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VOLUME 24 • ISSUE 40 * AUGUST 8, 2024 - AUGUST 14, 2024

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OFFICIAL NEWSPAPER

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CAMPAIGNS BEGIN FOR NOVEMBER SCHOOL BOARD ELECTIONS

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AMERICANS DETAINED IN RUSSIA RETURN HOME



President Biden (center) stands with the returning Americans and their families. Photo Courtesy White House

A UN independent human rights expert has welcomed the landmark prisoner swap on Aug. 1 involving the United States, Russia and five other countries.

More than 20 people were released, including journalists, human rights defenders and dissidents.

Among them were American Evan Gershkovich, a reporter with the Wall Street Journal; fellow American Paul Whelan, Alsu Kurmasheva a Radio Liberty journalist who holds U.S. citizenship, and recent Pulitzer Prize winner Vladimir Kara-Murza, a Russian-British activist and journalist, who were all freed from Russian prisons.

The UN Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in the Russian Federation, Mariana Katarova, has repeatedly advocated for their re-

lease.

“I can’t even believe it,” she said in an exclusive interview with UN News.

“In the dark times in which we live, when every day in Russia there are new detentions, new trials, and the news reports every day about shocking human rights violations, suddenly there is such good news.”

Ms. Katarova reported that many people in Russia - human rights defenders, members of civil society - were “just crying with joy” that day.

“This is really an unprecedented diplomatic act. And this may be the largest group of political prisoners exchanged since the Cold War,” she said.

“Of course, today we are glad that, in the end, people who should
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HARRIS NAMES WALZ AS VP RUNNING MATE

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NEW DEVELOPMENTS IN SEXUAL HARASSMENT CASE AGAINST SETON HALL



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JUSTICE DEPARTMENT SUES TIKTOK & BYTEDANCE

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Editorial
Dhiren Shah
 Editor-In-Chief

Hello Readers,

Vice President Kamala Harris is the official Democratic Party nominee for President of the United States of America. She is the first Asian, Jamaican and Black heritage woman to gain the Party's nomination for the highest post in the U.S.

On August 6, she announced her VP pick - Minnesota Governor Tim Walz. He is a teacher, a National Guardsman, and football coach. The Minnesota population is very close, about 49% Republicans and 51% Democrats. Harris's pick of Walz got great praises from the Democrats. On the flip side, Republicans have stated that it is a bad pick, calling his progressive policies radical.

In reference to Harris' pick,

Local 108 President Charles N. Hall, Jr. said that it's a great day for all people. Local 108 has already supported Kamala Harris and Tim Walz's team for the President and Vice President of the United States. Harris is getting some momentum, especially with money. Her campaign raised \$310 million dollars in July 2024. Her campaign has set up about 170,000 volunteers within two weeks. As you know, Democrats are very good in organizing the community to spread out their messages.

The democrats are weaker in managing and helping the community in my opinion. In most of the cities, they are helping developers build large multi-unit buildings and give them the benefit of tax abatements. Everyone living in the city supports local politicians, but end up paying 100% of any tax when those new builders pay only 10, 11 or 15% tax under a PILOT (Pay in lieu of taxes) program. PILOT money goes to a nonprofit organization, which is usually controlled by the mayor of the city and with

the approval of the council, the mayor spends money on some programs. Large development is good to fill empty lots.

Also, the federal government is helping the cities with large sums of money, but the residents end up paying more taxes. Look at Newark and its surrounding cities. More and more buildings are going up. Sure, the city looks good with the new buildings coming up, but the prices of rent, gas, parking, groceries and day to day living necessities are going up. As I've heard, many residents go to another town or city to shop, as locally the prices are higher.

According to CNN: "Google has violated US antitrust law with its search business. A federal judge ruled Monday, handing the tech giant a staggering court defeat with the potential to reshape how millions of Americans get information online and to upend decades of dominance... After having carefully considered and weighed the witness testimony and evidence, the court reaches the following conclusion:

'Google is a monopolist, and it has acted as one to maintain its monopoly,' U.S. District Judge Amit Mehta wrote in Monday's opinion. 'It has violated Section 2 of the Sherman Act.'

"Now, said Mehta, that powerful position has led to anticompetitive behavior that must be stopped. Mehta's 277-page opinion follows a lengthy, multiweek trial last year that saw high-ranking executives from Google, as well as rivals and partners including Apple, Microsoft and others, testify in person. Much of the complex proceeding took place behind closed doors, reflecting the sensitive business information involved in the deals that powered Google's search dominance."

Per AOL News: "The Supreme Court on Monday declined to intervene in a long-shot lawsuit brought by Missouri attempting to block legal proceedings in former President Donald Trump's hush money case in New York. The court rejected Missouri's bid to sue the state of

(Continued on page 11)

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DEBBY TROPICAL RAIN EXPECTED

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

Understanding Visual Disturbances as an Early Sign in Alzheimer's Patients

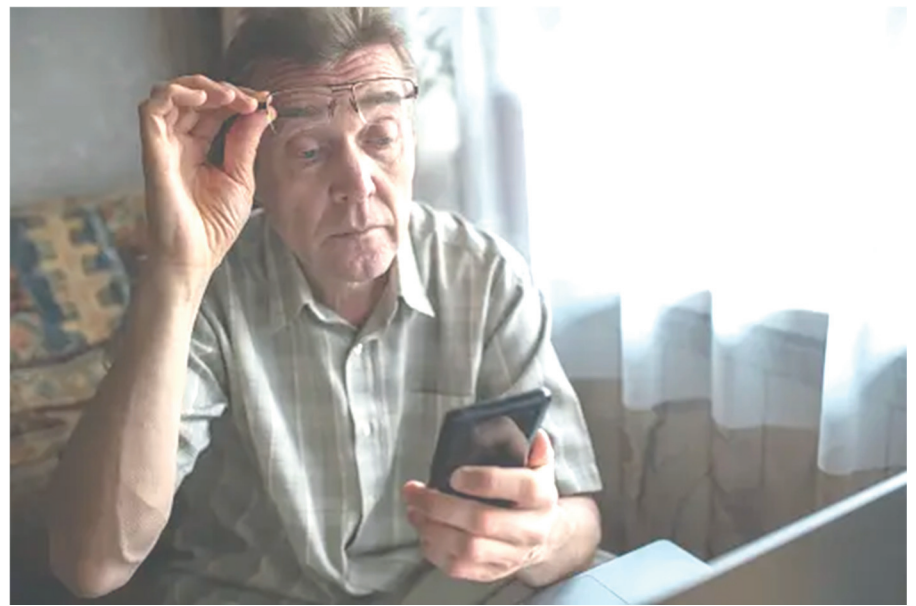
Our memory fails us from time to time - like forgetting the password of a Facebook account we created some time back, the name of an old classmate, what we read some days before when taking an exam, or even where we dropped our car keys. It can be a

really frustrating experience, I know, but it is normal. We are not robots. No, our brains are wired much more complexly than robots. So, cut yourself some slack.

What is not normal, though, is memory loss that now interferes with a person's ability to live a normal life. For instance, someone forgetting the road back to their home, their phone password, and even more scary, their children's faces. At that point, we medical practitioners start suspecting something else, something significantly worse - dementia.

Many have heard the term before, but not nearly as many understand what it means. Dementia is a general term for a group of diseases that affect memory, language, problem-solving abilities, thinking, and reasoning. Several symptoms characterize a dementia patient, with the most common being forgetfulness and impaired social skills.

As I mentioned, dementia is a group of diseases, and Alzheimer's disease is the most com-



mon form of dementia, accounting for up to 80% of dementia cases. While dementia is a general term, Alzheimer's refers to a specific brain disease that causes progressive memory loss and cognitive decline.

