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CATALYST WOMEN'S RECORDS AT HAGLEY



NEW CASTLE COUNTY ARPA FUNDS



NAAMANS ADVANCES TO STATE LITTLE LEAGUE CHAMPIONSHIP

Photo link: Delaware's Quaint Villages



Community

TOWN SQUARE LIVE

CATALYST DEPOSITS TROVE OF WOMEN'S RECORDS AT HAGLEY



BY BETSY PRICE

Catalyst, a nonprofit focused on helping women work outside the home, on Tuesday celebrated adding its archives to **Hagley Museum** and Library's collection of business records.

The organization, which also is celebrating its 60th anniversary, started as a way to encourage educated women to go to work at a time when businesses were dominated by men. It evolved to encompass all women and work on helping corporations change workplaces to make them more attractive for women who wanted to work and have a family. Catalyst was an early champion of job sharing, for example.

Hagley will store and preserve Catalyst's archives, which archivists say is the only collection of its kind

that shows the evolution of women in business and the workplace. It came in 350 boxes that are still being archived, but should be open to researchers in a few months.

Looking at business through the eyes of women is an area Hagley hopes to be able to continue to strengthen. The **library** already is known for having a major collection of manuscripts, archives, photographs and books from many companies, including DuPont, that document American business and technology.

Catalyst was established by **Felice N. Schwartz** in 1962. The nonprofit's debut tracks along with the rise of the feminist movement in the late 1960s and early 1970s, but rather than burning bras, Catalyst wanted to encour-

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age women to have the satisfaction of a career and a paycheck of their own while balancing that with family.

“The focus on the role of women in business is squarely where we are,” said CEO Lorraine Hariton. “Our vision and mission has evolved over time, but it’s always been about women being successful in business.”

CATALYST EVOLVES

Somewhere in the 90s, Catalyst realized that corporations needed to change their workplaces in order to attract and keep more women and shifted focus to that. It champions diversity and embraces changes, such as working virtually, which it started doing 20 years ago.

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WILMINGTON LIBRARY SNARES ANOTHER NATIONAL AWARD

COMMITMENT TO COMMUNITY

Founded in 1788, the Wilmington Library is one of the oldest public libraries in America. Part of its success, said director Jamar Rahming, is its commitment to being a mecca for different philosophies and mindsets.

“Recently we brought Dennis Rodman and the event was challenged because Dennis Rodman is known to be a friend of North Korean Dictator Kim Jong-un,” he said. “Many said we should not have him, but as a library, we are a citadel of democracy, which means that we have to uplift intellectual freedom.”

The library also had actress Angela Davis speak during Black History Month and she’s a Marxist. They played host to former NFL player Benjamin Watson, who’s vocal about his opposition to abortion.

“With Wilmington being a blue city, having people like them come was a conflicting worldview for many of our constituents, but they came in, they listened,” Rahming said. “When you sit in here, people can hear the context to their stories and their narratives, and they walk away no longer hating or loathing the person.”

Wilmington Library has an operating budget of about \$2.5 million, but they use their endowment fund to hold events and hire speakers, and they don’t shy from controversy, said Rahming. He declined to say how much the endowment is.

“We decided that our role in the community was to be an innovative and inviting link for our constituents to the world so that they could be exposed to different world views and perspectives.” Wilmington Library never uses taxpayer dollars to hire their speakers.

He said since starting his role as director in 2015, the pandemic was the greatest threat to the library. “The biggest casualty of the pandemic was eroding a sense of community,” he said, “because people cannot come together and that’s where we find our strength.”

[CLICK HERE TO READ MORE](#)

BY JAREK RUTZ

Wilmington Library’s programming, which has included bringing Dennis Rodman and Angela Davis in as speakers, helped it win the highest award for libraries in America. The Institute of Museum and Library Services selected the Wilmington Library, along with five others across the country, to receive the 2022 Museum and Library Service National Medal. There were two other libraries receiving medals out of a pool of 30 finalists: **The Amistad Research Center** in New Orleans and **St. Louis County Library** in St. Louis, Missouri.

The Institute said medal winners “represent institutions that provide dynamic programming and services that exceed expected levels of service.” The winners also “bring about change that touches the lives of individuals and helps communities thrive.”

Winning the medal was the latest in high profile events and awards. In June, it was named the third-most **beautiful library** in the country by **Fodor’s Travel**. That followed the open-secret of Dolly Parton appearing in May at the library to celebrate the state’s involvement with her Imagination Library. That program gives one book a month to children from birth to age five in an effort to raise literacy.



BUTTER SCULPTING AMONG NEW FUN AT 2022 STATE FAIR

BY KEN MAMMARELLA

More than 2,000 pounds of butter that will become art, a Wild West show and a BMX stunt show are some of this year's additions to the [Delaware State Fair](#).

The 103rd edition of the fair runs July 21-30 at the state fairgrounds in Harrington.

"We're chock full of entertainment," said Danny Aguilar, assistant general manager and director of marketing. "Ten days of a summer tradition."

The entertainment lineup goes from A ([Adkins, Trace](#), with the James Barker Band on July 25) to Z (ZZ Top, with Goodbye June on July 27).

Plenty of seats are available for all shows, Aguilar said, noting that tickets are selling best for Sam Hunt (with Roman Alexander on July 21), Nelly (with Justin Champagne on July 23) and Hank Williams Jr. (with Jake

Worthington on July 30).

Fairgoers can watch the progress of the butter sculptors every day. They're creating something that fits this year's theme of "Summer Nights & Carnival Lights." Their work is with recycled butter.

"Tumbleweed Crossing" is the name of the Wild West show, which features family-friendly comedy, stunts and special effects. Showtimes are at 1:30, 4 and 7 p.m. daily. Robert Castillo's BMX Freestyle Team is making its fair debut, with shows daily at 1, 4 and 7:30 p.m.

