

Shaped by History & Anchored in Nature



As Fort DuPont preserves our past and reshapes our history, we invite you to join our community. This newsletter will share events and updates about programs and projects to bring Delaware City closer together and help Fort DuPont's neighbors appreciate our location's natural and historical heritage.

An Ode to Spring at Fort DuPont



Spring has sprung, the grass is ris, Fort DuPont, that's where spring is.

Trees are pink, daffodils are yellow, visit Fort DuPont, to find your mellow.

Walk the trails, bring a picnic lunch, Fort DuPont, fun by the bunch.

See the sights, of history, where soldiers defended, you and me.

Spring has sprung, the grass is ris, Fort DuPont, that's where spring is.



Meet the Friends: Spotlight on Fort DuPont's New Board Members

Meet: Laura Lee



Laura Lee has 33 years of field experience in natural and cultural history, land management, parks planning, project implementation, and grant writing. She is superintendent of the 3,800-acre White Clay Creek State Park in Newark, Delaware. Her former posts include Auburn Valley State Park, Fort Delaware/Fort DuPont State Parks/Port Penn Interpretive Center, and the Iron Hill Museum. Her love for Fort DuPont began when she lived there for five years and co-wrote pictorial history books on Forts DuPont and Delaware.

She is devoted to parks, open space, reusing buildings and partnerships that achieve those goals. Laura enjoys helping people make tangible and memorable connections to cultural and natural history. She travels when she can, serves on the boards of the Friends of the African Union Church Cemetery and Port Penn Historical Society, and is director/co-owner of Delaware Sharks Field Hockey Club.

Meet: Corinth "Corrie" Ford

Corrie Ford is councilwoman for District 2 in Newark and president of Reedy Point Players in Delaware City. Born and raised in New York, she came to Delaware 37 years ago on assignment for Chase Bank and never left. She attended Fordham University, started her career in advertising and

moved to information systems. During her long career in IS, Ms. Ford held many posts, including programmer, database administrator, systems analyst, implementation manager, project manager and program director. She is retired from AmeriHealth Caritas where she worked for the past 16 years.

In the past seven years, Ms. Ford has appeared in plays at Reedy Point Players. When she lived in New York, she appeared in plays at the Irish Arts Center, including works by William Butler Yeats, John Millington Synge and Sean O'Casey. She was executive director for two years of the Irish Arts Center, a nonprofit cultural organization, and edited the center's magazine, Ais-Eiri.

Ms. Ford has long been involved with community groups, arts organizations and civic associations in Delaware and in New York. She has worked to build communities and neighborhoods through involvement in the arts.



Curious about the Friends of Fort DuPont. Visit our website, sign up for our newsletter, contact us, or make a donation.

[Visit Our Website](#)[Contact Us](#)[Make a Donation](#)

Board Meeting on April 9

The meeting of the Fort DuPont Redevelopment and Preservation Corporation Board of Directors is scheduled for Wednesday, April 9 at 9:30 a.m. at the Delaware City Fire Hall.

The next regularly scheduled meeting of the board is on May 14, 2025 at 9:30 am at the Delaware City Fire Hall.

[Download Meeting Packet](#)

Site Tour Happening on May 21



The FDRPC staff will be leading a special site tour on May 21. Join us at 6 p.m. to take part in this event.

[Register Now](#)

Community Information

The Reedy Point Players, a community theater group in Delaware City.



Founded 24 years ago, the Reedy Point Players began on a makeshift stage in Delaware City's (former) Port of History Center with the production of "Spoon River Anthology." A few years later, the Reedy Point Players relocated to the community center. The company has won state and regional awards, including from Delaware BroadwayWorld.com for its production of "The Outsiders."

The group's production of "Angels in Gangland" by Robert Smith is set for May 16, 17 and 18.

[Visit Our Website](#)

Consider Joining Rotary



**Service
Above
Self**



Delaware City Rotary Club, Satellite Club of
Middletown-Odessa-Townsend

For more information contact:

Crystal Pini-McDaniel, Chair
RotaryDECity@gmail.com

Service Above Self

Delaware City Rotary Club, satellite club of Middletown-Odessa-Townsend.

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Connect with us!



Delaware City Rotary Fundraiser

Support Teacher Appreciation Week at William Penn High School!
Order April 1 - 26



Red Maple Pin Oak Eastern Redbud

\$25 per Pre-Ordered Tree

Rotary Service Above Self

Delaware City Rotary Club, Satellite Club of Middletown-Odessa-Townsend

Pick-Up
 Wednesday, April 30
 11 a.m. to 6 p.m.
 260 Old Elm Ave.

