



CLARION

SERVING THE PEOPLE OF THE NEW COMMUNITY NETWORK

Volume 33 – Issue 4 ~ April 2016

Honoring The Legacy Of Percy Chubb III, Victoria Foundation's Former President



Percy Chubb III was a successful insurance business executive who dedicated much of his life to serving residents of Newark through the Victoria Foundation.

Percy Chubb III was a larger than life figure at the Victoria Foundation in Newark.

As former president and trustee of the Victoria Foundation, which he headed for three decades, Mr. Chubb was deeply committed to the mission of the independent grant-making institution: To improve the lives of children and families in need in Newark, New Jersey; and to

protect water resources and preserve precious open space statewide.

Mr. Chubb died on March 18, 2016, at age 81. He passed away peacefully at Morristown Memorial Hospital with family by his side, according to Irene Cooper-Basch, executive officer of the Victoria Foundation.

The Victoria Foundation has been a longtime champion of New Community over the last four decades, having provided millions of dollars in grant funding for programs and services at NCC that help individuals achieve self-sufficiency.

“The level of commitment and support and that Percy Chubb and the Victoria Foundation have shown to New Community over many, many years cannot be overstated,” Richard Rohrman, CEO of New Community, said. “Percy’s vision for revitalizing Newark by investing in neighborhood-based organizations played a hugely influential role in supporting New Community during our early years in order to become the comprehensive community development corporation that we are today. We

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Sen. Menendez Visits NCC To Announce Medical Debt Relief Bill



Richard Rohrman, at podium, CEO of New Community, introduced U.S. Sen. Robert Menendez, to the right.

U.S. Sen. Robert Menendez has committed to help people struggling under the weight of medical debts and came to New Community to promote the passage of the Medical Debt Relief Act.

The legislation is aimed at protecting people from financial ruin caused by medical debt that can result from unexpected injuries and emergencies, said Menendez, who held a press conference at NCC where he was joined by CEO Richard

Rohrman and supporters from New Jersey Citizen Action.

“All the financial planning in the world can’t prepare a family for a sudden medical emergency or an unforeseen illness, and the bills that come with them. That’s why I have joined several Senate colleagues in introducing the Medical Debt Relief Act to prevent medical debt from continuing to harm consumers’ credit scores even after it has been paid off or settled,” said Menendez (D-N.J.). “Responsible people should not be denied credit or forced to shell out more money in interest payments just because they got sick or injured. That’s not fair. And we need to fix it.”

Held on the first floor of New Community’s Health Care Complex at 274 South Orange Ave. in Newark, the press conference was designed to attract media attention to the proposed legislation, which Menendez is co-sponsoring with Democratic Sens. Richard Blumenthal of Connecticut, Dick Durbin of Illinois and Jeff Merkley of Oregon.

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Financial Opportunity For All

Editorial By Monsignor William J. Linder

We live in the era of billion-dollar startups and celebrities flaunting the lifestyle of the 1 percent.

There’s an illusion that money comes easily and is simply a matter of striking it big. We have lost sight of the basics of how to build wealth, especially for those who are the most financially insecure.

Years ago, we established the New Community Federal Credit Union with the goal of serving low to moderate income individuals who were struggling to make ends meet. Our mission is to reach residents, including members of minority communities, who find themselves beyond the reach of banks and mainstream credit unions. Our target audience includes some of the hardest to reach populations, including recent immigrants and people with disabilities, among others.

Let me be clear, there are no get rich quick schemes. Our credit union members are building wealth the old-fashioned way—by opening checking and savings accounts, taking out home improvement loans and participating in free counseling on topics such as credit repair, financial education and budgeting, foreclosure prevention and more.

We are constantly looking for ways to serve the changing needs of our community. In an exciting new development, the New Community Workforce Development Center has been selected as one of two agencies to operate a Financial Opportunity Center, funded by the Nicholson Foundation with support from Greater Newark LISC and others. The Financial Opportunity Center, located at 274 South Orange Ave. in Newark, helps families boost their earnings, reduce expenses and make sound financial decisions that lead to asset building through an integrated service model approach.

The model includes financial coaching and literacy plus public benefits screening and career services. Our robust job training programs—such as allied health, automotive technician and building trades—are components of the integrated model approach and helps people to earn money, save and plan for a fiscally sound future.

A crucial part of this initiative is our credit union, which highlights the Financial Opportunity Center as a real one-stop shop. The NCFCU will provide in-depth financial literacy workshops, among myriad other financial products, to clients of the FOC. Building wealth is not only about rolling up your sleeves. It involves patience and education as well as hard work.

The New Community Clarion

The New Community Clarion is published as a community service. The editor reserves the right to withhold articles and photographs once they are submitted. Opinions expressed in columns are those of the author and do not necessarily represent the view of the newspaper.

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Sign-up for the e-clarion.

Visit www.newcommunity.org



OUR MISSION

To help residents of inner cities improve the quality of their lives to reflect individual, God-given dignity and personal achievement.

New Community is recognized as:

- The largest and most comprehensive community development organization in the United States
- A large-scale deliverer of comprehensive programs and services
- A leader in affordable housing and economic development
- A model among non-profit, social entrepreneurship, and CDC communities
- Having beneficial partnerships on the local, national, and global level.

NCC Can Help File Your Taxes Until April 15

New Community is offering free income tax preparation services to qualified individuals until April 15. The services are offered at the NCC Family Resource Success Center, 131-185 Bergen St. in Newark, through the Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) Program. For more information or to set up an appointment, please call 973-565-9500.

Residents can make an appointment to meet with a tax preparer on Tuesdays from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. or Wednesdays from 4 p.m. to 8 p.m. The services are available now until April 15, but don't wait until it's too late!

