

The CENTER



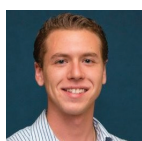
A newsletter from Mt. Oliver Borough



Manager's Minute

The last issue of "The Center" was developed pre-COVID and admittedly feels like eons ago. While time has seemed lost the past few months, rest assured that we have been plugging away all along at bringing to fruition the various projects and initiatives announced in our spring issue. Construction of the Walnut Street and Middle Way parking lots began the end of May; the final phase of the Brownsville Road Streetscape project is out for bid; and we are continuing to work towards securing funding for multi-year commercial district revitalization initiatives, housing stabilization, and essential human services. At the same time, Borough government, along with our partners, have made some adjustments as we all settle into this "new normal." The Allegheny Together team has taken a break from the main street planning process and refocused efforts on assisting small businesses during these difficult times; the Brashear Association has launched a grab-and-go food pantry, investing in increases to both the quantity of food and the frequency of distributions; Economic Development South and Dollar Bank are hosting workshops for residents and business owners experiencing financial challenges; Rebuilding Together Pittsburgh is providing emergency repairs for Mt. Oliver homeowners; and so much more.

Additionally, new legislation was recently passed at the state level that allows elected officials to conduct business remotely. For the remainder of the Governor's Emergency Declaration, Council Meetings will be conducted remotely in order to comply with social distancing requirements, and to free up space to accommodate as many members of the public as possible in our tight municipal quarters. Residents are invited to attend and participate in the meetings in person or submit comments in writing prior to. Specific instructions will be posted on the Borough website ahead of time. We encourage anyone with questions or in need of assistance due to COVID to contact the Borough Office. As always, we are here to help. Stay healthy, stay safe, and remember we are stronger together!



Rick Hopkinson
Borough Manager
Mt. Oliver Borough



Upcoming Trash Collection

The following dates are upcoming trash collection dates and changes due to holidays:

Jun 16	Regular Collection	Aug 4	Regular Collection
Jun 23	Regular Collection	Aug 11	Regular Collection
Jun 30	Regular Collection	Aug 18	Regular Collection
Jul 7	Regular Collection	Aug 25	Regular Collection
Jul 14	Regular Collection	Sep 1	Regular Collection
Jul 21	Regular Collection	Sep 8	Holiday Collection
Jul 28	Regular Collection		

Trash must be placed curbside between 6PM the day before and 6AM the day of scheduled pick-up. Residents may put out up to 15 bags and no more than two bulky items. For specific questions or service issues, please contact Waste Management at 1-800-866-4460.

Please note that TVs and other electronics are never accepted. For these and other hard to dispose of items, contact Evolution E-Cycling at 412-390-3450.

MT. OLIVER
SUMMER EVENTS

ON MAIN

MIDSUMMER NIGHTS ON MAIN
TUESDAYS • 4 - 7PM
June 16, July 14 and August 11
100-200 block of Brownsville Road
Good eats, local merchants, live music, and more.

MOVIES ON MAIN
FRIDAYS • 8 - 10:30PM
June 26, July 31 and August 28
100-200 block of Brownsville Road
Refreshments will be available.

@MtOliverBorough
 @MtOliverPgh
 www.MtOliver.com

AT THE CENTER OF IT ALL



Small Business Spotlight

Contributing Author: Casey Flores

Cheers to 35 Years, Charlie

Charlie's Used Furniture and Antiques Celebrates its 35th year in Business

This past April 27, Mt. Oliver Borough's Charlie's Used Furniture & Antiques marked a milestone few businesses ever reach: 35 years in operation. How did owner Charlie Gaska do it? Well, he almost didn't.



For 32 years Charlie's was located at 143 Brownsville Rd. before moving down the street to the old Mt. Oliver Men's Shop. He thought about retirement, but his wife told him he still needed something to keep busy—so instead of being done, he downsized.

"Things have changed," he says. "Ten years ago, furniture was 100% of my business," but now it's about 20% and the rest is collectible advertising signs, musical instruments, light fixtures, and jewelry.

For Gaska, downsizing wasn't so much about having to deal with less inventory to manage as it was about consumers' changing tastes. He points to Millennials' love of Ikea as a contributing factor.

