

TOWN SQUARE LIVE

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DSU Inaugural Mitchell Awards

Advisory 25: 11:00 AM AST Mon Sep 11, 2023

Dangerous surf and life-threatening rip currents will affect portions of the northern Leeward Islands, the Virgin Islands, Puerto Rico, Hispaniola, the Turks and Caicos Islands, the Bahamas, Bermuda, and most of the U.S. East Coast through much of the week.

Lee could bring strong winds, rainfall, and high surf impacts to Bermuda later this week. Interests there should monitor the latest forecasts.

It remains too soon to know what level of additional impacts Lee might have along the northeast U.S. coast and Atlantic Canada late this week and this weekend, however.



State Monitoring Hurricane Lee



View from the Baseline: Week 1



Community

TOWN SQUARE LIVE

DEL SHAKES DIRECTOR TO LEAVE AT END OF 2023

BY BETSY PRICE

David Stradley, who helped Delaware Shakespeare evolve from a one-trick pony to a multifaceted year-round organization with multiple programs, will leave at the end of 2023. The 21-year-old arts organization will start a search for two new leaders—a managing director and an artistic director—to replace Stradley, who led Delaware’s only professional Shakespeare organization as producing artistic director for 12 years.

“While I stepped away to go on paternity leave earlier this year, I was thrilled to see new artists and staff step up in exciting ways, to further evolve the way Del Shakes shares excellent community-engaged theater,” Stradley said. “After 12 years of leading Delaware Shakespeare, this feels like a very good time to step aside to focus more on my family, while new leadership can drive the next phase of Del Shakes’ evolution.”

Stradley is credited with transforming the organization through programming that expanded access to live theater and created space for diverse new voices, both on stage and behind the scenes. Board President Julie Russ noted that when Stradley came aboard, the organization only had one production a year—the summer festival.

“Thanks to David’s tireless work and dedication, many of those visions have come to pass,” Russ said. “But if we are going to continue to grow, we need to make sure we have the institutional support we need.”

THE STRADLEY IMPACT

During this tenure, the organization said, Stradley:

- Created the Delaware Shakespeare Community Tour, which tours the state bringing professional theater to audiences in prisons, homeless shelters, rural libraries and community centers and has garnered national attention and praise
- Increased the company’s budget nearly sevenfold, with a special focus on increasing artists’ fees
- Built a staff of 25 employees
- Shepherded the creation of an antiracism policy and the development of the Artistic Squad, an innovative program designed to bring diverse voices into creative and management decisions
- Along with Del Shakes’ development team, increased fundraising income by more than 1100%, including large national and regional grants from National Endowment for the Arts, Theatre Communications Group/Doris Duke Charitable Foundation, Longwood Foundation and Mid Atlantic Arts Foundation
- Developed regular year-round programming, driven by collaborative relationships with arts and non-arts organizations alike: Longwood Gardens, The Grand Opera House, Delaware Symphony Orchestra, Delaware Arts Museum, OperaDelaware, Cityfest/City of Wilmington, Christina Cultural Arts Center, First State Ballet Theater, Winterthur; Department of



Corrections, Delaware Psychiatric Center, Delaware Historical Society, Latin American Community Center, Delaware State University, Lewes Public Library and more.

During the pandemic, Stradley created multiple ways to connect artists with audiences and keep the organization top of mind for arts lovers. He started with the daily Delaware Shakespeare Sonnet Project and added free performances in Rodney Square, outdoor and safely staged versions of popular seasonal shows at the Delaware Art Museum and county parks, poetry events at Rockwood Park and the Christina Cultural Arts Center, and more.

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DELAWARE MILITARY ACADEMY REMEMBERS 9/11 WITH CEREMONY

BY JAREK RUTZ

It was impossible not to feel chills or tear up at the Delaware Military Academy's Patriot Day ceremony of remembrance for 9/11. During Monday's event, students took turns role-playing as the aircraft announcers on Sept. 11, 2001, making announcements for takeoffs, weather, destination and arrival times.

"Welcome aboard United Airlines Flight 175," one student said. "It is 8:14 a.m. and we are prepared to depart Boston's Logan Airport, arriving in Los Angeles." Flight 175 was hijacked by five al-Qaeda terrorists and crashed into the South Tower, just 17 minutes after American Airlines Flight 11 crashed into the North Tower.

"Ladies and gentlemen, the local time here at Dulles International Airport in Washington, D.C. is 8:20 a.m.," another student said. "I want to welcome you aboard American Airlines Flight 77. Fueling is complete and we're prepared for takeoff." Flight 77 was hijacked by five al-Qaeda terrorists and crashed into the Pentagon.

Eventually, the students transformed into news reporters to share the news of the hijacked planes crashing



into the Twin Towers in New York City and the Pentagon. Finally, the students focused on Flight 93, which was set to crash into the Capitol Building in Washington, DC, until citizens fought the hijackers and the plane crashed in Shanksville, PA, 20 minutes by air away from the Capital.

With each announcement of a crash, a bell rang, shattering the silence of the Delaware Military Academy's sports dome.

All 40 passengers and staff on Flight 93, as well as the four hijackers, were killed. The four separate attacks killed 2,977 people. Being reminded of the events of 9/11 left many in the audience with tears, especially those who were old enough to vividly remember the day.

"Although our cadets do not remember that day, for most of us, we can clearly recall where we were that morning when our world was shaken and the lives of thousands were taken from us in a senseless act of terror," said Sharon Kurfuerst, the school's commandant.

Throughout the ceremony, there was a juxtaposition of the evil and good prominent that day.

"Sept. 11, 2001, was a day when the worst of humanity was on display," Kurfuerst said, "but more importantly, it was a day when the best of humanity shone through. First responders rushed into danger without hesitation, ordinary people became heroes and communities came together in a spirit of unity and compassion."

Patriot Day, she said, is a time to honor the legacy of those who perished by continuing to strive for a world where acts of hatred and violence are replaced with acts of love, understanding, inclusivity, tolerance and peace. It's important to pay tribute to the men and women who have served and continue to serve in America's armed forces, she said, protecting the nation and its values.

Along with the re-enactment of the events on 9/11, Monday's ceremony included a rendition of Taps, the Presentation of Colors, and a choir of students singing "God Bless America" and the national anthem.

