



McCandless Town Crier



Highland Chief Steps Down After 18 Years in Command

Chief Mark Pierson of the Highland Volunteer Fire Department stepped down on Dec. 31, 2013 after serving 18 years as chief and 40 years as a member of the department.

“If I could, I would do it forever,” said Pierson. “I still love it and I don’t want to go away, but physically it is getting to be too painful.”

Pierson decided to step down because of constant pain in his ankles, caused by a previous accident.

Pierson discovered his interest in firefighting when he was just a child. Pierson and his brothers would gather around the window to watch their neighbor rush away when the sirens would sound.

“I have been hanging around the fire department since I was 12 years old,” said Pierson. “It was something I just loved.”

He joined the fire department at the first opportunity he could. At the time, the Highland Fire Department had an “Explorer Post” program that allowed children as young as 13 years old to join to learn the basics of firefighting and first-aid. According to Pierson, he credits his current EMT state certification to his early training in the explorer

post.

At the age of 16, Pierson became a member of the department. He quickly navigated his way through the ranks, becoming lieutenant in 1978, captain in 1980, assistant chief in 1982, deputy chief in 1983, and chief in 1989.

“Being captain was my favorite position. I didn’t have to worry about doing the administrative stuff, and I got to go in on attack,” said Pierson. “I never asked to be chief, it just happened. I just happened to be the best guy for the job at the time. It fell on me, I didn’t push anyone out for it.”

Pierson’s day-to-day responsibilities included firefighting, making sure all vehicles were inspected and the pumps were maintained, and all aspects of development and training.

According to Pierson, being well trained and attending seminars to learn new techniques was a high priority.

In addition to being chief, Pierson works 56 hours a week for the Pittsburgh Post-Gazette as the assistant production manager. In order to take pressure off himself and others when he was unable make calls, he set up a universal system.

“Firefighting is just like football. You have to play people in their best positions. The bar is set high. If the star player goes down, you should never lower the bar. The



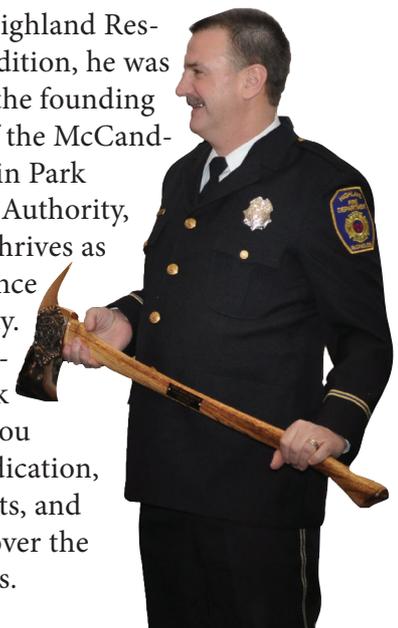
Highland President Ron Monper (left), Town Manager Toby Cordek (center), and Mark Pierson (right).

next guy better be just as good,” said Pierson. “What is expected of the star is expected of the second string player. We as firefighters need to know one spot ahead and one spot behind so that we are prepared.”

In Pierson’s opinion, his career was highlighted by his instrumental role in choosing and designing Highland’s state of the art attack pumper and 100’ aerial platform truck.

Pierson was one of the founding members of McCandless’ first rescue team, Highland Rescue 5. In addition, he was also one of the founding members of the McCandless-Franklin Park Ambulance Authority, which still thrives as our ambulance service today.

Congratulations Mark and thank you for your dedication, achievements, and leadership over the past 40 years.

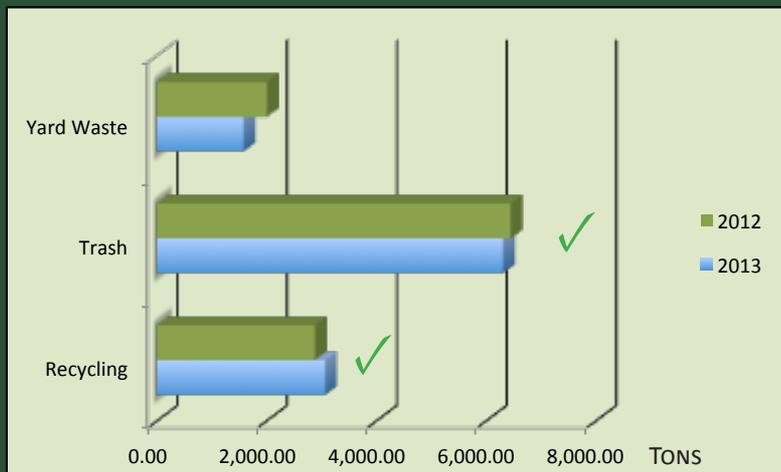


McCandless Town Crier What’s Inside

Recycling Information	Page 2
Police Department Information	Page 4
Fire Department Information	Page 5
Tax Information	Page 6
Community Day	Page 9
Calendar of Events	Page 15

Recycling Information

RECYCLE IT: HOW DID WE DO?



Above is an illustration comparing our residential trash, recycling, and yard waste efforts from 2012 to 2013. Overall, we have improved in two out of three categories. Not bad!

In 2012 we recycled 2,883.73 tons of material. We surpassed that mark in 2013, recycling 3,067.95 tons.

In addition, we threw away 144.26 less tons in 2013 than in 2012.

We recycled more yard waste in 2012 compared to 2013. In 2012 we recycled 2,010 tons of material compared to 1,584.68 tons in 2013.

Please continue to keep up the good work!

