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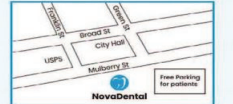
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SHARPE JAMES BLOCKED FROM COUNCIL RUN

Former Newark Mayor Denied as Dozens of Candidates Vie for 10 Positions

By Walter Elliott

NEWARK - Qualifying for Newark's May 10 nonpartisan mayor and council elections may not be solely determined by City Clerk Kenneth Louis and his office staff.

While Louis' staff count and verify signatures on petitions filed by 32 candidates before the 4 p.m. March 8 deadline at City Hall, a 33rd candidate may be appealing to a New Jersey Superior Court judge here at a to-be-scheduled hearing.

Sharpe James, who had filed 2,777 signed petitions - 1,133 more than the 1,644 at-large minimum - is seeking to overturn Louis' March 2 decision to refuse them. The former Central Ward Councilman, Mayor and State Senator is attempting a run for one of four at-large council seats.

Louis, in a letter to James, cited N.J. Superior Court Judge Linda Fienberg's 2008 order that barred the 1986-2006 mayor from future public office holding.

Fienberg's forfeiture order was part of James' federal sentencing to 18 months' prison time for fraud.

James was convicted for "deprivation of honest service" while in office. He was accused of allowing then-mistress Tamika Riley of buying two city-owned properties

and her reselling them at a profit.

What James was convicted of was for not telling city officials and employees involved with the sale of his relationship with Riley. U.S. District Court Magistrate Judge William Martini, who presided over James' trial, cited dishonest service in his sentencing.

A U.S. Third Circuit Court of Appeals ruled, in late 2008, that reversed James' dishonest service conviction but let the other three bribery conviction counts stand.

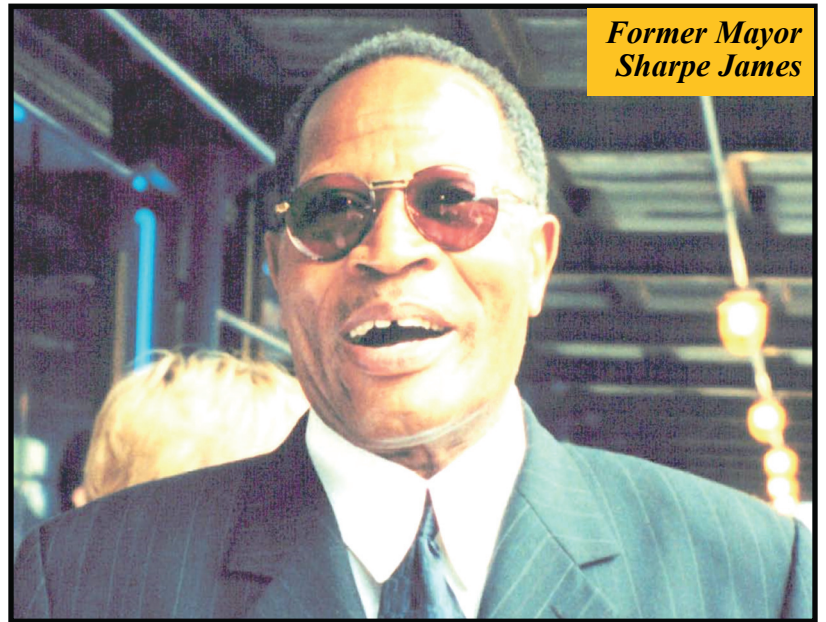
James and his attorney, Thomas Ashley, of Newark, are arguing that Fienberg's forfeiture order was therefore invalid.

Louis, in his letter, said he had been waiting for "a U.S. Supreme Court decision that overturned Judge Fienberg's order" to come from James. They were referring to a 2010 SCOTUS ruling on former Enron CEO Jeffrey Skilling that "dishonest service does not constitute a crime unless it involved a kickback or a bribe."

There is a later, similar 2016 SCOTUS ruling that overturned the conviction of former Virginia Gov. Bob McDonnell.

"I've requested details of the said order during every conversation and

(Continued on page 5)



Former Mayor Sharpe James

NEW JERSEY PUBLIC HEALTH EMERGENCY ORDER LIFTED

NJ Governor Phil Murphy

PAGE 11



NEWARK ACTS TO CLOSE LUKOIL STATIONS

PAGE 10



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Turn To PAGE 16



Editorial

Dhiren Shah
Editor-In-Chief

Hello Readers,

There was a Russian air-strike over a maternity hospital in the city of Mariupol in Ukraine. With the latest technology, they can easily pinpoint military targets with missiles. However, they have no remorse for people.

Biden is losing his grip over the world as a world leader. As per the news on the net, Saudi and other Arab leaders have denied taking Biden's call. America is the world leader, and Biden supposed to be the most powerful man on the planet. What happened? People want to know why are we interfering with Ukraine's problems? Ukraine got their independence only 30 years ago, However, Ukrainians are fighting to keep it from Russia.

The whole mess started when America and their allies wanted Ukraine to join NATO. With Ukraine joining in, all the countries in NATO would have access to the closest country to Russia. Per Wikipedia: "Between 1981 and 1984 Cuba also received approximately US \$750 million a year in Soviet military assistance. When Mikhail Gorbachev came to power in March 1985, the Soviets continued to consider Cuba as an important Cold War propaganda tool. Economic investment and trade in Cuba were at their highest."

Under the presidency of Ronald Reagan, we stopped the USSR and within a span of a few years, the Soviet Union dissolved.

If the U.S. wants to go to Ukraine, within close proximity of Russia, Russia may possibly bring their bases to Cuba, restarting the Cuban Missile Crisis. President Obama tried to smooth out things with Cuba, but it did not go well under President Trump. Ronald Reagan was the best president as far as the economy is concerned in my opinion.

The Newark City Council has suspended licenses for two Lu-koil stations due the invasion of Russia on Ukraine. The gas station owners have nothing to do with Russia, because they have been part of the United States of America. For the sake of getting an election benefit for their supported candidates, they are doing an injustice to U.S. citizens or U.S. permanent residents by causing them hardship and the loss of their jobs. We should not punish those who work with us and blend in with Americans and American life.

If a Spanish speaking county invades a non-Spanish speaking country, would the same council suspend the licenses for the businesses of that country? If India invades another country, they might rule the same way to us. We all come here to join in America society. The punishment should be only to those who are at fault. Our system says that everyone is not guilty until proven so. Newark's council has already flexed their power on the people for their political gain, in my opinion.

The elections in the local towns and cities are in full force. On March 7, all the candidates who were certified by their town clerk have started the next phase in their campaigns. This time, there might be some changes in who serves. Hopefully, more and more people come to vote this time. It is critical for all the residents because that impacts your payments from property taxes, police department expenses, education expenses, service provided by the city or their contractor's expenses and many other ways. It impacts on our pocket.

So, I appeal all of you to watch the candidates, their platform, their honesty, their chances to flip over after getting elected with the political bosses. Do not believe what they say, but believe what you think is right and then choose the candidate of your choice.

Have a wonderful week.

I'll talk to you next week.

