



The New Community CLARION

Serving the People of the New Community Network

Volume 37 - Issue 1 ~ January 2020

Rutgers Community Health Center Celebrates New Location and NCC Partnership



Representatives from New Community Corporation and Rutgers Community Health Center were joined by New Jersey First Lady Tammy Snyder Murphy, center with scissors, and members of Newark City Council for the ribbon cutting. *Photo by Tamara Fleming.*

Rutgers Community Health Center (RCHC) held a ribbon cutting Dec. 16 to highlight its new location and partnership with New Community Corporation. The facility, which is a Federally Qualified Health Center (FQHC), is located in NCC's health care building at 274 South Orange Ave., Newark.

"The partnership being forged between Rutgers Community Health Center and New Community Corporation is a partnership with a purpose. One that is most needed in our community," NCC Board Chairman Dr. A. Zachary Yamba said.

New Community partnered with RCHC because its health care services are important for the population NCC serves.

"Having an FQHC within the NCC footprint helps us fulfill our mission of helping to improve the lives of inner-city residents by offering additional health care services," said New Community CEO Richard Rohrman. "We are happy to partner with Rutgers Community Health Center to provide primary care to our residents and clients in a location that is convenient for them."

First Lady of New Jersey Tammy Snyder Murphy attended the ribbon cutting. She is working to address the infant and maternal mortality rates in New Jersey and the racial disparities regarding health care.

"Recognizing that there is inequity in access to health care is the first step in correcting the crisis. Rutgers Community Health Center has proven that they are committed to correcting this issue and to treating their patients with the dignity that every person deserves," she said. "I am so happy to be able to count this health center as a trusted partner in our shared mission to improve the health and wellbeing of families here in New Jersey."

RCHC is one of the first nurse practitioner led FQHCs in the nation. Interim Dean and Professor at the Rutgers School of Nursing Dr. Linda Flynn explained that FQHCs are community-based health centers that provide

Continued on page 4

NCCTI Graduate Thriving in Diesel Field



Ingrid Simeon graduated from the Diesel Technician program at New Community Career & Technical Institute. She now works at HFI Truck Center in Mountainside.

Ingrid Simeon was part of the first Diesel Technician class at New Community Career & Technical Institute (NCCTI). Upon graduation in 2019, she secured a job as an entry level technician at HFI Truck Center in Mountainside, an Isuzu dealership and repair facility.

Simeon went on a tour of HFI Truck Center with her class and made an impression.

"What I noticed right away about Ingrid is that she has the desire to learn," said HFI Truck Center Service Manager Tim Brennan. "We could use three more people like Ingrid."

Simeon enjoys working at HFI Truck Center. While she said it can be a little intimidating being the only female technician, she has found her coworkers are helpful and work together as a team.

"You learn something new every day. It's always something different. So it's never the same thing. That's what's good about it," Simeon said.

Simeon is an Essex County resident who attended an open house at NCCTI before enrolling in the Diesel Technician program. She was always interested in cars and when she learned about the school's Diesel Technician program, she decided to pursue a career in that area. It's a decision she is happy with.

"I love this field," she said.

Simeon is the type of student NCCTI likes to have. She was serious about her studies and starting her career.

"We are extremely proud of Ingrid. She's a living testament to what hard work, perseverance and a commitment to success looks like," said NCCTI Director Rodney Brutton. "Ingrid, while completing her studies at NCCTI, held an overnight job but still maintained excellent attendance and gained the technical skills that enabled her to have the opportunity at HFI Truck Center."

The relationship between NCCTI and HFI Truck Center is relatively new. It started with an online search. Brennan took a trip to a training center in Maplewood that he didn't know had closed. Since he was already out, he searched online for a nearby facility and found NCCTI. He drove to the

Continued on page 11

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 views of New Community Corporation.

Publisher

New Community Corporation
233 West Market Street, Newark, NJ 07103
973-623-2800

Editor, Writer, Photographer

Michelle Lang
NCC Director of Communications
973-497-4413
mlang@newcommunity.org

Check us out online:

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:

- One of 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 nonprofit, social entrepreneurship and CDC communities.
- Having beneficial partnerships on the local, national and global level.