By appointment only

Call 973-565-9500

Around the Network

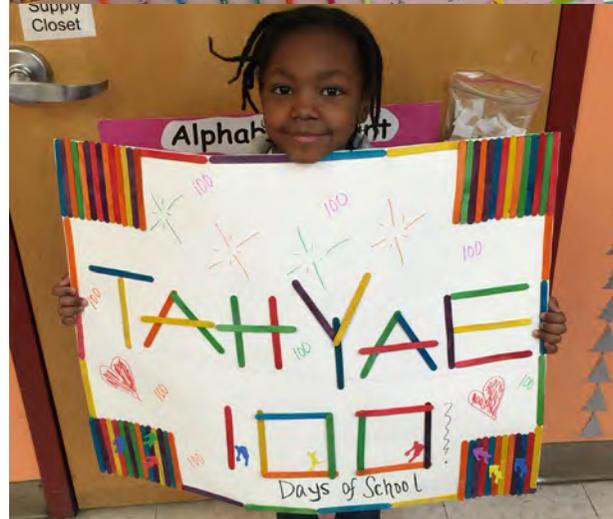
Have You Seen My New TV Yet?



Each resident has access to a new television that includes a special remote speaker system.

New Community Extended Care Facility residents have continued to express their happiness with the brand new flat screen televisions that have been installed in each resident's room. Now, residents have access to 48 cable channels, which include Animal Planet, Cartoon Network, ESPN, Lifetime and many more, including Spanish language channels. To arrange a tour of Extended Care, a 180-bed capacity skilled nursing facility located at 266 South Orange Ave. in Newark, call the front desk at 973-624-2020. **Photos courtesy of Robert Smolin.**

Counting 100 Days Of School At NCC



Students at NCC Community Hills Early Learning Center marked the first 100 days of the school year with various projects. The posters designed by students used various found objects—such as popsicle sticks, M&M's, goldfish and dried pasta—to serve as an exercise in counting numbers and to illustrate the 100th day milestone that students reached at CHELC. Photos courtesy of Cheryl Mack.

Employee Of The Month: Jasmine Hembree



Since 2006, Jasmine Hembree has worked in Youth Services, which is located at the New Community Neighborhood Center.

Jasmine Hembree has climbed the ranks of the Youth Services department at New Community for nearly a decade.

During that time, Hembree has become an indispensable member of the staff and earned the respect of both colleagues and her students, according to Director Edward Morris, who supervises Hembree's work as the site coordinator for the department's after school program and summer camp.

"Jasmine is extremely dedicated to the well-being and development of the children we serve. She's well respected and appreciated by everyone. She is a valuable asset to Youth Services," Morris said.

Hembree said that it was her aunt who first introduced her to New Community's work. She started off as a teen mentor in her first year. The next year, the position for a teen site coordinator opened up after a staff member left, but meanwhile Hembree had her mind set on applying to become a counselor. However her boss, Morris, had a different idea, according to Hembree.

"He said, 'No, I have a better position for you,'" she recalled. For the next three years, Hembree served in that position and looks back on that step in her career as a turning point. As a college junior at the time, Hembree said she was tasked with her first job that required significant responsibilities such as taking a lead role and supervising others.

"I learned a lot and gained my confidence because of it," she said. "I realized I can be a leader and not always be told what to do."

Eventually, Hembree transitioned into her current role as the site coordinator for the department's summer camp, which usually enrolls more than 100 children and takes them on various trips, and the after school program, where she oversees 30 students at New Horizons Charter School. Her duties also include creating schedules, programming, booking trips and giving input in

the hiring process of staff.

During the school year, Hembree spends the first half of her day working at an elementary school in Plainfield, where her roles vary from substitute teacher to teacher assistant.

For Hembree, working with every age group has its own unique perks. She has worked with youngsters who are infants (she previously was employed at a daycare for six years) all the way up to teenagers. Each group requires a slightly different skill set, but Hembree's concern for their well-being, no matter how her day is going, remains steadfast.

"I have to be there for their needs and I am dedicated to that," she said.

She has learned that most students will respond to an authority figure that displays genuine concern for a child or youth by taking time to hear them out.

"Even if I don't understand, I'm still going to listen. I'm still going to love them," she said.

Hembree earned her bachelor's degree in English and said that she plans to apply to graduate school to become a social worker.



New Community Corporation

St. Joseph Plaza
233 West Market St. Newark, NJ 07103
(973) 242-8012 | www.newcommunity.org

Where the Music Comes Alive

APRIL 2016

Live Entertainment & Music Calendar

Every Friday from 7 PM to 11 PM - Food or Beverage Purchase Require

APRIL 1st

DON WILLIAMS & LADY CICI

APRIL 8th

LEO JOHNSON

APRIL 15th

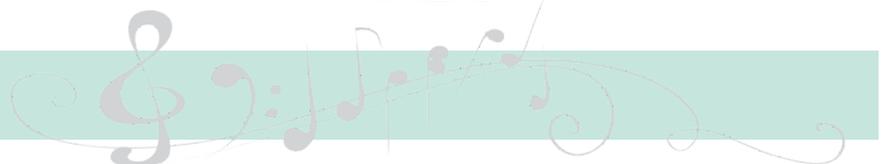
Anonymous
Classic R&B

APRIL 22nd

CLOSED FOR NCC SPRING FESTIVAL - SATURDAY APRIL 23rd

APRIL 29th

PHYLLIS BLANFORD
CD RELEASE



Our Mission: To help residents of inner cities improve the quality of their lives to reflect individual God-given dignity and personal achievement.

You Are Invited To...

**New Community's
Annual Spring Festival &
Auction**

**Saturday, April 23, 2016
7 PM to Midnight**

**St. Joseph Plaza
233 West Market Street
Newark, NJ 07103**

Dinner * Dancing * Cash Bar * Live DJ

1st Prize
Samsung 60"
Smart LED TV

2nd Prize
Apple iPad Air 2

50/50
Cash Raffle!

**For ticket information,
call 973-497-4400**

Proceeds to benefit the Monsignor William J. Linder Scholarship Fund

Our mission: To help residents of inner cities improve the quality of their lives to reflect individual God-given dignity and personal achievement

Honoring The Legacy Of Percy Chubb III, Victoria Foundation's Former President

Continued from page 1

strive to honor his legacy by continuing to serve the communities in Newark to which Percy devoted much of his energies and his heart.”

