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Artisans Bring Renewal at 608 South

At 608 South Avenue in Wilkinsburg is a retro-looking building shaped like a triangle, wedged in between Nancy’s Restaurant and the train trestle that runs at an angle to the street. Even more special than its shape is what is inside—machines from another age.

Two of the machines are Linotypes, which for many decades were the mainstay of the publishing industry. With the advent of computers and digital printing, business had slowed to a crawl for former owner Rudy Lehman, who had kept his machines running full tilt in the 60s and 70s. Rudy passed away in January of last year, and, recently, Brandon Boan and his partner Manya Mankiewicz bought this special place to restore the equipment, set type the old fashioned way, and provide a space where artists can collaborate.

Boan and Mankiewicz are both artists and used to stop by and watch Lehman work. They got acquainted with him and his wife, Rita, and the Lehmans came to an artists’ event in their home. They were shocked when, after Rudy’s passing, they heard that the shop that housed RD Lehman Typesetting Service was to be sold and the Linotypes slated for scrap metal.

“That can’t happen!” said Boan at the time. “I was talking to Rita on a Thursday and the scrap metal people were coming Monday.”

He and Mankiewicz realized that they were best equipped to rescue the shop and called off the scrappers. They are calling their new endeavor TipType.

To their knowledge, there is not another working Linotype machine in Pittsburgh. Brandon traveled to Iowa recently to get training in this lost art, made possible by a grant from Awesome Pittsburgh.

Mankiewicz points out the keyboard is continued on page 5



Top: Boan with Linotype from the 1950s.

Left: Mankiewicz is letterpress printing on a Vandercook Letterpress printing press.

Right: Rudy Lehman in 2011 shows a galley, comprised of lines of type called slugs. Each line is individually made on the Linotype and then placed in the galley for use on a press. For more information, on the Linotype and on Lehman himself, see Strongbox Magazine’s Winter 2011 issue found at strongboxmagazine.com. The staff at The Sun thanks Editor Dan Buczynski for the use of this image of Lehman.

A Call to Aesthetic Types for Help on Community Commission

Are you an architect, visual artist, or simply interested in art, architecture, and design? The Wilkinsburg Community Art & Civic Design Commission is seeking new members.

The Commission was established in 2009 to give residents and business owners a voice in how their community looks, feels, and functions. The Commission is comprised of art and design professionals as well as Wilkinsburg residents and business owners.

The Commission meets monthly to review, make recommendations, and approve proposed designs for new and renovated structures, landscapes, works of art, memorials, and monuments on all public and private commercial property. The Commission is also enabled to engage in research and planning efforts for art and design issues in the Borough, and to organize education programs, materials, and resources about art and design.

Interested parties can email

wilkinburgartanddesign@gmail.com or call 412.244.2900 x101. Not a Wilkinsburg resident, but still interested? There are other opportunities to get involved, so please reach out!

Signs of Spring: Baseball Registration Starts Now



2014 Wilkinsburg Baseball Association registration begins this month for youth who want to play this season.

Registrants should come to the Wilkinsburg

Borough Building any Saturday in February and March from 10 a.m.-2 p.m.

The basic registration fee is \$35. Softball for girls 16 or younger is \$20, and Baby Minor registration for ages 3-5 is \$10.

For more information, contact Cliff McCaulley and 412.401.7533 or David E. Reese at 412.657.2411.



Girl Scout Troop Leaders Donna Alexander and Kim Olday want you to know that it's "cookie season time" with Girl Scout Troop 51058! This year marks their 7th year selling Girl Scout cookies. February 24 starts the cookie booth sale season. Cookies are only \$4 per box.

The troop's goals for this year are to go camping and to do an educational trip to explore a new city. On Saturday, March 1, the girls will sell cookies at SaveALot at 725 Ross Avenue from 11 a.m.-1:30 p.m. Interested parties can also email the troop to purchase cookies at gstrop1058@hotmail.com. Also, a nifty cookie locator at <http://cookielocator.littlebrownie.com> shows where troops are selling cookies.

