



# McKean Community News

Spring 2024

Vol. 32 No. 1

## Thank You For All That You Do

*The McKean Community Park appreciates and acknowledges all the wonderful community members who work so tirelessly to make the park the beautiful resource that it is in our community.*

- ◆ **NOLAN BURDICK, DELORES BERRY, AND KENDRA MCLALLEN** have worked long hours ensuring that the park is clean and welcoming to everyone.
- ◆ **CRAIG HUMPHRIES** is ever diligent running and rerunning electrical wires to new and old structures throughout the park.
- ◆ **MCKEAN TOWNSHIP SUPERVISORS AND MCKEAN BOROUGH COUNCIL** for their generous financial support!
- ◆ **AND YOU THE COMMUNITY**....for picking up that piece of trash when you see it laying on the walk, for utilizing the pavilions which supports the park and helps us pay the maintenance crew, and for your support of our efforts to keep the park beautiful for many generations to enjoy!

Video Cameras have been installed in the park to ensure the safety of our visitors and to assist as a deterrent toward vandalism. If you see vandalism in the park, please report it as soon as possible to [tlittle@mckeantownship.com](mailto:tlittle@mckeantownship.com).



## Saturday, July 27, 2024

McKean Community Day is filled with fun, friends and entertainment. Most attractions are located at the McKean Community Park but there are also fun events throughout both communities of McKean Borough and McKean Township!

If you interested in volunteering, or you have a great idea to add to the celebration, please reach out to the McKean Development Group at [mckeandevdevelopmentgroup@gmail.com](mailto:mckeandevdevelopmentgroup@gmail.com)

## See you at the Park!

**McKean  
Recreation  
Authority**

Brian Cooper—President  
Dave McLallen—Vice President  
Lance Aylsworth—Secretary  
Tenderlee Little—Treasurer  
Dawn Nesbitt  
Brent Swain





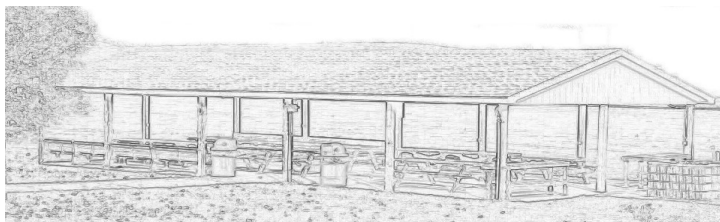
The McKean Women's Group will once again be hosting the **Annual Easter Egg Hunt at McKean Community Park on Saturday, March 30, 2024.** Registration begins at 1:00 PM and the hunt begins at 2:00 PM

There will be prizes and refreshments for the local children from infants up to 10 years of age. There will be thousands of eggs hidden and an appearance by the Easter Bunny!

Can't wait to see you there!



## Park Pavilions



McKean Recreation Authority continues to maintain three great pavilions available for summer parties and events. All pavilions are accessible to the elderly and persons with disabilities and equipped with electric and water close by.

Pavilion #3 offers a kitchen and serving area. The kitchen has a double-bowl stainless steel sink, hot and cold running water, commercial double door refrigerator, stainless steel tables and shelves, and plenty of electrical outlets for roasters.

***Rental of pavilion #3 with the kitchen is \$225. Pavilion rental rates are \$125 per day. If you would like to make a reservation for any of the pavilions, please call 814-476-7414.***

The park offers horseshoe pits, volleyball court, swing sets, and a children's jungle set. Restrooms are handicap accessible. We have a beautiful walking trail that is just over a mile in length. The park closes at sunset.

The Recreation Authority has recently had WiFi run to the area and security cameras installed throughout the entire range of the park.

# MCKEAN AREA GARDEN CLUB



Our McKean Area Garden Club members are looking forward to spring and the beginning of new projects. Watch for new color in the triangle this spring due to planting new colorful tulip bulbs this past fall. We are also monitoring the existing spring flowering bulbs to see what needs to be replaced and what should be added.

Another exciting project we are planning is to donate three small 15-25' native and or noninvasive non-native trees to the McKean Rec Park enhancing the park with spring blooms. Trees being considered, depending on availability, are: Serviceberry, American Fringe Tree, Kousa Dogwood, Kwanzan Cherry and Eastern Redbud. We have met with the McKean Supervisors and have their approval.

Members are also busy exploring different ways to enhance our upcoming **Garden Mart scheduled for May 25th from 8 am to 1pm at the St. Francis Parish Center.**

Please mark you calendars and plan on attending, for this is our annual and only fundraiser. Many spring flower and vegetable plants will be available from Frank's Farm Market along with flowering trees, shrubs and berry bushes from Locust Grove Nursery. Plus, a vast selection of perennials from our members' gardens offered at a great low price. We are thankful for the continued support of our community and look forward to assisting you in supplying you with many of your yearly garden needs. With funds raised at our garden mart, we are able to award a \$1,000 scholarship every year to a General McLane School District senior furthering their education.

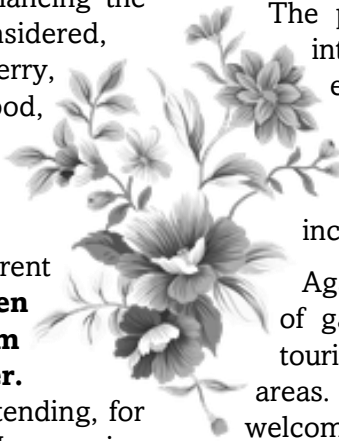
Our 2023 scholarship recipient was Henry Salvo. Henry is pursuing an engineering degree at the Swanson School of Engineering at the University of Pittsburgh. (Applications for this year's scholarship will be available at the school's guidance counselor's office beginning Monday, March 11th and must be received by the scholarship chairperson by Monday, April 15th.)