NCCTI Attends LISC FOC Network Gathering



Representatives from New Community Career & Technical Institute (NCCTI) attended the LISC Family Income & Wealth Building Financial Opportunity Center Network gathering in Newark Dec. 3, hosted by Ironbound Community Corporation. They were joined by Seung Kim, Director of LISC National Family Income & Wealth Building Initiative, and Jerrah Crowder, Senior Program Officer at Greater Newark LISC.

Around the Network

Learning to Cook Healthy Meals

Gardens Senior Resident Services Coordinator Denise Felix hosted a Cooking Healthy presentation Dec. 5 in the Community Room of the building, located at 265 Morris Ave., Newark. Residents learned how to make a chickpea salad and got to taste the end result. Felix plans to host the workshops regularly to teach residents how to make healthier meal options and get them in the habit of making better food choices.



NCCTI Hosts Open House for Prospective Students

New Community Career & Technical Institute (NCCTI) hosted an Open House for all its programs Dec. 17 at its Main Campus, 274 South Orange Ave., Newark. Prospective students learned about the programs offered and about the financial aid process. They got to hear from instructors and current students, as well as Director Rodney Brutton and other staff members. NCCTI will host its next Open House Tuesday, Jan. 21 at 10 a.m. at its Main Campus.

NCCTI is an accredited post-secondary career and technical institution that offers the following programs: Automotive Technician, Diesel Technician, Building Trades Specialist, Clinical Medical Assistant, Patient Care Technician, Community Healthcare Worker, Culinary Arts Specialist and Business and Computer Technologies. NCCTI also operates a comprehensive Financial Opportunity Center and Bridges to Career Opportunities Program sponsored by the local and national Local Initiatives Support Corporation (LISC) offices. For more information, call 973-824-6484, log onto newcommunitytech.edu or visit 274 South Orange Ave., Newark.



Clinical Medical Assistant instructor Seham Abouelhassan talks about the program to prospective students at the NCCTI Open House Dec. 17. NCCTI Director Rodney Brutton, left, Academic Instructor Odette Phillip, standing right, and Student Recruiter Aziza Johnson, sitting right, look on.



One of NCCTI's Patient Care Technician students discusses her experience at the school.



NCCTI Director Rodney Brutton talks about the accredited post-secondary school.



Financial Aid Manager Alisia Hughes talks about the financial aid process prospective students will go through at the NCCTI Open House Dec. 17.

Employee Spotlight: Phillip Cobbs



Phillip Cobbs has been working for New Community's Security Department for 13 years.

Visitors to St. Joseph Plaza are met with a big smile and a warm greeting from Security Officer Phillip Cobbs. He has worked at New Community headquarters since 2013 and has been an NCC security officer since 2007.

"Officer Cobbs is one of my entrusted staff who mans one of my most sensitive posts, St. Joseph Plaza," said Security Operations Manager John Wade. "His appearance, diligence and professionalism are consistent on a daily basis, and sets the tone for others to follow."

Cobbs always strives to make a good first

impression with everyone who walks in the door.

"There may be a person that comes here that could write a check to New Community for \$100,000 but when they come through the door and I'm rude and I don't have good customer service skills, they may just rip the check up," he said.

Cobbs' favorite part of his job is making people smile.

"If I can make you smile, that goes a long way. And that person remembers me for a long time," he said. "I get satisfaction out of making other people happy. It makes me feel good if I can make you feel good."

Cobbs has always worked in security. He likes the field because he believes he's a helpful person with good customer service skills and the ability to successfully de-escalate situations. He also has aspirations to become a police officer. He recently took the exam and will find out the results in March.

As a Newark resident, Cobbs believes he could make a difference in law enforcement, particularly with community policing and impacting the youth. He said Wade is very supportive of NCC Security personnel who are interested in pursuing a career in law enforcement, which he appreciates.

Although Cobbs may move on from New Community, he says if that happens he

will continue to help NCC in any way he can.

"NCC is a great organization to work for," Cobbs said. "New Community has paved the way for many people to go out in life, in their journey and blossom and do good. I hope that I can be one of those success stories that I can say I came from New Community and I blossomed."

Cobbs first came to New Community in 2007 when he was enrolled in Essex County College and in need of a job. His uncle was a Task Force Officer for NCC at the time and suggested he apply for a Security position with the organization. He listened and has been with NCC ever since.

He started out working in various NCC buildings, including senior housing and schools the organization operated. He would fill in at St. Joseph Plaza on other officers' days off. Then the individual stationed at St. Joseph Plaza went out after an injury and Cobbs filled in five days per week. He was well liked in the role and has remained there ever since.

