



The Official Newsletter of the Lafayette Place Improvement Association
November – December 2017 Issue Westley Falcaro, Editor

Note from the Editor:

I apologize for not writing September & October Newsletters, but I recently had total hip replacement surgery and then, to make things worse, I fell shortly after I came home from the hospital. To say the least I have been somewhat incapacitated. I am just now moving around & trying to get back into the groove! So please accept my apology for the lack of information!

Leaf Collection

Leaf pick up for the south side of Fort Wayne, including Lafayette Place, is scheduled for the weeks of **Nov. 13-17 & Dec. 11-15**

You must have your **leaves ready for pick up on the first day** of our scheduled week. The planned pick up schedule may change due to weather or volume of leaf pick-up in a particular week. You can go to www.cityoffortwayne.org/leaves or call the **Leaf Hotline at 427-2302** for information.

Please remember the following:

1. Rake leaves onto the park strip area between the sidewalk & curb OR put them in biodegradable yard waste bags and set the bags at the curb for collection.
2. **DO NOT rake leaves into the street.**
3. If you use the biodegradable yard waste bags, you can call 311 for pick up within 2 business days any time during the pick up season.

Burning leaves within the City limits is a violation of City Code 74.70.

The fine is \$50 & increases to \$75 if not paid within 30 days.

Fake Invoices

The Attorney General's Office is warning that someone is emailing fake invoices that appear to come from the Office of Attorney General Curtis Hill.

According to a recent news release, the email is worded very awkwardly and says:

"Kindly find the enclosed invoice and advice ASAP. Thank you."

Anyone receiving these fake invoices is asked to file a complaint with the Consumer Protection Division to document this scam. Go to:

**www.in.gov/attorneygeneral/2434htm
or call 1-800-382-5516**

Trick or Treat A Success!

According to my "official counter," there were approximately 300 kids roaming the streets of Lafayette Place looking for treats. This year saw more adults in costume than in previous years and it was great to see them!

We were happy to provide great characters from T.A.G. Art again this year, and residents Michael and Crystal Satriano provided an additional photo op portraying Jack Skellington and Sally from "A Nightmare Before Christmas."

Go to our website, LafayettePlace.org, and click on the Photo Gallery to see pictures from a great day of fun in the Esplanade!

Heating Help Available

It looks like we might be in for a cold winter. Temperatures are dropping and furnaces are being turned on. If you need assistance keeping warm, following is a list of social service agencies that **may** offer utility assistance:

Catholic Charities	422-5625
Bright Point (CANI)	423-3546
Wayne Township Trustee	449-7000

Save your Drain

Thanksgiving is just around the corner, and Christmas isn't too far behind! Recipes for many holiday foods contain gravy, butter, cream, shortening, and other kind of fats. Besides adding to our waist size, these ingredients can clog your drains and sewer pipes.

Never pour grease down your drain or flush in the toilet. Using hot water and soap to wash grease down the drain is not a solution. It can still harden in your pipes or sewer line.

You can dispose of oil and grease by placing it in an empty milk carton, vegetable can, plastic butter container, or "zip lock" bag.

Dispose of oil and grease properly and your drainpipes and wallet will thank you!

Little Free Library

Unfortunately, vandals have again hit our Little Free Libraries. In an effort to thwart future destruction, we have replaced the glass front with a wood front. Although you can't see the books, we'll still make every effort to keep these filled. Remember, the idea behind these is "take a book, leave a book." When finished reading, return the book you took, or replace with a different one.

Holiday Crime Prevention Tips

I know it's still early, but I'll guess that many of you are already making Holiday plans and getting your house ready for visits, decorations, and gifts.

Preparing your home and starting your Holiday shopping can be fun, but please remember to take precautions. Unfortunately, the holiday season may attract criminals to our homes or to us personally while shopping, so here are some crime prevention tips to keep you safe:

At Home:

- * Keep all doors & windows locked when leaving your house.
- * If leaving for an extended period of time over the holidays, leave on some lights and TV or radio to give the impression that someone is home.
- * Hide large gifts that can be seen through windows.
- * Don't leave a key outdoors.
- * Do not leave your garage door open.

While Shopping:

- * If possible, go shopping with a friend. Criminals are less likely to approach you if you're not alone.
- * Lock **all** valuables & purchases in your trunk **before** reaching your destination.
- * Never leave valuables in plain sight in your vehicle
- * Avoid carrying large amounts of cash.
- * Make sure cashiers return your credit card.
- * Purses should be held close to the body.

Be Warm But Be Safe!

- * Keep anything that can burn at least 3 feet from space heaters, furnaces or fireplaces.
- * Never use your oven or a space heater as your main heat source.
- * Always turn space heaters off when you leave a room.
- * Have furnaces and fireplaces cleaned and inspected every year by a qualified professional.
- * Make sure you have working smoke detectors and carbon monoxide detectors on every level of your home. Test monthly and change batteries annually.

Seasons Greetings

**The LPIA Board of Directors
wish you and your family
safe and joyful
Thanksgiving and Christmas Holidays**

**This Newsletter covers information for November & December.
Christmas tree drop-off sites will be listed in the January Newsletter
PLEASE DO NOT PUT YOUR TREE IN THE ESPLANADE**

2017 – 2019 LPIA Board of Directors

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