

IS ON EVERYONE'S LIPSTidbits Overheard... Didjanos... All The Buzzzzz!

SUMMARY PAGE 9

Vol. 10 No. 31

Cobblestones Library

October 27, 2019



A great crowd, good eats and an educational fun day!





27 William Robinson and Marmaduke Stevenson became the first Quakers to be executed in America. 1659, President *Theodore* Roosevelt's birthday. The Teddy Bear was named after him). 1858, the same year RH Macy & Co opens first store, 6th Ave-NYC., Du Pont announced *nylon* as the new name for its new synthetic yarn. 1938, The first *Walt Disney* television show Disneyland premiered. 1954, *Peter, Paul and Mary* and In the Wind topped the album charts, 1963

28 The *Battle of White Plains* took place during the Revolutionary War. 1776, France presented the US with the Statute of Liberty.

1886, St. Louis Police became the first to use fingerprinting, 1904, Pan American World Airways (Pan Am) flew the first international flight -- from Key West, Florida to Havana, Cuba. 1927, A local from Lubbock, opened a concert for Marty Robbins and Elvis Presley. The kid who opened the concert? Buddy Holly. 1955, The Gateway Arch in St. Louis is completed. 1965, The centennial of the Statue of Liberty was celebrated. 1986

29 William Penn finally made it to what is now Chester. 1682. The International Committee of the Red Cross was founded. 1863, The NY Stock Exchange crashed on what came to be known as Black Tuesday, starting the Great Depression 1929, **◆The**

Huntley-Brinkley Report premiered on NBC, replacing John Cameron Swayze and "The Camel News Caravan". 1956, Space shuttle *Discovery* blasted off, returning 77year-old US Senator John Glenn to space. 1998

30 Baseball league presidents call for abolishment of the spitball. 1919, Orson Welles' ◆ The War of the Worlds aired on CBS radio. 1938, Maggie May by Rod Stewart topped the charts. 1971, US President Richard Nixon approved legislation to increase Social Security spending by \$5.3 billion. 1972, *Dan Aykroyd* and *John Belushi*, aka The Blues Brothers hit the two-million

31 Sir Humphrey Davy of London patents miner's safety lamp. 1815, *The Donner party* became trapped in what is now known as Donner Pass in the Sierra Mountains. 1846, Magician Harry Houdini dies from complications of a ruptured appendix. 1926, Mt Rushmore was declared complete after 14 years of work. 1941, Mack the Knife by Bobby Darin topped the charts. 1959 Wal-Mart Discount City stores were incorporated as Wal-Mart Stores, Inc. 1969, Indira hGand]i was assassinated. 1984,

1 Michelangelo's paintings on the ceiling of the *Sistine* Chapel were first exhibited to the public. 1512, Gen. George B. McClellan was made the general-in-chief of the Union armies. 1861, Billboard Advertising was published for the first time. 1894, 'ta-ta' the Bra was patented 1914,



L BAZAA

success! Natalie greeted you at the welcome table. Baked goodies galore, books on every

subject, tables full of stuff you just have to take home!

Over two dozen mums sold quickly! If you missed it...sorry, see you next year!

Famous racehorse, Man o' War, died. 1947, Elvis Presley hit number one with Suspicious Minds. 1969

2 Peter the Great becomes Emperor of Russia ,1721, William Demont, became the first traitor of the Revolutionary War. 1776, Newsreel Theatre opened on Broadway. 1929, DuPont Co. announced the first synthetic rubber, DuPrene. 1930, When Harry S Truman went to bed this day, he was losing the election for president. 1948, Jailhouse Rock by *Elvis Presley* topped the charts. 1957



Sports, Birthdays & City Meetings	.2
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® NASCAR schedule

*Drydene 400 Oct 6 Oct14 *1000Bulbs.com 500 Oct 20 *Hollywood Casino 400

*First Data 500

*AAA Texas 500

Oct 27

Nov 3

Dover Talladega Kansas

Texas MS 3p

Chase Elliott Kyle Larson Ryan Blaney

Martinsville 3p



The average American eats sixty-one pounds of refined sugar every year, including two pounds from Halloween candy.

