

LOCAL TALK

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25¢

“LET’S TALK FOR THE BETTERMENT OF OUR COMMUNITIES”

OFFICIAL NEWSPAPER

ESSEX COUNTY • EAST ORANGE • ORANGE BOARD OF EDUCATION

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LEGISLATION GUIDING CONCEALED CARRY PERMITS CLEARS ASSEMBLY



TRENTON - On Nov. 21, the full Assembly advanced historic legislation that further solidifies New Jersey as the national leader on commonsense gun safety laws.

The bill (A-4769), sponsored by Assembly Democrats, will keep New Jersey families and communities safe by requiring more comprehensive background checks before a permit is issued; prohibiting permit holders from carrying handguns in sensitive public areas such as government buildings, sporting arenas, schools and daycare centers; and establishing insurance and training requirements to protect permit holders as well as the public.

“Earlier this year, the U.S.

Supreme Court struck down over a century of commonsense gun safety laws,” said Assembly Speaker Craig J. Coughlin (D-Middlesex). “While I strongly disagree with that decision, our action today shows New Jersey is leading with responsible action to keep our families and neighborhoods safe from gun violence.”

“I am a gun owner, collector, hunter, and Army veteran,” said Assemblyman Joe Daniels (D-Middlesex, Somerset), the prime sponsor of the legislation in the Assembly. “That’s why I understand it is entirely possible to promote safe communities while preserving Second Amendment rights. I am

(Continued on page 13)

IVY HILL VS. SETON HALL



By Walter Elliott

SOUTH ORANGE / NEWARK - The Township of South Orange Village Planning Board's next meeting on Dec. 5, if the last two months of public hearings are any indication, will be intensely focused on one particular preliminary and final site application.

That 7:30 p.m. session that Monday at the South Orange Performing Arts Center will continue their hearing on Seton Hall University's proposal to add to its Richie Regan Recreation and Athletic Center that it started on Oct. 3 and continued on Nov. 7.

SHU and its contracted architect want to add 12,862 square feet to the gymnasium's southwestern corner plus a 176 sq. ft. vestibule on its north side.

The university is asking permission to modify adjacent sidewalks and drive lanes along the building's southern and eastern sides.

The gym is on SHU's southernmost part of its 58 acres, abutting the university and South Orange's border with Newark's Ivy Hill section and Essex County's Ivy Hill Park. The park is currently having its baseball/softball diamond and football gridiron, across from the SHU/village border finished in Autumn 2023.

Some of Ivy Hill's residents next to the school's border - Reynolds Place, Woodbine Avenue, Synott Place, Midland Avenue and Tuxedo Parkway - want village planners to postpone any

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FIVE DEAD IN COLORADO SPRINGS MASS SHOOTING

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Editorial
 Dhiren Shah
 Editor-In-Chief

Hello Readers,

Have a Happy Thanksgiving to all of our readers and their families. This year was not an easy year. Due to inflation, prices were going up and the cost of the Thanksgiving is about 20 to 30 percent higher than last year. The cost of travelling is about 40% to 50% higher than last year, but more people are still getting away for the holiday than 2021.

Almost every week now there is a mass shooting. Sometimes there is more than one shooting a week. The bottom line is the easy access of guns. The Supreme Court favored the gun lobby, stating it is right un-

der the second amendment. When there is a will, there is a way. New Jersey became the leader for legislation for concealed carry permits. It was hard to pass the legislation through the committee, but it did and finally, Legislation No. 4769 passed in the Assembly. I congratulate the legislators for their bold decision to prevent gun crimes in the state. It will not be totally gone, but whatever it gets reduced, it is better for the community.

According to the New Jersey Legislature: "The decision of the United States Supreme Court in New York State Rifle & Pistol Association v. Bruen holds significant implications for carrying a handgun in New Jersey and the law governing the issuance of permits to carry a handgun. The Bruen decision establishes that states cannot deny permits to carry a handgun to otherwise-qualified citizens who fail to

show that they have the 'proper cause' to carry a handgun."

Six people have been arrested in luxury car thefts. About 30 cars were stolen. State police have searching since May 2022. The cars were stolen from many counties in New Jersey. They steal the cars mostly from drive-ways, and change the number plate and ID and sell it. They are: Khiree A. Smith, 29, of Newark, Brian Peppers, 30, of Newark, Kaiyir T. Green, 19, of Newark, Alquan A. Harris, 22, of East Orange, Tyheem A. Pollard-Raines, 27, of Blackwood, Sharieff N. Copeland, 25, of East Orange, N.J. As we all know, that they are not guilty until proven so in the court of law.

East Orange was a bustling community in the 1950s and 1960s. People used to compare East Orange with Fifth Avenue in New York. Brick Church station is in the heart of East Orange. For about two years, Brick

Church Plaza has been under renovation. On Monday the city announced that they will build at 533 Main Street a new \$400 million+ multi-phase development with 820 mixed-income units. Right now, due to the high rent in Manhattan, people are moving to New Jersey with easy transportation access. Brick Church station is very convenient for transportation, as within less than half an hour a person can reach Penn Station in New York.

I hope the city has considered police, fire department, schooling, teachers, sewer system, traffic, crime and many other factors to make living in the city vibrant. In the beginning, the influx will be young couples, but in the future, more children of the same young couples will add to the population of East Orange.

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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NJ DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH ENCOURAGES FLU SHOT & COVID-19 BOOSTERS AHEAD OF HOLIDAYS

TRENTON - With holiday gatherings kicking off this week with Thanksgiving, the New Jersey Department of Health (NJDOH) is encouraging everyone 6 months of age and older to get their annual flu shot and COVID-19 booster when eligible, and is urging residents to take precautions as other respiratory illnesses, including Respiratory Syncytial Virus Infection (RSV), continue to circulate.

New Jersey, as well as much of the rest of the country, has seen an earlier start to the flu season this year. Respiratory Syncytial Virus as well as rhinovirus and enterovirus and COVID-19 are also circulating in the state. NJDOH is monitoring and watching hospitalizations and pediatric intensive care units daily throughout the state.

