

THE WATER GAP TIMES

A Quarterly Newsletter

Issue Number 49 – Fall 2022



Election Day

Tuesday, November 8, 2022

Polls open at 7:00 a.m. & close at 8:00 p.m.



Information on leaf pick up will be posted at borough hall, the post office & on Savvy Citizen when it becomes available.



Stay connected with community happenings by following us on Facebook at Borough of Delaware Water Gap.

Trick or Treat
In the Gap
Monday, October 31st
6:00 to 8:00 p.m.



Ordinance 267

Garbage cannot be placed out **before** 5:00 p.m. the day prior to pick up and cans must be removed before **9:00 p.m.** the day of pick up.
(Recycling pick up is every other week.)



Borough Office

49 Main Street
PO Box 218
Delaware Water Gap, PA 18327
Phone: 570-476-0331 Fax: 570-476-0380
boro@dwgpa.gov
www.dwgpa.gov

Hours: Monday – Friday, 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.
After 1:00 p.m., by appointment.

Borough Secretary/Treasurer – Allisen Trotter
Municipal Authority Secretary – Lauren Hoglund
Borough Superintendent - Harry Kent Darlington

Delaware Water Gap Police Department
570-476-4674

police@dwgpa.gov
Chief of Police, Michael J. Ceccato
Officer Jim Fisher
State Police – 570-619-6800

Dial 911 for emergencies only

Borough Council

Jamie Levy, President
Zack Booth, Vice President
Derek Anspach
William Buzzard
Lauren Chamberlain
Lisa Paulette
Jack Shoemaker
Larry Freshcorn, Mayor
Council meetings are held on the 1st Monday of the month at 7:00 p.m.
Council work sessions are held on 3rd Wednesday of the month at 7:00 p.m.

Municipal Authority

James Reynolds, Chair
Harry Darlington, Vice Chair
Martin W. Wilson, Secretary
Steve Simister
Municipal Authority meetings are held the 3rd Thursday of the month at 7:00 p.m.

Planning Commission

Derek Anspach, Chair
Ann Biffen
Valerie Higbee
Gary Schubert
Planning Commission meetings are held as needed.

Zoning Hearing Board

Frank Davis
Carol Penna
Dmitri Snytkine
Harry Kent Darlington, Alternate
Zoning Hearing Board meetings are held as needed.

Building Code Board of Appeals

James Holbrook
Bob Mancuso

Zoning Officer

Michael Manter

Building Inspector

Dave Manter

Emergency Management Coordinator

Howard Ike

Floodplain Administrator

Walter Conway

The Borough of Delaware Water Gap

AN APPALACIAN TRAIL COMMUNITY



Fun Fall Stuff in the Borough

- ~Movie Nights in September and October
- ~Town Wide Yard Sale Columbus Day Weekend Saturday and Sunday 10/8 & 10/9
- ~Oktoberfest Weekend – October 15th
- Fall Foliage Train, Haunted Trolley Rides, Music, Artisans
- Sycamore Grille's Annual Oktoberfest Menu
- ~Fill the Town with Scarecrows! Scarecrow Competition the month of October. Judging October 14th



December

- ~Christmas Light Pole Decorating contest in December
- ~December 17th – Wreaths Across America at the DWG Cemetery
- ~Tree Lighting and Caroling at the Castle Inn
- ~Trolley Caroling Around Town

Please follow Borough of Delaware Water Gap on Facebook! Events, news and fun stuff posted every week. Also keep an eye out for the upcoming DWGGAPLIFE Facebook group that will be a place for all Gappers to post and share town information and goings on!



Wreaths Across America

The Delaware Water Gap Cemetery Association will be sponsoring Wreaths Across America on Saturday, December 17, 2021, at noon. This is a national event which recognizes fallen veterans by placing a wreath at their grave site within cemeteries. There are approximately 140 veterans buried in the DWG cemetery. Please consider sponsoring a wreath or wreaths which will be laid during the Wreaths Across America ceremony. We have an agreement with WAA that if we receive more wreath orders than what we need, the additional wreaths will go to Arlington National Cemetery. Each wreath is \$15.00. For questions, contact Roxanne Kaiser-Antonowich at 570-476-8084. We are still looking for borough veterans to participate during the ceremony.



