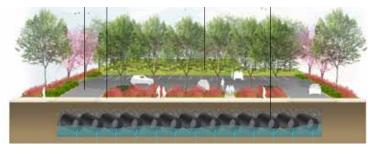
The Crafton Courier

Official Crafton, PA Borough Newsletter

FALL/WINTER 2022



Crafton Boulevard - From Concept to Completion!

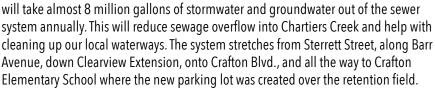


After more than a year, the stormwater separation and road reconstruction project is finally at an end. Final landscaping and line painting is scheduled for the next few weeks.

Approximately 85% of this \$3.3 million project was paid for through grants. The ALCOSAN GROW grant provided \$2.65 million and \$250,000 was provided by an H2O grant.

This massive project involved building a new stormwater

collection system that



The final phase of the project saw complete street reconstruction, curbs, sidewalks, increased number of crosswalks, streetlights, and landscaping along the project route.

Thanks to our previous council who had the vision and who got the project funded and underway. Next, thank you to everyone who contributed to the project's funding and success. Finally, our very deep gratitude to Representative Dan Deasy and Senator Wayne Fontana for their constant support of our community that has been instrumental in funding this and many other borough projects over the years!





New Borough Sign Planned for 2023

Thanks in BIG part to the incredibly generous donation from the Crafton Ingram Rotary Club, Crafton will be getting a new monument sign! It will be much like the sign in front of the Crafton Volunteer Fire Department, for which the Rotary also made a substantial donation.

The sign will be placed in front of Crafton Park by the exit so it will be easily seen by anyone passing by in either direction. The Borough will be repurposing red street brick removed from the street during the Crafton Boulevard Sewer Separation project to create the sign's base. The sign will display the time, temperature, and weather as well as community events and notices so you will always be in the know with what is happening in our neighborhood! It will be capable of showing text, picture, animations, and video. It can be dimmed at night to keep light interruption to a minimum

for nearby residents. While there is no official date, we are looking to Spring of 2023 for completion and installation. The 2-sided LED sign is being made by VIS Signs/Visual Information Systems, whose other customers include Kennywood Park, Highmark Stadium, Penn State University, Pine Township, Scott Township, Collier Community Center, and The Pittsburgh Cultural Trust.



Thank you again to the Crafton-Ingram Rotary Club!!

Elected Officials

Coletta Perry, Mayor.....cperry@craftonborough.com

Borough Council Officers

John Oliverio, *President* joliverio@craftonborough.com Kirsten Compitello, Vice President . . . kcompitello@craftonborough.com Vince Ridilla, President Pro Tem. vridilla@craftonborough.com

Borough Council Members

Erin Bollenbacherebollenbacher@craftonborough.com Colton Chandlercchandler@craftonborough.com Phillip Levasseur plevasseur@craftonborough.com Justin Marks jmarks@craftonborough.com

Magisterial District Judge

Municipal Contacts

Interim Borough Manager

Douglas Sampledsample@craftonborough.com (412) 921-0752 x 19

Chief of Police

Mark Sumpter msumpter@craftonpolice.org (412) 921-2016

Administration

Building Permits & Zoning...... (412) 921-0752 x 18

Community Pool

Community Resources

Crafton Public Library	(412) 922-6877
Crafton Volunteer Fire Department	(412) 875-0022
Crafton Elementary	(412) 429-2500
Waste Management (Missed Pickups)	(800) 866-4460
Waste Management (E-Waste Pickup)	(800) 449-7587
Jordan Tax Service	(724) 731-2310
Jordan Tax Service	(724) 731-2310

Public Meeting Information

All Borough Council Meetings are currently being held in Council Chambers. Meetings are concurrently available live via Zoom. Log-in and call-in information available on the Borough's website:

www.craftonborough.com/borough-council

Council Chambers in the Community Center 140 Bradford Avenue, Crafton, PA 15205.



Crafton Borough Council......2nd & 4th Thursdays at 7:15 pm

Meeting announcements and schedule changes are publicized on the SavvyCitizen App and the Borough website.



Sign up for SavvyCitizen to stay up to Savvy Citizen® date on community events, crime watch alerts and notifications



Go to www.craftonborough.com/get-notifications and follow the instructions on the page.

