indeed as safe as possible. In fact, these bodies don't believe it is anything to raise eyebrows about because there are still few confirmatory tests to confirm that the condition is absolutely linked to the vaccines.

All of this news and worries coming up are daily reminders that the vaccine is not perfect. No vaccine ever is, but even more so for one whose development was greatly accelerated. However, to date, there's been nothing to worry about, except, of course, people not wanting to take them.

Stay safe. Wear a mask. Take the vaccine, please.



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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WORLD NEWS

(Continued from page 5)

CARIBBEAN

Newark Airport Smuggler Foiled

A Jamaican man admitted on June 8 that he smuggled approximately 2.8 kilograms of cocaine into the United States, Acting U.S. Attorney Rachael A. Honig announced.

Perez Omar Gibbs, 38, of Trelawny, Jamaica, pleaded guilty by videoconference before U.S. District Judge Katharine S. Hayden to an information charging him with one count of importation of controlled substances.

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 2.8 kilograms 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 maximum fine of \$5 million. Sentencing is scheduled for Oct. 20, 2021.

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 Marty Raybon, Acting Director of Field Operations, New York Field Office, with the investigation leading to the guilty plea.

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

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 - An out-of-court federal whistleblower lawsuit settlement against the city, Mayor Ras Baraka and Amiri "Middy" Baraka, Jr. by a former city corporate counsel attorney may be before the Municipal Council as early as their 6:30 p.m. June 16 meeting.

What the council will consider approving or rejecting is a settlement reached in late May between Willie Parker's attorney, Ty Hyderally, and lawyers Michael Critchley and Raymond M. Brown, Jr., who respectively represented Mayor and Amiri, Jr.

Parker, who had also been Newark's Chief Municipal Judge, filed the suit in U.S. Federal Court June 23, 2017. Parker and Hyderally, in their filings, asserted that the former's refusal to approve a new multi-million dollar DPW garage in mid-2016 "reveal an alarming picture of a mayor and governmental entity run riot with retaliatory animus."

Parker, while City Corporate Counsel, refused to sign off on the contract, declaring that one of its provisions "would result in the city losing millions of dollars while simultaneously benefitting private commercial interests."

Parker, in the filings, said that Amiri, Jr. first told him on Aug. 23, 2016 that he had to sign and execute the contract for "purely political reasons." Parker then called Mayor Baraka to explain why he would not sign.

Amiri, Jr and his armed security detail arrived at Parker's residence later that afternoon. The mayor's then-chief of staff asked why he "had snitched to the Mayor" and "commanded him to

return to City Hall" to then tell Mayor Baraka that "he didn't hear what he thought he had heard or had misunderstood."

Parker added that he was under intimidation and surveillance the next few weeks, leading to his October heart attack. He resigned by Dec. 31. The settlement details were being finalized as of press time.

IRVINGTON - Mayor Anthony "Tony" Vauss and Council President Renee C. Burgess may have given a Memorial Day weekend present to township property owners by promising no new municipal property tax increases for 2021 and 2022.

Vauss, in his May 27 announcement here at the Municipal Building, cited the financial hardship many Irvingtonians - including financial - during the now-16-month long global COVID-19 pandemic for his no property tax increase on the 2021 and 22 Municipal Budgets.

The mayor called the two-year halt "unprecedented," recalling that his administration and the council also had a zero tax increase on their 2019 municipal budget. Vauss hailed working with Burgess and the council for the freeze.

Details on how the CY 21 and 22 budgets' increased expenses would be compensated, however, were not available.

Vauss and Burgess' two-year promise only applies to their part of the quarterly tax bills Irvington property owners will receive. They are the collecting agency for Irvington Public Schools and Essex County - who set their own tax rates.

EAST ORANGE / ORANGE - Multiple authorities, from the East Orange Police Department to the FBI, are looking for the couple who robbed the PNC Bank branch at the Brick Church Shopping Plaza in broad daylight May 19.

Personnel at 565 Dr. Martin Luther King Blvd. told arriving EOPD officers and, later, FBI Newark Office detectives that a man and a woman had entered the branch midafternoon that Wednesday and demanded money.

