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Neighbors The Hammonton Gazette

Cannabis concerns fielded by Senator Tiver during EHC council meeting

BY CRAIG RICHARDS GAZETTE PUBLISHER

EGG HARBOR CITY, N.J.—With the recent changes in the Senatorial district lines, representatives across the state are reaching out to new additions to their districts. One such meet and greet was conducted at the recent Egg Harbor (EHC) city council meeting on April 25.

I just want you to know I'm here to help," District 8 Senator Latham Tiver said while addressing EHC council.

During his remarks, Mayor Dr. Lisa Jiampetti spoke to the senator about a growing concern with Delta-8 and Delta-9 tetrahydrocannabinol (THC). Both variants are legal in the state of New Jersey as long as the product contains no more than 0.3% THC, a restriction outlined in the 2018 Farm Bill.

Delta-8 THC is typically manufactured in concentrated amounts from hemp-derived CBD, a less potent ingredient compared to Delta 9 THC.

In May 2022 the Food and Drug Administration (FDA), issued warning letters to five manufacturers of Delta-8 THC products addressing misbranding including a lack of adequate instructions on use of products and marketing practices implemented by the manufacturers.

Delta-9 THC is the more notable intoxicating component of cannabis plants. The effects of consumption beyond certain thresholds in individuals create a typical experience know as a "high." Manufacturers of Delta THC products market their use for treating or mitigating symptoms of certain medical conditions or diseases. The FDA has only approved two synthetic THC products. Dronabinol and nabilone were FDA approved for use to alleviate chemotherapy-induced nausea and vomiting. The latter product is also used to aid in appetite improvements for patients with AIDS.

The relatively new harvesting of legal marijuana is creating a mix of praises from users coupled with concerns due to a lack of research on the short- and longterm effects of the growing market. Those growing concerns are part of the issues Jiampetti was asking Tiver to investigate.

Tiver assured the council that he would follow up on the issue when returning to his office.

Senate Bill No. 3470 was sponsored by Senator DeClan O'Scanlon, Jr. and Senator Teresa Ruiz and introduced on January 12, 2023 and since amended to include measures to oversee cannabis manufacturing and sales.

An amendment to this New Jersey statutory law authorizes The Cannabis Regulatory Commission, to track, through a registration process, hempderived cannabinoid product manufactured outside the New Jersey regulatory structure, and establish other safety and testing requirements, an act developed to address certain hemp-derived cannabinoids and amending and supplementing various parts of the statutory law.

The rapid legalization and ongoing manufacturing developments will continue to see legislation addressing everchanging concerns over the harvest of cannabis and related products.



Craig Richards/THG Senator Latham Tiver spoke during the Egg Harbor City council meeting on April 25.

AtlantiCare Fdtn. raises more than \$640,000 benefiting behavioral health & addiction medicine

AtlantiCare raised more than \$640,000 in support of behavioral health and addition initiatives at the AtlantiCare Foundation's 63rd annual Century Club Gala held May 4, 2024 at the Borgata Hotel Casino & Spa, Atlantic City, N.J. Themed the Year of the Dragon, more than 650 people attended the event during which Fernando Delasotta, MD was presented with the Edward R. Knight Award, and Richard Mairone, Esq. was also honored with the award in memorium.

Funds raised at the gala will be dedicated to pivotal initiatives aimed at enhancing access to behavioral health and addiction services. AtlantiCare Behavioral Health (ABH), the largest provider of mental health, addiction recovery and family care social services in southeastern New Jersey, operates across 17 locations in the region. This extensive network allows Atlanti-Care to deliver a wide array of services that support individuals and their families in their health journeys. The Foundation's contributions have been instrumental in advancing ABH's mission. This includes supporting the hiring of Peer Recovery Specialists and covering startup costs for a new pain management program. The Foundation has also provided funding for transportation assistance, ensuring that patients with substance use disorders and/or behavioral health conditions can access necessary treatments without barriers.

