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PHOTO LINK: SCOTT EVERS

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**Holiday Cheer at Longwood Gardens**



**DMV Rolls Out Veteran Indicator**



**Undefeated Laurel Takes Home Lions Club Trophy**

PHOTO LINK: BRIAN K. LEONARD



# HEADLINES

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# KENT AND SUSSEX VOTE RED; NOT ENOUGH TO OVERCOME DEEP-BLUE NCC



BY CHARLIE MEGGINSON

Democratic candidates for U.S. House, attorney general, state treasurer and state auditor **swept** Delaware's general election—and they did it without the help of Kent and Sussex counties.

Lisa Blunt Rochester, Kathy Jennings, Colleen Davis and Lydia York lost in Kent and Sussex, but the Democratic vote north of the canal was too much for Republicans to overcome. The balance of power in the state Senate will now lean even more to the left.

Rep. Steve Smyk, who was running to replace former Sen. Ernie Lopez, R-Rehoboth, lost his election to Democrat Russ Huxtable. That brings the Senate's partisan makeup from 14 Democrats and seven Repub-

licans to 15 Democrats and six Republicans. The structure of the House of Representatives will remain the same, even as some seats flipped.

Smyk's former seat was claimed by Democrat Stell Parker Selby, who defeated Republican Dallas Wingate. Compensating for that loss, Republicans picked up one seat in Long Neck with Republican Dr. Jeff Hilovsky defeating Democrat Keegan Worley.

Rep. Mike Ramone, R-Pike Creek, has claimed victory over Dr. Frank Burns, who appears to have lost by 35 votes. Burns has not conceded the race, writing in a social media post that he is awaiting a recount of the ballots.

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# GENERAL ASSEMBLY TO HOLD VIRTUAL FORUM ON LEAD IN SCHOOLS

BY CHARLIE MEGGINSON

The General Assembly will hold a public forum next week focused on the recent discovery of lead in the water supplies of nearly 50 Delaware school buildings. The virtual forum will be held Monday, Nov. 14 at 7:30 p.m.

“Like many parents throughout Delaware, my fellow legislators and I are very concerned about the presence of any lead in the water supplies of our public schools,” said Sen. Sarah McBride, D-Wilmington, who served as chair of the Senate Health and Social Services Committee in the 151st General Assembly.

## UNSAFE LEVELS OF LEAD

The Delaware Department of Education and Division of Public Health began a sampling initiative in Delaware schools in Oct. 2020 to identify the levels of lead within drinking water systems.

The [Environmental Protection Agency](#) says any amount of lead over .015 milligrams per liter of water is

dangerous. While the sampling report noted several schools close to that threshold, 47 buildings at 22 schools surpassed it.

Lead is toxic to humans. According to the Division of Public Health, young children are particularly vulnerable to lead because the physical and behavioral effects of lead occur at lower exposure levels in children than in adults.

A dose of lead that would have little effect on an adult can have a significant effect on a child, DPH says on its website. In children, low levels of exposure have been linked to damage to the central and peripheral nervous system, learning disabilities, shorter stature, impaired hearing, and impaired formation and function of blood cells.

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# School



# Choice

## PUBLIC, CHARTER SCHOOL CHOICE APPLICATIONS NOW OPEN

BY JAREK RUTZ

Delaware's school choice applications for the 2023-2024 academic year open this week. The First State is **one of 13** in the country that allows families to send their child to any district or charter school in the state.

Students may submit applications to multiple school districts. Applications must be in by Jan. 11, 2023, at 11:59 p.m. After reviewing school choice applications, districts and schools have until Tuesday, Feb. 28, 2023, to notify families of admissions decisions. Families have until Friday, March 17, 2023, to accept a school's enrollment invitation.

"School choice allows families and students to decide which school best meets their needs," said Laurisa Schutt, executive director at **First State Educate**, a local organization advocating for improved education outcomes.

Parents and students can apply online by clicking **HERE**. The online application portal lists each tradi-

tional public school and indicates if there's open seats, if the school is at capacity, nearing capacity, or if a waitlist is expected.

"Examining Department of Education **data** to assess the social and learning culture, academic rigor, course offerings and vision of each school helps families make informed decisions," Schutt said.

If a student is placed on a waiting list, the list will be maintained until the first day of the 2023-2024 school year, even if they accept an invitation to another school. Once a student accepts an invitation for a school, parents are encouraged to decline any outstanding invitations so that schools can keep updated data on their enrollment pool.

