



# Allegheny County

December 2021

## Retirees Association

# NEWSLETTER

P.O.Box 15285 • Pittsburgh, PA 15237 • 412-459-7674

Website: <http://acretirees.org> • Email: [acretireeassociation@gmail.com](mailto:acretireeassociation@gmail.com)

### BOARD OF DIRECTORS:

Guy Tumolo, *President*  
Pete Schepis, *Vice-President*  
JoAnna McQuaide, *Secretary*

Cathy Thomas, *Treasurer*  
Connie Przybyla, *Editor*  
Angela Conte

Pamela Long  
Marge Lubawy  
Joan McMahon

## Message from THE PRESIDENT

It's that time of year again - The Holiday Season. I'm sure you all gave thanks on Thanksgiving Day that the effects of the pandemic are ebbing in our area. Hopefully, this will increase our ability to interface with family and close friends while we shop and celebrate Christmas. I found last year at this time rather bleak, with no ACRA Holiday party and very restricted Thanksgiving and Christmas get togethers. But let's put that behind us and look to the rest of this year.

### Holiday Luncheon

We will get together at the Greentree Doubletree at noon on December 15 for some fun and good food. Len Garlicki has volunteered to lead us in singing again. This is an encore performance from our last holiday party. There will be the tradition multiple grab bag raffles plus some addition fun surprises. Come join in the festivities.

### Elections

This year's election was conducted via a mail-in ballot published in last month's newsletter. This method was used to reduce printing and mailing costs since no officer position was contested. The results were: Guy Tumolo, president; Marge Lubaway, vice president; JoAnna McQuaide, secretary; and Cathy Thomas, treasurer. Regrettably, Pete Schepis and Angela Conte will be ending their service on the Board at year end. They both have made significant contributions to serving the membership. It will be difficult to replace them. Appointments to these openings will be made by January.

### Pension News

Your Association has requested that the Retirement Board consider a \$50 a month increase to the pensions of current retirees. This request is necessitated by the fact that the pension law does not provide for automatic cost of living increases and it has been six years since an increase was granted. A public presentation to the Board was scheduled for November 18. Due to publication deadlines for this newsletter, we did not have the results of their deliberation at the time this message was written. The results of our efforts will be published on our website, <http://acretirees.org>, when they are available. They may even have been posted by the time you receive this newsletter.

### Christmas Greetings

The Board wishes you, your family and loved ones a blessed and joyous Christmas and good health and happiness in the coming year. We will be on hiatus till March when we return with luncheons, interesting speakers, and other fun filled activities. Hope to see you at the holiday luncheon.

## 2021 LUNCHEON DATES

**December 15, 2021**  
ACRA Annual Holiday Party

**The 2022 Luncheon and Field Trips Dates will be posted in the March 2022 newsletter**

\* Visit our website at <http://acretirees.org/> for more information

# IN MEMORIAM\*

## JULY 2021 TO SEPTEMBER 2021



Name	Date of Death	Name	Date of Death	Name	Date of Death
Augenstene, David	8/11/2021	Henigin, Charles	7/18/2021	Renoylds, Lucille	7/16/2021
Banks, Valerie	6/5/2021	Hoag, Janet	8/27/2021	Ripley, Madeline	8/5/2021
Busko, John	6/29/2021	Hockaday, Dorothy	6/18/2021	Rudd, Sarah Joan	7/1/2021
Carroll, Roy	5/27/2021	Lang, James	7/26/2021	Sams, Azizee	6/29/2021
Clontz, Albert	7/23/2021	Leahy, Kathryn	6/27/2020	Schroettinger, John	8/5/2021
Conner, Carol	3/30/2021	Lewis, Audrey	8/10/2021	Shoup, Marion	6/20/2021
Deberson, Iris	8/28/2021	Longmore, James	6/29/2021	Solock, Richard	5/30/2021
Delaney, Barbara	5/21/2021	Martin, Rosemont	8/9/2021	Stowell, Michael	7/27/2021
Diulus, Vincent	7/11/2021	Mink, Valerie	6/12/2021	Tackis, Dell	8/25/2021
Ford, Rose	8/28/2021	Morrow, Howard	5/27/2021	Vanselow, Mary	7/2/2021
Giesman, Sharon	8/20/2021	Pasquarelli, Dom	6/29/2021	Way, Jane	8/17/2021
Grimes, Mary	7/12/2021	Perper, Joshua	7/12/2021	Wright, Bruce	9/1/2021
Hart, Mary	7/2/2021	Pistella, Gerard	7/21/2021		
Hastings, James	7/10/2021	Porter, Catherine	6/12/2021		

