
ALLEGHENY WEST GAZETTE

June 2016

President's Message

By Cathy Serventi

WE SOLD THE STABLES! Ok, just had to tell someone that before I started talking about the budget.

Also, THE WINE TOUR WAS A GREAT SUCCESS! Special thanks to our fearless leader Carrie, the tours a huge a responsibility and she managed this one with grace and humor. OK, budget.

Well, actually, before the we get to the budget, at this month's membership meeting we'll also have a follow up from the Light of Life about the Ridge Avenue project. They'll be asking us to take a formal position during upcoming zoning board hearings. Nick will also be giving us all an update on what happened to all those House Histories we've been collecting.

OK, budget. (Ssh. . . don't tell anyone, but I don't actually dislike talking about the budget; I love getting down into the nitty gritty of the numbers, and formatting spreadsheets is the height of zen for me, but I worry that people will think that I'm a little weird.) This month we're hoping to finalize the budget for the next fiscal year (July 16–June 17). In order for us to have a binding vote, we really need to reach quorum, so please come, at least for a little while if you can. The Board has some recommendations beyond the initial draft budget we presented last month, such as:

- Request for a scanner / copier for the office
- Additional funds for Calvary for sidewalk repair
- Funds for board training, especially around financial planning now that we've sold most of our income-producing property. (Have I mentioned that WE SOLD THE STABLES).

I'm always happy to discuss specifics with folks and do my best to represent a wide range of opinions at the meeting, but I can't stress enough, that attending the meetings and participating in the discussion and vote are really the only way to ensure that your opinions are taken into account. (If Allegheny West were a state, we would *so* be a caucus state - and that will be the only election humor I can trust myself with.). See you all Tuesday!

Above & Beyond

By Cathy Serventi

Thank you to the kind person who moved all the bags of trash and garden compost from the April clean-ups out to the curb on leaf and debris pick-up day. Ann, Michael, and I all thought one of us had done it! I'd also like to recognize Christa Ross, our realtor for the Stables, Matthew Fiscus our attorney, and Jon Huck our project manager from the Northside Leadership Conference. After 10 years there were still some last minute scrambles to get our ducks all in a row for the sale but we did it! Special thanks to all the various Board members, LRC members, and volunteers throughout the decade we owned the Stables for having a vision and taking action so that that beautiful building, so rich with history could be preserved.

If you'd like to recognize a neighbor who went above-and-beyond for you or the neighborhood this month please send a note to abovebeyond@alleghenywest.org or give Cathy a call at (412) 418-2027 and, space allowing, we'll recognize them in the Gazette.

AWCC Calendar

Tuesday, June 14 @ 7:30 p.m.

General Membership → Calvary Church: 971 Beech

Saturday, June 18 @ 9:00 a.m.

Parklet Clean-up and Plant Give-away → Office: 806 Western

Tuesday, June 21 @ 7:30 p.m.

Housing & Planning Committee → Office: 806 Western

Friday, June 24 @ 6:30 p.m.

Art Show Opening & Mixer → 820 W. North Ave.

Saturday, June 25 @ 9:00 a.m.

Neighborhood Clean-up → Office: 806 Western

Tuesday, June 28 @ 7:30 p.m.

Executive Committee → AWCC Office: 806 Western

DRAFT Agenda

AWCC Membership Meeting

Tuesday, June 14, 2016 at 7:30pm

Calvary United Methodist Church, 971 Beech Ave.

- GUEST SPEAKER: Light of Life
- Announcements
- New neighbors
- Minutes
- Treasurer's Report
- Finalize Budget - 2016–2017 Fiscal Year
- House Tour Update
- Housing and Planning Updates
- AWDC Updates
- House History Update / Demo
- Property
- Friends: Clean-up
- Green Space: Parklet
- Membership Events
- NSLC Updates
- Allegheny Commons
- Committee Updates

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Alleys, Axles, and Ales

By Abi Webb

This fall Allegheny West will host Alleys, Axles, and Ales. This is a fundraising event which consists of walking the alleys of the neighborhood to admire cars in garages while sampling local beers. We hope to include a food truck as well. We are scheduled to have the event on Saturday, September 24th, 2016 from 1:00 - 5:00PM.

We are in search of individuals in the neighborhood who may have a car and/or a garage that could be a part of the tour. We are planning to have at least 8 garages with cars, 6 of which will have beer tastings. We have three garages and cars so far. However, finding additional individuals with a garage that can be used is becoming a challenge. Therefore, we are initiating the adopt-a-car program. Does anyone have a garage that we would be able to use for the day?

