



Community CONNECTION

A PUBLICATION OF THE DELAWARE RIVER & BAY AUTHORITY

I-295 road improvements scheduled near Bridge

The Delaware River & Bay Authority is working with the Delaware Department of Transportation on a variety of improvements near the Delaware Memorial Bridge. The 5-year project includes new lighting, drainage, pavement and signage, and rehabilitation or relocation of approach ramps and interchange bridges.

The DRBA will begin Phase III of the project before the year's end. It will focus on improvements to the I-295 interchange including removal, replacement and improvement of some overpasses. Northbound roadwork will take place through 2005-2006 and southbound work is scheduled for 2007-2008.

Commissioners approve prevailing wage policy

The DRBA Board has adopted a one-year pilot program authorizing the use of prevailing wages on all construction projects in excess of \$2 million, regardless of the funding source. The policy provides a uniform labor rate under which all contractors will base bids. After one year the Board will assess the policy for safety, productivity, competition and pricing results.

DRBA invests in 3 economic development projects

In June, the DRBA Commission authorized participation in three economic development initiatives: South Jersey Technology Park at Rowan University, Delaware State University Hanger Facility, and Delaware State Port Corporation's refrigerated warehouse.

Technology Park at Rowan University

The DRBA Commission unanimously approved the Authority's participation

in the construction of a 45,000 square foot Technology Park at Rowan University in Mantua Township, New Jersey. Phase I of the new Technology Park, known as the Innovation Center, is estimated to cost \$5 million and includes the structure itself and related infrastructure. The multi-use facility will accommodate

academic and private sector research and development programs. These programs will help new high-tech companies solve start-up issues.

According to the Authority's

Vice Chair Dr. Warren Wallace, "The mix of academic theory and study, research and development tools and technology incubators are the necessary ingredients to provide an atmosphere

conducive for innovation and cutting edge technological advancements that will create jobs."

Aircraft Hanger Office Complex

Delaware State University and the DRBA plan to design and construct a terminal and hanger complex

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The above rendering shows the preliminary site plan for Rowan University's South Jersey Technology Park located near Routes 55 and 332 in Mantua Township.

DRBA: People serving people



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DELAWARE RIVER & BAY AUTHORITY

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Community Connection is a publication of the Delaware River and Bay Authority. For further information, please contact the DRBA at PO Box 71, New Castle, DE 19720, or call 302.571.6300, fax 302.571.6367, visit our website at www.drba.net, or email us at contactus@drba.net.

MEET THE DRBA COMMISSIONERS

Gary B. Patterson of Dover, Delaware is Executive Director of the Delaware Petroleum Council.

Mr. Patterson was an executive director for the Delaware School Boards Association, worked for twelve years as a staff member for the late U.S. Senator William V. Roth Jr. and served as the past Vice Chair for the New Castle County Chamber of Commerce. A graduate of Wilmington College, Mr. Patterson is President of the Downtown Dover Development Corporation.

Mr. Patterson is also a member of several civic and business organizations including Dover Rotary Club, the Board of Directors of the Delaware State Chamber of Commerce, and is Vice President of the Board of Pilot Commissioners. He was recently reappointed to the DRBA Board by Gov. Minner for a 5-year term that extends to July 2008.



Patterson



Pessagno

Charles E. Pessagno of Cape May, New Jersey is the President of NIA Group Associates, LLC. Mr. Pessagno has served as a DRBA Commis-

sioner since 1993, the same year he was honored with the Caryle Dennis Citizenship Award.

Mr. Pessagno earned his B.S. in business administration from Bethel College and his Master of Business Administration from Drexel University. Mr. Pessagno has served as the past director for the First South Jersey National Bank, Cape May Educational Trust Fund, and South Jersey Regional Theater. During 1970-1977, Mr. Pessagno served as a commissioned First Lieutenant in the New Jersey National Guard. In addition to serving the DRBA, Mr. Pessagno is currently also acting as an Atlantic-Cape Community College Trustee.

DRBA Commissioner receives SNJDC Public Sector Award

Delaware River and Bay Authority Commissioner and Vice Chairman, Dr. Warren Wallace, is the recipient of the Southern New Jersey Development Council's (SNJDC) Public Sector Award for his contributions to many organizations and his civic activities throughout New Jersey.

