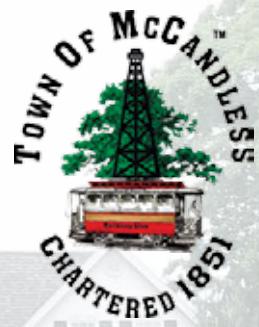


Volume 56



Fall 2023

# McCandless Town Crier



Our new K9 Siraly  
started training this  
summer, handled by  
Officer Shawn Davis



**TOWN OF McCANDLESS ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICES**

9955 Grubbs Road

Wexford, PA 15090

412-364-0616

[www.townofmccandless.org](http://www.townofmccandless.org)

**TOWN OF McCANDLESS COUNCIL**

Mary Ann Eisenreich, Ward 1

Robert "Jack" Casey, Ward 2

Michael J. Tarle, Ward 3

Jason Singer, Ward 4

Kathleen M. Roppa, Ward 5

Carolyn L. Schweiger, Ward 6

Patricia A. Cloonan, Ward 7

Brian O'Malley, Town Manager

Trisha A. Greathouse, Assistant Town Manager

Stephen L. Korbel, Town Attorney

Ryan P. Hawk, Chief of Police

Jeffrey Schoeneman, Public Works Superintendent

R. J. Susko, Planning and Development Admin.

Jeff Wissner, Fire Marshal

**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

# Town named a Banner Community



The Town of McCandless has been recognized as a 2023 Banner Community by County Executive Rich Fitzgerald and the Allegheny League of Municipalities (ALOM). The program, now in its 11th year, recognizes municipalities that have focused their operations on professional development, prudent fiscal management, transparency, accountability, and proactive communications.

"It's a great honor to continually be recognized as a Banner Community. The caliber of service the Town is able to provide to receive this designation only is possible with the help of our dedicated employees, volunteers, residents and business community," said Town Manager Brian O'Malley.

## Meeting Schedule

*Below is a general guide for when public Town meetings take place (there are some exceptions; check the calendar on the Town website for a full listing). All meetings begin at 7:30 p.m. unless otherwise noted.*

- **Meetings of the Town Council:** Second and fourth Mondays of the month
- **Planning Commission Meeting:** First Tuesday of the month at 7:00 p.m.
- **Zoning Hearing Board Meeting:** Fourth Wednesday of the month
- **Activities Advisory Committee:** First Monday of the month
- **Environmental Advisory Committee:** Second Wednesday of the month
- **Heritage Center FDPC:** Third Wednesday of the month at 4:30 p.m.
- **Personnel Board:** Fourth Tuesday of the month at 5:00 p.m.

# New Town website launched!

The Town of McCandless has launched its new website!

One of the fun new features is **Notify Me**. Notify Me allows you to subscribe to an unlimited number of email lists (lists for agendas, calendar events, etc.). Receive email updates regarding the information you have requested. Check out Notify Me today! This functionality is replacing the use of the Savvy Citizen app (which the Town has discontinued use of).

With the MyAccount feature, you can customize your viewing experience, sign up for notifications, and engage in information you care about. By clicking "Log In" on the MyAccount bar at the top of the screen, users may create a login for the site or use their Facebook profile to access MyAccount. Once logged in, visitors can choose the modules, features and keywords that they'd like to see most often, including calendars, news items and emergency alerts. Site users can also save favorite pages within MyAccount, encouraging more-frequent visits and making important information even easier to find!



A festive winter-themed poster. The text "Winter fest 2023" is written in large, stylized blue letters on the left. To the right, a snowman with a red nose and green scarf is shown. In the bottom left corner, there is a logo for the Town of McCandless, featuring a red Santa hat and a green tree, with the text "TOWN OF McCandless" and "CHARTERED 1851". The background is a blue gradient with white snowflakes and stars.

**Saturday, Dec. 2**  
**McCandless Town Hall**

# New Route 19 sidewalk connector dedicated



Senator Lindsey M. Williams joined members of the Town of McCandless Council and residents in August to celebrate the opening of a new 550-foot sidewalk connector along Perry Highway (Route 19).