See THE WEEKLY for Full Schedules Mon 10/28 Planning Commission Mtg. 6:30p Mon. 11/4 Tree Advisory Commission 4p Tues. 11/12 City Council Meeting 7p Thurs. 11/14 Historic Area Commission Mtg. 6:30p Mon. 11/25 Municipal Services Commission Mtg. 4pm MSC Office 216 Chestnut Street Mon. 11/25 Planning Commission Mtg. 6:30pm http://newcastlecity.delaware.gov/

Happy Cobblestone Birthday

Belated Sat 10-26 Gary Burgmuller Mon 10-28 Chris Mlynarczyk Wed 10-30 lke Schultz Fri 11-1 Pat Jennings ★ Mark Tisdel ★ Pete Toner Sat 11-2 Robert Bruce * Matt Lovlie Sun 11-3 Aileen Lennon Mon 11-4 Wanda James Tues 11-5 Kelly Koczak McCurdy Raymond Harriman * Mack Shane

Birthday or Anniversary approaching? Tell The Teditor flytedb13@comcast.net

Notable this week 27^h Natl Tell a Story Day *Navy Day Theodore Roosevelt*161 (1919), 26th U. S President, Emily Post*147 (1960), Dylan Thomas*105 (1953), Nanette Fabric*99 (2018), John Gotti*79 (2002), Patty Sheehan-63 28th Natl Chocolate DaySt. Jude's Day Jonas Salk*104 (1995), Charlie Daniels-83, Jane Alexander 80, Dennis Franz-75, Bill Gates-64, Julia Roberts-52 <mark>29th Hermit</mark> Day Internet Day Natl Frankenstein Day Fanny Brice*128 (1951), Richard Dreyfuss-72, Kate Jackson-71, Winona Ryder-48 30th Natl Candy Corn Day John Adams*284 (1826), 2d U.S. President, William "Bull" Halsey*136 (1959), Henry Winkler-74, Harry Hamlin-68 31 Frankenstein Friday • Increase Your Psychic Powers Day John Keats*224 (1821), Juliette Gordon Low*159 (1927), founder of Girl Scouts of America, Dale Evans*107 (2001), Barbara Bel Geddes*97 (2005), Dan Rather-88, Michael Landon*83 (1991), John Candy*69 (1994), Jane Pauley-69 [st A]/ Saint's Day Gary Player-84, Larry Flynt-77, Lyle Lovett-62, Fernando Valenzuela-59, Jenny McCarthy-47 ^{2nd} All Soul's Day♦ Deviled Egg Day Daniel Boone*285 (1820), Marie Antoinette*264 (1793), James K. Polk*224 (1849), 11th U.S. President, Warren G. Harding*154, (1823) 29th U.S. President, Burt Lancaster*106 (1994), Ann Rutherford*99 (2012), Ray Walston*95 (2001), Pat Buchanan-81, Stephanie Powers-77



WEEK 10 Thurs, Nov 7 L.A. Chargers @ Oakland 8:20p NFLN Sun, Nov 10

Carolina @ Green Bay 1p FOX Detroit @ Chicago!p C 1p FOX Buffalo @ Cleveland 1p CBS Kansas City @ Tennessee 1p CBS Baltimore @ Cincinnati 1p CBS Atlanta @ New Orleans 1p FOX Arizona @ Tampa Bay 1p FOX Miami @ Indianapolis 4p CBS L.A. Rams @ Pittsburgh 4:25p FOX Minnesota @ Dallas 8:20 NBC Mon, Nov 11 Seattle @ San Francisco 8:15p ESPN **Bye:** Denver, Houston, Jacksonville, New England, Philadelphia, Washington

► EAGLES ► REDSKINS and ► RAVENS









400 South Street - New Castle - 302 - 326-4209

Mon 10-28 10 Dover Federal Credit Union: Identity Theft and Fraud 12:15 Birthday Celeb 12:30 Brain Boosters n

