

ANOTHER QUAKE HITS HAITI OFFICIALS RECOMMEND THIRD VACCINE SHOT



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INDEX

Editorial & Weather	02
The Doctor Is In	04
World News	06
Finance At Your Fingertips	07
Town Watch	10
Protest of Cuba Blockade	11
Sports Wrap	11
From The Pastor's Heart	12



PRESIDENT BIDEN ADDRESSES CHAOS IN AFGHANISTAN

Photo Courtesy White House

WASHINGTON - With the stunning collapse of Afghanistan's government, both in scale and speed, U.S. President Joseph R. Biden, Jr. spoke to the American people on how he is handling the chaos in that nation.

Here now are remarks Biden made on Aug. 16, 2021:

"Good afternoon. I want to speak today to the unfolding situation in Afghanistan: the developments that have taken place in the last week and the steps we're taking to address the rapidly evolving events.

"My national security team and I have been closely monitoring the situ-

ation on the ground in Afghanistan and moving quickly to execute the plans we had put in place to respond to every constituency, including - and contingency - including the rapid collapse we're seeing now.

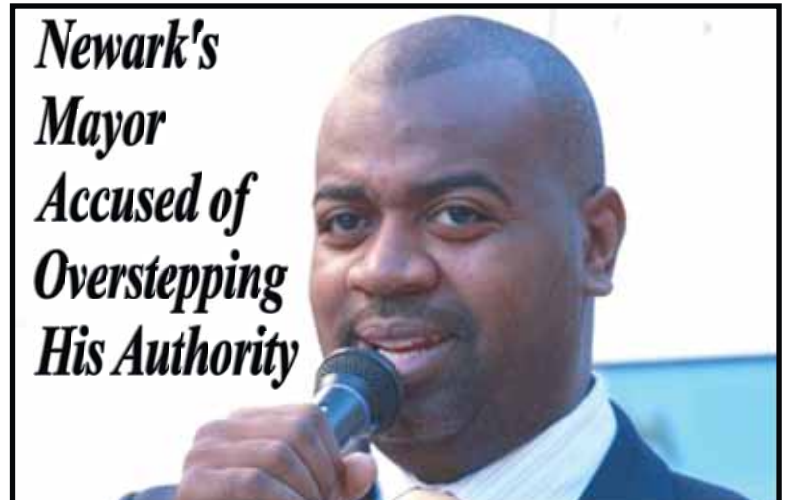
"I'll speak more in a moment about the specific steps we're taking, but I want to remind everyone how we got here and what America's interests are in Afghanistan.

"We went to Afghanistan almost 20 years ago with clear goals: get those who attacked us on September 11th, 2001, and make sure al Qaeda

(Continued on page 5)

HAS BARAKA GONE TOO FAR?

Newark's Mayor Accused of Overstepping His Authority



By Walter Elliott

NEWARK - City workers here who have not yet taken COVID-19 vaccinations have until Sept. 16 to make a choice that can affect employment status.

That choice is to get fully vaccinated and show proof thereof on or before that Thursday - or risk termination.

Mayor Ras Baraka had started that clock running effectively on Aug. 16 with his Aug. 9-issued executive order. That order, internally released among the city's personnel channels, requires employees to show proof of examination to their department head from Sept. 16 onward.

Employees also have to show their department heads weekly copies of negative COVID test results. This is a distinction from the either/or vaccination or weekly test-

(Continued on page 13)



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**PAGE
9**



Editorial

Dhiren Shah
Editor-In-Chief

Hello Readers,

The Biden Administration signed a peace agreement with the Taliban on or about February 28, 2021. Around April 15th, Biden announced the intention to pull US troops out by September 11, 2021, the 20th anniversary of the terror attacks that resulted in America going into Afghanistan to capture those behind it. Within a couple of months after the US started pulling out troops, the Taliban totally controlled Afghanistan.

When a ship is sinking, a good captain goes down with the ship. However, Afghan President Ashraf Ghani fled to Saudi Arabia. According to Reuters: "As

for the collapse of the (outgoing) regime, it is most eloquently characterized by the way Ghani fled Afghanistan,"

Nikita Ishchenko, a spokesman for the Russian embassy in Kabul, was quoted as saying by RIA, "Four cars were full of money, they tried to stuff another part of the money into a helicopter, but not all of it fit. And some of the money was left lying on the tarmac," he was quoted as saying."

Many politicians, as well as the news media, feel that this is the worst foreign policy move made by our President Joseph Biden. Within a couple of months, the Taliban took over Kabul, the capital city of Afghanistan unopposed. The US has stopped the Taliban for the past 20 years, and the President stated that we lost \$1 trillion and hundreds of lives of our soldiers. He said that it's not worth it.

Now the question arises, with Taliban having control over the country, will they be more

powerful than before? They may openly get support from other countries as a nation, rather than a terrorist group. Only time will tell whether it was a good move to leave.

Pakistan's President Imran Khan and some of the Pakistani leaders have celebrated the Taliban's victory in Afghanistan. Pakistan has a good relationship with the Taliban, and had a good relationship with Al-Qaeda leader Osama Bin Laden, who was killed on May 2, 2011, in Pakistan. Even after Bin Laden was killed, Pakistan did not deport his family members immediately, and took a year to do so.

Corruption is at a high point. The administrators and legislators make sure that the forms are very complicated when it comes to bids and contracts. They pre-decide who to give contracts to, but make sure that the paperwork is solid, so when the contract is awarded, no one can blame them for corruption.

America is a very advanced country, but as far as roads are concerned, despite the best technology, they cannot make roads that do not get ruined and make potholes in the winter. But the road contractors support the politicians, and they get the contracts year after year to pave the roads with the same shoddy work and materials. Meanwhile, we the taxpayers suffer year after year on roads with potholes.

Newark Mayor Baraka put out an executive order for all employees to be vaccinated by Sept. 14. As I heard, the employees must get tested every week, even if they are already vaccinated, or face consequences. I think Baraka is overstepping his authority against the wishes of the employees. Those who are vaccinated should not be tested every week, in my opinion

Have a wonderful week.

I'll talk to you next week.

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WEATHER FOR THE WEEK

THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY
Rain / T-Storms	Mostly Cloudy	Scattered T-Storms	Rain / T-Storms	Mostly Cloudy / Rain	Partly Cloudy	Partly Cloudy / Rain
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The Doctor Is In



Dr. Adil Manzoor OP/ED

COVID-19: Where Do We Stand?

Okay. It's been well over a year now since COVID first reared its ugly, disgusting head in the United States of America. But you know all about that, don't you? What you may be curious about is where we stand right now.

Let me give a quick summary: We're not in a great spot.

