



The Official Newsletter of the Lafayette Place Improvement Association  
June-July 2024 Issue  
Westley Falcaro, Editor

## Fireworks

It's hard to believe, but July 4<sup>th</sup> is not that far away, so it's time to discuss Fireworks Rules. Fireworks are part of our Nation's celebration of July 4<sup>th</sup>, and we hope you enjoy this special holiday. BUT, there are laws that govern fireworks use in the city limits. So, while enjoying your holiday, please follow these laws:

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 4<sup>th</sup> 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.

## LPIA Annual Association Meeting

Unfortunately, the LPIA Annual Meeting, scheduled for April 10<sup>th</sup> was cancelled due to an unforeseen situation. **So it's re-scheduled for Wednesday July 10.**

As a property owner in Lafayette Place, you are automatically a member of the Lafayette Place Improvement Association (LPIA) per our Restrictive Covenants and your Deed.

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. And to meet your neighbors if you haven't already!

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

### GUEST SPEAKER:

Chris Blauvelt, Deputy Director  
Neighborhood Code Compliance

### MEETING TOPICS INCLUDE:

Overview of 2023  
What's planned for 2024  
Election of the Board of Directors for 2024-2026

**Wednesday, July 10, 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!***

## A Health Hazard Among Us

There is a lot of poison ivy in our neighborhood. Some properties have an overabundance, and it is very dangerous. **Poison ivy** leaves grow in clusters of three on vines that can grow up into trees and trail along the ground.

**Mistaking these for weeds and pulling them out can have hazardous results.**

A glyphosphate-based herbicide **concentrate**, such as Roundup™, Kleenup™, or a specific poison ivy killer, should be mixed with water 3 times the normal strength. **Ready-mix herbicides are not strong enough to destroy poison ivy.**

**DO NOT BURN THESE PLANTS – burning can cause severe lung problems.** For information about these plants and how to **safely** get rid of them, there is a good step-by-step list at [www.gardensalive.com](http://www.gardensalive.com)



**Poison Oak      Poison Sumac.      Poison Ivy**

## 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.

## West Nile Virus - Be Proactive

This is a good time to be reminded about an extremely important summer danger: the West Nile Virus. The West Nile Virus is a **mosquito-borne** virus that can cause encephalitis (inflammation of the brain) or meningitis (inflammation of the lining of the brain and spinal cord).

**Out of the 60 different varieties of mosquitoes, there are three types that have been found to be West Nile virus carriers in the Fort Wayne area, and another type that carries LaCrosse encephalitis.**

Mosquitoes need water to multiply, and standing water can be found almost everywhere. Even a wet plastic bottle cap has enough water for the female mosquito to lay her eggs.

The advent of the West Nile Virus makes it even more important to keep your property cleaned up. Clogged gutters, rimless tires, tall grass, and weeds harbor mosquitoes

Prevention includes spraying clothing with repellants containing DEET and applying insect repellant sparingly to exposed skin. Repellants should **NOT** be applied to children three years old and under. Consider wearing long-sleeved shirts and long pants outdoors during peak mosquito times.

For more information about the West Nile Virus, go to: [www.allencountyhealth.com](http://www.allencountyhealth.com) - click on Vector Control.

## Are Your Dues Paid?

We're past the half-way mark in 2024 and there are still many residents who have not paid their Association dues! Association Dues are **mandatory** and a legal obligation of owning a property in Lafayette Place. This obligation is attached to the **property** through the property **deed**.

**If you are behind in your payments and cannot pay the total balance due, and want to prevent legal action, we will be happy to set up a payment plan or work with you as needed. Call Westley Falcaro at 456-1608.**

**MARK YOUR CALENDARS!**

**A NIGHT OF MUSIC  
AT THE GAZEBO  
Lafayette Esplanade  
(Between Congress & Sherwood Terrace)**

**The Todd Harrold Band**

**Saturday July 20, 2024**

**7:00pm to 10:00pm**

**FREE & Open to the public**

**Bring friends & family and  
A lawn chair or blanket (outdoor venue)  
(Rain or storms will cancel this event)**

**Hot Dog Boyz will be back selling hot dogs, nachos, root beer floats, & more!**

**LPIA Board of Directors**

**Officers**

**President - Westley Falcaro**

**Vice-President- Don Orban**

**Treasurer – Colton Bickel**

**Secretary – Nick Wybo**

**Members**

**Tyrell Hollins**

**Jim Vaughn**

**Andrew Williams**