

The Nubian News

Celebrating Black Women



How Many of These Famous Black SHEROES Can You Name?

Portrait was painted by Black artist, Hulis Mavruk, titled "35 Great Ladies." from Cecily Michelle

Sheroes Answers on Page 2

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

If you do not understand White Supremacy (Racism) --- what it is, and how it works --- everything else that you understand, will only confuse you."
 Neely Fuller Jr. [1971]



SHEROES Answers from page 1

Black Women are the backbone of our community. They bear and raise our most important and precious resource - Our Children. They also stand by their men and give us the will to carry

First Row (starting from the top, left to right): 1. Ida B. Wells – Legedary activist, journalist and founding member of the NAACP. 2. Harriet Tubman – Leading lady of the Underground Railroad; abolitionist and famed feminist. 3. Mary McLeod Bethune – Educator, humanitarian, civil rights leader, advisor to 5 U.S. presidents; founder of Bethune-Cookman University. 4. Septima Clark – Educator and civil rights activist known as the “Mother of the Movement.” 5. Augusta Savage – Activist and famed sculptor associated with the Harlem Renaissance. 6. Zora Neale Hurston – Renowned author best known for her 1937 novel *Their Eyes Were Watching God*. 7. Amy-Jacques Garvey – Second wife of Black Nationalist Marcus Garvey; ground-breaking publisher, journalist and activist. Second Row: 1. Sojourner Truth – Acclaimed Abolitionist and women’s rights activist. 2. Miriam Makeba aka “Mama Africa” – South African singer and civil rights activist known for fighting against apartheid. 3. Madame C.J. Walker – America’s first self-made female millionaire; famed entrepreneur who gained notary through her acclaimed beauty and hair care line. 4. Billie Holiday – Celebrated jazz vocalist and song-writer; one of the most famous and respected jazz singers to touch a mic. 5. Maggie Lena Walker – Educator and businesswoman; best known as the first female bank president in the U.S. 6. Rosa Parks – Civil rights activist famous for refusing to give up her bus seat to White passenger in Montgomery, Alabama, which sparked the Montgomery Bus Boycott in 1955. 7. Dr. Dorothy Height – Civil and (black) women’s rights activist; known as one of the “Big Six” (influential leaders) during the civil rights movement. Third Row: 1. Mary Lou Williams – Known as the “First Lady of the Piano”; esteemed jazz pianist, vocalist and composer. 2. Sarah Vaughan – Award-winning jazz vocalist. 3. Susie King Taylor – Educator and the first Black nurse in the US Army; only Black woman to publish a memoir of her war experiences, and the first Black teacher to openly educate African American students in Georgia. 4. Queen Mother Moore – Civil rights leader, Black Nationalist and founding member of the Republic of New Afrika. 5. Ella Baker

on. Bless all of you and know we love and respect you more than you know. We show our love and respect by moving forward everyday for you and with you.

– Leading figure in the Civil Rights Movement. 6. Mary Eliza Mahoney – First registered African American nurse. 7. Toni Morrison – Esteemed author and educator best known for her works *Beloved* and *The Bluest Eye*. Fourth Row: 1. Fannie Jackson Coppin – Renowed educator and missionary who pushed for women’s higher education. 2. Bessie Smith – First major blues/jazz singer on record; “The Empress of the Blues.” 3. Ella Fitzgerald – Famous jazz singer nicknamed “First Lady of Song” and the “Queen of Jazz.” 4. Mary Church Terrell – Civil rights activist and co-founder of the NAACP; one of the first Black American women to earn a college degree. 5. Clara McBride Hale – Esteemed Humanitarian who founded the Hale House in Harlem, a facility dedicated to housing abandoned and drug-addicted infants. 6. Mahalia Jackson – “The Queen of Gospel” and devoted civil rights activist. 7. Ethel Waters – Prized singer and actress known for hits like “Stormy Weather,” “Cabin in the Sky,” and “Heat Wave”; the first Black American woman nominated for an Emmy Award. Fifth Row: 1. Dinah Washington – “Queen of the Blues”; recognized as the most popular Black female recording artist of the ’50s. 2. Dorothy Dandridge – Famed singer, dancer and actress; the first African American woman to be nominated for an Oscar for Best Actress. 3. Edith Sampson – Groundbreaking lawyer and judge who was the first African American U.S. delegate appointed to the United Nations. 4. Josephine Baker – World-renowned entertainer and civil rights proponent who became the first person of color to reach world-wide acclaim and star in a major motion film; famous for her risqué banana skirt. 5. Fredi Washington – Actress and civil rights activist noted for her role in the 1934 classic *Imitation of Life*. 6. Hattie McDaniel – The first Black American to win an Oscar when she took home Best Supporting Actress for her role in *Gone with the Wind* in 1940. 7. Lucy Craft Laney – Founder of The Haines Normal and Industrial Institute, the first school for Black children in Augusta, Georgia; dubbed Georgia’s most famous Black female educator and one of the first African Americans to have their portrait displayed in the Georgia State Capital.

COMPENSATORY-FUNCTIONAL DEFINITIONS

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

Racism: A Basic Perspective

The matter sometimes referred to as the “race problem”, is the basic-initial “unfinished business” among the people of the known universe.

Therefore it is not possible to effectively speak and/or act to eliminate any major problem that involves people without first eliminating the problem of racism, in every area of activity, including economics, education, entertainment, labor, law, politics, religion, sex, and war.

In order to do this, it is necessary for victims of racism (non-white people), in effective numbers, to know and understand who the racists are, how they function, and for what ultimate purpose.

The victims of racism must also know and understand how the power of the racists (to practice racism) can be nullified and/or eliminated, by victims of racism, speaking and/or acting as individual persons.

Racism: Some Initial Questions

Why race?

What makes racism so important as a problem?

Are there not other problems among the people of the world that are much greater?

What about the problems of unemployment, housing, food shortages, health care, robbery and laziness?

What about tribalism and sexism?

What about the confusion that exists in the area of religion?

What about capitalism, and communism, and drugs, and alcohol, and ignorance, and pollution, and lying politicians?

Why race?

Is it not narrow-minded to see racism as the major evil? Did not other evils exist long before the practice of racism?

What about the problems of distrust, and greed, and envy, and murder, among non-white people as well as white?

