

NEW COMMUNITY CLARION



SERVING THE PEOPLE OF THE NEW COMMUNITY NETWORK SINCE 1968

NEW COMMUNITY CELEBRATES BIRTHDAY OF LONG-TIME EMPLOYEE AND BOARD MEMBER



New Community Board Member and Outreach Coordinator Madge Wilson accepted cards and gifts at her birthday celebration at Monsignor William J. Linder Plaza on April 12. Photo by Richard Ryals.



New Community Board Member Diane Johnson and Board Chairman Dr. A. Zachary Yamba stand with Board Member and Outreach Coordinator Madge Wilson at her birthday celebration. Photo by Richard Ryals.

New Community board members, employees and friends gathered at Monsignor William J. Linder Plaza on April 12 to celebrate the 89th birthday of Madge Wilson, who serves as the organization's Outreach Coordinator and is a long-time member of its Board of Directors.

Wilson has worked at New Community for 42 years, starting her NCC career in the Property Management Department in 1980. In addition to helping community members secure housing, she has served countless individuals over the years beyond her official job responsibilities. She started a Christmas drive, which she still does today, arranging for the collection of holiday gifts for children from a variety of sources and distributing them to families in need. She also distributes donated turkeys to families in need for Thanksgiving to ensure they have a festive holiday meal.

Wilson works with the National Council of Jewish Women Essex County (NCJW/Essex) to ensure New Community and Saint Rose of Lima families are able to participate in the organization's annual Back 2 School Store, which takes place each summer. It provides school supplies, shoes, clothing, winter coats and toiletries to county residents in need who are identified by area organizations.

In addition to the annual events, Wilson also helps New Community residents furnish their apartments if necessary. She will arrange for pick up and drop off of donated furniture to make the units truly feel like home.

She also fields phone calls from residents, prospective residents and employees and helps them in whatever way she can.

"We wanted to honor Ms. Wilson and celebrate her on her special day," said Chief Financial Officer and interim Chief Executive Officer Elizabeth Mbakaya. "She does so much for New Community, its residents, its employees and its clients. This served as a small token of our appreciation."

New Community Board Chairman Dr. A. Zachary Yamba wished

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RISING STARS PROGRAM OPENS DOORS FOR NCCTI BUILDING TRADES STUDENTS



David Hutchinson of Tremco works with a small breakout group of students in the Building Trades Specialist program at New Community Career & Technical Institute as part of the Rising Stars program that Hutchinson created and launched in March.

New Community Career & Technical Institute (NCCTI) and Tremco have partnered to introduce the Rising Stars program to students in the NCCTI Building Trades Specialist program. Rising Stars aims to introduce students to a variety of aspects of the construction industry and connect them to job opportunities.

David Hutchinson came up with the concept for Rising Stars. He works for Tremco in Deep Energy Retrofit Development, which means his division works to retrofit existing buildings by putting new panels on existing structures and upgrading HVAC systems while limiting tenant disruption. The ultimate goal is to reduce carbon and energy consumption and the focus is primarily on

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AROUND THE NETWORK

ENSURING A HAPPY EASTER FOR FAMILIES

Families living in New Community housing received Easter baskets ahead of the holiday, distributed by Family Resident Services Coordinator Anibal Alvelo. Families received candy, toys and books as part of the baskets. *Photos courtesy of Anibal Alvelo.*



THE NEW COMMUNITY CLARION

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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:

- 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.

Want to Support New Community?

You can make a difference in the lives of inner city residents by making an online donation. Visit newcommunity.org and click "Donate" to give today! We appreciate all support.

USING MUSIC AND DANCE FOR HEALTH

The group Party of Four hosted Wellness Through Music and Dance in the Community Room of Associates, 180 South Orange Ave., Newark. Building residents enjoyed dancing to music which lifted their spirits and got them moving. *Photos courtesy of Anne Moran.*



CELEBRATING EASTER TOGETHER

Residents of Manor Senior, 545 Orange St., Newark, enjoyed an Easter party in the building's Community Room on April 22. *Photos courtesy of Guadalupe Cepeda.*



ENJOYING AN EASTER MEAL

Residents of Associates, 180 South Orange Ave., Newark, enjoyed a pre-Easter dinner in the building's Community Room on April 10 thanks to Bishop Andre Speight and Central Ward Councilwoman LaMonica McIver. *Photos courtesy of Anne Moran.*



NCC DIRECTOR OF COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT PARTICIPATES IN PRESS CONFERENCE ABOUT WHO OWNS NEWARK

New Community Director of Community Engagement Richard Cammarieri spoke at Newark Mayor Ras Baraka's press conference on May 4 regarding the issue of corporations purchasing homes in the city and converting them into rentals. The press conference was in response to "Who Owns Newark," a research report authored by David D. Troutt, Director of the Rutgers Center on Law, Inequality and Metropolitan Equity (CLiME). The report found that almost half of all real estate sales in Newark were made by institutional buyers.

