



# The Nubian News

Loving the Black Perspective

## Say Her Name Sequoya Bacon-Jones

BY AL ALATUNJI

Black child, you can fill in the age, hit by stray bullet intended for someone else, ends up dead. Something's not right, way too many such stories.

In September 2021 it was the story of an eight year old Black girl named Fanta Bility, just a baby, murdered in a Philadelphia suburb not that far from Trenton. It was a story because of the girl's age.

Initially, when Fanta Bility was murdered it was reported that the killers were Black youth, that Fanta Bility had been at the wrong place at the wrong time and the guns that fired the bullets were held by Black hands. The truth would come out later that Fanta Bility died from shots fired recklessly by three police officers. Until that information came out there was no outcry, no community anger, no moral indignation from the Black community over Fanta Bility's death. The only reason the story gained attention was because of Fanta Bility's age.

On March 25, 2022, a nine year old Black girl named Sequoya Bacon-Jones, was hit by a stray bullet intended for someone else in Trenton while playing with her brother and other friends. Like Fanta, Sequoya, a fourth grade student at Parker Elementary School, was at the wrong place, at the wrong time. The wrong time, the wrong place because let's not perpetuate the fraud, it's as if Black lives really do not matter.

If Sequoya like Fanta had been several years older, there would not be a press conference where politicians running for re-election show up to express their supposed concern and emotion. Hate to be so cynical, but with all

the law enforcement brass and rank and file officers standing as prompts for photos next to politicians up for re-election this November came off staged. One is forced to wonder if this year was not an election year if such a demonstration of supposed concern would have taken place?

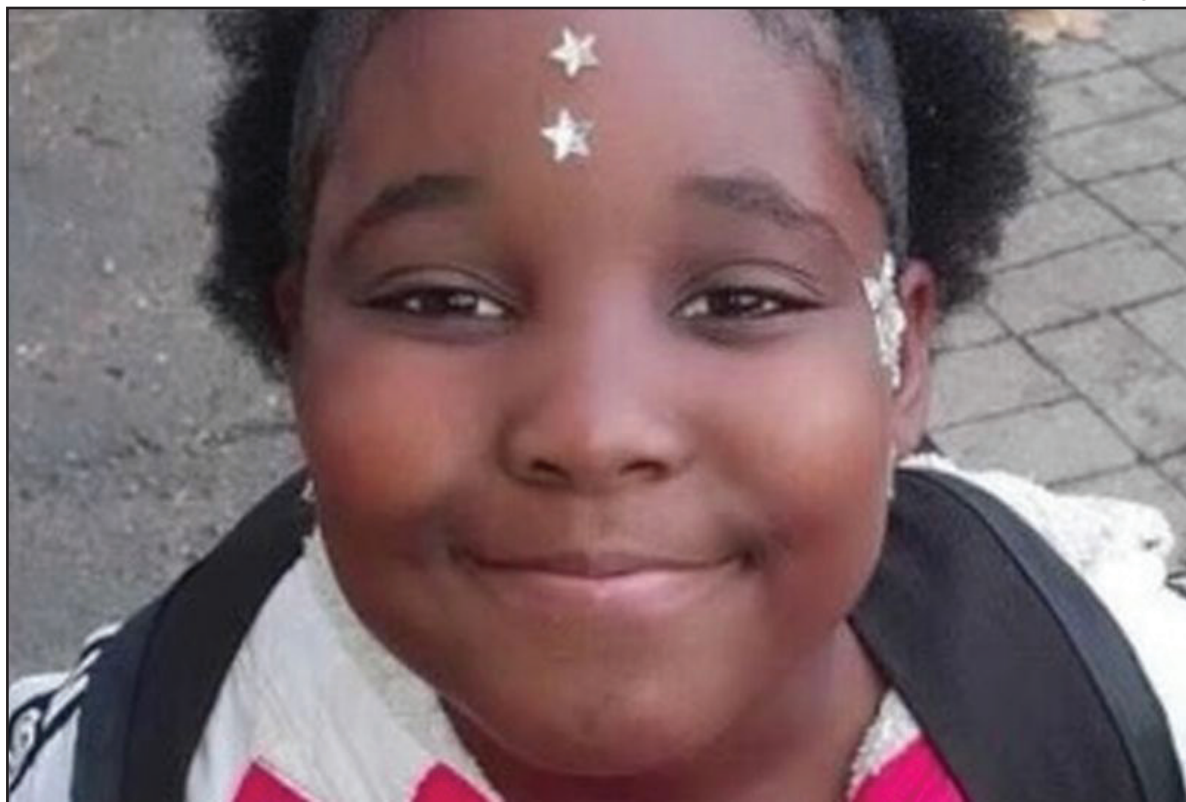
There was no full court press confer-

ence of Sequoya Bacon-Jones. There will be no fire and fury. There will be no community outcry. No anger, no indignation, no calls for accountability.

There will only be silence. Silence by Black politicians, silence by Black faith based leaders, silence by Black Lives Matter activists, silence by a

believed that Black lives matter, they would not kill each other without any concern or remorse.

Lets face it, as the saying goes sometimes the truth is true, as a Black parent and a Black grandparent you might not want to accept that Trenton may not be the right place and the right time to raise your youth.



When you have to stop a little league baseball game during the day and hustle 9, 10, 11 and 12 year old children off the ball field because of shots fired near the field something's not right. When you wonder about some fool firing a gun inside a gym where preteens and early teens are playing basketball something's not right. When you are in a house of religious worship and preparing to pray or sing you have to wonder if some lost soul is going to fire up the house of worship not with the Holy Ghost by bullets, something's not right.

There are too many guns and too many fools with guns walking the streets of Trenton. Press conferences after a

gun death where people express their condolences to the family and offer their prayers is not enough.

Sequoya Bacon-Jones is supposed to be playing with her family and friends today. The fact that she is not reflects our collective failure to insist that Black lives, Black lives like Sequoya Bacon-Jones do truly matter.

The Nubian News is outraged and condemns Sequoya Bacon-Jones' death. It also mourns, recognizes and celebrates Sequoya Bacon-Jones' life because Sequoya Bacon-Jones' life mattered.

ence for the 40 murdered victims last year and the 40 murdered victims in 2020 or for the other murdered victims this year.

If Sequoya would have been just a few years older it would be just another Black death caused by another Black person. "No story here, keep it moving."

Rev Al Sharpton and Rev Jesse Jackson will not be at Sequoya Bacon-Jones going home service. There will be no marching, no protesting. There will be no calls for justice from the Black leaders and activists for the murder

community which apparently accepts that their lives do not matter. Sequoya Bacon-Jones' death will be just another number, just another statistic.

