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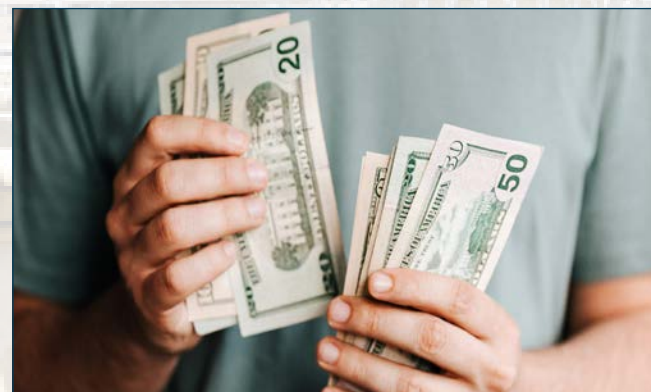
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photo link: Logwood Gardens
photo by Candie Ward

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Volumes of Ideas for Newark Library



Suggestions for Educator Raises Finalized



The Corner Scoop: Field Hockey

Community

TOWN SQUARE LIVE



BY BETSY PRICE

The discovery came via a telephone call. On the other end of the call, an antiques collector told Deborah Buckson, executive director of the **Historic Odessa Foundation**, that he'd just bought at auction a chest that had a label on the back that said Corbit-Sharp House. That's one of the foundation's core historic home from Delaware's Colonial days.

"Do you want to see it," asked the collector, whom Buckson declines to identify.

"Yes, please," she said.

The fortuitous purchase turned out to be a four-drawer chest built for the house in 1806 by local furniture maker John Janvier Sr., a craftsman whose skill rivaled any of

TALE OF TWIN CHESTS IN HISTORIC ODESSA BOOK

those in Philadelphia, Buckson said.

Now the chest's history is detailed in "A Storied Past: Collections of Historic Odessa," a new book that looks at the decorative and fine arts in the foundation's Corbitt-Sharp and Wilson-Warner homes.

The 1769 Wilson-Warner House in 1923 became Delaware's first house museum. Then, H.F. du Pont of Winterthur was still leading the charge on collecting American-made antiques, and other area du Pont homes that became modern cultural touchstones were still inhabited by their owners.

Author Philip D. Zimmerman of Lancaster, PA, a national authority on early American furniture, will talk about researching and writing "A Storied Past" before he signs copies of it Thursday at 4:30 p.m. at the Foundation at 201 Main Street.

Zimmerman was able to use the foundation's rich archival and genealogical sources to profile 100 decorative and fine art pieces from the Historic Odessa Foundation's collections. The book includes more than 200 photographs, including many detail and historic images, along with careful physical descriptions and historical documentation.

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THE COVID-19 VACCINES HAVE RECEIVED THE MOST INTENSIVE SAFETY MONITORING IN U.S. HISTORY.

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Community

NCCO GETS VOLUMES OF IDEAS FOR NEW NEWARK LIBRARY

BY KEN MAMMARELLA

A rooftop terrace, improved bicycle access and sheet music were some of the wide-ranging ideas community members have presented to New Castle County in meetings on the new Newark Library. The county is collecting more ideas and other input with a 22-question online [survey](#).

It has **decided** to build the library on the same 2.94-acre site, on the east side of downtown. It is being planned at 40,000 square feet, up from 26,500 in the current structure, which dates to 1974. Newark’s \$44.5 million **project** will be anchored by books, Aundrea Almond promised the crowd at the second meeting, citing the words of her boss, New Castle County Executive Matt Meyer. Decisions beyond that await analysis of the survey, both public meetings and another meeting with students at Newark High School across the street.

“We know the language of library design, but we need to learn the local dialect,” architect Jeff Hoover told the crowd at the second meeting, hosted by the [Friends of the Newark Free Library](#).

About 300 surveys have been tabulated so far, and the early results show that the book collection works, but spaces for patrons’ varied needs don’t work and that flexible space is missing.

“We know libraries have changed,” he said, showing a slide counting 10 ways. They include active creative space, children’s early learning place, comfortable adult seating/reading area, community gathering spaces, display/exhibits space, outdoor library learning landscape, presentation/performance space, quiet, small-group collaboration space, and teen hangout and homework space.

The terms are a mouthful, because they’re evolving—and will evolve as community needs, technology and other factors change. For instance, a handout that participants reviewed referred to a “craft/messy program room...to build and generate things that were once only in their mind.” Some spaces often don’t exist anywhere else, either, although Hoover said some have characteristics of co-working spaces. “We know some people are running businesses out of the library,” he added, “and

libraries can support entrepreneurs with other services as well.”

It’s also possible that spaces could be made multipurpose. A large space for performances, for instance, is best served if audience seating is sloped. That would limit the space—unless the county installs raked seating that could be pushed to the side, much like grandstands in many school gymnasiums, to use for other purposes, like a dance class.

NEXT FOR NEWARK LIBRARY

Quinn Evans, the architectural firm handling the project, will assess the community input and develop a master plan. That will be followed by 18 months of detailed work, plus more community feedback, plan adjustments, demolition of the current library and then two years of construction.