This past year, we were also able to donate to several other community resources: Julia Hospice and Palliative Care, Saint Francis McKean Food Bank along with providing five various nature informational books to the McKean Elementary Library.

Our 2024 programs will begin on Wednesday, March 13th at 10:30 a.m. at the meeting room at Honey Baked Ham in Summit Plaza. Heather Kosinski, club member and photographer, will be presenting a slideshow on photographs she has taken in the area and places she has visited, followed by lunch and business meeting. Some other activities in the following months will be a craft, joining Steve Laskowski, forester, for a spring wildflower walk at Water Works Park in Girard and road trip to Middlefield, Ohio to visit/tour the Amish country.

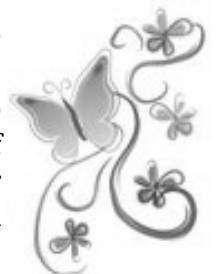
The purpose of our club is to stimulate an interest and love of gardening and to exchange experiences and information of mutual benefit to its members. The club provides educational programs on horticulture and related subjects to increase members' knowledge of gardening.

Again we are excited to begin another year of gardening, exciting programs, crafts and touring beautiful gardens in our surrounding areas. New members and guests are ALWAYS welcome! Please contact Christine Fries at 814-866-5090 for membership and additional information on our clubs programs and activities.



Looking for Additions to Your Perennial Garden? The Perennial Plant Association has announced the 2024 Perennial Plant of the Year is Phlox Paniculata "Jeana." The plant of the year is not a new cultivar, but rather a plant that has been around long enough to have been tested and successfully grown in a large area of North America. Full Sun, Attracts Butterflies and Hummingbirds, Great Cut Flower, Fragrant, Native Cultivar, Grows 3-4'.

Another option is to add some native plants to your garden if possible. Planting even a few has been shown to benefit birds, butterflies and all of nature. Just google a native plant finder for our area and please check the PA Invasive Species list.



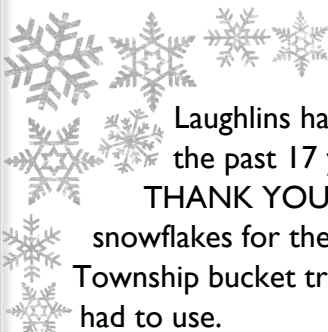
# From the Desk of Boro Council

Hello McKean Borough Residents and 2024! Time for an update on the progress the Boro has made in 2023, and what you can expect in this new year. In 2023 East Ave. had a surface re-paving, and the streetlights were switched to much brighter LED's. The delineators and new signs were installed with new bright lines painted to mark the one-way traffic direction coming off Rt. 99, and also turning onto Rt. 99 from N. Main. Hopefully residents have noticed a slower pace and safer traffic pattern with the upgrades. Again, Council would ask everyone to please slow down on our Borough streets, residents have notified Council that many automobiles do not pay attention to the speed limits on any of the Borough Streets, and the increased speed of traffic is a safety concern for all.

Once again, we have to remind everyone of the responsibility of each homeowner to keep their sidewalks clean. Boro code requires walkways to be cleared by homeowners. A new Nuisance Ordinance was passed by Council and will be enforced if any violations occur. A copy of the Ordinance No. 1-2023 pertaining to nuisances can be found on [www.mckeanborough.com](http://www.mckeanborough.com). We continue to have multiple complaints during the winter months of snowy sidewalks, including at the McKean Elementary School. There have been discussions to change the ordinance requiring homeowners to keep their sidewalks clear, and hire a service to maintain the Borough sidewalks. That would most likely trigger a tax increase, which have not been raised in over 30 years. Council would like to hear from residents if this would be an acceptable solution to the continued disregard of the homeowner's responsibility to keep their walkways clear.



There was a municipal election held in 2023. Eric Morgan, Dodi Oblinski and Joe Cimino were elected to Borough Council. Congratulations to the new Council member Joe Cimino, he is looking forward to working for the residents of McKean Borough.

 A great big THANK YOU to Beth Laughlin and her husband Jerry! They were the driving force behind acquiring the Snowflakes on Main St and the triangle. The Laughlins have put the snowflake lights up, taken them down, maintained and stored them for the past 17 years. If you see Beth or Jerry, please thank them. We want to send an equally huge THANK YOU to the guys at McKean Township who have helped put up and take down the snowflakes for the last couple of years and have offered to continue to do so for our community. The Township bucket truck makes the job so much easier and faster than the ladder process the Laughlins had to use.

**The Boro office hours for 2024 are Tuesday 8-1:30 and Friday by appointment. The Secretary can be reached anytime by email, [mckeanborough@gmail.com](mailto:mckeanborough@gmail.com). Public meetings are held at the Municipal Building the second Monday of each month at 6 p.m. Please check out our website [www.mckeanborough.com](http://www.mckeanborough.com) and our Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/mckeanborough/>. Please "like" it to keep up with updates, meeting notices and area happenings!**

Keep in mind that local government is the first step in stronger communities and families. Please get involved, stay aware and never forget government is a ground up responsibility, not top down. It is every resident that is the foundation of our community and the beginning of our great Republic! Have a wonderful 2024, and let any Council member or the Mayor know if there is anything we can do for our community of McKean Borough.



