



McCandless Town Crier



**Special
environmental
checklist
inside!**

What's Inside ...

Welcome back, Chief DiSanti

Profiles on Town parks

Tax information

E-recycling reminder

TOWN OF McCANDLESS ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICES
9955 Grubbs Road
Wexford, PA 15090
412-364-0616
www.townofmccandless.org

TOWN OF McCANDLESS COUNCIL

Kimberly K. Zachary, Ward 1
Gerard J. Aufman Jr., Ward 2
Steven E. Mertz, Ward 3
Joan D. Powers, Ward 4
Gregory W. Walkauskas, Ward 5
Ralph J. LeDonne, Ward 6
William J. McKim, Ward 7

Tobias M. Cordek, Town Manager
Regis J. Ebner Jr., Assistant Town Manager
William C. Ries, Town Attorney
David R. DiSanti Sr., Chief of Police
Mark E. Sabina, Public Works Superintendent
Bruce G. Betty, Zoning Officer
Daniel E. Stack, Fire Marshal
Jeffrey A. Frazier, Code Enforcement Officer
Linda J. Grinnik, Tax Administrator

OTHER CONTACT INFORMATION

Highland VFD Non-Emergency
412-366-3473
Ingomar VFC Main Station Non-Emergency
412-364-3571
Ingomar VFC North Station Non-Emergency
724-935-5131
Peebles District VFC Non-Emergency
412-364-2112
McCandless-Franklin Park Ambulance Authority
412-367-5883
McCandless Township Sewer Authority (MTSA)
412-366-2700
West View Water Authority
412-931-3292
Waste Management
1-800-866-4460
Keystone Collections Group
724-978-0300

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Manager's Message

Soon, our efforts in resident engagement and outreach will add yet another dimension. We will embark on our comprehensive planning process. We have chosen to utilize the Implementable Plan model. It is essentially an input-seeking and prioritizing model which identifies the most important five to 10 initiatives we should undertake. Please think about what you believe is important and be prepared to respond when we seek input.

We hope you enjoy the more robust offering of information in this Town Crier and our other media offerings.

Tobias M. Cordek
Town Manager



McCandless again named a Banner Community



The Town of McCandless has once again been named a Banner Community by the Allegheny League of Municipalities.

We have earned this honor each year since the program was launched a few years ago. The recognition was provided because of the Town's efforts to provide effective, efficient and accountable services to its residents and businesses. The designation also acknowledges the Town's efforts to inform and engage residents through frequent and open communication, public and community events, and mentoring.

"Since this program's inception, we have met and exceeded standards set to be recognized by the League as a Banner Community," said Town Manager Toby Cordek. "We really worked hard in 2016, adding more information to our website regularly and launching our Facebook page."

To be recognized as a Banner Community, a municipality must demonstrate its commitment to several best practices each year related to topics such as communication, professional development and intergovernmental cooperation.

Some of the best practices implemented by McCandless include significant participation in the North Hills Council of Governments and its programs, including joint bids for road salt, regional stormwater cooperation and its leaf composting program; distributing communications to residents (through the use of the Town Crier newsletter, McMail™, the Town's Facebook page and the Town website); holding Community Day every September; and attendance by Town Council members and staff at professional development courses (such as the LGA Newly Elected Officials Course, ALOM's annual conference, and the Allegheny

County and Western Pennsylvania Association of Township Commissioners Fall Conference).

McCandless, along with the 51 other municipalities that were named as Banner Communities, were honored at a luncheon on March 31.

"Local government is considered by many to be the most important form of government because of its direct impact on the daily lives of residents. The job of being a local government officials, whether elected or appointed, has become an increasingly complex occupation," said County Executive Rich Fitzgerald. "The Banner Community Program designation is a public recognition of the efforts that these government officials take on behalf of its residents and businesses each day."

DiSanti returns to McC



In 2006, he left McCandless to serve as the police chief at Oakmont.

"It was very tough. I had a lot of great relationships here but I wanted to be a police chief and command my own police department. I am not a talker but a doer," DiSanti said, saying his experience at Oakmont was very valuable.

However, he jumped at the chance when the opportunity to return to McCandless as chief arose.

The process to select a new chief was rigorous. A national search was conducted with the help of a Chicago-based executive search firm.

When David R. DiSanti Sr. became new Chief of the McCandless Police Department last year, it was a homecoming for him.

Although he spent 10 years as the police chief for Oakmont (up until last November), almost his entire career until that point was with the McCandless Police Department.

"It feels great to be back. I hit the job running and it has been wonderful to rekindle both professional and personal relationships," DiSanti said.

Last August 22, Town Council voted to appoint DiSanti as the new chief of the McCandless Police Department.

DiSanti, who has 39 years of law enforcement experience, began November 1. His salary is \$115,000. He replaced Chief Gary Anderson, who became chief in 1997, and whose career of dedicated public service spanned 48 years.

DiSanti received an associate's degree in criminology from Indiana (Pa.) University. He started at the McCandless Police Department in 1979, working as a patrol officer, detective and sergeant.

The search netted 51 qualified applicants for the position. Applicants had to hold a rank of lieutenant or higher and hold a degree, though experience could supplant the education qualification. Finalists had to endure an all-day assessment group and interview process.

When the chips fell, DiSanti ended up as the top candidate.

He is happy to be back in McCandless, saying the community has great respect and support for him and his officers.

"I have been welcomed back with open arms and have enjoyed working with so many good people. I love the area and this Town," DiSanti said.

DiSanti serves on the executive board of the Western Pennsylvania Chiefs of Police Association, and is the chaplain of the Allegheny County Chiefs of Police Association and the FBI — Western Pennsylvania National Academy. He is a strong proponent of community policing, and has received numerous citations and commendations for his work over the years.

BIO BOX

Name: David R. DiSanti Sr.

