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LOCAL TOWNS SHUFFLED AROUND IN CONGRESSIONAL REDISTRICTING



By Walter Elliott

NEWARK – “Local Talk” area residents may not only want to say "Hello" to their members of Congress as a late New Year's resolution but, after examining the prospective Congressional redistricting, some may want to introduce themselves to their "new" House representative.

It is this time of the decade when states reveal their redrawn Congressional Districts to the public. The new map, covering New Jersey's 12 CDs, was adopted by a designated commission Dec. 22 and is pending certification.

This final, certified map, based on 2020 U.S. Census Bureau counts, is to be used 2022-31. It is part of a U.S. Constitutional requirement to balance the 435 U.S. House of Representatives membership on even-numbered populations. every 10 years.

The following redrawn Eighth, 10th and 11th CDs Local Talk residents live in is the result of the NJ Redistricting Commission's deliberations and Dec. 22 adoption vote. That committee - except for its chairman, former State Supreme Court associate justice John Wallace -- was evenly made up of six Democratic and Republican representatives each.

The Dec. 22 split vote was taken after the commission took public and expert testimony for four days in a Cherry Hill hotel meeting room. There had also been 10 earlier public meetings - some virtual, some in-person, on the maps.

Redrawing those district maps, given the predominance of the two major political parties, is where the divine or the infernal details are found.

Federal and state judges are looking over the NJRC's shoulder for gerrymandering. Gerrymandering is where election districts are redrawn in such a way that it favors a political party or its constituents at the disadvantage of the other.

IN THE EIGHTH CD, Newark's North and East Wards stay with Union County's Elizabeth plus East

(Continued on page 5)

PASSAIC FIRE CLIMBS TO 11 ALARMS

Photo Courtesy Mayor Hector Lora Facebook

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Editorial

Dhiren Shah
Editor-In-Chief

Hello Readers,

2022 will be very important for selecting your representatives locally and nationally. So, we all should know the laws our representatives made over the years.

In 1939, the Hatch Act became law to stop federal employees from engaging in supporting politicians while they are on the job.

According to the US Office of Special Counsel, "The Hatch Act, a federal law passed in 1939, limits certain political activities of federal employees, as well as some state, D.C., and local government employees who work in connection with federally funded programs. The law's purposes are to ensure that federal programs are administered in a nonpartisan fashion,

to protect federal employees from political coercion in the workplace, and to ensure that federal employees are advanced based on merit and not based on political affiliation."

The Hatch Act is named after New Mexico Senator Carl A. Hatch, a Democrat nicknamed "Cowboy Carl." Violations of the Hatch Act carry serious penalties and disciplinary actions, or even removal of the federal employee from their job. However, I have not seen the same disciplinary action for candidates who uses government employees while on the job, as well as off of work.

Coronavirus is a way of life nowadays. We all live with some restrictions to protect ourselves. However, how the money is spent, especially our tax dollars is important to know. The government is not mentioning how they are spending our tax money in trillions of dollars. In India, the total cost to the government is about Rs. (rupees) 350 per person, which is less than \$5 per person (about 2 vaccinations) with the calculation of 100% of the population.

In the U.S., the total cost of Moderna is about \$15 per vaccine and about \$22 for Pfizer's vaccine. Plus, there's clinical and/or pharmacy cost. The government did not declare their true spending on vaccinations yet. Pfizer and Moderna are overcharging the government, but I think the government does not care. They are only concerned about their political image.

Biden had a 55% approval and 32% disapproval rating at the beginning of his presidency. After one year (January 20, 2022) his approval rating is 42% and disapproval rating is 52.1%, according to realclearpolitics.com. Economy, inflation, border problems and handling of COVID-19 situations are the key to his approval rating.

Biden has announced the distribution of FREE COVID test kits and has already setup the website with USPS. I think this is the best managed distribution effort by the Biden administration. They have shaken hands with USPS.com and they are the best in distributing our mails and packages. Nowadays, the USPS

has improved their service drastically, including notifying residential customers what mails will you receive every day. USPS was the only delivery source for mail for decades and we all were dealing with them, whether one liked it or not. But now, when they are improving, we should support them and keep them alive against the private companies monopolizing the distributions. USPS has improved since they started their priority mail service, in my opinion.

Lusia Harris died at 66 on January 18, 2022. She was an African American and basketball pioneer, who was drafted into the NBA by the Jazz in 1977 - the only woman ever to do so. She led her college team to three championships in the 1970s, and scored the first points in the history of women's Olympic basketball. Local Talk salutes her, prays for her soul and offers condolences to her family, friends and fans.

Have a wonderful week.

I'll talk to you next week.

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WEATHER FOR THE WEEK

<u>THURSDAY</u>	<u>FRIDAY</u>	<u>SATURDAY</u>	<u>SUNDAY</u>	<u>MONDAY</u>	<u>TUESDAY</u>	<u>WEDNESDAY</u>
AM Snow, 1-3 in.	Partly Cloudy, Cold	Sunny / Snow possible	Partly Cloudy	Sunny with Clouds	Cloudy / Snow possible	Partly Cloudy
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The Doctor Is In



Dr. Adil Manzoor OP/ED

The Pan-coronavirus Super Vaccine: What Is It and Why?

There used to be a time in the not-too-distant past when being fully vaccinated essentially meant you were immune against the coronavirus. I mean, that's kind of the point of vaccination. But because our foe is a formidable one, it quickly mutated and

evolved to evade the protective efforts of vaccines. Now, just two regular shots are the mere beginning.

Note that I didn't say full vaccination is useless or nothing - you still need to be fully vaccinated before you can get booster doses. Think of it, how can you boost immunity if you don't have immunity? I have heard people in the media and around me try to play down vaccination because "you can still get the virus." That's not false, but taken out of context, a behavior very typical of the people against vaccines.

The vaccines we have now, in their base form, can protect against the parent strain of the coronavirus. The three widely used vaccines in the United States - Pfizer, Moderna, J&J - essentially all confer protection against getting the parent virus and reduce the risk of hospitalization or death to virtually zero. But, as I said, our foe is a formidable one.

The virus mutated, which isn't too out of place, considering that's what living things do. The scary part is how dangerous the

variants are. The Delta variant was the first real one to give us serious problems, and it necessitated us to shift the booster doses timetable forward.

I should say, right at the early stages of vaccine administration, we have always suspected that booster doses may be needed in the future. What we didn't know was how soon, and Delta effectively gave the green light. The booster doses worked wonderfully well against the Delta variant. Then came Omicron.

Although the boosters have been shown to work well against Omicron, there are still breakthrough cases here and there. In fact, Israel has started taking steps to get people a fourth shot. Fourth. And we're still here begging people to even get one. That's one of the reasons the virus will keep mutating and new variants emerging.

All I have said today are likely things you already know. The million-dollar question is, "what's the next step?" Scientists cannot say for sure, but we have antiviral pills that can help curb the spread and severity of COVID-19. But that's not nearly enough since the pills do not prevent people from getting the virus in the first place.

This time last year, we were in the "the vaccine wouldn't make you a zombie" war. Now, we're battling Omicron. Who knows what we'll be battling in a year's time? No one knows the answer to that question, and that's very scary because it just might be another super variant. We need to devise a strategy that can assure us victory no matter the variant, and I have some news.

An army lab has developed, drum rolllllllllllll, a super vaccine that is "pan-coronavirus." I probably shouldn't be that excited considering the thick shadow of pessimism that always accompanies the coronavirus, but it is great news nonetheless.

