ANNUAL PARADE AND FESTIVAL TO CELEBRATE NCC’S LEGACY
Festivities Are Part of Citywide Events Marking Newark’s 350th Anniversary

A stunning new report by the AARP Public Policy Institute shows that for many Americans, medication costs about 75 percent of the average annual Social Security retirement benefit.

In 2006, the average retail cost of a one-year supply of a life-saving drug was $5,571, according to the report. By 2013, the average cost soared to $11,341, the report said. That’s double—it’s just simple math.

The AARP study should stop us in our tracks. People who need these prescription medications need help—they are not cash cows for pharmaceutical companies to ruthlessly milk.

And yet we find that these giant and politically powerful corporations are raking in billions of dollars in profits. It’s not hard to see why. Let’s take a look at a few examples:

Turing Pharmaceuticals jacked up the price of Daraprim, a drug used to treat parasitic infections in pregnant women and HIV patients, from $13.50 to $750 per pill, hoping to score a quick profit with its 5,000 percent price hike.

Rodelis Therapeutics increased the price of 30 capsules of its tuberculosis drug cycloserine from $500 to $10,800. (The company later caved under pressure and opted to sell the rights for the drug to the Purdue Research Foundation, which lowered the price to a cool $1,050.)

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$25K Grant Awarded to New Community

New Community Workforce Development Center recently received a $25,000 grant from the Bank of America Charitable Foundation. The check was presented to New Community CEO Richard Rohrman by Jossue Bonilla, vice president and financial center manager at Bank of America, at the NCC headquarters of St. Joseph Plaza. Rodney Brutton, director of New Community Workforce Development Center, Tracey Battles, philanthropy officer and Ronald Prysock, job developer, plus several students from Workforce job training programs also attended the check presentation. New Community thanks the Bank of America Charitable Foundation for its continued support!

Rutgers Grad Students See Newark's History Through Lens Of NCC

A history lesson of Newark isn’t complete without a visit to New Community. Psychology interns and staff from Rutgers University Behavioral Health Care came for the school’s annual tour of New Community and its affiliate Family Service Bureau of Newark. New Community emerged out of the civil unrest that erupted in the city in the 1960s, according to Richard Cammarieri, director of special projects, who gave an educational presentation to the group at the Martin Luther King Jr. room at St. Joseph Plaza. Photos courtesy of Aliyah Rawles.

Summer Jam At NCC Associates

New Community residents from eight senior buildings gathered for a Summer Jam hosted by the Department of Health and Social Services at New Community Associates. Residents of NCC’s senior and disabled adult residences in Newark, Orange and Jersey City enjoyed an afternoon of camaraderie, food and music at 180 South Orange Ave. in Newark. Health and Social Service, located at 220 Bruce St. in Newark, provides a range of services to residents including an Emergency Food Pantry, educational workshops, holiday needs, transportation assistance and referrals for basic needs. For more information on Health and Social Services, call 973-623-6114. Photos courtesy of Health and Social Services staff.
Employee of the Month: Virginia Lewis

Virginia Lewis is determined to help students at New Community’s Adult Learning Center succeed. That’s why after class ends at 1:30 p.m., Lewis, who teaches the GED course, stays later to meet with any students that want extra help. Her determination comes, in part, from the fact that her students face serious challenges.

Some students are still learning the English language. Others show up at her classroom not by choice, but because they are compelled by a parent or as part of a requirement to receive public assistance. Still others have learning disabilities that may be undiagnosed. Plus, it’s not easy being in school as an adult. (Her class ranges in age from 18 to 60 years old, she said.) “It’s an uphill battle,” Lewis said. “Even for the most serious students.”

According to the center’s director, Cristian Barcelos, Lewis “has dedicated innumerable hours” to helping her students prepare for the high school equivalency test. She first began working at the Adult Learning Center in 2009. “Ms. Lewis’ dedication to her students is boundless and you can always find her looking for new ways to teach the material to her students as well as assisting them in finding information related to their personal lives and needs,” Barcelos said.

During the first part of the day, Lewis focuses on vocabulary, grammar and essay writing, as well as social studies. In the afternoon, she focuses on math. “I write on the board non-stop,” she said with a smile. “We have a lot of information to cover in nine weeks.”

