## The Nubian News

Loving the Black Perspective

WHITE SUPREMACY/RACISM



MARTIN NUEVO ALCALDE DE HAMILTON TOWNSHIP



-El demócrata Jeff Martin fue electo nuevo alcalde del municipio de Hamilton, superando en numero de votos a la actual alcaldesa la republicana Kelly Yaede.Con 63 de los 64 recintos electorales que informaron resultados, Martin gana el escaño en la alcaldía con 10,614 votos, mientras que Yaede obtuvo 8,371 votos, según los resultados no oficiales publicados por la Ofici na de la Secretaria del Condado de Mercer.



Go to page 6 - Edited by Carlos Avila



"Believe me or not but these boxing events can bring the community together in a party atmosphere, "said Robert Smarr who said that for 20 years He's being done this kind of boxing evenings in Trenton.

see page 6 for more

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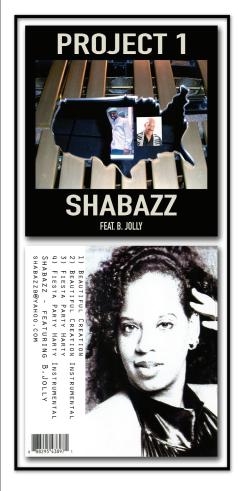
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Compiled from "The United Independent Compensatory Code/System/Concept by Mr. Neely Fuller Jr.

#### **Rich Person:**

Any person who knows and understands truth, and, who has used his or her knowledge and understanding in a manner that has produced justice and correctness at all times, in all places, and all areas of activity. (Note: There is no rich person in the known universe).

#### Sane Person:

A person who has found truth, who knows and understands truth, and who uses truth in such manner as to produce justice, and correctness, at all times, in all places, in all areas of activity, including economics, education, entertainment, labor, law, politics, religion, sex, and war.

Note: It is not possible for a sane person to exist in the known universe, and at the same time, practice, or tolerate the existence of falsehood, non-justice, or incorrectness in any area of activity.

#### Self Respect:

Refusing to lie to oneself, and, letting all others know of that refusal.

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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#### **Living With The Dinosaurs**

BY KAMAU KUJICHAGULIA

I don't need to tell Black people this because we live it every day. But if you are white and just can't get your head around all this white supremacy, racism stuff – this is for you.

Just imagine this and wonder how you would feel 'if', living across the



street from you there was a household of dinosaurs. Doesn't matter what kind because a dinosaur is a dinosaur. But for convenience thinks about a family of Raptors.

Most of the time they are regular 'people'. You see them, you wave, they say hello. Your kids play together. Everything is fine. But at any time, your daughter can come home to tell you 'Rappy just ate Peter". What'cha gonna do?

If you can imagine that, you know what we go through every damn day.

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Every day, every second of every day, you know the Raptors can and will act like raptors. That's what they are, they're beast. It's not like they want to hurt you (no, that's not true – a lot of times they do) but it's their nature and sooner or later nature always wins out.

> But suppose you don't see yourself as a carnivorous raptor. You're more like the loveable, peaceful brontosaurus. Big gentle giant. You come over to help us with cutting the grass or pruning the high trees. That great. Until you turn

around and that huge tail crushes the car, or you move to the other side of the tree and happen to step on my newborn baby.

You didn't mean it and you're sorry as can be about it, but the car is still crushed, and my baby is still dead.

That's what we live with all the time. What effects would knowing, at any time your doors and walls can be blown down and your wife and kids and you could be ripped to shreds. And there is almost nothing you can do about it. Either before, to prevent it, or after it happens. How would you feel?

That's how we feel! Every day of our lives. That's the feeling I don't want my grand children to feel. That's why I do what I do. That's why I write this. The system of white supremacy/ racism has sent its police storming into our homes, blowing our doors off, killing our babies, our mothers, fathers and even grandmothers (Eleanor Bumpers). There's no resistance, and they kill us anyway. Sometimes they come into the wrong home, berate, injure and kill and there are no reprisals or consequences for their actions.

They'll drive up on us and shoot our baby girls (Jennie Hightower), for no reason, and nothing is done. The system of white supremacy/racism doesn't allow you a recourse. Just like a raptor who tears your head off, it just walks away. How can you wonder why we are stressed?

The tyrannosaurus rex, the raptor and pterodactyl act with brute force. Like enslaving millions of people and taking everything, we have, for hundreds of years and making it yours. Enriching yourself and your posterity and then coming back to chew on the bones by saying you black people are weak and poor and live like animals.

Or like being invited into someone's

home, beating them up, giving them your diseases, purposely, stealing their land, killing their kids and hiding them in a closet in North Dakota. How would vou feel knowing this Giganotosaurus was living down the street from you?

We have people like Miss Annie Cooper of Selma, Alabama who wanted to vote. That's all she wanted to do. The system came down on her, first they beat this woman and then they took her home and livelihood away from her. How many millions of us have lost our jobs or couldn't find one because we wanted better for our families? But that's how this system works.

