

The Nubian News

Loving the Black Perspective

All Ours

Athing Mu. 19, from Trenton, just won the Olympic 800 Meters. She is from

Athing Mu, 19, from Trenton, just won the Olympic 800 Meters. She is from Trenton and ran track for our very own Tornadoes. Now she is the world champion. She's been a champion for a long time, having won the AAU national championship when she was only 9.

"Believe it or not," her high school coach Al Jennings said "I'm still discovering about her that she is a very unique young lady, in every sense of the word." Mu's parents moved to the United States from Sudan in 2000, two years before she was born. She was born right here in Trenton and attended school in town.

She would love to run the 4x400 later this week. Earlier she said, "I would love to run on the Olympic 4x4," she said. "I mean, I know experience is definitely something that I guess you look for on an Olympic team. But not going to lie, I definitely watched a couple of 4x4 races of Team USA. Watching their splits and everything—and I remember watching Allyson Felix split 48—I believe this was the 2017 London World Championships. And you know what? I split 48 today. So. Wink wink, Team USA coaches."

The state of the s

TICOS DE TRENTON CELEBRAN EL DIA DE "LA NEGRITA": - La comunidad católica costarricense de Trenton, firmes devotos de Nuestra Señora de los Ángeles o como ellos le dicen "La Negrita", celebraron con mucho fervor la fiesta dedicada en su dia 2 de agosto.





ELCIION 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]



Volume 5 **FREE** August 6, 2021 Number 8

Senator Booker Reintroduces Urban Violence Reduction Bill

BY AL ALATUNJI

US Senator Cory Booker (D-NJ), has reintroduced legislation to reduce urban gun violence in US cities and communities. That legislation entitled, "The Break the Cycle of Violence Act" would provide federal grants to communities for evidence-informed gun violence intervention and prevention programs designed to interrupt cycles of violence.

In NJ, Black men aged 18 to 24 are 90 times more likely to be victims of a gun homicide than their white male peers, according to research. From 2015 to 2019, Black children and teens were 14 times as likely to be shot to death as their white peers.

Gun violence is the leading cause of death for Black males under 35 and the second leading cause of death for Latino male and Black female youth. The COVID-19 pandemic has exacerbated those numbers with homicides going up 30% across 34 cities in 2020, and gun assaults increasing by 8%.

"Often when we talk about gun violence, the discussion focuses on deadly mass shootings, but in my community in Newark and urban cities across the country people are experiencing this on a daily basis," said Senator Booker, former councilman and mayor of Newark. "The gun violence epidemic that is ravaging our urban communities has been overlooked for too long, even as many communities have gun injury rates similar to war zones."

Research shows that a combination of community-oriented intervention programs and commonsense gun violence prevention policies can cut gun violence rates in urban cities in half in as little as two years. Homicide rates in the nation's cities are nearly 20 times the national average.

Gun violence has a disproportionate impact on young people of color. Black men and boys, who make up just 6% of the US population, account for 63% of all homicide victims.

In late June, the Department of Justice charged eight members of a Jersey City gang with racketeering, violent crimes and firearms offenses. Members of the gang distributed drugs and participated in numerous assaults, shootings and murders, which targeted rival gang members and others.

Gun violence has gotten so bad in New York State the state's governor, Andrew Cuomo, declared a state of emergency. New York State became the first state in the US to make such a declaration.

88 people were shot and 17 died in Chicago during July 4th weekend. However, Chicago does not have the highest homicide rate among big US cities. That distinction goes to Balti-

Trenton, unfortunately, has not been a stranger to gun violence. So far, the city has witnessed 14 homicides in 2021, six in the month of July. Nevertheless, Trenton is far below the pace of the record it set in 2020 with 40 homicides; the most ever recorded in the city. The city had 15 homicides by early June 2020 and 22 by early August of last year.

"It's going to take bold, innovative, and smart ideas to tackle this challenge and keep our cities safe. This means investing federal resources in community-based violence intervention and prevention programs. It's time we take action, confront this crisis, and implement solutions that work," stated Senator Booker.

Urban violence also comes with a hefty price tag.



COMPENSATORY-FUNCTIONAL DEFINITIONS

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

Racism: Some Initial Answers

The white supremacists (racists) have a total need to be, and to feel, supreme over all non-white people, at all times. This supremacy is what they value most, though they know that it can only be maintained by promoting falsehood, non-justice, and incorrectness. Through the skilled use of deceit, direct violence, and/or the threat of direct or indirect violence, the masters of racism (white supremacists) have chosen to continue this practice for no apparent basic reason than to be "proud" of themselves for causing others to be fearful of them, and/or to be dependent upon them. Such a relationship is non-just and incorrect. This is not the way that [any] people should relate to each other.