At the end of the service, the hundreds of students in attendance raised their right hands to pledge they would never forget the events of 9/11 and the heroism of Americans and first responders.

"The memory of Sept. 11, 2001, is not just a day of mourning," Kurfuerst said, "but more significantly, it's a day of inspiration, of hope, of light, reminding us of the enduring spirit and resilience of America and of Americans."





WINTERTHUR'S ANN LOWE EXHIBIT: HISTORY, FASHION ON PARADE

BY BETSY PRICE

A dazzlingly elegant new exhibition at [Winterthur Museum](#) celebrates the work of the largely unheralded Black designer who created Jacqueline Kennedy’s wedding dress, among other society haute couture pieces. “[Ann Lowe: American Couturier](#)” features 40 of Lowe’s dresses, opening with a glittering white fairy tale ball gown the owner liked so much she rewore it as her wedding dress. Many of the dresses in the show have never been on display before.

The centerpiece of the exhibit is a recreation of Lowe’s 1953 silk taffetta dress for the marriage of Jacqueline Bouvier to John Kennedy, meticulously remade by University of Delaware professor Katya Roelse and three of her students. The original is in the John F. Kennedy Presidential Library and Museum in Boston, MA. It is too fragile to display or move. When the Winterthur exhibit ends, the copy will be sent to the library for future

visitors to see.

The simple but highly effective arrangement of gowns in the exhibit will leave onlookers with a deep appreciation of Lowe’s creativity, but not a strong understanding of the Alabama native, her life or what it must have been like to have been the first Black designer competing in a world that was not. Elizabeth Wray, associate curator at The Museum at the Fashion Institute of Technology in New York City and guest curator of the Winterthur exhibit, fills in some of those gaps in a new book based on the exhibit. It will be the first scholarly look at Lowe’s career, Winterthur said.

Wray said she hoped those attending the exhibit will come away understanding that Lowe was a significant and impactful American designer.

“And when we tell the story of American design,” Wray said, “she needs to be in that story.”

WHO WAS ANN LOWE?

Lowe was born in rural Clayton, AL, the great-granddaughter of an enslaved woman. She learned to sew from her mother and grandmother, who ran a dress-making business, and dropped out of school at 14. When her mother died, she took over the business.

In 1917, she moved to New York City, where here she enrolled at S.T. Taylor Design School, according to a *Daytona Beach Morning Journal* story. The school was segregated and Lowe was made to to attend classes in a room alone. She still excelled, completing the course in six months.

Lowe’s own career began to take off after she was spotted in a department store in Dothan, AL, by a Florida woman, Wray said. Josephine Lee, who had grown up in Alabama but lived in Florida, thought the outfit Lowe was wearing was so chic that Lee asked Lowe where she had gotten it, Wray said. When Lee found out that Lowe had designed and made it, Lee convinced Lowe to move to Florida to make clothes there, Wray said.

Lowe’s career would take her to New York, where she worked at first uncredited for major department stores. One example: She designed the dress that actress Olivia de Havilland wore to accept the Academy Award for Best Actress in 1946, but the name on the dress was Sonia Rosenberg, according to the book “Women Designers in the USA, 1900–2000: Diversity and Difference.”

Lowe eventually opened her own business, catering to generations of famous families, with name such as du Pont, Auchincloss, Rockefeller, Roosevelt, Lodge, Post, Bouvier and Whitney.

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DSU ANNOUNCES INAUGURAL MITCHELL AWARDS FOR SOCIAL JUSTICE

BY JAREK RUTZ

A teacher, two nonprofit executives, the Twin Poets, two LGBTQ+ advocates and a former state legislator have been named the first recipients of Delaware State University’s Mitchell Awards. The awards honor individuals who demonstrate leadership and success in diversity, equity, inclusion and social justice. They are named after Civil Rights pioneers [Littleton and Jane Mitchell](#).

Littleton was a Tuskegee Airman and president of the Delaware chapter of the NAACP for 30 years. Jane, also a member of the Delaware chapter of the NAACP, was one of Delaware’s first African American nurses and a member of the Delaware Women’s Hall of Fame.

The eight recipients of the award were chosen for their efforts to educate, inspire and impact communities across the state in an effort to improve opportunities

for all, regardless of their race, abilities or background. The awardees will be recognized at a ceremony in Newark Thursday, Nov. 9 at 11:30 a.m. Tickets are \$60. To attend the event, register [HERE](#). The winners are:

Reba Hollingsworth

Growing up in a segregated Delaware, Reba Hollingsworth spent a lifetime in public education and became a leader for the Delaware Heritage Commission, the state NAACP and the African American Historical Society. Hollingsworth was inducted into the Delaware Women’s Hall of Fame in 2018.

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The advertisement features the Candlelight Theatre logo at the top left, which consists of a colorful starburst graphic and the text "the Candlelight theatre". Below the logo is a marquee-style sign with a red border and yellow lights. The sign displays the title "INTO THE WOODS" in large, stylized letters against a green background. A red banner at the bottom of the marquee indicates the dates "Sept 16 - Oct 29". At the bottom of the advertisement, there are three small inset images showing a dining table with food and drinks, a plate of food, and a bottle of Rye whiskey with a glass. The phone number "302-475-2313" and the website "www.candlelighttheatredelaware.org" are listed at the bottom.



ROSSETTI EXHIBIT MOVES FROM LONDON TO DELAWARE NEXT MONTH

BY BETSY PRICE

Here comes “The Rossettis.” It’s not a new comedy on NBC or a prestige drama on HBO. It’s a major exhibit from London that moves next month to the Delaware Art Museum, the only one in the country allowed to host the show.

“The Rossettis” examines the work and impact of pre-Raphaelite painter Dante Gabriel Rossetti and his family. Rossetti was among painters who rebelled against art standards in the late 1800s, preferring the style of late medieval and early Renaissance works to the carefully composed pieces influenced by the painter Raphael.


Pre-Raph works are one of the Delaware Art Museum’s core collections, thanks to textile manufacturer Samuel Bancroft Jr. and his wife, Mary, who created the largest collection of Pre-Raphaelite art outside of the United Kingdom.

