

# The Nubian News

Loving the Black Perspective

**Who is paying for all the extra personnel and health components needed to open New Jersey schools? What training will teachers and staff receive before schools open? When kids are social distancing how many extra grow-ups will be needed to watch over little kids stretched out over 150 feet?**

## Sueña con ser profesor universitario

POR CARLOS AVILA

TRENTON-El pasado mes de junio, dialogamos con Luis García Herrera, joven indocumentado que hace 5 años (2015), con mucho esfuerzo y dedicación alcanzó a ser el mejor



Luis García Herrera, camina por las calles del Sur de Trenton, afirma que con el estudio podremos hacer una diferencia en nuestras comunidades.

estudiante (valedictorian) de la Trenton Central High School West, en la ciudad de Trenton.

Hoy en día, ya con su título universitario bajo el brazo, anima a los estudiantes que acaban de graduarse de secundaria a que continúen sus estudios superiores.

“Nuestros padres como todos vinieron de diferentes países a trabajar fuerte y sacrificarse acá por nosotros, pues yo creo que ahora nosotros debemos sacrificarnos, pero estudiando y así podremos hacer un cambio en nuestras comunidades” precisa Luis con mucho énfasis.

Luis obtuvo una licenciatura en Química en Pensilvania en la Universidad “Franklin & Marshall College”, advierte que va a “descansar” un año, mientras trabaja y gana experiencia.

“El próximo año buscaré una maestría y luego un doctorado en Química”, sentenció este joven de origen mexicano que actualmente esta protegido por el programa DACA, tiene claro su objetivo, para los próximos 5 años.

“Todos mis profesores eran gringos...y yo pensaba, y soñaba en mi mente...quisiera que hubiera alguien como yo enseñando aquí”, comenta este

joven que se emociona cuando reafirma su gratitud a Dios y a su iglesia por las bendiciones recibidas durante su juventud. Esperemos después de 5 años mas podamos contar nuevamente su historia ya como profesor de una universidad en los Estados Unidos de América.

## NJ Schools Reopening Plan: Recipe For Death

BY AL ALATUNJI

On June 26, the NJ Department of Education released its plan to reopen schools for the 2020-2021 school year. Major highlights of the plan include that teachers would be required to wear masks and students would be

implementing the NJ Department of Education plan. They will have the additional classroom and other facilities spacing to achieve social distancing. Many already have smaller student class sizes than Trenton and other urban school districts.



encouraged to wear masks.

Students will stay six feet apart in classrooms and on buses, lunch times will be staggered. Students will be required to wear masks when they cannot be more than six feet away.

The plan was clearly not created with input from someone who was or is a teacher or parent. It raises more questions, than answers. It is also a recipe for not only confusion, frustration and chaos but in urban school districts like Trenton, death.

Let's put it right out there. This plan is not about educating students. It is about allowing parents with young school students from affluent communities who commute to Philly or New York City to be able to work and have schools provide basically free daycare for their kids.

Affluent school districts in NJ should have little to no difficulty

Affluent school districts will probably have even smaller classrooms, as parents with the ability to work from home because of coronavirus concerns, will elect to homeschool their kids.

In addition, more affluent school districts will have the extra funds to establish more healthy environments with barriers that enhance social distancing and replacing drinking water fountains and restroom facilities with no touch mechanisms. Will Trenton and other urban school districts with already overcrowded classrooms and little to no space for expansion be able to do similar? The state is already complaining about the loss of revenue due to the coronavirus and the possible need to cut programs and services. Will it be

*Schools Re-open continued on page 3*

# El Latino News

En Contacto con la Comunidad

Trenton – Mercer County

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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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# The Public Policy Of Mass Murder

By AL ALATUNJI

Let us take our heads out of the sand and call it what it is. What it is plain and simple is mass murder.

The current federal regime adopted a public policy of mass murder to address the coronavirus pandemic. The current regime in Washington instituted a public policy in which Black, Latinx, Asian American and Native American lives did not matter and were deemed expendable.

The sentiment of the administration appears to be that corporate profits and stock portfolios should not and must not suffer because of Black, Latinx, Asian American and Native American people. If 100,000, 200,000, half a million or two million must die in order for business to remain as usual, so be it.

Initially, it was thought that the federal government's grossly inept response to the coronavirus pandemic was because those in charge were rank amateurs. What has become glaringly clear is that the person in charge is a reality show celebrity and notorious con artist.

The American people elected a chameleon, charlatan and clown. They sent him to Washington to shake things up, whatever that meant. But from the outset he and his team of rogues were totally over their heads. Like a pack of deer in headlights, they stumble, fumble and bumble their way along. Then came the pandemic. Elections have consequences. What you vote for is what you get.

However, that was a total misread of the unholy cabal's response to the pandemic. Clearly, the current regime is incompetent in the face of the pandemic. Yet, as the days turned into weeks and weeks into months it

became clear that from the beginning the current regime knew exactly what it was doing. It would not be locking down the nation to save lives as health experts had urged. It refused to shut down the economy like China and other nations had.

If it had not been for big city mayors and various governors, the numbers of coronavirus cases and deaths would have been significantly higher. The mayors and governors saw what the coronavirus was doing in other countries, and following the advice of health experts and scientists, proactively took measures to save lives. They provided leadership when the criminal junta in Washington refused to save lives.

What the current federal regime did, continues to do and not do, is morally reprehensible and inhumane. More alarming than the current regime's adoption of a public policy of mass murder is the significant number of Americans who wholeheartedly and unquestionably support that public policy. It comes as no real surprise.

The lives of Blacks, Latinx and other people of color does not matter to a sizable portion of Americans. For this group of Americans, if it becomes a choice between the lives of people of color and the nation's economy, their choice is unquestionably clear.

These attitudes were not created by the current regime in Washington. They existed way before it came into office. But it has given voice and support to that sentiment.

This sentiment runs deep like an ocean. It is as H.Rap Brown said about violence "...is as American as cherry pie."

