

FLASH



CRIS At Mystic Aquarium

1. At an event marking Blind Americans Equality Day, state leaders and advocates applauded CRIS Radio and Mystic Aquarium for their collaborative efforts to improve accessible experiences for people who are blind or have low vision. The event included a demonstration of CRIS Radio's talking exhibit service, called CRISAccess, and the aquarium's accessible penguin encounter. **Deb Reed**, president of the National Federation for the Blind's Central Connecticut Chapter and **Gary Allen** reached into a tank to touch a shark, as a Mystic Aquarium moderator looked on. ♦ **2.** Among those attending were **Randy Fiveash**, director of the state Office of Tourism; **Brian Sigman**, director of the Bureau of Education and Services for the Blind; **Amy Porter**, commissioner of Aging and Disability Services; **Diane Weaver Dunne**, executive director of CRIS Radio; **Paul Young**, CRIS Radio board chair; and **Steve Coan**, president and CEO of Mystic Aquarium. ♦ **3.** **Kelly Mattis**, an educator at the aquarium, demonstrated the audible sensory items, and ♦ [4-CRIS] **4.** **Eileen Ackers**, president of the bureau's Consumer Advisory Council, spoke about the achievements of people who are blind and the importance of efforts to improve accessibility. [Photos: Steve Laschever]

Trinity Hosts Organ Festival

5. Trinity College President **Joanne Berger-Sweeney**, second from right, hosted a reception following a performance of "Music for Grand Organ and Orchestra," part of the 2019 Albert Schweitzer Organ Festival Hartford. The competition has been held at Trinity College Chapel since 2015. The performance featured the Hartford Symphony Orchestra, and from left, **Carolyn Kuan**, the symphony's conductor and music director; and **Christopher Houlihan**, the John Rose college organist-and-directorship distinguished chair of chapel music at Trinity College. Joining them was the Rev. **Allison Read**, college chaplain and dean of spiritual and religious life.