What about economics? Why not see to it that everyone is adequately fed and housed first?

Why not work to establish a system that guarantees that every person will be comfortable and protected--regardless of color, or non-color?

You can order the digital edition of “The United Independent Compensatory Code/System/Concept online at: <https://producejustice.com/product/the-united-independent-compensatory-codesystemconcept-textbook/>

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Culture of abuse and neglect unsettles joint hearing on Edna Mahan Women's Prison

COLLEEN O'DEA, SENIOR WRITER | APRIL 9, 2021 | SOCIAL

Systemic failures at facility — including inmate silence for fear of retribution, blind spots where assaults can occur — leads one assemblywoman to ask if site should be closed down and women transferred elsewhere

New Jersey Assembly members investigating the continuing verbal, physical and sexual assaults of inmates at the state's only women's prison heard a dizzying litany of pressing problems plaguing the Edna Mahan Correctional Facility and other prisons during a nearly eight-hour hearing Thursday.

To name just a few issues: The state Department of Corrections (DOC) and the Office of the Corrections Ombudsman are not fully implementing recent laws meant to improve the rights and dignity of inmates. The ombudsman is not using its full authority to investigate facilities and recommend changes. Women are afraid to report abuse because of retaliation or won't report because their concerns are never addressed. Blind spots remain at Mahan where assaults can occur without being recorded.

The problems at Mahan are so entrenched that a Rutgers University expert on corrections said the state should consider abandoning the women's prison, located in Hunterdon County, and replacing it with one or more smaller facilities or other options. That would mean a fresh start with a different mindset for the treatment of the inmates.

"We have a lot of work to do," Assemblywoman Gabriella Mosquera (D-Gloucester), who chairs the Assembly Women and Children Committee that held a joint hearing via Zoom with the Assembly Judiciary Committee, said at the conclusion of the daylong hearing. "We have a real opportunity to do some real change and try to see how we can change the culture of not only Edna Mahan but also the prison culture throughout the state, because we're talking about the lives of individuals, the dignity of individuals."

January assault prompts joint hearing

The joint Assembly committee hearing was prompted by a January incident that left at least two women

seriously injured, but lawmakers also asked about the report issued one year ago by the U.S. Department of Justice (DOJ) that found multiple violations of inmates' civil rights, including sexual assaults. Also under review, the implementation of two



Lydia Thornton testifies at hearing on violence in women's prison.

laws that took effect last August: one guaranteeing dignity to prisoners and giving greater investigatory power to the corrections' ombudsman and the other essentially ending the use of solitary confinement.

"There is no doubt, just as last year's report states, that there has been a pattern of abusive behavior at Edna Mahan that violates the Eighth Amendment rights of the inmates," Assemblyman Raj Mukherji (D-Hudson), chairman of the Assembly Judiciary Committee, said in closing the hearing. "There's little doubt in my mind that, despite what we heard today about some progress in implementing remedial measures and the dignity act legislation, these Eighth Amendment violations continue and inmates remain in harm's way ... It's unclear to those of us up here whether things have gotten better or worse. There are serial rapists who continue to have inmates entrusted to their care and custody, who continue to be employed at Edna Mahan today. And there are others who share culpability because they stand idly, keeping watch for supervisors, reluctant to audit the

security footage, even though they are required to do so."

That became abundantly clear in late January after the inmate extractions that left one woman with a fractured eye socket and another with a concussion after being punched 28 times. So far eight corrections officers have been charged with assault and official misconduct and 30 corrections officers were suspended without pay — although one advocate said the 22 who have not been arrested are back at work — as a criminal investigation by the state attorney general's office and an external inquiry by the former state comptroller continue. In the wake of these, the state Senate passed a bipartisan resolution without opposition urging Marcus Hicks, the state's corrections commissioner, to resign or be removed from office. A bipartisan resolution pending in the Assembly urges Hicks' impeachment.

Hicks was the first to testify during the morning session that was at times contentious. It was the first time he has spoken publicly to lawmakers since the January incident and while he addressed it broadly in his remarks, he sat with an attorney and declined to answer any specific questions from lawmakers about the incident because investigations are ongoing. During his comments, he discussed his experience with DOC since 2007 and addressed the criticisms he has faced.

"The January 11 incident and those incidents before my tenure have culminated in this moment, bringing my character into question," he said. "Some suggest my varied institutional knowledge is the problem, suggesting my way of thinking aligns with previous administrations. I respectfully disagree ... I reaffirm my position that my administration is ushering in a new era in corrections. Change is coming slowly but surely, as these things take time. Shifting

culture takes time. My administration is up to the challenge."

Federal monitors likely at Mahan
Thursday, Hicks announced the state has reached an agreement on a consent decree with the DOJ that is likely to result in the placement of federal monitors at Mahan and that he expects it will get final approval from the department in the next few weeks. Last September, Hicks told the Senate Budget and Appropriations Committee that there was a tentative agreement over the matter, which has led senators to question why that had never been finalized in the months since the January assaults.

This was the third announcement from DOC this week related to Mahan. On Wednesday, the department announced it has reached a settlement in cases involving 22 current and former inmates alleging sexual abuse and harassment since 2014 that would provide \$20.8 million in damages to the women and attorneys' fees and put in place a system of body cameras for DOC staff who regularly come into contact with inmates. The settlement still needs court approval. On learning of the proposed settlement, four Democratic senators who have been vocal critics of Hicks asked for details of the settlements and the complaints. On Tuesday, Hicks announced via press release that Mahan and Northern State Prison would be the first to implement body cameras for staff, though that release did not mention the legal cases.

About five weeks after the January assaults, the DOC announced it was entering into an agreement with The Moss Group, a national criminal justice consulting firm, to help craft new policies and practices to implement at Mahan. NJ Spotlight News has requested a copy of the contract, which under the state's open public records law is a document that should be made readily available to the public. The DOC has said it needs an extension of time to fulfill the request and expects to do so next week.

'Horrible treatment' — corrections commissioner Hicks

Hicks attributed the January assaults, which he said inflicted "horrible treatment" on several women, to a few officers who chose to disregard established protocol and procedures and

Women's Prison Abuse- cont on page 11



Publisher's Corner

White Supremacy Is Always At Work

Black people are funny. They complain about how things are but they don't want to lay the blame at the feet of those who make it that way.

