

inside

BOROUGH	3
WCDC	4
SCHOOL DISTRICT	5
HISTORICAL SOCIETY	6
CHAMBER OF COMMERCE	7

the Wilkinsburg

SUN

VOL. 10 NO. 2 October 2016

A FREE COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER BRINGING YOU GOOD NEWS ABOUT WILKINSBURG

StormWorks Refreshes Penn's Tree Pits

If you were walking down Penn Avenue this summer you may have noticed the colorful perennial flowers and grasses planted in the Wilkinsburg business district. The Wilkinsburg Community Development Corporation (WCDC) has

were chosen for their salt and drought tolerance, for color, texture, and seasonal interest, and, of course, for their beauty. Providing shade, stormwater retention, and cleaning our air are just a few of the many other benefits these trees will provide.

These 108 tree pits are not new to us: Nine Mile Run Watershed Association (NMRWA) planted these street trees as part of the Wilkinsburg TreeVitalize "Rooted in Wilkinsburg" 500 Trees Project in partnership with the WCDC, PennDOT, and the Western Pennsylvania Conservancy.

The response from the community and passers-by to these plantings has been overwhelmingly positive and affirming;

continued on page 7

Trick or Treating Is Monday, October 31, 5-8 p.m.

Turn your porch light on if you are participating.

Costume parade participants with Mayor Thompson and the Wilkinsburg Police can gather at the Borough Building at 5 p.m. The children's parade goes through the business district and ends back at the borough building with refreshments, including pizza and hot dogs. All are invited to participate.

See page 3 for details about a Halloween Block Party on Sunday, October 30 and page 7 about a free trick-or treat event at the East End Coop on October 29.



contracted with StormWorks to plant, water, and maintain the tree pits along Penn Avenue for both the 2016 and 2017 growing seasons. The work will include replacing the handful of young trees and plants that did not survive this very harsh environment, as well as weeding, mulching, and watering the pits. The plants and trees

Demos Begin in Ardmore Corridor

The first phase of a redevelopment project in the Ardmore Boulevard corridor area begins this month with the demolition of structures on Ardmore, Penn and South. The project stems from recommendations and mapping done by the Wilkinsburg Planning Commission and passed by Borough Council in 2013.

According to Eric Parrish, director of code enforcement, the demolition contractor will prepare by placing equipment and dumpsters and baiting for rodents. The borough, too, will trap for wild animals in the area to assist in removal from the blighted structures.

Parrish said that as part of the demolitions, the contractor will be removing all garbage and debris from the properties, grading the properties and planting natural

wildflower or low mow grass.

"The natural wildflower will... be placed on the more uneven graded properties. The low mow grass will be placed in areas with relatively even grades," he explained.

The demolitions that will be done first are: 704, 710, 716, 718, 720, 722, 726, 729, 730, and 732 Ardmore Blvd; 1202, 1204, 1214 Penn Ave; and 177 South Ave.

The Ardmore corridor was identified as a priority for redevelopment. As Patrick Shattuck, president of borough council, reported in *The Sun* last March, this is not only due to the concentration of blight, but also the potential for improvements in that area to improve traffic, green infrastructure, pedestrian and bicycle access, and links between Wilkinsburg's neighborhoods.

Free Flu Shots

Two Eastern Area Prehospital Services Free Flu Shot Clinics are scheduled for Wilkinburg: October 15, 9-11 a.m. at Saint James Church, 718 Franklin Ave. and October 19, 2-5 p.m. at the Wilkinburg Borough Building, 605 Ross Ave.

Community Conversations

October's Community Conversations meeting is entitled The Role of the Church in the Community. It is on Thursday, October 6, 6-8:30 p.m. at St. James Roman Catholic Church at 718 Franklin Ave.

Guest speakers will be Father David Taylor (St. James Catholic Church), Bishop Michael W. Golphin Sr. (Deliverance Baptist Church), Pastor Janet Hellner-Burris (Christian Church of Wilkinburg and Chair of Sanctuary Project), Adnan Ahmed Imam (Ahmadiyya Muslim Community), and Pastor Pete Smith (Covenant Fellowship Reformed Presbyterian Church). Enjoy a delicious dinner prepared by Chef Charles "Chaz" Smith, Executive Chef/Event Planner at The Culinary Artists Gourmet Catering Group.