Wed 10-30 9:30 Peddler's Village 10 Cornhole 11 Reminisce Group Thurs 10-31 11 Senior CAN Program 11 Lunch out: Cracker Barrel 1 Bazaar Wrap Up Meeting Fri 11-1 12:30 Food Lion

bere Friends

the New Castle

New Castle Senior Center

Gather"

amazonsmile Click HERE 1 Chair Yoga

9-3 Billiards 9 Pool Exercise 9:30 Park Walk

10 Crafty Seniors 12 Lunch 12:30 Mah Jongg 9-3 Billiards 9:30 Shanghai 10 Bingo 12 Lunch 1 Strength Building/

9-3 Billiards 9:30 Park Walk 11 Line Dancing 12 Lunch

1 A.B.C. Class

9-3 Billiards 9-3 Billiards 9:30 Park Walk 9:30 Shanghai 9:30 Bridge9:30 Knit/Crochet 10 Bingo 10 Mah Jongg 10 Games w/Tom 12 Lunch 12:30 Super Market 10:30 Beginner's/ 1 Zumba Gold Arthritis Exercise 2 Qi Gong/Tai Chi 12 Lunch 5:30 Yoga

Sr. Center Charter Bus Trips

Payment is due at the time of sign up If you need to cancel your trip money will only be refunded if there is someone to take your place. . . .

5:30 Bible Study

Nov. 20-Dutch Apple Theater: "Irving Berlin's Holiday Inn" 9:30-5:00. Cost-\$99/members; \$109/nonmembers. Price includes show, lunch, gratuity, bus and driver's tip.

Deadline to sign up is October 25.

Dec. 11- Herr's Factory: 12:30 pm-7:00 pm.Cost-\$42/members; \$52/ non-members. Price includes snack factory

tour, Christmas driving light tour, bus and driver's tip. Dinner will be on your own at the Nottingham Inn between the snack factory tour and light tour. Trips will be canceled two weeks in advance,

COBBLESTONES HERE New Castle

Archived New Castle newspapers ►CLICK HERE

10-28 Teen Time/3-4:30p **PAWS***/6:30p POETRY READING 7p / ages 15+

Kindergarten Registration/10a-noon

New Program!

Teen Time

3-4:30 PM every Friday Drop-in program for teens: games, arts/crafts & snacks

424 Delaware St - New Castle DE 19720 - 302-328-1995

*registration required > www.nccdelib.org/newcastle

Mon 10-9 Tues 10-9 Wed 2:-9 Thurs 2-9 Fri 10-5 Sat 10-5 Sun Closed

New*Castle Distinctively American



REUSABLE MORSBAGS **SEW-A-THON** Monday Oct 28th 6:00-8:30PM

New Castle Presbyterian Church CE Building

25 East Second Štreet. New Castle, DE 19720 Delaware is banning the use of plastic grocery bags, effective January 1, 2021. During the transition to the ban Plastic Free

DE is working with

communities and partner organizations to make and distribute reusable cloth bags. In the spirit of Repurpose-Reuse-Reduce, material for creating reusable bags is being collected from donations of fabric and gently used clothing.

RSVP: patti.isaacshansen@gmail.com

4:30p 302-739-3262.

Special Events

Guided tours examine some of Victor Records' earliest Saturday of classical music played on authentic Victor Talking Machines. First Saturday in the First State program. Johnson Victrola Museum, 375 S. New St., Dover. 9a-

Sat. Nov. 2 "18th Century Market Fair." Programs explore an era when The Green served as the focal point of life in Dover as historical interpreters explore the goods, wares and political attitudes of the 1700s. The Old State House will celebrate the fair with special tours and 18thcentury-style demonstrations. First Saturday in the First State event sponsored by the First State Heritage Park. The Green, Dover. Programs 10a-4p Museum open 9a-4:30p

Sat. Nov. 2 "Pocket to Petticoats." Presentation on Colonial clothing by Sharyn Murray, retired Zwaanendael Museum historical interpreter. Part one of the four-part lecture series, "Seams From the Past." Zwaanendael Museum, 102 Kings Highway, Lewes. Program at 2p on the museum's 2nd floor (entry via staircase; no elevator). Museum open 10a-4:30p Free admission but, due to space restrictions, reservations for the lecture are required by calling 302-645-1148 no later than Nov. 1.

Friday, Nov. 8 Concert by Lori Citro. Singer/songwriter/pianist presented in partnership with the Delaware Friends of Folk and the First State Heritage Park. The Old State House, 25 The Green, Dover. 7:30p 302-744-5054.