Age: 58

Family: Wife, 2 sons, 1 granddaughter

Education: Associate's degree in criminology from Indiana (Pa.) University.

At McCandless, DiSanti oversees 20 patrol officers, two detectives, four sergeants, two lieutenants, a two-person civilian support staff, and six school crossing guards. The department provides 24-hour coverage.

Internally, DiSanti is working on educating and training officers for specialization and other duties.

One of the first things DiSanti did was conduct entrance interviews of his officers and employees.

"I plan on cultivating each officer's talents and enthusiasm to best serve our town. I believe we have one of the top police departments in the area and one this community can be very proud of," DiSanti said.

By and large, DiSanti said he sees an appreciation and enthusiasm from his officers for the ability to try new things and get out into the community.

He also said he intends to sustain the department's equipment and technology "to better serve the community."

Ultimately, DiSanti likes being able to make a difference on a daily basis and cultivating leadership among his officers here at McCandless.

"I enjoy mentoring all employees and take pride in seeing my officers do well. I think that begins by being an example as a leader and bringing enthusiasm and passion to the job. It's like having children because my officers are like my extended family – you're proud when your children do well," DiSanti said.

He said his philosophy on law enforcement is simply to live by the golden rule — treat all people with respect and dignity no matter what. Additionally, he believes in good communication and working with the community.

"I believe we need to bond with our community, communicating with them in all aspects," DiSanti said.

To assist with this, he worked to launch a Facebook page for the police department (which can be found at www.facebook.com/McCandlessPoliceDepartment) in March. He also is working to attend "as many events as we can," including school and community events, to communicate.

"Having officers attend and have simple conversations ensures that we know them and they know us, and we can build trust," DiSanti said.

One of the significant events he has been involved in was the April 11 opioid town forum at CCAC North sponsored by the Town, NA, CCAC North and the FBI. He was one of the presenters at the forum.

DiSanti also is looking at evaluating and launching new programs, such as local task forces.



What's new these days?

Signal and paving work to take place on McKnight Road



PennDOT has notified us that it has plans to upgrade the remaining signal corridor from Duncan Avenue to Pine Creek Road at each intersection with McKnight.

Currently, these signals use time-based coordination in response to volumes of traffic in time periods installed in the computer controller at each intersection.

PennDOT intends to revamp these intersection to adaptive coordination, which is used through the Wexford Flats on Route 19. This method allows the computer controller to make

real-time assessments of traffic and invoke an appropriate timing scenario based on current traffic volumes.

Public Works Superintendent Mark Sabina is weighing in with PennDOT about timing at the Duncan and Covenant intersection which, due to proximity to McKnight Road, is closely linked to the Duncan-McKnight intersection.

PennDOT also intends to completely replace the traffic signals at McKnight's intersections with Arcadia Drive, Blazier Drive and Pine Creek Road, all with new poles, signal heads and controls. The left turn lane for Pine Creek on McKnight may also be extended to 200+ feet. We have begun helping them with the determination of available right-of-way to allow for this to take place. All this work is the responsibility of the local municipality; however, PennDOT utilizes its funds or federal funds to make such upgrades. Although this will delay the left-hand turn movement installation being added to the Cumberland-McKnight intersection, PennDOT will cover the cost.

A contractor has been selected to complete the left turn signalization planned and budgeted for the Cumberland-Babcock upgrade.

Additionally, PennDOT has notified us that it intends to pave McKnight Road from approximately 500 feet north of the Babcock Boulevard-Perrymont Road intersection to its intersection with Route 19.

PennDOT has indicated that all of this work should be completed during the upcoming construction season.

The police are on Facebook, too!



The Town of McCandless Police Department now has a Facebook page, which launched in March.

The page can be found at <https://www.facebook.com/McCandlessPoliceDepartment>.

Like the page for up-to-date information.

The police page compliments the main Town Facebook page (<https://www.facebook.com/townofmccandless>), which launched last June.

You now can watch Town Council meetings on TV



Town Council meetings now are recorded for broadcast.

The videos will be found on the Town's YouTube channel the day after a meeting takes place, and also will be broadcast on NATV the week after the meeting takes place. NATV can be found on the following channels: Comcast 98, Armstrong 210, Verizon 33 and Consolidated 406.

The first meeting recorded was the March 20 Agenda Review Meeting.

More information can be found at www.town-ofmccandless.org on the "Meeting Videos" page (located under the "Town Government" tab).

Think it's hard to get rid of your old TVs? **NOT ANYMORE!!!**

As a part of the contract with Waste Management, residents have a convenient opportunity to dispose of **Household Hazardous Waste** — such as cleaners, chemicals and automotive products — and **E-Waste** — such as old computers, televisions and other electronics.

The **At Your Door HHW and E-Waste Collection** program allows residents to easily dispose of these often difficult-to-recycle items.

How to participate...

First, you have to schedule your collection. There are 3 ways to do this:

1. Go to www.WMAtYourDoor.com
2. Call 1-800-449-7587 (Monday-Friday 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. Eastern Time)
3. E-mail AtYourDoor@WM.com

The call center operators will guide you through the steps toward a safe and successful collection. You will be asked several questions, including your address and the type and amount of materials available for the pick up. You will be provided a convenient collection date and information about where to place the kit for collection. A kit will be sent to your home in plenty of time for you to gather and pack your materials.

The collection kit includes an instruction sheet and other items to help pack and secure your household generated special materials. Please read the instruction sheet included in the kit.

On the scheduled date, the customer service technician will collect materials directly from your home. They will sort and pack the materials for proper transportation, recycling and disposal. Participants will receive a postage-paid survey card to complete and mail back to help track the program.

Got more stuff than will fit in the kit? Don't worry.

Remember, this service will be available year-round, and **the cost is included in your regular trash bill**. Just schedule another collection! Small quantities may be combined with your neighbors. Call center representatives are available from Monday - Friday 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. ET at 1-800-449-7587. Leave a message after hours, weekends and holidays. E-mail the call center: AtYourDoor@WM.com.