Before working at New Community, Lewis was a teacher at a Catholic school in Morristown and also volunteered as an ESL tutor for Literacy Volunteers of America, until they recruited her for a job. A New Jersey native, Lewis attended Montclair State University where she graduated with a degree in art history. She became interested in literacy after she adopted her two daughters from Korea and began volunteering in their classrooms when they entered.

The Definition Of Dedication: Robert ‘Tank’ Allen

Continued from page 1

and influential. When asked what was the best thing about Allen, Cobbs said that he would always give him advice. He would tell Cobbs that despite the use of technology and security cameras, he always needed to remain visible. “The uniform is what represents you,” Cobbs recalled Allen’s constant reminder to him.

Prior to coming to New Community, Allen worked at the Newark Housing Authority until retiring in 2001.

He worked various positions such as maintenance, truck driving and heavy construction, having landed the job through a referral from Joe Chaneyfield, an original board member of New Community.

Chaneyfield bestowed Allen with his enduring nickname at a point in Allen’s life when he weighed 300 pounds—he played offensive guard and defensive tackle—and was significantly heavier than he is now. When Allen stopped working at the housing authority, he turned his focus entirely on New Community. He devoted a lot of his time, sometimes unpaid hours even, which exemplified his loyalty and dedication. “I broke this place in,” Allen said with a smile.

Born on March 14, 1936, Allen grew up in North Carolina as the eldest of five children. His family moved to New Jersey after his father served in the Marine Corps, he said. He attended East Side High through the tenth grade and married his first wife, Sadie, at age 18. They had five children together but later separated. Allen was later remarried to Robin Blanding.

Cobbs said that Allen continues to be a positive figure in his life and thinks of him more like family than an ex-coworker. He was a “cool dude” as well as role model, according to Cobbs.

NCC Congratulates Olympic Silver Medalist Shakur Stevenson!

Olympic boxer Shakur Stevenson clinched the silver medal at the 2016 Games in Rio de Janeiro, the greatest Olympic achievement for an American boxer in more than a decade. Stevenson, a 19-year-old Newark resident, is the grandson of Robin Moses, a licensed practical nurse at New Community Extended Care Facility, Stevenson paid a visit to Extended Care and spoke to residents before he headed to the Olympics. New Community congratulates Stevenson on winning the silver medal in the bantamweight division and applauds all of his hard work! Photo courtesy of Wikipedia.
Young People From Across the Globe Convened at New Community

More than 150 young people from nearly 20 countries participated in Fairleigh Dickinson University’s Social Ventures for Sustainable Development Seminar, which drew youth from countries as far away as China, India, Pakistan and Australia to Newark, New Jersey.

“Most of the young participants in Fairleigh Dickinson University’s Social Ventures for Sustainable Development program have never been exposed to civil society organizations like New Community,” said Dr. Jason Scorza, Vice Provost for Academic and International Affairs. “NCC both exemplifies the spirit of social entrepreneurship and has an enviable record of achievement serving the people of Newark,” he said.

The international visitors ranged in age from 18 to mid-twenties and came to learn about New Community through a presentation organized by local teens participating in a summer program with NCC Youth Services. Afterwards, the visitors got a whirlwind tour of New Community’s job training and employment programs (academic enrichment, allied health, automotive and building trades), daycare (Community Hills Early Learning Center), healthcare (Extended Care Facility) and Financial Opportunity Center.

New Community CEO Richard Rohrman said that, “New Community is about self-sufficiency.”

Can You See Me? Nursing Home Takes Eye Issues Seriously

More than 25 million elderly people are predicted to have vision problems by 2050, according to the American Health Care Association. With eye disease and related issues on the rise, those challenges must take center stage in long-term care settings.

According to Dr. Rohit Varma, professor of ophthalmology at the University of Southern California Keck School of Medicine, the economic burden alone from these problems is estimated at well over $130 billion. The loss of independence and the quality of life is significant, he says. Dr. Varma also recommends more aggressive vision screening, not only for elders but also for younger patients over age 40.

This is important, he says, for early diagnosis and treatment of conditions such as glaucoma, cataracts and age-related macular degeneration.

