VOLUME 22 ● ISSUE 38 \* JULY 28, 2022 - AUGUST 3, 2022 "LET'S TALK FOR THE BETTERMENT OF OUR COMMUNITIES"

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# NEW GRACE ACADEMY OF MEDICAL PROFESSIONALS CELEBRATES HISTORIC GRADUATION CEREMONY



#### By Dhiren Shah

On July 22, New Grace Academy of Medical Professionals celebrated its first Graduation Ceremony at Bella Italia Restaurant in Orange, New Jersey. It's started with a prayer by New Grace Founder Veronica Falae's husband Ariya Falae, an elder at Holy Ghost Christian Church, Union, NJ.

The Mistress of Ceremonies Anita Wangboje started the festivities by expressing the value in being educated in the world.

New Grace Academy founder Ms. Falae congratulated all the graduates. She gave a very inspirational speech on the importance of education. She said that hurdles will come, but the graduates must overcome them by solving the problems rather than stressing about them.

In sharing her own experience, Falae said, "When I came here to the USA in 1986 with my husband, I had to start all over. I served as a home health aide. I cannot tell you how frustrating it is...I am here to learn, so I had to humble myself.

I had my son a month after I got here on October 10 and in January, I decided that I am going to school...even if just 3 credits. let me start... The way it is in Nigeria, it is not here. It's a completely different system. So, I took the programs of Home Health Aide and CNA, even though I was a Practicing Nurse in Nigeria, which helped me to learn and adapt to the new system...I was wife, mother, a student, and an employee ...

"I was a wife, mother and a student. After a year, I moved to New Jersey from New

(Continued on page 8)



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Turn To PAGE 16





#### Hello Readers,

Nancy Pelosi has planned a visit to Taiwan despite China's objection. China is claiming Taiwan as part of China, but the Taiwanese do not believe that and according to Taiwan's prime minister Tsai Ing-wen. Taiwan is a democratic country and they have accepted same sex marriage as well, which is nowhere in the dictionary of China. However, while Pelosi is not a member of the Biden administration, she is known as a policy maker and Biden always follow her advice. Pelosi is probably there to make some kind of deal with Taiwan.

The USA is the biggest and most important clients of the largest manufacturer of semiconductor auto chips outside of China. President Trump disconnected the old base, by curtailing technology transfers to China and imports from there after Covid problems. US auto manufacturers had to shut down their lines of production due to the shortage of auto chips. Automakers went to Taiwan for the chip manufacturing. Taiwan was the chief provider of what the US automakers needed. Taiwan was unable to fulfill the heavy demand, but at least did continue providing chips to automakers after raising the prices of automobiles.

Per AP: "MASKWACIS, Alberta (AP) - Pope Francis issued a historic apology Monday for the Catholic Church's cooperation with Canada's 'catastrophic' policy of Indigenous residential schools, saying the forced assimilation of Native peoples into Christian society destroyed their cultures, severed families and marginalized generations. 'I am deeply sorry,' Francis said to applause from school survivors and Indigenous community members gathered at a former residential school south of Edmonton, Alberta.

"He called the school policy a 'disastrous error' that was incompatible with the Gospel and said further investigation and healing is needed... "I humbly beg for-

giveness for the evil committed by so many Christians against the Indigenous peoples,' Francis said... More than 150,000 native children in Canada were forced attend government-funded Christian schools from the 19th century until the 1970s in an effort to isolate them from the influence of their homes and culture. The aim was to Christianize and assimilate them into mainstream society, which previous Canadian governments considered superior.'

There are 7,900 hospitals and IDNs in the United States. It's a competitive medical field where every hospital wants to stay on the top, or at least of the top 20. Per US News 2022-2023, the top 20 hospitals are; 1. Mayo Clinic (Rochester, Minn.), 2. Cedars-Sinai Medical Center (Los Angeles), 3. NYU Langone Hospitals (New York City), 4. Cleveland Clinic, 5. Johns Hopkins Hospital (Baltimore) (tie), 5. UCLA Medical Center (Los Angeles) (tie), 7. New York-Presbyterian Hospital (New York City), 8. Massachusetts General Hospital (Boston), 9. Northwestern Memorial Hospital (Chicago), 10. Stanford (Calif.) Hospital, 11. Barnes-Jewish Hospital (St. Louis), 12.

UCSF Medical Center (San Francisco), 13. Hospitals of the University of Pennsylvania-Penn Presbyterian (Philadelphia), 14. Brigham and Women's Hospital (Boston), 15. Houston Methodist Hospital, 16. Mount Sinai Hospital (New York City), 17. Michigan Medicine (Ann Arbor), 18. Mayo Clinic (Phoenix), 19. Vanderbilt University Medical Center (Nashville, Tenn.), 20. Rush Uni-Medical versity Center (Chicago).

Robert Wood Johnson Hospital has been names one of the top 5 hospitals in the state of New Jersey. (Morristown Medical Center, Hackensack Meridian Health Hackensack University Medical Center, Valley Hospital, Robert Wood Johnson University Hospital, Overlook Medical Center).

The Fed Reserve increased interest rates again, this time by 3/4%. While the Biden Administration hopes that this will help to curb inflation, the chance of a full-on recession is still rising. All this comes as President Biden just recently recovered from COVID-19.

Have a wonderful week. I'll talk to you next week.

### STAFF AND VOLUNTEERS FOR **LOCAL TALK** WEEKLY NEWSPAPER

Publisher & Editor-in-chief : Dhiren Shah

Editors : Kristopher Seals / Anuj Shah

Journalists / Writers : Kristopher Seals | Walter Elliott | Bro. Thomas Ellis | Dhiren Shah | William Hathaway Jr.

 $Dr.\ Daniel\ Louis\ |\ Ahmed\ Screven,\ Esq.\ |\ Anuj\ Shah\ |\ Lev\ Zilbermints\ |\ Kinjal\ Shah\ |\ Asha\ Shah\ |\ Lev\ Zilbermints\ |\ Kinjal\ Shah\ |\ Asha\ Shah\ Shah\ |\ Asha\ Shah\ Shah\ |\ Asha\ Shah\ Shah\ Shah\ Shah\ |\ Asha\ Shah\ Sh$ 

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Partly Cloudy
HI 93
LO 75

Photographers

FRIDAY
PM Rain likely
HI 88

LO 70

SATURDAY

Mostly Sunny

HI 90 LO 71 SUNDAY
Partly Cloudy
HI 89
LO 72

MONDAY
Partly Cloudy
HI 88
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### The Doctor Is In



OP-ED BY DR. ADIL MANZOOR

### What Is the Marburg Virus Recently Identified in Ghana and Should There Be Any Concern?

After 2020, there's panic in society when the news of a potentially deadly disease breaks. This panic is even more exaggerated if the disease has viral roots. Yes, such is the damage the coronavirus and, recently, the mon-

keypox virus has done to us over the last two years. Considering all of that, you're not going to like what you read today.