Make A Difference

Pitt Makes A Difference Day is scheduled for Saturday October 22 from 10 a.m.-2 p.m. Registration is 10 a.m. at the Borough Building Lobby.

All gloves, vest, water and garbage bags will be available for Wilkinburg Residences for cleaning up your blocks.

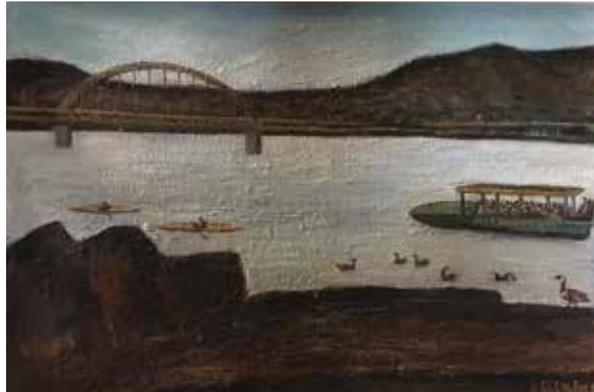
For further info call Linda Kirkland-Law at 412.628.8686, Pam Macklin at 412.242.0321, or Josie Smith-Bryant 412.241.1309.

Nine Mile Run Events in Wilkinburg

Volunteers are needed for a Tree Care event in Holmes Street Park on Wednesday, October 5, 5:30 p.m.-7 p.m.

All are welcome to mulch the thirteen trees in this small community playground. Meet at the corner of Holmes St. and Wood St. in Wilkinburg.

Volunteers are also need for a tree planting event on Tuscarora Street on



"Just Ducky" by Samir Elsabee is one painting in Percolate Art Space's show "Landscapes by Shellie Sherman and Samir Elsabee." The opening reception is Saturday, Oct. 29, from 6-9 p.m. These two mature artists offer a variety of ways of looking at our surroundings. Sherman's work includes painted photographs taken during Wilkinburg's abandoned house tour. Elsabee, born in Egypt, brings an old master's touch and loose flair to his modest studies. The show runs until Dec. 3. Percolate at 317 Trenton Ave. is open Saturdays from 12-4 pm, and by appointment 412.606.1220.

Saturday, November 19, at 9 a.m.-12 p.m. Meet at the corner of Tuscarora Street near Peebles Street. Volunteers will learn how to properly install a balled and burlapped tree.

For both events, snacks and refreshments will be provided. Please bring a water bottle if you have one. Families are welcome! Please contact Jared Manzo at 412.371.8779 ext. 116 or jared@ninemilerun.org.

Wilkinburg Organization Recognizing Legal Excellence and Debuting Community TV Show

Classic Events, based in Wilkinburg, is sponsoring two October endeavors: its second annual Salute to Legal Excellence Dinner and a new PCTV public affairs program on the Entrepreneur Network called Classic Events.

The dinner is at 6 p.m. on October 22, and is a semi-formal gala at the Doubletree Hotel in Monroeville. For more information or to make reservations, contact 412.723.2414.

The PCTV show debuts on October 4 and will discuss community, politics and business.

Train Station Public Campaign Kick-Off

The community is invited to attend the Train Station Campaign Kick-Off on Thursday, October 6, 10 a.m. at Hay St. at Ross Ave.

Come and think about how you can support the campaign to raise funds for the new public community space in the renovated Train Station.

the *Wilkinburg*
Sun

editor@wilkinburgsun.com

P.O. Box 86064
Wilkinburg, PA 15221

Lynne Gordon, Editor

THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Jason Cohn, President
Minister Linda Kirkland-Law, Vice President
John Irwin, Treasurer
Vanessa McCarthy-Johnson, Secretary

The Wilkinburg Sun is a free monthly community newsletter published by the volunteer Wilkinburg Community Newsletter Board, with the support of the Wilkinburg Borough, the Wilkinburg School District, the Wilkinburg Chamber of Commerce and the Wilkinburg Community Development Corporation. The Sun is printed by Knepper Press.