\*As provided by the Allegheny County Retirement Board

## NEW RETIREES LIST

### AUGUST

Badracco, Pamela  
 Brown, Emmett  
 Bruno, Anthony  
 Cassel, Debra  
 Caven, Darlene  
 Chorba, Cheryl  
 Connolly, Joann  
 Cottrell, Bruce  
 Eberle, Diane  
 Fitzgibbons, Dorothy  
 Gardner, Kerry  
 George, Daniel  
 Gildea, Leo  
 Gorchock, Mary Jane  
 Heasley, Colleen  
 Jackson, Sandra  
 Kostelnik, Robert  
 Kulik, Mary Jo  
 Lunz, John  
 Marcus, Ivan  
 Martino, Ronald  
 Mikulla, Cathleen  
 Pivrotto, Mary Jean  
 Radovick-Dean, Janice  
 Rager, Theresa  
 Reardon, Mark

Riccelli, Cesare

Rowntree, John

Rust, Toni

Sbarra, Diane

Schultz, Pamela

Scott, Robin

Sweeney, Daniel

Tartler, David

Todaro, William

Tokarsky, Michael

### SEPTEMBER

Alter, James

Andrejchak, Richard

Brown, Kimberly

Catrow, Leslie

Curial, Mary

Cutright, Cheryl

Delivorias, Marlene

Dempsey, Paul

Dunnegan, Michael

Fontecchio, Barbara

Klak, Joseph

Kline, David

Kutchman, Sherrie

McMaster, David

Musser, Donna

Neyman, Beth

Palucis, Janice

Pennington, Debra

Peterson, Pamela

Powell, Leaann

Reese, Jeffrey

Reikel, Patricia

Scharding, Donna

Shaffer, Brian

Smith, Beverly

Weisser, Eric

Zangaro, John

Zebrasky, Robert

### OCTOBER

Aches, Anthony

Carlino, Russell

Cross, Cynthia

Degounette, Ruben

Downard, Gary

Edmunds, Barry

Geric, Vernetta

Halloran, Frank

Jennis, John

King, Donice

Lennox, Beth

McCarthy, Thomas

McGuire, Janet

Monyak, Janet

Moore, Andrea

Rutherford, Linda

Schubert, Harry

Sedlar, Robert

Smallhoover, Steven

Stetzer, Timothy

Tortorella, Mark

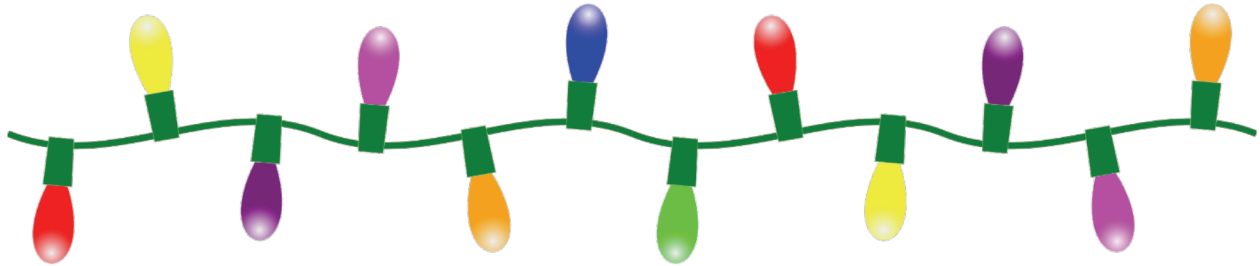
Weber, Sandra

White, Deborah



## **Jingle, Jingle, it's time to mix and mingle!**

Join us for the annual ACRA Holiday Luncheon  
on Wednesday, December 15, 2021 at noon.



