

# BOROUGH OF CHURCHILL

2300 William Penn Highway • Pittsburgh, PA 15235  
Telephone: 412-241-7113 • office@churchillborough.com • Fax: 412-241-0503

March 2019



## THE ANNUAL BUNNY PARADE

The Annual Bunny Parade will take place on Saturday, April 20th from 10:00 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. Come on out and greet the bunny for treats and picture opportunities. The following street times are approximate so listen for the sirens.

- 10:00 Parade leaves Borough Parking Lot
- 10:05 Forest Drive
- 10:10 Williamsburg Place- upper
- 10:15 Hollywood Drive
- 10:25 Collins Road
- 10:30 Williamsburg Place- lower
- 10:40 Greensburg Pike
- 10:50 Barton Drive
- 11:00 Marbury Road
- 11:10 Garden Terrace
- 11:15 Henley Drive
- 11:25 Thornberry Drive
- 11:30 Garrick Drive
- 11:45 Fenwick Drive
- 11:50 Beulah/Old Beulah Road
- 12:05 Kings Dale Road
- 12:15 Woodland Hills Drive
- 12:25 Homer Drive
- 12:30 Hampstead Drive
- 12:45 Holland Road
- 12:50 Huntingdon Drive
- 12:55 Ridgewood Drive
- 1:05 Nottingham Drive
- 1:15 Churchill Road

## A Message from the Mayor Spring 2019

We have a lot of news to report over the past few months here in the Borough. I am pleased to announce that a new Chief of Police was appointed January 11, 2019 at the council meeting. We wish to congratulate Chief Ronald Akerley. He has been an asset to our department for the past twelve years. Chief Akerley is enthusiastic about his new position and is eager to put his expertise to use as chief. I am looking forward to working with him as chief. Along with the Chief and the other 8 officers who make up our department we live in a safe and well protected community. Our crime statistics are a reflection of what we enjoy as a community. Our goal is to maintain 2 officers on duty each shift.

I hear a lot of complaints about speeding and other moving violations in the Borough. These violations are not unique to Churchill. Other Boroughs have the same concerns. I would ask motorists to be mindful of the posted speed limits and stop signs.

It has certainly been a rough winter with the snow and freezing temperatures and with that comes the annual appearance of the dreaded potholes. The road crews are constantly working to fill in the holes. Keep in mind that the cold patch is only effective under optimal conditions. They have done an excellent job of keeping our roads clear of snow during the past months.

There have been a number of ordinances either updated or passed recently to keep us safe and protected. Listed here are a few.

- Wildlife Feeding Ban
- Human Relations
- Tree Ordinance(pending)

Please check the borough website for more details on each ordinance.

The Deer Committee has been compiling information from resident surveys to effectively control the increasing deer population. A highly humane method is being discussed as well as the cost of an ongoing program. The Pennsylvania State Game Commission has rules and regu-

lations that must be followed.

As I travel through the borough I notice homes that do not have easily visible house numbers. It is important, especially in an emergency, that your house numbers are visible. This could save critical time. Also keeping property free of overgrown trees and shrubs helps in eliminating blind spots where motorists must try to pull onto the roadway.

As we head into the warmer spring and summer months we will be continuing our volunteer efforts to make improvements to highly visible areas of the Borough. Thank you to all the volunteers who have reached out to lend a hand with these efforts. If you would like to join us, please contact me through the Borough email.

Remember that council has two meetings each month. The first Monday is the agenda setting workshop and the second Monday is the Council Meeting. Each meeting begins at 7:00 p.m. at the Borough building. I extend an invitation to you to attend a meeting.

*Submitted by: Paul G. Gamrat*

## A Message from our new Police Chief

Allow me to introduce myself.

My name is Ronald M. Akerley, and I am proud to be your newly appointed Chief of Police for the Borough of Churchill. Let me begin by providing you with a brief background of myself.

