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OUR
COMMUNITY
NEWSLETTER
SPRING ISSUE 2016



WILKINS TOWNSHIP SUMMER EVENT SERIES

The Wilkins Township Board of Commissioners in cooperation with the Wilkins Township Recreation Advisory Board is pleased to present the Wilkins Township Summer Event Series!

This summer, instead of having one multiple-day festival, the Recreation Board will host three separate community events at the Municipal Building Complex on Peffer Road.

Preliminary plans for the Wilkins Township Summer Event Series include:

Saturday, June 25, 2016

5K Run/Walk – the course is still being mapped and will definitely be as challenging as previous years, but will include Churchill Road instead of Penn Center Boulevard; **Touch-A-Truck** – an event for children, parents and grandparents who want to climb into, touch, push and pull the buttons and levers on police cars, fire trucks and dump trucks; **Bicycle Safety Course** – meet with Wilkins Township Police Officers as they assist children in proper bicycle safety. **Live Music** – we are still working on the music for the night, but promise that it will not fail!

Saturday, July 23, 2016

Kid's Day – Activities in the works for July 23 include a petting zoo, bouncy house, various craft and food vendors. Music – We are still working on the music of the night!

Saturday, August 27, 2016

Food, Booze and Cruise Night - preliminary plans include the world famous Wilkins Township Car Cruise, coupled with a live band and food and beer trucks. Definitely an adult night out worth marking in your calendar! It is also rumored that the Township may have a sponsor to provide a night-ending fireworks show!

We hope that like us, you will find that bringing events and activities back to our community by bringing them back to the Municipal complex will allow us to meet and greet our neighbors and friends in a safe and child friendly environment.

We certainly welcome your thoughts, ideas and ALWAYS welcome helping hands!

Stay tuned for more details in the next news letter.



Clean-up Wilkins



When all of this snow melts there will be things left behind that we don't want to see in Wilkins.

Mark this date on your calendar

April 23, 2016

The Great PA Clean-up comes to Wilkins.

We need all of the volunteers we can get to help clean up our streets.

If you can spare a few hours on that Saturday join us at the Community Center.

Breakfast provided by Wilkins Seniors 9 a.m.

Clean-up Wilkins until Noon.

Pizza lunch provided by the Century Club at Noon.

Vests, gloves and garbage bags will be provided.

Join us. Your help is MOST appreciated!



Sign-ups will be held Saturday, February 20 from 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. at the Municipal Building.

MON-FAYETTE EXPRESSWAY

In mid-2015 the Pennsylvania Turnpike Commission announced its intention to partially resurrect its Mon-Fayette Expressway project. The commission's current proposal is to build a toll highway from Jefferson Hills to Monroeville – it would pass through Wilkins Township and ultimately connect to Route 22. The segment leading to the City of Pittsburgh from the previous iteration of the project has been eliminated. The project cost has been estimated at \$1.7 billion and the commission would like to begin construction in 2020. Public meetings will be held to discuss the project beginning this summer.

Last July the Wilkins Township Board of Commissioners sent a letter to the Turnpike Commission strongly opposing the project because of its potential negative impact on our residents. A primary concern is that this highway will bring additional traffic to Route 22 and Interstate 376 thereby increasing congestion on both already clogged roads. Access to the City of Pittsburgh

and Monroeville is important to Wilkins residents! Escalated traffic on these roads would likely also cause some motorists to seek alternate routes, also increasing congestion and wear on local roads.

The Mon-Fayette Expressway would also bring additional noise and air pollution to Wilkins, and its location in a valley would amplify both impacts. Wilkins residents would also lose access to Monroeville via Thompson Run Road and some residential property may be impacted. Further, this highway would encourage more individuals to move further out from the urban core and take on longer commutes. Residents of Wilkins Township have, among other reasons, located here because of our municipality's convenient location between Pittsburgh and Monroeville. Generally our residents are not seeking quicker access to Jefferson Hills and the Mon Valley, which can already be accessed easily using Routes 30, 148, 48, and 837.

