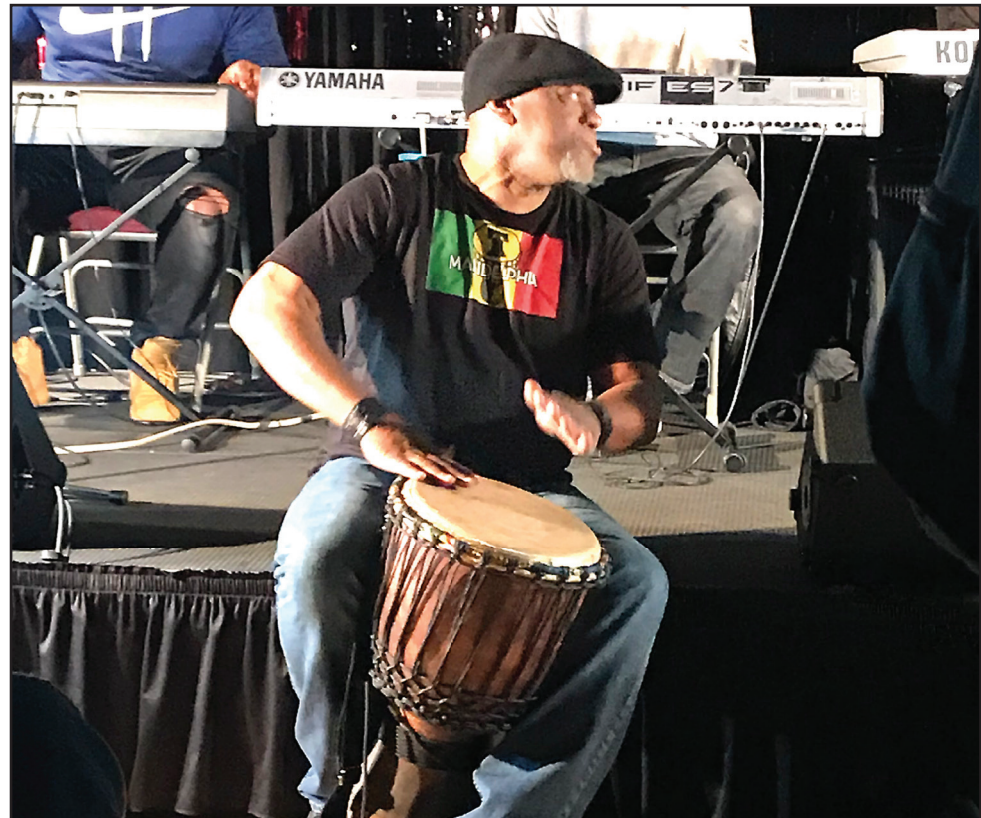


The Nubian News

Loving the Black Perspective

Grupo de madres de familia latinas que fueron reconocidas por su labor en bien de sus hijos e hijas pequeñas.



Baba Tim Robinson on the Djembe Drum at the "Hope For My City" event. See Page 5

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Miss Nedy Turns 105



Mrs. Nedy Mae Settles-Woodland turned 105 years old on Saturday.. She was born on February 23, 1914 in Bennettsville, North Carolina to the Rev. Charles Settles and his wife Carrie Mae Settles. The family relocated to Claysburg when Nedy was an infant. She is the only survivor of nine children.

Miss Nedy was raised a Christian as a child and through adulthood, attending Mount Moriah Church of God in Christ, founded by father. As the years passed the family relocated to Trenton where she currently resides.



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

Sit Down with Mayor Gusciora

BY BERNARD SHABAZZ

After I said my usual “good morning” to Mayor Gusciora, I opened up about recent activity between the state and the city.

TNN - On Wednesday (February 20) Gov. Murphy signed an executive order to form a collaboration with the city of Trenton.

Mayor - Gov. Murphy wants to coor-



dinate all the bureaucracies of the city to work together to form a committee so that when we have a project that will touch upon state government we will just go to the committee rather than going to each department to get approval.

TNN - Is Carol Russell currently Trenton's acting police chief?

Mayor - Chris Doyle is Trenton's acting police chief. We are in the final stages of selecting a permanent director. We have cast a very wide intensive net. We have resumes coming in from Baltimore and parts north. We have 40 resumes that we are going through. We're in a screening stage right now.

TNN - I thought that mayors have the right to select their own administration.

Mayor- Absolutely, but with the advise and consent of city council. Unfortunately, council would not approve Carol Russell to be police director.

TNN - Do mayors have veto power?

Mayor - Yes, If council passes an ordinance that has to do with economic development or public safety I do have the power to sign that ordinance

or veto it. If I veto it, it goes back to council for further work.

TNN - Is Tracey Syphax's release felon program connected with the Department of Transportation's release felon program?

Mayor - Yes. Tracey Syphax is working with the Murphy administration on prisoner reentry issues. He is also working with the city of Trenton.

We do have a population of prisoners that are returning to Trenton and we want to make sure they have a good landing so that they have opportunities for education or job growth.

TNN - What companies and corporations will participate in the April 5th city wide job fair?

Mayor - That's being done through Assemblywoman Verline Reynolds-Jackson.

We just held a job fair for the Trenton Water Works. We had over 1500 people come to city hall to apply for jobs at TWW.

We are happy with the turnout. We will continue to reach out to city residents to make

sure they have opportunities to work for the city.

I am still working with Dr. Wang at Mercer County College to create courses that will qualify our residents for technical positions in water testing and technical hook ups for water at the Trenton Water Works.

TNN - Since taking office have you seen any progress your administration has made?

Mayor - Absolutely. At the Trenton water works our testing is getting better. The water has less contaminants which are now at safe levels.

On the economic development front, the Cook School building, that's been abandoned for 30 years, will be turned into affordable housing.

We are working with developers to take over the Roebing buildings that have been vacant for 50 years. These projects will provide jobs for our residents. We're also working with the state so that when these projects get started they will be open to apprentices and local contractors. It's a win-win for the state and our residents.

Leave Venezuela Alone

BY AL ALATUNJI

The Trump administration has ordered Venezuelan military leaders to drop their support of Venezuelan President Nicolas Maduro. Those military leaders must be rocking in laughter at an American president they do not respect nor has control over them. What is the problem? Did Maduro and his predecessor Hugo Chavez refuse to allow the Trump organization to build hotels and golf courses in Venezuela then stiff contractors and workers like he did in Atlantic City and other places?

Another US president, on the wrong side of history, is using US resources to undermine, destabilize and overthrow a duly elected government in a country where half the population considers themselves to be “morena” Spanish for black, brown or dark skinned. This time it is Venezuela. In the past, it was the Congo, Vietnam, Guatemala, Dominican Republic, Cuba, Haiti, Grenada, El Salvador and Nicaragua among others.