STATE FAIR GOALS

The fair is built to celebrate the state's agriculture and agricultural heritage, so most of the competitive exhibits are food- and farm-related.

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BLACK STORYTELLERS FROM ACROSS NATION GATHER IN WILMINGTON

BY BETSY PRICE

Ask Serena Joy—a Wilmington poet, rapper and storyteller—to tell you a story, and she starts with a little girl and a dandelion. The little girl loves dandelions partly because she likes blowing the tiny flowers off the stem. She joyously takes some to her grandmother, who shoos her and the flower away.

“That’s a weed,” she tells her. “I don’t want them in my garden. They’ll spread everywhere.”

The lesson is learned and when a boy who likes the girl brings her a bouquet of dandelions, the girl dismisses the gift and gesture.

“Those are weeds,” she tells him.

Yet, says Joy, there are several definitions of weeds.

One is that it’s an unwanted plant. One is that it’s a plant that takes over a garden because it is so powerful, she said.

“Who told you we were flowers?” she asks the audience. “Who told you we were weeds?”

The story refers to how she often has felt as a young Black woman making her way in the world.

“There’s so many layers to it, but the point is that we are all flower enough to grow,” she said. “Because I’m Black, sometimes people may feel like I can only go so far or I’m not beautiful enough for this world and even as a Black person, just not feeling flower enough to grow is a reality sometimes.”

BLACK STORYTELLING RESIDENCY

Joy was one of dozens of master storytellers taking part in the city of Wilmington’s first Black Storytelling residency. The program, modeled on the city’s decades old Boysie Lowery Jazz Residency, brings talented professionals to town for a week-long intense study of



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storytelling, stories themselves and the history makers of Wilmington and Delaware.

And just as the jazz residency ends with a performance by participants, so did the storytelling residency, with public performances Saturday, July 16 at the Clifford Brown Listening Garden, 1500 Clifford Brown Walk, Wilmington.

The idea for the residency came from Johnathan Whitney of **Flux Creative Consulting**. He suggested it to **Tina Betz**, executive director of Cultural Affairs and Fund Development for the city of Wilmington, when they were talking about programming for the new amphitheater to be named for Lowery, a beloved Wilmington music teacher.

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DELDOT'S CLANKERS HOPE TO CUT CASHO MILL CRASHES



BY KEN MAMMARELLA

Seven large red balls hanging on chains above Casho Mill Road are the talk of the town in the Newark area. The balls were recently installed by the Delaware Department of Transportation to reduce the number of too-tall trucks hitting a nearby railroad underpass. Instead, the clank of the balls should warn the driver to turn around.

Anthony Merlino [posted](#) a lengthy video on Facebook, with a commentary saying that it “looks like an April Fool’s joke.”

CASHO MILL CLANKERS

But DelDOT is serious.

“Over the years we’ve added signage. We’ve added sensors. We’ve added flashing lights, striping, lighting,

really trying to use all of the tools in our toolbox to try and get people to be aware of their oversize vehicle when approaching this more than century-old bridge,” DelDOT’s C.R. McLeod told [NBC10](#).

“The clanker ball initiative cost about \$300,000 to install, which includes the clankers themselves, new signage and lights,” Delaware Public Media [reported](#). It “may expand across the state depending on its success on Casho Mill Road.”

The bridge, with its 8-foot, 7-inch clearance, “is the most-struck bridge in the state,” the Newark Post [reported](#), “with 11 crashes there last year and more than 70 since 2005.”

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115 ART GROUPS GRANTED \$3 MILLION IN STATE FUNDING

BY JAREK RUTZ

The Delaware Division of Arts has announced a \$3 million distribution of grants to 115 community art organizations. They range from \$1,300 to [Wilmington Wintergrass Inc.](#), which is an annual bluegrass festival, to \$246,000 to the [Delaware Art Museum](#).

The museum will use the funding to support its exhibits, including the upcoming Pre-Raphaelite show “[A Marriage of Arts & Crafts: Evelyn & William De Morgan](#).” The grant also helps the museum present educational and cultural offerings that connect the community with art, such as its annual Dia de los Muertos Celebration and museum school tours.

There are more rounds of grants expected later in the year. This first round of grants addresses general operating support, project support, arts stabilization, startup and education resource grants.

“Delaware has a long history of investing in the arts and culture sector,” said Jessica Ball, director of the Di-

vision of Arts. “We were founded back in 1989, and ever since, we’ve been getting money at both the federal and state level and have used it to invest in arts and culture.”

Some of the money will go to bringing back TranspARTation in August, which is a program that that supports travel expense for Delaware schools to visit state arts and cultural institutions so students can watch performances, attend exhibits and see historical sites. Up to \$500 of costs will be covered through the program. That’s up from the \$200 stipend of previous years. The money can help Delaware schools pay for buses, fuel, parking and tolls.

The Division also is increasing support for artist opportunity grants. This year’s grants will be \$1,000. They are designed to support an artist’s professional development and help them snag opportunities to display their work. The deadline to apply to the artist opportunity grants is the first of January, April, July and

October. Individuals can reapply each quarter.

WHAT DOES EACH GRANT DO?

First off, the lionshare of the grants fall under the category of general operating support. These grants are for supporting art and culture centers and also making sure Delawareans have access to them. This type of grant uses a three-year application cycle, with an annual March 1 application deadline.

Project support is the next highest area of funding. The money that goes here will support community-based organizations that offer arts programs with the focus on continuing to develop their students and lessons.

Over \$130,000 was allocated as an education resource grant, which strengthened education programs, projects and activities in the Delaware art community, establishing standards-based criteria that will be used by teaching artists.

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Photo by Christina Morillo from Pexels



Business

TOWN SQUARE LIVE



BY CHARLIE MEGGINSON

A Delaware judge ruled Tuesday that social media behemoth Twitter Inc. and the world's richest man, Elon Musk, will face off in a five-day trial beginning in October. Attorneys for **Twitter** asked Chancellor **Kathleen St. Jude McCormick** to grant an expedited trial in the company's lawsuit against Musk.

