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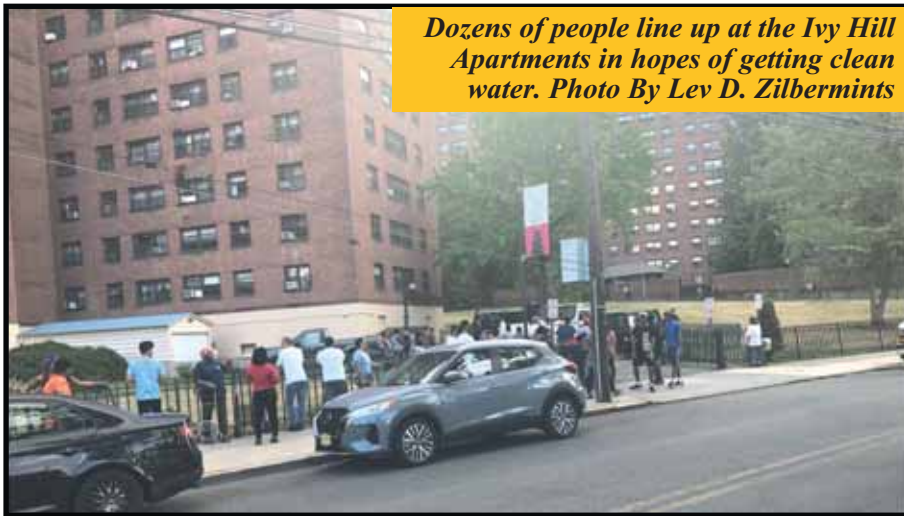
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WATER MAIN BREAK LEAVES RESIDENTS SCRAMBLING



Dozens of people line up at the Ivy Hill Apartments in hopes of getting clean water. Photo By Lev D. Zilbermintz



Mill Street at the Newark-Belleville border was closed due to the water main break. Photo By Newark Public Safety Office

By Walter Elliott

NEWARK / BELLEVILLE - Some water customers in Newark, Belleville, Bloomfield and Nutley affected by Aug. 9's Branch Brook Park water main break may not have to boil what water that they have coming from their faucets when you read this.

That prospective advisory, which has been lifted in Nutley by 9 a.m. Wednesday, may be receding in Bloomfield by Aug. 11 and, soon after, in Belleville and Newark.

How soon after, however, remains an open question as of press time. How soon Branch Brook Park Drive North will reopen to traffic, which will take longer to restore, also remains unanswered.

Some 100,000 Newark Water customers in Newark, Belleville, Bloomfield and Nutley - depending on the ward or neighborhood - may still be on bottled water into the weekend.

Those experiencing low or no water pressure in Newark's North, West, Central

and South wards may have been visited by door-to-door city DPW workers delivering gallon bottles of water since Tuesday afternoon. There are separate phone numbers for each affected ward.

All but Newark's East Ward were affected by the break. While the East Ward is primarily fed by Newark's Wanaque system, its other wards are served by the city's Pequannock system.

A Newark official has estimated some 70,000 gallon-bottles of water were being delivered Tuesday afternoon. Contracted water tankers were seen at RWJBarnabas Health Newark Beth Israel Medical Center and in several neighborhoods.

Some merchants, however, have rationed water purchases. Bottled water may still be the rule of the day in Belleville and Bloomfield.


"Local Talk," for example, saw its DPW staff open a bottled water tent in the Bloomfield and Recreation Plaza's back

(Continued on page 4)

TRUMP: THE FBI RAIDED MY HOME



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Editorial

Dhiren Shah
Editor-In-Chief

Hello Readers,

Donald Trump's home at Mar-A-Lago was raided by the FBI as the former president was in New York to give a deposition about his financial dealings. The Feds took about 15 boxes on Aug. 8. While nothing has been said by any of Biden's people, it could be used to tie into the Jan. 6 investigation. This is unprecedented that the Justice Department has raided a private home of a former president and did not try to get the documents by subpoena. It must be big against Trump, otherwise the FBI and Attorney General would not have raided his home, as they will face criticism. If nothing is proven against him, Democrats might lose the upcoming elections, including 2024, as it will be very difficult to convince voters to vote for them.

Even some of the anti-Trump persons I talked to said that they hope that Ron DeSantis will be a great replacement for Trump. DeSantis is a good candidate, and the Democrats do not want Trump to be the republican candidate in the 2024 election. However, some of the Trump haters told me that DeSantis cannot stand against Trump in the republican primary. In New York, 50% are against Trump, but 70% are against DeSantis. So, it might be very hard for DeSantis to win against Trump.

Just like the terms "fake impeachment" and "fake news," the republicans have a motto to talk about in the upcoming election. This might help the GOP and if it is the Democrat power bank who promoted this raid, it may backfire on them. The raid at Mar-A-Lago united the Republicans, including former Vice President Mike Pence, DeSantis and other republicans, including many who are anti-Trump.

Politics can do anything. New Jersey Governor Murphy signed laws last Friday. Over 1 million drivers in New Jersey will have to pay more for auto insurance, as the minimum liability has been raised to \$25,000

from \$15,000 starting in 2023. From 2026, it will be a minimum liability of \$35,000. Most of the drivers who take minimum liability are living in urban areas, where they cannot afford to make ends meet easily. The driving record has nothing to do with the minimum liability, credit score, occupation, and the place they live in. But instead of making the law work to their advantage, Governor Murphy made two laws against the hard working middle class in the urban area. Both resolutions were proposed by NJ Senator and Senate President Nicholas P. Scutari. He is an attorney in the profession, and he has something to personally gain by these laws hurting New Jerseyans. Politicians helping other politicians is a common epidemic over the past 22 years of Local Talk Weekly Newspaper's history.

A water main break has impacted Belleville, and the South, West, North and Central wards of Newark. Newark Mayor Baraka announced that the city would distribute water at no charge going door to door. However, they have distributed water at some places and people stood in line for the water. As one of

our reporters said, fire hydrants were opened at the Ivy Hill section, but the water was brown and usable even for toilets due to low pressure. Also, one cannot boil and drink such contaminated water. Luckily, the water is back at the Ivy Hill apartments and other sections per our report as of noon on Wednesday. That is a good job done by the water department. Hopefully everything will be in order by the time Local Talk is published Thursday. The water is supplied to Newark from the Wanaque Reservoir, a man-made lake located within Wanaque and Ringwood, New Jersey.

During a Little League baseball game, a pitcher accidentally hit a batter in the head with a pitch. Fortunately, the batter was okay and walked to first base. However, the pitcher was still shaken up by the bad throw. Seeing this, the batter walked over to the pitcher and consoled him. This is humanity at its best. I wish to see more of this, in sports and in life from people.

Have a wonderful week.

I'll talk to you next week.

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WEATHER FOR THE WEEK

THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY
AM Rain	Partly Cloudy	Mostly Sunny	Partly Cloudy	Rain / T'Storm possible	Rain / T'Storm possible	Scattered T'storms
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WATER MAIN BREAK

(Continued from page 1)



Residents stock up while the situation remained up in the air. Photos By Thomas Ellis II

parking lot at 11 a.m. Wednesday.

"This is for the residents who are affected by the break," said a spokesman for Township Administrator Anthony DeZenzo. "I was told by the (Essex) County OEM that Bloomfield should get its water pressure back in 24 hours."

While Bloomfield gets some

of its water from Newark, Belleville gets all of theirs from the city's Pequannock system.

Belleville is distributing a case of water to residents with ID at its Senior Citizens building at 125 Franklin Ave. Township Engineer Thomas Hertis said he has been working with Newark officials to divert some of its Wanaque water for Belleville.

