



Raub Area Community Watch

Meetings 1st Thurs. of the Month: Next meetings = Feb 4th and March 4, 2010 7PM-Lehigh County Sr. Center
Everyone is Welcome – especially if you have neighborhood concerns!

Feb/March '10

February Dates

- 2/2 Groundhog Day
- 2/4 RACW Ming. 7:00PM
- 2/13 Valentine Dinner
St. James UCC
15th & Walnut Sts.
3 PM - ?
- 2/14 Valentine's Day
- 2/15 President's Day
- 2/17 Ash Wednesday

Union Terrace:

- 2/1 Top Tiger Day
- 2/9 PTA 7PM
- 2/9 Kindergarten
Conferences
(9-10-11)
- 2/9 1st – 5th Grade
Conferences(10&11)
- 2/12 – 2/15 School Closed
President's Holiday

March Dates

- 3/4 RACW Meeting 7PM
- 3/13 Irish Stew Dinner
St. James UCC
3 PM - ?
- 3/14 Daylight Saving Time
Begins
- 3/17 St. Patrick's Day
- 3/20 First Day of Spring
- 3/28 Palm Sunday
- 3/30 Passover

Union Terrace:

- 3/2 Top Tiger Day
- 3/9 PTA 7PM
- 3/10 Book Fair
- 3/31 – 4/5 School Closed
Spring Holiday

RACW would like to thank our December speaker, WAHS Principal-Mr. Falko and all the neighbors who attended the holiday polluck celebration. It was well attended. To any first time visitors please visit a future RACW meeting.

RACW Officers for 2010:
President – Gerry Traupman
Vice Pres. – Gail Stoudt
Treasurer – Lynn Unger
Secretary – Eileen Bernhard

RACW – Month in Review

ALERT-AREA THEFTS- Since Thanksgiving there have been roughly 10 break-ins in our neighborhood. It appears the culprits are breaking into unsecured or poorly secured basement windows and doors. Make sure all doors and windows throughout your home are locked. If you have a Bilco style door and inside door to your basement...make sure both are secure. Do not leave small valuables out which can be seen from a window...take valuables (money, cell phone, purse, car keys) to your bedroom at night. Use outside motion activated lights. Call police immediately if you see any suspicious people or activities. Wishing everyone a safe and happy new year.

Join Us For Future Events

RACW SPEAKERS FOR FEBRUARY – Speaker from the Community Justice Panel

THE GREAT ALLENTOWN/PA CLEAN UP – will take place on a Saturday in April (date TBD), plan to join RACW in picking up litter in your neighborhood...PARENTS this is a great event to participate with your children. Call Gerry 433-9363 if you would like to be included on the contact list.

LEONARD BUCK AWARD BANQUET–Thursday April 15, 2009. Mark your calendars...The Leonard Buck Officer of the Year and Distinguished Citizen Award will be presented.

How to Prevent Burglaries

GENERAL TIPS:

- Lock doors and windows
- Install new locks in a home or apartment when moving in, even if it is a newbuild
- Never leave an extra key to the house in a mailbox, under a mat, over door frame or anywhere else
- Don't give your key to anyone except people living inside the home
- Install a peephole in the front and back door and use it before opening the door
- When answering the door, ask to see proper ID if the person is a solicitor, repairman or utility company representative they will have proper ID
- When not at home, don't leave a note saying when you will return

LIGHTING:

- Outside-light up all sides of the house and garage. Motion activated lights are recommended.
- Inside-leave at least one light on (plus bathroom light); do not pull the shades or curtains when not at home

LOCKS:

- Do not use spring-snap locks; they can be opened easily and quietly
- Do not buy cheap locks
- Use dead bolt locks which require a key or sliding barrel locks, use crossbars and hasp locks on garage, cellar and other such doors
- Be aware of dead bolt locks that can be unlocked if the window on the door is broken
- Check the door hinges...make sure pins are on the inside or use non-removable pins
- Use chain locks as an added precaution
- Don't put your name and address on the key you carry; if lost or stolen, change locks regardless of whether you had your name or address on the case

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Things we are Thankful for...

- ❖ The many children that trick-or-treated at Halloween. All were adorable and very well behaved.
- ❖ The teenagers on S. 18th Street that helped residents in the 400 block rake leaves and generally lent a hand of help to some residents.
- ❖ Scott who helped Deanna delivery the neighborhood flyers.
- ❖ All the colorful and festive holiday decorations during December.
- ❖ All the individuals who delivery the RACW newsletter.

For the future if you have you would like to thank someone in our Things We Are Thankful Corner let us know at raubcw@yahoo.com and we'll try to add a note in our future newsletters.