YARD WASTE REMINDER

Please only utilize your yard waste cart for items that include leaves, grass clippings, branches, tree limbs, plants and flowers with soil shaken off, shrubbery, and prunings.

Tree limbs over four (4) inches in diameter and four (4) feet in length, soil, lumber, excrements, and any synthetic material are unsuitable for collection as yard waste. **Please remove all plants from plastic, clay, or any other kind of container before placing into your yard waste cart. Your cart will be tagged and left if those items are in your cart.**

In lieu of or in addition to your green-top cart, you may also choose to use up to three (3) paper composting bags as part of the weekly seasonal yard waste collection at no extra cost. No call for pick up is necessary. Charges for more than three (3) bags will apply to your bill.

Household Chemical Collection

ALLEGHENY COUNTY

North Park

Swimming Pool parking lot

Saturday, May 3, 2014

9 a.m. - 1 p.m.

FEE: \$2/gallon - Cash Only

ACCEPTABLE ITEMS INCLUDE:

- aerosol cans
- automotive fluids (motor oil, transmission fluid, antifreeze, brake fluid)
- batteries
- chemistry sets
- compact fluorescent bulbs (CFLs)
- gasoline and kerosene
- household cleaners (ammonia, drain openers, acid cleaners, oven cleaners)
- mercury
- paint products (latex, oil based, alkyd based, arts/crafts chemicals, rust preservatives, creosote, water sealers, paint thinners, furniture strippers)
- pesticides/herbicides (rodent killers, insecticides, weed killers, mothballs, fertilizer)
- photo chemicals
- pool chemicals

WE DO NOT ACCEPT:

- ammunition • appliances • bulk waste • commercial and industrial waste • compressed gas cylinders (including propane tanks) • drugs • explosives • flares • fluorescent tubes • leaking containers • medical waste (including needles) • PCBs and dioxin • radioactive materials (including smoke detectors) • tires



E-WASTE Collection

(Sponsored by the Town of McCandless, Ohio Township and Goodwill)

For all **McCANDLESS** and
OHIO TOWNSHIP Residents

at Town Hall
9955 Grubbs Road
Wexford, PA 15090

Saturday,
MAY 31, 2014
10 a.m. until 2 p.m.



Accepted Items Include:

Desktops, Laptops, Servers, Printers, Copiers, Scanners, Cell Phones, Monitors, Peripheral Components, Keyboards, Cables, Mouse, Speakers, CD/DVD Drives, Microwaves, Fax Machines, Digital Cameras, Stereo Systems and VCRs. **Attention: Goodwill will not be accepting televisions at this collection.**

Goodwill offers free, safe, easy, and environmentally responsible recycling of computers and electronics. Computers are either disassembled and recycled or are refurbished to be sold at Goodwill stores. Donating your computer not only helps keep e-waste out of landfills and helps families buy used electronic products at an affordable price, but brings the Power of Work to someone in your community. Goodwill is not responsible or liable for personal data on hard drives or other storage media. Newer computers have the hard drives wiped exceeding Department of Defense standards and the hard drives of older computers are destroyed, but ultimately Goodwill cannot take responsibility for confidential information. If you wish to remove data before donating, a number of free services are available online that will completely erase hard drives. PA DEP Permit No. WMGR081D011.

2014 HARD TO RECYCLE COLLECTIONS

- April 5, 2014: Galleria at Pittsburgh Mills
- May 10, 2014: Consol Energy Park
- August 16, 2014: West Mifflin Borough
- October 4, 2014: Mall at Robinson

All collections are from 9 a.m. until 1 p.m. Accepted items include e-waste (computers, monitors, keyboards, printers and more), cell phones, printer/toner cartridges, compact fluorescent bulbs, alkaline batteries, tires, and waste vegetable oil. Fees will apply, cash only.



2014 HOUSEHOLD CHEMICAL COLLECTIONS

- May 3, 2014: North Park Swimming Pool parking lot
- May 17, 2014: Concurrent Technologies Corporation (CTC) ETF facility, Johnstown
- July 12, 2014: California University of Pennsylvania, Adamson Stadium parking lot
- August 2, 2014: Boyce Park ski lodge area
- September 13, 2014: Settler's Cabin Wave Pool parking lot
- October 11, 2014: Bradys Run Recycling Center

All collections are from 9 a.m. until 1 p.m. For a complete list of recycled items, look on page 2 under "Household Chemical Collection." Fees will apply, cash only.



GotDrugs?

Turn in your unused or expired medication for safe disposal



Sponsored by the
Town of McCandless
Police Department

**Saturday, April 26, 2014
10 a.m. to 2 p.m.**

**Northland Public Library
300 Cumberland Road
Pittsburgh, PA 15237**



For more information, please visit www.dea.gov.

FIRE

Prevention



Q&A With Highland's New Chief: **SHAWN O'BRIEN**

Q: What inspired you to become a firefighter?

A: My father was a firefighter and it was always something on my list of things to do. When I moved to the North Hills, finding a station to volunteer at was one of my top priorities.

Q: What positions did you have within the department prior to becoming chief?

A: Firefighter, Third Lieutenant, Assistant Chief, and Deputy Chief.

Q: Did you ever imagine yourself stepping into the role of chief?

A: Not until last November. I worried about dealing with all of the hassles, especially since it is an unpaid position.

The support I have received from the department has made the hassles of being chief disappear, though.

Q: Has your family been supportive of your decision to accept the role of chief?

A: My wife has been extremely supportive. When the decision was being made, she asked me, "What will change?" The answer was not much, as it was something I was already committing my time to.

Q: What is something you expected when you took this role?

