



The Official Newsletter of the Lafayette Place Improvement Association
January-February 2023 Issue Westley Falcaro, Editor

A Welcome Addition

If you've been following the Newsletter, you know that the LPIA Board has been without a Treasurer since last September.

Per the LPIA By-Laws, Section 3, Article h, "The Board shall elect interim Directors and/or Officers to complete the terms of any Directors and/or Officers who leave the Board and/or their office before the completion of their terms."

So, it is with great pleasure to inform you that we have a new addition to the LPIA Board, who will also take over the position of Treasurer.

Meet Colton Bickel. Colton Bickel has lived in Lafayette Place since June of 2019. He and his wife, Carly, were searching for a neighborhood with history and character and found it here! So, after experiencing our beautiful neighborhood for several years, he enthusiastically agreed to serve on the LPIA Board of Directors. His acceptance is a bonus for us as Colton is the Executive Director for the Adams County Economic Development Corporation and is therefore very familiar with the workings of neighborhoods and the relationship between neighborhoods and city agencies.

Colton said that he agreed to serve on the LPIA Board because he wanted to be part of the neighborhood and invest in it and serving on the Board is the answer!

Colton lives on Lafayette Esplanade with his wife Carly, toddler son Myers, and their dog.

As Colton was appointed to complete a vacated term, he is on the Candidate slate for permanent election to the Board at the Annual meeting in April.

We hope you will attend the meeting for MANY reasons, but also to meet and welcome Colton to the LPIA Board of Directors.

Security Actions

Unfortunately, due to the costly vandalism to the lights at the Calhoun/Marquette Marker and the Gazebo, the LPIA Board has voted to install security cameras at these two locations.

The cameras provide 24-hour surveillance, and the videos are relayed to a Board member's cell phone. Any person(s) caught vandalizing Lafayette Place property will be legally prosecuted and required to compensate the Association for any costs associated with the vandalism.

The most recent repairs to the lights at the marker cost \$1,006.00 to repair and install a security measure on the lights.

If you are aware of anyone doing damage to LPIA property, please contact Westley Falcaro at 456-1608. You may remain anonymous when reporting.

Association Dues

Thank you to all Lafayette Place residents who have mailed in their dues according to their 2023 Dues Statement, which was mailed out in early January. We're receiving payments daily and hope the balance of homeowners will be sending in their payments soon.

Avoid legal action - Your Statement will list any outstanding dues or liens. If you have outstanding dues, but cannot pay the full balance, feel free to call Westley Falcaro at 456-1608 or email westley.falcaro@frontier.com to arrange an **acceptable payment plan**. **If you have not received your statement, please let me know.**

So Many Scams!

There are so many scams going around that I hardly know where to begin! There are phone scams AND email scams.

There are phone scams saying you're a winner in a contest (even if you didn't enter any contests), phone scams from Medicare trying to get you to get a new Medicare card (TOTALLY a scam!), scams saying they're from the IRS (the IRS will NEVER call – they do any notifications by mail), tech calls saying they are from Apple, Microsoft or another tech company asking if you're having computer problems. Say NO and hang up. These scammers can infect your computer with a virus or malware. There are even phone scammers claiming they're from the Jury Commission. They may ask for personal information and even your Social Security number to see if you're eligible for Jury Duty. NEVER give your Social Security number on the phone to ANYONE! Jury Duty notification is handled by mail.

One of the most popular phone scams starts with the phrase “Can you hear me?” HANG UP! You can also say NO, or I hear you just fine.

The phrase “Can you hear me?” is used to coax you into saying YES – a word that, if said in your voice, is as good as gold for con-artists. Scammers record your affirmative answer and use it to claim you agreed to pay for some scam program.

This one is a new low even for scammers: Scammers will target elderly people claiming to be a grandchild, or some other relative, saying they're in trouble and need you to send money. **Don't so it!** If you are truly concerned, get all the information from the caller/scammer and hang up. Then call that relative's home number or another relative to confirm.

A new **email scam** I've noticed is a message from your “supposed” email provider saying your email will stop unless you follow the attached link to update your information. Don't click on the link - IT'S A SCAM! You will even notice that the “sender” is a personal email address. If you have any questions about this, call your provider directly.

Other Email scams going around include fake order confirmations and Amazon gift cards or unauthorized purchases on your Amazon Account.

BE SAFE – BE AWARE

Mark Your Calendar

Lafayette Place Events for 2023:

- * Tuesday April 11, Annual Association meeting
- * Great American Clean Up – To Be Announced
- * Saturday May 28 – Dirt Day
- * Saturday July 22 – Night of Music
- * Sunday October 29 – Halloween Trick or Treat

More information on each event will be in future Newsletters as we get closer to the event date!

2023 Recycling Schedule

We are on “A” recycling schedule for every other Thursday.

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

2023 Recycle Dates for Lafayette Place:

February 9 & 23

March: 9 & 23

April: 6 & 22

May: 4 & 18

June: 1, 15 & 29

July: 13 & 27

August: 10 & 24

September: 8 & 21 ** see below

October: 5 & 19

November: 2, 16 & 30

December: 14 & 29 ** see below

** 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!

Checking Out Another Grant

The City of Fort Wayne has announced the requirements, guidelines, and deadline for a 2023 Neighborhood Grant. Lafayette Place has been fortunate to have received two of these grants in the past and the LPIA Board is discussing ideas and projects for submission for this one.

If you have a specific idea that you think is needed for our neighborhood, call Westley Falcaro at 456-1608 and she will see if it meets the requirements.

PLAN TO ATTEND!

The Lafayette Place Annual Association Meeting Tuesday, April 11, 2023, at 7:00 p.m.

**SHAWNEE BRANCH PUBLIC LIBRARY
Corner of Calhoun and Noll Avenue**

Yes, April seems like a long way away, but this is the time to start thinking about your role in our neighborhood and any issues you'd want to bring up at the meeting.

Please remember, the meeting is not a "gripe session," but a time to share positive thoughts, plans and ideas to enhance living in Lafayette Place.

The Petition to amend the Covenants regarding "at home" businesses will again be addressed and Elections to fill Board positions for the 2023-2025 term will be held. If you are interested in serving a two-year term on the LPIA Board of Directors, please contact Westley Falcaro by March 30, 2023, at 456-1608 or email at westley.falcaro@frontier.com.

LPIA Board of Directors

Officers

President - Westley Falcaro

Vice-President- Don Orban

Secretary – Michelle Wood

Treasurer – Colton Bickel

Members

Jeff Cyr

Anne Gregory

Nick Wybo