Established in 1924 by Mr. Chubb's grandfather, Hendon Chubb, and named after the founder's mother, the Victoria Foundation has concentrated its focus and considerable resources on the residents of Newark since the 1960s.

It was during that decade that Newark experienced increasing turmoil that exploded into the Summer Disorders of 1967. Monsignor William J. Linder founded New Community in 1968, in the aftermath of the disorders, and it was the Victoria Foundation that provided Monsignor with seed money to get his vision off the ground.

“They have always been extremely supportive,” Monsignor said of Mr. Chubb and

his family's work through the foundation. “I think they realized it was a city that had very few people that cared about it.”

Monsignor, now board chairman, recalled years ago when he and Mr. Chubb visited New Community's family housing on Sussex Avenue.

“That was typical of him. He was hands-on,” said Monsignor, who described Mr. Chubb's personality as welcoming and friendly. “He wasn't stuffy at all. He was just the opposite,” he added.

Beyond his work at the Victoria Foundation, Mr. Chubb was a very successful business executive at the multi-billion dollar insurance firm Chubb Corp. that was started by his great-grandfather in 1882. Mr. Chubb graduated from Yale University and served two years in the Army. He was also known as “Pi” to avoid confusion with his father, Percy Chubb II.

“I was personally blessed to have had the confidence and support of Percy Chubb,” Cooper-Basch wrote in an email sharing the news of Mr. Chubb's passing with the wider community. “He was my boss for nearly 10 years, my mentor, and my friend.”

Mr. Chubb became president of the foundation in 1982. He is survived by his wife, the former Sally Gilady, and children, Lee, Sarah and Lucy, and their grandchildren.

“In his own words, ‘I take some pride in the notion that if we are going to invest in something we should really do it well. I wanted us to do things that would make a difference,’” Cooper-Basch wrote.

A celebration memorial service for Mr. Chubb is scheduled for May 14. For more information, contact the Victoria Foundation at 973-792-9200 or visit www.victoriafoundation.org.

Sen. Menendez Visits NCC To Announce Medical Debt Relief Bill

Continued from page 1



Sen. Robert Menendez laid out legislation known as the Medical Debt Relief Act, which would help those who are at risk of having their credit ruined by medical bills.

According to the Consumer Finance Protection Bureau, 43 million Americans have been impacted by medical debt, which accounts for 52 percent of all reported debt.

“This bill will enable many more committed individuals and families to progress into financial security by giving them the time to work on solutions and for us to work with them to keep them progressing towards financial security. Our clients can have no greater supporter than Sen. Robert Menendez,” Rohrman said. In February, New Community opened a new Financial Opportunity Center that's geared towards helping low- and moderate-income families boost their earnings to ultimately reach self-sufficiency.

Rohrman, in his opening remarks, welcomed Menendez and noted that the senator's support of New Community goes back more than 20 years. In 1993, New Community received \$25 million from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development under the HOPE I grant and Menendez, then a freshman senator, was on hand to show his support. The federal funding allowed NCC to build 206 new homes.

Retired ironworker Arthur Lemise shared his personal story of ending up at the hospital after

accidentally cutting off part of his thumb while working in his yard. Though he had insurance, Lemise said that a bill he never received went unpaid and hit his credit report, later resulting in denial of a credit card and the interest on a car loan climbing by 2 percent.

“Sen. Menendez' bill—which gives a 180-day window—would have made all the difference for me, and it will make all the difference for many others who find themselves overwhelmed with tons of bills, or even a bill they forgot to send, and see their credit damaged before they

even can figure out what is going on,” Lemise, of North Arlington, said.



News 12 New Jersey reporter Katie Kyros interviewed Harmony House receptionist Elisabeth Barahona, who went through several surgeries in 2015.

FAQ's

Q: What is the Medical Debt Relief Act?

A: The proposed legislation, co-sponsored by Sen. Robert Menendez of New Jersey, aims to help people who are at risk of ruining their credit due to debts from medical bills.

Q: How does the bill propose to help people with medical debt?

A: First, credit agencies would be prohibited from using information related to a person's medical debt until 180 days after it becomes delinquent, giving individuals a waiting period to deal with their insurance and navigate complex billing systems before their credit report is negatively impacted.

Second, debt collectors would be required to notify consumers of the 180-day waiting period.

Third, credit agencies would not be allowed to use paid-off or settled medical debt collections against a person's credit.

Fourth, any paid or settled medical debt would be removed from a person's credit report within 45 days (currently it can take up to seven years).

Q: How many people could potentially benefit if the bill becomes law?

A: About 43 million Americans have medical debt on their credit reports. Overall, medical debt accounts for 52 percent of all reported debt.

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Manor Housing Rehab Project Moves Forward To Families



The Manor Family mid-rise complex, located at 225 Hunterdon St. in Newark, will receive building-wide upgrades such as roofing, heating systems and landscaping.

When Ida Lynn James walked into her renovated apartment, she was floored.

Her home at 225 Hunterdon St. in Newark recently underwent a top-to-bottom makeover of everything from flooring to bathroom fixtures and kitchen appliances to new doors and windows.

“They changed everything,” she said. “I was like wow, they did a good job.”

As part a multi-million dollar housing rehabilitation project, New Community is currently renovating its affordable housing units occupied by families. Earlier this year, NCC completed its first phase of the massive project, which involved renovating the high-rise building

known as New Community Manor Senior at 545 Orange St. in Newark. In total, the entire rehab project will result in significant home improvements for more than 500 low-income residents in Newark.

James, 28, lives in a two-bedroom apartment with her 7-year-old daughter at New Community Manor Family on Hunterdon Street. Her favorite parts of the upgrades to her apartment, where she has lived for four years, are the new closet doors, which are easier to open and close, and the “fully redone bathroom,” she said.

In order for the construction to take place, James said that she temporarily relocated from her apartment to a nearby vacant unit for about five days. New Community Environmental Services is working with NCC’s Chelsea Construction Management, which is providing the project management services for the general contractor, Claremont Construction. The rehabilitation of the mid-rise complexes and townhouse units will

also include building-wide improvements, such as new roofing, heating systems and landscaping.

