

# The Nubian News

Loving the Black Perspective

## TRAGICO INCENDIO EN PLENA NAVIDAD

El sospechoso de provocar seria un mismo familiar

POR CARLOS AVILA

TRENTON- Un incendio provocado que se registró en plena Navidad, dejó víctimas que lamentar en el bloque 200 de la Rusling St. and Division St., en Trenton.

fue provocado, hay sospechosos, personas que provocaron el incendio” manifestó Luis. Señaló que después de las tres de la mañana ya se vio el fuego que se expandió de manera rápido por todas las casas adyacentes que sumaron seis en el bloque. Indicó que incluso los

y salieron cómo estaban salvándose de quedarse atrapados en las llamas que emanaban de la casa donde prendieron fuego. La mayoría de los vecinos del lugar a quien se le preguntaba indicaban que el fuego fue provocado, pero no se sabían quién podría tener la sangre tan fría

decir de sus habitantes esta colmada de problemas de limpieza, seguridad y sobre todo de crímenes que se repiten una y otra vez, por lo que se necesita mayor presencia y participación de la policía. “Vamos a unirnos y pedir ayuda a la policía en este sector” declaró uno de sus residentes.

Facebook comentarios:

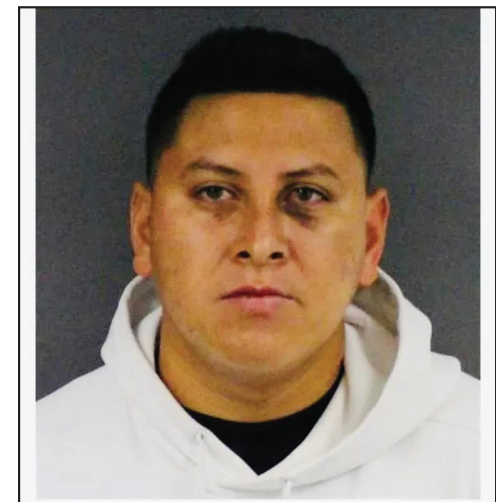
Que triste realidad, tendrá que



200 de la Rusling St. and Division St. Trenton, NJ

para provocar tal desgracia.

El lunes 27 de diciembre sin embargo la fiscalía del condado de Mercer ya dio a conocer a los medios que el sospechoso Ronal Ordóñez Lima de 28 años de edad había sido detenido y puesto a ordenes de las autoridades pertinentes para establecer los cargos correspondientes por asesinato, y otros en conexión a los perjuicios que el feroz incendio dejó en esa madrugada donde la mayoría de la gente celebraba la Navidad.



Ronal Ordóñez Lima (28), sospechoso de provocar el incendio que dejó muertes en plena Navidad.

A pocas horas de siniestro las autoridades no daban a conocer detalles, sin embargo, en la calle los habitantes de ese sector ya sabían que el hecho había sido provocado.

Luis González, un activista comunitario del lugar señaló que había personas muertas. “Este incendio

vehículos que estaban estacionados junto al inmueble se incendiaron.

Francisco Choc, de origen guatemalteco por su parte manifestó que a eso de las tres de la mañana se levantó al baño sintió el humo y las llamas y gritó a sus seis miembros de su familia “incendio, incendio”

De Ronal Ordóñez Lima se conoció que es primo de una de las víctimas y que supuestamente el hecho causo por represaría, que aun esta en investigación.

La ciudad tendrá que remoler estos inmuebles que deja un horrible aspecto en el vecindario, que ha

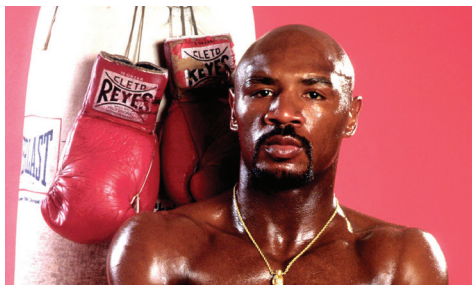
pagar con la Justicia de la ley. A los que Fallecieron que Dios los tenga en su Santa gloria.

Hasta donde llega el odio a la misma familia, daño que le hizo a su propia familia es irrespirable.

Que lamentable entre paisanos nos hacemos daño.

## Those We Lost Last Year

Marvelous Marvin Hagler former undisputed boxing World Middleweight Champion.



Paul Mooney actor-comedian famous for starring on "Chappelle's Show" and "Bamboozled."



Bell Hooks (Gloria Jean Watkins) acclaimed and prolific author and notable feminist.



Biz Markie infused his music with so much fun and humor that he became known as "The Clown Prince of Hip Hop." His biggest hit was "Just a Friend."

Lost - continued on page 3

**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]



# Trenton 08608 One Of Hardest Hit By Pandemic

By AL ALATUNJI

Trenton's 08608 zip code is one of the highest covid hit areas in New Jersey. According to an analysis by the New Jersey Hospital Association the poorest and most underserved areas of New Jersey were the hardest hit by the pandemic.

The New Jersey Hospital Association's data, part of a database it created in 2019 to measure the impact of social and environmental factors on health by ZIP code, shows that seven of the 10 areas that rank the worst socio-economically had the highest per capita rate of coronavirus cases. In addition to Trenton's 08608, other zip

recently as the cold weather sent residents indoors. As of December 14, the state's seven-day average for new positive tests increased to 3,840, up 188% from a month ago. That's also the highest average since April 5, 2021.

The COVID-19 rates the New Jersey Hospital Association's report cited referred to cases from April 1, 2020 through this October 31, 2021 in which people went to a hospital emergency room or were admitted to a hospital after being diagnosed with the virus or after seeking care for another reason and then were found to have the disease.



codes hardest hit by the pandemic were Atlantic City (08401), Paterson (07505), two areas of Camden (08102 and 08105), and two areas of Newark (07201 and 07108).