Acceptable and Unacceptable materials for At Your Door HHW and E-Waste collection

Two categories of acceptable materials

Must be placed INSIDE the kit		Acceptable materials for OUTSIDE the kit	
Automotive products: Antifreeze Brake fluid Cleaner Hydraulic fluid Transmission fluid Motor oil Oil filter Polish Wax Gasoline Diesel fuel	Drain cleaner Tile/shower cleaner Rust remover	Vehicle batteries (up to 4)	One computer system (one each of the following: CPU/tower, monitor, keyboard, mouse, desktop printer)
	Flammable and combustible materials Kerosene Solvent Certain cleaners	Fluorescent tubes and CFLs (up to 10, placed inside their original sheaths or taped together)	Electronics with circuit boards (CD Rom, VCRs, cell phones, DVD/CD/tape players, related cords) — up to 25 pounds
	Swimming pool chemicals Pool acid Chlorine (tablets, liquid)	Televisions (one at a time)	
	Paint products Latex Oil-based Thinners Artist's paint Spray paint Stain Sealer Caulk	Garden chemicals Insect sprays Weed killers Herbicide Fertilizer Pesticides	
Household cleaners Ammonia Cleaning compounds Floor stripper	Misc. household Batteries Hobby glue		

Waste Management will **NOT** collect any materials in unlabeled or leaking containers. If you have questions about proper disposal methods for non-acceptable items, commercial chemicals or hazardous materials in containers larger than five gallons in size, please contact the call center at 1-800-449-7587.

UNACCEPTABLE MATERIALS

- Items that are improperly packaged for transport
- Biological waste
- Construction materials
- Smoke detectors
- Unknown materials
- Pressurized cylinders
- Ammunition
- Leaking containers
- Items in containers over 5 gallons
- Commercial products
- E-cigarettes
- All medicines
- Empty containers
- Asbestos
- Tires
- Radioactive materials
- Fire extinguishers
- Explosives
- Unlabeled containers
- Business supplies from homes
- Trash, including bulky items

Let's have a look at

Potter Park



With a Thoreau-like atmosphere, the park's main attractions are a one-acre pond, plenty of trees and vegetation — including wildflowers — and two walking trails.

Before its life as a park, the property was part of the Depreciation Lands given to pay Revolutionary War veterans for their service. Jack and Delores Sarver bought the land in 1955. Jack would bring many plants from his travels to supplement the wetlands already on the property. He also built an earthen dam to create the pond.

In 1965, Dr. Robert Potter and his wife, Janet, bought the land. In 1976, the family donated the property to the Town. It was the first property in McCandless that the Town dedicated for parkspace.

Dr. Rob Potter, Robert and Janet's son, takes pride in his parents' contribution to the Town.

"I'm very proud they put the betterment of the community above personal financial gain," he said.

Since acquiring the land, the Town intentionally has kept the park as undeveloped as possible, keeping it as a nature preserve meant for passive recreation.

The park entrance is located on the private section of Harmony Road. A trail takes visitors back to the pond — a pond which is perfectly suited for fishing. A memorial bench in honor of Dr. Potter — who passed away in 2010 — is located by the lake. A few other benches are located along the lake for people who want to enjoy in the calm atmosphere.

A second trail, added in 1995 by Boy Scout Troop 329, begins by the lake, taking visitors along the wooded hillside that extends from the dam area.

If you blink while driving along Harmony Road, you might miss Potter Park (or at least its entrance).

This quiet slice of nature is the most low-key park in the Town. The 10-acre space has no facilities and no paved surfaces. In fact, it is not even located on a paved road.

Town Hall Recreation Complex



Located right on the Town Hall grounds on Grubbs Road, the aptly named Town Hall Recreation Complex (often known as Devlin Park) was the first space that was developed by the Town for active recreation. It originally was built in 1979.

The park contains the Devlin Memorial Pavilion — named after a police officer who was killed in the line of duty. This pavilion is available for rent seasonally.

Additionally, the park contains the Lorraine G. Rogers Memorial Soccer Fields, a softball field, three tennis courts, a basketball court, a volleyball court, pickleball courts and two playgrounds.

Town Council President Jerry Aufman expressed amazement at how far the park has come since it was created, and how many people can fit in it during Community Day each year.

"It warms my heart to see hundreds and even thousands of residents visiting booths, enjoying entertainment and watching fireworks at a park that was originally thought to be a place to have a picnic and play some ball," Aufman said.

our five Town parks

Wall Park



Named after former North Allegheny administrator James A. Wall (who was instrumental in founding and leading youth sports), this park was built on more than 7 acres between 1989 and 1990.

“Council had been approached a number of times about potential rezonings of this land, none of which fit Council’s vision for this part of McCandless,” said Town Manager Toby Cordek.

Given this, Town Council leapt at the chance to create the Town’s second active recreation park by acquiring the property.

It was officially dedicated on July 4, 1990.

Located on a triangular piece of land at the corner of Sloop and Rochester roads, this park includes two baseball/softball fields, a basketball/dek hockey court, a volleyball court and a playground. Just like the Town Hall park, it includes a pavilion that is available for rent.

Vestal Park



Located between Pine Creek Road and Route 19, this primarily is the McCandless home of the Ingomar/Franklin Park Athletic Association (a group that has invested significantly in the development on the park).

The land was donated to the YMCA by the Vestal and Roessler families in 1965. Decades later, the YMCA was looking for someone to take permanent stewardship of the land, which the Town did in 1991.

Today, the park contains two baseball fields for mid-level play, one t-ball field and a concession stand.

Although it is well-known for its fields, Vestal Park also contains a lovely nature trail. Additionally, the park is noted for its wooden pedestrian bridge which connects the parking lot on Pine Creek Road to the fields (with the bridge carrying visitors over Pine Creek and natural wetlands).