“As New Jerseyans begin to gather with friends and family for the upcoming holidays, it’s important for everyone to continue taking the necessary precautions to keep themselves and

their loved ones safe,” said Governor Phil Murphy. “Getting vaccinated when recommended, practicing good hand and respiratory hygiene, and staying home when sick are ways residents can work together to have a happier and healthier holiday season.”

“Getting an annual flu shot will help protect everyone, particularly vulnerable residents such as younger children and older adults, from influenza,” said Commissioner Judith Persichilli. “The Department is monitoring these respiratory illnesses closely, and their impact on hospitals and Emergency Departments.”

The federal Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) also recommends that everyone stay up to date with COVID-19 vaccines for their age group. Everyone 6 months of age and older is eligible to receive a COVID-19 primary series and people 5 years of age and older are recommended to receive the updated booster at least 2 months



after their primary series or last monovalent booster.

RSV, which usually circulates in the state from late fall to early spring, causes common cold symptoms in adults and older children, while in younger children and infants, it can cause wheezing and pneumonia. However, it can also cause more severe infection. Most people recover in a week or two, but RSV can be serious, especially for infants and older adults.

At the same time, the state is seeing many children with infections in the upper airways and lungs due to rhinovirus and enterovirus, which can result in wheezing and breathing difficulties.

Parents should call their pediatrician or a healthcare provider if their child has any of the following symptoms: rapid breathing, wheezing or shortness of breath; ribs pulling in with each breath; is very ill or drowsy; poor eating; dehydration; vomiting for more than 24 hours; fever in a child younger than 12 weeks. While these are warning signs, please consult your healthcare provider for any other symptom that is severe or concerning.

Individuals can take precautions by continuing to wash their hands or use alcohol-based hand sanitizers, cough into their elbows or sleeves, and get immunized for influenza and COVID-19. Individuals at high risk for severe illness and their visitors should consider wearing a high-quality, well-fitting mask which may help reduce the spread of respiratory viruses. Individuals who are sick should remain at home.

Flu vaccination prevents millions of illnesses and flu-related doctor’s visits each year. Despite these benefits, during the 2021-2022 flu seasons, only 57% of adults (18 and older) and 67.7% of children (6 months –17 years old) in New Jersey received a flu vaccine.

Flu vaccination is available at healthcare provider offices, pharmacies, federally qualified health centers and local health departments. Many vaccines are covered by insurers at little to no cost to individuals. In addition, NJDOH’s Vaccine Preventable Disease Program (VPDP) helps to reduce economic barriers to childhood vaccines through the Vaccines for Children program which offers vaccines at no cost to eligible children through healthcare providers enrolled in the program. The VPDP also participates in the 317-funded adult program which provides vaccines to uninsured and underinsured adults.

COVID-19 vaccination locations can be found using the NJ Vaccine Appointment Finder or by calling the statewide COVID-19 Vaccine Call Center (855-568-0545). The COVID-19 vaccine is available for free, regardless of insurance status.

“Vaccines have proven to be safe and effective,” said Commissioner Persichilli. “We urge all New Jerseyans to get up to date on all recommended vaccinations to ensure a safe and healthy holiday season. We especially encourage all New Jerseyans, ages 5 and older, to get the new updated booster to ensure the strongest protection against COVID-19 variants.”

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SPORTS WRAP



Photos By William Hathaway, Jr.



By William Hathaway, Jr.

This past weekend saw the continuation of the state high school football semifinals, with a couple of local area teams in action. First, the squad from West Orange has been the road warriors during their playoff streak. However, their Section 2 Group 5 run has come to an end at the hands of Passaic Tech,

reached the end zone a few times for Weequahic, but it was not enough. Mountain Lakes scored 14 unanswered points in the 2nd half of the Section 2 Group 1 semifinal to advance.

Despite the local teams falling short, the county still has a shot at title gold, as the 12-0 Caldwell Chiefs beat Westwood 13-7 to advance to the Section 2 Group 1 finals.



who beat WOHS 21-7. Leading West Orange was Amir Stewart who rushed for 114 yards in the game, while Adonis White ran for 91 yards. Meanwhile, the town of West Orange's other shot to win a state championship also fell short, with Seton Hall Prep getting bruised by Don Bosco 48-14.

Representing Newark, the Weequahic High football program played tough against Mountain Lakes, but feel short in their bid for the Sectional title, losing 29-23. Rashawn Marshall tallied 87 yards and

In college basketball, the Seton Hall men's basketball program has started off 3-1, with a dominating 82-44 win over the Wagner Seahawks at the Prudential Center. Al-Mir Dawes gave The Hall 19 points on 7-10 shooting and 4 rebounds, while KC Ndefo chipped in 12 points and 5 rebounds and Tyrese Samuel added 10 points and 8 rebounds. Leading Wagner was Rahimir Moore with 15 points. The Pirates will be heading on the road this week to play Memphis on the road Thanksgiving Day.



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This past Thursday, the Seton Hall women's squad lost a tough game to a good Columbia university team 83-76. Azana Baines gave SHU 20 points and 10 rebounds, ShaLynn Hagans had 13 points, and Sidney Cooks tallied 15 points and five rebounds in the losing effort. The Lady Pirates are 2-2 on the season, and will also be heading on the road to play on Thanksgiving Day. Upcoming games including matchups with VCU, Wisconsin and Georgia.

In the National Football League, the New York Giants

suffered a stunning upset at home to the Detroit Lions 31-18. Their next game will be on Thanksgiving at the Dallas Cowboys. At least they were able to get into the end zone, as the Jets and Patriots were so awful on offense the only TD came on a punt return in the closing moments to give New England the 10-3 win.

Finally, Yankees slugger Aaron Judge won the AL MVP award for his record breaking season. The question on the minds of baseball fans is where Judge will end up during his free agency run.



MASS SHOOTING IN COLORADO SPRINGS

UNITED STATES

Stop us if you've heard this before: A man comes into an LGBTQ establishment and shoots up the place with an assault rifle.

Once again, there has been a mass shooting in America. Once again, it was an AR-15 style weapon. Once again, it touched the classification of a hate crime. Once again, measures to prevent certain people from owning a weapon failed.

