



The Official Newsletter of the Lafayette Place Improvement Association
March 2023 Issue Westley Falcaro, Editor

Don't Miss This!

The Lafayette Place Annual Association Meeting is next month! As a property owner in Lafayette Place, you are automatically a member of the Lafayette Place Improvement Association (LPIA) per our Restrictive Covenants.

The Annual Association meeting is a great opportunity to learn about your neighborhood and ensure Lafayette Place continues to be a great place in which to live.

Whether you're new to the neighborhood, or a long-time resident, this meeting is important for you to attend. **Your input matters!**

MEETING TOPICS INCLUDE:

Overview of 2022

What's planned for 2023

Vote to Amend Lafayette Place Covenants

Election of the board of directors for 2023-2025

Tuesday, April 11, 7:00 p.m.

Please come a little early to sign-in

Shawnee Branch Public Library
Corner of Calhoun and Noll Avenue
(Just past Unity Lutheran School)

Hope to see you there!

2023 Spring Leaf Pick Up

The city will pick up leaves from April 3 to April 14 but **ONLY IN BIODEGRADABLE BAGS**. They will **NOT** pick up leaves raked onto the median, street, or Esplanade.

You may place the biodegradable (brown paper) bags at the curb/median in front of your house and **call 311 for pick up**. They will pick up the bags within 2 business days.

Do **NOT** rake leaves into the median or into the Esplanade or street. They will **NOT** be picked up. Biodegradable (paper) lawn bags are the only thing in which to place leaves or other lawn & yard waste for the spring leaf pick up schedule.

Trees Are Coming

The LPIA Board of Directors will again register for the Fort Wayne Parks and Recreation Department Citizen Match Tree Planting Program for 2023. Using this opportunity, several trees will be purchased and planted throughout Lafayette Place streets. These trees will be placed in the medians between the sidewalk and the street curb on streets that are lacking trees.

Although the trees will not be on a resident's actual property, it is hoped residents will participate in this endeavor by watering a new tree if it is placed in front of their property.

Activities like this benefit our entire neighborhood, present and future!

Planting of trees will start in mid-October.

Great American Clean Up

Lafayette Place will again participate in this Nation-wide program on **Saturday May 6. We need volunteers to clean up our neighborhood.**

The city provides garbage bags, gloves, and T-shirts, so we need a count of how many volunteers we'll have. We'll have a sign-up sheet for this event at our Annual meeting on April 11 or you may contact Westley Falcaro no later than April 17 to volunteer – Call her at 456-1608 or email at westley.falcaro@frontier.com

We will meet volunteers at the Gazebo in the Esplanade at 10:00am on Saturday, May 6 to hand out all materials and assign areas.

Please participate in this much-needed event.

House Numbers

House numbers (your address) are important. Without a visible house number, ambulances, police, or fire departments cannot locate your home in case of emergency.

In fact, there is a City Ordinance which states you must have visible house numbers and you can be fined for not having them. It even specifies the size. Fort Wayne City Ordinance 99.110 through 99.114 gives details.

Please make sure your property displays your house number that can easily be seen from the street.

No Chickens, Roosters, Ducks or Other Farm or Livestock Animals

There is another City Ordinance that prohibits having farm or livestock animals within Fort Wayne City limits. That includes chickens, roosters, ducks, or other farm animals.

Violation of this City Ordinance can result in fines. If you are aware of a neighbor who is in violation, you may call Animal Care & Control at 427-1244 or 449-3000 after 8pm, weekends or holidays. You must provide an address and the kind of animal.

We Continue to Grow!

In 2022, and to date in 2023, 33 new residents have made Lafayette Place their home!

This growth has a lot to do with the upkeep of our common areas and your work on keeping your homes in great condition, providing good “curb appeal.”

If you have new neighbors, please get to know them and show them the friendliness and hospitality that Fort Wayne “south siders” are known for!

And don't forget to ask them if they're receiving the LPIA Newsletter. I send a Welcome Letter to all new residents and request contact information for the Newsletter, but don't get a response from everyone. So, please help me out ... and them!

Thank you for your part in keeping Lafayette Place a GREAT place to live!

Little Free Library Vandalism

The Little Free Library (LFL) at Congress and the Esplanade was recently vandalized – again!

The door hinges were broken off and all books removed. Unfortunately, this is not the first time these cute library boxes have seen the wrath of vandals.

Repairs have been made and books restored. This LFL and the one at Fleming and the Esplanade will be repainted this spring.

However, if vandalism continues and results in costly repairs, we may have to remove the boxes and eliminate this benefit to our neighborhood.

The LPIA Board asks all residents to keep an eye on these treasures. If you see kids – or anyone – damaging them, please take action. You can stop them yourself or use your phone to take a picture and send it to Westley at 402-4028.

If you know who is responsible, you can report them to Westley and remain anonymous. Please help us find those responsible for this damage.

Building A Good Neighborhood

Although I firmly believe we already ARE a good neighborhood, with many good (if not GREAT) neighbors in Lafayette Place, I recently came across an actual list called "How To Build A Community." I'm publishing some of that list here, as I believe it provides great points that we all can do to be a good (or better) neighbor and therefore, a good (or great) neighborhood!

- * Greet people as you walk down the street (even wearing a mask, you can nod your head!)
- * Teach your children how to be a good neighbor
- * Plant flowers
- * Pick up after your dog
- * Buy from local merchants
- * Pick up litter
- * Hire neighborhood young people for odd jobs
- * Share your skills
- * Turn down your music in your house AND your car
- * Listen before you react to anger
- * Mediate a conflict
- * Participate in neighborhood events
- * Do not race or rev up your vehicle's engine - car, motorcycle, moped, or whatever

LPIA Board of Directors

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