

## Reptile wrangler

'Jungle John' has delighted children for nearly three decades

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### CUISINE

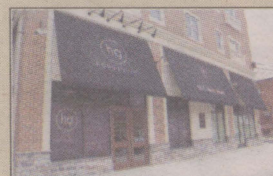


### Downtown dining

Restaurant Week kicks off Monday

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### BUSINESS



### Eateries in legal spat

Honeygrow sues landlord, Qdoba

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### POLICE

### Crime hits 9-year low

Decrease attributed to proactive patrols, technology

Pg. 8



## Midnight delivery

NEWARK POST PHOTO BY JOSH SHANNON

A crane unloads an MRI machine at UD's Life Sciences Research Facility on Delaware Avenue early Tuesday morning.

## Crane helps install 'cutting-edge' MRI at UD

By JOSH SHANNON  
jshannon@chespub.com

In the frigid, wee hours of Tuesday morning, workers on the University of Delaware campus used a crane

to install a 15-ton, state-of-the-art functional MRI machine that will provide new research opportunities for faculty and students.

"This is brain research at the cutting edge," said

Robert Simons, chairman of UD's Department of Psychological and Brain Sciences.

The research-quality MRI has a magnet twice as strong as the MRIs used for typical medical tests and shows not

only what the brain looks like but also which portions of the brain are being used during particular tasks.

See MRI  
Page 15

## Council approves gun law

Open carry banned in city buildings

By KARIE SIMMONS  
ksimmons@chespub.com

City council has followed in the footsteps of places like Elmsmere, Newport and Dover by voting Monday night to prohibit openly-carried firearms from Newark municipal buildings.

The board voted 6 to 1 to ban guns from all city-owned or leased buildings where the city meets in its official capacity, as well as any building containing offices of elected officials or public employees, except for parking facilities like the parking office in The Galleria. Councilman Rob Gifford voted against the measure.

Signs will be posted at the entrance to city hall and the police station informing people of the law. Anyone found in violation will be asked to

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Page 15

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# Newark's 10th-annual Restaurant Week begins Monday

By MATT BUTLER  
Special to the Post

The Downtown Newark Partnership's Restaurant Week will begin its 10th year of celebrating Main Street restaurants on Monday, with organizers hoping to sustain the previous success both of the event and the participating businesses.

As of Wednesday, 14 restaurants had signed up to participate in the event, which is designed to attract customers to businesses during the traditionally slow month of January. Each restaurant will offer

special prix fixe menus that could include a two-course lunch for \$10, a family meal for \$22 and/or a two- or three-course dinner for \$22 or \$28, respectively.

Restaurant Week also helps new businesses, such as Grain Craft Bar + Kitchen, receive valuable exposure among people who might not normally come to downtown, said Grain owner Lee Mikles.

"It's a great way to expose new people to what we offer," Mikles said. "They'll be exposed to Restaurant Week as a whole, and then they'll explore us as one of those op-

tions. So it's a great way for us to reach a new audience."

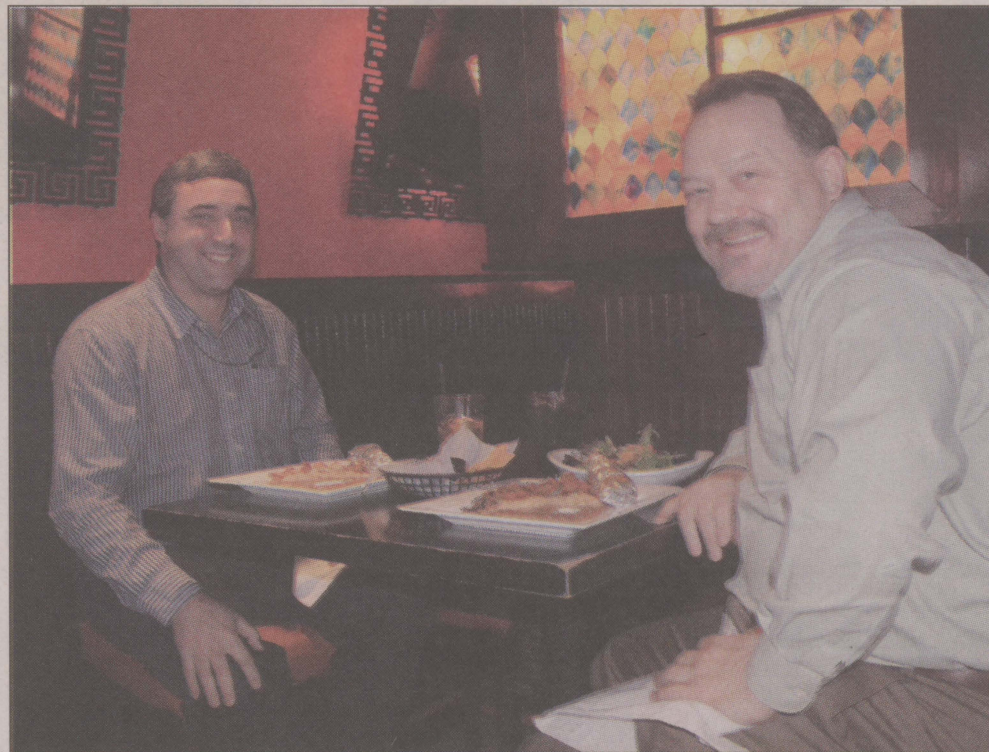
DNP Administrator Ricky Nietubicz said the goal of the week is to highlight the restaurant community, adding that he has seen Newark grow into a regional dining destination since the event's inception.

He said it provides an opportunity for chefs to be adventurous with new menu options and gives customers a chance to expand their dining choices and experiences on Main Street. There are no significant changes for this year, except for Grain's debut, he said.

"It's a very successful model that we have developed," Nietubicz said. "There doesn't appear to be a major need for modification at this point."

Bryan Jariwala, general manager at Taverna, said this is his restaurant's third year participating. He said exposure is the most important benefit from Restaurant Week, even more than the actual business the event attracts to Main Street.

"I think it's positive for everyone," Jariwala said. "It also spills into the retail side of things. For our retailers on Main Street, it allows more people to be on the street,



NEWARK POST FILE PHOTO

David Blake and Jack Penick have lunch at Santa Fe Mexican Grill during last year's Restaurant Week.

maybe they will stop into a boutique or something [...] It can all benefit from foot traffic from Restaurant Week."

Jariwala said Taverna is having meetings all this week to prepare for Restaurant Week, including planning which foods to market and what special menu options the chefs may want to try. Now that they are familiar with the type of crowds that come during the week and have some experience with the event,

Jariwala said they can pick certain foods that will appeal to the most people.

As a restaurant that specializes in sharable foods, Mikles said Grain will be emphasizing those foods on its menu for the week, as well as more regular fare like burgers. As for any new creations, Mikles wants to surprise customers.

"Chefs always cooking up something crazy. But we'll keep that a secret for now," he said.

Restaurant Week runs from Monday through Jan. 25. Participating restaurants include Ali Baba, Caffé Gelato, Deer Park Tavern, Del Pez, Grain, Grotto Pizza, Home Grown Café, Iron Hill Brewery, Catherine Rooney's, Klondike Kate's, Santa Fe Mexican Grill, Stone Balloon Ale House, Taverna and The Greene Turtle. Restaurant Week menus are available at [www.enjoydowntownnewark.com/restaurantweek](http://www.enjoydowntownnewark.com/restaurantweek).

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# Christina sets date, rate for tax referendum

By JESSICA IANNETTA

jiannetta@chespub.com

Christina School District residents will go to the polls to vote on a tax increase again on March 23, less than a year after two failed tax referendums forced the district to cut more than \$9 million from its budget.

The district is asking voters to authorize a 30-cent increase per \$100 of assessed property value. With the average assessed property value in the district at \$64,000, that amounts to an additional \$192 a year or 53 cents a day for the average homeowner.

The referendum will take place on March 23, the same date the Brandywine School District plans to hold its referendum.

"The question we're asking the community is 'Where do you want to go as a community with your schools?'" Acting Superintendent Robert Andrzejewski said at a

"The question we're asking the community is 'Where do you want to go as a community with your schools?'"

And two, 'What are you willing to pay for it?'"

Robert Andrzejewski,

Acting superintendent

Board of Education workshop last week. "And two, 'What are you willing to pay for it?'"

The tax increase would raise approximately \$16.2 million for the school district with the money going toward the following areas:

- \$4 million to reduce class sizes
- \$1 million to improve school climate, including increasing guidance and intervention services
- \$1.5 million to restore school budgets, including buying books and other general supplies
- \$100,000 for new pro-

gram design planning

- \$2.5 million for increased operating expenses as the cost of employment continues to rise
- \$4.8 million to fund charter and school choice payment increases
- \$2.3 million to maintain new support levels for fiscal year 2018

One of the areas officials plan to put the most money toward is reducing class sizes. In the fall, the school board had to approve a waiver allowing some schools to exceed the state-recommended class size of 22 be-

cause of budget cuts. The \$4 million will bring the district back to its class sizes prior to the cuts, Chief Financial Officer Robert Silber told the Board of Education last week.

The \$100,000 for new program design planning would go toward hiring an outside firm to evaluate various options for the district, including magnet schools, grade reconfiguration and distance learning. The district is losing students and needs to evolve in order to keep its current students and recruit new ones, Andrzejewski said.

Andrzejewski mentioned

several potential ideas for school changes, including making Christiana High School a grades 6-12 school with a thematic focus on engineering and agricultural science, starting a medical arts program at Glasgow High School to expand on the school's current pharmacy program and working with Hodgson Vocational Technical High School to develop a similar program in the district.