Twitter **sued** Musk in the Delaware Court of Chancery after he announced his intention to pull out of a \$44 billion **acquisition** deal signed in April. Musk said on July 8 that he would no longer go forward with the purchase because he believed Twitter breached its agreement by refusing to crack down on spam accounts and disclose how many accounts were run by bots.

In a virtual hearing Tuesday, Twitter attorney **William Savitt** asked for a four-day trial beginning Sept. 19. Savitt said the uncertainty surrounding the acquisition "inflicts harm on Twitter every day," and "the earliest possible trial date is imperative."

"Musk has been and remains contractually obligated to use his best efforts to close this deal," Savitt said. "What he's doing is the exact opposite—it's sabotage."

Savitt argued that Musk is looking to "conjure an exit ramp for a deal that doesn't have one," and that Musk's complaint about spam accounts was manufactured only

DELAWARE JUDGE SETS TWITTER, ELON MUSK TRIAL FOR OCTOBER

as a pretext to justify a wrongful termination of the acquisition agreement.

"He raised it as a problem only after the markets turned negative and the merger became less attractive to him financially," Savitt said. "Buyer's remorse can be an overused phrase, Your Honor, but it sure looks like what we have here, and the false accounts issue appears to be the vehicle."

Savitt told McCormick he suspects "Musk wants to delay the trial long enough to ever really face a reckoning."

"We suspect he wants to keep Twitter under massive pressure to continue his onslaught of criticism in the hopes of wearing Twitter down or running out the clock—or increasing his leverage," he concluded.

Savitt noted that the contract between Twitter and Musk includes a "drop-dead date" of Oct. 24, 2022. A drop-dead date is a firm deadline set in the contract that, if unmet, will result in some form of consequences.

Andrew Rossman, Musk's attorney, said the contract stipulates that the drop-dead date is automatically stayed if either party files litigation, rendering the need to conclude litigation prior to Oct. 24 moot.

Rossman said Twitter's proposed timeline would not give either side enough time to prepare for trial or for the court to come to a fair judgment. Instead, Musk's team asked for a 10-day trial beginning in February 2023. That would give them more time to analyze the data Twitter conveyed relating to spam accounts, Rossman said.

A February trial date would still have been an expedited timeline, Rossman argued, and that's necessary because Musk stands to gain nothing by dragging the matter out longer than necessary.

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THE GRAND CHOOSES FROM INSIDE FOR NEW EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

BY BETSY PRICE

Long-time Grand Opera House administrator Pamelyn Manocchio will head the downtown Wilmington theater when the current executive editor bikes into retirement in September.

Manocchio, who has been working at The Grand since 2006 in a variety of roles, most recently has served as managing director.

Executive Director **Mark Fields** will continue to work with Manocchio through the end of the year to ensure a smooth transition.

The Grand’s board of directors met several times after Field announced he was retiring, but decided there was no reason to conduct a search to replace him when they had the talent they wanted already on the staff.

“As a long-time senior staff leader, she will provide a measure of continuity and institutional familiarity,” said Brian DiSabatino, the board chair, in a press release. “Pam has already demonstrated creativity and innovation in her current role with The Grand. We are looking forward to new ideas and new energy from her and the organization as she takes charge.”

Manocchio said she was grateful the board made its decision so quickly.

“I held my breath, but I just feel like it was the right choice for the brand,” she said. “I’ve been here for 16 years. I care about the organization and the people so much that I’m gonna do my darndest to keep it where it is right now and grow it and strengthen it.”

THE GRAND’S STRENGTHS

The Grand has an amazing board, dedicated Show Corps, talented staff and crew, and wonderful patrons and donors, she said. It is in a strong financial position, thanks to lots of state and federal COVID-19 money, and she wants to maintain that and its many strong connections within the community.

“I want to do what I can to not just promote individual artists or promote a certain segment of our community, but to promote arts and culture as a valued contributor to Wilmington and the state of Delaware,” she said. “Arts and culture have a lot to offer.”

Like many others in the arts world, she feels like the money that the state and federal government steered to the arts was an acknowledgement of its importance in a thriving economy.

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Food & Dining

TOWN SQUARE LIVE



BY PAM GEORGE

Fusion cuisine is nothing new, but Nick Vouras of **Kozy Korner** and **Nick's Pizza** in Wilmington and “Chopped” alum **Reuben Dhanawade** are taking it to the next level. The friends will hold a “Pizza and Sandos” popup Saturday, July 23, featuring Vouras’ Detroit-style pizza (either red or white) and Dhanawade’s fried butter chicken “sando,” short for a sandwich.

The cuisines will collide on the special Detroit-style butter chicken pizza.

KOZY KORNER KONNECTION

Dhanawade’s dish is a riff on the well-known butter chicken, or murgh makhana, which has a rich, creamy tomato sauce and is usually served over rice.

The chef, who recently appeared on a finale of the Food Network’s “Chopped,” was inspired by the Buffalo

ITALIAN-INDIAN FUSION TO POP UP AT KOZY KORNER

fried chicken sandwich. Instead of buttermilk, however, he uses yogurt to marinate the chicken before giving it a crispy coating made with flour and Indian spices.

The spicy butter chicken sauce replaces Buffalo sauce, and cilantro lime cream provides the cooling counterpoint that blue cheese normally provides.

He also adds pickled onion. “Because in my opinion, every sandwich needs a pickle component,” he explained.

Dhanawade gave the sandwich a trial run at a popup in Pittsburgh.

“A good friend and restaurateur is out there—Ivan Silva of Mi Empanada,” the University of Delaware chef said. “We had been talking about collaborating, and it evolved into me doing my own thing for him.”

Dhanawade is basking in newfound fame after starring on the “Chopped” special. The winner could take a job as a sous chef with one of the three judges: Maneet Chauhan, Scott Conant or Chris Santos.