"The AtlantiCare Foundation and the support of our donors have been vital to our past achievements and are imperative to our future success," said Michael J. Charlton, president and CEO, AtlantiCare. "By enhancing access and excellence in critical health services like behavioral health we are improving the quality of life for over one million residents in our service area. Our promise is to ensure that everyone, regardless of their circumstances, has access to outstanding care close to home."

The evening was marked by tributes to the 2024 recipients of the Edward R. Knight Award, Delasotta and the late Mairone. This award was established in 1998 to honor those who contribute to building a healthier community. The award is named for the late Edward R. Knight, Ph.D., who was chair emeritus of AtlantiCare Regional Medical Center's (ARMC's) Board of Trustees and who devoted more than 50 years of service to improving healthcare for those who live and work in southeastern New Jersey.

"Both individuals, Dr. Delasotta and Richard Mairone have made countless contributions to the health and welfare of our community. It is a pleasure to honor two people who through their life's work have done much to reflect Dr. Knight's dedication to community service," David Goddard, chair of the Atlanti-Care Board of Trustees, said.

About Dr. Fernando Delasotta, MD:

Delasotta is being recognized for his continued service and passionate commitment to caring for patients with neurological concerns in our community. Delasotta, the former Medical Director of Neurosurgery at AtlantiCare Regional Medical Center is a Board-certified neurosurgeon. He specializes in surgery of the brain, spine and peripheral nerves, and has more than 20 years' experience in the diagnosis and treatment of chronic back pain, disc disease, spinal cord injury and tumor disease. Aside from his patients, Delasotta is expertise. Active in his profession and sought after for his knowledge, he has been a faculty member and presenter at many meetings and conferences around the world. He regularly trains providers on trauma management and neurological interventions. AtlantiCare applauds his lifelong commitment to quality care, continuing education and peer mentoring.

About Richard "Rick" Mairone, Esq.:

Mairone was highly regarded within the legal community where he specialized in tax and estate matters, regularly giving back to the legal profession. Beyond his well-established legal career, Mairone also generously served and supported many other organizations. He dedicated many hours in service to Atlanti-Care, chairing AtlantiCare's English Creek Assurance Board, and serving as a Trustee on its Regional Heath Service Board and committees. He was a member of The Greater Atlantic City Chamber of Commerce Board of Trustees and supported the UNICO Scholarship Foundation. His service and support also extended to his alma matter, Vilcontributions included cheering on the basketball team at as many games as possible. This love for basketball was passed down to Mairone's children and he enjoyed cheering them on and coaching them. Mairone will long be remembered for his impact in the community, professionalism and his kind heart.

About the AtlantiCare **Foundation:**

The AtlantiCare Foundation was established in 1977 and is committed to improving health outcomes by investing in areas such as food security and the promotion of healthy behaviors to moms, babies, and schoolaged youth, mental health services and access to quality healthcare for underserved communities. The Foundation has also been instrumental in the construction of new facilities and the addition of cutting-edge treatment and wellness programs at AtlantiCare. With the addition of the funds raised at this gala, the AtlantiCare Foundation is over halfway to its annual goal of \$5 million in community impact. Those interested in supporting the Foundation are urged to learn more

AtlantiCare.org/foundation.



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- Financing Long Term Care



MULLICA TOWNSHIP MIDDLE SCHOOL TRIMESTER 2 HONOR ROLL

ALL A HONOR

ROLL 8TH GRADE Emma Beaulieu Xavier Bennett Hailey Butterhof Kate Colin-Palacios Charles Cordery Cole Dessicino Leah Engelmann Richard Fognano Julian Gardella Cole Gauthier-Landicini Ryan Hanselmann Jacob Jacobo Brooke Kienzle Audrey Lee Katelyn Martinez **Rielly McClure** Julia Morris Jenny Rae Ava-Joe Singletary Emily Stalba