On July 1, two cases previously suspected as viral hemorrhagic fever (VHF) were confirmed as positive Marburg Virus Disease (MVD) cases. The two individuals in question - a 26-year-old man and a 51-year-old man - did not survive. In fact, they both died within a day of going to the hospital for treatment for the condition. This happened in the Ashanti region, the most populated region in Ghana.

There have been understandable concerns from a few people closely monitoring the news about the virus. But should we really be worried about the Marburg Virus? To answer that, we need first to examine exactly what the virus is.

The Marburg virus disease (MVD), formerly known as Marburg hemorrhagic fever, is a rare but severe hemorrhagic fever that affects humans and other primates. As you would imagine,



MVD is caused by the Marburg virus. It is a genetically unique animal-borne RNA virus of the filovirus family.

Does the name filovirus ring a bell? If that doesn't, the Ebola virus will certainly ring bells. Who could forget the carnage this virus wreaked in such a short period in 2014?

Well, all of the six other known members of the filovirus family have been Ebola virus species. That alone is enough to incite fear in many people, especially those who felt the effects of the Ebola virus disease (EVD) eight years ago.

Like the Ebola virus, the Marburg virus has fruit bats as its reservoir hosts. For context, those are primary hosts that harbor a pathogen and serve as a source of potential infection in humans. However, the reservoir hosts do not show symptoms of the disease the pathogen they harbor causes. The African fruit bat, *Rousettus aegyptiacus*, has been identified as the reservoir host of the Marburg virus.

Despite the seemingly close ties of the virus with Africa, the virus was first detected in Europe in 1967. To be specific, Marburg and Frankfurt in Germany and Belgrade in Serbia. This is, of course, where the naming originates. However, since the initial discovery, recorded outbreaks have occurred in African countries, including Uganda, Angola, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Kenya, South Africa, and just last year, Guinea.

While we don't fully under-

stand how the virus passes from animals to humans, the most likely routes of infection are contact with the feces and aerosols of these fruit bats. This also means people who frequent bat caves or eat bats, especially without proper cooking, are at a higher risk of getting the virus.

After initial human infection by animals, the virus spreads through direct contact with body fluids of infected or dead MVD patients. Infection is not airborne, which is a relief considering how dangerous the virus is.

The symptoms of the condition usually surface after 2 to 21 days of contracting the virus. They often present suddenly as high fever, severe headache and severe malaise. Muscle pains may accompany this. On the third day after the illness starts, the patient may experience watery diarrhea that lasts up to a week, abdominal pain and cramping, and nausea and vomiting.

After about a week of the illness' onset, the patient may experience hemorrhagic episodes, with bleeding from various orifices, feces, and vomitus. Patients that die of the virus often do so within eight to nine days of the onset of symptoms.

Now that we have that out of the way, I know the lingering question in your mind is if you should be concerned? Fortunately, health authorities have responded swiftly to the infections, preparing themselves for a possible outbreak. Soon after

(Continued on page 14)

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### TWO OFF DUTY NEWARK **POLICE OFFICERS INDICTED** IN DEATH OF PEDESTRIAN

**NEWARK** - Acting Essex County Prosecutor Theodore N. Stephens, II, announced on July 21 Newark Police Lieutenant Luis Santiago, and his son, Officer Louis Santiago, have both been indicted in connection with the death of Damian Z. Dymka, a nurse who was struck and killed by Officer Santiago.

On Nov. 1, 2021, Dymka, 29, of Garfield was coming home from a Halloween party. He had misplaced his cellphone and was walking on the shoulder of the Garden State Parkway in Bloomfield.

It is alleged that Officer Santiago, 25, of Bloomfield struck Dymka shortly before 3:00 a.m. as he walked on the shoulder of the Parkway, causing fatal injuries. Santiago, who was off duty at the time was driving his personal car. Albert Guzman, 26, of Newark is Officer Santiago's cousin. He was a passenger in the car and is also charged.

Instead of immediately calling 911 it is alleged that Santiago and his cousin, Guzman, left the scene, and went to the Santiago family residence where they met with Lt. Luis Santiago. The younger Santiago then returned to the scene and put Dymka's body in his car. While Officer Santiago drove away from the scene with the body of Dymka, Lt. Santiago went to the scene of the crash and after a significant delay, called 911. Santiago and Guzman then went to Santiago's parents' home with Dymka's body in Santiago's car.

Following the 911 call, Officer Santiago returned to the scene of the crash with Dymka's body in the car shortly before the State Police arrived.

On Friday, July 15, an Essex County grand jury returned a 16count indictment charging the younger Santiago with vehicular homicide, knowingly leaving the scene of a fatal car crash, unlawfully disturbing human remains, causing death while driving under the influence of alcohol, endangering an injured victim, tampering with evidence, hindering prosecution, and multiple

counts of conspiracy. Officer Santiago was also charged with two counts of Official Misconduct.

The indictment specifically alleges that Officer Santiago deleted phone data, tampered with the crime scene, failed to call emergency aid, and made false statements to law enforcement.

Both Officer Santiago and Guzman were charged with multiple counts of conspiracy to desecrate human remains, hinder prosecution, and tamper with evidence.

Guzman was charged with hindering the prosecution of another for the crime of leaving the scene of a motor vehicle crash resulting in death by concealing or destroying evidence.

Lt. Luis Santiago, the father, was indicted for hindering the prosecution of another for the crime of leaving the scene of a motor vehicle crash resulting in death by providing false information to police on the morning of the incident. Lt. Luis Santiago was also indicted for official misconduct by failing to properly summon emergency aid for a motor vehicle accident involving an injured person.

The mother, Annette Santiago, 53, was originally charged, but the grand jury declined to indict her. Consequently, all charges against her have been dismissed.

All three defendants have been processed and released in accordance with law. A date has not yet been set for their first court appearances on the charges in the indictment. The case is being handled by Assistant Prosecutor Adam B. Wells.

Acting Prosecutor Stephens lauded the New Jersey State Police for assisting in this investigation.

The charges in the indictment 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.



