
ALLEGHENY WEST GAZETTE

April 2023

President's Message

Keeping Up Appearances

Timothy Zinn, AWCC President

One of my goals as president of the Allegheny West Civic Council is to improve the cleanliness and attractiveness of our neighborhood as this is an integral part of our image and a reflection of our civic pride. In order to accomplish this, I am asking for the cooperation of all property owners, business owners, and residents. The more who actively participate, the easier the task becomes and the more significant the impact will be.

There are several aspects to this task. The first aspect pertains to building maintenance and the upkeep of surrounding lots. Open windows and other means of access into vacant buildings, conditions caused by deterioration or by the actions of a property owner that may pose a danger to the public, accumulations of debris, and overgrown lots should be reported to the city's 311 response line, which may be reached by dialing 3-1-1 or 412-255-2621; by completing a 311 online request form at <https://pittsburghpa.gov/311/form>; or by downloading the MYBURGH APP and completing the 311 form on your phone. Please bring these matters to my attention as well.

Secondly, there is the issue of litter. I encourage our property owners, residents, and merchants to regularly sweep their respective sidewalks and curbs, remembering that most of our properties have two curbs—the street curb and the alley curb. A commitment of a few minutes per day, three or four times a week could make a tremendous impact on all of our streets and alleyways. A sidewalk and curb free of litter speaks volumes to those visiting, shopping, or dining here, not just as it relates to civic pride, but also to the quality and safety of our neighborhood. As for Western Avenue, we are ever so grateful to Dr. Dan Strinkoski for his continuing efforts to keep the street clean—and the idea seems to be catching on. Recently, neighbors from other streets have expressed an interest in being the clean street organizer for their blocks. Deb Lantz, chair of the Friends of Allegheny West Committee is working on securing tools and supplies for interested volunteers.

Thirdly, please observe the city's refuse collection times, calendar, and guidelines. Refuse should be placed at the curb no earlier than 6:00 pm on the night before collection and no later than 6:00 am on the day of collection. Should our collection day (Monday) be a holiday, refuse will be collected the following day. If you miss the collection, please do not leave your trash along the street or alley for the remainder of the week or your recyclables out for the next two weeks. City workers will also not collect any loose garbage, yard debris, and construction materials—make sure your trash is bagged. The city will cite property owners who violate these guidelines.

Finally, is the issue of recycling. Recycling is easy with the city's "single-stream" system, which eliminates the need to separate items. The recycling program accepts glass, aluminum and metal cans, paper, cardboard, and some plastics. For all you need to know about the city's recycling program, please visit <https://pittsburghpa.gov/dpw/residential-recycling>.

For recycling guidelines and collection schedules, please see the links below:

Collection Schedule: <https://pittsburghpa.gov/dpw/collection-schedule>

Collection Guidelines: <https://pittsburghpa.gov/dpw/residential-recycling>

Annual Flower & Plant Sale at Calvary

Spring is in bloom! There is no better way to beat the winter blues...and all of this rain and wind!...than to start thinking of the great outdoors and planting your favorite flowers and vegetables. All proceeds benefit local ministries like the meal program, Daily Bread.

Orders are due NO LATER than April 17, 2023

For plant photos and order form, see Calvary's website: calvarypgh.com. Click on the photo "Plant Sale." Forms are also available at Calvary UMC, Beech Avenue.

Pick up in the Calvary church parking lot (off Dounton Way):

Thursday, May 11th, 1:00-6:00pm or Friday, May 12th, 1:00-6:00pm

If you have questions in the meantime, contact Linda Ehrlich, laehrlich@aol.com or 412-512-7246.

From Calvary United Methodist Women in Faith...

Close the Railway Safety Act Loopholes

Rail Pollution Protection Pittsburgh is asking for help asking our elected officials to close loopholes in the Railway Safety Act of 2023. On their website there is a form providing information regarding the proposed Safety Act, along with their concerns. The RP3 have listed out a number of additions to the proposed bipartisan legislation that would keep residents safer, including lower train speed limits, requirements for safer tank cars, and proper training standards.

To sign the form, please go to <https://railpollutionprotectionpittsburgh.com>, choose Campaign Email Archives, select 'Close the Railway Safety Act Loopholes' and choose the 'Click Here' Hyperlink.

AirBnB Issue in AW

AirBnB Party | 934 W. North | March 24, 2023

On March 24, 2023 Pittsburgh Police responded to a house alarm at 934 W. North Ave. This occurred around 11:30 pm. There was a large gathering of young people attending a party. Upon the officers' arrival, the attendees spilled into the street, running from the police. A large group was found hiding in the courtyard of Emmanuel Episcopal Church. The police response to this event was significant.

According to a responding officer, the police were dispatched because they received an alert from the security system, when whoever entered the property did not properly disable the house alarm. The owners of the property could not be reached. Activity continued into the evening as the party-goers tried to return to assess what was going on and figure out how to get to vehicles without alerting the officers on the scene.

Fortunately, this party did not end with the same tragic consequences as occurred last year at a party hosted at an AirBnB in Deutchtown.

This topic will be raised with the Zone 1 officer at the next General Membership Meeting (April 11, 2023), with questions about the event and what, if any, additional actions have been taken by the police. Currently, there are no arrests listed on the Zone 1 police blotter. The Allegheny West Executive Officers are reviewing the event and discussing what options are available to ensure the safety of our neighbors and people visiting the neighborhood.

VOTE for Happy Day Dessert Factory!

Happy Day Dessert Factory on Western Avenue has been selected as a Top 10 finalist for the Barclays US Consumer Bank's "Small Business Big Wins" grant program. They were 1 of 15,000 applicants vying for the \$60,000 Grand Prize.

