



The Allentown Neighbor

September - October - November 2017

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Phone: (716) 881-1024 • Email: allntown@localnet.com • Website: www.allentown.org

Art Chase returns Sept. 1

Pray for balmy skies:
Rain forced cancellation
of 4 Gallery Walks

The Allentown First Friday Gallery Walk on Sept. 1 will be all Art Chase, the competitive scavenger hunt that was such a great success last year.

Pray for good weather.

Downpours or forecasts of downpours washed out the Frist Fridays of May, June, July and August, deeply disappointing Gallery Walk chair Elizabeth Switzer and her small committee of organizers.

"The wonderful performers and artists we had lined up have also been saddened by these events, but have been supportive of our decisions, as we made them with their best interests at heart," Switzer said. "The vendors that had been lined up for the August First Friday artisan market have been contacted about participating in the Allentown Fall Festival, and we are in conversation with the other performers and participants about working with this on future projects."

"This year was a disappointment, but in the end the outdoor events are simply add-ons to the real heart of First Friday – the incredible and vibrant efforts of the art galleries we have in our neighborhood."

Of course, the galleries will be open during Art Chase, which is 6-9 p.m.



Neighbors of all ages are invited to create teams of four to compete in fun challenges around Allen Street from re-enacting famous paintings to performing an impromptu haiku. With stellar local prizes for the winning team, this second-annual event stimulates creative exploration and support of the city's vibrant art scene.

Continued on Page 10

Membership meeting is set for Oct. 24

*Up to six new candidates
sought for board of directors*

One of the highlights of The Association's annual membership meeting is the election of the board of directors.

This year's meeting is set 6-8 p.m., Oct. 24, in the Allendale Theater, 203 Allen St., and up to six new directors will be needed to keep the board at 21 members.

If you would like to be one of them, call the Association at 881-1024 to let the Membership Committee know.

Directors are expected to attend regularly scheduled board meetings and be available for phone consultation, commit to at least two hours of time per month for Association activities and donate money beyond the nominal membership dues.

They also are expected to volunteer at key events such the Allen West Festival and Allentown Fall Festival.

This seems to be asking a lot, but residents love this neighborhood and find it rewarding to be engaged in helping it progress.

If you cannot commit to a directorship with its monthly meetings, please at least consider helping make Allentown a better place by volunteering on a committee.

The Association needs a variety of people of all ages, genders and races with organizational and personal skills who can contribute to improving the neighborhood through activities in beautification, historic preservation, business development, public safety and event management.

Again, call the office and offer to help.



PRESIDENT'S REPORT

What are your aspirations for our neighborhood?

By **SETH AMMAN**

Allentown Association President

In late June the Association board dedicated an afternoon to step away from day-to-day activities and look to the future of the Association at a mini-retreat on the beautiful shores of Lake Ontario at a board member's lake house.

We spent the time to reflect on the Association's current programs, consider an ideal board composition, review the structure and roles within the organization, and begin a vision statement that will help to serve the community in the years to come.

The afternoon was led by Emily Stewart, who facilitated the discussion and is a board member of the Lexington Co-op and a founding member-owner of Breadhive Bakery & Cafe. Emily brought a wealth of knowledge and she helped to guide the afternoon with an outside perspective of the Association's board and operations.

The board determined that the mission statement of the organization is still relevant:

"The only purpose of the Allentown Association 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."



Seth Amman

fy 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."

However, we decided that we lacked a clear vision statement that would help guide us in a strategic way in the coming years. We decided there are four areas that would be important elements in the vision:

- 1) Develop educational opportunities within the neighborhood.
- 2) Work to bolster a mixed-used diverse business district.

- 3) Enhance the "Community of Arts."

- 4) Continue to revitalize the cultural landscape and historic elements within the neighborhood.

The board would be remiss not to ask the membership what its aspirations are for Allentown in the coming years as well. So, as we work toward an organizational vision we invite you to be a part of this process by anonymously submitting your thoughts at this web address:

<https://tinyurl.com/y9yexw34>

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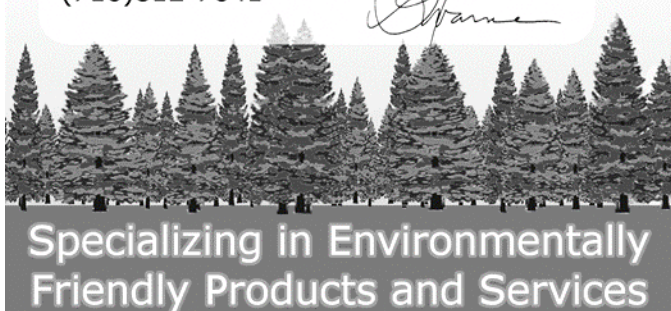


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New restaurant opens at 23 Allen

A Street – Meatball Market has opened at 23 Allen St., adjacent to the Caffeeology coffee shop.

