

McCandless Town Crier



Town of McCandless • Volume 31 • Summer 2006

What goes into our rivers impacts what goes into your glass.

Ever wonder where the water in your glass comes from? For most of us, it comes from our rivers. But when rain falls and snow melts, the resulting storm water can run down hills, flow through creeks and streets, and overwhelm our aging sewer systems.

Everything this water touches—from the chemicals in our yards, to the motor oils in our streets, and even raw sewage—is washed into our major source of drinking water. Our rivers.

But there is a solution.



A lot of dedicated people and municipalities are working on it. And you can help too.

Use environmentally friendly lawn and garden products. Never pour oil or paint in a storm drain.

Check with your local community about disposing of or recycling paint, oil and other chemicals. Because when it comes to clean water, we all drink from the same faucet.

3 Rivers
Wet Weather
Demonstration Program



Clean water starts in our own backyard. Go to 3riverswetweather.org for a free guide on how you can help.

Our community is one of the municipalities working on a cleaner approach to how we drain our stormwater and what we deposit in streams and creeks. At the direction of the federal and state governments, municipalities across Pennsylvania are evaluating their stormwater management techniques in use. The above information is one of many partners with whom the Town has joined forces to tackle the problem of stormwater management and improving the health of our streams. We are partnering with the North Hills Council of Governments (NHCOG), the Northern Area Environmental Council, State Senator Jane Clare Orie, Allegheny County, the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection (PADEP) and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers in various stormwater initiatives. These ventures have already taken the form of stream condition monitoring, stream bank stabilization and an updated stormwater ordinance and standards. Many other concepts, new and old are being explored. Our new stormwater ordinance lists the use of rain barrels, water gardens, subtly contoured swales and design sumps as the protocol for keeping stormwater where it belongs—close to where it landed.

The two main theses we must follow are: Streams are meant to be open and cared for and stormwater should be managed as close to its point of origin as possible. Let's all do our part.

TAX OFFICE REMINDERS

Please heed the following when considering your tax obligation for 2006:

Real Estate Tax

On December 20, 2006, Town Council approved a Town millage rate of 1.5 mills (\$1.50 per \$1,000 of assessed value) for 2006. This was the same rate that was in effect for 2005. The North Allegheny School District has set its millage rate at 19.722 for the 2006-07 fiscal year.

The tax due dates are outlined in the 2006 Town Calendar, which was mailed to you last December, and also on the Town website. It is important that you pay your tax by the due date, even if you have filed an appeal with Allegheny County. Once a deadline passes, the higher amount must be paid, even if you win your appeal. In addition, failure to pay your tax by December 31 may result in a lien being placed against your property.

The tax bills were again mailed the first week of July. If you have not received a tax bill, 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.

Earned Income & Net Profits Tax

The tax due dates are outlined in the 2006 Town Calendar, which was mailed to you last December, and also on the Town website. You can also print a tax form by visiting the Town website at www.townofmccandless.org.

On December 9, 2002, Acting Governor Schweiker signed Act No. 166 into law, to become effective on February 7, 2003. Act No. 166 amends the Local Tax Enabling Act, which governs how and what municipalities and school districts can tax, by

changing the definition of "earned income" and "net profits" to reflect the definitions of "compensation" and "net profits" for the state personal income tax and regulations. Interest and dividends, which are taxable under the state personal income tax, are still not taxable at the local level. You can learn more about Act No. 166 changes by visiting www.inventpa.com, and choosing search words: earned income.

Business Privilege Tax

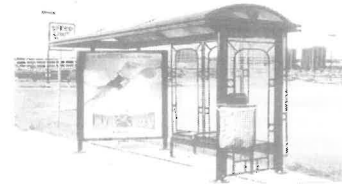
If you operate a business located in the Town, either out of your home or at a specific commercial location, you are required to file and pay this tax. Please check the 2006 Town Calendar, view the Town website at www.townofmccandless.org, or call us at (412) 364-0616 for more information. In addition, the Town has recently revised its Rules and Regulations so that they are more useful to our business community and also comply with recent court rulings. You can print a copy from the Town's website.

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 2006 is the same as that used in 2005. Unless you have contacted us previously, each residential property will have \$20 added to the real estate tax bill to account for 2 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 1 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 2 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 and return it to us.

For information on the new Emergency & Municipal Services Tax, please see Page 7.