When Tate Britain—which has the largest collection of pre-Raphaelite paintings in Britain—decided to focus on the Rossettis, it asked to borrow some of the Delaware paintings. One of the curators said at the time that they were told by Tate curators that they couldn’t be mounted without the Delaware works. Part of the deal is that the show will be loaned to Delaware when it closes in London Sept. 24.


‘THE ROSSETTIS’ IN DELAWARE

When “The Rossettis” opens in Delaware for its Oct. 21-Jan. 28 run, it will feature 150 objects, many of which were not on display in London. The London exhibit focuses on Rossetti, a founder of the Pre-Raphaelite Brotherhood, his wife, Elizabeth Siddal, and siblings Christina, Maria and William Michael Rossetti.


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photo link: Longwood Gardens



Business

TOWN SQUARE LIVE




BY JAREK RUTZ

Destinee Thomas, a third-year PhD candidate at [Delaware State University](#), said a recent scholarship partnership between the college and Agilent has given her a chance to live out her dreams. In September 2022, DSU celebrated its collaboration with [Agilent](#), a global company headquartered in California, that provides instruments, software, services and more for laboratories.

Agilent provided a \$1 million grant that helps pay for tuition and board for 21 STEM students in an effort to have more minority students enter the field. DSU is a Historically Black College or University, which made it a perfect match for Agilent to carry out its mission to bring STEM opportunities to underrepresented communities.

Wednesday, Agilent hosted an all-day conference in which the scholars were able to visit the company's Wilmington location, check out labs and equipment, get career and academic advice from a panel of Agilent employees and more. Scholars were also paired with a mentor Agilent employee. The mentorship will involve a meeting once

DSU, AGILENT SALUTE PARTNERSHIP TO DIVERSIFY STEM INDUSTRY

a week for an hour or two, and allows the students to really ask any questions relating to STEM or seek career or academic advice.

"I didn't want to put too many constraints on it," said Gregory MacKenney, vice president and general manager of the company's supplies division. "It's really about building relationships and having connections to someone that's in a corporate setting to get some additional insight and perspective of the industry."

Thomas, a native New Yorker who wants to be an analytical chemist, said the scholarship helped her be able to breathe and focus on her research rather than stressing about paying for rent or tuition. "We're students, but you know, we still have to survive, so the money helps a lot," she said.

Agilent also provided lab equipment to DSU. "With the new technologies that they offer at our university, we can add those skills to our résumé so that when we get into the industry, we're able to get these jobs and then just change the room and the atmosphere," Thomas said.

MacKenney pointed out that diversifying the industry can also help the bottom line. "It opens up a whole new realm of possibilities in terms of new ideas, new ways of thinking, new perspectives," he said. "The companies that are more diverse are the ones that tend to outperform, and so there's a business necessity as well."

He said applied learning opportunities are a priority of the partnership. "Whether that's through internships, us providing training or the instrumentation that we're donating," he said. "Even at today's event, there's that coupling of 'here's what I've learned in the classroom, here's what I've learned in the labs at school.' Now, how does that show up and manifest in a corporate setting or in the real world?"

He stressed the importance of using world-class instrumentation, and how that can be used not only to inspire the next generation of STEM professionals, but also allow them to do work they might not have been able to do with rudimentary instruments, which will make them more marketable.

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BUSINESS GROUPS OPPOSE LAW MAKING THEM PAY FOR SHIFT CHANGES

BY JAREK RUTZ

A proposed Wilmington ordinance that would require employers with 250 or more workers to give a two-week notice and compensation for schedule changes will hurt businesses, employees and city employment, business leaders say. That's one of the criticisms of Councilwoman Shané Darby's **Ordinance 034**, which would apply to retail, hospitality and food service businesses. The proposed law was read to the Wilmington City Council Sept. 7, but no discussion or vote took place.

In addition to paying workers for schedule changes, the ordinance would give workers with the right to rest between shifts and first right of refusal for additional work shifts.

It's the second year Darby has introduced the ordinance, dubbed the "right to a fair workweek ordinance."

A letter circulated by the Delaware Restaurant Association expressing opposition is signed by many other groups, including the Delaware Hotel & Lodging Association, the New Castle County Chamber of Commerce, the Delaware State Chamber of Commerce, the Delaware Food Industry Council & DE Association of Chain Drug Stores, the MD-DE-DC Beverage Association & Mid-Atlantic Petroleum Distributors Association, the National Federation of Independent Business, and the Service Station & Automotive Repair Association.

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The Clock Is Ticking...

The EDGE Grant deadline of Sept. 29 is fast approaching. Can you CLEARLY explain why you are more deserving than other applicants to judges who may not be familiar with your industry or market?

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Food & Dining

TOWN SQUARE LIVE

RESTAURANT HIGHLIGHTS: GROTTO'S GAME FARE, SPIRITED DINNERS

BY PAM GEORGE

It's football season and that means **Grotto Pizza** has kicked off its "Game Day" menu, available at all the Rehoboth Beach-based chain's sports bars. Selections include loaded nachos (add chili or chicken for an extra charge), Buffalo chicken dip with tortilla chips, a jumbo soft pretzel with honey mustard and an all-beef hotdog. (Chili and cheese are available.)

During games, the bar area will also feature specials. For instance, wings are \$1 each on Mondays and Thursdays, starting at 7 p.m. (Guests must order at least four wings.) Beer specials include \$4.50 Miller Lite big beers daily and \$4.50 Coors Light Big Beers on Saturdays and Sundays. Blue Moon pints are \$3.50 on Mondays and Yuengling pints are \$3.50 on Thursdays. Thursdays through Mondays, Vizzy Seltzers are \$5.

Before you nosh, submit a Pigskin Pick' Em form. No purchase is necessary, but you must be 21 to play. Participating Grotto Pizza restaurants will award a \$500 Visa gift card to the person scoring the most cumula-

tive points at that location during the 18-week pro football season. In addition, visitors to the sports bars during the 2023 season can enter to win an all-inclusive five-day trip for two to Jamaica.

DON'T MISS CULINARY EVENTS

Delaware Saengerbund's Oktoberfest: The annual tradition starts Friday, Sept. 15, at 5 p.m. and runs through Sunday, Sept. 17. (The parade is Friday at 7 p.m.) German specialties include grilled bratwurst (pork sausage), weisswurst (veal sausage), barbecued chicken, potato pancakes, pretzels and "rollmops," marinated herring served with rye bread. Sides include house-made potato salad and sauerkraut. Tickets are \$10, which includes the amusement rides.

