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Updates on Former Rookery



Council Approves Downtown Streetscape Plan



Proposed School Tax Decrease for 7th Year

HEADLINES



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UPDATES CONTINUE ON FORMER ROOKERY PROPERTY

BY TERRY ROGERS

Newly named the Southern Delaware Golf Club, the former Rookery property is undergoing extensive renovations in order to open in the spring of 2024.

“There was information that was put out there from the very beginning that we may possibly open nine holes sometime in September. That was probably unrealistic, especially once we got in here and started digging around and finding what needed to be replaced and what needed to be redone,” Bill Kupfer, director of Agronomy, said. “So, very, very, very, very soon after starting this, we decided that next spring of 2024 will be a more proper opening and that way we can open 18 holes and have everything ready to go. The September thing, we could probably rush maybe. But, you’re basically looking at 45 days of golf before it’s too cold.”

Kupfer explained that a lot of logistics have gone into getting the golf course ready, including renovation of the greens, which included sodding. He explained that bent grass sod is what they will use and it has been very difficult to find in the Mid-Atlantic region. A new fleet

of equipment was also required and it is taking six to eight months, even up to a year, for delivery of some of the items that have been ordered.

“If you’ve driven by, you obviously can see the whole front of the property is totally different now. We started with tree removal, which will eventually help with sight-lines from Rehoboth Boulevard to where everyone can see the property and it’s not all covered up,” Kupfer said. “Some of them were safety issues, they were not healthy, so they could fall down and hurt someone. So, we started there. Then we went into the green renovation, we went through and we’re digging out up to about a foot of material out of every green of that material. When we go to put the material back in, we put drainage underground drainage in the green itself.”

There is also work being done on the sand traps, including digging them out, reshaping them and adding drainage before new sand is added. Kupfer explained that they currently have about nine holes dug

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out and three holes where the bunkers have been reshaped and with drainage completed. Kupfer stated that they will fill up the 12-inch or so cavity with an 80/20 mixture of organics and sand. The final step will be to create undulations in the greens. The plan is to seed them in the middle of August in order to grow grass throughout the fall.

“Hopefully, we will not have a crazy ice winter,” Kupfer said. “Snow would really be kind of okay for me because it would act as a blanket. The ice would be a little bit harmful to us. And then, we hope to have a good spring as well so we can meet our timeline. Right now, my timeline is, at the latest, tax day, April 15.”

As the bunkers get redone, Kupfer says they plan to sod them, then fill them with sand. They are also planning to redo the fairways.

“The fairways are going to be overseeded which means we’re going to seed them again. They’re already Bermuda grass, but we’re gonna seed them with a with a better type of more resistant to the Mid-Atlantic type Bermuda grass,” Kupfer said. “And the same with the tee boxes. That leaves the rough which is the tall grass. We’re going to overseed it right now. It’s like a little bit of a mixture of everything. There’s some fescue there, some blue grass, there’s some Bermuda grass, a little bit of everything. So, we’re going to overseed it with turf type tall fescue, which is like the same common grass that most people have in front and backyards in in the Mid-Atlantic/Delaware area. There will be some areas that we hydroseed with fine fescue, which we’ll let that grow up.”

Kupfer pointed out that anyone familiar with golf would recognize the tall fescue as it is common on courses in the Mid-Atlantic region. It turns brown and wispy, providing an aesthetic view, but also adds a challenge to the golfer since it adds another challenge. After that, Kupfer plans to move onto tree removal.

“Somehow people have gotten misconstrued, like we’re cutting down all these trees and not doing anything else. That we’re just cutting them down just to cut them down. Well, I don’t believe in that. I’m very eco-driven,” Kupfer said. “I understand we need trees to survive, but I also understand the ones I’m cutting down, some of them are safety issues. Some of them are agronomic issues, which the trees are applying shade, or they don’t allow airflow or the root system of the tree is fighting the turf and taking all the water in the nutrients so, at that point, the tree is gonna take all the nutrients and then the turf dies. Then also some of them are just for some aesthetic point of view.

