

HILBERT Set to Give Away Turkeys

found were in several of the nonpartisan boards of education down the ballot. There were, as of 10:36 p.m. Nov. 7, 87,966 ballots cast from among 572,840 registered voters across all 22 Essex County municipalities. That ratio comes out

to a 15.36 participation percentage rate.

That percentage, on one

(Continued on page 4)

Orange, West Orange, South Orange-Maplewood, Bloom-

field, Glen Ridge, Belleville and

Nutley school boards - there

were also the last Presidential

election. There were 351, 931 ballots cast, or 58.06 percent,

from among 606,151 registered



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Hello Readers,

The Orange Police Department is doing well according to their social media report. Every time, they arrest a few people and that's the report. If there is no crime in Orange, why are they arresting people? Or is this a gimmick to show that the police department is working? As a newspaper we want the truth, so we can tell our readers the right information.

I have some suggestions to make some resolutions to protect innocent people and citizens:

1. Large companies like Google keep on sending some messages about your passwords even after 50 times you said no to them for storing your passwords. There should be a law that if any company repeatedly does this, they should be penalized \$5 per time to the owner of that computer.

- With programs like Quick-Books and Quicken once you buy the program, they keep on trying to force you to buy their latest programs. Every time you open the program, they will bring their offers (advertisement in my opinion) and if you don't know how to cancel their offers, you end up buying the new product with higher prices. You might not need the latest version and you are happy with the old version, but they will try to show offers and discounts, so you end up buying a new unnecessary program.
- 3. When you book an Uber ride, they might offer you to become a free member and you save 20%. After one month, they will start charging \$9.99 per month on your card. You might be on a trip and in a hurry to get to a destination, you don't bother listening to them, but you might end up paying over \$100 for the first year alone and you might save a few dollars on the trip. The trial should not automati-

cally charge you. Instead, you should have the right to confirm.

Apple was not charging money before. Now every third day I see something. If companies start charging, you should be able to opt out and keep your personal data. When you opt out, everything should be deleted from their records.

The Supreme Court is debating whether or not domestic abusers who were convicted by any court should be allowed to have a gun. I agree that any domestic abusers should not have a gun. However, there must be law that no one, I repeat no one, should have an assault rifle or multi bullets magazines, except military personnel or some law enforcement officers. However, when they finish their jobs, they must return all the guns, and if they use them illegally, the consequences should be the same as convicted felons.

Imran Khan, Pakistan's former Prime Minister who previously accused that he was removed by the United States, has now changed his mind to tie with the U.S. He was removed from power in April. Khan said, "As far as I'm concerned, it's over, it's behind me. The Pakistan I want to lead must have good relationships with everyone, especially the United States," he said in an interview with the Financial Times published on Nov. 4.

Pakistan is in economic trouble right now. The U.S. was helping them about \$5 million every year. Trump cancelled that help. Khan is ready to work with the U.S. to turn around his country's economic situation.

David Axelrod, a senior adviser to President Obama, has said that President Biden should not run for reelection in 2024 in an interview. However, after three days, he rephrased his statement and said that he has not asked Biden to stop his campaign and drop out. Still, it was clear that he suggested it due to Trump's lead over Biden in five of six battleground states as high as 10% points in Arizona, Georgia, Michigan, Nevada and Pennsylvania, states that Biden won in 2020.

Have a wonderful week.

I'll talk to you next time.

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

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#### **ELECTION 2023**

(Continued from page 1)

voters.

In 2019 for the four-year cycle, we had the Assembly and East Orange Ward Council elections. 91,105 cast ballots from a pool of 532,625 - or 17.10 percent.

The following figures are unofficial for two reasons. The first is for the traditional 14-day voting machine impoundment and to grant time for any challenges and/ or recounts. The second is to allow VBMBs postmarked Nov. 7 or earlier to reach the County Clerk - Elections Division and Board of Elections offices in Newark before 4:30 p.m. Nov. 10 to be counted.

#### **STATE LEGISLATURE**

27th Legislative District: (West Orange, Montclair "West Essex's" Livingston, Millburn and Roseland plus Passaic **County's Clifton Note: figures** do not include Clifton's totals.)

State Senate

and outgoing 34th LD Democratic Assemblyman John McKeon mustered 19,313 votes for 74.36 percent of the vote. Republican and fellow West Orangite Michael D. Byrne scored 6.659 for 25.64.

#### General Assembly (Select Two)

Livingston Councilwoman Dr. Rossura "Rosy" Bagolie was the top vote-getter at 18,460 or 36.54. Her fellow new coming teammate Alixon Collazos-Gill, of Montclair, got 18.419 or 36.46 Challenging Republicans and Cliftonites Irene DeVita and Michael G. Meccam respectively drew 6,920 (or 13.70 percent) and 6,723 (or 13.31).

28 LD (Irvington, South Or-Maplewood, Newark's ange, "southwest" and Vailsburg - West Wards plus Union County's Hillside. Figures do not include Hillside.)

Senate

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Former Irvington council-Former West Orange mayor woman and school board president Renee C. Burgess received all 15,207 votes. She ran unopposed.

#### Assembly

Incumbent Democrat Cleopatra Tucker, of Newark, topped the standings at 14,902 or 46.68. Newcomer and running mate Garnett Hall, of Maplewood, mustered 14,516 or 45.47. Newark Republicans Joy Freeman and Willie S. Jetti, respectively got 1,386 (or 4.29) and 1,138 (or 3.56)

29 LD: (Newark's North, East. Central "west side" and "southwest" wards.)

#### Senate

Incumbent Democrat M. Teresa Ruiz received 6,557 or 84.18. Republican challenger Maritza Matthews got 1,067 or 13.70. Pablo Olivera, of the Labor Party, got 165 or 2.12.

#### Assembly

Incumbent Democrats Eliana Pintor-Marin and Shanique Speight respectively mustered 6,297 (or 42.70) and 6,264 (or 42,47.) Republicans Orlando Mendez mustered 1.140 or 7.73 and Noble Milton 1,047 or 7.10.

#### 34 LD (East Orange, Orange, Bloomfield, Glen Ridge, **Bloomfield**, Nutley.)

#### Senate

Outgoing incumbent Assemblywoman Britnee Timberlake, of East Orange, tallied 16,754 or 76 Republican challenger Joseph Bellnome, of Belleville, garnered 5,281 or 23.97.

