

# OUR COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER

SPRING 2018

## Introducing the Wilkins Township Assistant Manager

**W**e would like to introduce Jim Halfhill to the Wilkins Township community. Jim took on the position as assistant manager on January 2, 2018. He will oversee the day to day operations of public works, code enforcement and building inspections along with assisting township manager, Rebecca Bradley. Jim comes to us from Irwin Borough where he was the superintendent of public works, code enforcement officer, building inspector, deputy planning and zoning officer. Jim is married to Shari "Bauerschmidt" Halfhill a secondary educator and are the proud parents of Jayme Halfhill who resides in Washington D.C. Jim has been involved in many community projects along with donating services to helping Make a Wish. For many years, he coached girls fast-pitch softball at the high school, college and international level along with community programs. As a hobby, he is a guitarist in a classic rock band. You can reach Jim at the Wilkins Township municipal building at extension 22 or e-mail at [jhalfhill@wilkinstownship.com](mailto:jhalfhill@wilkinstownship.com).

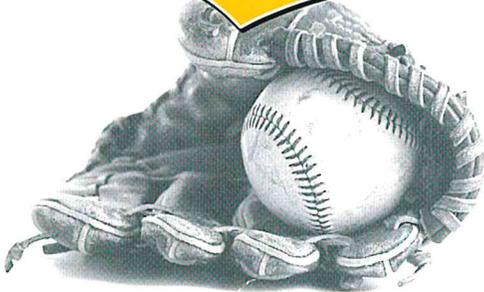
## Wilkins Township Baseball

*Introducing new sponsorship opportunities*

Do you have a business in or around Wilkins Township?

Wilkins Baseball Association will begin featuring outfield fence sign advertising in addition to our team sponsorships for the 2018 season. With several packages to choose from to fit most budgets, visit our website to become a recognized supporter of the youth in our community today!

Visit our website at [www.wilkinsbaseball.com](http://www.wilkinsbaseball.com) for more information including registering a player or becoming a sponsor.



## Batter Up!

**Registration is now open for the 2018 season. Register your son or daughter for baseball.**

**Boys and girls ages 4-12**

**T-ball 8U 10U 12U**

## SUMMER SERIES 2018

### SAVE-THE-DATES

*Township Event — All Are Welcome*

Community Center  
110 Peffer Road | Turtle Creek

### 5K Run/1.5 M Walk

**Saturday, June 23, 2018**

Wilkins Primary School  
362 Churchill Road

Registration begins at 7 a.m.

Race starts at 8 a.m. all ages welcome

### KID FEST

**Saturday, June 23, 2018**

All festivities begin at 3 p.m.

Kid Orientated event. Lots to do!

### Food, Brews and Cruise Night

**Saturday, August 25, 2018**

6-10 p.m.

Food and beer trucks along with our annual car cruise and live music from 7-9 p.m.

Fireworks at 10 p.m.

Admission is free to all events, suggested donation of a canned good or non-perishable item for Turtle Creek foodbank is greatly appreciated. Thank you for your support!





# PUBLIC WORKS NOTES

## Yard Waste Dropoff

For the month of April there will be a Yard Waste drop off container behind the Public Works Garage at the Municipal Building. Residents can bring and dispose of yard waste materials as follows.

### Acceptable Items

- Garden and Plant Debris
- Leaves
- Shrubs
- Tree Limbs Diameter of 4" or less

### Non-Acceptable Items

- Grass Clippings
- Logs
- Whole Trees
- Building Materials of any Type

## Rules & Restrictions

- No Plastic Bags
- Paper Recycling Bags are OK
- Remove Dirt from Root Balls

## Grass Clipping Compost

Again this year there will be a posted area at the Township Leaf Compost Site at Linhart Park where residents can drop off grass clippings and mix with equal parts of leaf compost (A shovel is provided).

Leaf compost is always available to residents and is free of charge.

## Summer Help Wanted

At this time we are accepting applications for seasonal help for this upcoming summer with the Public Works

Department. Eligible candidates would be students who have graduated high school and will be starting college or who are currently attending college.

Duties would include the following:

- Park Maintenance
- Road Maintenance
- Cutting Roadside Weeds and Brush
- Line Painting
- Sewer Maintenance
- Storm Cleanup

Interested Individuals can download an application for employment at

[www.wilkins-township.com](http://www.wilkins-township.com)

↓ DOCUMENTS ↓ FORMS ↓  
WILKINS TOWNSHIP EMPLOYMENT APPLICATION or stop by the office.