Currently, about 500 trees have been removed and there is still three quarters of the course to work through, Kupfer stated. When the course is complete, he estimates somewhere around 1,500 to 2,000 trees will be removed.

“But when I say that, it’s not like we’re cutting down 1,500 mature trees as what I consider a tree, it could be a sapling with a two-inch around trunk that is just there,” Kupfer said. “Once we get done with that project, we will go back to look at plant species that will work better in today’s golf game, and today’s agronomics in spots

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from page 4

throughout the golf course. I can't say that I'll replant 2,000 trees if we cut 2,000 out, but we're gonna put a lot back in. We're going to do landscaping everywhere. Lots of flowers. The owner, Mr. Johnson, he's very big into that. He wants color with flowers. So, we'll be doing that. Lots of that. The perennials that come back each year and then we'll do different annual flowers and things like that each season."

In addition to work on the course itself, Kupfer stated that the old pool house would become the pro shop, but would be totally renovated. Three of the four walls will remain, but the roof is being removed and the wall that is facing the golf course will be removed. The plan is to construct that wall higher than it is currently. Johnson's staff has removed all the brick from the outside of the clubhouse to prepare the building for Big Oyster. Kupfer stated that he was not sure where they stood on renovations as the staff at Big Oyster was handling the interior of the building while Johnson's crews worked on renovating the exterior.

"The old pro shop is being demolished completely, and that's where there's going to be a new building constructed and they're going to brew all the Big Oyster beer there. Then the parking lot and the old tennis courts," Kupfer said. "We're going to do four pickleball courts, kind of like the ones that they have down across the river from Arena's. We'll have four of them that will be available. And we're gonna do some renovations to the driving range, which will be like a practice facility which will entail building a new driving range tee,

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building a practice putting green and possibly, at some point, a chipping green where you can practice chipping. That may happen at some point, but I don't see that happening before next April. It's something that will be off to the side that we could construct, and it won't affect anybody coming out here playing and things like that."

The course will have a 19th hole which will likely be a shorter par-3. Should issues arise where a hole on the course needs to be closed for any reason, this will allow for 18 holes. New irrigation heads are being installed, but the piping underneath is older which lends itself to failure. Should an underground pipe fail in the summer, the hole will need to be closed for repairs as quickly as possible.

"We had to purchase a whole new fleet of equipment. Like I said, we've had to basically replace the majority of every irrigation head, we had to have a new irrigation computer, put in the satellite controllers which there's eight of them on the golf course property and they all had to be replaced," Kupfer said. "We were basically starting from scratch with all of our core supplies. So, like the signs that are out on the course to tell the description of the hole all that stuff, tee markers, all of that has to be purchased and all that is still supply chain issues even though it's been, what, three years, two years now after COVID. The whole backlog of everything. You know, so that's when things get backed up."

The fact that the course remained vacant for so many years has led to some of the issues Kupfer is dealing with.

"When the Johnsons hired me, I expected some of the problems. Some of them not so much, but we're getting through them. The Johnsons have been amazing owners. They're 100% committed to this project. And Mr. Tim is committed to the community because he does so much elsewhere throughout Milford. So, we're definitely looking forward. We're excited about the future to get this thing up and running."

The next step is to seed the fairways at the end of the month or beginning of July with seeding the greens planned around the end of August into Labor Day. Once the greens grow in, the course will basically be playable. Explaining the entire project is one way that Kupfer hopes to dispel many of the rumors swirling throughout town.

This goes back to January when the Johnsons first purchased this, there were so many rumors, and then there's so many keyboard warriors and they post things and then there are questions and things like that. And so, we've had this plan, and I just I went to Mr. Johnson and I was like, "Look, it's probably a good idea if I start talking to people and get things out there. One, it's good marketing for us for the future, but also lets the community know what's going on. And then there's not 1,000 rumors."



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CULTURE



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MUSIC IN THE PARK RETURNS FOR SUMMER

BY TERRY ROGERS

The Milford Public Library is proud to announce the return of its popular Music in the Park series for 2023. The series kicks off in the Library Amphitheater on June 28 at 7 p.m. with the Milford Community Band Smooth Sound Big Band.