[CLICK HERE TO READ MORE](#)

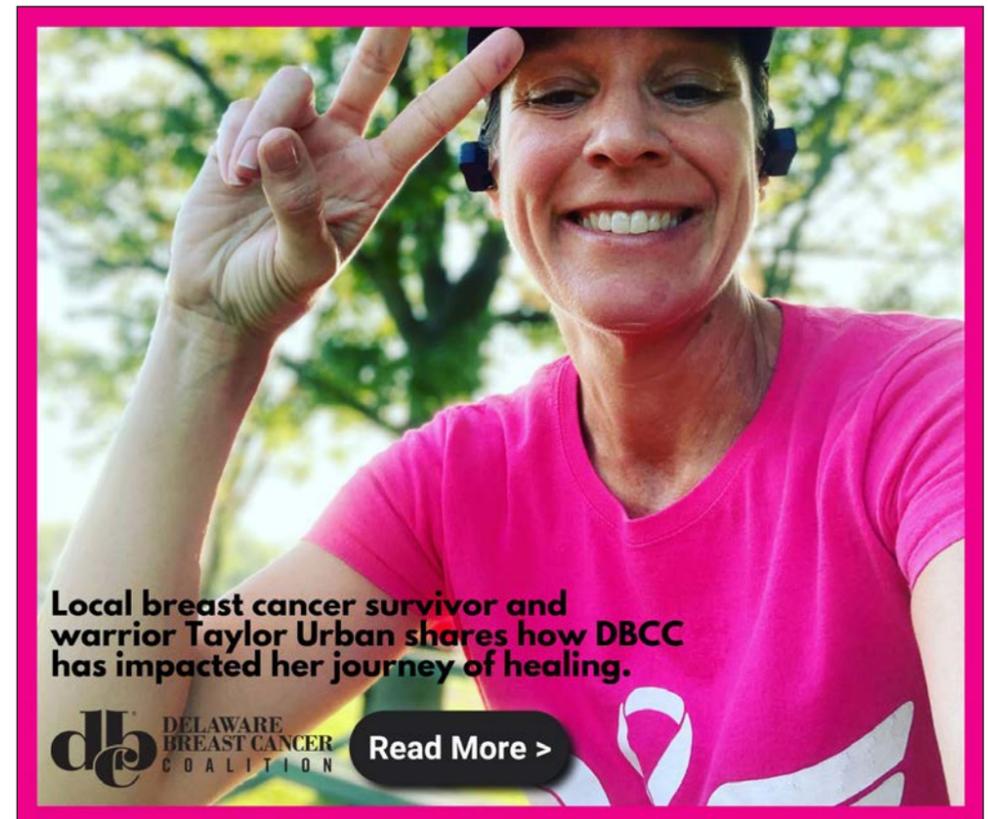




PHOTO LINK: FIRST STATE HERITAGE PARK

# CULTURE

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# NEW KID-DESIGNED PLAYGROUND OPENS IN WILMINGTON

BY JAREK RUTZ

A new playground—designed by kids, for kids—is now open in Wilmington. More than 150 volunteers helped install the playground at the **Neighborhood House** in Southbridge, with designs inspired by drawings and creative ideas that children submitted during a design day in September.

**Discover**, the **Delaware Community Foundation**, and the national non-profit **KABOOM!** partnered together to fund and help build the playground at the Neighborhood House.

KABOOM! chief executive officer Lysa Ratliff said that playgrounds are an iconic part of childhood.

“They’re not only where kids collect some of their best memories, but also where crucial skills are developed that nurture their physical, mental, and emotional well-being,” she said.

