

MILFORD LIVE

PHOTO LINK: ROSEMARY CONNELLY

 MilfordLive

 @Milfordlive

SUBSCRIBE 

NOVEMBER 8, 2022
VOL. 12 · ISSUE 45

- Headlines2
- Culture.....7
- Business13
- Government & Politics17
- Health21
- Sports.....24
- Stay Connected27



CITY DECIDES SOLID WASTE SERVICES



TEST WELL DRILLING PLANNED



MILFORD FALLS TO CARAVEL

HEADLINES



PHOTO LINK: KATHY REUHL STETSON



BY TERRY ROGERS

Milford City Council decided at a recent meeting to reject two bids that would contract out solid waste services for the city. After completing a cost comparison to determine if contracting would be cost effective over performing the service in-house, the city found that it would actually cost more over time to privatize trash, recycling and yard waste pick-ups.

“A little bit of background on what we’ve done. On Sept. 23, we opened bids received as a result of an advertisement for two consecutive weeks prior to that. And we received two bids. The advertising venues were those that were very typical Delaware State News and the city website,” Mike Svaby, director of Public Works, said.

CITY DECIDES AGAINST PRIVATIZING SOLID WASTE SERVICES

“An email blast was sent to all regional licensed waste haulers that were of a public nature. There was a clear, low bid involved and that low bid was Republic.”

Currently, Svaby explained, the city has four solid waste trucks, and the department is authorized to have four full-time employees. However, only two of those positions are currently filled. Svaby explained that the city had two candidates that he was hoping would be hired very soon which would bring the staffing in solid waste to 100 percent.

“We have weekly collection of trash, recycling, yard waste and bulk pickups. We served approximately 4,200 accounts last fiscal year,” Svaby said. “Just for your edification, this fiscal year through the end of Quarter 1, trash has virtually doubled from what it was same time last year. Recycling is flat and yard waste is decreasing just to sort of set the stage for what we’re looking at.”

Svaby and Lou Vitola, finance director, asked many questions as part of their analysis. Several challenges for continuing with city-operated solid waste were examined. The city has had vehicle challenges, and, over the summer, vehicle breakdowns caused a delay in trash pickup throughout the city. When an employee calls out sick or quits, coverage must be obtained from

See **SERVICES** on page 4

Need a reason to get your kid vaccinated? They've got plenty.

IT MAKES US ALL SAFE



The COVID-19 vaccine is safe and proven to protect against serious illness. Need more reasons? Talk to your pediatrician today.

GO VAX DELAWARE!



de.gov/youthvaccine



SERVICES from page 3

other departments, leaving those areas short-staffed. Like everyone else, the city is also dealing with supply chain issues as well as increases in fuel costs. However, Svaby explained that there were advantages to continuing to operate solid waste within the city.

“This is a critical service to the appearance and the quality of life living here in Milford. So, one of the advantages of running the services we’re still in charge of our own housekeeping. Anytime you increase personnel in the chain of that charge, you may encounter different challenges than you’re used to,” Svaby said. “So, you know those people report to our department heads. Customer service will write down incidents and everybody who works in Public Works is prepared to and, in most cases, has served as a backup to run the service. Those are things that we have going for us. However, we’re staffed for norms not peak. So, when we have very busy times of the year, we run late or we throw extra resources where we can. But we don’t have staff for that. That’s how we control our costs.”

Svaby explained that he would prefer the city remain policymakers in regard to solid waste collection. Keeping the service in-house allows the city to decide when and how often waste is collected. For example, the state law only requires recycling be collected twice each month, but the city has chosen to collect it weekly. Contracting out the service may mean an outside company does not have the capacity to continue weekly recycling collection. Svaby also felt that it was important to have people collecting solid waste who, in most cases, lived within that community.

“On the other hand, there are some clear challenges,” Svaby stated. “There could be delays in coordinating changes or responding by the day. Like if I get a call today at two o’clock saying someone’s container was missed, two things could be possible. Either we haven’t gotten there yet and we will get there or the person put the can out on the road after we passed. In any case, we try to rectify those missed calls and they are typically between zero and three.”

Living in an unincorporated community in Kent County, Svaby explained that he uses a contracted solid waste company, and he has noticed that they pick up just about anything, including refrigerators, tires, couches and more, something Milford does not do unless the customer requests a special bulk pickup. Outsourcing to a company would provide additional resources, including spare trucks should one breakdown. There would also be no non-revenue time. With the city handling solid waste, employees are paid from the minute they leave the yard until they return that day. Contractors are only paid for the service they provide. After discussing the advantages and disadvantages, Svaby turned the presentation over to Vitola to talk about the cost factors.

“We went through and projected our net operating surplus or deficit through the years as a proxy for operating cash flow,” Vitola said. “When deciding on alternatives, operating cash flow is the key metric to consider because you can run it on a net present value basis.”

See **SERVICES** on page 5



WE'RE HERE
because your child's
health matters.

BAYHEALTH PEDIATRICS, MILFORD

We're parents too and we know your child's health is a priority! Whether you have a newborn, toddler, or teen, we're driven to give them the care they need. As moms we're experts in TLC, as pediatricians, we're experts in your child's health and wellbeing.

CLICK HERE to learn more.

Bayhealth
THE DRIVE IS *here*.®

PEDIATRICS
1-866-BAY-DOCS

SERVICES from page 4

Vitola explained that leaving solid waste with the city could result in a \$219,000 deficit over time while outsourcing could result in a deficit of over \$1.8 million. Vitola admitted he was actually surprised as he had anticipated outsourcing would ultimately save the city money.

“Originally, when this was first brought up, it was as an emergency stop gap in case we run into the same situation that we ran into when the trucks broke down,” Councilman Andy Fulton said. “We had very few people. When did it turn into a survey study on replacement of the service completely.”

Councilman Jason James reminded Councilman Fulton that council did ask Svaby what would happen if the entire department was outsourced. He agreed with Councilman Fulton that it was clear that outsourcing was not financially feasible, but wondered how the city could address the staffing, management and vehicle issues to avoid a breakdown like one that occurred over the summer.