On the night of Nov. 19, 22-year-old Anderson Lee Aldrich - the alleged suspect - came into Club Q - a gay bar in Colorado Springs - wearing body armor and opened fire, killing five people and injuring 19 people by his gunfire alone. Others were hurt in the scramble to escape.

U.S. Army veteran Richard M. Fierro, a patron at the club, was able to subdue the shooter, with the assistance of Thomas James, who got the rifle away from the gunman, and a trans woman who is said to have stomped the suspect with her high heels.

There is no clear motive as to why Aldrich committed the crime, but he once was taken into custody for making a bomb threat against his mother. Despite being on a "red flag" list, he was still able to have the AR-15 style weapon along with a handgun he also carried with him. Aldrich, who changed his name from Nicholas Brink just before his 16th birthday while living in Texas, is facing five murder charges as well as hate crimes charges.

After the shooting, support of the LGBTQ community was in full force. During the American Music Awards, Best New Artist award winner Dove Cameron, who identifies as queer, voiced her appreciation and support for the community. Cameron is also a Daytime Emmy Award winner for the Disney show "Liv & Maddie."

The shooting at Club Q elicited memories of the Pulse nightclub massacre from 2016, in which 49 people lost their lives. It remains the worst LGBTQ targeted mass shooting in history.

OVER 260 DEAD IN EARTHQUAKE

ASIA

A crushing earthquake in Indonesia has taken the lives of a haunting number of people.

On Nov. 21, a 5.6 tremor shook the island of Java, toppling buildings and all sorts of infrastructure. As of press time, 268 people have been reported dead, with at least 150 listed as missing, and well over 1,000 injured.

The epicenter, near the city of Cianjur, struck the country's most densely populated province in West Java. Rescue efforts have been hampered by blocked roads and damaged bridges. Nearby villages were also hit with landslides.

Many of those injured in the earthquake have been treated in the open on whatever streets that still stand, as hospitals are completely overrun.

Indonesia, which boasts over 270 million people, is frequently struck by earthquakes, volcanic eruptions and tsunamis because of its location near the "Ring of Fire" in the Pacific. Just this past February, a magnitude 6.2 earthquake killed at least 25 people and injured more than 460 in West Sumatra. In 2004, an earthquake in the Indian Ocean triggered a tsunami that killed close to 230,000 people in a dozen countries, with most of them in Indonesia.

IRAN'S RAMPAGE CONTINUES

MIDDLE EAST

More than 40 people have been killed in Iran during the past week, including two teenagers, the UN human rights office, OHCHR, said on Nov 22.

The development came amid ongoing nationwide protests sparked by the death in custody of Jina Mahsa Amini. The 22-year-old from Iran's Kurdistan region was arrested by Iran's so-called "morality police" on Sept. 13 for not wearing her hijab properly.

According to OHCHR, thousands have been detained throughout the country for joining peaceful protests.

"At least six people connected to the protests have been sentenced to death on charges of 'moharebeh,' or 'waging war against God', or 'efsad-e fel-arz,' or 'corruption on earth,' said spokesperson Jeremy Laurence.

"A growing number of people, including Iranian celebrities and sportswomen and men who have expressed support for the protests, have been summoned or arrested," he added.

According to OHCHR, security officers reportedly responded "forcefully" to demonstrations in several mainly Kurdish locations on Monday evening, including Javanrud and Saqqez, Ms. Amini's hometown.

Two 16-year-old boys were among six people killed over the weekend, according to the UN rights office, which noted that more than 300 people have lost their lives, including 40 children, since nationwide protests erupted on Sept. 16.

OHCHR also reiterated concerns that the authorities have refused to release the bodies of the dead to their families, or making their release "conditional" on not speaking to the media.

"With respect to bodies not being returned to their families, of course that's of grave concern to us," said Mr. Laurence.

"What is the motive behind that, I'm not sure. But the families have the right to have the bodies of their loved ones returned to them. It's cruel that they're not."

Mr. Laurence noted that the security forces' approach had hardened to protesters, who have been killed in 25 of Iran's 31 provinces, including more than 100 in Sistan and Baluchistan.

He urged the authorities to address people's demands for "equality, dignity and rights" - instead of using disproportionate force against demonstrators.

"The lack of accountability for gross human rights violations in Iran remains persistent and is contributing to the growing grievances," said the OHCHR spokesperson.

The Iranian authorities have also reported that a number of security force personnel have

been killed since the start of the protests.

FIGHTING DRUG RESISTANT DISEASE

AFRICA

A new strategy has been launched to address the urgent problem of antimalarial drug resistance in Africa, the World Health Organization (WHO) announced on Nov. 18.

Sub-Saharan Africa accounts for a disproportionately high share of the global malaria burden, with around 96 percent of all cases and deaths in 2020. As a result of drug resistance, medicines to treat the life-threatening disease become ineffective.

Malaria is caused by parasites that are transmitted to humans through bites of infected female Anopheles mosquitoes.

In recent years, there have been reports from the continent of emerging parasite resistance to artemisinin, the core compound of the best available medicines to treat malaria, said WHO.

Furthermore, worrying signs indicate parasites in some areas may be resistant to drugs that are commonly combined with artemisinin.

Parasite resistance to artemisinin has been identified in the Greater Mekong sub-region in Southeast Asia, and several areas in Africa, notably Eritrea, Rwanda and Uganda.

While artemisinin resistance alone rarely results in treatment failure, WHO said resistance to both artemisinin and the partner drug within ACT regimens can lead to high failure rates.

In response, the Antimicrobial Resistance Multi-Stakeholder Partnership Platform was launched to ensure the growing threats and impacts of antimicrobial resistance are addressed globally.

The Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), the UN Environment Program (UNEP), the World Health Organization (WHO) and the World Organization for Animal Health (WOAH), known as the Quadripartite are joining forces on this initiative to underscore the threat AMR presents to humans, animals, plants, ecosystems and livelihoods.

PARTNERSHIP PROVIDES LAPTOPS FOR ECC ADULT LEARNING CENTER

ECC: November 21, 2022 - A lack of access to technology will no longer be an obstacle to students in Essex County College's Adult Learning Center (ALC), thanks to Laptop Upcycle @ EssexCountyCollege-ALC, a partnership with Laptop Upcycle of Montclair, NJ.