“The Smooth Sound Big Band performs big band era music that includes classic rock and jazz,” Carolyn Tabor, program coordinator, said. “You can enjoy the sounds of alt, tenor and bari sax, trumpet, trombone as well as guitars, piano and vocals. Be sure to bring a chair or blanket to sit and enjoy some music on a nice summer evening.”

As a special performance, the DE 287th Army Band will perform on Friday, June 30. Formed in 1921, this band served in the Pacific Theater in World War II and

abroad, most recently in Germany. Comprised of members of the Delaware Army National Guard, they bring a variety of music, from classical to smooth jazz to popular.

“On July 5, we will feature Dale Teat and the Glass Onion Band,” Tabor said. “They will perform popular dance hits as well as soft rock and standard covers. Not only will you enjoy their mix of piano and saxophone, but also the audience participation they bring.”

The July 12 program features On the Edge. This band, formed in 1984 quickly became an Eastern Shore favorite. They are known for their high energy with songs that range from 1960s Motown to today’s pop hits. On July 19, the program will feature the ever popular Mike Hines and the Look.

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“There is no question that Mike Hines and the Look is one of the most popular bands in the area,” Tabor said. “They have a huge following and there it is rare to see people sitting in their seats when he is playing. We are excited to bring them to Music in the Park.”

The final performance of the year will be gospel performances by Spirit & Truth, Pastor Dale Argot of Millsboro and Irvin Sadler of Lincoln.

Hot dogs and bottled water can be purchased at all Wednesday performances.

MILFORD LIVE

BUSINESS



photo link: Marcia Reed

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DOLCE OPENS 10TH STREET LOCATION

BY TERRY ROGERS

Before the COVID-19 pandemic, then-owners of Dolce, Dean and Stephanie Tatman announced they would open a second location in the 10th Street Medical Complex. When the pandemic began, the project was placed on hold.

“When the Silicatos wanted to build this, I guess from what I understand, Dr. Hammer and Dr. Barnes were going to be the first tenants. And they went to the Silicatos and said you need to get Dolce as a coffee shop in there,” Dissinger said. “I believe that was how it began, I never really covered that with Dean and Stephanie. But then COVID. So, they backed off. And then you don’t want to open when the building is pretty well empty, but now that the building’s full, it was time. And then Dean, Stephanie and myself started talking. They were like, ‘why don’t we just wait and let you take it on.

Here’s the equipment that we ordered, and you can do the rest.’ So, that’s how it all started when Silicato had the vision to get this built.”

The 10th Street location is significantly smaller than the downtown location at between 100 and 125 square feet compared to 1,000, but Dissinger explained that the menu will basically be the same. Currently, there are not cold items at the 10th Street location as they don’t have the refrigeration space, but they are looking for ways to add those once they get the flow of the new space figured out. He also explained that the goal was always to have a limited menu at the second location with a larger menu at the downtown location.

“We do plan to do breakfast and lunch here, but right now it’s all sweets. We’re gonna bring savory,” Dissinger

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said. “I just met with some people last week about some new items that I want to start after we do our remodeling downtown. So sometime end of July, beginning of August, probably start doing some more savory things.”

The downtown location is also getting an upgrade, Dissinger stated. Fresh coats of paint, new countertops and new cases are some of the changes that will be incorporated into the Walnut Street location.

“We’re taking down some of George’s handiwork and the little trashcan piece, we’re taking that out which will open the space,” Dissinger said. “Those pieces are nice. But they’re in the way. It’s time to freshen it up. Bring it into today’s world. I just got a picture yesterday from my contractor who has prebuilt the counter and then he’s gonna bring it in. We’re gonna close Saturday, July 1 at the end of the day and be closed the entire week of July 4, reopening July 10.”

Dissinger expressed excitement about the new location as well as the changes occurring at the Walnut Street restaurant. He stated that the 10th Street location opened to little fanfare last week with just a small post on Facebook. He also explained that he set a goal that he wanted to see reached each day and, so far, they had been reaching those goals.

