

# LOCAL TALK

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VOLUME 23 • ISSUE 31 \* JUNE 8 - JUNE 14, 2023

25¢

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

**OFFICIAL NEWSPAPER**

ESSEX COUNTY • EAST ORANGE • ORANGE BOARD OF EDUCATION

1576 Springfield Avenue • Maplewood, NJ 07040

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**INDEX**

Editorial & Weather: 02

Sports Wrap: 05

Town Watch: 10

The Observation Booth: 14

The Doctor Is In: 04

Newark Sued - Part 5: 05

From the Pastor's Heart: 12

## QUANTAVIA HILBERT ANNOUNCES CAMPAIGN FOR ORANGE MAYOR

On June 3, 2023, West Ward Councilwoman Quantavia Hilbert organized a community meeting at Liberia Restaurant in Orange, NJ. She announced her intention to run for mayor, way ahead of the election in May 2024.

She called family and friends for a luncheon to announce her candidacy, and talked about her ideas and the purpose of her running for the mayorship. Mainly, her goal is to let citizens talk and she wants to hear their concerns, to the citizens, so she can be inclusive for residents, not exclusive.

Speakers at the June 3rd event included India Williams, Founder of All About the Spectrum, and Charles Barner.

At the event, I was granted an exclusive interview with the newly minted candidate. She laid out her motivation to run for mayor, and what she wants long term for her constituents.

### Exclusive Interview With Orange Councilwoman Quantavia Hilbert

*By Dhiren Shah*

**Dhiren Shah:** Welcome to this interview. You have just announced your mayoral campaign. What is the reason you decide to run for mayor of Orange?

**Quantavia Hilbert:** The reason I am running for mayor is because I believe our city needs real vision, real representation and real authentic law for the community. I am doing it because of my children's future, I am doing it because of our economy. Orange is a hidden gem in Essex County, and I want to put us back on the map, and I am running for the job.

**DS:** You mentioned your passion about being councilwoman.

*(Continued on page 6)*



*Sen. Richard Codey*

*Sen. Nia Gill*

## "LINE A" PREVAILS IN LOW PRIMARY VOTER TURNOUT

*By Walter Elliott*

**MONTCLAIR** - Members of the Democratic and Republican parties have cast their primary ballots by 8 p.m. June 6 - and a majority of them have decided to keep their established party lines.

Although there were sporadic challenges on the State Legislative, Essex County Commission and East Orange Council levels, they were repelled by candidates who had received both party organizational endorsement and Line A on the ballot.

Two of the longest-serving State Senate members - Richard Codey (D-Roseland) and Nia Gill (D-Montclair) - were on a collision course when their old 34th State Legislative District was redrawn as the new 27th LD.

Gill was hoping for a repeat of her 2003 Democratic primary upset

*(Continued on page 8)*



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16



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

**Hello Readers,**

Locally, Councilwoman Quantavia Hilbert announced her candidacy for Orange Mayor. It might be surprising for many. However, in the political arena, many of them knew, but did not have an idea as to the date of the announcement. I met her a few times and seems like she has a heart for the people. Many times, people think that why should we elect a person when he/she shows a good heart, and once they get elected, they are a changed person. I agree with those who said that. However, sometimes you get someone who is true, and worthy of the vote.

Voting gives the chance to make the change to a better leader, who can help people. I am not against Dwayne Warren, but if you, the voters, think that Dwayne Warren has done very good job, you must vote for him. If you are dissatisfied for any reason, now Quantavia is giving you an option, and you have almost one year to decide.

A major accident in India is known to everyone. There were two tracks, one for each side to go and there were two sidetracks for a freight train to stop, while the fast trains can pass by. It has been that way for decades. This time, when the freight train was stopped at the sidetracks, the main train came and someone forgot to switch the tracks back to the right position, so the fast train went on the wrong track and hit the freight train. The fast trains compartments went flying and hit another upcoming fast train on their track, and it be-

came a three train accident. A horrible mistake.

Over 300 died and over 1,100 were injured, including some who are permanently disabled. Many people are asking for the resignation of the railway minister of India. In 1961 or 1962, there was an accident in South India and then-Railway Minister Lal Bahadur Shastri resigned. He was honest and was not going after crazy fame and money. Then he became the Prime Minister of India, but in 1964 he suspiciously died in Tashkent, Russia when he was visiting Russia for peace talks between India and Pakistan. I hope, the current railway minister resigns to show the need of train safety being very essential in the 21st Century. If they are using new technology for the train engines, they should start looking at the signals as well. Nowadays, it does not cost like 15 years ago, and India has money. India is good at getting

advanced technology, and the new technology will reduce the accidents and provide safety for the passengers.

Russia and Ukraine are blaming each other for a damaged dam in Crimea. No one has accepted that they have used drone attacks to ruin the dam. The dam's water gushed into and ruined the nuclear power plant. According to Reuters, "As water gushed from the facility on the Dnieper River, which separates Ukrainian and Russian forces, officials on both sides ordered residents to evacuate. The world's atomic energy watchdog warned the warring sides not to undermine the safety of the nearby nuclear power plant in Zaporizhzhia but said there was currently 'no immediate risk' to it."

According to [www.realclearpolitics.com](http://www.realclearpolitics.com) Trump is leading DeSantis by  
*(Continued on page 15)*

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**WEATHER FOR THE WEEK**

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# The Doctor Is In



OP-ED BY DR. ADIL MANZOOR

## The Ever-Increasing Problem of Falls Among Adults in The U.S.: What To Know

If you have ever played a contact sport before, chances are that you are no stranger to falls. Likewise, if you have ever had a toddler around, you will notice they fall several times a day. Quite simply, falls can happen to anyone, and they are usually really nothing to be worried about, even among toddlers, who can simply

just get up and continue with their business.

Considering all of these, it may shock you to know that in 2020 alone, 36,508 older adults (that is, adults above 65) in the United States died due to falls. In the same year, emergency departments recorded three million visits for older adults falls. There's more. According to the CDC, in a year, the medical costs used in managing falls to older adults amount to \$50 billion. While falls do not constitute a serious problem for most of the population below 65, above that age, it can lead to some disastrous outcomes. With that said, let's consider some key details about falls you need to know.

As I have stated earlier, falls usually do not constitute a serious health hazard. That, of course, depends on the type and nature of the fall. While with most falls, the individual can walk out unscathed, some can result in serious injuries. According to reports, one in five falls can cause broken bones or head injuries. Since older adults have weaker bones, they are at a much higher risk of breaking their bones than younger individuals.



Furthermore, the risk of brain injury after falling is more significant in older adults. Therefore, if an adult over 65 falls and injures their head, health authorities recommend they visit their healthcare provider immediately. Unfortunately, many don't comply with this advice. The CDC states that one out of four older people (that is, above 65 years) falls every year. However, less than half of people that fall tell their doctor. This is consequential, as there is a risk of brain injury after falling for older adults, and also because falling once doubles your chances of falling again.

Despite the inherent risk of falls for older adults, 36,000 deaths in a year due to these falls is not at all desirable. While the report does not expatiate the causes of these falls, they are most likely due to the following reasons: older people have a worse vision, balance problems, muscle weakness, they have conditions that may cause confusion and dizziness, and blood pressure problems. Some medications may even cause confusion and dizziness among older adults and increase their chances of falling.

Some risk factors for serious falls among older adults include the intensity of work done regularly, binge drinking, steroid use, family history, and gender. The latter point - gender - operates in different dimensions. For one, older women are more prone to fractures as they are at a higher risk of osteoporosis. On the other hand, older men are more likely to be working jobs that increase their risk of falling, especially jobs that involve ladders.

In any case, the number of falls observed among older adults in the United States has to be reduced. Practical ways in-

clude regular vision checks and using glasses if necessary, close monitoring of blood pressure, ensuring older adults live in a free, non-slippery environment, and doing strength and balance exercises. It may also be necessary to get a medical practitioner to review medications in use to ensure no medications are greatly increasing the risk of falls.

Finally, if falls do occur, older adults must speak with their doctor. Yes, even if these falls seem innocuous. This is important in quickly identifying and managing any brain injury that may arise from the fall.

*This article was written by Dr. Adil Manzoor DO, a Board-Certified Internist & Board Certified 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 & House call Doctors. He is also currently pursuing an Executive MBA and a Master's of Science in Healthcare Leadership at Samuel Curtis Johnson Graduate School of Management and the Weill Cornell Graduate School of Medical Sciences.*

### References

- <https://www.washingtonpost.com/wellness/2023/05/22/fatal-falls-older-americans/>
- <https://www.cdc.gov/falls/facts.html>
- <https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/falls/>

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# SPORTS WRAP

By William Hathaway, Jr.

