

December Mayor's Report 2020

Season's Greetings!! This is the most unique Holiday Season the World; Country and Our Town has ever experienced. Unlike many other Holidays noted in my Mayors Report, this one will not list many public events, though several smaller events have occurred or been replaced by special ceremonies that embraced these special times but also to help protect everyone. There have never been more unique events and perhaps never will be again. Many have lost their jobs, businesses have closed, etc. Let's focus on the positive. We have learned to become closer to our families, help our businesses and neighbors. A vaccine for COVID-19 is being released and should be widely distributed in months. During these unprecedented times please reach out more than ever to those in need and those impacted. Mount Airy Net, Kiwanis, Lions Clubs, Watering Boyz and many other volunteer groups and civilians are offering so much!!! Special thanks to Jim Knill of Knill's Farm and Mark Messick of Seven Springs Landscaping for their ongoing contributions to our town.

Thanks to your incredible town staff, so much has taken place in town. This has helped me and the very supportive Town Councilmembers Larry Hushour, Jason Poirier, Karl Munder, Pamela Reed, Patty Washabaugh complete many community projects. To help the residents and our businesses we maintain Emergency Response Team calls, Restaurant Calls, and have opened up several projects to support the businesses that support us in so many ways! We will get through this Epidemic!!!!

The Simpson- Baker- Bowlus Park has converted from Palm trees and water fountains, to hay bales and mums, to Christmas Trees and great Lighting! We are also displaying a huge Menorah Candelabra for the first time. Together we are coming together more and more even during historically troubling time. Thanks to you our residents Mount Airy has overcome!!! Another thanks to the special Bank/Park Beautification Team Jim Stargel, Debi Herbstsomer, Tina Swanson and Laureen College!!

Volunteer or the Year - Congratulations to Beverly Blatchford for receiving the 2020 Frank Johnson Volunteer or the Year award for her countless beautification services to the town. She has contributed so much, at no cost, to make our common areas beautiful!!!! Thanks to all our volunteers and commissions members that serve your town. Runner up this year and specially noted, Marc Mignogna. He was #2 for the 3rd time and winner of the Susan Luci Award. JK! But it is the 3rd year of second place. Also, Noting Mary Hushour, Lynne Galletti, Alice Settle-Raskin and Mike Dixon!!

2020 Holiday Ornament – Many thanks to the Beautification Commission for another astounding addition to the Holiday Ornament Collection! The Limited-Edition Town of Mount Airy Caboose are now available. This is the 5th ornament in the “Celebrate Mount Airy” series. Order online at mtairyornaments.com or stop by the Historical Society Museum Saturdays or Sundays from 12:00 – 4:00 PM to purchase one. The cost is \$22, but there are only a few remaining! Also, due to my huge Bank Simpson-Baker- Bowlus Park connection please visit Ben Gue's to get their ornament featuring the Bank. Please note our decorations match!!!

SAVING Our Community Resources- Thank you to the Town Council Members for their strong support to help save the Mount Airy Messenger until normally returns. We will increase advertising that is actually better than social media in many ways and remains available longer and to those not on social media, like our Senior Community. Plus, this comes in your mailbox twice a month. While local papers have disappeared throughout the USA, not here in Mount Airy!!!!

Get Involved – Stay Informed! - Mount Airy Town Council Meetings are held on the first Monday of every month @ 7:30 p.m. at 110 South Main Street. The meetings are also televised live on Channel 23 in Carroll County and all meeting are being broadcasted live on the Town's Facebook page. Please

monitor our website and Facebook page for call in numbers to participate in meetings as well. The latest issues are openly discussed. You can also let us know any concerns or comments you may have.

Volunteer Opportunities - Please visit <http://www.mountairymd.gov/170/commission-vacancies/> for a list of volunteer opportunities on one of our many commissions or task forces. These volunteer commissions are made up of Mount Airy residents who study and advise the Mayor and Town Council on issues related to the commission. Please let me know if you are interested in serving. You may call Town Hall at 301-829-1424 or email me directly at prockinberg@gmail.com.

The Mayor Community Forums -Due to our unique COVID-19 situation a few of these have been held walking the senior community or at the Bank Park and will continue in this unique fashion until we return to normalcy. That said this new approach has been exciting.