

# MILL CREEK COMMUNITY NEWS

SERVING MARSHALLTON, MILLTOWN  
AND LOWER PIKE CREEK

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## Suspects linked to Pike Creek robberies

Two men arrested after a reported burglary in Edgemoor have also been linked to neighborhood burglaries in the Pike Creek area, according to New Castle County Police.

An Edgemoor homeowner called police on January 17 at about 9:30 p.m. after she returned home and heard noises in upstairs rooms. After the resident began searching the home, two men ran from the house, police said. The resident's boyfriend chased the men into the road until one of the men pointed a gun at him. The men then drove away.

Tyrone Redding, 32, of Plum Run Court and James Ross, 32 of Wilmington were arrested by Wilmington Police near 30th and Pine Streets. A search of their car found evidence linking them to the Edgemoor robbery, and also to burglaries in the Woods of Pike Creek, Autumnwood and Lindenheath, police said.

They were charged with four counts of burglary, theft, conspiracy and criminal mischief.

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## First all-boys charter school OK'd

By Antonio M. Prado  
Staff Reporter

### College prep for K-5 application also approved

It is likely that by August 2008, the first all-boys charter school in the state will be operating in the city of Wilmington.

Chances are that a college preparatory charter school for grades kindergarten through fifth grade will be in the city, too.

Applications for Prestige Academy, for boys in grades five through eight, and the Delaware College Preparatory Academy were unanimously approved by

the Red Clay Consolidated Board of Education at its January 17 meeting.

Both presentations were warmly received by school board members, who earlier had heard some dismal numbers with regard to the high school dropout rate.

The two schools would be the latest charter additions to a district that already has the Charter

School of Wilmington, Delaware Military Academy and Odyssey Charter School and the KIPP (Knowledge is Power), scheduled to open in August, 2007.

Prestige Academy's mission will be to prepare young men for college, said Jack Perry, executive director of the Prestige Academy.

"I think a clear look at

(Delaware Student Testing Program) scores indicates that boys – specifically at the middle school level –are suffering tremendously," Perry said. "Boys, on average of 30 to 40 percent, do not read, write or do math with proficiency and we cannot stand by and allow this to go on.

"So, myself along with a committee of professionals from Greater Wilmington have

See RED CLAY, page 2



Photo by Andrea Miller

Lori Johnson cleans off the dipstick during a demonstration of basic auto care in the "Ladies Start Your Engines" workshop in Mill Creek.

## Workshop revs up women's knowledge of auto repairs

By Andrea Miller  
Staff Reporter

The logistics of lifting a spare off the ground to change a tire may never occur to most men.

But when you're a 5-foot, 110-pound woman stranded alone at the side of a road, trying to hoist a 40-pound tire while aligning

the wheel studs with the holes in the tire, those kinds of concerns are very real.

Here's the trick: sit on the ground facing the exposed brake rotors and wheel studs. With the tire in front of you, legs parted and knees bent, wedge your feet under each side of the tire, and use them to leverage it off the ground. Now, with both hands free, you can

See AUTOMOTIVE, page 4

## Report: County employee salaries, benefits above average

By Andrea Miller  
Staff Reporter

New Castle County employees are compensated well when compared with other government, private and public sector workers in the region.

Their median cash compensation is 13 percent higher than comparable employees elsewhere, according to a January 22 study commissioned by subcommittee of a task force set up by county legislators and administrators as part of a broad financial evaluation of the county's financial health.

In addition, their healthcare costs are very low, ranging from .5 to under 4 percent, while comparable businesses average about 19 percent and federal employees pay about 30 percent.

Paid leave, which includes vacation days, holidays and sick leave, is comparable with other governments overall, according to the report.

However, the picture differs for new employees versus long-term employees: county employees with less than five years receive less than average in paid leave, while those with at least 15 years have a generous package. For example, in the first year, county employees get a combined 36.5 days, while state employees get 42. However, at 15 years, county employees get 51.5 days, compared to 48 for state employees and 46 for federal. By year 35, county employees get 71.5 days, to state employees' 48 and federal 46.

It was the same trend for retirement benefits: comparable to other government

See REPORT, page 7

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# County to consider changes aimed at reducing storm water runoff

By Jesse Chadderdon  
Staff Reporter

New Castle County will consider changes to its Water Management Code which could require developers to replace traditional water control measures like retention ponds with more advanced environmentally-friendly technologies.

The county is looking to update the code in response to water quality issues throughout the county, which many environmental officials blame in part on development.

“There is a relationship between impervious cover and watershed quality,” said Assistant County Engineer Michael Clar, who presented a preliminary draft of the code to the council’s Land Use Committee on January 16.

He said the impetus behind the proposed code changes were to reduce storm water runoff that leads to flooding and also to

improve county streams. The new code would require developers to study a larger area when considering storm water runoff, rather than just the adjacent properties. Clar said the new code would also force developers to prove their projects will not contribute to downstream flooding by requiring their runoff studies to include an area up to 10 times the size of the parcel being developed.

“The rule of thumb is that you have to look downstream far enough that the site you are developing accounts for 10 percent of the study area,” he said.

The proposed code would also require developers to use green technology – bioswales, filter strips and bioretention landscaping – in place of the more traditional “ponds and pipes.” It also would update grading requirements to make them consistent with the International Building Code.

The Water Management Code

would tie into other changes being considered by the county, most notably the 2007 Comprehensive Development Plan which would outline growth throughout the county over the next five years. The council has also discussed a number of changes to the Unified Development Code that could focus on affordable housing and allowing for greater density and cluster development. Clar said allowing more cluster development – with smaller lot sizes and larger public open spaces – was key to addressing storm water runoff problems.

Clar said the Department of Land Use held a number of public meetings in late 2005 and 2006 where developers conveyed concerns about the new code increasing their costs. Several attorneys and members of the development community attended Tuesday’s meeting.

Council President Paul Clark asked the Department of Land Use

to provide a cost analysis for an existing plan that details what following the proposed code would cost a developer in comparison to costs under the existing code.

Clar said his department could provide that information, but said that in many cases the installation and maintenance of green technologies can be less expensive, especially when considering the value of the viable land that is saved.

Beverly Baxter, who heads the planning advocacy group the Committee of 100, said she believes the county should hold off on adopting a new code until the state considers its own version, which it is due to adopt.

“We think the county and state codes should be married,” she said, adding that she also believes the county should not pass the new code without first deciding if it will pursue a storm water utility. Clar disagreed.

“We do not know when or if a

storm water utility will be adopted by the county, but if and when it is developed, the two could be easily integrated,” he said. “But to delay this is not a responsible way for us to act given some of our water quality problems. We think an update is needed and is needed now.”

## Green building task force on agenda

Councilwoman Stephanie McClellan (D-Newark) recommended establishing a working group to discuss adopting a Green Building Program in New Castle County. McClellan said the group would study the feasibility of adopting code changes that would encourage or in some cases require builders to incorporate energy saving technology in construction. The resolution creating the working group will be introduced at the January 23 council meeting and is slated to be voted on March 13.

## RED CLAY – from page 1

a vision for a school that will be uncompromising in terms of academic rigor, behavioral expectations and the mission to ready our kids for college preparatory programs,” he said.

Delaware College Preparatory Academy will focus on emphasizing higher education at an early age, said Nita Roberson, executive director. Roberson also hopes to find a location for her school in the city.

Perry and Roberson earned fellowships with Building Excellent Schools, based in Boston. They are completing residencies at a high performing charter school, Achievement First Crown Heights in Brooklyn.

Fellows go through a year of classroom training to

prepare to open a charter school and visit other high-performing charter schools across the nation, Roberson said.

The bar has been set too low for many of the students who are suffering and becoming part of dropout statistics and so forth, Perry said. It’s been proven that when expectations are higher for at-risk students they will respond. High expectations include rigorous academics daily and teaching students to be “young men and women of character.”

“I think the concepts and groundwork have been laid here tonight in terms of what’s needed not only in Red Clay but throughout the state of Delaware in terms of educational options for our children,” Perry said.

He was referring to a presentation given on the high school dropout rate given earlier at the meeting. In Red Clay, students at or near the poverty level dropped out of school nearly twice as much as affluent students in 2006, according to statistics provided by Dr. Jeff Lawson, director of secondary education.

In 2005, the graduation rates for Red Clay high schools were just over 60 percent for Dickinson High School, nearly 70 percent for McKean High School, just over 80 percent for Alexis I. duPont High School and 95 percent for Charter School of Wilmington and Cab Calloway School of the Arts.

Board member Gary Linarducci said he was glad to see that the charter schools believe in longer school days and longer school years.

Children from affluent families begin their schooling with a vocabulary of 20,000 words because of the number books in the house and the attention given to them by their parents, Linarducci said. In contrast, children from poor families start their schooling with a vocabulary of 5,000.

“We need these charter schools that provide the extra time that can sort of reduce this deficit that these kids start out with,” Linarducci said.

Board President Irwin J. Becnel Jr. was glad that Perry and Roberson heard Lawson’s presentation. He said they proposed programs that are aimed at getting to solve some of the problems of the district.

In other business:

## Extension sought

Conrad Schools of Science Dean Gerald Smith asked the district for an extension of the choice deadline to February 21 despite the encouraging number of children who have applied for the magnet school scheduled to open in August 2007.

“We have conducted interviews with (142) students,” Smith said. “We have asked for the extension for a couple reasons. One is that we have generated a good bit of interest within the school community and we feel that we have folks that are still interested in signing on and we have seats available.”

So, far 225 students have, including 86 at sixth grade, 32 at seventh grade, 23 at eighth grade and 83 at ninth Grade, Smith said. About 60 percent of the applicants come from Red Clay schools, but he gave no

indication of how many of these students were from the Conrad attendance zone.

But, Red Clay spokeswoman Pati Nash said there are more than 400 current Conrad sixth- and seventh-graders who will be at the school next year.

“We’re not displacing any of the current students next year,” she said. “They’re automatically in next year.”

As for ninth grade, 15 of the applicants are from Conrad, Nash said.

“That number (15) does not take into the account those folks who live in the Conrad feeder zone and have choiced out to other places or went to private or parochial school and are now coming back,” she said.

Conrad is ahead of the pace set by Cab Calloway School of the Arts when it was about to open, something that pleased school board members.

To reach out to the community, Conrad has scheduled three meetings at 1 p.m. February 10 at Conrad near Newport, 6:30 p.m. February 13 at Warner Elementary School in Wilmington and 6:30 p.m. February 20 at North Star Elementary School near Hockessin.

## Budget approved

The school board unanimously approved a final, \$156.8 million budget for the 2006-2007 school year. The final budget represents a \$3 million reduction over the preliminary budget presented in July said, Chief Financial Officer J. Brett Taylor.

Red Clay started out with a \$3.3 million carryover balance to begin this year and expected to have a \$4.1 million carryover at the end of this year, June 30, 2007, under the preliminary budget,” Taylor said. The carry-over is a financial cushion that the district relies on to pay salaries during the Summer before taxes come in October.

Because of cash flow issues during lean times and rising costs, Red Clay needed to increase its cash balance to \$8 million in order to have sufficient local funds to meet payroll obligations next year, he said.

The final budget includes \$3.9 million in reductions, he said. They include \$308,000 in positions vacated due to leaves, resignations or retirements – positions that will be reviewed on a case by case basis if the district decides to fill those positions.

Red Clay also reduced overtime and “extra pay for extra responsibilities” for teachers by \$750,000, maintenance and facilities costs by \$500,000, month-to-month contracts for services by \$750,000 and supplies and materials by \$200,000.

While Red Clay has to return \$900,000 to the state each year to help the state avoid a deficit, the state allows the district to transfer money “from other pots” to help it do so, Taylor said. Red Clay was able to transfer \$500,000 of “pens, pencils and paper money” to satisfy this obligation.

Also, Red Clay is using \$400,000 money it is allowed to take out of a federal grant to cover overhead and administrative costs for the district. And, Red clay had a \$500,000 increase in interest income.

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Photos by Andrea Miller

**Dominique Flynn (left) and her sister, Skylar, of Pike Creek exercise to the "Dance, Dance Revolution" video game at Brandywine Springs Elementary School.**

# Brandywine Springs students participate in fitness program

By Antonio M. Prado  
Staff Reporter

Brandywine Springs Elementary School kicked off its six-week fitness and nutrition program with a number of activities including bowling, playing basketball with University of Delaware and playing tag with two local mascots. Second-grader Joseph Sammons, 8, of Mill Creek, chased YoUDee, the University of Delaware’s mascot. Then, YoUDee chased Joseph and his friends, Mickey Henry, 8; Jared Jordan, 9; Jonathon Roberts, 8; Connor Gee, 7; Jacob Hudson, 8; Andrew Hudson, 6; Charles Cosner, 8; and Ryan Murphy, 5. “We were playing sort of a tag game,” Joseph said. “I like it. I also like the mascot Rocky Bullwinkle (from the Wilmington Blue Rocks). They’re awesome.”

The program encourages children to exercise regularly and eat healthy, said school nurse Rebecca King. Among the activities are an indoor walking track and the "Dance Dance Revolution" game, in which the participant has to match the steps illustrated on a TV screen. And the cafeteria staff hosted a nutrition table to inform parents on the latest about school lunches and the first grade hosted a table on “Perfectly Healthy Parfaits.”

“How do you get your kids out when it’s 30 degrees and get them running and playing?” King said. “So, we decided to really open our gym up.

“We also do ‘Food Fear Factor’ where we dare kids to eat certain kinds of food,” she said. “The kids love that.”

King, who is president of Delaware School Nurses Association, worked for 20 years in critical care cardiology and she saw many adults with heart disease. Now, she tries to help keep children healthy and keep them from becoming overweight.

“What’s happening now is that kids are more sedentary,” she said. “They’re not as active as they used to be. Computers and the technology age have really increased that. So, we want to provide kids with as many opportunities to exercise. You need to exercise an hour each day.”

Nancy Press, of Hockessin, brought her sons, Jack, 8, and Brogan, 6, and their friend, Jake Kucharski, 8.

As they were leaving, University of Delaware football player Justin Johnson walked by and high-fived Jake, whom he played basketball with.

“The kids just love that,” Press said.

Johnson, an 18-year-old freshman from Watertown, N.Y., said the January 18th event was fun.

“It’s just a good feeling helping out kids,” he said. “They’re excited seeing us.

“It’s a good workout for me playing these games,” said Johnson, a 6-foot-4, 280-pound lineman. “When I was little kid, I loved going to open gym. I grew up healthy; I always had that mindset. Let’s get them on the right track.”

Nearby in the hallway, third-grader Alex Young, 9, of Mill Creek beat everyone who challenged him in "Dance Dance Revolution" as his father, Terry, looked on. The only time Alex stopped was to give someone else a chance.

“I’ve been practicing a lot,” he said. “I try to challenge myself with harder levels and stuff. That’s how I get better and better.”

He said the night overall was “really fun.”

“It’s a good turnout,” Terry Young said. “It seems to grow every year.”

About 200 people attended the event, King said.

The event runs on Thursday nights until February 22. Children must be accompanied by adults.



**Alyssa Armstrong of Pike Creek hangs upside down on a chin-up bar.**



**Sisters Carly (left) and Jameson Volko of Greenville play badminton, one of a half-dozen activities held in the school's gym during the kick-off the school's fitness week.**

AUTOMOTIVE – from page 1

easily manage the weight while lining up tire and studs.

It may not be very ladylike, but it gets the job done, says Lori Johnson, a college-level automotive technology instructor with 20 years experience.

Johnson gives this advice and many other woman-friendly tips in her two-hour workshop, “Ladies, Start Your Engines.”