This information is troubling and underscores the heightened risks vulnerable communities face as yet another COVID-19 surge looms in New Jersey and the US.

The data used 20 health and social indicators to identify the most disadvantaged of New Jersey's 537 ZIP codes. Those factors included chronic medical conditions, lack of prenatal care, premature death, employment status, high school graduation rates and access to food.

"If you overlay a map of the most vulnerable ZIP codes identified by this data, they are very much aligned with the areas that suffered the highest toll of illness during COVID," said New Jersey Hospital Association President and CEO Cathy Bennett in a statement. "This data reinforces a critical lesson: When it comes to population health, the health of the entire state is inextricably linked to the health of our most vulnerable."

Coronavirus cases had steadily declined this fall, before ticking up

Experiencing just one of the factors it measured, such as high unemployment or low high school graduation rate, can be detrimental to a community's overall wellbeing, the report said. ZIP codes that have multiple indicators are more likely to suffer "lasting and profound health vulnerability for entire communities," the report added.

Common traits among the most vulnerable ZIP codes included being insured by Medicaid or having no insurance, lacking a high school diploma, being unemployed, struggling to obtain food or accessing healthy options, and a life expectancy that is nearly four years shorter than the statewide average, according to the New Jersey Hospital Association's report.

"That's a critical reminder for public health, policymakers and the provider community," Ms. Bennett said, "but there's also a message for each of us on a personal and local level. Everyone can help us emerge from this pandemic stronger by volunteering their time, donating to a food pantry, contributing to a coat drive or supporting any number of worthy causes that help build up communities."

## COMPENSATORY-FUNCTIONAL DEFINITIONS

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

### The Four Basic Stages of Racism (White Supremacy)

**What is meant by 'establishing' White Supremacy?**

The term 'establishment of' White Supremacy means to make White Supremacy a reality.

At some point in the past, an effective number of persons classified as 'white' began promoting the idea of dominating all of the 'non-white' people of the known universe, entirely on the basis of 'color' and/or factors 'associated with' color.

**What is meant by 'maintaining' White Supremacy?**

The term 'maintenance of' White Supremacy means to keep White Supremacy a reality.

The people who practice White Supremacy (Racism) do so by constantly thinking, speaking, and/or acting in a manner that directly, or indirectly, keeps all of the non-white people of the known universe subjugated on the basis of color, at all times in all places, in all areas of activity, including economics, education, entertainment, labor, law, politics, religion, sex, and war.

**What is meant by 'expanding' White Supremacy?**

The term 'expansion of' White Supremacy means to increase the number of people who are subject to White Supremacy.

Since the establishment of White Supremacy, the White Supremacists have expanded and/or added strength to their power by acting to make sure that all 'non-white' persons born into the known universe are made subject to the will of the White Supremacists at all times, in all places, in all areas of activity.

**What is meant by 'refining' White Supremacy?**

The term 'refinement of' White Supremacy means to improve the methods of maintaining White Supremacy.

This means that the White Supremacists (Racists) strive to decrease the necessity for using direct violence and/or the threat of direct violence against non-white people. They, instead, strive to increase the use of deceit as the basic means of causing their victims to 'enjoy', and/or not resist, their subjection to White Supremacy.

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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## Transitions to Ancestor in 2021

BY AL ALATUNJI

Henry Louis "Hank" Aaron Hall of Fame slugger whose 755 career home runs long stood as baseball's golden mark. He played hard on the field and just as hard and tough off the field for Black progress, advancement and civil rights.

•Virgil Abloh acclaimed menswear designer for Louis Vuitton and founder and CEO of Off-White.

Elgin Baylor Hall of Fame basketball great played 14 seasons as a forward for the Minneapolis/Los Angeles Lakers, appearing in eight NBA Finals.

Tony Brown long time host of the "Quiet Storm" on radio station WDAS.



Tony Brown hosted "The Quiet Storm" on WDAS

John Chaney one of the nation's leading Black coaches and a commanding figure during a Hall of Fame basketball career at Temple.

Irv Cross broadcasting pioneer and former NFL Pro Bowl cornerback.

•Curley Culp former Kansas City Chiefs and Houston Oilers legend.

Sarah Dash Trenton-born singer who gained national fame singing in vocal groups with Patti LaBelle and fellow Trenton-native Nona Hendryx (LaBelle) starting in the 1960s.

Prince Markie Dee founding member of rap trio Fat Boys.

DMX (born Earl Simmons DMX) rapper, songwriter, and actor.

Young Dolph (born Adolph Robert Thornton, Jr.) rapper behind albums like "Rich Slave."

•Suzanne Douglas accomplished stage and screen actress who starred in "Tap" and the television series "The Parent 'Hood'."

•Dianne Durham as a teen became the first Black gymnast to win a USA Gymnastics national championship in 1983.

Lee Elder was the first Black golfer to play at the Masters.

•Deon Estus singer and musician

who played bass guitar for the '80s pop group Wham!.

Lee Evans blazing sprinter who set records at the Olympics and wore a black beret as a sign of protest at the 1968 Games.

•Jahmil French actor known for his role as Dave Turner on the Canadian series "Degassi: The Next Generation."

•Abdalelah Haroun Qatari sprinter, who won bronze in the 400m at the 2017 World Athletic Championships.

Barry Harris renowned jazz musician, composer and educator largely credited with pioneering the genre's bebop style.

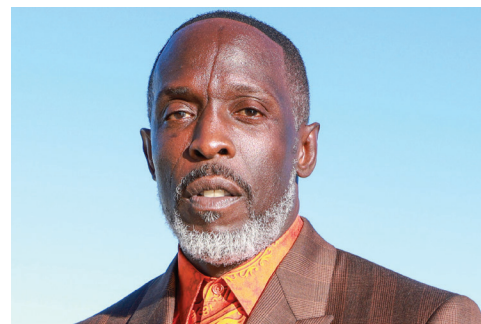
Alcee Hastings congressman, civil rights activist and the longest-serving member of Florida's congressional delegation.

