

# EARN FRONTIER (October 20, 2015)



**EAST ALLENTOWN RITERSVILLE  
NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION**  
P.O. BOX 1136, ALLENTOWN, PENNA. 18105

**Web Site:** <http://pearson4pa133.com/>

**NEIGHBORHOOD PRESIDENT and EDITOR DENNIS L. Pearson**

**TEL. # (610) 434-1229...EMAIL: [dpearson@enter.net](mailto:dpearson@enter.net)**

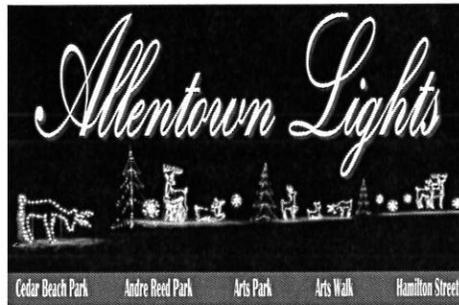


## Welcome to the EARN Frontier

Please Note --- Regularly Scheduled Neighborhood Meetings(Caucus) are held on the Third Monday of the Month at 7:00 PM ... The Location for our meetings is the St. Peter's Evangelical Lutheran Church located at 1933 Hanover Avenue...

- Next 2 Neighborhood Meetings
- Monday, November 16, 2015
- Monday, December 21, 2015
- St. Peter's Evangelical Lutheran Church
- 1933 Hanover Avenue, Allentown PA 18109
- 
- **We are the Lookout for the Neighborhood**
- 
- President - Dennis L. Pearson
- Vice President - Robert R. Pandaleon
- Secretary - David Schell
- Treasury - Robert Jacoby

- **ALLENTOWN LIGHTS PRESENTS FUNDRAISING OPPORTUNITY**



- The City of Allentown is preparing for its newest holiday program, “Allentown Lights.” As you may or may not have heard the Lights in the Parkway program is not possible for the 2015 season due to safety concerns with construction on the retaining wall in the Lehigh Parkway. As a result, the tradition and spirit of Lights in the Parkway has been transferred to the Allentown Lights program, which will still provide countless hours of family fun and will still support non-profit volunteer groups throughout the city. Allentown Lights will showcase several locations throughout the city including light displays, concerts, movies and synthetic ice skating rink events.

- Volunteer fundraising groups like EARN have the opportunity to operate the ice skate rental service that will be at the Andre Reed Park synthetic ice skating rink as part of the Allentown Lights event. Allentown Lights will run from Saturday November 28<sup>th</sup> 2015 through Thursday December 31<sup>st</sup>, 2015 with the exception of Christmas Day Friday December 25<sup>th</sup>. Hours of operation are Thursdays & Fridays 5:00 to 9:00pm, Saturdays & Sundays 12:00 to 9:00pm. And EARN plans to take part in it. The reason - we are already there with our own Project Haas

Each group involved s required to have a minimum of three (3) volunteers during all shifts. Volunteers must be at least sixteen (16) years of age. Volunteers must arrive by 4:30pm (Thursdays/Fridays) 11:30am (Saturdays/Sundays) and be available until 9:30 PM. Please note that this year all proceeds from ice skate rentals will go directly to the volunteer group working on that date. The flat per shift proceeds system that was in place during Lights in the Parkway will not be in place during Allentown Lights. .

- Each group has the option to supply their own concessions during their ice skate rental shift. The logistics of such is entirely up to individual groups (menu items, pricing, equipment, and so forth.) All concessions plans must be

submitted with the sign up form to determine if a Non-Profit Temporary Food Service Establishment License would be required.

---

## PROJECT HAAS



Since 1994 the East Allentown Rittersville Neighborhood Association has successfully placed Christmas and holiday decorations in the City of Allentown Park previously known as Irving Park. But now known as Andre Reed Park ... We did it despite the shrinking amount of volunteers involved in the project ... But we must thank the PPL and its volunteers for making the center piece of the Project a reality year by year. Their responsibility being the heights of the Andre Reed Flag Pole which goes up to 75 feet while our responsibility being the bottom up to 12 to 15 feet level. Now PPL and its volunteers appear to be still with us this year but our mainstay neighborhood volunteers one achieving the age of 77 have reached the age that they need younger people to relieve them of ladder duty. And with the renaming of Irving Park we request that Dieruff High School Alumni and younger neighborhood people step forward to help us continue the project. With City and PPL approvals and paid insurance we don't want to suspend the project but may have to if we don't get help... And we are asking for it now for Project Haas

Project Haas seeks to provide late summer, fall , mid-winter activities and holiday decorations at certain East Allentown facilities from late November to Early or Mid January....