"Our goal is to provide an initial 25 laptops and/or Wi-Fi device to deserving students," said Judith Celestin, Director of the Center. She said we will be accepting donations to be able to make more laptops available as needed. "We are thrilled that this partnership will remove a barrier that many of our students run into when having to complete coursework at home," Ms. Celestin stated.

"Corporations and organizations as well as individuals can donate laptops to the Laptop Upcycle @ EssexCountyCollege-ALC program by emailing us at laptopupcycle@essex.edu as a way to support equitable access to technology and ensure our students are successful in their academic careers."

The Adult Learning Center services about 400 students who are working toward their high school equivalency, U.S. citizenship, Microsoft Office certification, or taking English as a Second Language classes.

Jon Bonesteel, Co-Founder/

Treasurer of Laptop Upcycle, said the company is excited to be partnering with the ECC Adult Learning Center. "The opportunity to share our mission of repurposing technology to help eliminate impediments to learning in the ALC community is a win for all concerned." The Laptop Upcycle lab team is training ECC staff in order to establish a hub on site where they will repair and upgrade unwanted laptops which can then be distributed to other ALC students in need of technology in order to complete classwork.

"We had provided laptops to the College on occasion in the past, especially when there was a real need for them during the Covid-19 pandemic. Going forward, the ECC team will assume the lead on campus. We are excited to share what we do with ECC and we look forward to supporting them," Mr. Bonesteel said.

Ms. Celestin said students who receive the laptops can keep the devices. "This partnership is another example of Students First at Essex County College," she added.

Laptop Upcycle is a division of the Montclair, N.J.-based not-for-profit organization HackNCraftNJ, Inc. Learn more about Laptop Upcycle at <http://laptopupcycle.org>.

had in common. On November 8, 2020, the pair got into an argument inside of his East Orange apartment, where shots were fired. Ultimately, the two continued the argument in front of the apartment building, when Murrill got into his vehicle and purposefully drove it over the sidewalk and onto the lawn, striking the victim as she was on the phone with police.

The victim was transported to University Hospital, where she was treated for multiple injuries.

Sentencing has been scheduled for February 6, 2023. Murrill faces a minimum of 10 years

JURY CONVICTS EAST ORANGE MAN OF ATTEMPTED MURDER

ESSEX - Acting Essex County Prosecutor Theodore N. Stephens II has announced that an Essex County jury has convicted Andre Murrill, 39, of East Orange, of attempted murder for purposely hitting the mother of his children with a car during an argument, causing her serious injuries.

Following a four-week trial before the Honorable Marysol Rosero, Judge of the Superior Court, Murrill was also found guilty of aggravated assault, unlawful possession of a weapon, and possession of a weapon for an unlawful purpose.

Murrill and the victim had ended their relationship but continued to co-parent children they

(Continued on page 14)

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ESSEX COUNTY WEEKLY COVID-19 CASE TALLY

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Belleville	13,221	156	13,264	157
Bloomfield	14,708	168	14,768	168
Caldwell	2,008	18	2,018	18
Cedar Grove	4,737	141	4,752	141
City of Orange	9,736	176	9,778	176
East Orange	20,173	390	20,236	390
Essex Fells	606	2	608	2
Fairfield	2,398	40	2,406	40
Glen Ridge	1,555	19	1,564	19
Irvington	13,802	283	13,838	283
Livingston	8,097	109	8,311	109
Maplewood	6,432	49	6,455	49
Millburn	4,559	18	4,569	18
Montclair	8,636	91	8,685	91
Newark	92,685	1,274	92,927	1,277
North Caldwell	1,782	10	1,785	10
Nutley	7,929	90	7,957	90
Roseland	1,707	26	1,725	26
South Orange	4,276	22	4,297	22
Verona	4,048	25	4,065	25
West Caldwell	3,339	67	3,339	67
West Orange	16,060	271	16,136	271
Total	242,494	3,445	243,485	3,449

OTHER COVID-19 TALLIES (As of November 22, 2022)
NJ: 2,394,610 cases / 31,949 deaths (Plus 3,116 probable)
United States (approx.): 98.372 Million / 1.077 Million deaths
Worldwide (approx.): 638.792 Million / 6.622 Million deaths

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TOWN WATCH

DISCLAIMER: The following items are primarily drawn from first responders. Responders' accounts may not be their full activity range. Grand juries hand down indictments when evidence presented them warrant a trial. Named suspects/defendants are innocent until proven guilty beyond a reasonable doubt in a court of law.

NEWARK - Those among New Jersey's largest city who feel "miserable" may take solace that they are not as bad as Passaic or Gary, Ind., going by the Travado.net website.

Travado posted on Nov. 1 the top (or bottom) 50 cities on its "Most Cities in America, Ranked" article. The site tends to post similar surveys like, "The 50 Most Difficult U.S. Airports to Navigate."

The site said it had ranked the 50 cities based on U.S. Census Bureau 2020 Quick Facts data and "AreaVibes." Crime rates, cost of housing and cost of living, compared to the national average, were among the considered factors. It appears that Travado's 2022 survey actually looked for "the most miserable city" in each state, since all 50 states are represented.

The City of Passaic ranked fifth, where the median income is \$34,920 but 33.1 percent of the population lives under the poverty line. The costs of housing and living are 51 and 23 percent higher than the national average. Violent crime ran 51 percent higher than the national average.

Gary, Ind. got the dubious pole position in part by a \$29,300 median income and a 35.8 percent poverty rate.

Passaic's fifth ranking is an improvement compared to a similar 2019 survey by "Business Insider" The Passaic County city was just ahead of Newark in their results.

"Business Insider," in 2019, cited Newark's 28 percent poverty rate and mentioned the lead in its water supply "like Flint (Mich.)" Camden (eighth), New

Brunswick (11th), Union City (15th), Trenton (17th), Paterson (19th), West New York (29th) and Plainfield (30th) were also ranked in the 2019 survey.

IRVINGTON - The Nov. 17 elections for the NAACP Irvington Branch's offices may well be the first one in "Local Talk" land of an organization using Election Buddy instead of using in-person or mail-in ballots.

The 41-year-old branch announced its use of Election Buddy in a Nov. 14 press release as an alternative to personally appearing at its headquarters at 60 Paine Ave. The on-line service uses an online website and e-mail.