**Animal Rescue and Adoption...Since 1981**

Because You Care is thrilled by the support from our community in 2023. We showcased a big change to our largest annual fundraiser with our Party for the Paws at Frontier Park. It turned out to be a smashing success and we are excited to host our **2nd annual Party for the Paws in September 2024**. Throughout the past year, we have been able to change the lives of over 500 dogs and cats by tending to their physical needs before finding them their perfect furever home. We wouldn't have been able to do that without the help of the community. The new year is exciting and we can't wait for everyone to see what we have in store. In May we are celebrating our 10 year anniversary of having a physical center location! Our Cat Adoption Center was the first part of what is now today Because You Care. Along with that celebration we will also be celebrating the 1st birthday of our special needs ambassador, Bum. If you are not familiar with Bum and his condition I encourage you to follow him on social media and learn more about him on our website [www.becauseyoucare.org/ambassadors/](http://www.becauseyoucare.org/ambassadors/)



Mark your calendars for **May 4th** when we will be **hosting our first fundraiser for our Second Chance Program**. This program provides specialized training for dogs with more severe behavioral problems such as aggression. Through this program we are able to send a certified trainer to the adopters house to allow for in person sessions. We are forever grateful for the animal loving community that we are a part of and thank you for your continued support of our organization. Please feel free to stop anytime we are open for a tour and to see the animals we have available for adoption. As always if you have any questions or concerns please feel free to reach out by phone at (814) 476-1212 or by email at [info@becauseyoucare.org](mailto:info@becauseyoucare.org)



*From the desk of Karen Hamme,  
McKean Township Tax Collector*

The 2024 County/Township tax bill will be mailed around March 1, 2024. This covers the year of January 1 through December 31, 2024. Tax bills are sent to the address provided by the parcel owner to Erie County Assessment. If you have had a mailing address change recently, please contact me or Erie County Assessment at 814-451-6225 to change your mailing address. Otherwise, the bill will be mailed to the address they have on file. If you do not receive your tax bill by March 15<sup>th</sup>, please contact me. Mills for the bill remain the same as last year. Discount period remains the same and ends April 30, 2024.

Any unpaid 2023 taxes were turned over to Erie County Tax Claim as delinquent. Payments for the 2023 County/Township and 2023 General McLane School taxes can no longer be paid at this office. Contact Erie County Tax Claim at 814-451-6206 for instructions. If you need a receipt for any taxes paid in 2023, please contact me either by phone, email at the address listed below or send a S.A.S.E. and your request through USPS or deposit in the lockbox located outside of my door.

**Please NOTE OFFICE HOURS FOR 2024:**

March 5 – October 31, 2024

Tuesdays-12:00 Noon -5:00 PM

Thursdays 8:00 AM-2:00 PM

November 1-28

Tuesdays 12:00 Noon-5:00 PM

December -March

By Appointment Only: 814-476-7315

Exception: December 30 hours TBA

**CLOSED: June 1-15: September 1-14**

Karen Hamme, McKean Township Tax Collector  
814-476-7315 Phone/Fax  
9231 Edinboro Road, McKean, PA 16426  
[Taxcollector@mckeantownship.com](mailto:Taxcollector@mckeantownship.com)



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# MCLANE LANCERS

McLane Lancers Youth Sports is an organization for football and cheerleading in the McKean and Edinboro community. Our programs consist of flag football for Kindergarten through 2<sup>nd</sup> grade, tackle football for 3<sup>rd</sup> through 6<sup>th</sup> grade, and cheerleading for Kindergarten through 8<sup>th</sup> grade. This is a great organization that ensures kids are learning and developing in a team sport. All practices are held at McKean Recreational Park and games are held on the weekends throughout Erie County

The 2023 season was a successful year with our 3<sup>rd</sup> through 6<sup>th</sup> grade teams going undefeated!



We would like to thank McKean Recreational Park for allowing us to utilize the facilities for our practices during the season and all the local sponsors that continue to support our teams.

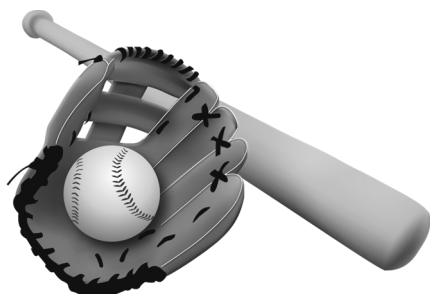
If anyone is interested in becoming involved or more information about a child joining with McLane Lancers Youth Sports, please email [mclanelancersyouthsports@gmail.com](mailto:mclanelancersyouthsports@gmail.com). Signups for the 2024 season will be in May, so be on the lookout for dates and times that will be sent out at school. We are looking forward to another successful season.

*Go Lancers!*

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# MCLANE LIGHTNING

McLane Lightning Travel Softball Organization is celebrating its remarkable growth, expanding to include four teams, ranging from 8u to the newly added 14u team. This impressive development highlights the organization's commitment to fostering young softball talent across different age groups. As part of their exciting initiatives, McLane Lightning is hosting their inaugural Christmas in July Softball Tournament July 19 to 21, 2024 at Northwestern Softball Fields in Albion, PA. The tournament promises a festive twist, with gifts for the girls and a lively Christmas-themed playing environment.



In their pursuit of creating affordable opportunities for the girls, McLane Lightning invites potential sponsors to contribute to the success of the event. Those interested in supporting the organization can contact them via email at [mclanelightning@gmail.com](mailto:mclanelightning@gmail.com) for sponsorship details. The organization extends gratitude to the sponsors from the 2023 season whose support played a pivotal role in making these initiatives possible. For more updates and information, interested individuals can follow McLane Lightning Travel Softball on Facebook.