Black Lives Matters is nothing more than a hashtag created by some creative, clever people who were able to launch careers and build bank accounts.

According to national crime data close to 90% of Black homicide victims were murdered by other Blacks. Those statistics say a lot about whether Black lives matter. If Blacks

**El Latin 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 Public Schools Named for Racists Renamed

By AL ALATUNJI

After a more than a three year public campaign to encourage, exhort, urge and demand the Trenton Board of Education rename Columbus Elementary School and Wilson Elementary School the Board finally agreed to act. According to an announcement released by the Trenton Board of Education it has asked the public to submit names for it to consider for the renamed schools. The Board will review the names submit-



ted to it by a review committee. The review committee will present at least three but no more than five names to the Board which will approve the new names for the two renamed schools at its April 2022 meeting. Once approved, the new name changes will take effect in July 2022.

"I have to say that I was completely surprised to see the announcement that the Trenton Board of Education was finally going to agree to rename Wilson and Columbus schools. It seemed like they didn't care that everywhere else in this country, even in the deep south, various public bodies were changing names of schools and other public buildings named for racists and other undesirables," stated a Trenton elementary school teacher who requested to remain anonymous. "Finally they decided to act. However, instead of allowing time for teachers and others to be able to develop contests and educational opportunities for their students and the public to be involved in the name changing process they want to rush the process," the teacher added.

The public, including The Nubian News, have been urging the Trenton Board of Education for more than two years to rename Wilson, Columbus, Jefferson, Washington and Grant schools.

Wilson Elementary School, is named after one time governor of New Jersey

and former US President Woodrow Wilson. Wilson was a straight up racist who, as president, oversaw the unprecedented segregation of the federal bureaucracy. The establishment of separate toilet facilities for federal government workers based on race in federal buildings occurred while he was president. The establishment of separate eating tables, dressing rooms, restrooms and lockers also took place under Wilson's administration, and yes he was fully

aware of it and did nothing to prevent it. Wilson's name on any school is an abomination and disrespects its students, especially where most of whom are minorities. Columbus Elementary is named after Christopher Columbus who, as taught in school,

America, without "discovered" pointing out his interactions with the Indigenous people he labeled "Indians". Such interactions included the use of violence and slavery, the forced conversion of native peoples to Christianity and the introduction of a host of new diseases that would have dramatic long-term effects on native people in the Americas.

"I hope the renaming of the two elementary schools is just a first step and that the Board does not feel its work is done and heads back for another long nap," stated another elementary school teacher and union official who also requested to remain anonymous. "They need to rename Jefferson, Washington and Grant schools," said the teacher and union official.

Washington and Grant were both slave owners. Thomas Jefferson was not only a slave owner, he was also a child rapist. If he was alive today, not only would his name not be on the school, but he would be barred by law from being near any school. Time to change all those names.

Congratulations to the community for continuing to be relentless in the pursuit of change and progress. Keep your foot on the pedal, your eyes and head high so your crown does not fall. Change can and will happen.

All power to the people, the struggle continues.

## COMPENSATORY-FUNCTIONAL DEFINITIONS

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

### Three (3) Basic Characteristics of White Supremacists

(By Comparison With, and In Relationship To, Non-White People)

1. Powerful
2. Smart, and/or Sophisticated
3. Malicious, and/or Hostile

#### Explanation:

The White Supremacists (Racists) are the most powerful of all of the people in the known universe. They are willing and able to dominate all non-white people, in all places in the known universe, and in all areas of activity.

The White Supremacists are smart. They are also very 'sophisticated'. They are not naive, or 'simple-minded'.

They are very misleading of others, and very clever in doing so. The White Supremacists are malicious. They are hostile. They willfully and deliberately practice great deceit, and great violence, against people classified as 'non-white'. They do this for purposes of maintaining permanent domination, and to 'glorify' 'White Supremacy' as being the best of all possible forms of existence.

### Three (3) Basic Characteristics of Non-White People

(By

Comparison With, and in Relation To, White People)

1. Powerless, and Pitiful

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## Kidney Disease, Dialysis And The Black Community

By AL ALATUNJI

The coronavirus pandemic shed light on the disparities in health care at every level, especially for Blacks. While the world continues its effort to beat back the coronavirus, in the United States Blacks and other people



of color are grappling with the pressure of yet another health concern to manage.

One of those concerns is a leading cause of death in the Black community, pre-COVID; and its implications often plague people for years, if not the rest of their lives.

Kidney disease is a cocktail of conditions that ultimately weakens or damages the kidneys over time. As the disease progresses, it can trigger other problems including heart disease, weak bones and nerve damage.

likely than their White counterparts to develop kidney failure.

Most people in the Black community know at least one person who is either on dialysis and in need of or has already received, a kidney transplant. As a result, many wind up on dialysis indefinitely as a primary form of treatment. When the kidneys are failing, the body has difficulty remaining chemically balanced and cleaning the blood system. Dialysis is used to rid the body of unwanted toxins, excrement and excess fluids by filtering their blood.

The cost of dialysis is not cheap. According to health.costhelper.com, for patients not covered by health insurance, a single hemodialysis treatment typically costs up to \$500 or more — or, about \$72,000 or more per year for the typical three treatments per week.

Unfortunately, kidneys for transplant are scarce. Unless there is someone willing to make a living donation, a person in need is looking at an average waiting period of two or three years. Racial disparities among kidney



It is important to note that two of the main causes of the disease are high blood pressure and diabetes, which according to the experts are responsible for two-thirds of cases.

Ironically, diabetes and high blood pressure are two of the leading causes of death in the Black community.

According to the National Institute of Diabetes and Digestive and Kidney Diseases, Blacks make up 13% of the total US population, but account for 35% of people diagnosed with kidney failure. They are also four times more

transplant recipients may be one of the reasons so many Black people end up on dialysis for prolonged periods of time. According to healthcare data, only 20% of Blacks suffering from kidney failure receive new kidneys.

Blacks need to be aware of the risk factors and visit their doctor or clinic regularly to check their blood sugar, blood pressure, urine protein and kidney function. For more information about kidney health visit kidney.org.

## Black Hearts Matters

By AL ALATUNJI

According to the US Department of Health and Human Services Office of Minority Health, Blacks in 2018 were 30% more likely to die from heart disease than non-Hispanic Whites.

According to healthcare experts, Blacks are particularly predisposed



to diabetes, hypertension, obesity and high cholesterol.

Access to healthcare is a contributing factor to Blacks' risk for heart disease. Some may reside in areas where travel to providers is difficult, and some may be skeptical of the healthcare system. Due to these factors, according to healthcare experts, it is important for Blacks to monitor their heart health and do what they can to prevent heart disease.

