

# MORE CONCERNS ABOUT THE J&J COVID-19 VACCINE



PAGE 6

# BOLD AMENDMENT SEEKS TO HOLD DEVELOPERS & OWNERS ACCOUNTABLE



PAGE 4

*Newark Councilwoman LaMonica McIver, who sponsored the amendment*

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# SOUTH WARD SHAKEN BY 31-HOUR STANDOFF

By Walter Elliott

**NEWARK** - All parties involved or who had a ringside seat to the 31-hour standoff at and around 35-36 Clinton Place here have been trying to return to normal life since July 8-9.

Neighbors who resided there and in adjacent houses 6 a.m. that Thursday has mostly moved back after staying in a nearby community center, friends or relatives' homes or local hotels.

Law enforcement officers, from the Newark Police Division to FBI-Newark Field Office agents, have been debriefed. Some may have taken vacation time or other stress relief measures.

Riders on NJTransit's 13V bus route may have an easier time of getting to their work, school or other rounds.

One resident of 24-36 Clinton Place, however, remains in University Hospital. Hassan Grimsley, 42, is recovering from wounds suffered after exchanging gunfire with officers at the standoff's end at about 12:55 p.m. July 9.

Grimsley - whose condition remains unknown as of press time - will be charged in relation to the stand when he has sufficiently healed. He may be taken to State Superior Court - Newark or be arraigned from his hospital bed.



*This South Ward neighborhood looks calm here, but was a chaotic scene on July 8 and 9, with police tape and cars everywhere*

Acting Essex County Prosecutor Theodore "Ted" Stephens II said, at July 9's late-afternoon press conference at the Essex County Veterans Courthouse, that "less than lethal force was used" on Grimsley during that last exchange - but "was met with deadly force from Grimsley. (He) was shot at that time."

Newark Public Safety Director Brian O'Hara said that he and other officers were praying for Grimsley's recovery.

The story begins at about 5:55 a.m. that Thursday Members of the Essex County Prosecutors Office Narcotics Unit gained entry to the three-story single-family house to serve a search warrant for drugs and/or guns. They were

*(Continued on page 14)*

# NEWARK REBELLION REMEMBERED

On Monday, July 12th, the People's Organization for Progress hosted its annual Remembrance of the epic Newark Rebellion! This year will mark the 54th anniversary of the epic uprising.

Participants rallied at Rebellion Monument Park at 5 pm and marched to the former 1st Precinct where the uprising began. The Rebellion Monument is located at 250 Springfield Avenue, Newark.

On July 12, 1967, the brutal near fatal police beating of an African American

*(Continued on page 5)*



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**Editorial**

*Dhiren Shah*  
Editor-In-Chief

*Hello Readers,*

After a long time, Newark’s Museum opened last month. It was closed for about one year and a couple of months. Newark Museum is a huge attraction for people, especially with the interest in art and for students. So, it is the time for anyone who wants to visit Newark Museum, to plan it now. As part of planning your visit, please be prepared to show proof of vaccination with a copy of your vaccination card or photo, along with personal identification. For children 12-16, identification is not required.

This ordinance includes both the Alice Ransom Dreyfuss Garden and inside the Museum. It applies to all visitors, including members of the Museum, and is in effect until further notice. It is

very good that due to Mayor Baraka’s ordinance on May 19th, only vaccinated persons can visit, and that shows that safety is a huge concern.

Italy won the Euro Cup, and there was violence after the loss. Italians and the English are diehard and notorious soccer fans known to the world. Right after the loss, fans of the losing English team started damaging property. They do not understand that their anger is hurting another English person and he/she might be a United Kingdom soccer fan.

The arrest of former South African President Jacob Zuma this month has triggered looting and violence in the country’s two most populous provinces amid a record wave of Covid-19 infections. However, the damage will disrupt the routine life for South Africans.

According to Wall Street Journal: “Mr. Zuma was president of South Africa from 2009 until 2018, a time when alleged corruption escalated in government and the ruling African National Congress. After he re-

signed, a government-mandated commission started investigating some of these allegations, but Mr. Zuma repeatedly refused to testify, despite an order to do so from South Africa’s Constitutional Court. On June 29, the same court sentenced Mr. Zuma to 15 months in prison for contempt of court and he was arrested the following week.”

A woman accused of punching a 6 year old boy got arrested after 5 days, and in a court case, she asked to be released without bail. In a hearing on Tuesday July 13, a prosecutor raised questions about the "mental competency" of Shelly Ann Hill. She is being held on felony child abuse, misdemeanor battery and hate crime charges. She has a history of list of misdemeanor cases, according to AP News. These include allegations of battery, larceny, obstruction, theft, trespassing and vagrancy. Reportedly, the Judge might release her with the condition that she will not be allowed near the Las Vegas strip with a bail of \$10,000. In my opinion if her mental status is not up to the

mark, she should not be allowed to move freely. She might hurt someone big time in the future.

A white California Cop stopped a young man and handcuffed him for driving too slowly. The Sheriff came and released the young man, and then handcuffed the cop to show him how it feels. It was nothing but a racial arrest, and this kind of racism must stop in the police department. However, all police officers serving in the department are not bad.

I think working with each other every day, cops must be knowing who is bad and who is not, but they are not exposing the bad cops. The bad cops might be strong and powerful within the police department, but their wrong acts and decisions are making for a bad image of the police. So I say, expose the bad cops and protect your good image.

*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	PM T-Storms	Scattered T-Storms	Scattered T-Storms	Isolated T-Storms	Isolated T-Storms
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# The Doctor Is In



Dr. Adil Manzoor OP/ED

## The Road To Herd Immunity: Rougher Than Ever?

Not long after the COVID pandemic broke out, there was worldwide worry. And understandably so, I must say. This worry quickly degenerated into panic when COVID showed just how dangerous a virus it is. It got so bad that scientists started

fearing the hundreds of thousands of people that would die if we didn't get a vaccine fast.

As fate would have it, the vaccine came fast. Very fast. I shouldn't even be telling you all of these; that's like preaching to the choir! But what I really want to point your attention to is the topic of herd immunity. I remember writing a piece or two about it.

The consensus some months back, particularly when it became obvious that a vaccine was on the way, was that herd immunity is a possibility. Herd immunity is basically when enough of the population of a state are vaccinated or protected against an infection to protect the unvaccinated and vulnerable ones.

Consider it like building a barrier around infected people. Assume person A gets the coronavirus and all around person A are vaccinated people; this will significantly limit the spread and transmission of the virus to other unvaccinated persons. This is one of the most effective ways of phasing any infection out of existence.

It was estimated that about 60-70% of the population needed to get vaccinated for us to have any sort of chance at herd immunity. Right now, over 48% of the US population is fully vaccinated. When you put things in perspective, we are getting close to herd immunity, aren't we? Well, not quite.

One of the worst fears of this pandemic was that the virus would mutate into more resistant strains as time went on, and it did exactly that. In fact, the virus is surpassing expectations - which, of course, is bad news for us. These new variants are either more transmissible or more resistant to treatment, or even both. Whichever way, they are bothersome, and this has made many scientists dismiss the idea that we'll ever get herd immunity.