# HELP WANTED LABORER

The Township of Wilkins is accepting applications for the position of Laborer in the Department of Public Works. This fulltime position is labor intensive, requiring heavy lifting and walking. The ideal candidate must have a proven work and driving history. Experience in asphalt, concrete, sewer construction, snow removal, carpentry and/or electrical work is preferred. Eligible candidates must be capable of operating a standard shift transmission and possess a valid Pennsylvania Driver's License. As a condition of employment, candidates must have, or obtain within one year, a Class "B" Commercial Driver's License. Graduation from high school or a GED is required. Township residency is required within one year of employment. A physical and drug test will be performed prior to employment. The job description for this position can be viewed on the Township's website, [www.wilkins-township.com](http://www.wilkins-township.com), click on "About Wilkins" and then "Help Wanted."

If you are interested in the position, please complete a Township employment application. The application is available on the Township's website and at the Township Municipal Building, 110 Peffer Road, Turtle Creek, PA 15145. Completed applications along with optional resumes should be mailed to Jim Halfhill, Assistant Township Manager, 110 Peffer Road, Turtle Creek, PA 15145. Applications will be accepted until the position is filled. *Wilkins Township is an equal opportunity employer.*

## WILKINS TOWNSHIP GOES GPS

The Board of Commissioners recently authorized the purchase of GPS tracking devices for all Township vehicles. The purpose of these devices is first to increase the safety of all employees and second to increase employee accountability. Once installed, the devices will not only provide up-to-date location information, but also location history, vehicle acceleration and vehicle idling time. We expect that the devices will be installed by the time this newsletter hits your mailbox and look forward to using this technology to enhance our service to our residents.





## Annual Clean-Up Wilkins Day – April 21

**J**oin us on Saturday, April 21 for our annual Clean-Up Wilkins day. All are welcome to meet us at 9 a.m. at the Community Center for a quick breakfast before we go to various areas of the Township to clean. At noon we will meet back at the Community Center for pizza and prizes.

All three of our fire departments come out to help, as do the Wilkins Elks, and this is a great project for young people who need volunteer or project hours. Gloves, safety vests, water and bags will be provided.

Please consider joining us as we have a fun time keeping Wilkins Township streets beautiful!

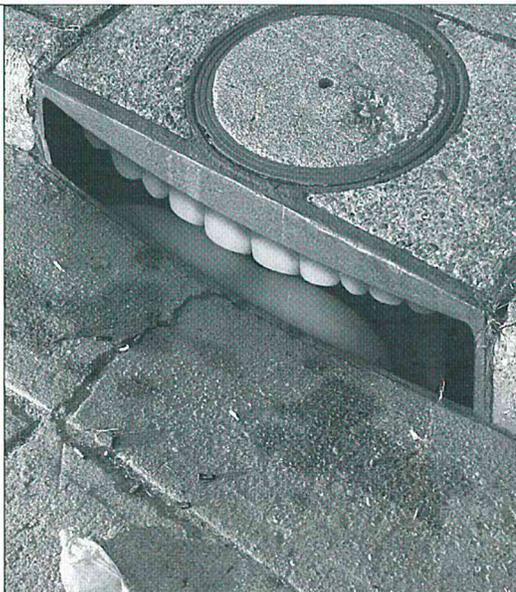


## What we feed into our storm drains can poison our rivers.

When the rain falls and the snow melts, a flood of water runs off our roofs, roads and yards and down into our streets. Everything the water touches is swept down those streets and fed directly into our storm drains. And then flows out into our rivers—the major source of our drinking water.

Trash. Paint. Oil. Fertilizers. Animal waste. Anything in the path of the storm water can find its way to our rivers through our storm drains.

But there is something we can do about it. In fact,



a lot of dedicated people and municipalities are working on it right now. You can help too.

Use environmentally friendly lawn and garden products. Properly dispose of oil, paints and other household chemicals. And please, don't litter the street or the landscape.

To find out more, visit our website. And discover how to keep our rivers from going down the drain.



Clean water starts in our own backyard. Go to [3riverswetweather.org](http://3riverswetweather.org) for a free guide on how you can help.



WILKINS TOWNSHIP

## Summer Lunch Program



### Where

Linhart Park – James Street  
Lions Park – Miller Street  
Eastmont Park – Frazier Drive

### When

**June 11 – August 17**

Monday – Friday  
9 a.m. – 1 p.m.

### Who

**All Wilkins Township Children (up to age 18)**

Come join the fun at one of the Township's three parks this summer!