The Calendar of events can also be viewed on the Borough's website under www.craftonborough.com/calendar

Halloween Trick-or-Treat October 31, 2022 - 6-8 pm



The Crafton Police Department will have extra officers out to help assure we have a safe Halloween. To help ensure adults and children have a safe holiday, the CPD have listed some safety tips:

- All costumes, wigs and accessories should be fire-resistant.
- 🥮 If children are allowed out after dark, fasten reflective tape to their costumes and bags, or give them glow sticks.
- 🥯 A responsible adult should accompany young children on the neighborhood rounds
- 🥯 Plan and review a route acceptable to you for your older children who are going alone
- 🥯 Agree on a specific time children should return home
- 🥯 Teach your children never to enter a stranger's home or car
- Instruct children to travel only in familiar, well-lit areas and stick with their friends
- Tell your children not to eat any treats until they return home.
- 🥯 Children and adults are reminded to put electronic devices down, keep heads up and walk, do not run, across the street.

Safety Tips for Motorists

Here are some additional safety tips for parents – and anyone who plans to be on the road during trick-or-treat hours:

- 🥯 Watch for children walking on roadways, medians and curbs
- Enter and exit driveways and alleys carefully
- At twilight and later in the evening, watch for children in dark. clothing
- Discourage new, inexperienced drivers from driving on Halloween



Keep your doors & windows locked.



Secure all lawn & gardening equipment in your locked shed or garage.



Lock the doors to your vehicle, close car windows, & take your valuables out of your car.



Be aware of home improvement scams.

Crafton Recreation Board Update



Oct. 22nd-31st

www.craftonborough.com/haunted-crafton-tour

Crafton Borough Recreation Board is proud to announce the third annual Haunted Crafton driving tour! The tour is a self-guided audio-driving tour through the spookiest places in Crafton. Some of what you hear will be actual hauntings and others only come out into the yard around Halloween.

You will need a smart device (such as Android or iPhone) with internet access to view the tour.

All proceeds from the tour will support future community programming.



The tour begins on October 22, 2022, and continues through October 31, 2022. The tour is available the entire week leading up to Halloween.

We will be accepting donations of non-perishable food to be donated to the Crafton-Ingram Food Pantry ONLY on October 22nd from 6:30 pm – 9:30 pm. The tour will begin at Crafton Elementary. Please, pull up to the front of the school to make your monetary donation and drop off your non-perishable food donations. You will receive instructions on how to begin the tour at that time.

What you contribute is up to you. You may also get your tickets online by making a donation via the borough website starting on October 22nd through October 31st. You will then receive an email with a link for the tour which you can take any time during the week.



Mini Golf

Get ready to enjoy the fall and practice your haunted putting at the Crafton Mini-Golf course located on Steuben St. across from our main park!

Friday and Saturdays through October 29th / 7-9pm.

Wear your costumes for added fun.

There is plenty of parking.

Cost to play is \$2 per person.



December 3rd - 5 pm

This year, Crafton's Celebration of Lights will look a little different. Join the Crafton Recreation Board as we welcome the holiday season by turning on the lights in Crafton park, pictures with Santa and Mrs. Clause, a chance to meet a Frozen princess, and more. For more information visit:

www.craftonborough.com/celebration-of-lights

Senior Citizen Giving Tree

Crafton Recreation Board is hosting a Giving Tree for our community's senior citizens. Please visit the Crafton Borough Library or the link below for more information as it becomes available and to sign up. Gift requests are for ages 65 or older. www.craftonborough.com/giving-tree



2023 Crafton Recreation Board Events

Car Cruise & Vendor Fair











September 30th

October 21st - 31st





December 2nd



Thank you to everyone who participated in the Crafton Recreation Board Fall Fest on September 24th! We all

had a wonderful afternoon hanging out with our neighbors, sharing talents, and having some friendly competition.

Glenn Fahnstock won the Cook-Off with their smoked pulled pork and Courtney Lawton won the Bake-Off with their apple pie muffins. The cornhole competition was a close one, but in the end, Matt Choate and Ed Scott took home the prize with Wilson Choate and Jacob Stiffler taking home second place.

We had a fantastically creative craft table with kids and adults making crafts for the spooky season.

We were all entertained during the talent portion of the day by Samantha Boehm, Patrick Ganley, and Rebekah Roun singing their hearts out on stage. A big thank you to Janet and Tara for helping the Recreation Board with the event.

> Winners (left): Glenn Fahnstock (Cook-Off Matt Choate, Ed Scott (cornhole 1st place), Wilson Choate, Jacob Stiffler (cornhole 2nd place)









Council President's Message

We are 75% through this year already, and there are many exciting things going on in Crafton!

