

# DELAWARE

## Detox center to open

Harrington facility ready, more treatment options on the way

JEN RINI  
THE NEWS JOURNAL

Delaware's new, long-awaited downstate detox center in Harrington will open Monday.

The 15,000-square-foot state-funded facility is located on 9 East St. in an old outdoor shopping strip off U.S. 13 in Harrington, and will be open 24 hours per day, seven days per week.

Connections Community Support Programs will run the center's operations.

Previously, NET Kirkwood Detoxification in Wilmington was the only detox center in Delaware. The facility has 16 beds and can house patients for up to a week.

"It will be such a wonderful thing because right now it's awful for people, said Margie Pruett, Kent County's chapter leader for the advocacy group Attack Addiction.

"They can drive all the way up there (to Kirkwood Detox) only to find the bed's been taken before they got there. It's first-come and first-serve."

If people have insurance, Pruett added, they might be able to check into Dover Behavioral Health, and addiction and mental health treatment facility in Delaware's capital city, but that is only if the center has room.

The Harrington detox center offers 16 inpatient beds for people needing intensive detox for up to a week, 12 short-term-stay beds so nurses can observe people for 23 hours and determine their next level of care, and about 30 to 100 slots available for intensive outpatient services such as counseling.

The beds are made, said Cathy McKay, president and chief executive officer of Connections Community Support Programs, and over 35 staff members have been hired.

"They are ready," McKay said.

Staff will make sure that people are connected to treatment and resources once they leave the center, McKay said. She hopes that there will be expanded services in the area such as Oxford Houses, so people will have a safe place to stay once they leave. Those resources may actually lower the amount of times a person goes to detox, she added.

"Sometimes they sort of end up in the detox center as an alternative place to sleep," McKay said.

Officials and community members have said this new center will have the potential to touch hundreds if not thousands of downstate Delawareans.

Pruett said she sees the rising heroin abuse in Delaware's middle county coinciding with a spike in gun violence and home invasions. Dover recently recorded its seventh homicide Sunday.

"There's all kinds of crime that weren't here previously," she said. "There's hardly a family that's untouched."

Aside from beds, the Harrington detox center will house two multipurpose rooms, a dining room, two exam rooms, a large nursing station and medication dispensary to help people curb their drug cravings. The inpatient bed area and outpatient are split on either side of the facility. About \$1.7 million of this year's state budget will support those services.

The opening of the downstate detox center signals a wave of new treatment options coming to Delawareans across the state in the coming months, bolstered by an additional \$4.45 million allocated in the state budget this year.

The 78-bed residential treatment program run by the Gateway Foundation on the Governor Bacon Campus in Delaware City will close by the end of the year, but 47 beds will be moved to the Delaware Hospital for the Chronically Ill in Smyrna and will be open by mid-December, said Mike Barbieri, director of the state Division Of Substance Abuse and Mental Health in a release from the state Thursday.

The remaining beds will be converted to three 16-bed facilities throughout the state. Two will be in Kent County and will open by the end of the year or early January.

The third 16-bed facility will open in New Castle



JASON MINTO/THE NEWS JOURNAL

Daphne Chaniz-Rico, Health Service administrator with Connections Community Support Programs, talks with nurses Heather Battee, Merrisa Williams and Shirley Broome about procedures at their new location in Harrington.

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County in April.

Ultimately, there will be 63 beds for men and 32 beds for women, 17 more than what is currently available through Gateway.

Additionally, a new residential treatment facility in Ellendale is expected to open in January, Barbieri said, and will help to double the beds in residential opiate treatment from 16 to 32 for Delawareans ages 18 to 25.

In early 2016 sober living halfway house programs across the state will expand from 60 beds to 120.

Even with the increase in options, community leaders lobbying for treatment reform say work still needs to be done, especially in Delaware's lower counties.

People are discouraged with treatment, Pruett explained.

"Rehab treatment is so expensive and they just don't have the money," she said. "I can think of a couple other families, middle class families, who have depleted their resources...because rehab is not just one time."