Andrzejewski also stressed that likely nothing will be done with the re-districting of Wilmington schools until 2018, giving CSD a two-year window in which to develop future plans.

"I want to encourage the community to kind of take on a whole new way of looking at the Christina of the future," he said. "These just aren't ideas. A lot of this stuff is doable. But it's about what you want for your kids."

Regardless of what direction the board wants to go

in, most of these changes would take one to two years to implement because of the logistics involved, Silber said. That means the district needs to start planning now, he added.

The 30-cent tax increase is lower than the amounts the district asked voters to approve last spring. In February, voters rejected two different proposals, one that asked for an increase of 65 cents over three years and another that asked for a \$1.05 increase over four years. In May, voters also rejected a proposal that would have seen an increase of 37 cents over three years.

Andrzejewski said that if the March referendum fails, the district will not make a second attempt.

"We're going out one time. Either the community's going to support us or the community's not going to support us," he said. "This is one and done. We're going to win and move forward."

## Police: Probation violator found with drugs in White Chapel

By JOSH SHANNON

jshannon@chespub.com

A man accused of violating his probation was arrested Jan. 6 in the White Chapel neighborhood of Newark with a "significant amount" of drugs and drug paraphernalia, police

said.

According to Cpl. Tom Jackson, a spokesman for the New Castle County Police Department, a task force of police and probation officers were searching for Renyle Martin, 40, who was "allegedly traveling in and out of the state in violation of

his probation."

The officers found Martin in a home in the 200 block of Whitherspoon Lane and arrested him without incident.

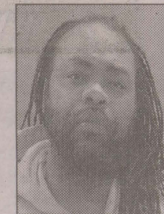
They searched his house and car, finding 79 grams of crack cocaine, 18 grams of powdered cocaine, 150 bags of heroin and

a small amount of marijuana and prescription pills. Authorities also seized drug paraphernalia and \$350, Jackson said.

Martin was charged with possession of a controlled substance, possession with intent to deliver a controlled substance and several related

offenses. He was also charged with endangering the welfare of a child because a child was in the house at the time of his arrest.

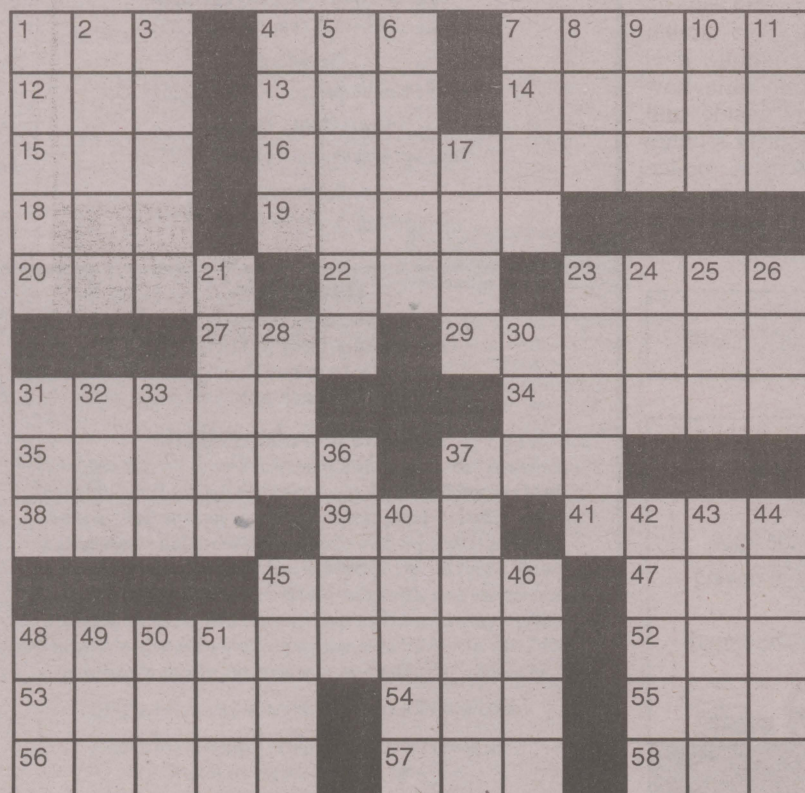
He was committed to the Howard Young Correctional Institution in lieu of \$13,000 cash bail.



MARTIN

## The Post Stumper

ANSWERS ON PAGE 10



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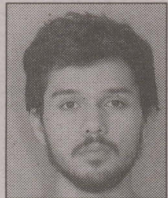
# Rainbow Records employee chases down alleged shoplifter

By **KARIE SIMMONS**  
ksimmons@chespub.com

Police arrested a Newark man for shoplifting last week after an employee at Rainbow Records and someone at a neighboring store chased the person down Main Street to the Trabant University Center.

The defendant is identified as 18-year-old Liam Kriner.

According to Newark Police spokesman Cpl. James Spadola, the incident occurred around 12:58 p.m. Jan. 4 at the music and book store located at 54 E. Main St. after an employee saw Kriner grab five vinyl records worth



**KRINER**

\$116 from a display and run out.

Spadola said a store employee chased after Kriner with the help from somebody at a neighboring store who was made aware of the situation. Kriner ran up the stairs of 54 E. Main St. in an attempt to escape, but was cornered and gave up the records before taking off down Main Street toward Trabant.

The employees continued to chase Kriner through the student center onto Orchard Avenue near the Trabant parking garage, where they flagged down a nearby police officer who took him into custody.

He was charged with shoplifting and issued a \$500 unsecured bond as well as a no contact order with Rainbow Records. He has since been released, Spadola said.

## Two hurt in crash on Otts Chapel Road

By **JOSH SHANNON**  
jshannon@chespub.com

Two people were hurt in a crash just south of Newark on Monday night.

A car and a pickup truck collided at the entrance to the Academy Hill neighborhood at Otts Chapel Road and Oklahoma State Drive just before 8 p.m., according to Lt. Michael A. McColley, a spokesman for New Castle County paramedics.

The 19-year-old driver of the car was trapped inside for 15 minutes

until firefighters from Aetna Hose Hook and Ladder Co. could free her from the wreckage. She was flown by helicopter to Christiana Hospital, where she was listed in serious condition with a head injury and scrapes.

The 30-year-old man driving the truck was taken by ambulance to Christiana Hospital, where he was listed in stable condition with head and arm injuries.

Delaware State Police are investigating the crash.

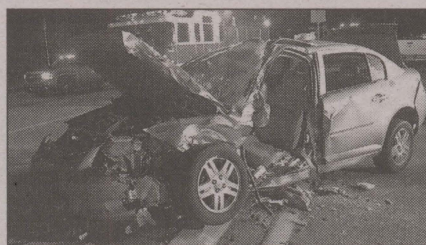


PHOTO COURTESY OF AH&L

The 19-year-old driver of this car had to be freed using the "Jaws of Life" after the vehicle collided with a pickup truck on Otts Chapel Road on Monday night.

### Saw stolen from South College Avenue construction site

Crews constructing a new hotel on South College Avenue are missing their chop

saw after it was taken sometime on Monday, police say.

According to Newark Police spokesman Cpl. James Spadola, the incident occurred sometime between 10:30 and 11 a.m. at Candlewood Suites, which is cur-

rently under construction on South College Avenue next to the Red Roof Inn.

Spadola said the saw, worth approximately \$700, was taken out of the back of a work truck.

He said police are still investigating and have no suspects at this time.

around 5:30 a.m. Monday when an employee walked into the car dealership, located in the 200 block of E. Cleveland Ave.

The employee told police that as soon as he entered the building, he heard a back door slam shut and noticed that an electrical cord hanging from the ceiling was swinging as if somebody had just run by it.

Spadola said the thief took miscellaneous tools from the dealership, but an official inventory of stolen items is still pending. It is unknown at this time how the person got inside and there is no security footage available; however, police continue to investigate.

There are no suspects at this time.

### Tools missing from Cleveland Avenue car dealership

An employee at Matt Slap Subaru walked in on what police believe was a theft in progress when he arrived to work early Monday morning.

According to Newark Police spokesman Cpl. James Spadola, the incident oc-

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**Editorial Submissions:** Monday 5 p.m.

**Obits/Announcements/Legals:** Tuesday noon

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The Newark Post welcomes letters to the editor. There is a 300-word limit. Letters should be typed or legibly written. Letters must be signed and include the writer's name, address and phone number. As a policy we do not run thank you letters and poems in the letters to the editor space. The Newark Post reserves the right to edit or reject any item submitted for publication. The opinions of letters and submissions are those of the authors and not necessarily the opinions of The Newark Post. All rights reserved. Please email letters to [letters@newarkpostonline.com](mailto:letters@newarkpostonline.com) with "Letter to the Editor" in the subject line. Letters can also be faxed or mailed to the address or fax number listed above or dropped off to our office in person.

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# Honeygrow, Qdoba in legal spat over shared space

## Dispute delaying stir-fry restaurant's opening

By KARIE SIMMONS

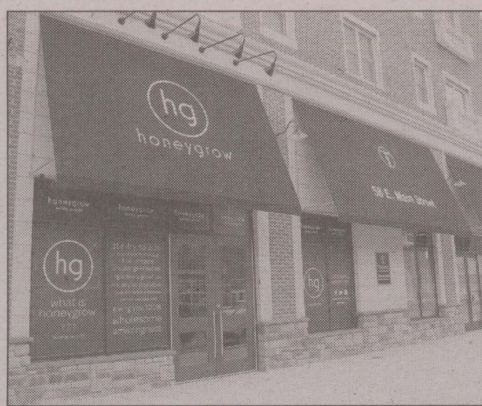
ksimmons@chespub.com

Honeygrow was supposed to begin serving its signature stir-fry and fruit cups on Main Street this past fall, but a legal spat has delayed the restaurant's opening.