Some details are subtle, like considering how books are shelved, not too low and not too high. Or not buying shelving designed only for print magazines, since their number is falling.

The county is still working on plans to provide temporary services for the Newark area during the construction, with the survey showing that some participants already patronize the Kirkwood Highway library, four miles away, and the Bear library, seven miles away.

The survey also shows strong use of the Newark Library, but often for just short visits, implying the people are checking out or returning items or doing quick research, rather than staying for programs.

[CLICK TO READ MORE](#)



BY JAREK RUTZ

Christmas came a couple months early for the teachers of Wilmington’s **EastSide Charter School** Sept. 14. School Chief Executive Officer Aaron Bass, the school’s eagle mascot and volunteers from **Barclays** popped into rooms rolling a speaker blasting “It’s the Most Wonderful Time of the Year,” as they dropped off gifts to 45 different classrooms.

Teachers often make Amazon wish lists each year to collect donations in order to pay for classroom supplies or materials that they would normally have to pay out-of-pocket for. For the first time, Barclays—which has had a partnership with EastSide for years to both financially support the school and create a mentorship program—collected funds to fulfill each teacher’s wish list.

“These kinds of gifts I would not be able to afford in this classroom without this kind of significant assis-

BARCLAYS FILLS EASTSIDE TEACHERS' CLASSROOMS WISH LISTS

tance,” said Yvonne Thomas, who teaches sixth graders and just started her second year at EastSide. Her favorite item she received was a big bean chair for students to sit on. “Sometimes the students who come into my classroom need to relax or settle or calm down and this will help,” said Thomas, who teaches students with special needs.

Barclays wanted to relieve the stress and financial burden of teachers. This meant not only giving items they need to teach, but also items they want for their class in order to create a better learning environment.

RELIEF FOR TEACHERS

“Even if it’s just a portion of the supplies, it just offers some relief for our educators,” said Peri Hutt, senior paralegal vice president at Barclays. “Some of the supplies are maybe not a need but a want, which still helps limit the amount of money teachers are paying out of their own pockets to fill the classroom.”

Teachers were asked to submit their wish lists by Aug. 31, so Santa’s Factory—aka the gym of EastSide—was getting package after package delivered the past two weeks. Each wish list hovered around \$300 in cost. Employees from Barclays, a global financial company, created fundraising teams to pay for the gifts.

“There might be other stuff that they would like to do or like to introduce to the class, but they just don’t have the resources in which to do so,” Hutt said. “This is enabling them to do so.”

On top of the expected necessary supplies like pencils, pens, markers, crayons, books, notebooks, boxes were also filled with gifts like Legos, toy cash registers, games and more fun items for the class.

Mary Shenko, a special education teacher who has 27 years of teaching experience, said this is the first time she’s been able to focus on not just her needs, but wants for the classroom.

“This is the first time I had such an extensive dollar sign I could utilize and order what I wanted,” she said, “without there being criticism or rules on what I can and can’t ask for.”

Her favorite item she received is professional portfolios for each of her students, which she says will help them stay organized. Each one has paper, binders and dividers. Since she teaches 11 students, getting each one a nice portfolio would have cost her hundreds.

Shenko was also gifted with a colorful area rug of a map of America.

“There’s so many expenses for teachers, even the color pen, pencils or markers can be so pricey,” she said. “I am just so grateful and feel such a sense of gratitude, appreciation and love.”





DELAWARE'S FALL 5K RACES BRING COMMUNITIES TOGETHER

BY BRYAN SHUPE

Delaware, known for its scenic landscapes and vibrant communities, is gearing up for an exciting season of fall 5K races. As the crisp autumn air sets in, runners of all ages and abilities are lacing up their sneakers to participate in these events that not only promote physical fitness, but also foster a sense of community.

The fall season in Delaware is truly magical, with trees adorned in shades of red, orange, and yellow, creating a breathtaking backdrop for these 5K races. Whether you're a seasoned runner or just looking for a fun way to enjoy the outdoors, these races offer something for everyone.

Delaware's fall 5K races feature a diverse range of courses, ensuring that participants experience the state's natural beauty and unique landscapes. From coastal runs along the Delaware Bay to woodland trails in state parks, each race offers a different adventure.

Some popular events include the Delaware State Police 100th Anniversary 5K at the Starboard on Saturday. The race supports Camp Barnes, a free camp for the youth of Delaware, which allows campers to develop initiative and leadership skills necessary to accomplish tasks. The camp also enables campers to increase their self-confidence and feelings of accomplishment from their efforts and achievements.

One of the most charming aspects of these races is their family-friendly atmosphere. Many events include a "Fun Run" for families, ensuring that the entire family can take part. It's not uncommon to see parents pushing strollers or running alongside their kids, creating lasting memories and instilling healthy habits from a young age.

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St. John's Oktoberfest – Milford, Oct. 6-7

The 30th annual German Oktoberfest will be held from 6 to 10 p.m., Friday, Oct. 6, and from noon to 10 p.m., Saturday, Oct. 7, on the grounds of the church at 506 Seabury Ave., Milford.

