

MILFORD LIVE

photo link: John Mollura

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Michael's Officially Opens



The Music School Gets New Leader



Worried About Porch Pirates?

HEADLINES



photo link: [Scott Evers](#)



MICHAEL'S OFFICIALLY OPENS

BY TERRY ROGERS

After months of renovation, Michael's officially opened its doors with a ribbon cutting sponsored by the Chamber of Commerce for Greater Milford on Saturday. Early customers were provided refreshments after Santa and the Grinch assisted store employees with the ribbon cutting.

"We are very excited to have Michael's in Milford," Jo Schmeiser, Executive Director of the chamber said. "We welcome out to Milford and hope you will have great success in our town."

Mayor Archie Campbell along with his wife, Ronnie, were also on hand for the ribbon cutting.

"The city welcomes you," Mayor Campbell said. "This is a much needed addition to our town, and we are thrilled that you chose Milford to open a new location. We are looking forward to watching you grow."

The store offered many specials to celebrate the ribbon cutting as well. Customers stood in line waiting for the doors to open Saturday morning.

"I have been waiting for this store to open since they announced it was coming months ago," Faith Lynch, who was waiting outside said. "This means no more driving to Dover or Rehoboth to get the craft supplies I need. Now, it is less than five minutes from my house."

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Joe, part of the management team at the new location, welcomed everyone into the store after the ribbon was cut.

"We are so excited to officially open this new location," Joe said. "We plan to bring the Michael's quality and customer service our customers are used to at our other locations. We are looking forward to a long and happy relationship with Milford."

The new store is located in the Milford Plaza Shopping Center at 650 North Dupont Boulevard, Suite B. The store is open from 9 a.m. until 10 p.m. Monday through Saturday and 9 a.m. until 9 p.m. on Sunday.





CITY OF MILFORD TO CUT RIBBON ON NEW POLICE DEPARTMENT

STAFF REPORT

The city of Milford is excited to announce the completion of the new Police Department located at 401 NE Front St., and invite the public to a ribbon cutting and guided tours on Tuesday, Dec. 12, at 10 a.m. Public Open Houses will also be held on Wednesday, Dec. 13, 1-5 p.m. and Thursday, Dec. 14, 4-8 p.m. Overflow parking for the ribbon cutting and open houses is available behind the building.

“In today’s climate of negativity that surrounds law enforcement, it is important to show police officers that we care and recognize the daily sacrifices they and their families make,” said Cecilia Ashe, Milford Chief of Police. “Looking at this amazing building, I can’t think of a bigger sign of appreciation by the citizens of Milford.”

City of Milford residents voted in favor of a new police station referendum in January 2021, realizing the

city’s public safety needs had outgrown the existing facility, constructed in 1978 opposite the new facility.

About the city of Milford: (www.cityofmilford.com) 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.



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

FUNDS BEING RAISED FOR HOUSE FIRE VICTIMS

BY TERRY ROGERS

On Nov. 27, a house fire claimed the home of Alyssa Alexander's sister and brother-in-law, Tara and Antimo, destroying the home completely. As a result, Alexander has started a GoFundMe campaign in an effort to help her family rebuild their lives.

"The home was quickly engulfed in flames, leaving them with little to nothing," Alexander wrote. "They are a blended family and together they have six sons, their youngest being only nine months old."

The home was Antimo's home for 20 years and the fire has taken everything from them. The children attend Milford School District and one is a high school

senior, according to Tamra Frey, who posted about the fund raiser on NextDoor.

"It was filled with lots of love, laughter and memories," Alexander said. "Everyone, including the children, are devastated at this loss. We are so grateful that no one was home and all of the pets are safe as well."

Frey is also trying to organize donations for the family, commenting that donations are being accepted at Milford High School. The older son wears XXL/XXXL clothing while a younger child is a size medium.

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from page 6

“I’ve watched these two happily pour their heart and soul into doing the absolute best for every community, their friends and family, and even for complete strangers,” Alexander said. “It breaks my heart to see this happening to them. They have received an abundance of love and support from everyone, which is why I created the GoFundMe to help them.”

Funds raised will go to help with the purchase of food, clothing and hygiene products as well as Christmas gifts. To make a donation to the [GoFundMe page](#). Clothing and other donations can be delivered to Milford High School.



