City News

The next Regular City Council meeting is 7 p.m., Tues., Feb. 9th at Town Hall

City Offices will be closed on Mon., Feb 15th in observance of Presidents’ Day

Revised Trash Pickup Schedule:

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MSC

Municipal Services Offices will be closed on: Mon., Feb. 15th

The New Castle Crier
The Official Newsletter of New Castle City
Volume 10 Issue 2* New Castle, DE * February 2016

The City Calendars have arrived!

Calendar Pick-Up Locations:
The City Calendars are here, and ready for pick up. To gauge residents’ interest in receiving the calendars, the City Council decided that the calendars would not be mailed out this year, but will be available for pick-up at many locations throughout the City.

The 2016 calendar may be picked up at the City Administration Building, the MSC office, Police Station, & Trolley Barn, the Library, Senior Center, Trustees office and at the Weekly.

This year the City of New Castle extends special thanks to Photographer Bruce Burk, who generously provided the stunning aerial view of downtown New Castle that graces the front cover of this calendar.

Mr. Burk also pens a weekly article called “Walk About” with his trusty sidekick Hanna, which appears in the New Castle Weekly. Check out the back cover of the calendar for two of New Castles most recognizable K-9’s, Hanna and K-9 Officer Cooper.

Please take time to read through the calendar as it makes up the Annual Report for City government activities that occurred in 2015, and provides a preview for what residents can expect in the upcoming year, as well as useful information regarding closings and Public Services schedule changes. We welcome your feedback; comments and suggestions may be sent to the City Administrator at bbarthel@newcastlecity.org.

January/February Events

Thursday, January 28th - 4:00 p.m.
New Castle Public Library
Story Corps Volunteer Meeting
The Library is looking for the history of families, schools, churches, local organizations and more. For more information, or to become involved in this exciting project call the New Castle Public Library at 302-328-1995.

Monday, February 1st - 7:00 p.m.
Courthouse Museum - West Wing
New Castle Community Partnership Meeting.
All are welcome!

Friday, February 5th - 5:00 - 8:00 p.m.
First Friday - Art Loop
On the First Friday of each month, walk through town visiting galleries, artisanal displays and unique objets d’art while snacking and sipping wine!

Sunday, February 14th* - 12:00 - 5:00 p.m.
*(Moved to the 2nd Sunday in February so as not to coincide with the Super Bowl)
St. Anthony’s Club Spaghetti Dinner
St. Anthony’s Club, 1017 Gray Street
Salad, Roll, Spaghetti and two meatballs!
$8.00 The First Sunday of Each Month October-May

Saturday, February 20th - 5:00 - 8:00 p.m.
Bootlegger’s Bash! NCHS Fundraiser.
Tickets are $85, register online via newcastlehistory.org or call the Society’s office at 302-322-2794. Details on the back of the newsletter.

Sign up and start training now!
3rd Annual atTAcK addiction 5K
Saturday March 5, 2016
St. Peter’s School - 515 Harmony Street
Pre-Registration: $30.00 - Virtual Registration $35.00
For more information go to: www.attackaddiction.com/2016-5k.html

New Castle – The First Capital of the First State!
The most picturesque and historic waterfront community on the East Coast!
New Castle Historical Society Annual Winter Fundraiser

Bootlegger’s Bash!

Escape the winter doldrums and have a roaring good time at our juice joint! New Castle Historical Society invites you to attend their Annual Winter Fundraiser at The Arsenal. Guests will enjoy Prohibition-era cocktails prepared by a mixologist from *C.R. Hummingbird to Mars*, silent films, best costume contest, silent auction, speakeasy photo op and dance the night away to the tunes of Jazz band, the *Blackbird Society Orchestra*!

Fundraiser price is $85. Register online via newcastlehistory.org or call the Society’s office at 302-322-2794.

The New Castle Cares Fund

DID YOU KNOW?

The Municipal Services Commission’s (MSC) has created a New Castle Cares Fund at the Salvation Army which can provide financial assistance to individuals who may have experienced a hardship and need assistance paying their electric and water bills. This may be an unexpected automobile repair or hospital bill. Please contact the MSC to obtain more information (302) 323-2330.

Call now to Schedule Over 65 & Disability* City Property Tax Exemption Interviews

Interviews for the City of New Castle Property Tax Exemptions will be conducted on weekdays from January 19th through April 29th, between the hours of 9 a.m. & 3 p.m. To apply, applicants must appear in person and provide photo ID and income information. For more information and to schedule an interview please call Diane Delgado at 302-322-9804. *Persons with a Disability Tax Exemption must apply each year.

Code Enforcement Corner

**Code Enforcement** helps to 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.

Complaint forms are available at the City Offices or on the City Web site newcastlecity.delaware.gov. Complaints are handled on a confidential basis; however, if feedback and/or updates are requested, name, address and phone number need to be provided with the complaint.

It is the responsibility of property owners to maintain the sidewalk in front of their property within 24 hours of the end of a weather event.

The New Castle City Code, section 209-1: Sidewalks require a minimum 3 feet of clearance within 24 hours of a snow event ending. Do not wait for warmer temperatures to clear the sidewalk.

Also, please remember to clear any fire hydrant; this could save crucial minutes in an emergency situation.

Here are some tips, from our neighbors to the north for dealing with ice.

- Pile snow in a place where it will not run across your sidewalk when it melts and aim your downspouts away from areas where people walk to keep your sidewalks clear during freeze-thaw cycles.

  **PLEASE DO NOT** pile snow in the roadway.

- Warmer weather during the day can make ice soft, so it's easier to chip or shovel away.

- Spread sand or gravel on icy patches to make your sidewalk safer for pedestrians. Spreading sand on a sidewalk before ice forms can also make future ice easier to remove.

- Microwaving sand in a microwave-safe container and spreading it while it is still warm can make it more effective. It will embed itself in to the ice, creating a gritty top layer.