



What Happens Between The COBBLESTONES IS ON EVERYONE'S LIPS

Tidbits Overheard... Didjanos... All The Buzzzzz!



Vol. 10 No. 38

Cobblestones Library

December 15, 2019



CITY OFFICE CLOSED

Christmas Eve & Christmas
Tuesday 12/24 & Wednesday 12/25
New Years Day
Wednesday 1/1

Public Works Department
Holiday Week Pick-up
**NO Trash Pick-up on Tues, 12/24
or Wed, 12/25**

Monday's trash will be picked up on
Mon, 12/23

Tuesday's trash will be picked up on
Thurs, 12/26

NO Yard Waste Pick-up for the week.
CITYWIDE **RECYCLE** Pick up on
Fri, 12/27

New Year's Week

NO Yard Waste Pick-up on Wed, 1/1.

Normal **Recycle** pick-up on Thurs, 1/2 & Fri, 1/3

The 19th Annual

Spirit of Christmas

started out damp and wet but ended with partial sunny skies with warmth from residents and visitors alike.

The new lights on our town tree in Dewey Park looks so much more festive and inviting! Kudos to the City Administration and our Public Works department for the many hours and aching muscles that made this happen.

More photos next week



Bob Parker photo

this week in HISTORY

15 The *Bill of Rights* are enacted, amending the US Constitution. 1791, *Jane Austen's Emma* was published. 1815, In Phial., the *first street cleaning machine* was put into use. 1854, Chief *Sitting Bull* was killed by Indian police. 1890, *Gone With the Wind* premiered in where else but Atlanta, Georgia. 1939, *Dr. R. Townley Paton* and a small group of doctors laid the groundwork for the Eye-Bank for Sight Restoration. 1944, the same year *Glenn Miller* died in a plane crash, *Vaughn Meader's* *The first Family* album goes #1. 1962

16 Nearly *350 chests of tea* were dumped into Boston Harbor off of British ships by Colonial patriots. 1773, *The Tale of Peter Rabbit*, by *Beatrix Potter*, was printed for the first time. 1901, *Albert Einstein* publishes his *General Theory of Relativity* 1915, *Nylon* yarn was sold to hosiery mills. t And it all started in nylon's hometown- Wilmington, Delaware. 1939, World War II *Battle of the Bulge* began. 1944, *The Lemon Pipers* released *Green Tambourine* 1967

17 A traffic regulation in NYC established the first street to go *One Way*. 1792, The *Wright Brothers* made their first airplane flight at Kitty Hawk, N.C. ,1903, *Col. William "Billy" Mitchell* was convicted of insubordination at his court-martial. 1925, *Edgar Bergen* kidded around with his pal, *Charlie McCarthy*. 1936, Television history was made when *Tiny Tim* and *Miss Vicki Budinger* were married on *The Tonight Show* with Johnny Carson. 1969

18 The first *orthopedic hospital* was organized in NYC. It was called the *Hospital for Ruptured and Crippled*. 1862, *Slavery was abolished* with the 13th Amendment to the Constitution being ratified. 1865, A new *automobile speed record* was set at 39 mph. 1898, WPTZ in Plattsburgh, NY, presented a Felso commercial, marking *the first color telecast* seen on a local station. What's Felso? Felso was a laundry detergent. 1953

19 *Robinson Crusoe* leaves his island after 28 years. 1686, *Benjamin Franklin* began publishing *Poor Richard's Almanac*. 1732, *Gen. George Washington* led his army of about 11,000 men to Valley Forge, PA, to camp for the winter. 1777, A *Christmas Carol* by *Charles Dickens* was published in London and immediately sold out. 1843, Corrugated paper was patented by *Albert L. Jones*. 1871, *Robert Ripley* began his *Believe It or Not* column. 1918, *Neil Sedaka's* *Calendar Girl* was released 1960,

20 The "Susan Constant," "Godspeed" and "Discovery" set sail from London landing at *Jamestown*. 1606, The first successful *cotton mill* in the began operating at Pawtucket, RI. 1790, *HMS Beagle/Charles Darwin* sails from New Zealand to Sydney. 1835 *Confederate forces* evacuated Savannah. 1864, *Al Jolson* recorded *April Showers* 1932, The *Frank Capra* film *It's A Wonderful Life* had a preview showing for charity. 1946, First *UHF* television station operating regular basis. 1949, *James Arness* made his dramatic TV debut. 1954, The *Berlin Wall* was opened for the first time. It remained open for the holiday season, but closed again on Jan. 6, 1964.

21 The *Mayflower*, and its passengers, pilgrims from England, landed at Plymouth Rock. 1620, 1849, The first *ice-skating club* was formed in Philadelphia. 1849. Disney's *Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs* debuted. The first, *full-length, animated feature*. 1937, *Gen. George S. Patton* died in Heidelberg, Germany, of injuries from a car accident. 1945, *Buick* signed *Jackie Gleason* to one of the largest contracts ever entered into with an entertainer. Gleason agreed to produce 78 half-hour shows over a two-year period for \$6,142,500. 1954.

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Porto-Fino Pizza

& Restaurant ★ River Plaza New Castle ★ 302-322-3330

Come Celebrate the Season With Us!

Gift Cards make great stocking stuffers!

