

# OUR COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER

SUMMER 2017

WILKINS TOWNSHIP

## Summer Lunch Program

### Where

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

### When

**June 12 – August 18**  
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.

## 2017 SUMMER SERIES

### Township Event – All Are Welcome

Community Center Complex | 110 Peffer Road | Turtle Creek

### 5K Run/1.5 M Walk

**Saturday, June 24, 2017**

Wilkins Primary School  
362 Churchill Road

Register online at  
[www.lightspeed-racing.com](http://www.lightspeed-racing.com) or  
at 7:30 a.m. day of event

Walkers start at 8 a.m. and runners start at 8:30 a.m. All ages welcome.

### KID FEST

**Saturday, June 24, 2017**

**Festivities are from 4 - 7 p.m.**

Touch a Truck at the Community Center Complex along with face painting, Totally Twisted Balloon Creations, games, food vendors and much more!

### Food, Brews and Cruise Night

**Saturday, August 26, 2017**  
**6 - 10 p.m.**

Food trucks and Full Pint Craft Brewery along with our annual car cruise.

Uptown Rhythm and Brass will perform from 7 - 9 p.m.

Closing out our series will be fireworks by Star Fire at 10 p.m.

Bring a lawn chair! Sorry no pets or coolers allowed.

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

Summer in Wilkins

# MAKE YOUR OPINION MATTER!

## Wilkins Township Active Transportation Survey

Do you bicycle through your neighborhood, along Township streets or to and from work? Do you enjoy walking on trails and paths through the Township? Do you use public transportation? Are there improvements that you would like to see at bus stops? Please take a few minutes to complete an important survey, which can be found at the link below.

This questionnaire will help the Township of Wilkins understand where, when and why residents bike and walk around our

community – and also what might keep residents from being active. Your answers will help the community make plans to improve conditions for cyclists, pedestrians and access to public transit. This questionnaire is an early step in developing the Township's Active Transportation Master Plan. Responses will be part of the information collected to guide community decision-making. Please note: June 30 is the deadline for completing the survey.

[https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/active\\_wilkins](https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/active_wilkins)



## IMPLEMENTABLE COMPREHENSIVE PLAN

As detailed more fully in the last edition of the Township newsletter, Wilkins Commissioners partnered with Council members from Churchill Borough and the Municipality of Monroeville to hire a consultant to prepare a Multi-municipal, implementable comprehensive plan. The project kicked off with a public meeting in January that residents of all three communities were invited to attend. Ideas from that meeting are currently being further explored by a Steering Committee and subcommittees comprised of residents and business professionals from the three communities. The subcommittees have thus far focused on these issues:

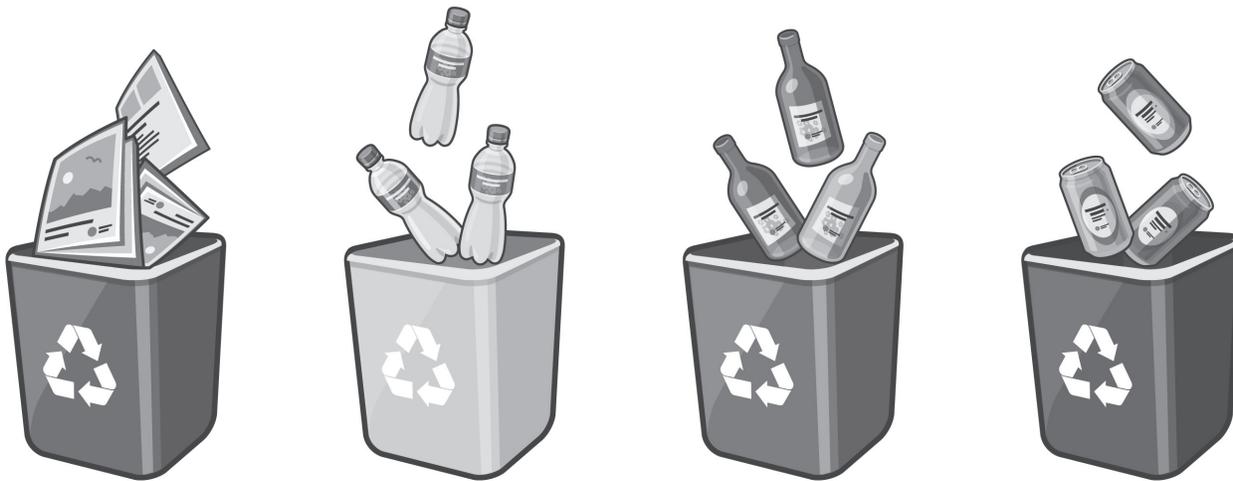
**Transit Connectivity** – Residents and officials feel improvements in this area will enhance quality of life. Needed improvements include park and ride

facilities; safe walking routes to and from bus stops; safe crossings and bus shelters. A focus group made up of members of the Southwestern Planning Commission, Allegheny County Economic Development, the Port Authority of Allegheny County, Access, Heritage Community Transportation and Lamar Advertising (bus shelters) met at the beginning of May to identify opportunities to improve the safety and convenience of public transportation, prioritize improvements and articulate next steps for the highest priority sites.