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KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS, ST. JOSEPH COUNCIL #3792 DONATES TO KSI

STAFF REPORT

KSI received a generous donation from the Knights of Columbus, St. Joseph Council #3792 in Milford. The St. Joseph Council Knights donated \$2,019.75 to KSI as a result of their annual Tootsie Roll drive when they solicit donations to help those with intellectual or physical disabilities. Since 2016, the St. Joseph Council #3792 Knights have donated more than \$12,000 to KSI.

KSI is a not for profit agency providing vocational training, employment, community integration, transportation, day habilitation, life enrichment and nutritional services to individuals with disabilities

throughout Kent and Sussex counties. KSI is committed to making all reasonable accommodations in order to ensure that its programs and services are as accessible as possible to as many people as possible. If you would like to make a donation or get more information about KSI, contact Alicia Hollis, KSI Director of Community Relations at 302-422-4014 ext. 3015, or email at hollisa@ksiinc.org.



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photo by John Mollura



INTERESTING FACTS ABOUT SANTA

BY TERRY ROGERS

With Santa’s arrival in downtown Milford on Saturday, children are starting to prepare their lists before visiting him in his house at 1 S. Walnut Street. There are a few interesting facts about Santa that even some adults may not know and since Santa receives over 32,000 letters a day during the holiday season, he felt it might be fun to share some of those facts.

Children may ask why Santa lives in the North Pole. Interestingly, in the 1800s, there were a series of expeditions to the Arctic where the North Pole is located. Because it was such a mythical, magical place, Thomas Nast, a famous political cartoonist established it as Santa’s official residence in some of his illustrations.

Sometimes known as St. Nicholas or Kris Kringle, Santa Claus today is depicted as a jolly man in a red suit who delivers toys to children on Christmas Eve. However, the original Santa dates back to the third century when Saint Nicholas, a monk, who is believed to have been born around 280 A.D. in Patara, which is present day Turkey. Legend has it that Saint Nicholas gave away his inherited wealth and traveled the countryside, aiding the poor and the sick. One story is that he saved three sisters from slavery by providing them with a dowry so that they could marry.

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Over the years, St. Nicholas became known as the protector of children and sailors. He died on Dec. 6, a day that is known as Feast Day and one that is considered lucky for large purchases or as a wedding day. One of the most popular saints during the Renaissance, his popularity continued even during the Protestant Reformation when adoration of saints was discouraged.

The legend arrived in America around 1773 when Dutch immigrants brought Sinter Klaas to New York. Several papers reported families gathering to celebrate the anniversary of his death. In 1804, woodcuts of Sinter Klaas by John Pintard, a member of the New York Historical Society, depicted today's familiar Santa image. In 1809, Washington Irving referred to St. Nicholas as the "patron saint of New York" in his book "The History of New York."

Santa's look changed often over the years. At one point, he was depicted with a blue three-cornered hat, red waistcoat and yellow stockings, according to the History Channel. Later he was shown wearing a broad-brimmed hat with "huge Flemish trunk hose."

Christmas faded somewhat as a holiday until the early 19th century. In 1820, stores began advertising Christmas shopping, focusing on children and by 1840, a familiar looking version of Santa Claus emerged. The first "live" Santa was in Philadelphia, drawing huge crowds. As more stores realized the attraction of a live Santa, they began adding a place for children to visit Santa so they could give him their wish list.

Charity organizations also tapped into the popularity of Santa. In the 1890s, the Salvation Army was trying to raise funds for the free meals they provided at Christmas. They hired unemployed men to dress in the familiar red suit, sending them into the street to collect donations. This began the Salvation Army bell-ringing campaign that exists today.

Santa Claus exists around the world, although in different forms. In Switzerland and Germany, Christkind or Kris Kringle was believed to deliver gifts to "good boys and girls." Christkind, which means "Christ Child," appears as an angel-like figure and sometimes travels with St. Nicholas. A jolly elf named Jultomten delivers gifts in Scandinavia with goats pulling his sleigh. In England, Father Christmas fills stockings for the children while in France, Pere Noel fills their shoes. La Befana, a kindly witch, rides her broomstick down the chimney and delivers toys to stockings in Italy.