Seasonal Selections

- New Tacos** - Chicken, beef, or pork, topped with cheddar cheese, jalapeno, and cilantro. Served with rice and beans. \$9.99
- New Egg Rolls** - Cinnamon rolls filled with cream cheese, apple, and raisins. Served with vanilla ice cream. \$9.99
- New Sandwiches and Salads** - Choose from our signature sandwiches and salads. \$9.99
- Boneless Wings** - Buffalo, BBQ, or honey mustard. Served with ranch dressing. \$9.99
- New Entrees** - Chicken, steak, or pork chops. Served with rice and vegetables. \$12.99
- Hot Dogs too!** - Choose from our signature hot dogs. Served with ketchup and mustard. \$4.99

Let's CELEBRATE in YOUR PARTY ROOM
We are now taking reservations for 10 or more Guests!!
Please call us for your Holiday Party, Baby Shower, Birthday, Graduation, Business Meeting Events, etc.

and always our famous PIZZA ♦ WINGS ♦ SALADS ♦ BURGERS
YOUR FAVORITE GATERING PLACE FOR 35 YEARS

SCHEDULE - SCORES & NEWS ▶ HERE

17-9 **SCHEDULE - SCORES & NEWS ▶ HERE**

20-7 **SCHEDULE - SCORES & NEWS ▶ HERE**

FedEx AND Walgreens

Need to send something? Don't want important packages sitting on your door stoop all day?
Now you can use **Walgreens/Ferry Cut-Off** as your FedEx depot. Send & Receive - stop by for details.

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year

KEEP CHRIST IN Christmas

Johndimondi llc enterprises

Happy Cobblestone Birthday



Belated Wed 12-11 Terry Wyszynski
Sun 12-15 Natalie Shane ★ Thomas Tear
Mon 12-16 John Lloyd Tues 12-17 Nicole DiMondi
Thurs 12-19 Lynne Cannatelli ★ Donna Garrett ★ Celia Viola
Fri 12-20 Lori McCready ★ Andy Schultz
Sat 12-21 Donna Shrum ★ BK Gordy ★ Nic Toner
Sun 12-22 Lyn Briggs ★ Lynn Reisinger ★ Heather Hubert
Tues 12-24 Jim Berrigan

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

Notable this week 15th Bill of Rights Day - Nat'l Cat Herders Day Alexandre Gustave Eiffel*187 (1923), designed the Eiffel Tower, J. Paul Getty*127 (1976), Tim Conway*86 (2019), Dave Clark-77, Don Johnson-70 **16th Chocolate Covered Anything Day - Barbie and Barney Backlash Day** Ludwig van Beethoven*249 (1827), Margaret Mead*118 (1978), Liv Ullmann-81, Lesley Stahl-78, Benjamin Bratt-56, Hallee Hirsh-32 **17th Maple Syrup Day - Wright Brothers Day** Erskine Caldwell*116 (novelist: Tobacco Road, God's Little Acre) (1987), Gene Rayburn*102 (1999), William Safire*90 (2009), Ernie Hudson-74, Bill Pullman-65 **18th Answer the Phone Like Buddy the Elf Day - Roast Suckling Pig Day** Ty Cobb*133 (1961), Betty Grable*103 (1973), Steven Spielberg-72, Brad Pitt-55, "Stone Cold" Steve Austin-55, Katie Holmes-41, Christina Aguilera-39 **19th Look for an Evergreen Day - Underdog Day** David Susskind*99 (1987), Cicely Tyson-95, Tim Reid-75, Robert Ulrich*73 (2002), Reggie White*58 (2004), Alyssa Milano-47 **20th Go Caroling Day Mudd Day** Harvey Firestone*151 (1938), Irene Dunne*115 (1990), Uri Geller-73, Jenny Agutter-65, Kiefer Sutherland-53 **21st Humberg Day - Nat'l Flashlight Day** Joe Paterno*93 (2012), Phil Donahue-82, Jane Fonda-82, Frank Zappa*79 (1993), Chris Evert-65, Ray Romano-62, Florence Griffith Joyner*60 (1998)



WEEK 16

Thurs, Dec 12

N.Y. Jets @ Baltimore 8:20p NFLN

Sun, Dec 15

Miami @ N.Y. Giants 1p CBS
 Houston @ Tennessee 1p CBS
 New England @ Cincinnati 1p CBS
 Seattle @ Carolina 1p FOX
 Tampa Bay @ Detroit 1p FOX
 Denver @ Kansas City 1p CBS
 Philadelphia @ Washington 1p FOX
 Chicago @ Green Bay 1p FOX
 Jacksonville @ Oakland 4p CBS
 Cleveland @ Arizona 4p CBS
 Minnesota @ L.A. Chargers 4p NBC
 Atlanta @ San Francisco 4:25p FOX
 L.A. Rams @ Dallas 4:25p FOX
 Buffalo @ Pittsburgh 8:20 pm NBC

Mon, Dec 16

Indianapolis @ New Orleans 8:15p ESPN

ESPN ▶ 2019 NFL Schedule

WEEK 17

Sun, Dec 29

N.Y. Jets @ Buffalo 1p CBS
 New Orleans @ Carolina 1p FOX
 Miami @ New England 1p FOX
 Philadelphia @ N.Y. Giants 1p FOX
 Pittsburgh @ Baltimore 1p CBS
 Washington @ Dallas 1p FOX
 Tennessee @ Houston 1p CBS