“We did ask for pricing a la carte,” Svaby said. “We could take another swipe at some of those scenarios, where only yard waste would be contracted out or only recycling. We have that information available from the way the bids were structured. Secondly, if we decide to retain the service as a city-operated service, there have been some real changes. As I mentioned, we have two candidates at arm’s length. I believe that if we made the formal offer in writing, they would accept it and we would be fully staffed. As for the vehicles, we have ne-

See **SERVICES** on page 6

PACE Your LIFE is a Program of All-Inclusive Care for the Elderly



PACE Your LIFE is designed for adults 55+ who require assistance with activities of daily living but want to remain in their homes for as long as possible.

- ✔ Coordinated health care
- ✔ Social activities
- ✔ Medication management
- ✔ Transportation and more



PACE
YOUR
LIFE

302-865-3565

www.paceyourlifemwv.com

YOUR LIFE, YOUR HOME, YOUR WAY

SERVICES from page 5

gotiated and settled on a contract with the Town of Newark for a temporary truck loan agreement. We are approved to buy a new solid waste truck in FY23 with a \$425,000 price tag.”

Mayor Archie Campbell asked if this meant the city should simply continue providing solid waste service to which Svaby pointed out that the numbers indicated that was true.

“I think there’s also a perception that the service should be provided by the city with city employees based on our cost of service studies and increases in services and things like that,” Councilman Todd Culotta said. “I think the pandemic and this inflationary period are all circumstantial right now and won’t always be the case. And I think there’ll be a time that when it’s easier to get employees, when cost of parts come down, I think we said there are things to talk about, like augmenting our service with more equipment. I don’t think giving up control, which is what happens any time you outsource a service, sometimes it is totally worth it and other times you have no control if a trash can is missed, or a driver mouths off at a customer. I just don’t think we are there yet.”

Councilman Dan Marabello agreed stating that supply chain issues and staffing would not be problems forever. He questioned whether solid waste employees were receiving adequate pay. Svaby pointed out that there was not a turnover problem in the department but a hiring problem. Salaries for city employees were comparable to other communities. Because solid waste employees must have a CDL, it was difficult finding

staff since those skills were in high demand right now. Councilman Brian Baer asked why there was such an increase in trash.

“I don’t believe it is COVID any longer, not directly related to COVID anyway,” Svaby said. “We saw the onset of almost comprehensively acceptable stay at home and work. Even us as an organization, we recently enacted a personnel policy that allows for work from home within the provisions of that policy. I can’t speak for Jamesha or Mark, but I imagine that was done because employers are doing that now to be attractive and competitive. So, I know people that work in the private sector that work from home every day of the week and they may only meet up once a month or once every other month. I think it is just people working from home.”

Council voted unanimously to reject the two bids and continue providing solid waste service through the city.



GBC 1886 **Goldey-Beacom**
COLLEGE

NEW GRADUATE CERTIFICATE PROGRAMS

- Certificate in Marketing
- Certificate in Human Resource Management
- Certificate in Health Care Management
- Certificate in Entrepreneurship
- Certificate in Information Technology

LOCATION | **CONTACT** | **WEBSITE**

4701 Limestone Road
Wilmington, DE 19808

302-225-6248
Admissions@gbc.edu

www.gbc.edu/

CULTURE



PHOTO LINK: [JONATHAN MISTROT](#)

MEALS ON WHEELS LOOKING FOR VOLUNTEERS

BY TERRY ROGERS

Like many non-profit organizations, Meals on Wheels has seen a reduction in the number of people volunteering for their service. Much of the downturn in volunteerism is related to the COVID pandemic that has led to more people working from home.

“What we’re trying to do is sort of build back from the volunteer loss that we experienced because of COVID with that shift to work from home,” Erica Brown, project manager for Meals on Wheels said. “We lost a lot of corporate volunteers that way and now even in the corporate world, people tend to come into the office Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday. So, Mondays and Fridays are still a challenge for us. In addition, some older people volunteers didn’t feel comfortable going out into the community. Now with vaccines and everything, that seems to be getting better so for retired people who have time on their hands in the middle of the day that wants something meaningful to do with their time is who we are looking for.”

According to Brown, Meals on Wheels delivers more than 1,000 meals per day. Her office is located in New Castle County and serves from Claymont to Middletown. The volunteer opportunities include delivering meals to those who need them. Volunteers use their own vehicles and, although there is no mileage reimbursement from Meals on Wheels, there can be a tax deduction for miles used for charity.

“The only qualification to becoming a Meals on Wheels volunteer is a vehicle and the desire to help others,” Brown said. “Many corporations are now allowing employees to volunteer their time during work hours. We would love to have those employees come help us take meals to those in need.”

Meals on Wheels provides food to seniors who may have no family nearby. Families are living farther away and neighbors may be strangers for some elderly people.

See MEALS on page 9



Local breast cancer survivor and warrior Taylor Urban shares how DBCC has impacted her journey of healing.

db DELAWARE BREAST CANCER COALITION [Read More >](#)



We support local because we are local

Mountaire
Fresh Young Chicken

mountaire.com

MEALS from page 8

With the pandemic, senior citizens have been even more isolated due to concerns for their health and safety. This has led many to struggle with nutrition, something that Meals on Wheels can assist with. In fact, during the pandemic, Meals on Wheels provided more than \$31 million to support local communities with meals. In most cases, the meals are just delivered to the front door, but the service also provides other benefits.

“Every client is going to be a little bit different,” Brown said. “There could be that drop off at the front door for the person who can get to the door. There might be someone else who has some more mobility issues that they’re not going to be able to get to the door. So, there might be some people where it’s like knock and walk in and leave it on the table situation. Especially for the people who live alone, the volunteer who brings a meal might be the only person that they’re going to see all day. So it is just that little bit of a visit and interaction, a human connection in addition to the meal.”

Meal delivery is Monday through Friday at lunchtime and only takes about an hour and a half. Anyone who is interested in volunteering for Meals on Wheels can contact them at www.cityfare.org.



 **SOUTHERN STATES**
Farmer owned since 1923.

Mon-Fri 7am-5pm
Sat 7am-Noon



302-422-8066
info@milfordsouthernstates.com



STEEL OF A DEAL

FOR A LIMITED TIME, GET LOW INTEREST FINANCING WITH ZERO DOWN!



*Visit ROXORoffroad.com for full details.

