

# ALLEGHENY WEST GAZETTE

September 2023

## President's Message

Proposed Development at W. North Avenue and Brighton Road

Timothy Zinn, AWCC President

Now that AWCC's summer break has passed, general membership meetings will resume this month. The next meeting will be held on Tuesday, September 12 at 7:30 PM at Calvary United Methodist Church, 971 Beech Avenue. Several guests will be present at the meeting and a special presentation on the proposed development of the vacant lot at the southwest corner of W. North Avenue and Brighton Road will be made by Costello Properties, the potential developer. For additional information, please see the tentative agenda in this edition of the Gazette.

As reported in the *Pittsburgh Post Gazette*, Costello Properties is proposing to construct 16 single-family houses on the site. The units would be three-story duplexes with a shared common party wall and will have a one- or two-car garage, a deck, and yard space. The plans will be reviewed by the Pittsburgh Zoning Board of Adjustment at its September 14 meeting in order to seek variances related to setback and lot size. A plan view of the proposed development is shown below. After the presentation, neighbors will have an opportunity to provide feedback and ask questions.

For those interested in attending the ZBA hearing, the meetings are held on Zoom and streamed on YouTube Live on the Pittsburgh City Planning YouTube page. To join the Zoom webinar, use the link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85171125255> or call 301-715-8592 with Webinar ID: 851 7112 5255. If you are not planning to testify, please watch the YouTube Live stream to allow those testifying to be able to join the meeting. The hearing is scheduled for 10:00 AM.

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).



Proposed development of sixteen town homes at southwest corner of W. North Avenue and Brighton Road.

## 2023 Victorian Christmas Tour

Labor Day has come and gone so it's now time to start planning for the Christmas Tour. By the way, a big "thank you" to Aaron for another fantastic block party!

We're fortunate to have Calvary Church again available to kick off the festivities. I will be busy working with Cathy Serventi to set up the ticket sales and update the AWCC Website. Tickets will be available for purchase online only starting in October.

### Christmas Tour Dates:

Friday, December 8th

Saturday, December 9th

### Next Steps:

I will be sending out tour reminders and requests for volunteers over the next few months. Please consider volunteering. We are fortunate to have neighbors who year after year slot into taking charge of certain tasks. I'll be reaching out to you to confirm if you're able to lead this year.

The following slots will need to be filled: *Sign-up sheets will be made available starting in October to coordinate all the volunteers.*

### Homes

- We have experienced such a renewed interest since the tours started back up after a 2-year hiatus. These tours mean so much to so many, please consider opening your home this year.
- Homeowners will also need house-sitters during the tour.

### Holmes Hall

- Train Tour
- Ticket Sales
- House Leads

### Docents

- Lead tour groups through the neighborhood

### Tour Runners

- Walk the route and make sure all operating like a well-oiled machine

### After Party

- Host the volunteers on Saturday, 12/9 after the tours to celebrate another successful year.

I'll continue to share the heartwarming stories I hear from the people who attend every year, making Allegheny West part of their Christmas tradition. Also, I'll never stop being inspired by this tiniest of neighborhoods pulling together year after year to make this tour such a success. This tour doesn't happen without all of your support. Thank you.

**Carol Gomrick - Tour Chair**

Tours@alleghenywest.org

If you have any questions please contact me.

### September, 1913

*What need you, being come to sense,  
But fumble in a greasy till  
And add the halfpence to the pence  
And prayer to shivering prayer, until  
You have dried the marrow from the bone;  
For men were born to pray and save:  
Romantic Ireland's dead and gone,  
It's with O'Leary in the grave.*

*Yet they were of a different kind,  
The names that stilled your childish play,  
They have gone about the world like wind,  
But little time had they to pray  
For whom the hangman's rope was spun,  
And what, God help us, could they save?  
Romantic Ireland's dead and gone,  
It's with O'Leary in the grave.*

*Was it for this the wild geese spread  
The grey wing upon every tide;  
For this that all that blood was shed,  
For this Edward Fitzgerald died,  
And Robert Emmet and Wolfe Tone,  
All that delirium of the brave?  
Romantic Ireland's dead and gone,  
It's with O'Leary in the grave.*

*Yet could we turn the years again,  
And call those exiles as they were  
In all their loneliness and pain,  
You'd cry, 'Some woman's yellow hair  
Has maddened every mother's son':  
They weighed so lightly what they gave.  
But let them be, they're dead and gone,  
They're with O'Leary in the grave*

William Butler Yeats, 1913

## Cocktail Corner

### *Pegu Club Cocktail*

- 1 oz dry gin
- 0.5 oz curacao
- 0.5 oz lime juice
- 1 dash Angostura bitters
- 1 dash orange bitters

Shake the ingredients with ice, then strain into a cocktail glass.

