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Appoquinimink Beats Sallies

PHOTO BY BRIAN K. LEONARD



HEADLINES

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PUBLIC INFIGHTING RETURNS TO WILMINGTON CITY COUNCIL

BY CHARLIE MEGGINSON

Wilmington City Council members must hand over all email, phone and text records from January 2021 to March 2022 in response to a Freedom of Information Act request filed by one of their own.

Councilwoman Shané Darby, D-District 2, submitted the FOIA request because she says a group of seven city council members have been holding private meetings during which they discuss city business.

Darby believes those meetings violate state transparency laws designed to prevent public business from being conducted behind closed doors.

Some say Darby's request is absurd. Demanding such an expansive amount of information while publicly shaming city council is counterproductive, wastes taxpayer dollars and government resources, and does nothing to serve the people of Wilmington.

Only two of those seven council members responded to a request for comment.

"When we look like fools, when certain people act up and do things that are inappropriate, and it's allowed to go on, it affects all of us," said Councilwoman Maria Cabrera, D-At Large. "It doesn't matter what my individual reputation is, I'm still part of that body and I don't want us to be a laughingstock."

Others say there may well have been a FOIA violation, but Darby went about resolving it the wrong way.

"Certainly, this is something the council should be able to work out amongst themselves," said John Flaherty, a board member with the Delaware Coalition for Open Government.

Darby isn't the only one complaining.

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BY JAREK RUTZ

Republicans are going all in this year to support their candidates for school board elections that take place in three weeks.

The Delaware State Republican Party sponsored a “Super Saturday Day of Action” Saturday to encourage volunteers to meet candidates and help them campaign.

The right-wing Patriots of Delaware this week sent out an email saying “it’s time to double down on the presser, Don’t let up because things are getting BETTER,” and asking people to sign up to help their candidates’ campaigns.

A group of organizations, such as the ACLU, the Delaware PTA, the NAACP and the Delaware Coalition Against Gun Violence on April 26 will launch a series of six public forums about candidates running for New Castle County schools.

CONSERVATIVES MARSHAL FORCES AS SCHOOL BOARD ELECTIONS NEAR

And here’s the kicker: Until recently, school board elections traditionally have been considered apolitical. Candidates don’t register by party. They register by school district.

Today, conservatives argue schools have not been transparent with what they are teaching. With COVID-19 forcing children to learn from home, parents have had more exposure to what their children were being taught—and they weren’t all happy about it.

They are upset over critical race theory, which teaches that America is racist at the core of its laws and institutions. They’re also upset with a perceived increase in education on sexuality and gender identity, particularly in elementary years, as well as transgender bathroom use and sports activities.

Jane Brady, chairwoman of the Delaware State Republican Party, boiled the GOP’s battleground issues in the upcoming elections down to one theme: a parent’s right to know.

“A parent has the right to know what’s in their child’s curriculum and what you’re teaching them,” Brady said. “And it’s their right to know what’s going on with their child with regard to gender and sexuality.”

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DELAWARE'S AFFORDABLE HOUSING CRISIS AFFECTS MIDDLE CLASS, TOO

BY CHARLIE MEGGINSON

Evidence continues to pile up that Delaware is struggling to provide affordable housing:

- **Data** released April 21 by Housing Alliance Delaware says the state faces a shortage of more than 18,000 affordable and available rental homes for extremely low-income renters.
- Also on April 21, Delaware State Housing Authority **announced** that eligible Delaware renters can now receive up to 18 months of rental and utility assistance—instead of 15—through its Delaware Housing Assistance Program, commonly known as DEHAP.
- An annual household income of \$46,846 would be required to reasonably afford a two-bedroom rental home in Delaware according to the National Low Income Housing Coalition.
- The fair market rate for that home would be \$1,071 per month, according to the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development.
- There are currently only 27 rental properties on Zillow in the entire state of Delaware for \$1,071 per month or less.

- In 2019, 38% of Delaware households struggled to make ends meet, according to the United Way of Delaware.

While many programs are aimed at Delaware's lowest-income earners, people in all segments of the economy are affected. Steve Lenhoff, a marketing professional for a large Wilmington bank, has lived with three roommates in a four-bedroom apartment in Bear for the past couple of years. Recently, the four roommates decided it was time to go their separate ways. Lenhoff quickly learned that finding a rental home in Delaware would not be as easy as it was just a few years ago.