The Steel of a Deal is here!
Now for a limited time,
get new purchase offers on
Mahindra ROXOR.
Get low-rate financing
for up to 60 months,
ZERO down
or \$750 cash back!

SOUTHERN STATES MILFORD CO-OP

7308 Williamsville Road

Milford, DE 19963

PH: 302-422-8066

Hours: Mon-Fri 7am-5pm; Sat 7am-Noon

Visit our FB page

www.facebook.com/ssmilfordcoop/

www.MilfordSouthernStates.com

info@milfordsouthernstates.com

MAHINDRA
2638 HST

0%

INTEREST*
FOR 72 MONTHS

OFFICIAL
TRACTOR
OF TOUGH

*Excludes cab model





ANNUAL CITY HALL TREE LIGHTING SET FOR NOV. 26

PRESS RELEASE

The city of Milford will welcome the holiday season on Saturday, Nov. 26 at 5 p.m. with its Annual City Hall Tree Lighting.

The Milford Central Academy Chorus will lead the crowd in singing many holiday favorites, as well as provide a sneak peek to a few of their own winter choral pieces. Santa will also make a special appearance this year.

“We are excited to have the Milford School District, Santa and the community join us for this tradition each year,” said Sara Bluhm, Economic Development & Community Engagement Administrator. “It’s a wonderful family-friendly way to kick off the holiday season and we thank our Public Works and Electric crews for making our city shine!”

This event is the capstone to Small Business Saturday, always held the Saturday after Thanksgiving. Milford’s small businesses will be open to welcome shoppers and Santa will arrive in his house via fire truck as he has in years past in Downtown Milford at 11 a.m. Santa will be in his house on Fridays and Saturdays 5-8 p.m. and Sundays 11 a.m.–2 p.m. through Dec. 23. Due to COVID-19, Santa will not arrive via fire truck as he has in years past. Children are welcome to sit on Santa’s lap again this year and families can take their own pictures.

See TREE on page 11

CAREER FAIRS

HAPPENING SOON
NEAR YOU

LEARN MORE



TREE from page 10

City Hall is located at 201 S. Walnut St. and free parking is available behind the building or throughout the downtown area.

The city of Milford, incorporated in 1807 and located in Kent and Sussex Counties along the Mispillion River, is home to 11,000+ year-round residents, 500+ retail businesses and non-profits, local restaurants, parks, trails, small town events, major healthcare providers, an historic shipyard, and its own school district. Known throughout the state as River Town, Art Town, Home Town, the city celebrates the beauty of its natural resources, the ingenuity of its people and its commitment to quality of life.



“
**With Delaware LIVE
we share our story,
not remain a static ad**

- BOYS & GIRLS CLUB OF DELAWARE



**COLDWELL BANKER
PREMIER**

ATTENTION KENT COUNTY:

**IF YOU'RE THINKING OF SELLING, THERE'S NO TIME LIKE
THE PRESENT!**

**HOMES ARE AVERAGING LESS THAN 20 DAYS ON THE
MARKET BEFORE THEY SELL!**

GIVE US A CALL TO LIST TODAY!