Now Available!

Charge your smartphone and download a new app that will change the way you use public transit.



Simply point your camera here to find the app.

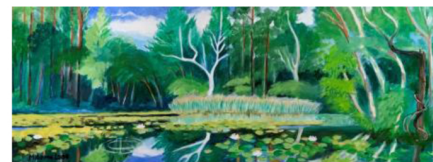
The app plus \$2 is all you need to travel one way within the Tri-Boro Connector (Delaware Water Gap, East Stroudsburg, and Stroudsburg boroughs) and Pocono Summit Connector (Pocono Summit and Mount Pocono).

We run from 6:30 a.m. to 6:30 p.m. Monday through Friday. Pay cash or credit card. Need help? 570-839-6282 or gomcta.com



Connecting You to Your Community - Savvy Citizen

Get real time updates of what's happening in your neighborhood by simply downloading our free app today. Not ready for the app? You can sign up for notifications via text and email instead. <https://savvycitizenapp.com> › Citizen



2021 1st place winner Mihar Lane

7th Annual En Plein Air Exhibit & Silent Auction

Scenes of Delaware Water Gap & Surrounding Area by Local Artists

Opening reception & bidding begins:
Friday, September 30th - 7:00 to 9:00 p.m.
With "buy it now" option on some work

Exhibition continues and bidding is open:
October 1st, 2nd, 8th & 9th

Closing reception & bidding ends:
Sunday, October 9th – 1:00 to 4:00 p.m.

Antoine Dutot Museum & Gallery
24 Main Street (Rt. 611)
Delaware Water Gap, PA
www.dutotmuseum.com

Follow us on Facebook:
<https://www.facebook.com/DutotPleinAir>

Council News!!!

Dear Borough Neighbors,

I hope everyone had a wonderful summer and is ready to enjoy all fall has to offer. The leaves are falling and autumn is calling. Hello Autumn!!!

As far as borough news, I am excited to report that our Business District is thriving. Thank you to Council Member Lauren Chamberlain and her Economic Development Committee, for all their efforts. Due in part to these efforts our Business District is becoming more and more attractive to new businesses, our residents and visitors. As such please welcome our borough's newest business, The Coven Coffee Company. Also, please welcome the Pocono Historic Trolley Tour Company, which has started conducting tours from its new location in our borough's business district. We wish both of these new businesses much success and prosperity.

Regarding borough events, Founder's Day was an amazing success. We had trains, craft shows, live music throughout the borough, the duck race, a bake sale, a pancake breakfast, and educational instruction from wildlife ambassadors. Putting this event together and making it so wonderful was truly a labor of love, so a big thank you to all of the volunteers that made it a fantastic day. We also had our First Annual Borough Barbecue. This year the barbecue was in honor of our borough first responders. Thank you to our fire department for allowing us to use the fire house for the event. We had a great turnout and everyone left well fed and smiling. Huge thank you to all the borough firefighters and police officers for all you do to keep us safe.

In terms of Council News, this past summer was busy for your borough council. As you may have seen from all the media coverage our council has taken step to secure the peace, tranquility, security and safety of our borough by unanimously passing a Short-Term Rental Ordinance. This ordinance regulates short term rental properties ensuring that they are safe for renters and their neighbors. The ordinance also establishes regulations that Short Term Rental property owners must comply with requiring that they are proactive, accountable, and take responsibility for their short term renters and their property. We are hopeful that this comprehensive ordinance will safeguard our community by mitigating and eliminating many of the negative effects associated with short term rentals. Our objective is to ensure that our residents and visitors can continue to safely enjoy our borough, and all it has to offer.

Our new well-house generator was installed and placed in service. The new generator will be a beneficial update to our water system. It is fully automated and has safeguards in place to ensure that our borough's water system continues to operate without interruption. The new generator and its installation were paid for, in large part, by a public grant. Thank you to Council Member Derek Anspach for all his efforts in obtaining the grant money, working with the grant administrator to implement the grant, and getting this project accomplished. Your continued efforts on our Water Committee will be a benefit to our borough for generations.