Those white people who practice white supremacy should stop doing so. They should strive to become wise instead of being satisfied with being "smart". The knowledge and understanding that they possess is a gift. That gift should not be wasted on what is fundamentally an ego-producing enterprise. It is incorrect to squander the gift of knowledge and understanding on the promotion of racism. All knowledge and all understanding should be used to produce a universe in which no people — white or non-white — abuse each other. The basic duty of each and every person in the known universe is to find truth, and to use truth in such manner as to produce justice, and correctness, at all times, in all places, in all areas of activity.

In practice, there is no other way for any person in the known universe to "justify" his or her existence.

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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August Is National Black Business Month

BY AL ALATUNJI

This month is the month-long recognition and celebration of Black businesses. Amid an ongoing global health pandemic and ongoing racial disparities, we need to financially support Black-owned businesses, now more than ever.

Although most Black businesses are sole proprietorships or small businesses, an increasing number have regional reach and national ambitions. The National Bureau of Economic Research, a nonprofit group that tracks U.S. economic cycles, found that 26% of Black-owned business owners closed between February and May in 2020, compared with 11% for their white counterparts.

The major problem that Black businesses face is not due to a lack of capital. It is due to a lack of Black people purchasing and supporting Black businesses.

Black people spend more money than any other ethnic group, with an annual purchasing power of \$1.3 trillion, less than two percent is spent within the Black community.

Studies show that the largest hiring agent for the Black community after

the government are Black owned businesses. Black businesses also have the highest rates of hiring their own people compared to other races with more than 85% average Black

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employees.

Weak business infrastructure in the Black community leads to low wealth creation, high un/under-employment and a lack of financial literacy, resulting in stagnant economic growth, lack of broad-based participation in that growth and general economic insecurity.

The economic problems of the Black statistics from the Census Bureau.

community will not be solved by spending most of its money with people that live outside of it. It will never control its community if others own most of the businesses in it.

At one time, the Black community had Black owned banks, insurance

companies, hotels and other business as well as a very successful professional baseball league, the Negro Baseball League, which produced some of the greatest ball players of any race ever to play the game.

It also had great

newspapers in the tradition of The Nubian News which covered the Black community, its accomplishments, challenges and its hopes and dreams, when no one else would.

The number of Black owned firms grew 34.5 percent between 2007 and 2012, from 1.9 million to 2.6 million in 2012, according to the most recent statistics from the Census Bureau.

bt be solved by its money with charge of Black entrepreneurship. The number of Black female-owned firms climbed 66.9 percent, from 900,000 in 2007 to 1.5 million in 2012, according to the Census Bureau. Additionally, these 1.5 million Black female-owned businesses accounted for 58.9 percent of the nation's 2.6 million Black owned businesses. Of these 2.6 million in 2012, 109,137 had paid employees.

According to the US Small Business ague, Administration's Office of Advocacy, annual receipts from Black-owned ague, businesses totaled \$150 billion, 2.5 million Black owned businesses have no paid employees (95.8 percent) and ball only 109,000 had at least one paid any employee. But with a consistent, targeted effort, those numbers and figures can grow.

Buy Black and move the community onward and upward.

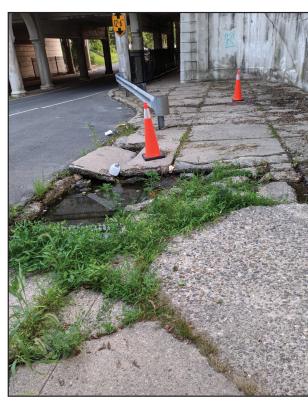
The Nubian News understands the important role Black businesses can play in the economic well-being of the Black community and is committed to the development, growth and success of Black businesses. The Nubian News supports Black businesses; we support National Black Business Month.



Publisher's Corner

Is Fear, Racism and Hate Behind Cadwalader Park?

There are a couple of things which bother me about Cadwalader Park. I don't think Mayor Gusciora realizes how much the way he manages the Park affects how people feel about him.



I read a lot into how the closing of the Park is symptomatic of the mayor's closing off a big segment of Trenton's Black population.

This is how I read it: Closing the park to everyday Black men, women and children reminds me a lot of how white communities used to close swimming pools, amusement parks, beaches, dance halls and roller-skating rinks because they were afraid; "disorder and order defined accessibility, not the law."

Whenever the subject comes up I hear how the young men treat the Park. It's not a conversation of access and right, it about fear. People, white people and a lot of Black people are afraid of young Black men.