**The Goals of Project Haas**

**... Develop an annual event that would reflect positively upon East Allentown.**

**... Develop an annual event that would boost participation in the work of the East Allentown / Rittersville Neighborhood Association.**

**... Develop an annual event that would encourage homeowners, tenants and businessmen to display holiday decorations on their premises.**

**... Develop an annual event that would encourage an attitude of cooperation and trust between the neighborhood organization and the City of Allentown.**

**... Develop an annual event that would encourage an attitude of cooperation between the neighborhood organization and the Allentown School District.**

**... Develop an annual event that would raise awareness of the Neighborhood initiative programs and secure for these initiatives enough revenue to keep it on solid footing year after year with one of initiatives being our relatively new Neighborhood Science Fair Awards on the Middle School and High School levels which we expanded it to the Elementary School level at Ritter and hope to do the same at Mosser Elementary Schools**

**... Develop an annual event to foster appreciation of Astronomy and the space frontier ... In this endeavor we would like to see the Allentown School District Planetarium at Dieruff High School reopen but we also voice our support for the activities of the Lehigh Valley Astronomical Association on Lehigh Mountain and Hawk Mountain.... And we will cooperate with the Philadelphia Area Space Alliance and the National Space society or other groups of similar interest**

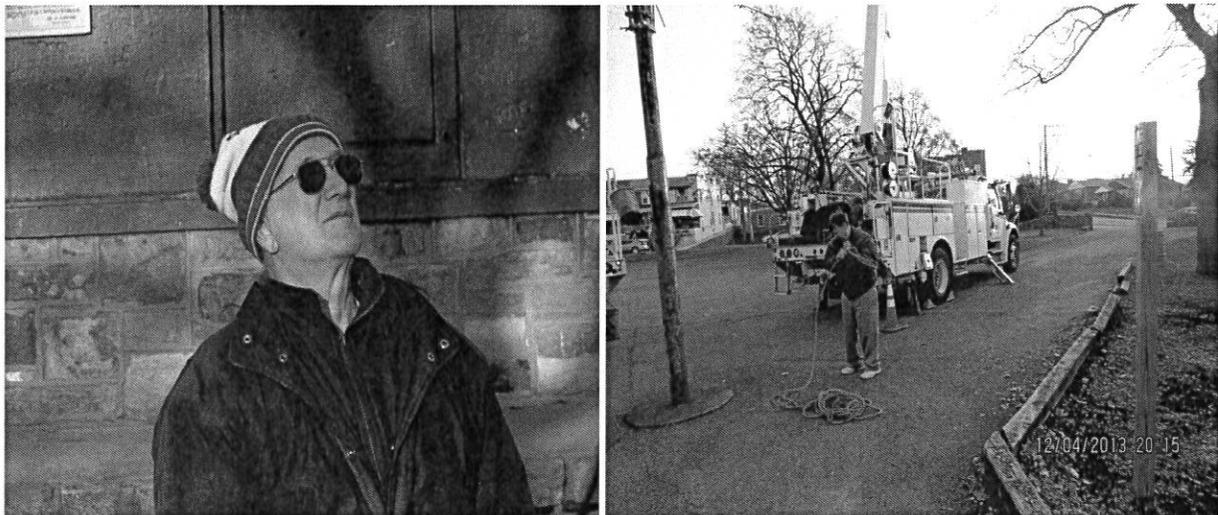
**The aim of the neighborhood association is to preserve and maintain elements of the neighborhood that contributes to a strong and healthy neighborhood environment. And to work for improvements that would promote a stronger and healthier neighborhood environment. Project Haas by promoting enhanced community cooperativeness and spirit is in agreement with neighborhood goals.**

**Project Haas is named in honor of Kenneth W. Haas.**

**Kenneth W. Haas, before he died, was an active member of our neighborhood association. It so happened that Haas took a bus trip to Wheeling, West Virginia and discovered a place called Oglebay Park which had extensive mid-winter**

holiday decorations. Mr. Haas was very impressed by the community spirit exhibited in developing the decorations. High Schools had assisted in its set-up and tear down. Haas desired to do the same in Allentown. Thus, he brought the idea up to the Board of the East Allentown / Rittersville Neighborhood Association in 1993 ... The Board authorized the officers to begin the planning process for the event but Kenneth Haas died before he could make it a reality.