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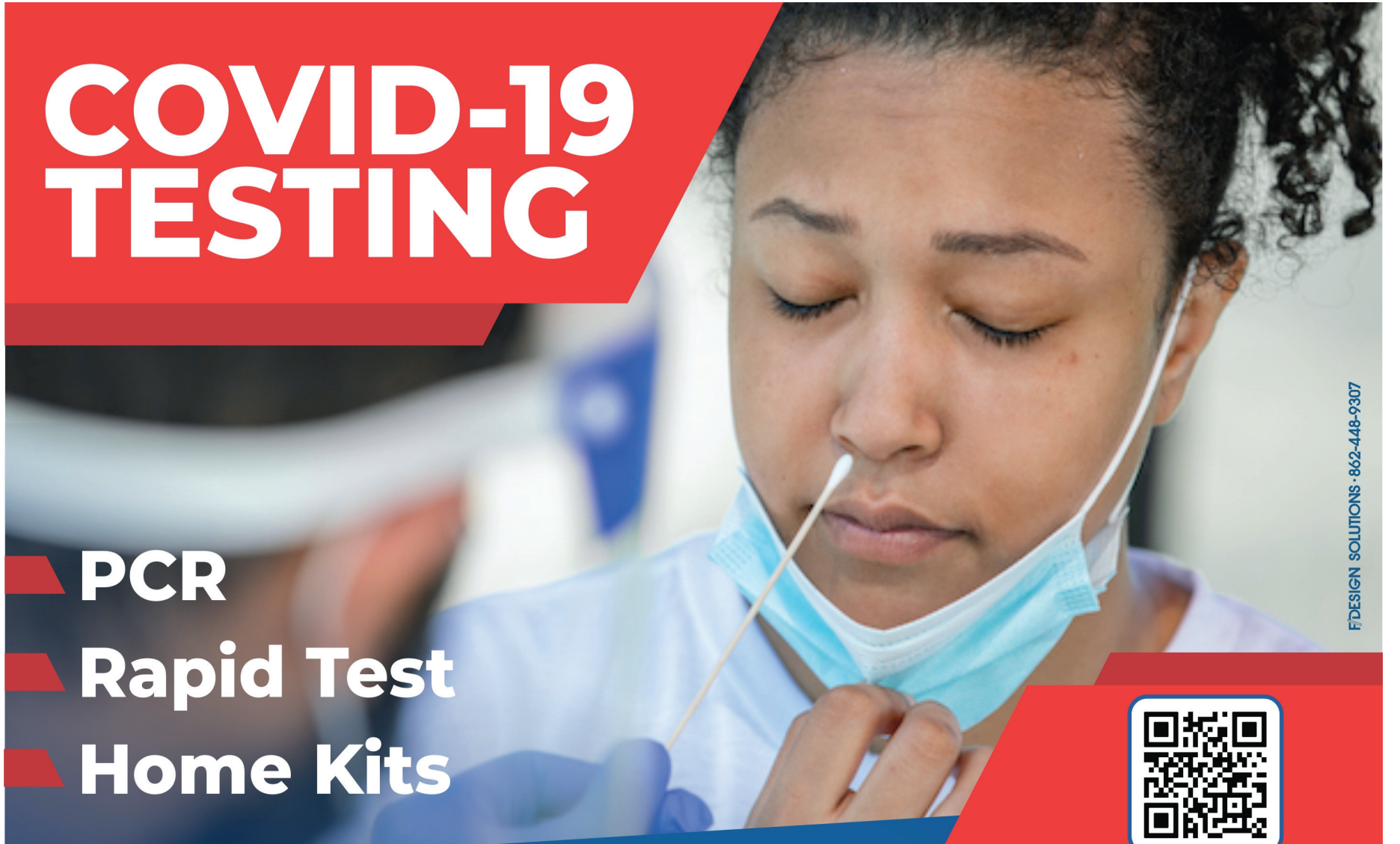
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WEATHER FOR THE WEEK

<p>THURSDAY Mostly Cloudy</p> <p>HI 50 LO 31</p>	<p>FRIDAY Partly Cloudy</p> <p>HI 52 LO 40</p>	<p>SATURDAY Mixed Precipitation</p> <p>HI 50 LO 23</p>	<p>SUNDAY Mostly Sunny</p> <p>HI 40 LO 30</p>	<p>MONDAY Partly Cloudy</p> <p>HI 56 LO 41</p>	<p>TUESDAY Partly Cloudy</p> <p>HI 62 LO 39</p>	<p>WEDNESDAY Mostly Sunny</p> <p>HI 57 LO 42</p>
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The Doctor Is In



Dr. Adil Manzoor OP/ED

COVID Test Kits - How to Handle Them Properly?

The demand for COVID test kits has skyrocketed over the last month or so. This is, of course, not unexpected, considering the uptick in cases due to the Omicron variant. However, despite this increased demand, many still don't know how to properly handle the test kits, which is what

this article will target.

COVID home test kits, also called over-the-counter COVID tests, allow for easy testing of the coronavirus infection without going to a hospital or other testing centers. They may be in the form of antigen or molecular tests. You can use the self-test kits, regardless of your vaccination or infection status.

One of the prime benefits of the test kits is that they help reduce the risk of COVID exposure and infection, particularly reassuring the group of people who feel they are more predisposed to the virus at testing centers than in their regular daily activities.

Considering that these tests are typically going to be done by individuals with absolutely no experience with COVID testing, it only makes sense that they have questions and need clarifications on handling the tests. One of the questions they often ask is when to use the test.

In theory, you can use the test anytime, regardless of if you have been vaccinated or exposed to the virus. In actuality, though,

the tests are usually reserved for people with symptoms of the virus, exposed to the virus (or think they might have been), before traveling, and before meeting with high-risk individuals.

The ideal time for the test is between two to five days after exposure or potential exposure for vaccinated individuals. For unvaccinated people, you should take a test shortly after you think you may have been exposed to the virus. Then, you should take another test after two to five days.

Let's move then to perhaps the most important question about the kits – how to use them properly. The first thing to do is to ensure the kits are in good condition. Do not use test kits that look broken or damaged. After that, read through the manufacturer's instructions. There are different test kits available today, and while the general instructions may be similar, there may be instructions particular to a manufacturer or kit.

Aside from the manufacturer's instructions, there are a few other guidelines the CDC has recommended you follow when taking the test. They are as follows:

- First on the list, properly wash your hands with soap and running water for at least 20 seconds before handling the test. If soap and water are not a feasible option, use a hand sanitizer.
- Ensure the area where you plan on performing the test is clean and disinfected. This is essential to prevent contamination of the test results.
- You should only open the testing devices when you are ready to take the test.
- Collect specimen samples, either from the nostrils or the tonsils, or even both, as specified by the manufacturer. When collecting samples, take care not to apply too much force and pressure not to hurt yourself. Also, if you feel pain, you should stop the test immediately.

- Ensure you adhere to any waiting time contained in the manufacturer's instructions, either when collecting samples or waiting for results. Especially when reading results, doing it too fast or too slow may result in false results. Use a stopwatch if you have to.
- After you get your results, discard the test kit and all its components. Do not use a test kit on yourself two times, and certainly not on another person. If you need to conduct a new test, get a new test kit.

Home COVID tests, while not the most reliable testing method, are quite accurate. You may need to TAKE A PCR test if you are unsure of the results, considering the potential for false positives. Negative test results are very reliable, though.

If you test positive, you should self-isolate for ten days. If you're unsure of the result, you can take another home test or contact a testing center for a more accurate test. 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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- <https://www.fda.gov/news-events/press-announcements/coronavirus-covid-19-update-fda-authorizes-first-covid-19-test-self-testing-home>

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SPORTS WRAP



By William Hathaway, Jr.

The New Jersey State High School Basketball Tournament concluded with local area teams from Newark capturing group championships. The mighty 17-7 University High Lady Phoenix took their wings to Weequahic High, and swooped in to collect 4th North Jersey Section 2 Group 1 title, beating Secaucus 57-37. Leading University was Paradise Fisher with 17 points, 7 assists and 5 rebounds. Senior Mya Davis added 11 points while junior Michaela Guest put in work with 13 points and 17 rebounds.

In the boys' tourney, the 26-5 Central High basketball program has won its 3rd sectional final thanks to a 59-55 win over Caldwell Jakai Irby led Central with 18 points and 15 rebounds, while Zahmorian Singleton had a true double-double with 11 points and 11 rebounds.