RSVP no later than December 10, 2021

### **Senior Programs in Allegheny County\***

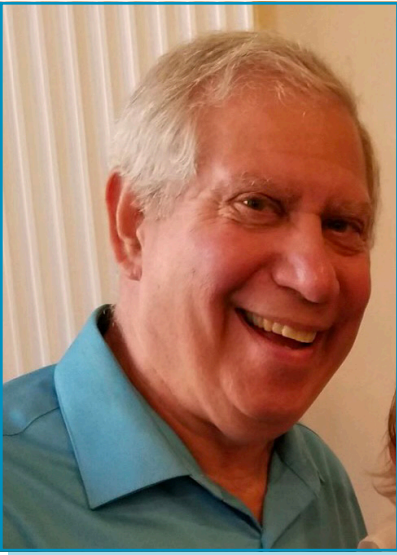
- Adult Interest Center - 412-343-8900
- Elderberry Junction - 412-632-1914
- Friendship Group - 724-444-0064
- Healthy Start Café - 412-364-1606
- Jewish Community Center of Greater Pittsburgh (South Hills) - 412-278-1975
- Jewish Community Center of Greater Pittsburgh (Squirrel Hill) - 412-521-8010
- Monroeville Senior Citizen Center - 412-856-7825
- Mt. Lebanon Recreation Department - 412-343-3409
- Mon Yough Carvers - 412-469-2903
- Neighbors North Community - 412-931-6633
- Ross Township Community Center - 412-931-7041
- Tapestry Senior Living at Moon Township - 412-507-9999
- Upper St. Clair Community and Recreation Center - 412-221-1099 ext. 603

**\*Information from Allegheny County Senior Resource Guide**

**The adult version of “head, shoulders, knees and toes”  
is “wallet, glasses, keys and phones.”**

# *In the Spotlight:* **TONY TEDESCO**

*by Connie Przybyla*



In 2009, after 38 years working as a Driver/Messenger for the Allegheny County Health Department, Tony Tedesco retired. Part of his job was driving the Mobile Health van. It was a doctor's office on wheels and was affiliated with Mercy Hospital as part of their Operation Safety Net. Operation Safety net is an innovative, award-winning medical and social service outreach program for persons who are experiencing homelessness in Allegheny County. After retiring at age 57, Tony went to work, on a seasonal basis, for a family wholesale flower shop until the business was sold last year.

Tony is a fan of both the Pittsburgh Steelers and Pittsburgh Penguins. He is a gardener and for many years had a vegetable garden that he cultivated. He gave up on the garden when the deer became too much to handle. Before the pandemic, Tony was in a bowling league for over 50 years.

Tony and his wife love Hawaii and have vacationed there six times. They also have a family cottage in Conneaut where they spend many days relaxing and enjoying their family. His daughters and their families often join him and his wife in Conneaut where they have a jet ski and a pontoon boat. He has many fond memories of wonderful family time there.

