

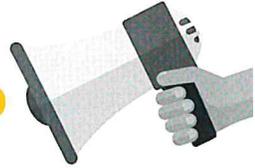


OUR COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER

FALL 2020



WHAT'S HAPPENING IN OUR TOWNSHIP



We are Here if You Need Us

To my friends and neighbors,

The Covid Pandemic has been a shock to each and every one of us. Staying home, wearing masks, continually cleaning everything we touch has been a monumental task for us all.

I am proud to say that Wilkins Township is still doing well. For that, we can thank our staff as led by our tireless manager, Rebecca Vargo. The Township offices are open for business daily but we ask that you wear a mask when entering the building. The phone lines are always answered.

Our Public Works Department has been able to continue their planned work schedule with few interruptions.

The Police Department is nothing short of awesome, answering calls, patrolling the streets and showing up on scene whenever needed.

We are very fortunate to have such dedicated employees.

If we can be of any service to you, please do not hesitate to call.

On behalf of the commissioners, thank you for your continued support.

Sylvia Martinelli, *President*
Board of Commissioners

Wilkins Township 2021 Budget Meetings

The Wilkins Township Board of Commissioners shall meet virtually at 6 p.m. on September 28, 2020 and 6:30 p.m. on October 26, 2020, November 9, 2020 and December 12, 2020 for the purpose of discussing and preparing the 2021 Township Budget. The link to the video of the budget meeting of September 28, 2020 will be on the Township's website. Links for the remaining budget meetings will be posted on the bulletin board of the Wilkins Township website prior to the date of the budget meeting: www.wilkinstownship.com.

Permits Required

Please remember that permits are required for any pools, sheds, fences and decks before they are installed or erected as detailed in Township Ordinance #542, §173-68. This includes any alterations, enlargements or reconstruction to any of these structures that may already exist. There has been a large increase in the amount of pool and deck applications the Township has received this year but not all residents are submitting the applications or receiving the permits for these structures before installing or erecting them. Applications for these permits can be found on our website, www.wilkinstownship.com under the "Documents" then "Forms" tabs. For specific requirements regarding these permits, please visit our website and view ECODE under the "Government" tab where all of Wilkins' Ordinances are located. Section 173 pertains to all Zoning Ordinances and requirements.

An American Hero

William Moore, a longtime resident of Wilkins Township, passed away on August 18, 2020. Many residents may remember Mr. Moore as the gentleman who annually spoke at the Memorial Day observance at the Churchill Cemetery. Bill Moore was a Marine and a veteran of the Korean War. During his military career, he was awarded the Silver Star and four Purple Hearts. Mr. Moore served his Country in the battle of the Chosin Reservoir – a survivor amongst an estimated 18,000 casualties. Mr. Moore authored the book "Dress Blues" in 2010. The book details the careers of five new enlistees into the Marines and their subsequent journey to the Chosin Reservoir. Bill is survived by his wife Deborah, daughters Gloria (Jim) Urban, Althy Moore, Margie Norris, Kimberly Dove and Kerri (Randy) Branch, nine grandchildren and eight great grandchildren. Thank you for your service, may you rest in peace.



**will be held Saturday, October 31
from 5–7 p.m.**

PUBLIC WORKS NOTES

Yard Waste Drop-off

During the month of October 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

Leaf Collection

The 2020 Leaf Collection Program is scheduled to begin on October 26. A complete schedule is included in this newsletter. So that we may stay on schedule we ask that residents place leaves out the day prior to your scheduled pick up day and place the leaves in rows along the curb line of the street and not large piles. Please remove branches, sticks, grass and animal waste from leaves because they clog the machines and cause down time for the workers.

Linhart Park Compost Site

The Compost Facility is maintained by the township and is located behind the ball field at Linhart Park. There is a large pile of composted leaves from last year which is very nice material and is available free

of charge. Please note that this is limited to residents' use at their homes only and is not available to contractors and landscapers for commercial use or resale.