Chauhan, the Indian American chef, would have been a natural choice for Dhanawade, who has been exploring his family’s culinary roots. However, he was eliminated in the entrée round of the finale.

Nevertheless, the chef has received several offers and has invited fans to “stay tuned” for his next step.

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Government

TOWN SQUARE LIVE



BY CHARLIE MEGGINSON

The Delaware State Sportsmen’s Association and three other firearm advocacy groups have filed a federal lawsuit seeking to halt a new law that bans semi-automatic firearms in the First State.

“On June 30, 2022, Governor John Carney signed House Bill 450 into law, effectively and immediately banning a long list of commonly owned rifles, shotguns and pistols, pejoratively and inaccurately labeling those firearms as ‘assault weapons,’” the group said in a press release.

The Sportsmen’s Association, which is the National Rifle Association’s state affiliate, said it warned Gov. Carney and the General Assembly that the bill violated numerous provisions of both the United States and Delaware constitutions.

The Bridgeville Rifle and Pistol Club, the Delaware Association of Federal Firearms Licensees, the Delaware

STATE GUN GROUPS SUE STATE OVER SEMI-AUTOMATIC GUN BAN

Rifle and Pistol Club and several individual members of those organizations signed onto the lawsuit.

GUN GROUPS SUIT

It names the Delaware Department of Safety and Homeland Security and its secretary, Nate McQueen Jr. as well as Delaware State Police superintendent Melissa Zebley as defendants.

The suit, filed in the United States District Court for the District of Delaware, asks the court to declare that House Bill 450 violates citizens’ constitutional right to keep and bear arms under both the state and federal constitutions. It also claims the law violates the commerce clause, due process clause, equal protections clause and the “takings clause” of both constitutions.

“DSSA has been protecting and defending the rights of Delaware’s hunters, sportsmen and women, and law-abiding gun owners since 1968,” said Jeff Hague, the organization’s president. “This is not the first time we have challenged unconstitutional and illegal actions of government officials in court, and it will not be the last.”

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VOTE BY MAIL BILL HEADS TO DELAWARE GOVERNOR

BY CHARLIE MEGGINSON

Gov. John Carney has taken possession of a bill to allow Delawareans to vote by mail in all future elections. Carney has 10 days, excluding Sundays, to either sign or veto the bill.

Senate Bill 320 creates an opt-in vote-by-mail system wherein voters will have to request a ballot before one is sent. Ballots and ballot applications will not be automatically mailed to voters under the bill.

In June 2021, Republicans in the General Assembly effectively **stopped** the passage of a different bill that would have made no-excuse absentee voting a permanent fixture in Delaware's elections. **House Bill 75**, sponsored by Rep. David Bentz, D-Christiana, would have allowed Delaware voters to request **mail-in ballots** without providing an explanation.

But the bill, which sought to amend the Delaware **Constitution**, failed to receive the required two-thirds majority needed in the House of Representatives. Con-

stitutional amendments are also required to be passed separately during two consecutive legislative sessions.

Twelve Republicans voted in **favor** of the bill in 2019 during the 150th General Assembly. But in **2021**, not one Republican voted in favor of the proposal.

The Constitution requires voters to provide justification before receiving an absentee ballot. Excuses include being away from the state for work, college or public service, sickness or physical disability, military service or religious tenets in conflict with in-person voting.

Supporters of Senate Bill 320 say vote-by-mail is not the same as absentee voting, and the Constitution grants the General Assembly the authority to "prescribe the means, methods and instruments of voting so as best to secure secrecy and the independence of the voter, preserve the freedom and purity of elections and prevent fraud, corruption and intimidation..."

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NEW CASTLE COUNTY SET TO APPROVE \$54 MILLION IN ARPA FUNDS



BY CHARLIE MEGGINSON

New Castle County Council will vote at its next meeting to send just over **\$54 million** in federal COVID relief funds to the county’s finance office for allocation.

The money will go toward affordable housing, wastewater and stormwater management, nonprofit grants and more, according to Brian Cunningham, the county’s director of strategic communications.

The **American Rescue Plan Act** of 2021, commonly referred to as ARPA, provided funding to states, counties and municipalities across the country to spur recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic. New Castle County received approximately \$108 million from the fund. The allocation was designed to be split across two years: \$54 million in 2021 and \$54 million in 2022. The money must be spent by Dec. 31, 2024.

“This is an historic opportunity to reimagine the communities in which we live, an unprecedented opportunity to address problems that arose in recent months and divisions that have festered for decades,” New Castle County executive Matt Meyer said after the funds were allocated in 2021.

Included in the allocation is \$2.5 million for the **Building Better Communities Initiative** announced by Meyer last year. The initiative was designed to identify and implement strategies that will result in violence reduction and increased community engagement in underserved neighborhoods throughout New Castle County.

The County Council is expected to approve the ordinance.



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13 other states on California’s Advanced Clean Cars II initiative. It “calls for banning the sale of all new gasoline and diesel-fueled vehicles by 2035,” said Joseph Fulgham, director of policy and communications for the Delaware House Republican Caucus.

“All new passenger cars, trucks and SUVs sold in Delaware that year will need to be zero emissions. That being the case, it is inevitable that Delaware’s vehicle fuel tax—the main method for funding the Transportation Trust Fund that pays for road construction and all of DelDOT’s operational expenses—will be forced to transition to some other funding mechanism well before then.”

In a February discussion of DelDOT’s budget, Rep. Ruth Briggs King, a Republican from Georgetown, asked about the issue.

“What is the right method for these electric vehicles?” DelDOT Secretary Nicole Majeski responded. “Is a mileage-based user fee the right method for them or is some other sort of fee associated with that? Because as you mentioned, they’re not contributing to the motor fuel tax but they are still contributing to the wear and tear of our infrastructure.”

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BY KEN MAMMARELLA

As state and federal leaders push to get more **electric vehicles** on the road and lower the consumption of fossil fuels, a reckoning will come about how to pay for roads if nobody is buying gasoline at the pump.