The Funsters will play all evening Friday. The Oktoberfest international food court will be serving traditional German entrees along with Italian, Spanish, Polish and Irish offerings. Also available will be good old hamburgers, hot dogs, french fries, Italian ice, funnel cake and homemade baked desserts.

OKTDOVERFEST 2023 – Dover, Oct. 7

This year, it will be Saturday, Oct. 7, starting at 2 p.m! It will be on Loockerman Street, right in the heart of our downtown district. We have a lot of amazing details to come, but we wanted to share that our local favorites, Love Seed Mama Jump, will be back on our Main Stage.

[CLICK TO READ MORE](#)

STAFF WRITER

As the summer sun comes to a close, the anticipation for one of Delaware's most awaited annual events is reaching its peak: Oktoberfest 2023. This year promises to be bigger, better and more vibrant than ever, with a lineup of events and activities that will leave attendees with lasting memories of German culture and merriment.

Oktoberfest Constitutional Yards, Wilmington, Sept. 23-24

Indulge in a lineup of traditional Oktoberfest-style brews, including special pumpkin beers and ciders to celebrate the fall. Constitutional Yards is a Seasonal Beer Garden on the Wilmington Riverfront for all craft beer and food enthusiasts in the Tri-State area.

Oktoberfest at Revelation, Milton, Sept. 29

Be one of the first 50 people to purchase Revelations Oktoberfest on tap and receive for free a Oktoberfest Pint Glass at Revelation in Georgetown on Friday, Sept. 29 from 4-9 p.m. Bring the whole family, including your



The Clock Is Ticking...

Need help with your EDGE grant application? The deadline is less than two weeks away and I can still help you put your best foot forward.



PETER OSBORNE

- Former Editor, Delaware Business Times
- 20+ Years in Communications/Business Development at MBNA/Bank of America
- Former Business Reporter, News Journal

peter@frictionfreecommunications.com

484-885-4117

I also help clients with case studies, RFP responses, ghostwriting & website content.

photo link: Longwood Gardens



Business

TOWN SQUARE LIVE



BY BETSY PRICE

One company helps small start-up food companies find additional investment to fill unexpectedly huge orders from a place like Costco or Whole Foods. One company helps renovation companies get paid faster when they're helping people get back into homes or businesses that have been damaged in some disaster. One company helps employers make sure more of their employees' wages stay in their pockets by handling pretax benefits for them. All three are examples of financial technology at work and owners of all three were in Delaware Monday to celebrate Discover Bank's new \$36 million **Financial Health Improvement Fund** at the **University of Delaware's** Star Campus **FinTech Innovation Hub**.

The Discover Fund, designed to benefit Delaware businesses, isn't focused on the kind of health that takes people to doctors, hospitals and 5Ks. It's meant to help businesses that provide social and economic development, particularly for those in low-resource communities and with lower-wage jobs that don't necessarily offer any kind of financial training.

The food company, for example, needed someone to take a chance on funding them to fill a big order that could help the company grow, and Vince Tseng's **PartnerSlate** helps connect food and beverage companies with financial capital and manufacturers.

UD FINTECH HUB WELCOMES NEW DISCOVER BANK FUND FOR DELAWARE

Emerging food companies are a trillion-dollar industry who are changing the aisles in supermarkets, Tseng said, but there are problems getting there.

"One is that it's incredibly difficult to find the right manufacturer that has the right combination of packaging and processing equipment. And the second problem is access to capital," he said. "That is really kind of the biggest hurdle for many of these startups to reach that next level of scale to kind of grow to become a household name."

Renovators were sometimes waiting for more than a year to get paid for a job, even though they had to pay up front for supplies before the work was done. One of the many reasons that happens is that checks written for repairs by insurance companies often are written to both the property owner and a bank that holds a mortgage, said Tom McGrath, owner of **iink Payments**, which last month handled \$72 million in claims. Red tape costs time, he said. His company, focused largely on Florida, helps smooth that process and move the money faster.

"We sit between three of the largest industries in the United States, which is insurance, banking and construction," McGrath said.

Many companies whose employees could benefit from pre-tax or other programs don't have the human resources staff to offer the programs, said Avi Karnani, CEO of **Pretax Hero Inc.**, which he says can put an extra week of pay into hourly workers' pockets at no cost to their employers. Many of the workers that Pretax Hero focuses on don't come to offices and sit there all day. They are working in factories or industries that require a lot of labor. It's hard for them to focus on any kind of open enrollment for benefits and many have no financial training. His company frequently communicates with workers via texting, he said.

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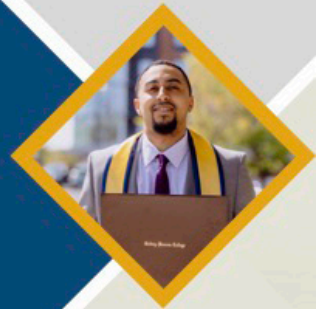
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Government

TOWN SQUARE LIVE



MASK MANDATE UNLIKELY IF PIROLA CAUSES COVID CASE SURGE

cases and does expect them to keep rising, Wanner said. Public Health reported 537 new positive cases last week, with 297 of those in New Castle County.

