Summer, 2021

Turtle Creek Community Calendar			
Who	What	When	Where
Turtle Creek's Human Services Center Visit <u>https://hsco</u>	Hosts offices for service agencies <u>c-mvpc.org/events-calendar</u>	Open Monday—Friday 7 AM—5 PM <mark>/ for the most up-to-date events at t</mark>	529 & 413 Penn Avenue he HSCC!
Red Lantern Bike Shop and Opportunity Hub	Thrift Store Bike Shop	Friday-Saturday11 am-2 pm https://www.facebook.com/ redlanternbikespa	125 Shaw Avenue
Food Pantry Distribution	Food Pantry	August 14 8:30—10:30 am September 11 October 9	Human Svcs. Ctr. 413 Penn Avenue
Rotary Club	Rotary Meeting	First and third Fridays at noon, as long as indoor seating is allowed in restaurants	Papa Rocks Pizza (Haymaker Village( 4512 Broadway Blvd, Monroeville
Senator Brewster 's Representative	Office Hours	Tuesdays 9 am—4:00 pm	Borough Building
Turtle Creek Borough	Council Meeting	First Monday of each month, August 2 7 pm September 13 October 4	Borough Building
SNAP Outreach	Greater Pittsburgh Community Food Bank	Local office closed. Contact 1-833-822-SNAP (7627)	Human Svcs. Ctr. 519 Penn Avenue
Turtle Creek Crime Watch Postponed indefinitely	Neighborhood Meeting	Third Monday of each month 6 pm	Borough Building
Turtle Creek Development Corporation	Monthly Meeting	Fourth Wednesday of each month 5:30 pm am	1st Christian Church 201 Pine Street
Turtle Creek Home Plate Vegetable Garden	Volunteer-run community garden, vegetable stand	Saturdays and Wednesdays 10 am—noon	Hamilton Park
Women's Law Project	Provide free confidential services for those who have experienced sexual harassment/assault in school or work	Local office closed Contact downtown Pgh. office at 412-281-2892	Human Svcs. Ctr. 519 Penn Avenue



The Creeker is published by the Turtle Creek Development Corporation. Contact The Turtle Creeker at dl bzb@yahoo.com

The Turtle Creek Development Corporation (TCDC) is committed to revitalizing and sustaining Turtle Creek as a livable community. TCDC is an all-volunteer organization. In addition to a variety of activities geared toward improving the quality of life for Turtle Creek residents, TCDC takes a lead role in housing rehabilitation, home ownership opportunities, and workforce development through a partnership with the Mon Valley Initiative.

TCDC meets on the 4th Wednesday of every month at 5:30 p.m. at the First Christian Church (201 Pine Street).



### A Publication of the Turtle Creek Development Corporation

#### THE OPPORTUNITY SHOP IS NOW KNOWN AS RED LANTERN BIKE SHOP AND OPPORTUNITY HUB

Located in the former Calvary United Church of Christ on Shaw Avenue in Turtle Creek, Pastor Don Ludwig and Coordinator Mary Beth Hughes oversee the Shop with the help of faithful volunteer Denise.

The Opportunity Shop began in the mid 1970's as a much-needed place where one could go to purchase, for a nominal cost, clothing, housewares, shoes and accessories. An example of the prices would be winter coats costing \$1.50, jeans for \$1.00 and most other items for \$.75. However, if one cannot afford the charge, it does not prevent them from getting what they need.

The Op Shop also participates in handing out information to fire departments and giving to victims of fires and to veterans in need. To preserve the dignity of those shopping there, there is no screening process for anyone in need. Through referrals from the Monroeville Mall Ministry, Westinghouse Valley Human Services Center, and neighboring churches, there is help for flood victims, abused women, those newly released from incarceration and all others in need. Clothes are also gathered and sent to the Aspinwall VA for homeless veterans.

It is respectfully requested that all donated items be clean and presentable. It is very convenient to drop off items for the Shop. There is a very large storage bin in the back of the building to leave your items.

The Shop is open Thursday, Friday, and Saturday from 11:00 am – 2:00 pm and is located on the main floor of the church.



Summer, 2021

# **Turtle Creek– A Gem To Know!**

## **Mayor's Corner**



Mayor Kelley Kelley

The Mayor's Office is located at 125 Monroeville Avenue, Turtle Creek, PA 15145.

Office hours are by appointment only.

Changes and updates to the schedule are posted to her Facebook page: Turtle Creek, PA—Office of the Mayor.

Also visit the **Crime Watch** page: Turtle Creek, PA Crime Watch.

**Council meetings** are the first Monday of every month at 7pm in council chambers.

Hello TC! Hope you're all having a great summer so far. With most COVID restrictions being relaxed, there seems to be a return to normalcy for most and everyone is enjoying being together again. It made me think a bit about community and what having a sense of community really means, especially in terms of our Turtle Creek neighborhood.

When a neighborhood has a positive sense of community it can create a sense of belonging for people and it's even been shown to provide positive mental health and physical changes. It can lower crime rates, connect people to needed resources, and even bring more business and people to the area.

Over the past few years, we have worked on several strategies to build a positive sense of community with residents. Our TC Home Plate Community Garden has been up and running for 5 years now. A community garden is always listed as one of the best ways to create a positive sense of community because it promotes interaction with neighbors and provides fresh veggies for the community. We have also been using the community bulletin board Savvy Citizen https://savvycitizenapp.com to connect TC residents to neighborhood events, important community updates, and an interactive calendar that connects them to other surrounding communities. We've also continued the summer lunch program at Hamilton Park and this summer the Carnegie Library will host story times there as well.

All these efforts are only effective or successful in creating or keeping this positive sense of community if people participate. Take some time to check out the community garden (farm stands are every Wednesday and Saturday from 10am-12pm) and download the Savvy Citizen app and check out all the activities available to you and share them with others.

Below are some other great ways to promote a positive sense of community:

- Get to know your neighbors, welcome new families, and be respectful towards • them
- Start a neighborhood group or club
- Share your skills with others •
- Support our local businesses and schools •
- Volunteer at our community garden
- Start a networking group •
- Connect off-line and in person. Get off that computer or phone •
- Come out and support local fundraisers and events

It's important that we all work together to strengthen our neighborhood ties in Turtle Creek and in our neighboring communities. If you have any questions or would like more info on anything here, please reach out via email mayor@tcboro.com

Have a safe and happy summer.

Patrick T.

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