



The Official Newsletter of the Lafayette Place Improvement Association
August-September 2026 Issue
Westley Falcro, Editor

Please Be Watchful

Even though temperatures are scheduled to go back to the 90s in the next week, the calendar shows us that summer is officially ending soon. With summer ending, school has begun for a new semester and that means kids are walking to and from 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 is **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.

We Continue to Grow!

Realtors are saying that our neighborhood is one of the hottest and best-selling neighborhoods in Fort Wayne.

Property values in Lafayette Place have increased and buyers are paying list price and even above asking price! This growth has a lot to do with our beautiful and well-maintained common areas and **YOUR** work on keeping **YOUR** home in good condition; providing great “curb appeal.”

If you’ve met a new family, tell them about the LPIA Newsletter, and ask if they’re getting it. It’s an important FREE communication resource for our neighborhood. If they aren’t getting it, let them know they can contact Westley Falcro by email at westley.falcro@frontier.com or by phone at 456-1608 to be added to the email list for all future Newsletters.

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

Indiana Trivia – State Symbols

Flower: Peony
Tree: Tulip
River: Wabash
Bird: Cardinal
Stone: Limestone
Insect: Firefly

Not All Plastic is Recyclable

(Reprinted from City of Fort Wayne
“Recycling Matters”)

Plastic film packaging is recyclable — just not in your curbside recycle cart! Chances are a lot of plastic film comes into your home. Film packaging includes plastic grocery, shopping, and produce bags; bread, sandwich, and food storage bags; newspaper sleeves; dry-cleaning bags; “air pillows” used to cushion shipments, bubble wrap, and Tyvek envelopes; case wraps from cases of water, toilet paper, and paper towels; and wraps from around furniture and electronics.

These materials are recyclable, but when they end up in curbside recycling carts, they cause problems. First, they are lightweight and tend to blow out as the carts are lifted and emptied. Second, at the materials recovery facility, plastic bags get caught in conveyor belts and other equipment. Often the entire sorting line has to be shut down to remove tangled plastic film. So, please — don’t put your recyclables into plastic bags, don’t put loose plastic bags or film into the cart, and don’t toss in bundled plastic film.

Instead, recycle your plastic film and bags at a local grocery store or other retailer that provides a bin. Most Kroger, Lowe’s, Meijer, Target, and Walmart stores have bins, which are normally located near the front entrance of the store. Film plastic is also accepted at Quincy Recycling in New Haven and Recycle Logic in Fort Wayne. Because the plastic film accepted at these locations is clean and uncontaminated, it can be turned into new bags, pallets, containers, crates, pipe, and composite lumber.

Did You Know?

Indiana ranks second in the United States for popcorn production, yielding roughly 500 million pounds of popcorn annually. To honor this massive production, in 2021, Senate Bill 97 officially made popcorn Indiana’s State Snack. The bill also highlights Purdue University’s historical role in pioneering popcorn breeding techniques in the 1930s and 1940s

Abandoned and Inoperable Vehicles

The LPIA Board of Directors receives some complaints that we, as an HOA Board, have no authority to rectify, but YOU, as an individual tax paying resident can!

One such issue is abandoned, inoperable vehicles, or “junk” cars.

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 any part of Lafayette Park.

Call 311 to make a complaint on these issues.

You will need to provide the address where the vehicle is located and any information about the vehicle that you can – i.e. color, make, model, license plate number.

Board members will continue to make individual reports as well, but as the saying goes, “the squeaky wheel gets the oil.” The more calls on an issue the better. So, let’s all work together to keep Lafayette Place a beautiful place to live!

We're Not A "Cookie Cutter" Neighborhood!

Architecture is one of the many things that entices people to move to our beautiful neighborhood. Lafayette Place is certainly not a "cookie cutter" neighborhood. Comprised of over 400 homes, there are several unique styles displayed throughout the neighborhood.

Fortunately, resident Don Orban is an expert on the architecture of Lafayette Place, as he was the Historic Preservation Planner for the City of Fort Wayne before he retired a few years ago.

According to Don, the most popular style of architecture in our neighborhood is Colonial Revival, followed by Tudor Revival, Craftsman and Minimal Traditional. Other styles include American Foursquare and Ranch.

Colonial Revival common identifying features of the style include: a symmetrically balanced facade with a central door and entry porch; classically inspired features such as pilasters, columns, pediments, fanlights, and sidelights; double-hung windows with multiple panes of glass; and prominent cornices decorated with dentils or modillions. **Examples are 4716 Lafayette Esplanade and 202 E. Fleming Ave.**

The **Tudor Revival** style became very popular after World War I. Tudors usually have steeply-pitched side gable roofs with at least one prominent front gable and large, decorative chimneys. Their most characteristic feature is decorative half-timbering with stucco or brick infill, which is usually found in gables or on second story walls. Brick, stucco, and stonewall surfaces were common, and windows were typically casements of wood or metal, in groups, with multiple panes of glass. **Examples are 4410 Champlain and 306 Glencoe Ave.**

Craftsman houses are simple in detail and massing, placing emphasis on "honesty" in their materials and construction. The best known expression of the Craftsman style is the "bungalow." Bungalows are one or one-and-a-half story houses of modest size with low-gabled roofs and wide porches, which are often integrated into the structure. **Examples are 4418 Champlain and 4410 Kenilworth.**

The depression of the 1930s brought a simplification in building. The **Minimal Traditional** style (c.1935-c.1956) reflects the Tudor or Colonial Revival styles, but roof pitches are lower, eaves are very shallow, and decorative detailing is minimal although there is often a large chimney. Small entry porches are common. **Examples are 4527 Lafayette Esplanade and 261 E. Maple Grove Ave.**

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