Every summer, the Township sponsors a summer program at our three community parks. Children will be supervised by a Township employee and will have an opportunity to play and make crafts each day. Lunch is provided each day of the twelve week program at no cost. The lunch program is sponsored by the Allegheny County Department of Human Services/Offices of Community Service.





# WILKINS TOWNSHIP FIRE RESCUE COMPANY

## NEWS AND HAPPENINGS

### #1 Volunteer Fire Company

While the cold of this winter has provided us with some challenges, Wilkins 1 finished last year with an all-time record high of 333 calls. In December we placed 302 Rescue into service. This unit is a dedicated rescue pumper and will take some of the stress off of 302 Engine. All of our active regular members are certified in basic vehicle rescue and capable of performing rescue duties. December also brought us our annual escort of Santa through our fire district.

Our annual fund drive has been out for about a month now. If you have not taken a minute to send in your donation please do so. Your donations help keep us here for you! Your support is critical to our survival.

Wilkins 1 has been fortunate to welcome several new members this winter. We have drills the 2nd, 3rd, and 4th Thursday of the month at 7 p.m. Feel free to stop down and see us if you have any interest in volunteering.

Wilkins 1 along with Wilkins 3 and 4, Churchill, Chalfant, and Forest Hills have all applied for a regional FEMA grant this year. If awarded this grant, the five departments will purchase new Self Contained Breathing Apparatus (SCBA). It will be known mid-year if we were successful. We were the recipient of a \$13,500 grant from the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania for 2017. This grant will buy equipment needed to complete the rescue truck. Once this is done, we will have the truck certified by the PA Department of Health for vehicle rescue. In addition to the regional grant, we are seeking a FEMA micro grant for 2018 in the hopes of replacing turn out gear for our interior firefighters.

We continue to progress as a department and have strengthened our relationships within the department and throughout the Turtle Creek valley.

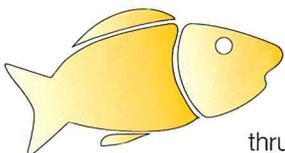


### # 3 Volunteer Fire Company

Our company responded to 228 calls in our Township and the surrounding communities. Some were structure fires, flooding, carbon monoxide, auto accidents, evacuations of buildings and many other emergencies.

Visit our website for more information at <http://wilkinstwp303.com/>

#### Mark your calendars!



Lenten Fish fry starts on Friday, February 16 and every Friday thru March 30

Don't forget when you are out shoveling snow help us out in case of an emergency and clean the snow around the fire hydrants that may be on or near your property.

#### Just a reminder!

United Way Contributions can be directed to YOUR Fire Company just click on to <http://www.unitedwaypittsburgh.org/>. Our agency code is 2613



#### Contribution Statistics

**We desperately need your HELP Look at these dwindling statistics!**

**178 out of 1,037 of our residents sent in donations this is only 29 percent!**

<b>2017</b> 178 homes	<b>2012</b> 220 homes
<b>2016</b> 245 homes	<b>2011</b> 320 homes
<b>2015</b> 263 homes	<b>2010</b> 278 homes
<b>2014</b> 275 homes	<b>2009</b> 329 homes
<b>2013</b> 294 homes	<b>2008</b> 346 homes

The number of households contributing continues to dwindle. Please contribute whatever amount you can to ensure fire protection in your community. *If all the residents would just pitch in a little we can increase the number of homes donating!*

We would like to thank all of our friends and neighbors who supported us in 2017 and look to your continued support.

New members especially Firefighters are ALWAYS welcome!

#### Banquet Hall Now Available for Rentals

We welcome Mascaro's Catering, our new in-house caterer and banquet room manager for all rented events. Mascaro's catering offers a wide variety of reasonably priced menu's for your selection. Please call June Miller at **412-795-7040** for hall availability or to schedule a appointment.

## #4 Volunteer Fire Company

### 2017 Busiest Year Ever for Calls

January 2018 has proven to be a very high call month also. We are not sure if this is how the year will go forward!

The three fire companies have been involved with the Township in strategic planning that involves the future of the fire department and what we can do in order to serve our residents and businesses better. As we have said in the past, we always need more members and we are trying to figure out the best way to do that while providing the best fire service possible.

In the fall of 2017, our members participated in the annual Home Depot Safety Day and the Safety Day at Shop-N-Save. The kids always love the trucks. We also had trucks out on Halloween night for Trick-or-Treat in order to promote the safety of our children.

Winter reminder: please keep fire hydrants by your house free of snow and accessible for our use and your protection.

Always remember to keep the batteries in your smoke and carbon monoxide detectors current by replacing them at least once a year.