The workshop is designed to give women the knowledge they need

to handle basic repairs, talk to mechanics with confidence and avoid unnecessary repair bills. It’s aimed at new drivers, older women, and women who are recently single and relying on themselves for automotive hassles the men in their lives used to handle.

Other tire advice:

•Check tire pressure when the car is cool, because heat created while driving expands the air inside, artificially increasing tire pressure readings.

•Don’t look on the tire for recommended pressure, because it’s too generic. To find out your car’s specific requirements, check the owner’s manual. It’s often also listed in the driver’s side door.

The old “Abe Lincoln Test,” where you put a penny in the tread, to know when its time for new tires still works, but now most tires have their own “tread meters” – little strips of rubber between the treads that mark the lowest safe tread

*The workshop is designed to give women the knowledge they need to handle basic repairs, talk to mechanics with confidence and avoid unnecessary repair bills.*

thickness.

Johnson says she used to offer the workshop to both men and women, but she noticed that often, women were hesitant to ask questions in front of the men. That could be because they lacked basic knowledge, and therefore confidence, she says. Or, it could be that they had gender-specific concerns,

and were afraid to voice them in mixed company.

The latest Ladies Start Your Engines was held January 20 at Everest AutoWorks and AutoSpa on Kirkwood Highway in Newark, and was free to those who signed up, thanks to a partnership with Greenville Financial Services Financial Advisor Carol Arnott.

“As a woman whose financial planning practice focuses on the needs of women, offering this is simply an extension of my commitment to educating and empowering women to make smart decisions,” Arnott says.

The January 20 session, the first Arnott has sponsored, was attended by 10 women mostly in their 50’s. There is another scheduled for early February, and Arnott is already planning others. She also hopes to expand workshop topics in the future to include plumbing, electric and other common household repairs.

Several of the women who came Saturday said they learned things they didn’t expect.

Shari Rizzo of Newark said at 5 foot , 1 inch”, she never imagined she could change a tire, because she thought the lugs would be too tight to get off. She had come to learn more about batteries.

Johnson had each woman prove they could leverage their body weight by stepping on the tire iron to loosen even the most stubborn factory-tightened lugs.

“I was surprised I really could unscrew them alone,” Rizzo said.

Wherever possible, Johnson makes the lessons hands-on. She passes around brake pads and rotors, have the women open fluid caps to look inside, turn on the engine and discuss what warning signs to listen for.

The more you can do to make the lessons hands-on, the more you can demystify what’s under the hood, Johnson says, and that’s a good thing.

Henrietta Fones of

WORKSHOP SCHEDULE

A free session of Ladies, Start Your Engines will be held at Everest AutoWorks and AutoSpa on Kirkwood Highway in Newark, courtesy of Greenville Financial Services Financial Advisor Carol Arnott.

Sign up early for the Thursday, February 8th workshop, which starts at 6:30 p.m., because space is limited and pre-registration is required.

For more information, contact **Carol Arnott** at 302-658-9260, email to [carlott@GreenvilleFinancial.com](mailto:carlott@GreenvilleFinancial.com), or log on to their website, [www.LadiesStartYourEngines.net](http://www.LadiesStartYourEngines.net)

Wilmington agrees.

“I always take my car in for regular maintenance,” Fones says. “I know they say you should ask to see the parts, but you never know what to look for. Now I’ve seen uneven wear on a brake pad for myself, and I can ask more intelligent questions.”

Even women who are not auto-phobic said they got a lot out of the session.

Sheriden Black, an attorney who lives in Chadds Ford, says she grew up tinkering under the hood with her father. But a review always helps, and you may find good advice about something you never thought to ask before, she says.

Many of the women at the workshop said they wanted to be better informed so they wouldn’t be taken for a ride by their mechanics.

It’s true, Johnson said, scams do occasionally happen. For example, the old “top-off your oil” farce, where a full service gas station worker would check the level knowing that with the engine running, most of the oil would be taken up in the engine and would likely read low. Then they would pretend to put more in with an empty quart, and charge you for nothing.

However, there are many recommendations mechanics make that are useful, but the right answer is often car specific, Johnson says, so if you’ve got a question, visit her blog and ask it ([www.LadiesStartYourEngines.org](http://www.LadiesStartYourEngines.org)).



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# Robot, for competition, in designing phase

*The Community News recently reported on a group of high school students who are participating in a project to build a robot to compete in the For Inspiration and Recognition of Science and Technology Robotics Competition. The newspaper is following their progress. Following is another report.*

By Kevin Barrett  
Staff Reporter

Four times a week, a team of more than 30 high school students, along with their adult mentors, meet at DuPont's Barley Mill site to design and build a robot that will be used to compete against other robots. The team building the robot is called MOE, which stands for Miracle of Engineering. MOE is one of 1,300 teams from every state in the U.S and several foreign countries that are participating in the FIRST (For Inspiration and Recognition of Science and Technology) Robotics Competition. Every year since 1992, FIRST creates a game – which is different every year – and the participating teams have to design and build robots that can play the game. The three teams responsible for the creation of the robot – the electrical team, the mechanical team, and the programming team - are still in the design process. On the mechanical side, David DeGennaro, 17, of Hockessin, a junior at the Charter School of Wilmington, has been working on designing the robot's lifting arm. In particular, he said, he is working on supporting the arm so that it doesn't wobble. The lifting arm's design, he said, is based largely on a design that was used on a MOE robot from a couple of years ago. Alex Beattie, 16, of Hockessin, a sophomore at Sanford and a member of the electrical team, has been working to design a method to control the different functions of the

robot. Beattie said the team is working to make the design similar to last year's, but it will have to be different to an extent simply because of the different functions of the two robots. Byron Pierce, 17, of Greenville, a junior at Charter, is a member of the team that is working on programming the robot. One of the things the team has been working on is the programming needed for the robot to operate autonomously, meaning that it is not controlled by humans, and must be programmed to react to lights using sensors in the build of the robot. The first 15 seconds of the game are autonomous. Pierce said he has been working on joystick control of the camera – which will react to the lights – so that its tilt can be manually changed. "Things are going smoothly," Pierce said. There is also a fourth MOE team that is responsible for updating and maintaining the MOE website. Rai Hannaford, 17, of Newark, a junior at the Cab Calloway School for the Arts, is the member of the team who is responsible for working on a weekly newsletter, MOEmentum, a resource for first-year FIRST teams. The newsletter, she said, follows the build season chronologically so that new teams know where they should be in terms of the robot design and build. Jonathan Damian, 16, of Newark, a junior at Howard High School of Technology, also a member of the team that maintains the website, manages the website's calendar and works on making files containing the information learned in MOE University – a series of courses about engineering, programming, and robot design – available on the website. He will also start taking pictures of various MOE events, he said. Jordan Chambers, 15, of Wilmington a sophomore at

Delaware Military Academy, is the administrator of the website's forums – the ones that are for the public and the private forums for MOE team members. He is also responsible for updating news of recent MOE events and updating pictures that go on the website. MOE can be found on the web at [www.moe365.org](http://www.moe365.org).

## UPDATE



MOE team members Josh Roarty (left) and Jesse Taylor work on the MOE robot's arm that will be used to grab inner tubes in the contest.

Photo by Kevin Barrett

### New Castle County Department of Land Use - [WWW.NCCDELU.ORG](http://WWW.NCCDELU.ORG)

Below you will find information on matters being considered by the NCC Land Use Department and its public boards. Plans are available for public review at the New Castle County Government Center, Mon - Fri from 8:00 A.M. to 4:00 p.m.. Call 395-5400 or Email Us: [Landuse@nccde.org](mailto:Landuse@nccde.org)  
We encourage you to double check the advertised day and date for these agendas.  
Be sure you do not miss any meeting in which you are interested.

#### NEW CASTLE COUNTY'S CHANGE IN HOURS OF OPERATION

Beginning Monday, February 5th, 2007 the New Castle County Government Center building will be open from 8:00 A.M. until 4:00 P.M. Monday through Friday. This change will be reflected in the hours of operation for the Department of Land Use.

#### Exploratory plans under review

##### Council District 3

\*S side of Brackenville Rd, 650 ft W of Mill Creek Rd. Minor Land Development Plan to subdivide Tax Parcel #08-013.30-078 to create a new lot. 1737 Brackenville Road. NC21 Zoning. (App.# 2007-0032-S)

##### Council District 7

\*N side of Rt 40, 800 ft E of Walther Rd. Resubdivision Plan to revise parking lot, delete phase lines and revise notes. Governors Square II. CR Zoning. (App.#2007-0033-S)

##### Council District 9

\*SW corner of Maple Av and Washington Av, 125 ft N of Newport Gap Pike. Minor Land Development Plan to subdivide a 0.32 acre lot into (2) lots. Maple Avenue-The Cedars. NC 5 Zoning. (App.#2007-0034-S)

#### Board of Adjustment

Thurs. Feb 8TH/NCC Gov Ctr 6 PM

##### Council District 1

\*1520 E Ayre St. Wilm: Area variances from req'd 3 ft side yard and rear yard setbacks to maintain a shed 0 ft from the west property line and 0 ft from the south property line; from req'd 6 ft side yard setback to maintain a wood deck 0 ft from the east property line; from req'd 3 ft side yard setback to maintain a shed 0 ft from the east property line; from req'd 6 ft side yard setback to maintain a carport addition 0 ft from the west property line; from req'd 25 ft rear yard setback to maintain a deck 12 ft from the south property line. Frances & Norman Ferguson. NCsd zoning. (App.#2006-1239-A) TP# 07-047.20-414.

##### Council District 2

\*3216 Naamans Rd. Wilm: Area variances from req'd 25 ft paving setback to provide 0 adjacent to Perry Place right-of-way; from req'd 0.4 opacity to provide 0 adjacent to Naamans Rd right-of-way; from the requirement of nine(9) replacement trees to provide zero (0) trees for the removal of a 37 ft specimen tree. Farzad Rostami. CR zoning. (App.#2007-0038-A) TP# 06-020.00-002

##### Council District 6

\*831 S DuPont Highway, New Castle: Area variances from req'd 20 ft side yard setback to maintain a pole barn/warehouse 18.4 ft from the north property line; from the maximum 20% impervious cover limit to retain 50% impervious coverage within a Class C Wellhead Water Resource Protection Area. Tri Properties, LLC. CR zoning. (App.#2006-1061-A) TP# 10-045.30-004.

##### Council District 8

\*26 Burns Rd Claymont: Area variance from req'd 6 ft side yard setback to construct a garage 3.7 ft from the northwest property line. Gene K. Hildebrand. NC6.5 zoning. (App.#2007-0006-A) TP# 06-058.00-025.

##### Council District 9

\*25 Coach Hill Cr. Newark: Area variances from req'd 25 ft street yard setback to maintain a deck with steps 0 ft from the Coach Hill Court right-of-way; from req'd 6 ft side yard setback to maintain a deck 0 ft from the west property line. Bharat C. & Avani B. Shah. NC6.5 zoning. (App.#2007-0010-A) TP# 08-048.20-163.

\*2401 Tapley Ln. Wilm: Area variance from req'd 30 ft street yard setback to construct a garage addition 25 ft from the Pickwick Drive right-of-way. George Williamson. NC6.5 zoning. (App.#2006-1086-A) TP# 08-044.10-080.

##### Council District 10

\*120 Donhaven Dr. New Castle: Area variance from req'd 25 ft street yard setback to construct a covered porch 14 ft from the Donhaven Dr right-of-way. Carla Angella Perez. NC6.5 zoning. (App.#2006-1020-A) TP# 10-010.30-220.

\*927 East Hazeldell Av. New Castle: Area variance from req'd 25 ft street yard setback to construct a handicap ramp 3.8 ft from the Hazeldell Av right-of-way. Claire McDonough. NC5 zoning.

(App.#2007-0009-A) TP# 10-010.30-101.

##### Council District 11

\*503 Blackstone Rd. Newark: Area variance from req'd 25 ft street yard setback to maintain a porch 21.3 ft from the Blackstone Rd right-of-way. Lawrence A. Pritchard. NC6.5 zoning. (App.#2007-0008-A) TP# 09-023.10-178.

\*0 Gender Rd. Newark: Area variances from the 100% protection level of the riparian buffer area to construct a 10,935 sq ft building for a light industrial use which will disturb 100% of the protected area; from req'd minimum opacity of 0.6 to allow an opacity of 0.5 adjacent to the rear, northerly property line. 200, LLC. I zoning. (App.#2006-0960-A) TP# 09-033.00-037.

##### Council District 12

\*5 Deborah Av. NC: Area variance from req'd 30 ft street yard setback to maintain a dwelling with open porch 28.2 ft from the Deborah Av. right-of-way; from req'd 6 ft side yard setback to maintain a dwelling 5 ft from the north property line. James S. & Geraldine Dixon. NC6.5 zoning. (App.#2007-0007-A)TP# 10-015.30-096.

\*123 Rodney Dr. NC: Area variance from req'd 15 ft rear yard setback to construct a sunroom addition 9.7 ft from the north property line. Robert T. & Judith A. Dantzier. NC5 zoning. (App.#2006-1237-A) TP# 10-015.40-182.

\*1441 South DuPont Highway, NC: Special Use to allow a mulching business which is an Agricultural Use on property zoned Suburban. State of Delaware. S zoning. (App.#2007-0031-A) TP# 12-020.00-003.

#### Planning Board

Tues. Feb 6th/City-Cty Building 7 PM

##### Council District 7

\*E of Walther Rd and Calvarese Dr. N of Carvel Ln, and connecting to Calvarese Farms via Minnies Lane. Major Land Development Exploratory Plan Review. Exploratory plan for Whittington Woods proposes an open space subdivision option 1 development with 86 residential lots on 88.70 acres with 47.22 acres (53%) in private open space. S (Suburban) zoning district. (App.#2006-0705-S.)

##### Council District 12

\*N side Port Penn Rd at Pole Bridge Rd. Major Land Development Preliminary Plan and TAC Review. Preliminary plan for Warren Tract proposes an open space subdivision option 1 development with 126 residential lots on 118 acres with 59.38 acres (50%) in private open space. S (Suburban) zoning district. (App.#2005-0353-S.)

\*E of McCoy Rd. S of Wrangle Hill Rd and W of SR 1. Major Land Development Preliminary Plan and TAC Review. Preliminary plan for Sunset Meadows II proposes an open space subdivision option 1 residential development on 18.58 acres to create eight building lots and a 9,999 sq ft clubhouse with pool in the private open space. S (Suburban). (App.#2006-1112-S.)

#### Text Amendments

\*To Revise Chapter 40 of the New Castle County Code (also known as the Unified Development Code-- "UDC") Article 3 ("Use Regulations") and Article 33 ("Definitions") Regarding Accessory Dwelling Units (ADU's). Ord. 07-001 is a text amendment that will permit ADU's to be added to or created within existing single family homes. County Council sponsor Penrose Hollins. (App.#2007-0014-T.)

#### 2007 Comprehensive Development Plan

Comments on the Draft Comprehensive Development Plan (006-140) are now being accepted by the Land Use Department. Deadline for submissions of comments for consideration by the Department and The Planning Board is Jan 31st.

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PEOPLE MAKING A DIFFERENCE

# Five local heroes nominated for Volvo for Life Awards

By Andrea Miller  
Staff Reporter


Could your hero be someone who works tirelessly to help ex-convicts reenter the workforce and society, or a mother of five who helps others get access to innovative educational and therapy opportunities for children with autism?

Could it be a man who recovered from a serious automobile accident with the help of dedicated hospital volunteers and returned to help others the same way, or a woman who makes sure special education students succeed in college prep classes? Maybe it could be a grandparent who helps keep children out of foster care by creating a support network for relative caregivers to provide coaching, information and support.