•Geno Hayes former Tampa Bay Buccaneers and Florida State linebacker.

•Claude Humphrey longtime Atlanta Falcons defensive end and Pro Football Hall of Famer.

Vincent Jackson former NFL wide receiver. He played 12 year, seven with the San Diego (now Los Angeles) Chargers and five with the Tampa Bay Buccaneers, was a three-time Pro Bowl selection and was nominated four times for the Walter Payton Man of the Year award, which recognizes players who have had a positive impact on their community.

Vernon Jordan civil rights leader and close adviser to former President Bill Clinton.



Michael K. Williams, played Omar Little on the HBO drama series The Wire

Yaphet Kotto actor known for bringing gravitas to his roles across television and film. His notable film work includes roles in "Alien," "The Running Man," "Midnight Run" and "Live and Let Die," in which he played iconic Bond villain Mr. Big.

Floyd D. Little pro football Hall of Famer, Denver Bronco, and Syracuse #44 Legend.

•Julio Lugo Dominican-born shortstop who played for seven major league teams and won a World Series ring with the Boston Red Sox.

Dr. Shirley M. McBay pioneering

mathematician who was the first Black student to receive a doctorate from the University of Georgia and went on to enjoy a career that championed diversity and inclusion in mathematics.

•Bob Moses the architect of the 1964



Cicele Tyson acclaimed actress

voter registration campaign, the Mississippi Freedom Summer Project, among several other civil rights projects as a leader of the Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee in Mississippi.

Melvin Van Peebles trailblazing Black director who helped champion a new wave of modern Black cinema in the 1970s.

Colin Powell trailblazing first Black US secretary of state whose leadership in several administrations helped shape American foreign policy in the last years of the 20th century and the early years of the 21st.

Lloyd Price Rock and Roll Hall of Fame singer whose hits included "Stagger Lee" and "Lawdy Miss Clawdy."

Marion Ramsey actress best known for her role as Officer Laverne Hooks in the film franchise "Police Academy."

Charlie Robinson ubiquitous character actor of the stage and screen who played an untold number of roles that were all memorable, including a clerk on the hit 1980s sitcom, "Night Court."

Desmond Tutu Anglican archbishop, Nobel Peace Prize-winner whose good humor, inspiring message and conscientious work for civil and human rights made him a revered leader during the struggle to end apartheid in his native South Africa.

Cicely Tyson award-winning icon of the stage and screen who broke barriers for Black actresses with surpassing dignity.

Malikah Shabazz daughter of Black Power and human rights activist and icon Malcolm X.

Robbie Shakespeare legendary Jamaican bass player and renowned member of the reggae production duo Sly & Robbie.

•Sekou Smith a longtime NBA reporter and television analyst.

Leon Spinks former world heavy-weight champion best known for defeating Muhammad Ali in 1978.

Pervis Staples one of the founding members of the legendary Chicago gospel group the Staple Singers.

James Stevenson first Black elected official in Hamilton Township history.

Greg Tate writer, musician and cultural critic.

Demaryius Thomas played 10 seasons in the NFL and is considered one of the best wide receivers in Denver Broncos history.

Dennis Thomas Kool & the Gang co-founder, often referred to as "Dee Tee." Known for classics like "Celebration," "Jungle Boogie," and "Cherish," Kool & the Gang bill themselves as having performed "longer than any R&B group in history."

Bunny Wailer reggae artist, an original member of Bob Marley and the Wailers and three-time Grammy winner.

•Rhonda Stubbins White actress



Sarah Dash sang with the group LaBelle - Photo Credit: Shefik

widely known for her role on daytime soap opera, "The Days of Our Lives." Michael K. Williams actor best known for his role as Omar Little on HBO's "The Wire."

Clarence Williams III played Linc Hayes in "The Mod Squad," and starred in several shows and movies, including: "52 Pick-Up," "Against the Wall," "Reindeer Games," "Purple Rain," "The General's Daughter," "American Gangster," "Half Baked" and "Lee Daniels' The Butler."

Mary Wilson founding member of "The Supremes."

Ronnie Wilson founding member of R&B group The Gap Band which made such hits as "Outstanding," "You Dropped a Bomb on Me," "Party Train" and "Burn Rubber on Me."

•Samuel E. Wright actor who voiced Sebastian the crab in Disney's "The Little Mermaid" and sang the film's Oscar-winning song "Under the Sea."

*Thank you all for bringing us thus far along the way. We pray we can honor your efforts by doing our best, too.*

# Editorial

## COVID and the Coup

COVID and the coup are in full effect. 800,000 dead in the US and counting amidst rampant variant infections higher than last year despite vaccinations with hospitalizations soaring to 4,715 in New Jersey as of January 3 according to the state health department. Someone close to most of us has died or been sick because of the virus.

And those representatives in DC posing with automatic weapons and their fellow haters calling for murder of officials at public meetings aren't doing it for likes. Mass political social pathology compounded by denial of the racist US foundation in self invalidating values and belief systems reigns. Chilling.

Yet, Black people have not survived American genocide without common sense. We follow the science. We

believe our eyes. We most can mask up, vaccinate and boost against the virus. Despite that the CDC values the economy over health, giving guidelines to stay home for only five days after testing positive or exposure. Quite frankly, we mostly don't suffer isolation anxiety since we've been making ourselves content staying home already; financially unable to do anything else.

Now note some distractions that obscure the coup with nice diversions like Black History Month, the new Matrix movie, the Super Bowl, Tik Tok and Grammy awards (oops Covid cancel). The ultimate ongoing diversion being making slaves of us to make wages to pay bills and expenses we do not choose.

Part of our offense to the coup is to be political. We vote, run for office

and work elections. More importantly, we engage in united support of grassroots efforts large and small. Adding our personal effort to listen, make eye contact, smile, tolerate, talk not text, chastise, heal, share a kind word, encourage, nourish, console, celebrate, redirect, de-escalate and to teach assures the rest works. Institution of an even balance of individualism and collective good is proven as vital to the success of progressive propagation of cultures. Despite what you heard, like it or not, we are in this together.