#### Assembly

Outgoing Democratic Bloomfield Mayor Michael Venezia garnered 16,503 or 38.78. His first-time campaigning teammate Carmen Morales, of Belleville, mustered 16,314 or 38.33. Republican James McGuire, of Nutley, received 5,023 or 11.80. The Rev. Clenard H. Childress, Jr., of East Orange, carried 4,717 or 11.08.

#### ESSEX COUNTY

#### Surrogate:

Incumbent Democrat Alturrick Kenney, of Newark, collected 60,998 or 73.98. Republican Peter Russo, of Bloomfield, registered 21,458 or 26.02.

#### Commissioners: At Large (Select Four)

All four incumbent Democratics shut out their Republican challengers. Livingston's Patricia Seabold, at 60,971 or 18.92, was atop the vote standings Montclair's Brendan Gill was next at 60,691 or 18.83, Newark's Wayne Richardson received 59.999 or 18.61. Irvington's Romaine Graham got 59,786 or 18.55.

Joseph Cifelli, of Fairfield, was "best of the rest" at 20,723 or 6.43. Alexandra Campisi, West Caldwell, carried 20,579 or 6.38. Aristotle Popolizio, Roseland, received 19,858 or 6.16. Michael Pocerlinko, of Caldwell, collected 19,720 or 6.12.

#### **District:** (Select One)

First (Newark's North and East Wards plus parts of Central, South and West wards.) Incumbent Democrat Robert Mercado mastered all 4,246 votes. He ran unopposed.

Second (Irvington, Maplewood, parts of Newark's central and South wards.) Outgoing Newark Board of Education member and Democrat A'Dorian Murray-Thomas tallied 10,768 or 91.20. Khalil Kettles and his "Working Together for Essex County" banner got 1,039 or 8.80.

Third (East Orange, Orange, South Orange and part of Newark's West Ward.) Incumbent and former East Orange Councilwoman Tyshammie L. Cooper, who ran unopposed, carried all 12,174 votes.

Fourth (West orange and "West Essex.") Incumbent Democrat Leonard M. Luciano topped Adam Kraemer in a battle between West Orangeites. Luciano got 17,502 or 74.79. Kraemer carried 12,719 or 25.21.

Fifth (Bloomfield, Montclair, Glen Ridge, Belleville, Nutley.) Incumbent Democrat Carlos Pomares, of Bloomfield, turned back a challenge from Republican Kristen M. Blochak, of Belleville. Pomares garnered (Continued on page 7)





By William Hathaway, Jr.

This past week in sports, the New Jersey college basketball season opened up on Monday night in Newark. The Seton Hall men's basketball team defeated head coach Shaheen Holloway's former team St. Peter's 70-59. Leading SHU was Al-Amir Dawes with 14 points and Kadary Richmond with 18 points, 6 rebounds and 6 steals. Dre Davis added 14 points and 6 rebounds and Latrell Reid had 14 the Hoosiers to three National Championships, including the last undefeated team back in 1976.

In the NFL, neither local team put on a good show this past weekend. Not only did the Giants lose 30-6 at Las Vegas to the Raiders, but they also lost starting QB Daniel Jones for the rest of the season. He had just returned from a neck injury.

As for the Jets, they lost at home to the Los Angeles Chargers 27-6 at home. While



points and 4 rebounds. Michael Houge had 11 points. The next game for the 1-0 Pirates will be on Saturday at Walsh Gym against FDU.

Rutgers lost their first game on the year to a tough Princeton team 68-61. leading Princeton was Matt Alloco with 21 points and Xaivian Lee with 18 points. Both scored the final 15 points in the season opener, which was played in Trenton.

Meanwhile, the college basketball world is mourning the loss of former Indiana head coach Bobby Knight, who passed away at 83. Knight led the Bolts offense didn't go off like it normally can, Gang Green was hampered by turnovers and eight LA sacks, along with a 1st quarter punt return that had them down 7-0 after their first possession. The Giants are 2-6 while the Jets are 4-4.

Finally, the Mets are likely to hire former Yankees bench coach Carlos Mendoza to their managerial job. No one knows if Mendoza can win a World Series like the Texas Rangers, who just won their first in franchise history, but they hope he can at least get them to the playoffs.



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MIDDLE EAST

# APPEAL MADE TO PROTECT CIVILIANS

As war continues in the Middle East, leaders are asking both sides to think of those who are not marching toward battle lines.

On one side, more funding is urgently needed for lifesaving aid in Gaza while concern is deepening over high numbers of civilians killed since the beginning of the crisis and human rights violations against Palestinians in the occupied West Bank.

Briefing reporters in Geneva on Friday UN health agency (WHO) spokesperson Christian Lindmeier said that in Israel, where 1,400 people have been killed so far, and in Gaza, where over 9,000 have been killed according to Hamas run authorities, 70 percent of the victims are women and children.

"It's the innocent civilians that are losing here. Let's think about the victims." he insisted.

about the victims," he insisted. UN human rights office (OHCHR) spokesperson Liz Throssell highlighted concerns over Israeli airstrikes on Jabalia and Al Bureij refugee camps in recent days with dozens of residential buildings destroyed, as well as the high number of casualties reported in the enclave and the "reported use of explosive weapons with wide area effects in some of the most densely populated areas in Gaza."

"We have serious concerns that the principles of distinction and proportionality are not being respected by both sides," she said.

OHCHR already said on Nov. 1 that given the high number of civilian deaths and injuries in Gaza and the scale of the destruction following Israeli airstrikes on Jabalia refugee camp, these could be "disproportionate attacks that could amount to war crimes."

On the other side, Ms. Throssell reiterated calls on Palestinian armed groups to "immediately stop launching inherently indiscriminate rockets into Israel" and "immediately and unconditionally release all the hostages they hold, in serious breach of international humanitarian law."

According to Israeli authorities, 242 people are held captive in Gaza, including Israelis and foreign nationals. Media reports indicate that about 30 of the hostages are children.

The OHCHR spokesperson also recalled "the obligations of the de facto authorities to respect and protect the human rights of the people of Gaza."

She highlighted that "the intentional co-location of military objectives and civilians or persons hors de combat with the specific intent of trying to prevent the targeting of military objectives is a serious breach of international humanitarian law."

Israel has been alleging that Hamas uses civilians as human shields and hospitals and other civilian infrastructure for military purposes.



### KING OF CRYPTO FOUND GUILTY

On Nov. 2, FTX founder Sam Bankman-Fried, 31, of Stanford, California, was convicted of two counts of wire fraud conspiracy, two counts of wire fraud, and one count of conspiracy to commit money laundering, each of which carries a maximum sentence of 20 years in prison. He was also convicted of conspiracy to commit commodities fraud and conspiracy to commit securities fraud, each of which carries a maximum sentence of five years in prison.