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24 BUILDINGS SHARE \$140K IN DELAWARE PRESERVATION FUND GRANTS

BY KEN MAMMARELLA

Two dozen historic structures—15 houses, four churches, three commercial buildings, a school and a lighthouse—have received grants from the Delaware Preservation Fund. Several are open to the public as museums, including [Rockwood Park and Mansion](#), [Barratt's Chapel](#), [Lydia B. Cannon Museum](#) and [Parson Thorne Mansion](#).

The grants totaled \$140,000—a bigger pot than usual over the fund's 22-year history—thanks to a \$100,000 contribution from the Delaware Division of Historical and Cultural Affairs. The grants ranged from \$2,450 to \$10,000. The Delaware Preservation Fund is a subsidiary of [Preservation Delaware](#).

Even small grants like that can make a large and timely impact. The Buttonwood Mansion in New

Castle, for instance, received \$10,000 to replace its leaky roof. “The mansion was seriously threatened,” said Michael Emmons Jr., a program manager and a staffer of the Center for Historic Architecture and Design at the University of Delaware. “The grant allowed the owners to replace the roof immediately and bought it some critical time for full preservation work to be planned and executed.”

While the Delaware Preservation Fund has historically supported bricks-and-mortar projects, it has begun considering applications for preservation planning project. “Often times, an engineering assessment or a nomination to the National Register of Historic Places is a crucial first step toward saving a historic building,”

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said Cate Morrissey, also a center staff member.

The fund received 30 qualified applications for the 2023 grant program. The fund just opened applications for the 2024 cycle, and they're due Feb. 1 at the Preservation Delaware webpage for the fund.

2023 Delaware Preservation Fund grants

New Castle County

1005 N. Broom St., Wilmington, \$5,000; 1110 N. Broom St., Wilmington, \$5,000; 16 N. Van Buren St. Wilmington, \$4,050; Archmere Academy ("The Patio"), Claymont, \$10,000; Buttonwood Mansion, New Castle, \$10,000; Church of the Holy City, Wilmington, \$4,000; Dairy Palace, near New Castle, \$10,000; Polk House, Odessa, \$5,000; Rockwood (wash house), near Wilmington, \$2,450; St. John the Baptist Church, Newark, \$5,000

Kent County

Barratt's Chapel, Frederica, \$4,000; Parson Thorne Mansion, Milford, \$6,300; Smyrna Sporting Goods, Smyrna, \$10,000

Sussex County

514 Railroad Ave., Lewes, \$5,000; Cannonball House, Lewes, \$6,500; Captain William Russell House, Milton, \$5,000; Georgetown Icehouse, Georgetown, \$6,500; Harbor of Refuge Breakwater Lighthouse, Lewes, \$5,000; Hitchens House, Laurel, \$5,000; Lydia B. Cannon Museum, Milton, \$6,250; Magee Farms, Selbyville, \$5,000; Metcalf House, Lewes, \$5,000; Prospect AME Church, Georgetown, \$4,950; Rosemont, Laurel, \$10,000



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BUSINESS



photo link: [Marcia Reed](#)



STROLLERS CELEBRATE THE SEASON IN DOWNTOWN MILFORD

BY TERRY ROGERS

Other than Santa's arrival, the Holiday Stroll is the highlight of the holiday season in downtown Milford. Live music and entertainment, vendors offering a wide range of gift options, specials in retail outlets and restaurants, a bonfire with free s'mores and a live nativity were just some of the fun things to do this year.

"This is such a great event," Janne Collins, executive director of Downtown Milford, Inc., who puts the stroll together, said. "People came this year from all over, not just in Milford. It was such a magical evening."

Many who attended the stroll have been enjoying the event for many years, while others were attending for their first time.

"This was such an amazing event," Tanisha McClure said. "As first timers, and newcomers to Milford, we really enjoyed ourselves. Thank you!"

The live nativity was provided by Milford Church of God. Bayside Gymnastics performed in the street as a large crowd cheered them on. Milford Museum continued their sale of vintage Santas and visitors could also make their own ornament.

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“This year we added an event,” Collins said. “We had a selfie station set up by the DMI booth where people were encouraged to wear their favorite ugly Christmas sweater, take a photo at the selfie booth and upload it using the QR code provided in order to win prizes. That seemed to be a very popular attraction throughout the night.”

Even as fog rolled in, the streets were packed with people shopping, enjoying snacks from various food trucks while meeting up with friends and neighbors.