Cobbs is a big boxing fan. He started boxing at age 11 and while he doesn't compete, he practices in the gym with other people and independently. He also enjoys traveling and sight-seeing. He lives with his wife in Newark's Central Ward.

New Community Is Hiring

There are a number of open positions available with New Community Corporation in a variety of departments. To see all job listings, along with descriptions and requirements of each position, visit www.newcommunity.org and click "Jobs at New Community." Click "Apply" next to the position of interest to see the full description and then "Apply Now" to complete the application process.

NCC requires job applicants to fill out an online application for consideration. If you don't have internet access, you can use computers New Community has designated for job application purposes. Those are located at NCC headquarters, 233 West Market St., Newark, NJ 07103, and at Extended Care, 266 South Orange Ave., Newark, NJ 07103. For additional information, call 973-623-2800.

As of publication, the following positions were available. The site is continually updated, so check back often to see if there is a job of interest.

- After School Program Counselor - (PT Seasonal)
- Case Manager
- Certified Nursing Assistant
- Clinical Supervisor
- Diesel Technician Instructor
- Driver
- Exterminator - Maintenance Worker
- Food Service Director
- Job Developer
- Licensed Practical Nurse - Full-Time
- Maintenance Worker
- Plumbers Assistant/Maintenance Worker
- Resident Services Coordinator- Part-Time
- Retention Specialist
- Teacher Assistant - (Infant/Toddler) - Floater
- Therapist

NEW COMMUNITY CORPORATION



St. Joseph Plaza
233 West Market St.
Newark, NJ 07103
(973) 623-2800
www.newcommunity.org



Where the Music Comes Alive

JANUARY 2020

Live Entertainment & Music Calendar

Every Friday from 7 PM to 11 PM ~ Food or Beverage Purchase Required

JANUARY 3RD

CLOSED - NEW YEAR'S WEEKEND

JANUARY 10TH

CLOSED - PRIVATE PARTY

JANUARY 17TH

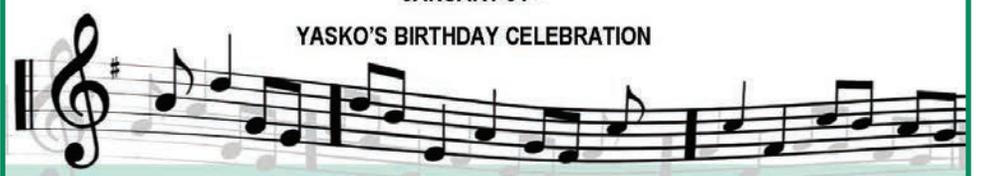
**SPIRIT OF LIFE ENSEMBLE WITH DWIGHT WEST
JAZZ/SPOKEN WORD CELEBRATION OF DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING JR. BIRTHDAY**

JANUARY 24TH

THE JAMES WHITE BAND

JANUARY 31ST

YASKO'S BIRTHDAY CELEBRATION



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

Rutgers Community Health Center Celebrates New Location and NCC Partnership

Continued from page 1



NCC Board Chairman Dr. A. Zachary Yamba addressed the crowd at the ribbon cutting, saying the partnership between RCHC and NCC is needed. Photo by Tamara Fleming.

high quality, culturally competent and comprehensive care based on strict federal guidelines. Charges for services are based on a sliding scale based on patients' ability to pay and no patient is denied service based on inability to pay.

"Study after study has demonstrated that nurse practitioners provide safe, high quality primary care and are a major asset to ensuring that people have access to care in New Jersey and across the nation," she said. "One in 12 people and one in nine children receive their health care from an FQHC. It is high quality, it is affordable and it is accessible care."

Dr. Brian Strom, chancellor of Rutgers Biomedical and Health Sciences and executive vice president for health affairs of Rutgers University, recognized the important partnership between RCHC and NCC.

"These new accommodations expand our School of Nursing's reach to make high quality, affordable health care available to the Newark community and is another example to our commitment to have equity," he said.

Central Ward Councilwoman LaMonica McIver said she was happy for the partnerships that allowed RCHC to come to the Central Ward.

"The municipal council has been doing a lot of work to promote health care, promote healthy



New Jersey First Lady Tammy Snyder Murphy discusses the importance of equity in health care and how RCHC will improve the health and wellbeing of families. Photo by Tamara Fleming.

residents, to get our residents the resources they need to have preventive health care," she said. "To have this center open, it's another place for our residents to go and get the services that they need."