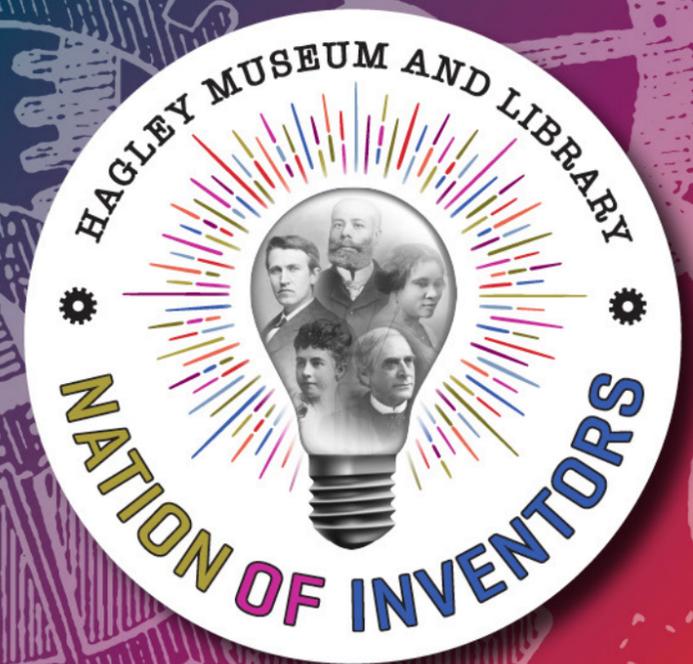
Discover’s partnership with KABOOM! has resulted in 415 playgrounds built across the nation and the three in Delaware.

“Throughout the community of Southbridge, we hear the echo of youth voices of all ages saying, ‘We need a safe place to be included and we need something to do!’” said Alison Windle, executive director of Neighborhood House, Inc. There are not enough supervised activities in the area or safe places for the youth to be engaged, she added. She hopes the playground will be utilized by a pre-school classroom, something that Neighborhood House is looking to add this year.

KABOOM! has published a guide to safely reopen playspaces in the aftermath of the COVID-19 pandemic, and for maintaining safety in those areas. The guide can be found [HERE](#).

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# LONGWOOD GARDENS TO BRING HOLIDAY CHEER, BOTANICAL SPLENDOR

## BY STAFF WRITER

Visitors to Kennett Square's Longwood Gardens this holiday season will be met with glimmering botanical ornaments, more than half a million dazzling lights artistically accenting the landscape, strolling carolers bringing holiday cheer and crackling firepits adding warmth to cozy winter evenings. The holiday display will be around from Nov. 18 until Jan. 8. Tickets are available [online](#).

This year's theme—Botanical Splendor—elevates plants and natural elements into artisan holiday décor that transforms Longwood's grand Conservatory and outdoor gardens into a holiday wonderland, according to a news release.

“Natural materials are whimsically woven throughout displays—fresh and preserved florals paint landscape canvases, dried branches and grasses become bursting stars and grapevines transcend typical wreath configurations to form elegant hanging orbs,” Longwood said.

### THE MUSIC ROOM

One highlight of the holiday display is the Music Room, which this year is transformed into a lavish floral shop. The shop features extravagant floral arrangements created by instructors from Longwood's floral design program, and intricate botanical drawings by students of Longwood's botanical drawing classes.

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JOHN MOLLURA

- PHOTOGRAPHY -

BEAUTY PORTRAITS - HEAD SHOTS  
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# FOOD & DINING

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# 10 DELAWARE SPOTS FOR SUPPER AND A SHOW

BY PAM GEORGE

Sure, you could go to dinner and just, you know, eat. Or you could experience a little entertainment with your entrée. Here are some places in Delaware where you can get supper and a show.

## *The Room at Cedar Grove*

Founded by chef and musician **Paul Cullen**, The Room at Cedar Grove is a Lewes-area event venue west of Route 1 on Cedar Grove Road. The entertainment venue offers an impressive list of concerts featuring bands, solo artists and up-and-coming singer-songwriters. Many events include a wine dinner, or you can buy food and beverages. The proceeds benefit **Paul**

**Kares**, which supports aspiring chefs and musicians.

If you prefer music and food in your home, try Cullen's in-home dinner service featuring Italian cuisine. He cooks, serves and cleans. And after the meal, he gives guests a private concert.

## *Snuff Mill Restaurant, Butchery & Wine Bar*

The fine-dining restaurant in north Wilmington hosts DJs after hours on the first of the month. Known as Burgers & Beats, the after-hours event also includes the restaurant's famous burger with bacon, sautéed Vidalia onions, pickled red onions, American cheese, dill pickles and a "special sauce."

On a recent evening, the place was packed at 10 p.m., and there was a wait for tables. That night, chef and co-owner Robert Lhulier controlled the tunes from his station above the meat case.

On regular evenings, the fun factor comes from foie gras delivered to the table in a smoke box. All eyes follow the elegant glass case as co-owner Bill Irvin makes his way through the dining room.

## *Bardea Steak*

Bardea Steak, downtown Wilmington's new restaurant, spotlights steak of all kinds, prepared in many different ways. During my visit, a server came to our table to cook the meat on a portable hibachi-style grill with Japanese characters.