A: I expected things would continue running as they have in the

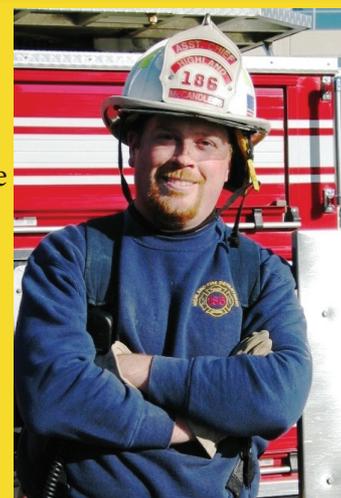
past. To me it was a seamless transition, although the guys may say differently.

Q: What is something you didn't expect?

A: The amount of hours I have already put in and all of the little things I was unaware of; reports, county coordinating, etc.

Q: What is your day job?

A: I am a Senior Consultant for Thomson Reuters.



Highland Volunteer Fire Department to Deliver Smoke Alarms

The Highland Volunteer Fire Department of McCandless began its smoke alarm campaign for the residents of the Highland district in McCandless in March, according to Chief Shawn O'Brien.

"We were awarded the grant in December and started delivering the free smoke alarms in mid-March when the weather broke," said O'Brien. "We will be looking to deliver all alarms by Labor Day at the very latest."

The Federal Emergency Management Agency selected the Highland Volunteer Fire Department of McCandless as the recipient of a Fire Prevention and Safety Grant in the amount of \$91,600 to be used for

the incorporation of a smoke alarm campaign.

Residents should keep an eye out for signs around neighborhoods indicating what days the fire department will be in specific areas. If the department stops by when no one is home, the department will leave a door hanger with instructions on how to obtain an alarm.

As an alternative, residents can pick up their free smoke alarm at Highland Station, located at 8705 Harold Place, on any Tuesday night between 6:30 p.m. and 7:00 p.m. until the end of June.

O'Brien and fellow firefighter Steve Wehrspann headed the grant application project together. The

Highland Department pinpointed that the largest vulnerability in residences was the lack of smoke alarm knowledge and attention to smoke detector operation.

The smoke alarms have a self-adhesive backing and require no intrusion into walls or ceilings.

The project committee that handled the logistics of the campaign consisted of Tony Tieppo, Todd Umstott, O'Brien, and Wehrspann.

If you are a resident of Highland's district and would like a free smoke alarm, please dial 412-366-FIRE (3473). If you are unsure what fire district you live in, check out the street list on the Town's page at www.townofmccandless.org.



REAL ESTATE TAXES

On Dec. 16, 2013, Town Council approved a Town millage rate of 1.296 mills (\$129.60 per \$100,000 of assessed value) for the 2014 calendar year. The North Allegheny School District (NASD) will set its millage rate for the 2014-15 fiscal year (which runs from July 1, 2014 through June 30, 2015) in June of 2014.

The millage is the same as the amount reset in May, 2013 based upon Allegheny County's reassessment. The 2012 millage rate was 1.5 mills.

The tax due dates were outlined in the 2014 Town Calendar, which was mailed to you last December, and are also posted on the Town web site.

Please note that failure to pay your tax by Dec. 31 may result in a lien being placed against your property. By law, all NASD real estate taxes that remain unpaid as of Dec. 31 must be turned over to the delinquent tax collector for the school district (Maiello, Brungo & Maiello, LLP). Town of McCandless delinquent real estate taxes are still due and payable directly to the Town.

The tax bills (Town and school district on one bill) will be mailed by July 1. When reviewing your bill, please note the following:

▶ If you have been approved by Allegheny County for an Act 77

Senior Citizen Abatement, the 30 percent reduction in your Town assessed value has already been factored into the tax amount that appears on your bill.

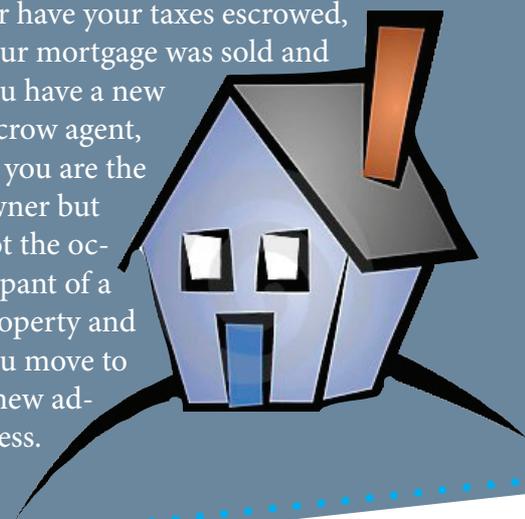
▶ If you were approved by Allegheny County prior to April 30, 2014 for a Homestead Exclusion under Act 1 of 2006, also known as the Taxpayer Relief Act, then the reduction in your NASD assessed value appears as a separate line item on your bill.

▶ If you qualified for a Homestead Exclusion prior to April 30, 2014, you are also eligible to take advantage of the installment payment plan offered by both the Town and the school district. To elect the installment payment plan option, you should pay the first installment amount listed on the bill by Sept. 2. Payments received after Sept. 2 will be considered timely only if they contain an official U.S. Postal Service postmark of Sept. 2 or earlier. If any installment payment is late, you will be disqualified from the installment program for 2015, and you will be subject to payment of your entire tax bill in full subject to the standard deadlines and terms.

▶ If you choose the installment payment plan option and make your first payment in a timely manner, you will then receive two additional installment bills with due dates for those two payments. Payments

received after either of these due dates, subject again to the official postmark, will be charged a penalty of 10 percent. If your payment is more than 10 days late for either of these installments, or if your payments for both of these installments are late for any period of time, you will not be eligible for the installment plan the following year.

