



Compliments of Bob Weiner, your County Councilman
"Making County Government Work for Us"
Council District 2, New Castle County, DE

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[Attention civic leaders: You may want to share this electronic newsletter with your neighbors!](#)

Councilman Bob Weiner will be singing and dancing to help raise money for the Delaware March of Dimes.

The show is called "Dancing for Babies". This is Delaware's own version of "Dancing With the Stars". You are invited this Monday April 11 to the Christiana Hilton Ballroom; the show starts promptly at 7 PM. Your \$10 admission supports this worthy cause; and can be purchased at the door or on the [March of Dimes website](#). Councilman Bob will open the show singing with the [Kishka a cappella Quartet](#). You can also visit the March of Dimes Delaware Chapter on [Facebook](#). Admission also includes a dance concert, with live music by "Club Phred", after the 11 local celebrities finish their dance routines.

Sign unveiling will commemorate long journey to road's naming

The entrance to Talley Day Park and the Brandywine Hundred Library was named J. Harlan Day Drive in honor of the man who sold the county 20 acres for the park complex in 1975. The dedication will take place Sunday.

New Castle County has set 2:30 p.m. Sunday April 10, 2011 for a ceremonial sign unveiling in a long-awaited road dedication.

County Executive Paul G. Clark made the previously nameless road's new moniker official in January, designating the entrance to Talley Day Park and Brandywine Hundred Library as J. Harlan Day Drive.

The sign was installed Jan. 3, but its unveiling ceremony was delayed for warmer [weather](#) .

The ceremony, with comments from Day family members, will be held in the corner of the library parking lot closest to the green-and-white sign, county officials say. The event, free and open to the public, will be in the library if it rains.

The road naming was a longstanding aim of Day family members, Brandywine Hundred residents and leaders including County Councilman Bob Weiner and Jonathan Husband in the county's Department of Special Services.

Road namesake Joseph Harlan Day sold the county 20 acres for the park complex in 1975. The county later bought 35 more acres from another prominent Brandywine Hundred farming family, the Talleys.

The idea of naming the road for Day was proposed years before his death in 1981.

The proposal resurfaced in 2008, after Weiner and James Hanby Sr. hosted a Brandywine Hundred oral history forum, featuring Day's son as one of the honored speaker-guests.

John William Day Sr. -- who was born in 1928 and grew up in a house that stood where the [soccer](#) fields are now -- said after the January naming he was pleased it finally happened.

He said it also would have pleased his father, who lived the rest of his life at the site in a \$1-a-year lease-back he set up.

Their family has been a Brandywine Hundred mainstay since 1786, when Francis Day bought more than 100 acres to farm from Shellpot Creek to what is now Heatherbrook.

Clark called the road naming "a way to recognize a unique piece of New [Castle](#) County history." He acted on it quickly after taking office -- rising from County Council president after County Executive Chris Coons was elected to the U.S. Senate -- because of "numerous requests from Day relatives and community members."

"It's such a simple and deserving request that it's a shame it took so long to do," he said.

Despite its delay, Weiner calls the name "a fitting honor."

Written by Robin Brown News Journal rbrown@delawareonline.com.

Weiner Proposes Curb on Abuses of "Paper Redevelopment"

3-13-2011 In response to Tuesday March 8, 2011's introduction of a new law to expand the use of "paper redevelopment" plans, Councilman Weiner plans to introduce a counter proposal at the March 22, 2011 County Council meeting. The Weiner proposal would curtail use of vacant green fields as acceptable "redevelopment" projects. Under current law, development projects accepted under the "redevelopment" process in New Castle County undergo a relaxed standard of review, pay no impact fees to the County, and need not conduct traffic impact studies to obtain approval. Explained Weiner, "Even under the present redevelopment ordinance, the Department of Land Use has not even made developers adhere to the requirement that at least a 50% demolition of existing

structures has to take place to qualify as a redevelopment. Instead, green open fields are fair game for these relaxed standards. When I saw that the proposed revision allows any recorded, unbuilt plan to qualify as a redevelopment, not just those that earned grandfathering by building part of the recorded structures within 5 years, I felt that an incorrect view of the Unified Development Code was being ratified and expanded upon, so Lisa and I decided to propose something different.”

