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OFFICIAL NEWSPAPER

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JUNE 4 PRIMARY ELECTION RESULTS

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TRUMP: GUILTY ON 34 COUNTS

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AFTERMATH OF THE BIGGEST CONVICTION IN AMERICAN HISTORY



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Editorial
Dhiren Shah
 Editor-In-Chief

Hello Readers,

New York City pays about \$300 per night for 16,500 hotel rooms each in Manhattan to house migrants. NYC settled with the Hotel Association to pay \$77 million dollars to 15 hotels in Bronx, Brooklyn and Queens for 28 days through July. This is the backup plan signed by the city in January 2024.

They can use these rooms if the shelters are full, and they need the rooms to accommodate the migrants. After 28 days, families who are still seeking shelter will be directed to the city's Humanitarian Emergency Response and Relief Centers to receive another placement venue, spending more taxpayer money.

In 2024, the budget for migrants will be \$2.4 billion as stated by NYC mayor Eric Adams earlier this year, and Governor Kathy Hochul approved it in February 2024. The total estimated budget for the migrants is \$12 billion according to NYC Mayor Adams.

On May 22, American Airlines Flight 832 from Phoenix to New York was disrupted due to one of the airline's white male workers complaining about a black passenger smelling of bad body odor. They found eight black passengers on the flight and asked them to get off the plane, forcing them to take another flight to New York with the same flight ticket. Out of eight passengers, three were on connecting flights and had no problem flying from Los Angeles to Phoenix.

Several black people were removed from a flight just by one complaint. They have filed a lawsuit against American Airlines. This is a racism issue. It will not be resolved by simply giving some money to those af-

ected. They must make some kind of system so that no other employee or passenger ever pulls off this kind of racist incident again. Yes, there are times when people will smell, but that does not mean that you generalize black people or any other people. It is racism in my opinion.

Trump has been convicted. He will still get protection from the secret service. With the law as it stands, Trump will receive lifetime protection, even if he is in jail. We don't know what kind of judgment he will receive on July 11, 2024. However, since the change in law in 2012, the 10 years of protection has been changed to lifetime protection.

Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi's party won 240 seats. While he has become popular in the world, for whatever reason, his party has less seats this year than in the last election in 2019 (303 seats). With his coalition partner, he has over 300 seats, which is a clear majority. Still, he has to work and bend down to other smaller parties to be elected Prime Minister. In India, 543

members of Parliament (equals to Senators in the U.S.) vote to elect the Prime Minister.

Claudia Sheinbaum Pardo, known as Claudia Sheinbaum, will be the first female president in Mexico's 200-plus year history. She was born in Mexico, has Jewish and Mexican mixed heritage, is a Nobel Prize winner, and previously serving in the cabinet of the administration. Best of luck to her and hopefully she can bring a better and peaceful life for Mexicans.

Hunter Biden's criminal case is underway. If convicted on all counts, he can go to jail for up to 25 years. Trump and Hunter Biden both are first time offenders. Let's see what happens.

Hunter's father, President Joe Biden, made an executive order to limiting asylum seekers. Still, per the rules, 912,500 per year can still cross. Each asylum seeker cost about \$45,000 per year, which is about more than \$41 billion of taxpayers' money.

*Have a wonderful week.
 I'll talk to you next week.*

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WEATHER FOR THE WEEK

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



OP-ED BY DR. ADIL MANZOOR

Maintaining Kidney Health: Tips for Optimal Function

The kidneys are among the most important organs in the body, with the primary function of filtering extra water and waste out of the blood to make urine. Many people know this, but did you know that the kidney is also essential to regulating blood pressure? Or that the kidneys help directly in the production of red

blood cells? Or that it helps to maintain healthy bones? And, trust me, I could go on. The truth of the matter is as widely known and discussed as the kidneys are, they are still very underrated organs in the body.

Unfortunately, as with all other organs in the body, the kidneys can be damaged. However, kidney damage is a tricky topic because it usually occurs slowly, with people only finding out they have any sort of damage when it gets to a serious level. This is why kidney damage is generally called chronic kidney disease (CKD), with chronic disease representing the long-term nature of the damage.

If this damage to the kidney continues without being checked, the kidneys may fail, and it gets far more serious to manage. In such cases, dialysis or kidney transplant is the go-to treatment. Dialysis involves diverting blood to a machine that then cleans it before returning it to the body. As you can imagine, this is not a palatable experience, and these individuals often have to be hospitalized until a kidney transplant is possible. Don't even get me start-



ed on the difficulties - both financial and technical - of getting a willing kidney donor and receiving the kidney itself.

While dialysis and kidney transplants are the ultimate treatment options for people with kidney failure, they do not guarantee long life. If someone starts dialysis in their late 20s, they can have an average life expectancy of 20 years. If people over 75 start it, they are expected to live for only two to three years more. So, one thing is clear: you absolutely do not want your kidneys to get to the level of needing dialysis or transplants.

But since it may be difficult to know that your kidneys are deteriorating, there is a lot of confusion about when to be concerned. So, I'll go over a few signs that may indicate a kidney problem.

Edema (fluid accumulation) in the legs, feet, ankles, and even hands or face can indicate that the kidneys are not getting rid of extra fluid in the body as they should. Chest pain, dry skin, fatigue, headaches, appetite loss, cramps, shortness of breath, nausea, vomiting, weight loss, and mental difficulties are other signs that may be present. You may also notice significant changes in the urine volume you pass out, either more or less than usual. If you have these symptoms, contact your healthcare provider immediately for blood and urine tests.

Then, to the next question - what causes kidney damage? Answering this question is really the foundation of the crux of this article - how you can maintain optimal kidney health.

The most common cause of

CKD is diabetes, which is when too much sugar (glucose) is in the blood. This condition is also quite prevalent in the United States, affecting around 30 million adults. The most significant risk factors for diabetes include obesity, physical inactivity, and genetics.