▶ If you do not receive a tax bill by July 11, 2014, please contact our office immediately at (412) 364-0616 and we will send you a new bill. In addition, if the billing address for your real estate tax bill changed after Jan. 1 of this year, you need to notify us immediately. Allegheny County provides us with a billing address as of Jan. 1, but they do not provide us with updates if there is a change after this date. Your billing address may change because you paid off your mortgage and no longer have your taxes escrowed, your mortgage was sold and you have a new escrow agent, or you are the owner but not the occupant of a property and you move to a new address.



Real Estate Contact Information:

McCandless Town Hall
9955 Grubbs Road
Wexford, PA 15090
412-364-0616

taxoffice@townofmccandless.org



PER CAPITA TAX

All residents of the Town over the age of 21 are required to pay this North Allegheny School District tax. The billing procedure in 2014 is the same as that used since 2006. Unless you have contacted us previously, each residential property will have \$20 added to the real estate tax bill to account for two individuals in the household over the age of 21. Additional residents in each household and renters over the age of 21 will be sent a separate bill. If you have only one resident in your household over the age of 21, please contact us immediately so that the adjustment can be made. If you have more than two residents and do not receive an additional bill, please contact us so that we can add those individuals. If you receive a bill but are not yet 21, please write your month and year of birth on the bill, sign and date it, and return it to us.

Owners of rental properties are required to notify the Town of the move in and move out dates of all tenants.

Per Capita Contact Information:

McCandless Town Hall
9955 Grubbs Road
Wexford, PA 15090
412-364-0616

taxoffice@townofmccandless.org

BUSINESS PRIVILEGE TAX

If you operate a business located in the Town, either out of your home or at a specific commercial location, you are required to file and pay this tax. Tax deadline is May 15, 2014 at 7:00 p.m. Please check the 2014 Town Calendar, view the Town web site at www.townofmccandless.org, or call us at (412) 364-0616 for more information. In addition, you can print a copy of the Town's Rules and Regulations directly from the web site.

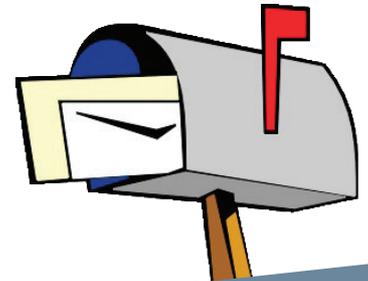
EARNED INCOME & NET PROFITS TAX

The Town contracted with Keystone Collections Group of Irwin, PA for the collection of this tax for 2011 and future tax years. They are located at 546 Wendel Road, Irwin, PA 15642, and can be reached by phone at 724-978-0300.

You can also get tax forms and other information by visiting www.keystonecollects.com. Please remember that you must make quarterly estimated tax payments if you are self-employed. The only exception is that anyone earning \$12,000 or less is not required to make quarterly payments.

IMPORTANT CHANGES IN DROP BOX PROCEDURES

Due to concerns regarding the safety of both taxpayers and Town staff, payments placed in the drop box or any other location on the Town premises after 7:00 pm will be considered late, and will be subject to the appropriate penalties and interest. The Town tax office will remain open until 7:00 pm on May 15 to accept timely Business Privilege Tax payments, and on Sept. 2 and Nov. 3 to accept timely Real Estate Tax payments. Payments postmarked by the U.S. Postal Service by the above due dates will continue to be considered timely.



LOCAL SERVICES TAX

Any individual who works in the Town and has earned income and/or net profits of over \$12,000 within the Town is required to pay this tax. The tax rate is \$52 per year, but employees are only liable for the tax for pay periods in which they are employed. Employers are required to withhold the tax on a pro-rata basis based on the number of pay periods in a calendar year (26 if you are paid every two weeks, 24 if you are paid twice a month, etc.).

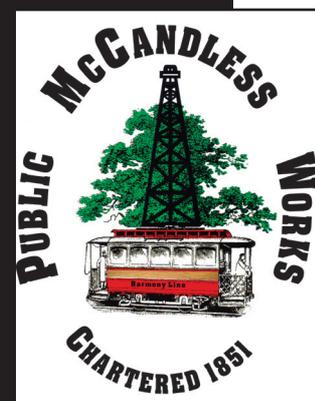
Self-employed individuals are required to pay the full \$52 in quarterly installments. The Town appointed Keystone Collections Group, effective Jan. 1, 2011, to collect the local services tax.

Keystone is located at 546 Wendel Road, Irwin, PA 15642. They can be contacted at 724-978-0300 or online at www.keystonecollects.com.

Public Works

2014 Paving Program

Berwick Court	Moccasin Trail
Breezewood Drive	Natick Court
Brooks Road	Nedham Court
Conestoga Court	Old Kummer Road
Covered Wagon Court	Remington Drive
Donna Drive	Sudberry Drive
East Barkhurst Drive	Tomahawk Trail
East Moccasin Trail	Wagon Wheel Trail
Highview Road	West Barkhurst Drive
Ingomar Heights Road	West Moccasin Trail
Inwood Road	



Reminder: Nothing but a mailbox should be within three (3) feet of the road before, during, or after paving. That includes tree branches overhanging the road, portable basketball sets, rocks, planters, and so forth. Thank you!

Park Permits



Devlin Park

The Town of McCandless park pavilion permit applications for reserving Devlin Memorial Park Pavilion and Wall Memorial Park Pavilion became available to all residents on Monday, March 3, 2014.

