



8th Ward Neighborhood Group

The Patroller

Meeting the 2nd Tuesday of Every Month

Seibert Church; 10th & Allen Sts.

Next Meeting: Tuesday, April 14th - 7PM

April 2009

Contact Us

E-Mail:

kim8thward@yahoo.com

Kim Beitler

President, External

Bonnie Wachter 484-695-1967

President, Internal

Brian Engler

Vice-President

Jim Bast

Treasurer

Minnie Nathan

Secretary

Charlie Seifert

Board Member

Carlos Bernardi

Board Member

Vivian Bernardi

Board Member

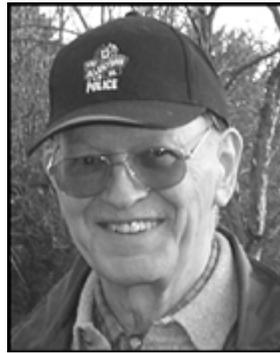
Paul Fiske

Board Member

Guest Speaker For April Meeting

Allentown City Bureau of Recycling & Solid Waste
Manager – Ann Saurman

Goodbye, My Friend



**Ben Gress
1924-2009**

There I was at your funeral saying goodbye. It was a beautiful day – the kind of day you would have loved. I stood before you realizing this would be the last time I would see my friend. I was there to honor you as you have surely honored me. Although it was something I would have preferred to do in private, I started to cry. My tears seemed inconsolable. I felt like turning and running away, but I didn't. I stood there while tears poured down my face and I thought of every

conversation, every smile, and every joke. I have

known you thirteen years and all I remember is tidbits in time. All our lives are a series of moments; moments that make us laugh and moments that make us cry and all of a sudden those moments are gone, like a blink of an eye or a wave of a hand, the people we love leave from our sight and we are forever changed by their absence. Even now, almost a month since you've died, I look for you or wait to hear your voice. I thank you for your friendship, Ben and your honest, simple ways. Your life most definitely spoke the truth of everything you believed in your heart. You were a gentle and caring man. Traits that are hard to find and most certainly undervalued in today's fast paced life. I value you and I miss you but I am consoled by the thought that you now reside in a place where there are no more good-byes and the people you love have welcomed you home. When I make it up there, God willing, to that large "neighborhood" in the sky, I'll be sure to look you up. I'm sure I'll find you somewhere on the southside of Heaven because the southside was always your home. Godspeed...

YES!! I am very pleased with the work that the 8th Ward Neighborhood Group is doing and I would like to make a donation to support their many efforts such as the newsletter, meetings, and community events

SORRY. I am not able to help the 8th Ward Neighborhood Group with a financial contribution at this time but I would like to help in other ways. Please contact me with how I can help.

You can make your check or money order payable to:

8th Ward Neighborhood Group
& Send It to: **706 North 8th St.,**
Allentown, PA 18102

Thank you for your support!

Personal Crimes—Part 2—Purse Snatching

Captain Ed Bailey - Independence Kentucky Police Department

Older women are favorite victims of purse-snatchers. Usually they are unable to chase the thief and they are easily overpowered. Purse-snatchers tend to be young and can run very fast. For the most part, the only thing they are interested in is any money found in the purse. Occasionally, credit cards found in a purse are used quickly then discarded or sold to individuals that will send them to other parts of the country for use. Any items other than cash like family pictures and mementos will be lost. Most purses are not recovered.

In a typical purse snatching, the criminal will run up behind the victim, grabbing the purse as they pass. The purse-snatcher is half-way down the block before the victim knows what happened. Sometimes, the victim will have the purse strap wrapped around their arm or wrist. When the purse is grabbed, they are pulled down and possibly dragged on the pavement. This usually results in serious injury to older persons. Sometimes a victim will fight for the purse. This also will result in injury to the victim.

