



The Borough of East McKeesport

Allegheny County, Pennsylvania

JUNE 2018

VOL. 10 ISSUE 2 NEWSLETTER

GET READY FOR A NEW LOOK!!

We are preparing for the next phase of our East McKeesport Business District revitalization and renewal. Recently we were awarded a Multimodal Transportation Fund Grant through the Pennsylvania Department of Community & Economic Development. The grant will allow us to renovate a major portion of our business corridor or "Downtown" area. We will be replacing all of the old decorative light poles and fixtures along a portion of Rt. 30 between Broadway and McClure Alley, along the length of 5th Avenue from the Rt. 30 intersection to our new, walk-thru park let, just beyond the bend at Argo Alley, and on Chicora Street from 5th Avenue to the Community Building. Also included in this major project will be new sidewalks and curbing, crosswalks and handicap ramps at all crossings, benches, bike racks, trash receptacles, trees and planters, parking meters and new signage. Although beautifying our downtown district is a main focus of the streetscape improvements, there was a more practical need for the project. The decorative light poles had reached their longevity and have begun to show signs of deterioration. It is necessary for us to upgrade not only the structures but to install new wiring and more efficient LED lighting. Furthermore, in order to replace these poles, the entire expanse of sidewalks and curbs needs to be excavated and restored.

As you might imagine, this is a massive project for us in terms of time and money. The construction cost for the entire job is \$1,104,776.00. The awarded grant will cover \$795,590.00, with the remaining \$309,186.00 being the responsibility of the Borough. We anticipate the work to begin before the end of this summer. As per the grant there is a required completion date of June 30, 2020.

SUMMER IS FINALLY HERE!

Remember the water park we opened last year? It will sure be nice to use it again after the really cold and dreary winter. The Spray park opened Memorial Day weekend and will remain open through Labor Day. The operating hours are 12:00 pm to 7:00pm daily. We want to remind you that adult supervision of children is required at all times. Swim diapers are required for your little ones and water shoes are suggested. There is no smoking, chewing tobacco or alcohol permitted and also no glass containers or grills.

A DAY TO CELEBRATE!

On May 19th James Hagosky turned 100 years old. Can you imagine the things this man has seen and been through in his lifetime? A Century old is really something to celebrate. Mr. Hagosky is a retired steel worker of 40 years and has lived in East McKeesport since 1965. His family would like to wish him a very Happy Birthday with lots of love, health and happiness in the years to come. At our May Borough Council meeting we were able to meet Mr. Hagosky and present him with a certificate to mark this special day. We at the Borough wish you the best and hope you have a great celebration to mark this very important day. Happy Birthday Mr. Hagosky!



BURNING REGULATIONS FOR SUMMER

On January 1, 2015, The Allegheny Health Department implemented a new Open Burning regulation. This regulation pertains to all burning which occurs outside of a contained device such as campfires, bonfires, chimineas and even small fire pits in your backyard fall under this regulation.

1. The maximum size allowed for a burn pile is 3 feet wide x 3 feet long x 2 feet high.
2. 15 feet is the distance required from an open-air fire to the nearest property line and public access areas.
3. The only allowable fuel that can be used for open burning is clean, dry wood, propane, or natural gas.
4. No Burn Days. When Allegheny County is forecasted to have an Air Quality Action Day, all recreational burning is PROHIBITED.

If you would like to receive notifications of No Burn Days, please visit Alleghenycounty.us/alerts

To report a fire that you suspect is not in compliance with local open burning regulations, is dangerous, contains fuel other than clean dry wood, or when smoke has become a nuisance, please call 412-687-2243.

