Welcome to our New Newsletter

Dear Residents and Friends:

The Borough of Wilson is pleased to bring you this first edition of our new borough newsletter. This publication provides you with information on municipal services and officials, contact numbers for municipal offices and other agencies, and updates on current projects being undertaken by the Borough.

We extend a special thanks to the business and professional members of our community whose support through advertising has made publication of this newsletter possible at no cost to taxpayers. Please support the local businesses that support Wilson Borough.

We would like to take this opportunity to encourage all residents to contact the municipal offices for any assistance you may need. Community service is a priority for the Borough.

The Borough is and wishes to remain a financially responsible community that promotes citizen and business involvement for the betterment of quality living for our residents. We continually look towards the future to find ways to create a better community for tomorrow.
The Ashton Family - Worthy of Your Trust for Five Generations

1337 Northampton St.  Easton, Pennsylvania
610-253-4678

www.AshtonFuneralHome.com

R. Kline Ashton, Jr., Supervisor
Debra Jo Ashton-Chase, Funeral Director
W. Scott Ashton, Funeral Director
Letter from Mayor Barrett

Fellow Residents

Welcome to the new and improved Wilson Borough Newsletter! This newsletter comes at no cost to the residents of the Borough and will help inform you of local information. This Newsletter and our new website are just a few of the changes made in 2018 and we have more to come to help make Wilson a better place.

This past year has been a learning experience for me. When I first started out on my journey to become mayor, I was a concerned citizen and upset with the direction I saw the borough going. I posted about issues I saw and attended meetings. Finally, I decided to get involved. I wanted to jump in and make a difference right away, but discovered that change takes time. We need to remember that the process for improving our community is a marathon and not a sprint. It is ongoing and we must focus on what is important and in the best interest of our community. I have to remind myself this daily and it seems to be the biggest challenge we have. I want to tell you the Borough and its operating procedures have been unchanged for a long time. As members of the Borough government, we often hear, “this is the way that it has always been done”. While this perception is not anybody’s fault, and is common to many municipalities, it needs to change and change quickly if we are to achieve the goals we set. We have some serious issues in Wilson and if not addressed they can lead to much larger issues in the future. We also need to follow a process and proper procedures. If you see an issue, I encourage you to come to a council meeting and voice your concerns. We as Wilson Borough Council see your issues and concerns posted on social media, but are unable to act on it unless it is formally brought to our attention. Airing the concerns on social media and other outlets may allow you to vent frustration, but it does not help getting results. We do continue to broadcast the meetings on my Facebook page, Donald Barrett Mayor of Wilson, and encourage you to watch so you are informed.

Money is a huge issue in Wilson Borough now. When I was a kid growing up in the Borough we had the Dixie plant in full swing, Mack Printing operating at full capacity, and a lot of other strong businesses right here in Wilson. That is no longer the case. Money is tight in Wilson; there is not much extra to go around. Property taxes make up the majority of Wilson Borough’s revenue. Wilson has transformed into residential area without substantial commercial presence and the burden ultimately falls on us all as taxpayers. Last year, we did not need to raise taxes due to a few factors; the sale of Easton Hospital being one of them. Our average expenses or bills paid for the past four months has been approximately $666,000. We have been looking in to alternatives to lower costs. We are working with MetEd to upgrade our streetlights over to LED which will save us approximately $13,000 in 2019. We have equipped the police with new equipment to make them more efficient and hopefully cut overtime. But, the scarcity of income impacts services as well.

Crime continues to impact to our borough and it is something that I, as mayor, am very concerned about. In 2017, Wilson Police responded to 5,604 calls for service. During that same time, 230 people were arrested for summary, misdemeanor, and felony offenses. The Wilson Borough Police Department also investigated 350 motor vehicle crashes and issued nearly 1,100 traffic and parking tickets. While there were several highly-publicized incidents in 2018, crime has seen a steady decline. Since 2016 we’ve seen a 34% decrease in Part 1 UCR Offenses. Part 1 offenses include Homicide, Rape, Robbery, Aggravated Assault, Burglary, Theft, Motor Vehicle Theft, and Arson.

Public Works is doing their best. We would love to repave streets; but once again, money is tight. They have rebuilt the handicapped ramp at Jeffery Field with the help of Steve Webber and it looks great. We had minimal snow storms this year and Public Works did a wonderful job of clearing the snow. Code Enforcement is being reworked now by implementing a new code committee to oversee and work on updating our town codes and ordinances.