You can reduce your chances of being victimized by observing the following:

- If possible, don't even carry a purse. Distribute your money and credit cards among your pockets. Carry only what you need for the day. Many people today wear what are called "Fanny Packs", pouches on a belt that can be worn under coats and jackets so they are out of sight.
- Don't keep your keys in your purse. If the purse is taken, the combination of identification with your address and your address and your keys can result in a second crime, such as a burglary of your home.
- If you have a purse with a long strap, don't carry it so the strap is on the opposite shoulder as the purse. Loop the strap over the shoulder on the lame side as the purse close to your body with your arm and elbow. Don't dangle the purse but keep control of it close to you. If a purse-snatcher should grab it close to you. If a purse-snatcher should grab it from behind, it will slide right off as he passes.
- Do not wrap the strap around your arm or wrist. You risk serious injury if the purse is grabbed.
- Keep your purse with you at all times. Do not put it on the floor or under a seat. Keep it in your lap where you have control of it.
- Take a serious look at what you carry in your purse and decide

Numbers To Know

April 2009

Police-Fire-Ambulance	911
Police –Non-emergency	610-437-7751
Chief Maclean	610-437-7777
Police—Vice Unit	610-437-7726
State Rep. Jenn Mann	610-821-5577
8th Ward BW—Bonnie	484-695-1967
City Planning	610-437-7613
Recycling/ Graffiti Removal	610-437-8729
Code Enforcement	610-437-7695
Zoning Office	610-437-7630
Health Bureau	610-437-7760
Mayor Pawlowski	610-437-7546

what is necessary for your day to day existence. Carry only what you can afford to lose. Remember, smaller is better. Large purses are easier to spot and grab.

- Try to avoid situations that increase your chances of being a victim. Travel with groups on the street and in malls. Be aware of your surroundings and of those around you.
- Most importantly, DON'T fight for your purse or with a purse-snatcher. There should be nothing in the purse that would be worth the injuries you could sustain. If your purse is grabbed, LET IT GO! Holler and shout to call attention to the purse-snatcher, but do not fight with him.

Old Allentown Flower & Flea Mar-

Flower & Flea Market - Art too!

Saturday, May 9, 2009, 9am-4pm

A neighborhood street market with vendors, residents and artists. Great finds, great vibe! Reserve a space: Call Deb at 610.820.3829.

CHEC-Mate Program

Report all suspicious activity anonymously by becoming a CHEC-mate (Citizens Helping Eliminate Crime) Member. Come to our monthly meeting and ask for a card and/or get a few for your Allentown friends or neighbors. Please don't sit silent and expect others to call the police. Everyone has to take responsibility to report suspicious activity when they see it. We can only begin to clean up Allentown when good people come together and say we will no longer put up with illegal activity.

Police Appreciation Day

Wednesday; May 13th, 2009 is Police Appreciation Day and our neighborhood group along with Allentown Crime Watch will be hosting a Police Appreciation Lunch /Dinner for Allentown officers. We are in need of volunteers to help out on that day. Times available 8am-10pm. Must be an active member of our group and a CHEC-mate member. Please get more info or sign-up at our next meeting. Ask for Kim Beitler, Coordinator of Event for more info.

Allentown City Council Meetings—

Are you interested in hearing about your local government?

Want to know what legislation is being passed?

Tired of hearing about things in the Morning Call after the fact?

Come to the City Council Meetings.

Meetings are the 1st and 3rd Wednesday of every month.

Have a concern to advise Council about? Speak at courtesy of the

Floor – which starts promptly at 7PM.

**Meetings for April are the 1st and 15th at City Council Chambers located in the 1st floor of City Hall*

Not Receiving A Newsletter?

There are some areas in our neighborhood that are no longer receiving our newsletter due to a loss of some volunteers. If that's what happened to you, you could help us by delivering newsletters in you neighborhood or on a block near where you live. We definitely could use your help. Sign up today or find out more information by calling Bonnie at 484-695-1967.

Thank you, Kim

Crime Watch Banquet—You're In-

Mark your calendar for the Annual Leonard Buck Crime Watch Banquet. The dinner is scheduled for Thursday; April 16th, 2009 at the Fearless Fire Company. Tickets must be ordered in advance and will be available for purchase at our March 10th meeting. Tickets are \$22.00/pp. Dinner is buffet style. Our neighborhood group will be in attendance along with 18 other neighborhood groups representing Allentown Crime Watch. It would be great to have you join us. For more information come to our March meeting and ask for Kim. Two individuals will be awarded Certificates of Nomination for involvement in our group.