A Belleville fire engine was seen pumping water from a street hydrant to a detention basin near RWJBarnabas Health Clara Maass Medical Center. While the hospital has been on bottled water Aug. 9-10, the center's spokeswoman said it remains "fully operational" while monitoring the break repair.

Newark Beth Israel, in Newark's South Ward, had to postpone elective surgeries and clinical appointments and imposed visitation restrictions on Aug. 9.

Newark's University Hospital, the area's only Level 1 Trauma Center, while also waving off scheduled elective surgeries and appointments, activated its emergency command center Tuesday

afternoon.

Nutley, as of 3:45 p.m. Tuesday, appears to have missed most of the break's effects.

The township, deeming that its part of the Newark Pequannock system has "sufficient water pressure," did not join the three other municipalities in issuing a boil water advisory.

Nutley did ask its Newark-served residents to refrain from watering lawns and all other "unnecessary water use for 24 hours."

Newark has an estimated 50 homes or 300 customers in Nutley.

Authorities from the Newark Water and Sewer Utility and its contractors were to return to the water main break site here on Branch Brook Park Drive North after 9 a.m. Wednesday.

A minimal crew from the Essex County Sheriff's Office and the Belleville Fire Department remained overnight yards away from the inundated drive as of 8:15 a.m.

The silver SUV, with only one of its rear wheels still visible, remains in the sinkhole that the break had created just after 8 a.m. Aug. 9.

Although NSWU workers shut off six valves upstream of the break by 2 p.m. Wednesday, some of the 250,000 gal. per minute of water that flows through the broken 72-inch diameter main still cascades into the Second River.

County sheriff's vehicles have closed the drive at Branch Brook Park West Drive's merge to the west and at Belleville's Mill Street and Union Avenue to the east. The park and its interior roads are county property.

Newark Public Works Director Kareem Adeem said that the 140-year-old main had broken just before 8 a.m., eroding the earth around it. The SUV driver told NBC News 4 New York that she was heading west on the drive when she saw "water bubbling up from the street," and stopped.

The woman driver said she got out of the car before it was almost completely swallowed by the sinkhole beneath it.

The sinkhole and the almost invisible car are some 25 feet east of the 1930s-era former NJTransit Boonton Line railroad overpass. The inactive bridge and the former Erie Railroad Greenwood Lake Division trunk line are to be part of a Montclair-Jersey City rail trail pending its sale by the Norfolk Southern railroad.

Adeem estimated the break to be 42 to 46- inches long.

Public safety, public works and engineering personnel from Newark, Belleville and Essex County promptly gathered on the drive. Initial reports, however, had a second break along Belleville's Joralemon Street.

Bloomfield meanwhile experienced dropping water pressure and water discoloration in an area from Hoover Avenue north into Joralemon and east through its Franklin Avenue.

Hertis, Adeem, Newark Mayor Ras Baraka, Belleville Township Manager Anthony Iacono and Essex County Sheriff Armando Fontoura were at the site Tuesday, joining the initial evaluation and/or holding press conferences. Belleville and Bloomfield mayors Michael Melham and Michael Venezia plus Nutley Mayor Joseph Scarpelli were apprised.

Newark has posted a (973) 733-3274 number for those who still need bottled water.

UPDATE: As of 5 p.m. Aug. 10, Newark Mayor Baraka and Director of Department of Water and Sewer Utilities Adeem announced that 99 percent of the city's water service was restored in the areas impacted by the water main break in Belleville.



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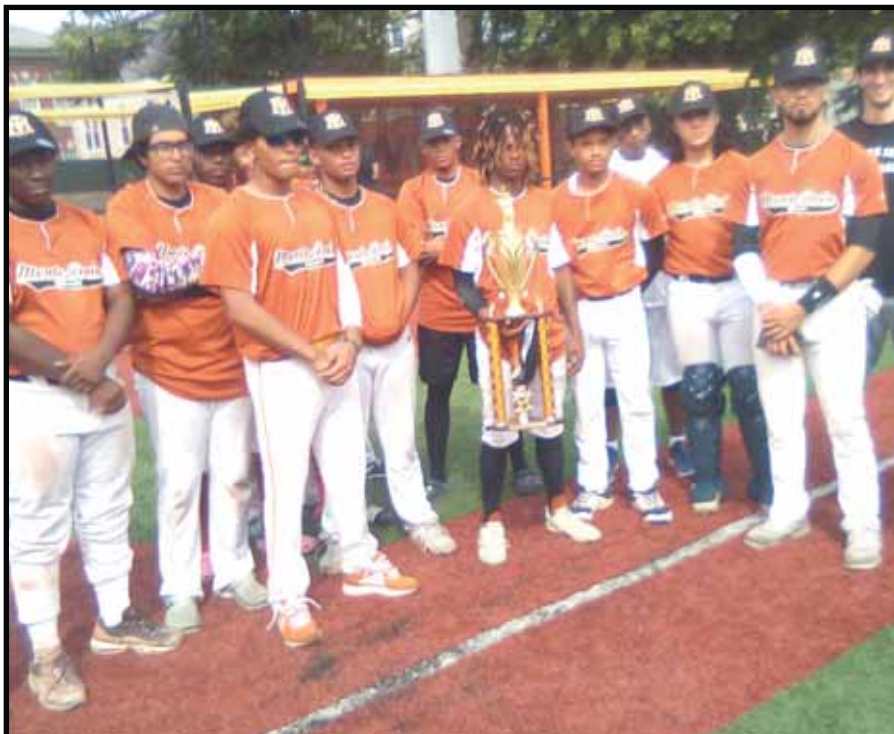
Photos Courtesy William Hathaway, Jr.

By William Hathaway, Jr.

The annual Monte Irvin Woodbat Classic Baseball Tournament recently took place at Central Playground in Orange. Among the teams in Group A were the Monte Irvin Giants, Queens / Nassau Comets, Camden Braves, and the Philly Black Sox. In the championship game, it was the Giants losing to the Queens / Nassau Comets 16-4. The Comets beat Camden 9-1 and while the Giants beat Philly 10-0 in semifinal competition prior to the final clash. This is the third straight year that Queens/ Nassau has won this tournament.

Back in 2014, the tournament started at the new Central Playground and was named in honor of the great Monte Irvin, an outfielder who played for the Newark Eagles in the Negro National League in 1938. The annual tourney has been organized by Wally Boyett, who has shown his dedication to this annual event.

In the world of tennis, fans were stunned to hear that Serena Williams has decided to transition away from the sport. Basically, she is retiring, but did not want to use that word. Her final chance to tie Margaret Court's major record of 24 will be at this year's U.S. Open.



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ARBERY KILLERS SENTENCED FOR HATE CRIMES

UNITED STATES

On Aug. 8, a federal judge in the Southern District of Georgia sentenced Travis McMichael, 36, to life plus 10 years in prison; and his father Gregory McMichael, 66, to life plus seven years in prison; and William “Roddie” Bryan, 52, to 35 years in prison, for committing federal hate crimes and other offenses in connection with the killing of Ahmaud Arbery, a young Black man, who was jogging on the public streets of a Brunswick neighborhood when he was chased down and shot to death in February 2020.

All three defendants were convicted at trial in February 2022 on multiple counts, including one count of using violence to intimidate and interfere with Arbery because of his race and because he was using a public street. All three defendants were also found guilty of attempting to kidnap Arbery by chasing after him in their trucks in an attempt to capture and confine him.

Finally, Travis McMichael was found guilty of using, carrying, brandishing, and discharging a Remington shotgun in the course of the hate crime, which added 10 years to his life sentence; and Gregory McMichael was found guilty of using, carrying and brandishing a .357 Magnum revolver, which added seven years to his life sentence.