The service, on its website, has the NAACP's National Branch as among its clients. Irvington Branch members "in good standing" casted their votes 4-7:30 p.m. that Saturday.

The branch's nominating committee had posted the following on the ballot Nov. 14 for voter consideration for 2022-24 offices: President, Kathleen Witcher; Vice President, Jerry Anderson; Secretary, Rodney White; Assistant Secretary, Frank Blake; and Treasurer, Aileemah Cannon Horton. Blank and Horton are new branch members.

Branch election results have not been posted on its Facebook page as of press time.

EAST ORANGE - Longtime city resident Sheila Y. Oliver, in one of her most consequential moves as Acting Governor on Nov. 18, reset the December Run Off Elections from Dec. 6 to 13.

Oliver, by signing Executive Order No. 313, affects runoff elections slated for Trenton, Perth Amboy and Manchester. The otherwise Lieutenant Governor and Department of Community Affairs Commissioner cited voting machines in three Mercer County municipalities being impounded - while having their results still inside - for the one week extension.

"As we approach the Thanksgiving holiday, it's imperative that we give our election officials - who have been working around the clock - the necessary time they need to effectively gather Election Day materials

and ballots," said Oliver. "We want to make sure every voter's voice is heard. Postponing the runoff elections will allow election officials to receive ballots and count them all before the certification date and will allow voters to vote in the manner they choose - including by mail."

Oliver is acting for the vacationing Gov. Phil Murphy. Murphy (D-Rumson) had signed an executive order that had added the April school board elections to the May 12, 2020 municipal nonpartisan election ballot in the wake of the global COVID pandemic.

Oliver had been elected with Murphy in 2017 and 2021. The former East Orange School District Board of Education member came to Trenton by way of being an Essex County District Three Freeholder and as a seven-time elected 34th State Legislative District Assemblywoman. She resigned as Assemblywoman and as Assembly Speaker upon her Jan. 18, 2018 inauguration as Lieutenant Governor.

The Newark native and Weequahic High School graduate has lived in East Orange the last 40 years.

ORANGE - Relatives and friends of Julftson Remy, 24, who was killed in Brooklyn Sept. 19, may be seeing some justice after one of the suspects had been arrested by NYPD officers in the same borough on Nov. 9.

An NYPD spokesman said that Kevin Faneus, 22, was apprehended along a Nostrand Avenue bus stop in East Flatbush that Wednesday in an Infiniti sedan passenger seat. Faneus, "a reputed Crips member," was found with "15 counterfeit \$50 bills in an envelope and an open container of alcohol."

Faneus, who is being held without bail on murder and weapons possession charges, has said that he was the driver in the black BMW - and not the passenger - who shot Remy at Glenwood Road and E. 36th St. Sept. 19.

Remy, who was born and raised in Orange, was delivering the BMW at 2:40 a.m. in exchange for \$2,200 in cash. "J.J." and father Jean ran Maple

Auto Sales here - and J.J. a second rental agency. Remy and the employee who arranged the sale through Instagram drove 40 miles in the BMW and a Mercedes-Benz GL.

Neither Remy nor the employee realized that one of the suspects' driver's license was fake until they made an on-site records check. They followed the BMW in their Mercedes until the shooter fired rounds into the GL. The injured duo walked 10 blocks to Downtown Medical Center; the clerk was treated for a leg injury; Remy died there.

Remy's mourners have recently replaced a makeshift memorial on the Neal S. Sullivan Associates parking lot by 36 North Day St. with a "J.J." mural posted on the Sullivan building's north wall. The shooter, who may have driven a Toyota Rav4 SUV to the Glenwood and E. 36th meeting, remains at large.

WEST ORANGE - Township and Newark police officers are investigating an injured man's report that he was shot while in a West Orange shopping plaza parking lot here Nov. 21.

The WOPD staff desk sergeant had received a call from Newark colleagues at 12:25 a.m. Tuesday. The NPD caller said that they have a man in University Hospital with a gunshot wound.

The victim told medical staff and police officers that he was shot in the Essex Green Center by the Shop-Rite supermarket Monday night. He then drove himself about four miles east on Interstate 280 to the hospital.

Two details of WOPD officers were simultaneously dispatched to different areas. One detail, went to Newark to retrieve the just-released victim and his car. The man gave a statement at the WOPD headquarters and his car was impounded for searching.

The other detail closed off the parking lot near the supermarket to search overnight for a bullet casing and other evidence.

SOUTH ORANGE / MAPLEWOOD - Yohan Fernandez, 20, of Newark, is starting to serve the 15-year sentence for the June 6, 2021 homicide here of Columbia High School scholar-athlete
(Continued on page 15)



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NEWARK BETH ISRAEL PRESIDENT & CEO DARRELL K. TERRY SR. RECEIVES OUTSTANDING LEADERSHIP AWARD

NEWARK (November 22, 2022) - Darrell K. Terry, Sr., MHA, MPH, FACHE, FHELA, received the Integrity House 2022 Outstanding Leadership Award, for his contributions as a longstanding Trustee and former chair of the Integrity House Board, as well as his significant contributions to the state of New Jersey and the Newark community.

“It is an honor to receive this award from my colleagues at Integrity House. We have spent the last 17 years working together to make a difference in the lives of those who suffer from substance use disorder and I look forward to continued success as we meet the challenges of our times,” said Darrell K. Terry, Sr., MHA, MPH, FACHE, FHELA, President and Chief Executive Officer, Newark Beth Israel Medical Center and Children’s Hospital of New Jersey.

“Darrell is a pillar of the community and a leader who is deeply committed to improving the lives of those in the greater Newark area. We are fortunate to have someone of Darrell K. Terry Sr.’s, stature on our board and we are honored to recognize him with our Outstanding Leadership Award,” said Robert J. Budsock, President and CEO of Integrity House.

Integrity House, a nationally recognized non-profit substance use disorder treatment center held its 54th Annual Gala on Novem-



From Left to Right: Darrell K. Terry, Sr., MHA, MPH, FACHE, FHELA, President and CEO Newark Beth Israel Medical Center and Children’s Hospital of New Jersey and Robert J. Budsock, President and CEO of Integrity House. Photo courtesy of Alessandro “Fresco” Cerdas

ber 19th at the Hilton Short Hills.