L.A. Chargers @ Kansas City 1p FOX
 Indianapolis @ Jacksonville 1p CBS
 Atlanta @ Tampa Bay 1p FOX
 Cleveland @ Cincinnati 1p CBS
 Chicago @ Minnesota 1p FOX
 Green Bay @ Detroit 1p FOX
 Oakland @ Denver 4:25 p 1p CBS
 San Francisco @ Seattle 4:25p FOX
 Arizona @ L.A. Rams 4:25p FOX

▶ **EAGLES** ▶ **REDSKINS** and ▶ **RAVENS**

DECEMBER at Our Senior Center

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

Mon 12-16 10 Adult Coloring 11 DE Valley Classical School Choir **Tues 12-17** 12:30 Food Distribution

Wed 12-18 10 Pinochle 11 Lunch out- **Mrs. Robino's**

Thurs 12-19 9 Stand by Me 10 Blood Pressure 12:30 Food Lion 4:30 Old is not Easy - **NO YOGA**

MON

9-3 Billiards
9 Pool Exercise
9:30 Park Walk
10 Crafty Seniors
12 Lunch
12:30 Mah Jongg
1 Chair Yoga

TUES

9-3 Billiards
9:30 Shanghai
10 Bingo
12 Lunch
1 Strength Building/
Exercise

WED

9-3 Billiards
9:30 Park Walk
11 Line Dancing
12 Lunch
1 A.B.C. Class

THUR

9-3 Billiards
9:30 Shanghai
9:30 Bridge 9:30 Knit/Crochet
10 Games w/Tom
12 Lunch
12:30 Super Market
1 Zumba Gold
2 Qi Gong/Tai Chi
5:30 Yoga
5:30 Bible Study

FRI

9-3 Billiards
9:30 Park Walk
10 Bingo
10 Mah Jongg
10:30 Beginner's/
Arthritis Exercise
12 Lunch



"Where Friends Gather"

► **New Castle Senior Center**

amazon smile
Click ► [HERE](#)

the New Castle library

READ COBBLESTONES HERE



LEGO club

12-18 LEGO CLUB 3p/all ages
Teen Time/3:30-4:30p

12-18 CELEBRATION BELL RINGERS/7:30p

Archived New Castle newspapers ► [CLICK HERE](#)

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



See **WEEKLY** for Full Schedules

Mon. 12/16 Planning Commission Mtg. 6:30pm
Thurs. 12/19 Municipal Services Commission Mtg. 4pm

MSC Office 216 Chestnut Street

Thurs 1/9 Historic Area Commission Mtg. 6:30pm
Tues 1/14 City Council Mtg. 7pm

► <http://newcastlecivil.delaware.gov/>



Hand Bell Concert

Hosted by New Castle Presbyterian Church and
New Castle Public Library

Thurs., Dec. 19th at 7:30 PM - 8:30 PM

New Castle Public Library

424 Delaware St, New Castle, Delaware 19720

Hosted by New Castle Presbyterian Church



The Good Will Fire Company is happy to announce that Santa Claus will be riding through the neighborhoods and communities of our fire district again this year atop

the fire truck. Below is the schedule that we will be following.

Sunday Dec. 15th ★ Pines of Bayview, Bayview Manor, LLangollen Estates, LLangolen Green, Beaverbrook Crest, Wynthorpe, Riveredge Estates, Village of LLangollen, Dobbinsville

Tuesday Dec. 17th ★ Pennwood, Penn Acres South, Wilmington Manor Gardens, Stockton, Washington Park

Starting at 6pm on the weeknights and 12pm on the weekends.



Thank You!

Dear friends and neighbors,

On behalf of the **Arasapha Garden Club**, we would like to thank you for your generosity of time, money, and spirit in helping decorate Historic New Castle with our hand - made wreaths, greenery and roping. Without your help it would not happen. We thank the Trustees, the City Council, the City workers, NCHS, The New Castle Presbyterian Church, The New Castle Weekly, Cobblestones, Arasapha Garden Club members, friends and families. There were many new faces this year who seemed to enjoy making wreaths. Over 140 wreaths were made this year and some will be for sale at the Spirit of Christmas/Dickens Experience near the Arsenal on December 14. This is a big task to do in just three days. We did the dried flower picks on the first day this year instead of weeks before.

Many thanks to all of you,

Lorayne Titter, Nancy Coning, Renee Lamoreaux and Ellie Green
Arasapha co-chairs of the 2019 Wreath Workshop

Looking for Christmas gift ideas?

Here's one!
The New Castle Senior Center will hold its

Annual St. Patrick's Day party Saturday March 7, 2020, 7 - 10 p.m. with Music provided by Seven Rings! Tickets are \$20/person in advance and \$25 after 3 p.m. on March 6, 2020. These will make great gifts for your friends of Irish heritage (or those who wish they were!). Tickets may be purchased at the Senior Center or by calling

Marianne Caven 588-7410

Tish Gallagher 324-0267



STREET SWEEPING THIS WEEK!

Monday Even #'s Tuesday Odd #'s: 7 - 10 am
Boothurst including Edgewood Drive (Rogers Manor)
Wed. Even #'s Thursday Odd #'s: 7 - 10 am
Buttonwood, including Buttonwood Avenue, Arbutus, Meehan Lane, Lincoln Street, A Street, Railroad Avenue, Jacqueline Square, William Penn Square, Holcomb Lane and Booker Circle.