"More than 100 homes now have a safer walking path through a combination of residential streets and this new sidewalk," said Town Councilman Jack Casey, who represents Ward 2, where the new sidewalks were installed. "This connects neighborhoods to North Allegheny High School and the businesses in the Wexford Flats and will offer a walkable connection to the 46-mile Rachel Carson Trail. This sidewalk connection will allow for a walkable option to Vestal Park and opens the Town to the future possibility of a connection to the Ingomar section of town, Wall Park, and Potter Pond."

Town Council President Mike Tarle said, "The Town's Comprehensive Plan that was passed in 2019 focused on the Town providing more walkability within the Town and this project moves us closer to those goals. This connection provides a route that makes walking more convenient as it seeks to serve current residents and businesses in the Wexford flats."

This project was funded by a \$406,048 Pennsylvania Department of Community and Economic Development (DCED) Multimodal Transportation Program grant that McCandless received in 2019. Adding additional sidewalks throughout the community to improve safety and accessibility for residents is a key component of the most recent Town of McCandless Implementable Comprehensive Plan.

## Town receives \$1.6 million for signal upgrades

The Town has received \$1.6 million in PennDOT grant money for traffic signal upgrades.

The money received through the Green Light-Go program will be allocated for these projects:

- \$306,222 for updated signal equipment at Peebles Road & Duncan Avenue;
- \$227,016 for updated signal equipment at Perry Highway (SR 0011) & 19 North Drive;
- \$217,696 for updated signal equipment at Peebles Road & Remington Drive;
- \$227,314 for updated signal equipment at Thompson Run Road & Red Coach Road;
- \$350,532 for updated signal equipment at

Peebles Road & McIntyre Square;

- \$275,404 for updated signal equipment at Ingomar Road & Blazier Drive;

"These grants are provided as reimbursement to municipalities for updates to improve the efficiency and operation of existing traffic signals," said Michael Tarle, president of McCandless Town Council. "The town received a significant amount of money."

The Town was one of 77 municipalities across Pennsylvania to receive these grants.

"Thanks to these grants, drivers and pedestrians are now safer, and Pennsylvanians can get where they need to go quicker and more efficiently," said Governor Josh Shapiro.



# CAR WASHING POLLUTION PREVENTION

*Protecting fish and other aquatic life from harmful pollutants*



## ***Oil, grease, salt, soap, and sediment are just a few of the pollutants that you wash off from your car.***

These pollutants typically drain into the storm sewer system and are untreated when entering our waterways. Fish and other aquatic life are harmed by the harsh chemicals from detergents. The phosphates from soap can cause excess algae to grow which makes water cloudy, green, smelly, and unhealthy for recreational use and aquatic life. As the algae decays, large amounts of oxygen are consumed, leaving very little oxygen available for fish. Detergents also contain a surfactant in order for the cleaner to rinse off easily with water. Surfactants harm fish by destroying layers that protect them from bacteria and parasites, resulting in severe damage to a fish's gills. Fish eggs are also killed even in low concentrations of surfactants. Lastly, detergents in the waterways allow for pesticides and phenols to be more easily absorbed by fish. So how can you help protect fish and other aquatic life? Here are some tips for minimizing or eliminating pollution caused by washing your car:

### **Commercial Car Wash**

- Self-serve or machine car washes are great alternatives as the water drains to the sanitary sewers where it will be treated.
- Depending on the equipment, commercial car washes can use substantially less water (up to 60% compared to washing at home).
- water before draining to the sanitary sewers.

### **Residential Car Washing**

- Washing on a gravel or grassy area will allow for the water to infiltrate into the ground instead of draining into the storm sewer system.
- If those areas are not an option, before washing your car in the driveway, sweep and dispose of any trash or debris that would be carried to the storm drain.
- Try washing without soaps, using a pressure washer typically removes all the dirt and grime from a car.
- Phosphate-free and biodegradable soaps are safer alternatives to the typical detergents used in car washing. Products from Simple Green, Eco Touch, and Chemical Guys are examples of environmentally friendly soaps.

### **Charity Car Washes**

- Try a "fish friendly" car wash by using phosphate-free and biodegradable soaps.
- Control water by using a spray nozzle.
- Determine if water can be diverted to a grassy area instead of draining directly to an inlet. Using rolled up towels is an easy way to divert water.
- Check with your local municipality on options for protecting nearby inlets.
- Discuss with owners at self-serve car washes about donating their space(s) to use for the fundraising event.