Taxes on the sale of gasoline fund a huge portion of roadwork, including repaving and safety concerns, and the push is on to ban the sale of all new gasoline and diesel-fueled vehicles by 2035.

One way that Delaware is exploring how to recoup that revenue—already under pressure from increasing numbers of high-mileage vehicles—is through user fees that bill drivers for the number of miles a car is driven, based on a device installed in the car.

The focus on how to pay for roads received a push in March when Gov. John Carney’s administration **joined**



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HOUSE, SENATE OFFER DIFFERENT OPTIONS TO REMOVE MCGUINNESS

McGuinness has **refused** calls to step down and is actively seeking **re-election**.

In a statement made through her attorney, McGuinness said those seeking her removal in the General Assembly are rushing to judgment as the judge in her trial has not yet finalized the jury's verdict.

Senate leadership wants to hold a hearing to vote for Carney to remove McGuinness from office.

House leadership says the clearest and most direct path to removing the state auditor is by waiting for the judge to finalize the jury's verdict, after which Carney can single-handedly remove her from office. Carney seems to agree with House leadership.

SENATE'S PREFERRED METHOD: HOLD A HEARING

The Senate's resolution says the General Assembly should meet to decide whether reasonable cause exists for Gov. Carney to remove McGuinness. The General Assembly will have to convene a special session to vote on the resolution. If the resolution passes in both chambers, a joint session of the General Assembly will hold a hearing to ask Carney to remove McGuinness 10 days or more after the resolution's passage.

[CLICK HERE TO READ MORE](#)

BY CHARLIE MEGGINSON

Shortly after Senate Democrats introduced a resolution to hold a hearing on State Auditor Kathleen McGuinness' removal from office, House Democrats sent a letter saying Gov. John Carney could remove McGuinness unilaterally.

McGuinness was found **guilty** in June on charges of official misconduct, structuring and conflict of interest. All three charges are misdemeanors.

The jury of 12 Kent County residents acquitted McGuinness on charges of theft and intimidation, both felonies, after a three-week trial.

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PETTY JOHN, BRIGGS KING SECURE EXCEPTION TO MAGAZINE BAN, SAVE JOBS

BY CHARLIE MEGGINSON

When Georgetown’s state senator and representative learned a bill to ban high-capacity firearm magazines could impact close to 100 jobs in their district, they knew something had to be done.

Senate Substitute 1 for Senate Bill 6, sponsored by Sen. Dave Sokola, D-Newark, banned the possession, sale, purchase, receipt or transfer of magazines that hold more than 17 rounds of ammunition.

That was unwelcome news for **Atlantis Industries Corporation**, a Georgetown injection molding company that manufactures a wide array of plastic products, ranging from pharmaceutical packaging to automotive parts.

Atlantis Industries also manufactures high-capacity magazines, which it sells to law enforcement agencies around the country and for military applications worldwide, according to Rep. Ruth Briggs King, R-Georgetown.

“This is a small business that started out very small in Milton and came over to Georgetown to the industrial

park,” Briggs King said. “It has steadfastly grown in both the type of products that they make and the number of people it employs.”

She said that while high-capacity magazines aren’t Atlantis Industries’ entire business, they have helped the company grow and expand into other product lines.

“They are a vital part of the economy here in Sussex County,” said Sen. Brian Pettyjohn, R-Georgetown. “I didn’t want them to be forced to move their operation or lose one of their customers because of a bill that we passed in the General Assembly.”

Originally, Briggs King tried to amend Senate Bill 6. Her amendment would have carved out an exception for companies that manufacture the outlawed parts but sell them exclusively to governments or out of state.

“Last year, the bill passed unanimously in the House with the amendment,” Briggs King said. “It went back to the Senate and Sen. [Dave] Sokola would not rerun the bill with that amendment on there.”

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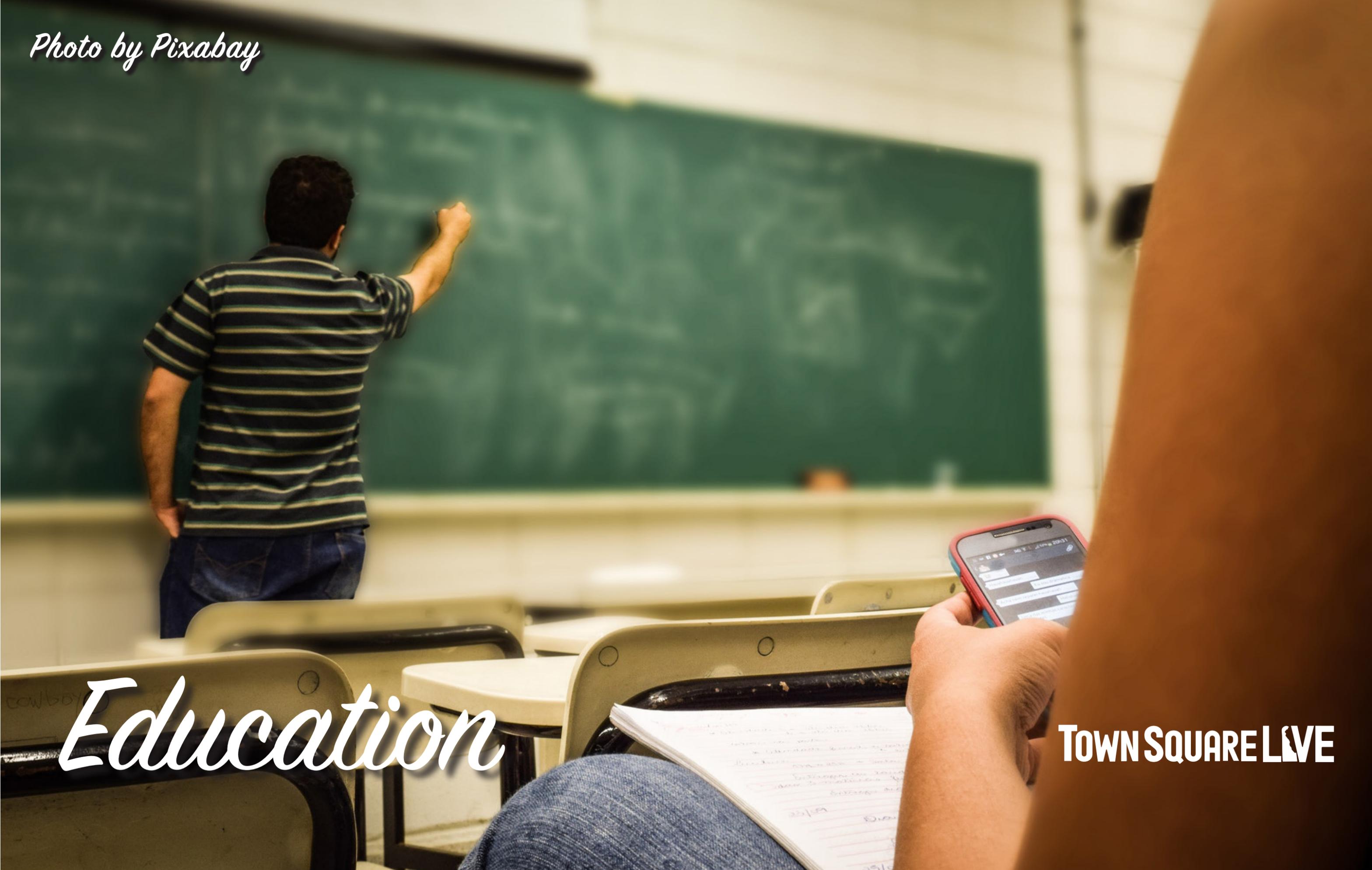
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Education