DMI is already working on next year’s Holiday Stroll. Anyone interested in volunteering to assist with this popular event can call 302-839-1180 or visit the office at 10 S. Walnut Street in Milford.



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GOVERNMENT & POLITICS



photo link: [Marcia Reed](#)

DNREC FINALIZES EV REGULATIONS, CRITICS ARE NOT IMPRESSED

BY BETSY PRICE

DNREC has finalized state regulations about electric and other zero-emission vehicles (ZEVs) it says will help Delaware achieve lower air pollution caused by light- and medium-duty cars. Instead of demanding that by 2035 all new car sales in Delaware must be electric, the program will end in 2032 when sales are expected to hit 82%.

That will address many of the issues opponents complained about, the Department of Natural Resources and Environmental Control said in a press release while patting itself on the back for “taking a significant step to improve air quality and address climate change.” The regulations will not make those opposed happy.

“With over 93% of comments opposed to the Advanced Clean Car II regulations, we know where the public stands,” said Delaware Senate Minority Whip Brian Pettyjohn, R-Georgetown.

“Consumer demand just isn’t there and that fact is evident by not only the public comments on the ACCII regulations, but also by recent announcements from major auto manufacturers stating they are cutting back on their production and sales goals of electric vehicles,” he said. “This regulation is bad for the availability of affordable, reliable and inexpensive vehicle ownership in Delaware and it should be stopped.”

Regulations backlash

The subject drew a wide range of backlash with opposition to the higher costs of electric vehicles, the higher weight of those vehicles, the low mileage many of the current models get—especially if you live in a rural area that requires you to drive more compared to urban residents—and the fact that research continues in other areas.

Many also object to the way the regulations came

about. Instead of being legislated, they were required in an executive order from Gov. John Carney asking DNREC to model regulations on a California law.

The regulations require automakers to deliver an increasing amount of zero-emission vehicles—that’s politicized code for electric vehicles—for sale in Delaware. Zero-emission options, including battery-electric, plug-in hybrid electric and fuel cell electric vehicles, will be more accessible across the state.

Under the finalized regulation, starting with model year 2027, 43% of new cars and trucks sent to Delaware for sale will be ZEVs. That percentage is expected to increase to 82% in 2032. The regulations will expire in model year 2033. The changes will be phased in over the period and the regulations do not prohibit the sale or use of internal combustion engine vehicles, the DNREC press release said.

The decision was announced by a [DNREC Secretary’s Order](#) and is set for publication in the Delaware Register of Regulations on Dec. 1, 2023. It was informed by state law, the federal Clean Air Act, information included in the technical response memo and [comments](#) received from the public during the rule-making process.

“By adopting the revised regulation, DNREC aims to protect public health, reduce emissions and align with Delaware’s climate goals—all while providing consumers with cleaner and more sustainable transportation options,” said DNREC Secretary Shawn M. Garvin in the press release. “This decision will result in cleaner air in Delaware and strengthen protections for communities overburdened by exposure to tailpipe pollution.”

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Targeted sales

The Delaware ACC II program as originally proposed provided targets for yearly sales of ZEVs reaching 100% by 2035. Extending the requirement only through 2032, rather than 2035, will mean that sales will reach 82% rather than 100%, but still help Delaware reduce emissions and support a thriving market for clean cars.

Pollution from transportation is a leading contributor to Delaware's greenhouse gas emissions. Gas and diesel vehicles are also significant sources of nitrogen oxides, the press release said. These pollutants adversely affect public health and interact with sunlight to form harmful ground-level ozone pollution. The regulations will reduce these forms of pollution and contribute to the improved health of underserved communities that are more likely to be near busy roadways.

Increasing the number of electric and other vehicles on Delaware roads, along with building out the state's electric vehicle charging network, are key strategies outlined in [Delaware's Climate Action Plan](#).

Through the Inflation Reduction Act, there are federal tax credits and rebates available for ZEV purchases, DNREC pointed out. DNREC currently offers a rebate up to \$2,500 to support the purchase of a new electric vehicle, which can be added to the federal tax credits. Studies show that most higher-income individuals take advantage of those offers. Lower-cost models are increasingly available, the press release said. A regularly updated list provides car shoppers a quick reference to the vehicles eligible for the rebate.