711 N. DUPONT BLVD, MILFORD, DE 19963 | 302-422-8200

*STATISTICS COMPILED FROM BRIGHT MLS DATA



igBurton.com



**NOBODY
BEATS A
BURTON
DEAL!**



MILFORD SEAFORD LEWES SMYRNA BERLIN



BUICK

GMC



DODGE

Jeep



RAM



BUSINESS



PHOTO LINK: BRIAN K. LEONARD

MILFORDLIVE

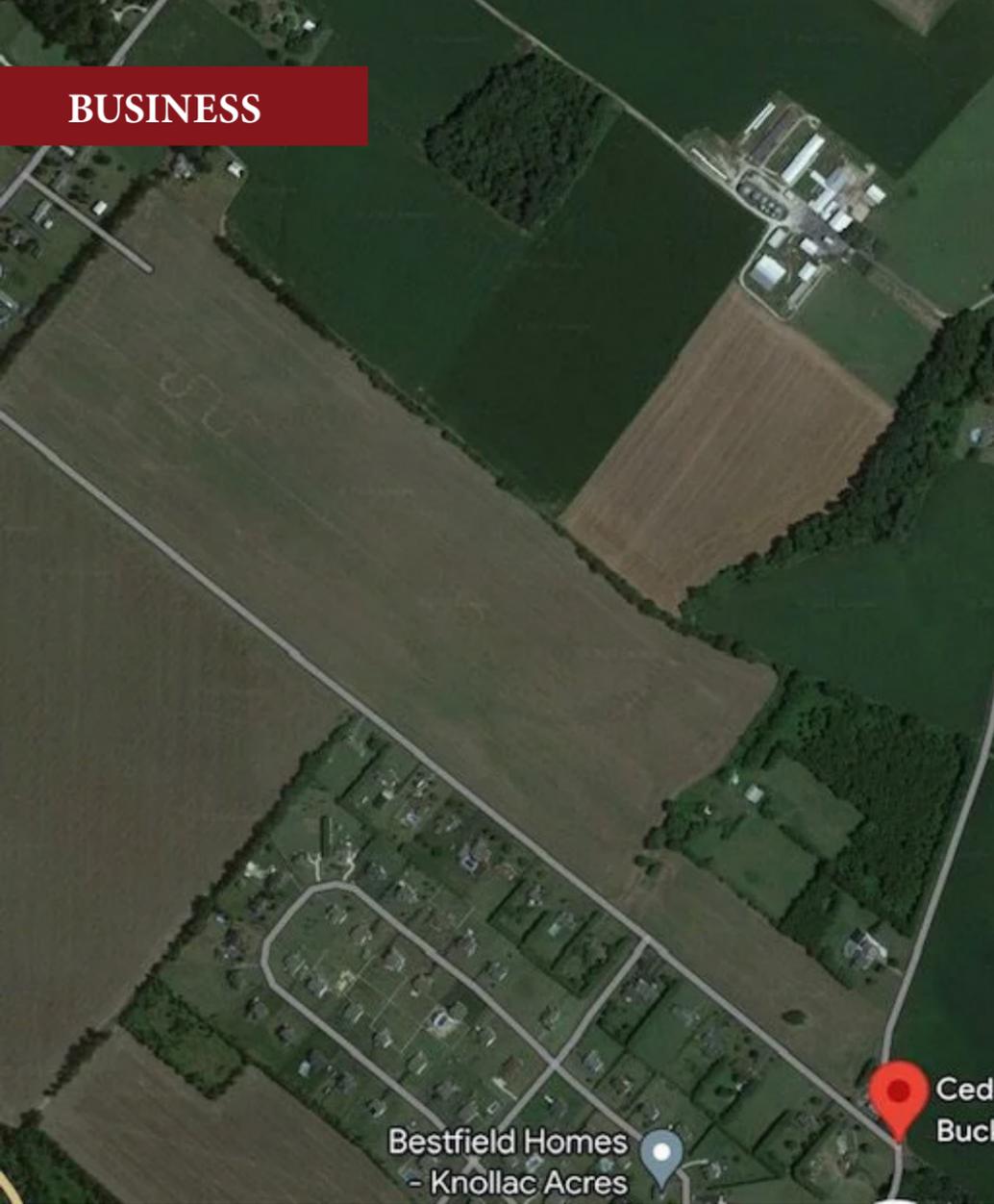


MilfordLive



@Milfordlive

MilfordLive.com



RED CEDAR FARMS DEVELOPMENT APPROVED

“The applicant shall also be responsible for right-of-way improvements either through direct construction of the entrance road widening and shared use path via contribution to the Southeast Milford Transportation Improvement District (TID), which is still being finalized,” Rob Pierce, city planner, said. “If that is wrapped up in the next couple of months, the applicant would want to potentially participate through the TID rather than make the improvements themselves.”

Mike Reimann of Becker Morgan Group explained that the plot of land is zoned R2 which allows both single-family and duplex homes. The development also fits with the comprehensive plan for development of low-density residential in that area. The property does not include a floodplain and there are no wetlands on the property. It is adjacent to land that is zoned agricultural land preservation. The city also approved the design and installation of casing that would bring utilities to the area. The plan called for 200 single family lots that are just under one-third of an acre while the code called for lots at a minimum of 8,000 square feet. This would mean the lots are actually larger than what was called for in city code.

“We do have significant open space,” Reimann said. “Your code requires 25 percent open space and we actu-

BY TERRY ROGERS

At a recent meeting, Milford City Council approved a preliminary major subdivision plan for Red Cedar Farms which will be located on the corner of Bucks Road and Cedar Neck Road, across from the current Knollac Acres development. In addition to approving the development, council also approved a waiver of the block width requirement, allowing the developer to create three blocks that were more than the 275-foot requirement.

See **DEVELOPMENT** on page 15

FUR BABY
PET RESORT

PAMPER YOUR
FUR BABY

Doggie Daycare.
Overnight Hotel.
Specialty Boutique.
Spa Grooming.

FEATURING **SAFE & FUN, CAGE-FREE** DAYCARE & HOTEL

NATURAL GROCERY TO SPA PAMPERING

AWARD WINNING
PET RESORT

DelawareToday

302.725.5078
 woof@furbabyboutique.com

MAKE ONLINE RESERVATIONS TODAY!
 www.furbabypetresort.com

FOLLOW ALONG
 [@furbabypetresort](https://www.instagram.com/furbabypetresort)

DEVELOPMENT from page 14

ally propose an open space with some significant pedestrian connectivity sidewalks on both sides of the road as well as interconnecting portions of the development with open spaces. There will also be a shared use path along Bucks Road and Cedar Neck Road. These are relatively standard requirements of DelDOT and would be implemented here either using the TIP or directly.”

Access to the development would be from Bucks Road with alignment with an entrance to Knollac Acres. The central open space would include a pool and clubhouse with a boulevard-style entrance that would include landscaping. The property drains to the east and there is a plan for a central pond to collect stormwater. The developer will continue to work with DNREC to create property stormwater design. The request for longer blocks was to accommodate stormwater ponds and to allow for additional open space in the development.

“There was some concern and I know Mr. (Lucius) Webb is here and we appreciate his comments,” Reimann said. “There were some concerns about being next to agricultural use and I get he is a farmer. He’s out there doing his job. There’s going to be dust and there’s going to be things in his activities out there early in the morning. It is his job, and he wants everybody to understand that. There’ll be documentation on the plans and in the governing documents so that it’s known by the folks who are buying homes that Mr. Webb will be farming.”

Another property will be surrounded by the new development and the developer agreed to add additional landscaping around that property as an additional buffer. Councilman Jason James asked if one entrance