As in the past, the US government with cooperation from American business interests and allies has attempted to seize power from a duly elected government it did not like by instituting economic measures to weaken its economy. What did it do about Venezuela's government that the US government does not like? Probably because Venezuela's Maduro and Chavez like Patrice Lumumba of Congo, Fidel Castro of Cuba and

Robert Mugabe of Zimbabwe refused to be puppets or harlots for the US.

American propagandists would have you believe that America does not like dictators and Castro and Maduro are dictators. However, American presidents including the current one loves them some dictators. They just want control over those dictators. It has nothing to do with human rights, freedom of the press or minority and women's rights. But everything to do with control.

Venezuela had a strong, stable economy as a result of being an oil producing nation. However, through trade manipulation, sanctions, sabotage, news distortions and disinformation campaigns, the US and its stooges worked to wreak havoc on the Venezuelan economy causing widespread shortages and starvation. Men, women and children have died as a result, courtesy of efforts and activities funded by American taxpayer money.

Hopefully, the Lord will be more merciful to Americans on that Great Judgment Day then Americans courts are. Under American law, ignorance of the law is no excuse in sentencing. Americans better hope that the Lord will be more forgiving of not knowing or not caring what the government has and continues to do in particular to people of color worldwide. Americans should be demanding the US government, “Get your hands out its pocket and your feet off its neck, leave Venezuela alone!”

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Youth Perform Music of Soul

BY DAWNE WASHINGTON

On September 17, 2019, the Music of Soul production was given by Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc. & Trenton Fortitude Corporation. The program was held in celebration of Black History month. The event raised funds which will be used for scholarships in Mercer County.

The 135 youth who participated displayed various musical, theatrical, and vocal appreciation for musical icons such as Donny Hathaway, Roberta Flack, Whitney Houston, TLC, Aretha Franklin, Michael Jack-



son, Luther Vandross, Teddy Pendergrass and Aaliyah. The youth not only discussed what these individuals were most famous for, but also their educational background.

The program illustrated Black excellence through art and education. Youth such as Memphis Jones and Kamau, mesmerized the audience by being two of the youngest participants with great stage presence. Memphis Jones is a 5-year-old who was able to fluently read a script pertaining to the life of Michael Jackson.

He spoke well, he engaged the audience, and he understood proper theater presence. Kamau played Donny Hathaway alongside Mrs. Kendra Lee, who played Roberta Flack. Kamau discussed the life of Donny Hathaway who attended Howard University and pledged Alpha Phi Alpha fraternity. Kamau and Mrs. Lee highlighted Hathaway's musical contributions and notable collaborations such as "Where is the Love" with Roberta Flack.

Bailey Wilson, a second grader, reenacted the life of Aretha Franklin. Ms. Wilson played the role of the music icon while informing the audience of Franklin's contributions. Aretha Franklin was a civil rights activist and an honorary member of Delta Sigma Theta sorority. Ms. Franklin performed for President Obama, was a self-trained pianist, nominated 44 times and won 18 Grammy Awards, and received the Presidential Medal of Freedom in 2005.

Oratorical works of Chandler Kirby, a member of the Trenton Chapter of the NJ Orators, projected the importance of youth being involved in our history. It was projected that the Black youth can do anything they put their minds too.

Ms. Kirby spoke in a way that captured the audience's understanding that we as a people need to wake up as well as the purpose of the civil rights movement. She discussed Black men being killed as a senseless crime rather than being treated fairly. She stated that the "All lives matter" statement

is an alternative used to minimize the voice of Black Lives Matter. Ms. Kirby has won many awards around New Jersey for her oratorical presentations.

Ms. Chloe Thompkins was a young soloist who took on the audience by storm with her rendition

of "This Is Me." Ms. Thompkins sung the song with vocals that sounded as if they were professionally controlled within a great octave range.

The program showcased not only the valuable contributions from famous activists and musicians but it also displayed the youth's abilities. They demonstrated their ability to be empowering individuals in their community through art, spoken word, miming, linguistics, instruments, monologs, and African dance. Performancers included Dr. Betty Shabazz Academy, Trenton Children's Chorus, Community Dance Academy of the Capital Area YMCA, Reading Adventures through the Trenton Alumnae Chapter, Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc., Youth Auxiliary Groups through Zeta Phi Beta Sorority, Inc. Epsilon Xi Zeta Chapter, Trenton PEERS-Mill Hill Child & Family Development, Delta Gems, Praise Consulting, Trenton Chapter of the NJ Orators, Trenton Central High School Visual & Performing Arts, Sigma Beta Club-Phi Beta Sigma Fraternity, Inc. Lambda Lambda Sigma Chapter, ACT-SO Program-Trenton Branch NAACP, and Demented Evolution.

The performances were very encouraging for those who have concern for the next generation. The youth showed that being seen and not heard does not solve the present day concerns, but having the youth involved can create an evolution of change for the Black community.

Rep. Watson Coleman Appointed to U.S. Semiquincentennial Commission

BY AL ALATUNJI

Congresswoman Bonnie Watson Coleman whose congressional district includes the City of Trenton has been appointed to the U.S. Semiquincentennial Commission that will help plan for the 250th anniversary of the founding of the United States. Watson Coleman was appointed to the panel by House Speaker Nancy Pelosi.

The 33 member bipartisan commemorative commission's 16 private citizens, eight members of Congress and nine federal government officials will assist with the planning of the 250th anniversary which occurs in July 2026. Watson Coleman is the only African-American woman on the commission. She is also the only New Jersey resident.

The U.S. Semiquincentennial Commission was formed in July 2016 after both chambers of Congress unanimously passed the U.S. Semiquincentennial Commission Act. The group's primary responsibility is to create a national commemoration program which will include a full history of the United States leading up to the 250th anniversary and beyond. The commission will develop an overall plan with recommendations that will be submitted to the President and Congress for review, and oversee the execution of the plan through 2026.

"On a national level, I'll represent

and promote New Jersey's revolutionary contributions as a member of the commission," Watson Coleman said. "I'm eager to ensure that our state's story is represented in the revolutionary heritage that unites us all as Americans."

The U.S. Semiquincentennial Commission is the official government body established by Congress to prepare an overall program for the commemoration. It is charged with planning and coordinating observances and activities throughout the country. The commission will be at the center of a network of federal, state and local entities working together to make the 250th anniversary celebration a once-in-a-lifetime experience for all Americans.

Congresswoman Bonnie Watson Coleman has served as the U.S. Representative for New Jersey's 12th congressional district since 2015. She previously served in the New Jersey General Assembly from 1998 to 2015 for the 15th Legislative District which also includes the City of Trenton. She is the first Black woman in Congress from New Jersey.

