

Inside this issue

Front Cover	A Banner Community Summer Lunch Program
Page 2	C.C. Mellor Memorial Library Ghouls and Goblins Walk
Page 3	Fire Co. No. 4 Brunch with the Bunny
Page 4	Woodland Hills EMS Dogs in Township Parks Wine and Art Class
Page 5	Fire Co. No. 3 Meals for Friends Farmer's Market
Page 6	Century Club Update Clean-up Wilkins
Page 7	Wilkins Recycling Mother's Day Plant Sale
Back Cover	Upcoming Senior Trips



Wilkins Township Summer Lunch Program

Where

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

When

June 8th – August 21st

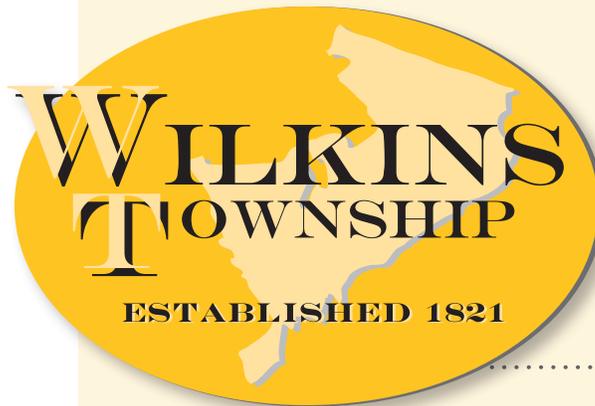
Monday – Friday

9:00 AM – 1:00 PM

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.



OUR
COMMUNITY
NEWSLETTER
SPRING ISSUE 2015



A BANNER COMMUNITY THREE IN A ROW

For the third consecutive year, the Township of Wilkins was awarded the designation of "Banner Community" by the Allegheny League of Municipalities. To receive this designation, the Township met the following League objectives:

Participation: The Township of Wilkins is a member in good standing with the Allegheny League of Municipalities and the Turtle Creek Valley Council of Governments.

Professional Development: All five members of the Board of Commissioners graduated from the Local Government Academy Newly Elected Officials Course.

Training: The Township annually sends elected and appointed officials to Local Government Academy and Department of Community and Economic Development training sessions.

Mentoring: This past year, the Public Works Superintendent worked with three young residents in pursuit of the completion of their Eagle Scout projects. The Chief of Police participated in programs at the elementary school and the Township Manager worked with the Department of Community and Economic Development to mentor other municipal employees in accounting and software applications.

Sustainability: The Township has earned silver certification through the Sustainable Pittsburgh Sustainable Community Essentials Certification program.

Shared Services: The Township is working with the Borough of Churchill on a new pilot code enforcement program through the TVCOG and has jointly owned and operated a sewer cleaning vehicle, sewer camera and camera truck with the Borough of Forest Hills since 2006.

Effective Citizen Communication: The Township's website provides residents and nonresidents alike with wealth of knowledge about the Township, the governing body, legislation, minutes, budgets and current activities. The Recreation Advisory Board sends out a newsletter three times per year to provide residents with information about upcoming events in the community.

Community Events: Each year, the Recreation Board holds a week long Summer Festival in the parking lot behind the former Sears. The Recreation Board also hosts holiday parties for the children of the community. The Commissioners also sponsor an annual spring clean up day in cooperation with the Senior Citizens Group and Century Club.

The elected and appointed officials of Wilkins Township are proud to have the honor of receiving this designation for three years in a row!



C.C. Mellor Memorial Library

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

444 Avenue D
Forest Hills
412-824-3567
Mon., Fri., Sat. 10 am-2 pm
Tues. Weds. 4-8 pm

www.ccmellorlibrary.org

Library Book Sale – This is our biggest fundraising weekend with at least 10,000 items for sale – books, movies, music CDs, books on CD for all ages. Come and get some great items at great prices! We're still accepting books and looking for volunteers.

Ballroom Edgewood Community House
1 Pennwood Avenue Edgewood

- Friday, March 20 6:30-9:30 pm
Preview Party \$20 a person. No scanners.
- Saturday, March 21 & Sunday March 22 9 am-4 pm
- Monday March 23 9 am-8 pm and
Tuesday March 18 9 am-noon. Bag sale.