Meanwhile, West Side wasn't as fortunate, losing 52-48 to Glen Ridge in the Section 2 Group 1 final. Also, in a non-public tournament upset, Don

Bosco defeated Seton Hall Prep 39-38.

This week is the start of the annual Big East Conference Tournament in New York City. The Seton Hall collegiate men's basketball program won five straight games towards the end of the regular season with victories over DePaul, Butler, Xavier, Georgetown, and Creighton. The Pirates finished the regular season with a 20-9 record. In the Big Ten tourney, Rutgers got a double bye thanks to their 18-12 record.

Finally, in the NFL, Atlanta Falcons receiver Calvin Ridley was suspended for the entire 2022 season after the league learned he had gambled on games. Also, Packers QB Aaron Rodgers will be staying with the team, thanks to a reported new 4-year, \$200 million deal. The contract is the highest per annum contract in NFL history, with \$153 million guaranteed. The signing prompted the Denver Broncos, who were in the mix to deal for Rodgers, to trade pretty much everything to Seattle for QB Russell Wilson.

SHARPE JAMES BLOCKED

(Continued from page 1)

you agreed to send it to me," wrote Louis to James. "As of this date, (May 3) I'm still not in receipt of this decision."

James, should a judge see the matter his way in the coming days, would then be added to the roster of between 23 certified fellow candidates onto the May 10 ballot. That count may grow should the petitions of another seven candidates pass muster.

Louis and his staff are verifying and counting signatures so that a population percentage-based minimum is at least reached.

Besides the 1,644 minimum for at-large council and mayor. Each ward has its own council minimums. Central Ward Council candidates need at least 349 valid signatures for certification and East Ward candidates 185.

The North Ward requires 356 signatures, the South Ward 393 and the West Ward 362.

All candidates must be at

least 18 years old and have been a resident of a ward for at least the past year.

Getting candidates qualified and certified for the ballot began when the clerk's office distributed petitions to 51 overall candidates on Feb. 8.

Newark, Orange, Irvington and Belleville are among several municipalities that are holding nonpartisan elections May 10. New Jersey's largest city, unlike others in "Local Talk" land, has all 10 of its seats - for the mayor, the five ward council members and four at-large council members - up for voters' choice at once.

Participating registered city voters will be voting in successors at least in the East, South and West wards and for an at-large council seat.

MAYOR

- Ras J. Baraka (incumbent, Newark Forward 2022) Former Deputy Mayor/South Ward Councilman/At-Large Councilman/Central High



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- Sheila A. Montague (Open the Door). Essex County College professor and former Newark Public Schools teacher is a founding member of Parents United for Local School Education and Changing the Lens Together.

The following are pending certification as of press time:

- Donna Jackson. City monitor, second-generation community activist.

- Debra Salters (A Better Newark for All.). Former Newark Board of Education Student Representative.
- Received petitions: Lateerah J. Brown, Anthony A. Diaz (withdrew candidacy via Instagram), Shirley McLean, Salvatore G. Gencarelli.

AT-LARGE COUNCIL

- Incumbent Eddie Osborne had received petitions.
- C. Lawrence Crump (Incumbent, Newark For-
(Continued on page 13)



SUPREME COURT HER-STORY

UNITED STATES

With everything that has been happening, we need to take a moment to revisit something truly remarkable.

By now, you may know that on Feb. 25, President Biden has announced his intent to nominate Judge Ketanji Brown Jackson as Associate Justice of the U.S. Supreme Court. Currently a judge on U.S. Court of Appeals for the D.C. Circuit, Judge Jackson is one of the nation's brightest legal minds. If confirmed, she will be the first Black woman to serve on the Supreme Court.

Since Justice Stephen Breyer announced his retirement, President Biden conducted a rigorous process to identify his replacement. Biden sought a candidate with exceptional credentials, unimpeachable character, and unwavering dedication to the rule of law. He also sought a nominee - much like Justice Breyer - who is wise, pragmatic, and has a deep understanding of the Constitution as an enduring charter of liberty. And the President sought an individual who is committed to equal justice under the law and who understands the profound impact that the Supreme Court's decisions have on the lives of the American people.

As the longtime Chairman of the Senate Judiciary Committee, the President took seriously the Constitution's requirement that he make this appointment "by and with the Advice and Consent of the Senate," seeking the advice of Senators in both parties. He studied the histories and case records of candidates, consulted legal experts, and met with candidates.

"I'm proud to announce that I am nominating Judge Ketanji Brown Jackson to serve on the Supreme Court. Currently serving on the U.S. Court of Appeals for the D.C. Circuit, she is one of our nation's brightest legal

minds and will be an exceptional Justice," Biden announced.

A former clerk for Justice Breyer, Judge Jackson has broad experience across the legal profession - as a federal appellate judge, a federal district court judge, a member of the U.S. Sentencing Commission, an attorney in private practice, and as a federal public defender. Judge Jackson has been confirmed by the Senate with votes from Republicans as well as Democrats three times.

Judge Jackson has devoted the majority of her career to serving the public - as a U.S. Sentencing Commission lawyer and commissioner; as a federal public defender; and as a federal judge. Judge Jackson currently serves on the U.S. Court of Appeals for the D.C. Circuit. From 2013 to 2021, she served as a United States District Judge for the District of Columbia. She has been confirmed by the Senate on a bipartisan basis three times - twice as judge and once to serve on the U.S. Sentencing Commission.

Judge Jackson was born in Washington, D.C. and grew up in Miami, Florida. Her parents attended segregated primary schools in the South, then attended Historically Black Colleges and Universities. Both started their careers as public school teachers and became leaders and administrators in the Miami-Dade County Public Schools. When Judge Jackson told her high school guidance counselor she wanted to attend Harvard, the guidance counselor warned that Judge Jackson should not set her sights "so high." That didn't stop Judge Jackson. She graduated magna cum laude from Harvard College, then attended Harvard Law School, where she graduated cum laude and was an editor of the Harvard Law Review.

After law school, Judge Jackson served in Justice Breyer's chambers as a law clerk. Judge Jackson served as a federal public defender from 2005 to 2007, representing defendants on appeal who did not have the means to pay for a lawyer. If confirmed, she would be the first former federal public defender to serve on the Supreme Court.

Prior to serving as a judge,

Judge Jackson followed in the footsteps of her mentor Justice Breyer by working on the U.S. Sentencing Commission - important body, bipartisan by design, that President Biden fought to create as a member of the U.S. Senate. Her work there focused on reducing unwarranted sentencing disparities and ensuring that federal sentences were just and proportionate.

Judge Jackson lives with her husband, Patrick, who serves as Chief of the Division of General Surgery at Georgetown University Hospital, and two daughters, in Washington, D.C.

POWER PLANT SIEGE WORRIES EXPERTS

EUROPE

Reports that the largest nuclear power plant in Ukraine - and Europe - is under the control of Russian forces is a cause for grave concern, the Director-General of the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA), Rafael Mariano Grossi, said on March 6.

In a statement released by the IAEA, Mr. Grossi said he had been informed by Ukrainian authorities that, although regular staff continue to operate the Zaporizhzhya Nuclear Power Plant, any action of plant management - including measures related to the technical operation of the six reactor units - requires prior approval by the Russian commander of the Russian forces that took control of the site last week.

Mr. Grossi said that this development contravenes one of the seven pillars of nuclear safety and security that he outlined at a meeting of the IAEA's Board of Governors on March 2: that "operating staff must be able to fulfil their safety and security duties and have the capacity to make decisions free of undue pressure."

Ukraine's nuclear regulator has informed the IAEA that it is having major problems communicating with staff operating Zaporizhzhya, due to Russian forces at the site switching off some mobile networks and blocking the internet. Some mobile phone communication is understood to still be possible, albeit with poor quality, but

fixed phone lines, as well as e-mails and fax, are reportedly no longer functioning.

