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>>> DOWNE TOWNSHIP, NEW JERSEY <<<

# DOWNE TOWN'S NEWS

Quarterly Newsletter Designated For News & Upcoming Events in Downe Township

## <u>town</u>

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   Society's Fortescue
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A Breath Taking View from Gandy's Beach. This photo of the Bulkhead Repair Project was taken as the Project was nearing completion.

### <u>NEWS</u>

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## **SAVE THE DATES...**

- July 4th, 4th of July ~Township Closed~
- July 6th, 5pm Fortescue Parade
   Sponsored by Downe Twp Fire & Rescue
- July 8th, 7pm Twp Committee Meeting
- July 20th, 7pm Music at Union Hall
- July 21st, 1-4pm Music at Union Hall
- August 3rd, Free Movie Night
   Sponsored by Dividing Creek Fire Co.
- August 10th, 12-5pm Bounty By The Bay
- August 12th, 7pm Twp Committee Meeting
- August 17th, 7pm Music at Union Hall

- August 18th 1-4pm Music at Union Hall
- August 20th, 6:30pm Board of Edu. Meeting
- Sept 2nd, Labor Day ~Township Closed~
- Sept 4th, First Day for Downe Twp School
- Sept 9th, 7pm Twp Committee Meeting
- Sept 15th, 1-4pm Music at Union Hall
- Sept 17th, 6:30pm Board of Edu. Meeting
- Sept 21st, 7pm Music at Union Hall
- Sept 28th, 9am Community Yard Sale
   & Paper Shredding
   Sponsored by Downe Twp Seniors



## **KEEPING UP WITH DOWNE**

## TOWNSHIP BOARD & COMMISION MEETINGS:

COMBINED PLANNING/ZONING BOARD 2nd Tuesday of Month, 7pm - Senior Center

DOWNE TOWNSHIP SENIORS
2nd Friday of Month, 10am - Senior Center

ENVIRON. COMMISSION (GREEN TEAM)
4th Tuesday of Month, 6:30pm - 0EM Office

HISTORIC COMMISION

3rd Monday of Month, 6pm - Senior Center

RECREATION & TOURISM COMMITTEE
3rd Thursday of Month, 6pm - Senior Center

#### **WHAT'S TRENDING?**

**Fortescue/Gandy's Beach Sewer Project Update:** On May 23rd, Downe Township awarded the "Phase 1" project to South State Inc., and Agate Construction Co. During the month of July the Township is planning to award the "Phase 2" project. Both "Phases" of the project are scheduled to begin Late Summer/Early Fall, as of today's printing.

**The American Littoral Society's** project in Fortescue, to aid in conserving marine wildlife, has finished. You will now notice yellow signs around the southern part of the fishing beach, with rocks placed offshore to promote conservation efforts for the horseshoe crabs and birds that feed on their eggs.

**Gandy's Beach Bulkhead Repair Project** has been completed. The bid was awarded to South State Inc. and the project started on April 21st. The estimated completion date was scheduled for June 20th.

**Congratulations to Jill Ransom**, the winner of the Downe Twp Recreation Committee's annual GardenScapes Contest. The next contest will be during the month of October.

**The Delaware Riverkeeper Network** has created a diamondback terrapin nesting garden located at Fortescue Beach at the southern portion of New Jersey Ave on top of the dune, at the point where the rubble dune ends. The objective of this nesting garden is to help encourage the diamondback terrapins from not wandering into dangerous situations such as the roadways.

**The Downe Township Recreation & Tourism Committee** has been awarded \$67,000, through the Local Recreation Improvement Grant, to be used for building and/or upgrading playground equipment as well as the repaving/refurbishing of the Basketball Court located along Dilks Lane in Dividing Creek.

**The 4th of July Parade located in Fortescue**, will be on Saturday July 6th, beginning at 5pm. Decorated vehicles and bicycles are welcomed. All bike riders must have a helmet to participate.

**The Downe Township School District** would like to Congratulate the 8th Grade Graduating Class of '24. Good luck on your adventures in High School. Thank you, students and staff, for a wonderful 2023-2024 school year. 2024-2025 school year begins Wednesday, September 4th.

**The Cumberland County 4-H Advisory Committee** would like to thank the Downe Twp Recreation Committee, Mayhew Greenhouses, and Dividing Creek Fire Co. for sponsoring the 4-H Kids Garden Workshop. The Event had over 20 children attend for a great start of summer fun.

