

The Nubian News

Loving the Black Perspective

Robert Mugbe Freedom Fighter

Robert Mugbe the former leader of Zimbabwe, recently died at the age of 95. He was an icon of liberation. A pan-Africanist who dedicated his life to the emancipation and empowerment of his people. He inspired a nation, continent and people everywhere fighting for freedom against colonial powers, oppressive white minority rule and neo-colonialism.

Black African population was nothing more than the hired help. Mugabe was educated in Catholic missionary schools and became a teacher in what was then known as Northern Rhodesia, now Zambia. He later lived in Ghana when that country became the first African nation granted independence from Britain in 1957. He returned to Southern



The Lions Are Together Again, Freedom Fighters and Anti-Racists - Robert Mugabe of Zimbabwe and Fidel Castro of Cuba.

Robert Gabriel Mugabe was born into poverty in September 24, 1924 in what was then Southern Rhodesia, a British colony named after the notorious colonialist Cecil John Rhodes. From the 1880s, when the British first arrived, until the rebellious British colony of Rhodesia transitioned to majority rule and Mugabe took power in 1980, the country was ruled by whites for whites. The majority

Rhodesia in 1960. Five years later the country's white rulers broke away from their British overlords to keep power and renamed the country Rhodesia.

He was an outspoken critic of the white minority regime of Rhodesia and in 1964 he was imprisoned for more than a decade without trial.

In 1973, while still in prison, he was chosen as President of the Zimbabwe African National Union of which he

OTRO JOVEN MUERE AHOGADO EN RIO DELAWARE

Una tragedia más en el 'manso' rio

POR CARLOS AVILA

TRENTON-Sergio Lino Canastuj (35) falleció el pasado domingo por

“A eso de las 7 de la noche me avisaron. Sus amigos ya habían llamado al 911 y lo estaban buscando, pero no encontraban el cuerpo” dijo Jesús.

Los rescatistas que habían venido a



Foto de archivo; Lino (izq.) posa junto a dos señoritas frente a la tienda Esmeralda's Fashion Sport., en Trenton, NJ

ayudar a buscar el cuerpo durante toda la tarde, planeaban culminar su labor a eso de las 10 de la noche, para continuar al día siguiente, pero en su afán de encontrar el cuerpo de la víctima, decidieron trabajar un tiempo extra y a eso de las 11 de la noche por fin dieron con el paradero del cuerpo sin vida del joven guatemalteco.

“Lino era una gran persona, era como un hijo para mí, estamos muy dolidos con esta situación” dijo Jesús mientras contaba que no fue fácil

encontrar el cadáver de su hermano. La muerte de Lino Canastuj ahogado en el rio Delaware se suma a otros tantos casos ocurridos en este aparente manso rio pero que por dentro tiene muchos remolinos que ha causado la muerte de varios jóvenes que se arriesgan a nadar a pesar de lo peligroso que resulta.

El rio Delaware forma el límite entre Nueva Jersey y Pensilvania fluye en dirección sur hasta llegar a desembocar en la bahía de Delaware en océano Atlántico. Sobre los servicios fúnebres aún no se conoce detalles. Lino vivió en Trenton por 12 años, fue conocido como una persona trabajadora y muy amable con los clientes que llegaban a la tienda donde trabajo con otros compañeros y compañeras que hoy junto a su madre lamentan su partida.

la tarde, justamente un poco después que se terminó el desfile guatemalteco en Trenton. Lino, como le llamaban en la familia, decidió ese día, después de trabajar ir con unos amigos hasta la Ruta 29 a pasar la tarde a orillas del rio Delaware, sin embargo desafortunadamente ahí ocurrió la tragedia. Aparentemente una chica del grupo se resbaló en el rio y mientras Lino trataba de ayudarlo a salir, cayó en un remolino y a pesar que otros amigos intentaron ayudarlo no fue posible salvarlo.

“Todo parece que un remolino le tragó y se ahogó” afirmó su hermano mayor Jesús Canastuj, quien es propietario de la conocida tienda “Esmeralda's Fashion Sport” ubicada en la South Clinton Ave., en donde también Lino trabajaba hace algún tiempo.

El Latino News
En Contacto con la Comunidad
Trenton – Mercer County

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.

Racial Zeroism

A term used in "racist mathematics" that means non-white persons, generally, are "worth" nothing (zero) of social or material value, except as subjects of, and servants to, the system of white supremacy (Racism).

