

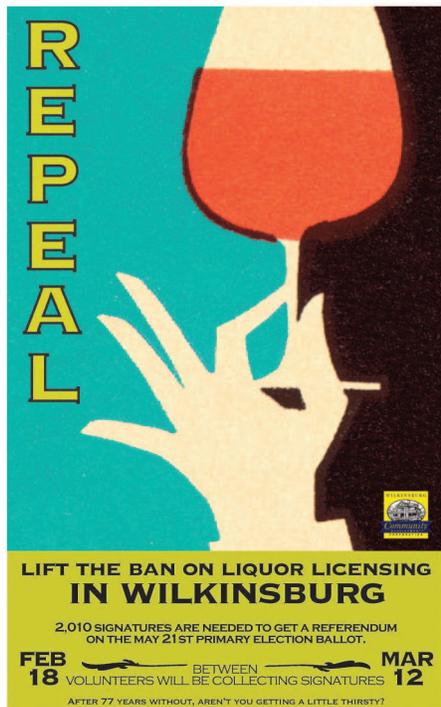
Partners for 2013 Initiatives Confirmed; More Funding Needed

Happy New Year! We are pleased to announce that PA Department of Community and Economic Development awarded the Wilksburg Community Development Corporation another year of funding through its Neighborhood Partnership Program. TriState Capital Bank has served as the corporate partner for the fourth consecutive year. This funding supports our core initiatives: business district development, green, clean and safe; image and identity; and youth and education.

For 2013, we will work with development partners to tackle blighted properties that are long overdue for renovation, address how to reuse vacant lots, solve traffic circulation problems, and fund much-needed repairs to the railroad trestles and other infrastructure. We continue to keep our business district clean and attractive and promote our businesses and organizations, as well as the positive activities taking place in our community. Initial funds have been raised to install streetscape improvements, and it is our goal to keep them well maintained; to do this, we need local support from businesses and community organizations.

Please consider contributing to the improvement and maintenance of litter receptacles, banners and decorative lampposts; and to continue our many programs that support Wilksburg and the business district. Your tax-deductible contribution will help ensure our continued progress.

The WCDC wishes to thank all of the funders who make our work possible! PNC Bank Foundation awarded the WCDC \$10,000 to market commercial real estate in Wilksburg. Fifth Third Bank granted \$2,500 toward the Wilksburg Affordable Housing Coalition. First Niagara provided \$3,000 to fund this newsletter page for the 2012-13 fiscal year.



Supporting the Youth of Wilksburg: Grant Money Available

The WCDC is pleased to have funding available to groups and organizations within Wilksburg that support the academic and civic endeavors of our youth.

The WCDC youth initiative has \$3,000 available, which may be awarded in its entirety or in smaller amounts depending on the number of applicants and the quality of the applications.

Candidates with new ideals and special needs different than past applicants will be given priority. Interested parties should submit an application by Friday, March 29.

All projects must be completed by August 31 of the year in which the funding was provided. Best wishes to the applicants! Applications are on our website at www.wilksburgcdc.org/programsandprojects/education-and-youth.

WCDC Pursues Liquor Licensing

Over the next few months, the WCDC will pursue a referendum enabling borough restaurants to apply for liquor licenses from the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania. A special public meeting with a representative from the Pennsylvania Liquor Control Board present took place January 9 at the Borough Building to garner input and answer questions about liquor licensing. The WCDC believes restaurant licenses can attract new businesses to Wilksburg and increase investment in the area. In order to get the referendum on the May 21 primary election ballot, we need to collect over



2,000 signatures between February 18 and March 12, 2013. Your help will be vital to getting this on the ballot in the next election!

If you would like to help, email rebecca@wilksburgcdc.org, or call at 412.727.7855.

Update on Vacant Lots Design

The WCDC is working on transforming vacant lots to create greener, more usable spaces around Wilksburg. Last fall we worked with Penn State students on landscape architectural designs for vacant lots in the business district. The students came up with great plans for four vacant lots around Wilksburg. Moss Architects also has created a design for the Penn Avenue parklet. We are pleased with this design and hope to pursue funding soon. You can check out these ideas on our Green, Clean and Safe program page, www.wilksburgcdc.org/programs-and-projects/green-clean-and-safe.



WCDC CALENDAR

2/7 (Thurs.)	8:30-10 A.M.	Business District Safety Meeting—WCDC office
3/7 (Thurs.)	8:30-10 A.M.	Business District Safety Meeting—WCDC office