The Turnpike Commission claims that the expressway, when combined with several other existing and potential toll highways, would provide an alternate route to the Pittsburgh International Airport. This longer route might be, at times, advantageous, though certainly other alternate routes exist that are much shorter such as connecting to Route 65 via Routes 28 or 376. Additionally it seems inadvisable to sacrifice convenient access to Downtown Pittsburgh for a rather roundabout secondary path to the airport. The project as currently conceived seems to be centered around bringing people into Monroeville and does not holistically address the transportation needs of Pittsburgh's eastern suburbs and east end.

Concerned citizens can contact Governor Wolf's office, their state senator and representative (Jay Costa and Paul Costa respectively), and the Turnpike Commission (<https://www.paturnpike.com/contact.aspx>).

PUBLIC SAFETY INFORMATION

Who's Knocking on Your Door? Solicitors in Wilkins Township

Anyone soliciting in Wilkins Township must obtain a Soliciting Permit issued through the Police Department. You have every right to ask to see the solicitor's permit. If they cannot provide you one, do not do business with them and please call the non-emergency dispatch phone number for an officer to be dispatched to the area, 412-473-3056. Even non-profit and religious organizations must register with the police. In 2015 only four (4) permits were issued.

Alarm Systems

Wilkins Township Ordinance #948 stipulates the registration and maintenance of home or business alarm systems. The yearly registration fee is \$12.00. Failure to register your alarm will subject you to additional fees and fines.

Ordinance #948 can be found on the Wilkins Township website, www.wilkinstownship.com under the Bulletin Board, Wilkins Township ECODE, Chapter 61 Alarm Systems.

The Alarm Registration application is also located on the Township's website, go to:

<http://www.wilkinstownship.com/PDF/Alarm%20Application.pdf>

OR, Go to the website www.wilkinstownship.com and click on: DOCUMENTS/Forms/Alarm Registration Application

Alert System

The Wilkins Township Police Department has recently teamed up with Nixle, a community information service, in an effort to get emergency and/or important information out to our public immediately. E-mail and/or text message alerts will be published through Nixle from our police department to advise the public of any emergency situations, street closures, crime alerts, etc.

To receive these e-mail and/or text alerts, simply visit our webpage at www.wilkinstownship.com and follow the instructions on the left side of the home page.

To learn more please visit www.nixle.com and select "Residents Learn more."

Hello and Happy New Year from the Century Club!



We welcome our new members Maureen McKeever, Joan Rhody and Donna Valent. Did you know that the donations we receive from our bake sales and Spaghetti Dinner are used to assist our local fire departments, school nurse, C.C. Mellor Library, Save the Children, the Southwest Veterans District, Clean-Up Wilkins and many other groups? **Our efforts are geared to help others in Wilkins Township.**

2016 will bring new events for all to join in. We will be asking for your support with our annual **Spaghetti Dinner** which will be held on **April 17 from 2-6 p.m.** at the Community Center. Donations of baked goods are accepted. Please advertise your business or special event on the dinner place mats. Cost of an ad is \$30.00 – business card size. Send your check to:

Century Club Wilkins Township, Irene Pohl Municipal Building, 110 Peffer Road, Turtle Creek, PA 15145

Your business name will be displayed on our Donors Bulletin Board for all to see!

Please call Michelle Criner at 412-996-2787 for more information.

Century Club meets the 2nd Tuesday of each month – 7 p.m. – Community Center

Century Club recycle bins located at Eastmont #4 Volunteer Fire Department and Wilkins Township Municipal Building Parking Lot.

CITIZEN'S ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

As a part of the Wilkins Township Police Department's new approach to community oriented policing, we are offering Township residents an opportunity to provide us with the name and telephone number of an individual with whom we may make contact in the event that we are required to gain access to your home for emergency purposes

As our population grows older, our police officers are frequently asked by the loved ones or neighbors of our older residents to

provide well-being checkups. By providing the department with the name and phone number of a key-holder, the police officers could better serve these types of requests.

Please note that we ARE NOT requesting a key to your home. We are providing you with an opportunity to give us information that we will keep on file in the Police Department. In the event of an emergency, the officer on-duty would contact the individual listed on the card so that access can be granted to the home.

If you are interested in this program, please fill out this form and mail it back to the Wilkins Township Police Department, 110 Peffer Road, Turtle Creek, PA 15145. Questions, please call 412-824-0032.