“I’ve asked Chris to sort of watch the parking lot to see who comes in here and purchases because they’re here at the building for some reason, or how many people pull in, come and get something and then leave because they specifically chose to come in here. There’s been a couple of people that have done that which is good,” Dissinger said, referring to his General Manager,

Chris Tenbusch, who is also his son-in-law.

In an effort to draw customers from Route 1, Dissinger hopes to place signage along the highway, not only to bring tourists heading to and from the beaches into the 10th Street location, but also locals who are heading to work on the highway. He is also hoping to partner with his neighbor, Microtel, and offer 10 percent coupons to guests who may be staying there for events at DE Turf. Dissinger is also looking forward to the school year where he hopes teachers and students will become regular customers.

“With a few months under our belts, one thing I can say that has not been a challenge is help. Help is not a big challenge for us. Our staff is great. We’ve added two which have worked out really good. But I would say one of our biggest challenges is trying to figure out what people really want because I think sometimes people don’t really know what they want,” Dissinger said. “That means we have to figure it out for them. But we’ve added some new items which is great. So, we’re getting different people looking for different things. We’re kind of tapping into that. But just cost of goods is a challenge. I mean, I’ll be honest with you, Chris and I have had many conversations about prices, and we’re gonna have to raise some prices. It just it is what it is. It’s gonna look bad right after a remodel, raising the price, but we have be appropriate.”

Overall, Dissinger’s new venture has had very few challenges. All items are baked at the Walnut Street location and transported to the 10th Street store daily.

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from page 11

Dissinger explained that Tenbusch picks up large, sealed containers every morning and brings them to 10th Street.

“It’s been really good seeing people come in that have always come in who tell us ‘don’t change.’ And it’s good seeing people that the staff would say, ‘Geez, I haven’t seen them for a while.’ And now they’re coming back. Regularly, which is good. And new people are coming in,” Dissinger said. “I’m always asking people how’s your drink? How’s the cinnamon roll? How are we doing? Okay, do you like it? And for the most part, it’s all very positive. Sometimes you get somebody like ‘the cinnamon roll is a little crunchy today.’ And that is okay. We are human and we are not all perfect. We bake everything fresh. So, it’s not like we’re pulling out of the freezer and throwing it in a microwave. It is all fresh. I will say that’s sometimes a struggle. People sometimes don’t understand it. You can go to Walmart and buy cupcakes at four in the morning if you want. But if we sell out of our inventory at 1 in the afternoon, we’re sold out. I don’t want to throw it in the oven at 1:30 and end up throwing it away at 3:30.”

Feedback has been very positive, Dissinger stated. He explained they are on their second round of loyalty cards which means people are picking them up and using them. Currently, the 10th Street location will have the same hours as the downtown location which are Monday through Wednesday 7 a.m. to 3 p.m.; Thursday, 6 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.; Friday 7 a.m. to 3 p.m. and Saturday 8 a.m. until noon. They are closed on Sunday.



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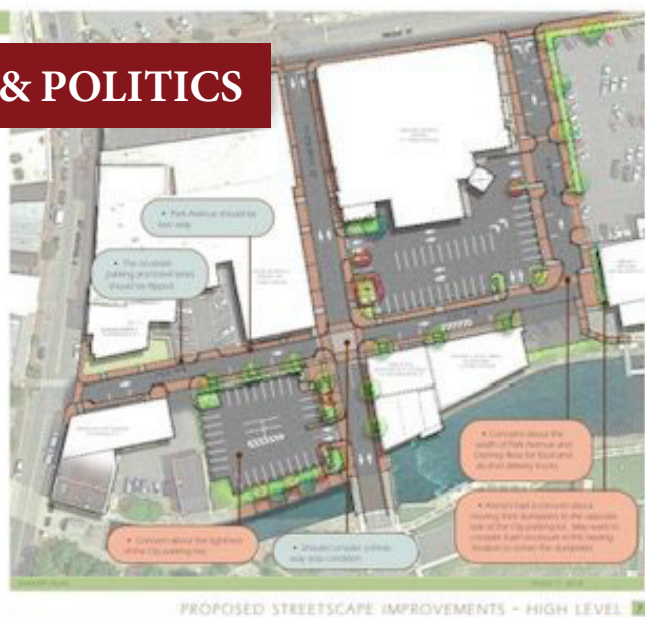
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GOVERNMENT & POLITICS