Good vision, including up-to-date eyeglass prescriptions, also can help prevent falls and other accidents. By 2025, researchers for AHCA estimate that 8 million American will have the wrong eyeglasses, and 3 million will have glaucoma or macular degeneration.

At New Community Extended Care Facility, we have partnered with Dr. Robert Sholomon, a board certified ophthalmologist who specializes in treating the elderly and their vision problems.

Ensuring that patients can see well and have appropriate prescriptions for their eyeglasses can be challenging, especially if they have some form of cognitive impairment.

“Good vision is essential to prevent falls and other problems and to ensure quality of life,” Dr. Sholomon said. He and his team of eye doctors visit the residents at New Community Extended Care frequently and provide quality care. Dr. Sholomon helps us ensure regular vision exams for our residents, including tests for cataracts and glaucoma.

Robert Smolin is the facility administrator of New Community Extended Care Facility, a five-star rated skilled nursing home located at 266 South Orange Ave. in Newark. For more information, call 973-624-2020.
Apply Now:
New Community Recruits For Job Training Programs

New Community Workforce Development Center recently held a recruitment session that drew more than 180 interested job seekers. Applicants can complete an online form at www.newcommunity.org and select from the following vocational programs offered at Workforce:

- Patient Care Technician
- Certified Medical Assistant
- Culinary Arts
- Construction Building Trades
- Ford Automotive Technician

All graduates will earn industry recognized credentials. Classes are starting soon so apply today at newcommunity.org. Financial aid is available. For more information, call Workforce at 973-824-6484 or email LaToya Bass at lbass@newcommunity.org.

Bidding Farewell To Longtime Handyman

Gerald Moses, seated in rocking chair in first row, was a longtime handyman for the Department of Environmental Services at New Community and retired at the end of July. Moses, who worked for Environmental Services for 25 years, received a farewell—complete with cake and ice cream—surrounded by colleagues at the department headquarters. New Community wishes you the best in your retirement!

Perfecting Grill Marks At Orange Senior Cookout

Residents of New Community Orange Senior celebrated long summer days with an afternoon cookout. With help from Care Coordinator Sister Pauline Echebiri and Property Manager Faye Harvey, residents grilled on the patio and enjoyed a buffet of side dishes and refreshments in the community room. Photos courtesy of Donnette Burrowes-Williams.

Landing Jobs At Port Newark

Port Newark-based employer Foreign Automotive Preparation Service, better known as FAPS, recently hired graduates such as Ashton Merritt, center, of New Community Workforce Development Center’s Automotive Technician Training Program. Photo courtesy of Rodney Brutton.

Peach Picking With Hudson Senior

A group of residents from New Community Hudson Senior, based in Jersey City, visited Alstede Farms in Chester to pick their own peaches. Photo courtesy of Health and Social Services.
Celebrating Hispanic Heritage Month

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

Social Security joins you and your family in celebrating Hispanic Heritage Month, which runs from September 15 to October 15.

We know the contributions of Hispanics can be traced to before the origins of the United States with the discovery, exploration, and naming of many places in our nation, such as state names like California, Colorado, and Texas and city names like San Antonio, Santa Barbara, and Boca Raton. Hispanics have influenced every facet of life, from language to our cultural development. Hispanics play a crucial role in American life.

The most important things to you are your family and maintaining the feeling of individuality through your language. That’s why Social Security provides a website — www.segurosocial.gov — with a variety of publications and services in Spanish that are important to you and your family.

If you need to apply for your first Social Security number or a get a replacement Social Security card, we invite you to read our publications Social Security Numbers for Children and Your Social Security Number and Card.

We offer a toll free number, 1-800-772-1213, which provides automated instructions for Spanish speakers. We also try to have employees available on the phone and in many of our offices who speak Spanish. However, if you need an interpreter, you can go to www.segurosocial.gov/espanol/interpreter.htm to find out more about our free interpreter services.

Just as grandparents help guide their grandchildren through life’s journey, we at Social Security are with you throughout yours. The services we provide guide you through your journey from birth, with your first Social Security card, to your dream of a secure retirement.