Were you ever in a meeting or other such setting where someone challenged a white person directly? When that happens, and it doesn't happen often, damn near every Black person in the room comes to the defense of that white person.

You ask a white person a direct question like "What did you think would happen when you didn't tell us the truth, last month?" and some Black person is bound to shout out an answer for her. It like they feel they are personally responsible for not letting anything happen to this white person.

I want to say to all y'all 'go betweeners' "Shut the hell up" I want to hear what the white people have to say.

Right now, I'm in the midst of trying to get a Fortune 500 company to advertise with The Nubian News. I've been in conversation with the CEO. We've gone back and forth on issues for a few months. We have a pretty

good relationship, businesswise.

Now that I'm raising some tough questions and bring up the corporation's poor past performances, all of a sudden upper Black management is stepping in.

They come in to the negotiations from out of nowhere. They're lead off comment is "You are not going to get anywhere speaking to him (the white man) like that."

I'm thinking when they say this - I've been talking to the CEO of one of the top 25 corporations in the country - what do you mean I'm not getting anywhere?

I want to push these, 'Flappers' out of my way and get back to The Man who can actually do something for me.

I have no intentions of hurting this man. At least nowhere near as much as he and his kind have hurt me and my kind.

For centuries white people have done horrid things to Black people. For that matter to all non-white people, and it hasn't stopped yet.

I ask corporate America very hard questions. Like why is it every time

I ride past one of your work crews, there are no Black people getting paid? When was the last time you advertised in a Black newspaper in New Jersey? Have you ever advertised in a Black newspaper in New Jersey? What percent of your newspaper advertising budget goes to Black newspapers?

I ask these questions because they need to hear and understand the answers. Maybe then they'll realize exactly how unjust they are. Maybe they will slow down long enough to comprehend just how discriminating and racist they have been.

But Black people stepping in, protecting them is not helping anything.

White people need to slow down and understand what they are doing - now - that continues the promotion of racial, economic, discrimination. Because today economics plays a huge part of racism. Denial of financial resources to the Black community affects us in a myriad of ways.

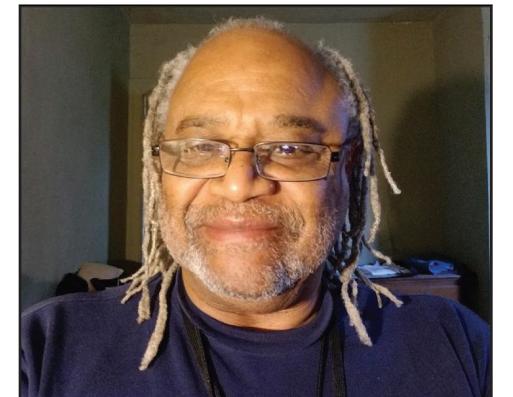
As it is Black people only make about 66 cents for every dollar a white person makes. That means after rent,

food and other bills are paid, white people still have 33 cents to do other things like invest, send their children on vacations and to college, buy other properties and boats, get life insurance and health insurance, and many other things most Black people can only imagine.

So, in the future, don't get nervous and think you have to jump in and take up for a white person, they're grown and have many more resources than you. Let them handle their own weight and answer the questions put to them. If anything, you need to ask them a couple of hard questions of your own.

Commentary by:

Kamau Kujichagulia - Publisher

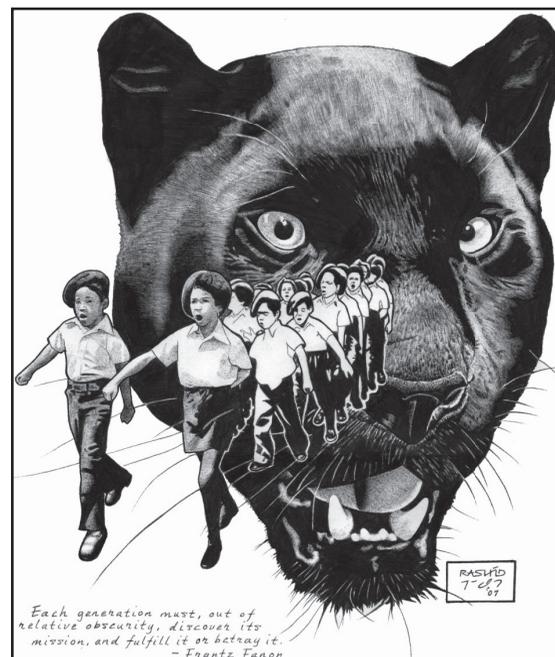


Turning razor wire plantations into schools of liberation

BY MAURICE GARLIC JR.

The Revolutionary Intercommunal Black Panther Party, even though most of its membership is on the outside, has not forgotten its prison-based roots. Three of our five Central Committee members are incarcerated, and we take the well-being of our comrades behind bars seriously.

One of our goals is to turn the razor wire plantations into schools of liberation. That is why we aim to build inside of the prison walls as well as on the outside. We put a call out to our comrades that are enslaved by this vile empire to join us in our goal of



"Young Panthers on the March" - Art: Kevin "Rashid" Johnson, 264847, Wabash Valley Correctional Facility, P.O. Box 500, Carlisle IN 47838

turning the criminal mentality into a revolutionary one.

My ministry, the Ministry of Justice, has multiple functions. The main role will be on organizing and coordinating bail and legal defenses of party and mass forces, conducting internal investigations of party matters such as of complaints against members and organizing fair and formal hearings procedures, overseeing disciplinary measures against party members and protecting the rights of the accused who may appeal all such decisions to the Central Committee. It is to prevent factionalism and promote unity and fair processes.

The other function however is to lend support to our incarcerated

comrades and help build the Panther movement inside. Capitalism depends on the exploitation of the labor of the masses and the prison industry is a leg of the chair of oppression.

When we attack the prisons, we attack slavery - we free the minds of our comrades to come home and help liberate their own respective areas. This is the duty of the Ministry of Justice.

If any comrades on the inside would like to contact Minister of Justice Comrade Maurice Garlic Jr., you can write to him at P.O. Box 12272, Roanoke, VA 24024. Contacts on the outside can contact me at moj@ribpp.org.

