



KENT COUNTY LEVY COURT

COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER &
PARKS & RECREATION BROCHURE

Summer
2010



Upcoming Programs
and Activities for Recreation,
Parks and Libraries

FOR INFORMATION ON COUNTY SERVICES VISIT WWW.CO.KENT.DE.US

About the Levy Court

Levy Court is the highest executive body that exists in Kent County. Levy Court is comprised of seven elected Commissioners – six who are elected from the districts in which they reside - and the seventh elected at-large to represent the entire county. The Commissioners serve at the will of the electorate and answer solely to their constituents. Since the Commissioners are elected officials it is customary to refer to them with the designation of Honorable.

Levy Court responsibilities include appointing department heads, establishing fees, approving sewer system construction, enacting planning and land use ordinances, providing parks and recreation facilities, establishing the yearly tax rate, providing emergency medical services, 911 communications, emergency management and overseeing the county departments that support the mission of the Levy Court. The Commissioners appoint a County Administrator who is responsible for managing the day to day operations of county government.

Levy Court maintains its primary residence at 555 Bay Road. Residents may call 744-2300 or 744-2305 to reach a county office. For more information on the Levy Court please visit our website at: www.co.kent.de.us.



Hon. P. Brooks Banta
President
1st District
242-2572



Hon. Bradley S. Eaby
Commissioner
2nd District
Committee: Finance



Hon. Allan F. Angel
Vice President
3rd District
Committee: Administration
382-6735



Hon. George "Jody" Sweeney
Commissioner
5th District
Committee: Community Services/
Information Technology
943-7328



Hon. Harold K. Brode
Commissioner
6th District
Committee: Public Safety
228-1313



Hon. Richard E. Ennis
Commissioner
At-Large
Committee: Public Works
653-6765



Hon. Eric L. Buckson
Commissioner
4th District
Committee: Planning Services
943-2832



Michael J. Petit de Mange, AICP
County Administrator

Photos courtesy of Young's Studio except Commissioner Banta and Mr. Petit de Mange; Commissioner Sweeney photo courtesy of CM Baker Photography.

About the Row Offices

Kent County has six row officers; each of which are elected officials. Row officers serve four year terms and each is empowered to manage their office. Each row office performs a distinct function within the county government. Row officers are held accountable to the electorate and it is customary to refer to them with the designation of Honorable.

Hon. James Higdon

Sheriff

jim.higdon@co.kent.de.us

(302) 736-2161

Office hours: 8:00 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.

Hon. Betty Lou McKenna

Recorder of Deeds

Bettylou.mckenna@co.kent.de.us

(302) 744-2321

Office hours: 8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.

Hon. Thomas Weyant

Register of Wills

Tom.weyant@co.kent.de.us

(302) 744-2330

Office hours: 8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.

Hon. Georgette Williams

Comptroller

Georgette.williams@co.kent.de.us

(302) 744-2414

Office hours: 8:00 a.m.- 5:00 p.m.

Hon. Loretta Wooten

Clerk of the Peace

Loretta.wooten@co.kent.de.us

(302) 744-2346

Office Hours: 8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.

Hon. Susan Durham

Receiver of Taxes

(302) 744-2341

Office Hours: 8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.

Kent County Phone Directory

Levy Court Office	744-2305
Personnel	744-2310
Assessment Office	744-2401
Information Technology	744-2365
Finance	744-2386
Parks & Recreation	744-2495
Building Permits & Inspections	744-2451
Code Enforcement	744-2452
Community Development	744-2480
Geographic Information Systems	744-2416
Mapping	744-2416
Engineering	744-2430
Facilities Mgmt.	744-2357

Row Offices

Comptroller	744-2415
Clerk of the Peace	744-2346
Receiver of Taxes	744-2341
Recorder of Deeds Office	744-2315
Register of Wills Office	744-2330

