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## THE PRICE OF DOING BUSINESS... ORANGE CORRUPTION - PART IV

## ELON MUSK BUYS TWITTER



By **Walter Elliott**

**ORANGE** - The string of bribes, kickbacks, false invoices, no-work contracts and no-show jobs involving seven people that had occurred out of City Hall 2012-16 are far from being victimless crimes.

The cost can be counted in taxpayer money lost, services unfulfilled and the erosion of trust between Orange's citizens and the government that is supposed to serve them.

When high Orange public official Willis Edwards III, for example, sent a pair of voucher payment requests to Essex County in March and May 2015 it was to pay for the Orange Public Li-

brary's Saturday Literacy Program. The county was holding the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development Community Block Development Grant that was awarded to OPL.

The county drew from the HUD grant for the library. OPL's then-director, Timur Davis, sent \$36,000 of the reimbursement in April and June to the literacy program's operator, Urban Planners LLC.

The problem, as Essex County would later learn, was that Urban Planners never held a Saturday Literacy Program class.

Franklyn D. Ore, 51, of Jersey City, had incorporated Urban Planners in early 2015 with an

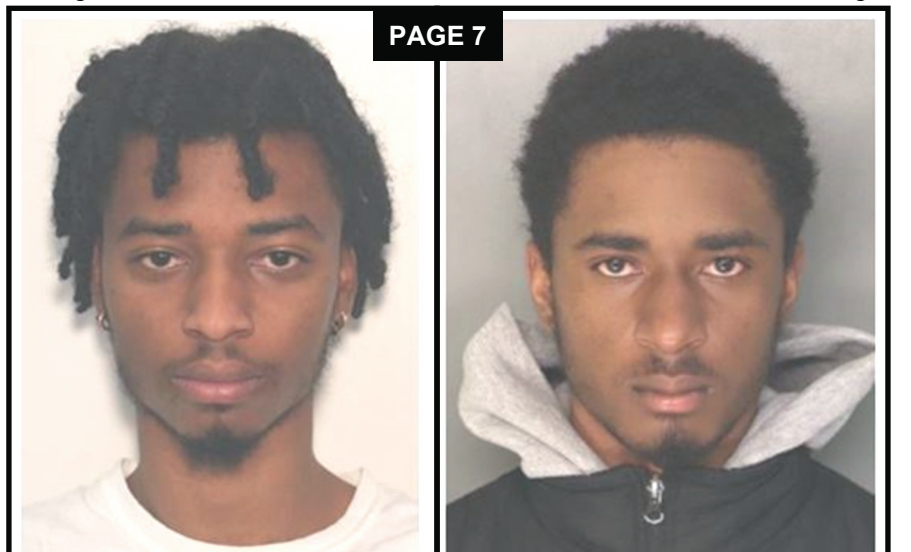
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## BROTHERS ARRESTED IN MURDER OF NEWARK GRANDMOTHER

### 63-year-old woman shot on her birthday



PAGE 7



### Primary Care Multi Specialty Group

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Turn To PAGE 16



*Editorial*  
**Dhiren Shah**  
 Editor-In-Chief

**Hello Readers,**

The world is changing. First, the Russia Ukraine War, then Tesla CEO Elon Musk, who bought about 2 billion dollars' worth of bitcoin a last year, has just bought Twitter for \$44 billion. Buying Twitter means he can not only control people's thoughts and ideas, but he can also control people's opinions. He claims that he is for free speech, however, time will tell the truth. Our representatives have been directly or indirectly bought by some of the big giants. We elect them and they help the lobbyists and their supporters by making favorable

laws for their supporters.

Every day, we all go through Google and some other high tech giants and financial institutions like QuickBooks. Every time you try to use your password for any reason, Google is interjecting and show the option, but once you hit enter on their option, they control you. Even though they might have a lot of security, I am an old school person.

Why should we have to deal with this all the time, and if you one mistake, you lose control of your account. Why can't our representatives make laws where they are allowed to give an option one or two times, and after that they should be penalized like the individuals whose internet they are hacking into (sorry to use a little harsher word).

All the large companies have their huge law departments, and they make the conditions so difficult that we practically cannot

read it and we all say yes to their conditions. However, they should have made some abbreviated conditions, so we can understand them better. I hope our representatives stop playing politics and work for the people. It's not that I am trying to say that they are not working. They do make some laws, but most of the time they work under the political bandwagon.

Vice President Kamala Harris has Covid. Covid is a natural cause and Harris has to meet so many people every single day. We all should wish her well, but some people started criticizing her. We should leave her alone and wish her the best.

Election season is in full swing in our local community. As I heard, some of the candidates favorable to the administrations are allowed to visit senior buildings while those non-affiliated with the administration

are not allowed to visit senior buildings. This is a democracy and either everyone should have the same privilege, or no one should. If I am living in those buildings and see that some candidates are coming due to favoritism and power of the administration, I would not vote for those candidates. Candidates should have equal opportunities, then it is up to them that how they campaign and win the hearts of the people. In my opinion, those who take advantage of others during the campaign may take a lot more advantages after the election.

*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>
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# The Doctor Is In



**Dr. Adil Manzoor OP/ED**

## The Condition Responsible for Bruce Willis' Retirement: Aphasia; What Is It?

If you are a fan of the big screens, it may not be news to you that the legendary actor, Bruce Willis, has called it quits on his 37-year acting career. For the non-movie fans, Bruce Willis is the man on the cover of Die Hard - that has to ring a bell, at least! The reason cited for his

retirement is a condition called aphasia. So, what exactly is it?

Aphasia is a disorder that affects a person's ability to communicate. It's just as it sounds, really. It affects the ability to construct coherent sentences. Reading and writing abilities are also impaired. This isn't ideal for anyone, but especially for an actor, because the whole point of acting is communicating and connecting with viewers. Anyone can have aphasia, but it is more common among older people. For context, Bruce Willis is 67 years old.

This disorder is actually one of the most underrated in the industry. What do we mean? According to the National Aphasia Association, aphasia affects about two million people in the United States. It is even more common than Parkinson's disease, cerebral palsy, and muscular dystrophy.

The condition is unsurprisingly caused by damage or injury to the brain. The most common cause is stroke. The National Aphasia Association states that about 25% to 40% of people who survive a stroke eventually have aphasia. The reason isn't far-



fetched too.

A stroke is a medical emergency that occurs when blood flow to a part of the brain is cut off, preventing the brain cells in that region from getting oxygen, which eventually leads to their death. As you would expect, with aphasia, the region getting cut off from oxygen supply is the region that controls language.

Aside from the stroke, there are other possible reasons a person may have aphasia. They include head trauma or injury, brain tumor, and infection. Aphasia may also accompany other mental conditions, like dementia.

Although the broad marker of aphasia is a communication disorder, its specific symptoms are difficulty speaking, speaking in short or incomplete sentences, speaking sentences that don't make much sense, difficulty reading and writing sentences, and using unfamiliar words when speaking.

It is worth noting that aphasia may be mild or severe. For the former, the person can hold full simple conversations but will find it very challenging. However, it may be impossible to converse in complex discussions. For severe aphasia, the person may not be able or even slightly willing to participate in any form of conversation.