photo credit: Ben Muldrow



- WHAT WE THOUGHT AS THE MAIN NEGATIVES TO DOWNTOWN**
1. Traffic congestion
 2. Overcrowding
- CONCERNS:**
- One business owner did not want to see any reduction in local parking in the downtown area and did not want to see Park Avenue closed.
 - Concern about big truck parking.
 - Concern regarding access to other parking lot downtown.
 - Concern about the location of the proposed trash enclosure.
- SUGGESTIONS:**
- Several residents stated we need to study the nearby area.

CITY OF MILFORD - DOWNTOWN STREETSCAPE PLAN - HIGH LEVEL



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- WHAT WE THOUGHT AS THE MAIN NEGATIVES TO DOWNTOWN**
1. Traffic congestion
 2. Overcrowding
- CONCERNS:**
- There were several things about the roundabout. Some residents don't like roundabouts.
 - One business owner did not want to see any reduction in local parking in the downtown area and did not want to see Park Avenue closed.
 - Concern about big truck parking.
 - Concern regarding access to other parking lot downtown.
 - Concern about the location of the proposed trash enclosure.
- SUGGESTIONS:**
- Several residents stated we need to study the nearby area.

BY TERRY ROGERS

Milford City Council voted to approve a Downtown Streetscape plan that was presented at the June 12 meeting. The request was tabled so council could hear more public comment about changes proposed to S. Walnut Street, Denney Row, Park Place and Southwest Second Street. The plan was approved as designed except for a suggestion that Southwest Second Street be returned to one-way as opposed to the current two-way direction.

COUNCIL APPROVES DOWNTOWN STREETScape PLAN

“We can also include some public participation and some council participation during the design phase as well so that you’re not just seeing construction start. You will see the construction plans at a future date,” Rob Pierce, city planner, said. “But we do want to get a general consensus from council before we scope out a design proposal from an engineering consultant.”

The Downtown Streetscape plan was created by KCI Technologies which used many of the ideas presented in the Rivertown Rebirth Plan created by Arnett Muldrow several years ago. There was discussion regarding dumpsters at Arena’s and the original plan suggested they be moved to the front of the building, but an updated plan simply built an enclosure around them. A roundabout presented in the original plan which would have been located at Southwest Front and Walnut Street was removed in the final version presented to council.

“I really do like this plan, and it increases the pedestrian walking area,” Councilman Andy Fulton said. “And for downtown to be successful, we have to have people walking about and if we make it more accessible and brighten it up the way this is designed, I think that we’re gonna see increased traffic, increased business opportunities, and I think it’s really good for the city.”

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Councilman Todd Culotta agreed that the plan looked good and that the upgrades to downtown would be beneficial. He suggested that additional public comment be taken so that council had more of an idea what the people of the town wanted.

“At Southwest Front Street, I’d really still like to see that stay two-way,” Councilman Culotta said. “I just think that the way we have it set up now with the removal of the lights and stop signs, I think that’s very functional. But again, I would like to hear from other folks, not just discuss, not just debating within Council, but listening to the public.”

The only public comment came from David Pickerell who, along with his wife, owns two buildings on South Walnut Street. His concern was a greenery box placed in a municipal parking lot behind 8 and 10 S. Walnut Street, the two buildings he owns. He felt that area needed to remain an unloading zone for the businesses located in that area of South Walnut Street.

“I think this was done at the level of a concept rendering. I think there’s gonna be some modifications to the overall design of these things as we encounter those types of accessibility concerns, runoff, drainage, all those things will need to be taken into consideration at that next level but we can certainly work with the business owners in this area when we go to design this parking lot to make sure that we’re keeping adequate access,” Pierce said. “If it means not planting a tree in that particular location and patching it off, that can be fine. It’d be nice to find another place to do some plantings and some greenery in there. But I have made a note of that comment.”

