# ALLEGHENY WEST GAZETTE

# Get Involved in Your Neighborhood

Help solve problems, raise funds, and work on "quality of life" issues

Attend neighborhood meetings and volunteer

Those of us who have been here in Allegheny West for 10 or 20 or 30 years can tell stories about how the neighborhood used to be; stories about vacant houses that are now gems of Victorian elegance; stories about the eccentric characters who lived in the neighborhood. Today it is gratifying to see how our neighborhood has developed. It's been a "great ride"; an education in urban planning and how historic preservation can be used as a stimulus for neighborhood development.

To those of you who have been here only a short time, the neighborhood that you see today got to be what it is because of dedicated volunteers, people who had a vision, went to meetings to voice their opinions, worked on fundraisers to raise money, and attended hearings to let City officials know how we felt. If this neighborhood is going to continue to thrive, everyone, both new and old neighbors, need to carry on the work.

So, if you have ideas that will help improve our neighborhood, if there are issues or problems that you would like help resolving, or if you just want to know the issues, start attending Civic Council meetings, the second Tuesday of every month, 7:30pm, at Calvary Church, Beech and Allegheny Avenues (enter the door on Beech Avenue). Not only will you hear the issues, but you will meet your neighbors and make some new friends.

You can also volunteer for neighborhood fundraisers and activities. We have our Spirits Tour in October and our Christmas Tour on Friday, December 11 and Saturday, December 12. To volunteer for the Spirits Tour, contact Gloria Rayman, glowalks@comcast.net. To volunteer for The Christmas Tour, contact Carole Malakoff, carolemalakoff@hotmail.com. You can also come out and help clean-up on Saturday morning, September 19. Just meet other volunteers at The Parador Bed and Breakfast at 9am. Bring gloves and a broom. And don't forget, we have our annual Labor Day Picnic on Monday, the 7th on the 800 block of North Lincoln Avenue. Bring a pot luck dish to share.

We will start planning for The Christmas Tour very soon. The first tour meeting will be on Thursday, September 10 at 7:30pm at The AWCC Office, 812 Western Avenue. EVERYONE is invited and encouraged to attend. Please volunteer. There are plenty of tasks to do.

Carole Malakoff Ways and Means Committee Chair September 2009

### September/October 2009 Calendar of Events

## AWCC General Membership Meeting

Calvary United Methodist Church

Tuesday, September 8 @ 7:30 pm Tuesday, October 12 @ 7:30 pm

#### September Agenda:

i. Reading of August 2009 Minutes
ii. Treasurer's Report
iii. Committee Reports

a. Ways and Means
I. Spirits Tour
II. Christmas Tour
b. Housing & Planning
I. Motion to oppose sidewalk

excavation at 900 Western Ave.
vi. Old Business
vii. New Business

#### **Committee Meetings**

Housing & Planning Meeting 844 Beech Ave Tuesday, September 15 @ 7:30 pm Tuesday, October 20 @ 7:30 pm

AWCC Executive Committee Meeting 858 Beech Ave. Tuesday, September 29 @ 7:30 pm Tuesday, October 27 @ 7:30 pm

North Avenue Sub-Committee Meeting 1009 Galveston Ave. Tuesday, October 6 @ 7:30 pm

> Allegheny West Civic Council 812 Western Avenue Pittsburgh, PA 15233 (412) 323-8884

# Allegheny West Labor Day Picnic!

Monday September 7th 4:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m. 800 Block of N. Lincoln Avenue

The AWCC will supply the main course, soda(pop), beer, wine and paper products.

You are asked to bring a side dish or dessert to share. Don't forget your lawn chairs.

Everyone in the neighborhood is welcome Party rain or shine!

## Volunteer Needed

Allegheny West needs a Public Safety Representative to the North Side Public Safety Committee. The North Side Public Safety Committee meets the first Thursday of each month. If you are interested please contact John McDanel at mcdanel@aol.com



## **Cleanup for Western Avenue**

Residents and property owners are invited to participate in our cleanup of Western Avenue on Saturday, September 19th starting at 9:00 AM at the Parador. Coffee and pastries will be available. (We all know that AW people will work for food.) We will be cleaning from Brighton Road down to the Western PA Humane Society in preparation for the G20 meeting so that Allegheny West will look attractive to all who choose to drive or stroll down our streets.

Business owners are encouraged to take a few minutes each day during the following week to pickup any litter that might (read that as "probably") be deposited on our curbs and sidewalks so as to maintain the high standards of cleanliness that we all strive for.

Mike Coleman

### Western Avenue Update

We're down to the final block of bricks being installed! The trees will come in time for fall planting season (still a month or so away) and the street lights will be lit soon. And we're still on budget!

The majority of the assessments have been sent out and we are working with a surveyor to get the exact measurements for the corners and areas on Brighton Road, Galveston Avenue and Allegheny Avenue. With an assessment of \$125 per foot we don't want to make any mistakes! As soon as we have these final numbers, the corner property owners will receive their assessments.

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.

For those Western Avenue property owners who were not able to attend the meeting on August 20, we do have information available about the special financing available to both commercial and residential property owners through the North Side Community Development Fund along with info about the Street Face program for façade improvements. Please contact me at glowalks@comcast.net for more details.

Your in progress, Gloria Rayman Western RENEWED! Project Chair





Saturday October 17, 2009 4:30pm to 9:00pm Calvary United Methodist Church 971 Beech Avenue Pittsburgh, PA 15233

## FAMILY FUN FOR ALL An unforgettable Dinner, Silent Auction, Live Auction-Surprises Galorel

Adult Admission Price \$20.00 Includes Dinner and the Auction

For Tickets Call: (412) 231-2007 or visit www.calvarymethodistpittsburgh.org



# **AWCC** Membership

## Membership is open to all residents of Allegheny West

To become an AWCC member, send your Name, Address, Phone Number and email address to:

Allegheny West Civic Council - Membership

Chair

812 Western Avenue

Pittsburgh, PA 15233

2009 Annual Dues are \$3 and Lifetime Dues are \$45. Checks should be made payable to AWCC.

Or you can pay for your membership online with your credit card! Go to www.alleghenywest.org/shop – and pick "memberships" from the menu on the left.

If you are unsure of your membership status, please send an email to <u>info@alleghenywest.net</u> and we will look in the membership file!

Your paid membership enables you to vote at monthly membership meetings.





#### THE GAZETTE

THE MONTHLY NEWSLETTER OF THE ALLEGHENY WEST CIVIC COUNCIL Editor: Gene Wilson

#### Submissions, Advertising, For Sale and other notices:

gazette@alleghenywest.net or call 412.310.3728. Ad rates: \$10 – 1/8 page, \$20 – 1/4 page, \$40 – 1/2 page