Aside from the mutation bit, experts are still unclear on whether the vaccines prevent transmission of the virus. Herd immunity is only relevant if we have a vaccine that blocks the transmission of the virus. If we don't have this such vaccine,

then we need to get the whole population vaccinated. The latter option is definitely going to take a while. And we aren't sure the vaccines we have right now will actually block transmission. Remember, the coronavirus is a novel virus, implying that there's only so much we can know about it at this stage.

Then there's also the possibility that immunity will wane over time. Vaccine manufacturers are already rolling out booster doses and all. All of these just show the hurdles we have to scale before getting herd immunity. Experts have even started suggesting the coronavirus will be like the influenza virus somehow, and we will just have to live with it.

It's not all dark and gloomy, though. Even if herd immunity in the real sense is not possible, getting enough of the population vaccinated will go a long way in significantly limiting the spread of this deadly virus. Some countries even give just one dose of the vaccine to limit the spread to a very reasonable level.

*(Continued on page 11)*

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**NEWARK REBELLION**

**REMEMBERED**

*(Continued from page 1)*

Newark cab driver named John Smith triggered one of the most important urban uprisings in the modern era. It would ignite over 100 uprisings around the country including the largest uprising in Detroit on July 25th. It would continue on until July 17th when occupying federal and state military forces finally withdrew from the beleaguered city.

Although the historic uprising would take 26 lives, it would also ignite a wave of protest and organizing that would forever change the political landscape in segregated American cities, leading to the elections of a new generation of Black elected officials in largely Black communities by the full use and mobilization of a new access to the ballot and more.

In Newark, that would mean electing Ken Gibson the first Black Mayor of a major eastern seaboard city and displacing urban gangster apartheid that brutally chained local politics prior to that groundbreaking election in 1970.

Newark would become the epicenter of the new national Black Power Movement as the late Amiri Baraka led pivotal organizations such as the Committee For A Unified Newark locally and the Congress of African People nationally and launched the Black Arts Movement.

Having survived a brutal police attack and arrest himself at the beginning of the uprising, Baraka chaired the national Black Power Conference just days after the Rebellion in downtown Newark.

In recent years, current Mayor Ras Baraka, the radical

icon's son who is taking on the same question of police brutality and corruption, sought to implement the strongest Civilian Review Board in the country upon his election in 2014, one with full subpoena power, one with the authority to do independent and concurrent investigations, one with genuine community character and one with a solid discipline matrix.

After a bitter legal fight with the police unions, the NJ Supreme Court stripped the new Review Board of its critical authority, but said that it could be restored through statewide legislation.

The People's Organization for Progress is a part of a statewide movement to have several major police reform bills passed into law, including the CCRB Bill A4656 that would mandate Civilian Review Boards with full subpoena power, inde-

pendent and concurrent investigatory power and community character for any municipality seeking one.

"Do we realize that if we had Civilian Review Boards like what we are fighting for here in Newark, George Floyd would be alive," asked a passionate Lawrence Hamm rhetorically on behalf of the organization.

Several local cases will also be spotlighted: The case of Carl Dorsey who was shot and killed by an undercover Newark detective on January 1st and most recently the Rodwell Brothers, four brothers who were wrongly arrested recently by overaggressive undercover officers in the South Ward recently.

The brothers are each facing serious felony charges ranging from resisting arrest to aggravated assault on a police officer. Supporters are demanding that the charges be dropped.

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## MORE CONCERNS ABOUT J&J COVID-10 VACCINE

### United States

One of humanity's biggest weapons against the novel coronavirus is facing yet another alarming issue.

On July 12, news came out that Johnson & Johnson's Janssen COVID-19 vaccine could cause Guillain-Barré syndrome, an autoimmune disease that causes the immune system to attack part of the peripheral nervous system. In response, Johnson & Johnson issued the following statement:

"Rare cases of the neurological disorder, Guillain-Barré syndrome have been reported following vaccination with the Janssen COVID-19 vaccine. Most occurred within 42 days after vaccination. While the chance of having this occur is very low, Johnson & Johnson has updated its COVID-19 Vaccine Factsheet to include important information about these rare cases and on the signs and symptoms of Guillain-Barré syndrome. Updates with this new information will be implemented in other regions of the world according to local regulatory procedures.

"Any adverse event report about individuals receiving Johnson & Johnson's single-shot COVID-19 vaccine, as well as our own assessment of the report, is shared with the U.S. Food and Drug Administration, the European Medicines Agency, the World Health Organization and other health authorities around the world where our vaccine is authorized. We strongly support raising awareness of the signs and symptoms of rare events to ensure they can be quickly identified and effectively treated.

"Evidence has demonstrated that Johnson & Johnson's single-shot COVID-19 vaccine offers protection against COVID-19 disease and prevents hospitalization and death, including in countries where viral variants are highly prevalent. A single-shot vaccine that provides this level of protection represents an important tool in the global fight against COVID-19, as we strive to help end this deadly pandemic."

In other vaccine news, Pfizer and Moderna are currently looking into making a third vaccine shot, or "vaccine booster" available. In response to that, the CDC and FDA issued this joint statement:

"The United States is fortunate to have highly effective vaccines that are widely available for those aged 12 and up. People who are fully vaccinated are protected from severe disease and death, including from the variants currently circulating in the country such as Delta.

People who are not vaccinated remain at risk. Virtually all COVID-19 hospitalizations and deaths are among those who are unvaccinated. We encourage Americans who have not yet been vaccinated to get vaccinated as soon as possible to protect themselves and their community.

"Americans who have been fully vaccinated do not need a booster shot at this time. FDA, CDC, and NIH are engaged in a science-based, rigorous process to consider whether or when a booster might be necessary.

"This process takes into account laboratory data, clinical trial data, and cohort data - which can include data from specific pharmaceutical companies, but does not rely on those data exclusively.

We continue to review any new data as it becomes available and will keep the public informed. We are prepared for booster doses if and when the science demonstrates that they are needed."

## ARRESTS MADE IN MOISE ASSASSINATION

### Haiti

After the gruesome July 7 assassination of Haitian President Jovenel Moïse, authorities in more than one country got to work on bringing suspects to justice.

Since Moïse's death, authorities have either killed or arrested several people believed to be involved in the act. One person of interest taken into custody by the Haitian National Police is 62-year-old Florida resident Christian Emmanuel Sanon. According to reports, Sanon was under the impression that he would be installed as Haiti's new president after Moïse was out of the way. However, it is believed that he was expecting the slain president to be arrested, not murdered.

So far, authorities have arrested 26 people and are looking for at least five others. Three suspects have been killed.

In providing support to Haiti in its quest to catch the culprits, the United States department of Justice issued this statement:

"At the request of the Haitian government, the Department of Justice, along with its U.S. government partners, is assisting the Haitian National Police in the investigation of the assassination of Haitian President Jovenel Moïse.

"An initial assessment has been conducted in Haiti by senior U.S. officials. The department will continue to support the Haitian government in its review of the facts and circumstances surrounding this heinous attack.

"The department will also investigate whether there were any violations of U.S. criminal law in connection with this matter."

Meanwhile, the UN Special Representative for Haiti has acknowledged the legitimacy of Prime Minister Claude Joseph to lead the Caribbean nation, following the "cowardly" assassination of President Moïse, and welcomed his government's

commitment to hold national elections later this year.