Don't forget, please support your fire department, through our fund drives or, if possible, please join as a member. We can always use the help. We pay for all gear, education, and training expenses.

The Allegheny County Fire Volunteer Education, Service & Training Scholarship Program (FireVEST) provides full scholarships for an associate's degree or certificate program at Community College of Allegheny County (CCAC), as well as training at the Allegheny County Fire Academy for our members who meet certain requirements and a commitment of five years of service. We will be happy to provide more information once you join our membership.

Phone: 412-823-2322

## Annual Spaghetti Dinner

**Sunday, April 15, 2018 | 2 p.m.**

We are proud to announce that the Century Club of Wilkins Township will host their annual spaghetti dinner on **Sunday, April 15 at 2 p.m.** at the Community Center. **Tickets are \$7** and can be bought at the door or from a Century Club member. We will also be selling delicious homemade baked goods and raffling off a beautiful basket.

All proceeds go to our local charities which include our fire departments, Meals for Friends, the Food Bank and many more.

If you have never tried our spaghetti, you are missing out on great Italian fare. Come join your neighbors or take out a delicious meal.



## Century Club Hat Crafters

Some members of the Century Club have been diligently crocheting and using looms to create beautiful warm hats for the chemo patients at the Hillman Cancer Center. The Hillman Cancer Center and its satellite offices sees 500-800 patients per day. The local chemo centers receive 25 to 75 people daily. Patients especially love any hat that is black and gold similar to the Steeler colors. The sizes range from infants to large.

The women have been looming since August of 2017 and we are preparing to donate these colorful head warmers in March. We have 170 hats to donate and I would love to bring them 200 hats. If you would like to donate crocheted or knitted hats toward this cause, feel free to contact Michelle Criner at **412-996-2787** to make arrangements.





## HERE'S WHAT'S HAPPENING

### Call for Artists!

CC Mellor will be hosting its biannual art auction to benefit children's programming this April. The theme for the year is Circles! Any and all types of artwork are welcome. Artwork will be due by March 31, 2018. Please visit our website for more information [www.ccmellorlibrary.org](http://www.ccmellorlibrary.org).

### Annual Booksale

Our annual booksale will be held Saturday, March 17 – Tuesday March 21. This is our biggest fundraiser of the year with thousands and thousands of books for you to purchase for just one or two dollars apiece.

### Our Forest Hills location has moved!

CCM | Forest Hills has a new home in the new Forest Hills municipal building at 4400 Greensburg Pike, right across the street from Wilkins Township. We are thrilled to offer a new location so close to our Wilkins Township patrons! The lovely space, so generously provided by the borough, is outfitted with brand new furniture, public access computers, and has increased staffing to better meet the needs of our patrons. Please come visit us!

### Interested in supporting the new CCM | Forest Hills location?

There are several ways you can help:

- Purchase a tote bag or mug with artwork from local artist David Wallace. These are available at the new library location, or on our website.
- Sponsor a piece of furniture – we still have a few wish list items left – e-mail [piercee@einetnetwork.net](mailto:piercee@einetnetwork.net).
- Make a direct monetary donation. This can happen at our website at [ccmellorlibrary.org](http://ccmellorlibrary.org).

### Here are some of the programs offered at our new location

#### Forest Hill Library Story Hour

Mondays at 10:30 a.m.

#### Maker's Corner

Open house for families to come work on projects together! First Saturday of each month at 10:30 a.m.

**4th Tuesday Book Club** meets each month at the Forest Hills Library at 1 p.m. and will be discussing:

#### Tuesday, February 27

*A Man Called Ove* by Fredrik Backman

#### Tuesday, March 27

*West with the Night* by Beryl Markham

#### Tuesday, April 24

*Lincoln in the Bardo* by George Saunders

#### Tuesday, May 22

*Grandma Gatewood's Walk* by Ben Montgomery

**Intergenerational Craft Night** at Forest Hills meets on the first Tuesday of each month from 6-7 p.m. Craftspeople of all ages are invited to drop by with a favorite hand-work project for crafting and company. Work could include knitting, crochet, or anything else portable that you'd like to bring. Crafting books will be available to learn more. All skill levels are welcome.

And of course, be sure to check our whole list of programs offered at our Edgewood location on our website at [ccmellorlibrary.org](http://ccmellorlibrary.org).

#### Gadget Workshop

Forest Hills Library will be equipped with Wifi and offer public computers. If you have a digital wireless device that you would like to learn more about, join us for a Gadget Workshop on Friday, April 13 from 10:30-11:30 a.m. Bring your device and your questions!

