



KENT COUNTY

LEVY *Ledger*

August 14, 2026



Hon. Joanne Masten



Hon. Jeffrey W. Hall



Hon. Allan F. Angel



Hon. Robert J. Scott

Hon. Jody Sweeney



Hon. Paul Hertz



Hon. Terry Pepper



Serving Kent County with Pride!

KENT COUNTY NEWSLETTER



In This Issue

This issue of the Levy Ledger highlights the people, programs, and priorities shaping Kent County. Read about Leadership's tour of Dover Air Force Base, learn how EDGE Grants are helping small businesses grow, and find important information about newly issued property tax bills. We also celebrate the dedication and service of our employees with a look at their many milestones and achievements.



About the **Levy Court**

Levy Court is your County government and is comprised of seven elected Commissioners who serve at the will of the electorate. The Levy Court's responsibilities include: enacting planning and land use ordinances; providing parks and recreation facilities; establishing fees; providing emergency medical services; 911 communications; emergency management; approving sewer system construction; establishing the yearly tax rate and overseeing the county departments that support the mission of Levy Court.

Levy Court offices are located at **555 Bay Road in Dover Delaware**. Residents may call 744-2300 to reach a County Office. Commissioners contact information follows below.

For more information on Levy Court, please visit our website at www.kentcountycle.gov.

Hon. Joanne Masten

President
Commissioner, 1st District
Committee: Community
Services
302-270-1747

Hon. Jeffrey W. Hall

Commissioner, 2nd District
Committee: Planning
Services
302-632-0757

Hon. Allan F. Angel

Commissioner, 3rd District
Committee: Administration
302-382-6735

Hon. Robert J. Scott

Vice President
Commissioner, 4th District
Committee: Public Safety
302-505-0198

Hon. Jody Sweeney

Commissioner, 5th District
302-943-7328

Hon. Paul Hertz

Commissioner, 6th District
Committee: Public Works
302-505-2310

Hon. Terry L. Pepper

Commissioner: At-Large
Committee: Finance
302-697-9194



About the Row Offices

Kent County has four Row Officers: each of which is an elected official and is accountable to the electorate. Each row office performs a distinct function within the County Government. The offices and contact information follows or you can visit their webpages by searching the county's website.

REGISTER OF WILLS:

Hon. Douglas "DJ" Cox
douglas.cox@
kentcountyde.gov
302-744-2330

Chief Deputy - Valerie Rocha

Valerie.Rocha@
kentcountyde.gov
302-744-2330

RECORDER OF DEEDS:

Hon. Eugenia Thornton
eugenia.thornton@
kentcountyde.gov
302-744-2321

Deputy - Darin Dell

darin.dell@
kentcountyde.gov
302-744-2318

CLERK OF THE PEACE:

Hon. Brenda Wootten
brenda.wootten@
kentcountyde.gov
302-744-2346

Deputy - Patricia A. Brown

trish.brown@
kentcountyde.gov
302-744-2347

SHERIFF:

Hon. Norman Barlow
norman.barlow@
kentcountyde.gov
302-744-2161

Chief Deputy - Robert Daddio

robert.daddio@
kentcountyde.gov
302-736-2161

Kent County PHONE DIRECTORY

Kent County Administrative Complex

555 Bay Road Dover, DE 19901

Levy Court	302-744-2305
Assessment Office	302-744-2401
Building Permits & Inspections	302-744-2451
Code Enforcement	302-744-2452
Community Development	302-744-2480
Economic Development	302-678-3028
Engineering	302-744-2430
Facilities Management	302-744-2357
Finance	302-744-2386
Tax Section	302-744-2341
GIS/Mapping	302-744-2416
Information Technology	302-744-2365
Parks & Recreation	302-744-2495
Personnel	302-744-2310
Planning	302-744-2471

Kent County Emergency Services Building

911 Public Safety Boulevard Dover, DE 19901

Emergency Communications	302-735-2200
Emergency Management	302-735-3465
Emergency Medical Services	302-735-2180

Kent County Library

497 South Red Haven Lane Dover, DE 19904

Library Services	302-744-1919
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Kent County Parks and Recreation

1683 New Burton Road Dover, DE 19904

Recreation Center	302-744-2495
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Kent County Wastewater Treatment Plant

139 Milford Neck Road Milford, DE 19963

Wastewater Facilities	302-335-6000
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Kent County Leadership Tours Dover Air Force Base

On Friday, July 24, Kent County Levy Court Commissioners, the County Administrator, and the Director of Economic Development were welcomed to Dover Air Force Base for a mission briefing and an inside look at one of Delaware's most critical military installations.