TOWN SQUARE LIVE

'FIND THE KILLER' IN DELTECH'S SCIENCE CAMPS

BY JAREK RUTZ

Here's one way to keep the attention of a class of teenage campers: designate one of them as a "killer" and the rest as prime suspects and make the class figure out whodunnit.

That was the assignment this week in a Delaware Technical Community College summer science camp, which plays on the popularity of television's many crime shows that focus on forensics.

Instructor Kelly Palaisa set the scene for her class. A 15-year-old student at Delaware Technical Community College pushed someone off the stairway, killing him and leaving a mess of blood, she told them. Their first job, she said, was to examine blood spots and hair left at the scene.

Students ran towards the microscopes to examine the evidence. Campers will use them to identify fingerprints, analyze blood types, test hair follicles, examine

evidence, and, hopefully, identify the "killer" among them.

"They really make learning fun with their creative sessions in the camp," said camper Anjali Chakraberti. "Teaching us like this is a cool alternative to showing us how scientists use this genetic information to detect criminals."

Chakraberti, a 10th-grader, said she wants to work in biology when she's older. She signed up for the science camp to continue on with her learning from the school year and grow her skills for when she returns to the classroom in the fall.

Del Tech's science camp is part of its Fusion Camp, which is a 10-week program that kicked off in 2004. It's a mashup of cooking, science, art and sports sessions. This year's camp runs from June 21 to Aug. 19.

They also offer a "Messy Camp" where participants



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learn about acids, bases and density. For the food lovers, Del Tech has "Messier Camp" where students get a chance to learn things like food polymers through experiments in sessions like "Kitchen Chemistry." An example of this would be the starch in potatoes or corn. DelTech also offers virtual camp sessions that touch on the same subjects.

The science camps usually cost \$199 per week. Free virtual science camps and scholarships to the fusion camp are available through funding from a National Science Foundation EPSCoR Grant and the state.

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BRANDYWINE BOARD DIVIDED ON JOINING LEARNING COLLABORATIVE

collaborative, Christina and Red Clay, will also vote in their August meetings

“Due to increased feedback from the community and the respective districts, the vote has been tabled to August,” said the board member Rev. Shanika Perry.

The Collaborative is a joint project initiated by Gov. John Carney’s office and the Delaware Department of Education aimed at bringing educational equity to city of Wilmington schools. Its focus is on improving student outcomes and empowering city students and educators.

CONCERNS ABOUT THE COLLABORATIVE

Board member Jason Heller said he was concerned about both finances and ongoing obligations that the district would be committed to if it approves the current draft agreement.

“I’m having trouble getting to a point where I believe the funds that are being allocated are going to cover those obligations,” he said. “My other concern is some of the obligations contained in the MOU and I wonder if they are going to be to the detriment of other buildings and students specifically when it comes to staffing obligations in the collaborative’s schools.”

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BY JAREK RUTZ

The Brandywine School District Board is divided on whether or not to join the Wilmington Learning Collaborative. At its meeting Monday night, several members of the board expressed concern about finances and obligations.

The board announced it is continuing to negotiate with the governor’s office, that it will hold a town hall before its Aug. 15 meeting, during which it will vote on whether to participate in the collaborative.

The other two districts that would be involved in the

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WILMINGTON LEARNING COLLABORATIVE: WHO WILL SIGN ON FIRST?

On Tuesday, Red Clay Superintendent Dorrell Green debriefed the board, spending six minutes essentially reading the governor's **executive summary** of the agreement. It included establishing the collaborative's principles, governing structure, financial allocations, community involvement requirements and more. Green said there's more to be done before the collaborative's policies are implemented.

"There's still a lot of logistics that continue to get worked through," he said, "and we will stay engaged to maximize any resource or collaborative effort that's going to benefit our students, staff and families within the city of Wilmington."

He asked the board to approve a motion to officially vote on the memorandum of understanding in their Aug. 17 board meeting, and the motion passed unanimously. Although board members offered minimal reaction to the debriefing, several members of the public showed up to voice their opinion.

