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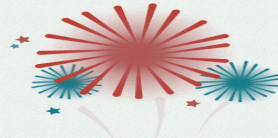
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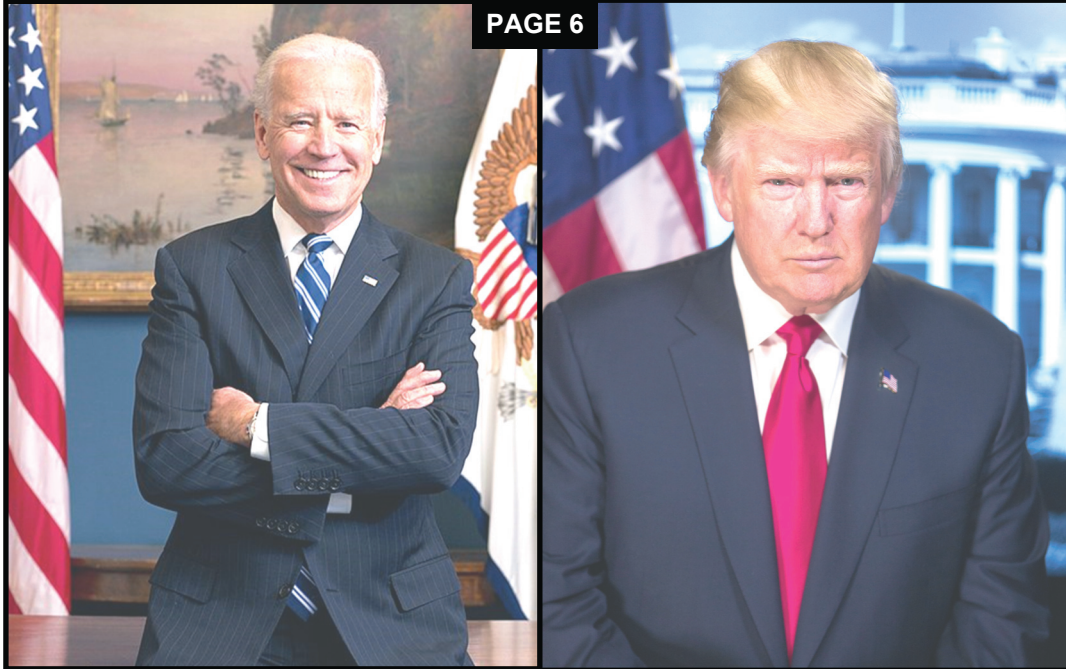
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Editorial
Dhiren Shah
 Editor-In-Chief

Hello Readers,

The World Cup Final was played in Barbados on June 29, 2024, and it was one of the best cricket games ever. It was a roller coaster from beginning to end. In the last half-hour, it looked like South Africa had an easy path to victory, but India's bowlers turned it around and won by 7 runs. Congratulations to the Indian team. Also, congratulations to the South African team for playing a hard fought game until the end.

As everyone knows now, it was a disastrous debate by President Joseph Biden. This is accepted by all the media and experts. The talk of the town is to replace President Biden as the

Democrats' candidate. However, President Biden is the only one who can remove himself. If he does not agree to step down, then he will be the official nominee of the Democratic Party. Presidents Obama and Clinton are not in favor of changing the candidate. According to them, he is the only candidate who can come close to or win against Donald Trump. Robert Kennedy, Jr. is far behind and there is not enough time for another candidate to start a campaign at this juncture and win the election.

Many Democrats were wondering that if Joe Biden is this bad, why did he come for a debate? However, Biden wanted a debate, and he challenged Trump to the debate with the majority of the rules in his favor. His rule was to shut off the microphone of the non-speaking debater, so only one debater can speak at a time and there were not the problems of very rude and rough talks amongst Biden and Trump, like

in a previous debate from 2020. This was a very good idea, and it was successful.

However, Biden's performance was horrible. He was nervous and losing his train of thought many times. He was mumbling sometimes as well. However, as the debate went further, he got a little stronger, but not good enough to be a trustworthy presidential candidate. Also, Kamala Harris is not well liked by the people, especially in the black community. The Republican Party is waiting on the next move Biden makes.

Can a new candidate become as popular as Biden and have a chance to win against frontrunner Trump? I think Trump is waiting for any move from the Democratic Party to replace Biden, Trump will make a move to select his running mate. His potential running mates include North Dakota Governor Doug Burgum, South Carolina Senator Tim Scott, and Trump's last primary

and one-time UN Ambassador under his administration, former South Carolina Governor Nikki Haley.

The Supreme Court ruled on July 1, 2024 that Donald Trump may claim immunity for actions in his presidential capacity for his upcoming Jan. 6 case of four counts by Jack Smith. However, it does not apply to actions outside of that. Now the court has to decide which part of his actions were presidential and which part of his actions were not on January 6, 2021. The burden goes to Jack Smith, as he has to prove that his actions were not in presidential capacity. This may leak down to the case in Georgia as well. This is a big win for former president Donald Trump. Now the case will go to lower courts, and they must decide on Trump's actions on whether or not they were presidential.

*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>
Mostly Sunny	PM Rain	Scattered Storms	Partly Cloudy	Partly Cloudy	Scattered Storms	Scattered Storms
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FORBES RATES NEWARK "WORST FOR RENTERS" - AGAIN

By Walter Elliott

NEWARK - Those who find it tough trying to secure a rented house, apartment or room in Newark may have had their suspicions confirmed by a national publication for the second year running.

"Forbes Advisor" posted its annual "The Best and Worst Cities for Renters" survey June 7 and ranked New Jersey's most populous city at the bottom of the 95 U.S. cities it had sampled between April 2023 and April 2024.

"Forbes," in its 2024 report, gave Lincoln, Neb. a perfect 100 score, ousting Chandler, Ariz. - who also scored 100 points in its Oct. 5, 2023 survey.

Newark got no points - zero - as it had last year. This is in spite of some new housing having opened between the last two April.

Forbes, as in October, said it had analyzed 1,995 data points

among 21 metrics on three levels of fact checking before putting the information. The data came in part from the U.S. Census Bureau, The Trust for Public Land, Neighborhood Scout, Zillow - and Forbes' own survey of 2,000 renters from among those 95 cities.

The data and metrics, as part of the survey's methodology, were placed in three categories: Affordability, Availability and Amenities and Lifestyle and Safety. The categories were given respective 40, 30 and 30 maximum points.

June 7's standard setter - Lincoln, Neb. - got its perfect score in part by being fourth best in percentage of available rental units per 100,000 in the Availability and Amenities category. Nebraska's capital city had 394 available units per 100,000 compared to the survey average of 164.

Lincoln was 10th best in per-

centage of income going to rent at 17.6 percent; the survey average is 21.3 percent.

Lincoln was tied with 10th-ranked Winston-Salem, N.C. with the ninth-best average monthly price per square foot. Lincoln and Winston-Salem renters are paying \$1.33 per sq. ft. compared to the study's \$2.09. Newark has \$2.15 per sq. ft.