In recent weeks, the state has seen a steady increase in the number of cases and in the detection of Pirola in wastewater, which is an indication that the virus is circulating more than it has been reported.

“When taking that into account and then looking back at the past three years, I think it is very well likely that we’ll see quite a bit more COVID into the fall and winter. but I don’t think we’ll see a surge like we did two years ago,” Wanner said.

The pandemic was marked with a series of surges and one of the worst was during the start of 2022 when highly infectious cases spread during the holidays and came close to closing down businesses and schools in January. So many people were forced to stay home to comply with quarantine and isolation recommendations that the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention changed their rules.

RULES ON ISOLATING

Wanner said recommendations now say that anyone infected with COVID should stay home for five days, counting the first day as the day they test positive, not the day symptoms begin. After five days, he said, they can leave isolation, but should wear a mask when around other people to prevent the spread of the illness.

However, he said, if they test themselves on day six

and test negative and then test again 48 hours later, on day eight, and still test negative, they don’t have to wear a mask around other people.

MASKS

Masks are effective at helping to prevent the spread of COVID and helping to prevent wearers from getting COVID, he said. “But they’re not perfect,” he said. “And I think that’s where people get hung up. It’s not an all or none. If it reduces your chance of getting COVID by a percentage, that’s something that’s helpful.”

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BY BETSY PRICE

It’s unlikely that a new surge of COVID-19 cases would trigger a mask mandate or switch to virtual schools, said the chief physician at the Division of Public Health.

“At this point, we’ve had three years of experience,” said Dr. Greg Wanner, who also is an emergency physician with ChristianaCare. “We have now widespread availability of effective vaccines and treatments, which we really did not have earlier in the pandemic. I think with those advances in vaccines and treatments, I would not expect to see a return to mandatory masking or widespread virtual schooling.”

It takes time to appraise the impact of how variants like **Pirola**, which is said to be more infectious than other strains, will affect a community, Wanner said.

COVID TRACKER

The department still **tracks** the number of COVID-19

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WITH RECORD ROAD DEATHS, STATE SEEKS SAFETY IDEAS FROM PUBLIC

BY BETSY PRICE

On the heels of Delaware tallying a record 165 lives lost on its roads in 2022, the state Office of Highway Safety will host three **public forums** to look for ideas that help educate drivers, reduce crashes and prevent traffic deaths.

The office believes there are multiple factors for the increase in traffic fatalities, the highest since 1988, said Communications Officer Meghan Niddrie. To compare: the state had 101 roadway deaths in 2009; 117 in 2020; and 139 in 2021.

“Data continues to show that the leading cause of fatalities on our roadways is speeding, impaired driving and distracted driving,” she said. “One of the factors may have stemmed from the pandemic, where we saw less traffic and congestion on our roadways, allowing people to engage in some of these risky behaviors.”

The job of the Office of Highway Safety, housed in the Delaware Department of Safety and Homeland Security,

is to educate drivers and improve roadway safety through the use of federal funds. They want to remind drivers, walkers and rider to follow the rules of the road and help them understand why those rules are in place.

The office doesn’t recommend laws, but supports efforts by others, Niddrie said such as Gov. John Carney’s 2023 package of bills to improve driver safety and the recent graduated use of helmets by motorcycle riders who are in the first two years of having a license. The office works a lot with police departments through funding and grants.

“That’s why we fall into the blanket of Safety and Homeland Security rather than DelDOT,” she said. “We focus more on behavioral issues rather than engineering.”

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BY BETSY PRICE

A federal judge has dismissed a lawsuit filed by firearm gun manufacturers opposing a 2022 Delaware law that allows gun dealers to be sued for injuries caused after a weapon is sold. U.S. District Judge Richard G. Andrews said in his ruling that the **National Shooting Sports Foundation** had no standing to challenge the Delaware law, which repealed a part of state law that forbade the suing of firearm dealers.

One reason, Andrews said, was because standing means being involved in the situation before it becomes law. Andrews noted the foundation cited a subpoena issued by the Delaware Department of Justice to Cabela's, one of the foundation members. "But that subpoena was issued on Feb. 15, 2023, roughly three months after plaintiff filed its complaint," Andrews said in his opinion.

JUDGE DISMISSES SUIT AGAINST LAW LETTING FIREARM DEALERS BE SUED

The law was named for Keshall "KeKe" Anderson, a 19-year-old bystander killed in a Wilmington drive-by shooting. Her family filed suit against the dealer of the gun used in that case. The Delaware Supreme Court upheld a lower court ruling that state law granted a firearm dealer full immunity from liability, even if the firearm dealer was negligent in selling a weapon to a straw purchaser. A straw purchaser is a person who intentionally buys a firearm for another person

Sponsored by Delaware Sen. Bryan Townsend, D-Newark, as Senate Bill 302, it was signed into law by Gov. John Carney June 30, 2022.

