

MILFORD LIVE

 MilfordLive

 @Milfordlive

SUBSCRIBE 

September 12, 2023
Vol. 13 • Issue 37

Headlines2
Culture.....8
Business12
Government & Politics 16
Education..... 18
Health20
Sports.....25
Police & Fire.....29
Stay Connected32

photo link: Carlisle Fire Company



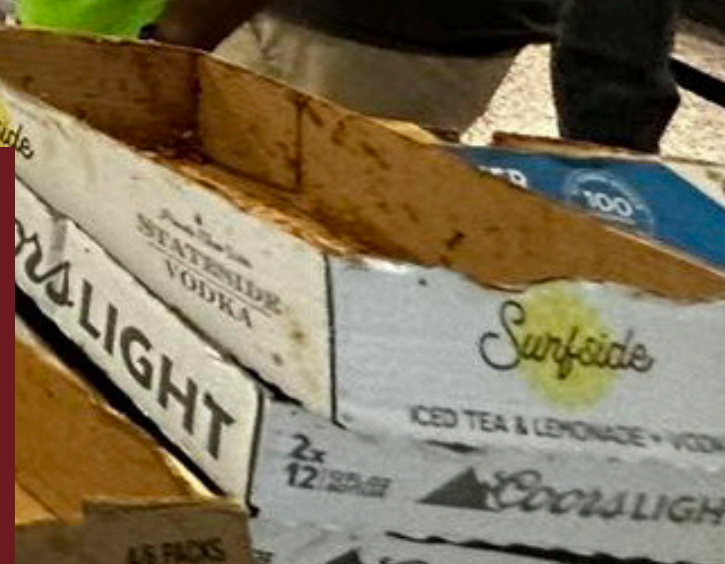
Demo Begins on Middle School



Ways to Support Breast Cancer Awareness in October



DE Special Olympian Bowler Danny Yonker



HEADLINES



photo link: Abbott's Mill Nature Center

LADYBUG MUSIC FESTIVAL ARTIST SPOTLIGHT: KERRY HALLETT

BY TERRY ROGERS

The Ladybug Music Festival will return to Milford on Saturday, Sept. 30, the largest concert in the country featuring a 100 percent female-fronted lineup. The festival, which began as a downtown block party, has grown to become one of the most popular events in southern Delaware. The Milford festival is presented by Downtown Milford Inc. in partnership with Gable Music Ventures. One of the artists who will perform at the festival, Kerry Hallett, explained that she has been moved by music for as long as she can remember.

“I was terribly shy in my teens and for most of my adult life,” Hallett said. “In grade school, I studied and played the cello, which I loved, but sort of chose because I was too shy to sing, which is what I really longed to do. I think I picked a huge instrument I could hide behind. At age 14, my mom got me a pawn shop guitar for Christmas and I plugged away, teaching myself to play. I’d lock myself in my bedroom and sing quietly to myself—for years—before I ever sang in front of another human.”

Hallett explained that music had always been a conduit for her emotions and that she is a “playlist-making fiend.”

“Whether I am curating the perfect song to listen to that matches what I’m feeling, or a song is pouring out of me when I’m going through something, it’s always very tied to expressing emotion for me,” Hallett said. “Sometimes I think even just sounds or a melody can step in where words fall short.”

Born and raised in Virginia Beach, VA, Hallett moved to Philadelphia for college at the age of 17. Claiming she was “all over the board” for a while when she first started college, Hallett settled on art history as a major as she was drawn to languages, art and anthropology.

“Art history was a way to combine those loves,” Hallett said. “I worked in restaurants to support myself and

see page 4



McDonald's logo and 'the meoli companies' logo.

**BA-DA-BA-BA-BA
BIG OPPORTUNITY.**

JOIN OUR TEAM

QR code

DELAWARE LIVE
OUR STATE. OUR NEWS. OUR HOME.

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

- BOYS & GIRLS CLUB OF DELAWARE

always played music on the side. It's been quite a journey to get here, but now I pay the bills mostly through my music with a bartending gig thrown in here and there. I'm also finishing up my master's degree in nonprofit leadership as my wife and I would like to have our own dog rescue someday."

One of the things that Hallett enjoys about performing is that it was what got her over her shyness, even though she still gets nervous on stage.

"Performing lets me channel this part of me that is usually hidden, but can come out through the energy on stage and through the encouragement of the crowd," Hallett said. "I really never thought I'd sing in front of anyone, and being able to share and be recognized for my talent really feeds and nurtures that shy, unsure kid inside me."

The biggest challenge she faces in the industry, according to Hallett is exposure, which is why she finds festivals so attractive. She stated that the expenses involved in equipment, recording, touring and more can add up quickly.

"I also tend to get pigeon-holed as a member of the LGBTQ community," Hallett said. "I think people often assume I will sound a certain way or that my music will be about a certain thing. Literally, every show I play, someone says 'wow, that is NOT the voice I thought would come out of you' which I try to take as a compliment."

Hallett, who is also a member of a 90s cover band called GOLDSTAR, got involved in the Ladybug Music Festival through a friend and bandmate who told her about the festival and encouraged her to apply. This will be her first time performing at one of the Ladybug Festivals although she currently lives in Milton and is familiar with the Milford area.

"It's my first time and I am super excited," Hallett said. "It's been a while since I played a large event like this. When I released my EP, 'Tender Trap,' under the band name Heart Harbor, I did get to play at the Philadelphia Folk Festival which was extremely fun. Festivals like this are just so great for the exposure to music lovers who I might not otherwise reach. They give artists a platform and bring artists and fans together as a community. It's also great to meet other folks working in the music business so we can make meaningful connections and keep lifting each other up."

