
ALLEGHENY WEST GAZETTE

April 2025

President's Message

Embracing Spring in Allegheny West

Dear Neighbors:

April is finally here, bringing warmer weather and the promise of longer, sunnier days! As the season changes, it's the perfect time to step outside, freshen up our community spaces, and welcome the renewal that spring brings. With Earth Day, Easter, and the start of baseball season all around the corner, April offers plenty of opportunities for connection and celebration.

As we prepare for summer, many of us are getting ready to plant our gardens. The Calvary United Women in Faith are hosting their Annual Spring Plant Sale, running through April 18. You can pick up your plants on May 22 and 23 at Calvary United Methodist Church. For more details, visit calvarypgh.com/plant-sale.

If you're looking for garden inspiration, be sure to check out the Phipps Spring Flower Show, running until April 20. This annual event at Phipps Conservatory features stunning floral displays, making it a perfect spring outing.

In addition to sprucing up our gardens, the city has resumed street sweeping. Just a reminder: street cleaning takes place on the second Monday and Tuesday of each month. Please keep an eye on posted signage and remember to move your car from that side of the street on cleaning day.

Now is a great time to get outdoors, meet your neighbors, and support our local businesses. Happy spring cleaning, and I hope to see you around the neighborhood this month!

Elizabeth Barbush
President, Allegheny West Civic Council



Over forty Allegheny West neighbors of all ages stopped by AWCC's spring mixer on March 20th at Giorgio's Place. Special thanks to Giorgio's for making space... & delicious pizzas and salads for diners to enjoy!

Our next opportunity to eat & mingle is at AWCC's Memorial Day picnic on the 800 Block of Beech Ave. More info in next month's Gazette!



Cocktail Corner

Submitted by Bob Griewahn

Ante Cocktail

- ❖ Shake with ice:
 - 1 dash Angostura bitters
 - 0.5 oz Hercules (see Notes)
 - 0.5 oz Cointreau
 - 1 oz Calvados or Apple Brandy
- ❖ Strain into a cocktail glass

Harry Craddock, Savoy Cocktail Book, 1930

Notes

- As always, drink responsibly.
- For Hercules, substitute Dubonnet. No one seems to know exactly what the recipe for Hercules was, but it appears to have been a fortified wine with some quinquina. Dubonnet is probably the most reasonable approximation and is readily available.
- The recipe calls for a single ounce of Calvados. I think you should increase it to at least one and a quarter ounces, and an ounce and a half wouldn't be uncalled for. I've done so, as Arne Saknussemm famously said. If your home bar stock doesn't yet include a bottle of Calvados after the many times I've told you to acquire some, well, I don't know what to do.
- Shake? I don't know why Harry thinks this drink should be shaken. I stir, rather than shake, this drink to avoid cloudiness. Do as you please. You always do.

Announcements and Notices

Ad Hoc Subcommittee on Nuisance and Disruptive Properties: Calling all concerned and interested neighbors! The AWCC Housing and Planning Committee is forming a new ad hoc subcommittee focusing on nuisance & disruptive properties within the neighborhood. Think excessive noise, trash and litter, health and safety violations, neglected property, and other issues. Many of you know such instances that affect you. Here is your chance to have your voice heard and do something about it with the help of the neighborhood. Send a message with your interest and concerns to housing-planning@alleghenywest.org. Help make Allegheny West the best neighborhood it can be.

Construction on North Avenue: Signals and Safety Project

The North Avenue Signals and Safety Project is updating traffic signal infrastructure and improving safety for pedestrians, drivers, and transit users along North Avenue. Traffic signal upgrades will include higher visibility signals with back plates, controllers, communication hardware, and radar detection. Pedestrian accommodations include pedestrian countdown signals, audible push buttons, curb extensions/bumpouts, mid-block crossings, and ADA ramps. The work schedule is 7am to 5:30pm M-Th with a rain day on Fridays. Project Completion is anticipated in Summer 2026. Learn more here: <https://engage.pittsburghpa.gov/north-avenue-signals-and-safety-project>

Spring Plant Sale

As mentioned in the President's Letter on page 1, Calvary United Women in Faith are holding their Spring Plant Sale. The order window closes April 18 and pick up dates are May 22 and 23 at Calvary United Methodist Church. Learn more, and find the product list + order form, on Calvary's website at <https://calvarypgh.com/plant-sale>

Yard Waste Collection

The City of Pittsburgh will collect yard waste on Saturday April 26th. Yard waste must be placed in a paper bag (no plastic bags are accepted). Residents can set out: leaves; grass; plants; tree trimmings; branches, and shrubs. Branches should be bundled and tied, and no bigger than 4 inches in diameter with lengths not more than 5 feet.

