

Scott Beale in the  
Wilmington News Journal

Thursday, August 11, 2011  
Crossroads

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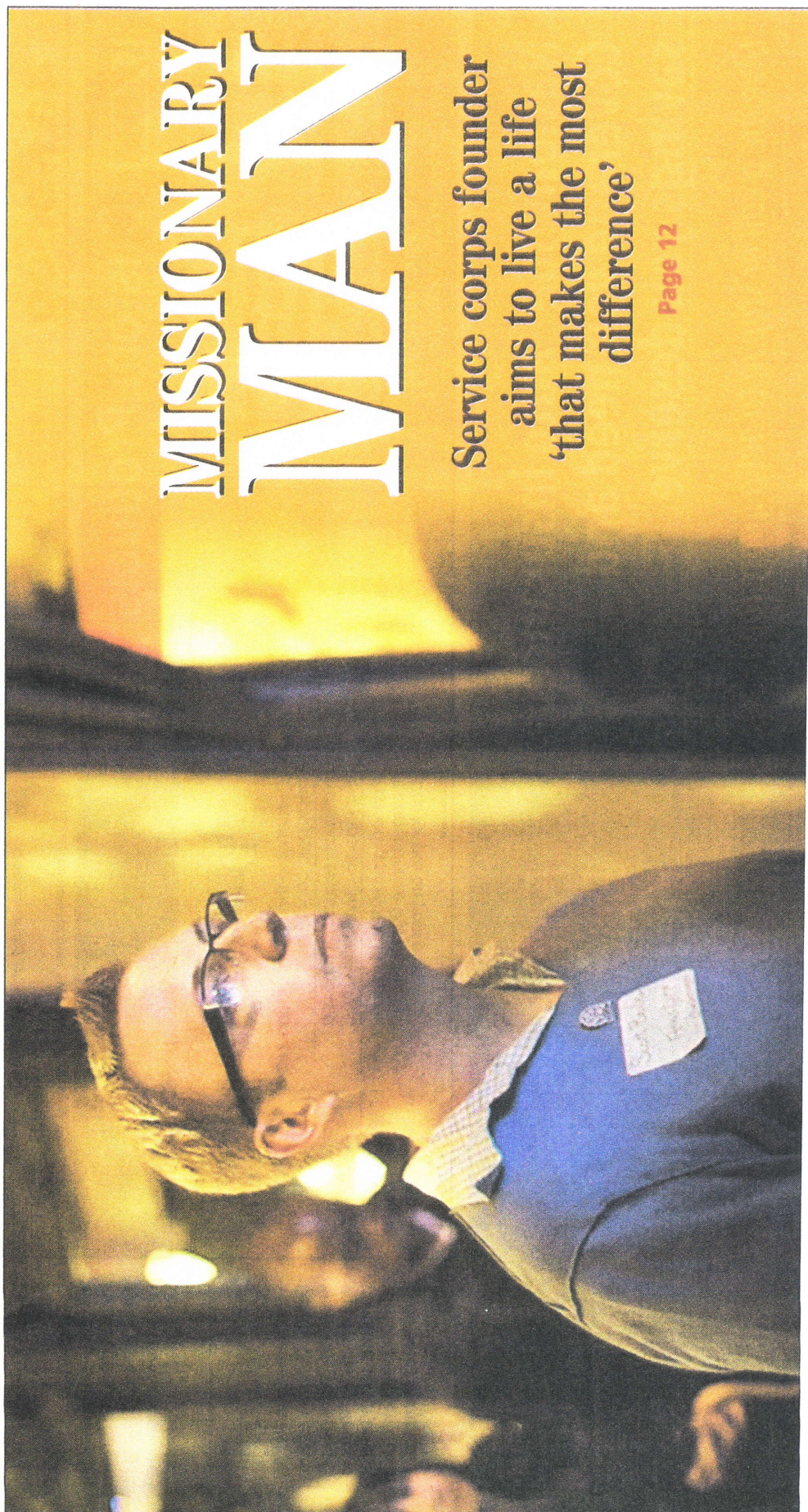
The NewsJournal

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# Crossroads

NEWS AND ADVERTISING FROM NEWARK  
AND NEARBY COMMUNITIES



## MISSIONARY MIAN

Service corps founder  
aims to live a life  
'that makes the most  
difference'

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# The \$13,000 CEO

Nonprofit founder Scott Beale doesn't want a lot of money.  
He just wants a better world

By **KEN MAMMARELLA**

Special to The News Journal

**A**s founder of the Atlas Service Corps, Scott Beale makes it clear his mission to develop leadership for nonprofits is more important than money: Look at his \$13,792 salary in 2009 as a full-time CEO.

