



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

LPIA Halloween - CHANGES

Many residents have complained that 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. As you know, for many years, we have provided various Characters at the Gazebo for Halloween pictures with kids. So, we're going to expand that to a "Trunk or Treat" type of event.

Now you'll have a choice - you may continue to hand out candy from your house, OR you may bring your candy to the Esplanade area by the Gazebo & hand it out to the kids who are there to see the Characters. Feel free to dress in costume as you hand out treats!

There will be a specific area 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.**

The orange sheet we send out each year to show participation at your house will still be provided. This sheet is to be placed on your front 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 4-5pm**

LPIA Halloween Characters

Residents **Michael Satriano and his wife Crystal** have provided incredible characters for Halloween at the Gazebo for the last 3 years. And this year will be no exception.

Along with several other residents joining in the fun, **the characters for LPIA 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 residents **Michael & Crystal Satriano, Brian & Dawn Quick, Anna Slotterback & Andrew Williams, and Ethan Bassett.** Try to figure out who plays which character when you see them in person!

PLUS – for the 3rd year, resident **Angel Campos** will bring his large dinosaurs for the kids to interact with!

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

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Check It Out!

Resident **Don Orban**, with assistance from **Jeff Prentice**, worked his magic & turned the Little Free Library at Congress & the Esplanade into a colorful work of art! He said the one at Fleming is next on his list – hurray!

Thanks & kudos Don!!

Lafayette Place/South Leaf Pick Up

- Round 1 – Nov 13-17
- Round 2 – Dec 11-15

- Rake leaves to the median strip by 7am on the first day of our scheduled week
- DO NOT put leaves in the street or Esplanade
- DO NOT burn leaves – violation of City code & a \$50 - \$75 fine
- DO NOT place leaves in storm drains

If you use **Biodegradable paper bags** you can call **311 for pick up only during the pickup schedule. These bags will not be picked up outside of this schedule & never with garbage pick-up.**

Weather conditions or the volume of leaves in a particular area may cause the planned schedule to change.

For daily collection updates, visit the website: cityoffortwayne.org/leaves or call the **Leaf Hotline at (260) 427-2302.**

Are Your Dues Paid Up?

We're heading towards the end of the year and there are many residents who have not paid their \$25.00 dues for 2023.

Per our legal Restrictive Covenants, if you live here, you are automatically a member of the Lafayette Place Improvement Association. Lafayette Place is unique in that **membership in the Lafayette Place Improvement Association is legally tied to the deed of the property. Association dues are mandatory.** Since they are bound to the property, dues are the responsibility of the current owner.

Outstanding dues of \$100 or more will result in legal action. If you have outstanding dues, but cannot pay the full balance, call Westley Falcaro at 456-1608 to arrange an **acceptable payment plan.**

Dues Statements for 2024 will be mailed out around the second week in January and are due upon receipt. Your statement will show payment history and any outstanding dues.

Now is the Time

Can you believe that summer is pretty much over? And guess what is just around the corner ... weather for which we need to prepare our houses and yards.

Now is the perfect time for paint touch ups and checking on your gutters and downspouts to get rid of tree and leaf debris. Any needed roof, foundation, or chimney repairs, or driveway cracks should be on the "to do" list before bad weather rears its ugly head.

And don't forget the plumbing! Frozen pipes from leaky faucets can be an expensive headache.

Get your home in shipshape for a possible winter blast!

It Looks Great!

The new floor for the Gazebo was installed on September 5th and it looks wonderful. Plus, it is made of updated materials that will last a long time.

Painting the Gazebo is planned for this spring with better weather.

The Gazebo is a large part of our neighborhood identity, and we want to continue to preserve this iconic symbol for many years.

Trees Installation

We have received confirmation that the trees that were purchased for specific side streets in the neighborhood are scheduled to be planted by the end of the year.

Derek Veit, Superintendent of Forestry Operations, has informed us that the contractor has not given specific dates for specific areas, so we'll just watch for them!

These trees were purchased through the Fort Wayne Citizens Match Tree Program.

If you were on the list to receive a tree and have any questions, feel free to contact me at 456-1608, BUT I don't know that I'll have any more information than what I've shared here!

People In – Wildlife Out

Temperatures are beginning to cool and cold winter weather is not far behind. In cold weather, we want to stay inside where it's warm. Guess what? So do raccoons and other wildlife!

If you have deteriorated trim and fascia boards, holes in attic vents, or an open chimney, you can bet various critters are planning on spending the winter with you.

Sealing up any openings now can help prevent the problems the critters cause when they nest in your home.

Before closing, sealing, or capping any potential entry points, make absolutely sure there are no animals already inside.

If you suspect raccoons, it's best to call a professional to remove the animal(s) and seal up the places where they're entering. You'll also want to make sure a professional cleans up any of the raccoon waste, which can contain raccoon roundworm. This parasitic worm can infect humans (and even pets) and is spread by the egg spores, which easily become airborne and can be breathed in. These egg spores can live for years as dry pods. Raccoons can also carry other illness-causing bacteria, as well as lice and fleas. And while raccoons can carry rabies, most people never get close enough to be bitten and therefore infected.

The exterior of your house can also be an invitation to wildlife. Make sure that you:

- Secure trash container lids if they are outside
- Keep tree branches trimmed six feet away from your house to not only limit access for wildlife, but to prevent damage to the roof that may allow animal entry in the future
- Clean up debris—especially leaf piles—in gutters and around the foundation

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