RCHC Community Health Worker Supervisor Victoria Cason explained that before RCHC, people living in her community were surviving and not fully living because of issues like unemployment, poverty, low health literacy and inadequate access to fresh food.

"Our population is now served, heard and have improved their health care disparities. We are our community's beacon of hope, providing access, quality and affordability of primary care and psychological and social services. Together we ease the minds, soothe the hearts and cherish the souls of every single person we encounter," she said. "We're making a difference in people's lives."

RCHC CEO Susan VonNessen Scanlin explained that in addition to providing health care services, RCHC links individuals to services available to them in partnership with NCC.

"We're all here today because of the community and the patients that we serve," she said. "The fact that all of you are here is truly a testi-



Rutgers Community Health Center CEO Susan VonNessen Scanlin talks about the partnership between RCHC and New Community and how patients are linked to services.



New Jersey First Lady Tammy Snyder Murphy and New Community CEO Richard Rohrman at the Rutgers Community Health Center Ribbon Cutting. Photo by Tamara Fleming.

mony to the commitment that both Rutgers, New Community, our city, our hospitals, our community groups are making to not just provide health care but to provide all the services that equal health wellness equity."

RCHC is located on the third floor of the NCC health care building, 274 South Orange Ave., Newark. It is open Monday from 8 a.m. to 7 p.m.; Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m.; and Friday from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. For more information, visit rchc.rutgers.edu.

SAIF Hosts Holiday Gathering for Clients and Staff

Supportive Assistance to Individuals and Families (SAIF) held a Holiday Gathering Dec. 13 for clients and staff to celebrate the season at 274 South Orange Ave., Newark. *Photos courtesy of SAIF.*



NCC Employees Celebrate the Holidays

All New Community employees were invited to the NCC Holiday Party Dec. 19, held at St. Joseph Plaza. Attendees enjoyed appetizers, drinks, dinner and dessert along with the opportunity to celebrate the holiday season with their coworkers. Every attendee received a raffle ticket for a chance to win gift cards throughout the evening. Thanks to everyone who participated and made the party a success! *Photos courtesy of Get My Good Side Photography.*



Social Security News

Beware of Social Security Scams

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

Scammers go to great lengths to trick you out of your personal information. We want to help you protect your information by helping you recognize a Social Security imposter.

There's a widespread telephone scam involving callers claiming they're from Social Security. The caller ID may even show a government number. These callers may tell you there's a problem with your Social Security number. They may also threaten to arrest you unless you pay a fine or fee using gift cards, prepaid debit cards, a wire transfer or cash. That call is not from us.

If you receive a suspicious call from someone alleging to be from Social Security, please:

- Hang up right away.
- Never give your personal information, money or retail gift cards.
- Report the scam at oig.ssa.gov/ to Social Security's law enforcement team at the Office of the Inspector General.

Social Security will not:

- Threaten you.
- Tell you that your Social Security Number has been suspended.
- Call you to demand an immediate payment.
- Ask you for credit or debit card numbers over the phone.
- Require a specific means of debt repayment, like a prepaid debit card, a retail gift card or cash.
- Demand that you pay a Social Security debt without the ability to appeal the amount you owe.
- Promise a Social Security benefit approval, or increase, in exchange for information or money.
- Request personal or financial information through email, text messages or social media.

Social Security will:

- Sometimes call you to confirm you filed for a claim or to discuss other ongoing business you have with them.
- Mail you a letter if there is a problem.
- Mail you a letter if you need to submit payments that will have detailed information about options to make payments and the ability to appeal the decision.
- Use emails, text messages and social media to provide general information (not personal or financial information) on its programs and services if you have signed up to receive these messages.

Please share this information with your family and friends.

Senior Spotlight: Kareem Woolridge



Kareem Woolridge moved to Roseville Senior about 11 years ago and is the building's Tenant Association President.

Whenever there is an event at Roseville Senior, it's likely Kareem Woolridge is there. He serves as the Tenant Association President for the building, a role he has had for more than six years. The lifelong Newark resident has lived at Roseville Senior for about 11 years.