Eileen Coleman, Beth Thomas, Fay Whittle and Peter McCarthy, all of Newark, and Claymont resident Nina McGonegal are five such ordinary residents doing extraordinary things.

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## Public asked to help choose which one will win cash, new car

They are this year's Delaware nominees for the 5th Volvo for Life Awards, the automobile company's annual national celebration of local heroes. The nomination alone is already recognition for their work, award organizers say, yet 10 of the 250 entries nationwide will receive extra praise at a gala event in New York City on April 4.

Three will receive a \$50,000 charitable contribution, six will win \$25,000, and one Grand Prize winner will get a new Volvo every three years for the rest of his or her life.

Award organizers at Volvo hope the public will show their support by voting for their favorite local heroes before online voting closes February 4.

At the conclusion of the public vote, the top three contestants in three categories -- safety, quality of life and environment -- will

be judged by a panel of celebrities including Hank Aaron, Sen. Bill Bradley, Caroline Kennedy, Maya Lin, Paul Newman, Dr. Sally Ride, Val Kilmer, Eunice Kennedy Shriver, as well as previous Volvo for Life winners.

"All of these heroes demonstrate incredible conscience, care and character. Having the public help us select the winning heroes is a truly exciting and democratic addition to this year's program," said Anne Belec, president and chief executive officer of Volvo's North America division.

There have been more than 15,000 hero nominations in the five years of Volvo's program.

## THE LOCAL WINNERS:

### Eileen Coleman

Eileen Coleman, Newark mother of five -- including two teenage sons with autism -- works to improve chances for children with autism to overcome or mitigate its symptoms with innovative education and dietary approaches.

Coleman, 42, started Heal Autism Now Delaware (HAND Foundation), a nonprofit group that supports parents of autistic children who want to find the best educational and diet fit for their children's needs.

When her sons were young, the conventional wisdom for autism focused mainly on modifying problem behaviors. But her own experience led her to believe that there are underlying causes of autism that can be effectively addressed, and that's what she set out to do with her own sons.

Her approach, which focuses on continual acceptance of a child's challenging behaviors and waiting for teachable moments, is labor intensive, but it works she says. Although the children require continuous one-on-one intervention, the long-term payoff is worth it, when instead of long-term institutionalized care, that child grows into an independent adult, she says.

"When parents provide opportunities for children to overcome their disabilities, they reach a fuller potential than anyone might imagine," she said. Her elder son, who was

**VOLVO FOR LIFE**

Beth Thomas, Fay Whittle, Eileen Coleman, Nina McGonegal and Peter McCarthy are this year's Delaware nominees for the Volvo for Life Awards.

To vote for your favorite local hero, visit [www.volvoforlifeawards.com](http://www.volvoforlifeawards.com) before February 4.

Winners will be announced at a gala New York City event on April 4.

once categorized as severely autistic has moved into a mainstream classroom and she fully expects him to live an independent adult life.

Beyond advocating for her own children, Coleman advocates for laws and policies that improve the lives of children with Autism, co-ordinates conferences to educate the public, and has begun working on starting a charter school program for students with Autism.

For more information about the HAND Foundation, visit [www.hand-delaware.org](http://www.hand-delaware.org).

### Peter McCarthy

Newark resident Peter McCarthy, 68, has been a dedicated volunteer at A. I. Du Pont Hospital for Children and Christiana Hospital. He is known for his kindness, gentle sense of humor and his extraordinary ability to engage the patients, many of whom require extensive hospitalizations and advanced treatments.

Fifteen years ago, McCarthy went through an excruciating rehabilitation after a car accident that left him with a rod in his leg and months of intensive therapy. He moved from wheelchair to walker to walking with a cane, and finally returned to the University of Delaware to teach conducting and finish his career, though in the beginning, the chances of returning to a normal life seemed slim.

Looking back, what got him through the tough times was the support of dedicated hospital volunteers, he said, so when he retired, he decided to give back as a hospital volunteer.

A Volvo press release said children love McCarthy because his humor and good will shine through every action, whether transporting a patient in a wheelchair or helping a child in the therapy pool. Hospital staff also love him because his presence makes people --

especially those at the beginning of a long treatment -- feel hope, encouragement, and a belief that they have a chance for full recovery.

### Nina McGonegal

Claymont resident Nina McGonegal, 59, has dedicated herself to helping the grandparents who raise a family member's children.

In 2003, McGonegal formed GrandParents United DE, Inc., a nonprofit grassroots organization of relative caregivers that seeks to educate, direct, guide and support any grandparent or relative who cares for a child and by doing so, keeps them out of foster care. Last year, the group added a statewide hotline.

Raising her two grandchildren alone, McGonegal said she has experienced firsthand the need for a support network for the often emotionally-charged and difficult task of raising a relative's children. She also felt the challenge of navigating through a legal system that often gives an absent parent more rights than the grandparent or other relative raising a child.

It's a steep learning curve when you have to figure all that out alone, she said, so she figured she'd bring people together to pool expertise and support.

The calls come at odd times and often in the middle of her busy life, but knowing she's helping bring relief and direction to someone who's helping a child makes it worth it, she said.

For more information about Grandparents United, visit [www.grandparents-unitedde.org](http://www.grandparents-unitedde.org).

### Elizabeth Thomas

Newark Resident Elizabeth Thomas works to make sure that at-risk high school students who have taken the initiative to enroll in college preparatory classes have every chance to succeed.

Thomas, 49, calls the mentoring program for special education students "Mentoring on Megavitamins." Last year, 10 out of 12 of her students passed major subjects, bringing them one step closer to graduating and, for some, continuing on toward college. Many of these students will become the first in their families to earn a degree, making their success all the more poignant.

The program has be-

come a real portal to success after many have struggled with learning disabilities, past school problems, and low self-esteem, those who know Thomas say. Through individual and small group tutoring, consultation with teachers, increased family involvement and communication, the program brings important support systems in a teen's life together.

Although Thomas doesn't view her commitment to at-risk students as newsworthy, others call her a quiet hero worthy of recognition because she continues to work year after year with children who have become accustomed to nothing but failure in school. That she reaches them as few others can gives testament to her talent and the strength of character, they say.

### Fay Whittle

Newark resident Fay Whittle has been a dedicated prison ministry volunteer for almost three decades, helping society's forgotten to regain a place in the community with dignity, honor and hope.

Whittle, 78, created Prison Ministries of Delaware, a nonprofit group that provides emergency services to crime victims, ex-offenders and their families.

Those who know Whittle say she provides hope and a way out of misery for many of society's outcasts, and her concern has no prejudice: she works equally with prison inmates, ex-offenders and crime victims. For example, while successfully lobbying the Delaware Legislature to fund a Chapel and Multipurpose Building at Delaware's Women's Prison last year, she also raised money for victims of crime.

They say her heart and home is always open to help those most in need. From Christmas gift for prisoners' children to advocating in court for prisoners and their families, to finding housing and jobs for ex-offenders, Whittle organizes a corps of volunteers to support, counsel and provide material needs to those who are trying to turn their lives around.

Her efforts have helped reduce recidivism among ex-offenders, giving them hope that they can make it out of the penal system and back into productive roles in society.

For more information about Delaware's Prison Ministries, visit [prisonministriesde@peoplepc.com](mailto:prisonministriesde@peoplepc.com)

# Coons proposes salary freeze for appointees

By Jesse Chadderdon  
Staff Reporter

New Castle County Executive Chris Coons is seeking to impose a salary freeze for executive appointees, a step he said would save the about \$250,000 as the county braces for a difficult financial future.

The freeze, which must be approved by county council, would apply to 55 county employees, all of whom are executive appointees and support staff and are not union members. Coons met with employees who would be affected by the freeze on Friday afternoon to inform them of his intentions.

The proposal is the latest in a series of cost-cutting measures by the administration faced with the prospects of a \$45 million operating deficit in 2009.

In the Fall, Coons implemented a hiring freeze for all departments except public safety and slashed the 2007 operating budget by 10 percent, largely by eliminating overtime. Officials expect those cuts to offset a \$10 million decline in expected revenue from real estate transfer tax because of a slowing real estate market.

"New Castle County continues to face a difficult financial future," said

Coons. "Declining real estate transfer tax revenue led us to impose a hiring freeze and cut overtime and all non-salary areas of our current budget. Freezing the salaries of appointed employees further cuts our costs without cutting programs or direct services for residents."

Coons' proposal comes just days before a report is due reviewing the county's salary and benefit structure for all of its 1,556 employees, 85 percent of whom are represented by labor unions. That study will compare New Castle County's compensation packages with like employees in other municipalities, and could lead to structural changes in employee pay scales when future labor deals are negotiated. This year, county employees are due a 3.1 percent cost of living increase, while employees in their first 10 years of service are also due a 5 percent merit increase, assuming they meet performance standards.

"This is not a step taken lightly. However, we must make sacrifices as we work to change the financial path for our county," Coons said. "I look forward to working together with council as we make tough choices about spending and revenues that protect our financial future while putting the needs of residents first."

## REPORT – from page 1

groups, however, new employees are lower than average, while experienced employees are better.

Reviewing compensation was one of several recommendations made by a financial task whose goal is to eventually provide recommendations about how the county can avoid a projected \$45 million budget deficit in 2009. The forecast is a result of an expected decline in real estate transfer tax – the county's top revenue source – at a time when employee costs – which account for 74 percent of the operating budget – are expected to rise by more than 6 percent.

The compensation subcommittee task force report was unveiled days after New Castle County Executive Chris Coons announced he would seek salary freeze for his 55 executive appointees, in a cost-cutting effort to reduce the deficit. Last Fall, he implemented a hiring freeze for all departments except public safety and slashed the 2007 operating budget by 10 percent, largely by eliminating overtime. Officials expect those cuts to offset a \$10 million decline in expected revenue from the real estate transfer tax because of a slowing real estate market.

Employee costs grew nearly 9 percent in the last decade, largely because of healthcare costs and a raise on the cap on merit-based pay increases, which allowed nearly all 1,600 employees to receive both a 5 percent merit

increase in addition to their regular 3.1 percent cost of living increase in 2002 and 2003.

The Maryland-based consulting firm Kennedy and Rand conducted the analysis, which was based on actual salaries and benefits of 60 county positions. Each position was matched as closely as possible to comparable positions within commuting distance, as well as in the Maryland /Washington D.C. area, where salaries are similar, though the cost of living is higher.

The results of the "Review of the Current Compensation and Benefit Structure for Employees of New Castle County" were presented at a task force meeting on January 22, with more than 40 in attendance. Future meetings will begin to explore the implications of the results.

Some employees who attended the meeting voiced skepticism, saying the comparisons didn't account for hidden private sector benefits like stock options. Others said it was impossible to match county jobs to private sector and nonprofit positions, and that the study didn't account for their unpaid overtime.

Consultants with Kennedy and Rand acknowledged that no study is perfect, and trying to collect the most relevant data within the two-month timeframe allotted was challenging. However, they said the analyses were performed multiple ways, using actual salaries rather than hypothetical pay grades, and reported using the most stable indicator – the median.

*The full report is expected to be available online at [nccde.org](http://nccde.org) within days.*

## Scouting News

### Local scouts received scholarships

Two local Boy Scouts received scholarships from the Del-Mar-Va Council of Boy Scouts.

Robert Patrick McGurk, a graduate of the Salesianum School, and James Matthew Russell IV, a graduate of the Charter School of Wilmington, were among the 11 people from the three-state council that received scholarships, funded through a grant from Delmarva Power.

McGurk, 18, is a student at the University of Delaware majoring in civil engineering. He received a \$1,000 scholarship.

Russell, 23, is attending his final semester at Wilmington College, where he studying education. He received a \$1,250 scholarship.



Robert McGurk



Matt Russell

"The council is proud to be able to offer this scholarship assistance to Bob and Matt," said Scout Executive Patrick Sterrett. "Their work with younger scouts and their dedication to the program makes a difference in the lives of others."

Delmarva funded the scholarships through the Delmarva Scholarship Golf Classic, which also benefits the Girl Scouts of the Chesapeake Council, Kingswood Community Center's Brenda E. Benson-Atkins Scholarship, Delaware State University and the University of Maryland, Eastern Shore.

### New club for young writers

A new 4-H club focusing on aspiring writers is seeking members.

The Young Authors Club, open to existing 4-H Club members and new members, will focus on strengthening creative writing skills, learning new techniques and forming new ideas. The club, which will be youth-led, will meet at libraries throughout New Castle County.

There are 4-H clubs

for children ages 5 to 19-year-old teens. For information on the Young Authors Club or other 4-

H clubs, call Katie Daly at 831-8965 or e-mail [kdaly@udel.edu](mailto:kdaly@udel.edu).

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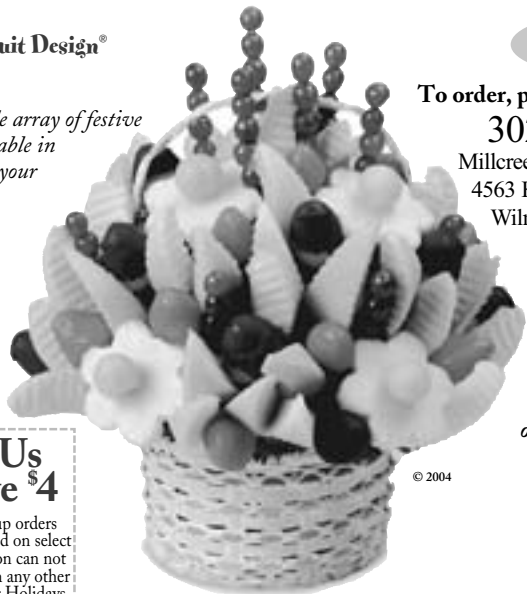
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# Business

By Jason R. Brimmer

## DuPont pledges \$1 million to King memorial

**The DuPont Company** will donate \$1 million toward the development of a national memorial in Washington, D.C. to commemorate the life and work of civil rights leader Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.

DuPont Chairman and Chief Executive Officer Charles O. Holliday Jr. announced the donation during the January 15 celebration of Martin Luther King Jr. Day in Wilmington.

“The memorial will honor not only a great man, but also the values he lived by,” Holliday said. “This contribution is another step in our long tradition of supporting commemorations that honor Dr. King.”

The company was represented on the federal commission that created the first national Martin Luther King Jr. holiday in 1986.

The Martin Luther King Jr. National Memorial Project Foundation hopes to raise \$100 million to build the memorial, authorized by Congress in 1996.

For information on the memorial project, visit [www.mlkmemorial.org](http://www.mlkmemorial.org).

## Signature Construction wins Big 50 award

New Castle-based **Signature Construction** won a Big 50 Award from Remodeling Magazine.

The award is given to 50 companies each year that have set the standard for professionalism and integrity through smart marketing, exemplary business practices, unique design and extraordinary impact in their community or the industry at large.

The company, which does work in the Greenville and Chadds Ford, Pa., areas, was founded in 1999 by Dan and Eric Holloway. The general manager is Mark Benzel.

## Four join Lyons Companies

Four new employees have joined The Lyons Companies, a Wilmington-based risk management and insurance company.

**Margaret R. Poole** joined the company as a senior account executive. She has 20 years of experience and has worked for regional and national brokerage firms in the greater Philadelphia area. She earned a bachelor’s degree in marketing from Pennsylvania State University and is a member of the National Association of Insurance Women.

**Matthew Forest** joined the company as a loss control consultant. He earned a bachelor’s degree from West Chester University and a master’s degree from Shippensburg University.