Now is the time that the students at Dieruff High School and its Alumni Association take an interest in this Project and for other members of our community to renew their interest ... If this does not happen Project Haas to our regret will be no more.



---

### **RITTER ELEMENTARY SCHOOL HITS IT OUT OF THE PARK IN SCIENCE**

The Pennsylvania System of School Assessment (PSSA) is an annual assessment administered in commonwealth classrooms in grades 3 through 8, and in English Language Arts and Mathematics. Pennsylvania adopted more rigorous PA Core Standards in late 2013 and the 2015 PSSA marks the first time the assessment was fully-aligned to the standards. These new, more rigorous standards aim to better prepare students for the 21st century work force.

The Pennsylvania System of School Assessment (PSSA) is also administered in Reading, Writing and Science,

In Science the EARN neighborhood is particularly proud of the performance of Ritter students 3rd grade through 5th grade in 2015 .with 77.4% of the students taking the test meeting the standard when state-wide the total was said to be 67.8%. But In the Allentown School District we can tip our hats to students at Hiram Dodd Elementary

School and Muhlenberg Elementary which in science in 2015 knocked the ball out of the park as well.

The EARN neighborhood was proud to participate in last year's 5th Grade Science Fair at the school ...And we are proud to repeat that the following 5th grade students earned recognition for their Science Projects in the Ritter Elementary Science Project with the Gary Becker Awards

Gary Becker the retired director of the former Allentown School District Planetarium being honored for his efforts that kept the planetarium going at least up to his retirement... Our wish being that some means be found to revive the dormant planetarium

- 1st Prize ---T.J. Polaha --- Testing cucumber growth with Compost
- 2nd Prize --- Dana Bierro --- Testing how different types of chocolate with their ingredients melt.
- 3rd Prize -- Phillip Taamueh --- Which basketball shooting position gives the best shots...

Ritter's results in other tested areas were the following:

In Math the performance of Ritter students 3rd grade through 5th grade last year .was 39.7 % of the students taking the test meeting the standard when state-wide the total was said to be 39.6%.

In Language Arts the performance of Ritter students 3rd grade through 5th grade last year .was 55.6% % of the students taking the test meeting the standard when state-wide the total was said to be 60%.

In Writing the performance of Ritter 5th grade students last year .was 66.3 % of the students taking the test meeting the standard when state-wide the total was said to be 64.2%.

And finally, in Reading the performance of Ritter 5th grade students in 2014 .was 53 % of the students taking the test meeting the standard when state-wide the total was said to be 69%. The performance of Ritter 4th grade students in 2014 .was 58 % of the students taking the test meeting the standard when state-wide the total was said to be 69. And finally, The performance of Ritter 3rd grade students in 2014 .was 60 % of the students taking the test meeting the standard when state-wide the total was said to be 72%.

The testing results of Ritter's sister school on the east side Mosser was the following:

In Science the performance of Mosser students 3rd grade through 5th grade last year .was 60.0 % of the students taking the test meeting the standard when state-wide the total was said to be 67.8%.

In Math the performance of Mosser students 3rd grade through 5th grade last year .was 60.0 % of the students taking the test meeting the standard when state-wide the total was said to be 67.8%.

In Language Arts the performance of Mosser students 3rd grade through 5th grade last year .was 36.5 % of the students taking the test meeting the standard when state-wide the total was said to be 60.0%.

In Writing the performance of Mosser 5th grade students when last tested in 2012 .was 22.9 % of the students taking the test meeting the standard when state-wide the total was said to be 64.2%.

And finally, in Reading the performance of Mosser 5th grade students in 2014 .was 31 % of the students taking the test meeting the standard when state-wide the total was said to be 69%. The performance of Mosser 4th grade students in 2014 .was 51 % of the students taking the test meeting the standard when state-wide the total was said to be 69. And finally, The performance of Ritter 3rd grade students in 2014 .was 54 % of the students taking the test meeting the standard when state-wide the total was said to be 72%.