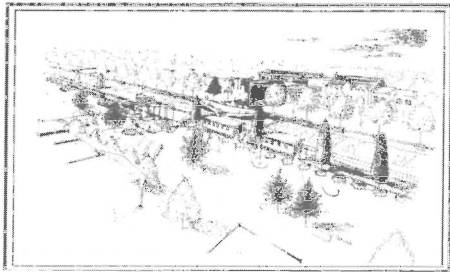
BUS SHELTERS IN THE TOWN OF McCANDLESS

There's exciting news for residents and visitors to the Town of McCandless who use public transportation. The Town recently contracted with Heffner Outdoor Advertising to place an initial seven bus shelters throughout the Town. These shelters will be a welcome sight for mass transit travelers. Each shelter is equipped with seating and weather protection. The shelters are sturdy and tastefully designed.

Coming soon are the following proposed shelter locations:

Highland Road at Perry Highway (Gloria Street)
Cumberland Road at Pannier Road
Babcock Boulevard at La Roche West Campus
McKnight Road at Cumberland Road
McKnight Road at Arcadia Drive
Blazier Drive at Showcase Cinemas
McKnight Road at Perrymont Road

The exact locations of the bus shelters will be dependent on the ability to obtain Pennsylvania Department of Transportation Highway Occupancy Permits (HOP). A key factor in obtaining the HOP will be the assurance of clear sight distance for the safety of the driving public. Other sites will be reviewed depending on the success of this initial installation.



WEXFORD STREETSCAPE

Presently, Pine Township and the Town of McCandless are undertaking a planning initiative for the "Wexford Flats" Route 19 corridor. The purpose of this project is to develop a comprehensive streetscape plan which will address the "look" of the Flats after PennDOT completes its corridor reconstruction. This plan will provide PennDOT and property owners with a new landscaping design standard which PennDOT can show property owners during right-of-way acquisition and which Pine and McCandless can implement as a land use requirement in their municipal codes. This concept follows Pine's and McCandless' omnibus sign study and ordinance to further consistently enhance the image of the Route 19 corridor through Wexford. State Senator Jane Clare Orie, State Representative Mike Turzai, PennDOT, the Northern Allegheny County Chamber of Commerce and the governing bodies of McCandless and Pine support this concept. The North Pittsburgh Community Development Corporation approved up to \$15,000 and the North Allegheny County Chamber of Commerce \$1000 toward the cost of design. The miniature drawing insert depicts the successful look achieved in Oakmont Borough by the design firm, Chambers Design Associates, selected for our project.

McCandless Police Department

The McCandless Police Department is a community police organization that cares about people and is committed to promoting the Town of McCandless as a quality place to live. The Police Department provides a wide variety of services to the residents of the Town.

The McCandless Police Department, which is located in the Town Hall, operates under the direction of the Chief of Police, Gary W. Anderson. The Department is organized into three divisions:

- Administration
- Patrol
- Investigations/Crime Prevention

The Town is patrolled 24 hours a day and is divided into several different patrol districts served by nine marked patrol units providing preventative patrols, response to citizens' complaints or requests for aid, and traffic law enforcement. A number of community oriented information programs are offered to residents by the Police Department. **You are encouraged to not hesitate contacting the Police Department for anything that appears to be suspicious, unusual or unsafe at your residence, neighborhood or anywhere in the Town.** Representatives of the police department are available to speak with neighborhood or civic groups on a regular basis. In addition officers are scheduled to present a variety of programs in all of the schools on a regular basis. Tours of the police station are also available for scout groups. You may contact the police department to arrange for a speaker or speak to the Chief by calling the police department's administrative number 412-369-7992.

Town of McCandless Emergency Services

Dial 9-1-1

Non- Emergency

Call 412-473-3000

Use **9-1-1** when you need *emergency* or *immediate* police, fire or EMS response

- R E M I N D E R -

The prominent display on buildings and houses of street numbers assists emergency services in locating you.