In addition to his appointment at the DRBA, Dr. Wallace is serving a second term on the Gloucester County Board of Chosen Freeholders for which he is liaison for the Department of Human Services, Youth Service Commission, Human Services Advisory Council, Office for Disability Studies,

Disabled Persons Advisory Council and the Transportation Advisory Board.

The Southern New Jersey Development Council is a non-profit, non-partisan organization committed to the economic growth and vitality of the southernmost counties of New Jersey. The Council held its 44th Annual Distinguished Achievement Awards Dinner June 8 in Haddonfield.



Wallace

Three projects

Continued from page 1

to be located at Delaware Airpark in Cheswold, Delaware. The facility will house University classrooms and offices for pilot training and related aviation programs. "In the economic development arena, the Authority's goal is to be a growth catalyst, investing resources to create and retain jobs for our region," said F. Michael Parkowski, Chairman of the DRBA. The aircraft hanger office complex, which will be approximately 15,000 square feet, will cost \$2.4 million. The DRBA will provide funding for the project up to \$1.25 million and will use space in the facility for airport operations.

Port of Wilmington New Warehouse

In cooperation with the Diamond State Port Corporation and at Gov. Ruth Ann Minner's request, the DRBA has committed \$4 million for the construction of a new \$7.5 million refrigerated warehouse at the Port of Wilmington.



The aerial photograph above is of the area of the Port of Wilmington where the new refrigerated warehouse will be built.

The State of Delaware has agreed to appropriate \$3.5 million for the project, demonstrating its commitment to economic development.

Two port customers have already expressed interest in the new facility, which

will be used primarily for the storage of fresh fruit. The Port of Wilmington, is a large local employer. The new 60,000 square foot terminal will provide employment for about 300 workers.



New self-fueling system opens at Cape May Airport

On June 7, 2004 the Cape May Airport opened a new self-fueling system for 100LL aviation fuel. The facility, shown above, provides for added convenience and efficiency, as pilots are able to purchase fuel by credit card 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. The new system, which cost \$350,000, is located on the southwest side of the airport. The Cape May Airport is one of five local airports owned or operated by the Authority.

Wheels & Wings attract record crowds during celebration at Millville Airport

The internationally renowned Thunderbirds, parachute jumpers, and fireworks all combined to make the 2004 Wheels and Wings Airshow at the Millville Airport a huge success.

Despite uninviting early May weather, an estimated 93,000 people entered the airport grounds during the three-day event. Proceeds from the airshow benefit the Millville Army Airfield Museum.

A special attraction was premiered at this year's show on Friday night. The new show, "Light the Night," which included

parachute jumpers and fireworks, drew more than 15,000 spectators.

Saturday's events drew a crowd of 55,000. A highlight of Saturday's activities was an emotional ceremony



honoring the three local servicemen who lost their lives in Iraq and Afghanistan in the past year.

Despite rain on Sunday,

23,000 attended the final show.

The DRBA and the Civil Air Patrol joined several local organizations in sponsoring the event.



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COMMUNITY CONNECTION

DRBA supports local non-profit groups

The Commission recently approved a \$5,000 donation to the YMCA of Salem County (New Jersey) to be used to refinish the facility's swimming pool and pool deck. Shown in the photo at right are DRBA Commissioners Edward Dorn and



Robert McWilliams presenting a check to YMCA Board President Calvin Roberts, YMCA Board Member Rich Gatanis, and YMCA Executive Director Louise Foley.

In early May, the DRBA awarded \$8,000 in community contributions to Easter Seals Delaware and Maryland Shore, Inc. to help fund events consistent with their mission. In the photo at right are DRBA employees Kenny Hynson, Community Outreach Administrator, and Consuella Petty-Judkins, EEO-Recruitment Manager, with Easter Seals' Special Events Coordinator, Marie A. Vacca, and Sandra J. Tuttle, President & CEO.



Easy-to-use web reservation system launched for ferry system

Cape May – Lewes Ferry customers are now making reservations on-line 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. By going to www.capemaylewesferry.com, customers use a secure, user-friendly Internet Reservation System while at the same time having access to schedule and fare information, shuttle transportation, special packages and weather conditions.

The convenience of being able to make ferry reservations during non-traditional business hours is expected to increase reservation usage.

Traditional reservation methods by telephone (1-800-64FERRY) or in person are available as well.