The statutory maximum sentences are prescribed by Congress and are provided here for informational purposes only, as any sentencing of the defendant will be determined by a judge.

"Sam Bankman-Fried perpetrated one of the biggest financial frauds in American history a multibillion-dollar scheme designed to make him the King of Crypto - but while the cryptocurrency industry might be new and the players like Sam Bankman-Fried might be new, this kind of corruption is as old as time. This case has always been about lying, cheating, and stealing, and we have no patience for it," said U.S. Attorney Damian Williams, who prosecuted the case for the Southern District of New York.

"When I became U.S. Attorney, I promised we would be relentless in rooting out corruption in our financial markets. This is what relentless looks like. This case moved at lightning speed - that was not a coincidence, that was a choice. This case is also a warning to every fraudster who thinks they're untouchable, that their crimes are too complex for us to catch, that they are too powerful to prosecute, or that they are clever enough to talk their way out of it if caught. Those folks should think again, and cut it out. And if they don't, I promise we'll have enough handcuffs for all of them.

"This verdict would not have been possible without the amazing work by the career prosecutors from my Office and the FBI agents who have given their all for this case. We have pushed them hard, and they have delivered every step of the way. They are the best of the best, and I am grateful for them.

"This case has received a tremendous amount of attention, and I understand why that is, but the women and men of the Southern District of New York consistently deliver outstanding public service on behalf of the American people - without fear or favor and often without any public recognition. They do it because they believe in the rule of law, because they love this country, and because they are patriots. I am proud to serve with them."

"Sam Bankman-Fried thought that he was above the law. Today's verdict proves he was wrong. This case should send a clear message to anyone who tries to hide their crimes behind a shiny new thing they claim no one else is smart enough to understand: the Justice Department will hold you accountable. I am grateful to the U.S. Attorney's Office for the Southern District of New York and the FBI for their outstanding work in bringing Mr. Bankman-Fried to justice," said U.S. Attorney General Merrick Garland.

Bankman-Fried founded cryptocurrency exchange company FTX in 2019 and achieved acclaim for its maverick maneuvering through the market. However, when investors discovered links that FTX had to other suspicious companies linking back to Bankman-Fried, they began to question FTX's financial health. Over time, it was discovered that customers' funds were lost, and the company and other linked entities filed for bankruptcy.

On December 12, 2022 Bankman-Fried was arrested in the Bahamas and extradited to the U.S. to face multiple charges. He was initially released on bail, but it was revoked due to Bankman-Fried being accused of witness tampering.

#### **MASS SHOOTING UPDATE**

# Information recent as of 11-7-2023 at 12 p.m.

2023 Mass Shooting Stats: (Source: Mass Shooting Tracker, https://www.massshootingtracker.site/ data/?year=2023)

- Total Mass Shootings: 677
- Total Dead: 805
- Total Wounded: 2725
- Shootings Per Day: 2.18
- Days Reached in Year 2023 as of Nov. 7: 311





A formal notice has been issued to South Cambridgeshire District Council to ensure taxpayers' money is well spent after concerns were raised over its four-day working week trial.

A Best Value Notice, issued

# SUSPECT ARRESTED IN VEHICLE CARJACKING WITH 3-YEAR-OLD INSIDE

**NEWARK** - Public Safety Director Fritz G. Fragé reports the arrest of Shanita N. Rose, 40, of Newark, in connection with a carjacking that occurred with a male child inside the vehicle on Tuesday, October 31, 2023.

At approximately 8:13 a.m., Police responded to the 100 block of Wilson Avenue on a call of a carjacked vehicle taken with a 3-year-old child left inside. Police immediately canvassed the area for a 2017 silvercolored Hyundai Sonata. An Amber Alert was issued at approximately 9:55 a.m. At approximately 10:30 a.m. Police located the vehicle in Jersey City with the child inside and unharmed.

Rose faces charges of carjacking, kidnapping, and endangering the welfare of a child.

These charges are merely

ELECTION 2023 Maplewood Township Com-

(Continued from page 4)

15,358 or 74.79. Blochak drew 5,718 or 25.21.

#### MUNICIPAL RACES

#### Irvington Council Special

Darlene Brown, on the Team Irvington Strong ticket, ran unopposed for all 2,375 votes. Brown, on Jan. 1, will complete another council member's unexpired term.

#### East Orange Council

All East Orange Ward Council Democrats were elected or reelected unopposed. Amy Lewis was returned to her First Ward seat with 1,400 votes. First time runner Sammed Monk mastered 605 voted in the Second Ward Vernon Pullins, Jr. was re-elected with 1,252 in the Third Ward. Casim L. Gomes, Jr. was reelected in the Fourth Ward with 855. Newcomer Naima Fauntleroy was elected to the Fist Ward with 1,135.



accusations. The suspect is presumed innocent until proven guilty in a court of law.

The news comes not long after Newark Police detectives have identified Rose as a suspect in this incident and request the public's help in quickly locating her.

Maplewood Township Committee.

Longtime incumbent Victor De Luca and shorter term teammate Dean Dafis ran unopposed in their Township Committee reelection. Former mayor De Luca garnered 4,368 or 50.68. Current mayor Dafis drew 4,250 or 49.32. All five committee members will meet on Jan. 1 to return Dafis or DeLuca or someone else as their mayor.

#### **Bloomfield Ward Council**

All three incumbent Democrats were swept in unopposed In the First Ward, Jenny Mundell mustered all 1,369 votes. In the Second Ward, Nicholas Joanow got all 2,138. In the Third Ward, Sarah Cruz carried all 1,195.

#### Glen Ridge (Select Two Council Members.)

Councilwoman Deborah Mans thanks to 1,150 votes, will become Glen Ridge's next mayor Jan. 1. Lori Jeane Moody, at 1,140 votes, earned her first Borough Council seat. David Lefkovits, at 1,137, was returned





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**NOVEMBER 7: Nurtured Heart Approach** meets 6:30 p.m. monthly on 1st Tuesdays for English and Spanish-speaking parents to connect and address their concerns, questions, and feelings.

**November 14: Let's Talk** — **Parent Support Group** meets 6:30 p.m. monthly on 2nd Tuesdays to help parents and caregivers learn new strategies that effect positive change.

Our activities occur on Zoom and in person, visit our website for the details: https://bit.ly/fsoecevents

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to the council.

All three ran unopposed and with Civic Conference Committee endorsement. Incumbent Daniel T. Murphy declined reelection.

