

# DANVILLE BOROUGH NEWSLETTER



Summer, 2017 / Issue 13

## COUNCIL PRESIDENT RICHARDSON'S REPORT

Summer is again with us here in Danville, and we hope you are all well with the coming of long days and higher temperatures. Summer is ever a season in which there is much to do, and we are so pleased downtown Danville is a great place to get the shopping chores easily checked off your list.

We sadly bid farewell to a popular downtown business earlier this year, Edith's Kitchen, when the owners opted to focus more on catering rather than a day-to-day restaurant. Despite that, Danville's downtown business district is still as strong as ever -- and, indeed, stronger by far than most similar-sized regional towns.

Since January we've seen the openings of 2 Twisted Sisters at 335 Mill Street and Rock God Brewery at 237 Rooney Avenue. Triple Play Sporting Goods will open later this summer at 331 Mill Street, while Chez Le Duc reopened in the borough last September. First Columbia Bank recently opened a branch in the Borough, while Frew Tattoo, at 119 Mill Street, opened last August. Ski Valley opened last September at 290 Mill Street.

It can be easy to lament the loss of any downtown business, especially a popular restaurant. However, it is very important to look at the overall gain/loss for any business district, and anyone would have to agree that Danville is overwhelmingly on the right side of that equation. But neither business nor business district can survive if it doesn't have customers. As such, you can take credit for much of the downtown's vibrancy, but that also makes it your responsibility. It's your money, and you can spend it wherever you want. However, if you want to continue to have a diverse, rich, active downtown you'll choose to spend those dollars here in Danville. Whether it is buying the supplies you need for gardening and lawn care, or buying supplies for summer parties and cookouts, or even taking a relaxing evening off and getting dinner out, it is within your power to help Danville by choosing to do all these things here rather than anywhere else.

The Danville Business Alliance works hard on behalf of the downtown, and Council works to establish policies that support development, but it is ultimately up to you, the people and consumers of Danville, to support your local businesses. By doing that, we will continue to have more interesting businesses added to our downtown roster.

May this autumn find you happy, healthy, and well.

Scott Richardson, Council President

## SEDA-COG OFFERING LOW COST ELEVATION CERTIFICATES

The Borough is working with SEDA-Council of Governments to provide an alternative to the costly process of obtaining an elevation certificate (EC) for your property. Elevation certificates are required for substantial rehabilitation projects, and for properties in the 100 year flood plain that are post-FEMA's Flood Insurance Rate Map (FIRM). For properties that are pre-FIRM, the EC will determine your true risk and may result in insurance premium savings. An EC can also be used to prove that your home is not actually in the 100 year flood plain. The National Flood Insurance Program has gone through significant changes with the 2012 Biggert-Waters Flood Insurance Reform Act and 2014 Homeowner Flood Insurance Affordability Act. These reforms mean that policy holders with subsidized Pre-FIRM or grandfathered rates may see premium rate increases until FEMA deems that the flood insurance cost is based on the true flood risk to that property. An elevation certificate determines the true flood risk and can often reduce the cost of your flood insurance by determining the proper flood insurance premium rate for the building; allowing an insurance company to better assess the risk (your home) being insured.

For more information on how to take advantage of this program, visit our website at [www.danvillboro.org](http://www.danvillboro.org), go to the Community Resources tab and click on Flood Information. A link is available about half way down the page. Or call Jamie Shrawder, Administrator of Governmental Affairs at (570)275-3091 ext. 3 for more information.



## IT'S SWIMMING POOL SEASON!!

For a safe & joyful summer.....Please check the regulations BEFORE you purchase a swimming pool. Please visit: <http://danvilleboro.org/danville/LinkClick.aspx?fileticket=85H46gDnPH4%3d&tabid=97&portalid=0&mid=490> for all State and local requirements or call the Borough office at 570-275-3091 X 1.

## PERMITS AVAILABLE FOR DUMPSTERS ON STREETS AND CONTRACTOR PARKING

*Danville Police Department*



*Chief of Police  
Eric D. Gill*

At the recommendation of the Danville Police Department, Borough Council recently adopted two new Ordinances to make remodeling or rehabilitating properties easier. Property owners can come to the Police Department to get a permit to place a temporary dumpster on a Borough street. Permits cost \$20.00, are valid for 45 days, and can be renewed once at a cost of \$20.00. Of course there are a great deal of rules and regulations that come along with placing a temporary dumpster on a Borough street, so please contact us before you get the dumpster to make sure you can satisfy the requirements.