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# REFEREES WANTED

**PAY SCALE**  
\$13-\$22

**FLEXIBLE SCHEDULE**

## MULTIPLE LOCATION OPTIONS

**APPLY: [WWW.ERIEYOUTHSOCCER.ORG](http://WWW.ERIEYOUTHSOCCER.ORG)**

**MINIMUM AGE TO APPLY IS 13**

**PLAYERS, COLLEGE STUDENTS AND ADULTS ARE ENCOURAGED TO APPLY**

## HELP US, HELP YOU, USE 9-1-1 RESPONSIBLY

When dealing with a sickness or medical crisis patients and caregivers often turn to emergency response services. But not all healthcare problems require expensive, intensive care offered at the emergency room. In many cases, urgent care facilities are more efficient and effective sources of care, and sometimes a primary care appointment may be the best option.

**IF IN DOUBT, CALL 9-1-1!**

### CALL YOUR DOCTOR WHEN YOU HAVE:

- A cold
- A simple backache
- A sore throat
- An earache
- Or, when you need medical care, but feel safe to wait a day or two

### GO TO URGENT CARE WHEN YOU:

- Could not reach your doctor
- Need medical care today but feel safe to wait a few hours
- Received instructions from your doctor to go to an urgent care center

### GO TO ER OR CALL 911 WHEN YOU HAVE:

- Trouble breathing or chest pain
- Fainted
- Sudden numbness or weakness
- Uncontrolled bleeding
- Severe pain or suffered a severe injury
- Or, are uncertain about the severity of symptoms



FOR MORE INFORMATION VISIT  
[HTTPS://BIT.LY/ERIECOUNTY911](https://bit.ly/eriecounty911)



## LOOKING BACK AT 2023, LOOKING FORWARD TO 2024

The start to every new year comes with a bit of reflection on the year that's just ended as well as thoughts of what could be accomplished in the coming year. That can be even more pronounced for an elected lawmaker.

For me, looking back at 2023, I was honored to have been chosen to be part of the Pennsylvania Senate Republican Caucus leadership team as the chairman of my caucus's policy committee. The Senate Majority Policy Committee often serves as a staging ground where legislative ideas can be dissected, critiqued and improved. I have traveled the state with the committee, holding hearings and gathering public input on policy issues important to the prosperity of our commonwealth.

Those hearings have touched on such issues as energy access and affordability; the Sterling Act and its impact on Philadelphia's surrounding communities; land use regulations and housing affordability; rural workforce challenges; criminal justice statistics and trends in Pennsylvania; innovation and emerging technology within our state; and the impacts of Pennsylvania government rules and ways to streamline, improve or eliminate irrelevant regulations as they relate to the effects they have on individual lives and the economy.

Our energy hearing highlighted Pennsylvania's unique position as an energy producer across various sectors and explored the governmental and regulatory hinderances to providing affordable access to energy throughout the state. We learned taxpayers cannot afford to forever incentivize one technology or energy source over another, particularly when grid reliability has become an increasing concern; we need to have conversations about how to best use all our energy options to ensure Pennsylvania's future has all the power it needs.

A hearing about housing affordability found that to make homeownership more affordable for many Pennsylvanians, zoning ordinances should be used to allow a mix of housing options, more units per acre and greater opportunity for manufactured housing.

Another of our committee hearings found that in addition to housing affordability, our state's rural communities are struggling with declining population, few childcare options and limited mass transit, all which impede economic development and quality of life improvement in these communities. We learned some private institutions and public entities are trying to help rural communities overcome these challenges with expanded educational opportunities and partnerships between employers and schools.

Crime has been a top concern nationally, and it's no different throughout Pennsylvania. During a hearing with prosecutors, law enforcement and crime statistics collectors, we learned many crimes are driven by poor mental health and a lack of resources to address those issues, particularly when dealing with juvenile offenders, who also suffer from a lack of role models. The testimony indicated employment and available mental health services are key to addressing these issues, as well as criminal recidivism in all age groups.

We also looked at technological innovation within our commonwealth, identifying the substantial role innovative life science and technological companies play in Pennsylvania's economy. Testimony suggested public funding and lower taxes as ways to support the continued growth of these companies.

The most recent committee hearing tackled ways to address unnecessary regulations, inefficient permitting and other government red tape that increase our poverty rate, create unemployment and negatively impact projects, all affecting our commonwealth's ongoing competitiveness. The hearing made clear we need to strike a better balance between the need to protect the public and to create a business-friendly environment that fosters entrepreneurship, job creation and prosperity.

2024 will bring more hearings, with the next one focusing on human trafficking.

Looking forward to the coming year, one of my top goals remains securing a City Revitalization and Improvement Zone (CRIZ) for Erie. A CRIZ will provide a boost to economic development and job creation in the city and region. All state and local taxes collected within the CRIZ would be used to repay debt service for efforts undertaken to stimulate economic development projects within the CRIZ.

This will spur new growth and help revive the city. We can take vacant, desolate, underutilized or abandoned space and develop it for new uses. That in turn will create new jobs and attract new employers and residents, as well as visitors, to the city and the region.

I remain committed to doing whatever is in my power to see that Erie receives the jumpstart it deserves so we can all enjoy the benefits a CRIZ could bring to our city through job creation and economic development.

2023 was a very productive year for me and the policy committee, and 2024 has the potential to be a very big year as well. I look forward to continuing to work for the benefit of all our state's residents by protecting our jobs, empowering our families and defending the freedoms we all enjoy in our commonwealth.