Although the city's dispatch officer sent officers upon reception of the bank's silent alarm call, the couple had fled before the six EOPD officers and detectives arrived. The bank was closed for the rest of the day, prompting customers to go to the PNC Orange Branch at 410 Main St. or other nearby branches.

The Brick Church Plaza branch robber comes while PNC has its contractors building a new branch two blocks west at 23 Main St., Orange. Brick Church Plaza is to be replaced in stages by The Crossings at Brick Church residential/commercial complex later this year.

Wanted is a 5-ft., 11-in. Caucasian man and a 5-ft., 3-in. Caucasian female. Both were wearing hooded pullover sweat-shirts during the crime.

Further details - including whether they had used a weapon during the robbery and the amount of money taken - were unavailable as of June 8.

WEST ORANGE - Township and state authorities are investigating the circumstances that led to a fatality of a Newark teenager here along Interstate 280 East Sunday.

State Police Sgt. First Class Lawrence Peele said that his Towata Barracks dispatcher received reports of 'a crash with injuries' at 280-East Milepost 9.8 at 1:15 p.m. Sunday. West Orange's police dispatcher received those calls simultaneously.

When WOPD officers and State Troopers arrived, they found a Hyundai Genesis partly on the concrete center divider and partly in the left lane - and pointing against oncoming traffic.

Law enforcers also found a debris field across all four lanes of traffic - and two males who were ejected from the Genesis. There was also a damaged Honda Pilot SUV nearby.

One man - identified as Hyundai passenger Jose Ward, 18, of Newark - was admitted to Newark's University Hospital in serious condition. The Genesis' driver - identified as Shakur Young, 17, of Newark - was de-

clared dead at the scene.

A preliminary NJSP investigation has the Genesis striking the Honda and partially overturning onto the center divider. Investigators later learned that the Hyundai was reported as stolen from Madison.

All eastbound traffic was detoured at Exit 9 - Mt. Prospect Avenue for nearly four hours until the field investigation and cleanup were finished.

SOUTH ORANGE / MAPLEWOOD - County and township authorities are searing for the killer or killers of a Columbia High School scholar-athlete and the wounding of one of his classmates here at Maplewood's Underhill Field June 6.

Family, classmates and friends of Moussa Fofana, 18, within and beyond the South Orange-Maplewood School District community are meanwhile mourning their loss. That mourning extends to Fofana's family members in Pennsylvania and Liberia. Gov. Murphy mentioned the gun violence incident in his daily briefing Monday.

Maplewood Police Chief Jimmy DuVaul said some of his officers responded to residents' 9:38 p.m. Sunday calls of gunshots coming from the Underhill Sports Complex, 58 Burr Rd. They arrived to find two people suffering from gunshot wounds at or on the property; a few residents also told MPD officers and the Essex County Prosecutor's Office Homicide Task Force detectives of seeing "several juveniles running" from the area.

One man, identified as Charles Obiagwu, 18, was rushed to Newark's University Hospital for SOMSD "treatment of a non-life-threatening gunshot" to one of his legs. Obiagwu is a linebacker on the Columbia High School football team.

The other man - Fofana - was pronounced dead at the scene by 10:24 p.m. Fofana was a player on the CHS Cougars soccer team and was pursuing a career in a professional league.

Fofana, who was born in New York and had lived with his grandfather in Monrovia, Liberia for six years, rejoined mother

(Continued on page 15)



*From
The
Pastor's
Heart*

OP-ED BY DR. ROBERT KENNEDY

Grace

Grace, yes, that was the name on the nameplate of the young woman serving me at the checkout counter. I cannot tell what happened to her that morning, and I surely don't want to judge, but her miserable mood seemed a contradiction to her name, from all appearances.

So, after serving me, I commented, "Young lady, you have an interesting name. What does it mean?" That brought a little smile to her face. Then she said, "I don't know the meaning." Before stepping away, I said, "Well, it's a great name. Look it up."

I did not want to tell her the meaning of her name because she might have thought that I was flirting with her. But in true confession, I did not really want to give a dictionary definition then and there. I knew that, in reality, grace like love cannot be easily defined; it has to be described.