How many Kings or Evers or Hamers or Tills or Ducksworths or Addie Maes, Denises, Caroles, Cynthias or Jacksons or Mahones or Millers or Browns or Rices or Jeffersons or Jeans will there be? How many more times will the Raptors say, "I'm sorry I don't know what came over me."

Living around dinosaurs stress you out. It causes bad health, mental and physical. It causes terror, deep down in your bones. And every day you must go out there acting like everything is okay.

It's not. What keeps us going is the knowledge the dinosaurs couldn't stand up to the will of God.

They're all gone now.

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## **Giving Thanks In Trenton This Thanksgiving**

BY AL ALATUNJI

Before Corporate America decided to hijack the holiday and make it about Black Friday in honor of the god of consumerism, Thanksgiving was that special time of the year when people gave thanks for what truly was important in their lives. It was a wonderful, even spiritual time of year when cynicism and complaining was put under lock and key, and hope, joy and optimism and of course thanks ruled the day.

Yes, there is so much that we can be negative and complain about. For some that is just their nature. They are miserable and enjoy being miserable. Then there are others too busy concerning themselves with what other people may have, to understand just how truly blessed they are themselves. However, this Thanksgiving let us take the time in Trenton to some things for which we can be truly thankful.

Let's start with the city of Trenton. It has it's degree of problems like other cities. However, it could be worse. It could be Camden, East St. Louis or Aleppo, Syria.

People of Trenton can be thankful they have a new state of the art high school for children of Trenton to attend. Clean, modern and conducive not only for learning, but a place where both students and teachers can feel a certain degree of safety and comfort.

That Trenton remains a sanctuary city and that a significant number of recent immigrants from Haiti, Guatemala, Jamaica and other Caribbean nations, Africa, Central and South American countries have settled in Trenton is something be thankful for. Because of their belief in the American Dream and willingness to work hard and their commitment to having their children get the best possible education, instead of hoping to win the lottery or suing someone, Trenton will see a better day.

Trentonians can be thankful for those over a certain age who were blessed to have experienced a world where children played outside and used their imaginations and families prayed around a dinner table. When Thanksgiving was about food, fun, friends and family. A time when people took time to gaze at the moon and stars, walk in the park instead of their cell phones, and sit next to each other and actually talk to one other face to face. A time before Twitter, Facebook, snapchat and all the other so-called technological treasures sold our time and stole our humanity.

Thanksgiving in Trenton. Let us give thanks

#### T. A. S. K Holiday Celebrations

#### **CELEBRATING LIFE**

We recognize that for many of our patrons, the only place that a holiday or special event will be honored is at TASK. The staff - with the help of loyal volunteers - observe the following holidays and special occasions:

#### Thanksgiving

TurkeyThanksgiving is always a busy day at TASK! We serve a full Thanksgiving dinner, and each patron is given an additional hot meal to take home along with a mid-day bag and a bag of candy. Some 100 volunteers come together annually to make this day possible. (The community of the Tollgate School in Pennington has been providing food and decorations for this special event since 1987, and Timberlane School has been providing take-home mid-day bags for patrons.)

#### **End of Year Holiday Season**

Annual Holiday festivities at TASK bring together members of the community for meals as well as gift

distribution for both children and adults.

TASK is open every Monday through Friday, even on holidays. On major holidays that fall on weekdays, including Christmas or Thanksgiving, TASK serves a full, hot, nutritious, traditional meal at lunch time that includes take-home treats.

We also give holiday gifts, including hats, scarves, gloves, crayons and coloring books, and stuffed animals, to all TASK patrons during the Christmas season.

#### Birthdays

Have you ever considered what it would be like if no one acknowledged your birthday? This has been the experience of many of our patrons. TASK celebrates birthdays every month. We recognize patrons whose birthdays fall within the month and give them birthday cake to celebrate.

# 2020 political candidates being challenged to spend 12% of their campaign contributions with Black-owned businesses

BY ANITA S. LANE, SAN FRANCISCO DAY

For decades, the Black community in America has overwhelmingly given its support to candidates who have made promise to support Black causes, yet there is virtually no tangible way to measure if such support



Dr. Rik Stevenson

is being granted. McPAC.vote solves this problem.

This political campaign season, political candidates across the United States at the local, statewide and national level will be presented with a NEW question. And that is: "Are you willing to pledge to spend 12 percent or more of your campaign funds with Black owned businesses?"