# Peebles is #1 rescue service in PA



McCandless is home to the top rescue service in all of Pennsylvania, according to the Pennsylvania Emergency Health Services Council (PEHSC). Peebles District Volunteer Fire Company was recently awarded the 2023 Rescue Service of the Year in this year's Statewide EMS Awards, coordinated by PEHSC.

Each year, PEHSC recognizes EMS agencies and individuals who make substantial contributions to the field of prehospital care. This year, Peebles was selected against nominations from across the Commonwealth, which is a significant accomplishment considering that

the all-volunteer organization was competing against hundreds of other agencies in the state, even some with paid personnel.

"This is an absolute honor to be chosen as Rescue Service of the Year. It is really a testament to how hard our volunteers work and train," said Fire Chief Matthew Williams. "We always strive to provide the best service possible to our community, so having external recognition like this helps validate the efforts of the great team we have here."

Peebles' nomination form cited the department's efforts to train in a

diverse set of rescue skills, ranging from vehicle extrication, ropes, water rescue, and more. The nomination also recognized the frequent community outreach visits and events that are held and operational advancements including voluntary state accreditation, becoming credentialed in the Prepared for Pediatrics program, and offering a higher level of medical services with an Intermediate Advanced Life Support certification.

"At the core, rescue is all about patient care; without a patient, there is no rescue. Our department does an exceptional job of integrating medical topics into our training and operations so that we can use both skill sets on scene simultaneously," explained Medical Officer Dr. Tyler McCardell.

Founded in 1944, Peebles primarily serves the Town of McCandless, but is available for mutual aid into surrounding municipalities. Some of the gear carried on Peebles' rescue truck include two sets of hydraulic rescue tools for cutting or spreading apart wrecked vehicles, wooden cribbing to stabilize cars or large objects, hand tools for smaller incidents, hundreds of feet of rope and harnesses for technical rescue situations, and medical supplies to care for injured patients.



McCandless/Northern Allegheny  
Heritage & Cultural Center

## Local history, fascinating programs, activities!

Learn more about the Heritage and Cultural Center at [www.townofmccandless.org](http://www.townofmccandless.org) (under "Departments")

# TOWN CONTACT SHEET

## 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 |
| 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)*

**Web:** [www.townofmccandless.org](http://www.townofmccandless.org)

## E-mail addresses

[administration@townofmccandless.org](mailto:administration@townofmccandless.org)

*For general inquiries*

[eac@townofmccandless.org](mailto:eac@townofmccandless.org)

*For the Environmental Advisory Committee*

[firemarshal@townofmccandless.org](mailto:firemarshal@townofmccandless.org)

*Questions for the Fire Marshal*

[heritagecenter@townofmccandless.org](mailto:heritagecenter@townofmccandless.org)

*For McCandless/Northern Allegheny Heritage Center*

[ms4@townofmccandless.org](mailto:ms4@townofmccandless.org)

*For Municipal Separate Storm Sewer questions*

[policeadministration@townofmccandless.org](mailto:policeadministration@townofmccandless.org)

*For non-emergency Police questions*

[public.works@townofmccandless.org](mailto:public.works@townofmccandless.org)

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

[recycleit@townofmccandless.org](mailto:recycleit@townofmccandless.org)

*For residential recycling questions*

[taxoffice@townofmccandless.org](mailto:taxoffice@townofmccandless.org)

*For tax-related questions*

[zoning@townofmccandless.org](mailto:zoning@townofmccandless.org)

*For building and zoning questions*



Don't like when you see litter scattered about the area? Well, be a part of the solution and join the Town's Environmental Advisory Committee on our spring roadside cleanup dates, taking place October 14 and 21 at 8:30 a.m.

Roadside beautification builds community spirit, shows pride in your town, protects receiving waters (especially Pine Creek), increases property values, and makes McCandless an example for a community that cares about how it looks to residents and visitors.

Safety vests, gloves and bags will be available for participants. Participants will meet in the Powers Room in Town Hall (9955 Grubbs Road) at 8:30 a.m. for a continental breakfast before heading out.

Want to volunteer and be a "litter getter?" Sign up for one or both cleanup dates online at [www.townofmccandless.org](http://www.townofmccandless.org).

