



# CLARION

SERVING THE PEOPLE OF THE NEW COMMUNITY NETWORK

Volume 35 — Issue 10 ~ November 2018

## New Community Hosts A Memorial Tribute To Monsignor Linder



NCC Board President Dr. A. Zachary Yamba welcomed guests to A Memorial Tribute to Monsignor Linder Oct. 23.

**N**ew Community Corporation hosted A Memorial Tribute to Monsignor Linder: Visionary, Founder and Leader to honor its late founder, recognize his accomplishments and look toward the future to carry on his mission for many years to come.

Members of the community, NCC employees and friends gathered at St. Joseph Plaza, 233 West Market St., Newark, Oct. 23 for the event. NCC Board President Dr. A. Zachary Yamba welcomed guests and explained that the occasion was a celebration of the life of Monsignor William J. Linder and a call to

continue honoring his legacy.

"To carry out the legacy, the board asks that all those who support that vision join us in making that vision continue for the next 50 years," Yamba said. "Because as you know, for 52 years, Monsignor Linder lived and worked in the city of Newark. He did not want to be anywhere else. This was his calling."

Looking toward the future to continue Monsignor Linder's work was a theme throughout the evening.

"Hope for Monsignor is that NCC does not continue on a nostalgic path of preserving what he had already accomplished in his last 50 years," said Board Member Newton Richards. "Instead, his hope is that we build a bigger and stronger NCC with the capacity to fulfill the vision and transform inner cities into great urban communities."

Diane Johnson, who served as the event emcee and is a new member of the NCC Board of Directors, said while the event was a tribute to Monsignor Linder and what he accomplished during his life, she also wanted everyone to look ahead and know the organization's work will continue.

"New Community is not dead. Not because Monsignor is not here," Johnson said. "We will carry out the mission of New Community in this city, in this state. And when we get tired of doing it in Newark because there's nothing else to do in Newark, we'll go to Jersey City, we'll go to Paterson, we'll go to Irvington. We'll go wherever we need to go because Monsignor did not leave us here to forsake us or those of us who need to be able to have hope. We will do what needs to be done."

New Community CEO Richard Rohrman discussed the many areas where NCC is working to grow, including renovating of housing units,



New Community CEO Richard Rohrman shared how NCC is growing.



NCC Board Member Newton Richards spoke about how Monsignor Linder would want New Community to move forward.

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## New Community And Saint Vincent Academy: A Longstanding Partnership



NCC CEO Richard Rohrman, NCC Chief of Staff Kathy Spivey, Saint Vincent Academy Administrative Director Sister June Favata, NCC Board President Dr. A. Zachary Yamba and NCC Board Member and Outreach Coordinator Madge Wilson, left to right, at the 33rd Annual Friends in Concert event at SVA Sept. 27.

New Community Corporation and Saint Vincent Academy have long been connected. Both are a part of Newark history and are celebrating milestones. Saint Vincent Academy is entering its 150th year of operation while NCC just celebrated its 50th anniversary.

While Saint Vincent Academy is an all girls Catholic high school and New Community is a community development corporation that provides a myriad of services to members of the community, their goals are similar.

"With Saint Vincent Academy's commitment to empowering individuals, their mission clearly intersects with the mission of NCC. And in particular, not just individuals, but individuals within the urban areas," said New Community Board President Dr. A. Zachary Yamba. "Monsignor's passion in addition

to everything else was for education and therefore I think NCC likewise is committed to that. NCC will also continue the legacy that Monsignor started by supporting some of the young women who go to Saint Vincent's with scholarships."

Saint Vincent Academy Administrative Director Sister June Favata came to Newark in 1969 and met NCC Founder Monsignor William J. Linder soon after. She explained that both the school and New Community had a vision of what Newark could be, though they took different approaches.

"I think that Father Linder's vision was to provide the citizens with the skills and the opportunities that they need to live a life that's worthy of their dignity as human beings," she said. "We as educators thought there needs to be a total renewal in Newark and that can't happen without educating citizenry. And

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## The New Community Clarion

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Michelle Lang

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### 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.

## Extended Care Resident Baptized



Extended Care resident Woodley Tisha was baptized at the Extended Care Chapel Oct. 6 by Father Beatus Kitururu, left. NCC Board Member and Outreach Coordinator Madge Wilson, center, served as Tisha's godmother and Sister Elizabeth Lima, right, helped with the service. *Photo courtesy of Sister Elizabeth Lima.*

## Around The Network

### Having Fun At NCC Kids' Super Saturday

Children of all ages enjoyed NCC Kids' Super Saturday Oct. 20 in front of the NCC Neighborhood Center, 56-68 Hayes St., Newark. Activities included pony rides, bounce houses, an inflatable slide, video game truck and face painting. *Photos courtesy of New Community Youth Services Department.*



### CHELC Students Learn Fire Safety

Students at Community Hills Early Learning Center, 85 Irvine Turner Boulevard, Newark, got a visit from members of the Newark Fire Department Oct. 22. They learned about fire safety, got to see the equipment firefighters wear and got an up-close look at a fire engine. *Photos courtesy of Nelly Noel.*



### High Schoolers Volunteer At Extended Care

Even volunteers from People's Prep Charter School in Newark came to New Community Extended Care Facility, 266 South Orange Ave., Newark, Oct. 10 to help organize records and shred unnecessary paperwork. The event was part of the school's second annual Day of Service where more than 200 high school students volunteered their time at various organizations throughout the city.



