

The Nubian News

Loving the Black Perspective

Black NJ Ministers Support Tax on Millionaires

BY AL ALATUNJI

“Do the right thing or face our collective wrath,” was the message delivered by a group of politically-active black ministers to state legislators recently in Trenton. At a press conference at Trenton’s Shiloh Baptist Church, Black ministers throughout the state came together to back Governor Phil Murphy’s proposal for a tax of the state’s millionaires.

Governor Murphy has urged the state legislature to raise taxes on the richest 1% of New Jersey residents, 19,000 people, who make over one million dollars a year to fund property tax relief, investments

in public schools and other priorities which would improve the quality of life for residents of the state. The proposed millionaire’s tax which would bring in \$250 million in new revenue is supported by over 70% of New Jersey voters. However, Senate President Steve Sweeney and Assembly Speaker Craig Coughlin oppose the millionaire’s tax, which was a core tenet of Governor Murphy’s 2017 campaign platform. Murphy, Sweeney and Coughlin, are all democrats. The battle over passage of a millionaire’s tax is just one of several major battles between Governor Murphy and his allies on the one hand and State Senate President Sweeney and his south jersey brain trust on the other. It has become nasty and

contentious. The conflict has become very personal and political and is affecting public policy. But it is also about power and who will run the state democratic party and state government.

State Senator Shirley Turner, whose district includes Trenton, is squarely behind Gov. Murphy’s millionaire’s tax. However, Assemblywoman Verlina Reynolds-Jackson and Assemblyman Anthony Verrell have instead sided with Sweeney and Coughlin against Murphy and the overwhelming majority of their constituents.

Rev. Darrell Armstrong of Trenton’s Shiloh Baptist Church, where

Black Ministers-continued on page 10



Rev. Darrell Armstrong, Pastor of Shiloh Baptist Church of Trenton hosted Black Ministers from around the state



Joven atropellado quedaría en estado vegetativo, su cráneo sufrió daños irreparables

POR CARLOS AVILA

TRENTON- Miembros de la comunidad guatemalteca renuevan esfuerzos para ayudar a Everth José Hernández, joven que fue atropellado el pasado 25 de Agosto 2018 y desde esa fecha hasta el día de hoy, no se ha podido recuperar. El Doctor Christian Schumacher, neurólogo especialista de cerebro y con muchos años de experiencia, manifestó el pasado miércoles que el cerebro de Everth José tras ser atropellado, quedó tan dañado que no tiene remedio y no da esperanza que pueda recuperarse de la condición vegetativa que actualmente presenta.

En una conferencia telefónica el mismo doctor Schumacher habló

directamente con la Mamá del joven y le dio a conocer sobre esta lamentable noticia.

Al conocer esta situación los miembros de la asociación guatemalteca y quienes están ayudando en esta necesidad, piden ayuda a la comunidad hispana en general para tratar de que Paula Pérez López madre de este joven guatemalteco nuevamente acuda a pedir una visa humanitaria y poder venir a ver a su hijo. “Quiero que me ayuden a ir a ver a mi hijo, quiero tocarle su cabecita y sus manos y pedirle a Dios que le ayude a mi gordo” dijo Paula Pérez vía telefónica desde Guatemala. La desesperada madre manifestó que Everth Jose

joven hombre-continued on page 11

El Latino News

En Contacto con la Comunidad

Trenton – Mercer County

Go to page 6 - Edited by Carlos Avila

If you do not understand White Supremacy (Racism) --- what it is, and how it works --- everything else that you understand, will only confuse you.”

Neely Fuller Jr. [1971]



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COMPENSATORY-FUNCTIONAL DEFINITIONS

Compiled from "The United Independent
Compensatory Code/System/Concept by
Mr. Neely Fuller Jr.

Race and Racism

(1) A system of thought, speech and action operated by people who classify themselves as "white" and who use deceit, violence and/or the threat of violence to subjugate, use and/or abuse people classified as non-white under conditions that promote the practice of falsehood, non-justice and incorrectness in one or more areas of activity for the ultimate purpose of maintaining, expanding and/or refining the practice of White Supremacy (racism).

(2) Unjust speech, action and/or inaction based on the color and/or non-color of persons and/or factors associated with the color and/or non-color of persons.

(3) White Supremacy.