The IAEA noted that this situation contravenes another of its seven indispensable pillars of nuclear safety, that there must be "reliable communications with the regulator and others."

"I'm extremely concerned about these developments that were reported to me today," said Mr. Grossi. "Just a few days after I presented the seven main elements of nuclear safety and security to the IAEA Board, several of them are already being compromised. In order to be able to operate the plant safely and securely, management and staff must be allowed to carry out their vital duties in stable conditions without undue external interference or pressure."

"The deteriorating situation regarding vital communications between the regulator and the Zaporizhzhya NPP is also a source of deep concern, especially during an armed conflict that may jeopardize the country's nuclear facilities at any time," continued the Director-General. "Reliable communications between the regulator and the operator are a critical part of overall nuclear safety and security."

Despite the communication issues, the regulator was able to provide updated information about the operational status of the Zaporizhzhya NPP to the IAEA, and to confirm that radiation levels there remained normal. Operational teams at the plant are now rotating in three shifts but, the regulator added, the availability and supply of food is limited, which is having a negative impact on staff morale.

Responding to reports that the technical staff and guards at the site of the Chernobyl nuclear accident site have not been rotated since Feb. 23, Mr. Grossi called on the Russian forces controlling the site to allow them to be relieved by other colleagues and rest, in order to carry out their jobs safely and security.

The Ukraine regulator has informed the IAEA that communication with Chernobyl is currently limited to emails.

In another worrying development, the regulator said that all

(Continued on page 15)

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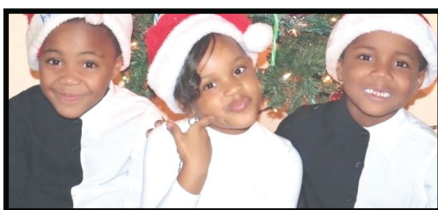


By Michelle Lowe

EST. 1996

Message For You

Greetings, hope all is well. Today I would like to spotlight and discuss something different in this discussion. Giving back to our youth, our children. The new generation. Let us love our littles ones, as they are the key to the future.



Working with kids is one as my jobs, and we have group conversations. These kids know what they already want to be when they grow up. They have good heads on their shoulders. Let's inspire them to keep focused and they can become exactly what they aspire to be. Let's also allow kids to be themselves as well.

We must continue to have a strong positive impact in their lives, and doing that means good leadership, guidance. Over the time of my past stories, I talked on topics that were very touch-



ing, but this time there's a highlighted difference.

Protecting our children in this world today can have a lot of distortions. We have to keep safety first. Raising our children up well always pays off in the end with success. Moms and dads, keep up the great work. With many positions of work in my field, one of them is part-time bus aide. Working with the elementary students has been very joyful. Back when I was little, I would enjoy "The Magic School Bus," an old cartoon show from back in the day. My students are full of joy and laughter and giggles while they change our world, the new generation.



When I was little, there were a lot of things I couldn't get or had struggles that were real. But I told myself if I have a child of my own, I will make sure to be the best and give them what I couldn't have when I was little.

So, parents and guardians and family, let's continue to show the support, loving, caring, and sharing. Until next time, take care everyone.

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ESSEX COUNTY WEEKLY COVID-19 CASE TALLY

Municipality	3-2-2022	Deaths	3-9-2022	Deaths
Belleville	10430	145	10533	145
Bloomfield	11500	155	11537	155
Caldwell	1452	17	1458	17
Cedar Grove	3571	132	3575	132
East Orange	16776	370	16815	370
Essex Fells	450	2	455	2
Fairfield	1851	35	1857	35
Glen Ridge	1085	18	1090	18
Irvington	11545	280	11561	281
Livingston	5651	100	5672	100
Maplewood	4425	46	4457	46
Millburn	2942	17	2956	17
Montclair	5987	84	6023	84
Newark	77050	1223	77172	1229
North Caldwell	1158	10	1167	10
Nutley	6173	80	6204	80
Orange	7956	164	7983	165
Roseland	1267	21	1273	21
South Orange	2905	21	2917	21
Verona	2976	22	2986	22
West Caldwell	2429	60	2431	60
West Orange	12219	263	12263	263
Total	191798	3265	192385	3273

OTHER COVID-19 TALLIES (As of March 9, 2022)
 NJ: 1,880,770 cases / 30,076 deaths (Plus 2,978 probable)
 United States (approx.): 79.381 Million / 962,400 deaths
 Worldwide (approx.): 450.5 Million / 6.02 Million deaths

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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 ACTS TO CLOSE LUKOIL STATIONS

NEWARK - The Municipal Council's March 2 vote to suspend the operating licenses of the two Lukoil stations here may either be a symbolic strike against the Russian oligarchs who support Vladimir Putin - or the Russian-Ukrainian War's local "Freedom Fries" moment.

The Council unanimously approved North Ward Councilman Anibal Ramos, Jr.'s walk-on resolution to have Business Administrator Eric Pennington temporarily suspend Lukoil North America's licenses at 335 and 1086 McCarter Hwy. The suspension, since March 3, has been supported by U.S. Sen Cory Booker (D-Newark) and Cong. Tom Malinowski (D-Somerville).

"Whereas Lukoil NA is a subsidiary of PJSC Lukoil, a Russian oil and gas company with deep ties to the Russian Federation and Russian oligarchs aligned with President Putin," and "Whereas the operation of Lukoil and its franchisees in Newark serves to provide economic support to the federation in its efforts to overthrow the independent, elected government of Ukraine," said the resolution, "Therefore be it resolved that all existing business licenses for all Lukoil gasoline service stations in Newark in the city are hereby suspended."

Ramos appeared later that afternoon on City Hall steps with Newark-based attorney Victor Herlinsky and Fr. Ihor Kolisnyk from the West Ward's St. John the Baptist Ukrainian Catholic Church. The North Ward coun-

cilman said that the Newark Law Department told him that the Municipal Council was in their capacity to suspend the licenses.

Ramos added that the U.S. has had limited sanctions against Lukoil since the 2014 Russian takeover of Crimea. He said that he had several businesses, including a local bakery, who would offer employment to any Lukoil station workers who lose their jobs.

That event turned into an impromptu debate between Herlinsky and Lukoil franchise owner Roger Verma. Verma, while declaring his siding with Ukraine, said that the suspension would lay off 13 local employees. Herlinsky told Verma that he could change oil companies.

U.S. President Joseph Biden, on March 8, has stopped all U.S. importation of Russian oil. The U.S. had lately received three to 10 percent of its oil from Russia.

Whatever royalties from local stations that would have been passed onto PJSC Lukoil in Moscow will currently be held in an escrow account. The U.S. and 27 other nations, including the European Union, have cut bank transfers between them and Russia as part of their March 1 sanctions package.

Some readers may remember when several restaurants around here followed Ohio Cong. Bob Ney's lead in renaming French fries "Freedom Fries" 2003-06. Ney's having three Congressional cafeterias' relabeling was in response to the French government's objections in the UN to the then-proposed invasion of Iraq.

IRVINGTON - Township police officers were the first to respond to a March 6 armed robbery report by the Maplewood border.

IPD officers met a woman from Orange at 1016 Chancellor Ave. - the Olympic Business Park - at 11:45 p.m. that Sunday. She said when had left the 43rd Street Cafe for her car parked curbside before 1013 Chancellor Ave.

She said she was within 15 feet of her car when a voice from behind said, "Don't walk further and give me everything you got." She turned around to see a man holding a black handgun.

The victim handed over her iPhone 12 and a wallet that held identification cards and papers.

IPD officers issued a SPEN alert of the suspect: a "5-ft., 6-in. black man around 25-30 years old." He left by entering the passenger side of a waiting black SUV which was also occupied by a male and a female. The SUV fled west and turned north onto 44th Street.