"Lord of the Rings" at Sonora: You can't say that Melissa Ferraro isn't creative. On Thursday, Sept. 21, she's serving dishes inspired by "Lord of the Rings" at her restaurant, Sonora Restaurant & Bar, in Newark. All eight of the Hobbit-worthy courses will be paired with a

cocktail. For example, Eowyn's fish soup will be paired with the Hobbit & Harfoot cocktail (bourbon, blackberry and basil.) Tickets are \$99 each. Call 302-525-6010 for reservations.

Southern Delaware Wine, Food & Music Festival: Sonora's Ferraro will compete in the Chef Throwdown at the Southern Delaware Wine, Food & Music Festival on Saturday, Sept. 16, at **Nassau Valley Vineyard**. There were still a few tickets remaining.

Bourbon Cocktail Dinner: On Sept. 27, the **Hilton Wilmington/Christiana** in Newark will host a five-course bourbon cocktail dinner at 6:30 p.m. The courses aren't shy. Consider smoked coffee-rubbed brisket with applewood bacon-and bourbon barbecue sauce and grilled sweet-and-smoky tenderloin with dried fruit-pancetta quinoa and mint chimichurri. The paired cocktails will feature spirits from the Jim Beam portfolio, including a Basil Hayden Dark Rye Manhattan.

Tickets are \$110 per person. Call 302-631-1542.

'Bean to Bar' educator: On Sept. 28 at 5 p.m., **Scout Café** near Wilmington's Triangle area will welcome Estelle Tracy, a chocolate educator espousing the "bean-to-bar" movement. Tickets for chocolate lovers—or the choco-curious—are \$30 each.

THE POND DRIES UP

Coastal locals were shocked when The Pond Bar & Grill in Rehoboth Beach announced that it was closing Sept. 9. The restaurant/music venue started in 1982 as The Frogg Pond Tavern in downtown Rehoboth Beach.

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BY PAM GEORGE

LaTisha Dismuke is a fan of the Food Network show “Chopped”. On each episode, contestants prepare an appetizer, entree and dessert using the show’s ingredients—no matter how odd.

“Adaptability is a big deal,” noted Dismuke, owner of **A Taste of Jazz**, a Millsboro catering company that combines her culinary talent with her musical abilities. (She will play the saxophone on request.)

On Saturday, Sept. 16, the chef will leverage her love of the show at the annual Chef Throwdown Competition at the **Southern Wine, Food & Music Festival**. Like “Chopped,” the contestants must use the provided ingredients to create a dish.

This year, the festival will take place at the scenic **Nassau Valley Vineyard** outside Lewes. From noon to 3 p.m., guests will sample wine, spirits and small plates

'CHOPPED'-STYLE CONTEST HIGHLIGHTS SODEL FEST

from beach-area restaurants. However, one of the festival highlights is the battle between chefs, which this year pits Dismuke from the “South” against chef/ restaurateur Melissa Ferraro from the “North.”

HOW SODEL FEST WORKS

It’s the eighth year for the festival, which debuted at Independence, a Millsboro 55-plus community, in 2015. While SoDel Fest attendees pause to watch the battle, participating restaurants and wine and beer purveyors keep plates and glasses full.

Guests can sample food from Dismuke’s **A Taste of Jazz**, **Shorebreak Lodge**, the new **Lydia’s Grab & Go Bistro**, **Sydney’s Restaurant & Lounge**, **Seed Eatery**, **Drift**, **The Federal**, **Nectar**, **Big Fish Grill**, **J.R.’s Seafood Shack**, **Taste Events**, **Paul Cullen** and Common Ground Hospitality.

As for music, the featured performers will be Kerry Hallett and Callum Toner, who is just 16.

Tickets are \$150 each.

For the throwdown, chefs from Lewes have faced off against friendly competitors from Rehoboth. Male chefs have battled female chefs, and culinary wizards from the coast have challenged inland chefs.

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IRON HILL'S NEW MENU: REGIONAL FAVORITES AND LOTS OF SHRIMP

fame. Is Iron Hill a chain? Yes. But like **Capriotti's**, it is a chain born in Delaware, so it's colored with Blue Hen pride.

Over the years, Iron Hill's menu has expanded, contracted and expanded again as the restaurant group experienced rapid growth. Recently, Iron Hill's menu received the largest revamping in its history, and given there are locations in Pennsylvania, New Jersey, Georgia and South Carolina, the overhaul was no easy feat.

"We included many representatives and cross-functional teams in our process to ensure that we cover all locations," explained Chris Wescott, CEO and a trained chef. "One of the thoughts behind the menu revamp was expanding the flavors and cuisines—being able to offer something for everyone."

A recent tasting demonstrated that the new menu met his goals.

ALL ABOUT IRON HILL BEER

Let's face it. Iron Hill wins awards for its beers; the taps are the primary draw. Items that pair well with beer or include it as an ingredient now have tiny beer glasses next to them on the menu.

[CLICK TO READ MORE](#)

BY PAM GEORGE

In the early 1990s, brewpubs were an anomaly in Delaware—hard as that is to believe. Then **Stewart's Brewing Co.** in Bear, **Dogfish Head Brewery & Eats** in Rehoboth Beach and Brandywine Brewing Co. in Greenville quickly opened. (The latter has since closed.)

Iron Hill Brewery & Restaurant was the tortoise in the local race, owing to the lack of available space. The three founders gave up on finding a historic building and chose new construction on Newark's Main Street.

If volume is a measure of success, the brewpub is now top of the heap. Since 1996, Iron Hill has grown to 21 sites, including three in Delaware (the maximum the state allows) and helped launch the careers of Doug Ruley, now vice president of culinary operations at **SoDel Concepts**, and Mike Stiglitz of **Two Stones Pub**



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Government

TOWN SQUARE LIVE

STATE MONITORING HURRICANE LEE PATH, EFFECT ON COASTAL WATERS

BY BETSY PRICE

The Delaware Emergency Management Agency is tracking the path of Hurricane Lee through the Atlantic, but as of now sees no signs of it making land in Delaware. "At this time, odds of tropical storm conditions anywhere in our region are only 5%, but as the storm is still several days away, all interests should closely monitor the progress of the storm," said John Petersen, DEMA's public information officer.