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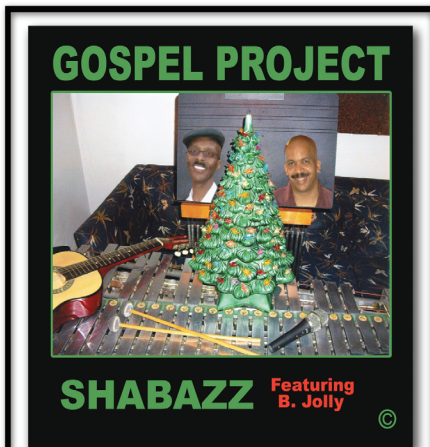
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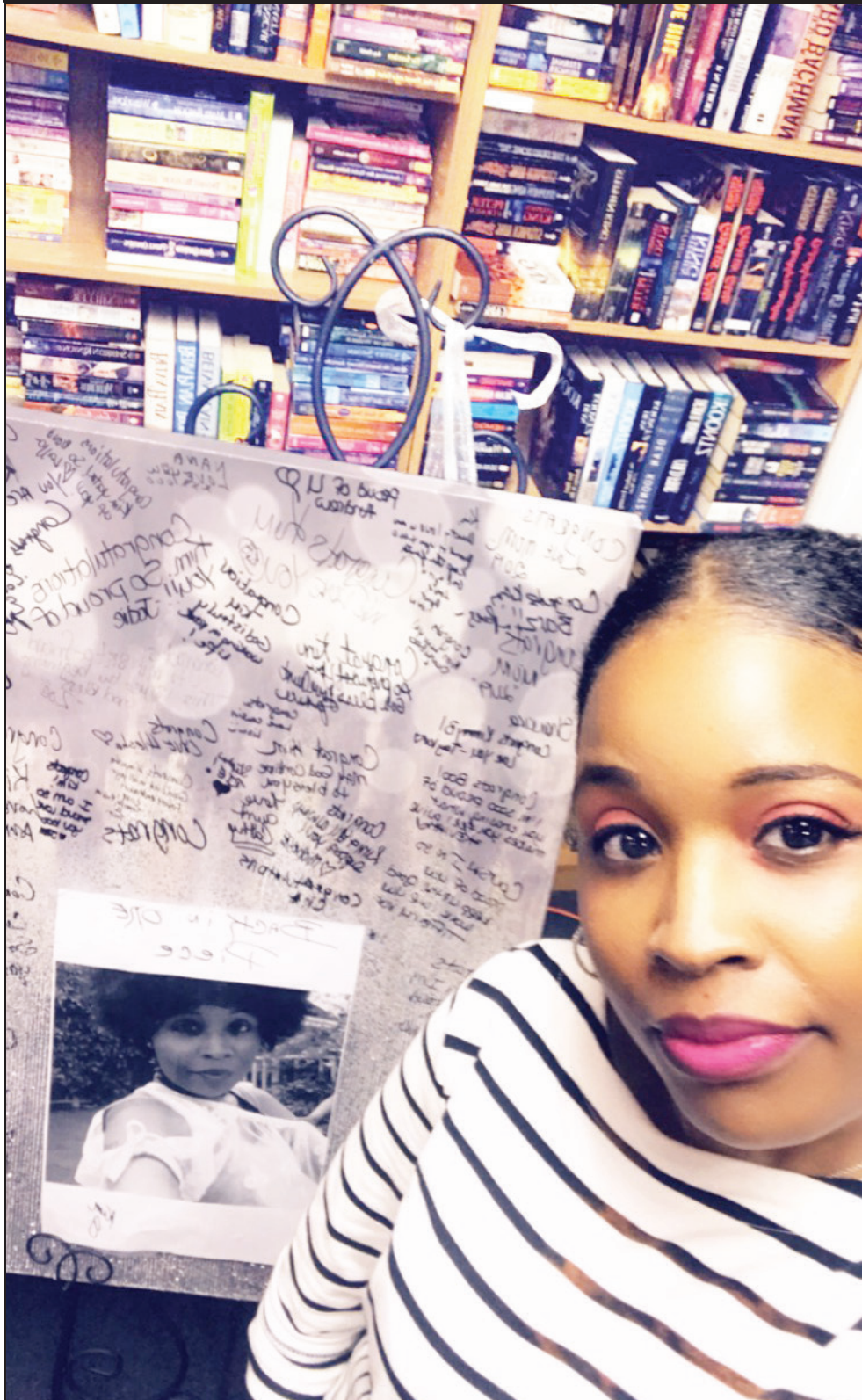
Circulation
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The Nubian News prints 10,000 copies which are mailed, hand and bulk delivered to each home and business in Trenton, Nj.

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Writer and author Kim J. presented a book reading for her ebook “Back in One Piece” at Classics Books & Gifts with gratitude, understanding and a humbling spirit. Check out her website at www.kimsrealgems.com where you can download your copy.

Photo by Charlton Curry

Mercer unveils campground at county park

Reservations begin July 8

WEST WINDSOR— Residents and visitors to Mercer County will now have a chance to camp out and enjoy a unique perspective of the park system with the creation of an overnight campground in the East Picnic Area of Mercer County Park.

County Executive Brian M. Hughes and the Mercer County Park Commission announced the opening of the campground at a ribbon-cutting ceremony July 1. The facility features 10 campsites, six with lean-to structures and four that will accommodate a tent. The hike-in campground can hold six campers per site and has



County Executive Brian Hughes and Aaron Watson, Executive Director of the Park Commission announce addition of campground at Mercer County Park.

Racism impacts your health

ROBERTA K. TIMOTHY - ASSISTANT LECTURER GLOBAL HEALTH, ETHICS AND HUMAN RIGHTS SCHOOL OF HEALTH, YORK UNIVERSITY, CANADA//ORIGINALLY PUBLISHED ON THECONVERSATIONCOM

Health impacts from anti-Black racism and anti-Indigeneity are often dismissed or kept silent by health scholars and health care workers.

Outside in public: Smiling, dressed real fine, manners on point. I am well schooled on how to be respectful, how to take up space, how to use silence when necessary. Travelling home on transit listening to music to drown out my day — filled with injustices from the minute I left my “sanctuary” ten hours earlier. Fumbling for keys, nearly pushing the door down to my home. All I experienced outside threatens to crash down my door and engulf my insides and swallow me whole. My breath struggles to calm itself. Grief shadows me through the hallway. I self-talk my way into the kitchen, slipping my armour off; my thick silver bangle hits the floor, the sound awakening me to reality. I am home. I sit still for a minute and contemplate how I will go out again to face the monster of anti-Black racism. I drink my tea quickly, and begin to make dinner. - Feb 9, 2018, author’s journal

Witnessing and hearing stories about racism can impact your health. The feelings evoked can make you ill if not processed.

The recent news of Tina Fontaine’s trial and the acquittal of Gerald Stanley, a white farmer accused of killing a young Indigenous man, Colten Boushie, of the Red Pheasant First Nation are examples of the Canadian legal system’s commitment to the Indian Act and colonial dominance. This ongoing colonial dominance has

entry to trails throughout Mercer County Park, which offers activities including bike rentals, boating, fishing and hiking that are accessible from the campground.

“With this new addition, the public can now enjoy an overnight stay in one of our premier parks,” Mr. Hughes said. “The campsites are a wonderful way to experience an outdoor retreat, and I encourage residents to take advantage of this new amenity.”

Campsites are available for rental beginning July 8 through Community Pass for \$20 per night with a maximum stay of seven consecutive days. Each campsite includes a campfire ring, picnic table and charcoal grill. Full restrooms, water service, playground and trash disposal station

a transgenerational trauma impact on the health of Indigenous and colonized peoples.

Two recent examples that indicate the kind of violence that Black people experience: A school that allowed police to shackle a Black six-year old girl’s wrists and ankles; a children’s aid system that put a child refugee from Somalia into foster care yet never applied for his Canadian citizenship, so years later he received deportation orders to a country where he does not speak the language.

The impact of this colonialism and anti-Black racism on the health of Black and Indigenous peoples is elongated and insidious. We navigate systems, structures and communities that perpetuate abhorrence towards us in all aspects of our lives.

