

MILFORD LIVE



FORMER SCHOOL TO BE RENOVATED



GENERAL ASSEMBLY MEETS MONDAY



HUNTING SEASON STARTS

NOV. 2, 2021 · VOL. XI · ISSUE 43

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HEADLINES

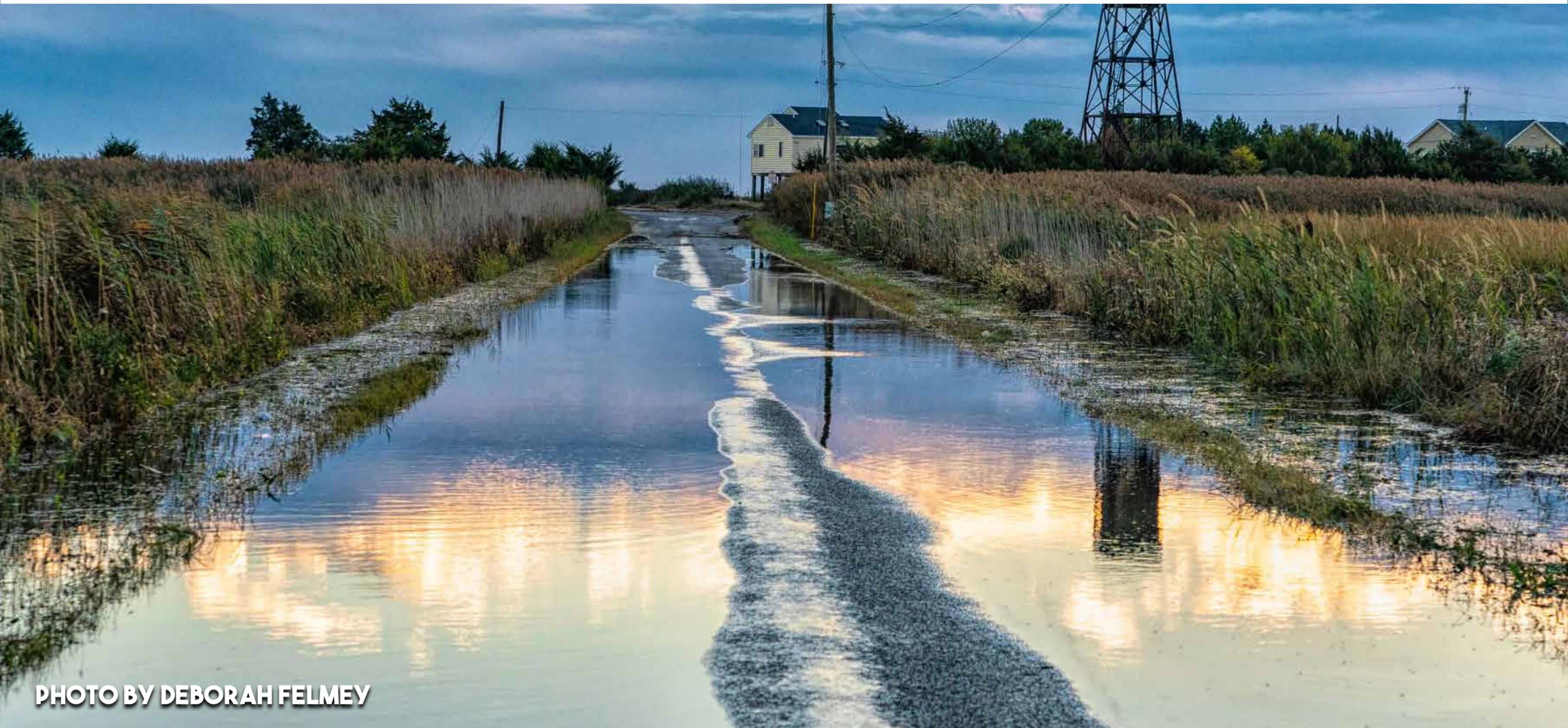


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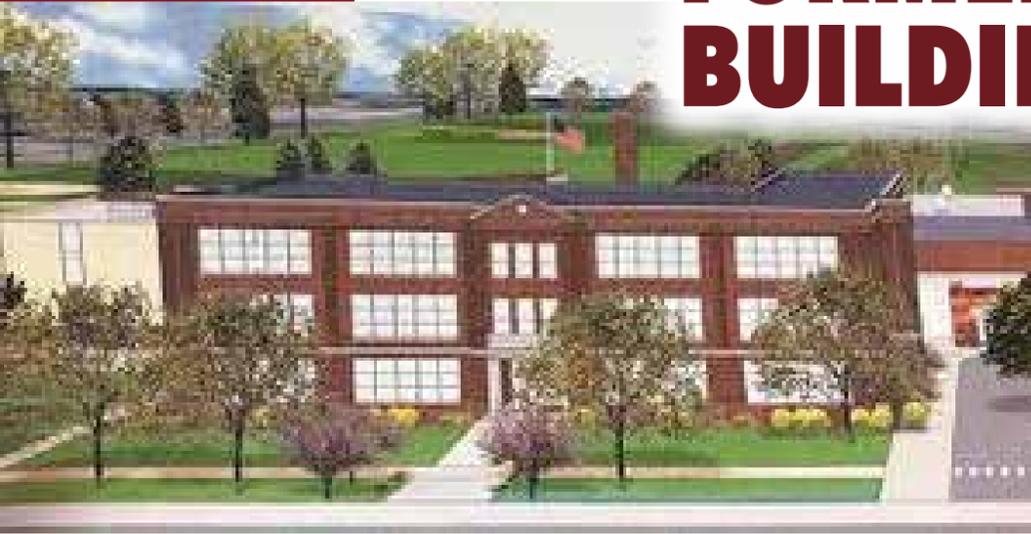
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FORMER MIDDLE SCHOOL BUILDING TO BE RENOVATED



BY TERRY ROGERS

After the Milford community voted overwhelmingly for a referendum that would allow Milford School District to renovate the former Milford Middle School building on Lakeview Avenue, the historic structure will receive a much-needed facelift over the next several years. On Oct. 27, over 2,000 Milford residents went to the polls to vote for a referendum that would allow the district to renovate the building, a project that will cost an estimated \$57.2 million with the district paying 27 percent of the cost, amounting to around \$14.8 million. The state will cover the remaining costs.