Soon as I left the store, I began to think of all the words that I associate with grace, and here are the first ten that came to my mind:

1. Love
2. Kindness
3. Generosity
4. Big heartedness
5. Healing
6. Strength
7. Forgiveness
8. Bounteousness
9. Amazing
10. Prodigious

After listing the words, I thought of one of the most popular Bible stories that reflect on the need for grace in all of our lives, the story of the prodigal son in Luke 15:11-32. This story frames a perfect picture where it presents the prodigal father, not only as a lawgiver but as a grace-giver.

In reading the father's actions as a grace-giver, we can appreciate all that was done to restore his rebel son. By law, the son should have been cut off from the family and destroyed. For sure, the men at the city gate, and the stay-at-home brother prodigal, would have given him the due punishment he deserved if they had seen him on his return, without the father's effort to cover him and protect him.

Think of the way that the father of the prodigal ran to meet the son along the path of return. That is grace. Think of the moment the father stopped the son's confession and forgave him. That is grace. Think of how the father embraced him and kissed him, although he was smelling like the pigs he had been caring for. That is grace. Think of how

he placed the new robe upon him so that the men at the gate could not touch him. That is grace. Think of how the father led him to the house and provided a great welcoming celebration for him. The father treated him as he had never rebelled. That is grace. And then think of how the father left the celebration to search for the elder son. Think of all that was done to appeal to his recalcitrant heart. That is grace. The father did not react to the insults that were heaped upon him; he offered grace.

I do not think of grace only as what the father of the prodigals gave to his sons, but as that which the heavenly Father makes available to all of us. Here is what I call a poetic description of grace in the following two paragraphs from the writer, Max Lucado, in his book *Grace*:

"All ships that land at the shore of grace weigh anchor from the port of sin. We must start where God starts. We won't appreciate what grace does until we understand who we are. We are rebels. We are Barabbas. Like him, we deserve to die. Four prison walls, thickened with fear, hurt, and hate, surround us. We are incarcerated by our past, our low-road choices, and our high-minded pride. We have been found guilty.

"We sit on the floor of the dusty cell, awaiting the final moment. Our executioner's footsteps echo against stone walls. Head between knees, we don't look up as he opens the door; we

don't lift our eyes as he begins to speak. We know what he is going to say. 'Time to pay for your sins.' But we hear something else. 'You are free to go. They took Jesus instead of you.'"

Do I need to say more about grace? More needs to be said yes, but I need shorten my comments by quoting that 18th Century song that is most popular in the Christian world and secular contexts, as well. It has been sung millions of times. I speak of the song that former President Barack Obama sang at that memorable funeral at Mother Emmanuel Church when he gave that Eulogy for the nine that were killed. The first three stanzas say:

*Amazing grace how sweet
the sound
That saved a wretch like me
I once was lost, but now I'm
found
Was blind, but now I see*

*'Twas grace that taught my
heart to fear
And grace my fears relieved
How precious did that grace
appear
The hour I first believed*

*My chains are gone, I've
been set free
My God, my Savior has ransomed me
And like a flood, His mercy
reigns
Unending love
Amazing grace*

FAVORITIES WIN PRIMARIES

(Continued from page 3)

Senate

Democratic voters here re-nominated incumbent Sen. Nia Gill. Gill, of Montclair carried all 8,807 Essex County votes. County Republicans put all of their 342 votes to Scott Pollack, also of Montclair.

Assembly

County Democratic voters re-nominated incumbents Thomas Giblin and Britnee Timberlake.

Giblin, of Montclair, garnered 8,391 for 50.20. Timber-

lake, of East Orange, tallied 8,323 for 49.80. Republicans narrowly chose Irene DeVita over fellow Cliftonite Tafari K. Anderson. DeVita drew 337 for 50.98. Anderson amassed 324 for 49.02.

ESSEX COUNTY SHERIFF

Countywide Democratic voters re-nominated Fontoura, of Fairfield, with 25,295, or 76.90 percent of the vote. Newarker Arnold, in his second primary challenge, amassed 6,089 or 18.52. Barry Jackson came in with 1,508, or 4.59.