I don't know if this is why the Mayor closed Cadwalader Park but it seems racial to me. When white people have events in the Park the barriers are removed and they are given free access throughout the park. The last time a white event took place not only the inner circle was open but the outer circle was too. That's the first time I've known the outer circle to be open in more than 20 years.

It further bothers me that very few people use the Park when it is closed to cars. I ride through often, on my bike, and they are usually less than 20 people in the park. Most of those are at the entrance where cars are allowed.

There used to be hundreds of people in the park on a hot summer day when it was open to cars. I remember riding through the park on a Friday evening was the thing, back in the day. You

> rode through with you boys to see who was there and who you could hook up with later that night. The Park was the place. And even though the young today do things we didn't they seem to enjoy it as much as we did. People say, "it's open you just have to walk in." Well what do I say to my 97 year old mother who wants to see the Park she grew up in and spent so many hours there while bring up her children. She can't walk anywhere. And what about the disabled. The Parks should be accessible to everyone - equally. The Mayor is probably breaking the laws by limiting access to only the healthy.

This issue is so important to me, because it has so many other connotations: bigotry, racism, white supremacy, hate, fear, discrimination - there is no way I can support the Mayor in his other endeavors. If he feels this way about young Black men, I find that unacceptable.

My second point is the sidewalk in front of the Park on Parkside Avenue, down by the overpass. For as long as I've lived in Trenton that sidewalk has been nothing short of a disaster.

The fact it is a major walkway for our kids going back and forth to school has not spurred the City or County to do anything about it.

It belongs to the County and I've brought it to the Freeholders attention





at one of their meetings. That was two or three years ago and nothing has been done. They need to get with the City and do whatever has to be done to fix that sidewalk.

I'm sure countless people have fallen and hurt themselves. I did the other day when I took the pictures on this page.

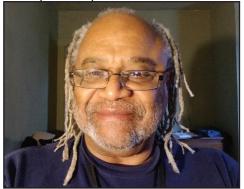
That the County and the City have allowed this to go on for so long and the fact it so directly affects our children shows they don't give a damn about us or our children.

Remember this when you go to vote. Democrats, who we overwhelmingly

vote into office have ignored us and this problem for more 20 than years. Why the hell are we still voting for them when they won't do some-

thing so easily repaired and so critically needed?

Enough is enough. Fix the sidewalk and open the park.



Kamau Kujichagulia - Publisher



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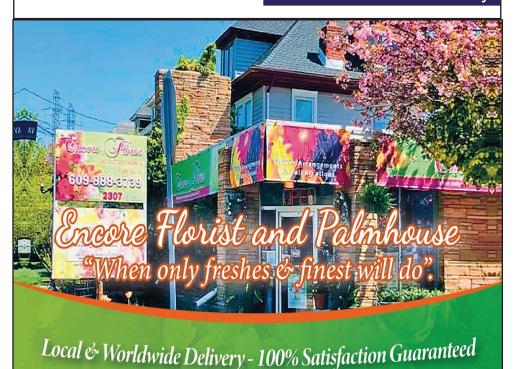
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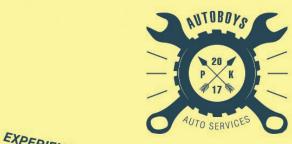
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TICOS DE TRENTON CELEBRAN EL DIA DE "LA NEGRITA"

POR CARLOS AVILA

TRENTON-La comunidad católica costarricense de Trenton, firmes devotos de Nuestra Señora de los Ángeles o como ellos le dicen "La Negrita", celebraron con mucho fervor la fiesta dedicada en su dia 2 de agosto.

El evento tuvo gran acogida por parte de la comunidad hispana en general. Primero se dieron cita en procesión a la iglesia Inmaculada Concepcion donde se ofreció la Eucaristía presidida por el Párroco Rev. Carlos Aguirre y Sacerdote Rene Pulgarín invitado especial para esta ceremonia religiosa.

Luego de la Solemne Misa la mayoría del público se dirigió al salón de usos

múltiples donde se desarrollo un amplio programa cultural-artístico que disfrutaron los niños, jóvenes y adultos que se dieron cita para aplaudir con gran euforia las distintas presentaciones de cada individuo y grupo participante. Esta celebración se ha desarrollado por algunos años en esta parroquia donde la comunidad "Tica" es numerosa y muy activa. *Felicitamos y a la vez agradecemos la invitación de Gaby Zarate y de todo el grupo de mujeres y hombres voluntariamente participaron y trabajaron en el éxito de este evento que visibilizamos cada año se fortalece.