You don’t have to wait to find out what your retirement benefits may be. We provide the Retirement Estimator, one of our most popular online calculators, in Spanish. It offers instant, approximate estimates of your future retirement benefits. Try it for yourself at www.segurosocial.gov/calculator. Remember what your father wisely said to you: “It is up to this generation to secure our community’s today and tomorrow.”

Whether it’s through our website, visiting one of our offices, or calling our toll free number, we at Social Security maintain our commitment of providing first-class service to the nation’s growing Latino community.

To learn more, visit www.segurosocial.gov.
New notebooks, new rulers and new calculators—that’s what filled the brand new backpacks of dozens of children from New Community whose families were selected to participate in the Back 2 School Store on August 2. Madge Wilson, New Community board member and outreach coordinator, organized families from NCC to attend the free shopping spree held in West Orange for needy families so that students would start off the new school year on the right foot. In addition to stocking up on classroom supplies, students were fitted for winter coats, shoes, pants, shirts and other personal items at the one-day, pop-up store hosted by the National Council of Jewish Women, Essex County Section. New Community wishes to thank the NCJW/Essex for hosting the 7th Annual Back 2 School Store.

Still hitting life’s curves but managing to stay on track, former Harmony House resident and college-bound track runner Infinity Hedrington continues to stride towards her dreams.

During the month of June, Hedrington had a lot on her plate. She applied to colleges, prepared for prom and graduation, and her family moved out of Harmony House, New Community’s transitional housing facility for homeless families.

Hedrington has certainly made big strides. Now an incoming college freshman at Virginia State University, Hedrington plans to study sports medicine and become a kinesiologist. With track still being a part of her future dreams, Hedrington served as captain of Newark’s West Side High track team for a third year during the 2015-2016 school year. The team made it to Nationals but their victory was cut short due to graduation being the next day for most of the team, which consisted of mainly seniors.

Harmony House offers 102 units of transitional housing for the homeless. Whether individuals have lost their jobs, or have been victims of any type of abuse, Harmony House aims to help families reach self-sufficiency. The average stay ranges from six to nine months.

Hedrington has overcome many challenges. While living at Harmony House, she said she would duck from buses, in attempts to hide from possible classmates seeing her come from inside the facility. But regardless of adjusting to a new living situation after becoming homeless, Hedrington has maintained nothing lower than A’s and B’s her entire high school career. She also graduated high school on the super honor roll with a 3.9 GPA.

Recently, Hedrington visited VSU, met the

Continued on page 12
Chronic Disease Self-Management Program

Come join our FREE 6-week session on how to take control of your health!

**When:**
Every Monday from October 17 - November 21, 2016
10am-12:30pm

**Where:**
Cancer Center
205 South Orange Ave.
C-Level Room 1228
(conference room inside the patient library)

Get your own personal guide for FREE!

Only 10 seats available!
Refreshments will be served.
Please call 973-972-1182 to reserve by Monday, October 10, 2016
Tashera Taliaferro attributes her innovativeness to her parental upbringing. That’s why it’s not hard to believe that she is a perfect addition to the team at AeroFarms, vertical farm startup in Newark. Joining the company as Machine Tech 1, in April 2016, Taliaferro boasts that she is capable of solely accomplishing tasks at work that would usually require the help of four individuals. If there is one word Taliaferro describes herself as it is efficient.

Taliaferro, 35, acquired the skills that make her successful at AeroFarms through New Community Workforce Development Center’s Building Trades Program in September. She graduated in December. Arriving at the Building Trades program with ambition and drive, Taliaferro remained focused and set on her dreams despite challenges. There were times where I wanted to stop, but I couldn’t because I knew what I wanted,” she said.

AeroFarms is an indoor farming company that uses technology to grow food in an effort to limit the exploitation of the planet’s natural resources, according to the company website. With four locations in New Jersey alone, AeroFarms says it plans to expand indoor farms across the United States and has already received 10 awards. The indoor farms grow over 250 varieties of leafy greens, including kale, arugula, and herbs.

The average day for Taliaferro at AeroFarms consists of inspecting all the machinery and ensuring that as many as 2,000 bolts are in their correct position. The only complaint she receives at work is that she twists the tools too fast. Taliaferro explained that growing up, her father would reprimand her for not twisting tools fast enough.