In addition to serving on the U.S. Semiquincentennial Commission, Watson Coleman serves on the Committee on Homeland Security, Committee on Oversight and Government Reform and Committee on Appropriations.

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Tomorrow's Innovators

BY TANGELA WRIGHT

Bristol-Myers Squibb and 4-H's Tomorrow's Innovators Science, Technology, Engineering and Math Science Saturday Programs Trenton is a wonderful, early morning hands on experience for children to stimulate their minds and think outside the box about how things work all around them. The program runs once a month on Saturdays from 9:30 am until noon. The program is free for grades 4th through 7th.

My youngest son, Michael Wright attends Fisher Middle School and has been a part of the program for 3 years. He simply loves the experience of working with a team and discussing how things work, science study,

group thinking, the labs building skills and meeting new and interesting friends that enjoy science.

The best part of watching this program come together is when you arrive at the building; parents are not dragging their children into the building. Parents are, however, running behind them to kiss them on the forehead and tell them that they are coming back at noon to pick them up. The children look at their parents with a blank stare as if to say "Ok, you can go now. We have work to do and I cannot wait to get elbow deep in." It is an awesome thing to see they are doing something more constructive with their time besides playing Fortnite or Minecraft.

“America, We Served!”

Four Centuries of African American Soldiers

BY TANGELA WRIGHT

On February 23rd and 24th the annual event of Four Centuries of African American Soldiers sparked off at the Old Barracks of Trenton Museum. This was much more than Black history but a flash back into the past of what Black people were doing and enduring during this time period that we don't hear much about.

The four centuries that were covered were the 18th, 19th, 20th and 21st.

The gentlemen that covered the timelines were Fred Minus (Civil War), Daryian Kelton (Revolutionary War), Leon Brooks (representing Navy), Algernon Ward Jr. (representing World War I), Curtis Whittaker (representing Army World War I and II), Chuck Monroe (representing Buffalo Soldiers), and Norman Marcelle (representing 6th Rhode Island, Tuskegee Air Men and Retired

United States Marines).

The Old Barracks and its staff do a great job of making sure the time periods are covered and volunteers



bring all of the information to life right before your eyes. The knowledge and rich history makes you think and wonder where your family would have fit in the time line of the 18th century and beyond.

Let me hold your hand as we stroll down memory lane into history.

In 1862, there were at least three Union regiments of African Americans raised in New Orleans, Louisiana the First, Second, and Third Louisiana Native Guard. They

later became the First, Second, and Third Infantry, Corps d'Afrique, and then the Seventy-third (73rd), Seventy-fourth (74th), and Seventy-fifth (75th) United States Colored Infantry (USCI). The First (1st) South Carolina Infantry (African Descent) was not officially organized until January 1863.

Three companies of the regiment were on coastal expeditions as early as November 1862. They became the Thirty-third (33rd) USCI. Similarly, the First Kansas Colored Infantry (later the new Seventy-ninth (79th) USCI) was not mustered into service until January 1863, even though the regiment had already participated in the action at Island Mound, Missouri, on October 27, 1862. These early unofficial regiments received little federal support, but they showed the strength of African Americans' desire to fight for freedom.

African Americans joined the post-war United States army for many reasons, not least the prospect of swapping the drudgery of sharecropping for an occupation that provided them with regular wages, the possibility of excitement, and a means of putting their new-found citizenship into action.

Re-enactor Curtis Whittaker spoke of the first Black woman to enlist in the United States army, Cathay Williams (1844 - 1892), a.k.a. William Cathay, and the only Black woman documented to serve in the US army in the 19th century. Born a slave in Independence, Missouri in 1844, Cathay worked as a house servant on a nearby plantation on the outskirts of Jefferson City.

We talked briefly about her and I decided to gather the remaining information about this powerful woman.

Women were prohibited from serving in the military at that time, so Cathay disguised herself as a man and switched her first and last names, using the pseudonym William Cathay. Cathay was tall at 5'9" and had no problem enlisting since a medical exam wasn't required.

Cathay was declared fit for duty on November 15, 1866. She was assigned to Company A of the 38th Infantry, one of four all-black units newly formed that year. Only her cousin and her friend who were enlisted in the same regiment knew her secret.

Cathay's military career was short-lived. She contracted smallpox soon after enlisting and was frequently hospitalized in the following years.

Because she was in the hospital so many times, her gender was revealed. In October of 1868, almost two years after she enlisted, the post surgeon discovered she was a woman and informed her commanding officer.

Cathay was immediately given a disability discharge. Her commanding officer, Captain Charles E. Clarke, stated that Cathay was "feeble both physically and mentally and unfit for duty. The origin of his infirmities is unknown to me."

While living in Colorado, Cathay was approached by a reporter from St. Louis. He had heard rumors about the first Black woman to serve in the US army, and traveled to Colorado to interview her. He wrote an article about her life and military service which was published on January 2nd, 1876 in the St. Louis Daily Times.

There's no way to know how many women posed as men to enlist during the American Civil War, but it's been estimated in the hundreds. Many were never discovered, and some were found out only because they required hospital treatment. Cathay is one of the very few women whose enlistment was well-documented. A woman simply trying to earn a living in a difficult time, she never knew she was making a mark on history.

And let us not forget the 6888th Central Postal Directory Battalion who made history as the first all-female, all-African-American unit to serve overseas during World War II. Established within the Women's Army Corps (WAC) in November 1944, the 6888th was charged with sorting mountains of mail and ensuring each piece was delivered properly. It was a herculean task that one general predicted would take at least six months to complete. The women of the 6888th did it in three.

I'm going to stop right here. But if you every want to walk down memory lane and celebrate what makes you, molded you or you are just interested in more information, stop by the Old Barracks of Trenton Museum. You will be greeted with a smile.

I would like to give a warm thanks to the staff of the Old Barracks; Richard Patterson, Nicki Bell, Daryian Kelton, Asher Lurie, Dave Niescior and James Bevon. They continue to help preserve the legacy of the United States' four centuries of African American Soldiers.

Reference: Heroes Among Us: Profiles in Courage: Cathay Williams. (n.d.). Retrieved May 15, 2013, from http://web.archive.org/web/20080616094119/http://www.goarmy.com/bhm/profiles_williams.jsp

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Elections And a Responsible Media

BY AL ALATUNJI

“And they’re off!!” Like a high stakes horse race, a slew of Democratic challengers to the current occupant of the White House have officially launched campaigns for president. There are still several more who may join this field of dreamers. Hopefully, the media will do a far better job than they did in the last presidential election, in vetting candidates for the presidency and educating the public as to who the candidates are regarding their qualifications and vision for the nation.