Newark's zero score was not a flatline across all of the three categories and 21 metrics. "Forbes found the city, at \$250, was the largest April 2023-April 2024 rent increase; the 95-city average was - \$43. It was in part why it was ranked last in the Affordability category.

Newark was ranked 87th in the Availability and Amenities, including 91st in two of the category's metrics. There were 8.5 available rental units per 100,000 residents when the survey average was 164 units. Non-apartment rentals were 9.3 percent of the housing stock, compared to the survey average of 48.4 percent.

Forbes, in its October survey, cited Newark as having 55.72-percent of its residents "rent burdened" where 30 percent or more of a dweller's income goes to rent. The average monthly rent for a one-bedroom apartment then was \$1,348.

Newark did statistically advance from 96th placed ranking in October to 95 because Forbes limited this year's survey to 95. (It was not immediately available why Forbes had "dropped" a city.

Just above Newark's basement ranking is a surprise and a non-surprise.

Long Beach, Calif. - known for the HMS Queen Mary ocean liner-hotel, tins marinas and annual Indycar street race - scored 7.27 points. Its residents pay 25.8 percent of income for rent - tied as fifth worst with Anaheim and Los Angeles.

93rd ranked is New York City with 13.07. It's \$6.88 monthly per sq. ft is the worst of

that metric among the 95 cities.

Five of the 10 "worst" cities are from California. The "bottom 25" largely came from either that state or from the Boston-Milwaukee part of "The Rust Belt."

The "Top 25," by contrast, have 21 cities below the North 40th Parallel - mostly the Sun Belt.

Jersey City, which was also surveyed last year, scored 24.71 this time to rank 88th.

The Forbes Advisor survey found that it was cheaper to rent a house or an apartment than it is to buy among 50 of its sampled cities. Thirty-four of the 2,000 renters they had surveyed, however, never intend to buy.

Part of the situation is due to home prices increasing 6.1 percent in a year. The surveyed non-buyers. Fifty-six percent of the respondents cited home prices, 42 percent cited a lack of a down payment and 29 cited rising interest rates.

Mayor Ras Baraka told a reporter June 14 that he puts the survey in a national context.

"Affordable housing is a national problem and is especially urgent in the New Jersey-New York area," said Baraka. "Newark has become a prime target for developers and, in some instances, contribute to a market that has put homes out of reach for most working families.

"The Forbes ratings don't take into account decades of intentional state and federal public housing policy that had perpetuated inequity and segregation."

Newark, added Baraka, has invested \$20 million towards creating housing for workers with \$34,000 or under annual income. It has partnered with the non-profit Neighborhood Assistance Corporation of America to auction city-owned residences to residents for as low as \$1. Its recently enacted inclusionary zoning laws require 20 percent affordable housing among redevelopment projects.

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SPORTS WRAP



Photos By Felicia Laguerre Owens

By William Hathaway, Jr.

This past weekend, the New York Red Bulls were home to take on the DC United, splitting the contest 2-2. DC opened up the scoring with a key goal from Jared Stroud in the 6th minute. Elias Manoel countered for the Red Bulls on a penalty kick to tie the game at 1-1 in the 24th minute.

In the 2nd half, Pedro Santos scored on a free kick in the 45th minute to give United a 2-1

Sandro Schwarz said after the game that the team had good energy.

In WNBA action, the New York Liberty rallied at home from a 16 point deficit to end Atlanta's Dream 81-75. Breanna Stewart scored 22 points and Betnijah Laney had 18 points for the 16-3 Liberty.

The NBA Draft took place at the Barclays Center. Frenchmen Zaccharie Risacher and Alex Sarr went #1 and #2 overall to the Atlanta Hawks and



advantage. Late in the 2nd half, Cameron Harper netted the equalizer to tie the game 2-2 for the Red Bulls, who extended their home unbeaten record to 13 matches across all competitions this season. Head coach

Washington Wizards respectively. Kentucky sharpshooter Reed Shepherd went to Houston with the 3rd pick, while UConn national champions Stephon Castle and Donovan Clingan went to the Spurs and Trail Blazers at



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#4 and #7 respectively. The Big East got some more love when Providence Friars star Devin Carter was taken by the Sacramento Kings with the 13th selection.

Last but not least, Bronny James will likely play alongside his father LeBron James after The Los Angeles Lakers took him with the 55th pick. Although LeBron opted out of his contract, it was really to give the team flexibility in free agency before he likely re-signs.

Speaking of free agency, Paul Pierce has left the Clippers to sign a four year deal with the Sixers. Also, the Knicks have lost center Isaiah Hartenstein to free agency to the Thunder. However,

the team is not too sad after acquiring Mikal Bridges in a trade and re-signing OG Anunoby.

In other NBA news, Celtics ownership has said that the franchise is available for sale. The ownership group should get a great deal, as the buyer will acquire a World Championship winning organization. Whoever buys the team will be on the hook for Jayson Tatum's next contract, a league record 5 years, \$314 million.

Finally, July 1 has come and gone, meaning that the New York Mets made another \$1,193,248.20 million payment to Bobby Bonilla, who will get the installments until 2035 after the team bought out his contract years ago.



UNITED STATES



A DEBATE THAT WILL LIVE IN INFAMY...

When it comes to whoever decided an early debate was a good thing, we have no idea what they were trying to do - and we don't think they had any idea what they were trying to do either.

On June 27, CNN hosted the first - and maybe last - Presidential Debate of 2024 between presumptive Democratic nominee - the 46th President Joseph R. Biden, Jr. - and the presumptive Republican nominee - the 45th President Donald J. Trump. The word "presumptive" is being used because the debate was held before either man actually accepted a nomination at their respective National Conventions.

The debate was moderated by Jake Tapper and Dana Bash, who added a new word to the lexicon when she called a prior 2020 debate between the two men a "s---show." After this debate, she may need to call up Webster's again.

According to statisticians, Trump was said to have made 31 false or misleading statements, whereas Biden was said to have nine. The moderators were called out for not fact checking the candidates during the debate.

However, the biggest takeaway was Biden's lackluster performance, notably freezing and stumbling over his words like Porky Pig in a Looney Tunes cartoon. This happened despite the incumbent president spending over a week with 16 people solely dedicating his time to the debate, and having rules that

mostly favored him, notably having no audience and microphones being shut off when the other person is speaking. Meanwhile, Trump was out campaigning.

A snap opinion poll had Trump winning 67-33%. After one of Biden's gaffes, Trump scored one of the biggest burns in presidential debate history, when he replied, "I really don't know what he said at the end of that sentence - and I don't think he knows what he said either."

Biden's people said that he had a cold, but no one was buying it. The Democrat's performance was so bad, that many in the media called for Biden to drop out of the race. The New York Times and other papers even called out Biden in scathing editorials.

There is no guarantee that either candidate will even make it to November, with Biden's health in question and Trump facing sentencing in his hush money case on July 11, four days before he is supposed to accept the Republican Party nomination on July 15.

MASS SHOOTING UPDATE

Information recent as of 7-1-2024 at 12 p.m.