Hallett's EP with Heart Harbor is available on Spotify and Apple Music. Learn more about Hallett and her music by visiting <https://www.kerryhallett.com/>.

The Ladybug Music Festival will feature seven stages throughout downtown Milford and will run from 4 to 9 p.m. The schedule and more details can be found at <https://www.theladybugfestival.com/milford>.



THE BIG DRAW FESTIVAL

returns to

Downtown Milford

Presented by Mispillion Art League

Saturday, Oct. 7th
9 am - 3 pm
Park Ave.
next to Mispillion Art League

FREE FUN FOR ALL AGES

- Mosaic Making
- Pumpkin Painting
- Edible Color Wheels
- Free sketch books while supplies last



TheBigDrawDE bigdrawdelaware
mispillionarts.org/big-draw-de

photos by Gervasio Ruiz

This organization is supported in part by a grant from the Delaware Division of the Arts, a state agency, in partnership with The National Endowment for the Arts. The Division promotes Delaware arts events on www.delawarearts.org

Delaware Division of the Arts

DEMOLITION BEGINS ON MILFORD MIDDLE SCHOOL WINGS

BY TERRY ROGERS

An era ended on Friday, Sept. 8, when cranes began demolishing what was known as the Lakeview Wing of Milford Middle School around 9:30 a.m. School administrators,

including Superintendent Dr. Bridget Amory, Dr. Sara Hale, chief financial officer and others were present to watch as a project that has been in the planning stages for several years took the next step toward completion.

“We are very excited to see the progress on our Milford Middle School project,” Dr. Amory said. “This morning marks the beginning of the official demolition of the building. We anticipate that there will be a significant amount of work over the next few months and we will be going out to bid for the construction phase later this fall. We continue to be on schedule with an estimated opening for the 2025 academic year. The district shares the excitement of our community as this project continues to progress and help build our future as we Chart the Course to Excellence.”

Also in attendance was Dr. Glen Stevenson who served as Supervisor of Buildings and Grounds when the project began, but has since retired. School Board President Scott Fitzgerald, School Board Vice President

Matt Bucher and board members Ashley Connell and Jean Wylie were also on hand to watch as sections of the eastern wing of the building came crashing down. Connell also brought her two children, commenting that they would be students at the school when it reopened.

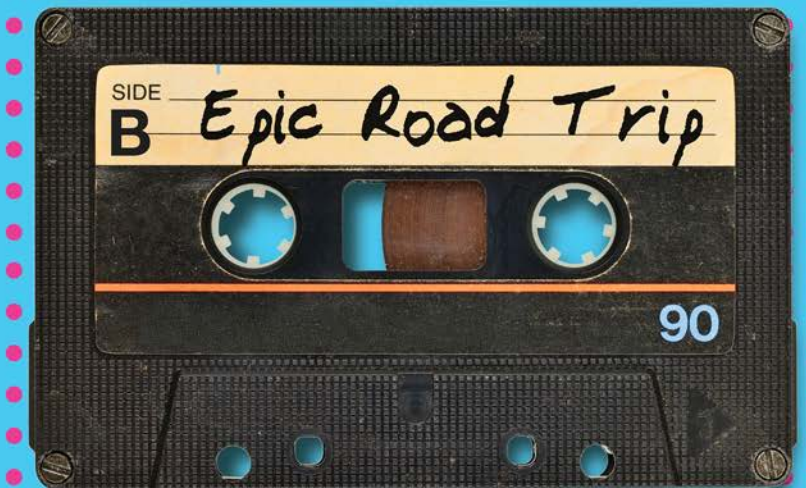
“It is almost like time was frozen inside the classroom,” Trish Gerken, public information officer for the district, said after looking inside the gaping hole created when windows were removed. “The classroom still looks like a classroom.” Dr. Hale commented that there was still a hand soap dispenser on the wall of the classroom.

Wylie, who served as an assistant principal at the school for many years, commented that if the late Dr. Gary Annett, who was the school’s principal for decades, were still alive, he would say “about time” as he told her often how the school needed to be replaced.

“Watching this makes me sad, but I’m happy that they’re able to get a new school because it’s been needed for a long time,” Wylie said. “There are a lot of memories in that building. It is quite emotional, actually. And also, that used to be the old high school, so I have all those memories, too. I watched my brother play basketball in that gym, my brother, John, so there’s a lot of memories popping up for me right now.”

see page 6

IF YOU REMEMBER MAKING ONE OF THESE,



IT'S TIME TO MAKE ONE OF THESE: **Today**

LET'S MAKE COLORECTAL CANCER HISTORY

Help us make colorectal cancer history by scheduling your colonoscopy today or by encouraging your 45+ friends and family to do so.

Colonoscopy
2023

GET A TOTALLY AWESOME 'BOS T-SHIRT TO SUPPORT THE CAUSE

▶ LEARN MORE



Bayhealth™
CANCER INSTITUTE

from page 5

Only the wings of the school will be demolished and the original building, built in the 1920s, will remain, although it will be completely renovated on the inside. Plans call for the entrance to the school to move to what is now the back of the building, but the original façade facing Lakeview will look the same with the familiar pillars and red brick.

The project began in 2018 with public meetings, led by Bill Strickland and a task force that included district staff, community members and board members. The public provided significant input into the project, overwhelmingly telling the task force they wanted it to remain an educational facility. They also wanted the building to retain as much of the historic look as possible. This request was in honor of the Milford 11, the first students to attempt integration of the Milford School District in 1954, and which gained national attention. That attempt was not successful, but a decade later, the Milford 7 successfully integrated and graduated from Milford High School, attending in the section of the school whose façade would remain.