“The Milford School District is incredibly grateful for the support of the community,” Dr. Sara Croce, chief financial officer, said. “We will begin working with the state of Delaware to prepare for the next stages of the project including the bond sale.”

The passage of the referendum was welcome news for the district whose schools are all at or over capacity. Once the new school is remodeled, it will house fifth and sixth graders which will reduce overcrowding in the three elementary schools as well as the Milford Central Academy.

The district held several informational meetings to present the need for the renovation to the public. The school, which closed permanently in 2013, has historic value in Milford. It was originally built in 1929 as Milford High School. It was where the first black students attempted to integrate public schools in 1954 when the Milford Eleven enrolled. Although that attempt was not successful, seven African American students did integrate the school in early 1960s.

This was the third attempt to address the abandoned school in Milford. In 2014, the district was denied a request to demolish the building and construct a new middle school on the Lakeview Avenue property. The following year, they proposed demolishing or selling the building and constructing a new high school on land where Simpson Crossing now stands. Both options were denied by voters with many requesting that the district come up with a plan that would allow them to use the historic structure.

In 2019, the district hired TetraTech, an engineering firm to conduct a thorough examination of the building. They found that the older portion of the building could be rehabilitated while the newer wings that had been added over the years needed to be demolished. They created an artist rendering of what a new school would look like should that plan be adopted. The district received a Certificate of Need in 2020 which allowed

See **SCHOOL** on page 4

THANK YOU!

THE MILFORD SCHOOL DISTRICT WOULD LIKE TO SINCERELY THANK OUR DISTRICT-COMMUNITY MEMBERS FOR THEIR PARTICIPATION IN THE REFERENDUM VOTE. WE ARE VERY EXCITED AND APPRECIATIVE FOR OUR DISTRICT-COMMUNITY'S SUPPORT OF THE PROPOSED PROJECT AND SUCCESSFUL OUTCOME. THIS PROJECT WILL SIGNIFICANTLY BENEFIT OUR STUDENTS, FIRST AND FOREMOST, AND ENTIRE DISTRICT-COMMUNITY. WE LOOK FORWARD TO THE NEXT STEPS LEADING TO THE RENOVATION OF THE SCHOOL AND REVITALIZATION OF THE SITE.

Milford
SCHOOL DISTRICT
HOME of the BUCCANEERS



SCHOOL from page 3

them to go out for referendum, but due to the pandemic, they chose to wait until this year to hold the vote. Over the past few months, they have held multiple meetings to provide the public with information on why they needed to renovate the old school.

“We sincerely thank our district and community members for their participation in the referendum vote,” Dr. Kevin Dickerson, superintendent, said. “We are excited and appreciative for our district-community’s support of the proposed project and successful outcome. This project will significantly benefit our students, first and foremost, and entire district community. We look forward to the next steps leading to the renovation of the school and revitalization of the site.”



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CULTURE



PHOTO BY SCOTT EVERS



BY CHARLES MEGGINSON

Juneteenth is now an officially recognized state holiday in Delaware.

The holiday commemorates the date on which the last enslaved African Americans in the United States were emancipated, on June 19, 1865, more than two years after the signing of the Emancipation Proclamation in 1863.

On that day, two months after the end of the Civil War, Union Maj. Gen. Gordon Granger in Galveston, Texas, issued General Order No. 3, which announced that in accordance with the Emancipation Proclamation, “all slaves are free.”

Juneteenth has been celebrated annually, especially within African American communities, since 1865. It wasn’t until June 17, 2021, however, that the holiday was officially recognized when President Joe Biden signed the Juneteenth National Independence Day Act into law.

Gov. John Carney on Oct. 27 followed Biden’s lead by signing House Bill 119, which affirms the day’s status as a permanent legal holiday. He signed the bill during a community breakfast event alongside civil rights leader Opal Lee, who is widely regarded as the Grandmother of Juneteenth.

JUNETEENTH JOINS THANKSGIVING, MLK DAY AS OFFICIAL STATE HOLIDAY

In 2016, Lee, then 89 years old, walked 1,400 miles from her home in Fort Worth, Texas, to Washington, D.C., to advocate for making Juneteenth a national holiday. Lee was present when Biden signed the Juneteenth National Independence Day Act.

“I believe the least that each of us can do is commit to learning the lessons of our shared history—the good and the bad. That’s why this legislation is so important,” Carney said in a press release announcing the bill’s signing. “Juneteenth commemorates the emancipation of the last enslaved African Americans in the United States. This holiday will offer an opportunity to encourage open dialogue, and to recommit to treating one another with more respect.”