## *Candlelight Dinner Theater*

Nestled in Arden, founded as an artists' community, Candlelight truly is dinner and a show. Tickets to main-stage productions include a meal.

## *Vincente's Restaurant*

Vincente's has moved a few times since opening in Wilmington's Little Italy, but the tableside Caesar salad has been a staple. The founder, the late Vincent Mancari, was known as the "Walking Menu." His theatrical tableside salad put Vincente's on the Delaware map.

## *Dickens Parlour Theatre*

Dickens Parlour is now located on **Good Earth Market & Organic Farm's** grounds, and you can select a dinner with a show.

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# DELAWARE PASTRY CHEF COMPETED MONDAY ON FOOD NETWORK

## FROM FILM TO PHYLLO

The Westminster, MD, native doesn't lack discipline and drive. After graduating with a degree in communication from New York University, Tevis intended to attend American University's film school. That changed between undergraduate and graduate school when he bartended at a Rehoboth Beach restaurant.

Tevis had fallen in love with pastry while studying in Italy, and he'd already baked his way through a pastry cookbook. During Rehoboth's restaurant week, he asked the chef if he could make dessert.

The diners' enthusiastic response to his confection led to more creations. Instead of attending film school, Tevis enrolled at the French Culinary Institute in New York (now the International Culinary Center) and graduated as class valedictorian. While in the Big Apple, he worked under Chef Kierin Baldwin at The Dutch and Christina Tosi, the chef/owner of Milk Bar.

In Rehoboth, Tevis gained fame working for La Vida Hospitality and other restaurants before landing his current job at SoDel Concepts. It's an important role, given the hospitality group has 17 restaurants.

[CLICK HERE TO READ MORE](#)

## BY PAM GEORGE

Dru Tevis is typically a man with a plan. "When I was in school, I handed in term papers early," explained the Rehoboth Beach resident. "I studied for all my tests—nothing was ever done at the last minute."

But cooking show contestants rarely get to prepare. So, when Tevis—who oversees the dessert program for SoDel Concepts—landed a place on the Food Network's "[Holiday Baking Championship](#)," he was understandably nervous.

"Some people thrive being last minute," he noted. "I felt like I wasn't going to do well on the show because I'm used to everything being planned."

[SoDel Concepts](#) hosted a viewing party for the first episode at [Thompson Island Brewing Company](#) in Rehoboth, and Tevis prepared samples of his creations at the event.

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# GOVERNMENT

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# Delaware Election Results

## DELAWARE ELECTION RESULTS 2022

BY CHARLIE MEGGINSON

Republicans who predicted a red wave in Delaware's 2022 general election were sorely mistaken. None of the Republican candidates for statewide office were successful in the election that brought out about 43% of registered voters.

Lee Murphy, GOP candidate for Delaware's lone congressional seat, conceded in an emailed statement Tuesday night.

"The people of Delaware have spoken, and while I'm disappointed for myself and those who worked so hard on this race, I'm committed now to remaining involved as a voice for Delaware," Murphy said.

Democrats flipped retiring Republican Sen. Ernie Lopez's state Senate seat, with Democrat Russ Huxtable defeating Rep. Steve Smyk with about 52% of the vote.

Republicans picked up a House seat in Sussex County, with Republican Jeff Hilovsky beating Democrat Kee-gan Worley. That seat formerly belonged to Democratic Rep. Bud Freel, and before that, Rep. Gerald Brady. It was moved from Wilmington to Long Neck during last year's redistricting.

At the same time, Republicans lost the House seat formerly held by Smyk, who stepped down to unsuccessfully run for Senate. Democrat Stell Parker Selby won that House race with about 51% of the vote over Republican Dallas Wingate.

Some races are too close to call, such as the one between Rep. Mike Ramone and Dr. Frank Burns in Pike Creek, which Ramone is leading by some 35 votes.

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“The Delaware Department of Transportation and the Delaware Division of Motor Vehicles proudly recognize the contributions and sacrifices of those who have faithfully served our country and represented our great state,” said Secretary of Transportation Nicole Majeski. “The Veteran indicator is designed to verify an individual as a Veteran in the State of Delaware so that businesses and organizations can recognize their contributions as well,” Majeski said.

Veterans who are renewing, changing their address, or purchasing a duplicate driver license or identification card may add the indicator at no additional charge at any DMV location. Applicable fees for those services will apply. For more information, click [HERE](#).

