

EARN FRONTIER (July 7, 2011)



EAST ALLENTOWN RITTERSVILLE NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION
P.O.BOX 1136, ALLENTOWN, PENNA. 18105
Web Site: Eastlehighearn.com
NEIGHBORHOOD PRESIDENT and EDITOR DENNIS L. Pearson
TEL. # (610) 434-1229...EMAIL: ;

Next Scheduled EARN Neighborhood Meetings --- Monday, July 18, 2011... Monday, August 15, 2011 -- 7:00 PM, St. Peter's Evan. Lutheran Church, 1935 Hanover Avenue, Allentown, Pennsylvania 18109 ...

>>>> Become Involved ... Your participation can be building block for a great neighborhood

East Allentown Rittersville Neighborhood Association -Minutes 7/16/2011

President Dennis Pearson called the regular monthly meeting to order at 7:05 p.m. on May 16, 2011 at St. Peter's Evangelical Lutheran Church. Present: Three officers (Dennis Pearson, Dave Schell, Robert Jacoby), and eight neighbors. It was moved and seconded that we dispense with the reading of the minutes of the previous meeting since copies had been made available. The motion was approved to accept the minutes as written. The motion was approved without objection.

| “
If the July meeting we obtained 4,000 newsletters and we are proud to say that all have been distributed.... The public has been informed of the meeting . It was their choice to come to the meeting or not.

A zoning special exception was requested by the new owner of Erv's to have extended hours for Erv's BYO which would be transformed from a BYO club to a licensed Night Club offering Adult entertainment. The original zoning decision was in Erv's favor but an appeal has now been filed claiming that a special exception should not have been approved, but it should have gone through the regular variance process. This would now put three clubs in the same shopping center. ...Objections were also filed due to the fact that the late night closing of already existing night clubs has caused problems at area businesses. Redner's Quick Shoppe has closed their doors to customers late night and there was also an event at Wawa. Much of the trouble seems to be coming from people exiting Horizon, and Mezza Luna. The fear is the same would happen from people exiting ERV's ... Already there is a litter of bottles on the Parking Lot of the Airport Shopping Center already attributable to ERV's BYO. Top Diner had also closed late night for a time, but has now reopened for 24 hours.

The owner of a business in the 600 block of E. Cedar broke up a fight and some of the participants came back the next day and beat him up and told him to stay out.

We have again gotten permission to do the Christmas lights at Irving Park

Meeting took place at the home of Mr. Wilburn, who runs the Midway Manor neighborhood yard sale—Christine Breslin and Dennis went to meet with him and get ideas on what we need to do. We will do ours on Saturday, September 17th—one week after the Midway Manor sale. We will be able to advertise ours at theirs.

Ways were discussed in which people who don't want to sell anything could participate, possibly by making baked goods or coffee for sale. We may advertise this as a garage sale and craft sale. Another possibility would be to have a non-profit set up (blood pressure check, whatever). We can advertise free on the RCN and Service Electric channels (4 and 2). We already have an internet web site that people could refer to and can put it on Facebook.

The rain date will be the following day. The advertising will note that we will not allow “early birds.” MM suggests that we ask for donations if locals set up sales in their own yards across from the park.

The City of Allentown has a season-by-season guide of coming events. Possibly we could get into that. There is also a weekly calendar in the paper. We might also put fliers at area businesses for people to sign up to sell things. We might want to give a discount for early signup, with more due if paid on the date of the sale. Another idea is that we arrange for a charity to pick up unsold items after the sale.

Dennis noted that Crime detection cameras are now in the basketball court area and also the tennis court area.

Dennis got a call from the city’s Environmental Advisory Committee to ask what our preference is to do with the Allentown State Hospital property. We told them that we are still in favor of a veteran’s facility, but Dennis noted that some of our members who are most familiar with this situation are in the yard care business and may not come to our meetings over the summer.

The building that is being built on the property (near Oswego Street) is a clinic for pre-school children and child care. There is an area nearby that can be used for baseball or soccer practice. The East Side Youth Center soccer organizations have been told that there will be three soccer fields on the property starting in fall, set for different age groups. Dennis said that this would be temporary, as nothing has been deeded over from the state.

There is a dispute over use between the soccer teams and baseball teams. Football would also like a field. In any event there will be no lights, due to neighbor objections.

As to the use of the facility, the Department of Public Welfare is out of the place but it is unclear what will replace them. The buildings are not owned by DPW, but by the General Services office of the state. Dennis noted that the Allentown Economic and Industrial Development Authority which had deed to the 29 acres, seems to be in default since no plan was written by the deadline. As such, the state could pull the land back from ACIDA if they wished. Dennis also told the Environmental Advisory people that the area near River Road should be protected for wildlife.

Reminder: Saturday, June 4th, the Allentown Band will be at Midway Manor, June 25th the Marine Band will be at Midway Manor, and August 6th the Marine Band will be in Irving Park.

June 14th the Allentown Band will be at West Park at 7 p.m., following a flag-raising earlier that day at the county center. Dennis proceeded to give a history lesson on the origins of Flag Day.

