



# Our Neighborhood News

May/June, 2009

OTNW.tripod.com

## OTNW Meetings

*We meet the last Wednesday of every month at 7PM at St. Michael's Church at 916 Turner Street, the corner of 9th and Turner Streets (enter from the Turner Street door).*

### May Meeting:

5/27/2009 @ 7 PM

### June Meeting:

6/24/2009 @ 7 PM

*Nosotros tenemos un re-union el final miercoles del todos los meses en la iglesia San Miguel en 916 Turner a las siete en el noche.*

### Reunion en Mayo:

5/27/2009 @ 7 PM

### Reunion en Junio:

6/24/2009 @ 7 PM

*Se habla ingles.*



## BLOCK PARTY TIME!!! By Anne Crothers

Yes, it's that time again! Block Party time or Street Festival time—whatever you prefer! Our block party is on 11th Street between Turner and Chew Streets and will be Saturday, June 20th from 10 AM to 4 PM this year.

This makes our 6th annual party, and there will be some old favorites and some newcomers as well.

Let's talk about food: Hogar Crea will be making shish kebob, we will have food cart vendors and, for once, we have at last flagged down an ice cream truck to join us, so save some cash for ice cream later in the day!



Let's talk about entertainment: We will have our DJ, some new step dancers performing, drumming, and a vocal group performing. We will have our children's tent, our hula station, and some animals from the LV Zoo will be stopping by. Of course we will have tons of flea marketers and organizations with tables a plenty.

How can you get involved? If you want to sell something, let us know. Spaces are free of charge, we just love a big turn-out. We always need help with set up and tear down. Set up is from 8:30 to 10 AM, tear down starts at 4, just show up—we'll put you to work.

If none of that appeals—just plan to attend and bring your family!

### Street Festival!

**Saturday, June 20, 2009,  
10 am to 4 pm on 11th  
Street between Turner and  
Chew Streets. Come!**

## Our Meeting in May! By Anne Crothers

Our May speaker is Pete Schweyer, Allentown City Councilman and also State Representative Jennifer Mann's Chief of Staff. He will be speaking from both hats, the functioning of the city, of city council, and what's happening at the state level that affects us.

Pete is outspoken, has always been an ally of OTNWs and was key in helping us get



the beds for the Central Fire Station.

Pete has a vision for Allentown, and for the APD, which is outlined in detail on his website at

[www.peterschweyer.com](http://www.peterschweyer.com).

Plan to attend! Bring your questions and concerns for Pete (and for Jennifer Mann)!

**Join us on Wednesday,  
May 27 @ 7 PM at St. Michael's Church at 9th & Turner. Enter by the Turner Street door.**

## PA Cancer Education Network by Mary Ellen Shiels



Arrange a presentation to hear about preventing cancer!

The Pennsylvania Department of Health (PADOH) is pleased to announce the Pennsylvania Cancer Education Network (Network) as a new cancer control initiative in the commonwealth. The Network is designed to educate the public about colorectal, prostate, ovarian and all types of skin cancers.

Free, community-based education focused on the importance of cancer prevention and early detection is now available in all 67 coun-

ties. Presentations are arranged to fit your schedule and can range from brief 20 minute lectures to expanded seminars addressing one or more of these cancers. The ultimate goal of the Network is reduce the number of people who are diagnosed with late stage cancer, and ultimately to reduce the number of deaths from colorectal, prostate, ovarian and skin cancers in Pennsylvania.

Allentown Health Bureau is working with the Department of Health and is available to present one or more of the Network programs in your community.

To schedule a presentation contact:  
**MaryEllen Shiels**  
**Allentown Health Bureau**  
**Phone: 610-437-7513**  
**Fax: 610-437-7774**  
**Shiels@allentowncity.org**

## Mark Your Calendar... info from all over town

Want more to do? Consider...

### City Council Meetings:

Meetings are held the 1st and 3rd Wednesday of every month in City Council Chambers located on the 1st floor of City Hall and are open to the public. If you have an issue to present to Council, speak at courtesy of the floor which starts promptly at 7 PM.

### OAPA Flower & Flea:

Saturday, May 9, 9am to 4 pm, on Gordon Street between 8th and 9th Streets. Old Allentown sells spring plants and invites neighbors to join a flea market/vendor mix.

### Concerts:

Royalaires:  
 Friday, May 29 at 8 PM,

@ Cedar Beach Park

Marine Band:

Sunday, May 31 at 7:30 PM , @ West Park

### 8th Ward Block Party

Saturday, July 18th at Seibert Church, 10th & Allen Streets.

"Kind words can be short and easy to speak, but their echoes are truly endless ."

Mother Teresa

## Two New Phone Calls You Need To Make! City of Allentown

It is now easier to report graffiti, even when you are not the property owner of the building in question. It used to be that only the property owner could ask for removal, now anyone can.

Report graffiti that you find on anyone's home/building by calling **610-437-8729**.

Obviously, if you see graffiti in progress, on any building, call 911. Use your Chec-mate card if you want to call anonymously. I do!