Grass Clipping Composting

There is a posted area at the Township Leaf Compost Site at Linhart Park that residents can drop off grass clippings and mix with equal parts of leaf compost (A shovel is provided). We would also ask that residents who do not bag their grass please do not blow the grass onto the street. This helps us keep our streets and catch basins clean and keeps unwanted pollutants out of our streams and rivers.

Sewer Cleaning and Inspection

Although the bulk of the sewer cleaning and video inspecting is finished, township workers will be around doing maintenance, follow up inspections and repairs as needed. Workers do carry identification and are required to show it if asked. During the course of the sewer work we are still finding manholes in yards that have been covered over by property owners. This practice is not permitted. You should be aware that when these are found they will be uncovered and/or raised to the existing grade. Should someone want to enter your home using the pretext of working for the Township, you should notify 911 immediately.

We are finding a number of sanitary sewer problems due to the use of sanitary wipes. These products do not break down in the sewer system and they can and do cause blockages and backups in your sewer lines, the township main lines as well as the wastewater treatment plant. Please dispose of these items in a waste can and do not flush in the toilet.

Snow Removal

Winter will be upon us soon and there are some things that residents can do to help during snow storms: Yield to salt and plow trucks especially on hills. If you come upon a truck starting up or down a steep hill, wait and let it pass. Please refrain from parking in Cul-de-sacs. Do not park vehicles on sides of streets that are posted "No Parking," it makes maneuvering our trucks extremely difficult. Please maintain trees and bushes that overhang onto the street. This will help us to plow your street safely and doesn't do damage to the plow truck. If you have free standing basketball hoops that are either on or hanging over the street please move them back off the street. Remember we are here to make your streets safe.

Right of Ways

The department will be clearing tree branches, brush and other vegetation along the sides of township roads throughout the fall and winter months. This is done to prevent damage to vehicles as well as making safe walking lanes for pedestrians along our roadways.

Rats

If residents see any rats on or near their property please call **412-824-6650 x18**, so our licensed pest applicator can inspect the property. If rats are present he will then bait the property once he receives a signed consent form from the property owner. Please be sure to keep property clean of pet waste and refrain from using bird feeders, both of these items attract rats.

2020 WILKINS TOWNSHIP LEAF COLLECTION SCHEDULE

NOTE: LEAVES MUST BE PLACED IN STREET ALONG CURB. CREWS WILL NOT PICK UP BAGGED LEAVES OR ENTER YARDS.

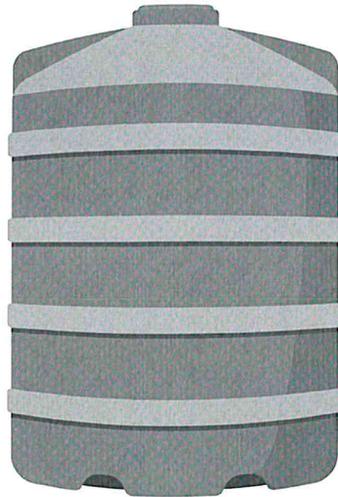
RAIN BARRELS

Rain barrels are custom designed to work day in and day out to keep rainwater out of storm drains and sewers. Connected to your home's downspout, the rain barrel collects stormwater during each rainfall. Residential rain barrels come in a variety of colors, shapes and materials and range in size from a 30-gallon capacity up to about 150 gallons. What size and how many a homeowner may need to adequately capture rainfall depends on the size of the home's roof size and the average rainfall in your geographic area.

In southwestern Pennsylvania, an average rainfall is one-quarter inch, while the average roof size is about 1,000 square feet. That equates to about 150 gallons of stormwater flowing from the rooftop during each rainfall.

Over a year – our region averages about 37.5 inches of rainfall annually – that total accumulates to about 22,500 gallons of stormwater.

Rain barrels are a practical, low-cost, lot-level solution for helping to control stormwater, which can cause sewage overflows and pollution of our rivers and streams. During dry weather, a hose connected to the barrel allows the high quality rainwater, devoid of minerals, chlorine and other chemicals, to seep out to water your garden and replenish the groundwater table. Rain barrels can help to direct stormwater away from the foundation of your home and reduce your water and sewer bills.