There are hundreds of people in just Seaford who are being impacted by heroin addiction, said Jim Martin, executive director of the A.C.E. Peer Resource Center in Seaford and member of the Sussex County Action Prevention Council.

The council is particularly trying to raise awareness for rural areas like Seaford.

"We definitely have an older population that are also having problems with pain meds," Martin said. "We see grandmothers that are heroin addicts."

Martin sees the new psychiatric hospital in Georgetown, SUN Behavioral Health, as another resource to help the heroin epidemic since people will be able to receive care there as well. Construction on a \$18 million 90-bed psychiatric hospital will begin the summer of 2016.

It's going to take a lot of partnerships, he added. Right now his organization A.C.E along with Nanticoke Hospital, Beebe Healthcare, La Red and others are working together to "string together the support a person needs to be successful in recovery."

"What I see is there is one out of five that succeed," Martin said.

Call (302) 786-7800 Monday for more information about the detox center.

Jen Rini can be reached at (302)324-2386 or jrinid@delawareonline.com. Follow @JenRini on Twitter.

### POLICE & FIRE

#### NEW CASTLE COUNTY

**GAS STATION ROBBERY:** A gas station on Pulaski Highway (U.S. 40) near New Castle was robbed early Sunday, according to state police. Shortly after midnight, a man with a handgun demanded cash from the clerk at the Dash In Exxon Station, 400 Pulaski Highway, said Sgt. Richard D. Bratz. The clerk complied and the suspect fled on foot. The suspect is described as a black man, approximately 5-foot-9-inches tall, wearing a hooded sweatshirt with his face covered. Any tips should be directed to the Robbery Unit at Troop 2, Glasgow, at 302-834-2630, or by sending an anonymous tip by text to 274637 (CRIMES) using the keyword "DSP."

**DEER, CAR COLLIDE:** A Delaware City woman is in critical condition after a deer slammed through the windshield of a car she was riding in Sunday night, according to state police. The crash occurred around 8:45 p.m. as Gary A. Episcopo, 53, of Delaware City was driving southbound on Fifth Street (Del. 9) near the Delaware City Refinery when an antlered deer walked in front of the car. Sgt. Richard D. Bratz said. The deer crashed through the windshield striking passenger Jamie M. Episcopo, 48, of Delaware City and causing serious injuries, police said. She was taken to Christiana Medical Center in critical condition. Gary Episcopo was not injured, Bratz said.

**ATM THIEF:** A 61-year-old woman was robbed at a Brandywine Hundred ATM Sunday morning, according to state police. The woman was withdrawing cash from an ATM at the Wells Fargo Bank at 2024 Naamans Road around 11 a.m when a man grabbed the cash and ran south into the woods, according to Sgt. Richard D. Bratz. The thief is described as a white man, 15 to 20 years old, 5-foot-6 to 5-foot-8-inches tall, wearing a dark hooded sweatshirt with jeans. Any tips should be directed to the Robbery Unit at Troop 2, Glasgow, at 302-834-2630.

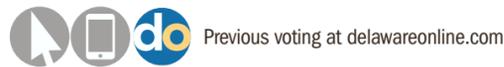
#### KENT COUNTY

**DELIVERY MAN ROBBERY:** A pizza delivery man was beaten and robbed in Dover Friday night, according to Dover Police. The man had just completed a delivery around 8:45 p.m. at the Lake Club apartment complex when he was approached by two men, punched, thrown to the ground, beaten and robbed, police said. The assailants then fled. They are described as a white man with dark hair and a black man with a dark-colored hooded sweatshirt and blue Nike shoes. Both suspects appeared to be in their early 20s, police said. Tips should be directed to the Dover Police Department at (302) 736-7111. Callers may remain anonymous. Tips can also be submitted to Delaware Crime Stoppers at 1-800-TIP-3333 or online at www.tipsubmit.com or through the Dover Police Department MyPD Mobile App.