A Maplewood police patrol, responding to the alert, arrived to take the victim to their police headquarters for an interview with MPD detectives. Maplewood Police Chief Jim DeVaul said that her descriptions match that of similar stickups here, in Maplewood and in Newark.

EAST ORANGE - A Public Service Electric and Gas official had both bad and good news for its in-arrears customers here.

The bad news, said PSE&G Regional Public Affairs Manager Joe McQueen here Feb. 16, is that city has the highest volume of customers who are behind on their utility bills.

PSE&G will start mailing out service disconnection notices on March 16.

The good news, said McQueen in the City Hall-sponsored virtual meeting, is that the statewide utility is offering payment plans and payment assistance - including a 90-day payment extension.

McQueen urges customers to review their monthly bills and "take immediate action" to avoid disconnection. Log onto PSEG.com and/or call 1(800) 357-2282 to see which payment option you can qualify for.

ORANGE - A city man has been accused of stealing 13 stolen vehicles off the streets of Newark Oct. 21-Nov. 30 and having them illegally junked through a novel scheme.

The Newark Police Division Auto Squad, after a three-month investigation, arrested Anthony Greene, 34, March 4. Greene is accused of taking the older model vehicles, from a 1999 Cadillac Escalade to a 2004 Lexus, by claiming they were his by showing towers misleading proof of insurance cards.

Greene, said Newark Police Director Brian O'Hara, would

take down his targeted cars' vehicle identification numbers and the nearest residential address to the curbside vehicle - and leave.

Greene would return after creating an insurance policy with a carrier and calling a tower that he had a car to junk. He would meet up with the tow truck driver and present the bogus insurance card. The vehicle is towed away and Greene would call the insurance carrier to collect on the policy.

The real car owners would meanwhile call NPD and said their vehicles were illegally towed. None of the owners knew Greene.

NPD Auto Squad detectives got a break thanks to the Bloomfield owner of a van who had parked it 8:35 a.m. Nov. 30 by Sherman Avenue and East Alpine Street. She went to the South Ward's Fifth Precinct House, saying her car was gone by 3:35 p.m.

Corner surveillance recordings found a man, later identified as Greene, taking down numbers and leaving in another vehicle. He returned minutes later to meet the tow truck driver - who pulled the van.

WEST ORANGE - The Essex County Prosecutor's Office has not identified the male body found in Eagle Rock Reservation March 4 beyond saying March 5 that the deceased had been shot.

ECPO Homicide Task Force and Essex County Sheriff's Office patrols were called to the northern part of the reservation after hikers had found the body along a hiking trail by that Friday's lunch hour. A prosecutor's office car was blocking Crest Drive at its Undercliff Road-Montclair entrance.

The male, who was found near a rear parking area of a Crest Drive parking lot, was declared dead there at 2:16 p.m.

Township spokesman and historian Joseph Fagan said that Friday was not the first time a body was found in the reservation.

The remains of Sarah Butler, 20, of Montclair, was found under a pile of leaves Dec. 2, 2016. Butler's murder was linked to Khalil Weever-Wheeler, 25, of Orange, leading to his conviction.

(Continued on page 12)

NEW JERSEY PUBLIC HEALTH EMERGENCY ORDER LIFTED

TRENTON - At his final COVID-19 press briefing a few days ago, Governor Phil Murphy announced the signing of Executive Order No. 292, which lifts the COVID-19 Public Health Emergency in addition to the statewide school and daycare mask mandate, effective on Monday, March 7. This major step has been made possible by the Murphy Administration's comprehensive and successful pandemic response efforts.

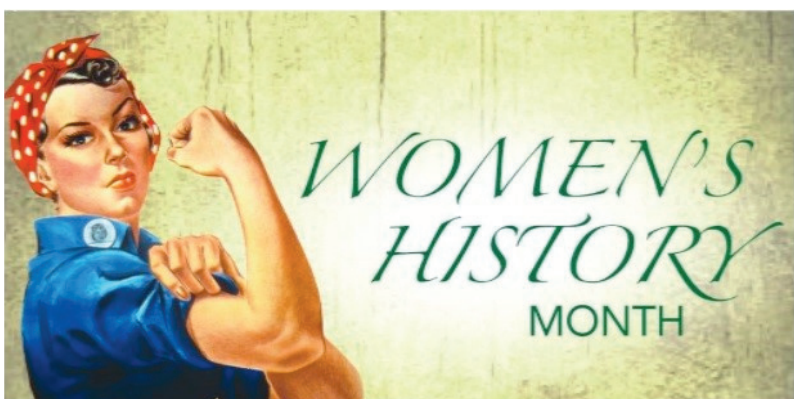
"With COVID-19 moving into an endemic, the time has come to move toward normalcy," said Governor Murphy. "In the past two years, New Jerseyans have shown great strength, resiliency, and kindness during one of the most difficult and trying times in the history of our state."

"Conditions have improved in our state - immunity is high, cases have dropped significantly, therapeutics have improved, and testing is rapid and readily available. So, it does make sense to relax restrictions as we learn to live with the virus," said Health Commissioner Judith Persichilli. "But taking masks off doesn't mean that other strategies should be abandoned. In fact, they become more important. So, please continue to wash your hands frequently, physical distance, stay home when you're sick, and get vaccinated and boosted to protect yourselves, your families, your friends, and our children."

"For nearly two years, New Jersey's school communities have persevered through countless challenges brought on by COVID-19 - always with the shared goal of protecting the health and safety of our school staff, students, and their families," said Dr. Angelica Allen-McMillan, Acting Commissioner of Education. "While we recognize this virus has been unpredictable, we look forward to this next milestone in our road ahead."

EO No. 292 terminates the Public Health Emergency declared in EO No. 280, effective on Monday, March 7. The State of Emergency declared in EO No. 103 will remain in place to ensure that the State continues to have necessary resources as COVID-19 is managed on an endemic level. It is common practice for states of emergency for major crises to remain in place to allow the State to receive and distribute federal funding without any unnecessary red tape or bureaucratic obstacles, as exemplified by Governor Christie's State of Emergency declaration for Superstorm Sandy, which remains in effect to this day.

Additionally, EO Nos. 111, 112, 207, 252, 253, 283, and 290 remain in full force and effect under the State of Emergency except that any civil or criminal immunity related to the COVID-19 response bestowed by Executive Order No. 112 shall not be in effect. EO No. 292 also extends various Administrative Orders, Directives, and Waivers taken by the Executive Branch departments and agencies in response to the pandemic to allow for an orderly transition as we move towards an endemic.



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Children's Hospital of New Jersey Receives Spirit of Children Foundation Grant



Darrell K. Terry, Sr. President and Chief Executive Officer, Newark Beth Israel Medical Center and Children's Hospital of New Jersey (center with check) joins the medical team and NBIMC senior leaders to thank Spirit of Children, the philanthropic arm of Spirit Halloween, for their ongoing support of Children's Hospital of New Jersey.

NEWARK, NJ (March 1, 2022) - Spirit of Children, the philanthropic arm of Spirit Halloween, recently presented Children's Hospital of New Jersey (CHoNJ) at Newark Beth Israel Medical Center with a \$127,776.00 grant to support the hospital's Child Life program.

This is the thirteenth annual donation from the Spirit of Children Founda-
(Continued on page 13)



From The Pastor's Heart

OP-ED BY DR. ROBERT KENNEDY

The Curse Of God On Those Who Curse You

Will you permit me to share a moment of transparency about a prayer I offered up a few days ago? Thanks for allowing me. I called a friend, and in the call, I shared with him how much I was hurting because of the war in Ukraine and how I saw Mr. Putin of Russia as a hateful monster.