After seeing her beautifully redone apartment, James said that she is excited to see the rest of her complex undergo a similar transformation.

“I’m just looking forward to the rest of the change,” she said.



Each apartment received new kitchen fixtures. Foreground Superintendent Reginald Watson and Bryant Hall, assistant director of Environmental Services.



A wide-angle view of the inside of a recently renovated apartment unit on the second floor of 225 Hunterdon St.

Physical Therapy Assistant Helps NCC Residents Regain Mobility, Independence



Toa Zoko, right, assists Extended Care resident Elizabeth Hairston during a session of rehabilitation therapy.

Toa Zoko’s enthusiasm is contagious. As a physical therapy assistant at New Community Extended Care Facility, Zoko works with nursing home residents who are recovering from surgery or an illness and need to regain their strength and mobility, specifically in their lower body and core.

Barry Palmer has been receiving therapy and working with Zoko since December of 2012.

“She really pushed me when I first came

here,” said Palmer, 62, who underwent hip replacement surgery recently. “She’s really good to work with, energetic, knows what she was doing.”

As a physical therapist assistant employed by Activa Rehab at Extended Care, Zoko works under the direct supervision of a physical therapist. She said she reviews a resident’s plan of care and his or her goals, and then maps out a plan of action to help the resident reach his or her previous level of function and independence. She’s quick to laugh and share a joke, making those around her feel at ease, even if the therapy exercises are anything but easy.

On a recent Tuesday, Zoko accompanied resident Elizabeth Hairston as Hairston steadily walked down the hallway with the assistance of a walker.

“I love to see the progress from the first day to the end,” Zoko said. “A little bit every day is what gets you to your independence,” she added.

To that end, she works each day with residents

like Hairston and Palmer, focusing specifically on their lower extremities. Her goal is for them to increase their mobility, coordination and overall strength, which allows residents to live independently. And seeing their eyes light up when they notice their own improvement is reward enough for Zoko.

“I like seeing how the patient’s respond to their own progress,” she said. Robert Smolin, administrator of the nursing home, said that Zoko “is responsible for some very good outcomes with the residents during their therapy time.”

Zoko said she enjoys learning and regularly takes continuing education courses to expand her knowledge and incorporate new exercises into her physical therapy sessions. Her love of learning extends beyond her day job and has motivated Zoko to teach herself about real estate and become a licensed realtor. A native of the Ivory Coast, Zoko said that her dream is to open a medical clinic in Africa with her husband in the future.

Social Security News

New Retirement Savings Options From Dept. Of Treasury

By Ammy Plummer
Social Security District Manager
Springfield Avenue, Newark NJ

Achieving financial security is an important part of enjoying a satisfying retirement. Social Security has many tools to help you plan for your future.

A great first step is to visit www.socialsecurity.gov/myaccount. With a my Social Security account, you'll get immediate access to your personal Social Security Statement, your earnings record, and an estimate of your retirement benefits at age 62, at your full retirement age, and at age 70. You can also verify your earnings are correct, since we base your future benefits on your earnings record.

When you open a my Social Security account, we protect your information by using strict identity verification and security features. The application process has built-in features to detect fraud and confirm your identity. Your personal my Social Security account can help you figure out how much more you might want to save for your future, but it can do a whole lot more. For example, in the District of Columbia and several states, you can request a replacement Social Security card online — find out if you can at www.socialsecurity.gov/ssnumber.

In addition to using your personal my Social Security account, you can prepare for a secure, comfortable retirement by visiting www.myra.gov. There, you'll find myRA, a new retirement savings option from the Department of the Treasury for the millions of Americans who face barriers to saving for retirement. myRA is a simple and secure way to help you take control of your future.

myRA makes it easy and affordable to start saving for retirement, even if you can save only a little bit right now. It's designed for people who don't have a retirement savings plan through work, or lack other options for saving. If you already have access to a retirement savings plan, such as a 401(k), learn more about that plan because it might offer matching contributions or other benefits.

myRA helps workers grow their money faster than they can with most traditional savings accounts, and there's no risk. Since it's not tied to a particular employer, workers can hold on to their myRA account when they move from one job to another.

With your personal my Social Security and myRA accounts in place, you too can prepare to reap the joys of a financially secure retirement. Learn more about all of your choices at www.socialsecurity.gov.

SENIOR SPOTLIGHT: Barry Palmer



Barry Palmer has faced two hip surgeries head on.

Recovering from a hip surgery can seem like a monumental task. Barry Palmer is determined to bounce back from undergoing two hip surgeries.

A towering 6-foot-6, Palmer works with the rehabilitation therapists at the New Community Extended Care Facility to build up his strength, one day at a time.

"He's a tough guy. Not everyone can do what he can do," said Robert Smolin, facility administrator of Extended Care.

Palmer, 62, never expected to find himself at Extended Care, saying, "How I got here was really crazy." He has resided at the 180-bed capacity skilled nursing home since December of 2012.

In 2011, Palmer got laid off from his contract job working as a computer operator. Still without work a year later, Palmer was at a local library using the computers to search for a job when he collapsed outside his car in November of 2012. Palmer said he was rushed to the emergency room, spent three

days in the intensive care unit and received three shocks from a defibrillator. Doctors told Palmer that his heart, liver and kidney had all shut down at the same time. However, Palmer also suspected that his problems may have stemmed from his lower body.

"I remember being in elementary school and my right hip was higher than my left hip," he recalled. "It wasn't until later in life that it became a problem." Before the incident when he collapsed, Palmer said he had also experienced swelling in his right calf.

In August of 2013, Palmer underwent a procedure to have a defibrillator surgically implanted. Two years later, he had his right hip replaced. As a diabetic who is also anemic, Palmer said the procedures took a toll on his body. "I felt like I shriveled up," he said.

Upon first beginning physical therapy, Palmer said he would complete half of a session, go upstairs, rest and return to finish his exercises. Gradually, he regained his strength.