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### MONKEYPOX GETS SCARY DESIGNATION

#### **WORLD**

On July 23, World Health Organization (WHO) Director-General Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus declared the spread of the virus to be a public health emergency of international concern (PHEIC), the organization's highest level of alert.

WHO assessed the risk posed to public health by Monkeypox in the European region as high, but at the global level as moderate.

With "other regions not at the moment as severely affected," declaring a PHEIC was necessary "to ensure the outbreak was stopped as soon as possible."

This year, there have been more than 16,000 confirmed cases of monkeypox in more than 75 countries. Dr. Rosamund Lewis, WHO Technical Lead on Monkeypox, said the real number was probably higher.

She pointed out that in the Democratic Republic of the Congo, several thousand cases were suspected, but testing facilities are limited. "The global dashboard did not include suspected cases," she said.

Some 81 children under the age of 17 were reported as having been infected globally, she added, with the majority of cases being among young men, with the median age being 37.

First identified in monkeys, the virus is transmitted chiefly through close contact with an infected person.

Until this year, the virus which causes Monkeypox has rarely spread outside Africa where it is endemic. But reports of a handful of cases in Britain in early May signaled that the outbreak had moved into Europe.

Dr. Lewis pointed out that stigma and discrimination must be avoided, as that would harm the response to the disease. "At the moment the outbreak is still concentrated in groups of men who have sex with men in some countries, but that is not the case everywhere," she said. "It is really important to appreciate also that stigma and discrimination can be very damaging and as dangerous as any virus itself," she said.

Monkeypox could cause a range of signs and symptoms, including painful sores. Some people developed serious symptoms that need care in a health facility. Those at higher risk for severe disease or complications include pregnant women, children, and immunocompromised persons.

Dr. Lewis said WHO was working with Member States and the European Union on releasing vaccines, and with partners to determine a global coordination mechanism. She emphasized that mass vaccination was not required, but the WHO had recommended post-exposure vaccination.

Vaccine sharing should be done according to public health needs, country by country and location by location. Not all regions had the same epidemiology, she explained.

Dr. Lewis explained that some 16.4 million vaccines were currently available in bulk but needed to be finished. The countries currently producing vaccines are Denmark, Japan, and the United States.

She reminded that the current recommendation for persons with Monkeypox was to isolate and not travel until they recovered; contact cases should be checking their temperature and monitoring possible other symptoms for the period of 9 to 21 days.

"When someone is vaccinated it takes several weeks for the immune response to be generated by the body," she said.

### VOLCANO ERUPTS IN JAPAN

### <u>ASIA</u>

In the evening hours of July 24, Japan was rocked by not an earthquake, but another natural phenomenon.

Scores of citizens were evacuated after the Sakurajima volcano blew its top, billowing smoke and lava. Ejected rocks littered the landscape, and ash began falling on cars and other surfaces.

Japan's meteorological agency warned of the potential for falling more volcanic rocks, as well as possible flow of lava, ash, and searing gas within the immediate area. In addition to the rocks, mudslides, and pyroclastic flow. Residents have been advised to close curtains and stay away from windows.

On the island of Kyushu, Sakurajima has erupted a few times over the years, with this being the latest episode. The volcano is roughly 600 miles from Tokyo.

### ANOTHER COP SENTENCED IN FLOYD CASE

### **UNITED STATES**

Not long after Derek Chauvin was held accountable, one of his former coworkers has now felt the weight of his actions - or lack thereof.

The Justice Department has announced that former Minneapolis Police Officer Thomas Lane, 39, was sentenced to serve 30 months in prison and two years of supervised release for depriving George Floyd Jr., of his constitutional rights.

On Feb. 24, 2022, following a trial that lasted nearly five weeks, a federal jury in St. Paul, Minnesota, found Lane guilty of depriving Floyd of his constitutional right to be free from a police officer's deliberate indifference to serious medical needs when Lane saw Floyd restrained in police custody in clear need of medical care and willfully failed to aid him.

The jury found that Lane's failure to act resulted in bodily injury to and the death of Floyd. This offense is a violation of the federal criminal civil rights statute that prohibits willful violations of civil rights by a person, such as a police officer, acting in an official capacity.

The same jury also found former Minneapolis Police Department (MPD) Officers Tou Thao and J. Alexander Kueng guilty of depriving Floyd of his constitutional right to be free

from an officer's unreasonable force when Thao and Kueng each willfully failed to intervene to stop former MPD Officer Derek Chauvin's use of unreasonable force, resulting in bodily injury to and the death of Floyd.

Thao and Kueng were also found to have deprived Floyd of his constitutional right to be free from a police officer's deliberate indifference to Floyd's serious medical needs, resulting in bodily injury to and the death of Floyd. A sentencing hearing for Thao and Kueng has not yet been scheduled.

Former Officer Derek Chauvin previously pleaded guilty to depriving Floyd and a then-14-year-old child of their constitutional rights in violation of the same federal statute. On July 7, 2022, Chauvin was sentenced to 252 months in prison for those crimes.

"The tragic death of George Floyd makes clear the fatal consequences that can result from a police officer's failure to intervene to protect people in their custody," said Assistant Attorney General Kristen Clarke for the Justice Department's Civil Rights Division. "Had this defendant and other officers on the scene with Derek Chauvin taken simple steps, George Floyd would be alive today. This sentence should send a message that protecting people in custody is the affirmative duty and obligation of every law enforcement officer, regardless of one's rank or seniority."

This case was investigated by the FBI and the Minnesota Bureau of Criminal Apprehension. It was prosecuted by Special Litigation Counsel Samantha Trepel and Trial Attorney Tara Allison of the Justice Department's Civil Rights Division, and Assistant U.S. Attorneys Samantha Bates, LeeAnn Bell, Evan Gilead, Manda Sertich and Allen Slaughter for the District of Minnesota.

### UK SANCTIONS RUSSIAN OFFICIALS

### **EUROPE**

On July 26, the UK government sanctioned Vitaly Khotsenko and Vladislav Kuznetsov, the

(Continued on page 7)

### SPORTS WRAP



By William Hathaway, Jr.

The excitement is back in Newark with Brick City Native and current boxing champion Shakur Stevenson, who will be back at the Prudential Center on Sept. 23. Stevenson is currently 18-0 and has 9 knockouts. Also fighting on the card is current silver medalist Keyshawn Davis, a Brooklyn-born featherweight who is 5-0. Prospect Bruce Shu Carrington who is 4-0 in the junfeatherweight. Prospect Floyd Diaz, who has a 6-0 record, and Long Island born Jahi Tucker will be the undercard

fighters before Stevenson fights Brazilian contender Robson Conceicao.