Therefore, the number one tip for maintaining a healthy kidney is maintaining healthy blood sugar levels. To do this, you need to be physically active, maintain a healthy weight and diet, and avoid smoking.

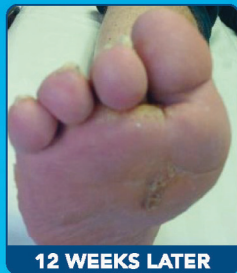
The second most prevalent cause of kidney damage is high blood pressure (hypertension). Both diabetes and hypertension are particularly dangerous to the kidneys because they can damage their blood vessels. Therefore, the second tip to maintaining a healthy kidney is maintaining a healthy blood pressure.

How do you do this? Well, the strategies that help prevent diabetes can also help maintain healthy blood pressure. However, it is also important to reduce stress levels, cut off alcohol and sodium (in the form of salt) from the diet, and sleep well to maintain normal blood pressure. It will be in your best interest to have monitoring tools around for both blood pressure and blood sugar.

Other causes of kidney diseases include heart conditions, genetics, infections, and immune disorders. For these causes, you would want to ensure you are in close communication with your doctor to monitor your kidney closely. Remember, monitoring your kidney function, especially when at high risk of CKD, is as

(Continued on page 7)

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TRUMP FOUND GUILTY

By Walter Elliott

NEW YORK CITY - Donald J. Trump may be interviewed by a New York State Probation officer - and his lawyers filing an appeal of his May 30 conviction of falsifying business records in autumn 2016 - when you read this.

How the real estate baron/media personality/45th President of the United States answers the pre-sentencing questions asked by the probation officer may affect what sentence New York Supreme Court Justice Juan Merchan hands down on him July 11. Judge Merchan has also set a June 12 deadline on Trump's lawyers to file an appeal.

June 12 is 15 days before Trump and President Joseph Biden are to hold their first Presidential debate. July 11 is three days before the Republican National Convention - and Trump's presumptive nomination as their Presidential candidate.

The former President may well add to their contention that the six-week trial in Lower Manhattan is "a sham" perpetrated by President Biden's administration for political purposes. His lawyers may appeal on the basis that the trial should have been held elsewhere in New York and that Judge Merchan was biased against him.

People may remember where they were at or around 5:05 p.m. May 31, when the jury foreman announced that the jury had found Trump guilty on all 34 counts of filing false documents in furtherance of conducting illegal activity.

The deliberating jury was into their 11th hour over two days when Judge Merchan, at 4 p.m. told the legal parties and press that he was going to dismiss the jury for the weekend at 4:30 p.m. He reappeared at 4:32 p.m. by the foreman that the jury had reached a verdict; they needed 30 minutes to fill out their verdict forms.

Judge Merchan, having read the jury's paperwork, ordered everyone back to his courtroom just after 5 p.m. The judge had asked the foreman to read the

verdict of each count of felony issuing false business records in the first degree: 11 each for invoices and checks drawn from Trump's personal account and the other 12 vouchers from Trump's personal account.

What Trump was found guilty of was reimbursing his then-lawyer Michael Cohen's payments to adult film actress Stormy Daniels, a then-Playboy playmate and a third woman whose claims were later unfounded as "legal expenses" 2016-17 Cohen had paid them up to \$130,000 to keep the three women's allegations that they had sexual encounters with Trump from going to the "National Enquirer" or other media before the November 2016 General Election.

New York State prosecutors, headed by District Attorney Alvin Bragg, had proven to the 12 jurors that the misdemeanor counts of false business statements were elevated to felonies in the furtherance of another crime; obstructing the course of a federal election.

Trump's attorneys tried to depict him as making the "hush money" payments so that his wife would not know of his trysts and not trying to quiet accusations of sexist behavior in the 2016 election's homestretch. While two of Trump's sons and selected guests were present in the gallery during the trial neither wife/First Lady Melania nor daughter Ivanka were present.

Judge Merchan, before discharging the jury, told Trump that he was free to leave on his own recognizance. The judge had placed a gag order on the defendant lest he disparaged jurors or incite violence against them or other court officers or their relatives. He had fined Trump \$10,000 for 10 counts of gag order violations and had warned the reputed billionaire that he could jail him for contempt of court.

So Trump left the courtroom on his own after 5:35 p.m., to the nearby Trump Tower, a June 1 press conference and a visit to a monster truck show. Do not expect Trump to be led out of court in handcuffs any time soon, if ever.



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Judge Merchan has the power to imprison Trump on the basis of up to four years per count for a maximum 20 years for all counts plus levying fines. There may be some legal and practical reasons that Trump will not go behind bars.

First, the judge and probation has to take into account that Trump is a first-time felon; his other convictions were in civil court. He may be put on probation (think ankle bracelets and regular visits with his probation officer) or home arrest.

Second, the penalty may be held up pending appeal. Trump has had a 50-year habit of seeking dismissals or filing appeals in the hope of dragging out legal issues for as long as he can.

Observers believe that Trump will want to drag out this trial, the pending Georgia election interference cases and the two federal cases for absconding with top secret documents and causing a riot on Jan. 6, 2021 beyond the Nov. 5 General Election. Trump, should he be elected, can tell his new attorney general to kill the federal trails - but cannot stop state trials.

Third, Trump's Secret Service

detail would also be doing jail time.

There are other questions pertaining to Trump should he lose his New York appeals and retains the distinction of being the first President - former or sitting - convicted as a felon.

Most Florida residents, like Trump, would lose their voting rights as a convicted felon - but in Florida. He can still vote from Mar-a-Lago unless he is jailed in New York on or around Nov. 5.

Should Trump be elected as the 47th President - and while as a felon - that presents some other issues.

Convicted felons normally will not have access to top secret documents, which would hinder Trump from carrying out international and/or national security duties. Can a President be placed under house arrest - at 1600 Pennsylvania Ave.?