This past weekend in Orange, the Althea Gibson Foundation along with the City of Orange's Recreation Department held their 4th Annual Tennis Jamboree at Central Playground in Orange.

Eight elementary schools took part in this event, which was part of Orange Week in the city. A total of 65 students in several different age groups throughout the Orange School District attended the tennis event featuring the Eastern United States Tennis Association, in which members help students work on their tennis skills.

Also taking part in this event was long time tennis instructor was Jean Gibson Szpara, a native of Guyana who has helped children in Orange for a long time since her youth. Joyce also competed as a tennis player herself at the age of 15. Joyce said she decided to give back to the youth in the community.

The kids that took part in the event were awarded trophies provided by the Orange Board of Education, and Orange Superintendent of Schools Dr. Gerald Fitzhugh also attended. The New Jersey Symphony provided music at the event.

In other sports news, the NBA Finals are underway, and as of this writing, the series is tied 1-1. Finally, in stunning golf news, the PGA Tour and LIV Tour have announced that they will be merging, and that all litigation will cease.



Photo By Felicia Laguerre Owens



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## CITY OF NEWARK SUED \$10 MILLION BY DEVELOPER - PART V

By Lev D. Zilbermintz

As was reported in the June 1, May 11, April 20, April 14 and March 23, 2023 issues of "Local Talk": the City of Newark, its Municipal Council and certain other parties were sued by the developer, Fairmount Senior Genesis, Housing Urban Renewal Partnership, LLC, Genesis Fairmount Partners, LLC and Genesis Central Ave Partners. The cause of the lawsuit was that the City and its Municipal Council allegedly failed to live up to their side of the agreement and were engaged in unfair play and political shenanigans.

In this, the fifth part of the article, "Local Talk" sheds more light on what happened.

### Negotiations Start Again for the Revised Project

According to court papers, once the developer and the City agreed to a Stipulation of Dismissal Without Prejudice, negotiations began again. Apparently both parties wanted to get something going, so negotiations re-

sumed. Why was the developer again trying for something with a partner that could not be trusted? Perhaps the developer thought of salvaging something from a project that had taken so much time, effort, money and resources.

According to court papers, "The City thereafter approached Plaintiffs and requested that Plaintiffs provide a 'concept plan' for a development project which encompassed the Central Properties and certain surrounding parcels that neither the City nor Plaintiffs owned or controlled.

"The City's stated intention for this revised project was to fulfill the City's desire for a 'legacy project' with the Central Properties, and the City indicated that it would negotiate acquisition of the necessary surrounding parcels directly."

This means that now the strategy has changed. The developer was asked to work with the City on land that did not belong to either party. In other words, it was neutral territory. Fair enough, one might say. Howev-

er, since the City of Newark expressed interest, there is something to watch out for. Caveat emptor, or "let the buyer beware," goes the old saying.

### Kawaida Towers is what City of Newark wants to bring back

According to court papers, "Upon information and belief, the revised project is the resurrection of 'Kawaida Towers,' a low- and medium-income housing project that was first introduced in the early 1970s by Mayor Baraka's late father, Amiri Baraka, and 'has been 50 years in the making.'

"Upon information and belief, the original Kawaida Towers project was slated to be built as a 16-story building on Lincoln Avenue in the North Ward of Newark, but it was never completed due to protests, protracted litigation, and political push-back. Decades later, Mayor Baraka seeks to finally bring his father's dream back to life regardless of the cost to the City and its residents."

Here we see why the City still needed the developer. This was the personal interest of Mayor Ras Baraka, who wanted to finally build the much-delayed Kawaida Towers.

### What happened to Kawaida Towers in the 1970s?

Research by "Local Talk" found a 1976 New York Times article that gave the entire history of the Kawaida Towers project. Just as the lawsuit said, there were protests, protracted litigation, political push-back. There also was racism, something that the lawsuit failed to mention.

According to a July 16, 1976 New York Times article, "But the racial issue, fueled at several neighborhood meetings called by Mr. (Anthony) Imperiale, soon became the dominant issue. Mr. Baraka, the poet and playwright previously known as LeRoi Jones, was described at the rallies as a racist and accused of espousing an "alien philosophy."

The same article states,

(Continued on page 12)



**QUANTAVIA HILBERT**  
(Continued from page 1)

**QH:** Yes, I love being councilwoman. I am being grateful for all those who came out to vote that day, but it's going to take a little more me than being the councilwoman of the West Ward to help the city, to serve the city and get us back on track to lot of views and values that used to be in Orange. I feel like Orange is still working for its identity for the future, and it is up to all of us to get everyone on the board and stand up for Orange.

**DS:** Twenty years ago, Orange used to be a nice community place, which I don't think so now. What is your opinion?

**QH:** I absolutely agree with you. I have a lot of information, a lot of accounts of the other people with the Brown administration

and how it was amazing, it was historical and reviving, and we still haven't touched everything promised all those years ago. The community has to be heard, before the community actually has reformed or reconstructed. It has to say to people, "I feel like living in Orange, it brings me quality of life, brings me happiness." It's also about longevity.

**DS:** If any residents go to City Hall, in your opinion, are their needs addressed easily or is it tough to get them done?

**QH:** In my personal opinion, I feel that there are questions that do go unanswered. It's not because of the people inside the office; it's also about the culture that is in City Hall. I feel like, in order to clean it up or in order to revive positivity and professionalism at City Hall, it has to start from the top. We need good representation, and we need somebody to lead with integrity.



Photos By  
Dhiren Shah

**DS:** What changes would you like to bring to the city of Orange?

**QH:** Changes would definitely start with our community, so with the community I am thinking about longevity, success. I want to start mandating that we hire at least 15% of our workforce from Orange. Many communities do that, make sure there is job opportunities, and we make sure that a lot of their financing and taxpayer dollars staying with our community. Also, I think that it is very important that we look at our city plan. Our master plan, I think is outdated. Those might have been 10, 15, 20 years ago, and that is not the need of the community now. So, I believe that we have to revisit what our city planners and developers are proposing for the Orange. Orange needs more than just apartment buildings.

**DS:** Everyone think that Orange is growing, but how do they accommodate those residents for

schooling, sewer, garbage collection, roads, and many other services?

**QH:** A lot of that falls on the council and the administration, and there needs to be more collaboration. Unfortunately, I don't see that being an easy task. We need someone who has a vision to make this happen and enforce this thing to happen. We do have issues with our garbage collection contractor. We do have issues with our sewerage and flood lines and flood zones, we are currently rebuilding a PSE&G location to help us with other utilities for the city.

We are talking about manpower, we are talking about the workforce, we need more police officers to keep us safe, we need more firefighters to make sure that those new buildings and new homes we have don't burn down. We need help with our infrastructure and our fiscal management. If we manage our finances and our funds appropriately, we can do a lot more and  
(Continued on page 7)





**QUANTAVIA HILBERT**

(Continued from page 6)

prepare for our newcomers and also sustain our current residents.

I also think that another thing which is important is to focus on rent control. Rent control for residents and commercial; we have a lot of empty commercial space that has not been utilized, because a lot of people feel like they cannot afford it, or they feel like that the residents in the area cannot afford it. So, I also want to pay attention to those things to build our economy and make sure that people are not pushed out of their homes.

**DS:** How would you bring the community to be involved in the city affairs?

**QH:** Well, I have a really good plan. I can't tell you all my secrets, Mr. Shah. I hold a lot of events like today, mainly quarterly, and I don't do the talking, I let the residents do the talking. I have nonprofits coming. They support their resources and our residents said that "Hey, this is what I want in my community."

We create plans and proposals, bringing them back to my fellow councilmembers. What I will say is I do know that as that as Mayor, there are certain things you can execute to make some of these things happen. I really believe that we have a lot of committees that citizens are volunteering to participate in, but we never take their recommendations. So, I want to make sure that I am empowering residents and our citizens that do volunteer and do

their civic duty, and make sure that we are reflecting what everyone wants to see and feel in our community.

Right now, the administration picks and chooses who they want to collaborate with, and most of those projects are temporary. It's nothing with long lasting effect for change. No change whatsoever.

**DS:** Are you going to pick family and friends for jobs or hire on merit bases?

**QH:** I do not believe in the nepotism. Family members, absolutely not. I am the only person (in my family) who lives in New Jersey, and all the others have moved. So, on a serious note, I come from a human resources background, a workforce administration background. I have lot of experience in administration. I came across a lot of people and a lot of models to manage a company, to manage an office, to manage an environment with different personalities. We need to hire people with qualifications that help us change things in Orange.

I am not saying that the current people we have in Orange City Hall are not qualified, but I will say that we do need to focus more on traditional roles, focus more on reorganizing, see where we can add more job positions, where we can add more opportunities for promotions and uptrain our staff and bring more people who are going to get the job done for residents and bring a whole new culture.

