

The CENTER



A newsletter from Mt. Oliver Borough



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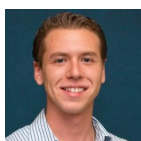


Manager's Minute

2020 has been a year to remember. Not just for the challenges it brought, but for how we adapted to those challenges. While many municipalities contracted, Mt. Oliver continued to push forward. We pivoted our events and enhanced our outdoor public space. We invested nearly three-quarters of a million dollars in capital improvements and infrastructure – mostly through competitive grant awards – with projects including the Walnut Street and Middle Way Parking Lots, the 2020 Paving Program, and the Brownsville Road Streetscape. We continued to break records for home sales with single family homes now exceeding \$150,000 in Mt. Oliver. We welcomed five new businesses, despite an economic downturn. We demolished four blighted properties and are now marketing for side yards, and so much more. I don't know what next year is going to bring in terms of this pandemic, but I do know we will continue to fight and move forward together, because Mt. Oliver is resilient. With that, here is a glimpse of some of the things we have in store for 2021.

At the December Meeting, Council adopted a \$2.5 million General Fund Operating Budget and a \$1.1 million Sewer Budget. I'm pleased to share that for the fifteenth year in a row, there will be no tax increase. Capital projects for 2021 include the Sanitary Sewer O&M Program, the 2021 Paving Program, CDBG Year 46 & Year 47 ADA Ramp Upgrades, and the Hervey Ave Sewer Project. We will also be coordinating with the City of Pittsburgh as they plan to update their traffic signal at Brownsville & Arlington and Brownsville & Bausman, as well as coordinating with the utility companies on a number of service upgrades. We plan to expand our 'Fridays on Main' series to feature more musical performances on The Deck. Five storefronts will be receiving a makeover, courtesy of the Hilltop Economic Development Corporation (HEDC). We are still awaiting the announcement from the State for our \$175,000 SPP Grant for Housing Stabilization and Community Services, but we are very optimistic, thanks to our corporate sponsors, including Northwest Bank, Fragasso Financial Advisors, and Highmark.

I'm looking forward to the year ahead, and I think we're going to see a lot of things come together, especially along the business district. Until then, I want to wish everyone a happy and healthy holiday season with family and friends!



Rick Hopkinson

Borough Manager
Mt. Oliver Borough



Upcoming Trash Collection

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

Dec 15	Regular Collection	Feb 2	Regular Collection
Dec 22	Regular Collection	Feb 9	Regular Collection
Dec 29	Regular Collection	Feb 16	Regular Collection
Jan 5	Regular Collection	Feb 23	Regular Collection
Jan 12	Regular Collection	Mar 2	Regular Collection
Jan 19	Regular Collection	Mar 9	Regular Collection
Jan 26	Regular Collection		

Trash must be placed curbside between 6:00 p.m. the day before and 6:00 a.m. the day of scheduled pick-up. Residents may put out up to 15 bags and no more than 2 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.



This is a Call

Mt. Oliver is looking for volunteers to help launch a Snow Angels Program here in the Borough. Snow covered sidewalks can be hazardous for everyone. The Mt. Oliver Snow Angels Program would pair older residents and residents with disabilities with nearby neighbors who volunteer to assist them with snow removal on their sidewalks and driveways. When seniors call the Borough throughout the year, we will go to our database of volunteers and match them with a Snow Angel nearby.

Act Now! Here's how...

Contact Rick Hopkinson at 412-431-8107 x 106 or rick.hopkinson@mtoliver.com.



Small Business Spotlight

Boutique Finds Home on Brownsville Rd.

Gail Jackson, fondly known as “Teete,” never planned to start her business in Mt. Oliver. In fact, she was getting ready to launch in Atlanta, when she unexpectedly relocated to Pittsburgh earlier in 2020 to take care of her mom. Gail was ready to put her dreams of being a small business owner on hold until a friend told her about a space for rent on Brownsville Road. “I immediately saw the vision,” Gail said.

Taste of Teete’s is a women’s clothing boutique that offers both new and like-new clothing, shoes, and accessories. “I’ve always loved to dress,” says Gail, “and I want people to know that you don’t have to break the bank to look and feel great.” Gail prides herself on offering a unique selection at an affordable price, including many name brands.

Taste of Teete’s is located at 207 Brownsville Road. Stop by today and check out everything that Gail has to offer!



Other Business News



TC Candy Making a ‘Splash’ with Hot Chocolate Bombs

TC Candy has done it again! Earlier this year, they coined the Rona Bunny which turned out to be an internet sensation. Now they have perfected 2020’s latest viral food trend – the Hot Chocolate Bomb. “It took some time and research” says Jeanine Terreri, “we had to figure out how to make it work with TC Candy’s specialty chocolate.” It appears that they were successful, as TC Candy’s chocolatiers haven’t stopped making the novelty since they debuted in early November, selling over 150 in just the first two days alone. If you want to be sure to guarantee your hot chocolate bombs for the holidays, be sure to call and order today at 412-488-MELT (6358).



#ShopLocal

When shopping local, you’re making an investment in your community. Experts estimate that for every \$100 spent at a locally-owned business, \$73 remains in the local economy, compared to only \$43 if the same \$100 is spent at a chain. In light of the pandemic, it has become more important than ever to shop local and support our small businesses this holiday season. For a complete listing of local merchants, visit our website at www.mtoliver.com/shop-local.





Main Street Looking Festive

Public Works did an outstanding job this year decorating for the holiday season. The newly painted light poles make the wreaths and garland pop, and the Walnut Street Parking Lot has never looked so inviting! Next time you're visiting your favorite local business, don't forget to stop by the Borough Building and snap a photo in front of the Giant Christmas Tree – and be sure to tag us @mtopgh!



Peachy Holiday Ham Recipe

Megan McGinnis, Event Planner

Growing up as a McGinnis, we always had something cooking in the kitchen. Holidays were a time for family and food. For as long as I can remember, by dad always had us helping in the kitchen on Christmas morning preparing our holiday ham. He had a big book filled with family recipes that were passed on from generation to generation. I hope this recipe makes it to your holiday table this year and brings your family so much joy.

Peachy Holiday Ham Ingredients:

- 6-8 lbs half boneless ham or 6-8 lbs semi-boneless ham
- 1 can of ginger ale
- ½ cup brown sugar
- 1 jar of peach preserves
- Cloves

Directions:

Place ham in baking dish or roasting pan. Score ham diagonally both ways about 1/8" inch, and insert cloves at crossings. Pour ginger ale over top. Mix brown sugar and peach preserves together in small bowl. Pat peach mixture all over top and sides of ham. Bake according to ham package directions (usually 20 minutes per pound at 325 degrees), basting every 15 to 20 minutes.



Holiday Decorating Contest

It's that time of year again for the Annual Holiday Decorating Contest! You can nominate your home or a neighbor's home. Place your nomination by calling 412-431-8107 x 106 or emailing rick.hopkinson@mtoliver.com. Pictured above is last year's winner – 510 Hervey Street!



Upcoming Events

Council Meetings

3rd Monday of every month at 7:30 PM

Fire Hall - 120 Brownsville Road

NOTE Change in location due to COVID

Advertise with Us!

Business Card = \$85

Quarter Page = \$165

Contact 412-431-8107 x106 or rick.hopkinson@mtoliver.com

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

A newsletter from Mt. Oliver Borough | Winter 2020

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