Jeff Hague of the **Delaware State Sportsmen's Association** said Andrews's ruling meant that some firearm store or a person who works in one of them is going to have to be sued before they and the foundation can challenge the statute. Hague believes Andrews's ruling is wrong. Courts have ruled "you don't have to be sued and incur damages before you can challenge what you believe is unconstitutional and could affect you later," Hague said. "That's what we believe the judge missed."

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Education

TOWN SQUARE LIVE

SUGGESTIONS FOR EDUCATOR RAISES FINALIZED BY PAY PANEL

BY JAREK RUTZ

The committee responsible for evaluating and adjusting the salary scales of Delaware’s educators to attract more to the state has solidified its recommendations. At Monday’s **Public Education Compensation Committee** meeting, the 15-person group made of government and education leaders approved its final suggestions that it will submit to Gov. John Carney by Nov. 15 for consideration in his fiscal year 2025 recommended budget. That budget will ultimately be voted on by the General Assembly.

The committee discussed and voted on salary considerations throughout the 2022-2023 school year. It evaluated pay for each of the six education employee groups outlined in Delaware Code, and also tossed around the idea of adding an employee group by creating a state funding unit for information technology employees. Here’s what the committee settled on as recommendations for each employee group:

- 1,305 – teachers and professional staff: a 2% increase

plus a \$1,875 stipend (state cost = \$212,658,997 over next four fiscal years).

- 1,308 – secretaries: a 2+ increase plus a \$500 stipend and condensing the scale from five positions to three (state cost = \$1,407,799 for fiscal year 2025).
- 1,311 – custodians: a 2% increase, stipends ranging from \$439 to \$1,105 and condensing the scale from six to four positions (state cost = \$2,472,787 for fiscal year 2025).
- 1,322 – food service: a 2.5% increase (state cost = \$1,771,234 for fiscal year 2025).
- 1,324 – paraprofessionals: a 1% increase and stipends ranging from \$1,000 to \$2,000 (state cost = \$3,096,586 for fiscal year 2025).
- Bus drivers: Increase hourly wages from \$22.50 per hour to \$25 (state cost = \$4,847,348).
- IT employees: created funding units for workers (state cost = \$6,926,517 for fiscal year 2025).

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HERE ARE NOMINEES FOR 2024 TEACHER OF THE YEAR

BY JAREK RUTZ

The 20 nominees for Delaware’s 2024 Teacher of the Year have been announced. All 20 will be honored at a celebration 5 p.m. Wednesday, Oct. 18, at Modern Maturity Center in Dover. The winner of the title will be announced that night. Every nominee will pocket \$2,000, and the winner will get \$5,000 to use in the classroom and \$3,000 for personal use.

The candidates were nominated by their districts or the Delaware Charter Schools Network during 2023 based on their superior ability to inspire students with a love of learning, exemplary demonstration of professional traits and strong sense of dedication and devotion to teaching.

Each state nominee submitted an application exemplifying his or her teaching philosophy and five Delaware Department of Education staff members independently evaluated each application.

A former Delaware Teacher of the Year and department staff member observe each candidate in the classroom as part of the process.



Appoquinimink School District: Cory Hafer
 Indian River School District: Kasey Revel
 Laurel School District: Matthew Wood
 Lake Forest School District: Stephen West
iddletown High, Engineering and Science; Central High, Agricultural Science; Laurel High, Agricultural Science; Chipman Middle, Social Studies



Cape Henlopen School District: Rachel Peacock
 Milford School District: Victoria Hudson
 Polytech School District: Shannon Legg
 Castle County Vo-Tech School District: Tim Dorsey
Cape Henlopen High, Chemistry; Benjamin Banneker Elementary, Art; Polytech High, Automotive Technology; Delcastle Technical High, Science



Colonial School District: Michelle Reutter
 Clay Consolidated School District: Angela Morrow
 Smyrna School District: Laura Massey
 Seaford School District: Karent Diaz Rios

Taking into consideration the ratings from the application review and observations as well as a recorded presentation by the nominees, another independent panel of non-department judges then will select the winner. That person will become the First State’s nominee in the national program, a project of the Council of Chief State School Officers.

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- URSULINE ACADEMY

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DSU RANKING DROPS A POINT, BUT STAYS IN TOP THREE OF PUBLIC HBCUS

BY BETSY PRICE

Delaware State University dropped from No. 2 to No. 3 in the *U.S. News and World Report* 2024 rankings of HBCUs, while continuing to remain in the top five of those public schools for the ninth year in a row. Delaware's **Historically Black College and University** had risen into the No. 2 spot last year. It's also listed this year in the Top 10 of public and private HBCUs, tying with Claflin University in South Carolina for the ninth spot.

The number that most pleases President Tony Allen, though, is DSU's ranking at No. 8 for undergraduate teaching for all schools in the Northeastern region. That illustrates the quality of the university's faculty and academic programs, a school press release said.

"There's a lot of hullabaloo about the rankings," Allen said Tuesday, "but I really try to concentrate on what's important to the university and we're doing well on social and economic mobility, undergraduate teaching, inno-

vation and overall retention. That's the stuff that's important to me, and that's the stuff that's been driving our ascent for some time now. So regardless of where we place as long as we're up in those categories, I feel very good about it."