TOWNSHIP OF WILKINS POLICE DEPARTMENT

Citizen's Assistance Program

Name of Resident(s)

Address

Home Phone Number

Cell Phone Number

Name of Designated Key Holder

Home Phone Number of Designated Key Holder

Cell Phone Number of Designated Key Holder

Signature of Resident

Date



WILKINS TOWNSHIP FIRE RESCUE COMPANY

NEWS AND HAPPENINGS

#3 Volunteer Fire Company

Our company responded to 181 calls in our Township and the surrounding communities. This is up 40 calls from 2014. Some were structure fires, flooding, carbon monoxide, auto accidents, evacuations of buildings and any other emergencies that you can think of.

Visit our Web Site for more information at <http://wilkinstownship303.com/>

Mark your calendars!



Lenten Fish fry starts on Friday, February 12 and every Friday thru March 25.

Dance the winter away!



Date will be announced soon look for flyers! Back by popular demand! "Mid-life Crisis" a Classics/Rock band

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.

Our Banquet Hall is currently unavailable for rentals. We hope this is only temporary (workers needed to run hall).

Just a reminder!

United Way Contributions can be directed to YOUR Fire Company by visiting the United Way website at <http://www.unitedwaypittsburgh.org/> Our agency code is 2613.



Contribution Statistics

263 out of 1,037 of our residents sent in donations this is only 25.4%.

2015 263 homes	:	2011 320 homes
2014 275 homes	:	2010 278 homes
2013 294 homes	:	2009 329 homes
2012 220 homes	:	2008 346 homes

We desperately need your help!

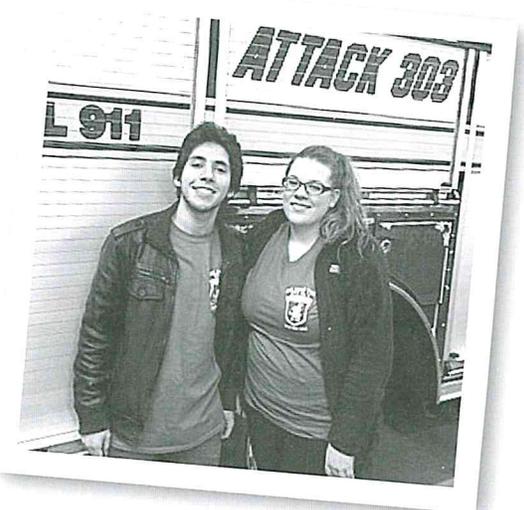
If all the residents would just pitch in a little we can increase the number of homes donating!

We would like to thank all of our friends and neighbors who supported in 2015 and look for your continued support in 2016.

New members especially Firefighters are ALWAYS welcome!

We recently had three new junior members join the fire company. Two of them attend the Woodland Hills school district and one, who attends Propel Braddock Hills, is a Foreign Exchange student from Brazil! He has expressed interest in Firefighting in his home country and he will have the experience in seeing how we volunteer our Firefighting techniques in Wilkins Township! Junior members will work closely with our men and women firefighters and attend fire training schools which are fully paid by the fire company. They are permitted to ride on the trucks and see up front

what it takes to be a trained professional firefighter. We also have drills in house for additional training. They also will get to see what's involved with other activities such as all the fundraisers including the upcoming Fish fry! Hopefully the experience they receive here will lead them into a career firefighter!



Pictured from left to right are Jose Perao and Caitlyn Byers

Did You Know?

Did you know that the Township has its very own website and that you can find quite a bit of information there? A few of the many things you will find include:

- Calendar of Events • Agenda & meeting materials • Forms & applications
- Township Code • Historical information

Visit www.wilkinstownship.com to see all of the information and resources available to you.

If you have any ideas for additional website content please let us know by using the "Questions" link found on the left side of the website home page.

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



1 Pennwood Avenue
Edgewood
412-731-0909
Mon.-Thurs. 10 a.m.-8 p.m.
Fri. 10 a.m.-5 pm
Sat. 9 a.m.-4 p.m.

Forest Hills Branch
444 Avenue D
Forest Hills
412-824-3567
Mon., Fri., Sat. 10 a.m.-2 p.m.
Tues. Weds. 4-8 p.m.

www.ccmellorlibrary.org

Like us on Facebook

Library Book Sale has at least 10,000 items for sale – books, movies, music CDs, books on CD for all ages. Great items at great prices! We're still accepting books and looking for volunteers.