Interestingly, while the person's communication skills are impaired, theirs is no evidence that their intelligence is. This essentially means they can still think the way they used to, but expressing their thoughts with words is the problem.

For people with aphasia, there's good news - it is treatable. The default treatment therapy is speech and language therapy. Here, the affected individual meets with a therapist that helps them with their communication skills. This includes verbal and non-verbal communication. It is not uncommon for this kind of

therapy to be done with other people, like a support group.

There are medications that have been tried, but there is no single medication ascribed to curing the condition. The medications usually used function to improve blood flow to the affected part of the brain. Typically, when the root cause is treated and there's proper management of the condition, aphasia resolves, allowing the person can start communicating as normal.

A word of caution - aphasia is a degenerative condition, which is a term for a condition that gradually worsens over time. As such, detecting signs of the condition early and getting appropriate treatment is crucial.

*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.

This week has a combination of the upcoming NFL Draft and the NBA playoffs. First, despite being the odds-on favorite to win the title, the Nets has been swept out of the postseason, after a 116-112 loss to the Boston Celtics, giving that squad a 4-0 series win. Point guard Kyrie Irving has a player option for next season, while there is no certainty as to whether or not Ben Simmons would ever bother to play again.

As for the other half of the Simmons trade, James Harden and the Philadelphia 76ers are facing a fight with the Toronto Raptors, who forced a Game 6 after beating Philly on the road 103-88. The Raptors are coming off of two straight wins. The winner will likely take on the defending champion Milwaukee Bucks, who might have finished off Chicago by the time you read this.

The Miami Heat had no such issue is getting rid of the Atlanta

Hawks in five games, while in the West, the Mavericks are in control over the Jazz, Golden State is handling Denver, the Suns are sweating it out over the Pelicans, and Memphis is in a tight battle with Minnesota.

Switching to the NFL Draft, the New York Giants and Jets are looking to improve their rosters, with Big Blue's new general manager Joe Schoen and his Gang Green counterpart Joe Douglas. This year's draft will be held in Las Vegas, with Travon Walker, a pass rusher out of Georgia, projected as the top pick to Jacksonville. This is the second straight year the Jaguars will have the #1 overall selection, after taking Trevor Lawrence last year.

Finally, in Major League Baseball, Detroit Tigers slugger Miguel Cabrera celebrated his 3,000th career hit. He joins Hank Aaron and Willie Mays as the only players in MLB history to have 3,000 hits, 500 home runs, and a career .300 batting average.

**PT. IV** (Continued from page 1)

advance from Edwards. Ore passed phony invoices to Edwards that the Business Administrator/"Deputy Administrator"/Mayor's Chief of Staff attached to his voucher requests to the county.

Two federal grand juries in Newark had indicted Edwards, 51, now of Lithonia, Ga., on this and 30 other counts July 8 and Sept. 20, 2020. Edwards, who stepped down as chief of staff on a separate court order Dec. 31, 2015, was indicted on counts ranging from wire fraud to "bribery in connection with the business of a federally funded local government."

Edwards, who was given the BA, Deputy Administrator and Chief of Staff designations by Mayor Dwayne D. Warren, has not entered a plea to date.

Ore pled guilty Jan. 13, 2020 in Newark federal court to a count each of aiding and abetting the fraud of an organization

that uses federal funds and wire fraud. He is currently serving an up to 20-year prison sentence.

Davis pled guilty to making false statements to HUD Feb. 13, 2020. He was scheduled to be sentenced that June to up to a year's imprisonment and a \$100,000 fine.

The above trio are among seven men and women who were part of several corruption schemes uncovered by the FBI-Newark Office and federal justice department attorneys after a five-year and continuing investigation.

The feds' probe includes executing search warrants on Orange City Hall and OPL going back to July 22, 2016. Four of the seven indicted have pleaded guilty and one pleaded not guilty. Edwards and a seventh person have not entered pleas.

Orange's children who could have used the Saturday Literacy Program, however, had to go to another institution for reading help.



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Edwards, Ore and Davis, said court documents, had conspired to defraud a second, \$48,000 HUD grant over a prospective HVAC chiller unit in 2014-15.

HUD, through Essex County, awarded the \$48,000 grant to OPL in 2014 so it could replace its heating and cooling system. Edwards allegedly put Ore and Urban Planners on as the installer of an air conditioning chiller unit in 2015.

Ore drew up phony invoices and work progress reports which were sent to and approved by Da-

vis and Edwards. Edwards then sent a \$48,000 voucher request to the county. The county sent the \$48,000 to OPL - \$36,000 of which was diverted by Davis to Ore and Edwards.

The chiller, which was meant for the library's 1905 main building and 1978 southwest wing, was never ordered - let alone installed.

Anthony Puglisi, Public Information Officer for Essex County Executive Joseph DiVincenzo, recalled that a county em-

(Continued on page 11)



## ELON MUSK BUYS TWITTER

### UNITED STATES

The world's wealthiest man, give or take a bad stock day against Jeff Bezos, has just claimed one of the world's premiere social media platforms.

On April 25, Tesla and SpaceX magnate Elon Musk brokered a deal to buy Twitter for \$44 billion. At \$54.20 a share, the transaction is one of the largest ever to acquire a publicly traded company to take it private.

"Free speech is the bedrock of a functioning democracy, and Twitter is the digital town square where matters vital to the future of humanity are debated," Musk said in a statement.

The deal comes days after the company implemented a "poison pill" tactic to flood the market with enough shares to make buying the company through a hostile takeover highly difficult. However, Musk's net worth is north of \$240 billion, and while he secured over \$25 billion in debt financing, that was more of a move to protect the stock prices of SpaceX and Tesla, as investors in those companies do not have to fear the leader losing a bunch of stock in his existing companies.

For what it's worth, upon the news of Musk buying the company, stock in Twitter went up six percent. However, Tesla stock tumbled \$125 billion, costing Musk \$30 billion in net worth.

There is no word as to whether or not former President Donald Trump - or whether other banned users - will be allowed back on the platform. Also, there is no word on whether or not Musk will keep the platform free to use, or put it behind a pay-wall.

## A NEW TOOL IN THE COVID FIGHT

### WORLD

A highly successful COVID-19 therapy must be made available to more people, the World Health Organization (WHO) has said, calling for wider distribution and greater transparency surrounding its pricing.

WHO announced on April 22 in Geneva that it has strongly recommended use of nirmatrelvir and ritonavir, sold under the name Paxlovid, for mild and moderate COVID-19 patients at the highest risk of hospital admission.

The oral antiretroviral drug was developed by Pfizer and is "the best therapeutic choice for high-risk patients to date," the UN agency said.

"However, availability, lack of price transparency in bilateral deals made by the producer, and the need for prompt and accurate testing before administering it, are turning this life-saving medicine into a major challenge for low- and middle-income countries."

Paxlovid is strongly recommended for patients with non-severe COVID-19 who are at the highest risk of developing severe disease and hospitalization, such as unvaccinated, older, or immunosuppressed persons.

The recommendation is based on new data from two randomized controlled trials involving more than 3,000 patients. Risk of hospitalization was reduced by 85 percent. In a high-risk group, that means 84 fewer hospitalizations per 1,000 patients.

Use for patients at lower risk is not recommended as the benefits were found to be negligible.