“I have fun at work,” said Taliaferro. “I love my job.” She said that she likes working with technology because, “You can’t see electricity...electricity is in us. It just fascinates me. And I love figuring out the wiring...I love it.”

Building Trades Instructor William Robinson taught Taliaferro that precision is important. While working, she said that she constantly reminds herself of Robinson’s words: “Measure twice, cut once.” Due to that, she has now become a perfectionist.

Before attending the Building Trades Program, Taliaferro attended Lincoln Technical Institute. While attending school, she also did housekeeping with University of Medicine and Dentistry of New Jersey. In the future, Taliaferro said that she wants to start a project of her own working with the homeless population to rebuild old facilities by flipping them into homes for the homeless. In doing that, she aims to not only creating a place of solace for the homeless but also teach them valuable trade skills. She plans to call this future project Total Rebuild United, or T.R.U for short.

“They really want to give back to society, but society is stopping them,” she said.
The Family Service Bureau of Newark has partnered with New Community’s Workforce Development Center to provide Student Assistance Services. FSB will be the primary counseling and intervention service provider for the Workforce Development Center’s job training and employment programs (Academic Enrichment, ShopRite Partners-In-Training, Medical Assistant, Certified Homemaker Home Health Aide, Electrocardiogram Technician, Culinary Arts, Building Trades and Automotive Technician programs). The SAS is designed to assist New Community Workforce Development Center’s students, families and staff to help manage the impact of a wide variety of personal and family cares and concerns that can impact a student’s behavior and achievement. Many issues can negatively affect a student well-being, including those related to motivation, stress, family conflict, emotional or mental health concerns, parenting skills, substance abuse, bullying and other peer conflict.

Students will soon be able to schedule appointments with an FSB behavioral health professional to discuss issues such as self-esteem, academic motivation, family problems, depression, anxiety, self-injury, relationship issues, stress, drug/alcohol issues or any other topic. Students can be self-referred or be referred by a teachers, or administrators.

SAS will be provided through the Family Service Bureau and is also available to help immediate family members develop the skills they need to better deal with concerns in the student’s life through the application of alternative problem solving techniques. SAS will be available Monday through Friday and is strictly confidential. Some of the confidential interventions and services which will be available through the SAS Program include support groups; individual, family or couples counseling; parenting group; drug/alcohol use disorder services; and coping skills/anger management. Other available interventions include:

- Faculty Support and Training and Development
- Student Educational Classes (Living in Balance)
- Care and Concern Meetings with students, parents and teachers

FSB is working with New Community’s Workforce Development Center and hopes to have these services in place by Fall 2016. “The young people were engaged, asked questions, shared their personal struggles, and took a lot from the discussion,” Rodney Brutton, director of Workforce Development, said after observing a recent Thursday morning class. FSB is excited to continue moving forward with this collaboration and to provide services under the SAS.

For more information, call the Family Service Bureau at 973-412-2056.

Registered Dietitian A ‘Great Addition’ To Extended Care Team

Food can be an effective weapon in Franco Ferrante’s line of work.

As a registered dietitian at New Community Extended Care Facility, Ferrante uses the powers of protein, carbs and fats to help seniors and disabled adults at the 24-hour skilled nursing facility reach optimal health.

“They are the population that needs us the most,” said Ferrante, who officially began working at Extended Care in October of 2015.

A major challenge that Ferrante faces working with older individuals is simply keeping up their appetites. With less muscle mass and generally lower levels of activity, he explained, “They don’t burn as many calories as younger adults.” However, getting residents to consume enough nutrients is vital, especially as the body ages and declines. For instance, protein intake helps with the healing of wounds, according to Ferrante. Also, the body’s immune system largely resides within one’s digestive system.

Ferrante works closely with the nursing and dietary staff at Extended Care to assess each resident’s nutrition intake. Every month, he reviews the care plan for each resident who is up for screening by analyzing their weight, special needs and overall progress in consultation with the resident’s family members.

His mother, Ferrante noted, is in her mid-70s and make his job highly relatable. “It’s easy for me to understand what their issues are,” Ferrante said of the residents at Extended Care.