Sat. Nov. 9 "Veterans Walking Tours." Brian Cannon, lead interpreter for the New Castle Court House Museum, will lead walking tours highlighting New Castle soldiers' graves from the Revolutionary War through the Vietnam War, and relating little-known stories of these exceptional veterans. Presented by the New Castle Court House Museum. Tours depart at 11a and 2p from Immanuel Episcopal Church, 100 Harmony St., New Castle. Free admission but reservations are requested by calling 302-323-4453.

Sat. Nov. 9 Demonstrations by the Thistledown Fiber Arts Guild. Program explores spinning, weaving, knitting and other fabric arts. <u>John Dickinson Plantation</u>, 340 Kitts Hummock Road, Dover. Program 1–3p Museum open 10a–4:30p 302-739-3277.

Sat. Nov. 9 "A Stitch in History: Cross Stitch for Beginners." Workshop by Madeline Golden, Zwaanendael Museum historical interpreter. Part two of the four-part lecture series, "Seams From the Past." Zwaanendael Museum, 102 Kings Highway, Lewes. Program at 2p on the museum's 2nd floor (entry via staircase; no elevator). Museum open 10a-4:30p Admission fee of \$10 includes materials for visitors to create their own cross stitch. Due to space restrictions, reservations for the workshop are required by calling 302-645-1148 no later than Nov. 2.

Mon. Nov. 11 Veterans Day. The following museums of the State of Delaware will be open: The Johnson Victrola Museum and The Old State House, open 9a-4:30p; the John Dickinson Plantation, open 10a-4:30p The New Castle Court House Museum and the Zwaanendael Museum, closed, 302-744-5054.



3



Yields: 8 servings

8 slices mozzarella - 8 mini bagels - 1/2 c. Marinara - 4 black olives

Easy Fox

- Oven happy at 350°! Cut mozzarella slices into ghost shapes using a paring knife.
- Spread a thin layer of marinara over pizza bagel and top with ghost.
- Bake until cheese is melty, 10 minutes.
- Meanwhile, cut olives into little pieces for eyes. Dot the ghosts and serve.

make your own Grenadine

Looking for a DIY but too timid to try home brewing or making gin, here's a project for you: Grenadine. It's almost as easy to make as simple syrup; meaning, there's no excuse not to make your own.

Essentially just a reduced pomegranate

syrup, grenadine is a workhorse of an ingredient. It adds sugar, acidity and a gorgeous color all at once. It's a great ingredient for rum punches and tiki drinks. To make the grenadine: Start with 100 percent pomegranate juice—not the kind cut with other ingredients or with added sugar. Pour one cup each of juice and white sugar into a saucepan. Bring to a boil, stirring to dissolve the sugar.

Once it boils, reduce it to a simmer and cook for 15 minutes, stirring occasionally, then let the mixture cool. It should thicken considerably as it comes down to room temperature. And hey, look at that: You've made grenadine. It'll last at least a week or two in the fridge, and pretty much forever in the freezer.

NOTICE OF ELECTION

TO THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE NEW CASTLE COMMON

DUE TO THE EXPIRATION OF THE TERM OF TRUSTEE GREGORY YACUCCI, THE TRUSTEES OF THE NEW CASTLE COMMON WILL HOLD AN ELECTION ON NOVEMBER 9, 2019,

TO FILL THE VACANCY.

ELECTION DATE: NOVEMBER 9, 2019

PLACE: GOODWILL FIRE STATION

TIME: 8 AM UNTIL 4 PM

DEADLINE TO FILE FOR CANDIDACY:

October 10, 2019

DEADLINE TO REGISTER TO VOTE:

November 4, 2019

Register at the Trustees' Office Located at 201 Delaware Street

CANDIDATES MUST BE A RESIDENT OF THE CITY OF NEW CASTLE – FOR AT LEAST TWO YEARS PRIOR TO THE ELECTION DATE AND BE AT LEAST 25 YEARS OF AGE BY THE DATE OF THE ELECTION AND BE REGISTERED TO VOTE ON THE TRUSTEES' VOTER LIST, WHICH IS SEPARATE FROM ANY OTHER VOTER REGISTRATION LISTS.

VOTERS MUST BE A RESIDENT OF THE CITY OF NEW CASTLE - FOR AT LEAST ONE YEAR PRIOR TO THE ELECTION AND BE AT LEAST 18 YEARS OF AGE. THIS REGISTRATION IS SEPARATE FROM REGISTERING FOR FEDERAL, STATE & LOCAL ELECTIONS. BRING PROOF OF RESIDENCY AND AGE TO REGISTER.