Please submit all articles and calendar events to: editor@wilkinburgsun.com, or by mail, P.O. Box 86064, Wilkinburg, PA 15221. **Please submit articles 5 weeks before publication and calendar events 3 weeks before publication.** To advertise, e-mail adsales@wilkinburgsun.com, or call 412.680.1381. The Sun accepts submitted articles provided they are related to Wilkinburg and are civic-minded. *The Sun* reserves the right to withhold articles from print. Please note that *The Sun* does not publish political or opinion pieces.

Sign up to receive *The Sun* by email at eeurl.com/v0iBP and friend us on Facebook.

Halloween Block Party: Don't Miss Out!

Everyone knows that October means Halloween, which essentially means loading up on candy for the rest of the year! On October 30, there will be a block party extravaganza from 3 p.m. to 9 p.m. on Rebecca Avenue, between Pitt Street and West Street. It's a day for neighbors to come out and be neighborly; a day to turn a simple wave off the street into a deeper conversation accompanied by music, trick-or-treating, and grilling!

Who Works at the Borough?

Beginning in November, the Borough plans to highlight an employee and their contributions to Wilkinsburg. It will be a chance for the local community to get to know the people that work for them and keep the community engaged with local government!

Wilkinsburg Borough Social Media & Logo Revamp

There is a lot happening at the Borough. Most recently, staff has been working hard on revamping our branding image and making it better reflect the Wilkinsburg community and diverse culture.

Currently, they are working on a new logo for the Borough and will be putting up three designs on their Facebook page to see what people think before the final decision is made. Make sure you like the FB page to have a say. Additionally, follow them on Twitter (@wilkinsburgboro) to stay informed and participate!

Social Media Touchpoints

FB Page: www.facebook.com/WilkinsburgBorough/
Twitter: @wilkinsburgboro

Fire Pit 101 for Residents

When it comes to fire pits and open burning there are ordinances established for the Borough of Wilkinsburg and Allegheny County that regulate such activities.

In the Borough of Wilkinsburg Ordinance #2847 Adopts the 2009 International Fire code as its Fire Prevention Ordinance. I

n that fire code, Sections 307 and 308 regulate all activities involving open burning, fire pits, charcoal and gas grills and approved, commercially sold fireplaces for outdoor use.

- Approved commercial outdoor fire pits or chimneas must be at least 15 feet away from a structure.

- A fire pit or recreational fire must be a minimum of 25 feet away from a structure.

- The recreational fire pits and/or commercial outdoor fire pits must be attended at all times and have a method of extinguishment readily available such as a garden hose or fire extinguisher.

- If the fire and/or smoke from the fire causes a nuisance or hazard the fire department and/or fire code officials of the borough have the authority to extinguish the fire.

To view the code regulations please visit the Code Enforcement office to obtain a printed copy of these sections in the 2009 International Fire Code.

Allegheny County's open burning ordinance can be viewed at the web link below which takes you to a PDF copy of the adopted regulations: www.ecode360.com/documents/AL1955/source/LF867688.pdf#search=firepitfiresfire

UPCOMING MEETINGS		
10/4 (Tues.)	6 P.M.	Planning Commission, 2nd floor
10/5 (Wed.)	7 P.M.	Council Work Session, 2nd floor
10/10 (Mon.)	4 P.M.	Finance Committee, 1st floor
10/10 (Mon.)	6 P.M.	Library Board, 2nd floor
10/11 (Tues.)	NOON	Public Safety Forum, 1st floor
10/11 (Tues.)	1 P.M.	Social Media & Promotions Committee, 1st floor
10/12 (Wed.)	7 P.M.	Council Legislative Session, 2nd floor
10/13 (Thurs.)	10 A.M.	Constituent & Community Relations, 2nd floor
10/14 (Fri.)	9 A.M.	Policy & Procedure Committee, 1st floor
10/17 (Mon.)	4 P.M.	Public Safety Committee, 1st floor
10/19 (Wed.)	7 P.M.	Council Administration Committee, 2nd floor
10/20 (Thurs.)	5:30 P.M.	Parks & Recreation Advisory Board, 1st floor
10/20 (Thurs.)	6:30 A.M.	Community Art & Civic Design Commission, 2nd floor
10/26 (Wed.)	5:30 P.M.	Blight Committee, 1st floor
10/26 (Wed.)	6:30 P.M.	Shade Tree Advisory Committee, 2nd floor
10/26 (Wed.)	7 P.M.	Capital Planning Committee, 2nd floor
10/27 (Thurs.)	5 P.M.	Public Safety Forum, 2nd floor
10/27 (Thurs.)	6:30 A.M.	Special Events Committee, 2nd floor
10/28 (Fri.)	9 A.M.	Policy & Procedure Committee, 1st floor
10/31 (Mon.)	5:30 P.M.	Joint Tax Committee, 2nd floor

