

May 28 2012



PARK PICKS
by

FRIENDS OF THE ALLENTOWN PARKS



Join Friends today! Become a member and help make Allentown's great park system even better.

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Memorial Day Tribute

Originally called Decoration Day, Memorial Day is a day of remembrance for those who died in our nation's service. First observed on May 30, 1868 flowers were placed on the graves of Union and Confederate soldiers at Arlington Cemetery.



Travel along Tilghman Street between Cedar Crest Blvd and Route 309, the street is lined with hundreds of American flags courtesy of the Boy Scouts. What a truly moving sight; a wonderful tribute to the servicemen and women who have done so much to preserve our freedom. Thank-you!

Freedom is Not Free by Kelly Strong

I watched the flag pass by one day.
It fluttered in the breeze.
A young Marine saluted it,
and then he stood at ease.
I looked at him in uniform
So young, so tall, so proud,
He'd stand out in any crowd.
I thought how many men like him
Had fallen through the years.
How many died on foreign soil?
How many mothers' tears?
How many pilots' planes shot down?
How many died at sea?
How many foxholes were soldiers' graves?
No, freedom isn't free.

I heard the sound of TAPS one night,
When everything was still
I listened to the bugler play
And felt a sudden chill.
I wondered just how many times
That TAPS had meant "Amen,"
When a flag had draped a coffin
Of a brother or a friend.
I thought of all the children,
Of the mothers and the wives,
Of fathers, sons and husbands
With interrupted lives.
I thought about a graveyard
At the bottom of the sea
Of unmarked graves in Arlington.
No, freedom isn't free.

Allentown Garden Club Offers Garden Tour

June 9 from 9:00 a.m.—4:00 p.m.

Rain or Shine

Tour 14 beautiful gardens

Tickets: \$15 in advance

\$18 day of tour

Tickets available at: Segan's, Lehigh Valley Garden Center, Herbein's, Hickory Grove, Eagle Point, Phoebe Florist, Michael Thomas Florist

For additional information phone Becky @ 610-395-0903



Children "Discover" Bugs & the World of Trees



Victoria Benyo, former intern with Friends of the Allentown Parks and volunteer at The Caring Place, wanted to do something special for the children at the youth development center before graduating from Muhlenberg College. Mix education with fun and you have a personalized **Discovery Walk!** **Mr. Marten Edwards**, the entomologist from **Muhlenberg College** agreed to a return engagement and absolutely enthralled the younger children with insects found in the bushes, ponds and trees. Arborist



Randy Fey explained the importance of trees in our environment and taught the older children how to identify them by leaves, bark and fruit. And what did these 25 budding scientists learn? That we have a great diverse population of bugs and trees, that all serve a necessary purpose in the environment, and that after a hard day's work, one can relax



and have fun at the Cedar Creek playground.