

LOCAL TALK

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OFFICIAL NEWSPAPER

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HOW ORANGE MISSED OUT ON STATE LIBRARY CONSTRUCTION BOND MONEY



File Photo

By Walter Elliott

ORANGE - Patrons, friends and staff of the Orange Public Library can only sigh and ask themselves "What If?" while watching construction developments at some of their neighboring towns' libraries.

All OPL cardholders with current Regional Essex Borrowing Libraries can go to the next towns over to see their changes.

One can enter the East Orange Public Library's Main Branch and see \$1 million worth of recent renovations that have created an open floor plan.

The South Orange Public Library is in the midst of a \$13,360,383 project to renovate their current 1968 building and their historic Connett Library building next door. Its final phase includes building a connector between the buildings.

West Orange and Maplewood are getting new libraries.

WOPL will be moved from its current 1959/79 building at 46 Mt. Pleasant Ave. uphill to the former Lincoln Technical Institute and Beatrice Foods headquarters at 10 Rooney Circle. That move will take place after a \$6,196,434 repurposing of that former office building to the Essex Green's Shopping Plaza's north.

Maplewood officials broke ground in October on replacing all but the walls of the 1950s-era split-level Memorial or Main Library at 51 Baker St. Its "Library for the 21st Century" will increase its seating capacity by 77 percent and collection space by four percent in a building that will be 35 percent larger.

The Newark Public Library system and the Belleville and Nutley libraries are taking on smaller scaled but still visible projects.

NPL, after \$3,607,474 worth of work, will re-open its former "Business Library Branch" at 34 Commerce St. downtown as "The New Charles F. Cummings NJ Information Center." The Cummings Center has been long-lodged on the Main Branch's first - and now third - floor.

The Belleville Public Library and Information Center has earmarked \$300,000 to resurface the complex's roof and replace its second floor windows. It is not immediately clear whether the work will be for either its original 1911 Carnegie Building or its 1929 and 1970s extensions - or all structures.

The Nutley Free Public Library is applying \$568,230 to replace its obsolete HVAC sys-

(Continued on page 9)

SETON HALL OPENS TO HIGH EXPECTATIONS



PAGE 5

Photo Courtesy Peter Long, SHU Athletics

NEWARK RAPPER SHOT DEAD IN WEST WARD

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To
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Editorial
 Dhiren Shah
 Editor-In-Chief

Hello Readers,

The Election was a surprise for the Republican Party. They were expecting way more seats in Congress and 3 more seats in the Senate. The Senate already has 50 seats for the Democrats, with the deciding vote by chairperson and VP Kamala Harris to give them a majority. The Republicans have 49 seats so far and one runoff election of Georgia will decide if there is a clear majority or not for the Democrats. As of Nov. 16, Republicans have 217 congress seats and the Democrats have 206 seats in the House, with 12 seats not declared yet. While many of the remaining 12 seats will be in favor of the Democrats, the Republicans only need one more seat to clinch the majority.

The pollsters were predicting about 232 seats for the Republi-

cans, but it will not be close to that. It was a disappointing result for the Republicans. Despite a tough economy, the Russia-Ukraine war, and the highest illegal immigrant count in years, the Democrats had a strong showing, alleging that many in the GOP posed a threat to democracy and abortion rights.

The progressive Caucus of the Democrats has 98 members, led by Congresswoman Pramila Jayapal. Out of 98 members, 30 members of the progressive Caucus of the Democrats signed a letter urging President Biden to negotiate a settlement between Russia and Ukraine. After a few months it was mailed to the President. I think Biden and his team did not like the idea, so after a long and furious debate they retracted the letter. Now there's a problem. As usual, politicians know how to blame others. 30 congresspersons signed the letter, and I think they all raise their hands, except one. The blame game started, and they blamed the staff for forwarding the letter to the President. As you all know, the staff follows the instructions, but their employers do

not care about the people. They blame the staff, rather than being courageous to accept something as their fault.

The letter states, "If there is a way to end the war while preserving a free and independent Ukraine, it is America's responsibility to pursue every diplomatic avenue to support such a solution that is acceptable to the people of Ukraine...In recent weeks, the risk of nuclear war has increased, fighting escalated, and global economic insecurity deepened. Thousands of people are dead and tens of millions more impacted." They also requested that the United States should explore possible avenues to settle the war.

According to The Guardian: "In the original letter, sent to the White House on Monday and first reported by the Washington Post, the progressive Democrats called on Biden to make 'vigorous diplomatic efforts' towards a 'negotiated settlement and ceasefire.' They highlighted the global hunger and poverty that could ensue from Russia's illegal invasion of Ukraine as well as 'elevated gas and food

prices at home,' concluding that America's top priority should be to seek 'a rapid end to the conflict.'"

Per CNN: "The committee has previously held witnesses in contempt of Congress for defying the panel's subpoenas but has little ability to force compliance with the subpoena quickly through the courts. Trump sued the committee on November 11 as a way to challenge its subpoena according to filings in a federal court in Florida. His lawsuit sought to challenge both the legitimacy of the committee - which multiple courts have upheld - and claim he should be immune from testimony about the time he was president."

As expected, Donald Trump announced on Tuesday for his 3rd run for the presidency. It was not a surprise. By announcing his presidency, he might stop legal proceedings against him for the time being, but not all of them.

Have a wonderful week.

I'll talk to you next week.

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WEATHER FOR THE WEEK

<u>THURSDAY</u>	<u>FRIDAY</u>	<u>SATURDAY</u>	<u>SUNDAY</u>	<u>MONDAY</u>	<u>TUESDAY</u>	<u>WEDNESDAY</u>
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The Doctor Is In



OP-ED BY DR. ADIL MANZOOR

How Influenza, RSV and Other Viruses Affect Children

Viral infections are quite common among people of all ages. Still, children under 5 years (particularly those under 2 years) are more susceptible to viral infections. This is because they have yet to build the required immunity to fight off most viral in-

fections.

One of the most common viral infections that affect kids is "Flu," short for "Influenza", although it could be used to refer to other illnesses sometimes. Flu is a respiratory illness caused by the Influenza virus. It usually presents with symptoms like fever, muscle aches, headaches, cough, tiredness, sore throat, etc. A major difference between people infected by the flu and those infected with the cold virus is that people infected with the flu usually feel sicker and want to stay in bed all day.

Adults and children might have similar symptoms for flu most times. However, there are some differences. Symptoms like stomach upsets, nausea, diarrhea and abdominal (stomach) pain are more likely in younger children. Newborns and infants might have very high body temperatures with no other accompanying symptoms. The flu could also result in other complications in young children, such as croup (infection of the throat and vocal cords), pneumonia (infection of



tiny air sacs in the lungs) and bronchiolitis (infection of tiny airways that leads to the lungs).

Most of the people who are infected with the flu virus tend to recover on their own. However, children under the age of 5 should be taken to their pediatrician for evaluation for high fever especially during this season where we are seeing very high influenza activity. Children with chronic conditions, such as asthma, diabetes, and nervous disorders, are also prone to more severe forms of flu and should be seen by their pediatrician as soon as possible if flu is suspected.