Woolridge takes pride in his work in the building. He and Tenant Association Vice President Linda Pearson go door to door to every resident on each floor to check on them, oftentimes on the weekend when residents are most likely to be at home. They ask residents how they are, how the apartment is and make sure they aren't experiencing any issues. Woolridge also leads Tenant Association meetings and attends resident meetings for the building.

When he first came to Roseville Senior, Woolridge had a vision for change. At that time, there were many non-residents loitering outside of the building to the point that residents couldn't use the seating area set aside for them. He worked to improve the situation by informing the individuals that they couldn't be on private property.

"The building and the people in the building have gotten so much better," Woolridge said. "I like to say I had a lot to do with it as far as that

changing."

Before Pearson moved into the building, Woolridge did much of the work on his own. Now the Tenant Association has about half a dozen members and they work together to ensure a good quality of life for residents.

"I like to hear what their thoughts and ideas are so we can come to some kind of common ground and do whatever we've got to do to make the situation better," Woolridge said. "If I could help put a smile on somebody's face for the day, I'm doing my job. That's how I feel about it."

Woolridge said in addition to working with residents, the Tenant Association works closely with Roseville Senior Resident Services Coordinator Gladys Artis, along with Manager Patricia Johnson.

"We have a team now where it's the manager, the Resident Services Coordinator and the Tenant Association. We work together," Woolridge said. "And that's all I ever wanted."

Artis said Woolridge is always willing to help and gets results.

"If we need donations from the council people when we have our cookouts and other events, he jumps right on it. He makes it happen," she said. "He's always hands on."

Woolridge said his favorite part about living at Roseville Senior is seeing people come together and seeing the smiles on residents' faces.

Woolridge, 60, has always lived in Newark. He moved to Roseville Senior from Society Hill where he lived with his mother. She still lives there and Woolridge has other family members in the surrounding areas.

In his spare time, Woolridge enjoys playing football games on his Xbox One, particularly Madden NFL. He said the video games keep him busy and happy.

While he enjoys serving as Tenant Association President, Woolridge said he will resign his position when he feels he's no longer helping the residents the way he would like.

"Every day I want to make a difference," he said.

vna Health Group
Visiting Nurse Association Health & Hospice

Wellness Tip
January 2020

Better Eye Health

Take a Computer Break

Staring at a computer screen for too long can cause eyestrain, blurry vision, trouble focusing, dry eyes and headaches. For every 20 minutes you stare at the screen, take a 20 second computer break to avoid eyestrain.

Wear Sunglasses and Goggles

UV sunglasses protect your eyes against the sun's harmful rays. If you work with hazardous or airborne materials, wear safety goggles to protect your eyes from these foreign objects.

Stop Smoking

Smoking has been linked to age-related macular degeneration, cataracts and optic nerve damage all of which can lead to vision loss. If you are a smoker, consider quitting.

Take Care of Contact Lenses

Do you wear contacts? If so, make sure you take good care of them by disinfecting and lubricating them regularly. Be sure to wash your hands before taking them in and out and never sleep with your contacts in.

Eat Healthy

A diet high in green leafy vegetables like spinach, kale and collards, brightly colored fruit and vegetables and fish high in omega-3 fatty acids can help ward off age related vision problems.

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

NCC Board, Department Directors Come Together for Christmas

Members of the New Community Board of Directors and NCC department heads celebrated Christmas at St. Joseph Plaza Dec. 18.



Preparing for Christmas

Residents of Manor Senior, 545 Orange St., Newark, gathered in the Community Room of the building Dec. 9 to decorate its Christmas tree. They were joined by Resident Services Coordinators Guadalupe Cepeda and Erika Furcal, as well as other staff members in the building.



Extended Care Celebrates Christmas

New Community Extended Care Facility, 266 South Orange Ave., Newark, held a Christmas party for residents and their families Dec. 18. The facility also welcomed volunteers from Seton Hall College of Nursing who visited Dec. 20 to sing Christmas carols with the residents.



Extended Care Administrator Veronica Onwunaka with residents at the facility's Christmas party Dec. 18. Photo courtesy of Fred Hunter.



Extended Care residents enjoyed singing Christmas carols with visitors from Seton Hall College of Nursing. Photo courtesy of Kathy Sternas.



A group from Seton Hall College of Nursing visited Extended Care Dec. 20 to sing Christmas songs with residents. Photo courtesy of Kathy Sternas.



One Extended Care resident enjoys singing with Santa during the Seton Hall College of Nursing visit Dec 20. Photo courtesy of Kathy Sternas.