**DS:** Thank you very much, and best of luck on your campaign.

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**PRIMARY** (Cont. from page 1)

Tuesday night. Fifty-five percent of the participating registered party voters back then chose her over a candidate who was part of the Essex County Democratic Committee Line A. The ECDC accepted the results and helped Gill get re-elected in that November's General Election.

Essex County Clerk Christopher Durkin's Election Division's staff, however, had recorded Orange native and former Governor Codey's primary renomination by 1,545 votes as of 10:30 p.m. Tuesday. (Although the new 27 LD includes Passaic County's City of Clifton, this article is exclusively using essexclerk.com figures.)

Gill had meanwhile formed an "Essex and Passaic County Democratic Organization" to field Eve Robinson for one of the two 27th LD General Assembly seats. Robinson, of Montclair, fell short of upsetting ECDC's duo of John McKeon, of West Orange, or Alixon Collazos-Gill, of Montclair.

Gill and her organization had also fielded Justin Harris to challenge the four Essex County At-Large Commissioners. Harris, however, placed fifth with nearly 5.5 percent of that vote.

Tuesday night's results reshaped "You Can't Beat City Hall" into "It's Hard to Beat Party Headquarters."

June 6's countywide turnout has so far reached 9.55 percent of registered voters among all 22 municipalities. Durkin and his staff had received report from 550 of the 574 - or 95 percent - of deployed polling station voting machines. (Some machines present were not activated.)

This election's Essex County turnout is, so far, 9.55 percent of 356,204 registered voters among all 22 municipalities.

The above and below results remain unofficial until June 20 for two reasons. First, there are absentee, provisional and Vote By Mail Ballots to be counted until 4 p.m. June 9. Second, there is a 14-day delay

in Durkin's certifying the results to allow time for any challenges or recounts.

**STATE LEGISLATURE**

**27Th Legislative District: West Orange, Montclair, Livingston, Millburn, Roseland, Passaic County's Clifton. (NOTE: Results do not include Clifton's figures.)**

*State Senate (Select One)*

Codey got the Democratic Party nomination towards the Nov. General Election ballot with 6,141 votes. Gill garnered 4,596 votes. The duo received a 57.19 to 42.81 percentage split of the vote. Neither the Essex nor Passaic County Republican Organizations had fielded a candidate.

*General Assembly (Select Two)*

Democratic voters selected the two ECDC Line A candidates over the Gill-backed Robinson and former 28th LD Assemblyman Craig Stanley.

Incumbent and former West Orange mayor McKeon mustered 7,852 votes for 39.67 percent. Newcomer Collazos-Gill, the wife of County Commissioner Brendan Gill, was next at 7,151 or 36.13.

Robinson received 3,601 or 18.20. Stanley, now of West Orange, got 1,187 or six percent. There were no Republican candidates entered.

**28th LD: Irvington, South Orange, Maplewood, Newark's "southwest" and Vailsburg-West wards and Union County's Hillside. (Hillside results not included.)**

Voters granted incumbent Renee C. Burgess, of Irvington, her first State Senatorial Democratic Primary victory. The former Irvington Council President and successor to the late Sen. Ron L. Rice received all 7,990 votes cast. No candidate petitions from the Essex or Union Republican Party Organizations were filed.

Democratic Assembly voters chose ECDC Line A candi-



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The City of Orange Township, New Jersey will be participating in the 2023 Summer Food Service Program from June 26, 2023 to August 18 2023. Meals will be provided to all children without charge and are the same for all children regardless of race, color, national origin, sex (including gender identify and sexual orientation), disability, age, or reprisal or retaliation for prior civil rights activity and there will be no discrimination in the course of the meal service. Meals will be provided, at a first come, first serve basis, at the enrolled sites and times as follows:

LOCATIONS	OPERATING DATES	SERVE TIMES
CAMP DON BOSCO 650 NASSAU STREET ORANGE, NJ 07050	June 26, 2023 thru July 28, 2023	Breakfast: 8:30 am – 9:30 am Lunch 12:00 am – 2:00 pm
IT TAKES A VILLAGE CTR. 439 MAIN STREET ORANGE, NJ 07050	June 26, 2023 thru August 18, 2023	Breakfast: 8:30 am – 9:30 am Lunch 12:00 am – 2:00 pm
JR. PUBLIC SAFETY ACADEMY 234 LINCOLN AVENUE - COMMUNITY ROOM ORANGE, NJ 07050	July 10, 2023 thru August 4, 2023	Breakfast: 8:30 am – 9:30 am Lunch 11:30 am – 1:30 pm
MOUNT OLIVE SUMMER DAY CAMP 29-37 NORTH ESSEX AVENUE ORANGE, NJ 07050	June 26, 2023 thru July 21, 2023	Breakfast: 8:30 am – 9:30 am Lunch 12:00 am – 2:00 pm

In accordance with Federal civil rights law and U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) civil rights regulations and policies, this institution is prohibited from discriminating on the basis race, color, national origin, sex (including gender identify and sexual orientation), disability, age, or reprisal or retaliation for prior civil rights activity.

Program information may be made available in languages other than English. Persons with disabilities who require alternative means of communication to obtain program information (e.g., Braille, large print, audiotape, American Sign Language), should contact the responsible state or local agency that administers the program or USDA's TARGET Center at (202) 720-2600 (voice and TTY) or contact USDA through the Federal Relay Service at (800) 877-8339.

To file a program discrimination complaint, a Complainant should complete a Form AD-3027, USDA Program Discrimination Complaint Form which can be obtained online at: <https://www.usda.gov/oascr/filing-program-discrimination-complaint-usda-customer-Compliant-Form-0508-0002-508-11-28-17Fax2Mail.pdf>, from any USDA office, by calling (866) 632-9992, or by writing a letter addressed to USDA. The letter must contain the complainant's name, address, telephone number, and a written description of the alleged discriminatory action in sufficient detail to inform the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights (ASCR) about the nature and date of an alleged civil rights violation. The completed AD-3027 form or letter must be submitted to USDA by:

- (1) mail: U.S. Department of Agriculture  
Office of the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights  
1400 Independence Avenue, SW  
Washington, D.C. 20250-9410; or
- (2) fax: (833) 256-1665 or (202) 690-7442; or
- (3) email: [program.intake@usda.gov](mailto:program.intake@usda.gov).

This institution is an equal opportunity provider.

dates Cleopatra Tucker, of Newark, and Garnet R. Hall, of Maplewood, over former Maplewood mayor Frank McGehee.

Newcomer Hall was the night's top vote-getter at 6,435 or 40.28. Incumbent Tucker tallied 6,240 or 39.06. McGehee, under his own "Democrats, Change... It's Up to Us," mustered 3,300 or 20.66.

Republican voters ratified Joy Freeman and Willie S. Jetti, both

of Newark, to appear on their part of the Nov. 7 ballot. Freeman found 186 or 52.69. Jetti reeled in 167 or 47.31.

**29th LD: Newark's North, East, Central "West Side" and "southeast" wards.**

M. Teresa Ruiz was figuratively "one woman - one vote" in this Senate Democratic primary  
(Continued on page 13)





THE CITY OF ORANGE TOWNSHIP  
DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY SERVICES  
29 North Day Street, Orange, New Jersey 07050