"I started with a list of probably about 10 to 12 apartment complexes that I would be happy living in," Lenhoff said. "I narrowed it down to 3 or 4 very quickly just because there was no availability at a majority of them."

He began exploring his options and ultimately found that buying a home would cost about the same as renting. He decided to go in that direction instead.

"I had to have a decent amount of savings built up for it and that's the first hurdle that so many people are not able to overcome, unfortunately," he said. "The monthly amount I'm going to be paying in a mortgage probably lines up with what I would be paying in rent for an apartment."

With rising costs and stagnant wages, others who live paycheck to paycheck often do not have spare money to contribute to savings. That's just one of the many factors that contribute to the crisis Delaware—and the rest of the country—faces in terms of providing affordable housing for low- and moderate-income earners.

There are many causes, experts say, including insufficient government investment in affordable housing, burdensome regulations on landlords which result in higher prices, rising costs throughout the economy, and stagnant wages.

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DARBY ORDINANCE WOULD MAKE WILM. EMPLOYERS PAY FOR SHIFT CHANGES

BY CHARLIE MEGGINSON

Business leaders are lining up in opposition to a proposed ordinance in Wilmington that would require service industry employers to provide two-weeks notice of work schedules and compensate employees when changes occur.

The measure, sponsored by Council Member Shané Darby, D-District 2, aims to provide more schedule stability for hourly workers at retail, hospitality and food service establishments with 250 employees or more and franchises with less than 250 employees.

The proposed ordinance would allow workers to decline shifts not included in a posted work schedule or shifts that do not provide at least nine hours of rest after a previous shift.

If asked to work shifts that don't allow for nine hours of rest, employers would be required to pay workers an extra \$40, in addition to their regular compensation.

“The reason why I’m doing this is because I care about working-class people, especially the most vulnerable groups,” Darby said. “I think that Wilmington could be the catalyst to what it looks like to protect workers, protect workers’ rights, and to make sure that people are able to work and live.”

Council Member James Spadola, R-At Large, called the proposal “a solution in search of a problem.” He said businesses unable to keep up with the regulatory burdens imposed by the city can easily open shop elsewhere.

The proposed rules could also hurt workers, opponents say. “This potential ordinance puts part-time workers under attack,” said Carrie Leishman, president and CEO of the Delaware Restaurant Association. “This is a counterproductive and dangerous ordinance at a time where Delaware restaurants still have 4,500 open positions.”

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RED CLAY TO BRING UP WILMINGTON CHARTER REVIEW AGAIN IN MAY

BY JAREK RUTZ

The Red Clay Consolidated School District Board did not have enough votes last week to initiate a review of the Charter School of Wilmington.

While the board seemed to approve that plan with a 3-2 vote, after the meeting ended the board learned that according to state rules the vote needed to be at least four in favor.

A majority of all board members is needed to pass a motion, according to the state, whether they are in attendance or not. On Wednesday, board member Martin Wilson was not at the meeting.

Red Clay School Board President Cathy Thompson said on April 18 that after the vote took place and the meeting ended, she was alerted about **Title 14** of Delaware's School Code, which requires the majority of the entire board to settle a vote.

"I'm not blaming anybody else whatsoever," she said, "but I wish someone had spoken up about the code during the meeting."

Thompson expects the issue to come up again May 11 during the board's next regular meeting.

The Red Clay Board's move comes after months of complaints about Wilmington Charter's board and its administration.

One side claims the charter board is overstepping its bounds and interfering in the school's operations and has not been following state law about meetings. The other side claims that the administration focuses only on the opinions of a select few parents.

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CULTURE

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SHE'S BACK: MUSEUM OF NATURE AND SCIENCE SETS REOPENING EVENTS

BY BETSY PRICE

The Delaware Museum of Nature and Science will reopen with a series of events over four days from May 20 to May 23, when it will finally open its doors to the public. The Greenville museum will be the 21st century version of the old natural history museum, which opened 50 years ago with a collection of birds and nearly 1 million shells.

