



# Councilwoman Diller's Community Corner

5th District, New Castle County Council

December 2014

## Tis The Season!

### Beware of Burglars and Scammers

### Councilwoman Diller's Committee Assign- ments:

Co-chair: Boards & Com-  
missions

Co-chair: Community  
Services

Chair: Subcommittee on  
Aging

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and Scammers. Steps To  
Protect Yourself.

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activities and events.

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Now that the holiday season is upon us, we look forward to joyous gatherings with friends and family. We spend our time searching for the perfect gift that shows our appreciation for those we love, and the holiday Grinch is often waiting for the right moment to steal your joy and the priceless gifts you have to give. The New Castle County Police have reported an increase in calls involving stolen packages delivered to homes, home burglaries, vehicle thefts, and telephone scams throughout New Castle County. Often times we are enjoying a moment, not fully aware of our surroundings, and unknowingly leave ourselves open to a criminal's intent. As you enjoy this holiday, please remember to remain vigilant and take steps to protect yourself, your credit, and your precious holiday deliveries from those who are lurking nearby to snatch them from you.

#### Package Delivery Safety Tips:

- For a small fee, you can add a signature confirmation for your delivery.
- Delivery tools are available through UPS and FedEx, which allows you to schedule your delivery for a convenient time.
- Some post offices, equipped with mail receiving rooms, allow you to have your packages delivered to your local mail office and they provide convenient pick-up times.
- Ask a trusted neighbor to be on the lookout for your package and have them store it for you.
- If your employer approves, have the package delivered to work.

#### Thefts from Homes and Vehicles:

- Always lock your car doors, and do not leave packages or valuables in open view.
- Always walk and park in well-lit areas.
- Avoid overloading yourself with packages. It is important to have clear visibility and freedom of motion to avoid mishaps.
- Promptly report suspicious persons or activities to the police.
- Keep the windows, garage doors and entrance doors of your home locked.

#### Telephone Scams:

- Be alert to the signs of scams with phrases such as - "You've been specially selected", "You'll receive a free bonus", "You've won big money", "You have to decide right now".
- Law enforcement agencies and court systems will not solicit immediate payment by phone or by pre-paid money cards.
- The IRS will not demand payments to be made over the phone.
- Do not provide personal information to any callers that you do not know.

## **Mark Your Calendar**

- **First Friday With Councilwoman Lisa Diller** - 9:00 a.m. - 10:00 a.m. - February 6th and March 4th at the Newark Senior Center. Please join Councilwoman Diller on the First Friday of each month, except January, to discuss topics that are important to you and your community.
- **Glasgow Park Tree Lighting** - Friday, December 12th, 4:00 p.m. - 6:00p.m. Tree lighting at 5:00 p.m.
- **New Castle County Council Meetings** - New Castle County Council holds committee and Council meetings on the second and fourth Tuesday of each month. Please visit, <http://www.nccde.org/calendar.aspx?CID=38>, for more information and meeting schedules.
- **New Castle County Offices Closed** - December 24 - 26; January 1-2.
- **Newark Arts Alliance** - Holiday Art Market - Now through January 3rd. Come shop for holiday gifts at the NAA during their annual Holiday Art Market. Artists will have booths set up in the exhibition gallery with a variety of fine art, crafts, and jewelry for sale, all perfect for holiday gift-giving. All sales will benefit the artists and the NAA. Art by local artists is guaranteed to be unique and to make your loved ones feel special. For additional information please visit [www.newarkartsalliance.org/holiday-art-market-2014/](http://www.newarkartsalliance.org/holiday-art-market-2014/)
- **Art Exhibit** - The Newark Municipal Building hosts an art exhibit each month to display a new artist's work. Displays are free to view and open to the public weekdays from 8:30 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.
- **Year-round Volunteer Opportunities** - The City of Newark's Parks and Recreation Department offers many volunteer opportunities. From teens through older adults, the department utilizes volunteers in many of its exciting and fun programs. For more information about the volunteer program, please call (302) 366-7060.
- **Newark Free Library** - Friday, January 9th. Family Fun Night: Jungle John's Winter Wonderland Show. 7:00 p.m. All ages are welcome!
- **5th District Heroin Alert - Public Meeting** - Wednesday, January 28, 2015, 7:00 p.m.—8:00 p.m. Kirk Middle School, 140 Brennen Drive, Newark, DE 19713. Please join us for this important public meeting presented by the New Castle County Police Heron Alert Team to discuss solutions to the heroin epidemic spreading throughout our communities. For more information please contact Councilwoman Lisa Diller at 302-395-8365, or email [Susan Moore slmoore@nccde.org](mailto:slmoore@nccde.org).