Meanwhile, we arm and remain vigilant acknowledging reports of pending civil war, which for whites in denial has been described as a slow moving coup. Although, my publisher brought me back to the reality that Black people die and are constantly at war against the

white supremacist system of disenfranchisement, murder, unequal distribution of wealth and poverty of health, housing, education, etc. The psychological battle of actualizing the value of things over common well being is cause for the most urgent alarm and resistance.

Covid mutates and a coup, given its self destructive nature devours itself. While they do not discriminate, it follows there will be less of any color of people to run or fund an economy or to wield authoritarian rule.

The likes of Covid and a coup for Black people are our normal; not new. We survived 400 years of disease and war. Know that we will not only survive the current onslaughts, but thrive for another 400 years and more and always triumph

## Permanent Federal Help For Black and Latinx Businesses

BY AL ALATUNJI

After more than 50 years, the Minority Business Development Agency has been made permanent, its director has been elevated to Under Secretary of Commerce, and new tools and authority will allow the agency to address the longstanding economic inequities that face this nation's 9 million business owners of color. These long-awaited historic provisions are part of the Bipartisan Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act signed by President Joe Biden in November 2021.

During the COVID-19 pandemic, Black-owned businesses shuttered at twice the rate of white-owned businesses, and were largely excluded from relief that was distributed as part of Congress's stimulus bills. Even before the pandemic, Black and Latinx businesses accounted for fewer than 10 percent of small businesses with employees, despite making up 30 percent of the nation's population. The landmark Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act includes the following provisions:

- Expands the geographic reach of the Minority Business Development Agency Minority Business Development Agency by authorizing the creation of regional offices and rural business centers and increases

the number and scope of existing programs.

- Creates a presidentially appointed and Senate-confirmed Under Secretary of Commerce for Minority Business Development to lead the agency.



- Increases the Minority Business Development Agency's grant-making capacity to partner with community and national nonprofits engaged in private and public sector development as well as research.

- Mandates the creation of the Parren J. Mitchel Entrepreneurship Education Grants Program to cultivate the next generation of minority

entrepreneurs on the campuses of Historically Black Colleges and Universities across the nation.

- Creates a council to advise the Under Secretary on supporting Minority Business Enterprises and Authorizes the Under Secretary to coordinate federal Minority Business Enterprise programs.

There are approximately 2.6 million Black owned businesses in the US.

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. Black women have been leading this 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. 109,137 had paid employees out of 2.6 million of these in 2012.

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

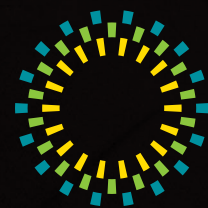
When President Biden signed the Bipartisan Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act, US Secretary of Commerce Gina Raimondo stated, "President Biden has made clear his commitment to not just rebuilding to how things were before COVID-19, but to building back better and more equitably. The Minority Business Development Agency is ready to step into this historic moment and build on its success because we recognize that America's road to recovery runs through our minority business community. Making the Minority Business Development Agency a statutory Agency provides the Minority Business Development Agency with the authorities, workforce and resources needed to help level the playing field on behalf of minority businesses and minority entrepreneurs."

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after “business hours.”

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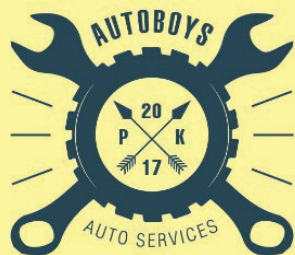
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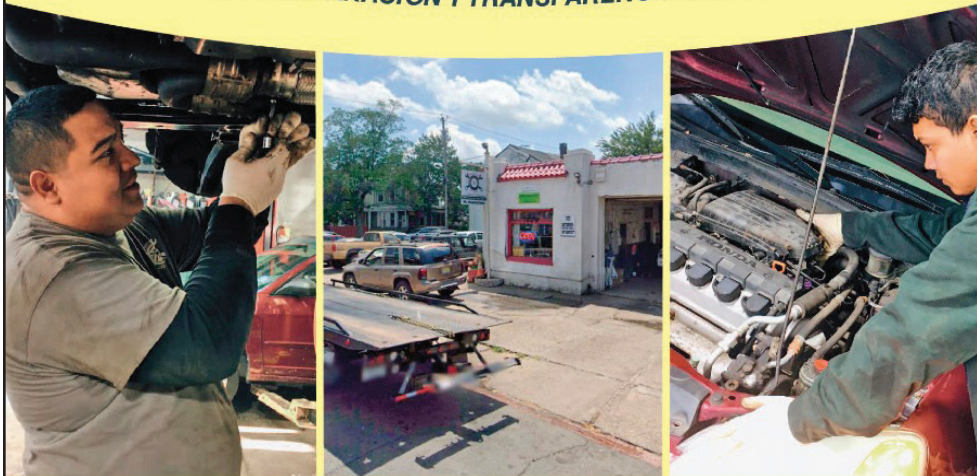


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## Fondos para proyectos de seguridad escolar

Por CARLOS AVILA

TRENTON - Para ayudar a los distritos escolares a reforzar las protecciones para los estudiantes y prepararse para las emergencias,



un proyecto de ley patrocinado por el asambleísta demócrata Roy Freiman asignaría más de \$ 5.1 millones en fondos a los distritos escolares de todo el estado para proyectos de seguridad escolar.

La medida fue presentada por el Comité de Asignaciones de la

Asamblea el pasado jueves 6 de enero. “Equipar nuestras escuelas con alarmas de pánico ayudará a los socorristas a acudir en ayuda de los estudiantes y el personal más rápidamente” señaló el asambleísta Freiman (D-Somerset, Mercer, Middlesex, Hunterdon).

