

# ALLENTOWNER

*Magazine*

A Publication of the Allentown Association, Inc. 234 Allen Street, Buffalo, NY 14201 (716)881-1024 Vol. 1 #9 October 1986

## 1986-87 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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George Sax

### Allendale

Lee Smith

Jerry Lombardo

### Blizzard Ball

Jim Whitehead

### Building Acquisition

Joe Sole

### Historic Preservation

Dottie Costisick

Henry Priebe

### Housing

Beaufort Willbern

### Membership

Joan Forman

## STAFF

### Director

Diane Cummings Bennett

### Residential/Preservation Coordinator

Christine Smith

### Administrative Assistant

David Anderson

### Maintenance

Austin Brubacker

## MEANDERINGS THROUGH ALLENTOWN

A deep disquiet has been percolating through the Allentown community in recent months. Several incidents of violent and intrusive crime have unleashed the potentially consuming fears that we all harbor deep within. Justified or not by objective fact, those fears are as destructive to our personal well-being and to the fabric of society, as any act itself.

Inhumane and criminal acts have attended every society. Yet the fact that we are safer today from social injustices of all varieties (not to mention disease) does little to alleviate our fears.

I do not presume to offer up a panacea. I would, however, observe that fear is part of the experience of life. It is a useful emotion if one can identify its cause and act to reduce a specific risk. But, it is the non-specific, oppressive and lingering fears that are destructive and not so easily remedied.

I propose that there is a means of reducing this malaise. It seems to me that a sense of security is intertwined with a sense of community. To become a community, people must accept a degree of responsibility for their neighbors. In turn, each benefits from a caring, nurturing and protective environment. It is the potential of community that distinguishes Allentown.

In response to a perceived threat, this community has become revitalized - block clubs are more active than in recent memory and community wide meetings have been well attended. In this issue of the Allentowner you will find out what actions various members of our community have been taking to identify and address the issues of crime and community security. If you would like to participate, contact the Allentown Association office for more information about committee functions or block clubs.

Richard A. Stockton  
President.

## NEW - "ALLENDALE CHILDREN'S THEATRE"

Buffalo's Theatre of Youth Company (TOY) and the Allentown Association have signed a long-term lease of the historic Allendale Theatre, under which the restored theatre, renamed the Allendale Children's Theatre, will become the permanent home of Theatre of Youth.

Under a separate and concurrent agreement, the Allentown Association, as the landlord, will share with TOY mutual administration over the financing and renovation of the theatre's interior and exterior facade. All actions will be determined by mutual consent during the five-year joint renovation period.

In addition, Theatre of Youth intends to immediately undertake a fundraising campaign to create an endowment fund to assist in underwriting future operating expenses. TOY realizes that it is necessary to create an

endowment fund in order to offset any deficits incurred as a result of providing high quality children's theatre at prices accessible to the general public.

The fundraising campaigns will commence shortly, and it is anticipated that the restoration work will begin during the spring of 1987, and be completed by the fall of 1988. This will allow Theatre of Youth to begin its 1988-89 season in the Allendale Children's Theatre. To this end, the Allentown Association and Theatre of Youth have retained the services of Theodore Lowrie of the architectural firm Hamilton Houston Lowrie Architects P.C.; Gvozden Kopani, a theatre designer who was formerly with the State University of New York at Buffalo's (con't. on page 2)

## POLICE COMMUNITY

### SERVICES

Police Community Services is a division of the Buffalo Police Department which is devoted to assisting the public in making their neighborhood safer from criminal activity.

The organization and use of Block Clubs is an essential component in developing a strategy to prevent crime. Community Services strives to assist in Block Club development in order to:

1. Help neighbors to talk to one another
2. Bring neighbors together to deal with concerns
3. Aid in establishing the neighborhood's priorities
4. Provide a method for follow-up to insure the neighborhood's goals are met
5. Build a feeling of NEIGHBORHOOD: PEOPLE WORKING TOGETHER.

