



FEBRUARY 2026

# DELAWARE'S FAVORITE PLAYGROUND

Official Newsletter of The Town of Dewey Beach

## From Dewey, With Love

Dewey Beach isn't just about sun and sand - it's a place where hearts connect. From chance encounters to lifelong friendships, locals and visitors have shared stories of love found here in all its forms. Romantic or platonic, expected or delightfully surprising, these stories remind us that Dewey Beach is more than a destination - it's a place where connections are made, memories are cherished, and hearts are full.



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... And More!

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# TOWN MANAGER'S

# Update

I hope everyone has been able to stay warm during these very cold days. Spring is right around the corner starting with St. Patty's Day the weekend of March 14th. It will be here before you know it!

## **Read Avenue Pump Station Project Update**

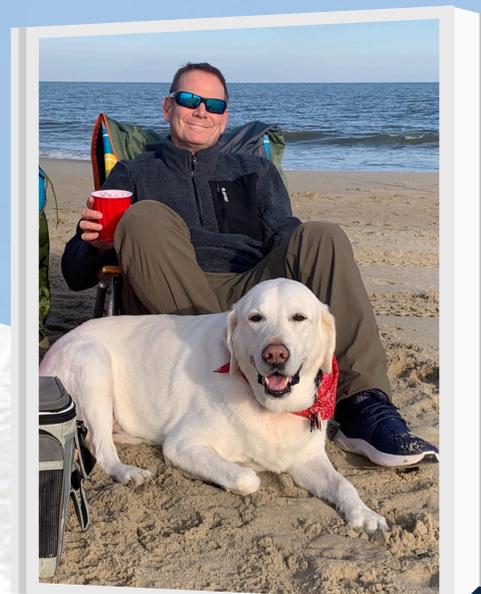
Thanks to your voice and letters to Senator Coons and our other state representatives, our \$1 million grant for the project has been released. Senator Coons and his staff took a personal interest in this task working with me and the Army Corps to release the funding. I did receive an email from the Army Corps confirming the funding had been released, and the project is to proceed. I want to thank everyone who stayed positive and took action, enabling the funds to be released. Your voices truly made a difference!

## **New Town Hall Building**

This project continues to progress with drywall and insulation being installed. The roof is completely framed - we just need some warmer weather to finish it. Windows, door frames, plumbing, HVAC, and electrical are being installed now.

I want to remind everyone we will be painting driveway entrances in late March or April depending on the weather. If you should have any questions about your driveway entrance please contact the town and ask for either myself or Assistant Town Manager Jim Dedes.

*-Bill*



EFFECTIVE APRIL 1, 2026

# NEW LEGISLATION

## Building Permits

[CLICK TO  
READ THE  
FULL  
ORDINANCE](#)



Previous rules for building permits required owners to obtain permits for routine work on their homes. New legislation, effective April 1, 2026, aims to simplify the process.

### **Maintenance Activity Thresholds**

#### **Maintenance Activities Under \$1,000**

Work may begin immediately and requires no application or notification.

#### **Maintenance Activities \$1,000 – \$10,000**

Notification and estimate must be provided to the Building Department. Once approved by the department, work may begin. No fees are assessed.

#### **Maintenance Activities \$10,000+**

Building permit required.

### **FEMA Regulations**

In accordance with FEMA, maintenance in a flood plain must not:

- Increase the structure's market value by 50% or more
- Involve expansion, elevation, or enclosure of the structure
- Compromise flood-resistant design or materials

### **Inspections**

The Town reserves the right to conduct inspections of all work performed, regardless of whether a formal building permit was issued, and to designate the inspection official.

- Inspections will seek to ensure that work is consistent with all Town code requirements and any approved permits.
- Inspection is required for any project for which total cost is at least \$15,000, and the cost of the inspection will be added to the building permit fee.
- Inspections will not validate the quality of work performed.