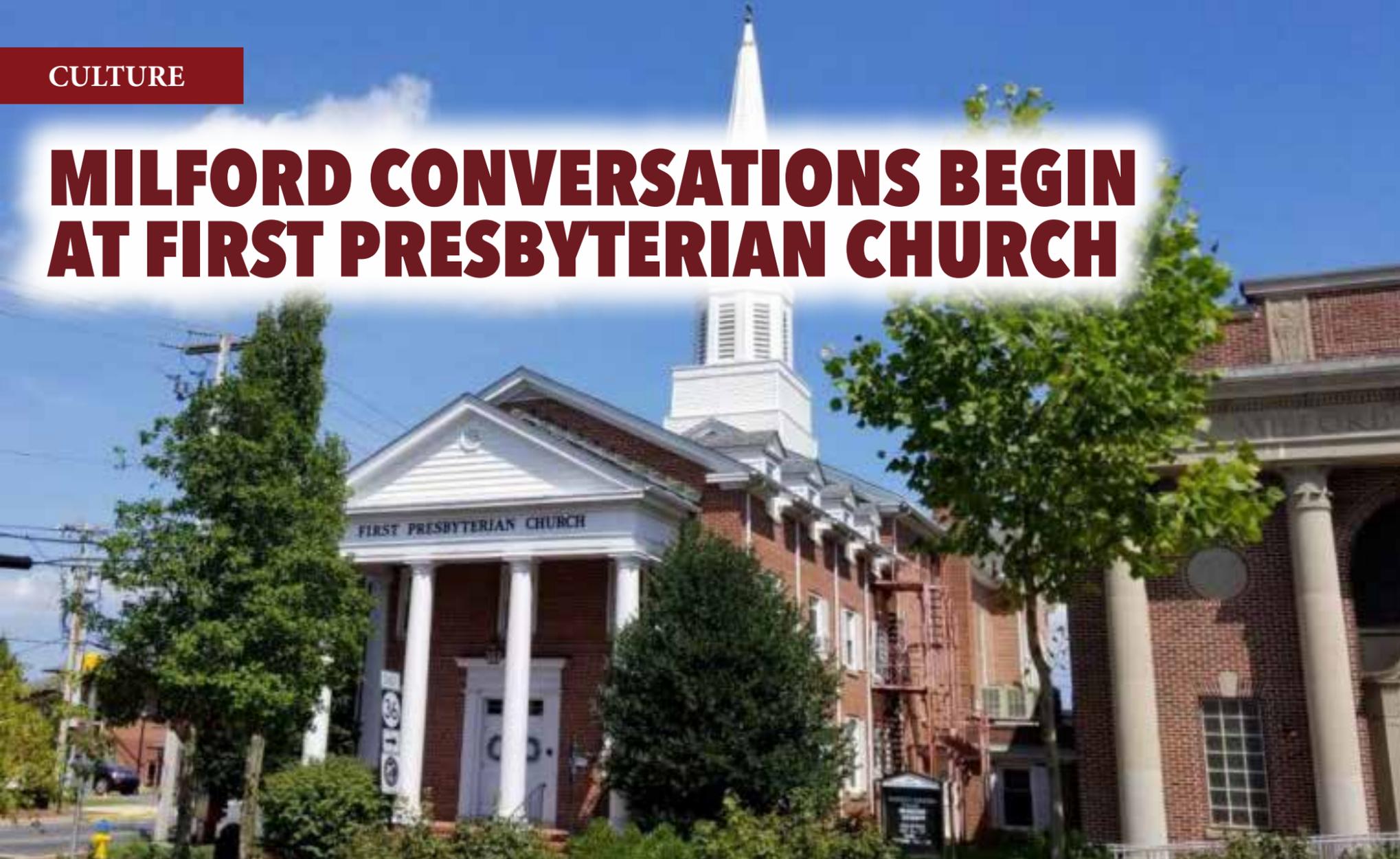
House Bill 119 is the work of Rep. Sherry Dorsey Walker, D-Wilmington, Sen. Darius Brown, D-Wilmington, and others. The bill is part of the Delaware Legislative Black Caucus’ Justice for All agenda, a legislative action plan unveiled in June 2020 following the George Floyd murder and subsequent nationwide calls for racial justice and police reform.

“We are not that far removed from an era in which Americans owned other people as property,” Dorsey Walker said. “My great-grandparents were born slaves, and their struggle to achieve freedom, equality and opportunity has been passed down through my family. This story is the same for so many Black families.”

She said that by placing Juneteenth on the same level as other holidays such as Independence Day, Thanksgiving and Martin Luther King Jr. Day, Delaware recognizes the significance of the holiday and what it means to Black people throughout Delaware and beyond.

Brown called the bill’s signing an “important milestone for Black Delawareans that recognizes our struggle, celebrates our accomplishments and continues our contributions to this country, this state and this moment in history.”

MILFORD CONVERSATIONS BEGIN AT FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH



The monthly Milford Conversations returned with in-person gatherings in October and the next meeting is planned for Thursday, Nov. 4, from 8:30-9:30am at the First Presbyterian Church of Milford (101 S. Walnut St., Milford).

Each month, the meetings cover a particular business, topic or subject that relates to the Milford area. In October, the conversations related to how businesses adapted to the COVID-19 restrictions and what they continued to do to minimize threats to customers and staff.

Milford Conversations is open to all interested community leaders in Milford, including those representing business, civic, nonprofit, environmental, arts, education, health, government—all sectors of community life. Speakers vary and opportunity is given at each meeting for participants to announce upcoming events or points of interest in the organizations they represent.

At the November meeting, Bryan Shupe and Terry Rogers will present information on Milford Live. Shupe co-founded “Milford Live!” in 2010, and Rogers is a



“

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reporter for the online news publication. Shupe and Rogers will present information about Milford Live!, its beginnings in 2010, its purpose, stories behind the news, and how to submit press releases and announcements to the platform.

The meeting will be held in the church’s fellowship hall. Entry through the back door, off of Pearl St., is recommended. For questions, please call 302-381-6620.

MILFORD
LIVE

BUSINESS



PHOTO CREDIT: ANN LEBENGOOD

RESTAURANTS HARDEST HIT BY SUPPLY CHAIN ISSUES, DELAWARE EXPERTS SAY



BY CHARLES MEGGINSON

As supply chain woes spread through the business world, Delaware restaurateurs who faced massive COVID-19 issues are now facing a whole new set of challenges.