I told my friend how mortified I was at the sight of the bomb ravaged villages and the millions of refugees running away from their homes. I did not report to my friend the other thoughts hurting me. For example, the numbing pain I was feeling for elderly people in the nursing homes being hurried away to where they do not know, and many unaware of what is happening to them.

I also think of the women and children being separated from their husbands, who fight in the war. Then my thoughts are also on the conscripted young men in the Russian Army who are inflicting death or being sent on the path of death. In addition to what I have mentioned, I cannot forget the courageous protesters in Russia who are being arrested.

No, I did not tell my friend everything in my mind, but I told him that I was so angry that I prayed a certain prayer for the death of Mr. Putin, and then I said, "God, forgive if I am wrong." My friend said to me, "He would not pray that prayer." And I repeated, "Well, I prayed it and will ask the Lord to forgive me if I am wrong."

I cannot justify my prayer, but I remember that as one part of the promise of God to

Abraham in his first recital of the Covenant blessing, God said, "I will bless those who bless you, and **whoever curses you I will curse**; and all peoples on earth will be blessed through you." (Genesis 12:3 NIV)

I do not know whether one might apply the blessing to President Zelensky (since Mr. Zelensky is a Jew) and the Ukrainian people. And I do not say that the curse is to be applied to Mr. Putin and the Russian people. If I should draw a straight line, you might say that would be preposterous. But here is what I know. History has taught us that any person or nation that oppresses those who have been blessed by God have been put under a curse. Do I need to start naming peoples or nations?

Just think of all the notorious leaders of the world, including the Pharaohs, the Caesars, the Czars, the Presidents and Captains, the Alexander(s) the Great(s) the Herod(s), the Napoleon(s), the Hitler(s), the Hussein(s) and all, and what has happened to them? Many have died brutal deaths, like "Pharaoh and his army that drowned into the Red Sea" (Exodus 15:4).

I do not know that anyone was praying for their deaths, but I read in Exodus about the people of God when they were enslaved in Egypt. It is this, "Now it happened in the process of time that the king of Egypt died. Then the children of Israel groaned because of the bondage, and they cried out, and their cry came up to God because of the bondage. So God heard their groaning, and God remembered His covenant with Abraham, with Isaac, and with Jacob." (Exodus 2:23-24 NKJV).

I am not going to call every nation of earth that has been oppressed "the chosen" people of God to make a point about the curse on those who curse Abraham and his heritage. But this is what I know from my years of scriptural study and my own encounter with God and his children everywhere, is that the blessing of Abraham belongs to all who turn to God in faith and obey his will. And that in the same way that those who abuse the children of God in any

place are under a curse, as well.

Yes, those individuals and nations who oppress, abuse, enslave, and brutalize people in wars or otherwise, will pay the price. This, I said, is a clear promise of God when it is said that God sends his rain on the just and on the unjust.

I do not know how to rationalize it all, but I cannot believe that God is not hearing the cries of the little children and their mothers, grandmothers, grandfathers, and all who are being bombed out of their homes and driven away into places that they do not know. I cannot think of a God who does not care about the people arrested in Russia. I cannot think of a God who does not see the dead bodies on the streets of Ukraine. If there is such a god, then it must be an idol.

All that I have learned and experienced about the Eternal God is that he is a God who cares. He sees the abuse, the feelings of powerlessness, the loss of freedom, the destruction of dignity, the brutality, and the betrayal that is taking place in Ukraine and all across the world. He sees and hears of all those suffering in the world, and He cares.

At times, because I do not see what God is doing about the situation, I become very impatient and pray for the destruction of the perpetrators of cruelties. But I am waiting for God to act as I know other children of God in the world are doing. I am not able to tell how long I need to wait to see what God is going to do about "the curse" on those who are now carrying out the egregious acts of this war, but I have every certainty that God is going to do what needs to be done about it.

I will keep praying and giving financial support to provide food and other necessities to the refugees. But I know that I must pray and wait on God to act because he promised the world a just judgment. So, as I read in my Bible, "For God shall bring every work into judgment, with every secret thing, whether it be good, or whether it be evil" (Ecclesiastes 12:14 KJV), I hold fast to the promise and wait.

TOWN WATCH (Continued from page 10)

tion. The serial killer has been serving a 160-year sentence since Oct. 9, 2021.

The murder of Phoebe Jane Paullin, 17, of the Pleasantdale section, remains unsolved.

Paullin was last seen alive walking home from a shopping trip in Orange 7 p.m. Nov. 24, 1883. A father and a son found her body in the reservation the next morning by a wagon trail near the main entrance.

The Essex County reservation covers 408.33 acres in West Orange, Montclair and Verona.

SOUTH ORANGE / MAPLEWOOD - The three people involved in a Jan. 31 fight in Columbia High School that included pepper-spraying, depending on the charge level, are

either headed to Maplewood-South Orange Municipal Court and/or State Superior Court -Newark.

Maplewood Police Chief James DeVaul has recently said that the Essex County Prosecutor's Office has approved charges against Joshua Howell, 18, a 17-year-old female student and a 16-year-old female student.

MPD's Detective Bureau presented the chain of events to ECPO after interviewing the various parties. The 16-year-old entered the CHS library that Monday intending to assault the 17-year-old. CHS staff "and others separated the two girls - but not without the younger girl spraying "a Mace type aerosol." The younger girl fled the library while the older was escorted by CHS security to the principal's office.

The 16-year-old, who heard the 17-year-old's "yelling in the principal's office" while

passing by the main office, entered it to confront the older girl. Other CHS staff entered the office to intervene. The younger girl "proceeded to threaten and spray the aerosol in the office which struck all in the office" before fleeing out of the building.

The 16-year-old has been charged with three counts of aggravated assault plus a count each of simple assault, possession of a weapon and possession thereof for an unlawful purpose.

Meanwhile, the 17-year-old has been charged with a count each of simple assault and making terroristic threats. The latter count was for making earlier threats against the younger girl on Instagram Live.

Howell is accused of taking the pepper spray weapon from the 17-year-old and giving it to the 16-year-old. He has been

(Continued on page 14)

FOUNDATION GRANT

(Continued from page 11)

tion. In the last 13 years the foundation has raised \$857,214 in support of the Children’s Hospital of New Jersey.

“Healing play is an essential element of the experience at Children’s Hospital of New Jersey. Our Child Life program offers emotional support and age-appropriate activities to support our young patients in their healing process, and Spirit of Children has demonstrated a true commitment to this type of innovative care,” said Darrell K. Terry, Sr., MHA, MPH, FACHE, President and Chief Executive Officer, Newark Beth Israel Medical Center and Children’s Hospital of New Jersey, “We are proud of what we have been able to accomplish to-

gether.”

These funds provide vital support for the Child Life program which offers children and their families emotional and therapeutic healing tools to enhance medical treatment, including educational equipment, iPads and distraction toys for use during procedures as well as toys created specifically for physical and developmental limitations. Their donations have also supported additional Child Life specialists and helped the program expand into the pediatric emergency room at Newark Beth Israel Medical Center.

Beginning in 2020, Spirit of Children created contactless activities that would allow pediatric patients to enjoy Halloween during the pandemic, including reverse trick-or-treating, Halloween Care Packages, and costume activities.

SHARPE JAMES BLOCKED

(Continued from page 5)

ward). The attorney is seeking his first electoral victory. Mildred Crump's relative and former chief of staff was appointed when the then-Council President resigned for health reasons last year.

- Carlos G. Gonzalez (incumbent, Newark Forward) Seeking his sixth term.
- Luis Quintana (incumbent, Newark Forward). "Dean of the Council," former Deputy Mayor and interim or acting Mayor seeking his eighth term.
- Rev. Louise Scott-Rountree (Newark Forward) Mayor's Director of Clergy Affairs.