"Where Were You When Trump Was Convicted?" given these and other permutations, may or may not have the permanence of other "Where Were You When?" dates in national history. May 30, 2024, for now, is noted for its uniqueness.



WORLD NEWS FLASH

UNITED STATES



ANOTHER HUMAN BIRD FLU CASE

A second human case of highly pathogenic avian influenza (HPAI) A(H5) virus infection has been identified in the state of Michigan. This is the third human case associated with an ongoing multistate outbreak of A (H5N1) in U.S. dairy cows. None of the three cases are associated with the others.

As with the previous two cases (one in Texas, one in Michigan), the person is a dairy farm worker with exposure to infected cows, making this another instance of probable cow-to-person spread. This is the first human case of H5 in the United States to report more typical symptoms of acute respiratory illness associated with influenza virus infection, including A (H5N1) viruses. CDC continues to closely monitor available data from influenza surveillance systems, particularly in affected states, and there has been no sign of unusual influenza activity in people, including no increase in emergency room visits for influenza and no increase in laboratory detection of human influenza cases.

Based on the information available at this time, this case does not change CDC's current A(H5N1) bird flu human health risk assessment for the U.S. general public because all three sporadic cases had direct contact with infected cows. Risk depends on exposure, and in this case, the relevant exposure is to infected animals.

The risk to members of the

general public who do not have exposure to infected animals remains low. However, this development underscores the importance of recommended precautions in people with exposure to infected or potentially infected animals. People with close or prolonged, unprotected exposures to infected birds or other animals (including livestock), or to environments contaminated by infected birds or other infected animals, are at greater risk of infection and should take precautions.

A dairy worker with exposure to H5N1-infected cows (at a different farm from the case last week) reported symptoms to local health officials. The patient reported upper respiratory tract symptoms including cough without fever, and eye discomfort with watery discharge. The patient was given antiviral treatment with oseltamivir, is isolating at home, and their symptoms are resolving. Household contacts of the patient have not developed symptoms, are being monitored for illness, and have been offered oseltamivir. No other workers at the same farm have reported symptoms, and all staff are being monitored. There is no indication of person-to-person spread of A(H5N1) viruses at this time.

Specimens were collected from the patient; one of which was positive for influenza A(H5) virus using the CDC test at the state health department laboratory. The specimens were forwarded to CDC for further testing. They were received on May 29, and testing results that night confirmed A(H5) virus infection. Michigan was then notified of the results.

The designation of the influenza virus neuraminidase (the N in the subtype) is pending genetic sequencing at CDC and results will be made available within 1-2 days, if successful. Additional genetic analysis will look for any changes to the virus that could change the agency's risk assessment.

MASS SHOOTING UPDATE

Information recent as of 6-4-2024 at 12 p.m.

2024 Mass Shooting Stats: (Source: Mass Shooting Tracker, <https://www.massshootingtracker.site/>

[data/?year=2024](https://www.massshootingtracker.site/))

- Total Mass Shootings: 234
- Total Dead: 309
- Total Wounded: 919
- Shootings Per Day: 1.50
- Days Reached in Year 2024 as of June 4: 156

MEXICO



NATION ELECTS FIRST FEMALE PRESIDENT

If you are thinking that the premise of a woman named "Claudia Sheinbaum" being elected as the President of Mexico was a "Saturday Night Live" sketch, think again.

On June 2, Sheinbaum was elected with 58 percent of the vote to become the historic victor as the new President-Elect. If she did not win, then history still would have made, as her opponent Xochitl Galvez is also a woman.

Born Claudia Sheinbaum Pardo, the President-Elect previously served as a member of outgoing President Andrés Manuel López Obrador's cabinet as Secretary of the Environment. In addition to having a Ph.D. in Energy Engineering from National Autonomous University of Mexico, she was among several people awarded the Nobel Peace Prize in 2017 for work related to climate science. She also served as Mayor of Tlalpan from 2015 to 2018, when she resigned to run for Head of Government of Mexico City, which is the highest position of power in the city, similar to being the mayor. She resigned from this position in 2023 to run for President of Mexico.

"I congratulate Claudia Sheinbaum on her historic election as the first woman President of Mexico," said U.S. President Joseph Biden in a statement. "I look forward to working closely with President-elect Sheinbaum in the spirit of partnership and friendship that reflects the enduring bonds between our two countries. I express our commitment to advancing the values and interests of both our nations

to the benefit of our peoples. I also congratulate the Mexican people for conducting a nationwide successful democratic electoral process involving races for more than 20,000 positions at the local, state, and federal levels."

While the news of a woman being elected as the President of a nation brought jubilation to some, it was bittersweet to others, as this election season has seen over three dozen candidates vying for political position all throughout the country be assassinated.

Sheinbaum is slated to begin her historic six-year presidential term on Oct. 1.

HAITI



AID ARRIVES FOR THE FIRST TIME IN MONTHS

On May 30, a humanitarian flight operated by the UN Humanitarian Air Service (UNHAS) flew from Panama to Haiti - specifically the Port-au-Prince airport - for the first time in three months, according to Stéphane Dujarric, Spokesperson for the Secretary-General.

The international airport had been closed due to rampant gang violence in the country.

The flight carried nearly 15 metric tons of medicine and medical supplies to be added to the resources of the UN Children's Fund (UNICEF) and the World Health Organization (WHO).

Mr. Dujarric said this will "support critical, lifesaving operations as insecurity continues to restrict people's access to healthcare, mainly in the metropolitan area of the capital Port-au-Prince and in the Artibonite department."

The Secretary-General's spokesperson said that local non-governmental organizations along with WHO are providing many services to displaced civilians, including "screening for malnutrition, cholera prevention and as well as psychosocial sup-

(Continued on page 12)

SPORTS WRAP

By William Hathaway, Jr.

The New York Red Bulls played a home game this past weekend in Harrison. Thanks to a tight 1-0 victory at the expense of 4-7-5 Orlando City SC, the team sometimes called RBNY is 8-3-5 on this season.