SUBSCRIBE TO THE SUN BY EMAIL

For those of you who are used to getting your copy of *The Sun* in your *Pennysaver*, we are no longer able to deliver that way as the *Pennysaver* no longer circulates in Wilkinsburg.

But never fear: All you have to do to ensure you never miss another issue is go to <http://eepurl.com/v0iBP> and sign up to receive a link to each and every issue via email just as soon as they hit the street.

the Wilkinsburg
Sun

P.O. Box 86064
Wilkinsburg, PA 15221
412.916.1790

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Please submit all articles and calendar events to: editor@wilkinburgsun.com, or by mail, P.O. Box 86064, Wilkinsburg, 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 412.916.1790. The Sun accepts submitted articles provided they are related to Wilkinsburg 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 <http://eepurl.com/v0iBP> and friend us on Facebook.

Landlord Responsibilities 101, Part 2

Part 1 of this series in the last issue discussed adhering to safety codes, maintaining insurance, and paying property taxes. Landlords or property owners, however, can take advantage of numerous tax deductions, including interest on mortgage payments or credit cards used for the property, depreciation, insurance premiums, repairs and even property taxes. Other responsibilities of landlords include:

- **Paying Utilities**

Often, a tenant is responsible for paying their own utilities; such as with most condos and single-family homes. However, landlord who are responsible for paying the utilities for their property, whether it be one utility or all, must make sure to do so. Failure to pay the utility bill means tenants won't have water, heat or electricity. Such failure could be considered a violation of the lease as essential services would not be provided and landlords could face legal action.

- **Performing Property Maintenance**

Landlords have a responsibility to perform regular maintenance on their property. This includes preventative maintenance such as exterminating regularly and checking to make sure all smoke detectors and carbon monoxide detectors are in working order. It also includes weekly maintenance such as



Image from 1924 board game, courtesy of Wikimedia Commons.

sweeping all common areas, cleaning out rain gutters, picking up trash, and putting out garbage and recycling according to the borough's collection schedule.

- **Performing Repairs**

Landlords must not only perform preventative maintenance, but also repairs on their property. This includes small repairs, such as fixing doors that have come off their hinges or unclogging a shower drain. It also includes large repairs such as replacing a roof or rewiring electric. Of course, those not skilled in areas such as plumbing or electric should hire a licensed professional to make sure the work is done properly and according to code.

Feel free to contact the Code Enforcement office for any health safety, and welfare inspections as well as any questions you have regarding property maintenance in Wilkinsburg. The office is more than happy to help both the owner and tenant answer any and all questions.
—Sean Gramz, Director of Code Enforcement, code@wilkinsburgpa.gov, 412.244.2923

You Say You Want a Resolution?

Resolution [rez-uh-loo-shuhn] noun

1. a formal expression of opinion or intention made, usually after voting, by a formal organization, a legislature, a club, or other group.
2. a decision or determination; a resolve: to make a firm resolution to do something.
3. the act determining upon an action or course of action.
4. firmness of purpose.

According to www.statisticbrain.com, 36% of us have already broken our New Year's resolutions—that is, those among the 45% of Americans who “usually” make them.

But self-improvement isn't limited to January 1; it's really more of an ongoing process than a sweeping change as we turn the page of a calendar. And it isn't limited to people—organizations can make resolutions too!

So we're going to stick our neck out here, and put our 2014 resolutions in print in an effort to ensure that we stick to them longer than a Band-Aid sticks to a wet finger!

In 2014, the Borough Manager's office resolves to:

- Remember that you, the residents of Wilkinsburg, are our primary customer;
- Do our best to provide excellent customer service;
- Always treat our customers with dignity and respect; and
- Answer your questions and inquiries in a prompt, courteous manner, or direct you to someone who can.

Chances are we're going to slip up from time to time, but we resolve to keep trying!