One of the biggest risk factors for heart disease is family history, according to healthcare experts. If anyone in a person's immediate family has had heart disease, healthcare and heart specialists point out, it is paramount for them to inform their healthcare provider. This may lead them to be more

aggressive in ensuring that the person's heart is healthy and lead them to put preventative measures in place, like medications and lifestyle modifications. Heart specialists maintain that in addition to family history, high blood pressure

and diabetes are also risk factors for heart disease. They point out that it is important for individuals to be know their hemoglobin A1C levels. More important, they also point out, is to learn how to keep levels as low as possible which can help modify the likelihood of developing heart disease.

Experts also maintain that It is also important for those with hypertension

to embrace lifestyle changes and accept and follow medication recommendations from their doctors.

According to heart specialists and healthcare experts eating foods that are high in saturated fats and trans fats can result in high cholesterol, another risk factor for heart disease.

In addition, the use of tobacco, sedentary lifestyle and obesity

can predispose individuals to heart disease. They suggest replacing red meat and poultry to reduce the risk of cardiovascular events with a whole-food plant-based diet. A diet which emphasizes healthy fats, fruits, vegetables, legumes and whole grains.

They also recommend putting down the remote control for at least 30

minutes a day. During those 30 minutes they recommended that individuals exercise at least five days a week so that during those 30 minutes of exercise the person keeps their heart rate up for the entire duration of the workout.

Heart specialists and healthcare experts found the symptoms of heart disease can be different in men and women. Men often have discomfort in the middle or to the left of their chest, and then the pain travels to their left arm. However, it's also possible for the pain to travel to the right arm. Women may experience pain in the neck or jaw. They may also complain of indigestion, nausea and vomiting, particularly after eating. Other signs of heart disease include shortness of



breath and heavy sweating, especially if these symptoms worsen with exertion and improve with rest.

If Blacks get heart disease they tend to get it worse than others. It can be fatal. The best outcome is for a person to do everything they can to avoid going down that road. Prevention is the best medicine.

Black hearts matter. Be strong, be safe, be healthy.

# Our Gold

## JO CAROLYN DENT-CLARK

BY KAREN HILTON

Jo Carolyn Dent-Clark was the 5<sup>th</sup> child born to William and Juanita Edwards in Los Angeles California, the only one of her siblings not born in Texas. Jo

entered Junior #3 because her aunt didn't want her to attend Jr. #5 which was the school for the district in which her family lived. Jo Carolyn was one of only twelve Black students at

agerial skills were developed. Jo Carolyn started off as a clerk typist, then became an action aide, then a community organizer and finally the personnel director. Jo was the personnel director when Henry J. Austin Health Center was established after she and others went to Washington to picket for funding for the center.

Jo Carolyn saw a notification in the newspaper about the Trenton school board and was interested because she wanted her children, who were attending parochial schools, to attend public schools. She was appointed Trenton school board president in 1979 and eventually was elected to that position twice.

Jo Carolyn left United Progress Incorporated and began working for State of New Jersey in 1978. She ran the Nation Council on Aging Program which was a senior citizen work program. She left state employment in 1981 and went to work for the county of Mercer for almost 5 years.

Jo Carolyn moved to California in 1985 because she was tired of Trenton. In a few weeks she secured a job in Los Angeles at the National Council of Aging. She also wrote a proposal for a grant and established a program for disabled citizens called OASIS which is still in operation today.

Jo Carolyn moved back to Trenton in 2006, the same year that her first husband Archie died suddenly. She was hired as Executive Director for ECHO, Inc. (Energetic Citizens Helping Others), a position she holds currently. ECHO has provided activities such as gospel jazz brunches and other programs for senior citizens which in-



cluded trips to Maine, Canada, New Hampshire, New Orleans, London and Paris among other places. Many senior citizens enjoyed ECHO's excursions to plays in New York, New Jersey and Pennsylvania before the pandemic halted most activities.

Energetic Citizens Helping Others, Inc. is closing in June and Jo Carolyn expresses that she is heartbroken because she literally carried the organization on her back to keep it open. "People age and they need to stay connected; they are at risk, especially in the times that we are living in now." Every thirty seconds, according to Jo Carolyn, a senior citizen is being scammed. Jo Carolyn will continue to help as many seniors as she can. This is her mission in life.



Carolyn's father drove a large truck and transported trees to support his family. William died two weeks after Jo Carolyn was born in his truck on the side of the road. Jo Carolyn's maternal grandfather sent for her mother and her siblings and they traveled by train to Texas and made their home in Texas when she was just nine months old. Juanita remarried and had two more children. Jo Carolyn was brought to New Jersey by her aunt Josephine Lewis at the age of four and a half and was raised in Trenton.

Jo Carolyn attended Trenton public schools. She skipped a few grades in elementary school because she was "advanced" and as a 7<sup>th</sup> grader

that school at that time. She graduated from Trenton Central High and then began her college education at Cheyney University in Pennsylvania. Her education was cut short because Jo married a man she met at Trenton High, Archie Dent, and started having a family. There were four children born to Jo Carolyn and Archie-Jimmy (deceased), Sean, Tina and Jacqui. Jo Carolyn also has 7 grandchildren.

Eventually Jo Carolyn finished her education and earned a degree in business. She worked for UPI (United Progress Incorporated), Trenton, where she managed programs and called herself a "a success of the poverty program" because it was at UPI where her man-



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## Crohn's Disease and Ulcerative Colitis Update: Latest Treatment Options

Thursday, April 7, 2022 | 6 p.m.

Location: Zoom Meeting



If you or a loved one are living with Crohn's disease or ulcerative colitis, new treatment options are available to help manage your condition. Join **DR. ANIL BALANI**, a board certified, fellowship trained gastroenterologist, to find out what options may be best for you and learn how to optimize currently available treatments as well.