### **Defining Maintenance Activities**

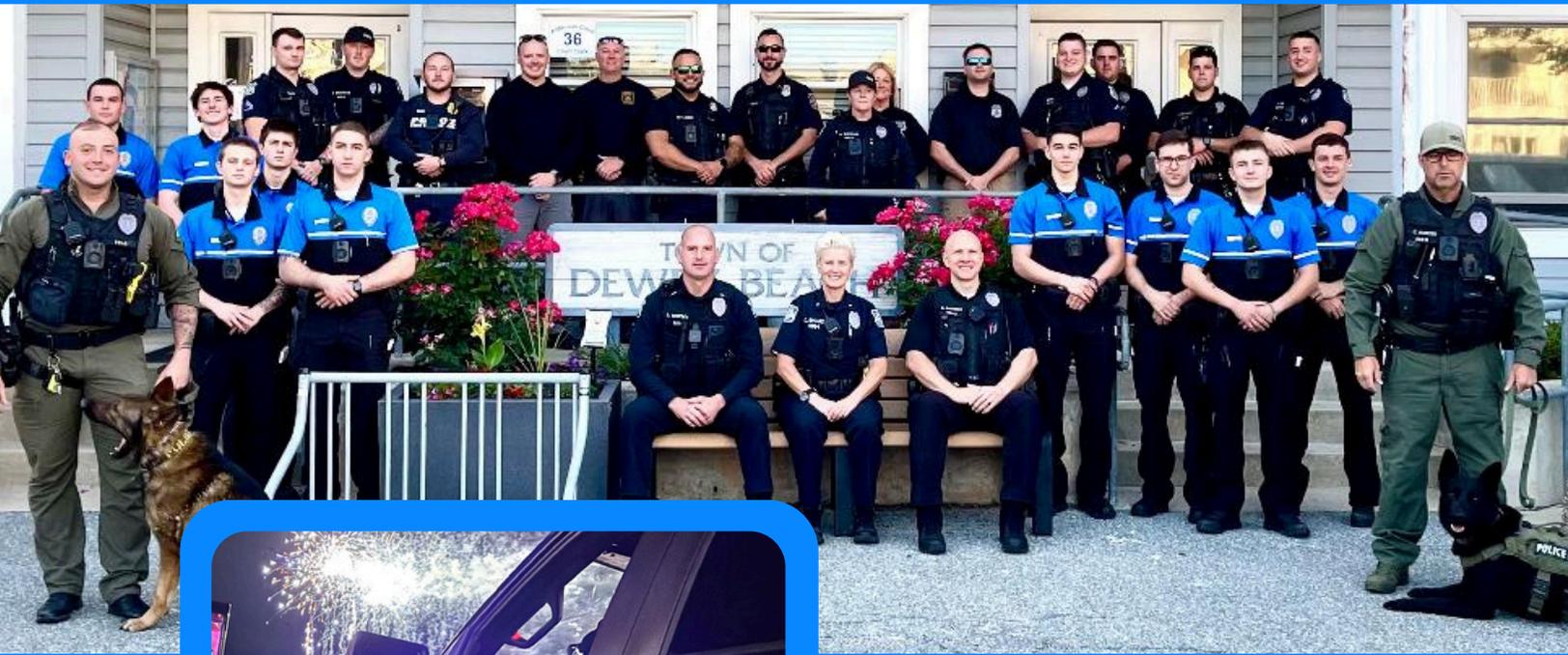
Maintenance includes both preventive and corrective actions to preserve property in good repair.