McCANDLESS COMMUNITY DAY

Saturday, September 9, 2006

PARADE

Starting at 12:30 at Showcase Cinemas



CAR CRUISE

3:00-7:00 p.m. @Trader Horn Parking Lot

AND

at the McCandless Town Hall Grounds

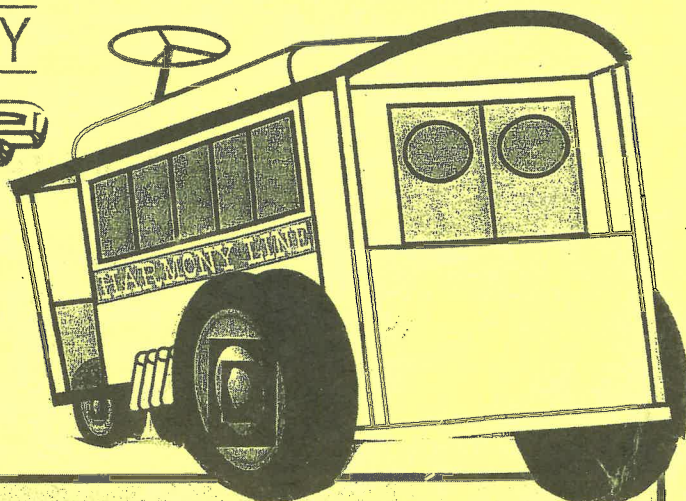
ENTERTAINMENT: Ray Ryan New Orleans
Riverside Band, "Joe the Juggler", Men's
Barbershop Chorus, "Airhead" Balloon Art,
Allegheny Brass Band, Michele's Dance Studio,
"Rhubarb"

GAMES, RIDES, INFLATABLES, FOOD

FIREWORKS - 9:00 p.m.

Town of McCondeless COMMUNITY DAY Car Cruise

Cars ■ Motorcycles ■ Trucks



SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 9, 2006
3:00 P.M. – 7:00 P.M.
TRADER HORN'S UPPER LOT

SPONSORED BY



EQUITABLE
GAS
Delivering Everyday Excellence™

TRADER HORN

Brew'ry Outlet North



Saturn of Wexford

Music ■ Prizes ■ Family Fun

- 🎯 Dash Plaques first 150 cruisers
 - 🎯 Door Prizes Every Hour
 - 🎯 50/50 Raffle at 8:30 p.m.
 - 🎯 DJ (Music by Medley)
 - 🎯 FREE Shuttle to/from Town Hall
- Community Day Activities by
Lenzner Tours**

For More Information or Registration

Paul: 412.364.9300

-or-

Tom: 412.364.3486



Other Car Cruise Sponsors

Falcon Auto II
Hesse Garage
R.E. Jahn Auto Sales
McCandless Auto Parts Inc.
North Hills Sign Co.
Northern Body
Scharpf Motor Cars
Rob Wagner Auto Body Ltd.

Town of McCandless
COMMUNITY DAY
Car Cruise

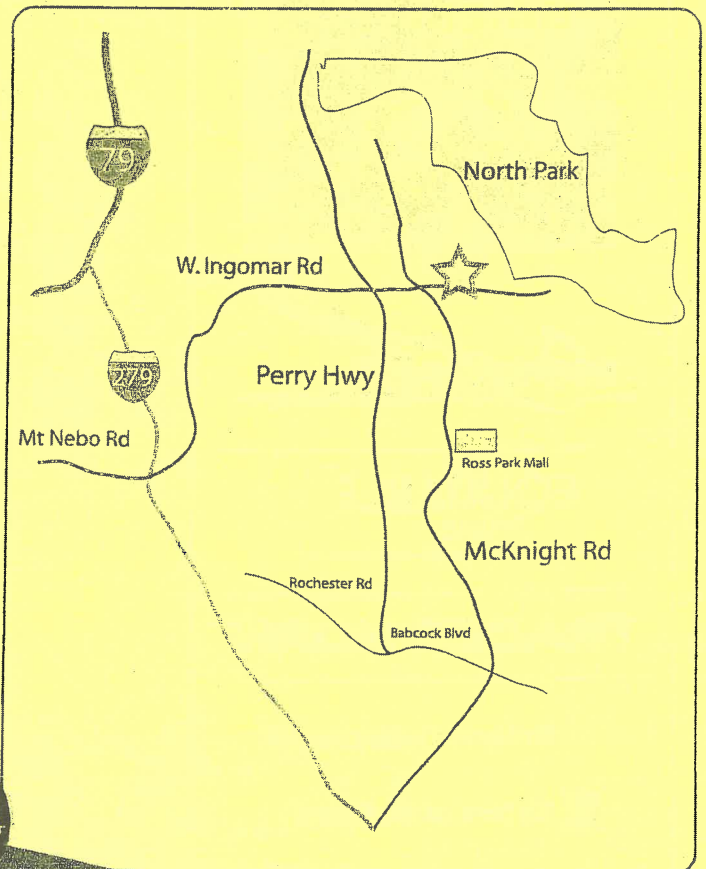
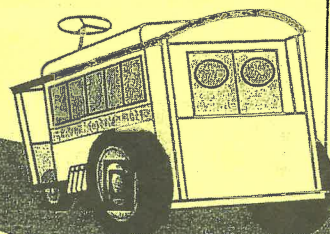
Directions:

From Pittsburgh

- Take I-79 North
- Right Exit #11-McKnight Rd/US 19 North
- Follow McKnight Rd/US 19 North about 6.5 miles
- Turn Right on Blazier Dr.