Refined Racism

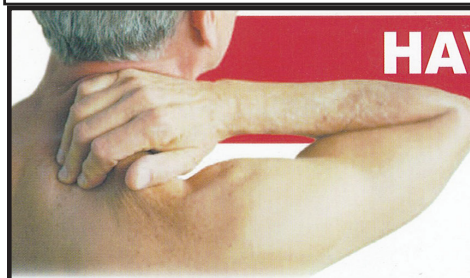
Racism (white supremacy) that is practiced in a manner that is so deceptive, and/or so appealing, that it is generally acceptable, and/or very pleasing to the victims of it non-white people.

Smartest People (collectively)

White Supremacist (Racist)

Explanation: Of all the people in the known universe, those people (white) who practice white supremacy (racism) are the smartest. They are the people who say and do the things that directly or indirectly have the greatest effect on what all people say, or do, in all areas of activity, including economics, education, entertainment, labor, law, politics, religion, sex, and war.

You can order the digital edition of "The United Independent Compensatory Code/System/Concept online at: <https://www.digitalxpress.shop/product-page/the-united-independent-compensatory-code-system-concept-textbook-counter-racist>



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Mercer County Approves Armored Truck for City Streets

BY KAMAU KUJICHAGULIA

Against a thunderous tide of county residents the Mercer County Freeholder Board approved the request of the Sheriff and County Administration for an armored truck.

Person after person stood up against the purchase of this vehicle. Many talked against it because they felt it would be used to intimidate and abuse the Black communities of the

leader who spoke up publicly against the purchase. She sent a letter to the Board expressing her displeasure with the purchase. Freeholder Sam Frisby eventually voted against the purchase but only after the Watson Coleman letter. Two days before he publicly stated his intention of voting in favor of the purchase. It seems that last minute political rumblings made him realize the Black and Brown



county. Some were against the cost, over \$300 thousand dollars, which could be better used to improve the lives of county residents.

In the end Freeholders Cimino and Melker both reasoned their families would be better served with this monstrosity than Black and Brown people would be without it. To them they said it came down to the safety of their loved ones. It seemed as though they believe the county, through their elected and represented positions, owned them more security for their families than it owned to the tens of thousands of residents who would be adversely affected by this 'weapon of mass intimidation'.

Congresswoman Bonnie Watson Coleman is the only Black political

people of Trenton would not support a yes vote from him. Freeholder Koontz also voted against the vehicle. The other Freeholders didn't seem to care what Black or Brown people thought about this machine which will most likely be used against Black and Brown people of Trenton.

Surprisingly most of the spoken opposition for this "weapon of mass intimidation" came from white people from Princeton. A very strong contingent of various organizations from around the Princeton and Lawrence areas spoke long and passionately against the armored vehicle. Very few Black people from Trenton came out. Brother Freedom Green spoke elegantly against the purchase.

Reparations

BY KAMAU KUJICHAGULIA

While Black people discuss reparations for the many years of free and forced labor our ancestors endured, white people continue to extract very low cost labor out of us. We are immersed in the murky puddles of low paying jobs which keep us in poverty and non-inclusion in the billions of dollars white people are giving to each other and not to us.

Look at any governmental body which passes spending awards, like Mercer County Freeholders. Every meeting they approve spending millions of dollars and very little of those monies end up in the hands of Black people.

Go into any hospital, go through the very public hallways and then walk through the maze of back hallways and offices and you will notice it is almost lilly white. Outpatient surgery, radiology, oncology, emergency, public relations, billing, administration, the board of directors, virtually no Black people.

All that money, which we contribute to, is paid to all these white people and almost none of it is paid to Black people. This is some serious stuff.

There are plenty of Black people working in security, housekeeping, food service, and patient transportation but precious few of us in the higher paying positions. And this is repeated throughout the job market. Mercer County has an award for installation of traffic signal underground and electrically operated traffic control devices which will go on around the county for the next two years for \$959,250.00. But Orchard Holdings LLC has few Black employees and even though the county has them sign a racial compliance statement, there is no contract compliance officer who makes sure Black people are not excluded from companies who do County work.

What this means is Black people are paying into systems at one rate but our rate of return is less than what we put in. This is economic slavery. Right now we are getting paid about 66 cent for every dollar white people make. We can't keep up at that rate. And our neighborhoods and quality of life bear this out.

But white people don't care. There is no accident here. This is done purposely and has been going on for a long time.

We've got to stop it if we are to move forward. We've got to stand up and stand out. We've been patient a long

long time. It's time we said 'we've done our part', we've paid our share, now it's time for us to reap our just rewards.