Rain Barrels are secure and safe. Many barrels are constructed of UV-stabilized Low Density Polyethylene (LDPE) to prevent warping, fading or cracks. The barrels are generally designed to retain leaves, twigs and roofing materials without clogging the barrel, while also being mosquito-safe.

Generally, rain barrels require maintenance by the homeowner to drain after each rain event to assure there is capacity for the next rainfall. Rain barrels should be disconnected during winter months to prevent freezing.

Mon., Oct. 26, Nov. 9 & 23

Lucia Drive
Elizabeth Street
Greensburg Pike
Dowling Avenue
Miller Street
Alpine Boulevard
Briaridge Drive
Tynewood Drive
Larchwood Drive
Leax Lane

Tues., Oct. 27, Nov. 10 & 24

Highland Avenue
Clugston Avenue
Negley Avenue
Ayers Alley
Semmens Street
Rebecca Street
Thompson Street
McMasters Avenue
Dorothy Street
John Street
Peter Street
Crestview Drive
Quarry Street
Grandview Avenue

Wed., Oct. 28, Nov. 11 & 25

Penhurst Drive
Braddsley Drive
Harwick Drive
Radcliff Drive
Heritage Drive
George Lane
Thomas Lane
Harrison Road
Grayhurst Drive
Patterson Street
Baker Street
Barnes Street
George Street
James Street
Railroad Street

Thurs., Oct. 29, Nov. 12,

Mon., Nov. 30,

Dunbar Drive
Delaney Drive
Gilmore Drive
Hart Drive
Queenston Drive
Kingston Drive
Frazier Drive
Charnwood Drive
Elwood Drive
Old Wm. Penn Highway
Ridgecrest Drive
Princeton Drive

Mon., Nov. 2 & 16, Tues., Dec. 1

Roland Road
Stevendale Drive
Rita Drive
Nanette Drive
Lilly Lane
Brown Avenue
Lucinda Drive
Moss Street
Tongalucas Street
Ivy Street
Wilbur Avenue

Tues., Nov. 3 & 17, Wed., Dec. 2

Saw Mill Run
Mortimer Avenue
Spur Road
Beaver Street
Montgomery Street
Beech Street
Washington Avenue
Hazel Street
Cline Street
Wallace Avenue
Ridge Street
Powell Street

Wed., Nov. 4 & 18, Thurs., Dec. 3

Peffer Road
Gardenia Drive
Hibiscus Drive
Curry Court
Curry Avenue
Farnsworth Avenue
Larimer Avenue
Leneake Street
Linhart Street
Churchill Lane
Orchard Street
Coal Street
Meadow Street
Churchill Road
Pine Tree Drive
Vineseian Place

Thurs., Nov. 5 & 19, Fri., Dec. 4

Hawthorne Drive
Thorncrest Drive
Calmont Drive
Laurel Drive
Orion Drive
Jefferson Heights Road
Sunset Drive
Lougeay Road
Sylvia Lane
Old Northern Pike
Gilchrest Drive
Ridgewood Drive



MEALS FOR FRIENDS IS NOW ACCEPTING NEW CLIENTS

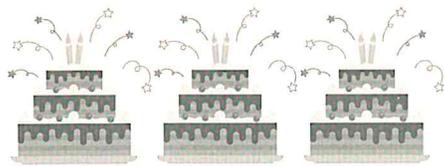
Meals for Friends now has limited openings for new clients.

Meals for Friends prepares and delivers delicious, appealing comfort food to senior and disabled citizens who live in Wilkins Township, Churchill, Forest Hills, Chalfant, most of Penn Hills and part of Turtle Creek.

Meals for Friends is a non-profit, 501c3 organization that is primarily volunteer run. This independent, community managed program operates out of Emmanuel Lutheran Church in Eastmont.

Meals are freshly prepared on site each day of service.