All meetings will take place in Wilkinsburg Borough Building, 605 Ross Ave.

Come Work for Us!

Did you miss the deadline to apply for a job at the Borough of Wilkinsburg? You can still apply and employment applications are listed on the Borough's website! They are kept on file for a year and in the event that a position opens up, we will be sure to give you a call!

Pledge Support for the Train Station on Oct. 6

All aboard! The capital campaign for the Wilksburg Train Station Restoration Project is underway.

Join the WCDC and partners for the official Wilksburg Train Station Restoration Project kick-off on October 6. A press event will take place outside of the Train Station building, beginning at 10 a.m.

In conjunction with the press event, the Public Campaigns Committee will be hosting a Five Point Human Broadcast from 10 a.m. to 12 p.m. at locations around the borough, including:

- **Singer Mansion** - 1318 Singer Pl.
- **Biddle's Escape** - 401 Biddle Ave.
- **Landmarks Preservation Resource Center** - 744 Rebecca Ave.
- **Eastridge Library** - 1900 Graham Blvd.
- **Hosanna House** - 807 Wallace Ave.

Residents, business owners, and others interested in learning about the Wilksburg Train Station Restoration Project are invited to stop by one or more of these locations to pick up more

THE
WILKSBURG
TRAIN STATION
RESTORATION
» Est. 1916 « PROJECT AllAboard!



information about the project, sign up to host a house party, and pledge support. Visit bit.ly/5pointbroadcast for updates on this initiative as well as additional locations.

If you can't participate on October 6, there are other ways to get involved with this project. If you're interested in participating in the campaign by joining a fundraising subcommittee and/or hosting a house party or other fundraising event, please email marlee@wilksburgcdc.org or call (412) 727-7855 to find out how you can get involved. Donations to the project can be made any time at WilkStation.org.

#GetOnBoard and stay tuned to project updates by following the

WCDC's Train Station Restoration Project Facebook page at fb.com/WilksburgTrainStation

 To support the WCDC, send a tax-deductible contribution to 1001 Wood St., Wilksburg, PA 15221 OR donate online at wilksburgcdc.org Thank you!
412.727.7855 • 412.871.3149 (fax)
info@wilksburgcdc.org



Kiva, Urban Innovation21 Host Small Business Workshops



Crowdfunding is a new tool that entrepreneurs are using to acquire business capital. This fall, Kiva Pittsburgh and Urban Innovation21 will hold workshops on topics related to crowdfunding. If you want to learn more, plan to attend one or both of these sessions!

October 3: How to Successfully Crowdfund a Kiva Loan

October 19: Building and Utilizing Social Media for Crowdfunding

Both workshops will be held from 6-8 p.m. at Urban Innovation 21, 1435 Bedford Ave, Suite 132B, Pittsburgh, PA. Workshops may also be attended via live webinar. Participants must register at kiva-pittsburgh.eventbrite.com at least one business day prior to each workshop.

For more information, email emily.keebley@fellows.kiva.org or call (412) 281-0102 x8224.

Save the Dates!

Monday, October 3, 6-8 p.m.: How to Successfully Crowdfund a Kiva Loan; kiva-pittsburgh.eventbrite.com

Thursday, October 6, 10 a.m.: Train Station Restoration Project – Public Campaign Kick-Off; Hay St. at Ross Ave.