How to Prevent Burglaries...Continued

- Strong door and window frames-it does little good to attach good locks to frames that are weak, rotted or defective
- Cellar windows...close and lock at all times
- Windows...every window should have a lock (the best is a key lock) plus a lock that prevents it from being lifted more than 4 inches
- Apartments...renters should not allow their apartment to be on a "master key" arrangement, ask about this and change the lock if the landlord will not
- Cellar doorway...make sure the door to any other part of the building, basement, garage or fire escape is adequately locked
- Do not leave ladders outside; they are perfect devices for entry. Do not leave rugs, wash, tools or other items outside overnight
- Keep shrubbery trimmed around windows and doors; they are excellent places for burglars to hide
- Sliding doors should have two locks on each door, plus a board or broom handle braced inside the track
- Padlock your garage. If any locks have been tampered with, report to police and change your locks
- A barking dog at night or activated motion detection light is a signal someone may be prowling, call police.
- Be sure yard gates and other locations are closed and secured. Opening a closed gate takes time, makes noise and attracts attention.
- Teach children not to open the door for strangers at anytime
- Consider having a dog in the house; they are excellent noise makers and burglars avoid them...alarms are also useful
- Always keep the doors locked even when you are in the house; because you are there may not deter someone from coming in anyway

WHAT TO DO IF A BURGLARY HAS OCCURRED OR IS OCCURRING:

- Call the police immediately. If the burglary is occurring at the time you are calling, tell the police that.
- If you come home and find it has been burglarized, don't go in. Call the police first. The intruder may still be inside and a trapped burglar is a dangerous person
- Don't disturb anything until police have finished their work. Give all information you can to the police about items stolen (serial numbers, identifying characteristics). Check to see if anyone saw any suspicious persons or vehicles in the area
- Most of all – be a part of the prosecution. Agree to testify against the person(s) and agree to take time necessary to identify stolen property, appear at hearing or court trial, speak with police officers, etc.
- Right now, keep a record of valuables...pictures, serial numbers, unique identifiers. It allows police identify stolen items. It establishes good evidence in court against such persons. It allows stolen items to be returned to you.

Forgotten Jambalaya (From Taste of Home)

Yields 11 servings

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| 1 can (14 ½ oz.) diced tomatoes, undrained | 1 can (14 ½ oz.) beef or chicken broth | 1 can (6 oz.) tomato paste |
| 2 medium green peppers | 1 med. onion, chopped | 3 celery ribs, chopped |
| 2 tspn. dried basil | ½ tspn. dried oregano | 5 garlic cloves, minced |
| 1 lb. boneless, skinless chicken breast-cut into 1 inch cubes | 1 ¼ tspn. salt | 3 tspn. dried parsley |
| ½ lb. uncooked medium shrimp, peeled and deveined. | 1 lb. smoked sausage, halved and cut into quarter inch slices | ½ tspn. cayenne pepper |
| | Hot cooked rice | ½ tspn. hot pepper sauce |

in a 5 qt. slow cooker, combine the tomatoes, broth, tomato paste. Stir in the green peppers, onion, celery, garlic and seasonings. Stir in chicken and sausage. Cover and cook on low for 4 hours or until chicken is tender. Stir in shrimp. Cover and cook 15-30 minutes longer or until shrimp turn pink. Serve with rice.

City of Allentown Authority, Boards and Commission Meeting Dates:

- Historical Architectural Review Board (HARB) meets the Monday prior to the first City Council meeting of the month at 7:30 PM
- Allentown Housing Authority meets the fourth Wednesday of the month 9 AM at the Allentown Housing Authority Office
- Allentown City Planning Commission meets the second Tuesday of the month at 12:15 PM in City Hall
- Allentown Redevelopment Authority meets the second Tuesday of every month at 4 PM in City Hall
- Shade Tree Commission meets four times a year-March, June, August and November at 9 AM at the Bureau of Parks
- Zoning Hearing Board meets Monday nights, as needed, at 7 PM in City Council Chambers in City Hall
- City Council meets the first and third Wednesday of every month at 7:30 PM in Council Chambers in City Hall

There are many other committees which the public can attend or if you are interested in serving the City of Allentown on a specific board please visit the city website at www.allentownpa.gov or contact the Mayor's Office for an application.

RACW is Always Looking for Newsletter Contributors:

If you have information that you feel would be helpful to the community please contact Raub Area Community Watch at raubcw@yahoo.com. Submit a typed article in MS Word format with authors name and contact information. We could always use help with delivery newsletters (just six times a year). It's great exercise. We could use delivery help on S. 16th Street. Email us or call Gerry at 610+433-9363 if you would like to help.