## COMPENSATORY-FUNCTIONAL DEFINITIONS

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

### The Powers That Be

The Collective power of the White Supremacists (Racists)

### The Problem

White Supremacy (Racism)

### Truth

That which is.

### Uncle Tom

Any non-white person, who directly or indirectly cooperates with White Supremacy, and/or with White Supremacists, at any time, in any place, in any area of activity, including Economics, Education, Entertainment, Labor, Law, Politics, Religion, Sex, and/or War.

[Note: It is unjust and incorrect to ever call any person an Uncle Tom if it is not a name that that person uses to identify himself. To do so constitutes "name-calling" and serves no constructive purpose].

### United-Independent Compensatory Code/System/Concept

A term that means, when expressed in practice, the sum total of everything that is thought, said, or done, by one individual person [non-white], who is a Victim of Racism [Victim of White Supremacy] that is effective in helping to eliminate Racism (White Supremacy), and/or in helping to "make up" for the lack of justice and correctness, in any one or more areas of activity, including Economics, Education, Entertainment, Labor, Law, Politics, Religion, Sex, and/or War.

### Victim of Racism

Any person who is racially classified as, and/or who is generally considered to be, "Black" "Brown" "Red" "Yellow", and/or "non-white", and, who is, and/or has been, directly or indirectly dominated by White Supremacists (Racists).

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-text-book-counter-racist>



# STAFF

**Publisher**  
Kamau Kujichagulia

**Managing Editor**  
Tanya Henry Turner

**El Latino News Editor**  
Carlos Avila  
**Reporters**  
Al Alatunji  
Laura Lucia Rodriguez Pena  
Tangela Wright  
Dawne Washington  
Edna Roman

**Photographers**  
Karen Hilton

**Circulation**  
Leslie Lauts  
Vernon Daniels

Letters to the Editor:

**nubiannews@thenubiannews.com**  
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*Schools Re-open continued from page 1*  
willing and able to come up with the necessary funds for urban schools to readily handle reopening under the NJ Department of Education's new rule? Will parents and grandparents feel comfortable with their children using restroom facilities without major health upgrades to such facilities? Will teachers feel comfortable using such facilities without such upgrades?

As for testing teachers and students for the coronavirus, that will be up to the districts to decide. Towns with surplus budgets will have testing for their students and teachers. Those without such funds will be left with prayer.

Will sending children back to schools result in an increase in coronavirus cases and deaths? Did the NJ Department of Education take that into consideration when it was formulating its plan? Did it take into consideration that in urban schools, many of the students are either being raised by grandparents and or come from extended families with grandparents, aunts and uncles living in the household? Was there thought given with children back in schools passing the coronavirus between them, that they might bring the virus home to parents and grandparents resulting

in an increase in deaths especially those with underlying health issues? If so was the NJ Department of Education's conclusion "So be it."?

The NJ Department of Education gets an F- with a red circle around it for its plan.

The saving grace about the NJ Department of Education plan, if we take Trenton's and other school districts', both suburban and urban, experience in trying to implement a remote learning program last March, will be their inability to do so.

Like many school district's experience, Trenton's, attempt to implement a remote learning program was anything but successful. When Trenton had its last day of school on June 22 the district had failed to get every student a computer to be online.

Pandemic or not, in the year 2020 for a student not to have access to a computer at home to do homework is a failure to educate. It is unconscionable. This is not the 1950s, and the education processes, techniques, content and methods used should be current. Clearly they are not.

Trenton's remote learning program like that of many other districts, suburban and urban, seemed not about educating students but justifying paychecks for teachers and administrators. Make work, not real

learning. In only a matter of days, schools were closed, districts were forced to create emergency distance learning plans, teachers were given the impossible task of continuing the school year without missing a beat, and parents took on the role of educators like they never had before. Administrators, teachers and parents were not prepared to educate students.

The NJ Department of Education was responsible for that failure. The same NJ Department of Education which has designed this irresponsible plan to reopen the schools.

The technology exists that remote learning can be done effectively and efficiently. Incorporating zoom, google classroom, Netflix, the Discovery Channel, The History Channel and other programming into the remote learning experience can be rewarding for students and their parents.

Such a learning experience should be implemented by educators with or without the paper pushers in the NJ Department of Education for reopening. The focus must be on educating students and enriching their minds. It should not be about daycare for parents to go to work.

To do otherwise amounts to students, in particular ones from urban areas

attending schools, transmitting the virus to parents and grandparents resulting in death. It will be just another example that Black lives and those of other people of color do not matter.

Students, parents, grandparents and teachers deserve a much better plan than presented by the NJ Department of Education.

The NJ Department of Education schools reopening plan should be DOA (dead on arrival) because of the ineptness of many districts to be able to implement the simplest of plans. The reopening plan is anything but simple.

The plan allows for split schools days schedules, alternating school day schedules and a host of other hybrid schemes to address social distancing requirements. This should be quite interesting to watch districts implement such scheduling schemes.

How many minutes in an hour will most teachers use to remind students to distance themselves from other students? Pretty certain, if a teacher or parent were involved in creating the plan, they would know from experience, what the answer is to that question.



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## Addressing Change, Where Do We Begin?

BY EDNA E ROMAN

Amidst, the current Black Lives Matter Movement and racial tensions. I'm quite sure that I'm not the only one feeling a different energy in the air. As an adult, confusion, fear, anger, anxiety, are among a few of the emotions that instantly come to mind without digging too deep.

Anytime we turn our television on;



we see and hear about the unfair treatment of our brothers and sisters. There is an actual visual of police brutality and murder for all of us to bear witness to and absorb. In some instances, some people may even become physically ill after watching a human being brutally murdered. Traumatic?

Our very own Trenton born, Cultural Psychologist, Dr. Dawn Washington sheds light on the effects of indirect and direct trauma that may be affecting our children and young adults. It is vital that we share the news with our loved ones, our young children, our teenagers, and young adults. Dr. Washington also shares how we can begin to make a change.