By scoring the only goal in the contest, the Bulls' John Tolkin became the 5th MLS player to record five or more game winning goals this year. Goalkeeper Carlos Coronel recorded his third shutout this season. The 2024 Red Bulls became the second team in franchise history to go unbeaten in their first home matches to begin a season, with the 2012 squad the previous team to do it.

In other sports, the New York Liberty extended their own winning streak this past Friday night at home against the Washington Mystics 90-79. The

Liberty dominated the first quarter on 57 percent shooting to start out with a 32-17 lead.

Washington Mystics cut the lead to 49-45 at the half, but Sabrina Ionescu scored a game high of 29 points while teammate Breanna Stewart had 18 points and 15 rebounds to secure the win. New York is 8-2 on the season, including another win this past Sunday against Caitlin Clark and the Indiana Fever 101-86.

In NFL news, Justin Jefferson got the bag from the Minnesota Vikings with a record breaking 4-year, \$140 million deal with \$110 million guaranteed and a whopping \$88.743 million signing bonus.

Finally, in sad news, former Dallas Cowboys offensive lineman Larry Allen died at the age of 52 while vacationing in Mexico with his family.

IRVINGTON MAN SENTENCED TO 108 MONTHS IN PRISON

CAMDEN - An Essex County man was sentenced May 30 to 108 months in prison for illegally possessing fentanyl, heroin, and cocaine for distribution and possessing a firearm as a convicted felon and in furtherance of drug trafficking, U.S. Attorney Philip R. Sellinger announced.

Taurean Gordon, 40, of Irvington, previously pleaded guilty before U.S. Circuit Judge Stephanos Bibas to a superseding information charging him with one count of being a previously convicted felon in possession of a firearm and ammunition, one count of possession with intent to distribute controlled substances, and one count of possession of a firearm in furtherance of a drug trafficking crime. Judge Bibas imposed the sentence in Camden federal court.

According to documents filed in this case and statements made in court: Gordon admitted that on February 11, 2021, he possessed heroin, fentanyl, and cocaine packaged for distribution with the intent to distribute.

Gordon, a previously convicted felon, also admitted that he possessed a North American Arms Inc. revolver loaded with five rounds of ammunition.

In addition to the prison term, Judge Bibas sentenced Gordon to 3 years of supervised release and ordered him to forfeit the weapon and ammunition he used during the commission of the offense, as well as the \$526 seized from him at the time of the offense.

U.S. Attorney Sellinger credited officers of the Newark Police Division under the direction of Director Fritz Fragé and special agents of the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives, Newark Field Division, under the direction of Acting Special Agent in Charge Ross A. Marchetti, with the investigation.

The government is represented by Assistant U.S. Attorneys DeNae Thomas of the Health Care Fraud Unit and George Barchini of the Narcotics/Organized Crime and Drug Enforcement Task Force Unit.

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THE DOCTOR IS IN

(Continued from page 4)

important as any other tip.

Additionally, you should be careful with the medications you use, particularly NSAIDs (which are common pain medications like ibuprofen, diclofenac, naproxen, etc.). While these drugs can be easily purchased over the counter in pharmacies, do not use them for more than three days in a row for fever and ten days in a row for pain without consulting your doctor. Also, if you suspect that you are starting to have signs of kidney disease, ensure you make it very clear to your doctor before taking any medication. Never hide your symptoms from your doctor.

The kidneys are wonderful, hardworking organs, and with the right steps, you can be sure they will work perfectly for several years.

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.

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- https://www.kidney.org/atoz/content/painmeds_analgesics
- <https://www.niddk.nih.gov/health-information/diabetes/overview/symptoms-causes>

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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 COP SENTENCED

NEWARK - Former Newark police officer Jovanny Crespo, after an 11-month wait, was sentenced by New Jersey Superior Court Judge-Newark Michael J. Ravin here May 31 to serve 27 years in a state prison.

Ravin's sentencing of Crespo came nearly a year after a jury found him, on June 26, 2023, guilty of aggravated manslaughter, aggravated assault and official misconduct. The jury, after a 10-week trial, convicted him guilty of killing Gregory Griffin, 46, and severely injuring Andrew J. Dixon, 45, both of Newark, Jan. 28, 2019.

Crespo shot Griffin and Dixon multiple times before 45 Irvine Turner Blvd. at 11:30 p.m. The shooting came at the end of their fleeing a traffic stop at Clinton Avenue and Thomas Street. Crespo, who did not initiate the stop, joined in the pursuit and shot at the fleeing car four times.

Ravin, after deducting 300 days for time already served, said, "Contrary to the defendant's claims, this case wasn't about police policy. This was a case of a police officer who chased down two fleeing suspects and gunned them down."

New Jersey State Police Benevolent Association President Peter Andreyev, on June 3, countered Ravin's sentencing

remarks: "Judges are meant to be respected by the public, and using their significant influence on the public to paint every man and woman serving and protecting our streets and neighborhoods with the same brush is a tremendous abuse of that responsibility."

Crespo's bodycam footage on Jan. 28, 2019 is publicly available.

IRVINGTON - There is a reason why the Irvington High School girls varsity flag football team did not make the Super Football Conference's May 15 playoffs, despite sporting a 7-0 win-loss season record - until May 10.

SFC Girls Flag Football Director Tom Mullahany, on May 14, announced that its executive committee denied an appeal made by team head coach Kyle Steele and IHS Athletic Director Troy Bowers. An SFC investigation claimed that the IHS Blue Knights had used two "ineligible players" in three of their regular season games.

The SFC committee's denial means that IHS has had to forfeit three of its home games: against East Orange April 17, Ramapo April 26 and Nutley May 2 - all SEC opponents. Their now-4-3 record precluded the Blue Knights from a potential second championship season in three years.