Chloe Stoehr Madilyn Winterbottom Addison Zeck 7TH GRADE Sadie Bartling Summer Burke Alexa Figley Madison Fish Grace Ford

> Joseph Franzosi Cooper Horst Ian Jazwinski Briella Johnson William Keller Carson Krawiec Paige Leek Emily Lord Jane Vogel

> 6TH GRADE Clayton Billiard Paige Figueroa Brielle Heraux

Felicity Reedy Dempsey Watson 5TH GRADE Jasmine Castillo Tyler Furniss Roman Hutton Maleek Lambert Brynn Matousch Rylee Restuccio Miliani Rivera

Caroline Kember

Autumn Kurtz

Sophia Lauer

Phaedra Pagan

A/B HONOR ROLL

8TH GRADE Sierra Arrom Alexis Calero Markus Dillard

Amelia Dutton Axxel Espinal-Garcia Grayson Figueroa Vincent Franzosi Vienna Fries Jessie Herbert Javde Hernandez Lauren Jaeger ToniAnn Kowalski Vincent Kulikauskas Kailee Mc Corriston Eric Rodriguez-Vazquez Kayla Romano Alexander Ruiz Ja'Lexis Serrano Delianna Stamoulis Larivah Tennant Alexy Torres-Sanchez Kiley Vargas

> 7TH GRADE Abigail Belber Isabella Braun Camilla Colecchio

Michael Colon Giovanni Destefano Mason Furst Ean Gauthier-Landicini Piper Heggan Anastin Hilliard Maya Kelley Grayson Mc Nally Tara McGahee Katelvn McKnight Madelyn Naylor Aiden Pasternak Ashley Paulino Abreu Isaias Perez Mackenzie Quigley Clarissa Ramirez Gennaro Santora Jose Sarabia Falynn Ware Madison Watt 6TH GRADE

Christopher Aupperle Alexis Buddy

Macklin Christopher Abigail Fazzolari Jordyn Gras Lia Hartwell Wyatt Mazzarella Christopher Medeiros Kenia Mejia - Mejia Robert Newby Larisa Sidkoff Mikki Singletary Jason Strickland Hannah Zipfel 5TH GRADE Avery Acevedo Rosalie Ambert Nicholas Aupperle Ava Beaulieu Mason Biggins Sadie Billiard Isaiah Boden Alexia Cerrone Ashlin Contreras

Mia Cruz

Gabriel Eccleston Lilly Elsdon Isabella Ford Macey Henshaw Sariyah Hughes Ethan Kraus Ryder Laspada Grayson Mcilvaine-Jackson Aubrey Nedohon Clara Pagan Michael Panarello Emilia Pasternak Zayla Phillips Isabella Polk Olivia Pollack Julianna Rios-Ortiz Guinevere Rizzo Jacob Stasium Aleeah Tijerin Sofia Vargas Rachel Vaughn

Winslow Twp. BOE approves new device policy

BY GENEVA GERWITZ FOR THE GAZETTE

The Winslow Twp. Board of Education met on May 8 at the Winslow Twp. Board of Education Administration Building. The board approved Policy #5516 Use of Electronic Devices and will take affect throughout the district.

The board provided the second reading of Policy #5516, Use of Electronic Devices. This policy was revised after the first reading from several weeks ago was tabled. Community members voiced their opinions that the policy needs to be reformed. During the April 24 meeting, the first reading of the policy was approved by the board.

The updated policy will include several courses of actions before students ultimately receive suspensions and loss of privileges such as unable to participate in prom and commencement.

A question was raised about whether past suspensions would be erased from students' records. Superintendent H. Major Poteat indicated that records would not be expunged as the incidents had already happened.

"It will not be removed because in as much as it was in effect, the old policy would have superseded it anyway. The point is, a violation did occur, student was punished for the violation. As a matter of fact, under that policy they were punished less than they would have had they been suspended for the four days. So no, we are not going to go back and expunge records for the violations that did occur," Poteat said.