Testing is still in the early stages. Only the preclinical phase has been completed. There's still a phase 2 and 3, which will take a few months, I presume. That normally should be around five years, but we don't have five years. So everything is working in overdrive.

The super vaccine is super

because it will work against all types of coronaviruses and variants; at least, that's what it should do. One shot of this, and you have immunity against all variants of the coronavirus. The super vaccine was developed by a US Army lab and is a product of 24 months of hard work.

The mechanism of operation is, as you would expect, complicated. I'll simplify it as much as possible. The vaccine, through reverse engineering, will stimulate the body to make broad neutralizing antibodies (bnAb). These types of antibodies bind to several parts of the virus, not just the spike protein, making it effective even after mutations.

We're still a long way from seeing them in action, I presume. But the fact they are around the block is good news. Great news, in fact.



Till then, take your vaccine and booster shots. And stay safe.

This article was written by Dr. Adil Manzoor DO, a Board Certified Internist & Board Eligible Pediatrician, who works as a Hospitalist, and Emergency Room Physician. He is also the current President of Garden State Street Medicine, a non-profit organization whose sole purpose is to provide free preventive and acute urgent care services for the homeless. He is also the co-founder of his own unique medical practice Mobile Medicine NJ.

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SPORTS WRAP

By William Hathaway, Jr.

The annual Martin Luther King, Jr. basketball tournament took place in Orange this past Monday, but due to COVID-19 rules there was no fans in attendance. Despite that, the games were shown on the Orange Athletics YouTube page. In a battle of Newark squads, Payne Tech defeated Science Park 52-50 thanks to 14 points and 4 rebounds from Kyle Schiner.

In a battle of the Oranges, the East Orange Campus Jaguars defeated West Orange 67-53. Nahum Lewis netted a double-double for the Jags with 26 points and 12 rebounds. East Orange is now 5-1 on the season, and looking to keep the momentum going after the school's

football team took home a championship.

In the third game of the day, the East Orange girls' basketball team dominated the Orange girls squad 83-11. Finally, in the nightcap, Newark Tech slipped by the Orange boys' team 48-47. The Tornadoes got 12 points and 14 rebounds from Paul Metellus, while Khalil Sanders led Newark Tech to the win with 18 points.

The playoffs are underway in the NFL, and with the exception of San Francisco stunning Dallas, Wild Card Weekend saw wins from all the home teams. Next week, the 49ers will play at Green Bay, Tampa Bay will host the Los Angeles Rams, Cincinnati will travel to Tennessee, and Buffalo heads to Kansas City.

REDISTRICTING (Cont. from pg 1)

Newark, Harrison, industrial Kearny, Bayonne, Jersey City's south, east and north section and five other Hudson County towns.

Belleville, however, is now part of the 11th CD's northeast Essex County expansion. "Western and Central" Jersey City have been reassigned to the 10th CD.

Residents in the revamped Eighth will have a limited time to reacquaint or introduce themselves to Albio Sires (D-W. New York). Sires, on Dec. 21, announced that he will not seek re-election in 2022 and will retire with the 117th Congress just after Jan. 1, 2023.

IN THE 10th CD (Donald M. Payne, Jr. D-Newark), the remainder of Newark, Irvington, East Orange, Orange and West Orange stay where they are.

The 10th, however, cedes South Orange, Maplewood, Nutley, Bloomfield, Glen Ridge and most of Montclair to the 11th CD. It does keep Montclair's Fourth Ward/South End.

The district gains Verona, Essex Fells and Caldwell to its west and "Western/Central" Jersey City to its east. It also retains Union County's Hillside, Union, Roselle, Roselle Park, Kenilworth, Cranford, Garwood and the western part of Linden.

IN THE 11th CD (Mikie Sherrill, D-Montclair), the "Local Talk" area towns of South Orange, Maplewood, Belleville, Bloomfield, Nutley, Glen Ridge and three of Montclair's four wards are among its latest members.

The "other West Essex towns" - Millburn, Livingston, Cedar Grove, North and West Caldwell, Roseland and Fairfield - are now in the district. "Southwestern Passaic County" has also been added to the 11th's core of 25 Morris County municipalities.

The 11th now encompasses 41 towns in parts of Essex, Passaic and Morris counties.

John Wallace's decisive Dec. 22 vote approved the Democratic Party drawn map over the Republican map - but the process is not over.

(Continued on page 12)



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PUBLIC NOTICE

In accordance with the New Jersey Open Public Meetings Act, Chapter 231, P.L. 1975, Public Notice is hereby given that the Committee Meeting (5:30 PM) and the Regular Meeting (6:00 PM) of the East Orange City Council scheduled for Monday, January 24th and Monday, February 14th and Monday, February 28th, 2022, will be conducted via video conference, streaming on Facebook Live-facebook.com/eocitycouncil. In an effort to protect the safety of the residents and City employees due to the increase in positive COVID-19 cases and consistent with the CDC protocol the City Council finds it necessary to conduct these meetings virtually.

Residents may submit a written public comment or question via email to be read during the "Open Hearing of Citizens" portion of the meeting. Please email your questions/comments to: citycouncil@eastorange-nj.gov (by 5:00 PM for the Committee Meeting and by 5:30 PM for the Regular Meeting).

Formal action will be taken.

Christopher Awe
City Council Chairman

Cynthia S. Brown
City Clerk



PASSAIC FIRE CLIMBS TO 11 ALARMS

UNITED STATES

Not long after a deadly fire overwhelmed comrades in the Bronx, firefighters in New Jersey had their inferno to tackle.

Authorities in Passaic arrived at the Qualco chemical plant on the evening of Jan. 14 to discover a fire that raged out of control at the worst possible time. The evening was cold with heavy winds that could spread the fire in multiple directions. Even worse, five of seven nearby were not working.

In little to no time, the blaze spread to other buildings and grew to an 11-alarm fire, with the focus shifted from trying to save the property to just trying to prevent the flames from reaching the main area of chemicals in the plant. If the fire were to breach the copious amounts of chlorine, that would have trigger scores of evacuations, as the concoction would have been harmful to breathe into the lungs.

Among the fire companies providing mutual aid was the East Orange Fire Department. A most extensive list of other FDs proving assistance was not available as of press time, although the New York Fire Department was said to be on standby if needed.

Despite the fire not mixing with the chlorine, people in the area were still asked to close windows, as the smoke by itself was harmful enough. The smoke went traveled west as Mercer County in New Jersey, south as Sandy Hook, and east as far as Brooklyn in New York. In fact, the plume was so voluminous, it showed up on doppler radar.

During the morning of Jan. 15, firefighters made enough progress for Passaic Mayor Hector Lora to announce that they finally got the fire contained. There is no word as to fatalities, but there were a few injuries.

VOLCANO TRIGGERS TSUNAMI ALERT

PACIFIC

This past weekend, a threat that originated below the surface had people from thousands of miles away worried.

On Jan. 15, an underwater volcano erupted off the coast of Tonga, injuring around 300,000 people and leaving 1.5 million homeless during the 35-second-long tremor.

According to a Tongan Government press release, there were three fatalities: a British national, and two Tongan nationals. The World Health Organization has reported that many people are still missing, whilst around 90 people headed to safety in evacuation centers on the island of Eua, and many others fled to the homes of friends and family.

On the main island of Tongatapu, around 100 houses have been damaged, and 50 completely destroyed, according to the UN humanitarian coordination office, OCHA, which updated journalists in Geneva.