During the 2016 election for president, major media outlets seemed more interested in reporting salacious attention grabbing sound bites and headlines. News network ratings soared as they knew they would with an all too eager public enjoying the heinous and ridiculous pronouncements from some candidates. It was tabloid and yellow journalism on steroids. However, they failed the public miserably.

Too often the most superficial statements and concerns were pursued, while the substantial was buried with lesser news, if it was published or reported at all. The media was too eager to present a cult of reality show personalities instead of a comparison of realistic sincere public policies. Entertaining perhaps, but surely not enlightening or educating, other than to show how hateful, racist,

sexist, xenophobic and shallow some candidates and some elements in the nation were.

When election day finally came, too many voters felt cheated and forced to choose between Punch Drunk and Damn Judy. A functioning democracy needs and desires better.

Unfortunately, it seems we are headed down the same rabbit hole again. Instead of the major media outlets focussing on the qualifications of Senator Kamala Harris of California or Senator Cory Booker from right here in New Jersey, the media is discussing if Harris or Booker are Black enough. Shades of the coverage of then Senator Barack Obama in 2008. While both Booker and Harris are lighter skinned Blacks and Harris’ father is West Indian and her mother is Asian Indian, no white person will mistake Harris or Booker for anything other than Black. If you are black you are Black.

To be fair the major media outlets did not come up with the questions regarding the Blackness of Harris and Booker. Nor was it major media that came up with the same ridiculousness directed at Obama in 2008. It came from Black politicians and Black media personalities who had an agenda that was about self and not about the Black community.

The attempt to label Obama as not being Black enough, as not being a true African-American, was just one of several efforts from Blacks who

were too busy supporting Massa Hillary Clinton to derail his presidential candidacy. They were on the wrong side of history.

One has to wonder if a similar campaign to undermine Harris’ and Booker’s presidential aspirations is underfoot. Unbeknownst to too many African-Americans, such civil and human rights Black icons and heroes as Shirley Chisholm, Marcus Garvey, Stokely Carmichael, Sidney Poitier, Harry Belafonte, Colin Powell, Eric Holder, Louis Farrakhan, Cicely Tyson and oh yea, Malcolm X were all West Indians like Sen. Kamala Harris.

Hopefully, the major media will be more responsible in this presidential election cycle than in the last and not just for presidential elections, but all elections going forward. There is a real need to have candidates for public office present their qualifications for office based on authentic and verified accomplishments as well as their policy positions to create a better society. The public must demand such coverage by the media as well as organizations which sponsor and host candidates forums.

In particular, Black voters and Black organizations need to ask of those seeking the votes of Blacks, their hiring and promotion records regarding Blacks and other people of color in offices and public and private companies, in which the candidate held a position prior to running for office. What have been their statistical track records and what

affirmative actions and policies have they put in place to hire and promote larger numbers of Blacks and people of color? What have they done to put Blacks and other people of color in policy making positions? What do they plan to do to increase those numbers in the future? How many contracts can they point to that were awarded to Black owned companies and those owned by other people of color as a result of the candidate’s efforts? What do they plan to do affirmatively in the future to increase contract opportunities for businesses owned by Blacks and other people of color?

What have been their records, not their rhetoric, as it relates to improving education for children of color, rebuilding cities where Blacks and people of color have significant presence and other public issues and concerns impacting their lives? Those are some of the questions a responsible media must seek answers to, so that Blacks and others can make informed decisions.

Such questioning is not limited to just white candidates for office. Black candidates and those of color, must also be held to a similar vetting process. We can no longer just give our vote to someone who looks like us and/or can sing our songs. They must prove from having a track record and clear and committed vision to improve our lives that they deserve our vote. We fought too hard and shed too much blood to have otherwise.

Hope for My City

BY TANGELA WRIGHT

The 3rd annual “Hope For My City” Cafe kicked off with vendors and

night. This part of the evening left enough time for families, friends, new comers and vendors to mix and

mingle before the open mic night began. The reason behind “Hope For My City” is to start the healing process of families by giving them hope and backing it with the full armor of the Creator.

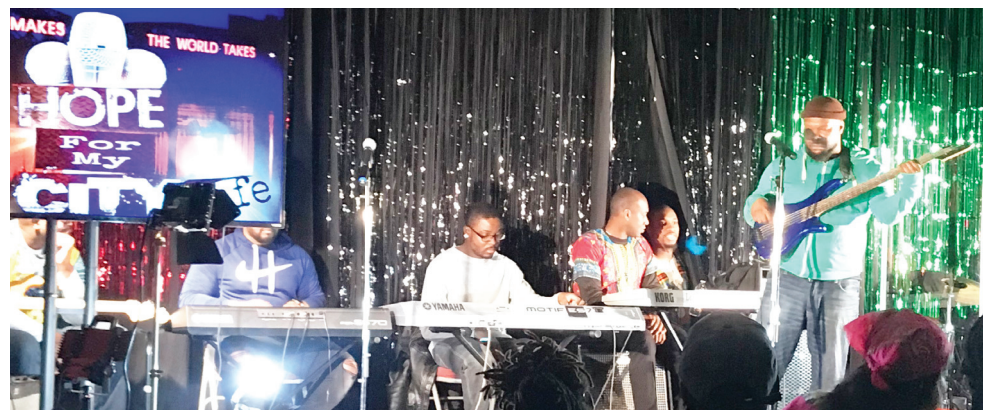
The night opened with people being greeted with a smile and welcomed into becoming

a part of the most inspirational event happening on a Saturday night. The best feeling in the world was seeing families/friends/children in full fellowship with one another and in

Shout Out to all the vendors that were on hand with all their unique style and ready to support the community in a good old fashion manner of fellowship.



food during the early segment of the



song. Shout out to all the talent around Trenton that came out to be heard and share how the Creator makes them feel or how the feeling of being loved by the Creator pushed them to continue to move forward with GOD’s plan.

As the night winded down to the closing of the event, pastor of Transformation Church, Pastor Anthony Bellamy, closed the evening with Gospel Rap joined by a few others. Missed it? Then, you truly missed a great night of fellowship, networking, love, and togetherness.

El Latino News

En Contacto con la Comunidad
Trenton – Mercer County

PARENT LEADERSHIP RECOGNITION 2019

POR CARLOS AVILA

EAST WINDSOR- El viernes 22 de febrero del presente año, se realizó a nivel de todo el estado de Nueva Jersey el evento denominado "Parents Leadership Recognition" reconocimiento

celebrar el liderazgo y compromiso de los padres.

Algunos padres de familia de Trenton y del condado de Mercer estuvieron presentes.

"Ya estoy dos años envuelta en este



a padres y madres de familia, que asisten a los programas como Mercer County Council for Young Children y otros que se preocupan de buscar óptima calidad de educación y salud para los niños pequeños que tengan éxito en la parte académica y en el bienestar en general.