While legal, the ramifications of bulk corporate ownership are farreaching in the city, according to officials. Rents rise, homeownership decreases, affordable housing is less available and renters are displaced, all of which lead to less stable communities.

"Just because something's legal doesn't make it right. This acquisition, as the report points out, leads to a great deal of harm in our neighborhoods, particularly racially inequitable harms in terms of rents rising, displacing the residents, evictions and lowered opportunity for homeownership," explained Cammarieri, who is also Chair of the Newark Community Development Network and a member of the Equitable Growth Advisory Commission. "These are all things that are harmful and thus they should be considered wrong, no matter how 'legal' they might be."

In an effort to combat the effects of these purchases, Baraka outlined proposed policies, including making it unlawful to solicit offers without the residents' permission, making sure LLCs provide contact information when purchasing properties, imposing fees on property owners and landlords who increase rents more than 5 percent year over year, adding a deed restriction to all city-owned and Land Bank properties to require them to be affordable and meeting with investors, developers of color and community development corporations to develop strategies to invest in under-invested and disinvested communities in Newark.

"In cities and even suburbs across America, institutional investors are eroding the American dream of homeownership as they convert owner-occupied homes into corporately owned rental units," Baraka said. "In Newark, where we have worked hard for years to expand homeownership, we will do everything possible to combat this dangerous trend. The CLiME report signals that Newark must create stronger and more equitable laws, regulations and policies to ensure that residents share in the growth of our city."

Deborah Smith Gregory is Vice Chair of the Equitable Growth Advisory Commission and is a homeowner in Newark's South Ward. She said she has received phone calls about selling her home to investors and



New Community Director of Community Engagement Richard Cammarieri speaks at a press conference at Newark City Hall on May 4 about the harm that can come from corporations purchasing homes and converting them to rentals in the city. Mayor Ras Baraka looks on.

has seen many signs in her neighborhood advertising cash for homes. She also said she was unable to figure out the owner of a vacant home in her neighborhood that she was interested in purchasing for a family member.

While Smith Gregory said the actions of the investors aren't illegal, she called them highly unethical.

"It is not a good feeling to feel like we're prey," she said.

Baraka said he would submit legislation to the municipal council for members to take action to combat the effects of corporate ownership and conversion to rentals.

RISING STARS PROGRAM OPENS DOORS FOR NCCTI BUILDING TRADES STUDENTS

FROM PAGE 1

affordable housing in the Northeast. His work brought about the idea for Rising Stars.

"I wanted to do something as an outreach and be more engaged in the communities that we operate in," Hutchinson said.

He pitched his idea to the president of Tremco in the summer of 2020 and received support. After many conversations internally and externally, Hutchinson was able to launch Rising Stars in March 2022 under the umbrella of Tremco.

NCCTI is one of three educational institutions to host the Rising Stars program for its inaugural cohort. The others are in Brooklyn, N.Y. and Boston, Mass.

"The program at its core is trying to expand the views and the opportunities that are present in the construction industry," Hutchinson said. "We start with design and have an architect come in and really talk about what goes into sustainable green design or future design of projects and then also the career paths. So it always is an educational format but also almost kind of a career day at the same time."

Guest speakers, who are volunteers Hutchinson has connected with during his career, visit once per week and share their experiences with students. In addition to Tremco, one of the larger groups involved is Turner Construction.

"We start very high level with design and

we work all the way through to the trades where it concludes with trade day where we have people from the union hall and job opportunities presented," Hutchinson said. "So for the participants that show the ability or have the want to, there is an opportunity to actually get employed by some of the speakers."

That type of access is extremely valuable for students looking to launch their careers.

"We are proud to be a strategic partner with Tremco and this program is an excellent opportunity for our Building Trades students to meet industry experts across trades/professions while undertaking their studies at NCCTI," said New Community Chief Operating Officer Fred Hunter.

NCCTI Director Dr. Sylvia McCray said Rising Stars got students excited about building trades and the possible career paths available to them.