“Our annual gala helps us to continue to expand our services and provide highly effective treatment programs to the increasing

number of individuals battling daily for their recovery.



*From
The
Pastor's
Heart*

OP-ED BY DR. ROBERT KENNEDY

**Breaking The Curse
By Giving Thanks**

Some time ago, I was browsing a few blogs and felt a profound sympathy as I read one confession that says, "Thanksgiving is one of the worst holidays our family has suffered through time and time again." After telling of an initial incident on Thanksgiving, the blogger stated that each Thanksgiving, from one to the following, strange incidents ranging from petty inconveniences to significant catastrophes kept occurring.

For example, there was one year when the family oven only cooked half their turkey. One side of the range had stopped working, and while the turkey thawed on one side, it was frozen on the other. And for whatever reason, the entire oven caught on fire. Other freak incidents happened Thanksgiving after Thanksgiving until the family concluded it had become a pattern and maybe a curse. The blogger argued that maybe she was probably reading way too much into what was occurring, but each Thanksgiving, she faced the fear that it was to be "a cursed holiday."

Of course, her blog kept me thinking, for I was sure that what the blogger identifies as the "cursed holiday" for her and her family is more typical than many would care to admit. Some per-

sons have had death's occurring on the evening or morning of Thanksgiving, along with other incidents that, time after time, upend their plans, and make them think that their Thanksgiving is a cursed holiday. As a result, instead of praising God and giving Thanks, they approach the day with a heart of grief and brokenness.

Some families break up before and at Thanksgiving and feel that if they went to a family gathering, they would carry too much anger, bitterness, guilt, and shame. Some go to their Thanksgiving gathering with sour faces, and as they stand apart, everyone can see that they are there but not there. Some have stayed away from the family gathering because they hear, "who is coming to dinner."

In a Thanksgiving sermon, later published as an article, Msgr. Mannion, pastor emeritus of St. Vincent de Paul parish in Salt Lake City, noted that many approach Thanksgiving with a curse upon themselves. They curse themselves without even knowing it when they think, speak about, and evaluate their lives pessimistically. They argue that their personal history has been disastrous and meaningless. They say their present existence is pointless, valueless, and so on. But they put themselves into a hopeless and skeptical future, which is to say that they call a curse instead of a blessing on themselves.

The real point of Msgr. Mannion (a point with which I strongly endorse) is that if we would have an attitude of blessing and thanksgiving and speak more of the blessings than the curses, we would be able to break those curses to which we

often give so much attention at Thanksgiving and otherwise.

Here, Mannion argues that to have an attitude of blessing is to look at our past and recognize it as good and fruitful - despite the difficulties and failures. It is to look to the present and, without overlooking the shadow side, to remember it as worthwhile and creative. To bless is to look to the future and, despite our worries about it, have an attitude of hope and expectancy. (<https://www.catholicnewsagency.com/column/53953/thanksgiving-day-invites-a-generous-attitude-of-blessing>)

The Apostle Paul reminds us, "In everything give thanks; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you." (1 Thessalonians 5:18 NKJV)

Yes, many things that happen to us at Thanksgiving might fit the pattern of a Satanic attack - a curse. And those of us who claim the assurance of divine protection feel surprised. Sometimes we find that an arrow or a bullet that we hoped would pass lands upon our family or us. The arrows or bullets come at Thanksgiving time, and we wonder how this can be because the same thing happened the year before, last year, and the current year. Yes, there seems to be a pattern, we say. And it seems that God has been allowing it.

Well, while I might not be able to analyze and know the truth about your incident dogmatically, let me assure you that you can trust God. "Trust in the Lord with all your heart, And lean not on your understanding; In all your ways acknowledge Him, And He shall direct your paths." (Proverbs 3:5,6 NKJV)

God is watching, so, "In everything, give thanks." The encouragement did not say for everything we are to give thanks, but "In everything, give thanks." In reflecting on the phrase, Paul Tillich said, "There are no limits to situations in which to thank, but there are limits to things for which thanks can be expressed."

And after cataloging some of the things for which we should not give thanks and those for which we need to be giving thanks, he makes this summation, "We can give thanks for our bodily and our mental powers, for the darkness of our unconsciousness, as well as the life of our consciousness, for the abundance of our nature and the creations of history, for everything that is, and manifest its power of being." (Paul Tillich (1963), *The Eternal Now*, New York: Charles Scribner's Sons, pp. 173-185.)

Let me encourage you to list the multiple things you need to give thanks for, then focus on whom you need to give thanks to. Remember, the Creator comes first. Also, remember all those who have brought blessings into your life. And bless those who have sought to curse you too. It is biblical, "Bless those who curse you, and pray for those who spitefully use you." (Matthew 5:44)

And don't forget that by blessings others and saying thanks to them, you will be transforming your own life. Because, as has been found, Thanksgiving is a medicine. It will bring joy into your soul, a bounce in your steps, and make you a delight to be around.

Give thanks. God can help you to break the curse. He can turn every curse into a blessing.

IVY HILL VS. SETON HALL

(Continued from page 1)

vote on the additions until their key demand is met.

Their demand has to do with what they say is increasing flooding incidents flowing downhill and east from SHU property through the park and into their basements.

The residents, who call themselves the Ivy Hill Flood Report, demand that the university, village, city and the county conduct and publish a hydrological and hydraulic analysis of surface and stormwater runoff. The report would give direction to local flood mitigation measures.

Readers who are doing a double take are correct that Ivy Hill is Newark's tallest part, some 200 feet above sea level. There are also no bodies of water in the area.

While that is true, the residents said they have had more floods - swamping basements by up to five feet, waterlogging cars parked on their streets and causing hundreds of thousands of dollars in damages - in the last 22 years. Plans for the Regan basketball practice center's extension, while they are still recovering from Hurricane Ida's Sept. 1-2, 2021 flooding, have brought them out to recent planning board and other meetings.

(Continued on page 14)

CONCEALED CARRY

(Continued from page 1)

particularly proud that every major law enforcement member organization in the state has endorsed this legislation and thank them for their partnership in this process.”

