

# FORT DUPONT

# FLASHES

FORT DUPONT • DELAWARE



COMMUNITY  
NEWSLETTER

JUNE 2020

FROM THE PAST

## HOW IT ALL STARTED

by Mark Kleinschmidt

As far back as the Revolutionary War, the area we know today as Delaware City was known as Reeden Point. When Delaware City was planned in 1828 the promoters were planning for a large city like Wilmington or Philadelphia. The original plan shows a grid of streets on both sides of the original Chesapeake and Delaware Canal. The Canal and newly formed city were busy, but never developed into a large commercial center as originally planned. Eventually, the canal became the town's southern boundary with many acres of farms, orchards and marshland on the other side of the Canal.

The area around Delaware City was recognized as an important site for protecting shipping on the Delaware River and defending Philadelphia which is just 40 miles up the river. During the Revolutionary War, a local innkeeper and volunteer soldier, Captain Aiken, organized a group of volunteers to



defend the site from British attack. While there were no attacks by the British during the Revolutionary War, plans to establish a permanent fortification were started during the War of 1812. This was a slow process, with the first fortifications not completed until the 1860s, when the Ten Gun Battery was built and the fortification on the Delaware River was given the name of Fort Reynolds.

### WHO IS FORT DUPONT NAMED AFTER?

Fort DuPont is named after Samuel Francis Du Pont, who was born on September 27, 1803 and died on June 23, 1865. His uncle was Eleuthère Irénée du Pont, the founder of the DuPont Company. Samuel DuPont grew up on the family estate known as

Louviers, located on the Brandywine Creek, just north of Wilmington, DE. He enlisted in the US Navy at the age of 13 and rose to the rank of rear admiral.

[READ MORE ONLINE:](#)

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# DEVELOPMENT UPDATES



ROCKWELL CUSTOM

## THE CANAL DISTRICT

The Canal District by Rockwell Custom is a special place to call home that offers waterfront homes in a community with unparalleled open spaces and recreational amenities as well as flexibility in floor plans and home features. The first phase is already 60% sold out, with only five single-family and three carriage homes remaining. The sales office and beautifully decorated model home are now open for contact-free showings, as well as virtual appointments with your safety in mind. When you choose The Canal District as your new home, you will be joining current residents in a community where bicycling, boating, walking, hiking and birding are the norm and not the exception.

Future residents have the choice of a waterfront carriage home or a single-family detached home. Expect unparalleled attention to detail throughout, with features such as hardwood floors on the main living level, open concept kitchen, dining and living area, first-floor owner's suite options, and spacious closets. Explore available floor plans at [RockwellCustom.com](http://RockwellCustom.com).

There are two quick delivery carriage homes facing the canal, offering beautiful views and privacy, available for move in as soon as this summer. Reserve your home in the month of June and you can make final design selections. It is a great time to learn

more about the development and limited time incentives, such as the opportunity to choose between a free finished basement or double deck.

*Rockwell Custom is also offering unique single-family detached homes on the exclusive Officer's Row at Fort DuPont. Contact the sales team for more details.*

E-mail [FortDuPont@RockwellCustom.com](mailto:FortDuPont@RockwellCustom.com) or call 302-898-2010 to schedule a visit. Sales Center and Model Home hours are Tuesday, Thursday & Friday from 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. and Saturday & Sunday from 12 p.m. to 5 p.m.



come  
explore





## TAKE NOTE

# COMMUNITY UPDATES



**FORT DUPONT**  
SHAPED BY HISTORY & ANCHORED IN NATURE



Fort DuPont is a unique mixed-use community being developed by the **Fort DuPont Redevelopment and Preservation Corporation** ("FDRPC"). The FDRPC was established in 2014 by the State of Delaware as a quasi-public corporation to take ownership of and responsibility for the redevelopment and historic preservation of the property, which consists of over 400 acres.

To help ensure that the complex grows within the guidelines and standards established by the FDRPC, the Design and Historic Preservation Committee ("DHPC") was established. The DHPC meets monthly to review property owner requests, preservation projects, updates to the Guidelines and development projects that are being planned. For more details on the DHPC, please visit our website or email us at [info@fortdupont.org](mailto:info@fortdupont.org).

**Updates to the Guidelines and postings or notices from the DHPC can be found at: [FortDupont.org](http://FortDupont.org).**

The **FORTIFY MUSIC FESTIVAL** had been scheduled for August 8th. Unfortunately it has been canceled for this year due to the Covid-19 restrictions. We plan to be back next August with the same line-up of bands and great music.

The next phase of development within the **CANAL DISTRICT** is underway. For more information E-mail [FortDuPont@RockwellCustom.com](mailto:FortDuPont@RockwellCustom.com) or call 302-898-2010 to schedule a visit.

**Updates to the Master Plan** will soon be announced. Focus is along the water front and includes development of more residential units, a marina, hotel & conference center, restaurant, outdoor theater, dog park, recreation amenities, bike trails, and more. Stay tuned for updates.

**Restoration on five new residences is underway.** Completion is scheduled for late fall. Anyone interested in renting a new home at Fort DuPont should contact Peggy at 302-838-7374.

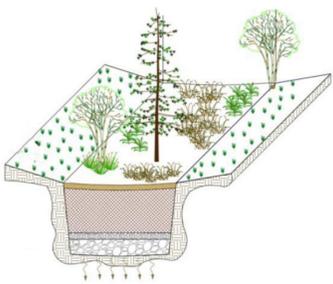
ON THE FRONT LINE

# COMMUNITY UPDATES



## BIO-BASINS

Bioretention basins are landscaped depressions or shallow basins used to slow and treat on-site storm-water runoff. Storm-water is directed to the basin and then percolates through the system where it is treated by a number of physical, chemical and biological processes. The slowed, cleaned water is allowed to infiltrate native soils or directed to nearby storm-water drains or receiving waters. Five of these bio-basins are planned along the canal and promenade. Once roads are complete and the bulk of housing construction around the basins has been completed, we are able to convert them from sediment basins to bio-basins. The first bio-basin to be completed is at the end of Officers Row. Work is underway and planting will take place in early June.



## WINGATE PARK

We are creating a new park area next to the Boat Ramp. The rock retaining wall is now complete. In the fall we will be planting trees between the promenade and the wall. Within the grassed area we will be adding picnic benches and walking paths.



## PROMENADE

This project will take a couple of years to complete. Plans call for a finished surface, landscaping and seating. In order to complete this project, the shoreline of the Branch Canal needs to be stabilized. Engineering is underway on the revetment plans.



## SECURITY

We have installed several video cameras around the property with more on the way. The cameras are providing coverage to historical buildings and common areas.

## OLD ELM AVE

We will be starting construction on Old Elm Ave in June or July. The work will pick up from where the new road ended by the Chapel and will run approximately 500 feet, but not all the way to the entrance. The entrance is scheduled for construction of a roundabout. Completion of Old Elm Ave will be tied into completion of the roundabout, which is scheduled for next summer.