



The Delaware County Digest

Your source for the latest news from Delaware County | October 9, 2026

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Delaware County Workforce Development Board Provides Positive Employment Update

At Wednesday's Delaware County Council meeting, Kate McGeever, the Executive Director of the Delaware County Workforce Development Board updated Council on the booming labor market in Delaware County and the work her office is doing to support job seekers and employers in Delco.

"I really appreciate the work that our Workforce Development Board does," said Delaware County Council Vice Chair Christine Reuther. "Whether residents need special help, they're just looking for something better, or they're struggling with a layoff, having resources like this is incredibly important."



McGeever started her presentation by sharing that **Delaware County is experiencing full employment**, which is anything under a 5% unemployment rate. This allows Delco to maximize their economic output and productivity, benefiting everyone. At an unemployment rate of 3.3%, **Delaware County is outpacing the statewide unemployment rate** of 3.9%. Currently, Delaware County has 103,918 people coming into the county to work, 69,868 people living and working in the county, and 147,480 living in the county and working outside of it. This reflects **Delco's critical role in the labor market of one of the most populated areas of the country.**

The biggest sectors in Delaware County are Health Care and Social Assistance, Educational Services, Retail Trade, Accommodation and Food Services, Manufacturing, and Construction, together accounting for 63.7% of Delco's labor market and 139,615 workers. The top five employers in Delaware County are Villanova University, Boeing, Delaware County, Wawa, and SAP.

According to McGeever, 98% of Delaware County businesses have less than 100 employees, showing how **small businesses are the backbone of Delco's economy and workforce.**

Workforce Development, which is entirely funded by state and federal money, brought in \$9,334,060 in funding last year, including \$1,830,843 in competitive grant funding.

One of their most important services is PA CareerLink, which has a location in Chester and on the Marple Campus of Delaware County Community College. Last year, they had 10,894 visits, including 1,257 first-time visitors.

CareerLink serves as a one-stop center where residents can access career services, unemployment compensation help, GED/English classes, career wardrobe support, veterans services, employer services, and more. For adults, Workforce Development offers self-service, short term career services, and intensive career services. While self-service allows residents to independently use the PA CareerLink database to look for jobs and post their resume, short term career services provide feedback and an employment plan, and intensive career services pair residents with a dedicated career advisor and can provide financial assistance for transportation, work tools, and more.

Workforce Development also provides services for youth and young adults, including after school and summer programs for youth in schools where students can learn about budgeting, entrepreneurship, and leadership or earn paid work experience. For out-of-school youth and young adults, Workforce Development can pair residents with a dedicated case manager, identify and address barriers to employment, provide occupational skills training, and more.

They also provide services for employers, allowing them to post jobs for free on the PA CareerLink database, helping with candidate screening, and providing customized labor market data. Workforce Development also organizes multi-employer job fairs, PA CareerLink-based recruiting events, and facilitates partnerships within important industries across the county. Additionally, support includes salary assistance for on-the-job training, funding for up-skilling current employees, and technical assistance in developing Registered Apprenticeships.

McGeever shared some special projects her department has been working on recently engaging veterans, young people, and emergency services through grants from the PA Department of Labor and Industry. Using a \$400,000 grant, they have coordinated with the Delaware County Department of Military and Veterans Affairs to work with veterans who've been involved in the justice system to get them back on their feet and reenter the workforce. They are also using a \$150,000 grant to connect Delco schools with employers, allowing employers to tell the community what they are looking for in the workforce. Currently, schools can request employer panels for students, teachers, or parents. Finally, courtesy of a \$218,000 grant, Delaware County leads a regional industry partnership for Emergency Medical Services employers in the Philadelphia collar counties. So far, training grants have been awarded to Aston Fire Company, VMSC EMS, Chester City Fire Company, Rocky Run Fire Company, and Radnor Fire Company.

McGeever finished her presentation by promoting two upcoming events. The first is a **Workforce Provider Conference on Friday, November 20 at the Drexelbrook** where they will be bringing together organizations that help Delco residents find work, train for it, or keep it. The second is a **Trade Union Apprenticeship Career Fair at IBEW Local 654 in Boothwyn on Tuesday, December 8**, where residents can learn about local jobs in the trades and speak directly with union representatives.

For more information on the Delaware County Workforce Development Board, please visit delcoworks.org or call 610-713-2200.