2024 Mass Shooting Stats: (Source: Mass Shooting Tracker, <https://www.massshootingtracker.site/data/?year=2024>)

- Total Mass Shootings: 300
- Total Dead: 378
- Total Wounded: 1222
- Shootings Per Day: 1.64
- Days Reached in Year 2024 as of July 1: 183

ASIA UN HAS EYES ON RUSSIA & NORTH KOREA

Any relationship that any country has with the Democratic People's Republic of Korea (DPRK / North Korea), including Russia, "must entirely abide" by Security Council sanctions, Izumi Nakamitsu, UN High Representative for Disarmament Affairs said on Friday, as she briefed ambassadors.

Ms. Nakamitsu noted that in recent months there had been allegations of transfers of ballistic missiles and ammunition

from the DPRK (more commonly known as North Korea) to Russia, in violation of Council resolutions, allegedly for use in Moscow's continuing invasion of Ukraine.

"UN Security Council sanctions regimes are at the top of such international collective efforts for the maintenance of international peace and security, and to prevent illicit transfer of arms," she said.

"I recall that the relevant Security Council resolutions are legally binding on all UN Member States."

Ms. Nakamitsu also referred to the final report of the Panel of Experts that supported the Committee overseeing the sanctions measures imposed by the Security Council in resolution 1718.

The report stated that the "Panel is investigating reports from Member States about supplies by the DPRK of conventional arms and munitions in contravention of sanctions."

The Panel was reviewing, before the expiration of its mandate, a report by the Government in Kyiv on missile debris recovered in Ukraine, following information about short-range ballistic missiles manufactured in the DPRK and used by Russian forces, she said.

Although the mandate of the Panel of Experts expired on April 30, the 1718 Committee continues its work and will oversee the implementation of the sanctions regime.

Ms. Nakamitsu stated that importing, transit, producing, and exporting states "must act responsibly at every step" along the arms and ammunition transfer chain to prevent diversion, illicit trafficking, and misuse.

"Any transfer of weapons and ammunition must be compliant with the applicable international legal framework, including of course, relevant Security Council resolutions and the sanctions regimes that they establish," she said.

"As the Secretary-General has stated, any relationship that any country has with DPRK, including Russia, must entirely abide by the relevant Security Council sanctions," she recalled.

Further in her briefing, Ms. Nakamitsu noted that the DPRK continues its nuclear weapons program and development of its means of delivery, having

"significantly increased" ballistic missile launches in recent years.

Since 2022, the DPRK conducted over 100 launches of ballistic missiles, including solid-fuel inter-continental ballistic missiles and space launch vehicles using ballistic missile technology.

These were in violation of several Security Council resolutions, Ms. Nakamitsu said.

She also referred to the report from nuclear watchdog, the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA), that the discharge of warm water from the cooling system of the Light Water Reactor at Yongbyon was indicative that the reactor has reached criticality.

"The IAEA also observed indications of the ongoing operation of the reported centrifuge enrichment facility in Yongbyon, and expansion of another facility in Kangson Complex," she said.

Additionally, while there were no indications of change at the Nuclear Test Site at Punggye-ri recently, the site remains occupied.

Ms. Nakamitsu also expressed concern over the reports of malicious cyber activities attributed to Pyongyang-affiliated actors, noting that malicious activity continues through the targeting of cryptocurrency-related companies.

Other trends observed include the targeting of supply chains.

She stressed that such reported actions were not in line with the General Assembly framework for responsible State behavior in the use of information and communication technologies (ICT).

Instead, such acts imperil international peace and security and undermines trust and stability between States, she said.

WORLD ONLINE SCAMMERS GET JACKED

A global police operation spanning 61 countries has delivered a financial blow to online scam networks by freezing 6,745 bank accounts, seizing assets totaling USD 257 million, and disrupting the transnational orga-

(Continued on page 11)

INDIA WINS WORLD CUP IN NAIL-BITING MATCH

By Dhiren Shah

What a match! It was unusual and nerve breaking for both sides and their fans. When it all ended, India defeated South Africa by 7 runs in the closest finale at 2024 T20 World Cup Cricket tournament in Barbados on Saturday June 29, 2024. Both were unbeaten teams in the 2024 tournament up to that point.

The men in blue (India) won the toss and elected to bat first. Not long into their at-bat, they lost the wickets of captain Rohit Sharma, Rishabh Pant and Suryakumar Yadav. Instead of sending their regular batsman, Sharma sent Axar Patel, which proved to be a good decision. Virat Kohli and Axar Patel played nicely and brought the total to 106 when Axar Patel was runout by his own mistake. Shivam Dube gave good stance with Virat Kohli and took the total to 163 for 5. Finally, India posted a good score of 176 in 20 overs (120 balls).

Now came South Africa. India started good by taking 2 wickets in 12 runs. Slowly and gradually, SA made 106 runs when they lost the wickets of their wicketkeeper Quinton de Kock, with 30 balls left to make 30 runs, they had Heinrich Klaasen up (50 in 23 balls) one of the best in the world.



Usually, when there are 12 balls left, many teams in T20 can make 30 runs. But captain Rohit Sharma gave the ball to Jasprit Bumrah. He made a miracle hold on SA to stop them from scoring runs. After that, Sharma gave ball to Hardik Pandya who took the wicket of Klaasen which gave a little hope for India to win. The last 3 overs were crucial, and Bumrah and Arshdeep Singh did the rest of the job, holding South Africa to no runs at a crucial stage of the game, helping India to win by 7.

Virat Kohli, who made 76 runs in 59 balls and promptly retired from T20 after the

victory, was the player of the match and Bumrah was the player of the series. Jasprit Bumrah (2/18), Hardik Pandya (3/20) and Arshdeep Singh (2/20) were key contributors for India's Bowling attacks.

After 11 years, India is holding the World Cup Championship Trophy. Australia, the six-time champion, did not even make it to the semifinal, while the United States and Afghanistan did get there. Now, the top 8 teams who reached the semifinals will automatically qualify for the next World Cup in 2026, which will be hosted jointly by champion India and Sri Lanka.

SUPREME COURT RULES ON PRESIDENTIAL IMMUNITY

In perhaps the most significant case of this current term, the Supreme Court gave an opinion on the hotly debated matter of presidential immunity.

By a 6-3 party line, 119-page decision authored by Chief Justice John Roberts, the court ruled that a U.S. President does have immunity from prosecution for actions taken while acting under the official capacity pertaining to the offices. However, that immunity does not apply to actions taken outside of those capacity.

While the ruling addresses a "President," it is mainly about a person: Donald Trump. Upon the ruling, the Court sent the matter down to lower courts to determine which actions were in official capacity, and which, if any, were not.

Here now is the critical text for the ruling in question:

"Under our constitutional structure of separated powers, the nature of Presidential power entitles a former President to absolute immunity from criminal prosecution for actions within his conclusive and preclusive constitutional authority. And he is entitled to at least presumptive immunity from prosecution for all his official acts. There is no immunity for unofficial acts. Pp. 5-43.