During the task force process, an engineering firm inspected the building and found that although the newer wings were not salvageable, the original building still had “good bones” and could be saved, although significant renovations would be required for the interior. An inspection in 2010 initially reported that the entire building would need to be demolished, an assessment TetraTech, the new engineering firm found to be erroneous.

see page 7

 **SOUTHERN STATES**
Farmer owned since 1923.

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



302-422-8066
info@milfordsouthernstates.com

mahindra
SUMMER
SALES EVENT

0% **FOR 84**^{MO}
AND ZERO DOWN

— NOW ON MAX, eMAX, —
1626 AND MORE!



TRIFECTA
SALES EVENT

SPECIAL SAVINGS

WARRANTY RESTART

Purchase select mowers to restart the
warranty clock on April 1, 2024.

0% FOR 48 MONTHS*

or No Interest until April, No Payment until May

*For additional options, visit exmark.com/Finance-Offers

Now through 10/31/23

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



from page 6

In October 2021, voters overwhelmingly passed a referendum which allowed the district to issue bond sales to cover the cost of renovating the school which had been vacant since 2012. The estimated cost for the project was just over \$57 million, of which, almost \$15 million will be the responsibility of the district with the remaining costs borne by the state. Although bonds have been issued for the project, school taxes actually went down for the sixth year in a row this year.

From August 2022 to November 2022, education specification programming meetings and district reviews were held regarding the building. From October 2022 to January 2023, the project underwent schematic design. On Jan. 4, 2023, at a public meeting, BSA&A presented designs of what the building will look like when it is completed.

A preliminary site plan for the project was introduced to City Council on Monday, Sept. 11, with a vote for council to approve the plan scheduled at a later date. The district hopes to open the school to students in grades five and six in 2025.



PACE Is The Place *For My Loved One!*

Hear what PACE Your LIFE Caregivers Are Saying!



"Before enrolling in PACE Your LIFE, my husband was living in an assisted living facility in another state. PACE Your LIFE allowed him to be able to safely come back home with me and still receive opportunities & socialization during the day."

—Mary



PACE YOUR LIFE

- ✓ Coordinated health care
- ✓ Medication management
- ✓ Social activities
- ✓ Transportation and more.

Your Life, Your Home, Your Way

PACE is a national program of coordinated care for adults age 55 and over who meet the criteria for nursing facility placement but want to stay in their homes for as long as possible. We can make it happen at

PACE — Program of All-Inclusive Care for the Elderly.

Contact us today.

1-302-865-3565

www.paceyourlifemwv.com



Our priority is to keep you living at home while providing essential services.

CULTURE



photo link: [Second Street Players](#)



STAFF REPORT

The Milford Public Library Board of Trustees is pleased to announce that Ms. Lea Rosell has accepted the position of library director. A Milford native and current resident, Ms. Rosell spent the last 13 years working for the Lewes Public Library. Having started as a volunteer, Ms. Rosell earned her MLIS from the University of Pittsburgh, became the Teen Services Librarian in 2012, was promoted to Director of Youth Services in 2017, and took over as library director in 2018.

In concert with a talented and dedicated team, Ms. Rosell and her staff were able to transform a small library into a bustling community center and resource hub. Rosell looks forward to a similar transformation at the Milford Library. Rosell says, “Milford is having a

MILFORD PUBLIC LIBRARY ANNOUNCES NEW DIRECTOR

renaissance. Our residents are more involved and invested in the health and prosperity of our community than ever before. I’m excited to be part of it.”

The library had to reduce hours recently due to rising costs and falling government support.

“We had no choice but to temporarily cut our hours until we had the time and space to evaluate our situation. We’ve been able to make internal adjustments that will have a lesser impact on our users,” says Board President Lois Studte.

Other board members echoed Studte’s remarks. “As an independent nonprofit, the library doesn’t have the same recourse as traditional businesses. We can’t raise prices and we aren’t immune to increased costs,” notes Ray Lynch, board treasurer.

Working together with the future in mind, Rosell and the board will increase operating hours soon. Progress is on the horizon. Grant funds have been secured that will allow for electrical upgrades throughout the building, and provide funds needed to update signage, furniture and the building’s HVAC system.

“We’re excited to have Lea on board,” says Studte. “Her experience is exactly what we need to move forward.”



Give your Fur Baby the BEST VACATION of the Year.

FUR BABY PET RESORT IN MILFORD, DE

SHERRY SHUPE
Fur Baby Pet Resort Owner,
Dog lover

FUR BABY
PET RESORT

MAH SEEKING BICYCLE DONATIONS



BY TERRY ROGERS

Milford Advocacy for the Homeless is currently asking for donations of bicycles to help the homeless population move toward permanent housing. According to Martha Gery, CEO of MAH, a bicycle can be a lifeline to someone who is trying to end the cycle of homelessness.

“It’s more than just a bike,” Gery said. “Most of us see a bicycle as something that is for fun or recreation. But, for those who have no transportation, a bike means a huge difference in their lives. This is the case for our displaced neighbors, many of which have no transportation except the local busing system that is not convenient due to time schedules or limited pick-up and drop-off locations. That means miles of walking for them every single day.”

Gery explained that bicycles provide a quicker, more reliable method of transportation that also requires less maintenance than a vehicle. It provides a way for someone living in a homeless situation to obtain employment or get to and from a job they already hold.

“It is not uncommon for us to hand someone a bike and then watch them break into tears,” Gery said. “That small act of giving them a bike means their life is now moving in a different direction. They always see it as the helping hand they need to keep moving forward.”

Currently, there are over 50 people that are in need of bicycles and that number keeps growing, Gery explained. She also pointed out that a large number of

see page 11

Why? Choose?