Some of you may think that's playing down our achievements, given the nature of the virus. But we are literally in a fourth wave! Cases are starting to rise again - that's not great. Eight months ago, that would have been even more horrible to hear. Luckily, we have vaccines now.

But that doesn't tell the full story. This is because of the emergence of new variants that have challenged the efficacy of our vaccines. Now, even the vaccine doesn't guarantee absolute protection, leading to booster doses that have complicated matters even more.

The good news (let's call it that) in all of this is hospitalizations and deaths are reducing. This is because of the protective effects of the vaccine.

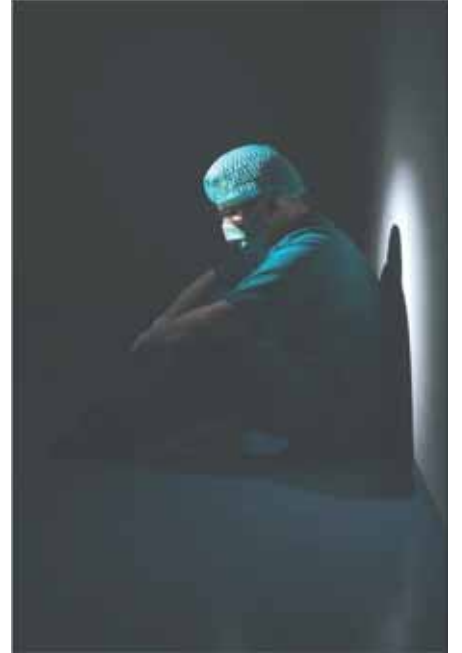
However, it's not all good news with transmission, though. Many states and counties have high or substantial transmission, leading to the CDC calling for masks to be worn at indoor gatherings. In Illinois, for instance, 101 of its 102 counties were experiencing either substantial or high levels of community trans-

mission. This should be where I go, 'I told you so!' but there's already enough negativity in the air so I'll let it slide.

The CDC sort of lifted the mask mandate some months ago. While masks were still required to be worn under some circumstances, many people took it the wrong way and stopped wearing them totally. And here we are - cases are increasing. Again.

Then there are also breakthrough infections, which are infections that arise even after full vaccination against the virus. This is really what triggered the administration of booster doses. Some weeks back, third doses were approved for immunocompromised patients. General belief is also that the US will approve booster doses eight months after people take the second vaccine dose. Maybe, and just maybe, we will be able to prevent the emergence of other variants.

What about testing? You may recollect one of the catchphrases of our former president was the testing in the United States being higher than every other part of the world. Testing, at the moment, is also not



enough. In fact, our Test Positivity Rate (TPR) went over 10% recently. High TPR values suggest higher transmission and that there are likely more people with coronavirus in the community who haven't been tested yet. So, we need to test more.

Let's examine deaths. Because cases are increasing, deaths, by implication, are also on the rise. But, unlike the other three waves, the curve isn't

(Continued on page 14)

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BIDEN SPEAKS

(Continued from page 1)

could not use Afghanistan as a base from which to attack us again.

“We did that. We severely degraded al Qaeda in Afghanistan. We never gave up the hunt for Osama bin Laden, and we got him. That was a decade ago.

“Our mission in Afghanistan was never supposed to have been nation building. It was never supposed to be creating a unified, centralized democracy. Our only vital national interest in Afghanistan remains today what it has always been: preventing a terrorist attack on American homeland.

“I’ve argued for many years that our mission should be narrowly focused on counterterrorism - not counterinsurgency or nation building. That’s why I opposed the surge when it was proposed in 2009 when I was Vice President.

“And that’s why, as President, I am adamant that we focus on the threats we face today in 2021 - not yesterday’s threats.

“Today, the terrorist threat

has metastasized well beyond Afghanistan: al Shabaab in Somalia, al Qaeda in the Arabian Peninsula, al-Nusra in Syria, ISIS attempting to create a caliphate in Syria and Iraq and establishing affiliates in multiple countries in Africa and Asia. These threats warrant our attention and our resources.

“We conduct effective counterterrorism missions against terrorist groups in multiple countries where we don’t have a permanent military presence.

“If necessary, we will do the same in Afghanistan. We’ve developed counterterrorism over-the-horizon capability that will allow us to keep our eyes firmly fixed on any direct threats to the United States in the region and to act quickly and decisively if needed.

“When I came into office, I inherited a deal that President Trump negotiated with the Taliban. Under his agreement, U.S. forces would be out of Afghanistan by May 1, 2021 - just a little over three months after I took office.

“U.S. forces had already drawn down during the Trump administration from roughly

15,500 American forces to 2,500 troops in country, and the Taliban was at its strongest militarily since 2001.

“The choice I had to make, as your President, was either to follow through on that agreement or be prepared to go back to fighting the Taliban in the middle of the spring fighting season.

“There would have been no ceasefire after May 1. There was no agreement protecting our forces after May 1. There was no status quo of stability without American casualties after May 1.

“There was only the cold reality of either following through on the agreement to withdraw our forces or escalating the conflict and sending thousands more American troops back into combat in Afghanistan, lurching into the third decade of conflict.

“I stand squarely behind my decision. After 20 years, I’ve learned the hard way that there was never a good time to withdraw U.S. forces. That’s why we were still there. We were clear-eyed about the risks. We planned for every contingency.

“But I always promised the American people that I will be

straight with you. The truth is: This did unfold more quickly than we had anticipated.

“So what’s happened? Afghanistan political leaders gave up and fled the country. The Afghan military collapsed, sometimes without trying to fight.

“If anything, the developments of the past week reinforced that ending U.S. military involvement in Afghanistan now was the right decision.

“American troops cannot and should not be fighting in a war and dying in a war that Afghan forces are not willing to fight for themselves. We spent over a trillion dollars. We trained and equipped an Afghan military force of some 300,000 strong - incredibly well equipped - a force larger in size than the militaries of many of our NATO allies.

“We gave them every tool they could need. We paid their salaries, provided for the maintenance of their air force - something the Taliban doesn’t have. Taliban does not have an air force. We provided close air support.

“We gave them every chance
(Continued on page 14)



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ANOTHER QUAKE HITS HAITI

CARIBBEAN

In the wake of a presidential assassination and a difficult recovery from a previous earthquake, Haiti has now been shaken by another one.

The United Nations is working to support rescue and relief efforts in Haiti following a powerful earthquake that has left over 2,000 dead, with many more injured and missing, and caused massive damage in the southwestern part of the country. Initial reports indicate more than 700 collapsed buildings, including hospitals and schools, more than 13,000 homes destroyed, and significant damage to roads.

UN chief António Guterres said that he is closely following the latest unfolding tragedy in Haiti, while UNICEF reported that its teams already on the ground are making assessments to prioritize urgent needs and provide assistance to affected populations in the wake of the 7.2 magnitude quake.