"I like their approach because they work on the entire body," Palmer said of the rehab staff. "I could feel my body again," he added.

In February, Palmer had surgery on his left hip. Afterwards, he was back in the rehab room. "I was able to do a little more than I was able to do before. It just felt right," he said. "Everything has to be incremental."

Smolin described Palmer as "courageous."

On his end, Palmer said he appreciates staying at Extended Care because the physical, occupational and speech therapies are located within the same facility at 266 South Orange Ave. in Newark. "You get it all in-house," he said.

Growing up as a basketball player who also ran track, Palmer was accustomed to an active lifestyle.

"Even though I know there's more work to be done, I feel hopeful," he said. "I just have to take advantage of the time that I am here."

vna Health Group
Visiting Nurse Association Health & Hospice

Wellness Tip
April 2016

4 SEASONAL ALLERGY TIPS

1. Preventative Measures

Antihistamines will help you get through the day with less allergy symptoms. If you typically have bad allergies, consult with your doctor to determine what allergy treatment is right for you. Taking preventative measures every morning during allergy season can alleviate allergy symptoms.



3. Keep Indoors Clean

Allergens get dragged into your house by your clothes and through open windows. Vacuuming and cleaning surfaces a few times a week will help keep pollen counts low. On days with high pollen counts, keep windows closed and change clothes when you get home.



2. Check Pollen Count

Check your local weather forecast online for your local pollen count. On days where pollen is high, stay indoors and limit exposure if you can.



4. Wash up Before Bed

Taking a shower or bath directly before you go to bed will help wash away all the pollen that you may have come in contact with throughout the day. Pollen attaches itself to clothing and hair and will be transferred into your bed if not washed off.

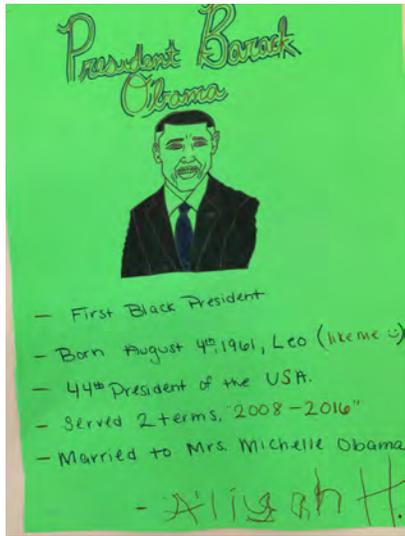


For more information about VNA Health Group services & programs, please call 800.862.3330 or visit www.vnahg.org

Sources: WebMD and Mayo Clinic. For more information please visit WebMD.com and mayoclinic.org

Scenes From Black History Month Celebrations

COMMUNITY HILLS EARLY LEARNING CENTER



HARMONY HOUSE EARLY LEARNING CENTER



ORANGE SENIOR



University Hospital And NCC's Workforce Programs Establish New Partnership



From left: Alice Stokes, Adecco client program manager; Jeannette Gil, University Hospital human resources generalist; Nimia Valencia, University Hospital human resources generalist; Rodney Brutton, director of Workforce Development; Latoya Bass, administrative assistant; and Tejumade V. Falae, instructor.

In the world of workforce development, it's a perfect storm: Job seekers with industry-specific skills and an employer eager to hire trained workers.

The scenario perfectly captures a new opportunity that's opened up for New Community Workforce Development Center to team up with University Hospital.

As a major medical institution, University Hospital is a large employer in Newark and hires for a diverse range of positions. Hospital officials are looking to hire students from NCC's Allied Health Program as well as its Automotive, Building Trades and Culinary Arts Specialist Training Programs, according to Rodney Brutton, director of Workforce Development.

The hospital owns a fleet of vehicles, requires facility repairs and maintenance and serves food to hundreds of patients, visitors, medical staff and students who pass through every day.

"New Community Workforce Development Center is excited to partner with University Hospital by helping a local employer meet their hiring needs. Our vocational programs align closely with employment opportunities within University Hospital's food service, facilities maintenance and fleet repair departments," Brutton said.

According to officials from both the hospital and NCC, the match couldn't be a better fit.

Sara Pena, senior community outreach coordinator at University Hospital, said that having New Community participate on the hospital's Community Advisory Council paved the way for the partnership.

"When you have organizations such as NCC who are part of our network, and provide the training necessary to empower individuals to train in specific programs tailored to the needs of the community and the hiring needs of the surrounding employers, it just works!" she said.

It was during a Community Advisory Council meeting last year that Richard Cammarieri, director of Special Projects at New Community, was invited to attend and asked Pena about linkages with the Workforce Development Center and the hospital's hiring needs after she gave a presentation.

Cammarieri, who represented NCC at the meeting attended by nonprofits, advocacy groups and community organizations, then introduced Pena via email to Brutton and the discussions moved forward.

In February, representatives from University Hospital and staffing agency Adecco visited the Workforce Development Center to provide a tutorial to students in the Allied Health Training Program of the application and hiring process.

"We are not only communicating that we have job openings, but also training them on how to navigate onto our site to apply, while providing

resources to assist in preparing them to get the necessary qualifications for a specific job that may be of interest," Pena said. The hospital wants to hire more students who complete NCC's vocation training programs, she added.

What started off as a simple conversation has evolved into a new level of collaboration between University Hospital and NCC, which has had a long running partnership for many years in other areas.

"It's an example of the outreach we have done and continue to do with major anchor institutions in the city, which could bear fruit for everything from hiring to training to education," Cammarieri said.



University Hospital is looking to hire workers with skills in construction, plumbing and electrical. A file photo of an NCC building trades student.



Representatives visited Allied Health students at NCC to provide helpful tips on how to apply for jobs at University Hospital.



April is Donate Life Month



University Hospital's Liver Transplant Center is renowned for its success in saving lives. Here is just one success story.

Mati Muñoz is perhaps one of the most enthusiastic 65-year-olds you'll ever meet. That's because she is one of the lucky few who have had a second chance at life.