One obstacle for low- and middle-income countries is that the medicine can only be administered while the disease is at its early stages, making prompt and accurate testing essential for successful outcomes.

"Improving access to early testing and diagnosis in primary health care settings will be key for the global rollout of this treatment," WHO said.

The UN agency also feared that when it comes to access, poorer countries "will again be pushed to the end of the queue" as occurred with COVID-19 vaccines.

Several companies, many of which are covered by the licensing agreement, are in discussions with WHO Prequalification but

may take some time to comply with international standards so that they can supply the medicine internationally.

WHO has strongly recommended that Pfizer make its pricing and deals more transparent. The pharmaceutical giant was also urged to enlarge the geographical scope of the licensing agreement so that more generic manufacturers can produce the medicine and make it available faster at affordable prices.

In other developments, WHO has also updated its recommendation on another antiviral medicine, remdesivir, suggesting that it can be used in mild or moderate COVID-19 patients who are at risk of hospitalization.

Recommendation for use in patients with severe or critical COVID-19 is under review.

## FEARS OF ANOTHER EBOLA OUTBREAK

### AFRICA

The health authorities of the African nation declared a new outbreak of Ebola after a case was confirmed in Mbandaka, a city in the north-western Equateur Province, the World Health Organization (WHO) reported on April 23.

The infected patient was a 31-year-old man who began experiencing symptoms on April 5 and after more than a week of care at home, sought treatment at a local health facility.

On April 21, he was admitted to an Ebola treatment center for intensive care but died later that day. Having recognized the symptoms, health workers immediately submitted samples to test for Ebola virus disease, WHO explained.

So far, just one case has been confirmed and investigations to determine the source of the outbreak are ongoing.

"Time is not on our side," said Dr Matshidiso Moeti, WHO Regional Director for Africa. "The disease has had a two-week head start and we are now playing catch-up. The positive news is that health authorities in the Democratic Republic of the Congo have more experience than anyone else in the world at controlling Ebola outbreaks quickly," he added.

There have been fourteenth

Ebola outbreaks in the Democratic Republic of the Congo since 1976. The new outbreak is the sixth one since 2018 - the most frequent occurrence in the country's Ebola history, according to the UN health agency.

Previous outbreaks in Equateur Province were in 2020 and 2018, with 130 and 54 recorded cases respectively.

WHO informed that the deceased patient received a safe and dignified burial, which involves modifying traditional funeral ceremonies to minimize the risk of contagious fluids infecting attendees.

Health authorities are also identifying contacts to monitor their health and disinfected the health facility where the patient was treated.

Moreover, plans to kick off vaccination in the coming days are underway with stockpiles of the rVSV-ZEBOV Ebola vaccine already available in the cities of Goma and Kinshasa.

"Vaccines will be sent to Mbandaka and administered through 'ring vaccination strategy - where contacts and contacts of contacts are vaccinated to curb the spread of the virus and protect lives', WHO highlighted.

"Many people in Mbandaka are already vaccinated against Ebola, which should help reduce the impact of the disease," added Dr. Moeti. "All those who were vaccinated during the 2020 outbreak will be revaccinated."

## BRITS SPARED INSURANCE HIKE

### EUROPE

British motorists will be spared a possible £50 annual insurance hike, as the government continues to assist with cost-of-living pressures and uses post-Brexit freedoms to scrap a controversial EU law.

A bill to scrap the EU's Vnuk motor insurance law has passed through Parliament April 25 and will go on to receive royal assent to confirm changes in the law.

The EU law could have required a wider range of vehicles beyond cars and motorbikes to have motor insurance, such as golf buggies, mobility scooters and quad bikes.

It would have extended to

(Continued on page 15)

# BROTHERS ARRESTED IN MURDER OF NEWARK GRANDMOTHER

**NEWARK** - Acting Essex County Prosecutor Theodore N. Stephens, II, and Newark Public Safety Director Brian A. O'Hara announced two men have been arrested for the murder of Debra Derrick, a 63-year-old grandmother who was shot on her front porch as she celebrated her birthday.

Jonathan Ritchie, 21, of Newark and his brother, Josiah Ritchie, 19, also of Newark have both been charged with murder, conspiracy to commit murder, unlawful possession of a weapon and possession of weapon for an unlawful purpose.

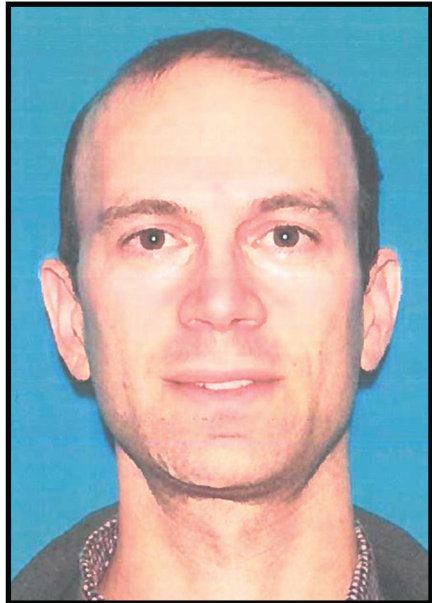
On March 11, 2021, the victim, who previously worked as certified nursing assistant at Newark Beth Israel Medical Center, was at her home in the 200 block of Lehigh Avenue releasing balloons to celebrate her birthday and the birthday of her late twin sister when she was shot. The twin sister had died seven years earlier.

The two shooters were identified as brothers living with their mother and stepfather. The brothers are originally from Guyana and had previously lived in Atlanta.

Both brothers are currently being held in the Essex County Correctional Facility in Newark.

These are accusations. All defendants are presumed innocent unless and until they enter a guilty plea or are found guilty beyond a reasonable doubt in a court of law.

# NEWARK VETERINARIAN CHARGED WITH ANIMAL CRUELTY



**NEWARK** - Acting Essex County Prosecutor Theodore N. Stephens, II, announced on April 26 that Ehren Seth Yablon, a veterinarian at the Newark Veterinary Hospital, has been charged with multiple counts of animal cruelty and other charges related to the mistreatment of dogs under his care.

Yablon, 44, of Hillside, owns the Newark Veterinary Hospital, located at 98 Wilson Avenue in the City of Newark. On June 28,

2021, a dog owner brought her English Bulldog, Princess, for an examination because the dog had a bloody discharge. It is alleged that the defendant performed bloodwork, administered medicine, and told the dog owner the English Bulldog needed surgery. When the dog owner returned the next day, she was told by the veterinarian that the dog died during surgery. A necropsy done by another veterinarian showed no surgery was ever performed.

Yablon is also accused of neglecting to properly care for three husky puppies. A dog owner took the puppies to the defendant's clinic for treatment. One of the puppies tested positive for canine parvovirus, a highly infectious disease. It is alleged that despite the diagnosis the three puppies were caged together in his office. One died in the same kennel with the two siblings. It is further alleged that

(Continued on page 11)

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David Witherspoon, Attorney-at-Law, is a Debt Relief Agency. A firm dedicated to helping individuals find relief under the Bankruptcy Code.