Evidence at trial revealed that on Feb. 23, 2020, defendants Travis and Gregory McMichael armed themselves with firearms and chased after Arbery as he ran past their driveway. The pursuit passed by the home of defendant Roddie Bryan, who got into his own truck and joined the chase, despite the fact that he did not know and had never before seen Arbery. For the next four to five minutes, the three

defendants pursued Arbery through the neighborhood, trying to box him in with their trucks.

For that entire time, Arbery ran from the defendants, unarmed and with his hands in plain view. He never spoke a word to the defendants, and never made any threatening sound or gesture; rather, he repeatedly tried to run away. Ultimately, after Arbery had already changed direction multiple times, trying to escape from the defendants, Travis McMichael got out of his truck and pointed a shotgun directly at Arbery. When Arbery tried to defend himself, Travis McMichael shot him in the chest. Arbery, wounded, grabbed for the gun. During a struggle over the gun, Travis McMichael fired two more shots into Arbery, who then stumbled a few steps and fell face-first onto the pavement, where he died in the street.

Evidence at trial revealed that the defendants had strongly held racist beliefs that led them to make assumptions and decisions about Arbery that they would not have made if Arbery were white.

Travis McMichael’s social media comments and text messages to friends, offered as exhibits at trial, showed that Travis harbored racial animus against Black people, whom he described at points as “sub-human savages” who “ruin everything”; the social media comments also revealed that Travis had for many years associated Black people with criminality and had expressed a desire to see Black people - particularly those he viewed as criminals - harmed or killed.

Witnesses testified at trial about deeply racist comments Gregory McMichael had made to people he barely knew. One witness testified about a brief encounter she had with Gregory in a professional capacity, during which she commented that it was “too bad” that Julian Bond, a Black Georgia civil rights leader, had recently passed away; Gregory angrily responded that he wished Bond had “been put in the ground years ago” and that Bond and “those Blacks” were “nothing but trouble.” According to the witness, Gregory then went on a five-minute rant about

Black people.

The jury also saw racist text messages from Roddie Bryan. When Bryan learned, just four days before the shooting, that his daughter was dating a Black man, Bryan referred to the boyfriend as a “ni...” and a “monkey.” In other messages on social media, Bryan also referred to other Black people using racial slurs. When the police spoke to Bryan about Arbery’s death, he admitted that he had never seen or heard anything about Arbery before; when he saw a Black man being chased, his “instinct” told him that the man must be a thief, or maybe had shot someone.

At trial, the jury found that the evidence proved beyond a reasonable doubt that race formed a but-for cause of the defendants’ actions on Feb. 23, 2020 - meaning that, but-for Arbery being Black, the defendants would not have assumed he was a criminal, chased him down, and shot him.

All three defendants were previously convicted in a separate state trial on felony murder charges and other offenses. In state court, the McMichaels were both sentenced to life imprisonment without the possibility of parole, and Bryan was sentenced to life imprisonment with the possibility of parole.

This case was investigated by both the Georgia Bureau of Investigation and the FBI, and was prosecuted by Assistant U.S. Attorney Tara Lyons of the Southern District of Georgia, and Deputy Chief Bobbi Bernstein and Special Litigation Counsel Christopher J. Perras of the Civil Rights Division.

LONDON BOOSTING KIDS AGAINST POLIO

EUROPE

As a long forgotten 20th Century disease seems to gain traction in the 21st, one city is taking steps to protect its most vulnerable.

Following the discovery of type 2 vaccine-derived poliovirus in sewage in north and east London, the Joint Committee on Vaccination and Immunization (JCVI) has advised that a targeted inactivated polio vac-

cine (IPV) booster dose should be offered to all children between the ages of 1 and 9 in all London boroughs.

This will ensure a high level of protection from paralysis and help reduce further spread of the virus. Nationally the overall risk of paralytic polio is considered low because most people are protected from this by vaccination.

Many countries globally provide an additional dose of polio-containing vaccine as part of their childhood vaccination schedule. The NHS in London will contact parents when it’s their child’s turn to come forward for a booster or catch-up polio dose - parents should take up the offer as soon as possible.

The program will start with the areas affected, where the poliovirus has been detected and vaccination rates are low. This will be followed by rapid rollout across all boroughs.

This booster dose will be in addition to the NHS childhood vaccination catch-up campaign across London, where childhood vaccination uptake is lower than the rest of the country. It’s important all children aged 1 to 9 - even if up to date with their vaccinations - accept this vaccine when offered to further strengthen their protection against the poliovirus.

Dr. Vanessa Saliba, Consultant Epidemiologist at UKHSA, said, “No cases of polio have been reported and for the majority of the population, who are fully vaccinated, the risk is low. But we know the areas in London where the poliovirus is being transmitted have some of the lowest vaccination rates. This is why the virus is spreading in these communities and puts those residents not fully vaccinated at greater risk.

“Polio is a serious infection that can cause paralysis but nationally the overall risk is considered low because most people are protected by vaccination. The last case of polio in the UK was in 1984, but decades ago before we introduced the polio vaccination program around 8,000 people would develop paralysis every year.

“It is vital parents ensure their children are fully vaccinated

(Continued on page 11)

BLACK LIVES, ANIMAL LIVES, ALL LIVES MATTER



By Michelle Lowe

EST...1996

Message for you

Hello, Greetings to all. Remember, every day is a new day. If you have someone there for you doing the right things, helping you out very generously and considerate, keep them. I ask, "My god, you blessed me with someone in my life but then took it right away. What did I do to deserve this?"

The time spent together was so beautiful and I could not ask for more. I was satisfied with the way everything was. Everything you ever wanted in a person who sees you for you, who protects you and all, etc. Stand by your loved ones. There is only one time on this earth. We are here, and then we are gone, and no one knows what happens next. But I will always remind you that life is not promised. So don't jeopardize what is in your favor and don't forget, it's hard out here.

No one has to make another their priority and at the same time take on their problems. A person that does that is a person that truly cares. Some of us can have our ways and sometimes it can seem like we're ungrateful etc. So be nice gentlemen and ladies. I will always keep it in mind and hope you will as well.

I'm not perfect. I have my ways and temper, but my heart is the best and it spreads love. So, people don't forget what you have.

We have been in this heat wave for some days. This weather is usually something, but to all the working people, please stay cool and keep your water with you.

We are all dealing with these outbreaks that have been exposed to all of us. Frist, Covid-19. Now, Monkeypox, smh. I can surely tell you all that I don't want any of this mess. There is too much going on, and the question is how? What will happen next is that in this outbreak, the spreading can cover your whole body, something that no one wants to experience for sure. It

spreads by close contact with people and animals.



People, stop throwing your animals in the streets. Some of you allow your pets to go out and come back whenever they want. That's not good for the most part, and isn't safe for you or your pet and others. Keep your pets in the house.

I noticed that African Americans have the highest percentage of throwing animals out in the streets and moving on. I spoke on that before, and that is not cool at all. I do have a problem with that. I feel that if you can do that to your pet you care about so much, then you will do that to a child or others.

There are facilities to reach out to that are non-killing animal shelters. These places are a little further out from Essex County, but these people will do the best to care for and find them homes. Take time to research non-killing animal locations and you will get a list of pop ups.

Also, if you are hearing a dog barking numerous times, please do not ignore it. Check on the dogs, be responsible and caring. One last thing; I'm not sure if you guys know this, but there's a lot of traffic with animals being tested, coming in from all over. These animals are so innocent and it's just so darn sad.



Remember, a lot of things we wear and so much more come from animals. I can go on and on, but always keep in mind that these animals of ours cannot speak, so let's do right by them. They are loyal, not harmful.

P.S. Stay safe, stay clean and stay aware of your surroundings. 'Til next time everyone, peace and love and have a great day.