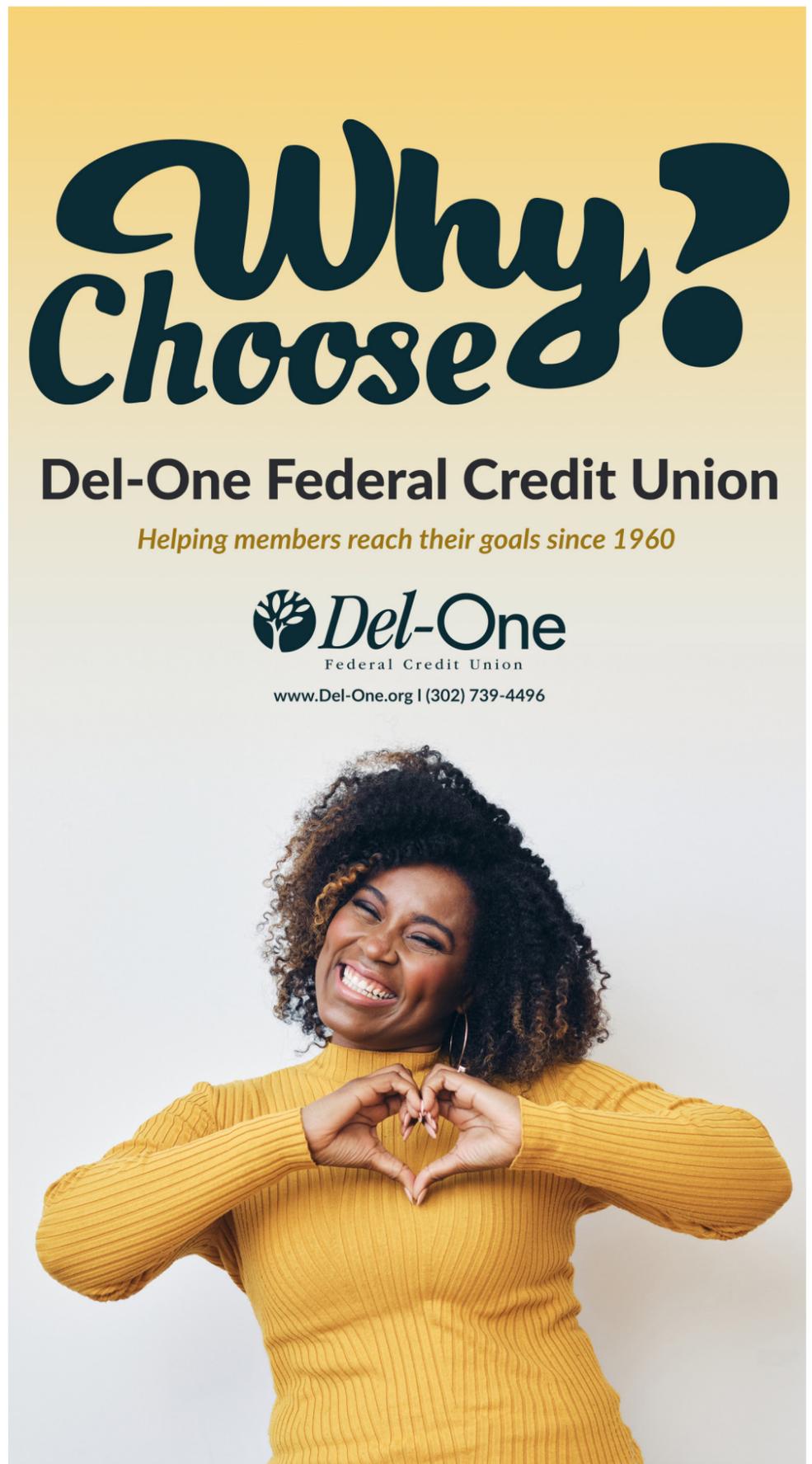
was suitable for a development of that size and Reimann explained that a traffic analysis indicated it would. There would be turn lanes added for safety as well. Councilman Andy Fulton asked if the ponds would have fountains and Reimann stated that they would. Councilman Fulton also asked if the ponds could be utilized by the fire company to which Reimann stated that it was possible that could be incorporated.

“I was wondering if the residents of this community will have other amenities,” Councilman Brian Baer asked. “I’ve noticed some other amenities at some of Schell’s other neighborhoods like dog parks, pickleball courts and tennis.” Reimann stated he was not sure if those would be included but there would be a pool, lounge area, playground and walking paths.

Tim Green of Schell Brothers explained that it was too early for them to determine what amenities would benefit the development. Normally, Schell Brothers reviews other communities in the area to see what is offered but since there were very few developments in this area, they had not made those decisions. He explained that pickleball was “all the rage” now and that it was possible a court could be included. Councilman Dan Marabello asked if the homes would have basements. Reimann explained that groundwater would determine the existence of basements and they don’t have all that information at the present time.

“I am concerned about the overdevelopment of this area and whether all growth is good,” Lucius Webb, the farmer who owned the agricultural land adjacent to the development, said during a public hearing. “I just do

See **DEVELOPMENT** on page 16



Why? Choose?

Del-One Federal Credit Union
Helping members reach their goals since 1960


www.Del-One.org | (302) 739-4496

DEVELOPMENT from page 15

not want Milford to be the pariah that Lewes has become where we have one Stepford home community after another. And you really don't have much of a jewel of a community where you have to fight traffic upon traffic to get to the center of town. It's a real challenge."

Webb continued that he grew up on the farm where he now lives, reminding council it has been a family-owned farm for six generations. The Webb family has been in Sussex County since the 1600s. He reminded Schell Brothers that backing lot lines up to beautiful open land would allow the developer to charge premiums of between \$40,000 and \$100,000 for those lots, something the farmer does not benefit from. He also pointed out that a farmer is not required to maintain property in a pristine way and that a pig farm could be created on the agricultural land which would reduce the value of the premium lots.

"I traveled this road as a kid in a school bus and also on my horse," Webb said. "They were dirt roads, they're old Crown roads. I think you need to take into account the impact it is going to have on the greater community there. You have a lot of people who bicycle in that area. They're hardly passable on level as they are and should have been upgraded for traffic many years ago."

Howard Webb, the older brother of Lucius, agreed with the traffic concerns. He asked that a hedgerow be added to the landscaping in order to create an additional buffer between the farm and the development. Ronald Esperson stated that with 200 homes, there could be as many as 400 cars traveling on a road that was already too narrow.

"I'm very familiar with the area in front of my home," Raymond Hendrick said. "I want to thank Schell Brothers for acknowledging some of the comments I made last week. One of the comments this evening is they are going to remove a great deal of the vegetation I see every morning when I go to my mailbox, the biodiversity of the area. I've hiked through it. I've never trespassed but never found anyone I could talk to who would deny me access. I would like to ask that when they do the landscaping proposal, they use native Delaware trees and shrubs, not Leland spruce or cypress trees or burning bushes and Bradford pears. There are a lot of oak and maple, red bud and flowering dogwood. So, I hope you would keep that in consideration when planning."

[CLICK HERE TO READ MORE](#)

SAME BANK. NEW LOOK.



[LEARN MORE](#)

Member
FDIC



DON'T WAIT. TEACH.

**DON'T JUST PLAN YOUR NEXT MOVE —
MAKE IT.**

You already know an education is valuable. But did you also know that it's possible? With an affordable, flexible education, Del Tech is ready to make your path to becoming an educator a reality.

Start a conversation with an academic advisor today.

Visit dtcc.edu.

 DELAWARE TECH

GOVERNMENT & POLITICS



PHOTO BY BEN MULDROW

MILFORDLIVE

 MilfordLive

 @Milfordlive

MilfordLive.com

TEST WELL DRILLING PLANNED FOR FRY FARM

BY TERRY ROGERS

In some areas north of Milford, residents and businesses are dealing with some water pressure issues. These issues have led the city of Milford to drill test wells on the Fry Farm which will be the site of a new industrial park.