Thursday, October 6, 10 a.m.-12 p.m.: Five Point Human Broadcast for the Train Station Restoration Project; Various Locations; bit.ly/5pointbroadcast

Wednesday, October 19: Building and Utilizing Social Media for Crowdfunding; kiva-pittsburgh.eventbrite.com

Saturday, October 29, 9-11 a.m.: WCDC Board of Directors meeting; 1001 Wood St.


Dollar Bank
Since 1855

An Independent Licensee of the Blue Cross and Blue Shield Association



First Day Welcome for Wilkinsburg Students Attending Westinghouse Academy

As they stepped off the bus for their first day of school at Pittsburgh Westinghouse Academy, Wilkinsburg students grades 7-12 enjoyed a warm welcome from the Superintendents of Wilkinsburg and Pittsburgh Public Schools, Representative Edward Gainey, the transition team, MADDADS, local police and other community members.

The steps of Westinghouse were filled with handshakes, high fives, smiles and words of encouragement as students walked up to the school.

Wilkinsburg School Board President, Ed Donovan, arrived at Pittsburgh Westinghouse on a school bus with students, one of the five busses that crisscross Wilkinsburg to bring students to and from their new school.

He said, "They were excited for their first day here. So far we're off to a good start."

"Pittsburgh Public Schools has so



Wilkinsburg Superintendent Dr. Linda Iverson meets Dr. Anthony Hamlet, Superintendent of Pittsburgh Public Schools



Students are welcomed to their first day at Westinghouse Academy by superintendents, MADDADS, local police and other community members.

much to offer our students," says Dr. Linda Iverson, Superintendent of Wilkinsburg Schools. "It's a safe, secure, state-of-the-art school with great course offerings,

community partnerships and an impressive Career & Technical Education program. I cannot wait to see what this year brings. Our kids are in good hands."



Students learn team building skills at Camp Guyasta.

Team Building Retreats for Students Grades 7-12 Attending Westinghouse

During the second week of school, students participated in a three day, multi-location team building retreat with their new teachers and classmates.

At each location – Camp Guyasta, August Wilson Center and Pittsburgh Westinghouse Academy – students were stimulated to think critically, problem solve and work in teams on various challenges.

Rope courses, zip lines and daring rock wall climbs filled the students' day at Camp Guyasta, musical workshops at the August Wilson Center and activities cultivating positivity and leadership skills at Pittsburgh Westinghouse Academy.

"The energy is feeling good," said Pittsburgh Westinghouse Academy Principal LouAnn Zwierzynski. "We had zero problems between Westinghouse and Wilkinsburg students."



Students enjoy a musical workshop at August Wilson Center.

Westinghouse CTE Program Prepares Students for Emergency Response Careers

Pittsburgh Westinghouse Academy held a ribbon cutting ceremony for their new Career & Technical Education program on Emergency Response Technology. The program will help prepare students for careers in public safety as paramedics, police officers and firefighters.

SCHOOL DISTRICT CALENDAR

10/3 (Mon.)	7 P.M.	Inservice Day (No Students)
10/12 (Weds.)	6 P.M.	Inservice Day (No Students)
10/14 (Fri.)	7 P.M.	Act 80/ Parent Conference (No Students)

Wilksburg Public Library October Calendar

These library programs and events are free and open to everyone. Reservations can be made in advance at the circulation desk or by calling 412.244.2940.

Adult Programs

Oriental Brush Art, Mondays, Oct 10-Nov 14, 10 a.m.—Discover or continue your skill at this amazing art form. Registration required.

You're a Poet!, Mondays, Oct 10-Nov 14, 5:30 p.m.—In-class writing exercises and discussion directed by Laurie and Jane. Registration requested.

You Can Paint!, Wednesdays, Oct 12-Nov 16, 5:30 p.m.—Paul returns to guide you in creating your next oil painting masterpiece. Registration required.

Basic Computer Skills, Wednesdays, Sept 28-Nov 2, 10:30 a.m.—Introduction to computers. Registration required.