#### **BOARDS of EDUCATION**

In Maplewood-South Orange, the three balloted candidates turned back two write-in candidates. The "Together We Thrive" team of Shayna Sackett-Gable, William Meyer - both of South Orange - and Maplewoodian Elizabeth "Liz" Calahan respectively carried 5,000 (or 34.18), 4,854 (or 33.18) and 4,775 (or 32.64.)

Figures for the "Raise Your Voice - Write-In Your Choice" team of Anthony Mazziocchi and Jeff Bennett were not available as of 11 a.m. Nov. 8.

In Orange, the incumbent "The Marathon Continues" team was selected over a challenger. Dr. Fatimah Turner turned in 1,204 votes or 27.71 to top the results charts. Incumbent, but first time on "The Marathon" ticket Samantha Crockett was second at 1,175 or 27.04. Former Board President completed the return sweep with 1,067 or 25.05. "Equity in Education" challenger India Williams drew 879 or 20.23.

And, if the handbill presented by India Williams on her Facebook page is authentic, some one or some ones on the Orange Democratic Committee are either negligent or disrespectful of the separation between a nonpartisan BOE slate and a partisan political ticket.

Williams posted a palm card of Jeffry Wingfield, Dr. Fatimah Turner and Samantha Crockett with a printed "Orange Education Democratic Team." above them. She added the following quote, made Sept. 7, from New Jersey School Boards Association CEO Dr. Timothy Purnell: "We're in a national political polarization right now and that's in juxtaposition with our local boards trying to work in the best interests of our students. The Association (NJSBA) is doubling down on making sure our school board elections are nonpartisan."

This reporter could not agree more with Dr. Purnell. There is not - and there should not be - a (Continued on page 9)



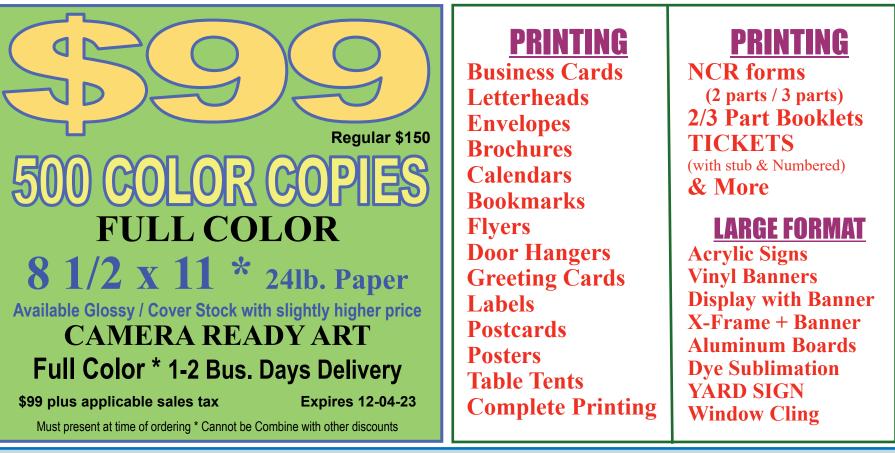
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# Keep the good news flowing — Happy 23<sup>rd</sup> Local Talk Assemblyman Thomas P. Giblin \*\*\*\*\*\* Giblin Association Community Service Awards and Charity Breakfast SUNDAY, DECEMBER 10, 2023 - 9:30 A.M. at the CHANDELIER, 340 FRANKLIN AVE., BELLEVILLE, NJ Tickets: \$50 per person Honoring: **Bernie Cunningham - Public Safety** Jennifer Ehrentraut - Labor **Dr. Nicole Gilmore-Silva - Education Randy Graves - Business Rev. Thomas Nicastro - Heritage** Lester E. Taylor, Esq. - Legal/Law For Tickets/Sponsorships please call: Rose - 973-244-5819 or Tricia - 973-244-5814

ELECTION 2023

(Continued from page 7)

Republican, Democratic, Labor, Conservative, Green or Garden Party way of educating our schoolchildren. Political partisanship should not cross the schoolhouse door.

Granted, Orange is six years into electing its school board. "Local Talk" has seen, however, printed materials, including banners, reading "Orange Education (or BOE) Democratic Team" in the 2020 and 2022 election campaigns.

In West Orange, challenger Maria Vera unseated incumbent Melinda Huertas for the single seat. Vera, who ran on "Strong in Education," drew 3,246 or 66.83. Huertas and her "Empowered by Wisdom." banner carried 1,611 or 33.17.

In Bloomfield, incumbents Kasey Dudley and Nadiesha Greene and newcomer Stephanie Parry, of "Students Parents Community," were chosen over the "Putting Children First" slate. Parry was the night's top vote-getter at 2,432 or 18.94 Greene and Dudley were returned with 2,386 (or 18.58) and 2,437 (or 18.28).

Jefferson Ramos was best of the rest" at 2,067 or 16.10. Santra Tufaro-Sarapolus was next at 1,930 or 15.03. Pedro Antonio Gongo-ra garnered 1,680 or 13.06.

In Montclair, voters returned the "Progress, Integrity, Dedication" team of Phaedra Dunn, Melanie Deysher and Allison Silverstein over another three-person ticket and three solo campaigners.

Dunn topped the charts with 3,476 or 19.39. Deysher was next at 3,141 or 17.52. The appointed Silverstein made the cut with 3,106 or 17.32. Independent runner Kimberly Robinson Santos placed fourth with 2,480 or 13.83. Fellow soloist Alex Binkley was next at 1,412 or 7.88.

"A Brighter Tomorrow" runner Theodore Graham garnered 1,457 or 8.13. Teammate Jessica Glass was next at 1,114 or 6.21.

Independent Stuart Ball came in at 1,054 or 5.88. "ABT's" Will Novak rounded out the field with 689 or 3.84.

Ball, who is among the six challengers, had his printed palm cards distributed at the Upper Montclair NJTransit Montclair-Boonton Line station Nov. 6.

On the card's front, or obverse, Ball has "VOTE DEMOCRAT ELECT - STUART BALL." One the card's back, or reverse, he has " On Nov. 7 - Vote Democrat Elect Stuart Ball."

On one hand, Ball did not outrightly say "Vote Stuart Ball, Democrat for Montclair BOE." He did not align himself with other candidates to bill themselves as "Montclair's Democratic Education Team." This is his first time running for elected office.

Ball, on the other hand, is a semi-retired lawyer of 50 years, with the Newark Teachers Union among his clients. The 30-year Montclair High School boys soccer coach also has 10 years as US History adjunct professorship at Essex County College.