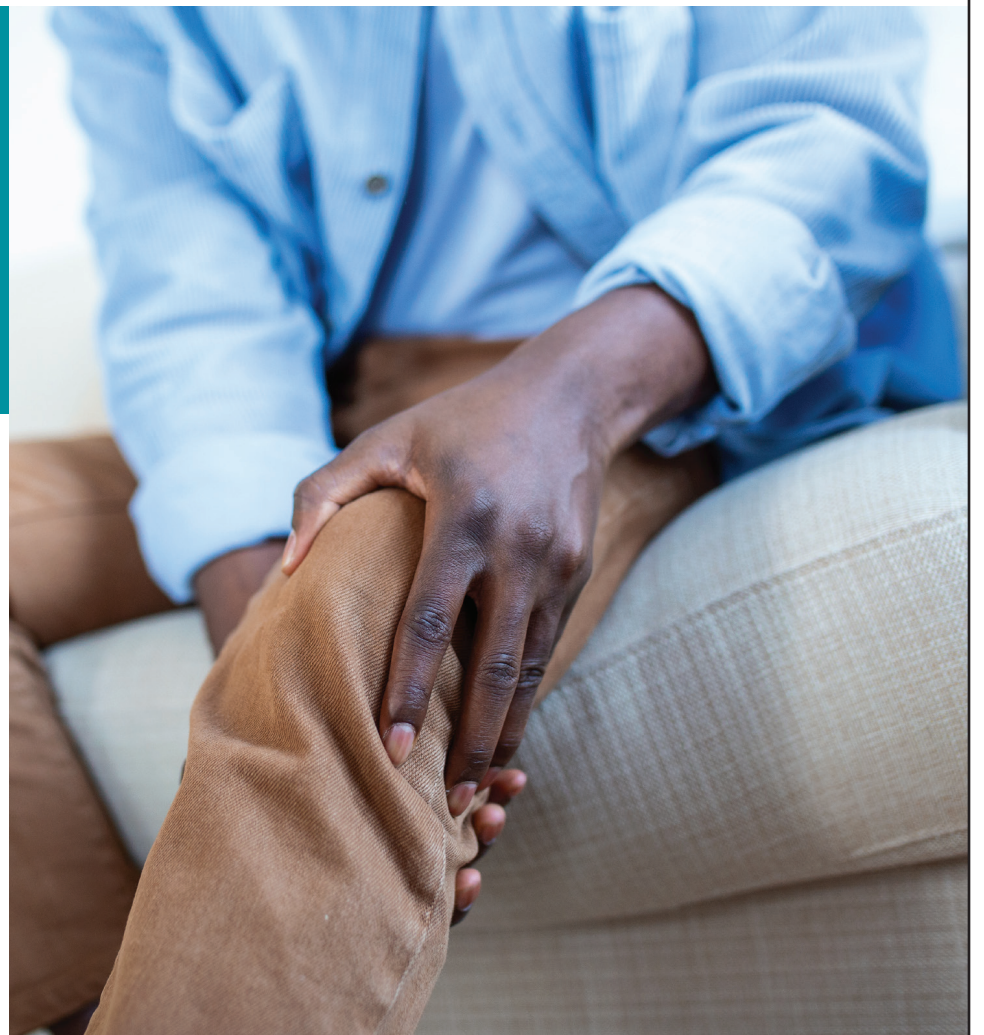
## Home Sweet Home: Outpatient Joint Replacement at Capital Health

Wednesday, April 13, 2022 | 6 p.m.

Location: Zoom Meeting



Arthritis can slow you down if you let it, but there are ways to stay active as you age. Join **DR. ARJUN SAXENA**, a fellowship trained and board certified orthopedic surgeon from Rothman Orthopaedics Institute and director of the Marjorie G. Ernest Center for Joint Replacement, to learn more about outpatient hip and knee replacement at Capital Health. Dr. Saxena will discuss hip and knee arthritis and the latest treatment options available.



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# 'PURA VIDA'

## CHAVES ES EL FLAMANTE PRESIDENTE ELECTO DE COSTA RICA

Por CARLOS AVILA

COSTA RICA-Rodrigo Alberto de Jesús Chaves Robles es el electo presidente de Costa Rica. En su discurso de aceptación de los resultados de

trabajó como director de país del Banco Mundial para Indonesia y países de América, Europa y Asia. Chaves fue anteriormente Ministro de Hacienda durante la Presidencia de

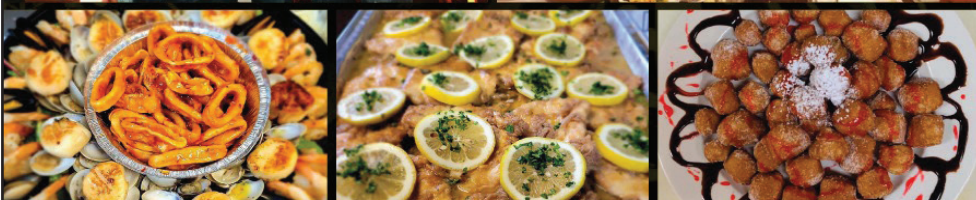


las elecciones, afirmó que Costa Rica es de las mejores democracias del mundo . Chaves prometió un "cambio" en el país y luchar contra la corrupción en todos los niveles del gobierno. Chaves, del Partido Progreso Social Democrático (centro derecha), obtuvo el 52,9% de los votos para derrotar al expresidente José María Figueres Olsen, del tradicional Partido Liberación Nacional. Chaves Robles, nació el 10 de junio de 1961. Tienen un Ph. D. en Economía,

Carlos Alvarado Quesada. En 1992, antes de completar su doctorado, el Instituto para el Desarrollo Internacional de la Universidad de Harvard le ofreció una beca de cuatro meses para realizar una investigación de campo sobre la pobreza, la pobreza rural, la microempresa y la mediana empresa en Indonesia. Cuando terminó su doctorado, el Banco Mundial le ofreció un trabajo para la publicación de su investigación. Chaves asumirá su cargo el próximo 8 de mayo de 2022.

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## ENCUENTRO CON PADRES DE FAMILIA

Trenton Public Schools

Por CARLOS AVILA

TRENTON-El Distrito Escolar de Trenton viene realizando una serie

sábado 2 de abril la Dirección de Educación estuvieron en la Trenton Central High School. La actividad se realizó desde las 8:30 am hasta la una de la tarde. Una actividad similar se realizó el sábado 19 de marzo pero según indicaron las organizadoras no hubo una mayor asistencia de los padres de familia.



En este sentido pidieron a los padres que por favor acudan a este tipo de eventos ya que ahí tienen los padres de familia la oportunidad de conocer sobre los servicios y recursos que hay disponibles

de eventos con el propósito de tener un acercamiento con los padres de familia que tienen niños en las diferentes escuelas de Trenton. El pasado

para que sus hijos e hijas aprovechen durante el año escolar. Además es en estos eventos que usted puede preguntar sobre los programas y cambios que se realizan en el distrito escolar.

## Diaz one of the greats who will not be at the 2022 Qatar World Cup



The Colombian player Luis Diaz is playing wonderfully for Liverpool. Last week he scored a great goal that could be crucial for his Liverpool team to go in search of the semifinal in the League of Champions. The skilled Colombian attacker was one of the great players who should have been in the Qatar 2022 World Cup. The Colombian national team did not qualify for the Qatar 2022 World Cup, so we will miss seeing this and other good players in action who did not qualify with their national teams for the FIFA World Cup that will begin on November 21 in Qatar 2022.