They include rapid inflation and difficulty sourcing products because those further down the supply chain are having to deal with labor problems and supply chain issues of their own.

The American public has been pounded with images of ships laden with cargo waiting for a chance to dock in the nation's largest ports. Shortages are predicted for holiday gift-giving and car dealers face massive delivery delays because of shortages of parts needed to build cars.

But it's restaurants who are suffering the most, say Chamber of Commerce executives, restaurateurs and an industry expert.

Take Jeff Hammer, who owns Fins Fish House and Raw Bar's three locations in Bethany and Rehoboth, Big Oyster Brewery in Lewes and Claws Seafood House in Rehoboth.

"A lot of our suppliers are seeing labor problems so they can't produce the products," Hammer said.

He pointed to a number of items that have seen astronomical price increases in the last year alone:

See **SUPPLY** on page 10



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SUPPLY from page 9

Jumbo lump crab meat, for example, went from \$29 per pound a year ago to \$51 per pound. Crab cakes will now be \$12 to \$13 each. That makes the cost to Hammer for a dinner of two crab cakes and sides \$30 a pop.

- Lobster meat went from \$32 per pound to over \$50.
- The cost of bread has risen 30%.
- Snow crabs used to run anywhere from \$5 to \$8 per pound. Now, they cost \$14 per pound.
- Calamari processing plants have had decreased squid yields, making prices soar.
- Filet rose \$10 a pound in the middle of the summer and hasn't come down.
- The price of a side of bacon will rise soon because he's currently selling it at a loss.
- His brewery, Big Oyster, has been having trouble getting aluminum cans because the manufacturer told his supplier he's not allowed to sell anyone more than 12 pallets of cans every five to seven weeks. Hammer goes through three to four pallets every week. There are 6,224 cans on a pallet.

In addition, Hammer said, adequate labor has been nearly impossible to get, and he's having to pay everybody a lot more to attract and keep them. That's partly because of the domino effect of having to pay existing employees more to make wages comparatively fair.

"We have to go through and give everybody a 10 to 15% pay raise because now \$14 is the starting wage," Hammer said. "Everybody has to get pumped up. So you're seeing these massive wage costs and wholesale food costs and then on top of that, problems sourcing products—if your vendors even have the supply."

See SUPPLY on page 11

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SUPPLY from page 10

Hammer says his costs are soaring at restaurants because of higher food, labor costs, while it's hard to get things like aluminum cans.

The challenges Hammer is facing aren't unique to his business alone.

Carrie Leishman, president and CEO of the Delaware Restaurant Association, said all restaurants are struggling with hyperinflation. This level of hyperinflation, she said, hasn't been seen in decades.

"The real challenge for this industry," she said, "is how high can they increase prices?"

She heard from numerous restaurants that have pulled items off their menus or started selling them at a loss. One restaurateur told her that if he sold his chicken wings at a price that would satisfy his labor and supply costs, he'd have to charge \$36 per order.

"We do expect that the inflationary pressures will continue," Leishman said. "We don't see that they're going to stop for at least the next 12 months, although I don't know if they'll continue at such a steep climb as they are right now."

Leaders of chambers of commerce around the state are saying supply problems and labor shortages are here for the long haul.

Bob Older, president of the Delaware Small Business Chamber, said everyone is being hurt, not just small business owners.

He believes every attempt to mitigate the problems through extended unemployment benefits, stimulus checks and expanded child-tax credits has just made the labor shortage worse.

See SUPPLY on page 12



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SUPPLY from page 11

While the government help is going into bank accounts, it's also coming right back out because of higher costs, Older said.

The federal government makes a mistake by defining small businesses, Older says, as companies with less than 1,000 to 2,500 employees, depending on the industry.

Those bigger businesses are crafting solutions to supply problems and labor shortages, and that means "true small businesses"—with 100 employees or less—are often left out of the conversation.

Judy Diogo, president of the Central Delaware Chamber of Commerce, said she's hearing from members of all kinds that they are having trouble keeping what they need in stock.

"They're placing their orders and they're just not coming in a timely fashion," she said. "They're put on backorder. So it's certainly having an effect on their business. Whether it's a retail business or whether it is a restaurant or whether it's in the service sector, you have to have supplies to maintain customer service."

Diogo thinks the supply chain issue is a federal one, not a local one.

She pointed out that many restaurants already partner with local suppliers who have less difficulty bringing their products because they come from the next town over, not the other side of the country.

For example, Hammer said his restaurants use local corn, grain and beef. He turns around and gives his brewery's grain byproducts to a local farmer who feeds it to his cows.

That farmer told Hammer that if it wasn't for the free grain, he wouldn't even be in business.

Diogo said she doesn't have a solution for supply chain problems. That will have to come from people working in the federal government thinking outside of the box, she said.

Tushar Patel, regional vice president of Hertrich's Family of Automobiles, has a different idea.

"You want innovation to come out of this," he said. "You want change. I don't think it would be healthy for the government to try to intervene in the supply chain because this is an opportunity for suppliers to innovate."

Patel said cars and trucks are assembled using so many parts from all over the world, even one delay anywhere in the supply chain can bring new car production to a standstill.

The computer chips cars use to operate their electronics are responsible for today's decreased supply, but Patel notes that it could be any number of other components causing delays tomorrow.

"When COVID first hit manufacturers tried to reduce the supply not knowing that it would affect demand," he said. "So chip manufacturers switched from making car chips to make phone chips and chips for computers because people were staying home and doing work and school from home."

Even if chip manufacturers returned to pre-pandemic production capacity today, Patel said it would take six to nine months to alleviate the pressure on the car manufacturing supply chain.

