

Election Results

At the November 5 election, Joe Vocke was elected to another three-year term on the Township Committee.

Stephanie Dunn, Cathy Pouria, and Joseph Ponzo were elected to three-year terms on the School Board.

Holiday Decorating Contest

Light up the wintery night! The annual Holiday Decorating Contest continues this December. Prizes awarded! Entrants must register no later than December 11 by calling 609-397-3240 Ext. 205 or emailing deltwprec@gmail.com (preferred contact).

Judging will take place on Monday, December 16th. If inclement weather is forecast for that night, judging will instead take place on Sunday, December 15th. Please turn on lights between 6 and 9 p.m. If you live on a private road or down a long driveway and/or are not visible from the street, please clearly mark your driveway somehow so we can find you.

Voting Reminder: Delaware Township School Referendum

Referendum Election Date: December 10, 2019

Poll Hours: 2pm to 8pm

Poll Location: Sergeantsville Firehouse

See article on back page or visit www.dtsk8.org

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Editorial

Merry Christmas and Happy Holidays! As another year draws to a close, I've been thinking beyond the upcoming celebrations and toward the beginning of a new year full of possibilities. We're another year older and hopefully wiser and I'd like to think that in the upcoming year we can use that wisdom as part of a legacy to our family and friends.

To some, a legacy means passing along family heirlooms to children and grandchildren, although I have read that young folks are showing declining interest in the antiques and collectibles amassed by their elders. That's not surprising. Each generation encompasses the unique times in which they live and it's natural to look past the past and make your own way in this life. It may be, however, that someone may treasure an item if it strikes a relevant chord about why an item means so much to you. We lose knowledge from generation to generation, so anything you can relate now can become treasured family history in the future.

Yet a legacy may encompass more than treasured items – it can be expressed by a spirit of volunteerism that celebrates a treasured ideal. For some, that might mean being active with school functions. For others, it may mean spending time helping out on athletic programs, being active in your church, volunteering for town boards, or serving with non-profit organizations.

So many people in the past helped contribute to making our Township special today. As the New Year celebrations pass, consider spending some time helping to continue the legacy of making Delaware Township ever better. Every little bit helps and the future thanks you.

From the Delaware Township Committee and our amazing Staff and volunteers, we wish you a safe, healthy and happy New Year.

— Susan Lockwood, Editor



Meet Your Neighbor: Bagel Barn and Deli's Daniella Holuta

by Russ Lockwood

Just south of the blinking light in Sergeantsville on Rt. 523 sits the Bagel Barn & Deli owned and overseen by Daniella Holuta, an enthusiastic entrepreneur with a passion for fresh food. Opened in May of 2018, the Bagel Barn required a year of renovations to turn the former Maresca butcher shop into an inviting deli serving up sandwiches, cooked breakfast and lunches, homemade soups, coffee, gelato, kombucha, and a wide variety of packaged snacks.

Before opening the Bagel Barn, Daniella had been managing a marketing department for a company in northern New Jersey. When her parents, Walter and Mary, found the shop, she decided to go all in, quit her job, and follow her passion.

"I've been cooking all my life," she noted. "I have many fond memories of cooking with my grandparents and experimenting with different ways to prepare dishes."

For example, she adapted her grandmother's recipe for homemade chicken noodle soup with garlic, thyme, and other spices for additional flavor. She makes everything from scratch, including the broth -- no packaged stock here.

"I like to bring that family feel to the dishes, where you get quality and freshness," she explained. "I'm constantly trying to innovate the menu, especially by listening to customers."

That innovation extended to at least one type of new cream cheese offering: horseradish and bacon. The request surprised her, and she experimented with the recipe to include additional spices, but the resulting spread became very popular. Like all the other flavored cream cheese, such as the seasonal pumpkin cream cheese, she adds fresh ingredients to the base cream cheese mixture.

For those looking forward to the holidays, she's planning to add cranberry cream cheese and eggnog cream cheese flavors, and possibly gingerbread gelato.

The addition of a gelato machine proved an innovation fraught with supplier delays. While now in operation, what was supposed to arrive for summer showed up in the fall, missing the prime season.