Helen La Lime, who also heads the UN Integrated Office in Haiti (BINUH) said the prime minister, who now leads the government in line with the country's constitution in the event of a sitting president's death, was committed "to dialogue, and to continuing with a process to hold elections according to the electoral calendar that was released just last week."

She said that would mean a first round of elections on Sept. 26, with a second round, set for November.

Speaking via video link to reporters in New York, Ms. La Lime said that "all efforts must be made" to bring those responsible for the assassination of the president to justice, and that a national investigation led by Haitian police, was now underway, following a number of arrests.

"It is too early for me to comment on exactly what went on and the circumstances surrounding this abhorrent act of violence...We will continue to wait for further developments, and to assist as we can."

## CUBANS PROTEST FOR BETTER CONDITIONS

### Cuba

The lack of basic resources has sparked unrest one country, and support beyond its borders.

Over the past few days, people have taken to the streets in Cuba to decry the lack of food, medicine, and outright economic distress. Additionally, they requested the resignation of President Miguel Diaz-Canel.

So far, over 100 people have been detained during the protests, with at least one person dead. Support for the protests have spread around the globe, including in Florida, which has a large Cuban population. Protesters there were allowed to stand ground on a highway, although this was frowned upon when it

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# Finance At Your Fingertips



Moses Ayiku, Jr. MBA OP/ED

## Starting A Business: Part 1

One of the most exhilarating experiences in life is that of starting a new business. People start new businesses for various reasons. One of them is the freedom it gives. One can set working hours and dictate the pace of activity. You are the boss!

Others start new businesses because they have identified opportunities that they recognize can be tapped for significant financial rewards. Steve Jobs saw opportunities in the personal computing space initially. Later, he identified the opportunity for a phone that would be sophisticated but easy to use. This foray by Jobs into the phone market was nothing short of amazing.

Consider the fact that at the time Jobs entered the phone industry with the first iPhone, there were several major phone producers that were adored by the market. These included Ericsson, Nokia, Blackberry and Motorola amongst others. It did not look like a field full of opportunities for new entrants. However, Steve did his homework well. A detailed analysis of the phone industry revealed to him that consumers would enjoy a fresh phone that had one unique feature. Easy to use.

The rest is history. We can learn from Jobs and his experience. Nothing is impossible. Research and good analysis are the fundamental steps in creating a new product successfully.

Bill Gates saw into the future and was accurate in predicting that the world would move to personal computing. In that anal-

ysis, Gates recognized that for a global computer ecosystem to thrive, there would be the need for an operating system that we all could use. Gates was right. Today, 73% of computers worldwide use Windows as their operating system.

Mark Zuckerberg is a rich man because of Facebook. He also identified a future for social media and human interaction. Say what you will about their practices, however, do note that Facebook would be the most populated nation on earth if it was indeed a country. In the first quarter of 2021, it was estimated that about 2.85 billion people used Facebook on a regular basis.

Jeff Bezos had to experiment with his business model for years before he eventually got it right. Today, he stands out as one of the richest men in the world.

From the examples above, we can safely note that success in business can come from having the foresight and developing products or services that people would be willing to pay for. Solving needs or problems of society is one key element of creating a profitable business.

Uber is a rich transportation company that does not own a single vehicle! Airbnb provides accommodation, yet they do not own a single room, let alone a house or building! Door Dash is a profitable business that provides transportation of food to consumers. This company also does not own any vehicles.

In the early stages of the pandemic in 2020, several technology experts predicted that there would be an increase in the use of existing technologies as well as the creation of new technologies. It was the pandemic that put an existing service like Zoom on the map. People could not move much, and we used Zoom as an alternative communication tool. Businesses used Zoom for official meetings and many individuals used Zoom for personal activities such as family meetings and get-togethers. Social media gained increased prominence during the pandem-

(Continued on page 12)

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## ESSEX COUNTY WEEKLY COVID-19 CASE TALLY

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Belleville	5670	115	5684	116
Bloomfield	5355	123	5365	123
Caldwell	623	16	626	16
Cedar Grove	1552	121	1553	121
East Orange	7176	313	7201	313
Essex Fells	191	2	192	2
Fairfield	886	31	888	31
Glen Ridge	391	13	397	13
Irvington	4742	232	4762	233
Livingston	1838	88	1843	88
Maplewood	1315	36	1326	36
Millburn	829	10	829	10
Montclair	2282	72	2288	72
Newark	36977	1008	<b>37074</b>	<b>1010</b>
North Caldwell	496	6	496	6
Nutley	3040	66	3048	66
Orange	3564	137	3566	136
Roseland	478	16	478	16
South Orange	867	16	876	16
Verona	995	18	995	18
West Caldwell	1060	53	1062	53
West Orange	4588	231	4593	232
<b>Total</b>	<b>84915</b>	<b>2723</b>	<b>85142</b>	<b>2727</b>

OTHER COVID-19 TALLIES (As of July 14, 2021)

NJ: 896,191 cases / 23,811 deaths (Plus 2,716 probable)

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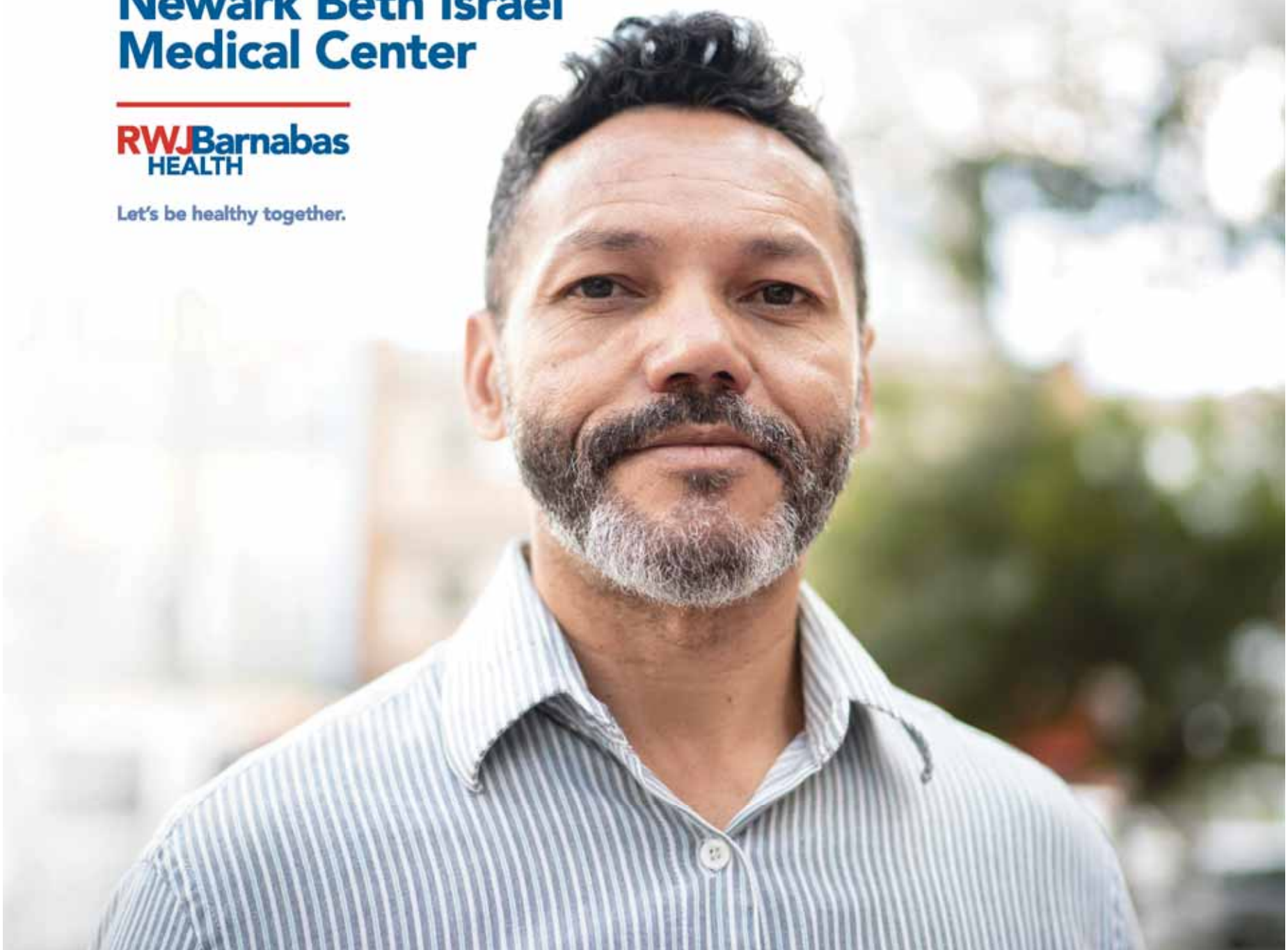
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## Newark Beth Israel Medical Center

