
ALLEGHENY WEST GAZETTE

February 2025

President's Message

Happy February, Allegheny West!

I hope you've all been staying warm and cozy as we thaw out from the Polar Vortex. While we're still in the heart of winter, the good news is that the days are getting longer, and warmer times are on the horizon. Though Punxsutawney Phil may have predicted six more weeks of winter, we can still look forward to brighter days ahead.

This month, we're celebrating several meaningful occasions, including **National Black History Month**, **Heart Health Awareness Month**, **Super Bowl Sunday**, **Presidents' Day**, **Random Acts of Kindness Day**, and of course, **Valentine's Day**!

As we approach February 14th, we're reminded of the power of love, beauty, and harmony. Did you know that **Venus**, the planet representing these very qualities in astrology, will be in its greatest brilliance this February? From **February 1st through 14th**, Venus will shine even brighter in the night sky as it moves closer to Earth, often appearing especially close to the moon around sunset. If you're a stargazer, be sure to look up on clear nights for this celestial display! Additionally, we will have a **full moon** on February 12th, which will make for an extra special evening of lunar beauty.

February is also a month to honor our community's history. On **February 13th**, we celebrate the **1890 opening of the Carnegie Library**, which was the very first free public library. Now known as the **Museum Lab**, this milestone laid the groundwork for public libraries in our city and reminds us how libraries continue to serve as vital community hubs for knowledge, connection, and growth.

Looking ahead to **March 4th**, we'll be celebrating **Mardi Gras**, which kicks off Pittsburgh's beloved **Fish Fry Season**. It's the perfect time to embrace the festive spirit of the season and enjoy some delicious food with friends and family.

While February may be cold, it's filled with bright moments of beauty, history, and community. Let's come together to embrace the richness of this winter month and look forward to the joys that spring will soon bring.

Stay warm, stay safe, and as always, feel free to reach out with any thoughts, ideas, or questions.

Warmly,

Elizabeth Barbush

President, Allegheny West Civic Council

Cocktail Corner

Submitted by Bob Griewahn

Diplomate Cocktail

Stir with ice:

- ❖ 2 dashes maraschino liqueur
- ❖ 1.5 oz dry vermouth
- ❖ 0.75 oz red vermouth

Strain into a cocktail glass

Garnish with a cherry and lemon twist

Robert Vermeire, *Cocktails and How to Mix Them*, 1922

Notes

- ❖ As always, drink responsibly.
- ❖ This drink is especially for those easing back into cocktails after their Dry January. No base liquor, just a couple of vermouths which will provide a lower alcohol content.
- ❖ This cocktail also should work well for Valentine's Day, because it is somewhat sweet, just like you. You can vary the sweetness by adding more or less of the red vermouth.
- ❖ For "red" vermouth, read "sweet". There are dry red vermouths, although I don't tend to see them in Pennsylvania.
- ❖ Luxardo's maraschino liqueur is readily available at the PLCB (Fine Wine & Good Spirits) stores. Luxardo also makes cherries for the garnish (available at the Mayfly Market as well as the PLCB).
- ❖ When I made it, I didn't bother with the lemon twist. This was due to laziness, a debilitating condition with no known cure.

Two Scholarships for High School Seniors

The **Pittsburgh History and Landmarks Foundation** (PHLF) is now accepting applications for its Landmarks Scholarship for high-achieving, community-minded, high school seniors in Allegheny County who will be attending college or university in the fall of 2025. The deadline to apply is Tuesday, April 15, 2025. Download the application at phlf.org

As part of the Landmarks Scholarship application, students are asked to describe in an essay a place in Allegheny County especially important in their lives; these essays—all archived at PHLF—show how the scholarship program has helped future preservationists, architects, designers, and planners realize their career dreams and remain connected to the Pittsburgh region.

This program is funded in part by support from the Brashear Family Fund and the Landmarks Scholarship Fund, including donations to the 2008 and 2014 Scholarship Celebrations, and from the Russell W. Coe Preservation Fund at PHLF. The award of \$6,000 is payable over four years to the recipient's college or university, to be used for book and tuition expenses only.

The **North Side Leadership Conference** 2025 Scholarship Program application is due April 15 2025.

Purpose of Scholarship: To recognize and award high school seniors who volunteer their time to improve the Northside community.

Eligibility for Scholarship: Any Northside resident in the 12th grade, who performs volunteer service in their community and who is attending a college or training program after high school. The individuals must reside on the Northside, but they need not attend a Northside high school.

Award: \$1,000 scholarships will be awarded. Candidates will be recruited through neighborhood groups and high schools, both private and public.