The Philadelphia-based chain recently took its landlord and neighboring Qdoba Mexican Grill to court over a disagreement about ductwork and PVC piping it installed in the adjoining retail space.

Honeygrow and Qdoba are both slated to open in the newly-constructed 58 E. Main St., a four-story Tsionas Management building with retail space on the first floor and apartments above. The two restaurants share a wall but have been at odds over the past few months, with Qdoba and the building owner claiming Honeygrow ran kitchen exhaust equipment and hot water pipes through Qdoba's side without their approval.

According to court documents, in order for Honeygrow's cooking area to vent properly, the restaurant needed access to a "shaft," or "chase," that would run gas lines and other ductwork through the interior of the building to the roof. However, Richard Forsten, a lawyer representing Honeygrow, claims it was discovered during the build out that the nearest chase was in the adjoining



NEWARK POST PHOTO BY KARIE SIMMONS

Honeygrow, slated to open at 58 E. Main St., recently took its landlord and neighboring Qdoba Mexican Grill to court over a disagreement about ductwork and PVC piping it installed in the adjoining retail space.

ing premises planned for Qdoba.

On March 1, 2015, Honeygrow submitted its construction plans to the landlord, which showed the ductwork and PVC pipes needed for the water heater running through Qdoba. Forsten said the landlord and GG&A, construction manager for 58 E. Main St., reviewed the plans with Honeygrow via telephone conference on March 11 and expressed no objection to the ductwork. He said the plans were verbally approved during the meeting and memorialized in an email sent by Honeygrow; however, there was no written approval signed by all parties.

Forsten claims there is no requirement for written approval in Honeygrow's lease.

In September, Brian Daring, a building inspector for the city of Newark, told Honeygrow there was not enough room in the building's chase for both the ductwork and the PVC piping and recommended the pipes be run out of the back of the building instead. However, Forsten said, Honeygrow was unable to run the pipes out its side due to a stairwell and elevator located behind the rear wall. As a result, the restaurant ran 10 PVC pipes through Qdoba and out its back wall.

Forsten argued in court documents that the pipes were installed 14 feet high and "do not materially interfere with the use and enjoyment of the adjoining premises." At the time of installation, Qdoba had not begun work on the interior of the restaurant.

Still, Qdoba officials objected once they saw what Honeygrow had done, claiming the installation did not fit with the open ceiling concept, which is a feature of the Colorado-based chain's brand design image, and was done without their consent.

"It was silver and couldn't be painted. It was not something that you could hide," Richard Abbott, a lawyer representing Qdoba and Tsionas, said during an interview Tuesday.

Abbott claims Honeygrow acted "negligently," and only entered Qdoba because it was the easiest way to vent its kitchen without having to remove parts of the building

that had already been constructed on its side.

"Honeygrow waited until the last minute at which point it panicked and simply installed the ductwork and piping without formal written approvals," he argued in documents submitted to the Court of Chancery in December. He said both parties tried to come up with a solution, but Honeygrow declined any alternatives and refused to remove the ductwork and piping.

"They didn't do their homework," Abbott said Tuesday. "It was an afterthought."

On Nov. 23, the city conducted a final inspection of Honeygrow in order to issue a certificate of occupancy so that Honeygrow could open for business. During the inspection, the city asked Honeygrow to provide confirmation from Tsionas that the restaurant has access to the ductwork and piping installed in Qdoba for periodic maintenance, but Tsionas refused and threatened to remove the materials.

Honeygrow took the issue to court, but its request for preliminary injunction was denied on Dec. 22.

Since then, Abbott said, Honeygrow has removed the ductwork and piping and is in the process of submitting plans for an alternate venting route, which will cost the restaurant additional money.

"Both parties are working together to get the problems resolved so both restaurants can open," he said. "We're moving positively and constructively in that direction."

## Council approves \$68K subvention payment to fire department

By KARIE SIMMONS

ksimmons@chespub.com

In November, city council flirted with the idea of implementing a monthly \$1 "fire prevention sur-

charge" to help Aetna Hose Hook and Ladder Co. combat rising costs, but decided Monday to instead restore the fire department's subvention funding out of the general fund.

The fee, attached to city water bills, would have provided the fire department with an estimated \$108,000 annually and replaced the \$62,000 subvention payment the city makes to Aetna each year.

However, the proposal was pulled from the 2016 budget during discussions last month because of legal concerns regarding attaching an unrelated surcharge to a utility bill. Councilman Todd Ruckle was

the only one in favor of implementing the charge.

Council voted unanimously Monday night to amend the budget and restore the subvention funding, increasing it by 10 percent to \$68,200.

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# Human remains found along W. Chestnut Hill Rd.

By CARL HAMILTON

cahamilton@chespub.com

Possible evidence was found near human remains that were discovered along West Chestnut Hill Road just over the state line last week, and investigators are following up on what was collected in hopes it will help them identify the person, police reported.

"Evidence was found at the scene, in very close proximity to the bones, and we're looking into it," said Lt. Michael Holmes, a Cecil County Sheriff's Office spokesman, adding, "It could help us determine who the victim was."

Because of the ongoing investigation, Holmes declined to detail what was found. Holmes qualified that, as is the possibility with any investigation, what was collected there might not relate to the case at all.

Holmes also declined to comment on whether the remains are male or female, explaining, "We're still working very closely with the M.E.'s office and we have an idea but, right now, we still can't say with any certainty. We want to be sure before releasing that type of information."

A road crew discovered the remains about 3 p.m. Jan. 7 while

working in near the intersection of West Chestnut Hill and Iron Hill roads, less than a quarter-mile from Delaware.

Responding deputies found the human remains close to a dead-end on West Chestnut Road, according to Holmes, who, on Tuesday, still declined to comment on the amount and condition of the human remains and to speculate on how long they had been there.

CCSO detectives are continuing to check all missing person reports that have been filed in the area within an unspecified time frame, according to Holmes.

"We do have some information that investigators are following up on," Holmes said. "Once we identify the person, we will still have a lot of legwork to do, as far as determining when and where that person was last seen and other information."

Holmes noted, however, "Not every missing person has been reported missing." Such a situation would make the investigation much more difficult, he said.

Anyone with information that could help in this investigation is asked to call the Cecil County Sheriff's Office's Criminal Investigation Division at 410-392-2123.



PHOTO BY CARL HAMILTON

This photo shows the general area where human remains were found near the T-intersection of Iron Hill Road (not pictured) and West Chestnut Hill Road.

## City finance director takes job at DEMEC

By KARIE SIMMONS

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After three years as Newark's finance director, Lou Vitola announced this week he will step down in May to become vice president of finance for the Delaware Municipal Electric Corporation. His last day with the city will be May 31.

Vitola worked as a financial analyst in the energy and chemical industries before transitioning to the public sector in 2006 as finance manager for the town of Middletown. He then briefly served as the director of finance and investment services for the Office of the State Treasury and in March 2013, joined the city of Newark.

He said Wednesday he was not planning to leave the city, but the job opportunity at DEMEC presented itself and he couldn't pass it up. DEMEC provides wholesale electricity to Newark and other municipalities.

"I really love working for the city," he said. "If I was going anywhere, the only place I could think of would probably be DEMEC."

Looking back, Vitola said McKees Solar Park and the smart meter integration were two of his most memorable projects, and he's glad he was able to see them come to fruition. However, he is most proud of his efforts to develop three balanced budgets and maintain the city's AA+ credit rating, as well as the union negotiations that re-

sulted in the long-term positive impacts to the city's pension plan.

"That could have been the most important thing that we did," he said.

Although he will still have some interaction with Newark in his new role with DEMEC, Vitola said he is going to miss the staff in city hall, especially City Manager Carol Houck, who he has worked with closely over the last three years.

Still, he feels comfortable leaving because he knows he is leaving the city's finances in "great shape."

"They were strong to begin with and part of my role was to ensure that strength was maintained, and

I think that we've done that with keeping an eye on costs, redirecting money into infrastructure and carefully reviewing the city's rates every year," he said.

A nationwide search is currently underway to find Vitola's successor, and he said he plans to be a part of the process. He hopes the city finds someone who can "boil a very complex issue into a clearly communicated dialogue" as well as communicate effectively with the public, council and staff.

"It's been a pleasure to work here. I've had an absolute blast and the time flew right by. When you're always as busy as I've been, you blink and it's already 5 o'clock," Vitola said. "Although sometimes it was tedious work, it was never tedious to me. You know you're truly enjoying your job when it doesn't feel like a job."



VITOLA



NEWARK POST PHOTO BY JOSH SHANNON

A flagger directs traffic on Academy Street on Wednesday afternoon.

## Road closures planned for Academy St., East Park Place

By JOSH SHANNON

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Work on a new University of Delaware dorm will cause road closures in Newark over the next three weeks.

The intersection of East Park Place and Academy Street will be closed through today.

From Monday through Jan. 22, Academy Street will be closed between East Park Place and Courtney Street. From Jan. 25 to

Feb. 5, one lane of Academy Street will be closed between East Park Place and Courtney Street.

The work is part of a project to build a 531-bed freshman dorm in a field between Hartshorn and Smyth halls. The road closures will allow crews to install stormwater pipes under the road and build a new construction entrance.

Called the South Academy Street Residence Hall, the building is slated to open in fall 2017.