Special guests who attended the opening press conference at the Prudential Center were current Seton Hall men's basketball coach Shaheen Holloway and New Jersey Devils player Dougie Hamilton, along with the New Jersey Devils youth foundation. Wali Moses, Stevenson's grandfather who started him boxing at the age of five years old, was also in attendance, along with local area boxing coach Nasir Graham.

### **WORLD NEWS FLASH**

(Continued from page 6)

Russian-imposed Prime Minister and First Deputy Chairman of the so-called 'Donetsk and Luhansk People's Republics', for undermining Ukrainian territorial integrity.

Khotsenko and Kuznetsov have been sent to implement Russia's policies across the invaded region, supporting Putin's plans to illegally annex more of Ukraine and use sham referendums to falsely legitimize their occupation.

Twenty nine regional governors from across Russia have also been sanctioned today. The governors have been directed by the Kremlin to transfer funds to the so-called 'Donetsk and Luhansk People's Republics', facilitating the Russian occupation in attempting to wrest territory from Ukraine.

The Russian Minister of Justice Konstantin Chuychenko and Deputy Minister of Justice Oleg Sviridenko are also being sanctioned today. The pair are suppressing their own people by targeting those speaking out against the war. They are expanding their power to repress Russian citizens' freedom of speech by signing a new law that expands the criteria for "foreign agents" to include anyone who the authorities declare to be "under foreign influence." Those found guilty will be branded as criminals and will be barred from receiving state financing, teaching at state universities,

working with minors, or providing expertise on environmental issues.

Also sanctioned are Sarvar and Sanjar Ismailov, nephews of major Russian oligarch Alisher Usmanov who has close ties to the Kremlin. Both Sarvar and Sanjar have significant interests in the UK, it is believed that they own homes in Highgate and Hampstead Heath.

Foreign Secretary Liz Truss said, "We will not keep quiet and watch Kremlin-appointed state actors suppress the people of Ukraine or the freedoms of their own people. We will continue to impose harsh sanctions on those who are trying to legitimize Putin's illegal invasion until Ukraine prevails."

In coordination with the EU, the UK is also targeting 2 groups of Syrian individuals. One group is responsible for recruiting Syrians to fight in Russia's war in Ukraine, while the other is supporting the repressive Syrian regime - perpetuating and benefitting from Putin's agenda of international turmoil.

These sanctions build on the UK's hard-hitting sanctions package on Russia which includes designations on more than 1,100 individuals and more than 100 entities. Additional powers have also recently come into force, including the prohibition of new UK investment into Russia, the banning of Russian gold from the UK's world-leading bullion market, and further expanding of the criteria for who can be sanctioned.

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### **ESSEX COUNTY WEEKLY COVID-19 CASE TALLY**

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Belleville	11,944	150	12,149	150
Bloomfield	13,358	161	13,522	162
Caldwell	1,853	17	1,875	17
Cedar Grove	4,304	136	4,337	136
City of Orange	8,867	173	8,939	173
East Orange	18,462	380	18,626	382
Essex Fells	563	2	569	2
Fairfield	2,235	37	2,260	37
Glen Ridge	1,411	18	1,422	18
Irvington	12,619	280	12,749	280
Livingston	7,368	107	7,434	107
Maplewood	5,904	48	5,955	48
Millburn	4,172	18	4,217	18
Montclair	7,802	86	7,901	87
Newark	84,825	1,253	85,644	1,256
North Caldwell	1,616	10	1,639	10
Nutley	7,273	84	7,329	84
Roseland	1,573	23	1,589	23
South Orange	3,941	22	3,977	22
Verona	3,727	23	3,763	23
West Caldwell	3,096	63	3,105	63
West Orange	14,665	266	14,814	266
Total	221,578	3,357	223,815	3,364

OTHER COVID-19 TALLIES (As of July 27, 2022)
NJ: 2,202,564 cases / 31,159 deaths (Plus 3,094 probable)
United States (approx.): 90.86 Million / 1.028 Million deaths
Worldwide (approx.): 573.272 Million / 6.392 Million deaths

### **NEW GRACE ACADEMY HISTORIC**

#### **GRADUATION CEREMONY**

(Continued from page 1)

York. I decided that I was going to change my school, and with the credits they gave me, I was going to lose some. One good thing about that is I had all my children when I was in the school, the last one right before graduation. 'Every time I see you Ms. Falae, you are pregnant.' I replied, don't worry I am going to finish school...

"Whichever country you are from, when you come here, you start over. I always encourage each and every one of my students to not say I cannot start again. Do not stay where you are. You are here today, and no matter where you started from, move up.

"Health care and the medical field are open to great opportunities. If you don't start, you are going to be in the same spot. I have some students that they say that when they fail, they can't take it. What matters is what bring food to the table. I always encourage each and every one of them. Some of you can be pediatric nurses. I met someone that loves home care. Whatever you love, don't stay on the bottom.

"New Grace Academy of Medical Professionals was established in 2017. Life is full of challenges; you need to go over your challenges. I don't call it a problem; I call it a challenge. Use it as a ladder for your next level.

"When I retire, I want to see some of you as registered nurses, as medical doctors, as nurse practitioners. Remember, New Grace Academy stands for knowledge, integrity and professionalism. Wherever you go, you stand tall and represent the school and yourself. Thank you."

It was an inspiring speech not only for the graduates, but for all of the guests present. Right after the graduation ceremony, there was a 61st birthday celebration for Ms. Falae. Everyone was having a good time, and as always, enjoyed the delicious food from Bella Italia.



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Mr. Ariya Falae and family members.

Photos By Dhiren Shah



















## 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.

### DJ TIM DOLLA / TIMOTHY FOSTER, 39

NEWARK - Last rites for Timothy Foster, perhaps better known as DJ Tim Dolla, were both traditional and musical. Foster's July 25 10 a.m. visitation and Noon funeral here at the St. Paul Life Center plus burial at Evergreen Cemetery was followed by Brick Bandits-hosted celebration 5 p.m. - Midnight July 27 at Roselle's Mister East club.

Foster, 39, said his family, had died here July 14. The May 24, 1983, North Plainfield native had moved to Newark to attend Arts High School and Essex County College. He latched onto the Jersey Club beat scene in the 2000s, becoming an innovative DJ and producer.

The Brick Bandits cofounder helped Jersey Club - hip -hop and R&B songs remixed to an energetic fast beat - gain a world following. As Mista Foster, he released remixes of Beyonce's "Break My Soul" and Nigerian singer Tems' "Higher" in June.