A little over 10 years ago, her liver was being destroyed by hepatitis C, a viral disease she believes she contracted from a poorly sterilized needle used in a medical procedure, when she was a girl in her native Cuba. "My

coworkers said I looked like a ghost," Muñoz recalls. She couldn't sleep, was depressed, felt bloated, was often nauseated, and worst of all, she experienced a decline in mental function caused by blood toxins that were degrading her brain. She was on the list to receive a transplant liver, but while she waited her symptoms continued to get worse.

In January 2007 she received what she calls "a blessing from God." A man who died in a fall turned out to be a compatible donor, and Muñoz got a new liver. She recovered, but the virus immediately invaded her new liver. She was treated with the only available therapy at the time, until 2013 when the Food and Drug Administration approved new medications designed to help eradicate hepatitis C. In January 2015, Muñoz was hepatitis free. Today she mentors other liver transplant patients.

Muñoz was one of more than 6,000 people in this country who receive liver transplants in a typical year. The Liver Transplant Center at University Hospital—one of just two such groups in New Jersey—does about 50 per year. It is one of the most successful centers in the country, with a one-year patient survival rate of 93 to 94 percent, and the three-year survival rate of 84 percent.

Hundreds of thousands of people need organ, tissue or eye donations every year. Almost anyone can be a donor. For more information on how to register to donate, go to <https://www.registerme.org/>.

Community Calendar of Events

Free Oral Cancer Screening

Wednesday, April 13, 2016

8 a.m. to 2 p.m.

UH Cafeteria

NO APPOINTMENT NECESSARY

Information: 973-972-1515 or 973-972-01923

Sweet Talk- Diabetes Self-Management Education Program

Every Thursday, 10 to 11 a.m.

Ambulatory Care Center of University Hospital

140 Bergen Street – Newark

F Level – Room 1627

Helps people with diabetes manage their health

Groups sessions with a Registered Nurse, as well as take-home educational tools

Free of charge

Open to all diabetes patients and their support person.

Information: 973-972-0856

Milk and Cookies-Breastfeeding Support Group

Every Monday, 11 a.m. to 1 p.m.

University Hospital

150 Bergen Street

F-Green Level, Room F-425

Free of Charge

Learn more about breastfeeding and get additional guidance from a lactation consultant. Discuss your questions and concerns in a friendly, welcoming and peaceful environment. This support group is open to breastfeeding mothers and/or those who wish to bond with other breastfeeding mothers.

Information: 973-972-5837

Did you Know...

- You can donate your heart, kidneys, lungs, pancreas, liver, intestines, corneas, skin, tendons, bone, and heart valves.
- Most major religions do not object to organ donation.
- There is no cost to the donor's family for organ and tissue donation.
- If you are sick or injured and admitted to the hospital, the number one priority is to save your life. Organ donation only happens after a person is declared brain dead by a physician.
- Donors are needed for all races and ethnic groups. Transplant success rates increase when organs are matched between members of the same ethnic background.



Green And Gold: Celebrating St. Patrick At CHELC



Students from NCC Community Hills Early Learning Center showed off their shamrocks during the annual St. Patrick's Day march.



Marchers dressed in green and displayed a banner representing each classroom.



With tambourines, maracas and drums in hand, students and staff marched through the Community Hills complex.



Pot of gold: Students donned rainbow hats illustrating the Irish myth that leprechauns hide treasure at the end of a rainbow.



The flag of Ireland was also on display throughout the march.

See more photos on:  
facebook.com/newcommunitycorporation

Happy 100th Birthday, Edna Van Dunk!



Food Service Director Jackie Henry, left, hands red long-stemmed roses to Edna Van Dunk, who celebrated her 100th birthday at New Community Extended Care Facility.



Mayor Ras Baraka's chief of staff, Amiri "Middy" Baraka, right, reads a proclamation from the City of Newark to Edna Van Dunk.

Edna Van Dunk, a resident of New Community Extended Care, celebrated her 100th birthday with appropriate pomp and circumstance.

The Culinary Cafe was decked out in flowers and pink and white table cloths for Van Dunk, who has resided at Extended Care since 2008. There were red long-stemmed roses, cake, candles and proclamations from the Newark City Council and from the desk of Mayor Ras Baraka.

"Whereas: Edna Van Dunk was born on March 23, 1916, in Brooklyn, the second of six children, and grew up there. At that time, Woodrow Wilson was President of the United States, James Fairman Fielder was Governor of New Jersey, and a dozen eggs cost 34 cents," the mayor's proclamation read.

But Van Dunk couldn't have been more nonchalant. Wearing a royal purple dress and white hat with a bow, Van Dunk chatted with

everyone around her and cracked jokes.

"I have a cake? Oh, how nice!" Van Dunk said. "I'm mixed up here with this birthday business," she added.

Her son, Herbert Van Dunk, 62, a resident of New Community Douglas Homes, held his cell phone to his mother's ear for birthday wishes coming from far-flung loved ones.



Extended Care Facility Administrator, Robert Smolin, left, and Director of Nursing Veronica Onwunaka, right, help Edna Van Dunk cut her cake.

Director of Nursing Veronica Onwunaka believes that Van Dunk's secret to long life is that, "she has a very carefree attitude."

Onwunaka contacted the mayor's office to request a proclamation for Van Dunk's 100th birthday as part of the city's longstanding tradition of honoring centenarians.