A Summer Tour & Tasting in Old Allegheny

Happy April!

It's only 3 months until the "Wine" Tour and there is a lot of activity underway. Great news: we have the vendors lined up for food and wine. See the current list at the end of this article and please show your appreciation with your patronage.

Dates: Friday, June 27th and Saturday, June 28th
There will be NO street closures for this tour.

Incredible update on ticket sales: Tickets went live on Monday, March 31st. In less than 12 hours over 160 tickets were sold! If you or your friends are interested, please purchase soon. Go to www.AlleghenyWest.org for tickets.

Sandy Allen and Aaron Bryan will be hosting the afterparty this year. The afterparty is open to all volunteers on Saturday evening, and has an ~8:30ish start.

Volunteering: As the tour date nears, there will be opportunities to assist in setup and tear down as well as food pick up and delivery. More to come on what will be available. Dan Sprumont will be at the helm for the docents again this year. If you have any questions about being a docent or if you'd like to see if there is an open slot left, please reach out to Dan directly at dan.sprumont@gmail.com, or email the tour at tours@alleghenywest.org.

Donations: please consider donating wine or wine-related items for the raffle baskets. These baskets are very popular with guests and really help to offset tour-related costs.

Current vendor list:

- DiAnoia's Eatery
- Bistro to Go
- Grand Concourse
- Wise County Biscuits
- Allora Wine Group
- Dreadnought Wines
- Refucilo Winery

If you have any questions, please contact me via email.
Cheers!

Carol Gomrick - Tour Chair Carol.Gomrick@gmail.com

in Just-

spring when the world is mud-
luscious the little
lame balloonman

whistles far and wee

and eddieandbill come
running from marbles and
piracies and it's
spring

when the world is puddle-wonderful

the queer
old balloonman whistles
far and wee
and bettyandisbel come dancing

from hop-scotch and jump-rope and

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Neighborhood Dates

Recycling: Monday April 14th and April 28th

Yard Waste Pickup: Saturday April 26

Street Sweeping: takes place on the 2nd Monday and Tuesday of each month- check your street's signs!
NB: this year, the city will mail violation tickets rather than leaving them on the windshield.

AWCC April 2025 Agenda

The next Allegheny West Civic Council Membership Meeting will be held on **Tuesday April 8th at 7:30 PM** at Calvary United Methodist Church. Use the Beech Avenue Rear Entrance, or attend on Zoom (info below).

Please arrive a few minutes early to review the March minutes before the meeting begins.

7:30: Call to Order

7:35: Greetings and Introductions of New Neighbors

7:40 Reports of Elected Officials, City Departments, Organizations

7:45: City of Pittsburgh Zone 1 Police (Officer Burford/Commander Malloy)

7:50: City of Pittsburgh Mayor Ed Gainey's Office (Lindsey Aquino-Robles)

7:55: Department of City Planning (Nazia Tarannum)

8:00 Pittsburgh Parks Conservancy (Erin Tobin)

8:05: Councilman Bobby Wilson's Office (Bobby Wilson/Jordyn Gilliard/Julianne Hluska)

8:10 Guests and Presentations

Crystal Witt – Riverlife Community Engagement Coordinator

Alexis Meier – Director of Communications ALOSAN/ORT Project Team

8:50: 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)
- Ways and Means Committee (Carol Gomrick)
- Executive Committee Actions (Elizabeth Barbush)

9:15: Unfinished Business

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

9:25: New Business

- Letter of Support for Gus and Yiayia Honorary Street Sign
- Filming in Allegheny West

9:30: Adjourn

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

Zoom: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89969724081?pwd=dGFWNTRaalpJZThHNjBWQmswenNYQT09>

Meeting ID: 899 6972 4081 Passcode: 979088

Upcoming AWCC Meeting Reminders:

- **Housing and Planning Committee Meeting:** 3rd Tuesday of the Month at 7:30pm, on Zoom
Zoom link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87074045427?pwd=MUVvbUpEOXlMZDhBTEZ0V0JaT1MxUT09>
Meeting ID: 870 7404 5427; Passcode: 045565
- **Executive Committee Meeting:** Last Tuesday of the month at 730pm, 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 15233 www.alleghenywest.org ~ info@alleghenywest.org ~ (412) 323 - 8884