The storm will create dangerous surf and life-threatening rip currents in the region and waves as high as 10 feet by the end of the week, he said. If the hurricane shifts further west as it nears, it could still cause gusty winds and rain over Delaware, he said. As of now, he said, "Dangerous surf and life-threatening rip currents are the most likely hazard to affect our region. These will likely become significant Tuesday and only become more severe through the remainder of the week as the storm moves northward in the western Atlantic. They should start to subside by Sunday."

Ocean waters will become increasingly hazardous for small craft starting Wednesday as seas build, Petersen said, with waves possibly exceeding 10 feet by Thursday or Friday. DEMA is monitoring the situation and providing updates to Gov. John Carney's office, in case he needs to activate any additional resources, such as the Delaware National Guard, a spokeswoman said.


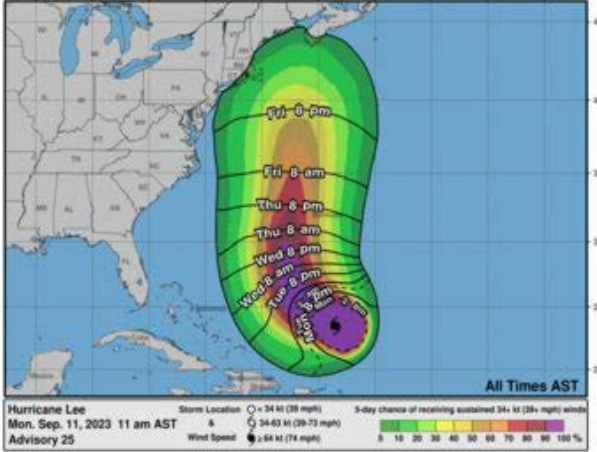
Petersen said that those interested in the storm's track should go to www.nhc.noaa.gov; for the latest rainfall amount forecast, go to <https://www.wpc.ncep.noaa.gov/F#page=qpf>; for the latest local forecast go to www.weather.gov/phi. The next hurricane briefing will be issued by 4 p.m. Tuesday.

DEMA routinely sends out information about being ready for hurricane and storm season. Here's what they have to say.

MAKE A PLAN:

Know your hurricane and flood risk and take steps to prepare. Are you in an evac-

Key Messages for Hurricane Lee
 Advisory 25: 11:00 AM AST Mon Sep 11, 2023

1. Dangerous surf and life-threatening rip currents will affect portions of the northern Leeward Islands, the Virgin Islands, Puerto Rico, Hispaniola, the Turks and Caicos Islands, the Bahamas, Bermuda, and most of the U.S East Coast through much of the week.
2. Lee could bring strong winds, rainfall, and high surf impacts to Bermuda later this week. Interests there should monitor the latest forecasts.
3. It remains too soon to know what level of additional impacts Lee might have along the Northeast U.S. coast and Atlantic Canada late this week and this weekend, however, wind and rainfall hazards will likely extend well away from the center as Lee grows in size. Users should continue to monitor updates to the forecast of Lee during the next several days.

For more information go to hurricanes.gov

uation zone? Find out at preparede.org/know-your-zone. Are you in a flood zone? Use the flood planning tool at de.gov/floodrisk.

Just because you don't live near the coast doesn't mean you're not at risk. Remnants of tropical systems can bring tornadoes, extreme rainfall and life-threatening flooding to areas hundreds of miles inland from the coast. The last bits of Ida flooded huge parts of the Brandywine and downtown Wilmington.

Know what you'll do if a hurricane is forecast to impact your area, how to contact your family, and any community emergency plans. Check the tips at preparede.org/make-a-plan.

Declutter drains and gutters to allow water to flow.

Check out the trees on your property and consider trimming trees and dead limbs.

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NEW FIVE-YEAR DISASTER PLAN ALLOWS DELAWARE TO GET FEDERAL \$\$\$



BY JAREK RUTZ

The First State has adopted a new five-year plan to protect residents from hazards and improve responses to disasters. Delaware's 2023-2028 Hazard Mitigation Plan outlines risks and vulnerabilities faced by the state's citizens, but also offers ideas and recommendations for protecting and improving resilience in the state. The plan is updated every five years.

By developing and adopting the plan, Delaware communities are now eligible to receive certain types of Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) assistance. Those financial supports include **Hazard Mitigation Assistance** grants, **Public Assistance** funds and **High Hazard Potential Dam** funding.

Delaware's plan was developed by the State Hazard Mitigation Council, which includes staff from state agencies, the University of Delaware and community members. Outlined in the plan are 12 natural hazards

that could impact the state of Delaware within the next five years, which are: coastal erosion; coastal flooding; dam/levee failure flooding; drought; earthquakes; extreme temperatures; inland flooding; local earth movement; severe thunderstorms and tornadoes; severe winter weather; tropical cyclones, including hurricanes; wildfire and smoldering fires.

These events were identified through an evaluation of historical weather events and data from several sources that look at existing conditions and projections for future climate conditions and growth in the state.

The plan takes into consideration underserved and vulnerable populations in Delaware and discusses how climate change will exacerbate social vulnerabilities. It also assesses risks to the state's economy, the natural environment, the built environment, and the people who live, work and visit the state. Included in the con-

siderations were risk to hospitals, water treatment facilities, bridges, schools, power stations and other critical facilities that keep Delaware going, as well as cultural and historic resources.

Solutions are proposed to lessen the impact from a natural hazard or disaster through a mitigation strategy section, identifying projects and funding opportunities for cities, counties and the state. Some high-priority mitigation strategies are to:

- Protect and secure critical infrastructure and community lifelines to mitigate impacts from natural and manmade threats.
- Create and promote a statewide climate resiliency educational campaign.
- Assist local governments in developing strategies to protect wastewater treatment facilities from flooding.

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photo credit: William Penn High School

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Education

TOWN SQUARE LIVE



BY JAREK RUTZ

About 500 freshmen and sophomores at the Salesianum School filled every nook and cranny of the parking lot Wednesday in the school's yearly club fair. The all-boys school in Wilmington requires all ninth and tenth graders to participate in the fair, and most pick at least one to participate in during the school year.

