MILFORD MILFORD MILFORD



(a) @Milfordlive



April 23, 2024 Vol. 14 • Issue 17

Headlines	2
Culture	7
Business	10
Government & Politics	12
Education	18
Health	21
Stay Connected	2 3



HEADLINES







BY JAREK RUTZ

After a few months of consideration with plenty of public input, the **Milford School District** Board of Education finalized a name Monday night for its new middle school. The new Milford middle school, a key component of Milford School District's strategic plan to accommodate rapid enrollment growth, will be called "Milford Middle School."

Opening in fall 2025, the building had a nine-person naming committee, which throughout the process of naming considered: long-term grade configurations, community and history, and already established commemorative and historical items.

A statement from the district April 16 said the district "proudly announces the preservation of the Milford

Middle School title for the new school opening in August 2025." The board's approval reaffirms the district's commitment to honoring the legacy and history rooted within the school and community, the statement read.

Other names presented to the board in February by the naming committee included: Lakeview Avenue Intermediate School, Lakeview Intermediate School on the Milford Eleven Campus, Milford Schelhouse School (M.S.S.) and the Marvin P. Schelhouse School.

Marvin Schelhouse was a longtime Milford resident, active in the community, who died in September 2022. He graduated from Milford High School in 1955 and then joined the Marine Corps in 1956, serving for 21 years.

see page 4





The district said the decision reflects the district's dedication to preserving its rich heritage while embracing progress and inclusivity. In a unanimous vote, all school board members supported naming the building Milford Middle School.

"Our community strove for years (2015-2021) through workshops, community meetings, and an overwhelmingly supportive referendum," said Board Vice President Matt Bucher on Facebook before the meeting. "You did all this to save, modernize, and honor this grand old building and once again, have a facility in the MIDDLE of the district, for the MIDDLE grades, of which the Greater Milford School District community can be proud."

The building will accommodate the district growth of more than 150 new students a year.

"In a world of constant change, the decision to maintain the name Milford Middle School reinforces the school's commitment to stability, tradition and the values that have guided it throughout its history," the district stated.

The decision also honors the contributions and accomplishments of past students, staff and community members who have been instrumental in shaping the school's identity, including the historic Milford Eleven and Milford Seven, the district said. Those historic groups, which were pivotal to the desegregation of schools in Delaware, will also be honored with several commemorative items such as the Delaware Public Archives historical marker that will be rededicated to the new campus.

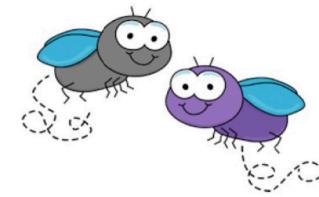


Mon-Fri 7am-5pm Sat 7am-Noon



302-422-8066 info@milfordsouthernstates.com





Farnam Simplifly w/Larvastop	Size	Reg Price	Sale Price
114-00033	3.75 pail	\$32.99	\$27.99
114-00038	10 lb	\$79.99	\$69.99
114-05169	20 lb	\$141.99	\$126.99

Valid until 04/25/24



see page 5

"Milford Middle School has been a cornerstone of the community for decades, nurturing generations of students and fostering a culture of academic excellence, inclusivity and respect," the district stated. "The name holds significance not only for alumni, but also for current students, staff, and our wider district-community."

Grade reconfiguration

The district is reshuffling which grades will go into each school starting in the 2025-2026 school year, which is the year the new middle school opens. Currently, the district is structured pre-K and kindergarten together, grades one through five together, grades six through eight together and grades nine through 12 together.

When the new middle school opens, the district will shift to kindergarten through grade four at its four elementary schools (Morris Early Childhood Center, now serving pre-K and kindergarten, will become the fourth elementary school), grades five and six at the new middle school, grades seven and eight at Milford Central Academy, and grades nine through 12 at Milford High School.