Experiencing and fighting such systems for justice for our children, ourselves and our community members has devastating effects on our health.

As a health and human rights researcher, therapist and professor who has explored the deep implications of racism, I would like to share some insights into the impacts of racism on our health.

My hope is that by doing so I create dialogue and encourage communities to continue to voice their experiences of violence and racism — in order to demand changes and ultimately create more supports.

Violence is a continuum

The remainder of this story can be found on our facebook page: [facebook/the Nubian News](https://www.facebook.com/thenubiannews/?ref=bookmarks) <https://www.facebook.com/thenubiannews/?ref=bookmarks>

can be found at the East Picnic Area, a short walk from the campground. The lean-tos were constructed from repurposed ash wood from the Park Commission’s Maintenance Department and provide an elevated platform for campers. An ADA-compliant wheelchair ramp is available at one of the locations. Rentals will run through Nov. 15.

“Developing this campsite has been an exciting project for the Park Commission” said Aaron T. Watson, Executive Director of the Park Commission. “The grounds are an excellent way for families and friends to explore the diversity Mercer County Park has to offer.”

Trenton Police and Local Groups Provide the Ultimate Prom Experience

BY DAWNE WASHINGTON

As the class of 2019 crossed the stage, six young ladies reflected on memo-



dream prom experience for six girls through their voluntary sponsorship with Mr. Terrance Stokes, Trenton POP Warner, The Element Hotel, and The Trenton Police Department SOA and PBA Associations.

The ULTIMATE PROM EXPERIENCE included formal hair styles, formal makeup application, eyelashes, facial waxing, manicure, pedicure, food, and a special prom gift bag filled with goodies.

Detective Sgt. Bethesda Stokes noted the importance of giving back to the youth in the Trenton community. Detective Sgt. Stokes is a member of the Trenton Police Department's Youth Stat Initiative. She discussed the importance of being a positive presence within the community despite her authoritative roll. Her hope is to change the perspective of the police department, local organizations, and show support to the youth. Stokes talked about giving back to her hometown during a time when the community needs it most. She felt that it is important to help the youth to feel support and motivate them to continue their good work and diligent efforts where positivity is needed most.

Quashauna Dixon, one of the recipients, will attend Norfolk State in Virginia in the fall. Ms. Dixon will be graduating from Trenton High School with a 3.5 GPA. She was very happy

to receive a prom experience and looks forward to a new chapter in her life when she enters college as a freshman.

The sponsors enjoyed prepping the young ladies and were probably more excited than the youth. The ladies participated in a mini photo-shoot prior to attending their prom. Officer Dougherty took professional pictures of the young ladies and their sponsors. The evening was positive, heart felt, and exuberant. The event was a successful and beautiful exhibition of a supportive village.

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National Minority Mental Health Awareness Month

BY AL ALATUNJI

July is National Minority Mental Health Awareness Month. Congress proclaimed July as a special month to focus attention on minority mental health awareness with a desire to improve access to mental health treatment and services through increased public awareness in July of 2008. Since 2008, various organizations have hosted a variety of events and activities in communities across the country each year around the issue of mental health and its effects on racial and ethnic minority populations.

According to the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration:

in 2017 over 70% of Black adolescents with a major depressive episode did not receive treatment for their condition, almost 25% of adolescents with a major depressive episode were Hispanic/Latino, Asian American adults were less likely to use mental health services than any other racial/ethnic group, nearly 1 in 10 American Indian or Alaska Native young adults had serious thoughts of suicide and 1 in 7 Native Hawaiian and Pacific Islander adults had a diagnosable mental illness.

Despite advances in health equity, disparities in mental health care persist. The Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality reports that racial and ethnic minority groups in the U.S. are less likely to have access to mental health services, use community mental health services and are more likely, to use emergency departments and receive lower quality care.

Poor mental health care access and quality contribute to poor mental health outcomes, including suicide, among racial and ethnic minority populations.

There is a mental health problem in the US. It is particularly acute in the Black and Latino communities. It is not an issue which the Black and Latino communities in the US want to acknowledge, but it must not only acknowledge the issue, it must address it.

To that end, The Nubian News recognizes July as National Minority Mental Health Awareness Month and commends and supports those groups in Trenton and throughout the nation committed to improving the mental health of Blacks and other people of color.

Guest OP-Ed, Letter to the Editor

Trenton Public Schools, Where Do We Go From Here?

GENE BOUIE – 06/27/19

Although I am a current member of the Trenton School Board and former its President; I do not write this op-ed with the approval of, or on behalf of the Trenton School Board, but as a concerned resident and taxpayer of the City of Trenton, NJ.

Don't our children deserve a quality education? If the City of Trenton is to rise, it will be on the shoulders of the Trenton Public School System. Parents move their families to areas where there is a strong educational system. Parents want assurances that their children will receive a quality education. Want to increase the City tax base? Want companies to relocate to Trenton? That work starts by transforming the school system.

Trenton Public Schools has now had 8 Superintendents (permanent, interim and acting) in the past 11 years. I recall two years ago having conversations with Dr. Fred McDowell, a young, new Superintendent of Trenton Public Schools about transformation. At the time, my heart ached for the children of Trenton because 7 out of 10 students could not read on grade level, and 9 out of 10 students could not perform math on grade level. The district's performance on QSAC (DOE – Quality System of Accountability Continuum) was 27% on Curriculum and Instruction against a target of 100%. Of course, student performance on the PARCC assessment was poor. High school graduation rates were below desired and less than 30% of high school graduates attended a postsecondary institution and many of those that did were not prepared to be successful. The district was at the mercy of transportation vendors because a couple of years earlier financial challenges required the selling of the district's bus fleet.