Members of the Kiwanis Club participating in the Day of Caring Project --- They were at the Lehigh Valley Children's Center on Union Boulevard in East Allentown to do daylong housekeeping for the Day Care Center ... Every Friday a volunteer from the Kiwanis Club of Allentown Northeast goes to the Center to read to the kids in the program.. Kiwanis International is a global organization of volunteers dedicated to improving the world one child and one community at a time

#### **SNOW REMOVAL FOR SENIORS:**

Help seniors during the cold winter months by clearing their driveways and walkways following snow storms. Keep them safe from slips and falls on the snow and ice, and enjoy the next snow storm in a whole new way by making a difference in the life of an elderly neighbor

**Notice TO Get Involved ... The East Allentown Rittersville Neighborhood Association (EARN) is the city-recognized neighborhood group for the 14<sup>th</sup> and 15<sup>th</sup> Wards of Allentown—all of the city east of the Lehigh River. EARN works with the Midway Manor Community Association to help improve the quality of life for our East Side residents and work with you to resolve neighborhood issues by bringing them to the attention of the proper city officials.**

**Interested neighbors are needed to serve on whatever neighborhood committees may be formed to carry out the purpose and function of the neighborhood...**



- 
- - **East Allentown Rittersville Neighborhood Association --  
MINUTES 10/19/2015**
  - 
  - **President Dennis Pearson called the regular monthly meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. on October 19, 2015 at St. Peter's Evangelical Lutheran Church.**

- 
- **Present: Four officers (President Dennis Pearson, Vice President Robert Pandaleon, Treasurer Bob Jacoby, and Secretary Dave Schell) and nine other neighbors were present at the meeting.**
- 
- **Secretary Dave Schell handed out copies of the minutes of the meeting of September 21, 2015. It was moved and seconded to approve the minutes as distributed. The motion carried.**
- 
- **Treasurer Bob Jacoby gave his report. The current account balance is \$401.03. It was moved and seconded to approve the report as read. The motion carried.**
- 
- **President Pearson reported that he had spoken to the person from PPL who will be handling our flagpole decorations in the park. This will be accomplished within a week and a half of Thanksgiving. We will be putting out the other lights early as well since the city will also be putting lights in Andre Reed Park (Irving Park) along with an artificial skating rink in lieu of the Lights in the Parkway, which will not be put in this year due to a collapsing retaining wall.**
- 
- **President Pearson asked if we could get volunteers to do this. Secretary Schell handed out a flier from the city We discussed the procedure, and Pearson will go forward with the process as it appears that we can get sufficient volunteers to handle a Thursday or Friday evening session, but will avoid the full-day Saturday or Sunday sessions. We discussed whether we would need the volunteer background checks. It appears that we will not since the absolute deadline is not until the beginning of January.**
- 
- **Pearson noted that he took steps today to incorporate the Allentown Crime Watch organization.**
- 
- **Pearson asked several new attendees to introduce themselves.**
- 
- **Secretary Schell handed out fliers for Great Allentown Summit, a neighborhood group training session. This will take place on November 1<sup>st</sup> and Schell is planning to attend.**
- 
- **Pearson reported that the police attended the recent crime watch meeting, and noted that the East Side is still the safest part of the city. Pearson noted that the crime watch is concerned about housing and rental issues.**
- 
- **Pearson noted that we will be looking for volunteers to help put up the holiday/Christmas displays. We also hope to get assistance again from students at Dieruff High School. The holiday display was first put up in 1994, and the process of**

installation has been improved. When we first started putting the tree display on the flagpole it took fifteen people—now it takes only two.