"(a) This case is the first criminal prosecution in our Nation's history of a former President for actions taken during his Presi-

dency. Determining whether and under what circumstances such a prosecution may proceed requires careful assessment of the scope of Presidential power under the Constitution. The nature of that power requires that a former President have some immunity from criminal prosecution for official acts during his tenure in office. At least with respect to the President's exercise of his core constitutional powers, this immunity must be absolute. As for his remaining official actions, he is entitled to at least presumptive immunity. Pp. 5-15.

"(1) Article II of the Constitution vests "executive Power" in "a President of the United States of America." §1, cl. 1. The President has duties of "unrivaled gravity and breadth." *Trump v. Vance*, 591 U. S. 786, 800. His authority to act necessarily "stem[s] either from an act of Congress or from the Constitution itself." *Youngstown Sheet & Tube Co. v. Sawyer*, 343 U. S. 579, 585. In the latter case, the President's authority is sometimes "conclusive and preclusive." *Id.*, at 638 (Jackson, J., concurring). When the President exercises such authority, Congress cannot act on, and courts cannot examine, the President's actions. It follows that an Act of Congress - either a specific one targeted at the President or a generally applicable one - may not criminalize the President's actions within his exclusive con-

stitutional power. Neither may the courts adjudicate a criminal prosecution that examines such Presidential actions. The Court thus concludes that the President is absolutely immune from criminal prosecution for conduct within his exclusive sphere of constitutional authority. Pp. 6-9.

"(2) Not all of the President's official acts fall within his "conclusive and preclusive" authority. The reasons that justify the President's absolute immunity from criminal prosecution for acts within the scope of his exclusive constitutional authority do not extend to conduct in areas where his authority is shared with Congress. To determine the President's immunity in this context, the Court looks primarily to the Framers' design of the Presidency within the separation of powers, precedent on Presidential immunity in the civil context, and criminal cases where a President resisted prosecutorial demands for documents. P.9.

"(i) The Framers (of the Constitution) designed the Presidency to provide for a "vigorous" and "energetic" Executive. The *Federalist No. 70*, pp. 471-472 (J. Cooke ed. 1961) (A. Hamilton). They vested the President with "supervisory and policy responsibilities of utmost discretion and sensitivity." *Nixon v. Fitzgerald*, 457 U. S. 731, 750. Appreciating the "unique risks" that arise when

(Continued on page 12)

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 Howell, Janiece, APN
 Shah, Sanjay, APN

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 (Adult and Pediatric)
 Rama Reddy, MD
 (Adult Endocrinology)

**Pulmonology/Sleep
 Disorders**
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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 - The Newark Public Schools' attempt to take back the former Maple Avenue School may be all but dead in light of New Jersey Superior Court judge's June 6 lawsuit dismissal.

Superior Court-Newark Judge Lisa Adubato, according to court summaries, had dismissed NPS vs Newark Housing Authority and KIPP June 6. The school district wanted the judge to nullify NHA's sale of Maple Avenue School - eventually - to KIPP Seek Academy and have the charter school vacate 33 Maple Ave.

NPS Superintendent of Schools Roger Leon has had the district's legal department out to take back at least some of the 15 former school buildings that State District Superintendent Christopher Cerf had conveyed to the NHA in 2017. Cerf, the last state-appointed superintendent, had conveyed the "surplus" properties' deeds to NHA for budget savings.

NHA, in Maple Avenue School's case, sold 33 Maple Ave. to the Hanini Group for \$1.2 million in 2017 so that Hanini could convert the 1920s-era elementary school building into an apartment house.

Hanini, in 2020, had started its renovations of the Weequahic section school when they then sold it to Friends of TEAM Academy for \$10 million.

TEAM Friends then turned the deed over to KIPP.

KIPP reopened Maple Avenue School for its TEAM Seek Academy in 2021. NPS launched its suit against NHA and KIPP in April 2020.

Adubato, while not stating her grounds for dismissal June 6, had said in a May 6 court hearing that NPS should have added a "no charter schools allowed" restriction in its conveyance to NHA. The judge, in an April hearing, said that NPS and NHA's spending four years and \$2.4 million on the legal issue was "shameful."

IRVINGTON - A township man may have learned the hard way June 20 that a valid state handgun permit does not impress U.S. Transportation Safety Administration officers.

The unidentified man had entered Newark Liberty International Airport Terminal A that Thursday to board a flight - but left the airport under Port Authority Police escort.

The would-be flier came to the TSA Terminal A checkpoint with his revolver in his travel bag and his New Jersey firearms permit on him. Checkpoint staff, upon noticing the gun on its metal detector screen, detained the man and summoned PAPD.

A TSA spokesman explained that a state gun permit, whether for concealed carrying or not, does not allow a passenger to bring said weapon aboard. The Irvingtonian was not arrested but faces up to \$15,000 in fines for bringing a gun to an airport checkpoint. He also missed his flight.

An Hellertown, Pa. woman, in a near-similar EWR detection case June 25, resulted in her arrest by PAPD. The woman, with her young daughter with her, said that he hardly uses the purse that carried the loaded .22 caliber revolver and had meant to hand it off to her husband before entering the Terminal B checkpoint. The daughter was also escorted to the PA's EWR police station for her father's pickup.

EAST ORANGE - A visita-

tion for Juan Jose Angeles Lopez, 30 - who was killed by a neighbor's tree in his own backyard during a June 26 thunderstorm - has been set for 5-9 p.m. July 8 at Newark's Alvarez Funeral Home. The rest of Lopez's last rite will be held in his native Mexico.

Lopez's relatives told first responders that he was finishing a backyard barbecue with his family at 105 N. Munn Ave that Wednesday when a fast moving thunderstorm front began kicking up wind at about 8 p.m. He was trying to secure an outdoor umbrella when a large limb from a tree at 307 William St. broke off and fell on him.

The East Orange Fire Department rescue team found Lopez "unresponsive and unconscious" while pinned beneath the tree limb. They extricated Lopez and rushed him to CareWell Health Medical Center - where he was declared dead at 9:07 p.m. Lopez leaves behind a two-year-old daughter and his wife - who is seven months pregnant.

A Willimantic, Conn. woman was also killed by a fallen tree limb, among hundreds of tree damage and power outage reports across the New York City metropolitan area that night. Between a half-inch to a full-inch of rain fell and 60 mph wind gusts were reported.

Mayor Theodore "Ted" Green, at June 27's press conference at 105 N. Munn, said that clothing and baby items for Lopez's children may be dropped off at the city's Department of Health and Human Services, 134 New St., 8:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. weekdays. Said items may also be dropped off at any EOFD station 24 hours a day.

A monetary GoFundMe.com page has been established, in care of The Lopez Family: [gofundme.com/00828210](https://www.gofundme.com/00828210).

ORANGE - An Orange Fire Department company found themselves occupying an East Orange Fire Department station around dawn June 29. The OFD company was not the only ones who found themselves in different surroundings that early Sat-

urday morning.

That and an Irvington Fire Department company were covering two of EOFD's stations while that city's firefighters responded to a blaze at 135 Greenwood Ave. at 5:23 a.m. The incident commander promptly pulled a second alarm and for mutual aid.