# 2018 RECYCLING CALENDAR

HOLIDAYS OBSERVED: NEW YEAR'S DAY; MEMORIAL DAY; JULY 4; LABOR DAY; THANKSGIVING and CHRISTMAS

PICK UP WILL BE DELAYED ONE DAY AS A RESULT OF THESE HOLIDAYS



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April							May							June						
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July							August							September						
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October							November							December						
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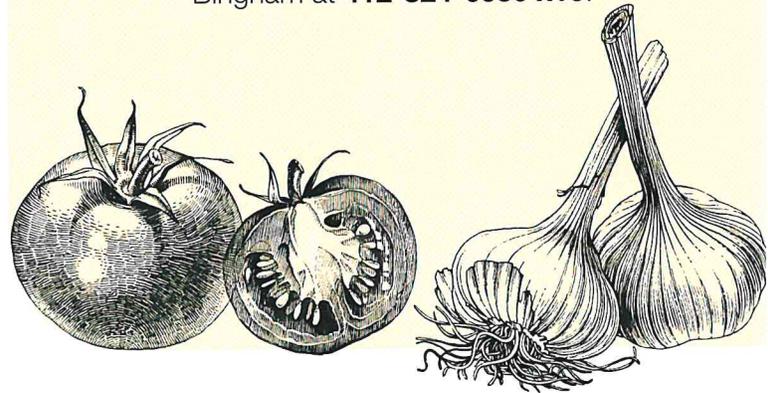
# FARMER'S MARKET



## Volunteers Needed

Wilkins Township is seeking volunteers to help with the continuing development of our Farmers Market.

Residents interested in assisting with organizational work, staffing the market, or any other tasks should contact Rebecca Bradley or Dawn Bingham at **412-824-6650 x10**.



## MEALS FOR FRIENDS is Looking for a Few Good People

If you have two hours a week you don't know what to do with, Meals for Friends has an idea. We could use your help serving the senior or disabled members of our community by preparing or delivering freshly made meals to people in Wilkins Township or surrounding neighborhoods. Our kitchen's volunteers cook and package meals and our drivers personally deliver them to our clients' homes. Monday, Wednesday and Friday are our days of operation.

Meals for Friends has limited openings for anyone interested in receiving meals.

If interested in volunteering for Meals for Friends, or receiving meals, please call **412-824-2400**, or e-mail [mealsforfriendswilkins3@gmail.com](mailto:mealsforfriendswilkins3@gmail.com).

# WILKINS TOWNSHIP

ESTABLISHED 1821

PRSRT STD  
US POSTAGE PAID  
Pittsburgh, PA  
PERMIT NO. 5046

Wilkins Township  
Recreation Advisory Board  
110 Peffer Road  
Turtle Creek, PA 15145

Joy Voeltzel, President  
Melissa Brinza, Vice President  
Janice McMahan, Secretary  
Alyce Katsur, Treasurer  
Beth Humberston  
Jessica Reed  
Simone Tanz  
Richard Voeltzel

Check out our website at:  
[www.wilkins township.com](http://www.wilkins township.com)

Peter Cottontail will be visiting the children of Wilkins Township. He plans on hopping in on **Saturday, March 31 at 2 p.m.** at the Community Center for a Painting Party! Show off your talent by painting a picture with Peter Cottontail. All supplies are included and light refreshments will be served. Some other activities are also planned. Please mark your calendars and be ready to have a good time! The event is free to all residents' children **12 and under**. See you there!

### PARENTS BRING YOUR CAMERAS

### THERE WILL BE NO REGISTRATION FORMS ACCEPTED AFTER THE DEADLINE. PLEASE INCLUDE PHONE NUMBER FOR CANCELLATION.

Only two adults per family may attend due to capacity of building. If you have any questions please feel free to call Joy Voeltzel of the Recreation Advisory Board at **412-824-4523** or via e-mail at [joyvoeltzel@yahoo.com](mailto:joyvoeltzel@yahoo.com). Doors open at 2 p.m. – *Sorry, no early entry.*

## PAINTING WITH THE BUNNY!



**Please return this reservation form by  
Saturday, March 16, 2018 to:**

Recreation Advisory Board  
110 Peffer Road, Turtle Creek, PA 15145

Family Name \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Child's Name/Age/M or F \_\_\_\_\_

Child's Name/Age/M or F \_\_\_\_\_

Child's Name/Age/M or F \_\_\_\_\_

Adults 12 and over attending \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail address \_\_\_\_\_