We await your participation,
All Power to The People
Dare to Struggle, Dare to Win



KEEPING A HEALTHY SPIRIT

Monday, April 5, 2021 | 6 p.m.

Location: Zoom Meeting



Challenging times can be difficult to navigate, but mindfulness meditation can provide a sense of grounding and calmness along the way. To learn how you can experience the benefits of mindfulness, join **DR. KRISTINA MCGUIRE**, a clinical psychologist from Capital Health – Behavioral Health Specialists, for an interactive presentation that explores this meditation technique and guides participants through several mindfulness exercises.

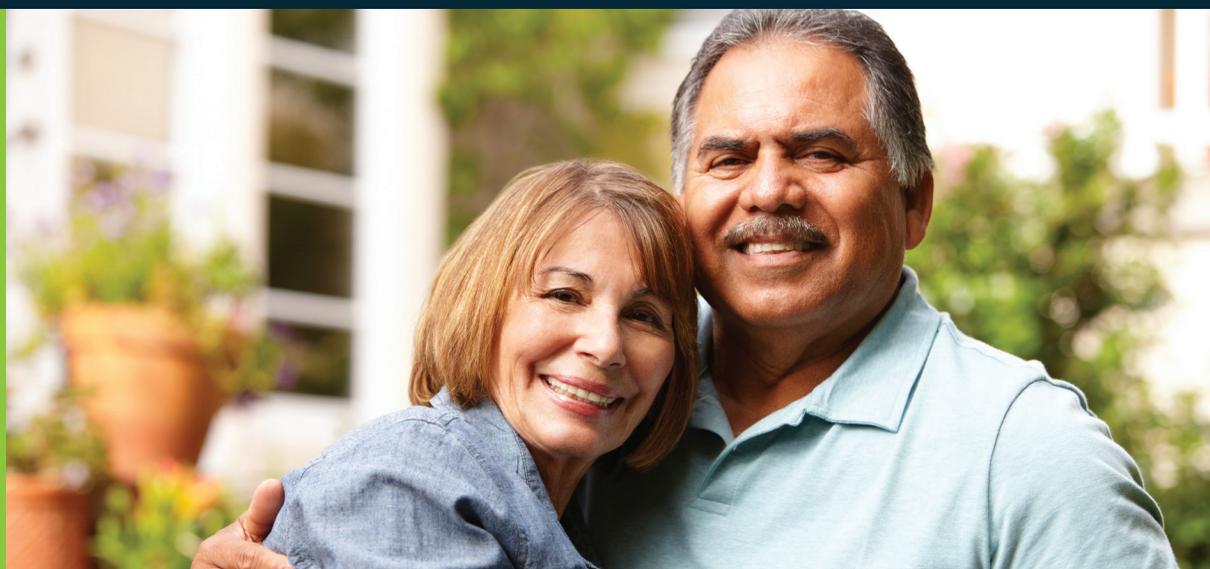
This event will be taking place virtually using Zoom. Register online at capitalhealth.org/events and be sure to include your email address. Zoom meeting details will be provided via email 2-3 days before the program date. Registration ends 24 hours before the program date.



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Lifestyle Strategies to Manage PRE-DIABETES AND DIABETES



Tuesday, April 6, 2021 | 6 p.m. | Location: Zoom Meeting



Pre-diabetes is a condition that can lead to type 2 diabetes and heart disease. Join **DR. SHERI GILLIS FUNDERBURK**, medical director for the Capital Health Diabetes Education Program, and **MINDY KOMOSINSKY**, a registered dietitian and certified diabetes educator, as they discuss risk factors, normal glucose metabolism and changes in the body that can lead to pre-diabetes and diabetes, the relationship between food choices and blood glucose, and strategies for reducing your risk.

This event will be taking place virtually using Zoom. Register online at capitalhealth.org/events and be sure to include your email address. Zoom meeting details will be provided via email 2-3 days before the program date. Registration ends 24 hours before the program date.



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QUE NUNCA MAS SE REPITA

Por CARLOS AVILA

Día de la memoria, verdad y justicia
ARGENTINA-El pasado miércoles 24 de marzo en Argentina se conmemoró el Día Nacional de la Memoria por la Verdad y la Justicia. Un día inolvidable, se remite al golpe militar que desembocó en una dictadura de 7 años, (1976-1983), durante los cuales los militares liderados por Jorge Rafael Videla, apoyados por algunos civiles realizaron tremendas violaciones a los derechos humanos: miles de personas asesinadas, desaparecidas, violadas, torturadas, secuestradas y cientos de niñas y niños que nacieron

en cautiverio fueron víctimas de robo de su identidad y entregados en “adopción” irregular.

En la imagen #1 las Madres de Plaza de Mayo durante una de las rondas que las valientes madres realizan todos los años en Argentina.



La imagen #2, jóvenes que se unieron para recordar el “Siluetazo”,(evento artístico realizado en Argentina) las siluetas representan a las personas, hombres, mujeres y niños desaparecidos hace 45 años durante la dictadura militar argentina.

oro el Día Nacional de la Memoria por la Verdad y la Justicia. Un día inolvidable, se remite al golpe militar que desembocó en una dictadura de 7 años, (1976-1983), durante los cuales los militares liderados por Jorge Rafael Videla, apoyados por algunos civiles realizaron tremendas violaciones a los derechos humanos: miles de personas asesinadas, desaparecidas, violadas, torturadas, secuestradas y cientos de niñas y niños que nacieron



ANA BERDECIA RECIBE RECONOCIMIENTO DE MONTCLAIR UNIVERSITY & CENTER FOR AUTISM

Por CARLOS AVILA

TRENTON- Berdecía: “Hoy fue un día especial. Por mi labor en el campo de la educación infantil, recibí un premio muy especial llamado Premio Raíces y Alas presentado por tres organizaciones patrocinadoras:

que se llevó a cabo virtualmente. Mi amiga la Dra. Arlene Martin me entrevistó. La mejor parte fue ver la hoja que se había colocado en mi honor en el árbol de la Universidad Estatal de Montclair. Estoy emocionado y honrado por esta oportunidad”, señaló Ana Berdecía a través de su página de Facebook. Las notas de felicitaciones de sus amigos, amigas y conocidos no se hicieron esperar.



Sara Watermulder: This is wonderful, felicidades to a well deserving teacher, servant leader and advocate. Miss you! You inspire with how you live your life!

