

# YOUNGER CHILDREN CLOSER TO GETTING VACCINE

PAGE 13



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# NEW JERSEY TRANSIT'S "NEW BUS NEWARK" PLAN TAKES SHAPE

By Walter Elliott

**NEWARK** - New Jersey Transit's New Bus Newark plan - affecting 38 bus routes that start, stop and/or end in Newark - is nearing a final draft as of press time.

The state's public transit carrier has spent 2021 working on the first overhaul of the metro Newark bus system since NJTransit Bus Operations bought Transport of NJ/Public Service Coordinated Transit in 1980.

The work included April 8 and Aug. 12 public meetings, with draft route recommendations at the latter, and accepting public questions, suggestions and comments until Sept. 9.

That Aug. 12 draft recommendations suggest frequency changes on all the said bus

routes and route changes on most. Bus frequency will range from five minutes peak weekday service on the heaviest used routes to 30-to-60-minute weekend intervals on the less-traveled routes.

Routes 13 and 27 will join the 1 and 62 in having 24-hour service on at least weekdays. There will be seven shuttles - Routes 3,4, 8, 9, 14, 74 and 776 - broken off from existing routes.

The Go 28, 72, 108 and 378 routes, on one hand, will remain unchanged. Nor are changes planned for the 26 and 97 routes since they do not enter Newark.

The 24 A&B, 31 and 44 routes are not included in NBN, for they are operated by CoachUSA subsidiaries. Nor are routes from Decamp, Community Coach or other private bus



The #37 bus route is one of several being altered by NJTransit

companies are included.

Eliminated are the Go25, 65-66, 79, 96, 361 and 375 routes. They are either being made redundant by more frequent service or are being replaced by other routes due to low ridership.

The new-look Newark system is based on October 2019 ridership counts, rider feedback and just-released Census 2020 data.

NJTransit also tried to take into account changing work and travel patterns - including effects of the COVID-19 pandemic outbreak.

The Newark bus network currently serves 180,000 daily riders going to work, school, worship, shopping and/or other events as far out as Paterson, Hackensack, Manhattan, Bridgewater and

(Continued on page 5)



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**Editorial**

**Dhiren Shah**  
Editor-In-Chief

*Hello Readers,*

Can a doctor deny a nonvaccinated patient? This is a very critical question. It impacts our health and survival. Some of the persons in our neighborhood said that the doctor must see a patient with or without a Covid test or Covid vaccination. On Tuesday, I went to see a doctor and their office first asked me about my vaccination status. The first thing the receptionist wanted to see was my vaccination card and they noted the second vaccination date on my chart.

Now some might say that this is ridiculous. However, if we think that a small doctor's office doesn't have protective gear like large hospitals as well as a shortage of staff, it is not feasible to keep social distancing like in large hospitals. Also, if the doc-

tor or a nurse gets Covid, they might have to close the office. So, an independent doctor's office should be allowed to make their own decision and ask about vaccination. If restaurants can have the authority to check your vaccination status, why not independent physicians, and if the person is not vaccinated, then the specialist should have the authority to deny that patient.

On Sept. 21, new U.S. Covid cases went down under 100,000 in a day, but on Sept. 22 it went back over 100,000. The deaths went back to 1,927 from over 800 a day before. Unvaccinated states are filling up hospitals as compared to vaccinated states. New Jersey has reduced hospital admissions for Covid patients, except it went back up Sept. 22 and from about being ranked 25th in the US, New Jersey is now ranked 11th in new Covid patients.

Newark has approved a 25-story building through the planning board in the Central Ward. When there is an international airport nearby, there is always a height restriction within a certain radius. San Jose International in the city of San Jose, California

has a height restriction of 300 ft. In Queens, New York the height restriction is 50 feet. Staten Island is in an R5 zone, and the maximum height is 40 feet. Near Chicago airport, the curbside height restriction is 150 feet. So, the residents must know about the height restrictions in their neighborhood.

When I used to live in Parsippany, New Jersey, Roger Penske wanted to build a helipad behind our houses. We collected over 200 signatures, and the mayor of Parsippany, who was acting like the lawyer of Mr. Penske, changed his opinion and supported the residents. After about 35 years, Roger Penske could not build a helipad.

I am not trying to scare you, as I do not have a lot of information about the 25-story construction, but I want the residents to look at the critical facts and figures and make sure your opinion counts, rather than giving in to the builder who will make a lot of money. The politicians, who usually support large developers, must look first for the safety of the residents.

According to CNN: "Chaotic scenes broke out at Haiti's main

airport on Tuesday after migrants who had been deported from the United States were flown back home. Thousands of Haitians have fled the country due to a combination of political instability following the assassination of the president in August and an earthquake in the same month that left more than 1,200 people dead. Democratic lawmakers have urged the Biden administration to stop deporting those who've fled Haiti for the US, but the White House remains committed to returning them."

We must look at our neighboring states differently than the other parts of the world. Haiti needs our help, and we must help them monetarily and with training to help build up their economy. With that said, the Biden administration stopping and deporting illegal immigrants back to Haiti is the right move. We want to help them, but do not want to mess up our economy or our lifestyle adding illegal immigrants.

*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
Scattered T-Storms	AM Rain	Mostly Sunny	Sunny	Mostly Sunny	Partly Cloudy	Partly Cloudy
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# The Doctor Is In



**Dr. Adil Manzoor OP/ED**

## How Does Vaccination Affect The Coronavirus Transmission Chain

Before the vaccines came out, there was so much hype and anticipation. It really was not hard to see why; yes, I'm talking of the massive number of cases and deaths. I'm starting to sound like a broken record here, yeah? But the reason I always refer to this is because it's always a reminder of

just how seriously this virus should be taken.

People dying is not fun, no matter how little the number is. But that's a story for another day. Today, I'm going to be telling a story about the role of the vaccinated and unvaccinated in the transmission chain.

The spread of an infection within a community is referred to as the chain of infection. There are many factors that can affect this, including the mode of transmission, susceptible host, and infectious agent. Importantly, for an infection to be transmitted, there needs to be an infectious agent. This also applies to the coronavirus.

You will bear me witness that the vaccine did its job in preventing the transmission of the virus. This is well evident in the drastic reduction in the number of daily cases after the vaccines were introduced. That makes perfect sense, too, as that's exactly why we needed the vaccines in the first place. Then came the Delta strain.

You must have heard of it by now. It's the strain that's causing the most problems because it has



figured out how to evade the protective efforts of the vaccine. There are now several cases of vaccinated people getting infected. Aside from the Delta strain, there are also breakthrough cases, which are infections after getting the vaccine.

Scientists quickly swung into action, considering how to fight back, and then came booster doses. But one thing that stands out in the tons of tests they performed is that the viral

load in the breakthrough cases and in unvaccinated people with the infection were similar. In other words, the amount of virus in the bodies of vaccinated people that got infected and unvaccinated people were essentially the same, at least for the first six days.