*Sen. Dan Laughlin  
(R-49)*



# The McKean SnowRiders



If you own a snowmobile, snowshoes, or skis, you are probably hoping for a good amount of snow this winter. The last few winters have been disappointing in the amount of snow we have received locally. Not everyone can say that they want snow, lots of our local residents head south to get away from it. But for us, the more snow the better.

This year we have elected some new officers to help lead our club. We want to express our thanks to Don and Carol Mosier who have been our Club President and Secretary for over the last 20 years! If you see them, thank them for serving our club and the community. They will both continue to be members of the club and provide guidance and support for leading us forward. And also welcome our new volunteers that will be leading the club!

Our Annual Poker Run is planned to be held annually, on the first Sunday in January that we have enough snow. The weather has not cooperated with us for the poker run over the last few years. But each year we are optimistic that we might be able to have this important fundraiser for our club. It is always enjoyable to see families riding as a group, friends gather together and the community support this event.



Our McKean Snowriders Snowmobile club works closely with the Pennsylvania State Snowmobile Association (PSSA). PSSA is a statewide membership organization committed to enhancing the Pennsylvania snowmobiling experience of family recreation, fellowship, and tourism, by striving to assure high quality trails and safe, environmentally-responsible recreational use of snowmobiles. PSSA provides Youth safety classes, groomer operator training, funding for trail maintenance, as well as working closely with the DCNR and other state government organizations.

Our McKean SnowRiders Snowmobile Club is focused on safety for our riders and our community. One of the biggest factors in safety is the ability for us to have safe, well marked trails to ride our snowmobiles. That being said, the members of the McKean SnowRiders want to say “**Thank You!**” to all our Landowners that are so generous to our community and allow us to maintain a snowmobile trail across their property. We currently have over 50 local landowners that allow our trails to cross their private property! We continue to work with our landowners and community members to ensure that everything runs smoothly.

We also want to thank the Township, our club business sponsors, our neighbors in the community, and anyone who works with the McKean SnowRiders. Without your support we would not be the successful club that we are. For more information, and to join our club, you can find us on Facebook or visit our website at [www.mckeansnowriders.com](http://www.mckeansnowriders.com). If you own a snowmobile, join a club!

## Do you Snowmobile?



## Join our Club!

### Benefits:

- ✓ Monthly Newsletter
- ✓ Club Activities
- ✓ Safety Education
- ✓ Groomed Trails
- ✓ Trail Maps & Status
- ✓ Help support our trails!

For more information:

[McKeanSnowriders.com](http://McKeanSnowriders.com)

Find us on Facebook!

# McKean Boy Scouts In Action



## McKEAN BOY SCOUT TROOP 73



McKean Troop 73 has renewed our charter for the 75th consecutive year BUT with McKean Hose Company. After decades with St. Francis Xavier, McKean Hose stepped up and is now the Troop sponsor. Mike Zentis is the Troop Charter Representative. Mike is a former scoutmaster with two Eagle Scout sons through the troop. We thank Mike and the Fire Department for providing this act.

Allison Marendt is our new committee chair. After four years Kevin Havern has stepped down but is continuing as camp coordinator. Allison is a positive Scout Spirit addition. She has scouting experience and welcomes the challenge.

Scoutmaster Eric Dedrick and Assistant Hugh Wilcott encourage the "Do your Best" from all the scouts. Citizenship and community service are two primary requirements that the scouts adhere to. Three troop has three new Eagles. With another four on the Eagle path. We are going to summer camp this June at Custaloga Scout Reservation. 73 will again will provide the support of placing 5000 eggs out for the annual egg hunt. The Troop again will display 54 American Flags along Main Street and West Road. The troop is still providing aluminum can collection bins in the back of the Parish Center. All these community services are being directed by senior patrol leaders Elijah Hart and Ethan Snyder.



We just did the Klondike Derby with 50 deg. Temps and not a bit of snow. There are campouts planned at Gem City Sportsman Club and during the maple syrup weekend.

**APRIL 20<sup>th</sup>. Is the 54 annual spaghetti dinner from 4 to 7 pm.** Cost is \$10.00 per, and YES, we will have the delicious bake sale and



fabulous basket auction. The scouts, boys and adults all consider the dinner as a community gathering and breaking of bread among friends, family and guests. Hope to see you there.

The Troop meets Sunday evenings and is an all boys troop that challenges the scouts in all things outdoors. We hike and bike. Canoe and swim. We build fires with flint and steel and only two matches. Knots, lashings, first aid and use of an ax, saw, and knife is still important. But so are knowledge of robots, drones and GPS devices. Scout is a new and improved, constantly adapting organization. |, Joe Cieslak Sr, have been with McKean scouting for forty years and enjoy every outing, meeting and project. Scouting is the BEST youth organization for positive growth. 73 is always looking for new members.



# **McKEAN HOSE COMPANY**

*Happy 2024 from McKean Hose Company!*

We want to start by introducing our officers for the new year.