From Cranberry

- Take I-79 South
- Exit McKnight Rd/US 19 South
- Follow McKnight Rd/US 19 South about $\frac{3}{10}$ miles
- Turn Left on Blazier Dr.



SOLID WASTE/RECYCLABLE COLLECTION

Residents are reminded that Waste Management, the Town's solid waste/recyclable collector, observes the following holidays: **September 4 (Labor Day), November 23, (Thanksgiving Day) and December 25 (Christmas Day).** As such, *solid waste/recyclable collection will be one day later in each instance.*

Residents who temporarily leave their permanent residence in the Town during the winter months are permitted by the contractor to cancel service temporarily between November 1st and March 31st for a period not to exceed four (4) months. Requests for this exception must be made in writing to the contractor by the resident at least thirty (30) days prior to the requested date to stop service. Residents *must* strictly adhere to the thirty (30) days advance request in order to exercise this privilege. The contractor's address is:

Waste Management
625 Cherrington Parkway
Moon Township, PA 15108

HALLOWEEN



Halloween is celebrated in the Town of McCandless on October 31. The hours of Trick or Treating are 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.

LEAF PICKUP

The 2006 leaf recycling period is Monday, October 23rd through and ending on Wednesday, November 22nd.

Heavily traveled or uncurbed streets will continue to receive bag pickup service. Leaf bags can be obtained at the Public Works Department from 7:00 a.m. until noon and 1:00 p.m. until 3:00 p.m., Monday through Friday. The first 25 bags are paid for by the Town; additional bags can be purchased in lots of 25 at \$9.35.

On other streets, residents can rake leaves onto the gutter line along the street in as narrow a pile as possible so as not to block or restrict traffic flow.

For further information on this topic, please see our website at www.townofmccandless.org, "Public Works Department", 'Leaf Pickup'.

RECYCLING INITIATIVES

We have been recycling statewide since 1990. Our curbside recycling program in McCandless is very successful. The program has expanded to some extent. Curbside recycling now includes all plastic containers, except those used for prepared foods, such as take out meals. The Town is exploring further expansion of curbside recycling with eight of its North Hills neighbors.

Another way to recycle recently started in the Town is the positioning of drop-off boxes for catalogs, newspapers, fax paper, magazines, office paper, school paper, folders, paperback books, and hard cover books (without binding); basically everything except phone books. Newspapers can also be recycled curbside, preferably in paper bags. Phone books are collected annually at sites determined by Allegheny County. The new drop-off points are operated by a company called Abitibi Paper Company. The drop-off points are located at:

A.W. Beattie Technical School
9600 Babcock Boulevard
Allison Park, PA 15101

St. Alexis Church
10090 Old Perry Highway
Wexford, PA 15090

Sisters of Divine Providence
9000 Babcock Boulevard
Allison Park, PA 15101

Northland Library
9000 Cumberland Road
Pittsburgh, PA 15237

La Roche College SGA
9000 Babcock Boulevard
Pittsburgh, PA 15237

Vincentian Sisters
8200 McKnight Road
Pittsburgh, PA 15237

FIRE PREVENTION WEEK October 8 – 14, 2006

The theme of this year's Fire Prevention Week is "Prevent Cooking Fires: Watch What You Heat". Did you know?

Between 1999-2002, there were 114,000 reported home fires associated with cooking equipment on average per year, resulting in an annual 290 deaths and 4,380 injuries.

Unattended cooking is the leading cause of home cooking fires.

Three in 10 reported home fires start in the kitchen – more than any other place in the home.

Two out of three reported home cooking fires start with the range or stove.

Electric ranges or stoves have a higher risk of fires, injuries and property damage, compared to gas ranges or stoves, but gas ranges or stoves have a higher risk of fire deaths.