DECEMBER						
S	M	T	W	T	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				

GEORGE WASHINGTON SOCIETY



Luncheon Buffet

Sunday, December 15, 2019 1:00 p.m.

John Sweeney, Speaker

"The Quiet Fellow at the Constitutional Convention"

\$25 per person. Cash Bar.

Ed Oliver Golf Club, 800 N. DuPont Road, Wilm 19807

RSVP: George Washington Society, P.O. Box 4244, Wilmington, Delaware 19807

Name(s) _____

Mailing Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Amount Enclosed: \$25 per person x _____ = \$ _____ = Donation _____ = Total \$ _____



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FAX: 995-9630

WOULD LIKE TO WISH EVERYONE A

Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year

AND THANK YOU FOR A GREAT YEAR!

see you by the pier!

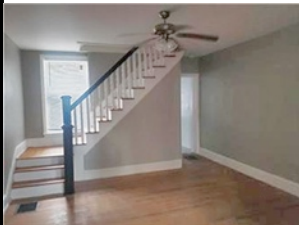




**MARIANNE
CAVEN**
302.588.7410
Email: mcaven@psre.com



Office:
302.429.4500



523 Cherry Street
in Historic New Castle
Stunning new bath and kitchen.
Townhome with 3 bdrms and a great
layout. Offered at \$154,900.
See at www.psre.com/9373

22 E Fourth Street
in the Historic District
Lovely porch-front home with a
two-story addition. Chef's kitchen,
fabulous baths, central air and
more! Offered at \$219,900.
See at www.psre.com/6743



42 West Third Street
in Historic New Castle
Lovely 3 bdrm 1.5 bath ranch
rental! Pristine condition.
Lg renovated kit.
Drive, porch, C/A. \$1800.

Call for information on the market and available properties!

Dedicated to Your Success and Satisfaction!



Sunday February 2,2020
Asbury United Methodist Church
300 E. Basin Rd
New Castle De
Pick up will be
1000 am- Noon
on Super Bowl Sunday



Choices
Italian
Fresh Roasted Turkey
Veggie
Cheese

\$12.00 each
Money due at
time of order

Ways to place an order
Email:
Bsascoutunit3027@gmail.com

Visit us on a Thursday night
from 730pm-900pm at Asbury
United Methodist Church
During the month of January

Order online with link below
<https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSfiETEIt7t7uGTqL3c8h4C5QxJwJsYnEcxfpG9-i58yzRRZvNA/viewform?vc=0&c=0&w=1>

Chips and soda
available for sale
Chips .50 a bag and Soda \$1 per can

WORSHIP With US

Asbury United Methodist Church
Christmas Eve Service 6 & 10p

First Baptist Church

Sun, Dec. 22 Christmas service 11a
Sun, Dec. 22 Candlelight Service 6p

Immanuel on the Green

Christmas Eve
Christmas Music.Ross Choir,
Family Eucharist 4:30p
Immanuel Choir 10:30p

Christmas Day
one service only 10am

New Castle Presbyterian Church

Christmas Eve
5:30p - Family Service
7:30p - Traditional Worship

Christmas Day
10:30a Worship

New Castle United Methodist Church

Regular Service 12/23 10a
Christmas Eve Service 10p
Christmas Day - No Service

* **River Cross Fellowship**

Sunday, December 23 The Gathering 10a
Family Christmas Gathering 7p
Carols, Candles, & Kids create the
Nativity Scene!

Christmas Eve
Monday, December 24, 8p
Carols, Candles & the Christmas Message

* **St. Peter the Apostle**

Christmas Eve 6 & 11p
Christmas Day 7:30 & 10:30a

* 2018 Info



Roasted MAPLE CINNAMON PECAN CANDIES



I offer this "letter to Mom" penned by former News Journal friend and colleague Ron Williams. It first appeared twenty-four years ago and became an annual Christmas tribute.

Dear Mom,

Well, your favorite time of the year has come around again. The weather has been a little weird so far, with temperatures more like a crispy Halloween than the first week of winter.

As usual, there's absolutely no chance of a white Christmas. I don't think you ever forgot those years when we did have snow. They were something special.

It's hard to imagine - and I guess no one really thinks about this beforehand - that you won't be here to watch us open those presents you always had wrapped by Labor Day.

And that was easily your biggest thrill of Christmas. You never asked us kids for anything. I guess you really never got over doing the Santa Claus thing.

You probably don't know this, but Grandmom once told me how there were Christmases when you were a kid that a pair of shoes may have been the extent of what was around the tree. Sure that's why you always started asking about gift ideas in the summer and why you usually talked Dad into spending more on us kids than he had planned.

Brother and his family were at the house last weekend. We did the traditional stuff, emptying the faded old Christmas stockings of their toothbrushes, miniature chocolates, aftershave lotion, gag gifts and the Pez.

Watching the colorful squad of plastic Donald Ducks, Goofys and Santas assemble along the coffee table brought a cold tightness to my stomach. These Pez dispensers weren't the same as the ones you stuffed in the stocking dozens of Christmases before. These weren't from you. You wouldn't have left them in their plastic packages. That's just not the way you did the stocking.