Just like most respiratory virus infections, the flu virus is spread by contact with droplets released by infected persons into the atmosphere. This also makes kids more prone to infection as they constantly touch their eyes, face and mouth during the day. Therefore, necessary precautions must be taken to keep their environments, belongings and even caregivers clean and safe to prevent infection.

According to the CDC, it is also advisable for everyone six months and above to get a yearly vaccination against the flu. This is because there is a usual yearly flu outbreak during the fall. Then the vaccine itself wears off after some time, although it is sufficient for an entire flu season (usually November to April).

RSV (Respiratory Syncytial Virus) is another major cause of respiratory illness in young children. RSV infection is so common among children. In fact, almost all children are infected

by RSV in their first 24 months (about 2 years). RSV could also infect adults but usually milder in adults and older children. It could be more severe in younger children, particularly premature infants, infants younger than 6 months, and children with weakened immune systems.

RSV usually presents with symptoms such as runny nose, sore throat, mild headaches, decreased appetite, and cough, which may progress to wheezing. Infants are also likely to present with other symptoms like irritability, decreased activity and apnea (pauses while breathing). Both children and adults might develop a fever when infected with RSV. However, fever may not always occur with RSV infections.

Like the flu virus, RSV has a yearly seasonal outbreak. The RSV outbreak usually occurs in the United States during fall, winter and spring. Unfortunately, the RSV virus does not yet have a vaccine that could be used for protection. Also, being infected by the virus does not prevent reinfection. This means that the precautionary measures against infection of RSV are limited to proper hygiene. Notwithstanding, healthcare providers usually administer palivizumab, a monoclonal antibody, to babies at high risk of infection during the RSV season.

Some of the other viruses responsible for viral respiratory infections in children are rhinoviruses, parainfluenza viruses, enteroviruses, coronaviruses, human metapneumovirus and

(Continued on page 14)

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SPORTS WRAP



Photos By William Hathaway, Jr.

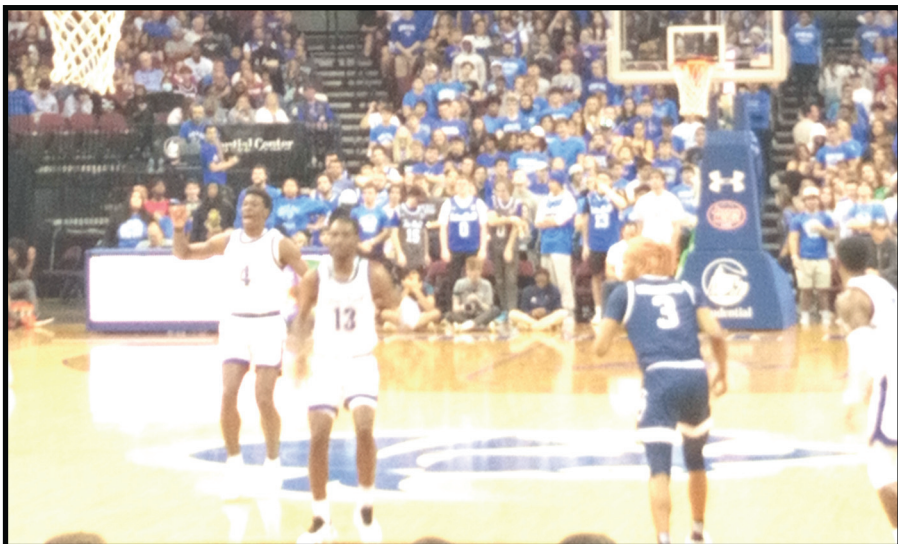
By William Hathaway, Jr.

We have more champions out of Essex County. First, 6th seeded West Orange took a Section 2 Group 5 crown thanks to a 28-7 win over Phillipsburg. This marks the first ever Group title in West Orange High's history. The Mountaineers have been on the road since the playoffs began, and will do so again this weekend against Passaic County Tech in the state sectional semifinal round. Leading West Orange was Adonis White with 127 yards on 14 carries, while junior Rayel Hunter and Jarvis Jones made key plays. WOHS is 8-3 on the season.

Another area team with a title is Weequahic, who sits at 10-1 on the season after beating Cedar Grove 21-10 for the Section 2 Group 1 championship.

In college basketball, the Seton Hall men's basketball team has started off their season well, beating St. Peter's 80-44 at the Prudential Center. Dre Davis gave The Hall 13 points and 3 rebounds, AL-Amir Dawes had 13 points and 10 rebounds, and Tyrese Samuel had 12 points and 3 rebounds. St. Peter's meanwhile got 13 points from Jaylen Murray. Seton Hall shot 52 percent as a team but turned the ball over 16 times. The 2-0 Pirates did outrebound the Peacocks 41-31. This game had added significance, as head coach Shaheen Holloway coached against the team he led to a magical run in the NCAA tournament.

After the game, Holloway said, "I don't think we played well today. It's a work in progress. I am proud of my guys we did a lot better than the last



They will travel to mountain lakes this weekend for the game other area team. Finally, the 11-0 Caldwell Chiefs won themselves another Group championship, beating Newton 35-7 this past weekend for the Section 2 Group 1 crown.

game against Monmouth."

Seton Hall's first win this year came in a 79-52 win over Monmouth University. The Pirates will next take on Wagner on Sunday.

In other sports, the Giants improved to 7-2 on the year af-



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ter a 24-16 home win over the Houston Texans. The Jets enjoyed a bye week. In the NBA, the Nets promoted assistant Jacque Vaughn to head coach, all while Kyrie Irving serves a suspension over posting a link to an anti-Semitic film on Twitter.

Finally, the sports world is mourning the death of three University of Virginia football players. Devin Chandler, Lavel Davis Jr. and D'Sean Perry were all killed by Christopher Darnell Jones Jr., who had been on the team but did not play in any game. The group and other stu-

dents were returning from a field trip, where two others, Marlee Morgan and Michael Hollins, were shot but survived. Jones was denied bail, and faces several charges, including three charges of second-degree murder and three counts of using a handgun in the commission of a felony.

The Cavaliers cancelled their final 2022 home game against Coastal Carolina, and the status of their season finale against in-state rival Virginia Tech is unclear.



8 BILLION STRONG

WORLD

For many years, people have said there are “8 billion people on Earth.” Now, it is finally true.

According to the United Nations, the global population reached 8 billion on Nov. 15, 2022, and India is projected to surpass China as the world’s most populous country in 2023, according to World Population Prospects 2022, released on World Population Day.

“This year’s World Population Day falls during a milestone year, when we anticipate the birth of the Earth’s eight billionth inhabitant. This is an occasion to celebrate our diversity, recognize our common humanity, and marvel at advancements in health that have extended lifespans and dramatically reduced maternal and child mortality rates,” said UN Secretary-General António Guterres. “At the same time, it is a reminder of our shared responsibility to care for our planet and a moment to reflect on where we still fall short of our commitments to one another,” he added.