I have been involved in law enforcement now for more than 18 years, the past 12 with Churchill Borough. Prior to coming here, I spent more than 5 years as a police officer for both the Swissvale and Turtle Creek police departments. In my time with Churchill Borough, I have had the opportunity to work closely with our many neighboring police agencies as well as with local, county, state and federal agencies and authorities, gaining a profound knowledge of and extensive experience with our criminal justice system. I also spent a considerable amount of time working in the capacity of one of the school resource officers at the Woodland Hills Jr/Sr High School, giving me a solid understanding and insight into the inner workings of both the juvenile justice system as well as the Woodland Hills School District.

My experience is not just limited to the law enforcement field, as I have been involved in many facets of the emergency services throughout the years. I worked as a

supervisor at what was once the Eastern Regional 911 Center located in Monroeville before transferring to the Allegheny County 911 Center upon the merger of the two entities in 2006. I also have an extensive background, training and experience in the fields of firefighting as well as the emergency medical services. I believe the totality of my professional experience coupled with my own personal life experience has provided me the opportunity to develop into a very well rounded and effective leader, and a perfect fit for the position of Chief for your police department.

Our mission here at the Churchill Police Department is simple; to provide the most professional, effective and dedicated police service to our residents as is possible, always. We will continue to strive to do our very best and to serve you with the utmost diligence and commitment. I look forward to meeting and working with you for many years to come, so that we may continue to keep Churchill amongst the premier locations to reside.

## CHURCHILL BOROUGH SWIFTREACH PROGRAM

In an effort to provide more reliable communication with residents and businesses within the Borough, we have implemented the Swiftreach Networks, Inc., as our Emergency Notification Service Provider.

Swift 911 is a system that will prompt alerts to specific people or areas in the event of an emergency or to share important information. This system can alert the customer through phone calls, text messages, or email. Any message received from the Swiftreach System will have a caller I.D. of Churchill Borough or email from office@churchillborough.com.

In order to be added to the system, please complete the form below and return it to our office via email to: office @churchillborough.com or send to: Borough of Churchill, 2300 William Penn Highway, Pittsburgh, PA 15235 If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact the Borough Office at 412- 241-7113.

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone #1: \_\_\_\_\_ HOME CELL WORK

Optional Phone #2: \_\_\_\_\_ HOME CELL WORK

Optional Phone #3: \_\_\_\_\_ HOME CELL WORK



## From Our Fire Department

Churchill Fire Company is excited to announce the arrival of our new Darley/Ford fire engine. Following an 18 month custom design and construction process in Wisconsin, the new truck is now fully in service and supporting the Churchill community. The new fire engine will be on display at an Open House being held on Saturday, September 21 from 11am to 3pm. All residents are invited and we encourage you to stop by to learn about firefighting and volunteering, see our volunteers and equipment in action with live vehicle rescue and firefighting demonstrations, explore the fire trucks, or just enjoy a hot dog with your neighbors.

The new Engine is a great addition to Churchill's fleet. It combines water with a high-tech firefighting foam system to deliver exceptional fire suppression capabilities in a smaller, four wheel drive vehicle that can easily maneuver through the area's narrow streets, cul-de-sacs, and can even reach a few areas in Churchill that were inaccessible to conventional 20+ ton trucks. The truck will be used as the primary response vehicle for all fires, fire alarms and carbon monoxide/gas investigations, and serve as the secondary vehicle for vehicle crashes and rescue incidents.



Putting the new truck to use, the Fire Company's volunteers are busier than ever, averaging one response per day during 2018. The most significant incident in Churchill last year was a late night fire at St John Fisher Catholic Church on Lewin Lane. Churchill Fire Company's rescue pumper was first on the scene finding an exterior backup generator shed next to the church fully engulfed. Quick action by our firefighters contained the fire in just minutes before it would have spread to the main sanctuary and caused much more significant damage. Forest Hills



and Wilkins Township fire companies, and the Churchill Police also provided valuable assistance at the fire. 2019 has already started out with several major incidents for the Fire Company including a house fire in Wilkins Township, an early morning rope rescue following a vehicle accident on the Parkway East, two car fires in January and a third car fire on the Presidents' Day holiday.

