

City of Seaford News



Issue Number 4 | October | 2014

City & Hospital are making strides against cancer by “Going Pink!”

October is Breast Cancer Awareness Month. During the month and for the seventh year in a row, Gateway Park and several Nanticoke Health Services facilities will be decorated with pink lights in the fountains and around the trees.

Nanticoke Cancer Care Center, in conjunction with the City of Seaford, will host a Cancer Walk/Candle Light vigil on Monday, October 6. The walk will begin with a social gathering at the Cancer Care Center (adjacent to the hospital) located on Middleford Road at 7 p.m. At 7:30 p.m., participants will stroll in a candle-lit procession to Gateway Park, at which time the event ceremony will take place.

One in eight women will be diagnosed with breast cancer in her lifetime. In Sussex County all women can complete a mammogram, even if they have no insurance, through the DHSS Screening for Life program or Susan G. Komen Grant funds.

Please join us on October 6 in our efforts to support those who are fighting this disease or in remembrance of those we have lost. Through this event, we hope to educate and promote screenings for early cancer detection. We encourage our businesses and/or residents to join us in our mission to “go pink” and continue to encourage your loved ones to get their cancer screenings. For more information, contact Melinda Huffman at Nanticoke Cancer Care – 302.629.6615 or Trisha Newcomer at the City Office – 302.629.9173.

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A message from the desk of Mayor David Genshaw

I want to thank you for taking the time to read our City Newsletter. We hope you will find it full of information and with things going on in our community.

We are finishing a very busy summer! The Spade and Trowel Garden Club did a wonderful job with leading our beautification effort, starting with the bridge on Middleford Road by the hospital. Which were paid for by the City and Nanticoke Health Services. We are still enjoying the flowers. Along with the Chamber of Commerce, the Spade and Trowel Club promoted this effort and helped several other businesses continue the theme with containers and flower suggestions. Thanks to all that participated; planning for next year has already begun.

We continue to see marked improvement in the business climate along with new opportunities. Our focus has been on how to streamline our process to expedite projects so that doing business with Seaford is a great experience. Thanks also to the S.E.T. (Seaford Enhancement Team) as well as DSA (Downtown Seaford Association) for the work they continue to do to help make positive impacts downtown and in the entire City.

As we wrap up the 20th anniversary of Riverfest, we are quickly moving towards our next celebration which is the 150th anniversary of the City of Seaford. A committee has been meeting and putting ideas together. Expect to hear more on this.

We have made great strides in the area of customer service and I am really proud of our folks. It's our plan to make a recognizable change for the better. This is part of our weekly discussions and will continue to be so. I also am very thankful for our City Council and the time and effort the members contribute to make a difference in their community.

Your feedback is always appreciated. Enjoy the fall!



Business Spotlight



In an effort to promote the local economy and better familiarize our community with its businesses, the City wants to recognize newly established businesses and highlight significant accomplishments and accolades of its existing businesses.

Has your business been recognized in some way or is it expanding? Then we would like to put it in the "spotlight!" Information can be sent to the City's Economic Development Manager, Trisha Newcomer, at: tnewcomer@seafordde.com

Seaford recently welcomed the *Duck-In Car Wash*, north of Walmart. Be sure to stop in and say hello; it's open daily.

Something Hot Specialty Sauces' owner, Rick Ewing, received a "Best of Delaware" award by Delaware Today magazine, for his Eaglewingz Chesapeake Style Hot Sauce. Eaglewingz is the only hot sauce made, bottled and shipped from Delaware.

The shop is located at the corner of Phillips St. & Stein Hwy. Congratulations to Rick; the City is proud to have Something Hot located here. Stop by to taste why Eaglewingz is the "Best of Delaware."

Downtown Seaford Association to host Halloween parade & party

Dress up, come have fun! The Downtown Seaford Association is holding its annual Halloween Parade and Party on Wednesday, October 29.



