

THE WATER GAP TIMES

A Quarterly Newsletter

Issue Number 40 – Summer 2020

Attention Residents:

The Borough of Delaware Water Gap is proud to announce that we are now accepting an additional form of payment! We will be accepting Credit Card payments via our online website www.dwgpa.gov, in person and over the phone for any and all payments pertaining to DWG General permit payments, DWG Water payments and DWG Sanitation payments. All payments for each entity must still be made separately. However, you will be able to pay all water accounts together or all sanitation accounts together incurring only one transaction fee for each transaction at 2.9%. Feel free to contact our Secretary/Treasurer, Shaina Serrano with any questions or concerns at the Borough Office 570.476.0331 or via email s.serrano@dwgpa.gov.

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The Municipal Authority will be continuing to make improvements on our mapping systems. GIS personnel from RCAP Solutions will be visiting the borough in the near future to take pictures of residences for mapping purposes.
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Borough Office
49 Main Street
PO Box 218
Delaware Water Gap, PA 18327
Phone: 570-476-0331
Fax: 570-476-0380
s.serrano@dwgpa.gov
www.dwgpa.gov

Hours: Monday – Friday, 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Office Secretary/Treasurer – Shaina Serrano
Municipal Authority Secretary – Lauren Hoglund
Borough Superintendent - Harry Kent Darlington

Delaware Water Gap Police Department
570-476-4674
police@dwgpa.gov

Acting Police Chief Andrew Yakubik
Amanda Boyd, Police Officer
Michael J. Ceccato, Police Officer
Vincent Mezick, Police Officer
Rolon Santos, Jr., Police Officer

State Police – 570-839-7701
Emergencies Only - 911

Borough Council

Larry Freshcorn, Mayor
Jack Shoemaker, President
William Buzzard, Vice President
Derek Anspach
Zack Booth
Lisa Paulette
Tim Snow

Eileen Noelle-White

Council meetings are held on the 1st Monday of the month at 7:00 p.m.

Municipal Authority

James Reynolds, Chair
Harry Darlington, Vice Chair
Martin W. Wilson, Secretary
James Holbrook
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
Randy Snow

Planning Commission meetings are held on the 2nd Monday of the month at 7:00 p.m.

Zoning Hearing Board

Frank Davis
Carol Penna
Dmitri Snytkine
Avis Mosier, Alternate

Zoning Hearing Board meetings are held as needed.

Building Code Board of Appeals

Walter Conway
James Holbrook
Bob Mancuso

Zoning Officer

Mark M. Kirk, SFM Consulting, LLC
Building Inspector
Jeffrey Snyder

Emergency Management Coordinator

Brad Miller

Deputy Emergency Management

Coordinator
(Vacant)

Floodplain Administrator

Walter Conway

The Borough of Delaware Water Gap AN APPALACIAN TRAIL COMMUNITY

Hey Delaware Water Gap! In my continued effort to have bus service returned to our borough, I am happy to announce we are back on the Flex Connect.



- Lisa Paulette, Borough Council member

Flex Connect is open to the public, so anyone can ride!

Pickup Stops are in front of Water Gap Village Apartments and the Village Farmer and Bakery
New Bus Stop Signs coming Soon!

The Flex Connect is a weekday service with selected stops. A reservation is needed, prior to date of trip. The Violet and Yellow Flex service connects to the Red Route at Eagle Valley and the Stroud Mall.

Delaware Water Gap is on the Yellow Route.

Step 1: Register and Reserve Your Ride

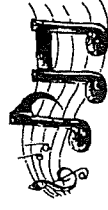
Registration is easy and can be done at the same time you need to make a reservation. Call (570) 839-8210 x 1 to speak with a representative between 8:00 AM and 4:30 PM Monday through Friday, by noon the business day before you want to travel. They will help you register and take your reservation.

Other things to note:

Car seats must be provided by the passenger.

The trip will be confirmed based on seat(s) and / or time availability. Reserving multi-legged trips is possible based on availability.

Mayor's Corner
June 25, 2020



Free Summer Concerts at the Church of the Mountain Gazebo

Every Sunday
6:00 to 7:30 p.m.