Police Liaison Officer John Walterich is assigned to the Allentown neighborhood. He, or a member of his office, may:

1. Provide technical assistance
2. Help with planning
3. Provide written materials
4. Provide access to copying
5. Provide speakers
6. Act as a liaison with other groups

but can't -

- Give you "quick fixes" for problems
- Organize a Block Club for you

Officer Walterich is available for information and questions at 855-4410 (Precinct #10), 855-4403 (Precinct #3) or 855-4585 (Headquarters).

The Association strongly recommends the use of Block Clubs and will certainly assist in any way possible. Additionally, the office is available for meetings (provided there is not a conflict with previously scheduled use) and notices may be photo-copied.

We urge you to communally identify problems and creatively devise potential solutions. Recommendations may be made to existing Association committees and/or the Board of Directors. We welcome your ideas.

## TOY CON'T

Theatre Department, and is currently residing in Florida; and Bezel, Inc., a management consulting firm specializing in coordinating projects for non-profit organizations.

Theatre of Youth is a nationally acclaimed, non-profit professional theatre company which, for the past 14 years, has provided high quality stage productions viewed by approximately 210,000 children in the Western New York area. In 1976, TOY was awarded the prestigious Winifred Ward-Zeta Phi Eta prize from the Children's Theatre Association of America.

TOY has been actively searching for a permanent home for the past year. It is presently located downtown in the Center Theater, but because it has outgrown that theatre's limited space availability, TOY must have its own theatre in order to continue to grow and prosper. TOY is actively seeking additional opportunities to more fully utilize the Allendale Theatre when it is not staging its own productions. To that end, TOY's Board of Directors, headed by North District Councilman David Rutecki, and its Artistic Director, Meg Pantera, are considering showing art films and encouraging community groups to use the facility for their own productions.

## NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH SIGNS

Due to the increased interest in the Neighborhood Crime Watch Program, the Commissioner of Police has set a uniform and standardized criteria throughout the City for obtaining and installing of the Neighborhood Watch signs.

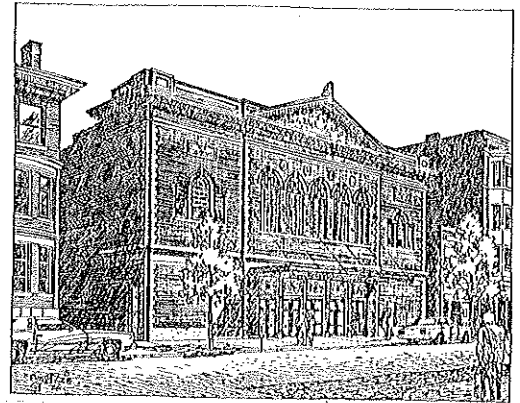
The following is the criteria:

1. 50% of the residents are members of the block club and they are registered with Police Community Services as an active Block Association.
2. The Block Club has received Crime Prevention training from one of the Precinct Liaison Officers or from a Community Organizer who has been trained by the Buffalo Police Department.
3. The Block Club is participating in one of our Crime Prevention Programs, i.e.: Operation I.D., Security Surveys, Personal Security, etc.
4. A petition is sent to the District Common Council representative requesting to have these signs installed (these may be obtained at the Allentown Association or from Police Community Services).

Under its agreement with the Allentown Association, TOY will have a lease extending up to 25 years, with the right to exercise an option to acquire the Allendale at an unspecified future date. TOY will pay a nominal rent under the terms of the lease.

The Allentown Association acquired title to the Allendale at the City of Buffalo's tax auction in October 1985. Subsequent to gaining title, the Allentown Association was able to convince the New York State Council on the Arts to help underwrite the cost of retaining an architect to begin the preparation of plans and specifications for the restoration of the building.

## ALLENDALE THEATER



5. A member of the Sign Division of the Department of Public Works will spot the sign location with a representative of the Block Club.

When this criteria is met the Neighborhood Watch sign(s) will be installed. This criteria also demonstrates that the Block Club is an active and viable organization which will assist in making their community safer from criminal activity.

If you require and further information, please contact the Office of Police Community Services at 855-4585 or the Allentown Association, 234 Allen Street, Buffalo, New York, at 881-1024.

**The Roosevelt**  
apartments

921 Main Street  
Buffalo, NY 14203  
716-885-1703

New accepting applications for well-maintained one bedroom apartments.  
Federally subsidized program for senior citizens or handicapped adult.

