



New Castle Crier

The official newsletter of New Castle City

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New Castle, Delaware

February 2012

Council OK's continued exploration of waterfront concept plan

At the City Council meeting on January 10, Council members unanimously approved accepting the waterfront concept plan as implementation of a portion of the City's Comprehensive Plan. The following is included in the Comprehensive Plan:

The City should obtain funding for and conduct a more detailed waterfront plan to identify market needs and strengthen the downtown's ties to the waterfront. Specific issues to address include:

- Appropriate business mix;
- Residential needs;
- Parking needs and potential supply solutions;
- Enhanced waterfront connections;
- Enhanced recreational opportunities.

Council members acknowledged some controversy and opposition to the proposed concept plan, which includes a pier being built extending from the center of the existing wharf. Moving forward, that proposal and other alternatives will be

explored and many of the outstanding questions will be addressed.

The Planning Commission is authorized to seek grant funding for further engineering work to be done, along with engaging in permitting processes required by the State and Federal governments. The projected timeline for the full project is two to three years. There is a link on the front page of the City Web site:

NewCastleCity.Delaware.gov with the detailed timeline.

Sculptures raise awareness of smoking dangers

The City Council of New Castle took a stand for outdoor clean air during the summer of 2011 by approving a smoke-free parks policy. Now, community members are helping make sure that policy is acknowledged by collaborating on sculptures which address the secondhand smoke theme.

For the month of February, more than five six-foot sculptures, created by community groups and individuals, can be seen in various indoor locations around the City, including Carrie Downie Elementary School and the New

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The next
regular
City Council
meeting is 7 p.m.,
Tues., Feb. 14 at
Town Hall

February Event

Saturday, February 18 at 6 p.m.

Buena Vista, 661 S. Dupont Highway

➔ **Mardi Gras Masquerade** c

Hosted by the New Castle Historical Society

Food and Drinks ♦ Charitable Gambling

Music and Dancing ♦ Silent and Chinese Auctions

Wear a Mardi Gras mask and you may win a prize!

Contact NCHS at 322-2794

\$65 per person or \$120 per couple

Trustees offer college scholarships for residents

The Trustees of the New Castle Common make scholarships available for *City of New Castle residents*. An applicant must be a senior in high school, entering the freshman year in college as a full-time student that coming September, or one who is now, or plans to be, a full-time student in an undergraduate program. Further information and applications are available from the Trustees' office or via email by contacting TrusteesNCC@Comcast.net. Applications for the 2012-13 academic year are due by March 31, 2012.

New Castle – The First Capital City!

The most picturesque and historic waterfront community on the East Coast!

Sculptures

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Castle Library. Each sculpture represents a different interpretation of the importance of the new policy and/or the dangers of secondhand smoke. One of the sculptures is interactive and helps demonstrate that secondhand smoke can travel 20 feet in every direction.

The no-smoking policy includes Buttonwood, Penn Valley, Susi, Bull Hill and Van Dyke parks, as well as the Dobbinsville and Battery Park playgrounds and basketball courts. Signage around the parks and playgrounds alerts users to this new policy.

This effort is part of the New Castle Wellness Initiative, which

began in 2011 with the goal of making it easier for community members to make healthy choices. If you have a suggestion for improving community health, would like more information about the Wellness Initiative, or would like to get involved, contact Andrea Trabelsi at 302-655-7275 or atrabelsi@delawaregreenways.org.

Code Enforcement Corner

Code Enforcement helps maintain and improve the quality of life of New Castle City residents by administering an unbiased enforcement program to correct violations of City zoning, property maintenance and building codes. This includes working with residents, neighborhoods, public service agencies and other City offices.

Complaint forms are available at the City offices or on the City Web site at: NewCastleCity.Delaware.gov. To reach the Code Enforcement Officer, call 323-6081.

Complaints are handled on a confidential basis. If feedback and/or updates are requested, however, a name, address and phone number need to be provided with the complaint.

This month's highlights and general reminders

1. Inoperative/junked and/or unregistered vehicles cannot be stored outside.

2. Bulk items (stoves, refrigerators, TV's, furniture, tires, etc.) require special pick up if disposal is desired. Arrangements must be made **prior** to placing items at the curb for pickup by calling 322-9813.

3. Remove trash, recycle and yard waste containers from the curb and place them behind your residence by end of pickup day.

4. House numbers are required by code on the front of each house in a conspicuous area and the numbers must contrast with the background.

5. Residents are responsible for sidewalks in front of their properties. Ensure sidewalks are clear of snow/ice within **24 hours** of the storm ceasing or the ice forming.

Trustees of the New Castle Common Financial Grant

- An applicant must be a resident of the City of New Castle.
- If the applicant is a dependent, the parent or guardian must be a resident of the City of New Castle.
- An applicant must be a senior in high school, entering the freshman year in college **as a full-time student** that coming September, or one who is now or plans to be a **full-time student** in an **undergraduate program**.

The Financial Grant is awarded on financial need and academic success.

Applications must be completed and received by the Trustees' office **on or before March 31, 2012**.

Please call **322-2809** with any questions about the process or about residency in the City of New Castle.

Description of the Trustees of the New Castle Common Financial Grant

The Trustees of the New Castle Common scholarship grants are awarded for one year (two semesters). The amount of each grant is determined by the Scholarship Committee based on academic achievement and financial need.

A check for the first semester of the grant year is sent in late spring before the fall semester, **only after the Scholarship Committee has received some evidence (proof) that the recipient has been accepted in an undergraduate program at an accredited college or university**.

The check for the second semester is sent once the Scholarship Committee has received the official transcript indicating the earned credits and grades from the first semester.

A new application must be completed and submitted each year. Grants for additional undergraduate years may be made if eligibility requirements are met and if funds are available from the Trustees.

Please complete each of the four items:

1. The Grant Application
2. A transcript of your grades to include the current school year or first semester.
3. A letter from your parent or guardian substantiating your need for financial assistance.
4. A letter from you indicating the reasons for your selected major and plans for the future.

Once the form and attachments have been completed please **email them to:** TrusteesNCC@Comcast.net **or mail them to:** Trustees of the New Castle Common, P.O. Box 453, New Castle, DE 19720-0453.