<i>Chief 400</i>	<i>Scott Haywood</i>	<i>President</i>	<i>Heather Courson</i>
<i>Deputy Chief 401</i>	<i>Jonathan Zentis</i>	<i>Vice President</i>	<i>Michaela Zentis</i>
<i>Deputy Chief 410</i>	<i>Brennan Smith</i>	<i>Recording Secretary</i>	<i>John Meyer</i>
<i>Captain 411</i>	<i>Chris Henry</i>	<i>Finance Secretary</i>	<i>Ken Hadlock</i>
<i>Captain A-1</i>	<i>Eva Selker</i>	<i>Treasurer</i>	<i>Eva Selker</i>
<i>Lieutenant 8</i>	<i>Nick Kulbacki</i>	<i>Fund Drive</i>	<i>Nancy Hadlock</i>
<i>Captain 40-01</i>	<i>John Meyer</i>		
<i>Chaplain</i>	<i>Brian Kelly</i>		

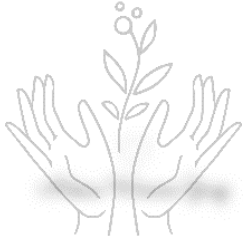
First and foremost we would like to let the community know that we have been busy developing our paid service. This new entity is called Middleboro Fire and Rescue. We currently have 5 employees, two being full time and three part-time. We are always looking for, and accepting volunteers, but due to decreasing availability of our members we have started the paid service.

A picture has been added of one of our part time employees wearing their new polo when you see them out in the community. Our call volume continues to rise so we are considering adding to our paid staff with the help of both the township and borough. Other updates include continuing training with some new devices acquired from a grant. We now have a Lucas Device on the ambulance. This device delivers chest compressions to a patient, allowing first responders to address other life saving measures at the same time. We are also required to continue training on various department of health updates and will do so this year. Another exciting update is McKean Hose Co working collaboratively with our mutual aid departments. We have started monthly joint drill nights taking turns hosting and developing both EMS and Fire training for our members. We have also been helping each other out on emergency calls so you may end up seeing a member from Edinboro on a call for McKean.



Lastly, we are planning on moving our annual gun raffle to earlier in the fall, or end of summer this year. This is the only fundraiser we have planned so far but any updates will be posted on our Facebook page. Hoping everyone has a wonderful new year!





## *McKean Women's Group*

Nurturing Community

but we have the same mission...to serve the community. Our officers for the 2024 are President: Lisa Hershelman, Vice-President: Amber Cooper, Treasurer: Darlene Liebel, and Secretary: Sara O'Brien. We have made donations to McKean Community Development Group, McKean Pedestrian Bridge Fund, McKean Rec Park, Soldiers and Sailors Home, McKean/Edinboro VFW, VA Medical Center, McKean Food Bank, Julia House, General McLane Schools, local Boy and Girl Scouts. We have donated toiletry items to our local school students. Every year we award scholarships to three General McLane High School students to foster their future education. We have also helped some local families that have dealt with illness, injury, natural disasters, or fires.

In order to continue to support our local community, we hold fundraisers throughout the year. In July 2023, we continued the tradition of the very successful (and entertaining) Pie Auction during McKean Community Day! We hosted a luncheon and provided treats throughout the year for the residents of the hands building. We also hosted a very successful Designer Purse Bingo in September. We worked with the St. Francis Usher's Club to host the Children's Christmas party this December, including presents for local kids, lunch, balloon art by the Jolly Jesters, crafts, games, and a visit from Santa and Mrs. Claus!!! We are also planning our 3<sup>rd</sup> annual Easter Egg hunt for the children in 2024!

Watch for upcoming events, as we have many activities planned!! We would like to thank everyone in our community for your continued support over the years. With your help, we can fulfill our goal of a better future (and present!) for our community! If you are interested in joining our group, making a donation, or you have an event or a cause for which you would like us to help, please email us at [McKeanWomensGroup@gmail.com](mailto:McKeanWomensGroup@gmail.com). We meet at the St. Francis Usher's Club (2<sup>nd</sup> floor) on the third Tuesday of each month with the exception of January.

***McKean Women's Group...Nurturing Community.***

## **McKean Hose Company Auxiliary**

This past year, the Auxiliary have held several fund raisers for the McKean Hose Company. We had the Car Show in June, Bingo in September, Chicken and Biscuit Dinner in October, Lunch with Santa in December. We have helped the department with their Gun and Purse Bingo in April and the Gun Raffle in November. We would like to thank the community for all their support. The money we raise helps take care of many extra things that are needed through out the year.

We also help out if hot coffee, food, water ..... are needed during a call. The McKean Auxiliary is part of a larger group of Auxiliaries from all over Erie County, where we do pretty much the same things only on a much larger scale involving several departments and their Auxiliaries or Support Services as Auxiliaries are sometimes called.

This year we are hoping to host a Pancake Breakfast sometime this Spring, the Chicken and Biscuit Dinner, Lunch with Santa and possibly a few other events. Of course we will be helping out the department with anything they may plan in addition to our fund raisers for them.

We are always looking for more men and women interested in joining us or you just want to see what we're all about. If you would like to help we would love to have you stop by one of our meetings. We meet each month on the 2nd Tuesday night at the McKean Fire Hall at 7 PM. Come and join us.

Officers for 2024

President: Nancy Hadlock  
Vice President: Sally Silbaugh  
Secretary: Bob Wells  
Treasurer: Debbie Hess





# McKEAN TOWNSHIP NEWS

*A big thank you to our McKean Recreation Authority for this worthwhile newsletter !!!*

## **MESSAGE FROM THE SUPERVISORS....**

Dear fellow McKean Township residents,

2023 has left us as quick as it began with 2024 well on its way again. We continue to do our best for our residents and those who just pass through our township. Through these efforts, our roads and bridges remain safe for traveling throughout each year. It has been our continued pleasure to serve you during the past year, and we look forward to serving you again in this year. **A BIG THANK YOU** is being extended to our residents who continue to volunteer their time and effort to serve on our Boards, Committees, Commissions, and Authorities. All your work over the past years and in the years to come has been and will continue to be greatly valued. We continue to extend an invitation to the community to attend any of our public meetings.