Republican voters meanwhile gave their nod to Nicholas G. Pansini, of Bloomfield, with

5,609 or 80.17 percent. Maureen Edelson, of Montclair, came in with 1,387 or 19.83.

MUNICIPAL

Democratic party faithful voters in East Orange and Maplewood endorsed their mostly-incumbent candidates Tuesday. Their results, pending any unanticipated independent or write-in campaigns, may make their Nov. 2 General Elections more like coronations.

In EAST ORANGE, The ECDC-endorsed Team Green rolled on to their unopposed party nominations. Theodore "Ted" Green, who is seeking his third term as mayor, drew all 3,283

votes so far.

Respective First-Fifth Ward Council candidates - Christopher James, Christopher Awe, Bergson Leneus, Tameka Garrett-Ward and Alicia Holman - drew all 1,004, 437, 930, 450 and 848 ward votes.

In MAPLEWOOD, the contest was over who would be the top vote-getter among the two Democratic candidates for the two Township Committee seats.

Incumbent Nancy Adams took 1,680 or 50.37 percent. Jemaime Cripe came in with 1,655, or 49.53 percent. The Republican Party Organization did not field candidates in East Orange and Maplewood.

GOVERNOR MURPHY ANNOUNCES INTENTION TO CLOSE THE EDNA MAHAN CORRECTIONAL FACILITY FOR WOMEN

TRENTON - On June 7, Governor Phil Murphy announced his intention to close the Edna Mahan Correctional Facility for Women, New Jersey's only women's correctional facility. The Murphy Administration also released an investigative report prepared by former State Comptroller Matt Boxer and the law firm Lowenstein Sandler LLP on cell extractions at the facility that occurred on January 11, 2021.

"After learning about the violent attacks that took place on January 11 at Edna Mahan Correctional Facility for Women, I ordered an independent investigation to determine what happened, how it happened, and to ensure a situation like this never occurs again in our correctional facilities," said Governor Murphy. "With former New Jersey State Comptroller Matt Boxer's detailed investigative report, we now have key information about the circumstances surrounding the incidents that night and a roadmap to prevent unauthorized cell extractions and violence against inmates.

"I am deeply disturbed and disgusted by the horrific attacks that took place on January 11. Individuals in state custody deserve to be treated with dignity and respect, and the officers involved in this incident, both directly and indirectly, abused their power to send a message that they were in charge. The excessive use of force, as outlined in the report, cannot and will not be tolerated by my Administration. I am grateful to Attorney General Gurbir Grewal for his swift action in filing criminal charges against multiple officers involved in these appalling attacks.

"Edna Mahan Correctional Facility for Women has a long history of abusive incidents predating our Administration, and we must now commit ourselves to completely breaking this pattern of misconduct to better serve incarcerated women entrusted to the State's care.

"After reading the report and its recommendations, I have decided that the only path forward

is to responsibly close the facility. I look forward to working with our partners in the Legislature to responsibly close down the Edna Mahan Correctional Facility for Women and relocate inmates to a new facility or other facilities. While this will not happen overnight, I intend to work with legislative leadership during the current budget cycle to allocate funding to begin this multi-year process.

"I also welcome the various recommendations outlined in the report, including establishing independent oversight; further clarifying authorization protocols for cell extractions; strengthening staff recruitment, retention, and training; accelerating the implementation and adoption of body-worn cameras and an early warning system; and improving physical infrastructure while pursuing the ultimate goal of closure of the facility. I am directing the Department of Corrections to review the recommendations with the goal of implementing them as soon as practicable."

The Lowenstein Sandler LLP investigative team was led by former New Jersey State Comptroller and federal prosecutor Matt Boxer. Other members of the investigative team included Rachel Moseson Dikovics, Esq.; Jamie Gottlieb Furia, Esq.; Rasmeet Chahil, Esq.; and Amanda Cipriano, Esq. In preparing the report, the team reviewed more than 21,000 documents, conducted interviews of State officials, reviewed over 20 hours of video footage, performed statutory research, and examined relevant legal standards and best practices.