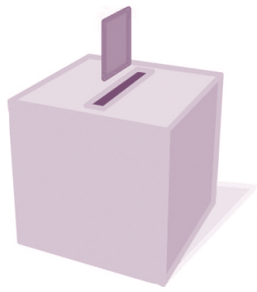
While the Fire Company's volunteers are busier than ever and expenses continue to increase, donations to the Fire Company from Borough residents are decreasing at an alarming rate, down from 39% of households in 2017 to just 34% in 2018. The majority of the Fire Company's yearly funding comes from individual donations from Churchill residents. Every donation matters in our small community. Please help us to reverse that downward trend by supporting the Fire Company's 2019 Fund Drive which is starting in March.

We now accept contributions conveniently and securely online via PayPal at [www.churchillfire.org/donate](http://www.churchillfire.org/donate) or you can respond to our fund drive letter. All donations are fully tax deductible. We also accept donations of your used cars and trucks. Vehicle donations are used for training our firefighters in vehicle rescue techniques, using the Jaws of Life to remove doors, roof, windshields, seats or anything else required to access someone trapped inside after an accident. Visit our Open House for a demonstration.

The Fire Company is always looking for more volunteer firefighters (16 years or older). All training and equipment is provided. Members are also eligible for a county-wide program called FireVest which provides FREE tuition at CCAC when committing to volunteer. Contact [info@churchillfire.org](mailto:info@churchillfire.org) for more information, or stop by the firehouse on a Thursday evening for our weekly training night.

Brian Papa, President

**P.S. Don't forget to change your smoke detector batteries when the clocks change. We encourage you to replace your old detectors with new 10-year maintenance free detectors which don't need battery replacements. Detectors should be installed in each bedroom and on each floor of your house.**



## VOTE in the Pennsylvania Municipal Primary Election: May 21, 2019

Spring primary elections narrow down the pool of candidates for the fall general elections, and our upcoming primary will feature state, county, and borough candidates from each political party— Democrats and Republicans, on separate ballots. The successful candidates will be making decisions about important policies which will impact your daily life, such as taxes, trash and recycling pickup, snow removal, and policing in your neighborhood.

Pennsylvania has “closed” primaries, which means that you must enroll in a political party to participate unless there are ballot questions, constitutional amendments, or special election contests. This May, we will not have any of those three categories on the slate. If you would like to register or to change your registration so that your voice will be heard, you can do so by mail, online, or in person at numerous locations. Detailed directions can be seen at <https://www.votespa.com/Register-to-Vote/Pages/How-to-Register-to-Vote.aspx>.

On your ballot will be candidates running for the following offices:

### Commonwealth of Pennsylvania

Judge of the Superior Court (2 positions)

### Allegheny County

County Chief Executive

County Controller

County Treasurer

District Attorney

County Council At-Large

County Council, District 7

Judge of the Court of Common Pleas (1 position)

Borough of Churchill

Member of Council (4-year term, 3 positions)

Woodland Hills School Board

School Director, Region 1 (2 positions)

### Important Dates:

Last day to register or change your registration before the primary: April 22

Last day to apply for a civilian absentee ballot: May 14

Last day for County Board of Elections to receive voted absentee ballots: May 17

Municipal Primary: Tuesday, May 21, 2019, 7:00am-8:00pm

### Helpful web resources for Churchill residents:

Churchill polling locations: <http://www.churchillborough.com/downloads/Churchill-Polling-Districts.pdf>

PA voting information: [www.votespa.com](http://www.votespa.com)

League of Women Voters voting information: [www.vote411.org](http://www.vote411.org)

Allegheny County sample ballots: <http://apps.alleghenycounty.us/website/ElectPollPlace.aspx>

### Helpful Phone Numbers:

Churchill Borough Office:  
412-241-7113

Allegheny County Elections  
Division: 412-350-4500



Churchill has a longstanding tradition of installing candidate yard signs no earlier than two weeks prior to an election. For this primary that would be May 7, 2019. Also, please remove these signs promptly after the election is over. Thank you!

