



Wilkins Township Community Newsletter

110 Peffer Road, Turtle Creek, PA 15145 • (412) 824-6650

www.wilkins township.com

contact@wilkins township.com

Summer 2022

Township Now Requires Sewer Lateral Testing Prior to Property Transfer

Wilkins Township, along with 82 other communities in Allegheny County, discharges sanitary sewage to the Allegheny County Sanitary Authority (ALCOSAN) treatment plant located on Preble Avenue, at the banks of the Ohio River. For many years, the ALCOSAN communities have been working together to reduce the amount of stormwater and groundwater infiltration into the ALCOSAN system to stop/mitigate sewer overflows in wet weather events.

The Township Commissioners, and their counterparts in the ALCOSAN basin, entered into an agreement with the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection (DEP). One of the requirements of that agreement is for the Township to mandate the testing of private sanitary sewer laterals at the time of property transfer to determine whether stormwater, surface water or other water sources are getting into the lateral. A plumber will be needed to inspect the lateral. **If a lateral fails an inspection (i.e., there is evidence of water infiltration), then the homeowner will be required to repair the lateral prior to transferring/selling the property.**

A copy of the ordinance can be found on the Township website, on the Bulletin Board, under [“Ordinance 1104-Private Sanitary Sewer Lateral Testing.”](#)

Know What’s Happening: Sign Up for Savvy Citizen

Do you want to receive important notifications about what’s happening in the Township? Be sure to sign up for the Savvy Citizen app.

Savvy Citizen notifies you of the incidents and government-sponsored happenings and events. Events are populated by Township officials and notifications go out to subscribers.

To learn more or subscribe, visit <https://savvycitizenapp.com/Citizen>



Two New Officers Join Wilkins Police Department



Officers Alexander Appleby and Joshua Rosenblatt

The two newest members of the Wilkins Township Police Department—Alexander Appleby and Joshua Rosenblatt—reported for duty on May 4.

“We’re very fortunate to have two officers of this caliber join our Police Department,” Police Chief Randy Lamb said.

Officer Appleby, 29, is a 12-year veteran of the Pennsylvania Army National Guard. He has served as a part-time officer in East McKeesport and Liberty Borough. Appleby, who is single, grew up in northern Pennsylvania near the New York border. He attended Pittsburgh Technical Institute, majoring in safety and security administration. “He is a very personable, very articulate, very polite young man,” Lamb said.

Officer Rosenblatt, 26, has worked as a part-time officer in Hampton and Frazer townships. He is a graduate of the University of Pittsburgh Bradford Campus, where he earned a bachelor’s degree in Radiological Science. After working as a radiology technician after graduation, Rosenblatt decided to pursue his lifelong dream of being a police officer and put himself through the Police Academy. He lives with his parents in Gibsonia. “He is easy to talk to and carry on a conversation with, and he gets along with people,” Lamb said, noting Rosenblatt and Appleby have similar attributes.

New Equipment Will Aid Public Works Leaf Collection



A \$125,550 Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) grant has provided the Township with new leaf recycling equipment that will help the Public Works crew collect leaves that residents put to the curb each fall.

The grant provided for 90% of the cost of the equipment with the Township providing the remaining funds. The grant also covers 60% of the cost of a new truck, which will be used for mounting the new leaf box and towing the leaf collector.

Township Public Works crews collect leaves about eight weeks each fall between the last week of October and the second week of December. A truck tows the leaf collector behind as it sucks up and deposits leaves in a box mounted in the truck bed.

“This upcoming season that will be the primary machine used,” said Scott Matthews, Public Works director. “There’s a dedicated route each day of the scheduled pickup. Each road is done three times during the cycle—pretty much every other week.”

After collection, the leaves are piled on an asphalt pad in Linhart Park behind the previous year’s leaves. The free compost is available to residents.

The equipment arrived in late November 2021 and was only used once before the end of last season. The existing leaf collection equipment is 20 years old and will be used for parts.