See SUPPLY on page 13



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SUPPLY from page 12

But because automobile production is so highly codependant, chips are only one of the vulnerabilities manufacturers face.

“Today it is chips, a couple of months ago it was wiring harnesses,” Patel said. “Before that, it was leather seat foams were not available after that storm hit Texas six months ago and things came to a grinding halt because there’s so many different parts coming from so many different parts of the world.”

“You never know which part is going to have a shortage and you can’t produce a car with any of those components missing—it’s not possible.”

Patel said dealerships have had to adapt to the changing trends to remain profitable. New-car buyers have had to make some sacrifices such as color choice and upgrade options because of the decreased supply.

Some customers are opting to wait for supply to rebound while others have had to settle for older models or vehicles that don’t meet all of their demands.

“The dealerships, however, have different revenue streams,” Patel said. “So if people aren’t buying cars, what do you think they’re doing? Fixing cars. So the service business may get busier.”

Customers may still feel the effects there, too, because now more customers are coming in for repairs than before and with less technicians to do more work, services like oil changes can end up taking much longer than before.

There’s no light at the end of the tunnel because there’s so much uncertainty and instability in the supply chain, Patel said.

Hammer said one of the big issues for restaurants is that they don’t want to raise prices and betray the customers and communities that have kept them in business during the last 20 months.

“Our guests and our customers are resilient and unbelievable—and they supported us,” Hammer said. That includes being patient and nicely tipping struggling staff.

“I couldn’t be more appreciative of all my guests and customers because they really kept all of us alive,” he said. “They really kept an industry alive where we could have collapsed. They kept us going.”



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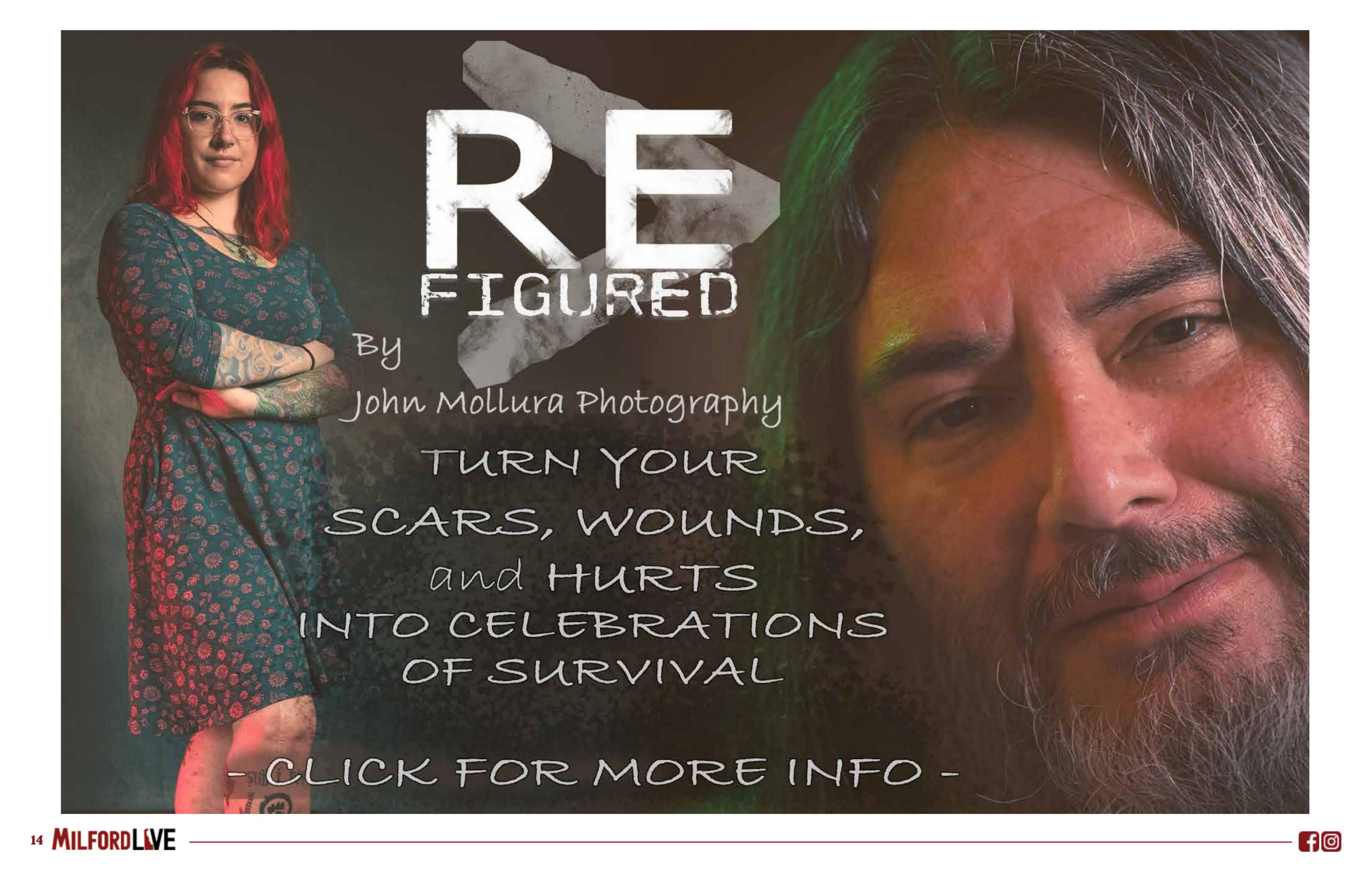
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PHOTO BY ANN LEBENGOOD

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CITY WARD THREE SPECIAL ELECTION CANCELLED

BY TERRY ROGERS

Notice is hereby given that the city of Milford Third Ward Special Election scheduled for Nov. 9, 2021 has been canceled.

