



# Current Connections

Issue No. 2 | March/April 2025



The Delaware Youth Center is excited to welcome its new caretakers, Nicole Haliscak and Eric Troiano. Eric, a science teacher and modified track coach at Sullivan West MS/HS, and Nicole is a recruiter at Woodloch. Wanting to deepen their connection to the area, they saw this role as a great opportunity to get to know the community and make a meaningful impact. They are eager to explore the beautiful river and contribute to maintaining the Youth Center as a welcoming space for young people to play, learn, and grow. While this is their first caretaking role, they bring valuable experience in volunteering, fundraising, and community outreach. They look forward to being part of beloved local events like the Tractor Parade and River Race. In their free time, Nicole enjoys gardening, hiking, and fishing, while Eric loves snowboarding, and together they share a passion for fitness, cooking, reading, movies, and playing D&D. They encourage community members to help keep the Youth Center beautiful and remind Sullivan West students that service opportunities are available—just check in with Mr. Troiano at school. Eric and Nicole are excited to meet everyone, so be sure to say hello!

## Announcement

Calling All Vendors! **The Spring Garden and Craft Fair** is coming up on May 31, from 10 AM to 4 PM, and this is your chance to showcase your goods to a vibrant crowd of shoppers! Secure your vendor table for just \$40, but don't wait—space is limited and filling fast! Whether you sell handcrafted items, garden décor, plants, or unique gifts, this is the perfect opportunity to connect with customers and grow your business. Reserve your spot today!

## Meet the Heart of Our Community

### Tera DiTommaso

Can you tell us a little about yourself and how you got involved in DYC?

As a lifelong community member who benefited from the Center's facilities growing up, I feel a strong sense of responsibility to give back. Organizations like the Center are always in need of fresh volunteers, and I'm grateful to bring my skills to the table. For example, you might have noticed that membership registration and event sign-ups are now available online — I've had the opportunity to help set up and maintain the new Neon Software to make that possible. It's been rewarding to contribute in a way that helps the Center continue to thrive!

What is your favorite DYC memory?

I have so many wonderful memories from my time growing up at the Center, but if you ask anyone my age, hands down, the best has to be the merry-go-round! It was the ultimate playground toy — nothing beat the thrill of spinning faster and faster with friends. And who could forget roller skating? I still remember going door-to-door in the neighborhood, collecting pledges for the skate-a-thon — such a fun tradition! I also loved doing arts and crafts during the morning program and remember taking deep-end swim test.

As I got older, my summers were spent at the Center with the kids I babysat. Even in my youth I was giving back to the community by helping line the soccer fields for AYSO games to earn community service hours. The Center has always been such a special place, and I'm grateful for all the experiences it gave me.

What is your vision for the Center?

Dream big! The Center is truly a community gem, full of potential for amazing programs and events. My vision is to make it a vibrant, welcoming space where my daughter and all the children in our community can create the same wonderful memories I was fortunate enough to make here. I'm passionate about raising funds, hosting events, and finding fun ways to bring people together. But we can't do it alone — we need your help! Whether you have ideas, skills, or just some extra energy to share, I encourage you to get involved and be part of making the Center even better.





**VENDORS WANTED**

**SPRING GARDEN & CRAFT FAIR**

**Saturday, May 31 2025**  
**10 AM - 4 PM**

Do you sell seeds, bulbs, plants, birdhouses, garden flags, or other garden-themed goodies?

Or maybe you specialize in self-care and wellness products to help people refresh for spring?

**SECURE YOUR SPOT TODAY!**

Delaware Youth Center, 8 Creamery Road, Callicoon, NY 12723



## PAST EVENTS RECAP

### Kids' Dance Party

#### Kids' Dance Party Brings Fun & Energy to the Delaware Youth Center!

The Delaware Youth Center was filled with laughter, music, and nonstop energy at our recent Kids' Dance Party! From our youngest dancers in Pre-K to our enthusiastic 2nd graders, the center was alive with movement as they ran, danced, and played their hearts out. With exciting games, creative crafts, and endless smiles, the afternoon was nothing short of magical.

As the day continued, our older kids hit the dance floor, showing off their best moves to classics like The Macarena and Cotton Eyed Joe, along with many other crowd favorites. Their enthusiasm was contagious, making for an unforgettable experience. A huge THANK YOU to everyone who joined us, and an even bigger shoutout to our incredible volunteers and student helpers who made this event such a success. We couldn't have done it without you! We can't wait for the next dance party—see you on the dance floor!



Twisting, turning and lots of giggles at our kids dance party.

### Groove & Grub Festival

On Saturday, May 25, 2024, high school seniors **Grant Gorr and Henry Simon** successfully organized the Delaware Youth Center Groove n' Grub Festival, a vibrant fundraising event benefiting the Delaware Youth Center.

Henry took the lead in curating an impressive lineup of local musical talent, bringing together a mix of bands and solo performers. Attendees enjoyed live performances from Little Sparrow, the Matt Albeck Trio, Poison Love, Sam Quick, Kali Seastrand, the Sullivan West Select Choir, and Carmine Gonts, creating an unforgettable afternoon of music.

Meanwhile, Grant delighted festival goers with a delicious pulled pork and macaroni and cheese lunch, available for purchase, adding a flavorful touch to the event.

Through their combined efforts, the students successfully raised over \$1,500 for the Delaware Youth Center. Their dedication and hard work made the event a fantastic success, showcasing both the power of youth leadership and the strong community spirit that supports it.



### RIVER RACE

#### Registration Now Open for the 27th Annual Delaware River Race!

Get ready to hit the course—the 27th Annual Delaware River Race is happening on Sunday, July 20! Whether you're aiming for a personal best or just in it for the fun, this is an event you won't want to miss.

**Sign up now to take advantage of early bird pricing:**

**5K – \$30 | 10K – \$35 | Virtual – \$25**

We're looking forward to seeing runners of all levels join us for this incredible tradition. Let's make this year's race bigger than ever and break new registration records! Don't wait, [register today](#) and be part of an unforgettable day on the course!

## EXCITING NEWS

We're excited to announce that the **Callicoon Farmers Market** will continue at the Delaware Youth Center throughout April! Join us for fresh, local goods and a great community atmosphere.

**Time:** 11:00 AM – 2:00 PM

**Location:** Delaware Youth Center

**April Market Dates & Locations:**

**April 6** – Indoors

**April 13** – Outdoors on the Courts + **Callicoon Kiwanis**

**Pancake Breakfast**—Indoors

**April 19** (Saturday) – Outdoors on the Courts

**April 27** – Outdoors on the Courts (tentative)

Come support your local farmers and artisans while enjoying the best of what our region has to offer! See you there!

Join us for the **Easter Egg Hunt** on Saturday, April 12 at Noon.

Join the **Delaware Young at Heart and Jeff Bank** for a seminar on scams and fraud awareness on Friday, April 25 from 1:00 - 2:00 PM in the Main Hall. Please register at [younghearts@delawareyouthcenter.org](mailto:younghearts@delawareyouthcenter.org).

#### River Race Sponsorship

Opportunities will be posted soon! Please consider a [sponsorship](#) to help make this our most successful year yet!



Smiles this big are pure magic.

### DAY PASS UPDATE

**We want to keep you informed about an upcoming change to our day pass pricing.**

**Starting March 1, 2025, day passes for anyone over the age of 2 will be increasing to \$10.00.**

This adjustment helps us continue providing quality programs, maintaining our facilities, and supporting the community events you love. We appreciate your understanding and ongoing support!

If you have any questions, feel free to reach out to us. Thank you for being part of our community!