# ESSEX COUNTY WEEKLY COVID-19 CASE TALLY

Municipality	4-20-2022	Deaths	4-27-2022	Deaths
Belleville	10,830	149	10,887	149
Bloomfield	11,811	158	11,916	158
Caldwell	1,507	17	1,521	17
Cedar Grove	3,674	135	3,701	136
City of Orange	8,097	169	8,123	170
East Orange	16,998	374	17,070	374
Essex Fells	476	2	484	2
Fairfield	1,938	36	1,946	36
Glen Ridge	1,146	18	1,161	18
Irvington	11,656	280	11,684	279
Livingston	5,913	100	5,982	100
Maplewood	4,830	46	4,903	46
Millburn	3,194	17	3,256	17
Montclair	6,338	84	6,431	84
Newark	77,967	1,242	78,278	1,242
North Caldwell	1,287	10	1,306	10
Nutley	6,399	83	6,474	83
Roseland	1,317	21	1,338	21
South Orange	3,127	22	3,172	22
Verona	3,135	22	3,161	22
West Caldwell	2,556	60	2,576	60
West Orange	12,644	263	12,759	263
<b>Total</b>	<b>196,840</b>	<b>3,308</b>	<b>198,129</b>	<b>3,309</b>

**OTHER COVID-19 TALLIES (As of April 27, 2022)**

**NJ: 1,940,928 cases / 30,382 deaths (Plus 3,034 probable)**

**United States (approx.): 81.140 Million / 992,300 deaths**

**Worldwide (approx.): 511.439 Million / 6.227 Million deaths**

## It is Time for New Leadership in the East Ward of Orange Township.

**Council President Kerry Coley and Mayor Dwayne Warren raised Taxes in Orange 8 years in a row since 2014!!**

**“From 2015 to 2020, the general tax rates in Orange – where 21.4% live in poverty and the median household income stands at \$42,966 – went up by 20.5%. That marked the largest tax increase in the county.”**

**Ted Sherman - Reporter**

October 31, 2021 (Star-Ledger / NJ Advance Media for NJ.com)

**FAKE NEWS!!**

**In September 2018, Tyrone Tarver was reported stating that there was a large number of violent crimes, including 6 murders, during that year. At an October 2018 Council meeting, President Coley & Police Director Todd Warren (Mayor Warren’s brother) used a Donald Trump catchphrase and called Tarver’s statement & murder count “Fake News”! In 2019, the state released the 2018 Orange Municipal Crime data which included the same crime data and 6 murders that Tarver made public!!**

**2018 NJ State Police Uniform Crime Report**  
<https://nj.gov/njsp/ucr/uniform-crime-reports.shtml>

**Fewer FEMA Dollars for Seniors & Residents!**

**In 2020, Council President Kerry Coley approved Mayor Warren giving employees & family large dollar amounts in FEMA overtime pay. One employee was reported having received \$156,000 in COVID funds on top of their regular \$183,000 salary!!**

**Darrin Tobia - Reporter**

July 27, 2021 (jerseydigs.com)

**We need representatives who provide Transparency  
and Accountability for our Safety & Tax Dollars!!**



**TYRONE  
TARVER**

Orange Township  
East Ward Council Election  
Tuesday, May 10, 2022



## Mayor Warren backed East Ward Council Candidate Fatimah Turner used opponent's 14-year old daughter in 2020 negative campaign email.

**LOCAL TALK** Weekly Newspaper

November 2, 2020

Excerpt from article:

"Orange BOE Democratic Team" member Fatimah Z. Turner made an accusation that opponent Tyrone Tarver is a Republican. Okay, that is typical of an election season. However, Turner also mentioned the following: "Quite frankly, I am surprised by your apparent Republican affiliation and your opposition to women in leadership, given the fact that you have a bright daughter who could be the next Kamala Harris or Michelle Obama."

That last statement is not election time mudslinging, but rather a cheap personal attack using a minor who is not a political figure in the public sphere. This kind of statement may create directly or indirectly in the mind of a 14-year-old girl a grudge against her father. It is unacceptable.

I condemn this appalling action of using a minor as a tool to grab votes, in which Orange Mayor Dwayne D. Warren put out a letter in response where he focuses attention on Tarver's daughter being "bright" but does not focus on the daughter being callously used in Turner's correspondence.

On the other side, I have observed that Tyrone J. Tarver has been fighting for the betterment of the board of education and Orange's students. Students need someone who will make sure the Board supports them, not special interests, and the citizens need someone who can find the flaws and protect their rights – mainly their tax dollars.

*Dhiren Shah*  
Local Talk Weekly Newspaper  
Editor-in-Chief

More than ever, Orange needs representatives with a strong sense of ethics...representatives who know when to draw the line.

Vote **2-A** **TYRONE**  
**TARVER**

Orange Township  
East Ward Council Election  
Tuesday, May 10, 2022

# 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** - About the only substantial change from the votes counted from 30 impounded machines from 17 election districts here April 25 is the percentage of participating April 19 school election voters.

The vote count, which was completed by N.J. Superior Court order Monday afternoon, boosted the 2.35 percent turnout to 2.6 percent. None of the seven Newark Board of Education candidates' standing has changed, nor has the outcome of the Newark Public Schools' 2022-23 budget question.

The revised BOE count is Crystal Williams, 2,945 votes; A'Dorian Murray-Thomas, 2,881; Daniel Gonzalez, 2,780; Thomas Luna, 1,215; Maggie Freeman, 1,159; Phillip Wilson, 907; and Allison James-Frison, 780.

Williams, Murray-Thomas and Gonzalez are poised for a May 5 swearing in to their first (Williams) or second (Murray-Thomas, Gonzalez) term in that night's reorganization meeting.

The 2022-23 budget remains approved at now 3,126 "Yes" to 457 "No."

Both County Clerk Chris Durkin's office and Linda von Nessi's County Board of Elections are meanwhile figuring out how the paper ballots and electronic counting modules remained behind in the 30 machines after the polls closed 8 p.m. April 19.

County Board of Elections workers were to deliver the paper and electronic ballots to Durkin's Election Division office that night. That did not happen with those 30 machines in 17 polling stations, prompting

Durkin to ask Superior Court Judge Joseph Vena April 21 to have them unsealed and opened.

**IRVINGTON** - A makeshift shrine was set up on 51 Kuna Terrace's curbside by April 25, where a fatal shooting victim had been found on April 22.

There were 56 votive candles arranged on part of a sidewalk to spell out "4G4L" - or For G For Life. It is a cryptic clue to the identity of the Friday afternoon shooting victim who Acting Essex County Prosecutor Theodore "Ted" Stephens and Irvington Public Safety Director Tracy Bowers have not yet publicly named.

ECPO Homicide Major Crimes Task Force and Irvington police detectives descended on Kuna 3 p.m. Friday south of its intersection with Chancellor Avenue. The parked vehicles closed Kuna and restricted vehicular traffic, including buses on New Jersey Transit's 39 and 99 routes.

Stephens and Bowers said their detectives and officers found an unidentified man there with fatal gunshot wounds. There are no further details as of April 26.

**EAST ORANGE** - Those wanting to attend the late Mayor Robert L. Bowser's May 7 Memorial Service here at the Cicely L. Tyson Community School of Fine and Performing Arts Auditorium are to register in advance.

Although the Tyson auditorium's capacity is around 700 people, seating is expected to fill up fast. Those seeking a seat are to go to [www.HonorableRLBowser.eventbrite.com](http://www.HonorableRLBowser.eventbrite.com). Registered mourners are to practice masking and social distancing.