This leads us to the question many have been asking recently - are vaccinated people now part of the transmission chain of the

*(Continued on page 12)*

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**NJTRANSIT** (Cont. from page 1)

Parsippany.

NJTransit found that 940,000 people live and 404,600 jobs exist within a quarter-mile of its bus service. Boardings within Newark account for 57 percent of overall daily boardings.

The 42 percent of riders want more frequent rush hour and off-hours service. They also desired transit access to the Kearny and Linden Walmarts plus improved service along the Belleville Avenue, Eagle Rock and Mt. Pleasant Avenue corridors.

NJTransit found that the 1 and 13 has the heaviest route ridership. The 1, 21 and 25 routes have the most frequent service.

The carrier then created four categories among three corridor types based on frequency.

The 1, 21 and 25 routes, as New Bus Newark Type 1A, are to run with five-minute intervals between Ivy Hill Loop and Newark Penn Station, Main and Day-NPS and Chancellor Avenue-

NPS.

The 11, 13, 27, 28, 29 and 94 routes, as NBN Type 1B, are to run between 7.5 to 10 min. The 11, 28 and 29 will do so between NPS and Montclair, the 13 between Irvington Terminal/Valley Fair and Belleville's Big Tree Garage, the 27 between Irvington Terminal and Branch Brook Park Station and the 94 between Bloomfield Center and Irvington Terminal.

NJTransit may remove several bus stops along Type 1 corridors for speed and a Bus Rapid Transit experience. It will work with municipal and county road departments and NJDOT in prioritizing said buses at traffic signals.

Buses in Type 2, or "frequent" corridors are to have all-weekday 12-to-15-min. intervals. Type 3 corridor buses are to have at least 30-min. all-weekday to 60-min. weekend service.

It is said that the divine or the infernal is found in the details. "Local Talk" herewith

gives an overview of those details. One may also examine the 52-page draft recommendations on [www.njtransit.com/project-materials](http://www.njtransit.com/project-materials).

The No. 1 bus' eastern terminus, for example, will be Chapel and Fleming streets. Its two Jersey City branches to Exchange Place and Journal Square will become Routes 3 and 4, starting at Newark Penn.

The No. 1 will stop on US Truck Rt. 1-9 so riders can transfer to the Route 14 South Kearny Shuttle loop bus.

The 13 Nutley and Clifton branches, north of Big Tree Garage, will be replaced by the 74 and/or the new 75 Branch Brook Park-Delawanna Shuttle.

The 21 will continue to run between NPS and Orange's Main and Day streets. Those wanting to go to West Orange's Mississippi Avenue loop may do so with the new 775 Orange-Eagle Rock-Livingston Mall route. The 775 also runs on segments cut from the present 71 and 73 routes.

Riders on the former 71 and 73 buses will also transfer at the Main and Day "mobility hub."

The 71 will become the 771 to Parsippany via Route 10. Its rush hour Fairfield Loop will become the 774. The 73 becomes the 773 to Livingston Mall via RWJBarnabas Health's St. Barnabas Hospital. Its Florham Park leg will be served by a Morris County Metro bus from Livingston Mall.

The 25's endpoints will be NPS and Chancellor Avenue at the Irvington/Maplewood border. The 25's Ironbound service to Wilson and Doremus avenues will continue as the East Ferry Route 9 shuttle.

Those going west of Chancellor Avenue have a choice between the No. 70 and the new 776 shuttle. The 776, made up of former 25, 70 and 94 segments, will loop through Maplewood, Millburn, Springfield and Union.

The 11, 28 and 29 routes will run together along the Bloomfield Avenue corridor before

(Continued on page 9)



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## MISSING WOMAN CAPTIVATES NATION

### UNITED STATES

The case of a missing woman - and the man suspected in her disappearance - has taken over the intrigue of the nation.

First, around mid-August, according to a witness, Gabrielle "Gabby" Petito was hit by then-fiancé Brian Laundrie in Moab, Utah. The couple was on a trip visiting several national parks during the incident. While officers did meet up with the two, they found nothing at the time to indicate that Petito was in danger. Two weeks later, Petito's last known message was posted to her Instagram account at Grand Teton National Park in Wyoming.

While this was going on, officials in Florida tried to speak with Laundrie regarding Petito's disappearance. However, neither he nor his family were cooperative after he was named as a person of interest on Sept. 15. Three days later, Laundrie's family reported him as missing, right as investigators obtained a search warrant for his house and the van that he and Petito had traveled in.

On Sept. 21, officials from the FBI confirmed that remains found at Teton National were that of Petito. She was only 22 years old. Laundrie still has not been located as of press time.

While many people have been legitimately concerned about Petito's wellbeing, some people have complained that it is just another case of "missing white woman syndrome," a term coined by late journalist Gwen Ifill that refers to media speculation being far too skewed when a Caucasian woman is missing as opposed to the fate of a minority in the same situation

## HEALTHCARE SYSTEM ON THE BRINK

### AFGHANISTAN

On Sept. 22, the head of the

World Health Organization (WHO) has warned that Afghanistan's health system is on the brink of collapse.

The development came as the United Nations' top humanitarian official, Martin Griffiths, announced the release of \$45 million from an emergency fund to support Afghanistan's crumbling healthcare system.

"Allowing Afghanistan's healthcare delivery system to fall apart would be disastrous," said Mr. Griffiths. "People across the country would be denied access to primary healthcare such as emergency caesarean sections and trauma care."

Echoing that message from the Afghan capital, Kabul, WHO Director-General Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus said that international funding cuts had forced health providers to decide "who to save and who to let die."

After meeting senior Taliban figures, medical professionals and patients, Tedros explained that a lack of financial support for the country's largest health project, Sehatmandi, had left thousands of facilities unable to buy medical supplies and pay salaries.

Fewer than one in five of the country's Sehatmandi facilities remained open, the WHO chief explained, although he said that access to all communities was "no longer impeded."

The WHO chief also noted that nine of 37 COVID-19 hospitals have already closed, and that "all aspects" of the country's COVID-19 response have dropped off, from surveillance to testing and vaccination.

Amid concerns over women's rights in the country following the appointment of an exclusively male Taliban interim cabinet earlier this month, Tedros insisted that women needed access to education, health care, and to the health workforce.

"With fewer health facilities operational and less female health workers reporting to work, female patients are hesitant to seek care," he said. "We are committed to working with partners to invest in the health education of girls and women, as well as continue training female health workers."

Among its operations in Afghanistan, WHO supports an extensive trauma program that in-

cludes training, the provision of supplies and equipment for 130 hospitals and 67 blood banks.

## NEW HOMEGROWN RAPID TESTS

### EUROPE

The first UK-manufactured rapid tests - otherwise known as lateral flow devices or LFDs - are being rolled out to universities across England.

As the government continues to back companies and technologies working to help break chains of COVID-19 transmission, these new tests will bolster efforts to detect asymptomatic cases of COVID-19, and support more than 370 jobs in the Midlands.