The purchase of a new truck is a bit complicated. Matthews has been in touch with multiple dealers, but none can guarantee delivery of a 2022 truck because of the microchip shortage caused by plants in China being shut down during the pandemic. The pricing for 2023 models is not out yet. The grant expires in April 2023, so township officials are hopeful the vehicle can be purchased before that time.

Contracts Awarded for Annual Paving Program



Five Township roads are slated to be paved this summer. At its April 2022 meeting, the Township Commissioners awarded a \$454,704.84 contract to A. Liberoni Inc. to pave the entire lengths of Wallace Avenue and Ridge Street, and Delaney Drive from Queenston Drive to the second intersection on Dunbar Drive.

Also, in conjunction with utility work being done, the township will split the cost of paving Thorncrest and Calmont drives with Peoples Gas.

Linhart Sanitary Sewer Separation Project Nears Completion

All homes in the Two-hill area of the township affected by the Phase II project to separate stormwater and sanitary sewage lines have been hooked into the new sanitary sewer lines. The contractor, W.A. Petrakis Contracting, was completing final cleanup by early May. The roads impacted by the project will be paved this year.

“Now, during a heavy wet weather event, it will prevent the sanitary sewer water from going into the stream (Thompson Run) and contaminating it,” said Scott Matthews, Public Works director.

The state Department of Environmental Protection ordered the Township and other municipalities to separate stormwater and sanitary sewage lines where they were still combined. The \$2,240,959 project in the oldest section of the Township was needed because rains caused overflow into Thompson Run when the stormwater lines were at capacity, bringing along raw sewage.

Phase I of the project, completed by W.A. Petrakis in 2016, redirected lines in other parts of the Two-hill area. The previously existing lines will still carry stormwater into Thompson Run. The new sanitary sewer lines will connect with the Township’s existing sewage system, which then flows into the ALCOSAN system.

Funding for the project totaling \$1,265,959 comes from two ALCOSAN GROW grants, a Community Development Block Grant (CDBG), the Commonwealth Financing Authority and the American Rescue Plan Act. The township’s \$975,000 contribution includes Combined Sewer Funds and an Emergency Contingency Fund Loan.

Century Club Appreciates Support of Residents

The Century Club of Wilkins Township wants to thank everyone for their support of our April Spaghetti Dinner and the Bake Sale at the Primary Election! We will donate the proceeds to our fire departments and other community organizations. We also want to thank everyone who came out for Clean Up Wilkins Day!

We are always looking for new members, so any ladies who want to check us out are invited to our next meeting on at 7 p.m. on Tuesday Sept. 13, at the Wilkins Township Community Center (behind the Municipal Building). Our meetings are informational and sociable!

We are continuing our plastic bag collection. We are collecting grocery store bags, newspaper bags, plastic wrapping from cases of water, old clean storage/sandwich bags, and other soft plastic bags/wraps. The collection boxes are located at the Municipal Building lobby, Kuhn’s on Brown Avenue and at the Wilkins Elks. For every 500 pounds collected, we earn a bench. Our first bench will be installed at the Municipal Building this summer. We would love to earn another bench this year!

Tips from the Tax Collector

It is tax payment season for Wilkins Township and Woodland Hills School District. Wilkins Township taxes are due now through June 2022. Woodland Hills will send out tax statements in July 2022. You can make a one-time payment or installment payments.



Jordan Tax Service is the delinquent tax collector for both Wilkins Township and Woodland Hills. Jordan Tax’s phone number is 724-731-2300.

Here are some helpful tips for paying your taxes:

- If you are buying, selling or refinancing your home, or if you have paid off your mortgage, contact Allegheny County Real Estate Division at 412-350-4226. Updating the recorded information starts with the county and then moves on to the local offices.
- Remember to sign your check.
- No staples, please

Thank you for all the kind words of support I’ve received in my new position.