Firefighters made sure that the house's 18 residents, making up three families, were evacuated before Bloomfield Fire Department arrived at the "Teen Streets" section's address. Although the fire was brought under control on 5:54 a.m., a city fire inspector determined that the 2.5-story house was uninhabitable.

Orange, Irvington and Bloomfield units returned to their home stations later that Saturday - but the same cannot be said of the three families. The local American Red Cross chapter found them temporary housing.

The 18 displaced people may have found more permanent residency when you read this.

WEST ORANGE - Motorists along Pleasant Valley Way will see one immediate and one near-future change on the Essex County road.

The Township Council, at their June 25 meeting, revealed a "No Stopping, No Standing" zone along two blocks of PVW/County Rd. No. 636 in the Pleasantville section.

That said zone now extends from Dawson Avenue to Wessman Drive by an NJTransit stop for the No. 73 bus and before the Ahavas Achim B'nai Jacob & David synagogue. New signs will be going up after July 4.

Three Colliers Engineering and Design engineers told the council that same Tuesday night meeting that PVW and Woodland Avenue, near the Verona border, will be getting a full traffic intersection signal featuring reflectorized plates. That Essex County Roads and Bridges Division project, however, will start closer to Labor Day.

West Orange Fire Station 4

(Continued on page 14)



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WORLD NEWS

(Continued from page 6)

nized crime networks involved. Targeting phishing, investment fraud, fake online shopping sites, romance and impersonation scams, Operation First Light 2024 led to the arrest of 3,950 suspects and identified 14,643 other possible suspects in all continents. Police collectively intercepted some USD 135 million in fiat currency and USD 2 million in cryptocurrency. Fiat currency, such as the US Dollar, Euro, or Yen, is official currency issued and regulated by governments. Other assets worth over USD 120 million were seized, including real estate, high-end vehicles, expensive jewelry, and many other high-value items and collections. Using INTERPOL's Global Rapid Intervention of Payments (I-GRIP) mechanism to help them trace and intercept the illicit proceeds of crime, both in fiat and cryptocurrency, police inter-

cepted USD 331,000 in a business email compromise fraud involving a Spanish victim who transferred money to Hong Kong, China. Likewise in another case, authorities in Australia successfully recovered AUD 5.5 million (USD 3.7 million) on behalf of an impersonation scam victim, after the funds were fraudulently transferred to bank accounts in Malaysia and Hong Kong, China. Director of INTERPOL's Financial Crime and Anti-Corruption Centre (IFCACC), Dr Isaac Kehinde Oginni, said, "The results of this global police operation are more than just numbers - they represent lives protected, crimes prevented, and a healthier global economy worldwide. "By confiscating such large amounts of money, and disrupting the networks behind them, we not only safeguard our communities but also deal a significant blow to the transnational organized crime groups that pose such a serious threat to global

security." On behalf of China's Ministry of Public Security, Yong Wang, Head of the INTERPOL National Central Bureau in Beijing, said: "The world is grappling with the severe challenges of social engineering fraud, and organized crime groups are operating from Southeast Asia to the Middle East and Africa, with victims on every continent. "No country is immune to this type of crime, and combating it requires very strong international cooperation." Notable achievements from the operation include the dismantling of a sophisticated international scam network in the Namibian capital. In this operation, 88 local youths, who were forced into conducting scams, were rescued. Authorities seized 163 computers and 350 mobile phones, and the data they contained handed over to INTERPOL General Secretariat headquarters for analysis. Similarly, coordination between Singapore Police Force's

Anti-Scam Centre, and Hong Kong, China, Police Force's Anti-Deception Coordination Centre and local banks prevented an attempted tech support scam, saving a 70-year-old victim from losing SGD 380,000 (USD 281,200) worth of savings. Joint investigations between Brazilian and Portuguese authorities disrupted several scam networks operating globally. Operation First Light was strengthened by the participation of four regional policing bodies: AFRIPOL, ASEANAPOL, GCCPOL, and Europol. First Light operations are funded by China's Ministry of Public Security, which recently hosted the concluding meeting in Tianjin, bringing participating countries together under one roof to analyze results, share intelligence, and plan future operations. Operation First Light 2024 commenced in 2023 and culminated in its final tactical phase from March to May 2024.

FORMER NEWARK DEPUTY MAYOR ADMITS SCHEMING WITH TWO BUSINESSMEN TO OBTAIN BRIBES

NEWARK - A former city of Newark official who served as deputy mayor and director of the Newark Department Economic and Housing Development (DEHD) and served as executive vice president and chief real estate officer of the Newark Community Economic Development Corporation (NCEDC) admitted on June 26 conspiring with two Newark business owners to obtain corrupt payments intended to influence and reward him for assisting the business owners with the acquisition and redevelopment of various Newark-owned properties, U.S. Attorney Philip R. Sellinger announced.

Carmelo G. Garcia, 49, of Hoboken, pleaded guilty before U.S. District Judge Madeline Cox Arleo to three counts of an information charging him with conspiracy to defraud the city of Newark and the NCEDC of Garcia's honest services, honest services wire fraud, and receiving bribes in connection with the business of a federally funded local government and organization.

"As he admitted in court, Carmelo Garcia set up a scheme to receive cash and jewelry in exchange for using his influence in favor of private business interests, defrauding the people of Newark of their right to his honest services," U.S. Attorney Sellinger said. "In doing so, he violated the public trust in order to line his own pockets. Our office will con-

tinue to work with our law enforcement partners to make sure that the people of New Jersey are protected from public officials whose independent judgment is corrupted by greed."

"We entrust public officials to act in the best interest of the people they serve, not to abuse their position for their own personal gain," FBI - Newark Special Agent in Charge James E. Dennehy said. "Today, Carmelo Garcia admitted he violated the citizens of Newark's trust when as deputy mayor he accepted bribes to advance and influence private real estate interests. FBI Newark will continue to see that corrupt public officials face the punishment they deserve in the criminal justice system."

"Carmelo Garcia abused his position of trust to oversee HUD grant money that was intended to provide housing assistance and improve the community in which he served," Special Agent in Charge Vicky Vazquez, U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, Office of Inspector General, said. "He willfully devised an egregious kickback scheme resulting in the theft of critical taxpayer dollars, placing the integrity of HUD's programs at risk, and violating the trust of the communities who rely on them. HUD OIG will continue to work with its prosecutorial and law enforcement partners to vigor-

ously pursue those who seek to profit by abusing HUD-funded programs."

According to documents filed in the case and statements made in court: From 2017 through April 2019, while serving as a high-level Newark official, and prior to that, as an executive officer of the NCEDC (now known as Invest Newark), Garcia sought and received significant monetary payments and other benefits from Frank Valvano Jr., Irwin Sablosky, and others in exchange for Garcia's use of his official positions and influence within the city of Newark and the NCEDC to advance real estate development matters of interest to Valvano and Sablosky.