Kent County Courthouse

38 The Green

Dover, DE 19901

Sheriff's Office 736-2161

Department of Public Safety

911 Public Safety Blvd.

Dover, DE 19901

Emergency Communications 735-2200

Emergency Management 735-3465

Emergency Medical Services 735-2180

Kent County Library

2319 S Dupont Highway

Dover, DE 19901

Library Services 698-6440

Kent County Wastewater Treatment Plant

139 Milford Neck Road

Milford, DE 19963

Wastewater Facilities 335-6000

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Lions Club donation to benefit Kent County bookmobile

Kent County Lions Clubs raised \$1,700.00 for the Friends of the Kent County Library to purchase large print books and audio books. Lions Club members presented a check to the Levy Court during its March 9 meeting. Kent County Lions Chapters raised \$800 and the Delaware Lions Foundation made a matching contribution.

“We are grateful to the Lions Club for this generous donation,” says Commissioner George “Jody” Sweeney. “This will allow us to increase the level of service we currently provide our library patrons.”

The donation will benefit the Kent County Bookmobile and provide materials to assist the visually impaired. The bookmobile currently makes stops at senior centers, senior communities, and health care facilities such as the Delaware Veterans Home.

The following Lions Clubs participated in the effort: Clayton Lions, Capital City Lions, Smyrna Lions, and the Dover Lioness Club. The Lions hold as their primary interest projects involving vision to include blindness, eye health, and exams.



Back row from left: Art Stafford, County Administrator Mike Petit de Mange, Warren Fairness, John Feffinger, Bob Nagyski, Phyllis Fettinger, Jack Liss, Commissioner Harold Brode, Commissioner Richard Ennis, Commissioner Brad Eaby, Jeremy Sheppard. Middle row: Commissioner George “Jody” Sweeney, Commissioner Eric Buckson, Debbie Lawhead, Commissioner Allan Angel, Commissioner P. Brooks Banta, King Lion George Courtney, Wayne Powers, Mel Castell, Melvin Mace, PDG Bill Kircher. Front row: Denis Cayz, Patricia Spehar, Keith Mumford, Hilary Welliver, Zone Chair Velenda Courtney, Maxine Powers, Kay Castell, President Bonnie Wiley.

Levy Court presents proclamation of support to Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve

Levy Court presented a proclamation of support for Kent County employees currently serving in the National Guard or Reserve components of the United States Military to Eugene A. Hebert of the Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve (ESGR).

According to ESGR the Statement of Support program “provides a formal process to allow civilian employers to publicly proclaim and sign their support for employee participation in the guard or reserve.”

Kent County employees who are members of National Guard or Reserve include Marti Stansbury of the Division of Inspections and Enforcement who is a C-17 Loadmaster with the 326th Airlift Squadron and John Witzke of the Department of Public Safety who is a C-5 Flight Engineer with the 709th Airlift Squadron.

Witzke, in a written statement, said “balancing a career with Kent County Levy Court as well as maintaining military readiness is no easy feat and knowing that the county supports and understands is the most anyone can ask for. I thank you for allowing me to serve you and the county not only as a county employee but also in the uniform of the United States Military.”

In March, Levy Court was notified that it had

also been nominated for a 2010 Secretary of Defense Employer Support Freedom Award. The Freedom Award recognizes American employers of Guard and Reserve personnel who provide exceptional support to these designated citizens.



Commissioner P. Brooks Banta presents a proclamation of support to Eugene A Hebert, Chairman Emeritus of the Employer Support for the Guard and Reserve.

MPO bike plan in works

This summer, the Dover / Kent County Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) will have a new perspective on bicycle facilities in central Delaware. The agency that helps coordinate transportation planning and programs is working on a bike plan for the MPO’s region, which encompasses all of Kent County, plus parts of Smyrna and Milford that are part of New Castle and Sussex County.

A committee comprised of MPO staff, members of the public, and state, county and municipal officials started work on the plan last fall. The plan will show where bicycle trails, lanes, and other facilities are located in central Delaware, how they connect, or do not connect, and how county and municipal officials can improve facilities in the area.

MPO Council asked for the plan’s creation last year when it approved the MPO’s Regional Transportation Plan for FY 2009-2030. Public comments that were presented with the plan had indicated a need for more

bicycle facilities in central Delaware.