ChristianaCare Shares Plans to Expand Access to Health Care in Delaware County



outpatient facilities (Glen Mills, Media, Broomall, and Havertown) as part of the Crozer bankruptcy auction, have run a facility in Chadds Ford for over a decade, and are opening Neighborhood Hospitals in Aston and Springfield.

When they acquired the former Crozer ambulatory sites, the goal was to **address the most critical ambulatory, geriatric, and primary care needs**. After winning the bankruptcy bid at the end of May, they needed to transition all facilities by August 1, which required the transferring of all Crozer patients to their systems. Remarkably, they barely missed a beat, remaining closed for less than a week and resuming operations to provide care for Delco residents.

Pauline Corso, ChristianaCare's President of Ambulatory Network Continuity & Growth, shared that they are looking to fill the most critical needs in the Delaware County community by providing primary care throughout the county, going upstream to **stop people from needing an emergency department in the first place**.

"I want to thank ChristianaCare for the work they are doing here in Delaware County," said Delaware County Council member Dr. Monica Taylor. "They have truly been great partners in helping expand access to care here in our county."

ChristianaCare's first Neighborhood Hospital in Pennsylvania opened in August 2025 in West Grove, Chester County before they opened an Aston Neighborhood Hospital in June 2026.

The 20,000-square-foot Neighborhood Hospital is **open 24/7 with 10 inpatient beds and 10 emergency department beds** supported with X-Ray, CT scan, ultrasound, lab services, and a pharmacy. The facility, which is **almost entirely staffed by former Crozer employees**, saw **4,465 emergency department (ED) visits in its first three months**. This included 722 ambulance arrivals, 12 air transfers, and 68 patients admitted. The top ED visit reasons were chest pain, head injury, and abdominal pain. 28% of patients were from Chester, 17% from Marcus Hook, and 14% from Aston, showing the **critical role this Neighborhood Hospital now plays in providing health care to southeast Delaware County**.

90% of the roughly 45 patients they see per day are arriving by car and going home, with 5-6% stabilized and transferred to a local hospital for a higher level of care, with 4-5% admitted to inpatient care. ChristianaCare has transfer agreements with all neighboring hospitals, allowing residents to easily access the care they need.

On October 19, ChristianaCare will be opening a Health Center on the second floor of their Aston Neighborhood Hospital, which will provide primary care, behavioral health services, cardiology with diagnostics, imaging services, and more.

Another Neighborhood Hospital is scheduled to open in Springfield in fall of 2027, using the same model of a 24/7 emergency room with 10 beds and a second floor Health Center for outpatient care.

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Election Reminders for Residents Planning to Vote by Mail



On Thursday, October 1, the Delaware County Department of Elections sent out the first batch of more than 43,000 mail-in and absentee ballots to voters who applied. Voters who applied weeks ago should have already received their ballots. If you fall into this category and have not yet received your ballot, please contact the Elections hotline at **610-891-8683**.

Residents looking to apply for a mail-in or absentee ballot should do so ASAP if they have not already.

Although there are no changes to mail-in or absentee ballots from previous elections, the county is accounting for delays with the US Postal Service that will likely be heightened surrounding an election.

Once you receive your ballot, return it as soon as possible if you know who you want to vote for. County Drop Boxes are the best way to ensure your ballot is returned safely, securely, and on time. The drop box on the ground floor of the Government Center in Media (201 West Front Street, Media, PA 19063) is now open.

As of tomorrow, Saturday, October 10, 26 Community Drop Boxes across the county will be 24/7 until polls close at 8 PM on Election Day. The 27th will open on Tuesday, October 13 in Chadds Ford. For more information on drop boxes, visit delcopa.gov/vote/ballot-drop-box.

The Voter Service Center on the ground floor of the Government Center is open through Election Day, Tuesday, November 3. Residents are encouraged to stop by with questions or to resolve issues with ballots. Delco residents who have not already voted by mail may vote on demand at our Voter Service Center by requesting a ballot, filling it out on the spot, and dropping it in the Drop Box at the Government Center.

The Voter Service Center is open 8:30 to 4:30 PM on Monday, Tuesday, and Friday, 8:30 AM to 7 PM on Wednesday and Thursday, and 9 AM to noon on Saturday.

Please visit delcopa.gov/vote for more information or call **610-891-8683** with questions.