“Ideally, we’ll end up drilling a single test well, it will be productive, and we’ll be able to move on,” James Puddicombe, city engineer, said. “If the first bore comes up with something that is not really viable, we have the ability to do two additional bores before we would run out of money on this valuation.”

Puddicombe explained the city would work with AC Schultes and, once the test wells were completed, they would have an idea on water production in the northern area of the town. Once a good well is identified, there would be a new water tower and treatment facility

constructed which would serve the new industrial park, older commercial areas and some residential areas surrounding the Fry Farm.

“The pressure is down to around 32 psi or so there which pushes the edge of fire flow,” Puddicombe said. “What we are asking for is a bit of a split here. The \$84,202 would be for up to two test drilled wells and \$13,540 would be for an additional borehole, so that’s three total boreholes. An additional \$7,258 is an approximate cost to prepare the farm for winter, planning winter wheat most likely for a cover crop in order to return it to its condition after we complete our work out on the farm. So, the farmer can continue with what he has out there now, and we’ll be notifying the farmer as well once we know we’re proceeding forward with this work.”

See **DRILLING** on page 19



GIVING A VOICE BACK TO THE PEOPLE!

Supporting pro-growth, pro-jobs policies, and greater transparency and accountability in state government.

Stay Informed

Follow us @ABetterDelaware



DRILLING from page 18

Mayor Archie Campbell asked if the funding was included in the budget and Puddicombe explained it was a sub-part of the budget for the Northwest Area evaluation. He explained that test wells on the Rookery property were about \$30,000 and they were about 100 feet shallower than what these wells would be. The Rookery test wells were 400 to 450 feet and four inches in diameter while these would be 500 feet and four inches in diameter. Councilman Dan Marabello asked if Puddicombe was more optimistic about the wells on the Fry Farm compared to the Rookery.

“Yes, significantly more optimistic,” Puddicombe said. “The soils and everything in the area are better from talking with the engineer and hydrologists. They have high hopes we’ll find some water down there. I don’t know what the production value will be. There’s not a whole lot in the area at this step. There are irrigation wells at a shallow aquifer. We just tend to avoid those with public water systems to avoid contamination.”

The request to fund the three test wells was approved unanimously and Puddicombe hopes that the wells will be drilled within the next month or so, depending on the contractor’s schedule.



DCLSN
Delaware Charter
Schools Network

WELCOME BACK!

Wishing the over 17,000 students in the 23 Delaware charter schools and all of the educators, staff, leaders, and board members that support them, a wonderful 22/23 School Year!

DELAWARE LIVE
OUR STATE. OUR NEWS. OUR HOME.

“
**Our ads change
at the pace of our
business needs**”

- SOUTHERN STATES

Show up. Your voice matters.

*Who is deciding how well your child is prepared for their future?
Your school board.*

School boards meet once every month. When is yours?

**Visit your school district's website for date, location,
and time of your school board's meetings!**

FIRST STATE EDUCATE
EXPECT EXCELLENCE • ACT TOGETHER



JOHN MOLLURA

- PHOTOGRAPHY -

BEAUTY PORTRAITS - HEAD SHOTS
- FAMILIES -

302.222.6308



HEALTH

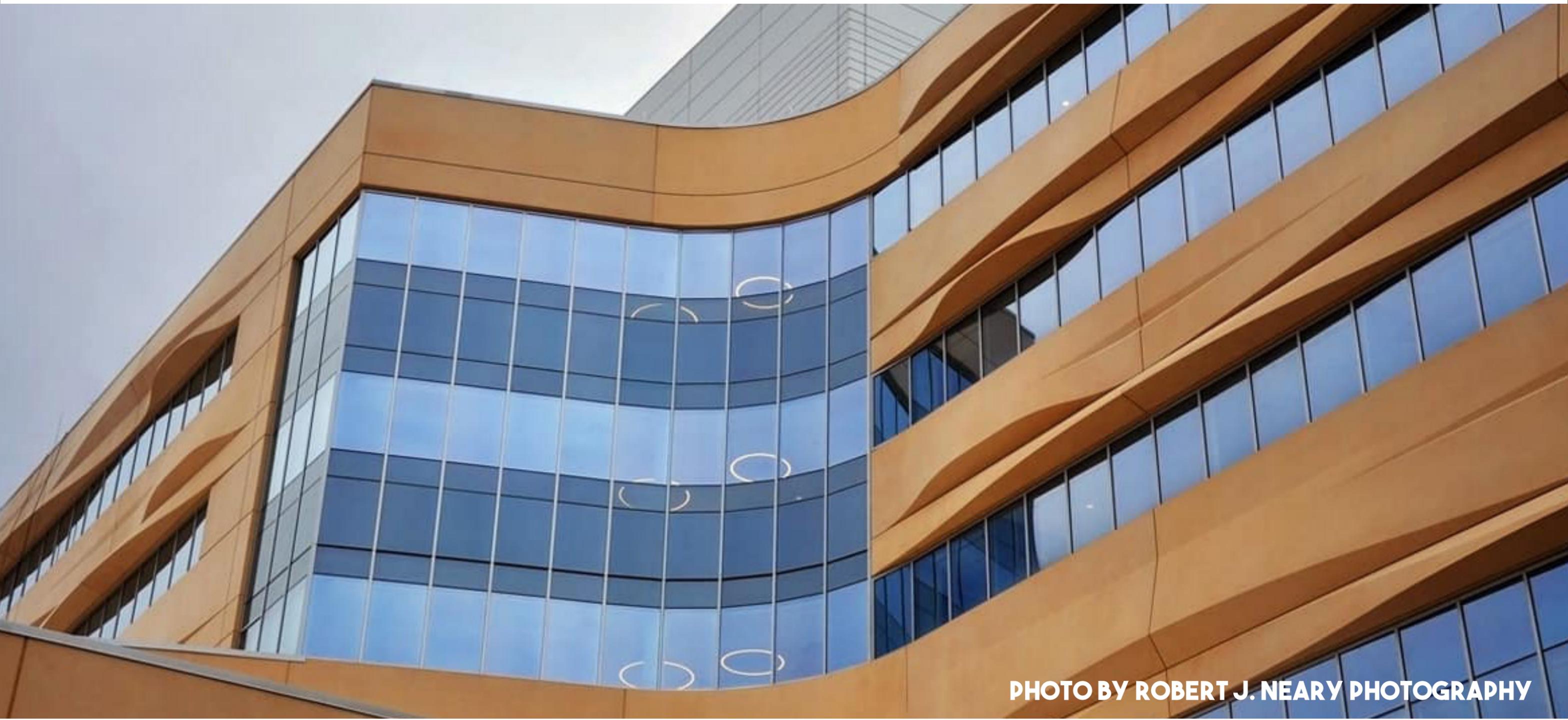


PHOTO BY ROBERT J. NEARY PHOTOGRAPHY

MILFORDLIVE

 MilfordLive

 @Milfordlive

MilfordLive.com



BY TERRY ROGERS

Delaware Breast Cancer Coalition (DBCC) offers many different services designed to help those who have survived breast cancer but also for those who are newly diagnosed. One of the key factors to understand when someone is diagnosed is that there is no right or wrong way to be a survivor as Taylor Urban explains.