The pool at Meuser Park is a service the Borough provides to its residents and is now over 60 years old. This year, it was brought to our attention that the pool was leaking and losing a lot of water. Public Works has been patching and fixing the pool for the last several years and have done an amazing job keeping it running to this point. Repairs in 2018 were too extensive. At this point we need to look to replace the pool. There are big questions when it comes to Meuser Pool: Do we spend a large amount of money to fix the pool and open another year? Do we shut Meuser Pool down and completely overhaul the pool? Do we start to modernize the pool and invest the money by applying for grants and loans to create a new Meuser Pool? We have chosen to completely renovate Meuser pool and make it viable for the next 60 years.

As all things do, the Borough is changing. It simply isn’t the same as it was 30 years ago and to believe or hope that it will return to days gone by is not realistic. We as your elected officials can only do so much; the rest is up to you as a resident. I ask you to ask yourself the same question I ask of myself: “What am I doing to help make our home a better place?”

Thank you all and I look forward to 2019.

Thank you

Donald R Barrett Jr Mayor
The Wilson Baseball & Softball Association will be holding sign ups for their Spring Season starting January 1st.

**$50** for all T-ball levels

**$75** for most players in 1st to 9th grade

**$100** for Connie Mack Baseball (9th-12th grade) & Seniors Softball (10th grade & up)

Visit [www.leaguelineup.com/wilsonboroughbaseball](http://www.leaguelineup.com/wilsonboroughbaseball) or on Facebook @WBSA2019 for more information.

The Wilson Midget Football Association is looking for volunteers to help out for their newly formed committees in 2019. The WMFA Committees that are looking for help are:

- Fundraising
- Registration
- Snack Stand
- Spirit & Decorating
- Summer Camps
- Uniform Turn-In
- Wilson Warrior Day
- Wilson Wear & Breast Cancer Awareness

If you're interested, visit [www.wilsonvikings.com](http://www.wilsonvikings.com) or Facebook @wilsonmidgetfootball for more information.

The 2018-2019 season for our Wilson Youth Wrestling & Cheerleading is in full swing. The boys & girls have been working hard at practices during the week with matches being held on Sundays at local schools with our local wrestling league. The kids love to see all the people that come out to support them all season long. The Wilson Youth Wrestling Association board is always hard at work making sure the children having everything they need to have a great season.

The WYWA home match of the season will be on December 16th at Wilson Area High School. At this match, we will recognize the 6th grade wrestlers & cheerleaders that will be leaving the youth program to move up to the junior high level. The season will conclude in the beginning of February with end of the season tournaments immediately following. For more information on the WYWA, visit them on Facebook @WilsonMatClub.

Wilson Youth Basketball Association’s (WYBA) season for our competitive players has begun. Our instructional players will begin their season in January. Our instructional league registration for children between the ages of 4-7 years of age will be open until 12/21/2018.

Any updates or information regarding the WYBA can be found on our facebook page:

@wilsonboroughbasketballassociation

or our website at: [http://www.leaguelineup.com/wilsonborobbpa](http://www.leaguelineup.com/wilsonborobbpa)

Any additional questions for the WYBA, please contact us via email at: wilsonboroybb@gmail.com.

The Wilson Youth Soccer Association will be holding sign ups for the Spring Season from January 1st through January 31st.

**$20** for In-house Soccer

**$40** for u7 to High School

**$25 late fee** from February 2nd to 17th

Visit [www.wilsonysa.com](http://www.wilsonysa.com) or Facebook. Search: Wilson Youth Soccer Association

Wilson Borough Recreation Board

The Wilson Borough Recreation Board is a governing body within the Borough that oversees the recreational sports & activities, along with the power to equip, operate, and maintain playgrounds and recreational facilities within the limits of said Borough. The Rec Board meets regularly every third Thursday at 6:30pm over at Borough Hall. If you need to reach the board, contact them through email at wilsonrecreationboard@gmail.com or on Facebook @wilsonboroughrecreationboard.

The Rec Board has authorized a committee for the planning of Wilson Borough’s 100th Anniversary, which the celebration will be officially called the **Wilson Borough Centennial Celebration**.

More information about the Centennial Celebration can be found on Facebook @WilsonBoro100 or by joining our email list by sending an email to wilsonboro100@gmail.com.

**Part Time Police Officer Opportunity**

**Wilson Borough PA - IMMEDIATE VACANCY**

The Wilson Borough Police Department is seeking part time Police Officers. Applications may be obtained in the Borough Office, 2040 Hay Terrace Easton, PA between the hours of 8:30AM-4:00PM

Completed applications can be forwarded to the Wilson Borough Police Department 2035 Butler St. Easton PA, 18042. All applicants must be

- United States Citizen and have reached their 21st birthday before submitting the application.
- They must also possess a high school diploma or equivalent
- Be physically and mentally fit to perform the full duties of a Police Officer.
- Possess a PA operator’s license prior to appointment.
- Have successfully completed ACT 120 (Municipal Police Officers Training) and be eligible for immediate certification as a Police Officer.