Ball at 4:30 p.m. Nov. 9, told "Local

Talk" that his "Democrat" reference, in hindsight, was "unnecessary."

In Glen Ridge, all three who were on the ballot and CCC endorsed, were elected. Incumbent Joycelyn Gottlieb garnered 1,092 or 34.32. Incumbent Duval Hopkins Graham was next at 1,058 or 33.25. Newcomer Darius Kevin Dehnad drew 1,032 or 32.41.

In Belleville, voters replaced the two running Board of Education Trustees incumbents with a split ticket of Lissa Missagga, Brenda Pachero and Esteban Leon.

Missaggia ("Teachers for Belleville") was the night's top vote-getter at 1,171 or 23.40. "A Better Belleville" runners Pachero and Leon respectively tallied 1,116 (or 22.30) and 961 (or 19.20).

Former Trustee Michael Sheldon's attempted ("Taxpayers Lives Matter") return to the board was "best of the rest" at 592 or 1,183. Kenia Nicole (Bridging The Gap") Arroyuabe was next at 449 or 8.97.

Incumbents Nelson Barrera and Erika V. Jacho ("Building Belleville's Future") were unseated. Barrera carried 415 or 8.29; Jacho got 301 or 6.01.

In Nutley, Board President Salvatore Ferraro, Board Member Lisa Danchak-Martin and Salvatore Balsamo (B VP) were returned over challenger Stephen J. Gilberti.

Ferraro found 2,458 or 28.59 to top the charts. Danchak-Martin was next at 2,305 or 27.75. Balsamo completed the return sweep with 2,260 or 27.21. Gilberti got 1,283 or 15.45.



**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.

### <u>ORANGE</u>

Residents and other customers of the Orange Water Department Water need to verify where they have addressed their latest due quarterly water bills to on or before the end of business here Nov. 10.

Veolia, formerly SUEZ Water, of Hackensack, sent a Nov. 1 notice to Orange water customers to send their bills directly to OWD, Orange City Hall, 26 North Day St., 07050.

Veolia/SUEZ has managed OWD, including its billing, since the 1990s. The company has not said whether they have ended only their billing service or if they are completely out of Orange.

Nor has, as of press time, the City of Orange has sent a parallel announcement nor an explanation for the change. Neither the city or Veolia have said whether they will extend the Nov. 1-10 payment grace period or waive interest penalties on payments received after Nov. 10.

Some residents/OWD customers, irked by Veolia's sudden announcement, held a "Coffee and Conversation" meeting at a South Ward home Nov. 5. The meeting was called by James Ward of the Seven Oaks Society.

Some of the said residents may have questioned the City Council at the latter's Nov. 8 meeting public comment segment scheduled past press time.

The city, on its official website, allows online payment. Most major credit and debit cards are accepted.

## <u>NEWARK</u>

The Newark Public Schools Board of Education, at their Oct. 30 meeting, welcomed the man who finished fifth - and out of the running - in April 25's school board election onto their panel.

They placed Thomas Luna, who received 901 votes, or 8.12 percent, among a candidates field of eight for three BOE seats that April, in the board seat vacated by 1.5-term member Dr. Asia Norton.

Norton, who was Board President Sept. 18, immediately resigned to take a law clerk's job in State Superior Court-Newark. The board promoted Hashini Council to their presidency Sept. 26.

Luna was placed fifth in that April election by participating city voters behind the "Moving Newark Schools Forward" team and James Wright, Jr. - who received 1,249 votes, or 8.68 percent. Wright, Luna and Tawana Johnson-Emory, who ran together on the "Newark Kids Forward" ticket, were placed fourth through sixth, ahead of the two solo campaigners on the ballot.

It is not clear as of press time why the board picked Luna over Wright Oct. 30. Luna, however, ran an independent campaign in 2022.

Luna is a KIPP RISE Academy charter school Eighth Grade mathematics teacher. He is part of Newark For Educational Equity and Diversity, a community group that called for revised NPS BOE vacancy bylaws.

## IRVINGTON / EAST ORANGE

ECPO's Crime Scene Investigation Bureau detectives are searching for the motorist who struck an East Orange man at an Irvington intersection Oct. 28 - and left him for dead.

Irvington Public Safety Director Tracy Bowers said his officers got a call of a pedestrianvehicular collision at Clinton and Linden avenues at 10:07 p.m. that Saturday.

They found the pedestrian identified as Bernard Jones, 70 at the crossing but not the involved vehicle.

Local medics rushed Jones to Newark's RWJBarnabas Health Beth Israel Medical center. Jones was pronounced dead at 10:20 p.m. - which prompted Irvington officers to call ECPO.

Jones' funeral or memorial arrangements have not been made public as of press time. The driver who struck him remains at large.

### WEST ORANGE

A "plaza village," thanks to a West Orange Planning Board vote Oct. 25, will be arriving with new West Orange Plaza anchor tenant Target in May or June 2024 at 235 Prospect Ave.

The board, in a special meeting, approved West Orange Plaza owners' proposal to turn the Mavis Tire store (formerly CTS Tire and EJ Korvettes Auto) on the property's northeast corner into a pair of smaller retail stores separated by an open space plaza.

Also green-lighted is the creation of a new restaurant building on a concrete pad about halfway along the plaza's Prospect Avenue side. The site, on one hand, will have both a drivethrough window and a parking area for outdoor dining.

Our Green West Orange and other critics of the remodeling claimed that two new fast-food restaurants will go there, exacerbating traffic volume and congestion at Prospect and Eagle Rick avenues at the plaza's southeastern corner.

There will also be permitted facelifting both at the now-Verizon phone, former bank building on the southwest part of the parking lot and for the plaza's main structure. The latter remodeling will be in preparation of Target's arrival in the former EJ Korvettes / Caldor / Kmart / Essex County vaccination center space.

NOTE: The BCCLS.org interlibrary website has listed the West Orange Public Library being closed "Oct. 30 - Nov. 30, 2023." WOPL is moving its holdings from its 80 Main St. temporary site to the remodeled, more centralized site at 10 Rooney Circle north of the Essex Green shopping plaza.

## SOUTH ORANGE / MAPLEWOOD

The SOMSD Board of Education, on a pair of 6-3 split votes Nov. 3, voted not to renew Superintendent of Schools Dr. Ronald Taylor when it expires on June 30 - and put him on immediate administrative leave.

The board then voted, 9-0, to make Assistant Superintendent of Access and Equity Dr. Kevin F. Gilbert Acting Superintendent.