Produced by Derby manufacturer, SureScreen Diagnostics, this LFD generates a result in under 15 minutes and is officially the first British test to be validated in a laboratory by Public Health England (PHE).

The rollout of the rapid assisted tests began in universities in August, and is set to help protect thousands of students as the new term approaches. In preparation for their launch, SureScreen tests have been used in certain wider public sector supervised settings in recent months, including prisons and daily contact testing settings.

The company currently has the capacity to manufacture approximately 7 million tests per week, with plans to increase this to 14 million per week by the end of December, strengthening the government's procurement strategy while supporting British innovation.

SureScreen tests, which have been partly assembled by Omega Diagnostics in Alva in Scotland, will form an essential part of the government's rapid testing program which has made free LFDs available to everyone in the UK. The government confirmed the extension of free testing as part of the Winter Plan outlined by the Prime Minister last week.

Around one in three people with COVID-19 do not experience any symptoms and may be spreading the virus unwittingly. Rapid testing detects cases quickly, meaning positive cases can isolate immediately. A negative LFD taken within the previ-

ous 48 hours can be used as certification for the NHS COVID Pass app, along with full vaccination or a negative PCR test.

The partnerships struck by government with companies such as SureScreen also supports the wider resilience of the UK's diagnostics industry which, from a standing start at the beginning of the pandemic, is now at its largest size in UK history.

## INDIAN MAN INDICTED ON KIDNAPPING

### INDIA

A naturalized United States citizen living in India who was arrested in England made his initial court appearance and was arraigned on Sept. 10 following his extradition to face charges that he obstructed the parental rights of his child's mother by kidnapping the child and failing to return him to the United States when ordered to do so, Acting U.S. Attorney Rachael A. Honig announced.

Amitkumar Kanubhai Patel, 38, of Vadodara, India, formerly of Edison, New Jersey, was charged in an indictment that was unsealed with one count of international parental kidnapping. A federal grand jury sitting in Camden returned the indictment on July 22, 2020. On Sept. 9, 2021, Patel was extradited from England.

According to documents filed in this case and statements made in court: The child's mother, a resident of Cherry Hill, New Jersey, and Patel were in a relationship and resided together in New Jersey from August 2015 through July 2017. They never married. In November 2016, they had a child.

According to the mother, Patel wanted to take the child to India to introduce him to Patel's parents and obtain DNA testing. Patel claimed DNA testing was necessary for the child to claim property that Patel's family owned in India. Patel attempted to obtain an Indian visa for the child when the child was approximately four months old. The visa application was denied because Patel did not have documentation of his custodial rights to the child.

Patel told the child's mother that in order to obtain an Indian  
(Continued on page 14)

# Finance At Your Fingertips



Moses Ayiku, Jr. MBA OP/ED

## Starting A Business: Part 11... Lessons From Starting A Management Consulting Firm!

Years ago, I was working with a large pension fund as an Investment Officer. My job was to review and appraise diverse investment proposals and recommend to management the investments that we should undertake. This was an exciting time! Our recommendations led to amazing new investments in real estate (both residential and commercial), financial institutions, hotels, manufacturing concerns and a range of other investments.

Initially, the work was quite exciting and fun. We could see our recommendations leading to amazing projects being set up! In some cases, we had the opportunity to sit on several boards and provide guidance as these new entities continued to grow and expand. After a while, I began to realize that I had so many ideas and wanted to try different things. Unfortunately, due to politics and political interference, I was left unfulfilled, professionally.

Around this time, I was offered a unique opportunity. An associate of mine had a consulting contract with a nonprofit organization. In the middle of the assignment, this person obtained an opportunity to travel to the U.S. and took it. As a result, I suggested to this associate that he should offer my name as someone who could complete the assignment for the nonprofit.

The nonprofit called me in for an interview and we successfully came to an agreement. My motivation was very simple. This could be my first foray into

consulting! In addition, the pay was quite good. Given that my full-time employees did not pay well, this was a much welcome situation! The assignment involved traveling throughout Ghana, West Africa and interviewing various organizations about their investments into water delivery in Ghana. I traveled to all 10 regions of Ghana (at that time it was 10; currently the regions have been increased to 16).

To facilitate this contract, I obtained my annual leave and was able to successfully undertake the journey. Upon returning to Accra, I spent about a week collating all the questionnaires and developing what was to become the first major database on non-governmental water delivery projects in Ghana at the time. This database became the guiding resource that many nonprofits used to avoid duplication of efforts in the same regions.

By the time I had completed the assignment I was left with a desire to undertake more of such contracts! The assignment provided me with a lot of independence. It also allowed me to provide creative solutions to problems that occurred. As a professional, I could see myself gaining tremendous relevant exposure with such assignments!

Not long after completing the assignment, I came across a family friend who had just graduated from university. This young lady had a Bachelors in Agricultural Economics. At the time, the young lady was looking for a job to gain some experience. With support from a mentor, I set up my first consulting firm! Then I offered the young lady a position as a Research Assistant.

Initially, I continued to work for my employer and spent my evenings and weekends on the consulting business. The young lady was very helpful in setting up the firm. This person was able to make rounds during the day that I couldn't do because of my full-time job! We started getting more and more contracts! Eventually, I decided to resign from my full-time job and focus on the consulting business. This was the beginning of an exciting time! We traveled and undertook diverse assignments for our cli-

(Continued on page 12)

# BANKRUPTCY

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Belleville	6091	118	6149	118
Bloomfield	5779	126	5831	127
Caldwell	666	16	671	16
Cedar Grove	1684	121	1699	121
East Orange	7772	319	7848	320
Essex Fells	210	2	210	2
Fairfield	971	31	982	32
Glen Ridge	446	14	445	14
Irvington	5186	237	5244	238
Livingston	2058	89	2082	89
Maplewood	1480	39	1499	39
Millburn	929	10	952	10
Montclair	2534	75	2556	75
Newark	39565	1043	<b>39952</b>	<b>1049</b>
North Caldwell	556	7	565	7
Nutley	3290	66	3330	68
Orange	3799	142	3824	142
Roseland	513	17	525	17
South Orange	1030	16	1094	16
Verona	1109	18	1128	18
West Caldwell	1131	54	1136	54
West Orange	4956	234	4996	234
<b>Total</b>	<b>91755</b>	<b>2794</b>	<b>92718</b>	<b>2806</b>

**OTHER COVID-19 TALLIES (As of September 22, 2021)**  
**NJ: 990,671 cases / 24,491 deaths (Plus 2,773 probable)**  
**United States (approx.): 42.461 Million / 679,600 deaths**  
**Worldwide (approx.): 229.82 Million / 4.713 Million deaths**

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**NJTRANSIT** (Continued from page 5)

they start splitting off at Montclair's Park Street (for the 28) and at Verona's Newark-Pompton Turnpike (for the 11.) All of the 11's trips will run through Little Falls' Main Street and Stevens Avenue.

