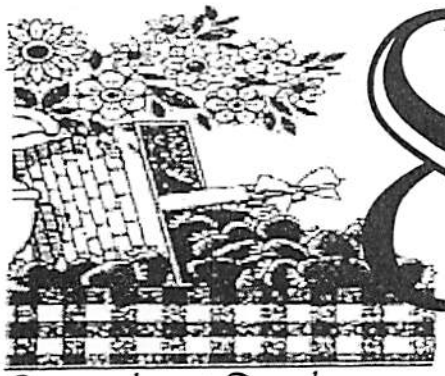

8th Ward Neighborhood Group

The Patroller

Meeting the 2nd Tuesday of Every Month

Meeting Location: St. Luke's Lutheran Church - 417 N. 7th St. - 7pm

NEIGHBORHOOD GROUP BOUNDARIES:
Gordon Street north to Sumner Ave. & 7th Street west to 12th Street

September/ October 2012

Mission Statement: Promoting a community of informed, inspired, and committed citizens who are actively engaged in confronting the challenges facing our neighborhoods.

Contact Us

E-Mail:
kim8thward@yahoo.com

Bonnie Wachter 484-695-1967
President
Paul Fiske
Vice-President
Jim Bast
Treasurer
Carol Moyer
Secretary
Charlie Seifert
Board Member
Carlos & Vivian Bernardi
Board Member
Carol Fiske
Board Member
Minnie Nathan
Board Member

September's Meeting: Tuesday; Sept. 11th - 7PM

October's Meeting: Tuesday; Oct. 9th - 7PM

St. Luke's Lutheran Church - 417 N. 7th St.

Protect Yourself Now

Basic Street Sense

- Wherever you are - on the street, in an office building or shopping mall, driving, waiting for a bus or subway - stay alert and tuned in to your surroundings.
- Send the message that you're calm, confident, and know where you're going.
- Trust your instincts. If something or someone makes you uneasy, avoid the person or leave.
- Know the neighborhoods where you live and work. Check out the locations of police and fire stations, public telephones, hospitals, and restaurants, or stores that are open late.

On Foot

- Stick to well-traveled streets. Avoid shortcuts through wooded areas, parking lots, or alleys.
- Don't flash large amounts of cash or other tempting targets like expensive jewelry or clothing.
- Carry a purse close to your body, not dangling by the straps. Put a wallet in an inside coat or front pants pocket, not a back pocket.
- Try to use automated teller machines in the daytime. Have your card in hand and don't approach the machine if you're uneasy about people nearby.
- Don't wear shoes or clothing that restrict your movements.
- Have your car or house key in hand before you reach the door.
- If you think someone is following you, switch direction or cross the street. Walk toward an open store, restaurant, or lighted house. If you're scared, yell for help.
- Have to work late? Make sure there are others in the building, and ask someone - a colleague or security guard - to walk you to your car or transit stop.

☐ 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!

Printed on recycled paper courtesy of the City of Allentown

"The impersonal hand of government can never replace the helping hand of a neighbor." - Hubert H. Humphrey

Don't Walk Away—Scoop the Poop

701.04—C.- CLEAN-UP OF ANIMAL FECAL MATTER—1. No owner of any animal or any person having the care, custody, and control of any animal shall permit the same to discharge or deposit any fecal matter upon the property of another without immediately removing such matter & depositing it in a sanitary manner.

2. No owner or possessor of real property shall permit animal fecal matter to accumulate on such property for more than 24 hours. Any person shall upon conviction, thereof be ordered to pay a fine $25.00-$1,000.00, and in default of payment of fines and costs, imprisoned not more than 90 days. Each days violation shall constitute a separate offense.

CALL POLICE OR HEALTH TO REPORT

Turn Down the Sound in Allentown

Keep in mind that if you want to play music, your neighbors don't want to hear it!!

Noise Disturbance-City Ordinance 719.03.

ENFORCEABLE 24 HOURS A DAY- **Radios, tape players, TV, or any device which produces or amplifies sound: at any time of day in such a manner from any source as to cross a real property boundary; or any such sound intensity that it is audible from a distance of 40 ft. in any public area, streets , or sidewalk of the City. Fine for violating City Ordinance 719.03: up to $1,000.00 fine or 90 days in jail.**

Neighbors, if you hear a disturbance, call the Police Non-Emergency at (610)437-7751.

Also, remember, if the property is a rental, let the Communication Center know that it is. Police can issue a DCR if they hear the noise. 3 DCR's in any 12 month period to one unit = Landlord must take eviction proceedings or lose his ability to rent the unit.