We have finished quite a few projects including:

- 1. Operational/Organizational Assessments Our public works, police, staff, and committees were all reviewed by outside consultants and recommendations are being implemented.
- 2. Crafton Master Parks Plan After an extensive group of meetings with resident volunteers who worked with our consultants, a final plan was produced that is guiding our future parks projects.
- 3. **Commission Vacancies** Filled 13 open seats and 1 Council Seat. We still have a few commission openings left.
- 4. **Garbage/Recycling** Renewed contract for another option year with Waste Management for garbage collection and recycling keeping the same terms (unfortunately with an unavoidable price increase).
- 5. **Pool Season** We had another successful pool season with extended hours based on resident feedback
- 6. Fire Inspection Ordinance Updated the ordinance to comply with regulations and ensure residents are safe
- 7. Council Chambers AV System Updated our outdated system with Zoom, video, and new technology
- 8. Woodlawn/Fountain Separation and Paving Project -Completed with safety, paving, and sewer improvements
- 9. Banner Community Award Crafton received this significant honor by the Allegheny League of Municipalities in April.
- 10. **Tree Plantings** Planted over 20 trees throughout the borough in resident yards and our parks. Another big tree planting will be happening this November.

We are working on the following projects:

- 1. Crafton/Ingram Zoning Project Held a Visioning Workshop in August and both borough teams continue to collaborate to redefine the zoning in both communities.
- 2. Public Works Building Contractors continue to build out the
- 3. Magistrate Roof Work began in September to replace the roof which was in poor condition.

- 4. Crafton Blvd Sewer Separation, Parking Lot, and Streetscape-Some phases of the project are complete with paving and landscaping occurring during the best weather periods.
- 5. Borough Building & Library Façade Restoration work and stone replacement are on-going to restore our historic building.
- 6. 2023 Budget Staff and Finance Committee have been working diligently to prepare a fair budget for Council approval on December 8th.

Our future projects include:

- 1. **Pool Bathhouse** Due to federal funding delays, the updates to the bathhouse will happen after the 2023 pool season.
- 2. Strategic Planning Council and Staff will be working on a Strategic Plan to prioritize future projects and initiatives
- 3. Grants
 - a. Awarded DCNR Grant for \$250K for renovation of Linwood and Noble Parks
 - b. Awarded 2 grants totaling \$500K for our Public Stairs (thank you to State Representative, Dan Deasy)
 - c. Awarded \$250K Green Light Go grant for Linden/Steuben traffic light

It was so good to see many of you at the Community Cleanup Day and Easter Egg Hunt in April, Vendor Fair & Car Cruise in June, Independence Celebration in July, Concerts in the Park in August, Mini Golf, and Fall Festival in September. Don't forget about the upcoming Haunted Crafton Audio Tour.

Council meetings are open to the public, and I encourage residents to attend (2nd and 4th Thursday of every month at 7:15 PM) in person or via Zoom to keep up to date on what is happening in our community.

I want to thank our hard working staff, police/fire departments, council members, mayor, commission members, and volunteers who manage all our projects and events. We couldn't do it without the dedication and commitment of these individuals and support from our residents. I wish everyone a safe and joyous holiday season with family and friends and appreciate the opportunity to serve you.

> Respectfully, John Oliverio, Council President

Mayor's Message

It's hard to believe we are already deep into fall! It's certainly been a busy few months in the borough as our Council President's report above certainly attests.

I'd like to thank our administrative staff, our volunteers, and contractors for working so hard to keep so many initiatives moving forward. Let's not forget our pubic works crew and our police department as well. As they say, "It takes a village". Collectively, they are the backbone that keeps Crafton running.

I'm looking forward to seeing many of you as I patrol the

neighorhoods with Chief Sumpter during Trickor-Treat hours (6-8 pm) on Halloween night.

In the interest of public safety, please make sure your walkways are clear of leaves-

especially on Halloween. They can be danerous when wet.

As we move into winter, please double down on being vigilant to keep walkways clear of snow and ice.

Make it a safe winter!

Coletta Perry, Mayor

Crafton and Ingram Undertake Zoning Code Updates

Crafton and Ingram have launched a joint zoning code update. The project kick-off was in the spring, and an engagement event was held on August 18th to gather community input and host a visioning session for key sites within both Boroughs.