Wow you are truly an inspiration and I'm honored to say that I know you. You are a gift and I'm so proud of your accomplishments. Congratulations. Manifestó Olga Romero.

Montclair State University Center for Autism, y Early Childhood Mental Health, Coalition for Infant-Toddler Educators y The New Jersey Asociación para la Salud Mental Infantil. Parte de este honor fue ser seleccionada para ser la conferencista de una Serie de Conversaciones Luminosas

Ana Berdecía es master en Educación y experta en planes y programas de educación para niños pequeños. Este reconocimiento se suma a varios otros reconocimientos que ha recibido a través de su carrera profesional educativa en el Área de Trenton, Nueva Jersey.

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La delincuencia: una pandemia que no acaba en América Latina

POR: LAURA LUCÍA RODRÍGUEZ

Cuando se declaró el estado de pandemia global en marzo del 2020, los gobiernos de América Latina no tardaron en aplicar diferentes medidas como toques de queda, confinamientos, y medidas de bioseguridad para reducir la propagación del virus. Esta serie de normativas tuvo consecuencias en el ámbito económico, social y también en la delincuencia de la región. En marzo del año pasado varios países tuvieron una disminución en robos, homicid-

esta vez con más fuerza.

Al perder su empleo, su negocio, y no poder dedicarse siquiera a la venta informal millones de personas en la región enfrentan la pobreza extrema. Los gobiernos perdieron billones en recaudación de impuestos y la economía de la región aún no se reactiva por completo pues los planes de vacunación avanzan lento. Esto ha derivado en el aumento de hurtos, estafas virtuales y telefónicas, e incluso homicidios.

En Bogotá, Colombia se registraron 151 homicidios en Bogotá entre enero y febrero del 2021. En la encuesta de percepción anual de la ciudad, el 76% de los consultados considera que la ciudad es insegura, una cifra que es 16 puntos porcentuales



University students march holding a poster with a message that reads in Spanish: "Who killed them?" during a demonstration against a wave of massacres, in Bogota, Colombia.

ios y crimen organizado.

Entre febrero y marzo del 2020 se redujeron casi a la mitad los homicidios en el Salvador, también disminuyeron los asesinatos en Honduras, Colombia y México

mayor al 60% registrado en 2019.

La respuesta de las autoridades locales es crear un comando especial de la policía, aumentar el número de patrulleros en la ciudad, incautar más armas y lograr dar una renta básica a personas en situación de pobreza extrema.



A protester holds a poster with a message that reads in Spanish: "Stop the Genocide," during a demonstration against a wave of massacres, in Bogota, Colombia

No obstante, estas medidas se quedan cortas, la delincuencia incrementará mientras las causas estructurales permanezcan. La renta básica puede ser una solución que ayude a sobrevivir a muchas familias que perdieron todo durante la pandemia, pero también es necesario crear más fuentes de empleo, mejorar el acceso a la educación, a la salud. Gran parte de los delincuentes son jóvenes que no pueden estudiar

(durante ese periodo de tiempo). Sin duda, esto se debe a las políticas de permanecer en casa, que pusieron un alto a todas las actividades, incluyendo las delictivas. Sin embargo, esto fue pasajero pues la cuarentena incrementó problemáticas como la pobreza, el desempleo, el hambre, la falta de acceso a la educación, lo cual se convirtió en el cóctel para que la delincuencia apareciera de nuevo.

por falta de recursos y que no pueden trabajar por falta de experiencia. Por estos motivos ven en el crimen una salida fácil a sus problemas. Es deber del gobierno acompañar a estas generaciones y brindar oportunidades que permitan que alcancen sus metas. De lo contrario la pandemia que nos seguirá agobiando será la de la delincuencia y el crimen.

National Endowment for the Arts' (NEA) Jazz Master Fellowship

This is the Academy Awards for America's art form

George Victor Johnson Jr. is with George V Johnson Jr and Ilene Glick.

For me, the art of jazz is most supremely expressed in affording others the opportunity and space to create and swing together. I am deeply moved by this recognition from my peers, with whom it has been a lifelong blessing to work, to play, and hopefully touch a few hearts along the way. As Bobby Hutcherson told me quite a few times, and even

Williams once called "the Birdland of the '70s."

"It's been a privilege beyond words to be able to provide some opportunity and space for these indispensable artists to swing and create together," Barkan wrote on Facebook. "As Bobby Hutcherson told me quite a few times, and even wrote on the wall of the Keystone Korner, "True love asks nothing in return."

Born in Nebraska and raised in Ohio,

As the owner of the Keystone, a tiny 200-seat venue on Vallejo Street, Barkan helped bring jazz back to San Francisco. The city had been resplendent with jazz clubs in the '50s, but by the time Barkan bought the club for just \$12,500, there were little to none. As soon as the club was up and running, Barkan brought big names that hadn't been back to San Francisco for several years, like Art Blakey and Sonny Rollins.

"Keystone Korner was — much like Bradley's back in New York City — an absolutely indispensable part of the true jazz community," bassist Ray Drummond, who used to play at the Keystone, said in a statement. "All kinds of musicians from all over the world looked forward to playing there."

Barkan became known for his catchphrase, "Take care of the music and the music will take care of you." But by 1983, jazz wasn't taking care of the Keystone's bills. After a Bill Graham-produced benefit at the Warfield raised only \$1,500 — barely a dent in Barkan's \$50,000 tax bill — Barkan closed the club and left for New York. He came back to the Bay Area a few years later as a talent buyer for Yoshi's in Oakland, but returned to New York in 1993 after an "unfriendly split" with Yoshi's owners.

Barkan went on to produce hundreds of records for labels such as Fantasy/Milestone, HighNote and 32 Records. He also continued to promote live jazz, becoming the director of programming for Dizzy's Club Coca-Cola at Jazz at Lincoln Center for eight years. But Barkan seems at his proudest when he talks about running the Keystone, still remembered today as one of "best jazz clubs in the world."

"The Keystone was really a labor of love to the very last day it was open. And I tried to have the best music in the world there every night," Barkan said in 2011.