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.

Numbers To Know	September 2012
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

Desperately Seeking Deliverers

Please help us with getting newsletters out to your neighborhood. Our feet are hurting! Deliverers are needed. Call Bonnie 610-432-8280 to help.

Collecting Donations

The 8th Ward Neighborhood Group will be helping to collect needed items for the families affected by the fire on N 8th St. From what we know right now, people will be in immediate need of basic necessities. Since all have been removed from their homes any contributions of gift cards or gift certificates would be most appreciated. Most, right now, have no kitchen to make meals. They will be eating out mostly or on the go and items that require no preparation. The items most helpful right now would be: cards for local food markets (Little Apple Market, Ahart's Food, McDonalds, CVS, Rite Aid , - Some people could use these for medicines they may need to replace) Local stores for clothing or school items (Kohls, Sears, Walmart, Target) or school supplies (Staples, Office Depot, etc) Toiletries like toothpaste, toothbrushes, shampoo, soap, deodorant, brushes and combs. Household items will be helpful but many won't have the place to store these items. Call Bonnie at 610-432-8280 to arrange drop off. These items will be forwarded to our local community center so the families can come and pick out what they need.

Dear Heart

I saw it in his eyes. Eyes that had witnessed far more of life than most ever do. I felt it in his hands, trembling now from age. The seasons of time had not left him untouched.

Saul was in his eighties. Once a tall, lanky man in his youth, he now walked with the crook of an old oak tree. Bent, curved, but rich with wisdom and dimension was he. Saul was my neighbor, my friend. A man whom I adored. It was fall when we first met. The turn of the leaves had just begun, as much as they do here in California. Being a native, I had grown to appreciate the subtleties. He stood at my door, introduced himself with a rhyme and a bowl of persimmons. Then, with a warm and brilliant laugh, he extended his hand. From that moment on, we've never let go.

He and his wife, Esther, a woman he gazed upon with the eyes of a young boy deeply in love, lived just across the street from me. She was a round, colorful woman, with long wisps of thick white hair she wore tangled atop her head in an emerald encrusted hair pin. Esther's body was twisted by arthritis, but she still owned a certain air of passion that made her compelling and strikingly beautiful. Age can never take away the mark of being loved. She'd often tell the story of when Saul gave her the hair pin. "It was his grandmother's. He gave it to me wrapped in a poem on the day he asked me to marry him. The happiest day of my life," she'd say with pride, her eyes twinkling with girlhood charm. "I was just a young thing, with coal black hair and bright eyes. My mother wanted me to marry Evan the doctor, but he was such a bore. Saul was from the other side of town. He was working odd jobs to pay his way through school. Not a dime to his name. But he was the only man who ever made me feel alive and beautiful. All things were possible when Saul held my hand. When your heart feels this way, my dear, there is only one path to take. Happiest day of my life, I tell you." In the nine months I knew them, I came to know this story well, but never tired of hearing it. Saul would sit across from her, reach for her hand, and re-live the moment with each telling. Theirs was a love story that had lasted over sixty years, and it was still in full bloom.

Saul and Esther invited me over almost daily. I was in my twenties back then and time allowed me the luxury. It became our treasured afternoon ritual. They'd serve me fresh juice from their fruit trees, often some unique mixture Saul would concoct. "Taste the bitter and sweet," he'd say. "The bitter is life, the sweet is the love that makes it worth living." Saul never said anything that didn't move me. I loved him for the way his mind wove poetry into the fabric of life .

They never could have children, so in a way Saul and Esther took me in as their own. They'd often thank me for the time I gave, but I knew it was I who was blessed. They taught me more about love than any other couple I've ever met. They're still teaching me.

We'd sit in their backyard and take our turn sharing stories. Esther was a sculptress, and when her hands permitted, she'd still work the clay with a master's vision. Their garden was lush, filled with Saul's fruit trees, the iris patch he adored, and Esther's sculptures were everywhere. On tree stumps and benches, on boxes and crates, Saul proudly displayed her work, every one the image of a child. "My dear heart, she's such a talent. She could've been famous. But instead she made us a family of clay. Luckiest man alive, I am, luckiest in the world," he'd say, then bend down and kiss her clay-covered hand.

When Saul wasn't attending to her every need, bringing Esther water to douse the drying clay she struggled to form, or scurrying about making sure she took her medication at the appropriate hour, he'd read me his poetry. Witty, intelligent, and romantic, was he. I was in awe of his grasp of humanity, of love, and of the stream of lucid thought that belied his years. The first poem he ever read to me was the very one he used to propose to Esther. Although written by a young Saul, innocent and deeply in love, it was as true to life today as it was back then.