JOHN MOLLURA - PHOTOGRAPHY -

BEAUTY PORTRAITS - HEAD SHOTS - FAMILIES -

302.222.6308



CUM General URE







PARSON THORNE TO HOLD ANNUAL SPRING ANTIQUE SHOW

BY TERRY ROGERS

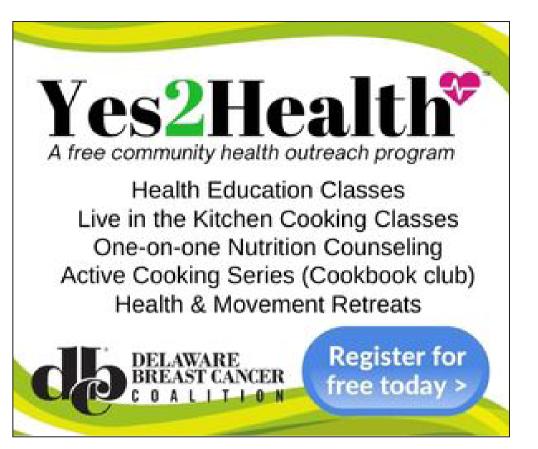
Milford Historical Society will hold their bi-annual antique show on Saturday, May 4, from 9 a.m. until 3 p.m. The show will be held on the lawn of the Parson Thorne Mansion, located at 501 Northwest Front Street in Milford.

"We will have several antique dealers at the event who will have unique items for sale," Brooke Clendaniel, a trustee for the mansion, said. "We will also offer tours of the mansion and have information about the restoration efforts we are undergoing.

The cost to enter the antique market is \$1 and all funds raised will go to support the preservation efforts of the mansion. Additional donations will be accepted as well during the event.

Milford Historical Society is looking for volunteers who are interested in preserving the history of the Parson Thorne Mansion as well as Milford. If you are interested in assisting the society, or would like to learn more about the antique show, contact Brooke Clendaniel at brooek@clendaniel.com.

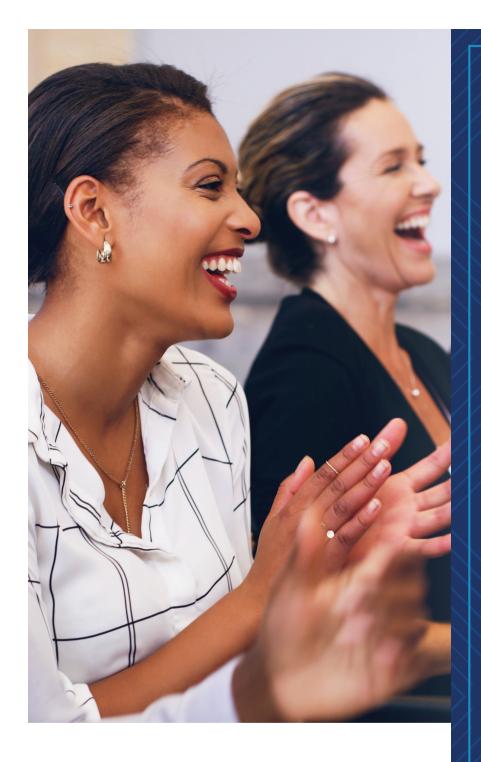






Member-Owned, Member-Focused That's the DEC Difference!





WORKFORCE TRAINING GRANT

Our Workforce Training Grant is a matching program that funds specialized training for eligible Delaware companies. This is to create and retain quality jobs, as well as, generate advancement opportunities in Delaware.

- Training programs should be related to new and innovative processes, programs, machinery or technology related upgrades.
- Max grant award is \$100k
- The Division will reimburse up to 50% eligible costs

DE.GOV/INCENTIVES





We invest in the community

Discover® Bank actively supports building a strong and vibrant community. We're proud to be your neighbor and your bank.



Savings | Checking | CDs | IRA CDs | Money Market | Loans

Visit DiscoverBank.com or call 1 (800) 347-7000 for information. 502 E. Market St., Greenwood, DE 19950



© 2024 Discover Bank, Member FDIC

RIK 58641-1

BUSINESS







STAFF REPORT

DETV, Delaware's premier television network, is proud to announce the launch of its newest show, "CultureScope," dedicated to showcasing the diverse and vibrant artistic talent across the state.

"CultureScope" aims to provide a platform for artists of all kinds, ranging from musicians and performers to fine artists, composers, conductors and beyond. Each week, viewers can expect insightful interviews, captivating performances and a deep dive into the creative process of some of Delaware's most talented individuals.

"The First State is home to artists and storytellers with a message," says co-host Kerriann Otaño. "Culture-Scope gives these creatives a platform to share that message and we hope that the wide range of talent we'll feature will inspire Delawareans to get curious about the arts and culture they can experience and participate in in Delaware." Among the guests featured on "CultureScope" are renowned comedian Margaret Cho, members of local community theater productions and Delaware's own Olivia Rubini, who is currently featured on this season of NBC's "The Voice."