Owners Bobby Burns and Dennis Glenn say their restaurant is "a Buffalo bistro with a European flare, specializing in gluten-free beef, chicken, pork and vegetarian meatballs."

It offers six different sauces, flatbread pizzas, crispy baked sandwiches and some pastries.

It also serves milk shakes and healthy smoothies.

Burns and Glenn moved to Buffalo from New York City. They said the proximity of the University at Buffalo's new Jacobs School of Medicine and Biomedical Sciences is what drew them to the site.

The restaurant's phone number is 551-0991.



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Neighbors balk at revised plans for Ascension site

The Episcopal Diocese of Western New York knows it could sell the former Ascension Church site at North Street and Linwood Avenue to a high-end housing developer for a bundle of money.

But it wants to develop it itself for low-income senior housing and a community center, seeing a need for that as the Buffalo Niagara Medical Campus expands and the neighborhood goes upscale.

It showed its plans Aug. 17 at the Twentieth Century Club to a skeptical audience of mostly Linwood Historic District residents.

The diocese and its housing affiliate plan a new 4-story building on the lawn west of the church that will hold 25 one-bedroom apartments; a church basement redo to accommodate three 2-bedroom apartments, and renovations to the E.B. Green-designed parish house for common service areas for residents.

The apartments will be small – about 600 square feet for the one-bedrooms – but none of the age 55 and older residents would have pay more than 30 percent of their incomes to live there.

Two years ago, the diocese presented similar plans, but that design was rejected by the State Historic Preservation Office, whose approval is necessary to obtain state and federal tax credits that the diocese says are critical



The State Historic Preservation Office approves of this design.

to project financing. SHPO objected to three elements: the proposed new building was too close to North Street, blocking some views of the historic church; it also blocked the view of the parish house; and the new building's sloped roof reduced appreciation of the church's roof.

Architectural Resources reworked the design, pushing the new building back on the site; making a sliver of the parish house visible, and making the roof flat. SHPO now approves.

The new building's exterior will have a manufactured surface that looks like the sandstone of the church, and four long windows in front that complement four upper windows on the front of the church.

Pete Carroll, chair of the Allentown Association's Housing and Historic Preservation Committee, said he had no objections to the plans. The Associ-

ation also had no objections to the design from two years ago.

But Linwood neighbors complained that:

- The new building looks like a 1970s-style office structure.
- There's no parking provided and finding a space is already hard for some residents. (Rev. Cathy Dempsey-Sims said the diocese is exploring parking possibilities.)
- No new senior housing is needed, with Linwood Manor, Trinity Tower and Baptist Manor already on Linwood.
- An upscale developer might not need historic tax credits and could build something striking incorporating the church.

The project still must be approved by the city Planning Board and Preservation Board. Residents said they would argue against approval.



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Neighborhood news notes . . .

Fall Festival is slated Oct. 14

The Allentown Fall Festival will be held 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 14, on Allen Street east of Delaware Ave. Seasonal food and drinks, adult beverages, and artisan craft vendors will be on the street, with live music beginning at 11 a.m. on festival stages.

A separate family area will be set up in the parking lot of the Theodore Roosevelt Inaugural National Historic Site, 641 Delaware Ave. It'll be open 10 a.m. to 3 p.m., featuring a petting zoo, hay rides with historical tours, face painting, pumpkin crafts, a Teddy Bear story hour, TR Site tours and chalk drawing.

Details are still being worked out. Check the Association's web site and Facebook page for more information as the date draws near.

Settlement reached in 14 Allen collapse

The Association finally received a \$73,600 settlement from its insurance company for damage done three years ago to equipment and files in its former offices at 14 Allen St. in the Red Jacket.

The building had been undergoing renovation when a collapse above the office caused water lines to break, bust the ceiling and inundate everything.

The bulk of the settlement is to restore the soaked files that document the history of the Association.

"You can credit Andrew Pace for moving the settlement along and securing a favorable amount to stabilize and clean the documents," said President Seth Amman. Pace is an attorney and an Association vice president.

So far, two restoration/stabilization companies have been identified to provide bids. The winner will clean the materials, kill off harmful mold, and place documents in new folders if necessary.

Online shopping can help neighborhood

Now you can support the work of the Allentown Association every time you buy something online from Amazon, and it will cost you nothing.

AmazonSmile is a website operated by Amazon with the same products, prices, and shopping features as Amazon.com. The difference is that when you shop on AmazonSmile, the AmazonSmile Foundation will donate one-half of 1 percent of the purchase price of eligible products to the charitable organization of your choice. So spend \$200 and the Association gets a \$1 donation.

Here are three ways to link up:

- Go to www.allentown.org, scroll down to the "Donate" section and click on the AmazonSmile link.

- Or sign into your account from this link: <https://smile.amazon.com/ch/16-0975342>.

- Or just sign into Amazon as usual, type "AmazonSmile" into the search box, and then for the Allentown Association.

A few Allentown streets need work

To help decide what roads are in need resurfacing and reconstruction, the city ranks its streets on a 1-to-10 scale — 1 being basically impassible, 10 being newly constructed.