General Book Discussion Group, Wednesday, October 26, 1 p.m.—Title to be selected. Everyone invited.

Crochet with Frankie, Mondays, 2 p.m.—Beginners and experienced crocheters welcomed. Bring your materials.

Eastridge Crochet, Saturdays, 11 a.m.—Join Frankie to get tips and help with your projects.

Children's Programs

Video Games, Tuesdays, 3 p.m.—Come play Wii and Xbox One. Ages 10 and up

Eastridge Family Storytime, Thursdays, 11 a.m.—Read stories, play games and sing songs. For babies thru preschoolers with an adult.

Mercy To Host Harvest Festival At Garden View Manor

Pittsburgh Mercy Nature-Related Programming invites the community to attend its inaugural Harvest Festival. The family-friendly event, free and open to the public, will be held rain or shine on Saturday, October 22, from noon to 4 p.m., at Pittsburgh Mercy Garden View Manor, 441 Swissvale Avenue, in Wilksburg.

Participants of all ages can enjoy family-friendly activities, lawn games, and several creative art projects, including painting inspirational garden rocks, decorating wooden pallet garden benches and rain barrels, and crafting butterflies from recycled soda bottles. Although the garden benches and rain barrels will remain at Garden View Manor, participants will be able to take home any inspirational garden rocks and soda bottle butterflies they create.

Weather permitting, participants can also learn about and take part in a garlic seed planting activity. Green thumbs of all abilities can get free autumn and winter garden advice from Penn State Master Gardeners at the "Ask the Gardener" table. Kaeryn Silvera of Rosebay Ridge and her animal friends will be on hand to discuss the environmental benefits of goats.

For a small suggested donation, participants can pick a pumpkin from Garden View Manor's pumpkin patch, one of only a few known urban pumpkin patches. Garden View Manor residents, who participate in Pittsburgh Mercy's Nature-Related Programming, have grown more than 100 pumpkins this season that range in size and color. Pumpkins are available first come, first served and while supplies last. Participants will also be able to learn more about the continued

efforts to revitalize the gardens at Garden View Manor.

Pittsburgh-based musical duo Tone/Overtone, featuring flutist Rachel Rue and accordionist Keith Cochran, will entertain guests from noon to 2 p.m. The duo's musical repertoire ranges from French folk and cabaret to tangos and popular American music from the mid-19th to mid-20th centuries, Greek music, fiddle tunes, old-style country, and gospel.

Light refreshments will be served. No R.S.V.P. is necessary.

Garden View Manor is home to 56 residents served by Pittsburgh Mercy since 2008. A 4½-story Italianate-style building erected in 1869 and set on 4.7 bucolic acres, the facility and its elaborate gardens were featured in Wilksburg Community Development Corporation's 4th Annual House & Garden Tour.

Nature-Related Programming is a recovery-oriented, therapeutic Pittsburgh Mercy program that promotes holistic wellness, healthy lifestyle behavior, and community inclusion through gardening. Numerous published studies have shown that being exposed to nature can increase authentic social integration and improve a person's overall quality of life. The Harvest Festival is the second community event that Pittsburgh Mercy Nature-Related Programming has hosted at Garden View Manor in as many years.

For more information about the festival, contact Benjamin Bishop, coordinator of Nature-Related Programming at Pittsburgh Mercy, at BBishop@pittsburghmercy.org or 412.342.4633.



1789 S. Braddock Avenue
Suite 410
Pittsburgh, PA 15218
www.metrofamilypractice.org
412-247-2310

*Health care to all people, at every stage in life,
without regard to their ability to pay...*

Featuring a Unique Blend of New & Vintage Jewelry

KENYON JEWELERS

- Your Neighborhood Jeweler Since 1924 -

Handmade, Custom Jewelry • Jewelry Repairs
Antique Jewelry Restoration

711 Penn Ave. Wilksburg, PA 15221
412-731-6063
www.kenyonjewelers.com

**\$5.00
OFF**
for over \$20.00
spent on Jewelry Repair

Kenyon Jewelers
711 Penn Ave., Wilksburg, PA 15221
412-731-6063

One Coupon per Customer.