Although Dr. Taylor asked that his performance reviews by the BOE not to be made public, he said that Friday night that he has had "satisfactory ratings" and that he has "never received a reprimand of any kind" during his four years here. The 28-year educator had received a vote of no confidence from a majority of South Orange-Maplewood Education Association members as announced by the teachers union representative at the Oct. 27 school board meeting. Taylor, early on Nov. 3, issued an eightpage response to SOMEA's claims.

Board Second Vice President Nubia DuVall Wilson, that Friday, said that "a triggering event," which she would not elaborate on, prompted the board's actions. Board President Kaitlin Wittleder, however, issued an explanatory statement Nov. 6.

Wittleder opened her three paragraph statement by thanking "on behalf of the Board," thank Dr. Taylor for his service to the *(Continued on page 14)* 



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Watch the Essex County College Community Education Forum TV Series, hosted by Alfred Bundy on of and

WORLD NEWS (Cont. from pg. 6)

by the Department for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities, formally sets out government concerns around the council and whether the trial offers value for money, including the removal of up to a fifth of the authority's capacity.

It requests evidence on the trial to consider whether the council is meeting its Best Value Duty, including on: staffing; costs; service delivery; resident feedback; overall performance since the start of the trial; should a four-day working week continue.

The Notice follows repeated requests from the Local Government Minister, Lee Rowley to end the trial, as well as the publication of guidance to the sector setting out why this practice should not be adopted.

Local Government Minister Lee Rowley said: "We are extremely concerned South Cambridgeshire District Council continues to experiment with taxpayers' money by offering full time pay for part time work.

"We have been clear that the Government does not support the so-called four-day working week and, despite issuing clear guidance, this council has chosen to ignore it. The Government is making clear this needs to end and, although we hope not to have to, we will take further action should that prove to be necessary."

The Best Value Notice is a formal notification of South Cambridgeshire District Council's compliance with its Best Value Duty under the Local Government Act 1999, and will remain in place for six months to cover the remainder of the trial and allow for further analysis.

The Department will review the Notice and determine whether further action is needed. It may be ended early or escalated at any point based on the available evidence. This could include the use of additional powers that the Secretary of State has to request information, or to inspect or intervene in the council.

Guidance issued to the sector last week set out the Government's position that removing 20% of a local authority's potential capacity does not offer value for money for residents. It makes clear that value for money for taxpayers is paramount and no further focus should be given by councils on this issue.

The Government continues to support an individual's right to request flexible working, which allows individual employees to apply for changes to the hours, timing, or location of work, which is clearly different to a blanket four-day working week on a full salary, across the whole organization.

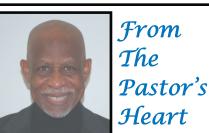
#### <u>AFGHANISTAN</u>

#### OPIUM CONTROL PAYING OFF

Opium poppy production in Afghanistan has plummeted since the de facto authorities imposed a drug ban last year, new UN Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) data reveals.

According to the Afghanistan Opium Survey 2023, released by the agency on Nov. 5, the supply of opium declined by an estimated 95 percent, falling from 6,200 tons in 2022 to 333 tons in 2023, corresponding to a fall in the area under cultivation, from 233,000 hectares to just 10,800 hectares over the same period.

The near-total contraction of the opiate economy is expected to have far-reaching consequences, UNODC said, highlighting



**OP-ED BY DR. ROBERT KENNEDY** 

#### Wash One Another's Feet

I never thought of it as being a problem until I began to study more carefully. However, I learned it was a problem in some cultures where wives were often called upon to sit and wash their husbands' feet, but husbands were not allowed to touch their wives' feet.

I usually set a footbath for my wife or wash her feet and massage them when needed. The exchange is reciprocal; she sets footbaths for me, washes my feet and helps me to relax. She has also **taken** me often to get pedicures and manicures. I say **taken** because I might not have gone the first time without her encouragement. And thanks to her and the technicians, when I have gone, it truly feels transforming not only for my feet but for my mind. It makes me feel relaxed.

Not long ago, I was reflecting on podiatrists and pedicurists and wondered about the kind of appreciation they receive in our culture or whether they are placed among the workers doing the jobs that no one else wants to do. I have not questioned them, but I have seen their effectiveness and efficiency in vigorously washing and exfoliating the dead cells from the feet. I have seen

#### WORLD NEWS FLASH

#### (Continued from page 11)

the urgent need for alternative development support for rural communities to build an opium-free future for the Afghan people.

"This presents a real opportunity to build towards long-term results against the illicit opium market and the damage it causes both locally and globally," said Ghada Waly, UNODC Executive Director.

"At the same time, there are important consequences and risks that need to be addressed for an outcome that is ultimately positive and sustainable, especially for the people of Afghanistan," she added.

The survey noted the sharp reduction has had immediate humanitarian consequences

their careful effort in dealing with the calluses that settle on people's feet.

Most people, when they take a bath, pay much attention to their armpits and groin but much less time on their feet, where the dead cells drain down and settle. Further, some people walk around barefoot without recognizing how much pathogens and odor build up on their feet. I have never asked the pedicurists and podiatrists about how many smelly feet they treat, but I would suspect it's quite a few.

Or I may need to phrase my point to nurses and assistants in hospitals and nursing homes who not only wash patient's feet but clean those who are unable to help themselves. In my early ministry, I visited an infirmary with my pastoral colleague to serve communion to members from my faith tradition who were in the facility. For whatever reason, a consciousness came over me on how many people have unkempt feet.

When I saw the feet I was about to wash, I paused for a moment and asked myself, "Do I really want to wash those unkempt feet? I did wash the feet of the disadvantaged men, as the deaconess who went with us washed the feet of the women. For many years, after leaving the Infirmary, my thoughts weighed heavily on the scene. Years later, I wrote my first doctoral dissertation on John 13 and the lessons I could learn from washing dirty feet. As I wrote my dissertation, the action and encouragement of Jesus came through most emphatic to me, as John records it:

"So when He had washed their feet, taken His garments, and sat down again, He said to them, 'Do you know what I have done to you? You call Me Teacher and Lord, and you say well, for *so* I am. If I then, *your* Lord and Teacher, have washed your feet, you also ought to wash one another's feet."" (John 13:12-14 NKJV)

Let's face it; in our Western culture, it might not be a problem for us to wash the feet of those who are closest to us. And it might be okay to wash the feet of those in our care if we are being paid the right amount of money. I have not asked, but what are the motivations of the pedicurists and podiatrists who are doing the foot care? Or what are the motivations of the nurses and the attendants in the hospitals and nursing homes who have to wash their patient's feet?