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- SOUTHERN STATES



SOLID WASTE COSTS TO RISE BY \$1 PER MONTH

BY TERRY ROGERS

Milford City Council approved an increase in residential solid waste fees by \$1 per month starting July 1, 2023. The cost for solid waste service in the city of Milford will increase to \$31.50 from \$30.50. The increase is to cover higher costs in the department. Prior to the monthly increase, council approved a year-end budget adjustment transfer into the Solid Waste Department of \$26,000.

“As part of the process, we need three years of loan paybacks, three years of small but accumulated surpluses, two years of interest earnings in the solid waste as well as one and two years of the new vehicle and equipment replacement program,” Lou Vitola, finance director, said. “Before we needed the \$26,000 budget adjustment just to buy that one vehicle. So now we’re basically starting over again. And that is just one highlight, I guess you could say, of why the cost of service

rate study didn’t keep pace with actuals.”

Vitola pointed out that there was about a half million in cash in the fund so making payroll was not at risk, something he wanted to make clear should any solid waste employees be listening to the meeting. However, in order to catch up to net zero, a fee increase of \$1 per month needed to be approved.

“The rate study for solid waste was completed in December 2019. So, there’s a lot that wasn’t anticipated,” Vitola said. “But with that said other utilities, all three others held up despite the pandemic. And on the revenue side of solid waste, it’s actually a decent projection. We’ve worked 2.7% year over year ahead of what the projection expected because we have growth that study conservatively ignores. But the expense side has just completely exceeded and outstripped those increases

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due to everything that Mike talked about earlier. So, the fiscal 24 budget does include this dollar in there and that is just to get to just about breakeven. It's actually a couple of thousand shy of breakeven, but it was a minimum appropriate movement that we need in order to be not just solvent, but prudent in the solid waste."

Councilman Brian Baer pointed out that the city had done a good job of keeping costs down even with new equipment, confirming that accounts that were delinquent were being managed. Vitola explained that the city was keeping up with delinquent customers.

"I saw that new pickup unit come around in my neighborhood. It's really nice looking. But, I think you made an important point. I'm just going to re-emphasize that," Councilman Jason James said. "This solid waste fee on the resolution that we're looking at now. These amounts were discussed during the budget process. So, this is not, and tell me if I'm wrong, this is not a new first time council is seeing as this actually had been discussed and approved in the budget."

Vitola stated that was correct, that the higher fee was included in the approved budget. There was no public comment regarding the fee increase and the motion passed unanimously.



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EDUCATION



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MILFORD SCHOOLS PROPOSE TAX DECREASE FOR 7TH STRAIGHT YEAR

its July 10 meeting. The district spans parts of both Kent and Sussex counties.

In addition to a debt service plan that has been in place for many years in an effort to reduce the tax rate of this project, Milford has also seen a significant increase in housing growth and subsequent growth in property assessment, the district stated in a news release.

“You can take a drive around our district and see the continued growth. What people may not realize is that growth provides additional revenues,” said Bridget Amory, interim superintendent. “We are committed to utilizing our foundation of fiscal stability to fulfill our newly established mission and vision.”

The ongoing property reassessment process going on in each of Delaware’s three counties—expected to be completed by the end of 2025—does not impact this year’s tax rate.

The Milford Middle School Project, which is a primary goal of the district’s new [Strategic Plan](#), is designed to create an innovative and modern learning environment for 1,000 students in grades five and six.

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BY JAREK RUTZ

Residents in the Milford School District could have yet another tax decrease next year, which would be the seventh straight year the district has approved a decrease.

Sara Hale, chief operating officer of the district, presented school tax rate data to the district’s school board Monday, reflecting a tax decrease of .6% for next year. Most notably, the district is already financially set to complete its Milford Middle School Project with no additional revenue needed from district residents.

This tax rate provides revenue to cover operating costs for the district. This includes teaching materials, textbooks, technology, insurance, athletic and academic programs, local salary expenditures and more. A tax rate increase cannot be approved without allowing residents to vote through a referendum. Since the proposal is to decrease taxes, the school board must take a vote to make it official. Milford’s board will vote on the proposal at

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SCHOOL'S OUT & SUMMER MEALS ARE IN!