“I was diagnosed with breast cancer when I was 45 years old. I underwent a bilateral mastectomy with reconstruction. My cancer was identified in a routine mammogram and I had no symptoms or family history,” Urban said.

After her diagnosis, Urban joined Young Survivors in Action, a support group sponsored by DBCC.

“As far as Young Survivors in Action in terms of just helping me heal, it’s connected me with a group of amazing women. I get to do fun things and they understand what I’ve been through more than a lot of other people who haven’t experienced breast cancer can. So that’s been really a supportive and helpful thing for me. But we also do a lot of fun stuff.”

THERE IS NO RIGHT OR WRONG WAY TO BE A BREAST CANCER SURVIVOR

One of Urban’s favorite Young Survivors in Action activities was a wreath making event that was held in November. It was her first October as a breast cancer survivor, so having an event that was fun helped.

“Having gone through my first October as a breast cancer survivor was just a lot. And that event came in November, and it was for the holidays,” Urban said. “It was really great. There were all these beautiful materials for us to work with. And I just connected with a great group of women, and we laughed, and we had fun, and everybody created these beautiful wreaths and I just really enjoyed that event.”

When asked what breast cancer has taught her, Urban replied that it was a tough question to answer.

“I think I’m still learning. I think breast cancer slows you down. You think that you’re young and you’re healthy and these things don’t happen, but they do,” Urban said. “And for me, it really forced me to look at am I doing the things that are the most important for me in my life? Is this the legacy that I want to leave and that’s a heavy thing to think about. But the flip side of it is that it’s helped me reconnect with a lot of things that bring me joy and things that interests me and it’s just kind of helped realign me a little bit. So, I think breast cancer has taught me to just appreciate and value my time now.”

For anyone who has just been diagnosed with breast cancer, Urban’s first piece of advice is just to breathe.

“You know when you first hear those words, it’s a lot and there’s a lot of emotions and everything that come with that. So, I would say just breathe,” Urban said. “Find what fills you up and what recharges you. Practice self-care like it’s your job. Whether it’s music, nature or journaling find what helps. Stay off the internet, for sure. Ignore the stupid things that people say I’m sorry, but sometimes people do say stupid things.”

See SURVIVOR on page 23

SURVIVOR from page 22

Find your people connect with other survivors. So, for me that has really been a game changer. And no matter how much people love you, if they haven't experienced breast cancer, they just don't get it the same. So even if your journey is a little bit different than somebody else, connecting with other survivors can really help. And I would say take it one day at a time. You're going to get through this. There's a lot of great doctors, there's a lot of great treatment, but just kind of be where you are and take care of yourself."

The other advice Urban has for those who are newly diagnosed is to understand that it is okay to be sad and to be angry.

"I think that there's a lot of hoorah in our culture that you have to be strong and you're a survivor and you got this," Urban said. "I love it but at the flip side of it, I think sometimes it robs women the permission to feel all the feels that come with being a cancer survivor. You have the right to say why me, you can be angry about it, I'm angry about it. You can be sad and all those things are there and they're real and it doesn't make you any less of a warrior. You know, sometimes the bravest thing that you can do is just be real and be where you are and breathe through those emotions. So, I think all of you are warriors out there and you're all awesome. But just allow yourself the space for all the feelings that come with it. It doesn't make you any less strong."

DBCC needs support from the community to continue providing services like those that have helped Urban.

"Breast cancer is the most commonly diagnosed female cancer in Delaware and throughout the US and the second-most common cause of death in the state and across the country," Francesca Vogel, chief executive officer of DBCC, said. "For these reasons, DBCC works tirelessly to remove barriers to ensure women are screened so that breast cancer is caught in its earliest stages when treatment is more successful. Our dedicated team and volunteers ensure that every woman and man diagnosed who comes through our doors has an immediate support system to help them replace fear and doubt with knowledge, hope and vital resources. We are very grateful that, together, with the community funding support we have received over the past 31 years, we are saving lives! As we enter the holiday season, please recognize that breast cancer continues beyond October and that we cannot accomplish all we do without your much needed support. Please continue to support our mission through your thoughtful donations and make a difference in the lives of Delawareans."

Vogel stated that anyone can support DBCC with direct donations through the Donate button on their website, through Amazon Smile or by sponsoring an event like the upcoming gala in March 2023.



I'M HERE
to care for
your growing
family.



I'M KANDIS SAMUELS-LEUTZINGER, MD, MPH

Caring for families has always been my passion. In addition to treating patients of all ages, my expertise in OB-GYN, prenatal care and deliveries means I can provide all the care needed for mothers and the youngest ones in your family. I'm here to bring better health for you and your loved ones.

[CLICK HERE](#) to learn more.



OB-GYN &
FAMILY MEDICINE
1-866-BAY-DOCS



MILFORD LIVE SPORTS

Brought to You by:

RYJ Richard Y. Johnson & Son, Inc.
General Contractors & Construction Managers
(302) 422-3732



PHOTO BY DAVID MCCALLUM

MILFORD LIVE

 MilfordLive

 @Milfordlive

MilfordLive.com



MILFORD FALLS TO CARAVEL

BY DAVID MCCALLUM

Milford was clicking on all cylinders a week ago blasting Sussex Tech 46-35 in its Homecoming game, and Buccaneer head coach Shawn Strickland knew a similar effort would be required against unbeaten powerhouse Caravel Academy Friday night at Briggs Stadium.

