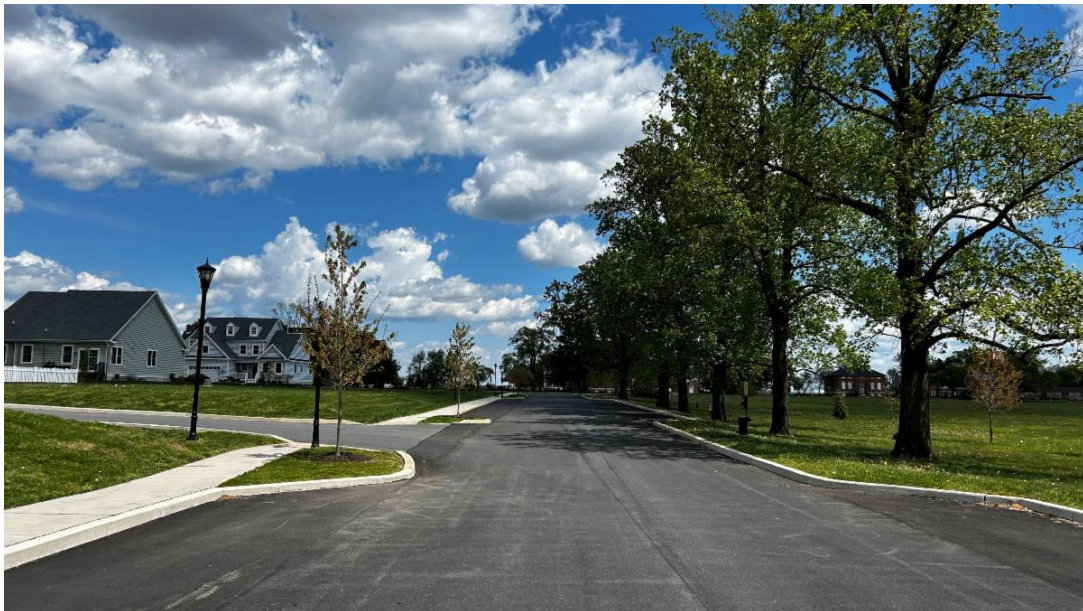


Shaped by History & Anchored in Nature



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 the natural and historical heritage of our location. Please reach out with any questions!

Tree Maintenance Work Taking Place



Tree maintenance work has already begun on the Fort DuPont campus, and will continue until all potential safety hazards for residents, as well as possible damage to community homes, have been eliminated. Workers have been focusing on removing dead limbs, protruding roots, and any other tree-related items that could potentially cause harm to residents or their guests or cause structural damage to existing residences. An end date for this project has not yet been determined. We'll keep you updated as we progress through the rest of spring and into the summer months.

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Pollinator Gardens Coming Shortly



Pollinator gardens will be gracing the Fort DuPont campus in the coming weeks via a financial grant awarded to Delaware City. These gardens will be sprinkled through the grounds and will add another aesthetically pleasing element to our special corner of the world. Keep your eyes open for work to begin sometime in the next few weeks!

Delaware Autism Walk A Huge Success



Large and enthusiastic crowds visited Fort DuPont State Park in Delaware City on Saturday, April 13, for the first leg of the 2024 Delaware Walk for Autism, a major annual fundraising effort for autism awareness and support programs in the First State. Organized each year by Autism Delaware, the 2024 walk boasted large crowds, great food and, most importantly, support for the First State's largest autism advocacy group.

Held during April, National Autism Acceptance Month, the walk is held in two stages at a pair of Delaware's largest open areas, Fort DuPont State Park in New Castle County and Hudson Fields near Milton in Sussex County.

The 2024 Walk raised nearly 75 percent of its \$110,000 annual fundraising goal during the Fort DuPont walk alone, with large and enthusiastic crowds helping raise much-needed funds for autism awareness and treatment in all three counties of Delaware.

St. George's Blues Festival Coming June 1-2



The St. George's Blues Festival will be held on the grounds of Fort DuPont State Park on Saturday and Sunday, June 1 and 2. This two-day event features a full lineup of bands that will be filling the air with sweet sounds and toe-tapping music.

Featured bands for 2024 include Lower Case Blues, the Tony Holiday Band, John Primer and his Real Deal Blues Band, Judy Sings the Blues, the Johnny Rawls Band and several more. Tickets are \$55 each day at the gate. Weekend passes are available for \$90 until May 29. [Find more ticket-buying options here.](#)

Save the date and be sure to join us at Fort DuPont on the first weekend of June!

[Buy Tickets](#)

Juneteenth Festivities Starting May 25



Join us on Saturday, May 25, as we kick off the 2024 Juneteenth festivities with an educational and cultural gathering hosted by the Delaware City Library. This special “Shove Off Day” will take place at the community center, located at 250 5th Street in Delaware City. “Shove Off Day” marks the day that the U.S. Colored Troops left Virginia to head to Texas at the end of the Civil War, aiming to enforce the freedom of formerly enslaved people in far-away locations in the former Confederacy. The Delaware City event is designed to bring people together to celebrate, learn, and honor our shared history.

More events surrounding Juneteenth 2024 will be coming soon. But for now, save the date of May 25 and we hope to see everyone at the community center!

Our Perspectives: Crystal Pini-McDaniel



Crystal Pini-McDaniel serves as the operations manager for the Fort DuPont Redevelopment and Preservation Corporation.

What do you love the most about Fort DuPont and why?

“My favorite spot at Fort DuPont is really hard to pinpoint. I love the point, especially at sunrise in early spring or even the parade grounds at sunrise with a little fog ... breathtaking! I am in awe of the history and future of the theater and chapel, the ability to see straight to the water from my office in the winter, the wandering deer and wildlife, and seeing residents on the parade ground with the children and furry friends.

“I love that there's so much history here, but at the same time I'm excited for our future and the future memories my family, the families that live here, and all the families that visit get to make while enjoying the beauty that encompasses every inch of this site.”



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