Vincentian Recreation Complex



One of the more interesting parks in the Town is the Vincentian Recreation Complex.

The complex is on a 99-year lease from Vincentian. The lease began in 1983. The McCandless Athletic Association is the primary lessee, with the Town acting as a co-lessee.

“The Vincentian Sisters, led at the time by Sister Prudentia, responded to help young McCandless residents by leasing the land to build ballfields and related facilities,” Cordek said.

Over the years, the Town has chipped in and helped obtain state funding for the project.

This park contains two t-ball fields, two baseball fields, one softball field and two combination baseball/softball fields, all of which play home to the McCandless Athletic Association. It also contains two concession stands and a playground.

McCandless/Northern Allegheny Heritage Center grand opening May 20



The McCandless/Northern Allegheny Heritage Center is scheduled to officially open with a ceremony at 1 p.m. on Saturday, May 20.

The public and all those who helped build the center are invited to attend. WQED's Rick Sebak graciously accepted an invitation to participate.

Joe Bullick's generous donation of his collection and the need for a permanent home sparked the construction of the Center. The replica one-room schoolhouse is patterned after the early 20th century Peebles and Ingomar school buildings. The donation of significant time by contractors, consultants and volunteers who helped make this happen will be celebrated.

After the grand opening, the Center's operating hours are anticipated to be Wednesday through Friday from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., and Saturday and Sunday from 1 to 4 p.m.

Additional volunteers who want to help staff the Center during its operating hours, please contact heritagecenter@townofmccandless.org or 412-364-0616 Ext. 118.

Save The Date



**The 17th annual Town
of McCandless
Community Day will
be held Saturday,
September 9**



Why I like working in local government ...

Thoughts from a new guy

John Bojarski

Title: Asst. to the Town Mgr.
for Communications

Age: 29

Years of service: 1

It's been one year since I took the leap from journalism into local government.



In that time, I have been lucky to have been a part of several new initiatives (including the Town's social media program, the recording of Town Council meetings for broadcast, the Environmental Advisory Committee and the Heritage Center). I also have been privileged to be a part of older traditions, as well (such as helping with the planning of Community Day and putting together the Town Crier that you are reading right now).

What I've found is that working at Town Hall is a great way to get up close with the community. People can blab on and on about the state and federal government, but local government is where all the action occurs.

Sometimes, people think of government as slow and government employees as bored or jaded. I can tell you I have found the environment here to be fast-paced — and that's with my experience in the notoriously faced-paced newspaper world.

Town Hall is where stuff gets done, and I'm happy to be a part of that.

23 YEARS OF PERFECT ATTENDANCE !?!

How many people can claim 23 years of perfect attendance?

Well, McCandless Police Sgt. Jeff Basl can say he has gone more than 2 decades without taking a sick day.

Sgt. Basl was honored for this seemingly miraculous feat at the February 27 Town Council meeting.

Keep up the great work!

POLICE PERSPECTIVE

Eric Egli

Title: Detective

Age: 39

Years of service: 14



For the past fourteen years, I had the privilege and honor of working for the Town of McCandless Police Department in several different capacities. I spent the first ten years of my career in the patrol division, which provided an opportunity to assist residents of McCandless in a variety of both emergency and non-emergency calls for service. For the last four years, I have worked in the Criminal Investigations Division and been an active member of the North Hills Special Response Team. Working for McCandless Police in any capacity presents a number of unique challenges, there is no such thing as a routine day so each day requires strong physical and mental strength, as well as the ability to respond to rapidly changing situations.

One of the major benefits of working for local government is the community. I conduct presentations on a variety of subjects at schools, daycares, senior living facilities, community meetings and commercial establishments, which gives me the opportunity to stay involved in the community and create strong professional and personal friendships. I am a father myself, so being able to meet with schools and daycares is especially beneficial because it allows me to be a part of the developmental process for the children of our community. I take great pride in knowing that each day I put forth my best effort to make the community a better place and I have witnessed countless times how fortunate the Town of McCandless Police Department is to have strong support from the local community.

I am eager and invested in Chief DiSanti's vision, including specialization, for the future of our police department. I look forward to playing a major role and making an impact on our department and community.



Environmental Checklist

The Environmental Advisory Committee of the Town of McCandless has developed a simple to use Environmental Checklist for our residents of simple things we can do in our daily chores to protect and enhance the environment in our town.

In the Home

- ☐ Is there a waste can for recyclables?
- ☐ Avoid cleaners marked “danger” or “poison” on the label, and look for the tell-tale warnings, such as “corrosive” or “may cause burns”
- ☐ Turn out lights that are not needed
- ☐ Use a programmable thermostat to control temperature during the day and night to save energy
- ☐ Wash full loads of clothes when possible. When purchasing detergents, chose phosphate- and APE- free products to protect water quality and protect aquatic life
- ☐ Use your dishwasher with a full load
- ☐ Change your furnace filter every six months to save energy

Outside the Home

- ☐ Pick up, bag and dispose of your pets waste in your yard or others when you are walking your pet
- ☐ Dispose of your grass clippings and yard waste using a Waste Management yard waste container or use them for composting
- ☐ Do not place any waste in the storm drains

In your Neighborhood

- ☐ Organize a neighborhood cleanup day each year
- ☐ Report any environmental problems that you cannot handle to the Town of McCandless

Preparing for Spring and Summer

- ☐ Service your lawnmower to decrease pollution from exhaust

- ☐ Clean up flower beds from debris and fallen leaves
- ☐ When storing your winter tools, such as a snow blower ensure that all gasoline is removed from the tank to prevent vapors from entering the atmosphere and storage area. This is also a fire prevention issue.
- ☐ When planning your garden visit the following websites with information about native plants:
 - <http://extension.psu.edu/plants/gardening/perennial-garden>
 - www.iconservepa.org/plantsmart/plantsdatabase/index.htm
 - www.dcnr.state.pa.us/cs/groups/public/documents/document/DCNR_20031352.pdf
- ☐ Ensure all drainage from your yard is directed to the street storm drains and as required by Town ordinance.

