

The West Watch

Neighborhood Group

THE REPORTER

JUNE 2009

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

NEXT MEETING: TUESDAY, JUNE 9TH - 7PM

CONTACT US

Website:

www.TheWestWatch.org

Pam Palmer President
PamP@TheWestWatch.org

Stephen Zatkan
VicePresident@TheWestWatch.org

Bob Berner Treasurer
Treasurer@TheWestWatch.org

Kathryn O'Keefe
Secretary@TheWestWatch.org

Nick Hromiak Board Member
Sean O'Keefe Board Member
Brenda Nagle Board Member

Topic For The June Meeting

Officer Tim Yanders from the Crime Prevention Unit will discuss home safety: what residents can do to protect themselves with alarms, locks, security lights and cutting shrubs for better visibility. On Identity Theft, he will discuss a variety of methods to protect our personal information.

A Word From Our President

As a neighborhood watch group, we have focused on how to stay safe and secure in your home. But there's another important part of this group – we are neighbors and as neighbors we should look out for each other.

You often hear it was a neighbor who reported a fire at someone's home. They saw smoke coming out of the house and called 911. But there are less dramatic things we can do.

In May, there was a burglary on St. Elmo, and the homeowners took the initiative to write up a note about the robbery and distribute it to all their neighbors. By doing this, they alerted their neighbors, and their neighbors got the whole story rather than the whisper-down-the-lane version.

Or it can be as simple as checking on a neighbor when their garage door, which is normally closed, is open all night. My neighbors called to check on me after I forgot to close my garage door one night.

As neighbors, we should keep the golden rule in mind – treat your neighbors as you would like to be treated.

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

On Tuesday, July 14th, instead of having a meeting, the Auto Theft Unit will be doing VIN etching at the West End Youth Center. They are planning to start at 5:30 p.m. What is VIN etching? Using an acid, they etch your car's VIN number on every piece of glass in your car. The number is 1/8" tall, and it takes about 5 minutes to do. It makes your car less appealing to thieves. It is highly recommended for anyone owning a Honda or Acura - the two most commonly stolen cars - and for cars parked on the street overnight. If you would like your car etched, please send Pam an e-mail so she can add you to the list.

***Numbers To Know**

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Police-Fire-Ambulance 911

Police –Non-emergency 610-437-7751

Police—Vice Unit 610-437-7726

Weeds/Overgrown Grass Complaints 610-437-8729

Vacant Property Complaints 610-437-7694

Recycling/ Graffiti Removal 610-437-8729

Code Enforcement 610-437-7695

Quality of Life Complaints 610-437-7546

Health Bureau 610-437-7760

Zoning office 610-437-7630

FEDERAL TAX CREDIT

Improve Safety & Get A Tax Credit!

If you're planning to install new doors or windows in your home this year, make sure you include safety features, such as super secure locking systems, along with the style and color in your decision. In addition, you may be able to qualify for up to a \$1,500 tax credit. This tax credit is also available for insulation, storm doors, roofs, HVAC systems, water heaters or biomass stoves.

Help!

There are some areas in our neighborhood that are not receiving our newsletter due to a lack of volunteers. If this has happened to you, you could help us by delivering newsletters in your 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 Pam at 610-437-4570 or email PamP@thewestwatch.org

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.