Dr. Hervens Jeannis brings awareness to the accessibility of STEM laboratories

Although the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) was passed in 1990, Hervens Jeannis says that hasn’t reached academic STEM laboratories. As a doctoral student in rehabilitation at the University of Pittsburgh, Hervens conducted a major survey to identify barriers students with physical disabilities encounter in science and engineering laboratories. “My survey found that most of the labs were inaccessible,” says Jeannis. “This was during the years 2013 to 2017, more than 20 years after passage of the ADA.” Hervens, who successfully defended his dissertation (Continued on page 2)

Residents Moving into 13 Day Street

The redevelopment of Connecticut’s oldest public housing site, Washington Village, is well underway... and is getting a (new) new name to reflect the exciting revitalization of this community! Meet Soundview Landing. The developers at Trinity Financial, along with the Norwalk Housing Authority, polled the Washington Village residents to select a name for their new home. Soundview Landing, a nod to the beautiful views of the Long Island Sound in Norwalk, was the clear winner.

The first phase of construction is progressing at 13 and 20 Day Street in Norwalk, CT – new and longtime residents alike will be moving into the 10 state-of-the-art units of housing at 13 Day Street later this month and the 70-unit building at 20 Day Street is scheduled to open this summer. Phase 2 of the project is currently projected to begin construction this fall. Upon completion, this multi-phased revitalization effort will replace the existing Washington Village site with 273 new, mixed-income apartments with modern, sophisticated finishes and exceptional amenities, all in the heart of historic South Norwalk. Check out and share the brand new splash page: https://www.soundviewlanding.com

13 Day Street on the corner of Day & Hanford Place

20 Day Street under construction at the corner of Day & Raymond Streets
Spreading Awareness - Food Allergies

A food allergy occurs when the body has a specific immune response to certain foods. Sometimes, the body’s response can be severe or life-threatening. Food allergies are a growing food safety and public health concern, according to the CDC. It is also estimated that between 4 and 6 percent of U.S. children are affected by some type of food allergy. Among other things, Food Allergy Action Month was created to spread awareness about what food allergies are, how to recognize them and how to help someone who is having an allergic reaction. Common symptoms of an allergic reaction to food include the following:

- A tingling sensation in the mouth
- Swelling of the lips, tongue and throat
- Itching, hives and a rash throughout the body
- Cramping, diarrhea or vomiting
- Wheezing and difficulty breathing
- Dizziness or lightheadedness
- Loss of consciousness

Building One Community Information Session

Tuesday, June 5 from 10:00 a.m. to 12:00.

Are you aware that there is a full-service center for immigrant opportunity right here in Fairfield County? Building One Community will be presenting an overview of all the services they offer. The wide range of essential services they offer include workforce development and placement in the landscaping and maintenance field, culinary and catering training (ServSafe certification) and home health care. **Free babysitting on-site is available for parents in class as long as child is 24 months or older and potty trained.**

Building One Community also offers immigration legal services, driver’s license support, ESL tutoring and literacy, help for individuals and families, and more.

**Pre-registration is required. Please note location!**

The presentation will take place at the Smilow Life Center, 55 Chestnut Street. Call Nadine at 203- 838-8471 x681 or Lisa at 203-952-8308 to register.

Mammography Screenings Offered – Free to women who qualify

The Witness Project of CT invites you to a mammography screening: **Saturday, June 2, 2018, 9AM – 1PM**

Cavalry Baptist Church, 21 Concord Street, Norwalk CT  06854

“Early detection is our only Prevention”

Call 203-367-4432 to schedule your appointment, or if you have any questions.

Dr. Hervens Jeannis

(Continued from front page)

in February, says the point of his research is to raise awareness as well as to give voice to those impacted. “This is an underrepresented group in science and engineering, largely because laboratories do not accommodate those with disabilities,” he says. As a first generation college student, his parents hail from Haiti—he says his college years were a transformative experience. Hervens’ own engineering career started at Syracuse University, where he earned a bachelor’s in computer engineering in 2009. He was a member of the Wellslink, the African American Male Congress, and the National Society of Black Engineers, and spent his junior year studying in London. Before starting his doctoral studies in 2011, Hervens earned a master’s in systems engineering at the University of Maryland Baltimore County, where he became involved with Bethel Campus Fellowship, a nationwide interdenominational Christian campus ministry group. Before all of the degrees and many accolades, Hervens Jeannis was a bright star shining at the 20 West Avenue Learning Center and a proud resident of 16 School Street.

NHA Resident Conan Robinson Featured in Artist Showcase

Visitors to the South Norwalk branch of the Norwalk Public Library were treated to something special as they selected their books over the past few months. The walls were transformed into a gallery of beautiful paintings. These are the work of Conan Robinson, a resident of Washington Village. This exhibit culminated with an Artist Showcase on May 1, in the Library’s Community Room. Conan shared his artistic process and his inspiration with a packed room of admirers. He is an artist entrepreneur with many talents. He creates artworks in multiple mediums, such as acrylic, Prismacolor, and pen and ink. Conan’s portraits and abstracts are influenced by elements in the natural and urban worlds, and he is known for his modern, flowing interpretations of current social and world events through vibrant color and movement.