It all happened so fast, you know. In April you were sick. In July you were gone. In December I was an adult orphan trying clumsily to empty a Christmas stocking that only you had ever before stuffed. There was no longer a reason to feign interest in the spring-loaded coin holder I would never use, or the Elvis key chain. Just kidding. Things were missing from the stocking this year. The ballpoint pens. The money clip. The pocket-size tick-tack-toe game. I often wondered where you found all those doodads. But I never had to wonder if Brother had the same number of them in his stocking. I may be the oldest, but at Christmas time we were always equal. Remember? The eggnog was good. We had the ham dinner, and as usual your daughter-in-law outdid herself. There were great desserts.

The Dallas Cowboys didn't play. Neither did Penn State because they're going to the Orange Bowl. But you would have found some team for the day and enjoyed the game, as long as your guys won.

It all began winding down around midnight. The little kids were in bed asleep. The big kids were nodding off.

The next morning we drove to the cemetery. Everything looks fine. The wreath is a brilliant green with large red ribbons. Nothing fancy, you always said.

This weekend we'll exchange some gifts with the in-laws. We'll be back by early afternoon. No real plans. No phone call this year. Maybe I'll look at some snapshots of last year's Christmas. No, never mind.

Well, gotta go. You take care now.

And Mom, Merry Christmas.

Perfect for snacking between meals or a topping for other dishes!
Roasted Maple Cinnamon Pecan Candies
Roast pecans in maple and cinnamon for an addictingly sweet and crunchy treat.

Gonna Need

2 tbsp coconut oil, melted - 1/2 cup coconut sugar - 2 tbsp maple syrup
1 tsp cinnamon - 1 tsp vanilla extract - 1 cup raw pecans

Let's make some!

Preheat the oven to 350°F and line a baking sheet with parchment paper. Melt the coconut oil and transfer to a medium mixing bowl. Stir in the coconut sugar, maple syrup, cinnamon, and vanilla until well combined. Add the pecans and coat thoroughly. Spread them on a baking sheet and bake for about 15 minutes. Toss every 5 minutes to prevent large pieces from fusing together.

When finished, let pecans cool at room temperature for 20 minutes.

Serve warm and enjoy

Tip: Add them to an ice cream sundae or granola mixture by transferring leftovers to a resealable bag. Use a rolling pin to roll and crush the pecans into small pieces to use as a crunchy sweet garnish.



Uncle Angelo's Christmas EGGNOG

You'll be claiming Angelo as your own relative after just one sip of this delightful Eggnog recipe.

ingredients

6 eggs, separated • .75c sugar • 1qt whole milk
1pt heavy cream • 8oz bourbon • 4oz Spiced rum

garnish: 1 grated nutmeg

let's do it!

In a large bowl, beat together the egg yolks and half a cup of sugar until they turn light in color.

Stir in the milk, heavy cream, bourbon and rum.

In a separate bowl, beat the egg whites with the remaining quarter-cup of sugar until they form soft peaks.

Fold about a third of the egg whites into the yolk mixture.

Serve in punch or tea cups topped with freshly grated nutmeg, folding in more of the egg whites as desired.



Nadia G. Class of 2019

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TRUSTEES OF THE NEW CASTLE COMMON COMMUNITY GRANTS

The Trustees of The New Castle Common annually award grants to community organizations within the City of New Castle. Competitive grants are evaluated by the Outreach Committee, and voted on by the whole Board of Trustees. Residents of New Castle may apply (click here to see map of town boundaries). Applications must be completed and received in the Trustees' office on or before December 31.



[Click here](#) for PDF version of Grant Request Form
[Click here](#) for DOC version of Grant Request Form
Deadline for applications is December 31, 2019

TRUSTEES OF THE NEW CASTLE COMMON
201 Delaware Street New Castle, DE 19720



Avery is a 10-year-old who is full of love and affection, despite having suffered. She arrived with wounds, but despite this painful experience, she knows she can bring a lifetime's worth of love and devotion. She enjoys the occasional laser pointer game, followed by curling up in your lap. She promises plenty of purrs, and has done well with other cats. She's available for a fee you name through Sunday, December 22..
Brandywine Valley SPCA, 600 South Street, New Castle, DE 302-516-1000.

Click [HERE](#) to learn about all my friends on South Street



New Castle Police Department and Good Will Fire Co. invite all New Castle City

Children's Christmas Party is

SATURDAY DEC. 21ST 11AM - 2PM

There will be face painting, food, games, gifts and crafts for the kids and a DJ at

Good Will Station 18
401 South Street

Come see

Santa



come in to try our new menu. lunch too!



We will have our doors open on Christmas to anyone who doesn't have a place to enjoy dinner.