The global population is growing at its slowest rate since 1950, having fallen under 1 percent in 2020. The latest projections by the United Nations suggest that the world’s population could grow to around 8.5 billion in 2030 and 9.7 billion in 2050. It is projected to reach a peak of around 10.4 billion people during the 2080s and to remain at that level until 2100.

World Population Prospects 2022 also states that fertility has fallen markedly in recent decades for many countries. Today, two-thirds of the global population lives in a country or area where lifetime fertility is below 2.1 births per woman, roughly the level required for zero growth in the long run for a population with low mortality. The populations of 61 countries or areas are projected to decrease by 1 percent or more between 2022 and 2050, owing to sus-

tained low levels of fertility and, in some cases, elevated rates of emigration.

More than half of the projected increase in the global population up to 2050 will be concentrated in eight countries: the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Egypt, Ethiopia, India, Nigeria, Pakistan, the Philippines and the United Republic of Tanzania. Countries of sub-Saharan Africa are expected to contribute over half of the increase anticipated through 2050.

“The relationship between population growth and sustainable development is complex and multidimensional” said Liu Zhenmin, UN Under-Secretary-General for Economic and Social Affairs. “Rapid population growth makes eradicating poverty, combatting hunger and malnutrition, and increasing the coverage of health and education systems more difficult.

“Conversely, achieving the Sustainable Development Goals, especially those related to health, education and gender equality, will contribute to reducing fertility levels and slowing global population growth.”

Global life expectancy at birth reached 72.8 years in 2019, an improvement of almost 9 years since 1990. Further reductions in mortality are projected to result in an average global longevity of around 77.2 years in 2050. Yet in 2021, life expectancy for the least developed countries lagged 7 years behind the global average.

The COVID-19 pandemic has affected all three components of population change. Global life expectancy at birth fell to 71.0 years in 2021. In some countries, successive waves of the pandemic may have produced short-term reductions in numbers of pregnancies and births, while for many other countries, there is little evidence of an impact on fertility levels or trends. The pandemic severely restricted all forms of human mobility, including international migration.

CONCERNS ABOUT YOUTH AND TOBACCO

UNITED STATES

A study released Nov. 10 from the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and the

U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) found that 3.08 million (11.3%) U.S. middle and high school students reported current (past 30-day) use of any tobacco product in 2022, which includes 2.51 million (16.5%) high school students and 530,000 (4.5%) middle school students.

The study assessed eight commercial tobacco products. E-cigarettes - for the ninth consecutive year - were the most commonly used tobacco product among all students (2.55 million), followed by cigars (500,000), cigarettes (440,000), smokeless tobacco (330,000), hookah (290,000), nicotine pouches (280,000), heated tobacco products (260,000), and pipe tobacco (150,000). The term “tobacco product” as used in this report refers to commercial tobacco products and not to sacred and traditional use of tobacco by some American Indian communities.

Among all race and ethnicity groups, non-Hispanic American Indian or Alaska Native students had the highest percentage of any tobacco product use (13.5%), while non-Hispanic White students reported the highest percentage of e-cigarette use (11.0%). Approximately one million youth reported using any combustible tobacco product; non-Hispanic Black students reported the highest percentage of combustible tobacco product use (5.7%), including cigar use (3.3%).

Additional groups with a higher percentage of tobacco product use were those reporting grades of mostly Fs (27.2%); those reporting severe symptoms of psychological distress (18.3%); those who identified as transgender (16.6%) or as lesbian, gay, or bisexual (16.0%); and those with low family affluence (12.5%).

“Commercial tobacco product use continues to threaten the health of our nation’s youth, and disparities in youth tobacco product use persist,” said Deirdre Lawrence Kittner, Ph.D., M.P.H., director of CDC’s Office on Smoking and Health. “By addressing the factors that lead to youth tobacco product use and helping youth to quit, we can give our nation’s young people the best opportunity to live their healthiest lives.”

This study’s findings, published in Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Report, were based on data from the 2022 National Youth Tobacco Survey (NYTS). NYTS, a cross-sectional, self-administered survey of U.S. middle (grades 6-8) and high (grades 9-12) school students, was administered Jan. 18 - May 31, 2022. Changes in methodology limit the ability to compare estimates from 2022 with those from prior years.

Many factors contribute to youth tobacco product use, including flavors, marketing, and misperceptions of harm. Most youth who use tobacco products, including e-cigarettes, want to quit.

There are, however, ongoing efforts at the national, state, and local levels to help reduce youth tobacco product use, such as enforcing the federal minimum age of sale of 21 years for all tobacco product types; FDA’s ongoing actions against sales of unauthorized e-cigarettes; state and community restrictions on the sale of flavored tobacco products; efforts to raise the price and prohibit public indoor use of tobacco products; media campaigns and other education efforts that warn about the dangers of tobacco product use.

RUSSIA AND REPARATIONS

WORLD

The UN General Assembly on Nov. 14 adopted a resolution that calls for Russia to pay war reparations to Ukraine, as ambassadors met to resume their emergency special session devoted to the conflict.

Nearly 50 nations co-sponsored the resolution on establishing an international mechanism for compensation for damage, loss and injury, as well as a register to document evidence and claims.

The General Assembly is the UN’s most representative body, comprising all 193 Member States. Ninety-four countries voted in favor of the resolution, and 14 against, while 73 abstained.

The vote took place in the morning, and countries returned in the afternoon to explain their decisions.

(Continued on page 11)

BLACK LIVES, ANIMAL LIVES, ALL LIVES MATTER



By Michelle Lowe
EST...1996
Message For You

Hello everyone, how are you today? I hope all is good, and if not, make it today. Before I get into my conversation, I would like to firstly thank all the people that supported me and also became pet guardians. The pets are all cared for and have their new homes with their new loving families. I appreciate you guys, and may you all live happily and love your new little ones. May they bring lots of joy.



Next, pointing to troubled friendships, are you having problems folks? Not everyone is meant to be in your life. Friendships can take you up and also bring you down. My advice is to keep to yourself and be your own friend first, love yourself, your strength. You still have to go on rather than anyone there or not. Life must move on folks.

I'm sure we all know the term, not everyone is your friend. For me it's been hard to trust too many deceitful, dishonest, jealous, just cold folks dwelling on a downfall to happen. But when I do, it's a bond you can't break. Since my love passed on, there's not one day I don't miss him. He was just as well a best friend that you will hold on to until the end. People like that, they only come once, but you never know what life

has in store for you. All but foremost I am my own friend and that is the most important fact...



Getting into this animal hunting that I'm totally against. I never could understand why this would be passed or even allowed. Hunting is killing. Killing innocent animals traveling along the way trying to maintain and focus on their business, and out of nowhere, they're gone. Bear hunting, I wish they stop that madness. Animals are not souvenirs; they are living creatures like we are living people. Bears, deer, birds, etc. How could these animals defend themselves against a gun? That's not fair. And free killing I call it, which is not fair either, but some folks like to do this on their own time with a gun, smdh.