The son of Polish parents, one an immigrant and one first-generation, Gaska is a Homestead resident who got his start in Mt. Oliver after helping his friend Bill run his store Bill's Used Furniture for a few years. He recalls a different business district at the time.

"It was booming in '85 when I started," he explains. "That was when a Sears was across the street. Things changed over the years, but it's coming back slowly, the younger people are moving back."



Gaska can typically be found at 201 Brownsville Rd., between 9-4. He hardly considers it "working."

"It's the hangout spot ... this is a hobby!" He says. "I read the newspaper, watch TV, and run my business. I love it."



Property Maintenance

Are you thinking of installing a swimming pool this summer? Keep reading for helpful tips to make sure your pool is in compliance with state and local codes.

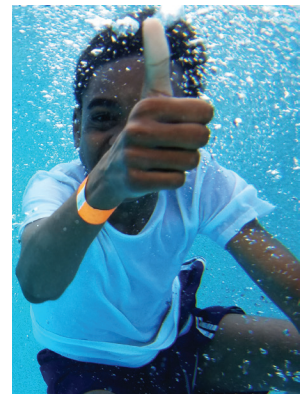
A swimming pool is defined as "a body of water in an artificial or semi-artificial container having a depth of more than 18 inches." This is important because anything under 18 inches is not subject to regulation and may be the ideal option for you if you're having trouble meeting the guidelines below.

Under the Mt. Oliver Borough Zoning Code, swimming pools, as defined above, are allowable accessory uses in residential and mixed use districts, subject to a permit from the Borough. They can only be located in the side or rear yard and must be set back at least 10 feet from any adjacent lot line.

In addition, all swimming pools must be enclosed by a fence with a self-latching gate at least four feet in height. This is a state code. The exception to the rule is

above ground pools that are at least four feet in height. In this case, the pool itself acts as the fence. However, you must maintain removable or retractable steps that are kept removed or retracted when the pool is not in use.

Again, this is important when choosing the right pool for you, as pools slightly under four feet are becoming increasingly popular which would trigger the fencing requirement. We encourage you to contact the Borough Office before making your purchase to ensure you are in compliance so that can enjoy your new swimming pool all summer long!



Trending in MTO

A Beautified Business District

The Borough organized a spring cleanup and planting event in the business district at the end of May. We'd like to thank local residents, RE 360, and the rest of the Mt. Oliver team for volunteering their time to help us weed, re-mulch, and plant along Brownsville Road.



Pandemic Pizza

Mt. Oliver Borough partnered with Maietta's Restaurant to provide pizza to residents and essential workers during the lockdown. More than 100 people were fed in just a couple of hours by the local Italian favorite, a partnership that yielded a win-win for the entire community.



TC Candy Goes National

In need of an alternate business strategy due to COVID-19, the Tererri family of TC Candy took their retail candy operation world wide web. Their new online presence, coupled with the clever creation of the "Rona Bunny," a solid milk chocolate bunny with a mask, quickly stirred up national attention. This Easter, the small mom-and-pop shop melted 750 pounds of chocolate, shipped to 22 different states, and saw a 40% increase in year-over-year sales.



DO YOU HAVE A HOUSE TO SELL?

Let's talk to see if we can make you a cash offer.
You won't need to make any repairs,
and we can close quickly.

412-542-5006

Call or text



PALMDALE GROUP LLC
More info at PalmdaleGroup.com

\$500 Referral fee if we buy a
property you referred



Upcoming Events

Council Meeting

3rd Monday of every month at 7:30 PM

Municipal Building – 150 Brownsville Road

Mt. Oliver Summer Events on Main

Midsummer Nights on Main

Tuesdays, 6/16, 7/14, & 8/11

4 - 7PM

100-200 block of Brownsville Road

Good eats, local merchants, live music, and more!

Movies on Main

Fridays, 6/26, 7/31 & 8/28

8 - 10:30PM

100-200 block of Brownsville Road

Refreshments will be available.



Advertise with Us!

Mailed to every household in Mt. Oliver Borough

Business Card (3.5" x 2") = \$85

Quarter Page (3.5" x 4.5") = \$165

Contact 412-431-8107 x106 or

rick.hopkinson@mtoliver.com

A newsletter from Mt. Oliver Borough | Summer 2020

The CENTER

150 Brownsville Road
Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania 15210

Mt. OLIVER