



# *The Allentown Neighbor*

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## Truce called in gas-meter dispute

Agreement has been reached to end the long-running dispute over outdoor gas meters in Allentown and other historic preservation districts.

National Fuel Gas and the City of Buffalo are ready to announce a \$25,000 donation from the National Fuel Gas Co. Foundation to mitigate the intrusion of gas meters in the front of buildings in historic preservation districts.

The Allentown Association and the city Preservation Board have been working since the year 2000 to combat installation of outside gas meters in front of homes and other buildings in preservation districts.

The grant from National Fuel is to be used to minimize the intrusion of gas meters in front of structures by such methods as painting the meters to blend in, by screening with evergreen shrubbery or other means to camouflage the intrusive meters. The Allentown Association is expected to be named to administer the grant program and will receive a share of the funds for administration. A house at 26 Orton Place, where a gas meter has been installed in front, is to be a pilot project for camouflaging and mitigation.

The dispute began when National Fuel began moving from basements to outside locations, maintaining that century-old low-pressure gas lines needed to be replaced by medium-pressure lines, and safety considerations required exterior meters.

The Allentown Association and the city have taken the position that exterior placement of meters in historic preservation districts required the permission of the Preservation board, an argument the gas company rejected. At the request of Judge Henry J. Nowak of City Court's Housing Section, Allentown Association representatives tried to negotiate a compromise, but the effort was unsuccessful. The city sued the gas company and won

in City Court, but lost on a technicality on appeal. A decision establishing a firm, legal precedent seemed elusive.

National Fuel has installed outside meters on the sides of houses in cases where it found this location suitable. However, some houses are hemmed in by neighboring structures or driveways which make it impossible or unsafe to locate a meter on the side, and a meter in front is necessary, according to the gas company.

The dispute sputtered on as more meters were placed outside homes in the Allentown and Hamlin Park preservation districts. The Allentown Association and Hamlin Park Community & Taxpayers Association collected signatures and submitted petitions to elected officials. State Sen. Antoine Thompson and Assemblyman Sam Hoyt got involved. They and Richard M. Tobe, city commissioner of economic development, permits and inspections, met with NFG representatives. The discussions led to the current agreement.

NFG has installed new meters at 643 buildings in preservation districts since 2000, and 246 of these were installed in the front. New outside meters are needed for 1,546 buildings in preservation districts, the company says. About 50 houses in preservation districts are scheduled to get new outside meters in the next year or so, a company representative said.

NFG has agreed to notify customers and community associations in preservation districts when it plans to install outside meters. The company will tell the customer where it proposed to install the meter. If the customer prefers another location no more than five feet away and it is acceptable to NFG, the meter will be installed there. If the customer prefers a location more than five feet away and it is acceptable to NFG, that location will be used if the customer pays a \$250 fee.

### Expanded website unveiled with all Allentown structures

The Allentown Association has unveiled its totally revised website, [www.allentown.org](http://www.allentown.org), which includes photos and information about every building in Allentown, about 1,000 in all.

This may be the first such comprehensive data base for any area of Allentown's size in the country; "It's the first I'm aware of," said Christopher Brown, Association president.

The website revision and expansion was done by Mitch Bechtel, a Park St. resident who did the work on a volunteer basis. He operates Comand Solutions, which designs custom websites, intranets and extranets.

*Please turn to next page*

### Inside this Issue

<i>City stalls on Wadsworth</i>	<i>Page 2</i>
<i>Fall "Haunted Allentown"</i>	<i>Page 3</i>
<i>Garage and porch sale</i>	<i>Page 4</i>
<i>Business news</i>	<i>Page 5</i>
<i>Calendar</i>	<i>Page 6</i>
<i>Almanac</i>	<i>Page 7</i>



# City stalls on Wadsworth improvements

The Wadsworth St. improvement plan sent to Mayor Byron W. Brown a year ago is completely stalled in City Hall, Christopher Brown, Allentown Association president, reported.

The plan was put together by consultations involving residents, business owners, the Allentown Association, Kleinhans Community Association, Days Park Block Club, First Presbyterian Church, Grace Manor Nursing Home and Friends of the Night People.