“My heart goes out to all affected by the earthquake. My deepest condolences to all who have lost family and friends,” the Secretary-General said on Twitter.

Later in a statement issued by his Spokesperson, Mr. Guterres said that the United Nations, together with the humanitarian community in Haiti, is supporting the Government’s efforts to assist those affected by the earthquake and stands ready to provide further backing to the response.

“Our thoughts are with the people of Haiti following the devastating earthquake, said UN Deputy Secretary-General Amina Mohammed in a Twitter post where she also stressed that the Organization “is committed to delivering in solidarity with you.”

Separately, Collen Vixen Kelapile, President of the UN Economic and Social Council said the “people of Haiti are in

our thoughts at this difficult time.” He added that the Council’s Ad Hoc Advisory Group on Haiti, will keep working to promote the long-term development of the country, referring to the body created to provide advice and promote socioeconomic recovery, reconstruction and stability in the country.

The effort to stabilize the island nation is being further hampered by Tropical Storm Grace, which brought rain, mudslides and heavy winds.

OFFICIALS RECOMMEND THIRD VACCINE SHOT

UNITED STATES

As many were wondering if health officials would back the concept of a booster shot for COVID-19 protection, an even bolder idea was coming to fruition.

Days after recommending that people with compromised immune systems get booster shots, officials with the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) have announced that it would recommend another vaccine shot for everyone, regardless of their immunity.

Several health officials from these outlets, including CDC Director Rochelle P. Walensky and White House adviser Dr. Anthony Fauci, released the following statement:

“The COVID-19 vaccines authorized in the United States continue to be remarkably effective in reducing risk of severe disease, hospitalization, and death, even against the widely circulating Delta variant. Recognizing that many vaccines are associated with a reduction in protection over time, and acknowledging that additional vaccine doses could be needed to provide long lasting protection, we have been analyzing the scientific data closely from the United States and around the world to understand how long this protection will last and how we might maximize this protection.

“The available data make very clear that protection against SARS-CoV-2 infection begins to decrease over time following the initial doses of vaccination, and in association with the domi-

nance of the Delta variant, we are starting to see evidence of reduced protection against mild and moderate disease. Based on our latest assessment, the current protection against severe disease, hospitalization, and death could diminish in the months ahead, especially among those who are at higher risk or were vaccinated during the earlier phases of the vaccination rollout. For that reason, we conclude that a booster shot will be needed to maximize vaccine-induced protection and prolong its durability.

“We have developed a plan to begin offering these booster shots this fall subject to FDA conducting an independent evaluation and determination of the safety and effectiveness of a third dose of the Pfizer and Moderna mRNA vaccines and CDC’s Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP) issuing booster dose recommendations based on a thorough review of the evidence. We are prepared to offer booster shots for all Americans beginning the week of September 20 and starting 8 months after an individual’s second dose.

“At that time, the individuals who were fully vaccinated earliest in the vaccination rollout, including many health care providers, nursing home residents, and other seniors, will likely be eligible for a booster. We would also begin efforts to deliver booster shots directly to residents of long-term care facilities at that time, given the distribution of vaccines to this population early in the vaccine rollout and the continued increased risk that COVID-19 poses to them.

“We also anticipate booster shots will likely be needed for people who received the Johnson & Johnson (J&J) vaccine. Administration of the J&J vaccine did not begin in the U.S. until March 2021, and we expect more data on J&J in the next few weeks. With those data in hand, we will keep the public informed with a timely plan for J&J booster shots as well.

“Our top priority remains staying ahead of the virus and protecting the American people from COVID-19 with safe, effective, and long-lasting vaccines especially in the context of a constantly changing virus and epidemiologic landscape. We

will continue to follow the science on a daily basis, and we are prepared to modify this plan should new data emerge that requires it.

“We also want to emphasize the ongoing urgency of vaccinating the unvaccinated in the U.S. and around the world. Nearly all the cases of severe disease, hospitalization, and death continue to occur among those not yet vaccinated at all. We will continue to ramp up efforts to increase vaccinations here at home and to ensure people have accurate information about vaccines from trusted sources. We will also continue to expand our efforts to increase the supply of vaccines for other countries, building further on the more than 600 million doses we have already committed to donate globally.”

IVORY COAST CONFIRMS EBOLA CASE

AFRICA

On Aug. 14, the Ministry of Health of Cote d’Ivoire (Ivory Coast) confirmed the country’s first case of Ebola since 1994. This came after the Institut Pasteur in Cote d’Ivoire confirmed the Ebola Virus Disease in samples collected from a patient, who was hospitalized in the commercial capital of Abidjan, after arriving from Guinea.

Initial investigations found that the patient had travelled to Cote d’Ivoire by road and arrived in Abidjan on Aug. 12. The patient was admitted to a hospital after experiencing a fever and is currently receiving treatment.

Guinea experienced a four-month long Ebola outbreak, which was declared over on the June 19, 2021. There is no indication that the current case in Cote d’Ivoire is linked to the earlier outbreak in Guinea. Further investigation and genomic sequencing will identify the strain and determine if there is a connection between the two outbreaks.

This year Ebola outbreaks have been declared in the Democratic Republic of the Congo and Guinea, but it is the first time an outbreak has occurred in a large capital city such as Abidjan since the 2014–2016 West Ebola outbreak.

(Continued on page 15)

Finance At Your Fingertips



Moses Ayiku, Jr. MBA OP/ED

Starting A Business: Part 6

As we continue to provide information about starting a business, please note that our ultimate objective is to successfully set up a business that will grow with time. It never ceases to amaze me how a business can start on a very small scale and grow like a plant over time. If a business does not grow with time, then there is something wrong and that must be identified and addressed sooner than later.

Over the years, I have worked with clients and seen how a good idea, well implemented can lead to the existence and growth of a thriving business. It is an amazing thing! Interacting with such entrepreneurs, one would marvel at their success. Sheer determination and a fundamentally good business idea are the backbone of such success.

A typical question that one can ask is, what are the key success factors in setting up a new business? In other words, what can one do to ensure that the business one sets up grows to be a solid and profitable one?

Keep your eyes on the money always. Some who didn't do this have been known to fail. There have been a number of cases where a person who starts a new business with a fundamentally good business concept, ends up closing their doors and declaring bankruptcy. The main reason for this is because they did not keep their eyes on the money side of the business.

Please ensure that you always have a grip on your finances at any time to avoid this calamity. One may have to decide on an accounting software to

keep track of the finances. There are a number of accounting software out there and many of them have various pricing plan options that one can pick from. It is important to not only buy the software, but to actually use it!