# Newark Senior Center to expand dementia program

By MATT BUTLER

Special to the Post

As demand grows, the Newark Senior Center is preparing to expand a program geared toward helping seniors with dementia.

Called Meeting of Minds, the program is one of only two in the state and helps those with early-stage dementia and other cognitive impairments through activities and socialization.

"There is a real need, and it's just one step on the continuum of care to keep people living independently in the community," said Carla Grygiel, the director of the senior center.

Meeting of Minds was founded in January 2015 to serve the population affected by dementia in Delaware. In addition to this, it provides insurance and legal consultation for families and some respite for caretakers.

The program, which Grygiel said started as a trial experiment but simply kept going, has 15 members, with a 12-person waiting list. However, after the expansion some time this spring, it will be able to handle between 25 and 30 people per day.

In addition to an expanded membership list, the Meeting of Minds will be extended to five days a week. Kat Foizen, coordinator of the Early Memory Loss Program, said the most

common feedback she receives from caregivers is asking if the program could be run on more than just its current schedule, which is two days per week for four hours each.

Foizen said the program enables senior citizens who, despite their cognitive issues, still have a desire and the basic ability to interact with others and exercise their minds. She said members can draw pictures, solve riddles and work on their long-term memory capabilities, among other activities.

"They can still engage in their community," Foizen said. "They want to be more social, they want to have more purpose in their day-to-day, but because of their cognitive impairment, that can get a little tricky."

Grygiel said the Meeting of Minds group will be taking over space in the senior center currently used by an adult day care, which will move to a bigger facility off site. That space will undergo a facelift of sorts, receiving new flooring, walls, furnishings and a kitchen upgrade in order to make it more comfortable and welcoming for program members. The center has received approximately \$145,000 in support for the renovations, both from foundational grants and public donations, Grygiel said.



NEWARK POST PHOTO BY MATT BUTLER

Participants in the Newark Senior Center's Meeting of Minds program play dominoes.

Keeping people comfortable as their minds begin to deteriorate is of the utmost importance, Grygiel said, and the physical and creative aspects of the Meet-

ing of Minds do just that.

"They end up retreating into themselves; they have a very solitary existence," Grygiel said. "It's difficult for their caregivers

to constantly engage with them. Kat and her staff and volunteers do an amazing job at keeping them engaged for as long as they are in the program."

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NEWARK POST PHOTO BY JOSH SHANNON

## Nature's beauty on display

On Sunday, Newarkers enjoyed unseasonably warm temperatures in the 60s, but a late-afternoon rain show ushered in colder temperatures. As the rain broke, a brief but vivid double rainbow was visible around the city, including here above the University of Delaware dorms on the North Green.

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# Crime in Newark hits nine-year low

By JOSH SHANNON

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Crime rates in Newark continued to take a downward trend, hitting a nine-year low in 2015, police officials reported this week.

The city saw 822 Part 1 crimes – defined as murders, robberies, burglaries, thefts, rapes, arsons and other serious offenses – representing a 6-percent drop from 2014 and a 48-percent decline since 2006.

Newark Police Department Chief Paul Tiernan and his top deputies attributed the decline, as they have in past years, to a combination of proactive enforcement, better communication between police units and new crime-fighting technologies.

“Every year we say, ‘How much lower can crime go?’” Tiernan remarked.

When Tiernan took the helm of NPD in 2007, the city had experienced a year that saw 78 robberies. In the ensuing years, the department began to aggressively target robbers. Tiernan formed the street crimes unit, a group of plainclothes officers that conducts surveillance of known suspects, investigates nuisance crimes and targets problem areas.

NPD also joined with University of Delaware Police to implement the fall crime suppression plan, an annual effort that floods the downtown area with extra patrols during September and October, when robbers traditionally target students.

For the first time in nearly a decade, this year there was no significant increase in street robberies when students returned for the fall semester. Only one – an incident in which four teens allegedly robbed a man at gunpoint on Marrows Road – was reported during those two months. Three more came in November.

Deputy Chief Kevin Feeney described NPD’s approach as “intelligence-driven police work,” meaning the department uses crime data to shift resources on a regular basis.

As criminals adjust their tactics, NPD examines the data and attempts to adjust its own strategies. The fall crime suppression patrols traditionally occurred on weekends, but because more robberies happened on weeknights in 2014, the patrols were spread throughout the week in 2015.

“That really seemed to be effective,” said Lt. Michael Van Campen, who commands the patrol division.

Overall, robberies decreased 9 percent – from 35 in 2014 to 32 in 2015. Though street robberies dropped significantly, Newark saw an increase in commercial robberies, from 5 to 14.

Lt. Scott Rieger, who oversees the department’s detectives, said commercial robberies are more difficult to prevent, unless investigators can identify a trend of the same suspects hitting multiple businesses. He added that the people who rob banks and stores are not usually the same people committing street robberies.

“It’s a different M.O.,” he said.

Burglaries were down 27 percent year-over-year, aggravated assaults were down 18 percent and thefts were down 5 percent. Alcohol arrests fell by more than 50 percent.

There were no murders or manslaughters reported in 2015. Police are still waiting for the medical examiner to determine the cause of death of a body found last month in



NEWARK POST FILE PHOTO BY JOSH SHANNON

Newark Police Chief Paul Tiernan attributed the decrease in crime to proactive enforcement, better communication between police units and new crime-fighting technologies.

a Ray Street backyard, but Rieger said there were no indications of foul play.

There were some categories of crime that increased. Simple assaults were up 18 percent, rapes increased from three to eight, and kidnappings increased from one to six.

Sgt. Gerald Bryda said most of the rapes involved suspects known to the victims – commonly referred to as “date rape” – which is difficult for police to prevent. The kidnappings mostly involved domestic situations in which one person was prevented from leaving a house, not abductions by strangers.

Rieger reported that NPD’s clearance rate – the percentage of crimes solved – was 62 percent for robberies and 44 percent for burglaries, well outpacing the national average of 29 percent and 13 percent, respectively.

He said the city’s network of surveillance cameras is a “huge asset,” as is in-person surveillance by the street crimes unit.

The department also spent time in 2015 cracking down on prostitution and drug use at the hotels on South College Avenue.

“Where you see prostitution, other crimes go along,” Rieger said.

This year, police will put an emphasis on traffic enforcement. Bryda said surveys mailed to residents consistently show that traffic offenses, such as speeding and stop sign violations in neighborhoods, are the No. 1 concern in the community.

Traffic officers will go out in teams to pull over motorists and write tickets, with an emphasis on high visibility to serve as a deterrent.

“People won’t just see one police car, they’ll see four,” Tiernan said. “The ultimate goal is to get accidents down.”

Motor vehicle crashes were up 3 percent in 2015, and the number of tickets issued decreased by 6 percent. However, DUI arrests were up 14 percent, due in part to increased enforcement following two fatal, alcohol-involved crashes in March.

This year, NPD is starting a new program called Newark Hub, which brings in support agencies, such as probation officers and social workers, to team up for intervention efforts aimed at homes where police are often called.

Feeney gave the hypothetical example of a family whose kids are experimenting with marijuana use, skipping school and risk getting in more serious trouble with the law.

“We’re trying to take a more holistic approach,” he said. “We’ll bring all these people together to get the family help cutting off the problem before it gets worse.”



# Newark boys basketball trying to get back on track

By JON BUZBY

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The Newark High School boys' basketball team got off to one of its best starts ever, winning its first six games by an average of nearly 25 points. What makes the start even more impressive is the Yellowjackets' 13-man roster includes nine players with no varsity experience.

So, all was good as the Yellowjackets bussed down to Middletown for the Cavaliers' holiday tournament and opened up with a decisive 69-55 victory over Lake Forest.

It certainly felt like the "most wonderful time of the year."

"Going into the holiday break undefeated was a surprise to me," head coach Shannon McCants admitted. "However, the feeling of the team was a feeling of excitement and confidence during our winning streak. What contributed to the success was that the youngsters were hungry and had something to prove. We were playing great team defense and were disciplined."

And then things became not so wonderful as the Yellowjackets dropped three



SUBMITTED PHOTO

The Newark High boys basketball team hopes to regroup and get back to its winning ways as it enters the second half of the season.

consecutive games.

"I think that we peaked early and are now in rough spot," McCants said after the third loss. "It is not like the competition has picked up a lot. The teams that we have lost to are comparable to some of the teams that we played and beat in December. I think that we have been scouted, and the young players are starting to understand some of the small detailed things I have

been talking about all season."

The losing streak started on Day 2 of the holiday tournament when Middletown handed the Yellowjackets their first loss of the season, 43-38. The win for Cavaliers revenged a two-point conference loss to the Yellowjackets just a week earlier.

"The first Middletown game was a conference game that was played with a lot of emotion," McCants

explained of the first meeting when a first-quarter on-court skirmish led to the ejection of three Newark players who left the bench during the incident. "We finished the game with an emotional win, but the damage was done. Our rotations and the sync of the team had to be changed for the Lake Forest game and when the three returned for the Middletown game, they were out of sync. And

Middletown played harder, out-hustled us and beat us on the boards."

Newark hoped to quickly rebound from its first loss as they welcomed in the New Year knowing their next game was against a winless Christiana team whose closest loss was by three points to Dickinson, whom Newark defeated on Dec. 5 by 37 points.

No such luck for Newark as the Vikings began 2016 with their first win of the season on the Yellowjackets' home court. It provided a valuable early-season lesson for the young and inexperienced Yellowjackets.