We are not open for business. We are open for sharing that evening. Dinner will be at 6:30



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



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

There's nothing sadder in this world than to awake Christmas morning and not be a child.
Erma Bombeck

SAVE the date

12-21 NC City Police & Good Will Fire Co. Christmas Party for the Kids
2-2 Boy Scout troop 27 Super Bowl Sub Sale

Please don't forget to send



a picture of your tree for a feature **NEXT WEEK!**
flytedb13@comcast.net

TIDES & CURRENTS		Reedy Point Tides			
		h	m	ft	cm
15	☾	15	01:40 AM	4.7	143
			08:34 AM	-0.1	-3
		Su	01:49 PM	5.8	177
			09:34 PM	-0.1	-3
16	☾	16	02:29 AM	4.7	143
			09:26 AM	-0.1	-3
		M	02:42 PM	5.7	174
			10:25 PM	-0.1	-3
17	☾	17	03:24 AM	4.7	143
			10:24 AM	0.0	0
		Tu	03:40 PM	5.6	171
			11:18 PM	-0.2	-6
18	☾	18	04:24 AM	4.8	146
			11:25 AM	0.0	0
		W	04:44 PM	5.4	165
19	☾	19	12:12 AM	-0.2	-6
			05:27 AM	4.9	149
		Th	12:28 PM	0.0	0
		o	05:49 PM	5.3	162
20	☾	20	01:08 AM	-0.3	-9
			06:30 AM	5.1	155
		F	01:32 PM	-0.1	-3
			06:54 PM	5.2	158
21	☾	21	02:03 AM	-0.4	-12
			07:31 AM	5.3	162
		Sa	02:35 PM	-0.2	-6
			07:55 PM	5.2	158

For a few weeks...some vintage memories



15	☀️	7:15am	☾	4:39pm
16	☀️	7:16am	☾	4:39pm
17	☀️	7:17am	☾	4:39pm
18	☀️	7:17am	☾	4:40pm
		Last Qtr: 11:58pm		
19	☀️	7:18am	☾	4:40pm
20	☀️	7:19am	☾	4:40pm
21	☀️	7:19am	☾	4:41pm



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
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Highlights of this meeting include a presentation by representatives of **Delmarva Power** about coordination of replacement of the gas main under Delaware St. with re-paving, **an appointment to HAC**, and the style of the poles which will support the new traffic lights at the intersection of Delaware & 6th St. I

made a statement about the HAC appointment, the full text of which is at the end of this summary.

Proclamation honoring Judge Cooch

The sequence of items on the agenda was altered somewhat from the published version. We began with the Mayor's proclamation honoring Judge Richard R. Cooch upon his coming retirement (12/31/2019) and declaring Jan. 1, 2020 "Judge Richard R. Cooch Day". Judge Cooch received a standing ovation and made brief remarks.

Presentation by Delmarva Power

The second item of business was a presentation by representatives of Delmarva Power. They have a 20-year program to replace all their old, cast iron gas pipes with new, more durable plastic pipes. They normally schedule replacement considering the age, size, and condition of the pipes as well as other factors. On this basis, the gas pipes under Delaware St. were not scheduled for replacement now but they will coordinate with our re-paving project so the pipes will be replaced while the street is dug up. The new pipes have no corrosion issues. They will also install emergency shut-off valves and other devices to control the pressure for greater safety. Delaware law now requires a "riser", or shut-off valve, outside each building with gas service, so these will be installed as well. There is no cost to property owners for the risers and Delmarva will repair any damage caused by the installation, replacing materials in-kind (i.e. replace brick with brick). They will also screen the risers with plants whenever possible. They will work with HAC on this part of the project. They will post progress reports and try to minimize inconvenience to residents. The gas pipes under Delaware street are part of a main line. The lines under the remaining streets of the city will be replaced at a later time as part of a 5-year plan for the entire city.

During the questions from Council members, Mr. Platt pointed out that they use a "worm" to go under walks and other surfaces, thus minimizing damage. The engineer added that they will add "stubs" for each of the streets which intersect with Delaware St. as part of this project so that the new paving on Delaware St. won't be disturbed when the remaining work is done in the city. The engineer then took questions from the public. Kevin Wade asked about the service life of the pipes and was told it is "thousands of years". He also asked how long buildings would be out of service for installation of the risers. It could be up to 8 hours. Bill Emory asked if the coordination of this project with our repaving will save the city money since Delmarva normally covers the cost of repair after such an installation. The answer is yes. City Administrator Bill Barthel said they are working out the details with Delmarva. A resident asked if Dalby Ally will be included and was told only the home at the end on the park since it is on a separate line from the other homes on Dalby which will have their line replaced later. She also asked if residents will be advised when the work will be done on their homes – they will.

Minutes of prior meeting and Treasurer's Report

We then proceeded to the remaining items as published on the agenda. Council approved minutes of the Nov. 12 meeting and Treasurer Janet Carlin gave her report. Everything is on schedule 5 months into the budget year. Revenue is even a little ahead.

City Administrator's Report

Mr. Barthel had a number of items to report:

- City officials, Cirillo Brothers (contractors for the Delaware St. project), the MSC, and Delmarva met regarding the project. Construction will begin in mid-Jan. at the Wharf. The MSC is re-assessing putting utilities underground

and will be meeting with Verizon and Comcast about this on Dec. 19. They hope to finish the work by the end of May but it is weather dependent.

- State Sen. Nicole Poore advised that the City will receive \$60,000 in Community Transportation Funds. The revised estimate for extending the repaving from 5th to 6th is \$250,000. With this grant and other funds, we still need \$160,000 to complete that block as part of the current project. Mr. Barthel said we may get some of this from the savings from co-ordination with Delmarva.

- He met with DELDOT regarding the new traffic light to be installed at the intersection of 6th and Delaware St. They want to start the work in the spring. If we are re-paving that block they will co-ordinate with the project.

- Work on the railroad crossing on Delaware St. will begin after July 4.