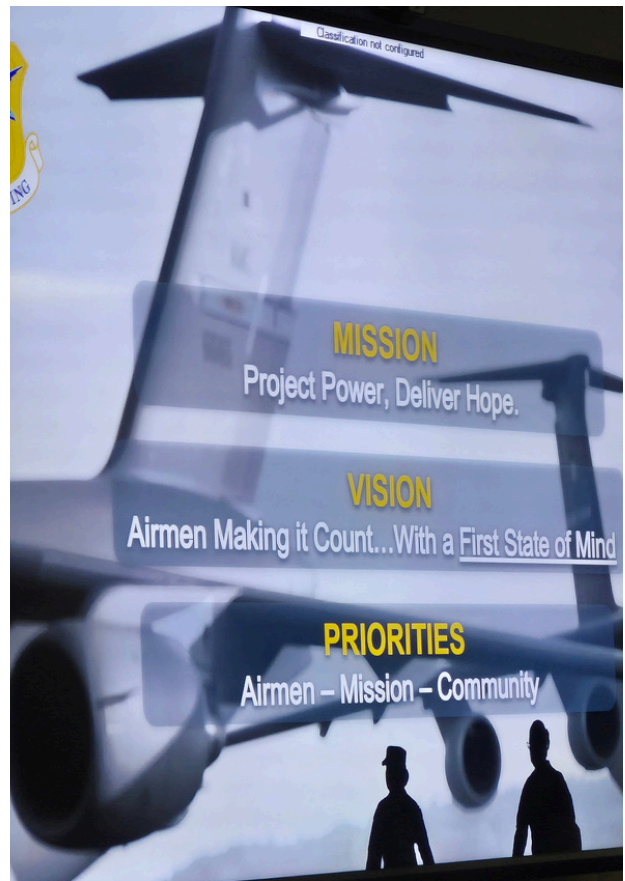
Colonel Jamil Musa and Chief Master Sergeant Elijah Edwards led an in-depth discussion on the mission, structure, and priorities of the 436th Airlift Wing, joined by partner units including the 512th Airlift Wing, Air Force Mortuary Affairs Operations, and the Armed Forces Medical Examiner System. Together, they highlighted how Delaware—and Kent County in particular—provides essential support that enables rapid global mobility and mission capability for our military.

The visit continued at the Military and Family Readiness Center, where consultants outlined the wide range of resources available to service members and their families. These include newcomer orientation, job fairs, and SkillBridge career transition programs, all strengthened by partnerships with local agencies.

One of the day's key briefings came from Janet Lightburn, Community Readiness Consultant with the 436th Force Support Squadron, who walked Kent County leadership through the Newcomers Brief. Lightburn explained how representatives from various military agencies introduce their roles and services to personnel transitioning to Dover AFB—ensuring new arrivals have the support they need from day one.

The tour concluded at the isochronal dock inside Dover AFB's newest hangar, where the group observed a C-5M Super Galaxy undergoing Programmed Depot Maintenance. This work is central to keeping aircraft mission-ready and sustaining the Air Force's ability to deliver rapid global mobility across the world.

Kent County extends its sincere appreciation to the 436th Airlift Wing for hosting county leadership and for your continued partnership. Your dedication strengthens our community and supports the vital missions carried out at Dover Air Force Base.





Helping Small Businesses Turn Big Ideas into Reality with EDGE 2.0

For many entrepreneurs, the biggest obstacle to growth isn't a lack of ideas- it's access to capital. Whether purchasing equipment, expanding marketing efforts, upgrading technology, or increasing production capacity, these investments often come at a critical stage in a company's growth. Delaware's EDGE 2.0 Grant Competition was created to help bridge that gap by providing promising early-stage businesses with the resources they need to take the next step.

Administered by the Delaware Division of Small Business, EDGE- short for Encouraging Development, Growth and Expansion- is the state's small business grant competition. The updated EDGE 2.0 program features two funding tracks: the Entrepreneur Track, with up to \$400,000 available to be awarded among selected recipients, and the STEM Track, with up to \$750,000 available for businesses focused on science, technology, engineering, and mathematics. Rather than predetermined award amounts, funding is distributed based on the strength of each selected applicant's business proposal and pitch presentation, rewarding companies with the greatest potential for long-term growth.

