



# DANVILLE BOROUGH NEWSLETTER

ISSUE 14/FALL, 2017

**CANDIDATES FOR COUNCIL PAGE 4!  
DON'T FORGET TO VOTE!**

## **PRESIDENT RICHARDSON'S REPORT**

As summer comes to an end and we again usher in this change of season, we are reminded of the devastation that can often happen at this time of year due to heavy rains. Even as other parts of the country are hit hard by hurricanes, we recall that Danville is well protected by a cordon of levees, a system we have been working hard to make sure remains strong for years to come.

The borough is currently undertaking projects to raise the levee system to become accredited by FEMA. To do this we must raise the Hospital Run and Upper Susquehanna levees to meet a three feet of freeboard requirement from FEMA in order to then get our flood protection system accredited and shown on the Flood Insurance Rate Maps (FIRM). Work will be funded through a Wyoming Valley Levee Raising Project grant program and local funds. Raising should be completed in 2018.

The borough is also working with SEDA-COG on a Flood Resiliency initiative. A public meeting was held and volunteers were asked to participate in working groups to

determine the issues faced by and needs of the residents as they relate to flood insurance. Out of this process, ideas and recommendations have been formulated. Borough Council is appointing a Task Force to figure out ways to carry out these recommendations. The goal of the program is to reduce the impact of rising flood insurance premiums on our residents. The other SEDA-COG program we are participating in is the elevation certificate program. SEDA-COG has procured the services of a local surveyor to do the certificate for \$450, a reduced rate compared to the average cost. An elevation certificate may be able to show that your property is not actually in the flood plain even though it appears to be on the FIRM. Visit our website or call Jamie Shrawder for more information.

The borough participates in FEMA's Community Rating System – this program gives credits for certain activities that the borough does to reduce flood risks, such as public information outreach, open space preservation, managing elevation certificates, and hazard mapping.

This credit then gives borough residents a 10% reduction in their flood insurance rates. We are always working to find ways to earn more credit to try to get a larger reduction in rates.

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

Scott Richardson, Council  
President

## **LEVEE TOP TRAIL GRANT**

The borough, with the help of Montour Area Recreation Commission and the Susquehanna Greenway Partnership, has submitted a grant application to the PennDOT Transportation Alternative Set Aside Program for funding to construct a paved trail on top of the Hospital Run and Upper Susquehanna Levees following the raising of those levees. The Danville levee top trail is a critical link in the North Branch Canal Trail system, which will link downtown Danville to the upstream communities of Catawissa and Bloomsburg, and eventually link downstream to Northumberland and Sunbury.





## UPCOMING EVENTS

### **Danville Area School District Homecoming Parade – Friday, October 6, 2017 @ 5:30 PM**

Join us for this once-a-year opportunity to celebrate our School District and students both current and alumni. The parade route goes from Wall Street/Co-op Court to Franklin Street to Clinton Street to State Street to the High School.

### **Annual Danville Halloween Parade – Thursday, October 27<sup>th</sup>, 2017 @ 7:00 PM**

A great Danville tradition with marching bands, fire trucks, and young and old in costume. Join us for this once-a-year opportunity to get in touch with your inner ghoul!

**Mill Street in Danville, PA – Halloween Parade Committee – 570.275.4863**

### **22<sup>nd</sup> Annual DACC 5K Walk & Run – Saturday, November 4<sup>th</sup>, 2017**

For the FUN of it. Everyone is welcome. Great course: some neighborhood, some levee, some hills, and some flat sections. Participants will be divided into age groups. Door prized and lots of fun! After the race, if the weather cooperates, there will be food and conversation while waiting for race results. Call the Danville Area Community Center to register.

**The Danville Area Community Center (1 Liberty Street in Danville, PA) – [www.thedacc.com](http://www.thedacc.com) – 570.275.3001**

**\$20 with Shirt (\$10 without Shirt)/\$25 day of race with no shirt guarantee**

### **Boneshaker Cyclocross – Saturday, December 9<sup>th</sup>, 2017**

The course is about 1.5 miles/lap, designed to favor those with cyclocross gear (meaning about half is paved or equivalent). But all bikes are welcome! The route crosses Fishing Creek - sometimes just a little ankle-deep affair, sometimes a waist deep affair. The crossing is immediately followed by a very muddy sloppy sections of woods and mush. Good, dirty fun! Visit the website for registration information.