(Pending certification)

- Dr. Elaine A. Aquil. 35-year chiropractor, health care provider.
- Dannisha J. Clyburn
- Sharpe James (See above.)
- Khalil T. Kettles. Essex County Parks League principal officer is making his second run.
- Received petitions: Nadirah A. Brown, Linda McDonald Carter, Joy Bemby Freeman, Ronald J. Gourdine, Blanca Lopez, Dion C. McCutcheon, Jimmie L. White, Jr.

CENTRAL WARD

- LaMonica R. McIver (incumbent, Newark Forward). Seeking her second term.

(Pending certification)

- Shawn McCray. CHS Head Boys Basketball Coach, Zoo Crew Basketball teacher and coach is making his third run.
- Petitions distributed: Czezre Adams.

EAST WARD

- Incumbent Augusto Amador had declined re-election.
- Anthony Campos (He's with Us!). Retired Newark Police Chief/Police Director/Public Safety Director narrowly lost to Amador in 2016 runoff election.
- Jonathan T. Seabra (I'm with You!). Supermarket chain executive making second run.
- Michael J. Silva (Newark Forward). Former Newark Police officer and detective.
- Louis Weber. (Revive the East Ward.) Executive Secretary of NPD's Alcoholic Beverage Control Unit.

NORTH WARD

- Anibal Ramos, Jr. (incumbent, Newark Forward) N.J. Department of Labor is seeking his fifth term.

SOUTH WARD

- Incumbent John Sharpe James is not running.
- Terrance L. Bankston. (It's Time for a Change.) The former Newark Youth One Stop Career Center is Bloomfield College's Director for Student Leadership, Engagement and Special Programs.
- Christina G. Cherry. (Ready to Lead!) South 17th and 18th Street Neighborhood Association President is also a mother, disabled veteran and second-generation immigrant.
- Rev. Patrick O. Council (Newark Forward) Former Deputy Mayor of Economic Development is Recreation, Senior Services and Cultural Affairs Director and chairman of the South Ward Democratic Committee
- Douglas Freeman. Weequahic Park Sports Authority President runs several youth programs in the Essex County park.
- Trenton Jones. Founder of Love Newark

First, outreaching to city residents with supplies and resources.

- Cynthia Truitt-Rease. South Ward Economic Development Corporation emergency services representative.
- Altarik White. (Newark's South Ward Better Together.) Founder, Executive Director of Leaders for Life NJ outreach.
- Petitions distributed: Michael A. Hobbs, Jr.

WEST WARD

- Incumbent Joseph McCallum, due to a legal matter, waived re-election.
- Lyndon F. Brown, (A Proven Leader with a History of Service.) High School Academic Program founder.
- Oscar S. James II South Ward Councilman 2006-10 is president of Chadwick Capital.
- Lavita Johnson (Time for Unity) is the Mayor's Office of People's assembly assistant manager.
- Dupree L. Kelly (Newark Forward) One-third of the "Lords of the Underground" hip-hop trio is executive director of 211 Community Impact.
- Michelle Lyn Middleton. (Plans to Prosper.) Former NYPD officer is vice president of a firm that lobbies municipal and federal government for funding nonprofit clients.
- Chigozie Onyema. (A Better Ward is Possible.) Lawyer-turned-director and assistant commissioner in N.J. Department of Community Affairs' policy and regulation affairs unit.
- Petitions distributed: Flohisha Johnson, Tawanna Roebuck, Shakima K. Thomas.

Those who want to participate in May 10's elections are to register or transfer their registrations to City Clerk Chris Durkin on or before April 19. May 3 is the last date to apply for a Vote By Mail Ballot by mail. Details are found at essexclerk.com.

The Observation Booth



OP-ED By Andrea Dialect

Puppet Masters...

NATURE VERSUS NURTURE

Nature refers to all of the genes and hereditary factors that influence who we are - from our physical appearance to our personality characteristics.

Nurture refers to all the environmental variables that impact who we are, including our early childhood experiences, how we were raised, our social relationships, and our surrounding culture.

We must also include the psychology of **Behaviorism** which has a strong focus on the impact that the environment has on behavior. For the sake of argument!

Do you remember this Nursery Rhyme?

*What are little boys made of?
Snips and snails
And puppy-dogs' tails,*

*That's what little boys are made of.
What are little girls made of?
Sugar and spice
And everything nice,
That's what little girls are made of.*

So what are little boys and girls that become big boys and girls aka adults, made of?

Child's play is our focus in this space today. But, before we can appease their amusement, we must provide them with the bare necessities. For their sake, when it comes to the above-said subject matter, let's pretend that they're in the room. So, we shall agree to disagree.

In my opinion, when it comes to the evolution of humans, I believe that were chocked with a sprinkle here and a dab there of all the above. When opting to take that peek back in as skipping back into my own error-ridden trail as a mom to the five, I can clearly, see my errors of misjudgment or the lack of in many respects. Honestly, if I could do it all again, I would glean from theory much less, being that of others and as well as my own and strongly opt to be guided by my faith as depending on God's unwavering guidance and the power of prayer.

Sadly, it was quite recently that I realized my faith to be such a powerful aide. It made my burdens easy. How beneficial praying in specifics without ceasing for my children and loved ones all those years ago could have been. But, both are now tried and true, and I can clearly see that it ain't fail me

yet!
Truly, it takes a village to raise children. That way, they get a little this and a little of that. But let's also sprinkle a bit of behaviorism in that way we'll remember that some people will rep what they should be and others what they should not.

Check out today's Page Jacker. Can you identify the underlying catalyst to his preferred approach for child support?

We all have something to give to aid future generations. Whatcha got?

PAGE JACKER: GRUMPY - FOUNDER, GRUMPYS KIDS



"I was known as Grumpy as an Artist, but I began dabbling in radio about eight years ago. Radio was not my calling, but when my partner Zay suggested that we go into it I went with it. I was just being supportive when I said alright, whatever, but once I got into it, I was like, okay, this is pretty cool. But I needed something that would be universal to everyone. I didn't want to be put in a box as far as anything that I wanted to do radio wise. So I combined my name with the word, and it became Grumpy's World!

Grumpy's Kids Came about because I wanted to leave something for my daughter and wanted to create a place where kids could be kids. Because I wasn't able to have that as a kid, I wanted to make sure that they had that place to be active to be energized, stay youthful and enjoy a kid's life. So many kids today are forced to be full-blown super adults and babysitters as playing parents. It's ridiculous. A lot of kids aren't allowed just to be youthful. They have to be adults so fast, either that or they are always around adults and their conversations. When I was a kid, I wasn't all in my aunt's or my mother's faces. When she was talking to grown folk, I'd be in the other room playing a game or something, period.

"For parents dealing with sons. My suggestion is to always have things around that can expand their minds like books, puzzles, games and stuff like that. We, as males, like to be active. So it's good to have multiple things around for those who are not that active and the ones that can't keep still. These days it will likely be tablets or computers, but you have to add books and things of that nature...

Remember, due to space this article can be read in its entirety on our website: www.localtalk-weekly.com. You can search Observation Booth Section on the search bar, or you can go directly to the Entertainment section which is found on the home page on the far right under Categories.

If you are interested in participating in one of the challenges or projects or if you have any questions or comments, send them to: localtalkandrea@gmail.com.

TOWN WATCH (Continued from page 12)

charged with theft of mislaid property and possession of a weapon. Howell's hometown was not disclosed on DeVaul's release.

BLOOMFIELD - Bloomfield College, said the township police department here March 4, was hit by a burglary and an attempted burglary eight days apart.

College security called in township officers to an administration office here at 463 Franklin St. Feb. 23. They said a safe, holding about \$2,000 in petty cash, was removed.

BPD detectives are also looking for the suspicious person who was seen walking through rooms in 63 Fremont St. Feb. 16.

Officers following the person's surveillance trail found a broken-in locker. It is believed that several electronic devices were the suspect's intended target.