## EMPLOYEE OF THE MONTH: Paul François



**Paul François has served as a licensed practical nurse (LPN) at New Community Extended Care for two years.**

**P**aul François can be found on the third floor at New Community Extended Care, serving as a licensed practical nurse (LPN) for residents. She very much enjoys her position and says she has learned a lot working at the facility.

François was born and raised in Haiti and moved to Canada with her family when she was 16. It was there that she decided to become a nurse. While living in Canada, her grandmother was sick and the family wanted to keep her at home instead of sending her to a facility. Family members took turns caring for her. François' sister was in college at the time and was available

during the day. When François came home from school, she took care of her grandmother in the evenings.

The experience made her realize she wanted to help elderly people as a nurse and it has stuck with her to this day.

"Whatever patient I'm with, my grandmother pops in my head," she said.

Because of that, François tries to treat every patient like family.

"I call them my kids," she said of her patients.

Members of the administration at Extended Care have taken notice of François.

"Mrs. Paul has been a dedicated, unprejudiced, hardworking staff member to NCC. She has devoted her time to care for our residents and she goes beyond and above the call of duty to fill in," said New Community Extended Care Administrator Veronica Onwunaka. "Whenever any staff calls out, even if it's not convenient for her, she will find an alternative for her own issues and come over to care for our residents."

François became an LPN in 2008. She worked at other facilities and for an agency before starting her work at Extended Care. She learned about the opening from former Director of Nursing Beverly Spencer, who she worked with at another facility.

As an LPN, François completes a variety of

tasks each day, including taking vital signs, giving assessments, assisting with medications, calling pharmacies and calling families of patients when needed. She also will perform tasks typically handled by certified nursing assistants (CNAs) if they are busy.

François believes working at Extended Care has helped her grow in her profession.

"I consider myself a nurse but I say thanks to New Community because New Community taught me a lot," she said. "I learned a lot from this place."

She is currently working toward becoming a registered nurse (RN) and has almost completed the requirements. It has been difficult to finish because her husband is sick. François has family members helping care for her husband while she's at work, but she takes care of him when she gets home.

François sees her work at Extended Care as more than a job and a paycheck.

"Working here, it's helping me and I'm helping them. I don't really see only the money. I see the benefits of my clients," she said. "I need the money to survive too but I don't give the money priority. If I have to do it sometimes in my free time, I really don't care. Because you have to help."

## Workforce Director Talks Up NCC On WZYE Radio Show



New Community Workforce Development Center Director Rodney Brutton during his appearance Sept. 28 on The Voice Of Our Leaders, a radio show on WZYE 95.9 FM.



WZYE 95.9 FM President and CEO and host of The Voice Of Our Leaders Aanselme Lebourne, host of The Voice Of Our Leaders Marjorie Lloyd and New Community Workforce Development Center Director Rodney Brutton, left to right, after Brutton's appearance on the radio show Sept. 28.

New Community Workforce Development Center Director Rodney Brutton was a guest on the radio program The Voice Of Our Leaders on WZYE 95.9 FM Sept. 28. The public radio station, headquartered in East Orange, serves Essex County. Brutton discussed the different programs offered by the accredited post-secondary career and technical school, as well as the scope and services of New Community Corporation in general. Video of the appearance is available at [www.newcommunity.org/media-center/videos](http://www.newcommunity.org/media-center/videos). It also appears on the Facebook pages of New Community Workforce Development Center, New Community Corporation and WZYE 95.9 FM.

### NEW COMMUNITY CORPORATION



St. Joseph Plaza  
233 West Market St., Newark NJ 07103  
(973) 242-8012  
[www.ncc50th.org](http://www.ncc50th.org)  
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MADAM PAT TANDY



**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 Hosts A Memorial Tribute To Monsignor Linder

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Event emcee and new NCC Board Member Diane Johnson told the crowd New Community is alive and well.



New Community Board Member Madge Wilson recalled what a great man Monsignor Linder was.



Saint Vincent Academy Administrative Director Sister June Favata told the audience how she admired Monsignor Linder and his work.

increasing workforce development, increasing security, increasing technology and looking at new developments. He also talked about the partnerships NCC has developed, including Rutgers School of Nursing, which will be opening a nurse practitioner led primary care operation in the NCC Health Care Complex, and the Leaguers, which helps with NCC's early learning centers.

"We are open for business. And we are launching ourselves into the next 50 years," Rohrman said.

Rohrman also talked about his personal connection to Monsignor Linder.

"He really opened my eyes to the injustices that existed," Rohrman said. "He just grabbed ahold of me and he opened up my eyes and I saw what was happening around me that I never would have seen without him. And like everybody else, I joined."

NCC Board Member and Outreach Coordinator Madge Wilson was a parishioner at Queen of Angels Church when Monsignor Linder was assigned there as pastor. She said he listened to the members of the community.

"He built everything upon the needs of the people," she said.

From housing to day care centers to a nursing home, Monsignor Linder brought to fruition the needs and wants of those living in the community.

"I thank Monsignor Linder for having the vision to build New Community," Wilson said. "Monsignor Linder, you left your footprint here. And I want you to pray for us while you're looking down on us and we will always remember you."

Sister June Favata, administrative director at Saint Vincent Academy, said she admired Monsignor Linder, who she called a force of nature and a man of faith.