2006 PAVING PROGRAM



Town Council awarded a contract for the Town's 2006 paving program to Lane Construction Corporation at its May 22nd Regular Business Meeting. The cost of this contract is \$2,382,312.25. On an annual basis, the Town's capital plan is reviewed to determine the roads to be included in the paving program. The bid specifications are prepared and mailed to prospective bidders. Four companies submitted bids with Lane Construction being the lowest responsible bidder. Streets included in this year's program are:

<u>Street Name</u>	<u>From</u>	<u>To</u>
Amaryllis Drive	Glenellen	Aldenford
Bellcrest Road	Pine Creek	West Ingomar
Birch Avenue	Perry Highway	Dead End
Cromwell Drive	Cumberland	Pannier
Foxcroft Lane	Ferguson Road	Turnaround
Glenellen Drive	E. Arcadia Drive	Dead End
Grubbs Road	Reichold Road	Pine Township line
Grubbs Road	Courtney Place	Reichold Road
Guenevere Drive	Cumberland Road	Perry Hwy. Rt. 19
Heather Place	Lancelot Drive	Plateau Drive
Lake Marshall Drive	Babcock Boulevard	Babcock Boulevard
Lancelot Drive	Cumberland Road	Turnaround
Mansions Drive	Wildwood Road	Turnaround
Meadow Road	Peebles Road	Turnaround
Montclair Avenue	Perry Hwy. Rt. 19	Melwood Avenue
Nixon Road	Birch Avenue	Turnaround
Plateau Drive	Cumberland Road	Rosalind Road
Rosalind Road	Lancelot Drive	Aldenford Drive
Tyburn Woods Drive	Lake Marshall Drive	Turnaround
Whitley Drive	Babcock Boulevard	Glenellen Drive
Wildwood Circle	Lake Marshall Drive	Turnaround
Winchester Drive	Babcock Boulevard	Remington Drive

The contractor will provide a two to three day advance, hand-delivered, written notice prior to the onset of work on the street. We request your patience and apologize for any inconvenience while this work is being accomplished.



EMERGENCY AND MUNICIPAL SERVICES TAX

The cost of public safety services and road maintenance has increased significantly. The recent surge in oil and natural gas prices has affected all segments of our economy, from the operation of vehicles to the heating of homes and businesses. In the Town's case, the most dramatic effect has been on the cost of our road program. Oil is a key ingredient in asphalt, and the paving industry is passing along the higher costs of materials to its customers. The Town absorbed the increased costs in 2005, but paving costs have increased further in 2006.

As the Town Council and administration reviewed our five-year capital project plan, and performed budget projections generally, it became apparent that the Town could not continue to absorb these costs. Town Council looked at a number of options to address this issue, including new sources of revenue and ways to reduce costs without adversely affecting the level of service provided. Ultimately, Town Council voted to adopt the Emergency and Municipal Services Tax, at a rate of \$52 per year. The tax must be paid by any individual who works for an employer who has a business address in the Town, including self-employed individuals. The tax is withheld by the employer and forwarded to the Town on a quarterly basis. Additional information is available on the Town's website, www.townofmccandless.org.

Current State law does not mandate how frequently or how much of the \$52 is to be withheld from each paycheck, other than the full \$52 must be withheld and remitted for each calendar year. We understand that having \$52 withheld from a single paycheck may be onerous to some individuals. We also understand that employers may not wish to make changes to their software or administrative practices until any potential amendments to the current law are addressed. We ask that employers withhold from their employees in a manner that is fairest to all concerned. At a minimum, at least 25% of the tax must be withheld and remitted each quarter.

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## COMMUNITY DAY 2006

The Community Day Planning Committee is busy preparing for this year's event. The date—**September 9, 2006**. The day will again commence with a parade beginning at 12:30 p.m. on Blazier Drive, proceeding to Ingomar Road and then to the Town's municipal complex on Grubbs Road. There will be day-long live entertainment including Ray Ryan New Orleans Riverside Band, a Men's Barbershop Chorus, "Rhubarb", the Allegheny Brass Band and Michele's Dance Studio, inflatables, various informational, craft and food booths, games, rides and a fun-filled day planned for young and old alike. *Airhead* Balloon Art and "Joe the Juggler" will be on hand to entertain the kids.

For car buffs, a car cruise will be held in the upper lot of Trader Horn from 3:00-7:00 p.m.

The day after this year's event, a 5K race will be held in memory of Elora Geier, a young resident who recently lost her battle with leukemia.

And the grand finale—f i r e w o r k s .

We look forward to seeing you on September 9th!



### IMPORTANT DATES TO REMEMBER

#### Real Estate Tax

**September 1** – Last day to pay 2006 real estate taxes at 2% discount.

**November 1** – Last day to pay 2006 real estate taxes as the face amount.

**December 31** – Last day to pay 2006 real estate taxes at the 10% penalty amount.

#### Earned Income & Net Profits Tax

**October 31** – 2006 third quarter return and estimated tax payment is due.

*See You September 9*  
at Town Hall for  
**COMMUNITY DAY 2006!**

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

**Town of McCandless**  
9955 Grubbs Road  
Wexford, PA 15090-9644