To receive more information, including an application form and selection criteria please contact Kelly MacKay at (412) 231-4714 ext 2010 or kelly@pittsburghnorthside.com

A Red, Red Rose

*O my Luve is like a red, red rose
That's newly sprung in June;
O my Luve is like the melody
That's sweetly played in tune.*

*So fair art thou, my bonnie lass,
So deep in luve am I;
And I will luve thee still, my dear,
Till a' the seas gang dry.*

*Till a' the seas gang dry, my dear,
And the rocks melt wi' the sun;
I will love thee still, my dear,
While the sands o' life shall run.*

*And fare thee weel, my only luve!
And fare thee weel awhile!
And I will come again, my luve,
Though it were ten thousand mile.*

Robert Burns, 1759—1796

ANNOUNCEMENTS & EVENTS

WHAT: galleryh Saints and Sinners Show
WHEN: Wednesday February 12th, 5 to 7pm
WHERE: 909 Western Ave

WHAT: A Very Valentine Treat at Refucilo Winery
WHEN: Friday, December 14th
WHERE: Refucilo Winery, 907 Western Ave

Special Valentine's Day package includes:

- The Maureen Renihan Trio - jazz & popular standards
- A glass of sparkling wine from our new shipment
- An artisan chocolate surprise

The full tapas and wine menu will be available.

Please RSVP for one of two seatings, 6 - 7:30 PM or 8 - 9:30 PM at (412) 251-0231. \$35 per person

WHAT: Allegheny West Alley Cats Bowling Night at the Elks
WHEN: Every Wednesday night from **7(ish) til 9pm**
WHERE: Elks Lodge No. 339, 400 Cedar Avenue, 2nd floor

WHAT: Girl Scout Cookies courtesy of troop member and AWCC neighbor **Iris**
WHEN: Now through early March; deliveries will start in late February
HOW: Order through the **QR code** to the right or visit <https://tinyurl.com/2zvnyvycs>



WHAT: Half-priced admission to Mattress Factory
WHEN: Wednesdays in February, 4 to 8pm
HOW: Purchase tickets online at mattress.org/visit, or at the museum.

Recycling Dates: February 3rd, February 17th, March 3rd

Street Sweeping Ended for the season! Will resume in April!

AWCC February Calendar

The next Allegheny West Civic Council Membership Meeting will be held on **Tuesday February 11th at 7:30 PM** at Calvary United Methodist Church, 971 Beech Avenue (use the Beech Ave or Rear Entrance) - also on Zoom, info below.

7:30: Call to Order, 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 State Representative Aerion Abney's Office (Austin Jefferson)
- 7:50: Department of City Planning (Nazia Tarannum)
- 7:55 Pittsburgh Parks Conservancy (Erin Tobin)
- 8:00: Councilman Bobby Wilson's Office (Bobby Wilson/Jordyn Gilliard/Julianne Hluska)

8:05 Guests and Presentations

- Halena Procopio Ross from Bureau of Environmental Services

8:25: Officer and Committee Reports

- Minutes of Last Meeting (Bob Griewahn, Secretary)
- Treasurer's Report (Cathy Serventi, Treasurer)
- Communications Committee (Sarah Cook)
- Friends of Allegheny West (Trish Burton)
- Housing and Planning Committee (Tom Cihil)
- Membership Committee (Yulia Bhonsle)
- Property Committee (Aaron Bryan)
 - 806 Western Avenue
- Ways and Means Committee (Carol Gomrick)
- Executive Committee Actions (Elizabeth Barbush)
- North Side Leadership Conference update (Ann Gilligan, Bob Griewahn)

8:45: Unfinished Business

- Western Avenue Neighborhood Improvement District (WANID)—project updates
- Streetlight repair on Beech Avenue
- Tree trimming on Galveston and W. North Avenues
- Alleys, Axles, and Ales Committee

9:10: New Business

9:20: Adjourn

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

Zoom Info: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86597684488?pwd=RHdIZG5QOUhXTmtkMElzbjZEWi8rUT09>

Meeting ID: 865 9768 4488

Passcode: 336200

Upcoming Meeting Reminders:

Housing and Planning Committee Meeting- 3rd Tuesday of the Month at 7:30pm - Zoom Meeting

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

Meeting ID: 870 7404 5427

Passcode: 045565

AWCC Executive Committee Meeting - Last Tuesday of the month at 7:30pm - in person at 806 Western Ave

The Allegheny West Gazette

Editor: Sarah Cook

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.



A publication of the Allegheny West Civic Council 806 Western Avenue, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania
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