Este proyecto de ley (A-6258) asigna \$5,150,531 del Fondo Asegurando el Futuro de Nuestros Niños al Departamento de Educación para que pueda otorgar subvenciones a 60 distritos escolares para estos proyectos de seguridad escolar.

Esta financiación ayudará a que las escuelas de Nueva Jersey cumplan con la Ley de Alyssa, que requiere que todos los edificios de las escuelas públicas primarias y secundarias estén equipadas con al menos una alarma de pánico o una alternativa aprobada que pueda alertar rápido a los socorristas y a las fuerzas del orden en caso de una emergencia.

## Dieron el último adiós a Christopher David

Por CARLOS AVILA

TRENTON- El pasado jueves 23 de diciembre familiares y amigos del joven Christopher David se reunieron

y no encontraba cómo ayudarlo. También cuenta que su hijo dejó de estudiar por el acoso “bullying” que sufría en la escuela. “La escuela no hizo nada” señaló. Uno de los jóvenes



en la funeraria Ledford Home de Trenton para orar y darle el último adiós.

Brenda Meraz, lloraba sin consuelo junto al ataúd de su hijo. La joven madre contó que luego de retornar de su trabajo encontró a su hijo Christopher David de 17 años sin vida en su habitación. Brenda dijo que su hijo “sufría de depresión” señaló que dese hace unos meses su hijo pasaba por una crisis de depresión

amigo de Christopher presente en la funeraria manifestó que juntos solían jugar fútbol y que no se metía en problemas con nadie. “Me da mucha pena, siempre lo recordaré” comentó. Durante esta pandemia precisa que los padres de familia tengan un acercamiento con sus hijos adolescentes para conocer sus preocupaciones y tratar de ayudar a lidiar con sus angustias que muchas veces las ocultan por distintas razones

### TOYS FOR CHILDREN

TRENTON-Mercer CCYC, obsequió juguetes a varios padres y madres de familia que tienen niños pequeños. La entrega se hizo posible el martes 21 de diciembre a través de la cooperación de West Trenton Toys for Tots y miembros de US Marine Corps



### Deportivo Xela Vs. America FC

Por CARLOS AVILA

TRENTON-El indoor fútbol de mujeres es apasionante, las chicas juegan a todo dar con buen drible, aunque a veces caen lesionadas en el afán de hacer el gol, en la cancha del Club Boys & Girls de Trenton, NJ. El pasado domingo se enfrentaron los equipos de Deportivo Xela Vs. America FC. El equipo americano que viste de azul con blanco resultó ganador 1x0. Hay que recordar que America FC es el Campeón de Oro o y quiere en este invierno repetir la hazaña. Estaremos atentos a ver qué equipo tanto en varones como en damas alza la copa de Campeón.



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# Colombia un país enfermo

POR LAURA LUCIA RODRÍGUEZ PEÑA

La salud en varios países de América Latina es un privilegio. Si bien la salud está contemplada como un derecho la realidad es que muchos no tienen acceso a los servicios de salud y mucho menos de buena calidad.

En el caso de Colombia la salud es un privilegio al que acceden las personas que viven en las zonas urbanas y que pueden pagar por buenos servicios, ya que muchas veces la salud pública no llega a las zonas rurales y no da abasto para las necesidades de la población.

Incluso si se vive en una ciudad el sistema de salud está diseñado con cientos de obstáculos para las personas con bajos recursos y de clase media. En Colombia, la atención

en salud funciona a través de Entidades Promotoras de Salud (EPS) a las cuales las personas se afilian por medio de su empleador o deben pagar de su bolsillo.

Estas entidades determinan a que hospital puede ir el paciente y lo servicios a los que tiene acceso, a que doctores puede ver, los medicamentos, entre otras cosas. Tener una afiliación a una EPS de por sí es difícil para las personas, en especial, en zonas rurales donde los salarios tienden a ser por debajo de los estándares establecidos, pero la atención al cliente por parte de estas es lo que más deja que desear. Una persona puede esperar meses por una cita médica con un especialista solo por burocracia e ineficiencia de las entidades, esto en

muchos casos significa que el paciente puede morir esperando ser visto reclamar, denunciar todo con tal de



ente puede morir esperando ser visto

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por un médico. Cuando se tiene la suerte de poder tener una cita es posible que se quede esperando meses para obtener los medicamentos pues muchos de estos son autorizados por las EPS.

Quiero mencionar este tema pues recientemente en mi familia hemos tenido que sufrir de la incompetencia e inhumanidad del sistema de salud colombiano. Es inaudito que incluso la salud de un país se vea permeada por la corrupción, tanto así que las cosas funcionan mejor si se conoce a un médico o funcionario del hospital, de lo contrario es posible que el paciente pase desapercibido e ignorado por semanas. En Colombia hay que enojarse,

recibir un servicio de salud digno, y aún así eso no garantiza que se brinde con calidad.

No culpo a los médicos o personal de salud, sino al sistema incompetente y burocrático que se ha arraigado en la atención de la salud en Colombia. Pienso en los millones de familias que han tenido que sufrir en los últimos años por pacientes de COVID-19 y en los miles más con familiares con otros tipos de enfermedades, porque en Colombia no se lucha solo en contra de las enfermedades sino en contra de una salud clasista que está diseñada para que las clases más necesitadas y trabajadores sufran e incluso mueran. El derecho a salud se volvió un negocio del cual se benefician los más crueles.

En Colombia existe la posibilidad de hacer una denuncia mediante el mecanismo de tutela, sin embargo, esto no es garantía puesto que solamente entre enero y marzo del 2021 la Corte Constitucional recibió 330.535 tutelas pidiendo la protección del derecho a la salud ([El Tiempo, 2021](#)).

Colombia y muchos países de América Latina necesitan mejorar su sistema de salud para responder ante las necesidades de su población, en especial ante la emergencia sanitaria que ha creado la pandemia COVID-19. Mientras esto no ocurra, la desigualdad para recibir atención médica seguirá siendo evidente y cobrando la vida de miles de personas.