Channel 2 got the street-by-street rankings months after filing a freedom of information request for it, and posted a map on its website, WGRZ.com. Here's how Allentown came out:

Franklin Street is rated 9, "newly resurfaced."

North Street and Arlington Place are 8, "excellent condition."

Allen Street and Delaware Avenue are 7, "early signs of wear." But of course, Allen is on verge of becoming a 10 over the next 2 years.

Park Street, lower Mariner and lower North Pearl are 6, "moderate signs of wear."

Upper Mariner and Wadsworth are 5, "fair condition."

Irving, Edward and upper North Pearl are 4, "poor condition."

The rest of the streets are in the 5-7 range except the alleys, which are 3, "very poor condition."

We're city's most walkable neighborhood

Walkscore.com calls Allentown the most walkable neighborhood in Buffalo, with a Walk Score of 93.

The city as a whole's score is 68.

In Allentown, "daily errands do not require a car," the site says. Our neighborhood also "has good public transportation and is somewhat bikeable," the site says, rating our Transit Score at 66 and Bike Score at 58, compared with the city's 50 and 54.

Walkscore is a site that shows rentals and homes for sale, and adds these scores that Realtors can link to in their listings.

Coit House for sale? Never mind.

On a lark, Suzanne-Jolie Rioux and Tim Boylan, owners of Coit House, posted it at \$800,000 on Zillow.com's "Make Me Move" feature, which teases potential buyers that owners may have an interest in selling without actually listing the property for sale.

Allentown was abuzz. Coit House, 414 Virginia St., is Buffalo's oldest home and the Allentown Association 20 years ago acquired it and kept it from serious decline.

"We just picked a number," Rioux told the Buffalo News. "It was arbitrary and obnoxious, and we didn't care. We were literally just curious to see what kind of response we would get."

The couple bought the house in December 2014 for \$365,000, and have invested more than \$100,000 in it since then.

"We love our house. We love taking care of her as best as we can," Boylan said. "We don't have any plans to put the Coit House up for sale."



Attending National Night Out activities in Symphony Circle, left, is B District Chief Joseph Gramaglia flanked by Community Police Officers Jean Anne Sharpe and Joseph Szafranski. At right, the Theresa Quinn Trio perform: singers Stephanie Bax and Annie Deck-Miller, and pianist Theresa Quinn.



July 30 arson overshadows normal nuisance crimes

The biggest crime in Allentown this summer was the July 30 arson fire that heavily damaged a 5-unit historic house at 486 Franklin St.

Police charged a 29-year-old man in the case. Fire officials estimated \$500,000 in damage to the building and \$250,000 to contents.

An emergency demolition order was issued, but Lou Petrucci, assistant director of building inspections and permits, is holding off in hope the house can be saved.

The house is owned by Gregory Gerwitz, who owns 357 Hudson St., which suffered a fire over 3 years ago and is still vacant and derelict.

In this case, however, he has boarded the ground-floor windows, hopefully contemplating restoration.

Cynthia Van Ness, director of library and archives at the Buffalo History Museum, said Jacob F. Schoellkopf (1819-1899) was probably the person who built the house.

He owned the property from at least 1866 to 1893, she said. Schoellkopf was an early Buffalo industrialist and scion of the family whose company first generated electric power from Niagara Falls.

In contrast, it's nuisance crimes and late-night noise that police most contend with in Allentown.

Thefts from vehicles remain one of the higher nuisance crime categories. Vehicle owners are again reminded to always lock cars at night and leave nothing of value visible in the car, even loose change that would encourage a thief to break in.

As for noise, Allen Street bars have eclipsed those of Chippewa in popularity. Ten officers are now assigned to weekend patrol on Allen compared to two on Chippewa.

Officers were asked to monitor Falley Allen, 42 Allen St., to ensure that its patio closes no later than midnight, as mandated by the Common Council.



Firefighters battle the two-alarm fire at 486 Franklin St.

Burglaries are down in the neighborhood and can be reduced further if residents make it harder for thieves to enter. First-floor windows with air conditioners should be blocked to make them unable to be fully opened. Of course, keep doors and windows locked at night and when away. Lock gates, especially after dark.

Police met Allentown residents at two events this summer in Symphony Circle: the B District Community Meeting in June and National Night Out on Aug. 1. Night Out featured food, music and some fun events for children.

Community Police Officers for Allentown and part of Linwood are Jean Anne Sharpe (jasharpe@bpdny.org) and Joseph Szafranski (jjszafr@bpdny.org). They can also be reached by phone at 851-5002.



Major improvements planned for Sisti Park

Lights, benches, fencing, more to be replaced by Parks Dept.

Volunteers spent more than 100 hours this year digging, trimming and planting to enhance Tony Sisti Park at Franklin and North streets.

They planted a 10-foot white flowering dogwood tree, a gift from the Allentown Village Society.