**MJ Peterson**  
REAL ESTATE

## CRIME SURVEY

The following survey, composed by Richard Lee of the Allentown Association's Action Committee, is designed to obtain important information and views from area residents on crime problems.

The responses we obtain will form an important part of the Association's program to monitor such problems in our area and to delineate them. The wider the return we receive, the better able we will be able to do this.

Please provide any relevant question not addressed in the survey. All concerned residents are invited to attend committee meetings to help formulate the programs we hope will restrict crime in our area.

Surveys should be returned to the Allentown Association office, 234 Allen Street, 14201 at your earliest convenience. Your response is sincerely appreciated. Jay Foreman, George Sax, Co-Chairs

1. Where do you live?

Street \_\_\_\_\_  
Block \_\_\_\_\_

2. Do you perceive crime to be a problem in your neighborhood?

Yes \_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_

3. Do you think crime has increased in your neighborhood within the last year? Yes \_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_

4. Have you been a victim of a crime in your neighborhood within the last year? Yes \_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_

If yes, what type of crime?

Fraud \_\_\_\_ Rape \_\_\_\_ Loitering \_\_\_\_  
Robbery \_\_\_\_ Mugging \_\_\_\_ Arson \_\_\_\_  
Burglary \_\_\_\_ Assault \_\_\_\_  
Other (please name) \_\_\_\_\_

5. Did you report the crime to the police? Yes \_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_

6. Have any of your neighbors been victims of a crime within the last year? Yes \_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_ Don't Know \_\_\_\_

If yes, state type of crime. \_\_\_\_\_

7. Have you used 911 to report a crime in your neighborhood? Yes \_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_

8. If yes, was the 911 response timely? Yes \_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_

9. Was the police response, immediately or later, adequate in your opinion? Yes \_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_

10. What can be done to reduce crime in your neighborhood?

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

11. Rate police protection in your neighborhood. (circle one)  
Poor Fair Good Excellent

## ACTION COMMITTEE

The Action Committee is a participatory group of concerned citizens of Allentown working within the guidelines of the Allentown Association for the benefit of the community as a whole. We act as a liaison between the community and the Association by gathering information and making recommendations to the Board of Directors for implementation of policy. In addition we implement board policy and mandates.

Our primary goal is to address acute problems faced by citizens of the community and to implement long term solutions to these problems for the betterment of the community.

An example is the present issue of this newsletter devoted to the problem of increased crime in the area.

Some specific goals of this committee are:

1. Educate the community about crime prevention.
2. Investigate potential service which the association might provide.
3. Encourage more active involvement by community members.
4. Promote block club development.
5. Improvement of city services trash pickup, snow removal, etc.
6. The ultimate goal is to help make the community a safe and healthy environment for the future.

We feel that because of the uniqueness of Allentown due to the large socio-economic cross section in the community, the city should have a vested interest in its continued stability and growth.

882-6333

GILBERT SCHULENBERG, D.D.S.  
ORAL AND MAXILLOFACIAL SURGERY

117 LINWOOD AVENUE  
BUFFALO, N. Y. 14209

BRUCE KIRBY

Attorney

358 Maryland Street

Buffalo, New York 14201

(716) 885-5394

### HOUSE GIFTS

The Association has made arrangements to bulk order brass plaques which date the year your house was built.

This solid brass plaque (pictured on order form) is inscribed "Circa (year)," measures 2" x 4" and costs \$25, prepaid.

If you are not certain of the age of your building, the Association will try to assist you by checking dates.

To order, please fill out the form below and return it with your check or money order to:

Allentown Association  
234 Allen Street  
Buffalo, NY 14201



(Actual size. Typeface will be different than example shown.)

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BRASS PLAQUE ORDER FORM

\_\_\_\_\_  
Name

\_\_\_\_\_  
Mailing Address

\_\_\_\_\_  
House plaque address, if different

\_\_\_\_\_  
Circa  
(year)

I am interested in ordering \_\_\_\_\_  
plaque(s) at \$25.00 each.

TOTAL ORDER \$ \_\_\_\_\_

My \_\_\_\_\_ check \_\_\_\_\_ money order is  
enclosed.