"The clubs get you to meet new people," said sophomore Jared Hitchens. "You're able to just really hang out with people who share your interests, which helps a lot because high school is a scary place to come to as a new student." Hitchens, who joined the dodgeball and esports clubs Wednesday, said activities away from the classroom have helped him make friends and is part of the fabric of Salesianum's brotherhood.

There's 65 clubs to choose from, for all kinds of interests. The selection includes clubs for fishing, gaming, guitar, comic books, Pixar movies, culinary arts, scuba diving, mountain climbing, Minecraft, robotics and more. There are also classic academic clubs such as Model U.N., Science Olympiad and Mock Trial.

SALESIANUM STRESSES VALUE OF ACTIVITIES WITH ANNUAL CLUB FAIR

"There's also a lot of what I call your affinity groups," said Fr. Brian Zumbrum, "like the Black Student Union, Asian Student Union or Hermanos Unidos." Several students signed up for the Alliance Club, which is focused on LGBTQ+ issues and support.

"They are not just students or athletes. They are becoming well-rounded people," Zumbrum said, "and part of that is discovering your passions and interests, and discovering how to share those interests with others, how to build a community within a community around something you're passionate about."

Student club and organization fairs are a common feature at the start of the year in many private high schools and colleges, dating back to British and European schools, and including places like Harvard University. Salesianum's clubs are a vital part of student development, Zumbrum said. He pointed out that an hour of every school day is dedicated as flex time, for both lunch and for clubs to meet.

"It's a great way to make friends, since you're naturally going to be talking a lot with your fellow clubmates," said freshman Jack Longo, who signed up for the aquarium and dodgeball clubs. "It brings a lot of joy."

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SUSSEX CENTRAL
HIGH SCHOOL

SUSSEX CENTRAL STUDENT FILES LAWSUIT

BY JAREK RUTZ

A former Sussex Central High School student is suing its principal and assistant principal, saying they invaded her privacy and caused emotional distress by repeatedly showing a video of her bare breast, exposed during a fight and creating a meme of it.

Aniya Harmon, 18, graduated from the school in May. She is suing the school, Indian River School District, Principal Bradley Layfield and Assistant Principal Matthew Jones for invasion of privacy, conspiracy to invade privacy, intentional and negligent infliction of emotional distress and the idea that Layfield and Jones were officials who should have known better. Harmon's suit does not specify a damages amount. It asks for whatever compensation the jury/court will award plus costs and interest, attorney's fees and punitive damages, which are awarded to punish wrongdoers.

Harmon was a senior at Sussex Central High School in Georgetown at the time of a May 17 incident in which she was allegedly approached and attacked by another student. A faculty member at the high school attempted

to pull Harmon away from the scene when Harmon's shirt was pulled down, revealing her full right breast.

The incident was captured by a surveillance camera and, according to the complaint, Layfield subsequently shared the video—without editing or blurring Harmon's breast—with other faculty members at the school. The complaint also contends that Sussex Central High School Assistant Principal Matthew Jones worked with Layfield to create a meme using a still shot of Harmon and her exposed breast. According to the complaint, Jones superimposed the face of Janet Jackson over Harmon's face. Jones then allegedly shared this meme with other faculty members. The image is in reference to Janet Jackson's wardrobe malfunction that left her breast exposed during the 2004 National Football League Super Bowl halftime show.

Harmon is represented by Ryan Julison from [The Igwe Law Firm](#) in Philadelphia, and the lawsuit is filed in the Superior Court of New Castle County.

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8TH GRADER RAISES \$9K FOR MENTAL HEALTH ROOM

BY JAREK RUTZ

An eighth-grader from Holy Angels School donated more than \$9,000 to Saint Mark's High School to support a lounge dedicated to mental health support. Over the course of eight months, Joshua Sheppard raised the money to donate to Sean's Room, an extension of **Sean's House**, a mental health center in Newark that serves 14- to 22-year-olds. The room was opened at Saint Mark's in March.

Both are named for Sean Locke, a former student at Saint Mark's, whose 2018 suicide led to a movement to help other youth cope, with his father, Chris Locke, starting the organization. His father said it being 9/11 fits into one of the foundation's goals of bringing the best out of people. "On this date, 22 years ago, we really saw the worst of humanity," he said, "but we also saw the best of humanity."

The signed check was for \$9,111.13. Sean's father, tearing up, also shared something that he said came down from above. The last four digits of the donation are "11.13." and he said 1,113 people have visited Sean's Room.

The space is a former classroom converted into a lounge where students can relax, ask questions and learn about mental health. It is open two days a week for a few hours, and is staffed by **University of Delaware** specialists.

According to the SL24:UnLocke the Light Foundation,

which runs Sean's House and Sean's Room, more than 35 million people in America suffer from depression. Sean's House has helped more than 18,000 Delawareans get the mental health treatment and support they need.

Sheppard raised the money through auctions for gift baskets and Phillies tickets, counting contests and a GoFundMe. "I hope this money helps capture SL:24's goal to remove the stigma of depression and to make resources available to all Saint Mark students," he said.

He said raising the money felt important to him and he feels fulfilled knowing that it will help struggling people, especially those that are young and bottling up their emotions.

"Through this process, I learned that there's bad things that can happen in the world sometimes," he said, "but there's good people and things we can do to help those struggling."

Students have used the room as a decompressor, even if they aren't taking advantage of the therapy sessions offered by the UD workers, said Meghan Kirker, a senior at Saint Mark's who is president of the Peace of Mind Club, which also focuses on mental health support.

"People will always come in here just to hang out and get a breath of fresh air," she said. "It's just totally different from a normal classroom, and if you're in study hall, they tell us we have to be quiet, so students come here and just feel like they can breathe."



Kirker hasn't taken advantage of the services, but said she frequents Sean's Room just to relax and take a step back from a stressful day.

Sheppard's donation will help support operations of the SL:24 Foundation, which could include food and drinks for the students, expanding programming, adding furniture and more. Saint Mark's President Tom Fertal said his end goal is to have Sean's Room open for students "all day, everyday," rather than limiting it to two days a week.