This new initiative is called the Minority Communities for Political Accountability Coalition: McPAC. vote. Rolling out first in the Black community, followed by the Latino and Asian communities, McPAC's mission is two-fold: to provide an opportunity for political candidates to accompany their words with tangible, empowering action, and to provide a simple one-stop destination where voters can see which candidates have pledged and how close to their pledges they have come. On the 2019 campaign trail, political candidates have boasted how they are willing to support a "discussion" on the topic of reparations for Black people. However, McPAC believes candidates can take action right now. "Candidates don't have to wait until they get elected into office and pass legislation in order to help empower Black lives and Black communities. Candidates can start now, simply by utilizing the services of Black owned businesses when purchasing goods

and services with their campaign funds. It's a very tangible place to start," says Dr. Rik Stevenson, author and founding panelist for McPAC.

Political candidates at every level – beginning with the presidential candidates – are being encouraged by McPAC and its supporters to make

a pledge to spend 12 percent or more of their campaign contributions with Black-owned businesses. Why 12 percent? Because the U.S. Census states that the Black population in America is approximately 12 percent.

McPAC will monitor and maintain each candidate's pledge results on their website, McPAC.vote. The organization has an IT team dedicated to the work

of monitoring and updating pledges and contributions. And the group itself is committed to transparency. Everything is out in the open. The founding panel members of McPAC are people who believe that political candidates can and should be held accountable for what too often becomes mere rhetoric on the campaign trail. "We understand the pressure on the candidate - political demands coming from every side. So McPAC exists to help candidates show measurable impact, so that at the end of the day, they can say, 'I pledged to support the Black community and I did," states Dr. Jowel LaGuerre, educator and founding panel member. A full list of the founding McPAC panelists can be found at McPAC.vote.

On the website, McPAC provides an example of how actual candidate' pledges will look. Political candidates can sign up on their own, supporters who agree with the mission of McPAC can sign the petition by visiting McPAC.vote, and African American owned businesses who want to register their business with McPAC can do so on the site as well. "We hope every candidate will be willing to make the pledge," states McPAC President Carla Tillman. "And we hope that enough businesses sign on to ensure success," she adds.

#### **Texas Court Halts Rodney Reed Execution**

BY JORDAN SMITH, FOR BLACK AGENDA REPORT

A Black man gets a reprieve from execution in the death of a white woman who may have been killed by her cop husband.

"Over the years the courts have erected barriers to those with solid evidence of innocence."

In a dramatic turn of events, Texas's Court of Criminal Appeals issued an indefinite stay of execution for Rodney Reed, pending further court action on three points of appeal including whether Reed is actually innocent of the murder that sent him to death row more than 20 years ago. On November 15, the state's highest criminal court concluded that questions about whether prosecutors withheld exculpatory evidence and sponsored false testimony at Reed's trial, along with the question of Reed's innocence, should be kicked back to the trial court for further vetting.

Reed, now 51, has been on Texas's death row since 1998, when he was sentenced to die for the murder of a 19-year-old woman named Stacey Stites in Bastrop, Texas, a small town about 30 miles east of Austin.

DNA collected from Stites's body at the crime scene was matched to Reed. On the basis of that match alone, prosecutors drummed up a theory of the crime that alleged that Reed had hijacked Stites's pickup truck while he was on foot in the pre-dawn hours of April 23, 1996, as Stites drove alone on a state highway on her way to work. No other evidence tied Reed to the crime.

When he was questioned about the murder, Reed at first said he didn't know Stites but soon relented, saying his DNA was there because the two were having a consensual affair — a situation that would have been perilous: Reed is black, Stites was white, and she was engaged to a man named Jimmy Fennell, a white police officer in a neighboring town.

Prosecutors alleged that the DNA was the result of a stranger encounter with Reed — an argument they bolstered using testimony from Fennell about his apparently loving, monogamous relationship with Stites.

But evidence that has steadily emerged since Reed's conviction casts a far different, much darker picture of the relationship between Stites and Fennell, adding credence to Reed's assertion of a consensual affair.

affidavits the newest Among contained in the filing is one from a former Bastrop sheriff's deputy named Richard Derleth, who said that he regularly talked to employees of the grocery store where Stites worked. He said they told him that they would warn Stites whenever Fennell came to the store to see her, in an effort to prevent a confrontation between the couple. "They would tell Stacey and she would run and hide from Jimmy," Derleth said . "They told me they were concerned that if they did not alert Stacey to Jimmy's presence in the store before he found her, he would start a fight with her." Fennell's attorney Robert Phillips recently told me that such accusations against Fennell are not credible because they were not made contemporaneous to Stites's murder. "These Hail Mary, 11th hour people who are coming out of the woodwork, 20 years after the fact, including law enforcement officers ... I ask this question: Where were you all this time?"

But according to Derleth, he was working at the Bastrop County Sheriff's Office back in 1996 and informed his colleagues of what he knew at the time. "I am not sure what the members of the sheriff's office I told this to ever did with it," he said.

Another man, William Sappington, also had a story for police back in 1996 that was apparently never followed up on. Sappington, who has since died, lived in an apartment downstairs from the one Stites shared with Fennell at the time of her murder.