Robert Smolin, administrator of Extended Care, noted that Ferrante began the job with “a trial by fire,” having experienced the scrutiny of the state Department of Health during a rigorous on-site survey after only six weeks on the job.

“I am happy to say that he came out fighting and got through the experience easily,” Smolin said. “He has been a great addition to our team. The residents like him a lot because of his knowledge about diets and his easily approachable style. The staff of ECF like him as he is a team player and is a great support to the nursing staff,” Smolin added.

Before turning to the field of nutrition, Ferrante served as a peace office for the CUNY for more than a decade. He had always had an interest in nutrition and decided to seek more intellectually stimulating work by switching careers. Ferrante shadowed a registered dietitian, did an internship and pursued his studies at the College of St. Elizabeth, where he completed 1,200 hours of clinical dietetics, community nutrition and food and nutrition education and counseling.

A Staten Island native, Ferrante moved to New Jersey in 2008.
Back to school is an exciting time for bargain shoppers who will score deals and many more long lines in their local department stores, some of which will be at your home. While many parents will likely face anxiety surrounding their return to school, there is renewed resolve as you return to your regular routines and weekly schedules.

Although many children won’t admit it, they too are looking forward to returning to school in the fall. It’s the chance to reconnect with their school friends and catch up on everything that they did during the summer break. There is always the hope of having the “cool teacher” for their next grade, as well.

For some children though, the concerns or anxiety surrounding their return to school is less about a desire to extend the long, lazy days of summer. For those children, there is tension and even fear of returning to the secret torment of a life that consists of being bullied.

It is good idea to talk to your children about the way they treat others and how other children treat them. They should know that teasing or embarrassing another child, though not physically hitting them, is also a form of bullying. They should also understand that it is possible, White hopes that KicksUSA will keep her on the job as a sales associate after the program ends.

“Sometimes you have to just go for it,” said White. “Excuses are tools of the incompetent,” Scott said to the group, challenging them to take ownership of their summer experience.

White said she is happy with her internship and believes that New Community—through earning her high school diploma and gaining a summer of retail experience—can continue to aid her in the accomplishment of her career goals.

Aliyah Rawles is a summer intern at the Clarion through a partnership with Rutgers R U Ready For Work.
NCC Summer Camp: Go For The Gold!

More than 100 students participated in New Community Youth Services 2016 Summer Camp, which crossed the finish line on a golden note. In the spirit of the 2016 Olympic Games in Rio, staff organized a series of Summer Camp Olympics activities for the students, who ranged in age from 5 to 13. The seven week camp, located at the NCC Neighborhood Center at 56-68 Hayes St. in Newark, included weekly field trips and activities such as swimming, arts and crafts, and academic enrichment. Contact Youth Services at 973-242-7934.

To Infinity And Beyond: Next Stop, Virginia State University

Continued from page 7

track coach, and her future Virginia teammates. She will be a great addition to the team after having gone to Penn Relays twice, and heading a nationally qualifying team. While there, she was given the opportunity to be critiqued by the track team on her speed. The team gave her some pointers and told her how she’ll have to practice three times a day, including between classes. She plans to begin waking up early in the morning to train her body for the heavy workout schedule she’ll have in the coming school year saying, “I know what I need to do now.”

Breaking the 55m and 100m dash records for her high school, Hedrington hopes to continue crushing records, but now on the college level. She lives for the “rush that you get” from coming off the curve. She moved to campus on August 5.

Hedrington has received honors such as the 2016 Youth Who Uplift Award and a letter from Senator Ronald L. Rice, all of which she described as “overwhelming”—the honors, being the captain of the track team and handling her personal issues. Her parents, Michelle and Rudolph Jr., said that the reason why their daughter has been able to achieve so much despite the odds is due to the fact that, “God got her.” They continually expressed their support for their daughter. Her family moved out of Harmony House to give Hedrington the opportunity to have friends over and to look for a place of their own close to Virginia.

Even with all this success, she still needs help paying for her tuition at Virginia State University. Along with aid and grants, the majority of her tuition is covered, but she needs to come up with the other portion soon. Hedrington’s family has created a Go Fund Me account to look for additional help in financing her education. They are still applying for scholarships to help lessen the burden.