Tonga's capital, Nuku'alofa, is covered in ash and dust following the underwater volcanic eruption, but the situation is calm there and first clean-up efforts are underway, UN humanitarians said on Jan 17.

Further afield in the Pacific archipelago, an update from the office for the coordination of human affairs (OCHA) indicated that there has been significant damage to infrastructure around the main island of Tongatapu, where several resorts have been destroyed or badly affected, in western coastal areas.

There are no confirmed fatalities so far, but two people are still missing, and assessments are still pending, particularly from the outer islands.

According to reports, the eruption was heard as far away as Alaska, while the tsunami that emanated from the blast flooded the Japanese and US coastlines, also killing two people in Peru.

So far in Tonga, no official contact has been established with two small low-lying islands Mango and Fono, although surveillance flights by New Zealand and Australia have revealed substantial damage along western beaches.

Local telephone lines have been repaired, OCHA said, but restoring international phone connections and internet service, remain complicated after the eruption reportedly severed a key communications cable lying on the seabed.

In addition to receiving help from neighboring New Zealand and Australia, Tongan authorities have deployed the national maritime force to the Ha'apai Group of islands.

TWO MORE ASSETS IN COVID FIGHT

WORLD

On Jan. 14, the World Health Organization (WHO) recommended two new drugs for COVID-19, providing yet more options for treating the disease. The extent to which these medicines will save lives depends on how widely available and affordable they will be.

The first drug, baricitinib, is strongly recommended for patients with severe or critical COVID-19. It is part of a class of drugs called Janus kinase (JAK) inhibitors that suppress the overstimulation of the immune system. WHO recommends that it is given with corticosteroids.

Baricitinib is an oral drug, used in the treatment of rheumatoid arthritis. It provides an alternative to other arthritis drugs called Interleukin-6 receptor blockers, recommended by WHO in July 2021.

WHO has also conditionally recommended the use of a monoclonal antibody drug, sotrovimab, for treating mild or moderate COVID-19 in patients who are at high risk of hospitalization. This includes patients who are older, immunocompromised, having underlying conditions like diabetes, hypertension, and obesity, and those unvaccinated.

Sotrovimab is an alternative to casirivimab-imdevimab, a monoclonal antibody cocktail recommended by WHO in September 2021. Studies are ongoing on the effectiveness of monoclonal antibodies against Omicron but early laboratory studies show that sotrovimab retains its activity.

The panel of experts developing the guidelines also looked

at two other drugs for severe and critical COVID-19: ruxolitinib and tofacitinib. Given their uncertain effects, WHO made a conditional recommendation against their use.

These recommendations, forming the eighth update of WHO's living guidelines on therapeutics and COVID-19, are based on evidence from seven trials involving over 4,000 patients with non-severe, severe, and critical COVID-19.

WHO is in discussions with manufacturers to secure global supply capacity and equitable and sustainable access to the newly recommended therapeutics. The Access to COVID-19 Tools Accelerator (ACT-A) Therapeutics pillar has been engaging with pharmaceutical companies to seek comprehensive access plans for low- and middle-income countries, so that these treatments can be rapidly deployed everywhere, not just in rich countries. The ACT-A is also looking to expand licensing scope to make the products more affordable.

The two newly recommended drugs - baricitinib and sotrovimab - have been invited for WHO Prequalification, which assesses the quality, efficacy and safety of priority health products to increase access in lower income countries.

CONCERN GROWS OVER U.K. BILL

EUROPE

A new bill being debated by lawmakers in the United Kingdom increases the risk of discrimination and "serious human rights violations" and breaches the country's obligations under international law, five independent UN human rights experts said on Jan. 14.

If adopted, the Nationality and Borders Bill would "seriously undermine the protection of the human rights of trafficked persons, including children; increase risks of exploitation faced by all migrants and asylum seekers; and lead to serious human rights violations," Siobhán Mullally, the UN Special Rapporteur on Trafficking in Persons, said in a statement.

"The bill fails to

(Continued on page 14)

“THE STREET DOCTOR” EARL BEST REMEMBERED



The Rev. Al Sharpton saying some kind words about Best. Photo By Thomas Ellis II

By Thomas Ellis II

Not long ago, Newark lost a community servant in The Street Doctor. He was a brother who came out of prison and turned his life around after serving 17 years for bank robbery.

I met Earl Best back in 2000 when Enough Is Enough Coalition was organizing prayer vigils, rallies and protest against the guns and violence in the city of Newark and Essex County.

“Street,” I called him, was one who gave back to the community through mentoring young men and women, teenagers and adults alike. He was active in the anti-guns and violence movement in Newark. He fought for jobs for the unemployed, he was an advocate for Affirmative Action, a public speaker, and he even wrote a book.

Many people wondered how Earl Best got the name “Street Doctor.” It was given to him back in 2000 when Enough Is Enough Coalition, UYC, the Newark Anti Violence Coalition, POP, and others use to pro-

test the violence. United Youth Council Salam Ismeal out of Elizabeth gave him the name while we were out standing up for the people and the community dealing with all the ills that was affecting the residents. This was during the reign of Former Mayor Sharpe James, and Earl had been a fighter and activist for the people ever since, even under Mayor Booker and Mayor Ras J. Baraka.

The Rev. Al Sharpton attended the funeral for the Street Doctor, and gave some words of encouragement, Newark's Mayor Baraka spoke about how his work in the community will be missed, and what a champion Best was against injustice. There was a praise dance team that came all the way from Springfield, Mass. to perform. His son Bukhari Bernard broke down in tears while he was speaking about his father and thanking everyone for coming out and showing their support during his family's time of need. Other family members came up and

(Continued on page 15)

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CHAPTER 7 BANKRUPTCY
CHAPTER 13 BANKRUPTCY

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ESSEX COUNTY WEEKLY COVID-19 CASE TALLY

Municipality	1-12-2022	Deaths	1-19-2022	Deaths
Belleville	9296	128	9766	132
Bloomfield	10363	133	10898	136
Caldwell	1319	17	1381	17
Cedar Grove	3194	124	3378	124
East Orange	15484	344	16250	349
Essex Fells	405	2	424	2
Fairfield	1624	34	1679	34
Glen Ridge	970	16	1018	18
Irvington	10528	252	11111	256
Livingston	4834	92	5262	95
Maplewood	3870	42	4152	42
Millburn	2394	12	2606	13
Montclair	5333	78	5669	81
Newark	71063	1101	74449	1126
North Caldwell	1004	8	1040	8
Nutley	5441	70	5827	70
Orange	7158	148	7602	151
Roseland	1113	20	1191	20
South Orange	2536	20	2735	20
Verona	2608	21	2752	21
West Caldwell	2197	57	2296	57
West Orange	11040	245	11626	248
Total	173774	2964	183112	3020

OTHER COVID-19 TALLIES (As of January 19, 2022)
NJ: 1,749,235 cases / 27,432 deaths (Plus 2,883 probable)
United States (approx.): 68.013 Million / 855,700 deaths
Worldwide (approx.): 335.883 Million / 5.56 Million deaths