Junk Mail Initiative

Junk mail equals habitat loss, species extinction and climate change. Every 41 pounds of junk mail destroys 36 square meters of natural habitat and creates 105 pounds of CO2 emissions. 100 million trees were used to produce junk mail in the U.S. for just one year. This includes 114 billion pieces of bulk advertising that we spend 70 hours per year dealing with in our homes. The following are ways to reduce and stop JUNK MAIL.

- ☐ Set a goal of ZERO MAIL. Many service providers and local utilities offer paperless/e-mail invoicing through their website
- ☐ Contact the Direct Marketing Association to be removed from many companies mass mailing lists for up to five years
- ☐ Create a place to store all unwanted mail. Once a month email or call the companies and ask to be removed from their mailing lists
- ☐ If you see the phrases "return service requested," "forwarding service requested," and other type requests on the envelopes, write "refused return to sender" and place it back in the mail.
- ☐ To stop receiving unsolicited credit card and other credit related offers, opt out permanently at www.optoutprescreen.com or by calling 1-888-5-optout. Learn more via the FTC.
- ☐ Your credit card company probably sells your name the most often. Call and ask them to stop.
- ☐ Avoid filling out contest cards, these are almost always fishing expeditions for names
- ☐ Switch to online news and magazines
- ☐ If you would like to help with reducing your junk mail check out organizations like 41pounds.org catalog choice, paperkarma.us, junkmail.com and stopthejunkmail.com.

The EAC is established to work with the Town Council and provide initiatives to enhance the environment and make McCandless an example for other communities. To do this we need feedback on this Environmental Checklist and the Environmental Tips that have been in McMail, and suggestions for residents. Please provide your feedback and ideas to eac@townofmccandless.org.

The North Allegheny School District does not endorse this program/event/organization

TOWN PROPERTY TAX



THAT THING WE HAVE TO PAY

On Dec. 19, 2016, Town Council approved a Town millage rate of 1.236 mills (\$123.60 per \$100,000 of assessed value) for the 2017 calendar year. The North Allegheny School District (NASD) millage is 18.0011 mills for the 2016-17 fiscal year (which runs from July 1, 2016 through June 30, 2017).

The tax due dates were outlined in the 2017 Town Calendar, which was mailed to you last December, and are also posted on the Town website.

Please note that failure to pay your tax by December 31 may result in a lien being placed against your property. By law, all NASD real estate taxes that remain unpaid as of December 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 on or about 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, 2017 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, 2017, 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 must pay the first installment amount stated on the bill (no other amounts accepted) by September 1. Payments received after September 1 will be considered timely only if they contain an official U.S. Postal Service postmark of September 1 or earlier. If any installment payment is late, you will be disqualified from the installment program for 2018, 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 10, 2017, 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 January 1 of this year, you need to notify us immediately. Allegheny County provides us with a billing address as of January 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.

Other important tax information ...

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 January 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.

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, 2017 at 7:00 p.m. Please check the 2017 Town Calendar, view the Town website 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 website.

Drop Box Procedures

Due to concerns regarding the safety of both tax payers and Town staff, payments placed in the drop box or any other location on the Town premises after 7:00 pm on the due date 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 September 1 and November 1 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.

Earned Income and 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.

Per Capita Tax

All residents of the Town over the age of 21 are required to pay this North Allegheny School District tax. The 2017 Per Capital Tax bill is based on the NASD fiscal year of July 1, 2017 through June 30, 2018. The billing procedure in 2016 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

2017 Paving Plan



Town Council on Monday, March 27 approved the street paving plan for 2017. El Grande Industries is the contractor. Here are the roads set to be paved this year:

- **Marmion Drive** from Manville to Ross Twp line
- **Menold Court** from Menold Dr. to turn around
- **Menold Drive** (both sides of Wallace Road)
- **Nordica Drive** from Lindisfarne to Manville
- **Perry Knoll Drive** from Cumberland to dead end
- **Post Road** from Ferguson to the turn around
- **Ryland Drive** from Willoughby to Wyngold
- **Sequoia Street** from South Irwin to turn around
- **Sheffield Drive** from Courtney Pl to turn around
- **Sloop Road** from Highland to Rochester
- **South Irwin Avenue** (both sides of Ryland Dr)
- **Wallace Road** from Ferguson to Hampton line
- **Windmill Ct.** from Windmill Lane to turn around
- **Windmill Lane** from Peebles to turn around
- **Wittmer Road** from Sloop to the dead end
- **Woodcrest Road** from Highland to turn around
- **Wyngold Drive** from Willoughby to Sequoia
- **Bingay Drive** from Remington to Peebles
- **Bristol Court** from the turn around to Courtney
- **Chapel Court** from Inwood to the turn around
- **Cornwall Court** from Courtney to the turn around
- **Courtney Place** from Grubbs to Courtney
- **Gloria Street** from Route 19 to Lincoln Blvd.
- **Harold Place** from Harmony Pkwy. to Highland
- **Harold Street** from Lincoln Blvd. to the dead end
- **Highview Street** from Lincoln Blvd. to dead end
- **Lochinvar Drive** from Lindisfarne to Manville
- **Malibran Drive** from Lindisfarne to McKnight
- **Manville Drive** from Malibran to the dead end

Please do not park on the streets during construction. If possible, please do not park on the street for a period of 30 days following the completion of paving to allow it to properly cure.

All efforts will be made to maintain traffic during construction. Please use extreme caution while driving through the construction area.