The plan calls for improvements including traffic-calming measures, curb and sidewalk repairs, designated crosswalks, historic signage, tree and landscape planting, and historic lighting. The plan was submitted in May 2006 to the public works commissioner and then to the mayor. Since then, Donald E. Kreuz has replaced Joseph Giambra as public works commissioner.

Wayne Parry, an Allentown Association director who has been working on the plan, said he met in May with Commissioner Kreuz and Council Member Brian Davis of the Ellicott District to try to get the project going, but so far nothing has happened.

"The city has not been forthcoming. Why can't we get it in the 2008 budget? I'm disappointed," Chris Brown said.

Meanwhile, plans are moving ahead for a \$250,000 reconstruction of the intersection of North and Franklin Sts. and Linwood Ave. It's in the 2007 capital budget and a traffic engineering consultant has been hired.

"This project just dropped out of the sky. Wadsworth is much more in need of improvement," Chris Brown said. Both sites are in Allentown.

Slowing traffic is needed on Wadsworth where children play in the street and a blind corner exists at the intersection of Allen and Wadsworth Sts., he added.

A lot is happening on Wadsworth, he noted.

Wendes Jones has purchased 19, 35 and 45 Wadsworth and is investing \$80,000 to renovate 19 Wadsworth for residential use. The structure was built as a retail building and a its storefront, perhaps the only remaining 19th-century glass-fronted building in Allentown, will be retained.

## First Church needs new roof as well as tower repairs

Not only does the First Presbyterian Church tower need repairs, but the church needs a new roof which will be more expensive than the tower project.

Bero Architecture of Rochester has completed an overall survey of the structure and reported that the slate roof is past its prime and needs to be replaced, said Christina Trachtenberg, church business manager.

Some portions of the original roof have been replaced but large areas are over 100 years old, she said.

The Romanesque church of Medina sandstone with Byzantine interior was designed by the celebrated Buffalo architectural firm of Green and Wicks. It is a designated local landmark. The sanctuary was built in 1891 and the 187-foot-high tower was completed in 1897. The congregation was founded in 1812 and is the oldest religious organization in Buffalo.

The church hopes to obtain grants to cover the costs of the new roof as well as the tower repairs to enable the congregation to con-

tinue in the historic structure at Symphony Circle, Christina Trachtenberg said.

Temporary repairs were performed to stabilize the tower after a piece of stonework fell, the result of freezing and thawing of wind-driven rain water outer and inside layers of stone. The problem was discovered in 2005 and stabilizing work was performed in 2006 to address safety concerns.

The church deferred permanent repairs until the overall survey was completed. The interior of the tower is now being studied and "we expect a report on the tower in the fall," Christina Trachtenberg said.

She did not offer an estimate of the cost of either the roof or tower repairs, but she said the roof project will be the more expensive. A state grant has been made for part of the roof project, and the church expects to apply for additional grants, hoping that foundations will finance the major portion of the needed repairs, she added. One estimate a year ago put the cost of the tower project alone at a minimum of \$1-million.

## Website expanded with newsletter archives *Continued from Page 1*

The Association will pay a small maintenance fee to Comand Solutions. The photography was done by Michael Mulley, under contract with the Association.

The enhanced property records provide a sophisticated data base with information on date of construction, style and historical

information about some of the properties, which "we hope to expand as we learn more," Chris Brown said.

The expanded website also will included the archive of all the Association newsletter going back to 1965.

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## *Landmark protection proposed for Elmwood Park, School 46*

The City Preservation Board has moved to designate Elmwood Park and School 46, the Adult Learning Center, as a local landmark which could clear the way for completion of the restoration of the park. The board expect to hold a public hearing on the proposed designation.

The Allentown Association has been working for 10 years to restore Elmwood Park, a triangular plot of greenery bounded by School 46, S. Elmwood Ave., Edward and Virginia Sts. The Association and the Allentown Village Society are both considering additional investments to complete renovation of the park, but are concerned that the city-owned green space has not been officially designated as park land and might be sold and used for other purposes.

