### CITY OF NEWARK MONTHLY NEWSLETTER MARCH 2025





# NEWARK POLICE DEPARTMENT ANNOUNCES LAUNCH OF BEHAVIORAL HEALTH UNIT IN PARTNERSHIP WITH CHRISTIANA CARE ~Gregory D'Elia

The Newark Police Department is proud to announce the establishment of a new Behavioral Health Unit, developed in collaboration with Christiana Care, to better serve community members experiencing mental health crises. The program is funded through the Delaware Criminal Justice Council's federal pass-thru Connect and Protect Grant.

This innovative partnership with Christiana Care aims to enhance the department's response to mental health-related calls by providing specialized, compassionate care, and connection to critical community resources. Eric Harrington has joined the Newark Police Department in the newly created role of Mental Health Case Manager. Mr. Harrington, a civilian mental healthcare professional employed through Christiana Care, brings specialized expertise and experience in mental health services. His primary responsibilities include reviewing police referrals, proactively identifying community members in need, and ensuring they receive appropriate mental health support and resources.

This new approach allows Mr. Harrington to interact with community members differently than uniformed



#### **CITY OF NEWARK ELECTION 2025 NEWS**

The City of Newark election for Mayor and District 1 representative will be held on Tuesday, April 8, 2025.

Mayor candidates are Travis McDermott, certified by the Board of Elections on December 12, 2024, and Michael O'Neal, certified by the Board of Elections on December 12, 2024. The term for Mayor is three years.

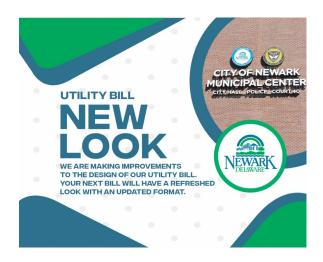
Candidates for District 1 are John Suchanec, certified by the Board of Elections on January 14, 2025, Demitri Theodoopoulos, certified by the Board of Elections on January 30, 2025, Walton Babich, certified by the Board of Elections on February 1, 2025, and Rebecca Stewart, certified by the Board of Elections on February 3, 2025. The term for representative is two years.

To vote in the election, you must be registered by Monday, March 17, 2025. Anyone who is registered to vote with the State of Delaware at a residence within the corporate limits of the City of Newark is eligible to vote. If you are unsure if you are registered, please call the City Secretary's Office at (302) 366-7000. To request an absentee ballot, fill out **this form** and send to the City Secretary's Office at 220 South Main Street, Newark, DE 19711.

If you have any questions about city elections, please call the City Secretary's Office at (302) 366-7000.

officers typically would, facilitating trust and openness that leads to better outcomes. The Behavioral Health Unit is designed not only to assist individuals in crisis but also to reduce repeat incidents, thereby enhancing overall public safety and community wellness. Mr. Harrington will have a full workload of cases while partnering with police officers on existing and new programs to benefit members of the community in need.

The Newark Police Department is committed to continuous improvement and innovation in public safety, with mental health and community well-being at the forefront. We look forward to seeing the positive impacts of this partnership and are grateful for the support and collaboration from Christiana Care.





#### **NEWARK BIKE PROJECT**

The City of Newark's Revenue Sharing Agreement funds the Newark Bike Project's (NBP) Free Bike Program. The Free Bike Program and Repair Voucher Program aim to support the local community by providing a bicycle or the necessary parts to repair a bicycle at no cost to those in need of financial assistance.

Individuals can use the bicycle for personal mobility, such as transportation to work, visiting family, grocery shopping, or for exercise and maintaining an active lifestyle.

To qualify for the program, individuals must receive a referral through social service organizations, including



## CITY OF NEWARK POINT OF INTEREST: NEWARK ARTS ALLIANCE

The Newark Arts Alliance (NAA) is an organization dedicated to the arts and gives the people of greater Newark the chance to participate in cultural events that foster community and to express and explore their creativity. Lessons and workshops, an art gift shop, gallery space for exhibitions, regular art group meetings, and special events are some of the opportunities available through the NAA. The Newark Arts Alliance was established in 1993 and is a membership organization. All work shown in the Terry Foreman Gallery or sold in the Members' Gallery Shop is created by local artists. The NAA was formerly located on Main Street in Newark but now has a larger space in the Shoppes of Louviers. The new Director, Pamela Draper, stated that the arts have a huge impact on combatting loneliness, promoting connection to others in the community, as well as having a positive impact on mental wellness.

The NAA is unique because it is run by volunteers and the three aspects of the alliance, classes, shows, and a shop, all have equal weight within the organization. Artists can show their art, they may use the space to offer classes, and they may sell their work in the alliance shop.