"He understood what people needed. And yes, he prayed for them. And yes, he led them spiritually. But the spirituality that he helped see in people was all about service, was all about kindness to your neighbor, was all about doing for your neighbor what your neighbor most needed to the best of your ability," she said. "So how can you not love and admire him?"

Father Philip Waters, who gave the homily at the funeral mass for Monsignor Linder, reiterated a point he made about Monsignor Linder's willingness to get involved in difficult situations.

"He was always a priest that was willing to roll up his sleeves and to get his hands dirty," he said. "And I think that that was something throughout his whole life."

Father Beatus Kitururu said Monsignor Linder taught him the power of love.

"It was amazing. He had the energy of loving people that was unlimited," he said.

NCC Human Resources Manager Anna Sing-King shared her personal story of growth that was made possible by Monsignor Linder. As a child, she and her siblings were abused by their mother and put into foster care. At age 19, she gave birth to a daughter. She wasn't able to adequately care for herself and her daughter and wrote a letter to God asking for help.

"I wanted more out of life but I didn't know how

to get it until I joined New Community Corporation in 1994 through the Employment Center," she said.

Sing-King started out as a temporary clerk in the Property Management Department and then got hired as a receptionist with HR. She has since been promoted to her current position.

"My life, my daughter's and my family, all our lives are better because of the vision of New Community," she said.

NCC Director of Mission Frances Teabout closed out the evening tribute with a story about how hard work, dedication and asking others for help when needed is the way to succeed. She also talked about how the organization is still very much needed.

"The issues that existed at the time that New Community was born continue to exist," she said. "Racism is still a problem, police brutality is still a problem, lack of good jobs and good places to live is still a problem. So what does that mean? That means we still have a whole lot of work to do."

She then asked who in the audience was willing to join in and help NCC continue doing the work that needs to be done. Everyone rose to their feet.

"New Community is still alive and strong and vital and making a difference in the lives of the people that God has commissioned us to serve," Teabout said. "Long live New Community. God bless New Community. God bless Monsignor William Linder. And God bless America."



NCC Director of Mission Frances Teabout led the audience in the Prayer of Saint Francis to begin the event. She closed the evening with how New Community's work is still greatly needed.



NCC Human Resources Manager Anna Sing-King shared her story and how Monsignor Linder's work and mission made a huge impact on her life and that of her family.

## New Director of Property Management Hopes To Instill Team Culture



Hector Torres now serves as the Director of Property Management for New Community. He started in the position Sept. 17.

**N**ew Community recently welcomed Hector Torres as the new Director of Property Management. He has a degree in accounting from Fairleigh Dickinson University, but has been working in property management since the early 1990s.

Torres got into property management when he was working with Peter J. O'Connor, the attorney from Cherry Hill who brought a case against Mount Laurel because that municipality refused to allow affordable housing units. The case went to the New Jersey Supreme Court and led to the New Jersey Council on Affordable Housing (COAH), which requires municipalities to have a certain number of affordable housing units.

That experience made Torres knowledgeable about the different aspects of affordable housing, which is an asset to New Community.

"Hector brings a great mix of experience in both the Section 8 and Tax Credit programs. After our resyndications, we have tax credits layered over Section 8 which brings a new complexity to managing our residential portfolio," said New Community CEO Richard Rohrman. "Hector brings the technical skills, experience and temperament to meet our standard of operating a high performing property management department. Please join me in welcoming Hector to the NCC family."

Before coming to New Community, Torres worked for RPM Development Group and had a brief stint as director of operations for the Pemberton Township School District. He found that the public sector wasn't a good fit for him and decided he wanted to get back into property management work. A friend and former coworker told him about the opportunity at New Community, so he applied, interviewed and ultimately landed the job. He started Sept. 17.

As the Director of Property Management, Torres is responsible for supervising the property managers, ensuring the buildings are maintained to certain standards, keeping the buildings financially responsible and making sure NCC is in compliance with federal, state and local regulations.

"But I think my biggest responsibility is to change the culture and the attitudes," he said. "I want to incorporate a true team concept."

He also stresses to the property managers that they shouldn't take the job personally.

"There's regulations out there for housing and everything but you're still dealing with people. And that's the bottom line," Torres said. "And one of the things, working with Peter O'Connor back then that is true today is that the human element always comes into play."

Torres grew up in Camden as one of 15 children. He currently lives in Magnolia in Camden County. He has a wife, a son, a daughter and a granddaughter. He also loves pit bulls and currently has two named Roscoe and Chloe.

"If I had enough money, I would open a shelter and stop working," he said.

In his spare time, Torres plays fast pitch baseball with a league, which he has been doing for about 10 years. Every November he attends a week-long tournament in Florida.

Torres is impressed with the vast array of services New Community offers and hopes that more residents access those services.

"Over the years, New Community has developed programs and opportunities for the people of Newark. I think that's amazing. I wish more of our residents would take full advantage of everything," he said. "That's one of the things when I meet with them I want to stress. It's here. Use it. Don't let it go to waste."

## New Community And Saint Vincent Academy: A Longstanding Partnership

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New Community Founder Monsignor William J. Linder and Saint Vincent Academy Administrative Director Sister June Favata at a past Friends in Concert event. Sister June credits Monsignor Linder with starting the partnership between the school and NCC.

so we approach it that way. We really do feel that if you educate a girl, you educate a society. When you educate a girl, you educate a family. And I don't mean education just in terms of academic things. I'm talking about faith and values clarification and morals and developing in people a moral compass. All those things that contribute to good citizenship."