Graffiti is Illegal—Report It

Graffiti is once again becoming more prevalent in our neighborhood. If you see graffiti in progress, call 911 and give the best info. you can concerning what the individuals look like and their location. DO NOT CONFRONT YOURSELF – Call the Police. I would recommend giving your name and number in case the officer(s) responding need more info. NOTE – You can report with CHEC-mate or anonymously if you choose.

If you see properties anywhere in the City of Allentown (even though they may not be your property) with graffiti on them, please report it to 610-437-8729 to put it on the list for removal. So much graffiti is going up we need everyone to do their part to make sure it gets reported and removed ASAP.

Mark Your Calendar—Block Party

Before we know it Summer will be here and so will our annual block party. Mark your calendars now for Saturday; July 11th with a rain date of July 18th. Our block party will be held at Seibert EC Church located at 10th & Allen Sts; Allentown. For more information on how you can become involved, please call Bonnie at 610-432-8280.

**Report Graffiti in Progress to 911
or Report Graffiti You See on Any Property
Call 610-437-8729**

Stretch of N Dauphin St to Close

North Dauphin Street in Allentown between Hanover Avenue and East Liberty Street will be permanently closed to traffic beginning Monday, March 30, 2009. The roadway is being realigned to tie into the future New England Avenue road project.

Road Closed signs will be posted at the intersection of Hanover Avenue and North Dauphin Street. Local traffic only will be allowed to proceed southbound on North Bradford Street at North Dauphin Street.

All pedestrians crossing Hanover Avenue at North Dauphin Street must push the pedestrian push button on the signal pole and wait for the green light before crossing.

City Operating Pothole Hotline

Motorists who encounter a pothole on streets maintained by the City of Allentown are urged to call the city's Pothole Hotline. Callers to the city's Pothole Hotline at 610-437-8775 can generally anticipate action in 48 hours or less, according to the Mayor.

Callers can reach the Pothole Hotline 24 hours a day, seven days a week at 610-437-8775. The number can also be found on the home page of the city's website at www.allentownpa.gov.

The Great Allentown Clean-Up

April 25th

Come join us for the Great Allentown!

Cleanup and help clean up your block and your neighborhood, or clean up anytime throughout the year. Let's beautify Allentown together!

Clean up supplies are provided. To volunteer call 610-437-8729 or register online at www.allentownrecycles.org and click on Mayor Pawlowski's Great Allentown Cleanup.

Something Fishy!

April 19, 2009 - 1:00pm

Lehigh Parkway

For Adults and Children

Fun casting practice and a visit to the trout nursery.

Family Storytime

Saturdays through April

10:30am

Located on the Library's 2nd Floor

All children and parents are welcome.

May's Concerts in the Parks

Sunday, May 10 3:00pm

Pioneer Band - West Park

Sunday, May 17 3:00pm

Municipal Band - West Park

Friday, May 29 8:00pm

Royalaires - Cedar Beach

Dancing Under the Stars

Sunday, May 31 7:30pm

Marine Band - West Park

Adult Computer Class

Saturdays through April

10:30am

Located on the Library's 2nd Floor

(Gates Lab)

Call for more information 610-820-2400

Kindergarten Sign-Up Days

KINDERGARTEN SIGN UP DAYS

May 4 - 8 & 11 - 15

For children 5 years old on or before September 30, 2009

Please call your neighborhood school for more information.

May 4

Sheridan & Washington

Elementary Schools @

Midway Manor E.C.C

2020 E. Pennsylvania St.

484-765-5681

REQUIRED INFORMATION

- *Proof of immunization:* Shot records
 - *Proof of birth:* Birth certificate, baptismal certificate, passport, green card, hospital birth record, notarized statement with birth date
 - *Proof of residence:* Utility bill or service agreement for gas/oil, electric, phone, cable TV, lease or notarized statement from parents indicating address of residence
- Children are required to be present at registration with a parent or legal guardian.

Warm Weather's Coming

It's important to remember that the warm weather is coming and you don't want to become a victim. Remember these tips: Always lock doors when you are outside doing yard work. Keep doors and windows locked even when you're at home. You never know who may be looking for an easy entrance. Call the police if you see people hanging around or on your neighbor's property. Better to be safe than sorry. Please look out for your neighbors. It helps all of us when you get involved by making that phone call. Please never approach! Loud music, loud people, loud parties! Call 610-437-7751.