Esther, Dear Heart

In the mist of a dream /You come to me/Is this earth or heaven / Or the passage in between / Tell me with your eyes / That forever you'll be mine Share my earth and heaven / Beyond the end of time / In the mist of a dream And all the passages in between

Your Saul - October 10, 1925

Saul rarely left the house, save for on Saturdays when he attended his poetry group. This was the day he hired a nurse to come be with Esther, for he never left her alone. The retreat gave him something to look forward to, and provided him storytelling material for Esther and me in the week ahead.

He'd muse over the wrinkled crowd of ten who joined him. Their offerings made him sad at times, and he'd say in a hushed tone, "So much of life to tell, when you're old. So much lost, so much found. Sad to think no one listens but your own kind. Tell your tale while you can, child. Sing it to the world. And one day, maybe you can tell mine. I used to be a lawyer in Brooklyn. Now I'm a romantic old poet who picks persimmons. You think you can make a story of that?" He'd chuckle, then add, "If you do, don't forget my dear heart Esther. No story of mine can ever be complete without her in it. She's my life, my reason for being here. Stay true to your heart and one day you shall know the same."

Saul took ill before summer arrived, and I watched the ambulance carry him away. I drove Esther to the hospital and stayed until I knew it was time for them to be alone. Saul was fading, we all knew it, and I wanted their ending to be as close as their beginning. Just the two of them, rapt in the waltz. Before I left, I said my good-byes in private thought, fighting back the tears. I took his hand and stroked his cheek, etching the memory in my heart. He looked up at me and in a faint voice said, "Taste the bitter and sweet, child. And don't forget to pick the persimmons." He left us that very night, and within days, Esther, too, was gone. They departed this world together, a promise I'm sure they made to one another. As it was meant to be.

Their nephew flew in from the East. Knowing little of his aunt and uncle, I was pleased when he asked me my thoughts about their memorial service. I had only three wishes to offer: fill the room with irises from Saul's garden; place Esther's favorite sculptures, her "children", near the podium; and lay Esther to rest wearing her beloved hair pin. He obliged, and somehow I felt a certain peace. It was my small gift to two souls who taught me the meaning of forever love.

Scores of people attended their service. Little did Saul and Esther know the many lives they had touched. I felt my heart saying, "Look, Saul, they were listening!" Ten writers stood to read poems written for Saul. How proud he would have been to hear their praise, as creations from Esther's own hands looked on. Finally, I stood, and shared the poem Saul had read to me some nine months before, and to Esther over sixty years ago. The beginning of their dream on earth seemed a fitting beginning to their next passage.

In the mist of a dream
You come to me
Is this earth or heaven
Or the passage in between . . .

~ Lisa Weedn

Fire Prevention

Section 1 Fire Prevention

Furnaces and boilers

- Have serviced and cleaned by a reputable technician every year.
- Maintain a minimum of three (3') foot clearance to furnace and water heaters at all times.
- Install a CO detector near the heating units.
- Have chimneys cleaned and inspected at regular intervals.

Baseboard electric heat

- Keep clean and make sure all guards are in place.
- Keep drapery, storage and any other material away from the durface and interior heating coils.

Flammable Liquids

- Storage not permitted in a basement.
- Keep storage at an absolute minimum. One gallon is the current maximum permitted in a dwelling. Should be in a shed or detached garage.

(cont'd on next page)

Fire Prevention—continued from pg. 3

(continued from previous page)

- Store in approved, labeled, sturdy containers away from any source of heat.

Storage of combustibles: Must be neat, in approved storage areas such as closets, drawers and must be away from sourced of ignition. Outside storage such as a porch storage, can catch fire and destroy your home.

Electrical System

- All electrical panels, switches and junction boxes must have approved covers or switch plates installed; the panel box door must be kept shut.
- Do not overload outlets, used fused plug strips if necessary.
- Update old wiring systems and equipment.
- Do not wire yourself unless you have the proper training and certification.

Use of extension cords

- Discard old extension cords (cracked, twisted, damaged or over twenty (20) years old.
- Do not run through any ceiling, floor, wall or doorway.
- Do not run under carpets or mats etc.
- Must be over twelve (12') feet long except for temporary use, such as weed control.
- Should be visable for inspection
- Must not be restricted or pinched at any point.
- Do not push bed, sofas, cabinets against the plug.