**IRVINGTON** - The ECPO Homicide and Major Crimes Task Force is continuing its investigation of Rasheed Mells' July 16 death while the township resident's relatives and friends have held his last rites on July 27 -28

The remains of Mells, 24, are to be laid to rest in Evergreen Cemetery after 11 a.m. July 29's funeral service in Newark's Perry Funeral Home. His visitation is to be held at Perry 6 p.m. July

28

The prosecutor's office had identified Mells, who was born June 30, 1998, as the man before a South 20th Street, Newark house sidewalk 6:07 p.m. July 16. The scene, along the 750 block of South 20th, is about a block east of the Irvington border.

Mells, who had a gunshot wound, was declared dead at the scene at 6:15 p.m.

Mells death by gunfire was the first of three responded to by Newark police and ECPO July 16-17. A South 10th Street grocery store owner - now identified as Rubel Rahdams Ramos - and a third man found shot dead in a parked car at Central Avenue and South 10th Street were also reported among seven shooting reports on city streets in those 25 hours.

Authorities have arrested a suspect in Ramos' death (See **BELLEVILLE** entry.) Mells and the third fatal shooting victim's investigations are continuing.

**EAST ORANGE** - The tenants of "The Castle," an apartment building here at 75 Prospect St., have been rejoicing since July 19 over having one of their two elevators repaired.

A spokeswoman for Castle owner-operator Platinum Management said parts for the elevator had arrived on July 18 and were installed. That elevator was out of service for five weeks. Platinum, of Lakewood, said that supply chain delays had prevented the repairs.

Tenants told the East Orange city government and a local news station that they had two options to get their apartments while that elevator was out. The first was to climb up to 20 flights of stairs in the 10 story building. The other was to use the other, active elevator to the roof and walk across the roof to take the stairs down.

July 18 was also when the city's elevator sub-code official began fining Platinum \$2,000 daily until the broken elevator was fixed.

Platinum has been running

the Brick Church neighborhood's landmark since buying it from One Wall Management and CBRE Industrial Properties in May. The Castle, which opened in 1928, holds 44 mostly three-and four-bedroom apartments with an average 1,860-square-foot unit.

Tenants, however, are wondering if their troubles are not over. The Platinum spokeswoman told the television reporter July 18 that it is considering subdividing the apartments to 90 units. The representative added that "half of the tenants are delinquent on their rent."

**ORANGE** - City elders have been mulling the idea of creating an Orange Parking Authority since the City Council introduced an ordinance that would create the new entity July 6.

The prospective OPA, as outlined in Ordinance 42-2022, will make the new entity responsible for building, maintaining, operating and enforcing metered parking rules both on-street and among the city's seven metered municipal plazas.

"OPA," continues R42-2022, would be governed by seven commissioners on one-to-five-year terms. Five commissioners would be appointed by the council and two by the mayor.

Parking meter enforcers, with Orange Police Department consent, would report to OPA. Permit fees, meter payments and fines would provide revenue to maintain and improve lot and meter infrastructure.

The seven-page 42-2022 cites greater parking enforcement for public safety as its goal. It appears, however, to be bare bones in function and outline. East Ward Councilman Kerry J. Coley said that the measure had been on the minds of Mayor Dwayne D. Warren's administrators - who have not yet made a presentation to the council.

It is not known, for example, whether anyone in Orange City Hall had compared East Orange, South Orange, Newark and Bloomfield's parking authorities. It is also not known whether an authority, which may have the

power to issue its own construction bonds - or a self-liquidating parking utility, which Montclair has - have been compared.

R 42-2022 is scheduled for a public hearing and a second, final vote Aug. 3.

WEST ORANGE - Township police officers are looking for at least three people who fled after shooting an auto parts employee here July 25.

WOPD officers immediately arrived at the AutoZone store after receiving a shots fired call there at 1:30 p.m. Monday. They found one employee with a non-life-threatening gunshot wound plus several other employees and customers who became witnesses.

The witnesses said that late lunch-hour shopping there turned into "a verbal altercation" among "several customers and employees." That dispute turned into a fight that ended when someone opened fire at an employee.

Township police are looking for the shooter and at least two other suspects who fled the store before their arrival - based on witnesses' descriptions.

The AutoZone at 7 Main St. and its parking lot abuts the Orange-West Orange border. The building and parking lot covers the site of the Erie Railroad's Orange Branch railroad station, a parsonage and a taxi dispatch office into the 1980s.

The suspects' descriptions have not been posted as of press time.

**SOUTH ORANGE** - The village's water utility has been asking its customers since July 22 to voluntarily limit discretionary water use.

"Our water system is currently operating at normal capacity but we're seeing Capacity good but we're seeing a steep increase in demand," stated the South Orange Water Utility in its southorange.org posting Friday. "Drought conditions are causing low water levels. To avoid mandatory rationing, please limit

(Continued on page 12)

### 1 DEAD, 5 INJURED, **18 FAMILIES DISPLACED** IN EAST ORANGE FIRE

By Walter Elliott

EAST ORANGE - It took minutes for a fire here at 161 Prospect St. early July 22 to alter the living arrangements of up to 80 residents, injure five firefighters from among six responding departments and delay the commutes of hundreds of bus riders.

Investigators from the Essex County Prosecutor's Office Fire, Homicide and Major Crime Task Forces began a continuing investigation of the fire's cause once the eight-hour, three-alarm blaze's last hotspots had been quenched.

A second investigation by the city's fire and building inspectors is also underway on whether The Villa - a fourstory, 44 unit built in 1917 - can be salvaged or needs to be demolished.

For the family of the late Cherry A. Davis, however, their lives have been forever altered.

Acting Essex County Prosecutor Theodore "Ted" Stephens II and East Orange Chief of Police Phyllis Bindi announced on July 26 that Davis, 69, had died in the fire.

Davis' funeral arrangements have not been announced as of press time. A GoFundMe.com page was established July 26 for her and the family's expens-

Residents who talked with reporters said that they were awakened to the smell of smoke, popping sounds and flames from the back of the building at 12:30 a.m. Friday.

Those who tried to use the rear fire escape found it engulfed in flames. They either ran down the stairwell; a few chanced on riding the elevator down.

"Around 12:30 my mother was yelling and asking if anyone was cooking in the kitchen," said daughter Natasha Davis. "I said 'No,' proceeded out of my room and saw smoke."

Davis said he rolled her wheelchair mother in a room for safety, took her son and they ran downstairs from their third floor apartment outside.