Dr. McDowell is leaving the district as of 8/30/2019 and the local commentary embraces this news as something to be celebrated. Too often, people respond to his departure with unhelpful quips

like, "about time", "why wait until August", "this is great news", or "I guess we got rid of him". I wonder why? Let's review the district progress over the past two years:

- QSAC performance on Curriculum and Instruction improved from a low of 27% in 2017 to a high of 72% in 2019
- In the 2018-19 school year across all elementary schools 61% of students improved on grade level in reading.
- 2017-18 Math proficiency increased from 3% to 10.8%. 2018-19 Preliminary data indicates Trenton students are continuing to increase their performance in Math:
 - Grade 3 Proficiency increased from 14% to 17%, which is the 1st Benchmark Year for College and Career Readiness
 - Geometry Proficiency increased from 14% to 22%
 - Algebra 2 Proficiency increased from 5% to 12%
- Students awarded the Seal of Biliteracy went from 21 in 2018, to 53 in 2019
- Curriculum has begun to align with the Amistad Act passed into law in 2002, requiring African American History be taught in every school district in New Jersey
- For the second year in a row the district has received the ASBO award for excellence in financial accounting, only one of two districts in the entire state to do so.
- Over the past two years, 9 schools have come out of status which means they are no longer subject to state directed interventions.
- After having only three school buses in the Spring of 2017 and being at the mercy of transportation vendors, the district now

owns 24 state of the art school buses.

- Due to effective transportation cost management and efficiency, (61) districts scored as Excels, spending significantly less than predicted. Trenton's decision to tier its transportation system allowed the Trenton School District to be ranked 21st in the State.
- In September the district will launch the program entitled the Trenton Restorative Academy (TRA). The purpose of the Trenton Restorative Academy initiative is to provide a positive, nurturing environment for students that have not been unsuccessful in a traditional educational setting. Students will develop holistic social and emotional skills in a least restrictive environment and transition back to their sending school upon program completion.
- The Trenton Global Academy is designed for English Language Learners (ELLs) aged 14- 21, who have recently arrived in the United States. The Trenton Global Academy Newcomer program will offer these students an opportunity to engage in an Individualized Program Plan (IPP) of study that builds academic mastery while receiving intensive supports to acquire English Language proficiency. This program addresses the need to prevent long-term ELLs by offering an opportunity to transition into English only classrooms with ESL support before the required exit score of 4.5.
- The district rehired 60 para-professionals that were terminated due to budget constraints.

- Over the past two years where other districts have had layoffs, the Trenton School District has hired over 200 employees.
- On June 28, 2019 the district will purchase 500 Perry Street, the current location of the Ninth Grade Academy. The district will carry zero debt and there will be no increase in the taxes of Trenton taxpayers to fund the acquisition.

In my opinion, there has clearly been an effort, or a conspiracy, to discredit Dr. McDowell and purposefully ignore/discount the progress that has been made ultimately in an attempt to relieve him of his responsibilities as Superintendent. This much was obvious dating back to August 2017 through the last Board meeting in June. I have heard comments like, "things are a mess", "things are worse than I have ever seen", "he is a tyrant", "he is arrogant", and "he does not care about the students of Trenton". I wonder why? What is at the root of this mindset and behavior? Clearly, it is not what is in the best interest of the students. When I think about Dr. McDowell's vision and roadmap for the district, he mentioned desiring to institute a magnet school for Trenton's gifted and high performing students to compete with the charter schools. He wanted to institute an early college school that would allow students to graduate with a high school diploma and an Associates degree at the same time. My concern is that we may never see these things become a reality. There is still lots of work to be done, and progress to be made especially in the area of Special Education. My sincere hope is that Trenton will ultimately secure through the Superintendent search a candidate who is an instructional leader that will build on the progress the district has made.

Send your Letter to the Editor to nubiannews@thenubiannews.com

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Trenton – Mercer County

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POR CARLOS AVILA

LAWRENCEVILLE-Concurrencia se realizó el martes 25

caminata y explorar la flora y fauna de los parques mientras los niños aprenden y se educan durante estas



de junio, 2019 la reunión de padres de familia en la sala de conferencias de Gateway-Mercer CCYC, en Lawrenceville. Kelly Rypkema de Mercer County Park Commission, fue la invitada especial. Kelly dio a conocer sobre los programas que ésta institución del condado ofrece a las familias con niños durante el verano. Kelly especialmente resaltó sobre el programa gratuito que se ofrece durante el fin de semana "Summer Weekends at the Nature Center", ahí los padres junto a sus hijos pueden reunirse con el guía y salir de

vacaciones sobre el medio ambiente. Kelly también como parte de su presentación trajo cráneos y esqueletos de pequeños animales que se pueden ver en los parques y bosques, he hizo que los padres junto a sus niños identifiquen y conozcan su fisonomía anatómica. Después de la interesante presentación de Kelly vino la dinámica Lucero Mejía, quien puso a mover el esqueleto y ejercitar a todos los presentes en la sala. Lucero también compartió con las madres de familia sabrosos bocaditos combinados con pan-queso y blueberries,



habló sobre la buena nutrición-alimentación que debemos ir poniendo en práctica cada uno de nosotros para mantener una buena salud. A la reunión también asisten representantes y personas de diferentes organizaciones sin fines de lucro que ven en el proyecto MCCYC, un lugar interesante para dar a conocer sus programas, traen consigo información y literatura en hojas volantes y folletos para entregar a los padres al

CCYC será el día 23 de julio a partir de las 10:30 AM. Para esa reunión la invitada especial será Cherie Hooks y Esther Funez de Isles, Inc., ellas hablarán sobre el tema de cómo detectar y evitar la intoxicación del plomo en nuestros niños. La presentación será en inglés y español Para mayor información sobre el programa de los fines de semana en el Centro de Naturaleza pueden llamar al 609-888-3218 o ir personalmente al



final de la reunión.

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Quijano se manifiesta sobre su resolución que exige la igualdad de trato para la Selección USA

TRENTON- Una resolución patrocinada por la asambleísta Annette Quijano instando a la Federación de Fútbol de los Estados Unidos a proporcionarle al Equipo Nacional de Mujeres de los Estados Unidos el mismo salario se aprobó en la Asamblea el jueves por 74-0-2.

En respuesta al paso de la resolución AJR-57, Quijano publicó la siguiente declaración:

"El hecho de que a las jugadoras de fútbol no se les pague lo mismo que a sus contrapartes masculinas es, en

última instancia, una cuestión de justicia.

"El Equipo Nacional de Mujeres de los Estados Unidos ha generado más ingresos que el equipo masculino -en años anteriores- y ha tenido una serie de victorias impresionantes a lo largo de su carrera. Sin embargo, no sólo reciben salarios más bajos, menos bonos y menos compensación de patrocinio, sino que sus condiciones de viaje y entrenamiento también son de peor calidad.