"SL:24 has been part of our fabric since its inception, so this is just another extension," he said. "As the school leader, I'm very comfortable today that we're in a good place. Talk about breaking down the stigma of mental health, we've broken that down."

WILMINGTON ANNOUNCES HBCU WEEK SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

BY JAREK RUTZ

Wilmington’s seventh annual **HBCU Week** and college fair kicks off Sunday, Sept. 17. It hopes to add to the 6,500 admissions and \$60 million in scholarships that have been granted to city students since its inception in 2017.

City mayor Mike Purzycki and ESPN’s Stephen A. Smith—Wilmington’s HBCU ambassador—this week detailed the schedule of events celebrating the nation’s 107 Historically Black Colleges and Universities.

The event runs from Sunday through the next Sunday and will include a prayer brunch, 5K, middle school college tour, R&B concert, panel discussion, conversations on social justice, a college fair, comedy show, block party, battle of the bands and more. This year, 25 HBCUs and 10 corporations will participate, allowing students to meet and talk to college recruiters and corporate partners one-on-one to discuss admission, scholarships and internships.

“HBCU Week has been extremely successful because of an outpouring of support from local students who crave more educational opportunities,” Purzycki said. “I can’t wait for our young people to learn about all of the possibilities and opportunities that HBCUs have to offer them.”

The 2023 HBCU Week will once again include the presentation of a \$10,000 Mike Purzycki Changemaker Scholarship to a student who lives in Wilmington and has committed to an HBCU. To apply to the scholarship, click [HERE](#).

HBCU Week was created to expose local high school students to the history, pride and academic offerings of those colleges and universities, and to encourage young people to attain a new level of educational achievement.

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Sports

TOWN SQUARE LIVE

ON THE PITCH: WEEK 1 RANKINGS



BY JASON WINCHELL

The high school boys' soccer season kicked off last Wednesday and, boy, did we have some heavyweight battles and some close matches. That means changes in both division's Top 10s this week. Our rankings includes at look at what teams did last week and who they are playing this week. Bonus for soccer lovers: Saturday night the topped ranked teams in each division meet in Wilmington under the lights.

DIVISION 1

No. 1 Sallies (1-0) The Sals fell behind early but found their offense just before the weather stopped their 2-1 win over Walter Johnson (MD). The Sals hosted LaSalle College Prep (PA) Wednesday before the heavyweight

tilt with Caravel Saturday night.

No. 2 Wilmington Charter (1-0) The Force moved up one spot after their 2-1 win over then No. 4 Caesar Rodney last week. Doesn't get any easier this week as they traveled to No. 3 Delcastle Tuesday before hosting MOT Charter Thursday.

No. 3 Delcastle (1-0) The Cougars move up two spots after a nice 3-2 win over Brandywine. They hosted No. 2 Wilmington Charter Tuesday and will travel to Christiana Thursday.

No. 4 Caesar Rodney (0-1) The Riders fell short in their match with Wilmington Charter but played a solid game so that keeps them in the fourth spot. A couple of

big home games this week as they hosted Delmar Monday and then entertains Sussex Central Thursday

No. 5 Appoquinimink (0-1-1) The Jags had a tough road trip last week losing a 3-1 match at Sussex Academy and scoring a 1-1 tie at Malvern Prep (PA). The Jags dropped three spots this week. They hosted St. Georges Tech Thursday.

No. 6 Cape Henlopen (0-0) The Vikings open play this week against a tough Henlopen North rival Smyrna Thursday night.

No. 7 Sussex Central (0-0-1) The Golden Knights earned a tie against St. Andrew's on a hot evening and remained in the seventh spot. This is a tough week for the Golden Knights because they hosted Sussex Academy Tuesday and travelled to Old North Road to take on Caesar Rodney Thursday.

No. 8 St Georges Tech (0-0) The Hawks kicked the season off this week with their first match was Tuesday at Mckean before traveling to Appoquinimink Thursday.

No. 9 Middletown (0-0) The Cavs kicked off the season Tuesday when they hosted Glasgow and then are travelling to New Castle to face Flight A rival William Penn Thursday.

No. 10 Dover (1-1) The Senators had a mixed bag week as they defeated Concord 6-0 before losing to Friends 1-0 Saturday. They stay in the 10th spot and travel a few miles to face Henlopen North rival Polytech Thursday.

DIVISION II

No. 1 Caravel (1-0) The defending champions held off Archmere 2-1 to start the season with a Top 10 win. They hosted Tower Hill Tuesday night before their heavyweight road contest against the other No. 1 team Sallies Saturday.

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VIEW FROM THE BASELINE: WEEK 1 RANKINGS

BY JASON WINCHELL

It's hard to make any conclusions based on four days of volleyball, but here's what we see from the baseline. Let's start with the 10th-ranked Ursuline Raiders, who are 2-0 after a win at DMA on Sept. 9. Big hitters up front, a quality setter in Hayley Timmons and a typical Ursuline defense look pretty good. They needed four sets to down the Seahawks, but DMA won't be an easy out for anyone. There's just too much talent on that roster.

There was some good news out of Henlopen North last week. Caesar Rodney downed Appoquinimink, 3-1, with Elianna Dyer going for 16 kills and 10 blocks. Second-ranked Smyrna opened with a big win at No. 4 Archmere. Anna Richardson and Eliza Schneider went for 18 and 17 kills, respectively, and Abigayle Osborne had 41 assists. And Dover opened its campaign with an impressive sweep at No. 6 Caravel.

Top-ranked Tower Hill looked ready to defend its state title after a sweep at No. 9 Padua. Lydia Spencer had

herself a night with 17 kills. And the first five-setter of the season took place in Lewes. Fifth-ranked Delmarva Christian got 23 kills from Elaina Millaway as the Royals edged Cape Henlopen.

Congratulations to Aspira High School, which earned a 3-0 win over Seaford in the program's first varsity match.

Matches to watch this week were: DMA at Wilmington Charter, Tuesday at 5:15 p.m. Ursuline at Tower Hill, Tuesday at 5:15 p.m. Newark Charter at Delmarva Christian, Thursday at 5:15 p.m. Cape Henlopen at Smyrna, Thursday at 5:15 p.m. Padua at Archmere, Thursday at 6 p.m. Wilmington Charter is at Saint Mark's, Friday at 7:15 p.m., while Dover visits Delmarva Christian Saturday at noon.