Council also approved an Ordinance that will allow contractors to obtain a temporary parking permit to park in a metered parking zone while working. Permits cost \$22.00 for Mill Street and \$11.00 for off street metered parking and are valid for two weeks. If additional time is required the contractor must apply for a new permit. Please contact Jamie Shrawder, Administrator of Governmental Affairs, at (570)275-3091 ext 3 for more information.



## SWIFTREACH NOTIFICATION SYSTEM

The Borough participates in the Swiftreach Networks Swift 911 Notification program. This allows us to send out alerts via telephone message to residents who have registered to be included in the program. It is a great way to find out what is going on when events or projects are happening in your neighborhood.

Visit our website at [www.danvilleboro.org](http://www.danvilleboro.org), click on the Swift911 box in the lower right hand corner of our home page and click Register Now! Please remember to update your number in the system if you had previously registered your land line but now need to register a cell phone number. Simply log in and go to My Contact Information tab.



## ~ UPCOMING EVENTS ~

### **Summer Concert Series – Tuesday Nights – through Tuesday, August 15, 2017**

All concerts will be held in Memorial Park. In case of inclement weather concert will be held across the street in Grove Presbyterian Church. **List of performers is available on the Arts Council Website.** Danville Memorial Park (Bloom & Church Streets, Danville, PA) [www.danvilleartscouncil.org](http://www.danvilleartscouncil.org) – 570.284.4502, Free Admission

### **3rd Annual Danville Heritage Festival – Friday, July 14 through Sunday, July 16, 2017**

A unique celebration of our region's heritage, the Festival will be centered at the Hess Recreation Area and will feature live history demonstrations, speakers, and live music throughout the weekend. Check out the website for a list of confirmed happenings. Hess Recreation Area (Meadow Lane, Danville, PA) [www.DanvilleHeritage.com](http://www.DanvilleHeritage.com) – [vanwags@yahoo.com](mailto:vanwags@yahoo.com), Free Admission

### **Montour 24 Endurance Runs – Saturday, July 22, 2017**

Come to Danville, PA for the Montour Area Recreation Commission's Montour 24! Whether you're ready to compete at the 12 or 24 hour ultra-endurance levels or the 6 hour solo or 24 hour four-person relay team levels, the Montour 24 will be an epic test of your mid-summer fitness. Held at the Hess Recreation Area, this is a must-do in July! Hess Recreation Area (Meadow Lane, Danville, PA) [www.rivertownrace.com](http://www.rivertownrace.com) – 570.336.2060, Visit Website for Registration Details

### **Service 1<sup>st</sup> Sixth Annual Charity Duck Derby – Saturday, August 5, 2017 12:00 P.M.**

During the event, thousands of rubber ducks will be dropped into the Susquehanna River, each one racing toward the finish line. Adults 18 and over can purchase as many ducks as you would like. Tickets are on sale in all branches and online now through July 31. Each ticket is numbered, and on the day of the event a corresponding numbered duck will be dropped into the river. The ticket holder whose number matches the first duck to cross the finish line will win \$500. Funds raised benefit the Janet Weis Children's Hospital, the Danville Area Little League, and Heart to Hand Ministries. Danville/Riverside Bridge - [www.service1.org/promo-landing-pages/duck-derby](http://www.service1.org/promo-landing-pages/duck-derby) - 800.562.6049, Single Duck \$5, Pack of 5 Ducks \$20

### **Hopewell Challenge Mountain Bike Race – Saturday, September 2, 2017**

The Hopewell Challenge is a mountain bike race on purpose-built, single-track trails located in rural Central Pennsylvania near the banks of the Susquehanna River. There are three skill levels – Beginning 6.27 miles, Intermediate 12.54 miles, and Expert 18.81 miles. Hopewell Park (1000 Montour Blvd, Danville, PA) – <https://david-decoteau.squarespace.com/hopewell-challenge> 570.336.2060 - \$35.00 - Visit Website for Registration Details

### **Fall Arts & Crafts Festival – Saturday, September 9, 2017 from 9:00 A.M. to 5:00 P.M.**

The annual Fall Arts & Crafts Festival is held the first Saturday after Labor Day. More than 30 years old, the Fall Arts & Crafts Festival is a yearly tradition unlike any other in central Pennsylvania, drawing thousands of visitors and more than 125 crafters and artisans from throughout the region. It is concentrated on Mill Street in the heart of downtown Danville's business district. Whatever form or medium of expression you prefer, you will find it at the Fall Arts & Crafts Festival! Downtown Danville (Mill Street, Danville, PA) [www.visitdanvillepa.org](http://www.visitdanvillepa.org) – 570.284.4502, Free Admission