"I told the players that they can't take anyone for granted," McCants said. "When we were 8-0, I told the kids that they will have teams coming out to stop our winning streak and prove that we are not a good team. Teams will play us differently than they would play other teams because we are winning. We underestimated Christiana because of their record. Christiana is in our school district, and those games are always rivalry games. Christiana scouted us well and came out hungry for a

victory."

Things didn't get any better at William Penn on Jan. 7 as Newark ran into a stifling defense that held the Yellowjackets to 1 of 13 shooting from 3-point range on the way to a 47-28 loss. Newark scored just 17 points through three quarters.

"William Penn is a very solid team, and we had poor free-throw shooting, did not rebound, and we turned the ball over," McCants said. "I also have to do a better job figuring some things out with the young group."

Newark snapped its losing streak with a 47-42 win over Red Lion on Tuesday and will play at St. Andrew's today. The Yellowjackets then have 11 days off for mid-term exams.

"We will use that time [off] to get back on track," McCants explained. "We will make some adjustments and get back to some of the fundamental things that have been haunting us the last few games. We will improve with our defense, turnovers, rebounding and free-throw shooting."

Newark returns to the court on Jan. 26 for a conference game against A.I. du Pont.

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# Jungle John says 'edutainment' is his true calling

By KARIE SIMMONS  
ksimmons@chespub.com

## GET TO WORK

SPOTLIGHT ON NEWARK'S  
WORKING MEN AND WOMEN

Most people wouldn't dream of putting a Madagascar hissing cockroach in their mouth or, even worse, draping a 10-foot boa constrictor across their shoulders, but for John LaMedica, it's just another day on the job.

For the past 28 years, the zany 57-year-old better known as "Jungle John" has been wowing people of all ages with his reptile wrangling, dinosaur shows, magic tricks and balloon stunts, and if you ask him, he will tell you that in front of a crowd is exactly where he wants to be.

LaMedica's interest in reptiles started when he

was a child living in The Bronx, N.Y. He grew up going to the Museum of Natural History and The Bronx Zoo, which sparked his dreams of one day becoming a zookeeper. He studied biology at the University of Delaware, but then transferred to Santa Fe College in Gainesville, Fla., to get a degree in zoo keeping.

Shortly before graduation, LaMedica moved to Newark with his wife, Susan, to take a job as a super-

visor at Brandywine Zoo in Wilmington, where he managed the zookeepers, built enclosures, helped care for the animals and kept track of their diets.

"Since it's a small zoo, I ended up doing pretty much everything," he said.

In addition to his other responsibilities, he was also asked to perform animal shows, but he had never entertained an audience before. He said he came up with his own material and put on a few shows with a ferret, box turtle, boa constrictor and "a parrot that didn't like me," and just like that, Jungle John was born.

"I don't have any bad memories," he said, laughing. "I think it went well and every time I did another one it got better and better."

LaMedica left Brandywine Zoo after seven years and opened a reptile store in Wilmington, though he still performed at birthday parties and events as Jungle John on the side. After two years, he closed up shop to focus on his act full time and says it was the best decision he ever made.

On average, he now does more than 400 shows a year at county fairs, trade shows and festivals across the country, local schools and community events, and at the Wilmington Blue Rocks and Delaware 87ers games. On Wednesdays, he can be found at Klondike Kate's making balloon animals and doing face painting.

His animal show has expanded since his early days and today includes roughly a dozen species from the reptile and insect world including a 2-year-old alliga-



NEWARK POST PHOTO BY KARIE SIMMONS

John LaMedica, better known as "Jungle John," holds a 2-year-old alligator named Wally. LaMedica has been entertaining people of all ages with his reptile and magic shows for the past 28 years.

tor named "Wally Gator," a 10-foot boa constrictor named "Larry Boa," and Madagascar hissing cockroaches, or as LaMedica calls them: "the bugs that made me famous." He keeps the reptiles in a heated room in his home in the Greenbridge neighborhood near Newark.

LaMedica is a Guinness World Record Holder after appearing on the television show "Guinness World Records: Primetime" in 1999. He was placed in a plexiglass coffin with 20,050 Madagascar hissing cockroaches and set the record for the number of bugs on his body.

"Nobody has tried to break it since, thank goodness," he said.

A few years later, he put nine cockroaches in his mouth on "Ripley's Believe It Or Not!" and in 2014, he performed the same stunt on NBC's "America's Got Talent." Unfortunately, he didn't make it to the next round.

"They wanted me to gross out the audience, and I did," he said. "I knew I wasn't going to win."

For those who don't like

snakes and other things that slither, LaMedica also performs magic tricks and has a man-eating balloon show where he climbs inside a 6-foot round balloon.

He recently added "Jungle John's Jurassic Journey" with "Dolly," a 12-foot-long, 8-foot-high Tyrannosaurus Rex. During the educational show highlighting dinosaur facts with puppets and fossil replicas, LaMedica, and sometimes his 27-year-old son Nick, will walk around in the 60-pound T-Rex suit.

He said he's been learning a lot about dinosaurs in the last few months to prepare for the new bit, which is quickly becoming his favorite Jungle John endeavor. His dream is to one day expand the show to a major operation with up to five large dinosaurs like Dolly.

"You don't have to feed them, clean them and you don't need a permit for them anywhere," he said, referring to the puppets.

LaMedica says he loves educational entertainment, or as he calls it "edutainment," and it surprises even him that this is where he, the bright-eyed boy

from The Bronx, ended up. Working for himself is great, but his favorite part about being Jungle John is the creativity – designing the shows, writing scripts and coming up with new jokes and lines.

Growing up, he thought he was going to be a reptile curator at a major zoo, working mostly behind the scenes, but now – front and center – he says he wouldn't change a thing. Jungle John, he said, is his true calling.

"I didn't realize how much I loved performing and doing shows and I got really good at it, so that's what I pursued," he said. "Not in a lifetime did I ever think I would learn all these other skills in entertainment, but now that I have, I'm never going to stop."

This day-in-the-life profile of Jungle John is the latest installment in the Newark Post's occasional "Get to Work" series, an in-depth look at some of Newark's working men and women. If you know someone who would make a good Get to Work profile, contact reporter Karie Simmons at ksimmons@chespub.com.



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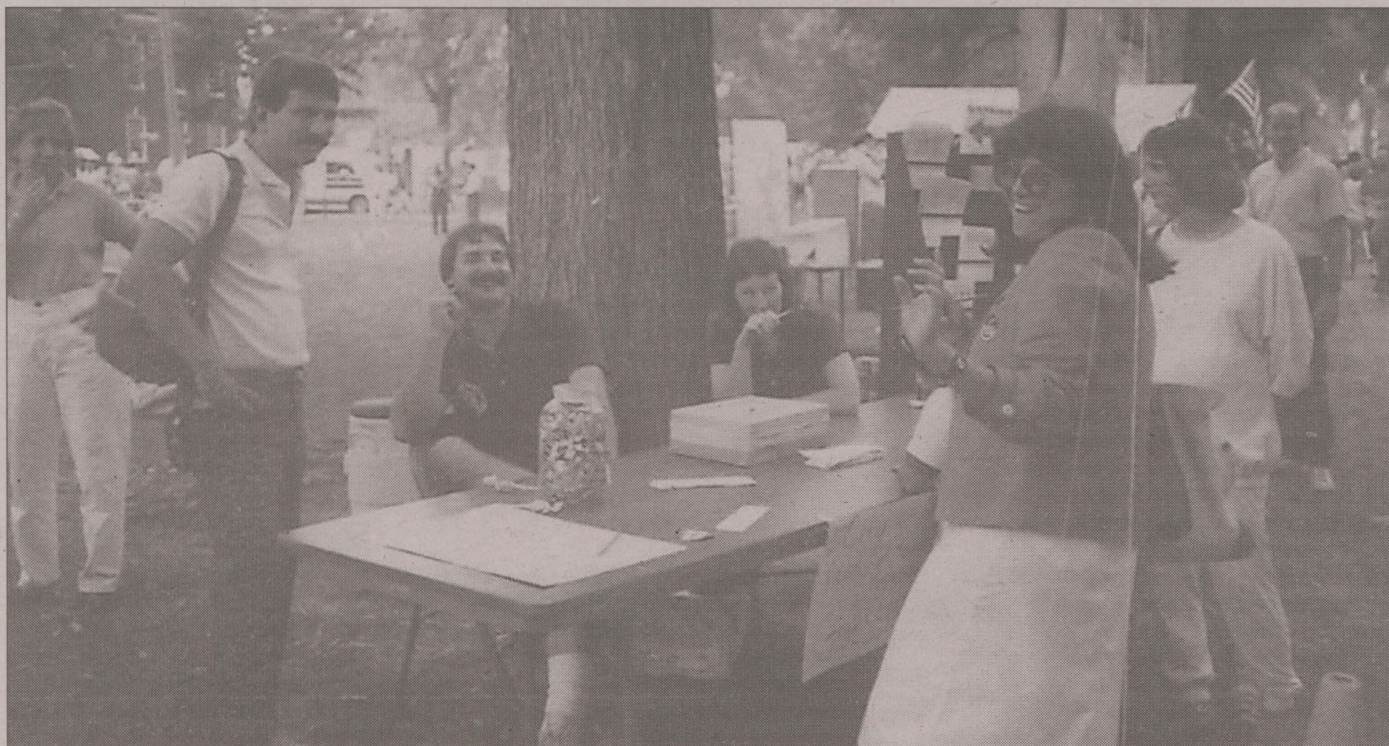
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## Out of the Attic



## Charlie Emerson

This week's Out of the Attic item is a photo of outgoing Parks and Recreation Director Charlie Emerson manning the Newark Parks and Recreation Department's booth at Community Day three decades ago.