- 
- Secretary Schell passed a sheet around for new attendees to add their email addresses for our minutes and other news distribution if they wished.
- 
- A neighbor noted that now that A-Treat is not operational at their former location it is very dark behind the plant, and asked about how to get a streetlight installed, and the group discussed the process of petitioning the city.
- 
- Another neighbor noted that there is a dumping problem around the area where the former (but now burned out) “gentleman’s club” was at Hanover Avenue and Club Avenue. This neighbor also noted that there are many elderly living in that area and wondered if we could round up some volunteers to help them dig out after major snowstorms. President Pearson will put something in the newsletter asking for volunteers.
- 
- Another neighbor questioned why one of the recent newsletters had minutes in it from 2014. Pearson explained that since we had been hoping to have a newsletter mailed by the city we had not been producing the hand-delivered newsletter for some months, and we were trying to “catch up” by making sure than no minutes “reports” were missed.
- 
- A neighbor asked if there is a community block watch? Is there some way to start such an organization? Pearson said police are trying to patrol. We do not have such an organization. Midway Manor used to have such an organization, but the person heading it died. Pearson believes that a genuine “block watch” organization exists at present anywhere in the city.
- 
- President Pearson noted that last week there was an event at St. Peter’s Church about the Syrian refugees, approximately one hundred in number, who are going to be brought into this area. He noted that the UN has control of who will be arriving, not the US State Department. Pearson noted that the Syrians are coming to this area because of the significant Syrian population in the Lehigh Valley, although those who are coming do not have family ties with those already in this area. Those who do have families here have to go through a different process to immigrate.
- 
- President Pearson noted that next month is our annual election. We need at least ten members at the meeting to hold the election. He put the current officers in nomination for the following year. Additional nominations can be made next month.
- 
- Treasurer Jacoby mentioned the city’s noise ordinance. It is our understanding that the city bought a number of noise meters to check the noise level coming from properties that have produced complaints. It was further noted that a renter in that

situation can get in more trouble than a homeowner in that after three offenses the landlord may be required to evict the tenant.

○

○ A neighbor noted that the home next door to them has an uncovered swimming pool that is full of “black water.” What can be done about this? It could be reported to the city Department of Health. The group discussed whether in some cases it might be appropriate to also discuss the matter with the neighbor first.

○

○ A neighbor noted that there should be a traffic signal on Hanover Avenue either at Linden Street—the entrance to Overlook Park—or at Dauphin Street, fearing that someone will eventually be killed crossing the street. We had been told years ago that the city was waiting for the light to be installed when New England Avenue was completed to Hanover Avenue. Secretary Schell will write to the city asking again about the matter since the New England Avenue project has been stalled for years.

○

○ A neighbor asked about the drones that have been flying over the East Side recently? It appears that some of them are official government drones.

○

○ There being no further business, adjournment was moved and seconded, and the meeting adjourned at 8:18 p.m.

○

○ Respectfully,

○

○

○

○

*David A. Schell, Secretary*  
*David A. Schell, Secretary*

---

**East Allentown Rittersville Neighborhood Association**  
**MINUTES --September 21, 2015**

President Dennis Pearson called the regular monthly meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. on September 21, 2015 at St. Peter’s Evangelical Lutheran Church.

Present: Three officers (President Dennis Pearson, Treasurer Bob Jacoby, and Secretary Dave Schell) and nine other neighbors were present at the meeting, as were Captain Glen Dorney of the Allentown Police Department, Christy Alvord, Allentown Recreation & Events Coordinator, and Ce-Ce Gerlach, Allentown School District Director.

Secretary Dave Schell handed out copies of the minutes of the meeting of August 17, 2015. It was moved and seconded to approve the minutes as distributed. The motion carried.

Treasurer Bob Jacoby gave his report. The current account balance is \$551.03, but the treasurer is owed \$150 for the payment he made for our storage area, which will leave us

with \$401.03. Our holiday materials have been moved out of paid storage and are currently stored in the bathhouse at the Irving Pool. It was moved and seconded to approve the report as read. The motion carried.

Christy Alvord, the city's Recreation and Events Coordinator, reported on what will be done this year with light displays around the Christmas holiday. Due to the collapse of a wall in Lehigh Parkway in the area that the "Lights in the Parkway" are normally displayed, this display will not be set up this year. Instead, the city will have "Allentown Lights," which will set up some of the displays at Cedar Beach, the Arts Park, Andre Reed (Irving) Park, and other areas of the city, depending on how many lights are available. In the case of Irving Park, we expect to put our lights around the pool as usual and the city lights will be added in the area around the tennis courts and the corner of the park near the Andre Reed Park sign [the NW corner of the park].

In addition, a 40-foot by 80-foot skating rink will be set up in the tennis court area. The skating will be free if one brings one's own skates. The area will be staffed for some hours with skates available for a \$2 rental per pair. Various community organizations, including EARN and the Midway Manor group, will be offered the chance to staff the rental area and keep the rental fees along with pre-packaged food items if they wish to sell those as well. The food must be approved by the health department and will be limited to pre-packaged items—that is, no preparation of food such as hot dogs, etc. will be allowed. The times have not been set for staffing, but would possibly run Thursday through Sunday evenings. Alvord asked if we were interested in participating and we replied that we were and would have to see if we could round up sufficient volunteers to staff such an arrangement. We would need to determine this before the end of October, and the setup would run from about the end of November through the end of the year, possibly extending it slightly if popular.