What have our leaders and elected officials done? Judging by the state of our neighborhoods, not very much. Not enough anyway. I know at the Freeholders meetings Sam Frisby, the only Black on the Board, has yet to say much about all this money passing over the Black community. But he is not alone. Even though Black people always vote democrats into office, democrats are a big reason we are still in the conditions we are in.

I want reparations as much as anyone, but right now I'd like this consistent racism and inequality to stop.

If white people won't stop their racist ways how can we expect them to repair what they caused over the other 400 years of mistreatment?

We've got to change our ways. We've got to change the systems which have kept us in this bind for so long.

We need resources!

The way to get what we're already paying for (through our tax dollars) is to change the status quo which consistently diverts money and other resources away from our communities into the hands of others.

Developing political savvy is a place to start. We have to choose people to represent us, not because they are democrat or republican, but because they have our interest at heart and will advocate for us to get the resources we need.

Until we have people in place who will do whatever is necessary to ensure the growth and well-being of 'us' we can't move forward.

We know what happens when we are represented by those who only give lip service (just look around). Now we need to put people in place who will fight tooth and nail to improve our lives and those of our children.

Starting this off I will contact many in the community. Those who want to move forward with this 'movement' will. Those who want to keep the status quo will do that.

To become involved you may contact me at anytime at:

kamau@thenubiannews.com

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Before Jesse, Al, Barack, Kamala and Cory There Was Shirley

Congresswoman Shirley Chisholm in 1972 became the first Black candidate to run for a major party's nomination for President. She was the first woman to run for the Democratic Party's presidential nomination. Added to the many firsts that trail-



blazer Chisholm was to accomplish fifty years ago this year she became the first Black woman to serve in the US House of Representatives. She represented Brooklyn, New York for seven terms from 1969 to 1983. In 2015, Congresswoman Chisholm was posthumously awarded the Presidential Medal of Freedom by President Barack Obama, the first Black elected President.

Shirley Anita St. Hill was born on November 30, 1924, in Brooklyn, New York. She was the oldest of four daughters of Charles St. Hill, a factory laborer from Guyana, and Ruby Seale St. Hill, a seamstress from Barbados. For part of her childhood, Shirley St. Hill lived in Barbados on her maternal grandparents' farm, receiving a British education while her parents worked during the Great Depression to settle the family in Bedford-Stuyvesant. The most apparent manifestation of her West Indies roots was the slight, clipped British accent she retained throughout her life.

She attended public schools in Brooklyn and graduated with high marks. Accepted to Vassar and Oberlin colleges, Shirley St. Hill attended Brooklyn College on scholarship and graduated cum laude with a B.A. in sociology in 1946. From 1946 to 1953, Chisholm worked as a nursery school teacher and then as the director of two daycare centers. She married Conrad Chisholm, a private investigator, in 1949. Three years later,

Shirley Chisholm earned an M.A. in early childhood education from Columbia University. She served as an educational consultant for New York City's Division of Day Care from 1959 to 1964.

In 1964, Chisholm was elected to the New York State Legislature. In 1968, Chisholm decided to run for the US Congress. Her opponent was Republican-Liberal James Farmer, one of the principal figures of the civil rights movement. Both candidates had similar positions on issues that impacted the Black community. But the election turned on the issue of gender. Farmer hammered away, arguing that "women have been in the driver's seat" in Black communities for too long and that the district needed "a man's voice in Washington," not that of a "little schoolteacher." Chisholm, whose campaign motto was "unbought and unbossed," met that charge head-on, using Farmer's rhetoric to highlight discrimination against women and explain her unique qualifications. "There were Negro men in office here before I came in five years ago, but they didn't deliver," Chisholm

countered.

Chisholm won the election by a resounding 67 percent of the vote.

Chisholm's welcome in the House was not warm, due to her immediate outspokenness. "I have no intention of just sitting quietly and observing," she said. "I intend to focus attention on the nation's problems." She did just that, lashing out against the Vietnam War in her first floor speech on March 26, 1969.

Chisholm continued to work for the causes she had espoused as a community activist. She sponsored increases in federal funding to extend the hours of daycare facilities and a guaranteed minimum annual income for families. She was a fierce defender of federal assistance for education, serving as a primary backer of a national school lunch bill.

Shirley Chisholm died in 2005. She was a trailblazer extraordinaire.

On September 15, the National Congress of Black Women honored Congresswoman Chisholm at its 35th annual brunch in Washington, DC. Congresswoman Chisholm was a founder of the National Congress of Black Women.