They replanted two flower beds, one long and one small, and made many changes to a third.

They put in a colorful array of annuals and perennials to coincide with Garden Walk Buffalo.

And they spent hours watering during several dry spells to ensure the new plants would survive.

This fall, they will plant tulip and daffodil bulbs to give the park a dramatic look for next spring.

And bigger things are planned. Friends of Sisti Park, the Linwood-Allentown neighborhood block club that supplies these volunteers, and Deputy Parks Commissioner Andy Rabb have developed a three-phase action plan going forward:

- This fall's first-phase involves city workers trimming trees and reseeding the lawn in the park's grove and replacing damaged spotlights and four corroding light standards.



Volunteers from Friends of Sisti Park have been busy planting, trimming and watering plants this summer.

Because the Buffalo Arts Commission has designated the park a work of art, replacement standards will be identical to the present ones, only with LED lights. The original ones were installed during the 1970s when the park was designed by architect Peter Castle and were created by sculptor Dwayne Hatchett.

- The second phase calls for upgrading or replacing benches, picnic tables and fencing, subject to approval by the Arts Commission. A park sign, similar to those in other city parks, is also planned.

- The third phase will involve replacing damaged hardscape, which would require inclusion in the city's capital improvement budget. Friends of Sisti Park is embarking on solicitation of private funding for park furnishings and fencing to supplement city contributions.

Friends of Sisti Park gratefully acknowledges the support of Garden Walk Buffalo, the Allentown Association, the Allentown Village Society, the Linwood Preservation District & Friends, Schuele Ace Hardware, the Buffalo Master Gardener Program, and the 1120 Main Street Art Gallery.

Friends of Sisti Park Membership Application

Become part of the beautification efforts as a contributing member of Friends of Sisti Park by filling out this application form and sending it with a check (\$15 individual, \$30 family) made out to the Allentown Association (specify "Friends of Sisti Park" on the check memo line) and mail to: Friends of Sisti Park, c/o 151 Mariner St., Buffalo, NY, 14201.

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

Ramona and Rik Whitaker, co-coordinators. Friends of Sisti Park is a registered member of the Buffalo Board of Block Clubs. The Allentown Association Inc. is a 501(c)(3) organization and your donation is fully tax deductible as allowable by law.


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Who remembers shopping at the Allentown Food Coop?

Everyone seems to love the Lexington Cooperative Market at 807 Elmwood Ave. And it's been in the news a lot this summer for building a second location on Hertel Avenue. Quite an upscale success.

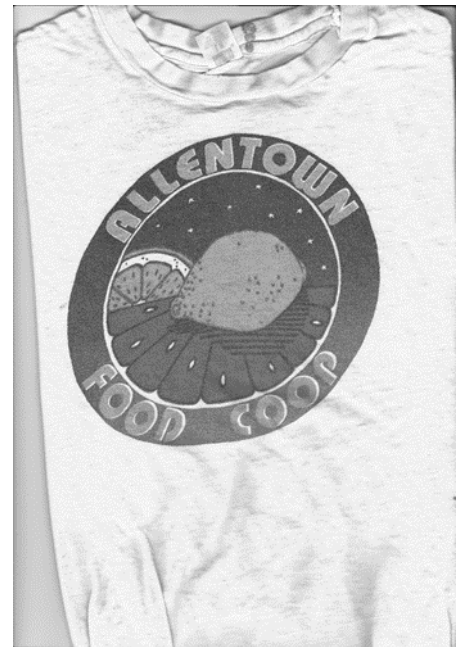
It had humble beginnings as what was then called the Lexington Real Foods Co-op on the southeast corner of Lexington and Ashland avenues. And it was just one of three formed in the city in the late 1960s and early 70s, the others being the Allentown Food Coop at 252 Allen St. and the North Buffalo Food Co-op on Main Street in University Heights.

Allentown's was probably the smallest of them, and in the mid-1980s it was the first to go under. It had depended on volunteer labor, and when a key leader moved out of town it just ran out of steam.

The Allentown Food Coop was also where the Buffalo Cooperative Federal Credit Union got its start. It's still going strong at 816 Elmwood Ave., across the street from the Lexington Cooperative Market.

All the co-ops were hippy organizations, mostly dealing in bulk foods and fresh produce. Organic foods were just emerging in the 1970s, and the co-ops were 20 years ahead of supermarket chains in selling them.

Today, organic food is sold everywhere, bulk foods are passe, and the site of the Allentown Food Coop has long been a parking lot.



An old T-shirt from the Allentown Food Coop.

PBN now does historic tax credit filings for homeowners

A great advantage to owning a home in a historic district like Allentown is that you can qualify for 20 percent state income tax credits on home repairs and restorations. That means a \$20,000 roof job becomes a \$16,000 job.

The Allentown Association has sent information about this several times to members.

To qualify, you have to fill-in forms and follow the rules – and some people seem to find this daunting.

Some architectural firms will take care of the paperwork for you, generally at a pricey fee.