**Si quieres contribuir a The Nubian News Contacto 609 858-2777**





*The COVID-19 vaccine has been proven to be safe and effective for everyone age 5 and older, and Mercer County Executive Brian M. Hughes encourages you to get yours today. Join Mercer County to support equal care and vaccines for ALL people.*

## Vaccination Clinics (5 yrs and older)

### CURE Insurance Arena, Gate A, South Broad Street, Trenton

- \* Monday, Jan. 10, 9 am – 5 pm
- \* Tuesday, Jan. 11, 10 am – 6 pm
- \* Wednesday, Jan. 12, 9 am – 5 pm
- \* Monday, Jan. 17, 9 am – 5 pm
- \* Tuesday, Jan. 18, 10 am – 6 pm
- \* Monday, Jan. 24, 9 am – 5 pm
- \* Tuesday, Jan. 25, 10 am – 6 pm
- \* Wednesday, Jan. 26, 9 am – 5 pm
- \* Thursday, Jan. 27, 9 am – 5 pm
- \* Monday, Jan. 31, 9 am – 5 pm
- \* Tuesday, Feb. 1, 10 am – 6 pm
- \* Thursday, Feb. 3, 9 am – 5 pm

### Mercer County Office Park gymnasium, 1440 Parkside Ave., Ewing

- \* Friday, Jan. 7, 9 am – 5 pm
- \* Friday, Jan. 14, 11 am – 7 pm
- \* Wednesday, Jan. 19, 11 am – 7 pm
- \* Wednesday, Feb. 2, 11 am – 7 pm

### Pop-up Clinics

- \* Sunday, Jan. 9, 10 am – 5 pm, *Hollowbrook Community Center, 320 Hollowbrook Drive, Ewing.* No pediatric vaccine (ages 5-11).
- \* Thursday, Jan. 13, 3:30 – 7:30 pm, *1867 Sanctuary, 101 Scotch Road, Ewing.* No pediatric vaccine (ages 5-11).

*Vaccinations are FREE, regardless of immigration or insurance status. Walk-ins are welcome. The Johnson & Johnson, Moderna and Pfizer vaccines, including booster shots, are available at all of the above clinics.*



Clinic schedule is subject to change. For the most current vaccination schedule, visit [mercercounty.org](http://mercercounty.org) | [covid19.nj.gov/pages/finder](http://covid19.nj.gov/pages/finder)

# Nubian News Book Review

BY TERRI SCHLICHENMEYER

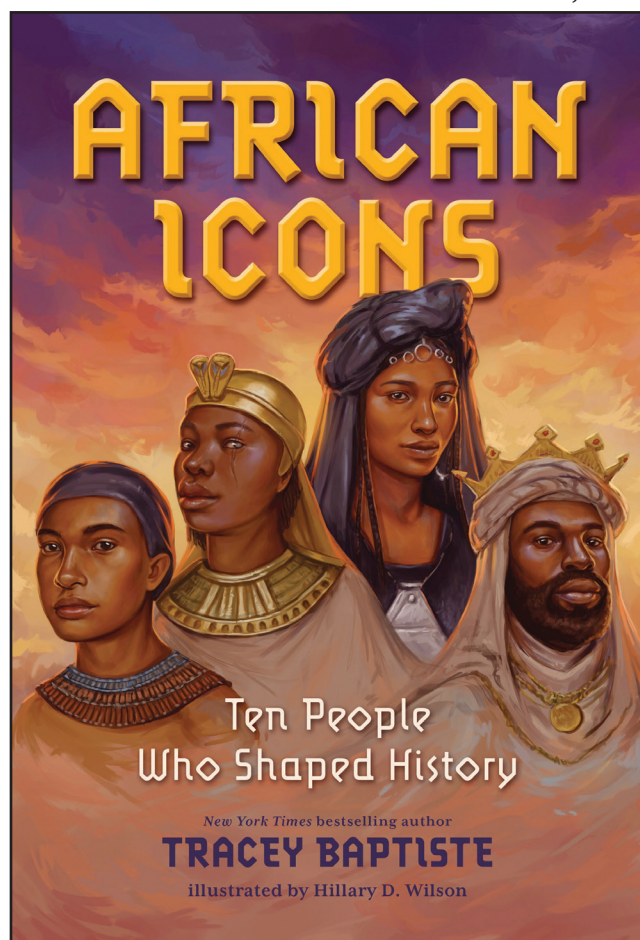
## “African Icons: Ten People Who Shaped History”

BY TRACEY BAPTISTE, ILLUSTRATED BY HILLARY D. WILSON

c.2021, Algonquin Young Readers  
\$19.95 / higher in Canada 176 pages

The stories you love best are filled with excitement and power.

Sometimes, they make you laugh; other times, they make you think. You like funny stories and silly ones, tales that make your eyes pop and tales that make your hands sweat.



You like the old fables, too, the ones that teach you something. So come meet warriors, rulers, writers, and schemers in “African Icons” by Tracey Baptiste.

When she was just a little girl, Baptiste’s father told her a story. Years later, she learned that what he told her was “one of the most popular stories throughout the continent of Africa” and that many of the tales she loved had roots there.

“Not only is Africa the second largest continent on Earth,” she says, but the its people have always had “rich lives,” a fascinatingly complex culture, and tales to tell.

For instance, one of the first large communities in Africa was established along the banks of the Nile River in Egypt. There were many “minor kings” there then but King Menes hoped to grow his kingdom, and he did it by conquering the areas

he wanted. Then he declared that the falcon god, Horus, had “bestowed the kingship of Egypt” on Menes himself – and who could argue with a god?