The legislation has received support from the New Jersey State Police-men’s Benevolent Association, the State Troopers Fraternal Association of New Jersey, the Association of Former New Jersey State Troopers, and the New Jersey State Troopers Non-Commissioned Officers Association.

“We continue to deliver on our promise to protect our children and the community by empowering law enforcement with common sense gun safety laws that also affirm our constitutional commitment to responsible gun ownership,” said Assembly Majority Leader Louis D. Greenwald (D-Camden, Burlington), a prime sponsor of the bill. “This legislation, made necessary by a recent Supreme Court ruling, ensures New Jersey maintains one of the lowest gun death rates in the nation and continues to be one of the safest to live, work, and raise a family.”

“We as a nation have witnessed too many acts of gun violence, more than 500 mass shootings this year alone. It’s imperative that we do everything within our power to keep guns out of the wrong hands,” said Assemblyman John McKeon (D-Essex, Morris), a prime sponsor of the bill. “This legislation sets reasonable requirements on concealed carry in the state.”

“Responsible concealed carry laws have been in full force and effect in New Jersey for decades,” said Assemblywoman Mila Jasey (D-Essex, Morris), a prime sponsor of the bill. “This legislation restores responsible and reasonable safeguards that will protect our communities, our schools, houses of worship, and other public places.”

“As a member of the AAPI community, a community that has seen a stark rise in hate and bigoted violence, I am proud to be a part of this nationally recognized gun violence prevention bill,” said Assemblywoman Ellen J. Park (D-Bergen), a prime sponsor of the bill. “This is the right thing to do because it aligns with the values held by the overwhelming majority of New Jerseyans. It’s the right thing to do because protecting our citizens is our moral obligation as public officials. And it’s the right thing to do because in the absence of a functioning federal



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government, it is important to show the country that New Jersey is here to lead.”

Advocates and leading law enforcement representatives issued the following statements in support of the bill’s passage:

“Today the NJ Assembly will respond to the extreme and dangerous Supreme Court decision by passing a critical gun safety law that will protect New Jersey communities. More guns in public places will increase the risks to New Jerseyans and we are thankful for leaders with the courage to take action that will protect us from senseless gun violence. We applaud Assemblymen Danielsen and McKeon, Speaker Coughlin, and Majority Leader Lou Greenwald for their leadership and urge the Senate to act swiftly as well.” - Nico Bocour, Government Affairs Director, Giffords

“There are some places where guns simply don’t belong - places like playgrounds and bars and restaurants that serve alcohol,” said Shani Nuckols, a volunteer with the New Jersey chapter of Moms Demand Action. “We can easily imagine how much worse the 2018 Art All Night shooting in Trenton could have been if more civilians in the large crowd that night were carrying firearms and started shooting. We applaud the diligent work of the Assembly for taking action to make us safer. It is now up to the Senate to follow suit, and we will continue to be a partner with the Legislature to fight for common sense gun safety laws to ensure that our communities are protected.”

Having advanced from the full Assembly, 42-29-1, the bill now awaits further action in the Senate.

The Observation Booth



SERVE



Alyce & Brehal West
Photos Credit: Andrea Dialect

“Statistically, hunger affects 828 million people in the world!”

During the time that we met, I and the off-springs were trekking to their elementary school. She'd clear paths and guard our way. Now all these years have gone by, but occasionally in

passing when I see her out there just as before she maintains that unwavering position of commitment when it comes to all of our children's safety and the big bonus is aiding in their development during those brief moments.

Although mine are all grown up now those that I see out there trekking to school technically are not my biological children but mine and ours for certainly. Her presence sets my mind at ease, and I smile at her because I know that they are in good hands.

Back then when we'd chat, I can vividly remember some of those brief convos that were laden with Alyce's dedication to service way back when and just to think that after all these years she is still very committed and going strong no matter what hat of service she opts to wear at that moment. Bravo and thank you Alyce West for everything you do; we appreciate you. Thanks to you I can truly say that we have been properly served.

EACH ONE FEED ONE...

I serve to give back what had been given to me. I came from a village; a village raised me. - Alyce

“I do it because I enjoy it. I give from the heart, and I serve from the heart. I want to serve as many people as possible who are in need who don't have the resources or can't find the resources. I came from a village; a



village raised me.

“As a kid growing up my father and mother worked and the neighborhood parents who were home took care of me. If I needed somebody to watch me when I came home from school my mother would ask our neighbor to help out until she came home from work. I was able to come home and be home and not in the streets running around. But, be home and the rules that were instilled in me things like making sure my homework was done so when she got home from work all she had to do was make me dinner and put me to bed. Put us to bed I was the youngest of three. A village did that. I lived on Rhode Island Ave. in East Orange over there by Elmwood and V.L.D. Back in the day, it was Elmwood Elementary School now it's Langston Hughes.

“Service is a family affair. My girls Crystal and Brehal are a big part of my team and have been all their lives. My team which consists of Andrew, Iesha, Khalil and Luis is also like family and they play a big part in our

efforts. Service is of great benefit to our lives. Community service has become a requirement for many of our high schoolers which is great. So, I let the kids come in and do that community service.

“I have been a crossing guard in East Orange for twenty-two years now and I have spent twenty of those years at the same location. Giving resources and information to parents, students, guidance counselors, or whom-ever and encouraging our high school students and every student is something else that I love to do. I have been doing service for quite some time. Presently serving also consists of my being an Auxiliary Officer and a first responder. I've been a first responder since around 2004. ...

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.



IVY HILL VS.

SETON HALL

(Cont. from page 12)

Aggrieved residents, some of whom have been in Ivy Hill for 40 years, said that some three decades of university construction have decimated natural runoff and absorption areas.

Runoff from SHU's parking garage and other infrastructure overwhelms a Newark Water and Sewer stormwater catch basin at Woodbine Avenue and Reynolds Place to cause most flooding. It also swamps Ivy Hill Park, turning its walking paths into culverts.

Ivy Hill is not on FEMA's flood plain maps, making federal recovery funds unavailable.