July 5 – Bill Stine & Friends

July 12 – Lost Ramblers

July 19 – SheilaMark Band

July 26 – Chris London Band

August 2 – Juniors Wailing

August 9 – Renegade Ramblers

August 16 – Cary Dillon & Abigail Dillon

August 23 – Marty Wilson & Friends

August 30 – Vinny Bianci & La Cuchina

Until further announcement concerts will be
live streamed at the Church of the Mountain's
Facebook page.

Happy Summer DWG! I hope everyone is safe and healthy. As you know Friday, June 19th the county moved into the green phase which allowed most businesses to open on a limited basis. We are being told that the virus infection rates have slowed dramatically which is great news, but we should still be cautious and aware that there could be a second wave in the fall. So how has COVID 19 affected our Borough? As for now all major functions in the Gap have been cancelled. This includes Founders Day, Dog Days in the Park, Jazz Fest and so on. Also the Dutot Museum is closed this year which is unfortunate as it is their 50th year anniversary. This is the first time that all these events have been canceled together. It is my sincere hope that we will make up for it next year. One positive note during the shutdown is something that always seems to shine in DWG which is a giving heart. Mike and Elvi DeLotto formed a group known as the Neighbor Program and it was our own meals on wheels so to speak for Gap residents. For 50 days they made meals and with a group of volunteers delivered meals to our residents in need. Donations came in as soon as the program started with the first major donation from Aleks Trucking. I would also like to recognize Jody Reynolds for supplying homemade bake goods for each meal every day. This is what it truly means to live in DWG, and we thank everyone that participated in the program. You may have noticed a stronger police presence on the weekends. Since the shutdown people flooded to the national parks which is great, but they did not comply with the Borough's parking ordinance on Mountain Road essentially closing the road. Our police came in to manage the parking and ticket violators. I also asked them to issue temporary no parking signs to the residents on Mountain Road to prevent people from parking in their yards. Since the enforcement, people began to park in legal spots on Main St. in front of our businesses which I hope helped them as they began to re-open. As of now the parking issues seemed to have subsided but our Chief will monitor the situation. We will be discussing re-opening our offices soon with certain precautions in place like we had on election day so look for notices for that soon. Lastly, we will be starting our Wreaths Across America program soon. Please help and support the program by purchasing a wreath for our veterans buried in our cemetery. Please stay safe and stay positive as we begin to defeat this virus and have a great summer!

The Borough of Delaware Water Gap
AN APPALACIAN TRAIL COMMUNITY

Thanks to everyone who voted in June's primary either in person or by mail-in & absentee ballots. The poll workers appreciated everyone's cooperation in wearing a mask when casting their ballots in person.

Ordinance 184

Please keep the community beautiful by sweeping and cleaning debris off of the sidewalk. Also maintain your yard by keeping it mowed & trimmed around the lampposts. Trim back trees and shrubs from the sidewalk and Borough right-of-way.

Ordinance 270

All dogs must be leashed! Dogs are not permitted to roam freely along the streets of the Borough.

Borough Committee Meetings

Water

2nd Thursday of each month at 6:00 p.m.

Economic Development (EDC)

Monday December 9th at 9:00 a.m.

Liberty-Delaware Water Gap Trail

Workshops on the 3rd Wednesday of each month at 9:00 a.m.

Friends of DWG

4th Tuesday of each month at 7:00 p.m.

New members welcome!

Beautification

Thursday, September 4th at 7:00 p.m.

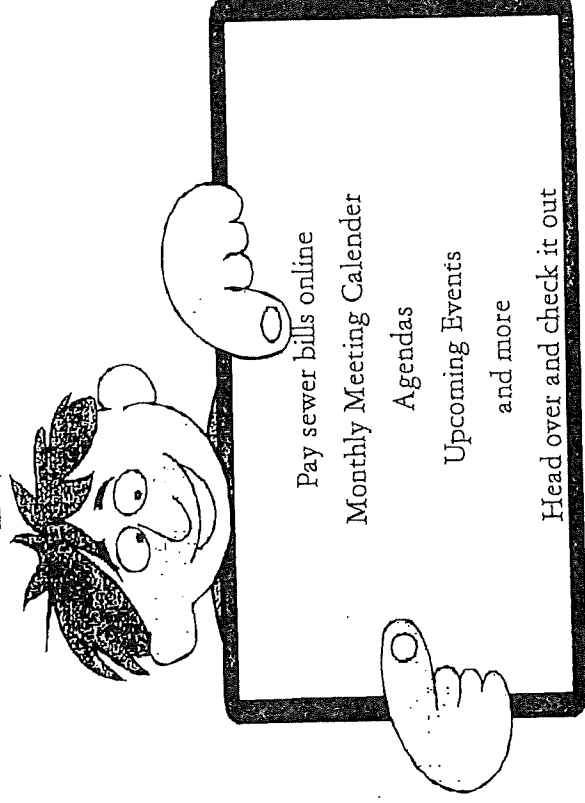
New members welcome!