**Shared Services** – The Managers of each of the three communities met with the consultants, representatives of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania Department of Community and Economic Development, Allegheny County Economic Development and the Turtle

Creek Valley Council of Governments to explore opportunities between the communities to share services. Ideas from that meeting included shared recreational staff and facilities and a shared Public Information Officer/ Grants Director.

Key Issues that the subcommittees will focus upon over the next several months include: bicycle/pedestrian/trails connectivity; recreation opportunities; redevelopment, commercial space and streetscapes. It is currently anticipated that the study will take about one year to be completed. If you are interested in serving on a subcommittee, please contact Rebecca Bradley by e-mail at [rbradley@wilkinstownship.com](mailto:rbradley@wilkinstownship.com) or by telephone, 412-824-6650 x 10.



# WILKINS RECYCLING 2014-2018

**Recycling collection will continue to be bi-weekly. Refer to the recycling calendar for your pick up dates.**

## Recycling Containers

Residents may continue to use their old green recycling containers and/or stop at the Municipal Building M-F from 8:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. for a new 32-gallon container if you have not already received one.

Between collections store your recycling container inside your garage or in a side/rear location not visible to neighbors or from the street. Move your recycling container back to its storage place after collection on the same day.

*SINGLE-STREAM TECHNOLOGY- NO NEED TO SORT, SEPARATE, OR BAG RECYCLABLES.*

Simply empty all your recyclables into your recycling container.

Place the container at the curb the evening before collection day.

## Recycling is Mandatory and Important

Helps reduce the cost of future waste contracts.

Your recyclables will have new life as future products.

## YES! Items Acceptable

- Plastics #s 1-7 (on item bottom)
- Cans (aluminum, steel, bi-metal) (rinsed of excess food residue)
- Glass
- Paper – most types as follows:
  - Newspapers; inserts
  - Junk Mail
  - Magazines, catalogs
  - Books – phone, paper, and hardback
  - Books (remove hardback covers)
  - Office paper; shredded paper (tied inside a clear plastic bag)
  - Paperboard (chipboard), e.g., pasta, cereal, tissue, baking mix boxes
  - Toilet paper rolls; paper towel rolls
- Corrugated cardboard (must be flat and cut to fit [not wedged] into container)
- Pizza box tops (no residual food)
- Juice and soy milk boxes
- Dairy and juice cartons with gable tops (only types with a recycling number)

## NO! Not Acceptable

- Styrofoam; bubble wrap
- Metal scrap; clothes hangers
- Chemicals; oil; paint
- Mirrors; windows; sheet glass
- Light bulbs (all types)
- Garbage; food waste; paper plates
- Plastic wrap and film
- Plastic bags and utensils
- Freezer and other food wrappings
- Batteries (all types)
- Tires (all types)
- Garden hoses
- Gift wrapping paper
- Plastic children's toys; other large plastic items
- Dishes and ceramics
- Pots and Pans
- Diapers (new and used)
- Electronics – all types
- Aluminum Foil; baking pans
- Paper towels; tissues, napkins
- Egg cartons – paper types only



WILKINS TOWNSHIP

# FIRE RESCUE COMPANY

## NEWS AND HAPPENINGS

### Wilkins VFC #1

#### Who Is Your Fire Department?

Your fire department is a 100% volunteer organization made up of dedicated men and women from within our community and surrounding communities. These men and women have completed training to respond to your request for emergency assistance 24 hours a day 7 days a week, 52 weeks a year. Many of these same volunteers continue to train and become certified either on a state or national level in various aspects of emergency response. They don't punch a time clock or receive a paycheck for what they do. No instead it is done because of the love of the job and the pride in our community. These are dedicated people who miss dinners, dates, birthdays, anniversaries, kid's events, and holidays to answer your call for assistance.