**John Shelar** joined the company as an assistant account manager.

**Lewis Harrington III** joined the company as an account executive in its commercial insurance division. He attended Wilmington College.



**Margaret Poole**



**Matthew Forest**



**John Shelar**



**Lewis Harrington**

## Aloysius Butler & Clark wins website award

Wilmington-based marketing communications company **Aloysius Butler & Clark** received a W3 Award in the 10th annual Webby Award Competition.

The contest includes more than 2,300 entries from firms and agencies worldwide.

AB&C received a Silver Award in the Marketing category for its company website.

## Morris, Nichols partners named to top 3,000

Three partners in Wilmington law firm Morris, Nichols, Arsht & Tunnell have been named to Lawdragon 3000 Leading Lawyers in America, a list of the top U.S. lawyers ranked by clients and peers.

**Walter C. Tuthill, Michael Houghton** and **Julia Heaney** were named to the list. Tuthill and Houghton are members of the firm’s Commercial Law Counseling Group and head its unclaimed property practice. Tuthill is also listed in the Chambers USA Guide to America’s Leading Lawyers for Business. Houghton is vice president of the National Conference of Commissioners on Uniform State Laws.

Heaney is member of the firm’s Intellectual Property Litigation Group.

## Yasik earns insurance counseling certification

**John S. Yasik**, president of Poland & Sullivan Insurance, has earned the Certified Insurance Counselor professional designation.

To earn the CIC designation, Yasik had to demonstrate professional competence through written examinations focusing on major fields of insurance, agency operations and insurance management.

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Upper Pike Creek Rd to Pike Creek (the creek itself)  
To CSX RR to Limestone Rd.

### Some of the Developments In Midway's Territory

Autumnwood	Hockessin Greene	The Pines
Belle Terre	Hockessin Hunt	Rutter's Ridge
Carousel Knoll	Hockessin Valley Falls	Skyline Ridge
Chestnut Valley	Jarrell Farms	Southwood
Crossan Pointe	Lambeth Riding	Stenning Woods
DelPark Manor	Linden Hill Village	Stoneridge
Eastburn Acres	Limestone Hills West	Vallebrook
Green Valley	Manley	Village of Lindell
Heritage Park	Meadowdale	Westwoods
Hills of Skyline	Meadowood	Woodmill
Hockessin Chase	North Star	

### Information about Midway Little League

5-7 year olds play T-Ball

7-8 year olds play 'coaches pitch'

8-16 year olds play baseball

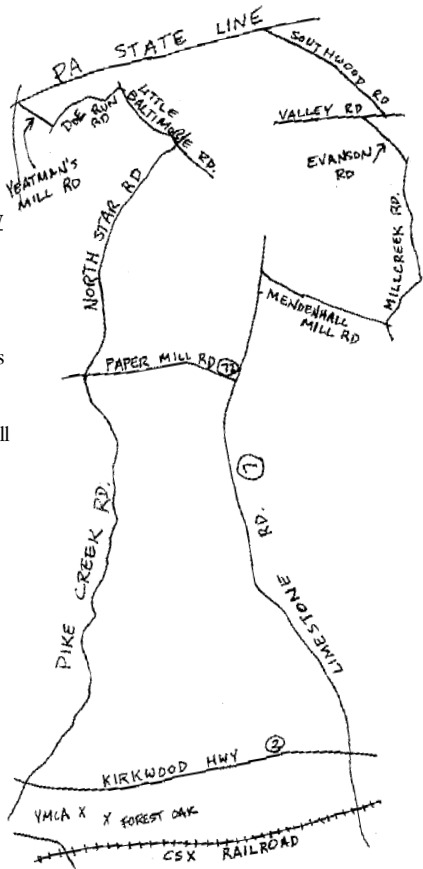
Practice starts in March, Opening Day - April 21<sup>st</sup>

Season ends late June; All-Stars in July

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# School News

## Salesianum Model U.N team wins award

Salesianum School was presented with the Distinguished Delegation Award at the National DeSales Oblate Model United Nations Conference at Northeast Catholic High School in Philadelphia in November.

Nine students were presented with the first place Gavel Award. In addition, 12 students received Outstanding Delegate Awards, while 17 students received an honorable mention during award ceremonies.

The topics of discussion included the situations in Sudan and North Korea. Students from Salesianum represented several countries, including Sudan and Egypt.

The following students won awards representing Sudan: seniors **Kevin Kowal** and **Joe Smith**; and juniors **Marco Alberti**, **Cal Greene**, **Vince Jacono** and **Alex Osborne**.

The following students won gavels represented Egypt: juniors **Eric Austin** and **Philip Tang**, and freshman **Peter Palena**.

## Tower Hill staff, students attend ‘People of Color’ seminar

Five teachers and administrators and six students from Tower Hill School attended the National Association of Independent School's People of Color Conference in Seattle, Wash., November 30 - December 2, 2006. This marks Tower Hill's third annual conference.

The students were: seniors **Melissa Lynch**, **Witt Gooden**; juniors **Virginia Nichoson**, **Caroline Gooden**; sophomore **A.J. Carter** and freshman **Gene Dorsey**.

The teachers were: **Jorge Pardo**, director of multicultural development; **Jackie Hamilton**, Lower School head; **Arturo Bagley**, Upper School history teacher; **Ida Leader**, Middle School Spanish teacher; and **Trisha Medeiros**, 9th, 10th-grade dean and director of community service

In its 19th year, The People of Color Conference brings together independent school teachers and administrators of color and diversity advocates of all backgrounds to examine issues of inclusion, equity and justice, and multicultural education. Conference participants attend 90-minute workshops offered by practitioners and experts in all aspects of diversity, multiculturalism, and equity and justice work. Comprehensive affinity group work helps attendees develop and celebrate their own racial/ethnic identities. Keynote speakers help connect the work of the conference with happenings in the world.

Hosted by the National Association of Independent Schools, The Student Diversity Leadership Conference is a multiracial, multicultural gathering of upper school student leaders (grades 9-12) from around the country. The conference focuses on self-reflecting, forming allies, and building community. Led by a diverse team of adult and peer facilitators, participants develop effective cross-cultural communication skills, better understand the nature and development of effective strategies for social justice, practice expression through the arts, and learn networking principles and strategies.

## Archmere student nominated for national program

Archmere Academy senior **Adrienne Donaghue**, of Chadds Ford, Pa., has been nominated to compete in the National Principal's Leadership Award (PLA) scholarship program, sponsored by the National Association of Secondary School Principals.

One hundred national PLA winners will be chosen to receive \$1,000 college scholarships.

High school principals from across the country were able to nominate one of their student leaders. Nominees were selected based on their leadership skills, participation in service organizations and clubs, achievements in the arts and sciences, employment experience and academic record. They were also required to write an essay.

By recognizing leadership in co-curricular activities as well as academic performance, the PLA scholarship recognizes the importance of a well-rounded education. Co-curricular activities are an essential part of the school curriculum.

Donaghue has been a leader, serving as a student representative to the school's Discipline Committee and as the senior class representative for the Planning Committee for the school's Middle States Self-Study for re-accreditation. She is Vice President of Student Council, and was formerly a representative to the Student Council during her sophomore year. She is currently captain of the swimming team and volunteered as a leader for the freshman retreat in September.

Out of school, she volunteers at the Claymont Community Center (assisting children), the Mary Campbell Center (for disabled adults), and at the Ministry of Caring in Wilmington (in the child care department).

### DEAN’S LIST

*The following students were named to Dean’s List at King’s College:*

- **Kathleen Baker**, of Wilmington,
- **Timothy Dinan**, of Hockessin.

Send School News to:

P.O. 549, Hockessin, DE 19707

Community Publications accepts press releases from schools and colleges. Letters from students and parents will only be considered if they include an address and phone number for verification purposes only. Photos are welcome, but cannot be returned. Items can also be e-mailed to editor@communitypub.com

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# Arts & Entertainment

## Lots more interesting events on tap

It's been a few weeks since I provided a listing of upcoming cultural events so it is time to name a few of the new ones.

If you are a budding actor looking for some excellent training, an

opportunity is coming up. With only 12 spots open, it may be a bit difficult to enroll but in March the Wilmington Drama League is presenting an intensive two- day seminar with an emphasis on Shakespearean plays.

Taught by Jacquie Crago, a professional actor and director from England, the work will "include vocal, mental and physical exercises designed to improve your ability to understand, interpret and communi-

cate dramatic and comedic roles in the classical plays of the 16th, 17th and 18th centuries."

Crago has all the right credentials. She has been a professor at the Oxford School of Drama and has worked for the Royal Shakespeare Company and was a host of other British theater companies. Her expertise is bringing alive classical text for the modern actor.

And, there are personal recommendations from two of Delaware's preeminent actors, Tanya Lazar and Ben Lovell who have studied with Crago and are sponsoring her seminar. "She has made a huge difference to our outlook on acting," they agree and urge local actors to sign up. The cost is \$100 for



by Paula Shulak

each two-day session (March 3-4 and 10-11). Call 764-3396 or go to [info@wdl.org](mailto:info@wdl.org).

### Local composer to conduct

Local composer David Schelat will conduct a special concert featuring the Adult Choir of the Episcopal Church of Saints Andrew and Matthew on February 11 at 6 p.m. at which time the 10th anniversary of the two saints will be celebrated.

TE DEUM, a recently commissioned work by Schelat will be given its premiere and is the highlight of the program. While Schelat is best known as the music director and organist at First and Central Presbyterian Church, he is often involved in musical cooperation with his peers at other churches. The concert is free and will be held at the church at Eighth and Shipley.

### 'Sweets for Your Sweetie'

The Newark Arts Alliance will hold a Valentine dessert and wine tasting event on February 9 from 7-9 p.m. at their Elkton Road location.

Named "Sweets for Your Sweetie", the program will include romantic classical music by Sally Cornell (oboe) and Jennifer Hugh (bassoon) as well as a silent auction and raffle.

"Smaller Than a Breadbox" is the clever title of the art exhibit which will also be on display. The cost is \$20 at the door or you may call 266-7266 for information.

### Unique musical group to perform

On Sunday January 28, Melomanie, that eclectic Baroque musical

group appears at St. Michael Lutheran Church in Unionville at 3 p.m. and on February 23 at 8 p.m., returns to their home base at Westminster Presbyterian Church on 13th Street in Wilmington.

I have written about their unique musical sound and the magnificent setting at Westminster.

Melomanie is just one of the variety of unusual small groups which have sprung up in our area during the last five years or so (Mythica, Righter Than Rain, and Slyte of Hand are just some of the others).

If you have never had the chance to hear these new style dedicated performers, you might want to make it a point to do so in 2007. They seem to be a new breed of musician – independent, unafraid to try something new, and utterly devoted to their craft, even if it is only on a part time basis.

Call 764-6338 for more information on Melomanie.

### Another unique group

And, if you want to hear another, similarly unique group, try SPARX.

Their next concert is February 9 at 7:30 p.m. at Tatnall School (where they also teach). This time they will play a Valentine's Concert featuring love songs and ballads of the British Isles. Call 652-4337 for reservations – seating is limited and tickets are \$25 each.

### Drama League play has message

In the larger theater world, there are some unusual things happening, too.

Wilmington Drama League is about to take the plunge with a show that may at first glance turn you off, but which I can tell you from first hand experience is marvelous and well worth

See SHULAK, next page

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# Arts & Entertainment

## SHULAK – from previous page

your time.

On January 26, WDL opens “Urinetown”, a musical with a real message for our times.

Contrary to what you may think, the show is in total good taste. It tells the story of a town suffering from a water shortage so severe that “private toilets eventually become unthinkable”. The citizens are forced to pay for public facilities run by the Urine Good Company (a sample pun). Those who break the law are sent to the feared and mysterious “Urinetown” by the corrupt police. But one day a brave man realizes the injustice of it all and stands up for the people’s rights.

There is a strong moral to the story and right conquers might in the end. Along the way, you hear some fabulous music and see a very entertaining, funny show.

Tickets cost \$18 for adults and can be ordered at 764-1172 or by going to [www.wdl.org](http://www.wdl.org).

### Drama of conflict

Another interestingly different offering can be found at Interact Theatre Company in Philadelphia which opens January 24 with an original drama by playwright Thomas Gibbons called “A House With No Walls”.

This is a dramatization of a conflict between liberal and conservative African Americans who clash over the

location of a new American Museum of Liberty scheduled to be built on the grounds of the slave quarters of George Washington’s Philadelphia home.

Gibbons is the author who wrote “Permanent Collection”, the amazing play about the Barnes Foundation which I reviewed a few years ago and which is enjoying great success around the country. In both cases, the scripts were inspired by real life events.

The show runs until February 18 and tickets are available at \$22 by calling 215-568-8079 or by going to [www.InterActTheatre.org](http://www.InterActTheatre.org). Shows are presented at The Adrienne, 2030 Sansom Street in Philadelphia.

### Want to go to a wedding?

In a lighter vein, the Kimmel Center in Philly has announced that “Tony ‘N Tina’s Wedding” has now moved uptown for an extended engagement. If you have never seen this delightful show, now until February 18 would be a good time to do so. It is one of the most successful Off Broadway hits.

Audience members actually play roles in this show which features a ceremony, reception and dinner – all for \$89. It has been playing in Philadelphia for 13 years and will move to The Spirit of Philadelphia in March after this run. Go to [www.kimmelcenter.org/broadway](http://www.kimmelcenter.org/broadway) for reservations and come dressed for a wedding if you go!

### CONTACT SHULAK

If you have information about cultural events, send to [delarts@juno.com](mailto:delarts@juno.com)



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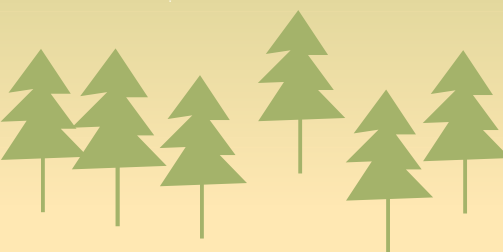
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Sports / Girls Basketball

McKean holds on to beat Brandywine

By Antonio M. Prado  
Staff Reporter

McKean High School's Janai Brister put her team up 28-24 with about a minute left and the Highlanders held on for a 28-27 win against host Brandywine High School in a Blue Hen Conference Flight B girls basketball game.

Brandywine's Deja Williams hit a 3-pointer

with 53 seconds left to make it a one-point game.

Brandywine's leading scorer, Michelle Baker, then followed up with a steal with 41 seconds left, but teammate Jordann Duncan's shot was off.

With Brandywine pressing on defense, it was a scramble to the finish. The Bulldogs' Megan Wilson fouled McKean's Brister and Baker knocked the ball out of

bounds on the next play. McKean's Ashley Hynson got the ball in to Jasmine Harris, who was fouled by Brandywine's Page Chapman.

When McKean was finally able to put up one last fast break, Brister's pass bounced off the hands of Kyra McGriff in the lane.

Baker's next shot was off and Hynson pulled down the rebound for McKean. Brandywine's Williams reached over her back for a foul, but Hynson missed the foul shot.

Duncan grabbed the rebound and Brandywine coach Jeff Clouser called a timeout with 1.7 seconds left to set up one last

McKean 28, BRANDYWINE 27

Game Summary

McKean (10-2)	12	4	6	6	-	28
Brandywine (5-7)	6	7	7	7	-	27

**McKean** – Hynson 3-8 2-4 8, Jamison 4-8 0-1 8, Harris 3-12 0-1 6, Brister 2-7 0-0 4, McGriff 1-8 0-0 2, Power 0-0 0-0 0, Giofre 0-0 0-0 0.