Additionally, Delaware is actively working to expand its charging infrastructure to meet the increased demand for charging from more electric vehicles on the road, including stations located along major highways and in nearer proximity to rural and underserved areas.

DNREC will evaluate progress by using tracking tools to conduct annual reviews of the program. The reviews will confirm the delivery of zero-emitting vehicles to Delaware and indicate that advancements in technology, supply chains, affordability and battery performance are occurring as anticipated, the press release said.



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VIRTUAL EVENT TO CONNECT VETERANS TO NEW BENEFITS

BY JAREK RUTZ

Military families will have a three-day opportunity to explore Veterans benefits and new eligibility requirements at a one-stop-virtual-shop. From Dec. 12-14, between the hours of 10 a.m. to 3 p.m., Delaware vets can take advantage of 1-on-1 assistance and can connect with Veterans Affairs, state and community partners to obtain claim status updates, file claims, enroll in VA health care, schedule appointments and explore military transition services. They can also check if they have new benefit eligibility through the federal Promise to Address Comprehensive Toxics Act.

That law was passed in summer 2022 and expands VA health care and benefits for veterans exposed to burn pits, Agent Orange and other toxic substances.

The PACT Act also:

- Expanded and extended eligibility for VA health care for Veterans with toxic exposures and Veterans of the Vietnam, Gulf War and post-9/11 eras.

- Added more than 20 presumptive conditions for burn pits, Agent Orange and other toxic exposures.
- Added more presumptive-exposure locations for Agent Orange and radiation.
- Requires a toxic exposure screening to every Veteran enrolled in VA healthcare.
- Helped the agency improve research, staff education and treatment related to toxic exposures.

When registering, participants will have the option to schedule a virtual appointment that best fits their availability and a VA representative will call the Veteran during the scheduled time to provide assistance.

Appointment availability is limited, and Vets **must register** before Dec. 10. The event is only for residents of Delaware and the New Jersey counties of Atlantic, Cape May, Cumberland and Salem.



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EDUCATION



photo link: Milford High School Band

THE MUSIC SCHOOL OF DELAWARE HAS NEW LEADER AFTER 24 YEARS

BY JAREK RUTZ



After a quarter century, **The Music School of Delaware** has a new leader. Stephen Beaudoin, who's had decades of work in music, education, business and social impact, has been picked as the school's

new president and chief executive officer.

"This opportunity feels very alive to me and very aligned with my values and the kind of impact I hope to make in the world today," Beaudoin said, "leveraging music and creativity to connect communities and support people in realizing their fullest potential."

Beaudoin was selected after a national search, in partnership with **Aspen Leadership Group**, to replace the school's longstanding leader, Kate Ransom.

"The Music School Board, staff and faculty have spent the past two decades building upon the school's heritage of excellence, expanding to become a statewide and regional presence and the primary local resource for music education for everyone," Ransom said.

The upcoming centennial, she said, is a supreme opportunity to place the school's reputation and service track record in a bright light, broaden awareness and garner the support needed to sustain and advance the school. She said Beaudoin's background, as well as his

core values, position him to be an excellent replacement to ensure the school's future success.

"As the Music School celebrates 100 years of impact and turns our eyes to the next 100 years, we have some big, important questions to consider," Beaudoin said. "Music has changed so much over the last 100 years and continues to evolve. The needs of students, families and our communities across Delaware continue to evolve."

Music School's evolution

Part of this evolution, he says, is asking questions like:

- How will The Music School understand and respond to these changing needs and conditions?
- How will we define 'music' in this context and for whom?
- What is our statewide call for engagement and impact?

"I look forward to collaborating with all our stakeholders to explore these questions and together find the answers that will allow us to make the most meaningful difference for and with our regional community," he said. Beaudoin will start his new endeavor Feb. 5, 2024.

"I look forward to working with the entire community—faculty, board, staff, supporters and community partners, as well as all the new friends we'll make in the months and years to come—to help steward the Music School into its next century of positive impact," he said.

Throughout his 20 years of experience in music and social work, Beaudoin has been recognized by **Musical America** magazine as one of the music industry's "Top Movers and Shapers," and by the **Portland Business Journal** as a "noted nonprofit leader."

"Stephen brings a wealth of experience and dedication that will position the school for another 100 years of success," said Richard Facciolo, chair of the Music School's board of directors. "The entire school community is very excited to have such talent join the school and share in continuing our mission."