Permits can be obtained at the Department of Public Works, located at 9957 Grubbs Road, Wexford, PA 15090 (adjacent to Town Hall) from 7 a.m. until 11 a.m. and Noon until 3 p.m., Monday through Friday.

Parks open April 1 and close Nov. 1. All applicants must be a resident of McCandless and at least 18 years of age. The 2014 Park Pavilion Permit fee is \$25.00 per permit (checks only, made payable to the Town of McCandless). This fee is only refundable if cancellation is made 30 days or more prior to the permit date.

If you have any questions, please call the Public Works Department at 412-364-0616, ext. 184.

A Message from the McCandless-Franklin Park Ambulance Association: Spring is in the Air (Honest!)

Following a long, cold, snowy, and record-setting winter, we are looking forward to spring. We know that the parks will be full with races, ball games, picnics, and boating on the lake. Your ambulance service will be shifting gears from our cold weather mode to our spring and summer responses.

As odd it may seem now, we will be treating heat related emergencies, reactions to insect stings, and breathing problems brought on by the hot and humid weather. We will most likely visit more than one swimming pool this summer and there's no telling how many miles are logged in North Park either on foot or on bicycle. We will also be listening to the oohs and ahs at all of the local fireworks displays.

Please remember to practice warm weather safety. Always wear a helmet when cycling or skating. If the weather is oppressively hot, delay or suspend outdoor activities.

If available, spend the hottest part of the day in an air-conditioned environment. Remember to carry your EpiPen in case of an allergic reaction. Please follow all safety instructions around swimming pools, and keep a watchful eye on all children around water. Please leave the fireworks to the professionals.

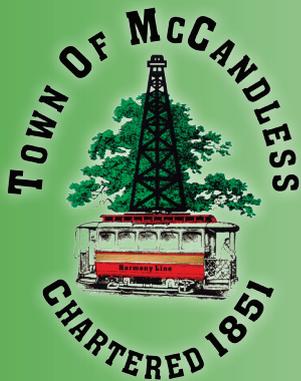
As always, we hope you have a safe summer and enjoy all that the outdoors has to offer. If you have the opportunity, stop by and say hello or make an appointment to get your child's car seat checked.

Please visit our web page at www.mfpaa.org to get more information about your ambulance authority. Have a great outdoor season!



Community Day

*Saturday, September 13
12:30-9:00 p.m.*



Schedule of Events

- 12:30 p.m.....Parade
- 1:30-4:30 p.m....Traveling Museum
- 1:30-8:30 p.m....Basket Raffle
- 2:00-6:00 p.m....Frank J. Farina, Jr.
Memorial Car Cruise
- 1:45-2:30 p.m....Center Stage
- 2:30-3:15 p.m....Pittsburgh Puppet
Works Puppet Show
- 3:15-4:00 p.m....Mandolinisti Italiano
- 4:00-4:45 p.m....Red Hot Ramblers
- 4:45-5:30 p.m....Michele's Dance Center
- 5:30-6:15 p.m....Kardaz Brothers
- 6:15-7:30 p.m....Chuck Blasko and The
Vogues
- 8:15-9:15 p.m....Allegheny Brass Band
- 9:00 p.m.....Fireworks



Building Safety Month: Maximizing Resilience, Minimizing Risks

May is Building Safety Month! Building Safety Month is a public awareness campaign offered each year to help individuals, families, and businesses understand what it takes to create and sustain safe and sustainable structures. The campaign reinforces the need for adoption of modern, model building codes, a strong and efficient system of code enforcement, and a well-trained, professional workforce to maintain the system. For the last 34 years the 50,000 worldwide members of the International Code Council (ICC) have celebrated advances in constructing safe, sustainable, affordable, and resilient buildings and homes.

WEEK 1: Keeping Fire in its Place (May 5-11)

In 2010, more than 362,000 residential fires caused 2,555 deaths, more than 13,000 injuries, and more than \$6.5 billion in property damage costs.

The United States Fire Association (USFA) states that the top five fire-safety topics most frequently identified with home fire deaths are smoke alarms, escape plans, child fire safety, older adult fire safety (cooking and heating) and careless smoking.

So what can you do to prevent fires in your home? The USFA offers these statistics and tips:

- ✓ Children under age 5 are twice as likely to die in a home fire. Create an escape plan and practice it! Plan two routes of escape from every room and designate a meeting place outside of the home. Remember: everyone get out and stay out.
- ✓ The third leading cause of fire death for older adults is cooking. Never leave the kitchen unattended because a serious fire can start in seconds. Don't wear loose clothing while cooking. Keep towels and pot holders away from the range. Double-check the kitchen before you go to bed or leave your home.
- ✓ The second leading cause of fire death for older adults is heating. When buying a space heater, look for the auto-off feature should the heater fall over. Keep space heaters at least three (3) feet away from other objects. Your fireplace should have a screen large enough to catch flying sparks and rolling logs.
- ✓ The number one cause of preventable home fire deaths is smoke. If you smoke, practice these fire-safety tips to avoid putting your life, your home, and your family at risk: Don't leave a burning cigarette, cigar, or pipe unattended. If you feel drowsy, put it out immediately. Use deep ashtrays and never smoke in bed.
- ✓ More than 2,500 Americans died in home fires last year, In most cases, the home did not have a working smoke alarm. Install and maintain a smoke alarm on every level of your home. Replace the battery every year.