Queen Merneith, who was Menes’ granddaughter, grew up in luxury and comfort and was “raised to rule.” Alas, her brother, Djjet, ascended to the throne first but Merneith had the last word. She became one of her brother’s wives and when their son, Den, was ten years old, *he* became king and Merneith stepped in as regent. This gave Den the chance to learn to rule the kingdom, while Merneith held all the power.

Imhotep was a leader, but he was also a doctor, an advisor, and an engineer who built temples and tombs. Aesop was a wise storyteller whose tales you might’ve heard. Hannibal was a soldier who enjoyed many victories over Rome more than 2200 years ago. Terence of Carthage was an accomplished playwright. And Tin Hinan established a desert society where women and girls made the rules.

All those stories we all grew up hearing, all those wonderfully puzzling tales we read and re-read,

they had to come from somewhere. Author Tracey Baptiste says their roots lay in Africa and in “African Icons,” she explains how fables and legends are often real.

But if that sounds dry, hold up. It’s not, if you’re a kid.

Got a child who’s into action figures? This book will speak to that love, with general (not-too-detailed) tales of kingdoms conquered. Kids who crave stories of princesses, palaces, and magic carpets will be happy with this book’s sense of glitter and exoticness. Children who really love mummies will be fascinated by accounts of pharaohs and pyramid-builders in tales that are true, lively, kid-friendly, and fun to read, even if you’re an adult.

Still, the best audience for this book is much younger. For kids ages 8-14, “African Icons” may hold the stories they love best.

## “Sickening: Anti-Black Racism and Health Disparities in the United States”

BY ANNE POLLOCK

c.2021, University of Minnesota Press  
\$21.95 / higher in Canada 203 pages

Something inside isn’t working quite right.

Your stomach hurts, your lungs are on fire, you gurgle where you shouldn’t, and there’s a sharp pain where there wasn’t one yesterday. You’ve tried every home remedy there is, but something inside you isn’t right. So, as in the new book “Sickening” by Anne Pollock, will the inside of you

point for discussion about health disparities for Black Americans in modern times.

Not quite four years after Morris and Curseen died, Hurricane Katrina hit the southern coast of Louisiana, where “the impacts of the storm were most heavily borne by... residents who were Black and poor.” This includes those who lost access to or were denied medication, as well as those who were forced to shelter in unsanitary or overcrowded conditions.

Being imprisoned is notoriously bad for one’s health, but release, says Pollock, can likewise be detrimental to one’s well-being. You only need look as far as Flint, Michigan, to see what happens when a utility fails in a largely-Black community. Just trying to live in America can come with violence, if you’re young and Black; or injustice if you’re pregnant and Black. You can do what you can do to stay healthy but, as Pollock quotes a British journal, “being poor in America, and especially being poor and Black... is still hazardous to your health.”

There’s no doubt about it: “Sickening” is sobering.

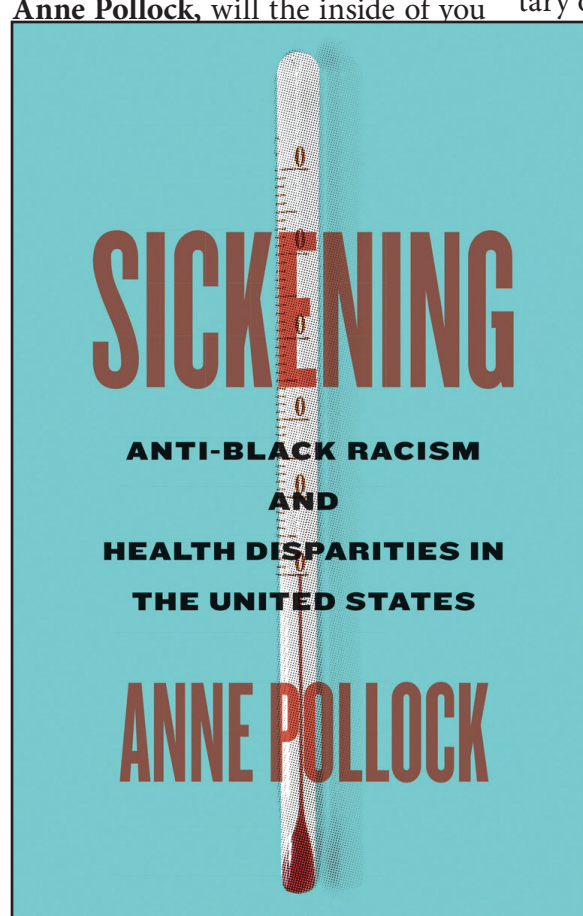
It’s made even more so by the fact that author Anne Pollock is a professor of global health and social medicine in

London, which widens the focus of everything she presents here.

Under that microscope is not a good place for America to be.

And yet, despite that the anecdotal evidence Pollock uses to prove health disparity for Blacks in the U.S. is shocking, it also feels like surface-skimming. These tales are nothing new – not news-wise, and certainly not to Black readers – but their presence in this thin, important book may leave the small, sometimes more impactful, tales to go untold. Readers deserve those tales, too; fortunately, Pollock’s “template for analysis” can help with deeper digging, and further learning.

Policy-makers would be well-served to read this book, as would students and activists who want a launching-off point. “Sickening” is a good, if not quite thorough, start; all you have to do is look inside...



be treated based on the color of your outside?

On October 21, 2001, Washington D.C. postal workers Thomas Morris and Joseph Curseen died from inhaled anthrax, a poison which authorities presumed had leaked from a package that was sent to a member of the Senate. Morris’ and Curseen’s co-workers believed that their workplace, which was staffed mostly by Black employees at that time, was contaminated in several places – and yet, despite the danger, “postal workers were repeatedly told that there was nothing to worry about.”

Before they died, both men sought medical help, but their concerns were dismissed.

Perhaps because of the proximity to 9/11, most white Americans were unaware of this incident, says Pollock. She sees this as a starting

# National Black Political Convention 2022

By AL ALATUNJI

Fifty years after the first National Black Political Convention in 1972, Newark will host the National Black

number of Black elected officials, increase representation and create a Black agenda for fundamental change in the lives of Black people in the US.