#### **Maintenance Activities include:**

- Routine upkeep of structures and premises
- Non-structural repairs that do not alter the footprint or load-bearing elements
- Cosmetic improvements that do not involve major construction

#### **Specific Maintenance Activities Include:**

- Repainting walls, trim, or exterior surfaces
- Replacing or refinishing flooring
- Repairing drywall or other wall or ceiling materials
- Updating fixtures (e.g., light switches, faucets, cabinet handles, doorknobs), excluding any relocation of plumbing fixtures and upgrading or relocation of electrical outlets and circuitry
- Roof or siding replacement not exceeding 25% of existing sheathing
- Cleaning or power-washing surfaces
- Replacing window treatments or decorative elements
- Minor appliance or HVAC component replacements
- Non-structural alterations are allowed for patios, concrete slabs, decks and decorative hardscaping



# Thank You DEWEY BEACH POLICE DEPT



The Town of Dewey Beach extends its sincere gratitude to the men and women of the Dewey Beach Police Department for another outstanding year of service. Your dedication, professionalism, and commitment to keeping our residents, visitors, and businesses safe do not go unnoticed.

Whether it's a busy summer weekend, a quiet winter evening, or responding when we need you most, your presence helps make Dewey Beach a welcoming and secure place for all. Thank you for the long hours, the teamwork, and the care you show our community every day. We are truly grateful for all that you do.

[View the 2025 Annual Report](#)

**when dewey played**



**matchmaker**

**a collection of dewey beach love stories**

# love grows here

young love, lasting roots, and family life in dewey beach



I found my true love in 2009 over 4<sup>th</sup> of July weekend at The Starboard. Daniel was 23, and I was 21. He was originally from Texas and stationed at Dover Air Force Base, which I was born and raised in Delaware.

After The Starboard closed for the night, we walked back to the house I was staying at and talked for hours. Before he left, he asked for my number.

We married in May 2011 and now have four beautiful kids!

*-Kelly J.*

A mutual friend of ours put together a house for the summer on Saulsbury in 2019! We had never met before. Let's just say we hit it off, became best friends, and have been together ever since! Now we are married with a little one on the way.

*-Taylor G.*



My wife was a member of a group house 18 years ago. I knew the day I met her. She knew in one week. We now own a house in Dewey with 2 kids that are working in Dewey during the summers.

*-Eric M.*



I met a cute blonde at Lighthouse, and then we kept running into each other at different bars all around Dewey. Eventually I got the nerve to talk to her. Now we're married with 2 little girls. We still go back to Dewey every summer, just in a different way as a family. Same place, same memories, just a new chapter. And honestly, it's just as good.

*-Kevin B.*

# where **magic** happens

these dewey beach locations are lucky in love

all you need is  
love.  
and tacos.

We met at Taco Toss, Memorial Day Weekend 1997. Engaged three years later, married shortly after that.

-Lee T.

We met at Taco Toss in 2008. Our story started in Dewey!

-Michelle B.

bayside  
sweethearts

Met my now fiancée in Dewey. We had our first kiss on a dock near the end of Dagsworthy Street.

-Andrew V.

Still catching sunsets from our bench.

-Sally Ann



hearts check in,  
love checks out

I met my husband at a beach house on Dickinson Ave 22 years ago. The weekend we got engaged at the beach, his friend met a girl at the same beach house. They're now married 19 years. I know of at least 3 other couples who met at that same house!

-Lynne M.

love where  
you least  
expect it

Met my husband at a Dewey town meeting where he was the attorney for the town. I didn't like his legal opinion and I told him. Saw him later at a party and apologized. I called him up a week later and asked him out. He never left my side after that.

-Patricia W.

# heartsconnected

fun stories of love, laughter and friendship

## tradition by the sea

My father, brother and I first went to Dewey in September of 1960. We've since added friends, and will celebrate our 67<sup>th</sup> annual trip this September. We are 18 to 20 strong and we all look forward to this trip!

*-Norm D. "Godfather"*

## fortune favors the bold

Met my husband TJ while he was bartending at the Waterfront, I was with another date. Told him I'd be back after I took said date home. He said "I'll save your drink." Came back, drink saved, and we married less than a year later!

*-Bobbie R.*

## single, sandy and loving it

I've fallen deeply, madly in love with the serenity of being single and my love grows every day for my friends who enjoy a drink with me!

*-Jack A.*

Who needs a guy when there's Golden Retrievers?

*-Lindsey R.*

## the memories that got away

My husband and I met July 2019 at North Beach.