According to Sappington's son Brent and daughter-in-law Vicki, Sappington talked about the verbal and potentially physical abuse that he heard in the apartment upstairs, perpetrated, by Fennell. According to the couple, they had also heard the altercations upstairs, and they knew that after Stites's death, Sappington reported the information to police. They said Sappington told them that the police said they weren't interested. "When Stacey was killed, Daddy was devastated, and he told us that he contacted law enforcement to tell them what he knew about Jimmy's abuse but was told that Jimmy would not do that type of thing and was not involved in Stacey's death," Vicki Sappington told Reed's attorneys. "He told me he could not understand why investigators were not more interested in speaking to him since Jimmy and Stacey were directly above his apartment."

In granting the stay of execution, the court is questioning whether the state violated Reed's rights by withholding information from his defense lawyers. While the state had an obligation to turn over case-related information from all local law enforcement officers, the accounts of Derleth and

others suggest that did not happen. The second question raised by the court is whether Fennell lied at Reed's trial when he testified that he and Stites had a loving, conflict-free

relationship. Numerous witnesses, now including the Sappingtons, have called that claim into question.

Looming over it all is the question of whether Reed is actually innocent of the murder for which he was condemned to die, which the court is also apparently interested in, despite its long and complicated history with that question. Over the years, the court has largely done what it can to erect barriers in front of those with solid evidence of innocence, including in Reed's case. In exonerating a man in Dallas last year who was convicted based on notoriously unreliable bitemark evidence, Chief Judge Sharon "Killer" Keller wondered where the bar for demonstrating innocence should rest. "Should a convicted person be declared 'actually innocent' merely because the state's case has completely fallen apart?" she wrote. "Or should the evidence also affirmatively show that the defendant did not in fact commit the crime? I believe the latter is the case."

Jordan Smith is a state and national award-winning investigative journalist based in Austin, Texas. She has covered criminal justice for 20 years and, during that time, has developed a reputation as a resourceful and dogged reporter with a talent for analyzing complex social and legal issues. She is regarded as one of the best investigative reporters in Texas. A longtime staff writer for the Austin Chronicle, her work has also appeared in The Nation, the Crime Report, and Salon, among other places.

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#### **BOXING El deporte de las narices chatas**

POR CARLOS AVILA

TRENTON-Emotivos combates de boxeo se realizaron el pasado sábado 2 de noviembre en la ciudad de Trenton. El ring se montó en el coliseo de la escuela "The Village Charter School" en West Trenton.



Hubo un gran ambiente deportivo donde se reunieron no solo los deportistas y dirigentes sino también estuvieron presente familiares de los



boxeadores lo cual creo un ambiente de comunidad y fraternidad que ha

decir de los organizadores fue lo más importante.

"Créame o no pero estos eventos de boxeo permite reunir a la comunidad en una ambiente de fiesta" dijo Robert Smarr quien manifestó que ya son 20 años que viene realizando este tipo de veladas boxísticas en Trenton. Los boxeadores vinieron de todas <u>partes del estado iardín. Sin duda</u>



algunos de ellos son de Trenton quienes demostraron tener madera para ingresar en el mundo profesional del deporte de las narices chatas.

Esperemos que las autoridades de la ciudad y el estado promuevan más eventos de esta naturaleza, pues es bien sabido por todos que el deporte y sobre todo el boxeo permite a muchos niños y jóvenes escapar de los malos hábitos y llevar una vida saludable centrada en alcanzar una medalla olímpica o un cinturón a nivel profesional.

#### **INAUGURAN NUEVO RESTAURANTE EN** TRENTON

Por Carlos Avila

TRENTON-El alcalde Reed Gusciora, el Pastor Mario Vignets, familiares y empleados del flamante negocio estuvieron presentes en la inauguración oficial del restaurante "Taquería El Mariachi II" en el Sur de Trenton. El evento también contó con el apoyo y la presencia de algunos miembros de Latino Merchant Association of New

"Nosotros siempre estamos felices cuando un nuevo negocio nace en la ciudad de Trenton" dijo el alcalde Gusciora, al tiempo que les deseó éxito a los jóvenes emprendedores dueños del flamante negocio.

Sonia Lima una de las jóvenes propietarias señaló que esto es un sueño hecho, agradeció la presencia del primer personero de la ciudad así como también el apoyo de los miembros de la Asociación de Comerciantes Latinos y la prensa local.

El Pastor Vignets de la iglesia Cristiana Jiret Asamblea de Dios, durante

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la bendición del local pidió al Todo Poderoso que el negocio que hoy se abre salga adelante y que tenga éxitos, pidió por los empleados y dueños del negocio quienes asegura, son jóvenes honestos y sinceros y que esto sea para ellos un "Sueño Americano" hecho realidad.

Antes de cortar la cinta, todos los invitados, familiares y empleados posaron junto al alcalde Gusciora, de esa manera celebraron este acontecimiento que subraya el crecimiento de emprendedores hispanos en la ciudad capital de Nueva Jersey.