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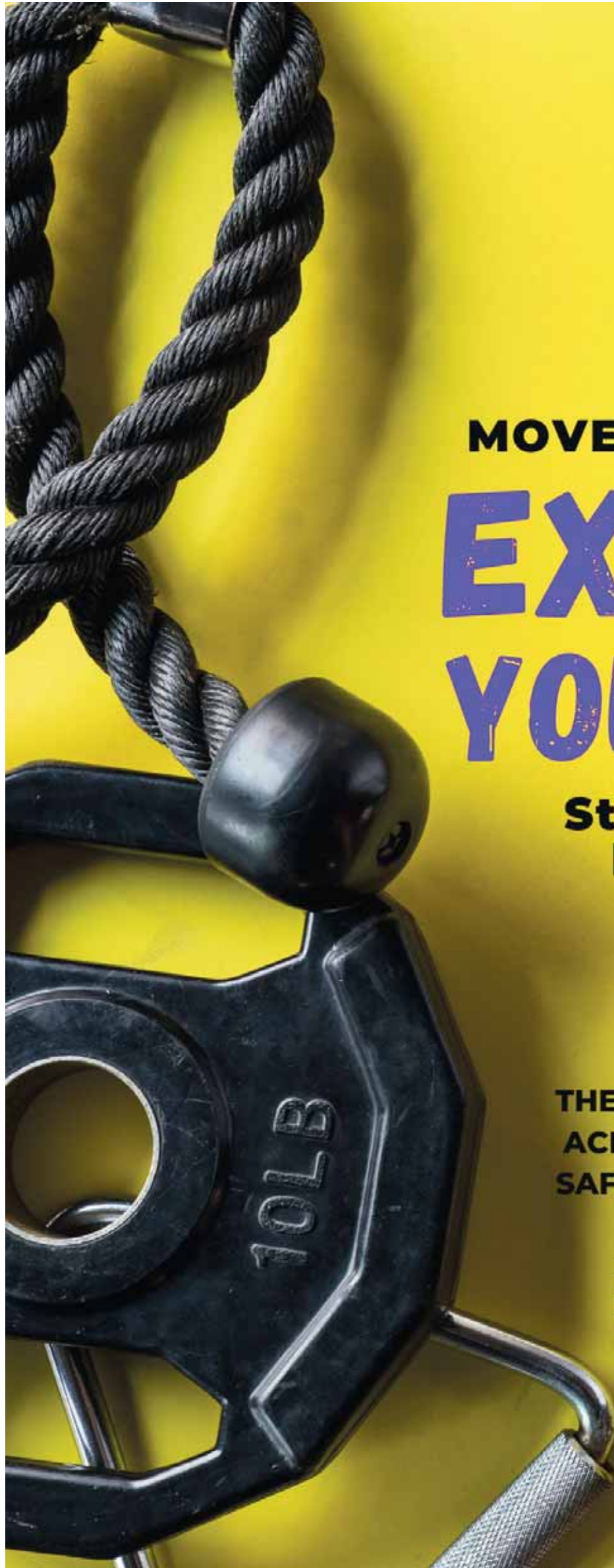


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TOWN WATCH

DISCLAIMER: The following items are primarily drawn from first responders. Responders' accounts may not be their full activity range. Grand juries hand down indictments when evidence presented them warrant a trial. Named suspects/defendants are innocent until proven guilty beyond a reasonable doubt in a court of law.

NEWARK - Relatives of Newark Fire Capt. Carlos A. Rivera are planning his funeral arrangements while Essex County Prosecutor's Office Homicide/Major Crimes Task Force detectives are interviewing the man who was with him in the Park Avenue fire station Jan. 15.

A local EMS ambulance crew, responding to a 7 a.m. Saturday call from 269-71 Park Ave. It was at the home of Engine 15 and Ladder 7 where they found both Rivera and the former fireman "unconscious and unresponsive."

The unidentified man was rushed to University Hospital, where he was eventually released from Jan. 17. Rivera, 49, of Sayreville, was declared dead at the scene.

Acting Essex County Prosecutor Theodore "Ted" Stephens II, who officially identified Rivera Monday, said that Rivera's cause of death is pending the Regional Medical Examiner's autopsy results.

Stephens added that neither man showed any signs of violence at the firehouse.

University Hospital patients and staff, in the form of 24 U.S. Army National Guard troops, will be getting federal help when you read this.

The 24 National Guardsmen and women, all doctors, were deployed to New Jersey's Level One trauma hospital on Jan. 18 for a tour lasting until at least Feb. 1.

IRVINGTON - A township man has been spending the year-end holidays and winter in Hackensack's Bergen County Jail

since authorities had arrested him here Dec. 8.

Bergen County Prosecutor Mark Musella said that Hackensack police and BCPO detectives arrested Terrell Williams, 46, and brought him back to answer to charges of child sexual assault.

Musella said that Hackensack police and BCPO's Special Victims Unit were told, on Dec. 5 of the sexual assault of a minor. A subsequent investigation connected Williams to the crime.

Williams is being held on first-degree aggravated sexual assault, second-degree endangering the welfare of a child and third-degree counts of third-degree aggravated sexual contact and penetration without consent.

EAST ORANGE - East Orange General Hospital, on Jan. 12, changed its name for the second time in its 119 years.

EOGH, in a Noon Wednesday ribbon-cutting, became CareWell Health Center. Mayor Theodore "Ted" Green, Lt. Governor Sheila Y. Oliver (D-East Orange), and East Orange Hospital Acquisitions Group CEO Paige Dworak watched while new signage was draped over the old on the main building at 400 Central Ave. and its Medical Arts Building at 310 Central.

The medical center started out as the Homeopathic Hospital of Essex County at 129-135 Littleton Ave., Newark, in 1903. Its growth prompted a move to here, and related EOGH name change, in 1926.

Dworak said that renaming the institution CareWell was the result of several months' market research of its former moniker. The institution remains "Essex County's only independent community boutique hospital" and, at 870 workers, "East Orange's largest private employer."

The renaming also marks the Jan. 1 completion of EOHA's purchase from Prospect Medical Holdings. The group, including Dworak, started its transfer from Los Angeles-based Sept. 26. Prospect had bought EOGH in 2016 and had invested \$52 to \$84 million in capital improvements into 2021.

It is not known whether CareWell will ask the New Jer-

sey Department of Health and Senior Services to return its status from profit to non-profit. The state granted Prospect its desired for-profit status in 2018.

ORANGE - A funeral for a four-year-old North Ward girl was held in Newark Jan. 15 while the man accused of beating her to death remains held in Newark's Essex County Correctional Facility.

Acting Essex County Prosecutor Theodore "Ted" Stephens II and Orange Public Safety Director Todd Warren said city officers were called to a house on the 200 block of Wallace Street on an unresponsive child report Dec. 30.

They found an unresponsive Laniyah Bloodworth with bruises about her body. She was taken to Newark's University Hospital - where she was pronounced dead at 4:23 p. m.

Jamel Welch, 21, of Orange, who was babysitting Bloodworth for his girlfriend and her mother, could not explain the bruising. Welch was first arrested for endangering the welfare of a child. First-degree murder was added Jan. 8 after the Regional Medical Examiner had ruled the girl's death as a homicide.

A memorial for Bloodworth, who was born July 8, 2017, was held at 6 p.m. Saturday at Newark's Zion Hill Baptist Church. There is a GoFundMe.com campaign for her funeral expenses.

WEST ORANGE - The West Orange Public Schools and one of its employee unions are a rank and file vote away from ratifying a new contract.

The WOPS Board of Education's outgoing Negotiations Committee and the International Union of Operating Engineers Local 168, of West Caldwell, announced on Jan. 5 that they have a Memorandum of Agreement.

Both the school board and the union are scheduling respective ratification dates as of press time. Details about the MOA, including its salary guides, are to be announced post-ratification.

SOUTH ORANGE - James Mtume's life song may be over as of Jan. 9, but his music and message live on. Mtume, who

was to co-convene the Third National Black Political Convention in Newark April 28 - May 1, said son Faulu, died from cancer at home here six days after his 76th birthday.