EARLY VOTING WILL BE AVAILABLE IN THE TRUSTEES' OFFICE, AT 201 DELAWARE STREET, BEGINNING ON OCTOBER 23, 2019 THROUGH NOVEMBER 8, 2019, AT 2 PM.

NORMAL BUSINESS HOURS ARE 10AM TO 3PM, MONDAY THROUGH THURSDAY.

TO OBTAIN A BALLOT BY MAIL, CALL (302) 322-2809. REQUESTS WILL BE TAKEN STARTING ON OCTOBER 1 THROUGH OCTOBER 27, 2019. BALLOTS WOULD BE MAILED OUT AFTER THE BALLOTS ARE PRINTED (FOLLOWING THE WITHDRAW DEADLINE OF OCTOBER 20, 2019). MAILED OUT BALLOTS MUST BE RETURNED TO THE OFFICE BY NOVEMBER 8, 2019, AT 2PM.

FOR QUESTIONS CALL 302-322-2809



On the third Saturday of May, rain or shine, many residents open their homes and gardens to visitors from all over the east coast and beyond for

A Day In Old New Castle,

the oldest operating house and garden tour in United States.

Started in 1924, by a group of enterprising ladies from Immanuel Church on the Green, *A Day In Old New Castle's* mission was to share knowledge of life, art, history, and architecture in Colonial America. It also offered a day of fellowship and hospitality to and by the community as

well as to raise funds for the preservation of the church and other historic buildings.

The New Castle Community Partnership, with the collaboration of many New Castle groups, organizations and individuals, has now taken on the continuation of this event but today all the funds raised are used to benefit New Castle non-profit organizations, churches and museums.

May 2020 will be the 96th year of *A Day In Old New Castle*. But to have a successful event day we need you, members of New Castle's community that are willing to give some time, talent, expertise, and elbow grease to produce an event that New Castle is uniquely noted for.

On Tuesday, October 29th, 6:30pm at the New Castle Court House Museum, the *Day In Old New Castle* Committee will have their kick-off meeting to start planning for our 2020 year. We invite you to join us and learn more about *A Day In Old New Castle* and the many ways you can be a part of this historic New Castle tradition.

For more information contact Cindy Snyder at 302-323-4453 or <u>Cynthia.Snyder@delaware.gov</u>

Good Will Ladies Auxiliary Designer Handbag



Friday, November 8, 2019



Good Will Fire Company 401 South Street New Castle, De 19720



DOORS OPEN AT 6:00PM BINGO BEGINS AT 7:00PM

Vou must be 18 or older to attend



- 1. Go to the park or woods. Pick up a cone or two!
- 2 Put the cone in a pot so that most of it stands out.
- 3. Pour it every day with a small amount of water, as excess water makes the cones rot.
- 4. After some time, a tiny tree will appear.
- 5. Congratulations they just started oxygen production and you have a piece of forest in your own home



STREET SWEEPING THIS WEEK!

Monday Even #'s Tuesday Odd #'s: 7 - 10 am
Van Dyke Village, including 11th, 14th, Victorian Ct,
Swedes St, Baldt Ave, Brylgon Ave, Megginson Ave,
Hewlett Ave, Janvier Ave and Moore Ave.
Wed. Even #'s Thursday Odd #'s: 7 - 10 am

2nd, 3rd, 4th, 5th, 6th, Cherry, Harmony, Chestnut, Tremont, Deemer Place, Foundry, Shaw Alley, Williams, Plum Alley, Porter Alley, South and Delaware from 3rd to 7th

	OCTOBER									
S	M	Т	W	Т	F	S				
		1	2	3	4	5				
6	7	8	9	10	11	12				
13	14	15	16	17	18	19				
20	21	22	23	24	25	26				
27	28	29	30	31						

Municipal Services Commission

2019 Fall Hydrant Flushing Program

The Municipal Services Commission Water Department will begin our Fall Fire Hydrant Flushing Program on Monday, October 21st. Flushing will begin at 7:30am and end at 3:00pm Monday through Friday taking approximately 10 business days to complete. Our Hydrant Flushing Program is important to our water system and is an integral part of our goal to deliver the safest and highest quality water possible. Additionally, it ensures fire protection is available by testing the operation of our hydrants.