**Brandywine** – Baker 8-17 4-4 18, Duncan 2-6 0-2 4, Williams 1-4 0-0 3, Chapman 1-2 0-0 2, Smagala 0-0 0-0 0, Wilson 0-0 0-0.

**3-pointers** – McKean 0, Brandywine 1 (Williams).

play to Baker. Duncan got the ball in to Baker, who missed a jump shot as time ran out.

Baker led all scorers with 18, and Duncan added four for Brandywine.

Hynson and Marissa Jamison each scored eight points to lead McKean while Harris added six points.

"It was close like this last year," said Hynson, a sophomore. Baker had the winning shot last year. We knew where the ball was going."

The plan was to prevent Baker from getting the ball on the last play, said McKean coach Shawn Addison. But, when she got the ball it was just a matter of playing good, solid defense.

"Let her shoot because there was no foul and no basket," she said. "With 1.7 seconds left, it was almost impossible for her to get the ball and then turn around and make a good shot."

McKean improved to 10-2 overall and 5-1 in conference play. Brandywine dropped to 5-7 (4-3).

Addison said she likes the way her backcourt has been asserting itself, with

the 5-foot-9 Jamison at center and Hynson and McGriff (both 5-foot-8) manning the forward positions.

Jamison, a junior, scored all of her points inside and added nine rebounds.

"If I get my position and they get me the ball, I'm guaranteed to score," she said. "I have a lot of confidence in my post play."

Hynson added 12 rebounds, and McGriff had 10 rebounds for the Lady Bulldogs.

Hynson said McKean is playing with more heart.

"We're together as a team," she said.

Addison said that allowed the Highlanders to focus.

"I think they executed offensively and they were playing really good, solid defense," she said. "And that's what enabled us to come away with the win."

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Woodmill: 5051 East Woodmill Drive, Wilmington; Erika D. White to Erika D White and Michael J. Bove; \$98,000.; 19808

Brandywine Springs Manor: 3205 Faulkland Road, Wilmington;

Christopher M. Ferguson to Michael G. and Jennifer C. Choma; \$273,000.

Dunlinden Acres: 3815 Frances Ave., Wilmington; Michael J. Morehart to Miguel Luna Lopez; \$182,900.

Green Valley: 154 Upper Valley Lane, Newark; Dana M. Eazor to David V. Colucci and Erin F. Berry; \$205,000.

Green Valley: 509 Fourth St., Newark; Richard B. Jones to Thomas M. Lorenson; \$209,500.

Green Valley: 6 E. Green Valley Circle, Newark; Carolyn C. Fisher to William Matthew Snyder; \$217,900.

Grendon Farms: 2640 Stephenson Drive, Wilmington; Constance B. Lindgreen to David A. Oggenfuss; \$257,500.

Kirkwood Gardens: 2430 Hammond Place, Wilmington; Colleen M. Fortunato to Sheryl G. Chang; \$185,000.

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Opinion

The First Amendment

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YOUR VIEW

Current weather sign of global warming

To the Editor:

As a young man growing up in southern N.J., I remember cold winters with measurable amounts of snow. As I've grown I often think back and wonder why things are seemingly so much different than they were. Could it be because I was younger, smaller and more impressionable, that I simply remember something for more than what it was? Or could it be that back then there was more snow? There were colder winters? Could it be that the weather is just different now? It bothers me, particularly because I consistently hear about global warming and the effect that it is having on the environment.

The weather is different now; there can be no denying this. Science agrees that global warming is now one of the greatest threats to our world and yet we continue to stay the course and pollute our air. The United States represents less than 4 percent of the world population yet we emit 25 percent of the world's greenhouse gases. This is a real problem as we also refuse to join other nations in pledging to reduce our pollution. Why? Well, that is a complicated answer but the bottom line is because the current administration feels that we would sacrifice too many jobs if we did join in.

This seems a sorry answer to me as I continue to see our world deteriorate. Polar ice shelves are breaking apart at an alarming rate, glaciers are retreating and polar bears are becoming extinct. What is the price we are willing to pay for a few jobs in this country? A better explanation might be that our current president and his administration have the big oil companies in their pockets. It is clear that there are some connections.

Dick Cheney was the Chief Executive Officer of Halliburton before he became vice president. Condoleezza Rice has an oil tanker named after her for Exxon Mobil (The Condoleezza Rice). I wonder how many favors a nice oil tanker costs you.

All the while I consistently hear of oil companies recording record profits while the rest of us suffer. On a basic level it is grossly apparent what is happening. I challenge each and every one of you to simply pick up a national paper today.

Turn to the back page and take a look at the national map. On it you will see the weather for our great nation and the forecast highs in cities around the country. How many sub freezing temperatures do you see? Probably not many and we are in January!

This is all happening at an alarming rate and it clearly is time that we elect officials that care about what happens to our children and grandchildren. John Edwards recently announced his desire to run for president of this great nation. His platform includes some very important issues but paramount of those is his desire to immediately curb greenhouse emissions. This is something that can't wait and that needs our immediate attention. I for one am tired of having some elected official protect the millions that I will never see for the sake of destroying the world that I so love.

William Bumpus  
Hockessin

Spanish signs not the answer

To the Editor:

In response to a recent letter to the Hockessin Community News' Opinion Page calling for bilingual signs to the Hockessin Acme because a Hispanic mother and child tried to go "in" the "out" door. I offer the following view:

I am English speaking, college educated and I have, on occasion, tried to enter a store by going in the exit because of being distracted or preoccupied. I'm not alone – as I've viewed on the TV show, America's Funniest Home Videos. It happens to the best of us even when signs are quite visible.

Unable to help the Hispanic mother and child because of not speaking Spanish is a poor excuse for not offering assistance; non-verbal communication is often more effective in quickly getting a point across than verbal communication. And how is it known the Hispanic mother could not speak English?

If the solution to achieving dignity and hope is as simple as our government posting bilingual signs in public areas, as Ms. Gallo seems to think, I applaud her naiveté.

Arlene Whittington  
Hockessin

We cannot go too far in improving ethics in Washington, D.C.

By Rep. Mike Castle  
R-Delaware

One of the greatest opportunities we have in the 110th Congress is to clean up the way business is conducted in our nation's capital. Unfortunately, corruption became a centerpiece of the 2006 elections – from the Jack Abramoff scandal to the charges against former Representative Mark Foley and it became abundantly clear that Congress cannot police itself.

A top priority we tackled during the first week of Congress was an attempt to reign in abuses by lobbyists and members of Congress. The Democrat majority pushed a series of reforms in a so-called "Rules Package". Many of these reforms I agreed with and in some cases, even authored – but I believe their proposal did not go far enough. This issue is so serious, that I do not think we can under-reach and under achieve. This nation's capital belongs to the American people and its time we return it to them.

I agree with the proposals to institute a total gift and meal ban from lobbyists and the organizations that employ them. This way there is no "buying off" of the members or staff. I agree that lobbyists should not pay for travel and that any travel by members or staff that is going to be paid for by an outside group should be pre-approved by the Ethics Committee. There is no question that members of Congress and staff must attend regular ethics training as the Democrats' package puts forth; however, I believe they are missing the mark by not requiring such education for lobbyists.

Not only should lobbyists be trained, they should be licensed by a professional organization and the Ethics Committee shall maintain a registration of all lobbyists. There must be increased sunshine on the entire lobbying process – including holding lobbyists (not just members

*I firmly believe Democrats are making a mistake by putting off the decision as to whether an outside investigatory arm of Congress is needed.*

*What have we learned from the scandals if we have not learned that Congress cannot be left to their own devices?*

and staff) liable for violation of any of the rules.

I also firmly believe Democrats are making a mistake by putting off the decision as to whether an outside investigatory arm of Congress is needed. In my opinion – it clearly is. What have we learned from the above-mentioned scandals if we have not learned that Congress cannot be left to their own devices? That is why I have proposed the establishment of an outside nonpartisan, professional enforcement entity, comprised of former members and judges, to investigate, with subpoena power, any alleged violation of any law or regulation by a member, delegate, officer or staff of the House of Representatives. They would report findings and recommend disciplinary action to the Committee on Standards and any evidence of violation to the appropriate State or Federal authorities. This Investigations Commission is not only sorely needed, it is long overdue. Congress cannot police itself.

While I am pleased the reforms we passed in the House of Representatives are strong steps forward, I do believe we can be doing more. And we should not stop short of those goals. I will continue to press and make the case that the above reforms are needed to truly bring increased accountability to the way Congress and outside organizations conduct the business of the American people.

COMMENTARY

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# Community Calendar

## Friday, January 26

**BOOK SALE:** Annual **Hockessin Library Used Book Sale** Friends held 9 a.m.-9 p.m. **Hockessin Memorial Hall**, Lancaster Pike & Yorklyn Rd., Hockessin. Call 239-5160. Also Jan. 27 & 28.

**CLASS: Weight Training for Women**, \$40 monthly. 9:30-10:30 a.m. **Hockessin PAL**, Lancaster Pike, Hockessin. Call 239-8861.

**DANCE:** 2x4 Square Dance Club hosts **Luau Square Dance** with alternating mainstream and plus level. 8-10:30 p.m. \$7. **Shue/Medill School**, 1550 Capitol Trail, Mill Creek. Call 349-4311.

**EVENT: Poker Night.** The Knights of Columbus, Christopher Council no. 3182, sponsors a poker night on the fourth Friday of every month. The event will be held at the K of C Brandywine Club, 135 Princeton Ave. Claymont from 6:30 p.m. to midnight. Admission is free. Food and beverages provided. Call 798-9891.

**MEETING: Women's Business Network** meets 2nd and 4th Friday. 11:30 a.m. Call 266-9646.

**MEETING: TGIF For Men** group meets for breakfast, Bible study and current events discussions. 6:30-7:30 a.m. **Grace Lutheran Church**, Rt. 41 & Graves Rd., Hockessin. Call 239-9787.

**MOVIE:** Local film series continues with **Ryan Phillippe**. Free. 6:30 p.m. **Newark Library**, 750 Library Ave., Newark. Call 731-7550.

**PERFORMANCE:** Students perform musical **The Wonderful Wizard of Oz**. 7:30 p.m. \$7, \$3 students. **St. Matthew School**, 807 E. Newport Pike, Wilm. Call 633-5860 or [www.stainmatthewsparish.org](http://www.stainmatthewsparish.org). Also Jan. 27 & 28.

**PERFORMANCE:** "The Gin Game" performed 8 p.m. \$13, \$11 seniors, \$8 students. **Chapel Street Players**, 27 N. Chapel St., Newark. Call 368-2248 or [www.chapelstreet-players.org](http://www.chapelstreet-players.org). Also Jan. 27.

**PROGRAM:** Terrific Toddlers program continues with **Groggy Groundhogs** for ages 2-3. \$5. **Brandywine Creek State Park**, 41 Adams Rd., Greenville. Call 655-5740 to register.

**SUPPORT GROUP: Grandparents United** support group for grandparents and relatives raising others' children meets second and fourth Fridays. **Limestone Presbyterian Church**, 3201 Limestone Rd., Pike Creek. Call 690-7428 or [www.grandparentsunited-de.org](http://www.grandparentsunited-de.org).

**WORKSHOP: Self Portraits in Clay** workshop presented by Josh Wagner. \$20. Bring a mirror. 9:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. **Urban Environmental Center**, 1500 N. Walnut St., Wilm. Call 658-9832 to register.

## Saturday, January 27

**BOOK SALE:** Annual **Hockessin Library Used Book Sale** Friends held 9 a.m.-5 p.m. **Hockessin Memorial Hall**, Lancaster Pike & Yorklyn Rd., Hockessin. Call 239-5160. Also Jan. 28.

**CONCERT:** Jazz fusion legend **Larry Coryell** and trio Victory Bailey, Lenny White and Chick Corea perform 8 p.m. \$30, \$25 Arden Concert Gild members. 8 p.m. **Arden Gild Hall**, 2126 The Highway, Arden. Call 475-3126.

**DANCE: Square Dance** with Circle Four held second and fourth Saturdays of every month. \$5. 7:30 p.m. **St. James Episcopal Church Hall**, 2106 St. James Church Rd. Call 998-3512.

**DINNER:** Scout Troop 61 hosts **Spaghetti Dinner** to fund Summer camp program. 5-8 p.m. \$7, \$4 children. **Holy Rosary School**, Claymont.

**MEETING: Post Polio Syndrome Support Group** meets at the Easter Seals Independent Living Center 24 Read's Way, the fourth Saturday of every month from Sept. to June. Call Easter Seals at 324-4488.

**PERFORMANCE: Lois Young's Superheroes Musical** includes life-size puppets, songs and audience participation. Children come dressed as superheroes or princesses and bring action figure or doll. 10:30 a.m. \$6. **The New Century Club**, 201 E. Delaware Ave., Newark. Call 456-9227 or [www.loisyoung.com](http://www.loisyoung.com).

**PERFORMANCE:** Students perform musical **The Wonderful Wizard of Oz**. 7:30 p.m. \$7, \$3 students. **St. Matthew School**, 807 E. Newport Pike, Wilm. Call 633-5860 or [www.stainmatthewsparish.org](http://www.stainmatthewsparish.org). Also Jan. 28.

**PERFORMANCE:** "The Gin Game" performed 8 p.m. \$13, \$11 seniors, \$8 students. **Chapel Street Players**, 27 N. Chapel St., Newark. Call 368-2248 or [www.chapelstreet-players.org](http://www.chapelstreet-players.org).

**REHEARSAL: New Castle County Community Band** volunteer organization holds rehearsals every Saturday 8:30-10 a.m. **Peniel United Methodist Church**, 115 E. Market St., Newport. Call 427-2338.

**PROGRAM: Birding Basics and Breakfast** includes breakfast at 9:30 a.m. and birding program including half-hour hike at 10 a.m. Free. **Brandywine Creek State Park**, 41 Adams Rd., Greenville. Call 655-57400 to register.

**WORKSHOP:** Park ranger leads **White-tailed Deer of White Clay Creek** free program. 3 p.m. **White Clay Creek State Park**, 425 Wedgewood Rd., Newark. Call 368-6900.

## Sunday, January 28

**BOOK SALE:** Annual **Hockessin Library Used Book Sale** Friends held 9 a.m.-3 p.m., fill a bag for \$5. **Hockessin Memorial Hall**, Lancaster Pike & Yorklyn Rd., Hockessin. Call 239-5160. Also Jan. 27 & 28.

**CONCERT: Melomanie** trio performs program of baroque and contemporary music. 3 p.m. \$5, \$2 under 12 suggested donation. **St. Michael Lutheran Church**, 109 E. Doe Run Rd., Unionville, Pa. Call (610) 347-1696.

**HIKE: Sunday Morning Sunrise Hike** begins 7 a.m. **Judge Morris Estate** of White Clay Creek State Park, 425 Wedgewood Rd., Newark. Call 368-6900 to register.

**MEETING: Socratés Cafe** group open to discussion of philosophical and ethical questions. 7-9 p.m. **Adria's Cafe**, Newark Shopping Center. E-mail [hughes.holmes@zoominternet.net](mailto:hughes.holmes@zoominternet.net).

**PERFORMANCE:** Students perform musical **The Wonderful Wizard of Oz**. 2:30 p.m. \$7, \$3 students. **St. Matthew School**, 807 E. Newport Pike, Wilm. Call 633-5860 or [www.stainmatthewsparish.org](http://www.stainmatthewsparish.org).

**PERFORMANCE:** Choir presents "Amahl and the Night Visitors" once-act opera. Offering taken. 4 p.m. **Concord Presbyterian Church**, 1800 Fairfax Blvd., Brandywine. Call 654-9652 or [www.concord-pc.org](http://www.concord-pc.org).