Irvington had won the 2022 state championship but, after a nine-game winning streak, lost to No. 1 rated Ridgewood in May 31, 2023's semifinal. The Blue Knights have won over 30 regular season games, some by double-digit blanking of their rivals.

Girls flag football, formed in 2021, remains a club sport - which explains it is governed by the SFC and not the New Jersey State Interscholastic Athletic Association. Flag football team players, due their scheduling are allowed to play in other high school spring sports.

Coach Steele has taken comfort in that the Blue Knights took first place in the second annual Nike Football Kickoff Classic in Beaverton, Ore. against squads

from California, Illinois and Nevada.

EAST ORANGE - City police detectives are investigating the circumstances of an injurious shooting the evening of May 31.

Officers were summoned to 272 Lincoln St. 9 p.m. Friday on a gunfire report. They arrived to find an individual with bullet wounds to one of his or her legs.

The victim was taken to University Hospital for treatment. Witnesses told officers that they saw someone fleeing the scene.

Rail Station Upgrade

Brick Church Station will be more than restoring the 103-year-old structure's grandeur thanks to \$83.3 million awarded by the Federal Transit Administration here May 28.

The NJTransit Morris & Essex Line major stop will get its low-level platforms elevated and two new elevators installed. It is presumed that the handicap accessible elevators will be installed in the existing but long-unused freight shafts. Fully elevating the platforms will speed passenger boarding and disembarkation, joining Newark Broad Street and Morristown in the process.

There will be other handicapped and general public amenities made as part of the FTA's All Stations Accessibilities Program, although no construction timetable has been projected. The award comes while the \$500 million The Crossing at Brick Church residential/retail project continues.

ORANGE - What will happen to 543 Stetson St., known lately as the Stetson Lounge & Grill, has remained an open question since the March 14 death of one of its latest owners, Gaetano "Tommy" Carrubba.

Carrubba, 88, who lived above the Valley section corner bar until 2004, had died at Browns Mills Deborah Heart and Lung Hospital. The Newark native apparently bought the former Milan's tavern of the 1960s and Eugene Guzzo's Gene's Tavern of 1950 in the 1980s.

Carrubba changed the name to honor the former Stetson hat factory - as a contemporary auto body shop and an auto repair place nearby. Given that bars and taverns had reopened after Prohibition's repeal in 1933, it may not have been around when the hat factories were.

Directories and real estate records showed that Tommy had sold the bar at South Jefferson Street to two of his sons, Gaetano, Jr. and Michael, in 2004 and retired to Toms River.

Although the lounge has been closed in the last few years, it has been a stop on several walking tours. Its facade stones, according to one source, came from the Hudson River during the mid-1920s Holland Tunnel boring. Another source claimed that the address was the birthplace of John Stetson.

Sons Brian Carrubba and Ricky Matos, brother Salvatore Carrubba, daughters Donna Gould, Linda-Carrubba-Hamilton, Carole Lynn Carrubba and Kim Ann Langdon; several grandchildren and great-grandchildren are among his survivors.

Carrubba's graveside service was held at Toms River's Ocean County Memorial Park March 23. Memorial donations may be made to St. Jude's Children Research Hospital, stjude.org.

WEST ORANGE - Several residents, including a recently hired school crossing guard, gave some St. Mark's Square safety food for Township Council thought at the latter's May 21 meeting.

The T-intersection of Valley Road, Main Street and Northfield Avenue are at the center of St. Mark's Square and public speakers' concerns. They are also known as Essex County Roads 508, 508S and 508 Spur.

The newly-minted crossing guard said that there should be signs posted noting the guards and cameras installed to deter careless driving and enhance guard and pedestrian safety.

Another resident suggested that an additional stop light be installed on Valley Road south

(Continued on page 14)



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JUNE 4 PRIMARY ELECTION RESULTS

Per election reporting at time races were called (not all votes tallied as of deadline)

Democrat

Congressman Andy Kim
358,888 (75.0%)

U.S. PRESIDENT

Democrat

Patricia Campos-Medina
76,602 (16.0%)

Incumbent Joseph R. Biden Jr.
419,512 (88.5%)

Lawrence "Larry" Hamm
43,170 (9.0%)

"Uncommitted"
41,461 (8.7%)

Republican

Curtis Bashaw
139,077 (45.6%)

Terrisa Bukovinac
13,250 (2.8%)

Christine Serrano Glassner
117,691 (38.6%)

Republican

President Donald J. Trump
Unopposed (no results available)

Justin Murphy
34,172 (11.2%)

U.S. CONGRESS

Albert Harshaw
14,156 (4.6%)

SENATE*

*Incumbent **Bob Menendez,**



Sr. is running as an Independent

Democrat

HOUSE

Incumbent Rob Menendez
20,765 (53.7%)

8TH CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT: Including Newark's East and North Wards

Ravinder "Ravi" S. Bhalla
13,837 (35.8%)

(Continued on page 13)

REACTION TO THE TRUMP GUILTY VERDICT

U.S. President Joseph R. Biden, Jr. (D-DE)

“The American principle that no one is above the law was reaffirmed.

“Donald Trump was given every opportunity to defend himself.

“It was a state case, not a federal case. And it was heard by a jury of 12 citizens - 12 Americans, 12 people like you. Like millions of Americans who served on juries, this jury was chosen the same way every jury in America is chosen. It was a process that Donald Trump’s attorney was part of.

“The jury heard five weeks of evidence - five weeks. And after careful deliberation, the jury reached a unanimous verdict. They found Donald Trump guilty on all 34 felony counts. Now he’ll be given the opportunity, as he should, to appeal that decision just like everyone else has that opportunity.

“That’s how the American system of justice works.

“And it’s reckless, it’s dangerous, and it’s irresponsible for anyone to say this was rigged just because they don’t like the verdict.

“Our justice system has endured for nearly 250 years, and it literally is the cornerstone of America - our justice system.

“The justice system should be respected, and we should never allow anyone to tear it down. It’s as simple as that.