These matters included obtaining preliminary designation letters for Valvano and Sablosky and securing Newark-approved redevelopment agreements (RDAs) that allowed them to purchase and acquire various Newark-owned properties for redevelopment, and to ensure that Garcia did not use his influence and authority to act against their interests. In addition to cash, Garcia also received jewelry, including multiple high-end watches and chains, from Valvano and Sablosky's pawnbroker and jewelry business.

Phone records and text messages obtained by law enforcement show extensive

(Continued on page 13)

IMMUNITY *(Cont. from page 7)*

the President's energies are diverted by proceedings that might render him "unduly cautious in the discharge of his official duties," the Court has recognized Presidential immunities and privileges "rooted in the constitutional tradition of the separation of powers and supported by our history." *Id.*, at 749, 751, 752, n. 32. In *Fitzgerald*, for instance, the Court concluded that a former President is entitled to absolute immunity from "damages liability for acts within the 'outer perimeter' of his official responsibility." *Id.*, at 756. The Court's "dominant concern" was to avoid "diversion of the President's attention during the decisionmaking process caused by needless worry as to the possibility of damages actions stemming from any particular official decision." *Clinton v. Jones*, 520 U. S. 681, 694, n. 19.

"By contrast, when prosecutors have sought evidence from the President, the Court has consistently rejected Presidential claims of absolute immunity. During the treason trial of for-

mer Vice President Aaron Burr, for instance, Chief Justice Marshall rejected President Thomas Jefferson's claim that the President could not be subjected to a subpoena. Marshall simultaneously recognized, however, the existence of a "privilege" to withhold certain "official paper [s]." *United States v. Burr*, 25 F. Cas. 187, 192 (No. 14,694) (CC Va.). And when a subpoena issued to President Richard Nixon, the Court rejected his claim of "absolute privilege." *United States v. Nixon*, 418 U. S. 683, 703. But recognizing "the public interest in candid, objective, and even blunt or harsh opinions in Presidential decisionmaking," it held that a "presumptive privilege" protects Presidential communications. *Id.*, at 708. Because that privilege "relates to the effective discharge of a President's powers," *id.*, at 711, the Court deemed it "fundamental to the operation of Government and inextricably rooted in the separation of powers under the Constitution." *Id.*, at 708. Pp. 9-12.

"(ii) Criminally prosecuting a President for official conduct undoubtedly poses a far greater

threat of intrusion on the authority and functions of the Executive Branch than simply seeking evidence in his possession. The danger is greater than what led the Court to recognize absolute Presidential immunity from civil damages liability - that the President would be chilled from taking the "bold and unhesitating action" required of an independent Executive. *Fitzgerald*, 457 U. S., at 745. Although the President might be exposed to fewer criminal prosecutions than civil damages suits, the threat of trial, judgment, and imprisonment is a far greater deterrent and plainly more likely to distort Presidential decisionmaking than the potential payment of civil damages. The hesitation to execute the duties of his office fearlessly and fairly that might result when a President is making decisions under "a pall of potential prosecution," *McDonnell v. United States*, 579 U. S. 550, 575, raises "unique risks to the effective functioning of government," *Fitzgerald*, 457 U. S., at 751. But there is also a compelling "public interest in fair and effective law enforcement." *Vance*,

591 U. S., at 808.

"Taking into account these competing considerations, the Court concludes that the separation of powers principles explicated in the Court's precedent necessitate at least a presumptive immunity from criminal prosecution for a President's acts within the outer perimeter of his official responsibility. Such an immunity is required to safeguard the independence and effective functioning of the Executive Branch, and to enable the President to carry out his constitutional duties without undue caution. At a minimum, the President must be immune from prosecution for an official act unless the Government can show that applying a criminal prohibition to that act would pose no "dangers of intrusion on the authority and functions of the Executive Branch." *Fitzgerald*, 457 U. S., at 754. Pp. 12-15.

"(3) As for a President's unofficial acts, there is no immunity. Although Presidential immunity is required for official actions to ensure that the President's decisionmaking is not dis-

(Continued on page 13)

NEWARK MAN ADMITS STEALING BENEFITS MEANT FOR MISSING GIRLFRIEND'S DISABLED SON

NEWARK - An Essex County man admitted his role in embezzling federal benefits meant for the disabled child of his former girlfriend shortly after she went missing, U.S. Attorney Philip R. Sellinger announced.

Asmar Earp, 37, of Newark, pleaded guilty before U.S. District Judge Evelyn Padin in Newark federal court on June 26, 2024, to three counts of an indictment charging him with two counts of wire fraud and one count of aggravated identity theft.

According to documents filed in this case and statements made in court: Earp was in a romantic relationship and shared a house in Newark with V.W. Through a program administered by Social Security Administration, V.W. received monthly payments on behalf of her disabled minor son, who was not capable of managing these benefits on his own.

On Dec. 24, 2017, V.W. went missing and her whereabouts remain unknown. Six days after V.W.'s disappearance, Earp fraudulently gained control of V.W.'s son's benefits by changing the PIN code on the debit card used to access those funds.

In March and April 2018, Earp also fraudulently used V.W.'s name, date of birth, and Social Security number to receive a replacement debit card to continue accessing and using V.W.'s son's benefits.

From December 2017 through February 2020, Earp and others acting at his direction repeatedly and fraudulently took the money intended to help V.W.'s son and used it on themselves.

Each count of wire fraud carries a maximum penalty of 20 years in prison and a fine of \$250,000, or twice the gross loss to the victim or gain of the defendant, whichever is

greatest. The count of aggravated identity theft carries a statutory mandatory penalty of two years in prison, which run consecutively to any other term of imprisonment, and a fine of \$250,000, or twice the gross loss to the victim or gain of the defendant, whichever is greatest.

U.S. Attorney Sellinger credited special agents of the Social Security Administration, Office of the Inspector General, under the direction of Acting Special Agent-in-Charge Bradley Parker of the New York Boston Field Division, and the Essex County Prosecutor's Office, under the leadership of Prosecutor Theodore N. Stephens II, with the investigation.

The government is represented by Assistant U.S. Attorney Daniel H. Rosenblum of the General Crimes Unit in Newark.

DEPUTY MAYOR (Continued from page 12)

communication between Garcia, Valvano, Sablosky, and others throughout this period of time, including text messages in which Garcia arranged to personally collect cash provided by Valvano and Sablosky. In one instance, in June 2018, Garcia, then the city's acting deputy mayor and director of the city's DEHD, received an envelope containing \$25,000 in cash, supplied by Valvano through an intermediary, in the restroom of a New Jersey restaurant.

E-mails obtained by law enforcement further show the official actions, assistance, and influence Garcia provided in violation of his duties in exchange for the cash and other non-cash benefits he received from Valvano and Sablosky and the actions that Valvano and Sablosky were seeking from Garcia in

his capacity as a Newark official and NCEDC executive for those benefits.

The honest services fraud conspiracy and honest services fraud charges in Counts One and Two each carry a maximum potential penalty of 20 years in prison. The bribery charge in Count Three carries a maximum penalty of 10 years in prison. All charges are punishable by a fine of \$250,000 or twice the amount of the pecuniary gain from the offense. As part of Garcia's guilty plea, he agreed to criminal forfeiture of the \$25,000 corrupt cash payment and administrative/civil forfeiture of the jewelry that he obtained from the scheme. Sentencing is scheduled for Dec. 12, 2024.