Check website www.ccmellorlibrary.org for more details

Growing Readers – Join us at the Wilkins Township Community Center for our new program designed for children learning their first reading skills. Held on the 2nd Monday of each month at 6:30 pm Growing Readers focuses on beginning reader skills through the lens of play. We have scoured current best practices to bring you a storytime based on early reading skills, followed by several activities to put it to practice at home. Recommended for children ages 3-5.

Growing Readers is also held in the Fred Rogers Children's Room on Thursdays @10:30 am.

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.

Story Times for Children Birth-5

- Forest Hills Library – Mondays @ 10:30 am
- Fred Rogers Children's Room Edgewood – Tuesdays @ 10:30 am
- Fred Rogers Children's Room Edgewood – Wednesdays @10:30 am
- Churchill Borough Building – Fridays @ 10:30
- Baby Lap Sit Fred Rogers Children's Room Edgewood – Fridays at 11:30 am

Children's Programs

We have plenty of great programs for children. You can learn more about them and even register for programs on our website.

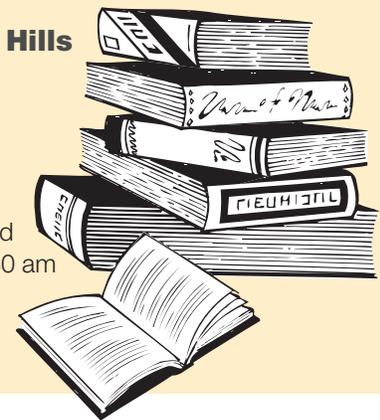
Saturday programs offered in the Fred Rogers Children's Room Edgewood that need registration are:

- 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 pm

Science Fridays for elementary students second Friday of the month at 10:30 am



GHOULS AND GOBLINS WALK



Thank you, to all the Ghouls and Goblins that came out and made the Wilkins Township Ghouls and Goblins Walk a huge success despite the trickle of rain. Our resident families were greeted by the Buffalo of Buffalo Wild Wings and Chuckie Cheese and enjoyed the afternoon of walking through the trail(s) and experiencing, possibly for the first time, one of Wilkins Townships' hidden beauties, the Trails at Lions Park and enjoyed a Bon Fire, afterwards.

We would like to send a heartfelt "Thank you" to our contributors: Bob Evans, Sam's Club, Buffalo Wild Wings, Chuckie Cheese, Daily Juice, Wilkins Twp. Shop and Save, Monster Golf, Supercuts/Wilkins Township, Chick-fil-A, Anonymous Donor, Kuhn's Market/Beulah Road, Wilkins Township Police Department, Comfort at Home Pet Services, and The Early Learning Institute-Harmony Learning Center.

Special thank you to: Wilkins Township Police Department, Wilkins Township VFC #3, Woodland Hills EMS for their presence during our event.



VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT

Without a sufficient number of firefighters, our mission to preserve the lives and property of Wilkins residents will be compromised. We cover all gear and approved training expenses. We also 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, go to our website at www.wilkins304firerescue.com and click on "Online Membership Application" near the top of the page.

WE NEED MEMBERS

In 2014 we responded to 136 emergency calls, both fire-related and rescue. As always, we regularly trained and drilled to maintain and improve our skills in firefighting and rescue work.

On Saturday, October 4, we participated in the Home Depot's Safety Day from 9 am until noon. Unfortunately, the weather did not cooperate – it was cold and windy, cutting down considerably on attendance.

We took delivery on our new rescue vehicle on November 17, 2014 and it's beautiful as well as functional! The new rescue is compliant with current national standards. The old rescue vehicle was sold to another fire company.

To those residents who have contributed to our annual fund drive, thank you. For those who have not yet done so, please donate. (If you wish to contribute through the United Way, our code number 880323.)

REMEMBER: Check the batteries in your smoke and carbon monoxide detectors. They could save your life and those who live with you. Also, if you have a hydrant nearby, when it snows please clear around it - this is a big help to us when we need a water source.