East End Food Co-op Events

Thursday, October 13 at 7 p.m.

Food for Change Film Screening

POWER/EEFC Conference Room

Food for Change is an 84-minute

documentary by award-winning filmmaker Steve Alves that examines the role played by food co-ops, their pioneering quest for organic foods, and their current efforts to create regional food systems. Organic popcorn and snacks will be provided.

This event is free. RSVP to 412.242.3598.

Thursday, October 20, All Day

Bulk Foods Week Celebration

EEFC Bulk Department

National Bulk Foods Week is October 16-22. The co-op is celebrating the many things to love about bulk (including great pricing, less packaging, and more sustainability) with a one-day 25% off bulk food sale. They'll have samples, contests, and tips on how to bulk shop. This event is free and no RSVPs are required.

Wednesday, October 26, All Day

Wellness Wednesday

EEFC Supplements/HBA Departments

All shoppers will receive 10% off

wellness and body care items. Discounts are non-stackable; vendor coupons welcome.

Saturday, October 29 at 5 p.m.

Coop Explorers Trick-or-Treat

Throughout the EEFC

Kids ages 12 and under are invited to trick-or-treat at the East End Food Co-op. Meet at the Customer Service desk at 5 p.m. to retrieve a bag, then come along a guided tour of the Co-op for treats from each department. Halloween costumes are optional. Children must be accompanied by an adult. This event is free, but spaces are limited. RSVP to 412.242.3598 so they can plan to have enough treats for all!

TREE PITS, from page 1

business owners and others make a point of expressing their approval and encouragement whenever the StormWorks crew braves the summer heat to tend the tree pits, and their kind words make it seem a little bit cooler.



The Annual Membership Meeting was held at Hosanna House's Sherwood Event Center in Wilkinsburg. Hosanna House, Inc., is a non-profit serving at-risk children and their families in our community.

Annual Meeting

Thanks from the Chamber to all who attended the 2016 Annual Membership Meeting, making it an amazing event!

Thank you to sponsors Community Life, Western PA School for the Deaf, Stanton Electric, Nancy's East End Diner, and

Pittsburgh Dry Cleaners. Thank you to the speakers: Yvonne James, Mike Hiller, Valerie Annese, Barb Moore, and Beverly Garrett from the Wilkinsburg Chamber of Commerce, Jennifer Salmans from the Wilkinsburg Community Development Corp., Patrick Shattuck and Donn Henderson from the Wilkinsburg Borough, Josh Miller and Dr. Linda Iverson from the Wilkinsburg School District, and Pastor Janet Hellner-Burris from the Sanctuary Project. Thank you to the suppliers of food and drink: Legacy Cafe, Wilkinsburg Beverage, Giant Eagle on Frankstown Road, and Wine & Words. Thank you to the businesses that provided the raffle giveaways Salvatore's Pizza House, Trash 2 Treasures, James Floral, and Kenyon Jewelers. We look forward to seeing you all next year!

Early Bird 2017 memberships are available now. Receive 10% off until Dec 31.

Oktoberfest Fundraiser, October 11

Instead of a Business After Hours in October, the membership committee has planned an Oktoberfest fundraiser at 5:30 p.m. at Liam's Fish, Wings, and Things, 501 Penn Avenue. \$20 gets you a beer and all-you-can-eat buffet of Oktoberfest favorites. The chamber board will be cutting the ribbon in honor of the second liquor license issued in the borough along with welcoming a new business to the community. Save the date for this event.