The zoning codes lay out land use regulations for each respective Borough. They guide and regulate development within the community. The project is slated for completion in 2023 and the Boroughs will continue to seek community input.

Stay tuned for more opportunities to get involved!



Community Garden Tours



Crafton Community Farm, the community garden in Crafton Park, will continue our monthly garden tours the last Tuesday of each month through December. The tour is open to anyone interested and starts at 6pm, following Crafton Library's Children's Storytime in the garden. Please come join us to see what happens in a garden during different times of the year, learn about how vegetables and fruits grow without chemicals, and see our dedicated Children's Garden, new this year! We also welcome teenagers and adults to volunteer to help us in the garden. We have tools, gloves, and gardening know-how to share. 95% of the crops we grow are donated to the Crafton Ingram Food Pantry. For information or to get involved, please email CraftonCommunityFarm@gmail.com or message us on Facebook, or call or text 412-303-4409.

Code Violations: "Why is Nothing Being Done?"

That's a valid question! Code enforcement cannot always produce an immediate result when a complaint is filed. The complaint must first be verified with a visual inspection. If found to be valid, every property owner is given time to correct the issue(s). Citations are never the first step in the violation abatement process. And no one is fined on the spot.

The following list describes the process followed once a complaint is filed and validated with an inspection OR a violation is found while the Code Enforcer is on patrol:

- 1. A "Notice of Violation" is issued. This is a letter stating the nature of the code violation and gives a time period given to remedy the violation. It includes information about the legal enforcement remedies that may occur if the issue is not abated. Each notice includes time-stamped pictures of the violation to help the owner understand the nature of problem. Sometimes these are yellow tags on the door but usually they are mailed.
- 2. If not abated, a Final Notice is sent with less time to abate the violation.
- 3. If still not abated, a citation is written and submitted to the magistrate. The owner may then plead guilty and pay a fine or plead not guilty.
- 4. Pleading not guilty results in a hearing wherein the Code Officer makes the case for the Borough and the owner makes their case. This can result in more time given by the judge to abate, or a guilty verdict. Sometimes, even when more time is given, there is still a fine even with abatement.
- 5. After judgement is rendered, if the violation occurs again in the same year, the owner of record is cited again and that process begins again. In egregious cases citations can be issued weekly.

We often wish things would move faster, but it is important to understand we have due process to be fair to residents. Sure, sometimes violations are just ignored. However, there are many other times your neighbors are in violation due to illness, loss of income, or extenuating circumstances. Before you call a violation in to the office, consider checking on your neighbor and talk to them about it first. Helpful neighbors and code enforcement both help to make Crafton a better place for all of us.

Lastly, please remember to be respectful of our Code Enforcement Officer. Do not approach them about borough business while they are off-duty.

PLEASE Contact ONLY via official borough channels: 412-921-0752 ex. 26 or codeenforcement@craftonborough.com



Gingerbread House Making

Saturday, Dec. 3 **Crafton Community Center** 2 sessions: 9:00 & 10:30 am \$5 per child

This event is sponsored by the Crafton Public Library, where you can sign up your child/children at the front desk beginning November 1st. All children must be accompanied by an adult. Cost is \$5 per child due at sign- up with chaperones free. There will be light refreshments. There are no walk-in spots available. We usually sell out so please sign up in November. Face masks will be required if the Covid-19's virus appears to be spreading. We want to keep the merry in Christmas!



Join Our Team !!!

Crafton Volunteer Fire Department needs you!

We are your friends, your family, and your neighbors. Among our ranks are students and retirees, teachers and engineers, mechanics and

military personnel. You only need to be 18 or older and it is not a requirement to be a Crafton resident.

We will provide you with all the training and equipment you need to protect our community safely and effectively.

CVFD - 130+ years strong and counting!

Stop at the station on Tuesdays between 7:00 and 9:00 PM to pick-up an application.

Are you the missing piece? Here's an opportunity

Contact us today to get started!

contact@craftonheritage.org

412,576,0870

to share your gifts with our community!

- ·Artist
- •Web Designer
- ·Writer
- •Researcher
- Photographer
- •Fundraiser
- •Marketer
- Other skills?





Keep up with us on Facebook and on Savvy Citizen for the latest event updates

WEEKLY

YOGA / MONDAYS @ 7 PM

For all skill levels! Each class is \$5.00. Bring water and a mat or towel & dress comfortably!

FAMILY STORYTIME

MONDAYS @ 11:00 AM & TUESDAYS @ 4:30 PM

Caregivers and little ones are invited to listen to stories and sing songs with Miss Gabrielle!