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ESSEX COUNTY WEEKLY COVID-19 CASE TALLY

Municipality	8-3-2022	Deaths	8-10-2022	Deaths
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Bloomfield	13,641	162	13,751	162
Caldwell	1,885	17	1,895	17
Cedar Grove	4,377	136	4,418	136
City of Orange	9,032	172	9,085	172
East Orange	18,781	383	18,918	383
Essex Fells	572	2	574	2
Fairfield	2,270	38	2,283	38
Glen Ridge	1,445	18	1,467	18
Irvington	12,856	281	12,973	281
Livingston	7,500	107	7,565	107
Maplewood	6,013	48	6,070	48
Millburn	4,260	18	4,306	18
Montclair	7,999	87	8,073	88
Newark	86,453	1,257	87,208	1,259
North Caldwell	1,652	10	1,662	10
Nutley	7,381	84	7,448	85
Roseland	1,595	24	1,606	24
South Orange	4,019	22	4,042	22
Verona	3,784	23	3,806	23
West Caldwell	3,134	63	3,149	63
West Orange	14,949	267	15,077	267
Total	225,844	3,369	227,760	3,373

OTHER COVID-19 TALLIES (As of August 10, 2022)
NJ: 2,238,586 cases / 31,275 deaths (Plus 3,100 probable)
United States (approx.): 92.466 Million / 1.035 Million deaths
Worldwide (approx.): 587.117 Million / 6.426 Million deaths

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REGISTRATION UNDERWAY FOR FALL 2022 SEMESTER AT ESSEX COUNTY COLLEGE

Registration for the Fall I 2022 Semester at Essex County College is underway. The College's Fall I Semester starts Thursday, September 1, 2022. Registration is open until August 31.

Fall I classes run through December 21, 2022. Weekend College classes will be held from September 2 to December 17, 2022.

Classes will be held on the Newark campus. Under Covid-19 protocols, the College will continue to offer credit and non-credit courses in remote learning, online learning, or hybrid modalities.

"We are confident that you will find courses that will fit your schedule, and are compatible with your social distancing comfort level. Our goal is to ensure you are safe and secure so that you can continue your educational pursuits," said Dr. Alvin Williams, Executive Dean of Faculty and Academics.

For more information, please click on this link: <https://www.essex.edu/registration/>. Students may qualify for free tuition through the state Community College Opportunity Grant program. Go to <https://www.essex.edu/>



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tuitionfree/ to see how to qualify. Additional registration information is available through the College's Welcome Center at 973-877-4477.

"Essex County College offers more than 50 Associate degree programs and Academic Certificates in a wide range of disciplines. Essex graduates transfer as juniors to many New Jersey colleges and universities, as well as top schools around the

country. Register early to get the classes you want," stated Dr. Williams.

"Our College offers high quality and affordable educational opportunities. Our many support services help students stay on track to graduate and realize their dreams. Essex County College has all you need to succeed. We also offer Workforce Development programs," said ECC President Dr. Augustine A. Boakye.

FDA AUTHORIZES EMERGENCY USE OF JYNNEOS VACCINE TO AID IN FIGHT AGAINST MONKEYPOX

On Aug. 9, the U.S. Food and Drug Administration issued an emergency use authorization (EUA) for the JYNNEOS vaccine to allow healthcare providers to use the vaccine by intradermal injection for individuals 18 years of age and older who are determined to be at high risk for monkeypox infection.

This will increase the total number of doses available for use by up to five-fold. The EUA also allows for use of the vaccine in individuals younger than 18 years of age determined to be at high risk of monkeypox infection; in these individuals JYNNEOS is administered by subcutaneous injection.

"In recent weeks the monkeypox virus has continued to spread at a rate that has made it clear our current vaccine supply will not meet the current demand," said FDA Commissioner

Robert M. Califf, M.D. "The FDA quickly explored other scientifically appropriate options to facilitate access to the vaccine for all impacted individuals. By increasing the number of available doses, more individuals who want to be vaccinated against monkeypox will now have the opportunity to do so."

JYNNEOS, the Modified Vaccinia Ankara (MVA) vaccine, was approved in 2019 for prevention of smallpox and monkeypox disease in adults 18 years of age and older determined to be at high risk for smallpox or monkeypox infection. JYNNEOS is administered beneath the skin (subcutaneously) as two doses, four weeks (28 days) apart.

For individuals 18 years of age and older determined to be at high risk of monkeypox infection, the EUA now allows for a

fraction of the JYNNEOS dose to be administered between the layers of the skin (intradermally). Two doses of the vaccine given four weeks (28 days) apart will still be needed. There are no data available to indicate that one dose of JYNNEOS will provide long-lasting protection, which will be needed to control the current monkeypox outbreak.

Data from a 2015 clinical study of the MVA vaccine evaluated a two-dose series given intradermally compared to subcutaneously. Individuals who received the vaccine intradermally received a lower volume (one fifth) than individuals who received the vaccine subcutaneously. The results of this study demonstrated that intradermal administration produced a similar immune response to subcutaneous administration, meaning

individuals in both groups responded to vaccination in a similar way.

Administration by the intradermal route resulted in more redness, firmness, itchiness and swelling at the injection site, but less pain, and these side effects were manageable. The FDA has determined that the known and potential benefits of JYNNEOS outweigh the known and potential risks for the authorized uses.

To support the FDA's authorization of two doses of JYNNEOS administered by the subcutaneous route of administration in individuals younger than 18 years of age, the FDA considered the available JYNNEOS safety and immune response data in adults as well as the historical data with use of live vaccinia virus smallpox vaccine in pediatric populations.

(Continued on page 13)

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 - Some of St. Michael's Medical Center's most critical patients were temporarily moved out some 12 miles to another hospital here Aug. 4-5 when a major heating, ventilation and air conditioning component had failed during that Thursday's heat wave.

There were 12 St. Michael's Medical Center ICU patients who spent the night in Passaic's St. Mary's General Hospital. Both hospitals are under parent company Prime Healthcare's umbrella.

The failed unit, as a hospital statement put it, caused "elevated temperatures on some areas of the hospital, including the Intensive Care Unit."

They would not return until after St. Michael's contractors had replaced the failed HVAC chiller unit. A chiller transfers out heated air and cycles in cooled air to hospital rooms.

Less seriously ill patients, explained SMMC spokesman Bruno Tedeschi Aug. 5, were moved to a floor that still had air conditioning.

It is not clear which building or area of a building on the St. Michael's campus suffered the chiller failure. The hospital's operation and HVAC failure has no relation to the Hanini Group's transformation of the 1871-built original hospital into a mixed-use residential, commercial and office building.

IRVINGTON - Relatives of a township man, who was fatally shot on a Newark street Aug. 2, is left to arrange his last rites while law enforcers search for his killer.

No public funeral arrangements for Gregory Scott, 27, have been posted as of Aug. 9.

Acting Essex County Prosecutor Theodore "Ted" Stephens and Newark Public Safety Director Fritz G. Frage said that responding police officers found Scott "seriously injured by gunfire" along the 100 block of Lehigh Avenue at 11:17 p.m. that Tuesday.

Scott was rushed to RWJBarnabas Health Newark Beth Israel Medical Center - where he was pronounced dead at 11:40 p.m.

(The Scott case is among the first to be handled by Frage. Newark Mayor Ras Baraka appointed the 24-year New Jersey State Police official to succeed Brian O'Hara on Aug. 1.)

The ECPO Homicide and Major Crimes Task Force is continuing the investigation.

EAST ORANGE - County and city authorities have named the man who was fatally struck along Central Avenue Aug. 1 and have since questioned the involved motorist.

Services for the late Aaryn Terry, 40, have included a 9 a.m. wake and 11 a.m. funeral at Orange's St. Matthew AME Church Aug. 12. Interment in Montclair's Rosedale Cemetery is to follow. Orange's Woody's Home for Services have made the arrangements.