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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** - City police division officers went on a 32-mile round trip to pursue, arrest and return a city man accused of stealing a Newark Fire Division vehicle - and crashing it in Ridgefield Park - July 4.

Public Safety Director Brian O'Hara said an NPD dispatcher got a Newark Fire Battalion Chief's call from Avon and Peshine avenues 4:10 p.m. that Sunday. The battalion chief said that a civilian had entered his division Ford pickup truck, marked with lights and a siren, and drove away while he and his unit were handling a vehicle fire.

"The vehicle was pursued through multiple jurisdictions by Newark police, with assistance from various law enforcement agencies, until it was observed by Fairview Police," said O'Hara. "The pursuit continued into Ridgefield Park. (It) ended when the suspect drove to the end of a dead-end road in an industrial area and crashed at 200 Industrial Ave."

The suspect - identified as Hector B. Perez, 48 - was arrested and brought to Newark's Essex County Correctional Facility. Perez, who had earlier lost his right eye, is being held on two counts each of burglary by entering, theft by unlawful taking, possession of stolen property (the chief's car) and unlawful possession of a weapon (the car); one count of possession thereof for an unlawful purpose and three counts of aggressive assault by knowingly attempting serious bodily injury.

"I'm grateful that he was apprehended before he harmed anyone or himself," said O'Hara. "The suspect not only put his own life in danger but jeopardized the lives of countless drivers and pedestrians citywide and outside of Newark by unlawfully operating a public safety vehicle."

**IRVINGTON** - Police officers had first responded to gunfire reports and the call of a motor vehicle crash here at Grove Street 7:40 p.m. July 8. What they found made them instantly summon the ECPO Homicide and Major Crimes Task Force.

What IPD officers found was driver Tariq Patterson behind the wheel unconscious and unresponsive - and suffering from gunshot wounds.

Patterson, 38, of Irvington, was rushed to Newark's University Hospital, where he was pronounced dead at 8:25 p.m.

Patterson's fatal shooting came six days after two Rahway men were shot while at a Montrose Terrace block party, west of Grove Street. Funeral arrangements have not yet been announced for Patterson nor July 3 victims Malik A. McCallister, 38, and Tariq R. Barnes, 42 as of press time.

Both homicide investigations remain active.

**EAST ORANGE** - County Homicide Task Force and city police detectives are looking for the killer of a Kenilworth man one block south of East Orange Police Headquarters early July 10.

EOPD officers who instantly responded to a 1 a.m. gunshot report from 67 South Munn Ave. found Alishaki Pearson, 31, shot on the Corinthian Towers property. Pearson was rushed to University Hospital, where he died at 1:36 a.m.

A second unidentified 30-year-old man, who was also found shot here, was treated and released from a local hospital.

## **Rollover Kills Driver, Hurts Toddler**

A two-year-old boy has been released from a local hospital and a funeral held for his driver - both from a June 24 intersection rollover - when you read this.

City police and fire units, responding to a motor vehicle accident call at North Munn Avenue and William Street 5:10 a.m. June 24, found a car lying on its driver's side and at a right

angle to 114 No. Munn Ave. They promptly extricated the driver and the toddler passenger.

The driver, who was given CPR before an EMS ambulance rushed him to Newark's University Hospital, died at 6 a.m. The boy was taken to another local hospital for treatment of "minor injuries" and released. A preliminary ECPO Crash Investigation Unit finding has the driver losing control and striking a parked unoccupied white four-door SUV before overturning.

A "Local Talk" delivery crew found bent front fencing and a traffic light pole's damaged base as the crash's remaining evidence that Thursday afternoon. William Street's eastbound lane was closed for unrelated utility work.

**ORANGE** - The estimated 150 mourners who came to celebrate the life of Orange native and 25-year Deputy Essex County Prosecutor Shelton Lenwood McCall at Newark's Roseville Presbyterian Church July 9 learned some of the rules he had lived by.

The eldest of three McCall children was born in Newark Oct. 10, 1960 and became the Orange High School Class of 1978 graduate via Forest Street and Orange Middle schools. "Sputnik," as he was named for his energy, ran track and was a football linebacker for the OHS Tornados despite encountering several childhood illnesses and injuries.

"When I first invited Shellie to (East Orange's Elmwood Presbyterian) church, he told me 'I'm a Weeble-Wobble.'" recalled eulogist Rev. Hodari Williams. "Those who don't remember Weebles from the 1980s, they were rounded figures who always got up and never fell down."

McCall went on to earn a Juris Doctorate from Rutgers Law School and began a 25-year career with the ECPO in 1988. The Trial, Gun Strategy and Vehicular Homicide unit member helped establish the vertical prosecution model, where a prosecutor stayed with a case from pre-indictment to disposition. He and wife Deborah meanwhile raised daughters Danielle, Kierra and Kai.

Kierra, in her reflections, listed her father's six rules of life. They included "Family is

more than blood," "Do what you say and say what you do," and "Whatever you do, do it the best you can."

McCall, 60, died June 26. Brothers Douglas and Jerome, sisters Mingyon McCall, Tamara Tillman and Shenna Christian and brothers-in-law Darryl and Floyd Walker III are among his survivors.

**WEST ORANGE** - Township resident and Montclair native Alen Hadzic has arrived in Tokyo's Olympic Village - and is under self-quarantine with all the other Olympic Summer Games athletes - while you read this.

Hadzic, 29, who is on the US Olympic Fencing Team, is among the 500-member US team and an anticipated 10,000 athletes from 206 National Olympic Committees entering a mandatory lockdown prior to the games' July 23 opening ceremonies.