The Municipal Services Commission schedules our flushing program during the early Fall when demands are lower using a carefully planned route to control the direction of flow in our system. Customers should not experience service interruptions during the flushing process.

The flushing process may cause some temporary water discoloration. There is no health hazard associated with the discolored water. If you notice discolored water, run several cold water taps at the same time until the water is clear. Avoid using your cold or hot water and doing laundry until you are sure the water is clear.

The Municipal Services Commission urges all residents to exercise caution while traveling around the hydrant flushing crews as water may accumulate in the flushing area.

Your understanding and cooperation during this process is appreciated. If you have questions or would like additional information, please contact the Municipal Services Commission Water Department at 302-323-2333 between 7:00am and 3:30pm Monday through Friday.



in to try our new menu.

lunch too!





222 Delaware St. New Castle, DE 302•276•7038 Monday 11-9 Wednesday Closed Thursday-Friday 11am-11pm Saturday 10am-11pm Sunday 10am9pm



Delaware Street - 6:30 pm

Cash Prizes for best Costume Infant to Teens, Adults and Groups Parade forms at St. Peter's School parking lot 5th & Harmony Streets





GREAT VALUE at 22 E. 4th St, New Castle

Stunning kitchen and baths, two porches,central air, charm & more in a fabulous Historic District location!

Freshly Painted & Move-In Ready!
NEW PRICE of \$228,400!

Call for information on presently available and soon to be available rentals in New Castle, including a cheery one bedroom unit in the Historic David Finney building at 222 Delaware Street. Living room with a gas fireplace and a fully equipped kitchen with a breakfast bar. Bright, spacious bedroom. W/D



in unit. Secure building with elevator service. Private deck with fabulous park and river views! Steps from museums, eateries, Battery Park and the new Pier. Just lovely!

Call for information on the market and available properties!

Dedicated to Your Success and Satisfaction!



Join us at live and virtual events throughout the week to plan your graduate education. We're here to help—in person, online, on social, or by text! Get details at wilmu.edu/GradWeek



I To fit grad school into your busy life WilmU works.

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Autumn is a 5-year-old independent lady. She is inquisitive about her surroundings, and a lover of a good lap. This purr machine will fill your house with affection if you let her. Autumn is a confident cat who knows what she wants; and a forever family is at the top of the list. Autumn can be adopted for \$10 through November 3rd during our

"Find Your New Boo" promotion.

Brandywine Valley SPCA, 600 South Street, New Castle, DE 302-516-1000. Click HERE to learn about all my friends on South Street



Brandywine Valley SPCA - 600 South Street, New Castle, DE 19720 Phone: (302) 516-1002





Aug 29 (Thu) 131-13 vs **Delaware State** Sep 7 7p w 44-36 *@ Rhode Island Sep 14 1p ________

vs North Dakota State Sep 21 1p VS **Penn** W 28-27

Sep 28

@ Pitt L 14-17 *Oct 12 2p @ Elon L 42-7

*Oct 19 w 16-10 vs New Hampshire *Oct 26 1 35-25 vs Richmond *Nov 2 2p @ Towson

*Nov 9 1p vs Albany *Nov 16 1p

vs **Stony Brook** *Nov 23 1p

@ Villanova

GO TO BULE HENS







10-30 Halloween Parade

11-9 Veterans Walking Tours 11a & 2p

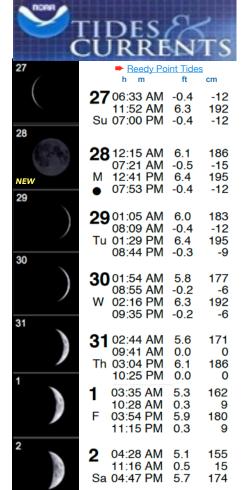
12-3-5 Arasapha's Wreath Making Workshop 12-7 St. Peter's **Breakfast with Santa**