**WELCOME ABOARD:** We are pleased to announce that Ed Hess will be serving another term on the Planning Commission; Ken Stanley was re-appointed to the Zoning Hearing Board, Richard Harvey appointed for another year as Vacancy Board Chairman, Tenderlee to serve another term on the Water Authority, and David Little Little to serve another term on the Sewer Authority.

**VACANCIES:** We continue to have a vacancy on our Sewer Authority as well as our Water Authority. We would welcome any resident or business owner who would be willing to serve on any of these boards. The Water Authority only meets one time in the month of June and the Sewer Authority meets three times each year during the months of March, July, and November.

Supervisors and Staff of McKean Township

## **TAXES**

It's an ongoing fact of life...tax time springs up this time of year again.....!

Any questions you may have regarding local income taxes should be directed to: Berkheimer Associates, 3608 West 26<sup>th</sup> Street, Erie, PA 16506, Phone No. 833-4870. If you are ready to file your taxes and can't find the appropriate forms, you may download local tax forms on line at [www.hab-inc.com](http://www.hab-inc.com), state tax forms at [www.revenue.state.pa.us](http://www.revenue.state.pa.us), and federal forms at [www.irs.gov](http://www.irs.gov). Click on individual tax forms.....

## **RESIDENTIAL REAL ESTATE TAX EXEMPTION**

Due to interest in our real estate tax exemption program, we have decided to extend the tax exemptions for new residential construction of single-family dwellings to December 31, 2026. This exemption from taxes is 100% for a period of three years. This means all real estate taxes..... township, county, and school taxes. There were five (5) families who will be taking advantage of this worthwhile tax exemption in 2023 with hopefully many more for the year 2024....



## **2024 DOG LICENSES.....**



.....are available at the township office from 8 a.m. – 3 p.m., Monday through Friday. All dogs three months and older are required to be licensed. The price for a regular license is \$8.70. This is an increase from last year with no discounts being offered for spay or neutered dogs. Discounts are available for qualifying senior citizens or persons with disabilities. If you see a stray or nuisance dog, call the animal enforcement officer Brian Froess (814) 796-4678.

## **ROADS AND BRIDGES**

We continue to keep the roads and bridges throughout our community at the highest possible standard thanks to Brian, Ron, Jeff B., Jeffrey G., and Jarred.!!

**SNOW AND ICE REMOVAL.....**It is unlawful to park any motor vehicle or other vehicle on any roadway in the township following the deposit or accumulation of ice or snow until the snow has been completely plowed.....Also, it is unlawful to deposit snow or ice upon any public roadway.

If there is a problem with ditches or potholes in the spring, please call our office at 476-7414. All Township paved roads will be posted with a 10-ton weight limit until May 15, 2024. Observing the weight limitation on these roads through the early spring months will help avoid costly road repairs.

We are hoping to begin construction of the three bridges on Old 99 sometime in late 2024 or 2025. These bridges will be replaced at no cost to McKean Township due to monies from the \$5 Local Use Fee on car registrations with PADOT sharing in the total costs of the project.

We are anticipating to tar and chip the following roads this summer:

Birkmire Drive	Bridgewood Drive	East Stancliff
Golden	Greenlee	Howard Drive
Lymehurst Drive	McDonald	Millfair
Neuburger	North Colonial	Oliver
Rick	Shaddock	South Colonial
Sturbridge Drive	Walmer Drive	Wilson
Windswept Drive		

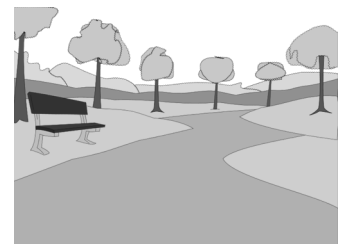


The above roads are just our wish list.....depending on how the rest of our roads weathered the harsh winter and thawing spring.

The Supervisors realize that residents want to protect their yards during the winter months by installing lawn markers along the road berm. Some of these lawn markers are of the type that could cause harm or injury, especially metal markers. Please be advised that under the PA Second Class Township Code, it is unlawful to obstruct or commit any nuisance within the township's road right of way.

## **COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT PROGRAM**

We are preparing to make application for our 2024 CDBG grant allocation which is administered through the Erie County Department of Planning. The majority of our projects have been to rehabilitate owner-occupied single-family dwellings. Anyone wishing more information about this worthwhile program should contact either the Erie County Department of Planning at 451-6016 or the McKean Township office at 476-7414.



## **ZONING**

The Township receives many telephone calls annually about general nuisances: i.e. burning, excessive noise, barking dogs, unkempt lawns, etc. The Township does not have burning or noise ordinances and we do not have property maintenance codes. We believe that our residents have enough courtesy for their neighbors to approach the neighbor respectfully about the nuisance. We do not believe in creating laws that would apply to the entire population of the Township just because a few may be unreasonable. We do not want to be an “all-controlling” government.

Please use common sense about burning – don’t let your fire smolder for hours, especially on hot days when everyone has their windows open; don’t burn offensive materials-recycle or put them out for the garbage.

You may have a legitimate complaint that can be handled with a phone call, however the proper way to submit a complaint is IN WRITING. You can find our complaint form online at our website. Anonymous complaints will not be addressed; but be assured that we will not reveal your name or address when following up on problems. That information remains confidential. If legal action is required; then you may be asked to testify on the behalf of the municipality.



Talking to your neighbor is ultimately the best way to resolve problems. Respect for each other will develop when you know each other and are able to talk. It makes life a lot easier when you are able to smile and wave at your neighbor instead of being annoyed.