TEACHERS RESPOND

Nora Durant, a fourth grade English teacher at **Lewis Elementary**, said the collaborative could help right the wrongs of how teachers are treated and valued in the state.

"I am very thankful for the dedicated efforts of our new building leaders to help us move forward, but it doesn't change the heartbreaking fact that our students are accustomed to teachers leaving and it's demoralizing," she said. Durant said she's not leaving, but wants to know that her district is willing to listen to those who choose to stay and dedicate so much of themselves to helping Red Clay's students achieve academic excellence and personal success.

"I need to know that my district is willing to allocate the resources and encourage the collaboration necessary to bring its words about equity closer to reality, and start improving teacher retention rates at our city schools," she said. "The Wilmington Learning Collaborative seems to offer a way to support this."

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BY JAREK RUTZ

Red Clay Consolidated School District may become the first district to vote on the agreement that would formally set up the **Wilmington Learning Collaborative**. Both Red Clay and Christina district boards had a synopsis of the 16-page draft agreement read to them Tuesday night. Both agreed to consider the issue in their next meeting.

Christina will meet Aug. 9, but may ask to look over the document again and vote at its September meeting, one board member said. The Red Clay board, though, agreed on Tuesday to vote when it meets Aug. 17.

WILMINGTON LEARNING COLLABORATIVE GENESIS

Red Clay, Christina and Brandywine school districts have been negotiating with Gov. John Carney's office and the state Department of Education to create an agency that will oversee the Wilmington schools that are in each district. A relic from the 1970s attempts to desegregate schools, each district has a few city schools among its mostly suburban district.

Carney and others believe that city schools, particularly kindergarten to fifth grade, need their own governance to deal with issues peculiar to the city environment, including poverty, trauma, frequent moves, community stress and frequently changing teachers. The districts voted early in the year to negotiate a way to break off the city schools.

CAMP LENAPE: A FAMILY OF FUN FOR ORTHOPEDICALLY DISABLED

BY JAREK RUTZ

Along Route 12 is a small white cottage with a flag attached to a post on the porch, reading “bloom where you are planted.” Step inside to find campers doing arts and crafts, jamming on instruments, and, most importantly, cannonballing into the pool outside.

Camp Lenape, created in 1972, is a six-week camp running from July to the middle of August that is targeted towards individuals between the ages three and 25 with orthopedic disorders. Over the years, the camp has allowed youngsters who don't have disabilities to sign up, but they are limited to ages five to 13.

However, most of the campers do have some sort of disability, whether that be cerebral palsy, muscular dystrophy, spina bifida, Down syndrome or another disorder.

Camp Lenape is run through the **United Cerebral Palsy of Delaware**, so they mainly focus on bringing disabled children summer fun and exciting opportuni-

ties during which they feel comfortable in a close-knit community, said camp director Sheila Squier.

“I like to see them be successful and grow up to be confident and strong humans,” she said, “hopefully due in part to the environment we've offered them.”

This year, more than 30 people signed up.

Devonte Moses, a 24-year-old who has been going to the camp for over a decade, said that because the age gap is so wide, the older campers serve as mentors and almost parents to the younger campers. Moses, who's in a wheelchair, has transitioned to a working volunteer, where she hopes to help younger campers struggling with their disabilities like others who have helped her.

“Sometimes I go to the store and need something on the top shelf, and people just stare at me and walk by me,” she said. “No child should have to feel shame for the way they are.”

The camp typically has a slew of special events, like

attending fairs or going fishing, but the pandemic hit Camp Lenape hard financially, making some of the added events impossible to fund this year.

The camp's pool, a favorite of the campers, is lined with placards of the camp's sponsors, but that number is now down to around 10.

“During COVID a lot of our sponsors were lost,” said Squier. Volunteers and workers have been fundraising to keep the camp running.

“I couldn't imagine not having this camp,” Moses said. “It has allowed me to feel comfortable in my skin and has helped me be confident enough to flourish in the world, and these young campers facing similar challenges need a support system like Camp Lenape.”

This summer, the theme is “Journey to the Southwest,” and the decor in the camp's three rooms highlight it with “wanted” posters of the campers, cacti cutouts lining the walls, and a display crafted to look like a railway entrance.

PRICES AND EVENTS

The camp costs those attending \$200 a week, and the campers go home at night. It lasts six weeks and campers can sign up for one week or up to six weeks. Camp hours are 8 a.m. to 4 p.m., with aftercare available from 4 p.m. to 6 p.m. for an additional weekly fee of \$50.

Camperships—the camp version of scholarships—are available through the **Delaware Department of Disabilities Services**.

In the camp's remaining four weeks, it will host a group that will show off a Nanticoke tribe interpretive dance.