## SOLIDARIDAD Alba Luz: agradezco por la ayuda

POR CARLOS AVILA

TRENTON-Alba Luz Orellana madre de familia agradece a las personas de buen corazón que tuvieron ese gesto de generosidad y ayudaron económi-



camente para poder solventar algunos gastos que requiere cuidar a su hermano Pablo (33), quien quedó en coma tras recibir un fuerte batazo en su cabeza, en un altercado que tuvo lugar el pasado mes de marzo, hecho que aún está en proceso de investigación.

Tras unas semanas de estar hospitalizado en cuidados intensivos los doctores del hospital le pidieron que firme un papel para desconectarle de

la máquina que le mantenía sobreviviendo, pero Alba se negó, según dio a conocer y hoy antes de el cierre de esta edición Alba manifestó que su hermano Pablo milagrosamente “ya empezó a hablar y abrió sus ojos” según indicó vía telefónica. Alba indica también que el hospital le ha entrenado para que ella mismo pueda cuidar y ayudar a su hermano en su recuperación en su apartamento. El futuro para esta familia que llegaron de Honduras es incierto por que cuidar a 5 niños y un hermano en esa condición no será cosa fácil, así que es importante que la comunidad este atenta para ayudarla en lo que se pueda. El llamado es a las organizaciones sin fines de lucro y asociaciones cívicas para que ayuden a esta joven madre de familia que está pasando un momento complicado. Alba agradece de antemano a las personas de buen corazón que ya se han manifestado con ese gesto de generosidad.

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## Proposal Introduced To Save Black Motorist Lives

BY AL ALATUNJI

The provisions of Assembly Bill 3603 sponsored by New Jersey Assemblywoman Shanique Speicht (D-Essex) would require law enforcement officers to issue a citation by first class mail to the registered owner of the motor vehicle for certain motor vehicle violations observed by the officer instead of initiating a motor vehicle stop.

According to Assemblywoman Speicht, the intent of her bill is to reduce the loss of Black lives at the hands of law enforcement officers by using technology to reduce pretextual stops. This would prevent a driver being detained for a minor infraction while a law enforcement officer looked for evidence of a more serious crime.

Assemblywoman Speicht points out that in analyzing police data of motor vehicle stops, multiple studies have found support for the "veil of darkness" theory." According to the theory, as the sun sets it becomes more difficult to determine the race of the driver. As a result, the percentage of Black drivers stopped by law enforcement officers for motor vehicle violations decreases significantly, with a 10 to 15 percent decrease in many jurisdictions.

Assemblywoman Speicht also pointed out these motor vehicle stops of Black drivers are dubious and spurious. Sandra Bland was stopped for failing to signal a turn. Philando Castile was stopped because his brake light was out, the last of his 52 stops by police. Eric Garner was stopped for selling loose cigarettes. Duante Wright was stopped for expired tags.



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None of these individuals, Assemblywoman Speicht states, survived their encounters with law enforcement. "This disproportionate targeting of Black drivers by the police is the State action that the Fourteenth Amendment to the United States Constitution was adopted to address," stated Assemblywoman Speicht.

Her bill would provide that any photographs or video from a law enforcement officer's mobile video recording system depicting the alleged violation are to be made available to the registered owner of the motor vehicle. A citation is required to be issued and sent by the law enforcement agency to the registered owner of the motor vehicle within seven days from the date on which the alleged violation occurred.

In addition, photographs of the alleged violation and information regarding how to access video of the alleged violation also are required to be sent with the citation.

Under the bill, law enforcement officers are to initiate a motor vehicle stop for the following motor vehicle violations: racing on a highway; improper passing on right or off the roadway; improper passing in a no passing zone; tailgating; reckless driving; use of a handheld cellphone or electronic communication device while driving; speeding when the driver exceeds the posted speed limit by 30 miles per hour or more; leaving the scene of an accident; and driving while intoxicated.

In addition, the bill provides that a law enforcement officer may initiate a motor vehicle stop following an observed motor vehicle violation if there is a risk to public safety as a result of the violation. A law enforcement officer may also initiate a motor vehicle stop if there is an outstanding warrant for the arrest of the registered owner of the motor vehicle or the law enforcement officer has reasonable cause to believe the driver of the motor vehicle has committed a crime.

**It's a damn shame, there has to be a law specifically to stop police from killing Black people. What does that say about the police? About this country?**



# Climate Change

## What a Deadly Joke

The year was 1971 and Marvin Gaye thrilled the world with his phenomenal album "What's Going On". Young men were dying in a strange land for what seemed like no reason. At home, kids were killed for protesting and speaking out. Marvin asked the country leadership, what is going on?

In that same phenomenal album he asked another question - Who really cares? He sang about Save The Children. He wanted to know if anyone



really cared about saving a world that was destined to die. A world, at the time, we were killing.

He said, There'll come a time (There'll come a time)

When the world won't be singing (When the world won't be singing)

Flowers won't grow (flowers won't grow, no)

Bells won't be ringing (the bells won't be ringing)

Who really cares? (Who really cares?)  
Who's willing to try? (Who is willing to try?)

To save the world, (to save the world)  
That's destined to die (that is destined to die)?

The United Nations' Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change issued their report Monday. The report stated if we did not reach specific benchmarks in three years it would be too late and mankind would suffer massive harm in the years to come.

The children, the very children Marvin Gaye sang about 50 years ago will suffer the effects of climate change that our continued use of carbon producing produces has created.

But does anybody really care? We've known about deadly carbon dioxide and methane's effects on the planet for generations. And for those many years little has been done to cut back on their use.

It's like this and past generations are saying, 'the hell with our children and grandchildren.' Who really cares about a world that is destined to die?

UN Secretary General António Guterres 'insisted that unless governments everywhere reassess their energy policies, the world will be

uninhabitable.'

He predicted, "unprecedented heatwaves, terrifying storms, widespread water shortages and the extinction of a million species of plants and animals".

The UN chief added: "This is not fiction or exaggeration. It is what science tells us will result from our current energy policies. We are on a pathway to global warming of more than double the 1.5-degree (Celsius, or 2.7-degrees Fahrenheit) limit" that was agreed in Paris in 2015.

Mr. Guterres described the latest IPCC report as "a litany of broken climate promises", which revealed a "yawning gap between climate pledges, and reality."

In an op-ed in the Washington Post he wrote that high-emitting governments and corporations, were not just turning a blind eye, "they are adding fuel to the flames by continuing to invest in climate-choking industries. Scientists warn that we are already perilously close to tipping points that could lead to cascading and irreversible climate effects."

"It's now or never, if we want to limit global warming to 1.5°C (2.7°F); without immediate and deep emissions reductions across all sectors, it will be impossible," said Jim Skea, Co-Chair of IPCC Working Group III, which released the latest report.