**POKER TOURNAMENT:** Friends for Responsible Pet Care host **Texas Hold'Em Poker Tournament**. Noon, game start 1:30 p.m. **The Poker Room**, Four Seasons Shopping Center, Rt. 896, Newark. Call 750-6228.

Calendar continues on next page

## SCORE

### Business Startup Workshop Series

**How to Succeed in Business**-\$35  
Tuesday, February 6th

**Starting Your Own Business**-\$35  
Tuesday, February 13th

**Writing Your Business Plan**-\$70  
Part I: Tuesday, February 20th  
Part II: Tuesday, February 27th

**5:45 pm - 8:45 pm**  
**Newark Senior Center**  
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*(Hockessin Chapter)*

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Breakfast meetings 7am-8:30am, 1st three Wed.'s of each month in the dining room of Cokesbury Village. Visitors welcome. For info call Nancy Messano at 302-254-5626. Please visit our website [www.debcg.net](http://www.debcg.net)

## A Gold Mine in Bedroom Drawers

Newswire: People are selling their old scrap gold that is gathering dust for its cash value because gold prices are so high. With the price of gold at a 25 year high, it makes sense to recycle unwanted items for cash. ScrapGold.com, a large gold recycler, offers free insured recycle kits so people may cash in their scrap with 24 hour service and guarantee satisfaction.

They accept broken and outdated items like chains, charms, rings and more. "Everyone has bits of gold just lying around which can be turned into cash" says Richard Zakroff, Founder. "Even old dental gold has value." ScrapGold.com has been in business for over 16 years and has served over 800,000 clients. Request a FREE GoldKit at 800-283-4700 or [ScrapGold.com](http://ScrapGold.com).



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# Community Calendar

## Sunday, January 28 (cont.)

**PROGRAM:** Winter Forum series, “**Stand with Africa: The Church’s Response**” continues with program by Normal Barth, former executive director of Lutheran World Relief. 9:45-10:45 a.m. **St. Mark’s Lutheran Church**, 401 Duncan Rd., Bellefonte. Call 764-7488.

**PROGRAM:** Park naturalist leads **Wiped Out?** program on Delaware’s endangered species. Free. 2 p.m. **Brandywine Creek State Park**, meet at 41 Adams Rd., Greenville for transport to Flint Woods Nature Preserve. Call 655-5740 to register.

**PROGRAM:** Dr. Alan Fox presents continuing series on **Understanding Islam**. \$5, \$20 for entire series. 4:30 p.m. **First Unitarian Church of Wilmington**, 730 Halstead Rd., Brandywine. Call 478-2384 or www.firstu.org. Also Feb. 4 & 11.

**SALE:** Sports Card, Comic Book, NASCAR and Collectible Show held 10 a.m.-3 p.m. \$2, under 12 free. **Aetna Fire Hall**, 400 Ogletown Rd., Newark. Call 559-7962.

**SERVICE:** “**God in Art**” sermon series, based on art works depicting Biblical scenes, continues with “Liberation of the Peon” by Rivera. 10 a.m. **Silverside Church**, 2800 Silverside Rd., Brandywine. Series continues through March. Call 478-5921 or www.silversidechurch.org.

## Monday, January 29

**ICE DANCE:** Social Ice Dance for adults held 8:30 p.m. All skill levels, no partner needed. Free. **Skating Club of Wilmington**. Visit www.statewilm.com/progdance.htm.

**PROGRAM:** Brainstorming Workshop held for ideas on encouraging friends and family in a healthy lifestyle. \$15. 7 p.m. **Wellness Plus Delaware**, 3617 Silverside Rd., Brandywine. Call 478-3782.

## Tuesday, January 30

**MEETING:** Women’s Republican Club of Wilmington meets 5:30-7:30 p.m. Program: Presentation of Sen. William V. Roth Achievement Award. \$25 includes hors d’oeuvres, door prizes. **Kid Shelleen’s**, 14th & Scott St., Wilm. Call 454-0777.

Send Calendar items to:  
P.O. Box 549 • Hockessin, DE 19707

## Wednesday, January 31

**DANCE:** Folk and Square Dancing with Bob Witt held 7:30-9:30 p.m. \$4. **Arden Gild Hall**, 2126 The Highway, Arden. Call 478-7257.

**PERFORMANCE:** Children’s Series continues with “If You Give a Mouse a Cookie” \$5. 9:30 a.m. & Noon. **DuPont Theatre**, Wilm. Call 594-3166 or www.duponttheatre.com. Also Feb. 1.

## Thursday, February 1

**CLASSES:** Breastfeeding your baby classes, what you need to know to get started. Classes for expectant mothers and their support persons. Provided as a free community service by Nursing Mothers Inc. The First Thursday of the month at 7:30 p.m. The Birth Center of St. Francis in Wilmington. Call 733-0973

**CLASS:** Low Impact Aerobics, \$40 monthly. 8:30-9:30 a.m. **Hockessin PAL**, Lancaster Pike, Hockessin. Call 239-8861.

**CONCERT:** Thierry Fischer conducts **BBC National Orchestra of Wales** during international tour concert. 8 p.m. \$45-49. **The Grand Opera House**, 818 N. Market St., Wilm. Call 1-800-37GRAND or www.grand-opera.org.

**CONCERT:** Guy Davis performs bluegrass concert. 7 p.m. **Wilmington Friends Meeting**, Quaker Hill, Wilm. Call 984-0325.

**EVENT:** Community-wide **Camp Fair** includes more than 100 representatives from camps and other Summer programs. Free. 3:30-7 p.m. **Tower Hill School**, Rising Sun Lane, Wilm. Call 575-0550.

**LECTURE:** Help for the Home Gardener lecture series continues with “**New Plant Introductions and Their Uses in the Garden**” by Andrew Bunting. Hosted by Always the Garden. 7 p.m. \$15, \$60 for five-lecture series. **Delaware Center for Horticulture**, 1810 N. DuPont St., Wilm. Call 658-6262, ext. 22 to register.

**MEETING:** La Leche League of New Castle County for women who are breastfeeding or interested in breastfeeding meets first Thursday of the month. 9:45 a.m. **Bible Fellowship Church**, Old Baltimore Pike, Newark. Call 838-8828.

**MEETING:** MOMS club of Pike Creek, a support group for stay at home moms including monthly activities for you and your child meets at **Limestone Presbyterian Church**. Call 235-2289.

**MEETING:** MOMS club of Hockessin meets the first Thursday of every month at 9:30 a.m. at **Berea Presbyterian Church** in Hockessin. Offers support to stay-at-home moms through play groups, activities and more. Call 235-2145 or 234-4569.

**MEETING:** Community Bible Study 9:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. on Thursdays nondenominational study meeting at **Evangelical Presbyterian Church**, Possum Park Road, Newark. For more information, call Arleen at 738-3059.

**PERFORMANCE:** Children’s Series continues with “If You Give a Mouse a Cookie” \$5. 9:30 a.m. & Noon. **DuPont Theatre**, Wilm. Call 594-3166 or www.duponttheatre.com.

**SUPPORT GROUP:** DivorceCare Support Group meets first and third Thursdays. 6:30-8:30 p.m. **Berea Presbyterian Church**, 957 Old Lancaster Pike, Hockessin. Call 737-7239 or roepeople@aol.com.

**SUPPORT GROUP:** Coffee & Conversation support group for multiple sclerosis meets first and third Thursday of the month. 10:30 a.m.-Noon. **Temple Beth El**, 300 W. Lea Blvd., Wilm. Call 764-4335.

**SUPPORT GROUP:** Lung Cancer Networking Group meets 6:30 p.m. Free. **Wellness Community-Delaware**, 4810 Lancaster Pike, Wilm. Call 995-2850.

## Friday, February 2

**CLASS:** Weight Training for Women, \$40 monthly. 9:30-10:30 a.m. **Hockessin PAL**, Lancaster Pike, Hockessin. Call 239-8861.

**DANCE:** Post Cana group for widows and widowers hosts dance 7:30-10:30 p.m. \$7. **Talleyville Fire Hall**, Concord Pike, Brandywine. Call 477-6991 or 479-5109

**HIKE:** White Clay Creek State Park hosts night time **Hot Chocolate Hike**. 7 p.m. \$2. **White Clay Creek State Park Nature Center**, 425 Wedgewood Rd., Newark. Call 368-6900.

**MEETING:** TGIF For Men group meets for breakfast, Bible study and current events discussions. 6:30-7:30 a.m. **Grace Lutheran Church**, Rt. 41 & Graves Rd., Hockessin. Call 239-9787.

**SERVICE:** Thank God It’s Fire Friday Mass followed by dinner at a local restaurant for young adults. **St. Ann’s Parish**, N. Union St., Wilm. Call 562-9142.

**SUPPORT GROUP:** Grandparents United support group for grandparents and relatives raising others’ children meets second and fourth Fridays. **Limestone Presbyterian Church**, 3201 Limestone Rd., Pike Creek. Call 690-7428 or www.grandparentsunitedde.org.

**PROGRAM:** Alex Tyree leads **Exploring Your Mortality**. Free. 11:30 a.m. **Wellness Community-Delaware**, 4810 Lancaster Pike, Wilm. Call 995-2850 to register.

## Saturday, February 3

**BENEFIT:** Soup & Salad Luncheon and Open Market to benefit special needs children held 11 a.m.-3 p.m. \$8 for food. **Newport Masonic Hall**, Newport. Call 475-5113.

Calendar continues on next page

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## Ongoing Events

**CLASS:** Delaware Safety Council Defensive Driving Course, advance registration is required. \$32 per student. The classes are usually two nights, at various times and locations. Call 654-7786

**CLASS:** PACE (People with Arthritis Can Exercise) Classes held at Pike Creek Fitness Club, an Arthritis Foundation approved site. Non Members welcome. Call 239-6688.

**CLASS:** Free Conversational English classes held. Three levels, 9-10:15 a.m., 6:30-8:30 p.m. **Aldersgate United Methodist Church**, 2313 Concord Pike, Fairfax. Call 478-2575.

**EXHIBIT:** Three centuries of dance in America featured in “**Shall We Dance: Three Centuries of Dance in America**” including drawings, dance and etiquette manuals, dance tickets, cards and invitations, sheet music and paper dolls and gowns. Included in admission to **Winterthur Museum**, Kennett Pike, Greenville. \$20, \$18 students and seniors, \$10 ages 2-11. Call 888-4600 or www.winterthur.org. September 2, 2006-February 2007.

**EXHIBIT:** “**Three Visions**” exhibit of works by Kelly McConnell Cox, Danielle Quigley and Jon Cox held through January 2007. Free. **Dutch Touch Gallery**, Shoppes of Louviers, Newark. Call 738-2580.

**EXHIBIT:** Solo exhibit of pen and ink, gouache and collage by **A.D. Loveday** on display Jan. 5-25. **Newark Arts Alliance**, 100 Elkton Rd., Newark. Call 266-7266 or www.newarkartsalliance.org.

**EXHIBIT:** Winners of Walls of Brandywine Creek photo contest on display in exhibit Jan. 19 - Feb. 23. **Brandywine Creek State Park** Nature Center, Rt. 92, near Greenville. Call 655-5740 or www.destateparks.com/bcsp.

**EXHIBIT:** “**Helping Hands: Museum Volunteers Fund Acquisitions**” exhibit held Jan 20-Mar 11. On display are works collected since 1975 by the Brandywine River Museum’s Volunteers’ Purchase Fund. Rt1, Chadds Ford, PA. Call 610-388-2700 or visit www.brandywinemuseum.org.

**EXHIBIT:** 24th Annual Immaculata University Art Show held Feb 3-11. Many Delaware artists’ works will be on display and all works are available for purchase. For more information, visit www.immaculataartshow.com or call 610-647-4400 ext. 3122.

**PERFORMANCE:** The Retreat From Moscow, written by William Nicholson, presented by the **Delaware Theater Company**. The show runs from Jan 24-Feb 11. For more information, visit www.delawaretheatre.org or call 594-1100.

**SUPPORT GROUP:** Recovery Inc. self-help mental health support group for stress, tension, anxiety, panic, depression, fatigue, sleep problems, worry, anger, fear, helplessness and hopelessness meets several places in Tri-State area. Call 737-5615 in Delaware or (215) 332-0722 in Pennsylvania.

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# Community Calendar

## Saturday, January 3 (cont.)

**CONCERT:** Christian band **Sum of One** performs free at the **Concordia Lutheran Church**, 3003 Silverside Rd, Wilmington. Doors open at 6:30p.m. Call 479-7890

**EVENT:** Men's Ministry hosts 8th annual **Chili/Soup Cook-Off**. 11:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m. \$5, under 12 free. **Limestone Presbyterian Church**, 3201 Limestone Rd., Pike Creek. Call 994-5646.

**LITTLE LEAGUE:** **Capitol Little League** hosts registrations 9 a.m.-2 p.m. **St. John the Beloved**, Milltown Rd., Milltown. Also Feb. 10 & 17.

**PERFORMANCE:** Chrysalis youth theater program performs **Super-Duper Tutti-Frutti Taffy** by Ken Mammarella for ages 10 and younger. Pay what you can. 10 a.m. & 2 p.m. **Wilmington Drama League**, 10 W. Lea Blvd., Wilm. Call 764-1172. Also Nov. 4.

**PRAYER SERVICE:** **Saint Paul's Lutheran Church** hosts a service of healing prayer the first Saturday of every month. 6:30 p.m. at the church, 701 S. College Avenue in Newark. Call 368-0064.

**PROGRAM:** **White Clay Creek State Park** hosts **Groundhog Party**. Games, crafts and snacks. 1 p.m. \$4 per child. **White Clay Creek State Park Nature Center**, 425 Wedgewood Rd., Newark. Call 368-6900 to register.

**REHEARSAL:** **New Castle County Community Band** volunteer organization holds rehearsals every Saturday 8:30-10 a.m. **Peniel United Methodist Church**, 115 E. Market St., Newport. Call 427-2338.

**SOFTBALL:** **Midway Girls Softball** hosts registrations 9 a.m.-1 p.m. **Harmony Grange**, Limestone Rd. Call 494-5450 or [www.midwaygirlssoftball.org](http://www.midwaygirlssoftball.org). Also Feb. 10.

**TOURNAMENT:** Sports & Athletics section of the New Castle County Dept. of Community Services sponsors **24th Annual Ground Hog Golf Tournament** at the Delcastle & Porky Oliver Golf courses. Call 395-5890 or [www.nccdesports.com](http://www.nccdesports.com).

**TRYOUTS:** **Talleyville Girls Softball** holds walk-in registrations for girls ages 5-18. 9 a.m.-1 p.m. **Talleyville Fire House**, Concord Pike, Brandywine. Call 529-9107 or [www.talleyvillesoftball.com](http://www.talleyvillesoftball.com) to register.

**VOLUNTEER:** **Tri-State Bird & Rescue Research** is training volunteers to help care for injured wild birds. Those interested must attend info session at **Tri-State's Frink Center for Wildlife**, 110 Possum Hollow Rd., Newark, 10 a.m. Session attendance required for bird-care workshop. Info Sessions also held on Feb. 8 & 9. Call 737-9543, ext 102 or email [jbartley@tristatebird.org](mailto:jbartley@tristatebird.org).

## Sunday, February 4

**DANCE:** Scott Higgs calls to Matt Clark and Friends in **Contra Dance**. Lessons 1:30-2 p.m., dance 2-5 p.m.. \$8. **Arden Gild Hall**, 2126 The Highway, Arden. Call 478-7257.

**DINNER:** **Spaghetti Dinner** held Noon-3 p.m. \$7, \$4 under 12. **Padua Academy**, 10h St., Wilmington. Call 421-3765.

