



# New Castle Crier

The official newsletter of New Castle City

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## Alert system extended to seniors

*Editor's Note:* The following is reprinted from the *AARP Bulletin* publication.

Delaware's Gold Alert system — which notifies authorities when a vulnerable adult goes missing — is up and running. It is modeled after the Amber Alert system for missing and endangered children. The system outlines protocols for State law enforcement officers and involves social service agencies in the initial search for a missing person who is 60 or older, has a disability or is at risk of suicide.

AARP Delaware supported the legislation that created the system and is urging caregivers to report a missing person as early as possible. Gold Alerts are issued by law enforcement agencies and can be local, regional or statewide. Call 911 to report a missing person.

## Police union contract settled

At the very end of last year, the parties representing City management and the New Castle City Fraternal Order of Police (FOP) union reached a contract settlement for the period of July 1, 2008 through June 30, 2011. Negotiations had been ongoing since the spring and were finalized as a result of a mediation process.

Rate increases for union members included varying degrees of lump sum amounts for the first year and 3% across the board for years two and three of the contract. Additional wage adjustments were made in years two and three for higher ranking positions.

Only a few other clauses in the contract language were changed, with relatively little impact and with potential advantages to both parties.

## Historical Society holds main event in February

Each February, the New Castle Historical Society (NCHS) holds its main fundraising event for the year — Black Tie & White Lace. This year's event takes place at the Arsenal Restaurant on Saturday, February 7, beginning at 6:30 p.m.

The event features dinner, dancing and a silent auction. This year's music will be provided by, "The Cats".

Tickets are \$80 each for NCHS members, or \$85 for non-members. Payment accepted by check or credit card. Call 322-2794 for reservations.

The next  
regular  
**City Council**  
meeting is 7 p.m.,  
Tues., Feb. 10 at  
Town Hall

## Here's how to apply for a tax exemption

Contact City Finance Director Marian Delaney, at 322-9811, to make an appointment to apply for the tax exemption available to seniors over 65 and persons with disabilities. Income limits are \$15,000 (single); \$30,000 (married couple). The last day to apply is June 15th.

**City Offices are closed with no trash pickup for the Presidents' Day Holiday, Monday, February 16.**

**Trash normally collected on Monday will be collected on Tuesday, and the normal Tuesday trash pickups will be moved to Wednesday.**

***New Castle - The First Capital City!***

The Deadline  
to File to Run  
for Election for  
City Offices is  
February 27.

The New Castle City  
Election will be held  
on Saturday, April 18  
at the Good Will Fire  
Company. Polls are  
open from 8 a.m.  
to 6 p.m.

## 2009 New Castle City Election

# Frequently Asked Questions

### 1. Who is eligible to vote?

In order to vote, one must be at least 18 years of age, a resident of the City of New Castle for at least 30 days, and a registered voter with the State of Delaware.

### 2. When is the Election?

Saturday, April 18

### 3. Where do we vote?

Good Will Fire Hall, 42 South Street, from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m.

### 4. Do I have to register with the City to vote in a City Election?

No. If you are a registered voter with the State of Delaware, you are eligible to vote in the City Election. We use State voter registration information.

### 5. When can I register to vote, if I am not already registered?

You can register in person on Friday evenings, March 6 and March 27 at Town Hall (201 Delaware Street) from 7 to 9 p.m.

You can also register online at [electionsncc.delaware.gov](http://electionsncc.delaware.gov) or request an application by calling the Department of Elections for New Castle County at 577-3464.

### 6. How long do I have to live in the City before I can vote?

30 Days

### 7. Do I have to own property to be able to vote?

No, but you do need to be a resident of the City.

### 8. Can I vote in the election, if I own property in New Castle, but do not live in New Castle?

No. You must be a resident of the City to vote in a City election.

### 11. Do I have to vote for all elected offices on ballot?

No.

### 12. Do I have to vote for all four Council positions?

No, you may vote for four or less.

### 13. Do I need ID to vote on Election Day?

Yes, preferred ID is a valid driver's license.

See next month's newsletter for Absentee Ballot FAQs.

*Did you receive a new TV as a holiday gift? Or, are you planning on buying a new TV soon due to the switch to all-digital broadcasting? Don't trash your old TVs...*

## Remember to recycle electronics!

Recycling electronic goods is **FREE** and helps the environment!

Drop off bins close to New Castle are on Lambson's Lane, off Route 9 (aka New Castle Avenue) between Routes 295 and 495, with hours from 7 a.m. to 3 p.m., weekdays only.



## Code Enforcement Corner

The City of New Castle Board of Health strives to keep properties in compliance with adopted rules and codes. To report any problems or file a complaint, call Code Enforcement Officer John Lloyd at 221-6507. The entire City Code and Complaint Forms are also available on the City Web site at [www.NewCastleCity.org](http://www.NewCastleCity.org).

### *This month's reminders...*

- Residents are responsible for sidewalks in front of their properties. Sidewalks are required to be clear of snow and ice *within 24 hours of the storm ceasing or ice forming*.
- Do not place trash containers out for pickup prior to 6 p.m. the day before scheduled pickup.
- Register or remove all unregistered vehicles from private properties.
- *House numbers* are required by Code on the front of each house in a conspicuous area and the numbers must contrast with the background.