Guterres went on, "Some government and business leaders are saying one thing but doing another," he said. "Simply put, they are lying."

Now or never. The world will be uninhabitable. And the results will be catastrophic.

These are the words and phrases used to describe the situation we are in and they have gotten almost no response from any leader in this country. With words like these used to describe the condition we are in you would think there would be a hue and a cry to do something and to do something dreatic.

But no, Trenton has two major newspapers and hardly a word was spoken about this report. Television news-casts gave the story about 15 seconds. So after 50 years we're still asking "Who Really Cares?"

And in this racist world the images they want us to focus on are of impoverished Africa instead of the white west which had done most of the damage to the world. As Michael Jackson said, "They Don't Really Care About Us".

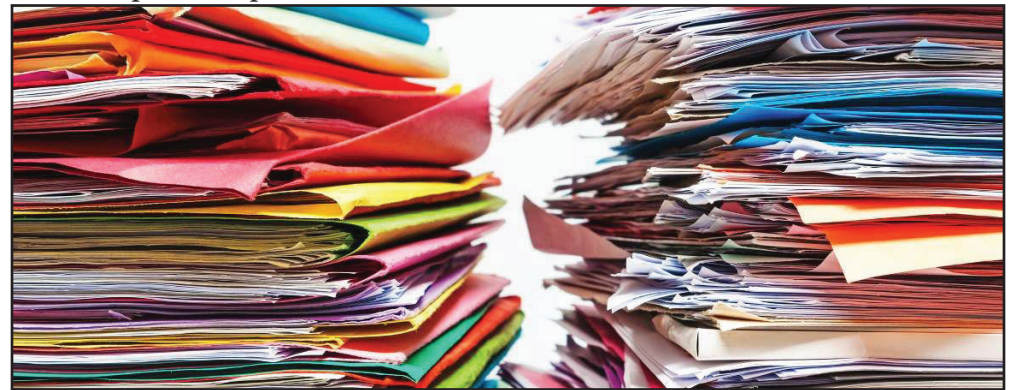
## NJ Supreme Court Decision Allows Public Access To Police Internal Affairs Reports

BY AL ALATUNJI

The New Jersey Supreme Court, on March 14, ruled that the internal affairs reports should be released publicly and gave guidance on how courts should handle future requests for documents that have long been cloaked in confidentiality. The high court, in a 6-0 decision, actually ruled that such reports are not disclosable under the state's Open Public Records Act but they "can and should" be disclosed under common law when public interest outweighs confidentiality concerns.

The Supreme Court sided with common law disclosure, but the decision is not a blanket for any such report to sail out of a New Jersey police department.

The court laid out several benchmarks for trial courts to consider when confronted with such a request to balance public disclosure against confidentiality. They include, the nature and seriousness of the misconduct, whether it was substantiated, the discipline imposed, the officer



or official's position and their prior record of misconduct, the high court wrote.

If the report is made public, appropriate redactions should be made, like names of complainants, witnesses, informants and cooperators, and personal identifying information about officers and others, such as their home addresses and phone numbers. The State Supreme Court ruling was the result of a case the court reviewed of an ex-Elizabeth police director who had been the subject of an internal affairs investigation. The ex-Elizabeth director resigned in May 2019, shortly after an internal affairs investigation found he used racial and sexist slurs against staffers for years, and called Black and female employees the n-word and c-word.

The ex-Elizabeth police director had been the civilian director for just over 20 years following a 31-career as a Newark police officer.

Former NJ police officer and open

public records advocate Richard Rivera requested a copy of the internal affairs report of the ex-Elizabeth police director investigated and produced by the Union County



Prosecutor's Office - via the Open Public Records Act and common law requests. However, Rivera's request for the internal affairs report was denied by the prosecutor's office citing confidentiality of witnesses' expectation of privacy and their ability to conduct future, similar investigations.

Rivera sued and the City of Elizabeth eventually joined the legal action as

the case was heard at the trial and appellate levels which examined both the Open Public Records Act and common law arguments.

A trial court first ruled the report should be made available under the Open Public Records Act. An appellate court reversed that decision and found the report non-disclosable for other Open Public Records Act grounds, and rejected Rivera's common law claims.

The State Supreme Court however overturned the appellate court's decision and sided with Rivera and the City of Elizabeth allowing for internal affairs reports to be open to public disclosure.

Public disclosure advocates hail the NJ Supreme Court decision as being similar to the Supreme Court's Lyndhurst decision, in 2017, which unclocked police dash camera footage using common law, and now such footage is regularly released to the public upon request.

# Nubian News Book Review

BY TERRI SCHLICHENMEYER

## “The Trayvon Generation”

BY ELIZABETH ALEXANDER

c.2022, Grand Central Publishing  
\$22.00 - 160 pages

Your children never miss a thing. Nothing escapes their notice. They watch below and overhead, spotting objects you’ve passed by a dozen times but never truly saw. From birth and beyond, they’re like sponges, observant and watchful and, as in the new

points at artwork and paintings that hang in esteemed places, but that feature uncomfortable or even outrageous backgrounds that often go unnoticed, or that take decades to change, once they’re seen.

And we go back to what’s seen: Alexander calls her sons and Black people under twenty-five the “Trayvon Generation.” They’re the youth whose names are called when we talk

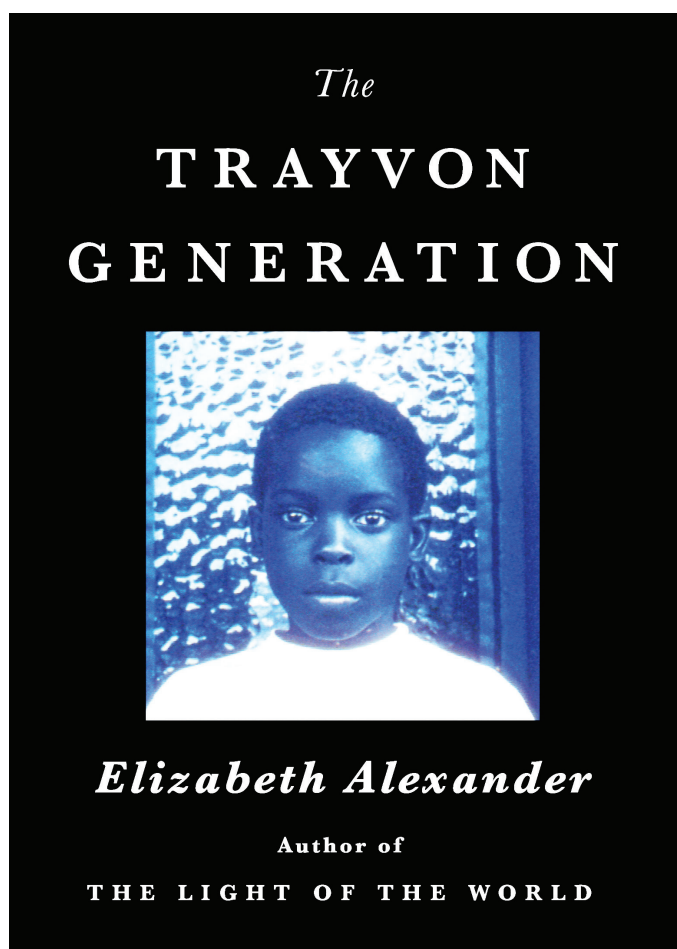
about the police, and the young people whose names we don’t know. We see, and still wonder how a mother can keep her children from being “demonized,” or teach them “to access the sources of strength that transcend this American nightmare of racism and... violence.” How can she protect them, when they, themselves, are used to assuming “responsibility for the horror they could not prevent”?