Line up for the parade will begin at 6:15 p.m. at Cedar Avenue & High Street; the parade will step-off at 7 p.m. and end at the Seaford Fire Hall. Individuals must be in costume to participate; ages newborn to adult may enter. There will be a costume contest and goodies at the party, with trophies being awarded to costume winners.

While the parade will be canceled if it rains, the party and costume contest will still be held at the Seaford Fire Hall at 7 p.m.

Trick or Treat on October 31

Trick or treat will be held on October 31, 6 to 8 p.m. Seaford always holds Trick or Treat on October 31 regardless of the day of the week on which it falls. Children ages 12 and under are welcome to participate. To keep your little ones safe and make the event enjoyable for all, here are a few helpful tips:

- Children should be accompanied by a responsible adult.
- Adults should plan a route in advance.
- Be sure a child's mask allows full visibility and breathing.
- Only trick or treat at homes that are well lit and walk in well-lit areas.
- Costumes should be flame-retardant and allow children to walk freely without tripping.
- Extra care should be taken on streets and at crossings, especially at dusk and after dark.
- An adult should always examine Halloween treats before children eat them.

Be safe... Have fun!



Friendly Reminders

- If an electric outage occurs, please call 629-4550
- Snow & ice should be removed from the sidewalks/ curbing in front of or adjacent to your property within 24 hours after the snow has stopped falling.
- In addition to the usual City Building Permits, permits are also required for sheds, sidewalks & curbing, fencing and swimming pools. Sussex County may also require a permit. To confirm if you need a permit from Sussex County, call the County Permit Office at 302-855-7720.
- The accumulation of trash is a health and life safety hazard. Every property should have durable metal or plastic containers with tight-fitting lids to hold trash bags. The containers should, at a minimum, be emptied weekly.

Downtown Seaford Christmas Parade set for December 6



“*A Star Bright Christmas*” is the theme of Seaford’s 2014 Christmas Parade, scheduled for Saturday, December 6 with caroling at 6 p.m. at City Hall steps & Seaford Museum.

The parade begins at 7 p.m. at the corner of Nylon Boulevard and Pennsylvania Avenue, marches east up High Street past the Judge’s Stand at the Mt. Olivet parking lot, turns north (left) onto Market Street and ends at Seaford Middle School.

Recognized as the largest Christmas parade on Delmarva, we are sure you won’t be disappointed! Bring a chair or a blanket (or both!) and your friends for a cheery, enchanting evening! *Rain date: Sunday, December 7, 7 p.m.* To sign up as an entry in the Christmas parade, go to www.mychristmasparade.com.

Mayor Genshaw supports Community Food Drive

Mayor David Genshaw, in partnership with the Community Food Closet located at St. John’s United Methodist Church and Seaford-Blades Associated Charities, Inc., is pleased to announce a community food drive to serve local families in need this holiday season. He is asking our community support this worthy cause.



Beginning Wednesday, October 1 through Friday, December 12, collection boxes will be in City Hall for the collection of non-perishable, non-expired food items. The donated items will be given to the agencies above for distribution to those in need in the Seaford area.

Collection boxes will also be available at this year’s Caroling in the Park event on Monday, December 1. As you come out for an evening of festive cheer, please remember those less fortunate; bring a food item and help make someone’s holiday season a little brighter.

Upcoming
Sign-Ups for
Winter Sports:
Little Wrestlers
Ages 6-12, Cost
\$35; Deadline
October 31

Girls/Boys
Basketball Ages
6-13, Cost \$35;
Deadline Oct. 31

Jr. Jordan
Basketball Clinic
Boys/Girls Ages
5-7 Cost \$10;
Deadline
December 22

A copy of birth
certificate is
needed to register.

Contact the
Recreation Office
at 302-629-6809
for more
information.