We have zoos, places for animals to be safe. Consider doing the right thing and send the animals to where they will be okay. But why kill off more and more every year? We barely have any animals left due to stuff like hunting season. I am totally against hunting season. Is this what having a gun is for? smh.



P.S. For those animal lovers out there, please let us do what is right and stop this chaos, killing innocent lives. Until next time everyone, peace and love.

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Municipality	11-9-2022	Deaths	11-16-2022	Deaths
Belleville	13,163	156	13,221	156
Bloomfield	14,645	168	14,708	168
Caldwell	2,004	18	2,008	18
Cedar Grove	4,707	140	4,737	141
City of Orange	9,681	176	9,736	176
East Orange	20,092	390	20,173	390
Essex Fells	604	2	606	2
Fairfield	2,393	39	2,398	40
Glen Ridge	1,546	19	1,555	19
Irvington	13,759	282	13,802	283
Livingston	8,059	108	8,097	109
Maplewood	6,416	49	6,432	49
Millburn	4,546	18	4,559	18
Montclair	8,591	91	8,636	91
Newark	92,330	1,274	92,685	1,274
North Caldwell	1,771	10	1,782	10
Nutley	7,895	88	7,929	90
Roseland	1,699	26	1,707	26
South Orange	4,262	22	4,276	22
Verona	4,035	25	4,048	25
West Caldwell	3,332	67	3,339	67
West Orange	15,985	270	16,060	271
Total	241,515	3,438	242,494	3,445

OTHER COVID-19 TALLIES (As of November 16, 2022)
NJ: 2,386,860 cases / 31,901 deaths (Plus 3,116 probable)
United States (approx.): 98.149 Million / 1.076 Million deaths
Worldwide (approx.): 636.156 Million / 6.614 Million deaths

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ORANGE LIBRARY

(Continued from page 1)

tem. It is not clear whether the system to be replaced includes just the 1914 Carnegie-funded building and/or its 1942 and 1990 additions - or the whole complex.

OPL cardholders may also see \$1,674,034 more work in other NPL branches and/or the Glen Ridge Public Library should public library projects here and/or at 61 other public or county libraries across New Jersey fall through.

Those seven above said "Local Talk" libraries are proceeding with thanks from the 2017 New Jersey Library Construction Bond Act. The \$124,619,326.71 act - passed by the State Legislature and supervised by the New Jersey State Library - had granted 20 to 50 percent of project costs among 64 libraries.

The state library had granted \$20,714,177.05 worth of bonded funds to "Local Talk" awarded libraries in two waves on Nov. 20, 2020 and Jan. 12, 2022.

The East Orange, Maplewood and West Orange libraries respectively received \$500,000, \$8,388,250 and \$3,098, 217 in 2020 for their projects.

Belleville, Newark, Nutley and South Orange respectively received \$150,000,

\$1,764,447, \$284,115.05 and \$6,529,140 in 2022. Newark and Glen Ridge are on the "standby" list for \$1,426,673 and \$247,361.

A New Jersey State Library spokeswoman told "Local Talk" 1:30 p.m. Wednesday that the Orange Public Library had not applied for the 2020 round of awards. "OPL had submitted an application for the 2022 round," she added, "but the reviewing committee did not grant it an award."

The NJSL representative was unable to say why OPL did not make the January 2022 cut except that "it was a decision made by the committee."

It is not like OPL's 1900 Stickler Memorial and 1978 southeast wing buildings are above the need.

One or both buildings have had lead paint and asbestos removal in 2010 and to meet federal OSHA regulations 2013-14 under emergency conditions for an overall 14 months. The 2007-installed patron computer terminals are being replaced.

Library Director Stephanie Flood told "Local Talk" Nov. 16 that the OPL Board of Trustees have awarded respective HVAC and 1978 flat roof replacement contracts at their Nov. 10 meeting here.

"We're dealing with a 120-year-old building," said Flood. "The iron pipes that

came with it break and need replacement."

It is not like those with authority - the director at the time, the trustees, Friends of OPL and certain City Hall officials - have no plans for the buildings. Two layout drawings from Somerville architect Dennis Koval, on display in the OPL rotunda, are of proposed layouts for a renovated and expanded library complex.

Those drawings, however, have been on display since Feb. 13, 2020. That was one month before OPL, like most other libraries, were closed during the global COVID-19 pandemic through April 7, 2021. The library reopened for "grab-and-go" lending material pick up and drop off April 8, 2021 before reopening to the public later that year.

The last 12 years have seen several library directors leave, resign or fired. The turbulence was also reflected in a turnover of trustees - a panel appointed by Mayor Dwayne D. Warren.

One former director had pleaded guilty to bribery concerning a \$45,000 contract for an HVAC chiller unit that never arrived.

A former Orange City Business Administrator/Deputy Administrator/Mayor's Chief of Staff and an associate were accused of

(Continued on page 12)

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 RAPPER SHOT DEAD IN WEST WARD

NEWARK - Relatives and friends of an up-and-coming rap artist have been making his funeral arrangements, while authorities search for his killer, since Nov. 8.

Newark police officers, said an Essex County Prosecutor's Office release, had responded to a report "of a male shot" along the 900 block of South Orange Avenue at 2:40 p.m. Election Day. They found a man, later identified as Nyshon Anthony, 23, with a gunshot wound to his head.

NPD officers called ECPO's Homicide and Major Crimes Task Force while taping off South Orange Avenue between South Clinton and Brookwood avenues. Buses on NJTransit's No. 94 and CoachUSA's No. 31 routes were among the detoured traffic.

Anthony was rushed to Newark's University Hospital, where he was declared dead at 2:07 p.m. Nov. 9.

Anthony was also known by his "GunHead" rap name. RIP messages have been posted under his "Jack Sum" and "Second Stream" videos posted on YouTube earlier this year.

IRVINGTON / MAPLEWOOD / SOUTH ORANGE

- Municipal elders and health officials have until Jan. 1 to find animal control and shelter services in the wake of St. Hubert's Animal Welfare's withdrawal.

St. Hubert's, of Madison, informed health officers here and 16 other state municipalities Oct.

22 that it will let its contracts with them lapse on New Year's Day. An official said that a decline of donations has come to where they were spending \$2 in services for every \$1 it receives.

The announcement came before Irvington.net had posted a help wanted ad for a health officer on Nov. 14. This township is being served by Maya Lordo, who is Essex County and Essex County College's health officer. The candidate search is not to affect Irvington's hunt for a St. Hubert's successor.

South Orange and Maplewood are meanwhile looking at "all options," including re-opening the former Jersey Animal Coalition shelter at 298 Walton Ave., South Orange. JAC, which was serving "SOMA" since 1989, closed on Nov. 11, 2014.

The Village of South Orange currently uses 298 Walton for offices. It had awarded a short-term lease in 2016 to the Run Jump Lift fitness center.