Terry, said Acting Prosecutor Stephens and EOPD Chief Phyllis Bindi, was found "with serious injuries" by Mr. G's Restaurant & Lounge at 2:10 a.m. Aug. 1. The lifelong resident was rushed by local EMS from 428 Central Ave. to Newark's University Hospital - where he had died on Aug. 4.

Terry, who was born Dec. 27, 1981, was among the Clifford J. Scott High School Class of 1999. He was a popular employee at South Orange's Papillion 25 Restaurant and Martini Bar.

A woman, reportedly the motorist who had left the scene, had surrendered herself to authorities on Aug 7. The investigation remains active.

ORANGE - The Essex County Clerk's Election Division has

received signed petitions from six prospective Orange Board of Education candidates for the three seats up for city voter approval on the Nov. 8 General Election ballot.

Three candidates - Board President Shawneque Johnson and members Guadalupe Cabio and Sueann Gravesande - are seeking their second three-year terms.

Former BOE President Tyrone Jon Tarver, who narrowly lost his seat in the 2020 election, is making a return bid.

Sendy Gordon and Anthony S. Nimley are waging their first school board campaigns.

Prospective Nov. 8 voters are to register or transfer their registration with the County Clerk on or by Oct. 18. Nov. 1 is the last day to apply for a Vote By Mail Ballot by mail. Voting machine polling station locations for Nov. 1-5 early voting and Nov. 8 Election Day are to be announced.

Visit essexclerk.com for details.

WEST ORANGE - Three township residents have filed their petitions with the West Orange Public Schools and the County Clerk's Elections Division office to vie for two board of education seats on Nov. 8's General Election ballot.

Current West Orange Board of Education President Jennifer Tunnicliffe is seeking her second three-year term. BOE Vice President Gary Rothstein has declined a second run.

Robert Ivker and Gregory M. Tynes, both first-time campaigners, have also filed.

All three candidates are hoping to pass the County Clerk and Essex County Board of Elections petition muster to make the ballot. Petition signers must be on the county's registration rolls, for example, and be township residents at least a year before signing.

West Orange's BOE and Mayor-Township Council races are the only municipal level non-partisan contests on the township's prospective Nov. 8 ballot.

SOUTH ORANGE / MAPLEWOOD - The unauthorized use

of a proposed Columbia High School floor plan by one South Orange-Maplewood School District Board of Education member here July 18 had led to the Aug. 1 near-demotion of a board vice-president.

Kaitlin Wittleder came within one vote of being removed as Board Second Vice President by her peers during the Aug. 1 board meeting. Colleague Dr. Qwai Telesford abstained from making the decisive vote that Monday night, leaving the demotion as a 4-4 tie and killing the motion.

Telesford may have started the chain of events by using a floor plan of either a restored CHS indoor pool or its conversion into a student commons - an \$8 million question - during his July 18 public presentation before the board. That plan, however, was not for public consumption.

Wittleder tried to "admonish" Telesford's "release of confidential information" late in the July 18 session and in public on Aug. 1. Board Member Erin Siders, however, moved to strip Wittleder of her position "for dereliction of duty based on her failure to communicate with the board before taking public action."

Wittleder tried to explain her admonishment resolution but was interrupted by Board Attorney Frances Febres that the Telesford floor plan matter was "currently subject to an investigation by my office and may be subject to litigation." Wittleder countered, "We owe a public apology to the community that this was done."

Telesford, who heads the board's Safety and Security Committee, abstained to kill the removal vote. SOMSD administrators have meanwhile removed Telesford's July 18 pool vs. common presentation video and materials.

"This takes dysfunctionality to a whole new level," said member Elissa Malespina. "We've moved on to attacking the messenger instead of dealing with the message at hand."

BLOOMFIELD - Township
(Continued on page 15)

WORLD NEWS FLASH*(Continued from page 6)*

ed for their age. Following JCVI advice all children aged 1 to 9 years in London need to have a dose of polio vaccine now - whether it's an extra booster dose or just to catch up with their routine vaccinations. It will ensure a high level of protection from paralysis. This may also help stop the virus spreading further."

UKHSA, working with MHRA, has already increased sewage surveillance to assess the extent of spread of the virus and are currently sampling 8 sites across London.

A further 15 sites in London will start sewage sampling in mid-August, and 10 to 15 sites will be stood up nationally to determine if poliovirus is spreading outside of London.

ADVISORS WARN AGAINST CRYPTO**WORLD**

The UN trade and development body, UNCTAD, has called for action to curb cryptocurrencies in developing nations, in three policy briefs published on Aug. 10.

Although private digital currencies have rewarded some individuals and institutions, they are an unstable financial asset that can bring social risks and costs, the agency warned.

UNCTAD said their benefits to some are overshadowed by the threats they pose to financial stability, domestic resource mobilization, and the security of monetary systems.

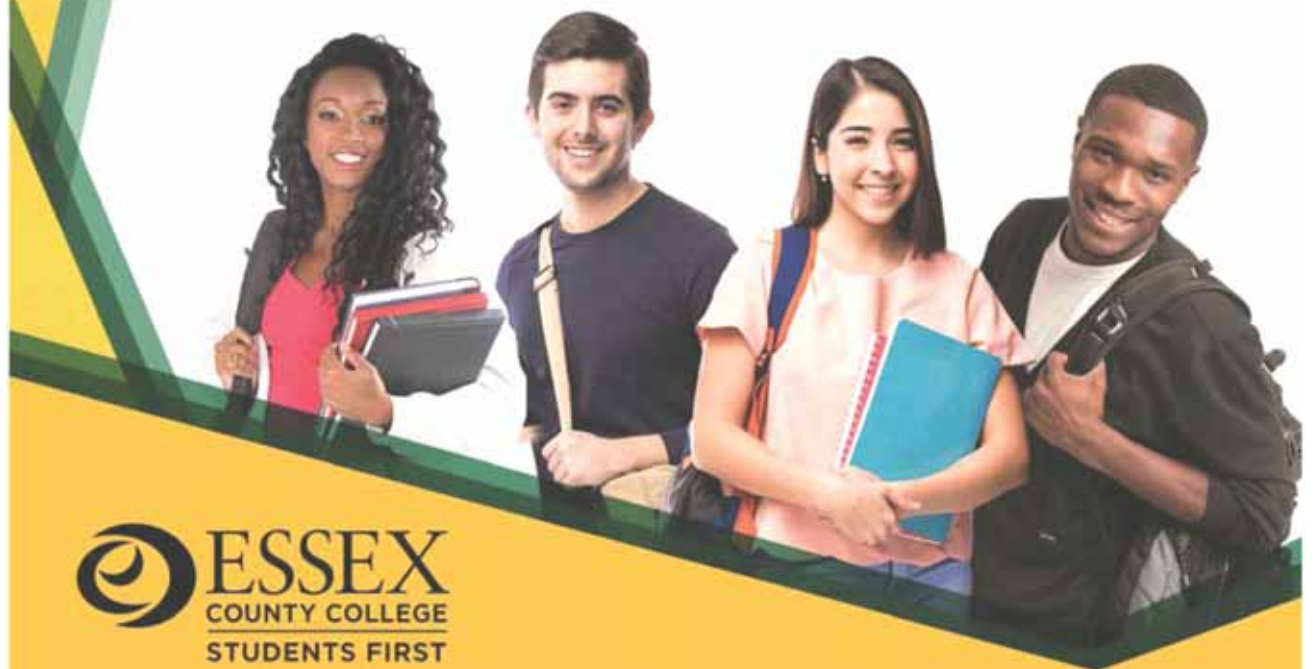
Cryptocurrencies are an alternative form of payment. Transactions are done digitally through encrypted technology known as blockchain.