Al final uno de los miembros de la asociación de comerciantes dio a conocer que la primera semana de Diciembre por primera vez se tendrá decorado un árbol navideño, manifestó que unos días antes se dará mayores detalles al respecto.

El local está ubicado donde antes era el Restaurante Tropical, 120 Lalor St Trenton, NJ 08611....Tel. 609-989-

#### La gota que rebosa el vaso

LAURA LUCÍA RODRÍGUEZ PEÑA

Al igual que diferentes países de Latinoamérica, Colombia está al

colapsar todo el sistema en busca de un cambio en el gobierno. Colombia presume a nivel internacional tener una economía estable y

un crecimiento progresivo con el tiempo, lo cual no es falso en cierta medida, pero es tan sólo una de las caras de lo que en realidad ocurre en Colombia.

Desde el inicio del gobierno del presidente Duque, en 2018, diferentes cosas han venido abajo. Han aumentado los asesinatos de líderes sociales en todo el país, se interrumpieron gran parte de los proyectos de construcción de paz, aumentó el desempleo, no hay medidas a largo plazo para afrontar la migración venezolana, aumentaron los casos falsos positivos. Sin embargo, la gota





Colombia's Interim Detense Minister and Armed Forces Commander Gen. Luis Fernando Navarro, center, and Colombia's President Ivan Duque, right, attend a graduation ceremony for police cadets in Bogota, Colombia, Thursday, Nov. 7, 2019. Colombia's Defense Minister Guillermo Botero resigned Wednesday after a lawmaker accused him of failing to disclose that eight minors had been killed in a military operation against dissident rebels.

colombianos (que ya se estaban demorando en protestar) fue el No obstante, en lugar de recibir un asesinato de 18 niños a causa de un bombardeo militar en el Caquetá.

**November 22, 2019** 

Esto despertó la ira de la mayoría del país, quien le reclama al gobierno nacional por dicha atrocidad. Frente a ello, el ministro de defensa Guillermo Botero renunció sin siquiera admitir el error en sus funciones ni mostrar una pizca de arrepentimiento y culpa ante las familias afectadas. Para

laboral, de educación y de seguridad. apoyo a la libre manifestación y la protesta, los líderes (entre los que se encuentran senadores de oposición, hijos del ex presidente Santos, artistas, deportistas, entre muchos otros) han recibido amenazas de muerte en redes sociales y el gobierno parece replicar lo mismo militarizando todas las ciudades y realizando requisas en diferentes establecimien-



colmo de males el presidente Duque tampoco se manifestó ante la tragedia, sino que por el contrario exaltó la labor del señor Botero y lamentó su renuncia.

> Diferentes sectores de la sociedad no esperaron a manifestarse en redes sociales y comenzaron la logística para un gran paro nacional el día 21 de noviembre. Se realizarán manifestaciones en todas las ciudades y municipalidades del país, además colombianos alrededor del mundo ya se sumaron y han reafirmado su compromiso de manifestarse frente a las embajadas ese mismo día.

> Se espera que con esta movilización masiva el presidente Duque escuche los reclamos que agobian a la ciudadanía a nivel social, ambiental,

tos. Pareciera que está siguiendo los pasos del gobierno Piñera en Chile, en donde los carabineros han respondido de forma violenta a las protestas y han disparado a los manifestantes afectando la visión de centenares de ellos.

Gran parte del pueblo colombiano está dispuesto a manifestarse en paz y a exigirle al gobierno lo que debería cumplir, esto no debería implicar una respuesta violenta por parte del gobierno que juró proteger a sus ciudadanos.

Solo resta esperar el desarrollo de la jornada de protestas y tener esperanza en que el presidente Duque decida finalmente poner en marcha un gobierno que priorice en la paz y bienestar de su pueblo.



Page 7



## **Protecting** you from lead is our top priority.



On December 3, Trenton Water Works will begin a phased rollout of our corrosion control project, introducing orthophosphate, a food additive, into our water-treatment process to prevent particles from lead and galvanized steel water-service lines and household plumbing fixtures from leaching into drinking water. This project is in addition to our Lead Service Line Replacement Program, which is replacing thousands of lead lines with safer copper lines in our system and at private homes. In Phase 1, TWW will apply orthophosphate to our high service area, which is comprised of parts of the City of Trenton, Hamilton Township, Ewing Township, and Lawrence Township. TWW's gravity area—sections of the City of Trenton—will receive orthophosphate as part of Phase 2, once TWW completes water-distribution system and water-treatment system improvements. Parts of Hopewell Township within our service area are not a focus of this project because they use newer infrastructure. To learn more, call (609) 989-3055.

City of Trenton

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#### Orthophosphate FAQ

#### What Is Orthophosphate?

**Orthophosphate** is a food-grade additive that we add to our water-treatment process to help reduce lead levels in water. When water with orthophosphate runs through the system, it creates a coating on the inside of lead service lines, creating a barrier between the lead pipes and the water. This is considered corrosion control.