Bringing Holiday Cheer to HHELCC

Three groups brightened the holidays of the children at Harmony House Early Learning Center (HHELCC) with donations of Christmas presents. Students and faculty members from Seton Hall College of Nursing and students from West Caldwell High School distributed gifts and spent time with the children. The New Jersey State Police and Marine Corps League donated items from their annual toy drive to HHELCC as well. Their efforts helped make the season special for the children.



Representatives from the New Jersey State Police and Marine Corps League pose with HHELCC Director Sister Maurice Liguori, left, and some of the children. The group dropped off donated items from their toy drive Dec. 18.



Students from West Caldwell High School spent time with the infants of HHELCC when they delivered presents to the center Dec. 18.



West Caldwell High School students played with the children of HHELCC when they dropped off gifts Dec. 18.



HHELCC toddlers received lots of toys from Seton Hall College of Nursing.



Infants at HHELCC were excited to see what presents they received from Seton Hall College of Nursing Dec. 19.



Children in the HHELCC pre-K class were all smiles after opening their gifts from Seton Hall College of Nursing Dec. 19.

Harmony House Christmas Celebration

Volunteer Sally Milad organized a Christmas party Dec. 22 for the children and families of Harmony House, New Community's transitional housing facility for homeless families. Each child received presents from Santa. The event also included pizza, juice, snacks and face painting. *Photos courtesy of Sally Milad.*



HHELC Hosts Holiday Concert

Families gathered at Harmony House Early Learning Center (HHELC) Dec. 19 to watch their children perform in the school's annual Holiday Concert.



CHELC Students Perform for Holidays

Community Hills Early Learning Center (CHELC) held its Holiday Performance Dec. 18. Children sang Christmas songs for their family members in attendance.



Seniors Celebrate Christmas



Commons Senior, 140 South Orange Ave., Newark, hosted a Christmas party Dec. 17 for residents in the Community Room.



Manor Senior, 545 Orange St., Newark, held a Holiday Social for residents Dec. 23. Some residents built cookie houses. Photo courtesy of Erika Furcal.



Residents of Roseville Senior, 1 South Eighth St., Newark, participated in a grab bag exchange Dec. 20. Photo courtesy of Gladys Artis.



Floor Captains of Associates, 180 South Orange Ave., Newark, had a grab bag Dec. 20. Photos courtesy of Anne Moran.



Family Service Bureau

Set an Intention, Not a Resolution

Instead of setting a resolution for the year and not accomplishing it, try to do something different and set an intention on how you would like your year to look. To do this successfully, you must be kind to yourself and create specific goals for yourself or your loved ones to get there. It is very important for your goals to be specific so you can break them down and accomplish what is necessary.

For example, if your goal is to be more connected with your loved ones. How would you like to be connected with them? What can you do to

cultivate and nourish your difficult relationships? And write it down. Your intention is for yourself, your work and your family. Your intention for the year is something that you keep in mind for yourself, not when things are easy but when they are the most difficult. For example, if you want to be more understanding and open-minded consistently and constantly reflect back to yourself on how you can keep that intention in your actions, especially when times are most stressful.

If you are having trouble with connection or would like to be held accountable on your inten-

tion for the year to better yourself, you can find help with one of our clinicians at Family Service Bureau. We have two locations: in Newark and Kearny open from 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. Monday through Friday and with Saturday availability. We are able to help counsel you for family issues, relationship issues, economic hardship and substance abuse through multiple avenues of individual, couple, family and group therapy.

For more information, call our Newark office at 973-412-2056 or our Kearny office at 201-246-8077.

Families Come Out for NCC's Annual Breakfast with Santa

New Community hosted its annual Breakfast with Santa event Dec. 14 at the NCC Neighborhood Center, 56-68 Hayes St., Newark, where 186 children were served breakfast. Families enjoyed the morning, took photos with Santa and children received presents. *Photos courtesy of Edward Morris.*