The use of cryptocurrency rose globally at an unprecedented rate during the COVID-19 pandemic, reinforcing a trend that was already in motion. Some 19,000 are currently in existence.

In 2021, developing countries accounted for 15 of the top 20 economies when it comes to the share of the population that owns cryptocurrencies.

Ukraine topped the list with 12.7 percent, followed by Russia and Venezuela, with 11.9 percent and 10.3 percent, respectively.

The first brief - All that glitters is not gold: The high cost of leaving cryptocurrencies unregulated - examines the reasons behind the rapid uptake of cryptocurrencies in developing countries, including facilitation of remittances and as a hedge against currency and inflation risks.

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"Recent digital currency shocks in the market suggest that there are private risks to holding crypto, but if the central bank steps in to protect financial stability, then the problem becomes a public one," UNCTAD said.

Furthermore, if cryptocurrencies continue to grow as a means of payment, and even replace domestic currencies unofficially, the "monetary sovereignty" of countries could be jeopardized.

UNCTAD also highlighted the particular risk that stablecoins pose in developing countries with unmet demand for reserve currencies. As their name implies, stablecoins are designed to maintain stability as their value is pegged to another currency, commodity or financial instrument.

"For some of these reasons, the International Monetary Fund has expressed the view that

cryptocurrencies pose risks as legal tender," the agency said.

The second policy brief focuses on the implications of cryptocurrencies for the stability and security of monetary systems, and to financial stability in general.

"It is argued that a domestic digital payment system that serves as a public good could fulfil at least some of the reasons for crypto use and limit the expansion of cryptocurrencies in developing countries," said UNCTAD.

For example, monetary authorities could provide a central bank digital currency or a fast retail payment system, though measures will depend on national capacities and needs.

However, UNCTAD has urged governments "to maintain the issuance and distribution of cash," given the risk of deepening the digital divide in developed countries.



*From
The
Pastor's
Heart*

OP-ED BY DR. ROBERT KENNEDY

Stop The Coveting

“It is interesting to me how much our life in this world is affected by the problem of covetousness. And while it is a problem that has dogged humanity since the dawn of creation with the Fall, however, one can argue that digital development has given us reason to pause and reflect more deeply on the destructive nature of this problem.

For example, an article that I read concerning reasons for us to be most concerned about climate change notes that:

Fueled by artificially manufactured appetites, the speed and ubiquity of digital networks maximize the incontestable priority of getting, having, coveting, resenting, (and) envying; all of which furthers the deterioration of the world - a world operating without pause, without the possibility of renewal or recovery, choking on its heat and waste. (https://lithub.com/the-digital-age-is-destroying-us/)

If the comment seems intricate, let me note that it simply states that the spirit of covetousness is driving us (our world) on a steep path of destruction. And unless we can exorcise the spirit, we will be annihilated. Let me say the spirit driving the frenzy of spending, accumulation, competition, production, and the lack of satisfaction we see all around us will kill us if it is not arrested.

While I do not wish to make anyone feel guilty from reading this reflection, yet the reality that most persons get caught up in this sin of covetousness, I challenge you to avoid it. For all that is known, covetousness is one of the most elusive desires of humanity. One has it in the heart and does not know it. It creeps upon a person without the person even suspecting it. It suffocates the person without the person realizing it. And it is one of those desires that people are most defensive about. They like to deny that it exists in them. Therefore, it is no wonder that covetousness is so emphasized in the Commandments.

Several commentators have observed that the Ten Commandments begin and end with just about the same command, "You shall have no other gods before me" (Exodus 20:3) and "You shall not covet" (Exodus

20:17). That is, the two Commandments are almost equivalent commands. To covet is to desire anything other than God, for it betrays a loss of contentment and satisfaction in God. It is a heart divided between two gods.

For this reason, Paul calls covetousness idolatry. "Therefore, put to death your members which are on the earth: fornication, uncleanness, passion, evil desire, and covetousness, which is idolatry. Because of these things, the wrath of God is coming upon the sons of disobedience. . ." (Colossians 3:5, 6).

Another interesting fact is that we are instructed three times in the tenth Commandment, "You shall not covet." And if all you think that the command only applies to limiting things and relationships such as coveting one's house, wife, servant, ox, or (donkey), you only need to check out the last phrase in the command that says, "or anything that belongs to your neighbor." (Exodus 20:20).

Someone says, "Covetousness is a breeding ground for a thousand other sins." For example, here are eight that one must give serious consideration:

1. It leads a person to despise God, thus turning to idolatry
2. It leads a person to love money, which is the root of all evil
3. It leads to a lack of satisfaction and contentment
4. It leads to the deformation of character
5. It leads to the destruction of conscience
6. It leads to the destruction of happiness
7. It chokes off spiritual growth
8. It leads to violence of all sorts (murders and wars)

In response to a person who was trying to draw Jesus into a family fight over property division, Jesus gave his response in a strict warning to all who were listening to him, "And He said to them, 'Take heed and beware of covetousness, for one's life does not consist in the abundance of the things he possesses.'"

My point from the reflection is not only to ask us to be away from any presence of the covetous in the heart but to kill it, uproot it before it germinates, grows, bears fruits, defiles, and destroys us. Covetousness is an accursed problem; let's get rid of it.

OFFICE OF DIVERSITY, EQUITY AND INCLUSION ESTABLISHED IN DEPT. OF LAW & PUBLIC SAFETY

TRENTON - Acting Attorney General Matthew J. Platkin has issued an Executive Directive that formally establishes the Office of Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (ODEI) within the Department of Law & Public Safety (LPS), which will be led by Assistant Attorney General Lora Fong, LPS's current and first Chief Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Officer.

Under the Directive, the Office will be responsible for the overarching strategy, oversight, and implementation of diversity, equity, and inclusion initiatives within and across the Department, which is comprised of 18 divisions and approximately 7,700 employees, and whose work touches the lives of nearly every New Jersey resident.

In addition, Acting AG Platkin is releasing the Department's

most recent year-end workforce demographic data in the form of a comprehensive report reflecting the race and ethnicity of LPS employees plus gender identity metrics Department-wide and within each of LPS's divisions, and examining representation within law enforcement, attorney, and civilian roles along with comparative benchmarks. Acting AG Platkin has also released the 2021 Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion plans for each of the Department's divisions. That report is accessible here: <https://www.nj.gov/oag/newsreleases22/2021-Division-DI-Plan.pdf>

“As the Department of Law and Public Safety has broad oversight of the State's legal and law enforcement matters, we recognize how important it is that the Department reflects the

diversity of the more than 9 million New Jersey residents we are sworn to serve,” said Acting Attorney General Platkin. “By formally establishing this Office we further demonstrate our commitment to an organizational culture that values and facilitates diversity, equity, and inclusion and that enables transparency and accountability, which in turn will help us advance our goals for a more representative Department.”

“The creation of this office reflects the commitment of Acting Attorney General Matt Platkin to promote diversity, equity, and inclusion by building capacity and resources in support of the transformative work that Assistant Attorney General Lora Fong has begun,” said Jayné Johnson, Director of the Office of Diversity, Equity, Inclusion,

and Belonging in the Governor's Office. “I look forward to continuing to partner with her, as we work to ensure that our state government is stronger, fairer, and more equitable.”

“Transforming a culture takes top-down commitment and resources, and I thank Acting Attorney General Platkin for his leadership and dedication to diversity, equity, and inclusion,” said Assistant Attorney General Fong. “The Acting Attorney General has made diversity a priority in the appointments of his executive team and division leadership, and the changes announced today will solidify our efforts to infuse equity and inclusion in the Department's DNA.”