Mtume is perhaps best known as an award-winning musical performer, songwriter and producer working with some of the legends of jazz, R&B and pop. He was an 18-year co-host of the "Open Line" and "The Week in Review" radio talk shows. He said he moved to the Newark-South Orange area because of the activism of Amiri Baraka, Sr., helped Kenneth Gibson's successful mayoral campaign in 1970.

Mtume was born into jazz royalty in South Philadelphia Jan. 3, 1946. Jazz saxophonist Jimmy "Little Bird" Heath, who died in 2020 at 98, was his birth father. He was raised by pianist and percussionist James "Hen Gates" Forman, Sr. and Bertha Forman - the elder performing with Charlie "Bird" Parker.

James Heath or Forman, who interchangeably used either last name, adopted "Mtume," Swahili for "Messenger," while at Pasadena City (Calif.) College in the 1960s. The child pianist and conga drummer went to PCC on a swimming scholarship. It was there where he was introduced to Kwanzaa founder Dr. Maulana Karenga and joined his U.S. Organization, an African American nationalist cultural group.

Mtume turned to music as a profession, first working with uncle Albert Heath on "Kawaida" in 1969 and with Miles Davis 1971-75. He left "M.D. University" to develop his "sophistifunk" sound with his Mtume Umoja Ensemble. His instrumental playing can be heard on Roberta Flack and the late Donnie Hathaway's "The Closer I Get to You" 1978 duet. His 1983 one million copy "Jucy Fruit" album's title cut has been sampled by around 100 later artists.

Mtume joined Judge Bob Pinkett and the late Bob Slade in producing and hosting "Open Line" on WRKS and WBLS-FM and "Open Line Nation" on Sirius Channel 110 1995-2013. He left after Open Line was shortened and became a regular guest

(Continued on page 13)

MEMBERS OF THE OATH KEEPERS CHARGED WITH SEDITION

WASHINGTON - A federal grand jury in the District of Columbia returned an indictment, which was unsealed Jan. 13, charging 11 defendants with seditious conspiracy and other charges for crimes related to the breach of the U.S. Capitol on Jan. 6, 2021, which disrupted a joint session of the U.S. Congress that was in the process of ascertaining and counting the electoral votes related to the presidential election.

According to court documents, Elmer Stewart Rhodes III, 56, of Granbury, Texas, who is the founder and leader of the Oath Keepers; and Edward Vallejo, 63, of Phoenix, Arizona, are being charged for the first time in connection with events leading up to and including Jan. 6. Rhodes was arrested in Little Elm, Texas, and Vallejo was arrested this morning in Phoenix.

In addition to Rhodes and Vallejo, those named in the indictment include nine previously

charged defendants: Thomas Caldwell, 67, of Berryville, Virginia; Joseph Hackett, 51, of Sarasota, Florida; Kenneth Harrelson, 41, of Titusville, Florida; Joshua James, 34, of Arab, Alabama; Kelly Meggs, 52, of Dunnellon, Florida; Roberto Minuta, 37, of Prosper, Texas; David Moerschel, 44, of Punta Gorda, Florida; Brian Ulrich, 44, of Guyton, Georgia and Jessica Watkins, 39, of Woodstock, Ohio. In addition to the earlier charges filed against them, they now face additional counts for seditious conspiracy and other offenses.

Eight other individuals affiliated with the Oath Keepers, all previously charged in the investigation, remain as defendants in two related cases. All defendants - except Rhodes and Vallejo - previously were charged in a superseding indictment. The superseding indictment has now effectively been split into three parts: the 11-defendant seditious con-

spiracy case, a seven-defendant original case, and a third case against one of the previously charged defendants.

In one of the related cases, the original superseding indictment, charges remain pending against James Beeks, 49, of Orlando, Florida; Donovan Crowl, 51, of Cable, Ohio; William Isaacs, 22, of Kissimmee, Florida; Connie Meggs, 60, of Dunnellon, Florida; Sandra Parker, 63, of Morrow, Ohio; Bernie Parker, 71, of Morrow, Ohio, and Laura Steele, 53, of Thomasville, North Carolina. The other case charges Jonathan Walden, 57, of Birmingham, Alabama.


The three indictments collectively charge all 19 defendants with corruptly obstructing an official proceeding. Eighteen of the 19 defendants - the exception is Walden - are charged with conspiring to obstruct an official proceeding and conspiring to prevent an officer of the United


States from discharging a duty. Eleven of the 19 defendants are charged with seditious conspiracy. Some of the defendants are also facing other related charges.

As alleged in the indictments, the Oath Keepers are a large but loosely organized collection of individuals, some of whom are associated with militias. Though the Oath Keepers will accept anyone as members, they explicitly focus on recruiting current and former military, law enforcement and first-responder personnel. Members and affiliates of the Oath Keepers were among the individuals and groups who forcibly entered the Capitol on Jan. 6, 2021.

The seditious conspiracy indictment alleges that, following the Nov. 3, 2020, presidential election, Rhodes conspired with his co-defendants and others to oppose by force the execution of the laws governing the transfer of presidential power by Jan. 20,

(Continued on page 13)





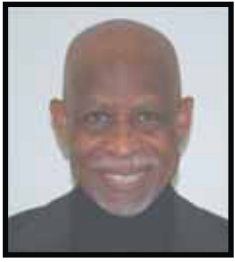
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From The Pastor's Heart

OP-ED BY DR. ROBERT KENNEDY

The Curse Upon The Individual

I do not know that you are one of those who might believe what I am about to reference as a reality, but in some parts of the world, some individuals hold as a reality that they can put "a curse" or what they call "a spell," upon others.

Of course, when you hear of such a thing, it might cause you to laugh at them, thinking that they are so primitive. But please stop the laughter if you are, because while you, and, I should say, we, might be living in what is called a more civilized world, we can look around and see people who are doing such wicked things that we have to say they have "a curse" or "a spell" upon them.

I do not think I need to call the names of many, but when we think of cursed individuals, we have to think in the contemporary frame of Hitler. I just reread a brief of his story and note that he is called "one of history's most diabolical monsters." And it is of interest because of the dramatic rescue that took place in his life when he was still a boy.

When he was only four years old, living in Batavia, he and another little boy of five years were playing "Cowboys and Indians" together when he slipped off an embankment into a river and nearly drowned, except that the five-year-old Johann Keu-

hberger jumped in after him and saved him. Johann went on to become a priest, while Hitler went on to become one of the world's most monstrous men, killing over six million Jews, millions of Christians, and others who would not submit to his cause.

Let me also reference the monster, Pol Pot, who led the Communist Party (the Khmer Rouge) of Cambodia in carrying out the genocide that took the lives of between one to two million of his people. Many of them were buried in mass graves in what would be called the Killing Fields of Cambodia.

And do not forget Jeffrey Lionel Dahmer, also known as the Milwaukee Cannibal or the Milwaukee Monster, or American serial killer and sex offender who killed about 17 victims between 1978 and 1991. What made his crimes most gruesome was that he would put his victims in a refrigerator, cook pieces at a time, and eat. He was killed in prison by a fellow inmate in 1994.

I think you have seen the common thread that fits in the lives of the people I have named above. They are monstrous and cruel. They are "sick," you might say, "demon-possessed." They have no sensitivity for those who feel pain. They can watch the most wicked actions without feeling any sense of empathy. They are hateful. They cross every line of decency of what might be called human morality. They stand out a lot.