"We are thrilled to welcome such a diverse array of artists to 'CultureScope'," says Matt Ford, co-host of the show. "Each guest brings a unique perspective and talent to the table and we are excited to share their stories with our audience."

Artists interested in appearing on "CultureScope" are encouraged to fill out this **form** for consideration. "CultureScope" airs weekly on DETV. Follow DETV's social media pages for updates on upcoming episodes. For more information about "CultureScope" and other programming on DETV, visit **detvch.com**.



IF YOU REMEMBER MAKING ONE OF THESE,



GET A TOTALLY AWESOME '80S T-SHIRT TO SUPPORT THE CAUSE

colonoscopy today or by

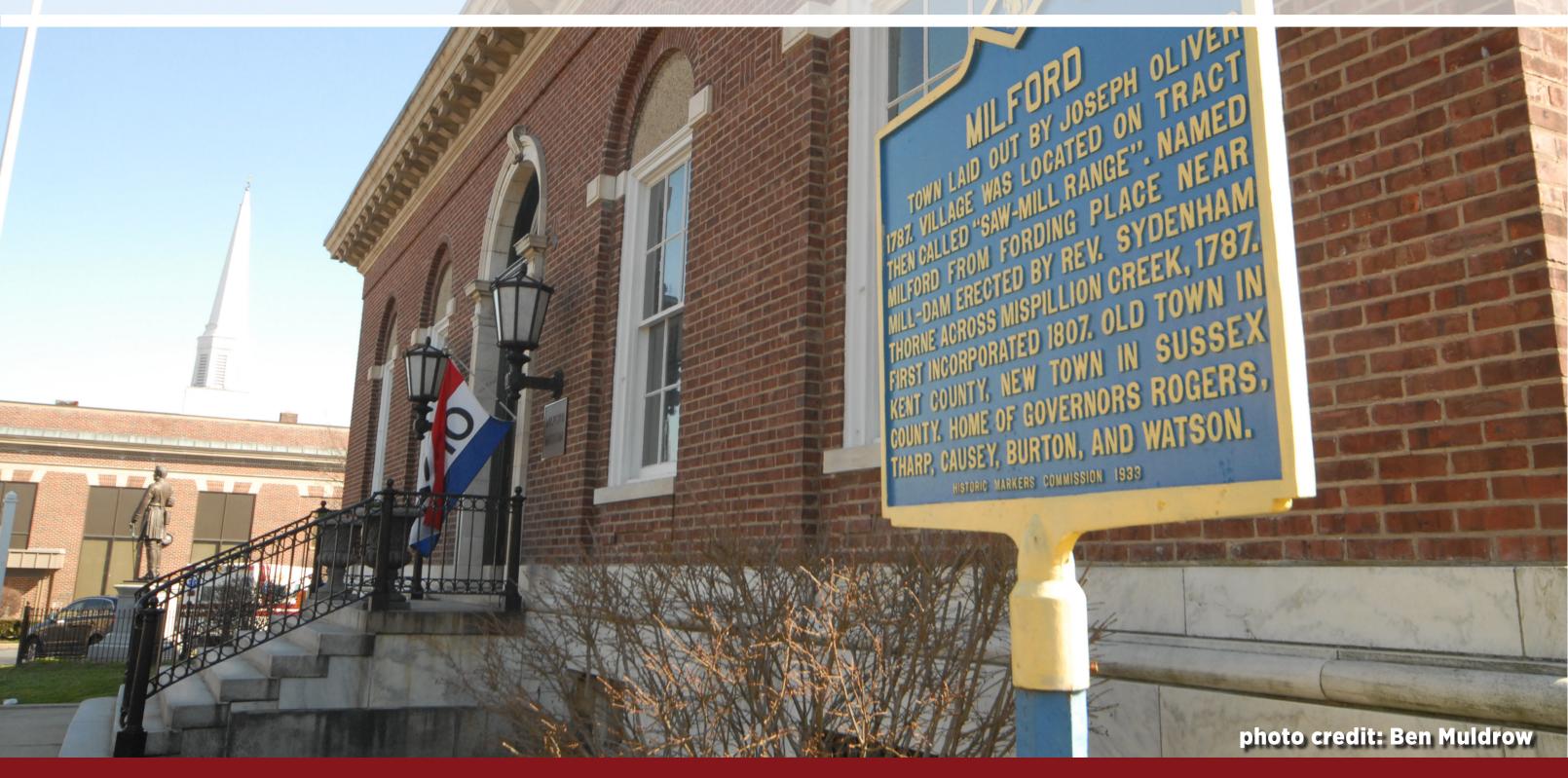
and family to do so.