Del-One Federal Credit Union

Helping members reach their goals since 1960



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



from page 10

the homeless in Milford are employed, but simply cannot find affordable housing. Throughout the state, homelessness has grown. In fact, a 2022 report found that homelessness had doubled in Delaware since 2021. In addition, homeless families with children under 18, have tripled since 2019.

Research indicates that 43 percent of the homeless in the United States, including Delaware, are employed. Most are working minimum wage jobs which make it difficult for them to find affordable housing. Others are underemployed, which means they are not provided enough hours to cover housing. For those who have become unemployed, becoming homeless makes it much more difficult to obtain new employment as they may have limited access to showers or laundry facilities, lack of access to technology or may be unable to fulfill address requirements. Transportation is a significant hurdle to those living in homelessness in obtaining employment, if they are not already employed, which is why MAH offers the bicycle donation program.

“If you have a bike in your garage that you’re not using or you’d simply like to purchase a bike and donate it, bike donations can be dropped off at 13 Mill Street,” Gery said. “If the bike is in need of repair, we partner with **Second Wind Bicycles** to have it repaired.”

For more information about the efforts of MAH to end homelessness in the area, visit <https://milfordadvocacyforthehomeless.org> or call 302-643-2470.



AQUACARE

Physical Therapy

Celebrating **25** Years

f AquacarePT t @AquacarePT i @AquacarePhysicalTherapy

www.AQUACAREPHYSICALTHERAPY.com

IN YOUR NEIGHBORHOOD!

Let us get you moving again at Aquacare - Milford.

We offer gym-based physical therapy at the Milford Wellness Village and aquatic therapy at the Boys and Girls Club pool.

We also offer a medically supervised gym membership!



Learn more and schedule your **FREE 30-minute consultation today:**

Call us at **302-491-4196** or visit us online at www.aquacarephysicaltherapy.com



BUSINESS

Farm to Table ...
• Asparagus • H...
• Apples • Far...
STAG R
2365 Foxcroft Lane - Co...
(cell) 302.270.7384
www.de...



photo link: [Downtown Milford Inc.](#)

SOLE REMEDY HOLDS RIBBON CUTTING

BY TERRY ROGERS

Angel Jarvis celebrated her business, Sole Remedy, going full time on Saturday, Aug. 26, with a ribbon cutting. A nail care and massage sanctuary, Sole Remedy offers safe, diabetic-friendly nail services and pedicures.

“We would like to gratefully thank Downtown Milford, Inc. along with all of our fellow small businesses downtown in Milford for all of their support and such a warm welcome,” Jarvis said. “To all of our amazing clients, family and friends, we thank you from the bottom of our hearts for making this day and journey such a wonderful experience.”

Jarvis continued that they were the first and only clinical nail spa in the state. “Milford is centrally located, providing easy access from all three counties,” Jarvis said. “We could not be more excited to be providing exceptional foot care and so much more to all of you.”

All services offered are private with one-on-one advanced care, including massage and bodywork

treatments. Calling the location a “Spa’radise,” Jarvis looks forward to providing a much needed service for those who must take special care with their feet or hands. Sole Remedy operates on an appointment-only basis and does not take walk-ins. Packages include manicures and pedicures as well as massages. Some of the massage packages include reflexology, therapeutic, pregnancy, hot stone and more.

Sole Remedy is located at 116 N. Washington Street. They are open Monday and Friday from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m., Thursday and Saturday from noon until 6 p.m., and on Wednesday from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Appointments can be made by visiting <https://vagar.com/soleremedy> or calling 302-644-5881.

“We welcome you to come experience Spa’radise at Sole Remedy,” Jarvis said. “Namaste!”

MILFORD
LIVE



FEEL BETTER SOONER.

WITH BAYHEALTH VIRTUAL URGENT CARE, YOU CAN SEE A BOARD-CERTIFIED DOCTOR IN AS FEW AS 10 MINUTES, 24/7.

Allergies, rashes, infections, sore throat, cold and flu, gout, UTIs. Whatever the symptoms, get the care you need sooner. Download the app and enroll today. [Bayhealth.org/Virtual-Urgent-Care](https://bayhealth.org/Virtual-Urgent-Care)

BAYHEALTH@HOME



Proud partners in our Delaware communities

mountaire.com



CAREER FAIRS

HAPPENING SOON NEAR YOU

[LEARN MORE](#)



REOPENING IN SEPTEMBER!

EDGE

COMPETITION



Compete for grant funding through our bi-annual EDGE (Encouraging Development, Growth & Expansion) initiative. It's an ideal way to help your Delaware small business level the playing field.

STEM



ENTREPRENEUR



Delaware
DIVISION OF SMALL BUSINESS

LEARN MORE ABOUT THE EDGE GRANT COMPETITION AT:

DE.GOV/EDGE

JOHN MOLLURA

- PHOTOGRAPHY -

BEAUTY PORTRAITS - HEAD SHOTS
- FAMILIES -

302.222.6308



GOVERNMENT & POLITICS



photo link: City of Milford

AG JENNINGS WARNS SENIORS OF UPTICK IN FINANCIAL SCAM REPORTS

STAFF REPORT

In the wake of an uptick in reports of financial exploitation of seniors, Attorney General Kathy Jennings and the Delaware DOJ’s Investor Protection Unit (“IPU”) is cautioning seniors to be vigilant for scams.

Delaware law requires banks, credit unions and certain other financial institutions to report suspected exploitation of a senior or vulnerable adult to the IPU. Recent reports involve a number of different kinds of scams, including tech support scams in which a fraudster leads the victim to believe that their computer has been hacked; money and check transfer scams, in which a fraudster asks the senior to help them transfer funds or deposit a check; as well as social media romance scams, in which a fraudster feigns romantic interest in the victim in order to convince them to send money.