Unfortunately, there is no cure for dementia or Alzheimer's. They are neurodegenerative conditions, and they will worsen over time, we know that for a fact. But there are lots of things we do not know about dementia and Alzheimer's, making it all the more unlikely that there is a cure for these conditions on the horizon. I don't want to be the bearer of bad news, but many experts believe there will never even be a cure for these conditions.

Despite all these discouraging revelations, all hope is not lost. If these conditions are detected early, there are treatment plans that can slow down their progression. The key word here is "early." Many times, treatment plans for dementia fail spectacularly because the condition has progressed to a critical level. Therefore, it comes as no surprise at all that there is as much research interest in techniques for diagnosing dementia early as there is in actually treating it.

While clinicians depend on biochemical tests and imaging to reach an accurate diagnosis, severe memory loss above the age of 65 is often linked to dementia. According to studies, around 70% of people exhibiting failing memory go on to develop dementia. So, seven in ten times when an older adult starts showing abnormal memory loss, you

can expect them to have dementia. 70% is far from definitive, though, but 94% is much closer. Yes, there is a sign that is an even better predictor of Alzheimer's and dementia, and it is a condition called progressive cortical atrophy (PCA).

This condition (PCA) is actually rare, occurring in about 5 to 15% of people with Alzheimer's disease. However, if it does occur, there is a 94% chance the individual will have Alzheimer's, per a UCSF study. The remaining 6% develop other forms of dementia. So, in theory, there is about a 100% chance that PCA will lead to dementia. Talk about convincing.

Progressive cortical atrophy is a degenerative condition that affects vision. It occurs due to a degeneration of the posterior cortex (that is, the outer layer of the back brain). While Alzheimer's typically occurs above 65, PCA commonly occurs about five to ten years earlier. In the UCSF study, which analyzed over 1000 patients across 16 countries, the average age for PCA to emerge was 59.

Since the posterior cortex of the brain is an area responsible for processing information, symptoms of PCA revolve around poor processing of visual information. They include increased difficulty in reading a line of text, judging distances, perceiving multiple objects, distinguishing between moving and stationary objects, and identifying common objects. There may even be other mental symptoms like anxiety, hallucinations, and

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SPORTS WRAP



Photos By Felicia Laguerre Owens



By William Hathaway, Jr.

The Gotham FC has been having a good season this year in the National Women's Soccer League. This past Friday, Gotham FC hosted a game in the NWSL x LIGA Mx Femenil Summer Cup at Red Bull Stadium. In the quarterfinal match, FC shut out a tough Chivas de

Gotham FC had 12 shots on goal compared to just 5 for Chivas, all of which were stopped by goalkeeper Michelle Betos. As of this writing, FC owns Group D of the Summer Cup.

Over in France, the 2024 Paris Olympics continue. While other events are still going on, some events have concluded.



Guadalajara Femenil team 3-0.

After a brief storm delayed the game for a bid, a fairly decent crowd attended this game and saw midfielder Katie Stengal and Ella Stevens put on a show. In the 31st minute, Stevens assisted Stengal on a nice cross for the first goal to make the score 1-0.

In the 63rd minute, Stengal returned the favor and assisted Stevens on a goal for a 2-0 advantage. Eight minutes later, Stevens assisted Stengal on the final goal for the 3-0 lead.

Among them are the gymnastics competitions, with Simone Biles, Suni Lee, Jordan Chiles, and the team as a whole leaving with hardware. Biles now owns 7 Gold Medals and 10 overall, while Suni Lee and Chiles scored bronze, and the team won Gold in the team competition.

In swimming, Katie Ledecky added some more Gold to her legacy, and the U.S. women took Gold in the 4x100 meter relay, setting a record at 3:49.63. However, the U.S. men

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UNITED STATES



JUSTICE DEPT. SUES TIKTOK & BYTEDANCE

The Justice Department, together with the Federal Trade Commission (FTC), has filed a civil lawsuit in the U.S. District Court for the Central District of California against TikTok Inc., ByteDance Ltd., and their affiliates (together, TikTok) for violations of the Children’s Online Privacy Protection Act and its implementing regulations (COPPA) in connection with the popular TikTok app.

COPPA prohibits website operators from knowingly collecting, using, or disclosing personal information from children under the age of 13, unless they provide notice to and obtain consent from those children’s parents. It also requires website operators to delete personal information collected from children at their parents’ request. In 2019, the government sued TikTok’s predecessor, Musical.ly, for COPPA violations, and since then the defendants have been subject to a court order requiring them to undertake measures to comply with COPPA.

According to the complaint, from 2019 to the present, TikTok knowingly permitted children to create regular TikTok accounts and to create, view, and share short-form videos and messages with adults and others on the regular TikTok platform. The defendants collected and retained a wide variety of per-

sonal information from these children without notifying or obtaining consent from their parents. Even for accounts that were created in “Kids Mode” (a pared-back version of TikTok intended for children under 13), the defendants unlawfully collected and retained children’s email addresses and other types of personal information.

Further, when parents discovered their children’s accounts and asked the defendants to delete the accounts and information in them, the defendants frequently failed to honor those requests. The defendants also had deficient and ineffectual internal policies and processes for identifying and deleting TikTok accounts created by children.

The defendants engaged in the above-described conduct despite being subject to a court order barring them from violating COPPA and imposing measures designed to ensure their compliance. TikTok is one of the most popular social media platforms in the world. The defendants’ COPPA violations have resulted in millions of children under 13 using the regular TikTok app, subjecting them to extensive data collection and allowing them to interact with adult users and access adult content. The complaint seeks civil penalties and injunctive relief.

“The Department is deeply concerned that TikTok has continued to collect and retain children’s personal information despite a court order barring such conduct,” said Acting Associate Attorney General Benjamin C. Mizer. “With this action, the Department seeks to ensure that TikTok honors its obligation to protect children’s privacy rights and parents’ efforts to protect their children.”

“The Justice Department is committed to upholding parents’ ability to protect their children’s privacy,” said Principal Deputy Assistant Attorney General Brian M. Boynton, head of the Justice Department’s Civil Division. “This action is necessary to prevent the defendants, who are repeat offenders and operate on a massive scale, from collecting

and using young children’s private information without any parental consent or control.”

“TikTok knowingly and repeatedly violated kids’ privacy, threatening the safety of millions of children across the country,” said FTC Chair Lina M. Khan. “The FTC will continue to use the full scope of its authorities to protect children online - especially as firms deploy increasingly sophisticated digital tools to surveil kids and profit from their data.”

The United States is represented in this action by Assistant Directors Rachael L. Doud and Zachary A. Dietert, and Trial Attorneys Ben Cornfeld and Marcus P. Smith, of the Civil Division’s Consumer Protection Branch. Jonathan W. Ware, Iris Micklavzina, Sarah Choi, and Michael Sherling represent the FTC.

For more information about the Consumer Protection Branch and its enforcement efforts, visit www.justice.gov/civil/consumer-protection-branch.

The claims made in a complaint are allegations that, if the case were to proceed to trial, the government must prove by a preponderance of the evidence. Certain allegations in the complaint linked to below are redacted due to defendants’ request that the government file these allegations under seal while the Court considers defendants’ intended motion to seal. The court’s ruling on defendants’ motion will determine whether and to what extent these allegations in the complaint become public.

MASS SHOOTING UPDATE

Information recent as of 8-6-2024 at 12 p.m.