Ordinance 11-020 and the Weiner proposal are very largely opposing visions of what “redevelopment” should be. “Green spaces, never before developed, should not get favorable treatment in the process,” proclaimed Weiner. “A blighted property is a different matter – that’s a drag on the community and giving a little on certain standards can help turn those properties around.” Weiner observed that the public should also have a say in major redevelopment plans, adding to the process a proposed Planning Board public hearing and certification requirement so the community gets a say in whether the plan meets the more stringent redevelopment criteria they propose. This would also allow the public to challenge plans improperly accepted for processing as redevelopments, which both say has been a problem with past project. Both also oppose relaxed traffic studies for major plans changing the use of redevelopment properties from what had been anticipated at original plan approval, and the lack of standards to improve failing intersections in both current law and competing ordinance 11-020.

Weiner criticized ordinance 11-020, introduced by Councilmen Reda for the County Land Use Department as being too similar to a redevelopment proposal previously introduced by Councilman Tim Sheldon. If adopted, Weiner says ordinance 11-020 would put the County’s official stamp of approval on paper redevelopment, ending the dispute about whether it is allowed or not. Plus given the light traffic analysis requirements related to “redevelopment”, Weiner sees difficulties in figuring out at what level the intersections are really operating to apply the ordinance, which in theory is supposed to prevent intersections operating at Level D or below from becoming “worse”.

As for current redevelopment law, Weiner believe that developers and the County Land Use Department have twisted the language adopted by Council and accepted inappropriate plans for redevelopment such as Governor’s Square, which proposes new big boxes in a green field, and Barley Mill, which does not involve demolition of a blighted or non-economically viable structure. Weiner supports keeping the status quo and interpreting the current law correctly rather than adopting the Reda proposal, which like the Sheldon proposal, liberalizes the use of redevelopment in the guise of “clarifying” the UDC.

Opponents of both Barley Mill Plaza and Governor’s Square have based their opposition on their interpretation of current redevelopment law, claiming that the plain language of the redevelopment ordinance as previously enacted by County Council requires demolition of at least 50% of the old buildings on a property. The word “demolished” does not mean “never constructed,” in Weiner’s view, and the community strongly opposes that interpretation. A building which has never been constructed is not the same thing as a building that has been demolished. It’s that simple, they claim. Under fire for its “misuse” of redevelopment, the Governor’s Square developer resubmitted its plan as a Minor Land Development Plan, but if the property is rezoned as the developer has requested, and the redevelopment law is liberalized, there would be nothing to stop a resubmission of that plan under the new, more permissive law.

In enacting relief for developers doing “real” redevelopment, County Council intended to protect existing communities against the blight of abandoned or severely declining properties by creating incentives to encourage their redevelopment. These incentives include exemption from impact fees, possible waiver of traffic impact study, and relaxation of code requirements. The cost to the public of granting these incentives makes sense when applied to protect the community against blight, such as sites like Tri-State Mall or Merchandise Mart. This special treatment makes no sense when applied to property that is not threatening to drag down adjoining property values, and that if developed as proposed will harm rather than hurt adjoining communities.

Councilman Weiner stated, "I understand Councilman Sheldon's concern given the controversy around paper redevelopment, but the real problem is accepting plans that don't qualify under the law as it is, and Tim's proposal (as well as the County Land Use Dept/Reda proposal) does nothing to address what is in the pipeline now. Also, I'd like to see the ability for a qualified redevelopment plan to get credit for its approved square footage preserved so long as it does not result in the loss of valuable resources. We just need better enforcement and direction from the County Department of Land Use."

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New Castle County Comprehensive Plan

April 1, 2011 Update

Documents from the March 30, 2011 Future Land Use Public Topic Meeting are now available online:

<http://projects.jmt.com/new-castle-county-comprehensive-plan/mar-meeting-3.aspx>

Documents include the presentation, maps, and handouts used during the meeting.

Future Event

The next Public Topic Meeting will be on Economic Development and will be Wednesday, April 13, 2011 at 6:30 pm.. This Topic Meeting will involve guests from the Delaware Economic Development Office, the Delaware Department of Agriculture, and the New Castle County Office of Economic Redevelopment.

You are receiving this email because you subscribed to the New Castle County Comprehensive Plan Newsletter.

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Attached please find the 2010 Annual Report for the Emergency Medical Services Division of the Department of Public Safety. The report will be included in the Delaware EMS Oversight Council (DEMSOC) annual report to the Governor and Delaware General Assembly.