> 12-8 St. Anthony's Society Spaghetti Dinner

12-14 Spirit of Christmas Dickens Christmas



#KeepDELitterFree de.gov/litterfree





7:24am 🍕 6:08pm 7:26am 🧯 6:07pm 7:27am 🥞 29 🥶 6:05pm 30 7:28am (§ 6:04pm 31 7:29am 🥞 6:03pm 7:30am 🇯 6:02pm 7:31am 6:01pm



New Castle VISITOR CENTER

at The Arsenal

30 Market St New Castle, DE 19720 Open Daily · 9:30AM-4:30PM Sun. 11:30 am - 4pm (302) 322-2794

COBBLESTONES Published weekly. Emailed every Sunday morning to over 925 residents and neighbors in the tri-state area and others nationwide with ties to our community and its history. Another 250 plus view the Cobblestones Facebook page weekly. Supported by SUBSCRIPTIONS/DONATIONS @ \$15 per year (more if you wish).

Flytedb13@comcast.net Please make check payable to: Ted Joslin - 112 Delaware Street, New Castle DE 19720. Teditor

Very economical advertising rates available. Thank You

This Summary of the October 23rd City Council 3 Public Hearings and Special Meeting from the notes of Council member Suzanne Souder and **NOT** an official record of the meeting.

Each ordinance required a separate public hearing. These were scheduled sequentially and

followed by a special meeting. Council's discussion and vote on the ordinances was during the special meeting. However,

I have combined my summary of the public hearing, Council discussion, and vote on each topic. After these summaries, I summarized the remainder of the special meeting.

Y COUNCIL SUMMARY

Ordinance 520: Fencing in Downtown Gateway districts

The first public hearing was on Ordinance 520 which would amend the Zoning Code to permit construction of fences or walls by special exception on properties formerly zoned Industrial (I) and Service Commercial (SC) but now zoned Downtown Gateway (DG). Two residents spoke about this ordinance.

Clay Greer of the New Castle Sailing Club spoke in favor of it because the club wants to replace an overgrown hedge with fence to match the fencing around the rest of their property. The purpose of the fence is for security as they store some boats outdoors over the winter. They are also concerned that a curious person might be injured trying to enter the property. John DiMondi then asked who besides the sailing club wants this ordinance, why do they want it, and what they want to do. Council President Linda Ratchford replied that the SPCA and Buy-Rite Liquors have also expressed interest in constructing fences. She does not know what sort of fence they want to add because no proposals can be submitted unless this ordinance is passed. Mr. DiMondi objected to the presence of the SPCA in that location and said it should have been reviewed by the Board of Adjustment before they were permitted to lease the former Brosius Eliason site. (My note: this decision was made several years ago.) He complained about the odor from dog waste even though he acknowledged that SPCA staff usually cleans up the lot used to walk the dogs. He stated his belief that the SPCA wants to construct outdoor runs for dogs and objects to this. He believes it would lead to "dogs barking" day and night" as well as increased odors.

Ms Ratchford asked City Solicitor Dan Lasco to explain the process. Mr. Lasco said that each application to construct a wall or a fence would have to go through the Board of Adjustment. Mr. DiMondi expressed the opinion that "anyone who wants to change things can just come here (to Council) and get it changed."

During the discussion at the Special Meeting, Mr. Lasco explained that when this area was re-zoned to DG status there was concern about existing businesses that wouldn't be in compliance with the new status. The compromise was to grandfather those businesses for 10 years but to prohibit

expansion by adding structures to the properties. Under current code, walls and fences are considered "structures" and thus are prohibited. He went on to say that the DG zoning was meant to promote open, pedestrian-friendly areas which would be welcoming and compatible with the historic portions of the City. I asked if the decision to prohibit the addition of fences or walls was an intentional one at the time of the zoning change or a side-effect of the definition of "structure" in other parts of the code. He thought it was more of a side-effect than a conscious decision.

Councilperson Michael Platt asked why the fence or wall applications have to go through the Board of Adjustment since that requires payment of a fee (\$600) by the applicant. Ms Ratchford said was a way to control the type of fencing to be installed. Mr. Lasco added that if fences could be added without review, someone could install a fence incompatible with the intent of the DG zoning such as 9-foot chain-link fence topped with barbed wire.

The ordinance passed unanimously.

Ordinance 522: City Property Tax abatement on improvements in Downtown Development District

No member of the public commented on this ordinance.