"The program not only helps students to understand the business but also develops that connection and building in their creativity of thinking outside the box, breaking that stereotype that it's just one job or one type of job," she said.

The Building Trades class had more females than males, challenging another stereotype.

"Allowing women to see themselves in nontraditional roles and that they're able to build career paths and make a substantial

amount of money taking care of themselves and their families, that was really important to me," McCray said.

The students were engaged and had positive experiences.

"I was impressed with the program because it exposed us to new technologies and new things that are happening in the construction industry," said Chinedu Arisa. "For me, it changed my perspective about construction."

Nicole Wilson raved about the program, saying it was very informative, had a hands-on component and brought in "incredible" speakers. She said she learned a lot and the program inspired her to apply for a job at Tremco. She landed an interview and is now waiting for her start date.

"Rising Stars helped me to a better future," she said.

NCCTI Building Trades Instructor Yusto Awich saw his students benefit from Rising Stars.

"The program is well structured and coordinated well," he said. "The professionals who came were prepared and engaged the students well."

McCray and Hutchinson plan to bring the Rising Stars program back to NCCTI in the fall. Hutchinson's goal is to have two sessions per year, one in the fall and one in the spring. He has been asked to launch

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CHELC CELEBRATES WEEK OF THE YOUNG CHILD

Students and staff members at Community Hills Early Learning Center (CHELC), 85 Irvine Turner Boulevard, Newark, celebrated the Week of the Young Child from April 4 to 8. Themes included Music Monday, Tasty Tuesday and Work Together Wednesday. Students and staff members finished the week with a parade around the center and fun activities in the parking lot. The Week of the Young Child, established in 1971, is an annual celebration sponsored by the National Association for the Education of Young Children. The purpose is to focus public attention on the needs of young children and their families and to recognize the early childhood programs and services that meet those needs. [Visit newcommunity.org](http://newcommunity.org) to see additional photos.



Children made instruments on Music Monday as part of the Week of the Young Child. Photo courtesy of CHELC.



Students learned what goes into cooking on Tasty Tuesday as part of the Week of the Young Child. Photo courtesy of CHELC.



Community Hills Early Learning Center ended the Week of the Young Child with a parade around the building.



On Work Together Wednesday, children used a variety of items to create a robot. Photo courtesy of CHELC.



On the last day of the Week of the Young Child, CHELC students enjoyed fun in the parking lot, including cotton candy.

NEW COMMUNITY CELEBRATES BIRTHDAY OF MADGE WILSON

FROM PAGE 1



New Community Chief Financial Officer and interim Chief Executive Officer Elizabeth Mbakaya wishes NCC Board Member and Outreach Coordinator Madge Wilson a happy birthday on April 12. Photo by Richard Ryals.

Wilson a very happy birthday.

"It's a real milestone," he said. "We continue to wish her good health so she can continue doing what she's been doing for NCC."

New Community Director of Mission Frances Teabout said the celebration marked Wilson's birthday but also celebrated her work over the years.

"There is no limit to Ms. Wilson's compassion and commitment to helping individuals in need," Teabout said. "She is the walking, talking embodiment of the mission of New Community."

Wilson was very grateful for the celebration and provided the following message:

It was once said that "The best present you can gift anyone on their birthday is your time." That said, I am beside myself with immense gratitude that my friends, family, colleagues and the community gave me their time and undivided attention by playing a special part in my celebration of 89 years of life!

Words can never adequately express my appreciation for this gesture of honoring me on my special day. I sincerely appreciate all the in-person well wishes at the event and felt so special to have received so many telephone calls, cards, flowers and last,



Retired New Community Chief Executive Officer Richard Rohrman with Board Member and Outreach Coordinator Madge Wilson at her birthday celebration on April 12. Photo by Richard Ryals.

but certainly not least, an abundance of prayers. The perfect recipe for a beautiful birthday is to be surrounded by the people you love and those who love and admire you. And, yes, NCC "understood the assignment" (as the young folks say) and they did not disappoint!

I am sure many can attest to this; as the years pass in our lives, it is essential to realize that every precious year is an opportunity to reflect and hold dear to our hearts a few good memories. Thanks to a circle of beautiful people I have in my life, I will add the memory of the delightful celebration of my 89th birthday.