Dave Schell presented the two Mini-Grant Applications that he received from the Dieruff counseling office for Emily Williamson and Jennifer Carrillo. The group looked over the applications and it was moved and seconded to approve the applications. The motion carried without opposition.

Schell noted that he would not be present at next month's meeting since he will be teaching a class.

Member Janice Bowman wanted to speak on the matter of waste in the school district, given the increase in school taxes.

One area is that of tuition reimbursement—came about through the No Child Left Behind when the schools did not meet the PSSA standards. Teachers can get up to nine credits paid for. Administrators can get up to \$4000. We have 29 educators who she cannot find on the employment lists. Two administrators have gone over the amount by \$500 or more. Thirty-six teachers have used at least 18 credits, which will provide them with an increase, despite the supposed pay freeze.

This is going on while people are being laid off. Counselors and nurses are also abusing this. There is also a proposal to qualify a child who has difficulty learning English as special education, so they can obtain an extra \$18,000 in subsidy. This should be done in the English as a Second Language (ESL).

It was moved and seconded to put this information in a letter from the Association to the Superintendent of Schools asking for an explanation of these matters. The motion was approved without objection.

It was moved and seconded to adjourn at 8:21 p.m. Motion passed

Respectfully,

David A. Schell, Secretary

| "

Remaining 2011 City of Allentown Summer Concert Series in East Allentown ... Please attend this concert -----

Saturday August 6, 2011 --- Marine Band --- 7:00 PM --- Irving Park

The East Allentown- Rittersville Neighborhood Association is pleased to announce the following recipients of its annual EARN Mini Grants for the 2010 - 2011 school yearWe congratulate: 1) Jennifer Carrillo, 841 N. LaCrosse Street and 2) Emily Williamson of 317 S. Bradford Street for being recipients of our mini-scholarship awards for 2011. Their record at Dieruff High School was most impressive, academically and otherwise. Carrillo has noted an intent to enroll at East Stroudsburg University in the fall and Williamson expressed an interest in Cedar Crest College ... Each recipient received a \$200 award from EARN

East Allentown Rittersville Neighborhood Will hold its 1st Community Yard Sale at Irving Park on Constitution Day September 17, 2011 .. Be part of it and Become part of Planning for this special event

With pride the Allentown Flag Day Association continued this year its tradition of sponsoring a flag day essay contest in the Middle Schools of the School District of Allentown ... On June 14, 2011 the top entrants of this essay contest were honored at the Flag Day association's annual Great Allentown Band concert held indoors at William Allen High School due to a rain storm. The top entrants were asked to read their essays to the audience and received a monetary reward and a certificate of merit from the association ...

The Flag of the United States of America was born almost a year after the Declaration of Independence. The Stars and Stripes to which we pledge allegiance was authorized on June 14, 1777. Just as we celebrate the birth of U.S independence on July 4th each year, the people of our Nation celebrate the birth of our Flag every year on June 14th. That special holiday is called: FLAG DAY ... The Flag was defined by the Second Continental Congress, meeting at Philadelphia on June 14, 1777 in a resolution that read:"Resolved, that the flag of the United States be thirteen stripes, alternate red and white; that the union be thirteen stars, white in a blue field representing a new constellation." ... Of course, we know our flag now has 50 stars, after Congress determined that:"On the admission of a new State into the union one star shall be added to the union of the flag, and such addition shall take effect on the fourth day of July then next succeeding such admission." The UNION of the flag is the field of blue containing the 50 stars.... The length of the flag is called the FLY and its height from top to bottom is called the HOIST...The pole on which the flag is mounted is called the STAFF, the top of which is the PEAK, and if the flag is attached to the staff with a rope, that rope is called the HALYARD.

Entrants in the Allentown Flag Day Association Essay Contest had to address the following question: What event or events in American History would make you want to wave or honor the American flag?

Dennis Pearson coordinated the Essay Contest for the Allentown Flag Day Association and Carol Hagenbach , Allentown School District Director of Literacy facilitated the Essay Contest in the School District. Overall, the Association received middle 56 entrants with students from Harrison Morton Middle School, Trexler Middle School and South Mountain Middle School participating ... We received no entrants from Raub Middle School.

The following students in the opinion of the Board of the Allentown Flag Day Association answered the Essay

question in the best way and merited recognition.

1st Prize --- Wynonna Wo , Trexler Middle School --- Sponsoring Teacher --- Mr. Newhard

For essay asserting that the American Military use of Native American code talkers in WWI and WWII was the most significant event in American history that brings meaning to the American flag

2nd Prize (--- Kayla Lozada, Harrison Morton Middle School --- Sponsoring Teacher --- Mrs. Jepson

For essay asserting that many instances in American history have produced what the American flag represents ... But locally the Allentown public including Harrison Morton came together to help those devastated by the aftermath of a gas explosion in downtown Allentown.

3rd Prize --- Luis Acevedo, Harrison Morton Middle School Sponsoring teacher --- Mrs. Levan

For essay describing flag ceremony that taught us the meaning of the flag. The ceremony taught us to respect the flag and all that it symbolizes even during a ceremony the proscribed procedures for retiring the flag was performed.