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

- Total Mass Shootings: 384
- Total Dead: 473
- Total Wounded: 1602
- Shootings Per Day: 1.75
- Days Reached in Year 2024 as of August 6: 219

GOOGLE LOSES ANTITRUST CASE

The Justice Department issued the following statements from Attorney General Merrick B. Garland and Assistant Attorney General Jonathan Kanter of the Justice Department’s Antitrust Division, regarding the U.S. District Court for the District of Columbia’s decision in *United States v. Google*:

“This victory against Google is an historic win for the American people,” said Attorney General Garland. “No company - no matter how large or influential - is above the law. The Justice Department will continue to vigorously enforce our antitrust laws.”

“This landmark decision holds Google accountable. It paves the path for innovation for generations to come and protects access to information for all Americans,” said Assistant Attorney General Kanter. “This victory is a reflection on the tireless efforts of the dedicated public servants at the Antitrust Division and our state law enforcement partners whose work made today’s decision possible.”

MIDDLE EAST



REGION ON BRINK OF ALL OUT WAR

The top UN envoy in the Middle East called on Aug. 2 for urgent action to address the “growing risk” of regional escalation following recent deadly attacks in Lebanon, the Syrian Golan Heights and Iran linked to the war in Gaza.

Tor Wennesland, UN Special Coordinator for the Middle East Peace Process, issued a statement saying he has engaged in “critical discussions with the relevant parties and Member States in the region, including Lebanon, Egypt and Qatar, in support of regional de-escalation.”

“I underscored the urgency of addressing the growing risk of a serious escalation, which poses

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NEW DEVELOPMENTS IN SEXUAL HARASSMENT CASE AGAINST SETON HALL

Law Firm hired by SHU finds no evidence of sexual harassment by ex-Board of Regents chair

By Lev D. Zilbermints

SOUTH ORANGE - A law firm hired by Seton Hall University to investigate former SHU President's claims of sexual harassment against his wife found no evidence to support the claim. The new twist makes the case even stranger than a Nancy Drew mystery.

"Local Talk" did diligent research on this story. Sources include "Local Talk" archives, court papers, and reports from other news sources. As per standard journalism practice, credit is given to each source for their information.

According to the New York Times article of July 11, 2024, as reported by Christopher Maag, Seton Hall University "hired a legal firm, Perry Law, in New York to examine the claims, made by the former president, Joseph Nyre, in a lawsuit that he and his wife, Kelli Nyre, filed in February. In the suit, Mr. Nyre also said that the former board chairman, Kevin Marino, had engaged in a campaign of intimidation against him."

"Local Talk" reported on the Nyres' lawsuit in its February 15, 22, 29 and March 7, 2024 issues. Parts of previous articles will be used as sources for the current one.

According to Maag, "After taking statements from more than a dozen university leaders, "not a single witness corroborates the alleged instances of harassment," the investigators wrote in their report.

According to the New York Times, Armen McOmber, a lawyer for Mr. Nyre, responded that the Perry firm had acted "hand in glove" with the university "to threaten and disparage" Mr. Nyre and Ms. Nyre.

"The investigation report is an obvious sham," Mr. McOmber said in an email.

According to the New York Times, Laurie A. Pine, a spokeswoman for the university, said in an email that the university was "satisfied with the diligence of the investigation and its conclusions."

As reported by the New York Times in its July 11, 2024 edition, "The investigation was led by Karen Friedman Agnifilo, a former assistant Manhattan district attorney and deputy chief of the office's sex crime unit. Investigators said they found evidence that Mr. Nyre had encouraged a former chief financial officer at the university to make a false claim of harassment against Mr. Marino.

Christopher Porrino, a lawyer for Mr. Marino, said in an email, "We will take the steps necessary to hold the Nyres personally accountable for their actions."

NJ Advance Media for nj.com reported in its July 12 updated online edition that the "report added that it was "highly unlikely that the events occurred" as had been alleged by Nyre, who also charged in a lawsuit earlier this year that he had been the victim of retaliation, misconduct and "gaslighting" by the university in what turned into a bitter feud with former Board of Regents chairman Kevin Marino. The fight ultimately led to a separation agreement and Nyre's departure from the private Catholic university in South Orange."

As reported by nj.com, "Nyre's attorney, R. Armen McOmber of McOmber McOmber & Luber, called the investigation report "an obvious sham" that "contains misrepresentations and completely inaccurate findings, and failed to even interview the right witnesses."

As reported by nj.com, McOmber said Seton Hall had publicly and unambiguously declared the claims to be "frivolous" and "completely without merit," months before finalizing the investigation report.

"The conclusions of the investigation, which began the same day that the Nyres filed their complaint, were a foregone conclusion and were predetermined before the investigation even began," he said. "The investigation report false-

ly represents the Nyres refused to participate in the alleged investigation despite the university's repeated attempts to contact them. In reality, investigators were urged by the Nyres' counsel to interview them regarding Mrs. Nyre's complaints of sexual harassment throughout December 2023. The university refused and only commenced its investigation after the legal complaint had been filed and after the university had already declared what the findings would be."

More than ever, said McOmber, "my clients look forward to their day in court."

Joseph Nyre is seeking back pay, being restored to his position as president, and benefits.

According to data compiled by the Chronicle of Higher Education, Joseph Nyre was New Jersey's highest - paid president, with salary and benefits totaling \$1.27 million.

Unanswered Questions

The whole story with Joseph Nyre, Kelli L. Nyre, Kevin Marino, the Board of Regents, and others reads like something out of a mystery novel. There are many unanswered questions that need to be brought to the light of day.

First, who is telling the truth and who is lying? Investigators seem to have found evidence

(Continued on page 12)

DETAINEES RETURN HOME

(Continued from page 1)

not have been convicted in the first place were released, such as Vladimir Kara-Murza, Evan Gershkovich, Alsu Kurmasheva, Oleg Orlov, Sasha Skochilenko, members of the Anti-Corruption Foundation, Lilia Chanisheva and Ksenia Fadeeva, and others."

But while rejoicing, the rights expert urged the international community not to forget the political prisoners who remain behind bars, who number at least 700, though some estimates put the figure at more than 1,000.

"Today, we must once again call for their immediate and unconditional release from prisons

in Russia," she said.

"They shouldn't be there. They are there on charges for expressing their position against the war against Ukraine."

She estimated that at least 33 journalists are in jail "precisely because they have written reports and materials" against the Russian invasion of Ukraine.

Upon making the deal to bring the detainees home, U.S. President Biden gave remarks.

"Today (Aug. 1), three American citizens and one American green-card holder who were unjustly imprisoned in Russia are finally coming home: Paul Whelan, Evan Gershkovich, Alsu Kurmasheva, and Vladimir Kara-Murza.

"The deal that secured their freedom was a feat of diplomacy. All told, we've negotiated

the release of 16 people from Russia - including five Germans and seven Russian citizens who were political prisoners in their own country. Some of these women and men have been unjustly held for years. All have endured unimaginable suffering and uncertainty. Today, their agony is over.

"I am grateful to our Allies who stood with us throughout tough, complex negotiations to achieve this outcome - including Germany, Poland, Slovenia, Norway, and Turkey. This is a powerful example of why it's vital to have friends in this world whom you can trust and depend upon. Our alliances make Americans safer.

"And let me be clear: I will not stop working until every American wrongfully detained

or held hostage around the world is reunited with their family. My Administration has now brought home over 70 such Americans, many of whom were in captivity since before I took office. Still, too many families are suffering and separated from their loved ones, and I have no higher priority as President than bringing those Americans home.

"Today, we celebrate the return of Paul, Evan, Alsu, and Vladimir and rejoice with their families. We remember all those still wrongfully detained or held hostage around the world. And reaffirm our pledge to their families: We see you. We are with you. And we will never stop working to bring your loved ones home where they belong."