Beaudoin comes to The Music School of Delaware after serving as the executive director of South Orange Performing Arts Center in northern New Jersey, where he helped fulfill a new strategic plan, managed the institution's commitment to new core values, developed a new community-based programs model and presented marquee musical artists and acts.

Beaudoin also served as executive director of the Washington Chorus, executive director of the Maryland Symphony Orchestra, executive director of PHAME (Oregon nonprofit providing arts education), and has been on the boards of TEDxPortland, the Nonprofit Association of Oregon and Oregon Humanities.

MILFORD
LIVE

DELAWAREANS INCLUDED IN \$30M PREHIRED STUDENT LOAN SETTLEMENT

BY JAREK RUTZ

The First State is one of 12 involved in a national \$30 million order against a student lender for malpractice. Attorney General Kathy Jennings' office worked with the federal Consumer Protection Financial Bureau and 11 other states to crack down on the bankrupt student lender Prehired.

A Delaware bankruptcy court approved a stipulated judgment that requires Prehired to pay more than \$30 million in relief to student borrowers nationwide for making false promises of job placement, trapping students with income share loans that violated the law and resorting to abusive debt collection practices when borrowers could not pay.

The order, approved by a federal bankruptcy court, requires Prehired to cease all operations, as well as permitting the potential payment of \$4.2 million in redress to consumers that were affected by the malpractice.

"The number of borrowers in Delaware is still being determined and I can't speculate as to how much they

might receive," said Mat Marshall, communications director at the Delaware Department of Justice. "The state of Delaware—i.e., the DOJ or any other government agency—will not receive any funds as part of the settlement. This money is for consumers, not the government."

The order also voids all of its outstanding income share loans, valued by Prehired at nearly \$27 million.

"Through an effort that grew to include 11 other states and the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau, we are pleased to announce this resolution that will provide real relief to borrowers around the country," Jennings said.

Prehired operated a 12-week online training program claiming to prepare students for entry-level positions as software sales development representatives with "six-figure salaries" and a "job guarantee." The company offered students "income share" loans to help finance the costs of the program.

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HEALTH



photo link: [Bayhealth Medical Center](#)

PATIENTS INFORMED ABOUT POTENTIAL IMPACT OF DMS DATA BREACH

STAFF REPORT

DMS Health Technologies (DMS), a vendor that performs remote diagnostic imaging for Bayhealth and other healthcare institutions, was recently involved in a data breach that may have affected the information of individuals, including Bayhealth patients.

Data that may have been compromised in the breach included date of service and exam type. In addition, publicly available information such as name and date of birth may have been viewed. A DMS third-party forensic investigation, however, did not identify evidence of data exfiltration.

DMS mailed letters in early November to individuals potentially impacted.

This breach did not impact any of Bayhealth's networks or servers. If you have any questions or need more information, please call 866-731-2919 (Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. CT, [excluding major US holidays]), or write to DMS at 728 East Beaton Drive, Suite 101, West Fargo, ND 58078.