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LOCATIONS	OPERATING DATES	SERVE TIMES
CENTRAL PLAYGROUND CENTRAL AVENUE & CARTERET PLACE ORANGE, NJ 07050	June 26, 2023 thru August 18, 2023	Breakfast: 7:30 am – 8:30 am Lunch 11:30 am – 1:30 pm
METCALF PARK VALLEY STREET & ARGYLE AVENUE ORANGE, NJ 07050	June 26, 2023 thru August 18, 2023	Breakfast: 7:30 am – 8:30 am Lunch 11:30 am – 1:30 pm
PARK AVENUE SCHOOL ESL SUMMER PROGRAM 231 PARK AVENUE ORANGE, NJ 07050	July 5, 2023 thru July 31, 2023	Breakfast: 7:30 am – 8:30 am Lunch 11:30 am – 1:30 pm
HEYWOOD AVENUE SCHOOL ASP PROGRAM 421 HEYWOOD AVENUE ORANGE, NJ 07050	July 5, 2023 thru August 3, 2023	Breakfast: 7:30 am – 8:30 am Lunch 11:30 am – 1:30 pm
LINCOLN AVE. SCHOOL ORANGE SUMMER CAMP 216 LINCOLN AVENUE ORANGE, NJ 07050	July 5, 2023 thru August 18, 2023	Breakfast: 7:30 am – 8:30 am Lunch 11:30 am – 1:30 pm
COLGATE PARK DAY STREET & NEW STREET ORANGE, NJ 07050	June 26, 2023 thru August 18, 2023	Breakfast: 7:30 am – 8:30 am Lunch 11:30 am – 1:30 pm
ROSA PARKS COMMUNITY SCHOOL – 1 <sup>ST</sup> CENTURY SUMMER PROGRAM 369 MAIN STREET ORANGE, NJ 07050	July 5, 2023 thru July 28, 2023	Lunch 11:30 am – 1:30 pm
ORANGE PREPARATORY ACADEMY ASP PROGRAM 400 CENTRAL AVENUE ORANGE, NJ 07050	July 5, 2023 thru July 28, 2023	Breakfast: 7:30 am – 8:30 am Lunch 11:30 am – 1:30 pm
COLLEGE PARK ALD ORANGE, NJ 07050EN & HIGH STREET ORANGE, NJ 07050	June 26, 2023 thru August 18, 2023	Breakfast: 7:30 am – 8:30 am Lunch 11:30 am – 1:30 pm
FOREST STREET COMMUNITY SCHOOL – SUMMER BREAKTHROUGH PROGRAM 651 FOREST STREET ORANGE, NJ 07050	July 5, 2023 thru July 28, 2023	Breakfast: 7:30 am – 8:30 am Lunch 11:30 am – 1:30 pm
ORANGE EARLY CHILDHOOD LEARNING CENTER – ESY PRESCHOOL SUMMER 397 PARK AVENUE ORANGE, NJ 07050	July 5, 2023 thru July 31, 2023	Breakfast: 8:00 am – 9:00 am Lunch 12:00 pm – 1:00 pm
LINCOLN AVE. SCHOOL CARES NJ SUMMER CAMP 216 LINCOLN AVENUE ORANGE, NJ 07050	July 5, 2023 thru August 18, 2023	Breakfast: 7:30 am – 8:30 am Lunch 11:30 am – 1:30 pm
OAKWOOD AVENUE COMMUNITY SCHOOL ASP PROGRAM 135 OAKWOOD AVENUE ORANGE, NJ 07050	July 5, 2023 thru August 3, 2023	Breakfast: 7:30 am – 8:30 am Lunch 11:30 am – 1:30 pm
CLEVELAND STREET SCHOOL ASP PROGRAM 518 VALLEY STREET ORANGE, NJ 07050	July 5, 2023 thru August 3, 2023	Breakfast: 7:30 am – 8:30 am Lunch 11:30 am – 1:30 pm
CENTRAL ELEMENTARY SCHOOL 33 CLEVELAND STREET ORANGE, NJ 07050	June 26, 2023 thru August 11, 2023	Breakfast: 7:30 am – 8:30 am Lunch 11:30 am – 1:30 pm
STEM INNOVATION ACADEMY SUMMER GETAWAY 445 SCOTLAND ROAD SOUTH ORANGE, NJ 07079	July 5, 2023 thru July 14, 2023	Breakfast: 7:30 am – 8:30 am Lunch 11:30 am – 1:30 pm
ORANGE HIGH SCHOOL CULINARY ARTS CAMP 400 LINCOLN AVENUE ORANGE, NJ 07050	July 5, 2023 thru July 28, 2023	Breakfast: 7:30 am – 8:30 am Lunch 11:30 am – 1:30 pm
ORANGE HIGH SCHOOL BAND 400 LINCOLN AVENUE ORANGE, NJ 07050	August 1, 2023 thru August 18, 2023	Breakfast: 7:30 am – 8:30 am Lunch 11:30 am – 1:30 pm
FOREST STREET COMMUNITY SCHOOL ASP PROGRAM 651 FOREST STREET ORANGE, NJ 07050	July 5, 2023 thru August 3, 2023	Breakfast: 7:30 am – 8:30 am Lunch 11:30 am – 1:30 pm
FOREST STREET COMMUNITY SCHOOL MURALS & ART CLUB 651 FOREST STREET ORANGE, NJ 07050	July 5, 2023 thru August 3, 2023	Lunch 11:30 am – 1:30 pm
FOREST STREET COMMUNITY SCHOOL CODING & PODCASTING CLUB 651 FOREST STREET ORANGE, NJ 07050	July 5, 2023 thru August 3, 2023	Breakfast: 7:30 am – 8:30 am Lunch 11:30 am – 1:30 pm
LINCOLN AVE. SCHOOL - ASP PROGRAM 216 LINCOLN AVENUE ORANGE, NJ 07050	July 10, 2023 thru August 3, 2023	Breakfast: 7:30 am – 8:30 am Lunch 11:30 am – 1:30 pm

LOCATIONS	OPERATING DATES	SERVE TIMES
ORANGE EARLY CHILDHOOD LEARNING CENTER PRESCHOOL SUMMER PROGRAM 397 PARK AVENUE ORANGE, NJ 07050	July 5, 2023 thru July 28, 2023	Breakfast: 8:00 am – 9:00 am Lunch 12:00 pm – 1:00 pm
ORANGE HIGH SCHOOL ESY PROGRAM 400 LINCOLN AVENUE ORANGE, NJ 07050	July 5, 2023 thru July 31, 2023	Breakfast: 7:30 am – 8:30 am Lunch 11:30 am – 1:30 pm
ORANGE HIGH SCHOOL G9 ALGEBRA 1 READINESS BRIDGE 400 LINCOLN AVENUE ORANGE, NJ 07050	June 26, 2023 thru July 28, 2023	Breakfast: 7:30 am – 8:30 am Lunch 11:30 am – 1:30 pm
ORANGE HIGH SCHOOL BIO SUMMER BRIDGE READINESS BRIDGE 400 LINCOLN AVENUE ORANGE, NJ 07050	June 26, 2023 thru July 28, 2023	Breakfast: 7:30 am – 8:30 am Lunch 11:30 am – 1:30 pm
ORANGE HIGH SCHOOL AP CHEM SUMMER BRIDGE 400 LINCOLN AVENUE ORANGE, NJ 07050	June 26, 2023 thru July 28, 2023	Breakfast: 7:30 am – 8:30 am Lunch 11:30 am – 1:30 pm
ORANGE HIGH SCHOOL HONORS BIO SUMMER BRIDGE 400 LINCOLN AVENUE ORANGE, NJ 07050	June 26, 2023 thru July 28, 2023	Breakfast: 7:30 am – 8:30 am Lunch 11:30 am – 1:30 pm
ORANGE HIGH SCHOOL NJ ROTC DRILL & LEADERSHIP ACADEMY 400 LINCOLN AVENUE ORANGE, NJ 07050	August 21, 2023 thru August 25, 2023	Breakfast: 7:30 am – 8:30 am Lunch 11:30 am – 1:30 pm
ORANGE HIGH SCHOOL PRE CALCULUS SUMMER INT 400 LINCOLN AVENUE ORANGE, NJ 07050	June 26, 2023 thru July 28, 2023	Breakfast: 7:30 am – 8:30 am Lunch 11:30 am – 1:30 pm
ORANGE HIGH SCHOOL SUMMER ESL ADVANCE 400 LINCOLN AVENUE ORANGE, NJ 07050	July 5, 2023 thru July 28, 2023	Breakfast: 7:30 am – 8:30 am Lunch 11:30 am – 1:30 pm
ORANGE HIGH SCHOOL SUMMER FTC ROBOTICS CAMP 400 LINCOLN AVENUE ORANGE, NJ 07050	June 26, 2023 thru July 28, 2023	Breakfast: 7:30 am – 8:30 am Lunch 11:30 am – 1:30 pm
ORANGE PREPARATORY ACADEMY GR. 8 ALGEBRA 1 READINESS 400 CENTRAL AVENUE ORANGE, NJ 07050	June 26, 2023 thru July 28, 2023	Breakfast: 7:30 am – 8:30 am Lunch 11:30 am – 1:30 pm
PARK AVENUE SCHOOL ASP PROGRAM 231 PARK AVENUE ORANGE, NJ 07050	July 5, 2023 thru August 3, 2023	Breakfast: 7:30 am – 8:30 am Lunch 11:30 am – 1:30 pm
ROSA PARKS COMMUNITY SCHOOL ART CAMP 369 MAIN STREET ORANGE, NJ 07050	July 5, 2023 thru July 28, 2023	Lunch 11:30 am – 1:30 pm
ROSA PARKS COMMUNITY SCHOOL BAND CAMP 369 MAIN STREET ORANGE, NJ 07050	July 5, 2023 thru July 28, 2023	Breakfast: 7:30 am – 8:30 am Lunch 11:30 am – 1:30 pm
ROSA PARKS COMMUNITY SCHOOL DANCE CAMP 369 MAIN STREET ORANGE, NJ 07050	July 5, 2023 thru July 28, 2023	Lunch 11:30 am – 1:30 pm
ROSA PARKS COMMUNITY SCHOOL SUMMER ESL ADVANCE 369 MAIN STREET ORANGE, NJ 07050	July 5, 2023 thru July 28, 2023	Breakfast: 7:30 am – 8:30 am Lunch 11:30 am – 1:30 pm
ROSA PARKS COMMUNITY SCHOOL SUMMER 1 <sup>ST</sup> LEAGUE ROBOTICS 369 MAIN STREET ORANGE, NJ 07050	July 5, 2023 thru July 28, 2023	Breakfast: 7:30 am – 8:30 am Lunch 11:30 am – 1:30 pm
ROSA PARKS COMMUNITY SCHOOL SUMMER TINKERWORKS CAMP 369 MAIN STREET ORANGE, NJ 07050	July 5, 2023 thru July 28, 2023	Breakfast: 7:30 am – 8:30 am Lunch 11:30 am – 1:30 pm
ROSA PARKS COMMUNITY SCHOOL ASP PROGRAM 369 MAIN STREET ORANGE, NJ 07050	July 5, 2023 thru August 3, 2023	Breakfast: 7:30 am – 8:30 am Lunch 11:30 am – 1:30 pm