But I am sure you can add to my list of persons with similar egregious crimes, in the times that Hitler, Pol Pot, and Jeffrey Dahmer lived and in our time. What I am hoping is that you do not miss the point that I, while we focus on these most mon-

strous of persons who have come into our world, you understand the potential that all human beings have to be just like them, since the Fall cited in Genesis 3 and the curse that we have brought upon ourselves.

In the reality of the Fall and the original curse, the prophet Jeremiah says, "The heart is deceitful above all things, and desperately wicked: who can know it?" (Jer. 17:9 KJV). The immediate context in which Jeremiah speaks is that of Judah's sinfulness despite all the blessings of God.

As Jeremiah 17:1 says, "Judah's sin is engraved with an iron tool, inscribed with a flint point, on the tablets of their hearts and the horns of their altars." You might say that is a harsh commentary from the prophet, but the apostle Paul says the same of ungodly humanity. In Romans 1: 29-32, he notes, "They have become filled with every kind of wickedness, evil, greed and depravity. They are full of envy, murder, strife, deceit and malice.

"They are gossipers, slanderers, God-haters, insolent, arrogant and boastful; they invent ways of doing evil; they disobey their parents; they have no understanding, no fidelity, no love, no mercy. Although they know God's righteous decree that those who do such things deserve death, they not only continue to do these very things but also approve of those who practice them."

The apostle says the same to the Jewish people to whom he was writing in Rome, "What shall we conclude then? Do we have any advantage? Not at all! For we have already made the charge that Jews and Gentiles alike are all under the power of sin. As it is written: 'There is no

one righteous, not even one; there is no one who understands; there is no one who seeks God. All have turned away; they have together become worthless; no one does good, not even one.' 'Their throats are open graves; their tongues practice deceit.' 'The poison of vipers is on their lips.' 'Their mouths are full of cursing and bitterness.' 'Their feet are swift to shed blood; ruin and misery mark their ways and the way of peace they do not know.' 'There is no fear of God before their eyes.'" (Romans 3:9-18 KJV).

While not every person will commit all the sins listed above, every person has the potential because of the curse. And we should not try to deny it. In the words of C.S. Lewis, we need to stop obfuscating by saying words like, "I do not think that it is our fault that we cannot tell the real truth about ourselves; the persistent, life-long inner murmur of spite, jealousy, prurience, greed, and self-complacence (that) simply will not go into words. But the important thing is that we should not mistake our inevitably limited utterances for a full account of the worst that is inside." (see *The Problem of Pain*, p. 60).

The point of appeal that I am making is that we need to own the reality of the curse upon us. We also need to ask the Lord God to help us get rid of it, because without such help, we are sure to do some awful things, if not like Hitler, Pol Pot or Jeffrey Dahmer, like one of those described in the writings of the apostle Paul or the common crime lists of our day.

May God help us take responsibility for the egregious acts we commit, submit our lives to him and avert the curse.

REDISTRICTING (Continued from page 5)

State Republicans have appealed to the State Supreme Court to at least halt the certification of the Democratic map. They have gone before the Trenton high bench Jan. 4.

The state justices asked Wallace for an explanation for his choice. Wallace said, in a Jan. 11 filing, said that he had applied the "partisan fairness" and "party blind" tests to each party's maps and compared them to a computer-drawn theoretical map.

By applying partisan fairness, Wallace said he was looking for the map that best reflects the voting pattern in terms of party

wins and losses. By party blind, he said he compared all three maps. Wallace said he then chose the Democratic map.

Wallace first said, on Dec. 22, that he had chosen the Democratic map because the Republican 2012-21 map was approved 10 years ago - and it was the Democratic map's turn.

The State Supreme Court has meanwhile directed both parties to submit their briefs - no more than 15 or 60 pages long - on or before Jan. 21. The prospective new map has already generated two local responses.

One observer pointed out on Jan. 14 that the Essex County College will have to work

with two House Representatives. While the Newark Main Campus remains in Payne's 10th CD, its West Caldwell Campus is now in Sherrill's 11th CD.

Several neighbors along Bloomfield's Maolis Avenue started a petition Jan. 18 to have their House Representative find a solution to increasing flooding coming from Glen Ridge stormwater runoff. They had addressed their petition to Payne and Sherrill.

And redistricting will not end with the CDs. Prospective redrawing will be done on the State Assembly, on the Essex County Ward Commissioners and, at the municipal level, perhaps in your neighborhood.

OATH KEEPERS CHARGED*(Continued from page 11)*

2021.

Beginning in late December 2020, via encrypted and private communications applications, Rhodes and various co-conspirators coordinated and planned to travel to Washington, D.C., on or around Jan. 6, 2021, the date of the certification of the electoral college vote, the indictment alleges. Rhodes and several co-conspirators made plans to bring weapons to the area to support the operation. The co-conspirators then traveled across the country to the Washington, D.C., metropolitan area in early January 2021.

According to the seditious conspiracy indictment, the de-

fendants conspired through a variety of manners and means, including: organizing into teams that were prepared and willing to use force and to transport firearms and ammunition into Washington, D.C.; recruiting members and affiliates to participate in the conspiracy; organizing trainings to teach and learn paramilitary combat tactics; bringing and contributing paramilitary gear, weapons and supplies - including knives, batons, camouflaged combat uniforms, tactical vests with plates, helmets, eye protection and radio equipment - to the Capitol grounds; breaching and attempting to take control of the Capitol grounds and building on Jan. 6, 2021, in an effort to prevent, hinder and delay the certification of the electoral college vote; us-

ing force against law enforcement officers while inside the Capitol on Jan. 6, 2021; continuing to plot, after Jan. 6, 2021, to oppose by force the lawful transfer of presidential power, and using websites, social media, text messaging and encrypted messaging applications to communicate with co-conspirators and others.

On Jan. 6, 2021, a large crowd began to gather outside the Capitol perimeter as the Joint Session of Congress got under way at 1 p.m. Crowd members eventually forced their way through, up and over U.S. Capitol Police barricades and advanced to the building's exterior façade. Shortly after 2 p.m., crowd members forced entry into the Capitol by breaking windows, ramming open doors, and

assaulting Capitol police and other law enforcement officers. At about this time, according to the indictment, Rhodes entered the restricted area of the Capitol grounds and directed his followers to meet him at the Capitol.

At approximately 2:30 p.m., as detailed in the indictment, Hackett, Harrelson, Meggs, Moerschel and Watkins, and other Oath Keepers and affiliates - many wearing paramilitary clothing and patches with the Oath Keepers name, logo, and insignia - marched in a "stack" formation up the east steps of the Capitol, joined a mob, and made their way into the Capitol. Later, another group of Oath Keepers and associates, including James, Minuta, and Ulrich, formed a second "stack" and breached the

*(Continued on page 15)***TOWN WATCH***(Continued from page 10)*

on Rutgers-Newark's WRUN "All Politics Are Local" until he had to turn his energy towards fighting cancer.

Wife Kamili, son Richard Johnson, daughters Benin and Ife Mtume, Eshe King and Sandra Lee and six grandchildren are also among his survivors. Although the family is holding a private funeral, a public memorial will most likely be during the Third National Black Political Convention at NJIT. He was working on a memoir with Billy Hall.

MAPLEWOOD - The debate over whether a second grade teacher had pulled a hajib off a student's head or had replaced the student's sweatshirt hood has taken the first step towards a courtroom Jan. 6.