There is now a Pothole Hotline number to report road problems. If you see a pothole on a city road, call **610-437-8775**. Action

should be taken to repair the problem within 48 hours. If you don't see any improvement, call back.

Let's use our phones to make this a safer, cleaner city for all of us! If you need a Chec-mate card, you can pick one up at our meetings.



To report Graffiti call **610-437-8729**  
 To report a pothole call **610-437-8775**

## Goodbye, My Friend by Kim Beitler, 8th Ward

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 re-

member 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 the 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 goodbyes 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...

*Written for Ben Gress, the founder and longtime leader of Mountainville 30 Crime Watch Group.*



**Ben Gress  
1924-2009**

**"Living in the past is a dull and lonely business; looking back strains the neck muscles, causes you to bump into people not going your way!"**

**Edna Ferber**

## Celebrating Our Parents by Anne Crothers

This year is my parent's 50th wedding anniversary. I am planning (along with my siblings) a party to celebrate. Part of the planning has involved looking back at old photos, finding old friends and neighbors and family we haven't seen in a while.

My childhood was good and bad like everyone else's. There were things they did right and things they did wrong.

What I know now, is that they did the best they could. Their intentions to each other and to their children, was to be the best they could. The

times they fell short were due to limitations in themselves they hadn't counted on.

Whether you do breakfast in bed, flowers or a homemade card, celebrate your parents if they are still here. Appreciating their life honors you as well. Your job is to pass down the good stuff!



**Mother's Day is May 10, Father's Day is June 21st this year..**

## Old Town Neighborhood Watch

### Emergencies Call 911

|                                     |              |
|-------------------------------------|--------------|
| Abandoned Vehicles                  | 610-437-7751 |
| Animal Control                      | 610-437-7535 |
| Building Inspections                | 610-437-7592 |
| Code Enforcement                    | 610-437-7661 |
| Child Abuse                         | 610-437-7798 |
| City Council                        | 610-437-7556 |
| Disruptive Tenant                   | 610-437-7616 |
| Fire Code Violations                | 610-437-7758 |
| Garbage Complaints                  | 610-437-8729 |
| Graffiti                            | 610-437-8729 |
| Historic Architectural Review Board | 610-437-7613 |
| Housing Inspections                 | 610-437-7697 |
| Juvenile Bureau                     | 610-437-7741 |
| Liquor Control Enforcement          | 484-510-4500 |
| Mayor Ed Pawlowski                  | 610-437-7546 |

## Community Contact List

|                               |              |
|-------------------------------|--------------|
| Neighbor Disputes             | 610-437-7773 |
| Noise Complaints              | 610-437-7679 |
| OTNW                          | 610-432-9537 |
| Parking Authority             | 610-437-3366 |
| Police Non-emergency          | 610-437-7751 |
| Police desk                   | 610-437-7753 |
| Police Quality of Life patrol | 610-437-7611 |
| Recycling                     | 610-437-8729 |
| Snow Removal (Sidewalks)      | 610-437-7596 |
| Street Cleaning               | 610-437-7636 |
| SWEEP Program                 | 610-437-8729 |
| Traffic Signs & Signals       | 610-437-7735 |
| Vacant Property Issues        | 610-437-7604 |
| Vice/Narcotics                | 610-437-7726 |
| Weeds/Grass Overgrowth        | 610-437-7604 |
| Zoning                        | 610-437-7630 |

## MAYFAIR! From an email by Michael Moore

### THE MAGIC OF MAYFAIR - ALLENTOWN'S PREMIERE FESTIVAL OF THE ARTS

MAY 21-25, 2009

Mayfair, Allentown's 23rd Annual Festival of the Arts, will take place in Allentown's Cedar Beach park from Thursday, May 21 through Monday, May 25.

It will feature five days of fun, food, music, art, crafts, dance, and a special Military component.

Mayfair will host THE MOVING WALL, a half-size replica of the Washington, D.C., Vietnam Veterans Memorial which has been touring the country for more than 20 years. It will be at Mayfair during each day of the Festival, placed at Cedar Beach Park, outside the May-

fair grounds, near the Rose Garden. Since this will occur during the Memorial Day weekend, this is a perfect complement.

As always, there will be a large variety of food vendors and Mayfair's ever-popular Artists Market. Kids Space will offer many free children's activities. Sommerfest, a German Festival, joined with Mayfair in 2008, and will be back again in 2009.

Mayfair will open on Thursday at 4 p.m. with a free preview night.

As in past years, a full Festival pass is just \$5.00, and can be used over the remaining four days of Mayfair. Pre-festival passes will be available at a discounted rate at various Allentown locations prior to Mayfair.

Volunteers are the life-blood of Mayfair, and there are many opportunities to volunteer both before and during the

Festival. Applications to volunteer will soon be available by going to Mayfair's website at [www.mayfairfestival.org](http://www.mayfairfestival.org) <<http://www.mayfairfestival.org/>> .

**See you at Mayfair!**