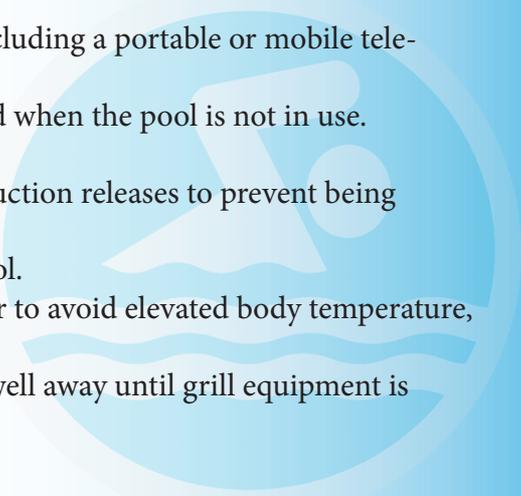
WEEK 2: Helping Homeowners Weather the Storm (May 12-18)

Making sure your family is prepared for any natural disaster is important. Below are a few tips from the Federal Alliance for Safe Homes when preparing your family for any emergency:

- ✓ Develop a family disaster plan that includes a list of food and water supplies needed for each member of your family and supplies for your pets. Make copies of important documents like insurance policies, the deed to your home and other personal papers, important phone numbers, and a home inventory. Create a checklist of important things to do before, during, and after a disaster.
- ✓ Review your evacuation route and emergency shelter locations with your family. Options for evacuation would include staying with friends and relatives, seeking commercial lodging, or staying in a mass care facility operated by disaster relief groups in conjunction with local authorities.
- ✓ Taking shelter is critical in times of disaster. Sheltering in place is appropriate when conditions require that you seek protection in your home, place of employment, or other location where you are when disaster strikes.
- ✓ Review your plan regularly. If you make changes that affect the information in your disaster plan, update it immediately.



WEEK 3: Surround Your House with Safety (May 19-25)

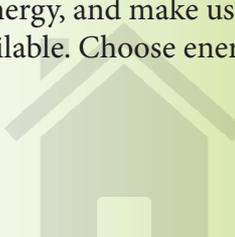
- ✓ Practice constant adult supervision around any body of water, including pools and spas. Nationally, drowning is a leading cause of death to children under 5 years of age.
 - ✓ If you're considering a swimming pool purchase, contact the McCandless Building Department first to determine exactly what permits are needed and what requirements you must follow.
 - ✓ In-ground and above-ground pools, including inflatable pools holding more than 24 inches of water, must be surrounded by a fence or other barrier at least four (4) feet high. Any gates in the fence must be self-closing and self-latching.
 - ✓ Reserve a spot on a wall or fence near the pool for lifesaving devices, including a portable or mobile telephone.
 - ✓ Steps and ladders for above-ground pools should be secured or removed when the pool is not in use.
 - ✓ Use a cover for the pool when it is not in use.
 - ✓ Make sure drain covers are properly fitted and paired or have vacuum suction releases to prevent being trapped under water.
 - ✓ Consider installing a pool alarm that can alert if someone enters the pool.
 - ✓ Spa water temperatures should be set to 104 degrees Fahrenheit or lower to avoid elevated body temperature, which could lead to drowsiness, unconsciousness, heat stroke, or death.
 - ✓ Designate the grilling area as a "No Play Zone" and keep kids and pets well away until grill equipment is completely cool.
 - ✓ Check propane cylinder hoses for leaks before use.
 - ✓ Do not move hot grills.
 - ✓ Never add charcoal starter fluid when coals or kindling have already been ignited, and never use any flammable or combustible liquid other than charcoal starter fluid to get the fire going.
 - ✓ Don't leave toys, tools, and equipment in the yard.
 - ✓ Keep steps, sidewalks, and patios in good repair.
 - ✓ Check all swings, slides, playhouses, and other structures for sharp objects, rusty metal pieces, breaks or weakened support pieces.
 - ✓ Learn Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation (CPR).
- 



WEEK 4: Building a Brighter, More Efficient Tomorrow (May 26-31)



Green-homes are also healthier homes, reducing mold, mildew, and other allergens. Below are tips for keeping your home dry and mold-free:

- ✓ Keep it dry: Install a drain pan under the water heater; place dehumidifiers in basements and other damp areas; position downspouts away from the house; repair any water damage.
 - ✓ Keep it clean: use track-off mats at all doorways; clean up dust to eliminate contaminants such as lead dust and allergens.
 - ✓ Keep it ventilated: install or replace exhaust fans in bathrooms and kitchens (make sure they vent to the outside).
 - ✓ Keep it contaminant-free: use wire shelving that doesn't collect dust; have your home tested for radon and lead-based paint.
 - ✓ Be sure to use energy-efficient light bulbs, turn off lights, and unplug electronics not in use. Install programmable thermostats, upgrade windows, heating, and air conditioning equipment, change filters frequently, and install more insulation in walls and attics.
 - ✓ If you are building new, consider the best position on the lot for trapping light and energy, and make use of energy-efficient foundation, framing, plumbing, wiring, and HVAC systems now available. Choose energy efficient appliances and install programmable thermostats.
- 

Gardening Corner: Pollinator-Friendly Gardens

by: Julie Barnes, Ingomar Garden Club

Colony Collapse Disorder (CCD) is a name given to the die out of honeybee colonies that has steadily reduced population. Even though the honeybee is recognized as the champion pollinator, there are at least 4,000 species of wild or “solitary” bees responsible for pollination of flowers, fruits, and vegetables.

“Solitary” is the name given to them because they live and work alone rather than in cooperative colonies, divided into groups such as mason or orchard bees, leafcutter bees, alkali bees, and carpenter bees. However, diversity and populations in recent years are declining.