With a background in child protective services for 12 years, specifically DYFS, a Doctorate in International Psychology and a Masters in Criminal Justice, focusing on criminal behavior, Dr. Washington candidly shares her perspective.

TNN: How severe can the trauma be for someone who has literally lost a loved one to police brutality or by simply absorbing the negativity of the ongoing racism in this country?

Dr. Washington: Second hand trauma still affects you. It can cause different forms of anxiety, depression and fear, especially among our youth.

They've had to deal with COVID, police brutality, social distancing, along with remote learning. This is a significant loss in their lives. Our youth thrive off of peer interaction.

TNN: Is there something that our parents could do or say that would provide some comfort to our children?

Dr. Washington: They need to normalize their feelings with activities such as, art, walks, and doing things as a family. What I do to help my family is, I personally self-reflect. I ask myself what could I have done differently to make our day better. I also ask myself if I responded correctly to my child if they had an issue.

TNN: How can we as a community make it better for our loved ones who literally fear being killed by someone who has taken the oath, "To protect and serve!"

Dr. Washington: We first have to be a village and protect each other! Let's rebuild our village! Yes, black lives matter but it can't just be specific to police brutality. If we don't love and respect ourselves how can we expect that from others. We need to rebuild our community; our financial stability, and we need to figure out a way to interact with each other. We should reflect what we want to see in others. They aren't going to respect us until we respect each other.

TNN: How can we as regular citizens make a difference?

Dr. Washington: By having those conversations, start bringing in families that feel like they are forgotten, and again rebuilding that village.

TNN: Informing our children about racism is a disheartening task. How important do you think it is to inform our loved ones about this unfortunate reality?

Dr. Washington: It is very important. Change won't happen unless we address the issue. We can approach it from within and work outward. We have to have the discussion in a positive light and to make it better by starting at home first. Home consists of our household, community, and then society as a whole. You start small, you start at home...from micro to macro. Ultimately, change begins at home.

## Will This Time Be Different?

BY AL ALATUNJI

The murder, the execution of George Floyd at the hands of four police officers in Minneapolis in late May unleashed protests throughout the US and around the world. Such protests denounced George Floyd's death, proclaimed that Black Lives Matter and called for an end to police criminality and lawlessness.

Both the size and intensity of the marches as well as the diversity of the marchers forced many to wonder if things would be different this time? Many hoped that the unquestionable brutality, savagery and torture captured in an eight minute 46 second video would finally force the US to confront its long and ugly history of police brutality and injustice against Blacks and other people of color. Perhaps this time George Floyd's name would be the last name on a long, too long list of Black men and women who had their lives snuffed out in a string of senseless, state-acted and sanctioned Black deaths at the hands of the police.

Would this time be different? A whole lot of Black parents, grandparents and others hope so. While there is great hope there may not be as much faith.

Did people truly see the violence and inhumanity captured on video because a pandemic forced society to shut down and there was nothing else, no sports or other things preventing them from viewing it? Or were the images so profoundly inhumane that they could not help but see the inhumanity even while sleep walking?

Only time and history will tell. However, using recent history as a guide, though we may have great hope, our faith unfortunately is less than a mustard seed.

It was just 12 years ago, then Senator Barack Obama while campaigning for president, pointed out that the moment was bigger than himself and his campaign of hope. He posited that systemic and transformative change involved civic engagement at all levels of government. We were encouraged, we were exhorted to get involved beyond just voting. We went to the polls and elected him president, danced in the streets and the next day went to sleep. We had a brother in the White House who would turn water to wine, walk on water and raise the dead. He asked for our involvement and support from day one. However, he looked around and we were nowhere to be found. He had to fight

the tea party crackpots, Republican obstructionists and others bent on bringing down the Black man all by himself.

Just recently, former President Obama urged us to take this moment in time and involve ourselves in seeking justice for George Floyd and so many others who have been victimized by this nation's policing problem. In particular, he urged us to seek meaningful and substantive reform of local and county police and prosecution offices and practices.

What are some of those changes that we need to see enacted?

One of the major reasons police have gotten away with unlawful conduct down through the years, has been the cozy relationship they have had with prosecutors and judges. Those who want change in policing must insist such cozy relationships no longer exist. If you cannot change the people, then you must change the people. All municipal and county judges and prosecutors should be elected by the people and held accountable by the people. State law would need to be changed to allow such election of local and county judges and prosecutors. At the same time the law should be changed allowing for the election of the State Attorney General and Superior Court judges.

Substantively improve police training, mandate the duty of officers to intervene, ban chokeholds and carotid holds, and limit the use of military-grade equipment by local and county governments. Cities and counties will need to seriously consider divesting public funds to police departments. Public funds must be reappropriated to social programs in communities, especially marginalized ones where much of the policing occurs.