Take Part, Spread the Word, Stay Connected



Delaware County Government Offices to be Closed Monday, October 12

All Delaware County government offices will be closed on Monday, October 12. The County will resume normal operations on Tuesday, October 13 at 8:30 AM. For more information, visit delcopa.gov.



COSA Hosting Free Walk with Ease Program in Upper Chichester Starting Friday, October 16

Alongside the PA Department of Aging and the Upper Chichester Department of Recreation, the Delaware County Office of Services for the Aging (COSA) is hosting the nationally recognized Arthritis Foundation Walk with Ease Program for residents 60+ looking for relief from arthritis pain or to stay active. The program will be held at the Upper Chichester Fieldhouse (**8500 Furey Road, Upper Chichester, PA 19014**) from 9:30 to 11:30 AM on the following Fridays: **October 16, October 23, October 30, November 6, November 20**, and a special celebration on **December 4**. Register by calling **610-499-1947** or emailing **WilliamsE@co.delaware.pa.us**. Please provide your name, address, phone number, and email address.



COSA Offers WISE Senior Program at Aston Public Library Starting October 16

The Delaware County Office of Services for the Aging is working with the PA Department of Aging to offer the award-winning Wellness Initiative for Senior Education (WISE). The six-session program will be held at the Aston Public Library (**3270 Concord Road, Aston, PA 19014**) and covers topics such as the aging process, stress management, strategies for healthy living, and medication management. The program will be held on Fridays from October 16 through November 20

from 1 to 3 PM. Register at **delcolibraries.libcal.com/event/17533826** or call **610-494-5877**. Please provide your name, address, phone number, and email address for registration.



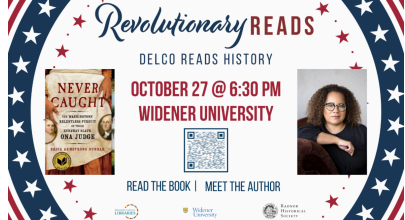
DCHD Hosting Empowering One Another Event Promoting Breast Cancer Awareness Friday, October 23

Residents The Delaware County Health Department is hosting their *Empowering One Another* event on **Friday, October 23 from 10 AM to 1 PM** at the Delaware County Wellness Center in Yeadon (**125 Chester Avenue, Yeadon, PA 19050**).

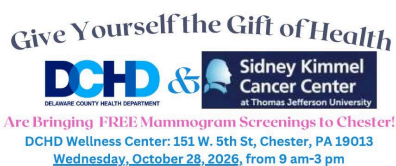
Residents can enjoy a morning of education, speakers, and games to spread awareness for breast cancer. Lunch and giveaways will be provided. To register, please call the Wellness Line at **484-276-2100** or email **DelcoWellness@co.delaware.pa.us**.

Delaware County Libraries to Host Revolutionary Reads Author Talk at Widener University on Tuesday, October 27

Delaware County Libraries is hosting a FREE Revolutionary Reads Author Talk on Tuesday, October 27 at 6:30 PM at Widener University alongside the Radnor Historical Society,



America250PA Delco, and Widener. Residents are invited to check out Erica Armstrong Dunbar's *Never Caught: the Washington's Relentless Pursuit of Their Runaway Slave, Ona Judge*. Visit delcolibraries.org/revolutionary-reads to RSVP. Copies of the book are available at Delaware County Libraries locations and online.



Requirements:

- Must be over 40 years old
- Have not had a mammogram in the last 365 days
- No prior diagnosis of Breast Cancer
- Insurance is not required
- Patients with insurance will need a script from their PCP or OBG

To register:

Call our Wellness Line at (484) 276-2100 or email DelcoWellness@co.delaware.pa.us.

MUST PRE-REGISTER by October 16, 2026
Appointments are limited; call early to schedule.

DCHD Hosting FREE Mammogram Screenings in Chester on Wednesday, October 28

Due to The Delaware County Health Department is hosting FREE mammogram screenings on **Wednesday, October 28 from 9 AM to 3 PM** at the Delaware County Wellness Center in Chester (**151 W. 5th Street, Chester, PA 19013**). To get a screening you must be over the age of 40, not have had a mammogram in the last year, and have no prior diagnosis of breast cancer. Insurance is not required, but if you have insurance, you must get a script from your Primary Care Physician or OB/GYN. To register, call the Delaware County Wellness Line at **484-276-2100** or email DelcoWellness@co.delaware.pa.us.



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