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Office of the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights  
1400 Independence Avenue, SW  
Washington, D.C. 20250-9410; or
- (2) fax: (833) 256-1665 or (202) 690-7442; or
- (3) email: [program.intake@usda.gov](mailto:program.intake@usda.gov).

# 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** - The Newark Public Schools district is planning to open more school buildings than last year's 15 for this year's expanded and, to some, mandatory Summer Schools program. They include "nearly all" of the system's 19 high schools.

The expansion is being made not by popular demand. Although some of the 10,000 students in Summer 2022 took advantage of bridge and enhancement classes, some them were making up for regular school year attendance and/or were in danger of academic failure.

The NPS Central Office is anticipating the doubling of last summer's 10,000. Another 10,000 have been identified as being at risk of falling academically behind. New Jersey's largest public school district instructs around 38,000 Pre-Kindergarten-12th Grade students.

NPS Superintendent of Schools Roger Leon, at the May 25 Board of Education meeting, cited reports going back to Spring 2002 that students' academic test scores have not returned to pre-COVID pandemic levels. The Spring 2022 New Jersey State Learning Assessment found 27 percent of NPDS students passing the language arts (formerly English) exams and 13 percent their math exams.

The need to have, in Leon's words, "accelerated learning" and "credit recovery" was also the superintendent's decision to add two unused 2022-23 snow days to the Memorial Day weekend holiday.

This year's summer school will still offer classes for special needs students as part of their

yearlong learning program. Transportation will be provided, and all classes are to run 8:30 a.m. - 3 p.m. July 5 - Aug. 4.

**IRVINGTON** - The two pedestrians who were injured by a run-away car here May 19 should have completed their medical treatment by now. Irvington Police detectives, however, are looking how a white four-door BMW lost control before striking the pedestrians and had splintered a garage.

Irvington police and fire units and a local EMS ambulance were called to a report of "a car colliding into a building" at 676 18th Ave. 7:30 p.m. that Friday.

The responders arrived to find the BMW buried under the roof of a collapsed freestanding garage. They also found the two injured persons nearby.

EMS technicians promptly took the wounded duo to "a nearby hospital." No further details were given on what condition they were in when admitted.

IPD officers meanwhile called for a forklift truck and a Public Service Electric & Gas work crew. The forklift was used to remove the garage roof from the stricken car. PSE&G employees meanwhile replace a utility pole that the car had hit.

There has been no word about the BMW driver's condition or whether he or she has been charged with any motor vehicle violation. The car was removed by a contracted tow truck for impounding.

**EAST ORANGE** - One of the city's landmark apartment buildings has been sold but neither the seller or its broker said who it was told to.

CBRE Institutional Properties Vice Chairman Jeffrey Dunne, on May 23, announced that it had secured a buyer for 75 Prospect St. on behalf of outgoing owner OneWall Communities. OneWall, of Newark and Stamford, Conn., had bought the 10-story, 44-unit, 1928 building in 2017.

"The buyer thoroughly realized the uniqueness of 75 Prospect and acted quickly and aggressively to secure the deal," said Dunne. "This is a one-of-a-kind asset in East Orange. The

average size of the apartments, at 1,860 square feet, is unmatched and will likely never be replicated."

75 Prospect, sometimes called The Castle, is a longtime standout in the Brick Church neighborhood. Most of its 44 2 to 4-bedroom units stretch out from the building's front to rear.

The building was among 20 apartment buildings here and in Newark, Irvington and Orange OneWall bought and managed since 2016-17. Real estate and property websites indicate, however, that OneWall is down to at least three buildings. OneWall's website only lists its Pennsylvania and Maryland holdings.

OneWall has had its problems with 75 Prospect as late as last summer. Tenants have complained that one of its elevators had not been operating for a month and that requested repairs had not been done.

Platinum Management, of Orange, who operated 75 Prospect for OneWall, said that it was waiting for elevator parts to arrive. It had also said that the building had \$1 million in debt. The City of East Orange had meanwhile fined 75 Prospect \$2,000 a day until the elevator was running again.

**ORANGE** - It appears that the first phase of the 395 Main St/ YWCA / Orange REC Center project has been completed.

Rossi's Paint and Decorating has finished its conversion of the former bank at 425 Main St. The two-story mid-20th Century building had held the law offices of the late Mayor Robert Brown, National Westminster Bank and, of late, Bank of America.

Rossi has moved from its headquarters - an 1876-built mixed use structure at 401 Main St. Its ground floor and two upper stories of apartments have been vacated.

The Ecuadorian restaurant at 407 Main St. has also been vacated since last winter. The inset corner site had started off as a service station and, in the 1960s, converted to Guy's Restaurant.

All three properties - and 395 Main St., are now owned by the City of Orange Township. It had also bought 425 Main for \$1.9 million so that Rossi can renovate and move in.

The city's ownership sets the stage for the next phase; replace all three buildings with a six-story Orange REC Center. Orange REC, as envisioned by Mayor Dwayne D. Warren and his administration in 2017, is a public-private partnership that would bring a community fitness center to the first two floors and 200 market-rate apartments on its upper floors.

City Business Administrator Chris Hartwyk and Planning and Development UEZ Coordinator Christopher Mobley told "Local Talk" that D&R Urban Renewal LLC has been selected as Orange REC's developer. A redevelopment and financial agreement are to be introduced to the City Council in September prior to any demolition.

**WEST ORANGE** - A "Business Administrator Wanted" sign has been up at Town Hall since June 1 while the resigned office holder is here at 66 Main St.

Mayor Susan McCartney said, on that Thursday, that John O. Gross has stepped down as the township's BA. Gross remains as CFO and Comptroller.

Gross had succeeded 120-year BA John K. Sayers' Jan. 1, 2021 retirement. He had been among the township's administrators who had introduced a Calendar Year 2023 Municipal Budget. with a proposed 16 percent property tax increase.

Mayor McCartney, her administrators and the Municipal Council have held marathon budget workshops May 18 and 24 to reduce that tax increase.

McCartney, in her June 1 announcement named herself as "Acting Business Administrator" and named Gross as her Chief of Staff.

"Mr. Gross, as he did as BA, has agreed to be my chief of staff without compensation," said McCartney, "adding no additional burden to the Township's budget."

**SOUTH ORANGE / MAPLEWOOD** - There are South Orange neighbors who can commiserate with Maplewood residents' over the actions of a local developer on a Revolutionary War era house.

(Continued on page 14)



# GRAND OPENING

## SUMMER 2023



**THE WEST ESSEX CAMPUS**  
730 Bloomfield Avenue, West Caldwell, NJ 07006

**MAIN CAMPUS - NEWARK**  
303 University Avenue, Newark, NJ 07102

# ENROLL NOW

[info.essex.edu/](http://info.essex.edu/)(973) 877-4477

Funding provided by the NJ Community College Opportunity Grant program

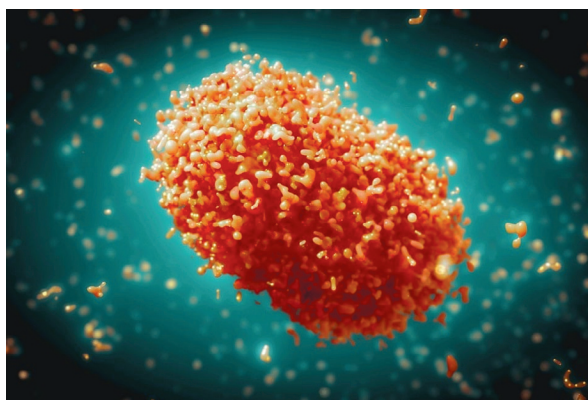
## NJ DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH REMINDS RESIDENTS TO STAY INFORMED ABOUT MPOX THIS SUMMER

**TRENTON** - With a recent cluster of mpox (formerly known as monkeypox) reported in Chicago and two new cases reported in New Jersey, the New Jersey Department of Health (NJDOH) is reminding residents ahead of the summer season to be aware of their risks and virus symptoms, and emphasizes that vaccination offers the best protection against serious illness.