DSU remains the fastest growing HBCU in the country and the top choice for students of color in Delaware, a press release said. It's ranked at 28 in social mobility and 14th in innovation. Social mobility measures the success of a school to graduate students from low-resource communities and help them better their lives.

Allen said he didn't think that the uproar over sexual assault on campus during the last school year affected the ratings.

"I think the way the university community responded with the Safe Space Coalition has been really helpful," Allen said. About one-third of the members of the coalition are students, he said.

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STUDENT ARREST SHOWS VALUE OF RESOURCE OFFICERS

“This also demonstrates that the climate is definitely starting to change, where we’re getting the word out for students, parents in the community to really share important information,” he said, “an example of that ‘see something, say something’ mentality.”

The incident occurred at 8:38 a.m. when the Hodgson’s school resource officer was notified by school staff of a report of drugs and a gun inside of a student’s vehicle. The school’s staff confirmed the vehicle was parked in the school’s parking lot and the student was in class.

The student was removed from his classroom and a search of his vehicle was conducted, which led to the discovery of approximately 2.18 grams of marijuana, and a loaded handgun that was concealed in a black satchel. There were no threats stated or implied towards students or staff at the school and the school day proceeded as normal. The student was charged with the following crimes:

- Possession of a Deadly Weapon by a Person Prohibited who also Possesses a Controlled Substance (felony)
- Possession of a Firearm by a Prohibited Juvenile (felony)
- Possession of a Weapon in a Safe School Zone by a Student
- Possession of Marijuana by a Person Under 18

BY JAREK RUTZ

A retired police officer and school resource officer who has decades of experience in law enforcement thinks an arrest at a Newark high school illustrates how important school safety operations are.

Thursday morning, **Delaware State Police** arrested a 17-year-old male from New Castle for drug and gun offenses at **Paul M. Hodgson Vocational Technical High School**, part of the **New Castle County Vocational Technical School District**.

“This is a great example on the effective usage of a properly selected and trained school resource officer assigned to our schools,” said Joey Melvin, who has previously served as a police officer in Harrington and Milton, and has been the school resource officer director for Milford and Georgetown. Now, Melvin is the director of the **Center for Safe Schools** and the regional director of the **National Association of School Resource Officers**.

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DNREC FUNDS DELCASTLE PROGRAM TO BUILD EV CHARGING STATIONS

BY JAREK RUTZ

Delcastle Technical High School on Sept. 14 unveiled its three student-made electric vehicle charging stations, part of an effort to make its students marketable in today's economy.

“Our role is not only filling our current workforce needs, but also forecasting the future needs of our workforce throughout Delaware and the region,” said Yvette Santiago, board president of **New Castle County Vocational Technical School District**.

She described the district as an economic engine that evolves to fit the trends of the market.

“We know that last year more than 10 million electric vehicles were sold and this year the numbers are projected to increase to 14 million,” she said. “We know that the industry will need skilled laborers that know

how to build, install, maintain, repair and use charging stations like the ones that we are officially launching today.”

The unveiling comes as the state's move to force car companies to provide increasing numbers of electric vehicles in Delaware has drawn a lot of attention and opposition over cost, weight and distances that can be traveled. Under rules proposed by the Delaware Department of Natural Resources and Environmental Control, the sale of gasoline-powered vehicles in Delaware will be phased out by 2035.

The state recently asked for bids to build charging stations along Delaware's most-used roadways as part of the preparation for a reduced number of gas-powered cars. It will pay for those charging stations with federal

funds. Delcastle paid for the charging stations with funding from an Innovation Grant and rebates from DNREC.

Delcastle showed off two charging stations in its parking lot and one that will remain in a classroom for instructional purposes so students can study the mechanics, wiring and design. The stations will be used by the handful of building staff that have electric vehicles. Each charging station can charge two vehicles at once.

In the future, teachers in Delcastle's auto technology career area will begin to incorporate EV stations into the curriculum to enhance career opportunities for those students as well.

The district plans to add EV charging stations to its three other schools—Hodgson, Howard and St. Georges High Schools—in the coming years in order to provide the same opportunities to all of its schools.

Delcastle Principal Justin Comegys said the project was completed by students and instructors in electrical trades, welding, auto tech and drafting programs. Students primarily used **CDX training** as a curriculum for building the stations, which took about eight months, said Daniel Edelen, career and technical education specialist at Del Tech.



photo credit: Mike Lang



Sports

TOWN SQUARE LIVE

THE CORNER SCOOP: WEEK 2 FIELD HOCKEY TOP 10 RANKINGS

BY SHANNON TIMMONS

Week two of the field hockey season is here! Scheduling quirks happen and we will see that this week. There are teams going full out this week with three games that will test their stamina. While others only play once and will get time to rest their legs. The goalkeepers have been tested across the state and the offensive dominance continues for Delmar, Smyrna and Cape Henlopen. Teams to keep watching are Milford and Caesar Rodney in Division 1, and Concord, Caravel and Newark Charter are all battling it out in Division 2 with 3-0 records this week. There are a lot of top 10 matchups that will provide some exciting field hockey to watch this week.