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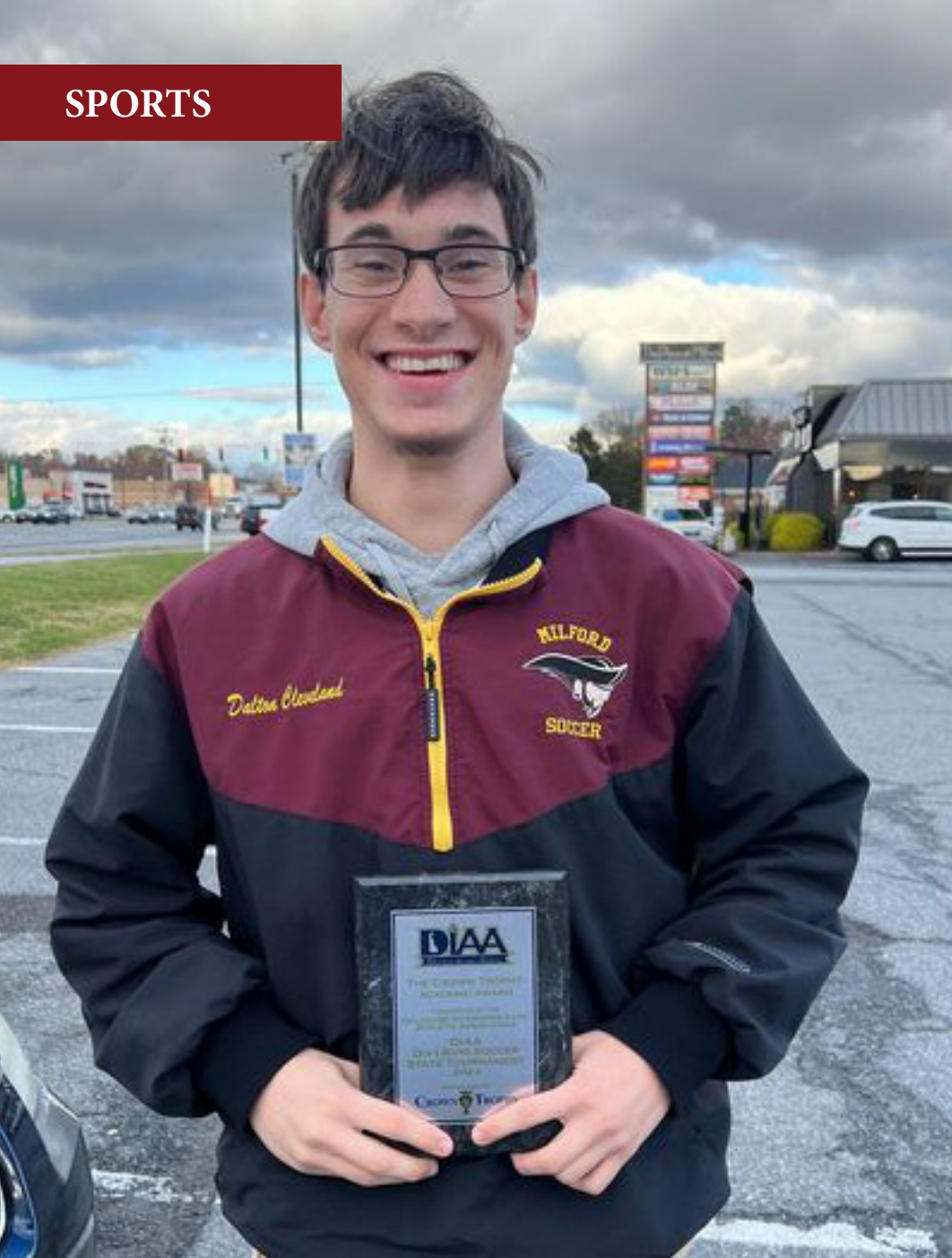
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 de.gov/covidvaccine 

SPORTS



photo link: [Milford School District](#)



MHS STUDENT RECEIVES ATHLETE ACADEMIC AWARD

BY TERRY ROGERS

Milford High School Cohort 9 scholar Dalton Cleveland, was recently awarded the DIIA Student Athlete Academic Award for the Milford soccer team. This award recognizes his success both in the classroom and on the soccer pitch.

In addition to helping the Buccaneers reach the DIIA Division I State Tournament, Dalton is a member of the National Honor Society, serves as the Executive Board Historian for the 2023-24 Student Government Association and earned Gold in Sports Medicine at the 2023 Delaware HOSA State Leadership Conference.

In case he wasn't busy enough, Dalton also works for The Country Rest Home in Greenwood, as a Certified Nursing Assistant.



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MHS FALL SPORTS COMES TO AN END, OUTSTANDING ATHLETES RECOGNIZED

BY TERRY ROGERS

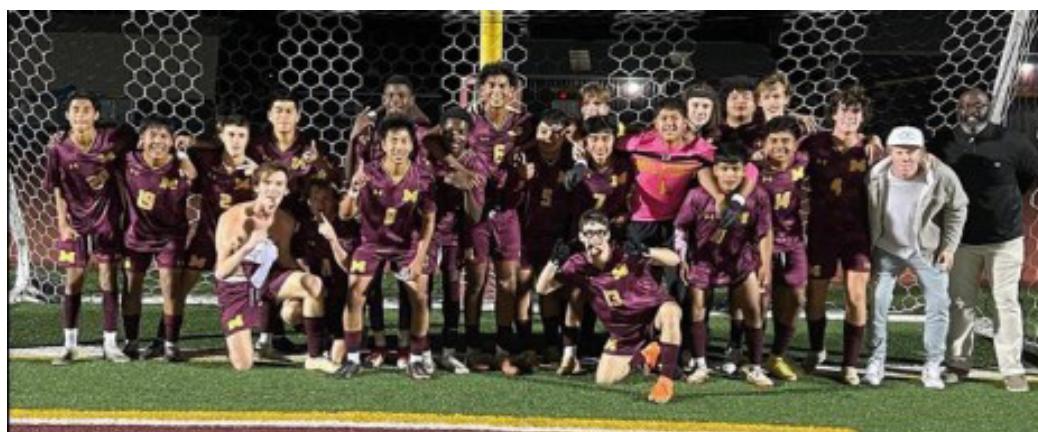
As fall sports come to an end, it is time to highlight the accomplishments of Milford's outstanding student-athletes.