Next issue: More resolutions



UPCOMING MEETINGS

2/5 (Wed.)	6:30 P.M.	Council Work Session
2/6 (Thurs.)	6 P.M.	Planning Commission
2/12 (Wed.)	6 P.M.	Wilkinsburg Municipal Authority
2/12 (Wed.)	7 P.M.	Borough Council Meeting
2/19 (Wed.)	6:30 P.M.	Council Work Session
2/20 (Thurs.)	5:30 P.M.	Parks & Recreation Advisory Board

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

SEE IT FOR YOURSELF

The Borough's 2014 Budget is available for your perusal at: <http://wilkinsburgpa.gov/pdf/2014ManagersBudget.pdf>

Hosanna House Addresses Blight

The Vacant Property Recovery Program (VPRP) helps to provide viable reuses for abandoned houses and lots. In Wilkinsburg, one organization is planning new uses for problem properties in order to create an impact in a defined area and encourage other stakeholders.

“Our number one priority in promoting use of the VPRP is to address blight,” says Leon Haynes, executive director of Hosanna House, a nonprofit that provides critical health and human services to more than 35,000 Wilkinsburg residents each year. “Additionally and equally important is to create a decent and respectable and safe environment

down and reused as shared green spaces.

“Addressing blight is critical because blight says an area is unsafe and economically deprived,” says Haynes. “We can help renew this one portion of the community by identifying projects and involving others and as a result, create a livable community that is economically stable.”

A History of Success

Hosanna House has years of experience to back its work in the area. The organization renovated an abandoned, 125,000-square-foot former school over 11 years to serve as the vibrant center it is today. Hosanna House has boarded up individual problem properties and painted

exteriors as needed. And the group successfully advocated for taking down an abandoned house and created a playground in the new space.

Among its current programs, Hosanna House tackles select home repairs for area seniors in response to municipal and community requests. This initiative not only directly assists the individual homeowners but helps to avoid blight

from taking hold in new areas.

“We are helping to stabilize the neighborhood,” Haynes says of Hosanna House’s many roles in past and present projects. “Hosanna House serves as a captain/leader, in effect. We are encouraging others to get involved here and throughout Wilkinsburg. Together we will renew our community.”

—by Colleen Derda and Cheryl Valyo



photo by Martha Rial

for children and families to live and play as well as encourage other leaders and stakeholders to get involved in the transitioning of our community.”

The organization is working to consider new uses for multiple sites, all of which have been identified as problems by the municipality. It is soliciting the help of individuals, businesses, churches and other stakeholders to plan the new uses. Several abandoned houses may be rehabbed or taken

2014 Wilkinsburg House Tour



The inaugural Wilkinsburg House and Garden Tour exceeded all expectations! A beautiful

day, over 429 tickets sold, gorgeous houses and gardens—we could not have asked for more! Now we have a challenge before us: planning another terrific Tour for 2014. But we can’t do it without your help!

Would you be interested in featuring your home or garden on the Tour? Do you know others whose homes would be a great addition to the tour? In addition to looking for fabulous homes and gardens to showcase in our community, we’re also looking for dynamic, committed people to expand our Event Committee’s capacity and expertise.

If you’d like to learn more about how you can get involved with the 2nd Annual Wilkinsburg House & Garden Tour, contact Jennifer at 412.727.7855.

Want to Give Your Home Some T.L.C.?

Rebuilding Together Pittsburgh, a local nonprofit organization, delivers no-cost home repairs to qualifying low-income homeowners in Allegheny County. They are currently seeking applicants in Wilkinsburg, so please apply today! To request an application or learn more, call: Rebuilding Together Pittsburgh at 412.922.0953



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

WCDC CALENDAR

2/5 (Thurs.)	8:30 A.M.	Business District Safety Meeting—WCDC office
2/10 (Mon.)	6 P.M.	WCDC Event Committee Meeting
2/22 (Sat.)	9 A.M.	Board Meeting—WCDC office
3/6 (Thurs.)	8:30 A.M.	Business District Safety Meeting—WCDC office





continued from page 1
not laid out like a normal one, and that is just the beginning of the special knowledge and patience that is needed to run a Linotype, which, with its belts, cams, gears, girth and clanking might remind you of a Dr. Seuss contraption.