encouraging your 45+ friends

LEARN MORE



GOVERNMENT & POLITICS





Government & Politics





MILFORD WARD 1 AND 2 CANDIDATES RESPOND TO QUESTIONS

STAFF REPORT

The Chamber of Commerce for Greater Milford held a Candidate Q&A session on Thursday, April 18, in the Milford High School auditorium. Michael Boyle, who is running to represent Ward 1 and Nadia Zychal, who is running to represent Ward 2, responded to questions created by the chamber as well as those presented by the audience. Diamonto "Madula" Kalesis, who is running for Ward 1, and Lori Connor, who is running for Ward 2, declined to participate. Each candidate began with a brief introduction and statement about why they were running for council.

"I've been here since 2006. In 2018, I first ran for office or City Council and that was actually, the last time we had a debate on the council. I am the chairman of the police committee. I had previously been on the chair of the Economic Development Committee. I served on the Budget Committee for a while. And I also had the opportunity to do other things," Boyle said. "So why am I running for office. I like it. I enjoy it. We have seen many changes since I first took office. We have a mayor who's now changed the role of the mayor to almost a full-time job. You see the difference everywhere. And as a result, that transfers to the council. Now, the council

views that job as more engaging. It's a job that challenges us and we challenge the staff of the Milford city government to do a little bit more than before and that spins off into we have gotten one of the best administrative teams that I've seen. They have good energy, good ideas, but they all have one thing in common. They work very diligently for the city. They're very, very, very honest and devoted to their jobs. So I'm running to continue that I want to do to see things that have been come to fruition we've done before and logically actually should be a part of it. "

Zychal, who is new to politics, explained that she and her husband, Craig, came to Milford to take care of her mother-in-law. They purchased an historic home near downtown that was in walking distance to amenities.

"In, the meantime, I have really truly fallen in love with this charming little town and decided to become involved in volunteering. I worked at a lot of DMI events and served on the board of the museum for a while. I serve on the design committee of DMI so, all of those beautiful plants that you see decorating our town in the summertime it's done by volunteers and I am happy to

Goldey-Beacom Certificate in Marketing · Certificate in Human Resource Management · Certificate in Health Care Management Certificate in Entrepreneurship · Certificate in Information Technology Goldey-Beacom CONTACT WEBSITE LOCATION 4701 Limestone Road 302-225-6248 www.gbc.edu/ Wilmington, DE 19808 Admissions@gbc.edu

see page 14

get my hands dirty and participate in making our town a little bit nicer in any way that I can," Zychal said. "I serve on the Board of Adjustments and try to balance the needs of the community with the property rights of each individual owners and make decisions weighing each case on a case-by-case basis within the parameters that are involved in the job. And with that experience, I felt that it was time for me to step up to try to do a little more and hear the voices of my neighbors. See if I can bring their concerns to the table. And help my word be represented in the city."

The first question asked of the candidates was regarding each candidate's stance on the sale of recreational marijuana in the city, something asked by a member of the audience.

"Yes, towns have the right to outlaw this retail sale of marijuana by sometime in July of this year. And if you don't know some towns have done just that and I do understand why. For some, they've got a family-friendly atmosphere. About three months ago in a discussion City Council just by accident went off on a tangent regarding this topic. I got the impression that the council was more in favor of allowing retail sales," Boyle said. "At the time, I just kind of had to do a little analysis on it because it didn't mean anything. It's appeared to be a generational thing that has settled itself down a little bit. Now I'm not sure what accounting standards there are to be honest with you. I think attitudes may have changed and they saw what the majority favors, but in a real sense it doesn't make a lot of difference because a lot of this will fall to the county and the state. If you

look at a map, you see that Milford will need to deal with both Kent and Sussex County regulations."

Boyle also expressed concerns that marijuana was still illegal at the federal level which could present a problem with grant funding to the city. He also felt that the towns would not receive a significant amount of the proceeds of marijuana sales, something he would want to look further into.