“Anyone can be the victim of fraud, but scammers frequently target seniors specifically,” said Attorney General Jennings. “Protecting Delaware’s seniors is a top priority, and it’s an all-hands-on-deck job. I’m grateful to the financial professionals who have reported suspected exploitation to the Investor Protection Unit. They’re doing their part to help protect our seniors.”

While the increase in reports has been specifically noted in Kent and Sussex counties, it is unclear whether downstate seniors are being targeted because of their location. Attorney General Jennings urges seniors across the state to be vigilant and take precautions to protect themselves from investment scams by remembering that if it sounds too good to be true, it probably is.



“
Our ads change
at the pace of our
business needs

- SOUTHERN STATES

Other ways consumers can protect themselves is to never deposit money or transfer a check for someone you do not know; never send money to someone you do not know; never pay money to receive money; never send money or provide credit card or online account information to anyone you do not know and trust.

If you get a phone call you did not expect from someone who says there’s a problem with your computer, hang up. If you are looking for computer tech support, contact a company you know and trust.

Financial institutions may file a report of senior exploitation with the Investor Protection Unit using the form available [HERE](#).



EDUCATION



photo link: [Milford School District](#)

MILFORDLIVE



MilfordLive



@Milfordlive

MilfordLive.com

COMMUNITY "GETS THE SCOOP" ON MSD

BY TERRY ROGERS

One of the first community outreach events of the year took place on Thursday, Sept. 7, as the Milford School District held a "Get the Scoop" gathering at North Pole Creamery on Walnut Street in Milford. The event was planned to introduce the community to the new administrative team

"We are so thankful to our community partners who came out and 'got the scoop' about our district," Trish Gerken, public information officer, said. "This was a fun, informal event where parents, community members, city leaders and others could learn more about the district, our leadership and how we plan to Chart the Course to Excellence."

One of the reasons for the event was to meet district leadership, as there are many new faces at the district this year. In addition, members of the community were

able to hear more about the district's four main priorities which include academic excellence, supporting the whole student, building our future as well as investing and empowering their people.

"We also got input from the community," Gerken said. "We always want to hear the thoughts, ideas and suggestions that will enhance and grow partnerships between the district and the community."

"Thank you, Milford School District, for hosting your district-community engagement gathering at North Pole Creamery," the ice cream shop posted on social media. "What a great evening! It was a pleasure to meet you and have you share your time at the creamery."




New School Year.
New Teacher.
New Chance to Learn.
Ask Your Child's Teacher:
 How can you and I ensure that my child is academically successful?

HEALTH



photo link: Bayhealth Medical Center



WAYS TO SUPPORT BREAST CANCER AWARENESS THIS OCTOBER

BY TERRY ROGERS

One of the Delaware Breast Cancer Coalition’s (DBCC) signature events, the Monster Mile Walk for a Cause, returns for the 14th year with an exciting twist—a new location and an expansion to include family fun activities, music, food, games and more! This year, Homestead Gardens will host the event at their Smyrna store, located at 5580 Dupont Highway, Smyrna. The event will run from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. on Oct. 21, 2023.

“This has always been one of our most popular fundraisers with so many people walking the Monster Mile wearing fun costumes,” Stephanie Cumella, program manager of Young Survivors in Action of DBCC, said. “This year, we decided to expand the event and add a lively after-party and fall festival to the event. We are making this very family-friendly with yard games, a straw pit and more. As always, four-legged family members can also join, and we hope to see them in costume, too!”

Cumella stated that Homestead Gardens really stepped up as a community partner, offering its beautiful location for an event that has increased in popularity over the past 13 years. Cumella explained that Homestead Gardens not only created a path for the walk on its property, but also worked diligently in putting together the festival and the after-party. The Delaware Breast Cancer Coalition extends its gratitude to its many supportive community partners like Homestead Gardens.

“We are taking this year’s event to the lush grounds of Homestead Gardens in Smyrna, voted Delaware’s Best Garden Center,” Hayley Ross, marketing manager at Homestead Gardens, said. “You’ll weave through thousands of seasonal plants and activities guaranteed to bring out the green monster in you!”

The walk begins promptly at 11 a.m. with registration

see page 22

Yes2Health
A free community health outreach program

NEW GROUPS START IN SEPTEMBER!

Registration is required to receive meeting details and materials. [Join for free!](#)

This program is brought to you by the Delaware Breast Cancer Coalition with generous support from:

WE ARE HIRING

OPEN POSITIONS

- Special Education
- Social Studies
- Substitute Teacher(s)
- Child Nutrition

**...AND MORE!
APPLY ONLINE NOW**

- Competitive Pay
- Great work environment
- Health benefits
- Full Time and Part Time Opportunities

milfordschooldistrict.org

from page 21

starting at 9 a.m. The cost is \$25 per person in advance and \$30 per person on race day. T-shirts are included in the price while supplies last. Children under 12 are free with a registered adult, but children will not receive a t-shirt. Awards will be given for the highest individual fundraiser, the best individual costume, best dog costume, highest team fundraiser, best team costume and largest team. To register or create a team, visit <https://give.debreastcancer.org/ge/monster2023>.

“It is so easy and fun to create a team,” Cumella said. “This is a great way to rally family, friends and co-workers. We invite you to get creative, make your own t-shirts, costumes and accessories. We definitely believe we can all achieve more with a supportive team by our side!”

Sponsorships are available at four different levels, ranging from \$250 to \$3,000. This event would not be possible without the support of local businesses and individuals willing to sponsor. To learn more about sponsorships, visit <https://give.debreastcancer.org/ge/monster2023> or email scumella@debreastcancer.org.

