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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**Newark Mayor Vance A. Funk, III Ends Term Early due to Health Concerns**  
***Term to End September 30, 2013***

**Newark, DE** (August 12, 2013) – After further consideration and consultation with City Solicitor Bruce Herron and City Manager Carol Houck, Newark’s very popular Mayor of nine years, Vance A. Funk, III will officially end his term effective September 30, 2013. Funk changed the date to accommodate the necessary process for selection of a new Mayor to lead the City's seven-member Council. “Considering that it is not in my best interest health wise to attend the many meetings between now and the end of the year and to allow the election process to move forward in a timely fashion, I determined September 30 to be an appropriate date for my term to end,” says Mayor Funk. Funk’s last act as Mayor will be to host the 10<sup>th</sup> *Annual Taste of Newark* event on Sunday, September 29 – one of downtown Newark’s premier events that was spearheaded and developed by Mayor Funk.

Although the events related to the possibility of the WAWA company submitting plans for a business at the corner of South Main Street and Apple Road and the strong community opposition of such a project have admittedly added stress to his daily life, it was not the prime determining factor in his reason to end his term early. “First and foremost, I always wanted to be able to do a good job for this community and it became evident that it was time for me to slow down and avoid the level of work that is necessary to be Newark’s Mayor,” says Funk. “My close friends and family are pleased with my decision.”

“While many have taken the news of Mayor Funk’s resignation as a surprise, those with whom I have spoken agree that our work can be stressful at times and that making adjustments to improve one’s overall health needs to be a priority,” says City Manager Carol Houck. “I feel sure that Vance will continue to play an active, if less formal, role in our community.”

In accordance with Mayor Funk’s term ending, City Council plans to hold a special meeting at 6:30 p.m. on September 30 to set the date for a Special Election that would be expected to be held on November 26, 2013. These dates are consistent with the City of Newark Charter provisions. Until September 30, Mayor Funk will be available to City Council and city staff on an advisory capacity.

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