Milford School District is offering free meals to children under 18 years of age during the Summer (June 26th-August 3rd).

For more information regarding time, location, and menu items, please contact your MSD Child Nutrition Supervisor, Sharon Forrest at sforrest@msd.k12.de.us.

Not in Milford during the summer? Visit www.fns.usda.gov/summerfoodrocks to find a location serving meals closer to you!

****Closed the week of July 4th and every Friday****

This institution is an equal opportunity provider.

SUMMER FOOD SERVICE PROGRAM

STAFF REPORT

Milford School District is participating in the Summer Food Service Program. Meals will be available to all children aged 18 and under without charge and are the same for all children regardless of race, color, national origin, sex, age or disability, and there will be no discrimination during the meal service. Meals will be provided, at a first come, first serve basis, and served Mondays through Thursdays. The summer meal program will begin Monday, June 26 and continue through Thursday, Aug. 3. No meals will be served on Fridays or during the week of July 4.

Meals can be picked up at the sites and times as follows:

- Milford Central Academy: 8:30-8:50 Breakfast, 11:30-11:50 Lunch
- Lulu Ross Elementary: 8:30-8:50 Breakfast, 11:30-11:50 Lunch
- E.I. Morris Early Learning Center: 8:30-8:50 Breakfast, 11:30-11:50 Lunch

The Milford School District asks that community members go to the front office to request meals and meals will be brought out to them by the child nutrition staff. Picnic tables will be available to eat the meals. Meals must be eaten on site. This institution is an equal opportunity provider.



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HEALTH



photo link: Bayhealth Medical Center

PACE YOUR LIFE CELEBRATES ONE-YEAR ANNIVERSARY

STAFF REPORT

The Central Delaware Chamber of Commerce hosted a ribbon cutting ceremony for PACE Your Life on Wednesday, June 21, at 11 a.m. The event was held at 21 West Clarke Avenue, Suite 1010 in Milford. Chamber members and friends joined the PACE Your Life team to celebrate their one-year anniversary.

“We are very proud of our growth over the last year,” Erin Steele, director of Marketing and Enrollment, said. “Not only do we have more participants, but we have grown our team of employees and specialty providers.”

PACE Your Life is a program of all-inclusive care for the elderly that was approved by the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid (CMS) in May 2022. PACE Your Life’s mission is to improve the quality of life for the local 55 and older community by offering an alternative model of care that is person-centered with the goal of allowing their participants to remain living and thriving

in the community for as long as possible. They work hard to reduce hospitalizations and nursing home placement by offering comprehensive home and community-based medical and social care.

PACE Your Life Milford utilizes an all-inclusive health plan combined with medical and social services. They have a center in the Milford Wellness Village where they provide services including but not limited to physical, occupational and speech therapy, personal care, primary medical care, emergency care, socialization, meals, transportation, medication management and 24/7 on-call service. Care can be provided at the center in Milford, in the participant’s home or in the community through their network of contract providers.

“Based on feedback from our participants, we have opened a salon and are partnering with a local stylist to provide services like haircuts, color and perms right in



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the center,” Steele said. “We have been using feedback from participants to improve programming which led us to hire a recreational therapist who uses recreation to reduce anxiety, stress and depression.”

PACE programs are national programs that are highly regulated by the state in which the program resides, as well as by CMS. Much preparation, time and work go into opening a PACE program with rigorous reviews and audits prior to receiving approval. In the past year, PACE Your Life in Milford has grown and they expect continual growth.

For more information about PACE Your Life, contact 302-865-3565 or visit www.paceyourlife.com.

MILFORD LIVE

SPORTS



photo by Winston Chen / Unsplash

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FORMER BLUE HEN MAKES MAJOR LEAGUE DEBUT

BY NICK HALLIDAY

The Minnesota Twins shut out the Boston Red Sox 6-0 Thursday in a baseball matinee. The big news from that game was not the score or the complete game shut out thrown by Twins starter Joe Ryan, it was the major league debut of former Blue Hen and Hodgson Silver Eagle Brandon Walter.