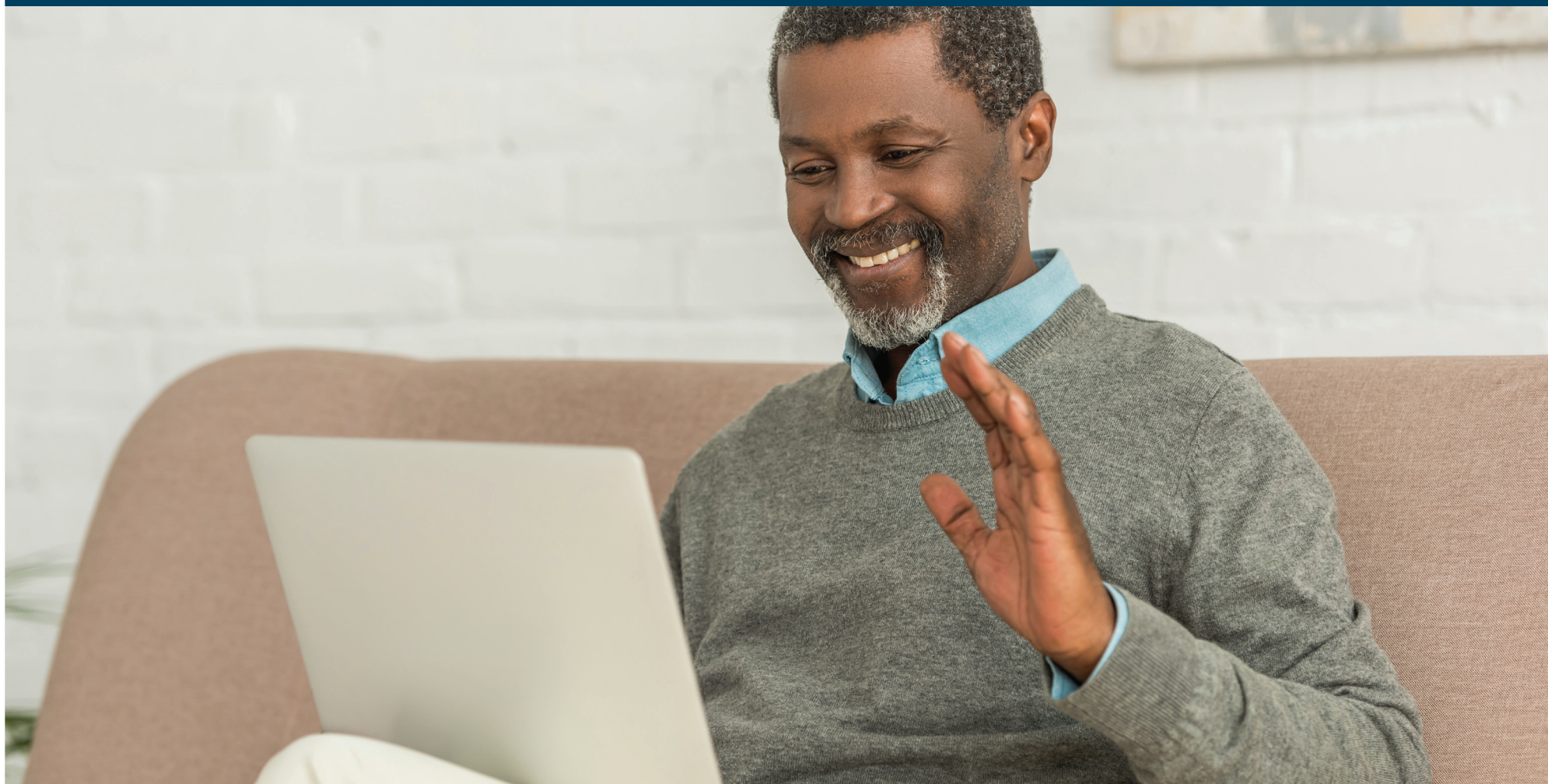
Police unions will need to be outlawed. Police officers will need to live in the jurisdictions in which they serve.

At the same time, society must deal with the issue of mental health. Mental health experts must be called to deal with mental health issues. Police are not trained and are totally ill-equipped to deal with mental health issues and other such issues where trained professionals, and not police, would be better equipped to respond. In addition, police departments must do a much better job in rejecting certain temperament and emotional types in the interview

*Different - continued on page 9*

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## OPINION

### NO BAJEMOS LA GUARDIA, MANTENGAMOS EL DISTANCIAMIENTO SOCIAL

Por CARLOS AVILA

TRENTON-A medida que las empresas estadounidenses comienzan a reabrir de nuevo, es importante que

practicar el distanciamiento social y lavarse las manos son buenas rutinas que continuarán protegiéndonos a nosotros y a nuestros vecinos a



sigamos ayudando a frenar la propagación del coronavirus y mantener a los miembros de nuestras familias y comunidades saludables. Usar una mascarilla para cubrirse la cara,

medida que nos acostumbramos con la nueva forma de convivencia en nuestra sociedad contemporánea.



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HISTORICO

## REMUEVEN ESTATUA DE CRISTOBAL COLON

POR CARLOS AVILA

TRENTON-La estatua de Cristóbal



Colón que hasta el miércoles 8 de julio 2020, posaba con mirada al norte desde 1960, en el parque que lleva su mismo nombre, fue desarmada y

removida del lugar por trabajadores de la ciudad. Hace días la figura había sido manchada con tinta roja en sus manos y en los últimos días estaba protegida con una manta blanca.

Tras el asesinato de George Floyd en Minneapolis el pasado 25 de mayo, monumentos y figuras históricas como Colón, han sido destruidas y vandalizadas a lo largo y ancho de los Estados Unidos.

Hasta ahora no se sabe si dicha estatua, será relocalizada en otro sitio, preservada en algún museo o bodega de la ciudad. El parque es conocido como "el parque de los italianos" en homenaje a la gran comunidad italiana que llegó de Europa a inicios del siglo pasado. Hoy en día este sector de la ciudad es poblado por latinoamericanos quienes frecuentan y usan para jugar futbol-soccer, vóley y organizar festivales cívicos y culturales. Una pregunta queda latente... ¿Ahora qué nombre le darán al parque?

## Convierten en ley mejorar el acceso a vivienda para familias de bajos ingresos

POR CARLOS AVILA

TRENTON - El presidente del Senado, Steve Sweeney, senadora



La flamante ley S-2527, proporcionará una ubicación en línea en la Agencia de Financiamiento Hipotecario y Vivienda de NJ donde se enumerarán todas las unidades disponibles.

Shirley Turner y otros defensores de vivienda accesible emitieron declaraciones sobre la promulgación de la ley, S-2527, que requiere que las listas de unidades de vivienda accesible estén disponibles en línea a través del Centro de Recursos de Vivienda de Nueva Jersey.

"Esto modernizará el proceso de informar a las personas que necesitan viviendas accesibles sobre cualquier unidad disponible", dijo el senador Sweeney.

Nueva Jersey es un estado conocido

por su alto costo de vida y el pago de la renta, a más de ser una de las prioridades que debe cumplir el arrendatario cada mes, es también un significativo desembolso en la economía familiar.