**100 Avenue D&H North, Riverside, PA Downtown Danville – <https://david-decoteau.squarespace.com/boneshaker>–**

## **BOROUGH DESIGNATED AS A SUSQUEHANNA RIVERTOWN**

*From Trish Carothers, Program Coordinator for the Susquehanna Greenway Partnership*

Danville, a Susquehanna Greenway River Town

Danville's contribution to making the vision for the Susquehanna Greenway a reality was recognized on Friday, September 8<sup>th</sup>. Danville has worked to create riverfront parks and connected trails that help its residents live active healthy lives. It has told its fascinating story of the canal era and iron heritage that is so closely intertwined with the Susquehanna River. And it recognizes that its future success is tied to a strong and healthy relationship with the River.

Our Susquehanna Greenway River Towns Program recognizes and provides technical assistance to communities that value and protect the river as a resource for sustainable economic development. Danville has met all of our requirements to become designated as a Susquehanna Greenway River Town.

In recognition of the tremendous work that Danville has done and will continue to do to support these principles for the betterment of their community and which contribute to the Vision of the Susquehanna Greenway, we hereby designate Danville as a Susquehanna Greenway River Town.

**Visit the [Susquehanna Greenway Partnership](http://www.susquehannagreenway.org) for more information on this and other great projects and opportunities in our region! [www.susquehannagreenway.org](http://www.susquehannagreenway.org)**

## **BOROUGH SELLS POLICE STATION**

The Borough has sold the property at 235/237 Mill Street, currently the Police Station and six apartments. The buyer plans to renovate the apartments and redevelop the police station into a commercial business. The Police will remain at 235 Mill Street until the new station, to be located in the ballroom at the Borough Building, is completed which should be in mid-2019. No new reservations are being accepted for the ballroom after August 2018.

## **BOROUGH AWARDED PENNDOT GRANTS**

The intersection of Walnut Street and Railroad Street is set to receive a makeover – the Borough was awarded PennDOT Automated Red Light Enforcement funds to complete the installation of new 12" signal heads, back plates, conduit and wiring, camera detection for left-turn phasing, pavement markings, pedestrian signal heads with countdown timers, pedestrian pushbuttons and new curb ramps on all corners, and a new junction box controller to the intersection of US 11 (Walnut Street) and Railroad Street.

This project will significantly reduce the rear-end running-red-light and turning crashes occurring at this intersection. The improvement to safety and mobility in a high traffic volume location will improve flow on both Railroad Street and, more importantly, on US 11, a major highway corridor and a concern for future congestion. Construction should begin in mid-2018.

The Borough was also awarded a PennDOT Green Light Go grant to modify the timing of the traffic signals along Route 54 and Route 11. This project consists of the retiming and peak period synchronization of nine signalized intersections within the Borough of Danville. The scope of work includes conducting turning movement counts at all ten locations, preparing Synchro traffic models to develop coordination timings for the peak traffic periods, preparing the timing plans in a format to be submitted to PENNDOT for review and approval, and implementing the new timings in coordination with the Borough's Signal Maintenance Contractor.

Vehicular congestion, high usage volume, and traffic flow issues within the Borough of Danville represent a significant challenge to the community, its residents, and commuters coming here to work. In particular, the congestion experienced along and around both US 11 and SR 54 through Danville prohibits timely travel, causes accidents, pollutes the environment, and poses a

threat to the Borough's future economic growth potential.

This project will ensure efficient, safe and improved traffic flow, alleviate congestion, reduce emissions and accidents, and support economic growth along the major roadways that pass through the Borough. These include, most significantly, US 11 and SR 54, two critical corridors that have both been identified as areas of future congestion. Although a comprehensive retiming and synchronization of all signalized intersections will not fully alleviate our transportation issues, it represents a critical first step toward addressing them. The last time a general retiming was completed was over a decade ago, in June of 2004.

## **WWI MONUMENT RESTORED, LIT**

You may have noticed that Memorial Park is a little brighter now. Recently the Borough Public Works Department installed lights on the World War I and Vietnam and Korean War monuments. This project started as a request from a Vietnam Veteran who came into the Borough office to talk to us about why he felt the monument should be lit. We were happy to oblige, and included the World War I monument so that we could showcase the newly refurbished bronze and granite. The VFW, American Legion, Sons of the Legion, and AMVETS contributed funds to help the Borough complete the restoration of the bronze plaques and eagle and the cleaning and repointing of the granite on the WWI memorial.