#### Is Orthophosphate Safe in My Drinking Water?

Orthophosphate is considered safe by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration. Also, the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) recognize orthophosphate as an effective water-treatment additive in reducing lead levels.

#### Why Is Orthophosphate Important for the TWW Water System?

According to our analysis of TWW's water-distribution system, there are 36,700 lead and galvanized steel water-service lines in our system and at private homes in our five-municipality service area. This number does not include Hopewell Township because the vast majority of its housing stock in our service area was built after lead was banned for use in plumbing fixtures. Although TWW has launched a \$15 million project to replace thousands of water-service lines in our system, it will take many years. In the short-term, a proven method of protecting residents from lead is by introducing orthophosphate into TWW's water-treatment process to prevent lead from leaching into the water from lead and galvanized steel water-service lines and household plumbing fixtures.

#### **How Does Orthophosphate Work?**

Orthophosphate forms a protective coating inside lead and galvanized steel water-service lines and household plumbing fixtures to prevent lead particles from leaching into the drinking water.

#### When Will TWW Begin Using Orthophosphate?

TWW will add orthophosphate to its water-treatment process in phases, beginning with the launch of Phase 1 to TWW's high service area on Tuesday, December 3. TWW's high service area is comprised of parts of the City of Trenton, Hamilton Township, Ewing Township, and Lawrence Township. While Hopewell Township will not be a direct focus of TWW's orthophosphate work due to its newer infrastructure, the additive will enter its water supply during this system-wide initiative. TWW's gravity area, comprised of parts of the City of Trenton, will receive orthophosphate as part of Phase 2, once TWW completes water-distribution system and water-treatment system improvements.

#### When Will the Orthophosphate Begin Working?

TWW's engineering assessment of the water-distribution system indicates that orthophosphate will reach its maximum effectiveness in 10-12 months.

NJ111100

#### Nubian News Book Review

BY TERRI SCHLICHENMEYER

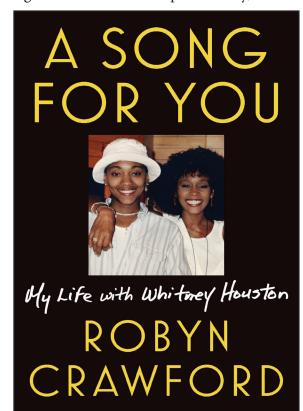
#### "A Song for You: My Life with Whitney Houston"

BY ROBYN CRAWFORD

c.2019, Dutton \$28.00 / \$37.00 Canada 319 pages

You saw that coming.

It was easy to anticipate because the signs were there. It was plain as day,



couldn't have been easier to see if it was flashing neon. You knew what was going to happen next - or, you would've, if you were paying attention. Take, for instance, author Robyn Crawford. In her new book "A Song for You," she tells of spotting a star. When Coach Clark called, you responded.

That's why Robyn Crawford rose early that morning in 1980: her basketball coach needed help registering counselors for summer programs. Crawford was nineteen and thinking about college, but seventeen-year-old Whitney Houston was one of the people waiting to register and Crawford was smitten.

In the following days, as the two got to know one another, they became liked "inseparable." Crawford "having fun with a new friend" but, she says, "something more was growing between us."

Before the summer was over, they were lovers.

It was "a typical teenage relationship, with... the exception of cocaine," although they never named their love. Houston introduced Crawford to her

world of music; Crawford attended church with Houston and Houston caught Crawford's basketball games. Sometimes, they had to sneak around to be together and they talked on the phone every night when Crawford was at college. Soon after, Houston's modeling career rose and she was on

> her way to being a star in the music industry.

> On the day she signed her first recording contract, Houston told Crawford that she thought they "shouldn't be physical anymore."

> The end of the love affair, however, didn't signal the end of their bond, and Crawford gave her life over to Houston. She served as Houston's assistant, chauffeur, manager, record-keeper, and sounding board. She propped Houston up when Houston needed it, sometimes literally, watching and helpless, unable to save Houston from her addictions. And then came the day, says Crawford, when "I realized that I needed to save myself."

Be honest: you are only the smallest bit surprised at all this. Whitney Houston's cocaine problem was pretty common knowledge and it's not a stretch to imagine the rest of what's inside this book. Even so, author Robyn Crawford has a few secrets to tell you.

That, however, doesn't seem to be the reason behind "A Song for You."

All Whitney, All the Time, is perhaps a good way to describe this memoir; indeed, while it's about Crawford's decades-long relationship with Houston, it often appears that Crawford is secondary in her own story here. That comes across as selflessly joyful but it also seems, at least initially, to be fraught with fear, as if Crawford recognizes something that's incredibly fragile. As this book progresses, that fear runs alongside a shrieking siren that announces the inevitable, the approach of which, even now, is impossible to stop watching.