Other options for all three "Local Talk" towns include shared service agreements with the East Orange Animal Shelter, the West Orange Animal Shelter, the Montclair Animal Shelter and/or Newark animal shelter operator Associated Humane Society. Bloomfield also has its Bukowski Animal Shelter.

EAST ORANGE - Friends and relatives of Rahem Ross Brown, better known as the rapper "Tame One" or "Tamer Dizzle," held a funeral for him at Newark's Perry Funeral Home Nov. 15. Brown, 52, who has East Orange and Newark ties, died from heart failure Nov. 6.

Mother Darlene Brown Harris said that a medical examiner told her that Brown had "six pharmaceutical drugs that Trinitas Hospital had prescribed him last Friday (Nov. 4), combined with the weed he smoked over the weekend - his heart gave out."

Brown, who was born March 20, 1970, had attended East Orange's Bernie L. Edmonson School before going to Newark's Vailsburg High School. As Tame One, he was cofounder of The Artifacts (of the 1990s), Boomskwad, Leak Bros and The

Weathermen. He released a solo EP, Skwadzilla, in 2015.

Some may recall Tame One's tag as much as his recording of "Wrong Side of Da Tracks." Brown was a graffiti writer and a supporter of the New York area graffiti scene. The Artifacts had released "No Expiration Date" in August.

Fire Displaces 18

City and county fire marshals are investigating what caused a fire to break out at 75-81 North Arlington Ave. early Nov. 14. The blaze damaged the garden apartment building's 16 units and forced 18 residents to temporary housing.

The first responding EOPD units found fire coming from one of the building's third floor apartments at 2:17 a.m. Monday. The incident commander on scene called for an "all hands" second alarm and an evacuation. The fire was brought under control by 2:45 a.m.

ORANGE - City and county law enforcers have been searching for the suspect who took a car in front of a Scotland Road day care center during Nov. 14's evening rush hour - with an infant inside - and abandoned them on a South Ward street minutes later.

Orange Public Safety Director Todd Warren and Acting Essex County Prosecutor Theodore "Ted" Stephens II said that city police officers had responded to a "carjacking in progress" report from 237 Scotland Rd, at 5:35 p.m. Monday.

They were met in front of Blessed Hope Daycare "by a frantic woman," who said that someone had taken her late model Hyundai Elantra with her 8-month-old child in the back seat. OPD officers launched a search, starting with the Hyundai's apparent southern direction on Scotland.

Essex County Sheriff Armando Fontoura said that one of his officers joined the canvassing after learning of Orange's all points bulletin. The sheriff's officer found the car, with the child still inside, abandoned on Conover Terrace between Scotland and Lincoln Avenue, .2

mile south.

Witnesses told the sheriff's officer and 12 arriving Orange officers that a male had stopped the car in the middle of the street and had bailed out. The infant, who was checked by St. Clare's Hospital EMS technicians, was found unharmed and released to the father.

One report had the Elantra being stolen while it was still unlocked and idling. No weapon was shown or used during the theft. Other details are pending as of press time.

The said day care center building started life in the 1970s as an indoor pistol target range.

WEST ORANGE - It took five days after Nov. 8, but township native Mark Kelly was effectively re-elected as one of Arizona's two U.S. Senators Nov. 12.

A majority of Arizonian voters granted the retired fighter pilot and NASA astronaut his first full six-year term over Republican challenger Blake Masters. Kelly (D-Tucson) collected 1,300,471 for 51.4 percent with 98 percent of that state's polling districts reporting.

Masters (R-Tucson) mustered 1,174,755 for 46.5 percent. The venture capitalist had said that he would not concede "until every vote is counted."

Kelly was first elected US Senator over incumbent Martha McSally, 51.2 percent over 48.8 percent, in a Nov. 3, 2020 special election. Sen. McSally (R-Sun City West) was appointed to succeed John McCain, who died in office in 2018.

Kelly entered public service and politics in 2018 in the wake of his wife's shooting. Then-Cong. Gabby Giffords was among 13 people injured by a shooter, who killed six others, during a Tucson area mall meet-and-greet Jan. 8, 2011. Giffords resigned from Congress in 2012.

Mark and twin brother Scott Kelly - who were born in Orange's St. Mary's Hospital Feb. 21, 1964 - were raised in this township's Pleasantdale section. Their Pleasantdale elementary school was renamed in their honor in 2016.

The Kelly brothers, Mountain High School Class of 1982, (Continued on page 13)

WORLD NEWS FLASH

(Continued from page 6)

In presenting the resolution, Ukrainian Ambassador Sergiy Kyslytsya used the biblical adage that “there is nothing new under the sun” as a motif throughout his remarks.

He insisted that Russia must be held accountable for its violations of international law.

“Seventy-seven years ago, the Soviet Union demanded and received reparations, calling it a moral right of a country that has suffered war and occupation,” he said. “Today, Russia, who claims to be the successor of the 20th century’s tyranny, is doing everything it can to avoid paying the price for its own war and occupation, trying to escape accountability for the crimes it is committing.”

Speaking before the vote, Russian Ambassador Vasily Nebenzya characterized the draft resolution as “a classic example” of a narrow group of States acting not on the basis of international law, but rather trying to consecrate something that is illegal.

He said countries backing the resolution were attempting to position the General Assembly as a judicial body, which it is not.

“These countries boast about how committed they are to the rule of law, but at the same time, they are flouting its very semblance,” he added, speaking in Russian.

Mr. Nebenzya said the proposed reparations mechanism will be created by a group of countries that will decide how it functions.

“The UN will play no role in this process because the proposed mechanism is suggested to be created outside of the UN, and no one has any plans to account to the General Assembly for its activity,” he continued.


Furthermore, he had “no doubt” that the funding will come from frozen Russian assets, which total billions.


Western countries have long wanted to unfreeze these assets, he said, not to return them to their owner, or to spend them on helping Ukraine, “but rather so as to fund their own constantly growing weapons supplies to Kyiv, and covering the debts for the weapons already supplied.”

Developing: During a recent missile barrage against Ukraine, intelligence officials are reporting that some missiles struck in Poland, killing two people. Poland is a member of NATO, along with the United States. There is no clear confirmation on if it was Russia’s missile or a Ukrainian missile launched to defend against Russian missiles.

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PONZI SCHEMERS GET BAGGED

EUROPE

Two suspects wanted in connection with an international Ponzi scheme which defrauded thousands of victims in the Republic of Korea have been arrested in Greece and Italy with INTERPOL support.

Polish and German suspects, aged 49 and 61 respectively, were wanted internationally under INTERPOL Red Notices issued by Korean authorities for their alleged role in the scheme, which em-

bezzled approximately EUR 28 million from some 2,000 Korean victims.

The Polish suspect was arrested at Imola race circuit following real time information exchange between the NCB in Rome, Italy’s Guardia di Finanza Investigation unit and INTERPOL. Police at Athens International Airport arrested the German suspect as he attempted to travel to Dubai after an identity check detected his Red Notice status.

