



January 16, 2014

Local briefs 1/17/2014

— Johnstown native heads liquor board

A Johnstown native has been appointed acting executive director of the Pennsylvania Liquor Control Board, filling a vacancy created when the former head, Joe Conti, retired in February.

In his new role, John E. Metzger, now of Doylestown, Bucks County, will be responsible for directing the administrative and business operations of the agency and managing the executive team.

Metzger has been serving as the agency's supply-chain director since 2010. He will continue in that role for the time being.

"I appreciate the board giving me this opportunity," Metzger said in a news release. "I'm looking forward to working with the great team that we have in place to continue to improve efficiencies within the agency and service to consumers."

Police: Inmate died of natural causes

An inmate who died Thursday morning at a state prison in Somerset County passed away of natural causes, state police in Somerset said.

Joseph Koenig, 66, an inmate at SCI-Laurel Highlands, died in the prison on Glades Pike Road, police said.

Online inmate records show Koenig was serving a life sentence for first-degree murder committed in Philadelphia County.

State Department of Corrections staff said Koenig was committed to the state prison system in December 1977.

Wreck sparks fire, closes Route 56

A two-vehicle accident sparked a van fire and temporarily closed a portion of Route 56 in Bedford County, state police in Bedford said.

The accident, which occurred in East St. Clair Township around 10 a.m. Thursday, involved a truck and van.

Bedford emergency services director Dave Cubbison said Alum Bank Fire Department and Chestnut Ridge EMS were dispatched to the scene.

Additional details were not immediately available.

MetLife supports breast care center

Employees at MetLife's U.S. Service Delivery Center in Richland Township raised \$1,464 to benefit patient care services at Joyce Murtha Breast Care Center.

Employees sold pink ribbons and T-shirts and held dress down days.

Organ center seeks entries for Gospel Idol

The Pittsburgh Multicultural Task Force of the Center for Organ Recovery & Education is seeking entries for its inaugural "Pledge for Life" Gospel Idol.

The show will be held from

6 to 9 p.m. Feb. 8 at the O'Hara Student Center ballroom, 4024 O'Hara St. on the Pitt campus.

Contestants may submit a 90-second DVD or YouTube video showcasing their talent in the following categories: gospel singer for solo, group or choir, and Christian rap, mime, spoken word and liturgical dance.

Participation is free. The deadline to submit entries is Wednesday.

Judges will choose the top 10 finalists, who will perform live for prizes that include \$1,000 for first place.

Information: www.core.org.

<http://www.tribune-democrat.com/local/x1724061692/Local-briefs-1-17-2014>