This year, varsity volleyball improved from last season, winning five regular season games and Lauren Dickerson earned an honorable mention all-conference selection. The JV finished the season with a 7-7 record.

The cross country girls finished with an 11-1 regular season record. Faith Mitchell was the Kent County Meet Champion and earned first-team All-Henlopen Conference and second-team All-State recognition. Aviana Shaw and Jorja Willey earned second team honors, with Kayla Ashton receiving honorable mention. Coach Lane Skinner was named the girls' conference coach of the year. Cross country boys finished with a 10-2 regular season record and Nate Waydelis earned first-team all-conference honors. Freshman Austin Neal-Dickerson was an honorable mention selection.

This year's field hockey team finished with a 14-3 overall record, advancing all the way to the DI Final

see page 29



from page 28

Four. Erin Dunlap, Hannah Zimmerman and Bailey Masten earned first-team all-conference honors. Carley Mackert, Molly Masten and Madison Stahl earned second-team all-conference honors, while Isabel Betters was an honorable mention selection.

The boys' soccer team finished with an 11-4 regular season record and qualified for the DI State Tournament. Tom Burke earned first-team all-conference honors, while Dominic Schneck, Emmanuel Joseph, Luke Sollie and Fernando Flores earned second-team all-conference honors. David Carillo was an honorable mention selection.

Most notably, this fall marked Milford football's first winning season since 2017 finishing with a 6-4 record. The JV program finished their season with a perfect 9-0 record.



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POLICE & FIRE



photo link: Vincent J. Deskiewicz Sr.

WORRIED ABOUT PORCH PIRATES? HERE'S WHAT TO DO

BY KEN MAMMARELLA

Security footage from a doorbell camera led New Castle County Police in November to charge a Newark man with stealing packages delivered to other people's homes. The [case](#) involving suspect Michael McKamey, a 58-year-old from Newark, is sadly all too common and of special interest during the holiday gift-buying season.

County police investigating thefts in Bellemoor and Maryland Park Apartments charged McKamey with two misdemeanor counts of theft under \$1,500 and two misdemeanor counts of criminal trespass in the third degree. He's just one suspect. But concerns over porch pirates are nationwide.

Surveys by [Security.org](#) for that last several years have consistently found that 40% to 45% of Americans have had a package stolen, and 17% to 22% have had a package stolen "recently." [Safewise](#) estimates "around \$19.5 billion is lost to package theft every year. Its survey showed that 79% of Americans were victims of porch pirates in 2022, and that over half of them had more than one package stolen."

You care whether what you have ordered is delivered.

Porch pirate defense

So here are tips—free ideas and ones that cost your time or money—from [AAA.com](#), [New Castle County Police](#), the [Motley Fool](#), [FamilyHandyman.com](#), [Security.org](#) and [Safewise](#):

- Install a home security camera. Announce the camera and other devices, such as motion-detector lights, to potential porch pirates, who may or may not be scared away.
- Track packages via the tracking numbers that are emailed or texted to you. And then quickly follow through with a trusted neighbor to bring them inside.
- Have packages delivered to your work.
- If offered as a choice, schedule deliveries for times you are home.
- Require a signature. Yes, that's a hassle for you.
- Buy a package lockbox or lock bag.
- Pay to have packages delivered somewhere, such as FedEx or UPS lockers or a post office box. An Amazon locker or Amazon Key Service is a free choice for merch bought at Amazon.

"Some of these tips seem like common sense," [Security.org](#) writes. "Yet not everyone follows them."

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