The **redo** took the building's guts down to the studs behind the walls, and visitors now will find exhibits that allow them to trace the area's scientific history—including the planet, animals and man—from the Cretaceous Period to modern times.

"We've completely shed that dusty, old museum perception. The Delaware Museum of Nature and Science is dynamic, engaging, interactive, relevant, and modern," said Executive Director Halsey Spruance in a press release. "Our focus is on what we know about nature and science, why it matters to us, and what we can do to protect the environment. There's a huge emphasis on

how we are all connected and how our actions matter."

The museum's \$10.8 million, 17-month renovation project began at the end of 2020. Many of the exhibits had been in place since 1972, and the installation of the new exhibits has been going on since the end of 2021.

In addition to the galleries, visitors will reap the benefits of new lighting and sound systems, a new fire alarm and fire suppression system, new paving, a new heating and air conditioning system and renovated bathrooms.

Guests will start their visit in the atrium, where they will find the Tree of Life, visually depicting the evolution of organisms over billions of years and the relationships between them.

Off the atrium, the Bill & Denise Spence Discovery Gallery will offer rotating, hands-on exhibits. The opening exhibits include material from the Delaware Mineralogical Society, First State Robotics and the University of Delaware, in addition to the museum's Collections & Research Division.

Visitors are expected to start their rambling by turning left in the foyer to the Ellice & Rosa McDonald Foundation PaleoZone. There, they will find creatures that lived in the Mid-Atlantic during the Cretaceous Period. Skeletons of the fearsome *Dryptosaurus* dinosaur, the flying "bat lizard" *Nyctosaurus* and the aquatic giant *Mosasaurus* are joined by smaller specimens.

Next, adventurers will find the Alison K. Bradford Global Journey Gallery and a giant floor map of the world, surrounded by three land-based ecosystems, including a tropical rainforest, Arctic tundra and African savanna, along with three different ocean environments—shallow, mid-water and deep. The ecosystems demonstrate nature's diversity, the interdependency of life, and how humans play the biggest role in change.

The last big display will be in the Regional Journey Gallery. There, guests will be able to stroll across a giant floor map of the state and explore deciduous and mixed forests, the Bald Cypress Swamp, a saltmarsh, dunes and the Delaware Bay.

Designated areas such as the Fair Play Foundation Field Station and the DuPont Research Headquarters provide an opportunity to learn what is happening in our local region and beyond.

New to the museum will be the Rest, Relax, Recharge Café with prepackaged sandwiches, salads and snacks from Jamestown Catering, along with coffee, water and other beverages.

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SHE TURNED HER BACK ON ORGAN MUSIC, ONLY TO BECOME CONCERT SOLOIST

BY BETSY PRICE

Nicole Keller's mother played the organ. So did her grandmother. "So, of course, I never wanted to touch the instrument for the longest time," said Keller.

With a father who was a minister in the African Methodist Episcopal Church and a mom who played the organ at several churches, she grew up steeped in the music. Then, after her junior year of high school, the Berwyn, Pennsylvania native spent a summer in Venezuela. She returned missing the music she loved.

She began playing the piano again and decided to study music at the Baldwin Wallace Conservatory of Music in Berea, Ohio, majoring in piano and minoring in organ. She went on to earn a master's in organ performance at the Eastman School of Music in Rochester, New York.

Today, Keller's one of the few Black female concert organists, and she'll be in Delaware Sunday, April 24,

pulling out all the stops when she performs at 3 p.m. at the Episcopal Church of **Sts. Andrew and Matthew** in Wilmington. The performance, which has a suggested free-will offering of \$20, will feature music by Bach, César Franck, Florence Price and Anne Wilson. The concert also will be livestreamed from the church website.

Learning organ in college was demanding, she said. Unlike pianists, who contend with a keyboard and a set of pedals, organists must master as many as five keyboards while managing the stops. They are buttons or knobs that control the flow of air to the pipes to create layers of sound. At the same time, organists also deal with more foot pedals—which generally add the bass notes—than a pianist and often must move their feet quickly up or down or to the extreme left or right.