OTRO SUPERINTENDENTE QUE RENUNCIA

POR CARLOS AVILA

TRENTON-El superintendente de las escuelas de Trenton Dr. Frederick McDowell presentó su renuncia

Profesores de Trenton. Sin duda esta falta de entendimiento entre quienes manejan la educación de nuestros niños y el permanente cambio de



tras dos años de lucha por mejorar el sistema de educación en la capital de Nueva Jersey, según dieron a conocer medios locales.

Todo parece que esta posición no es nada fácil ya que en los últimos años han desfilado varios personajes en este puesto que no han logrado trabajar en armonía con líderes y representantes de la Unión de

superintendentes afecta directamente a los niños que son al final del día quienes no cuentan con un plan de desarrollo sostenible y efectivo para mejorar el nivel de educación en una ciudad con un alto número de niños y jóvenes de comunidades vulnerables. En la foto; McDowell en una de sus presentaciones ante la comunidad.

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En Colombia los corruptos son inmunes a la ley

POR LAURA LUCIA RODRÍGUEZ PEÑA

La corrupción en América Latina es una problemática que durante el siglo XX y principios del XXI se desarrolló a pasos agigantados, pero que pasaba desapercibida ante conflictos internos, dictaduras y otro tipo de situaciones que agobiaban a la región durante dicho periodo. Podría afirmarse que no fue sino hasta la última década que la corrupción dejó de ser ignorada, en parte gracias a grandes escándalos como los

de sesiones” (trabajen vagos, 2019), es decir, además de recibir un salario exagerado con prestaciones y beneficios adicionales no estaban cumpliendo con lo exige este cargo del Estado.

Lo más penoso es que esto se mantuvo en las sombras por las instituciones encargadas de auditar y controlar a los funcionarios y fue un grupo de ciudadanos quienes por iniciativa propia decidieron emprender la tediosa tarea de estudiar que



congresistas estaban desempeñando bien su cargo. Ellos crearon la página de internet www.trabajenvagos.com en donde evidencian que congresistas han desempeñado su cargo de manera vergonzosa,

ocurridos con la firma brasileña Odebrecht, los cuales han involucrado en crímenes de corrupción a gobiernos de diferentes países como Perú, Chile y Colombia.

En este último país, la corrupción ha estado presente desde hace décadas. Sin embargo, no hacía parte de la agenda prioritaria de temas a solucionar ya que el conflicto armado interno ocupaba la atención institucional y de los ciudadanos. No obstante, posterior a los acuerdos de paz firmados entre el Gobierno Nacional y FARC, la corrupción en Colombia ha quedado expuesta y actualmente la población y diversos organismos de control exigen justicia ante estos casos de robo y mal uso de los recursos públicos.

Una de las principales quejas de los ciudadanos es el salario que reciben los congresistas colombianos, los cuales ganan aproximadamente 31 millones de pesos colombianos, eso equivale a unos 10 mil dólares estadounidenses aproximadamente, esta cifra resulta alarmante sabiendo que esos son más de 37 salarios mínimos en dicho país (El tiempo, 2018). Sumado a esto, “decenas de congresistas no cumplieron su deber. Faltaron a 6 (o más) sesiones de plenaria durante un mismo periodo

algunos incluso faltando a más de 70 plenarios, esto aunado a las vacaciones de tres meses que reciben estos funcionarios, demuestra que durante 5 meses del año estos congresistas han recibido su sueldo sin presentarse a trabajar.

Es triste y lamentable que en los países del cono sur los funcionarios del Estado que son quienes podrían encargarse de la correcta ejecución de recursos y el desarrollo de los territorios decidan anteponer sus intereses propios y perjudicar a una nación entera. Sin duda, esta es una de las razones por las que América Latina tiene un desarrollo más lento, pues a pesar de ser una región con países ricos en recursos naturales, mano de obra y creatividad, cuenta con una administración que se aprovecha de los más pobres para enriquecer a los más ricos.

Fuentes:

El tiempo, 2018. ¿Cuánto gana un congresista colombiano mensualmente? Recuperado de : <https://www.eltiempo.com/politica/congreso/cuanto-gana-un-congresista-mensualmente-en-colombia-2018-267012>

Trabajen vagos, 2019. Recuperado de: <https://trabajenvagos.com/#page-top>



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We are building a Directory of Businesses in the Trenton area which will provide a resource to market your business in our city. It costs \$20 per issue to place your business card (plus \$5 for color). We need to organize and publicize what we do, why we do it, who does it, where we do it and how well it is done. Space is limited. Only \$20 to reach the 84,962 citizens of Trenton.

County of Mercer
Department of Finance



James Chambers
Coordinator of Business Outreach

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"I Know I Can"

Sit Down with Mayor Gusciora

BY BERNARD SHABAZZ

TNN- Mayor Gus congratulations on selecting Sheila Coley as Trenton's Police Chief. Also congrats to Trenton City Council for her approval as well.

Mayor- She's definitely into community policing. I drove down Chambers St. and I saw officers walking the beat on Walnut Ave. Police are parked in



all neighborhoods to show their presence. She is serious about repairing relationships between police and citizens. She wants to stop the distrust citizens have of police and wants citizens to know police are here for public safety purposes.

TNN- Being that crime is related to economics, do you have a plan to reach out to churches, mosques, and synagogues for assistance in creating community functions to help combat crime.

Mayor- Absolutely. Rev. Taylor's Foresee program has monthly meetings with top law enforcement officers and community leaders to make the connection between our young and

our adults.

Economics is very important in preventing crime, we are working on bringing more economic development into our city.

It's a shame that the Princetel Fiber Optic company deal did not come through for our city. It would have restored life back at the Roebling complex while creating present and future employment for Trenton residents.

We just negotiated with a recycling company in Newark to relocate back to Trenton which will bring 30 jobs that require a high school education. The more employment opportunities we can provide the less time our young will have to join gangs or not care about their future.

TNN- Will the Trenton school board allow Trenton High voctech, carpentry, electrician and plumbing students to gain experience restoring and fixing up abandoned houses in Trenton?

