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NJ Spotlight News

TONIGHT'S SPOTLIGHT

PRESENTED BY ROBERT WOOD JOHNSON FOUNDATION

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Tonight's Spotlight brings you highlights from the day's news for New Jersey, all of it brought to you by the reporting of [NJ Spotlight News](#).

Today's developments

- A new survey of registered voters indicates that Republicans in New Jersey may be more motivated to participate in the coming mid-term election than are their Democratic counterparts.
 - Seven in 10 registered Republicans were “very enthusiastic” about voting in this election, with races for all members of the House of Representatives at stake, according to The Stockton University Poll released today.
 - That compares with just over half of Democrats and independents.
 - By a margin of 10 points (47-37), respondents here said they would vote for a Democratic over a GOP candidate.
 - But when asked what was most important in this race, the most respondents cited issues that hew closely to perceived Republican strongpoints, like inflation and the economy.

- [See NJ Spotlight News for more coverage](#), including our “Election Exchange” podcast series providing insight and access to New Jersey’s candidates for Congress.
- N.J.’s COVID statistics wandered in the wrong direction today, with increases in both the reported number of cases and patients.
 - Today’s report on hospitalization was missing data from one of the 71 medical centers in the state, but even so it rose back over the 1,100 level, where it had been for more than a week.
 - The count of new confirmed cases rose above 1,500, up significantly both overnight and from the level of a week ago.
 - The rate of transmission, though, held steady at 0.97, within the range indicating a decline in the spread of the virus.
- A study by an abortion-rights advocacy group shows that the number of abortions in New Jersey has increased in the months since the U.S. Supreme Court overturned its 1973 Roe v. Wade decision.
 - The report by the nonprofit Society of Family Planning shows a national shift in where people obtain abortion care in both restricted-access and protected-access states.
 - Nationally, between April and August, abortion rates are down 6%, with a drop of 95% in states that banned or severely restricted the procedure.
 - In states like New Jersey where there are few restrictions, the rates rose by about 11% total.
 - Abortion-rights advocates say they anticipated and were prepared for the uptick, while anti-abortion activists say they're pleased abortion numbers didn't jump significantly.
 - [See NJ Spotlight News for a video report](#).
- Authorities in Newark have arrested an East Orange man who had earlier been identified as the suspect in the shooting of two city police officers Tuesday.
 - Kendall Howard, 30, was taken into custody this morning after being found at a South Newark apartment where he had been hiding all night, in the location of the shooting.

One of the two police officers was released from University Hospital late this afternoon, after being treated for a leg wound; the other remains at the medical center, listed in stable condition.

- See our [video report](#).

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