Seaford Community Night Out against Crime and Drugs – Oct. 2



For the 23rd straight year, the Seaford community will again have the opportunity to join neighbors and police officers in a night to “give crime and drugs a going away party.” The event will be held on the grounds of the Seaford Police Department, 300 Virginia Avenue, and the Boys and Girls Club.

The Seaford Police Department and Delaware State Police Troop #5 have joined forces with the Western Sussex Boys and Girls Club and are planning a special fun-filled evening for the entire family. From 5 p.m. to 8 p.m., there will be music, numerous public service exhibits and give-aways, games for kids, free hamburgers, hot dogs, soft drinks and other food items.

FOP Lodge #9 will sponsor the Official Amber Alert Child Safety/ID Kit, which includes an inkless fingerprint strip approved by the National Crime and Information Center; the kit also includes a forensic DNA archiving card so you can collect your child’s DNA sample through a non-invasive method. The DNA sample can be stored at room temperature for up to 28 years.

There will be police demonstrations of canine units, motorcycle units, a bomb robot, DSP Mounted Unit along with the Seaford Police and Delaware State Police mobile command posts. Numerous public service agencies and displays, including the Office of Highway Safety and Attorney General’s Office, will be present. SIDNE (simulated impaired driving experience) will have it’s go-karts ready to go.

Also present will be The Delaware Army National Guard Counter Drug Task Force will be on hand with its display and climbing wall, the American Red Cross, Delaware Department of Natural Resources, and many more. Nanticoke Memorial Hospital will offer free blood pressure checks and, as always, McGruff the Crime Fighting Dog will make an appearance.

Tony Windsor of the Western Sussex Boys and Girls Club will be the MC and provide the music. Two children’s bikes and helmets, donated by Wal-Mart, will be given away near the end of the event.

E-Bills & Online Payments available for your convenience



Did you know the City offers E-Bill and Online Payments? You can sign up to have your utility bill delivered right to your e-mail inbox. By doing so, you no longer have to worry about not receiving a bill in the mail; information will be available at your fingertips with the click of a button.

Sign up today by calling the office at 302.629.9173 or email your request to jsapp@seafordde.com

Forgot to drop your tax or utility payment in the mail? Not to worry, Seaford offers online bill payment and account inquiry services on its Web site at www.seafordde.com.

Our system accepts the following forms of payment: MasterCard, Discover, American Express, Visa Credit Cards, STAR, PULSE, NYCE and Visa Debit Cards and E-Check. Online payment of a disconnected account will not result in automatic reconnection, as additional fees will be due. No after hours reconnects are available with an online payment.

Please note our bill pay system is provided by an outside agency, and a convenience fee is assessed for online bill payments. Additionally, for your convenience, the traditional payment methods - in person, by mail, or by drop box located next to the drive-thru window at City Hall, 414 High Street - are available.

For more information about e-bill or online payment, contact customer service at 302.629.9173.

Winter Golf at Hooper's Landing

Enjoy reduced rates for winter golf! From November 1 to March 31 daily rates are \$30 with cart. On Wednesdays take advantage of a special rate of \$20 with cart. Walking rates are also available.

Hooper's Landing Golf Course, Locust Street in Seaford, is one of the best values for golf on the Delmarva Peninsula. This 18-hole championship golf course will challenge both your length and accuracy. If you would like to schedule a tee time or have more questions, please call 302-629-2890.



Seaford announces the winner of its Storm Preparation Ambient Radio Raffle

Congratulations to Jessica Vazquez, winner of Seaford's 2014 Storm Preparation Ambient Radio Raffle!

This raffle is part of the City's Storm Preparation Education campaign to teach its citizens how to prepare and stay safe during electric storms, tornadoes, and hurricanes. An informational display at City Hall enabled the public to learn more about this important message because preparation through education is less costly than learning through tragedy. Preparing for an emergency includes customers staying informed. The City cautions that all storms should be taken seriously, and the public should take appropriate action for each type of storm.

