



The Official Newsletter of the Lafayette Place Improvement Association
June-July 2022 Issue Westley Falcaro, Editor

New Trash Hauler – New Rules

GFL Environmental USA is the new trash hauler and will take over the city's contract July 1, 2022.

Trash pickups will be limited to one cart and three additional bags weekly. Bags must weigh less than 35 pounds each. 1 piece of furniture or a non-freon appliance can be set out on collection day & it will be collected within 48 hours. Any mattress or box spring must be wrapped in plastic and secured with tape or rope, etc.

You must leave at least 3 feet of space around each cart so the truck's automated arm can pick it up. That means not next to other carts, trees, cars, mailboxes, etc.

Residents who want to put out more than one cart and three bags of trash a week can get an additional cart from the city for \$2 a month.

City Council members have asked the city to open a request for proposals so companies can bid for the bulk trash contract. Solid waste officials will look into what exactly the bulk service will include. City officials are unsure how much solid waste rates will need to increase. The new rate will include the higher cost of GFL's service, which is \$10.75 per household, and the additional cost of bulk pickup.

The City released a statement that Route A recycle bins will be picked up the week of June 27 – Lafayette Place is on Route A so recycle bins should be picked up this Thursday, June 30 with your regular garbage.

Fireworks Rules

According to the Fort Wayne Parks and Recreation Department, **Fireworks are NEVER allowed in any Fort Wayne Parks. This includes the Lafayette Place Park in our neighborhood and the Esplanade.** This is a City Ordinance, and it will be enforced. Anyone who sees a citizen setting off fireworks in Lafayette Place Park or the Esplanade should call the police department at 427-1222.

The Fort Wayne City Ordinance states:

Fireworks may be used only on the user's property, on the property of someone who has consented to the use of fireworks, or at a special discharge location designated by the State Fire Marshal for the discharge of consumer fireworks.

- **Fireworks may be used only from 5:00 pm to 11:00 pm from June 29-July 3 and again, from July 5-9.**
- **July 4th hours are extended from 10 a.m. until midnight**

Penalties for violating the fireworks law can range from a Class A misdemeanor up to a Class C felony.

Anyone with a fireworks-related complaint is to call the Fort Wayne Police Department at 427-1222.

Medicare Scams

Medicare and Social Security beneficiaries across the country report receiving calls from scam operators (frequently with foreign accents), who claim to represent Medicare, Social Security, or an insurance company. These callers claim that new Medicare, Social Security, or supplemental insurance benefits cards are being issued or that the beneficiary's file must be updated.

Medicare is not replacing your paper card with a plastic chip card. Scammers tried this con a few years ago. They've apparently fired it up again.

Medicare will never call you uninvited to request personal or private information in order for you to get a new Medicare card. Medicare won't charge you for a new card. If a caller claims you need to pay a fee to get a new or upgraded Medicare card, it's a scam.

If you are a Medicare or Social Security beneficiary, the Center for Medicare and Medicaid Services and the Social Security Administration will not call you to ask you to disclose financial information in order to get a new card. If you receive such a call, you should report it to these two agencies as follows:

Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services

7500 Security Boulevard

Baltimore, MD 21244

(800) 633-4227

www.cms.gov

Social Security Administration

Office of Public Inquiries

1100 West High Rise

6401 Security Boulevard

Baltimore, MD 21235

(800) 772-1213

www.ssa.gov

Cooking Out?

If you're planning to cook outdoors, please keep these facts and safety tips from the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) in mind:

- * Gas grills, hibachis, and barbecues are involved in an average of 8,900 home fires each year. Charcoal or other solid-fueled grills add another 1,300 home fires per year.
- * Propane or charcoal grills are for outdoor use only and should be placed away from your home or deck railings, and out from under eaves and overhanging branches.
- * Keep children and pets at least three feet away from the grill area and never leave your grill unattended.
- * Keep your grill clean. Remove grease or fat buildup from grates and trays below the grill.
- * If you use a charcoal grill:
 - * Use only charcoal starter fluid or self-starting charcoal. If you choose an electric charcoal starter, use an extension cord specifically for outdoor use.
 - * Never **add** charcoal fluid or any other flammable liquids to the fire.
 - * When you are finished grilling, let the coals cool completely before transferring them to a metal container for disposal.

Be A Good Neighbor

Summer weather allows us to open our windows and doors and spend more time outdoors. But summertime also brings out noises and activities that can be disturbing to our neighbors.

Make sure **ONLY YOUR** household is listening to your music, laughter, and conversations. Sounds are magnified at night, so be considerate when you have outside gatherings and cookouts. And **please do not leave the volume cranked up on your car radio while it is parked outside.**

As always, we hope that neighbor talking to neighbor about a problem or disturbance will result in a happy ending and an enjoyable summer for all.

A NIGHT OF MUSIC

AT THE GAZEBO

**Lafayette Place Esplanade
(Between Congress & Sherwood Terrace)**

Saturday July 23, 2022

Todd Harrold DUO

**7:00 pm to 10:00 pm
FREE & Open to the Public**

Bring friends & family and

A lawn chair or blanket (outdoor venue)

Hot Dog Boyz will be selling: Hot dogs, Nachos, Root Beer Floats, Sodas, Chips & more!

A'Roma Pizza will have their Food Truck with all their goodies!



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