But now Preservation Buffalo Niagara is doing it at reasonable cost.

Christina Liminatis, PBN's director of preservation services, will work with you through the entire process, from determining eligibility, reviewing work to assess compliance with the Secretary of the Interior's Standards, and preparing Parts 1, 2, and 3 of the state application.

PBN charges sliding fees, depending upon how much work a homeowner wants to do.

It's \$650 for up to three projects – say a new furnace, new roof, new front windows – including taking pictures and drawing floor plans. (You can save

\$150 if you want to supply your own photos and floor plans.)

It's \$900 for 4-to-10 projects, and \$1,200 for 11 or more.

The service is only for owner-occupied homes, not investment properties.

Call PBN at 852-3300 for more information.

PBN also continues to offer workshops explaining how historic district tax credits work. They're held 6-8 p.m. on the second Wednesday of every month in PBN's Market Arcade offices, Suite 201, 617 Main St. No reservations are required. They're free to PBN members; \$10 for non-members.

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Calendar of Autumn events

Allendale Theater, 203 Allen St. Theatre of Youth presents "Bunnicola" for ages 6 and up, Sept. 30 to Oct. 29; "NewKid," for ages 8 and up, by Dennis Foon, Oct. 21 and 22. For information and tickets, call 884-4400, see www.theatreofyouth.org.

Allentown Association, 61 College St. Board of Directors, Sept. 19, Oct. 17, Nov. 21, 7 p.m., 61 College St.; Litter Mob, Sept. 21, Oct. 19, Nov. 16; Annual meeting, Oct. 24, 7 p.m., preceded by 6 p.m. social hour, Allendale Theater, 203 Allen St. For information call 881-1024, see www.allentown.org.

Art Dialogue Gallery, 5 Linwood Ave., Tuesday to Friday, 11 a.m. to 5 p.m., Saturday, 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. Exhibits by Western New York artists. For information call 885-2251, see artdialoguegallery.com.

Artists Group Gallery, 1 Linwood Ave. Tuesday through Friday 11 a.m. to 5 p.m., Saturday, 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. "A Life's Work" of Victor Shanchuk Jr., various media, to Sept. 29; 26th annual regional artists' exhibition, Oct. 6 to Nov. 10, juried by Gary Wolfe; Artful gifts, Nov. 17 through December. For information, including water-color classes, call, 885-2251 or see wnyag.com.

Betty's restaurant, 370 Virginia St. at College St. Photographs by Gene Witkowski, to Sept. 17; drawings and paintings by Christy Zucarelli, Sept. 18 to Nov. 19; works by Dana Hatchett, Nov. 20 to Jan. 21.

Buen Vivir gallery, 148 Elmwood Ave, Tuesday to Friday, 1 to 4 and 6 to 8 p.m., Saturday, 1 to 3 p.m. For information call 931-5833, see Buenvivirgallery.org.

Buffalo Big Print gallery, 78 Allen St. Monday through Friday, 9:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. Richard Angel Runfolo's resin paintings, Sept. 1-29; Michael Andriaccio's paintings, Oct. 6-31; wood-fired pottery from Chautauqua area potters, Nov. 4-27. "Being John Berg," a life's work of illustrations, March 3 to May 1. For information call 884-1777.

Casa de Arte, 141 Elmwood Ave., Monday and Tuesday, 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.; First Fridays, 6 to 10 p.m.; and by appointment. "La Revolution Gloriosa," Sept. 1 to Oct. 1; "Who Was Ray Wander," stills from films by a Buffalo-born film-maker, Oct. 6 to 28; Day of the Dead, Mexican commemoration of ancestors, Nov. 3 to 15. For information call, 227-0271.

El Museo, 91 Allen St., Tuesday to Saturday, noon to 5 p.m. Works of Robert Harris and Kurt Von Voetsch, Sept. 1 to 23; anniversary exhibition, 20 years in Allentown, Oct. 6 to 14, auction closing party Oct. 14, 7 to 10 p.m.; Altars, celebration of El Dia de los Muertos, Nov. 1 to 18. For information, call 464-4692.

Fall Festival, Oct. 14, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. entertainment, vendors, food and drinks, Allen and Franklin Sts.; children's activities and horse-drawn carriage rides, Theodore Roosevelt Inaugural Site.

First Friday Gallery Tours, Allentown galleries will have extended evening hours, some with new exhibits and receptions, Sept. 1, Oct. 6, Nov. 3.

Grindhaus Café, Allen and Park Sts., Second Stage Writers, poetry and prose readings, 7 p.m. Sept. 8, Oct. 13, Nov. 10.

Indigo gallery, 74 Allen St., Tuesday to Friday, noon to 5 p.m., Saturday, noon to 3 p.m. "Co-modify," recent work by

Mizin Shin and J. Eric Simpson, Sept. 1 to 29; "Verdant," recent work by Mark Lavatelli, Oct. 6 to Nov. 5; Recent work by John LaTona, Nov. 10 to 15; "Winter," group exhibition, Nov. 20 to Dec. 17; a celebration of the season, Nov. 26 to Dec. 17. For information, call 984-9572.