September 25, 2019 | 6 pm

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CRECE POBLACION GUATEMALTECA

GUATEMALA — El gobierno guatemalteco presentó esta semana su más reciente censo poblacional y de vivienda y se determinó que el país centroamericano alcanzó los 14.901.286 millones de habitantes. De esta cifra, 51% son mujeres y 44% de la población se autodefine indígena. El Instituto Nacional de Estadística (INE) realizó el censo en colaboración con el Fondo de Población de Naciones Unidas (UNFPA). Néstor Guerra, gerente del INE, explicó que el censo respondió a tres preguntas: ¿Cómo vivimos? ¿Cuántos somos? y ¿En dónde estamos? La recolección de datos para el censo se realizó entre julio y septiembre de 2018 en 3.2 millones de hogares de todo el país; según dio a conocer la Prensa Asociada.



Inauguran nuevo edificio de Escuela Superior de Trenton

POR CARLOS AVILA

TRENTON-El pasado viernes 6 de septiembre, varias personalidades se dieron cita para inaugurar oficialmente el nuevo edificio de la Trenton Central High School. Entre los invitados especiales estuvo presente el presidente del Senado de Nueva Jersey Steve Sweeney, el alcalde Reed Gusciora, la senadora Shirley Turner, la asambleísta Verlina Reynolds-Jackson, la principal de la escuela Hope Grant; entre otras personalidades que en su momento apoyaron con la iniciativa de pedir fondos al estado para la construcción de este edificio nuevo que hoy es una realidad. El flamante edificio está dotado de modernas aulas, laboratorios y un auditorio que servirá para motivar y aprovechar al máximo el desarrollo intelectual y académico de cada

estudiante que quiera ser un profesional en la vida. “Que Dios traiga líderes y cambiadores del mundo en esta escuela. Que su cobertura cubra a todas y cada una de las personas que cruzan esas puertas” dijo Jeff Garcia un exalumno de la TCHS. Para los próximos días están previsto varias actividades que marquen el inicio de una nueva era en este establecimiento donde estudiarán los jóvenes de 10, 11 y 12 grados. Para el próximo viernes 25 de octubre 2019, a partir de las 6pm, está previsto la ceremonia de (The Trenton Central High School Athletic Hall of Fame) un reconocimiento a los y las atletas de elite de este centro educativo, según informaron los miembros del comité (Athletic Hall of Fame Committee).



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DESFILE Y FESTIVAL CENTROAMERICANO DE TRENTON

POR CARLOS AVILA

TRENTON-El pasado domingo 15 de septiembre se realizó con éxito el Desfile y Festival Centroamericano de Nueva Jersey. Cerca de 8 mil personas se reunieron en el Columbus Park lugar estratégico donde a su alrededor viven miles de latinoamericanos que han llegado en las últimas décadas a vivir en este sector donde antes era poblado por la comunidad italiana.

Diferentes actividades se realizan durante todo el día. Primero se lleva a cabo el desfile que inicia poco después del mediodía desde el 'Franklin Park' en el Sur de Trenton, ahí se reúnen todas las organizaciones, asociaciones y personas que con anterioridad se registran para tener un espacio en el recorrido que va desde la South Clinton Ave, Hamilton Ave hasta llegar al parque antes mencionado.

Los organizadores, un grupo de voluntarios miembros de la Asociación de Comerciantes Guate-



maltecos invitan con anterioridad a otras naciones centroamericanas para que participen en este importante evento cívico y cultural que ya se realiza por 7 años consecutivos.

Cuando preguntamos en qué se basa el éxito de la organización de este evento José Flores uno de los miembros señala claramente "En la unidad de la directiva. Somos personas dedicadas en hacer bien y cada año mejorar el evento para nuestra comunidad, que nos da su respaldo", dijo.

Durante el desfile, se puede observar un sinnúmero de grupos folclóricos, carrozas con coloridos arreglos propios de Guatemala y Centroamérica, show de caballos, grupos de jeperos, motocicletas y vehículos que hacen oír sus bocinas durante el recorrido. También hay que resaltar la participación de la Banda Punta de Lanza que nació hace más de una década netamente guatemalteca, pero que hoy en día está integrada por jóvenes hombres y mujeres de distintas nacionalidades.

Durante el festival, se puede disfrutar de artistas locales, nacionales e

internacionales. También se puede encontrar distintas tiendas de comida y artefactos típicamente Latinoamer-



icanos.

El ambiente es de fiesta durante todo el día, es común ver como madres y padres de familia llegan con sus 2, 3 y hasta 4 niños a caminar por el parque, o simplemente a ubicarse en algún lugar para disfrutar del ambiente de fiesta que este evento ofrece.

