



The Official Newsletter of the Lafayette Place Improvement Association
January 2019 Issue

Westley Falcaro, Editor

Another Beautiful Corner

Your LPIA Board of Directors has been working for several years on issues with the property at the corner of Calhoun & Pettit. The lot had an abandoned house, which had been used as storage for junk for years. It literally had no interior walls or floors and was filled to the ceiling with junk. We worked with the owner, who inherited this property upon his uncle's death, and finally got the house demolished through the Blight Elimination program. The City then took ownership of the property.

We then worked with that program and City Departments for another year and finally have just gotten the results we wanted: the City will deed the property to LPIA for a purchase price of **ZERO!** All paperwork will be signed within the next week or so.

ADDITIONALLY, we have been approved for a \$3,707 grant to add signage, fencing, and landscaping to this once blighted lot. The rehabilitation of this corner will happen this spring. Hard work and patience do make good things happen!

Did You Notice?

I hope you noticed that we had new Christmas decorations in the Lafayette Place Gazebo this year. The decorations used for several years were literally falling apart, so **Jeff Prentice** created beautiful new ones. Our THANKS to Jeff for making sure that the Lafayette Place gazebo is beautifully "dressed" for the Holiday season every year.

2019 Recycling Schedule

We are now on "A" schedule for recycling and our recycle items are picked up in the yellow topped can every other Thursday, with your garbage.

Your garbage & recycle bins must be 3 feet apart & at the curb by 6am for the truck to pick up!

For your convenience, our 2019 recycle dates per the City of Fort Wayne are listed below (dates are listed after the publication date of this Newsletter):

2019 Recycle Dates for Lafayette Place:

January 31

February 14 & 28

March: 14 & 28

April: 11 & 25

May: 9 & 23

June: 6 & 20

July: 5 & 18 ** See note below

August: 1 & 15 & 29

September: 12 & 26

October: 10 & 24

November: 7 & 21

December: 5 & 19

**** Some dates listed are on a Friday instead of Thursday as Garbage & Recycle Service will be one day behind following a National holiday.**

Go to www.recyclefortwayne.org for more information and to get a complete list of what you CAN and CANNOT put in your recycle bin!

Car Safety Tips in Winter Weather

Whether you're traveling local streets or going on a trip, here are some tips to help you avoid the worst of winter hazards and keep you and your loved ones safe:

- Don't let gas tank get below ¼
- Keep your tire pressure at recommended levels
- Carry in your car:
 - ✓ flashlight
 - ✓ flares
 - ✓ fix-a-flat
 - ✓ first aid kit
 - ✓ empty gas can
 - ✓ extra warm clothing
 - ✓ warm blanket

Coyotes Alert

Although rare for Indiana, Coyotes have recently been seen in Waynedale, which is not too far from our area. Apparently, these coyotes are very large, bigger than most coyotes, and have been mistaken for wolves. Reports have said they go after small pets and are getting bolder.

Be aware of your surroundings when out walking your pets. And be especially vigilant if you just let your small pet out alone.

Mark Your Calendar

Here are the dates for 2019 Lafayette Place events:

- ◆ Annual Association Meeting – Wed April 10
- ◆ Great American Clean Up – Sat May 4
- ◆ Dirt Day – Sat May 25
- ◆ Garage Sale – Fri & Sat June 14 & 15
- ◆ Night of Music – Sat July 27
- ◆ Trick or treat – Sunday Oct 27

Vehicles on Private Property Now Must Have Valid License Plates

Recent changes to City Code now require all vehicles parked on private property and within public view to have valid license plates and current registration stickers. Public view is defined as visible from public property such as a sidewalk or the street.

Vehicles without valid license plates or current registration tags will receive notice of the violation; tickets and even towing could result from non-compliance.

Anyone wanting to report an unlicensed vehicle should call 311. Anyone who has received a notice of violation and is having difficulty getting a valid license plate and/or current registration tag should call the Neighborhood Code Compliance Department at 260-427-1163 or 311.

These regulations work in conjunction with existing laws about abandoned and inoperable vehicles. City Code requires all vehicles parked on private property within public view to be **operable**. Additionally, vehicles must be parked on approved surfaces, which are defined as: gravel, an area paved with asphalt or concrete, pervious pavement (block, concrete, similar modular pavers and grid pavers) or other approved all-weather hard surfaces free of overgrown vegetation.

Neighborhood Code Compliance ensures minimum housing and commercial standards are met in order to enhance the health and safety of Fort Wayne's neighborhoods while improving property values and the quality of life for all citizens.

Dues Statements

2019 Association Dues Statements were mailed out the second week of January.

If you have outstanding dues, but cannot pay the full balance, call Westley Falcaro at 456-1608 to arrange an **acceptable payment plan**. If you have not received your statement, please let me know.

Winter Has Arrived!

Although we've had some unusually warm temperatures for the past few weeks, winter is definitely here and very cold temperatures are being predicted. Here are a few tips to keep in mind to stay safe and warm:

Stay safe:

- Check your carbon monoxide detectors
- Avoid frozen pipes - open cabinets around plumbing and run a trickle of water
- Do - use heaters on a hard, level surface away from flammables
- Don't - use stoves, ovens or grills for heat

While you're shoveling your driveway, use a broom to clear your gas meter of snow and ice

If you smell natural gas – LEAVE and call 911 from a safe location

Stay warm:

- Clear areas around heating equipment vents
- Weather-strip windows and doors
- Turn down your thermostat when you're away for more than 8 hours
- Open your shades during the day
- Use a fireplace insert to reduce heat loss

LPIA Board of Directors

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