Education has always been an important component of New Community as well. NCC has two early learning centers, it opened a charter school and it helps send high school students to Catholic high schools through the Monsignor William J. Linder Scholarship Fund.

"Saint Vincent Academy and New Community

have been working together to support our youth for a long time. Saint Vincent's has been a part of the Newark fabric for 150 years. We are the new kids on the block at 50 years," said NCC CEO Richard Rohrman. "Sister June and Monsignor Linder worked tirelessly to see that promising young people got the chance to excel in their lives. One individual's success will over time change the course of the lives of their children, grandchildren and so on. The multiplier effect of one success is so powerful. Monsignor Linder was and Sister June continues to be two of the most effective and persistent champions of the city. We will continue to be as committed to Newark's youth as ever."

Sister June said between five and seven Saint Vincent Academy students per year usually receive assistance from the Monsignor William J. Linder Scholarship Fund. But the partnership between SVA and NCC goes much deeper than that.

SVA has a program called Students-in-Community, which every student participates in annually.

"The idea is to have the students become imbued with a sense of responsibility to other people," explained Sister June. "That idea of doing to your neighbor what they would do to you. That idea of serving others as Christ served."

The school frequently sends students to work at Harmony House, NCC's transitional housing facility for homeless families, and Extended Care, its nursing home, as part of the program. Last year, students hosted a luncheon for senior citizens as part of the Students-in-Community program and invited NCC residents to attend.

SVA also gave Monsignor Linder its Pelican Award in 2014 to honor him and the work he accomplished.

"I think that he was the single most influential person in the city of Newark over these years in terms of real results," said Sister June. "We're talking about senior citizens' housing, we're talking about housing for homeless, we're talking about shopping areas, we're talking about job training. You name it, all of the things that people need to improve their lives."

She also said she was impressed with how he accomplished his goals.

"Lots of people can have the vision but not too many people can bring that vision to reality. And he had the ability to do that," she said.

Sister June credits Monsignor Linder with starting the partnership between New Community and Saint Vincent Academy.

"While we did very much appreciate everything that NCC was doing under his leadership, we were so desperately trying to keep this place going. It was more his initiative and his generosity and his understanding and appreciation for what we were doing that created the partnership," she said.

Going forward, Sister June hopes Saint Vincent Academy can incorporate New Community even more into the curriculum, perhaps having NCC employees visit the school and tell the students about their work, how they accomplish it and what it means to them.

"I think that their imaginations could be captured by meeting people who are offering their skills and talents and time and energy to building up the kingdom in Newark," she said.

## Social Security News

### Understanding Spouses' Benefits

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

**M**arriage is a cultural institution that exists all over the world. Having a partner means sharing many things including a home and other property. Understanding how your future retirement might affect your spouse is important. When you're planning for your fun and vibrant golden years, here are a few things to remember:

If a spouse accepts reduced retirement benefits before starting spouse's benefits (his or her spouse is younger), the spouse will not receive 50 percent of the worker's benefit amount.

Your full spouse's benefit could be up to 50 percent of your spouse's full retirement age amount if you are full retirement age when you take it. If you qualify for your own retirement benefit and a spouse's benefit, we always pay your own benefit first. (For example, you are eligible for \$400 from your own retirement and \$150 as a spouse for a total of \$550.) The reduction rates for retirement and spouses benefits are different. If your spouse is younger, you cannot receive benefits unless he or she is receiving benefits (except for divorced spouses). If you took your reduced retirement first while waiting for your spouse to reach retirement age, when you add spouse's benefits later, your own retirement portion remains reduced which causes the total retirement and spouses benefit together to total less than 50 percent of the worker's amount. You can find out more at [www.socialsecurity.gov/OACT/quickcalc/spouse.html](http://www.socialsecurity.gov/OACT/quickcalc/spouse.html).

On the other hand, if your spouse's retirement benefit is higher than your retirement benefit, and he or she chooses to take reduced benefits and dies first, your survivor benefit will be reduced, but may be higher than what your spouse received.

If the deceased worker started receiving reduced retirement benefits before their full retirement age, a special rule called the retirement insurance benefit limit may apply to the surviving spouse. The retirement insurance benefit limit is the maximum survivor benefit you may receive. Generally, the limit is the higher of:

- The reduced monthly retirement benefit to which the deceased spouse would have been entitled if they had lived, or
- 82.5 percent of the unreduced deceased spouse's monthly benefit if they had started receiving benefits at their full retirement age (rather than choosing to receive a reduced retirement benefit early).

Knowing how your finances affect your spouse's can help both of you avoid future impacts on your incomes. When it comes to information, we have over 80 years of experience. Access a wealth of useful information as well as our benefits planners at [www.socialsecurity.gov/planners](http://www.socialsecurity.gov/planners).

## SENIOR SPOTLIGHT: John Hitchener



John Hitchener stands in the garden he maintains outside Orange Senior.

Residents and visitors of Orange Senior are greeted by a large floral garden near the entrance of the building. The garden isn't the work of a landscaping company, however. John Hitchener, who has lived at Orange Senior for 15 years, is responsible for the flowers outside the building.

