



OCTOBER 2013

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**NEXT MEETING:**  
Saturday October 19 10 am.  
Allentown Library  
Candidates

## **Gail Struss is New Police Captain for LANA**

We were pleased to meet Allentown Police Captain Gail Struss at our September LANA meeting.

Captain Struss has been promoted to serve as the West End PSA, which includes the LANA neighborhood. Her office is at the patrol center at 10th and Hamilton. The telephone for that office is 610-437-7713.

Captain Struss is familiar with our neighborhood, having served previously as Resource Officer for Raub Middle School.

Our past PSA Captain, Keith Morris, has been transferred to Criminal Investigations and we wish him well.

## **New Polling Place**

If you are a resident of Voting District 13-2, living on the south side of Union Street between 12<sup>th</sup> and 15<sup>th</sup> Streets in the LANA neighborhood, you voted most recently at Episcopal House and before that at Lincoln School.

Now you will find a new election place in November: The Allentown Public Library. That is the same place our neighbors on the north side of Union Street vote.

## **Candidates to Speak October 19**

At our Saturday, October 19 meeting, we are inviting candidates to speak to us about why they are running. The contested local races should be interesting. These include District Justice for the north side of Hamilton; Mayor, and County Executive. Join us!

### Contacts

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**CLIP & SAVE IMPORTANT PHONE NUMBERS**  
**\*GUARDE ESTOS NÚMEROS IMPORTANTES\***

Police/Fire/Ambulance	911
Police: Non-Emergency	610-437-7751
Loud Music/Noise/Working on Cars	610-437-7751
Chief MacLean	610-437-7777
Police: Vice Unit	610-437-7626
Gang Tip Line	610-439-5934
Crime Tip Line	610-439-5911
Mayor Ed Pawlowski	610-437-7546
Zoning Office	610-437-7630
Code Enforcement/Problem Properties	610-437-7695
Housing/Rentals	610-437-7697
- (Infestations, no heat/water)	
Street light out	610-437-7735
Recycling, trash & garbage	610-437-8729
-Special Operator (after 7 p.m.)	610-437-7571
Graffiti (to request removal)	610-437-8729
Tall Grass & Weeds	610-437-8729
Shopping cart pick up	610-437-8729
Streets	610-437-7638
Animal Control	610-437-7535
Animal abuse/neglect	610-797-1205
Overgrown shrubs	610-437-7589
Uncleared sidewalks	610-437-7589
Allentown Parking Authority	610-437-3366

[www.AllentownPA.Gov](http://www.AllentownPA.Gov)

**Planting Trees and Clear Cutting**

More than 20 residents came out for the September 16 LANA meeting to talk about planting trees in our neighborhood, and also to express our concerns about the clear cutting along Martin Luther King Jr. Drive.

John Mikowyczek, Director of Parks and Recreation, Richard Howell, Forester, and Richard Holtzman, Parks Director, gave us great advice about tree planting. "We can't buy you trees – but we can help you get them at a very good price and will provide oversight in planting. Recently, we have helped with the planting of 100 trees in the West End; along 7<sup>th</sup> Street; and in Jordan Heights. The first two years after planting are critical to tree's success. They must be watered. Our success rate has been nearly 80%." The City has a list of the types of trees that are good for our neighborhood. They will also come look at your property to give you more specific advice.

To get trees, residents need to identify the places where a tree could be planted, and get letters of support from the property owners. The Parks Department will work with building tree wells in the sidewalks, removing obstacles such as dead roots and trunks, and arrange for watering. Owners **must** be involved and committed or the project will fail.

The best time for planting is either spring (around Arbor Day), or early fall. As a neighborhood we should see what support we can secure from owners of property along Hamilton Street and other streets. We should also reach out to businesses for support to buy trees.

We also learned more about the necessary clear cutting along Martin Luther King Jr Drive. Last year's Superstorm Sandy, and the October snow storm the year before, caused fallen trees and numerous power outages, including to the Water Treatment plant on MLK, and the City's Communication Center. The City's water and communications systems came close to being in serious jeopardy with these outages.

The City contracted to cut the trees back 100 feet from MLK. Some cleaning up is still needed. After that, the site will be left alone, but monitored until next year to identify what grows back. Invasive species will be eradicated. Preference is to limit the regrowth to bushes and shrubs so that the City does not have to come back in 50 years and cut again.

Our neighborhood's input is welcomed. There are opportunities for us to take part in plantings in coming years.

**Upcoming LANA Meetings**

- Saturday, October 19, 10 a.m.
- Monday November 18, 6:30 p.m.
- (December holiday luncheon)