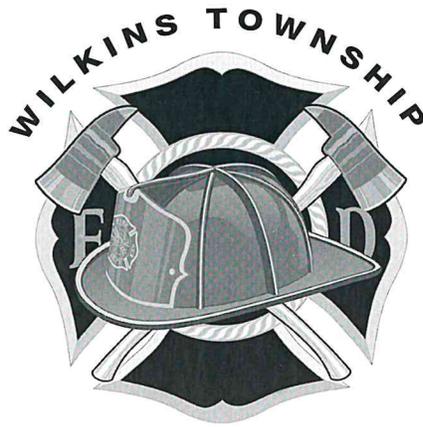
For more information, call **412-824-2400** or e-mail **mealsforfriendswilkins3@gmail.com**.



Wilkins Township Bicentennial

The Bicentennial Committee is actively seeking relevant photos of the township, old posters, programs, or any other materials that can be displayed during our bicentennial celebration in 2021. If you or someone you know is in possession of any items that you are willing to donate to the township, please feel free to drop them off at the municipal building or call **412-824-6650** for more information.

We are also looking for individuals who may have a long history with the township who are willing to share their memories with us.



FIRE RESCUE NEWS

VFC #1

Covid-19

We hope you and your family are safe and doing well during this unique and sometimes challenging time we are experiencing. While this coronavirus has altered some of our normal everyday activities, and even eliminated a few, it has not impacted the preparedness of your fire and rescue company to respond to emergencies. Months ago, when the potential issues Covid-19 would present became evident, we developed and implemented a multi-level coronavirus mitigation response plan. Practices and procedures were initiated to protect the health of not only our members, but also those in the community we engaged during a response. We are happy to report these practices have been successful.

Merger of VFC #1 and #4

The legal merger of the two companies has been completed reducing the number of community based stations within the township from three to two. The remaining two companies have reviewed and adjusted operational requirements and situational responses as dictated by this change. Wilkins Township VFC #4 (Eastmont) provided over 65 years of high quality fire and rescue service to the township and all our residents owe those who served a debt of gratitude.

CPR and First Aid Classes

Do you belong to a group interested in obtaining professional CPR and first aid training? Our certified trainers can work with you to arrange a class. Please e-mail us at **CPR@wilkins302.com** indicating your interest and we will get in touch with you to schedule a class.

Help Us and Yourself this Winter

Help us by maintaining four feet of clearance around fire hydrants that are on or near your property by removing snow or anything else that might obstruct our access. Also make sure your house number is clearly visible from the street so we can easily and quickly locate your residence. Help yourself by having your heating system cleaned and inspected prior to startup. This could avoid carbon monoxide and gas leak incidents. Also remember to change the batteries in your smoke detectors and carbon monoxide detectors when you turn the clocks back this fall.

Fund Drive

Your much appreciated donations have helped us purchase needed equipment and provide training and protective equipment to our volunteers. Thank you so much for your generosity. You still have time to submit your tax deductible donation before the end of the year. If you have misplaced the mailing we sent you simply send your donation to Wilkins Township VFC #1, PO Box 150, Turtle Creek, PA., 15145 and your donation will be properly credited. Thank you again for your support.

VFC #3

Wilkins Township VFC #3 has recently gone through some changes with our fire fighting apparatus. Our 1980 Mack service truck was recently donated to the Dominican Republic. This closes a 40-year-old chapter with our fire department. We had a lot of great memories with the Old Mack Truck. The Mack will have a new life serving fire fighters in a country less fortunate than we are. We have also acquired Engine 304 from the merger/closing of the Eastmont #4 fire station. We welcome this full-size work horse into our line up at #3 station. It has been put into service as Engine 303. Engine 303 will enhance our abilities to serve Wilkins Township and the neighboring communities.

October 4 – 10 is Fire Safety Week

Practice fire exit drills, know two ways OUT (once out STAY out. Check for tripping hazards, check extension cords for cuts and fraying. Make sure your house number is visible so that emergency personnel can see it easily.



Stop by the fire house and check out the trucks and equipment.

HOPEFULLY, we will hold our annual hoagie sale November 5. See any Wilkins #3 fireman to place your order.

Sad News

Our banquet hall is currently **NOT** available for rentals. We are seeking a caterer that will manage the hall for us. Anyone interested please notify us.

Just a Reminder!

Don't forget! Daylight Savings ends November 1. Replace the batteries in your smoke detector when you turn your clocks back one hour.