The 28 will end at Montclair State University. Willowbrook Mall-bound riders may transfer to the existing 705 bus. The 29 will end at West Caldwell's Kirkpatrick Lane by the Essex Mall.

All 27s will terminate at Branch Brook Park station. The 27 Bloomfield service will be dropped due to low ridership. 27 Forest Hill and Nutley/Clifton riders may transfer to the No. 75 shuttle.

Irvington Terminal will be the 94's new southern terminus.

A new 54 route will continue on Stuyvesant from Irvington Terminal and split off in Union for either the NJTransit Linden railroad station or Union County College's Cranford Campus.

94 Stanley Terrace-Rt. 22 riders may use the 776 shuttle.

Regarding individual routes:

- The No. 5 Kinney Street, on its east end, will be extended from NPS to the Kearny Walmart vis Harrison Avenue. Its west end will terminate at Springfield Avenue and Bergen Street, discontinuing its South 10th Street service through Fairmount Heights.
- The 30 Kearny route will replace the 76 Newark-Hackensack route along Belgrove Avenue. The 76 will run on Kearny Avenue instead - and lose its east of Rt. 17 local Bergen County service to the Nos. 144, 164 and 772.
- The 34 Newark-Bloomfield-Montclair route will lose its South Street service to the new No. 8 Ironbound Loop. Its 34 Bloomfield service will bypass its First Avenue - Hoffman Boulevard-Henshaw segment. Select 34Ms will still serve Montclair High School.
- The 37 Lyons Avenue route will stay on Clinton Avenue instead of first taking Springfield Avenue and Grove Street "with future Irvington Bus Terminal improvements." It will reach the airport on

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Haynes Avenue instead of taking US Rts. 22 and 1-9.

- The 39 Newark-Irvington Route will lose its 39X express runs. It will also bypass its Bigelow Street-Elizabeth Avenue segment.
- The 40 Kearny-Jersey Gardens route will stay on the Newark Liberty International Airport segment but lose its ports Newark and Elizabeth segment. It will connect at Brewster Road with a "Microtransit Zone" featuring an on-demand shuttle service to port locations.
- The 59 Newark-Plainfield

route will feature 15 min. service frequency to Elizabeth and alternating runs to Dunellen. The 114 and 117's services will replace the No. 59 between Dunellen and Bridgewater Commons Mall.

- The No. 62 Newark-Elizabeth route will lose its Division Street-Ikea segment in Elizabeth to the No. 40.
- The No. 65 Newark-Somerville and No. 66 to Mountainside service will be discontinued and replaced by the 52, 114 and 117 routes.

The 70 will lose its downtown Millburn Avenue and Florham Park segments. They will be served by the new 776 shuttle or an MCM bus.

- The 78 Newark-Secaucus route will no longer serve NJTransit's Secaucus Junction Bus Plaza.
- The 90 Grove Street route will enjoy 15-min. weekday and 30-min. weekend service. All runs, however, will end at Irvington Terminal; its Valley Fair segment added to the No. 99 route.

The No. 92 Orange Cross-

(Continued on page 15)

# 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** - The results of a settlement between the U.S. Department of Justice-New Jersey District and New Jersey's largest public school district here may be showing up in your local English Language Learner classroom,

Acting U.S. Attorney Rachael A. Honig announced that her Civil Rights Division and the Newark Public Schools Board of Education reached an agreement Sept. 1.

Their pact calls for NPS to keep ELL (or English as a Second Language) students in that program until they become fluent in English. NPS is to also improve services for those students.

The agreement, in turn, ends a multi-year investigation of the ELL/ESL program under the Equal Educational Opportunities Act of 1974. The DOJ will be monitoring NPS this and the next two school years.

DOJ-Newark attorneys found that NPS had failed to hire or retain enough qualified ELL teachers. The teacher shortage limited the program and sometimes was not offered. Students were also prematurely pulled from the program.

Honig's announcement was also released in Spanish, Portuguese, French and Haitian Creole.

Both DOJ-New Jersey and NPS posted the 25-page agreement on their respective websites.

**IRVINGTON** - The Whigham Funeral Home is handling the final arrangements of the father and daughter who died in the wake of Tropical Storm Ida's flooding here Sept. 2.

Irvington Fire Chief John Brown, on Sept. 14, said that it is not clear whether James Mcgee, 66, and Shenique Mcgee, 46, had died in their Lincoln Place basement from electrocution and/or downing Sept. 2.

Joan Mcgee said that her older daughter was checking on husband James and daughter Shenique while they were shoring up the basement from the overflowing Elizabeth River Sept. 1. One of them had opened the outside basement door when a loud bang was heard, and the water rushed in.

Although Joann and the older daughter immediately called IFD, "Irvington's Bravest" were unable to immediately access their block between Nye and Lyons avenues. Floodwater had already enveloped parked cars. James and Shenique's bodies were recovered once the tide had receded.

James, who was born Oct. 3, 1954, had married Joann and moved from Brooklyn in 1999 to raise a family. Aug. 23 was his and Joann's 46th wedding anniversary.

Shenique, who was born July 4, 1975, was working as a chef for Wonder Food's Cranford Central Kitchen while going to culinary school. Wonder has set up a matching GoFundMe.com page for her funeral expenses.

The Mcgees were two of Ida's five Essex County victims. Aventino Soares, 58, was believed to have been electrocuted while plugging-in a basement generator in his Bloomfield home. Patrick Jeffrey, 55, was swept 1,000 feet from his Maplewood home while clearing a storm drain.

**EAST ORANGE** - A preliminary finding of the Sept. 14 Interstate 280 collision which left one driver dead and a second injured is being cast as a five-vehicle chain-reaction crash.

The New Jersey State Police found that a semi tractor-trailer truck had run into the back of the Scion driven by Nicole A. Greco, 51, of Chester, N.Y. at 3:28 p.m. at 280 West Mile Post 12.6.

Greco's Scion then ran into the back of a Hyundai SUV driven by a Scotch Plains man. The Hyundai ran into the rear Toyota - that did the same to a Honda.

All five of 280 West's lanes

were blocked. The Tractor-trailer veered across Exit 12 A-B's two lanes onto the right-hand shoulder. The Hyundai SUV was spun onto the center of 280 West's main travel lanes.

East Orange and Newark firefighters, the State Police and a Pulse ambulance arrived at 3:33 p.m. The Scotch Plains Hyundai driver was admitted to a local hospital with "moderate injuries." All westbound traffic, which spilled some four miles back to Kearny's Newark Turnpike, was diverted onto local roads at the Orange Street Exit 13 for the rest of the P.M. rush hour.

Greco - a mother of two who also left behind her husband, parents and three sisters - was honored with a Sept. 23 Funeral Mass at Chester's St. Columbia R.C. Church. Memorial donations may go to the American Cancer Society's Making Strides Against Breast Cancer Boobalicious team and/or the Chester Wrestling Booster Club.