Applicants MUST submit copies of their operator’s license, Act #120 certification, or a current MPOETC card. Successful applicants will be required to pass a physical & psychological examination and a background investigation to include a polygraph examination. Wilson Borough Police Department offers a competitive salary. Wilson Borough is an equal opportunity employer.
LETTER FROM THE CHIEF OF POLICE

Since this is Wilson Borough’s first newsletter, I would like to take the opportunity to introduce myself to those of you who may not know me. I have been a Wilson Police Officer for nearly 20 years. During that time, I served as a Patrol Officer, K9 Handler, Detective, and Sergeant of Patrol. I graduated from the Northwestern University School of Police Staff and Command in 2017 and was promoted to Chief of Police in March of 2018.

Wilson Borough Council has entrusted me with leading the department and I promise to work diligently to provide a professional law enforcement agency which will serve and protect its citizens. We currently have an excellent group of police officers and I look forward to working with them as they have proven themselves to be honest, hardworking, and dedicated. If you have any questions, comments, or concerns, please feel free to call me at 610.258.8746.

Chief Christian E. Meehan

Department Information

Borough Council has made a significant investment in your police department in recent years:

Wilson Borough PD is a full service 24/7 law enforcement agency. We currently have fourteen full-time officers and ten part-time officers. The department consists of the following units: Patrol, Criminal Investigation Unit (CID) to include VICE, K9 Unit, School Resource Officer, and we have an officer assigned to the Lehigh Valley Bomb Squad.

2017 Calls for Service

In 2017, Wilson Police responded to 5,544 calls for service. During that same time, 230 people were arrested for summary, misdemeanor, and felony offenses. The department also investigated over 300 motor vehicle crashes and issued nearly 1,100 traffic and parking tickets.

Crime in Wilson

While there were several highly-publicized incidents in 2018, crime has seen a steady decline in the last several years. Since 2016 we’ve seen a 34% decrease in Part 1 UCR Offenses. Part 1 offenses include Homicide, Rape, Robbery, Aggravated Assault, Burglary, Theft, Motor Vehicle Theft, and Arson. This is a significant drop in major offenses and is in part due to the hard work and dedication of the men and women of the Wilson Borough Police Department.

IMPORTANT ORDINANCES EVERY RESIDENT SHOULD KNOW:

1. Garbage may not be placed out for pick up until 24 hours prior.
2. All electronic devices must be picked up by appointment only. Please call Waste Management at Your Door. Call 1-800-449-7587, online at WMatYourDoor.com, or Email AtYourDoor@WM.com
3. Curb grass (grass growing between curb and street) is responsibility of the resident to trim or remove.
4. Lawns and all grassy areas cannot exceed 10 inches in height. Under no circumstances should grass or weeds be blown onto the Borough streets or alley ways.
5. Snow must be removed from all walkways within 15 hours after snow fall. Under no circumstance should any snow be blown into Borough streets or alley ways. The Wilson Borough Fire Department request that fire hydrants near your home should be shoveled open.
6. House numbers must have numerical id’s on all garages as well as the front of the home.
7. Junk cars: It shall be unlawful for anyone to store abandoned or junk automobiles, dump garbage, rubbish or other debris of an offensive or obnoxious nature in the Borough of Wilson.
8. Business license: All businesses (including rentals) conduction business in the Borough of Wilson will be required to obtain a business license.

School Crossing Guards Wanted

The Borough of Wilson is seeking applications for the position of School Grossing Guard. Approximately 20 shifts in a 2 week period, rate per shift is $10.00. You MUST pass a background check. Applications can be found on the Borough website at www.wilsonborough.org

Please submit completed application to the Wilson Borough Police Department at 2035 Butler St, Easton, PA 18042.

If you have any questions please call 610-258-8746.

Emergency Alerts

The Wilson Borough Police Department utilizes Nixle to notify residents of quickly developing situations such as: police activity, snow emergency declarations, road closures, severe weather, etc. The notifications are sent via text message. Please visit Nixle.com to sign up for these free notifications.
WHAT IS A SNOW EMERGENCY?