President Pearson noted that years ago the Association used to run "Sugar Plum Village," which involved donated items to sell to children at low cost, allowing them to purchase gifts for others. EARN has been doing its light displays since 1994.

In addition, there is the possibility of a playground and pavilion for Irving Park, pending funding. Pearson noted that we are also concerned about plans for the East Side Reservoir since the tables had been removed, although they have been restored. There have also been some issues with garbage at that park.

Captain Dorney then spoke about crime trends in the city generally and the East Side particularly. There continues to be an issue with the theft of wallets and cell phones where people put these items down when checking out of stores and then forget them. Part I crimes (major crimes such as homicide, rape, robbery, and aggravated assault, among others) have been declining. They are down in all four of the city's Police Service Areas, with the greatest decline (23%) on the East Side and 21% in the city as a whole.

One type of crime that is rising is thefts of delivered packages off of porches. Criminals have been driving around following UPS or FedEx trucks, watching the deliveries, and if nobody picks up the package within a few minutes the package is grabbed off the porch. In Midway Manor, some neighbors are pulling the packages off of porches and informing the absent neighbor by email that they are holding a package for them. People can help fight this sort of crime by watching for cars following delivery trucks around and noting the make, model, and, if possible license number, and also by making themselves visible to people acting suspiciously after a delivery so that the potential thief knows that he or she has been seen.

Another crime that is rising is tire and rim thefts. This is particularly active on cold and rainy nights when the thieves expect fewer people to be about, particularly between 2 a.m. and 5 a.m. Tires and rims are taken from all models and the tires can be “stretched” to meet a demand for this type of tire, which is mounted at up to a 45-degree angle on cars. Given the angle that the tire is mounted it will wear out fast, providing a ready market, particularly through dishonest garages that obtain and sell the stolen goods. The crews that steal the tires and rims have the process “efficient” enough that the target vehicle can be jacked up, put on blocks, and stripped of the wheels within five minutes. In some cases, small cars such as the Smart Car or Honda Fit do not even require jacks for the operation, but are light enough that the thieves can lift the vehicle to steal the wheels.

Dorney noted that five new officers have just joined the force and will be trained sufficiently to be “on their own” in between ten and twenty weeks. The force is now within ten officers of full staffing.

Pearson noted that we have a Crime Watch sign that we would like to have installed at the Reservoir Park. We are currently working on permission for the installation. Captain Dorney noted that the police had caught someone doing damage there recently by “doing donuts” with their vehicle.

Other issues raised by President Pearson follow:

- Dieruff football players are selling discount cards for \$10, which are good at various area food retailers and well worth the cost.
- Mosser Village continues to be in need of funds, and should be supported. Among other things they provide a tutoring program after school hours.
- Some neighbors have asked about street closings for yard sales. How can that be accomplished? They need to purchase a permit at a cost of \$50, and show proof of liability coverage.
- He is considering holding additional meetings at various locations around the East Side to see if neighbors in those areas would come out with local issues. These would be in addition to our monthly meetings at St. Peter’s Church.
- He asked if there were any other issues that need to be brought up about neighborhood problems—new or continuing.
  - The overgrowth and downed tree continue to be a problem on N. Nelson Street. This has been reported before.

- The traffic island with the trees on it in the middle of Hanover Avenue in front of Our Lady Help of Christians Church continues to be neglected.
- Please let Pearson know if any properties in your area are “tagged” by the city. The tags will either be on white or orange paper, depending on their nature.

School Director Ce-Ce Gerlach noted that she had seen the item in our last monthly minutes about the planetarium at Dieruff High School. Several board members would like to open it up to use as the planetarium is “ready to go,” but this is a staffing issue. They would like to get it opened not only for Dieruff students but for students throughout the district, and possibly the public as well. The board is committed to opening it, possibly in 2016.

She was asked about the issue reported in the media about the school crossing guards. The board recently passed a resolution that the school district will not pay for them—they are currently paid by the city—and negotiations with the city are continuing. Pearson noted that repairs have been made to the wall and several sets of stairs at the Andre Reed Park.