INTERPOL’s global network is further supporting ongoing police investigations in Poland where criminals tied to the Ponzi scheme have alleg-

edly scammed thousands of victims.

Posing as an investment opportunity promising attractive returns, the scheme exploited social media chat rooms to promote FutureNet, a large-scale international pyramid scheme which attracted investors via word of mouth and incited them to recruit others between 2016 and 2020.

The victims were led to believe they would benefit from their investment by buying advertisement packs and re-selling them at profit to new users via YouTube and Facebook.



*From
The
Pastor's
Heart*

OP-ED BY DR. ROBERT KENNEDY

Breaking The Curse By Using The Authority Of Jesus

Allow me to use this reflection to ask you ten questions that might determine whether you are under a cursed attack from the devil. Here are the questions.

1. Have you ever felt like you are in a state of deep confusion that even the room where you are feels eerie?
2. Have you ever felt like your world is turning upside-down, and everything is just out of place?
3. Have you ever felt like you were so distracted - your mind wandering all over the place that you could not focus on anything?
4. Have you ever felt like you are under condemnation - everything wrong you have done in life is just haunting you; even though you have confessed and repented, the devil keeps you feeling that God has not forgiven you?
5. Have you been under someone's control - you know you are being manipulated, you know it, but you feel so helpless that you do not feel like you can do anything about it? That you are in a toxic relationship, but you feel trapped?
6. Have you ever felt so much fear that you think you are

- going crazy?
7. Have you ever felt like you are losing your spiritual desires?
8. Have you ever felt like you do not want to pray through a difficult situation?
9. Have you ever been under the control of some old habit that you wish you could put away, but it is just beyond your strength?
10. Have you ever felt like your anger is beyond your power to control?

What do you do when the attacks or curses come upon you? If you have known the way of God when the time is dark, and you seem helpless and alone, I encourage you to use the authority of Jesus. Here is it straight from the Bible, in Psalm 50:17-19:

*Call upon Me in the day of trouble;
I will deliver you, and you shall glorify Me."
But to the wicked God says:
"What **right** have you to declare My statutes,
Or take My covenant in your mouth,
Seeing you hate instruction
And cast My words behind you? (NKJV)*

Alongside the above, let me draw your attention to one of the most significant promises that Jesus Christ gave to those who would be his followers, namely: "Behold, I give you the authority to trample on serpents and scorpions, and over all the power of the enemy, and nothing shall by any means hurt you." (Luke 10:19)

Some people might not claim

this promise, but it is still obtainable. When anyone uses the authority that Jesus has given, such a person can wield the weapon of warfare against all of the attacks the devil will seek to bring upon them. They can detach from any internal and external distress and focus not on what is going in in the world around them but on Jesus Christ.

One commentator on the text quote from Luke 10:19 in the above states that "All our victories over Satan are obtained by power derived from Jesus Christ, and he must have all the praise." (<https://biblehub.com/commentaries/luke/10-19.htm>)

In a longer comment, another expands on the above by noting other Scriptures as support:

"One of the most vital areas of the believer's authority is his power to stand against Satan successfully. Ephesians 4:27 says, neither give place to the devil. In the sixth chapter of Ephesians, the Apostle Paul describes the armor that we, as believers, must wear in combat against Satan. He explains each piece of that armor as the armor of God. But not once does he say that God will put the armor on you or that God will fight the devil for you. The understood subject of these verses is YOU.

"He says, 'YOU be strong in the Lord. YOU put on the whole armor of God that YOU will be able to stand against the wiles of the devil. YOU take the whole armor of God that YOU may be able to withstand in the evil day; and having done all, YOU stand.'

"God has given you the power and the authority to stand against Satan and his destructive works. He has provided the ar-

mor, but it is your responsibility as a believer to put on that armor and stand against the devil. James 4:7 says YOU resist the devil, and he will flee from YOU.

"The armor and the weapons are at your disposal. God is there with you to back His Word, but all is worthless unless you take your position of authority and assume the responsibility to use what He has provided. You have the power and the authority to take the Word of God, the name of Jesus, and the power of the Holy Spirit and chase Satan out of your affairs.

"Don't pray and ask God to fight Satan for you. You are the one in authority. Take responsibility and speak directly to Satan yourself and stand your ground firmly. He will flee!" (<https://biblehub.com/commentaries/luke/10-19.htm>)

The point is that we need not be left to suffer under any attack if we are willing to call upon the name of Jesus, cooperate with Jesus, be obedient to Jesus, and live in constant intimacy with Jesus.

Yes, I know that psychologists can give us a lot of good tools to help us deal with our feelings, but no tool that is given to us to fight any demonic attack is going to do what Jesus Christ can do for us. As is said, "The mightiest of demons, even Satan himself, does not have as much power and authority as the weakest of believers who are filled with the Holy Spirit of God."

The invitation to all is to learn how to use the authority of Jesus. Call upon the name of Jesus and gain victory over the demonic forces that seek to harm you.

LIBRARY (Continued from page 9)

applying to the state and Essex County for a children's Saturday reading literacy program that never ran. It took Essex County two years to recover the program's grant money.

FBI agents served warrants on OPL, along with City Hall, twice in 2016 and 18, as part of the US Department of Justice's investigation of corruption among Orange's institutions. That investigation, which yield-

ed seven guilty pleas in 2020-21, continues.

It appears that a leadership vacuum, the federal investigation and the COVID-triggered public shutdown, in the eyes of "Local Talk," had led to the missed 2020 opportunity.

Flood, who has been OPL's latest director since Sept. 1, 2021, said that both grant applications came and went before her arrival. The former Lincoln Park director has applied for NJSL grants "where appropriate"

and other grants at any opportunity.

"We were awarded an NJSL grant for seven (Apple) iPhones last year," said Flood. "That grant has run out. Grants are competitive but I apply for them at every opportunity. As they say at the lottery, 'You have to be in it to win it.'"

Flood, since Sept. 1, 2021, has made OPL's day-to-day survival her priority. She has previously pointed to the likes of restoring the rest rooms and re-

cataloging the library's fiction and Children's Room collections to the Dewey Decimal System as among her gains.

OPL, since Nov. 5, has reopened on Saturdays and extended the Children's Room hours on Thursday nights. The library - for adults and children - are: 9 a.m.-5 p.m. Mondays-Wednesdays and Fridays. 9 a.m.-8 p.m. Thursdays. 10 a.m.- 2 p.m. Saturdays. Details may be found on OPL's revived orangepl.org website.

FINALLY: NASA'S ARTEMIS I MEGA ROCKET LAUNCHES ORION TO MOON

NASA - After several false starts, a new endeavor is finally set to make for another "giant leap for mankind."

Following a successful launch of NASA's Space Launch System (SLS), the most powerful rocket in the world, the agency's Orion spacecraft is on its way to the Moon as part of the Artemis program. Carrying an uncrewed Orion, SLS lifted off for its flight test debut at 1:47 a.m. EST Nov. 16 from Launch Pad 39B at NASA's Kennedy Space Center in Florida.