A snow emergency is the term used to indicate the active response plan when a snow storm severely impacts the Borough of Wilson. When a snow emergency is called you have 4 hours to remove all your vehicles from a snow emergency route; the snow emergency routes are listed below.

Cars parked on any posted Snow Emergency Route must be moved when a Snow Emergency is declared. Cars which are not moved will be towed at the owner’s expense.

A snow emergency will be advertised on 69 news, WilsonBorough.org, Twitter, Facebook and Nixle. When a snow emergency is called you may park at the tennis courts, Wilson High School parking lot and Jeffery field. Once the snow emergency is lifted you have to remove all cars from those designated parking areas.

SNOW EMERGENCY ROUTES WILSON BORO

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As the cold weather approaches, the Wilson Borough Fire department is asking for assistance in keeping hydrants clear of snow and ice. If you have a hydrant near your home, please clear a three foot area from the hydrant.

STANLEY J. MARGLE III
ATTORNEY AT LAW

MARGLE LAW OFFICES, P.C.
3839 Easton Avenue
Bethlehem, PA 18020
Telephone: (610) 865-9970
Facsimile: (610) 866-9497
Email: Smargle@marglelaw.com
**WILSON BOROUGH ORDINANCE NO. 549 SNOW EMERGENCY ROUTES**

Please be aware of where you park your vehicle during the winter months! Ordinance No. 549 designates certain streets in the borough as Snow Emergency Routes. When, in the opinion of the Mayor, the actual or expected precipitation of snow will create hazardous or dangerous conditions for vehicular or pedestrian traffic, he shall have the authority to declare a Snow Emergency. Once the emergency has been declared, vehicles may not be parked on Snow Emergency Routes. These routes are clearly marked with signs. Snow emergencies will be declared a minimum of four hours in advance. The public is notified of the declaration by local television, radio, the Borough’s website, and Nixle (see Nixle.com for details). Wilson Police do their best to have the vehicles moved, but if the vehicles are still parked on the routes after the Snow Emergency had been declared, they can be ticketed and towed. If you have plans to go away during the winter months and your car is parked on a snow emergency route, please make prior arrangements with someone to have it moved in case a snow emergency is declared.

![Diagram of snow emergency route](image)

**PERMITS**

Permits are required but not limited to the following:

- Moving in, out or within the Borough
- Use and occupancy of any commercial property
- Building construction, alteration or repair
- Swimming pool construction
- Signs
- Sidewalk and Curb Construction
- Street Excavations
- Building, Electrical and Plumbing Permits can be obtained at the Code Enforcement Office 2040 Hay Terrace Easton, PA 18042
- Swimming pool construction
- Signs
- Sidewalk and Curb Construction
- Street Excavations

If you don’t see a permit listed please contact the Wilson Borough Code Officer, Paul Corriere at 610-258-3531.

Building, Electrical and Plumbing Permits can be obtained at the Code Enforcement Office 2040 Hay Terrace Easton, PA 18042

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**TAX COLLECTOR DOROTHY KLAASS**

2040 Hay Terrace Easton, PA 18042  |  610-252-5983  |  Dot511@rcn.com

**Hours:** Tuesday and Thursday 9:00 am to 12:00 pm ONLY

Now you may pay your Wilson Borough Real Estate Property Tax ONLY on line with a Credit Card or Electronic Check.

**PLEASE DO NOT PAY WILSON SCHOOL TAX VIA THE OFFICIAL PAYMENTS SITE, IT WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED. CHECK OR CASH ARE THE ONLY ACCEPTABLE PAYMENTS!**

Enter the Official payment web site www.officialpayments.com and follow the steps listed below:

- Click the “Local Payment” box
- Choose State
- Choose Wilson Borough in the “Entity “box.
- Click on the Payment Type (Chose either Sewer/Garbage or Real Property Taxes)
- Click Make a Payment and follow the instructions for each page.

It should be noted that there is a fee for this type of payment. To determine the credit card payment fee click on the Fee Calculator link and follow the instructions.
PARK RENTALS
MEUSER PARK RENTAL

The rental of Meuser Park does not include the use of the pavilions or band shell area those are charged separately.

**Park only for Residents** $50 rental fee and $50 refundable cleanup deposit.
**Park only for Non-Residents** $100 rental fee and $50 refundable cleanup deposit.

Public events held at Meuser Park will require evidence of liability insurance. Event liability insurance must be in the amount of $1 million naming Wilson Borough, Wilson Borough Council and Wilson Borough Employees as additional insureds.

**BAND SHELL**

The rental of the Band Shell does not include the use of the park or pavilions, those are charged separately.