[CLICK HERE TO READ MORE](#)

**BY CHARLIE MEGGINSON**

The Delaware Division of Motor Vehicles has unveiled a new driver license indicator that allows Veterans to verify their military service on their identification card. Supporters of the new feature say it will eliminate the need for Veterans to carry a separate card or official discharge form to prove their service.

“There are nearly 80,000 veterans living in Delaware and this new indicator provides our veterans with a convenient way to provide proof of military service,” said Rep. Nnamdi Chukwuocha, D-Wilmington, who sponsored House Bill 408, the enabling legislation.

The Veteran indicator designation is available to any Delaware veteran who served in the U.S. Armed Forces and received an honorable discharge. To obtain the Veteran indicator, one must have a valid Delaware driver license or identification card and provide proof of military service by presenting any of the following original documents:



PHOTO LINK: SCOTT EVERS



# EDUCATION

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# CAB CALLOWAY TEACHER'S ART EXHIBIT 'MAKES THE INVISIBLE VISIBLE'

BY JAREK RUTZ

Maia Palmer, a visual arts teacher at **Cab Calloway School of the Arts**, wanted to bring awareness to how chronic migraines can affect people. So, she combined her artistic talent with her passion for social awareness and created the “Making the Invisible, Visible” exhibit, which will be on display until Nov. 25 at the **Mezzanine Gallery** on the second floor of the Carvel Building in downtown Wilmington.

Palmer, who suffers from migraines and says she’s faced backlash at work and social groups for her condition, opted to create an exhibit of self-portraits, all representing feelings and experiences she’s had while dealing with migraines.

“Migraine is typically considered an invisible illness since there are no visible symptoms versus having the flu or illness that is readily apparent,” Palmer told Del-

aware LIVE News. “**Millions** of Americans suffer from chronic migraines, yet there is little research around it and there’s a lot of discrimination that goes with people who suffer from migraines,” Palmer said.

Her exhibit includes 10 large-scale self-portraits, each 38 by 50 inches, and five smaller self-portraits. There is also a video component that tells her history with migraines. Some pieces have QR codes that patrons can scan to bring them to an audio file sharing different experiences Palmer has had with her disease.

For the exhibit, Palmer primarily used charcoal because of its gritty, hands-on qualities.

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# SAINT MARK'S HONORS VETERANS DAY WITH 20K CHALLENGE

BY JAREK RUTZ

Veterans, students, community members—and even Miss Global USA—jogged 20 kilometers around the **Saint Mark's High School** gymnasium on Friday to honor Veterans Day. **Danielle Alura**, Miss Global USA 2023, kicked off the marathon with a performance of “Amazing Grace.”

“I’m here because, number one, I’m American,” Alura said. “I have plenty of family members who have served and currently serve, so today is a very big holiday for me to participate in to show my love for the country and for our fallen heroes.”

The annual Cpl. Stephen M. McGowan 20K Challenge honors Stephen McGowan, a 1996 graduate of Saint Mark’s who was killed in Iraq in 2005 while serving in the Army.

Participants were asked to raise \$200 each, with the proceeds going to the Cpl. Stephen M. McGowan Fund, which provides tuition assistance for the children of active-duty military and Veterans attending Saint Mark’s.

“I think this is a great way for us to help them out and provide them some relief, especially when we remember how amazing it is that these Veterans have provided so much to America,” said Aiden Gomez, a junior at Saint Mark’s.

The run came shortly after Saint Mark’s hosted a buffet-style breakfast for the community. Several runners sported backpacks with 20-pound weights to add another challenge, and perhaps burn off some of those breakfast calories.

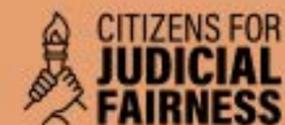
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# SIGNING DAY: FOUR URSULINE RAIDERS COMMIT TO COLLEGIATE PLAY

BY JAREK RUTZ

Four Ursuline Academy seniors are hanging up their Raiders uniforms in exchange for collegiate garb. The students signed letters of intent with their chosen colleges and universities at a signing event Nov. 9.

“The early mornings, the late nights, overcoming injuries and pain, and staying motivated to get to this point requires hard work, requires discipline, passion, and above all, resilience,” said Upper School Principal Jeffrey Danilak.

“Let’s not forget about your academics,” Danilak said. “Balancing athletics with academics is no easy task, and all of you have done that exceptionally well.”

