
ALLEGHENY WEST GAZETTE

December 2023

President's Message

Wishing You a Joyful Holiday Season from the Allegheny West Civic Council

Dear neighbors,

As the year comes to a close and the holiday season is upon us, we wanted to take a moment to extend warm wishes to each and every one of you. The spirit of the holidays brings a sense of joy, togetherness, and gratitude, and we are grateful to have such a wonderful and vibrant community here in Allegheny West. Although this year has brought challenges, together we've shown resilience, compassion, and strength. In the spirit of Christmas, let us come together to celebrate the bonds that unite us and the diversity that enriches our community. May this festive season bring you moments of laughter, love, and togetherness with your friends and family.

As we exchange gifts and share meals, let us also share kindness and gratitude. Reach out to those around you, especially those who may be feeling lonely or in need. A small gesture of kindness can brighten someone's day and make our community even stronger.

May your homes be filled with laughter, warmth, and the company of loved ones. Whether you're celebrating Christmas, Hanukkah, or any other festive occasion, we hope this holiday season brings you joy, peace, and a chance to create lasting memories.

Remember that the true magic of Christmas lies in the love we share, the memories we create, and the joy we bring to each other's lives. Let us cherish these moments and look forward to a new year filled with hope, possibilities, and continued unity. As we plan for the new year, we are excited about the opportunities to continue building a strong, connected, and supportive community. Your involvement and contributions make a significant impact, and we encourage you to share your ideas and aspirations for our neighborhood in the coming year.

Thank you for being an essential part of Allegheny West. Wishing you and your families a Merry Christmas, a Happy Hanukkah, and a Happy New Year!

Warm regards,
Timothy Zinn, AWCC President

Remember

*Remember me when I am gone away,
Gone far away into the silent land;
When you can no more hold me by the hand,
Nor I half turn to go yet turning stay.
Remember me when no more day by day
You tell me of our future that you plann'd:
Only remember me; you understand*

*It will be late to counsel then or pray.
Yet if you should forget me for a while
And afterwards remember, do not grieve:
For if the darkness and corruption leave
A vestige of the thoughts that once I had,
Better by far you should forget and smile
Than that you should remember and be sad.*

- Christina Rossetti, "Goblin Market" and Other Poems (1862)

In Memoriam - Allegheny West Mourns

It is less than two years since the loss of our dear friend and patriarch John DeSantis of Allegheny West. We now are mourning the loss of two additional pillars of the community, Mary Callison and Dan Pultz.

Mary with her unwavering dedication to the betterment of her beloved neighborhood and church has left her mark with all who knew her. Whether it was picking up trash on the neighborhood streets, caring for the garden at the corner of Western Avenue and Brighton Road, lending her wisdom to the countless A.W. meetings, or maintaining the Calvary gardens, her selfless devotion and endless energy graced us all. She can be seen by us who knew her as the matriarch of Allegheny West.

Daniel Pultz has brought us warmth and his gracious smile everywhere he went. I see him as the light in the middle of the 900 block of Beech Avenue, bringing kindness to all who knew him. His loss leaves a hole in our neighborhood and our hearts.

These two will go down into the annals of the history of Allegheny West. Beginning an A.W. Renaissance with individuals like Alex Watson, this neighborhood has progressed well into the 21st century. Much of this progress can be attributed to those like Dan and Mary.

I think about our grief and I recognize that despite our differences the commonality of loss unifies us as a community. This gem of the North Side stands as perhaps the most cohesive neighborhood in the tri-state area. We should hold onto the legacy of our dearly departed and honor them by preserving the values that they have so unselfishly brought us.

Condolences to Cecile Canales and family for the loss of her extraordinary mother Josephine Midler at age 98. She became an honorary resident of Allegheny West. I also would like to extend my condolences to the family of Dennis Bergevin, our artistic and charismatic friend, and neighbor.

Submitted by Gary Otto



With Appreciation

The stars are a little less bright.
 Our food has lost some of its flavor.
 Our footsteps have lost a bit of their spring today,
 because our friends are no longer here with us.
 Though we mourn their passing,
 we are grateful that we were blessed to have them with us . . .
 laughing, crying, striving, mentoring
 through years in our neighborhood.
 Let their grace, sacrifice, and service be our inspiration to continue to support and lift up each other.