Photos cortesia Parrish of our Lady of Angels



PERUANOS IZAN SU BANDERA EN LA CAPITAL DE NEW JERSEY

POR CARLOS AVILA

TRENTON-Con motivo de la conmemoración del Bicentenario de



la Independencia del Perú, la comunidad peruana del área de Trenton, por primera vez en la historia de esta ciudad realizó el izamiento de la bandera, cantando su himno nacio-

nal frente al edificio de la alcaldía de Trenton, capital de New Jersey.

La comunidad peruana en conjunto con la ayuda del Consulado General de Perú en Nueva Jersey dejó una buena imagen y a la vez un buen ejemplo de cómo se debe organizar un evento patriótico de esta naturaleza.

Con anticipación el comité organizador arribó hasta el hall del ayuntamiento para engalanar y decorar el lugar donde los invitados se sintieron a gusto y a la vez tuvieron la oportunidad de degustar de sabrosos bocaditos y refrescos que fueron distribuidos en varias mesas

P.E. P.V.

alrededor del sitio que amablemente eran atendidas por damas del comité organizador.

Entre los invitados especiales estuvo presente el alcalde de Trenton, Reed

Gusciora, Senadora Nellie Pou (NJ-35), Yvan Solari Calvo, Cónsul General del Perú en Nueva Jersey y Pensilvania, entre otros personajes que tomaron la palabra para resaltar la historia y la importancia que significa el Bicentenario de la Independencia del Perú. Gusciora dio la bienvenida a la comunidad peruana y en su intervención resaltó la historia republicana de Perú, destacó la figura y contribución de Simón Bolívar. Por su parte la Senadora Pou entregó un reconocimiento al Consulado de Perú y a la comunidad peruana en general por el aporte

económico, político y social que esta comunidad significa para el estado de Nueva Jersey. El Cónsul General Solari Calvo agradeció dicho gesto y en su intervención se refirió sobre

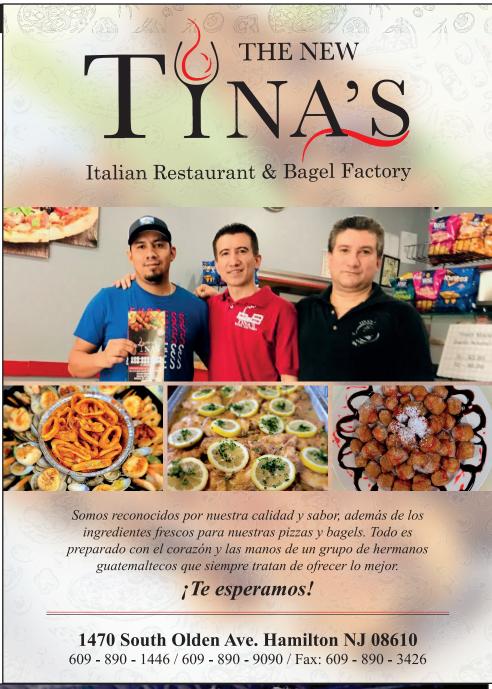


lo que significa conmemorar 200 años de independencia, de la historia y del orgullo cultural que tienen los peruanos tanto allá en su país como también de los peruanos que viven acá en los Estados Unidos y particularmente en Nueva Jersey. El portal estuvo lleno, al evento llegaron no

solo peruanos sino todas las personas que gustan disfrutar de las manifestaciones culturales y tradiciones de los países del mundo.

*Esperemos que este acto patriótico que acaban de realizar la comunidad peruana en Trenton sea el origen de varias actividades que permita unir a todos los peruanos para resaltar y educar a

las nuevas generaciones sobre la rica y milenaria Cultura Inca.