Note that if you want to call our fire hall, our non-emergency number is 412-823-2322. For emergencies dial 911.



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 21st 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

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 – Sorry no early entry.

Please return this reservation form by Saturday, March 13th 2015 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 _____

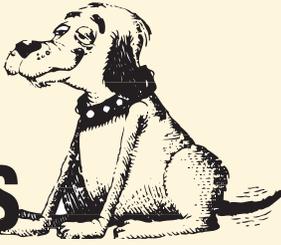
Child's Name/Age/M or F _____

Adults 10 and over attending _____

E-mail address _____



DOGS in Township Parks



On November 24, 2014 the Board of Commissioners updated Wilkins Township's park regulations to allow residents limited park access with their dogs, which were previously not permitted in our parks. Dogs continue to be prohibited from playgrounds, ball fields, concession areas, and pavilions, making the recently completed Lion's Park walking trail the ideal location for residents to bring their dogs. Dogs must be leashed (6' or shorter), and owners should have a bag to pick up any waste. Owners are responsible for and must control their dogs, and children under twelve must be supervised by an adult when walking a dog. Dogs should be healthy, immunized, licensed, and tagged; dogs that behave dangerously or have a history of dangerous behavior are prohibited. Further information and regulations can be found in Ordinance 1048.

WINE & ART CLASS



The Recreation Advisory Board would like to host a Wine and Art Class for the residents of Wilkins Township. Please e-mail Joy at joyvoeltzel@yahoo.com if this is something you would be interested in doing, or if there is any other event(s) you would like to have the Recreation Advisory Board check into hosting. We would like to hear any and all suggestions.

Financial Stress at Woodland Hills EMS

Woodland Hills EMS, the community based ambulance service for Braddock Hills, Chalfant, Churchill, Forest Hills and Wilkins Township, has been hit hard in recent years by a combination of factors: high deductible plans engendered by the Affordable Care Act, lowered insurance payments overall, and patients that simply fail to pay their invoices for services received. At a recent meeting with community leaders on February 18, 2015, the pressures felt by the ambulance company were outlined by Operations Manager Keith Morse and Board President Paul Palko. They are asking for the community to help them maintain operations as well as creative ways to enlist better financial support for this important area asset. With annual operating expenses of over one million dollars, it is expensive to run an ambulance service. Employee payroll, insurances, equipment and the ambulances themselves cost a great deal to buy and maintain. The Board of Directors at WHEMS has instituted cost cutting measures, but without increased revenues, the service is threatened.

One of the problems with high deductible plans is that in the beginning of every year, the insurance companies pay little or nothing for a service billing, leaving the patient themselves responsible for a bill that can be \$1000.00 or more. Coupled with that, the actual amount the insurance companies pay is seldom equal to the amount billed. The remainder must be billed to the patient.

Subscribing to WHEMS during their annual drive can alleviate a lot of that bill, but not all of it. Unfortunately, over half of eligible citizens and families do not even subscribe to the service. Many do not pay their bill when it is received. The service is always willing to work out a payment plan, or help those who are truly needy, but WHEMS must still pay its bills. Insurance companies sometimes send the billed amount in a check made out to the patient, who then uses the money for themselves instead of paying WHEMS. These and other factors, lie at the heart of the financial stressors now felt at the non-profit organization.

What can you do to help this valuable community asset? First of all, subscribe to the service annually. This provides a much needed source of basic revenue to WHEMS, and helps you by reducing your financial responsibility if WHEMS has to help you. Secondly, if you need our services, please understand that we need that billing revenue to sustain operations. WHEMS has cut its budget as much as it can without sacrificing patient quality of care. If you can't pay the bill all at once, please make payments. Understand that those high deductible plans may cause early years bills to be large, so budget for that, remembering the lower overall insurance premiums you pay for those plans.

Finally, if you are able, make an additional donation to WHEMS. Look for upcoming fundraisers in local community periodicals and support these efforts to sustain WHEMS in our communities.

Help us help you. For many years WHEMS has been a great asset supporting the quality of life in our communities. With your continued support, we will always be there for you 24 hours a day, every day.