Emerson (second from left,

seated) will retire today after 35 years working for the parks department. He joined the city of Newark in 1980 as a recreation supervisor and rose through the ranks, ultimately being appointed department director in 2000. His legacy includes the opening of two

trails, the Curtis Mill Park and the establishment of two skate spots in Newark parks.

The photo is undated, but the parks employee who submitted it believes it was taken sometime in the early 1980s.

Out of the Attic is produced in partnership with the Newark

Historical Society. The Newark History Museum, located in the old train station under the South College Avenue bridge is open by appointment December through March. Admission is free. For more info, call 302-234-4145 or visit [www.newark-dehistoricalsociety.org](http://www.newark-dehistoricalsociety.org).

## Out of the Past

*Editor's note: Volunteers at the Pencader Heritage Museum have been digitizing old Newark City Council meeting minutes. They share excerpts with Newark Post readers in a weekly column.*

April-October 1918: After the election, council members included E. Wilson, Wm. Barton, Jonathan Johnson, Eben Frazer, Daniel Thompson, T. Willis, and Robert Morrison. The board of health was comprised of Prof. Penny, Dr. Blake, L. Curtain, Robert Jones, and Orlando Strahorn.

Some citizens still weren't getting the message they had to connect to the sewer: Esther Phoebus, S. Rose, owner of six houses on Cleveland Avenue, and the Newark Trust agent for 24 Choate Street. Water demand was growing, and another 8-inch well was ordered sunk immediately at the pumping station. Interest of \$843.75 on water and sewer bonds was paid.

Delaware College was told to pave in front of the property occupied by Dr. Mitchell on Depot Road. Tax assessments on the Deer Park and Washington House were reduced from \$15,000 to \$12,000, respectively, at the request of James McKelvey.

F. Lutton and the Curtis Estate were told to lay pavement at their Choate Street properties. Out-of-state examiners said the sewer system was in bad shape and needed immediate attention.

It was unlawful to repair any automobile or motorcycle on the streets of Newark, except as needed to get to a garage. Fines ranged from \$5 to \$20. A town-owned phone to be installed at Policeman Foster's home, at Main Street and South Chapel Street. Flashlights, one each for policeman and meter reader, were purchased. Two hundred dog tags ordered. Continental-Diamond Fibre Company was to get an outside water meter installed.

See the original minutes at Pencader Heritage Museum, 2029 Sunset Lake Rd. (Rt. 72 south of Newark.) Regularly open first and third Saturdays, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Other times by appointment. Contact the website [pencaderheritage.org](http://pencaderheritage.org) or call 302-737-5792 for an appointment. Family friendly, handicapped accessible and always free.

# Blue Hen men's basketball drops seventh-straight game

By SEAN GROGAN

Special to the Post

Delaware's losing streak grew to seven games Saturday night.

The Blue Hens were handled by UNCW, 85-67, in CAA men's basketball action at the Bob Carpenter Center.

Delaware fell behind by as much as 19 in the opening half but managed to close that gap to 11, 41-30, thanks to a pull-up jump shot from sophomore point guard Kory Holden with three seconds left in the half.

Out of the intermission, the Hens appeared poised

to make an improbable comeback, scoring eight of the half's first 10 points to pull within five, 43-38.

"I thought we had a stretch there for 13 minutes — probably the last eight minutes of the first half and the first five minutes of the second half — where we played good ball," Hens' coach Monté Ross said. "I thought that 13-minute stretch, defensively we were fine, offensively, we were fine."

The Seahawks responded with an 18-1 run that brought the score to 61-39 with just over 12 minutes to play.

"We couldn't buy a bucket and they kept scoring. They were getting layups," Ross said. "A couple of times we turned it over, and they were getting run-out layups."

Delaware committed 20 turnovers that resulted in 26 UNCW points. The Seahawks scored a dozen fast-break points, compared to just two for the Blue Hens.

Beyond the turnovers, Delaware shot just 39.1 percent from the floor and made one of its eight 3-point attempts.

"We're not playing with much confidence right now, to be honest with you. Our

shooters that are usually making their shots are not stepping up and shooting it with confidence. We just got to get rolling," Holden said. "We're not shooting it well. We're not really defending, either. There's a lot of things we need to work on."

Ross feels Delaware is taking quality shots, but is just unable to knock them down.

Forward Marvin King-Davis continued to be a bright spot for the Hens (5-10, 0-4 CAA). The fifth-year senior scored a season-high 29 points and pulled down nine rebounds.

"I would say that I feel bad for him, but we've got a lot of season left," Ross said. "We'll fight through this thing and we'll be able to reward him for all the hard work that he's putting in right now. To go 8-11 from the field, 13-15 from the free-throw line, nine rebounds, in 34 minutes, I think is outstanding. I'm really proud of the way that he's worked and we just got to get some other guys on that same page."

Sophomore point guard Anthony Mosley finished with 15 points and Holden scored 13, despite missing several minutes in the first

half to be treated for a migraine.

The Seahawks (10-5, 2-2) saw four players reach double-figures and one more finish with nine points. Mark Matthews led the way with 18 points off the bench while hitting 4-5 from behind the arc.

With the loss, Delaware falls to 0-4 in CAA play for the first time since the 2006-07 season.

"We're in a funk right now. We're in a very, very serious funk," Ross said. "We have a find a way to fight our way out of this, and we will. We'll find a way to fight out of it."

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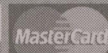
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Mary E. W. Risteau District Court  
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**Susquehanna Workforce Center** - University Center  
1201 Technology Drive, Room 107  
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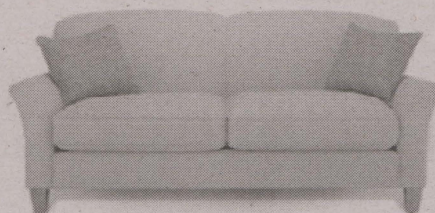
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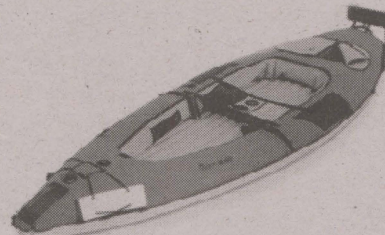
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## LEGAL NOTICES

Estate of **HAROLD G. ROTH**, Deceased.  
Notice is hereby given that **Letters Testamentary** upon the estate of **HAROLD G. ROTH**, aka **HAROLD GEORGE ROTH** who departed this life on the 28th day of October, A.D. 2015, late of 716 BENT LANE, NEWARK, DE 19711, were duly granted unto **GORDON W. ROTH**, aka **GORDON WAYNE ROTH** on December 17, 2015, and all persons indebted to the said deceased are requested to make payments to the **Personal Representative** without delay, and all persons having demands against the deceased are required to exhibit and present the same duly probated to the said **Personal Representative** on or before **June 28, 2016**, or abide by the law in this behalf.

Address  
**GORDON W. ROTH**  
**547 HEMINGWAY DRIVE**  
**HOCKESSIN, DE 19707**

**Personal Representative**  
**GORDON W. ROTH**,  
aka **GORDON WAYNE ROTH**

File #162792

np 1/1,8,15

2599873

CITY OF NEWARK  
DELAWARE  
CITY COUNCIL  
PUBLIC HEARING  
NOTICE

January 25, 2016 - 7:00 P.M.

Pursuant to Sections 402.2 of the Code of the City of Newark, Delaware, notice is hereby given of a public hearing at a regular meeting of the Council in the Council Chamber at the Municipal Building, 220 S. Main Street, Newark, Delaware, on January 25, 2016 at 7:00 p.m., at which time the Council will consider for Second Reading and Final Passage the following proposed Ordinance:

Bill 16-01 An Ordinance Amending Chapter 5, Animals, Code of the City of Newark, Delaware, By Updating the Definition of Vicious Animal and Regulations Regarding Cruelty to Animals in Accordance with State Code

Renee K. Bensley  
City Secretary

np 1/15

2603600

## LEGAL NOTICES

LEGAL NOTICE  
RE: DEADLY WEAPON

I, Anthony Steven Tracey Sr., residing at 108 Pattie Dr., Newark, DE 19702, will make application to the judges of the Superior Court of the State of Delaware in and for New Castle County at Wilmington for the next term for a license to carry a concealed deadly weapon, or weapons for the protection of my person(s), or property, or both.

Anthony Steven Tracey Sr.  
1/11/16

np 1/15 2603434

LEGAL NOTICE  
RE: DEADLY WEAPON

I, Edward Anthony Ignudo, residing at 7 Christina Court, Bear, DE 19701, will make application to the judges of the Superior Court of the State of Delaware in and for New Castle County at Wilmington for the next term for a license to carry a concealed deadly weapon, or weapons for the protection of my person(s), or property, or both.

Edward Anthony Ignudo  
1/11/16

np 1/15 2603507

LEGAL NOTICE  
RE: DEADLY WEAPON

I, Sharon Clark Alvarez, residing at 57 Leader Drive, Newark, DE 19713, will make application to the judges of the Superior Court of the State of Delaware in and for New Castle County at Wilmington for the next term for a license to carry a concealed deadly weapon, or weapons for the protection of my person(s), or property, or both.

Sharon Clark Alvarez  
1/12/16

np 1/15 2603718

LEGAL NOTICE  
RE: DEADLY WEAPON

I, Norman James Lane III, residing at 19 Robert Oakes Drive, Newark, DE 19713, will make application to the judges of the Superior Court of the State of Delaware in and for New Castle County at Wilmington for the next term for a license to carry a concealed deadly weapon, or weapons for the protection of my person(s), or property, or both.

