

Neighborhood News

March Meeting Highlights

Gretchen Krasley ran the meeting. Allentown Police Service Area II Captain Steven Vangelo attended the meeting. While the number of crimes in our area are somewhat lower, officers advise us to remain vigilant. They want us to be aware of continued crimes of opportunity. We are advised to lock doors at all times, set alarms if we have them, and lock cars after taking valuable items such as laptops and phones with us. If you are expecting a package and you know you won't be home when it's delivered, ask a neighbor to take care of it for you. Another tip is to secure windows with air conditioners, another entry point for thieves. If you can invest in a light with a motion sensor, it is an added deterrent to crime. We are all reminded not to hesitate to call the non-emergency number (610 437-7751) to report any suspicious activity.



Our next meeting:
Wednesday, April 13
7:00 P.M

Guest Speakers
Tamara Dolan
George Grazer
of the Allentown Parking Authority

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, May 11
Wednesday, June 8

MAC Contact Information:

Secretary/Treasurer:

Dick Snyder 610 437-2698,
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Newsletter Circulation:

Gretchen Krasley, Lud Schlecht

Newsletter Publication:

Gretchen Krasley
610 821-7716,
Gretchenkrasley@gmail.com

Conducting meetings: Rotating responsibility

Presidents' Council meetings: Tom Burke 610 432-4079

Real Estate Sales Letters: Gretchen Krasley 610 821-7716, Gretchenkrasley@gmail.com

Vicky Kistler, Director of the Allentown Health Bureau Lead Poisoning: Issues and Solutions

Ms. Kistler presented facts about lead levels in the city of Allentown. Homes built before 1978 contain lead. Since that time lead in paint has been banned. Most lead poisoning is from ingestion. Layers of lead paint beneath non-lead paint on walls and woodwork in homes are a problem only when there are holes put in walls for hanging pictures and other objects. The paint dust that escapes those holes falls to the floor and if not removed, swept or cleaned, can get into the mouths of very young children and become a problem. In young children (1-2 years old), elevated lead levels can cause developmental delays. The Center for Disease Control suggests that ingesting lead can cause a one to two-point loss in IQ. In a sample of two thousand four hundred children of the twelve thousand children under the age of seven in Allentown who were tested for lead levels, nineteen were found to have levels requiring action. Medical remediation is hard on children's internal organs. Environmental remediation includes filling holes in walls and repainting. Diets which include calcium and iron reduce young children's craving of lead paint chips/dust which have a sweet taste. A solution to this problem might be universal testing of young children at ages 1 and 2, and again before age 7. Legislation that would mandate such testing would have to be accompanied with funding to implement the remediation needed.

In other health news, Ms. Kistler announced that there will be a drug take back event on April 30th at the Giant Market on Emmaus Avenue and the Supremo Market on 7th Street. Neighbors are still invited to use the drug return bin at the Police Station at 10th and Hamilton Streets. The lobby is open 24/7/365. Remove prescription labels or blacken your name before depositing in the bin. She invited us to come to a presentation on Herion and Opium addiction at City Hall on March 14th.

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.

Crime Reports

Our Community Watch receives a crime report of activity in our area from the Allentown Police Department. The reports give the date, location, and type of incident. Nuisance crimes like carrying open alcohol or underage drinking do not appear on this list. Neighbors have requested that this information be included in the newsletter.

At the time of printing, recent crime reports weren't available. Please look for an update in an upcoming newsletter.

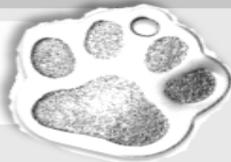
The 10th Great Allentown Cleanup will take place Saturday April 23, 2016.

This is a great opportunity to reconnect with your neighbors.



License Your Dog. It's the Law!

2016 Annual Dog Licenses may be obtained at the following locations:



Lehigh County Humane Society
610 Dixon Street
Allentown, PA 18103 / Ph# 610.797.1205

Allentown Bureau of Recycling & Solid Waste
1400 Martin Luther King, Jr. Drive
Allentown, PA 18102 / Ph# 610.437.7535

Lehigh County Fiscal Office
(Lifetime and Duplicate Licenses only)
17 S. 17th Street, Room 119
Allentown, PA 18101 / Ph# 610.782.3112

We Need Newsletter Carriers

Want to get more exercise? There's a way to do that and help the neighborhood at the same time. Consider delivering our newsletter. Most of our routes take less than an hour each month. If you're interested, call Gretchen Krasley (610-821-7716).



Phone Numbers to Know

City Information Desk 610 439-5999
Code Enforcement 610 437-7661
Code Enforcement Rental Licensing 610 437-7694.
Community Problems (neighbor disputes) 610 437-7773
Crime Prevention Unit 610 437-7719
Emergency Medical Services (paramedics) 610 437-7531
Emergency Medical Services (non-emergency) 610 437-7751
Garbage Complaints 610 437-8729
Graffiti Busters 610 437-8729
Graffiti in Progress 9-1-1
Housing Compliance/Inspections 610 437-7697
Leaf Pickup 610 437-7587
Police Calls (non-emergency) 610 437-7751*
Rental Unit Inspections 610 437-7695
Sewer Back-up 610 437 7639
Sewer Emergencies after hours 610 437-7751
State Representative Michael Schlossberg 610 821-5577
SWEEP (Bureau of Recycling and Solid Waste) 610 437-8729
Weeds/Grass Overgrowth 610 437-8729
Yard Waste Recycling 610 437-8729
Zoning 610 437-7630

*When calling 610 437-7751, remember that anything that impairs the peace, dignity, and decorum of the neighborhood is considered "disruptive conduct."

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.

New Neighbor Tip Sheet

We have a new up to date tip sheet with area guidelines about trash, parking, street cleaning, property maintenance, noise, and neighborhood resources. Maybe you'd like one even if you've lived here for a long time. Just ask for a copy via email (Gretchenkrasley@gmail.com).