MS4 Permit:

Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System



Did you know that your municipality has an MS4 permit? The Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System (MS4) Program was administrated through the Federal Clean Water Act (CWA) in 1999. Pennsylvania implemented state regulation of the MS4 permit in 2003. The underlying goal of the MS4 program is to prevent stormwater pollution from entering streams, lakes, ponds, rivers, etc. Municipalities are required through the EPA and PA DEP to implement a stormwater management program comprising of 6 minimum control measures (MCMs).

MCM #1 Public Education and Outreach Program

Requirements are to educate the public on stormwater pollution and prevention. Distribution of stormwater educational materials can occur through bulletin boards, newsletters, magazines, public meetings, Township's webpage, and social media.

MCM #2 Environmental Activities and Events

Requirements are to promote environmentally related activities for public participation. Some examples are planting days, cleanup programs, storm drain stenciling, and collection events.

MCM #3 Illicit Discharge, Detection and Elimination

Requirements are to develop, implement and enforce a program to detect and eliminate illicit non-stormwater discharges. The program primarily consists of a storm sewer system map, an ordinance prohibiting illicit discharges, stormwater outfall screenings, and illicit discharge education.

MCM #4 Construction Site Stormwater Runoff Control

The goal of this MCM is to reduce stormwater pollution from construction sites disturbing one or more acres. In Pennsylvania, Townships typically rely on PA DEP's statewide program that requires the local county conservation district to undertake these tasks.

MCM #5 Post Construction Stormwater Management

Half of these MCM requirements are fulfilled through the local county conservation district. Encouraging low impact development, implementing an ordinance for post construction runoff, and enacting a program for operation and maintenance of stormwater best management practices (BMPs) are the Township's responsibilities.

MCM #6 Pollution Prevention and Good Housekeeping

Educating and training Township staff to prevent and reduce stormwater pollution from municipal activities is the last MCM of the MS4 permit. These municipal activities consist of but are not limited to winter road maintenance, salt storage, street sweeping, and lawn mowing. The Township is required to develop written standard operating procedures (SOPs) for each activity that can generate stormwater pollution.

These 6 MCMs not only rely on the Municipality for compliance, but cooperation and participation with its citizens to further advance the stormwater pollution prevention efforts.

Northland Public Library

Childrens Activities

HOUR OF CODE AT THE LIBRARY

Tuesday, May 2

4:30 – 5:30 p.m.

Children in third through fifth grades are invited to join members of the North Allegheny Computer Club for some coding fun. You may bring your own laptop if you so desire. Registration is required. We will meet in the Children and Teen Services' Playful Parenting Room. Registration is required.

FAMILY FUN NIGHT

Tuesday, May 9

7-8 p.m.

Family Fun Night is back!!!! Families with children in kindergarten through fifth grade are invited to join us for some hands-on STEAM fun for the whole family. Work together with your family to solve engineering problems, explore with technology we create or have at Northland, create math art, and conduct experiments. The fun begins at 7 p.m. Registration is required.

BUG DAY!

Tuesday, May 16

All day in the Children's Room

It's Spring, and we are celebrating all things BUG. Crafts, games and other activities to highlight the fascinating world of insects.

TINY ARTWORK: ARTIST TRADING CARDS

Friday, May 16 from 4-6 p.m.

For kids of all ages (kindergarten through adult). Join us under the tree in the Children's Department to make artist trading cards. They are tiny (2.5" x 3.5") original works of drawing, painting, collage and printing. We will provide the materials for you to make up to five cards to trade or keep. Stay for as long or short a time as your inner artist desires. No registration necessary. (Wear old clothes!)

PRESCHOOL BLOCK PARTY

Wednesday, May 17 from 6:30 – 7:30 p.m.

Preschoolers age three to five with their grown-ups are invited to come and build social skills, STEM knowledge, and vocabulary while playing with wooden blocks, magnet tiles, Lincoln Logs and more! Only two rules: no throwing blocks, and no knocking down someone else's creation. No registration required.

FAIRY TALE MOCK TRIAL: HELP CRACK THE CASE!

Saturday, May 20 from 2-3 p.m.

Humpty-Dumpty can't be put back together again, and the Public Service Committee of the Young Lawyers Division of the Allegheny County Bar Association needs jurors in grades K-5 to decide who is guilty of the crime! Join us for an entertaining hour in Fairy Tale Town and learn about the trial process. No registration necessary.

CODING FUN WITH THE NORTH ALLEGHENY COMPUTER CLUB

Wednesday, May 24

6:30 – 8:30 p.m.

Students in third through eighth grades are invited to join members of the North Allegheny Computer Club for some coding fun. You may bring your own laptop if you so desire. This program is designed to help students who are new to coding as well as those who already love coding and want more direction. Come join the fun! Registration is required.

THURSDAY UNDER THE TREE

Begins June 8 – August 3 between 10 a.m. – 12 p.m.

Each Thursday we will make something fun. We will try our hand at some crafts, science experiments and other tinkering types of activities. Drop in for some fun under our very own tree in the Children's Department. Children of all ages are welcome to be a maker during our Summer Reading Program.

LEGO CLUB!

Tuesdays from 10:30 – 11:30 a.m.

June 14, 21 and 28

July 5, 12, 19 and 26

Children going into second through fifth grade are welcome to come join us on Wednesdays for an hour of engineering and Lego fun! No registration required.

Adult Activities

May 5 – Wildflower Walk – 9:00 – 10:00 am @ North Park's Pie Traynor Field

May 11 – Skin Cancer: What you Need to Know – 7:00 – 8:00 pm

May 15 – Get Crafty & Northland – Patriotic Tote – 7:00 – 8:30 pm

May 16 – The New Historic Pittsburgh: Change is in the Air! – 7:00 – 8:00 pm

May 22 – Indian Cooking Class with Ann Manchella – 7:00 – 8:00

May 25 – Introduction to Fly Fishing – 7:00 – 8:00

June 1 – Painting Your Pet – 7:00 – 8:00

June 8 – LGBT Pride Month Panel – 7:00 – 8:00

June 19 – Reiki for Health and Wellbeing – 7:00 – 8:00

NORTHLAND PUBLIC LIBRARY'S
SEMI-ANNUAL
SPRING
BOOK SALE



Friday, May 5
9 a.m. – 4 p.m.