Norman James Lane III  
1/6/16

np 1/15 2603317

LEGAL NOTICE  
RE: DEADLY WEAPON

I, Dominique Denisse Carpio, residing at 28 Celestial Way, Newark, DE 19711, will make application to the judges of the Superior Court of the State of Delaware in and for New Castle County at Wilmington for the next term for a license to carry a concealed deadly weapon, or weapons for the protection of my person(s), or property, or both.

Dominique Denisse Carpio  
1/6/16

np 1/15 2602266

LEGAL NOTICE  
RE: DEADLY WEAPON

I, Christopher John Moody, residing at 5 Berwick Court, Newark, DE 19702, will make application to the judges of the Superior Court of the State of Delaware in and for New Castle County at Wilmington for the next term for a license to carry a concealed deadly weapon, or weapons for the protection of my person(s), or property, or both.

Christopher John Moody  
1/6/16

np 1/15 2602551

LEGAL NOTICE  
RE: DEADLY WEAPON

I, Patrick John McGuire, residing at 2605 Creekside Dr., Newark, DE 19711, will make application to the judges of the Superior Court of the State of Delaware in and for New Castle County at Wilmington for the next term for a license to carry a concealed deadly weapon, or weapons for the protection of my person(s), or property, or both.

Patrick John McGuire  
1/7/16

np 1/15 2602630

LEGAL NOTICE  
RE: DEADLY WEAPON

I, Barbara Ann Burcham, residing at 1109 Oakland Court Newark, DE 19711, will make application to the judges of the Superior Court of the State of Delaware in and for New Castle County at Wilmington for the next term for a license to carry a concealed deadly weapon, or weapons for the protection of my person(s), or property, or both.

Barbara Ann Burcham  
1/11/16

np 1/15 2603377

LEGAL NOTICE  
RE: DEADLY WEAPON

I, David Edward Lucas, residing at 2 Vollmar Court, Bear, DE 19701, will make application to the judges of the Superior Court of the State of Delaware in and for New Castle County at Wilmington for the next term for a license to carry a concealed deadly weapon, or weapons for the protection of my person(s), or property, or both.

David Edward Lucas  
1/7/16

np 1/15 2602770

LEGAL NOTICE  
RE: DEADLY WEAPON

I, Sheri Lynn Canale, residing at 702 Donald Drive, Newark, DE 19713, will make application to the judges of the Superior Court of the State of Delaware in and for New Castle County at Wilmington for the next term for a license to carry a concealed deadly weapon, or weapons for the protection of my person(s), or property, or both.

Sheri Canale  
1/7/16

np 1/15 2602940

LEGAL NOTICE  
RE: DEADLY WEAPON

I, Marcus Smaller, residing at 1626 Otts Chapel Rd., Newark, DE 19702, will make application to the judges of the Superior Court of the State of Delaware in and for New Castle County at Wilmington for the next term for a license to carry a concealed deadly weapon, or weapons for the protection of my person(s), or property, or both.

Marcus Smaller  
1/8/16

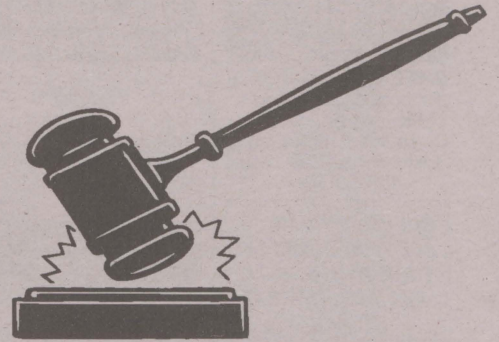
np 1/15 2603364

LEGAL NOTICE  
RE: DEADLY WEAPON

I, Peter Mitchell, residing at 816 Branch Rd., Newark, DE 19711, will make application to the judges of the Superior Court of the State of Delaware in and for New Castle County at Wilmington for the next term for a license to carry a concealed deadly weapon, or weapons for the protection of my person(s), or property, or both.

Peter Mitchell  
1/11/16

np 1/15 2603520



THE COURT OF COMMON PLEAS  
FOR THE STATE OF DELAWARE IN  
AND FOR NEW CASTLE COUNTY  
IN RE: CHANGE OF NAME OF  
**GERALD WAYNE PRICE**  
Petitioner(s)

TO  
**TYAIR NOFEAIR DORSEY**  
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that **GERALD WAYNE PRICE** intends to present a Petition to the court of Common Pleas for the State of Delaware in and for New Castle County, to change his/her name to **TYAIR NOFEAIR DORSEY**.  
**GERALD WAYNE PRICE**  
Petitioner  
Dated: 12/30/2015

np 1/8,15,22

2601181

THE COURT OF COMMON PLEAS  
FOR THE STATE OF DELAWARE IN  
AND FOR NEW CASTLE COUNTY  
IN RE: CHANGE OF NAME OF  
**JORGO REXHO**  
Petitioner(s)

TO  
**GEORGE RETZOS**  
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that **JORGO REXHO** intends to present a Petition to the court of Common Pleas for the State of Delaware in and for New Castle County, to change his/her name to **GEORGE RETZOS**.

**JORGO REXHO**  
Petitioner  
Dated: 1/7/2016

np 1/15,22,29

2602796

THE COURT OF COMMON PLEAS  
FOR THE STATE OF DELAWARE IN  
AND FOR NEW CASTLE COUNTY  
IN RE: CHANGE OF NAME OF  
**DASHAWN FRANK ISLER**  
Petitioner(s)

TO  
**DASHAWN MEDLEY**  
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that **DASHAWN FRANK ISLER** intends to present a Petition to the court of Common Pleas for the State of Delaware in and for New Castle County, to change his/her name to **DASHAWN MEDLEY**.

**DASHAWN MEDLEY**  
Petitioner  
Dated: 1/12/2016

np 1/15,22,29

2603622

THE COURT OF COMMON PLEAS  
FOR THE STATE OF DELAWARE IN  
AND FOR NEW CASTLE COUNTY  
IN RE: CHANGE OF NAME OF  
**FINLEY BAYARD SCHIAVI**  
Petitioner(s)

TO  
**FINLEY RUFUS BAYARD**  
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that **LOUISA BAYARD** intends to present a Petition to the court of Common Pleas for the State of Delaware in and for New Castle County, to change his/her minor child's name to **FINLEY RUFUS BAYARD**.

**LOUISA BAYARD**  
Petitioner  
Dated: 1/6/2016

np 1/15,22,29

2602257

THE COURT OF COMMON PLEAS  
FOR THE STATE OF DELAWARE IN  
AND FOR NEW CASTLE COUNTY  
IN RE: CHANGE OF NAME OF  
**QURON HARPER**  
Petitioner(s)

TO  
**QURON TYRELL LEE PORTER JR.**  
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that **SHERICE L. BELL** and **QURON TYRELL LEE PORTER** intend to present a Petition to the court of Common Pleas for the State of Delaware in and for New Castle County, to change his/her minor child's name to **QURON TYRELL LEE PORTER JR.**

**SHERICE L. BELL**  
**QURON TYRELL LEE PORTER**  
Petitioner  
Dated: 12/31/2015

np 1/8,15,22

2601519



## MRI

From  
Page 1

The equipment will be used by a variety of departments, including physical therapy, mechanical engineering, materials science and others. UD researchers plan to use it not just for humans but also for studies of chickens, goats and other animals.

Previously, if UD faculty members needed access to the advanced imaging technology, they had to travel out of state and pay to use another university's equipment.

Simons said the functional MRI machine UD bought is relatively new and available in only a handful of other facilities.

Because its use spans several scientific disciplines, the MRI machine will help foster collaboration between departments, Simons said.

"It brings a bunch of scholars around a technology that haven't talked to each other much," he said.

The MRI and related equipment cost approximately \$3 million, which was funded by a Unidel Foundation grant and contributions from the colleges of health sciences, engineering and arts and sciences.



NEWARK POST PHOTO BY JOSH SHANNON

A worker starts to slide the MRI machine into UD's Life Sciences Research Facility on Delaware Avenue.

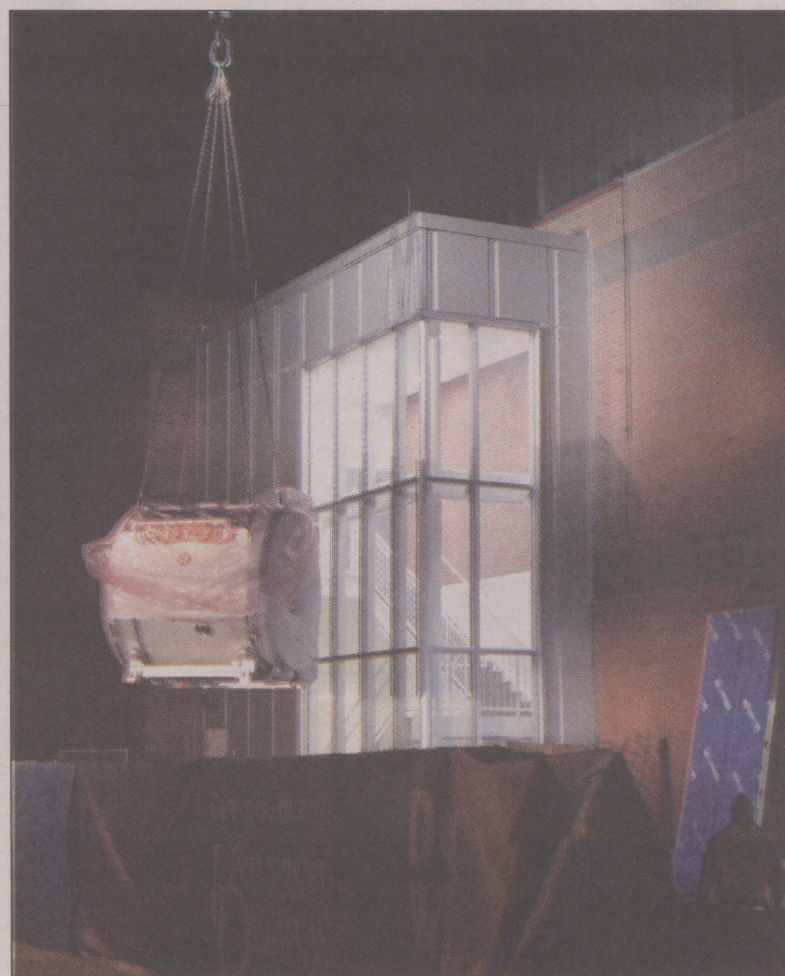
The equipment was installed in an 11,800-square-foot addition under construction at the Life Sciences Research Facility on Delaware Avenue. The addition will open in March.