*Submitted by: Judith Diorio*



## Events at the C.C. Mellor Memorial Library

(April-May-June)

### Construction Challenge

*Ages 5–8*

• *CCM Edgewood, Saturdays in April, 10:30 a.m.*

Can you build it taller? How much weight will it hold? What wild and wacky material works best? Test your engineering skills with a new challenge every week!

Registration opens March 1.

### Music and Movement

*Ages 0–5*

• *Churchill Borough Building, Fridays, 10:30 a.m.*

Sing, dance, wiggle, and shake with us every week at this active story time! We'll share a story, sing songs, practice rhythm and movements, and dance.



## SPRING LEAF AND YARD WASTE COLLECTION:

**Dates: May 14th and 29th, June 11th and 25th, July 9th and 23rd.**

Place leaves and yard waste in paper biodegradable bags on evening prior to pick-up at the curb.

No plastic bags, taping or stapling bag shut.

**Acceptable items:** leaves, trimmings, cuttings and clippings from trees, small bushes and other plants, and garden residue. Longer branches (less than 3 ft. in length should be bundled together).

**Non-acceptable items:** dirt, stones or grass clippings, heavy tree trunks, stumps, or excessively large items

\*You do not have to schedule a pick up. Waste Management will be coming through the Borough on the dates listed above. Please leave the biodegradable bags out on the evening prior to pick up at the curb.

## STREET SWEEPING

Street sweeping will be conducted throughout the Borough. Spring Dates: 5/1, 2 & 3

Fall Dates: 9/4, 5 & 6. Please assist by not parking your vehicle on the street during the hours of 7:00 a.m.-3:30 p.m. on these dates. Your cooperation will be appreciated.



## 2019 ROAD PAVING PROJECTS-

Street paving will be performed on Holland Road from Churchill Road to Branning, Branning Road from Holland to the cul-de-sac, Churchill Road from the parkway on ramp to approximately 8 Churchill Road and Williamsburg Place from McNary Blvd. to 1510 Williamsburg Place.

## OUR FAMOUS "Black Gold" WILL BE AVAILABLE IN JUNE

The fibrous compost that the Borough makes over the winter and spring from autumn leaves that residents rake into special, biodegradable, paper bags is finished. Use it liberally as a mulch around



all plants, including vegetables, flower beds, shrubs, and trees. Leave a 6-8" mulch free "moat" around tree bases to discourage rodents from nesting and feeding at the bark. Your black gold will continue to age, retaining moisture, releasing plant nutrients (minerals) and improving the texture of your soil.

It will be ready for distribution on Saturday, June 8 and 15. Pick up a supply from the Joint Compost site located at the corner of Business Route 22 and Rodi Road between the hours of 8:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m. Bring your own containers and there is a suggested donation of \$2.00/vehicle. Delivery is available at a cost of \$10.00/bucket of mulch (2 buckets equals 4 cubic yards), plus \$30.00 for delivery. Please contact the Borough office for delivery arrangements. **\*ALL ORDERS MUST BE PRE-PAID AT THE BOROUGH OFFICE BEFORE DELIVERY CAN BE MADE.**

## Real Estate Tax Collection Dates

The Churchill Borough real estate tax statements are mailed to all Borough residents on March 1, 2019. The discount amount is due by April 30, 2019 and the face amount is due by June 30, 2019. Beginning July 1, 2019 the Borough taxes will then be collected at the face amount with a 10% penalty.

If you recently paid off your mortgage, or refinanced and the taxes are not escrowed, please contact the Borough office at (412)241-7113 for a change in the tax notice mailing address. Also, please contact the County office at (412)350-4107 for this change as well.