The Davises and other residents were immediately met by arriving East Orange Fire Department members. The firefighters would be joined at the sceSENIOR APARTMENT 55+ COMMUNITY

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ne by colleagues from Montclair, Nutley, Bloomfield, Newark and a South Orange fire engine from the newly-formed South Essex Fire Department.

"I told them my mother's on the third floor," said N. Davis, "and please get here the first chance you can."

Firefighters were in for a long pre-dawn battle. Intense flames from the fourth and third floors partially collapsed the roof and reignited itself as it spread.

Television news viewers in the metropolitan New York City area turned on their sets to see fire hoses from Montclair and Nutley ladder trucks dousing the fire from above the fourth floor. A third ladder truck, from EOFD, was attacking the blaze from the north side.

Then there was what would be a five-daylong heat wave. Heat exhaustion, among minor injuries, sent five firefighters to two local hospitals for same-day treatment.

Firefighters, before dawn, gained entry to the building and found C. Davis unconscious. She was rushed to Newark's University Hospital.

"Our fire chief (acting chief Bruce Davis, Jr.) saw what was going on to our firefighters," said Mayor Theodore "Ted" Green, "and made sure they had relief."

Davis, Green and OEM Coordinator David Williams had the East Orange School District open the Edward T. Bowser Elementary School as a temporary shelter. Members of the local American Red Cross chapter began processing the displaced for housing and related needs.

"David Williams, our OEM coordinator, (Continued on page 13)



From The Pastor's Heart

OP-ED BY DR. ROBERT KENNEDY

### Stopping The Lie

Let me crave your indulgence by asking that you take a moment to reflect on the expansion of my thoughts on "stopping the lie," which I introduced at the end of a former reflection. One reason is that I am alarmed at how many millions have been captivated in the public square by "The Big Lie."

This ongoing argument that the 2020 election was stolen is still percolating through the culture and building up distrust in the government that is threatening the collapse of the American Democracy. This discussion is not one of political persuasion, but it is of interest that nearly one-third of US citizens do not believe that Mr. Biden is the legitimate president.

40% of Americans, 70% of Republicans, 82% of Fox News viewers, 97% of OANN and Newsmax viewers, still believe the election was stolen. Most disturbing is that among the percentages named are members of the Evangelical Christian churches.

I have read of cases in several news sources where pastors have tried to debunk the theories of "The Big Lie." They have been trying to draw their members' attention to the Scripture

that says, "And for this, cause God shall send them strong delusion, that they should believe a lie: That they all might be damned who believed not the truth." (1 Thessalonians 2:11, 12 KJV)

But many pastors have been forced out of their ministry practice because of their effort to correct "The Big Lie." In addition, some congregations have split over the lie.

I was also drawn back to reflecting on the need to stop the lie because of a short line I read in one of my devotionals this week. It states, "Sin is corrupting in its nature. One man infected with its deadly leprosy may communicate the taint to thousands..." (SD 214). Another that struck me reads, "Can we then expect the youth to develop Christian characters while their education is molded by the teaching of those who set at defiance the principles of the law of God?" - (MHH 256.8). These thoughts push me to think of the legacy of the lie being passed from one generation to the other.

There are many scriptural warnings that many liars (deceivers) will enter the world as time passes. Some are called "false Christs" and "false prophets." Others "mountebanks" (not a scriptural word, but it is very descriptive of those going into the world and telling all kinds of lies to get money into their coffers). I need not say much about the "prosperity preachers" exploiting the poor and humiliating the gospel of Christ or the political leaders collecting the millions into their coffers; let me leave them to the public critics, who might help some to change their ways.

All I need to say is that they are truly hurtful to the culture. I need not say there is a special place at the judgment seat of Christ for anyone taking time to "twist" truths into lies and findings ways to profit from their deceptions.

But having said the above, let me turn to the Ninth Commandment, for that is what has been on my mind since I started the reflection. It is stated in many places in the Bible, but I quote, "You must not testify falsely against your neighbor,' as stated in Exodus 20:16 NLT. Other translations note the words "testify falsely," as "telling lies," report," "spreading false "slandering," "false accusations," "manipulating the truth," etc. It is a significant warning because it "defiles" the one telling a lie and makes a mockery of justice, even leading to historical resentment, murder, and wars.

All through the Bible, we are told that lying is profoundly dangerous, and every liar will receive their due punishment from God.

Here are a few reminders from the ESV translation of the Bible:

Psalm 5:6 "You destroy those who speak lies; the Lord abhors the bloodthirsty and deceitful man."

Psalm 31:18 "Let the lying lips be mute, which speak insolently against the righteous in pride and contempt."

Proverbs 19:9 "A false witness will not go unpunished, and he who breathes out lies will perish."

Revelation 21:8 "But as for the cowardly, the faithless, the detestable, as for murderers, the sexually immoral, sorcerers, idolaters, and all liars, their portion will be in the lake that burns with fire and sulfur, which is the second death."

Revelation 22:15 "Outside are the dogs and sorcerers and the sexually immoral and murderers and idolaters, and everyone who loves and practices falsehood."

Until God deals with the lie, let us not forget that if at all we want to preserve our characters and society, we need to stop the lie. I am not just talking about "The Big Lie," the phrase attributable to Hitler when he sought to exterminate the Jews and being tossed about in our contemporary political culture.

Still, I speak of the lies and deceptions in practice in our everyday culture. Call them what you will, "little white lie," "big black lie," "prevarications," or "untruths." Soften the terms or phrases, or harden them, depending on how you will make them seem; it does not matter - a lie is a lie; all liars and deceivers will be under the judgment of God.

We need to stop lying. We certainly need some truth-tellers in this hour of great deception. Let us line up with the truth tellers.

### **TOWN WATCH**

(Continued from page 10)

lawn watering and other discretionary uses."

SOWU customers are being asked to water their lawns on an odd/even day and street address system. Lawns may be watered on odd-numbered days at addresses whose address numbers end in an odd number - or evennumbered days at evennumbered addresses.

The utility is also asking lawn waterers to do so either early or late in the day "to minimize evaporation."

The utility daily serves over 16,000 residents with 2.5 million gallons through 70 miles of mains and lines. Some 300,000 gal. is drawn from Well No. 17 here in Grove Park and the remainder drawn from New Jersey American Water's Canoe Brook reservoirs and treatment plant in Millburn.

NJAW's American Water Operations and Maintenance has been handling maintenance, billing and customer service, succeeding the East Orange Water Commission, since Jan. 1, 2017.

There has been no similar advisories from NJAW for its

Maplewood and West Orange customers as of press time.

