



Rehoboth Beach-Dewey Beach Chamber of Commerce

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REMINDER - VOTE FOR REHOBOTH BEACH AS THE COOLEST SMALL COASTAL TOWN IN AMERICA – WE ALL KNOW IT IS! WE ARE CURRENTLY IN THE TOP 5 OF THE COMPETITION...

Click on the following link to cast your vote for Rehoboth Beach as the USA Today/10Best Readers' Choice Coolest Small Coastal Town in America - <http://www.10best.com/awards/travel/best-coastal-small-town/>. You can vote once a day between now and the deadline – Noon on Monday, March 16, 2015. Based on the current tally of votes, Rehoboth Beach is at #5 – let's do this!

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS: Adorn Period, Fine Estate Jewelry & Treasures, Delaware Department of Labor/Employment & Training, Ecobay Kayak & S.U.P., Step by Stepping Stones, VFW Post 7447, CrossFit Lewes, Dewey Beach Beautification and Raking, Dewey Beach Watersports, Freshcoat Painting, Murph's Beef & Ale, Read Aloud Delaware, RehobothBeach.city, Rehoboth Beach in a Box, and Under Armour.

BACK FOR A SECOND YEAR – 2015-2016 CHAMBER COUPON BOOK – ONLY 3 LEFT!

Only three coupons remain to complete this year's Chamber Coupon Book. A minimum of 50,000 coupon books will be printed and distributed through the Visitors Center, summer Realtor Bags, Visitors Guide Bins and more! The coupon book will be printed in full color on glossy stock-5 perforated coupons per page. Members can purchase a coupon for \$100-coupon dimensions are 3.5" long x 1.375" tall. Call Patty-227-6446 or email patty@beach-fun.com.

BUSINESS GROUPS FORM STATEWIDE COALITION; RELEASE WAGE STUDY RESULTS

Many of Delaware's most active and influential business advocacy groups are joining forces to educate lawmakers and the public on the impact of raising the minimum wage in Delaware. This new group, entitled **Delaware Wage Facts Coalition (DWFC)**, has been formed between the Delaware Restaurant Association, Delaware State Chamber of Commerce, Nat'l Federation of Independent Business (NFIB), Delaware Food Industry Council, Mid-Atlantic Petroleum Dealers Assoc., and the Chambers of Commerce from New Castle County, Central Delaware, and Rehoboth Beach-Dewey Beach. The coalition formed in response to the national debate on wages, industry unionization, and the forming of the Delaware Low Wage Service Workers Task Force. The government-commissioned Low Wage Task Force recently [published a report](#) that called for an increase to a \$10.25 an hour minimum wage, with the ultimate goal of a \$15 an hour wage, despite the fact that Delaware is already in the middle of an increase signed by Governor Markell in 2014. Their recommendations also include indexing, tying future increases to inflation, an increase in the cash wage for tipped employees, and steps taken to prevent businesses from "mandatory part-timing." The DWFC believes these recommendations do not support a business-friendly environment and will force small business owners to cut hours and jobs. According to [a study performed by the Cato Institute](#), an increase in the minimum wage to the proposed \$10.10 an hour would result in over 5,000 Delaware jobs being lost. The DWFC recently conducted [a study of over 500 Delaware voters](#), which showed initial support from 75% of those polled in support of a minimum wage increase to \$10.10 an hour; however, support fell to 45% when voters were asked if they still supported a \$10.10 minimum wage if it meant job loss for some Delaware employees. Strong support for the wage hike plummeted by 30 percentage points, from 53% down to 23%, when job loss was mentioned in conjunction with the wage hike. *More information about the DWFC, wage studies and industry information can be found at <https://delawarewagefacts.com/>*

SMALL BUSINESS CAUCUS NEEDS YOUR INPUT

The Small Business Caucus co-chairs, Rep. Bryon Short and Rep. Danny Short, are requesting Delaware small business owners input. They are encouraging employers to contact their state and local chamber by today with any concerns that they may have or had in relation to state government relations. They are looking for specific examples of your experience in dealing with state agencies in your quest for regulatory approval for a project. The Chamber will take comments to the House Small Business Caucus. To include your input, contact Carol Everhart at 302-227-6446 or carol@beach-fun.com.

DEWEY BEACH ARTS FESTIVAL SEEKS ARTISTS AND CRAFTERS

Dewey Business Partnership is seeking artists and crafters for the 4th annual Dewey Beach Arts Festival to be held Saturday, May 9, 2015 on Dagsworthy Avenue. Applications may be downloaded at www.deweybusinesspartnership.com or by e-mailing deweybusinesspartnership@yahoo.com or calling 302-228-3701. Deadline to apply is April 11, 2015.