The launch is the first leg of a mission in which Orion is planned to travel approximately 40,000 miles beyond the Moon and return to Earth over the course of 25.5 days. Known as Artemis I, the mission is a critical part of NASA's Moon to Mars exploration approach, in which the agency explores for the benefit of humanity. It's an important test for the agency before flying astronauts on the Artemis II mission.

"What an incredible sight to see NASA's Space Launch System rocket and Orion spacecraft launch together for the first time. This uncrewed flight test will push Orion to the limits in the rigors of deep space, helping us prepare for human exploration on the Moon and, ultimately, Mars," said NASA Administrator Bill Nelson.

After reaching its initial orbit, Orion deployed its solar arrays and engineers began performing checkouts of the spacecraft's systems. About 1.5 hours into flight, the rocket's upper stage engine successfully fired

for approximately 18 minutes to give Orion the big push needed to send it out of Earth orbit and toward the Moon.

Orion has separated from its upper stage and is on its outbound coast to the Moon powered by its service module, which is the propulsive powerhouse provided by ESA (European Space Agency) through an international collaboration.

"It's taken a lot to get here, but Orion is now on its way to the Moon," said Jim Free, NASA deputy associate administrator for the Exploration Systems Development Mission Directorate. "This successful launch means NASA and our partners are on a path to explore farther in space than ever before for the benefit of humanity."

Over the next several hours, a series of 10 small science investigations and technology demonstrations, called CubeSats, will deploy from a ring that connected the upper stage to the spacecraft. Each CubeSat has its own mission that has the potential to fill gaps in our knowledge of the solar system or demonstrate technologies that may benefit the design of future missions to explore the Moon and beyond.

Orion's service module will also perform the first of a series of burns to keep Orion on course toward the Moon approximately eight hours after launch. In the coming days, mission controllers at NASA's Johnson Space Center in Houston will conduct additional checkouts and course corrections as needed. Orion is expected to fly by the Moon on



Credits: NASA / Bill Ingalls

Nov. 21, performing a close approach of the lunar surface on its way to a distant retrograde orbit, a highly stable orbit thousands of miles beyond the Moon.

"The Space Launch System rocket delivered the power and performance to send Orion on its way to the Moon," said Mike Sarafin, Artemis I mission manager. "With the accomplishment of the first major milestone of the mission, Orion will now embark on the next phase to test its systems and prepare for future missions with astronauts."

The SLS rocket and Orion spacecraft arrived at Kennedy's Launch Pad 39B on Nov. 4 where they rode out Hurricane Nicole. Following the storm, teams conducted thorough assessments of the rocket, spacecraft, and associated ground systems and confirmed there were no significant impacts from the severe weather.

Engineers previously rolled the rocket back to the Vehicle Assembly Building (VAB) Sept. 26 ahead of Hurricane Ian and after waving off two previous launch attempts Aug. 29 due to a

faulty temperature sensor, and Sept. 4 due to a liquid hydrogen leak at an interface between the rocket and mobile launcher. Prior to rolling back to the VAB, teams successfully repaired the leak and demonstrated updated tanking procedures. While in the VAB, teams performed standard maintenance to repair minor damage to the foam and cork on the thermal protection system and recharge or replace batteries throughout the system.

Artemis I is supported by thousands of people around the world, from contractors who built Orion and SLS, and the ground infrastructure needed to launch them, to international and university partners, to small businesses supplying subsystems and components.

Through Artemis missions, NASA will land the first woman and the first person of color on the surface of the Moon, paving the way for a long-term lunar presence and serving as a steppingstone for astronauts on the way to Mars.

TOWN WATCH

(Continued from page 10)

moved to the Sun Belt to pursue their US Navy and NASA careers. Mark, who has four Space Shuttle and International Space Station flights to his name, may be best known as the earthbound "control subject" while Scott spent a year on the ISS 2015-16.

BLOOMFIELD - Testimony over traffic at the former Friendly's on Broad Street, based on what was heard before the Bloomfield Planning Board Nov.

9, will most likely take up the bulk of the board's Dec. 6 session.

Applicant Finomus Bloomfield Re Holdings, who wants to replace the closed Friendly's at 1243 Broad St. with a combined Taco Bell/Wendy's, brought a new traffic analysis before township planners and the public Nov. 9. Traffic engineer John Corak presented projected vehicular traffic data where customers' peak period would not interfere with Brookdale Elementary School's afternoon dismissal across the street.

Corak's projected peak period of 90 customers, however, brought concerns from township officials. The 90, who would be getting advance-ordered food from a pickup window, said several board members, may overwhelm the site's intended 29 parking spaces.

Bloomfield Fire Prevention Subcode Official Vincent Colavitti said that the eatery's northbound traffic at that time would spill back across the Bloomfield fire station next door. Mark Leber, the applicant's engineer, said that the spillback

came from the timing of the traffic light at Broad Street and West Passaic Avenue.

The would-be Taco Bell and Wendy's are drawn without a drive-through window - which is banned in the site's zoning. Some board members and via Zoom residents wondered, however, whether the intended pickup window is a "stealth" drive-through portal.

Several speakers asked whether customers arriving from southbound Broad Street would use residential streets like Moun-

(Continued on page 15)

The Observation Booth



BOAT LIFE (PART 1)



Photos Courtesy Andrea Dialect

sent climate has transformed me into less of a weirdo and more into a Sista who knows how to take that sour lemon with the browning rind and make that banging lemonade.

Now those crazy life stylin' recipes are constantly being distributed at request. Yet, my minimalistic life of adventure pales in comparison to the days gone by and the soon-to-be unplugged liveaboard life that Mr. Carter will live on his own terms. Just to think that a comfortably adventurous life is a staycation that we all can enjoy. Yep, you & I can be about that life if we want too. Thanks to the lifestylin' example of Captain Eric. Salute!

AYE AYE CAPTAIN...

I wasn't looking for this as a lifestyle, but my ex-wife's cousin happened to buy a boat in Charleston North Carolina; it took her two months to get it up here because it broke down two or three times. When she got it here, she had planned on totally renovating the boat. So, she hired me and my son to renovate it and after being on that boat when it was on that water and that subtle swaying back and forth, I was hooked. I had to find me a boat. - Eric Carter

THE NEGOTIATOR

"The brief version of my life styling journey begins when I bought my first three-family house in Newark for two thousand dollars which was years ago. It was two thousand dollars



because I had to totally rehab the house. Back then there were a lot of vacant houses and I got that one through a HUD auction. I bought my second three-family house in East Orange a couple of years later for fifty-eight hundred. Then I brought a six family in Montclair in Depot Square right across from the Walnut Street Train Station.

"After that I bought a thirty-six-unit building on Ampere Plaza in East Orange for sixty thousand and they took back the mortgage. I didn't have to apply for a mortgage because at the time Carter was President and the interest rates were 21 percent. So the owners agreed to hold the mortgage and I paid them directly.