(Click here to view report <http://www.co.new-castle.de.us/countycouncil/home/fileuploads/images/2010%20ems%20annual%20report.pdf>)

Respectfully,



Lawrence E. Tan, Chief
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New Castle County Police Department
Colonel Michael McGowan
Chief of Police

NEWS RELEASE

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Media Coordinator's Office
(302) 395-8005
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March 29, 2011

35th Police Academy Commencement Ceremony

The New Castle County Police Department's 35th Police Academy graduated 19 recruit officers at Pearson Hall, on the University of Delaware campus. After nearly seven months of intense academic, physical and stressful training, the recruit officers received their badges for the first time. The graduates include seventeen from the New Castle County Police Department, two from the Middletown Police Department and one from the Ocean View Police Department.

New Castle County Executive Paul G. Clark hosted the graduation ceremony accompanied by Colonel Michael C. McGowan. Also, Chief Henry V. Tobin III of the Middletown Police Department and Chief Kenneth McLaughlin from the Ocean View Police Department honored the graduates.

The following 19 police graduates received their badges before their family and friends:

Brittany K. Cox.....	New Castle County Police
Philip M. DiGati.....	Middletown Police
Robert W. Ellis.....	New Castle County Police
Donald L. Fisher.....	New Castle County Police
Bradley S. Landis.....	New Castle County Police
Roosevelt Lockett Jr.....	New Castle County Police
Mary E. Malin.....	New Castle County Police
Ryan M. Marley.....	New Castle County Police
Mark A. McCracken.....	New Castle County Police
Jessica R. Neipris.....	New Castle County Police
Ronald K. Phillips Jr.....	New Castle County Police
Sean C. Ryan.....	New Castle County Police
Matthew M. Schneider.....	Middletown Police
Nicholas A. Sexton.....	New Castle County Police
Tyler S. Shears.....	New Castle County Police
Zachary G. Spudis.....	Ocean View Police
Leigh Taylor.....	New Castle County Police
Megan E. Weyl.....	New Castle County Police
Raymond A. Williams; IV.....	New Castle County Police

Councilman Weiner's Spring Bark Park Maintenance Day A Success!!

"Without the assistance of our good citizens, this cleanup would not exist."

**A BIG Thanks to Boy Scout Troop 67, Aldersgate Church,
DELMARVA Council, Freedom Trail District**

**Ian Armstrong, Kolyn Cable, Spencer Cable, Matthew Cohen, Chris Durgin, Noah Friedken,
Owen Hughes, Javier Rhone, Michael Spitaleri, Joshua Stone, Mr. Craig Durgin, Mrs.
Heather Durgin, Mr. John Walker, Mrs. Vicki Hughes**

A BIG Thanks to Lynn Rappa and Bank of America and their Volunteers!

**Mike Meredith, Lynn Rappa, Marie Paoletti-Downes' Suranjan Roy, Paula Smith, Holly Zeoli, ,
Stephanie Brown, Steve Robinson, Pat Jenkins, Cathy Hartranft, Steve Lambert, Gloria
Jones, Alex Bojko,
Jeannie Carrow, Lynn Rappa**



Councilman Bob Weiner helping to spread mulch



Boy Scout Troop 67 Aldersgate Church and Girl Scout Troop 783



MEDIA RELEASE CONTACT:
mjennings@delawaregreenways.org

Delaware Greenways' Family Trail Days, Series Three

Family Trail Day guided walks provide incentive and opportunity for people to explore the Northern Delaware Greenway Trail and understand its benefits to wellness, weight control, and as a connector to many of the recreational, historical, and cultural sites of New Castle County. In its third year, the series takes place on the first Sunday of the month and will have a special focus on Wilmington. The fee for each walk is \$3/member, \$5/non-member, children under 12 free; unless noted otherwise.

From 1638 and the first Swedish settlers at Fort Christina, to Oliver Canby's Brandywine Village Mill in 1742 and the explosion of grain, wood, textile and gun powder mills that followed, all water, foot, and wagon trails led to Wilmington. Situated on the confluence of the Brandywine, Christina, and Delaware Rivers, Wilmington's natural attributes provided the colonial town with its first commercial foothold.

With the growth of the City of Wilmington from commercial port to a center of industry in the 19th Century, leading citizens worked to preserve open space and the city's natural beauty through the development of an extensive park system, including a north/south and east/west greenway, as an anecdote to the stresses of the industrial revolution. Series three of Family Trail Day walks will explore the development of the city's park system and Wilmington as the 19th century home of illustration and the Brandywine School of Art.

"All Trails Lead to Wilmington"

1st Sunday of the month

www.delawaregreenways.org/family_trail_days.html

(exceptions

noted*)

Fee: \$3/member, \$5/non-member

April 3 Greenways Walks to...Rockford Park

1:30-4:00 p.m.