New Jersey is one of the

(Continued on page 14)

TRUMP: THE FBI RAIDED MY HOME

If the reports are true as he claims, then Mar-A-Lago and the Orange Public Library have something in common: getting raided by the Feds.

On Aug. 8, former President Donald Trump announced that the FBI had gain entry into his Florida home. After combing the house, it is said they took out roughly 15 boxes of material, presumably looking for official documents and information that were supposed to remain in federal possession.

There is no word on whether the operation is just to retrieve documents for the purpose of record keeping, or to even add to the Jan. 6th Committee investigation or the case in Georgia being built against Trump for alleged interference in the 2020 Presidential Election.

In his own words, Trump gave this statement in regard to the raid:

“These are dark times for our Nation, as my beautiful home, Mar-A-Lago in Palm Beach, Florida, is currently under siege, raided, and occupied by a large group of FBI agents. Nothing like this has ever happened to a President of the United States before.

“After working and cooperating with the relevant Government agencies, this unannounced raid on my home was not necessary or appropriate. It is prosecutorial misconduct, the weaponization of the Justice Sys-

tem, and an attack by Radical Left Democrats who desperately don’t want me to run for President in 2024, especially based on recent polls, and who will likewise do anything to stop Republicans and Conservatives in the upcoming Midterm Elections.

“Such an assault could only take place in broken, Third-World Countries. Sadly, America has now become one of those Countries, corrupt at a level not seen before. They even broke into my safe! What is the difference between this and Watergate, where operatives broke into the Democrat National Committee? Here, in reverse, Democrats broke into the home of the 45th President of the United States.

“The political persecution of President Donald J. Trump has been going on for years, with the now fully debunked Russia, Russia, Russia Scam, Impeachment Hoax #1, Impeachment Hoax #2, and so much more, it just never ends. It is political targeting at the highest level!

“Hillary Clinton was allowed to delete and acid wash 33,000 E-mails AFTER they were subpoenaed by Congress. Absolutely nothing has happened to hold her accountable. She even took antique furniture, and other items from the White House.

“I stood up to America’s bureaucratic corruption, I restored power to the people,

and truly delivered for our Country, like we have never seen before. The establishment hated it. Now, as they watch my endorsed candidates win big victories, and see my dominance in all polls, they are trying to stop me, and the Republican Party, once more. The lawlessness, political persecution, and Witch Hunt must be exposed and stopped. I will continue to fight for the Great American People!”

Neither the FBI nor anyone in the Justice Department or Biden Administration have confirmed the raid, but according to reports, the officials were armed with a search warrant. However, when House Majority Speaker Nancy Pelosi heard the news during an NBC interview, she replied, “We believe in the rule of law. That’s what our country is about... No person is above the law. Not even the president of the United States. Not even a former president of the United States.”

Speaking of the current president, if the GOP wins a majority in the House and relegates Pelosi to Minority Speaker, Joe Biden will likely face impeachment charges for the raid, as Trump himself was impeached upon similar conduct when his administration investigated Hunter Biden’s activities with Ukraine.

CHANGES TAKING HOLD AT NEW YORK PENN STATION



Story & Photo By Lev D. Zilbermints

NEW YORK - Once full of stores, the lower level of New York Penn Station has changed drastically. Gone are the stores that were on the premises. Places to eat, gift shops, newsstands, Starbucks, all have fallen victim to the effects of the coronavirus and a bad economy.

The only places that are recognizable are the various train platforms taking passengers to different destinations on Long Island via the Long Island Railroad.

Prior to the coronavirus, a newsstand, restaurant, and a flower shop were in the immediate area of LIRR train platforms. A street musician would sometimes entertain waiting passengers with his music. Kids would eat ice cream or some other food that their parents bought for them. Other passengers would read a newspaper or check their cell phones as they awaited a train.

No longer. Now grey-colored slabs block off places where busy stores once stood. Signs telling passengers the routes of their trains hang from these slabs. The only open stores are in the upper floor of Penn Station, where trains going to New Jersey, Pennsylvania, and elsewhere can be found.

Despite electronic signs saying that masks are required at all stations and trains, many people go around without masks. A Metropolitan Transit Authority official told Local Talk that masks are still required on stations and trains.

According to the MTA official, the Transit Authority no longer uses paper schedules. Instead, everything is now online. By comparison, New Jersey Transit still uses paper schedules as well as online schedules.

It is far from clear when stores in the lower level of NY Penn Station will reopen.

MONKEYPOX VACCINE

(Continued from page 9)

JYNNEOS has been tested in individuals with immunocompromising conditions and has been found to be safe and effective in the trials that were performed to support approval. It was initially developed specifi-

cally as an alternative for use in immunocompromised individuals in the event of a smallpox outbreak.

On the basis of the determination by the Secretary of the Department of Health and Human Services on Aug. 9, 2022, that there is a public health emergency, or the significant potential for a public health

emergency, that has a significant potential to affect national security or the health and security of United States citizens living abroad, and the declaration on Aug. 9, 2022, that circumstances exist justifying the emergency use of vaccines, the FDA may issue an EUA to allow emergency use of unapproved vaccines

or unapproved uses of approved vaccines.

The FDA will provide updates as developments occur and will continue to work with federal public health partners and industry to ensure timely access to all available medical countermeasures. More information can be found on the agency’s monkeypox webpage.

The Observation Booth



OP-ED By Andrea Dialect

THE PEOPLE'S ART

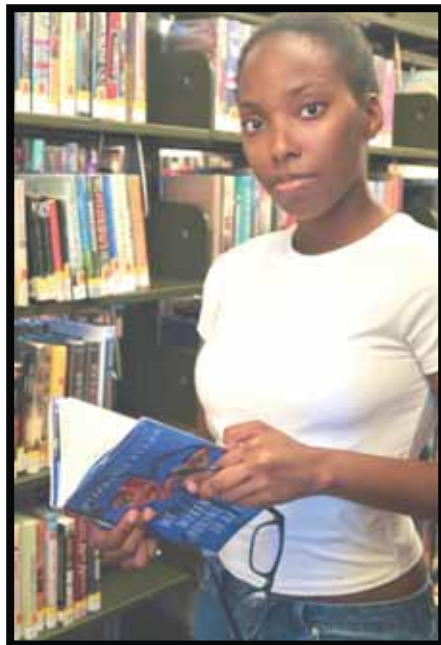
Be normal, why do you choose to cry so easily? You do it for attention. You're ignorant you're...Shut up, shut up, please just shut up!

I've been torn down enough. I've been stripped of who I was. The real me has been covered up for years. I have been torn. I have been painted over. I am everyone's artwork but my own. Everyone has an opinion on how I look, how I talk, how I act. I am supposed to fit in this perfect coffin, I mean box. But this box feels less like a box and more like a cell. A perfect place for a black girl; a cell or in a coffin six feet under. But what is the difference between this cell? The doors are open but I'm in the corner covering in fear. If I get close to it I get shamed for wanting freedom. Are you not grateful for what we have made of you? You are beautiful now!

I never knew that bruises

were beautiful. I never realized that cheeks stained with tears were beautiful. Maybe their right, I should sit in my corner and be grateful for the artwork they have made of me.

I am the people's artwork. I am their art piece for them to adore and pick apart and take away the pieces they dislike. No more smiles you'll get wrinkles instead and tears to keep those cheeks moist. No more nails, bite those until you no longer can. When you're done we'll cut out those parts of you that are still you. You are our artwork after all! - Copyright Jada Crosby, 2021



Poet / Writer Jada Crosby
Photo Credit: Andrea Dialect

POETIC JADA

We met at a bus stop, "Hello there!"

"Hello!" she replied ... She reminded me of my granny's daughter Serenity. In my opinion, she was a peek into her future, or had she become one in

establish that diverse and inclusive organizations are more successful, more innovative, and more likely to attract and retain top talent. In addition, the Department's commitment to working with and understanding the needs and concerns of diverse communities has never been more crucial to the effectiveness and the ability of LPS to carry out its mission.