### **Chilli Challenge – Saturday, September 30, 2017**

Now in its 14th year, the 'Chilli' is one of the Montour Area Recreation Commission's signature events, highlighting some of the best fall foliage and scenery that central Pennsylvania has to offer. From the race headquarters at the Montour Preserve, bike 19.3 miles through Montour and Columbia Counties, paddle 2.2 miles around Lake Chillisquaque and then run 4.7 miles along the Preserve's trail network. Do it solo or as part of a 2, 3 or 4 person Ironman team. The Chilli is great fun for the whole family. Montour Preserve (700 Preserve Road, Danville, PA) – [www.rivertownrace.com](http://www.rivertownrace.com) – 570.336.2060, Visit Website for Registration Details

## FLOOD RESILIENCY PROJECT SPONSORED BY DANVILLE BOROUGH & SEDA-COG

On May 18<sup>th</sup>, staff from SEDA-Council of Governments (SEDA-COG) Community Development program conducted a public meeting at the borough building to inform residents of the changes in flood insurance and initiatives the COG is undertaking to help mitigate the impact of reform. Danville Borough is one of six local riverine communities participating in this program with the COG. The Appalachian Regional Commission provided funding, which was matched by SEDA-COG, to carry out this flood resiliency program in central Pennsylvania. Additionally, Keystone Communities Program funding has been secured to enable other Local Development Districts across the Commonwealth to offer the same program in their regions.

To kick off the process, a survey was mailed to all property owners in the 100 year flood plain to gather data related to the structures themselves as well as the owner's familiarity with and concern about their increasing flood insurance premiums. If you did not receive a survey and feel that you should have, please contact Teri Provost at (570)524-4491 to obtain one. The results of the survey were discussed at the public meeting. While the borough did not receive a significant response rate to the survey, the results from all communities participating in the program have been uniform – *residents living in the flood plain are not familiar with the Biggert-Waters Insurance Reform Act of 2012, which is the reason their insurance premiums are rising, but they recognize the increasing cost will impact their ability to stay in their homes.*

The next step in the process is to form working groups consisting of residents and experts that will work together to find solutions to the problems identified by the survey results, or other topics of major concern to the residents and staff of the Borough. Finally, once these solutions are identified, a task force made up of citizens, personnel from local businesses, and Borough staff will be appointed by Council to implement these initiatives.

If you are interested in participating in a working group, or have an idea on a particular topic that should be discussed in a working group, please contact Teri Provost at SEDA-COG at (570)524-4491 or [tprovost@seda-cog.org](mailto:tprovost@seda-cog.org). This process will only work if we are able to engage local people in the process. We look forward to working with our residents to find solutions to this insurance premium dilemma!

## WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW...

MONTOUR STREET BRIDGE	POLICE STATION	WASHIE'S LITTLE LEAGUE PARKING	RECYCLING
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• The Borough was awarded a Multimodal Transportation Grant to reconstruct the deck, barriers and sidewalks of the Montour Street Bridge.</li><li>• Larson Design Group is currently working on the design phase for this project.</li><li>• Improvements are needed because the bridge structure has deteriorated to a condition that will result in closure for repairs with the increased traffic going to the new Geisinger offices at the Convent.</li><li>• Work is anticipated to be completed in 2019.</li><li>• We will notify residents when the bridge will be closed.</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• We are currently working on securing funding to relocate our police station to the "ball room" lower level of the Borough Building.</li><li>• NO reservations currently in place for the ball room will be changed.</li><li>• The current station is not large enough to accommodate the effective operation of our department.</li><li>• We are working with a local real estate agent to market and sell the property at 235-237 Mill Street.</li><li>• Please contact Jamie Shrawder at the Borough with any questions on this process.</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• The Borough has provided the Danville Area Little League funds out of our CDBG grant for drainage and parking lot improvements at the Washies Complex.</li><li>• Peter's Consulting is currently working on the design phase of these improvements.</li><li>• Work should be completed this summer/fall, and will be done in coordination with sports' schedules.</li><li>• The improvements will eliminate water ponding and erosion issues as well as cut down on the dust created by the traffic in and out of the lot.</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• The Borough requires residents to recycle. Every property is charged a \$15 recycling fee at the beginning of each calendar year. This will show up on your water/sewer bill.</li><li>• Recycling Bins are available from our Street Department. Contact Donna Murphy at (570)275-3091 ext. 0 to get bins delivered to your home.</li><li>• Brochures are available detailing what is accepted and when each ward is collected once a month. This information is also available on our website <a href="http://www.danvilleboro.org">www.danvilleboro.org</a>.</li></ul>