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# ALLEGHENY WEST GAZETTE

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March 2023

## President's Message

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### Let Me Google That For You

I was recently introduced to a website by that name by a much younger coworker after asking him a question. The website's tagline is "for all those people who find it more convenient to bother you with their question rather than to Google it for themselves." The coworker meant it as a joke, and no harm was done. I am happy to report he is still employed. Sometimes, however, we all need help finding things. So, for all of those burning questions about the Allegheny West Civic Council (AWCC) and how to stay connected with happenings in the neighborhood, the following is my attempt to "Google that for you."

**THE ALLEGHENY WEST GAZETTE** If you are receiving this newsletter, you're connected. For several decades, AWCC has published this monthly newsletter—the Allegheny West Gazette. The basic purpose is to inform members and neighbors of the next AWCC general membership meeting on the second Tuesday of the month. The Gazette, however, contains committee reports, meeting calendars, a meeting agenda, and articles about upcoming events and fundraisers.

**ATTEND A MEETING** AWCC general membership meetings are held the second Tuesday of the month in the chapel of Calvary United Methodist Church, 971 Beech Avenue. The meetings also have a Zoom component for those who wish to join us online.

**AWCC WEBSITE** AWCC maintains its own website, which can be found at <http://www.alleghenywest.org/>. Here you will find announcements of upcoming events and tours; neighborhood history, including dozens of individual house histories; past editions of the Allegheny West Gazette; meeting minutes; and more. Be sure to click on the "Get Involved" tab in the banner and select "Allegheny West Civic Council" to find information on how to become a member of AWCC, monthly meetings, the Board of Directors and standing committees, and a copy of our bylaws.

**AWCC EMAIL ANNOUNCEMENTS** AWCC also maintains an email list of neighbors, property and business owners, and friends of Allegheny West. This list is one of the ways we disseminate information regarding upcoming events such as the summer block parties, neighborhood mixers, Wednesday night bowling, and other fun happenings. The content on this site is limited to AWCC-sponsored events and general neighborhood information and should not be used to post personal information or as a discussion forum. Your email address is never shared or revealed as all emails are sent to "AWCC-ANNOUNCE" and your email address remains hidden from view. All emails to this address are monitored prior to releasing so there is no chance of receiving spam email. If you would like to be added to this list, please visit <http://lists.alleghenywest.org/listinfo.cgi/awcc-announce-alleghenywest.org> and complete the online form.

**FACEBOOK.COM** Yes, Allegheny West has a Facebook page. This is a neighborhood page and not an official page of the AWCC. Visit [www.facebook.com/groups/76691408643](http://www.facebook.com/groups/76691408643)

**ASK A NEIGHBOR** If newsletters and computers aren't your thing, talk with your neighbors, attend a mixer or a block party, or in warmer months, host or join a porch party or stoop sit. This is one of the most engaging and friendly neighborhoods you'll find anywhere.

I'm sure I've missed a few of the ways to stay connected in Allegheny West, but I've done my best here to "Google it for you."

*I appreciate the opportunity to serve the Allegheny West neighborhood and look forward to receiving your comments at [tzinn106@msn.com](mailto:tzinn106@msn.com).*

**Timothy G. Zinn**  
AWCC President

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## 2023 Tour and Tasting

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Tickets are officially ON SALE!

The tour is scheduled for:

**Friday, June 23rd**

**Saturday, June 24th**

There are still some slots open for houses if you would like to be on tour. We have a couple new properties also on the tour this year and some new twists, so I'm excited about how the tour is shaping up. Holmes Hall is available this year for the initial tour gathering/start of the tour.

The focus right now is to secure food for the tour. I've been actively reaching out to restaurants for tasty nibbles. The bar has been set high over the past several years so a lot of effort to make sure this year continues to exceed expectations.

Need to give a special thanks to Allora Wine Group and Dreadnought Wines. Year over year Allora and Dreadnought never hesitate to assist in ensuring the wine pairings are perfect, elevating the experience for our guests. Please keep Allora and Dreadnought in mind the next time you're shopping for wines.

Please spread the word on social media about the event. Tickets sell out quickly so folks will need to purchase early.

More to come on volunteer opportunities. If you have any questions or would like more information about the tour, or to be on the tour - please reach out to me. Cheers!

Carol Gomrick- *Tour Chair*  
[Tours@alleghenywest.org](mailto:Tours@alleghenywest.org)

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## Support for East Palestine

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Taking a moment to thank all who donated to the drive for non-perishable items to assist our neighbors in East Palestine. ~\$1500 was raised. We used it all and filled up every inch of my car. Truly grateful to all of you for enabling this donation to happen.

Sally Graubarth and I made our way to Costco to load up on items to deliver to the non-profit organization, "The Way Station". East Palestine was surprising on many levels. It's a larger town than we expected, there are beautiful, large Victorian homes surrounding the 'downtown' proper. There is a vibrant community living there.

The rail lines cut right through the center of the town. We actually got stopped several times waiting for cargo trains to pass. The trains run, it seems, almost non-stop. The derailment occurred about two miles from the heart of the town. Roadways surrounding the derailment are closed to thru traffic.

There are no government organized food/water/home goods distribution centers setup. From what we experienced, it's one main organization that has taken on this role, The Way Station. This organization is operating out of a church basement. It's an established community center, providing assistance programs, food pantries and gets funding through reselling of donated clothing and household products. The staff at the Way Station are working hard to scale from a community center to a crisis response center. They are doing a great job.