“That’s America. That’s who we are. And that’s who we’ll always be, God willing.”

House Speaker Mike Johnson (R-LA)

“Today (May 30) is a shameful day in American history. Democrats cheered as they convicted the leader of the opposing party on ridiculous charges, predicated on the testimony of a disbarred, convicted felon. This was a purely political exercise, not a legal one.

“The weaponization of our justice system has been a hallmark of the Biden Administration, and the decision today is further evidence that Democrats will stop at nothing to silence dissent and crush their political opponents.

“The American people rightfully see this is lawfare, and they know it is - and dangerous. President Trump will rightfully appeal this absurd verdict - and he WILL WIN.”

U.S. Senator Cory A. Booker (D-NJ)

“Today (May 30), our legal system has reaffirmed that no one is above the law, not even a former president.

“The fact is that former President Trump was afforded his due process rights and was able to mount a full defense in a court of

law, like every criminal defendant should. The 34 guilty verdicts in President Trump’s case mean that a jury of his peers, after impartially reviewing the evidence presented and having sworn an oath to perform their duties faithfully, unanimously determined beyond a reasonable doubt - 34 separate times - that the former president broke the law.”

U.S. Congresswoman Nicole Malliotakis (R, NY-11)

“Today’s (May 30) verdict is a complete but sadly unsurprising miscarriage of justice, and we knew all along that in the borough of Manhattan, where more than 86% of the population rejected President Trump, that he would not have a fair trial of his peers.

“What Alvin Bragg and the Democrats have accused President Trump of doing in 2016 - conspiring to promote or prevent the election of a person to public office by unlawful means - is exactly what the Democrats themselves have done with this political prosecution. They concocted and conspired this entire witch-hunt and weaponized our judicial system to interfere with the election and prevent President Trump from being reelected in November.

(Continued on page 13)

WORLD NEWS

(Continued from page 6)

port.”

Mr. Dujarric said he hopes that the gradual opening of the airport in Haiti will allow more supplies to be transported; he said that donor support is needed.

A humanitarian response plan for the country requires \$674 million but only 21 percent of the funds - \$142 million - has been received, he added.

Meanwhile, UNICEF is warning about child recruitment by armed groups in Haiti, the Secretary-General’s spokesperson said.

Reportedly, 30 to 50 percent of members of armed groups are children, subjecting them to “coercion, abuse and exploitation stemming from persistent social, economic and political fragility caused by the ongoing violence that has spiraled parts of the country into chaos.”

The Haitian Ministries of Justice, Education and Labor and Social Affairs are working to facilitate the reintegration of young people who had previously belonged to armed groups in hopes this will safeguard their well-being.

Mr. Dujarric said that UN Secretary-General António Guterres has called for the prompt deployment of the Multinational Security Support (MSS) mission to Haiti to assist local police in addressing security situations.

UNITED KINGDOM



FEARS OF MIGRANT EXPLOITATION ABOUND

Independent UN human rights experts have expressed concern about the protection risks faced by migrant workers in the United Kingdom (UK), including “deception, exorbitant recruitment fees, debt bondage, undignified living conditions, and potential deportation.”

The experts said they have received allegations that migrants are being deceived about “working and living conditions and the nature of their agreements with employers in the agricultural or care sectors.”

“This is unlawful and highlights the need for urgent reform of the current system governing labor migration, to ensure effective protection of the rights of migrant workers,” they said.

The UN experts are concerned about shortcomings of the Seasonal Worker Scheme - a system implemented in response to labor shortages in the UK.

These specialists say some “scheme operators” which are licensed recruitment companies will recruit migrants to work on farms or in poultry production and some will illegally charge them upwards of £3,000 to become employed, leaving the migrants in bondage.

In other cases, migrants are promised work in the agricultural or care sector before arriving in the country, but later learn there is no job for them.

The UK Government has revoked the licenses of “non-compliant” employers in the care sector, however, experts say there is no protection for employees who lose their jobs due to these revocations.

They said many employees may later face deportation while others may become victims of trafficking and exploitation.

“Currently, too many temporary migrant workers have been in a legal limbo for too long and risk becoming destitute.”

The special rapporteurs said the UK government needs to “hold scheme operators accountable through effective supervision and audits, as well as regular labor inspections on farms, protecting against human rights abuse by business enterprises domiciled in its territory, in line with the Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights.”

They also said people exploiting laborers should be prosecuted, while justice should be guaranteed for victims.

PRIMARY RESULTS

(Continued from page 11)

Kyle Fort Jasey
4,097 (10.5%)

Republican

Anthony Valdes
Unopposed (no results available)

10TH CD: Including Irvington, East Orange, Orange, West Orange, Montclair's Fourth Ward, Newark's Central, South and West Wards.*

*The late Democrat Donald M. Payne, Jr. Newark ran unopposed. A Special Primary and Election will be held in July and September respectively to determine his replacement for the remainder of his term through 2024, and that person will also run in the traditional November election for the next Congress. The winner of Payne's seat will face Republican Carmen Bucco, of Nutley, who ran unopposed.