The Attorney General's Office is providing additional resources to carry out the work of ODEI, including posting for new roles that include a senior Deputy Attorney General, analyst, and



Jada's Imagery
By Glenn Hamilton Aka Hassan

mine? It was as if I was looking at my little Serenity now and perhaps how she'd move in the world at Jada's present age. The way she looked out of her eyes, the extended pauses in-between choice words; her movements, shyness, sophistication, and her ever-present innocence which at twenty years old today's time is still intact. I pray, God please allow Serenity at such an age to maintain hers too for goodness' sakes.

The questions asked during our small talk had been. What do you like to do, and how do you pass time? She said, "I write poetry!" I was quite impressed by "The People's Art" and "The Sun & Moon People," so impressed that I reached out to three extraordinary artists. Glenn Hamilton aka "Hassan," the drawing is his interpretation of "The People's Art" I photographed both Trainer, Dancer & Model "Queen Jackie" and Afro Beat Dancer & Choreographer "Diana The Dragon" for my

administrative support dedicated to advancing the Department's DEI mission. Those job postings are accessible here: <https://www.njoag.gov/careers/all-job-postings/>.

Since 2016, Assistant Attorney General Fong has served as a member of the AG's Executive Leadership team, responsible for leading the Department's DEI efforts. During this time the Department has established six Employee Resource Groups (Women, Military, Black, Asian, Latino/Hispanic, and LGBTQ+ employees and their allies), expanded LPS's Diversity Council,



Diana The Dragon
Dancer / Choreographer

photographic depiction of the work. I thought that their beauty embodied this piece perfectly, do enjoy the printed exhibit.

Contemplate "The People's Art" and look at the images simultaneously. What do you feel? What do you get from the artist? What do you think? ... Enjoy!



Queen Jackie Baker
Dancer, Model & Trainer

Read this article in its entirety at www.localtalkweekly.com and type The Observation Booth, Andrea Dialect and/or Entertainment Section. If you have any questions or comments, send them to localtalkandrea@gmail.com.

and has created Division-specific units in support of DEI, for example, at the New Jersey State Police. The Department has further and intentionally evolved its culture to be more inclusive, promoting cross-cultural programs, delivering training and education, and re-architecting systems and processes to be more equitable and reduce unconscious bias. Though more work remains to be done, the Department is committed to sustained progress.

For more information, please visit <https://www.njoag.gov/programs/diversity-inclusion/>.

OFFICE OF D.E.I.

(Continued from page 12)

most diverse states in the nation, ranking among the top 10 U.S. states with the highest diversity index, as measured by the 2020 U.S. Census. In addition, the State reflects great diversity across socioeconomic factors, such as household income and educational attainment, as well as cultural or religious aspects, for example, in the languages spoken or faiths observed in the Garden State.

Decades of research findings

TOWN WATCH

(Continued from page 10)

voters, going by what the signed petitions the Essex County Clerk's Elections Division office have received and reviewed, will be picking at least one fresh face onto their board of education in the Nov. 8 election.

Registered voters have two incumbents and three challengers vying for three three-year seats.

Current BOE President Jill Fischman and Member Benjamin Morse are two of the three incumbents who have filed for prospective re-election. Board Member Daniel Anderson, however, has declined running again.

It is not clear as of press time whether Fischman and Morse will run on a common ticket or platform. School board candidates, by state law, are allowed to run together - so long as their organization does not mention any political party.

Phyllis Gerber, Josefina Rosairo-Simone and Joshua Trojak are running first-time campaigns.

GLEN RIDGE - Five borough residents - two incumbents and three challengers - are those who registered Glen Ridge voters are to choose from here on Nov. 8 to fill three three-year board of education seats.

Current Glen Ridge BOE President Elisabeth Ginzburg and Dr. Heather Yaros-Ramos are seeking re-election. Board Vice President Michael de Leeuw, however, has not filed petitions to run.

Challenging are Tricia Akinwande, Darrius K. Dehnad and Steven Lord.

All borough school board candidates, like runners for mayor and borough council, are nonpartisan - but in Glen Ridge fashion.

Municipal level candidates are seeking the endorsement of the borough's own Civic Conference Committee. The home-grown CCC has members from various groups, with a representative each from the Republican and Democratic parties.

MONTCLAIR - The township, among 34 other named and unnamed respondents, have until Aug. 23 to reply to harassment charges filed by a Bloomfield attorney.

Theodore Bohn, Esq., in his July 23 filing in State Superior Court-Newark, is accusing the township government, Newark Fire Department firefighter Alex J. Timoff plus unnamed members of Montclair's fire, police and EMS personnel and their benevolent associations of "15 years of harassment." Bohn, a 45-year lawyer specializing in civil and gay rights,

is representing himself.

Bohn said that the train of harassment began when he was working on a case of a New York City firefighter who had allegedly acted as an accomplice to a 2007 assault on two AIDS organization volunteers. The incidents began with the theft, opening and vandalizing of his mail, cut phone lines, slashed tires and the unauthorized use of first responder vehicle lights and sirens.

The harassment later elevated to first responders trailing his vehicle with their service lights on plus blocking the intersection before his house and telling him that they monitor his every move.

Bohn has leveled a count of privacy invasion and two counts of "violating the State Constitution." He is seeking declaratory and injunctive relief against the respondents plus compensatory and punitive damages and attorneys fees.

Timoff, 30, of Bloomfield, was named by Bohn for allegedly wearing an NFD uniform and using an NFD vehicle to block Bohn's on March 22, 2019.

Bohn and Timoff had been in court before, starting with the former filing suit against the latter in May 2019. A judge granted a default judgement for Bohn when Timoff had failed to appear for a deposition in November 2021.

BELLEVILLE - Township police officers said they had stopped a July-long house burglary string when they had found their suspect walking along Washington Avenue and Essex Street July 26.

The walker - identified as Jose Lopez, 45, of Newark - matched descriptions given by the victims of burglaries on July 8, 22 and 25. Two juveniles said they hid in a Stephens Street bedroom at 10:22 a.m. July 8, while the burglar took \$7,000 worth of jewelry.

A Division Avenue resident reported on 1:45 p.m. July 22 that someone had forced a door open and left with \$600 cash, two sunglasses and jewelry. A Rossmore Place resident reported on July 25 that someone pried open the front door and took \$300 cash, Social Security cards, passports and other documents.

Lopez, who was also linked to a 2020 burglary recording, remains in Newark's Essex County Correctional Facility since July 26. He has been charged with three counts of theft of movable property, two counts of burglary by entry and a count each of burglary by remaining inside and possession of burglary tools.

BPD also found Lopez as having three outstanding warrants from the Mercer County Sheriff's Office and a charge each from Mercer County Superior Court, Linden Municipal Court and the Newark Po-

lice Department.

NUTLEY - Township police officers said they had arrested a resident July 23 for, among other charges, attempting to break into a locked patrol car.

Two NPD officers on motor patrol said they were responding to a report of an auto theft attempt along Centre Street that Saturday when they had encountered a man later identified as Timothy Murphy.

Murphy, said the officers, then tried to assault them and tried to enter their cruiser. Murphy, 32, was taken to Nutley Police Headquarters where he refused to be fingerprinted.

Murphy was charged for refusing to submit fingerprints, third-degree assault of a law enforcement officer, third-degree burglary to a motor vehicle and conspiracy to commit auto theft.

He was also given a Nutley citation for improper behavior before being remanded to Newark's Essex County Correctional Facility.

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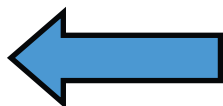
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