That challenge was one of many she faced.

Opening a deli is not for the faint of heart. According to a 2016 study by Bureau of Labor Statistics, while about 15% of food service businesses fail to survive their first year in business, about 30% fail in their second year. So far, Bagel Barn is going strong with strong and growing customer support.

Daniella's already survived one challenge -- a one-day notice by her Newark-based bread supplier that her deli was too far away for delivery. She didn't panic -

- she lined up a half dozen replacements, sampled their wares, and picked a Bound Brook-based bakery with the best-tasting bread.

She counts herself fortunate to have an experienced manager in Donna and experienced employees Heather, Maria, and Bobbi. Daniella routinely works 70 hours a week with cooking, payroll, supplies, and the joy of talking to customers as well as seeing if she can incorporate their suggestions into her menu.

For the colder weather, she's added heartier fare, including homemade chili with a twist of sour cream and topping of cheddar cheese. She's also considering adding healthier snack spreads, such as hummus, to see how customers respond.

"Thank you for welcoming us," she noted with gratitude. "The town has a friendly vibe and it's comforting to become part of the community."

Volunteers Needed

Delaware Township depends upon the interests, talents, and expertise of its volunteers. While elected officials and Township employees are the most visible face of town government, volunteers staff numerous committees that help guide the important decisions that affect the present and future of Delaware Township.

If you would like to volunteer, now is the time to express your interest. Citizen boards include: Agricultural Advisory Committee, Board of Adjustment, Board of Health, Environmental Commission, Flood Hazard Mitigation Committee, Historical Advisory Committee, Open Space Committee, Planning Board, Quarry Compliance Committee, Recreation Commission, and the Shade Tree Commission.

The Newsletter is also looking for volunteers. In addition, the Delaware Township Fire Company is constantly on the lookout for help.

Please visit the Township website at www.DelawareTwpNJ.org There are descriptions of the various boards along with current members and minutes listed under the "Government" tab. To obtain a volunteer form scroll down to Forms, Permits and Licenses under the Government tab and then scroll down further to Citizen Leadership Form under Office of the Clerk. Forms may also be picked up at the Clerk's Office in the Municipal Building.

The completed forms should be mailed to Jodi McKinney, PO Box 500, Sergeantsville NJ 08557 or they may be brought to the attention of the Township Committee for appointments in December with terms starting in January.

Employee of the Year: Jodi McKinney

The Township Committee selected Jodi McKinney, Township Clerk, as its 2019 Employee of the year. Ms. McKinney became Municipal Clerk and Registrar for Delaware Township in 2016. She loves working in Delaware Township because it is a great, friendly, small Township with incredibly wonderful residents.

Jodi began her career as a consultant, and then spent many years in Higher Education. She left Higher Education to take an Administrative Position with Flemington Borough. Within one month of starting in Flemington, she was asked if she'd like to become the Acting Municipal Clerk and take the classes to become a Registered Municipal Clerk. She did and thus began her career in Government.

She is currently working on achieving the next level of Registered Municipal Clerk (RMC) and will be advancing to become a Certified Municipal Clerk (CMC) by the end of November 2019. She has been taking classes and working on completing the CMC degree for the last two years.

When not working, Jodi is an avid reader, and loves travel and adventure. She also loves to try new things and says she would like to try skydiving next.

Jodi says, "It has been a great honor and privilege to work with the personnel and residents of the Township of Delaware."

Hunterdon County Parks Family Nature Club: Candles at Christmas and Wonder of Winter

On Sunday, December 8, from 2:00 pm to 3:30 pm, celebrate Candles at Christmas at Echo Hill Park. It's for ages 4 through adult and the cost is \$8 per person.

On Sunday, January 12, from 1pm to 2:30pm, join local naturalist Debra Reed to learn about wild animals in the winter. It's for ages 4 through adult and the cost is \$3 per child while accompanying adults attend for free.

Coat Drive at Office of the Hunterdon County Prosecutor

If you have gently worn or new coats and wish to donate them to a good cause, the Hunterdon County Prosecutor's Office is collecting them through December 31 at its office on the second floor of the Hunterdon County Justice Complex.