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SPECIAL TEAMS PLAY LIFTS CARAVEL OVER HODGSON

BY NICK HALLIDAY

Caravel wins in its home opener in front of a large crowd over the Hodgson Silver Eagles. Since the two schools are so close in proximity, the stands were filled with fans packing both sides of the stadium.

The Buccaneers were able to edge the Silver Eagles by a score of 28-13 which was led by the special teams. The Buccaneers got two touchdowns from their return specialist Vandrick “Tre” Hamlin. Hodgson had to punt it away after failing to get a first down on its first drive. The punt was a great kick, which bounced past Hamlin, backing him up a few yards. He then picked up the ball off a bounce and turned to see a wave of Silver Eagles coming at him. He split the two would-be tacklers, then broke to the outside, down the sideline untouched for the first touchdown of the game.

Early in the second quarter, Hodgson was able to answer with a special teams punt return of its own.

Hodgson’s Brysheem Davis caught the punt at his own 15-yard line. He took it to the outside near the sideline then had to cut back into the inside following his blocks as he bursted out and into the end zone to tie the game.

Caravel answered the touchdown with a long drive that was capped off by senior running back Craig Miller. Miller had numerous runs on the drive that had the Silver Eagles on their heels. He had a 20-yard run from the 30-yard line that put them at the 10. They went right back to him with a handoff up the middle that he would not be denied as he dove in for the touchdown.

Hodgson found itself in another punt situation after getting the ball after the kickoff. The punt sailed to the 50-yard line and into the hands of Hamlin who made the first tackler miss. He broke it outside again to the sideline, but was forced back inside. He made a couple moves before breaking it back outside to the sideline.



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He was pushed by a Hodgson defender, but was able to tight rope it down the sideline and in for his second punt return for a touchdown of the night giving Caravel a 21-7 lead. Hodgson was able to add a second touchdown, but the second Hamlin punt return proved to be the game winner.

Caravel did add an insurance touchdown on the second touchdown by Miller midway through the fourth quarter to complete the 28-13 victory. The victory gave Caravel its first win of the season. It dropped Hodgson to 1-1 after it opened the season with a convincing victory over Howard in the Mid-Atlantic Pigskin Classic.





THE CORNER SCOOP: PRESEASON FIELD HOCKEY RANKINGS

Wilmington Friends, Newark Charter and Sussex Academy, who all saw action in the quarterfinal round and beyond in the D-2 state tournament last season.

Defending state champions hold the top spot in each division for the pre-season rankings and we will see the Division 1 rematch between Cape Henlopen and Smyrna early in the season.

DIVISION 1

No. 1 Smyrna The Eagles hoisted their first championship trophy in field hockey in 2022 and will look to hold the spot. They begin their season with a varsity roster listing only 13 players and three road games: D-2 runner-up Archmere Sept. 6 with a 3-0 win, Sussex Academy Sept. 12 and Cape Henlopen Sept. 14.

No. 2 Cape Henlopen The Vikings are coming off a championship tournament loss after winning 12 previous titles. They will look to regroup after losing to Smyrna 2-1 in the finals. The roster has 24 players, many returners with a lot of hockey experience, which will prove helpful as they face four heavy hitters on home turf right away. Cape saw Queen Anne's (MD) Sept. 8, Pocomoke (MD) Sept. 9, before seeing in-state competition with Lake Forest Sept. 12 and the rematch with Smyrna at home on Sept. 14.

No. 3 Charter School of Wilmington Posting an overall 14-3 record last season, losing to the eventual state champs, Smyrna in the semifinals, Charter will be a team to watch after graduating eight seniors. The roster

has 21 players and opened with St. Georges on Sept. 7, at Sussex Academy Sept. 9, at MOT Charter Sept. 12, and home versus Appoquinimink Sept. 13.

No. 4 Milford The Bucs ended last season 7-8-1, losing to Cape in the quarterfinal of the tournament, graduating five seniors on a roster of 26. They will return a lot of players with experience, rostering 27 and they are young. Its home opener was Sept. 7 versus Lake Forest, Sept. 9 they travelled to Appoquinimink and then onto Sussex Tech on Sept. 14.

[CLICK TO READ MORE](#)

BY NICK HALLIDAY

Welcome to “The Corner Scoop”, a weekly edition covering high school field hockey in Delaware. The high school season opened up on Sept. 6, so we will rank the top 10 teams in Division 1 and Division 2, along with their matchups for the week. There is talent up and down the state that fans will need to keep an eye on. Will perennial powerhouses Delmar (D-2) and Cape Henlopen (D-1) be challenged by their Delaware rivals? Teams to watch in D-1 include Smyrna, Cape Henlopen, Wilmington Charter and Caesar Rodney. Teams to watch in D-2 include Delmar, Archmere, Tatnall,



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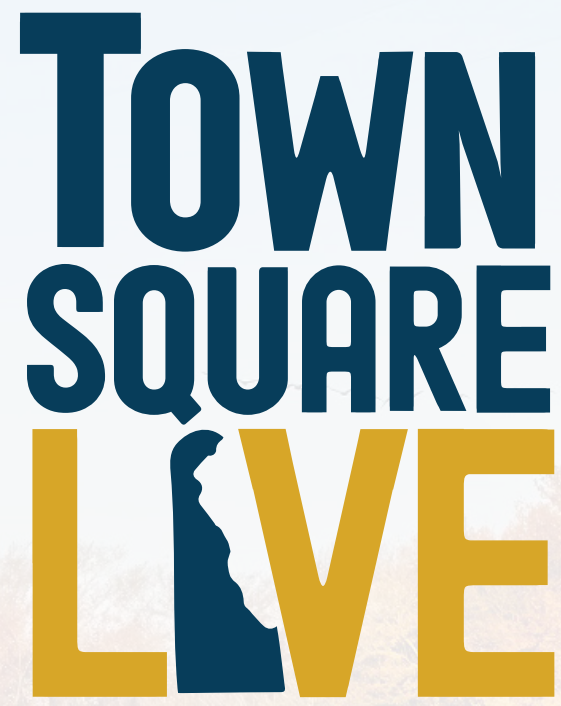
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