Submitted by Fran Barbush

* Obituaries can be found on our website Alleghenywest.org



*Street Cars in the Snow on Federal Street,
 ca. 1888-1900
 From historicpittsburgh.org*

Cocktail Corner*Submitted by Bob Griewahn***Stone Fence**

- 2.00 oz. bourbon (see Notes)
- 2 or 3 small lumps of ice
- Sweet cider to taste (see Notes)

Add the bourbon and ice to a large bar glass, then fill with cider.

- Jerry Thomas, *The Bon Vivant's Companion* (1862)

NOTES:

- As always, drink responsibly.
- Supposedly, this was a Revolutionary War favorite, drunk by Ethan Allen and his Green Mountain Boys prior to their successful assault on Fort Ticonderoga. Well, maybe.
- Bourbon – There's a lot of cider in this, so save your good bourbon (or rye) for sipping and use some cheaper stuff instead. If you want to be truly authentic, use cheap, strongly flavored rum. That's how they made it back in the 1770s.
- Cider – The Revolutionaries would have used hard cider. By Civil War times, recipes called for the kind of sweet cider you can buy at the market.
- You may need to alter the ingredient proportions, depending on which kind of cider you use, the size of your glass, and how sweet you like your cocktails. Start with a little cider and add more until you find your sweet (or dry) spot.

ANNOUNCEMENTS & EVENTS

WHAT: GalleryH - Announcement

WHEN: December 1st through December 21st. Final event 12/21 from 5-7pm

WHERE: 909 Western Avenue

DETAILS: galleryh in partnership with Refucilo wine are pleased to announce the first annual shameless merchandising Holiday event. We will have plenty of new and exciting gift items on hand for sale in the gallery. New items and artwork added each week of December. Stop by 909 Western Ave all month long and have a look around and be sure to join us for the closing and final event of 2023, Thursday, Dec. 21, 2023 from 5-7 and tell Santa what you want. Bring money!! See you there! Cheers and thank You! Have a safe and Happy Holidays.

WHAT: Allegheny West Alley Cats Bowling Night at the Elks

WHEN: Every Wednesday night from 7 til 9

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

**Recycling Dates;**

- December 11th and 26th
- January 8th and 22nd



Home of Lewis and Emma Irwin, located at 332-334 Western Avenue at the corner of Western Avenue and Irwin Avenue (now Brighton Road). This home was built in 1887 and designed by the architectural firm of Longfellow, Alden and Harlow.

Source: Archives of Industrial Society (AIS) General Photograph Collection

December Meeting Agenda

The Allegheny West Civic Council December Membership Meeting will be held on **Tuesday, December 12th** at **7:30 PM** at Calvary United Methodist Church, 971 Beech Avenue (Beech Ave or Rear Entrance) - also on Zoom.

7:30: Call to Order

7:30: Greetings and Introductions of New Neighbors

7:35: Reports of Elected Officials, City Departments, Organizations

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 (Jordyn Gilliard/Julianne Hluska)

7:50: State Representative Aerion Abney's Office (Austin Jefferson)

7:55: Pittsburgh Parks Conservancy (Erin Tobin)

8:00: Guests and Presentations

8:00: Officer and Committee Reports

Treasurer (Dan Adam)

Communications Committee (Trish Burton)

Friends of Allegheny West (Deb Lantz)

Housing and Planning Committee (Bob Griewahn)

- 1112 Galveston Avenue (Value Added Foods Building)
- 827 Western Avenue—forthcoming sale
- 939 W. North Ave—continued use as a manufacturing/warehouse facility
- Duquesne Light Ridge Avenue parcel
- W. North Avenue detours and signage—need “do not enter” sign on Rope Way

Membership Committee (Aaron Bryan)

Property Committee (Michael Shealey)

- 806 Western Avenue

Ways and Means Committee (Sally Graubarth/Carol Gomrick)

- Christmas House Tour

Executive Committee Actions (Timothy Zinn)

North Side Leadership Conference Update

8:45: Unfinished Business

Registered Community Organization

Western Avenue Neighborhood Improvement District (WANID)—project updates)

9:00: New Business

9:15: Adjourn

*Additions to the agenda can be made by emailing president@alleghenywest.org

Upcoming Meeting Reminders:

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

Tuesday, December 19th @7:30pm

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87074045427?pwd=MUVvbUpEOXlMZDhBTEZ0V0JaT1MxUT09>

Meeting ID: 870 7404 5427

Passcode: 045565

AWCC Executive Committee Meeting - 806 Western Avenue

Tuesday, December 26th @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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