

Neighborhood News

September Meeting Highlights

Gretchen Krasley ran the meeting. State Representative Jennifer Mann joined us and presented a United States flag to Pastor Reigle of Christ E. C. Church where we hold our meetings. The flag has special significance because it was flown over the State Capitol. Tom Mulligan reported on neighborhood patrol issues. Gretchen Krasley got neighbor input about locations for the upcoming walk with city officials. Also on hand was Officer Tim Yanders, Crime Prevention officer for the Allentown Police Department. Our main speaker, Officer Yanders presented a wealth of information and recommendations about Home Safety and Security:

Doors, keys, locks - replace keys/locks in new apartments; purchase keys protected from duplication; are the doors solid wood or metal; look for doors that fit tightly in jam and have hinges inside; see that there is a wide angle peep hole

Shrubs, trees, tools - prune back shrubs near house; choose dwarf shrub varieties; prune low branches that can act as a ladder for thieves; keep your yard well maintained (thieves target residences in disrepair); store tools (ladders, hammers, etc.) in padlocked shed

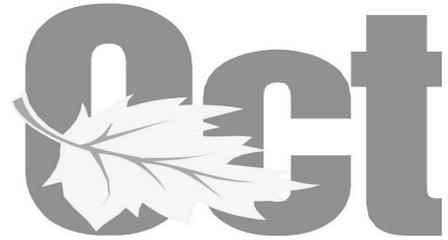
Alarms, cameras, external lighting, house features - install an alarm for the first floor and motion detectors for upper floors; choose an alarm company that monitors alarms locally, has excellent references, and has an audible alarm outside your home; consider installing surveillance cameras with auxiliary channels that allow remote monitoring; use external lights with dusk to dawn timers; have house numbers clearly displayed on the front and rear (or garage)

Neighborhood, street - get or stay involved in your neighborhood watch group; report broken/burned out street lights (each light pole has a number on it) to the police non-emergency number (610 437-7751); report abandoned cars to police non-emergency number; fix broken windows as soon as possible; call non-emergency number or Graffiti Busters (610 437-8729) at the first sign of graffiti (take a digital picture if it's safe to help police with identification)

Your valuables - create or update an inventory of valuables including a digital picture, model and serial numbers; store a copy (hard copy or CD) in your safe deposit box and give another to your homeowner's/renter's insurance agent; insist that the replacement value of valuables in your insurance policy is 100% or higher; engrave your driver's/operator's license number (not your SSN!) on all valuables; rent an engraver from Officer Yanders' office (610 437-7719) and get an Operation ID decal to display on your home

Guns - take a gun safety course; record model/serial numbers (add to household inventory); store guns in a safe, bolted and set in concrete

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Announcing:

A Walk with City Officials
Wednesday, October 13
6:00 -7:00 pm

Meet at Christ E.C. Church parking lot and tour the neighborhood with representatives from the Mayor's office and other city departments. Following the walk, we'll have our regular meeting at 7:00 pm

Muhlenberg Area Community Watch meets the 2nd Wednesday of each month at 7:00 P.M. at Christ E. C. Church, 2135 Tilghman St.

We invite residents of any neighborhood in the city to join us!

Future Meetings:
Wednesday, November 10
Wednesday, December 8



Is there a house for sale in your neighborhood? Would you like the owner/realtor to know about the Student Overlay Guidelines? Call/email Al and Ev Habecker at 610-432-8032/ aehabecker@msn.com. Because of their tireless efforts to notify realtors of the guidelines, our neighborhood retains its residential character. Five letters were sent to owners/realtors in August alone!

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Phone: 610-434-1652

<http://www.christecchurch.com>

Sunday School ~ 9:15 a.m.

Worship ~ 10:30 a.m.

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When you're away - use timers on lights and a radio; reset the timers frequently to prevent an observable pattern; leave shades and drapes open; when you return home, don't enter if you notice a broken window, torn screen or door ajar (call 9-1-1)

Citizens Helping Eliminate Crime

CHEC✓MATE

CHEC-Mate, designed by the Allentown Police Department gives Allentown residents a way of calling the police anonymously to report suspicious activity in their neighborhoods. Request a CHEC-Mate card by calling 610-437-7522 or attending one of our meetings. In 4-6 weeks you will receive your card with a number assigned specifically to you. When call the communications center, you give only your CHEC-MATE number on the card. CHEC-Mate is a confidential way of reporting crime to help make your neighborhood safer! Take extra care to protect yourself, your family and your property. Please report suspicious people, vehicles, or activity to the police. The police non-emergency number is 610 437-7751. In an emergency call 911.

Tip for calling 9-1-1

If you hear an intruder in your home, stay where you are and call 9-1-1. You don't have to say anything, just leave the line open and don't hang up. This works with land lines and cell phones alike.

MAC Contact Information:

Secretary/Treasurer: Chris Gabellini 610- 439-3610,
gabellinidesign@choiceonemail.com

Newsletter Circulation: Al Habecker, Gretchen Krasley, Lud Schlecht

Newsletter Publication/Advertising: Gretchen Krasley
610 821-7716, Gretchenkrasley@aol.com

Patrol of Neighborhood :

Tom Mulligan 610 433-1512

Conducting meetings: Rotating responsibility

Presidents' Council meetings: Tom Burke 610 432-4079

Real Estate Sales Letters: Al and Ev Habecker 610-432-8032, aehabecker@msn.com