While power outages may not always be unavoidable, your Seaford electric utility crew is preparing year-round to keep the lights on, especially during storm season. Seaford proactively works to mitigate outages versus reacting to them by focusing on system improvements which positions the community to be prepared for inclement weather and storms.

System improvements are identified by performing regular inspections of the grid and equipment, testing of systems and substations, and prudent tree trimming to prevent outages due to downed tree limbs. Your public power utility recognizes that stewardship of utility assets is essential to ensure system reliability and performance not only during storm season but for the long term.

To learn more about preparing for storm season, visit the Delaware Municipal Electric Corporation (DEMEC) website www.demecinc.net

DEMEC was formed in 1979 as a public corporation constituted as a Joint Action Agency and a wholesale electric utility. DEMEC represents and serves the nine municipal electric distribution utilities located in the State of Delaware.

Members of DEMEC are the cities and towns of Clayton, Dover, Lewes, Middletown, Milford, New Castle, Newark, Seaford and Smyrna. Collectively, they serve over 100,000 residents and businesses in their respective communities. In total DEMEC's Members have a peak load over 450 Megawatts. DEMEC is a generation owner and the PJM Load Serving Entity ("LSE") for eight of these municipal utilities (except Dover) and provides 100 percent of their wholesale power supply requirements.

Did you know that Public Power Week is October 5-12? This week celebrates the importance of public power to local citizens and other key publics, including state and national officials.



Pictured Left to right: Dolores Slatcher, Seaford City Manager; Jessica Vazquez, Seaford raffle winner; David Genshaw, Seaford Mayor.

Celebrating 25 Years!



Donna Massey, Records Clerk
Seaford Police Department



Glenn Van Fleet, Lieutenant
Seaford Police Department

Congratulations to Donna Massey and Glenn VanFleet for 25 years of employment with the City of Seaford. The Mayor, City Council and City Management are grateful for their service and jobs well done; a special thank you to their families for sharing them with the City. Wishing them well as they continue to be valuable members of the City's team!

Protecting Your Property from Flood Damage

Seaford's Flood Hazard: Seaford is in a fairly good situation with regard to the elevations subject to flooding. On the banks of the Nanticoke River, the range is from eight (8) feet above sea level to 30 feet above sea level. These elevations place very few properties in the flood zone.

Flood Warning System: Unique local factors make it especially important that residents and businesses be aware of local flood warnings. During extreme conditions, the bridge at Blades Causeway could cause some inconvenience to persons living south of the Nanticoke River. When flooding threatens the area, tune to the following media sources for information:

Radio: FM Stations: 92.5, 92.7, 93.5, 95.3, 95.9, 97.1, 97.5, 97.7, 98.5, 98.9, 99.9, 101.3, 103.5, 103.9, 105.9.

AM Stations: 930, 960, 1320, 1470.

TV Stations: WBOC 16, FOX 21, WMDT 47.

or Online: www.wbc.com
delaware.newszap.com/sussexcountypost
www.seafordstar.com

Also, the NOAA weather radios are a good source of flood hazard information. Most importantly, listen for and act on official warnings issued by the City.

Protecting Your Property from Flood Damage (continued)

Flood Safety: There are several steps you can take in order to increase your personal safety and protect your property if Seaford is hit by a severe flood. Shut off your electricity and gas prior to evacuation. This greatly reduces the chance of fire. The Delaware Dept. of Transportation warns that driving in water which is six (6) inches or deeper is hazardous. When water obscures the road surface, flood induced cracks, holes and undermining can be deadly.

Flood Insurance: The City of Seaford participates in the National Flood Insurance Program. In exchange for the flood hazard reduction codes enforced by the City, affordable flood insurance is available to all residents within the community.

Homeowner's insurance does NOT cover flood damage. Flood insurance may be purchased from a number of local agents and structure and/or content coverage may be tailored to your needs. If you are in a flood zone and do not have flood insurance, FEMA will not pay for any damages in the event of a catastrophe.