Board member Rebecca Nieves brought up that the policy will still allow technology already used by teachers in the classroom without repercussion. This includes smartboards, laptops, headphones and more, so long as the curriculum includes that device. That will remain and will not be affected by Policy #5516.

The second reading of the electronics policy was approved. Staff throughout the school district will be informed of the updated electronic device policy along with other policies by the administration.

An issue that was brought up by Poteat was a connectivity issue, which had affected the whole school district.

"We have been having some problems with connectivity during our state assessment throughout the district. As a result, the Department of Education has halted all testing due to these technology issues with Pearson along with some of our other providers. We are in contact with our internet provider as well as our firewall provider. We conducted a district wide infrastructure test today (May 8) around 1 o'clock, maybe 1,400 students participated to try and identify the problem and we are waiting for the result of that test," Poteat said.

Though there have been connectivity issues that affects

certain elements such as testing, classes have proceeded like normal as it does not affect the actual computers in the district.

There was a miscommunication between the Citizen's Advisory Committee (CAC) and the Board of Education in regard to relaying the minutes ahead of the meeting. The CAC had read the minutes from their meeting to the board and public regarding topics such standardized testing locations for students, questions and concerns regarding the electronic use policy and more. Though these were discussion topics, it was misconstrued as recommendations to the board. It was suggested that the CAC submit all minutes prior to the meeting so that an official response could be made during the meeting.

It was announced that during the next meeting, the Teacher of the Year ceremony will take place. A teacher from each school in the district will be represented that night and one will be named District Teacher of the Year. During last year's ceremony, Virginia Chillari from School 4 was awarded the 2023 District Teacher of the Year.

The next Board of Education meeting will be held on May 22 at the Winslow Twp. Middle School.

This article was produced in collaboration with New Jersey Civic Information Consortium and Rowan University.

Mullica Twp. recognizes Leaders of the Pack

Mullica Twp. School District recognized their February (Fairness) and March (Honesty) Leaders of the Pack.

These students were recognized because they abide by the Coyote Calling: Be Responsible, Be Ready and Be Respectful. February Pre-K: Ellie Hewitt, Eleanor Howell,

Isabella Pollack, Gauge Cruz, Jackson Cranmer, Remington Sicurella **Kindergarten:** Autumn Acevedo,

Brooke Eighmey, Athena Bowden First Grade: Emma Ware, Cambria Irwin, Noelle Lewis, Mia Reichert Second Grade: Samuel Barden, Liam Cruz, Jaxon Sweeten

Third Grade: Natalia Moronta, Destiney Martinez Cruz, Amelia Morelli

Fourth Grade: Frank Giercyk, Ella Hanselmann, Celeste Jeter, Manija Shar-

10



ifova, Joshua Klingenberg

Fifth Grade: Roman Hutton, Sofia Vargas, Avery Acevedo, Emilia Pasternak

Sixth Grade: Brielle Heraux, Jason Strickland, Christopher Aupperle

Seventh Grade: Carson Krawiec, Briella Johnson, Ellie House, Emily Lord Eighth Grade: Jayde Hernandez,

Amelia Dutton, Alexander Ruiz, Kate Colin-Palacios

<u>March</u>

Pre-K: Gage Davis, Hunter Plavchak, Ava Wittenberger, Briar Walizer, Mia

Lake Night at the Movies kicks off with two previously released independent nature documentaries --A WORKING FOREST, produced by nationally acclaimed forester Bob Williams & filmmakers Irv Jarvis & Kirk Jarvis, and Bee People by filmmaker David Knappe. Bob, Dave & Kirk will be on hand to answer topical & project related questions.

The summer evening begins at 5:30 with live music by Daniel Keiser as folks help themselves to snacks & beverages. "A Working Forest" will be introduced by Kirk around 6pm & Bob Williams will field questions after the documentary. Bee People will then be presented by Dave Knappe. Q & A after.