*Please mail all tax payments to:*

**Daniel R. Duerring, Tax Collector**

**2300 William Penn Highway Pittsburgh, PA 15235**

## Feed the Birds: Install a Rain Garden!

Many Churchill residents enjoy watching and feeding our local birds. According to experts at the Audubon Society of Western Pennsylvania (ASWP), the best way to attract birds to your yard is to provide a natural habitat and a source of fresh water on your property. The ASWP encourages us to choose native plants when landscaping our yards and public spaces. Gardening with native plants is one way to help restore vital habitat for birds in our community.



Most of the plants selected for installation in the new rain garden located in front of the borough building are

native to Western Pennsylvania. The plant list includes species known to attract and provide preferred food sources for a wide variety of birds including cardinals, chickadees, finches, grosbeaks, hummingbirds, nuthatches, orioles, thrushes, titmice, vireos, waxwings, and warblers. Natural food sources provide high quality nutrition for our feathered friends.

There is an interesting article on the pros and cons of artificially feeding birds on the ASWP website. <http://aswp.org/pages/audubon-blog-why-do-we-feed-birds> Members of the Rain Garden Advisory Group are available to assist residents in selecting appropriate native plant species for their home gardens in an effort to help support healthy bird populations in our area.

April Kline  
Rain Garden Advisory Group



## Churchill Garden Club News - Spring 2019

Shortly after the groundhog sees his shadow in February the Churchill Garden Club begins to stir from its winter hibernation. We will resume our activities in March with a paper making project followed by a terrarium workshop in April and the traveling chef in May. Our yearly activities will end with a visit to the Clayton Frick Mansion in June. After the tour, we will have our annual officer installation luncheon which will be held at the Grandview Golf Club. If you are interested in any of our activities or joining, please contact Carolyn Hankinson at [ckhcapemay@verizon.net](mailto:ckhcapemay@verizon.net).

The Churchill Garden Club has an active anti-litter group who have been picking up the litter along our local roadways including the parkway entrances and exits and a section of Beulah Road. If you would like to volunteer please contact Paul Gamrat at [gamratpaul@gmail.com](mailto:gamratpaul@gmail.com).

Through generous donations from the Churchill Garden Club and the Churchill Wilkins Rotary, we will be able to give a major face lift to the common garden area at the corner of Beulah and Churchill Road. Look for the work to begin this spring 2019.

*Submitted by: Paul Gamrat, President CGC*

*Join us as we honor our partners for deepening community connections through their commitment to the students of Pace School and to the children's success. Like us, they believe Kids Can!*

**Taste for Pace**  
*Celebrating Our Community*  
April 11, 2019

- ALCOSAN
- Claude Worthington Benedum Foundation
- Hillman Family Foundations
- University of Pittsburgh
- Toaster Pets

**Thursday, April 11, 2019**

**6:00 – 8:30 p.m.**

**The LeMont, 1114 Grandview Avenue, Pittsburgh**

Tickets available at [www.tasteforpace.org](http://www.tasteforpace.org)

Need info? Call 412-342-4385



## Churchill Community Day - Saturday, August 10th, 11:00 A.M. to 4:00 P.M. (Rain or Shine).

This year's event will add a tent for our local artists to showcase their creations. Any interested artists please contact Kelly Stouffer at [churchill-recboard@gmail.com](mailto:churchill-recboard@gmail.com) for more details. Keep an eye out in the next newsletter as well as our website, Facebook and NextDoor Churchill for more details about the planned events for the day.

*Submitted by: Robert Ferry*



Dear Churchill Borough Resident,

A recent meeting was conducted with Waste Management based on a request from Council President Jay Dworin and the Churchill office staff. As a result of the meeting Waste Management would like to formally apologize to residents for the mailer that was distributed at the beginning of 2019.

To clarify, Waste Management and Churchill Borough have not entered in to a new contract this year. The current contract to provide waste and recycling service runs through December 31, 2022. This was an editing oversight and we apologize for any confusion this may have caused.