The Monster Mile Walk for a Cause is not the only event supporting the Delaware Breast Cancer Coalition this fall. Sponsor, participate, support or donate at fun events across Delaware. Get involved this fall to help raise awareness and funds for DBCC during and around Breast Cancer Awareness Month!

On Sept. 30 from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m., the Wheels and Wine Open Car Show is planned at Pizzadilli Vineyard and Winery, located at 1683 Peach Basket Road in Felton. The cost for car show entrants is \$15 in advance and \$20 the day of the show. This is a judged show, and

the first 100 cars will receive dash plaques. There are 40 trophies as well as a “Best in Show” award. The four classes include Corvette, Street Stock, Modified and Restored. Registration is from 8 to 11 a.m. A 50/50 drawing will be held at 1 p.m. and there is an auction. Trophies will be awarded at 1:30 p.m. Dance with the DJ, enter to win prizes including gift baskets and crafts. Lunch, beverages and wine tastings are also available. For vendor information, contact Angela at 302-270-0061; for show information contact Pat D. at 703-403-9050.

October 3 is the date of the Bear Trap Dunes Golf Club Dunes Pink Classic, sponsored by the Women’s Golf Association. Since 2011, the association has partnered with DBCC for this golf classic which has raised more than \$477,000 over the years. For more information, contact Marie Curran at mcurran94@gmail.com or call 410-703-6350. The classic is limited to 140 female golfers.

Another fantastic event is Dewey Goes Pink, one of DBCC’s largest partnerships to date that sells out every year! Hosted by the Starboard & The Rehoboth Body Shop, this Dewey Beach event unites the community in a way that can only be described as “magical.” This year’s event happens on Oct. 7, and information is available online at <https://deweygoespink.com/>. All proceeds from this event benefit the Delaware Breast Cancer Coalition. Even if you aren’t attending this event, you can participate in the NEW online auction!

[CLICK TO READ MORE](#)

GBC 1886 **Goldie-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/

DELAWARE CONFIRMS CASE OF NEW COVID STRAIN PIROLA

BY BETSY PRICE

Delaware has recorded its first case of the Pirola strain of COVID, a variant that health officials believe is extremely infectious and worry is not going to be affected by current vaccinations. The Delaware Public Health Laboratory identified a case of SARS-CoV-2 lineage BA.2.86 from a specimen provided to the laboratory for testing. It did not offer any information about where that case occurred.

Because of the way the state tracks and confirms cases, it's likely there already are many more cases of Pirola circulating in Delaware. The BA.2.86 strain is classified as a **Variant Being Monitored** (VBM) by the SARS-CoV-2 Interagency Group, according to the Delaware Division of Public Health.

Pirola vaccine

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention is publishing **weekly updates** on this new variant including current risk assessment and scientific analysis on its website. While governments across the world say they

would not reinstitute the kind of lockdowns they did in 2020, unless a variant is remarkably deadly, those same governments are warning people to take precautions because the COVID-19 pandemic is not over.

The Delaware Division of Public Health said that a new vaccine, designed to protect against new variants, will be available later this month pending final approvals. In the meantime, Public Health recommends following the usual strategies to keep COVID-19 in check:

- Get vaccinated or boosted when eligible (Talk to your health care provider or visit a public health clinic to discuss what is best for your individual situation.)
- Stay home if sick and get tested if you have symptoms or were exposed to someone with COVID-19.
- If you test positive, inquire about treatment.
- Wear a mask in crowded indoor spaces, as cases rise, or if you or someone you know is at higher risk for illness.

MILFORD
LIVE



We need your help
keeping Delaware
Electric Co-op
employees safe! Never
dig or plant near
electrical equipment!



HEALTH MARKETPLACE ADDS ANOTHER INSURER; '24 RATES ANNOUNCED

BY BETSY PRICE

A new insurance company will offer plans for 2024 on the Delaware Health Insurance Marketplace. Celtic Insurance Co. Ambetter Health of Delaware will join Aetna Health, AmeriHealth Caritas and Highmark Blue Cross Blue Shield of Delaware in offering plans through the Affordable Care Act program, once known as Obamacare. Together, the insurance companies will offer 57 plans.

Most of the carriers raised their rates 2% or 3%, although AmeriHealth Caritas will decrease its plans' rates an average of 4.52%.

The insurance office celebrated the addition of a new insurer. In 2022, only one carrier—Highmark—offered plans and there were only 12 to choose from, pointed out Insurance Commissioner Trinidad Navarro in a press release.

“Improving healthcare accessibility and affordability across our state is one of my top priorities and I’m proud that our work has led both options and enrollments to an all-time high,” said Navarro.

Nearly 35,000 residents purchased plans on the Delaware Marketplace during last year’s open enrollment. After Advance Premium Tax Credits, premiums averaged \$197 a month. Nearly 6,000 residents were eligible for a premium of \$10 a month or less.

Enrollment numbers are expected to rise as state Medicaid rolls are reduced after the end of the COVID-19 Public Health Emergency. A Special Enrollment Period for Marketplace plans is available for persons no longer eligible for Medicaid.

Delaware’s Medicaid expenditures are a little over \$1 billion, nearly one-fifth of the state’s budget, up \$94.2 this year over last. About one-third of the state’s population was on Medicaid during the COVID-19 pandemic restrictions. The federal government gave the state money to allow people to come into the program without going through certification.