**ORANGE** - The City Council has scheduled an Oct. 7 public hearing and likely final vote on amending the Mayor's authority to call special or emergency council meetings.

Ordinance 45-2021, as introduced here Sept. 7, if passed, would require "the Mayor or the Council President may, and upon written request of a majority of the members of the Council, call a special or emergency council meeting.

The ordinance would amend Township Code Chapter 4, Sections 4-9 on Meetings. The Mayor can currently call a special or emergency council meeting upon the written request of a majority of the Council.

The pending legislation comes on the heels of the council awarding a pair of lawyers contracts Sept. 7 to represent them in "Mayor Dwayne D. Warren and the City of Orange Township vs. City of Orange City Council."

Mayor Warren is seeking a State Superior Court-Newark's decision on whether he, as municipal CEO, had the power to fire a department head's subordinates. The council has twice introduced legislation where the department head has the hiring/firing authority.

Ordinance 45 and the hiring

of outside lawyers may be seen as parts of a struggle for authority between the Council and the Mayor.

The Council's pending and passed actions may also be viewed as making the city's mayor "less strong" in its mayor-council structure.

Orange, like most New Jersey municipalities, operates with a mayor-council format under the Faulkner Act. The format is also called the "strong mayor" form, where the municipal CEO has wide authority outside of the council. (Maplewood and Nutley, whose committee members select a mayor from themselves, have a "weak mayor" form.)

**WEST ORANGE** - Prism Capital Partners, by year's end, will be "Phase One and done" regarding the township's Downtown Main Street Redevelopment Zone.

Prism, in a Sept. 13 out-of-court settlement with the township, will remain active with what is now known as the Edison Lofts at 177 Main St. It will be selling 17 acres of property, particularly 55 Lakeland Ave., back to the township.

The township will then seek a new developer for "Phase Two" in Sept. 13 agreement, within 45 days after it gets back 55 Lakeside and related lots. West Orange will be financing the buyback with \$12 million worth of municipal bonds.

Prism will withdraw its suit alleging that West Orange had been secretly negotiating with an entity that wants to replace the old Barton Press and DPW buildings with a movie studio. That redevelopment firm reportedly includes actress, producer and Llewellyn Park resident Whoopi Goldberg.

West Orange, citing a lack of progress on 55 Lakeside and several payment defaults over the Edison Lofts, had introduced the bond ordinance in August.

Prism received redeveloper status on the overall 21-acre "Edison Village" project in 2003.

**SOUTH ORANGE** - Seton Hall University President Dr. Joseph Nyre followed up a Sept. 20 "medical emergency" at one of its dormitories here later that Monday by announcing the

(Continued on page 14)

# SPORTS WRAP



By William Hathaway, Jr.

Let's take a quick look back at Week 3 of New Jersey high school football action. First, Orange High took a hard loss at Nutley 34-6. This weekend, the Tornados will be back at the friendly confines of Bell Stadium against West Essex high school on Friday night. Currently, Orange is 0-3 on the season.

On the opposite side are the East Orange Jaguars, who recorded yet another dominating win. The Jags went on the road and mauled Columbia 52-0, improving to 3-0 this year. EO will head to WO, West Orange, Friday night.

In other action the Irvington Knights defeated Hudson Catholic at home by the final score of 32-28, improving to 2-1. Se-

ton Hall Prep lost a razor thin outcome at St. Peter's Prep in Jersey City 22-21 in double overtime.

In college football, the Rutgers football team has started off this year 3-0 record with a recent home win in New Brunswick over Delaware 45-15. The schedule will now get harder as Big Ten play will open up against Michigan.

Finally, in pro football, the New York Jets loss their home opener at MetLife Stadium to rival New England 25-6. Rookie QB Zach Wilson threw four interceptions in the loss. As for the Giants, they too are searching for their first win this season, after losing to Washington 30-29 as time expired on a late field goal.

## CITY OF EAST ORANGE TO BEGIN MAIN STREET STREETScape IMPROVEMENT



**East Orange, NJ, September 22, 2021:** The City of East Orange, under the leadership of Mayor Ted R. Green and the East Orange City Council, is preparing to start construction on a major renovation project that will result in substantial structural and aesthetic upgrades to the lower portion of Main Street between North Arlington Avenue and North Burnet Street.

Construction is scheduled to begin on Monday, September 27, 2021 and is expected to be done in stages and last approximately 6-7 months (weather permitting). Travelers should anticipate road closures and/or detours during construction process.

Enhancements will include decorative light fixtures, benches, planters, wayfinding signage, bike racks, more trash receptacles, new parking meters, and a

pop-up parklet.

This \$2.7M project, funded via a state grant from the New Jersey Economic Development Authority and local funds, is being developed under the management of the Department of Public Works, Bowman Consulting, and Zuccaro, Inc.

"As we continue to redevelop in and around our Transit Village, it is imperative that we invest in the modernization of our downtown area, which we hope will be a destination not just for our residents, but for visitors, too," said Mayor Green. "This renovation project will significantly enhance the lower part of our Main Street with a welcoming vibe for everyone who passes through this part of our city."

For more information on this project, please call the Department of Public Works at 973.266.5330.

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*From  
The  
Pastor's  
Heart*

OP-ED BY DR. ROBERT KENNEDY

**Praying For One Another**

There was a woman in the community in which I grew up who used to sing what was considered by many, the strange song I reference below:

*Wi (we) want more pryas (prayers),  
Wi (we) want more pryas (prayers) every day.  
Satan gone to a conference fi (to) meet us, by de (the) way,  
Wi (we) want more pryas (prayers) every day.*

Many passersby who heard the woman thought she was "crazy." In fact, as I look back, we children must have accepted the ridicule, for all laughed instead of saying, "Do not do that." But if anyone would have admitted it, her song was entirely on target. One line of another song resonates with hers because it says, "If ever we needed the Lord before, we surely need him now."

And if you want to hear the message of the song and the line, above, more eruditely, let's go to Alfred (Lord) Tennyson, who said in his poem *Idylls of the*

*King:  
Pray for my soul. More things are wrought by prayer Than this world dreams of Wherefore, let thy voice, Rise like a fountain for me night and day*

Yes, we need more prayer, and indeed, we need to be praying for one another, especially in this hour of the pandemic crisis. If you are listening to many of the newscasters on CNN and other stations, you might be wondering, as I have been, whether they have all become prayer warriors. They are calling for more prayers than I have ever heard in the past. They have come to the realization that we are in a helpless, hapless, hopeless situation.

As some are acknowledging, the health care workers, the scientists, the masks and vaccinations alone cannot do it. The health workers, researchers, administrators, and government are all working, but the evidence is clear that on a human plain, the capacities of the people and the systems in place, are all being overwhelmed.

For a long time, many social scientists have argued concerning the efficacy of prayer. On the one hand, some insist that prayer works. Their research has stated that for many who have been confused, anxious, fearful, hopeless, despairing and hurting, prayer works. It brings healing, comfort, connection, community, and many more blessings. On

the other hand, some scientists say prayer only has "a placebo effect." That is, it makes people feel good.