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REGISTRATION UNDERWAY FOR FALL 2024 SEMESTER AT ESSEX COUNTY COLLEGE'S TWO CAMPUSES

Registration for the Fall I 2024 Semester at both of Essex County College's campuses is underway. The College's Fall I Semester starts Tuesday, September 3, 2024. Registration is open through August 30 with late registration until September 10.

Fall I classes run through December 21, 2024. Weekend College classes will be held from September 6 to December 21. Fall II classes are scheduled from October 7 to December 21.

Classes will be held at both the Newark campus and the West Essex campus in West Caldwell.

"At Essex County College, we provide Access to Success," said ECC President Dr. Augustine A. Boakye.

"We are confident that you will find courses that will fit your schedule at either of our two great campuses. Our goal is to ensure you have all the options and support you need for your educational pursuits," said Dr. Alvin Williams, Executive Dean of Faculty and Academics.

For more information please click on this link: <https://www.essex.edu/registration/>. Additional registration information is available through the College's Welcome Center at 973-877-4477 or the West Essex campus at 973-877-6594.

"Essex County College offers more than 50 Associate degree programs and Academic Certificates in a wide range of disciplines. Essex graduates transfer as juniors to many New Jersey colleges and universities, as well as top schools around the country. Register early to get the classes you want," stated Dr. Williams.

"Our College has been offering high quality and affordable educational opportunities for over 55 years. Our many support services help students stay on track to graduate and realize their dreams. We also offer Workforce Development programs," added Dr. Boakye.

ESSEX COUNTY COLLEGE'S SCHOLARSHIP GOLF TOURNAMENT COMING OCTOBER 17

Essex County College and the Essex County College Foundation will co-sponsor its 24th annual Golf Scholarship Tournament on Thursday, October 17, 2024 at the Maplewood Country Club in Maplewood. The tournament is a key scholarship fundraiser, and features round robin play in golf.

"The money raised at the tournament will help our most deserving students earn a valuable college education and take the next step forward to achieving their dreams. That has been our mission at Essex County College for over 55 years," stated ECC President Dr. Augustine A. Boakye.

The tournament presents an excellent opportunity for companies to use the event as a vehicle for community building while supporting a good cause. It's also fun for individuals who enjoy playing a round of golf.

The day's activities begin with a brunch at 10:30 a.m. and extend through the day, culminating with a reception and awards

dinner at the club. A highlight of the evening is the heartfelt testimonies of former Essex students who were able to attend college in part because they were scholarship beneficiaries.

Now is the time for players and sponsors to sign up for this popular event. Individuals can sign up to golf for \$275 per person. There are also a number of prize incentives, such as longest drive, offered at the tournament. Donations of all sizes will also assist students. Checks should be made payable to the Essex County College Scholarship Fund.

For more information on the scholarship tournament go to <http://www.essex.edu/golftennis/>. The Maplewood Country Club is at 28 Baker Street in Maplewood, NJ.

Tournament information is also available by contacting Dr. Leigh Bello at bello@essex.edu or Dr. Keith Kirkland at kirkland@essex.edu



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 - It is hard to tell whether who wanted to honor Peter Francisco in his namesake park and/or the Portuguese American Veterans Memorial had actually done so here on July 4.

The triangular park east of Newark Penn Station has been surrounded by an eight-foot-tall iron fence since June 5 - right before the annual Portugal Day festival. Anyone who wants to use the park will have to get a permit from Newark City Parks. The permit includes a \$500 per-event fee.

"The park is open to anyone who wants to do a farmers market or a flea market," said East Ward Councilman Michael Silva. "We want the homeless situation addressed - but Peter Francisco Park isn't the place."

The park's fencing off may be the final move in city officials' dispersing the poor, needy and/or homeless people there which goes back several years into Augusto Amador's council tenure.

Amador had pushed for mobile homeless food services getting food safety lessons and permits, fencing off nearby Mother Cabrini Park and having more police patrols around there.

It is a chicken-and-egg situation - which appeared first - the homeless waiting for the charity services or the said services attracting local homeless. Many of those services have moved to other blocks as far away as Lin-

coln Park.

Making "quality of life improvements" in this part of The Ironbound have gained momentum thanks to zoning changes. An inclusionary zone is allowing taller and denser apartment buildings.

Peter Francisco came from Portugal to join the patriots' side of the American Revolution.

Newark Woman Convicted of Gun Possession

Essex County Prosecutor Theodore N. Stephens, II has announced that Talisha Arrington, age 34, of Newark has been found guilty of second-degree unlawful possession of a handgun and fourth-degree tampering with evidence after a jury trial before the Honorable Angela Foster, J.S.C. sitting in Newark.

The charges resulted from an incident that occurred on July 15, 2020, at a White Castle restaurant on Elizabeth Avenue in Newark. Arrington was detained after that incident and was placed in a holding cell at the Newark Police headquarters on Clinton Avenue. Once in the holding cell, Arrington removed a handgun, which was concealed on her person and attempted to hide it in the holding cell. Newark officials recovered the handgun and Arrington was charged accordingly.

The jury returned the guilty verdict after deliberating for approximately seven hours. The case was tried by Assistant Prosecutors Andreas A. Diakos and Shelby Day of the Prosecutor's Adult Trial Section.

Assistant Prosecutor Diakos stated: "The Defendant's conviction reflects our Office's commitment to ensuring that those who unlawfully possess firearms and attempt to obstruct justice are held accountable. The Defendant's calculated efforts to conceal the weapon and tamper with evidence did not go unnoticed by the jury, who saw through her actions and delivered a just verdict. Our community is safer as a result."

Assistant Prosecutor Day added: "This case was a true team effort, and I'm proud of the dedication and hard work from everyone involved. Together, we

pursued justice and secured a fair outcome."

Arrington faces up to ten years in state prison when sentenced by Judge Foster on September 30, 2024. Arrington was represented by Christiane N. Cannon, Esquire and Emma Shirey, Esquire of Newark.

EAST ORANGE - The family of rapper Chino XL also known as former city resident Derek Keith Barbosa, have not disclosed his funeral services as of press time.

The family said XL/Barbosa, 50, had died at his latest home, "surrounded by family," Aug. 1. His cause of death has not been disclosed.

The Bronx-born Barbosa was raised in East Orange and as a preteen started "The Art of Origin" with DJ Kerri Chandler. The group soon gravitated to the New York City rap scene. XL, at 16, was signed to an album contract by American Recordings' Rick Rubin.

XL's first album, "Here to Save You All," included hit tracks "No Complex," "Kreep" and "Riiiot!" A Riiiot! lyric is said to have ignited a feud with Tupac Shakur. His follow-up albums were 2001's "I Told You So," 2006's "Poison Pen" and 2012's "Ricanstruction: The Black Rosary." He and Rakim had recorded "Pendulum Swing" the week before his death.

Mother Carole, longtime partner Stephanie, children Chynna, Bella, Lyric and Kiyana; stepson Shawn and five grandchildren are among his survivors.

ORANGE - Orange High School scholar-athlete-turned basketball coach Cleo Hill, Jr. has landed the University of Maryland Eastern Shore men's basketball head coach job June 1 - and his namesake father must be smiling from above.

The younger Hill, 57, was a scholar-athlete here at Orange High School 1980-84. Three of those years was while an Orange Tornado, becoming the third student to score 1,000 points and, in his junior year, helped OHS win the state championship.

Hill continued as scholar-athlete with the North Central

Colina Eagles before returning to OHS as an assistant coach 1991-94. His coaching resume, before UoM Eastern Shore, included Elizabeth High School, University of Nebraska, Shaw University, Univ. of Pennsylvania-Cheney and the Winston-Salem State University Rams in NCAA Division I and II play.