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### MEMBERSHIP INVOICE

Allentown Association, Inc.  
234 Allen Street  
Buffalo, NY 14201



Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Address \_\_\_\_\_  
Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Type of membership:

- \_\_\_\_\_ Student/Senior Citizen \$5
- \_\_\_\_\_ Individual \$15
- \_\_\_\_\_ Household/Family \$20
- \_\_\_\_\_ Business \$25
- \_\_\_\_\_ Sustaining \$50
- \_\_\_\_\_ Contributing \$100
- \_\_\_\_\_ Patron \$500

\_\_\_\_\_ Amount enclosed

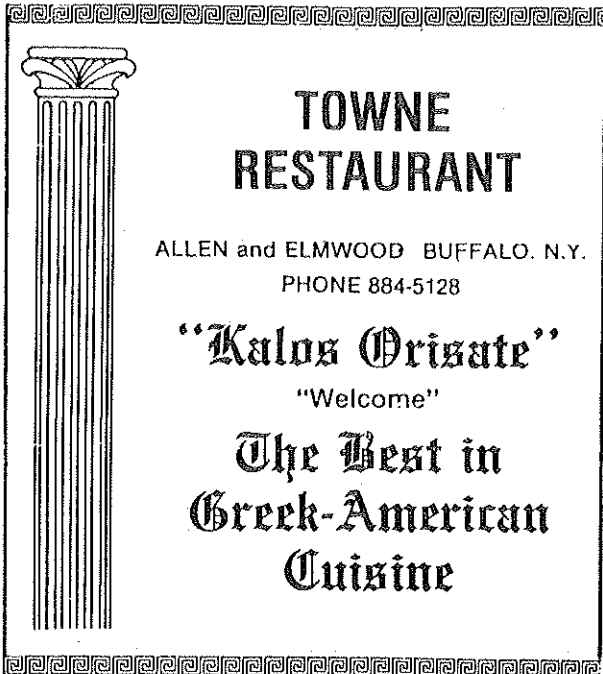
Please check committees of interest to you:

- \_\_\_\_\_ **ACTION:** Ad hoc crisis oriented committee
- \_\_\_\_\_ **GREENING:** Beautification projects & awards
- \_\_\_\_\_ **BUILDING ACQUISITION:** Seeking property for rehabilitation
- \_\_\_\_\_ **FUNDRAISING:** Generates programmatic & administration funds
- \_\_\_\_\_ **HISTORIC PRESERVATION:** Advocates/educates the concepts & practices of preservation
- \_\_\_\_\_ **HOUSING:** Focuses on the improvement of our housing stock
- \_\_\_\_\_ **GOALS/PLANNING:** Identifies long & short term goals & objectives
- \_\_\_\_\_ **MEMBERSHIP:** Recruits residents & businesses for participation
- \_\_\_\_\_ **NOHINATING:** Responsible for solicitation & nomination of new Board members
- \_\_\_\_\_ **OFFICE ASSISTANCE:** Provides "extra hands"
- \_\_\_\_\_ **SPECIAL EVENTS:** Blizzard Ball, Oktoberfest, Art Festival concession
- \_\_\_\_\_ **ALLENTOWN THEATER:** Rehabilitation & development of the theater