The flood report group has been putting village planners and other officials' proverbial feet to the fire, including speaking at the Newark Municipal Council's Oct. 3 meeting and county officials Oct. 13. West Ward Councilman Dupre' Kelly spoke on their behalf at the Nov. 7 planning board meeting. Mayor Ras Baraka has sent a letter to SHU attorney Erlando Webster, Jr., asking his client to consider making the study.

Several report members and neighbors said that the problem has been at least decades in the making. One resident recalled

that a Newark engineer had promised to see whether the city and South Orange had a stormwater sewer interconnection agreement. That was in the aftermath of Hurricane Allison in 2001.

Some of the stormwater and sanitary sewers SHU, Newark and South Orange use may predate the college's 1850s establishment.

The university, during the hearings, said they would create a retention basin and a parking garage with "a porous surface" as a partial remedy. That and a required environmental review process, however, are contingent on the school getting the center expansion's approval.

EAST ORANGE MAN CONVICTED

(Continued from page 7)

in state prison. Under the No Early Release Act, he must serve 85 percent of his sentence before he is eligible for parole.

“The victim waited two long years to get justice for what happened to her,” said Assistant Prosecutor Michael Burke, who tried the case. “This verdict would not have been possible without the victim and eyewitnesses agreeing to testify.”

South Orange planners may conclude Dec. 5's hearing with a vote to either approve or decline SHU's project.

TOWN WATCH (Continued from page 10)

Moussa Fofana, 17, while you read this.

N.J. Superior Court Judge Ronald Wigler, from his Newark bench, handed down the 15-year sentence Nov. 16 in exchange for Hernandez pleading guilty to a count of aggravated manslaughter.

Hernandez's plea bargain with the Essex County Prosecutor's office, while expected for the last two months, is less than satisfactory to Moussa's family and officials from both towns.

Critics had called for an at least 30-year sentence on Hernandez. They have held a march between CHS and the Maplewood Municipal Building protesting the punishment and have appealed to Wigler at earlier pre-trial hearings when the plea deal was leaked out.

"Please don't think that this 15-year sentence represents the value of Moussa's life," said Wigler to the family and courtroom gallery audience. "There's not a number or a number of years in jail I can give him (Hernandez) that will make your lives whole again. I'm sorry but I'm satisfied that under all the circumstances, this plea is fair and appropriate."

Fofana, 17, was a CHS junior who was shot by Hernandez last year while on the grounds of the South Orange-Maplewood School District's Underhill Sports Complex.

New Police Chief

Mayor Dean Dafis and the Maplewood Township Committee formally appointed Albert Salley as its next Chief of Police and had him sworn-in during their Nov. 14 meeting. Salley, who is MPD's first African American police chief, succeeds the late Jimmy DeVaul, 53, who died on Oct. 21.

BLOOMFIELD / GLEN RIDGE - The manager of a North Center store thanked borough police officers for catching one of two shoplifting suspects that fled from his premises on Nov. 1.

Two Glen Ridge police officers saw two people being chased westward by a third person into the borough that Tuesday. They joined the pursuit until they had caught one of the duo.

The third person said he was the manager of the CVS Pharmacy at 331 Broad St. He identified the caught man as one of the pair who took two boxes of diapers and ran.

Michael Salici, 33, of Nutley, was taken to Bloomfield Police Headquarters, where he was identified, charged with a summons and released.

Stabber Surrenders Himself

A Nov. 15 Bloomfield Police report

has a man, suspected of stabbing another man on Nov. 11, turning himself in that Tuesday. He had matched the description by the victim of a man who got out of a BMW and stabbed him in the back at Belleville and Williamson avenues that Friday.

The suspect was taken to Newark's Essex County Correctional Facility after being charged with aggravated assault endangering an injured victim and weapons possession. BPD did not identify the suspect as of press time.

MONTCLAIR - Those Montclairians who knew of former Fourth Ward Councilwoman Sandra O. Lang, Esq.'s devotion to the township returned a measure during her respective visitation at Martin's Home for Service and funeral at Trinity Presbyterian Church Nov. 17-18.

Lang, 79, a two-term Township Council member, died here Nov. 10. Sandra Olive Lang began her lifelong Montclair residency at her May 10, 1943 birth. The Montclair High School Class of 1961 graduate went away to Hampton University for a bachelor's degree and to Rutgers for her masters in business administration and Juris Doctorate.

Lang, on most days, commuted to Manhattan to work for IBM and as a sales representative for McGraw-Hill. Back home here, she was also a YMCA member, a YMCA campaigner and President of the NAACP-Montclair Branch. She had also been secretary of the Union Montclair Housing Corporation for 20 years until her death.

Nieces Annette and Andrea Land and Wallena Gould and nephews James (Tariq) Lang, Jr., Saladin Lang and Doug Wilson are among her survivors. parents Roxie (Myatt) Lang and James Lang and brother James Andrew Lang predeceased her.

"She was a woman of high character who believed in helping people who needed support most," appraised Fourth Ward Councilman David Cummings at Nov. 14th Township Council meeting. "She didn't hold back her feelings; you knew where she stood. She was the essence of decency and humanity."

BELLEVILLE - The attorney for Township Construction Code Official Frank DeLorenzo more than announced the New Jersey Attorney General's Office ending their investigation of his client here at the Nov. 7 Township Council meeting.

The NJAG Office, earlier in November, said that they had concluded their investigation, without taking action, of Mayor Michael Melham's embezzlement claims against DeLorenzo.

Melham had accused DeLorenzo of writing invoice quotes for attending town-

ship planning and zoning board meetings and drawing the expenses against developers' escrow accounts. The mayor's claim led to State Police officers serving a subpoena against township officials at Town Hall Sept. 21.

"We showed that the allegations were false," said Lee Vartan, Esq. during that Monday night meeting's public hearing segment. "Frank's invoices were reviewed and renewed. The developers were appropriately noticed and invoiced. At the end of each year, the township issued Frank a 1099 form and Frank paid taxes on the additional income."

It is believed that a dispute had developed between property owner Melham and DeLorenzo when the latter had refused to approve a permit that would have violated township zoning ordinances. The disagreement happened before Melham ran for mayor in 2018.

It is also understood that the civil "DeLorenzo vs. Belleville" whistleblower harassment lawsuit still continues.

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