The accounting software available on the market usually have simple menus and with time one can become an expert on the software. That is how one can obtain the most from the software; having superior knowledge on how to use the software. It may be beneficial to undergo training on the software so that one is conversant with their operation. That is how one can gain the most out of them.

In keeping your eyes on the money, ensure that you have daily, weekly or monthly budgets to guide your operations. Budgets must be realistic and as accurate as possible. Develop cash flow projections that can let you know whether your business can stay in operation or not. When it comes to finances of the business, the concept of prudence should be utilized as much as possible. If you really don't need to spend on an item, don't.

A major reason why some businesses fail, is the lack of funds. Being well resourced is a necessary requirement for any business. As we hinted earlier, raising funds for a business in most cases is not a walk in the park. It requires a lot of quality information to be produced, a business plan and good credit amongst other things. All these invariably take time, something that is of course limited.

When you start your business, please follow your business plan. It should have clear cut steps and stages that one can follow. For example, the business plan typically will have an implementation schedule. This schedule provides details of key activities that one must undertake to set up the business properly. The schedule will indicate that on a month-by-month basis certain steps have to be taken.

The business plan could also have different phases for establishing the business. For example, a business can have a phase one where they deal only with retail customers. Phase two would allow the business to now

(Continued on page 12)

BANKRUPTCY

CHAPTER 7 BANKRUPTCY
CHAPTER 13 BANKRUPTCY

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Bloomfield	5498	125	5562	125
Caldwell	634	16	643	16
Cedar Grove	1598	121	1611	121
East Orange	7383	315	7450	315
Essex Fells	194	2	203	2
Fairfield	902	31	919	31
Glen Ridge	417	14	417	14
Irvington	4922	234	4983	237
Livingston	1913	88	1944	88
Maplewood	1388	37	1399	37
Millburn	851	10	865	10
Montclair	2372	72	2389	73
Newark	37985	1018	38291	1021
North Caldwell	510	6	518	6
Nutley	3131	66	3160	66
Orange	3651	136	3684	136
Roseland	483	16	491	16
South Orange	923	16	939	16
Verona	1030	18	1045	18
West Caldwell	1084	54	1094	54
West Orange	4684	232	4748	232
Total	87348	2743	88212	2750

OTHER COVID-19 TALLIES (As of August 18, 2021)
NJ: 930,076 cases / 24,000 deaths (Plus 2,721 probable)
United States (approx.): 37.07 Million / 624,000 deaths
Worldwide (approx.): 209 Million / 4.39 Million deaths

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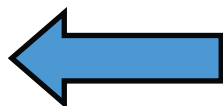
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- David Sonenberg, MS, RD, CDE

PRIMARY CARE/ INTERNAL MEDICINE

- Eddy Simon, MD
- Paul Cahiwat, MD
- Nancy Cahiwat, MD
- Mamatha Mohan, MD
- Myriam Sterlin, MD
- Aleksander Lekan, MD
- Indu Vira, MD
- Hemlata Bhatia, MD
- Narinda Kaur, MD
- Normita Narvaez, MD
- Deepa Rajiv, MD
- Nivia Rowe, APN
- Rody Dalbe, APN
- Sanjaykumar Shah, APN
- Mary Elias, APN
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| West Orange: | 92 Old Northfield Avenue | Tel. 973-736-5552 |

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 - Several Newark Police Division officers quickly diffused and disarmed a man with two weapons during a "Community Movie Night." here at Weequahic Park July 28.

Newark Public Safety Director Brian O'Hara, who released an officer's body camera footage Aug. 2, said two officers were on patrol along Elizabeth Avenue when they were approached by several park-goers at 9:45 p.m. that Wednesday.

They said that they had come for a screening of "Soul" but were disturbed by a man wielding a knife and a pry bar or crowbar. The officers used a plastic orange construction barrel as a shield while asking adjacent people to disperse and order the man to drop his weapons.

Officers resorted to OC-spraying the man to subdue him. Marcelino Canterero, 46, of Newark, was charged with unlawful possession of a weapon, disorderly conduct and resisting arrest.

1 Dead, 8 Hurt in Car-Bus Crash

The ECPO Crash Scene Investigation Unit is seeking out how a car ran head-on into an NJTransit bus in front of the Hawthorne Avenue School here 5:30 a.m. Aug. 17.

NJT NABI bus No. 5982 was east on Hawthorne, on its No. 27B Irvington-Bloomfield run with seven passengers aboard when the driver of a 2007 Chevy Impala turned left from Clinton Place and into the bus' path.

The car's driver, later identified as Paige N. Graham, 33, of Newark, was declared dead at the scene just after 6:00 a.m. The

bus driver and four passengers were taken to a local hospital; the other three were treated at the scene. Buses on the Nos. 27 and 13V routes were detoured.

IRVINGTON - The first State Superior Court-Newark criminal trial ended Aug. 9 with the conviction of a township man in the Nov. 1, 2018 murder of a Newark man in the city's West Side.

The jury told Superior Court Judge Martin Cronin that they found Harold Colbert, 45, guilty of murder, unlawful possession of a weapon and possession thereof for an unlawful purpose pertaining to the death of Daquan Cuttino, 25.

Colbert was accused of firing at Cuttino 11 times along the 600 block of 18th Avenue after midnight Nov. 1, 2018. Eight bullets struck Cuttino, resulting in his death at University Hospital at 1:40 a.m.

Colbert and Cuttino, who were acquainted with each other, had a "friendly conversation" that turned into a fight.

Cronin is to sentence Colbert to at least 30 years in prison without parole Oct. 1. County prosecutors, citing Colbert's previous violent and narcotics records going back to 1995, are asking for the maximum sentence.

Colbert was sentenced to a five-year sentence Dec. 17, 1999, after pleading guilty to aggravated assault and possession of a weapon for an unlawful cause. He was previously sentenced to a five-year term March 24, 1995, after being convicted of possessing cocaine within 1,000 feet of a school and possession thereof with intent to distribute.

EAST ORANGE - It was not unusual that city firefighters assisted a man who had walked into their station here at 321 Dodd St. 6:10 p.m. Aug. 7. When Station 3 personnel realized that the man's face wound was caused by a gunshot, they called police.

EOPD officers promptly blocked Dodd Street between Brighton and Midland avenues in a search for shell casings and other gunfire evidence. Their search detoured NJTransit's buses on its No. 92 route that night.

A local EMT ambulance was called to take the victim to a local hospital for further treatment.

EOPD Station 3 serves the city's Franklin/Rattlesnake Hill and Doddtown sections.

ORANGE - Do not put Orange into either the pro- or anti- Cannabis-Based Business camp quite yet, for Mayor Dwayne Warren, on Aug. 14, has vetoed Ordinance 14-2021.