United Way Contributions

Contributions can be directed to YOUR Fire Company just click on

to <http://www.unitedwaypittsburgh.org/>. Our agency code is 2613.

Thank you to those who already turned in your 2020 donation to your Fire Company and a reminder to those who still need to do so. We also understand that times are tough so please donate what you can afford.

Contribution Statistics

206 out of 1,038 of our residents sent in donations this is **only** 19.9%

2020	206 homes	2013	294 homes
2019	230 homes	2012	220 homes
2018	240 homes	2011	320 homes
2017	208 homes	2010	278 homes
2016	250 homes	2009	329 homes
2015	263 homes	2008	346 homes
2014	275 homes		

We desperately need your help!

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 in 2019 and look for your continued support in 2020.

We are in the **EXTREME** need of Firefighters. Can you help? Volunteer Today!

Please consider joining the fire department as a firefighter! We pay all expenses including gear and training. **Remember Wilkins Township is 100% Volunteer!** Check out our website <http://wilkinstownship303.com/>.

Do You Shop Online?


You shop. Amazon gives.

Amazon gives back to our Fire Company. Amazon donates 0.5% of the price of your eligible AmazonSmile

purchases to the charitable organization of your choice. AmazonSmile is the same Amazon you know. Same products, same prices, same service. Support your Wilkins Township Station #303 by starting your shopping at smile.amazon.com



C . C . M E L L O R MEMORIAL LIBRARY



Century Club

As we have all seen a new way in the world, and so it is the same for our club. We are following all guidelines for our meetings and have a few new projects to introduce. We will begin collecting eyeglasses for the Greater Pittsburgh Blind and Vision Association. There will be a drop-off bag in the municipal building for that purpose. Our Spaghetti Dinner will now take place in November. If things work out, we will have seating inside as well as take out dinners. Tickets will be available at the municipal building on Election Day or see one of the members. We will continue to support our local fire companies, school nurse, food pantry, and spring clean up in the township. My project this term is women's breast cancer awareness. There is also a group who make hats for the women. It seems like we all know a friend or relative or even ourselves who have been struck with a diagnosis.

If you would like to come to our meeting, please come on the second Tuesday of each month at 7 p.m. Each month we will have either a speaker or a project for members and guests. That is how I joined!

CCM Edgewood is now open to the public for limited hours
12-6 p.m., Monday-Saturday.

A dedicated browsing hour for seniors and high-risk individuals is
11 a.m.-12 p.m. on Wednesdays.

CCM Forest Hills remains limited to curbside pickup. It will not reopen to the public until approved by the Forest Hills Borough.

The safety and health of our patrons and staff is our priority. Thank you for your support, patience and flexibility while we transition into this new model of library service. We are excited to welcome you back to the library!

Curbside pickup is available at both locations, even while the building is open. We strongly encourage library patrons to take advantage of curbside pickup to reduce in-library traffic. To schedule a curbside pickup, call CCM Edgewood or CCM Forest Hills. Holds placed through the online catalog are eligible for curbside pickup!

Library items can be returned to the book drops at both CCM Edgewood and CCM Forest Hills at any time. Returned books will not be checked in for at least 72 hours while they are quarantined in the library.

While the building is open, patrons may use the public computers at CCM Edgewood. Computer sessions are limited to one hour per person per day. No appointment required.

Please monitor the library's social media channels and website for updates. Contact the library directly at **412-731-0909** or **ccmellor@einetwork.net**, with any additional questions regarding reopening, curbside pickup, returning books, and more.



Wilkins Residents...Savvy Citizen® is now available!

Wilkins Township would like to introduce Savvy Citizen. Savvy Citizen is a free notification system for Apple and Android users that will enable the township to send information about important township news and events directly to residents' mobile devices. Residents may access Savvy Citizen by downloading the smartphone app or visiting the website below.



For more info:
SavvyCitizenApp.com

Register and become a savvy citizen!

THE CHURCHILL AREA ENVIRONMENTAL COUNCIL

Chalfant • Churchill • Forest Hills • Wilkins

The Churchill Area Environmental Council's Environmental Award Application Form is now available on our website www.wilkinstownship.com.