FIRE CO. No. 3

Our company responded to 141 calls in our Township and the surrounding communities. 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://wilkinstwp303.com/>

Mark Your Calendars!



Lenten Fish fry starts on Friday February 20th and every Friday thru April 3rd

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 maybe on or near your property.

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



Contribution Statistics

262 out of 1,037 of our residents sent in donations this is Only 25.3%

2014	262 homes
2013	294 homes
2012	220 homes
2011	320 homes
2010	278 homes
2009	329 homes
2008	346 homes

We Desperately Need Your Help!

We would like to thank all of our friends and neighbors who supported in 2014 and look for your continued support in 2015.

New members especially Firefighters are ALWAYS welcome!

Our Banquet Hall is currently unavailable for rentals.

We hope this is only temporary (workers needed to run hall).

Meals for Friends is Cooking up Some Love!



Meals for Friends is getting ready to prepare and deliver nutritious, appealing comfort food meals to senior or disabled members of the Wilkins Township and immediately surrounding neighborhoods.

Meals for Friends has been developed to fill the need left when Wilkins Meals on Wheels closed its doors in September 2013.

A spring 2015 opening is anticipated. This outreach, an independent, community managed program, will operate out of Emmanuel Lutheran Church, 1229 Jefferson Road.

If you are interested in receiving meals, or in volunteering to help with the program, please call 412-793-8347.

Meals for Friends Organization Committee

The NEW Wilkins Township Farmer's Market



We are so excited to be bringing you a brand new farmer's market.

The market will be on Route 22 in the former Hooter's parking lot.

The hours of operation will be Wednesdays from 3 until 7, rain or shine.

The vendors will be great and are already applying for their spots.

We hope you will remember to shop with us starting June 3rd through September 9th.

If anyone is interested in registering to sell, please follow the information on our website or call the office.

Hope to see many of you at opening day.





Clean-up Wilkins

Saturday, April 25 will be our annual clean-up Wilkins Day.

If you haven't been able to join us in the past, this may be the year that you will want to be part of the solution.

Our residents go through the highways and by-ways of Wilkins picking up litter to make Wilkins beautiful.

We will meet at the Community Center at 9 AM for coffee and donuts, donated by the Wilkins Seniors. Then we will go out to pick up litter until noon when we will meet back at the Community Center for pizza and soda provided by the Century Club.

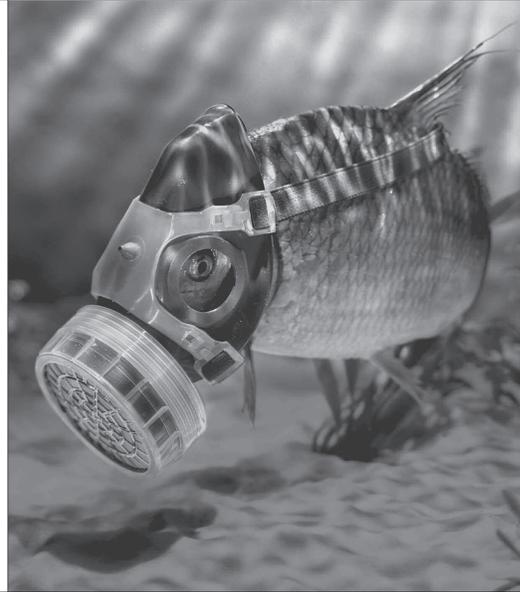
Prizes will be awarded and fun will be had by all.

Please save the morning of April 25th, to be with your neighbors in keeping our community beautiful.

Guess where you're really putting your lawn fertilizer.

Every year the snow melts, the rain falls, and the water that runs off your yard carries fertilizers, herbicides and pesticides into our creeks and streams. And finally into our rivers. Depositing pollutants that can harm fish, wildlife, and vegetation. Even compromise our major source of drinking water. Our rivers.

But we can all do something about it and still keep our yards looking beautiful. In fact, a lot of dedicated people and municipalities are already



working on it. And you can help too.

Plant more trees and shrubs so you'll have less bare lawn surface that allows storm water runoff. Use eco-friendly lawn fertilizers. If you need pesticides and herbicides, limit their use.