Mayor- Absolutely. Voctech students will be paid to restore and fix up abandoned houses. This will help clean up our city and put these houses back on the tax rolls to bring revenue to our city.

TNN- Is Trenton Water Works still hiring?

Mayor- TWW has become boring. We don't hear about the water works anymore. We have not failed a water quality test since December 2018. Dr. La shea is doing a great job upgrading the equipment and the water works has hired 70 people. Another important thing about the new Trenton High School is that we now have a curriculum to offer certificates to qualify our students employment at the Trenton Water Works.

TNN- Have you been in touch with singer Sarah Dash?

Mayor- We texted her yesterday. She's the Music Ambassador to Trenton. We want her to perform this summer at a concert.

Storks Nest: Pre- and Post Natal Care Program

BY DAWNE WASHINGTON

Zeta Phi Beta Sorority, Inc., Epsilon Xi Zeta Chapter collaborated with Mercer Street Friends and The March of Dimes to create a program called

by supporting a healthier community. Storks Nest focuses on education and also provides baby items that families may need.

Staff that interact with mothers promote prenatal awareness through



Storks Nest and had their grand opening in Trenton, New Jersey on June 7, 2019.

In 1972, this national project was adopted by Zeta Phi Beta Sorority, Inc. In Houston, Texas.

Storks Nest provides education for women during and after their pregnancy to prevent low birth weights, premature babies and infant deaths

attending timely prenatal visits, reducing risky behaviors such as smoking cigarettes and drinking alcohol and reducing stress.

This initiative can assist families with vital information that may not have been readily available. These organizations are working on positive interventions and supports for families in the Mercer County area.

NJ Youth Clean Up Trenton

BY DAWNE WASHINGTON

On June 5, 2019, more than 1500 kids assisted in cleaning up the litter

NJ won third place for picking up the most trash this year. The children had a great time with their peers and other volunteers enjoying the festivities.



Tanya Hedgpeth Jones and Monica Matlock also enjoyed the event with their students who attend Trenton Public Schools.

The event not only instilled responsibility, team work and taking care of the environment but was a lot of fun and illustrated the youth in good spirits.

throughout Trenton. Children from all over New Jersey came to clean up the entire city. 40 kids packed 60 buses parked throughout the downtown area.

James Mack, of public property, stated that they picked up all the trash that the youth collected and bagged and left in piles.

Mack said the youth were invited by Trenton Mayor Gusciora to attend this annual event that ran from 8-2 pm. The grand finale, which concluded in Mill Hill Park, included food, games, music and awards.

The AAA company's volunteers from their local office located in Hamilton,



Elijah Kelly, Mrs. Matlock, and Mrs. Hedgpeth-Jones

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Nubian News Book Review

BY TERRI SCHLICHENMEYER

“BTTM FDRS”

BY EZRA CLAYTAN DANIELS & BEN PASSMORE

c.2019, Fantagraphics Books
\$24.99 / \$33.50 Canada 300 pages

Your first place all your own needs to be ah-mazing.

Big-screen TV for gaming. Fridge for snacks and drinks. Sofa for kicking back, a few good chairs, and places to

... and into a creature that wrapped Cynthia into itself and overtook her body.

Unaware of the deadly organism that her best friend was fighting in the basement of the apartment building, Darla hung out with the famous rapper down the hall until she started noticing a lot of weird things. There were cameras in the apartments, and



hold your stuff. Maybe your parents will help out. Maybe the landlord will let you paint. Maybe, as in “BTTM FDRS” by Ezra Clayton Daniels and Ben Passmore, your new place will be interesting.

When it came time to finally get her own apartment, Darla didn't bother to look far. She grew up in Chicago's Bottomyards and though it still wasn't the safest place on Earth, the former ghetto was gentrifying. That counted for something, right?

Her father hated the building; he warned her away and yeah, it was super-creepy but the rent was good. The place was roomy, but also had room for improvement: as Darla moved in, the electricity kept going out and her friend, Cynthia, messed up the plumbing. Even so, Darla had neighbors: a famous rapper moved in down the hall and she met an elderly lady and her son from downstairs.

Was it the stress of the move, then, or the stress of living in the place itself that made Darla fight with Cynthia soon after Darla spent her first night alone? Who knows, but they argued and the friendship was over – or Darla thought it was, anyhow, but Cynthia had second thoughts. She snuck back into Darla's apartment, got totally creeped out, hid in a cabinet, and fell down a tunnel...

erie noises. The building superintendent was super-creepy and the whole place was like a dungeon. And then she found Cynthia – or, at least, what was left of her.

Was there time for Darla to get out alive?

If you're not familiar with graphic novels – which are basically full-length stories in comic art form – “BTTM FDRS” might take a bit of getting used to. It doesn't help that this tale starts abruptly, and with racism that feels like a slap.

Keep reading. That slap ultimately turns into a shiver.

With color-blocked panels and not a lot of fluff or dialogue, authors Ezra Clayton Daniels and Ben Passmore take readers into what could be perceived as commentary on today's social problems, or sly pokes at gentrification and modern segregation, in the future or now. The story is sly, almost backhanded and, much like the creature in this book, eats its way into your imagination until your hands sweat, your eyes dart wildly, and you realize that you've been holding your breath.

Let it go. You're safe in your chair (for now) but if you're 15-and-up and you love graphic horror novels, here's your next scare. For you, “BTTM FDRS” is ah-mazing.

Black Ministers-continued from page 1

the press conference was held, when asked, indicated that he would reach out to Reynolds-Jackson and Verrell to urge them to support the millionaire's tax. Rev. Armstrong said the preachers would go to their congregations and their communities if needed, but they first planned to pull legislators over to the side with one-on-one chats.

Several other ministers were planning a similar approach but also warned if their request was not met that they were prepared to take additional action. Such additional efforts mentioned were opposing the reelection of legislators from districts where their churches were located and their congregations lived. Other efforts included possible 2021 running primary challengers against non-compliant legislators.

“We ask that the legislature cooperate with the governor, and if it doesn't happen, then we'll take it to the community,” said Rev. Maurice Jean, President of the New Jersey Association of Haitian Ministers.

It should be noted that the location of the ministers' press conference was the same location where the Rev. S. Howard Woodson served as the pastor. Dissatisfied with the treatment of Blacks, Woodson became politically active. He was elected to the Assembly in 1963, a year before the federal Civil Rights Act of 1964 was signed into office.