"Venimos en familia y en comunidad a celebrar la Independencia de nuestro país" dijo una madre de familia que venía empujando el coche con sus tres niños, uno de 3 meses de edad.

"Hemos mejorado en la seguridad que es lo más importante, hemos separado el acceso donde se vende cerveza, para seguridad de los niños, tratamos de evitar cualquier incidente. Hemos mejorado en la limpieza del parque, a pesar que la gente aun ensucia, nos quedamos limpiando hasta la 1 de la mañana, para asegurar que el parque quede limpio" dijo Flores.

Flores asegura que la mayoría de los miembros que actualmente están activos son personas que dedican su tiempo de corazón y que hacen el esfuerzo para devolver a la comunidad un poquito de ese respaldo que ellos reciben en sus distintos negocios.

"Mire nosotros hacemos esto de corazón, llegamos al parque a las 5 de la mañana, armamos carpas, arreglando los sitios, haciendo papeles, y nos fuimos a la 1 de la mañana del siguiente día asegurando que todo esté bien", dijo Flores quien es propietario de una mecánica automotriz en el área de Trenton.

Sin duda este evento cultural ha crecido año tras año y se espera que siga creciendo, por lo que el liderazgo de la directiva es fundamental para que ese entusiasmo y dedicación sin fines de lucro continúe sirviendo a su comunidad que cada día crece no solo por los que recién llegan, sino por los niños que cada día nacen en nuestra comunidad.

Colombia y su cambio de rol

LAURA LUCÍA RODRÍGUEZ PEÑA

Debido a diferentes circunstancias los latinoamericanos hemos (y me incluyo en la lista) migrado hacia diversos países del mundo. Esto ha conllevado a que seamos una región emisora de migrantes y a que nuestras economías incluyan dentro de su PIB las llamadas "remesas", que consisten en el dinero y los bienes que son enviados desde el exterior hacia latinoamérica, es decir, todo aquello que suelen enviar los latinos en Norteamérica y Europa hacia sus países de origen hace parte del sostenimiento de la economía de muchas familias en Suramérica.



Sin embargo, y a pesar de la hospitalidad de los latinos, nuestra región no es considerada una zona receptora de inmigrantes. Las razones pueden ser muchas, economías débiles, pocas ofertas laborales, conflictos internos, entre otras; como consecuencia de ello los Estados del sur no están preparados para una gran ola de inmigrantes y mucho menos de refugiados. Pero, como las crisis no suelen llegar con advertencias sino que escalan de manera inesperada, Colombia ha tenido que transformarse de ser un país emisor de inmigrantes a un receptor en tiempo récord. De hecho, no solo Colombia, también Chile, Ecuador y Perú han recibido un amplio número de inmigrantes en los últimos años. No obstante, Colombia ha sido el mayor receptor debido a la cercanía geográfica del emisor, Venezuela.

Venezuela hasta hace pocas décadas solía ser uno de los pocos (casi el único) país del cono sur que recibía inmigrantes constantemente, incluso gran cantidad de europeos emigraron hacia este país del trópico. Esto ocurría, debido a la gran bonanza petrolera del país, sumado a la hospitalidad de los nativos, la riqueza de la flora y el buen clima hacían de Venezuela un destino atractivo para radicarse de manera definitiva. Pero, como decimos en esta región "de eso

tan bueno no dan tanto", las brechas económicas entre las clases sociales se convirtieron en el caldo ideal para que surgieran ideas radicales de darle un vuelco ideológico al país. Lo anterior, se vio materializado en la llegada al poder de un presidente dictatorial e izquierdista, Hugo Chávez, que si bien quiso beneficiar a las clases más pobres pasó por alto todo lo que es necesario para mantener la sostenibilidad económica y ahora su sucesor, Nicolás Maduro, también ha ignorado los factores que tienen en alerta roja y en crisis económica a su país, y que ha perjudicado a todas las empresas y ciudadanos.

Este cóctel de malas decisiones ha convertido a Venezuela en el principal emisor de refugiados e inmigrantes actualmente. Hasta el momento han migrado 1.408.055 inmigrantes venezolanos a Colombia (cnn, 2019), país que no se encontraba ni se encuentra preparado para convertirse en un receptor de la noche a la mañana. Si bien, Colombia se jacta de tener una postura inclusiva, en el discurso de algunas personas se comienza a percibir rechazo hacia nuestros hermanos venezolanos, afirmando que están robando empleos a los locales o incluso incurriendo en actividades criminales.