Those who are unable to register may watch the 11 a.m. service live at <https://cleanurl.com/n7n8e5>. Details are found at (973) 339-3374.

## Help Wanted in April 23 Murder

Stephens and EOPD Chief Phyllis Bindi are asking for the public's help on April 25 in the April 23 fatal shooting of Gregory Evens.

Responding officers found Evens, 46, of Irvington, lying along Sunnyside Terrace, near Hudson Avenue, 7:30 p.m. Sun-

day. Evens, who was found with "apparent gunshot wounds," died by that Third Ward corner at 7:52 p.m.

**ORANGE** - The owners of a 166-year-old South Ward house that had burned here April 19 have not said of the building's future or the .31 acre lot it sits on.

The first Orange Fire Department arrived at 551 Lincoln Ave. 6:12 a.m. that Tuesday to find flames coming out of the 2.5-story wood frame house's first floor. Two more alarms would be called before the blaze was brought under control by Noon.

Flames had reached the wood-stucco house's second floor before all OFD hands plus mutual aid units from Maplewood and West Orange arrived by 9:30 a.m. Lincoln Avenue was closed between Tremont Avenue and Lincoln Place.

The house, noticeable for being set well back from the street, had been owned by a family until 2015 551 Lincoln Ave LLC, of 888 tulip Lane, Teaneck, bought the property from a mortgage company in 2017.

A real estate website stated on April 19 that the 15,000-square-foot lot is in a B3 Zone for "low rise multiple-family dwellings and a house of worship."

**WEST ORANGE** - Four people were injured and at least 10 residents were displaced after an April 24 condominium townhouse fire here near the Livingston border.

The first West Orange Fire Department units who had responded to a 10 a.m. Sunday fire at 58-62 Hart Dr. found fire ripping through the roof of one of the two-story dwellings and spreading to adjacent units.

The on-scene WOFD incident commander promptly called a second alarm and started a defensive exterior attack on the blaze. Gas and electric feeds to the 16-unit development was shut off.

Four or five of the units would be damaged, with at least one second-story floor collapse, before the blaze was brought under control. Mutual aid from at least Livingston was called.

One mutual aid firefighter reported a small laceration, and another firefighter suffered a minor injury.

One resident had experienced smoke inhalation but refused on-scene or nearby RWJBarnabas Health Cooperman Barnabas Medical Center treatment. A second resident was taken to Barnabas by a friend with no further details.

The American Red Cross Essex Chapter found temporary lodging for the displaced residents. The complex was built in 1992.

**SOUTH ORANGE / MAPLEWOOD** - The South Orange-Maplewood Board of Education will be revisiting and reconsidering whether to renovate or replace Columbia High School's indoor pool before the 2021-22 school year ends.

The board, on April 18, hired a consultant who will present a pool restoration feasibility study for the four-lane pool, which had not been used since 2016. The two-town panel had received, but stayed, a plan that would replace the 1920s-era pool, showers, locker rooms and machinery with a student networking space with rooms for social workers.

An earlier SOMSD board had voted down a 2013 proposal to replace the pool with one in a new wing for \$81. million. Estimates for respective repairs or repurposing the facility were \$4.9 million and \$5.9 million - but that was in 2013 dollars.

The 2013-14 school board's denial of a new pool helped wind down the existing natatorium's use until its 2016 closure. It was closed for plumbing leaks, including the fear that the second floor's pool water would flood onto classrooms below.

The CHS Cougars swimming teams have gone to Maplewood and South Orange community pools to practice and other NJSI-AA-sanctioned eight-lane pools for state tournaments. Those community pools, however, are members only. The repurposing plan and SaveOurKidsPool.org's presentation were held at the board's March 21 meeting.

There is no provision in the 2019 Long Range Facilities plan and \$160 million bond issue for

(Continued on page 15)

**PT. IV**

(Continued from page 5)

ployee had asked OPL for an invoice from the chiller's installing contractor when it did not receive it with a reimbursement request in 2015. The library then said it was abandoning the HVAC project.

Essex County then demanded that it be repaid the \$18,239 for the chiller within 90 days. Puglisi said it took 216 days to get that money back and repay HUD.

At least Essex County and HUD got some of their money back.

OPL could have used that chiller three times the last two summers. The library closed due to excessive heat - denying patrons access to its services.

Edwards and Ore tapped the City of Orange Township's discretionary fund, under the guise of YWCA/Orange Recreation, Education and Cultural Center redevelopment planning, in late 2015.

Ore created a false invoice, claiming that Urban Partners took part in a study on converting the YWCA at 395 Main St. to the Orange REC Center. Prosecutors said that Edwards, before he left City Hall Dec. 31, 2015, cut a \$16,800 check to Urban Planners - and Ore kicked back a portion to Edwards.

The ill-gotten \$16,800, on one hand, was directly drawn from the city's Calendar Year 2015 municipal budget. The loss, on the surface, may seem minute among an average \$60 million annual city budget here.

Orange, in Calendar Year 2021, had a 5.78 percent tax increase on its property owners on an average \$9,957 2020 tax bill. The increase was the second-highest among Essex County's 22 municipalities.

Orange was second to Irvington's 5.979 percent increase last year. East Orange ranked third at 5.541 percent.

Meanwhile, Orange's median household income in 2020 was \$42,966. The city strug-

gles with a 21.4 percent poverty rate.

An indirect cost of the \$16,800 is an impression of where the money allocated to the Orange REC Center is going.

Warren announced in May 2016 that he had obtained a State Legislature allocation of \$2.5 million toward the purchase and conversion of the 1971-built YWCA of the Oranges to the REC Center. Half that amount, \$1.25 million, was used to purchase 359 Main St.

The special allocation was not a grant or a loan. Some may remember Warren holding a celebration of 395 Main's pending rebirth at its front door.

Some of the other \$1.25 million was spent on a study - that found the YWCA building's asbestos, plumbing and other internal problems make rehabilitation cost-prohibitive. The city has since switched to replacing 395 Main and the 1876 Rossi Paint headquarters with a five-story mixed-use Orange REC/apartment building in a public-private partnership.

The \$72,000 bilked from OPL's non-extant literacy program and chiller have some residents asking about a \$250,000 N.J. Historic Preservation grant's status.

The DEP office had awarded the grant a decade ago to help the library restore its rotunda and other infrastructure. Although the office had extended the grant's life, the library had suffered a train of neglect, key personnel turnover and funding issues.

NJDOT had awarded Orange around \$200,000 towards restoring and reopening the Valley's Highland Avenue Railroad Station in 2019. There has not been any physical work other than NJTransit maintenance since.

It is not known as of press time whether a prospective lease from NJTransit is a precondition for using the grant.

# ESSEX COUNTY'S RECYCLING DAY Household Hazardous Waste

**Saturday, May 7, 2022**

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

**Essex County Fleet Management (Public Works)  
99 W. Bradford Avenue, Cedar Grove, New Jersey**

**Free to all Essex County Residents.** Essex County residents must provide proof of residency at the site.

**NOT FOR COMMERCIAL AND INDUSTRIAL FACILITIES.**

- ✓ Do not exit vehicle.
- ✓ Items for disposal to be placed in trunk.
- ✓ NO containers will be returned (gas cans, etc.).

