

McCandless Police Department

Memorandum

Date: October 11, 2021
To: Town Council
From: Ryan Hawk, Chief of Police
RE: Police Activity Report – September 2021

The month of September began with the preparation of the 2022 budget for the department. More than half of the department completed low-light shooting training and received their annual Taser recertification. Officers Allshouse and Evey attended advanced training in Technical Collision Investigations conducted by the Pennsylvania State Police Bureau of Patrol. This training is beneficial to the department in the reconstructing of traffic accidents involving serious bodily injuries or fatalities. K9 Joy achieved certification through The North American Police Work Dog Association (NAPWDA) for off-leash obedience, tracking article search, area search, building search, aggression control and narcotics detection in lockers, buildings and vehicles.

On 9/11/21 the North Hills DUI Task Force conducted a Roving DUI Patrol detail that was in conjunction with the National Highway Transportation Safety Administration Checkpoint Strike Force. McCandless Police participated in the roving patrol, which was conducted along various roads in West Deer, Indiana, O'Hara, Shaler, Etna and Millvale. There were 76 vehicles stopped for traffic violations and six individuals were administered field sobriety test. Of those tested, five were arrested for Driving Under the Influence, one was arrested for Driving Under the Influence of Drugs. Other arrests made were two arrests for Possession of a small amount of Marijuana, and nine traffic citations were issued for various vehicle code violations. This is the 26th year for the North Hills DUI Task Force and to date, 236 roving patrols have been conducted. There have been 2,132 individuals tested for DUI, and of those tested, 1,003 have been arrested. The North Hills DUI Task Force is comprised of officers from the police departments of Etna, Indiana, McCandless, Millvale, Northern Regional, O'Hara, Ross, Shaler, West Deer and West View.

On 9/13/21 McCandless Police participated in a Police vs. Firefighters rib eating relay sponsored by our local Texas Roadhouse Restaurant. We were asked to select a charity to benefit from police participation and we selected the National Fallen Officers' Foundation.

On 9/16/21 McCandless Police conducted their first class for the newly instituted McCandless Citizens' Police Academy. The class is currently attended by 17 McCandless residents who submitted application to the academy and passed a background check. Based on surveys conducted after each class, the students have been very complimentary of all the speakers. The classes will continue on Thursday evenings through the month of October with graduation occurring in early November.

On 9/2/21 the department participated in the national "Click It or Ticket" campaign, where more than 600 municipal police departments and Pennsylvania State Police conducted sporadic waves of enforcement checking for proper use of seatbelts.

On September 25, 2021, the North Hills DUI Task Force conducted a Sobriety Checkpoint in McCandless on Perry Highway (Route 19). There were 964 vehicles that passed through the checkpoint and two individuals were administered field sobriety tests. Of those tested, two were arrested for Driving Under the Influence of Drugs. Another arrest was made for Possession of a Small Amount of Marijuana. There were 13 citations issued for various vehicle code violations.

On 9/24/21 McCandless Police attended Coffee with the Cops in conjunction with the Ross Police Department. This event was initiated to help the community come together with police and town officials to help cultivate productive relationships.

On 9/22/21, during evening hours an elderly, unwell woman ran into a wooded area on foot after being discharged from the hospital. A young eleven-year-old male named Preston McGuire, saw the woman in the woods off Babcock Boulevard and told his father after they saw the police out searching the area. Preston then personally led the police to the area where the elderly woman was found shivering and soaked. This brave deed is a great example of "See Something, Say Something" and Preston McGuire will be honored this evening with a "Good Citizen Award".