



Smithsonian’s portrayal of American history uninspiring, report says

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Man charged after alleged lewd acts at mall

Suzanne Russell
MyCentralJersey.com
USA TODAY NETWORK – NEW JERSEY

BRIDGEWATER – A 23-year-old Bound Brook man has been charged with lewdness and harassment after allegedly exposing himself to multiple teen girls and young women at Bridgewater Commons Mall, police said.

Josue Orellana was arrested and charged with three counts of harass-

ment, a fourth-degree offense, and lewdness, a disorderly persons offense. He was being held at the Morris County Jail pending his first court appearance, police said.

At about 7 p.m. July 14, Bridgewater police responded to Bridgewater Commons Mall after receiving reports of a man allegedly harassing female shoppers and exposing himself inside the mall.

Officers, assisted by mall security

personnel, located the suspect, identified as Orellana. An investigation determined that Orellana allegedly exposed himself to and harassed females ranging in age from 14 to 25, police said.

Orellana was taken into custody without incident. Bridgewater police thanked mall security staff for their prompt response and cooperation in helping officers locate and apprehend the suspect.

Email: srussell@gannettnj.com.

Hunterdon Commons changes hands in \$4.7M deal

Brad Wadlow
MyCentralJersey.com
USA TODAY NETWORK – NEW JERSEY

A Hunterdon County retail center has changed hands in a \$4.7 million sale.

Hunterdon Commons, a 57,935-square-foot shopping center at 176 Route 202 in Raritan Township, was acquired in a transaction brokered by commercial real estate firm Marcus & Millichap.

Built in 1989 and renovated in 2017, Hunterdon Commons was 97% occupied at the time of the sale and includes 13 tenants.

The property sits on 5.09 acres and features a mix of retail, fitness, experiential and service-oriented businesses.

“Retail fundamentals remain strong for properties that offer a balanced tenant mix and a proven operating history,” Brent Hyldahl, managing director investments at Marcus & Millichap’s New Jersey office, said in a news release. “Hunterdon Commons presented an opportunity that appealed to a broad range of investors, allowing us to generate a competitive sales process and deliver a successful outcome for our client.”

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Cyclists frustrated amid confusion over new e-bike law

Colleen Wilson
NorthJersey.com
USA TODAY NETWORK – NEW JERSEY

Shannon and Frank Connor tried everything to teach their son how to ride a bike eight years ago, when he was 8 years old, even signing him up for a class.

“It was so sad to watch. Frank and I went every day and then all the other kids were getting it and he wasn’t,” said Shannon Connor, whose son, Jesse, is autistic, has limited verbal skills and struggles with coordination.

Connor began to grapple with the reality that Jesse might never be able to transport himself places independently as a teen and adult.

But in 2023, he tried an e-tricycle, a three-wheeled bike, with pedals and a throttle that gives it a boost up to 20 miles per hour.

The e-trike’s throttle eliminated the need to pedal and balance so he could focus on steering.

Jesse squealed with unrepressed glee the first time he tried it. “It’s just a dream come true,” Connor said. “It’s a typical boyhood experience that he

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NJ team built first plane for pilots without arms



Jessica Cox, the first armless licensed pilot, standing in front of “The Impossible Airplane” at Ocean County Airport in Berkeley Township. CARLY CAVANAUGH/ASBURY PARK PRESS

Getting her wings

Carly Cavanaugh Asbury Park Press | USA TODAY NETWORK – NEW JERSEY

Robert Newman, member, technical counselor and former president of Ocean County’s Experimental Aircraft Association Chapter 898, has contributed to building over 12 airplanes throughout his lifetime.

His most recent feat, however, differs from the rest. It’s the first that he, or anyone in aviation history, has constructed specifically for pilots without arms. A retired schools superintendent and experienced builder across mediums, “Bob the Builder” said he’s been with the EAA chapter for over 35 years, building planes and helping fund aspiring pilots’ flight lessons.

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“As a kid, I just remember being told so many times, ‘You don’t have arms, you can’t do it.’ But now we have living proof that this is possible.”

Jessica Cox
World’s first licensed pilot without arms

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