Games of the Week:

D2: Newark Charter at Concord (Maplezone, PA) Tuesday, Sept. 19, 3 p.m.

D1: Milford at Sussex Academy Thursday, Sept. 21, 4 p.m.

Here is the current top 10 for Delaware Live-302 Sports

DIVISION 1

No. 1 Smyrna 3-0 Smyrna improved to 3-0, leading the Henlopen North Division. They defeated Cape Henlopen 2-1 in the Division 1 finals rematch on the Sept. 14 at Cape. They only played once this week, Tuesday at home vs. Caesar Rodney for Smyrna's senior night.

No. 2 Cape Henlopen 3-1 Cape dropped a game to Smyrna last week, but will still be in the hunt come tournament time. Coach Kate Austin and her team took the loss in stride. "We outshot Smyrna but did not capitalize on scoring opportunities. It's just the second week of the season and nothing has been won or lost. We will continue to fine tune and improve each day." They go on the road all week to Polytech Tuesday and to Padua Friday at the Chase Fieldhouse.

No. 3 Milford 3-0 They continue to impress this season, outscoring their opponents 20-2. They played Dover at home on Tuesday and are at Sussex Academy Thursday.

No. 4 CR 3-0 The Riders are off to a good start, but will be tested this week with Henlopen North rival Smyrna. They went on the road to Smyrna Tuesday and are at Lake Forest Thursday.

No. 5 Polytech 3-0 The Panthers faced a challenge at home when the Cape Vikings came to town Tuesday and then visits Woodbridge Thursday.

No. 6 Charter School of Wilmington 2-1 Still sitting at 2-1 because its one game last week was postponed. Charter went on the road to Tower Hill Tuesday and visits Conrad Thursday.

No. 7 Middletown 2-1 The Cavaliers moved on to play St. Andrews at home Tuesday and Delcastle away on Wednesday.

No. 8 Padua 2-2 The Pandas headed to Odessa Tuesday and then hosts Cape Henlopen Friday at the Chase Fieldhouse.

No. 9 Sussex Tech 1-1 The Ravens schedule was off to a little slower start than some of their conference opponents. They faced Sussex Central at home on Tuesday and play at Indian River Thursday.

No. 10 Odessa 2-0 The Ducks are in the top 10 for the first time. It will be interesting to see how they continue to compete. They hosted Padua Monday and Christiana Wednesday this week.

DIVISION 2

No. 1. Delmar 4-0 The Wildcats continue to dominate outscoring opponents 33-2. They will go on a four-game road trip that will span the next two weeks. They get some rest after one game this week that took them to Sussex Academy Tuesday.

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BY NICK HALLIDAY

The high school boys soccer saw a lot of great action last week and with some of the upsets we saw again last week there are some big changes in the rankings this week. Sallies beat Caravel on Saturday night in the battle of No. 1 teams 2-0. Lots of big games this week including some big conference games. This week's rankings will have the records and previous ranking before the description of what the team has coming up.

No. 1 Sallies (3-0) (LW No 1.) The Sals picked up a couple of big wins last week including the 2-0 win vs. Caravel The Sals hosted No. 2 Wilmington Charter on Tuesday night before a long plane trip to Vegas for a pair of games against Nevada teams starting on Thursday.

No. 2 Wilmington Charter (2-0) (LW No. 2) The Force picked up a conference win over MOT Charter last week. They have a busy week as they face a pair of rank

ON THE PITCH: WEEK 2 TOP 10 RANKINGS

teams in both Divisions. They traveled to No. 1 Sallies on Tuesday before hosting No. 6 Conrad on Thursday.

No. 3 Delcastle (2-0) (LW No. 3) The Cougars picked up a conference win over Christiana last week. They hosted No. 4 Appoquinimink on Tuesday before hitting the road for a battle with Mount Pleasant on Thursday and a showdown with Friends on Saturday.

No. 4 Appoquinimink (0-1-1) (LW No. 5) The Jags were off last week, but their tough early season continues this week with a trip to No. 3 Delcastle on Tuesday. They then travel to Lewes on Saturday night to face No. 5 Cape Henlopen.

No. 5 Cape Henlopen (1-0) (LW No. 6) The Vikings picked up their first win of the season 4-1 over Smyrna last week. They face two ranked teams this week when they hosted No. 6 Polytech on Tuesday night and No. 4 Appoquinimink on Saturday night.

No. 6 Polytech (4-0) (LW Unranked) The Panthers pick up three wins last week, including a pair of 2-1 wins over Lake Forest and Dover, to vault into the rankings this week. They have a pair of tough road matches this week at Cape on Tuesday and Sussex Academy on Thursday.

No. 7 Sussex Central (1-1-1) (LW No. 7) The Golden Knights split a pair of games against ranked teams last week as they fell to Sussex Academy 2-0, but defeated Caesar Rodney 2-1. They hosed Sussex Tech on Tuesday.