The homestanding Buccaneers were no match for their counterparts as they dropped a 42-0 decision in their penultimate contest of the season.

“Caravel is a very good football team, and we knew had to play a good game and limit mistakes. We just didn’t do that on both sides of the ball,” Strickland said. “We knew going in (against Caravel) that they were going to be tough. We had to limit the mistakes and we didn’t.”

Milford was solid defensively on the game’s opening drive, shutting down the visiting Buccaneers and forcing a punt, but MHS went three-and-out on its opening offensive possession. Caravel (9-0) would then get its

offense in gear going 92 yards in 12 plays with fullback Brook Rhoades going in from two yards out with 2:07 left in the opening quarter for the first of his two touchdowns, and the point-after (PAT) made it a 7-0 game.

Another three-and-out from Milford, which only took two minutes off the clock, set the stage for another Caravel scoring drive—this time it took only four plays for the visitors to go 60 yards, with Rhoades scoring from 10 yards out. After the PAT, MHS found itself down 14-0 with 10:16 left in the opening half.

“Opportunities were there. We’d get them in second, and third and long and they made big plays,” Strickland said. “We had things we were able to do and take away. They were well scouted, but there were too many mistakes. You can’t have them in a third-and-11, and they get 12 yards for a first (down).”

See **MILFORD** on page 26



Brought to You by:

RY Richard Y. Johnson & Son, Inc.
General Contractors & Construction Managers



(302) 422-3732
18404 Johnson Rd,
Lincoln, DE 19960

“Regardless of the size, scope, and challenges of the project, RYJ will develop a specialized approach to meet your goals.”

MILFORD from page 25

Milford's offense was still unable to get untracked on its next possession gaining only six yards in three plays. Caravel scored its final touchdown of the first half on a six-play, 60-yard march culminated by a Craig Miller seven-yard TD run. The drive could have been different if not for a controversial pass interference call on a MHS interception.

"On offense, some bad balls were thrown, and we had trouble finding good running lanes early on which we were able to do later," said Strickland, whose offense managed only 33 yards of total offense in the opening half.

Milford's offense started better on the second half's opening drive with running back Elijah Lake picking up 17 yards on the first three plays, but a holding penalty put the Bucs behind the sticks and forced another punt.

MHS's Desmond Aladuge boomed a 40-yard plus pinning Caravel back at 15, but the visiting Buccaneers put a dagger in any Milford comeback hopes on its second play, as quarterback Truman Awuwerda found wide receiver Vandrick Hamlin III on a 76-yard touchdown pass and Caravel led 28-0 after the successful PAT.

"When we were locked in and doing what we needed to do, we were making plays on both sides of the ball—getting chunk yardage on offense," Strickland said. "And defensively, we were getting them in third and long, and forcing them to do things they're not used to. That counter was a big play for them, but they never hit it once against us.

"We would get drives and then we shoot ourselves in the foot; penalties, missed blocks and started going backwards. We hadn't had that happen the last couple

of weeks. We had that happen this week and you can't have that happen against Caravel."

Caravel would score another touchdown in the third quarter and one in the fourth quarter to finish off the 42-0 victory.

Milford did manage to move inside the Caravel 30 on its next drive on successive 24- and 16-yard runs from Lake and DenNare Horsey, but the drive broke down following two runs for losses and a pair of incomplete passes from quarterback John Hudson.

Milford (3-6) closes out its season Thursday night on Senior Night at Briggs Stadium against Mount Pleasant. Kickoff is set for 7 p.m.

"We have to go back and see where those errors were and see how those can be fixed. We got to clean up the mistakes and get some energy and momentum back and go out and play our brand of football. Like Sussex Tech (a 46-35 win two weeks ago), since the opening week of the season where you saw four quarters where our guys were locked in—not many penalties, not many mistakes—and you look at the outcome (three wins).

"We've got a lot of young guys only two are four-year guys, so we're very young and experience-wise it's not a very deep team this year with experience. A lot of these guys are juniors (19), and this is the first time they've been on the field at this level. With having COVID, no jayvee team and being riddled with injuries all season we've hit a few bumps and we've got to overcome them."

MILFORD
LIVE

SOUTH BETHANY,
DELAWARE

Delivering Energy That Makes Life Better.

For more than 160 years, Chesapeake Utilities has been committed to delivering affordable energy, helping families and businesses lower their energy costs while supporting significant economic development for their communities. This commitment drives our forward-thinking investments in energy projects that contribute to a lower-carbon future and has resulted in reductions in emissions from both our operations and our customers.

Learn more at chpk.com.

CHESAPEAKE
UTILITIES CORPORATION

STAY CONNECTED

MILFORD LIVE IS YOUR SOURCE FOR NEWS AND INFORMATION IN THE GREATER MILFORD, DELAWARE AREA. STAY CONNECTED WITH US BY PHONE, EMAIL OR ON SOCIAL MEDIA BY CLICKING ON THE LINKS.



PHONE: 302-542-9231



**For News & Information: news@delawarelive.com
To Advertise With Us: shupe@delawarelive.com**



[instagram.com/milford_live/](https://www.instagram.com/milford_live/)



twitter.com/live_delaware



[facebook.com/delawarelivenews/](https://www.facebook.com/delawarelivenews/)



Watch Delaware Live on YouTube!



[linkedin.com/company/delaware-live-news](https://www.linkedin.com/company/delaware-live-news)



**Without these collaborators,
this outlet would not be
possible:**

Bryan Shupe, CEO

Betsy Price, Editor

Sonja M. Frey, Publisher

John Mollura Photography

Design your 2022 through Intentional Business and Marketing Planning

As a locally-owned company, Delaware LIVE News takes pride in working alongside regional businesses to develop digital marketing campaigns, through our daily news platforms.

From large corporations like Christiana Care, Delaware Tech Community College, and Delaware Department of Health to small shops like Fur Baby Pet Resort, Dolce Coffee Shop, and Benvenuto Tuscan Restaurant, we customize each plan to optimize the needs of each of our marketing partners.

I would love the opportunity to meet with you for 10-15 minutes to see how we can help. You can click the link to set up a meeting with me in our virtual office: <https://meetings.hubspot.com/shupe1>

CEO, Bryan Shupe / 302-542-9231 / shupe@delawarelive.com