I don't remember.

But he does.

*-Marissa H.*

*A big thank you to everyone who shared your special Dewey Beach moments with us on social media! Your stories of love, friendship, and cherished memories make our community brighter and remind us why Dewey Beach holds such a special place in all our hearts. Keep the love - and the memories - flowing!*



**302-227-1110**

# WE'RE HIRING



## *Seasonal Police Officers* 2026

**PAID TRAINING**

**PAY STARTING AT \$19.00/HR**

**DEPARTMENT ISSUED UNIFORMS**

**Accepting applications until: 03/13/2026**



**Academy begins on April 11, 2026  
Online training to begin prior to Academy**



**APPLY HERE**

**105 RODNEY AVE., DEWEY BEACH, DE 19971**

**[HTTPS://WWW.DEWEYBEACHPOLICE.GOV/](https://www.deweybeachpolice.gov/)**

**THE TOWN OF DEWEY BEACH IS AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER**

# MAKE WAVES. SAVE LIVES.

## JOIN THE DEWEY BEACH PATROL

Spend your summer on the sand, in the sun, and making a difference! Be a part of a skilled team dedicated to keeping our beaches safe. Competitive pay, training provided, and unforgettable experiences await!

**JOIN NOW**



**TOWNOFDEWEYBEACH.GOV**





# Join the Comprehensive Plan Committee

We are preparing to draft our 2028 Comprehensive Plan! A town comprehensive plan is a long-range planning document that serves as a community's blueprint for future growth and development, typically looking 10 to 20 years ahead. It reflects the community's shared vision for how the town should evolve, while preserving what makes it unique.

We're looking to build a Comprehensive Plan Committee to fairly address the interests and needs of the community's stakeholders - including residents, property owners, business owners, and visitors - to shape a balanced vision for Dewey Beach's future. This vision supports goals like maintaining the town's character, addressing infrastructure and environmental issues, and ensuring a high quality of life for all who live, work, or visit the area.

Members of this committee should plan to meet at least once per month for approximately one year. Virtual participation via Zoom is available. Recommendations from the committee will be forwarded to Town Council for possible inclusion in the 2028 Comprehensive Plan.

**CLICK HERE** 



## Support Dewey in Bloom in 2026!

### Sponsor a Bloom Box [→](#)

Would you like to see a beautiful planter on your street? Noticed an area of town that could use some brightening up? Looking to have your name or organization advertised here in Dewey? Help us grow in 2026 by sponsoring a bloom box today!

### Volunteer [→](#)

Looking to get outdoors, meet new people, and start a healthy new hobby that benefits your community? We're looking for you! Join the Dewey in Bloom team!

### Donate [→](#)

We accept donations in any amount! Your donation helps to not only purchase plants and soil, but also fund future DIB projects. You can also support us by attending our Dine to Donate event next month!