The pre-Games isolation, along with a year's postponement and a June 26 no spectators policy, is among the international and Tokyo organizing committees and the Japanese government are taking to curb any potential COVID outbreaks. Prime Minister Yoshihide Suga had declared on July 2 a July 12 - Aug. 22 COVID state of emergency. That emergency caused other sports event organizers there, including Fuji Speedway's Fuji 6 Hours sports car race, to either postpone or cancel.

Should all go to plan, Hadzic will join his three epee class teammates - on the bench. May's North American Cup Division I gold medalist is the team's alternate.

Hadzic, who is going to his first Olympic Games, has been an epee fencer since when he was on the Montclair High School fencing club in 2005. The MHS Class of 2009 graduate continued fencing while pursuing an economics major at Columbia University 2009-14 and beyond.

Hadzic made the team as an alternate after the US Center for Safesport lifted its June 1 temporary suspension on him June 30; a judge had ruled that Safesport did not have enough evidence to suspend him. Safesport is continuing its investigation of a misconduct allegation.

(Continued on page 13)

# SPORTS WRAP



By William Hathaway, Jr.

With half of the season gone, it was once again time for Major League Baseball's Summer Classic, the All-Star Game. This year, the contest was initially set for Atlanta, but due to political disagreements, the game was moved to Coors Field in Colorado.

First, the Home Run Derby returned after the pandemic scrapped last year's event. New York Mets star first baseman and defending Derby champion Pete Alonso kept his crown, winning the final round over cancer survivor Trey Mancini. Meanwhile, the Derby favorite Shohei Ohtani failed to advance after losing a tiebreaker to Washington Nationals phenom Juan Soto in the first round.

As for the All-Star Game itself, the American League won their eighth contest in a row thanks to a 5-2 victory. The Japanese born Ohtani, who was also the AL's leadoff hitter, was credited with the win, while Australian-born Liam Hendriks earned the save. Blue Jays star Vladimir Guerrero, Jr. made history, as the Canadian-born slugger was named the youngest MVP in MLB All-Star history after belting a 468 ft. homer.

As for the NBA Finals, the first two games saw the Phoenix Suns dominate at home. However, once the series shifted to Milwaukee, the Bucks

scored a 120-100 win in Game 3. Hopefully, this series will be more entertaining than the Stanley Cup Finals, which saw the Tampa Bay Lightning win back to back titles, this time over the Montreal Canadiens.

In other sports news, the Euro Soccer Final saw Italy come all the way back to the top of the soccer world again after failing to qualify for the last World Cup. The Italians beat England in a 3-2 penalty kick shootout after the match finished 1-1. It was a true road game for Italy, as the game was played at Wembley Stadium in London.

While the action was certainly memorable, the ending was ruined by some racist and bigoted behavior from some of the fans who came down hard on the black players that misconnected on their kicks.

At Wimbledon, top seeded Ash Barty won the ladies draw, while Novak Djokovic won the gentlemen's draw, his 20th major win overall. This ties him with Roger Federer and Rafael Nadal for the most major wins among men of all time. Also, if Djokovic wins the U.S. Open, he will become the first player to win all the major tournaments in a calendar year since Rod Laver.

Finally, some sad news from the world of pro wrestling, as "Mr. Wonderful" Paul Orndorff has passed away at the age of 71.

*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.*

**References**

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**THE DOCTOR IS IN**

(Continued from page 4)

One thing is sure, though, and it's that getting the vaccine is still the only way we can beat the virus. At least, as of now. So, play your part and get vaccinated. 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-*

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**THE CITY OF ORANGE TOWNSHIP BOARD OF EDUCATION (BOE) NOVEMBER 2, 2021 ELECTION**

PUBLIC NOTICE

THE CITY OF ORANGE TOWNSHIP BOARD OF EDUCATION (BOE) NOVEMBER 2, 2021 ELECTION

Currently, there are 9 (nine) BOE members as a Type II district, of the nine members 3 (three) members' seats are due for election/re-election on November 2, 2021

The petitions are now available online as outlined below:

From Essex County Clerk's Office Website  
<https://www.essexclerk.com/Content/pdf/forms/School-Board-Petition-2021.pdf>

for Joint-Petition  
<https://www.essexclerk.com/Content/pdf/forms/2021-school-board-joint-1signature.pdf>

The filing deadline for petitions is Monday, July 26, 2021. Petitions MUST be returned to the Office of the Essex County Clerk, 495 Martin Luther King Blvd Newark (As the former location of 465 Martin Luther King Blvd has changed to the building next door.) No later than Monday, July 26, 2021, by 4:00 P.M.

Mr. Jason Ballard  
 Orange Board of Education Secretary



## From The Pastor's Heart

OP-ED BY DR. ROBERT KENNEDY

### Under Satan's Control

The phrase "under Satan's control" came up in a reading done on our early morning prayer line today. It has allowed me to be thinking of the many events that have been taking place around us, and I mention three of them here.

1. The reported group of persons at the CPAC meeting who laughed that President Biden did not reach 70% of his projected vaccination goal.
2. The assassination of the President of Haiti and the shooting of his wife with life-threatening wounds. These acts were carried out by individuals from at least four countries who thought to seize power to rule Haiti.
3. The insurrection at the US Capitol on January 6, 2021. The video releases of the events are so painful to watch.

Anyone with a good conscience, seeing or hearing about these incidences, have to be more than convinced that those who have been participants in them have been UNDER SATAN'S CONTROL. If you think the incidences that I have referenced do not bear the mark of Satanic control, think again.

You might choose some other incidences, for there are many to choose from across the United States and in multiple other countries of the world. Whether we might find the

incidences in the reaction of crowds seeking their freedom or in groups seeking to bring control and oppression, the situations seem to be the same - Satan is getting into people and stirring up things so he can bring people under his control.

I have been taking a closer look at the States Assemblies and our Congress here in the United States, and I am more than convinced that Satan is having a field day in taking over the minds of some of the representatives. It seems to me that some have handed themselves over "To Serve the Devil" to use Saul Landau's book title.

Think of how some do not care about the negative things they are doing to oppose one another. Think of the policies that they are voting or not voting on to hurt their opponents. I do not need to say more on this score, for it is obvious that whether we wish to call it "under Satan's control" or not, there is a demonic force at work, and it is winning over the hearts, souls and minds of persons, in so much that we might say they are demon-possessed.

And this reminds me of what happened when Jesus Christ was here on earth. According to the Gospel record, the first day of one week, called Palm Sunday (see Matthew 21:1-9) by some Christians, a large crowd gathered for Passover in and about Jerusalem and called for Jesus to be crowned as a king.

However, by the sixth day of the same week, called Good Friday, many of the same crowd joined with a new crowd to call for the crucifixion (Matthew 26:16-26; Mark 15:7-15; Luke 23:18-42; John 18:40).

And what is of greatest interest is that the crowd was inspired by some of the leaders of the religious council called the Sanhedrin. The High Priest, Caiaphas, head of the Sanhedrin, had previously called for the one man to die for the nation. His call ended in the

crucifixion of Jesus. The quotation that drew my attention states it thus:

"These priests and rulers had come entirely under Satan's control, yet they were so deceived that they were well pleased with themselves. (Moreover) they thought of themselves as patriots seeking the nation's salvation."