Secondly, we are seeking volunteers to assist with pouring beer, running the registration table, floating around neighborhood to relieve beer pourers, walking the alleys after the event to pick up any trash etc. If you would be willing to help please let us know and we will put you on the list.

Have a friend driving a classic, vintage, or exotic car to the event? They can park in the BABB parking lot where other cool cars will also be on display! If you can recommend anyone that has a car, garage, or might like to lend a hand please let us know! You can call or email Abi Webb (412) 973-5897

abijane77@gmail.com.

Sunset Through Tiffany's: A Summer Solstice Event

By Linda Ehrlich

Please join the Allegheny City Society as we view the Tiffany windows in the height of their glory during the Summer Solstice. The evening will be accompanied by chamber music.

The Tiffany Windows: Louis Comfort Tiffany changed the physics of making stained glass in America by re-creating the medieval techniques of using solid stained glass instead of painting on glass to create glass designs. He added additional techniques of twisting the glass to get new colors, throwing confetti made of glass onto molten glass, and sandwiching up to five pieces of glass behind each other in a single composition.

And here in the North Side of Pittsburgh, we have Tiffany's three largest windows executed between 1894–95. At the summer solstice, light through the magnificent window is at its peak during the year. Due to the physics of refraction, Tiffany's layered glass changes colors only when the sun comes through at unique angles, such as on Solstice.

Allegheny City Society (June 2012). "Citing Sources." Sunset Through Tiffany Windows. Retrieved 13 April 2016 from <http://alleghenycity.org/beta/news-event/sunset-through-tiffany-windows/>

Monday, June 20th from 4:00-7:00PM

Calvary United Methodist Church, 971 Beech Ave, Pittsburgh, PA 15233.

There is no charge for the event, but donations are welcomed.

Contact Linda with questions: (h) 412.321.2503 (C) 412.512.7246 / laehrlich927@aol.com

Parklet Clean-up and Plant Give-away

Saturday, June 18: 9:00A.M. – 12:00P.M. 806 Western Ave.

We'll be doing a big summer clean-up on Saturday, June 18 at the parklet at the corner of Brighton and Western. Diane, a new neighbor, has agreed to help us make sure we're digging up the weeds and pruning back the right branches. A big part of the clean-up will be thinning out the current plantings so they have room to breathe, so please stop by if you'd like to pick up some free plantings for your own yard. We would especially appreciate some taller folks to help us prune some of the trees. (Extra bonus points for folks that can lend us electric clipper or large pruning loppers!) If closer to the ground is more your style, we will also have some annuals to plant.

Wine Tour Wrap-Up and Thank you!

By Carrie Doyle

Thanks to all who helped with the 2016 Wine and Garden Tour! I am appreciative of all of those who volunteered to help with this summer's tour. To the homeowners - John DeSantis, Ross Catalano, Elaine Stone & Mitchell Schwartz, Erik Van Buren & Andrew Gorenz, Carole & Bob Malakoff, Carol Gomrick & Brett Kempf, and Trish & John Burton. Your gardens and homes were enjoyed by all. Thank you for your time, efforts and green thumbs. (If any of you would like to work your gardening magic on my little piece of Beech Avenue, I'd appreciate it!). As special shout out to Cathy Serventi and Gene Wilson for hosting the after-party. (Love those milkshakes!).

To the wise ones that have taken upon this effort in the past – Trish Burton, Gloria Rayman, Carole Malakoff, Cathy Serventi and Doug Sprague. I appreciate your knowledge and insight in planning the tour. Doris Short and Greg Coll – great pictures and brochure that was enjoyed by all!

To the volunteers – too many to mention! Thank you for reaching out and offering to help our homeowners and the committee leading up to and throughout the tour weekend. A special thank you to Michael Shealey for walking and cleaning the tour route.

I've heard nothing but positive feedback from guests from both nights of the tour – and they're all coming back for our 35th Annual Christmas Tour! And yes...if you'd like to help out on that one, just call or email me!

Neighborhood Cleanup: The last-Saturday-of-the-month cleanup for June will be held on Saturday, June 25th beginning at 9:00 AM. Meet at 806 Western Ave. If you wish to garden, please bring gardening tools. Refreshments will be provided.

Office Hours: The AWCC office at 806 Western Avenue will be open for office hours. Feel free to drop off materials, or come by with questions or just to say hello. Hours: M/F 11-2 and T/H 9-12.