Portable Heaters

- Kerosene heaters are only permitted in single family dwellings.
- Do not let heaters run unattended.
- Maintain three (3') feet of clearance.
- Check power cord and plug for damage and hot spots.
- Do not use heaters where combustibles could fall on it.

Candles

- Use only candles made to be burned, do not burn decorative candles with odd shapes.
- Do not leave candles unattended, blow out candle if you leave the area.
- For extra safety, place all candles in a metal pan with liquid-tight sides (such as a pie plate) and place that on an insulated surface (such as a porcelain trivet or piece of drywall).
- Do not burn candles near draperies or curtains or near open windows.
- Trim wicks to 1/4 inch before lighting.
- Do not burn candles with less than one (1") inch of wax remaining (except votives and tea lights).

Cooking

- Do not leave the kitchen while cooking; this remains the major cause of fires.
- Be very careful when heating oil, an approved deep fryer should be used when cooking with lots of oil since they have safety controls installed.

Matches and lighters

(continued from left column)

- Keep completely out of reach of children
- Teach children not to play with them, turn them
- over to an adult.
- Keep only the amount absolutely needed in a home with children because curious children can find most anything.

Spray painting

- Do not use spray paint inside a home.

Oil use: *(When using linseed oil, stains or any other oil)*

- Follow all directions for use of the product and for the disposal of rags and brushes. These liquids can cause a fire when left on rags or other combustibles. Do not launder rags. When in doubt store the materials away from dwelling in a closed metal container.

Smoking

- Smoking area must be provided with deep, non-combustible, non-tip ashtrays.
- Empty ash trays into a metal trash can unless the butts are absolutely and completely out and/ or water soaked.

Propane Tanks

- Not to be stored inside any residence or garage.
- Only exception is for small propane bottles used for torches.

Install smoke detectors

- Inside every bedroom.
- On every floor level including the basement.
- Outside every bedroom area
- Read directions before installing.
- Consider installing a full fire alarm system.

Test smoke detectors monthly.

Have a fire escape plan and practice it often

- Have two ways out from every room, make sure that the escape windows open.
- Consider buying a fire escape ladder if you are above the first floor.
- Close doors on the way out.
- Have a meeting place outside.
- Do not go back inside for any reason.
- Make sure 911 was called.

Make sure that you have homeowner's or renter's insurance. The property owner's policy does not insure renter losses.

OUR NEIGHBORHOOD GROUP'S PURPOSE:

- To educate people, to minimize them from becoming victims of crime.
- To educate the public about what affects the health of our neighborhoods and where to seek aid in addressing such issues as Health, Code, Recycling & Solid Waste, Crime Prevention, etc.
- To create a sense of community and emotional well being among individuals throughout the neighborhood.
- To encourage people to become CHEC-MATE members and notify police immediately of any possible criminal activity that is occurring.
- To become actively engaged in confronting the challenges facing our neighborhoods.

St. Luke s Events

RUMMAGE SALE—TO BENEFIT ST.LUKE'S NEIGHBORHOOD CENTER

Saturday, September 15th, 9:00am – 2:00pm.

Snacks, Bake Sale and Face Painting

Held at 417 N 7th St - St Luke's Lutheran Church - - - Come have some fun!!!

If you would like a table outside on the parking lot to sell your things, you can rent the spot for $15.00, bring your own table. Call Jolene Carey at 610-820-8595. Held Rain or Shine.

Donations for the Rummage sale will be accepted by the Church during regular office hours ONLY the week of Monday, September 10, 2012 through day of sale).

You can also bring items to donate, to our 8th Ward Neighborhood Group Meeting on Tuesday September 11, 2012 at St. Luke's or please call the number below to set up a date and time to drop off items - - thank you very much for all of your help!!!

CLOTHES CLOSET

St. Luke's Clothes Closet offers free clothing to local residents.

It is open every Thursday from 9:30-11:30 am and 5:30-7:30 pm.

"El Ropero" (The Clothes Closet) tiene ropa usada para todas las edades.

Clothes Closet esta abierta los jueves, 9:30 a 11:30 AM y 5:30 a 7:30 PM.

St. Luke's Evangelical Lutheran Church

417 North Seventh St. Allentown, PA 18102-2835

Phone 610-434-3943

Fax 610-434-2372

e-mail-stluke@enter.net

SPANISH TO ENGLISH CLASSES

ESL Classes continue to be held on Wednesday evenings from 3:30-5:30 pm.

Monday and Thursday classes resume on September 17, 9:30-11:30 am

CLASE De INGLES gratis, siempre los MIERCOLES de 3:30 a 5:30 PM.