Christopher Brown, Allentown Association president, said Council Member Brian Davis of the Ellicott District, which includes nearly all of Allentown, told him at the Allentown Village Society dinner in July that the Common Council could not designate

the site as permanent park land because of contention between the city and Erie County over park maintenance. Council Member Davis did not respond to a letter, an e-mail message and a telephone message.

Preservation Board members, who voted at their July 19 meeting to nominate the site as an historic landmark, said School 46 is the oldest school in Buffalo still in use, and as part of the Allentown Historic Preservation District the school and the adjacent green space may already be protected.

Since 2001, asphalt paving has been replaced by a grass lawn in the open space, a chain-link fence was removed, and an environmentally symbolic windmill was placed in the center. The site's mature trees have been retained. Designed many decades ago as a park, a photo from the early 1920s shows the park area with a fountain as center piece. The green space is visible from Elmwood Ave. to the north, as S. Elmwood Ave. veers southeast at Virginia St.

## Association plans "Haunted Allentown" for fall, fundraising, cost cutting help achieve program goals

By *Christopher Brown*, Allentown Association president

While hanging flower baskets and planters are proclaiming summer in full bloom in Allentown, a new fund-raising event, tentatively titled "Haunted Allentown," is being planned for Oct. 20.

The hanging baskets have made a dramatic return after an absence of several years and, despite the dry summer, continue to look lush and beautiful. The baskets and planters are part of the focus on beautification as well as housing and historic preservation for the Allentown Association this year. Concentrating on its core mission, the Association is working to sustain the organization by continued emphasis on expense reduction, fundraisers and expanded reliance on volunteers.

The Association had a very successful AllenWest Festival in June, led by chairperson Monica Pellegrino, a cool and professional leader. The Association's largest fundraiser of the year, vendors with booths along Allen S. from Elmwood Ave. to Days Park pay a fee to the Association for sponsoring the event. T-shirt sales also helped to boost income and promote the Allentown neighborhood. Jonathan White has continued the annual tradition of the Association's hot dog stand in the Allentown Art Festival. His ability to control expenses has helped to raise funds for the Association. The old grill, being moved many times and used for years, finally wore out when the bottom gave way, but we are hopeful that it can be repaired for next year.

Secrets of Allentown, the area's premier historic house tour, will be held in 2008 and it is hoped that the Daughters of the American Revolution's Katherine Pratt Horton Chapter will be a partner and its house on Delaware Avenue will be a big draw. While the event will not be held in 2007, the Association will be sponsoring a ghost-themed fundraiser, "Haunted Allentown" on Oct. 20.

It will feature guided architectural and "haunted" walking tours of Allentown with headquarters at the Hamlin House where wine tasting will be found along with other surprises. The haunted courtyard at Steel Crazy will be another big attraction. Allentown residents will have the chance to participate in the event by being part of the "Allentown 2007 Spookiest House Halloween Decorating Contest," with judging and cash awards to be announced Oct. 20. House decorating entry forms are available on the Association's newly revamped website. It should be a fun event that will bring people to Allentown and help raise funds for the Association.

The Association also looks for grant administration opportunities to raise funds and has obtained administration rights over two such grants in 2007. Membership dues and contributions continue to make the biggest impact to the Association. We continue to be a membership-driven organization and we thank YOU, our members, for keeping the Association going. Your membership is more important than ever.

Since the Allentown Association receives no government assistance for operational costs, expense reduction is a paramount concern. A partnership with the Preservation Coalition of Erie County has allowed the Association to split office expenses for rent and utilities.

The Association has also transferred much of its work to volunteers and board members and has reduced the staffing to about 15-hours per week for the its efficient office manager, Andrew Eisenhardt.

With initiatives underway in historic preservation and with the continued financial diligence and prudent management, the Association will be around for many years to come to serve the Allentown community.



## Three new directors join Association board

Three new members were elected to the Allentown Association Board of Directors at the board's meeting July 17.

They are:

Brian Faix, a Park St. resident who is a licensed paramedic working in emergency services; Sarah Gilewicz, a new homeowner on College St. employed as a structural engineer; and Ed Hogle, owner of Steel Crazy at 191 Allen St., selling custom-made art and decorative products in steel, tile and glass, and Café Steel Crazy. He is a City of Tonawanda resident.