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MILTON'S JIMMIE ALLEN TO PERFORM AT NASCAR CUP SERIES RACE

BY CHARLIE MEGGINSON

One of Delaware's brightest stars will return home for Dover Motor Speedway's biggest NASCAR weekend ever. Multi-platinum selling, award-winning country music superstar and Milton native Jimmie Allen will perform a pre-race concert at the Monster Mile on Sunday, May 1. The 12:45 p.m. concert at the Embrace Home Loans Stage in Victory Plaza will immediately precede the DuraMAX Drydene 400 NASCAR Cup Series race.

Allen has enjoyed a meteoric rise to fame in a few short years, earning many awards and top-tier nominations, releasing a string of chart-topping hits, and appearing on numerous TV specials and celebrity contests. He most recently was nominated for Best New Artist at the GRAMMY Awards in April and co-hosted the ACM Awards with Dolly Parton in March.

Other 2022 nominations have included ACM Male Artist of the Year and Outstanding New Artist at the NAACP Image Awards. He is the reigning CMA New Artist of the Year and also won ACM New Male Artist of the Year in 2021. He recently appeared as a guest mentor on "American Idol," a show he auditioned for years before signing a record deal.

Allen's No. 1 hits include "Best Shot," "Make Me Want To" and "Freedom Was A Highway." His third album "Tulip Drive" will be released June 24 and the record's lead single "Down Home" is available everywhere now.

Allen has amassed more than 1 billion career on-demand streams.

"We are so excited to have Jimmie come home to provide all of us such great entertainment," said Mike Tatoian, president and general manager of Dover Motor Speedway. "He is an outstanding individual as well as a performer and we're so happy he is coming."

Allen's show is the centerpiece of the weekend's events in Victory Plaza and the FanZone, Tatoian added. "This is shaping up to be one of the most memorable race weekends in quite some time, both on and off the track," he said.

The April 29-May 1 NASCAR tripleheader weekend race weekend schedule includes:

- SUNDAY, MAY 1: DuraMAX Drydene 400 presented by ReliDyne NASCAR Cup Series race (3 p.m., FoxSports 1).
- SATURDAY, APRIL 30: A-GAME 200 NASCAR Xfinity Series Dash 4 Cash race (1:30 p.m., FoxSports 1).
- FRIDAY, APRIL 29: General Tire 125 ARCA Menards Series East race (5:30 p.m.)

The DuraMAX Drydene 400 presented by ReliDyne is the 104th NASCAR Cup Series race at Dover, one of only 10 venues in the country to host 100 or more Cup Series events.

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BY CHARLIE MEGGINSON

The Delaware Division of Historical and Cultural Affairs will sponsor seven special events during the month of May 2022. A full schedule is included below. Except where noted, all programs are free and open to the public.

Saturday, May 7 from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Dover Days Festival. Celebration of Delaware history featuring historical re-enactments, parade, maypole dancing, walking tours, pet parade, arts and crafts, music and more. Events are primarily based in down-

LEARN SOME DELAWARE HISTORY AT THESE SEVEN EVENTS IN MAY

town Dover locations including the Delaware Division of Historical and Cultural Affairs' Johnson Victrola Museum and The Old State House.

Friday, May 13, 2022 at 7:30 p.m.

Concert by Captain Blue's Grass Band. Acoustic/folk/rock/Americana music. Presented in partnership with the Delaware Friends of Folk. Delaware Division of Historical and Cultural Affairs' Old State House, 25 The Green, Dover. NOTE: This concert, originally scheduled for Feb. 11, was rescheduled to May 13.

Saturday, May 14, 2022 from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Buena Vista spring event. Enjoy a spring day at one of Delaware's most historic estates completed by former U.S. Secretary of State John M. Clayton in 1847. Visitors can go for nature walks, learn about the gardens and agricultural history of the farm, enjoy educational programs by the Sunshine Plein Air Artists and Bluebird Society, and participate in outdoor children's games. Photography and picnicking are welcome. Delaware Division of Historical and Cultural Affairs' Buena Vista: A Delaware Country Estate, 661 S. Dupont Highway (Route 13), New Castle. Rain date: Sunday, May 15.

Saturday, May 14, 2022 at 10 a.m. and 1 p.m.