Garcia originally was charged by indictment in October 2021 with Valvano, 56, of Florham Park, and Sablosky, 64, of Springfield. Valvano and Sablosky's case is pend-

ing before Judge Arleo, and they are presumed innocent unless and until proven guilty.

U.S. Attorney Sellinger credited special agents of the FBI's Newark Field Office, under the direction of Special Agent in Charge James E. Dennehy; special agents of IRS-Criminal Investigation, under the direction of Special Agent in Charge Jenifer L. Piovesan and special agents of the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, Office of Inspector General, under the direction of Special Agent in Charge Vazquez, with the investigation leading to the plea.

The government is represented by Elaine K. Lou, Deputy Chief of the Criminal Division, and Katherine J. Calle and Edeli Rivera of the U.S. Attorney's Office's Special Prosecutions Division.

IMMUNITY (Continued from page 12)

torted by the threat of future litigation stemming from those actions, that concern does not support immunity for unofficial conduct. Clinton, 520 U. S., at 694, and n. 19. The separation of powers does not bar a prosecution predicated on the President's unofficial acts. P. 15.

"(b) The first step in deciding whether a former President is entitled to immunity from a particular prosecution is to distinguish his official from unofficial actions. In this case, no court thus far has drawn that distinction, in general or with respect to the conduct alleged in particular. It is therefore incumbent upon the Court to be mindful that it is "a court of final review and not first view." Zivotofsky v. Clinton, 566 U. S. 189, 201. Critical threshold issues in this case are how to differentiate between a President's official and unofficial actions, and how to do so with respect to the indictment's extensive and detailed allegations covering a broad range of conduct. The Court offers guidance

on those issues. Pp. 16–32.

"(1) When the President acts pursuant to "constitutional and statutory authority," he takes official action to perform the functions of his office. Fitzgerald, 456 U. S., at 757. Determining whether an action is covered by immunity thus begins with assessing the President's authority to take that action. But the breadth of the President's "discretionary responsibilities" under the Constitution and laws of the United States frequently makes it "difficult to determine which of [his] innumerable 'functions' encompassed a particular action." Id., at 756. The immunity the Court has recognized therefore extends to the "outer perimeter" of the President's official responsibilities, covering actions so long as they are "not manifestly or palpably beyond [his] authority." Blasingame v. Trump, 87 F. 4th 1, 13 (CADC).

"In dividing official from unofficial conduct, courts may not inquire into the President's motives. Such a "highly intrusive" inquiry would risk exposing even the most obvious instances of official conduct to judi-

cial examination on the mere allegation of improper purpose. Fitzgerald, 457 U. S., at 756. Nor may courts deem an action unofficial merely because it allegedly violates a generally applicable law. Otherwise, Presidents would be subject to trial on "every allegation that an action was unlawful," depriving immunity of its intended effect."

After the decision dropped, there was reaction from both presidential candidates.

"BIG WIN FOR OUR CONSTITUTION AND DEMOCRACY. PROUD TO BE AN AMERICAN!" Trump posted on his Truth Social platform.

"Today's ruling doesn't change the facts, so let's be very clear about what happened on January 6 (2021): Donald Trump snapped after he lost the 2020 election and encouraged a mob to overthrow the results of a free and fair election.

"The American people already rejected Donald Trump's self-obsessed quest for power once - Joe Biden will make sure they reject it for good in November."

The Observation Booth



OP-ED By Andrea Dialect

THE FORTH WE LIE

RED - THE CONSTANT DISPLAY OF BLOODSHED WHITE - THE ONGOING WHITEWASHING CONDUCTED BY GOVERNMENT AND CORPORATIONS BLUE - THE CONDITION OF THE AMERICAN PEOPLE

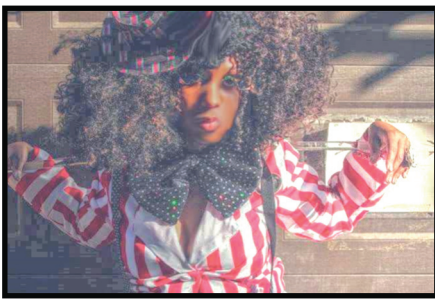
INDEPENDENCE MUST BE LIFESTYLE

TODAY, I'VE VOWED SILENCE. LET THE WORDS STATED HERE STAND ALONE. MAY THEY BLAST IN YOUR HEADS LIKE



THOSE AWE-STRIKING FIREWORKS DO YEAR IN AND YEAR OUT. OUR LIBERTIES ARE AT STAKE. READ THIS IN ALL CAPS TODAY.

OUR VALUES MUST GOVERN US, MEANING WE MUST ACCEPT THE BILL OF RIGHTS AND RIGHTFULLY SO. SO... DRESS IN GARMENTS OF WHATEVER HUE YOU LIKE. BUT RED WOULD BE NICE BECAUSE THERE WILL BE MUCH BLOODSHED AND IT WILL ABSORB THE SEVERITY OF IT WHICH DOWNPLAYS THE SHOCK. UNFORTUNATELY, FREEDOM IS NOT ONLY A FIGHT; IT IS WAR. DON THAT WHITE IF YOU LIKE. THAT WAY, THOSE MANY



TEARS THAT SHOW UP MIGHT ALLOW THOSE STAINS TO TESTIFY TO THE COST. AND OUR BELOVED BLUE - WEAR IT AS A FASHION STATEMENT IF YOU MUST. NOTEDLY, AS A COLOR, IT'S A TREND JUST AS THE BLUE WORN BY THE MASSES WHO ARE SWATHED IN AN ARRAY OF DRABS OF BLUE SPIRITUAL, MENTAL, EMOTIONAL, AND PHYSICAL STATES.

THE AMENDMENTS - YES, LET'S GOOGLE THAT SO THAT WE MIGHT ONCE AGAIN BE REMINDED OF OUR LOSS AS WE TALLY UP THOSE THAT ARE CONSTANTLY BEING SLUNG ON THAT CHOPPING BLOCK, AS ALSO USING THE GUILLOTINE WHEN CHOPPING OFF THOSE HEADS THAT ARE REAL. THIS IS EXECUT-

ED BY THE VERY ONES WHO PLEDGED TO SERVE US. YES, WE ARE BEING SERVED ALRIGHT, BUT NOT IN THE FORM OF DEMOCRACY - MORE SO IN THE FORM OF THE KICKSTARTS OF OUR FAVORITE SPORTS. THUS, OUR AMENDMENTS AND THE ONE BODY OF WE THE AMERICAN PEOPLE, AS SO HUMANITY, HAVE BECOME THE BLOOD SPORT OF FOCUS. AS SO THE PERPS OUR INACTION IS ALSO IN MANY WAS A CRIME AGAINST HUMANITY. LET THAT RING IN YOUR MIND UNTIL YOU BUFFER YOUR EARS AND GRASP YOUR HEAD AS IT FLINGS US INTO ACTION. EMBRACE IT, MY DARLING AMERICAN PEOPLE. WE MUST LET FREEDOM RING! ...