The nominees were presented by Holly Holdaway, Nominating Committee chairperson, and expressed their interest in serving when questioned by board members.

Normally directors are elected by the membership at the annual meeting but the Association's bylaws permit the board to fill vacancies.

Debra Bowers resigned as a director to concentrate on pursuing a master's degree.

Brian Faix accepted the post of chairman of the Crime and Safety Committee which had been vacant. Christopher Brown reported that a wave of break-ins and thefts has occurred throughout Allentown.

## The annual Allentown Garage and Porch Sale will be Saturday, August 25, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

*All Allentown residents may participate. Turn your unwanted items into treasures for discriminating buyers — and put some cash in your pocket!*

*The Allentown Association will advertise the event in The Buffalo News, A map listing all participating addresses will be posted on the Web. On Aug. 25 maps will be distributed at the Association office at 14 Allen St. Allentown Association members may participate free. A \$5 fee will be charged to nonmembers to offset advertising expenses.*

Just detach and drop off this form with the participation fee (if applicable) or mail it to the Allentown Association, 14 Allen St., Buffalo 14202, no later than Friday, Aug. 17.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Address of Sale (if different): \_\_\_\_\_

Phone No.: \_\_\_\_\_

E-Mail Address (optional): \_\_\_\_\_

Are you a current member of the Allentown Association? Yes \_\_\_ No \_\_\_ If not, please consider joining the Association. Simply fill out form on the back.

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# Snooty Fox Lounge now open on Delaware

By Matthew Ryan

I drive past 445 Delaware every day so I can tell you, the “coming soon” sign was up for longer than soon would imply. One step inside tells the story of why it took proprietor and wood worker Sal Buscaglia a bit longer to put this place together. The final product is “just how I originally envisioned,” he says.

Snooty Fox’s layout has a number of dynamics providing for different spins on an evening out:

— Looking to hang at the bar for cocktails: plenty of bar space, stools, smiling bartenders (Corey) and beer taps out of the way rather than acting as a barrier as at some places. From the “Simple Pleasures” menu I enjoyed the thoughtfully selected plate of meats, cheeses, artichoke hearts, olives, etc. Perfect with my glass of Jamison.

— A closed group off the bar but still in the scene: a very comfortable, sophisticated couch area is set up with bottle service available. This was my favorite way to go when I lived in South Florida so I was thrilled to see the concept here at home. Grab a few friends and kick back with a bottle of vodka, a bottle of rum, some mixers. A great time with only one slight drawback; this night always ends with a bottle of champagne, the need for which will escape you in the morning.

— Drinks and a casual bite to eat away from the crowd: there are several well-thought-out nooks where you can get just enough privacy to enjoy your company but still be in the mix, a tricky, middle ground that the Snooty Fox achieves.

— One-on-one dinner: if you want the standard dinner-for-two set up, the back room serves as the main dining room. “I never intended for this place to be a ‘restaurant’. It is a lounge. It is about the whole experience, not just sitting down with a date for dinner,” says Sal. But the food is excellent.

— Private group: The back room is set up to accommodate every small group-event from a business presentation to a private party. Even more exciting is the upstairs space that goes out onto a rooftop patio. All of this can be reserved. Next time your out-of-town friends come in, book it and show them what is happening in Buffalo.

Always eager to do a thorough check on any new night spot, I’ve stopped in half a dozen times. At first impression I thought the

te tetteststttest crowd was a bit stuffy. The next time I spotted Joel Giambra and realized I was in a sea of gray hair and cheap suits, a brief visit that could have been my last. The third time was a charm. Suddenly I noticed the soulful music playing, the atmosphere was vibrant, the crowd hip and friendly. Sal has been successful in building a beautiful bar, now we’ll see if he can get the atmosphere just right.

“I want to attract a more mature, sophisticated patron” says Sal, “this (Delaware corridor of Allentown) is where it is happening and the young professionals here in our city are making it the place to be”.

