

# THE VILLAGE NEWS

mywestliberty.com

201 N. Detroit St. PO Box 187

West Liberty, OH 43357

937-465-2716

April 2022

## WL Mayor - Jill McKelvey:

"An optimist is the human personification of spring"

-Susan J. Bissonette

Spring sunshine and flowers bring the promise of good things to come. Many good things are happening in West Liberty. The Logan County Visitors Bureau is helping finance our West Liberty mural project which is being designed by Elle A. Designs and will be unveiled at the end of April. Watch the Town Hall sign for the location, date, and time for the unveiling. The Visitors Bureau is also sponsoring National Tourism Week from May 1-7. The theme is "tourism starts at home." On May 5 the Visitors Bureau will focus attention on West Liberty. Our West Liberty businesses will have specials that day. The Ohio Caverns will be handing out free hot dogs from noon to 4 pm. The Piatt Castles will be offering free tours with Marie's Candies samples from 3-6 pm. Please shop local and when you see visitors to our hometown please make them feel welcome. Your village government is working on many other projects. One project is the Sherman Ricketts Memorial Park and Trailhead which will be completed soon and will allow our bicyclists friends to enjoy the beauty that is West Liberty. Much more is coming in the near future. Wishing you and your family a very blessed and Happy Easter.

## WL Village Clerk/Secretary:

**Tax Season:** It is mandatory all West Liberty Residents must file municipal tax with Regional Income Tax Agency. To file go to [www.ritaohio.com](http://www.ritaohio.com) forms>individual>Form 37 – forms and instructions. If you are retired and earn NO income, please fill out the Exemption Form. Forms are available in the clerk's office and at the WL Library. Deadline April 15th, 2022

**Bill Payments:** View and pay your bill online at [www.ub-pay.com](http://www.ub-pay.com). The Municipal Code is *WestLiberty357* Please DO NOT use [govpaynow.com](http://govpaynow.com) because payments will not be accepted if used.

### Village of West Liberty Digital Sign:

Cost per day \$10. Stop in Clerk's Office to schedule.

**Water & Sewage Rates:** as of March 1, 2022, rates have been increased by 3%. \$29.21 base rate for water and \$31.89 base rate for sewage

### Be A Good Neighbor:

The Village of West Liberty and the West Liberty Lions Club will be distributing "Be A Good Neighbor" Guide Book. Information at the Clerk's Office.



## WL Fire Department:

About three out of five fire deaths happen in homes WLFD April Article Spring is upon us, and that brings warmer temperatures, flowers, and birds that we all enjoy each year. But with that it also brings the increase potential for severe weather including tornados, damaging winds and flooding. The tornado siren is located on the hill by Adriel School and is design to aid in notifying people who are outside of a potential weather-related event. It is not designed to be heard while indoors although that may be an added benefit to some of us. Residents of West Liberty are encouraged to sign up a local emergency notification service called Logan County Alert. This service is designed to notify residents of Logan County of the potential threats including but not limited to: Evacuation, Shelter in Place, Floods, Chemical Spill or Gas Leak, and for provision of important Community Alerts during and after an emergency. Weather Alerts for Tornado Warnings are now available, but will only be sent to residents who have requested them during registration. Residents may sign up by going on-line and typing the following link: <http://www.hyper-reach.com/ohlogansignup.html> or going to the Logan County Website Homepage at [www.co.logan.oh.us](http://www.co.logan.oh.us) You may also contact the Logan County EMA office at 937-593-5743 or email [ema@logancountyohio.gov](mailto:ema@logancountyohio.gov). Choices to receive alerts include landline, cell phone voice and/or text, email, or a combination of any of these. The cost is free and you may opt out at any time. You may contact the West Liberty Fire Department at 937-465-3989 if you would like more information or need assistance in signing up.

**Darin Leach**

**WL Fire Chief**

**PH: 937.465.3989**

**FX: 937.465.9335**

## **WL Fire Department 100th Anniversary:**

This year marks the 100th Anniversary of our Fire Department. In honor of this historic event, we will be recognizing the WLFD Chiefs each month in the

### **April 2022:**

#### **Previous Fire Chief**

##### **James Hostetler**

James "Jim" Hostetler joined the WL Fire Department in January 1951. Kenny Harr joined at the same time.

The next year Charlie Nelson and Bob King came on in January.

At that time, there were only 10 volunteer fire fighters on the force. Because of pressure from the state, in 1957 the group expanded to 15. At that time, there were 3 trucks, one being an early 1920's Model T that is now located in the Logan County Historical Society. Jim became WL Fire Chief in January 1974. At the time he became Fire Chief the squad had expanded to 20 brave volunteers. Many left their jobs in town when a fire call went out during the day. Many answered at any hour of the day, leaving church, family, dinner, warm beds just as they continue do now.

The firefighters helped the village to raise money for several more vehicles while Jim was chief to improve their ability to save homes and lives. Jim retired from the Fire Department in November 1999 after nearly 49 years of service. Until his dying day he believed West Liberty had the best fire department of any around. **-Jayne Griffith**



## **WL City Council:**

I would like to start off by saying I am honored to be able to represent the people and the village of West Liberty! In the short amount of time I have been on the council I can tell you that your representatives are people who truly love and care about West Liberty! My family consists of my wife Jade (Nikki), my son's Karter 16, Matthew 14 and Tyrion 6! A few years ago I also helped move my mom into town (yes I'm a mommas boy). We are members of First Church of God but we chose to fellowship at West Liberty Church of God with our extended family! I believe my strong faith in God and love of my family and others make me the man I am today.