Every year we ask for your help through our annual fund drive. This is our largest fund raising event, but one that gets very poor response. So far this year, only 18% of you have sent in your donation request. What would you do if we were only here for you 18% of the time? The money we raise through our fund drive is what helps to keep the doors of your fire department open. We have the same monthly utility bills your household does. We pay these bills. We respond to your calls for help in vehicles that cost almost \$500,000. These vehicles are purchased by us. We make the payments. Due to the poor response to our fund drive, it causes the need for the fire department to do more fundraising. This takes away from the time our members participate in drill, classes, or other training. This puts

more of a demand on our volunteers. Is it right that we have to not only respond to the emergency calls of the Township but we have to worry and work all that much harder to keep the doors of your fire department open? This is a free service provided to every resident of the Township, and your support of the department is imperative for its survival.

If you have not sent your donation in yet, please do so today. We appreciate your support, and we look forward to being here to answer your request for help for years to come.

Thank you to the Wilkins Elks who held a super bingo as a fundraiser for Wilkins #1 VFC, Churchill VFC, and Turtle Creek VFC. We appreciate the support of the Elks!

### Wilkins VFC #3

## Annual Spaghetti Dinner



**Sunday, September 17, 2017**  
**2:30 – 7 p.m.**

Wilkins Township Volunteer Fire Company #3 is hosting their annual spaghetti dinner.

**Eat in or Take Out**

Thanks to all who came out and supported our Lenten Fish Fry!

Successful fundraisers benefit Wilkins Township by supporting vital services in your community!

Thank you to those who already turned in your 2017 donation to your Fire Company and a reminder to those who still need to do so.

**Reminders will be going out soon.**

#### Our Banquet Hall is currently 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 an appointment.

#### Just a Reminder!



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

**Our agency code is 2613.**

Check out our Web site at <http://wilkinstwp303.com/>

Help us help you make sure your house number is visible so that Emergency personnel can see it easily.

## Wilkins VFC #4

### Become a Firefighter

As you know, volunteer fire companies always need money for operations and equipment. BUT our greatest need is for members.

Being both a fire and rescue company, we put out structure, vehicle, brush, industrial, and hazardous materials fires, and rescue people from vehicles involved in accidents and people marooned on hillsides. But without a sufficient number of firefighters, our mission to preserve the lives and property of Wilkins residents will be severely compromised.

Firefighting is dangerous and requires professional training as does rescue work. Therefore, every firefighter must go through a curriculum that includes reading and classroom work, and participation in drills and scenarios. And as with any professional work, volunteer firefighters must build on what they've learned and keep up to date, so continuing education and training is required. Similarly, to do rescue work, one must first learn through classroom and practical work, and then maintain and advance their knowledge and skills through continuing education and training.

We pay for all gear and education and training expenses. Also, our volunteer firefighters who meet certain requirements may attend CCAC at little or no cost.

In addition to benefits to the community, firefighting and rescue work have benefits to individual firefighters as well. Among these are the satisfaction one feels in saving lives and property, in helping people face to face, and volunteering in general. Some experience "an adrenaline rush" when engaged in firefighting or rescue.

In addition to firefighters, we need associate members to help out with maintenance and administrative tasks. So please join us and let other residents know that we are looking for new members. To join our company, please call our station at 412-823-2322 and leave a message.



From June 14 to October 25 the Recreation Advisory Board will once again host the annual farmers market! It will be held every Wednesday from 4 – 6 p.m., rain or shine.

The location will be in the parking area in front of the former D'Imperio's Restaurant, behind Wendy's.

Come meet your neighbors and shop for fresh produce and other goodies.  
See You There!!

We would love to add additional vendors of any type. If interested please contact Sylvia Martinelli at 412-823-8696 or Joy Voeltzel at 412-758-3149.



## MEALS FOR FRIENDS

### Receives Grant from Meals on Wheels America

Meals for Friends is very pleased to announce that it has received a substantial grant from Meals on Wheels America through the Subaru Share the Love Fundraising Event. We worked hard on the application and are proud of the result.

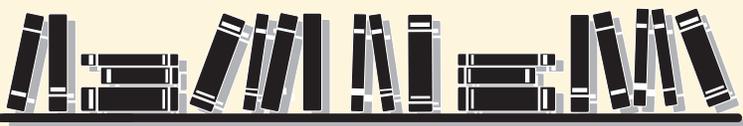
The award, for \$16,896.26 will be used for badly needed capital improvements starting with a new industrial freezer.

Meals for Friends, which provides freshly prepared, home delivered meals to senior or disabled members of Wilkins Township or surrounding neighborhoods, is still looking for volunteers to help prepare or deliver meals.