Hill, Sr., (1938-2015) came from Newark but lived in Orange in later life. The Southside Malcolm X. Shabazz High School Class of 1957 Bulldog guard was a Winston-Salem Hawk guard 1957-61 before embarking on a professional career that included the ABA St. Louis Hawks and the CNAS then-Trenton Colonials. That he did not make the NBA is a matter of controversy.

Essex County College, before the COVID pandemic, named their Newark Main Campus arena in his name.

WEST ORANGE - The Manor, which has been closed and dormant since July 5, 2023, may be getting new life from a different banquet hall owner.

The Manor's new owners had requested - and received - transferring its 67-year-old liquor license to them before the July 23 Township Council meeting.

Robert C. Williams, Esq. said that Frank Pombo and his family want to reopen The Manor as The Grand Chateau - after renovations and repairs.

The Pombos had been owning and operating The Grand, now the Bethwood, at Totowa since 1965. They also own and operate The Royal Manor in Garfield.

The family-owned Manor cited COVID and "unforeseen circumstances" for closing the Pleasantville facility.

SOUTH ORANGE / MAPLEWOOD - Village Council, as of July 29, will ask for its registered voters to have a say on whether to sell the South Orange Water Department to New Jersey American Water. as a Nov. 5 ballot question.

The council, on a 4-2 vote in that Monday' night's virtual meeting, will draft the public question before sending it to Es-

(Continued on page 15)

HARRIS NAMES WALZ AS VP RUNNING MATE

After a whirlwind month in American politics, the two teams for the biggest jobs in the land have been set.

On August 6, Democratic Presidential nominee and current Vice President Kamala Harris announced that she had chosen Minnesota Governor Tim Walz as her running mate in the November Presidential Election. This came one day after she officially won the Primary, without ever actually running during Primary Election season.

Timothy James Walz is in his second term as Minnesota's 41st chief executive, first elected in 2018 and re-elected in 2022. Born in Nebraska, he enlisted in the Army National Guard after high school graduation, and would get a social science degree at Chadron State College in 1989.

After spending a year teach-

ing abroad, he came home and became a high school teacher and football coach. While teaching, he met his future wife, Gwen Whipple, who taught at the same school.

Walz retired after 24 years in the Army National Guard with the rank of Command Sergeant Major from the 1-125th Field Artillery Battalion in 2005. He then transitioned to the world of politics, and was elected to the U.S. House of Representatives in 2006 and was re-elected to another five terms, serving Minnesota's First Congressional District in Southern Minnesota.

"I am proud to announce that I've asked @Tim_Walz to be my running mate. As a governor, a coach, a teacher, and a veteran, he's delivered for working families like his. It's great to have him on the team," Harris posted on X (fka Twitter)

Walz also chimed in on the same platform, posting, "It is the honor of a lifetime to join @kamalaharris in this campaign. I'm all in. Vice President Harris is showing us the politics of what's possible. It reminds me a bit of the first day of school. So, let's get this done, folks! Join us."

On the other side is the GOP ticket, consisting of former President Donald Trump and his VP running mate J.D. Vance. Without missing a beat, the Trump campaign team responded.

"It's no surprise that San Francisco Liberal Kamala Harris wants West Coast wannabe Tim Walz as her running-mate - Walz has spent his governorship trying to reshape Minnesota in the image of the Golden State," Trump Campaign Press Secretary Karoline Leavitt said in a statement.

"While Walz pretends to

support Americans in the Heartland, when the cameras are off, he believes that rural America is 'mostly cows and rocks'. From proposing his own carbon-free agenda, to suggesting stricter emission standards for gas-powered cars, and embracing policies to allow convicted felons to vote, Walz is obsessed with spreading California's dangerously liberal agenda far and wide. If Walz won't tell voters the truth, we will: just like Kamala Harris, Tim Walz is a dangerously liberal extremist, and the Harris-Walz California dream is every American's nightmare."

The Democratic National Convention will take place on August 19-22, with Harris and Walz likely to be confirmed by a verbal acclamation vote. Meanwhile, the Presidential Election will come on November 5.

EAST ORANGE MAN SENTENCED FOR ROLE IN DRUG TRAFFICKING MURDERS

ESSEX - An Essex County man was sentenced to 440 months in prison for his role in three murders in furtherance of a large-scale narcotics enterprise, U.S. Attorney Philip R. Sellinger announced.

Leevander Wade, 44, of East Orange, pleaded guilty before U.S. District Judge Michael E. Farbiarz on Feb. 22, 2024, to racketeering conspiracy. Judge Farbiarz imposed the sentence on Aug. 1, 2024, in Newark federal court.

According to court documents and evidence presented in court: In February 2018, the drug enterprise's leader, Michael Healy, found out that one of his conspirators in the drug trafficking enterprise was providing information about the DTE to law enforcement. Healy ordered members of the Bloods in East Orange to kill the informant, referenced in the indictment as "A.S." At the time, Wade was a manager in the enterprise and ran a series of "stash" houses in Essex County used to package heroin and fentanyl for street-level distribution.

Wade - who shared a close relationship with one of the leaders of the East Orange Bloods - assisted Healy in contracting the

East Orange Bloods to carry out the murder of the informant. On Feb. 3, 2018, members of the East Orange Bloods, acting on Healy and Wade's behalf, shot and killed a bystander, believing the bystander was the informant. At the time of his death, the bystander was parked outside of the informant's residence in Bloomfield, in a vehicle that appeared similar to the one that the informant drove.

Realizing they killed the wrong person, Healy ordered the Bloods to finish the job. On March 12, 2018, in Bloomfield, the conspirators killed the informant while he was walking his dog in the area of his residence. On April 6, 2018, believing that another member of the enterprise - identified in the indictment as "J.C." - might also pose a risk to the enterprise, Healy shot and killed "J.C." in Newark. Wade drove Healy to and from the murder scene, and then helped to destroy evidence by hiring someone to burn the vehicle.

In addition to the prison term, Judge Farbiarz sentenced Wade to five years of supervised release and ordered to pay restitution of \$6,223.

Thomas Zimmerman, Tyquan Daniels, and Ali Hill - all members of the Brick City Brims subset of the Bloods street gang in East Orange - previously pleaded guilty to racketeering conspiracy for their respective roles in the murders of the bystander and A.S. Zimmerman was sentenced on July 6, 2023, to 37 years in prison; Daniels was sentenced on July 6, 2023, to 35 years in prison; and Hill was sentenced on July 6, 2023, to 25 years in prison.

On April 3, 2024, Healy was convicted after a jury trial of multiple counts of murder in aid of racketeering, racketeering conspiracy, and various gun and drug offenses. Healy is scheduled to be sentenced on Oct. 1, 2024. He faces multiple mandatory life sentences.

U.S. Attorney Sellinger credited special agents of the FBI, under the direction of special agent in charge James E. Dennehy in Newark; the Newark Police Department, under the direction of Public Safety Director Fritz G. Fragé; the Essex County Prosecutor's Office; the Union County Prosecutor's Office, the East Orange Police Department; and the Montclair Police Department.

The government is represented by Senior Trial Counsel Robert L. Frazer and Samantha C. Fasanello, Chief of the OCDEF Unit.

EDITORIAL (Cont. from page 2)

New York, meaning the justices will not lift the gag order or delay sentencing in the unusual claim brought by Missouri Attorney General Andrew Bailey, a Republican who is running for a full term this fall."

It seems like this case was brought by Andrew Bailey to boost his popularity to get elected for a full term. However, it is negative news for Trump.

Bangladesh Prime Minister Sheikh Hassina fled after a coup by the nation's students and people. Hassina is the daughter of Bangladesh founder Sheikh Mujibur Rahman. The military took the helm of the country and a recently appointed military leader said that soon he will appoint an interim government to help the people.