Walter, a New Castle native, played his high school baseball for Hodgson Silver Eagles and played his collegiate baseball for the Delaware Blue Hens. After three seasons at the University of Delaware, Walter was drafted by the Red Sox, with the 797th overall pick in the 26th round.

Walter entered the game in the second inning against the Twins in relief of Justin Garza. He ended up pitching

6.2 innings in relief allowing three runs, on three hits. Walter did settle down after giving up three runs in his first two innings of work. He threw a total of 92 pitches with 56 of them being strikes.

Walter did accomplish some firsts as he recorded his first ever major league strikeout when he struck out Max Kelper. Unfortunately, he did give up his first major league home run when Byron Buxton took him deep for his second home run of the game. Brandon also recorded 20 or more outs in relief, which hadn't been done in the Red Sox organization since 1944.

In an article written by Ian Browne from MLB.com, he asked Brandon what it was like making his major league debut and Walter responded "Definitely some

positives and some bad things. It was a blast obviously getting to pitch in my first big league game," said Walter. "I was trying not to think about that aspect of it too much. I just wanted to kind of keep us in the game. Give us length. Save the other bullpen guys and just try to get quick innings. I was able to do that some innings. Other innings, it kind of got away from me. I think overall, pretty good."

Browne was also able to ask Red Sox manager Alex Cora about his thoughts on Walters outing and he responded "It was a good one," said Cora. "He was able to move the ball around the strike zone. We were talking about it. Usually when they come out, we start thinking about guys who he reminds you of. Very [Ryan] Yarbrough-like, a few years ago, with the cutter and sinking it, throwing [the ball] up and down. That was a good one."

From the article and from manager Cora's response it seems that the Red Sox were very happy with Walters' outing. However Browne did mention that he thinks that Boston is going to option him back to Triple-A Worcester, but he thinks Walter did earn himself another chance to pitch for the Red Sox in upcoming games. We will be following his moves as the Red Sox organization decides on where Brandon will be heading in the next couple of weeks. Be sure to follow us on social media or check back for future articles as will be following his major league career, plus many other Delaware natives.



POLICE & FIRE



photo link: Downtown Milford Inc.

ROBBERY INVESTIGATION LEADS TO MULTIPLE ARRESTS

STAFF REPORT

On June 18, Milford Police arrested four individuals as part of an investigation into a robbery that occurred in Bicentennial Park at approximately 8:50 p.m. The investigation revealed four suspects approached the victim in Bicentennial Park in the 200 block of Northeast Front Street (SR 14). The suspects reportedly struck the victim multiple times and took his wallet.

The suspects, who fled the area, were eventually located by an officer on patrol in the area and taken into custody without incident. Dwan T. Jarvis, 27, Javon Warren, 22, Joshua Singh, 18, and a 17-year-old juvenile, all of Milford, were taken into custody without incident.

As a result of the investigation Jarvis was charged with Robbery 2nd Degree, Conspiracy 2nd Degree, Possession of Drug Paraphernalia and Offensive Touching. Jarvis was presented at the Justice of the Peace Court #7, where bail was set at \$8,300 secured.

Warren was charged with Robbery 2nd Degree, Conspiracy 2nd Degree, and Possession of a Control Substance. Warren was presented at the Justice of the Peace Court #7, where bail was set at \$8,200 secured.

Singh was charged with Robbery 2nd Degree and Conspiracy 2nd Degree. Singh was presented at the



Jarvis

Warren

Singh

Justice of the Peace Court #7, where bail was set at \$8,000 unsecured.

The juvenile has been charged with Robbery 2nd Degree and Conspiracy 2nd Degree. The juvenile was presented at the Justice of the Peace Court #7, where bail was set at \$8000.00 unsecured.

Jarvis and Warren both have been committed to the Sussex Correctional Center. Jarvis, Warren and Singh all have been scheduled for preliminary hearings at the Kent County Court of Common Pleas in July. The juvenile has been scheduled for an arraignment at the Kent County Family Court.



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