

WORD ON THE STREET

"We rejoice in the varieties of the animals, birds and fish which fill your world."

Amy Bender, pastor of St. John's Evangelical Lutheran Church

OUR TOWN

The Intelligencer

COMMENTARY



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Above, beyond call of caring

For some people, work, particularly in the human services field, is not just a 9-to-5 job.

They can't turn off caring about others when it is time to go home.

But by all measures, employees at the nonprofit VNA Community Services Inc., in partnership with the county's Aging and Adult Services and other charitable organizations, went far and beyond the call of duty.

The VNA came upon an elderly Glenside woman with limited mobility living in absolutely horrific conditions in a tiny, second-floor apartment that was infested with bugs, including possible bed bugs, and rodents.

We are talking about cockroaches crawling on the woman's body, contaminating her food and even getting into unopened food goods and personal care items. Not surprising that the woman, who also suffers from anxiety and depression, was emotionally distraught.

The VNA found the woman a new apartment within a week, while also finding grants and other charities to assist the woman.

To avoid any re-infestation in her new first-floor apartment, the woman was not allowed to bring anything with her to her new digs.

Not to worry. VNA staff members donated everything from new clothing to furniture, air conditioners, a television, plates and even a hospital bed. Then, they gave their time to help set up the apartment, while also providing the emotional support the woman so desperately needed in this transition.

The woman's physical and mental health has greatly improved since the move. A major Tip of the Column to all those involved.

Care workers care, even after hours!

Cell phone tower prop

Council might allow a 120-foot structure to be built off Shady Retreat Road.

BY CHRISTINA KRISTOFIC

STAFF WRITER

Doylestown Council might allow a local cell phone tower development firm to build a 120-foot tower on borough property near Shady Retreat Road.

And most of the neighbors, who live in Doylestown Township, are not too happy about it.

"One of the reasons we all moved into this neighborhood is because it was surrounded by wetlands and woods," said Mark Lewis, a Mahogany Court resident whose house is only a few hundred feet from the proposed cell

tower site.

"Is this step one in destroying that beautiful area? There's a lot of wildlife back there and we see it all the time.

Doylestown

We've got fox, turkeys, owls, deer, groundhogs, squirrels like crazy, every bird you can imagine. It's a very vibrant natural area, and animals tend to gravitate there. If you're going to put some kind of commercial structure there, it's probably going to interfere."

Lewis and many of his neighbors don't want to see a cell phone tower every time they

See **TOWER**, Page **B2**

Blessings to the animals



CARL KOSOLA / STAFF

The Rev. Amy Bender blesses Sammy, a golden doodle, during a Blessing of the Animals service at Lutheran Church in West Rockhill on Sunday morning.