Mpox cases in New Jersey peaked in summer 2022. While cases significantly declined following the summer months, two new cases have been reported in New Jersey this week, the first since February.

Individuals can find locations for the two-dose JYNNEOS vaccines at [nj.gov/health/mpox](http://nj.gov/health/mpox). Methods for mpox vaccination injection have been modified since last summer and the injection site is less visible than before.

“Mpox vaccines are free and remain available in New Jersey,” said Health Commissioner Judith Persichilli. “Vaccination is the best tool to prevent the spread of mpox, and the Department encourages anyone who is at risk for mpox and hasn’t received the two-dose vaccine yet to get it or catch up with their second dose. We continue to mon-



itor mpox in New Jersey and will continue to work with community leaders and organizations to raise awareness and help residents have a healthy summer.”

NJDOH notes that, while the vaccine continues to offer the greatest protection against serious illness, recent cases have indicated that some people who were previously vaccinated may still be able to develop symptoms if exposed to the virus. Individuals at greater risk of exposure who were vaccinated last year are still encouraged to exercise caution.

Mpox spreads through close personal contact, including skin-to-skin contact and during sex or intimate contact. Symptoms can include a rash, fever, chills, headache

and other aches, swollen lymph nodes, and respiratory symptoms (such as sore throat or cough). People with mpox may experience all or only a few symptoms.

Individuals who have had close contact with someone exhibiting symptoms should check themselves for symptoms for 21 days and seek out a vaccine whenever appropriate. People who develop any of these symptoms should contact a health care provider regarding testing.

NJDOH recommends vaccination against mpox for individuals at greatest risk of exposure. A full list of the individuals eligible for and recommended to receive the vaccine can be found here and vaccination sites can be found here.

Individuals who have mpox should talk with their health care provider about treatment options. While there are no treatments specifically for mpox, tecovirimat (TPOXX) is a medication that may be indicated to help prevent or minimize severe mpox disease and is available in New Jersey through health care providers.

For more information on mpox, visit [nj.gov/health/mpox](http://nj.gov/health/mpox), which includes a Frequently Asked Questions page.



*From  
The  
Pastor's  
Heart*

OP-ED BY DR. ROBERT KENNEDY

**Admonish One Another**

Have you ever met anybody who likes to give advice, even when it is unsolicited? Yes, some people love to tell others what to do.

I cannot say that such individuals want to be in control, but it might be one of those habits they have developed and cannot keep themselves from doing it. Many advise because they are trying to help, especially when asked directly. Here it might be pointed out that there's a difference between answering someone's question directly and answering while piling on unsolicited recommendations.

The apostle Paul advised us to "Admonish **one another**" (Romans 15:14; Colossians 3:16). Some persons have misun-

derstood the word "admonish" to mean criticizing or scolding someone instead of encouraging someone. I believe the apostle is saying that we are being called to encourage someone, give some friendly advice, warning, reproof, or kind caution to someone when necessary. The intent is to seek to build up someone instead of tearing down someone.

It is unfortunate that sometimes in our hyper-zealousness and our penchant for perfectionism, we jump to conclusions and rush to admonish. Here are some suggestions, some credited to Don McMinn, Ph.D., and Kimberly Spring of theiPlace.org, to help anyone who wants to give admonition.

1. Think of whether the person needs to be admonished.
2. Ask whether I am the right person to give the admonition.
3. Test what is the best time for the admonishment.
4. Make sure the person knows that you love them.
5. Don't be heavy-handed in giving advice.
6. Be gentle and subtle about

- admonishing in a tense conversation.
7. Pray for the person and yourself before you advise.
8. Approach the person privately.
9. Our actions should be adequately motivated.
10. The end result of admonishing should be that someone is better equipped.
11. Admonish people gently because some are generally sensitive.
12. Try to condense the admonition into one or two statements. Don't exaggerate and discuss the entire issue so that it doesn't have to be revisited later.
13. When we admonish someone, we should be willing to advise them what to do, how to do it, and, if possible, journey with them through the process.
14. After admonishing someone, reassure them of your love and commitment to a healthy relationship.
15. Be careful not to administer shame or condemnation. Address the action without denigrating the per-

- son.
16. Realize that initially admonishments may hurt the person, but that in the end they will benefit and the relationship will be strengthened. (<https://preachitheat.chit.org/articles/detail/admonishing-with-love-and-preparation/>)
17. Remember that admonishing is a delicate matter and that it is easy to injure feelings. Be kind, especially with children.
18. Always remember that in your best effort that there are possibilities of making mistakes, so be humble.
19. Do not lake molehills into mountains. If you see your effort at admonishing is about to fail, back off, wait until there is a more convenient time.
20. Never forget that the effectiveness of all admonishing is respect for one another.

In effect, if you seek to admonish others, it should be in the spirit of building up and not tearing down and destroying one another.

**NEWARK SUED PART V** (Cont. from page 5)

"More than 350 demonstrators began forming picket lines each day at the construction site and were successful in stopping work begun by B.J. Builders Inc., the general contractor."

In the end, the original Kawaida Towers just could not be built. Per the 1976 article, "a sharp rise in construction costs prompted Mr. (Amiri) Baraka's organization to try scale down the project and build it within existing mortgage commitments. The State Housing Financing Agency paid \$50,000 to have the redesign work done, but refused to authorize a further commitment for construction."

**Situation with Kawaida Towers in 2018**

According to court papers, after the developer "produced the requested concept plan, the City however, was ultimately unable to secure any of the surrounding properties required to create a footprint large enough for the Kawaida Towers project to materialize."

So, the developer honorably comes up with what is asked of them, but the City fails to do their part. Now why would that be? That is a question that needs to be answered.

Court papers show the protracted fight to get the project off the ground. The City comes up with yet another method. This time the City wants the developer to start negotiations with another redeveloper that the City

chose.

**Maneuvering by the City**

According to court papers, "following the City's failure to secure adjacent properties sufficient to construct the Kawaida Towers project, the City again approached Plaintiffs and requested Plaintiffs initiate negotiations with another redeveloper, ABC Corporate Entity 1 (the "Proposed Replacement Redeveloper"), which had purportedly been selected by the City and Mayor Baraka, to transfer Plaintiffs' redeveloper designation of all the Central Properties and Fairmount Properties."

The question begs to be asked, why is the developer, aka Plaintiff, still doing business with the City? Are they so naïve as to not see that the City has no intention of playing by the rules of business and legal niceties?

According to court papers, "Notwithstanding their rights under the Redevelopment Agreement, Plaintiffs began good faith negotiations with the Proposed Replacement Redeveloper, which negotiations culminated in an agreed upon form of Purchase and Sale and Assignment and Assumption Agreement, and on or about February 27, 2019, Plaintiffs submitted a letter to the City requesting approval of the transfer of the redevelopment rights and form of the Purchase and Sale and Assignment and Assumption Agreement."

Everything appears to be going on just fine. At this point, the City shows why it is a

not a real partner.

According to court papers, "Instead of issuing an approval, however, the City sent Plaintiffs a letter, dated November 27, 2019, alleging that Plaintiffs had defaulted in their obligations as the redeveloper of the Central Properties site (the Central Default Notice").

Exactly how did the developer default? From the court papers, it seems like the developer was doing everything according to the rules. The City, however, appears to be trying to avoid playing by the rules.

**Developer responds**

According to court papers, "On January 16, 2020, Plaintiffs responded to the City's Central Default Notice to reiterate that, because of the City's failure to abide its obligation to furnish the Relocation Notice, Plaintiffs were not able to proceed with the redevelopment of the Central Properties. ...

"The City, however, ignored its own failures and, on January 29, 2020, issued Plaintiffs a second letter, which purported to terminate the Amended RDA to the Central Properties (the "Central Termination Notice"). ...

"Also on January 29, 2020, the City issued Plaintiffs a letter alleging that Plaintiffs had defaulted in their obligations as the redeveloper of the Fairmount Properties (the "Fairmount Default Notice")."