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

**ITEMS ACCEPTED:**

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

**WE WILL NOT ACCEPT:**

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



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

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



**VETERINARIAN CHARGED**

(Continued from page 7)

the defendant charged the dog owner for services that were never rendered and refused to release the puppies until he was paid.

Acting Attorney General Matthew J. Platkin and the Division of Consumer Affairs have filed a Temporary Suspension Application to temporarily suspend Yablon's license to practice, pending the resolution of the verified complaint. The matter is currently scheduled to be heard by the Board of Veterinary Medical Examiners at their next meeting.

These are accusations. All de-

fendants are presumed innocent unless and until they enter a guilty plea or are found guilty beyond a reasonable doubt in a court of law.

Yablon was charged and released. He is scheduled to make his first court appearance on May 17. The case is being handled by Assistant Prosecutor Romil Devang Amin.

**NEED A WEBSITE DESIGNED? WE CAN HELP CALL US AT 973-280-7547 FOR MORE INFORMATION**



## From The Pastor's Heart

OP-ED BY DR. ROBERT KENNEDY

### The Curse Of Coveting

I You have likely been one of those wondering, "Why in all the world is Russia carrying on the atrocious war against Ukraine at this time? What have the people of Ukraine done to Russia to merit such violent actions? Why, after taking Crimea and fighting the people of the eastern region around Dumbas, Luhansk, Donetsk and Mariupol, etc., for more than eight years, is Russia still fighting? What does President Putin want?"

The argument forwarded is that the Kremlin has identified the eastern region as a Russian-speaking part of Ukraine that is more Russian than Ukrainian. Or is it what has been reported that President Putin has repeatedly made the unfounded accusation that Ukraine has carried out genocide in the east, and he is there to seek justice and create peace.

Almost two-thirds of the eastern regions were in Ukrainian hands when the war began. The rest was run by Russian proxies, who created Moscow-backed statelets during the eight

years of skirmishes. Before the war, President Putin recognized two eastern regions as independent of Ukraine. It is being argued that if Russia were to conquer the eastern region, it would give Vladimir Putin a great opportunity to negotiate the end of the war and take over as he did in Crimea after a discredited referendum in 2014.

Yes, President Putin might seem strange in his ambition, but we need not think of him so strange since history is filled with the records of land grabbers, just like Putin. Think of all the colonial powers.

I asked one of my neighbors which of the African countries he is from, and he said Guinea. I knew of three Guineas, but when I asked, he said, "there are four Guineas, German Guinea, Spanish Guinea, French Guinea, and/or Portuguese Guinea. After their independence from their colonial powers in Europe," he notes, "French Guinea became Guinea, Spanish Guinea became Equatorial Guinea, and Portuguese Guinea became Guinea-Bissau. However, German Guinea dropped the Guinea part of the name to become Cameroon and Togo."

Yes, my neighbor still insists that there are four Guineas. The information he gave was insightful, giving me a full history lesson. That pushed me to do more research to find an interesting fact. I was born on a colonized island, and I remember people

calling a British coin "guinea." I did not know that the gold used to make the coin came from Guinea; that, of course, was before all of the divisions.

People have been coveting other peoples' lands even from Biblical times. Remember how King Ahab of Samaria coveted his neighbor's vineyard? Do you remember how he sulked and refused to eat because he did not know how to get the vineyard when Naboth, the owner, turned down his request? But when his wife Jezebel saw him sulking, she told him to "snap" out of it.

Then she reminded him that he was the king and had the right to take any property he wanted. Therefore, Jezebel came up with a conspiracy that led to Naboth's death. Then, with Naboth out of the way, Jezebel encouraged Ahab to take control of the vineyard. Remember how Prophet Elijah confronted Ahab about his conspiratorial action? Read the full story in 1 Kings 21.

Of course, Biblical history is also filled with men who have coveted other people's wives. Read about Abraham, how the Pharaoh king of Egypt tried to take away his wife. (Genesis 12:10-20). The same thing happened when Abraham went to Gerar. Abimelech tried to take his wife (Genesis 20:1-16). And the same thing happened to Isaac, Abraham's son when he went to Gerar with Rebecca. Abimelech tried to take his wife (Genesis 26). Because of the

power positions of the kings, Abraham and Isaac, fearing for their lives, told lies that their wives were their sisters.

While many excuses have been offered for land and property grabs or for the lustfulness that has led to taking people's spouses, one word truly describes the meanness of the actions, namely "covetousness." As is said, "Covetousness is marked by an inordinate - or excessive desire for wealth or property, or for possessions that belong to others." The last of the Ten Commandments, as sighted in Exodus 20:17, "You shall not covet your neighbor's house; you shall not covet your neighbor's wife, nor his male servant, nor his female servant, nor his ox, nor his donkey, nor anything that is your neighbor's" (NKJV), warns in very broad terms of the sin of covetousness.

In other places in Scripture, it is clear that it is not as obvious as other sins. It begins in the mind and the heart and then comes to the fore in various actions that can be shrewd or visibly vicious. While other depravities are rebuked, covetousness is left to fester until it blossoms into the worst form of idolatry in the soul.

Within our contemporary cultural contexts, efforts are being made to sanitize covetousness and make it acceptable. Our marketers and advertisers know  
(Continued on page 14)

## ARCHDIOCESE OF NEWARK TO CELEBRATE 500 YEARS OF CHRISTIANITY IN THE PHILIPPINES

*Cardinal Tobin to Preside Over Anniversary Mass Following Cultural Procession*

**NEWARK** - The Archdiocese of Newark's year-long celebration of the 500th anniversary of Christianity in the Philippines will conclude with a cultural procession and joyous Mass at Newark's Cathedral Basilica of the Sacred Heart on Sunday, May 1, at 2 p.m. Traditional Filipino attire is welcomed.

The festivities will begin with a massive procession meant to embody the pageantry that is a hallmark of Filipino Catholic worship. This procession will include parishioners from each of the Archdiocese's four counties - Bergen, Essex, Hudson,

and Union - who will walk in carrying items representing some of the Philippines' many Catholic traditions like Simbang Gabi and the Sinulog-Santo Niño Festival. Additionally, 500 children will offer flowers to the Blessed Virgin Mary in honor of the Flores de Mayo devotion held each May.

Following the procession, Cardinal Joseph W. Tobin, C.Ss.R., archbishop of Newark, will preside over a liturgy commemorating the first Mass celebrated in the Philippines on March 31, 1521. This liturgy will feature performances from the 130-member Filipino Apostolate choir, which will sing significant songs from Filipino Catholic history. Bags contain-

ing Filipino food will be distributed afterward.

"It is very important to celebrate the 500th anniversary because our faith is a central part of our lives," said Father JM Manolo A. Punzalan, director of the archdiocesan Filipino Apostolate, in reference to the fact that the most recent Pew Research Center statistics showed 81 percent of Filipinos identify as Catholic. "You can go to a church anywhere in the world and find Filipinos there. We're very active in the Church because we were gifted with our faith, and now we want to share it with everyone. We were a mission area, and now we're the missionaries. That's a reason to celebrate."