This is a free outdoor "invite only" event & subject to postponement due to wind &/or rain, so please check the website: lakenightathemovies.com for updates. This is an invite only event so please use the website for updates & info only.

Please bring your favorite folding chair & help yourself to available snacks & beverages & feel free to BYOB...any food dish donations can be added to the mix.



Little Lake House 4205 Pleasant Mills Rd. Hammonton, NJ 08037

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celebrating indie filmmaking

A WORKING FOREST its future with Fire, People & Wildlife

> Chuck Leavell Legendary Conservationis

The visually sharing film powerfully captures the contributions of family-owned wooderskic b Avenesia woody. Wai that a strong understanding of all the ways that betwee woods contribute to car well being. From habitat for wilde to driving water to fighter dimete change. The being from habitat for wilde to driving water to fighter dimete change. The strong the head of these lacts. This film does a terrificip at stronge that tome through the systs of nod provide. This time the adder if CEO Amount Freet Fundation.

danielkeiser.com aworking forest.co

Hollander, Riley Jenkins, Madelyn Clayton

Kindergarten: Althea Weil, Cheyenne Heist, Levi Codario

First Grade: Jerry Jimenez, Aubrey Holte, Giovanny Hernandez Villagomez, Noa Severio

Second Grade: Nina DePasquale, Sebastian Blanco, Ariana Gevorgyan

Third Grade: Matthew Panarello, Amaya De Los Santos, Ramon Perla

Fourth Grade: Gabriela Ponce de Leon Cruz, Jackson Fognano, Siena Lauer, Anastacia Tedders, Errial Bowman

Fifth Grade: Jasmine Castillo, Ashlin Contreras, Sariyah Hughes, Ethan Kraus Sixth Grade: Jazmyn Acevedo, Caroline Kember, Christopher Medeiros, Jaydah Roberts

Seventh Grade: Abby Belber, Giavonna Capaldi, Joseph Franzosi, Ashley Paulino Abreu

Eighth Grade: Cole Dessicino, Cole Gauthier-Landicini, Julia Morris, Ava-Joe Singletary

Egg Harbor City receives \$850,000 grant

BY CRAIG RICHARDS GAZETTE PUBLISHER

EGG HARBOR CITY, N.J.-With five of nine councilors in attendance, the May 9 meeting of the Egg Harbor City (EHC) council moved rather quickly. Top issues at the meeting included the announcement from the mayor that the city secured a \$850,000 grant from the New Jersey Urban and Community Forestry Program. According to Mayor Dr. Lisa Jiampetti, \$400,000 of the grant is earmarked for planting trees, \$400,000 for maintaining trees and \$50,000 is to conduct a tree inventory.

During Jiampetti's report she also announced that the city-wide cleanup day removed almost four tons of trash from the city. The effort saw over 340 volunteers show up to take part in the cleanup. She stated that the event was a huge success due to the excellent participation from staff and citizens.

The city also put a new streetsweeper into operations recently purchasing a unit to replace the existing one. The total cost for the new unit was \$300,781, including extra accessories like a hose for more direct cleanouts. The money came from the sale of the water treatment for the city, money allocated as per a detailed plan provided to the Department of Community Affairs.

Councilor Mason Wright announced

Holy Trinity Greek Festival in EHT

The Holy Trinity Greek Festival will be held June 6-9 in Egg Harbor Twp.

The annual Greek festival will feature: All your authentic Greek Food Favorites; Ethnic Greek Dance performances; DJ Music and Dancing in the Taverna, on Saturday night, June 8 from 7 p.m. to 11 p.m.; Amusement Rides; Church Tours every evening starting at 6 p.m.; Grand Raffle of Two Ebikes, His and Hers!