Talk about the crowd "Under Satan's Control," the one that precipitated the crucifixion of Jesus was one of them. The one that triggered the insurrection of January 6 has to be another of them. And, as I stated, we can list many other crowds with the same description.

But while we focus on the crowds, we need to focus on individuals in the crowds or individuals acting in small groups and even by themselves. The Gospel of Luke (8:26-39) speaks of a demon-possessed man who lived among the tombs in Gadara. The Gospel of Matthew (8:28-34) gives a shortened version of the story but states that it was two men, not one. However, it was, the fact of the possession is not contested.

The above leads me to a summation, that Satan has been bringing people under his control for a long time. And unfortunately, he has been using them to terrorize and destroy a multitude of communities. While he is using the secular-minded people under his control, the most frightening fact is that he is also using religious extremists.

As you reflect with me, let me ask about your allegiance. Where do you want to find yourself? Are you willing to be under the Divine control, or are you allowing Satan to come into your life and bring you under his control? Satan can tempt you, but it is up to you to allow him to use you as his instrument.

## FINANCE

(Continued from page 7)

ic. No doubt, we will see more products and services with a technology backbone going forward.

What can we learn from the above? First, research and observation are key elements of identifying a solid business model. A business model is simply the way in which your business will generate revenue. Facts and figures can form the basis of making solid predictions about the future. While some businesses became successful without any complex modeling or analysis, most did.

Nike has created to provide quality running gear for athletes and the public at large. By focus-

ing on quality designs and utilizing unique marketing strategies, this company has gained a global following quite unmatched in the sports apparel industry.

We can develop a business focused on unique skills and qualities that we possess. For example, someone who is good at cooking can sell their skills. A computer programmer shared his experience during the pandemic when he kept on getting requests from people to let his mother teach them some traditional Indian dishes. His mother was a very good cook and loved sharing her skills and knowledge.

The programmer set up zoom classes and arranged for participants to pay for the sessions. His mother now cooks and educates people regularly while

getting paid! The technology they used was Zoom. No physical interaction was involved.

A unique business that was created during the pandemic was the use of online babysitters. Some parents working from home needed a way to keep their kids occupied so that they could peacefully work. Online babysitters were hired to occupy the kids through conversations and activities. An adult interacting with the child was just what the parent needed to give them the freedom to work knowing that their kids were occupied constructively. Typically, the contract would be for a set period, for example 9 am to 12 noon on specific days.

There are many paths to developing a successful business.

We have mentioned some of these today. Good research, sound analysis of relevant facts and figures, creativity, and foresight. These all can be elements of putting together a profitable and successful new business. Focusing on the skills that one possesses is also a very strong part of developing a new business. There are other elements to creating a successful business and we will discuss these in the coming weeks.

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](mailto:localtalk-news@gmail.com).

# IRANIAN OFFICIALS ACCUSED OF TRYING TO KIDNAP U.S. JOURNALIST AND ACTIVIST

A New York federal court unsealed an indictment today charging four Iranian nationals with conspiracies related to kidnapping, sanctions violations, bank and wire fraud, and money laundering. A co-conspirator and California resident, also of Iran, faces additional structuring charges.

According to court documents, Alireza Shavaroghi Farahani, aka Vezerat Salimi and Haj Ali, 50; Mahmoud Khazein, 42; Kiya Sadeghi, 35; and Omid Noori, 45, all of Iran, conspired to kidnap a Brooklyn journalist, author and human rights activist for mobilizing public opinion in Iran and around the world to bring about changes to the regime's laws and practices. Niloufar Bahadorifar, aka Nellie Bahadorifar, 46, originally of Iran and currently residing in California, is alleged to have

provided financial services that supported the plot.

According to the indictment, Farahani is an Iranian intelligence official who resides in Iran. Khazein, Sadeghi and Noori are Iranian intelligence assets who also reside in Iran and work under Farahani. Since at least June 2020, Farahani and his intelligence network have plotted to kidnap a U.S. citizen of Iranian origin (Victim-1) from within the United States in furtherance of the government of Iran's efforts to silence Victim-1's criticisms of the regime. Victim-1 is an author and journalist who has publicized the government of Iran's human rights abuses.

Prior to the kidnapping plot, the government of Iran attempted to lure Victim-1 to a third country in order to capture Victim-1 for rendition to Iran. In

approximately 2018, Iranian government officials attempted to induce relatives of Victim-1, who reside in Iran, to invite the victim to travel to a third country for the apparent purpose of having Victim-1 arrested or detained and transported to Iran for imprisonment. Victim-1's relatives did not accept the offer. An electronic device used by Farahani contains, among other things, a photo of Victim-1 alongside photos of two other individuals, both of whom were lured from third countries and captured by Iranian intelligence, with one later executed and the other imprisoned in Iran, and a caption in Farsi that reads: "gradually the gathering gets bigger... are you coming, or should we come for you?"

On multiple occasions in 2020 and 2021, as part of the plot to kidnap Victim-1, Fara-

hani and his network procured the services of private investigators to surveil, photograph and video record Victim-1 and Victim-1's household members in Brooklyn. Farahani's network procured days' worth of surveillance at Victim-1's home and the surrounding area, videos and photographs of the victim's family and associates, surveillance of the victim's residence, and the installation of and access to a live high-definition video feed of Victim-1's home.

The network repeatedly insisted on high-quality photographs and video recordings of Victim-1 and Victim-1's household members; a large volume of content; pictures of visitors and objects around the house; and depictions of Victim-1's body language. The network procured the surveillance by misrepresent-

*(Continued on page 14)*

## TOWN WATCH

*(Continued from page 10)*

**SOUTH ORANGE / MAPLEWOOD** - A Montclair-based motion picture theater operator will be reopening Village Cinemas at SOPAC on July 22 and the Maplewood Theater next year.

SOPAC announced July 9 that Cinema Lab will start screening both blockbusters and independent films July 22 with tickets going on sale online "soon." They replace Bow-Tie Cinemas who let its lease lapse Nov. 30.

Movie-goers will also find what SOPAC says are "an updated lobby lounge, a technology-first environment and plush seating." The Village and Seton Hall University, which co-own the five-screen SOPAC movie theaters, used a seven-month hiatus to renovate.

The Cinema Lab team is said to reopen the Maplewood Theater in 2022, which had been run by CJM Cinemas until Nov. 30, as part of its expansion into 15 movie houses by 2027. The seven-member group, six of whom are Montclarions, had sought to revamp Upper Montclair's Bellevue Theater until owner Jesse Saygh terminated the lease Jan. 1 for "breach of contract."

## SOMSD Board's Newest Member Appointed

Maplewoodian and former panelist Chris Sabin became the South Orange-Maplewood School District's latest Board of Education member after a special interview, executive nomination and public vote here at the administration building Monday night.

Sabin was voted to fill out the remaining six months of the recently-resigned Kamal Zubieta's term on a 6-2 in-person/Livestream vote; Elissa Malespina and Johanna Wright dissented. Former member Anthony Mazzocchi was also nominated; they, Qawi Telesford, Arun Vadlamani and Kaitlin Wittleder were interviewed.