[CLICK TO READ MORE](#)

BEST SHOT

RANGE DAY

ARMED & EDUCATED

INDOOR RANGE

FIREARM TRAINING

- Concealed Carry
- Handguns for Beginners
- AR Fundamentals
- Defensive Shooting
- First Aid & Treatments

Open to the Public

Memberships Available

15yd Handgun Bay

25yd Rifle Bay

PERSONAL SAFETY

- Self-Defense Seminar
- Personal Safety Event
- Children's Firearm Safety Workshop
- Women's Only Courses

302-567-2530

More Information
www.bestshotde.com

16797 Coastal Hwy. Lewes, DE 19958

SPORTS



photo link: [Lauren Dickerson](#)

MILFORD XC FINISHES TOP-FIVE OVERALL AT LAKE INVITATIONAL

BY BRYAN SHUPE

Milford Cross Country teams opened the season at the Lake Forest Invitational Sept. 9. The Milford squads both made top-five overall finishes with four individual medalists. Nate Waydelis led the boys' team with an impressive third-place finish in the field of 22 teams. Waydelis flashed through the 3.1-mile forest in an impressive 17:11, which is the fastest 5K at Killens Pond for a Milford runner in a decade.

The girls' team represented the twin county city with three medalists. Faith Mitchell led the group with a third-place finish in a time of 21:45. Freshman Aviana Shaw followed in 11th place while junior Kayla Ashton finished in 13th.

Milford will face Cape Henlopen and Sussex Tech on Wednesday at Killens Pond at 3:30 p.m.

MILFORD
LIVE





MARSHALL NAMED TO MILFORD HOF

BY BRYAN SHUPE

The first time I saw Andrew Marshall on the football field my jaw dropped to the floor. In all the time I had been watching and covering Milford, Marshall was by far the most physically imposing player that I had ever seen. When I asked one of the Milford assistant coaches where Marshall had transferred in from, I was even more surprised by the answer, “Nowhere, he is a freshman.” I was stunned.

Marshall checked in at 6'5" and about 330 pounds. To have a freshman clock in like that was something you hear about in big programs in Ohio or another place where Friday night football is a way of life. “When I saw Andrew and his father (Andrew Sr.) walking in my direction, I thought that someone might be playing a prank on me or something,” Coach Mike Tkach continued “After speaking with the two of them, I was very excited about what the next four years would look like for Milford football.”

While Marshall may have been a bit raw, it didn't take long for him to get up to speed and slot himself in as the starting left tackle beginning his freshman year. Besides his skills as an athlete, Marshall was also well liked by his teammates and fellow students. “Everyone naturally gravitated towards Andrew. He had such a great disposition and made friends very easily, he is the type of person it is very easy to like,” Tkach said.

Marshall would earn his letter in football in each of his four years, before graduating in 2014. During that time, the accolades for his work on the field continued to accumulate. Marshall would be first team all-conference twice in his last two years at Milford, while getting a second team nod as well while just a sophomore. Playing both ways, Marshall would garner second team all-conference as a senior. Marshall would gain all-state recognition twice, once as second team and once as third team.

With each year of football, Marshall's confidence and skill would grow until the point where he was considered one of, if not, the top offensive lineman in Delaware. There was one issue however, Marshall and academics did not go hand in hand. “I had to work very hard in the classroom just to keep up, but I did it. Things that came easier to other students, I had to work much harder to understand. But I kept up because I really wanted to stay on the field,” Marshall stated. As a result of his grades, Marshall would go the JUCO route to continue playing football.

Marshall spent two years at Global Institute of Technology honing his skills and hitting the books even harder. He would parlay that into a full ride scholarship to D-II Valdosta State (GA), where he would play his final two years of college ball. Marshall achieved an associate degree in Sports Management along the way. He would be selected to the D-II All-Star Game and based on his showing was offered a mini-camp invitation to the San Francisco 49ers. “While obviously I didn't make the cut, I gave it my all. It was a thrill to be able to compete at that level, I knew that my future was somewhere else besides football,” Marshall stated.

When asked about being named to the Milford Football Hall of Fame, Marshall offered these comments. “It's something that you think about in the back of your mind, but you keep it right there. When I got the call, I was very surprised at how happy and humble I was at the same time. To know that your community, your coaches, your teammates all remember you still comes as a surprise. I am truly honored.”

[CLICK TO READ MORE](#)



MILFORD ATHLETE EARNS FIFTH PLACE AT SPECIAL OLYMPICS BOWLING TOURNAMENT

BY TERRY ROGERS

Special Olympics held its state bowling tournament on Saturday, Sept. 9, at Brunswick Doverama, located behind the Rodney Village Shopping Center. One Milford-area athlete, Danny Yonker, had a two-game score of 212 which earned him fifth place.

“Months of training culminate when more than 350 Special Olympic athletes and Unified partners, who are peers without disabilities, from across the state compete at the annual Special Olympics Delaware State Bowling

tournament,” Kyle Frazer, SODE senior director of sports, said. “Events include competition in singles, doubles, Unified doubles, bumper and ramp divisions.”

Frazer continued, explaining that bowling was one of the most popular sports among SODE athletes. “One of the neatest things about our athletes participating in bowling is that they can then transfer what they learn when they have opportunities to bowl with families and friends in the community,” Frazer said. “We hear stories

all the time from our parents about how great it is that their kids fit right in at a bowling birthday party or some other bowling event outside of Special Olympics.”

According to Frazer, the bowlers are both children and adults in the five SODE areas. These include the Wilmington Wizards, Newark Dragons, MOT Tigers, Kent Wild Kats and Sussex Riptide. Throughout the summer, bowlers practiced and competed at qualifying events before advancing to the state tournament.

An opening ceremony was held at the beginning of each flight and medals awarded at the conclusion of each flight.

The Core Values of Special Olympics embody culture, spirit and commitment to do the best at all times. These values guide and inform collaboration, innovative programming, the design and delivery of meaningful opportunities and promotion of understanding, acceptance and inclusion for the benefit of people with and without intellectual disabilities.

To learn more about Special Olympics, visit <https://sode.org>, email info@sode.org or call 302-831-4653.