Hitchener started the garden in 2003 with two other residents. Now he does it alone because the others are unable to continue. But he doesn't see the task as a burden.

"It is a little exercise for about two hours per week without any lifting or ploughing," he said.

His work on the garden may not seem like much to him, but it's noticed.

"He solely beautified Orange Senior frontage," said Care Coordinator Sister Pauline Echebiri. "He is also a gentle and peaceful resident who gets along with other residents."

Hitchener said maintaining a small garden doesn't cost as much as some might think.

"The trick is to have perennial plants that come back each year, stronger and better," he said. "The little spaces left are just about enough to buy new plants. I usually buy five or six annuals."

Hitchener learned to garden from his father when he was a boy growing up in Jamaica. He moved to New Jersey in 1969 when he was 32 years old. He had just gotten married and made the move to be close to

his wife's family.

He owned a home in Montclair for 12 years where he had a large garden. He also lived in East Orange before making the move to Orange Senior in 2003.

His career was in banking. He worked in the checking accounts department of a bank from the early 1970s until his retirement in 2003. Once he retired, he moved to Orange Senior.

The 81-year-old enjoys his home.

"You don't have any problems with anyone because you're all the same age. There's not a lot of young people, teenagers running around or even married couples. It's very nice," he said.

Hitchener lives alone at Orange Senior and has three children. One son lives in Brooklyn, N.Y., his daughter lives in Indiana and his other son lives in Washington, D.C. He visits his son in New York relatively frequently. They meet in Manhattan and spend time together, going to museums and street fairs. It's a short walk to the train station from Orange Senior, so Hitchener doesn't mind the travel.

His hobby is reading. He most enjoys works about history, both fiction and nonfiction. He has many books in his apartment to keep him busy.

Hitchener is also busy with the outdoor garden. He receives a multitude of catalogues for different seeds that he can purchase. He decides on his annuals each year, which he begins planting at the beginning of May. The perennials return on their own.

Changing temperatures are apparent to Hitchener.

"It's getting warmer. Doing gardening you can see the difference," he said. "Plants that are supposed to die don't die. And the seeds, you won't be planting them now. But some seeds are surviving, coming back."

In years past, Hitchener said there was also a vegetable garden at Orange Senior, but he had to cut back. He said he would gladly take the help of fellow residents interested in getting involved with the garden, but he's willing to keep going at it alone.

"With some of it coming back each year, it's not really hard," he said.



Wellness Tip  
November 2018

## Diabetes Prevention Tips

### 1. Get Active!



Research shows that aerobic exercise and resistance training can help control diabetes. The greatest benefit comes from a fitness program that includes both.



### 3. Make Healthier Diet Decisions



Eat a variety of healthy meals and portion control part of your healthy-eating plan. Opt for homemade options instead of processed food or eating out.

### 2. Get Plenty of Fiber

Besides helping reduce your risk of diabetes by improving your blood sugar control, fiber can also lower your risk of heart disease and promote weight loss by helping you feel full. Foods high in fiber include fruits, vegetables, beans, whole grains & nuts.



### 4. Quit Smoking

Besides the increased risk of cancer & heart disease (among other things), smoking also increases your risk of developing type 2 diabetes. If you're a smoker talk to your doctor about quitting.

For more information about VNA Health Group's services & programs, please call 800.862.3330 or visit [www.vnahg.org](http://www.vnahg.org)

## Essex County Dedicates Plaque to NCC Founder Along Legends Way



Former NCC Director of Operations Raymond Codey, NCC CEO Richard Rohrman, NCC Board President Dr. A. Zachary Yamba, Essex County Executive Joseph DiVincenzo and NCC Board Member Jerome St. John, left to right, at the dedication of a memorial plaque in honor of Monsignor William J. Linder along Legends Way.



NCC Board President Dr. A. Zachary Yamba spoke about the life and legacy of NCC Founder Monsignor William J. Linder at the dedication ceremony.



New Community CEO Richard Rohrman discussed how Monsignor William J. Linder changed people's lives during the event.



The unveiling of a plaque honoring NCC Founder Monsignor William J. Linder along Legends Way.

**N**ew Community Founder Monsignor William J. Linder will forever be remembered along Legends Way near the Essex County Government Complex. Essex County Executive Joseph DiVincenzo and the Board of Chosen Freeholders held a dedication of memorial plaques honoring Monsignor Linder and Newark author Philip Roth Oct. 12. Both men passed away this year.

During the afternoon event, county officials and people connected to New Community spoke about Monsignor Linder, the depth of his work, the influence he had on Newark and how he was personally.

NCC Board President Dr. A. Zachary Yamba talked about how he met Monsignor Linder in 1963 when he was a student at Seton Hall University and Monsignor Linder was the pastor at Queen of Angels Church. Their friendship lasted for more than five decades and after Yamba retired from being president of Essex County College, he joined the NCC Board of Directors at Monsignor Linder's request.

Yamba said while Monsignor Linder wasn't a native Newarker, he did more for the city than anyone after the Summer Disorders of 1967.

"All you have to do is look outside the confines of county government and you can see the footprints of Monsignor Linder," Yamba said. "We will be eternally grateful for this man who

has worked so hard. And so the obligation that he has left us with is to carry on his legacy so that which he built will not have been done in vain."

New Community CEO Richard Rohrman talked about how Monsignor Linder changed people's lives through a holistic approach.