After being elected to council I was tasked with working on parking for the Purple Heart Memorial. This is something near and dear to my heart as my brother served in Iraq and Afghanistan. Although he isn't a purple heart vet, through him I've met his friend Daniel who is! He also had friends who made the ultimate sacrifice, and for them, this is the least I can do! I was also put in charge of the new Parks and Recreation Board to bring our parks together and work to make them the best for the public! I'm really excited to work with this group of people and see what we can do! I look forward to what the future holds for this village and look forward to meeting more people in this village and to be your voice! If you have any questions feel free to email me at: [t.spriggs@mywestliberty.com](mailto:t.spriggs@mywestliberty.com) God Bless!

#### **Trent Spriggs West Liberty Village Council**



## **WL Street Department:**

Why do we sweep the streets?

Storm water catch basins and drains get blocked by leaves, garbage and dirt which can pose a flooding risk.

Debris such as sticks, rocks and loose grit can be a danger to pedestrians and vehicular traffic. The most obvious benefit is that sweeping improves the aesthetics of your streets.

If you live on a curbed street please have all vehicles moved on sweeping days so they can be properly cleaned.

### **Street Sweeping Schedule:**

Residents must have vehicles moved off the streets between the hours of 6:00 am and 12:00 pm so the streets can be properly swept. By Village Ordinance, vehicles may be towed if they are not moved and interfere with street sweeping. Reminders of sweeping and changes in schedule will be sent by Village Alert System. If you have not signed up for this free service you may do so by stopping at or calling Town Hall Office and updating your contact information . Town Hall 937-465-2716.

These street sweeping dates are subject to change because of rain:

April 11 , May 9, June 13, July 11, August 8, September 12, & October 3

### **Yard Waste:**

Yard waste is picked up on Wednesdays, please have it set out by 7:00 am. This is a free service for residents which is not offered by other local communities. For us to run efficiently sticks are to be put in 35 gallon trash cans. Yard waste such as weeds or grass is to be in 5 gallon buckets.

**Bill Detrick**

**Street Dept. Superintendent**

**937-465-0971**



## **WL Zoning - Code Enforcement Officer**

Hi WL Residents, I just want to remind everyone as we approach warmer weather and summer fun in the sun. If you want a pool you will need to obtain a permit. Pools require to be fully fenced in with a locking gate. All types of sheds require a permit removable or permanent. These calculate into our allotted roof coverage for the lots. This is an added structure even though it can be removed. Porches also require a permit. All fences require a permit. Please let me know if you have any questions or concerns. Information and fee amounts will be located on [mywestliberty.com](http://mywestliberty.com). Let's have a wonderful summer here in our amazing town.

**Scott Woodruff**  
937-441-6826

## **Upcoming Events**

All events and info : [www.mywestliberty.com](http://www.mywestliberty.com)

### **Sherman Ricketts Park**

Tues. April 5, 2022 9am  
Groundbreaking for shelter house  
built by Ohio Career Center

### **Quest Community Church -**

#### **Easter Eggstravaganza**

Sat. April 9, 2022 10am -1pm  
5th Graders and younger  
[www.questchurchonline.com](http://www.questchurchonline.com)

### **Piatt Castle**

#### **Mac-A-Cheek Castle - The Family Haunt**

Sat. April 9, 2022 7:30pm - 9pm  
Reservations required

**WEST LIBERTY  
BUSINESS ASSOCIATION**



### **West Liberty Lions Club - Easter Egg Hunt**

Sun. April 10, 2022 2pm  
5th Graders and younger  
West Liberty Lions Park  
[www.westlibertylions.org](http://www.westlibertylions.org)

### **LOCO - National Tourism Week - May 1-5**

#### **Thurs. May 5, 2022 - West Liberty Day**

- \* Free hot dogs at Ohio Caverns - 12pm-4pm
  - \* Free tours at Piatt Castle Mac-a-Cheek and Marie's Candies 3pm-7pm
  - \* In Downtown West Liberty, enjoy food trucks and shopping deals 11am-4pm
- [www.experiencelocounty.com](http://www.experiencelocounty.com)

## **West Liberty Purple Heart:**

On Memorial Day at 11:00 am in the Opera House at the Town Hall, we will recognize our newest Purple Heart Veterans and Donut Dollies (donuts and coffee). Then we would like to do a "Meet and Greet" with each Veteran or Family Member of having their own table to display their pictures, memorabilia, uniform or anything else our veterans are willing to share with the public from 11:30 am-1:30 pm. This would allow the community to go from table to table and talk one on one with each Purple Heart Veteran or Family Members. We wanted a more personal approach to the veterans or families sharing stories. We want to preserve what we have for future generations to understand the sacrifice made by our military veterans. The West Liberty Memorial Day Parade will start at 2 pm so we will end this event in time for everyone to see or be a part of the parade. Please contact Larry Lance 937-465-6560 about parade information or if you would like to participate in the West Liberty Memorial Day Parade. We hope that you and your family will be able to join us for these events.