Saturday, May 6
9 a.m. – 4 p.m.

Sunday, May 7
1 p.m. – 4 p.m.

(\$5 Bag Sale...
Northland provides the bag!)

*Sale is located on the lower level
of the library.*



NORTHLAND PUBLIC LIBRARY
300 Cumberland Road • Pgh., PA 15237
412-366-8100 | www.northlandlibrary.org

LET'S TALK ABOUT OPEN BURNING

With nicer weather on the way, our friendly neighborhood Fire Marshal Dan Stack would like to remind everyone of the Town's rules regarding open, recreational burning.

"Open" recreational fires only are permitted with a permit issued through the Fire Marshal's office. The permit costs \$25 and must be applied for at least 24 hours in advance of the burn. These fires cannot be more than 3 ft x 3 ft x 3 ft, and must be at least 25 feet from any structure, house, shed, barn, fence, pedestrian or recreation area, roadway or utility.

Recreational fires that are "contained" (as in, NOT open) are allowed without a permit. These fires must be in approved, non-combustible, contained exterior fireplace. These fireplaces should not be within 15 feet of a structure.



HERE ARE SOME HELPFUL EXAMPLES ...



This is an example of an "open" fire – it is not contained in anyway, top or the sides. **This fire requires a \$25 permit** – and is good for one time only.



This is an example of a "contained" outdoor fireplace – it has walls, as well as a mesh lid that acts as a spark arrestor to prevent embers from flying into the air. This fire does **NOT** require a permit – and we ask that you adhere to the safety regulations previously stated to protect your property as well as your neighbors property.



NO PERMIT REQUIRED



PERMIT REQUIRED



Running afoul of these rules and regulations can net a person a fine of up to \$1,000.

The full list of open burning rules and regulations can be found at www.townofmccandless.org on the Fire Marshal's page (located under the "Town Departments" tab).

Follow the rules, and have a fun and safe summer!

A MESSAGE FROM THE HIGHLAND VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT

January 28, 2017

2016 was my third year serving the membership as Chief and was a very interesting year for Highland. While we again set a record for number of calls in a year at 463, we set the record without responding to any working structure fires. Comparatively, we had 11 working structure fires in 2014 and 10 in 2015.



Legendary Pittsburgh Pirates' announcer Bob Prince was known for using the term "hidden vigorish"—the force which dictated that a player who was hitless and in a slump was closer to his next hit each time he came to bat. In other words, he was "due".

As we continued to get dispatched to calls in 2016, we felt we were due for a working structure fire. Every time the pagers went off, we waited to hear the announcement—waiting to hear if this was it. Time to go help someone...but in baseball terms, we went 0 for 2016.

And that's a good thing. It means no residents were injured or killed in a fire. It means no property was damaged in a fire. It means no firefighters were injured or died responding to a fire. **It means we had a great year.**

What I'm most proud of is the commitment of our volunteers to be ready when that next working structure fire comes in. Our average attendance at weekly Tuesday night trainings increased from 14 to 15 members in 2016, and our firefighters attended nearly 500 hours of outside training classes throughout 2016. Highland members continue to be ready, willing, and able when the alarm sounds.

In the "State of the Department" address to the members on January 12, 2016, I discussed an overriding theme for 2016—***"Serving the Community"***.

While we have served the community for 90 years, we renewed our focus on what we do for our neighbors. The efforts throughout 2016 ranged from giving fire helmets to kids, installing smoke alarms, parades, and station tours to our annual events like McKnight Elementary School, Town Community Day, St. John's Preschool, St. Alexis festival, and Santa Claus.

We tracked 50 different instances of ***"Serving the Community"*** aggregating 850 hours while educating around 250 adults and 1,300 children throughout 2016.

Our 2016 story has been outlined in this annual report and is the result of each and every member's devotion to the community and our commitment to each other.