Order & Payment
 Fill Out the Online Order Form
 Pay via PayPal, Cash, or Check
 (to Delaware City Rotary Club)

QUESTIONS?
 email: RotaryDECity@gmail.com

MOT Rotary Club
Rotary

Delaware City
 Rotary
 Satellite Club of
 Middletown-Odessa-Townsend

M.O.T. & DE City Rotary Club's
WINE, BEER
& SPIRITS TASTING

Featuring dozens of wines, beers and spirits
Heavy hors d'oeuvres included

Friday, April 11, 2025
5:30 to 8:30 p.m.
Tickets \$40

For tickets EMAIL RotaryDECity@gmail.com or CALL/TEXT 302-562-7251

EVENT WILL BE HELD AT
THE MOT SENIOR CENTER
 300 S Scott St.,
 Middletown, DE 19709

OUR PROUD SPONSOR:
KRESTON
 WINE & SPIRITS
www.MOTRotary.org



Delaware State Parks



Fort DuPont

Fort DuPont History Walk

10 a.m. Saturdays, May 24, and July 19 at the Fishing Point

Fort DuPont has a fascinating history from the mid-1860s to the present. Join a park historian to walk the grounds and explore sites that make this place significant. The program is free, but registration is suggested: 302-601-6382 or email Jake at Jacob.miller@delaware.gov The meeting place is 2498 Old Battery Lane.

FDRPC staff members will join the walk on July 19 while guests are visiting the Theater and

Chapel.

Explorer's Walk

2 p.m., Saturday, April 12, at the Fishing Point

Kids can explore the adventure that waits outdoors. This free program looks for natural treasures.

Register
Today

Fort Delaware

Fort Delaware is open!

Saturdays, Sundays, and holidays, April 26 to June 8

Visit the greatest Civil War site in Delaware. Fort Delaware offers programs including artillery and musketry demonstrations, tours, and activities. Costumed interpreters show what we believe life was like in the 1860s. Fort Delaware is a great experience for visitors of all ages.

U.S. Corps of Engineers Weekend: Saturday & Sunday, May 17 & 18

Libby Prison Minstrels Concert: Saturday, May 31, 1 p.m.

Visit the
Website

Library Offers Programs for All Ages



Upcoming
Events



Delaware City Library, 250 5th St., offers informative, entertaining events for learners of every age.

A **teleservices specialist** is available every Tuesday from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. to assist with job/career guidance, resume support, computer skills, DE ASSIST (Medicaid/SNAP), housing/food resources, and referral to social service organizations. No appointment required and walk-ins are welcome.

Children's Storytime: A weekly event at 10 a.m. Tuesdays focuses on early literacy. We'll read a few stories and play a game during our time together. While this program is aimed at preschool-age children, we welcome kids of all ages. A parent or caregiver **MUST** be present.

Teen Room Hours: Teens have their own space with board games, cards, art supplies, as well as several video game systems. Ask the Library staff member on duty about additional activities. Teen Room hours are Wednesdays and Thursdays - drop in anytime between 4:00 - 7:00 p.m.. Ages 12-17 welcome.

Our **MAKER SPACE** is a place to make, learn, explore, and share creative activities individually or collaboratively with tools provided by the library. Maker Space is open Tuesdays from 5:00 to 7:00 p.m. by reservation. Call the library for more information.

Tweens & Teens Culture: Join us second Wednesdays for popular culture, food, games, art and more for tweens and teens. Theme changes monthly. For ages 10 to 15. Registration requested. 5 p.m. to 6 p.m., Apr. 9 and May 14.

Knit, Crochet Social Club: Knitters and crocheters of all skill levels are invited to join our Knit and Crochet Social Club. Bring your latest project, enjoy refreshments provided by the library, and meet other knit and crochet lovers. A limited number of knitting needles and yarn will be available. 5:30 p.m. to 7 p.m., Apr. 10 and May 8.

DELAWARE CITY RESIDENTS EASTER EGG HUNT at 1:00 p.m. - This goes fast so don't be late! Bring your own basket. Light refreshments available. Easter themed activities will take place in the library from 12:00 to 3:00 p.m.. Families. Apr. 12 from 12:00 to 3:00 p.m.

STEAM Activity for Kids: STEAM stands for science, technology, engineering, arts and mathematics. STEAM focuses on sparking imagination and creativity in ways that naturally align with learning. New activities on the second Monday of the month. Apr. 14 and May 12 from 4:30 to 5:30 p.m.

Game Night for Adults: Join us at the library on the second Monday of the month for a game night just for the grownups. Play a selection of board games, card games, and video games for the Nintendo Switch and PlayStation 4, or bring your own! Adults. Apr. 14 and May 12 from 6:00 to 7:30 p.m.

