
ALLEGHENY WEST GAZETTE

February 2019

President's Message

As Tip O'Neill famously said, "All politics is local". Whether he was referring to trains and parks is disputable but those are topics at the forefront of the Allegheny West political scene.

On Monday, February 4th, more than 40 neighbors attended a meeting to learn more about Norfolk Southern Railroad's plans to run double stack trains through Pittsburgh's Northside. The presentation focused on the potential negative impacts, and it was alarming. From derailments and explosions to degradation of air quality – this is a serious situation and we need to be engaged to advocate for our community. We're lucky to have John DeSantis and Ashley Webb serving on the Northside Leadership Conference Bridge Committee, but please consider what you can do to help, too. Local and state elected officials are working with the Bridge Committee and your input, via in-person conversations, phone calls, and emails, will encourage them to keep this issue front and center. Right now there is a call for volunteers to install equipment to help monitor changes in air quality, to monitor and report idling trains and to assist in developing a website to centrally disseminate updates. Specific details on how to volunteer will be posted on the Allegheny West website and e-Newsletter in the coming weeks.

On Tuesday, February 12th, the Pittsburgh Parks Conservancy listening tour comes to Allegheny West. The majority of the February AWCC Membership meeting agenda that night will be devoted to the Parks team. (The meeting is held at 7:30 P.M. at the Calvary United Methodist Church, at 971 Beech Avenue.) During this community meeting, the Parks Conservancy will be gathering feedback on what neighbors love about their parks, and what they would love to improve – please join the conversation and make your voice heard.

-Ann Gilligan, AWCC President

Sponsor a Western Avenue Flower Basket!



We're delighted to announce that Western Avenue in Allegheny West will once again be beautified by hanging flower baskets provided by the Western Pennsylvania Conservancy (WPC).

The WPC will provide the baskets, flowers, installation, watering and maintenance, "take down" and storage of the baskets. We had 41 baskets sponsored in 2018, but with 32 double poles, there is plenty of room for others to help in this worthy endeavor! We want to ensure that all who would like to participate be given the chance to do so. Please respond by March 31st to be included for 2019.

In 2019, WPC is providing a discounted rate of \$355/basket—including the sign!—for the initial year, which includes purchase of the basket, as well as plants, hanging, maintenance, take-down and storage. Sponsors will be subsequently reassessed at a \$275/basket rate thereafter for plants, hanging and take-down, maintenance and storage.

Please complete the form below, or go to the AWCC website (www.alleghenywest.org and click on the "About" tab) to sponsor a basket or to make a donation.

Contact Trish Burton (412-523-9402 or tdburton3@gmail.com) to discuss.

Sponsor Name (as it should appear on sign) _____

Address _____

of Baskets _____ **Phone** _____

Return with check payable to "AWCC" – 806 Western Ave, Pgh, PA 15233

Wash Away The Winter Blues with some Reds and Whites!

It's time to start planning for the 2019 Tour and Tasting Event!

Yay – the Polar Vortex is over and Punxsutawney Phil says spring is right around the corner, so it must be time to start planning for the 2016 Allegheny West Wine Tour! The dates are set, **Friday June 21st and Saturday June 22nd**. The approach is going to be a little bit different this year. Pittsburgh has been recognized nationally and internationally as a destination for foodies. To capitalize on that and draw more awareness to the tour and Allegheny West, the tour committee is going to solicit restaurants to participate and present their food and suggested wine pairing at the homes. I'm excited to share that we've already been successful in raising strong interest from several restaurants.

In the short term what is needed are homes! If you are interested in having your house on the wine tour this year, have any questions, or want to know how you can help please contact me Annette Trunzo at actl@pitt.edu. I'm really excited about the tour this year and to network with restaurants about the event. Please check the Gazette and weekly e-newsletter for updates about the tour and tour meetings. Cheers! all that is needed are a few more homes since we already have a number of them committed.

-- Annette Trunzo



Ode to 852 Beech Avenue

Our old house has character and history.
 Its unique quirks give it some mystery.
 Just when we think the projects are done,
 new ones crop up, one after one.
 If you buy an old house, you must realize
 Your budget will only grow larger in size.
 So love it, maintain it, and pass it down.
 Make sure it lives on in our historic town.

--Poem by Katie Zoufalik
 (Submitted by Tom Barbush)

PITTSBURGH YOUTH PHILHARMONIC ORCHESTRA
MID-SEASON CONCERT

ROAD TRIP
 — THROUGH —
Europe

10 SUN FEB 2019 4PM

South Fayette High School Auditorium
 3680 Old Oakdale Road, McDonald, PA 15057

Adults \$15 | Seniors \$12 | Students \$10
 Children ages 5 and under are free.

PYP
 Pittsburgh Youth Philharmonic Orchestra
 25th Anniversary 1993-2019

Please visit www.pyppo.org for more information about the PITTSBURGH YOUTH PHILHARMONIC ORCHESTRA.

Concert This Weekend

Neighbor Amelia Beer is playing in a concert this weekend with the Pittsburgh Youth Philharmonic Orchestra. Through her connections with the editor, she asked that the concert be publicized in this month's gazette. She would like to invite her neighbors to attend.

AWCC Calendar

Tuesday, February 12 @ 7:30 p.m.

General Membership Meeting @ Calvary Church

Tuesday, February 19 @ 7:30 p.m.

Housing & Planning Committee Meeting, @ AWCC Office (806 Western)

Tuesday, February 26 @ 7:30 p.m.

Executive Committee Meeting, @AWCC Office (806 Western)

DRAFT Agenda: AWCC Membership Meeting Tuesday, February 12 at 7:30 P.M.

- 7:30-8:45 Pittsburgh Parks Conservancy
- 9:00 Reading and approval of January's meeting minutes
- 9:05 Treasurer's report
- 9:15 Housing and Planning abbreviated report
- 9:30 Adjournment



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