"My life's ambition has never been to have the most comfortable life but the one that makes the most difference," he says.

In 2006, he created Atlas to expose energetic, savvy people embarked on careers in the nonprofit sector to problems, answers and experts in different countries.

"I wasn't going to solve the world's problems on my own, but I would create that network" to do so, he says.

Beale himself is a citizen of the world. A recent CV included four bases: Newark, Del.; Washington; Bogota, Colombia; and New Delhi, India.

"In the last year, I have been a nomad, spending time in 10 different countries, giving speeches and raising money and awareness about Atlas Corps around the world," he wrote in an email. "I've stayed in fancy hotels, guest rooms and couches of friends. I have lived out of three suitcases the entire year."

Abby Flottesch, Atlas' development and engagement director and an alumna of Atlas' second class of fellows, noted that "international exchange programs are beyond what happens in the professional sphere; it is the benefit of citizen diplomacy. People from different locations interact in a casual way and uninhibited by political barriers."

Beale grew up in Newark. His father, Charles, is associate director of the University of Delaware Center for Counseling and Student Development. His mother, Mary Ann, is retired from teaching at The Tatnall School, which he attended for 13 years.

He was 12 or 13 when he first ventured abroad, with his grandmother, May Hocutt, on a University of Delaware alumni trip to China.

"It was life-changing," he says. "It made me aware of the global stage, and I wanted to be a player."

"For many years, I wanted to be



"I wasn't going to solve the world's problems on my own," says Atlas CEO Scott Beale, "but I would create that network" to do so. Submitted

the 29-year-old senator from Delaware," says Beale, a registered Democrat, referring to Vice President Joe Biden's earlier career. "I was inspired by his energy and what he achieved."

A scholarship took him to Georgetown University in 1994, when President Clinton was "reaching out to young people, addressing politics in a new way."

But being in the nation's capital wasn't enough.

"In 1996, as an ambitious and restless 20-year-old, I dropped out of Georgetown University to volunteer in Mostar, Bosnia," he wrote in an Atlas history. "The Balkans had exploded in my teens, and I was not content to read books about history; I knew I wanted to shape history."



## COVER STORY

He eventually earned his bachelor's degree from Georgetown, and later a master's in public administration from UD. Along the way, he worked for Delaware's governor; the White House; Youth Venture, a nonprofit focused on socially responsible startups; and at the U.S. embassy in New Delhi.

Armed with those connections and nagging desires to do something for a better world, he founded the 2100 Fund, a foundation that raises money for charities by throwing parties; wrote a book called "Millennial Manifesto" about youth activism and generational politics; gave hundreds of speeches; and led rallies and online efforts to connect like-minded souls.

Those activities coalesced into Atlas.

"There was a body of knowledge that wasn't crossing borders," he says, including work on global warming, HIV and treatment of women. "Websites and conferences aren't the same as serving in the field for a year."

In addition, he says, "In the international volunteer sector, it was usually Americans and Europeans volunteering in 'developing countries.' This one-way flow of service did not make sense to me, when every other sector embraced globalization."

Clayton resident Lincoln Willis, an Atlas board member and friend of Beale's since high school, has been impressed by how different cultures can learn from and help one another. He cited a conference call involving people in three countries.

"It's amazing once we are all together on the same goal," Willis says.

Beale has found another benefit from giving to others: He met his wife at a service fraternity called Alpha Phi Omega, and Courtney's work in various embassies has ex-



"I never let people tell me what I can and cannot do," says Scott Beale. Submitted

## ABOUT ATLAS

Founder Scott Beale calls the Atlas Service Corps "a multi-lateral version of the U.S. Peace Corps that allowed rising nonprofit leaders from all over the world to volunteer overseas."

As of September 2011, 100 people from 28 nations will have completed yearlong stints, 90 percent in the U.S. and 10 percent in Colombia. They were picked from 5,000 applications from 130 countries.

Atlas spends about \$40,500 for each fellow, covered by about \$29,000 from the nonprofit and other contributions for the rest. The DuPont Co., for instance, was Atlas' first corporate sponsor. The fellows get about \$15,000 as a stipend and valuable experience. Details: [www.atlascorps.org](http://www.atlascorps.org).

"No one society has a monopoly on good ideas; to address the problems of the world, we must find ways to work together," Beale says.

posed him to even more cultures. (She's moving from Pakistan to Mexico this year.)

As it says on Atlas' logo and perhaps for Beale

himself, change your perspective, change your world.

"I never let people tell me what I can and cannot do," he says.