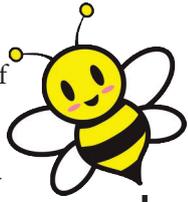
To help rectify the situation, gardeners can be of assistance by planting pollinator-friendly gardens that include a mixture of plants that bloom throughout the growing season to attract and support these pollinators.

The use of pesticides should be reduced with a pollinator garden, especially a broad spectrum type. Many pesticides, even organic ones, are toxic to bees and other beneficial organisms. If you must use pesticides, apply them carefully and selectively. Never use pesticides on open blossoms or when bees or other pollinators are nearby. Secure nesting sites and fodder rich flower areas are essential for pollinator habitats and today, the outright loss of them poses the greatest threat to pollinators.

In addition to bees, there are many other species that are pollinators as well. Over time plants have developed certain tricks to attract pollinators by flower color, shape, or fragrance. Red or orange flowers attract hummingbirds. Butterflies with long mouth parts or the long narrow beaks of hummingbirds enable them to reach within tubular flowers to gather sweet fragrant fluid. Some flowers actually smell like rotting meat to attract flies for pollination.

Others have “nectar guides” to ensure that pollen is both delivered and picked up by the right pollinator. These may be dots or lines of contrasting color leading inward from the petals and pointing to the nectar. Petunias and morning glories have clearly visible nectar lines while the throats of foxgloves are dotted inside. Daisy-like flowers actually have “landing pads,” allowing bees to walk inside them while sweetly scented night blooming plants such as nicotiana or Angel’s Trumpet attract pollinating moths at night.

By way of flowers, shrubs, and trees, a sanctuary for pollinators can be created with the addition of clean water that is replenished often. Shrubs should be pruned for shapeliness and not in stiff unnatural forms, making it easy for birds and other creatures to move in and out. Over pruning may also eliminate a reliable food source of berries. Moreover, consider leaving behind some organic debris when cleaning up the garden to provide nesting material for birds as well as summer shelter or over wintering sites for beneficial insects.



HEY, Parents!

It’s that time of year again! Resident school-age students in the North Allegheny School District are invited to attend the Summer Recreation Program sponsored by the joint municipalities of McCandless, Bradford Woods, Franklin Park, and Marshall.

The program will begin Monday, June 16, 2014 and will continue through Friday, July 11, 2014. The program will be offered from 8:45 a.m. to Noon with no provisions for lunch.

The program includes team sports, group recreation, and arts and crafts. Participants must have completed first grade. There will not be a program on Friday, July 4, 2014.

The centers will be located at the following tentative locations: Carson Middle School, Franklin Elementary, and Knob Hill Park (Marshall). Transportation to and from the respective centers is the responsibility of the parents.

On the first day of attendance each participant is required to pay \$50.00 (either in cash or check) for service and the insurance program. This is a \$50.00 deductible insurance coverage and will supplement any present accident policy held by the family. Checks are to be made payable to the Town of McCandless.

The registration form and medical authorization form are sent home with students the last week of school. Please make certain both forms have been completed upon enrolling your child in the program.

Both forms should accompany the child along with the \$50.00 required fee to the center the child will be attending the first day of the program. **No forms will be accepted at Town Hall.** We look forward to seeing you this summer!



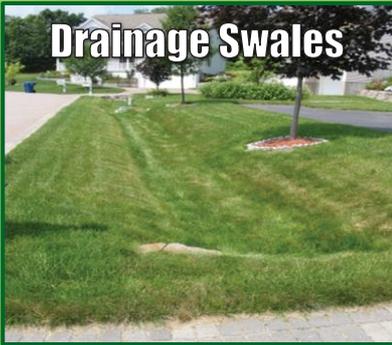
Do You Have a Swampy Yard?



SPRING IS NEAR, AND DRAINAGE ISSUES ARE OFTEN A NUISANCE AND HAZARD FOR OUR RESIDENTS. HERE ARE SOME WAYS TO IMPROVE YOUR LAWN.

Drainage and groundwater conditions are ever changing with the seasons and climate conditions. Proper drainage is important to your lawn and landscape, as is proper irrigation. Not only can it make your lawn unusable, but standing water near plants or in your lawn can cause lawn and root disease. Revive your lawn and increase your property's worth with a proper drainage solution before it's too late!

Drainage Swales



Swales are depressed areas that are designed to direct water away from unwanted areas and can be placed within lawns and other vegetated surfaces. Drainage Swales can often be incorporated into revised lawn grading and are the preferred method of drainage.

Grade Adjustment



The simplest form of redirecting water is done by changing the slope of the landscape around your home. Lawn and landscape areas around your house should be sloped so that water is directed away from the home's foundation. Often, foundation leaking and ponding water around the home can be easily solved by adjusting the grades around the structure.

Dry Creek Beds



A visually pleasing way to control water run-off as well as a versatile system for all drainage needs. When properly installed, Dry Creek Beds can blend into existing landscaping to create beautiful additions to the exterior decorations of your property.

This multi-functional system can drain water away from unwanted areas and relocate it. A French Drain is simply a trench filled with gravel that contains a pipe in the center to drain water. It can also add a great new touch to your landscape and planting areas if the river rock is left exposed.

French Drain



Driveway Drainage



Though many other systems can fix driveway flooding, adding drainage can easily solve problems you may have. It can be as simple as a long trench drain at the driveway low point to collect runoff and direct it away. It is important to consider drainage when installing a new or replacing an existing driveway.