Attorney Robert L. Tarver, in that Thursday's press conference, announced that he is preparing to file a civil suit in N.J. Superior Court-Newark on behalf of parents Joseph and Cassandra Wyatt and their daughter, against the South Orange-Maplewood School District and second-grade teacher Tamar Herman.

Tarver and the Wyatts assert that Herman had pulled back their daughter's hajib while con-

ducting class at the Seth Boyden Demonstration School Oct. 6. They are suing, for an unannounced figure, over "emotional distress, humiliation, loss of enjoyment of life and other pain and suffering."

James Davis III, SOMA Black Parents Workshop chairman, on Jan. 16, confirmed that the Wyatts and Tarver are intending to sue - but have not yet filed.

The ECPO and Maplewood Police Department have taken over the Oct. 6 investigation since Oct. 12. The investigation had been an internal SOMSD matter until Superintendent Dr. Ronald Taylor turned it over to the authorities.

SOMSD communications director Anide Bustache said that Herman, a 30-year teacher, has not been in Seth Boyden Since Oct. 6.

Herman and her attorney Samantha Harris, maintain on Jan. 6 that she had tried to move the girl's hood up from her eyes but, when she realized she was not wearing her hajib, kept the hood on."

BLOOMFIELD - "Bloomfield's Bravest," with help from their Belleville and Nutley colleagues, quenched a First Ward house fire here Jan. 4.

The crew of Engine 2 came from its Watsessing Avenue Station to an 18 Ella St. house that

Tuesday night on an electrical basement fire report. They found "a fire burning in a wall" and pulled two more alarms.

BFD firefighters contained the blaze until units from Belleville and Nutley arrived on the scene to bring it under full control. No injuries were reported.

18 Ella St. is a 2.5 story wood-frame house built in 1906.

MONTCLAIR - The Montclair Board of Education has selected chosen their last mayoral appointee - Mfreke "Monk" Inyang - at the end of their Jan. 12 public remote meeting.

Inyang, who has two children in the Charles H. Bullock School, has also been that school's PTA president and vice president and led its annual Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Day of Education and Service.

The second-generation Nigerian-American, who grew up in Newark and co-founded the Brick City Alumni Group in 2009, moved here in 2019.

The board - after conducting interviews and two hours' private deliberations - chose Inyang over fellow candidates Brian Fleischer, Richard Reynics and Aminah Toler. All four were recommended by Mayor Sean Spillar.

Inyang succeeds the late Dr. Alfred Davis, who died Dec. 2. His term, however, will only last until Jan. 1, 2023 - unless he

runs in the Nov. 8 General Election. His seat and those of incumbent Board President Latifah Jannah and Vice President Priscilla Church will be on the Montclair Board of Education's first November election ballot.

A majority of participating township voters Nov. 2 approved switching the school board from a seven-member mayor-appointed Type 1 panel to a nine-member voter-elected Type 2 panel.

Montclair will be holding a special election to add two school board seats on March 8. It is not known, as of press time, whether Fleisher, Reynics and Toler have filed petitions to run in that election on or before the Jan. 6 deadline.

GLEN RIDGE - Two Borough Council members - Rebecca Meyer and Deborah Mans - took new positions after their reorganization meeting here Jan. 5.

Newcomer Meyer was sworn onto the council panel along with incumbent Ann Marie Morrow that Wednesday night. Voters ratified Meyer and Morrow Nov. 2. Meyer succeeds Paul Liscovitz, who decided not to run for re-election.

Mans was selected by her five peers to become their council president for the year. She succeeds councilman and former mayor Peter Hughes.

(Continued on page 15)

The Observation Booth



OP-ED By Andrea Dialect

Star Gazin'

When I look at a movie, I like to peep the titles and premise. I love Hood Films and Street Culture because I enjoy finding out why they are the way they are. The who, what, when, where, and why. I look in-depth. I love my mind being challenged. My favorite movie is "Set It Off" because I can relate. Not normal for me was Akeelah and the Bee. I learned a lot about words from that movie. A movie that had a very negative effect on me was Tyler Perry's Confessions of a Marriage Counselor. The movie and that unexpected twist scared the mess out of me. It opened my eyes, making me think, what's my favorite comedy?

How long does the clock get to tick or strike before I opt-out of a movie? I give it about 10 minutes before I grab the remote. When there's bad acting,

the first 3 minutes, Sometimes I'll give it a chance and skip ahead to watch segments of a movie that I don't want to watch straight through!

Usually, I get my movies through streaming sites like Netflix, HBO, and stuff like that. I like period pieces, horror, comedy, sci-fi, medieval times, mostly anything. But, whatever it is it has to relate to me or... CLICK!

In all honesty, it was my sister Veronica and my cousin Vet (Cynthia). That introduced me to enjoying not normal. Veronica, as sitting in our living room hogging the tv as she gazed at a unique variety of sitcoms, movies, shows, etc. That piqued my curiosity allowing me to even consider enjoying movies, and such. When I'd visit my cousin Vet who lived right across the street from us, I'd get the honor and pleasure of being introduced to music that loomed beyond the soulful crooning that I'd known. Such is this, I had a blast surveying all the movie buffs that are included here in this week's Observation Booth submission. I entitled it, "Star Gazin'" because technically you are gazin at stars as ya peering on, am I right?

Mainly, I felt that it would be so much more interesting and fun to turn back to my old ways and get some feedback from those who really, really matter... You the reader! Several heads are better than one, and when you opt-in for that peek in the "Observation Booth" (yes, by the way, I have decided on the name) you'll find some very interesting insights and movie choices. I have quite a few must-sees on my list now. I would like

to say thanks again to this week's contributors. Check out the amazing feedback I gleaned from our survey. I'm sure you'll agree!

DORIS BROWN - My Mother

Your all-time favorite movie? The Ten Commandments (the original movie)

A movie that you'd recommend to others? War Room

A very informative movie? Roots

KEYASIA DANSBY- Artist
My all-time favorite movie? Law Abiding Citizen

Favorite childhood movie? The Neverending Story

Favorite background play? The Office (Although it's a sitcom and not a movie)

What's not normally something you'd watch? Freaky

Favorite Comedy? Bad Words

FREDERICK SIMPSON - Writer/ Musician

Your all-time favorite movie? One Who Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest

Favorite Childhood Movie? Star Trek (television)

Very informative movie? Roots

Negative Impact? SuperFly (couldn't hand the exploitation!)

Not Normal? Carrie

TIMIYAH HENRY - Student

One movie for the rest of your life - The Best Man Holiday

My favorite movie - Poetic Justice

Favorite Childhood Movie - Good Burger

Very informative Movie? Akeelah and the Bee (It expanded my vocabulary)

Negative Impact? Ruby Bridges (because of the harshness and the challenges she faced as a little girl!)

Not Normal? Civil Brand

A movie you'd recommend to others? The Hate U Give

Favorite Actress - Angela Bassett

POETRY THE WRITER - Teacher

I don't have a favorite movie. I'm not really into movies like that.

I can't sit still long enough lol!

Most informative movie?

It's not a movie but more like a Docu-Series on Cable. It's called Reel To Reel

Childhood fav?

The Twilight Saga

Even though don't watch movies or television often

If it's a very good movie, it can be very beneficial!

BARRY ALSTON - Actor/ Author

Favorite movie of all time? John Q

Favorite childhood movie? Harlem Nights

Most informative movie you've ever seen? Blood Diamond

Most impactful? The Pursuit of Happyness

Your go-to background movie? Training Day

WORLD NEWS FLASH (Continued from page 6)

acknowledge the Government's obligation to ensure protection for migrant and asylum-seeking children, and greatly increases risks of Statelessness, in violation of international law," she added.