"En un estado conocido por su alto costo de vida, conseguir personas que necesitan un lugar accesible para vivir es primordial, no solo para las familias sino para la sociedad", dijo la senadora Turner.

Se espera que los próximos años las familias de bajos ingresos puedan contar con la información pertinente para conocer en detalle donde están esas viviendas que familias de la comunidad puedan acceder y comprar en sus respectivos condados.

"Uno de nuestros mayores desafíos es informar a nuestras comunidades dónde y cuándo estas oportunidades estarán disponibles en sus municipios", dijo Frank Argote-Freyre, presidente de la Fundación Latino Action Network.

Esperemos que esas listas de viviendas disponibles hagan llegar a este medio, para que los lectores se informen y puedan realizar el trámite correspondiente y adquirir su casa propia.

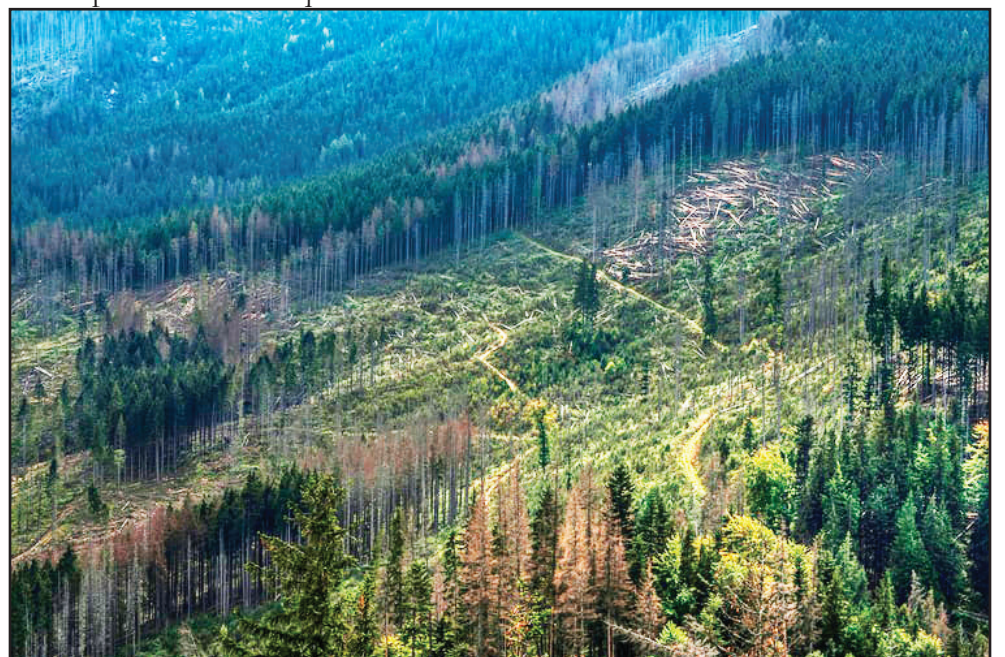
## DEFORESTACIÓN EN BRASIL NO SE DETIENE EN TIEMPOS DE PANDEMIA

LAURA LUCIA RODRÍGUEZ PEÑA

En los últimos meses a donde quiera que se mire hay noticias sobre el coronavirus, poco a poco hemos tenido que acostumbrarnos a una nueva realidad con normas de higiene más estrictas y donde el contacto personal está prohibido. El hecho de que estemos saturados de información sobre COVID-19 no quiere decir que sea lo único que está pasando en el mundo, recientemente hemos notado como hay un despertar colectivo a nivel mundial para luchar en contra del racismo y en América Latina también están pasando cosas que no deben

los taladores ilegales que incluso en tiempo de pandemia siguen talando sin descanso. Esto no solo es un crimen ambiental sino que también están atentado con áreas protegidas donde viven comunidades indígenas, y el hecho de que estén llegando taladores constantemente es una exposición directa con el coronavirus.

Como si esto fuera poco se acercan los meses de agosto y septiembre, que tienden a ser bastantes secos y a ser temporada de incendios a causa de las altas temperaturas. Cada año se pierden cantidades considerables de bosque por culpa de estos desastres



pasar desapercibidas.

Recientemente, se publicaron los datos de deforestación en Brasil, país que por tener la mayor parte de la Amazonía es conocido como el pulmón del mundo. Las cifras son desalentadoras, desde que Jair Bolsonaro es el primer mandatario de Brasil el cuidado ambiental pasó a un segundo plano, tan solo entre enero y abril de este año 464 millas cuadradas fueron deforestadas, esto equivale a 20 veces el tamaño de la isla de Manhattan (nytimes, 2020). Esta tendencia en deforestación parece que no va a cambiar pronto, pues la prioridad del gobierno Bolsonaro es el crecimiento económico, incluso si esto significa con acabar con ecosistemas valiosos e irremplazables para Brasil y para el mundo.

Este tipo de postura ha permitido que muchas empresas que usan la madera como materia prima se aprovechen de la abundancia que ofrece Brasil en este tema, además han aumentado

ambientales.

Ante la presencia de taladores ilegales el presidente Bolsonaro ha enviado tropas para arrestar a quienes se dediquen a estas actividades. Sin embargo, hay quienes dicen que esta ha sido una estrategia de popularidad más que una solución definitiva al problema, el gobierno no quiere parecer un villano frente a la protección ambiental pero no está aportando medidas efectivas y es responsable por la destrucción de la naturaleza.

La deforestación y los crímenes ambientales no deben tomarse a la ligera, a largo plazo traerán consecuencias irreversibles y catastróficas para las futuras generaciones. Actualmente, el COVID-19 está robándole el aire a miles de personas, en el futuro no solo las pandemias nos van a impedir respirar pero también la ausencia de árboles que los gobiernos actuales están talando.

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- Every Body Is A Real Estate Investor
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- Taking Dominion Over The Earth
- Personal Credit
- Discovering Your Purpose
- Team Work



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- Sho' I z Entertainment Inc. Record and Film Company
- Bass Contracting LLC (Teach A Man To Fish)
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Urban Economics and Development  
By AW Sr.