MAPLEWOOD - Township police officers assisted their Union Township colleagues in pursuing a reported stolen vehicle July 18 and in arresting the three suspects after they had crashed onto a Prospect Street house front lawn here.

UPD officers told their counterparts about a white BMW X5 that they had spotted at Springfield and Millburn Avenues that Monday afternoon and had attempted a motor vehicle stop. The intersection is where Maple-

wood's College Hill and Union's Vauxhall sections meet.

Union patrols were on alert for the BMW since one similar to it and its three male occupants were involved in another car's 11:30 a.m. burglary along their Portland Road. The said X5 had also been reported as stolen from New York City.

UPD cruisers pursued the SUV east on Springfield Avenue into Maplewood and west / northeast on Prospect until the BMW lost control and almost plowed into a house's front porch. The three males, all from

(Continued on page 15)

#### **EAST ORANGE FIRE**

(Continued from page 11)

made sure he secured a place to go," added Green, "made sure we had an engine out here for the families to have water, beverages - things of that nature."

A Red Cross spokeswoman said that 44 people among 11 families had found temporary housing by 11 a.m. with seven families to go.

Commuters on NJTransit's Morris & Essex railroad line, while passing or stopping at Brick Church Station, saw smoke dwindle to a relative wisp by 9 a.m. The smoke, however, can still be smelled from a two block radius.

East Orange Police officers had long closed the intersection of Prospect Street and Park Avenue by then. Drivers on NJTransit's No. 41 and 94 bus routes were detoured along Lincoln Avenue, passing the Bowser school for the entire weekend. (DeCamp's No. 88 route remains suspended since the COVID-19 pandemic's outbreak.)

The EOPD School Crossing Guard, normally directing Costley/Healy/Truth middle school complex traffic, found herself pulling double duty at Lincoln and Hamilton streets. The Garland Jackson Academy on Prospect Street was closed for summer maintenance.

Many responding vehicles were occupying Prospect's two blocks into Park Avenue plus parts of the avenue itself. They included vans from two building cleanup companies, seven from TV news stations, a PSE&G utility truck and four ECPO Crime Scene Investigation Unit vehicles.

The county investigation cars were initially there to determine whether the fire was caused by arson as a standard operating procedure. Initial findings have traced the fire to one or two late model minivans that were parked in 161 Prospect's rear parking lot.

How the first minivan caught fire is unknown as of press time. Both vans had been parked with their rear ends under the first floor's fire escape balcony, sending flames up the building.

Two citizen video recordings have surfaced, showing the rear of The Villa catching fire.

Those county investigators, at 10:10 a.m., were informed by University Hospital and their administrators that C. Davis had died.

The Villa's owner, Zel Properties, LLC, had bought it for \$1.3 million in 2007. It is managed by Benjamin H. Realty Corp., of East Orange.





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# FOUR KILLED IN NEWARK MOTOR VEHICLE CRASH

**NEWARK** - Acting Essex County Prosecutor Theodore N. Stephens, II, and Interim Newark Public Safety Director Raul Malave announced July 23 that the Essex County Prosecutor's Office Homicide/Major Crimes Task Force, which includes detectives from the Newark Police Department is investigating a fatal motor vehicle crash that resulted in the death of four people.

At approximately 4:22 am, Saturday July 23, a crash occurred on the 800 block of Frelinghuysen Avenue in Newark involving a tractor trailer, a Chevrolet Malibu and a Chrysler 300. The crash caused a fire resulting in the deaths of four people.

The driver and three passengers in the Malibu were killed. They were pronounced dead at the scene at 6:11 am. The driver of the Chrysler was extricated from the car and is hospitalized in critical but stable condition.

The investigation is active and ongoing. Anyone with information is asked to contact the Essex County Prosecutor's Office tips line at 1-877-TIPS-4EC or 1-877-847-7432. Calls will be kept confidential.

### The Observation Booth



OP-ED By Andrea Dialect

### **BOOKMARKS**

#### **EIGHT**

You show people that you matter by behaving like you matter and doing things that matter... Andrea Dialect Said That!

It was pretty late in the evening when my young mentee called. I picked up just because thinking that perhaps he was going through something at the time. He was I gather, but he danced around it as usual. It saddens me that the whole song and dance thing go on most times when conversing with guys and they are not at liberty they feel for whatever reason to express themselves.

The good, bad, or the ugly need be or to cry damn it; especially when in this safe space or any other one. Most seem to reach out they often tell me because of my no-nonsense approach. Let's just say he got what

......

he came for.

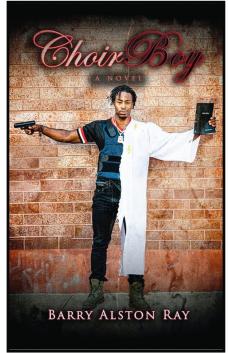
"Seemingly everyone has become such cry babies to a point that it's criminal in a world where your enemy is the size of a microscopic flea and big guns when it comes to true warfare are obsolete. Step into your big boy boots and string up those Timbs. You have little girls in third-world countries whose parents have been killed and after getting raped almost every other night give or take, in the morning they continue in their role as a parent to their sibling or another two or three... Facts.



TRAVEL LOG ENTRY:
Barry Alston Ray
(thavoicebar@gmail.com)
Demographic: Brooklyn, NY
Photo Credit: Andrea Dialect

"So I think that you my good fellow can make it despite it all living here in the states. That's not even the tip of the iceberg.

It's been war since you took your first gulp. Everybody



doesn't have to love you or like ya. Cain killed Abel at the beginning of time and that was his brother, so you'll have enemies. You didn't come down here to stay; you're on a visa. Meaning it is all about finding your purpose and doing it. So, wrap your head around death and live!"

If you think that's harsh for him at twenty-eight, you'd cringe if I told ya the age of my children and granny's children when they got that verbal memo lol! I know it off the top of my head because I use it quite often. That's in its entirety or as a sound bite for a mini script. But if I don't utilize that; I go to my black book and introduce them to the life of my good friend Barry - in a condensed version that is and that's what you're getting here.

### **EIGHT AND COUNTING**

My name is Barry Alston Ray and I live in Brooklyn. I am

an actor with features and appearances in so much. Coming up, I have season two from Raising Kanan on August 14th, The Rise & Fall of Bernie Madoff (Netflix), the motion picture Black Flies (with Sean Penn, Mel Gibson, and Mike Tyson). That's Forth Coming is another, and The Diary of a Changed Man the movie to name a few. I am a singer/songwriter, a published model, and an all-around entertainer.