Property Protection: Store loose ground level objects on elevated decks or porches. Consider replacing damaged steps, boardwalks or sheds with types that can be adequately anchored or elevated for safety. Your automobile is at great risk if you leave it in the city during a flood. Examine your home or business frequently for signs of stresses which may indicate an increased vulnerability. Are foundations rotting or cracking? Are pile-to-joist connections pulling apart? Does your home have hurricane clips that are in good shape? By finding signs of weakness before the storm hits, you may be able to avoid major problems. If you are experiencing flood damage to your property, the City Building Official can suggest ways to prevent it.

Permit Procedure: Please remember that all development in Seaford requires a Building Permit which can be obtained at City Hall. By doing this, you ensure that the proposed work will conform to the local Building Code and be properly designed to resist flood damage. *For additional information on the Community Flood Hazard Areas, see more information filed at the Seaford District Library or stop by City Hall.*

Flood Hazard Zones: The City of Seaford provides many services which can help you design a flood resistant structure or reduce the threat to an existing one. The key is to know the base flood elevation on your site. Seaford's Building Official has up to date floodplain maps. As the Floodplain Coordinator for the community, the Building Official can locate your property on the Flood Insurance Rate Map and provide a Flood Zone Determination. The Building Official can also advise you on how to minimize flood risk. The City also has copies of Elevation Certificates for some properties in the floodplain.

Drainage Maintenance: A City as low and as flat as Seaford is going to have drainage problems by its very nature. Please be aware that additional construction will lead to excessive ponding of water. The streets can become dangerous when standing water causes loss of traction to drivers. You can assist in resolving this potential problem by locating catch basins on or around your property. Check them periodically. Assist in keeping debris off of them and report any problems that you observe.

Making Improvements to Your Property: One of the primary objectives of floodplain Building Codes is to reduce flood damage. For this reason, older flood prone buildings must be brought up to current flood protection standards if and when a substantial improvement is undertaken.

Please contact Josh Littleton, the City Building Official, at 302-629-9173 with any questions.

For more information regarding floods, visit the Federal Emergency Management Agency website www.fema.gov or at www.floodsmart.gov.

Participate in the holiday decorating contest

Mayor David Genshaw invites city residents to participate in Seaford's 2014 Holiday Decorating Contest.

All residents within the corporate limits of the City of Seaford are encouraged to decorate the exterior of their houses or apartments and compete for cash prizes - \$100 for first place, \$75 for second place, and \$50 for third place.

There is no fee or registration necessary to participate. The Holiday Decorating Committee will tour the City during the evenings of December 15 through December 19 to select three winners. Those residents will be notified by the Mayor, and the awards will be presented at the regular council meeting on January 13, 2015.

Help light up our community and make this a joyous season for everyone!

HAPPY.
HOLIDAYS



Annual Caroling in the Park

Jingle bells



The Gateway Park Committee and the City of Seaford will host the 21st annual Caroling in the Park Celebration on Monday, December 1 at 7 p.m. in Gateway Park (rain date is Friday, December 5). This long-standing event is a great way for you and your family to begin the holiday season. Rumor has it that there may be a visit from Santa!

The Gateway Park Committee has been dedicated to ensuring a festive holiday season for Seaford residents by decorating Gateway Park for more than two decades.



Nanticoke begins next phase in healthcare

On Thursday, September 4 Nanticoke Health Services began the next phase in healthcare in Western Sussex County. The construction of Nanticoke Health Pavilion Seaford will include the addition of a 33,100 square foot medical office building to be located in between the two existing buildings on the Mears Health Campus.

This new building will become the home of Nanticoke Physician Network providers, including primary care and specialty providers, currently located around the Seaford area.