# CALENDAR

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
			1 Historic Preservation Committee, 7:30 p.m.	2	3 Lecture: God's Protecting Power, First Church of Crist, Scientist, 8:00 p.m.	4 Walking Tour: Downtown Bflo. Preservation Coalition, 20 Angle St.
5 Len Jenshel, Burchfield Art Center, 7:30 p.m. First Sundays at 4:00, Bflo Brass Quintet, Ascension Church	6 Cottage, Marlyand, College Block Club, 7:30 p.m.	7 Len Jenshel, Burchfield Art Center, 5:00 p.m. Harvest Auction, Salvation Army, 6:30 p.m.	8	9 Len Jenshel, Burchfield Art Center, 5:00 p.m.	10 Election Registration	11 Election Registration Len Jenshel, Burchfield Art Center, 5:00 p.m.
12	13 Columbus Day Association office closed Action Committee meeting, 7:30 p.m.	14 Housing Committee, 7:30 p.m.	15 Talk: Suburban Folklore by Michael Licht, Community Center, room N2B, 7:00 p.m. Bflo State College. Spaghetti Supper, Salvation Army, 4:30 - 7:00 p.m.	16 Allendale Committee, 7:30 p.m.	17 Down & Dirty film at Albright Knox	18 Man of Flower film at Albright Knox
19 Evensong, Ascension Church, 5:00 p.m.	20	21	22	23 Preservation Night at Movies, Bflo. Pub. Lib., contact Carolyn Schaffner, 832-0707	24 U.N. Day	25 Preview of Breaking the Silence, Toronto Tour: Bflo. Psych. Center, contact Preservation Report, 20 Angle St.
26 2nd ANNUAL ALLENTOWN HOUSE AND BUILDING TOUR, 1 - 5 p.m.	27	28 Opening of Breaking the Silence, Shaw Festival, Toronto, continues to Nov. 16	29	30	31 Halloween	

Reminder - All Allentown Association meetings are held at the Association office, 234 Allen St., unless otherwise noted



**TOWNE  
RESTAURANT**

ALLEN and ELMWOOD BUFFALO, N.Y.  
PHONE 884-5128

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**VISION FOR THE FUTURE:  
AN EVENING OF FREE FILMS**

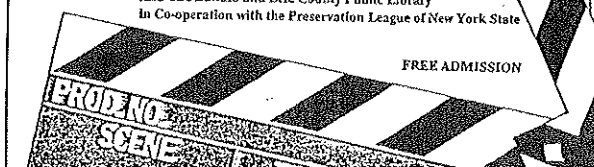
An evening of films showing how other cities have recycled their historic buildings into productive use.

Thursday, October 23 7:30 PM

Buffalo and Erie County Library  
Auditorium of the Downtown  
East Street Entrance  
c 63701

Sponsored by the Preservation Coalition of Erie County  
And The Buffalo and Erie County Public Library  
In Co-operation with the Preservation League of New York State

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881-1000

Open 10:00 a.m. - 11:30 p.m.

+

1007 MAIN STREET

(AT GOODRICH)

881-1050

Open 10:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m.

FREE CLASSIFIEDS

Help Wanted: Advertising sales, Full or Part Time, commission only. Respond Allentown Association, Box 100, 234 Allen Street, Buffalo, NY 14201.

For Sale: French Christmas Plates. Complete set of 8 "Noel Vitrail." Stained glass windows of Chartres Cathedral from D'Arceau-Longes, \$270. Call 882-0307.

Will do yard work - cheap wages. Ask for Steve, 881-1024.

WELCOME DAVID

David Anderson has joined our staff as Administrative Assistant. Besides offering an outstanding range of computer skills, he's a delight and will assist you as best he can.

For you who knew Renee Peltier, she left the Association to pursue an excellent opportunity in Seattle, Washington. She sounds well and happy (and sends "hello").

ASSOCIATION WISH LIST

chairs  
desk lamps  
xerox paper  
vacuum cleaner  
dehumidifier!

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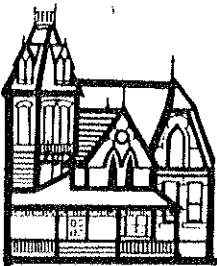
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Buffalo, NY 14201

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## ALLENTOWN ASSOCIATION, INC.

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NEW ADDRESS

204 Allen Street Buffalo, New York 14201 716-881-1024

ALLENTOWN ASSOCIATION, INC.  
234 ALLEN STREET  
BUFFALO, NEW YORK 14201

Dear Friends,

The Allentown Association is planning the second annual Historic Allentown Building Tour for Sunday, October 26, 1986 from 1 - 5 p.m.

Interest in this rare opportunity has been tremendous, due in part to the positive response to last year's very successful tour.

Aside from the excellent publicity, all proceeds from the tour will be allocated to fund programs within the Allentown.

In addition to the neighborhood, we are extending invitations to social, civic, professional and cultural groups. Tickets will be sold in advance at \$7.00 per person. No additional tickets will be available the day of the event.