Prior to the filing deadline of Oct. 20, 2021, at 4:30 p.m., only one candidate submitted an application to run for the seat which was vacated by Doug Morrow after he relocated out of the city. Nirmala Samaroo being the only candidate, there is now no need for an election.

Councilmember-Elect Samaroo will be sworn-in prior to the Nov. 8, 2021, City Council meeting that begins at 7 p.m., to complete the remaining term that will conclude in May 2023.

Please contact the City Clerk's Office at 302-422-1111, extension 1300 or 1303, to ensure your voter status in the city of Milford concerning future city elections and referendums.



CITY OF MILFORD LOOKING FOR COMMISSIONERS

BY TERRY ROGERS

The city of Milford is currently seeking volunteers to join the city's Board of Adjustment and Planning Commission.

The Board of Adjustment is comprised of Milford residents recommended by the mayor and confirmed by a majority of City Council. The Board reviews all variance applications as well as certain appeals. Meetings are held in City Hall Council Chambers on the second Tuesday of each month at 10 a.m.

The Planning Commission is comprised of Milford residents recommended by the mayor and confirmed by a majority of City Council. The commission reviews all land use applications for compliance with the zoning and subdivision ordinances. Except for site plan applications, the commission will recommend approval or denial of a Land Use Application to the City Council, who then makes a final decision. Meetings are held in City Hall Council Chambers on the third Tuesday of each month at 7 p.m.

Experience in land use is preferred. Interested residents can apply at <https://bit.ly/COMBoardApp>





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GENERAL ASSEMBLY MEETS MONDAY TO PASS A REDISTRICTING BILL



BY CHARLES MEGGINSON

The General Assembly will convene Monday, Nov. 1, to consider redistricting legislation that will define Delaware's House and Senate districts for the next decade.

Both the House and Senate have released their final proposed maps ahead of the special session.

What is redistricting?

Every 10 years, states must redraw their legislative districts based on the most recent federal census data. This process, known as redistricting, requires the General Assembly to follow a very specific, very technical set of guidelines.

There are numerous criteria each district must meet, including containing a relatively similar population size and meeting guidelines concerning contiguity, compactness, communities of interest and observing natural or political boundaries, all while maintaining majority-minority districts.

This year's mapmaking process was largely in the hands of Democrats, although changes were made to the final proposals with the input of Republicans. Now, Republicans in both chambers are indicating they plan

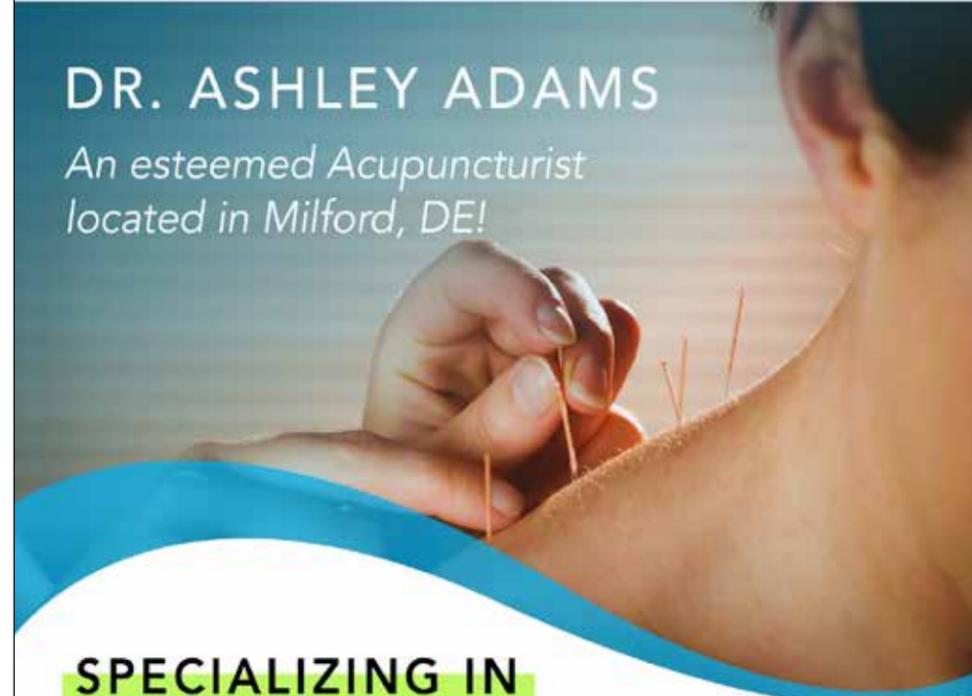
See REDISTRICTING on page 18

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REDISTRICTING from page 17

to support the redistricting legislation.

The process was delayed due to the U.S. Census Bureau's late reporting of population data to the states. Final population data was received from the Census Bureau in late September, while it is typically released in the spring.

What to expect

Assuming the redistricting bill passes in both the House and Senate, it will go before Democratic Gov. John Carney for his signature.

The new legislative districts will take effect for the 2022 general election. Candidates in that election must reside in the new districts, and immediately following the November 8, 2022, election, legislators will begin representing constituents within the new district lines.

The Senate will convene at 12 p.m. Monday and the House will convene at 2 p.m.

Proceedings in both chambers will be live-streamed on the [Delaware LIVE News](#) and [Town Square Delaware](#) Facebook pages.

What not to expect

Earlier this month, Reps. Madinah Wilson-Anton, D-Newark, and Mike Smith, R-Pike Creek, introduced a [resolution](#) asking Gov. Carney to remove the auditor pending a vote of the General Assembly.

Accompanying the resolution was a joint letter asking the House and Senate Democratic leadership to hold a vote on the measure during the Nov. 1 redistricting special session.