- He has spoken to transportation consultants at T-Square about an assessment of all signage in the area between 6th St. and the River and from South St. to Chestnut St. The purpose is to ensure consistency and help us determine what to do about the stop signs on Delaware St. at 4th St. The survey will begin in Jan. and will be a holistic look at all signage in that area.

- As discussed at previous meetings, he investigated possible alternate venues for Council meetings. The Buttonwood School could accommodate us at a cost of \$440 for 4 hours. He is also discussing this with the Senior Center.

- Bids received for the study of the feasibility of moving all City offices to new space on Municipal Blvd. exceeded the anticipated cost. The City and the MSC each agreed to pay half. The City's share will be \$35,000 but only \$20,000 was allocated. Mr. Barthel can come up with the additional funds within the budget, primarily because the 1st payments on the new garbage truck and pick-up truck won't be due until Feb. and we budgeted for 12 months. Council passed a resolution approving this.

Chief McCabe's Report

The Chief reminded us of the Dec. 21 Christmas party during which gifts will be given to children from needy families. They have received several referrals. If anyone knows of a family who may benefit from this, please contact Capt. Shughart.

Highlights from last month include more drug arrests stemming from proactive patrolling. They have identified a suspect in the burglaries on Buttonwood Ave. He was identified from home videos; calls to 911 reporting suspicious activity also helped. They are working with other agencies on 2 "smash and grab" burglaries, one at the Walgreens. The city currently has 5 identified "disorderly premises". Fortunately 2 of them have been sold which he hopes will resolve the problems. He said that properties are identified as "disorderly" if the department receives multiple calls for noise, drug activity, etc. or if officers observe multiple issues at the location. He said that a property is not considered "disorderly" for 1 loud graduation party.

Council Communications

Councilperson Russ Smith reported that he attended a meeting with the National Park Service to plan exhibits for the 1st floor of the Sheriff's House. There is a plan for restoration but still no funding. Once restoration is done they want to be ready with exhibits.

Mayor's Report

Since this is likely to be our last meeting in 2019 the Mayor wished everyone a Happy Holiday Season and a Happy New Year. He reminded us of the upcoming Spirit of Christmas on Dec. 14. He announced 2 mayoral appointments to the Historic Area Commission – **Kevin Wade** and **Justin Day**. Mr. Wade is an engineer and businessman, Mr. Day is the proprietor of Jessop's Tavern. He believes they will be terrific additions to HAC. Mr. Day was unable to attend due to illness but Mr. Wade was present and introduced himself. He said he and his wife have lived in New Castle for 20 years and have had applications come before HAC. He said he has had some disagreements with HAC but that is part of the town. He recognizes the need to preserve our historic character but thinks we must also listen to people's plans.

Mr. Quaranta reported that he attended an MSC meeting where they discussed conversion to LED lights, underground utilities associated with the Delaware St. project, public charging stations and residential options and fees for electric vehicles. MSC has been using LED's for new lights since July

2018. They are exploring options for underground utilities but must coordinate with other providers. They request that citizens advise the MSC if they purchase an electric vehicle so they can make appropriate plans.

He attended a DELDOT meeting about the multi-year construction project on I95 which will begin in about a year. This could have an impact on New Castle as drivers seek alternate routes.

He spoke about our City Christmas Tree (about which there has been much conversation in recent weeks). He has spoken to a local tree farm about a possible donation of a transplanted tree. Councilperson Platt reminded him that whether to replace the current tree is a Council decision.

Council President's Report

Ms Ratchford wished everyone Happy Holidays. She reported that the Greater Wilmington Visitors' Bureau is working to promote New Castle and noted that we were recently mentioned as one of the communities which look like Hallmark movies at Christmas. She also said that Mr. Barthel is working with the Trustees to secure an easement for construction of the Dobbinsville fishing pier.

Public Comments on Agenda Items

Mark Champ, a member of HAC, spoke in favor of the nomination of **Laura Fontana** to a second term. He said that under her leadership meetings have been more organized and applicants are treated with care. He thinks HAC needs her experience.

New Business

We had the first reading of **Ordinance 524** which would require Council confirmation of mayoral appointments to HAC. Since this was the first reading, there was no discussion. There will be a public hearing on this ordinance.

We considered the Mayor's appointment of **Gail Seitz** to a second term on the Planning Commission. This term will end Dec. 13, 2022. She was unable to attend the meeting but had previously communicated with Council members. Mr. Quaranta said she has done a good job during her first term and serves as our representative to WILMAPCO (a regional planning board). Mr. Smith said he had worked with her during his time on the Planning Commission and endorses her re-appointment. She was approved unanimously.

We then considered the appointment of **Laura Fontana** to HAC. She was nominated by Councilperson Leary. Ms Fontana spoke, saying that she appreciates the opportunity to serve. She would like to complete the upgrade to the application process and a process to make sure commissioners follow procedures. Mr. Smith said he was disappointed that both Ms Fontana and Mr. Wright had not been re-appointed and is glad Ms Fontana is willing to serve. I said that I regretted that the Mayor placed Council in a difficult position by not re-appointing Ms Fontana and/or Mr. Wright and read a summary of the background on this issue. The full text of these remarks is at the end of this summary of the meeting. I abstained from voting on this appointment. The other 4 members of Council voted in favor of it and Ms Fontana was re-appointed.

