



Deadline nears to run for City office

The deadline to file and declare as a candidate for the City election is 4:30 p.m., Friday, February 22. Candidate filing forms are available at the City Office at 220 Delaware St., where filings are also accepted.

Elections are for Mayor (2-year term), Council President (4-year term), four Council seats (two 2-year terms, two 4-year terms), City Treasurer and City Clerk (each 4-year terms). The Election is on Saturday, April 13, from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m.

Absentee ballot applications may be submitted at the City office beginning on Wed., February 27. The deadline to vote absentee is noon on April 12.

For more information, click on the "Election Information" button on the front page of the City Web site at:
NewCastleCity.Delaware.gov.

State and Federal officials continue to pursue National Monument designation

On January 15, the City Council approved a request from the State of Delaware, granting a minor subdivision involving two State-owned properties on "The Green." The result is that the Sheriff's House now has a small footprint of land surrounding that building on a separate parcel from the Court House, which now is on a parcel which includes a large part of the open space behind that building.

With the City action concluded, a larger plan involving the State and Federal governments can move forward — the process of having a National Monument designated in Delaware, which would be part of the National Park Service system. The designation process is under the Federal Antiquities Act and only requires Presidential approval (versus approval from all of Congress for a

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Apply now for 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 C. 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 17th.

The next
regular
City Council
meeting is 7 p.m.,
Tues., Feb. 12 at
Town Hall

February Events

Saturday, February 9 from 6:30 p.m. to 1 a.m.

At the Holloway Terrace Fire Co. at 700 West Ave.

☉ **Valentine's Beef & Beer** ☉

Sponsored by the Good Will Fire Co.

What better way to show your love to your loved ones!

Come out and spread your love to your local Fire Department with good food, drinks, and friends!

DJ Campbell will be providing the music.

Door Prizes ● 50/50s ● Giveaways

\$25 per person includes Dinner, Beer, Wine and Soda.

Jell-O Shots and Cash Bar also available.

IDs are required and will be checked at the door.

For more information contact Nicole at 379-6699.

Saturday, February 16 from 7 to 10:30 p.m.

At the Gym at St. Peter's School

☉ **Doo Wop Sock Hop** ☉

A New Castle Historical Society Event

Step back in time to the days of rock & roll and pull out those letterman sweaters, leather jackets and poodle skirts because you're in for a rockin' good time! We're recreating the experience of a 1950's dance...the same music, the same decorations. We're even holding the event in a school gym! You'll enjoy live classic rock and oldies music by The Honeycombs and delicious food by Penn's Bistro. But there's no need to spike the punch Fonzie because we'll also have an open wine and beer bar! Also, don't miss the silent auction! Tickets for \$50 per person must be purchased in advance! Purchase at: www.NewCastleHistory.org, or call 322-2794.

All proceeds help support the New Castle Historical Society's history education programs.

New Castle – The First Capital City!

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

National Monument

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National Park). As part of this process, the Federal government requires ownership of the Sheriff's House, which will be the headquarters and visitors' center. Federal representatives will also continue to pursue creation of a National Park for Delaware, eventually converting all properties and structures contained within the original National Monument.

Upon final approval of the National Monument, the Park Service will begin a process, estimated to take two to three years, to develop a management plan, working in conjunction with City officials. This process will involve significant citizen input and further updates for New Castle residents will be included in this newsletter.

Debris cleanup continues; FEMA reimbursements sought

The City continues to work on debris cleanup from Hurricane Sandy. On December 21, an unexpected rain, high tide and wind event caused Delaware River flooding and more debris was deposited near the shoreline.

That event also damaged the post-Sandy repairs done on the Gambacorta Dike. Originally more than 200 one-ton sandbags were installed to repair that dike and further work was needed to shore up those original repairs.

The City hired a contractor to help with debris cleanup and at this point most of the sites in public view are completed (i.e., Battery Park, Bull Hill and the Trust

property behind the Ferry Parking Lot on Chestnut Street). There is still much work to be done, however, at other sites, mainly to remove debris on top of all three of the City dikes (Buttonwood, Broad Marsh and Gambacorta Marsh dikes).

Of course, the City has documented all Sandy-related expenses and the process continues to complete necessary paperwork for FEMA reimbursement. At a meeting attended by representatives from the City, Trustees, FEMA, DEMA, DNREC and the New Castle Conservation District, it was decided that beyond storm damage-related FEMA funding, further hazard mitigation money will be sought to assist in rebuilding and improving the City dikes. The group agreed that DNREC would take the lead to seek this funding.

State elected and appointed officials have committed to funding and an accelerated time schedule to have the City's dikes reconstructed.

City Offices Closed & No Trash Pickup: Monday, February 18
Monday Trash Collected Tuesday, February 19
Tuesday Trash Collected Wednesday, February 20

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. 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

The following are common code violations:

- 1. Inoperative/junked and/or unregistered vehicles cannot be stored outside.**
- 2. Bulk items (stoves, refrigerators, TV's, furniture, tires, etc.) require special pickup if disposal is desired – arrangements must be made *prior to placing the 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 the 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 that sidewalks are clear of snow and ice within **24 hours** of the storm ceasing or the ice forming. A minimum of **three feet** is required.
- 6. Dog/animal feces must be cleaned up and properly disposed of *immediately*.**

Access the New Castle City Code with Android™ app

The eCode Search App by General Code is the industry's first app for searching municipal codes. Download the *free* app for your mobile device today.

It delivers amazing speed and convenience by allowing you to easily search up, down and across your municipal code for 360° access, all in a matter of seconds.

The eCode Search App is available for download on any mobile device with an Android™ operating system (apps for Apple© products are coming soon). Contact General Code customer service toll free at 1-855-436-2633 for more details, or visit their Web site at www.GeneralCode.com.