Warren, in his announcement received by City Clerk Joyce Lanier 9:25 a.m. Aug. 16, said he vetoed 14-2021 in part by "my conclusion that adoption of such legislation as written is not in the best interest of the City of Orange Township."

The mayor was left to either sign or veto the ordinance that the City Council, on a 5-2 vote, had passed Aug. 4. The bill bans all six classes of CBBs within city limits, as outlined by state law, through 2026.

"Ordinance 14-2021 is potentially void," continued Warren, "as certain votes were improperly cast, and council members may have held illegal deliberations between the first and second readings of this legislation."

The mayor may have been alluding to a list of questions that East Ward Councilman/Council President Kerry Coley said, on Aug. 4, "a majority of the Council" had sent to Warren regarding 14-2021. Councilwoman Adrienne Wooten and South Ward colleague Jamie Summers-Johnson, who are against the ban bill, said at that same meeting that they were not included in the drafting of questions.

Wooten and Summers-Johnson, before the Bwrnbox CBD business in the Valley Aug. 12, started a petition drive to override 14-021. Bwrnbox, which moved from Maplewood some 18 months ago, sells products without the THC narcotic chemical.

The Council has meanwhile called a special virtual meeting for 7 p.m. Aug. 20 to amend the vetoed bill - two days ahead of Gov. Phil Murphy's Aug. 22 deadline. Council members Coley, Tency Eason, Harold Johnson, Jr., Clifford Ross and Wheldon "Monty" Montague III - who had all voted for the ban bill Aug. 4 - are sponsoring the amendment, Municipalities who do not pass a CBB- allowing or banning bill are subject to the state imposing all six classes on

them - but leave the said towns with the power to license the said businesses.

Members of the public are to leave questions and/or comments with Clerk Lanier's office via Citizencomments@orangenj.gov before 7 p.m. Aug. 19.

WEST ORANGE - The Township Council had an apparent "hold the phone" moment just when they were about to take a step towards buying back to-be-redeveloped property here at their Aug. 17 meeting.

The Council, after holding a second reading and public hearing on Ordinance 2651-21 Tuesday night, "recessed" that bill instead of taking a final vote. It will be a long "phone holding" since they will revisit at their Dec. 14 meeting.

Ord. 2651-21 would authorize the township to bond \$13 million to buy back seven properties from owner GP Lakeside Urban Renewal LLC, of Bloomfield, and redeveloper Prism Capital Partners. The pretext was that Prism, after 15 years in redevelopment, had defaulted on a payment to West Orange May 25.

Prism was designated as the redeveloper of the township's Main Street Redevelopment Project in 2006. Prism, for Phase One redevelopment, had eventually turned the old Thomas A. Edison battery factory into the Edison Lofts apartment/retail complex.

Prism, on the other hand, has failed to start work on 4, 12-16, 18, 20, 24, 28, 42-49 and 55 Lakeside Ave. The 9.03 acre 55 Lakeside Ave. was the former McGraw-Edison headquarters, Barton Press building and outgoing DPW garage.

Behind-the-scenes negotiations between West Orange and Prism/GP Lakeside, however, may have postponed the township from going to the bond market.

SOUTH ORANGE - A longstanding Village Center restaurant remains closed for repairs after experiencing a second fire in nine days there Aug. 13.

SOFD Headquarters firefighters, the village's recuse squad, several South Orange Police officers and a Maplewood fire crew converged on 106 W.

(Continued on page 14)

NEWARK HOMICIDES BEING INVESTIGATED

NEWARK - Acting Essex County Prosecutor Theodore N. Stephens, II, and Newark Public Safety Director Brian A. O'Hara announced that the Essex County Prosecutor's Office Homicide/Major Crimes Task Force, which includes detectives from the Newark Police Department, are investigating two fatal shootings

On Sunday Aug. 15, Newark Police responded to the 700 block of South 18th Street on a report of a shooting. Following additional investigative steps, they later found the victim, Tony Madison, 36, of Newark, in a vehicle in the 400 block of Avon Avenue with fatal injuries. Madison was pronounced dead at the scene at 4:23 pm. Another male victim was also shot but sustained non-life-threatening injuries.

On Monday, Aug. 16 at approximately 7:53 pm Newark Police responded to a report of shots fired in the area of Central Avenue and South 9th Street.

Police found the victim, Antonio McCrimmon, 27, of Newark, in the street. He was transported to University Hospital where he was pronounced dead at 8:07 pm.

Anyone with information is asked to contact the Essex County Prosecutor's Office Homicide/Major Crimes Task Force at 1-877-TIPS-4EC or 1-877-847-7432. Calls will be kept confidential.

PROTESTERS DEMAND LIFTING OF CUBA BLOCKADE



By Lev D. Zilbermints

About 35 people participated in a protest held August 11 by Newark Penn Station, demanding the lifting of the blockade on Cuba. Originally scheduled to be at 1 Gateway Hilton, the offices of U.S. Senators Cory Booker and Robert Menendez, the protest was moved to the corner of Market Street and Raymond Blvd. because of ongoing construction.

The protest was organized by NY-NJ Cuba Si Coalition; Socialist Workers Party '21 Campaign; Veterans for Peace; Green Party; International Free Alex Saab Committee; People's Organization for Progress;

Workers World; and other organizations.

As cars honked in support and Cuban flags imprinted with an image of Che Guevara flapped in the wind, speakers delivered fiery speeches blasting U.S. imperialism. Chants of "Cuba Si, Blo quo (Blockade) No!" repeatedly filled the air.

A petition to stop U.S. - Republic of South Korea military exercises was circulated among the attendees.

Sara Flounders, of International Action Center, told the audience that "U.S. sanctioned 39 countries, including Somalia, Syria, Iran, Afghanistan, Nicaragua. A third of the world are sanctioned. We stand against U.

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SPORTS WRAP



By William Hathaway, Jr.

The annual "Snoopy Bowl" took place this past weekend at MetLife Stadium, with the New York Jets beating the New York Giants 12-7. Jets QB of the future and 2nd pick overall Zach Wilson saw his first action, going 6-9 for 63 yards, while Giants starter Daniel Jones did not play in the preseason matchup. This week, the Giants will be playing on the road against the Cleveland Browns, with both teams competing in joint practices. Meanwhile, the Jets will be at the Green Bay Packers.

This coming Saturday

throughout New Jersey, the 2021 high school football season will kick off. The Orange Tornadoes finished 5-4 last season, and kicked off their latest campaign with a scrimmage against River Dell at Bell Stadium. The East Orange Jaguars competed in a three way scrimmage with Union and Phillipsburg. Also, the West Side Rough Riders are set for a scrimmage against rival Shabazz at Untermann Field. West Side who finished with a 5 -1 record this past season. Finally, the Irvington Blue Knights will travel to Somerville for their first scrimmage of the season.