“I wish,” she says, “... for our young people rest from the unending labor that is race work, and from the spectral anxiety that is part of what it is to be Black.”

How do you mark your pages when you read a book? Whatever you use, have a lot of them on hand because nearly every other paragraph of “The Trayvon Generation” contains a sentence or three that you’ll want to remember, to re-read, or turn over in your mind.

Author Elizabeth Alexander uses personal stories, Black literature, history, racial violence, and current events to paint pain inside the pages of this book. There’s outrage here, too, but it’s different than perhaps anything you’ve read: it shows itself, then it sits back and waits to see what a reader will do before getting another punch or gasp, another George Floyd, another Angola, another “shock of delayed comprehension.”

That’s what makes this book so must-readable, so thoughtful and compelling. It’s what makes it something you’ll want to share with your older teenager and your friends, for discussion. Find “The Trayvon Generation,” and you won’t miss a thing.



book, “The Trayvon Generation” by Elizabeth Alexander, you wish for them better things to see.

Though it’s been a four-hundred-year struggle, the number-one problem of this century, says Alexander, is still “the color line.” Generations have done “the race work,” but it remains an issue and she “both lament[s] and is “enraged that... our young people still have to wrestle with” it.

She grew up “in troves of blackness,” but Alexander’s children were raised in a neighborhood where someone sent out a watch message about two Black boys riding around on bikes. As the mother of those boys, now men, she knows the worry, the dreams about worrying, and the fear of not being able to keep them safe.

As a Black mother, it’s impossible to “fully protect our children,” she believes.

Part of the problem is that we don’t always see white supremacy when it’s hidden right in front of us. Alexander

## “The First, The Few, The Only: How Women of Color Can Redefine Power in Corporate America”

BY DEEPA PURUSHOTHAMAN

c.2022, Harper Business  
\$28.99

235 pages

There’s no one like you.

For most of your life, you’ve been told how unique you are, how wonderful,

be sure that you’re sending the right lessons to the next generation.

Take care of yourself “When Your Mind and Body Speak.” Look for your own joy, know the detrimental effects of racism, and ignore the urge to “work harder” just because of your skin color. Don’t feel the need to “represent.” Know what to do about those microaggressions you seem to hear constantly.

And finally, seize “The Power of We.” Find your community in the corporate world at large. Be open to learning, and changing “the game” from within. Know what six things to ask yourself if you’re thinking about a new job. And never forget who you are.

Says Purushothaman, WOC “need to work together... in Corporate America to create what comes next.”

Though it can be a little on the new-agey side and it’s probably full of information you already know, “The First, The Few, The Only” is a pretty good book to have around.

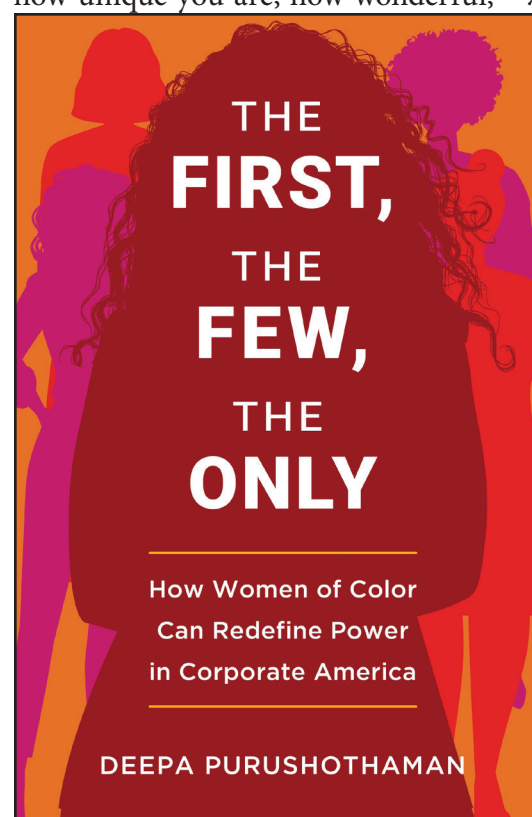
Consider it as a place for confirmation, if you’re a WOC: author Deepa

Purushothaman speaks directly to your experiences and she offers sympathy and camaraderie, somewhat like a cathartic Happy Hour, but in book form. There’s advice here that you can use, including tips for those hours when you aren’t working.

You can also consider this a primer if you’re not a woman and/or not of color. Supervisors, CEOs, and business owners who want to do better have a place to start here, with a dive into things you don’t know, things you shouldn’t do, and irritations your new employee probably won’t tell you. “The First, the Few, the Only” is a book to read on your lunch break, or to let your boss see you reading, if you dare. Or if you work with WOC, learn and be better. There’s nothing like it.

\* \* \*

Here’s another book that women will want to read: “Women Talk Money” by Rebecca Walker. It’s a book – a series of essays – about our financial points-of-view, how money shapes our relationships as well as our entire lives, and how different women in different situations deal with money and the lack thereof.