POOLS

As Memorial Day has past, the unofficial start of summer to many, we all start to turn our attention to outdoor activities such as lighting up the barbeque grills, freshening up the landscaping around our houses, and finding a place to swim. Most of us, myself included, look forward to taking a dip after a long day or during a weekend get together with friends and family. While our backyard pools are a convenient way to swim without having to look through the phone trying to find a friend that has a pool, on the hottest of hot days, to cool off; personal pools and spas require regular maintenance and upkeep and this is my focus today. First, the water, if not cared for, the water in pools can turn green from algae growth, if left neglected long enough, the water can turn brown or black; a once wonderful place of relaxation then becomes a breeding ground for bacteria and mosquito larvae. Most of us can remember the numerous warnings over the years on the dangers of and diseases that mosquitos can carry, not to mention how annoying a mosquito bite can be, causing skin irritation and the constant itchy sensation that comes with the skin irritation. Please continue to care for the water in your pools, spas and hot tubs, or remove it. If you're unsure about how to care for the water, many of our local pool and spa companies have the products and advice on how to best keep the water clean and clear. The water is not the only thing that needs attention when dealing with pools, spas and decorative ponds. Any swimming pool, spa, hot tub or decorative pond that is more than 24 inches in depth is required to have a fence or barrier that is at least 48 inches high, measured from ground level. Gates and doors installed for access into a pool, spa or hot tub must have a self-latching device that will latch if the gate is opened to 6 inches or more and released. This is a good time of year to check whether a self-latching device operates as required. All pools, spas and hot tubs are required to have these safety devices and must not be removed under the 2003 International Property Maintenance Code.

Also as a final note, please be courteous of our neighbors, pool pumps can create nuisance noise. Only operate them as needed and recommended by the manufacture. Should you have any questions please feel free to contact me, by phone at 412.298.9367 or email at gh@tcvcog.com.

CURFEW FOR MINORS

There is a curfew for minors that states that any child under the age of 18 years is not allowed to wander the streets after the hour of 10 p.m. unless accompanied by a parent or other adult guardian having legal custody of minor.

SUMMER SPLASH

The Borough will hold a Borough Children's Summer Splash party on Saturday, July 7th at the Chicora Street Park from 12:00 - 3:00pm. To register children 12 and under for the party please call the Borough building at 412- 824-2531 . You will need to be registered by June 25th. There will be a mini Carnival with FREE games, prizes and food. Make sure you bring a bathing suit and some water shoes so you can enjoy the Spray Park and the new climbing wall in the playground.

GARBAGE

Please remember to put your garbage in containers with lids as required by borough Ordinance 801. It's that time of year again and animals are tearing into bags and leaving behind a mess. Plus the fact that loose garbage also attracts skunks into your neighborhood.

PETS

It is unlawful for any resident to house more than 5 domestic animals. Dogs must be under control at all times. Make sure your animal is licensed and please do not leave your pets outside all day unattended. It is very harmful to your pets! Last but not least, please pick up after your dog!

NOISE

No loud or disturbing noises after 10 p.m. Please respect your neighbors.

VACATION WATCH

Going on vacation this summer? Among the many wonderful services provided by our police department is a "Vacation Check". Just fill out the form on the Borough website and drop it off at the Borough building or you can pick up a form at the borough office. This lets the Police know to keep a special eye on your house while you are away. Our website is www.eastmckeesportboro.com.

CALL 911

If you are ever in need of a police officer for any reason and you call the station and there is not one there Call 911 and have one respond to your house. 911 is there for you to get in touch with the officers of the East McKeesport Police Department. If you need to make a report of any kind you are to call 911 to get an officer to come to your home to take the report. As always if you see something or someone suspicious going on in your neighborhood do not hesitate to call 911 and report it, you can remain anonymous.

BANNER COMMUNITY

Pittsburgh County Executive Rich Fitzgerald and the Allegheny League of Municipalities (ALOM) have announced



that 55 municipalities have been designated as 2018 Banner Communities. The program recognizes municipalities committed to professional development,

prudent fiscal management, transparency, accountability, and proactive communications to engage community stakeholders. This is the programs sixth year. East McKeesport has been a Banner Community since 2014 and will continue to participate in this worthwhile program.



Thanks go out to Peter McGinty and the entire Council for working diligently to keep us in this great program and for making sure we remain a sustainable community.

SIDE YARD PROGRAM

Would you like to add to the size of your yard? Is there a tax delinquent vacant lot next to your property? Then this is the program for you!! Allegheny County Economic Development has announced the 2018 Side Yard Blighted Structure Program for a limited time and the application is now available. The \$3,000.00 parcel fee will be waived this year and applications can be found on the Borough website or at the Borough office. All applications must be postmarked by August 31, 2018.

GOT TV'S

Have a TV that you can't get rid of? Don't know whom to call? We've got answers. Call 724-929-7694, extension 2 and get on the list to have your items picked up. This would also include computer towers and screens. Keyboards can be thrown away with your regular trash pickup. If you are already on the list they will contacting you in July to schedule a pickup.