The program is about more than funding. EDGE 2.0 also provides finalists and awardees with valuable post-pitch support, including connections to business resources, mentorship opportunities, and other services designed to help companies continue growing long after the competition ends. This reflects Delaware's broader commitment to fostering innovation and supporting entrepreneurs at every stage of their journey.

At the Kent Economic Partnership (KEP), supporting entrepreneurs and small businesses is an important part of strengthening Central Delaware's economy. Earlier this year, KEP welcomed Mike Rasmussen as Business Developer with a dedicated focus on assisting small businesses. Mike brings a unique perspective to the role as a previous EDGE Grant recipient, giving him firsthand knowledge of both the application process and the opportunities the program can create. His experience allows him to help entrepreneurs better understand the competition, strengthen their applications, and connect with additional resources that support long-term success.

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Whether a business is preparing its first EDGE application or simply exploring opportunities for future growth, having the right guidance can make a meaningful difference. Programs like EDGE 2.0 demonstrate Delaware's continued investment in entrepreneurship, while local organizations like the Kent Economic Partnership are committed to helping businesses navigate the resources available to them.

As Delaware's entrepreneurial ecosystem continues to grow, initiatives like EDGE 2.0 are helping innovative ideas become thriving businesses, creating new jobs, strengthening local communities, and contributing to a more resilient economy across Central Delaware. For more information about the EDGE 2.0 Grant Competition or assistance with the application process, contact Mike Rasmussen at michael.rasmussen@kentcountymde.gov.



Kent County Property Tax Statements Now in the Mail

Kent County property tax statements have been mailed to all property owners. Please note that payment is due by September 30.

If you have questions about your bill, the Kent County Tax Office is ready to assist, 302-744-2341.



STAFF MILESTONES

National Recreation and Parks Association awards Young Professional Fellowships

Kent County Parks and Recreation is proud to announce that Kaitlyn Schech has been selected as one of four nationwide recipients of the NRPA Young Professional Fellowship. Kaitlyn has served as Recreation Program Supervisor since 2017 and continues to elevate community health, program accessibility, and resident engagement across Kent County.

The fellowship provides emerging leaders with mentorship, national-level networking, and recognition at the NRPA Annual Conference. This year's selection pool was the largest ever, with nearly 250 submissions.

NRPA leaders praised the 2026 fellows as "outstanding awardees who are shaping the future of parks and recreation with passion and purpose." Kaitlyn's leadership—including her role as President-Elect of the Delaware Recreation and Park Society and her award-winning service within Kent County—continues to strengthen recreation opportunities for residents of all ages.

Kaitlyn will be honored at the 2026 NRPA Annual Conference in Philadelphia.

Amanda Lockerman Promoted to Environmental Program Manager

We are pleased to announce the promotion of Amanda Lockerman from Environmental Technician II to Environmental Program Manager in the Department of Public Works. Amanda started with Kent County in March 2021 as an Environmental Technician I. She received her certification as an Environmental Professional and was promoted to Environmental Technician II in February 2023. In that same month, she received the Employee of the Month recognition.

In her time with the Department, Amanda has consistently demonstrated strong technical expertise, staying current with environmental compliance and regulations, and a commitment to promote pretreatment programs with businesses in the County. She has built professional relationships with the industrial users, such as Perdue and Proctor & Gamble, as well as food preparation businesses and restaurants. Her leadership, collaborative approach, and environmental knowledge have been invaluable to our team and the community we serve.

In her new role, Amanda will manage the Environmental Programs Division, work with State and Federal agencies to submit required reports and oversee the industrial wastewater discharge permit process. Please join us in congratulating Amanda on this well-deserved advancement. Kent County thanks her for all her hard work and celebrates her achievements.



HAPPY RETIREMENT!!

Please join us in celebrating the careers and dedication of three valued colleagues who officially concluded their service with Kent County on July 31, 2026, contributing a remarkable combined total of 51.7 years of public service.

Frederick J. Burk (28.7 years of service)

Environmental Program Manager
Department of Public Works – Environmental Program Section

Michael W. Harrington (8 years of service)

Utility Construction Coordinator
Department of Public Works – Engineering Division

Rose M. Wurzel (15 years of service)

Wills Clerk II
Register of Wills Office

Thank you all for your years of hard work and service to Kent County. We wish you the absolute best in your well-deserved retirement!