The athletes include:

**Sophia Filipowski:** Filipowski committed to play soccer at **St. Francis University**, a Division I school in

Loretto, PA. Last year, Filipowski was the only junior captain on the varsity soccer team.

“And that was for a reason,” said soccer coach Brittany Quinn, who retired after last season. “She is a leader on and off the field and is incredible to coach and incredible just to get to know and be around.”

On top of the technical elements of playing, Quinn said Filipowski taught her teammates how to be a great teammate and friend.

**Maddy Cherry:** Cherry signed on to play field hockey at the Division I **Merrimack College** in North Andover, MA. “The day that Maddy came in and walked on the field, she was a very different kid than the strong woman who sits at this table today,” said varsity field hockey coach Lindsay Russell.



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“It’s been amazing to see her grow into the young woman that she is today and I think today is a big cherry on top of a really long and grueling process to find your home and find your college that you’re really excited to go play for,” Russell said.

She said Cherry would often excitedly approach her to share new things she’s learned on the field and in the classroom, exemplifying her passion for growing and learning.

**Gabriella Paoella:** Paoella signed a letter of intent to compete in track and field at the Division I **College of the Holy Cross**, located in Worcester, MA.

[CLICK HERE TO READ MORE](#)



# STATE GRAPPLES OVER FREEZE ON EQUALIZATION FORMULA

BY JAREK RUTZ

Delaware’s **Equalization Committee** has agreed to not make any decisions on whether to freeze or change the state’s equalization formula, which affects school funding, until next year. The purpose of the equalization formula is to allocate state resources to districts inversely based on their ability to raise revenues through their local property tax base.

“It’s to try to help those districts that did not have the same property wealth as others,” said Sara Croce, chief financial officer at **Milford School District** and a member of the Equalization Committee.

“If they didn’t have the ability to raise as much money through current expense referendums, and so forth to support student needs, the equalization formula adjusts for that,” Croce said.

Delaware funds schools based on the number of student “units” in the state’s districts each year. Every unit is supposed to cover the financial needs of schooling one student, whether that be hiring teachers or installing a repairing HVAC systems.

Once the amount of units are determined the equalization formula adjusts the amount of funding by a percentage that is indicative of the district’s ability to raise funds through referendums. This helps ensure that each district has the same level of resources to educate each student. The formula has been frozen since 2009 due in part to outdated property values, which is a factor in the formula.

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## \$675,000 AWARDED TO EDUCATE PATIENTS WITH CHRONIC DISEASES

BY JAREK RUTZ

A \$675,000 grant from the Administration for Community Living will go toward educating older homebound Delawareans who struggle to find ways to manage conditions such as arthritis, asthma, diabetes, lung disease, heart disease, stroke and osteoporosis. The grant was awarded to Education Health Research International (EHRI), the non-profit arm of the [Milford Wellness Village](#).

“This is a quality of life and a preventative measure through education, and possibly more importantly, through getting access to healthcare in our present and future world,” said Lon Kieffer, executive director of the Milford Wellness Village. “An ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure,” Kieffer said.

Over the next three years, the non-profit will train 100 volunteers on how to provide virtual educational

programs on self-management of chronic diseases to up to 1,000 homebound individuals.

The [Centers for Disease Control and Prevention](#) lists heart disease as the second-leading cause of death for Delawareans. Chronic lower respiratory diseases ranks fifth and diabetes seventh.

Some of the content in the courses, Kieffer said, addresses managing portion sizes and tracking sugars and salts in meals. Kieffer said the courses will also help bridge the digital divide that many of the country’s elderly experience.

“It’s more and more taking the angle of pre-registration online or pre-screening on your phone before you go into the appointment, or waiting on your prescription until you get a text,” he said.

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HEALTH

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# NEW ONLINE DASHBOARD LETS YOU TRACK FLU DATA

BY CHARLIE MEGGINSON

Delaware's state health agency launched an online dashboard Nov. 9 to track weekly and seasonal influenza data, including positive cases, hospitalizations, deaths and vaccinations. The Division of Public Health said in a news release that the dashboard will provide an accurate picture of flu activity among Delawareans, and make data readily and easily available.

The system will be updated with local data every Thursday. Data from other regions will be updated monthly. The flu dashboard can be found by clicking on the 'Weekly Flu Data' link at [flu.delaware.gov](https://flu.delaware.gov) or visiting this [link](#).