And while I do not enter a debate with the latter group, I offer that if prayer makes people feel good, that is wonderful. I do not intend to trivialize the need to feel good, but I need to say that many people need to change their feelings from bad to good. More seriously, I am fascinated by the debate. In light of the observation, more and more healthcare institutions are including prayer in their curricula and into their treatment regimes. As is observed, a majority of humanity, no matter their religion, use prayer as a means of connecting to the god they serve.

Yes, billions of people globally are affiliated with religions where prayer is an integral part of their worship. So, it is argued that prayer transcends borders, countries, politicians, finances, and world leaders. Except for the need for water, food, and shelter, prayer is the most common denominator that unites over 80 percent of the world. Such being the case, why not utilize more prayer as we relate to one another.

My simple point is that we need to pray much, much more for one another. The Scripture is replete with appeals to pray for one another. Here are just three citations:

- Confess *your* trespasses to one another, and pray for one another that you may be

healed. The effective, fervent prayer of a righteous man avails much. (James 5:16, NKJV).

- Therefore I exhort first of all that supplications, prayers, intercessions, and giving of thanks be made for all men, for kings and all who are in <sup>[b]</sup>authority, that we may lead a quiet and peaceable life in all godliness and reverence. For this is good and acceptable in the sight of God, our Savior, who desires all men to be saved and to come to the knowledge of the truth. (1 Timothy 2:1-4, NKJV).
- But I say to you, love your enemies, bless those who curse you, do good to those who hate you, and pray for those who spitefully use you and persecute you (Matthew 5:44, NKJV).

Do I need to say more? Do I need to convince you that we need to spend more time in prayer for one another? Even if people will say to you, as a friend of mine who is somewhat cynical of religion says, when people offer to pray for him, he tells them, "God is going to put the prayer in a return envelope and say, 'Sorry he is not on my list.'" I tell my friend, "I am still going to pray for you." My friend then laughs at me while we get on to other subjects, but I can see that my prayer is affecting him.

Some persons you pray for

*(Continued on page 13)*

**THE DOCTOR IS IN**

*(Continued from page 4)*

virus?

The answer is a no; kinda. Studies have shown that the contagiousness is lower in vaccinated people compared to unvaccinated people - 68.6% to 84.9%. But it is obvious that vaccinated people still carry the infectious virus. That's not good news. Fortunately, though, after 6 days of getting the infection, the viral load significantly reduces in vaccinated people due to the protective efforts of the vaccine, while this stands at 18 days for unvaccinated individuals.

It is clear as day that we cannot neglect the importance of getting the vaccine. Aside from putting the vaccinated individuals in a better condition to fight off the virus, it also reduces the chances of transmission of the virus, which, in turn, reduces overall transmission of the virus.

We can beat this virus - I'm sure of it. But we must all play our part, chief of which, at this stage, is getting vaccinated. Stay safe, friends.

*This article was written by Dr. Adil Manzoor DO, a Board Certified Internist & Board Eligible Pediatrician, who works as a Hospitalist, and Emergency Room Physi-*

*cian. 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.*

**References**

- <https://yourlocalepidemiologist.substack.com/p/role-in-the-transmission-chain-vaccinated>
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**FINANCE** *(Continued from page 7)*

ents as well as some amazing training programs that were quite well received.

Next week, I shall share some of the experiences we had running a management

consulting firm. By sharing my story, it is my intention to encourage and uplift those of you who are close to starting your own 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](mailto:localtalknews@gmail.com).

**PASTOR'S HEART** (Continued from page 12)

might never know that you are petitioning God's throne for them, but pray anyway. Here is a stanza of a song I sang as a child (Don't trust my memory) but it is profoundly reassuring about how much God cares for us and hears our prayers for others:

*There is a Father up above  
Looking down, looking down  
And his heart is full of love,  
Looking down, looking down  
And he cares for you and me,  
Cares for birdies one, two, three  
Let us love him, you and me,  
Love our Father above.*

E. M. Bounds, the author I read most on prayer, says, "Prayers for people are far more important than praying for things because people are more deeply involved in God's will and the work of Christ."

I am just inviting you to pray for your family, friends, neighbors, government, even pray for those who hurt you or seek to hurt you. Pray for them. Always pray for them.

# YOUNGER CHILDREN CLOSER TO GETTING VACCINE

**NEW YORK AND MAINZ, Germany - (BUSINESS WIRE)** - Pfizer Inc. (NYSE: PFE) and BioNTech SE (Nasdaq: BNTX) today announced results from a Phase 2/3 trial showing a favorable safety profile and robust neutralizing antibody responses in children 5 to 11 years of age using a two-dose regimen of 10 µg administered 21 days apart, a smaller dose than the 30 µg dose used for people 12 and older.

The antibody responses in the participants given 10 µg doses were comparable to those recorded in a previous Pfizer-BioNTech study in people 16 to 25 years of age immunized with 30 µg doses. The 10 µg dose was carefully selected as the preferred dose for safety, tolerability and immunogenicity in children 5 to 11 years of age. These are the first results from a pivotal trial of a COVID-19 vaccine in this age group.

"Over the past nine months, hundreds of millions of people ages 12 and older from around the world have received our COVID-19 vaccine. We are eager to extend the protection afforded by the vaccine to this younger population, subject to regulatory authorization, especially as we track the spread of the Delta variant and the substantial threat it poses to children," said Albert Bourla, Chairman and Chief Executive Officer, Pfizer.

"Since July, pediatric cases of COVID-19 have risen by about 240 percent in the U.S. - underscoring the public health need for vaccination. These trial results provide a strong foundation for seeking authorization of our vaccine for children 5 to 11 years old, and we plan to submit them to the FDA and other regulators with urgency."

"We are pleased to be able to submit data

to regulatory authorities for this group of school-aged children before the start of the winter season," said Dr. Ugur Sahin, CEO and co-founder of BioNTech. "The safety profile and immunogenicity data in children aged 5 to 11 years vaccinated at a lower dose are consistent with those we have observed with our vaccine in other older populations at a higher dose."

The data summarized from this Phase 2/3 study, which is enrolling children 6 months to 11 years of age, was for 2,268 participants who were 5 to 11 years of age and received a 10 µg dose level in a two-dose regimen. In the trial, the SARS-CoV-2-neutralizing antibody geometric mean titer (GMT) was 1,197.6 (95% confidence interval [CI, 1106.1, 1296.6]), demonstrating strong immune response in this cohort of children one month after the second dose.

This compares well (was non-inferior) to the GMT of 1146.5 (95% CI: 1045.5, 1257.2) from participants ages 16 to 25 years old, used as the control group for this analysis and who were administered a two-dose regimen of 30 µg. Further, the COVID-19 vaccine was well tolerated, with side effects generally comparable to those observed in participants 16 to 25 years of age.