Submitted by Michelle Criner, Tax Collector

Meet New Township Commissioner Brittney Pepper



Brittney Pepper hadn't thought about serving as a Township commissioner before the day she took a walk in her Eastmont neighborhood and encountered Cindy Rizza, the sister of Sylvia Martinelli, president of the Board of Commissioners. Rizza told Pepper there was an open seat on the Board of Commissioners and encouraged her to apply.

"Everything runs very smoothly in the Township, so I had never given it a thought," says Pepper, who was appointed by the Township Commissioners in February. She is filling the vacancy created by the resignation of Michelle Criner, who was elected to serve as Township tax collector in November 2021.

Pepper grew up in North Braddock and graduated from Woodland Hills High School in 2003. A graduate of Georgetown University and the University of Pittsburgh School of Law, she is an attorney with the downtown Pittsburgh office of Reed Smith. Pepper says she can use her legal expertise to better understand items before the Commissioners.

"My opinion has some weight because I can understand and help explain some of the issues such as the new lateral inspection ordinance" she says. "I'm still getting my feet wet."

Along with new officials from other municipalities, Pepper attended the Allegheny County League of Municipalities' Spring Educational Conference in April to hear about issues facing local governments and network with peers from around the area.

She serves on the Township Recreation Board. Pepper is board president of the Rankin Christian Center, a nonprofit that provides community services such as a food bank, after school program, summer camp and senior program, as well as support services for families of individuals with intellectual disabilities. She has served on the board since 2010.

Pepper has lived in Eastmont for eleven years, sharing a home with her mother, sister, niece and two cousins. "For someone who doesn't have kids," Pepper says lovingly, she is quite involved in the lives of her niece and little cousins, even including bus stop duty. Her grandmother had lived with them until her death in 2015 from ovarian cancer.

Though she doesn't have much time to relax, Pepper does look forward to getting away for some beach time.

CODE ENFORCEMENT

Homeowners Must Replace Smoke Detectors Every 10 Years

The Wilkins Township Board of Commissioners voted to adopt the 2018 edition of the International Property Maintenance Code on March 7, 2022. Every three years, all International Code Council (ICC) Code Books are updated to reflect any new changes that may have taken place to the codes. Pennsylvania is required to not fall more than two code cycles behind the latest edition of these codes. Since the 2021 codes were recently released, the adoption of the 2018 codes by the state was mandatory.

The only change from the 2015 to the 2018 Property Maintenance Code involved the **fire safety requirements** of buildings and homes. This chapter is now much more detailed regarding the fire safety requirements for *new construction* of buildings and homes. It does however also now require that smoke detectors in *existing homes* be replaced every 10 years from the date of manufacture marked on the unit *or* if the date of manufacture cannot be determined. Carbon monoxide detectors that are inoperable or begin producing end-of-life signals must be replaced as well.

C.C. Mellor Memorial Library Activities

This is only a partial list. Please visit our website at www.ccmellorlibrary.org to find the full slate of programming we have available. You can also subscribe to our monthly newsletter to get our current programming and follow us on Facebook and Instagram @ccmellorlibrary.

Book Clubs:

CCM hosts a wide variety of book clubs for readers of all tastes. You can find the book lists as well as meeting info at <https://ccmellorlibrary.org/book-clubs/>.

Drop Dead Book Club: Mystery lovers unite, first Wednesday of each month, 7 p.m.

Fourth Tuesday Book Club: For readers of wide-ranging tastes, fourth Tuesday of each month, 1 p.m.

Century Book Club: Reads books from each decade of the 20th and 21st centuries, third Wednesday of each month, 7 p.m.



Community Groups

CCM is home to several community groups. Please check our website for current meeting location information.

Clutterers Anonymous: Mondays at 6:30 p.m.

Knitters: Second and fourth Mondays at 6 p.m.

Conversation Salon: Second Monday of each month at 10 a.m.

YOUTH PROGRAMS at CCM Edgewood:

Family Storytime, every Monday at 10:30 a.m.

YOUTH PROGRAMS at the Lodge in Forest Hills:

Family Storytime, every Thursday at 10:30 a.m.

Storytime in the Park:

Join us at Koenig Field in Edgewood every Tuesday at 10:30 a.m.