To find out more, visit our website. You'll be helping to protect our most valuable liquid asset. Our water.



Clean water starts in our own backyard. Go to 3riverswetweather.org for a free guide on how you can help.



Hello and Welcome to the Century Club of Wilkins Township newsletter update! The membership has a busy spring season planned with activities to assist us in achieving our goals and objectives for our community.

The annual **Century Club Spaghetti Dinner** will be held **Sunday, April 19th** from 2:00-6:00 at the Wilkins Township Community Center. Enjoy a heaping dish of spaghetti & meatballs with homemade sauce. Our delicious home baked goods will be on sale for dessert or to take home and enjoy.

You can promote your business by purchasing advertising space on our table placemats at a cost of \$25 for the business card size. **Call Michelle Criner for info – 412-824-6860.**

Ticket prices at the door are \$6.50 adults/\$3.00 children. Watch for signs to be placed throughout the township.

The Century Club is a contributing sponsor of **Clean Up Wilkins** which will be held on April 25, 2015. Call the township office for more information on this event. (412-824-6650)

Our May fund raising event will be the **Century Club Bake Sale** on May 19th – Primary Election Day at Irene C. Pohl Municipal Building. Please come out and **VOTE** and pick up some delicious baked goods to take home.

The Wilkins Township Banners you see attached to the light poles throughout our community are the direct result of your support and volunteerism to the Century Club. Our projects are designed to promote the good works of the Century Club and the various nonprofits in our community.

For a good time, laughs and friendship please join the ladies of the Century Club! Call Mary Besseck for membership info 412-823-2621 or jfbess01@comcast.net.

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 green recycling containers and/or go to a store and purchase up to a 32-gallon container of their choice. Please stop by the Municipal Building M-F from 8:30-4:30 for a new recycling sticker to place on any purchased containers.
- 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.

Your Cooperation is Important

- Help 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)
- 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)
- Egg cartons – paper types only
- Glass

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



Mother's Day Plant Sale

The Recreation Advisory Board is hosting a hanging basket plant sale just in time for Mother's Day.

The price is \$15.00 for a 10 inch basket and choices are:

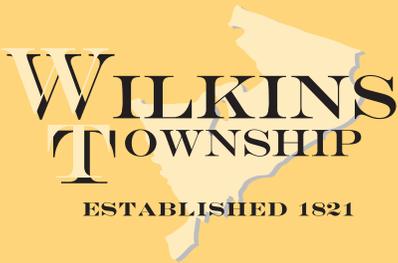
- New Guinea Inpatients
- Begonias
- Petunias
- Geraniums
- Million Bells
- Ferns

Name _____

Phone _____

Plant choice (s) _____

Send in your choice along with your check made to Wilkins Township, attn.: Recreation Advisory Board by May 1st 2015. Flower pick up on Saturday May 9th at the Municipal Building from 10 am to 12 noon, for more information e-mail joyvoeltzel@yahoo.com or 412-824-4523.



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.wilkinstownship.com 

UPCOMING SENIOR CITIZEN TRIPS



Wheeling Island

We are planning a no frills day trip to Wheeling Island.

Cost: \$24

Date: Wednesday, May 20, 2015

Depart: 10:30 AM, from Monroeville Mall, Light pole 48.

Start for home: 5 PM

Reservations must be paid in full to Wilkins Seniors.

Send to:

Municipal Building 110 Peffer Road, Turtle Creek, 15145
before April 20.

Attn.: Senior Citizens

Please include name address and phone number.

Trip includes transportation and \$25 slot play.



Seneca Allegany Trip

Date: October 18-19, 2015

Cost: \$196, no triples or quads
\$261, single

Includes: lodging, casino bonus (TBA), baggage, and taxes.

Deposit: \$50/person

Balance Due: September 15, 2015

Depart: 6 AM Monroeville Mall (light pole 48)

Start for home: 3 PM on Oct. 19.

Send reservations to:

Municipal Building, 110 Peffer Road, Turtle Creek, Pa 15145

Attn.: Senior Citizens

Please include name address and phone number.