Pfizer and BioNTech plan to share these data with the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA), European Medicines Agency (EMA) and other regulators as soon as possible. For the United States, the companies expect to include the data in a near-term submission for Emergency Use Authorization (EUA) as they continue to accumulate the safety and efficacy data required to file for full FDA approval in this age group.

A request to the EMA to update the EU

Conditional Marketing Authorization is also planned. Topline readouts for the other two age cohorts from the trial - children 2-5 years of age and children 6 months to 2 years of age - are expected as soon as the fourth quarter of this year.

Pfizer and BioNTech plan to submit data from the full Phase 3 trial for scientific peer-reviewed publication.

The Phase 1/2/3 trial initially enrolled up to 4,500 children ages 6 months to 11 years of age in the United States, Finland, Poland, and Spain from more than 90 clinical trial sites. It was designed to evaluate the safety, tolerability, and immunogenicity of the Pfizer-BioNTech vaccine on a two-dose schedule (approximately 21 days apart) in three age groups: ages 5 to 11 years; ages 2 to 5 years; and ages 6 months to 2 years.

Based on the Phase 1 dose-escalation portion of the trial, children ages 5 to 11 years received two-dose schedule of 10 µg each while children under age 5 received a lower 3 µg dose for each injection in the Phase 2/3 study. The trial enrolled children with or without prior evidence of SARS-CoV-2 infection.

COMIRNATY®, which is based on BioNTech's proprietary mRNA technology, was developed by both BioNTech and Pfizer. BioNTech is the Marketing Authorization Holder in the United States, the European Union, the United Kingdom, Canada and the holder of emergency use authorizations or equivalents in the United States (jointly with Pfizer) and other countries. Submissions to pursue regulatory approvals in those countries where emergency use authorizations or equivalent were initially granted are planned.

**WORLD NEWS**

*(Continued from page 6)*

visa for the child, he would need to secure sole custody of their son, which required them to go to court. Patel instructed the child's mother to tell the court that they had a "mutual understanding" regarding the custody of their child. He instructed the mother to state that she did not have a work permit, and since she was unemployed, and could not care for her child.

On May 1, 2017, Patel went to New Jersey Superior Court, Chancery Division Family Court, to obtain sole custody of the child. According to the child's mother, the majority of the hearing was conducted in

English with no translator. At the time of the hearing, the child's mother spoke limited English. The mother answered the court's questions as she had been instructed by Patel. She was not represented by an attorney during the hearing.

On May 2, 2017, the court entered an order granting Patel sole legal custody of the minor child and allowing the mother to file for joint legal custody in the future. Upon receiving the court order, Patel obtained visas to India for himself and the child through Quick Travel Inc. Patel told the child's mother the trip to India would be for two weeks. On July 26, 2017, Patel and the child traveled to India.

According to the child's mother, she sent multiple mes-

sages to Patel requesting confirmation that the two arrived safely in India and got no response for several days. Patel eventually called the mother and said he was never bringing the child back to the United States. The child's mother obtained legal counsel, returned to the New Jersey Superior Court, and on Oct. 16, 2018, the court ordered Patel to immediately return the child to the United States. Records show Patel and the child have not returned to the United States since July 2017.

On Oct. 2, 2020, Patel and the child flew from India to the United Kingdom, where Patel was arrested.

The international parental kidnapping count carries a maximum penalty of three years in

prison and a maximum fine of \$250,000.

Acting U.S. Attorney Honig credited special agents of the FBI, under the direction of Acting Special Agent in Charge Bradley S. Benavides in Philadelphia, with the investigation leading to the indictment. Acting U.S. Attorney Honig also thanked members of the Department of Justice's Office of International Affairs, the U.K. Crown Prosecution Service and the Metropolitan Police for their assistance in the extradition.

The government is represented by Deputy U.S. Attorney Andrew Carey and Assistant U.S. Attorney Jason M. Richardson of the U.S. Attorney's Office Criminal Division in Camden.

**TOWN WATCH**

*(Continued from page 10)*

death of one of its students.

Nyre said that the unnamed undergraduate resident student had died in Neumann Hall. Medical personnel had immediately responded to the emergency call.

Neumann Hall, said "The Setonian," is also being used as the campus' COVID-19 quarantine space.

"We've been in contact with the student's family, who asked for privacy, at this time of tremendous grief, as they await the medical examiner's report," said Nyre. "The Campus Ministry will announce information regarding a Service of Remembrance and Hope at an appropriate time after consulting with the student's family."

Nyre urged the SHU community to use the Campus Ministry and the Counseling and Psychological Services for help.

**MAPLEWOOD** - The reward for information leading to the arrest and conviction of the 2017 murderer of a Maplewood grandmother in Newark, as of Sept. 16, has doubled.

Acting Essex County Prosecutor Theodore "Ted" Stephens II announced that Thursday that Essex County Sheriff Armando Fontoura's Crime Stoppers program had so boosted the reward regarding the case of Deborah Burton, 62, to \$20,000.

Burton was shot in the area of Newark's 43 Third St. 1:15

p.m. March 13, 2017. She was taken to University Hospital, where she died at 2:31 p.m.

Burton's silver Chevrolet Cruze was found March 14 at 59 North Seventh St.

**BLOOMFIELD** - Township police detectives, said Public Safety Director Samuel DeMaio Sept. 21, are looking for the three suspects who shot at two men on an Ampere street Sept. 8 - and had placed one of the victims into county custody.

Responding officers rushed to North 13th Street that Wednesday to find a man there with a single gunshot wound to one of his shoulders - and stopped a second man who was about to leave the scene in a car.

The officers who stopped the car noticed that the driver was bleeding from one of his hands. The motorist - identified as Kasim Judd, 44, of West Orange - was in a car that had two handguns in view on the passenger side floor.

Judd, after an electronics records check, was arrested on two counts of a person not to possess weapons, possessions thereof for an unlawful purpose and possession without a permit. He was also charged with a count each of possessing a defaced firearm and for receiving stolen property before being remanded to Newark's Essex County Correctional Facility.

BPD personnel combing the shooting scene found shell casings of three different caliber bullets. The department believes

that three suspects fired 10 rounds at Judd and the victim. They also believe that Judd cut his hand while cutting across several backyards

Both Judd and the other victim were treated for their injuries.

**MONTCLAIR** - Two of Montclair's three motion picture theaters, despite Tropical Storm Ida's flooding, are on track for an Oct. 21 reopening - but the third may miss its reopening for entirely different reasons.

Clairidge Cinemas, said Montclair Film Executive Director Tom Hall Sept. 18, is set to host the 10th Annual Montclair Film Festival Oct. 21-30. It will be the movie house's first screening with MF as its operating tenant.

While Hall said that the Clairidge, at 486 Bloomfield Ave., "was spared any real damage," contractors are working to have its offices, at 505 Bloomfield, ready to hold film classes in October.