Padres de diferentes ciudades del Estado Jardín se dieron cita en el hotel Holiday Inn. en East Windsor para compartir un desayuno y al mismo tiempo recibir el reconocimiento que les hiciera la organización Parents Inc. A través de "National Parent Leadership" quienes por 19 años consecutivos realizan este evento con el fin de resaltar la labor efectiva que desempeñan los padres en la crianza de los niños desde su nacimiento.

Kathleen Roe, Directora Ejecutiva fue la encargada de dar la bienvenida a todos los padres y representantes de la gobernación que asistieron a

grupo y he aprendido mucho sobre los recursos que ofrece el estado" dijo Maria Mendoza madre de familia que fue reconocida por su liderazgo. "Les digo a todas las madres que se unan a este grupo, para ayudar a nuestros niños" manifestó Mendoza.

Desde la gobernación se otorgó una proclamación que estuvo a cargo de Aubrey Powers, Director Ejecutivo de la oficina "Family Voice". De igual forma la Congresista Bonnie Watson Coleman también envió una proclamación para la organización Parents, Inc.

Este evento se realiza una vez al año y según manifestaron los organizadores continúa creciendo ya que más padres de familia se unen a dicha organización a través de los diferentes programas que ofrece el estado para ayudar a las familias de Nueva Jersey.



EN CONTACTO CON LA COMUNIDAD

HIGHTSTOWN- Todo un éxito resultó la reunión de padres de familia que asistieron a la apertura del programa "English as a Second Language" ESL que organiza Mercer County Council for Young Children y la Biblioteca de Hightstown. Las madres y padres de familia manifestaron estar complacidas por la metodología empleada y lo productivo que resultó la enseñanza impartida por la profesora Joanne Bodnar. La reunión se realizó en la sala de conferencias de la biblioteca el día sábado 23 de febrero del 2019. La próxima reunión será el sábado 2 de Marzo en la misma sala de conferencias.

PROGRAMA DE ASISTENCIA PARA FAMILIAS DE BAJOS INGRESOS

TRENTON- El Departamento de Asuntos Comunitarios de Nueva Jersey (DCA), informó que se continúa aceptando solicitudes para el Programa de Asistencia de Energía para Hogares de Bajos Ingresos (LIHEAP, por sus siglas en inglés) para los residentes en todo el Estado. El programa cuenta con fondos federales de ayuda a hogares de bajos ingresos con el pago de sus facturas de calefacción, y proporciona servicios del sistema de energía de emergencia y asistencia de emergencia para combustible. La gestión de los fondos del programa está a cargo de la División de Vivienda y Recursos Comunitarios del DCA.

"La salud de las familias depende, en parte, del acceso a una vivienda caliente y segura, pero sabemos que no es tan fácil para muchos residentes afrontar los costos de energía durante los meses del invierno. Por eso, la ayuda todavía está disponible", dijo la vicegobernadora Sheila Oliver, quien también es Comisionada del DCA. "El Departamento pide encarecidamente a las personas que necesiten ayuda para

el pago de calefacción de su vivienda, que soliciten de inmediato los beneficios del LIHEAP".

El plazo de presentación de solicitudes al LIHEAP se extenderá durante los meses de invierno.

Son elegibles a la asistencia del LIHEAP las familias que tienen a su cargo la responsabilidad del pago de las facturas de calefacción, ya sea directamente o como parte del monto del alquiler, y cuyo ingreso bruto es igual o inferior al 200 por ciento del nivel federal de pobreza. No son elegibles a la asistencia quienes residan en viviendas públicas o quienes reciban asistencia para alquiler a menos que sean responsables del pago directo de sus propios costos de calefacción al proveedor del combustible. El monto de la ayuda del LIHEAP depende de los ingresos, el tamaño del grupo familiar, el tipo de combustible, y la calefacción regional.

Para saber si usted es elegible para participar en este programa, visite la nueva herramienta de evaluación de elegibilidad, DCAid, en www.nj.gov/dca/dcaid:

STOP KILLING

¿Por qué latinoamérica está de fiesta?

POR LAURA LUCIA RODRÍGUEZ PEÑA

Uno de los legados más significativos que aún prevalecen en América Latina desde la colonización, es el catolicismo como religión mayoritaria en casi toda la región. Esto lo demuestran las cifras, ya que según el Annuarium Statisticum Ecclesiae 2016 América es el continente con

católicas sin abandonar su idiosincrasia, que se caracteriza por ser alegre y cálida. Por esta razón, se podría decir que no es casualidad que el fin de semana previo al miércoles de cuaresma (día en el que los católicos hacen una promesa de limpiarse de los pecados para prepararse para la Pascua) varios países de América



mayor número de fieles, albergando al 48,6% de católicos del mundo. (infobae, 2016)

Sin embargo, los latinoamericanos supieron adaptarse a las costumbres

L a t i n a d e c i d a n celebrar en grande, ya que es la última oportunidad de festejar antes del periodo de 40 días que antecede a la Pascua o Semana Santa.

Tomen nota y prepárense para no perderse ninguno de estos carnavales el próximo año, seguramente hay muchos más pero estos son algunos de los más destacados:

C a r n a v a l de Rio de Janeiro, Brasil.

C a r n a v a l

Barranquilla, Colombia.

Carnaval de Oruro, Bolivia.

Carnaval de Montevideo, Uruguay.

Carnaval de Gualaguaychú, Argentina.

Carnaval de Veracruz, México.

Carnavales de Panamá.

Carnavales de Puntarenas, Costa Rica (Festival Perla del Pacífico)

Todos ellos tienen un sello personal que hacen de las fiestas únicas en su clase. El nacimiento de cada uno también varía según el país y los personajes locales, aún así en todos es evidente como las tradiciones europeas (catolicismo) se mezclan con la herencia aborígen, dando lugar a una cultura alegre que incorpora lo extranjero sin olvidar sus raíces. Otra de las similitudes de estos carnavales son los trajes típicos que evocan las culturas autóctonas de cada país y que demuestran que las tradiciones permanecen vivas a pesar de los años.

D u r a n t e este periodo de carnavales la única regla es la diversión, todo está permitido en esta época del año. en muchas ciudades las actividades cotidianas se interrumpen ya que la gente centra su atención en festejar y en olvidar sus responsabilidades laborales, pues como bien se sabe

después del miércoles de cuaresma inicia un periodo de reflexión en el que el católico debe abstenerse de cualquier acción que signifique un pecado para la religión. El latino se caracteriza por ser fiel a sus costumbres, por esto tanto la Semana Santa como los carnavales son celebraciones que se respetan y se celebran según el protocolo que cada una exige.