**BLOOMFIELD** - It is not known as of press time whether Aurora Manochio will be well enough to attend her husband Anthony's last rites July 15-16. They had reportedly just left the Belmont Tavern Restaurant and were walking south across Bloomfield Avenue where they were struck by a Nissan Pathfinder SUV at about 9 p.m. July 3.

Responding township police and EMS rushed the Manochios to Newark's University Hospital, where they were admitted in crit-

ical condition. Anthony Manochio, Sr., 83, of Union, died at 10:12 p.m.

No charges were filed against the 44-year-old Nissan driver, who stayed at the scene. Traffic - including buses on five NJTransit routes - was detoured while the ECPO Accident Unit conducted its field investigation.

Anthony Manochio, who was born in Newark Aug. 30, 1937, was a longtime Newark Public Schools teacher and vice-principal who retired as an assistant superintendent of schools and, in retirement, President of the Union Board of Education.

The Sussex Avenue and Barlinger High school graduate found his calling in education while briefly in the workforce. He earned teaching degrees from Bloomfield College and Seton Hall University. He first taught for Edison Public Schools before his NPS hiring.

The Manochios moved from Newark to Union's Fairway Drive in 1984, raising Anthony, Jr., Michael and Michele there. "Andy," who was an elected UPS board panelist, was a member of the local UNICO chapter and the Knights of Columbus Council No. 4504 there.

Two grandsons and five granddaughters are also among his survivors. A Funeral Mass at Union's St. Michael's Church,

followed by burial at East Hanover's Gate of Heaven Cemetery, was set for July 16. Memorial donations may be made to the American Heart Association.

**MONTCLAIR** - The Montclair Parking Utility has recently issued this directive to just-parked motorists who find their meters jammed or malfunctioning: Pay via the ParkMobile app or drive away to a working meter.

That is the word, based on municipal law that forbids knowingly parking at a broken meter, MPU Superintendent Manny Germano gave Second Ward Councilwoman Robin Schlager at the June 22 Township Council meeting. Schlager said that she had resorted to paying for 15 minute periods with her credit card after encountering two meters with jammed coin slots.

Germano explained that her maintenance staff has been working on a backlog of 160 bad meters between the start of the COVID pandemic and since parking enforcement has recently resumed. The 160, where the meters had to go to the municipal garage for repairs, are 12.4 percent of the 1,300 meters deployed across the township.

*(Continued on page 15)*

**KIDNAP** (Continued from page 13)

ing their identities and the purpose of the surveillance to the investigators, and laundered money into the United States from Iran to pay for the surveillance. Sadeghi acted as the network's primary point of contact with private investigators while Noori facilitated payment to the investigators in furtherance of the plot.

As part of the kidnapping plot, the Farahani-led intelligence network also researched methods of transporting Victim-1 out of the United States for rendition to Iran. Sadeghi, for example, researched a service offering military-style speedboats for self-operated maritime evacuation out of New York City, and maritime travel from New York to Venezuela, a country whose de facto government has friendly relations with Iran. Khazein researched travel routes

from Victim-1's residence to a waterfront neighborhood in Brooklyn; the location of Victim-1's residence relative to Venezuela; and the location of Victim-1's residence relative to Tehran.

The network that Farahani directs has also targeted victims in other countries, including victims in Canada, the United Kingdom and the United Arab Emirates, and has worked to procure similar surveillance of those victims.

As alleged, Bahadorifar provided financial and other services from the United States to Iranian residents and entities, including to Khazein, since approximately 2015. Bahadorifar facilitated access to the U.S. financial system and institutions through the use of card accounts and offered to manage business interests in the United States on Khazein's behalf. Among other things, Bahadorifar caused a payment to be made to a private

investigator for surveillance of Victim-1 on Khazein's behalf.

While Bahadorifar is not charged with participating in the kidnapping conspiracy, she is alleged to have provided financial services that supported the plot and is charged with conspiring to violate sanctions against Iran, commit bank and wire fraud, and commit money laundering. Bahadorifar is also charged with structuring cash deposits totaling more than approximately \$445,000.

Farahani, Khazein, Sadeghi and Noori are each charged with: (1) conspiring to kidnap, which carries a maximum sentence of life in prison; (2) conspiring to violate the International Emergency Economic Powers Act (IEEPA) and sanctions against the government of Iran, which carries a maximum sentence of 20 years in prison; (3) conspiring to commit bank and wire fraud, which carries a maximum sen-

tence of 30 years in prison; and (4) conspiring to launder money, which carries a maximum sentence of 20 years in prison.

Bahadorifar is charged with counts two, three and four, and is further charged with structuring, which carries a maximum sentence of 10 years in prison. A federal district court judge will determine any sentence after considering the U.S. Sentencing Guidelines and other statutory factors.

Trial Attorney Nathan Swinton of the Justice Department's Counterintelligence and Export Control Section and Assistant U.S. Attorneys Michael D. Lockard, Jacob H. Gutwillig and Matthew J.C. Hellman of the Southern District of New York are prosecuting the case.

An indictment is merely an allegation, and all defendants are presumed innocent until proven guilty beyond a reasonable doubt in a court of law.

**SOUTH WARD STANDOFF**

(Continued from page 1)

accompanied by members of the Essex County Sheriff's Office and the NPD.

Stephens said they were serving the warrant as the result of an investigation since May.

The warrant servers, however, retreated back out of the house and to behind parked vehicles by 6 a.m. They told Stephens that a man behind one of the doors they were knocking on had opened fire on them.

Several officers began evacuating residents of 34-36 Clinton Place while retreating. That evacuation extended to adjacent houses. South Ward Councilman John Sharpe James said "about 20" people were cleared out.

Reinforcements were called while Clinton Place was closed between Clinton and Hawthorne avenues. The closure would detour 79 of the 13's southbound runs to Irvington's Valley Fair and 87 northbound runs to as far out as Clifton the next 32 hours.

Those responding as backup included members of the FBI-Newark Field Office the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives, Essex County Sheriff's Bomb Disposal Unit and NPD's SWAT team. Local EMS ambulances were on the scene but on standby. Helicopters from metropolitan New

York City television stations news bureau would periodically fly by.

Stephens thanked Bloomfield Police Director Samuel de Maio for his part in resolving the standoff Friday. It is not clear as of press time exactly what the former career NPD officer and police director's contribution was.

"Local Talk" drove by Clinton Place's intersection with Clinton Avenue and South 13th Street at 5:30 p.m. Thursday and 11:30 a.m. Friday. There was no opportunity at the time for a fresh photo of the scene.

They also established bullhorn and telephone contact with the barricaded Grimsley. Those brought in to talk with him included Grimsley's relatives and neighbors, mental health specialists from RWJBarnabas Health Beth Israel Medical Center and community activists.

"He said he was tired," said community activist Cassandra Dock after talking with Grimsley, "and didn't want to go back to prison."

It is not clear whether Grimsley's name was on the search warrant. Superior Court-Newark records show that he had pleaded guilty to a three-year term in a 2015 narcotics case.

Officials - from Stephens, O'Hara and Essex County Sher-

iff Armando Fontoura to Mayor Ras Baraka - said that law enforcers acted with restraint to allow Grimsley to peacefully surrender. There were one or two opportunities, however, where officers tried to storm the house - only to be repelled by his gunfire. Fontoura said that his officers were shot at "seven or eight times.