Police closed Delaware Avenue for six hours early Tuesday morning to allow workers to install the massive MRI machine.

The magnet and related equip-

ment arrived on a flatbed truck, and a crew used a crane to lift it off the truck. Part of the building's wall was removed to allow workers to slide the MRI machine into place.

The initial hole was discovered to be a few inches too narrow, so workers had to cut away part of a metal beam in order to fit the machine through.



NEWARK POST PHOTO BY JOSH SHANNON

A crane unloads an MRI machine at UD's Life Sciences Research Facility on Delaware Avenue early Tuesday morning.

## BAN

From  
Page 1

leave and could face fines up to \$500 as well as one year in jail.

Newark's decision comes roughly six months after Gov. Jack Markell signed a bill to give counties and municipalities the power to prohibit the possession of ammunition, explosives and firearms in their buildings, meetings and police stations. However, concealed-carry weapons cannot be restricted.

Delaware allows the open carrying of firearms as well as licensed concealed carry, but all guns are off-limits in state courtrooms, Legislative Hall and state and federal buildings. Up until Markell signed the new legislation, guns were allowed in city buildings, but now it's up to individual municipalities to decide for themselves.

Newark's decision to prohibit open carry mirrors bans recently passed in cities across the state including Lewes, Elsmere, Newport, Dover, Townsend and Delaware City.

A few days prior to Newark's debate, seven Newark-area state legislators issued a joint letter to Mayor Polly Sierer and council members urging support for the

ban. The letter was signed by state senators Bethany Hall-Long, Karen Peterson, David Sokola and Brian Townsend and state representatives Paul Baumbach, John Kowalko and Edward Osienki.

Baumbach told council Monday he sees banning openly-carried firearms as a "common-sense step" to improving the climate in city buildings and a "reasonable limitation." He said residents who feel the measure is taking away their right to protect themselves should feel safe knowing the police department is just down the hall.

"There are fewer places with faster response time than the city of Newark municipal building," Baumbach said.

Newark first started talking about regulating guns in city hall back in January 2014 during a meeting on beefing up security with a bailiff in Alderman's Court, bulletproof glass in the police department hallway and card readers throughout the building following the 2013 shooting at the New Castle County Courthouse.

The debate prompted a few gun advocates to begin attending meetings with firearms holstered to their belts as a way to demonstrate that the city could not stop them from doing so.

Sierer has said in the past

that she is concerned with the effect firearms have on public meeting attendance, adding that some residents have told her they have felt intimidated by the presence of armed citizens in the audience during heated discussions on controversial topics.

On Monday night, several members of the public echoed that feeling.

Miranda Wilson said she's not easily intimidated, but guns in city hall make her feel uncomfortable.

"The times that I've come to the city council meetings and noticed people with open carry, I have felt an immediate sense of anxiety and an immediate sense of fear, and I don't think that fear is unreasonable," Wilson said.

"Guns do not belong in the spaces that we create for discussion, for debate and for the very difficult and vital work of democracy," she added.

Helga Huntley felt the measure was more of an issue of free speech than a violation of the Second Amendment. She said the presence of firearms during an open public forum makes it difficult to have a diverse discussion charged by differing opinions and view points.

"When someone openly carries a gun to a city council meeting, it conveys the message, 'I have a gun and

I'm willing to use it,'" she said, adding that it is "inherently threatening."

"And thus unfairly skews the dialogue," Huntley said.

Liane Sorenson, Chair of the Delaware Coalition Against Gun Violence and a retired state legislator, urged council to think about the people who are first-time visitors to Newark council meetings.

"They come and they're intimidated by just the process. Where do I sign in? Where do I park? How do I speak? Where do I sit?" she said. "If they come in, if a first-timer comes in, and when they sit down they're next to someone with a gun, then they're really intimidated and it makes the process even more scary."

Resident Gloria Knupp disagreed. She said people who carry firearms don't intimidate her at all and she feels "very safe" knowing there are people in the room who could protect her if necessary.

"In fact, I feel intimidated by this bill more than anything because I've seen what it can do," she said. "I think you're really making the wrong move."

While some residents argued it's their constitutional right to bear arms, others felt guns just aren't necessary in government buildings, suggesting those who open carry simply leave

their firearms in their cars or at home while in city hall.

"A lot of the people who are in favor of carrying weapons anywhere they want talk like the old west," said resident John Wessells. "There's absolutely no reason anybody needs to carry a gun into this building or any other building that there's a public or non-public meeting in."

Councilwoman Marge Hadden said she grew up with guns, so they don't scare her.

"People with guns will scare me," she said.

Hadden admitted she felt intimidated during the heated discussions that took place over the last few years surrounding the now-defunct data center and power plant planned for the University of Delaware STAR Campus. She said several people wore their guns while addressing council and "posed" and "posted" at the podium, which made her feel uncomfortable. Because of that, Hadden said, she sympathizes with the people who don't feel welcome at council meetings because of armed citizens and wants people to feel comfortable talking freely without fear.

Gifford questioned how the law will affect smaller meetings in restaurants and non-city owned property, such as the Downtown Newark Partnership Design

Committee that often meets in Panera Bread or other businesses, as well as larger meetings held in churches and high school auditoriums. He worried that passing the proposed version of the bill, which prohibits openly-carried firearms from non-city owned or leased buildings where city officials and members of the public are gathering for workshops, council meetings and other business, would violate property owners' rights.

He made a motion to strike non-city owned buildings from the measure and instead only restrict firearms in city-owned or leased spaces. The amendment passed unanimously.

Even after the amendment, Gifford was still hesitant to support the bill because he feels banning open carry firearms doesn't make city hall any safer.

"If that is one of our issues, this doesn't solve that," Gifford said. "Anyone in this building can still conceal a weapon if they choose to do harm."

"I feel uncomfortable taking away someone's ability to protect themselves. I don't expect that person to save me, but I think they would protect themselves if they had to," he added. "I think we have to start trusting individuals a little bit more."



# Local Girl Scouts expand online cookie sales

By JESSICA IANNETTA  
jiannetta@chespub.com

For nearly a century, getting your hands on Girl Scout cookies always involved a little luck. You had to know a Scout or hope one would knock on your door or have a booth set up outside the local supermarket.

But Girl Scout cookie sales went digital for the first time last year with a website and mobile app that generated \$10 million worth of online cookie sales nationwide. Building on last year's effort, this year's program, Digital Cookie 2.0, includes updates to the app and additional features on the website.

The Girl Scouts of the Chesapeake Bay, which represents nearly 16,000 Girl Scouts in Delaware, the Eastern Shore of Maryland and part of Virginia, sold more than 950,000 boxes of cookies last year — 11,000 through Digital Cookie — a 5 percent increase from the previous year, said Regina Dzielak, communications and marketing manager for Girl Scouts of the Chesapeake Bay.

The council will participate in the program again this year, and door-to-door and online sales started earlier this week.

"A lot of the girls are really excited about (the Digital Cookie program)," Dzielak said. "Any-

thing we can do to make the cookie program more evolved and have it stay with the times is great. With everything changing, it's important the program stay relevant for both the Girl Scouts and those who buy the cookies."

With the Digital Cookie platform, girls can take customer orders on the mobile app and then send an email invitation to the customer to order cookies online. Girls can also direct customers to a personalized website where customers can pay for the cookies online and have them shipped directly to their house, Dzielak said.

This year, the new features on the website include a goal-setting calculator, more ways to organize orders, tips on how to run a business and games, Dzielak said. The council received mostly positive feedback about the Digital Cookie program last year though some girls did have technical issues, something that should be fixed with the more streamlined Digital Cookie 2.0 program, she added.

Although most cookie orders are still done in-person and not online, Dzielak said the digital tools are about more than just increasing cookie sales. The cookie program is designed to teach girls skills such as goal setting, decision making, money manage-



NEWARK POST FILE PHOTO

Girl Scout Kylie Coleman tracks her online cookie sales through the Digital Cookie website last year.

ment, people skills and business ethics, she said.

The girls had some training on the use of the app and the website in December and Dzielak hopes more girls participate in the Digital Cookie platform this year.

Following this weekend's kickoff, cookies will be delivered the week of Feb. 6, with cookie booth sales starting in mid-February and going through mid-March. The annual National Girl Scout Cookie Weekend will also take

place Feb. 26 to 28.

Those who want to support the Girl Scouts but don't want the cookies can donate boxes of cookies to Operation Taste of Home, which delivers Girl Scout cookies to troops serving abroad.

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