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God said let us make man in our own image and let's give them dominion over the earth.

He is telling You that you are made in his image and are co-creators with God. He simply wants you to take your position and dominate the earth meaning take ownership of the earth. That is telling us that as a people we need to invest and buy more land and real estate.

Now that we know how God Sees You! Let me introduce myself to you. Hi my name is Andre Williams I own several businesses and I am the President of One Heaven Inc a nonprofit 501C3 community service organization here in the City of Trenton NJ.

One Heaven Inc., has a lot of great services that we offer in the community and hopefully around the world, soon.

Over the years, we have partnered with, my other businesses such as Noah's Ark Day Care & Preschool to offer summer camp and after school programs.

We also partner with Bass Contracting LLC to provide training in the construction trade to youth and adults, along with employment opportunities upon successful completion of our training.

Our trade school, Fresh Start Training Academy LLC. will be opening in the near future.

Urban Economics as it applies to the African American community; we spend over 3 trillion a year in disposable income. If we removed that from

the companies that contribute inequality and use it to empower ourselves by buying residential, commercial properties and starting businesses. We would be an economic power house just like the Jews and other nationalities that aren't plagued with social injustices and killings of our people like dogs in the street. We can change that by owning and investing in schools, libraries, banks, grocery stores, gas stations and more. We can encourage our people to get involved with politics by becoming judges, lawyers, politicians, law enforcement and business owners. That's the true power and how we change for the better.

There are over 8000 abandoned properties in the City of Trenton and we can continue buying and resurrecting them one at a time.

In this effort, we are also looking to help individuals and families become homeowners by us holding the mortgages for them through our Affordable Housing Program.

Did you know that with ownership you will pay less in buying a home or commercial property than you would if you were just renting?

In my book, "Every Body Is A Real Estate Investor (Yes Even You)" I teach strategies on investing and I provide speaking engagements to small groups and organizations for a small donation to our 501c3 One Heaven Inc.

You can follow us on One Heaven Inc. On Facebook and Instagram as we host a weekly podcast Urban Economics and Development every Monday at 5pm.

You can purchase the books on Amazon.com or Wal-Mart.com

Or contact us by email at [andres@basscontractingllc.com](mailto:andres@basscontractingllc.com)

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609-416-1127

**CONTACT AUTHOR ANDRE WILLIAMS**

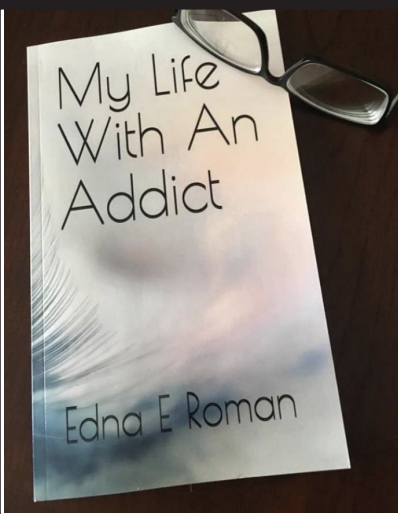
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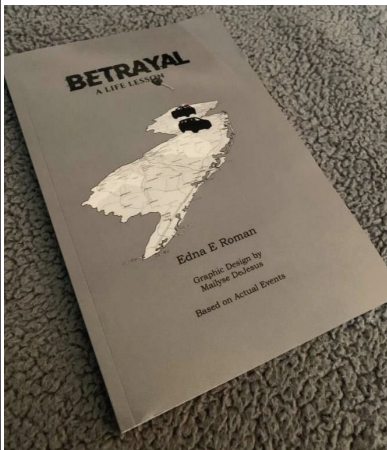
One Heaven Inc and Sho' I z Entertainment Inc every Monday @ 5pm

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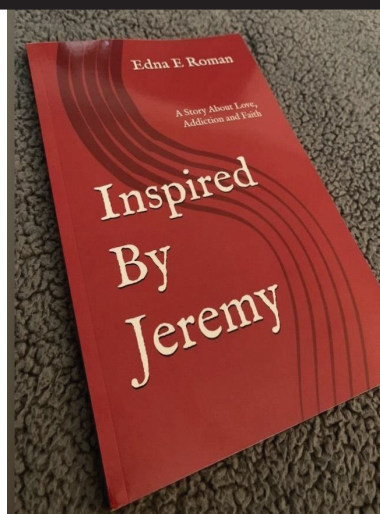




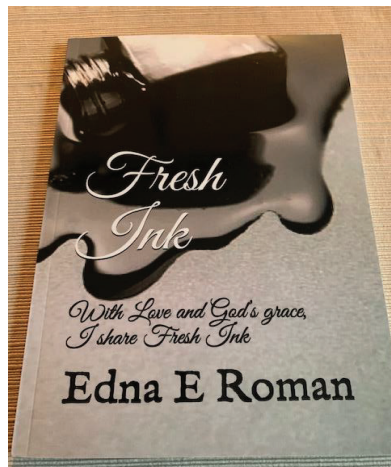
“My Life With An Addict” a candid story depicting my relationship with an in the closet addict and my ultimate decision to choose self.



“Betrayal, A Life Lesson” came to life when a family member was set-up to be the “fall guy” burglaries he did not commit. This is a true story!



“Inspired By Jeremy” debuted as a play in 2019 and honors my nephews life (death) and his struggle with substance abuse. The story touches on substance abuse, domestic violence and teen pregnancy.



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*Different - continued from page 4*  
process for whom policing is a wrong fit.

Those who are committed to substantive police and criminal justice reform must agitate, organize, mobilize, legislate and vote for change. Being angry, marching and protesting is not enough.

George Floyd is not a hashtag. He was a man. A man who should not have died as he did. His life desires justice. His murder must not be in vain.