Since this day of celebration, I wake up each morning with the gentlest smile on my face reminiscing about the event and the outpouring of love and appreciation for my life's toil. As most of you know, I have been aligned with New Community Corporation for 42 years. I chose this career path because I believe love and compassion are necessities, not luxuries, in helping to build marginalized communities. I passionately believe you cannot hope to create a better world without improving individuals' lives, especially those in need of essential services, housing and employment support to meet their basic human needs.

As Nelson Mandela poignantly stated,



New Community Director of Mission Frances Teabout with Board Member and Outreach Coordinator Madge Wilson at Wilson's birthday celebration on April 12. Photo by Richard Ryals.

"To deny people their human rights is to challenge their very humanity." To this end, I have worked day and night, often working seven days a week, sometimes alongside Monsignor Linder, embracing the mission of NCC: to help residents of inner cities improve the quality of their lives to reflect individual God-given dignity and personal achievement. This is truly my proudest achievement in life, and I vow to continue this path of dedication until the ultimate calling from the most high.

In closing, please know that I am praying for you all and I thank you for your prayers for me. I thank God for allowing me to see another year of a life of service. Please know that the greatest gift you can continue to give is the gift of service by joining forces with New Community Corporation to help make a difference in the greater community. I witnessed first-hand what this organization has done; transforming the City of Newark to become one of the largest and most comprehensive community developments in the nation! Your commitment to join me in continuing the work of this internationally renowned organization will be appreciated. The gift of service legacy is the greatest gift of all!

Visit newcommunity.org to see more photos from the event.

EXTENDED CARE WELCOMES NEW DIRECTOR OF ADMISSIONS

Julienne Van-Nooten may be new in her role as Director of Admissions at New Community Extended Care Facility, but she is no stranger to the organization or the work.

Van-Nooten graduated from the licensed practical nursing (LPN) program in 2012 that New Community used to offer and completed her clinicals at Extended Care. She enrolled in the LPN program to increase her clinical knowledge because she was already working in admissions for medical facilities. She has worked in admissions for many years and when she saw an opening at Extended Care, she saw it as an opportunity to further her career. She started working at the facility on April 18.

For Van-Nooten, working in the health care industry began when she was 21 and in school looking for employment. A friend encouraged her to get a job at the company she worked at, which was a home care agency. Van-Nooten took the advice and worked with individuals in their homes before becoming a home care coordinator and then a member of the admissions staff. Her work has become a passion.

"I love this field, the health care industry. Because it makes you feel that all of us can be affected, no matter what our job titles are. Sickness doesn't discriminate," she said. "And it put compassion and caring in my heart."

Her values align with the mission of New Community.

"Treating people with respect and dignity, that's what I like. That's me," she said. "And I'll carry that with me wherever I go."

New Community Chief Operating Officer Fred Hunter is happy to have Van-Nooten join the team.

"Julienne is familiar with New Community Corporation and understands the importance of service to the community. We welcome her back to New Community since she is a prior graduate of the organization's LPN program," he said. "Julienne comes to us with over 15

years of experience working in admissions."

As the Director of Admissions at Extended Care, Van-Nooten's primary responsibility is to bring individuals to the facility. To do that, she meets with families, provides tours, works with Administrator Veronica Onwunaka to promote services and collaborates with outside doctors, hospitals, case managers, discharge planners and home care agencies. She also works internally to ensure New Community residents know about the post-acute care Extended Care offers.

For the administrative side of her job, Van-Nooten does insurance updates, works with HMO agencies to authorize patient stays, assists families that need to apply for Medicaid and reviews referrals with the facility's Director of Nursing.

Administrator Onwunaka said Van-Nooten is a team player who is very goal oriented.

"I see her as an achiever and a very ambitious person. And she's very persistent and consistent in her message to get us where we need to go," Onwunaka said. "I think she'll be a great asset."

Van-Nooten enjoys admissions work because her role helps people get needed services and



Julienne Van-Nooten began serving as the Director of Admissions at New Community Extended Care Facility on April 18.

helps the facility generate revenue to further improve.

"It gives me joy to see the patients come in and then get rehabilitated and go home," she said. "That's my favorite thing, to see the patients come in and to know that the facility is doing a good job."

Van-Nooten's goal is to promote Extended Care to Newark and the surrounding areas.

"I want this facility to be the number one choice for people in the community," she said.

HELP WANTED: NCC 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 newcommunity.org and click "Careers." 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 seekers to fill out an online application for consideration. If you have difficulty with the online application process, you can chat with a representative for technical support or check out the Frequently Asked Questions page. For additional information, job seekers can call New Community's main phone number at 973-623-2800.