Susan Chase, Park Historian and Author of "Within the Reach of All", will be our guide for a tour of, Rockford Park, and Rockford Tower. The walk will begin at the zoo in Brandywine Park and follow Kentmere Parkway-William Poole Bancroft's east /west greenway- to Rockford Park. Copies of "Within the Reach of All" (\$10) will be available.

May 1 Greenways Walks to...Frank Schoonover Studios

1:30-4:00 p.m.

In the late 19th century Wilmington, was home to Howard Pyle and the Brandywine School of artists and American Illustration. When Pyle outgrew his studio, in 1883 two students, Frank Schoonover and Stanley Arthurs, enlisted the support of William Poole Bancroft to build Schoonover Studios in 1905-6. John Schoonover, curator and grandson of Frank, will give a private tour of the studios. Meet at Warner Elementary School, 801 W. 18th Street.

June 5* Northern Delaware Greenway Trail... End to End

9:00 a.m. Celebrate

National Trail Day, living an active lifestyle and the NDG Trail. Walk/Runners and bicyclists will begin at different points and meet in the middle for refreshments, great informational booths and give-aways. Co-sponsored by Delaware Greenways and White Clay Creek Bicycle Club.

July 3 Greenways Walks to...Bringhurst Woods for a family picnic

1:30 p.m.

Fried chicken, grilled burgers and dogs- what could be more fun than a picnic on a lazy Sunday afternoon? Maybe the

opportunity to hunt crawfish and skip stones in the Shellpot Creek or a nature scavenger hunt? Park at Rockwood

Mansion and Park and take a short walk or bicycle ride to Bringhurst Woods. We'll provide the meats, beverages, and set-up. Please bring a salad or dessert. \$8.00/adult, \$5.00/child

Sept.11 Greenways Walks to...Brandywine Park's Festival of the Arts

1:30-4:00 p.m.

Featuring hundreds of juried artists exhibiting one-of-a-kind art, The Brandywine Festival of the Arts is a Delaware tradition spanning 50 years. Enjoy the end of summer with live music, great local food, and family fun. Park at the Astra Zeneca Childcare lot, Fee: \$5.00

Sept. 24* And it's ... The Greenways Gallop 1:30-4:00 p.m.

A 1 mile fun run/walk and festival, to benefit Delaware Greenways' educational programs and commitment to promote active lifestyles in Delaware. This fundraiser brings together residents and community organizations that have a stake in fighting Delaware's alarming obesity rate. Meet celebrities; enjoy a Silly Joe Concert, experience the CATCH program and loads of fun outdoor activities. Location TBA

Oct. 2 Greenways Walks to...The Howard Pyle Studios 1:30-4:00 p.m.

In 1900, Howard Pyle opened his studio on Franklin Street, at the edge of Wilmington. As the city limits were extended, the studios became home to The Studio Group, a small group of women who painted together and were dedicated to preserving the studio as a resource to artists and the community. Meet at Market Street Bridge, at the foot of historic Brandywine Village for a private tour of the studio and a Studio Groups exhibition.

Nov. 13 Greenways Walks to...The Delaware Art Museum 1:30-4:00 p.m.

The Delaware Art Museum was originally founded in 1912 to preserve and exhibit the art of Howard Pyle following his untimely death in November 1911. *Howard Pyle: American Master Rediscovered* will begin a celebration of the Delaware Art Museum's first 100 years by presenting a comprehensive retrospective exhibition. Meet at Blue Ball Barn.

Dec. 4 Greenways Walks to... Brandywine Creek State Park and Beyond 1:30-4:00 p.m.

Explore the northern borders of William Poole Bancroft's vision and clear up the confusion; Yes! You can walk from Wilmington's northern suburbs to beautiful Brandywine Creek State Park and the Woodlawn Trustee's property beyond. Bring binoculars for some winter birding along the way. Park and meet at the Astra Zeneca childcare lot on Rockland Rd.

New Castle and Northern Delaware Greenway Trail Stewards



Volunteer to be a Trail Steward

- Taking the dog for a walk, enjoying a bike ride or walking for your health becomes an opportunity to contribute;
- Report trail conditions, visitors' needs, and safety concerns;
- Promote use of the trail and its connectivity to recreation and culture;
- Assist trail users with directions and advice.



Phone 655-7275

http://www.delawaregreenways.org/trail_stewards.html

Free Training

Thursday April 14 · 5:00 -7:00p.m.

The New Castle Public Library

424 Delaware St * New Castle DE 19720



Trail Maintenance Days

Saturdays; April 16 · April 23 · May 7 ·

9:00 – 11:30 a.m., call for details 302-655-7275

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