#### ORDINANCES TO BE AWARE OF...

**Ordinance 2024-07** - Dumpsters that consist of decaying material, including food, must be enclosed in a fence type structure and maintained/emptied on a weekly basis or whenever full.

**Ordinance 2023-06** - Pet waste must be immediately and properly disposed of by the pet's owner. Any person who is found to be in violation, shall be subject to a fine not exceeding **\$1,000.00**.

**Ordinance 2024-05** - Short Term Rentals, including Air BnB's, must obtain an STR Permit and are required to have "2" inspections done on a yearly basis. Failure to comply will result in fines.

**NJ State Law-** All Low Speed Vehicles, including **Golf Carts**, must have current insurance and registration. Failure to provide valid credentials will result in fines and/or the vehicle being impounded.



## **PUBLIC INSIGHTS**

#### MORE NEWS FROM OUR COMMUNITY

**The Dividing Creek Historical Society** is collecting recipes for a new local Cookbook featuring recipes from Downe Twp residents. Please share your favorite family recipes (and photos) with us at: DCHSdowne@gmail.com or mail to DCHS PO Box 102, Dividing Creek, NJ 08315.

**The Green Team** would like to thank all those who volunteered for the Horseshoe Crab Festival. The festival hosted many activities including informational lectures. Congratulations to all the winners of the various contests that were held. Next year's festival will be held on May 10th, 2025.

**The Downe Historic Commission** is planning the development of a Memorial in Downe Township, honoring all United States Veterans. If you're interested in helping with the development of the project, please attend the Commission's next scheduled meeting.

**The Downe Township Seniors** hosted the annual Cumberland County Pinochle Tournament. Congratulations to Mary Ann Casper (1st Place) and Ken Sheppard (2nd Place). Anyone interested in playing pinochle can join the Seniors every Wednesday at noon at the Senior Center.

**Dividing Creek Fire Co.**, will be hosting a "Free Movie Night" on August 3rd and a Labor Day "Coin Drop" on September 2nd. All are welcome to attend.

**To become a volunteer** with Station #39, email garobertsonjr@gmail.com. To become a volunteer with station #18, email DCFC18@outlook.com.

#### **FOOD BANK INFORMATION**

- Fortescue Chapel holds their food bank the 4th Wednesday of the month from 9:30am to 11:30am. Please check the Facebook page for date and time changes.
- Saint Anthony Roman Catholic Church hosts their Food Pantry at 1542 Main Street in Port Norris on the 2nd Saturday of the month from 9am - 2pm. There are no pre-registration requirements. Recipients are asked to provide the number of children and adults in the household.
- Lawrence Township Commodities (LTFCS) hosts their Food Bank at 93 Maple Ave in Cedarville on the 3rd Saturday of each month from 9pm - 2pm. Recipients must preregister to participate in this Food Pantry. Bring Photo I.D. and proof of income on the day of the Pantry.
- Dividing Creek Methodist Church hosts a mobile pantry the 1st Friday of the month from 9:30am to 11:30am.

## MANY THANKS TO... Annette Perry

Annette Perry is one of the top contributors to all senior groups within Cumberland County. As a retired Bridgeton teacher, Annette has been living within Gandy's Beach of Downe Township for many years. She has led and organized many groups including our Downe Township Seniors, and various groups focused on Veterans and Alzheimer Awareness. Annette also organized Pinnacle groups for our county seniors and began a sewing class, not just to provide recreation for those involved, but to also provide clothing, hats, scarves, and pillows to cancer patients in need. Annette has always worn her heart on her sleeve and has continued to inspire many of our residents. Today we would like to thank Annette for her inspirational actions and her devotion to helping others. Thank you!

## Last Quarter's Photo Contest Winner: ~ Gina Spigelmoyer, 8th Grade~



The peaceful beauty of the Downe Marshlands. A haven for birdwatchers and photographers alike.

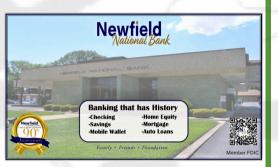
#### **PHOTO CONTEST**

Submit photos featured within our Township to DowneTwpNews@gmail.com, for a chance to win prestige, fame, and cool prizes.



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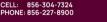
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## **ACTIVITIES**

#### Summer Word Scramble

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#### Sudoku

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6			N	7	7	L	4	
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#### Word List

Can you find these words?

**Bald Eagle** Flounder Weakfish

Beaches Horseshoe Crab **Beaver Dam** 

**Blue Claw** Osprey

Bulkhead Terrapin



6957 Miller Avenue ■ Port Norris, New Jersey 08349

