



# New Castle Crier

The official newsletter of New Castle City

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## New Castle City Police honor officers, volunteers and citizens

On February 24, the New Castle City Police held its annual awards ceremony. Every year the Police Department commends its officers who have performed above and beyond the scope of their duties, including handling and solving significant cases and achieving high levels of productivity.

“Officer of the Year 2011” was awarded to Pfc. Richard J. Perillo, who, among his many other accomplishments, was the department’s highest producer in criminal and drug arrests.

In addition, Pfc. John Donmoyer was recognized for his contribution in fighting the War on Global Terror. Pfc. Donmoyer, a Sergeant in the Air National Guard,

was deployed to Afghanistan for the year 2011 and was honored for his service to the United States of America.

Corporal Zachary T. Bascelli was honored for his distinguished service to the New Castle City Police for the past five years. Tragically, in February, 2011, Cpl. Bascelli, while investigating a complaint of loud screaming and someone possibly covered in blood, negotiated a fence that gave way and ended up fracturing his wrist and injuring his shoulder.

Unfortunately, as a direct result of that injury, Cpl. Bascelli is unable to perform the functions of a police officer and was forced to apply for a disability pension with plans on retiring from the New Castle City Police.

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The next regular City Council meeting is 7 p.m., Tues., March 13 at Town Hall

### Reminder: Scholarship deadline nears (3/31)

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.

### March Event

Saturday, March 24 from 8 to 11:30 a.m.

New Castle United Methodist Church  
Fellowship Hall at 510 Delaware Street

☛ **Pancake Breakfast & Bake Sale** ☚

Hosted by the New Castle Hundred Lions Club  
Take-Outs Available  
\$6 Adults, \$3 Children Under 12

*There are at least five more exciting events happening in the City during the month of March. See the “Upcoming Events” section on the City Web site at [NewCastleCity.Delaware.gov](http://NewCastleCity.Delaware.gov).*



### *Apply now for property tax exemptions*

Applications are now being accepted for the Over 65 or Disability property tax exemption. To make an appointment, at the convenience of the taxpayer, call Marian Delaney at 322-9811.

The maximum yearly income requirements are \$15,000 for a single person and \$30,000 for a married couple. Social Security income is not counted toward the minimum. The last day to apply is June 15th.

## *New Castle – The First Capital City!*

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

# Police awards

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Bascelli earned the "Officer of the Year" award in 2008, as well as the "Crime Stoppers Investigator of the Year" award in 2008.

Other commendations issued included:

- Pfc. Keith Dempsey for achieving over 100 criminal arrests for the second consecutive year, as well as making over 400 traffic arrests during the year.
- Pfc. Perillo earned the "Third Year Criminal Arrest" award.
- Cpl. Thomas Fuller earned the "Fourth Year Criminal Arrest" award.
- Cpl. Robert Singleton earned the "Second Year Criminal Arrest" award.
- Cpl. Gene Wood earned the "Second Year Traffic Arrest" award. In addition, Cpl. Wood was awarded the "Community Service Commendation" for participating in numerous motorcycle runs that recognized causes such as Toys for Tots, Special Olympics,

## 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](http://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*

#### **Snow**

Residents/owners are responsible for cleaning sidewalks within 24 hours after the end of a snow/ice storm. Three feet is the required minimum path width.

#### **Trash**

Place all trash for pick up at curb (only at permitted times). Remove receptacles by end of day after pick up. On windy days, please do not place any loose items out for recycle or trash pickup. Everything should be in containers.

#### **Vehicles**

No unregistered, inoperable or wrecked vehicles are allowed in the City unless inside a fully enclosed garage. Current registration must be displayed on the vehicle.

Domestic Violence, AI DuPont Hospital and Fallen Police and Military Veterans.

Mrs. Judi S. Brockett was recognized for her invaluable assistance with the ongoing Delaware State Accreditation project, which is expected to be complete this year.

All officers in the department were recognized with "Letters of Commendation" for different cases they handled throughout the year, and should be commended for their loyal, dedicated service to the City of New Castle and its Police force.

Two Citizens were also commended for their brave efforts in saving the life of a Washington Street man after they pulled him out of his burning vehicle. Had it not been for the heroic actions of Mr. Michael P. Daugherty and Mr. Walter Johnson, the victim that evening would likely have perished in the blaze.

Last, but certainly not least, all of the New Castle Police Volunteers (Citizen Patrol) were acknowledged for their continued service to the department and citizens of New Castle. Police Volunteers Milton T. Bilecki, Marge A. Bilecki and Gale Askew were recognized for logging the most volunteer hours for the year.

Recounting this year's awards, Lt. Adam Brams said, "The New Castle City Police are very fortunate to have this fine group of officers, administrative personnel and volunteer force who faithfully and effectively serve the citizens of New Castle with a great degree of pride."

## New Castle Online and in the News!

Check out the links under the "Visitor Information" tab on the front page of the City Web site

### *There you will find...*

A video entitled:

The charm and history of the City of New Castle featuring a tour of historic New Castle, narrated by Cindy Snyder, Museum Manager of the Historic New Castle Court House Museum

An article from *Smart Money* magazine which recommends retirement in New Castle, Delaware, with quotes from New Castle Mayor Don Reese

An article from *Kiplinger* ranking Delaware No. 9 on the list of 10 Tax Friendly States for Retirees 2011