Juegos Olímpicos

BY CARLOS AVILA

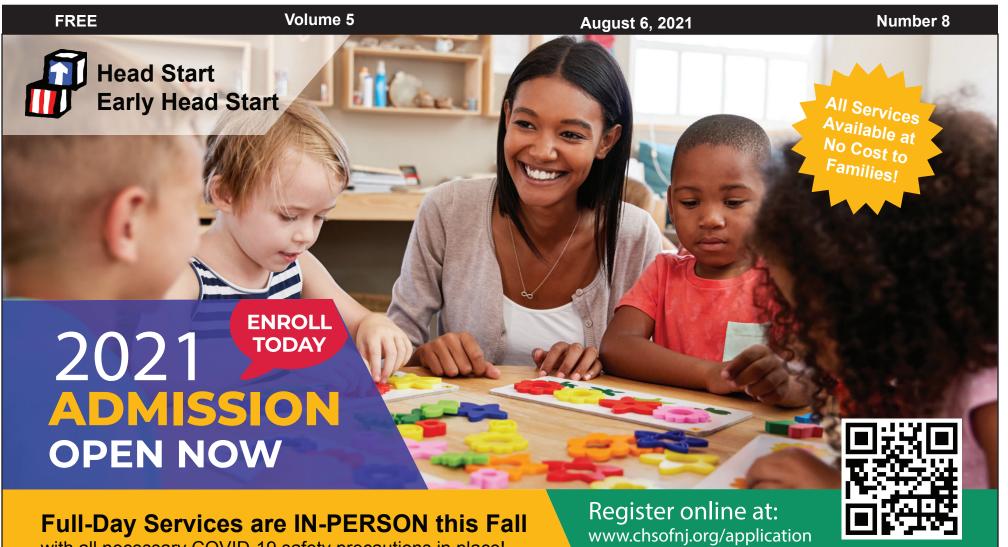
ORO PARA TRENTONIAN

TRENTON-La ciudad capital de New Jersey está de fiesta, Athing Mu (19), ganó medalla de oro en lo 800 metros planos.

La comunidad en general celebró el logro de esta joven hija de una familia inmigrante africana que sin duda motiva a los niños y jóvenes a seguir su disciplina y buen ejemplo. Las reacciones no se hicieron esperar en las redes sociales locales con emotivas felicitaciones y agradecimiento a la joven deportista.

En la foto; junto a Raevyn Rogers quien también ganó el pasado martes 3 de agosto medalla de bronce en la misma competencia.

Hay expectativas por ver qué hará la Municipalidad de Trenton para honrar tan destaca hazaña deportiva mundial.



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Stand With Our Brothers and Sisters In Cuba

BY AL A LATUNJI

Since 1962, the US government has implemented a savage, inhumane, barbaric and anti-christian blockade of Cuba to cause the collapse of the government. A similar approach is also being used to try and topple the duly elected government of Venezuela.

Four million of the 11 million people who live in Cuba consider themselves to be "morena" Spanish for black, brown or dark skinned.

The use of an economic embargo is a tactic to undermine, destabilize and overthrow the duly elected government of Cuba. What has been done by the US government since 1962 is criminal and the US should be taken before the World Court facing charges for crimes against humanity. President Barack Obama removed many of the sanctions used by other US presidents to basically prevent food, medicine and other human necessities from entering the island. But unfortunately for the Cuban people and the American people, President Obama was followed by a village idiot who reimposed the sanctions.

It is past time to remove all economic sanctions against our brothers and sisters in Cuba.

In the past, the US government with cooperation from American business

interests, including the mob, instituted economic measures to Cuba's economy to seize power from a duly elected government it did not like.

What was it about Cuba's government that the US government not like? The same thing they did not some dictators. They just want control over those dictators. It has nothing to do with human rights, freedom of the press or minority and women rights. But everything to do with control. Just ask the people of Haiti, Venezuela, Zimbabwe and the Dominican Republic among others. They will tell you the truth about America.

Human rights and human dignity are basic rights that should sepa-



like about the Venezuelan government of Maduro and Chavez, Patrice Lumumba's Congo and Robert Mugabe's Zimbabwe. They did not like that those leaders refused to be puppets and harlots for the US.

The US government would have the American people believe that the inhumane blockade and sanctions, as well as the sabotage, news distortions and disinformation campaigns being used are to free Cubans of a dictatorship. That is just a bold face lie.

American presidents "loves" them

rate humans from other animals. Nowhere is there more of a need for a campaign to free the people of an oppressive government than here in the US.

It is a mockery and the height of hypocrisy that the US government and many state governments in the US continue to suppress the human rights and dignity of its citizens, in particular its citizens of color while at the same time proclaiming freedom for the Cuban people.

If there is a need for economic sanctions and a blockade it is right here

in the US. Florida, Texas and quite a few other states are hell bent on disenfranchising Black, Latinx and other people of color of voting rights. Yet US government leaders and leaders of various state governments would have you believe they are so concerned about the people of Cuba. Poppycock! Blockade and boycott Florida, Texas, West Virginia and a whole host of other places in the US where Black, Latinx and other people of color are subjected to brutality, abuse and suppression of human and civil rights.

Men, women and children in Cuba have died from policies and actions funded by American taxpayer money. Hopefully, the Lord will be more merciful to Americans than American courts are on that Great Judgment Day. Ignorance of the law is no excuse in sentencing under American law. Americans better hope that the Lord also will be more forgiving of not knowing or not caring about the law than a government that has and continues not to be towards people of color worldwide.

Raise your voice in solidarity with our Cuban family and tell President Joe Biden and the US government to remove all sanctions against Cuba. Instead, send humanitarian aid to Cuba and Haiti while you're at it. "Get your hands out of its pocket and your feet off its neck and leave Cuba alone!"