11TH CD Including South Orange, Maplewood, Glen Ridge, Belleville, Nutley, Rest of Montclair

Democrat

Incumbent Mikie Sherrill
44,114 (93.6%)

Mark De Lotto
3,022 (6.4%)

Republican

Joseph Belnome
24,760 (87.0%)

John F. Sauers
2,325 (8.2%)

Dr. Raafat Barsoom
1,375 (4.8%)

ESSEX COUNTY

SHERIFF

Democrat

Amir Jones
36,762 (83.54%)

Gary Nash
7,241 (16.46%)

Republican

Nicholas Pasini
5,078 (74.0%)

Robert Bianco
1,783 (26.0%)

REGISTRAR

Democrat

Juan M. Rivera, Jr.
31,094 (unopposed)

Republican

Sgt. Jeffrey M. Polewka
4,942 (73.0%)

Scott D. Pollack
1,824 (27.0%)

MUNICIPAL RACES

BLOOMFIELD

Mayor

Democrat

Councilwoman Jenny Mundell
2,605 (57.4%)

Incumbent Ted Gamble
1,934 (42.6%)

Republican

David Tucker
639 (unopposed)

At-Large Council (Mundell's former seat)

Democrat

Monica Charris-Tabares
3,027 (69.8%)

Rodney P. Cauthen
1,307 (30.2%)

Republican

Russell A. Mollica
643 (unopposed)



MAPLEWOOD

(No Republicans contended)

Township Committee (Pick Two)

Mayor Nancy J. Adams
2,558 (36.78%)

Malia Herman
2,443 (35.13%)

Jermaine L. Cripe
1,954 (28.09%)

Unexpired Two-Year Term (Pick One)

Democrat Sean P. Ruffin
Unopposed (no results available)

Check essexclerk.com for any inquiries and other details and questions.

REACTION *(Continued from page 12)*

"This is an unprecedented, sad, and downright scary day for our country, which at its core has the principle of innocent until PROVEN guilty with actual EVIDENCE. Too many Americans who came here from other countries fled the exact same type of judicial abuses, and now is the time for all freedom loving Americans to rally around President Trump because we cannot allow what happens in third world, socialist countries to happen here.

"I'm confident that upon appeal, these charges will be overturned and come November, voters will see through this charade and the other attempts to block President Trump from retaking the White House. They understand that the Biden-Harris Administration and their radical-left allies will do and

say anything to deflect from their failed policies that have resulted in out of control crime, runaway inflation, wide open borders and a foreign policy that has made America and our world less safe."

British Labour Party Leader Keir Starmer

"First and foremost, we respect the court's decision in relation to the decision in the Trump case. There's sentencing still to go and possible appeal, but we respect the court process.

Hungarian Prime Minister Viktor Orban on X (fka Twitter)

"I've known President @realDonaldTrump to be a man of honour. As President, he always put America first, he

commanded respect around the world and used this respect to build peace. Let the people make their verdict this November! Keep on fighting, Mr. President!"

Italian Deputy Prime Minister Matteo Salvini on X (fka Twitter)

"Solidarity and full support for @realDonaldTrump, victim of judicial harassment and a process of political nature. In Italy, we are sadly familiar with the weaponisation of the justice system by the left, given that for years attempts have been made to eliminate political opponents through legal means. I hope Trump wins; it would be a guarantee of greater balance and hope for world peace."

The Observation Booth



OP-ED By Andrea Dialect

COMPETITIVE EDGES

WELCOME TO MY STEEL SHARPENS STEEL PROJECT

Friendly competition is the lifeblood of progression. I wanted to embark upon such a project simultaneously with the Hood Project due to the dire need for the embracement of such. As I tell the young ones, when you see someone with a better or bigger lollipop, admire theirs but suck on your own and take that sugar rush right along with you as you take those licks to the next level.

Last Friday evening, while feeling nostalgic, I saw stars and "I Got The Feelin" as James Brown says, and those silver stars were my inspiration. If I

could have grabbed the mic or found an extra one, I would have been belting out "It's a Man's Man's Man's World" by James Brown and "All Woman" by Lisa Stansfield just as they had come into my head. Google those songs and sing along in appreciation of women, which was the theme of the evening. You won't be sorry.

Despite what they assured us had been humble beginnings, those Gentlemen and My Lady did us proud and their performances in my opinion was right up there with the like of The Stylistics, The Dells, The Spinners, The Dramatics, The O'Jays, The Delfonics and The Commodores amongst others to name a few. Google those Cats, you won't be sorry. Sweet, Sweet Nostalgia at its finest. No hype needed for all that fluff, which you pay quite handsomely for oftentimes at most events lately.

This one was quite worth it. What an awesome experience. Steel Sharpens Steel is a Project that rates performance, so on a scale of one to ten, I give their



live performance a ten.

MAKE EM WATCH

A Night to Remember with the Silver Stars: Celebrating Women through Soul

The Silver Stars Productions: 862.253.5460

Attending the Silver Stars' live performance was nothing short of enchanting. This talented soul group, known for their mesmerizing original songs and heartfelt renditions of classic soul music, delivered a night of pure magic. The event was a Women's Appreciation Dinner and Show, perfectly blending soulful melodies with a celebration of women's strength and beauty.

As the lights dimmed and the first notes filled the air, the Silver Stars took the stage with an undeniable presence. Their stage performance was electric, each member exuding confidence and passion. The harmonies were tight, the rhythm section grooved seamlessly, and the lead vocals

were powerful and emotive. It was clear from the outset that we were in for an unforgettable evening. ...

Read this article in its entirety at www.localtalkweekly.com and type The Observation Booth, Andrea Dialect and/or Entertainment Section in the search bar. If you are interested in participating in a challenge, project sharing a topic, news or if you have any questions, comments or concerns, send them to localtalkandrea@gmail.com.



Photos Courtesy Andrea Dialect

TOWN WATCH (Continued from page 10)

of the intersection. She noted that "Cars are coming from Orange and Northfield... emerging from different points."

Council President Rev. William "Bill" Rutherford more than took notes. Rutherford said that he will add the intersection to a list of West Orange streets that are in the county's roads and bridges division. He said that Township Engineer Zayibeth Caraballo and Councilwoman Asmeret Ghebremichael, who heads the Pedestrian Safety Advisory Board, will be consulted.

SOUTH ORANGE - Those who pass by the repurposed Village Hall, which began life in 1896 as the village fire station, may want to silently thank the late John R. Overall, Jr.

Overall, 77, founded the South Orange Historical and Preservation Society, lobbied

the Village Trustees in the 2010s to keep and find a new use for Village Hall. The trustees supervised its restoration and awarded a lease to its current restaurant tenant.