Cooch's Bridge Historic Site: Touring the homestead. Join historical interpreters for this introductory program on the history of the Cooch's Bridge homestead. Learn

about some of the individuals who lived on the property, how they shaped the land around them and how the location's landscape contributed to national history. Delaware Division of Historical and Cultural Affairs' Cooch's Bridge Historic Site, 961 Old Baltimore Pike, Newark. Tours at 10 a.m. and 1 p.m. Limit 20 visitors per tour. Free admission but reservations required. NOTE: Both May 14 tours are fully booked. Reservations are now being accepted for June 11, tours by going [HERE](#) or emailing coochsbridgehistoricsite@gmail.com.

Saturday, May 21, 2022 from 10 a.m. to 4:15 p.m.

"The Wooden World Revealed." A day of activities commemorating HMS DeBraak, a British warship that sank off the coast of Delaware on May 25, 1798. Delaware Division of Historical and Cultural Affairs' Zwaanendael Museum, 102 Kings Highway, Lewes.

Saturday, May 21, 2022 from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

A Day in Old New Castle. The oldest house and garden tour in the nation includes programs at the Delaware Division of Historical and Cultural Affairs' **New Castle Court House Museum** and the New Castle Green. Downtown New Castle. Admission free at the New Castle Court House Museum. Admission charge at other venues.

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FILM SCREENING PART OF REHOBOTH MUSEUM'S STORM OF '62 EXHIBIT

Audiences can learn more about the catastrophic weather event on Saturday, April 23, at 1:30 p.m. when the Rehoboth Beach Museum screens “The ’62 Storm: Delaware’s Shared Response.” The showing is part of the museum’s exhibit, “A Storm Like No Other: The Great Storm of 1962,” continuing through May 15.

The exhibit includes images and oral history quotes from those who remember the nor’easter, which caused millions of dollars in damages.

An Unexpected Horror

By all accounts, it was supposed to be a non-event. The March 6 weather forecast called for a “quiet storm moving easterly across the United States and out to sea.” However, in 1962, there was no Doppler radar and only rudimentary satellite imagery. Computer forecasting was limited.

The storm was a “nor’easter,” which takes its name from the direction in which the winds blow. The low-pressure systems, which pack average winds of 30 to 40 miles per hour, are more common in fall and winter. Coastal residents took the weather in stride. Then the storm took a strange turn. A high-pressure system to the north pinned it in place, where it stalled for five high tides. To make matters worse, it was the spring equinox, and there was a new moon. Consequently, the tides were higher than usual.

The storm gained fury. Sustained winds howled 35- to 45-miles-per-hour, with 70-mile-per-hour gusts. Offshore waves climbed to more than 40 feet, while breaking waves crested at heights ranging from 20 to 30 feet. Lewes historian Hazel Brittingham vividly remembered standing on Second Street in Rehoboth Beach, watching a giant wall of water rush toward her

She compares its height to an open drawbridge. “I’ve never experienced anything like that before,” she told me. “You’re looking at it, and you’re seeing it, but you can’t believe you’re seeing it.”

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BY PAM GEORGE

On April 22, 1962, more than 2,500 people flocked to Rehoboth Beach to flaunt their Easter finery before judges—and each other. Although it was 80 degrees, the ladies vying for the best-dressed woman award wore flowery hats and gloves. Young boys squirmed in suits, and at least one rabbit competed for—and won—the best-groomed pet trophy.

Typically, the event occurred on the boardwalk. But in 1962, it didn’t exist. The Storm of ’62 had swept the boards out to sea, leaving only a concrete section for the Easter promenade. According to the newspaper, “city officials were encouraged with the turnout in light of the destruction.”

The missing boardwalk wasn’t the only vestige of the March storm. Waves and wind had ravaged buildings, including Funland, which the Fasnacht family had just purchased. The Pink Pony, a popular nightclub, and Stuart Kingston were destroyed—along with the art and antiques that Stuart Kingston planned to auction.

Sixty years ago, the smiling faces in their holiday frocks symbolized survival and the hope for a busy summer season. But the specter of the Ash Wednesday Storm is hard to shake.

EARTH DAY CELEBRATIONS OFFER NEW RAIN GARDEN, SALT MARSH TOUR, MORE

BY BETSY PRICE

Delaware organizations offered a variety of ways to celebrate Earth Day Friday and Saturday.

