

December 2020

OPDC

# OAKLAND TOGETHER

A Newsletter for Older  
Oakland Residents

## In case you haven't heard...

Allegheny County is experiencing the highest rates of COVID-19 infection since the start of the pandemic. To mitigate spread, Governor Wolf has implemented new safety protocols. Effective now through January 4th, Pennsylvania has prohibited indoor gatherings of more than 10 persons and outdoor gatherings of more than 50 persons, suspended indoor dining, gyms, in-person entertainment facilities, and in-person school sports and extracurricular activities, and is requiring indoor businesses to operate at 50% capacity. Stay up to date with the latest COVID updates by visiting [www.health.pa.gov](http://www.health.pa.gov).

## 'Tis the season for chirps and cheers

Looking for a quiet, socially distanced activity for December 26th? The National Audubon Society is conducting the 121st Christmas Bird Count, a citizen science initiative to track changes in bird populations throughout the country. Since Oakland is within a count circle, you can choose to be assigned a route, or count from the comfort of your home. Participants must sign up in advance, so contact **Brian Shema** at [bshema@aswp.org](mailto:bshema@aswp.org) or 412-963-6761 to volunteer. Happy birding!



## Bridges to Career Opportunities

Know someone who is looking for a job? Starting January 2021, OPDC is facilitating a series of no-cost, 8-week job readiness trainings. Participants will learn useful skills such as Microsoft Office, time management, communications, and financial literacy. To learn more or sign up, contact **Alethia Bush** at [abush@opdc.org](mailto:abush@opdc.org) or 412-592-6488, or visit [www.opdc.org/bridgestocareers](http://www.opdc.org/bridgestocareers).

## *We're Zooming!*

OPDC wants to interview you! Your perspectives on life in Oakland can provide vital guidance for the Oakland Plan. Contact OPDC's **Maura McCampbell** at [mmccampbell@opdc.org](mailto:mmccampbell@opdc.org) or 713-444-1592 to set up a Zoom interview.

## ***Making year-end donations? Don't forget OPDC!***

Please consider a year end tax-deductible donation to OPDC. Your support enables us to offer free financial, educational, and homeowner programs to your neighbors in need. Invest in your community today with a donation at [www.opdc.org/donate](http://www.opdc.org/donate) or by mailing a check to 235 Atwood Street, Pittsburgh, PA 15213. Thanks!



Oakland Planning  
and Development  
Corporation  
235 Atwood St  
Pittsburgh, PA 15213

Visit our website for complete information on OPDC's community activities and projects:  
[www.opdc.org](http://www.opdc.org)

## **Operation Santa**

Santa's getting extra on-the-ground help this year. The USPS is publishing letters to Santa online. In addition to reading the heartwarming messages, you can choose to adopt a letter to fulfill a child's wish during a year when many are experiencing hardship. The USPS will provide you with all the information you need to send along an anonymous gift. Visit [www.uspsoperationsanta.com/letters](http://www.uspsoperationsanta.com/letters) to browse through published letters.

## **Sign up for a Snow Angel**

Seeing snow in the weather forecast? It's not too late to sign up for a Snow Angel! Snow Angels are volunteers that help Pittsburgh's 60+ and disabled community members salt and shovel their walkways. Apply for a Snow Angel by visiting [www.pittsburghpa.gov/snowangels](http://www.pittsburghpa.gov/snowangels) or calling the 311 response center.

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## **Dates to know:**

**December 15:** Oakland-Wide Community Meeting

**January 20:** Oakwatch

**January 26:** Oakland-Wide Community Meeting

Zoom information and agendas are posted on our website at [www.opdc.org/events](http://www.opdc.org/events). Contact us at **412-621-7863** or [questions@opdc.org](mailto:questions@opdc.org).