Please consider voting for them! You have until April 10th to vote for them. With this award they plan to offer new employment to 5 local minority community members, and to redesign their website.

You can vote every day...until April 10th (...and there's no deadline on getting delicious ice cream there!)

To vote, go to the Barclays Small Business Contest website -www.barclaysmallbizbigwins.com.

Volunteers Wanted for Summer Picnics!

We are currently seeking volunteers to help with the summer picnics. Pre-event tasks include buying beverages, food, and supplies as needed. Day of, we are looking for help setting up and tearing down tents, tables, beverages, grills, and picnic necessities. If you would like to help please email membership@alleghenywest.org or call/text Aaron Bryan at 724.986.3880

Best Regards,
Aaron Bryan - Membership Chair

Lines Written in Early Spring

*I heard a thousand blended notes,
While in a grove I sate reclined,
In that sweet mood when pleasant thoughts
Bring sad thoughts to the mind.*

*To her fair works did Nature link
The human soul that through me ran;
And much it grieved my heart to think
What man has made of man.*

*Through primrose tufts, in that green bower,
The periwinkle trailed its wreaths;
And 'tis my faith that every flower
Enjoys the air it breathes.*

*The birds around me hopped and played,
Their thoughts I cannot measure: —
But the least motion which they made
It seemed a thrill of pleasure.*

*The budding twigs spread out their fan,
To catch the breezy air;
And I must think, do all I can,
That there was pleasure there.*

*If this belief from heaven be sent,
If such be Nature's holy plan,
Have I not reason to lament
What man has made of man?*

- William Wordsworth (1770 – 1850)

Submitted by Bob Griewahn

Cocktail Corner

Jack Rose Cocktail

- 1 jigger [2 oz.] applejack.
- [0.75 oz.] juice of ½ lime
- ¼ jigger [0.25 oz.] grenadine syrup.

Shake well.

~From Jacques Straub, *Drinks, Chicago* (1914)

NOTES:

- As always, drink responsibly.
- Another cocktail from Mr. Straub's book. We owe him a debt of gratitude.
- His recipe neglects to mention ice. Don't bother shaking the drink without ice. I would serve this one up, rather than on the rocks, though. But it's up to you.
- For the applejack, use calvados unless you have a bottle of real apple brandy at hand. Apple brandy is generally hard to find and expensive. Most of the apple brandy at the state store will be either apple-flavored or apple brandy extended with neutral spirits.
- Just as with last month's cocktail, you may want to measure the lime juice, because most limes sold in America around that time were the small, round ones.
- Fresh grenadine (pomegranate) syrup is best. That 20-year-old bottle of Rose's you have lying around will work in a pinch, but you should consider upgrading. There are more options available these days online, as well as recipes for making your own. Alternatively, try some raspberry syrup. Easy does it, though, or the drink will be too sweet. You can always add more.

Submitted by Bob Griewahn

EVENT REMINDERS:

Allegheny Commons Earth Month Celebration - Food, Live Music, Lawn Games, Outdoor Activities and more!

WHEN: Saturday, April 8th from 11:30 am - 2:30pm

WHERE: Allegheny Commons Park (Northside) near Lake Elizabeth

Allegheny West Alley Cats Bowling Night at the Elks

WHEN: Every Wednesday night from 7 til 9 - Until April 26th!

WHERE: Elk Lodge No. 339 - 400 Cedar Avenue, 2nd floor



Recycling Dates:

- April 3rd and 17th
- May 1st and 15th

Street Sweeping is back -Every 2nd Monday and Tuesday of the Month.

- April 10th & 11th
- May 8th & 9th

April General Membership Meeting Draft Agenda

The Allegheny West Civic Council March Membership Meeting will be held on **Tuesday, April 11 at 7:30 PM** at Calvary United Methodist Church, 971 Beech Avenue. - also on Zoom.

7:30: Call to Order

7:30: Greetings and introductions of New Neighbors

7:35: City of Pittsburgh Zone 1 Police (Officer Burford/ Commander Malloy)

7:40: City of Pittsburgh Mayor Ed Gainey's Office (Lindsey Aquino-Robles)

7:45: Councilor Bobby Wilson's Office (Julianne Hluska)

7:50: State Representative Aerion Abney's Office

7:55: Pittsburgh Parks Conservancy (Erin Tobin)

8:05: Officer and Executive Committee Reports

- Treasurer (Dan Adam)
- Communications Committee (Trish Burton)
- Friends of Allegheny West (Deb Lantz)
- Housing and Planning Committee (Bob Griewahn)
- Membership Committee (Aaron Bryan)
 - Request to Purchase New Equipment
- Property Committee (Michael Shealey)
- Ways and Means Committee (Sally Graubarth / Carol Gomrick)
- Executive Committee Actions (Timothy Zinn)
 - Pittsburgh Parks Conservancy Sponsorship

8:45: Unfinished Business

- Registered Community Organization

9:00: New Business

- Airbnb Incidents

9:15: Adjourn

Upcoming Meeting Reminder:

Housing and Planning Committee Meeting- (3rd Tuesday of the Month) - Zoom Meeting

Tuesday, April 18th @7:30pm

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87074045427?pwd=MUVvbUpEOXIMZDhBTEZ0V0JaT1MxUT09>

Meeting ID: 870 7404 5427

Passcode: 045565

AWCC Executive Committee Meeting - Zoom Meeting

Tuesday April 25th @7:30pm

The Allegheny West Gazette

Editor: Elizabeth Barbush

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.



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