When the World War I soldiers returned home from the Great War, Montour County residents spared no expense in welcoming them home. Contributions of nearly \$10,000 were donated by private citizens. A four day Welcome Home Celebration was held in Danville from August 30 to September 3, 1919. The souvenir program had pictures of each of the 24 men who perished and listed the names of all 650 who served. There were parades every day, a River Carnival, an airplane, and the official unveiling of the Memorial Tablet at the Courthouse by the Honorable William C. Sproul, Governor of Pennsylvania.

The granite tablet holds a bronze plaque on each of its four sides on which the names of those who served in the War are listed. According to the Rev. Robert Andrew's article entitled "Memorial Park Remembers", from the Danville News on May 22, 2015, the granite comes from the same quarry as the granite in the PA State Capital. Keeping watch on top of the monument is a bronze eagle standing atop a globe of earth with the North American continent facing front. In spring of



1949 the monument was moved from its location at the Courthouse to its current location in Memorial Park.

## READDRESSING REMINDERS

Please note that the Borough Building address is now 463 Mill Street. The Street Barn and recycling drop off are now 602 W. Mahoning, and the Senior Center is 605 W. Mahoning. The Police Station is 453 Mill Street.

Remember that you must update your GPS or other navigation system in order for it to update with the new addresses. Also, Borough Code states under Property Maintenance - [F] 304.3 Premises identification. Buildings shall have approved address numbers placed in a position to be plainly legible and visible from the street or road fronting the property. These numbers shall contrast with their background. Address numbers shall be Arabic numerals or alphabet letters. Numbers shall be a minimum of 4 inches (102mm) high with a minimum stroke width of 0.5 inch (12.7 mm).

Additional information is available on the County website at <http://montourco.org/Pages/911-Re-Addressing-Information.aspx>. If you have any questions about your address notification, please call the Columbia/Montour GIS Department at 570-387-4930.

## BOROUGH COUNCIL CANDIDATES

Candidates for Danville Borough Council this fall:

**First Ward:** Incumbent John Rodman (D) and Challenger Steven Finn (R)

**Second Ward:** Jeremiah Walter (D) running unopposed.

**Third Ward:** Betty Ann Moyer (R)/Byard Woodruff (D)

**Fourth Ward:** Incumbent Dr. Ed A'Zary (D) and Challenger Joseph Stigerwalt, Jr. (R). Incumbent Kevin Herritt (R), is running unopposed. Mr. Herritt is running for the additional two year term because he was originally appointed to fill an open council position.

**REMEMBER TO VOTE ON NOVEMBER 7<sup>th</sup>!**

## BOROUGH APPLYS FOR MS4 PERMIT

The Borough was mandated by DEP to apply for a Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System (MS4) permit that requires us to reduce the amount of runoff, and associated pollutants, that enter the Chesapeake Bay watershed within a five year time frame. Public meetings and education, along with both municipal and residential/commercial/industrial runoff reduction measures, are the backbone of this program. Watch for more information on new stormwater management practices that may impact you in the coming months.

## HOLIDAY HAPPENINGS



### Downtown Danville Holiday Kickoff

November 19 5pm – 9pm

**Holiday Open House – refreshments and specials throughout Downtown November 20, 12pm - 5pm**

**Shopping Pass Day – enjoy discounts at participating merchants, November 25 and 26. Contact Danville Business Alliance at (570)284-4502 for more information.**

**Small Business Saturday – shop local! November 26**

**Welcome Santa Parade – Mill Street December 2 6pm**

**Late Shoppers Night – discounts and drawings, many stores open until 11pm. December 2**

**Visit with Santa's Reindeer – feed and pet the deer in Canal Park December 10, 12pm – 3pm**

**Visit Santa's House – Canal Park, Friday December 9 & 16 5pm-7pm and Saturday December 3, 10 & 17 12pm – 3pm.**



**Veteran's Day is Saturday, November 11<sup>th</sup>. Honor those who served and continue to serve.**

Danville Borough

463 Mill Street, Danville, PA 17821

Contact: Jamie Shrawder, Administrator of Governmental Affairs; [jshrawder@danvilleboro.org](mailto:jshrawder@danvilleboro.org); (570)275-3091 ext. 3.