Large, heavy metal cartridges, which take some brawn to lift, hold a myriad of metal “matrices” that make up a font family. TipType has inherited Lehman’s library of heavy metal classics: Antique, Trade Gothic, Helvetica, to name a few.


When an operator clicks the keys, the matrices are released and clink into a queue until a whole line of type is ready to be cast. Then the operator releases hot, liquid metal which pours into a form, casting an image of the font matrices.

The Linotype was invented by a German,


Ottmar Mergenthaler, a clockmaker, in 1884, and was used by the New York Times to set up its daily paper until the 1970s. Wilkinsburg is privileged to house one of the few working machines left.



Boan, in turn, says he feels privileged to be part of a “great little printing community” in Wilkinsburg, including Mercury Press, Challenge Printing and Hoechstetter Printing.

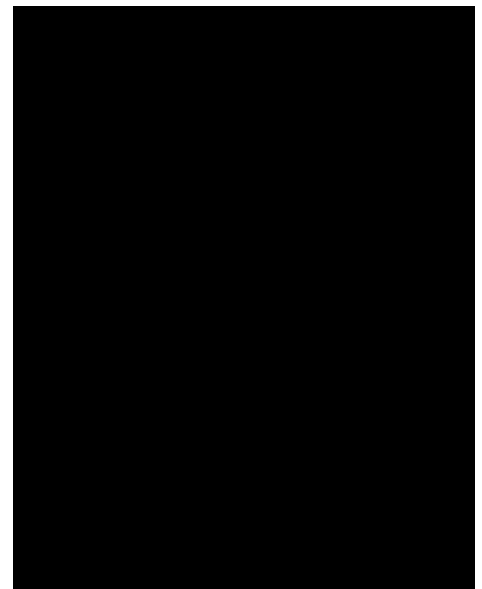
For more information about TipType, visit www.tiptype.co.

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Financial Education Day

PLEASE JOIN US!
Wednesday, February 12, 2014
1:00pm-2:pm

Wilkinsburg Public Library
502 Ross Ave Wilkinsburg, PA 15221
412-244-2942


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February at the Library

These upcoming February programs at the library are free and open to everyone. Reservations can be made by calling 412.244.2940.

Adult Programs

Financial Checkup 101, Feb 12, 1 p.m.—Fifth Third Bank representatives cover everyday financial options and decisions including saving, budgeting, identity protection, using credit wisely, homeownership, investing options and saving for college.

Urban Fiction Book Group, Feb., TBA (date to be announced)—Share thoughts on a different book each month and discuss favorite urban fiction authors. Ask for Alyssa to RSVP and get more information.

Computer 101 Class, starts Feb., TBA—Covers beginner computer skills and refresher tips for veteran users. Space is limited, but two classes will be scheduled if necessary.

Affordable Care Act [Obamacare], March 17, 5:30 p.m.—One more information session will be held in early March before this year's final application deadline.

Children's Programs

Lego Club, Feb 4, 3-5:30 p.m.—Kids can build whatever they can imagine. Library provides the bricks, kids provide the brains. Ages 5 and up.

Gaming Club, Feb 18, 3-5 p.m.—From Chess to Mancala to Settlers of Catan and Pandemic, there is a game for everyone to play.

Valentine's Day Party, Feb 13, 4-5 p.m.—Celebrate all things lovey-dovey at a Valentine's Day Party with sweet treats, crafts and games. All ages are welcome.

Mini-Maker Night, Feb 25, 3-5:30 p.m.—Make anything you can dream up or just experiment with provided tools and supplies. This month's theme is textile arts.

Story Time Tuesdays, 11:30 p.m.—Children ages 6 months to 5 years and a caregiver are invited for stories, songs and games.

Wii Time Thursdays, 3-4:30 p.m.—Open Wii play for kids of all ages.

New Year, New Church, Join Us!