A neighbor asked about street cleaning. The street sweeper comes around periodically, but for several decades the streets have not been posted on certain days for non-parking as they are in other parts of the city, so the sweeper just sweeps around cars that are parked on days that they are sweeping.

As an historical interest, Pearson read a list of the officers and board members of EARN from approximately the early 1980s. At that time we had a much bigger number of officers and much greater attendance than we have had in recent years.

President Pearson noted that the next meeting will take place on Monday, October 19<sup>th</sup>. There being no further business, adjournment was moved and seconded, and the meeting adjourned at 8:14 p.m.

Respectfully,

*David A. Schell, Secretary*

---

**East Allentown Rittersville Neighborhood Association  
MINUTES August 17, 2015**

President Dennis Pearson called the regular monthly meeting to order at 7:01 p.m. on August 17, 2015 at St. Peter’s Evangelical Lutheran Church.

Present: Four officers (President Dennis Pearson, Vice President Robert Pandaleon, Treasurer Bob Jacoby, and Secretary Dave Schell) and two other neighbors were present at the meeting, as was Captain Glen Dorney of the Allentown Police Department.

Secretary Dave Schell handed out copies of the minutes of the meeting of July 20, 2015. It was moved and seconded to approve the minutes as distributed. The motion carried.

Treasurer Bob Jacoby gave his report. The current balance is \$551.03, but we have an outstanding bill for \$120 for our storage area, which will leave us with \$431.03. It was moved and seconded to approve the report as read. The motion carried.

President Pearson introduced Captain Glen Dorney, who is in charge of the East Side Police Service Area as of today. He has been an officer of the department for nineteen years, and has been in charge of the center city PSA for the past three years. The police administration moved the captains around and Captain Alsleben has traded PSAs with Captain Dorney. Captain Dorney is also in charge of the emergency response team and the K9 unit. We have five police dogs in the Allentown Police K9 unit.

Captain Dorney handed out a flyer on the police "Lock it—hide it—keep it" program. A large portion of the crimes in this part of town are either thefts from unlocked cars or thefts where people set down their wallet or cell phone in a store, forget to pick it up, and it gets stolen. Crime is down 21% over the same period last year city-wide. Major crimes (homicide, robbery, aggravated assault) is down 35% on the East Side over last year, and property crimes are down 29% over the past year on the East Side. This Police Service Area has the lowest property crimes of the four PSAs in Allentown. Property crimes were 351 year to date last year and are 249 so far this year.

Secretary Schell read correspondence that he had received over the past month.

- The Midway Manor Community Association will have its annual yard sale at Midway Manor Park on Saturday, September 5<sup>th</sup>, from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m.
- Upper Macungie, North Whitehall, and South Whitehall Townships will hold Emergency Preparedness Day events at the St. Luke's West End Medical Center, 501 Cetronia Road, on Saturday, September 19<sup>th</sup> from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m.
- Allentown Public Library has various events such as game nights and classes. Details can be found at [www.allentownpl.org](http://www.allentownpl.org). Click on Explore or Services.
- The Great Allentown Neighborhood Summit is scheduled for Sunday, November 1<sup>st</sup>, from 2 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. Details will follow.

President Pearson noted that we have written to the mayor for permission for the Project Haas light display. We will again use help from Dieruff High School students. Pearson also noted that we would like the Dieruff Planetarium to be revived. He discussed activities that EARN once had additional activities, which we were able to accomplish due to a considerably larger active membership.

Pearson noted that as president of the Crime Watch organization he and his board are attempting to get things organized. They would like to incorporate the association. They will have the annual Leonard Buck Dinner and the various police appreciation dinners.

A neighbor noted the location of several properties with various problems including a house in the 100 block of North Irving Street with peeling paint, another in the 900 block of East Hamilton Street with a downed tree and a dumpster, and an apparently abandoned home in the 1500 block of East Tremont Street with a large quantity of overgrowth.

Pearson spoke of various Kiwanis projects both in the city and beyond. He also noted that the Carbon Lehigh Intermediate Unit is offering College Level Examination Program (CLEP) test preparation courses. Further information can be obtained from Dr. Charlotte Golden, the IU's Coordinator of Curriculum & Instruction/Educational Technology at 610-799-4111, Ext. 1201, or [goldenc@cliu.org](mailto:goldenc@cliu.org).