Vinyl Record Listening Club: Join us the second Tuesday of each month. Meet like-minded music fans and listen to records. Enjoy the library's collection of over 60 records or bring your own! Light refreshments provided. Registration requested. Adults. Apr. 15 and May 13 from 6:00 to 7:00 p.m.

Cooking with Cathy for Tweens & Teens: Tweens and teens get hands-on experience, learning how to use kitchen tools and practice cooking on third Wednesdays. Supplies are limited, registration required. Ages 10 to 15. 4:30 p.m. to 6 p.m., Apr. 16 and May 21.

Art in the Library: This fine arts program on third Thursdays changes themes monthly. Call the library for this month's project. Registration required. Adults. 5:30 p.m. to 7 p.m., Apr. 17 and May 15.

PAWS for People: READ! Read aloud to a furry, friendly therapy dog to inspire a love of reading. Offered by PAWS for People. Readers of all ages and stages are welcome the first and third Saturdays of the month. 1 p.m. to 2 p.m., Apr. 19, May 3, and May 17.

Recent Release Book Club: A monthly book club for adults on the fourth Tuesday of the month. Pick up a copy of this month's title at the library. Adults. 6 p.m. to 7:30 p.m., Apr. 22 and May 27.

Kids Cook: Kids ages 7 to 11 will have fun cooking (and eating) while learning to read and follow a recipe, basic math and chemistry, and fine motor dexterity on fourth Wednesdays. Younger kids may participate with an adult to help. Supplies are limited, registration required. 4:30 p.m. to

5:30 p.m., April 23 and May 28.

Kids Craft: Join us for a monthly kids craft on third Tuesdays to make fun and seasonal items, perfect for kids to keep, display, or give as gifts. Supplies are limited. Registration required. Apr 23 and May 20 from 4:30 to 5:30 p.m.

Star Wars Day / Library Book Sale: Themed activities and costumed Star Wars bad guys for fans of all ages, plus our annual book sale during the City's Town-Wide Yard Sale! Check out the books, magazine bundles, DVDs, audiobooks, and other items for sale. All proceeds from the Book Sale benefit the Library – making it possible for the Library to continue to provide new media and programs for the Delaware City community! TOTE BAG SPECIAL - buy a Library tote bag and fill it up for \$15. Apr 26 from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Drop-In Sewing Sessions: Learn machine sewing techniques in this new monthly program! A sewing instructor will guide participants in basic sewing techniques. Each session tackles a different technique. The library has a limited supply of sewing machines for participants OR bring your own machine from home. Registration required - space is limited! Adults. Apr. 28 and May 19 from 5:00- 7:00 p.m.

How to Spot a Scam: A special investigator from the Delaware Department of Justice joins us for this informative program on scam and fraud prevention. In this program participants will learn how to protect their data, how to secure their laptops, how to stop unwanted phone calls, how to avoid gift card scams, and more. Adults. Apr. 30 from 6:00 to 7:00 p.m.

Teens Knit and Crochet: Join us first Mondays for pizza, snacks, and creativity! All materials provided or bring your own project if you already have experience. Don't know how to knit or crochet? No problem - we'll have an experienced teacher ready to get you started. Aimed at ages 12-17. May 5 from 5:30 to 6:30 p.m.

NEW! Maker Space Makes for Adults: This new monthly program takes place on the first Monday of each month. Participants create a project utilizing technology and gadgets from our Maker Space. Call the library for this month's project. May 5 from 5:30 to 7:00 p.m.

NEW! Maker Space Makes for Kids: Usually reserved for ages 12+, our new monthly Maker Space Makes program gives kids ages 7-11 (younger with an adult to help) a chance to explore our Maker Space tools and resources to create a fun new project on the first Wednesday of the month! Drop-in on May 7 from 5:00 to 7:00 p.m.

DC Writers Workshop: Are you a local writer? Join us for our newest recurring program for writers, the DC Writers Workshop! Share your work, workshop in-progress pieces, and receive feedback. This program is open to adults of all writing styles and skill levels. Meets every other month. May 7 from 5:30 to 7:00 p.m.

Great Escapes from Fort Delaware: If you were imprisoned on an island without much to keep you busy, your mind would surely turn to escape. Come find out about some of the more creative attempts to escape from Fort Delaware, successful and otherwise. Jacob Miller, the Interpretive Programs Manager of Fort Delaware State Park hosts this program. Adults and families. May 22 from 6:00 to 7:00 p.m.

Shove Off Day for Freedom: The kick-off event for the community's second annual Juneteenth event series begins at the Library! At 10:00 a.m., an educational program and exhibit for all ages by Kathy Trusty, an independent historian, Black history educator, and children's book author. In the afternoon, period era games program at Fort Delaware! For those attending the morning program at the Library, ferry tickets to the Fort are half-price at only \$7 and we'll provide lunch at the pavilion at Fort Delaware. May 24 from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Register for these programs and more on our website.