I will allow them to answer for themselves. I know that my wife and I wash each other's feet because of the love and respect we have for each other. But the feeling I had as I washed the feet of the indigents at that infirmary home was different.

If no more than for a moment, did I feel superior to them? The feeling of superiority has kept many from doing tasks that might benefit others. Superiority is a great challenge in all societies. It is a demonic spell that the devil tries to put upon people for us to think that we are better than one another. In fact, the devil even takes inferiority and turns it into superiority. Psychologist Alfred Adler states that often, superiority is a reaction to a deep feeling of inferiority. Adler also notes that a superiority complex is the belief that one person's abilities or accomplishments are somehow dramatically better than other people's. People with a superiority complex may be condescending, smug, or mean to other people they think are not of their social class or that they disagree with them.

From noting the above, one can see why Jesus used the footwashing ritual in his Last Supper with his disciples and encouraged them to practice it with another. In the room, there was a lot of jostling and resentment as to who would be in the highest place or who could be Speaker in the House. (You should think of what I mean from observing the political culture of the day).

In seeing what would be needed to change the atmosphere in the room, Jesus introduced the ritual that demonstrated that the master could become the servant. Yes, in the culture of the time, foot washing was the servant's role. And Jesus sought to make the point that the highest was to be the lowest and servant.

The next time you have to do a task for others, ask yourself what are your motivations or whether or not you are doing it for self-service or to serve and uplift others. Yes, we are called to wash one another's feet. Not only those we know intimately but the very ones who might resent us and those we could resent.

for many vulnerable rural communities who relied on income from cultivating opium.

Farmers' income from selling the opium harvested in 2023 to traders fell by more than 92 per cent from an estimated \$1,360 million for the 2022 harvest to \$110 million in 2023, the survey added.

"Today, Afghanistan's people need urgent humanitarian assistance to meet their most immediate needs, to absorb the shock of lost income and to save lives," Ms. Waly said, noting that over the coming months, the country will require strong investment in sustainable livelihoods, to provide farmers with opportunities away from opium.

UNODC also emphasized that though there are high levels of opiate use within Afghanistan, evidence-based treatment options remain limited. It called for evidence-based treatment to be integrated in public health measures and assistance, including to prevent people with opiate use disorders turning to potentially even more harmful substances.

Beyond Afghanistan, less heroin may lead to reduced trafficking and use, or it could spur the emergence of harmful alternatives, such as fentanyl and other synthetic opioids, UNODC warned.

Data on seizures indicate that traders are selling off their opium inventories from past record harvests to weather the shortfall in 2023, while heroin processing has decreased.

However, trafficking in other drugs, namely methamphetamine, has surged in the region.

# ORANGE COUNCILWOMAN QUANTAVIA HILBERT GIVING AWAY TURKEYS



Hello Orange residents!! This year West Ward Councilwoman Quantavia Hilbert committed to give away more than 300 turkeys in the City of Orange. She knows the city wouldn't have enough for some of the residents, so she personally purchased more! Thank you, Councilwoman. Because of you, more families will have a nice Thanksgiving.

Mark your calendars. Saturday, November 18th. 11 am - 3 pm, 170 Scotland Rd., Orange NJ.

These are not resources provided by the city. This Community Day giveaway is sponsored by Councilwoman Quantavia Hilbert of the West Ward. #communitysupport

# WEEKEND YOUTH SPORTS IN IVY HILL PARK



Story & Photos By Thomas Ellis II

This past Saturday featured a great day of sports in the community. The Ivy Hill Soccer Club played the Newark School of Global Studies in a close game that ended score 5 to 4 with Global Studies winning. This is the first year that youth soccer was played in Ivy Hill Park on the new Essex County Soccer and Football field. The Soccer program is a part of the Ivy Hill Sports Federation, which has Baseball, Football, and now Soccer. Hats off to Head Coach Hugo Pierre, Coach Andy Grant, and Coach KoJo Ekowmensa.

On Sunday, the Ivy Hill Northwest Broncos 13 U was in an afternoon football playoff game against Edison. The Edison squad proved to be too much for the Broncos and won 34-7.

#### LOCAL TALK Founded in 2000

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The Observation Booth



**OP-ED By Andrea Dialect** INCOGNITO

**PICTURE THAT...** 



**Photo Credits Andrea Dialect** 

#### TOWN WATCH

(Continued from page 10)

district. She added, however, that "The South Orange-Maplewood School District has a lot of work to do to repair the relationship between the District leadership and our educators.

"The Board's decision to place Dr. Taylor on administrative leave was a thoughtful and considered one," said Wittleder. "A BOE may place an undesirable superintendent on administrative leave when the circumstances warrant it. There's no legal authority that states that an illegal act, extreme action or other predicate event must occur before the right to place the superintendent on leave is vested."

Dr. Gilbert joined the two-town district May 16, 2022. He last made news by adopting a majority of recommendations from the

(Andrea Dialect's People I've met; Places & Things I've Seen!)

Who: Community Reps What: City Of East Orange 16th Annual Spooktacular Trunk or Treat When: Tuesday, October 31 Where: East Orange Elmwood

Park



### **HOUSE REPS**

This is Local Talk's first encounter with these community reps. Let's make them the talk of the town. The identifying markers that are displayed here are dead on for some perhaps but not by many. By judging those costumes solely, can you guess who our subjects are? Do you know me?

..... Dr. Fergus Report and defending the district's decision to restricting Halloween celebrations to after school hours.

## **BLOOMFIELD / GLEN RIDGE**

When former Glen Ridge resident Margot Fleming was finishing her first TCS New York City Marathon Nov. 5, she passed the spot near the finish line where she and her father Tom used to stand and cheer on the some 50,000 runners after coursing through the Five Boroughs.

M. Fleming, who began running in marathons and other endurance contests while an Adelphi University student in Philadelphia, ran in Sunday's race in tribute to her father who won the 1973 race. He won again in 1975, becoming the first Garden Stater to reside here while winning. (1972 winner



blast. And a hardy thanks to CowGirl Pam & her horse Tobias for the invite!)

Read this article in its entirety at www.localtalkweekly.com and type The (Great job everyone I had a Observation Booth, Andrea Dialect and/

. . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . Sheldon Karlin, said the New York Road Runners Club, was a Newark native but was attending a Maryland college when he won.)

localtalkandrea@gmail.com.

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

Tom Fleming, then a student at Wayne's William Paterson College, won in a time of two hours 21 minutes and 52 seconds. He and 592 other runners, back then, ran four loops within Central Park until 1976.