The next item was a resolution to declare **615 Clymer St.** as surplus property and authorize it to be marketed and sold. This property was up for sheriff's sale in June but was not purchased so the City took ownership. Mr. Barthel reported that neither the MSC nor the Trustees are interested in purchasing it. He is in the process of having it appraised and then it will be put on the market. Two investors have expressed interest. Mr. Platt asked if we can stipulate that it must be rehabilitated within a set time frame as we have done with other properties in similar circumstances. This precludes an investor from purchasing it and simply leaving it in a dilapidated condition. Mr. Barthel and City Solicitor Dan Lasco agreed that this could be done. The requirement will be added. The resolution passed unanimously.

We next considered a resolution to determine the style and potential upgrades to the **traffic light poles to be installed by DELDOT** at Delaware and 6th St. There are 3 options: A standard aluminum pole, the cost of which would be covered by DELDOT; a black-coated pole which would add a cost of \$9023.60 to be paid by the City; or a black-coated flute ornamental pole at an added cost of \$22,318.00. No matter which option we choose, DELDOT will maintain the pole and they will match the style for the light at Ferry Cut-Off at no additional charge.

Mr. Barthel thought we could absorb the additional cost since revenues are ahead of projections. Mr. Platt moved that we table this resolution until we get more information. He wants to know how much additional space is taken up by the fluted poles as there will also be a control box at the intersection and the sidewalks are narrow. Mr. Barthel will ask DELDOT to mark it off so Council can see the difference. The motion to table the resolution passed unanimously.

Finally, we considered a resolution to adopt the designation of the **National Incident Management System (NIMS)** as the basis for incident management for fiscal years 2020 and 2021. Building Official Jeff Bergstrom said that adopting this is a requirement for full FEMA aid in the event of a disaster. In answer to my question, he said that we are already following these procedures and all City staff members have received appropriate training. We simply need to renew it to remain in compliance. The resolution passed unanimously.

Public Comments

Bill Emory said he is familiar with the various styles of poles for the traffic lights. No matter which option we choose, it will sit on a plate anchored by 4 large bolts. The fluted base would cover the plate and the bolts. He said this makes it somewhat larger but not a lot.

Phil Gross thanked Goodwill Fire Company for the Pancake Breakfast which he said showed community unity.

Rod Miller wanted to plug the Spirit of Christmas house tours. He said his house has been open and it is a lot of fun. He noted that many towns do this sort of thing but ours is one of the best. He would like to see Council members in the houses that are open and believes that we need to improve the advertising of this event. (My comment, which I did not make at the meeting – some members of Council volunteer during Spirit of Christmas as tour guides, serving at the Victorian tea, etc. This doesn't always leave much time for touring the homes which are open.)

My remarks concerning the appointment of Laura Fontana to HAC

While I don't have any questions for Ms Fontana, I do have something I want to say. I deeply regret that the Mayor has placed Council in a difficult position regarding this appointment to HAC. I want to provide some background that I believe the citizens of New Castle have a right to know.

When we learned that Jean Norvell was stepping down from HAC because she was moving out of town, Councilperson Smith and I independently nominated Cynthia Batty to finish out the term which expires in Jan. 2020. We both fully expected that she would be reappointed to a full term at that time as did she.

The resolution appointing her came before Council at our regular September meeting. During his comments at that meeting, the Mayor spoke highly of Ms Batty. He described her as a good neighbor who "... has a wealth of experience to offer the HAC." He urged us to act favorably on her nomination. She was approved unanimously. The ordinance governing HAC provides that 2 voting members are appointed by the Council and 2 by the Mayor. The 5th voting member is a liaison from the Planning Commission who is appointed by Council.

Two other HAC terms expire in January, those held by Laura Fontana and Marty Wright. These are the 2 positions filled by the Mayor. In reviewing the ordinance, we realized that it does not require Council approval of these mayoral appointments to HAC as is required for appointment to other boards and commissions such as the Planning Commission, Public Health Commission, or Tree Commission. As you heard earlier tonight, Councilperson Leary introduced an ordinance to require Council approval of all future mayoral appointments to HAC.

Earlier you heard that the Mayor has chosen to appoint 2 new people to HAC instead of re-appointing either Ms Fontana or Mr. Wright. Each has served only 1 term and thus is eligible for re-appointment. The liaison from the Planning Commission was just confirmed by Council in November. The remaining voting member has been on HAC for only 6 months.

Thus Council is put in the dilemma of either re-appointing Ms Batty which would result in all voting members of HAC being inexperienced or appointing Ms Fontana or Mr. Wright to provide an experienced voice but depriving the City of the services of the very capable Ms Batty.

Since I am neither happy nor comfortable being placed in this position, I will abstain from voting on this appointment.



PANCAKES *with* SANTA



Lions Kim & Jan



Doug & Barb!

Ready!



Grant and Ike Schultz



Santa with Matthew Capanna.

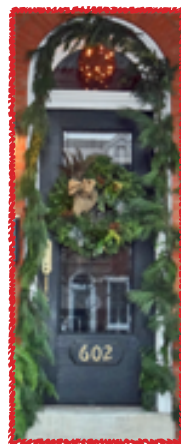


Mary Nash with visiting Thomas Foreman Jr.



Ladies auxiliary is all smiles!

It's Christmas all over New Castle



Merry Christmas everyone!

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December 15, 2019