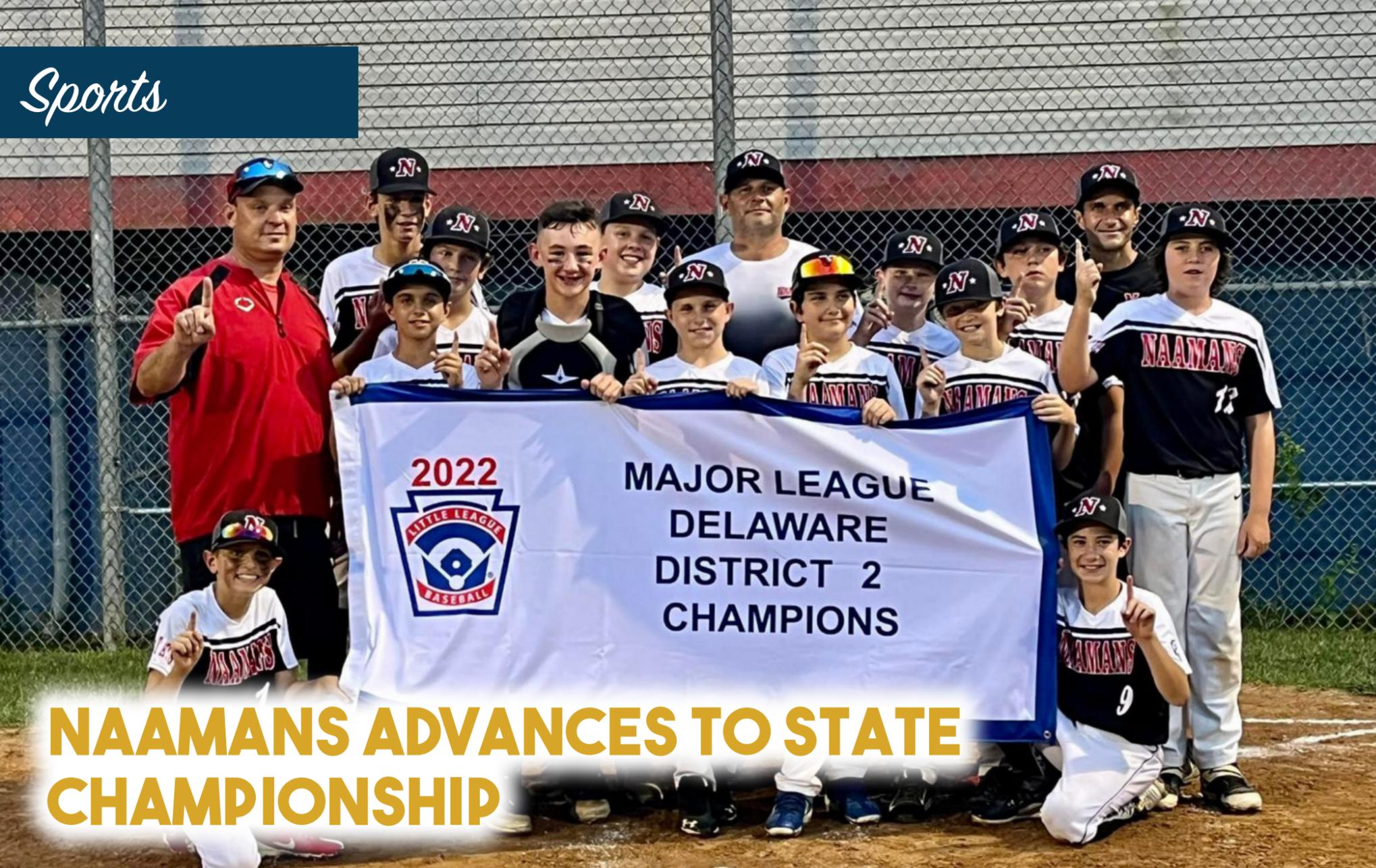
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Photo courtesy Naamans Little League



Sports

TOWN SQUARE LIVE



NAAMANS ADVANCES TO STATE CHAMPIONSHIP

BY NICK HALLIDAY

Naamans advances to Majors Division (12U) state championship for the first time in 14 years. Naamans defeated Mid/Cap All Stars 2-1 at Newark Nationals Clark Field.

The two teams were familiar with each other and played in the opening round with Naamans coming out on top in another 2-1 win. This game was very similar to the first game as both starting pitchers were

dominant. Tom Swasey from Naamans and Cameron Hinckle threw four strong innings as both used good off-speed pitches and great locations to keep both teams' offense off balance.

In the top of the fifth inning, Mid/Cap got the scoring started. With two outs, Hinckle reached base safely on an error. Carter Nelson then drove a 3-2 pitch over the center fielder's head driving in Hinckle as he slid into

third base safely for a triple giving them a 1-0 lead.

In the bottom of the fifth, Naamans would answer the one run from Mid/Cap with two of its own. Pete Hudson reached safely on a fielder's choice. He then stole second base on a pass ball alertly he then stole third base seeing the ball roll up the backstop. After being called safe at third Hudson recognized the Mid/Cap players weren't paying attention and took off for home reaching safely. However it was a controversial call. As Hudson was coming home the Naamans on deck batter was in the batter's box and Hudson had to maneuver around him as did Mid/Cap's catcher's creating some interference. The umpires met and decided Hudson was still safe at home.

Naamans wasn't finished there. Luka Luzader hit a base hit back up the middle. Declan O'Connor then scored Luzader on a deep shot to the fence from first base. Naamans now led the game 2-1.

Swasey had all the run support he needed to close the game out. Swasey would retire Mid/Cap in the top of the sixth with back to back strikeouts giving Naamans its first state championship berth in 14 years.

The Naamans team has been together since they were eight-year-old all stars. Since then they have gone 21-1 and won four district titles. They will take their record into the state tournament which is set to start July 27 at Newark Nationals Clark Field.

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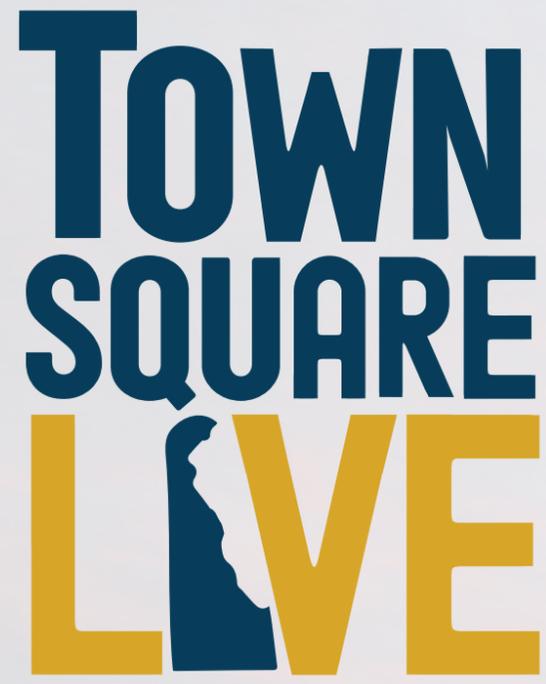


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