For this year's 45th anniversary of the opening of the Keystone, Barkan will host a series of shows in the Bay Area on July 7 and 8. The concerts — held in Santa Cruz, Half Moon Bay and San Francisco — feature artists such as Charles McPherson, Gary Bartz and Denny Zeitlin. (Barkan has more information about the shows on his website, www.toddbarkan.com)

— Kevin L. Jones, KQED



from L to R - Diane Reeves, Todd Barkan, Joanne Brackeen and Pat Metheny

wrote on the wall of the Keystone Korner, "True love asks nothing in return."

Todd Barkan who ran San Francisco's legendary jazz nightclub the Keystone Korner, will receive the nation's highest honor for jazz artists, the National Endowment for the Arts' (NEA) Jazz Master fellowship.

Barkan, pianist Joanne Brackeen, guitarist Pat Metheny and vocalist Diane Reeves are the 2018 recipients of the Jazz Master fellowships, which were announced at a concert Monday night at the John F. Kennedy Center in Washington D.C., where Metheny performed. Each of the winners will receive \$25,000, and will be honored at a concert at the Kennedy Center next April.

Barkan, 70, will receive the A.B. Spellman NEA Jazz Masters Fellowship for Jazz Advocacy for his decades as a Grammy-winning producer and for his time at the Keystone, the North Beach club that pianist Mary Lou

Barkan says he discovered jazz at the age of 13 and swiftly became obsessed with the music, taking 1,000 jazz records with him instead of clothes when he left for college. In 1967, Barkan moved to San Francisco, and by the early '70s he was working as a pianist in two groups, and looking for clubs to play. When he stopped into the Keystone Korner to ask then-owner Freddie Herrera for a gig, the Korner was primarily a rock club known for hosting guitar gods like Mike Bloomfield, Elvin Bishop, and Jerry Garcia.

"I went to him and asked, 'Why don't you hire my band?'" Barkan said in a recent interview with JazzTimes. "I gave him the press kit and demo, but he came back with, 'I hate jazz. Can't stand it. It doesn't sell. But I'm opening a big rock club in Berkeley, the Keystone Berkeley. Why don't you buy this joint and maybe you can turn it into something, do something with it?'"

Barkan also created a haven for jazz artists fighting to stay relevant when rock ruled the radio and the road. Several standout artists recorded albums at the Keystone, including Dexter Gordon, McCoy Tyner, and Rahsaan Roland Kirk, who was Barkan's mentor as a teenager. The

The 2021 National Endowment for the Arts Jazz Masters are saxophonist, flutist and composer **Henry Threadgill**; drummers **Albert "Tootie" Heath** and **Terri Lyne Carrington**; and radio host and jazz historian **Phil Schaap**.

club gained such a reputation that artists who could fill much bigger venues, like Miles Davis and Stan Getz, frequently graced its stage. Its liquor license was paid for with a fundraiser in Oakland that featured Kirk, Tyner, and Elvin Jones, and another fundraiser featuring George Benson and Grover Washington Jr. paid for the club's kitchen.

of the unique Keystone Korner experience was the audience that participated in the making of the special music that got made there on an almost nightly basis. Many of the greatest jazz performances involve cycles of shared creativity where the listeners become an essential part of the artistic process, and Keystone Korner was blessed with the remarkably diverse patronage of pirates, poets, truck drivers, troubadours,

corporate high-rollers, hippies, school teachers, and rogues of the nightlife who were an indispensable part of what happened on the bandstand each night. Gregory Corso or Jack Hirschman handing out original poems at the front door, with Angela Davis, Robin Williams, Don Cherry, and Redd Foxx hanging out in the office with the triple bill of McCoy Tyner, Kenny Burrell and Randy

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The Keystone Korner Story

While Rahsaan Roland Kirk & The Vibration Society were making their iconic 1973 live recording "Bright Moments" for Atlantic Records at the Keystone Korner in San Francisco, Rahsaan happily noted that "it sure is nice to play in a place that feels like your living room." Keystone Korner was a home away from home for hundreds of the most supremely swinging and creative musicians of

its time, and most of the dedicated folks who worked there -- servers, door personnel, bartenders, and office helpers alike -- were either musicians or aficionados who were nonetheless deeply passionate about the music we presented. At Keystone Korner, both the artists and the fans knew that someone, sometimes even everyone, cared.

An absolutely indispensable element

Reparations

ARE WHAT WE NEED



Atalaya Armstrong

When most hear the word reparations, they think Slavery, and yes, that is where we start the national demand, but it is by no means the end of the demand. Demanding reparations is not new, Callie House was the first person to demand reparations back in 1898. Reparations is not a new concept as the United States paid reparations to Slave owners and more than eight different groups after.

The institutions of both Slavery and Jim Crow were undergirded by policies, practices, and procedures that ensured in one way or another African Americans would remain tethered to the bottom of any social, economic, and political systems. No other group within the United States has been generationally targeted, intentionally held back, and or purposely neglected, no other group has been restricted from obtaining and transferring wealth, other than African Americans.

Our positionality in the United States is not because of economic failures, innate abilities, and or inferiority in contrast to other groups of people, it is simply because of policies, practices and procedures that have generationally prevented us from obtaining and transferring wealth, and in the United States, wealth is key to socioeconomic survival.

At the recent 2nd Congressional hearing on Reparations, Texas Representative and sponsor of HR40 quoted a Harvard study that suggested had African Americans had reparations COVID death rates would have been cut in half if not more.

There is no amount of resiliency, unification, and or exceptionalism that will produce wealth that has a gap of 225-228 years to close. Economists have now declared that in less than 33 years (some scholars think sooner) African Americans will have ZERO wealth and in this capitalistic game, to have no wealth is to make African Americans a permanent underclass in the country their ancestors built.

If we are to ever move forward as a nation and move beyond our past, we must reconcile it, make amends and be at peace with it. The only way to ensure this happens is to fight for and demand reparations.

We can no longer ignore this issue, we can no longer afford to wait for justice to take pity on us, we must demand it.