MPO staff is on track to have the plan ready to present to the council later this year.

MPO bike plan needs public input

*Do you ride a bike? If so, where do you ride?
If you don’t ride, why not?*

How can bicycle facilities improve in central Delaware?

The Dover / Kent County MPO wants to hear from you on these issues. Contact the MPO by calling (302) 387-6026, or via e-mail at kate.layton@doverkentmpo.org. Comments also are welcome via U.S. mail at P.O. Box 383, Dover, DE 19903 and through our online survey at www.doverkentmpo.org The MPO will also receive comments from the road. Look for the MPO’s booth and pick up a bike plan survey at upcoming public events.

Friends of Old Camden present Commissioners with painting of Brecknock Manor house

Recently the Friends of Old Camden presented Levy Court with a painting of the Brecknock Park Manor House painted by artist Ann Burke. The Manor House was the residence of the Elizabeth Goggin family who later willed the land to the county with the hope it would remain as active open space.

Eagle Scouts recognized by Levy Court

The Levy Court presented a tribute to Eagle Scout Nicolas Webster on January 26. Nicolas, a Boy Scout with Troop 634, fabricated three bicycle racks as his Eagle Scout project for installation at Brecknock, Big Oak, and Browns Branch Parks.



In March, the Levy Court recognized Eagle Scout Raymond "Chris" Acocella. Chris was recognized for becoming the first Boy Scout from Magnolia Troop 109, in 20 years to become an Eagle Scout. As his Eagle Scout project Chris helped install a sidewalk from the parking lot of Magnolia Methodist Church to a side door.

Kent County Profile released

Commissioners joined representatives of Delaware Printing Company, the Kent Economic Partnership, and local business leaders for the unveiling of the Kent County Profile. The publication is a full color, glossy magazine intended to lure businesses looking to relocate.

12th Annual Safe Summer Day coming to Brecknock Park

Kent County Levy Court will host the 12th annual Safe Summer Day on **Saturday, June 12, 2010** from **10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.** at Brecknock County Park. Safety professionals from several county, state, and community organizations will conduct interactive demonstrations and distribute information at this event aimed at promoting safety awareness for all ages. A patriotic presentation at noon will honor our military members and our civil servants who protect our freedoms and our safety.

One of the many highlights of Safe Summer Day is the child safety seat check event. Nationally certified Child Passenger Safety Seat Technicians will be on hand to inspect child safety seats for proper installation and use. Common mistakes parents make include

not securing the seat tightly enough in the vehicle, not securing the child properly in the seat, and not recognizing when it's appropriate to move a child from a backward facing position to a forward facing position.

Approximately 87% of child safety seats inspected in Delaware are found to be improperly installed. State law requires that children through age six ride in a properly secured car seat or booster seat.

Activities include interactive safety and environmental displays, fire extinguisher demonstration, a K-9 demonstration, a visit by the Delaware State Police and U. S. Army helicopters (if available), and a Trauma Demonstration by Bayhealth Medical Center.

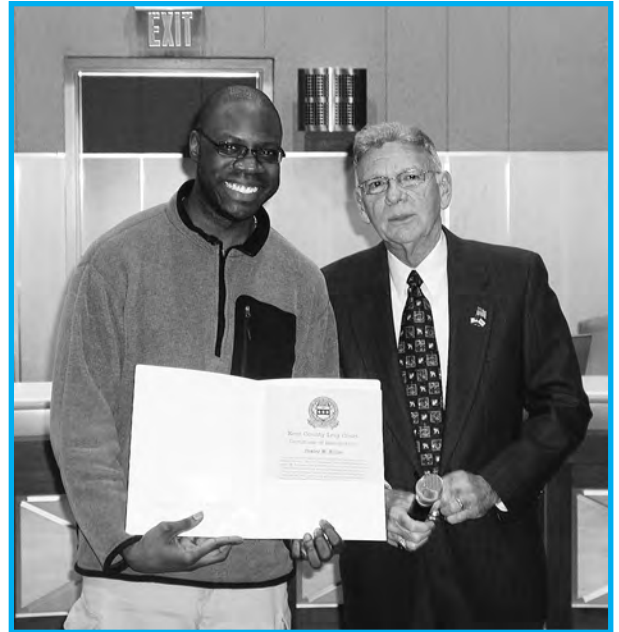
Kollie named Employee of the Year for 2009

Dexter Kollie was named Kent County Employee of the Year for 2009 during the county's annual Christmas party. Kollie, a Geographic Information Systems Technician in the Department of Planning Services, was selected by the Employee Council from among the twelve Employee of the Month winners. Dexter was the Employee of the Month for March.