**Next time: Developer Initiates Lawsuit Against City of Newark**

**PRIMARY** (Continued from page 8)

run. The incumbent received all 3,144 votes. Republican Maritza Matthews mustered all 183 votes for her nomination.

Assembly incumbents Sha-nique Speight and Elina Pintor-Marín got the Democratic nods. Speight was the top vote-getter at 2,877 or 50.59. Pintor-Marín carried 28.10 or 49.41.

Orlando Mendez and Noble Milton's Republican runs were ratified. Mendez mustered 168 or 54.02. Milton mastered 143 or 44.99.

**34th LD: East Orange, Orange, Bloomfield, Glen Ridge, Belleville, Nutley**

*Senate*

Outgoing Assemblywoman Britnee Timberlake, of East Orange received all 8,097 Democratic votes in her first senatorial bid. There were no Republican candidates entered.

Democrats Michael Venezia and Carmen Morales are to be pitted against Republicans James McGuire and Rev. Cleonard H. Childress, Jr. for the two Assembly seats in the Nov. 7 General Election.

Morales, the Essex County Newark Tech High School Principal from Belleville, tallied 7,689 or 50.30. Outgoing Bloomfield Mayor Venezia garnered 7,597 or 49.70. ERPO runner McGuire, of Nutley, drew 7711 or 66.57. Childress, of East Orange, earned 357 or 33.43.

**ESSEX COUNTY** (NOTE:

All results are countywide except for the Commissioners Ward Districts.)

The County Surrogate ballot, unless a minor party or independent candidate filed his or her petitions before 4 p.m. June 6, appears to be between incumbent Alturric Kenney, of Newark and challenger Peter Russo, of Bloomfield.

Kenney carried the Democratic nomination with all 28,425 votes. Russo received the Republican nod with all 3,153 votes.

**County Commissioners**

*At Large (Select Four)*

Democratic and Republican party voters nominated their respective organization-backed slates.

All four Democratic "Line A" incumbents turned back a Gill-supported challenger. Brendan Gill, of Montclair, was the night's top vote-getter at 27,614 or 24.47. Wayne Richardson, of Newark, was second at 26,659 or 23.62. Former Irvington Board of Education Member Romaine Graham was third at 26,610 or 23.58. Patricia Seabold, of Livingston, re-secured the last party nod at 25,855 or 22.91. Harris tallied 6,128 or 5.43.

Fairfield Councilman Joseph Cifelli was the night's top Republican vote-getter at 3,104 or 26.01. Alexandra Campisi, of West Caldwell, placed second with 3,041 or 25.48. Aristotle Popolizio, of Roseland, was next at 2,922 or 24.48. Michael Pocelinko, of Caldwell, completed the ECRPO slate with 2,868 or 24.03.

*District One: (Newark's North and East Wards plus parts of Central, South and West wards.)*

Incumbent Robert Mercado, of Newark mustered all 1,823 Democratic votes. There was no Republican primary candidate.

*District Two: Irvington, Maplewood and parts of Newark's Central and South wards.*

Current Newark Board of Education Member A'Doriam Murray-Thomas got all 5,968 Democratic votes. No Republican was entered.

*District Three: East Orange, Orange, South Orange and part of Newark's West Ward.*

Incumbent Democrat Tyshammie L. Cooper, of East Orange, carried all 6,677 of her party's votes. There was no Republican party runner.

*District Four: West Orange and "West Essex."*



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**Family Support Organization of Essex County (FSOEC)** offers workshops and support groups for parents and caregivers of children with challenges. We encourage your attendance this month.

- **JUNE 8: Better Togethers Dads** meets 6:30 p.m. monthly on 2nd Thursdays to give fathers a safe place for connection with other passionate dads.
- **JUNE 13: Let's Talk - Parents Support Group** meets 6:30 p.m. monthly on 2nd Tuesdays to help parents learn new strategies that effect positive change.
- **JUNE 20: Nutriendo el Corazón** se reúne a las 7:00 p.m. el tercer martes para darles a los padres la oportunidad de conectarse y abordar sus inquietudes, preguntas y emociones que sentimos cuando estamos criando a un niño con necesidades especiales.
- **JUNE 27: Nurtured Heart Approach** meets 6:30 p.m. monthly on 4th Tuesdays to connect and address their concerns, questions, and feelings about raising a child with special needs.

These support groups occur on Zoom, so visit our website for the links: <https://bit.ly/fsoeevents>

**P.S. FSOEC is hiring parents as Family Partners** learn more at <https://bit.ly/fsoechiring>

Incumbent Leonard M. Luciano was renominated with all 7,310 Democratic votes. West Orange's Adam Kraemer carried all 1,910 Republican votes.

*District Five: Bloomfield, Montclair, Glen Ridge, Belleville Nutley*

Commission Vice President Carlos Pomares, of Bloomfield, got the Democratic nod with all 6,496 votes. Kristen M. Blochak, of Belleville got all 800 Republican votes.

*Municipal Primaries*

East Orange Ward Council primaries, on one hand, was an ECDC-backed, Mayor Theodore "Ted" Green led "Green Team 2023" sweep. There was, however, a challenge in the Fifth Ward to succeed outgoing Councilman Mustafa Al-M. Brent.

A majority of Fifth Ward voters chose Green Team's Naima Fauntleroy over Royston Allman. Fauntleroy tallied 678 votes or 74.26. Allman amassed 235 or

25.74.

The other four wards' primaries were "One Person-One Vote" Green Teamers.

Incumbent Amy Lewis got all 953 First Ward votes. First-time runner Sammed Monk mustered all 446 Second Ward votes. Third Ward Councilman Vernon Pullins, Jr. pulled all 839 votes. Fourth Ward Councilman Casim L. Gomez, Jr. got all 581 votes.

*Maplewood Township Committee (Select Two)*

Current and former mayors Dean Dafis and Vic de Luca got their Democratic nominations for their incumbent Township Council seats. De Luca drew 2,332 for 50.71. Dafis tallied 2,267 for 49.29.

All three Democratic incumbent Bloomfield Ward Council members ran unopposed. First Ward Councilwoman Jenny Mundell mustered all 515 votes.

Second Ward Councilman Nicholas Joanow got all 692 of his votes. Third Ward Councilwoman Sarah Cruz carried all 488 votes.

The Observation Booth



OP-ED By Andrea Dialect

AIN'T NO QUARTER ICEES?

CAN YOU DECRYPT THIS LIFE PUZZLE?

CLUE: IT'S A SLOW READ....

25 cent Icees are 25 cents. No need for tunes that lure cause you know that Bodega next to the liquor store has them right inside. That other dude playin' that lame tune from his squared-off ride maps out the hood like he maps out his visits. Knowingly by passin' my block altogether, or he whizzes by like goody two shoes avoiding trouble.

Mr. Frosty & all those other ice cream-haulin' cats know where it's at. They know that what they got can't compete with this treat. 'Cause, from the jump design scheme, is functionally

sleek, with cool being factored in. Skins let you see clear through to the other side. Ain't no brand bully show boatin' on that plastic, strong-arming ya to buy.

No need for theatrics. You'll be enjoying the treat in no time. Quarter Icees are dead on enjoyment, ain't no feat as you beat the heat; while you're slurpin', you'll be sippin' down every last drip that's crystallized inside. Not a drop goes to waste 'cause it's a matter of taste.

But be informed, variety makes it tough to decide. You get what you paid for, 4-sure, and you're much obliged. The cat that made Quarter Icees had a plan, He the man. He knows that a quick dime beats a slow buck in hand, hands down, any-time. He gets mad respect 'cause he don't need to take me for a ride. That's what makes him okay, around my way.

That's why his street cool/cred level ranks so high. The ol' boy knows that he has the ability to create whenever he decides. Yo, and when he does, you best believe that once again, both sides will be on the come-up, both his and mine. Check it; on the real, that's why we tell that other dude to take his lame tunes and stay on the move. Be out, Bro.

He still be jockin' though, with ears hangin' low playin' steadily in the distance on the slide. Yo, ice cream man, just ride on by. You ain't got no Quarter Icees!



Photo By Andrea Dialect

WHO'S THAT?

Granny's son and I went to Home Depot yesterday. It was a nice day to take a stroll. I enjoyed pushing him along in his stroller. Our shopping experience was pretty nice, but things started souring when we'd head for check out, and he'd spot that super-sized bag of Sour Patch candy, which I refused to buy, and the icee cart right outside the front door didn't make things any better.

Once again, I found myself trying to coax him along. He's on foot because his Combi stroller with the easy glide swivel had become a mini hauler for three pairs of vinyl blinds and those bags of random items I'd purchased. The blinds were a project which I was anticipating.