The Allegheny West Gazette

Editor: Karen Haller Beer

The monthly newsletter of the Allegheny West Civic Council. Letters, submissions, advertising and other notices by the first of the month to: gazette@alleghenywest.org. Submission does not guarantee publication.

A publication of the Allegheny West Civic Council

806 Western Avenue, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania 15233
www.alleghenywest.org ~ info@alleghenywest.org ~ (412) 323 - 8884



Uncle Sam wants you! to make sure everyone makes it to the fireworks.

Set-up 3:00 p.m.
Clean-up 7:00 p.m.



WE WANT YOU!

JULY 4 PICNIC

900 Block - Beech Ave.
4:00 - 7:00 pm

Bring a chair and a dish to share.

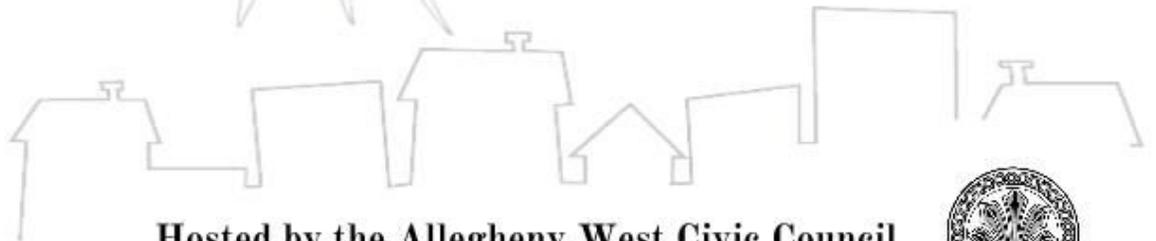
Rib Cook Off

There are still a few spaces left if you're interested in competing the cook-off. We supply the meat, you supply the sauce.

Contact

Scott Mosser - (412)323-8884 - membership@alleghenywest.org

Take home the trophy for the year.



Hosted by the Allegheny West Civic Council
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Book Signing at City Books

By Brian O'Neill



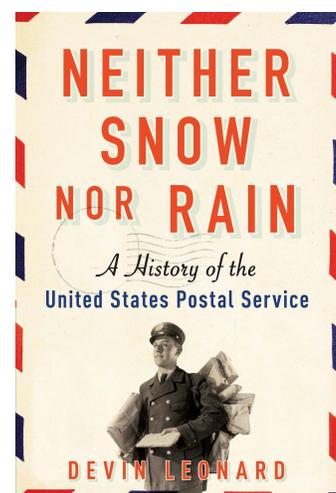
Devin Leonard, author of *Neither Snow Nor Rain: A History of the U.S. Postal Service*, will be at our neighborhood bookstore from **4:00 to 6:00 P.M. on Friday June 24**. Isn't it grand to say "our neighborhood bookstore"? I am speaking, of course, of City Books at 908 Galveston Avenue.

Mr. Leonard's book, just out, might have you rueing the invention of e-mail. The book already has gotten attention from National Public Radio and the Chicago Tribune. Bethany McLean, coauthor of *The Smartest Guys in the Room*, calls the book "fascinating (yes, fascinating!)" and "eye-opening to those who think the USPS should go the way of the buggy whip."

Mr. Leonard, a staff writer at Bloomberg Businessweek, has previously been a senior writer at Fortune. He knows his stuff. That I can assure you because 28 years ago, this native Philadelphian married my little sister, Eileen. They're coming to visit because they love

Pittsburgh and kind of like me, too.

So if you haven't yet been to City Books, first, why? Second, here's a chance to pick up a fun and important book about the original information superhighway, and to meet the guy who puts you on that road.



Second Annual Allegheny West Art Show

By Dennis Bergevin

Friday, June 24 6:30P.M.–10:00P.M. & Saturday, June 25 12:00P.M.–5:00P.M.

The second annual Allegheny West Art Show and Sale, in partnership with SMARTSolution Technologies and Allegheny West Civic Council, will be held at the Hipwell Building (829 West North Ave.) on June 24. There will be an opening reception from 6:30 to 10:00 P.M. The show continues on June 25, from 12:00 to 5:00 P.M. For more information about submitting artwork to be shown please contact Dennis Bergevin at denbergevin@verizon.net. Entry forms and information can also be picked up at City Books at (908 Galveston Ave.) and K.S. Kennedy Floral & Gifts (848 Western Avenue).

Book Club at City Books

RSVP by June 20

City Books will continue its summer book club on July 20 at 7 P.M.. The book for July will be *Life*, by Keith Richards. RSVP by June 20 to Arlan at citybookspgh@gmail.com or 412-321-7323 with book orders.