**Dine Out**  
FOR OUR COMMUNITY

**TUESDAY**  
MARCH 17TH

Lunch or Dinner  
**12PM-9PM**  
at Big Fish - Rehoboth Beach

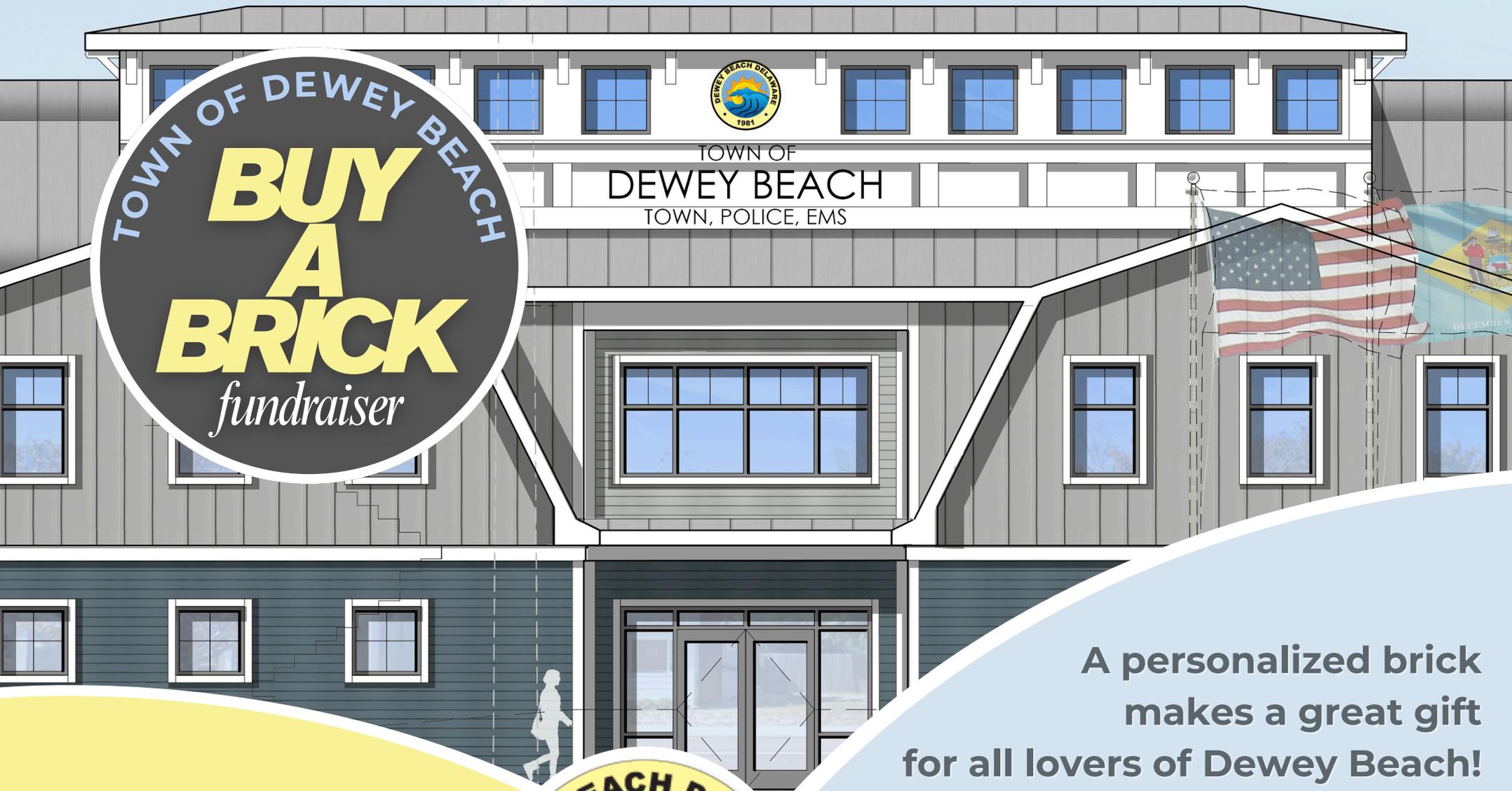
Proceeds to benefit  
**DEWEY IN BLOOM**

**15%**  
of total net sales generated will be donated!

TOWN OF DEWEY BEACH  
**BUY  
 A  
 BRICK**  
*fundraiser*



TOWN OF  
**DEWEY BEACH**  
 TOWN, POLICE, EMS



## BE A PART OF DEWEY BEACH HISTORY!

Purchase an engraved brick for the new Dewey Beach Town Hall & Public Safety Building! Your personalized brick will be proudly displayed in the walkway bordering the new building, honoring your support and helping to fund this important community project!



A personalized brick makes a great gift for all lovers of Dewey Beach! Advertise a business or organization, honor your family or loved one, or show your Dewey pride with a fun message!