Summer Makerspace:

Build, tinker, make and create with a new technique every week! Drop in every Thursday from 1 to 3 p.m., beginning on June 2. For kids 5 to 11.

Treasure Hunters Club:

Treasure Hunters Club is a weekly meetup for kids 5 to 8. We'll follow maps, forge paths, play games, and make treasure. Each week, we'll have a new activity to keep the fun going all summer long. We'll have two sessions every Wednesday for 10 weeks starting June 1, the first at 11 a.m. and the second at 2 p.m. Spots will be limited: please register at ccmellorlibrary.org.

Teen Group:

Teen Group is our laidback time each week to catch up and have fun. Play games, make projects, hang out and meet new friends. Visit <https://ccmellorlibrary.org/teen-programs/> for our list of activities. Every Wednesday at 4:30 p.m. For ages 12 to 18.

Tween Club:

Jump into similar programs as our Teen Group at our Tween Club! We'll tie dye, make ice cream, solve puzzles, and more! New activities every Tuesday at 2 p.m. at CCM Edgewood! For kids 8-12. Check out www.ccmellorlibrary.org/TweenClub for the most up-to-date schedules and information.



Public Works Notes

Grass Clipping Composting

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

We also ask that residents who do not bag their grass please not blow it onto the street. This helps keep our streets and catch basins clean and unwanted pollutants out of our streams and rivers.

Sewers and Manholes

Although the bulk of the sewer cleaning and video inspecting is finished, Township workers are still doing maintenance, follow-up inspections and repairs as needed. During the sewer work, crews 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. Workers do carry identification and are required to show it if asked.***

Don't Pollute Storm Sewer Drains

Please do not dump any type of fuel, pesticides or any other contaminants into our storm sewer drains. The drains are meant for rainwater only, as they empty into our streams and rivers.

Yard Waste Drop-off

A 30-yard waste drop-off container will be placed behind the Public Works Garage at the Municipal Building during the months of April and October. Residents can bring and dispose of yard waste materials as follows:

Acceptable items

Garden and plant debris
Leaves

Shrubs

Tree limbs, diameter of 4 inches 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

Don't Flush Sanitary Wipes



We are finding several 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 and 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.

Summer DPW Help Wanted

Currently, there are two positions open for seasonal help this upcoming summer with the Public Works Department. Eligible candidates would be students who have graduated high school and will be starting college or who are currently attending college.

Duties would include the following:

- *Park maintenance
- *Cutting roadside weeds and brush
- *Sewer maintenance
- *Road maintenance
- *Line painting
- *Storm cleanup

Interested individuals can download an application for employment at www.wilkins-township.com (click on DOCUMENTS>FORMS>WILKINS TOWNSHIP EMPLOYMENT APPLICATION) or stop by the Township office, 110 Peffer Road.

Reconsider Car Washing in Your Driveway!

Many residents don't associate washing their vehicle with local water quality. Outdoor car washing has the potential to send soap, scum and oily grit flowing with the rinse water into the street and down into the storm drain. To reduce the impact, where possible, wash your car on gravel, grass or other permeable surfaces that allow water to seep into the ground.

Fire Department News



Another Step Forward as VFC #1 Awaits New Pumper

Since our founding in 1915, the primary focus of Wilkins Township #1 Volunteer Fire Co. (VFC) has been to provide the residents and businesses of Wilkins Town-

ship with quality fire suppression and rescue services. Generations of men and woman have freely given their time to insure this reality.

In previous newsletters we have discussed our 100% certification by the state of Pennsylvania in recognizing that "our accomplishments in training and education meet or exceed nationally recognized standards." There are close to 300 fire companies in Allegheny County and most, like us, are volunteer organizations. Of those, we were the first to be so recognized and even now, we are one of only two all-volunteer fire companies in the county to achieve this level of training certification.