Hall said that MFF's concourse had up to four feet of water from Ida's Sept. 1 record downpour. The water came running off the four-story North Fullerton Avenue into the concourse an onto the first floor. Flooding undermined the first floor's flooring, baseboards and neighboring sheetrock.

Although Bellevue Theatre owners Jesse and Doreen Sayegh have not reported any Ida-related damage, another outside development may put off their desired

May 22, 2022 reopening.

The Sayeghs want to reopen the Bellevue exactly 100 years after its grand opening here at 268 Bellevue Ave. They had submitted plans before the Montclair Planning Board to install apartments on the building's second floor and add more street-level retail space earlier this year - only to withdraw those plans for further revision. Tenant Bow-Tie Cinemas took all of its equipment with it when its lease with the Sayeghs expired Nov. 30, 2017.

The MPB and Township Council meanwhile designated the Upper Montclair building as "an area in need of restoration" by Aug. 23. The township's AINOR designation will preserve the building's structure while allowing for appropriate redevelopment.

**BELLEVILLE** - Mayor Michael Melham shed light during the Sept. 14 Township Council meeting on an ongoing investigation on how a construction code official has been recompensated.

Melham said that the township building department has been paying the said official for taking part in the Belleville Planning Board's special and subcommittees since January.

The payments, in \$200 and \$750 amounts, were drawn from a planning board escrow account posted by applying developers. The account is used to pay planning and construction officials

*(Continued on page 15)*

**TOWN WATCH**

(Continued from page 14)

hired by the board for their consultation.

Melham said that the particular official had drafted and submitted his own invoices to the department. The 40-year employee, who reportedly draws a \$156,000 annual salary, also has a \$17,292 expense stipend.

"He created his own fee structure," said Melham, "typed up invoices and received checks totaling thousands of dollars."

Township Manager Anthony Iacono, while stressing that the investigation is continuing, said that the escrow account had been meanwhile closed to meeting attendance invoices. He and Assistant Township Manager/Chief of Police Mark Minichini are reviewing the matter.

Lyndhurst attorney Christopher A. Errante, on Sept. 16, agreed with Iacono that the investigation has not been completed. Errante added that his client "has a spotless record" and that all should "wait until all results are in."

**NUTLEY** - Township elders said they are still cleaning up after Tropical Storm Ida and are looking at how to mitigate against similarly severe future storms.

Mayor/Parks & Recreation

Commissioner Mauro Tucci, fresh from a Sept. 7 tour of the township with FEMA officials and Essex County Executive Joseph DiVincenzo, said he wanted to look at the impervious surface coverage that leads water runoff into the Third River and its tributaries.

Tucci found agreement with Public Works Commissioner Joseph Scarpelli, who said that Ida's Sept. 1 rain and runoff raised the Third River to "10 feet in a half an hour." The flooding entered the DPW garage, ruining office furniture and work equipment and, thanks to stored oil, turned it into a hazmat cleanup site.

"I don't know if there's anything we can do to plan for 10 inches of rain in five hours," said Scarpelli. "We're on the last end of the (Third) river, so everything before then collects and comes into our town."

Resident Maria Bozza also wants the township to look on how paved surfaces contributed to Ida's flooding. The Harrison Street resident asked how she got six feet of Third River water in her house while neighboring Burger King was not flooded.

The CVS Pharmacy, two blocks upstream at 217 Harrison, remains closed as of press time. The streaming floodwater had broken store windows, carrying away some of its inventory. CVS has transferred its prescriptions to its Allwood, Clifton store.

**NJTRANSIT**

(Continued from page 9)

town will be renamed the Orange-North Arlington Crosstown. All 92s will continue east on Belleville Avenue from Bloomfield through Belleville and Kearny's Belleville Turnpike to the North Arlington Loop.

- The 92, however, will no longer serve Belleville's RWJBH Clara Maass Hospital and Branch Brook Park/Newark Light Rail Station. It will also lose the Henry Street jog between Lincoln Avenue and North Day Street in Orange.
- The 99 Hillside route will turn north in Hillside back into Irvington on a former portion of the No. 90. The 99 will end its runs at Irvington Terminal.
- The 107 South Orange-Irvington-New

York route will be split into two NYC-bound routes. 107 "proper" will still run from South Orange Station and Irvington Terminal - and express thereafter to the Port Authority Bus Terminal. It will no longer make local stops in Union City.

- The new 105 route will continue non-express runs from the Ivy Hill Loop to NYC via Lyons Avenue. It will serve EWR at its North Terminal.

NJTransit is to hold a final NBN presentation and public hearing before its board of directors here take a final vote. Although the carrier has slated a fall final unveiling, there has been no date set as of press time.

The "TBA" period may allow riders and residents to post their questions, suggestions, concerns and comments to NJTransit via its social media channels.

**ESSEX COUNTY'S COLLECTION DAY Household Hazardous Waste**



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Essex County residents must provide proof of residency at the site.

**Saturday, October 2, 2021**

**8:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.**

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For more information call 973-792-9060 or [www.ecuanj.com](http://www.ecuanj.com)

**ITEMS ACCEPTED:**

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Paint thinners and solvents	Pool chemicals	Fluorescent light bulbs and ballasts	Car batteries
Oil based paints and stains	Automotive fluids (antifreeze, motor oil, steering fluids, etc.)	Mercury and products containing mercury	Fire extinguishers (home)
Chemistry sets	Darkroom/Photographic chemicals	Gasoline/Kerosene	Driveway sealer
			Aerosol spray paints

**WE WILL NOT ACCEPT:**

Latex paint	Regulated Medical Waste or Infectious Waste	Empty Containers	Household batteries (AA, AAA, C, D, 9V)
Unlabeled or Unidentified Materials	Commercial or Industrial Waste	Explosives, Munitions, Ordnance or Reactive Materials	Smoke Detectors and Carbon Monoxide Alarms
Asbestos			

- ✓ Only one person per vehicle. ✓ Face mask mandatory. ✓ Do not exit vehicle.
- ✓ Display license (ID) through closed car window. ✓ Items for disposal to be placed in trunk.
- ✓ NO containers will be returned (gas cans, etc.)

**Not for Commercial and Industrial Facilities.**



"There are some materials that should be removed from our regular waste stream because of their hazardous nature. This collection day provides our residents a place to properly and safely dispose of contaminants, protecting our precious environment for future generations. I encourage residents of all of our communities to come out and participate."

— Joseph N. DiVincenzo, Jr.

Joseph N. DiVincenzo, Jr., Essex County Executive, The Essex County Board of Commissioners and the Essex County Utilities Authority



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<b>Bloomfield:</b>	135 Bloomfield Avenue, Suite B	Tel. 973-743-2248
<b>Newark:</b>	202 Stuyvesant Ave.	Tel. 973-374-8807
<b>West Orange:</b>	77 Main Street (Sleep Center)	Tel. 973-324-2090
<b>West Orange:</b>	95 Main Street	Tel. 973-736-5552
<b>West Orange:</b>	92 Old Northfield Avenue	Tel. 973-736-5552