Politics Rules Healthcare, Not Science

BY AL ALATUNJI

There is an election for governor in NJ this year. It was not like the last presidential election, when the majority of voters went to the polls to prevent the election of the Anti-Christ to a second term of destruction and chaos.

Over 600,000 died in the US due to his refusal to do what the science required. He was given the choice of shutting down a booming economy he wanted people to believe he was totally responsible for which might cause voters to reject him for a second term. Or he could do nothing in a game of survival of the fittest with the most vulnerable left to die. He chose the latter. This brings us back to NJ 2021 where there is an election for governor. There is also the reality that the coronavirus is still causing misery and death. In fact, despite many businesses that were able to survive the panic, reopened and

returning to a new normal, coronavirus infections and deaths are seeing an uptick due to a more infectious variant of the virus.

Scientists and healthcare experts have sounded the alarm that not only should the reopening be paused, but that measures, put into place belatedly by governors in many states in 2020, be re-instituted in 2021. Unfortunately, it seems because this is an election year in NJ the sound advice being given by the scientists and healthcare experts is not being followed by NJ's current

governor.

In July the Center for Disease Control and Prevention recommended a universal mask mandate for schools across the nation in the fall because of a new coronavirus variant. Do not expect the state's current governor to mandate that students and teachers wear masks. It is an election year in NI.

Unlike governors in other states who are re-instituting in door masks requirements and mandating all state workers be vaccinated, NJ's governor, like the clown that occupied the White House until being swept out by now President Joe Biden, remains quiet on the sidelines. The current NJ governor is also insisting that all public schools in the state be completely open with no option for remote learning.

If the variant wreaks havoc like some scientists and healthcare experts are suggesting, schools might be forced to return to remote instruction. However, because it is an election year discussion of that possibility and the planning for it will be taboo until after the election.

Unfortunately, students will once again experience education maleficence because school districts, administrators and teachers will be caught off guard and unprepared to meet the challenge.

When schools were forced to shut

down for in-school learning in 2020 it was understandable and unpreventable. In 2021 it will be misfeasance if not criminal.

School districts across the state should be preparing teachers and parents for remote learning for the upcoming school year if schools are forced to return to such learning.

Do not expect such guidance to come from the NJ Department of Education or its current governor in an election year.

Leading is not always popular. Oftentimes tough decisions require courage, selflessness, sacrifice and steadiness. Many politicians do not want to make the tough decisions, and too many are guided by the next election. That is not true leadership. It is not a profile in courage.

To paraphrase Shakespeare, if you want to be king, you must wear the crown. With the crown comes the responsibility to be a leader.

Volume 5 August 6, 2021 Number 8

Nubian News Book Review

BY TERRI SCHLICHENMEYER

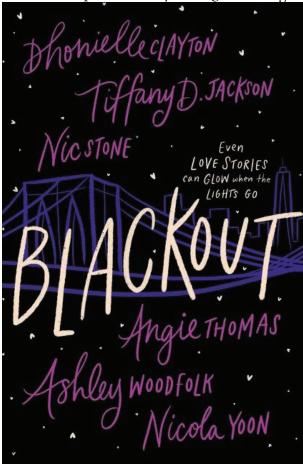
"Blackout"

BY DHONIELLE CLAYTON, TIFFANY D. JACKSON, NIC STONE, ANGIE THOMAS, ASHLEY WOODFOLK, AND NICOLA YOON

c.2021, Quill Tree Books / Harper Collins \$19.99 / \$24.99 Canada 256 pages

Lights out.

For most people, that means it's time to sleep, but not you. Lights



out means time to turn 'em back on, pump up the music, and get the party started. And for those in the new novel "Blackout" by Dhonielle Clayton, Tiffany D. Jackson, Nic Stone, Angie Thomas, Ashley Woodfolk, and Nicola Yoon, it's time to fall in love.

Obviously, there was a mix-up.

There was just one job opening at the Apollo corporate headquarters, but two candidates were offered the position and both were there for orientation. Oops.

Bad on the company. Worse for Tammi Wright, whose heart was shattered upon seeing Kareem Murphy walk into the lobby. He'd broken up with her a few weeks before, and she thought she was over him. Apparently not, but she wanted that job so she'd wait, even if she had to do it somewhere near his fine self. And then the lights went out.

It had been stiflingly hot that day and Manhattan's power grid couldn't handle it. Without A/C, buildings

were vacated, people milled around, and Kareem suggested they start walking home to Brooklyn. Tammi thought he was out of his mind but he had a DJing gig that evening, do-ordie, and there was nothing else to do. JJ Harding, Jr. was on the subway when the blackout hit, but he didn't worry until he noticed Tremaine Wright a few seats away. Tremaine

> was claustrophobic, as JJ knew, and he could see that Tremaine was almost freaking out. He didn't want to intrude if the claustrophobia was a sensitive secret. IJ knew all about secrets.