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Sports

VIEW FROM THE BASELINE: WEEK 2 TOP 10 RANKINGS

The Senators were led on the attack by Elizabeth Baughman and Mila Minstead. Reese Culver has patrolled the back line and Jasmine Hallum is getting the job done as the setter. Baughman, Minstead and Culver are all seniors, giving Dover an experienced core group. It finally played its home opener on Tuesday against Milford before making its second and final trip to New Castle County on Thursday at Wilmington Charter.

The Ursuline Raiders completed a season-opening three-match road trip undefeated, including a 3-1 win over top-ranked Tower Hill. Their reward is five straight at home beginning Monday against Camden Catholic (NJ). The Raiders are getting outstanding play from a number of players, including hitters Caitlyn McGonigal and C.C. DeCaro.

Odessa is 2-0 with a busy week looming. They have three matches, including Appoquinimink School District rivals Appoquinimink on Wednesday and Middletown on Friday.

[CLICK TO READ MORE](#)

BY JASON WINCHELL

Hey, Dover, we heard you. Let's talk about the Senators. Dover is 4-0 heading into this week, with all four victories coming on the road. After opening with a sweep of sixth-ranked Caravel, Dover moved to 4-0 after defeating No. 5 Delmarva Christian, 3-1, on Sept. 16 in Georgetown. Three of the four sets were decided by the minimum two points, including a 30-28 second-set marathon that gave the Senators a 2-0 lead.

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INDIANS HOLD ON AFTER VIKINGS COMEBACK

BY JASON WINCHELL

Indian River and St. Elizabeth played three close games over the past two seasons and the Vikings won all three, including last year in a Class 1A quarterfinal. On Friday night at Abessinio Stadium, the teams were neck and neck once again, but this time the Indians came out on top, taking a 20-14 decision.

The Indians, ranked second in Class 1A by Delaware Live, brought a big roster and a healthy cheering section north from Dagsboro. They went to one of their stand-out running backs—Jayvion Chandler—early and often and he opened the scoring early in the second quarter on a 17-yard run to the right side.

But the Vikings had a ground game of their own and on the first drive of the second half, they struck. Jihad Brown did the honors, going up the middle for 73 yards. St. Elizabeth, however, missed the extra point.

Davon Handy took center stage for IR on the next drive, finding the end zone at the end of an 11-yard run less than a minute after the Vikings’ touchdown. The lead was eight with 9:48 to go in the third.

Undaunted, the Vikings answered quickly. The big play on the 80-yard drive was a 56-yard catch and run from Cole Andrews to his big brother Gavin. Setting up at the Indians’ 29, St. E’s ran the ball five times, the last one a one-yard plunge for Brown. A two-point conversion tied the score, setting the stage for an entertaining final quarter and a half.

Indian River took possession with 10:17 remaining in the game, going on a drive that would cover 71 yards and more than six minutes. Chandler scampered for 38 yards on first down, but the Vikings’ defense stiffened, and eventually, the Indians faced fourth down and 10.

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Quarterback Dylan Grise hit Darnell Stokes down the right side to the 17. IR needed six more plays to score, with Grise finishing the drive with a touchdown from a yard out.

St. Elizabeth, beginning at its 26, moved quickly. Cole Andrews connected on passes of 17 and 23 yards, and an 11-yard run by Brown got St. Elizabeth to the IR 13. Brown went for eight yards on first down, but the Indians’ held on the next two plays. On fourth down, Cole Andrews rolled to his right and, seeing no running lane, threw into the end zone, but the ball bounced off a player in the end zone and fell to the ground.

No statistics were available Saturday. Indian River (2-0) hosts Polytech on Friday at 6 p.m. The Vikings (0-2) visit McKean on the same day and time.

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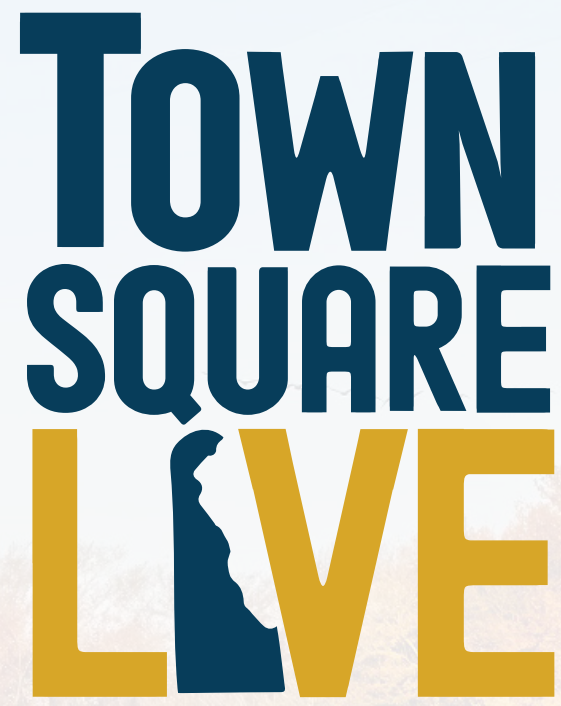
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