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

CAMPAIGNS BEGIN FOR NOVEMBER SCHOOL BOARD ELECTIONS

By Walter Elliott

ESSEX - Voters in nine "Local Talk" towns will be choosing from a field of 39 candidates on the General Election ballot to fill 24 board of education seats on or before Nov. 5.

The 39 candidates have had their signed petitions validated by Essex County Clerk Christopher Durkin's Election Division office here after making their 4 p.m. July 30 filing deadline. The field breaks down into 18 incumbents and 21 challengers for mostly three-year terms. (There is a special election in West Orange to fill a resigned board member's unexpired year.)

The school board election block is a non-partisan island in an otherwise politically partisan Nov. 5 ballot. Board candidates are not to identify themselves with any political party nor directly affiliate with a party's campaign machinery.

Many of the eight public school districts moved away in the last decade from the third Tuesday in April BOE election date to gain more voter participation. Newark and Irvington still hold April elections.

The East Orange School District is the last one in "Local Talk Land" to have its members appointed by the mayor.

Herewith as of press time are the candidates among the nine towns and eight public districts. (South Orange and Maplewood have a joint district.):

ORANGE - Two incumbents and a challenger are seeking voters' endorsement in filling three Orange Public Schools Board of Education seats that expire on Jan. 6. Incumbent member Derrick Henry has declined pursuing another three-year term.

David Kent Armstrong is running for re-election on his own "About Our Children" pennant.

Siaka Sherif, who won the first OBOE special election, is also seeking re-election. India Williams, on her "Equity Over Equality" banner, is making her second straight bid.

WEST ORANGE - Voters are to choose from two incumbents and two challengers to fill two board seats - plus an unopposed candidate to fill an unexpired term.

Dia Nicole Bryant, who had been appointed to succeed a resigned member, is seeking her first elective office victory at the polls. She is running under her own "For Our Kids" banner.

Attorney Jeffrey Litchman and community advocate Adam Karemer are running as independent challengers. Litchman is carrying his own "For The Children" slogan while Karemer had not filed a slogan as of July 30.

Current Board President Brian Rock and Board Member Eric Steveson are running together on their "West Orange Forward" flag.

SOUTH ORANGE / MAPLEWOOD - Two incumbents and five challengers across three tickets are vying for three South Orange-Maplewood School District board seats.

Current board president Qwai Telesford, board member Arun Vadlamani and newcomer Bethany Johnson are running together as the "Community, Collaboration, Stability" team. All three, including social worker Johnson, are South Orange villagers.

Challenger Paul Stephan wants to put "Empowering Students First" Stephan, a former teacher and USDOE Office of Civil Rights employee, is also a Maplewood Democratic Party district leader.

Former board member Jeff Bennett and newcomers Deidre Gleeson Brown and Bimal Kapadia aim to "Include, Achieve, Inspire." Bennett, who conducted a write-in campaign last year, is a Maplewood township resident. while Brown and Kapadia, COO of Meadowlark Media, are villagers.

BLOOMFIELD - Two slates - one for incumbents and one for challengers - are vying for the Bloomfield Board of Education's three seats.

Challengers Jessica A. Alvies, Joelle Bernhard and Matthew Brewster are "All for

(Continued on page 14)

SETON HALL (Cont. from page 8)

that Joseph Nyre was not being truthful. Then again, what about the claims that Kelli Nyre made? Was that all for show? Or did something actually happen? Are SHU leaders closing ranks in order to protect the school? Or are they telling the truth?

Second, what motive would the Nyres have for coming up with a fictitious story? Revenge? Exposing unfair practices? The problem here is that in the past, Seton Hall University had major scandals. In 2022, there was an embezzlement of at least \$975,000 by a small group of law school employees. In 2018, there was the failure to protect students from sexual harassment and rape on campus. In 2000, there was the infamous Boland fire that killed three students, injured 64, and caused multimillion-dollar lawsuits.

Third, as Mr. McOmber states, were all witnesses interviewed? Because if something was missed, then that puts the investigation under question. Still, the question begs to be asked, why were not the issues

of gaslighting or retaliation addressed in the report?

Fourth, according to the Perry report as stated by nj.com, "... approximately six weeks after the alleged kissing incident the Nyres and their children voluntarily went to Mr. Marino's vacation home in Martha's Vineyard and the two families spent the day together.

"The families swam, ate, and drank together and Mr. Marino recalled that he and Mrs. Nyre had a long conversation about a book they were both reading, and that she did not express or show any discomfort in his presence," the report noted.

So, what is going on here? If the Nyres and Marinos were bitter enemies, why would they go vacationing together? Was this an attempt to mend fences and bury the hatchet? That would be a plausible explanation, but who knows?

What the Perry Report says

According to nj.com, "Investigators said they spoke with the majority of those seated with the Nyres and the Marinos

at the first event, and several priests who attended the event, given Mrs. Nyre's recollection that a priest was standing beside her when the alleged harassment occurred.

"None of those individuals witnessed any harassing, inappropriate or even unusual contact between Mr. Marino and Mrs. Nyre. Everyone we spoke to unequivocally denied seeing Mr. Marino touch Mrs. Nyre's hair or kiss her neck, or hearing him say, 'You know I love you.'"

In fact, the Perry Law investigation cited a sworn certification alleging that Nyre pushed another woman "to make a false harassment allegation against Mr. Marino," who later made it clear "that she did not feel Mr. Marino sexually harassed her in any way."

According to previous coverage by "Local Talk" in February - March 2024, Joseph Nyre alleged that he was leaving because his concerns regarding the investigation into the financial scandal at the Seton Hall law school were not addressed. Nyre also alleged that Marino interfered with the law school inves-

tigation, tried to give then - Dean Boozang a million-dollar salary, admit unqualified students to the law school, and more.

Additionally, Joseph Nyre claimed that Marino sexually harassed his wife, Kelli L. Nyre, at two events. The first one was held in June 2021, when Kelli L. Nyre claimed Marino allegedly "placed his hand on her back preventing from moving, moved hair away from her neck with his other hand, kissed on the neck, and whispered into her ear, 'You know I love you.'"

According to "Local Talk" archives, court papers and nj.com, "The second (incident) cited a Board of Regents Christmas reception on December 6, 2022, when Kelli Nyre in court papers said that Marino allegedly "placed his hands on her shoulders and commented in a lascivious tone, 'Look at (Kelli Nyre) rocking the Loubees,' in an apparent reference to her Christian Louboutin shoes."

According to nj.com, "Despite the Nyres' account, the Perry report said not a single witness corroborated the alleged instances of harassment."

WORLD NEWS

(Continued from page 6)

a substantial threat to regional stability,” he said. “We examined the ongoing efforts to mediate and de-escalate the situation and explored ways to prevent a spillover of the conflict.”

The envoy “reaffirmed the necessity of urgent, coordinated action to prevent further deterioration of the situation.”

He stressed that it was crucial to “act decisively and collectively to address the immediate threats and lay the groundwork for a lasting peace.”

UN Under-Secretary-General for Peace Operations Jean-Pierre Lacroix visits the UN Interim Force in Lebanon (UNIFIL) headquarters.

In related developments, the head of UN Peace Operations, Jean-Pierre Lacroix, concluded a four-day visit to Lebanon - part of a wider mission to the Middle East - where he strongly stressed the need for de-escalation and a return to a cessation of hostilities.

In meetings with senior officials, the peacekeeping chief highlighted the risk of a wider conflagration and called for maximum restraint and a cessation of the ongoing intensified exchanges of fire across the Blue Line between Lebanon and Israel.