For more information, call Asst. Prosecutor Kelly Daniels at 908-788-1129.

Volunteer of the Year: Anthony Leone

The Township Committee selected Anthony Leone, Sergeantsville Farmers Market Coordinator, as its 2019 Volunteer of the year. Mr. Leone became interested in farming at about age 13. His family belonged to a Community Supported Agriculture farm for many years and he distinctly remembers asking how kale plants grew. He searched the internet and doublechecked his information in person at the farm. The neat rows and abundance convinced him this was something he wanted to do. He started a garden and grew from there.

When the Sergeantsville Farmers Market Coordinator's position fell vacant, he leapt at the opportunity to bring residents and farmers together at the Sergeantsville Green. It's nice to see people getting together, talking, sharing stories, and having a good time. He'd like to thank the vendors, musicians and everyone in the community who came out and supported the Market.

Anthony believes Delaware Township offers one of the best places to live in New Jersey, in part because of the Township's support for maintaining and preserving farmland and open space. When not working at the Market, he's restoring an old Ford Bronco.

As for 2020, he hopes to increase the number of vendors as well as have two special events -- one in the spring and fall. He's seeking to incorporate more children's programs so they become involved in their community and understand the importance of agriculture.

SVFC Receives Two Grants

Ed Fleming, Chief of the Sergeantsville Volunteer Fire Company (SVFC), Rich Madden, President, and Shawn Warren, Grant Manager, announced that the SVFC successfully won two grants from the Federal Emergency Management Agency.

One is for an \$86,000 Staffing Adequate Fire Emergency Response (SAFER) grant to hire a recruiter to help with outreach (videos, mailings, social media) to find new SVFC members and to help maintain existing members.

The second is the Assistance to Firefighters Grant (AFG) for \$93,000. The National Fire Protection Agency establishes allowable lifetimes for firefighting equipment. For example, the self-contained breathing apparatus (also known as SCOT packs) the fireman use, can only be used for 15 years. This year, SVFC's SCOT packs were set to expire. The grant money will pay for the 15 new packs needed by the SVFC.

The Township Committee expressed its thanks to the SVFC for applying for these grants and for all that it does to protect our residents.

Delaware Township Historical Society

Recap for 2019

Our Reading School has been our big project this year. We have held several workdays to initiate the renovation of the school. In addition to our regular members, special mention should be made of non-members who supported this endeavor. They include the extended Davis family and the following individuals: Tony Szwed, Brian Smith, and Jody Williams. Thanks to all who have participated! Please watch for future scheduled workdays and come join us.

We co-sponsored many programs in 2019 and hope you were able to attend at least some of them, as they were great fun and very well received.

In February: 'It Makes A Village' was our introductory program to the Hunterdon 300th theme — 'The Hamlets & Villages of Hunterdon County.'

In April: Our annual DTHS History Hike was an all-day lollipop! We had four mini tours of Raven Rock & Rosemont in the morning and Sand Brook and Locktown in the afternoon, with a break for lunch at our historic Sergeantsville Inn.

In June: Walking tour of Stockton and special theme event at Headquarters Farm with docents in period costumes taking us back to the 18th century.

In September: Walking tour of Sergeantsville and our team trounced the opposition team in a county-wide 'History Bowl' contest.

Please note there will not be a Christmas gathering at Headquarters Farm this year.

Thanks again for everyone's support and your renewal of membership for 2020. Please mail your dues [individual \$25 / family \$35 / supporting \$50 / business \$100] to: DTHS / Box 149 / Sergeantsville, NJ 08557.

Pipeline Update

By now, residents may have read that the Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) denied the permit for the PennEast pipeline. That denial was not based on a review, but instead was based on the court decision that stated that a private entity could not take land through eminent domain from the State of New Jersey. Because so much of the pipeline was planned to go through lands that had been preserved with State money, the DEP concluded that it could not review PennEast's application because PennEast did not have the right to site the pipeline through those preserved lands.