MONTCLAIR - A majority of participating township voters helped Phaedra Dunn and Melanie Deysher make history in Montclair's first-ever Board of Education election here March 8.

Essex County Clerk Chris Durkin recorded Dunn having received 1,512 votes, or 25.11 percent, over a field of nine candidates on the ballot with 36 of 37 polling station districts reporting. Deysher took the other MBOE seat with 1,288 or 21.39.

The above and below figures and per-

centages remain unofficial until at least March 22. First, there are mail-in ballots with Tuesday's postmark to be received and be counted along with provisional ballots. The pre-certification fortnight is to allow for any challenges and/or recounts.

Dunn and Deysher are otherwise poised to join the now-nine-member MBOE panel next month. They will serve 21-month terms until their seats are open for the Nov. 7, 2023 General Election. Their seats will then join an annual three-seat election rotation; the next three seats will be up on Nov. 3's ballot.

March 8's election starts a three-year process where the formerly mayor-appointed seven-member board becomes a voter-

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WORLD NEWS FLASH

(Continued from page 6)

communications have been lost with the enterprises and institutions in the port city of Mariupol that use category 1-3 radiation sources, and there is no information about their status. Such radioactive material, warned the IAEA, can cause serious harm to people if not secured and managed properly.

NATION URGED TO ADDRESS INDIAN ACT

CANADA

The UN Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW) called on March 3, for Canada to fully address long-standing gender-based discrimination in its Indian Act, which continues to affect tens of thousands of descendants of indigenous women today.

In the findings, the Committee found that, by being prevented from passing their indigenous status onto new generations, J.E.M. - a matrilineal indigenous descendant from a long line of leaders of the Capilano Community - and his children, were victims of violations rooted in the discriminatory nature of Canada's Indian Act, the primary law used to administer indigenous peoples.

The committee cited the case of J.E.M.,

whose grandmother was a member of the indigenous Squamish Nation in British Columbia. She was forcibly taken from her community and placed in a residential school to assimilate her and other indigenous children into Euro-Western culture.

His grandmother was made to learn English and practice Christianity, and later married a non-indigenous man, which, according to the Indian Act, meant that she was no longer indigenous.

"The entire issue stems from the disrespect of indigenous people's fundamental right to self-identification," said Committee member Corinne Dettmeijer.

Under the Act, the "status Indian" registered with the federal Government, is a condition for gaining access to rights and benefits, such as health-care services, financial support for education, the rights to reside on indigenous territories and hunt and fish on indigenous traditional lands.

Prior to 1985, the Indian Act contained explicitly discriminatory provisions against women, including taking away their status if they marry non-indigenous men. Since then, despite numerous legal challenges, Canada has only amended the discriminatory provisions with piecemeal changes rather than ending the discrimination entirely.

As J.E.M. is a disenfranchised matrilineal indigenous descendant, he was denied his indigenous identity until 2011, when he

could only recover limited status. And it was not until 2019 that J.E.M.'s children were recognized as indigenous.

However, under the Indian Act, they will not have the right to freely pass their indigenous status on to the next generation.

CEDAW found that by being prevented from passing their indigenous status on to new generations, JEM and his children were victims of violations

"It is further exacerbated by the unequal criteria by which men and women are permitted to transmit indigenous status and identity to their descendants," Ms. Dettmeijer asserted.

After multiple failed attempts to challenge the Indian Act in Canada, J.E.M brought his petition to CEDAW, which declared provisions of the Indian Act discriminatory to the descendants of disenfranchised indigenous women.

"Descendants of indigenous Indian grandfathers would never have lost their status and have always been able to pass on their status to their children," Ms. Dettmeijer pointed out.

The Committee recommended that Canada provide appropriate reparation to J.E.M. and his children, including recognizing them as indigenous people with full legal capacity, and allowing them to freely transmit their indigenous status and identity to their descendants.

TOWN WATCH

(Continued from page 14)

elected nine-member panel. The election was scheduled after a majority of 14,904 participating Nov. 2, 2021 voters approved the MBOE conversion referendum. Tuesday's 3,220 votes cast and counted so far, however, make up 8.67 percent of Montclair's 37,157 registered voters.

All of the other seven runners, starting with third-placed Yvonne Bouknight's 868 or 14.42 percent - received three-digit totals. Holly Shaw held fourth at 669 or 11.11. Lauren Q. Griffin was ranked fifth at 492 or 8.17 and Jerold Freier sixth at 467 or 7.76.

Jennette L. Williams placed seventh with 348 or 5.78 and George C. Simpson next at 204 or 3.39. Noah Gale completed the balloted field at 173 or 2.87.

BELLEVILLE - Township officials are asking for resident and property owners' patience this month while a new garbage and recycling collector adjusts to Belleville streets.

Although Belleville's solid waste and recycling schedule remains as-published, the township is asking people to follow these curbside practices: No more than three pieces of furniture and/or other bulk trash be put out per date; Mattresses must be wrapped or sealed in plastic before be-

ing put out; Do not put recycling in plastic bags.

The Township Council awarded an emergency professional services solid waste and recycling contract to Joseph Semtowski's JMG-Galaxy Carting effective March 1, at their Feb. 28 meeting. That contract is renewable every 30 days until a legal matter regarding a longer-term agreement is resolved.

Township Manager Anthony Iacono explained to "Local Talk" March 9 that JMG, of Jersey City, was the lowest of two responsible bidders of a contract late last year. The council, instead of rejecting the bidders for a lack of a third bidder, extended then-current vendor Suburban Disposal's contract until Feb. 28.

The council, on Jan. 8, extended Suburban's last contract into Feb. 28, ending the Fairfield outfit's 10-year run. Iacono, in his March 1 open letter, cited an "inadequate level of service" that "failed to meet our expectations" for the change.

Iacono said that Suburban's challenge to the vending contract is to be heard in a Newark courtroom March 14.

NUTLEY - Several township police officers, firefighters and a homeless man would have an answer to, "How cold was March 1?"

It was so cold that someone called in a fire on the property of 491 River Rd. that Tuesday. The address is for the historic

324-year-old Van Riper House.

The first units arrived to find a fire on the house's front lawn. Behind the fire was a homeless man who had set fire to several logs on the property to keep warm.

NFD firefighters extinguished the logs while NPD officers detained the individual and searched the house for anything else appearing to be out of order. The unidentified man was told that the house was not open to the public and that he was on private property (the Van Riper Trust) before sending him on his way.



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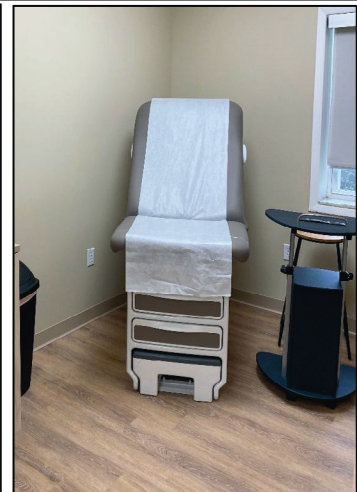
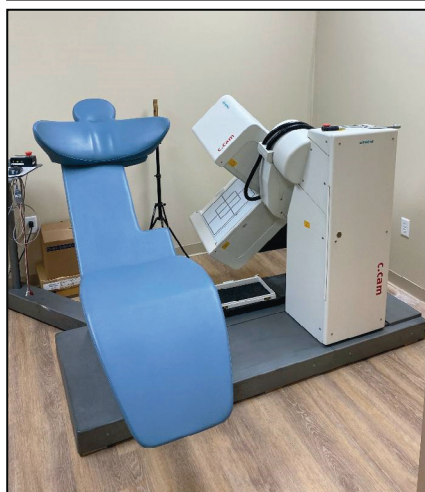
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