Mr. Lacroix also met with members of the diplomatic corps, as well as UN officials and peacekeepers serving with the UN Interim Force in Lebanon (UNIFIL).

During his visit to the UNIFIL Headquarters in Naqoura and its area of operations, UNIFIL Head of Mission and Force Commander Lt. Gen. Aroldo Lázaro provided Mr. Lacroix with latest updates on the situation in the area and along the Blue Line. He was also briefed on the mission’s best efforts to prevent further escalation.

“I commend the role played by the UNIFIL leadership and peacekeepers in ensuring

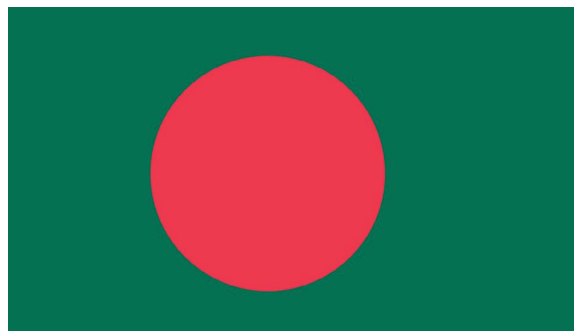
liaison between the parties, mitigating the risk of miscalculation and preventing further escalation in these very challenging times,” Mr. Lacroix said.

“Contacts with authorities on both sides must be intensified and sustained, encouraging a return to the cessation of hostilities and a recommitment to Resolution 1701 as a path toward a long-term diplomatic solution.”

Adopted by the UN Security Council in August 2006, resolution 1701 aimed at ending the war that year between Israel and Hezbollah. It calls for an end to hostilities, the withdrawal of Israeli forces from Lebanon, and the establishment of demilitarized zone.

“Current events further demonstrate that this resolution is even more relevant now,” Mr. Lacroix said. “It continues to serve as the appropriate framework to achieve progress toward a permanent ceasefire.”

ASIA



BANGLADESH IN CHAOS

The United Nations is following the situation in Bangladesh very closely after Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina resigned and fled the country on Aug. 5 in the face of massive anti-Government protests, which claimed the lives of hundreds of demonstrators in recent weeks.

“We continue to call for calm and restraint and urge all parties to respect the right to peaceful assembly and expression,” Farhan Haq, UN Deputy Spokesperson told the daily briefing at UN Headquarters in New

York.

“We urge security forces to protect those out on the streets in Dhaka and other cities of Bangladesh,” he added.

He also emphasized the importance of a peaceful, orderly and democratic transition, adding that the UN stands in full solidarity with the people of Bangladesh at this time.

“We call for the full respect of their democratic and human rights,” he said, noting also the need for a full, independent, impartial and transparent investigation into all acts of violence.

More than 300 people, including many children, are said to have been killed since student-led protests erupted, and more than 20,000 injured. The bloodshed was among the worst ever witnessed in Bangladesh.

The unrest began in July with protests by students against civil service job quotas. Though the scheme was withdrawn, protests erupted again last week, with the key demand for Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina to quit and for those responsible for the violent suppression of demonstrations to be held accountable.

Ms. Hasina had been in power since January 2009, having earlier led the country from 1996 to 2001.

Media reports suggest her departure from Bangladesh was met with widespread jubilation across much of the country.

There were also reports of ransacking and arson at the Prime Ministerial residence; a museum commemorating the country’s first President and Ms. Hasina’s father, Sheikh Mujibur Rahman; and homes of senior government officials.

Bangladesh’s army chief announced in a televised national address following her departure that an interim government would be formed, although no further details were provided.

THE DOCTOR IS IN

(Continued from page 4)

memory issues.

Considering the link between PCA and Alzheimer’s, it is logical to propose that clinicians be more on the lookout for this condition among people with a high risk of the condition. Unfortunately, because the condition is rare, many clinicians do not consider it a problem until it gets to advanced levels. Also, because it is a progressive condition, at the time of serious symptoms, the condition may already be at an advanced stage.

The fight against Alzheimer’s and dementia is one that we will be in for a very long time. If there’s any way we can gain an edge, we absolutely have to maximize it.

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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The Observation Booth



OP-ED By Andrea Dialect

THAT'S DISGUSTING

NASTY * YUCKY * GROSS

Children find them to be a delicacy of sorts, I am told, because of the salty taste. Go figure!

I woke up today with crusty eyes, AKA eye boogers. As I wiped and scraped until those crumbles were no longer found, I became reminiscent. Ironically, it was then that I realized I hadn't done such a thing in quite some time.

That's when my itchy ear succumbed to the bobby pin after the Q-tip fumbled the job, and as the phlegm rose in my throat, it was whisked away by a substitute for a Kleenex. I was grateful for that Bounty paper towel. One sheet was easily consumed, and another was needed once my suspicion proved true.

Being nose-y, I demanded another to make use of its strength rather than its absorption that time. Like a trooper, it cleared the nostril blockage, and finally, my air came through.

I had taken a break from my usual fasting, eating only at six daily while using H2O to hydrate and as a daily flush, is something I have been doing for quite some time. I must admit that I do take breaks from my daily routine here and there. But, this time, it was a lot longer than I'd like to admit, let's just say it had been months.

Jumping back on this week as normal triggered the usual: blurred vision, body aches, fingernail blemishes, hot flashes, phlegm, itchy ears, tingling feet and toes, and equilibrium that is often a bit off. So I stumped around wobbly like a penguin of sorts.

Resuming my weekly or daily doses of black seed oil is the ultimate hack for those bullies we call microorganisms when they opt to show up. They always do and Apple cider vinegar is another that went in swinging that one-two punch. Then there's the Total Omega that I threw back like Homie downing a nip, when using it as a chaser.

My hiatus was a bit lengthy this time, and I now pay the price. As above, so below, it is an indisputable reminder that body consciousness is a must. We must listen to our bodies because they talk. This means less looking at others' bodies during my favorite pastime, people-watching, and more time gazing at my own.

Even more so with all that is going on with the food today, we must adhere when our bodies do not speak. That's what I really heard today. I learned that I have not been seeing enough soiled tissues, not enough hawking sounds making those awful musical notes, not enough waking up in the early AM with those big ol' browns partly glued shut, and too many, way to many unused bobby pins utilized only for tresses, and all those Q-tips consuming shelf space for God sakes. Although sometimes, I tend to use them as tools for cleaning household messes.

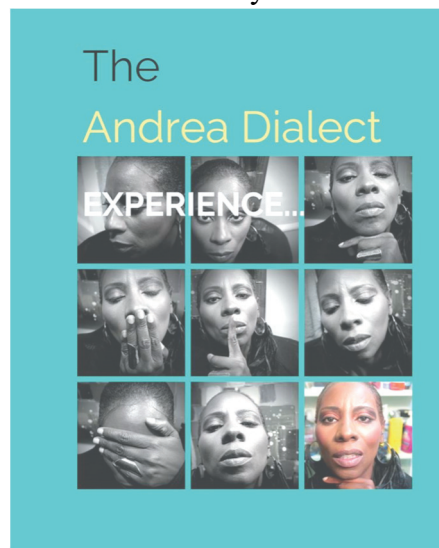
My hygienic recall above is cleanliness made from heaven, I tell ya. Surely, something that I thought might be of use to someone else. Perhaps my recollections will stick in your head like

glue does or my eyes when shut, or perhaps not. So, I thought I'd include something here that just might stick.

THEY CALL IT HYGIENE...

One day not so long ago, I was riding with someone I can't remember who. As coming to a stop there, parked at the traffic light, was a beautiful car. I think it was an Infiniti or an Audi or something like that. But it was fire. I didn't mention it to the driver because I was so happy to be in the passenger seat. So, I took it in all by myself. I beamed and smiled as I gave it a once and twice look over, and once again. Then, when we were neck to neck at idle, I looked over to peek into the car to see the person driving it.