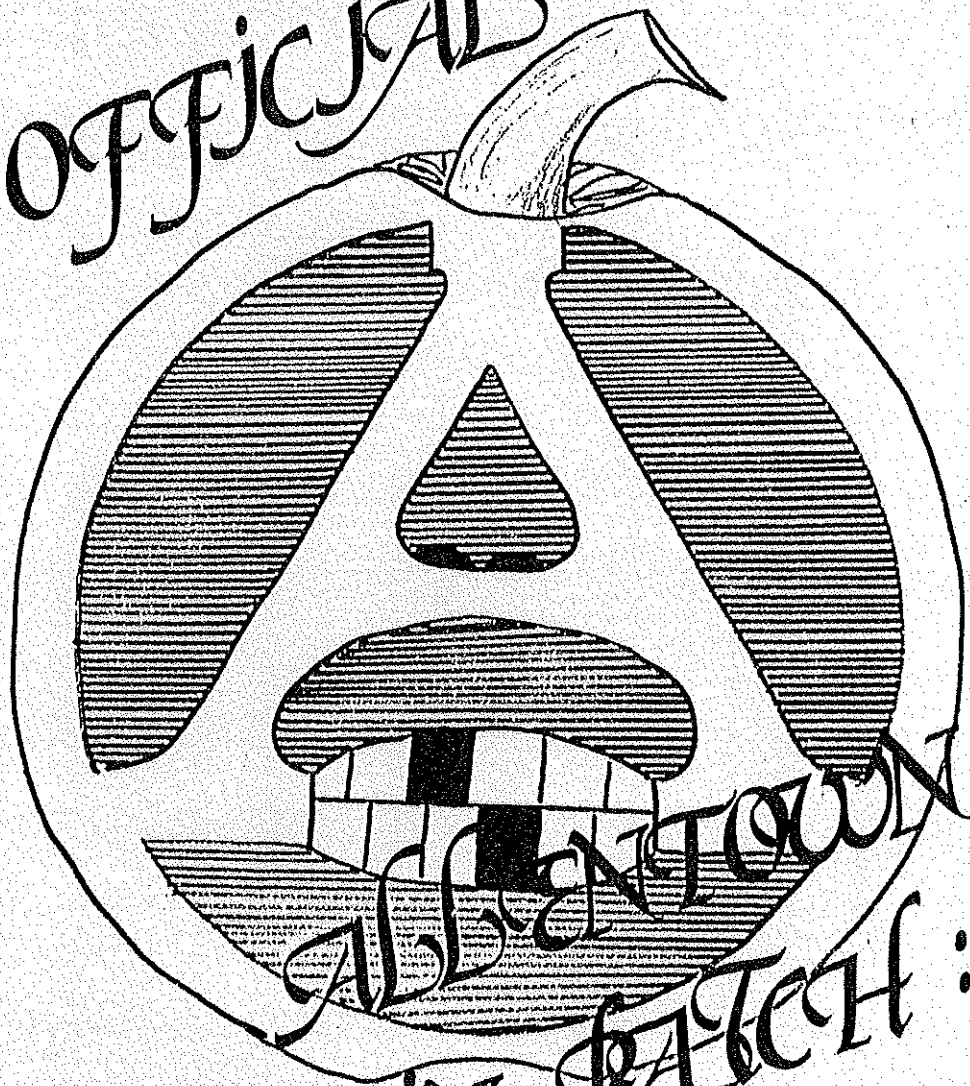
Attendance will be limited to 500 persons - we suggest that you make reservations as soon as possible.

For further information contact the Allentown Association (234 Allen Street) at 881-1024.

Hope to see you there!

Historic Preservation Committee

OFFICIAL



PUMPKIN RACE:

Rocco's

199 ALLEN STREET  
BUFFALO, NY

WIN THE LARGEST PUMPKIN CITED IN ALLENTOWN/OVER 100LBS.  
BUY A TICKET FOR \$1.00  
DRAWING WILL BE HELD OCT. 29th.

ALL PROCEEDS TO BENEFIT  
ALLENTOWN CHILDREN'S THEATER

YOUR PARTICIPATION IS APPRECIATED