The festival will be held on Thursday and Friday, June 6 and 7, from 5 p.m. to 10 p.m.; Saturday, June 8, from noon to 11 p.m.; Sunday, June 9 from noon to 10 p.m. at Holy Trinity Greek Orthodox Church, 7004 Ridge Avenue, Egg Harbor Twp., NJ 08234.

For more information contact the church at (609) 653-8092 ext. 5 or Brian Sacco at (609) 412-2305.

Parking is free. Admission is \$1; free for children under five. that Max Melton, former Egg Harbor City resident was recently drafted No. 43rd overall in the recent NFL draft. Melton played as a cornerback at Rutgers University and will be heading to Arizona to play for the Cardinals.

EHC Police Chief Marcella Aylwin's report to council included five thefts, six motor vehicle crashes, 39 traffic stops, eight total summonses, three arrests, seven business alarms, four residential alarms, 150 crime prevention activities, two criminal shift calls, seven domestic calls, 23 EMS incidents, 10 firearms applications, six follow-ups, 290 more property checks and five public service calls.

The three arrests included Steven M. Grabel, a 69-year-old man from Egg Harbor City arrested by Sergeant Mangold on April 25 for unlawful acts; Daweed M. Jackson, a 23-year-old man from Egg Harbor City arrested by Officers White and Rosenberger on May 5 for driving while suspended for DWI; and Patrick C. Pursell, a 55 year-old man from Egg Harbor City arrested on May 5 by Officers Defeo and White for terroristic threats.

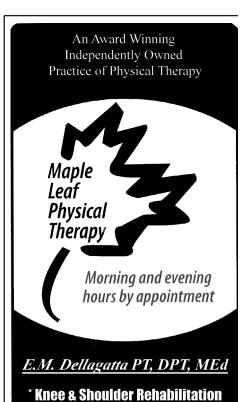
The chief informed the council that three new vehicles have been fully updated and are ready for service. Aylwin also announced that concentrated efforts between May 20 through June 2 for the "Click it or Ticket" efforts of law enforcement. The Chief explained tion, copying or examination by citizens that increased enforcement, just because it's click-it-or ticket does not mean that there will not be other citations issued. There will be other focused efforts going on throughout the city, including initiatives to reduce shoplifting and jaywalking. The announcement of these focused initiatives are part of the department's pro-active policing.

"The reason I'm telling people about this is because if we don't have to write the tickets and we don't have to respond to accidents, and we don't have to respond to stores or shoplifting, then we are doing our job. It's a preventative thing," Aylwin said. "I'd rather stop somebody from doing something. It's about prevention. So, if we can do what we need to do to prevent that and if people think, oh, they said that they're going to be doing this and it makes them slow down, then fantastic."

The council also passed supporting New Jersey Senate Bill S-2930/A-4045, listed as a Resolution Calling for the Modernization of the Open Public Records Act (OPRA). The bill introduced during the 2024-2025 regular session was proposed to make various changes to the process for accessing government records, appropriating \$8 million for this purpose. OPRA is legislation securing that government records should be readily accessible for inspec-

of New Jersey. The bill is attempting to address perceived abuse of OPRA and the costs to government entities responsible for providing OPRA requested information. Critics of the legislation have expressed concerns that the bill could give lawmakers the power to block information from the public, potentially hindering transparency.

The next Egg Harbor City council meeting will be held on May 23, at the Municipal Complex Meeting Room, 500 London Avenue, Egg Harbor City.



Spanish-American Relief Fund Walk-A-Thon set for June 8

VINELAND, N.J.-The Third Annual Spanish-American Relief Fund Walk-A-Thon Fundraiser will be held on Saturday, June 8 from 9:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. at Anthony Campanella Park (Crystal Lake), W. Elmer Road in Vineland.

There will be a \$20 registration fee, which include T-shirt, water, snacks and a live DJ. Donations will be accepted.

For more information call Raquel Garcia at (856) 839-7107 or Mildred Lopez at (856) 207-0481.



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