Colombia, al igual que latinoamérica en general, necesita mejorar sus políticas migratorias pues es difícil predecir si los roles de emisor a receptor puedan cambiar en el futuro; para ello es necesario estar preparados y contar con todo el aparato estatal necesario para apoyar a los refugiados que lo necesiten, en este caso como ocurre con nuestros hermanos venezolanos. Además, es vital educar a la población para que la migración no cause mayor polarización o recelo sino que se convierta en una oportunidad de enriquecer y fortalecer el desarrollo de todos, esta es la visión que le urge adoptar a países como Colombia, Ecuador, Perú y Chile.



Business Card Directory



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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Fax: (609) 989-6697
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"I Know I Can"



Mayor W. Reed Gusciora has appointed **Steven J. Picco** as interim director of the Department of Water and Sewer, which operates Trenton Water Works. Mr. Picco is an accomplished executive with nearly 40 years of experience as a lawyer, regulator and administrator in the environmental industry, including water asset management and national water policy. He will champion the ongoing reorganization of TWW while the Gusciora administration conducts a national search for a permanent director. Additionally, Mr. Picco will audit TWW's books to prepare the water utility to take on millions in needed capital projects. The audit will help TWW achieve financial objectives, complete the reorganization of staff and departments, improve customer service, increase the rate of collection of accounts, and ensure that the utility continues to meet federal and state water-quality expectations. Under the leadership and support of Mayor Gusciora, TWW is positioning itself to deliver consistently high-quality water and achieve operational success.

City of Trenton

W. Reed Gusciora, Mayor • Steven J. Picco, Interim Director • City Council



MWNUBIANPICCO10012019

Nubian News Book Review

BY TERRI SCHLICHENMEYER

“More to Life”

BY RESHONDA TATE BILLINGSLEY

c.2019, Dafina Books \$15.95 / \$21.95
Canada 272 pages

“Keep this to yourself!”

That’s the way big dreams start: don’t tell anyone, because telling makes them more delicate. Sharing makes it hurt more when what you want doesn’t happen. As in the new book

gallery, her friends didn’t take her seriously, either.

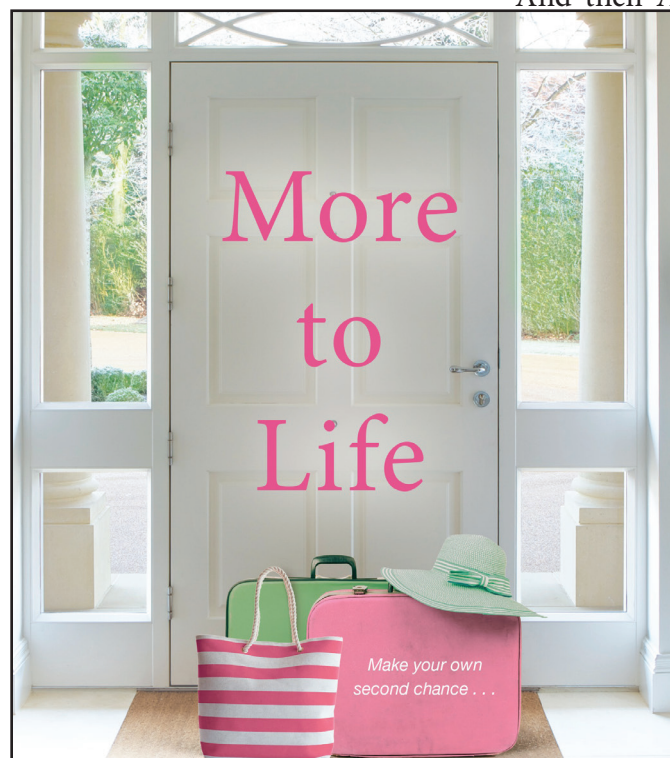
So, like the good wife she was expected to be, she put her own needs aside to take care of Charles and the children. She painted when she could, which was rare because her time was spent looking for lost socks and lost golf clubs and doing what her family demanded of her.

And then Aja met a strange Island woman who told her that she needed to walk her own purpose, words that struck her to the core. Finally, Aja knew what made her feel so unsettled, and she went home to face her future.

But was it with – or without – Charles? Aja’s best friends thought she was crazy to give up a good man for the unknown. And the house and the lifestyle, too? Insane! Ah, but just thinking about a quiet art gallery and an easel made Aja smile. Could she really do it? Dreams deferred. Is that the story of your very existence? If so, then you’ll love having “More to Life”... more or less.