BEST DESSERTS  
 ON THE COAST  
 SUSIE'S BAKERY

LOVE OUR  
 DEWEY DOGS!  
 BELLA & THOR

SHE SAID "YES!"  
 CINDY & MARK  
 EST. JUNE 2, 2018

THE THOMAS FAMILY  
 DEWEY BEACH  
 OUR HAPPY PLACE

FOR NANA & POPPA  
 FROM YOUR  
 SANDY CREW

WE LOVE YOU  
 DEWEY BEACH!  
 THE MARTIN FAMILY

**MORE INFO**

[townofdeweybeach.gov](http://townofdeweybeach.gov)

[townclerk@townofdeweybeach.com](mailto:townclerk@townofdeweybeach.com)

# what's happening

don't miss these activities in and around dewey!



**MAR 12<sup>TH</sup>**

## **St. Patricks Day Weekend**

Dewey comes alive again in March for St. Patricks Day weekend!



**MAR 22<sup>ND</sup>**

## **Run for the Buds 5K**



**APRIL 4<sup>TH</sup>**

## **Dewey Egg Scoop**



## **Book a Bonfire**

Private bonfires are available for booking year-round here in Dewey!

## **Coastal DE Running Festival**

Register now to participate April 11-12 in the biggest race of the year!

## **Doodles in Dewey**

The doodles take over Dewey April 24-26! Register today and support PAWS for People!

## **Dewey in Bloom Fundraising**

Our very own Dewey in Bloom has two fundraisers scheduled for 2026! Stay tuned for more details, but mark your calendars today!

March 17th  
Big Fish Grill (Rehoboth)

April 27th  
Nicola Pizza (Lewes)

# db news

BRIEF

## QUICK UPDATES YOU SHOULD KNOW!



### Code Red

Are you registered for emergency alerts from Dewey Beach? Sign up for Code Red today! Be the first to know about road closures, severe weather, and more. Sign up is free, and open to all.

**TEXT "DEWEY"  
TO 24639 to  
REGISTER**



### Donor Wall

The design of our donor wall, featuring Dewey Beach history and culture, is moving forward! There's still time to support the new Town Hall, and be recognized for your contribution.

**Read more** >>

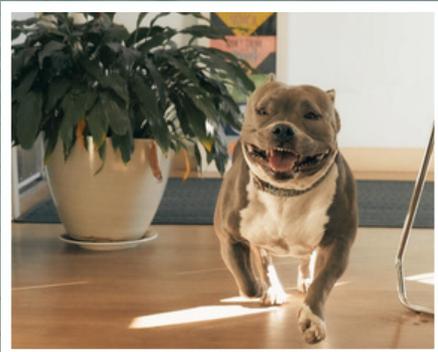


### Blood Drive

The Dewey Beach Lions Club will host a blood drive on March 9<sup>th</sup> from 11:00am to 4:00pm. Schedule your appointment today at the link below, or call 1-888-825-6638.

**Read more** >>

## Good News



Lola, the now-official "comfort dog" of the Dewey Beach Police, made headlines this month in the Cape Gazette! Stress can run high in any police station, but Lola's calm and friendly presence has been a gift to the entire staff at the DBPD. "Fur-daughter" of dispatcher Melissa Squire, Lola arrives with her mom to work nearly every day, bringing smiles to everyone she meets. Many thanks to Ellen McIntyre for sharing Lola's story.