[Article III §13](#) of the Delaware Constitution allows the governor to remove any officer, except the lieutenant

See **REDISTRICTING** on page 19



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REDISTRICTING from page 18

governor and members of the General Assembly, for “any reasonable cause” and upon a two-thirds vote of both the House and the Senate.

The same passage requires, however, that the individual subject to removal from office must receive notice, along with the alleged cause for removal, at least 10 days before the day of the General Assembly’s vote.

While the joint letter and resolution were announced on Oct. 22—exactly 10 days before the Nov. 1 special session—the resolution does not appear to have been officially filed and it’s unclear what constitutes “notice.”

Drew Volturo, a spokesman for the House Democratic Caucus, said that the relevant section of the Delaware Constitution has never been used before so there’s no precedent to follow.

“House attorneys are researching the issue to determine what the proper and constitutionally valid process is,” Volturo said. “However, initial legal analysis indicates that the email circulated last week, which included a draft resolution, may not constitute proper notice as required by the Constitution.”

He said that at a minimum, the 10-day notice required in Section 13 would begin after a resolution has been filed.

“The House is not in session and, as of now, no resolution has been filed,” Volturo said. “The attorneys’ research on this is continuing.”

Democratic leadership have provided no indication that the resolution will be heard on Nov. 1.



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NUMEROUS HUNTING SEASONS TO OPEN IN NOVEMBER



BY CHARLES MEGGINSON

Numerous hunting seasons will open in November. Included are the popular deer shotgun season which will run from Friday, Nov. 12, through Sunday, Nov. 21, as well as the firearms deer hunt available only to youth and non-ambulatory hunters on Saturday, Nov. 6 and Sunday, Nov. 7.

Duck, Canada goose and other hunting seasons also open in November.

Hunters are encouraged by the DNREC Division of Fish and Wildlife to harvest does (female deer) during the various deer hunting seasons to help manage the size and quality of Delaware's deer population.

Deer hunting is allowed on all Sundays through Jan. 31, 2022, using only those hunting methods legal for the respective established deer hunting seasons.

A convenient Deer Harvest Report Card issued to

hunters with their hunting license or License Exempt Number (LEN) is now used to record harvested deer, replacing the paper deer tags vulnerable to damage and loss that were previously attached to deer upon harvest in Delaware.

Hunters are reminded that they must complete the appropriate section of their Deer Harvest Report Card before the deer is moved from the harvest location and keep the card in their possession.

Hunters may obtain a Deer Harvest Report Card at de.gov/digitaldnrec or by calling (302) 739-9918 for assistance.

Harvested deer must also be registered within 24 hours of harvest in the ePermitting system or by calling toll-free at 855-DEL-HUNT (855-335-4868).

How to donate venison

Successful deer hunters who wish to donate venison to those in need are encouraged to participate in Delaware's Sportsmen Against Hunger Program.

Field-dressed deer may be donated at participating butchers or self-serve, walk-in coolers maintained by the DNREC Division of Fish and Wildlife, with additional information and participating butcher and cooler locations found online at de.gov/sah.

All donated deer will be processed free of charge to the hunter, and the meat will be distributed to participating charitable organizations.



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See **HUNTING** on page 23

HUNTING from page 22

Last year, hunters donated over 21,000 pounds of processed venison that provided more than 84,000 meals to Delawareans in need.

In addition to the deer shotgun season, November provides many other popular hunting opportunities, including the opening of the second duck season split, sea duck season in the Special Sea Duck Area and the first Canada goose season split.

Hunting season dates opening in November

- Raccoon and opossum (hunt only): Nov. 1–Feb. 28, 2022*
- Red fox (hunt only): Nov. 1–Feb. 28, 2022
- Deer youth/non-ambulatory hunt: Nov. 6–7
- Deer shotgun: Nov. 12–21, including all Sundays
- Tundra swan (by special permit ONLY): Nov. 11–Jan. 31, 2022
- Woodcock (first season split): Nov. 22–27
- Ducks, coots and mergansers (second season split): Nov. 22–27
- Brant (first season split): Nov. 22–27
- Sea ducks in Special Sea Duck Area: Nov. 23–Jan. 31, 2022
- Bobwhite quail: Nov. 22–Jan. 1, 2022
- Mourning dove (second season split): Nov. 22–Jan. 31, 2022
- Ring-necked pheasant (male only): Nov. 22–Feb. 5, 2022
- Cottontail rabbit: Nov. 22–Feb. 28, 2022
- Canada goose (first season split): Nov. 24–27

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RAVENS BOUNCE BUCS 28-7



BY KEVIN EICKMAN

It has been the same story for Milford Buccaneers football this season, it has had a difficult time starting game. With the game shifted from Friday to last night

(Monday) due to weather issues, Milford was hoping for something different. “We have had slow starts for most of the year, so I was hoping maybe tonight we would come out fighting from the start. Instead, we slept our way through most of the first half and we really paid a price for it tonight,” MHS Coach Shaun Strickland said.

To say the Bucs were flat in the first half may actually have been an understatement. With Sussex Tech winning the coin toss and electing to receive, it put Milford notice that it had an offensive game plan in place that was meant to punish the Buccaneers. Starting on their 40-yard line, the Raven offensive line dominated the Bucs right from the start. Taking just six plays to cover the 60 yards for the game’s opening score. Every play Tech ran on the evening would be on the ground as it stuck to its game plan and dared Milford to stop it. Just two minutes into the game, Milford found itself down 7-0.

Tech also had a plan on defense as well, simply not allow Milford to run the ball, as a target was squarely painted on Milford senior Aaron Sivels back. Tech was not going to allow him to run the ball at will against them. With Milford finding other ways to move the ball on its opening drive, it looked as if it might be able to respond quickly. However, after driving down to Tech’s 20-yard line, a false start by Milford and a defensive stand by the Ravens defense turned Milford over on downs at its 24-yard line. “That is an example of how we have been taking ourselves out of games, right there we shoot ourselves in the foot and instead of scoring, we are back on defense,” Strickland said.