Karpeles Manuscript Library Museum, 220 North St., 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. Thursdays, Fridays. Russia 1875 to 1925, through November. For information call 885-4139.

Kleinhaus Music Hall, Buffalo Philharmonic Orchestra, Classical Series, Brahms, Weiner, Tchaikovsky, Anne-Sophie Mutter, violin, Sept. 16, 8 p.m.; John Adams, Gershwin, Ellington, Copland, Sept. 29, 10:30 a.m., Oct. 1, 2:30 p.m.; Bernstein, Philip Glass, Grofé, Oct. 7, 8 p.m., Oct. 8, 2:30 p.m.; Strauss, Chopin, Brahms, Nov. 4, 8 p.m., Nov. 5, 1:30 p.m.; Tchaikovsky, Lalo, Liadov, Debussy, Nov. 17, 10:30 a.m., Nov. 18, 8 p.m. **Pops series**, Disney Fantasia, Sept. 23, 6 p.m. Mambo Kings, Oct. 14, 8 p.m.; Cirque de la Symphonie, Oct. 27, 10:30 a.m. Super Diamond, Nov. 11, 8 p.m. For tickets call 885-5000 or see www.bpo.org. **Buffalo Chamber Music Society** concerts, Tacacs Quartet, Oct. 10, 8 p.m.; Diaz trio, Nov. 14, 8 p.m.; For tickets call 462-4939 or see www.bflochambermusic.org.

Nina Freudenheim Gallery, Hotel Lenox, 140 North St. Tuesday through Friday 10 to 5, Saturdays by appointment. Nancy Dwyer, mixed media, Sept. 9 to Oct. 18; Allyson Strafella, paper, Oct. 21 to Nov. 22. For information call 882-5777.

125 Art Collective, 125 Elmwood Ave. Tuesday through Saturday, noon to 8 p.m. For information call 248-1155, see www.artcollective.com.

Pausa Art House, 19 Wadsworth St., Art, music, entertainment café, Thursday, Friday, Saturday, 6 p.m. to midnight. Exhibit opening, "Plays of Brilliance" by Steve Siegel, Sept. 1; Jacob Jay Quartet, Sept. 2; Beatles Jazz Quartet, Sept. 4; CTE Experience, Sept. 9; Midnight Blue, Sept. 9; Star People, Miles Davis Project, Sept. 15; Hot Club of Buffalo, Sept. 16; Tim Clarke Trio, Sept. 21; the Kensingtons, Sept. 23; Mark Filsinger Quartet, Sept. 28; Bobby Militello Quartet, Sept. 29, Oct. 27, Nov. 25; Baudo-Ferris Combo, Sept. 30; Plugged In and Tuned Out, Oct. 7; John Lehning Sax Quartet, Oct. 12; Buffalo Jazz Octet, Oct. 13; Carina & the Preacher, Oct. 14; Jazz 100 Fest, Nov. 19, 20, 21; Exhibit opening, art by Matthew Palmo. Call 697-9069. See www.pausaarthouse.com.

Pine Apple Company, 224 Allen St., Wednesday, Thursday, Friday, noon to 6 p.m.; Saturday, noon to 9 p.m., Sunday, 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. First Anniversary party Sept. 1, 6 to 9 p.m., group exhibit, through Sept. 30. Paintings and collages by J. Mages, Oct. 6 to 29. For information call 275-3648.

Theodore Roosevelt Inaugural National Historic Site (Wilcox Mansion), 641 Delaware Ave. Hours, Monday, Wednesday, Thursday, Friday, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.; Tuesday, 9 a.m. to 8 p.m.; Saturday and Sunday, noon to 5 p.m. Coloring night, Sept. 5, Oct. 3, Nov. 7, 5:30 p.m. TRivia night, Sept. 19, Oct. 17, Nov. 14, 6 p.m. Speaker night, Sept. 26, Oct. 24, 6 p.m. For information call 884-0095 or see www.trsite.org.

*The events calendar is compiled by Pete Carroll.
His email address is: pc261938@gmail.com.*



Donations sought for new siding at 61 College St.

For its headquarters, the Association last summer purchased 61 College St., a neglected house that desperately needed attention and repair.

Thanks to members who donated to the \$61-for-61 campaign, the Association rebuilt the front porch, created safe entrances, stabilized the exterior and completely reconfigured the first floor to create a large open meeting space that has accommodated not just Association committees, but a B-District Community Police session and several block clubs and other groups.

Outside, University at Buffalo student volunteers twice raked and cleaned the property. This July, volunteers installed a raised bed filled with perennials and placed the headquarters on the Garden Walk to showcase the work performed to date.

The rental apartment upstairs was painted and got a renovated bathroom. (The rental income offsets utilities and taxes and ensures that the house is not a burden on Association members.)