This is attributed to “Jimmy”, a bartender at Ciro’s, which was a nightclub in London, England.

### **NOTES:**

- As always, drink responsibly.
- This is a nice drink for the waning days of summer, with easy to find ingredients.
- The recipe, which dates to the late 1920’s, doesn’t specify a garnish. I think any citrus peel would do, but I’d probably go with an orange twist.
- The Pegu Club, which was a gentlemen’s club founded in the 1880’s, is a heritage site in Myanmar. You can read more about it at Wikipedia. It’s a beautiful building, and I believe it’s undergoing a restoration. Don’t confuse it with the Pegu Club in New York City, which copied the name and operated in the early 2000’s.

*Submitted by Bob Griewahn*

## EVENT REMINDERS

### **Farmers Market:**

WHEN: Every Friday, 3:00-7:00pm

WHERE: Allegheny Commons Park, E. Ohio Street and Cedar Avenue

### **GalleryH - Landscapes of Western PA**

WHEN: September 8th through September 30th

WHERE: 909 Western Avenue

DETAILS: karlhuberillustration and galleryh are very pleased to present the artwork of local Allegheny West resident Holly Pultz, Landscapes of Western Pennsylvania and More! The show runs from September 8 and continues the entire month. Please join us for the artist reception on Saturday, Sept. 9 at 909 Western Ave. 5-7 PM. See you there!

### **Friends to Garden Dinner**

WHEN: Saturday, September 16th - Cocktail Hour at 5pm and Dinner at 6pm

WHERE: Community Garden at Allegheny Commons, 240 Stockton Avenue Pittsburgh, PA 15212

DETAILS: Please join us in our magical garden for an evening of food, fun, and fancy at the 3rd annual Friends to Garden dinner! Tickets are \$75 and includes food, drinks, and great company all in our beautiful space. For tickets go to <https://eacc.betterworld.org/events/friends-garden-dinner-2023>.

### **Pittsburgh International Literary Festival at City of Asylum**

WHEN: September 30th through October 15th

WHERE: 40 W. North Avenue

DETAILS: The third annual, 16 day festival opens on Saturday, September 30th. It will present 17 programs showcasing a diverse array of over 50 writers and artists representing 20 different countries and nations. Visit [www.cityofasylum.org](http://www.cityofasylum.org) for the schedule and details!

### **Recycling Dates:**

- September 5th & 18th
- October 2nd, 16th, and 30th

**Street Sweeping** - 2nd Monday & Tuesday of the Month until November 30th.

- September 11th & 12th
- October 9th & 10th

## September Meeting Agendas

The Allegheny West Civic Council September Membership Meeting will be held on **Tuesday, September 12 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)

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

7:55: Pittsburgh Parks Conservancy (Erin Tobin)

8:00: Guests and Presentations

8:00 English Burton, Facility Manager, North Side Partnership Project

8:15: Costello Properties: Proposed development at W. North Avenue, Brighton Road and Rope Way

8:30: Vicky Mason, Pittsburgh Parking Authority

### 8:45: **Officer and Committee Reports**

Treasurer (Dan Adam)

Communications Committee (Trish Burton)

Friends of Allegheny West (Deb Lantz)

Housing and Planning Committee (Bob Griewahn)

- Sale of Western Avenue lot
- 1112 Galveston Avenue (Value Added Foods Building)
- A&P Lot development
- Traffic calming on W. North and Galveston Avenues
- 939 W. North Ave—under agreement, continued use as a manufacturing/warehouse facility
- Duquesne Light substation on Ridge Avenue

Membership Committee (Aaron Bryan)

Property Committee (Michael Shealey)

Ways and Means Committee (Sally Graubarth/Carol Gomrick)

- Christmas House Tour

Executive Committee Actions (Timothy Zinn)

9:15: Unfinished Business

Registered Community Organization

9:20: New Business

9:30: Adjourn

### Upcoming Meeting Reminders:

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

**Tuesday, September 19th @7:30pm**

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87074045427?pwd=MUVvbUpEOXIMZDhBTEZOV0JaT1MxUT09>

**Meeting ID:** 870 7404 5427

**Passcode:** 045565

AWCC Executive Committee Meeting - 806 Western Avenue

**Tuesday, September 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](mailto:gazette@alleghenywest.org). Submission does not guarantee publication.



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