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INSIDE, 5A

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## Nurse contractor apps draw scrutiny

Work can resemble that of traditional employees

**Anitra Johnson**  
Delaware News Journal  
USA TODAY NETWORK

WILMINGTON, DE – When registered nurses Dariane Turner and Eva Hardy took jobs at Delaware’s Beebe Healthcare through the CareRev app in 2024, they expected the freedom of true independent contractors.

Instead, they found themselves in a gray area: They were required to follow hospital protocols like employees while losing basic workplace protections due to their contractor status. Their experience reflects a controversial transformation in American health care, where hospitals are increasingly using gig-work platforms to staff their facilities. Although these apps classify

nurses as independent contractors, the reality of their work often resembles that of traditional employees – raising legal and ethical questions.

### Gig nursing disguised

CareRev bills itself as a health care “marketplace” that allows medical professionals to book per diem shifts at hospitals and clinics. The platform handles payments between workers and health care providers while classifying

the nurses, technicians and therapists using its service as independent contractors. However, as Turner and Hardy discovered, the label doesn’t necessarily match the reality. Unlike true independent contractors, who typically outline their services, set their schedules and invoice clients directly, Turner and Hardy were assigned to specific areas by charge nurses, followed hospital protocols and reported to

See APPS, Page 5A

### COMINGS & GOINGS



Construction at the site of a future Wawa store and gas station at 13610 Pennsylvania Ave., near the Maugans Avenue intersection, on July 8. PHOTOS BY JULIE GREENE/THE HERALD-MAIL

## Two Wawa stores coming soon in Hagerstown area

**Julie E. Greene**  
The Herald-Mail  
USA TODAY NETWORK

Construction activity is picking up on two sites for the Hagerstown area’s first Wawa stores. The canopy for fueling stations was at least partly up recently for a Wawa store and gas station at 10335 Supercenter Drive off Sharpsburg Pike, south of Hagerstown. The site is near the Walmart. Construction activity also appears to have picked up for a Wawa being built at 13610 Pennsylvania Ave., near the Maugans Avenue intersection.



Construction of a Wawa store and gas station at 10335 Supercenter Drive off Sharpsburg Pike, south of Hagerstown, on July 2.

## Meritus seeks liquor license for multiple buildings

**Julie E. Greene**  
The Herald-Mail  
USA TODAY NETWORK

Meritus Health officials have asked the Washington County Liquor Board to consider a liquor license to be used for events in multiple buildings on its Hagerstown-area campus. Meritus has obtained one-day licenses for special events in the past and health system officials anticipate hosting more events in which alcohol could be served, including with the Meritus School of Osteopathic Medicine opening. New events where alcohol could be served include graduation- and orientation-related gatherings with students and parents, said Josh Repac, Meritus Health’s chief financial officer. Classes begin the week of July 21 for students at the new medical school off Robinwood Drive. Repac, in an interview after the July 9 liquor board meeting, said Meritus has rented space off campus in the past for some events. Meritus also has provided space for other groups’ events, such as Horizon Goodwill. The new D.M. Bowman Academic Hall has a first-floor conference room, the Alice Virginia & David W. Fletcher Foundation Conference Center, that can accommodate up to 1,000 people, according to a Meritus spokesperson. Meritus could rent space to groups and host larger events others can’t accommodate, Repac said. But he said Meritus does not want to compete with event centers in the area.

See LICENSE, Page 4A

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