

NEWARK



Photographer Carolyn Jones helped profile 100 people in Newark for the "100 People of Newark" project, which is on display in the newly renovated Hahne & Co. building on Broad Street. Aristide Economopoulos/NJ Advance Media for The Star-Ledger

Painting a positive portrait of Newark

Project features spotlight on 100 people committed to making city all it can be

Karen Yi For The Star-Ledger

Their voices emanate from the walls of the remodeled Hahne & Co. building and one by one tell the story of this city — a story of resilience and hope.

There's Natasha Rogers, born to a heroin-addicted mom, who worked her way to Goldman Sachs and has come back to help Newark rebuild.

There's Debi Hall-Dean, who helps her neighbors with no address stay warm on cold nights. And Al-Tarik Onque, who is trying to end senseless gun violence on the streets.

They are all part of the "100 People of Newark" project, which involved taking photographs and interviewing 100 Newark residents who represent the city. Each person's picture and story is displayed along the walls of the Hahne building.

"The thing that rose to the surface immediately for me was this kind of scrappy, we're going to fix it, we're Newarkers but we're really proud of it," said Carolyn Jones, founder of the 100 People Foundation, which put together the exhibit. "There's something about Newark that draws people back."

PSEG funded the project as a gift to Newark for the city's 350th anniversary.



From top, Debi Hall-Dean: advocate for "Neighbors With No Address." Laila Guzman: gymnast, student and queen, Puerto Rican Day Parade. Angel Leston: owner, Casa d'Paco restaurant in Newark. Photos courtesy Carolyn Jones/100 People of Newark

"You can't view the 100 pictures and read the stories behind them without being struck by the breadth and depth of talent here," Ralph Izzo, PSEG chairman, president and CEO said in a statement.

The project began more than a year ago after the foundation reached out to community groups and leaders seeking nominations for the 100 people who would represent the city.

In selecting the finalists, Jones said the group made sure Newark's demographics were proportionately represented — by age, race, gender and ward of residence. Jones said they also picked people who embodied some of the city's most pressing issues.

"These are all change agents," Jones said.

"I found the people really vibrant and determined and absolutely committed to making Newark what they believe it could be."

On a recent day on the ground floor of the Hahne building, people frequently stopped to stare at the portraits. Some looked through a few and moved on; others took the time to stop at each frame and read each person's story.

"My dream is that we can look at people differently, that we can be less judgmental, that we could read something about someone that we never would have thought that person did that," Jones said. "These are the people that keep the wheels of the city turning."

The photographs along with video interviews are also on display online at 100people.org/newark.

IMMIGRATION

Trump's plans for big change hit snags

Bureaucracy, his own lack of clarity hampering his efforts

David Nakamura Washington Post

The Trump administration's attempts to translate the president's hardline campaign rhetoric on immigration into reality have run into two major roadblocks: the complexity of reshaping a sprawling immigration system and a president who has not been clear about how he wants to change it.

In his first four weeks in office, President Donald Trump has sought to use his executive powers to punch through Washington's legislative and bureaucratic hurdles and make quick progress on pledges to crack down on illegal immigrants and tighten border control.

But Trump has been vague about his goals and how to achieve them, and his aides have struggled to interpret his orders.

The resulting turmoil has included a successful legal challenge halting his immigration travel ban, fears among congressional Republicans over the White House's more

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INSIDE

Basketball case reversal

Days after two girls in Clark were allowed to return to their school's boys basketball team, a judge ruled Sydney Phillips must be allowed to play in the eighth-grade boys team's final game at St. Theresa's in Kenilworth. **Page 3**

ROSELAND

Politicians' racist texts come to light

Jessica Mazzola For The Star-Ledger

Council members in a small New Jersey borough are reeling after political infighting among them erupted this week when their group text message containing racially and religiously charged comments went public.

The text conversation, in which all six Republican members of the Roseland Borough Council and the mayor were included, but not all participated, was an ongoing group chat that started in May.

In a part of the conversation over Memorial Day weekend, Councilmen Thomas Tsilionis and David Jacobs exchange several race-based texts.

"David how do I become Jewish? I want to be half Jewish (cheap) and half African American (endowed)," Tsilionis writes in the string.

Jacob responded with a message

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NEWARK AIRPORT

Why this flight was the most chronically delayed in the nation

Ted Sherman For The Star-Ledger

The Embraer RJ145 regional jet used by United Express to fly between South Bend, Ind., and Newark Liberty has a cruising speed of more than 500 miles per hour.

From takeoff to approach and landing, the flight to New Jersey — operated by ExpressJet for United — typically takes a little over two hours.

But not always.

A report out this week found the most chronically delayed flight in the country was ExpressJet Flight 4154. In December, the most recent month for which data is available, most of the 13 flights from Indiana to New Jersey were more than 30 minutes late or canceled more than 92 percent of the time, according to the Bureau of Transportation Statistics.

Flight 4154 averaged 113 minutes late. The second most chronically delayed

flight was also an ExpressJet flight to Newark, this one from Savannah, Ga. It averaged 103 minutes late, with 12 out of 13 flights not arriving on time in December, according to the report.

Nationwide among all airlines, 248 flights were late or canceled more than 50 percent of the time in December, said the federal agency. Nearly a quarter of them were ExpressJet flights — and a large number of those flights either arrived or took off from

Newark, the numbers show.

ExpressJet, which operates as American Eagle, Delta Connection and United Express, blamed its laggard performance into Newark in December on the weather.

"ExpressJet's rankings on the recent Bureau of Transportation Statistics report can be attributed to inclement weather in Newark, as well as air traffic control delay programs implemented by the Newark

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