"I was shocked," said Kollie, who has been employed with Kent County since May of 2000. "I had it in my head that someone else was going to win so when they made the announcement I never did hear my name called."

Kollie credits his selection to his nine years of providing customer service to county constituents and the feedback he receives from the customers and his co-workers.

Other county employees receiving recognition in 2009 include: Keith Powell (January); William Dempsey (February); Barbara Schroeder (April); Dennis Clark (May); Lou Cox (June); Shirley Goodwin (July); Vaughan McCall (August); Donna Barnes (September); Robert Probst (October); Dick MacDonald (November); and John Schulties (December).



Commissioner P. Brooks Banta presents Dexter Kollie with a tribute recognizing him as Employee of the Year for 2009

Kent County looks forward to Dog Park opening

The Kent County Community Services Department is making steady progress in completing the county's first and only public dog park. The dog park will be located at Tidbury Creek County Park which is located on South State St. extended just south of Route 10 (Lebanon Rd).

The dog park consists of .7 acres of fenced in off leash play area for local dogs and their owners. All dogs must be licensed and have up to date shots on record. There will be two specific areas of play, one for large dogs, and one for small dogs. Each area will have access to drinking water for dogs only, a bench, and the all important fire hydrant.

A list of rules will be posted at the entrance of the park and patrons are expected to adhere to these rules or face expulsion from the park. Doggie bags will be provided at no extra cost to encourage patrons to pick up after their pets.

The dog park is expected to be fully operational by late May, look for grand opening ceremonies notices in local news outlets.

Public Safety welcomes Paramedic Pete to its staff



Paramedic John Tinger and Paramedic Pete.



Employee Spotlight

The Levy Court recognizes...

John Schulties as the December 2009 Employee of the Month. John is a Building Codes Inspector III in the Division of Inspections and Enforcement.

John Tinger as the January 2010 Employee of the Month. John is Paramedic II in the Division of Emergency Medical Services.

John Messina as the February 2010 Employee of the Month. John is a Parks Worker I in the Division of Parks.

Terry Misiewicz as the March 2010 Employee of the Month. Terry is an Account Specialist III in the Finance Department.

Mark Kennedy as the April 2010 Employee of the Month. Mark is a Media Systems Coordinator in the Department of Administration-Information Technology Office.

Emergency Dispatch Center recognized as Center of Excellence

Kent County's Emergency Communications Center was recently awarded Re-Accreditation as an Emergency Medical Dispatch Center of Excellence by the International Academies of Emergency Dispatch.

Kent County was awarded this distinction for their comprehensive implementation and compliance with the Medical Priority Dispatch System and associated "20 Points of Excellence."

"Our emergency dispatchers and support staff continue to raise the bar of excellence when

it comes to answering 9-1-1 calls," says Commissioner Harold Brode. "This re-accreditation leaves no doubt that they are among the best at what they do."

Earning this re-accreditation award is voluntary

and involves completing a detailed self-study and analysis. This accomplishment demonstrates that Kent County's Emergency Communication Center is compliant with all international practice standards for Emergency Medical Dispatch.



From left: Chief Colin Faulkner, Director of Public Safety, David Grygo, Jack Loftin, Tom Williams, Scott Bundek, Commissioner Eric Buckson, Commissioner Allan Angel, President P. Brooks Banta, Commissioner Harold Brode, Dan McLaughlin, Assistant Director Kevin Sipple, Justin Pippin, Katie Ridgway, Commissioner Brad Eaby, and Commissioner George "Jody" Sweeney.