CLEAN UP DAY

Once again, we had a successful cleanup day and for the first time in a while it didn't rain. Woohoo! I would like to thank Louise Beswick for taking the time to help us organize which benefited both East McKeesport and North Versailles. Once we



completed all of our hard work we had some great pizza (from Merlino's) and cake for everyone. We would also like to say thanks to: Donna and Bob Ferrainolo, Rachel Barry, Beth and Cody Devalkeneer, Avalin and Mirrah Barry, Lee Fetterman, Dan Del

Signore, Robert Hampshire, Brittany Scolieri, Butch Howard, Connie Rosenbayger, Lynn Brown, Bill Hampshire, Diana and Tim Hunsberger, Peter McGinty and last but not least the littlest volunteer Sophia Sciulli. Remember everyone, just because they're small doesn't mean they don't learn an important lesson from helping to keep our community clean and volunteering. A special thank you to Brandon Markosek for stopping by to meet with the volunteers!

CHEMICAL AND HARD TO RECYCLE COLLECTION INFO

There will be two (2) collections for household chemicals remaining this year. All household Chemical Collection events are held on Saturdays from 9:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m. There is a participant fee of \$3.00 per gallon, cash only. Materials collected include: automotive fluids, cleaners, pesticides, paints and other household chemicals. They will be held: Saturday, August 18th at Boyce Park Four Seasons Ski Lodge parking lot.

Saturday, September 22nd and South Park Wave Pool parking lot.

There will also be (4) hard to recycle collections including items such as Computer towers, microwave ovens, packing material, stereo equipment, VCR's, DVD's.

Sat. June 16th at Bethel Park High school

Sat. June 30th at Quaker Valley High school

Sat. Aug 25 at Century III Mall

Sat. Oct 26th at Settlers Cabin Park

Fees will be charged for: Alkaline batteries, CD's, DVD's, floppy disks, stereo speakers, tires with and without rims, computer monitors, and televisions, printers, small Freon appliances.

HISTORY LESSON

Mr. Ed Mandich, a resident of East McKeesport, was kind enough to give me a history lesson on our Post Office. The U.S. Government granted a Post Office to East McKeesport in 1894. The first location was in the H.G. Curry Building on Broadway, south of the Lincoln Highway. An average of ten pieces of mail per day were handled during the first year of business and the total income for the year was less than \$100.00. There had been steady growth in the local post office up to the fiscal year ending June 30, 1968 when gross receipts of postal revenue reached \$135,000. The post office served over 13,700 patrons in the East McKeesport area with 25 employees and three vehicles. In 1935, the post office was moved to the Berlin Building at 1026 Fifth Avenue. The facility was increased in size from one storeroom to two storerooms in June of 1955 to accommodate the increased activity.

Mr. H.G. Curry was the first Postmaster assisted by William D. Repper. Other postmasters have been Mrs. Camella Adams Bennett, (daughter of H.G. Curry), Mrs. Elizabeth Willhide, George Hoke, Stanley Ward, Alvin C. Brady, Samuel Givins, and James W. Wilson.

During the service of Mrs. Adams, free delivery was instituted. During the service of Mr. Hoke, the office became a First Class Post Office. The salary for a postal worker in the 20's was around \$1,250. for a year.

CURVES

We at Curves want women to enjoy good health so we have partnered with Live Well Allegheny. Check out their E-Updates for a whole calendar of fun opportunities for people of all ages to live healthier, happier lives. Regular physical activity will lower your risk for high blood pressure, heart disease and some types of cancer. The physical activity guidelines for Americans recommend that adults participate in 2 hours and 30 minutes of moderate aerobics activity each week and do muscle- strengthening activities at least 2 days per week. Curves 30 minute total body workouts are designed specifically for women and help increase energy, build strength, and improve flexibility. At Curves, you'll get a coach to guide you every step of the way. We are so excited about our guided workouts and classes that help you get stronger, improve balance and be more active, all in just 30 minutes that we are offering a free workout and a fitness assessment. Take advantage of our many offers throughout the summer to tone up and have fun! Get stronger beginning June 15th with our flash Friday sale, August 6th is friendship day and at Curves because we love purple, on July 11th, come in wearing your purple pride and join a community focused on empowering and strengthening women worldwide. This summer, strong is stunning!