"After that, we were riding our bikes one day in upper Montclair and we came across this lot for sale. I brought the lot and built my first house from the ground up in upper Montclair. By that time, I knew quite a bit because I had gotten the experience from renovating those properties, the three-family house in Newark and the three-family that I had in East Orange,

and a big portion of the six-family in Montclair.

"My biggest challenge was that I didn't know how to construct the foundation but after watching a guy for about an hour while he was starting to build a foundation in West Paterson; myself and a high school kid that had just graduated from East Orange high school and my father who was seventy-two at the time. We built the house.

"This house passed code but, originally, I had actually brought a set of plans online for a solar house. It was a corner property and when we applied for the building permit for that house on that property expecting to get a building permit the town for some crazy reason had changed the set back so the building plans we had would no longer fit that lot...

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)

certain strains of adenovirus. These viruses have similar symptoms and means of transmission to the RSV and flu viruses. Other common non-respiratory viral infections that affect children include measles, mumps, rubella, chickenpox, etc.

Fortunately, many of these viral infections can now be prevented by vaccines. In addition, most of these viruses result in self-limiting infections that resolve on their own. However, the children should be given plenty of rest and fluids. Drugs like Acetaminophen or non-steroidal anti-inflammatory drugs (NSAIDS) could also be administered to manage the fever and aches. It is important to note that antibiotics do not assist

in treating viral infections.

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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- RSV in Infants and Young Children, CDC: <https://www.cdc.gov/rsv/high-risk/infants-young-children.html>
- Respiratory Syncytial Virus (RSV) (for Parents) - Nemours Kids Health: <https://kidshealth.org/en/parents/rsv.html>
- Overview of Viral Respiratory Tract Infections in Children - Children's Health Issues - MSD Manual Consumer Version: <https://www.msdmanuals.com/home/children-s-health-issues/viral-infections-in-infants-and-children/overview-of-viral-respiratory-tract-infections-in-children>

TOWN WATCH (Continued from page 13)

tain Avenue or Overlook Terrace to "loop around" in peak hours.

GLEN RIDGE - The Glen Ridge Board of Education appointed a new board member on Nov. 9 on a temporary basis until Jan. 4. The board member who the temporary member had replaced will be back on Jan. 4 for her re-inauguration.

Dr. Heather Yaros-Ramos, despite having an inactive campaign since Oct. 1, received Nov. 8's second-highest vote total. Neither Dr. Yaros-Ramos nor Glen Ridge Public Schools would say why she had to take temporary leave.

Yaros-Ramos' three-month absence, however, prompted a search for her temporary successor. The board appointed Erica Spayd, AIA. Spayd is a licensed architect who specializes in interior store design.

Spayd's time as a school board member, however, will come and go in an institutional eyeblink.

Yaros-Ramos will rejoin current Board President Elisabeth Ginsburg and will welcome newcomer Tricia Akinwande when all three are sworn into their offices Jan. 4. All three received the borough's unique Civic Conference Committee endorsement for the fall election.

MONTCLAIR - Nov. 8's Board of Education election and schools construction bond issue referendum results remain unchanged as of press time - although its number have.

Essex County Clerk Chris Durkin updated the \$187.7 million bonding question and the four Montclair BOE member candidates' figures on essexclerk.com 2 p.m. Nov. 11. The addition came from delays in receiving and counting votes from voting machines in two of the township's polling station districts.

Election workers in Midtown's Ward 2, District 2 and the South End's Ward 4, District 9 had failed to retrieve the machine's electronic modules and bring them back to Durkin's Election Division Office in Newark Nov. 8. Durkin was granted permission from a State Superior Court-Newark judge Nov. 9 to access the State Police-impounded machines and recover the modules Nov. 10.

Nov. 8's vote was historic in that Montclairans, for the first time, had a direct say in who gets MBOE's three three-year terms and on a school spending question. Montclair Public Schools are in the three-year process of converting its mayor-appointed board to an elected one.

The three-year school construction bond issue question was still carried by Montclair voters. There are now 11,286

"Yes" votes or 83.97 percent and 2,154 "No" votes or 16.03.

Candidates Yvonne Bourknight, Mfeke "Monk" Inyang and Brian Fleschier remain headed for a Jan. 1 swearing-in. Second-time candidate Bourknight is still top vote-getter at 9,350 or 30.40.

First-time runner Fleischer remains second at 7,885 or 25.64. Incumbent Inyang gets his first full three-year term at 6,974 or 22.67. Noah Gale completed the balloted field at 6,549 or 21.29.

BELLEVILLE - A 19-year Belleville Police patrolman and his lawyer have filed a 42-page civil complaint against the department and the township, charging "harassment and retaliation," in State Superior Court-Newark Oct. 19.

Off. Chad Alesandrelli filed his 42-page complaint while he is finishing a 180-day suspension without pay that the BPD began on May 30. A hearing officer permitted the suspension for operating a car with expired registration but had overturned departmental charges of leaving home on a sick day and giving "misleading information on his whereabouts after his shift had ended."

Alesandrelli said that the suspension was harsh in comparison to the 15 days given to other department members. The suspension, furthermore, is the latest in a train of "harassment, punishment and demeaning" since he had reported a work injury going back to 2018 and a 2020 COVID-19 diagnosis.

Alesandrelli said that he had applied for workers compensation for knee surgery incurred while he was chasing a suspect. He was then accused by his supervisors of taking a vacation in Costa Rica while recovering. An internal affairs investigation had cleared him of that charge.

The officer said that he had tested positive for COVID, incurring blurred vision, in December 2020. Alesandrelli said that a supervisor had arranged a three-way call with his doctor to confirm the diagnosis and, daily thereafter, called the officer of his health and vision.

BPD Internal Affairs began a sick pay investigation in 2021 on Alesandrelli after an orthopedist had found severe spinal degeneration. That probe resulted in their levying charges of insubordination, providing false information and neglect of duty that December.

Belleville Town Manager Anthony Iacono, when called by a reporter Nov. 11, said he could not discuss details of the lawsuit.

NUTLEY - What the Nutley Police Department called "a situation at Ernest

Street and Mecham Street" Nov. 9 closed several streets and put several residences and schools in lockdown that Wednesday morning.

People had just started their morning work and school routines near the Belleville border when NPD officers put out a "secure in place" order for Lincoln Elementary and Holy Family Day Nursery schools by 9 a.m.

Residents along Entwistle Avenue, said NPD Lt. Anthony Montinari, "were evacuated to a temporary safe area." That evacuation included officers banging on residents' doors. "Members of other agencies" were meanwhile called to the residential corner.

Police Chief Thomas Strumolo and Public Safety Commissioner Alphonse Petracco, at 9:43 a.m., announced "that the incident on Meacham Street has been safely resolved" and lifted the lockdowns. They added that the incident was "isolated."

Exactly what the incident was that merited the lockdowns and closings remain unelaborated as of press time.

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