The site is continually updated, so check back often to see if there is a job of interest.

vna Health Group
Visiting Nurse Association Health & Hospice
Wellness Tip
May 2022

#1 Cardio

Activities that build your heart rate will help your endurance. After doing aerobics for a little over a month, you will begin to notice more energy. Such low impact exercises include:

- Walking
- Swimming
- Cycling
- Dancing
- Yoga
- Tai Chi

#2 Strength

We use muscles every day to carry groceries, walk up stairs and even get up from sitting. Small changes in muscle strength can improve our daily activities. Low impact exercises include:

- Lunges
- Sit Ups
- Push Ups
- Air Squats

#3 Balance

Falls are the most common cause of hospitalization among seniors. Better balance may help avoid accidental slips, trips and falls.

- Stand behind and grip a sturdy chair or surface. Lift one leg off the ground bending at the knee and count to 10. Then switch legs.

#4 Flexibility

Some daily activities like getting dressed or reaching for objects in the kitchen may not be as easy as they once were. Improve flexibility by doing daily stretches.

- Sit with legs out in front and stretch your legs by trying to touch your toes. Hold for 10 seconds.

Always check with your doctor or health professional before starting an exercise regimen. Your doctor may prescribe home therapy to help improve your mobility, recover from a hospital stay or assess your home for fall risks. Most home therapy is covered by Medicare.

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

VISION, DIGNITY, ACHIEVEMENT 5

EMPLOYEE SPOTLIGHT: SHARON BROWN



Sharon Brown has worked at Community Hills Early Learning Center for nearly 16 years.

Sharon Brown didn't originally set out to work in early childhood education, but her love of children and knack for interacting with them has led to a successful career in that field. She is a teacher's assistant at Community Hills Early Learning Center (CHELC), where she has worked for nearly 16 years.

Brown was working as a licensed cook at a

daycare facility when one of the directors asked her to help out in the classroom.

"When she saw how I was in the classroom, she asked me to go get my CDA [Child Development Associate Certification] and to be in the classroom," Brown said. "And I did."

She has remained in the classroom for more than 20 years, working with infants and children through age 5 at three different facilities. She is currently a teacher's assistant for 3-year-olds at CHELC, but she is always willing to help wherever she is needed.

"According to her colleagues, Sharon is flexible. She goes wherever she is needed, either the toddler room or the infant room," said CHELC Director Sister Maurice Liguori Okoroji. "Sharon lightens the environment regardless of the challenges she encounters every day."

Brown's favorite part of her job is teaching the children.

"When they learn a letter or a number, they feel so excited. And I get excited for them," she said. "Especially when they learn

something new and different, they get so excited. And that makes me feel good, that I was a part of that."

Brown said she gets an education as well as the children.

"I'm learning something every day through them just like they're learning something every day through me," she said. "I love it. It just makes me feel young again."

Brown has three children of her own: a 34-year-old daughter, a 30-year-old son and a 19-year-old son. Her youngest son attended CHELC, though in a different classroom. She also has three grandchildren, ages 11, 9 and 6.

She said her grandchildren help her keep up to date on the latest dances and technology.

"My oldest granddaughter is 11 and she taught me how to text," she said.

Brown uses her free time to enjoy herself.

"I like to go out and just have fun. Life is too short to be miserable," she said.

SENIOR SPOTLIGHT: FAUSTO BASORA

Fausto Basora is a familiar face at Gardens Senior. He helps residents by driving them to various doctor appointments and is heavily involved in the food distribution that occurs in the building twice per month.

"I like it because I feel good helping people," Basora said. "People come and some can't walk and have wheelchairs. If they can't take the food, I take it to their apartment."

Basora isn't alone. He has the help of Gardens Senior residents James and Shelley Ivery and Johnnie Killebrew. The group also included Cheryl McRae, but she recently passed away.

"We work together to do it. We're close," Basora said.

Gardens Senior and Family Property Manager Tajuana Leon is grateful for the assistance the group provides.

"These residents have been unloading and

distributing all food packages for Gardens residents," she said. "They have always helped with the food packages, for over three years now. They have been a great help to the residents and staff at Gardens Senior."

Basora is 66 years old and is originally from Santo Domingo. He moved to Newark almost 42 years ago and hasn't left the city since. He is currently on disability because he can't work after having brain surgery. Prior to that, he worked as a mechanic. Despite the challenges, he says he feels good and enjoys spending time in the building.