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# Nubian News Book Review

BY TERRI SCHLICHENMEYER

## "Odetta: A Life in Music and Protest"

BY IAN ZACK

c.2020, Beacon Press \$28.95 / \$38.95  
Canada 288 pages

The first note had your foot tapping. It didn't stop until the set was over or the LP needed flipping. The song moved you; those words meant everything. And the singer of those tunes? She was the entire reason those notes

college was where she learned that music and politics together were a powerful force.

Picking up a borrowed guitar and practicing at hootenannys, Odetta shyly began singing prison songs, spirituals, and then-popular folk tunes and protest songs. As her popularity grew, she became a recording artist, an actor, and a deep inspiration for history's biggest names and folk music's best performers, including Paul Simon and Bob Dylan.

Once, she told an interviewer that she didn't want fame because of the hassle. In the end, Odetta got what she asked for: despite her influential work, she never had a chart-topper or a best-selling record.

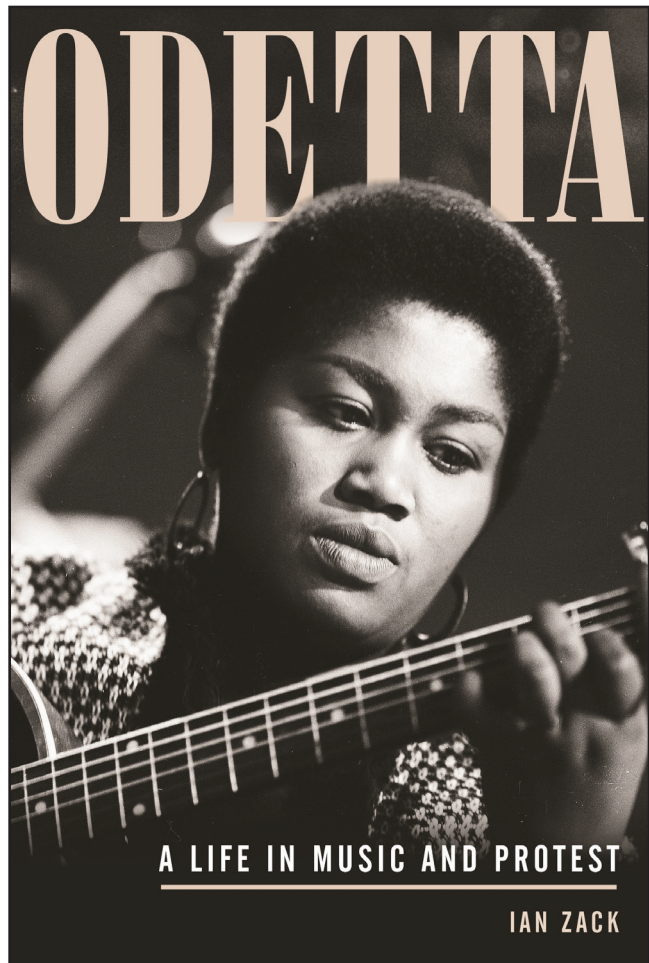
The line in the sand could be drawn like this: if you're a "whatever-music-is-fine" kind of person, then just turn the page. Nothing to see here. If you consider yourself a major music aficionado and liner-note devotee, though, "Odetta" is your book.

The difference comes in a distinction: Odetta

(who professionally used just her first name) never went mainstream despite, as author Ian Zack points out, that her influence peppers music up and down the spectrum over the last forty or fifty years. Casual readers may never have heard of her; Zack shows instead that they've heard her *through other artists*, and it happened in all the wrong ways. Odetta wasn't a destination, in other words; she was the journey.

Like the life of a not-quite-successful musician, however, "Odetta" struggles. Zack seems to have an odd focus on Odetta's hair, and the point is overly belabored. There are times, too, when this story drags like back-to-back whole notes, and that's no fun.

Still, readers who are *truly serious* about their music will relish "Odetta" as they grab their headphones and an LP to set the mood. If that's you, consider this book and make note.



were worth listening to. In the new book "Odetta" by Ian Zack, you'll find out why so few know her name. From the time she was old enough to talk, Odetta Holmes could sing. She was born on New Year's Eve 1930 to a mother who didn't want her and a father she didn't meet until she was in grade school. She was a big girl, and always self-conscious of it; on the day she met her father, he mentioned her size, which embarrassed her enough for the story to carry into her adulthood.

But the big girl had an even bigger talent.

Shortly after her mother remarried and Odetta gained a stepfather and a new surname, money was found for piano lessons. Odetta enjoyed the piano but it was her singing voice that most impressed her teacher, who insisted that the girl have a voice coach. Odetta's school concurred and she was taught to sing operettas and German lieder, instructions that later served her well – although

## In Me!

MOM! they tell me AMERICAN HEROES do not look like me. They said.... People like me run, jump, and fight for entertainment, act a fool, commit crimes, drink, and do drugs.

MOM! am I to be a thug!

MOM! they said AMERICAN HEROES do not look like me

They have fine features

Not like Black creatures!

MOM! are they right!

MOM! my teachers told me; and the schoolbooks showed me AMERICAN HEROES are white!

They are everywhere... in the movies, on tv and under Broadway lights  
MOM! is it true, is it true! AMERICAN HEROES have white skin and are O' so fine

Not Black skin, thick lips, and wide noses like mine!

MOM! in school I am told.... AMERICAN HEROES are George Washington, Thomas Jefferson, Robert E. Lee, Tarzan, John Wayne, and Elvis Presley, Jack Kennedy, and John Glenn... All with white skin

Mom! is my future a prison pin!

They said it is a matter of time! with a laugh and a smirk

Not caring that I was a child and if it hurt!

MOM! an AMERICAN HERO to them I was not. I was a Black child, thick lips, wide nose, and who did not know his place

A child asking too many questions.... A descendant of slave bodies and dependent on the state!

MOM! you said love yourself... you are somebody

Be like Marcus, Martin, Medgar, and Malcolm, you said

But Mom! they all are dead

You said ... because of the few I still have my head!

MOM! people who look like me with thick lips and wide noses control nothing

And wake up every day trying to prove to white people they are something!