"Every time they approached, they were shot at," said Fontoura late Friday. "Each time, it was at the wall just missing some of our officers. One of our officers is ready to retire in 20 days and the bullet came close to his head; clearly, he's traumatized."

"At least one of the police officers' ballistic shields was shot by gunfire," said Ohara. "Clearly, the sheriff's officers were under fire and exercised tremendous restraint."

At no time was University High School, directly across from 34-36 Clinton, open for its 12-month staff that Thursday and Friday. The high school had no scheduled programs or summer school.

Many of the displaced neighbors stood nearby through Thursday's rain. Some knocked on other neighbors' doors to use their bathroom or took a break at the community center down Clinton Place. Several neighbors gave them some food and drink.

Some complained that they had no access to their medication, food or a change of clothes during those 31 hours. Several resorted to sleep with neighbors, relatives or in local hotels.

One resident said that an officer directed him to Newark Beth Israel to get replacement medication but could not help him with clothes.

Police activity like the standoff, unlike Newark Fire Department activity, does not have an on-site refreshment van like the Newark Bell and Siren Club.

Stephens added that some officers went to local pharmacies and pick up some residents' medicine. Councilman James said that he took down the phone numbers of those neighbors who were at the community center to keep in touch with them.

"We try to save someone's life and perhaps individuals were inconvenienced along the way - and that's a criticism," said Stephens Friday. "If he had been killed in the initial entry, it would've been, 'Why didn't you try to use less lethal force in order to extricate him from that situation?'"

The holdout ended within five minutes. Officers fired towards Grimsley, Grimsley fired back, and officers' second round struck him. Grimsley was taken out on a stretcher and rushed to University Hospital.

**WORLD NEWS** (Cont. from pg. 6)

came to previous protests that were focused on "Black Lives Matter."

In response to the protests, U.S. President Joseph R. Biden, Jr. issued the following statement:

"We stand with the Cuban people and their clarion call for freedom and relief from the tragic grip of the pandemic and from the decades of repression and economic suffering to which they have been subjected by Cuba's authoritarian regime. The Cuban people are bravely asserting fundamental and universal rights. Those rights, including the right of peaceful protest and the right to freely determine their own future, must be respected. The United States calls on the Cuban regime to hear their people and serve their needs at this vital moment rather than enriching themselves."

Meanwhile, Diaz-Canel blamed the 60-year U.S. embargo for the declining conditions in his country, and that the protests were an American operation, which was denied by the Biden administration. Diaz-Canel also dubbed the protesters as "mercenaries."

**A BAN ON WEAPONS**

**Europe**

On July 14, the UK issued a tough ban on a wide range of knives, weapons, and firearms as part of government action to tackle violent crime and serious violence.

Cyclone knives, spiral knives and 'rapid-fire' rifles are among those covered by the ban, all of which have been associated with serious violence in communities across the country. A new legal definition of flick knives, banned since 1959, also takes effect, resulting in more of these bladed

weapons being outlawed.

All weapons banned in public by the Criminal Justice Act 1988, including zombie knives, shuriken or death stars and knuckledusters, will now also be banned in private, meaning people can no longer keep them at home.

Anyone unlawfully possessing a firearm covered by the ban will face up to 10 years in prison and those possessing one of the other weapons can be sentenced to up to six months' imprisonment or a fine or both.

From December 2020 to March 2021, the government ran a scheme allowing members of the public to surrender to the police any items that fell within the new ban and claim compensation from the Home Office.

During the period, 14,965 knives and offensive weapons, 1,133 'rapid fire' firearms (as defined within the Offensive Weapons Act) and more than

32,000 items of ancillary equipment were surrendered, with the Home Office receiving and processing 829 claims for compensation.

The government is also reminding members of the public about forthcoming changes to the law around antique firearms.

The Antique Firearms Regulations 2021, introduced in March this year, provides for the first time a legal definition of 'antique firearm' to prevent criminals exploiting a lack of clarity in law to gain possession of such a weapon for use in crime.

Owners of firearms which have ceased to be antiques as a result of the 2021 regulations have until Sept. 22 this year to apply to the police for a firearms certificate, which allows them to own these weapons legally. Alternatively, they can surrender, sell or otherwise dispose of the firearm before Sept. 22.

**TOWN WATCH** (Continued from page 13)

The MPU, added Germano, has been hampered by the lack of parts from its manufacturer. They have fallen into COVID-19-related supply chain disruptions that remain into press time.

The utility meanwhile finds an average 60 daily nonfunctioning meters. While all meters electronically report their status to the MPU garage every midnight, some are spotted by enforcers and/or the public.

Although the smart meters accept credit and debit cards, their batteries may drain when an object blocks its solar panels long enough. Some meters' coin slots are jammed by motorists or vandals.

**BELLEVILLE** - Mayor Michael Melham apparently got a little ahead of himself July 6 when he talked about the Township Council authorizing adjacent sites for two mini-soccer fields on their July 13 meeting.

The two 40-by-70-foot mini fields, a gift from the Players Development Academy and RWJBarnabas Health Clara Maas Medical Center, was on Tuesday night's agenda - but as a discussion item from the mayor.

Melham still intends to forward legislation to the council that would authorize PDA and its contractor to build the side-by-side fields - but it will take a little longer, pending Belleville elders' approval. The fields' location remains Melham's

secret until he posts the authorization.

Those two fields, when finished, will give Belleville youth a taste of soccer - also known as football outside of North America. It will be the first dual fields among the first six that the PDA is setting up statewide. Melham and Clara Maas President Mary Ellen Cline were guests of PDA, RWJBarnabas Health Beth Israel Medical Center and the City of Newark when they opened their field at 378 Lyons Ave. July 6.

PDA Urban Initiative Director Gerry McKeown, at Newark's opening, said that similar fields have been built this year in New Brunswick, Elizabeth and Paterson. They are to provide an urban stepping stone to organized youth teams without having to go to clubs that charge tuition.

The Township Council may take up Melham's authorization bill as early as their Aug. 17 meeting.

**NUTLEY / CLIFTON** - Drivers who use the 30-foot-long Third River bridge that spans Nutley and Clifton here have been following detours since July 6. That traffic includes NJTransit's buses on its Nos. 27-Nutley, 74-Delawanna, 190 series and 324 routes.

They will be getting used to those detours for between the next 300 days to a full year while the 121-year-old bridge is replaced. That work includes moving gas and sewer lines, new sidewalks, curbs, drainage inlets and a milled and paved surface.

The bridge was first built in 1900 and was widened in 1925. It is not immediately clear whether elements of the original bridge will be retained or reproduced as Essex County had with Nutley's Centre Street Bridge.

The project is called "Kingsland Road Bridge No. 1600-081," using Passaic County Roads Department and Clifton's name for the span. Nutley and Essex County call it the Kingsland Street Bridge.

Neither Nutley nor Essex County is objecting over the naming. Passaic County had agreed to hold off on starting their project until Essex County had completed the Centre Street Bridge project.



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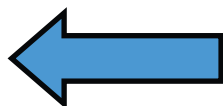
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