Regards,

Shawn P. O'Brien
186 Chief

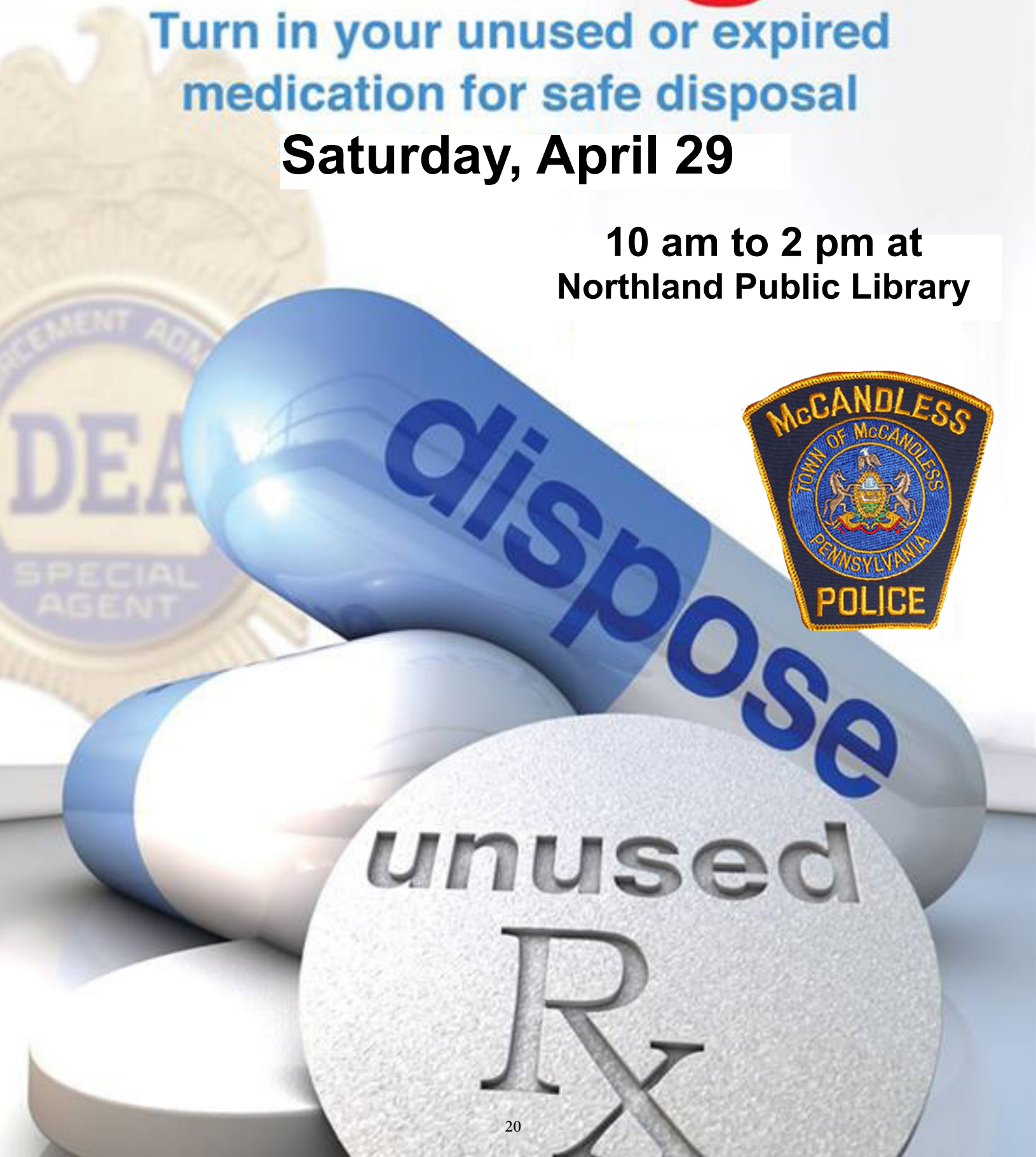
This is an excerpt from Highland's 2016 Annual Report. Go to www.highlandfire.org to read the full report.

Got **Drugs?**

Turn in your unused or expired
medication for safe disposal

Saturday, April 29

**10 am to 2 pm at
Northland Public Library**



CONTACT SHEET

Town Council

Kimberly K. Zachary – Ward 1

9967 Grubbs Road, Wexford, PA 15090
ward1@townofmccandless.org
412-600-6415

Gerard J. Aufman, Jr., President – Ward 2

9629 Hilliard Road, Pittsburgh, PA 15237
ward2@townofmccandless.org
412-364-1814

Steven E. Mertz – Ward 3

180 Ridge Avenue, Pittsburgh, PA 15237
ward3@townofmccandless.org
412-969-2326

Joan D. Powers – Ward 4

8756 Breezewood Drive, Pittsburgh, PA 15237
ward4@townofmccandless.org
412-366-2093

Gregory W. Walkauskas – Ward 5

8040 Edwood Road, Pittsburgh, PA 15237
ward5@townofmccandless.org
412-913-1553

Ralph J. LeDonne – Ward 6

8637 Peebles Road, Pittsburgh, PA 15237
ward6@townofmccandless.org
412-364-7862

William J. McKim, Vice President – Ward 7

1815 South Villa Drive, Gibsonia, PA 15044
ward7@townofmccandless.org
724-443-7598

Town Hall Contacts

Main Number

412-364-0616
412-364-5066 (fax)

Extension list

Administration Ext. 0
Building/Fire Marshal Ext. 128
Heritage Center Ext. 118
Manager's Office Ext. 120
Planning and Zoning Ext. 129
Public Works Ext. 184
Trash and Recycling Ext. 110 or 118
Tax Office Ext. 127

Police Administration

412-369-7992

*(Please note, if you have an emergency or require the response of an officer, you **MUST** call 911)*

E-mail addresses

administration@townofmccandless.org

For general inquiries

eac@townofmccandless.org

For the Environmental Advisory Committee

firemarshal@townofmccandless.org

Questions for the Fire Marshal

heritagecenter@townofmccandless.org

For McCandless/Northern Allegheny Heritage Center

ms4@townofmccandless.org

For Municipal Separate Storm Sewer questions

policeadministration@townofmccandless.org

For non-emergency Police questions

public.works@townofmccandless.org

For Public Works questions (i.e., plowing, paving, etc)

recycleit@townofmccandless.org

For residential recycling questions

taxoffice@townofmccandless.org

For tax-related questions

zoning@townofmccandless.org

For building and zoning questions

Web: www.townofmccandless.org

Town Hall Hours (Mon-Fri, except holidays)

Administration/Tax Office 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.
Building/Zoning/Fire Marshal 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.
Public Works 7 a.m. to 3 p.m.
Police Administration 8 a.m. to 4 p.m.
(NOTE: An officer can be reached 24 hours a day)



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Permit No. 2599

9955 Grubbs Road
Wexford, PA 15090

STAY CONNECTED TO THE TOWN OF MCCANDLESS

townofmccandless.org

Check out the website!

Our website, www.townofmccandless.org, is updated regularly with new information.

Sign Up For McMail™

Visit our website at www.townofmccandless.org to sign up for our monthly e-newsletter, McMail™. Each month, all of the latest and greatest information will be delivered right to your inbox. The newsletter also will be available on the website under the "News and Publications" section.

Facebook!

The Town is on Facebook (@townofmccandless), and now the police department is, as well (@McCandlessPoliceDepartment).