LEGO NIGHT / THURSDAYS @ 4:30 PM

Kiddos are invited to play, build, and learn with the Library's collection of Lego blocks!

MONTHLY

SLEEPYTIME STORYTIME / LAST TUESDAY, @ 6:00 PM

Little ones are invited to don their PJs and bring their stuffies to listen to bedtime stories and sing Iullabies with Miss Gabrielle!

NO STRINGS ATTACHED BOOK CLUB / LAST WEDS, @ 5:00 PM

Read our book of the month and join us for a discussion... or not! No strings attached.

THE DINNER AT CRAFTON LIBRARY / FIRST FRIDAY @ 6:00 PM Choose a recipe from the month's cookbook and prepare it to share it!

SPECIAL EVENTS

PETER & THE WOLF PERFORMANCE / WEDS, OCT. 19 @ 10:30 AM

Join the members of local group Tuesday Musical Club Winds Quartet as they put on a performance of the classic symphonic fairy tale, Peter and the Wolf, featuring original artwork by local kids!

MONSTER MASH BASH / THURS, OCT. 27TH

Our annual Halloween party is BACK! Stay tuned for more details to come!!!



www.craftonpubliclibrary.com

Mon. & Fri.: 9 AM - 5 PM / Tues., Weds., & Thurs.: 10 AM - 6 PM Sat.: 10 AM - 5 PM

412-922-6877

Program Calendar:

www.craftonpubliclibrary.com/programs





Crafton Borough

100 Stotz Avenue Pittsburgh, PA 15205 (412) 921-0752

PRESORT STD U.S. POSTAGE **PAID** Pittsburgh, PA Permit 2354

Be sure to keep your sidewalks clear of snow!

Borough Code requires all sidewalks to be clear of snow within 24 hours of accumulation.



Tips for reducing salt usage

Salt is used by municipalities and individuals to prevent the accumulation of snow and ice. This year alone, 22 million tons of salt will be used across the country for the purpose of deicing; Sodium and chloride, the main components of salt, can be toxic to aquatic life, vegetation, animals, and humans. Help reduce the impact of salt on our environment by following these tips.

- Shovel early and often during winter weather events
- Dump shoveled snow into a vegetated area to prevent runoff into the storm drain.
- Use a salt alternatives for deicing such as sand, ash, or cat litter.
- Limit home access to one entrance to reduce the area you'll need to treat.
- Use commercial car washes to remove accumulated salt off of your vehicle.

2022-23 Recyclables Collection Schedule -Regular weekly trash pickup is on Tuesdays

except when there is a legal holiday on Monday.

OCTOBER								NOVEMBER							DECEMBER						
SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT	SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT	SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT	
						1			3	2	3	4	5					1	2	3	
2	3	4	5	6	7	8	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	
9	10	11	12	13	14	15	13	1/4	13	16			19	11	12	-	14	15	16	11	
16	17	43	19	20	21	22	_					_		_				_	-	_	
23	24	25	26	27	28	29						25	26			_	_	_		_	
	31						27	28	29	30				25	26	27	28	29	30	31	
	J	IAN	NUA	RY	Z			F	EB	RU	AR	Y				MA	4R	СН			
Sun	MON	1/8	WEG	THU	PRO	\$e:	Bun	BO1	7,6	1960	THU	PRO	\$N	5,0	WON	346	1940	760	710	EAI	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7				1	2	3	4				1	2	3	4	
8	9	10	11	12	13	14	5	6	℧	8	9	10	11	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	
15	16	17	18	19	20	21	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	
22	23	24	25	26	27	28	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	19	20	23	22	23	24	25	
	20	31					20	27	28					26	27	20	20	20	27		

Recyclable items must be placed LOOSE in a container clearly marked recycle. Bagged recycle WILL NOT be picked up!



PLEASE VOTE! Election Day Tuesday, November 8th

Find your polling place:

https://www.pavoterservices.pa.gov/pages/pollingplaceinfo.aspx

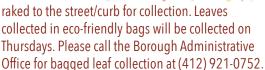
Community Events



The Calendar of events can be viewed on the Borough's website www.craftonborough.com/calendar/

Daily Leaf Collection

Oct. 15 Through Dec. 15, weather permitting. Leaves should be



Shrub and small limb debris pickup runs through Nov. 15 and resumes in the spring on Apr. 15. Call the Borough office to schedule pickups.