"He was a big dreamer but he also had a persistence and he had a determination to turn those dreams into reality," Rohrman said. "He was really the most persistent and effective advocate for the people in the city of Newark."

Essex County Sheriff Armando Fontoura talked about Monsignor Linder's persistence, saying he could be relentless but it was for the right reasons.

"He never stopped articulating on behalf of the people that he served. That's what was so admirable about him," Fontoura said. "He was so passionate about serving the folks that needed to be served the most. ... His legacy will live on forever."

Former Director of Operations for New Community Raymond Codey shared several stories about Monsignor Linder and how he fought for the people of Newark from the very beginning of his assignment at Queen of Angels Church in the city. Three weeks after he became the church pastor, the Summer Disorders happened.

In an effort to control the situation, then Gov. Richard Hughes sent in the State Police and National Guard who set up a perimeter along the boundaries of Newark. This cut off the food supply for residents. Monsignor Linder convinced a bakery in East Orange to give him a truck and got permission from Gov. Hughes to drive that truck in and out of the city.

"He ordered milk, water, vegetables and bread and walked the projects right next to the parish. He did that for seven days. These were like 15-story buildings, no elevator service. He walked door to door, floor to floor, seven days delivering food," Codey said. "And he built up a tremendous following in the community because of that."

Essex County Executive Joseph DiVincenzo said he worked for Steve Adubato at the time when Monsignor Linder founded New Community.

"Steve started the North Ward Center to say, 'We're going to be part of the community,'" DiVincenzo said. "Monsignor Linder did the same thing with New Community, dealing with the less fortunate. He was the man who spoke up."

Though he said the two didn't get along, he was able to bring them together to work out their differences.

"There's only one Steve Adubato and one Monsignor Linder, but they were both doing the same thing: trying to help people in the city of Newark," DiVincenzo said.

Sen. Teresa Ruiz called Monsignor Linder "a giant, a legacy builder who really created fundamental core principles of improving the quality of life for people either in a moment in time, for an extended moment in time or for their entire lifespan."

Essex County Freeholder President Brendan Gill said Monsignor Linder's contributions to society enhanced the legacy of Newark.

"During a time of tremendous upheaval and despair, he became a favorite son of Newark by taking that despair and turning it into hope," Gill said.

Those interested in viewing the plaque can walk along Legends Way near the Essex County Government Complex.



An up-close look at the plaque honoring New Community Founder Monsignor William J. Linder along Legends Way.

## University Hospital Reaches Out To Newark Community During The 2018 Great American Smokeout



A group of Newark residents who successfully completed a smoking cessation program were honored recently at University Hospital where they received certificates recognizing their achievement.

University Hospital (UH) is encouraging the Newark community to commit or recommit to healthy, smoke-free lives by participating in the American Cancer Society's 43rd Great American Smokeout® on Nov. 15, 2018.

"The most important thing smokers can do to improve their health is to quit smoking cigarettes and other forms of combustible tobacco," said UH. "We are showing our support for people who take those first steps toward making a plan to quit."

Specifically, UH is encouraging Newark residents to sign up for lung cancer screening utilizing the

hospital's state-of-the-art Low Dose CT Chest Screening machine. The procedure is covered by Medicare and most insurance plans (see ad below).

In addition, UH has managed a smoking cessation program with the Newark community for three years and recently honored 23 patients and hospital staff who have kicked the habit.

"I couldn't have done it without the support of the people in my life," said Sylvia Lee, a patient. "I haven't had a cigarette in over eight months. If I think about having one, I make sure I go do something and the craving disappears in a couple of minutes."

The UH Tobacco Treatment team has educated 1,700 individuals, participated in 44 outreach events and provided individual counseling sessions for more than 140 smokers. To register for the classes, Newark residents can call 973-468-5252, or email [smokefree@uhnj.org](mailto:smokefree@uhnj.org). Also, they can ask their physician for a referral for smoking cessation counseling.

Cigarette smoking is the leading cause of cancer death in the United States, accounting for 29 percent of all cancer deaths. In fact, smoking cigarettes kills more Americans than alcohol, car accidents, HIV, guns and illegal drugs combined. Smoking not only causes cancer. It damages nearly every organ in the body, including the lungs, heart, blood vessels, reproductive organs, mouth, skin, eyes and bones.

Addiction to nicotine in cigarettes is one of the strongest and most deadly addictions one can have. While cigarette smoking rates have dropped (from 42 percent in 1965 to 15.5 percent in 2016), about 37.8 million Americans smoke cigarettes. Each year, approximately 20 million American smokers try to quit, representing more than half of the 37.8 million smokers in the U.S. Only about 1.4 million (7 percent) succeed. An even greater percentage of smokers (68 percent) report being interested in quitting.

Quitting is hard. It takes commitment and starts with a plan, often takes more than one quit attempt and requires a lot of support. Getting help through counseling and/or prescription medications can double or triple your chances of quitting successfully.

Support is also important. Smoking cessation programs, telephone quit lines, the American Cancer Society's Freshstart program, Nicotine Anonymous meetings, self-help materials such as books and pamphlets and smoking counselors or coaches can be a great help.

UH is partnering with the American Cancer Society, which is available 24 hours a day, seven days a week, to provide support as people make their plan to quit. More information is available at [cancer.org/smokeout](http://cancer.org/smokeout) or by calling 1-800-227-2345.

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More people in the United States die from lung cancer than any other type of cancer.