There can be no shift in progress or any measure of change if advocacy is not there, front and center, when representation of interests are not at or on the table, they are not in the game. In the words of Martin Luther King Jr., "The next time we come to Washington, we are coming to get our check"

The only way to ensure this happens is to fight for and demand Reparations

Nubian News Book Review

BY TERRI SCHLICHENMEYER

“We Are Each Other’s Harvest: Celebrating African American Farmers, Land, and Legacy”

BY NATALIE BASZILE

c.2021, Amistad \$29.99 / \$36.99
Canada 368 pages

One little hole in the ground. That’s all it takes, as big around as your little finger, a pencil eraser, a coffee stirrer. A tiny fissure in the Earth, that’s what you need to grow dinner next week or next winter, flowers for your table, sustenance for your animals or, as in the new book “We Are Each Other’s Harvest” by

farmer, seemed to have been created to make problems.

And yet, there were bright spots: like folks a century ago, Black farmers know that sticking together is best for all. They’re speaking up and persevering, in planting and paperwork. Black farmers have learned to think around bigger issues by forming Black-owned co-ops, teaching new farmers, making sure the next generation wants ownership of the business, and ignoring old myths that say women don’t farm. Black farmers are mentoring. They’re redefining the word “farm.” They’re doing what it takes to keep possession of their land because for them, there just isn’t any better way to live.

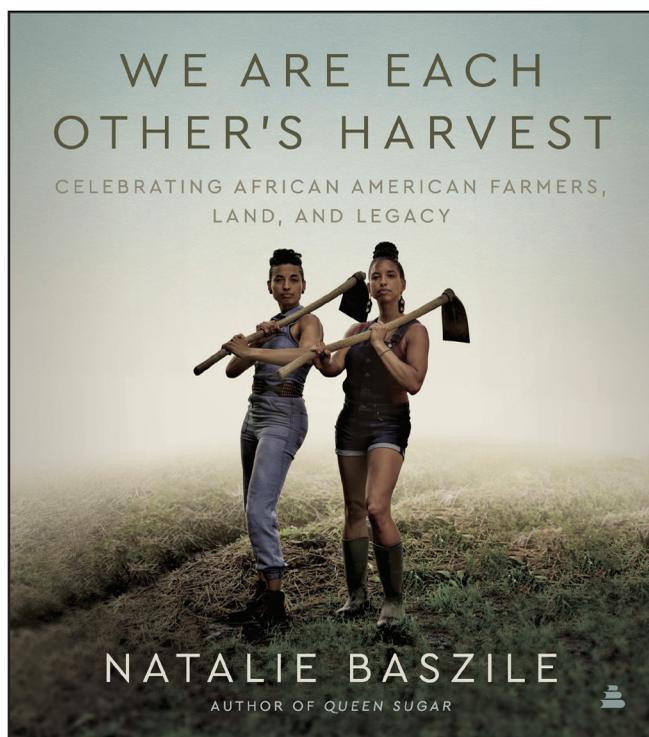
So you know where your food comes from. Bonus points if you grew it yourself. Even better, when you read “We Are Each Other’s Harvest” after you’re done weeding.

Using a little of this (fiction excerpts, poetry, and quotations), along with a little of that (essays, interviews, first-person tales, and

history), author Natalie Baszile gives praise to Black farmers and ranchers, showing that what may seem like a newly-discovered connectedness to the land goes way back. It is, in fact, a slice of the past that’s rich as a fertile field, but also loaded with rocks that crushed many dreams.

And yet, while the stories Baszile lets loose need a wider audience today – they can’t be silent anymore – anger at the past isn’t the reason for this book. No, this is much more of a prayer for the Black stewards of the land, and for those who’ve listened to their hearts and stood, one hand filled with dirt and the other with seeds.

Whether you are a farmer, know one, or accept the fruits of one’s labor, this book is the perfect meditation. Lush as a spring morning but sharp as barbed wire, “We Are Each Other’s Harvest” is a book for the well-grounded.



Natalie Baszile, a tie to your past.

Years ago, while taking weekly provisions to an elderly relative, Natalie Baszile learned that the presence of food in a neighborhood (or its lack) could be a racial issue. Shortly afterward, she discovered that her ancestors had been involved in farming, long before she was born. That’s not unusual: as we learn in the introduction here, nearly all African Americans today can claim that farming is in their genes.

It’s never been a smooth thing, though.

Over and over in previous decades, Black farmers paid faithfully each month to buy farms from white landowners, only to ultimately, cruelly be denied ownership. Others persevered, and then lost their land through lack of financial literacy, or problems with banks, the USDA or the Farm Service Administration (FSA), the latter which, suggested one

Keystone Korner continued from page 8

Weston alternating sets during a long evening of musical exploration.

From its humble beginnings in 1972 as a rock n’ blues beer bar next door to a North Beach police station (thus the origin of its name as a play on words on Mack Sennett’s slapstick “Keystone Kops” films), the Keystone Korner grew to be an internationally- renowned jazz club -- called “the Birdland of the 70s” by Mary Lou Williams -- and the site of scores of classic live recordings by the likes of McCoy Tyner, Dexter Gordon, Bobby Hutcherson, Yusef Lateef, Stan Getz, Woody Shaw, Tommy Flanagan, Eddie Harris, Bill Evans, Art Pepper, George Cables, Freddie Hubbard, Cedar Walton, Buster Williams, Jaki Byard, Billy Higgins, Curtis Fuller, Sonny Stitt, Kenny Burrell, Eddie “Cleanhead” Vinson, Art Blakey, Wynton Marsalis, Tete Montoliu, Harold Land, and Abbey Lincoln.

Above all, the musicians themselves made this living dream of a club a vibrant reality. When we realized that Keystone Korner could never make it for long as a jazz club business without a full liquor license, Ron Carter joined forces with Elvin Jones, McCoy Tyner, Rahsaan Roland Kirk and Freddie Hubbard at a February 1975 Benefit Concert at the Paramount Theatre in Oakland to raise the \$80,000+ we needed to buy a full

liquor license. In January 1976, the bands of Grover Washington, Jr. and George Benson donated their musical services at the same venue to help us build a small restaurant kitchen so we could cater to audiences of all ages while serving hard liquor to those legally old enough to order it.