New Castle County is inviting residents to participate in the installation Friday—which is Earth Day—of a new rain garden, with guests helping to plant 600 native plants there.

The Aquatic Resources Education Center in Smyrna will offer Saturday “Marsh Madness” tours of the tidal salt marsh.

Wilmington’s West Side neighborhoods will mark the occasion with Love Your Park Day in support of Wilmington’s Community Cleanup Day and the kickoff of the Open Streets Wilmington.

Here are the details.

New rain garden

People who showed up Friday at 9:30 a.m. at the Claymont Library were able to help DNREC Sec. Shawn Garvin and others install a new rain garden at the Claymont Library at 400 Lenape Way. The strategically-placed rain garden is designed to reduce runoff and flooding as well as filter pollutants carried in storm water runoff.

Rain gardens create excellent habitat for local birds, butterflies, and bees. The group installed 600 native plants, which are known to survive local weather extremes, in addition to supporting wildlife in various ways. The county had gloves and tools on hand for those who would like to help.

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GOVERNMENT



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SEN. DARIUS BROWN'S COMMITTEE POSITIONS REINSTATED

BY CHARLIE MEGGINSON

State Sen. Darius Brown has been reinstated as chair of the Senate Judiciary Committee and member of the Senate Capital Improvement Committee.

Brown, D-Wilmington, was removed from the Judiciary Committee in May 2021 after being arrested on misdemeanor offensive touching and disorderly conduct charges.

He was removed from the Capital Improvement Committee in November 2021 after a heated altercation with Rep. Melissa Minor-Brown, D-New Castle, who accused him of verbally abusing her.

He was found not guilty on all charges in January 2022.

“As Pro Tempore, I removed him from these committees in the face of the allegations he faced last year, and I have now reinstated him given his acquittal in court and my belief that the terms of these sanctions have been appropriate,” said Senate President Pro Tempore Dave Sokola, D-Newark.

“I want to thank Sen. Kyle Evans Gay and Sen. Marie Pinkney for their time and dedication in filling these roles over the last year. Their service has been exemplary,” Sokola said.

Following the November 2021 verbal altercation with Minor-Brown, Sokola said, “Verbal abuse is abuse, full stop, and it cannot go unpunished. In the Senate, there will be consequences for behavior unbecoming an elected official.”



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GOP SENATORS TO STATE: DON'T FOLLOW PHILLY'S MASK MANDATE

BY CHARLIE MEGGINSON

Delaware's seven Republican senators have asked the state's top doctor not to reinstitute a statewide indoor mask mandate. The letter came after the city of Philadelphia last week announced its mandate would be coming back due to a rise in cases there. Restaurants, museums, businesses, offices, government buildings and arenas in Philadelphia began requiring masks Monday morning.

Dr. Karryl Rattay, director of the Division of Public Health, has not said anything to indicate mandates would return in Delaware.

"We believe strongly that our small businesses, schools, and overall societal health have greatly improved in the time that our mandates and State of Emergencies have not been in effect," the letter reads.

"Our state's school children have experienced great improvements to their mental health and academics in the month or so since the school mask mandate was lifted."

The senators said bringing back the kind of restrictions and mandates seen throughout the pandemic would "hinder the progress we have made towards returning to normalcy."

In a statement provided to Delaware LIVE News April 18, Rattay did not directly address the letter. "We are watching a slight uptick in Delaware's cases, positivity rate and hospitalizations, but Delawareans know what to do to stay safe," Rattay said.

She offered a list of precautions folks can take to protect themselves against COVID:

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- "Make sure they are up to date on their vaccines, including boosters.
- Stay home if they feel sick.
- Get tested if they have symptoms of COVID-19 or have been a direct contact of someone who tested positive.
- Wear a well-fitting mask in public indoor settings if they are immunocompromised, are around someone who is immunocompromised, or feel more comfortable doing so."





MASKS NO LONGER REQUIRED ON DART BUSES

BY CHARLIE MEGGINSON

Masks are no longer required on Delaware’s public transit buses. A federal judge in Florida on April 18 ruled the CDC overstepped its authority and failed to follow proper procedure when it extended the mask mandate for planes and other forms of public transportation.