More, because author ReShonda Tate Billingsley offers fans another novel that reads as though she’s spent a month spying on their lives and calendars, and anyone who’s ever lost a dream or shelved one indefinitely will feel a kinship with Aja. That character, as well as the rest of Billingsley’s cast, feels familiar, almost personal, and mostly likeable, although the situations they’re placed in (here’s the “less”) are really too over-the-top. Suffice it to say that there’s a Big Event inside this tale that abruptly alters the entire course of the story, adding unnecessary drama to a situation that was arguably better and more relatable without embellishment.

Still, if a dream is like a butterfly in your hands, or if you’ve ever moved to seize a *what-if*, then this book will read like a diary for you. Start “More to Life” and you won’t be able to keep it to yourself.



AWARD-WINNING AUTHOR

ReShonda Tate
BILLINGSLEY

“More to Life” by ReShonda Tate Billingsley, it’s even worse when your dreams are ignored.

Even by her own admission, Aja James had everything a woman could want: a handsome husband, Charles, who loved giving gifts. Two wonderful children. A beautiful home, fine furnishings, a full closet, a new car. And yet, during an Islands birthday vacation with her three best friends – paid for by Charles, of course – forty-five-year-old Aja realized that she never had what her soul needed. Once, she’d showed promise as a painter and it was her passion. She was good at it but, as she realized at the island resort, nobody listened when she said she wanted to paint forever. Her high school guidance counselor and her parents shooed her away from it. Her husband and children called it “a hobby.” When Aja said she wanted to open an art

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was a founding member.

Once released, Mugabe, the soft-spoken former teacher and self-styled Marxist-Leninist revolutionary who quoted Chairman Mao, headed to Mozambique, from where he led one of two guerrilla armies that fought against the white minority regime of Ian Smith.

He made a name for himself during the independence movement, and Mugabe’s Zimbabwe African National Union won an overwhelming majority in the first free elections in what had been officially renamed Zimbabwe in 1980. Mugabe then became the country’s first post-independence Prime Minister. He later became President and invested heavily in social programs, including education and health,

Mugbe initiated agrarian land reform and redistribution of white-controlled land to Black citizens of Zimbabwe. The US and other Western countries condemned the reform and banned loans and aid to Zimbabwe as well as imposed crippling sanctions.

Similar to what the US for decades had tried to do to Cuba and is doing now in Venezuela to disrupt and severely weaken their economies. The US and its Western puppets attempted to cause economic hardships in

Zimbabwe. The US and its flunkies like Britain basically declared economic warfare on Mugabe and Zimbabwe to destabilize and cause havoc on the Zimbabwe economy. They were successful. Once known as the breadbasket of Africa, Zimbabwe’s farming industry collapsed and the country descended into desperate poverty.

Despite efforts by some in the US and European media to paint Mugabe as a tyrant and dictator in reporting his death, African leaders have paid tribute to the late leader as a major figure in the continent’s political history.

South Africa’s President Cyril Ramaphosa called Mr Mugabe a “champion of Africa’s cause against colonialism” who inspired our own struggle against apartheid.”

Kenya’s President Uhuru Kenyatta said Mr Mugabe had “played a major role in shaping the interests of the African continent” and was “a man of courage who was never afraid to fight for what he believed in even when it was not popular.”

Robert Mugbe teacher, revolutionary, liberator, leader contribute to the history of his nation and his continent. We celebrate your life and mourn your passing. .

Hispanic Heritage Month

BY AL ALATUNJI

September 15th to October 15th is National Hispanic Heritage Month. The month long celebration recognizes the valuable contributions made by residents of Hispanic descent to all aspects of American life, including leadership in public service, sports, business, the arts, science, technology, education and civil and human rights.

Hispanic Heritage Month, which was



first observed in 1968, begins each year on September 15th. September 15th was chosen as the starting point for the celebration of Hispanic Heritage Month because it is the anniversary of the independence of five Latin American countries: Costa Rica, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras and Nicaragua. In addition, Mexico and Chile celebrate their independence days on September 16 and September 18.

Hispanics have had a profound and positive influence in the US through their strong commitment to family, faith, hard work and service. Hispanics have shaped and enhanced US society with centuries-old traditions that reflect the multiethnic and multicultural customs of their communities.

Hispanic Heritage Month provides a special opportunity for educators, schools, as well as public and private institutions to focus on the many Hispanic Americans whose lives and works have shaped the history and fabric of American society.

The land and countries where Spanish and Portuguese is the primary language in the Caribbean, Mexico, Central and South America was originally inhabited by various indigenous Indians groups. In the 15th and 16th centuries, colonists from Spain and Portugal brutally overran the indigenous Indians subjugating them to European conquest. Within a few years of the brutal conquest Spanish and Portuguese colonists brought African slaves to work the conquered lands.

