

Truth Matters NP

Lookingleftnj.com

Independent News and Views

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Welcome to the first issue of New Providence's independent news and views newsletter.

This newsletter is affiliated with the Facebook page "Truth Matters New Providence" and the developing web page "lookingleftnj.com".

The motivation for this page is to provide people of New Providence with a source of information that is not tied to any political party or control by outside forces. The

designer of this newsletter is Allen Swanson and helpers New Providence, NJ. We intend to provide factual information and views that may be characterized as "progressive" or from the "left". We are most interested in providing information about a number of topics. We hope to generate discussion, questions, answers, and action. On these pages and the associated web pages we hope to provide insight into issues you may not see on other pages or sites. We

approach this first issue with the expectation that our effort will evolve over time as interests and issues change. So here we go. I hope you find the information provided interesting and stimulating.



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Short Takes

The Democratic National Committee voted down a resolution endorsing a climate crisis debate among the Presidential candidates. Many environmental groups had urged their members to demand the DNC sponsor such a debate to no avail.

Walmart announced, August 3rd, that they would stop selling many types of ammunition. What was the response from the NRA: "It is shameful to see Walmart succumb to the pressure of the anti-gun elites." Maybe, Walmart was thinking about the people killed in their store

McKrae Game, founder of one of the country's largest "conversion therapy" programs (aka, scare the gay out of you), came out as gay, apologizing for the harm he did.
Sept. 4, 2019

Mayor and Council prefer state-imposed plastics ban

On June 10, 2019 Mayor Morgan and the New Providence Borough Council were asked to consider a ban on plastic bag waste in the borough.

Mayor Morgan in his response to the issue said: "There are a few towns who have done this. . . it's really a regional and state thing that would be done." Councilman Peter DeSarno added "I agree with your comment about state -wide solutions as opposed to a patch work solution..."

In a July 19, 2019 letter to Mayor Morgan, Jennifer Coffey, Executive Director of the Associations of New Jersey Environmental Commissions, stated the following: "Right now, there are over 50 local ordinances reducing single-use plastic or polystyrene throughout the state, with many more municipalities considering similar regulations."

Any state action with regard to this issue and the timing of such action is not clear at this time. There are groups lobbying for significant

variations in the particulars of any state action.

It is clear this issue will not be going away any time soon.



Bill allowing Congress to inspect immigrant prisons

Members of Congress have been prevented from entering facilities housing immigrants, including children. Others have been required to give 48 hours notice to attempt to enter a facility. What about a law that says, a Member of Congress may not be prevented from entering any detention facility for the purpose of conducting oversight. Or how

about, a Member of Congress, shall not be required to provide notice of intent to enter a detention facility for the purpose of conducting oversight. How about H. R. 3868, a bill introduced by Debbie

Wasserman Schultz and others. The words above come directly from the bill. You can check to see if your member of congress is a co-sponsor of the bill by calling 202-224-3121 and ask for your Member of Congress' office. You might be very surprised how many Congress members are NOT co-sponsors.

A harmful truth is better than a useful lie. Thomas Mann

Some Disturbing Gun Facts

There are more than 393 million guns in circulation in the United States — approximately 120.5 guns for every 100 people.

1.7 million children live with [unlocked, loaded guns](#) - 1 out of 3 homes with kids have guns.

In 2015, 2,824 children (age 0 to 19 years) died by gunshot and an additional 13,723 were injured.

People who report "firearm access" are at twice the risk of homicide and more than three times the risk of suicide compared to those who do not own or have access to firearms

"There is no happiness like truth, no misery like untruth"

Mahatma Gandhi

Source: Research in Action 2018

Trump Administration Pushing Religious Discrimination

The Trump administration is attempting to allow government contractors to discriminate in their hiring based on religion. The proposed rule is said to clarify Executive Order 11246 issued in 1965 to enforce portions of the 1964 Civil Rights Act. The rule introduced on August 14, 2019 reads in part: "...religious organizations may make employment decisions consistent with their sincerely held religious tenets and beliefs, without fear of

sanctions by the federal government." One immediately asks, what do they mean by "sincerely held religious tenet and belief." There are religious groups who do not believe women are equal to men, that LGBTQ persons are against their god, that only their god is the true god, etc. It is obvious what the result of such a rule would have on our society. Do we expect prospective employees to be asked to fill out detailed

descriptions of their religious beliefs or lack thereof prior to employment? The comments on this proposed rule may only be submitted electronically at <http://www.regulations.gov> and by mail.

To access the government description of the rule change go to the following: <https://www.dol.gov> › [newsroom](#) › [releases](#) › [ofccp](#) › [ofccp20190814](#)

Continued from above

To obtain additional information about this issue, check the resources below:

<https://www.nytimes.com> › [2019/08/15](#) › [business](#) › [economy](#) › [religion-exe...](#)

<https://www.snopes.com> › [News](#) › [U.S. Politics](#)

<https://www.politico.com> › [story](#) › [2019/08/14](#) › [trump-rule-contractors-lg...](#)

"Truth is not to be found by anybody who has not got an abundant sense of humility"
Mahatma. Gandhi

There will be more about this topic and other church state separation issues in the future. More will also be located at the web site lookingleftnj.com.

Truth & Facts

So much for Trump's great memory

Here are a couple quotes from Trump regarding Category 5 storms. TRUMP: "I'm not sure that I've ever even heard of a category 5. I knew it existed and I've seen some category 4's. You don't even see them that much. But a category 5 is something

that I don't know that I've ever even heard the term other than I know it's there." — Remarks Sunday at FEMA headquarters.

THE FACTS: In his third hurricane season as president, Trump has had plenty of exposure to category 5 storms.

He made the same claim two years ago, saying he wasn't

aware of category 5 storms until Hurricane Irma. "In Florida, you got hit with the strongest winds ever recorded. It actually hit **the** Keys when it was a Category 5. I never even knew a Category 5 existed," Trump said in September 2017.

Source PBS. September 2, 2019



Website: Lookingleftnj.com
 Facebook page: Truth
 Matters New Providence

Readers are encourage to comment by submitting material to the email address: lookingleftnj@gmail.com. If deemed appropriate comments will be published in a future issue. We reserve the right to determine whether a comment is appropriate and furthers the discussion of a topic. We also encourage questions related to material presented in this issue. We will do our best to respond in a timely manner. We also encourage our readers to inform others about the newsletter to further the discussion of issues and news presented. We hope you find the content provided timely and thought provoking. We also expect to change and expand our web presence as this venture progresses.

Allen

Review: Democracy Now

I recently had the opportunity to attend a live broadcast of Democracy Now in NYC. Democracy Now is the best, most influential and informative independent news organization on the planet. Each broadcast includes a daily recap of the news around the world followed by one or two in depth interviews with newsmakers, prominent scholars, authors, activists and many more. These are no take a minute and get your point across interviews. These interviews allow you to get to hear the full knowledge and views of the

interviewee. Amy Goodman, the founder of Democracy Now in 1996, and Juan Gonzalez' knowledge of the issues and ability to bring out every aspect of the important subjects they present is excellent. The supporters and dedicated staff who bring this broadcast to us every day are to be commended.

I encourage everyone to go to the Democracy Now website, democracynow.org, and watch the videos. Better yet find out where you can watch the live broadcast in your area. Democracy Now is totally funded by the viewers so you won't find it on

commercial venues. I guarantee for those who are seeking stimulating, truthful and in-depth analysis of the important issues facing us every day, you will not be disappointed.

Allen Swanson