While the training of our members is of utmost importance, it is also necessary to insure they have the tools to do their jobs. Your financial support over the years has been used for this purpose. The most recognizable "tool" is certainly the pumper, that large piece of apparatus loaded with ladders, hose and all the other equipment needed at the fire scene.

With your much appreciated financial support, and the hard work and support of the Township Manager and the Board of Commissioners, we have placed an order for a 2023 Pierce Enforcer Pumper. A team, consisting of our three senior line officers and the engineer of our company, invested literally hundreds of hours researching options and collaborating with multiple apparatus specialists to design a piece of apparatus that will enhance fire protection/suppression services in the Township, as well as provide important safety features for our firefighters.

While delivery is not expected for about 18 months, it will be well worth the wait. Some specifics:

- It will have a shorter wheelbase, creating a better turning radius, which will allow us better access on tight streets.
- It will carry twice the amount of fire hose than our current pumper does, which will give us the opportunity to carry more sizes and length, providing us usage options when we arrive at the scene.
- It will carry twice the water of the existing pumper, allowing us to quickly get more water on the fire while making the hydrant connection.
- It will have a 2,000-gallons-per-minute pump that will enable the pumping of water throughout any of the Township's commercial buildings.
- It will contain a traffic alert system. When it is approaching an intersection, an individual's phone or in-car GPS system will alert them that the pumper is close to the intersection.
- Safety protections for our responders include roll over and air bag protection for the entire cab, side-mount pump panel and a lower hose bed to reduce falls by eliminating unnecessary climbing on the truck, a four-view camera system, front-mounted spot mirrors and improved emergency lighting.
- It will meet the strictest U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) standards, including diesel regeneration.

If you wish to view a detailed design drawing, please visit our website at www.wilkins302/2023Pierce.

Meat and Money Raffle

If you are a meat lover, could use some extra money in your pocket, and want to support your local fire company at the same time, this is just what you have been looking for. A \$5 ticket purchase gives you two chances to win an assortment of steaks, chops, chicken breasts and legs, ribs, kielbasa and ground meat. In case that is not enough, we will add \$500 in cash. Upcoming dates include Memorial Day, Fourth of July, Labor Day, Halloween and Christmas. For tickets or more information, please contact Gerry Meyer at 412-596-4472. Venmo is available.

CPR and First Aid Classes

If you belong to a group interested in obtaining professional CPR and First Aid training, please contact us at CPR@wilkins302.com. One of our certified trainers will contact you to arrange a class.



Mark Your Calendars! Wilkins #3 VFC Celebrates 100 Years of Service

This year, Wilkins Township #3 VFC celebrates 100 years of dedicated service to the community. The members are planning an open house for the public from noon to 3 p.m. on Saturday, July 16.

If you are a neighbor or were a past member, please stop in to see the 100 years of memorabilia and photos, and all the changes in apparatus and improvements to the station. Visit our NEW website for more information: <http://wilkins303.com>.

Join us! We need you!

We are in the EXTREME need of firefighters. Can you help? Volunteer today! Remember Wilkins Township is 100% volunteer. Please consider joining the fire department as a firefighter. We pay all expenses including gear and training.

Fundraisers

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

Spaghetti Dinner

The Fire Company is hosting its annual Spaghetti Dinner from 2 to 7 p.m. on Sunday, Sept. 1. We are sorry, but the service is still drive-through only.

Fish Fry

Thanks to all who came out and supported our Lenten Fish Fry! Just as other food businesses, we also had supply chain issues with our vendors!

New Fundraiser

We currently are trying out a new fundraiser! This is an online Tip Board with various prizes, such as Pa. Lottery tickets, iPads, big screen TVs and other popular items. [Follow us on Facebook for updates!](#)

2022 Combination Fund Drive

This past year has certainly presented some unique challenges for so many of us. Both Wilkins Township VFC #1 and #3 have once again combined the funds collected between both fire companies. We plan on sending out our reminder fund drive letter soon. We are hoping to have your continued support as in the past years! Thank you to those who already turned in your 2022 donations!

Sorry, but the Wilkins #3 Banquet Hall is **currently NOT available** for rentals.