See BUCS on page 25

Cancer isn't waiting for COVID-19 to be over.

One in three Delawareans will get cancer. Unfortunately, many have put off their cancer screenings in the past year. Screenings detect cancer early, when it's most treatable. If you've skipped or canceled a screening due to the pandemic — for breast, cervical, colon, lung, or prostate cancer — don't wait one more day. **Call your health care provider to schedule your cancer screenings today.**

If you don't have a provider, we can help. If you are uninsured or underinsured, you may be eligible for free screenings. To learn more about eligibility requirements and recommended cancer screenings, and other information, please visit HealthyDelaware.org/Cancer.

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Beebe Healthcare: 302-291-4380



DELAWARE HEALTH AND SOCIAL SERVICES
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Once again, the Ravens began to run the ball straight at Milford. While Milford may have missed a few tackles, make no mistake about it, Tech was dictating the pace of play. It would culminate in Tech's second touchdown of the game with just 17 seconds remaining in the first quarter, Milford now trailed 14-0.

Milford once again would hurt its own cause as on the ensuing possession, senior Shawn Saxon was picked off at the Raven 10-yard line. Once again Tech began running the ball almost at will, with little Milford could do to stop them. Play by play went by and Tech just kept moving the ball down the field. In a drive that lasted six minutes, once again Milford would give up a touchdown, falling behind 21-0 with 2:51 remaining in the first half.

Almost immediately disaster would strike again as Saxon was picked off again, with Tech setting up shop at the Milford 10-yard line. Finally, the Buccaneers defense would stand tall and stop the Ravens at the five-yard line. It was the first time Milford had shown backbone when it counted and with just 55 seconds remaining in the half, and Tech having just one timeout, Milford had a chance to get into the locker room and regroup. However, Milford attempted a pass play on second down which fell incomplete. Then committed a false start before running on third down allowing the Ravens to force Milford to punt from its end zone with 17 seconds remaining in the half. The result would be deflating as Tech blocked the punt and recovered it in the Milford end zone to secure a 28-0 lead as the half came to a close. "That is something we just can't have happen there. We needed to execute and we didn't. As a result, we paid a big price for our mistakes," Strickland said.

The one bright spot for Milford came in the way it played the second half. Taking the opening kickoff right down the field with Saxon connecting with Sivels for a 25-yard touchdown strike as Milford would close the gap to 28-7 with 6:54 remaining in the third quarter. The Buccaneers defense would respond as well, shutting down the Ravens for the majority of the second half. Milford nearly halved the deficit early in the fourth quarter, but an almost sure touchdown pass was not hauled in by a Milford receiver. "We really responded in the second half, that is what this team has yet to do for four quarters. We have to figure out how to put it together for an entire game and we can play like we are capable of," Strickland said.

Milford would drive into Ravens territory two more times only to come up short. Tech would finally get its ground game going on a 75-yard drive, chewing up almost seven minutes of clock to close out the game.

The loss eliminated Milford from the Division II play-off picture and the schedule has done the Buccaneers no favors as it has to travel to face a 7-1 Caravel team that is already locked into the playoffs and looking to gain a higher seeding. On top of that it is senior night and there is little doubt that Caravel will be looking for some payback after suffering a 24-0 defeat at Milford's hands last season. With Milford now sitting at 3-4, it is all about pride for at this point. "We will find out who has heart on this team, we have seen some younger guys stepping up during the year and we have to start looking forward to next season. However, even with the quick turnaround I expect us to come out ready to play Friday," Strickland concluded.



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POLICE & FIRE





DELAWARE PHOTOGRAPHER GIVEN YEAR IN PRISON FOR TAX EVASION

BY BETSY PRICE

Well-known Delaware photographer Bruce Kevin Fleming of Milton has been sentenced to one year in federal prison for federal tax evasion.

Fleming, whose books of Delaware have been popular sellers, pled guilty to the charges against him on Aug. 26, 2020, and was sentenced by U.S. District Court Judge Richard G. Andrews.

At the time of his plea, Fleming had not filed federal income tax returns or paid any such taxes since 1981.

Fleming's sentence includes \$192,529 restitution to the IRS for income taxes due and owing from 2002 through 2016. Fleming was also ordered to make restitution to the IRS for \$22,584 in payroll taxes which he withheld from his employees' wages in 2016 and 2017 but never turned over to the IRS.

The indictment covered the years 2012–2016. Fleming had the money to pay his income taxes for those years,

as his total net income was \$393,000, a press release said. However, he was living beyond his means, the press release said, spending a total of \$75,000 in restaurants/bars and \$2,350 monthly to rent a \$800,000 house in Lewes, one block from the beach.

The press release said the criminal investigation was initiated only after Fleming ignored all of the IRS's numerous letters and civil assessments.

"Our nation's ability to operate and serve its citizenry depends on voluntary compliance with tax obligations," said United States Attorney David C. Weiss in the press release. "The defendant not only willfully evaded his personal income tax obligations, but he failed to pay over taxes withheld from his employees' paychecks, demonstrating a complete disregard for their individual tax liabilities."

Fleming disregarded his tax responsibility for nearly two decades, said Yury Kruty, acting special agent in charge of IRS-Criminal Investigation. "Taxpayers want to know that everyone is doing their part and paying their fair share of taxes."

Fleming, a former photographer for National Geographic, had had galleries in Rehoboth Beach and Lewes. Two of his most recent books are 2010's "Wild Delmarva" and 2012's "The Beach: Wildlife, Nature and the Beauty of Coastal Delaware."

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