"I believe that adults should be respected to be able to make their own decisions. So, if somebody wants to open up a legal business that caters to somebody who would like to enjoy the end of the day with a little bit of marijuana. I see no harm in that. I don't see that as any more harmful than alcohol. And we have a lot of establishments that I think, as far as a police issue is concerned, the police are concerned with the behavior of when abuse of a substance. So somebody has a nice glass of wine goes home, does not operate a vehicle, it is not a problem. If somebody goes on a bender no matter what substance that is and destroys property and becomes a hazard, that's a problem, whether that's marijuana or alcohol, the same principle applies," Zychal said. "I believe that more freedom is a good thing. Perhaps revenue only does trickle up to a state level there could be an argument against that. But state level revenue does trickle back down to the town level with things such as grants. We'll see what kind of a pot that goes into that could be put into drug rehabilitation programs, hopefully because Lord knows there's enough need for that here is that can also help alleviate some of the suffering from people who suffer opioid addiction and they can



ameliorate that suffering with marijuana. I am all for it."

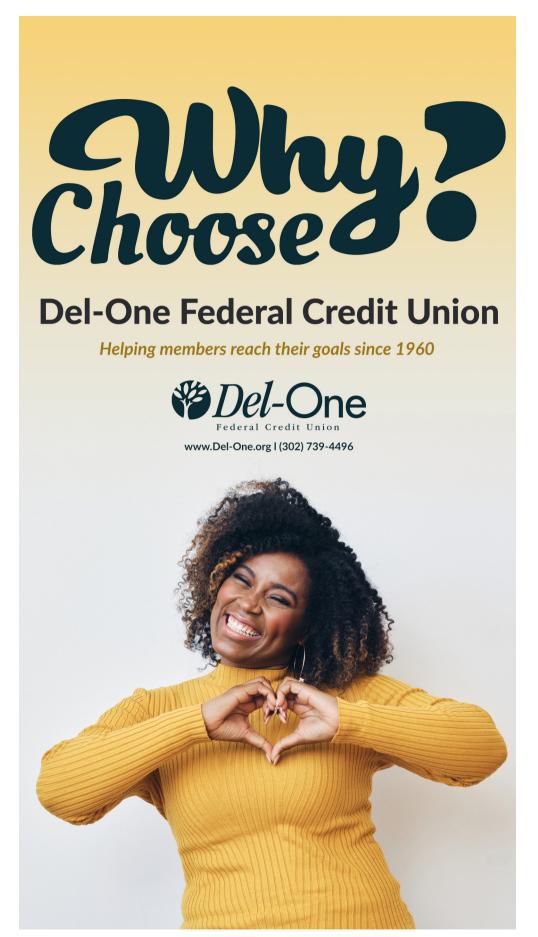
One member of the audience questioned what the two candidates could do about litter. Both Boyle and Zychal stated that this is something that needs to be handled on a neighborhood-by-neighborhood level and that helping people take more pride in the area where they lived was the best way to deal with littering. They both also pointed out that the city and non-profit organizations could organize additional "clean up" days like one recently held by the Chamber. The next question, also from the audience, was related to property owners who did not live in Milford who were permitted to vote.

"I am personally against this, however, there is a state law that allows it and that's why we have it. What I understand the state law was really enacted back in the 70s and really came from up north by the homeowners who had beach houses and did not like 1,000 full-time residents were determining what their tax was going to be," Boyle said. "So they allow people who own property in a town but who do not live there to vote. Hopefully I can reach out to people in a less confrontational way and deal it. They want to take the time to come and vote, then the initiative to be part of the spirit of town. We have a lot going on now with a lot of name-calling and pointing fingers. A lot of what we've seen lately is really associated with that. Most of the noise is coming from folks outside of the voting area. It's a shame it's a shame it's come down to that. And the reality is that people live in a city pay for the city and on council, you have a priority on who you listen to. The people who live outside the city can get more involved if they really

have property they own here, maintain the property keep it up, become a part of the city in that respect, but they can vote because it states on a real basis."