Also, on November 5, the US Court of Appeals for the Third District denied PennEast's request for a re-hearing on the matter of taking state land.

While that should be good news, it is unclear what will happen next, but with billions of dollars in future profits, PennEast is unlikely to give up the project.

Adult and Teen Recreation

Delaware Township residents have the following recreational opportunities for adults and teens in the DTS gymnasium and/or cafeteria now and continuing through the end of the school year 2020:

Adult Co-Ed Soccer: Monday nights 7 to 10 p.m.

Adult Men's Basketball: Tuesday and Thursday nights 7 to 10 p.m.

Adult Co-Ed Volleyball: Wednesday nights 7 to 10 p.m.

Teen Co-Ed Volleyball or Basketball: Friday nights 7 to 9 p.m.

All skill levels are welcome. Everyone will be required to complete a waiver prior to participation. There are no activities when school events are scheduled and/or when school is closed for holidays, early dismissals, or inclement weather. Check www.dtsk8.org for a calendar of scheduled school closings. Parents of participating teens must take turns chaperoning teen activities.

Great Crate Race

Searching for a great holiday gift? Consider a Crate Package for the 2020 Race on July 4th. Participation in this annual event is a wonderful family activity. You can review crate information at www.soapboxderby.org (this is the national sanctioning body and they offer crate kits).

The Race Committee requests that any former participant who no longer races consider making that crate available to another interested family. Contact Steve Smotrich (908-255-5358) or Kathleen Herman (908-399-4164) if you have a crate to share.

Seasonal Ice Skating Rink

The Recreation Commission is working with the Delaware Township School Board of Education to reopen the seasonal ice rink at the School. Please cooperate, winter weather. Check the Township website for updated information.

St. Baldrick's Wrap-up Report

A HUGE thank you to all who participated in making the 7th Annual St. Baldrick's Head-Shaving Event and Auction in Sergeantsville the most successful yet! It is truly heartwarming to witness the selfless, caring spirit of so many people. A record number of those caring people raised an amazing \$67,000 on September 29th for the most promising childhood cancer research.

If you missed this year's event, please mark your calendar for the 8th Annual St. Baldrick's Head-Shaving Event and Auction to be held at Sergeantsville Fire House on September 27, 2020.

Community Calendar

Township Offices closed:

December 25: Christmas

January 1: New Year's Day

January 20: Martin Luther King Day

February 17: President's Day

Township Committee: 7:30 p.m. 2nd & last Monday - 12/9, 12/23, 1/13, 1/27, 2/10, 2/24, 3/9

Township Committee Special Meeting: Reorganization meeting for new year at 6:30 p.m.

Planning Board: 7:30 p.m. 1st Tuesday - 12/3, 1/7, 2/4, 3/3

Board of Health: 7:30 p.m. 1st Monday - 12/2, 1/6, 2/3, 3/2

Open Space Committee: 7:30 p.m. Monday - 12/16, Tuesday 1/21, 2/18

Agricultural Advisory Committee: 7:00 p.m. 1st Tuesday - 12/3, 1/7, 2/4, 3/3

Board of Adjustment: 7:30 p.m. 2nd Thursday - 12/12, 1/9, 2/13

Recreation Commission: 7:30 p.m. 1st Monday - 12/2, 1/6, 2/3, 3/2

Environmental Commission: 7:30 p.m. 3rd Wednesday - 12/18, 1/15, 2/19

D.T.M.U.A.: 7:30 p.m. 1st Thursday - 12/5, 1/2, 2/6, 3/5

Shade Tree Commission: 7:30 p.m. 4th Thursday - 12/26, 1/23, 2/27

Historic Advisory Committee: 7:30 p.m. 2nd Wednesday - 12/11, 1/8, 2/12

Newsletter Committee: Quarterly

Recycling Depot: Open every weekday from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the Township Garage on Rt. 523. Call Recycling Coordinator Kathy Klink at 609-397-3240 Ext. 208 with any questions.

Important Reminder from the Tax Collector

The Tax Collector would like to remind residents to make sure they sign their checks for taxes and to not post-date their checks. The tax office cannot hold funds and the bank will not accept post-dated checks.