"The people are friendly," he said.

And they notice if Basora is absent. Upon his return from visiting his mother in Santo Domingo for a month, he said several residents asked him what had happened and where he had been.



Fausto Basora helps distribute food to the residents of Gardens Senior with other volunteers twice per month.

Basora is married and has two daughters. One daughter lives in Atlanta and the other in Newark.

SOCIAL SECURITY NEWS: NEW STATEMENT FACT SHEET FOR PEOPLE WITH LIMITED EARNINGS

BY AMMY PLUMMER, SOCIAL SECURITY DISTRICT MANAGER, SPRINGFIELD AVENUE, NEWARK, NJ

If you have a personal *my Social Security* account, you can view your Social Security Statement online to learn about your future benefits and recent earnings history. Included with the statement are fact sheets that provide useful information based on your age group and earnings situation. Last month, we released a new fact sheet specifically for people with limited earnings.

The new fact sheet covers how you and your family members may qualify for

benefits, including:

- Supplemental Security Income.
- Social Security retirement benefits.
- Children's benefits.
- Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program.
- Help with health care costs – including Medicare, Medicare Savings Programs, Extra Help with Medicare prescription

drug costs and Medicaid.

We're committed to helping you learn about all your benefit options. Our Benefits Eligibility Screening Tool at ssabest.benefits.gov is a convenient way to find potential benefits that best fit your situation.

To learn more, visit our Social Security Statement webpage at www.ssa.gov/myaccount/statement.html. Please share this article with your friends and family and post it on social media.

NEW COMMUNITY RESUMES IN-PERSON ORIENTATION

After conducting new hire orientation virtually for two years because of the COVID-19 pandemic, New Community has resumed the practice in person. New employees learn about the organization’s history, mission and variety of services; meet members of leadership and administrative staff as well as new colleagues; get an understanding of organizational policies and procedures; and get questions answered.



New Community Chief Operating Officer Fred Hunter speaks to new employees during in-person orientation on April 13.



New Community Director of Human Resources Benjamin Galvez welcomes new hires to the organization during in-person orientation on April 13.



New Community Director of Real Estate Development Tony Tolles introduces himself to new employees at in-person orientation on April 13.

RISING STARS PROGRAM OPENS DOORS FOR NCCTI BUILDING TRADES STUDENTS

FROM PAGE 3

additional sites in other geographic locations, including Syracuse, N.Y., Orlando, Fl. and

areas of Texas.

McCray is happy that NCCTI got to be one of the first institutions to expose students to the program.

“I’m really glad that we were able to show students that there’s more out there. And to whet that curiosity,” she said.

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 & 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.

LESLEY LESLIE: LONG TIME, NO SEE



The past couple of years has been a moment in history that has impacted the lives of human beings throughout our world. The global pandemic threw us all

into a survival mode that changed the way we all conducted our daily lives and things may never be the same; good or bad. We were thrown into a state of self-preservation through quarantine which ultimately contributed to increased levels of mental health issues, much of which had been there all along but were hidden by many. The number of violent acts committed against unsuspecting people was and still is on the rise.

The pandemic forced a community of people to live in isolation and that made it hard to check in on others the way we once had. As a result, we lost touch with friends and family that we fellowshiped with or, at the least, we touched base with every so often. There was just a shift in our collective priorities.

However, spring is here, and things seem to be returning to a better sense of normalcy. If you look carefully, you can see smiles on faces again as the face mask mandates slowly relax around the nation. Nice weather we’re having huh? Trees and flowers beginning to bloom too. Time to circle back and check in on those friends and family members. It’s been a long time coming but we need each other and so we must make an effort to reconnect. It’s more important than we know.

NEW COMMUNITY Extended Care Facility

Quality Care Close To Home

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Contact the Admissions Office at 973-624-2020, Ext. 9610 or 973-518-9167

Fax referrals to 973-624-8046

Visit newarknursinghome.org for more information

NEW COMMUNITY



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NEW COMMUNITY FATHER-DAUGHTER DANCE RETURNS

The Youth Services Department of New Community hosted the Father-Daughter Dance on April 30 at Monsignor William J. Linder Plaza, 233 West Market St., Newark. This was the first time the event has been held since the COVID-19 pandemic began. Girls ages 4 to 17 enjoyed an evening with their fathers or significant male role models. The event included food, dancing and prizes. *Photos courtesy of Edward Morris.*