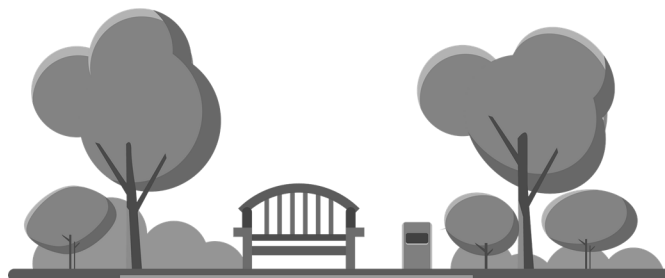
For more zoning information, please contact Tenderrlee Little at 476-7414 between the hours of 8 a.m. and 3 p.m. or log onto our website at [www.mckeantownship.com](http://www.mckeantownship.com) for zoning ordinance information.

## ***MCKEAN TOWNSHIP AWARDED GRANT MONEY***

In September 2020, McKean Township was awarded a \$415,000 grant from the Commonwealth Financing Authority for the replacement of the Colonial Village Sewage Treatment Plant. This grant will provide our aging plant the necessary funds needed for replacement. The grant will cover 85% of the total cost of the project with 15% to be matched by the township. On October of last year, we have also received an additional grant in the amount of \$250,000 from Erie County which we hope will eliminate the need to raise sewer rates in the Colonial Village Subdivision. Construction of the new plant is anticipated to begin as soon as this summer.

## ***PEFFER ROAD TRAIL PROJECT***

We are happy to announce that the trail and pavilion off Peffer Road are completed. This is a .23-mile trail to Elk Creek with ADA parking and picnic area. We are hoping to encourage four-season outdoor recreation by residents, visits by groups interested in nature-based education and new opportunities for outdoor recreational user groups from outside our community.





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Erie, PA 16509

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## McKEAN BOROUGH

McKean Borough Hall - 8952 Main Street, P.O. Box 195 - McKean PA 16426 - Phone 476-1691

### McKean Borough Council

*Meetings: Second Monday, 6:00 p.m.*

**Weslee A. Clapper-Krepps, Mayor**

**Rose Scouten**

**Teri Dillon, Secretary/Treasurer, Zoning Administrator**

**Daniel Miller, Solicitor**

**Council Members:**

**Eric Morgan**

**Bernard Feltz**

**Dodi Oblinski, President**

**Lance A. Aylsworth**

**Frederick Dylewski, Auditor**

**Kristen Bauer, Auditor**

**Mary Goetz, Tax Collector**

*4927 East Avenue McKean, PA 16426*

*476-0134*

### Planning Board

*Meetings: Third Tuesday, 7:30 p.m.*

Emily Jonas

Bernard Feltz

Jen Haywood

### Municipal Sewer Authority

*Meetings: Fourth Monday, 7:30 p.m.*

Greg Markievich

David Larson

Dan Gruver

John Reichert

Rick Dylewski, Bus. Mgr

Matt Jonas

### Zoning Hearing Board

*Meetings as needed*

Mike Gangle Sr.

Jeanne Sampsel

Rob Pamula

## McKEAN TOWNSHIP

McKean Township Building - 9231 Edinboro Road, P.O. Box 62 McKean PA 16426 Phone: 476-7414 Fax: 476-1257- www.mckeantownship.com

*Office Hours: Monday through Friday 8:00 am – 3:00 pm*

**McKean Township Board of Supervisors Meetings**

*First Thursdays: February through December 7:30 p.m.*

*Third Thursdays: March, May, July and September, 4:00 p.m.*

*December 31, 2024 9:00 a.m.*

**Janice Dennis, Chair**

**Brian Cooper, Vice Chairman**

**Ronald Bole**

**Janice Dennis, Secretary**

**Tenderrlee Little, Treasurer/Zoning Administrator**

**Teri Dillen, Administrative Asst**

**Karen Hamme, Real Estate Tax Collector**

*9231 Edinboro Road*

*McKean, PA 16426 Phone: 476-7315*

**Auditors**

Molly Goldsmith, Chairman

Patty Almeda, Secretary

Laura Lawson

**Vacancy Board Chairman: Richard Harvey**

### Zoning Hearing Board

David Teufel

Ronald Crist

Ken Stanley

Janice Dennis, Secretary

### Planning Commission

*Meetings: Third Thursday, 7:30 p.m.*

Frank Dachtyl

Brian Cooper

Tenderrlee Little

Edward Hess

James Bentze

Daniel Eaton

John Blount

### Sewer Authority

*Meetings: Third Wednesdays (March, July, Nov), 6:00 p.m.*

Jeffrey Brooks

David Little

Keith Lawson

Ronald Bole

Vacancy

### Water Authority

*Meetings: June 25 3:00 p.m.*

Ronald Smith

Janice Dennis

James Neuburger

Vacancy

Tenderrlee Little

### Road Crew

Jeffrey Brooks, Roadmaster

Brian Cooper, Roadmaster

Ron Bole, Roadmaster

Jeffrey Greco, Senior Laborer

Jerred Jeska, Senior Laborer

## McKEAN REC AUTHORITY

**Brian Cooper, President**

**Dave McLallen, Vice President**

**Dawn Nesbitt**

*Meetings: Third Thursday, 6:00 p.m.*

*Every other month beginning in January*

*McKean Twp Municipal Bldg 9231 Edinboro Rd*

**Lance Aylsworth, Secretary**

**Tenderrlee Little, Treasurer**

**Brent Swain**