This is one of the ordinances in support of the Downtown Development District status which was granted to the City by the State of Delaware in August. It provides for an abatement of the increase in property taxes caused by an increase in assessed value resulting from improvements made to properties in the Downtown Development District (DDD). This abatement would apply only if the cost of the improvements exceeds \$25,000 based on "eligible expenses" as defined by the State (generally only significant, permanent, non-moveable improvements are included), the owner is not delinquent on any obligations to the City, and the improvements are completed in accordance with all City requirements. The abatement would be for a 5-year period beginning the first tax year following the completion of the improvements.

I asked if the abatement is transferable if the property is sold after completion of the improvements. Mr. Lasco said that it is transferable for the balance of the 5-year period. I asked if he saw any downside to that and he did not. Even if the owner who completes the improvements later sells the property, the goal of the DDD to improve property values has still been accomplished.

Ms Ratchford commented that other cities with DDD status give greater incentives and have found that they benefit from the improved property values.

The ordinance passed 4-1 with Mr. Platt voting against it.

Ordinance 523: Waiver of City Realty Transfer Tax for first time homebuyers of properties within the DDD

No member of the public commented on this ordinance.

There was some discussion about the status of "first time homebuyer". Mr. Lasco said this was determined by affidavit of the buyer which must also be signed by the mortgage broker. This is the way it is done by New Castle County and other cities with similar provisions. Ms Ratchford said the intent of this provision is to encourage young families to purchase homes in the DDD.

The ordinance passed 4-1 with Mr. Platt voting against it. Ms Ratchford noted that the passing of these ordinances moves us forward in the DDD process but the City still has to prepare the administrative guidelines. She and City Administrator William Barthel have met with staff members of the Delaware Housing Authority which administers the program for the State. They found them to be very helpful. We hope to have a public meeting to let residents know about this program and how they may take advantage of it to make significant improvements to their homes or businesses. We also need to inform residents about how to make the application process go more smoothly such as having separate contracts for work that qualifies under the DDD and work that does not. Ms Ratchford and Mr. Barthel have talked with several realtors in town who are interested in promoting the DDD program to prospective buyers.

Council member Souder comments

This was not discussed at the meeting but I am including it because there has been a lot of misinformation circulating about properties included in the DDD, primarily the vacant land behind the Senior Center. This land has been the subject of some controversy over the past year or so because the owner has been placing large quantities of dirt there. This property is not part of the DDD so any improvements the owner may choose to make would not benefit from any of the tax and fee abatements for the DDD approved at this or prior meetings. There has also been an allegation that the Council could simply add this property to the DDD. That is not the case. The definition of the DDD was approved by the State of Delaware and any changes would also have to be approved. In addition,

there is a limit to the number of acres which may be included in the DDD. New Castle's DDD is already at the maximum allowable size.

Other items from the Special Meeting

1. Re-appointment of David Baldini and Brenda Antonio to the Planning Commission.

Mr. Baldini was present and said that they recently received an extension for submission of the Comprehensive Plan which must now be completed by April 2020. Councilperson Russ Smith said he had served on the Planning Commission with both Mr. Baldini and Ms Antonio and heartily endorsed both of them because of their dedication and hard work on the Commission.

The resolution passed unanimously. Mr. Baldini's new term expires Oct. 24, 2022 and Ms Antonio's term expires Nov. 9, 2022.

2. Exchange of excess property (a skid steer) for a used garbage truck from the City of Newark.

One of our garbage trucks was in the shop for over 2 months meaning we had no back up. We arranged to borrow a garbage truck from the City of Newark. While they were here, staff from the Newark Public Works Department noticed our skid steer and asked if we used it. Mr. Barthel said we rarely use it. Newark offered to trade the garbage truck we had borrowed for the skid steer. (Mr. Barthel showed us a picture of a skid steer but I must admit I still don't know what it does. He said it was used mostly for grass cutting which the City now does very little.) This resolution was to approve the exchange. Mr. Platt asked about the value of the 2 pieces of equipment. Mr. Barthel said the garbage truck is estimated to be worth \$60,000-\$85,000. The Public Works crew who used it said it worked well and seems to be in good condition. The skid steer's estimated value is \$25,000-\$26,500.

The resolution passed unanimously. The exchange must still be approved by the Newark City Council before it can be effectuated.

