

The West Watch

Neighborhood Group

THE REPORTER

JULY 2010

WEST END YOUTH CENTER
20TH AND GREENLEAF STREETS
MEETING 2ND TUESDAY OF EACH MONTH

Next Meeting August 10, 2010

CONTACT US

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www.TheWestWatch.org

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Speaker of the Month

The speaker for the August 10 meeting will be Tamara Weller of the Allentown Parking Authority. Tamara will speak on the responsibilities of the parking authority. She will cover citizen concerns on parking and leaving a vehicle for an extended period of time and double parking.

A Word From Our President

Hello Neighbors:

BREAK-INS: There have been several break-ins (burglaries) in the area in the last month. These have occurred during the daylight hours, mainly between 11 AM and 2 PM. REMEMBER to close and lock all windows on the first floor before leaving your residence. Also become aware of all actions and activities around your neighborhood. Anything that seems even slightly "out of place" or that is occurring at an unusual time of day could be criminal activity.

MAYOR'S WALK: Mayor Ed Pawlowski and several members of his staff conducted a neighborhood walk thru the West End in July. Several properties were recognized as having code violations. These properties were going to be cited by the Allentown City code enforcement department.

ANIMAL OWNERS: Here are a few of the Allentown City's Animal Control Ordinances.

1. Pet owners must pick up droppings on their property daily and dispose of it in a sanitary manner. All yards, pens and structures where animals are kept must be cleaned daily to prevent odors and other public nuisances.
2. Anytime you walk your pet off your property, you must remove droppings immediately. Carry appropriate supplies with you.
3. All domestic animals, including cats, are prohibited from running at large within the city. All animals in any public area/property must be on a leash less than 6 feet long.
4. Pet owners must prevent their pets from excessive barking, crying or making annoying noise. Making noise continuously for 10 minutes or intermittently for ½ hour is a violation.
5. All dogs and cats older than 3 months must have a current rabies vaccination. Dogs must have a current license.
6. For cat owners – violators can be fined up to \$1,000.00 if found guilty of allowing their cat to run at-large.

Please plan to attend our monthly meetings and participate in the groups activities. When we voice our opinion and communicate our concerns, we can maintain and improve the *Quality of Life in the West End of Allentown.*

Thank You,
Gerry Alfano



YES!! I am very pleased with the work that the West Watch 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 West Watch 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:

The West Watch Neighborhood Group
& Send it to:
809 N 20th St.
Allentown, PA 18104

Block Leaders

The West Watch Neighborhood Group is looking for **BLOCK Leaders**. The block leaders monitor the activities of their neighborhood and assist residents with solutions. If you are interested in becoming a Block Leader, please contact the President Gerry Alfano at gfa1westend@rcn.com or attend the next meeting.

HOME SECURITY

Planning a vacation? Invest some time to review your home's security and to make improvements that will keep it from being vulnerable to break-ins. Before you leave on a vacation, walk around the perimeter of your home and objectively evaluate its vulnerability. Try to look at it the way a burglar would and make changes well before you leave town.

- ◆ **Turn up the Lights**
Put bright lights over porches and walkways in front and in back
- ◆ **Lock it up**
All doors to the outside should have working locks
All windows should have working locks
Keep all doors to the outside, sliding doors and windows locked
- ◆ **Be able to get out**
Make sure everyone can open all locks from inside your home
Don't have deadbolt locks with an inside key. You need to get out if a fire starts. A missing key could trap you inside.
Replace inside-key locks with deadbolt locks that have a "thumb turn" instead of an indoor key
Have windows that open from inside. Do not nail windows shut. Make sure they open easily
If you have security bars on doors and windows, have a "quick-release" latch. This makes it easy to get outside in an emergency
- ◆ **Don't help Intruders**
Keep bushes and shrubs trimmed under windows so burglars can't hide
Keep ladders stored in a locked shed or garage so they can't be used to climb into your home
Keep shades or curtains closed over garage and shed windows
Keep shades or curtains closed over your home windows after dark
Don't leave toys, tools and equipment in the yard
- ◆ **When your gone a few days**
Make your home look like someone is there
Do yard work before you leave
Have a family member or friend bring in your mail and newspaper while your gone

Numbers To Know

Police-Fire-Ambulance	911
Police-Non-emergency	610-437-7751
Police-Vice Unit	610-437-7726
Mayor Pawlowski	610-437-7546
Noise Complaints	610-437-7751
Street Lights	610-437-7735
Weeds/Overgrown Grass	610-437-8729
Graffiti Removal/ Recycling	610-437-8729
Sweep Program	610-437-8729
Vacant Property Issues	610-437-7694
Zoning Violations	610-437-4360
Neighborhood Disputes	610-437-7616
Animal Control	610-437-7535

West End Youth Center Bingo

Come join the fun and prizes at the West End Youth Center Bingo night every Monday night at 6:45.

West End Watch Group Web Site

Watch for the updated West Watch Web site now under construction and coming in August.

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Become a WEST WATCH SPONSOR of THE REPORTER. Please call 610-972-4343 for additional information.

West End Block Party

Join your friends at the West Watch Block Party on September 18th, 2010 at the West End Youth Center. Come and enjoy the games, music and other attractions for an enjoyable day.