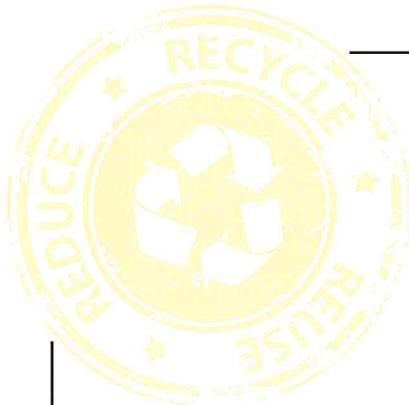
Eligibility: Any high school senior in the Woodland Hills School District who has completed a project that makes an active contribution to environmental conservation, education, legislation, or research within the school district or the communities it serves. The Project can be carried out during any high school year, but the award will be made during the winning applicant's senior year. Community projects might include park upgrades, tree identification labeling, trail maps/guides, erosion

controls, stream monitoring, native species plantings, invasive species control, and energy conservation. School projects might involve new recycling measures, energy use reduction, biodiversity and habitat improvement on school grounds, and environmental messaging (e.g. videos, public service announcements and/or commercials, yearbook cartoons, and poster displays). These are only a few suggestions; original ideas are strongly encouraged. We are looking for applicants who have played a significant role in an actual project

Note: An essay or review paper on an environmental issue does NOT meet the criteria for this award.



2021 RECYCLING CALENDAR



HOLIDAYS OBSERVED:

NEW YEAR'S DAY;
MEMORIAL DAY;
JULY 4; LABOR DAY;
THANKSGIVING &
CHRISTMAS

TRASH AND RECYCLING
PICK UP WILL BE
DELAYED ONE DAY
AS A RESULT OF
THE ABOVE HOLIDAYS
IF THE HOLIDAY FALLS
MONDAY-THURSDAY

JANUARY

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SEPTEMBER

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OCTOBER

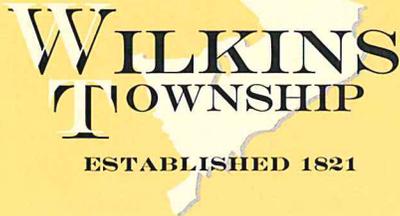
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DECEMBER

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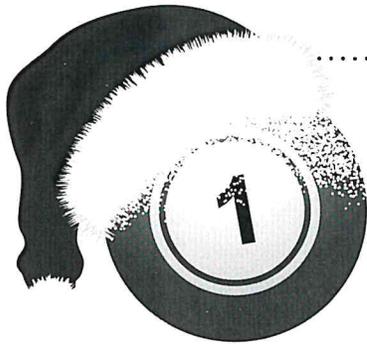


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**Wilkins Township
Recreation Advisory Board**
110 Peffer Road
Turtle Creek, PA 15145

Joy Voeltzel, *President*
Simone Tanz, *Vice President*
Jan McMahon, *Secretary*
Beth Humberston, *Treasurer*
Alyce Katsur
Melissa Brinza
Rich Voeltzel

Check out our website at:
www.wilkins township.com



Bingo with Santa via Zoom

This year's annual Christmas party will look a little different. The Recreation Board invites all resident children ages 10 and under to join Santa for online bingo on **Saturday, December 5 from 11 a.m. to noon** via Zoom. Prizes will be mailed to the address provided. After bingo one of Santa's elves will read *The Night Before Christmas*. Make sure you have your snacks ready and parents, please be on hand to help younger children.

Please complete this registration form and **return it by November 27, 2020** to:

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

The Zoom link and two bingo cards per child will be e-mailed to the provided e-mail address. The Zoom link will also be available at **www.wilkins township.com** as we get closer to the date. Please provide your phone number in the event that we need to contact you. If you have any questions please feel free to contact Joy Voeltzel at **412-758-3149** or **joyvoeltzel@yahoo.com**

To receive the Township planned events via e-mail, please include your e-mail address.

Family Name

Address

Phone Number

E-mail Address

Child's Name and Age

Child's Name and Age

Child's Name and Age

Child's Name and Age