Several paragraphs of the report on pgs. 32, 33 and 47 have been temporarily redacted at the request of the Attorney General's Office of Public Integrity and Accountability, who has stated that making those portions of the report public at this time would interfere with the ongoing criminal investigation, in which 10 New Jersey corrections officers have been charged to date.

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EQUAL HOUSING OPPORTUNITY



NEWARK BETH ISRAEL ANNOUNCES NEW NAME FOR EXPANSION PROJECT: "NEWARK STRONG"

Newark Beth Israel Medical Center Embarks on \$150 million Expansion Project

Newark NJ, (June 8, 2021) - Newark Beth Israel Medical Center announced the name of the hospital's facility expansion project "Newark Strong". The \$150 million expansion project will include a new 17,000-square-foot, glass-enclosed main lobby, expanded adult and pediatric emergency departments, new hybrid operating rooms, and a dedicated center for all cardiac services. It's the largest expansion of the facility in more than 50 years.

"This is such an exciting time for our employees, physicians, and community. This inclusive project will transform our hospital and spark investment in the Southward. Our employees, physicians, nurses and community voted and they chose a name that captures what this project means to our neighbors as well as our staff," said Darrell K. Terry, Sr., President and Chief Executive Officer of Newark Beth Israel Medical Center and Children's Hospital of New Jersey.

Throughout the construction phase of the project, the hospital will prominently display the name on a banner located on the corner of Osborne Terrace and Lyons Avenue, right in front of

the hospital.

Residents can find out more information about the project by visiting: rwjbh.org/nbiexpansion.

Background

Newark Beth Israel Medical Center and Children's Hospital of New Jersey has been providing world class care in the South Ward of Newark, NJ, for nearly 100 years. This \$150 million renovation project will transform the Lyons Avenue landscape and create a more welcoming space for the surrounding community and patients, a space that reflects the level of care delivered as well as the hospital's commitment as an anchor institution in the city of Newark and the South Ward.

As one of the largest employers in the South Ward, Newark Beth Israel is committed to spurring economic development in the community. This renovation will result in the utilization of local and diverse businesses, as well as local hiring of Newark and surrounding community members.

This transformation will include:

- A new 17,000-square-foot, glass-enclosed main lobby with modern seating areas, an expanded registration ar-

(Continued on page 14)

Legally Speaking



Cassandra Savoy, Esq.
OP/ED

I've Been ROBBED!!! **Part 2**

There are a couple of other scams you should be in the know about...like the "Mystery Shopper Scam."

One of my clients who has been unemployed for almost a year and who is desperately seeking a full-time job (so she can move out of her parent's home) actually fell for this one. Some guy called her to ask her if she had a job. When she replied that she did not have a job, but was looking, the caller announced, "This is your lucky day! I have to fine five people today who can work from home and who need flexible hours to become personal shoppers. We have loads of people who simply don't have the time to shop for themselves."

After twenty minutes of what I can only think of as mind-

numbing conversation, she agreed to give them \$150 of her very precious income to purchase training materials so that she could get started. The "training materials" were to be downloaded to her. After giving her credit card information, and \$150 being charged to the card, she never received the training materials, and she could not contact the firm's representative by phone!

And, let's not forget the ole Digital Greeting Card scam! With this one, you receive a digital birthday card, or holiday card, or sometimes a plain old e-mail. When you open the card from a scammer, it unleashes malicious software (malware) to your computer that can steal your personal information and in effect, ruin your life. The worst part about the greeting card scam is that you don't necessarily know before it is too late that it's a scam because sometimes, they come from people you know whose e-mail has been hacked.

Sometimes the greeting cards come from someone with whom you communicate using Facebook or Twitter, then suddenly you receive a greeting card from the person. BEFORE you open a greeting card, it might be a good idea to call or text the sender to make sure they actually sent you a greeting card. If you open first, everything on your computer could be open to the scammers for the taking. In effect, this is

how the corporations are being held hostage. Sometimes the malware freezes the files or renders the system inoperable requiring the corporation to pay a ransom to retrieve the files.