For information about State Property Tax Relief Programs, including eligibility criterion and potential deduction or credit amounts, please visit the Division of Taxation's website at <https://www.state.nj.us/treasury/taxation/relief.shtml>

Delaware Township School News

Delaware Township School opened with new excitement and some changes on Sept. 4th. The main office has relocated to the front of the building, offering added security measures for the students. There are new opportunities for students as well across the curriculum.

A new climbing wall was installed in the gym for students to participate in during their Phys. Ed. classes, and 6th grade students interested in dance are participating in an Artist in Residence program with Roxey Ballet. Both the wall and residency are the courtesy of grants to the school.

Students in grades 6 through 8 are now receiving instruction in Financial Literacy as mandated by the state of NJ to learn about money management for a better future. The Applied Technology and Coding curriculum continues to expand. All students are learning about mindfulness, self-calming practices, to help them be ready to learn in all grade levels. The school is setting a goal to help parents get their students to school, and on time, each and every day. The early hours of the school day set the children up for success.

There are two full day preschool classrooms this year to fulfill a community demand for early education for our smallest residents.

The district has been given approval to conduct a Referendum on December 10th for a number of essential facility projects; if successful the State will contribute 40% of the cost of the projects. Please visit the school website dtsk8.org for further details. DTS invites the community to actively participate in the education of our Township's upcoming leaders of tomorrow!

Report on March On Litter

March on Litter was held October 12, 2019. What a great day. The weather was perfect and the participants were enthusiastic.

Here are our results. We covered 14.85 miles and collected 16 bags trash; 24 bags recycling (as compared to 6 in 2018); 4 tires; Pipes - 2 metal, 2 plastic; 2 metal stakes; plywood; and one broken decorative mirror. Thanks to all the kids and adults who participated.

Senior Yoga

Join Senior Yoga classes on Mondays at 9:30am (level 1) and 11am (all levels) at the Town Hall. For more information, call Hunterdon County Senior Health and Fitness Eleanor Langeveld at 908-284-6128. \$4 fee per class.

All meetings are at Town Hall unless otherwise noted.

Church Corner

Amwell Church of the Brethren

40 Sandbrook Headquarters Rd, Stockton, NJ
Tel: 609-397-4842
Web: www.amwell.org

Sunday school: 9:15 a.m.

Worship Service: 10:15 a.m.

Wed night Bible study: 7:00.

Friday night youth group: 7:00

Dec 6: The Browders, a southern gospel group 7pm

Dec 24: Christmas eve service 7pm

Dec 31: Watch night service 8pm-midnight. Fun, fellowship, food and pray in the new year.

Cornerstone Christian Church

226 Locktown-Sergeantsville Rd, Stockton, NJ
Tel: 908-237-5227
Web: www.ccc-hc.org
Email: pastor-keith@ccc.hc.org

Sunday Worship Service: 10:30 a.m.

Sunday School for all ages: 9:15 a.m.

Dec. 7, 2pm: Memorial service for long time Delaware Township resident and centenarian Edith McCloughan who passed away in August. Edith's family has long roots in Delaware Township. including her father, former Township committeeman and state assemblyman Emmert Wilson.

Dec. 24, 6pm: Christmas Eve Candlelight service

Sandy Ridge Church

47 Sandy Ridge Road Stockton NJ 08559
Tel: 609-397-0371
Email: sandyridgechurchnj@gmail.com
Facebook: Sandy Ridge Community American Baptist Church
Web: <https://sandyridgechurch.wixsite.com/srbc>

Worship: Sunday mornings 11:00am

Sunday School: Sunday mornings 11:00am

Dec. 8, Noon: Tree/Sanctuary Decorating and Christmas Dinner

Dec. 22, 11:00am: Christmas Cantata "Holy Child"

Dec. 24, 7:30pm: Candle Light Service

March 16th, March 21st, 9am-1pm: Annual Flea Market and Bake Sale. Tables for rent \$18.00 each.