Tom Fleming won three Jersey Shore Marathons, finished second twice in the Boston Marathon and won marathons in Cleveland, Washington, DC, Toronto and Los Angeles before becoming a cross-country and track coach at the Montclair Kimberley Academy in 2000. He also helped organize the five-mile Sunset Classic, which runs through Bloomfield and Glen Ridge every June.

Tom Fleming, 65, may have been with her in spirit. He was at a track meet in Vero-(Continued on page 15)

#### NOVEMBER 9, 2023 - NOVEMBER 15, 2023

#### LOCAL TALK Founded in 2000

(Continued from page 14)

na April, 19, 2017, when he had a fatal heart attack. His name has since been attached to the Sunset Classic and Essex County's "Tom Fleming Athletic Complex" in Montclair Bloomfield.

M. Fleming, Glen Ridge High School Class of 2003, ran in the 30-34 age category Sunday. The Los Angeles resident and Lululemon senior manager finished at 4:01:05 - placing 14,895.

## MONTCLAIR

The loss of Vivian Folkenflik, 83, in an Oct. 28 pedestrian-pickup truck collision here, is being felt not only in and around Upper Montclair but as far out as New York City, California and on broadband airways.

Vivian, said son and NPR reporter David in his tribute, said that she was a humanities professor at University of California-Irvine for over 30 years until 2012 retirement from full time teaching. She had moved here after her husband Robert's death in 2019 to be close to her grandchildren.

V. Folkenflik, for the last four years, attended and supported her grandchildren's soccer games, dance recitals and drama performances here. She attended New York's Cong. Beit Torah Simcha's Psalms classes and studied the Talmud at home.

Vivian was born in Brooklyn in 1940 to a school librarian and a cardiologist. He love for history, literature, museums, music and Jackie Robinson helped her to graduate from James Madison High School in 1956 at 16 years old.

Folkenflik attained a bachelor's degree in Radcliffe College and a master's in French literature from Ithaca, NY's Cornell University. She and Robert were pursuing doctorates in Cornell when they met.

The Folkenfliks moved to Laguna Beach, Calif. in 1975, where they raised Dave and Nora. Nora, 28, was bicycling in Seattle when she was killed by a drunk driver Jan. 17, 1995.

Sister Judith, daughter-in-law Jesse and grandchildren Viola, Zella and Eliza are also among her survivors. No public memorial service was announced as of press time.

### BELLEVILLE

Premier Development, of Englewood Cliffs got the green light from the Township Council on two of its higher profile redevelopment pursuits this month with their being approved Oct. 25 to redevelop the School No. 1 site.

By being the "redeveloper," Premier will be working on what will actually go on the block on Academy Street's north side between Stephens and Courtlandt streets. Bellville's elders on the Township Council and the Planning Board have recently rezoned the block to accommodate building a large QuickChek convenience store and gasoline station there.

The elders, earlier this year, added an accidentally excised sliver of land so that an apartment building can be sited there as well.

It is not clear why it took this long to select Premier. QuickChek has closed its older, smaller store at 501 Washington Ave. last summer with a projected new year's opening of the new site. A walk-in medical care center at 501 Washington appears to be shaping up for an around Thanksgiving opening.

Premier, earlier this month, was granted redeveloper status of 274-78 Washington - also known as the Irvine-Cozzarelli or "Sopranos" Funeral Home - and the adjacent 163 Valley St.

The Cozzarelli family held an "estate sale," putting many of the funeral home's contents under an auctioneer's gavel, Nov. 3-4. The family closed the parlor after its director, James Cozzarelli, died in 2021.

Premier is also responsible for constructing The Essex Apartment building this year on 102 Washington. It had hosted a cocktail fundraiser for "A Better Belleville 2022" teammates Mayor Michael Melham, Deputy Mayor Naomy De-Pena and Councilman Thomas Graziano. (All were re-elected that May.)

## **NUTLEY**

A carjacking in Newark Oct. 31 led to one of Nutley Public Schools being locked down for nearly an hour that Tuesday.

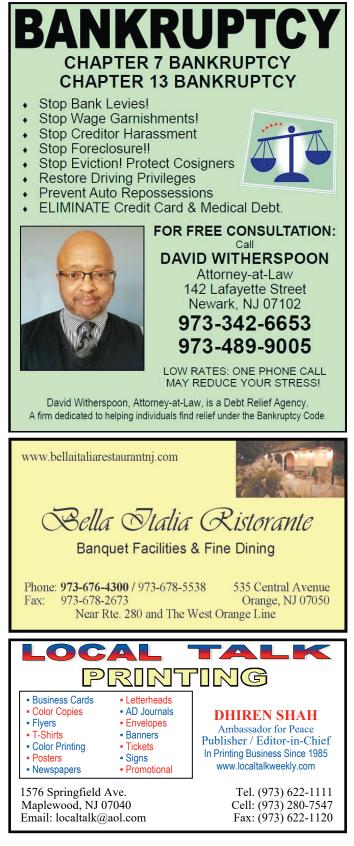
Nutley Public Safety Commissioner Alphone Petracco and Police Chief Thomas Strumolo said that they had received a call from their Newar colleagues at around 9 a.m. They said that there was a silver 2017 Hyundai Sonata - with a three-year-old boy inside that was stolen from the 100 block of Wilson Avenue at about 8:13 a.m.

Newark Police Division officers said they had posted an AMBER Alert at 9:55 a.m. - and had reason to believe that the car, the suspect driver and the child may be in the Nutley area.

NPD officers joined their Belleville, Lyndhurst and State Police colleagues plus U.S. Marshals in combing their area. Township supervisors asked Nutley Public Schools to lock down the Washington Elementary School for the time being. It is not known whether school officials in Belleville or Lyndhurst were also advised to lock down.

The AMBER Alert was called off after the car and the boy were found unharmed in Jersey City by 10:30 a.m. NPD arrested the suspected carjacker - Shanita N. Rose, 40, of Newark Nov. 3 and charged her with account each of carjacking, kidnapping and endangering the welfare of a child.

The Hyundai's authorized driver, and the boy's father said that he stopped at 8:10 a.m. to drop off items at Wilson Auto Parts when Rose allegedly jumped into the car.





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Newark:	202 Stuyvesant Avenue	Tel. 973-374-8807
West Orange:	77 Main Street	Tel. 973-324-2090
West Orange:	95 Main Street	Tel. 973-672-3829
West Orange:	92 Old Northfield Avenue	Tel. 973-736-5552