> The residents at the Althea House were playing cards when the blackout started and the most beautiful woman Nella had ever seen walked into the building. Lana was trying to figure out how to tell her best friend, Tristan, that she liked him a whole lot more than just like. Kayla Simmons was sitting on a tour bus, contemplating a love rectangle.

> Grace was in Seymour's Ryde, heading for Brooklyn, and the party was about to start...

Okay, yes, it's a story that's contrived and convenient. Yes, it's a lot of meetcute. It's predictable, too, but reach a little deeper and "Blackout" is a pretty intriguing concept.

It is, in fact, the ultimate in collaboration: six authors, cooperating on one single story that arcs through six different couples on one dark night makes for an interesting tale, in part because each of the authors brings her own style to the table here. The characters aren't interchangeable, nor are the situations, which gives readers a strong sense that the people in these tales are more dimensional. You can feel the same heat they're feeling. You'll believe that they're heading for the same place and that things are gonna get even more interesting.

Want to go, too?

Then check for "Blackout" in your local YA section. Despite its strong language (but no action past kissing), it's great for gentle romantics ages 15-to-adult, so find it... and turn the lights up.

NJ Black Legislators Push Civilian **Complaint Review Boards**

BY AL ALATUNJI

A bill before the NJ Legislature, sponsored by several Black State legislators, would establish a Civilian Complaint Review Board in every municipality in NJ to review and investigate complaints against members of the police force of the

municipality. The State Attorney General's office would receive \$800,000 in funding for a required Civilian Complaint Review Board training course for Board members.

Sponsors of the bill are Assemblywoman Angela V. McKnight (D-Hudson), Assemblywoman Shavonda E. Sumter (D-Passaic-Bergen) and Assemblyman Benjie E. Wimberly (D-Passaic- Bergen).

In late June, several civil rights groups assembled at the State House Complex in Trenton and demanded the State Senate and State General Assembly pass the Civilian Complaint Review Board bill. The

groups presented at the rally included the ACLU of NJ, the Ironbound Community Corporation, the NJ State NAACP, several local NAACP chapters, Salvation for Social Justice, the Latino Action Network, The Jersey City Anti-Violence Coalition Movement, and Newark Communities for Accountable Policing, among others. The People's Organization for Progress in Newark, led by longtime activist Lawrence Hamm, brought two buses of supporters of the legislation to the rally.

Assemblywoman McKnight said the bill emerged out of the Black Lives Matter movement after the 2020 police murder of a Black, unarmed man, George Floyd, in Minneapolis. "This is truly a piece of legislation designed by the community, for the community," said Assemblywoman McKnight.

"We involved police, community members, advocacy groups, community leaders, municipalities, and clergy. The participation of these stakeholders ensures that we have legislation that is strong, powerful, inclusive, and represents the voices of the people," Assemblywoman McKnight added.

Assemblyman Wimberly said the bill

will establish a platform for residents to have their say on the issues and concerns affecting communities. "We have fought long and hard for equality and justice for our communities," Assemblyman Wimberly said.

"Witnessing the many public and unjustified incidents of brutality and violence against Black men and women across the country in the last



year, we are called upon to take a different approach to ensure equality for all under the law," added Assemblyman Wimberly.

At the rally, supporters of the Civilian Complaint Review Board also called for the Legislature to pass the Police Transparency Bill which would make police disciplinary records public.

Pushback against the reforms is coming from the Fraternal Order of Police and their allies, including amendments introduced to limit subpoena power and delay concurrent investigations.

Pat Colligan, president of the State PBA, which opposes the measure, maintains "Civilian Review Boards are already permitted to review police internal affairs records under very reasonable rules established by the Attorney General. But allowing private citizens to possess the power to subpoena records and testimony, over broad powers beyond what an officer possesses, is a step too far. The bill under review would permit a Board to conduct its own investigation during an internal affairs investigation and give counties the power to swoop in and dictate police review in a local government."

Remembering Patrice Lumumba

BY AL ALATUNJI

This year marks 60 years since Patrice Lumumba, an African nationalist leader who briefly served as the first prime minister of the newly independent Democratic Republic of the Congo was assassinated in 1961. He played a significant role in the transformation of the Congo from a colony of Belgium into an independent republic.

Ideologically an African nationalist and pan-Africanist, he led the Congolese National Movement party from 1958 until his assassination. Belgium, and the US played a role in his murder.

In 1955, Lumumba became regional president of a purely Congolese trade union of government employees. In 1956 Lumumba was invited with others on a study tour of Belgium under the auspices of the minister of colonies.