Read this article in its entirety at www.localtalkweekly.com and type The Observation Booth in the search bar. For more info, email localtalkandrea@gmail.com.



TOWN WATCH

(Continued from page 10)

and Cong. B'nai Shalom occupies two of PVW and Woodland's corners. Colliers, of Holmdel, are consultants for the county.

The three Colliers engineers also introduced more than a traffic light replacement at Washington Street and Watchung Avenue. That Watchung Heights intersection will also get curb cuts and high-visibility crosswalks.

Washington Street, also known as Co. Road No. 671, runs from Main Street at Tory Corner east until it changes its name to Dodd Street, at High Street, in Orange.

SOUTH ORANGE / MAPLEWOOD

- The South Orange-Maplewood School District Board of Education's June 26 reinstatement of Frank Sanchez as Columbia High School Principal marks the latest move in a 14-day turnaround of his professional and legal fortunes.

The board voted in a 6-1-2 split vote before a packed Administrative Building auditorium that Thursday night, took Sanchez off his Jan. 2 administrative leave and to immediately bring him back. Board President Qwai Telesford, First Vice President Varun Vadlamani and members Elizabeth Callahan, Regenia Eckert, William Meyer and Shayna Sackett-Gable car-

ried the reinstatement resolution.

Second Vice President Nubia DuVall Wilsom and member Kaitlain Wittleder abstained; Wilson said that she had a prior abuse experience and Wittleder said she needed more information. Member William "Bill" Gifford, saying that he could not "discount" the CHS sophomore student's experience and that bias at the high school needed addressing, was the sole dissenter.

The June 26 vote and the Essex County Prosecutor's Office moving Sanchez's misdemeanor simple assault-disorderly person charge to the Maplewood - South Orange Municipal Court room late June 25 marks a near-complete reversal of Sanchez's fortune. The turn of events start-

ed when a Superior Court-Newark grand jury, on June 12, handed down a "no bill of indictment" against Sanchez for second-degree endangering the welfare of a child.

The suspended CHS principal, between March 8 and June 11, had been facing a count of second-degree felony endangering the welfare of a minor.

ECPO attorneys, after receiving an internal South Orange Maplewood School District Board of Education investigative document draft, issued an arrest warrant on Sanchez March 8; he surrendered himself to county prosecutors March 11.

Sanchez, who came aboard (Continued on page 15)

TOWN WATCH

(Continued from page 14)

the two-town high school in June 2020, is accused of pushing a female sophomore against a CHS hallway wall on March 9, 2023. The girl, her parents and attorneys from the SOMA Black Parents Workshop claim that Sanchez used excessive force. "Friends of Frank" and other supporters assert that the principal was trying to break up an altercation.

Sanchez, without prior announcement but receiving sustained applause, gave out diplomas to the graduating CHS Class of 2024 at West Orange's Codey Arena June 19. He had also appeared at South Orange and Maplewood's respective middle school ceremonies around that time.

BLOOMFIELD - A Montclair man, for the second time in six months, was arrested for a theft-related charge - but this time by Bloomfield Police officers here June 10.

Officers on patrol were called to the North Center CVS Pharmacy by the store manager that Monday. The manager told them that a man had put bottles of body wash and deodorant items in a bag and had left 331 Broad St. without paying for them. The overall value of the stolen goods was \$257.

Officers found Brandon Satterwaite, 36, of Montclair "nearby" and arrested him. The BPD blotter did not say how they found and identified him. He was processed in and released from the Ralph A. Colasanti Law Enforcement Building with a court date.

June 10 was apparently not the first time Satterwaite has had a scrape with the local law. The Jan. 9 blotter told of him being arrested for stealing items from two residences that Tuesday in part because he had an outstanding arrest warrant for a prior theft there.

SOPD, Jan. 9 processed Satterwaite before remanding the then-35-year-old to Newark's Essex County Correctional Facility.

MONTCLAIR - Township police detectives are looking for the person or persons who stole a pride flag that was placed in a central township location June 14.

The rainbow flag was raised June 7 by township officials from the Hinck Building at 470 Bloomfield Ave. that Friday. It took its place below the U.S, Ukrainian and Israeli flags as part of Montclair's month of LGBTQIA+ celebrations.

The Hinck Building takes up the

Bloomfield Avenue and Church Street point of Montclair's Central Business District's Five Points. North and South Fullerton avenues cross Bloomfield Avenue to make the intersection's other points.

It did not take long for passers-by on June 14 to notice that the pole's latest flag was missing. Police and Pride Month organizers Out Montclair notified.

Out Montclair held an extra rally and flag raising at the Hinck Building 5:30 p.m. June 24. MPD detectives are treating the theft as a bias crime.

BELLEVILLE - Township police said that an Elizabeth man, who was driving on a suspended license, struck and critically injured a 78 year old pedestrian here June 10.

The BPD dispatcher was told at 3:14 p.m. that Monday of a pedestrian being struck at the intersection of Union Avenue and Mill Street.

Responding officers found the 78-year-old woman in the crosswalk with a head injury. Police immediately called for EMS and the police's traffic bureau. The victim was rushed to University Hospital and was admitted in critical condition.

Several officers meanwhile interviewed the driver of the 2014 Ford E35 box truck who had stayed at the scene. Traffic bureau officers had determined that the driver - Luis Alberto Talavera Lira, of Elizabeth - was going south with the 16-foot-long, 18-ton truck on Union Avenue while the victim was in the crosswalk. They also discovered that Talavera Lira was driving with a license that was suspended by the MVC.

Talavera Lira has been charged with causing bodily injury and driving with a suspended license.

This accident was near the site where another 78-year-old woman, Teresita Cenit was fatally injured in a similar incident May 24. Cenit, who was struck on Union Avenue's 100 block, died of her injuries 90 minutes later. The driver, who stayed at the scene, was not charged.


NUTLEY - The Nutley Public Schools Board of Education, at their June 17 meeting, have brought back a familiar face as its latest School Business Administrator. The district's board and administration has now-SBA Michael DeVita to start work Aug. 19.

DeVita had been in the NPS administration building before, first as a staff accountant and later as Assistant BA. He then left for the Kearny and Cedar Grove districts as part of his over 20 years' experience.

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rience.

DeVita succeeds David DiPisa, who was put on administrative leave by the board June 7 over his handling of the 2023-24 school budget. State Monitor Jeaneyte Makus had found that DiPisa had shifted money from the maintenance reserve and capital funds in an attempt to plug an \$11 million shortfall in 2022-23. 1. The board did not renew DiPisa's contract.

The board had meanwhile passed a revised 2024-25 budget which included a \$7 million loan from the state Department of Education to cover 2023-24's shortfall. That budget, however, came with laying off a history teacher-coach, a mental health counselor and eight subject coordinators.

Makus is continuing her investigation and has veto power over NPS budgets and major purchases for the near future.

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