*Ballroom Edgewood Community House
1 Pennwood Avenue Edgewood*

Friday, March 18, 6:30-9:30 p.m.
Preview Party \$20 a person. No scanners.

Saturday, March 19 and Sunday, March 20, 9 a.m.-4 p.m.

Monday, March 21, 9 a.m.-8 p.m. and
Tuesday, March 22, 9 a.m.-noon. Bag sale.

Paperback Exchange is available in the Wilkins Municipal Building during business hours. There's plenty of good recently published fiction for adults. Bring a book in and trade it for one on the rack. There's no due date or cost for borrowing a book. The program is a service of the library offered in collaboration with Wilkins Township officials and help from the Rotary Club of Forest Hills who deliver the books.

Programs for Adults

Library in Edgewood

- Drop Dead Book Club 1st Wednesdays at 7:30 p.m.
- Wednesday Night Knitters 2nd and 4th Wednesdays at 6:30 p.m.
- Backroom Quilters Thursdays noon-3 p.m.
- Mind and Body Exercise Mondays 9-9:45 a.m., \$5 fee.
- Mahjong Lessons Tuesdays noon-3 p.m.
- Senior Driving Classes Refresher April 12, 9 a.m.-1 p.m. and Basic April 19 and 26, 9 a.m.-1 p.m.
- Raising Chickens April 12, 6:30 p.m.

Story Times for Children Birth-5

- Forest Hills Library: Mondays at 10:30 a.m.
- FRCR Edgewood Tuesdays at 10:30 a.m.
- FRCR Readers Fred Rogers Children's Room Edgewood Thursdays at 10:30 a.m.
- Churchill Borough Building Fridays at 10:30 a.m.
- Baby Lap Sit FRCR Edgewood Fridays at 11:30 a.m.

Children's Programs Fred Rogers Children's Room (FRCR)

Check out our great programs for school-age children on our website or sign-up for our monthly electronic newsletter. Programs in the FRCR Edgewood include: **Chess Club, Eco-Geeks, Crazy 8's, Books and Brunch, Block Parties, Art Party!**

Programs in Forest Hills

- Home Work Help for elementary students every Wednesday from 4-8 p.m.
- Intergenerational Crafts first Wednesdays 6-7 p.m.
- Science Fridays for elementary students second Friday of the
- 4th Tuesday Book Club 1-2 p.m.
- Raising Chickens March 12, 11:00 a.m.



Where

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

When

June 13 – August 19
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.

If you or someone you know is interested in becoming a park monitor please contact the Municipal Office at 412-824-6650. Monitors must be at least 18 years of age and a resident of Wilkins Township.

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



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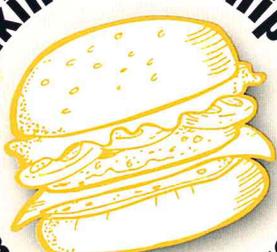
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- 4th Tuesday Book Club 1-2 p.m.
- Raising Chickens March 12, 11:00 a.m.

Wilkins Township Summer Lunch Program



Where

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

When

June 13 – August 19
Monday – Friday
9 a.m. – 1 p.m.

Who

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(up to age 18)

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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.

If you or someone you know is interested in becoming a park monitor please contact the Municipal Office at 412-824-6650. Monitors must be at least 18 years of age and a resident of Wilkins Township.

SHINING SENIORS



Local Tax Return Due

It's that time of year again.

The 2015 local earned income tax return filing deadline is approaching. The due date is extended to Monday, April 18 this year because Washington D.C. is commemorating Emancipation Day on Friday April 15.

Did you know the quickest way to get your refund is to file online? If you live and work in Pennsylvania, you can e-file on our tax administrator's secure website, which is available 24/7 at www.KeystoneCollects.com.