Practicing beliefs of the obedient and mentally enslaved

You yelled back... watch your mouth and behave!

Mom! I have grown and now I have my own mind

Black Lives Matter... It our time!

MOM! you are a throwback, scared you may make the white man upset

You still see them and honest Abe as a Hero. ... I Bet!

MOM! I am no longer an ignorant child, I am a man

With Bravery and Courage in my hands!

MOM! I know the truth...and now I see

The American Hero lives in me!

Baaki Bell



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- Low energy
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- Irritability, mood swin



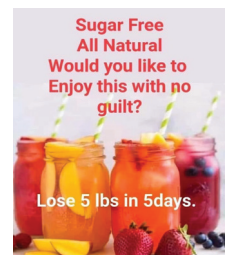
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## Black Lives Matter Movement and Police Reform

BY EDNA E ROMAN

Notice how I used the word “reform” and not “defund” in the article title?! With emotions at an all time high, now is the time for change. Everyone is ready, and regardless of who’s side you’re on, change is gonna’ come. Have you taken notice of the protestors for the Black Lives Matter Movement? This movement has gone GLOBAL! We are talking Africa, Puerto Rico, Netherlands, Australia, (to name a few) and just about every state in the United States has protested. Yes, it is a trying time, but now is the time for change! If you, yes you, had the opportunity to speak to a community organizer/activist regarding police reform, what solutions would you suggest? What change would you like to see happen in the City of Trenton?

I had the privilege of speaking with Mr. Algernon Ward regarding police reform. He shared his thoughts on how and why the Black Lives Matter Movement is different; what he is organizing and how we, the Trenton community, can make a difference.

TNN: Please explain why the Black Lives Matter Movement is different?

AW: From my observation, the Black Lives Matter movement started among young people reacting to incidents of police violence. In fact, it is a continuation of a historic struggle against police brutality African Americans have fought for generations. Their declaration that “Black Lives Matter” has resonated around the world and gaining international support of a kind never seen before. That’s what is new and different. This is a pivotal moment in time, with this new majority, real substantial change can be made. It’s imperative that we organize ourselves to use this moment to make a real difference.

TNN: To pass a new law requires time, plenty of footwork and yet more time. You’re doing both. Please explain the process required to pass a new law and how can we, the Trenton community get involved?

AW: The process for passing laws in the city involves having the Trenton City Council pass an ordinance and the Mayor signs it. For the state a bill must pass both houses of the legisla-



Photo by Karen Kaptures

ture and the Governor signs it into state law. I’m working with a group of influential leaders who are organizing and formulating a comprehensive approach to change or enact new laws and change flawed organizational and social structures to address the needs of the people.

TNN: On police reform, specifically, what changes are you striving for at the Trenton Police Department?

AW: I firmly believe that the people of Trenton deserve a police force that lives up to the highest levels of professionalism. This is no minor complaint, people have died. We are still in the process of gathering information, but some specifics are: We want GUARDIANS NOT WARRIORS; changes in police training that emphasizes de-escalation tactics before the use of force. Anti-bias awareness training. Use of less-than-lethal tactics; a ban on chokeholds, a greater respect for human life. A CIVILIAN REVIEW BOARD; a board of civilians to provide a police oversight mechanism empowered to conduct genuine inquiries, and its rulings must have the force of law to be acted upon. INVEST IN CRIME PREVENTION; police come after a crime, lets prevent the crime from happening in the first

place. Crime Prevention takes many forms. Youth programs, substance abuse treatment, family counseling, job training, anti-poverty programs have all been neglected for too long. Cops are not social workers, but if we had more social workers, we would need fewer cops. CLEAN UP YOUR RANKS; bad cops have to go, but due to police culture and a legal framework that makes holding genuinely bad cops from being held accountable for their illegal actions has to change. Abolishing qualified immunity statutes, eliminating binding arbitration agreements with police unions and empowering the Police Director to apply effective discipline when needed. The Police know who the bad cops are. They must stop protecting them. It is them who have put blood on police badges and disgraced police around the world. The police themselves must be part of the solution. It is the good cops who must to get rid of the bad cops. We call on the police to clean up your ranks! RE-IMAGINE THE POLICE; when Camden NJ disbanded its police force and rebuilt it from scratch, the result has been better than anyone imagined. Their crime rate is lower using fewer police, who are better trained and less costly (it) has provided an example we can learn from and use in Trenton. A SMART COP IS A GOOD COP; better educated cops do a better job. Increasing the incentives for police to improve their educations using promotions, pay-increases etc. improves the quality and professionalism of the police force. PERFORMANCE BASED DEPLOYMENT; it’s not how many police you have, it’s how you use them. National police associations have devised a system of best practices that apply performance based deployment that determines how many police are needed and when. Their studies have also shown that having too many police hurts the funding for crime prevention programs. A new funding balance must be struck. COMMUNITY POLICING; an improved relationship between the police and the community is absolutely necessary, starting with hiring more Trentonians as police officers. Foot patrols, engagement with community-based organizations and involvement with the social life of Trenton is an essential “trust building” exercise. One of the things we are considering is a “Police Reform Forum” that will give everyone a chance to provide their input into the process

### The Nubian News is looking for a Volunteer Coordinator

The Nubian News is looking for someone to volunteer to recruit, train and manage volunteers. You will work out the the office of The Nubian News, and will report to the Publisher, Kamau Kujichagulia. Your job will be to recruit other volunteers, train them how to go out and observe meetings, court cases and other events in and around Mercer County. They will bring their observations back and you and our reporters will use what they observed to write stories to our readers of what is happening and how money is being spent in their names. You must have good communication skills and have a working knowledge of Microsoft Word and gmail. This is a volunteer position and you must be able to work 10 hours per week. Our purpose is to grow a volunteer list large enough to represent The Nubian News at every meeting taking place in Mercer County. If you have the time and the skills for this large and important undertaking, please submit your name and contact information to: Kamau Kujichagulia kamau@thenubiannews.com or call 609 858-2777

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