#### SUSSEX COUNTY

**GEORGETOWN SHOOTING:** A Virginia man is in critical condition after being shot multiple times in Georgetown Saturday night, according to Georgetown Police. Police received reports of shots fired around 10 p.m. Saturday and arrived at the Dunbarton Oaks Apartment Complex on Edward Street to find 24-year-old Deandre Abbott of Temperanceville, Virginia, had been shot multiple times, said Sgt. John Tyndall, a detective for Georgetown Police. Abbott was taken to the Beebe Medical Center in Lewes before being transferred to the University of Maryland Shock Trauma Center in Baltimore. He is in critical condition, Tyndall said. Tyndall said a suspect fled the scene before police arrived and no further information is available.

### POLL RESULTS



#### Should Delaware end its cash bail system?

Yes **38%**  
No **50%**  
I don't know **10%**

UNSCIENTIFIC POLL. TOTAL VOTES: 627

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President and Publisher (302) 324-2900  
Susan D. Leath  
sleath@delawareonline.com  
Vice President/  
News & Executive Editor (302) 324-2860  
David F. Ledford  
dledford@delawareonline.com

Engagement Editor (302) 319-8567  
Carron J. Phillips  
cphillips@delawareonline.com  
Vice President/Advertising (302) 324-2631  
Dennis Wichterman  
dwichterman@delawareonline.com

Vice President/Marketing (302) 324-2855  
Eileen Cox  
ecox@delawareonline.com  
IT Services Manager (302) 324-2908  
Dave White  
dwhite@delawareonline.com

Distribution Director (302) 324-2743  
Alexis Ziobro  
aziobro@delawareonline.com  
Regional Asst. Finance Director (302) 324-2520  
Leslie Emma  
lemma@gannett.com

News Director: Phil Freedman  
pfreedman@delawareonline.com  
Consumer Experience Director: Robert Long  
rlong@delawareonline.com  
Audience Analyst: Jason Levine  
jlevine@delawareonline.com  
Community Content Editor: Betsy Price  
bprice@delawareonline.com

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### LOTTERIES

#### DELAWARE

Play 3 Night **8-9-7**  
Play 4 Night **2-1-9-0**  
Lotto (Nov. 6)  
**6-13-14-24-29-34**  
Lucky for Life (Nov. 5)  
**3-19-30-41-44**  
Lucky Ball **15**

#### MARYLAND

Pick 3 Day **6-6-8**  
Pick 4 Day **5-9-8-9**  
Pick 3 Night **5-0-4**  
Pick 4 Night **4-3-1-5**  
5 Card Cash  
**3♦ 5♠ 8♥ 4♣ K♦**  
Bonus Match 5  
**2-21-24-30-34**  
Bonus Ball **27**  
Multi-Match (Nov. 5)  
**1-11-24-32-33-37**

#### NEW JERSEY

Pick 3 Day **5-3-1**  
Pick 4 Day **4-3-2-6**  
Pick 3 Night **6-3-4**  
Pick 4 Night **1-7-3-2**  
Cash 5 **3-36-37-39-43**  
Cash4Life (Nov. 5)  
**13-20-25-31-51**  
Cash Ball **3**  
Pick 6 (Nov. 5)  
**1-2-7-8-16-43**

#### Xtra 2

#### PENNSYLVANIA

Pick 2 Day **5-9**  
Pick 2 Night **9-9**  
Pick 3 Day **2-9-5**  
Pick 3 Night **6-7-4**  
Pick 4 Day **2-7-5-9**  
Pick 4 Night **3-4-7-3**  
Pick 5 Day **8-6-9-6-5**  
Pick 5 Night **8-0-2-8-5**  
Cash 5  
**10-12-25-27-43**  
Match 6 (Nov. 5)  
**1-10-17-26-43-44**  
Treasure Hunt  
**1-4-9-19-22**

#### MULTI-STATE

Hot Lotto (Nov. 7)  
**6-10-21-42-45**  
Hot Ball **14**  
Mega Millions (Nov. 6)  
**10-31-35-50-72**  
Mega Ball **8**  
Megaplier **3**  
Powerball (Nov. 7)  
**7-16-25-50-53**  
Powerball **15**  
Power Play **2**