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



# 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 p.m.  
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. Wed. 4 - 8 p.m.

[www.ccmellorlibrary.org](http://www.ccmellorlibrary.org)

*Like us on Facebook*

**Special Screening of Power of One Voice.** In celebration of Rachel Carson's birthday, there will be a showing of award winning documentary Power of One Voice. "The Power of One Voice sensitively lifts Rachel Carson from "the pesticide lady" to a profound and prophetic voice for our time." Thursday June 1 at 6 p.m.

## **CCM in Wilkins Township** STORIES, SCIENCE AND ART

CCM will be visiting the summer lunch programs in the park all summer long! Come join us!

Linhart Park 11:30 a.m. Tuesdays  
Lions Park 11:30 a.m. Wednesdays  
Eastmont Park 11:30 a.m. Thursdays

**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.

## **CCM Adult Programs in Edgewood**

### **Drop Dead Book Club**

1st Wednesdays @ 7 p.m.

### **Wednesday Night Knitters**

2nd and 4th Wednesdays @ 6:30 p.m.

### **Backroom Quilters**

Thursdays, noon - 3 p.m.

### **Mahjong Lessons**

Tuesdays, noon - 3 p.m.

### **Senior Driving Classes**

Refresher April 11, 9 a.m. - 1 p.m. and  
Basic April 18 and 25, 9 a.m. - 1 p.m.

## **Weekly Programs for Children Birth - 5**

### **Family Storytime**

Forest Hills: Mondays @ 10:30 a.m.  
Edgewood: Tuesdays @ 10:30 a.m.  
Edgewood: Wednesdays @ 10:30 a.m.  
Churchill Borough Building: Fridays @ 10:30 a.m.

### **Growing Readers**

Edgewood: Thursdays @ 10:30 a.m.

### **Baby Lap Sit**

Edgewood: Fridays @ 11:30 a.m.

## **Summer Time Programs for School Age Kids**

### **Spectacular Summer Science**

Edgewood: Wednesdays @ 1:30 | Ages 5 - 8

### **Design It!**

Edgewood: Thursdays @ 1:30 | Ages 8 - 12

## **Programs in Forest Hills**

### **Intergenerational Crafts**

1st Wednesday each month 6 - 7 p.m.

### **4th Tuesday Book Club**

1 - 2 p.m.

# 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.



## NIXLE – WILKINS TOWNSHIP POLICE ALERT SYSTEM

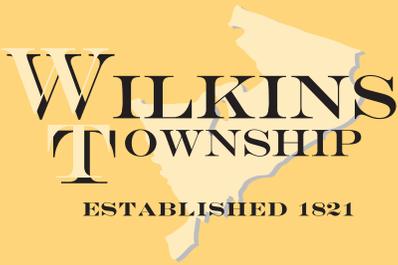
The Wilkins Township Police Department recently teamed up with Nixle, a community information service, in an effort to get emergency and/or important information out to our public immediately. E-mail and/or text message alerts can be published by the Wilkins

Township Police Department to advise the public of emergency situations, street closures, crime alerts, etc.

To receive those e-mails and/or text message alerts, simply visit the Township website: [www.wilkins-township.com](http://www.wilkins-township.com) and follow the instructions on the home

page (left of center under “Sign up for Alerts from the Wilkins Township Police Department and other public safety agencies in your area.”

To learn more, please visit [www.nixle.com](http://www.nixle.com) and select “Residents Learn More.”



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  
Richard Voeltzel, Treasurer  
Heidi Steele  
Beth Humberston  
Stephanie Bonda  
Simone Tanz  
Alyce Katsur

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

## **HERITAGE COMMUNITY TRANSPORTATION**

**D**o you need a ride to work at Forbes Hospital? Would you like to go to Miracle Mile? Have you checked out Heritage Community Transportation? Heritage Community Transportation is designed to connect communities and residents to employment, retail centers and the greater transportation network. Currently, Heritage provides van service to and from Penn Center and to and from the intersection of Larimer Avenue and Rodi Road to places like Walmart, Forbes Regional Hospital, Target, and UPMC East Monday through Friday beginning at 6 a.m. and ending at 9:30 p.m. Saturday trips begin at 8 a.m. and end at 7:30 p.m. All fares are only 25 cents. Representatives from Heritage are willing

to add additional "van stops" based upon increasing demand. For additional information, check out their website at **[www.heritageserves.org](http://www.heritageserves.org)** or stop by the Municipal Building for a bus schedule.