On his return he was arrested on a charge of embezzlement from the post office. He was convicted and condemned one year later to 12 months' imprisonment and a fine.

When Lumumba got out of prison, he grew even more active in politics. In October 1958, he, along with other Congolese leaders, launched the Congolese National Movement, the first nationwide Congolese political party.

In December, Lumumba attended the first All-African People's Conference in Accra, Ghana, where he met nationalists from across the African continent and was made a member of the permanent organization set up by the conference. His outlook and vocabulary, inspired by pan-African goals, now took on the tenor of militant nationalism.

As nationalist fervor increased, the Belgian government announced a program intended to lead to independence for the Congo, starting with local elections in December 1959. The nationalists regarded this program as a scheme to install puppets before independence and announced a

boycott of the elections. The Belgian authorresponded ities repression. with On October 30 there was a clash that resulted in 30 deaths. Lumumba was imprisoned on a charge of inciting a riot. The Congo-National Movement decided to shift tactics, entered the elections, and won a sweeping victory. In January 1960 Belgian the

government convened a Round Table Conference in Brussels of all Congolese parties to discuss political change, but the Congolese National Movement refused to participate without Lumumba. Lumumba was thereupon released from prison and flown to Brussels.

The conference agreed on a date for independence, June 30, with national elections in May. Although there was a multiplicity of parties, the Congolese National Movement came out far ahead in the elections, and Lumumba emerged as the leading nationalist politician of the Congo. Maneuvers to prevent his assumption of authority failed, and he was asked to form

the first government, which he did on June 24, 1960.

Shortly after Congolese independence in 1960, a mutiny broke out in the army, marking the beginning of the Congo Crisis. Lumumba appealed to the US and the UN for help to suppress the Belgian-supported military coup. Both refused due to suspicions among the Western world that Lumumba

ambiguously held pro-communist views. These suspicions appeared be supported h e n Lumumba turned to the Soviet Union for assistance, which CIA described as a "classic communist takeover". This led to growing differences within

Congolese government as well as with the US and Belgium, who opposed the Soviet Union in the Cold War.

After the military coup took control of the government, Lumumba attempted to escape to join his supporters who had established a new rival state called the Free Republic of the Congo. However, Lumumba was subsequently captured and imprisoned en route by state authorities loyal to the military coup. He was executed. Following his assassination, he was widely seen as a martyr for the wider Pan-African movement. In 2002, Belgium formally apologized for its role in the assassination. The US government has yet to admit

its role or formally apologize.

Patrice Lumumba's death caused a scandal throughout Africa and beyond. Retrospectively, even his enemies proclaimed him a "national hero."

The reasons that Lumumba provoked such intense emotion are not immediately evident. His viewpoint was not exceptional. He was for a united Congo and against division of the country along ethnic or regional lines. Like many other African leaders, he supported pan-Africanism and the liberation of colonial territories. He proclaimed his regime one of "positive neutralism," which he defined as a return to African values and rejection of any imported ideology, including that of the Soviet Union.

Lumumba was, however, a man of strong character who intended to pursue his policies regardless of the enemies he made within his country or abroad. The Congo, furthermore, was key in terms of the geopolitics of Africa, and because of its wealth, size, and proximity to white-dominated southern Africa, Lumumba's opponents had reason to fear the consequences of a radical or radicalized Congo regime.

Moreover, in the context of the Cold War, the Soviet Union's support for Lumumba appeared at the time as a threat to the US and its lackeys.

To that end, the assassination of Patrice Lumumba was a heinous crime that was a culmination of two inter-related assassination plots by the US and Belgian governments, which used Congolese accomplices to carry out the deed. It would be a tactic that the US would use again and again



TRENTON DELIVERANCE CENTER 1100 South Clinton Ave. Trenton, New Jersey 08611



All Are Welcome

Sunday Worship 11:00 am SERVICE SCHEDULE Sunday School 10:00am

Sunday Morning Worship 11:00am

Sunday Evening Worship 7:00pm

Wed. - Day Prayer 12:00pm

Wed. - Bible Study/Prayer 7:00pm

Fri. - Evening Worship 8:00pm

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TDCChurch@trentondeliverancecenter.org

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FYI! To all those "gangsters" out there take a look.. this is where you will be fighting for your life if this stupidness carries on.. none of your "boys" will be there, oh no just you.. and you alone. Stop putting on a show for idiots that can only give you a "#RIP" or "#FreeMyG" in return. You have 3 yards in life.. Your yard, prison yard or graveyard. Choose one!!! PLEASE STOP THE VIOLENCE...LET OUR CHILDREN GROW OLD

#Carmen Pace

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