Y si usted no ha tenido la oportunidad de celebrar carnavales en América Latina, le recomiendo buscar los vuelos para el próximo año y vivir una de las experiencias más vibrantes que ofrece la región Latina.



Promueven ley para concientizar sobre el desperdicio de alimentos en NJ

TRENTON - Un paquete de medidas presentadas por el Senador Bob Smith, el Senador Troy Singleton, Senador Richard Codey, Senador James Beach, la Senadora Nilsa Cruz-Pérez, el Senador Vin Gopal, la Senadora M. Teresa Ruiz, la Senadora Sandra B. Cunningham, el Senador Joseph Cryan, y la senadora Linda Greenstein, que promovería la concientización sobre el hambre y el desperdicio de alimentos, avanza en el Senado.

“La gente necesita saber cuánta comida desperdiciamos cada año”, dijo el Senador Smith (D-Middlesex/Somerset). “Los Estados Unidos tiran alrededor del 30-40 por ciento de todos los alimentos, lo que termina siendo más del 20 por ciento del total de desperdicios. Podríamos donar alimentos adicionales a despensas de alimentos o a refugios para personas sin hogar y compostar los alimentos que caducan. No hay ninguna razón concebible por la que debamos estar desperdiciando comida”.

También la Senadora Linda Greenstein se pronunció al respecto. “Necesitamos tomar las medidas necesarias para combatir el desperdicio de alimentos

aquí en Nueva Jersey, y para hacer eso, debemos instar a los minoristas de alimentos a que cambien sus maneras de operar”, dijo la Senadora Greenstein (D-Mercer/Middlesex). “Para producir un cambio real, debemos promover el cambio del hábito de desperdicio de alimentos sin sentido y por qué el mismo es importante para los esfuerzos de combatir el hambre”.

El primer proyecto de ley, S-3231 patrocinado por el Senador Smith y el Senador Singleton, dirigiría al Departamento de Agricultura establecer una campaña de concientización pública sobre el desperdicio de alimentos. Se requeriría que el departamento aliente a reducir el desperdicio de alimentos a través de la donación o el compostaje de alimentos sobrantes.

También alentarían el desarrollo y la distribución de materiales informativos apropiados sobre el desperdicio de alimentos, a través de medios de comunicación tales como medios sociales, televisión, radio o medios impresos.

El proyecto de ley salió del Senado con votos de 35-0.

Important Information About Lead in Your Drinking Water

Trenton Water Works (TWW) found elevated levels of lead in drinking water in some homes/buildings. Lead can cause serious health problems, especially for pregnant women and children 6 years and younger. Please read this notice closely to see what you can do to reduce lead in your drinking water.

Health Effects of Lead

Lead can cause serious health problems if too much enters your body from drinking water or other sources. It can cause damage to the brain and kidneys and can interfere with the production of red blood cells that carry oxygen to all parts of your body. The greatest risk of lead exposure is to infants, young children, and pregnant women. Scientists have linked the effects of lead on the brain with lowered IQ in children. Adults with kidney problems and high blood pressure can be affected by low levels of lead more than healthy adults. Lead is stored in the bones and it can be released later in life. During pregnancy, the child receives lead from the mother's bones, which may affect brain development.



Sources of Lead in Drinking Water

Lead is a common metal found in the environment. Drinking water is one possible source of lead exposure. EPA estimates that 10 to 20% of a person's potential exposure to lead may come from drinking water. Infants who consume mostly formula mixed with lead-containing water can receive 40 to 60% of their exposure to lead from drinking water.

In Trenton, lead was commonly used in water service lines until 1960 and for indoor plumbing solder until 1986 when it was banned. Brass faucets, fittings, and valves, including those advertised as "lead-free," may also contribute to lead in drinking water. The law up until 2014 allowed brass fixtures, such as faucets, with up to 8% lead to be labeled as "lead free." Current standards for "lead free" fixtures allow for no more than 0.25% of lead content.



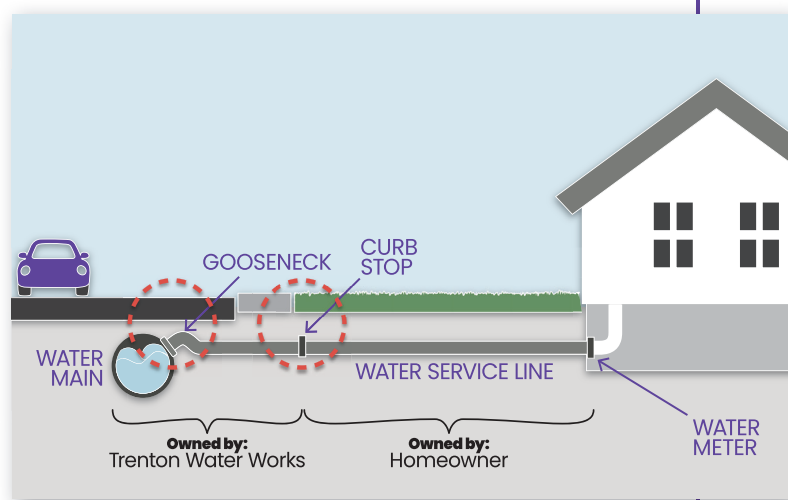
The Delaware River is the water supply source for TWW's Filtration Plant. When treated water leaves TWW's Filtration Plant, it is lead free. The water mains in the street that transport water from the Filtration Plant are made mostly of iron and steel and do not add any lead to the drinking water. In TWW's service area, galvanized steel pipe lined with lead was commonly used until 1960 for water service lines which transport the water from the street to homes and buildings. When water is in contact with these pipes, lead solder or plumbing fixtures that contain lead for several hours, the lead may enter the drinking water. Homes built before 1986 are more likely to have lead pipes or lead solder than newer homes. The lead from a home's individual service line or plumbing affects only the tap water inside that home since water travels only one way in home plumbing.

