

# ALLEGHENY WEST GAZETTE

October 2009

## Message from the President

Many thanks to all who came out for the neighborhood cleanup in September, and to Ed Menzer for providing a staging ground and coffee. The new road surface on Western Avenue has made sweeping much easier, and the amount of gravel has been greatly reduced. It is important that we all endeavor to keep the neighborhood clean, even when there is not an organized event.

Allegheny West Civic Council recently listed 810 Western Avenue for sale with Holly Sisk at Coldwell Banker. 810 Western has two bedrooms, one full bathroom, and one half bathroom. If you are interested in more information, please contact Holly at 412-363-4000.

Jon Huck of the North Side Leadership Conference has been working on a Community Development Investment Fund grant application. The grant funds would come to AWDC and then could be loaned to the rehabilitation of the Stables building on North Avenue at flexible terms. The extensive application itself is a binder full of information with background on AWDC and other members of the development team, a summary of the Stables project, budget estimates, etc. The application should be complete in the next few weeks and reviewed and the property toured by URA staff, submitted for review by the URA's Loan Review Committee, and then potentially signed off by the URA's board. This process, if well received as applied, might take somewhere around six to eight weeks, just to receive all of the approvals.

We hope these funds will enable the successful redevelopment of the Allegheny City Stables building on North Avenue – transforming it from a former junk car chop shop to a newly renovated use.

In September, Carole Malakoff wrote about the need for greater community involvement in Allegheny West. I hope everyone will give some thought to how they might like to contribute in the future. Planning for the upcoming Christmas tour is under way – this is our main fundraiser for the year. Help is always needed. A good way to participate in the Christmas tour is to attend one of Carole's meetings. For more information on how to volunteer, contact Carole at [carolemalakoff@hotmail.com](mailto:carolemalakoff@hotmail.com). The Christmas tour starts on Friday, December 11 and continues through Saturday December 12.

Jon McDanel



## October/November 2009

### Calendar of Events

#### AWCC General Membership Meeting

Calvary United Methodist Church

Tuesday, October 13 @ 7:30 pm

Tuesday, November 10 @ 7:30 pm

#### Agenda:

- i. Reading of September 2009 Minutes
- ii. Treasurer's Report
- iii. Committee Reports
- iv. Ways and Means
- v. Housing & Planning
- vi. Old Business
- vii. New Business

#### Committee Meetings

Housing & Planning Meeting

844 Beech Ave.

Tuesday, October @ 7:30 pm

Tuesday, November 17 @ 7:30 pm

AWCC Executive Committee Meeting

858 Beech Ave.

Tuesday, October 27 @ 7:30 pm

Tuesday, November 24 @ 7:30 pm

North Avenue Sub-Committee Meeting

Hoi Polloi

Tuesday, November 3 @ 7:30 pm



Allegheny West Civic Council

812 Western Avenue

Pittsburgh, PA 15233

(412) 323-8884

## **The 2009 Allegheny West Christmas Tour: A Volunteer Opportunity for Everyone!**

If you are looking for a way to meet your neighbors, have lots of fun, and help make Allegheny West a better place to live, The 2009 Christmas Tour is an opportunity to do so. The tour this year will be on Friday evening, December 11 and Saturday, December 12. You can help with the planning now or help during tour weekend, or both.

The tour this year will include regular tours, brunch and tea tours, and a dinner tour. We still need homeowners who are willing to open their homes for the regular tour and to host brunch and tea guests. We need volunteers to help decorate before the tour; hang greens on lamp posts, decorate The Holiday Shop at Jones Hall, help plan, set up, and clean up for the Volunteer Party. We are always looking for musicians to perform in the homes on tour and at Calvary Church.

If you like talking to our guests about the virtues of living in Allegheny West, you can be a tour guide or greeter.

The next committee meeting will be on Thursday evening, October 15 at 7:30pm at The AWCC Office, 812 Western Avenue.

Our mass mailing will be on Monday evening, November 2 at 7pm, in the CTAC Conference Room at 901 Western Avenue. Enter from the side gate on Galveston. Please come and help stick on labels.

To volunteer or for further information, please contact Carole Malakoff, [carolemalakoff@hotmail.com](mailto:carolemalakoff@hotmail.com).

## **Western Avenue Update**

All of the bricks have been installed! The streetlights will be lit soon – within the next two weeks, and the trees aren't too far from being planted either. And we're still on budget!

Keep your eyes open for a little celebration – we want to be on the street when the lights are finally turned on! An email will be sent inviting everyone to the celebration.