The Dating and Romance scams are the worst because they take advantage of people's emotions and their money. They work like this. You go on the site. You select a profile. You communicate with the persona and build a rapport. Then the person starts asking you for money. Remember this: one in ten newly created dating profiles are fact. In 2020, Americans lost \$160 million in online dating scams and the average loss was more than \$20,000!

You would think that this one would be easy to spot. The person falls madly in love with you too quickly without ever having seen you. They promise to meet you, but despite "plans" the meeting never happens. That's usually when they ask you to wire them money to cover the unforeseen emergency. The one "emergency" grows into another, into another and so on...The rule is: NEVER give money to someone you have not met!

The internet is a permanent way of modern life. There is no likelihood that we are going back to the pre-internet days of yesteryear. So, here are a couple of additional tips to help you stay safe on the internet.

If you download malicious software, get rid of it. That may be harder than it sounds because you may not know that it's there right away and because these programs are designed to be hard to detect. You may need to reset your computer to factory defaults. It is worth taking your computer to the Geek Squad to get rid of the malware.

If you send money to a scammer, you might just be out of luck because most banks invoke the "Let the Buyer Beware" policy. (That's what the bank told my friend, but the bank was kind enough to cancel her card and disallow the additional charges the scammer added to the card. She was only out of the original \$150) But, you should report it to the bank at once because even if you don't get your money refunded it will help nail the scammer.

Guard your personal information, e.g., social security number, bank account number, address, birthday, with your life!

Use a VPS and avoid public WIFI. It sounds good to say that I am going to Panera Bread or Starbucks to use the public WIFI, but public WIFI is the cybercriminals heaven. If you use public WIFI, make sure that you have installed a VPN (Virtual Private Network) on your device so you can protect yourself. A VPN is the best option other than simply no using public networks.

"NEWARK STRONG"

(Continued from page 13)

ea and community meeting spaces. The new lobby will move the hospital's front entrance back onto Lyons Avenue. The new lobby will transform the hospital from an enclosed brick structure with an obscure, entrance, into a light-filled welcoming space with a prominent entrance on Lyons Avenue.

An expanded Emergency Department

- The ED will increase by approximately 4,000 square feet, including nine new treatment areas in the adult ED, three new pediatric treatment areas and one new fast-track treatment area. The ED will also boast new exterior signage as well as a separate waiting area for families who come to the pediatric emergency department for care.

A brand new Intensive Care Unit

- Our new intensive care unit will be right-sized to accommodate all patient needs. This includes additional space for clinical equipment and more room for loved ones.

Cardiac Care:

- Newark Beth Israel is home to one of the nation's top 10 heart transplant centers, New

Jersey's only Advanced Lung Disease and Transplant Program; and a Valve Center that performs complex cardiac valve procedures, including (TAVRs). The renovation project places all of these services under one roof in a center that is easily accessible to patients and will include new patient consult rooms, exam rooms, cardiac catheterization suites with the latest advanced medical imaging devices, and a hybrid operating room.

TOWN WATCH (Continued from page 11)

Hawa here in 2014. The Clinton Elementary and Maplewood Middle school graduate was remembered as one with a ready smile and/or a joke.

Hawa Fofana said she does not know why her son was at Underhill except for perhaps soccer practice; he had been known for practicing there and playing pickup games on his neighborhood street. Underhill was closed and all outdoor Clinton activities were suspended June 7. Extra MPD patrols were stationed there - it was June 8's polling station - and at CHS June 8.

MONTCLAIR - Those who want to celebrate Independence Day here this year may want to do so ahead of the July 4 holiday.

The Montclair Celebrates July 4 Committee announced here June 3 that there will be no parade and fireworks display for the second straight year.

Committee President Donato DiGeronimo said that Gov. Murphy's May 19 lifting of outdoor capacity limits left the committee too little time to stage the 2021 edition. DiGeronimo said Celebrate Montclair needs six-to-eight months lead time to raise funds, secure vendors and performers and recruit volunteers.

While Celebrate Montclair resets its sights on 2022, the Essex County Department of Parks, Recreation and Cultural Affairs has scheduled its Independence Day salute for 7:30 p.m. July 1 at Brookdale Park. The event is to feature The Infernos among its musical performers capped by a "Fireworks Spectacular."