S. imperialism. Humanitarian crisis in Cuba. Who created it? The U.S."

"This... is solidarity with all the people of the world."

The protesters also demanded the release of Alex Saab, a former diplomat who was allegedly "kidnapped by U.S. govern-

ment for trying to buy humanitarian relief in violation of U.S. sanctions."

"He is not alone. The people of the world are with him. And we support him just like we support sending supplies [to Cuba]," Flounders said.



From The Pastor's Heart

OP-ED BY DR. ROBERT KENNEDY

The Common Good

A few weeks ago, after hearing one more person speaking about their choice and their freedom to take the vaccination or not and stating that people have the right to wear a mask or not, my wife and I decided to push back by reminding them of the "common good."

I read the introductory part of an essay that was published February 2018, in the Stanford Encyclopedia of Philosophy in that "in ordinary political discourse, the 'common good' refers to those facilities - whether material, cultural or institutional - that the members of a community provide to all members in order to fulfill a relational obligation they all have to care for certain interests that they have in common."

The canonical examples of the common good that are offered in a modern liberal democracy include the road system; public parks; police protection and public safety; courts and the judicial system; public schools; museums and cultural institutions; public transportation; civil liberties, such as the freedom of speech and the freedom of association; the system of property; clean air and clean water; and national defense. The term, it says, may refer either to the interests that members have in common or to the facilities that serve common interests.

After reflecting on the philo-

sophical description, above, I have been asking myself, how much are we taking responsibility today for the "common good?" Unfortunately, the response to the coronavirus has been teaching many lessons about the unwillingness of many to care about "the common good."

Of course, we can see the lack of care about the common good in many other areas than in the pandemic, and such is creating destruction in multiple areas of our lives. The rise in temperatures, the slow melting ice caps on the mountains, the rise of the oceans and the seas, the flooding rivers, the tornadoes and hurricanes, the drought and tragic fires in the western part of the United States, in Europe and other parts of the world, the famines, the earthquakes, and all that is attributable to climate change, are telling a story about our selfishness and self-centeredness.

As is being said, we are seeking to "satisfy our greed and not our need." We are seeking our own happiness and not that of others. We are forgetting the word of God, as stated in Matthew 7:1) that we are to "do to others as we would like them to do to us."

Or are we forgetting to remember the commandments of the Lord as first stated in the First Testament of the Bible (Deuteronomy 6:5; Leviticus 19:18) and repeated in the Second Testament by Jesus as He replied to questions put to him by a scribal teacher? In response to one such question, Jesus said, "Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind.' This is the first and greatest commandment. And the second is like it: 'Love your neighbor as yourself.'

All the Law and the Prophets hang on these two commandments." (Matthew 22:37-40).

In effect, in responding to the scribe, Jesus was challenging the deep-hearted self-centeredness of His day, and there is no question that if He were on earth today, he would be confronting and condemning the same self-centeredness. Quite likely, he might have asked us to evaluate what we call our cultural ideal, namely, Individualism, which is stated to be one of the four great pillars of American life, and the others, "pluralism," "Evangelicalism," and "capitalism."

He would be asking us to evaluate the political ideology that teaches, "It is your money; Use it how you want." He would be telling us that our words and phrases might sound good for a political campaign. Finally, he would contend about our proclamations of our concept of freedom, saying that we are building up selfishness into our hearts, which has been the tragic flaw of humanity since "the fall" (Genesis 3). I know some of you who might be reading the reflection might not like the concept of "the fall," but I am sure you know that something is wrong with our world, and at the center of it is selfishness.

I have said that this coronavirus has taught me more and more about the selfish hearts of humanity. The simple calls to wear a mask and take the vaccine bring so many negative reactions that it is amazing. Some governors are using dictatorial powers, as it were, to stop mask-wearing, while other governors and mayors, school superintendents, and other leaders who are calling for the wearing of masks are being attacked.

The point is that is most interesting is that some who even claim to be very religious, some calling themselves Christians or "nones," have fallen into the camp of the self-centered. Yes, many have forgotten that the earliest Christians worked together, "having all things in common in practice" (Acts 2:44). They not only prayed together and studied the word of God together, but they shared their possessions with one another.

One commentator states: "The hateful sin of selfishness exists to a great degree, even in some who profess to be devoted to the work of God. If they would compare their character with his requirements, especially with the great standard, his holy, just, and good law, they would ascertain, if earnest, honest searchers, that they are fearfully wanting. But some are not willing to look far enough or deep enough to see the depravity of their own hearts.

"They are wanting in very many respects; yet they remain in willing ignorance of their guilt and are so intent upon caring for their own interests that God has no care for them. Some are not naturally devotional, and therefore should encourage and cultivate a habit of close examination of their own lives and motives, and should especially cherish a love for religious exercises and for secret prayer." (EGW92 111.2)

At this time, I am calling for us to think more of the "common good" and think more about our responsibilities. Remember that whenever we think about our survival as individuals and the well-being of others, that there will be a positive impact on the social system.

FINANCE (Continued from page 7)

deal with corporate customers. The typical reason for such an approach is that initially a business may not be able to put all the structures in place as well as the finances to immediately start serving corporate clients. Such clients usually require bulk orders with certain specifications.

In such a situation, it is better to start simple, work on developing the business as one serves the retail customers, improve and enhance operations, before eventually opening the door to corporate clients. The strug-

gle to service corporate clients is important because such clients mean larger revenues and larger profits if well done. Corporate clients with their sizable orders, could be the reason a business enjoys significant growth and larger profits with time.

When a business is able to control its finances properly and maintain sound financial practices, this can go a long way in ensuring profitability. At the end of the day, that is why the business was set up! Amongst other reasons, businesses are set up to make a profit! Keep your eyes on the numbers, always. With time you will be surprised at

how adept you will become in handling your finances. There are abundant training programs and resources available that can assist you to acquire skills that can help with establishing a sound business.

In the next part we will continue with information about starting a new business. Please feel free to share with me your questions and experiences on starting a new business. 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 localtalknews@gmail.com.

BARAKA (Continued from page 1)

ing choice that New York City Mayor Bill de Blasio and most other mayors have directed their workforce.

Those who choose to vaccinate have either the two-shot Pfizer and Moderna inoculations or the single-shot Johnson & Johnson inoculation. Either way, Mayor Baraka wants city workers to be fully vaccinated on or before Sept. 16.

Proof of vaccination and weekly tests are to be offered up every Tuesday. Only results from Polymerase Chain Reaction tests, not the rapid tests, will be accepted.

Employees will take their own vaccinations and tests on their own dime and time. Those who do not furnish their test results will initially be sent home unpaid - and put themselves on a path towards termination.