And there she was, dressed to the nines, talking business, I suppose, as her mouth was in motion. We were there for a while because it was an exit off the highway. I was impressed but she never looked in our direction. There was a snobbiness about her by the way she sat. ...



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CAMPAIGNS (Cont. from page 12)

Kids." The "More Classroom Space" slate features current vice president Shane Berger and board members Michel Heller and Viviana Rojas.

MONTCLAIR - One incumbent is pitted against five challengers to fill three board seats. The elected Kathryn Weller-Demming and the appointed for July-December Sean Long are not running.

Board member Eric Scherzer is heralding "Accountability, Continuity, Transparency."

Wine blogger and former March 7, 2022 special election candidate Holly Shaw says "Every Student Counts."

Aerospace engineer Andrew

Gideon, Susan L. Long and real estate agent June Raegner desire that "Every Student Thrives."

Sacred Space Montclair owner and events planner Jada Roman wants an "Inclusive Educational Community."

GLEN RIDGE - Two incumbents and a challenger - all recommended by the borough's Civic Conference Committee - are looking for voter endorsement Nov. 5.

Board members Antyhony Bonnett and Kristin O'Neil are seeking re-election and legal consultant Ray DeLorenzi is after his first term. Municipal level candidates tend to run with or without CCC endorsement - a unique organization who vets prospective candidates.

BELLEVILLE - One incumbent is pitted against three challengers for two Belleville Board of Education Trustee seats. One of the newcomers will be succeeding Tracy Williams-Muldrow, who resigned her seat after being elected in May as First Ward Councilwoman. All are running individual campaigns.

Current BOE Vice President Nicole Daddis is putting "Belleville Children First." Esteban Leon, who ran last year, is running for "Better Belleville BOE" - a variation of Mayor Michael Melham's "A Better Belleville" label.

Elizabeth High School bilingual education coach Karia Nicole Arryoabe is into "Bridging the Gaps." Passaic city elementary school instructor Jean Ro-

driguez Gillis touts herself as a "Teacher for Belleville."

NUTLEY - All three incumbents and a challenger are all running individual campaigns. Sitting Board Vice President Joseph Battaglia is running without a slogan.

Board members Daniel Fragnals and Nicholas Scotti are also making individual runs.

Fragnals features "Foundation and Future" and Scotti wants to put "Nutley Families First."

Second-time challenger Stephen Gilberti says there are "7 Million Reasons" to elect him. His slogan is based on a \$7 million deficit that Nutley Public School administrators found they were short on their 2023-24 budget.

TOWN WATCH

(Continued from page 10)

sex County Clerk Christopher Durkin (D-Roseland). The question, pending Durkin's approval, will be atop the village's General Election ballot.

The village is asking to sell the infrastructure to NJAW for \$19.7 million. SOWD has a \$5 million annual municipal budget allocation for operation and capital projects. Village Administrator Julie Doran said that \$3.75 million is used to pay the department's expenses. SOWD has around 4,700 customers, including residents and businesses.

NJAW has been operating, maintaining and managing - but not owning - the infrastructure since succeeding the East Orange Water Commission in 2018. That current contract expires in 2026. The company also supplies water to adjacent Maplewood and Irvington.

The company has also offered up to \$50 million to replace and lead service lines it finds in the village for the next decade. That offer is not part of the public question.

Council members Karen Hartshorn-Hilton and Bill Haskens voted against the second and final reading.

BLOOMFIELD - That proposed Wendy's/Taco Bell to replace the former Friendly's Restaurant at 1243 Broad St. will proceed, thanks to a Superior Court-Newark judge's late June ruling.

The judge called the Bloomfield Planning Board's December 2022 rejection of Finomus Bloomfield RE Holdings' site plan application "arbitrary, capricious and unreasonable" The jurist saw the applicant's contention that the BPB effectively spot zoned the Brookdale section property.

BPB had downed Finomus' application on the basis that it had not remedied projected traffic congestion at the Broad Street and West Passaic Avenue T intersection. Broad Street bends north to northwest, with W. Passaic Avenue jutting out at a right angle.

The lot has an adjacent eye doctor office and a Bloomfield fire station. Brookdale Elementary School and the closed Provident Bank branch are directly across Broad Street. A Krauser's convenience store is on the Broad/W. Passaic northeast corner.

Finomus had conducted a traffic study where left hand turns from the eatery onto southbound Broad will be banned as in the past. The applicant had offered to have a traffic safety officer on premises.

Friendly's, which built and opened the restaurant in 1969, closed the Bloomfield site Dec. 21, 2021.

MONTCLAIR - Montclair Public Schools Board of Education named Damen Cooper as interim Superintendent of Schools July 22 - 72 hours after last rites were held for Dr. Jonathan Ponds.

Cooper is being at least temporarily promoted from his position as Montclair Public Schools' Personnel Director. The Teaneck resident had been Montclair High School's assistant principal 2011-15 before leaving to become a middle school principal in Hackensack and Summit. Cooper, who was once a Teaneck Board of Education member, returned to MPS in June 2020 to direct personnel.

The MBOE started the virtual meeting with a moment of silence and a proclamation from the Essex County Board of Commissioners. Cooper's appointment is pending the approval of Essex County Superintendent of Schools Joseph Zarra, of Nutley.

Ponds' memorial service was held here at St. Paul's Baptist Church, prior to his final journey to Alabama, July 19. He came aboard in the midst of the COVID pandemic and supervised the MBOE's transition from a mayor-appointed panel to one directly elected.

A GoFundMe.com page was established to help wife Jenna Ponds' with a college fund for their three sons, aged 10, 12 and 14.

The board, on July 12, had meanwhile appointed Sean Long to fill out the remainder of the resigned Crystal Hopkins term. Long will complete the term Dec. 31 and is not running for election.

BELLEVILLE - Edison police have identified the motorcyclist who was killed in a collision with another rider and an SUV there July 29 as resident Alexander Teshima Chong.

Chong, 50, said Edison Police Chief Tom Bryan, was with a pack of other motorcyclists at the intersection of US Route 1 North and Old Post Road at 8:15 p.m. that Sunday.

Chong and another rider said EPD and the Middlesex County Prosecutor's Office turned from Old Post Road onto US 1 North when he clipped the other rider and got thrown off their bikes. Both ran into the rear of a BMW SUV. that had stopped for a red light.

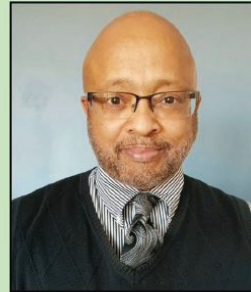
Both riders were thrown off their bikes in the impact and Chong ended up under the car. Ching was declared dead at the scene and the other rider was admitted to New Brunswick's Robert Wood Johnson University Hospital in stable condition. The BMW driver was not physically injured.

Chong's funeral arrangements have not yet been announced.

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SPORTS WRAP

(Cont. from page 5)

shockingly settled for Silver in the freestyle 4x200, making the first time they did not win Gold in a non-boycotted Olympics.

As of this writing, the United States have a total of 82 medals, and their 22 Gold is tied with China for the most in that category.

On the hardwood, the U.S. men and women are dominating the field, with some local star power on the courts. While you may already know about Bam Adebayo representing Newark, you may not know about Newark's own Ezinne Kalu-Phelps, who is competing on the Nigerian Olympic basketball team.

Another local star is Newark Tech's Mariah Perez, who is playing for Puerto Rico. The 6'3" forward attended RISE Academy in Newark at a young age, and played at Dayton University.



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