Shortly after, the White House announced the Transportation Security Administration would no longer enforce the **mandate**.

In a press release April 19, Delaware Transit Corporation, which operates DART First State buses, announced masks are no longer required for employees or passengers. Similarly, passengers and employees on trains in Delaware operated by **Amtrak** and **SEPTA** will no longer be required to wear face coverings.

Delaware Transit Corporation emphasized that “the safety and well-being of our bus operators and customers

remains our top priority and we will continue to monitor this situation and rely on guidance from the CDC and Delaware Division of Public Health.”

The Center for Disease Control and Prevention continues to recommend that people wear masks in indoor public transportation settings.

DART First State will continue with its enhanced cleaning protocols on all buses.

The Biden administration is reviewing the court’s ruling and the Justice Department will decide whether it will appeal, according to White House press secretary Jen Psaki.



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SCIENCE, BASKETBALL, DRONES: STEM FUN DURING SPRING BREAK

BY JAREK RUTZ

Drones, video games and basketball all in one place. That wasn't just a middle school boy's dream, but a day of STEM fun at The Warehouse in Wilmington.

Designed by **Learning Undefeated** to spark students' interest in careers in science, technology, engineering and mathematics, the three-hour event Tuesday included hands-on activities, games and family-oriented contests.

Learning Undefeated's **Drop Anywhere Lab**—a traveling science laboratory housed in a shipping container—was set up on the basketball courts. It's a big box: about 20-feet-by-5-feet, and it holds groups of about seven people. When a group entered the box, the window's blinds were pulled down, the room was pitch black and the action began.

The group broke up into teams designated red, blue and yellow. On three of the four walls, a projector displayed a game in which each group had to slap the projected button on the wall to answer the question: chemical change or physical change?

The screens might show a video of ice melting, butter browning or powder being mixed into a glass of water. A team had one minute to say if a chemical change or physical change was occurring.

At the same time, the teams were presented with a list of about 10 criteria that indicate a chemical or physical reaction. Once the team selected an answer, a spokesperson would pop up in the video game to explain the correct answer.

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If you are 50 or older, or have a weakened immune system, talk to your health care provider about whether you should get a second booster dose of the vaccine.

 de.gov/boosters





SPORTS

PHOTO BY NICK HALLIDAY

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BY NICK HALLIDAY

The No. 1 Appoquinimink Jaguars remain undefeated with a 6-4 win over No. 4 Salesianum Sals Thursday afternoon. Strong pitching and timely hitting help propel the win for the Jaguars.

In the second inning, Aiden Deakins singled and scored Chase Fleming to start the scoring for Appo. The Jaguars added three more runs in the third inning. Hunter Hitchens led off the inning with a single. Evan Boulding followed by drawing a walk. Chad Lawrence then took an 0-1 pitch driving it into left field, scoring Hitchens. Chase Fleming followed suit, hitting a ball into left field past a diving John Dunion of Salesianum.

After what seemed to be an inning-ending play by Sallies pitcher Zach Czarnecki, who fielded a short grounder hit in front of him which was later called a foul ball off the foot of Cameron Coco. Coco with new life after the reversed call beat out an infield single to load the bases. Deakins then drew a bases-loaded walk

APPOQUINIMINK BEATS SALLIES 6-4, REMAINS UNDEFEATED

capping off the inning giving the Jaguars a 4-0 lead.

Salesianum then answered back with an RBI single by Brandon Baffone in the fourth inning. Then Aiden Tesche crushed a two-run home run to left field in the top of the fifth to make it a one-run game.

In the bottom of the fifth, Deakins then had another RBI on a two-out single for Appoquinimink. Deakins also picked up his fourth win of the season on the mound tossing 5.1 innings, with six strikeouts for the Jaguars. came in relief of Deakins to close out the game.

Hitchens, Lawrence, and Fleming also had two hits each for Appoquinimink. Zachary Czarnecki, and Baffone each had one hit and an RBI for Sallies.