A creator in many avenues, he also creates and produces diverse music and DJs in his community. As an entrepreneur, he is founder of 261 Productionz. Conan can be found on both sides of the camera, as a photographer and as a model for Norwalk-based clothing line Kultjah. Conan also contributes to his church, Miracle Temple, in audio visual and sound artistry.
Financial Resiliency Seminar
Wednesday, June 6, 5:30PM – 7:30PM
Tired of living paycheck to paycheck, stressing over unexpected expenses that arise? Create your own financial recovery plan, control your expenses and establish financial goals. Build assets that will improve the quality of life for you and your family. Learn how to pay for unplanned setbacks while rebuilding your savings without completely derailing you from your financial recovery plan. Please note location! This seminar will be held at the NHA/HOU Choice Neighborhoods temporary field office at the Smilow Life Center, 55 Chestnut Street, Norwalk. Space is limited, registration is required. Call 203-838-8471 Jamie (ext. 180) or Nadine (ext. 681).

Want to land a new career?
Get started today and become OSHA 10 certified! Join us for an upcoming OSHA 10 session on June 17 & 19, 2018 from 4:00PM - 9:30PM. All construction jobs require workers to have their OSHA 10 certification (10 hours of safety training). *Attendance is required at both sessions.* PRE-REGISTRATION IS REQUIRED Norwalk residents may qualify for free training (Some restrictions apply). Call us and reserve your spot today! 203-838-8471 X681 (Nadine) or X188 (Lisa R.). Fill out a survey and application, and enclose your resume.
http://www.norwalkcni.org/services/employment.html
Return it to the NHA CNI Field office at: Smilow Life Center, 55 Chestnut Street, Norwalk CT 06854. Attention: Lisa Roger; or email to lroger@norwalkha.org

Health Care Career Info Session
Thursday June 14th 10AM - 12PM
Are you interested in a new career in the growing health care field? Learn about FREE training at Southwestern CT Health CareeRx Academy, THURSDAY JUNE 14th, 10:00AM – 12:00 PM. Offered through the WorkPlace, some training opportunities include C.N.A., Pharmacy Tech, Patient Care Tech, Medical Billing and Coding, and more. Eligibility requirements are based on family income or those that have been unemployed (27 weeks or longer). Pre-registration is required. Please note location! This seminar will be held at the NHA/HOU Choice Neighborhoods temporary field office at the Smilow Life Center, 55 Chestnut St., Norwalk. For additional information or to register, call 203-838-8471 Jamie (ext. 180) or Nadine (ext. 681).

Attention High School Students
Do you have an interest in the waterways and marine community around Norwalk? Do you want to learn about opportunities in the maritime industry? Interested in studying marine biology after high school? Starting in June through this Summer, come join a small group of private boat owners who will show you the ropes and provide an opportunity to boat in our local waters. If interested, please contact Patricia Marsden-Kish at 203-838-8471 ext. 184. Or pmkish@norwalkha.org

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Learning Centers Testing $1 + 2 = 3$

The STEM department is currently testing students in Math using a system called easyCBM.com at each Learning Center. The online/written test is used to assess all different concepts such as numbers, operations, geometry and algebra. From taking these assessments the STEM department will be able to determine any concepts your child needs help in.

**SONO BRANCH LIBRARY KIDS BUILD PROGRAM**

**LEGO LAND & PLAY-DOH PALOOZA**

**Saturdays | 11:00 - Noon | Ages: 3-9**

This program stirs creativity as children play and build things from their imaginations. Children have the option of presenting their work at the end of each session.

This program is free and open to the public. Registration is available online or by calling 203.899.2790 ext. 15903.

**Sheiree Powell Rules Urban Birding**

NHA STEM Coordinator Sheiree Powell was asked to present at the National After School Convention (NAA) on one of NHA's STEM programs, Urban Birding: Scientific Discovery that Protects the Planet. Every year, thousands of afterschool professionals and leaders from all over the United States gather to get inspired, connected, learn and share at the NAA. Of the nearly 170 sessions at NAA, participants rated Sheiree’s workshop on Urban Birding as among the top 35 at the conference. With this recognition, Sheiree has been invited to present as part of the Virtual Convention, as well as being part of NAA's podcasts and webinars, and submitting contributions to NAA's e-news and AfterSchool Today magazine. NHA afterschool programs continue to provide learning and networking opportunities on both a national and local level.

**Bridge to College Career Program**

Career professionals from varied backgrounds speak to middle and high school students about their careers and the different steps they took to acquire it.

**Speakers present at 20 West Learning Center.**

**Vincent Grant** - Owner of Hair Tech Barber School

June 11th @ 4:30pm
20 West Ave, Norwalk