Also, under the heading of grants received, our Fire Department has applied for and received a state grant in the amount of \$200,000.00. This money will be used to renovate the fire house and improve its infrastructure allowing it to become a more effective emergency center for our borough residents. Special thank you to Chief Howard Ike for all his efforts in securing this grant money and for all his volunteer work with the fire department. The borough recognizes the sacrifices you make and the time and effort you give to our community. You consistently answer every time the fire siren calls. Your commitment to public service in our borough is commendable and for that we are grateful.

Lastly, by the time you receive this newsletter, our new borough website should be launched and fully operational. Please take a look and contact us if you have any suggestions on how to make it more user-friendly and informative. The website can be found at dwgpa.gov. We hope you enjoy it and find it a valuable resource.

Cheers!!!

Jamie B. Levy

Borough Council President

Local History Spot
By Marty Wilson

In several previous editions of the “History Spot” we’ve presented stories from the lives of people who have grown up in Delaware Water Gap. Those stories capture part of the history of the town that we would otherwise lose. This edition is dedicated to another long-time resident of the borough, William (Bill) M. Buzzard. Bill has lived in Delaware Water Gap his entire life. In fact, he is a third-generation Watergapian as both his parents and grandparents lived here. Bill not only lived in the Gap, he spent his life serving the residents of the borough in various capacities. He’s been on the borough’s Planning Commission and the Zoning Hearing Board. He was active in the DWG Fire Department and served on the Water Gap Cemetery Committee. Most notable is his service on the Borough Council. Bill has been on the Council since 1973; next year will mark fifty consecutive years of service on the borough’s governing board.

On Council, Bill served as both President and Vice-President, and he’s served on every committee at one time or another. One of his biggest contributions to the borough was his chairmanship of the Finance Committee. Bill always strove to adopt budgets that were responsive to the needs of the community. Christine Farber, widow of long-time Councilperson Phil Farber, says that Bill was the best Finance Committee Chairman Council ever had. Bill is the reason, she says, that our taxes in the borough have remained so low.

Former Council President Wayne McWilliams maintains that serving on Council was never about politics for Bill. “During the thirty-five years that I was on Council with Bill,” says McWilliams, “the funniest thing I observed in general was his total lack of interest in politics. Bill did not care what political party his fellow councilmen belonged to and in many cases, did not know. He rarely ever remembered when he was up for election and almost always had his petition circulated by a Democrat even though he was a registered Republican. He nominated me for President of Council seven or eight times and did not know I was a Democrat for about the first ten years. He was only interested in forwarding the interests of the Borough.”

Long-time Councilperson Susan Wilson (Wilson served on Council for eighteen years) says that she voted for Bill every election, even though she is a Democrat. “When I was on Council,” Wilson says, “Council members all had their own opinions about things and meetings could get heated. But when the meetings ended the Council members put their disagreements behind them and walked out of the meeting room as friends. I learned a lot from Bill about service and about what was good for the borough.”

In Bill’s early years he lived in the Hillcrest Apartments located just down the hill from the COTA Festival site. He attended Water Gap school (where the Dutot Museum is currently located). He remembers eating ice cream at the Castle Inn and swimming in their pool. He got his first haircut in the Delaware Inn. He remembers when the trains still ran. He experienced the transformation of the town caused by Rt. 80’s construction. He was eleven years old when the 1955 flood wreaked havoc in the borough, but he remembers how the community came together to get the town back on its feet.

In 1968 Bill married Jeanette. They moved to Shepard Avenue, where they raised their daughter, Christine, and where they still live today. The borough is very important to him. It’s been his “life and joy.”

In order to honor Bill for his extensive service to the community, on Saturday, October 8, Borough Council will be dedicating the “William M. Buzzard Celebration Park” at the site of the COTA jazz festival.

Dedication Ceremony for
The William M. Buzzard Celebration Park
Delaware Avenue
Saturday, October 8, 2022
4:00 PM
Followed by a reception at the Historic Castle Inn Dining Hall