One of the NAA offerings is the Art to Go program where the alliance sponsors artistic opportunities for children and seniors through the Art Loop program. Another inspiring program offered by the NAA is Camp Imagine. This camp is for 7 – 12-year-old children and runs for two weeks, July 28 through August 8. Campers get to explore the arts through art, theater, singing, and dance. This camp is a safe place for all campers to explore their relationship with the arts and to feel celebrated.

Never been to the Newark Arts Alliance? Visit the beautiful gallery store at 207 Louviers Drive located on Paper Mill Road.

## JOIN THE MEMORIAL DAY PARADE PLANNING COMMITTEE

Newark's annual parade is set for Sunday, May 18 on

welfare and employment offices, Delaware DHSS offices, food banks, shelters, school nurses, and churches. NBP will then select a bicycle that best suits the applicant's needs.



## 2025 GREEN WEDNESDAY YARD WASTE COLLECTION

#### March 5 - December 3

All residents are required to use a City of Newark issued automated cart for all yard waste collection. The first cart is provided at no charge by the city; additional carts may be purchased by calling (302) 366-7000.

- · If you do not yet have an automated yard waste cart, please call Public Works & Water Resources at (302) 366-7000 or email <a href="mailto:yardwastecart@newark.de.us">yardwastecart@newark.de.us</a> to arrange for one to be delivered to you.
- All yard waste must be contained within the automated cart, with the lid closed.
- · Yard waste outside the cart will not be collected.
- With the exception of weeks containing a holiday, yard waste is picked up every Wednesday, and only on Wednesdays. There are no special collections or bulk pick-up service for yard waste.
- If the amount of your yard waste exceeds one cart, you may use your automated *refuse* cart (not the recycle cart) as a second yard waste cart, with one provision: there must be a sign, with bold lettering stating *YARD WASTE*, taped on the side of the cart facing oncoming traffic. If there is no sign on the cart, the driver will assume it contains refuse, and will not empty it.

#### ABOUT YARD WASTE COLLECTION

The Delaware Department of Natural Resources and Environmental Control's permit for the Delaware Solid Waste Authority's landfill operation in Wilmington includes a ban on dumping all yard waste effective January 24, 2008.

What may I put in my yard waste cart?

Main Street, and we are looking for dedicated volunteers to help plan this year's event! This is a great opportunity to honor our heroes, bring the community together, and make this event truly special. If you're interested in joining the committee, please contact us at parksrec@newark.de.us.

## NEWARK PARKS AND RECREATION SUMMER CAMP & PROGRAM FAIR

Join us for our Annual Newark Summer Camp and Program Fair on Tuesday, March 4 from 4:30 – 7 p.m. at Downes Elementary School. Discover the wide range of summer camps and programs available in the Newark area! Representatives will be on hand to showcase local camps, answer your questions, and provide detailed information about activities for all ages. Bring the whole family! We will have fun activities for the kids to enjoy while you explore! Don't miss this exciting chance to kickstart your summer plans!

## SPONSORSHIP & VENDOR PACKAGES FOR PARKS & RECREATION SPECIAL EVENTS

Sponsorship & Vendor Packages for Newark Parks and Recreation's 2025 events are available at **www.newarkde.gov/play**.

#### **PERFORMERS**

Anyone interested in performing at 2025 Parks and Recreation events, including the Spring Concert Series, Liberty Day, and Winterfest are asked to submit a demo (CD or electronic link) and a letter of interest. Please include all contact information, and fee structures for performances. Performers will only be contacted if selected for an event or performance.

Newark Parks and Recreation 220 South Main Street Newark, DE 19711

Email: parksrec@newark.de.us

Brush (up to 6 inches in diameter)
Garden Debris (dirt-free)
Grass Clippings
Landscaping Trimmings
Leaves

What may I not put in my yard waste cart?
Christmas wreaths
Household plants
Trash or Recycling

Please Note: If it doesn't grow in your yard, it doesn't go in the cart (no man-made material)! Contaminated carts will be subject to fines.









#### **WELCOME TO THE CITY!**

The City of Newark is welcoming new faces to our workforce. Our new employees are:

- · Dennis Lasassa, Police Officer, Police Department, 02/03/2025
- Fernando Rodriguez, Maintenance I, Public Works & Water Resources Department/Refuse Division, 02/10/2025
- · Robert Davis, Maintenance I, Public Works & Water Resources Department/Stormwater Division, 02/10/2025
- $\cdot$  Cecily Charles, Intern, Police Department, 02/18/2025
- $\cdot$  Raven Samokhvalov, Customer Service Representative I, Finance Department/PUB Division, 02/24/2025



City Of Newark, Delaware | 220 South Main Street | Newark, DE 19711 US

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