Keystone Collections Group's e-file is the easy, fast and secure way to file your 2015 tax return. It lets you file your tax return when it is most convenient for you. You will need your W-2, your Social Security Number and any other income documents that may apply (such as a PA-UE or a Schedule C).

Keystone redesigned e-file to make it even faster and more user-friendly.

If you have questions regarding local tax filing, visit Keystone's Frequently Asked Questions or call Keystone's Taxpayer Helpline at 1-888-328-0565 to speak with a local, knowledgeable Taxpayer Service Agent. You can also e-mail your questions 24/7 to Taxpayer Support. Taxpayer Service Agents try to respond to all online inquiries within three business days.

Taxpayers with earned income in 2015 are required to file a Final Tax Return by Monday, April 18.

The Senior Citizens have three trips planned for this year.

Social Security

This is a comedy featuring Barbara Russell at the Mountain Playhouse.

July 6, 2016

Departure: 11:45 a.m. Penn Center
Dinner at DeNunzio's Italian Restaurant in Jeanette, PA

Choices of Chicken Romano, Broiled Cod, Cheese Ravioli with meatballs

Depart for home 7 p.m.

Cost \$96.00

Interested parties must send a check made out to:

Wilkins Senior Citizens
110 Peffer Road
Turtle Creek, PA 15145

Name address and phone number must be on the check.

Tickets for this event are already selling out, so if you want to go get your money in fast.

In case you didn't know, there are a great number of your neighbors who are senior citizens. Many of those seniors meet in our Community Room on the third Thursday of each month at 1:00 p.m. to discuss the news and their lives. Refreshments are always served.

Our next meeting will be March 17 and we will have Joe Marrotta singing a few Irish tunes and several others.

We would love to have you join us for some fun and entertainment.

For more information call the municipal building 412 824-6650 and leave a message for SYLVIA.

A Tribute to Elvis and Willie

Elkins West Virginia

August 10, 2016

More information will follow on this one. But if you are interested please let us know as soon as possible.

Atlantic City

This will be our third trip to A.C. Each of the others were sensational.

This will include two nights at the fabulous Resorts International, free slot play, two dinner passes and one show ticket.

This trip will be mid-September.

It is always great fun and since we are going earlier, the beach across from the Resorts is great.

FOR FURTHER TRIP INFORMATION
CALL THE MUNICIPAL BUILDING AND
LEAVE A MESSAGE FOR SYLVIA

Meals for Friends Grows

After beginning community service with 14 clients on July 6, 2015, Meals for Friends is pleased to announce growing to a current enrollment of 31. The independent, non-profit, program is designed to provide two meals a day to the senior and disabled or temporarily disabled of the Wilkins Township and surrounding neighborhoods.

Meals for Friends provides meals locally prepared at Emmanuel Lutheran Church in Eastmont. A hot meal which can easily be reheated in a microwave and a cold bag lunch are available



for any day and as many days as service is requested. The delivery days for the program are Monday, Wednesday and Friday. Meals requested for Tuesday, will be delivered Monday, for Thursday, will be delivered Wednesday and for over the weekend on Friday. Meals are not provided or delivered on holidays. A \$6/day donation is suggested to help cover costs.

If you are interested in receiving meals or in volunteering to help, please e-mail mealsforfriendswilkins3@gmail.com or call 412-824-2400.

WILKINS TOWNSHIP

ESTABLISHED 1821

PRSR 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 McMahon, Secretary
Alyce Katsur, Treasurer
Stephanie Bonda
Beth Humberston
Simone Tanz
Richard Voeltzel



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

Brunch with the Bunny!



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

Only 2 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. Doors open at 11:30 a.m. – Sorry no early entry.

It's that time of year again when Peter Cottontail will be visiting the children of Wilkins Township. He plans on hopping in on Saturday, March 19 at 11:30 a.m. at the Community Center behind the Municipal Building. You can eat brunch, get your picture taken with Peter Cottontail, plus have fun with other planned activities. Please mark your calendars and be ready to have a good time! The event is free to all residents' children 10 and under. There is a cost of \$3.00 per person for anyone over the age of 10. See you there!

PARENTS BRING YOUR CAMERAS

Please return this reservation form by Saturday, March 5, 2016 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 10 and over attending _____

E-mail address _____