Woodson would later become the state's first Black Assembly Speaker and the first Black Speaker in the nation since Reconstruction. He presided at a time when Democrats supported politically risky tax increases to fund public education in poor school districts.

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Policing the Police

By AL ALATUNJI

From a Black family violently held at gunpoint in Phoenix, AZ, to an officer fatally shooting a Black man recently in South Bend, IN, there continues to be a rash of police-related incidents that have led to accusations of police misconduct and racism. Trenton like most urban communities has had its share of accusations of police abuse, misconduct and racism. Such police-related abuse, misconduct and racism would become a thing of the past if Senator Kamala Harris (D-GA) and some of her colleagues have their way. Senator Harris along with several have introduced legislation in Congress which would encourage improved training for police officers and use of independent investigation and prosecution to eliminate inherent conflicts of interest.

New Jersey does not have a detailed system for public reporting of allegations of police misconduct and abuse, therefore there is no accurate number of police abuse and misconduct statistics for the city of Trenton or any other area in the state.

The legislation, entitled the Police Training and Independent Review Act, would create a financial incentive for states to require training for law enforcement officials on fair and impartial policing as well as best practices for working with members of the community who are disabled and mentally ill. It would also encourage communities to use independent prosecutors to investigate law enforcement officials' use of deadly force by authorizing the U.S. Attorney General to award grants to states that require an independent investigation and, if warranted, prosecution in cases where one or more of the alleged offenses result in death or serious bodily harm.

"It is imperative that we address implicit bias and help to create bonds of trust between police and the communities they serve. It will save lives," said Senator Harris, who is also a candidate for president. "I'm proud to support the Police Training and Independent Review Act, which builds on my work as California

Attorney General in implementing the first statewide implicit bias training program for law enforcement and advocating for teams within the California Department of Justice to investigate officer-involved shootings."

The types of independent investigation and prosecution of law enforcement that would be eligible for financial incentives under the Police Training and Independent Review Act include: the use of an independent agency, civilian review board or outside law enforcement department, such as the State Police, responsible for independently investigating and prosecuting all officer use of force allegations; appointment of the State Attorney General, or a special prosecutor overseen by the State Attorney General, responsible for conducting the criminal investigation and prosecution and the use of an independent prosecutor, who does not reside or work in the same county as the county where the officer's use of force was committed.

"We've lost too many young men and women—from Chicago to Champaign to Ferguson and around the nation—in tragic and preventable police-involved deaths," said Senator Tammy Duckworth (D-IL), chief sponsor of the legislation. "Families like Laquan McDonald's that have experienced heartbreak are no less deserving of justice than any other family, but too often they don't get it." The legislation is supported by the NAACP and the ACLU.

"The NAACP is pleased to support this important legislation," said Hilary O. Shelton, Director of the NAACP Washington Bureau and the Senior Vice President for Policy and Advocacy. "Upon enactment, this legislation would clearly begin to help restore the much needed trust and integrity between law enforcement agents and the people they are sworn to serve and protect. The fact that the Police Training and Independent Review Act requires training for law enforcement officers on fair and impartial policing will help build the essential trust that is crucial to the safety and security of our communities."

joven hombre-continued from page 1

es su único hijo varón y que era el quien le ayudaba económicamente enviando sus remesas mensualmente. "Ahora no tenemos ni para ir a tramitar una visa" señalo muy afligida por lo que está pasando. Dijo que desde que su hijo sufrió el accidente acá en Trenton, la vida de ella y su familia a cambiando totalmente y que no sabe cómo hacer para pedir al gobierno de los Estados Unidos una visa humanitaria.

Marta Umaña vicepresidenta de la Asociación Guatemalteca por su parte tiene la esperanza de que el joven pueda recuperarse "Respeto el

punto de vista del doctor, yo creo que Dios es el único que sabe y tengo la esperanza de que le ayudará a salir adelante a este joven "dijo Umaña.

Waldemar Ronquillo miembro de dicha asociación quien también está ayudando en esta situación, está tratando de reunir algunas cartas de apoyo de autoridades locales y además un abogado para ayudar tanto en el proceso legal como en la búsqueda de la visa humanitaria.

Con el fin de ayudar a la madre a que pueda solventar sus gastos se espera que se abra una cuenta en gofunme.com, por lo que eso está pendiente para apoyar a esta madre necesitada.

en foto en la portada; Miembros de la Asociación Guatemalteca juntos a Everth Jose Hernández quien fue atropellado por un vehículo en la Princeton Ave. Trenton el 25 de agosto 2018.