Thank You to Chamber Members

Triangle Poster & Printing Co., Nancy's East End Diner, Hosanna House, Second United Presbyterian Church of Wilkinsburg, The Wilkinsburg Sun, Kerr engineered sales company, Metro Community Health Center, Wilkinsburg Community Ministry, Amore Management Company, Lincoln Heritage Life Insurance—Chris Ashley, Western PA School for the Deaf, Pittsburgh Dry Cleaners & Furrier, Wilkinsburg Community Development Corporation, Vision Towards Peace Counseling Services, Wilkinsburg Christian Housing, Community Hearing, Stanton Industrial Electric Supply, South Avenue United Methodist Church, ACHIEVA, Western & Southern Life Insurance—Kyle Ross, Compass Self Storage, Rocky Enterprises, Admintrinsic, Pennwood Paints & Supply, St. James Roman Catholic Church, Thomas Home Child Care, The Real McKoy Creative, MD Autoworks, Enrich Products Inc., Giant Eagle Frankstown Rd., Mansmann Foundation, Trash2Treasure, Abracadabra Cleaning Services, CP Development, Impact Redevelopment, John Irwin, James B. Richard Services, Kenyon Jewelers, Ralph Yearick, Pittsburgh Urban Christian School, Eastern Area Prehospital Service, Davis-Fetch Corp. of Pennsylvania, WTAE, BPI Inc., James Floral, Bridges to the Desired Future, Dennis Bossick, Fulton Building and Remodeling, Abator Information Services, NBT Holdings LLC, Reformed Presbyterian Theological Seminary, Jody Guy, Pamela Macklin, Pete & Vicki Smith, South Hills Bible Chapel, Community Life, Covenant Church of Pittsburgh, Bryn Mawr Apartments/ McKinney Properties, People's Natural Gas Co., Donn Henderson, and the Wilkinsburg Borough.

Greater Wilkinsburg Chamber of Commerce

1001 Wood St., Wilkinsburg 15221 • 412.242.0234 • info@wilkinsburgchamber.com



Wilkinsburg Mourns and Remembers Two Exceptional Volunteers



Sylvia LaFranchi

Recently, Wilkinsburg lost two community leaders. Former mayor of Wilkinsburg, Sylvia LaFranchi, passed away on August 31 at age 96, and James B. Richard on September 16 at age 88.

LaFranchi was a resident of Wilkinsburg for 52 years. According to her online memorial “she loved the small town community and its spirit of working together.”

She is survived by her husband William, two children, and grandchildren.

Richard was a resident of Wilkinsburg for over 78 years and is survived by his wife, Nancy, two children and grandchildren.

Both LaFranchi and Richard were known for unflagging volunteerism and involvement in the community.

The following is a tribute to them both, given by Yvonne James of James Florist at the Chamber of Commerce annual meeting on September 15:

I would like to acknowledge the passing of Sylvia LaFranchi. She was very involved in Wilkinsburg for many years.

Prior to becoming our mayor, she was president of the Wilkinsburg school board, Chamber of Commerce executive director, and president of EDGE (Economic



Jim Richard receiving a plaque to honor his contributions to the Chamber of Commerce and the Wilkinsburg community at the Wilkinsburg Gives Thanks breakfast in 2014.

Development Group East), President of the Women’s Club of Wilkinsburg. She chaired the Citizens Coordinating Committee, [was] a council member and member of the Wilkinsburg Historical Society.

She volunteered at South Avenue United Methodist Church, the Boys & Girls Club, and Meals on Wheels, and received numerous awards. Ms. LaFranchi had many accomplishments and was very passionate about Wilkinsburg.

I would also like to ask you all to keep the family of Jim Richard in your prayers. Mr. Richard suffered a stroke a few months ago and has just passed away yesterday. He, too, was very passionate about Wilkinsburg, not only being the tax collector for many years, he was also involved in many organizations.

Mr. Richard was a life long member of the Chamber of Commerce, founding board member of the WCDC, and a school board member.

He was involved in Kiwanis, Wilkinsburg Historical Society (he maintained the gardening at the Abraham Lincoln statue), very involved at South Avenue United Methodist Church, the Boys & Girls Club, and Boy Scouts.

These two community pillars exemplified true volunteerism. Please folks, give back to your community and churches—volunteer!

EAST END FOOD COOP

comfort food

Pre-order your Thanksgiving turkey and sides today!

7516 Meade Street · Pittsburgh, PA 15208 · www.eastendfood.coop · 412.242.3598

Have you heard about the Allegheny County Vacant Property Recovery Program?

It's where vacant houses become loving homes and it's working in Wilkinsburg.

For more information visit www.wilkinsburgcdc.org/vpp
Fill out an application today—you could be living happily ever after—tomorrow