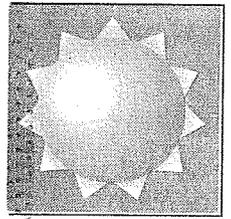


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Weather / A2



Mostly sunny today with highs in the mid-60s. Partly cloudy tonight with lows in the mid-60s.

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Joe Huzina cooks up pots of gulyas, or goulash, a Hungarian stew commonly made from beef stock as the St. Ladislaus Catholic Church celebrates 100 years. Hour photo / BEN GANCSOS

Catholic church celebrates 100th anniversary

By **AMANDA PINTO**
Hour Staff Writer

NORWALK — As traditional music thumped through the air at Sunday's patron saint festival at historically Hungarian St. Ladislaus Catholic Church, two couples commanded attention as they swayed to the beat. In the rear of the room, two Hun-

garian women — one clothed in native peasant dress — danced arm in arm. Near the stage, western-clad Maree Lenard and her daughter Midland, 7, two of the church's Haitian members, enjoyed a similar dancing style. "Me and my daughter, we love the music," said Lenard, 39. "She loves

the dancing." At the church's 100th anniversary celebration, the two pairs of dancers seemed to embody the spirit of St. Ladislaus Church today — a blend of Hungarian heritage and relatively new membership from worshippers of all nationalities. **See ST. LADISLAUS, A5**

Bridgeport Bishop William E. Lori. Will the law insist that Catholic hospitals further violate their ethical standards by performing abortions on demand? Or will the law someday force Catholic hospitals to euthanize those deemed not fit to live?"

John Haas, president of the National Catholic Bioethics Center in Philadelphia, said he expects abortion rights advocates in other states to pounce on Connecticut's new law.

"There is a coordinated effort around the country to pass this kind of legislation," Haas said. Similar bills have already passed in Massachusetts, New York, New Jersey and Minnesota.

Though Roman Catholics believe life begins at conception, medical rules for Catholic hospitals allow them to distribute the drug to rape victims.

See STATE, A5

The Hour 6/25/07

Clash with landlord affirms tenant rights

By **JAMES WALKER**
Hour Staff Writer

NORWALK — AINU Janice may be wheelchair bound, but the 63-year-old had a lot of get up and go as she fought to have a handicap-accessible ramp built outside her apartment on North Taylor Avenue.

Janice lives in a privately-owned, six-apartment unit building.

The battle, which included lawyers, the city of Norwalk and the Connecticut Fair Housing Commission as well as a non-profit agency, began last year when Janice asked her landlord if she could install a ramp so she would have more mobility and was denied.

It ended with the city sending a strong message to landlords that the law requires they grant permission to any disabled person who needs to make upgrades to have their homes made accessible to their disability.

It also helped spur a new pilot program between the city's Fair

"They (landlords) must permit it. But the landlord does not have to pay for it."

Margaret Suib
Norwalk's Fair Housing Officer

Housing Department and the Family Children's Agency that will help low-income disabled people who qualify upgrade their apartments at no expense.

The program begins July 1.

Last week, Janice, whose first name is pronounced "a-new," showed off her ramp and delivered a serious message to other disabled people of all ages who need their homes upgraded to make them handicap-accessible.

"Other people should know they have rights," Janice said. "It's a law

throughout the United States."

When her landlord denied her permission to build the ramp, Janice thought she would have to move. She went to the Norwalk Housing Authority to inquire about an apartment that would fit her needs.

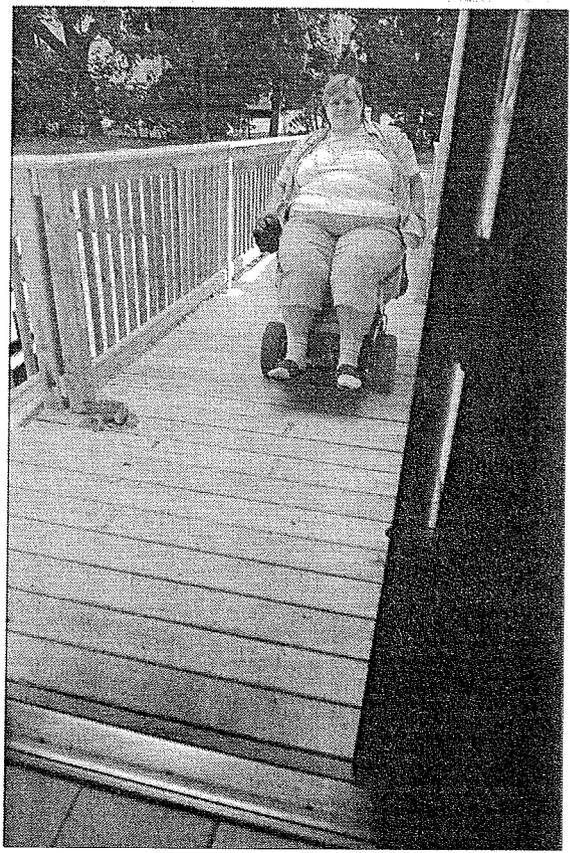
The Authority sent her to see Margaret Suib, Norwalk's Fair Housing Officer, and Janice learned she didn't have to move.

The Fair Housing law requires landlords to give their permission to any tenant, whether it's a senior citizen or a child with disabilities, to build a ramp.

"I didn't really want to move," Janice said. "I like this location and I like my apartment."

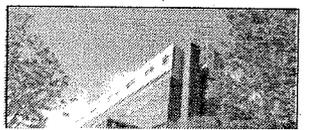
Suib said the purpose of the law is not only to make life easier for people with disabilities, but also to keep seniors out of nursing homes and allow them to continue their lives in the homes where they're

See WOMAN, A5



AINU Janice enjoys increased mobility with her newly installed wheelchair ramp at her North Taylor Avenue apartment. The law requires landlords to give their permission to any tenant, whether it's a senior citizen or a child with disabilities, to build a ramp.

Hour photo / **ERIK TRAUTMANN**



Living with Lymphoma or Hodgkins Disease

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Third Wednesday each month at 6 p.m.

Norwalk | The right care