### Bulk Collection Update

In an effort to provide quality service to residents, we will be updating the list of materials that will be collected during the **first Tuesday of the month** (unless otherwise noted in observation of the holiday service schedule).

Residents are now permitted to select from **one** of the following options on scheduled bulk collection days:

- Two bulk items including but not limited refrigerators (with Freon properly removed), washers, dryers, dishwashers, stoves, bicycles, microwaves, carpet (3-foot section, 40lbs or less), etc.
- Two garbage bags placed outside of the provided container
- Combination of one bulk item and one garbage bag

In addition to the two allowable items (as described in the options above), if you have need for any additional bulk items to be collected **on your bulk collection day**, you must contact Waste Management to schedule accordingly.

**Please Note:** in regard to additional bulk items that are scheduled, there will be a charge for these additional items and Waste Management will pick up **ONLY** on your scheduled bulk collection day (**first Tuesday of the month**).

Scheduled bulk collection days for the remainder of 2019 are:

March 5  
April 2

May 7  
June 4

July 2  
August 6

September 4  
October 1

November 5  
December 3

### Recycling Education Update

We realize there may be some confusion surrounding the annual recycling education that was also included in the mailer. We omitted two materials, glass and cartons, from the list of acceptable and not acceptable items. We chose to omit these items to avoid confusion, and to focus on collecting quality material at the curb.

As we have had ongoing conversations to remove these materials completely from the list of acceptable items, we felt it was best to leave these off the education pieces to avoid message conflict for residents. In hindsight, this decision may have created more confusion than anticipated.

Waste Management intends to honor our contract with Churchill Borough and will not reject recycling that includes the items omitted from the education piece. As a reminder, residents can recycle aluminum and metal cans, plastics number 1-7, glass, paper and cardboard, which must be placed inside the provided recycle toter.

We appreciate our relationship with Churchill Borough and residents and look forward to providing you waste and recycling service throughout the year.

Please contact Waste Management if you have any questions or concerns. A customer service representative can be reached at 1-800-866-4460 or online at [www.wm.com](http://www.wm.com). Thank you for being a Waste Management customer.

Best Regards,

Waste Management – North Huntingdon Hauling





The Borough of Churchill  
2300 William Penn Highway  
Pittsburgh, PA 15235

PRSR STD  
US Postage  
PAID  
Pittsburgh PA  
Permit No 1180



Join us for Churchill Recreation’s Annual Table and Vine Dinner.  
Come and meet your neighbors!

**April 7, 2019 6:00 pm - socializing and appetizers, 6:30 pm - dinner**

Gia Visto  
4366 Old Wm. Penn Hwy.  
Monroeville, PA 15146  
412-374-1800

Total cost per person, including gratuity \$43.00 **BYOB**  
Complete the form below and return with your payment  
**before March 29, 2019 to:**

Table and Vine  
Churchill Borough Office  
2300 William Penn Hwy.  
Pittsburgh, PA 15235

**Appetizers:**

assorted bruschetta, antipasto tray, chicken skewers

**Choice of entrees, served with a house salad:**

- Grilled Canadian salmon with risotto, asparagus and tomato jam
- Chicken Piccata, spaghetti with aglio e olio and broccoli
- Meat Lasagna with sautéed spinach
- Crispy Eggplant Parmesan, penne with tomato-basil sauce
- Brined and grilled pork chop with sweet potato gratin and vegetable medley

**Dessert buffet:**

tiramisu, lemon cream cake, assorted cookies

NAME(S) \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

PHONE NUMBER \_\_\_\_\_

**NUMBER OF ENTREES:**

- \_\_\_\_\_ Salmon
- \_\_\_\_\_ Chicken Piccata
- \_\_\_\_\_ Meat Lasagna
- \_\_\_\_\_ Eggplant Parmesan
- \_\_\_\_\_ Pork Chop

**AMOUNT ENCLOSED:** \_\_\_\_\_