

# Delaware State News



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## Furloughs included in budget plan

### No property-tax hike in lean Dover proposal

By Bruce Pringle  
Delaware State News

DOVER — City Manager Anthony J. DePrima on Tuesday unveiled a proposed annual budget that calls for no property-tax increase but responds to tight economic times by recommending unpaid furloughs for most city workers, no pay hikes for others, and few prominent projects other than a continuing effort to develop a new library.

Mr. DePrima said the draft proposal responds to the desires of City Council, which has final say over financial plans for the fiscal year that will begin July 1. He said council made clear that it wanted to avoid layoffs and hold the line on taxes and electric bills.

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## KAY'S KAMP TO HELP KIDS



Delaware State News/Katie Kazimir

Kay's Kamp, a weeklong overnight camp for children affected with cancer, will be held for the first time this year in August at St. John's Center for Community Service, Clayton. Standing in the garden in front of the campers' dorms are, from left, Vaughn A. Dashiell of Clayton, caretaker at

St. John's; Kayla Martell of Dover, public ally; Steve Pierce of Smyrna, St. Joseph's board member; and Cynthia Staker of Smyrna, administrative assistant. The first oncology camp in Delaware will be held from Aug. 8-15. For the full story, see Health & Wellness, Page 14.

## Senate easily OKs sports betting bill

By Leah Burcat  
Delaware State News

DOVER — It appeared the House of Representatives did the heavy lifting when it came to the sports betting legislation, as the Senate spent little more than half an hour discussing the legislation Tuesday before it passed 17-2.

Although the work was taking place in the House, it does not mean the Senate was not involved, said Senate Majority Leader Sen. Anthony J. DeLuca, D-Wilmington.

"We don't operate in a vacuum," he said.

The Senate was consulted while negotiations were going on in the House, he said.

Some of the senators even waited around at Legislative Hall until the wee hours of Friday morning, when the House finally voted on the legislation.

In the hours leading up to the vote, members of the House of Representatives and the Markell administration debated and discussed specifics of the bill in an effort to devise a compromise. In the end, they met

their goal.

The amended legislation most noticeably fast-tracked the process by which the state would introduce table games, as well as reduce the revenue split shift from 8 percent to 6.5. There is also a caveat which would reduce the split by another percentage point if Harrington Raceway & Casino's revenue drops below a certain figure.

Seventeen senators believed the compromise to be a fair deal, more than the neces-

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