[Register Now](#)

Delaware City Events

- **Trees, please.** Visit the Delaware City Community Center from 6 p.m. to 7 p.m. Thursday, April 24 for an Arbor Day Tree Talk to learn about trees native to the area, tree care and how trees improve the community. Experts will answer questions and brochures will be available. Children's activities are planned. Rotary will sell trees as a fundraiser. Visit the commission on Arbor Day, Friday, April 25 at Delaware City Post Office, to pick up information about trees, ask questions and sign up for email.
- **Treasures for sale.** Delaware City's 34th annual Yard Sale is set from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturday, April 26, (Rain date is Sunday, April 27). Furniture, clothing, toys, antiques and even cars will be for sale. Stroll through town, shop the sales in our historic district, Harbor Estates, Fort DuPont and more. Stay all day. Shop, dine at a local restaurant, take a ferry to Fort Delaware or explore scenic trails. Contact Delaware City Rotary to rent a 10' x 10' table space for \$20. Email rotarydecity@gmail.com for more information.
- The 2025 Delaware City-Polktown Juneteenth Observance, free events honoring history, culture and community, are planned between May 24 and June 22. Live performances, educational programs, a community cookout, and activities at the Delaware City Library and Fort Delaware are scheduled. Participants can view exhibits, learn about the Underground Railroad, and celebrate Black history through music and storytelling. Event details: juneteenth-delcity.org.
- **Volunteer now for fall event.** Saturday, Oct. 4 is Delaware City Day. The historic waterfront town celebrates with a parade down Clinton Street, music, vendors, food trucks, children's activities, boat rides and fireworks at dusk. The Delaware City Day Committee needs volunteers now and to help the day of the event. The committee will hold its first meeting at 6 p.m., Thursday, May 8 in the Surfboard Room, Delaware City Library, 250 Fifth St. Questions? info@delawarecityday.com

The March/April version of the Delaware City Newsletter is available [here](#).

More Information

2025 Delaware City-Polktown Juneteenth Observance Schedule At a Glance



Shove Off Day, Saturday, May 24

Morning at the Delaware City Library:

“Shove Off for Freedom” a program for all ages by Kathy Trusty — independent historian, Black history educator, children’s book author

Ferry Tickets: \$7 each for those attending the morning program

Lunch at the Pavilion, Fort Delaware State Park

Afternoon at the Fort Delaware State Park:

Civil War Era at Fort Delaware, including children’s games led by Fort Delaware staff

Saturday, June 7, “Looking Back / Moving Forward”

Midday at Battery Park Bandstand:

Harriet Tubman and the Tilly Rescue with Debra Martin

Afternoon at the Delaware City Library:

Artist’s Tour of “Landscapes of the Harriet Tubman Underground Railroad Byway” with E. Lynn Dilliplane

Evening at the Community Center:

The Sankofa Drum and Dance Company

Thursday, June 19 - Juneteenth

Morning: Juneteenth Commemorative Service, a solemn Ceremony at the African Union Church Cemetery. Music by the Hildaman Chorale and others.

Afternoon / Evening: Suite Franchon & Friends, and Best Kept Soul performances

Sunday, June 22

12:00 Noon: Mount Salem U.A.M.E. Church’s Juneteenth Worship Service

Afternoon: Community Cookout. A traditional community cookout offered by the Mount Salem U.A.M.E. Church congregation on the church grounds. Performances celebrating Black history and culture.

Throughout the Juneteenth celebration period at the Delaware City Library

Juneteenth themed library programs: Book Club 5/27; Kids Cook 5/28; Teens & Tweens Culture 6/11; Children’s Storytime 6/17; Kids Craft 6/17; Genealogy for Adults 6/17; Cooking with Cathy for Tweens & Teens 6/18

Photography exhibit by E. Lynn Dilliplane, “Landscapes of the Delaware Harriett Tubman Underground Railroad Byway” revised to include additional scenes highlighting local Underground Railroad history.

In Development / Specifics TBA

- Essay, Art, and Culinary Challenge for Children and Youth in the area schools
- Black-Owned Businesses and Organizations Exhibits

Sponsors: City of Delaware City, Delaware City Fire Company, Delaware City Library, Delaware City Police Department, Delaware City Refining Company, Fort Delaware State Park, Friends of the African Union Church Cemetery (FAUCC), Main Street Delaware City, Mt. Salem U.A.M.E. Church and the Underground Railroad Coalition of Delaware

For event updates, please visit

<https://juneteenth-delcity.org/> or <https://africanunioncemetery.org/>

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Fort DuPont Redevelopment and Preservation Corporation | 260 Old Elm Ave P.O. Box 521 |
Delaware City, DE 19706 US

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