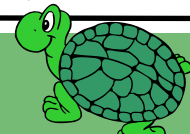


Turtle Creek Community Calendar



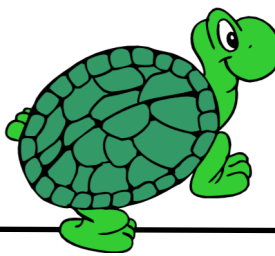
Who	What	When	Where
Turtle Creek's Human Services Center	Hosts offices for service agencies	Open Monday—Friday 7 AM—5 PM	529 & 413 Penn Avenue
<p>Get your taxes done for free with HSCC! Our virtual tax process has launched! Individuals are able to submit their tax documents and request a virtual appointment from the comfort of their home by using the Get Your Refund website: www.getyourrefund.org/HSCC. This can be done on a computer or a mobile phone. Individuals who do not have a computer or internet can call 412-437-8229 today to schedule a drop-off appointment.</p>			
Calvary United Church of Christ	Opportunity Shop (Thrift Store)	Fridays and Saturdays 11 am—2 pm Masks must be worn	125 Shaw Avenue
Food Pantry Distribution	Food Pantry	March 13 8:30—10:30 am April 10 8:30—10:30 am May 8 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	Council Meeting Social distancing & masks required.	First Monday of each month, March 1 7 pm April 12 May 3	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).

THE Turtle Creeker



Red Lantern Bike Shop Opens in Turtle Creek

Do you remember growing up in our town when we could walk mostly anywhere we wanted or needed to go? Yes, it was a long walk, especially in the high heat of summer or the freezing cold of winter. But remember if you had a bicycle how quickly you could get to your destination? My brother and I got our hand-me-down bikes from our cousins. What a great day that was!

In Turtle Creek, we now have bicycles at the Calvary Church Opportunity Shop at 125 Shaw Avenue. Red Lantern Bike Shop, owned by Brian and Maria T. Cruz Sink, started in 2013 in Braddock and did mostly bike giveaways and some repairs. In 2020 the nonprofit shop expanded from Braddock into the Opportunity Shop and started to refurbish adult bikes.

The name of the shop derives from the Tour de France bicycle race. The rider who comes in last place is awarded the Red Lantern for continuing and not quitting. The shop's mission statement is their belief that everyone deserves to have access to bicycles not only for fun, but for exercise and/or transportation, regardless of their financial situation. They accept children's bikes in any working condition and then redistribute them to surrounding communities. They also have a giveaway program for children and provide low-cost repair services.

Owner Brian Sink's involvement began when he volunteered with Free Ride Pittsburgh- a bike repair facility. He partnered with John Fetterman in Braddock and repaired bikes in conjunction with the Free Store. Currently, they have dispersed over 6,000 bikes in Allegheny County

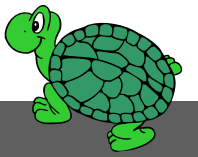


They are looking for volunteers to help in any way you can. It certainly is a great give-back program for our community to be involved in and it would be so appreciated.

You can find them in the old Calvary Church at 125 Shaw Ave., Turtle Creek, PA 15145. Check them out on FaceBook, or email them at redlanternbikes@gmail.com. They can also be texted at 412-339-0872.

Submitted by Jeann Topper

Founder Brian Sink (left) with wife and board member Maria T. Cruz Sink and other volunteers.



Mayor's Corner



Mayor Kelley Kelley

Happy New Year to all! I am looking forward to my final year as Turtle Creek Mayor and hope to build on what we have accomplished over the past 7 years. While we have had so many positive things occur in our community, we also continue to struggle with some very serious issues, including domestic and gun violence that the COVID-19 pandemic has exacerbated in many of our communities. It has left people isolated and many in-person services may not be available at this time.

For every fatal shooting there are three other nonfatal gun incidents, resulting in physical, psychological, and societal harm. Many of these incidents are domestic (meaning they involved family or close friends who may live together or have another close personal connection in the same household) in nature causing trauma to those living in that environment, including children and teens. Recent statistics in our area are showing incidents increasing due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

We as community members and local government officials need to explore ways to reduce this violence and treat it as the public health crisis that it is. Current research demonstrates that it is possible to prevent gun and domestic violence in the long term, but most of our communities lack the resources or expertise to do what is needed to deal with these complex issues.

With the input from young people, community members, the faith community, non-profits, service providers, and others, we can start to understand and develop a set of recommendations to address gun and domestic violence in our communities. The key is working together as concerned citizens to provide support and resources for those struggling.

I know we have some very dedicated residents who are already doing this work and sharing support services available to those struggling. We are still in a pandemic so most in-person services and/or groups are not able to provide the same level of care as usual. If you have expertise on how to address these issues in our COVID environment, please reach out. It would be great to bring these recommendations and programs to our residents so we can be proactive and see less violence and trauma in our area.

If you are interested in helping or if you have experience or work in related fields, please contact me at mayor@tcboro.com.

Mayor Kelley Kelley



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

Office hours are by appointment only.

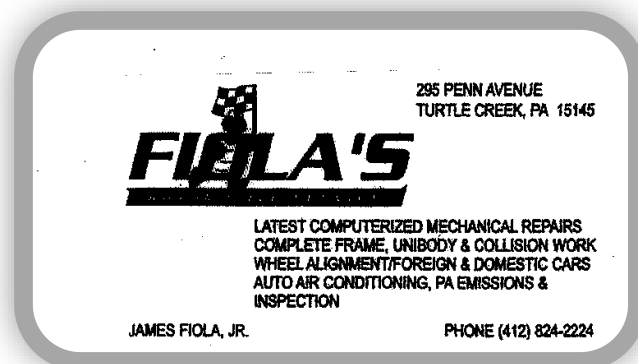
Changes and updates to the schedule are posted to her Facebook page:

[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



TCDC Curb Appeal Grants



Applications are available online.

Search for **"TCDC Curb Appeal Grant"**

Mail your application to:

**Turtle Creek Development Corporation
PO Box 148
Turtle Creek, PA 15145**

The **Turtle Creek Development Corporation (TCDC)** has an exciting opportunity to assist Turtle Creek homeowners with exterior home improvement projects that will boost the curb appeal of their home. TCDC is accepting applications from current Turtle Creek homeowners and renters to receive up to 50% of the project costs, with a maximum of \$150.

Why curb appeal?

- A recent study found that good landscaping can add 7-15% to your home's value.
- Experts consistently say that landscaping and curb appeal projects have the best return on investments

A recent study found that good landscaping can add 7-15% to your home's value.

Potential Project ideas:

- New windows and doors can make your house sparkle and may save you heating costs.
- Outside lamps could beautify a yard and provide safety at night.
- Window boxes can instantly brighten the outside of the house.
- Replacing hardware, such as numbers, knobs, etc., or upgrading a mailbox will not only change the look of your house, but increase your safety. House numbers that stand out are important for emergency personnel.
- Small gardens or added trees improve air quality, home values, and the health of those living in and around the home.

Postcard of the Turtle Creek Borough Building

Any of our readers care to hazard a guess as to the year?