"We are extremely excited to leverage the power and popularity of the My Healthy Community data portal platform to share the most currently available data on influenza," said DPH Interim Director Dr. Rick Hong.

"The portal has become most well-known for providing real-time COVID-19 data. Now we can bring that same level of detail and transparency to the public with flu data as well."

The launch of the dashboard comes as flu cases soar in Delaware. During the week of Oct. 23 to Oct. 29—the most recent time data was available—there were 172 laboratory-confirmed flu cases in the state, bringing the season total to 254. The week's total is a six-fold increase from the prior week. That's likely a significant underrepresentation of the actual level of flu in the community, according to DPH, because most cases go unreported.

While flu transmission appears high, flu-related hospitalizations remain low, at 14.

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amazing women. I get to do fun things and they understand what I've been through more than a lot of other people who haven't experienced breast cancer can. So that's been really a supportive and helpful thing for me. But we also do a lot of fun stuff."

One of Urban's favorite Young Survivors in Action activities was a wreath making event that was held in November. It was her first October as a breast cancer survivor, so having an event that was fun helped.

"Having gone through my first October as a breast cancer survivor was just a lot. And that event came in November, and it was for the holidays," Urban said. "It was really great. There were all these beautiful materials for us to work with. And I just connected with a great group of women, and we laughed, and we had fun, and everybody created these beautiful wreaths and I just really enjoyed that event."

When asked what breast cancer has taught her, Urban replied that it was a tough question to answer.

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BY TERRY ROGERS

Delaware Breast Cancer Coalition (DBCC) offers many different services designed to help those who have survived breast cancer but also for those who are newly diagnosed. One of the key factors to understand when someone is diagnosed is that there is no right or wrong way to be a survivor as Taylor Urban explains.

"I was diagnosed with breast cancer when I was 45 years old. I underwent a bilateral mastectomy with reconstruction. My cancer was identified in a routine mammogram and I had no symptoms or family history," Urban said.

After her diagnosis, Urban joined Young Survivors in Action, a support group sponsored by DBCC.

"As far as Young Survivors in Action in terms of just helping me heal, it's connected me with a group of

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# SPORTS

PHOTO BY BEN FULTON

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## UNDEFEATED LAUREL TAKES HOME LIONS CLUB TROPHY

BY BENNY MITCHELL

There's a lot of football history in the small town of Laurel. Thursday night, the Bulldogs added to that history by finishing the regular season 10-0 with their 42-13 victory over rival Delmar.

"I am really proud of these kids, they have committed themselves to this program for a long time and it makes me proud to be able to send them off after Senior Night with a 10-0 regular season," Laurel head coach Joey Jones said.

Laurel took the ball down to the Delmar 14-yard line on the opening drive of the game, but a fumble on third down was recovered by Tate Walls at the 24-yard line. With the Bulldogs facing a fourth and 11, Kaden Shockley went around the left end on a quarterback keeper untouched for a touchdown. Mike Gonzalez's kick gave Laurel a 7-0 lead midway through the first quarter.

Delmar drove to the Laurel 15-yard line on its initial game drive, but the Laurel defense stiffened for the first two red zone stops for the Bulldogs in the first half.

Walls later scored on a six-yard sweep around the left end as the Bulldogs jumped out to a 14-0 lead on Senior Night. Midway through the second quarter, Laurel was forced to punt deep out of its own end of the field. Takai Hugee returned the kick 35 yards to the 16-yard line. Four plays later, Hugee scored on a six-yard run. Nathan VanZandt added the point after the kick as Delmar cut the lead to 14-7 with 4:19 left to play in the first half.

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## SUSSEX TECH RUNS OVER ODESSA

BY NICK ALESSANDRINI

The NFL wasn't the only place for Thursday Night Football when the Sussex Tech Ravens (3-6) traveled to Odessa to take on the Ducks (5-4). 1A Odessa has locked up a playoff spot while the 2A Ravens were looking to end their season on a high note after dropping three straight games. A matchup of two teams that like to run the ball, and the Ravens did it exceptionally.

Both teams were able to strike early in the first. The Ducks would start the scoring with a 15-yard touchdown run from Mac Keating and after the missed PAT led 6-0. The Ravens would answer immediately with a Jeremyah Handy 13-yard touchdown run on a scoring drive that took just 20 seconds off the clock. The Ravens took a 7-6 lead and would add to it in the second.