Overall, a self-employed antiques dealer, advocated other historic sites in the village and conducted walking tours until his recent retirement to Newark's Vailsburg section. He died on March 28 - exactly a month after his 77th birthday.

The Manhattan-born Overall first came to South Orange for the record stores' vintage vinyl discs. He fell in love with the village's history and set up his antiques shop. The Vanderbilt University graduate, as one of his last works, oversaw a 90-square-foot "South Orange Before & After" exhibit in the newly-built Taylor-Vose apartment building's top floor art gallery.

Overall's visitation and prayer service here at the Preston Funeral Home and interment in East Orange's Holy Sepulchre Ceme-

tery were held April 10. Condolences may be posted at prestonfuneralhome.net.

MAPLEWOOD - Township police detectives are investigating a Friday night shooting on a Newark Heights street of an Irvington man.

MPD officers said they had responded to Jacoby and Brown streets to an 11:30 p.m. gunfire report. They found a 24-year-old Irvingtonian lying by the intersection with gunshot wounds to one of his legs.

Officers and arriving South Essex Fire Department EMS medics treated the victim on the scene and transported him to a local hospital. He was admitted in stable condition.

Irvington Mother Traffic Victim

The ECPO Traffic Accident Unit has taken... (Continued on page 15)

TOWN WATCH (Continued from page 14)

en over the investigation of a May 13 pedestrian-motor vehicle accident on Springfield Avenue that killed an Irvington mother of two. A makeshift shrine to Maris Delores Ganzhi Zhao, 28, remains at the westbound curb of the avenue's cub yards west of the Irvington border.

ECPO Chief Assistant Prosecutor Thomas S. Fennelly said that Zhao was struck by a vehicle at about 9:10 a.m. that Monday and that the driver had stayed at the scene. Traffic, including NJTransit buses using the Hilton Garage, were affected during the field investigation.

Zhao's funeral was held in her native Ecuador, where she was born on Nov. 6, 1995. A GoFundMe page has been set up for her two seven-year-old and nine-month-old daughters.

BLOOMFIELD - Several Bloomfield Fire Department units came to the Garden State Parkway June 1 to put out a car fire in its southbound lanes south of its Watchung Avenue Exit 151 interchange.

A State Police spokesman from the Bloomfield Barracks said that BFD units were called after they had received reports of a Nissan catching fire beneath the nearby pedestrian overpass at 5 p.m. Saturday. State Troopers were dispatched to close the right shoulder and two right hand lanes.

Township firefighters extinguished the blaze and the Nissan was towed away by 6:15 p.m. puts out car fire SB bet ped overpass and Exit 151 5-6:15 p.m. Although no injuries were reported, the State Police is looking for the blaze's cause.

Wigwam Brook Contamination

Bloomfield police officers and firefighters closed northbound Prospect Street alongside Watsessing Park overnight June 2-3. They were called to a report of a substance in Wigwam Brook flowing through the county park at 11:30 p.m.

The first units who found the substance, called Nutley HazMat and the Essex County Sheriff's Office for assistance. Mayor Ted Gamble arrived in time to see Nutley HazMat deploy containment booms.

It is hoped that most of the substance had been collected before the book joins Toney's Brook to create The Second River. The search for the substance's source, which may be upstream in The Oranges, continues.

MONTCLAIR - The 2020s here in the Montclair Public Schools' Administration office, thanks to a new three-year contract, may become the decade of Superintendent of Schools Jonathan Ponds' administration.

The Montclair Board of Education approved a new five-year at their May 20 meeting. It is more than an extension of the 2020 contract that was made on Ponds' arrival.

The superintendent's new contract is to take effect July 1, 2025 and run through June 30, 2029. He will then be earning at least \$231,000 annually with three percent yearly increases plus a \$1,000 professional development stipend.

Ponds' current pact has him earning \$222,854 per year plus annual two percent increases.

Ponds' tenure is a marked contract prior to 2020. Montclair Public Schools had five named, acting or interim superintendents 2012-20.

Montclair's board passed with five members present May 20. Crystal Hopkins had resigned the week before. Absent were Yvonne Bouknight, Eric Scherzer and Katheryn Weller-Demming.

BELLEVILLE - "We want Tom Agosta back!" was the cry filling Belleville Town Hall's Council Chamber from an overflow crowd of parents and residents at their May 28 meeting.

Township citizens were asking their elders why Agosta was swiftly dismissed as Recreation and Cultural Affairs Director May 24. The crowd milled the chamber gallery and spilled out into its hallway in Town Hall's Public Safety Annex.

They brought a printout of an online petition, up to 1,000 signatures that Tuesday night, calling for the longtime director's reinstatement. Their lead statement was:

"Tom was always for the Kids. We present this petition in the hopes of overturning this preposterous decision by the people responsible."

The audience was also outraged that the reasoning for Agosta's firing had not been forthcoming from Belleville officials.


Mayor Michael Melham said that Agosta's dismissal was at the sole discretion of Town Manager Anthony Iacono. Iacono, like most municipal managers and business administrators, as day-to-day CEO, makes personnel decisions.


NUTLEY - John V. Kelly III was sworn in as Nutley's latest and youngest mayor at the Board of Commissioners' reorganization meeting.

BANKRUPTCY

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Kelly's fellow four commissioners approved outgoing Mayor Dr. Joseph Scarpelli's resolution approving his successor. His appointment was made minutes after he, Scarpelli and the other three incumbent commissioners were sworn into their new terms.

Nutley and Maplewood have municipal commissioners or township committee members select a mayor from among themselves.

A majority of Nutley voters made Kelly as top vote-getter in the May 14 nonpartisan municipal election. The commissioner candidate with the most votes generally becomes Nutley's mayor.

Kelly, 39, edged the late Frank Oreichio, who was 45 when he was elected, as Nutley's youngest mayor. The township native is also the grandson of former mayor and longtime state assemblyman John Kelly, Sr.

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