The county's Brookdale Park straddles the Montclair-Bloomfield border.

Three Decamp Routes Restarting

Decamp Bus Lines will resume running three of its commuter bus routes June 14. They are the 33 (including Montclair, Glen Ridge, Bloomfield and Nutley), the 44 (Bloomfield, North Newark, Belleville) and the 66 (West Orange, Montclair) for weekday rush hours. Expired tickets will be honored until Aug. 31; state and CDC COVID guidelines apply.

GLEN RIDGE - Borough residents, parents and colleagues of a 22-year Glen Ridge High School librarian have one last appeal to reinstate her during the Glen Ridge Public Schools June 14 virtual Board of Education meeting.

Those objecting to the effective June 30 dismissal of MaryLynn Savio had been appealing to the board and schools super-

intendent Dirk Phillips since their passage of the 2021-22 school year budget April 26 and though the panel's May meetings.

The budget the board had unanimously passed included eliminating the job title of GRHS Library Media Specialist. Phillips, back then, further prosed converting the 1968-built library into a large group meeting space and cooperative area over this summer. The former GRHS principal cited declining use of traditional books and periodicals by students for the job cut and space reuse.

"We're looking to make it a less traditional space," said Phillips, "where we're having the resources still available when it comes to electronics."

Objectors have cited that the GRHS librarian has assisted in helping teachers prepare resources for their sixth, or extra paid, classes.

Savio and borough resident/Bloomfield Public Library Director Holly Bell, have testified for the former's job retention at the board's May 10 and 27 sessions. Savio also happens to be the president of the Glen Ridge Education Association teachers union.

Check glenridge.org for board meeting log-in and in sending questions and comments in advance. June 14 is GRBOE's last 2020-21 scheduled meeting.

BELLEVILLE - A resolution which would allow the township to appropriate The Great Lawn, including "by eminent domain, if necessary," was tabled by a majority of council members here June 7.

Resolution 11.1.1 had received its public hearing that Monday night prior to its being tabled. Council members may first vote to lift it from the metaphoric table before taking that second and final vote. Leaving the resolution on the table could subject it to expiration.

The Great Lawn is an eight-acre grass hill at the northwest corner of Belleville and Franklin avenues. It is crowned by the former Essex County Isolation Hospital, a 116-year-old, 10-story landmark building being converted to luxury apartments.

There has been a concern that the lawn, currently owned by the hospital's redeveloper, would be subject to commercial or retail development. "Local Talk" recalls a proposal to build a pair of single story strip mall buildings, flanking the hospital's Belleville Avenue main entrance, in the early 2000s.

The resolution's critics have said that the measure is unnecessary. They cite a 2003 planning agreement where The Great Lawn would be preserved in perpetuity.

NUTLEY - Mayor Mauro G. Tucci and a majority of Township Commissions have signed, sealed and delivered their stance on having cannabis-based businesses within Nutley's limits to Gov. Phil Murphy's administrators in Trenton when you read this.

Tucci and fellow commissioners John V. Kelly IV, Thomas Evans and Joseph Scarpelli voted to ban almost all classes of CBBs for the next five years. The ban does allow out-of-town cannabis and/or CBB providers to deliver to their Nutley customers.

The June 1 vote, absent Commissioner Alphonse "Al" Petracco, came after Nutley's elders held a public hearing earlier that evening. Nutley joins Glen Ridge, who voted for a similar five-year ban April 27, among "Local Talk" towns in shutting, but not locking, their doors to CBBs.

Murphy's administrators wanted each of New Jersey's 565 municipalities to make a decision on CBBs on or before Aug. 20. Towns may revisit their bans or allowances in 2026.

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*As our Community is impacted by another wave of COVID-19, the Heart Center of the Oranges is here to safely assist our patients. We encourage patients to take advantage of our Telemedicine visits to prevent the spread of the virus. We encourage everyone to come in for the flu shot as soon as possible – *Dr. Rajiyah*

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West Orange: 95 Main Street	Tel. 973-736-5552
West Orange: 92 Old Northfield Road <small>(currently closed for renovations)</small>	Tel. 973-736-5552