Fall, 2020

# Turtle Creek Community Calendar

Who	What	When	Where
Turtle Creek's Human Services Center	Hosts offices for service agencies	Open Monday—Friday 7 AM—5 PM	529 & 413 Penn Avenue
Most HSC agency offices are closed due to the pandemic, some open by appointment, some operating remotely. Contact the agency to learn of their availability.			
Calvary United Church of Christ	Opportunity Shop (Thrift Store)	Please schedule an appointment at 412-823-4347, Masks must be worn	125 Shaw Avenue
Food Pantry Distribution	Food Pantry	December 12 8:30—10:30 am	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 Jim Brewster	Office Hours	Local office closed. State capital office: 717.787.5580	Human Svcs. Ctr 413 Penn Avenue
Turtle Creek Borough	<b>Council Meeting</b> Social distancing & masks required.	First Monday of each month, December 7th 7 pm Masks required	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
TCDC's Home Plate Vegetable Garden	Volunteer-run community garden, Vegetable stand	Closed for the season. See you in Spring 2021 for our 6th season.	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 lpatchel@gmail.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 Human Services Center (519 Penn Avenue).



### A Publication of the Turtle Creek Development Corporation

### The end of an era

## Remember Isaly's ?

The Creeker notes with sadness the closing of **The Turtle Creek Market featuring Isaly's** in Penn Plaza. Isaly's first opened in Turtle Creek in the mid-1930's, and many remember the dizzying black and white tile floor, as well as the deli. We will miss having our own local source of deli sandwiches, ice cream, and of course, chipped ham.

Where did they all go? There are only a few left in Pittsburgh – West View and East Allegheny. And sadly we just lost the Isaly's in Turtle Creek. Remember the 'skyscraper' ice cream cones? All for under 15 cents!

#### **BEGINNING OF AN ERA**

It was a chain of a family-owned business of dairies and restaurants started in Mansfield, Ohio and lasting from the early 20<sup>th</sup> century until the 1970s. Think of the ice cream, Klondike Bars (What would you do for a Klondike Bar?) and the famous chipped ham. I think the chipped ham sold for 33 cents a pound.

The company was founded by William Isaly, the grandson of the Swiss immigrants who lived in Ohio. By the early '60s there were retail outlets from Pennsylvania to Iowa. By the way, do you know what the letters, I-S-A-L-Y-S stood for? Well. they stood for *I SHALL ALWAYS LOVE YOU SWEETHEART*.

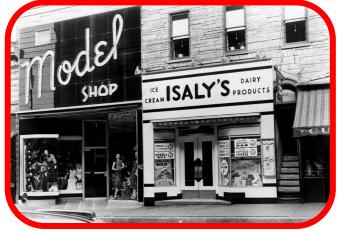
Several members of the family tried to continue to keep Isaly's solvent. By 1984, however, the company was no longer owned by the family. In Pittsburgh, Isaly's outlets were converted to the Sweet William brand. In the mid 1990's the final outlet closed in Marion, Ohio and Delicatessen Distributing of Evans City purchased the Isaly's trademark and all their products. (The Klondike Bar product is now owned by Unilever.) That was a very sad parting of Isaly's locations and the friendship of their customers. But fortunately, the new owners did not make any big changes and Isaly's still continued.

We have the memories of going into that brightly-lit store and seeing all the ice cream flavors in those big tubs. It was a hard decision to choose a flavor and then to decide whether to get a regular size cone or the famous 'skyscraper'. Such important decisions we had to make at that young age! The employees in their white shirts and pointed caps were always so pleasant and PATIENT.

My girlfriends and I had a ritual of going to the movie theatre in East Pittsburgh and then walking over to Isaly's and deciding what we wanted. And then we walked home eating the ice cream and talking about the movie. It was all so simple then. The beauty of that life is the memories we have and growing up in a small town gave us plenty to remember.







Submitted by Jeann Topper

## 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.

The **Crime Watch** group meets the third Monday of every month at 6pm at the Borough Building.

Council meetings are the first Monday of every month at 7pm

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### Hello TC!

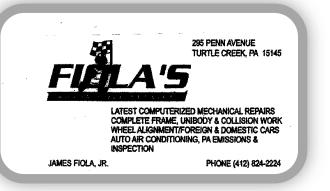
Hope you all were able to enjoy the summer, but I am sure for most, the past 6 months have been a struggle. With 2020 winding down, I have found myself reflecting on what a year we have had. While COVID-19 has changed many things in our daily lives, it did not stop several positive things from happening right here in Turtle Creek. We had young people step up to volunteer and organize clean-up days, we had a successful year at the Home Plate Community Garden, and because we have so many amazing organizations located in Turtle Creek, we were able to provide a number of services to those in need.

This summer we welcomed The Red Lantern Bike Shop to Turtle Creek. They are a community initiative bike shop that refurbishes and redistributes bikes of all sizes back into the community. They also repair bikes for all and believe in access and environmental stewardship. A lot of people this summer were spending more time outside with their families and bikes became so popular that they were sold out everywhere. Red Lantern did some donation drives – asking for used bikes that they could repair and re-sell for reasonable prices – and people stepped up by donating bikes. Many took advantage of the bikes for sale and were able to enjoy riding with their families.

While we still have some difficult times ahead, I know as a community we can get through it together. As a reminder, please keep social distancing, washing your hands and wearing your masks to protect yourself and others during the COVID-19 pandemic. Respect others be kind and remember that we are all in this together.

If you have any questions or comments, please email my office at mayor@tc.com.

> Wishing everyone a happy and safe fall. Kelley





## Home Plate Garden Wraps up Fifth Season

This was the fifth growing season for Turtle Creek's Home Plate Community Garden. As usual, the faithful volunteers were assisted by Pitt students in their last push to get the garden ready for winter.

Pitt had to make adjustments to their annual PMADD (Pitt Makes A Difference Day) because of Covid-19. Usually they have thousands of students that they send out into the communities. This year only a couple of hundred signed up, so "Civic Action Week" was implemented. Students were sent out in limited numbers to the various projects, especially if they needed to be bused to the location, like those that come to our site.

The garden qualified to receive around 18 volunteers on Saturday, October 10th. (The past three years we would get 25 - 43.) Out of the eighteen, six of the students had volunteered last year and enjoyed it so much that they returned this year and had gotten some of their friends to sign up as well. That was a really nice compliment!

The students spent their time spreading 12 cubic yards of mushroom compost, laying down black plastic, and securing it with bricks. When all of that was done, some students helped weed the flower beds. They were such a tremendous help! What they were able to achieve in three hours would have taken our regulars days! As you can imagine, the garden volunteers are always grateful for the help in winding up the season.

Next year the plan is to continue the Farm Market on Saturdays and Tuesdays in order to reach as many members in the community as possible. Customers seemed to enjoy coming to the garden at Hamilton Park to meet the gardeners and see where the produce was growing. This year a bigger flower garden provided bouquets of cut flowers for sale, an offering which they plan to expand next year, along with new varieties of edible greens. In spite of the challenge of this summer's hot and dry weather, the garden volunteers were able to provide the community with over 2,500 pounds of fresh produce. It will be time to plan for the sixth season before you know it. If you would like to get involved in any way, contact Dale Bizub at *dl bzb@yahoo.com*.