July 17th of this month kicked off the 8th year celebration of my release from a 22 years and nine months prison sentence. The day that I stepped out of those gates was both very emotional and surreal. It was like being reborn. I was in upstate New York so the first thing that I did when I got out was voyaging. Most of my time was spent in transit. It was a crazy day because I had to travel back down which was about a four-hour commute.

My first stop was parole which was in Queens. I brought a phone that day, I brought myself two pairs of jeans and some underwear and I got myself a bite to eat, and then I had to get on the train because I had to be at the shelter at a certain time. Because I didn't have a place to stay or nothing, for two weeks I lived in the shelter. ...

Read this article in its entirety at www.localtalkweekly.com and type The Observation Booth, Andrea Dialect and/ or Entertainment Section in the search bar. If you are interested in participating in a challenge, project sharing a topic, news or if you have any questions, comments or concerns, send them to localtalkandrea@gmail.com.

### THE DOCTOR IS IN

(Continued from page 4)

the positive cases were confirmed, 98 people were placed under quarantine. As such, there is no immediate concern about the virus getting out of hand.

Also, the WHO has previously said cases outside of Africa are infrequent. There is no strong concern about the virus making its way into the United States. Even if you visit the African regions where the virus is native, you will be fine as long as you avoid bat caves and only eat properly cooked meat.

Right now, there is no cure for MVD. The treatments available now are experimental and haven't been tested on humans.

Nonetheless, doctors believe treatment options for the Ebola virus could be useful, as well as various supportive care practices.

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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### **TOWN WATCH** (Continued from page 12)

Irvington, were apprehended after brief foot pursuits.

Michael Quinones, 18, plus the 17and 18-year-old boys, were charged with receiving stolen property and resisting arrest. The 17-year-old was also charged with eluding police.

All three suspects were released, either on their own recognizance or to their parents, after receiving court appearance dates. No injuries were reported.

BLOOMFIELD / NUTLEY - The two Bloomfield magnet fishermen who pulled an artillery shell from the Nutley bank of the Passaic River July 16 have been pointing uphill into Father Glotzbach Park for its likely source.

Kevin Obiedzinski and Patrick Brown, on July 23, said that the shell may well have come from the U.S. Army's Camp Nutley, which occupied the thenundeveloped Avondale park 1952-57.

Camp Nutley, according to the Nutley Historical Society, featured four 90mm. artillery guns facing east to protect the George Washington Bridge. The gun would have lobbed 24-to-30 lbs. shells up to a 30,000 ft. altitude at any approaching Soviet Union aircraft.

The camp had operated 24-7 by 100 members of the Army's 98th AAA Gun Battalion, Battery A. It took up four acres of the future park in part for its barracks, mess hall, motor pool and Park Avenue guard post. The Army decommissioned Camp Nutley in 1957 after Nike missiles, deployed elsewhere, obsoleted the 90 mm guns.

Nutley's chamber of commerce had complained to Township Commissioners in 1955 about the Army's dumping of debris and material on the park. The Army also took its time demolishing its buildings. The former sandstone quarry and site of the 1930s bicycle and midget race car Nutley Velodrome eventually became the township's park.

Obiedzinski and Brown, who had been locally magnet fishing on weekends for several years, called authorities about the shell once they had brought it ashore Saturday. Nutley and Belleville police, treating the shell as if were live, were among those who had cordoned off the area and the Essex County Sheriff's Bomb Unit took it away for detonation.

While most of their other finds are sent to recyclers, the shell had been the most unusual since either their finding an 1851 Colt cap-and-ball pistol or a third party ATM.

**MONTCLAIR** - Friends and family of Adam Wade paid the actor and pioneering television game show host his last tribute here in a packed Caggiano Home for Funerals parlor here July 15. Wade, 87, said wife Jeree, had died at home here July 7 after a long bout with Parkinson's.

Wade became network television's first African American game show host when he was named to CBS's "Musical Chairs" by producers Don Kirshner and Jerry Schnur. The 30-minute program ran June 16 - Oct. 31, 1975 before the network canceled it. Several of the 95 shows - including one featuring Irene Cara and The Spinners - still exist.

Wade was an accomplished artist before and after "Musical Chairs." He recorded three Billboard magazine Top 10 charting singles - "Take Good Care of Her," "The Writing on the Wall," and "As if I Didn't Know" - for Coed Records in 1960-61.

His stage and screen credits included portraying "Ole' Mister" 2007-10 in "The Color Purple's" Broadway production plus "Shaft," in "Good Times," "Claudine," "Gordon's War," "The Jeffersons" and "The Dukes of Hazzard."

Patrick Henry Wade, who was born in Pittsburgh March 17, 1935, went to Virginia State University on a basketball scholarship but returned to assist Dr. Jonas Salk's polio vaccine research as a lab assistant for three years. He consulted with Dr. Salk on the Coed Record contract offer.

Wade and Jeree met in 1988 and moved to Upper Montclair in 1989. Both acted in and produced stage plays for Luna Stage, 12 Miles West, Trumpets Jazz Club, Westminster Arts Club and other local venues plus on cruise ships until last

Children Sheldon, Patrice L., Jamel and Michael; first wife Kay A. Wade and "many" grandchildren and great-grandchildren" are also among his survivors.

BELLEVILLE - The body of Newark grocery store owner Rubel Rahdams Ramos is being sent for burial next to his father in the Dominican Republic - and his accused killed detained in Newark's Essex County Correctional Facility while you read this.

Friends and family of Ramos, 46, held his visitation July 24 at Kearny's Thiele-Reid Funeral Home. Ramos was remembered for cooking and delivering free food for neighbors from his and wife Alicia's R&A Supermarket at Newark's 10th Street and 13th Avenue during the pandemic.

Ramos, who was born Feb. 10, 1976 in the D.R., met and married the former Alicia Mendez before emigrating here. They bought the corner market in Newark's Fairmount Heights section in

Stepchildren Anisa, Ashley and Matthew; grandson Giovanni, mother Monica Antonia Gomez and sisters Yesenia Maribel Ramos and Yuslenia Ramona Ramos are among his survivors.

Acting county prosecutor Stephens II announced on July 22 that Quadree Richardson, 24, of Newark, had been arrested in Kearny. He is being held on murder and weapons charges.

Richardson is accused of spraying bullets from an AK-47 rifle while in a car passing the intersection before 3:55 p.m. July 17. One of those bullets struck Ramos in the head while he was preparing a customer's food in the kitchen.

Initial accounts of the shooting had identified Ramos as Rabel Ramos-Gomez.



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