EMPLOYEE OF THE MONTH OF AUGUST

Kent County Department Heads have selected Kenneth Kelly from the Department of Public Safety – Emergency Medical Services Division as the August 2026 Employee of the Month.

Kenny currently serves as a Paramedic Lieutenant and has been a dedicated member of the Kent County team since August 2013. Throughout his career, he has steadily advanced through the ranks of Paramedic I, II, and III before being promoted to his current position in June 2024. Widely recognized as a leader within the organization, Kenny exemplifies the professionalism, dedication, and commitment to service. He consistently motivates and educates his colleagues while going above and beyond in service to both his team and the community.

As a Paramedic Lieutenant, Kenny responds to emergency calls, provides critical patient care and transportation, serves as a field liaison with emergency response agencies and hospital personnel, and develops and delivers on-duty training for field staff. He also assists in coordinating emergency responses, supervises specialty response teams, and provides recommendations to EMS leadership on operational improvements and field response practices.

Kenny plays a vital role as the leader of the EMS SWAT Team, where his guidance and expertise help ensure operational readiness and excellence in high-risk environments. He has further contributed to the advancement of emergency medical services through statewide continuing education presentations and his involvement with initiatives such as the PORT Team. His commitment to public safety extends beyond emergency response through community outreach efforts, including promoting the "Move Over" message to help protect first responders working along roadways.

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According to EMS Chief John Tinger, "As a leader, Kenny sets clear expectations for accountability and efficiency, fostering a culture of responsibility within his platoon. His influence not only drives performance but also strengthens the overall cohesion and professionalism of the team. Lieutenant Kenny Kelly's leadership, dedication, and passion for the profession have made a lasting impact on Kent County EMS, making him highly deserving of recognition as Employee of the Month."

New Hires



Kaylee Wiener
Dispatcher I
Public Safety

We are excited to welcome Kaylee as our new Dispatcher I. Kaylee joined Kent County on 7/27/2026. She brings valuable experience from her role as an Administrative Assistant with Roy's Electrical Service. Prior to that, she worked as a Bookkeeper with Austin's Lawn.

Kaylee resides in Commissioner Masten and Pepper's district.

Kathy Ortiz-Perez
Paramedic Trainee
Public Safety

We are excited to welcome Kathy as our new Paramedic Trainee. Kathy joined Kent County on 7/27/2026. She is currently enrolled in her last semester at Delaware Technical College in the Paramedic Program. Kathy looks forward to being a positive influence in Kent County.

Kathy resides in Sussex County.

Blaise Kelley
Paramedic
Public Safety

We are excited to welcome Blaise as our new Paramedic. Blaise joined Kent County on 7/27/2026. He brings valuable experience from his role as an EMT with DocGo. Prior to that, he served our Country in the United States Army.

Blaise resides in Sussex County.



KENT COUNTY

LEVY COURT



Beth Armiger
Library Clerk

Community Services

We are excited to welcome Beth as our new Library Clerk. Beth joined Kent County on 7/13/2026. She brings valuable experience from her role as a Registered Nurse for 40 years. Beth is looking forward to continuing to help and support the members of our County.

Beth resides in Commissioner Hall and Pepper's district.



Charlie Clery
Library Clerk

Community Services

We are excited to welcome Charlie as our new Library Clerk. Charlie joined Kent County on 7/13/2026. They bring valuable experience from their role as a Community Services Worker V for the Appoquinimink Community Library. In conjunction with working at the Library, they also worked as a Visitor's Experience Rep with the Biggs Museum of American Art in Dover.

Charlie resides in Sussex County.



Belinda Brinton
Library Clerk

Community Services

We are excited to welcome Belinda as our new Library Clerk. Belinda joined Kent County on 7/27/2026. She brings valuable experience from her role as a Family Coach/Literacy Outreach Specialist with Agora Cyber Charter School. Prior to that, she was a Remedial Education Instructor with Eastern Lancaster County School District.

Belinda resides in Commissioner Sweeney and Pepper's district.





KENT COUNTY LEVY COURT

Serving Kent County with Pride



Get In Touch

Kent County Levy Court	facebook.com/KCLevyCourt
Kent County Levy Court	instagram.com/kentcountylevycourt
Kent County Levy Court	@KCLevyCourt/X
Digital Mailing List	public.govdelivery.com/accounts/DEKENTCO/subscriber/new