**Band shell only for Residents** $50 rental fee and $50 refundable cleanup deposit.
**Band shell only for Non-Residents** $100 rental fee and $50 refundable cleanup deposit.

Public events held at Meuser Park will require evidence of liability insurance. Event liability insurance must be in the amount of $1 million naming Wilson Borough, Wilson Borough Council and Wilson Borough Employees as additional insureds.

**PAVILIONS**

The Pavilions are available for rental all year however, for the months from October through April the water will be turned off depending on the weather.

**RENTAL FEES**

**RESIDENT** – $25 FEE PLUS A $25 REFUNDABLE CLEANING DEPOSIT.
**NON-RESIDENT** – $50 FEE PLUS A $25 REFUNDABLE CLEANING DEPOSIT.

NO REFUNDS WILL BE MADE FOR CANCELLATIONS.

**PAVILION/PARK RULES**

- NO ALCOHOL
- NO DJ’S
- YOU MAY USE GRILLS BUT YOU MUST TAKE HOT COALS WITH YOU. NO DUMPING.
- PAVILIONS MUST BE CLEANED, ALL REFUSE CANS MUST BE EMPTY AND REFUSE MUST BE PLACED IN THE DUMPSTER. THE DUMPSTER IS LOCATED IN THE SOUTH WEST CORNER OF THE PARKING LOT.
- NO PARKING ON THE GRASS.
- USE OF BAND SHELL AND/OR PARK IS CHARGED SEPARATELY.

YOU MUST APPLY AND PAY FOR USAGE OF THE PAVILIONS NO EXCEPTIONS.

For additional information or to check availability please contact us by calling the Business Office at 610-258-6142.

Please remember to change the batteries in all your smoke alarms when changing clocks for daylight savings.

Test your smoke detectors monthly and replace any type of detector that is over 10 years old.
Wilson Borough Sewer and Garbage Bills are sent to residents quarterly; March, June, September and December each year. The bills are due at the end of the month they were mailed. A resident has several ways to pay their Sewer/Garbage bills.

1. Visit the Borough Business Office at 2040 Hay Terrace Monday through Friday 8:00 am to 4:30 pm
2. Drop box, after business office hours there is a drop box located to the right of the front door that you may drop your payment in.
3. Now you may pay your Sewer/Garbage Bill and Wilson Borough Real Estate Property Tax on line with a Credit Card or Electronic Check. You may only pay this way if you are CURRENT on your Sewer/Garbage bills. If we receive payments for an account that is in Shut-Off status, the payment will be returned.

Enter the Official Payment web site at www.officialpayments.com

DO NOT create an account on the official payments website. Please follow instructions below:
1. Click the “Local Payment” box
4. Click on the Payment Type (Chose either Sewer/Garbage or Real Property Taxes)
5. Click Make a Payment and follow the instructions for each page.

It should be noted that there is a fee for a credit card payment. To determine the credit card payment fee click on the Fee Calculator link and follow the instructions. This fee is charged by Official Payments.

If you have received a shut-off notice from Wilson Borough you MUST pay in certified funds, money order or cash ONLY. If you receive a letter from Easton Suburban Water Authority with a 10 day notice for shut-off a $50 fee will be assessed to your sewer/garbage bill (This fee is incurred from Easton Suburban Water Authority), and also must be paid in certified funds, money order or cash.

Please contact the Business Office at 610-258-6142 before making a payment so that we can inform you of the correct information.

**Senior Garbage discount is available to all residents 65 and older who own their home. Please bring in your drivers license to the Borough office and we can adjust your account accordingly.**

Wilson Borough Fire Department

The Wilson Borough Fire Department is looking to hire qualified part time firefighters.

Pay rates are dependent on experience.

Fully trained Drivers working shifts: $17.48 / hr.
Call Firefighters: $9.73 – $10.47 / hr.
Must be over 18 years old and live within 5 miles of the station.

For more information call: 610-253-2035 or stop by the station at 2041 Butler Stand pick up an application. Applications can also be found on the Borough website at www.wilsonborough.org
Wilson Borough would like to thank the businesses and to recognize them each as supporters and cornerstones of our community. For it is with their contributions that this newsletter has been produced at no charge to our residents.
We make the grade for care. And set the bar for safety.

You do so much to keep your family safe — and so do we. Easton Hospital has earned an “A” from the Leapfrog group, the latest sign that patient well-being will always remain among our highest priorities.

Plus, as part of the Steward family, Easton patients experience greater cooperation between doctors, specialists, and insurers for improved outcomes. To learn more about the world class care your family deserves right here in your back yard, visit easton-hospital.org.