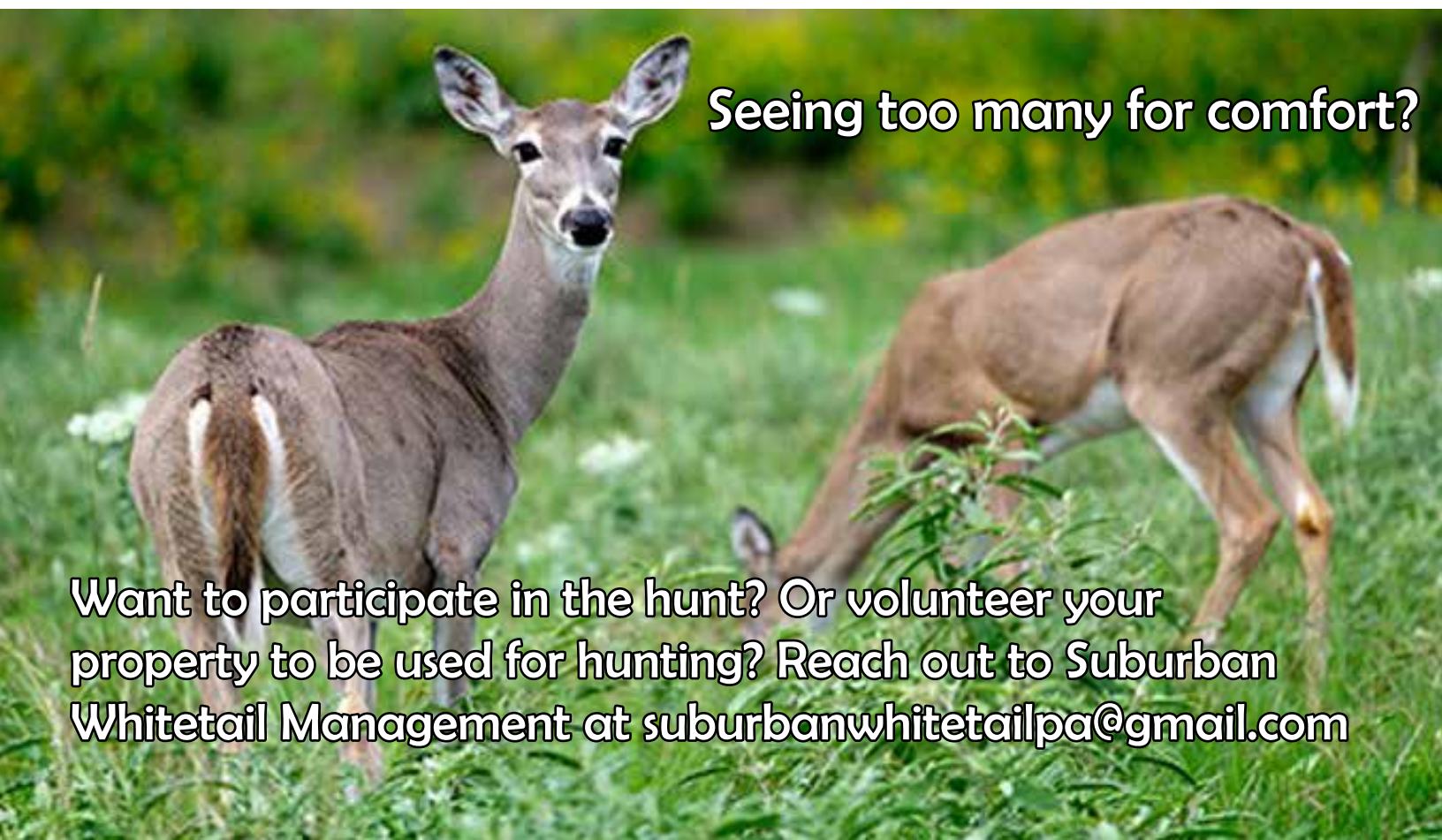


**Sign up for the  
cleanup using the  
QR code**



PRESORTED  
STANDARD  
U.S. POSTAGE PAID  
Pittsburgh, PA  
Permit No. 2599

9955 Grubbs Road  
Wexford, PA 15090



Seeing too many for comfort?

Want to participate in the hunt? Or volunteer your property to be used for hunting? Reach out to Suburban Whitetail Management at [suburbanwhitetailpa@gmail.com](mailto:suburbanwhitetailpa@gmail.com)