Zychal felt that this is a conversation that needed to be held at the state level as outside influences impacting local elections could have unwanted consequences. The next question was about the recent citizen survey which found residents wanted more recreational activities, such as parks. One suggestion was adding a picnic and barbecue area at the new park proposed at the Sharp Farm. Both Zychal and Boyle felt that was an excellent suggestion. Zychal also pointed out that parks increase property values and that she was "baffled" by the push back against parks in recent conversations. The next question asked both candidates how they would work toward preserving and attracting quality jobs.

"About two years ago, we purchased a piece of ground at the intersection of Milford-Harrington Highway and Canterbury Road, which will become the Milford Corporate Center. We have a plan to use that as leverage to bring in new manufacturing jobs. With it, we hope this will not only grow the number of jobs offered with corporations, but also a chance for the young people not only to find decent work, see where they can grow within a corporation, move up and expand their opportunities," Boyle said. "Right now, we are losing too many graduates who leave town and go elsewhere. We have the opportunity to bring in a lot of corporations as we will have 27 lots right there for big warehouses and manufacturing facilities and this is light industry. It's





not smokestack by any means. And we have tentatively set a goal so when corporations come to us, we're really going to look at them. Okay you want 100,000 square feet, how many people are going to employ? If it's only 10 or 12, we are not interested. We want somebody who's going to come in with real jobs, a substantial number in there."

Zychal agreed that the corporate center was a great idea and would be a tremendous turn on investment for the city, but she would also like to see job growth in other segments of the city.

"What we need to do is encourage the growth of our economy on every level. We need basic entry level jobs, we need manufacturing jobs, we need to encourage professionals to move here. We have a large aging population here. Maybe not at the level of the beach areas, but we do have a large population here and there is a challenge in finding medical care. Getting an appointment can be difficult with people waiting for months to get an initial appointment with a primary care doctor. I would like to see the city do more in building the amenities and the housing and the general climate to encourage medical professionals to build a home here. The potential that the opportunities are here," Zychal said. "The opportunities here also, aside from corporate jobs, encouraging corporate people to come here and corporations to make their home here for independent small businesspeople to grow their dreams. It was wonderful to see the young ladies from My Sister's Fault succeed. They're building an empire with their empanadas. It's a wonderful, beautiful thing to see. Zack and Marissa (King)

single handedly are transforming downtown and they're giving young people jobs, giving bartenders jobs, giving every day, working people jobs, so we need to build a vibrant community on every level and create a virtuous cycle of investment that would lift folks at every level."

Both candidates also felt growth was a good thing in Milford, that without growth, the town would die. Both Zychal and Boyle felt that the best way to manage growth was through the Comprehensive Plan and Strategic Plans which provided a roadmap for council to follow. One audience member wanted to know if the candidates' supported projects with grant funding that could eventually increase the tax base. Both candidates felt using grant money to fund large projects, even if it meant the city had to provide some funding, was beneficial, but neither felt projects should be implemented that would increase taxes significantly. Boyle also commented that there was a time when developers had more control over what happened in the city than the city employees did, something that no longer happens.

"You know, what I was shocked to find out was that there was a time in the city that the last developer through the door was your city planner. And as a result, there are developments in town, newer developments that don't have sidewalks, that don't have certain amenities that the streets are very narrower than they really should have been because deals were made," Boyle said. "I've been told by old timers that just a quick phone call and you got everything done. Well, that sounds good. Until a couple of things happen that aren't good. And



when I asked where the records were, I was told they don't exist. Not only was I shocked, it revealed a lot of problems. It revealed that there really wasn't a plan."

Zychal felt the city could do a better job of outreach in the community so that people had a better understanding of how city government worked. Both candidates were adamantly opposed to a recent request to change land on the east side of Route 1 from residential to commercial. As for the homelessness issue in the city, both Zychal and Boyle agreed that there was not one simple answer.

"First of all, I think the homeless problem is never gonna go away. No matter how good we get at this. It's always been an element of our society. It will continue to be how can we best address it. How can we best get people back to a position where they can afford to live independently with secure jobs in the future. That's a tough one because there are many opinions out there. And there are many different avenues of approach. I know recently there was a big discussion about the pallet village and pallet village really came about because the manufacturer of this little homes is called Pallet but that's an approach," Boyle said. "Their approach was basically to provide temporary housing, provide wraparound coverage for the residents as he said in his program to help them become established to do the simple things that we take for granted.

CLICK TO READ MORE







with elnspection.