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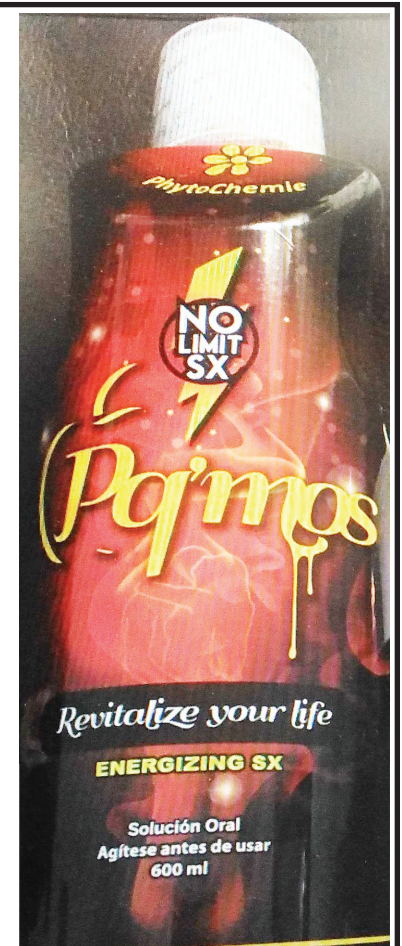
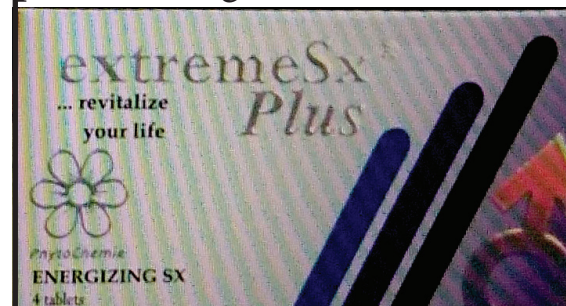
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- Every Thursday through September 5th, 5:00pm - 8:00pm - Trenton Summer Concert Series, Mill Hill Park, Downtown Trenton. Bring your lawn chairs and sun umbrella. Free
- Every Tuesday, Open Mic with Benny P, 8:30 p.m.-2:00 p.m., Trenton Social, 449 South Broad Street, Trenton
- Every Thursday - Children's Thursday Theater, 3:00 p.m., Trenton Free Public Library, 129 Academy Street, Trenton
- Every Saturday, Board Game Workshop, 2:00 p.m.-4:00 p.m., Trenton Free Public Library, 129 Academy Street, Trenton
- Every Monday, Bible Conversation Group, 12 Noon to 1:15p.m., Starbucks Community Room, 102 S. Warren St., Trenton - For the non-religious, the spiritual, and everybody in between 609 836-1403
- Every second Saturday, 9 p.m.-2 a.m. at Championship Bar and Music Club at 931 Chambers Street in Trenton NJ there is 'Barz All Night'. Each artist gets to perform 3 songs and some freestyle cypher during intermission.
- Every Wednesday, 7:00 p.m. Open Mic Night with your favorite host Cinnamon R. Martin. Get a front row seat to some of the best talent that Trenton has to offer. Items for sale at this unique small business shop. 25 East Bridge Street, Morrisville, PA. There is a \$5 donation for the event.
- Monday, July 8th thru August 2nd. Colonial Summer Camp. The Old Barracks of Trenton. information: www.barracks.org/summer-day-camp.html Sign up: www.barracks.com
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- Saturday, July 20th, 9:00 am - 3:00 pm - 15th Annual Auto/Motorcycle Show at Higgs Park in Ewing across from St. John's Baptist Church. A full day of entertainment, music, something for everybody. St. Johns famous Fish Fry, all makes and models of Street Rods, Domestic and Foreign Cars, Antiques, Motorcycles, Classics, Stock and Production Autos. \$2 entry fee, kids under 12, free. For more information call Ronnie Hines at 609 977-3159
 - Saturday, June 29th, 10:00 am - 1:00 pm, Sisterhood Business Brunch presented Ladies With Vision at Sprout University, 27 East Paul Ave, Trenton, NJ. "The Power of Networking" Sisterhood Business Brunch is an event for women in business, aspiring female entrepreneurs, and those looking for a professional network of like-minded women. It is designed to bring women together to empower, support, and help build each other's brand. Keynote speaker is Tangela Wright.
 - Thursday, July 11th at 7 PM - 10 PM, Dream Of My City Visual Preference Survey · Hosted by Desta Holdings LLC. Trenton City Hall, A visual preference survey is a technique for obtaining public feedback on physical design alternatives. Policy can come from this. That means change is possible. This is a time for the whole community to be involved.
 - Sat, Jul 13th, 2 PM - 27th Annual Islamic Heritage Parade & Festival, Columbus Blvd & Chestnut St., Philadelphia, PA
 - Saturday, July 13th at 12 PM - 8 PM - The Melanin Market | Summer Edition · Hosted by The Melanin Market Experience. Millcreek Park, Beverly Rancocas Rd, Willingboro,

New Jersey.

- Sunday, July 14th, 4:00pm - 10:00pm - Puff and Paint, NJweedmans Joint, 322 East State Street, Trenton. This is a great networking opportunity for all artists and art enthusiasts. \$15
- Saturday, July 20th, 4:00pm - 8:00pm - Apollo Anniversary Space Picnic at the New Jersey State Museum, 205 W. State St., Trenton, NJ. Celebrate the 50th anniversary of the Apollo 11 moon landing at the Museum's moon picnic! Enjoy music, crafts and activities, free sky observing session, and selfies with our astronaut cut-out outside on the Museum lawn. Food trucks will be on hand for the hungry, plus in the Planetarium guest can see a program and "Dark Side of the Moon" laser show for just \$5 each. 609-292-6464
- Tuesday, July 23rd at 5:30 PM - 8 PM - Trenton Civic Trust meeting, 801 W State St, Trenton, NJ. A community based effort for all residents to engage in public service by learning, researching and advancing practical solutions that will better our communities and our country!
- Saturday, July 27th at 6 PM - 10 PM - Hip-Hop / R&B Night with Day26 · Hosted by Mercer County Park Commission. Mercer County Park - Festival Grounds, 1638 Old Trenton Rd, Princeton Junction. Day26 has had a number of chart topping hits, and their amplified performances have revolutionized the sounds of R&B and hip-hop. Opening support for Day26 will be

Sammy Cokas. Tickets are on sale now through CommunityPass for \$20. Ticket includes parking.

- Saturday, August 3rd at 9 AM - 2:30 PM - Victorious Is My Name! Empowerment Conference · Hosted by FaithWorks Unlimited Ministries, LLC, at Mercer County Community College James Kearny Campus Trenton, NJ 102 North Broad Street, Trenton. Victim Rights, Education & Advocacy. Powerful speakers include: Kimme Carlos (Urban Mental Health Alliance); The Latin American Legal Defense & Education Fund (LALDEF), and Jonette Smart (NAACP, Trenton Branch). Come to be EMPOWERED and INSPIRED!! This is a FREE EVENT but you must register by 7/31/19
- Sunday, August 11th at 12 PM - 11 PM Willingboro Jazz and Music Festival · Hosted by POO Production and Willingboro Recreation & Parks Department. Mill Creek Park, 300 Beverly Rancocas Rd, Willingboro, NJ. FREE EVENT, PARKING: \$15 BRING YOUR LOUNGE CHAIR AND SUN UMBRELLA, NO ALCOHOL ALLOWED / NO PET'S
- Saturday, August 17th at 12 PM - 6 PM - Parade of the African Diaspora. All organizations, clubs, volunteers, and vendors will have the opportunity to sign up for the 1st Parade of the African Diaspora at the next First Fridays on Front Street taking place on June 7th. We value your participation!



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