



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

LPIA Halloween - CHANGES

Many residents have complained that, although they're ready with candy and anxious to see the kids and costumes, the majority of Trick or Treaters only go to houses on Lafayette Esplanade and don't check out our many side streets. Some residents don't get Halloween kids at all!

So, we're proposing a fun solution – an expansion of a well-received activity at the Gazebo. As you know, for many years, we have provided various Characters at the Gazebo for Halloween pictures with kids. This has been a great hit – so we're going to expand that to a “Trunk or Treat” type of event.

If you feel you're being missed by the Trick or Treaters, bring your candy to the Esplanade area by the Gazebo & hand it out to the kids who are there to see the Characters!

We'll be designating specific areas for this, so if you plan to participate this way, you must **call Westley Falcaro at 456-1608 to get your name on that list so we can anticipate numbers and space allocations. Please call no later than Sunday, October 22.**

Feel free to dress in costume as you hand out treats!

The Orange sheet we send out each year to show participation at your house, will still be provided in plenty of time. This sheet is to be placed on your door or a front window to let kids know they may come to your house for treats.

LPIA Halloween – Sunday October 29
Trick or Treating 3-5pm
Pictures with Characters 5-6pm

LPIA Halloween Characters

Resident Michael Satriano and his wife Crystal have provided incredible characters for our Halloween event at the Gazebo for the last 3 years. Michael is the author of the “Trunk or Treat” idea for this year. And he has quite the line-up for characters – with several other residents joining in the fun.

I am pleased to announce that the characters for Halloween 2023 will be the Adams Family! Yep, Morticia, Gomez, Uncle Fester, Grandmama, Wednesday, Pugsley, and even “Thing” will be on hand for pictures. These characters will be brought to life by Michael & Crystal Satriano, Brian & Dawn Quick, Anna & Andrew Williams, and Ethan Bassett. I'll let you figure out who plays which character when you see them in person!

We are SO lucky to have such creative people who live in Lafayette Place and want to provide so much fun and enjoyment!

Don't miss this ... and bring your camera!

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Watch Out

Can you believe that summer is over? It went way too fast for me! Kids have returned to school and that means they'll be walking to bus stops and cross walks.

Please be on the lookout for kids as you SAFELY drive through Lafayette Place.

ALWAYS Lock Your Vehicle

There have been several vehicle break-ins and theft from vehicles in neighborhoods surrounding Lafayette Place and even some reported in our neighborhood. Some vehicles were parked in the driveway or right in front of the house. And thieves are striking in the daytime as well as nighttime.

Our Fort Wayne Police Department liaison officer advises to **always** lock your vehicle, **even if it's parked in your driveway!**

It is also important that you DO NOT leave valuables in sight in your vehicle. Wallets/purses, money, cell phones, iPads, and laptop computers are all enticing to a thief.

Night of Music & Other Stuff

The 2023 Night of Music was a blast! A little over 200 people were counted lounging in the Esplanade or sitting in their front yards, along the Esplanade, enjoying wonderful music by the Todd Harrold Band and eating goodies from The Hot Dog Boyz.

Resident photographer Angel Campos took over 143 photos of the evening. We have posted some of them on our website at www.LafayettePlace.org and also have a link to them on our Facebook page: Lafayette Place Addition.

And thanks to LPIA Board member **Anne Gregory**, our Facebook page is a great resource for updates and information affecting our neighborhood. Check it out!

Welcome!

We know that Lafayette Place is a great place to live and so far this year, 24 new residents have discovered this too!

Although a "Welcome Letter" is sent to each new resident when a Title Company informs me of a closing, not everyone is receiving this Newsletter. So, for new residents who have provided your email address and are reading this right now - we welcome you and your families and hope to get to know all of you in the near future!

If you know of a new family, PLEASE help me ensure they have been welcomed and are added to this important email list. Help me do that by getting their name and property address to me and I'll follow up!

A warm **Lafayette Place Welcome** to all new residents. Thanks for choosing Lafayette Place as your new home – we're glad you're here!

Abandoned and Inoperable Vehicles

Per a City Ordinance, it is illegal to abandon a vehicle on **public or private property**, including dismantled, non-operating, wrecked, or junked vehicles. State law defines an **abandoned vehicle** as, "a vehicle that is three (3) or more model years old and mechanically inoperable, and is left on private property for more than twenty (20) days." If a vehicle is tagged on private property, the owner has 20 days to show that it is operable or the vehicle may be towed and a \$100 ticket could be issued.

An **inoperable vehicle** is defined as a vehicle which cannot be driven/operated upon the public streets for reasons including but not limited to being wrecked, abandoned, in a state of disrepair, or incapable of being moved under its own power.

Additionally, Residential Parking Ordinance 72.23 states that **no vehicles are allowed to park on the lawn, on either public or private property. This includes the median between the sidewalk and the street, and definitely NOT on the sides of Lafayette Park.**

Call 311 to make a complaint on these issues.

Talk If You Can – Call If You Must

There are many complaints that are called in to LPIA Board members that can only be resolved by you, as an individual and resident.

If you have a problem with a neighbor, we suggest you “keep it neighborly.” Whatever the complaint or situation, **talk** to the offending neighbor **first** and try to handle it in an amicable way. That might be all it takes!

The “311 Call to City Hall” is a sort of “one stop shop” in that they take the actual reports for some things or refer you to the proper agency for others.

There is a menu that will list some of the City departments or issues you want to address. Complaints or problems that address things such as streets, lighting, cars, etc. can all be directed to 311 – and of course trash complaints go here also! Neighborhood Code Enforcement for property issues such as tall grass or weeds, broken windows, unkempt property, etc. is also accessed through 311.

The 311 Operator will give you a control number of your report. Keep this number as a reference of your call as it might take several calls before action is taken.

Always call 911 in an emergency.

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