Baraka's administrators will allow individual exemptions on certified medical or religious grounds. Other reasons for non-vaccination - from waiting for full FDA testing and/or approval to freedom of personal choice to anti-vaxxers' conspiracy theories - are not going to cut it with the department heads.

The above is to the understanding of "Local Talk" as of press time. Executive Order MEO-21-0008 has not been directly posted on the City of Newark website. Its existence became public when a copy was found by a media outlet Aug. 14.

The mayor, who has been on the COVID containment forefront since March 2020, cited rising infections from COVID-19's Delta variant and growing hospitalizations among the unvaccinated for this order.

"Requiring our municipal workers to receive the COVID-19 vaccine is about protecting the health and well-being of our municipal team, (and) our families as well as the residents and visitors they come into contact with," said Baraka. "As positive coronavirus cases are rising again, due to the highly contagious Delta variant, we need to take whatever steps necessary to safeguard and ensure everyone's safety."

Baraka's order was written eight days after Gov. Phil Murphy his own executive order that

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workers in "high-risk congregate settings" be vaccinated or take weekly tests. Murphy's Aug. 2 executive orders those who work in hospitals, public and private healthcare centers, prisons and other places of high contact.

Murphy (D-Rumson) has given the above employees Sept. 7 to vaccinate or get weekly tested.

Both Baraka and Murphy may base their orders on a March 22 N.J. Department of Health and Senior Services ruling where an employer may require residents to be COVID-19-vaccinated before entering a

workplace. (Religious, disability and pregnant/breastfeeding exemptions are to be honored.)

Newark, New Jersey, New York City and State have worked to get their populations to 70-percent fully inoculated into this summer. While New Jersey reached 70 percent, Newark, East Orange, Irvington and Orange have struggled to rise above the 40th percentile.

Those reluctant to vaccinate include demographic groups who are skeptical of the medical profession - some remember The Tuskegee Experiment - and those who "wait-and-see." There

are medical professionals and employees who have a 50-percent full vaccination rate.

This order includes members of civilian and uniform union members. There had been first responder representatives who have said their members are 50-percent fully vaccinated.

Some union members have been asking their shop stewards or representatives: "Can the Mayor do this? Does this violate our contract?"

"We stand behind a vaccine and/or a choice of being tested," said Newark Firefighters Union
 (Continued on page 14)

BIDEN SPEAKS (Continued from page 5)

to determine their own future. What we could not provide them was the will to fight for that future...

"...Now, let me lay out the current mission in Afghanistan. I was asked to authorize - and I did - 6,000 U.S. troops to deploy to Afghanistan for the purpose of assisting in the departure of U.S. and Allied civilian personnel from Afghanistan, and to evacuate our Afghan allies and vulnerable Afghans to safety outside of Afghanistan.

"Our troops are working to secure the airfield and to ensure continued operation of both the civilian and military flights. We're taking over air traffic control. We have safely shut down our embassy and transferred our diplomats. Our diplomatic presence is now consolidated at the airport as well.

"Over the coming days, we intend to

transport out thousands of American citizens who have been living and working in Afghanistan. We'll also continue to support the safe departure of civilian personnel - the civilian personnel of our Allies who are still serving in Afghanistan.

"Operation Allies Refuge, which I announced back in July, has already moved 2,000 Afghans who are eligible for Special Immigration Visas and their families to the United States.

"In the coming days, the U.S. military will provide assistance to move more SIV-eligible Afghans and their families out of Afghanistan...

"...I'm now the fourth American President to preside over war in Afghanistan - two Democrats and two Republicans. I will not pass this responsibility on to a fifth President.

"I will not mislead the American people

by claiming that just a little more time in Afghanistan will make all the difference. Nor will I shrink from my share of responsibility for where we are today and how we must move forward from here.

"I am President of the United States of America, and the buck stops with me..."

"...I know my decision will be criticized, but I would rather take all that criticism than pass this decision on to another President of the United States - yet another one - a fifth one.

"Because it's the right one - it's the right decision for our people. The right one for our brave service members who have risked their lives serving our nation. And it's the right one for America.

"So, thank you. May God protect our troops, our diplomats, and all of the brave Americans serving in harm's way."

THE DOCTOR IS IN

(Continued from page 4)

sharp. That's relieving, and goes to reinforce the benefits of vaccinations for both hospitalizations and deaths.

And speaking of which, the United States has more than 60% of its population having taken at least one dose. I, and many others for that, used to think herd immunity was the way to go. But that idea is starting to seem more

unlikely.

There are many uncertainties regarding this virus and vaccines for it because it's a novel virus. But one thing is certain - we still have a long way to go before we can truly overcome the coronavirus. And vaccines are still the only way we know that can get us through it all.

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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BARAKA

(Continued from page 13)

President Chuck West Aug. 14. "When you put in the fact that you'll be disciplined for not having it, that's where we have some problems."

"We feel that we were not negotiated with and this is hasty," said Newark Fire Officers Union No. 191 President Anthony Tar-

antino. "We have not been able to discuss the impact from this order."

"We demand to negotiate over the impact issues," said Newark Police Superior Officers Association President Capt. John J. Crystal III. "We want to sit down and work this out with the city, but the mayor just issued the order without any input, without any negotiations with any of the unions.

But has Baraka's clock been frozen for police officers and firefighters?

The New Jersey Public Employee Relations Commission issued a temporary restraint on Baraka's executive order Monday on behalf of the said labor unions. That clock may remain frozen until that commission holds a hearing on or before Aug. 31.

American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees New Jersey Council 63 has meanwhile announced that Gov. Murphy's office will hold a meeting with them regarding his Aug. 2 order

TOWN WATCH

(Continued from page 10)

South Orange Ave. early Friday afternoon. Village Fire Chief Dan Sullivan said they were responding to a phone call of help from Reservoir Restaurant owner Billy Agnellino.

Firefighters found that a pizza oven fire had spread into the eatery's back wall. Although the blaze was extinguished within 30 minutes, they had to open sections of that wall in a search for any further fire spread.

Agnellino said that they had just reopened that day after repairing the damage done by An

Aug. 5 fire. That blaze was in a kitchen exhaust vent.

The MFD fire engine crew was automatically dispatched as part of the two-towns' fire-fighting consolidation process. OPD officers detoured local traffic. SORD passed out water bottles to firefighters while on standby.

The restaurant, known for its Tony salad, had been present for at least 24 years.

MAPLEWOOD - The township's Jefferson Village Center will be getting a new grocer in a Green Way Markets in the old Kings of Maplewood building. Just when Green Way will move

into 159 Maplewood Ave., however, remains an open question.

Deputy Mayor Dean Dafis said during the Township Committee's Aug. 3 remote meeting that the Maplewood Center Alliance told him that Green Way, of Midtown Manhattan, had bought the store from KB US Holdings, of Parsippany.