Our basic mission at Keystone Korner in San Francisco from 1972 to 1983 was to provide the best music in the world for the most affordable prices in the most loving environment. That is still our fundamental goal in 2021 at Keystone Our Our basic mission at Keystone Korner in San Francisco from 1972 to 1983 was to provide the best music in the world for the most affordable prices in the most loving environment. That is still our fundamental goal in 2021 at Keystone Korner Korner Baltimore, with the added blessing of joining forces with Grandmaster Chef Robert Wiedmaier and his All Star Team to make absolutely sure that the outstanding food and libations will continue to be as consistently inspiring and as reasonably-priced as the truly phenomenal music presented in a relaxed and most welcoming setting. The Eternal Jazz Messenger Art Blakey often said that “my heart belongs to Keystone.” And that heart is still beating strong.

— Todd Barkan, 2018 NEA Jazz Master

Regardless of all that has been said or done, the quality of the relationship(s) between white people and Black people is, and has been, a total disaster.

by Mr. Neely Fuller, Jr.



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Women's Prison Abuse- cont from page 3
said the department has a "zero-tolerance" for such behavior, noting 30 were suspended.

But Assemblywoman Aura Dunn (R-Morris) noted that the number of officers suspended represents roughly 10% of the 314 officers working at the facility that currently has 374 inmates.

corrections ombudsperson, said there are several ways for women to make confidential reports and that these are followed up. But advocates said these are not confidential and can result in retaliation from guards and that they often go unanswered, leading women to stop making reports because they see it as an exercise in futility.

Lydia Thornton, who was incarcerated in Mahan from 2010 to 2015, said that when she was inside and filed a grievance by filling out a form and handing it to a guard, she saw officers toss grievances in the trash rather than submit them. She now serves as an advocate and said that when the ombudsman's office receives a complaint from the family member of someone who is incarcerated about something that happens within Mahan, it does little. "You get a form letter in the mail that

early 2020, although he said staff members have been there since the January assaults and that he sees his office's role as primarily responding to inmates' complaints about living conditions there. Mukherji asked why it took a DOJ report to expose civil rights violations at Mahan. "Why didn't it come from you?" Mukherji asked. "Why weren't you doing this over the course of the last decade?"

"We can only report on the contacts and the contacts and the complaints that we receive," DiBenedetti replied, saying any complaints would have been referred to the DOC and its special investigations division. An ombudsman, not a watchdog Mukherji said the Dignity for Incarcerated Primary Caretaker Parents Act gave made DiBenedetti's office "one of the most robust external watchdogs of a state prison system in the country," but the ombudsperson did not fully agree.

"I believe that some believe that this office staff has the ability to investigate criminal actions and we're not, we're not law enforcement agents," said DiBenedetti, adding that his office's actions have been hampered by staff cuts over the years. Following the hearing, Dunn and the other two Republican Assembly members, Nancy Munoz (R-Union) and Christopher DePhillips (R-Bergen) jointly called for both Hicks and DiBenedetti to be replaced.

"There is a complete lack of leadership from the top of the Department of Corrections that trickles down," they said in a statement. "Everyone has to go. The time for delay and investigation has passed."

Mukherji asked Hicks why it has taken so long to finish the installation of cameras around Mahan, which would be able to capture any assaults on video, saying discussions

with lawmakers date back four years. He said more than 300 have been installed to date and the work should be completed by September, but it was delayed by the coronavirus pandemic.

Lawmakers heard recommendations from a number of experts and advocates on ways to improve Mahan and the corrections system, as they continued to hear how hard it is to change a culture that has allowed abuse and assault to continue. A seemingly frustrated Assemblywoman Lisa Swain (D-Bergen), vice-chair of the Women and Children Committee, asked Todd Clear, a Rutgers professor of corrections, whether the state should close Mahan and transfer the women somewhere else.

"That's an option that really should be considered," Clear said. "It is very difficult to change institutional culture. It would be far easier to build a new institution and have it start out with a culture that can be maintained ... I really think the question is, is secure confinement really necessary for all these individuals who are there or is some less secure option that enables an easier level of security possible for a large portion of the people?"

Mukerji said the committees will continue their inquiries and consider more reforms. Their next step is a tour of Mahan, planned for April 19. "These committees will be considering legislative action that can have true impact beyond the already robust dignity act framework, which became effective last year, but hasn't even been fully implemented," he said. "There has existed for years a culture of impunity at the Edna Mahan Correctional Facility for Women and there needs to be a culture of accountability."



Marcus Hicks, New Jersey Commissioner of Corrections - is one brother The Nubian News cannot support.

"I suggest this is not a bad actors' scenario," she said. Dunn went on to say that a "code of silence" that keeps officers from reporting improper behavior by fellow officers "has really fostered what appears to be an organized network of predation and human trafficking."

Assembly members asked repeatedly about the mechanisms women have for reporting incidents or grievances and got conflicting answers. Hicks and Dan DiBenedetti, the state

of the facility," Thornton said. "Now if you have a complaint about something that's happening in the facility, telling the administrator of the facility that there's a problem seems counterproductive in many, many ways ... So, my belief is, nothing happens, ever, out of the ombudsman's office."

Other advocates and Assembly members were critical of some of DiBenedetti's responses, including that he has not visited Mahan since

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Sunday Evening Worship 7:00pm

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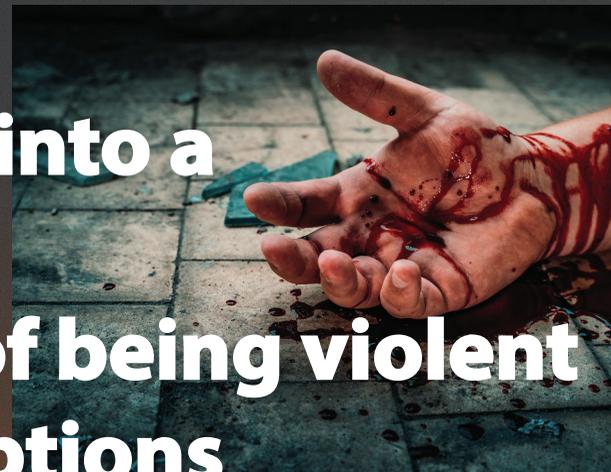
Wed.- Bible Study/Prayer 7:00pm

Fri. - Evening Worship 8:00pm

CONTACT US

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TDCChurch@trentondeliverancecenter.org

- **They Glorify In Violence**
- **Everything they touch they turn into a bloody mess, a weapon of death**
- **They kill Millions and accuse us of being violent**
- **Don't fall for their Lies and Deceptions**
- **Death and Violence are their Religion**



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