Missions Outreach Collection: Donations of children and small adult clothing, flip flops, sandals or crocs, school supplies and Bibles can be dropped at the church in box outside. Money donations can be mailed directly to the church. Items collected will be sent to the Philippians for our mission project.

Sergeantsville United Methodist Church

624 Rosemont Ringoes Rd., Stockton, NJ
Tel: (609) 397-2333
Web: www.sergeantsvilleumc.com
Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/sergeantsvilleumc>
Worship: Sundays at 10:00 am

Free Rabies Clinic December 7: 10 am to 12 Noon

You are welcome to attend the free rabies clinic at the Township Public Works Department on December 7 from 10:00 to 12:00 noon. Pets must be on a leash or in a carrier. You can obtain a three-year rabies vaccination for pets one year old and over, or a one-year vaccination for pets under a year old.

PLEASE CHECK YOUR RABIES CERTIFICATE TO SEE IF YOUR PET NEEDS A VACCINATION. Your current rabies shot CANNOT EXPIRE BEFORE NOVEMBER 1, 2020. For example, if your rabies certificate expires 8/16/20 your pet needs to be vaccinated before you can receive the license. If you cannot attend the December 7 Clinic, contact the Hunterdon County Health Department at 908-788-1351 or visit <http://www.co.hunterdon.nj.us/health/rabiesclinics.html> to learn about free clinic dates offered by other municipalities.

Dog/Cat License Renewals January 1, 2020 - February 28, 2020

To renew your dog and/or cat license for 2020, applications must be received after January 1 and post-marked before February 28. Please do not submit the renew request before January 1. There is also a drop off box at the police station next to the brick walkway available 24/7 before Feb. 28.

Licensing applications were mailed to residents, and can be found on the Township website, at the Police station (visit Monday through Friday, between 8am and 3pm), and at the free rabies clinic December 7, 10 am to 12 noon at the Township garage. If your application is not postmarked by February 28, beginning March 1, 2020 late charges will be added. There are no exceptions. If you have tenants on your property, please let them know.

Sergeantsville Volunteer Fire Company Breakfast

The SVFC breakfasts are continuing. Please join the Fire Department for a great breakfast while contributing to a great organization on the following dates:
Sunday, December 15th — Breakfast with Santa!!

Next Year: Breakfasts on Sundays January 19, February 16, and March 22.

**Delaware Township
Hunterdon County, NJ
Township Hall
P.O. Box 500
Sergeantsville, NJ 08557**

STANDARD MAIL
US POSTAGE
PAID
FLEMINGTON, NJ
Permit No. 258

Township Contact Information:

Phone: 609-397-3240

Fax: 609-397-4893

Web: www.DelawareTwpNJ.org

The Newsletter Committee

Editor: Susan Lockwood

Editorial Board: Mary Coffey, Sally Gullette, Bob Hornby, Alison Wehringer.

Logo Design: Christopher Dane

Layout and DTP: Russ Lockwood

Volunteers Welcome: Call Susan Lockwood 609-397-4265

**Voting Reminder:
Delaware Township School Referendum**

The Delaware Township School Board encourages all residents to vote on the proposed referendum being held December 10th. Polls will be open at the Sergeantsville Firehouse from 2:00pm to 8:00pm. This \$2.82 million referendum is for essential, needs-based facility projects including electrical and HVAC repairs/replacements, interior renovations and repairs, environmental management, and safety and security improvements.

These projects have received approval from the New Jersey Department of Education and deemed fully eligible for 40% Debt Service Aid totaling approximately \$1.1 million. This is the only state aid currently available for funding school facility projects and is only available if the referendum passes.

With passage of this referendum, taxes for debt service will be less than 1/3 of what they are now. Taxes paid by residents for the school district are separated into taxes needed to fund the operating budget, and taxes needed to pay principal and interest (debt service) for outstanding bonds. The average household is currently paying \$336 per year for debt service. After factoring in the State aid, the estimated impact for the new referendum is expected to be less than \$100 per year for the average household, based on a fifteen-year bond term at a 3% interest rate.

Complete information on the referendum can be found at www.dtsk8.org.