-The response from Norfolk Southern to decontaminate homes is a process where the residents must pay for the service up front (\$800) then wait for reimbursement from NS.

-The \$1000 assistance for the temporary relocation during the initial days of the disaster is considered taxable income.

-I spoke to one resident who had a rash on several parts of her body. Her PCP will not treat her as the physician is concerned about getting caught up in litigation if there is a diagnosis of the rash being attributed to the chemical spill. She has to travel to Youngstown to visit a doctor for treatment.

The above adds insult to literal injury, but we didn't hear a lot of negativity from the people we met.

They are receiving donations from companies and private citizens and are grateful for the support, but there is a challenge with coordination of these donations and communicating effectively to the residents about support available.

-Goya Foods delivered a major food donation last Friday.

-Walmart is providing gift cards

-Many residents are now most interested in water purification appliances and cleaning supplies. The 20 Brita Water Filtration pitchers we purchased at Costco were a big hit.

Sally and I met several Way Station workers and local residents. All were incredibly grateful to the response from neighbors like Allegheny West for their thoughtfulness in assisting their residents. They love their town and want nothing more than to return to normal, safely and quickly. If you would still like to donate, pls contact:

The Way Station | <https://www.thewaystationinc.org/>  
 125 W 5th St, East Liverpool, OH 43920

*Submitted by Carol Gomrick*

**Dear March - Come In -**

*Dear March – Come in –  
 How glad I am –  
 I hoped for you before –  
 Put down your Hat –  
 You must have walked –  
 How out of Breath you are –  
 Dear March, how are you, and the Rest –  
 Did you leave Nature well –  
 Oh March, Come right upstairs with me –  
 I have so much to tell –*

*I got your Letter, and the Birds –  
 The Maples never knew that you were coming –  
 I declare – how Red their Faces grew –  
 But March, forgive me*

*And all those Hills you left for me to Hue –  
 There was no Purple suitable –  
 You took it all with you –*

*Who knocks? That April –  
 Lock the Door –  
 I will not be pursued –  
 He stayed away a Year to call  
 When I am occupied –  
 But trifles look so trivial  
 As soon as you have come*

*That blame is just as dear as Praise  
 And Praise as mere as Blame –  
 - Emily Dickinson*

*Submitted by Bob Griewahn*

**Cocktail Corner**

***The Favorite Cocktail***

Muddle in a tall glass:

- 1.5 oz. lime juice (juice of 1 lime)
- 3 to 4 sprigs of mint

Add:

- 2 oz. dry gin

Fill up the glass. Fill with ginger ale.

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

**NOTES:**

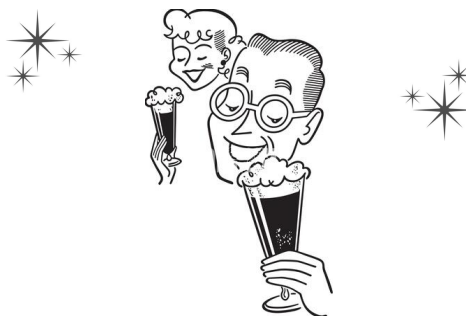
- As always, drink responsibly.
- You may want to measure the lime juice. Back in 1914, folks were used to those small, round limes, rather than the larger limes we see at most stores nowadays.
- Mint is not in season in Pittsburgh this time of year, but you can find it at a supermarket.
- The ginger ale is your choice. You may want to try a good ginger beer instead.

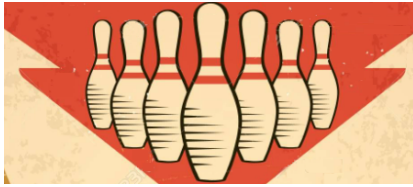
*Submitted by Bob Griewahn*

**EVENTS**

**WHAT: Allegheny West Meet and Greet Social!**  
**WHEN: THURSDAY March 30th @5pm**  
**WHERE: Four Points Brewing Taproom - 919 Western Avenue**

**There will be a Pizza Food Truck from 4-9pm. Please join us!**





**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**  
**The Allegheny West Alley Cats meet from now until May! Come and join the fun!**

**Recycling Dates Reminder**

- March 20th
- April 3rd and 17th

## March General Membership Meeting Draft Agenda

The Allegheny West Civic Council March Membership Meeting will be held on **Tuesday, March 14 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 (Rebekkah Renallo)
- 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: Executive Committee Reports
  - Treasurer (Dan Adam)
  - Ways and Means Committee (Sally Graubarth / Carol Gomrick)
  - Housing and Planning Committee (Jim Wallace)
  - Membership Committee (Aaron Bryan)
  - Property Committee (Michael Shealey)
  - Friends of Allegheny West (Deb Lantz)
  - Communications Committee (Trish Burton)
  - Executive Committee Actions (Timothy Zinn)
- 9:00: Adjourn

**Upcoming Meeting Reminder:**

Housing and Planning Committee Meeting- (3rd Tuesday of the Month) - Zoom Meeting  
**Tuesday, March 21st @7:30pm**

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87074045427?pwd=MUVvbUpEOXIMZDhBTEZOV0JaT1MxUT09>  
**Meeting ID:** 870 7404 5427  
**Passcode:** 045565

AWCC Executive Committee Meeting - Zoom Meeting  
**Tuesday March 28th @7:30pm**

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### 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](mailto: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](http://www.alleghenywest.org) ~ [info@alleghenywest.org](mailto:info@alleghenywest.org) ~ (412) 323 - 8884