KB had ended King's 79-year run here Dec. 4, despite its consistent profitability, as part of its bankruptcy reorganization. The Maplewood store was among six Kings not included in the 27-store chain's \$96.4 million sale to Albertson's-Acme.

Midtown Commercial Realty Principal Carlo Caparruva, of

Millburn, which handled the KB -Green Way sale, told RealEstateNJ.com Aug. 16 that the latter paid \$200 per square foot.

Residents and passers-by said they have seen demolition teams clearing out the old supermarket since Aug. 4. Dafis, who is the committee's liaison to the MCA, projects a Green Way grand opening in "two or three months."

Green Way's other markets are in West New York and Ridgewood N.J. and Lewisboro, N.Y.'s Cross River section. The Ridgewood store was also a former Kings. The three-store chain is noted for its emphasis on fresh

(Continued on page 15)

WORLD NEWS (Continued from page 6)

"It is of immense concern that this outbreak has been declared in Abidjan, a metropolis of more than 4 million people," said Dr. Matshidiso Moeti, World Health Organization (WHO) Regional Director for Africa. "However, much of the world's expertise in tackling Ebola is here on the continent and Cote d'Ivoire can tap into this experience and bring the response to full speed. The country is one of the six that WHO has supported recently to beef up their Ebola readiness and this quick diagnosis shows preparedness is paying off."

WHO is helping to coordinate cross-border Ebola response activities and 5,000

Ebola vaccines doses which the organization helped secure to fight the outbreak in Guinea are now being transferred to Cote d'Ivoire, following an agreement between the ministries of health of Cote d'Ivoire and Guinea. An aircraft is departing Abidjan soon to collect the vaccines which will be used to vaccinate people at high risk, including health workers, first responders and contacts of confirmed cases.

WHO staff based in Cote d'Ivoire are supporting the investigation into the case. In addition, a multidisciplinary team of WHO experts covering all key response areas will be deployed rapidly to the field. They will help with ramping up infection prevention and control of health facilities, diagnostics,

contact tracing, treatment and reaching out to communities to ensure they take a key role in the response.

Cote d'Ivoire declared the outbreak in line with International Health Regulations and WHO does not advise any travel restrictions to and from the country.

While countries are focused on the COVID-19 response, they should strengthen their preparedness for potential Ebola cases.

Ebola is a severe, often fatal illness affecting humans and other primates. Case fatality rates have varied from 25% to 90% in past outbreaks. There is now effective treatment available and if patients receive treatment early, as well as supportive care, their chances of survival improve significantly.

TOWN WATCH (Continued from page 14)

produce, a coffee and burger bar and, pre-pandemic, a lounge area.

BLOOMFIELD - Police detectives are on the lookout for the man who ran and drove away from a North Center convenience store on Aug. 4 with a carton of cigarettes.

Employees of the 7-Eleven here at 544 Broad St. told responding BPD officers that "a Hispanic man" had walked up to the cashier's counter that Wednesday and asked for a carton of Newport 100s. The carton is valued at \$100.

The man, said the employees, "tried to pay with a Metro PCS SIM card." He then searched through his wallet for an alternate payment when he "grabs the box of cigarettes without paying and flees in a red Nissan Rogue."

A store security camera depicts a 6-ft-tall light-complexioned man with short black widow's peaked hair. He was wearing a white dress shirt and a black face mask with a red logo on its left-hand side.

Limited CBB Bill Passed

Mayor Michael Venezia and the entire Township Council passed a bill in special session Aug. 16 that allows limited Class 5 Cannabis-Based Businesses. The Zoom-based meeting included a second reading and a public hearing.

The bill, which amends Township Code Chapter 315 on land development, allows Class 5 CBB retailers within Bloomfield's Central Business District and B2 business zones. Class 5 license holders must live in the township. Venezia said there are six licenses pending.

MONTCLAIR - The last resting place of comedian Trevor Moore's remains may be here without most people realizing it - or may be in New York City, Charlottesville, Va. or Los Angeles, where he died Aug. 7.

Moore's wife, Aimee Carlson, and the family have held a private funeral for

Moore, 41, who was found on the front lawn of their address early that Saturday morning. Each of the said locations has figured into "The Whitest Kids U Know" comedy troupe co-founder and Comedy Central's "Trevor Moore Show" star's formation.

Moore was born here April 3, 1980 to Christian rock musicians Mickey and Becki Moore. They moved to Charlottesville, where the 12-year-old Trevor published his "Scraps" comic book, ran his "Cuddy" comic strip in the "Charlottesville Observer" and aired "The Trevor Moore Show" on local public access television.

The Virginia Commonwealth University film major moved to New York, where he parlayed a personal internship with "Saturday Night Live" producer Lorne Michaels into becoming an NBC Page. He and five other School of Visual Arts students founded WKUK in 2004.

WKUK's frequent stops on the NYC improv sketch comedy circuit led to a television pilot and two movie scripts. His blend of deadpan and rubber-faced delivery frequented "The Tonight Show with Jay Leno."

The Los Angeles County Examiner-Coroner has deferred releasing the cause of Moore's death beyond being "accidental." His sister and a three-year-old son are also among his survivors. Memorial donations may be made to NEXT for Autism.

Moore, in a July 8 Tweet, wrote, "When I die I want the obituary to refer to me as 'local sextop.'"

BELLEVILLE - Mayor Michael Melham and a majority of the Township Council voted to allow CBBs within parts of the township at their Aug. 17 meeting.

Melham told "Local Talk" Aug. 18 that he signed the law which will up to four cannabis growing/manufacturing, distributing and retail selling within Belleville's industrial or industrial areas. Those areas are along the Washington Avenue retail district and The Valley's industrial zone.

Not all of the said zones and the several mixed zones will be open to the said CBBs. Melham, at Tuesday night's meeting, explained that no such businesses will be sited within 1,000 feet of a school within or outside of a zone.

"What we're doing is restricting more than what the state and Gov. Murphy are allowing," said Melham several times during the council meeting. "If we don't vote on a restriction, then Belleville will be wide-open to those businesses by state law."

The mayor added that he and the council, with consultation from the township attorney, planning board members and police chief, are following the will of Nov. 2's referendum voters. There were 67 percent of participating statewide voters and 63 percent in Belleville who approved recreational marijuana use with restrictions.

Melham, Deputy Mayor Naomy DePena, Councilman-at-Large Thomas Graziano, Second Ward Councilman Steve Rovell and Third Ward Councilman Vincent J. Cozzarrelli approved the resolution. First Ward Councilwoman Marie Strumolo-Burke and Fourth Ward Councilman John Notari dissented.

Melham added that there have meanwhile been four applications for CBB retailers filed in Town Hall.



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