For fans still looking for scandal, know that it's there and you'll be happy with "A Song for You." If you're not necessarily looking for gossip, though, try it anyhow. You can still anticipate a good read.

#### It doesn't taste like chicken

BY RUBEN BELTRAN, SAN FRANCISCO BAY VIEW

Have you ever asked yourself, I wonder how it feels to be in prison for a crime you did not commit? I am an innocent man in prison – 11 years now – and I still can't tell you how it feels. You see, if I tell you that something "taste like chicken," you have a pretty good idea of what I'm talking about. Your mind can easily pull the flavor of chicken out of your memory files, and your brain immediately gives you sensations and smells from that experience. But if you ask me how it feels to be in prison for a crime I did not commit? I have no "taste like chicken" answer to give you.

There is no metaphorical way to make you understand or feel the experience. I have now spent 11 years trying to come up with an answer that can describe it, but the best I have is: being "grounded" by your parents for something your little brother or sister did. But even that will not give you a true sense of being in prison for a crime you did not commit, because you still need the abusive (racist) prison guards, the uncaring medical staff, the daily threat of violence you are surrounded with from other pris-

And your own personal isolation and pain for being forgotten by your friends and family and cut off from your whole life.

My wife once told me that her life changed because of my conviction. "Your life changed; mine stopped," I responded. She has since moved on and hopefully found happiness.

But in prison, time stands still, literally. Even with the advantage of watching the news, listening to the radio, reading newspapers, magazines and at least watching technology evolve through movies and TV, my mind - and soul - somehow is still tethered to that last moment – or day - of freedom, internally screaming to go back to that time, or just hoping to wake up from this nightmare and it still be 2008.

Even when I imagine myself outside, free, I still imagine myself in my old apartment with the same furniture. The streets and cars still look as they like chicken." did 11 years ago, even though I'm seeing myself as I look today.

Then the prison bell rings like a gigantic morning alarm clock, dragging my soul back to reality, and I'm "captured" again.

In case you are wondering or care, yes, I am fighting to prove my innocence

and get out of this hell. But that in itself has added to my pain. How can fighting for my freedom add to my pain? I have written letters full of hope, asking - begging - for someone, anyone, to help me prove my innocence. In return I have received the most destructive and soul crushing answers that I could ever receive, telling me that they can't help me. Or worse yet, no answer at all.

I once wrote to a lawyer that specialized in wrongful convictions. I heard him on the radio being interviewed and saying, "Yes, if you have been wrongly convicted, I can help you. I won't even charge you. I'll get paid from the lawsuit after we win."

This is it, I thought, the one I've been waiting for ... I'm still waiting – four years now - for him to answer my letter. I have come to accept that the only place I will find a lawyer that will fight against all odds to free an innocent man like me is in fiction books, movies and TV shows.

A question that I have never heard being asked of a prosecutor is, "How does it feel to convict an innocent person?" But where is the moment when the prosecutor - who knowingly hid the proof of innocence 20 years ago - is asked why? Why did you cover up for the corrupt detectives or cops that "investigated" the case? Why did you manipulate the jury and knowingly allow a false witness to testify?

Real justice for the wrongly convicted will only be served the day he or she walks out of the courtroom a free person, and that same day the prosecutor, cops and false witnesses walk in wearing handcuffs. That would truly be a day of justice.

I'm currently preparing a pro se motion requesting an evidentiary hearing to prove my innocence. If I get that hearing, I know I'll be out of here. I will then try to pick up what's left of my life and reputation and use the remaining years to bring positive change to an unfair and racist punitive system.

And when asked, "How did it feel to be in prison for a crime you did not commit?" I will say, "It doesn't taste

Send our brother some love and light: Ruben Beltran, 10A-3301, Sullivan CF, P.O. Box 116, Fallsburg NY 12733. If you were a Bay View reader a few years ago, you'll remember everybody's favorite, the Uncle Du comic strips. Ruben Beltran was the artist who drew the strips, which were written by Emmanuel "Mandu" Johnson. Write to him too: 98A-1900, P.O. Box 500, Elmira NY 14901.

BEAT YOU!<sup>fm</sup>



## **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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**BEAT YOU!** 

- 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 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.
- Every Thursday, 6 pm to 7:30 pm - Cha-Cha, Bop, 2-Step pre-

- sented by Conservatory Mansion, 540 E State St, Trenton. Instructor/ Choreographer James "El" Ellis aka Smooth Operator has enjoyed teaching couples and singles how to gracefully glide across the dance floor for decades. He even travels around the country to compete and occasionally invites his students to join him. Come out on Thursdays from 6pm-7:30pm and get in the groove! Cost: \$40 per month/walkins \$12.
- Friday, November 22, 2019, 7pm to 11 pm - Skip Bailey presents Pre-Thanksgiving Show and Dinner. Hosted by Skip Bailey Success Group, Bordentown Elks, 11 Amboy Road, Bordentown, NJ. Featuring Cool Breeze, Dinner, 4 Acts and DJ & Dance.
- Saturday, November 23, 2019, 12 noon to 3 pm - Town Hall with Dr. Cornel West · Hosted by People's Organization for Progress and Rutgers-Newark College Democrats. Golden Dome Athletic Center, 42 Warren St, Newark, New Jersey. Dr. West will discuss the importance