Call Today (302) 491-7000

EDUCATION







BY JAREK RUTZ

Military families in Delaware could receive a scholastic perk in the world of school choice with a new bill that unanimously was voted for in the House Education Committee April 17. **House Bill 354**, sponsored by Rep. Nnamdi Chukwuocha, D-Wilmington, gives the dependent children of active military members, full-time Delaware National Guard members and active duty members of a reserve component of the U.S. military priority in choice and charter enrollment.

The bill would put military-connected fourth on the priority list for schools accepting choice students. Above it would be:

- Returning students who continue to meet the requirements for the program or school, including students graduating from one school to another within a single program.
- Students who meet the requirements for the program

- or school and who seek to attend based upon the residence of the student's parent within the designated feeder pattern, if any, for the school.
- The siblings of students currently enrolled in the school or in a program in accordance with the second priority on the list who will be returning to the school for the following academic year, provided that any siblings seeking priority under this paragraph meet the requirements for the program or school. Priority must be given to siblings of students who live in the reorganized school district where the school is located, and may be given to siblings of students who do not live in the reorganized school district where the school is located.

Committee Chair Rep. Kim Williams, D-Marshallton, was concerned about language in the bill that would

see page 20



Join us for our School Board Candidate Forums!

Engage with candidates competing for positions on Delaware's school boards.

Click to register. Your participation is valued!







mandate traditional schools to adopt the priority, but it doesn't require an adoption by charter schools.

"When you have military families moving here, or relocating, it will be confusing," Williams said. "They will be very confused about why [districts] have to follow this but charter schools will not have to follow."

Chukwuocha said he'd be happy to work on an amendment that would create the same mandate for district and charter schools.

First State Educate, an organization aiming to reform education in Delaware, stated that it appreciates the government's recognition of the sacrifices made by our service men and women.

"We see the legislature's efforts to prioritize military families and promote school choice as something that can promote equity and expand options for all students, if implemented correctly," the organization said in a statement.

Scott Kidner, president of the board of First State Military Academy, supported the bill. "That is a pretty significant component of the number of kids we have," he said. "A lot of moms and dads who have served or had prior service see our school and want to attend, and it has been very helpful, so we rise in support."

Kendall Massett, executive director of the **Delaware** Charter Schools Network, said the organization "absolutely supports" the bill and said she would work with Williams to iron out the technicalities of charter school requirements.

HB 354 will next be discussed by the full House body.









HEALTH







BY JAREK RUTZ

A bill that would expand treatment for a certain type of cancer passed the House Economic Development/ Banking/Insurance & Commerce Committee unanimously April 16.

House Bill 364, sponsored by Rep. Cyndie Romer, D-Newark, requires that individual, blanket and group health insurance carriers cover drug treatment for the associated conditions of metastatic cancer in the same way treatment for metastatic cancer is covered.

Metastatic cancer is cancer that spreads from its site of origin to another part of the body. According to the National Cancer Institute, there are 623,405 Americans living with metastatic breast, prostate, lung, colorectal, or bladder cancer, or metastatic melanoma.

The bill details "associated conditions" as symptoms or side effects associated with metastatic cancer or its treatment and which, in the judgment of the health care practitioner, further jeopardizes the health of a patient if left untreated. Under the bill, insurance companies

would need to cover any FDA-approved drug prescribed to treat the side effects of metastatic cancer treatment.

It would also prohibit insurance companies from mandating that patients first fail to respond to a different drug or prove a history of failure of such drug. Step therapy, also called "fail-first," is a process that requires patients to try and fail on one or more medications chosen by their insurer before they can access the optimal treatment recommended and prescribed by their healthcare provider.

Romer pointed out this is only specific to the conditions caused by cancer, so for example, if someone has cancer but is getting treatment for a sprained ankle, the patient could still have to go through step therapy for that.

There is no fiscal impact on the state if the bill becomes law. If enacted, the bill would go into effect Dec. 1, 2025. HB 364 now heads to the House floor for debate.





BAYHEALTH@HOME









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/
- twitter.com/live_delaware
- facebook.com/delawarelivenews/
- O Watch Delaware Live on YouTube!
- linkedin.com/company/delaware-live-news

photo link: Scott Evers





Without these collaborators, this outlet would not be possible:

Bryan Shupe, CEO Betsy Price, Editor Sonja M. Frey, Publisher

John Mollura Photography

Design your 2024 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