All committee meetings are held at

Borough Hall
49 Main Street
Delaware Water Gap

The Delaware Water Gap Municipal
Authority is proud to launch our website

DWGM.A.ORG



The Borough of Delaware Water Gap AN APPALACIAN TRAIL COMMUNITY

Local History Spot

By Marty Wilson

Crime: DWG

In a previous post on this page the 1868 murder of Theodore Brodhead was described. Thankfully crimes as vicious as that one do not often happen here in our peaceful village. Lesser crimes, however, are another matter. The Dutot Museum recently acquired a collection of court records that lists infractions committed in Delaware Water Gap between 1938 and 1952. They range from the mundane to the tragic. Taken together, the court records offer us a glimpse of one side of life in our town at the middle of the last century.

The names of borough landmarks, many of them businesses long gone, are mentioned in the pages of the records. The Delawanna Inn, the Glenwood, the Cherry Valley Inn, the Hauf Brau Hotel, and the Deer Head Inn were scenes of numerous cases of “drunk and disorderly” behavior. In 1952, two men were arrested at the Hauf Brau Hotel, one for impersonating a police officer and the other for impersonating an FBI agent. In 1951, a man committed an indecent assault on a six-year-old girl at the Delawanna Inn. She was playing on the porch when a man approached her, placed his hand on her, and asked her to go for a walk in the woods with him. She ran from the man and hid behind a door to the dining room where friends of the family found her. In 1948, some men were arrested for trespassing on Island Park, the grounds of the Water Gap Rod and Gun Club.

There are several violations of dog registration and game laws listed. One man was fined \$18 when his dog killed some wild rabbits in 1940. Another, in 1938, was fined \$20 for fishing in Cherry Creek using a spear, which, according to the records, was an illegal method of fishing. In another case, a man was arrested who was “in possession or control [of] the meat and the hide of a deer, said hide not having the head attached in a natural way.” He was, apparently, poaching.

Perhaps the largest category of infractions found in the records pertains to operating motor vehicles under the influence of alcohol, or “intoxicating liquor,” as it’s described in the entries. Some of these cases of drunken driving led to tragic outcomes. At 10:20 on the night of November 19, 1944, a man driving an International truck and trailer ran off the road onto the sidewalk in front of the Water Gap Garage “and did slay and kill Henrietta R. Copenhaver while operating said motor vehicle.” A local doctor declared the driver of the truck drunk.

In October of 1937, one Francis Ruffy was driving his truck toward Stroudsburg in second gear when, near the Water Gap Cemetery, he “felt a jar and his truck stopped.” When Francis checked the rear of his truck he found a Chevrolet had crashed into it. The driver of the Chevrolet was sitting on the running board of the car; an 88-year-old man and a 57-year-old woman were dead in the front seat, killed by the crash. The driver was drunk.

Perhaps the saddest story in the court documents involves an automobile crash at the Point of the Gap in 1939. Around 7:30 on the night of July 1 a car traveling at a high rate of speed side-swiped one car before crashing into a second. In the back seat of the second car a mother was holding her infant daughter on her lap (this was before the days of seat belts). The baby was killed instantly. The driver of the car that caused the crash was unconscious. A witness to the crash put him in a car to take him to the hospital, but he regained consciousness as the car neared the traffic light in Water Gap. The man, obviously inebriated, became belligerent and struck the person trying to help him. A police officer subdued him and took him to the hospital where it was determined that he was drunk, but otherwise uninjured.

While these incidents happened some 80-odd years ago, I have not included the names of the defendants out of respect for their families who may still be living in the area.

The Dutot Museum is closed this summer because of the pandemic, but anyone wishing access to the museum to see this, or any of our artifacts, is welcome to contact me.