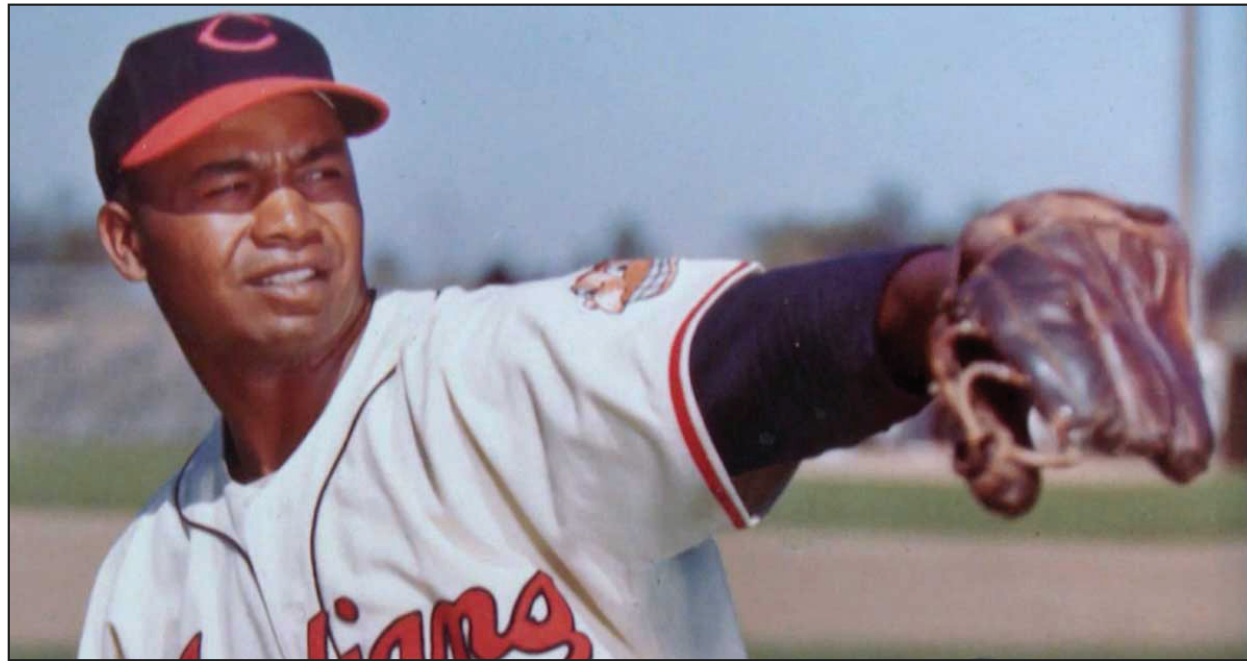
how important, all true. You’re one of a kind, singular, you’re like no one else on Earth. And in the new book, “The First, The Few, The Only” by Deepa Purushothaman, that probably goes at work, too.

Most workplaces were made for men. If you’re a woman, you already know this. It’s evident in the height of the counters, the number of permanent walls in the office, and the temperature of its rooms. But for Women of Color (WOC), that statement is keener, especially if you’re the first WOC in your workplace, one of a few, or the only WOC there now. So with no other WOC to bounce ideas with, no been-there-done-that work friends to hash things through, how do you survive and thrive at work?

Says Purushothaman, there are three main ways.

First, “Find Your Power.” Eliminate delusions that you or your bosses may hold, and hear the messages you’re getting. They can see you, when it comes to hiring. You can fit in without losing a part of yourself. Closely notice the lessons you’ve learned from your family and your culture, and

## NJ Parkway Service Center Renamed For Larry Doby, First Black American League Baseball Player



BY AL ALATUNJI

Jackie Robinson is renowned as the player who broke through baseball's color barrier, becoming the first Black player to play for the National

League Brooklyn Dodgers. Yet, there is another Black baseball player from New Jersey that broke barriers as well. Larry Doby, of Paterson, New Jersey, the first Black player to break the color

barrier in the American League is getting overdue recognition and some home state love from the Garden State Parkway.

Recently, the Brookdale Service area in Bloomfield, NJ was renamed in Larry Doby's honor. It commemorates Doby's career with the Cleveland Indians to become the first Black player in the American League, signing with the major league ball club in 1947. It was just 11 weeks after Jackie Robinson signed with the

Dodgers, according to his NJ Hall of Fame biography.

Larry Doby was inducted to the Baseball Hall of Fame in 1998 and named to the New Jersey Hall of Fame in

2010.

He was born in South Carolina, but started his baseball career playing for Eastside High in Paterson. His pro career started as an infielder for the Negro League Newark Eagles. After a break to serve in the Navy during World War II, Doby returned to the Newark Eagles in 1946 and lead them to a Negro League championship.

His career was impressive, being the first Black player to hit a World Series home run in 1948 to help the Indians beat the Boston Braves in six games. He was named an All-Star player seven times and spent his career in the AL central division, playing for the Chicago White Sox and Detroit Tigers.

Larry Doby quietly suffered the same indignities and racism as Jackie Robinson, but didn't receive the same media attention for it. Doby continued to make history after his playing career ended, becoming the second Black manager in 1978, managing his first team, the Indians. He died in Montclair, NJ in 2003.

## NJ Segregated Public Schools

BY AL ALATUNJI

New Jersey is America's sixth-most segregated state for Black students and the seventh-most segregated for Latino students, according to a 2017 analysis by the Civil Rights Project at UCLA. Because of the dearth of affordable housing outside low-income urban areas, many minority children are subject to de facto segregation.

Some observers have pointed out that despite the attempt to present NJ as a supposedly Northern icon of progressive values it is actually a study in old South-style segregation. These observers further point out that state laws, policies and practices that

require students to attend schools in the geographic locations where they live, deny students in isolated, lower-income areas — who are overwhelmingly Black and Latinx — opportunities to attend schools outside of their communities.

Statewide numbers covering a five-year period from 2015 to 2020 reveal the following: Black Students on average, 54,108 Black students (26.0 percent) attended public schools that were over 99 percent non-white, and 48,389 Black students (23.2 percent) attended public schools which were 90 percent to 99 percent non-white. On average 129,316 Blacks students (62.0 percent) attended schools that were

more than 80 percent non-white, and 137,977 Black students (66.2 percent) attended schools that were 75 percent non-white. Latinx students on average, 60,540 Latinx students (15.7 percent) attended schools that were at least 99 percent non-white, and 112,953 Latinx students (29.2 percent) attended public schools which were 90 percent to 99 percent non-white. On average, 224,901 Latinx students (58.2 percent) attended schools that were more than 80 percent non-white, and 239,570 Latinx students (66.0 percent) attended schools that were 75 percent non-white.

According to educational opportunity advocates the stats show obvious segregation and point to a system that does not give people a choice

and create opportunities for people to cross district lines to find better schools for their children.

These educational opportunity advocates admit that finding a solution to the problem of school segregation in NJ would be difficult, complicated and challenging. A remedy would require legislative and executive action. They point out however that NJ and the US should be in the business of tackling what's difficult in order to achieve justice.

The State Constitution requires that all students receive a thorough and efficient education. It is time for the State government to ensure that its State Constitution is more than just a mere piece of worthless paper. It is time for NJ to desegregate its schools.

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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

### CONTACT US

Trenton Deliverance Center

1100 South Clinton Ave

Trenton, NJ 08611

609.989.9890

TDCChurch@tretondeliverancecenter.org

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