The next phase of restoration: repair and replacement of the exterior clapboard siding that has become damaged due to years of wear from improper rainwater management. The Association intends to completely strip the north side

and rear of the house, rebuild the corner boards and eaves and install Hardie Board concrete siding, which will ensure the stability of the exterior for many decades to come.

The estimate for this work is \$7,500. Fillmore Councilmember David Franczyk has offered a grant of \$2,500 if the remainder can be raised through the \$61-for-61 campaign.

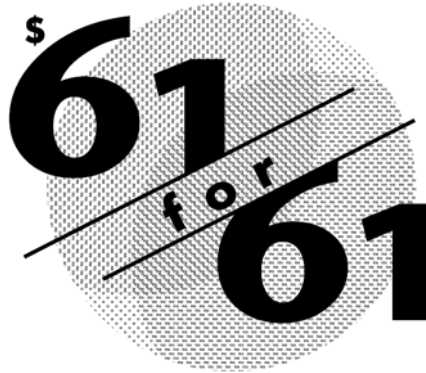
Members are asked to please consider a donation of at least \$61. The Association is a 501(c)(3) organization, so donations are tax deductible as allowable by law.

Please mail a donation of any amount to The Allentown Association Inc., 61 College St., Buffalo, NY 14201.

You may also make a secure donation online at allentown.org/61-for-61.

Future phases of restoration to be funded by the annual appeal will include

repair/restoration of historic wood windows, reconstruction of remaining eaves and drainage systems, installation of secure Bilco doors for the exterior basement entrance, a secure shed in the backyard for equipment storage, and restoration of walls and ceilings in the first-floor office and kitchen.



The Allentown Association: *Serving Buffalo's Great Historic Neighborhood for 50+ years*

Incorporated in 1963 as a 501(c)(3) charitable not-for profit community organization. Our Mission Statement:

The only purpose of The Allentown Association is to serve its community. It does that through efforts to beau-

tify 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.

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The Allentown Neighbor

The newsletter is published quarterly; mailed to members and others, and distributed for free at retail venues in Allentown.

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New 15 Allen building to retain some façade elements of old one

The derelict building at 15 Allen St. will be demolished and a new one incorporating salvageable elements from the existing façade will go up.

The Buffalo Preservation Board unanimously approved the project July 29, ending a lengthy saga of back-and-forth studies and negotiations over owner May Wong's plans for the site.

Wang, through Mayflower Allen Property LLC, originally wanted to renovate the two-story, red-brick building on site, but she was unable to secure historic tax credits to make the project work.

Preservation Board members balked at the demolition plan when it was first proposed, but in late March approved the concept of retaining the façade and tearing down the rest.

But then, a structural report from Syracuse Engineers threw doubt on whether the front wall could be safely stabilized and shored up. Here's how Architect Adam Sokol explained it in a filing with the Preservation Board:

"Because of the inherent instability of a heavy masonry wall supported by a single steel beam, the structural engineer for this project, Cathy Styn, P.E. of Syracuse Engineers, believes that attempting to shore and stabilize

the wall in place is impractical and potentially dangerous . . . Although the second-floor masonry is in good condition, the original facade of the first floor is severely deteriorated, with significant original fabric either missing or damaged or altered beyond repair . . .

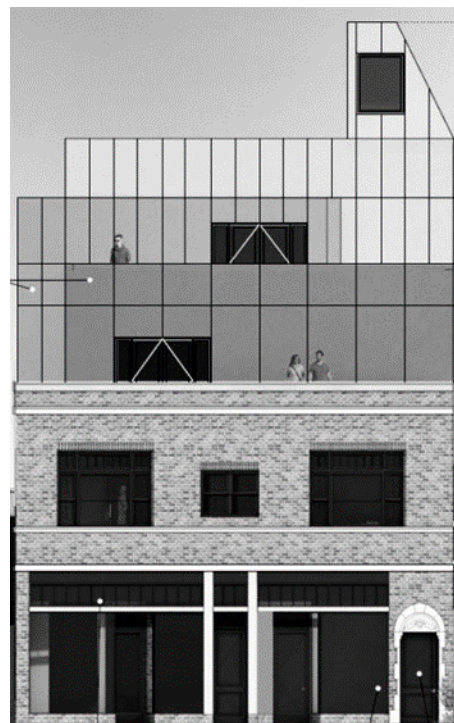
"We have proposed to salvage all those visible materials that are either in good condition, or that can plausibly be restored, including the following: face brick, cast stone trim including decorative surrounds, cornices, banding, door and window jambs, sills and headers, and other similar elements; and the original windows still extant on the second floor."

Next, the board objected to the shade of gray envisioned for the sides of the \$1.7 million building.

Sokol returned with a proposal for tan fiber cement panels for the façade up to the current building level along the east side and for just a portion of the west side. The balance remains gray but in a lighter tone.

Board members liked the warmer color scheme and unanimously approved the project.