STEPS YOU CAN TAKE TO REDUCE YOUR EXPOSURE TO LEAD IN YOUR WATER

- 1. Run your water to flush out lead.** Run water for 1 to 3 minutes to flush lead from interior plumbing or until it becomes cold or reaches a steady temperature before using it for drinking or cooking, if it hasn't been used for several hours. Also, regularly remove and clean your aerators.
- 2. Use cold water for cooking and preparing baby formula.** Do not cook with or drink water from the hot water tap; lead dissolves more easily into hot water. Do not use water from the hot water tap to make baby formula.
- 3. Do not boil water to remove lead.** Boiling water will not reduce lead.
- 4. Look for alternative sources or treatment of water.** You may want to consider purchasing bottled water or a water filter. Read the package to be sure the filter is approved to reduce lead or contact NSF International at **800-NSF-8010** or **nsf.org** for information on performance standards for water filters. Be sure to maintain and replace a filter device in accordance with the manufacturer's instructions to protect water quality.
- 5. Test your water for lead.** Please contact the Trenton Water Works at **609-989-3055** or by email at **twwleadprogram@trentonnj.org** to find out how to get your water tested for lead at a local laboratory.
- 6. Get your child's blood tested.** Contact your local health department or healthcare provider to find out how you can get your child tested for lead if you are concerned about exposure.
- 7. Identify and replace your water service line, plumbing with lead solder or plumbing fixtures containing lead.**
 - ▶ Find out how to check your water service line material at **twwleadprogram.com/check-your-line**
 - ▶ Purchase EPA-approved lead check swabs to determine if you have lead solder or brass fittings with high lead content. For more information, visit **twwleadprogram.com**
 - ▶ Visit **www.nsf.org** to learn more about lead-containing plumbing fixtures

What Happened? What is Being Done?

During the monitoring period of July 2018 to December 2018, TWW conducted routine water sample testing for lead. Lead levels at customers' taps in the distribution system exceeded the Lead Action Level of 15 parts per billion (ppb) for the 90th percentile based on samples of water in homes with lead service lines and/or copper piping with lead solder. Water from 11 out of 105 homes sampled contained lead above the action level. All of these homes have known sources of lead.



TWW continues its efforts to upgrade the water treatment process and water distribution system to meet the State and Federal drinking water regulations and to make the drinking water less corrosive.

TWW is taking immediate and long-term measures to minimize lead levels throughout the service area which includes Trenton, and parts of Hamilton, Ewing, Hopewell and Lawrence. Specifically, TWW is currently:

- ▶ Replacing lead service lines from the water main to the curb for those who have previously replaced the homeowner's side to copper.
- ▶ Undertaking a Lead Service Line Replacement Program to prioritize the replacement of approximately 2,600 lead services by mid-2020 including the portion of the service line from the curb to meter, owned by the homeowner. The remaining lead services will be replaced in later phases of the program. Visit www.twwleadprogram.com to learn more about this program.
- ▶ Expediting the construction of a temporary corrosion control treatment (CCT) system which will add zinc orthophosphate to the water system. The addition of zinc orthophosphate will help minimize the process of lead leaching into the water from the service pipes and lead solder. The temporary CCT system will treat water that reaches the majority of TWW customers in the short term until a long term plan for corrosion control treatment for 100% of the water system is implemented.
- ▶ Regularly flushing and cleaning the water distribution system.
- ▶ Holding public meetings throughout the service area to answer TWW customer questions.

Trenton Water Works is committed to providing safe and clean drinking water to its customers

For more information, contact Trenton Water Works:

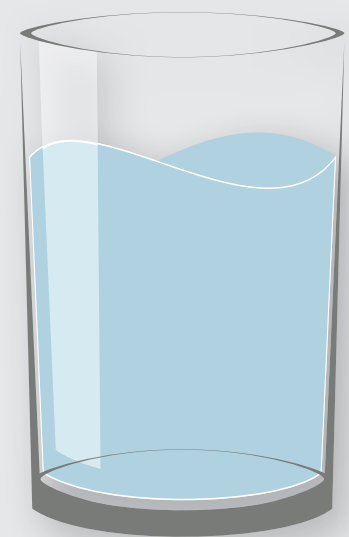
phone: **609-989-3055**

email: twwleadprogram@trentonnj.org

web: www.twwleadprogram.com

For more information on reducing lead exposure around your

home/building and the health effects of lead, visit EPA's Web site epa.gov/lead



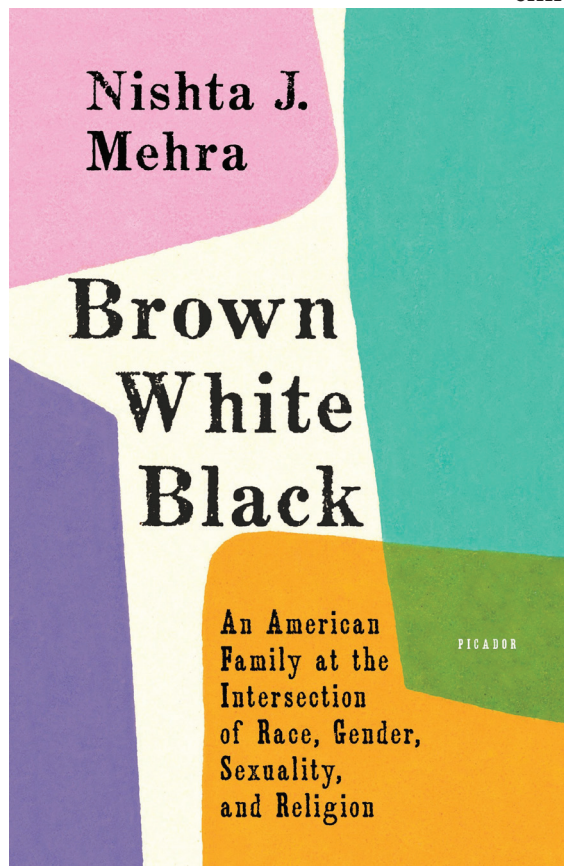
Nubian News Book Review

BY TERRI SCHLICHENMEYER

“Brown White Black: An American Family at the Intersection of Race, Gender, Sexuality, and Religion”

BY NISHTA MEHRA

c.2019, Picaor
\$25.00 / \$32.50 Canada
213 pages
Column A or Column B?



Truth is, you don't fit in either. You're unique, from your toes to your hair, inside and out. People can try to categorize you, but it just won't work. As you'll see in the new book “Brown White Black” by Nishta J. Mehra, there's a lot to learn.

One of her earliest memories still stings.

Nishta Mehra was “about seven or eight years old” when she was shopping with her mother and a little boy called her the n-word. She cried then, not because she was Black but because she wasn't.

As the child of parents from India, Mehra is “brown” but she “came of age not fully at home in either black or white spaces.” She was an only child with few other Indians nearby, and she had to blaze her own trails through whatever discomforts she might feel in social, religious, and cultural situations – something that was exacerbated when she went to college and she “realized that I was queer.”

Today, Mehra's life is “complicated.” Her internal narrative always included children but never a wedding. While

in college, though, she met a white woman who became her professor, then her partner, then her wife. Nineteen years Mehra's senior, Jill had assumed that she'd never have children, until the idea of adoption

became so appealing that the two women carefully searched for a gay-friendly agency.

Nine months later, they were the mothers of a Black baby boy.

It takes a lot of restraint to continue to kindly answer questions about being “a two-mom, three-color family,” says Mehra. People say things that are hurtful or that make her angry but that's also given her a better awareness of the privilege she had and of the institutions and limitations of gender assumptions and roles and of racism in America.