 <p>New Community Adult Learning Center 563 Orange Street, Newark, New Jersey 07107 (973) 558-5536 www.newcommunity.org/services/adult-learning-center/</p>	
<p style="text-align: center;">Available Courses</p> <p>English for Speakers of Other Languages Mondays through Thursdays: 10 AM to 12 PM or 6 PM to 8 PM</p> <p>Citizenship Saturdays: 9 AM to 12 PM</p> <p>Computers – Basic & Intermediate Levels Saturdays: 9 AM to 12 PM or 12 PM to 3 PM</p> <p>ABE, Pre-HSE, & HSE (English only) Mondays through Thursdays: 9:30 AM to 1:30 PM or 5:30 PM to 8 PM</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Free Services</p> <p>Health Screenings Physicals, Mammograms, Cholesterol, Nutrition, etc.</p> <p>Open Community Free workshops conducted by private institutions and/or volunteers for the general public</p> <p>Other Services</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Community organizing • Community rooms • Social services referrals
<p style="text-align: center;">Cursos Disponibles</p> <p>Inglés para Hablantes de otras Idiomas Lunes a jueves: 10 AM a 12 PM o 6 PM a 8 PM</p> <p>Ciudadanía Sábados: 9 AM a 12 PM</p> <p>Computadora – Nivel Básico e Intermedio Sábados: 9 AM a 12 PM o 12 PM a 3 PM</p> <p>ABE, Pre-HSE, & HSE (Ingles solamente) Lunes a jueves: 9:30 AM a 1:30 PM o 5:30 PM a 8 PM</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Servicios Gratuitos</p> <p>Exámenes Médicos Gratuitos Físicos, Mamografías, Colesterol, Nutrición, etc.</p> <p>Comunidad Abierta Talleres gratuitos conducidos por instituciones privadas y/o voluntarios para el publico en general</p> <p>Otros servicios</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Organización de la comunidad • Sala de reuniones • Referidos a servicios sociales

*Weekdays and Saturdays courses are 9, 10, and 21 weeks long depending on the selected course.

NCCTI Graduate Thriving in Diesel Field

Continued from page 1

NCCTI Training Center at 210 West Bigelow St., Newark, and liked what he saw.

“I drove there and I walked into the shop and realized it’s a clean, nice environment and like a working shop. Everybody there was great,” Brennan said. “That’s where it started.”

Brennan invited the Diesel Technician class to HFI Truck Center so students could see the operation and get a sense of a real world facility. That’s when he first met Simeon.

HFI Truck Center Service Advisor Myshka Simeus was the first one to notice Simeon during the class visit and pointed her out to Brennan. Simeon said having another female on the staff, even though she wasn’t directly working on vehicles, provided some comfort.

While Simeus doesn’t currently work on vehicles, she has a background in all aspects. She hopes more females enter the field, which tends to be male dominated.

“I’ve worked in parts department, service, working on cars, warranty administrator, everything. For Ingrid and possibly other females who want to get in the field, they shouldn’t shy away from it because of misconceptions that they may have,” Simeus said. “They need to just jump into it.”

Because of the positive experience with Simeon, Brennan said he looks forward to working more with NCCTI and hiring additional students, both from the Diesel Technician and Automotive Technician programs.

“We extend thanks to Tim and his team at HFI Truck Center for partnering with NCCTI and creating the opportunity for Ingrid,” Brutton said. “Our success is based on employer partners and we’re proud to have a relationship with HFI Truck Center.”

HFI Truck Center is well established in the industry. It has been in operation for 90 years, first in Union and then moving to its current Mountainside location in the 1940s. It is a family run business that focuses on customer service and has a “one repair at a time” mentality.

The diesel field is in great need of technicians, particularly in New Jersey which is a main port.

“I tell all the new people that come in, I say, once your value increases, we need you. You don’t need us,” Brennan said. “And that’s the truth.”

NCCTI is an accredited post-secondary career and technical institution that offers the following programs: Automotive Technician, Diesel Technician, Building Trades Specialist, Clinical Medical Assistant, Patient Care Technician, Community Healthcare Worker, Culinary Arts Specialist and Business and Computer Technologies. NCCTI also operates a comprehensive Financial Opportunity Center and Bridges to Career Opportunities Program sponsored by the local and national Local Initiatives Support Corporation (LISC) offices. For more information, call 973-824-6484, log onto newcommunitytech.edu or visit 274 South Orange Ave., Newark.



Happy New Year, Now Please Remember to Vote

By Lesley Leslie

Blessings to you all in this New Year. There’s so much to be grateful for as we look back on the year that has passed. Some of you have welcomed new members to your family, while others have experienced the loss of a family member or friend. With the holidays behind us and the beginning of another year ahead, there’s so much to think about!