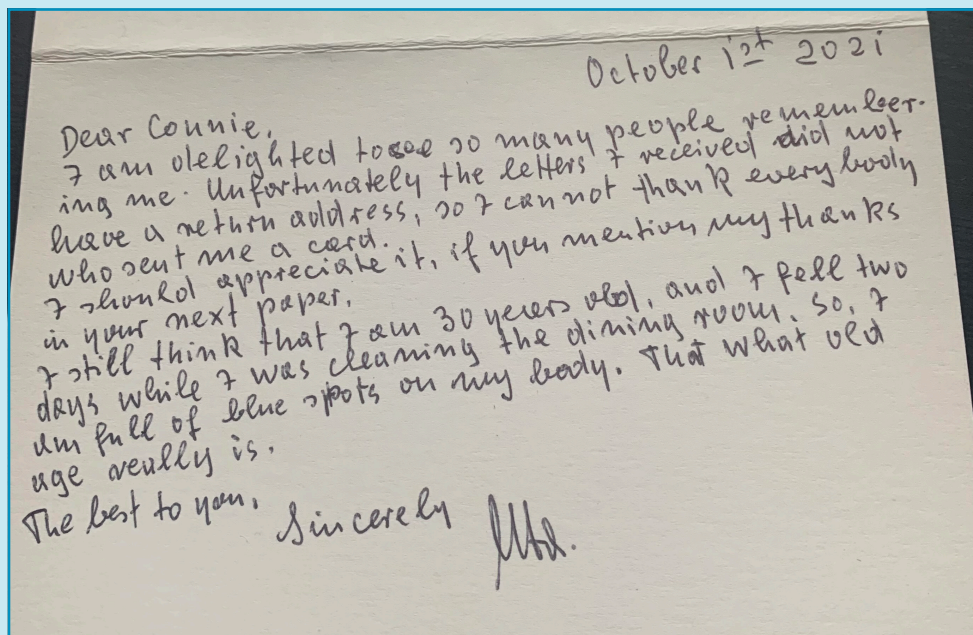
The love of Tony's life are his two beautiful granddaughters, Charli Rose, age 1 & Brindley age 3. Tony and his wife babysit their granddaughters two times a week and enjoy every minute of it. Tony said the best part of babysitting is when one of his granddaughters will crawl on his lap and ask him to read a book to them.

Tony has been married to his wife, Carol, for 40 years. They have two daughters: Lauren and Kristin.

We wish Tony many more years of retirement and great family memories with his grandchildren.

## **THANK YOU**

*ACRA's 100-year-old member (see ACRA September 2021 newsletter) sent the following thank you to members who sent her a birthday card.*





# ACRA MEMBERS HEAR ABOUT THE 1892 BATTLE OF HOMESTEAD

*by Marge Lubawy*



One of the most famous events in American labor history happened right here in Western Pennsylvania. The Battle of Homestead in 1892 was brought to life by Jerry Fitzgibbon, interpretive historian and docent at the Rivers of Steel Heritage Corporation in Homestead, PA. Fitzgibbon related the events of July 6, 1892, when striking members of the Amalgamated Association of Iron, Steel and Tin Workers protested the Carnegie Steel Company's plan to realize higher profits by cutting the wages of mill workers. A bloody gun battle ensued when Henry Clay Frick, operation manager for the mill called in armed guards from the Pinkerton Detective Agency to break the strike. The day-long battle ended with the Pinkertons surrendering and leaving. The official coroner report read that seven strikers

and three Pinkertons died in the battle, although it is suspected that the count was higher.

However, the victory was short lived for the workers when Frick appealed to the governor for help, and 8,500 soldiers of the Pennsylvania National Guard came and took over the mill. Within a few days, operations continued with replacement workers, thus effectively ending any union activity in the country until the 1930s. Fitzgibbon recommends visiting the historic Pump House and other Rivers of Steel sites to get an understanding of how important steel was in our national history.



## September Luncheon: SARRIS CANDIES PRESENTATION

*by Connie Przybyla*

On Wednesday, September 15, 2021, ACRA held their first luncheon since 2019. We had a record number of members attend a luncheon. Lunch consisted of baked cod, barbeque chicken, fruit salad, pasta salad and delicious desserts of cake and pies. Norm Candelore, Retail Manager of Operations for Sarris Candies, Inc. gave a fascinating presentation on "The Sarris Story." While Norm was speaking, his assistants, Kim, and Tom, passed out a four-piece box of chocolate and chocolate covered pretzels to all attending members!

It was a great afternoon, with good food, interesting speaker and especially seeing our fellow members again. We hope to see you at one of the next scheduled luncheons.



# ISALY'S SKYSCRAPER ICE CREAM CONE, KLONDIKES AND CHIPPED HAM

by Connie Przybyla

*The following article is the fourth in a series of articles where we will be detailing some fascinating and interesting history of our great County. We hope you enjoy.*

Who doesn't remember getting in the car with your family for a trip to Oakland for a Isaly's Skyscraper ice cream cone and a pound of chipped ham to go?