Seeking and enjoying asylum is a fundamental human right, according to the UN experts.

However, the bill does not respect the UK's obligations under international human rights and refugee law, but instead dismantles a core protection of democratic societies and pushes vulnerable people into dangerous situations.

If passed, it could penalize asylum-seekers and refugees, violating the principle of non-punishment in international law and discriminating between categories of asylum

seekers, which is contrary to international law, the experts said.

They also highlighted the specific risks faced by migrant and refugee women. Under this bill, women who have experienced gender-based violence can be turned away from the UK rather than be allowed to seek and find safety.

"The Government's repeated public statements on combating trafficking and modern slavery, must be matched by concrete action to ensure equal protection of the law for all victims of trafficking and modern slavery, without discrimination," underscored the experts.

The experts expressed alarm that the bill would increase the possibility of "arbitrary deprivation of citizenship," which they reminded, has a troubled history rooted in racism and discrimination, and increases the

risk of Statelessness.

"The bill instrumentalizes national security concerns, increasing risks of discrimination and of serious human rights violations, in particular against minorities, migrants and refugees," they spelled out, urging the Government "to reverse these proposed measures."

In November, the experts sent a letter to the UK Government, outlining a range of concerns about the bill.

In addition to Ms. Mullally, the other experts who signed the statement were Felipe González Morales, Special Rapporteur on the human rights of migrants, Fionnuala Ní Aoláin, Special Rapporteur on the promotion and protection of human rights while countering terrorism and Tomoya Obokata, Special Rapporteur on contemporary forms of slavery, including causes and consequences.

OATH KEEPERS CHARGED

(Continued from page 13)

Capitol grounds, marching from the west side to the east side of the Capitol building and up the east stairs and into the building.

While certain Oath Keepers members and affiliates breached the Capitol grounds and building, others remained stationed just outside of the city in quick reaction force (QRF) teams. According to the indictment, the QRF teams were prepared to rapidly transport firearms and other weapons into Washington, D.C., in support of operations aimed at using force to stop the lawful transfer of presidential power. The indictment

alleges that the teams were coordinated, in part, by Caldwell and Vallejo.

The charge of seditious conspiracy carries a statutory maximum penalty of 20 years in prison. A federal district court judge will determine any sentence after considering the U.S. Sentencing Guidelines and other factors.

This case is being prosecuted by the U.S. Attorney's Office for the District of Columbia and the Department of Justice National Security Division's Counterterrorism Section. Valuable assistance was provided by U.S. Attorney's Offices in the Northern District of Texas and the District of Arizona.

The case is being investigated by the FBI's Washington Field Office with valuable

assistance provided by the FBI's Dallas and Phoenix Field Offices. These charges are the result of significant cooperation between agents and staff across numerous FBI Field Offices, including those in Florida, North Carolina, Ohio, Texas, Arizona, Alabama and Georgia, and other locations.

In the one year since Jan. 6, more than 725 individuals have been arrested in nearly all 50 states for crimes related to the breach of the U.S. Capitol, including over 225 individuals charged with assaulting or impeding law enforcement. The investigation remains ongoing.

Anyone with tips can call 1-800-CALL-FBI (800-225-5324) or visit tips.fbi.gov.

TOWN WATCH *(Continued from page 13)*

BELLEVILLE - Township officers have been looking for two carjacked vehicles Jan. 5-13 and located a third stolen car here Jan. 10.

Police have put out an all-points bulletin on a vehicle that was carjacked from Washington Avenue and Joralemon Street at 9:50 a.m. Jan. 13. Its owner said that the suspect forced him out of the car before fleeing South on Washington.

The wanted car, last seen along Newark's Heller Parkway, is a black late model Maserati with NJ license plate number A70-NYH.

BPD detectives are also investigating a carjacking at Bloomfield and Belmont avenues Jan. 6. There are no further details as of press time.

Township officers notified their Nutley colleagues of a 2019 Volkswagen found along Watchung Avenue Jan. 10. NPD said that the VW was stolen from along East Centre Street Jan. 1.

The car was discovered and recovered with damaged sustained from an interim crash. It was towed back to Nutley police.

Jan. 11 Closed Meeting Mystery

Part of Mayor Michael Melham and the Township Council's Jan. 11 meeting agenda included an executive session with Belleville Public Schools' Superintendent Richard Tomko and Business Administrator Matthew Paladino "to discuss contract negotiations." Contents of an executive session are to be released to the public at a later time at the parties' discretion.

NUTLEY - Those who knew the late Gianna Signorile, 21, here, in Maryland, New York City and Chicago are still left in wonder since her Dec. 20 death.

The first wonder is how Gianna Rita Signorile contracted a cancer that affects one in every five million people. The Nutley High School cheerleading captain and Class of 2019 graduate was taking pre-law

courses at the University of Maryland and had made the Dean's List when she began to have stomach problems, including vomiting.

A May 26, 2020 biopsy found that Signorile had State 4 fibrolamellar carcinoma. The disease targets people under 40 who have otherwise healthy livers. Signorile only suffered from asthma until then.

The second wonder is how Signorile kept up her spirit - and those of others - the last 21 months of her life. A 16-hour surgery at Chicago's Rush University Hospital, for example, left her with tissue damage to her toes. She had learned to walk again at home in September 2020.

Signorile, the same month, transferred to Fordham University to continue pursuing law. She took five classes that semester while living in an off-campus apartment between continuing treatments.

Doctors, however, found that Signorile's liver was failing in December 2020. She died at New York's Columbia Presbyterian Hospital 12:58 p.m. Dec. 20, 2021. Her remains were buried in North Arlington's Holy Cross Cemetery after her Dec. 27 Funeral Mass here at Holy Family Church.

Parents John and Dawn and brother John Thomas are among her survivors. A GoFundMe.com page has been established to help with expenses.

"THE STREET DOCTOR" REMEMBERED

(Continued from page 7)

gave reflections on the Earl Best that they grew up with.

Street Doctor organized several ex-convicts and helped them to turn their lives around. Earl called them the Street Warriors, many of them attended the funeral for their leader and told stories of the group and its inception.

Back in the early 2000, and even up until 2021, Street Doctor and the Street Warriors played a great role in the city of Newark along with the other groups and organizations changing lives and making a huge difference wherever they went throughout Essex County.

I will say this about Mr. Earl Best - aka Street Doctor. He had courage, and courage is what is needed to make a difference in the lives of those who will not stand up for themselves. He visited many blocks, corners, and hoods, where others would not go, to stand for making a change and to stop the killing in the community. It takes courage to stand up, and Street showed everyone that he was not afraid.

Hats off to Street for a job well done. you will truly be missed.

ATTENTION:

Take notice that in accordance with N.J.S.A. 39:4-56.6, application has been made to the Chief Administrator of the Motor Vehicle Commission, Trenton, New Jersey, to receive title papers authorizing the sale for, Make Ford, Year 2016, VIN/Hull Identification Number 3FA6POHD7GR361125. Objections, if any, should be made in writing, immediately in writing to the Chief Administrator of the Motor Vehicle Commission, Special Title Unit, P.O. Box 017, Trenton, New Jersey 08666-0017



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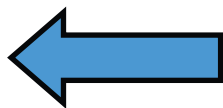
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| Newark: | 202 Stuyvesant Ave. | Tel. 973-374-8807 |
| West Orange: | 77 Main Street (Sleep Center) | Tel. 973-324-2090 |
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