Edna Van Dunk's Life

- 1916:** Born in Brooklyn, New York
- 1932:** Worked as housekeeper
- 1934:** Graduated from high school
- 1942:** Worked with Visiting Nurse Service in New York City
- 1951:** Married to Herbert Van Dunk, Sr.
- 1959:** Moved to Newark, worked as licensed practical nurse at Newark Beth Israel
- 1961:** Husband passed away at age 40
- 1977:** Moved to Weslaco, Texas, to serve as a VISTA
- 1988:** Earned teacher's certificate, worked as part-time teacher at Somerset Street School in Newark
- 1989:** Part-time preschool teacher at Quitman Street and Spruce Street schools in Newark
- 2008:** Moved to New Community Extended Care Facility
- 2016:** Celebrated 100th birthday

FAMILY SERVICE BUREAU OF NEWARK

Substance Abuse Services At NCC

The Gateway to Freedom Substance Abuse Program (GTF) offers three levels of care: Intensive Outpatient, Outpatient and Aftercare services. The Gateway to Freedom Program accepts clients referred through both Hudson County Drug Court and Essex County Drug Court, Parole, Substance Abuse Initiative (SAI), Division of Child Placement and Permanency (DCPP), as well as self-referred residents of Essex County who may be eligible to receive funding through one of our grants such as STEPS. Services offered by the GTF Program include the following: Screening and Assessment; Drug Screens; Mental Health Evaluations; Treatment for Co-Occurring Disorders; Individualized Treatment Plans; Intensive Outpatient Program; Outpatient Counseling and Therapy; and Family Counseling and Support.

For those self-referred clients who are found to be eligible for free services under Chapter 51 Funding (STEPS Program), referrals to the Essex County Department of Health and Rehabilitation Alcoholism and Drug Abuse Director are also provided and clients are eligible to receive assistance with resume writing, obtaining a county identification at no cost, and free legal assistance with getting one's criminal record expunged.

As of January 2016, GTF has instituted Hazelden's evidence-based Living in Balance curriculum in all substance abuse groups at both the Family Service Bureau's Newark and Kearny offices. The Living in Balance program, sometimes referred to as the LIB program, is a comprehensive and practical guide for conducting group and individual treatment sessions for persons who have a substance use disorder, with sessions dedicated to serve clients who also have a co-occurring mental health disorder. LIB is a comprehensive recovery program that incorporates a biopsychosocial approach to strengthening neglected areas of an addict's life. Living in Balance views a

severe substance use disorder, or addiction, as a "chronic, relapsing brain disease that is characterized by compulsive drug seeking and use, despite harmful consequences" (National Institute on Drug Abuse 2007).

Addiction is viewed as a biopsychosocial process in which various biopsychosocial factors act as risk or protective factors, thereby increasing or decreasing the likelihood of the onset, maintenance, or relapse of addiction and substance use behaviors (Institute of Medicine 1996). As a result, Living in Balance is likewise biopsychosocial in nature. The Living in Balance program centers on sets of interactive client worksheets that teach, engage, and motivate clients in therapy sessions with a counselor. Each session is devised to be simple for counselors to facilitate, with easy-to-use materials and contain optional relaxation, role-play, or visualization exercises.

The Substance Abuse Services offered by the GTF program are best suited for the following substance abuser:

1. There is a demonstrated pattern of substance use and behavior that is unlikely to change with outpatient treatment and community resources alone. However, the client is nevertheless able to live safely in the community with adequate functioning.
2. There is evidence that client is motivated, as evidenced by an expression of interest or desire to work towards the goals of treatment and recovery at the time of admission or shortly thereafter.
3. The patient's social system and significant others are supportive of recovery, and the individual demonstrates the motivation, social and cognitive skills to develop a sober support system.

The Prevention, Education, Intervention (PEI)

Program is another program provided under the umbrella of our Substance Abuse Services and is designed to provide educational workshops on increasing awareness on substance abuse amongst youth to educators and parents/guardians, in addition to providing gender specific intervention services for identified at-risk minority males from the age of 8 to 15 years. One component of this program provides a series of 18 no-cost educational workshops within the community to increase and enhance the knowledge of substance abuse and to work with parents/guardians to enhance existing skills for a successful, healthy, substance-free future for their children and become better prepared to meet the complexity of today's parenting challenges. Youth will practice effective communication, healthy coping strategies and skills for resisting peer pressure.

Moving into the future, the Family Service Bureau is in the process of offering internet video counseling sessions to a select group of clients in 2016. We hope to expand this service over time to function as a viable alternative for many people. It is the hope of FSB to begin to implement Tele-Therapy in providing Employee Assistance Program (EAP) Assessments and short-term counseling for NCC employees and their families who may be experiencing substance use disorders by the end of 2016. FSB will be using an online tele-mental health service that no longer presents the barriers of being cost prohibitive or simply too technologically complex. Soon, any licensed FSB professional will be able to provide care to our clients outside of the clinical setting. Our service will incorporate an online patient check-in and waiting room into the design so that both the therapist and client will continue to experience a familiar and natural visit. We hope to expand this service over time to function as a viable alternative for the community.

A Little Good, Old-Fashioned Fun At NCC



New Community Gardens Senior, located at 265 Morris Ave. in Newark, hosts bingo every Tuesday at 2:30 p.m. Photos courtesy of Sister Mary Prisca.