It's been decades since Isaly's that occupied the big white building on the Blvd. of the Allies closed their doors. I remember being devastated that my favorite ice cream place would be no more.

It all started in 1902 when William Isaly founded the company in Ohio. The Pittsburgh branch was established 30 years later by his son Henry. A marketing gimmick to help people remember the Isaly name suggested that a readout of Isaly was I Still Always Love You Sweetheart!

During the 40s, 50s and 60s, according to the Pittsburgh Press, "It was not uncommon on Saturday and Sunday evenings for hundreds of parents with anxious youngsters in tow from throughout the Tri-state area to queue up at Isaly's 40-yard-long front counter. At the height of their popularity, Isaly's had thirty employees scooping ice cream to customer at a time.

One of the keys to Isaly's success was the unusual, shaped scoop that made those tall ice cream scoops. Legend has it that after the family sold the stores, they buried the original scoops behind the Blvd. of the Allies headquarters in fear that they would be stolen. If that's true, no one knows for sure.

Isaly's also had remarkable success in selling chipped chopped ham for sandwiches. Many of us reading this article will remember coming home to a ham barbeque sandwich for lunch or dinner. The sandwich was even featured on the PBS special *Sandwiches That You Will Like* 2002 PBS documentary by Rick Sebak of WQED.

And who hasn't had a worldwide famous Klondike bar? The Klondike bar was created by the Isaly Dairy Company of Mansfield, Ohio in the early 1920s and named after the Klondike River of Yukon, Canada. It was designed as an "adult" treat, which is why there is no stick attached to the bar. In the 1930s if you bit into a Klondike and there was a pink center, you were entitled to a free Klondike. Recent statistics show that 38.3 million consumers used Klondike bars in 2020!



## RECIPES BY PAM

by Pam Long

*For one time only, after requests by members, below is Connie Przybyla's recipe for Cherry Almond Amish Sugar Cookies that she baked for the picnic in June. Pam will be taking over once again with her delicious recipes in our March 2022 newsletter.*

### Cherry Almond Amish Sugar Cookies

For cookies:

- 2 - 12 oz. jars maraschino cherries drained (reserve juice), minced, squeezed VERY dry
- 1 cup butter softened
- 1 cup vegetable or canola oil
- 1 cup granulated sugar
- 1 cup powdered sugar
- 2 large eggs
- 2 tsp. almond extract
- 2 tsp. cherry extract
- 4 1/2 cups all-purpose flour
- 1 tsp. baking soda
- 1 tsp. cream of tartar

For icing:

- 4 tbsp. butter melted
- 1/3 cup + 1-2 tbsp. maraschino cherry juice
- 1 tsp. almond extract
- 1 tsp. cherry extract
- 4 - 5 cups powdered sugar
- 1/2 cup slivered almonds for garnish

### Instructions

For cookies:

1. As noted above, drain the maraschino cherries, reserving the juice (!), finely mince the cherries, and then pat/squeeze VERY dry. Set aside.
2. In a large mixing bowl, beat the butter, oil, and sugars until combined.
3. Beat in eggs, almond extract, cherry extract, and minced cherries.
4. In a large bowl, whisk together flour, baking soda, and cream of tartar.
5. Gradually add flour mixture to the butter mixture, beating until just combined after each addition. Do not overmix.
6. Line baking sheets with parchment paper or silicone baking mats.
7. Drop dough by teaspoonfuls onto baking sheets.
8. Bake at 375 for 8-11 minutes, or until edges and bottoms are lightly browned.
9. Remove to wire racks to cool.

For icing:

1. Whisk together butter, maraschino cherry juice, and extracts.
2. Stir in 4 cups powdered sugar, mixing until smooth.
3. Add additional maraschino cherry juice or powdered sugar, as needed, to achieve a thick, but spreadable consistency. It should be thicker than a glaze, and it shouldn't run off the cookie, but should be easily spreadable.
4. Frost cookies, sprinkle with slivered almonds, decorate with additional sprinkles, if desired, and allow to set.