**Learn more** >>

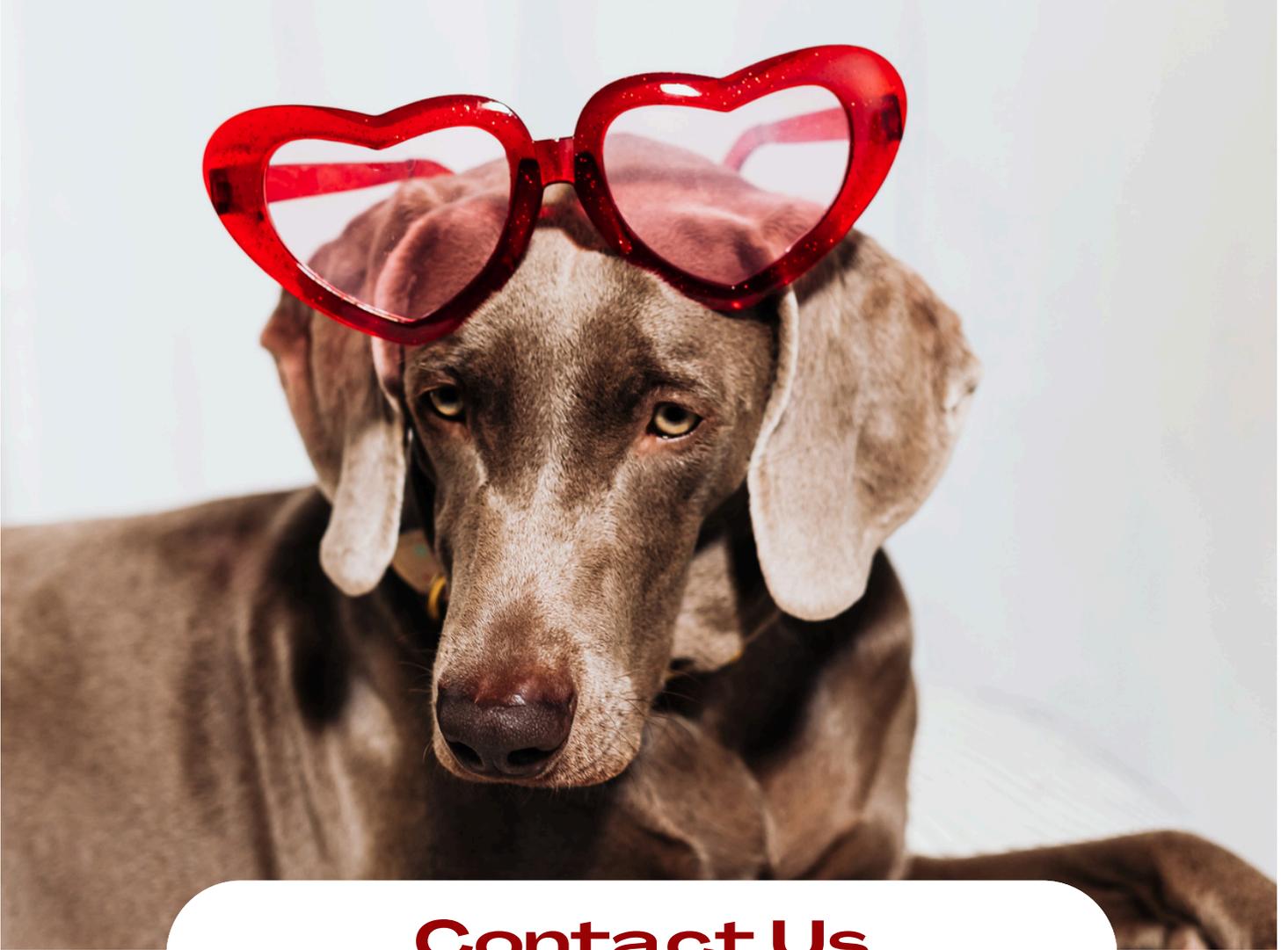
***Are you registered on the Dewey Beach Services Portal?  
Subscribe to newsletters, and register for alerts related to all things Dewey!***

## Upcoming Meetings

February 13<sup>th</sup> – Town Council Meeting & Public Hearing  
March 3<sup>rd</sup> – Marketing Committee Meeting  
March 3<sup>rd</sup> – Planning Commission Meeting  
March 20<sup>th</sup> – Town Council Meeting  
March 25<sup>th</sup> – Board of Adjustment Hearing

**Learn More** >>





## Contact Us

Dewey Beach Town Hall  
105 Rodney Ave  
Dewey Beach, DE 19971  
(302) 227-6363

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Website

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Directory

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Facebook