The 1972 historic gathering was primarily organized by Amiri Baraka, Sr., father of Mayor Baraka, Representative Charles Diggs, and one of the first Black mayors in the United States, Mayor Richard Hatcher of Gary, Indiana. In attendance were high-profile celebrities, public figures, and entertainers of the day, including Dr. Betty Shabazz, widow of Malcolm X, Coretta Scott-King, James Brown, Harry Belafonte, Richard Roundtree, and many others.

Convention from Thursday, April 28, 2022 to Sunday, May 1, 2022. The main site of the convention will be New Jersey Institute of Technology. The announcement of the historical event was made in November by Newark Mayor Ras Baraka who was joined in the announcement by Mayor Chokwe Antar Lumumba of Jackson, Mississippi, Jazz and R&B icon James Mtume, New Jersey Institute of Technology President Dr. Joel Bloom, and numerous other Black educators, activists, and community leaders.

The theme of the convention will be "Many roads, one destiny. Unity without uniformity."

The first National Black Political Convention, also known as the Gary Convention, was held March 10 to March 12, 1972, in Gary, Indiana. Approximately 10,000 Blacks gathered to discuss, debate, and advocate for Black people in the US. Part of the stated goal was to increase the

number of Black elected officials, increase representation and create a Black agenda for fundamental change in the lives of Black people in the US.

It was at the first Black Convention that the "The Gary Declaration: Black Politics at the Crossroads" was adopted which highlighted the Black Agenda. The Declaration stated "the Black Agenda is addressed primarily to Black people in America. It rises naturally out of the bloody decades and centuries of our people's struggle on these shores. It flows from the most recent surges of our own cultural and political consciousness. It is our attempt to define some of the essential changes which must take place in this land as we and our children move to self-determination and true independence.

The Black Agenda assumes that no truly basic change for our benefit

takes place in Black or white America unless we Black people organize to initiate that change. It assumes that we must have some essential agreement on overall goals, even though we may differ on many specific strategies.

Therefore, this is an initial statement of goals and directions for our own generation, some first definitions of crucial issues around which Black people must organize and move in 1972 and beyond. Anyone who claims to be serious about the survival and liberation of Black people must be serious about the implementation of the Black Agenda."

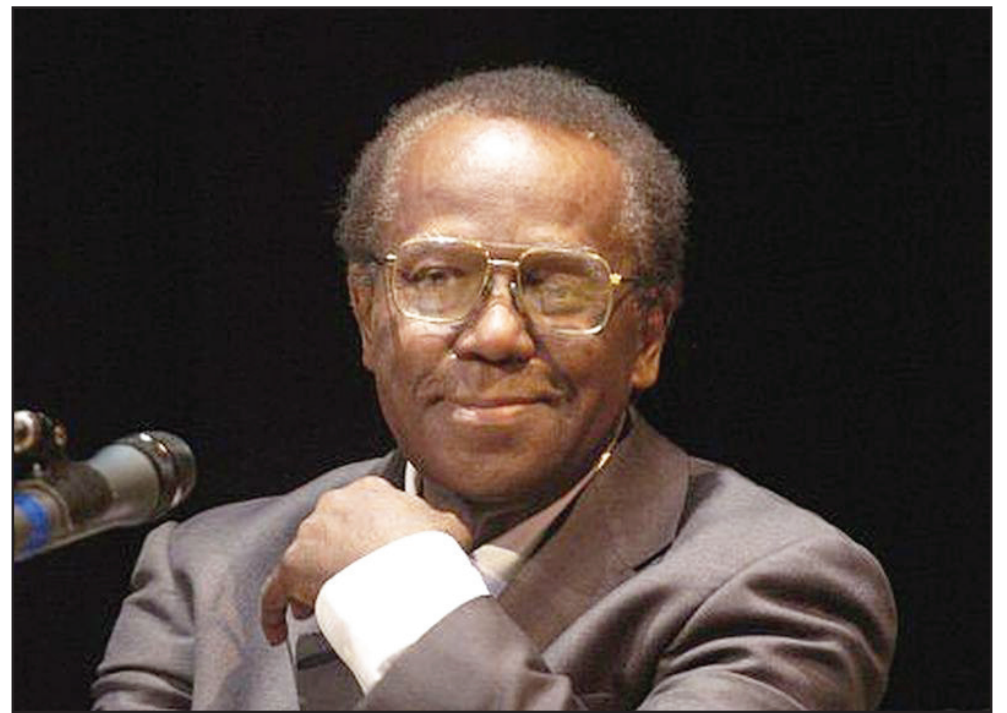
Speaking about the upcoming National Black Convention Mayor Ras Baraka said "It will be a critical space to create a new Black agenda. It is timely to have a real discussion about some of the issues we have

been grappling with and real debate." Mayor Baraka has served as Newark's mayor since his election in 2024.

"This conference will humbly try to launch that. Whether people believe it, understand it, feel like it or not, we are also a part of this country. It is just as much ours as anyone else's. If you didn't want us here, you never should have brought us here," stated Mayor Baraka.

The coming convention will occur on the 50th anniversary of the first Black Political Convention.

"Hopefully, my father is very happy we are doing the convention here," added Mayor Baraka, in reference to his late father, Amiri Baraka, Sr., poet, playwright and Pan-African extraordinaire of national and international fame



Richard Hatcher, former mayor of Gary, IN hosted the first National Black Political Convention, in March 1972. With more than 10,000 in attendance, including such notables as the Rev. Jesse Jackson, Rep. Charles Diggs, and writer/activist Amiri Baraka, Ras Baraka's father. Out of the convention came the *Gary Declaration*, which highlighted the urban crisis facing Black Americans and that a prime remedy for the problem was a shift to independent Black politics. There was also a demand for reparations, sounded by Ron Daniels, one of the event's key organizers.

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