POLICE & FIRE



photo link: Vincent J. Deskiewicz Sr.



BY TERRY ROGERS

Robert Masten, who recently retired as a lieutenant with the Milford Police Department, is moving on to a new chapter in his life. Masten will now serve as an instructor in the Criminal Justice department at Delaware Technical and Community College.

“I had a desire to serve in the public service sector and enjoyed the education system as well,” Masten said, when asked what drew him to law enforcement initially. “I was drawn toward being a school resource officer, but only wanted to do so here in Milford. I was part of the increase of people called to serve as well following the attacks on Sept. 11, 2001. I routinely would call Keith Hudson at the time asking when the next openings would be available. Dion Brooks and I would routinely

MASTEN BEGINS NEW CHAPTER AFTER RETIREMENT

joke about the number of calls I made to Keith, but it worked and I was hired in March of 2002 along with Lt. Dwight Young. The two of us graduated from the Delaware State Police Academy in June of 2002.”

Raised in Milford, Masten’s family roots in the area go back to the 1800s. He was a 1994 graduate of Milford High School and later earned degrees from Delaware Technical and Community College, and Wilmington College. He earned his master’s degree from the University of Mississippi. His career with Milford began in the Patrol Division and he was eventually selected to serve on the Community Policing Unit, something that was a goal of Masten’s when he was hired.

“A promotion to corporal led me back to the Patrol Division where I served until getting the opportunity to serve the Milford School District as school resource officer,” Masten said. “I was assigned to the Milford School District until the spring of 2023, when I was promoted to serve the Executive Staff at the Milford Police Department by Chief (Celicia) Ashe.”

Becoming a school resource officer was also a goal of Masten’s when he came to the police department.

“Growing up I had been influenced by many MPD officers and admired the community connections many of them had made, while noticing the difference they made in our community,” Masten said. “I wanted to make that same impact and felt as an SRO I could have that opportunity. I was also very passionate about school

safety. A school should be a safe place and I took that very seriously. I was well aware that the parents, staff and students placed a trust in me to be the first line of defense if the situation arose.”

According to Masten, law enforcement is always evolving, and this meant he and his fellow officers were met with challenges to be sure they stayed current so they could provide the services the city deserved.

“I would say the biggest challenge wasn’t for me personally, but for us as a team, to grow the department at the pace the city was growing,” Masten said. “Overall, we did a good job with that, but navigating the way at times could be challenging.”

As an SRO, Masten also faced some challenges, especially watching some of the struggles students faced.

“It was unfortunate, but there are some students whose time in school is the best part of their day because being at home was not always pleasant,” Masten said. “Knowing some of those struggles and worrying about those students was difficult. At the same time, being able to help those students work through those struggles was rewarding in many cases. There were many cases in which school staff and I worked together to help students get through difficult times.”

That does not mean that Masten only faced challenges in his career as a police officer and SRO, however.

[CLICK TO READ MORE](#)

EXPECTING INCREASE IN MOTORCYCLE TRAFFIC FOR DELMARVA BIKE WEEK

STAFF REPORT

The [Delaware Office of Highway Safety](#) (OHS), the [Division of Motor Vehicles](#) (DMV), the [Delaware State Police](#) and local law enforcement are jointly working on efforts in anticipation of Delmarva Bike Week, where thousands of motorcyclists are expected to roll into the Delmarva area in conjunction with the Ocean City, MD, BikeFest event. This high visibility enforcement will run from Sept. 14–17, with a focus on keeping motorcyclists safe and a reminder that everyone has a right to the road and should follow safe riding and driving practices.

To help reduce the number of fatalities and serious injuries for motorcyclists, Delaware has updated the helmet law. Effective Sept. 1, 2023, [SB 86](#) requires new riders to wear a helmet and eye protection during the first two years of their motorcycle license endorsement. This is in addition to the current law that requires every adult operating or riding as a passenger to have a helmet in their possession and to wear eye protection. Anyone under the age of 19 must wear a helmet and eye protection while on a motorcycle.

“The Delaware Office of Highway Safety wants to remind Delaware motorists and motorcyclists to see and be seen during this time when we expect to see higher volumes of motorcyclists in the area.” said Sharon Bryson, director of the Delaware Office of Highway Safety. “Motorcyclists are vulnerable road

users and being responsible, properly equipped and following the posted speed limits can help reduce the number of rider deaths and injuries. Motorists, please remember to share the road and take the time to look twice for motorcyclists and potentially save a life.”

The most common instances of motorcyclist fatalities are motorists turning left into the path of a motorcyclist, motorcyclists not following posted speed limits and impaired driving. In 2022, there were 219 crashes and 22 fatalities involving motorcyclists. Failure to yield right of way accounts for 30% of all fatal motorcycle crashes from 2018-2022. As of Sept. 6, 2023, there have been 11 motorcyclist fatalities—of those fatalities, 64% were not wearing helmets.

“The Delaware State Police strives to keep all Delaware citizens and visitors safe,” said Col. Melissa A. Zebley, Superintendent of the Delaware State Police. “As Delmarva Bike Week approaches, we want to remind all motorcycle riders to prioritize safety by utilizing protective gear, adhering to traffic laws, making themselves visible, avoiding substances that could impair judgment and ensuring that their motorcycles are in proper working order. To our fellow motorists who share the road with motorcyclists, it is vital that you remain vigilant. Always check your mirrors and blind spots for motorcycles and provide them with the necessary space.

[CLICK TO READ MORE](#)

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)

MILFORD LIVE

 **MilfordLive**  **@Milfordlive**

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

Bryan Shupe, CEO

Betsy Price, Editor

Sonja M. Frey, Publisher

John Mollura Photography

Design your 2023 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