**EVENT:** **Longwood Gardens** starts **Discovery Days** series with a celebration of the **New Year for Trees** from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Performances, dance workshops, food and crafts. \$12 for adults, \$6 ages 16-20, \$2 ages 6-15, and free for children under 6. For more info please call 610-388-1000.

Send Calendar items to:  
P.O. Box 549 • Hockessin, DE 19707

# Community Calendar

## Weekly Happenings

### Mondays

**DANCE:** **Swing/Big Band dancing with the Music Masters Orchestra**, 9 a.m.-11:30 a.m., Claymore Senior Center, 504 S. Clayton St., Wilm. Free. 737-3091. Every other Monday.

**CHORUS:** **The Chorus of Brandywine Men's barbershop** singing 7 p.m. Mondays John Dickinson High School, Milltown Rd. 655-SING.

**MEETING:** **Duplicate Bridge**, 12:30 & 7 p.m., Foulkstone Plaza Building 1409, Suite 101, North Wilm. Call 571-9092. Also Thursdays.

**MEETING:** **A Course in Miracles** discussion group, 7 p.m., Manor Care Health Ctr, 5651 Limestone Rd. 235-1248.

**MEETING:** **New Castle County Stroke Club**, noon, Jewish Community Ctr, 101 Garden of Eden Rd. Easter Seals. 324-4444.

**MEETING:** **Woodcarvers of Delaware**, 6:30 p.m., McKean High School's woodwrkg. shop. Carvers share techniques. 239-4404.

**MEETING:** **Delaware Photographic Society** meets 7:30 p.m. **Cokesbury Village**, DuPont Pavilion, Rt. 48 & Loveville Rd., Hockessin. Call 764-6922 or [www.delawarephotographicsociety.org](http://www.delawarephotographicsociety.org).

**MEETING:** **Area Bible Study**, 7:30-9 p.m. Interdenominational, singles and couples. Questions welcome. Call 239-3625 or 998-2930.

**REHEARSAL:** **Brandywine Pops Orchestra** holds Monday rehearsals 7-9 p.m. **Springer Middle School**, Shipley Rd., Brandywine. Call 478-3159.

**SEMINAR:** **Wellness Plus of Delaware** presents weekly seminars on various topics 7 p.m. 478-7723.

**SUPPORT GROUP:** **GriefShare** recovery seminar and support group meets Mondays with sessions. September-December, January-March and April-May. 7-9 p.m. **Lutheran Church of the Good Shepherd**, 1530 Foulk Rd., Wilm. Call 478-3030.

**SUPPORT GROUP:** **FAA (Food Addicts Anonymous)** 12-step program meets 7-8 p.m. **Jesus House**, 501 Milltown Rd., Mill Creek. Call 892-3336 or [www.foodaddictsanonymous.org](http://www.foodaddictsanonymous.org).

### Tuesdays

**CHORUS:** **Diamond State Chorus** of Sweet Adelines International, a women's a capella music group. 10 p.m. **Life Community Church**, 750 Otts Chapel Rd., Newark. Call (302) 731-5981.

**DANCE:** **"Dance Nights"** club hosts ballroom and social dancing. Lessons 8-9 p.m., dancing 9-11 p.m. \$7, \$5 members. **Congregation Ohev Shalom**, 2 South Chester Rd., intersection of Rts. 320 & 252, Wallingford, Pa. Call (610) 644-0828.

**MEETING:** **Business Network International Brandywine Chapter** meets 7 a.m. The Terrace, **Porky Oliver Golf Club**, Greenville. Call 762-3100.

**MEETING:** **Brandywine Valley Baptist Church**, nondenominational Bible study open to men & women titled "Bible Study for Today," 9:15-11:15 a.m., 7 Mt. Lebanon Rd., Talleyville. 478-0357.

**MEETING:** **Rotary Club of Brandywine**, community and international service club, meets 12:15 p.m. at Harry's Savoy, 2020 Naaman's Road, Brandywine. Call John Mager at 798-3300.

**MEETING:** **Brandywine Cadet Squadron**, Civil Air Patrol. 6:45-9:15 p.m., Claymont Community Ctr., Claymont. Ages 12-adult. 661-1278 (evening) or (215) 349-5802 (day).

**CHORUS:** **Newark Deltones Barbershop Chorus**, 7:45 p.m., **New Ark Church of Christ**, E. Main St., Newark. 368-1749.

**MEETING:** **Hockessin-Greenville Rotary** meets weekly, 7:30 a.m., at **Cokesbury Village**. Business owners, managers and professionals invited to attend. Call Joe Amon at 239-4644.

**SUPPORT GROUP:** **Newcomer's With Cancer Orientation** support group meets at 10 a.m. **The Wellness Community**, 4810 Lancaster Pike, Wilm. Call 995-2850.

**SUPPORT GROUP:** **Wilmington Enterprise Community** group for **Primary and Secondary Victims/Survivors of Shootings** meets 6:30-7:30 p.m. 2700 Washington St., Wilm. Call 690-6679.

**SUPPORT GROUP:** **DivorceCare** meets 6:30-8:30 p.m. **Evangelical Presbyterian Church**, 308 Possum Park Rd., NEwark. Call 737-2300.

**WORKSHOP:** **Basics of Chiropractic Care**. Learn theory behind chiropractic care and wellness. Call 454-1200. Free. First State Health and Wellness, Kirkwood Highway. 6:30-7p.m.

### Wednesdays

**BINGO:** **Mill Creek Ladies Auxiliary** sponsors bingo every Wednesday. Doors open 5:30 p.m., Early Bird games, 6:50 p.m. Main bingo, 7 p.m. Mill Creek Fire Hall, 3900 Kirkwood Hwy.. Call 994-6361.

**BINGO:** **Newark Senior Center** hosts **Bingo**, 12:45-1:45 p.m. Lunch from 11:45-12:45 p.m., Free. 200 White Chapel Dr., Newark. Call 737-2336.

**CLASS:** **Meditation Group**, Noon to 1 p.m. Free, donations welcome. Women's Wellness Center 1508 7th Street Wilmington. Call 658-8321.

**CLASS:** Free **Conversational English Classes** held for immigrants. All leves of English conversation taught. 9-10:15 a.m. or 6:30-8:30 p.m. **Aldersgate United Methodist Church**, 2313 Concord Pike, Fairfax. Call 478-2575.

**CLASS:** Free **Conversational English Classes** held 6:30-8 p.m. and 5:30-7 p.m. **All Nations Fellowship**, Stanton. Call 738-2315.

**DANCE CLASSES:** **Irish Social Dance Classes** for beginners held 7 p.m. \$6. **NCC Irish Society**, 1301 S. Rodney, Wilm. Call 369-0101.

**DISCUSSION GROUP:** Current events and religious issues discussion led by Rev. Bruce Gillette. 7-8:30 p.m. **Limestone Presbyterian Church**, 3201 Limestone Rd., Pike Creek. Call 994-5646.

**MEETING:** **Kiwanis Club of Wilmington** meets Noon. **Hotel DuPont**, Wilmington. Call 325-0778.

**PRAYER:** **Healing Prayer Service**, 6:45 p.m., St. Paul's Lutheran Church, 701 S. College Ave., Newark. 368-0064.

**PROGRAM:** **Storytime** for all ages held 10:30 a.m.with local children's author Jamie Kleman. **Books & Beyond**, 7288 Lancaster Pike, Hockessin. Call 239-6262.

**QUILTERS:** **The Arden Quilters**, 9:30 a.m.-2 p.m. Quilts and quilters needed. Trinity Presbyterian Church, Naamans & Darley roads, Brandywine. 475-2766.

**REHEARSAL:** **Diamond State Concert Band**, open to all volunteer musicians, rehearses 7:30-9:30 p.m. **Mt. Pleasant High School**, 5201 Washington St. Ext., Wilm. Call 475-4720 or [www.dsccb.org](http://www.dsccb.org).

### Thursdays

**CLASSES:** **Tai Chi/Qi Gong**, 7-8 p.m. (beginners), 8-9 p.m. (intermediate), The Arden Guild Hall, Arden. \$10/hr. 764-2284 or 731-5992.

**CLUB:** **"Let's Dance Club"** meets 4-6 p.m. at **Newark Senior Center**. Free. 200 White Chapel Dr., Newark. Call 737-2336.

**MEETING:** **Duplicate Bridge**, 12:30 & 7 p.m., Foulkstone Plaza Building 1409, Suite 101, North Wilm. Call 571-9092. Also Thursdays.

**MEETING:** **TOPS** (Take Off Pounds Sensibly), Chapter #17, 9:30-11 a.m., Aldersgate Methodist Church, 2313 Concord Pike, Wilm. 994-2188.

**MEETING:** **Support Group**, Anxiety & Panic Disorders, Phobias & OCD, 6-7:30 p.m., St. Mark's Methodist Church, Stanton. 633-6618.

**MEETING:** **TOPS** (Take Off Pounds Sensibly), Chapter #5, 10 a.m., Calvary Presbyterian Church, 701 S. Maryland Ave., Wilm. 998-4775 or 994-1665.

**MEETING:** **Rotary Club of Brandywine Hundred**, 7:15-8:30 a.m., Harry's Savoy Grill, Naaman's Rd., Brandywine. 791-9179.

**PROGRAM:** **Read & Explore** interactive storytime held at 2 p.m. \$5, \$4 seniors, \$3 ages 3-17. **Delaware Museum of Natural History**, Kennett Pike, Greenville. Call 658-9111.

**PROGRAM:** **Storytime** for all ages held 10:30 a.m.with local children's author Jamie Kleman. **Books & Beyond**, 7288 Lancaster Pike, Hockessin. Call 239-6262.

**RUN:** **Rebel Runners** host weekly run. Free. 6 p.m. **Delcastle Recreation Area**, McKennan's Church Rd., Mill Creek. Call 633-1482 or [www.attractweb.com/rebels](http://www.attractweb.com/rebels).

**SUPPORT GROUP:** **DivorceCare** meets 6:30-8:30 p.m. **Berea Presbyterian Church**, 957 Old Lancaster Pike, Hockessin. DivorceCare for Kids also available. Call 737-7239.

### Fridays

**CLUB:** **Women's Business Network** networking club meets for lunch Noon-2 p.m.. Mail [jodie@wbn-delaware.com](mailto:jodie@wbn-delaware.com) or visit [www.wbndelaware.com](http://www.wbndelaware.com).



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# The Home Page

## Lighting to cure Wintertime blues

Dear Jim: I am planning to get a high-intensity SAD light or sunrise device to help reduce my Wintertime blues. Do these things really work, what features should I look for and are they expensive to use?

- Kimberly J.

Dear Kimberly: SAD (seasonal affective disorder) blues are supposedly caused by the reduced number of daylight hours during the Winter. I am not a physician, but some people claim the proper use of lighting devices can help to reduce problems with SAD. Before trying to treat yourself for SAD, consult your doctor first to discuss your specific problems.

Some hospitals have SAD light therapy rooms which you can use for a fee. If your local hospital offers this, it is a good way to determine if the light therapy helps you. A SAD light therapy box with a stand costs several hundred dollars to purchase.

Almost all of the SAD light boxes use several long fluorescent tubes for the light source.

Fluorescent tubes use only about 25 percent as much electricity as standard incandescent light bulbs and they last many times longer. Since the light box is used for only a short period each day, the electricity usage and overall cost are not great.

It used to be thought that using full-spectrum bulbs, which simulate the natural white light from the sun, was important.

Today, many experts feel the intensity of the light on ones eyes is more important than the natural appearance of the light. Most of the SAD light boxes produce a minimum of 10,000



Photo provided by SunBox 2006

**This vertical SAD light box has a small footprint so it is ideal for using at a desk where there is little space.**

lux of light intensity. This sounds bright, but consider the light intensity outdoors on a clear sunny day is as high as 90,000 lux.

At 10,000 lux, you can easily read the newspaper or magazines without uncomfortable glare. The typical SAD light box is lightweight, about two feet long and only 4 inches deep.

The intensity of the light is also a function of how far your eyes are from the light box. When you compare SAD light boxes from various manufacturers, ask at what distance they produce 10,000 lux light intensity. If the distance is too small, you will have to have the light uncomfortably close.

A distance of about 18 to 24 inches is generally reasonable. In addition to SAD light therapy boxes, other devices are also used to combat Wintertime SAD.

You mentioned a sunrise device. These are actually called dawn simulators. Many have an alarm clock built into a lamp. Others models have an outlet into which you plug a lamp. About 30 minutes



Photo provided by Full Spectrum Solutions

**This SAD light box uses full-spectrum fluorescent tubes to simulate real sunlight and diffuses the light for less glare.**

before the alarm goes off, the dawn simulator slowly begins to brighten the bulb to simulate the sun's coming up. Even though you are sleeping, the light will penetrate your eyelids similar to real sunlight. Other devices are lighted simulated windows with changeable scenes.



James Dulley has been writing nationally syndicated home improvement columns

since 1981. Send questions to:

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## Electric blankets, pads save you energy

Dear Jim: I set the furnace thermostat down at night, but the bedroom feels cold. Will using an electric blanket save energy overall? What are the most efficient ones and are there other tips for staying comfortable? - Sandi M.

Dear Sandi: Setting back the furnace thermostat at night can cut your utility bills by one to two percent for each degree you lower the temperature. If done properly at a lower temperature, your bedroom can be comfortable for sleeping and less drying to your nasal passages.

First, install a programmable clock thermostat. Program it so it does not lower the temperature until just after you are in bed and then raises it just before you awake in the morning. If you manually set a standard thermostat lower, the room will be very cold when you awake in the morning.

Using an electric blanket or mattress pad is an energy-saving method to stay comfortable all night long. I used an electric blanket for years, but recent switched to a dual control (one for each side) electric mattress pad. I prefer the warmth from below.

My queen-size mattress pad uses only 220 watts and it cycles on and off to maintain a steady temperature. The average electricity usage is less than 100 watts, about as much as a standard light bulb uses. When you compare this to cutting your heating bills by up to 10 percent, the savings are great.

The key differences among various brands and models of electric blankets and mattress pads are the controls and the heating wires.

The best, but more expensive models, such as Sunbeam SlumberRest, use digital ambient controls. This circuitry senses as the room cools over night and automatically increases the heat output to compensate for steady comfort.

Better controls also provide silent operation. Cheaper electric controls make a quiet click when the thermostat switches them on and off throughout the night. If you cannot fall asleep easily, the clicking can become annoying.

Select a blanket or mattress pad with PTC (positive thermal coefficient) heating wire. Its resistance changes with temperature. Where the blanket or pad is resting tightly over or under your body, and therefore warmer, its heating output decreases. This maintains a more constant sleeping temperature.

Other tips are to increase the thermal mass in the bedroom with ceramic planters or other masonry items. These will slow the temperature drop in the bedroom so you will not notice it even if it takes a while to fall asleep.

If you have ceiling fan or other penetrations in the bedroom ceiling, seal them to minimize the loss of heated room air. Install an electric radiant heating panel on the wall or ceiling. These panels produce sensible heat quickly in the morning if you feel chilly when you first get up.



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# 1 EMPLOYMENT

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## 102 HELP WANTED



### ACCOUNTING CLERK

ENTRY LEVEL SALARY - \$30,056/yr; \$14.45/hr

Applications are being accepted by the Town of Smyrna for the position of Accounting Clerk.

Job duties include, but are not limited to, responding to customer inquiries, receiving payments & issuing receipts, preparing and delivering deposits to the bank, performing administrative duties for Business Office.