## Three new businesses open

Two new eating establishments and a medical clothing store have joined the Allentown business scene.

**Lagniappes** has opened at 244 Allen St. offering New Orleans style food for take-out delivery and catering.

Cousins Donald and Chris Silverstein operate Lagniappes, currently open daily except Sunday and Monday from 4 p.m. to 2 a.m. Specialties include gumbo, a Taste of Buffalo award winner, jambalaya, Creole meatloaf, catfish, po’ boys and desserts. Call 883-3663.

**Steel Crazy Café** has opened around the corner of Elmwood Ave. from Steel Crazy at Elmwood and Allen St., open from 11 a.m. to 9 p.m. seven days a week, offering crepes, wraps and drinks. Ed Hogle is the proprietor.

**Affordable Scrubs & Stuff** is opening at 168 Elmwood Ave., offering clothing for medical and health-care personnel as well as women’s clothing. Terrence Gidney is the owner. Call 837-0126.

## Commercial façade grants available

City grants of up to \$2,500 are available to commercial establishments for exterior façade improvements. Call Jeanine Baran at the Buffalo Economic Renaissance Corp. at 842-2667, extension 115, for information.

## Business mixer Sept. 10

All Allentown business owners are invited to a meeting and mixer Monday Sept. 10 at 7 p.m. in the Quaker Bonnet Eatery, 175 Allen St. The event is sponsored by the Allentown Associations Business Relations Committee. Appetizers and drinks will be served.

“We are committed to Allentown businesses, how can we support you? Attend to share your comments, feedback, and suggestions,” said Matthew Ryan, committee chairman.

He can be reached for at 863-1204, or call the Association office at 881-1024 for further information.

## Allen St. loses NEO

NEO, a pillar of the Allentown business district since 1985, is closing its store at 55 Allen St. It will reopen at 512 Elmwood Ave. near W. Utica St., tentatively in September.

Joan Zoerb, co-owner with her sister, Joyce Zoerb, said they were unable to negotiate a new lease for the 4,000-square-foot store at Allen and Franklin Sts. “We will miss Allentown,” she said.

The new store will be slightly smaller and will concentrate on gifts and home decorative accessories, discontinuing furniture.

“We’re sorry to see them go. NEO has always been a great supporter of the Allentown community,” said Christopher Brown, Allentown Association president.



# Waite's 249 North St. to become upscale apartments

The Richard Waite-designed house at 249 North St., briefly the site of the Mark Twain Museum, has been purchased by Charles Fredericksen of Fredericksen Development for \$315,000. Reached in Romania at a family wedding, he said he plans to invest \$1-million to renovate the structure as eight luxury apartments. He is the owner of renovated properties at 415 Franklin St. and 53 Days Park. In other preservation news:

—Owners of the Coit House, Buffalo's oldest residence at 414 Virginia St., failed to get Preservation Board permission to raise four windows by up to four inches. The vote July 19 was five to four, with six votes needed for permission.

—Quaker Bonnet Eatery received a \$2,500 Buffalo Economic Renaissance grant to cover part of the cost of restoring windows in the 1868 Friends Meeting House at 173 Allen St.

—Buffalo Reuse was able to salvage 30 doors and well as brackets, moldings and other woodwork from the interior of 399 Franklin St. before it was demolished in July. The salvaged materials will be available for sale.

—The Preservation Board has authorized a new roof at 70 N. Pearl St., a deck at 175 College St., and posts surrounding a parking lot at Allen and College Sts.

## Calendar of Events

**Allendale Theater**, 203 Allen St. Theater of Youth season begins in September. For information and tickets call 884-4400.

**Allentown Association**, 14 Allen St., Board of Directors meets Aug. 21 and Sept. 18, 14 Allen St. Garage and Porch Sale, Aug. 25, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m., maps at 14 Allen St., see page 4. Business mixer, Sept. 10, Quaker Bonnet Eatery, 175 Allen St. For information call 881-1024 or email [allentown@bfm.org](mailto:allentown@bfm.org).