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## New Diesel Technician Instructor Brings Wealth Of Knowledge



Monica Perry teaches the first Diesel Technician class at the New Community Workforce Development Center Automotive Training Center.

**N**ew Community Workforce Development Center began its first Diesel Technician class Oct. 15 and with that comes a new instructor to the staff — Monica Perry. She brings a great deal of knowledge and experience with her, having served in a variety of roles over the course of her career.

Perry was on active reserve duty for the Air Force and the Navy. She is a diesel mechanic, airplane mechanic, auto mechanic and served as the head mechanic for Brunswick Bowling for a time. She can also do work on wind turbines and solar panels and is a licensed cosmetologist. Before joining New Community, she worked as the first and only female diesel mechanic for the city of Newark, where she lives.

"Monica is one of Newark's hidden gems and New Community welcomes her with open arms. She's an experienced diesel and aviation technician with excellent theoretical and practical training," said New Community Workforce

Development Center Director Rodney Brutton. "Our students, and equally as important, our employer partners, will benefit greatly from Monica's vast experiences."

Being a female in a traditionally male field comes with its challenges, but Perry said she has a support system.

"That fight to be where I am as a woman was a long journey," she said. "There's a whole planet of us and we're one big clique."

She said females in the field participate in private online forums to share stories and experiences and ask for advice and help when needed. She knows many females who now own their own shops and have female shop foreman.

"The womanhood of mechanics is strong," she said.

Perry decided to become a mechanic after being taught some basics about her vehicle.

"As a woman you've got that male in your family that wanted to make sure you knew something about your car. I think we all go through that. The difference is it took off for me," she said.

Perry found out about the Diesel Technician instructor position from a former teacher who lives in Brooklyn. He had gotten a call about the opportunity but didn't want to make the commute. Instead he recommended Perry.

This is her first official teaching job, but she has experience with helping others learn. She ran an after-school program called Student Work Study where students worked on cars. She was also a drill sergeant shadow during her military service and in charge of kitchen patrol where she

had to work with 30 different personalities every day.

"I was always around a type of environment where I'm in charge," Perry said. "But now I'm actually teaching."

Her mother pushed her toward teaching for a long time, which she resisted.

"My mother wanted me to teach so badly all my life. I was like no. And even before she died there was always this clash," she said. "Like, no I'm not going to teach. Leave me alone."

But as the saying goes, "mother knows best" because Perry very much enjoys teaching. She said the students want to be in her class and are engaged in the learning process.

She's also happy the training is taking place in Newark because there is a shortage of diesel mechanics in New Jersey.

"Many of the diesel technicians are in New York and have to travel to New Jersey for jobs here. Now we can train people right here in Newark and they can fill the jobs," Perry said.

Perry is from New York and also lived in Los Angeles. She moved to Newark about five years ago. She has many hobbies.

"I'm an artist. I'm a musician. I play drums. I do crafts. I airbrush. I still work on cars on the side," she said. "I garden."

Perry is impressed with the amount of services provided to her students, particularly a financial coach. She says that is extremely useful to help students budget and save money in case of an emergency.

## Associates Residents Celebrate Hispanic Heritage

**R**esidents of New Community Associates, 180 South Orange Ave., Newark, celebrated their Hispanic Heritage during an event Oct. 25. The residents were very enthusiastic, excited, happy and extremely proud of their heritages as they strutted down the hallways waving flags in honor of various Hispanic countries. *Photos courtesy of New Community Health and Social Services Department.*



## Family Service Bureau

### Newark New Start

The name of the program speaks volumes: Newark New Start (NNS). Who would not want a new start or support along the way during the beginning of something new? This is what the staff of Newark New Start provides to each new mom that is embarking on the experience of motherhood. Our motto is: Providing a brighter tomorrow for mothers and their babies. We instill in each new mom our personal mantra: The words "I can" should replace the words "I can't".

The goal of the program is to provide supportive services to a mother who recently has become a parent and has not been able to fully prepare (i.e. financially, emotionally, etc.). As with any program, many challenges arise. This is because many people have their own challenges, but NNS staff members will help the person

regardless of their needs. They also try to lighten the load by hosting activities so that the mothers can let their hair down and remove themselves from the stresses of life just for a moment. NNS staff members host different events to help this happen such as playing games, laughing, dancing and having dinners at certain times of the year (i.e. Mother's Day, Christmas, etc.).

On a typical day, NNS staff members are delivering a car seat and a baby bag to a mother so that she can take her child home from the maternity ward. This includes nights, weekends and holidays. New Jersey state law requires that a mother have a car seat before she is allowed to leave the hospital. We seek to meet the need, while enjoying the smiles that you encounter when you enter the room at the hospital of a mother who "awaits" your arrival and huge sigh of relief that

the need has been met and the mother is able to go home from the hospital with her baby. Upon discharge from the hospital, NNS staff members make home visits to ensure that the parents have been properly prepared for the child's arrival. This includes and is not limited to assisting with linking and referring the new mother and child to whatever else is needed for the first six months (i.e. support services for school, counseling, entitlements, etc.)

During this past year, 2017, we were able to serve approximately 105 mothers during the year with baby items, referrals, clothing, hugs, workshops, etc. The length of the program is approximately six months. Our goal for the upcoming year is to increase our services in other hospitals in Essex County's maternity units.