Position requires good communication skills in working with public, advanced knowledge of office practices, equipment, clerical procedures and techniques. Graduation from high school with emphasis on clerical and business courses is required. Some college level course work in business administration and/or accounting is preferred. Must pass criminal background investigation.

Completed Town of Smyrna employment application is required. Applications and job descriptions are available at Smyrna Town Hall, 27 S. Market Street Plaza, Smyrna, Delaware. Completed applications will be accepted until February 15, 2007.

AA/EEO

David S Hugg III, Town Manager



### MANAGER, BUILDING & INSPECTIONS

ENTRY LEVEL SALARY - \$49,483/yr; \$23.79/hr

Applications are being accepted by the Town of Smyrna for the position of Manager of Building & Inspections.

Job duties include, but are not limited to, reviewing and issuing building permits; conducting site plan and subdivision reviews and administering recordation/maintenance of record files; preparing utility agreements & managing utility and development completion escrow accounts; administering discipline and monitoring performance of assigned personnel; assisting in preparation of annual budget.

Successful candidate must have thorough knowledge of the principles and practices of modern building construction practices, materials and equipment; thorough knowledge of statutes and regulations pertaining to construction, fire safety, plumbing, electric and other aspects of construction; extensive experience at a supervisory level in residential or commercial construction; extensive experience in building inspection and certification required.

Graduation with Associates degree with course work in engineering, architecture or closely related field preferred. Possession of an ICC Certification for modules 1A Building, 1B Building, 1C Plan Review, 4A Mechanical Systems is required within six months of employment. Must pass criminal background and substance abuse tests. Must possess valid driver's license.

Completed Town of Smyrna employment application is required. Applications and job descriptions are available at Smyrna Town Hall, 27 S. Market Street Plaza, Smyrna, Delaware. Completed applications will be accepted until February 15, 2007.

AA/EEO

David S Hugg III, Town Manager

## 102 HELP WANTED

### WANTED

### F R E E L A N C E PHOTOGRAPHERS

**Community News IS LOOKING FOR PHOTOGRAPHERS,** who can cover news, feature & sports assignments. Applicants must be willing to work days, nights & weekends. Send inquiries to William Chanin, Executive Editor, Community News at 302-239-4644. Resumes should be sent to William Chanin, c/o Community News, PO Box 549, Hockessin, DE, 19707

## 103 CHILD CARE

Loving & Responsible person needed from 2:30 - 6 pm, Tue - Fri, to pick up 7 yr old at school and watch him in our home in Mill Creek. Must have safe, reliable car and references. Call Lisa (302)633-6680.

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**REVERE COPPER WASH TUB BOILER,** w/copper cover and wood handle, 13.5 in. D x 13 in. W x 23 in. L, exc. cond, \$110 (302)998-6967

## 208 Appliances, Large

**MAYTAG REFRIGERATOR,** with icemaker, 23.7 cu. ft, almond, 9 yrs. old, exc. cond. \$225 (302)545-6692

**SEARS COLDSPOT FREEZER,** 16.0 cubic ft, good condition, \$100 (302)475-8487

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**CHERRY HUTCH,** 48" x 48", \$435 (302)475-8329

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# Your Home.

A Feature of the Special Sections/Marketing Department of the Community News

## 60 years of handshakes

In between keeping New Castle County cool and warm, Joseph Frederick & Sons is about to celebrate a special milestone

By Reid Champagne, Staff Writer

Joseph Frederick began his plumbing, electrical, heating and air conditioning business off the front porch of his home in the Brack-Ex section of Wilmington in 1947. His son Robert joined him in 1950, and now, Robert's sons Brian and Robert, Jr., continue a tradition that began on that front porch sixty years ago.

And, sixty years later, it is the honest hard work and upfront business ethics that has kept this company thriving and growing today.

"Referrals are still the number one basis of our business," says Brian. "Our marketing strategy began as a word-of-mouth approach, and continues through to the present."

The business has come a long way since that front porch, now occupying a spacious 10,000 square-foot facility on Stanton Road in Wilmington. The spaciousness has been facilitated by the brothers' strong business acumen, which has seen a once \$250,000

inventory reduced to around \$100,000 thanks to intelligent use of just-in-time inventory techniques. It's that business acumen that has helped keep Frederick's costs, and thus what it charges its customers, in line over the years.

A word-of-mouth marketing approach, of course, shifts control of the message from the business to its customers. A risky strategy unless you know you are providing the kind of sales and service that will reap the rewards of your reputation being built by your own customers. That deal, though, is still sealed today the way it was when Joseph stood on

the front porch of his modest home: with a handshake.

"We find that with our residential customers, a handshake is all we need, because our reputation is based on solving problems, not just changing parts," says Robert. "Our customers know that once we're on the job, we won't leave until the problem that brought us out there is solved, and the customer is completely satisfied."

Continued on Page 23



Co-owner Brian Frederick, right, and Heating Service Manager Steve Browning of Joseph Frederick & Sons.

Photo by Richard L. Gaw

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# Your living room can be functional as well as beautiful

Dear Barbara,

I am currently in the process of moving to a new home. We have not had a dedicated living room before, and our new home has one off of the foyer. I would like our living room to be functional so that we use it for guests and entertaining. The main attraction in the room is a fire place and I do not know how to decorate the room so that it looks beautiful from the foyer but is not too formal.

Dear New Living Room:

Yes, there are many ways to make your living room a functional space that you will actually use. Many of our clients ask us to develop rooms that are sophisticated but not as formal so that can entertain comfortably. I am glad that you mentioned that there is a fireplace, as it is important to know what structural elements are in the room. Are there any other structural elements in the room that we need to work around?



## Ask Barbara

Interior Design & Home Accessorizing

For instance, what is your ceiling height, is you ceiling flat or is it vaulted, do you have wainscoting or crown molding.? Those structural elements give you a basis for the size of the furniture you will need and the placement.

### Aesthetically Pleasing

One way in achieving a more relaxed room is by the type of furniture that you select. I like to have intimate settings with comfortable furniture in living rooms so that your guests can really sit down and talk. For instance, the use of a soft back small sofa or a love seat with a lot of beautiful pillows will create a more relaxed environment, but still be aesthetically pleasing. Since you have the fire place in your room, one suggestion you may want to consider would be to purchase a pair of loveseats or sofas and set them up facing each other with a cocktail table in the middle. This will give your room a focal point and allow for intimate conversation.

Depending on the size of you room, you could also put a couple of comfortable chairs with a table in between

off to another side of the room, to allow for more seating and again making it an inviting environment to entertain in.

The fabrics and the colors of the room will also play a big part in the formality of the room. You can use bold and bright colors, but I would mix the textures to make the room more inviting. For instance, you could use a rich chenille rather than velvet or use cotton damask over silk. This same principal holds true for the window treatments as well.

Depending on the size of your windows, there are many interesting treatments that can be done, without making the room too formal. For instance, you may want to talk to your interior designer about using a London shade or panels rather than the more formal look of swags and jabots.

Barbara Goodman Cresswell is President of Barbara Goodman Designs, Inc., a full service interior and design studio and showroom located in Greenville.

E-mail your questions to [askbarbara@barbaragoodmandesigns.com](mailto:askbarbara@barbaragoodmandesigns.com) or mail to:

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# 60 years of handshakes

Continued from Page 21

The firm's work is backed by a staff of 38 highly-trained and experienced workers who are trained in diagnostics for all the trades practiced at Frederick's.

"Most of our employees have been with us for at least eight to ten years, and some longer," says Brian. "We have two that date all the way back to my grandfather's time."

Frederick spends a great deal of money annually on in-house and offsite training. New employees enter the state's apprenticeship program, and will eventually receive HVAC NATE (North American Training Excellence) certification. Frederick's employees keep up with the latest technologies and are tested in all forms of heating, including heat pumps and oil burners.

"New hires have told us that the hardest part of the interview was not with us," says Robert, "but with our employees. They find the standards of performance and workmanship here, which have been set by our employees and not us, are a stringent test of what many thought they knew before they came here."

Brian adds that finding skilled employees can be difficult, given the demands for service that are growing faster than the trade is developing new workers to enter the field.

"The technology of equipment makes it harder to ignore regular maintenance," he notes. "That plus repairs is what is driving our business today."

The sense of employee ownership may best be exemplified when both Brian and Robert are out of town for a period of time at conventions or seminars.

"Our colleagues in the business are there, but their beepers or cell phones are constantly going off, to handle problems back at the shop," says

Brian. "Our phone hardly ever rings, because our employees not only know how to solve a problem, but know they have the authority based on their track record to do so."

Beyond the business, Brian and Robert are firmly rooted in the community in which they and their families live. Brian is a member of the Hockessin/Greenville Rotary, and all the firm's employees volunteer in many community sports programs, such as soccer and softball. Both Brian and Robert have been heavily involved in US Youth soccer, helping to train some of the three million youth members of that organization nationally by conducting anywhere from five to seven soccer tournaments annually in our area.

"A lot of time and effort goes into planning and conducting a weekend tournament," says Robert. "We wouldn't do it, unless we loved and were passionate about what we were doing."

That's the same love and passion that infuses the culture at Frederick's, too. "We're only as good as our weakest man," says Brian. "We've got to be as good as we say we are."

That must be pretty good, too, as the company was awarded the 2005 Delaware Better Business Bureau® Edward M. Rush Sr. Memorial Award. And as a satisfied Greenville customer recently wrote the company:

*"Of the representatives of the six companies who were invited to submit bids, you were the most knowledgeable and, by far, the most innovative in discerning how to deal with a complex system with challenging space/location issues. All of the people involved in the various diagnostic and installation phases, were knowledgeable, courteous and committed to quality workmanship and satisfying our needs. This total attitude can't exist in a company if it is not also at the top, so thanks to all of you."*

*"Our reputation is based on solving problems, not just changing parts."*

*Robert Frederick, Jr.  
Joseph Frederick & Sons*



*Robert Frederick, center, inherited Joseph Frederick & Sons from his father and passed the business along to his sons, Brian, left, and Robert, Jr., right.*

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*In celebration of its 60th anniversary, Joseph Frederick & Sons is making available a limited edition toy replica of its 1957 company vehicle, to all customers who order an Infinity Carrier heating and cooling system.*

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As this report uncovers, most home-sellers make 7 deadly mis-

takes that cost them literally thousands of dollars. The good news is that each and every one of these mistakes is entirely preventable.

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# Miss Delaware to compete for Miss America title

By Kevin Barrett  
Staff Reporter

Since she won the Miss Delaware Pageant in June, Jamie Ginn has been traveling around the state and the country promoting the Miss Delaware organization and her community platform, “A Cure for Crohn’s & Colitis Can’t Wait.”

At the same time, the Wilmington resident has been preparing for the Miss America Pageant. On January 19, she began appearances, rehearsals, and competition for Miss America 2007, which will be held at the Aladdin Resort & Casino in Las Vegas and televised on Country Music Television

(CMT) on January 29 at 8 p.m.

Ginn, who is on leave from DuPont where she is a chemical engineer, said she is very comfortable about the pageant in terms of her preparation and the support she is receiving, and is very content with knowing she could be Miss America. The possibility of getting to serve as Miss America for a year is more important, she said, than winning the pageant.

“To me, the pageant is a vehicle to get me to that job opportunity,” Ginn said.

In order to prepare for the pageant, Ginn said she has been doing a number of things. First and foremost, she said,

she has been preparing for the job of Miss America itself by traveling through the state and the region as much as she has been able so as to spread the message of Miss Delaware and her platform. Ginn won the Miss Delaware pageant in June, competing as Miss Brandywine.

A component of the competition, Ginn said, is a 12-minute interview, and she has been doing a lot of preparation for that portion. The interview, she said, is important because its one of the few ways judges really get to know you as a person. She said she doesn’t know what questions she will be asked, but they can be about anything from the contestants’ childhoods to their hobbies to current events.

To prepare, she said, she’s gone through about a dozen practice interviews. Also, she said, she’s developed a marketing plan for Miss America about what she will to promote the organization and her platform.

“That way, when I get into the interview, I’ll feel



Miss Delaware  
Jamie Ginn

prepared to do the job,” Ginn said.

She’s also been preparing her talent – jazz dance. She will be dancing to the Barry Manilow song “Dancing Fool”, and she said her routine was choreographed by Tyce Dorio, a professional singer, dancer, choreographer, and dance instructor who has appeared on the television show “So You Think You Can Dance”.

While the possibility of being Miss America excites her the most, Ginn said she is definitely looking forward to the pageant, especially to show herself off and represent Delaware well. She also really likes the clothes she picked out to wear in the competition. Getting all dressed up in fancy clothes like evening gowns, she said, is drastically different than being an engineer who sits in an office all day.

“I’m really looking forward to being pretty and reveling in the fact

I’m a young woman,” Ginn said.

Ginn met the other Miss America contestants in September when they filmed a documentary called “Pageant School: Becoming Miss America” which will air on CMT before the pageant. She said the filming was a lot of fun, she got close with a couple of the other contestants, and knowing the other women reduces the pressure she feels going into the pageant.

As for why she thinks she should be the new Miss America, Ginn said there are three major reasons: her corporate and business experience will hopefully help her in increase sponsorship of the Miss America organization; as the oldest of six children as well as having served in the corporate world, she can relate to people of all ages and her winning would eliminate stereotypes about pageantry and engineers.

“Those three things really make me the best candidate for Miss America,” Ginn said.

As for the future, Ginn said she doesn’t know exactly what her plans are, and much depends on what happens on January 29. She said she definitely wants to go back to school and continue her education. She said that, because she’s visited many children’s hospitals as Miss Delaware, her passion for medicine has been rekindled, and so she is considering working

towards a medical degree.

She is also considering, she said, getting a master’s degree in business administration. Whichever path she chooses, she said, she definitely wants to continue her work on behalf of Crohn’s Disease and Colitis.

“It’s difficult to say what the next step will be,” Ginn said. “I’ll definitely go back to school, and let the other chips fall where they may.”

Regardless of how the Miss America pageant goes, Ginn said she’s grateful for the opportunity to be Miss Delaware, and appreciative of all of the support she has received during her tenure.

She is also excited by the support her platform has received and is happy to have the opportunity to raise awareness of Crohn’s Disease.

Ginn chose that platform because her sister, Summer, was diagnosed with Crohn’s Disease, which is a chronic inflammatory disease of the intestines. Ginn said she has had the opportunity to meet hundreds of children that have the diseases and even traveled around the northeast visiting Summer camps for children with the diseases throughout the region.

“To meet young people who have met so much adversity and to see them happy and playing – that is the most rewarding experience,” Ginn said.



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## Social Announcements

### Spring, Monzo wed

Dana Michele Spring and Eric John Monzo were married at New Castle Presbyterian Church in New Castle. A reception was held in the Gold Ballroom at the Hotel duPont.

The bride is the daughter of Robert and Janet Spring of Hockessin. She graduated from St. Mark’s High School, the University of Delaware and Villanova University School of Law. She works for McCullough & McKenty in Wilmington.

The groom is the son of John and Mary Louise Monzo of Pittsburgh, Pa. He graduated from West Mifflin Area High School, Washington and Jefferson College and Widener University School of Law. He works for Cohen, Seglias, Pallas, Greenhall & Furman in Wilmington.



Dana Spring and Eric John Monzo

Karen E. Spring, sister of the bride, was maid of honor. Bridesmaids were Kelly Ballas, Dana Smith and Michele Dotto, friends of the bride, and Dana Esper, sister of the groom. Daniel Nicomatti, friend of the groom, was

best man. Ushers were Joseph Francis, W. Andrew Quinones, Sean Byrnes and Robert Spring, brother of the bride.

After the March 24th wedding, the couple honeymooned in Mexico. They live in Wilmington.