It was noted that Mosser Family Village is trying to replenish food bank.

The group had a brief discussion of how decisions are made for entry into the Dieruff High School Hall of Fame, and about possible additions.

There being no further business, adjournment was moved and seconded, and the meeting adjourned at 7:55 p.m.

Respectfully,

*David A. Schell, Secretary*

---

**East Allentown Rittersville -Neighborhood Association  
MINUTES 7/20/2015**

President Dennis Pearson called the regular monthly meeting to order at 7:05 p.m. on July 20, 2015 at St. Peter's Evangelical Lutheran Church.

Present: Four officers (President Dennis Pearson, Vice President Robert Pandaleon, Treasurer Bob Jacoby, and Secretary Dave Schell) and three other neighbors were present at the meeting, as was Officer McDonald of the Allentown Police Department.

Secretary Dave Schell handed out copies of the minutes of the meeting of June 15, 2015. It was moved and seconded to approve the minutes as distributed. The motion carried.

Treasurer Bob Jacoby gave his report. Our balance is \$546.03. We received a donation of \$100 from Friends of Mike Schlossberg. Secretary Schell will write a letter of thanks. We have a bill due for \$89.97 for our storage area. The balance will be \$456.05 once the storage is paid. It was moved and seconded to approve the report as read. The motion passed.

Mosser Village had their festival over the past weekend. They will probably make out reasonably well from the auction of donated items.

There has been problem with vandalism at the East Side Reservoir picnic area. We also had a report of shots fired behind Woody's Bar on Hanover Avenue, although we know no further details.

President Pearson sent out letters today concerning permission for our Christmas lights. We have paid \$230 for our required liability insurance.

Pearson reported that last Friday the only city pool that was open was the Irving Pool. Jordan and Mack pools were both closed for maintenance, Cedar Beach is closed for the balance of the year, and Fountain has not been opened this year.

Pearson also noted that he is now the President of the Allentown Crime Watch organization. Vice President Richard Wilburn became president upon the death of Ernie Atiyeh, Pearson was appointed Vice President, after which Wilburn resigned, making Pearson the current president. There is currently a vacancy in the vice presidency. The group is currently in the process of assembling the records of the association. One of Atiyeh's projects was to have a conservator organization that would take over a run-down property, fix it up, and sell the improved property. This is currently in abeyance, as well as is the Citizens on Patrol (COPS) program.

The group discussed various properties on the East Side that are in need of attention for yard work and other maintenance—one at the corner of N. Plymouth and E. Tremont Streets and another at the corner of E. Hamilton and Jane Streets.

There being no further business, adjournment was moved and seconded, and the meeting adjourned at 7:48 p.m.

Respectfully,

*David A. Schell, Secretary*

---

P.S. Minutes for January through June can be found in website ,,,, And last month we relied on information that said that Dave Kurisco was not in the Dieruff H.S. Hall of Sports Fame ... He is because of his All-State status ... Ron Berta is not but because he was not All-State --But we believe he should be recognized

---

### Your Neighborhood...Your Groups

Ever hear the expression "you can't fight City Hall"? Well, whether that's true or not, we're here to work with you and City Hall in making East Allentown a better place for all of us to live and work. This works best when more of our neighbors participate. Some of the issues we have handled over the past few months include:

- Traffic issues, including truck traffic
  - Noise issues, both home and business-related
  - Neighborhood safety/Crime Watch
  - Blighted properties
  - Area parks and recreation
- For Your Information....Officers of the Allentown Police Department who are assigned to the East Side attend many of our meetings—and are informed of proceedings at those they cannot attend. This is a great place to bring up area concerns and issues...and you will not be identified publicly if you choose to remain anonymous.

Please note --The neighborhood will be holding its annual election of officers on November 16, 2015 ... Currently, all the current officers have been re-nominated for their positions. But additional nominations can be made at the election meeting

This is your neighborhood .. Help it be a strong one ...



Eleanor Roosevelt the wife of Former President Franklin Roosevelt visits the newly opened Hanover Acres Housing Project in the 1940's --- Today Hanover Acres has been rebuilt and it's called Overlook Terrace.

The EARN FRONTIER is printed courtesy of the City of Allentown on recycled paper