“I often wonder if what feels so essential to me now,” she muses, “would still be on our radar if we did not have a Black son.”

Sticks and stones, as the playground saying goes, are more damaging than mere words. It's a retort that author Nishta J. Mehra disputes, but conflictingly so.

While so very valuable as an entry into the national conversation on the meaning of language and family, “Brown White Black” may also seem somewhat rant-like. Mehra makes many excellent points: in how she shouldn't have to explain her life, her son's life, his love of “girly” things, or her shorn head; on why she allows him certain freedoms; on having children, and the panoply of choices. But then, curiously, she questions the choices of others in childrearing, friend-making, and mundane things like “car sticker families,” focusing particularly on language (“words matter”) and seemingly refusing to allow for even the slightest of natural human awkwardness.

“We're making it up as we go,” says Mehra on gay marriage, and that's a sentence to remember if you tackle this book. “Brown White Black” is certainly a thought-provoking look at modern American families but for some readers, it just won't fit.

Public Notice

Take notice that in accordance with N.J.S.A. 39:10-16*, application has been made to the Chief Administrator of the Motor Vehicle Commission, Trenton, New Jersey, to receive title papers authorizing and the issuance of a New Jersey certification of ownership for, Make: Mercury, Year 2007, Vin/Hull identification Number 4M2CU39H17KJ01102.

Objections, if any, should be made in writing, immediately in writing to the Chief Administrator of the Motor Vehicle Commission, Special Title Unit, P.O. Box 017, Trenton, New Jersey, 07666-0017

Around the Town



Sam Frisby, Beverly Smith, School Councillor at PJ Hill and Denice Holguin, Parent Coordinator/Homeless



Ja'Nelle Harmon with Jack and Jill



We got a picture of Mama Pat

Phyliss Holly Ward - Obama Exhibit at Trenton Delivered Center



Sisters Isabella and Christina Cottingham at Starbucks Poetry slam

Nia Pierce, TCNJ NAACP Chapter President
Jonette Smart, President, Trenton Branch NAACP



No Blacks on Capital Health's Board of Directors

Award recipients from left to right- Ivey Avery, Johnnie Mae Page, Janice Caldwell, Rev. Karen Hernandez, Granzen



Blacks need not apply

NAACP ACT-SO wins first Black History Competition

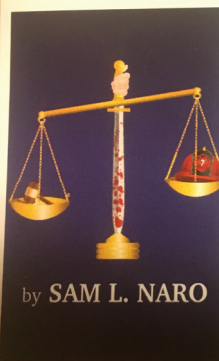
Dr. Britney Smith with her new book at Vue



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.



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What's Happening

- 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.
- Saturday, March 9, 2019 at 7 p.m. - 10 p.m., Trenton Divine Poetry Night Out · Hosted by Trenton Divine Poetry Night Out. 146 Us-130, 146 U.S. 130, Bordentown, New Jersey 08505, General Admission \$20
- Saturday, March 9th, 3:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m. A Father Daughter Talk with Dr. John W. Carlos and Kimme Carlos on Mental Health by Urban Mental Health Alliance. Now his daughter Kimme Carlos, Executive Director and Founder of the Urban Mental Health Alliance

(UMHA), is pleased to join Dr. Carlos for a historic talk on mental health, social justice and our hope for the future. All funds raised will help to further UMHA's mission to empower individuals and families in urban communities with information and resources on mental health, emotional wellbeing and recovery resources, like our newest program, Healthy Minds in Mercer County, launching this spring. Please register at Eventbrite or www.urbanmentalhealthalliance.org. Event location: Princeton University, Frick Chemistry Lab--Taylor Auditorium BO2, Princeton, NJ. \$35-\$100

- Saturday, March 9th, 11:00 a.m. - 1:30 p.m. Agape Girls Monthly Mingle. If you have daughters ages 9-18, we would love for them to participate in the Agape Girls Program. This is a free informational session for new participants and parents who are interested in the program. Parents are welcome to accompany your daughters. Smith Family Foundation of Trenton New Jersey, 407 West State Street. Trenton, NJ. FREE. Any questions or concerns, email tmcneil.agapegirls@gmail.com
- Saturday, March 9th, 9:30 a.m - 12:30 p.m. The Mu Lambda Sigma Alumnae Chapter of Sigma Gamma Rho Sorority, Inc. Invites you to join us for our Annual Youth Symposium, Mission Possible: A Safe Space for our Youth! Learn all about H3: Healthy Choices, Healthy Living, Financial Health and Healthy

Generations! This event is open to middle and high school youth (aged 12 -18). Grace A. Dunn Middle School, 401 Dayton Street, Trenton, NJ 08610. The event is free but you must register in advance. Register at eventbrite.com

- Saturday, March 16th, 1:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m. March Madness, In Like A Lion, Out Like A Lamb. 354 S. Broad St, Trenton, NJ. For more information call Minister Patricia Fleming @ 609 222-5141. Lite refreshments will be served.
- Monday, March 25th, 9:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m. Members of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc. are cordially invited to join the New Jersey Connection Coordinators in the capitol city of Trenton for AKA Day at the Capitol 2019. Interactive Info Sessions 9 a.m. - 1 p.m. Workshops & Forums with Influential Law & Policy Makers. Legislative Session 2 p.m. New Jersey State House, 125 West State Street, Trenton, NJ 08608. FREE. Register at eventbrite.com
- Tuesday, March 26th, 5:30 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. - Trenton Civic Trust meeting. 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 problem. 801 W State St, Trenton, NJ

- Thursday, March 28 thru Sunday, March 31, 2019 - 2019 Trenton Film Festival, Public · Hosted by Trenton Film Society. Passage Theatre at the Mill Hill Playhouse, 205 E Front St, Trenton, New Jersey 08611. Trenton Film Festival will screen a juried selection of 54 new, cutting-edge films of various genres from around the world. We present post-screening Q&As, receptions and a panel discussion that offer audiences the opportunity to interact with filmmakers who are at various stages in their careers.
- Sunday, March 31, 2019 at 4 p.m., Sacred Heart Church, 343 South Broad St, Trenton, NJ - Capital Singers of Trenton present Forrest's Requiem for the Living with Sinfonietta Nova and Trenton Children's Chorus. Contact: Capital Singers of Trenton, 609-434-2781
- Friday, April 5th, 7:00 p.m. - A Gospel Musical Concert, presented by Jerusalem Missionary Baptist Church 78th Anniversary Committee, featuring Pastor Rickey McDuffie and The Family; The Lumzy Sisters and more. Tickets only \$15. For tickets, Sister Caretha Jeter 609 577-0584.

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