### NCC Participates In Making Strides Of Newark Breast Cancer Walk

Dozens of New Community employees participated in the Making Strides of Newark Breast Cancer Awareness Walk Oct. 21. Organized by the American Cancer Society, the event was part of a broader initiative with Making Strides Against Breast Cancer walks occurring



Members of the New Community Corporation team before the Making Strides of Newark walk began.



NCC Director of Communications Michelle Lang, Property Manager of Hudson Senior Sandy Le and Home Friends Coordinator Giselle Oviedo, left to right, at the Making Strides of Newark walk. Photo courtesy of Giselle Oviedo.

throughout the Tri-State area and beyond.

According to the event page, Making Strides of Newark raised more than \$200,000. That money goes to the American Cancer Society, which uses it in a variety of ways including funding innovative cancer research and services for cancer patients. The organization is still accepting donations. If you'd like to contribute, visit [makingstrideswalk.org/NewarkNJ](http://makingstrideswalk.org/NewarkNJ) and click Donate.



Sonia Garcia, intensive case manager for SAIF (Supportive Assistance to Individuals and Families), is a survivor of breast cancer.



The New Community Corporation team at the finish line of the Making Strides of Newark walk.



Photo courtesy of Giselle Oviedo.





## New Community Adult Learning Center 563 Orange Street, Newark, New Jersey 07107

**(973) 558-5536**

[www.newcommunity.org/services/adult-learning-center/](http://www.newcommunity.org/services/adult-learning-center/)

### Free Workshops & Services / Talleres y Servicios Gratuitos

<b>Mammograms and Pap Smear</b> <b>Mamografía y Papanicolaou</b>	Thursday, November 1 <sup>st</sup> , 2018 8:30 AM to 3 PM
<b>Health Screenings</b> <b>Exámenes de Salud</b>	Tuesday, November 6 <sup>th</sup> , 2018 10 AM to 1 PM
<b>Mental Illness</b> <b>Enfermedades Mentales</b>	Wednesday, November 7 <sup>th</sup> , 2018 11:30 AM to 12:30 PM
<b>Eye Screenings (AVS)</b> <b>Examen de la Vista</b>	Wednesday, November 14 <sup>th</sup> , 2018 9:30 AM to 12:30 PM
<b>Immigration 101</b> <b>Inmigración 101</b>	Monday, November 19 <sup>th</sup> , 2018 9:30 AM to 12 PM
<b>Creative Writing</b> <b>Composición</b>	December 3, 4, 5, & 6, 2018 Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, & Thursday, 5:30 PM to 8 PM

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

Nuestra Misión ~ Ayudar a los residentes de los centros de las ciudades a mejorar la calidad de sus vidas y a reflejar la dignidad dada por Dios y sus logros personales.



The holiday season is upon us and for most, it will be a joyous time spent with family and good friends. It's the most wonderful time of the year, right? You know, "Good will towards men?" Certainly, there are so many things that one can and should be grateful for in their lives. Such as family, good health and employment opportunities that provide the means to care for oneself and those that we are responsible for.

Consider, for a moment, those that are less fortunate: the elderly members of the community that don't have any family. Then there are those individuals that we know or come in contact with that are sick, perhaps bed-ridden in their homes or in the hospital. What about those friends,

### Give A Damn

By Lesley Leslie

family or strangers that have no means of income or they may be recently unemployed? For these individuals, the holiday season may bring about a totally different reality to them. Whereas the world around them is celebrating and basking in all that they have, these members of our community may view this particular time of the year as a reminder of everything that they don't have.

There is a scripture in the Bible that tells us all that it is better to give than to receive (Acts 20:35). The holiday season is the most opportune time to bring that scripture to life and to application. As we begin to make our various holiday lists of things to give and people to give those things to, let's be mindful of the "neighbor" that may be lonely, sick or unemployed.

Happy Thanksgiving!

### New Community Workforce Development Center Welcomes Visitors



Representatives from Newark Beth Israel Medical Center visited New Community Workforce Development Center in October to share employment opportunities for Patient Care Technician and Clinical Medical Assistant students. Assistant Director of Human Resources Coleen Murphy and Atiya Rasidi from the Office of Community Partnerships with Newark Beth Israel Medical Center, seated left to right, came to the accredited post-secondary career and technical school.



University Hospital Interim Director of Marketing and Communications Brooke Tippens, left, met with New Community Workforce Development Center Director Rodney Brutton, center, and Clinical Medical Assistant student Jesibel Done in October to learn more about the accredited post-secondary career and technical school.

### Golf Classic Raffle Winner Donates Money Back To NCC



Andy Briner of Philadelphia Insurance, right, was the winner of the 50/50 raffle at New Community's 24th Annual Golf Classic Sept. 6. He donated his \$1,250 prize back to NCC. He's pictured here with his teammate, New Community CEO Richard Rohrman, left, and NCC Board Member and Outreach Coordinator Madge Wilson on the course of Montclair Golf Club at Rock Spring in West Orange on the day of the event.



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Newark, New Jersey

## CHELC Breast Cancer Awareness Walk

In honor of Breast Cancer Awareness Month, Community Hills Early Learning Center, 85 Irvine Turner Boulevard, Newark, held a Breast Cancer Awareness Walk Oct. 18. Students dressed in pink, wore crafts they had made and held banners as they walked around outside the school.



*Photo courtesy of Michelle Chatman.*