**Art Dialogue Gallery**, 1 Linwood Ave., Tuesday to Friday, 11 a.m. to 5 p.m., Saturday, 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. Photography by R. H. Stamps, "Expressions of Hope from Africa and the Dominican Republic," through Aug. 24. For information call 885-2251.

**Betty's restaurant**, 370 Virginia St. at Cottage St. Exhibition of structured collages by Douglas Bauer Aug. 13 through September. Opening reception Aug. 13, 6 to 9 p.m.

**Buffalo Infringement Festival**, daily through Aug. 5, College Street Gallery, Days Park, El Museo, Gallery 164, Nietzsche's, Rust Belt Books, Staples, Steel Crazy. For schedule of events and times see [www.infringebuffalo.org](http://www.infringebuffalo.org).

**College Street Gallery**, 244 Allen St., Wednesday, 6 to 8 p.m., Thursday, 5 to 8 p.m.; Friday, 4 to 8 p.m., Saturday and Sunday, 2 to 5 p.m. "Sack Food People," artwork by Lauren Ennett, through Aug. 31. For information call 882-9727.

**El Museo**, 91 Allen St., Thursday through Saturday, noon to 5. Invitational exhibition through Aug. 8. For information call 884-9693.

**First Presbyterian Church**, Symphony Circle, **St. Louis Catholic Church**, Main and Edward Sts., and **St. Paul's Episcopal Cathedral**, Church and Franklin Sts., free guided tours of the three churches August 11 and Sept. 8, beginning at St. Paul's at 10 a.m., transportation not provided.

**Karpeles Manuscript Library Museum**, 220 North St., Tuesdays through Sundays, 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. "Letters from the Pen," documents by famous and infamous prisoners, through November. For further information call 886-3656.

**Kleinhans Community Association**, monthly meetings, Aug. 15, 6 p.m., Sept. 15, 10:15 a.m., 42 Plymouth Ave., Heart of the city Neighborhoods.

**Kleinhans Music Hall**, Buffalo Philharmonic Orchestra opening night with Van Cliburn, Sept. 15, 8 p.m., "Cinderella to Scheherazade," Sept. 29, 8 p.m., and Sept. 30, 2:30 p.m. For tickets and information, call 885-5000.

**Nina Freudenheim Gallery**, Hotel Lenox, 140 North St. Reopens Sept. 8 with exhibition of paintings by Peter Stephens. Tuesday through Friday, 10 to 5; Sunday, Monday, by appointment. For information call 882-5777.

**Rust Belt Books**, 202 Allen St. Theater in the back room, Aug. 10, 11, 17, 18, 24, 8 p.m.; Aug. 12, 19, 26, 2 p.m., call for details. Just Buffalo poetry readings, Aug. 19 and Sept. 16, 7 p.m. Cat Venom comedy improv, Aug. 31, Sept 7 and 14, 8 p.m. Clocks Ticking Backwards, Sept 1, 6 p.m. Just Buffalo Literary Center Small Press Poetry Series, Sept. 20, Complete Works of Shakespeare, Abridged, comedy theater, Sept 22, 23, 29, 30, three shows from 2 to 9 p.m. Call for information, 885-9535.

**Theodore Roosevelt Inaugural Site** (Wilcox Mansion), 641 Delaware Ave., Monday to Friday 9 to 5, Saturday, Sunday, noon to 5 p.m. Guided two-hour tours of Allentown Aug. 8, 15, 22, and 29 at 10 a.m. and Aug. 4 and Sept. 1 at 1 p.m., cost \$4, no reservations. "Artists and Architects of Allentown," guided tour and lunch, Aug. 8, 10 a.m., reservations required. "A New Look at Richmond Ave.," guided tour and lunch, Sept. 8, 10 a.m. Annual awards dinner, Adams Mark Hotel, Sept. 14, reservations required. For information call 884-0095.

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## *An Allentown Almanac*

The College Club, a women's club in a historic mansion at 264 Summer St., is inviting Allentown women to learn about membership in the organization which presents educational and informative programs in the arts, science, music, theater, crafts and travel. The club also awards college scholarships and offers bridge and social programs. For further information call Carolann Besch at 883-4482...

