

# *Lehigh County Agricultural Society*

Founded  
1852

302 North 17th Street, Allentown, PA 18104  
610.433.7541  
www.allentownfair.com

The Great  
Allentown Fair

## **William J. Albert becomes president of society operating Allentown Fair, Fairgrounds**

*Civic leader fulfills term of late William F. Greenawald*

Allentown, Pa.— William (Bill) J. Albert of North Catasauqua will fulfill the term of the late William (Bill) F. Greenawald as the President of the nonprofit Lehigh County Agricultural Society for the year 2008.

Last December Albert was re-elected 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President of the nonprofit society that owns and operates The Great Allentown Fair and The Allentown Fairgrounds. He has held that position since 2005.

In accordance with the 156-year-old society's constitution and bylaws, Albert succeeds Greenawald, who unexpectedly passed away January 28, as the organization's president.

In this capacity, Albert will preside over all of the society's board and membership meetings and special official functions for the Allentown Fair. He will continue as an integral member of the society's executive committee, a nine-member group elected by the society's 99-member board of directors to manage fair and fairgrounds operations.

Albert retired from a career as corporate secretary of Rileigh's, Inc., an event decorating and supply company in Allentown. He was also partner with his brother Charles in Albert Bros. Floral in Catasauqua.

His first job was as a decorator and display designer at H. Leh and Company department store in Allentown, and he continues using that expertise overseeing the creation of the countless displays of agriculture, horticulture, domestics and fine arts in Agri~Plex at the fair.

Like his 18 predecessors that since 1852 have presided over the tradition that is The Allentown Fair and its landmark home, the Allentown Fairgrounds, Albert has an extensive resume of community involvement and leadership.

He has served as Chairman of the Board of Directors for AAA East Penn and the Allentown-Lehigh County Chamber of Commerce.

He is past president of the Lehigh County Historical Society, the Liberty Bell Shrine Museum, the Allentown-Lehigh County Tourist and Convention Bureau and the Allentown Center City Association.

Albert was the chairman of the Lehigh County Bicentennial Committee and co-chair along with Greenawald of The Lehigh County Agricultural Society's 150<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Committee. Both committees produced numerous community participation events.

Albert's signature contribution to the society's Sesquicentennial celebration was his design and construction of a walk-through exhibit that took 2002 fairgoers on a pictorial and memorabilia journey from the fair's beginnings in 1852 to the present day.

Other organizations Albert has served as either an officer or a director include the Lehigh County Red Cross, the United Way of Lehigh County, the Lehigh Valley Hemophilia Association, the Allentown Jaycees, the North Catasauqua Zoning Board, and the Lehigh County Senior Citizens.

He is past commander of the Honorary First Defenders and served on the Allentown All-American City and Allentown Tomorrow committees. He was a trustee of the Allentown Flag Association.

Albert resides in North Catasauqua with his wife Nancy. They have three children and six grandchildren.

###