NOTES 26 --- (Neighbors of the East Side) --- Disbands

Hilda Trump the 80 plus leader of NOTES 26 has held court at St. Luke's Lutheran Church on Carlisle Street for a few years since the death of the former leader of NOTES 26 ... Regularly Police Officers and Candidates for Office made an appearance there --- Most recently Justin Simons - the successful Republican Candidate for State Representative of

the 131st Legislative district ... The Feisty Mrs. Trump was not afraid to talk up City Officials who attended her meetings including Mayor Edward Pawlowski ... In 2013 she was planning her own run for Mayor ... Why not --- If Frank Concannon could run for City Council she certainly could run for Mayor ... But as it happened there has been a steep drop off in attendance for NOTES 26 and the remaining members have decided to call it a day ... But Mrs. Trump may still decide to run for Mayor even in a wheelchair if she has to. Why not --- if worked for Franklin D. Roosevelt ... EARN welcomes all former NOTES 26 members to our meetings ... Why not --- We always considered them members of EARN even while attending NOTES 26 meetings

Established in 1976, EARN wants your input and ideas. If you live, operate a business, or simply have a vested interest in Allentown's East Side, please come!

- ✓ **Know what is happening in your neighborhood and be a part of the flow of information – have your voice heard.**
- ✓ **Have a direct communication link with local government officials and other influential groups.**
- ✓ **Help to preserve and improve East Allentown.**
- ✓ **Plan social activities for your neighborhood.**

Current Issues we have been dealing with now and in the past:

- **Safety concerns on Hanover Avenue**

- **Pending closing of the Allentown State Hospital and future reuse of the land.**
- **East Allentown Fire Station Reconstruction or Relocation**
- **Keck Park Rehabilitation**
- **Allentown Women's Center**
- **Erv's Gentlemen's Club Zoning Issue**
- **Women's Health Center**

Let's get together, share our ideas, thoughts, and feelings and work cooperatively to make Allentown's east side a better place to live.

All neighborhood residents and guests are welcome ... This is your neighborhood ... Help it be a strong one ... Get Involved ... Be part of the adventure ... Be a Frontiersman for the neighborhood.

Have any questions? Contact: Dennis L. Pearson, President 610-434-1229 dpearson@enter.net

Or visit EARN on the web:

The payment of dues or membership fees is not required for being a member in good standing in EARN ... However, your voluntary contributions are needed to support special neighborhood operations for 2011...Except for occasional government support for newsletters we don't receive government grants.

Fun Ideas for a Neighborhood Day:

Block party ; Welcome new neighbors; Yard sale; Book exchange; Create a neighborhood babysitters list; Talent show; Art show ; Kids performance or play; Battle of the Bands ; Karaoke party; Outdoor movie screening; Arts and crafts festival; Neighborhood walking tour; Nature walking tour; Make a photo scrapbook or video of your

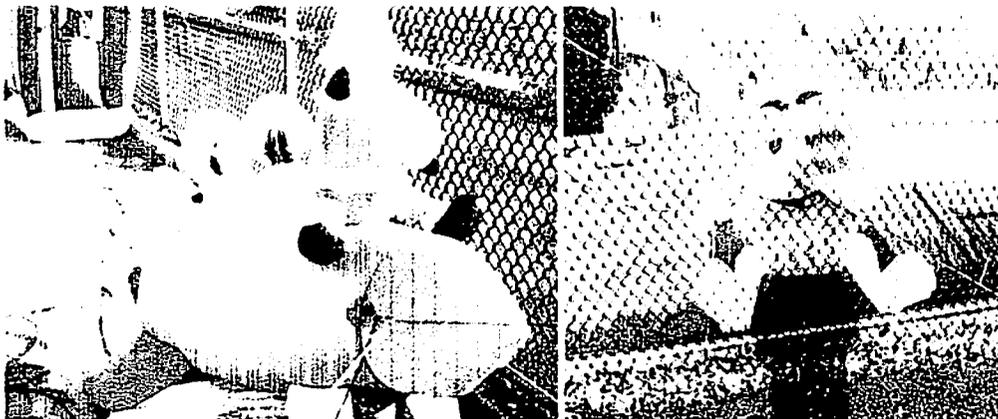
neighborhood (and send or email it to NND!) ; Share resources (for example, extra produce from garden, tool sharing); Kite flying; Blood drive; Food drive; Bake sale for charity; Assemble "Party Buckets" with bubbles, sidewalk chalk, etc.; Provide a basket of kids' books with a neighborhood theme

Activities for 2011

- Project Hass Christmas display
- Project Academia mini-grant for High School seniors
- Project Star Gazer Science Elementary/Secondary Fair
- Neighborhood Yard Sale/Neighborhood Day

Any amount you can give will be helpful in accomplishing these missions ... Send donations to EARN, P.O. Box 1136, Allentown, PA. 18105

EARN operates in a geographical territory comprising The 14th and 15th wards of Allentown * The membership of this neighborhood association is open to any individual resident, property owner, business, professional, industrialists, or representatives of non-profit organizations located within the neighborhood boundaries**



Keep the dream of the new Frontier alive