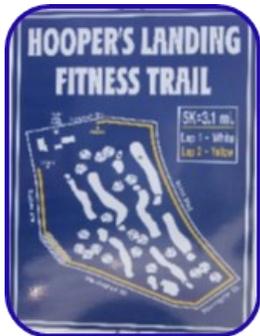


Photo by Steve Theis

“Combining all of these services in one location makes it easier for patients to access the care they need,” said Steven Rose, RN, MN, President/CEO of Nanticoke. “Patients will be able to see their care providers in the same convenient location where they access diagnostic imaging, lab and rehabilitation services. Nanticoke Immediate Care will also remain a part of the services provided at the Pavilion.”

In his comments, Mr. Rose discussed the changing healthcare environment with an increased focus on preventative care and better care coordination. Nanticoke Health Services has been recognized at the highest level as a Patient-Centered Medical Home (PCMH) by the National Council on Quality Assurance (NCQA). Being a patient-centered medical home means putting patients at the center of care, focusing on wellness and prevention, helping patients better manage health conditions, and helping patients remove barriers to care through better coordination across all settings.

The groundbreaking for the Nanticoke Health Pavilion in Seaford, combined with its Health Pavilions in Georgetown (opening late September) and Laurel (opening late October), Nanticoke Health Services is changing the way it delivers care. Putting patients at the center of care, making changes to make it easier to access care, and connecting care providers to better diagnose and treat patients; Nanticoke is striving to be your home for healthcare.



Mayor will host quarterly “Walk & Talk”

Have you ever wished you had the opportunity to have a candid conversation with the Mayor? Have you been thinking about focusing on a healthier you? Well, now you can do both.

On Monday, October 6 at 6 p.m., Mayor David Genshaw will host his first of three quarterly “Walk & Talk” events at the Hooper’s Landing Walking Trail; the other events will be held the first Monday in April and July, 2015.

“As the City of Seaford’s Mayor, as I want to provide an opportunity for our residents to speak with me in an informal setting, as well as give them an opportunity to be outdoors participating in a healthy venue. I look forward to seeing you there!” said Genshaw.



Distinguished Alumni Award

Congratulations to ED/IT Manager Trisha Newcomer, the 2014 Distinguished Alumnus for Delaware Technical Community College in Georgetown

On September 24 Trisha was inducted into the alumni Walk of Success at the Owens Campus. She was recognized for her professional/career achievements related to her college degrees, service to the College and its surrounding communities, leadership activities and reputation among colleagues, academic achievements. She received a plaque and a bronze one will be placed on the walkway.

Electric Department Update

We have almost completed the Verizon, DP&L, Comcast and City of Seaford project on Stein Highway. All of the overhead services have been transferred over and all that is left to do is to transfer some Verizon and Comcast underground feeds. They have a couple of old poles to pull out, once the underground feeds get transferred.

I would like to thank all of the residents and businesses along Stein Highway for their patience, understanding and cooperation during this project. We replaced 33 poles and transferred services from 4 utilities during this project. The project work started August 7 and went very smoothly, I want to thank the contractor, AUI, for their cooperation and willingness to work with the schedule of all four utilities involved. AUI is still working on Stein Highway from Sussex Avenue to Neal's School Road on another project for DP&L. Please be safe around all construction workers on the roadway.

We will soon be taking bids on some tree trimming work that should start in November to help maintain the reliability of our electric system. The bids are for areas where the trees and power lines are in backyards and we can't get to them with our bucket trucks. Tree trimming is done for system reliability to prevent as many outages as we can for our customers.

Another project that has been going on is the Route 13 intersection project. It is planned for the intersection at Tharp Road and Sussex Highway including the intersection at WalMart to be completed by the end of October. The intersection at Norman Eskridge and Sussex Highway at McDonald's has been completed with the exception of the traffic signals being installed. The intersection at Middleford Road and Sussex Highway at Gulf is currently getting relocation work completed by DP&L and Verizon which is scheduled to be completed by the end of October and then roadwork will resume. The intersection at Concord Road and Sussex Highway at Royal Farms should also be completed by the end of October.

Thank you for your patience during the roadwork and be safe while driving in those areas!