- of political engagement and participation of marginalized communities in the current political moment.
- Sunday, November 24, 2019, 6 pm to 8 pm - SPEARsgiving! · Hosted by Students for Prison Education and Reform: Princeton. Carl A. Fields Center for Equality and Cultural Understanding, 58 Prospect Ave, Princeton, New Jersey. Join the SPEAR family for the first ever SPEARsgiving! This is going to be a Thanksgiving celebration with not only SPEAR members but also our community partners. Enjoy some amazing food, hear from formerly incarcerated people, and take a moment to give thanks to our community! Sponsored by the USG Projects Board
- Tuesday, November 26, 2019, 5:30 pm to 8pm - Trenton Civic Trust Meeting. Trinity Episcopal Cathedral, 801 W. State St, Trenton, NJ. The Trenton Civic Trust is an opportunity for residents to take part on the decision making process of our city government by focusing on SOLUTIONS and not the problems.
- Saturday, November 30, 10 am to 3pm - Urban Art Holiday Market · Hosted by Jersey Fresh Jam and Trenton Farmers Market. Trenton Farmers Market, 960 Spruce St, Lawrenceville, New Jersey. Live Art, Vendors, DJ It's Just Ahmad. Farmers market vendors include prepared food (2 vegan eateries, Amish meats, BBQ), coffee & tea shops, fresh produce, baked goods, and more. The venue is indoors and heated with plenty of parking. Event is FREE to Attend and Open to the Public!!
- Saturday, November 30, 8 pm to 11 pm, Doors open at 6 pm - The Celebrity Comedy JAM · Hosted by D L Concierge. Patriots Theater at the War Memorial, 1 Memorial Dr, Trenton, New Jersey. Get Your Laugh On @the Celebrity Comedy Jam, THANKSGIVING WEEKEND, Sat. Nov 30th @ the War Memorial, Trenton, NJ with the Infamous Corey Holcomb! TICKETS ARE ON SALE NOW! This Show is expected to Sell Out! \$30 Balcony \$40 General Admission \$50 VIP. Contact Us D L 609-380-3382 B-Man 609-638-0911 Wendella 609-801-6978
- Saturday, November 30, 2019, 8 am to 12 pm - Trenton 1st Annual Hidden Treasure Flea Mar-

- ket, hosted by Trenton House Heads United. Capital Area YMCA, 431 Pennington Ave, Trenton, NJ. Come Out and Find Something Different !!! Fashion Vendors and Food Vendors - Free
- Saturday, November 30, 7 pm to 1 am - CaKy Prod. 1st Annual Funk Cabaret · Hosted by S.Y. BryantBrown. W. Trenton Ballroom 40 W. Upper Ferry Rd Ewing, NJ. Featuring Kym Miller's Funk Band & DJ Swell 609-570-5877
- Monday, December 2, 2019, 6 pm to 7:30 pm - Native American Heritage Month First Nations Alberta Documentary · Hosted by Carl A. Fields Center for Equality and Cultural Understanding. Open to the Public!
- Saturday, December 7, 2019, 10am to 12pm - REENTRY VEN-TURES 2019 STUDENT GRAD-**UATION AT MCCC - TRENTON** HALL · Hosted by From the Block to the Boardroom. Mercer County Community College James Kearny Campus Trenton, NJ, 102 North Broad Street, Trenton, New Jersey. After completing 12 exciting weeks of class, students will celebrate the completion of developing foundational plans for their businesses.
- Tuesday, December 10, 2019, 7pm to 9pm - Willingboro & Vicinity 2019 Friends & Family Meeting · Hosted by NAACP Willingboro & Vicinity Branch, 429 John F Kennedy Way, Willingboro, NJ. Together we will get new members involved and share ideas over music, food, and fun.
- Thursday, December 12, 2019, 8 pm to 9:15 pm - Sinbad · Hosted by Parx Casino. Parx Casino, 2999 Street Rd, Bensalem, PA. Sinbad never tells jokes but rather stalks the stage, telling real-life stories. He doesn't write his material; he relives it as he remembers it.
- Saturday, December 28, 2019, 7pm til 12 midnight - Gregory Bell Sr. presents Party For A Purpose. Fundraiser for Lupus (find a cure). Lawrenceville Armory, 151 Eggerts Crossing Road, Lawrence Township. BYOB, food catered, tickets \$30, Vendors welcome - call 609 540-7768 for more information

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