United Way Contributions



United Way contributions can be directed to **YOUR** Fire Company. Just click on <http://www.unitedwaypittsburgh.org/>. Our agency code is **2613**. We would like to thank all our friends and neighbors who supported us in 2021 and look for your continued support in 2022.

Shop on Amazon Smile



Do you shop online? 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.



A WHEMS Subscription Offers Benefits; Drive Underway

The Woodland Hills EMS (WHEMS) Subscription Drive is underway. Help us help you!! The subscription drive helps patients by forgiving some of the charges not covered by insurance. It helps WHEMS by providing working capital for purchasing new equipment, training, and updates to continue to serve our communities to the best of our abilities.

In the past year, WHEMS has updated our units with power stretchers and power load systems. These systems save our responders from injuries and decreases the chances of lost time serving the communities. They also reduce the risk of injuries to patients dur-

ing the loading procedure and transport. WHEMS has also updated our heart monitors, added an Advanced Airway Kit, and LUCAS automated CPR device. Thank you to everyone that has donated. To those that haven't, please consider signing up for the Subscription Service.

WHEMS continues to teach CPR classes at our station. We can also teach at your place of business for an additional charge. CPR has been proven to save lives in many medical or traumatic incidents.

Did you know that up to 90% of child car seats are installed improperly? WHEMS has certified Car Seat Technicians on staff to teach parents, family, and caretakers on how to properly install car seats. We are also able to replace some older and expired car seats. For information on classes or the Subscription Drive, please visit whems.org or email Frank Masandrea at whems340@gmail.com.

Submitted by Frank Masandrea, WHEMS director

Note: At its April 2022 meeting, Wilkins Township Commissioners approved a \$12,714 contribution to WHEMS, representing a per capita payment of \$2 a resident, an increase of 75 cents per resident over previous years.

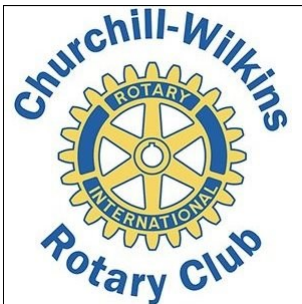
Churchill Wilkins Rotary Club Honorees

Congratulations to the newest Churchill Wilkins Rotary Paul Harris Fellows for 2022. Dr. Vince Costa, district governor of Rotary 7305, presented the awards after Dr. Norman Johnson, a 10-time Paul Harris Fellow and Churchill Wilkins Rotarian, spoke about the contributions of each of our deserving recipients.

This recognition exemplifies in our actions and words our Rotary motto of "Service Above Self." The presentation of Paul Harris Fellow is The Rotary Foundation's way of expressing its appreciation for a substantial contribution to its humanitarian and educational programs. This recognition is named for Rotary's founder, a Chicago lawyer, who started our organization with three business associates in 1905.

World peace and goodwill come closer to reality today with the good work and fellowship in our communities.

Submitted by Charles Bostaph, PhD, Rotary president



(From left) Rotary District Governor Vince Costa presents awards to new Paul Harris Fellows Paul Gamrat, Nancy Carpenter, Dan Paull, Mark Ellison, and Norm Johnson.

Wilkins Elks Present Police Chief with Award



Chief Randy Lamb and Elks Exalted Ruler Rich Raible



Wilkins Elk Lodge 577 presented Wilkins Police Chief Randy Lamb with its Citizen of the Year Award, one of the Elks' highest awards among its Grand Lodge Awards.

When the Wilkins Elks wanted to begin a Drug Take Back Day in 2018, the members needed to work in partnership with the police as the lodge was not a secure site, according to the federal Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) specifications. I called Chief Lamb and he immediately reached out and obtained the DEA Drug Take Back boxes and posters. The Elks publicized the event on various radio and TV stations, in the local paper and on the marquee sign in front of the building.

The first year was overwhelming with people coming from the community and as far as Monroeville, White Oak and North Versailles to drop off unused prescription and over-the-counter (OTC) drugs. Chief Lamb was there to greet each of them, he was like a celebrity in our lodge.