Zion Roach would get the toss outside and extend the football over the goal line for a six-yard touchdown run. It would not stop there for Roach as on the next possession he would take a carry 20 yards for another score. Then, after another stop for the Sussex Tech defense, Jaryn Sample would take it in from one yard out, leaving just one second on the game clock.

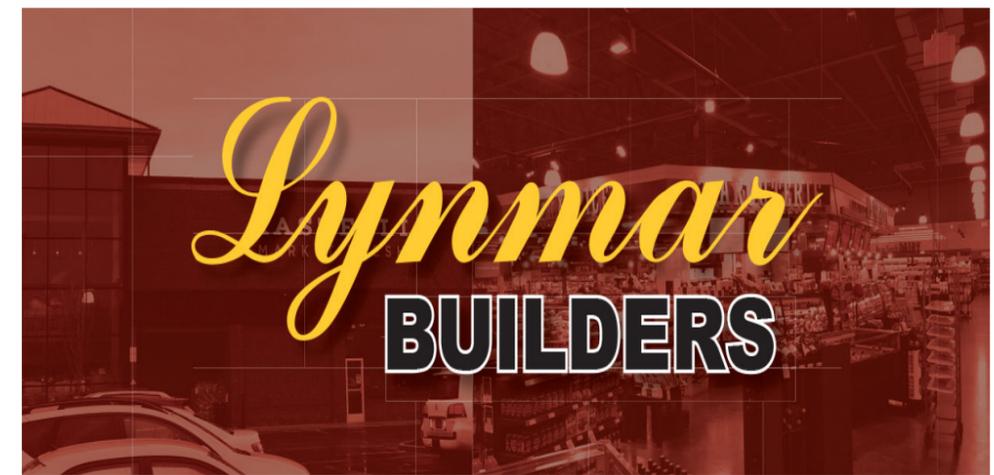
The Ravens score 27 unanswered points and led 27-6. However, the Ducks would get some magic as the first half came to a close.

The Ducks would execute the reverse on the ensuing kickoff return and Jalen Lingham would take it 79 yards for the touchdown. Ducks cut the deficit to 27-12 at the half.

The second half would be all Ravens, as they were able to ground and pound their way to a 34-12 victory. The Ravens' defense, led by Simeon Hill, would shut out the Ducks the rest of the way.

Jaryn Sample finished the day with 160 yards rushing and Roach with 73 yards, both scoring multiple touchdowns. Sussex Tech ran for 297 yards in the win. Ahzir Bellamy rushed for 50 yards to lead the Ducks.

The Ravens end their season 4-6 and with a win. The Ducks will begin to prepare for the 1A playoffs.



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# DELAWARE'S CROSS COUNTRY RUNNERS PREPARE FOR STATES

BY GLENN FRAZER

It was “unseasonable” fall weather for the New Castle County and Henlopen cross country meets last weekend. The New Castle County meet was held at Winterthur while the Henlopen race took place at Killens Pond, the site of Saturday’s state championship meet.

Johnathon Drew won the boys’ race at Winterthur in a time of 16:09.44, followed by Ethan Walther from Delaware Military. Walther was just 13 seconds behind Drew. The Cavaliers finished in second place with Salesianum winning the team title, and DMA rounding out the top three.

Jonas Rush and Walter Samuels finished fourth and fifth, respectively, for Middletown. The Sals were paced by Matt Miller (third), Colin Small (seventh), James Kennedy (eighth) and Matthew Bradley (ninth) as they totalled 45 points. Middletown scored 72 and DMA gathered 119 points. The Seahawks second and third runners were Troy Hedrick and Ethan Barnett. Lathan Love-Brown (A-I duPont) and Camerin Williams (Hodgson) rounded out the top 10.

In the girls’ race, Carlita Kaliher led two of her Tatnall teammates to the finish line with a time of 19:12.07. Katie Payne was second in 19:24.43 and Katrina Endres was just two seconds behind her. The Hornets as a team



took eighth place as the #4 and #5 runners were unable to crack the top 100.

Saint Andrews won the girls’ team title with 55 points. Padua finished in second with 67 and Archmere took third with 153 points. The private school in Middletown had three girls finish in the top 10, led by Lily Murphy (five), Leah Horgan (six) and Lia Miller (eight). The Auks’ top three runners were Taylor Costa, Maddie Priest and Ryan Vitola.

The Henlopen Conference race winners were Ryan Baker from Cape and Brynn Crandell of Indian River.

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