The start of a new year often brings about fresh perspectives and hopes for a better year. You may have said goodbye to a few friendships or relationships, with an eagerness to embrace something new and different. As you consider the possibilities of the year ahead, let’s not forget the state of our country and the presidential election that will take place at the end of this year. The country has become so divided and many have lost faith in the electoral process. There is a prevailing sense of discouragement in existence

in our nation that comes from a lack of empathy for your fellow man.

Hate crimes are on the rise and it feels like people just don’t care about anything anymore. There used to be a time where the “truth” mattered, even when it wasn’t popular; at the end of the day, the truth was respected. It wasn’t disregarded as opinion or something that was debatable. It simply was truth and we should stand for the truth.

As the next months in 2020 come and go and bring this country closer to the November presidential elections, we have got to understand the importance of the vote. It’s easy to think about change when you consider the start of a brand new year. So with that in mind, give some thought about the change you would like to see in this country’s leadership. Join in the “2020 Vote Challenge” set forth in this Clarion article. Make a New Year’s Resolution that you will not only vote in this year’s election but that you will encourage 20 young people to vote as well!

Let’s get it done.

Non Profit Org.
 US Postage
PAID
 Permit # 5780
 Newark, NJ

New Community Thanks Our Holiday Donors



New Community Board Member and Outreach Coordinator Madge Wilson, second from left, and NCC Event Coordinator Giselle Oviedo, right, pick up donations from students of Oak Knoll School of the Holy Child in Summit Dec. 16. Photo courtesy of James McEvoy.

Supporters of New Community and St. Rose of Lima Church generously donated turkeys, gifts and other goods to families in need during both Christmas and Thanksgiving. The efforts were coordinated by Madge Wilson, NCC Board Member and Outreach Coordinator. More than 1,000 gifts were distributed. We are deeply grateful to the following groups and individuals for spreading the spirit of joy during the 2019 holiday season:

- St. Paul's Abbey, Newton, N.J. – Bro. Bernardo Lee and the Monks, Donated Christmas Trees

- Mr. and Mrs. Mark Carelli and Family, Maplewood, N.J.
- Weichert Realty, Maplewood, N.J. – Rebecca Berenson and Coworkers
- Our Lady of Sorrow Parish, South Orange, N.J. – Jonathan and Rita Arena and Parishioners
- Millburn Fire Department – Fire Chief Robert Echavarria and Nicole Verducci, Millburn, N.J. and Coworkers
- Frank Consentino, Gillette, N.J.
- St. Helen's Catholic Parish – Marilyn Ryan, Westfield, N.J. and Parishioners
- Oak Knoll School of the Holy Child, Summit, N.J. – Brian Topping and Coworkers
- St. Rose of Lima Academy – Elizabeth Guarnieri, Betsy Guarnieri and Dan Solazzi and Parents
- Our Lady of the Lake, Verona, N.J. – Ursula Conrad and Parishioners
- Notre Dame Catholic Parish, North Caldwell, N.J. – Donna Zarros and Parishioners
- Seton Hall University School of Law and The Thomas More Society, Newark, N.J. – Fr. Nicholas Gengaro
- St. Thomas Parish, Bloomfield, N.J. – Lorraine McMillian and Parishioners
- Glenwood Elementary School, Short Hills, N.J. – Usha Shah and Karrie
- St. Teresa of Avila Parish, Summit, N.J. – Margaret Strong, Theresa and Parishioners
- Church of The Assumption Parish, Emerson, N.J. – Parishioners and the Social Concerns Committee
- St. Catherine of Siena Parish, Cedar Grove, N.J. – Brenda Pereira and Parishioners
- Meyner & Landis, Counsellors At Law, Newark, N.J. – Cindy Oliveira and Coworkers
- Capital One Bank, Union, N.J. – Diane Dacunha and Coworkers
- Mr. and Mrs. Desjardins, Maplewood, N.J.
- Columbia/Maplewood High School, Maplewood, N.J. – Marsha Hicks and Students
- Our Lady of Lourdes Parish, West Orange, N.J. – Pat Paxton and Parishioners

Thanksgiving Turkey Donations:

- Damascus Bakery, Newark, N.J. – Wanda Hightower, Coordinator
- Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Forlini, Newark, N.J.
- St. Rose of Lima Parish, Short Hills, N.J. – Ed Langley and Parishioners
- Mr. and Mrs. William Hoffman