



Old Town News

The newsletter of Old Allentown Preservation Association

JUL/SEPT 2009

The mission of Old Allentown Preservation Association is to preserve and foster pride in our neighborhood through communication, education and social interaction. Our goal is to promote urban living, diversity and Allentown's architectural legacy and heritage.

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Old Town News is published quarterly. The deadline for submissions for the next edition is October 10. *Old Town News* reserves the right to edit submissions. Please send materials to: oldallentown@enter.net. Articles may be reprinted.

Old Town News is printed courtesy of The City of Allentown.

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An elm street COMMUNITY

33rd Annual Old Allentown House Tour Saturday, October 3, 2009, 10AM to 4PM

House Tour Highlights...

THE 33RD ANNUAL OAPA HOUSE TOUR is a wonderful sampling of 12 properties in three neighborhoods—Old Fairgrounds, Seventh Street and (of course!) Old Allentown—plus the former Trexler Mansion on Hamilton Street. You'll find unusually imaginative decor among the several properties in our district, including the landscape architect's studio of our president, Christian Brown. Also, you don't want to miss the Old Fairgrounds Neighborhood home of a true old house buff on Sixth Street and the turreted brownstone on Seventh, once a doctor's mansion. You'll also get to tour handsome Dubbs Church and hear its carillon.

Check out the properties displaying orange balloons! To celebrate completing our 100th façade restoration project this past spring (424 N. 8th St.) and to highlight the impact of our program, please take a moment or two on tour day to admire OAPA's past façade restoration projects—as indicated by the orange balloons. Some of these restorations date back to the beginning of our façade program in the early 1990s, and they still look great!

Stop by the Old Allentown office for our raffle. Bid on certificates for dining or services and know that the price will be donated to OAPA for upcoming projects.

Animal lovers, stop by the pocket park at Eighth and Gordon to meet members of Linda's Greyhound Rescue. The Allentown-based non-profit will have adoption information and greyhounds available for adoption at the park. Even if you aren't thinking about a new pet, you'll enjoy the encounter with these gentle, beautiful dogs.

Free Trolley Ride—A huge THANK YOU to Pennrose Properties, LLC for again sponsoring two trolleys for the convenience of our House Tour visitors. The trolley ride is FREE and will make it easy to visit all locations on this year's tour.

Adorn your home with the beautiful oil painting created for this year's Old Allentown House Tour image...

Joseph Skrapits has captured the feeling of fall in Old Allentown for our 2009 tour book cover and poster. His streetscape shows a view looking south in the 300 block of North Eighth Street.

Now celebrating our 33rd year!



The original painting will be on display in the OAPA office. Tour goers are invited to place bids for the painting in a Silent Auction that will conclude at 4PM on tour day.

Both a writer and a painter, Joe has been a resident of Old Allentown since 1986. Over the years the neighborhood has often been the subject of his Impressionist-inspired paintings. Joe exhibits his work regularly at the Chestnut Hill Gallery in Philadelphia. On November 7 he will be a featured artist at the Allentown Art Museum's *Cocktails and Collecting* fundraising event.

TICKET LOCATIONS

ALLENTOWN

Allentown Brew Works
814 W. Hamilton St.

C. Leslie Smith
3100 W. Tilghman St.

Hardware Variety Plus
139 N. 7th St.

OAPA Office
147 N. 10th St.

Phoebe Floral
2102 W. Hamilton St.

Syb's West End Deli
2151 Liberty St.

Tickets are \$15 in advance at the above locations and \$20 on the day of the tour. Day-of-tour tickets are available only at the OAPA office. For updates, visit our web site www.oapa.org

BETHLEHEM

Home and Planet
25 E. 3rd St.

The Moravian Book Shop
428 Main St.

EMMAUS

Spotted Dog Barkery
338 Main St.

OVER THE AIRWAYS...

WDIY (88.1 FM): Thursday, September 24th @ 6PM. OAPA & the House Tour are the focus of a 30-minute radio interview on *Lehigh Valley Discourse*. Tune in for some sneak peak tidbits about the Tour.

Check out Old Allentown on Facebook! Become OAPA's friend!

Are You Eligible for Local, State, Federal & Private Benefits?

CONTACT State Representative Jennifer Mann's office (610-821-5577) for information about the Benefits Check Up program. This free and confidential service provided through the United Way of the Greater Lehigh Valley helps citizens learn about and apply for federal and non-profit programs for which you may be eligible, such as: prescription drug discounts; nutrition programs and food stamps; property tax and rent rebate programs; cash and housing assistance; home energy assistance; legal services; health-care programs; employment programs; and many other programs and services.

Furthermore, staff can assist area residents with all state-related programs, including the Property Tax/Rent Rebate Program, PACE/PACENET applications and Reduced Vehicle Registration renewals.



Tree Well Surrounds In Progress

OAPA president Christian Brown accepts a check for the tree well surrounds from Miriam Huertas. This \$2000 grant was given to OAPA by the Greater Lehigh Valley Chamber of Commerce Foundation.

Join/Renew Now!

Old Allentown Preservation Association Application Jan. 1, 2009 – Dec. 31, 2009

Please print or type:

Name: _____ Business/Corporation: _____

Address: _____ City: _____ State: _____ ZIP: _____

Home Telephone: _____ E-Mail Address: _____

(used to distribute the newsletter and to update Members on OAPA events – confidential)

Please indicate membership status (check one): Renewing Member New Member (welcome!)

Please indicate your level of membership (check one): Individual \$25/yr Family/Household \$40/yr
 Student/Sr. Citizen \$15/yr Business \$80/yr

Amount Enclosed: \$ _____

Please make checks payable to Old Allentown Preservation Association, Inc.
Mail check with completed application to:
OAPA, 147 North Tenth Street, Allentown, PA 18102

The success and strength of OAPA has always been the individuals who make up the membership and those who support our efforts. If you are interested in getting involved or wish to know more about the organization, please indicate below:

Contact me about an Elm Street Committee Other _____

Warm Welcome...

TWENTY-FIVE MUHLENBERG COLLEGE VISITORS will be in the Old Allentown Historic District Saturday, September 12th from 11AM to 1:30PM.

Muhlenberg College has partnered with inner-city organizations to provide a tour of the 1st Ward and Center City to Muhlenberg College students and faculty. Community leaders will escort the group on a mini-walking tour of our neighborhoods, where they will learn about the history of the neighborhood and hear about everyday experiences from residents etc.

OAPA UPCOMING EVENTS

OAPA Progressive Dinner | Saturday, September 12, 2009, 6–10pm
Members free + covered dish. Non-members \$10 plus a covered dish.

Pumpkin Painting | Saturday, October 10, 2009 11am–2pm
OAPA office, 147 N 10th St.
This event will feature pumpkin painting and spooky treats.

OAPA Holiday Party | Saturday, December 5, 6pm – 10pm
Location TBD. Members bring a covered dish or beverage to share.
Paid OAPA Members—free, Guest fee: \$10.00

CITY CONTACTS

Zoning – 610.437.7649

Code Enforcement – 610.437.7690

Noise – Allentown Police
610.437.7751

Old Town Neighborhood Watch
610.821.9638

HARB – 610.437.7613

**Neighborhood Housing
Services (NHS)**
610.437.4571

**Recycling/Trash/SWEEP/Graffiti/
High Grass & Weeds**
610.437.8729

Shopping Cart Pick-up
800.244.2278

Preserving the Past to Brighten the Future

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