The new apartment building will be three stories high, with multiple set-



How the front of 15 Allen will look.

backs on the third story that help distinguish new construction from the historic facade. There may be only one retail storefront, but it will retain two entrances, copying the original design.

"Context is one of the really important things in historic preservation," Board Chairman Paul McDonnell told The Buffalo News. "Adam did a nice job. His original design was trying to accentuate the new. We felt that it stood out too much."

Free T-shirts for early registrants

Continued from Page One

Plus, the first 17 teams to register get an #artchase17 shirt!

So gather your teammates, get your game faces on, and register at tinyurl.com/artchaseform.

Might you perform an interpretive dance outside a gallery? Find a hidden, mini painting?

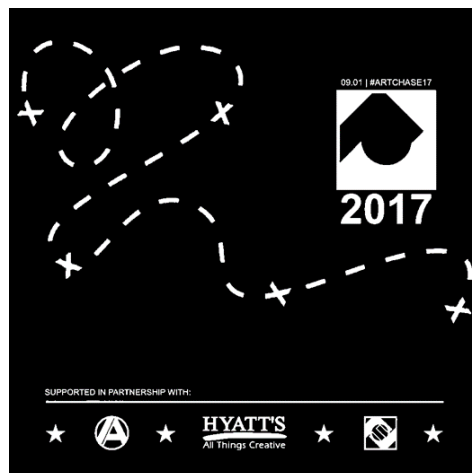
Grab new friends to build a human sculpture? Get a tattoo?

The Association will be tracking the whole game's progress on the super fun GooseChase Adventures app. So warm-up by catching a few Pokémon and get your photography skills ready

to record your team's progress on the live stream for Allentown.

Art Chase was created by Allentown resident Kelly Atkinson and presented at the National Trust for Historic Preservation's annual Main Street Conference this past May as a unique way of using technology to help people approach art.

Kelly is a creative strategist and has coordinated Green Window City, a two-week exhibit showcasing local artists who created works of upcycled materials that were displayed in Allentown storefronts. She also chairs the monthly Buffalo Creative Mornings



series, which is a global platform connecting creatives of all backgrounds.



Symphony Circle Active Living will replace the former Nazareth Nursing Home at 291 North St.

Upscale senior apartments replacing nursing home

By the time this story appears, the former Nazareth Nursing Home at 291 North St. will be rubble, staging the site for construction of Symphony Circle Active Living Apartments, a \$30 million 119-unit senior independent living complex by Ellicott Development Corp.

Symphony Circle Active Living will feature one- and two-bedroom units on a 3.6-acre site. The structure would be three stories fronting North Street but four stories in the rear.

Resident services and amenities will include chef-prepared meals, housekeeping, in-unit laundry, full kitchens, scheduled activities, chauffeured transportation, 24/7 emergency response systems, and 24/7 security. Concierge services will be in the main lobby.

The building will also feature a theater, great room, fitness center, library, beauty salon, business center, private dining room, bistro and activity center.

Rent will include utilities, basic cable, water and Wi-Fi. Indoor parking will be available for an additional fee.

The outdoor recreational space will include two courtyards, a fire-pit and a large garden walk.

Catholic Health System closed Nazareth in late 2007 and sold it to Uniland Development in April 2015 for \$1 million. The purchase also included 298 Summer St., a flag lot that contains a portion of the complex's parking lot.

Uniland had been planning a six-building upscale residential development until deciding to sell to Westmont Living for \$2.2 million in May 2016. Ellicott Development stepped in at the first of this year.

467 Virginia's exterior getting major restoration

The beautiful residential/commercial building at 467 Virginia St. is undergoing extensive exterior restoration.

Built in 1894, its most striking architectural features are two towers with what are known as witches hat roofs.

Owner David DePasquale told the Preservation Board that the work would cost \$155,000, but architect Kathleen Kinan said it might cost twice that. Repairing and replacing 87 windows alone is estimated at \$47,000.

"It's the most unusual house I've seen and I've been doing this for 35 years and it's my privilege to go into existing old houses," Kinan told WBFO News.

DePasquale said some windows are missing, the roof leaks, and "the bell view turret roof is literally falling apart." He estimated the renovation work will take a year, and then he may tackle interior water damage.



Exterior work may take a year at 467 Virginia St. Then the owner will work on interior water damage.



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Buffalo, New York 14201

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Optional activities/committees you'd like to help with:

- ☐ Beautification
- ☐ Housing/Historic Preservation
- ☐ Business development
- ☐ Crime prevention
- ☐ Allen West Festival (adjacent to Allentown Art Festival)
- ☐ Special fundraising events
- ☐ First Fridays events
- ☐ Nomination to the board of directors

☐ I'M ALSO CONTRIBUTING \$ _____ TO THE "\$61 FOR 61" CAPITAL DRIVE.

*All contributions are tax-deductible. Please make a check payable to: The Allentown Association, Inc.
Mail to: Allentown Association, 61 College Street, Buffalo, NY 14201.
You can also join and/or donate at www.allentown.org*