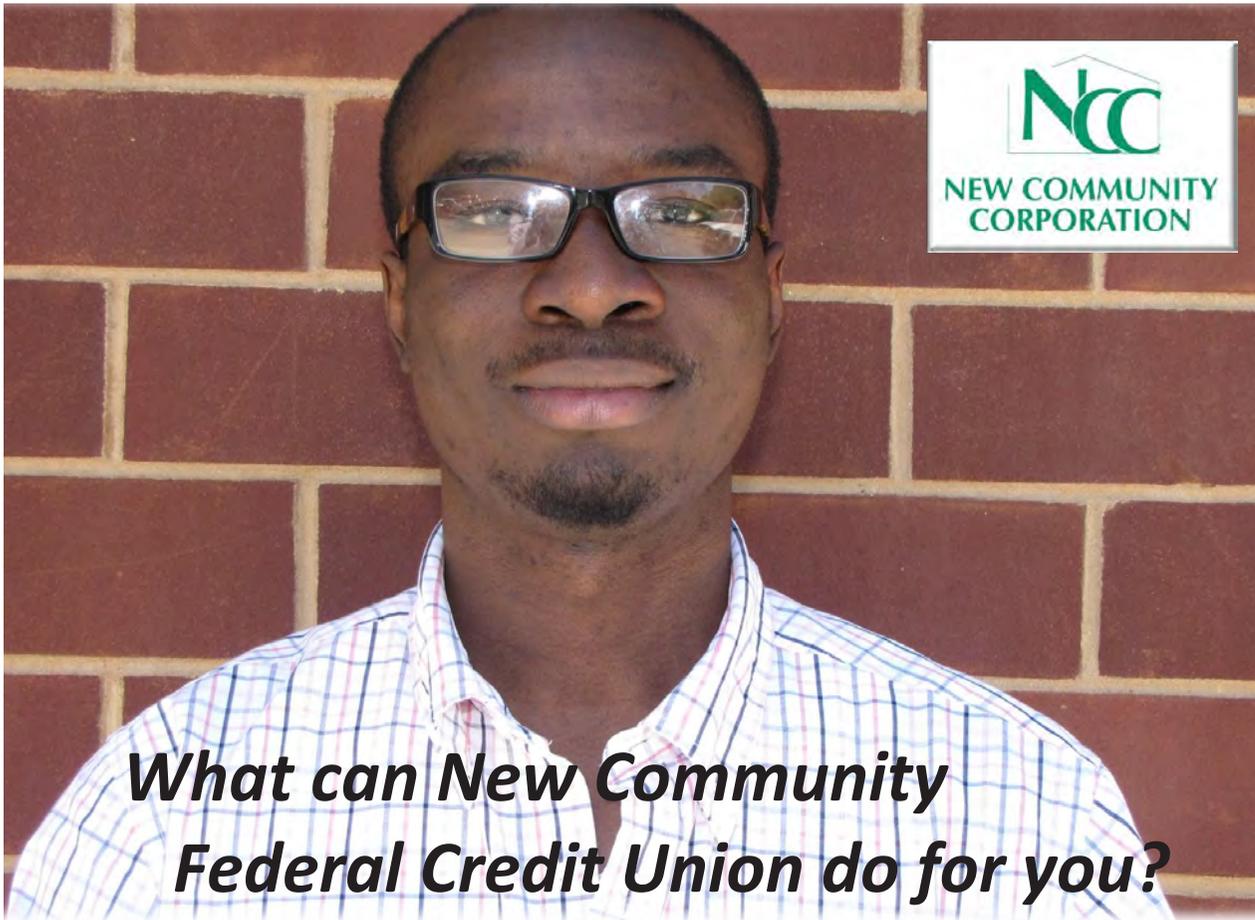


Residents who play can win an assortment of useful prizes, such as detergent, reusable plastic containers and personal items.

Movie Marathon A Hit



Local residents recently enjoyed a movie marathon hosted at the New Community Neighborhood Center that paid tribute to Black History Month. Seniors who reside at New Community buildings requested for film screenings to take place on a regular basis, according to Edward Morris, director of Youth Services, whose department organized the event. The movies shown included "Sparkle" and "Cornbread, Earl and Me." Photo courtesy of Edward Morris.



What can New Community Federal Credit Union do for you?

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- Online banking and many more services



**274 South Orange Avenue
Newark, NJ 07103
973-621-2363 or 973-621-5624
newcommunityfcu.org**



We are open from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.
Monday, Tuesday, Thursday & Friday

Wednesdays we are open from
11:30 a.m. to 6:30 p.m.

New Community's mission:
To help residents of inner cities improve the quality of their lives to reflect individual God-given dignity and personal achievement.

Fool Me Once

By Lesley Leslie



Can you think of a time when someone played a really funny joke on you and you thought to yourself, "I'm going to get them back?"

As time passed, as with many things, you forgot about it and went on with your daily life and all that it encompasses. Then, when the month of April rolls around, you suddenly remember that joke and how it felt to be the butt of that joke. So you say to yourself, "Now's the time." April Fool's Day is here!

According to tradition, April Fool's Day provides the unspoken but widely accepted opportunity to play jokes or tricks on other people. The more unbelievable or absurd the better, especially if you can "get" several people

with your joke or trick. Or if you can actually convince several others to be in on your joke, that makes the joke even more plausible or authentic. However, the challenge arises when fabricating just the right joke because it has to be believable, even if it's only for a short period of time. Chances are, the joke, prank or trick will be most successful if played earlier in the day, before the person catches on to you.

Be mindful, however, that an April Fool's joke should be harmless and in good taste for the unsuspecting victim. You don't want to wait until the first day of April to decide that it's the one time of year where you have an excuse to hurt someone's feelings or embarrass them. Give your joke some thought and be creative with it. Then go for it and have fun!

Life is short and we could all use a little humor in our lives. Happy April Fool's Day!

NJIT Students Volunteer For Alternative Spring Break



Students from the New Jersey Institute of Technology recently volunteered in the classroom at NCC Community Hills Early Learning Center.



The college volunteers participated in NJIT's Alternative Spring Break 2016, where they were placed at various community-based agencies around Newark.



NJIT students helped serve lunch at CHELC, clean classrooms and generally assisted the teachers.



In addition to volunteering at CHELC, another group of NJIT students also assisted the Property Management department (not pictured).

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CLARION

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Newark, New Jersey

Mark Your Calendar For NCC's Annual Golf Classic June 28



Participants of Golfing For A Cause will enjoy an afternoon game followed by a cocktail reception, dinner, silent auction and 50/50 cash raffle. Photo courtesy of Montclair Golf Club.

Save the date for New Community's 22nd Annual Golf Outing on Tuesday, June 28. The fundraiser event will be held at the majestic Montclair Golf Club in West Orange.

The daylong event, dubbed as "Golfing For A Cause," raises financial support for New Community education programs, the Monsignor William J. Linder Scholarship Fund and Harmony House, which is NCC's transitional housing facility for the homeless.

Participants will enjoy a luncheon on the clubhouse patio, followed by an afternoon of friendly competition out on the green. After returning from the golf course, participants will enjoy a cocktail reception and an evening program featuring testimonials from individuals who have benefited from services at New Community that are financially supported by the golf outing.

During the buffet dinner, golfers will also have an opportunity to buy tickets for a 50/50 cash raffle and participate in a silent auction featuring one-of-a-kind items.

To register for the event or for sponsorship information, contact Tracey Battles, philanthropy officer, at 973-497-4414.