The Archdiocese's year-long celebration launched on the actual 500th anniversary of the Gospel's arrival in the Philippines - March 31, 2021 - with a commemorative Mass at St. Joseph Church in Lodi, followed by a Jubilee Mass at St. Aloysius Church in Jersey City that April. Hundreds of Filipino Catholics then followed a replica of the Jubilee Cross, which Ferdinand Magellan erected at the Philippines' first Mass, as it traveled to parishes throughout the Archdiocese every month for the past year. Along the way, those who participated in the pilgrimage experienced a different Filipino faith tradition at each host church.

(Continued on page 14)

# LOCAL TALK WEEKLY PRINTING

## 2022 SPRING SPECIAL

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DYNAMIC DESIGN - AFFORDABLE RATES**

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**\*FIRST COME FIRST SERVE BASIS**

Expires APRIL 30, 2022

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The Observation Booth



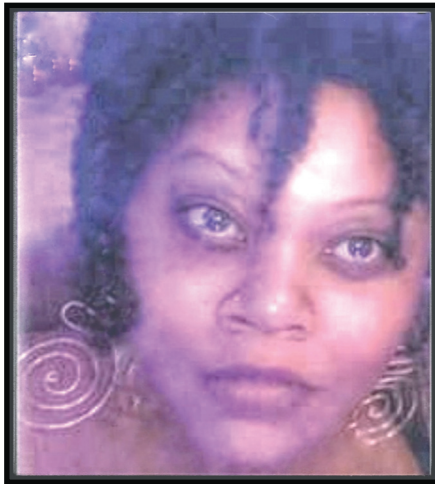
OP-ED By Andrea Dialect

EXPERTISE APPETIZER

BLACK \*DOPE\* CHIC...

As a Mocha woman, I identify with my being a Mocha sista as others tend to identify with being black. When it comes down to it like they say in those streets "You know what I'm saying?" This week's Page Jacker is one of those Dope Mocha Chics / Black Dope Chic's that I happen to be well acquainted with. Never in a million years did I think that her mama, my ol' classmate, and friend from high school. That dope mocha chic's, dope black chic Zenobia like my schoolmates her mama and her uncle Terri with those beautiful brown eyes, certainly has an eye. Zenobia has been supporting Ms. A as she calls me throughout the years. As donating her creations

and lending her image to change in support of L.I.T.s Models L.I.T Projects and other endeavors. Today it is my pleasure to be in support of hers!



LEATHER CANDY

Zenobia's wearable art and statement pieces (leathercandy.bigcartel.com)

SHE'S SO FLY

"I don't keep track of the earrings or the items that I have created. So it's hard to say how many pairs of earrings I have made. But it has to be in the thousands; when tallying up those that I made in the past, the online sales and the wholesale orders; those are usually around 200 pairs at a time. It is well into the thousands. Making 200 pairs of earrings takes me a day or two it's not that hard because I'm used to doing it. As far as the craft goes, I customize earrings also. To date, I have customized hundreds of earrings. If you come to me with a design, I will create it for you one, two, three.

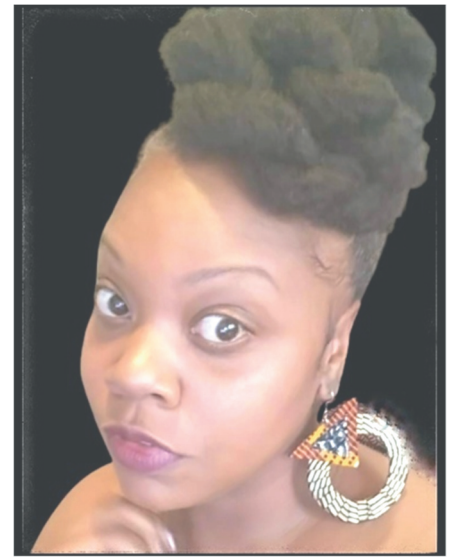
"I often get the materials that I use offline. But I do try to support my local shops; I support those in our area as much as possible. But predominantly I buy offline. I have a day job and there is no certain time that I craft. I do it when I get off work, sometimes during my break. I bring my materials with me. I do it at work at my 9 to 5. Usually, it's done during whatever free time that I have. I used to hand-craft them by myself for years. So, I do want to shout out my significant other, my sweet baby helps so it's somewhat easier for me now to navigate. I have thought about mass production considering Leather Candy's growth margins. I haven't started looking into it yet. I didn't figure it out, but I will.

BLACK GIRL MAGIC

"Being a black woman is hard and it's magical. Being a black woman in business means a lot to me because I'm able to take what I make and adorn other black women with it. It allows us to express ourselves; it allows us to have fun.

"As far as my headspace is concerned, as creating I sometimes listen to music, and I watch tv. I do a plethora of things while I'm creating. You feel a sense of pride while you're creating because you're giving something to us made by us and that's your contribution to the black woman.

"It is not as exciting, and as amazing as you say Ms A. That



sounds good on paper but that's not always how I feel. Sometimes I'm tired; I want to get it over with. But in all honesty yes, I am doing it for my sisters. Most of the earrings that I make with the sayings on it is about black pride. It's about loving the fact that your woman, a beautiful black woman; a dope black chic. So yes, I'm making it for my people. My slogan for the business is actually, "For the culture;" handmade hand-crafted earrings for our culture..

Remember, due to space this article can be read in its entirety on our website: [www.localtalkweekly.com](http://www.localtalkweekly.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](mailto:localtalkandrea@gmail.com).

ARCHDIOCESE (Continued from page 12)

And now that the once-dormant Filipino Apostolate has been revived under Father Punzalan's leadership, there will be many more opportunities to unite the Filipino Catholic community. Up next, the Apostolate will raffle off a trip to the Holy Land and several other prizes to people who participated in the Jubilee Cross pilgrimage. A picnic at Liberty State Park, guest speaker

presentations, and other faith-based events are also planned.

"Filipinos have our own brand of Catholicism," Father Punzalan said. "We have a lot of religious traditions and popular piety that are not in many American churches. So, we needed to bring back the Apostolate because we needed an organization that will make sure the Filipinos' faith and spirituality are being acknowledged. We're not making a separate Church from the Archdiocese;

we're actually looking to enhance how Filipinos live their parish life by encouraging them to become more active."

There are an estimated 67,740 Filipinos living within the Archdiocese of Newark, according to 2017 U.S. Census Bureau data. The Filipino Apostolate aims to connect those who are Catholic through spiritual programs, fun gatherings, and social justice initiatives. To learn more about the Apostolate, visit its Facebook page.

PASTOR'S HEART (Continued from page 12)

how to use it in their trades, but however it is done, it is a curse most destructive to the soul.

In effect, if there is one corruption that we need to get rid of from our souls, it is that of covetousness. Therefore, we need to constantly remind ourselves that covetousness is at the root of all sins, and therefore we need

to do all we can to get rid of it. But, of course, despite our greatest efforts, we cannot get rid of covetousness by ourselves, so we need to seek the help of God to jettison it from our lives.

The instruction in 2 Timothy 2:22 is pertinent here, "Flee also youthful lusts (another word for covetousness); but pursue righteousness, faith, love, peace with those who call on the Lord out of a pure heart." Of

course, lust or covetousness is not just a problem for youth but is evident in the character of all who have not given themselves wholly and truly to God. It comes from a heart of self-centeredness; and we need to ask God to help us get rid of it, because it is the most destructive of all curses that can be in any heart. Only a heart transformed by grace can live above the lustfulness of life.