All of the new lights on the street will be illuminated (originally we thought we wouldn't be able to illuminate the lights on the north side of the street because the tall light posts can't be installed until after the wires come down.) Our contractor worked out a way to get all of the streetlights electrified without the tall poles being in place on the north side of the street. He had to secure the openings where the tall streetlights will be installed so that no one could steal the wires...and get electrocuted while doing it. The contractor still has to finish up some smaller items, but we're close to being finished on the sidewalk portion of the project.

All of the assessments have been sent out and we are receiving payments. And the behind the scenes work is continuing on the electric service moves. Yes, it's still happening!

We anticipate that all of the work except for the electric service moves and installation of the tall light posts on the north side of the street will be finished by the end of construction season this year. The project should wrap up entirely by spring of next year.

Your in progress,  
Gloria Rayman  
Western RENEWED! Project Chair

## Proposed 2010 AWCC Board of Directors

It's time to elect the 2010 Board of Directors for the Allegheny West Civic Council.

Any member who's dues are current can be elected to the Board. Terms are for two years and the positions that need to be filled for 2010 are Recording Secretary, Housing and Planning, Membership, Ways & Means, Sergeant at Arms.

The slate listed below is the recommendation of the nominating committee. Nominations will also be taken from the floor at the October and November meetings.

John McDanel - President  
John DeSantis - Vice President  
Robert Griewahn - Treasurer  
Carole Malakoff - Recording Secretary  
Jim Wallace - Housing & Planning  
Jessica Burgan - Property  
Gene Wilson - Communications  
Debra Kelly - Membership  
Gloria Rayman - Ways & Means  
Timothy Zinn - Sergeant at Arms  
Mike Coleman - Friends of Allegheny West

The election of the 2010 Board will take place at the November meeting.

If you plan on attending and voting, you must pay your annual dues of \$3 by the October 13 membership meeting. You can become a member online at [www.alleghenywest.org](http://www.alleghenywest.org). Never worry about your membership status again by taking advantage of a lifetime membership of \$45. It's the best deal in town! Checks made payable to "AWCC" can also be dropped through the mail slot at the Allegheny West office at 812 Western Avenue. Please be sure to include your mailing address, phone number and email address.

## Spirits of Allegheny West Walking Tour

Friday, October 23 & Saturday, October 24, 2009

6pm – 8:30pm

Doors open at 5:30pm

The Allegheny West Civic Council is presenting its "Spirits of Allegheny West" haunted walking tour through the 150-year old National Register-listed historic district located on Pittsburgh's Northside October 23 and 24, 2009.

Tours will originate from Emmanuel Episcopal Church located at the corner of Allegheny Avenue and West North Avenues. Tour groups are limited 25 people will leave every 15 minutes starting at 6pm (doors open at 5:30pm). The last tour departs Emmanuel Episcopal Church at 8:30pm.

This tour is not recommended for children under the age of 12. Tickets are \$10 in advance, \$12 at the door.

Advance tickets are only available online at the Allegheny West website: [www.alleghenywest.org](http://www.alleghenywest.org)

## Western Clean-up a Big Success.

On September 19th, about 17 people showed up to help cleanup Western Avenue in preparation for the G-20 Summit. Coffee (complements of Ed Menzer and the Parador) and donuts (from the AWCC) were provided and helped to fuel the effort. Bags of garbage, weeds, and other debris were removed from the street. Although we didn't notice any Prime Ministers or Presidents driving through our neighborhood, we met two people from Baldwin who had bicycled here to eat at the Sandwich Shop, and they were impressed by the efforts.

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**Call for Volunteers**

Lutheran Service Society's Tri-Hill Valley Meals On  
Wheels has an urgent need for volunteers to deliver  
meals to our homebound consumers on the North Side.  
This site is extremely low on delivery volunteers and we  
could use your help.

Volunteers are needed Monday through Friday. They  
arrive at the Meals On Wheels site around 10:30 a.m. and  
are typically finished with deliveries by 12:30-1:00 p.m.  
These volunteers will be driving their own vehicles and  
will be accompanied by a "hopper" who would hop out  
of the car to make the deliveries. Volunteers can even  
claim gas mileage on their taxes when driving for  
volunteer work.

Tri-Hill Valley Meals On Wheels serves consumers in  
areas including Troy Hill, Spring Garden, Spring Hill,  
Pressly Hi-Rise, St. Michael Village, Manchester,  
Central North Side, East Street area, West Park Court,  
and Allegheny Center.

If you are interested in helping, please contact Leslie  
Montgomery at 412-366-9490 or  
[Lmontgomery@LSSWPA.org](mailto:Lmontgomery@LSSWPA.org).

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**THE GAZETTE**

THE MONTHLY NEWSLETTER OF THE ALLEGHENY WEST CIVIC  
COUNCIL

Editor: Gene Wilson

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