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FRIENDS WALKS OFF AGAINST SANFORD

BY NICK HALLIDAY

Sanford scored three runs in the top of the seventh inning, giving the Warriors their first lead of the game. Dylan Smallwood got things started, leading off the inning with a single. Luke Filliben then reached on an error. After a strikeout by Tyler Goetz, Jack Lazarski reached on a fielder's choice. With two runners on, Brady Bolman hit a double to left field, scoring both Smallwood and Lazarski. Ryan Timmons drove in Bolman with a line-drive single to left field giving Sanford an 7-5 lead.

Wilmington answered with three runs of its own in the bottom of the seventh. Ryan Tattersall led off with a single to left field. Back to back walks to Andrew Huff and Jack Heckles loaded the bases for the Quakers. Osinachi Chukwuocha then singled home both Tattersall and Huff tying the game at 7-7.

After a sacrifice fly from Jason Hughes, Nathan Huxtable singled on a 1-0 count, scoring Heckles as Wilmington Friends came away with a 8-7 walk-off win over the Sanford Warriors.

Sanford collected nine hits and Wilmington Friends had eight in the high-scoring affair. Adan Shweiki went 2-for-4 at the plate scoring one run and knocking in one as well to lead Wilmington Friends. Ryan Timmons led Sanford going 3-for-3 adding two RBI scoring once himself. Shweiki started the game, but Braeden Pantano got the win for Friends. He pitched one inning, allowing three hits and three runs while striking out one and walking none.



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DELAWARE **LIVE** SPORTS TOP 10 RANKINGS

BY JASON WINCHELL



SUSSEX TECH DEFEATS SALESIANUM AT FRAWLEY STADIUM

BY NICK HALLIDAY

Sussex Tech made the trip upstate to face off with an undefeated Salesianum baseball team in front of a great crowd at Frawley Stadium. The Ravens were losers of their last three games falling to Cape Henlopen, Delmar, and Indian River before the April 16 game.

Salesianum scored first as it was able to score three runs in the bottom of the first inning. John Dunion highlighted the inning hitting a double scoring Campbell who drew a leadoff walk. Zach Czarnecki singled and scored on a passed ball. Dunion was eventually knocked in by a Quinn Bartkowski single. The Ravens looked as if their losing ways were going to continue, but it was still early in the game.

Sussex Tech did not stay down long. It cut into the lead in the very next inning, scoring two runs in the top of the second inning. The Ravens then tied the game at 3-3 in the top of the third inning as Johnathan Stokley

led off the inning with a double and scoring on a fielder's choice.

In the top of the sixth inning, the Ravens broke the tie game wide open scoring five runs on four hits. Jaryn Sample and Landon Ruark led off the inning with back to back singles. Sean Ely reached as he was hit by a pitch and Kade Hall eventually drew a walk to load the bases.

With the bases loaded, freshman Rosnell Lewis knocked a 2-2 pitch through a drawn-in infield to right field. The hit scored Ruark, Ely and Hall as the throw from right field got past the catcher allowing all three runs to score while Lewis moved up to third. Grant Allen singled on the second pitch he saw capping off the big sixth inning giving the Ravens an 8-3 lead.

Sallies answered right back in the top of the sixth. Brandon Baffone led the inning off with a single. Campbell followed with another single of his own. Dunion

and Ryan Rzucidlo both reached on back to back errors by the Ravens that scored Baffone. Bartkowski added two more RBI for the Sals, knocking in Campbell and Dunion with his second hit of the game bringing the lead down to 8-6.

Unfortunately for the Sals they were not able to dig out of the five-run sixth inning from the Ravens. Grant Allen who came in for relief for winning pitcher Zane Adams was able to shut down the Salesianum offense in the seventh to give Sussex Tech the 8-6 win.

Adams went five innings allowing three runs on five hits striking out three batters. Cory Sheridan took the loss for Salesianum. The hurler went five and a third innings, allowing seven runs on seven hits and striking out seven.

Offensively, Grant Allen and Ruark both went 3-for-4 from the plate to lead Sussex Tech in hits. Lewis led the ravens with four RBI.

Campbell led the way for Salesianum going 3-for-4 and adding two runs. Bartkowski added two hits with three RBI.

Sussex Tech's next game was Thursday as it played host to Caesar Rondey. Sallies went on the road Tuesday to play Newark Charter at Leroy Hill.



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