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

the pool's repairing, repurposing or replacing.

**BLOOMFIELD** - Investigators here and in Newark are figuring out the 10-day trail of a man, last seen here on Lakewood Terrace 7:55 p.m. April 9, whose body was found at a North Newark street corner on April 19.

Newark police officers, responding to an odor at Broadway and Nursery Street, found a man's body inside a parked Jeep that Monday. The body was later identified as that of Melvin Cortes, 55, of Bloomfield.

Relatives and friends listed ores as missing on April 11. BPD officers had posted his description online and in print. Newark officers had inquired with Broadway and Nursery business owners of Cortes before the odor complaint was made.

Cortes' funeral arrangements have not been posted as of April 25. "Local Talk" extends condolences to cousin Jayson Cortes, girlfriend Michelle Ann and the rest of Melvin's family and friends.

**Ampere Murder Victim ID'd**

Stephens and Bloomfield Public Safety Director Samuel De Maio have identified the man fatally shot along First Street April 10 as Christian Lisaldes Perez, 23, of Newark. The two men who were shot with him were taken to the Morristown Medical Center for treatment.

Perez's private cremation followed an April 17 visitation at Flyn and Son's Fords funeral home. Perez, who was born June 30, 1998, was survived by mother Lissette Perez, father Dario Rodriguez, grandfather Eulogio Rodriguez, daughter Avery Elizabeth, brother Carlos Fontanez and sister Tiffany Vincenti, among others.

**MONTCLAIR** - NJTransit Montclair-Boonton Line service was suspended for two hours, affecting four train runs, due to a "pedestrian strike" and "police activity" just north of Mountain Avenue Station on April 21.

"Local Talk," based on MBL train numbers and schedule, has deduced that the pedestrian strike happened around Laurel Place between Train No. 6234 and a deer just before 12:53 p.m. that Thursday. 6234, which had left Montclair State University Station at 12:47, was scheduled to make all local stops until its intended 1:42 p.m. arrival at New York Penn Station.

Upper Montclair neighbors said that they saw several MPD and NJTPD cars converge on Laurel Place and Upper Mountain Avenue by 1 p.m. Although no one on board 6234 was physically

harmed, all MBL service between MSU and Montclair's Bay Street was suspended until 2:17 p.m.

6234 was 95 minutes late when it was released to continue its run. No. 6238, the 1:47 p.m. MSU departure to NYPS, started 50 minutes late.

Two westbound NYPS-MSU locals also ran late No. 6241, which was to depart at 12:29 p.m., and 6245, which was to leave at 1:29 p.m., both left 75 minutes late.

**BELLEVILLE** - The New York City man accused of murdering his girlfriend here on March 12 may have been extradited to Newark's Essex County Correctional Center by when you read this.

Stephens and Belleville Police Chief Mark Minicini announced on April 22 that Johnny Rivera, 52, was arrested that morning in his Bronx Longwood section apartment in the murder of Candy Torres, 50.

One of Torres' family members went to her apartment here at Hero Way March 12 after she had not responded to other relatives and friends' calls. Torres, said the relative to Belleville police officers, was found unresponsive.

Torres was declared dead in her SoHo townhouse at 10:16 p.m. A Regional Medical Examiner autopsy had determined that she had died from blunt force trauma.

Torres' funeral arrangements were not posted. Stephens and Minichini said that their investigation is continuing.

Neither Stephens nor Minichini said how they had linked Rivera to Torres' murder.

**NUTLEY** - Township law enforcers are advising those who take part in Tik Tok's "Orbeez Challenge" that "throwing or shooting anything at a person is a chargeable offense."

Township Commissioner/Police Director Alphonse Petracco and Police Chief Strumolo, responding to an April 3 incident, are asking parents to explain the dangers of shooting gel pellets from "Gel Blaster Surge" guns.

They said the battery-operated guns shoot the water gel pellets up to 100 feet at a velocity of 90 feet per second. Its victims have received bruises, welts and broken skin. Eye injuries are possible.

The Orbeez Challenge involves shooting unsuspecting pedestrians or motorists with these pellets.

NPD officers had responded to motorists' complaints of youths shooting at their cars with the said guns along Ackerman Street on April 3. The matter is now being handled by the police's Juvenile Aid Bureau.

**WORLD NEWS** (Continued from page 6)

vehicles on private land, meaning even people with a ride-on lawnmower at home would have potentially required motor insurance. However, other insurance options are already available to people who need cover on their private land, such as farmers.

Not implementing the law will prevent an almost £2 billion hike for the country's insurance industry, which would have translated into a potential increase in individual insurance premiums of around £50 per motorist per year.

Transport Secretary Grant Shapps said: "Sacking this nonsensical EU rule will protect the pockets of hard-working British people as we continue to help ease cost of living pressures.

"This is another Brexit win and I'm delighted this bill has rightfully passed through Parliament, saving billions of pounds of additional insurance costs and protecting our world-leading motorsports sector."

The bill was introduced to Parliament by Peter Bone MP, who said: "I am delighted that Brexit has allowed me to promote a bill that could save the average motorist £50 per year."

Vnuk would have also covered motorsports collisions, potentially involving vehicles from go-karting to Formula One, which would have been treated as regular road traffic incidents requiring insurance.

This could have decimated the motorsports industry due to additional insurance costs of roughly £458 million every single year. Scrapping Vnuk will therefore save the world-leading sector from potential collapse and secure hundreds of thousands of jobs in the process.

In addition to the likely financial burden on British road users, the Vnuk rules are considered unnecessary as there are already insurance packages available to Brits that cover certain risks on private land.

Motor insurance will still be required for any vehicles being driven on roads or other public places. However, the removal of Vnuk means insurance for vehicles used on private land is not needed.



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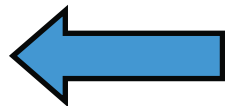
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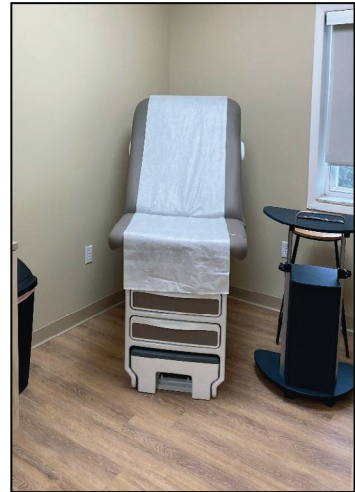
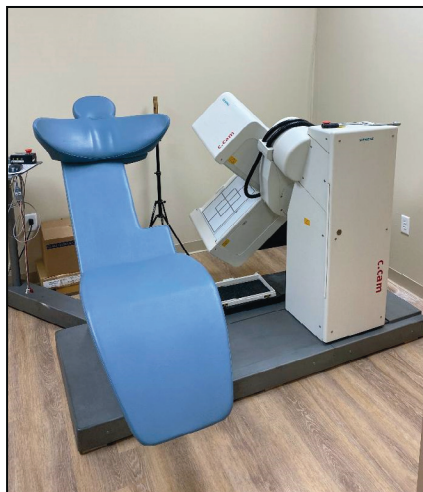
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