The Bible Chapel
in Wilkinsburg

809 Center Street
Pittsburgh, PA 15221

Worship Service
Sundays
10:45 a.m.

wilkinsburg.biblechapel.org



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Damon Kemp
c/o TRCIL

900 Rebecca Avenue
Pittsburgh PA 15221

Or email: dkemp@trcil.org

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in employment opportunities or practices
on the basis of race, color, religion, sex,
national origin, age, disability, or any other
characteristic protected by law.*

Member Spotlight: Kenyon Jewelers

Kenyon Jewelers has a long history of serving the Wilkinsburg community and it is now in its 90th year as a jeweler. It was started in East Liberty by two brothers, Bret and Leonard Kenyon Sr., and began as a repair shop for clocks and watches. The company moved to Wilkinsburg in 1925.

In the 1950s, Leonard Kenyon Jr. joined the company and started moving the company into more retail sales. In 1964, the store was moved to its current location on Penn Ave. Kenyon Jewelers became a premier jewelry store with a large selection of sterling silver, watches, bridal jewelry, a diamond trade and a service center employing both goldsmiths and watch makers.

Leonard retired in 1996, entrusting his business to two long time employees, David Virostek and Doug Duffus. David and Doug are trained and experienced goldsmiths and have continued the great traditions of two generations of the Kenyon family. Kenyon Jewelers continues to serve Pittsburgh and its eastern suburbs specializing in diamonds,

handmade jewelry,
general jewelry
repairs and antique
jewelry restorations.

Kenyon Jewelers
is always looking for
vintage and antique
jewelry. Please stop
in and check out
their wide variety of
jewelry. They are
located at 711 Penn
Ave. in Wilkinsburg



General Chamber Meeting

Chamber members will meet on Thursday, February 20, at 8 a.m. at the Wilkinsburg CDC Office at 1001 Wood St.

Greater Wilkinsburg Chamber of Commerce

P.O. Box 86064, Wilkinsburg, Pa 15221 • 412.242.0234
info@wilkinsburgchamber.com

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2014 Calendar

JANUARY

SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THURS	FRI	SAT
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12					18	
19		21	22	23	24	25
26						

FEBRUARY

SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THURS	FRI	SAT
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MARCH

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23						

APRIL

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MAY

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JUNE

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29						

JULY

SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THURS	FRI	SAT
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27						

AUGUST

SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THURS	FRI	SAT
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31						

SEPTEMBER

SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THURS	FRI	SAT
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OCTOBER

SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THURS	FRI	SAT
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NOVEMBER

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DECEMBER

SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THURS	FRI	SAT
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14						20
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27	28			31		

- Blue weeks – regular recycling days are Monday-Friday; if a holiday occurs, recycling will be the following day (including Saturday) for regular pick-up days after the holiday.
- White weeks – regular recycling days are Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday; if a holiday occurs on one of these days, pickup will be on the next regularly scheduled day. No Saturday pickup with the exception of April 19.

Reminders:

- Use green bins, available at the Borough administrative offices, for recycling
- Please place recyclables at the curb no earlier than 6 pm the night before collection and no later than 6 am on the day of collection

What can be recycled:

- Aluminum and steel cans
- Glass bottles, jars, and jugs
- Plastics with any number from 1-5 (check the symbol on the bottom)
- Newspapers (bundled and tied)
- Magazines & catalogs
- Paperboard, such as cereal boxes
- Phonebooks
- Junk mail
- Mixed and office paper (pamphlets, brochures, booklets, etc.)
- Corrugated cardboard (broken down and flattened)
- Pizza boxes (empty and clean, free of food debris and wax paper)

What cannot be recycled:

- Styrofoam
- Light bulbs
- Window glass
- Plastic bags

Prefer to drop off your recyclables? Recycling trailers are located at these sites:

- Train station at Hay Street and Ross Avenue
- 789 Penn Avenue, in the parking lot next to the Penn Lincoln
- DPW Garage on Park Avenue

Questions? Call 412/244.2900, x 101 or 412/244.2959