About 50 people attended a lecture on Allentown architect Richard Waite by Martin Wachadlo, an architectural historian, July 5 in the Karpeles Manuscript Library Museum North St. building. It was the final free seminar in a series of 10 sessions on Allentown architecture and home repairs arranged by Christopher Brown, Allentown Association president and sponsored by the Association and the Karpeles Museum. Another series is being planned for the fall...

The Allentown Association needs a few good volunteers for upcoming events: the annual Porch and Garage Sale Aug. 25, a membership drive and beautification (which includes help watering and weeding tree beds and planters, planting new trees, litter cleanup, taking old posters off lampposts etc.) If you have even a few hours to spare for the betterment of our neighborhoods, please contact the Association office at 881-1024 or [allentown@bfm.org](mailto:allentown@bfm.org), or Megan Weaver at [artofmegan@yahoo.com](mailto:artofmegan@yahoo.com)...

About 100 people toured Allentown as part of Buffalo's Old Home Week tours July 7. The Karpeles Manuscript Library Museum at North St. and Elmwood Ave. was the base for the Allentown tour. Maps and color brochures were handed out there. The self-guided tour included Allen St., side streets, and Symphony Circle with Kleinhans Music Hall. Allentown was one of six neighborhoods featured, including Elmwood, Hamlin Park, Parkside, University Heights and Downtown.

David Granville of Plymouth Ave., the mayor's sister-city liaison, is in Kanazawa, Japan, Buffalo's first sister city, with a delegation whose visit marks an opening of a exhibit on loan from the Albright-Knox Art Gallery.

## Volunteers make Allentown shine

Allentown looks fabulous thanks to these volunteers who have helped with one or more of the Allentown Association's spring and summer beautification efforts, including planting flowers, hanging flower baskets and watering planters and trees:

Tom Ripley, Tim Shippert, Barb Timlin, Tim Riordan, Eric Arzola, Alan Bigelow, Elizabeth Licata, Brian Faix, Monica Pellegrino, Peter Grine, Karen Parry, Wayne Parry.

James Charlier of Lancaster Ave. provided a generous \$300 donation for the hanging floral baskets.

Also, the Association's social services program in conjunction with the Adult Learning Center has had a dramatic effect in helping keep Allentown streets free of litter. If you see these workers in neon safety vests around the neighborhood, please take a moment to thank them for their efforts.

## *The Allentown Neighbor*

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# COPS site coordinator leaves for new police job

Mary Ruchaczewski, site coordinator of the COPS (Community Oriented Policing Satellite) Station serving Allentown since 2003, has taken a new job with the Police Department as a public safety dispatcher.

Mary R., as she became known to Allentowners, said she does not know if the vacant position will be filled. The COPS site moved to the Allentown Association office at 14 Allen St., with space provided by the Association, in 2006. Before that the site was in the Roosevelt Apartments at 927 Main St.

As coordinator, she helped resolve problems of low-level crime including illegal parking, noisy parties, abandoned vehicles, graffiti, animal nuisances, threats and harassment, trash and suspicious activity. She also provided training in homeland security, safety and preparedness for individuals and block clubs in Allentown, the Fruit Belt and the Medical Campus.

## ALLENTOWN ASSOCIATION MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

**Please select a membership level:**

- Benefactor \$1,000
- Patron \$500
- Contributing \$250
- Sustaining \$100
- Business \$50
- Family \$40
- Individual \$35
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Please make checks payable to: Allentown Association, Inc.

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**OPTIONAL VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES (Please check the committee of interest to you):**

- Allen West Festival
- Beautification
- Membership/PR
- Secrets of Allentown tour of homes
- Crime Reduction
- Fundraising
- Hot Dog Stand
- Volunteer Office Staff
- Board of Directors

*The purpose of the Allentown Association, Inc. is to serve its community. It does that through efforts to beautify the neighborhood; to encourage historic preservation and property maintenance; to promote appropriate business development; to fight crime and to protect and enhance Allentown's unique urban ambiance.*



**THE ALLENTOWN ASSOCIATION, INC.**  
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Visit on the web: [www.allentown.org](http://www.allentown.org)

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