Drainage solutions vary in cost and each landscape is different and may require different methods. In addition to the options shown above, other drainage remedies are available, including but not limited to Mechanical Systems (ex: Sump Pumps), Dry Wells, Drain Tiles Systems, and Down Spouts. Do It Yourself drainage options are available, but it is recommended that you consult with a professional prior to attempting the work. Repairing damage and removal of previously installed systems that resulted in ineffectiveness could increase costs. Proper permits must be obtained from the Town prior to initiating work. All images are copyrighted their respective owners.

Courtesy of:





Northland Public Library

New Library Resources and Offerings

E-Book, E-Audiobook, E-Magazine downloads are available for your iPad, Kindle or Nook! Did you know you can easily have access to these materials for free from Northland? Another really great feature is that you will never incur a late fee on E-materials because once the item is downloaded to your device, it automatically expires and the files are removed on the material due date. For downloading instructions, visit the Computer Center page on the library's web site.



CQ RESEARCHER

In-depth reports on today's issues

CQ Researcher is a newly purchased database exclusive to Northland Library. It is available through the Online Training and Research area in our web site's navigation menu. CQ Researcher is a database of in-depth, authoritative reports on a full range of political and social-policy issues extending back to 1923. Each report is footnoted and includes an overview, background section, chronology, bibliography, and debate-style pro-con feature, plus tools to study the evolution of the topic over time.



Free music downloads! We are pleased to announce Freegal (rhymes with legal). Freegal is a free music service that allows three free song downloads per week, per library card. There are thousands of artists, tens of thousands of albums, and millions of songs. The Freegal Music web site has hundreds of genres of music and is rich in many of them. The content is based upon agreements with over 28,000 music labels, including the labels of Sony Music Entertainment. One very unique feature is that you get to keep the downloaded music on your device. Please visit the E-resources area of our web site for more information about this new service.



Atomic Online Training offers award-winning video-based training for today's most popular software, social media, and mobile devices, all free to library card holders. Atomic offers unlimited access to over 500 easy-to-understand online training videos. You can watch at the library or access this valuable resource on your home computer or mobile device anywhere. Stop by the Computer Center if you have any questions about Atomic Training.



Northland is pleased to offer this new program, which offers access to the best-selling new releases in books and newly released popular DVDs. Is today your Lucky Day? Will it be tomorrow? Look for new content coming to Northland's former Bestseller collection. Now called the Lucky Day collection, this area includes the latest print Bestsellers and the newest DVDs. All content in the collection is non-holdable, first come, first served. Make your day lucky!

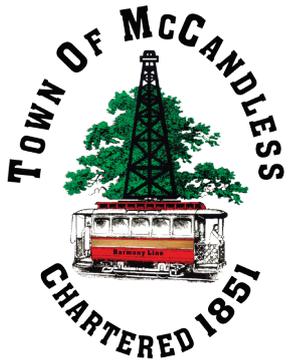
McCandless Calendar of Events

May

sunday	monday	tuesday	wednesday	thursday	friday	saturday
				1	2	3 Household Chemical Collection, North Park Swimming Pool 9 a.m.- 1 p.m.
4	5 Public Safety, Services, Public Works, Recreation Committee Meetings 7:30 p.m.	6 Planning Commission Meeting 7:30 p.m.	7	8	9	10 Hard to Recycle Collection, Consol Energy Park 9 a.m.- 1 p.m.
11 Mother's Day	12 Zoning and Finance Committee Meetings 7:30 p.m.	13 Planning Commission Workshop Meeting 7:30 p.m.	14	15 2014 Business Privilege Tax Due 7:00 p.m.	16	17 Armed Forces Day
18	19 Council's Regular Business Meeting 7:30 p.m.	20	21	22 Zoning Hearing Board Meeting 7:30 p.m.	23	24
25	26 Memorial Day (Offices Closed) Refuse/Recycling will be one day later this week	27	28	29	30	31 Goodwill E-Waste Collection at Town Hall 10:00 a.m. until 2:00 p.m.

June

sunday	monday	tuesday	wednesday	thursday	friday	saturday
1	2 Public Safety, Services, Public Works, Recreation Committee Meetings 7:30 p.m.	3 Planning Commission Meeting 7:30 p.m.	4	5	6	7
8	9 Zoning and Finance Committee Meetings 7:30 p.m.	10 Planning Commission Workshop Meeting 7:30 p.m.	11	12	13	14 Flag Day
15 Father's Day	16 Council's Agenda Review Meeting 7:30 p.m.	17	18	19	20	21 Summer Begins
22	23 Council's Regular Business Meeting 7:30 p.m.	24	25	26 Zoning Hearing Board Meeting 7:30 p.m.	27	28
25 First of Ramadan	30	Summer Recreation Program				
		Summer Recreation Program				



July

sunday	monday	tuesday	wednesday	thursday	friday	saturday
		1 Real Estate Tax bills will be mailed by this date Planning Commission Meeting 7:30 p.m.	2	3	4 Independence Day (Offices Closed)	5
		Summer Recreation Program				
6	7 Public Safety, Services, Public Works, Recreation Committee Meetings 7:30 p.m.	8 Planning Commission Workshop Meeting 7:30 p.m.	9	10	11	12 Household Chemical Collection, CalU of PA, 9 a.m. - 1 p.m.
		Summer Recreation Program				
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21 Zoning and Finance Committee Meetings 7:30 p.m. Council's Agenda Review Meeting 7:30 p.m.	22	23	24 Zoning Hearing Board Meeting 7:30 p.m.	25	26
27	28 Council's Regular Business Meeting 7:30 p.m.	29	30	31 Second Quarter Earned Income Tax due (send to Keystone Collections Group)		