There were 11.2 million Africans

who survived the Middle Passage and landed in the New World, and of that 11.2 million, only 450,000 came to the US. All the rest went south of Miami as it were. Brazil got almost 5 million Africans.

Brazil has the second largest Black population — Black being defined by people of African descent in the way that it is defined in the US. It is second only to Nigeria. Other Hispanic countries with large African popu-

lations today include Dominican Republic, Cuba, Colombia, Venezuela and Ecuador. Approximately one hundred years prior to African slaves being brought to the colonial US in 1619, African were brought to the Caribbean and South American as slaves.

This mix of indigenous Indians, Europeans and Africans developed the rich history and culture of what is called Hispanic culture. The African influence is significant and can be found in the customs, music, religion and other aspects of Hispanic culture.

Such popular dances and music as merengue, rumba, salsa, samba were heavily influenced by African dance movements and African music. Various foods and food dishes were transported from African by African slaves. Santeria with its seven African gods is a series of religious practices of Bantu origins, brought by slaves to Cuba from Central Africa and practiced to this day in the Spanish Caribbean and US.

Today, 57.5 million people are classified as Hispanic representing 18% of the American population. There are 1,730,000 Hispanics in New Jersey 19% of the total state population. The city of Trenton is home to 29,996 Hispanics representing 35.5% of the city's total population.

The Nubian News recognizes and appreciates the contributions and achievements of the Hispanic community and celebrates Hispanic Heritage Month.

Medical Marijuana Is Growing In New Jersey

This weekend New Jersey held the largest Cannabis Convention to date at the Atlantic City Convention Center.

There were marijuana vendors of all types. The cannabis industry is growing by leaps and bounds and the list of companies who are connected is staggering.

One area which garnered a lot of attention is medical marijuana. In the keynote breakout session Dasheeda Dawson, known as The Weedhead, talked about how New Jersey can become the center of a 'Green Rush in Pharm Country: New Jersey's transformation to National Medical Marijuana leader.'

Ms. Dawson maintains that since New Jersey is already home to most of the largest pharmaceutical companies in the country medical marijuana is a natural crossover.

Although many are looking forward to NJ legalizing social marijuana she believes a major focus should



Dasheeda Dawson, The Weedhead at Atlantic City's Convention Center

stay with the medical side of the business. There are already 100s of millions of dollars spent on pharmaceuticals. An expansion into medical marijuana, which has proven to help many medical issues, is going to reap huge returns.

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What's Happening

- 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.

- Wednesday, September 25th - 6 pm - DOING BUSINESS WITH MERCER COUNTY, Mercer County Library, Lawrence Branch, 2751 Brunswick Pike, Lawrenceville, NJ. Are you interested in registering with the Mercer County Small Business Outreach Program as a small business or a business owner by a woman, minority or veteran? For more information or to register, please contact Ed Kemler at (609) 989-6555 / ekemler@mercercounty.org
- Saturday, September 29th, 10am to 1pm - Community Information Session presented by the Urban Mental Health Alliance, MCCC 102 N Broad St, Trenton, NJ. For info call 609 610-7603. Join UMHA Ex. Dir. Kimme Carlos as she speaks on emotional health, resilience and self care.
- Tuesday, September 24th, 6pm to 9pm -Cannabis Advocacy Organization M4MM to Launch Licensing Boot Camp for Minority and Women Owned Business Owners in New Jersey. At Historic Trenton Masonic Temple, and October 1st at NJ Cowork Street in Camden NJ. You will be given an overview of New Jersey's licensing process, address questions and concerns, preview the CBLB instructional curriculum, and meet key medical cannabis experts who will be teaching at the CBLB in October. The CBLB KickOff event fee is \$25. Aimed at tackling inequity and the lack of minority- and

women-owned business operators in the cannabis industry, the CBLB is scheduled for October 19th and 26th from 8:30a- 6:00pm EST at Launch-Pad Newark. This integrative multi-week workshop will be open to 150-200 qualifying business license applicants. Attendees can expect to gain a clear understanding of the licensing process, access Oaksterdam University's nationally renowned educational tools and experts, learn

key strategies, receive specialized training and resource development through M4MM, gain exclusive access to industry professionals necessary to build businesses that succeed, and access to additional pre- and post license support. For more information and registration go to www.m4mmunited.org. or contact: Imani Dawson, M4MM Director of Communications, imani@mjmstrategy.com - 646-389-9520



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