Luckily, vocal coaxing finally got us on our way, until a couple paces shy of exiting the parking lot, The Ice Cream Man whizzes by. The lure of that folk song echoing out "Do You Ears Hang Low" knowingly is said to have a bit of a dark past. But unbeknownst to Granny's son, that ol' folksy song had been music to his ears.

In an instant, I watched those bright eyes turn big as saucers; a mouth had been transfixed a gasp. The repetitive singsong bellowed out like a dying man's plea, which resembled an audio clip of my boy Eddie Murphy in the character's song, "I Got Some Ice Cream," remixed into "Grandma, Can I Have Some?"

As a tag-along, he had already proven to be a challenge. But for Lord's Sake, that face, those eyes. Convincingly and as swift as a lover chants, he'd make me putty in hand. Whew! Besides, how much more challenging can a three-year-old licking on a drippy ice cream pop, dragging along while I juggle three blinds and two bags of stuff in a re-purposed stroller which easy glide apparently mal-functions when the built-in indicator is aware that a child isn't propped up & comfy inside. ...

Read this article in its entirety at [www.localtalkweekly.com](http://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](mailto:localtalkandrea@gmail.com).

TOWN WATCH (Continued from page 10)

Neighbors of 103 Parker Ave. in Maplewood were startled to see a backhoe tearing into the two story Dutch Colonial house at 4 p.m. May 23. The 253-year-old Fleming House, within 24 hours, was reduced to its stone foundation and chimney.

The 1775-built Fleming House, also known as Smith-Taylor House, was sold to Ampere Development for \$585,000 in April. Whatever plans that Ampere's Isaac and Henry Lefkovitz have for the lot were not posted in time for the Maplewood Planning Board's June 16 meeting.

It turned out that the Fleming House was not among the 18 listed on the Maplewood Historic Preservation Commission register. There is also no requirement to post advance notices of a demolition.

South Orange residents recall that the Village Engineer halted Ampere's work at

167 North Ridgewood Rd Dec. 1, 2021 for unpermitted tree clearing. Although the South Orange Planning Board allowed the developer to fell 23 trees, Ampere's workers cut down 30 more.

Some of the felled trees were contemporaries of the 1774 Squier House, a farmhouse that has had several additions over the centuries. Ampere, indeed, removed all but the house's original structure.

The Lefkovitzes, the planning board, the South Orange Preservation Society and the municipal preservation board, on Feb. 1, 2021, had agreed to preserve the Squier House while permitting the construction of two new houses on flanking lots. Ampere had paid a fine for the illegal tree felling and went on with the Squire renovation and new house construction in 2022.

**BLOOMFIELD** - Members of the Bloomfield Soccer Club are working to plant a tree

and install a commemorative bench here in Lion Gate Park to honor scholar-athlete Christina Lembo.

BSC coach Karen Testa posted a "Thank You" last month on the GoFundMe.com fundraising page she had launched after donors helped reach its goal.

The Lembo memorial bench and tree, when put in place, will be dedicated by Lion Gate Field in the near future.

Lembo, who wore the No. 20 jersey, was a 16-year-old Bloomfield High School junior. She was killed in a Sept. 30, 2012 automobile accident.

"Christina was caring, compassionate and courageous," said Testa May 30. "Her love for her friends and family were obvious, her belief and compassion for the less fortunate was empowering. Her hustle in soccer was contagious."

(Continued on page 15)

**TOWN WATCH** (Continued from page 14)

**MONTCLAIR** - One Montclair Township Council Member has broken attorney-client privilege to make sure his Oct. 24 public meeting remarks remain part of the public record and as evidence in the Pao vs. Montclair and Timothy Stafford whistleblower lawsuit case.

Councilman Peter Yacobellis had recently sent an appeal to Acting State Comptroller Kevin Walsh and attorney Nancy Erika Smith that his comments in the said Oct. 24 public meeting be kept on the record. Smith represents Montclair CFO Padmja Rao in her civil suit against the township and now-former Town Manager Stafford.

Yacobellis "went outside" to Walsh and Smith after saying that his request to retain his recorded remarks to Acting Township Attorney Paul Burr, Assistant Attorney Gina DeVito and outside attorney Derrick Freijomil "has gone unanswered." Freijomil, of Riker Danzig LLC, was hire to represent them against Rao.

The councilman said he was responding to a reported May 26 request by Freijomil to N.J. Superior Court Judge Stephen Petrillo to strike Yacobellis' comments from evidence. Petrillo, in a pretrial hearing in Newark that Friday, had directed the opposing parties to gather information for discovery.

What Yacobellis said he had said Oct. 24 was that he "was being walled off" by some of his council colleagues about "Pao vs. Stafford." The councilman said that he did not know about the suit until it became public knowledge.

Yacobellis, furthermore, on Oct. 24, said "Pao was serving in the best interests of the Township" and "We should be doing everything to protect whistleblowers and encourage speaking up."

Pao is suing the township and Stafford for the latter's alleged retaliation and hostile

workplace environment after bringing up inconsistencies in Township Council health benefits and Montclair Fire Department pension payments since 2017. The Council suspended Stafford Oct. 24 and fired him April 28.

**GLEN RIDGE** - Investigators from the Montclair Fire Department are searching for the cause of a June 4 South End house fire here.

Members of MFD Firehouse No. 3 responded to the call of a house fire along the borough's Willow Street at 8:43 p.m. Sunday.

They arrived to find flames coming out from beneath the house's enclosed front porch. The house's occupants had also evacuated themselves.

Although the fire was quickly extinguished, the house had suffered heat, smoke and water damage. The last firefighters left the scene at 10:08 p.m.

"Montclair's Bravest" have been providing Glen Ridge fire prevention and suppression services since its own department disbanded in 1991.

**BELLEVILLE** - Belleville Police Department Capt. Christopher Schwindt, after 25 years of walking out of police headquarters, did so for the last time here on May 31.

Swindt, in a suit and tie, was given a ceremonial walking out with colleagues, friends and family members. At least 39 congratulations and farewell messages were posted on the BPD Facebook page.

Swindt, of Bloomfield, was promoted to captain Feb. 1, 2021. The title includes being BPD's Bureau of Professional Standards Commander - overseeing the adherence of accountability, integrity and transparency of the force's 100 uniform officers.

Christopher Schwindt had joined "Belleville's Finest" Nov. 3, 2003. He was

promoted to sergeant in 2011 and lieutenant in 2018. He, along the way, served in the patrol division, on the internal affairs bureau and was part of the emergency response team.

Swindt came here from the east and northeast. He started serving in the Hudson County Sheriff's Office in 1994 before joining the Palisades Interstate Parkway Police. The Kearny High School graduate had studied in Essex County College and Farleigh Dickinson University before beginning police work.

Swindt has been a girls basketball coach for Bloomfield Recreation and Home School Association. His brother, Sean, retired as Bloomfield Police Deputy Chief Dec. 31, 2022.

**NUTLEY** - The Nutley Police Department had the Nutley Public Schools district shelter over 60 percent of its Kindergarten-12th Grade students and staff in place for nearly 45 minutes June 2.

An NPD dispatcher asked NPS administrators to have people in Nutley High School, John H. Walker Middle School and the Washington and Yantacaw elementary schools shelter-in-place 10:04 a.m. Friday. Nutley educators complied, holding over 2,782 students plus staff.

NPD gave "an incident on Route 21" as the reason for asking. Several sources said that township officers were pursuing a motorcycle on Rt. 21 South when its rider abandoned the machine and ran into a nearby neighborhood.

The four affected schools are up to a mile west of the state highway. An "all clear" was given at 10:44 a.m.

NHS, Walker, Washington and Yantacaw resumed their normal Friday schedules. The Lincoln, Radcliffe and Spring Garden schools were unaffected.

**EDITORIAL**

(Continued from page 2)

about 30 plus points, where Biden is leading Trump by 3 points and Biden is tied with DeSantis. Is it a political poll? Suddenly DeSantis has gained that many points. I don't think so. It will be very interesting.

When www.localtalkweekly.com took the polls in our local area, neither Biden nor DeSantis were considered worthy. Also, in our local area polls, Biden was winning over Trump and DeSantis by double digit points. Mike Pence and Nikki Haley were the favorite Republican candidates. Another poll wished that Trump be indicted in the majority of the votes. In the choice

of president, the majority wanted someone else besides than Biden and Trump. 54% wanted Trump to be found guilty even if he was proven innocent.

Money is moving a lot these days. The rival PGA and LIV golf tours decided to team up in spite of Saudi Arabia's controversial history. Also, the Screen Actors Guild has decided to authorize a strike if they cannot reach a deal with the other side. If no deal is reached, this combined with the Writers' strike could bring the entertainment world to a complete stop.

*Have a wonderful week.*

*I'll talk to you next week.*

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