That first event, on Oct. 27, 2018, was the same day as the Tree of Life Synagogue shooting. We had just started our event when Chief Lamb was alerted over his radio about the shooting and then several other officers stopped in and told him. I had no idea how really bad it was.

The chief mentioned that his wife, Holly, worked for the University of Pittsburgh Police and would probably be one of the first responders to the shooting. Again, not knowing what was really going on and over what period the incident occurred, I was clueless. With hindsight, I know that he understood how bad it was—and had to be worried about his wife—but he didn't show it. He stayed with me for four hours that day and was a joy to work with.

It wasn't until after I got home and saw the news that I realized how bad it was, and then I realized what it really took for Chief Lamb to stay with me that afternoon for our Drug Take Back Program which, in comparison to what was going on, didn't compare.

The Exalted Ruler, Rich Raible, felt that Randy demonstrated true professionalism and courage in staying with the Elks that day, putting aside his personal feelings. We could not think of a better recipient for the BPOE Citizen of the Year Award than him.

Rich Raible (my husband) and I presented the award to Chief Lamb in April, with over 40 members attending the presentation at the Wilkins Elks. He received a framed certificate award, a personalized notebook portfolio and a \$100 Visa Gift Card from the lodge.

Chief Lamb has pledged to continue the partnership the Wilkins Police Department has forged with the Wilkins Elks Drug Awareness Program's Drug Take Back Day. To date, we estimate that we have collected over 1,200 pounds of unused drugs for proper disposal.

Our next Take Back Day will be during Drug Awareness Red Ribbon Week, Oct. 23 to 31.

Submitted by Deb Raible

Meals for Friends Seeks Volunteers

Meals for Friends is looking for volunteers to help prepare and deliver delicious, appealing comfort food to the homes of senior and disabled citizens who live in Wilkins Township, Churchill, Forest Hills, Chalfant, most of Penn Hills and part of Turtle Creek. The program is a nonprofit 501(c)(3) organization that is primarily volunteer run.

This independent, community-managed operation operates out of Emmanuel Lutheran Church of Eastmont. Meals are freshly prepared on site each day of service.

Meals for Friends also has very limited openings for new clients. For more information on receiving meals or volunteering to help prepare or deliver them, please call 412-824-2400. If no one answers, please leave a message and your call will be promptly returned.



The Recreation Advisory Board is hosting a family picnic for families with children 17 years of age and younger from 12 to 4 p.m. on Saturday, June 25 at Lions Park.

The Board will supply hamburgers, hot dogs, drinks and condiments. Please bring a dish to share and any other goodies that your family enjoys. We will have music, games and fun for the whole family. We will be practicing social distancing. No alcohol or pets permitted. All children must be accompanied by an adult.

Parents, please register your family by completing the form below and returning it by **Friday, June 10** to:

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

Please include your phone number and email in case of cancellation.

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____

Email Address: _____

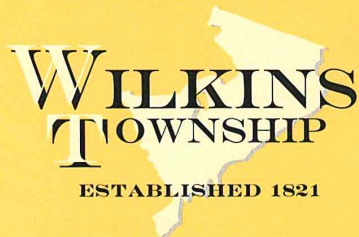
Child's Name and Age: _____

Child's Name and Age: _____

Child's Name and Age: _____

Child's Name and Age: _____

If you have any questions, please contact Joy Voeltzel at 412-758-3149 or joyvoeltzel@yahoo.com



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Wilkins Township
110 Pepper Road
Turtle Creek, PA 15145

Board of Commissioners:

Sylvia Martinelli, President
Joseph Costa, Vice President
Michael Boyd, Commissioner
Brittney Pepper, Commissioner
Mark Wells, Commissioner

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

Save the date!
Fall 5K

Mark your calendars for
Saturday, Oct. 29, 2022
for Wilkins Township's **10th annual 5K race/walk.**

More details to follow in the
fall Township newsletter.

