



# The Village News

mywestliberty.com

201 N. Detroit St. PO Box 187

West Liberty, OH 43357

937-465-2716

August 2022

## WL Police Department:

Shane Oelker  
Chief of Police West Liberty Police Department  
PO Box 187  
111 Runkle St. West Liberty, Ohio 43357  
e to the problem.  
937-465-2801 ext. 101 or  
by email at [soelker@westlibertypolice.org](mailto:soelker@westlibertypolice.org)

## Mayor Jill McKelvey

If you're like me and you feel the summer is going way too fast, it won't be long until the leaves start falling and changing colors. I hope you are enjoying the summer, although a bit too humid at times and some of the storms have been severe.

As I drive around the village it is great to see people enjoying the Splash Pad, bike trails, ball fields, and of course the walking path. Please be aware as you are driving in the village of the number of people walking on the streets enjoying the sunny weather.

Jayne Griffith is working diligently on raising money to restore the West Columbus Street Bridge for bicycle and pedestrian traffic. Just last week we had a meeting with the Logan County Commissioners regarding funding for this bridge. If you would like to help or have questions, give Jayne a call or email. She loves talking about the history of that bridge. Jayne's contact information may be found in the Be A Good Neighbor Guide that was delivered to your door in April.

The West Liberty calendars are available for sale in the stores around town (starting in late August) or by contacting the Clerk's office (now). These calendars have many important dates and times, such as, Christmas parade, Memorial Day parade, business open houses, Lions Labor Day Festival, and much more; it also includes contact information from the businesses that sponsored the calendar. The calendar actually starts in December 2022-January 2024. The cost of these calendars is \$10.

If you have seen people wearing the mural t-shirts or kids/adults wearing splash pad t-shirts, Locals Supporting Locals, Small Town, Big Heart and want one, these and other designs can be ordered at the following website <https://villageofwl.itemorder.com/shop/home/>. Select sizes of kids splash pad shirts are available at Neer & Farm currently.

## Mayor Jill McKelvey- cont.

Voting for the Commercial and Residential Beautification Awards starts on August 15th and goes until August 29th. Please go to our [mywestliberty.com](http://mywestliberty.com) website to cast your vote. In the past few years we have had 1400 votes cast.

The Street Market in June was a great event for our community with many visitors coming to our village for the first time. The West Liberty Business Association did a great job organizing and pulling off this event. The Lions Club were busy all day at the park between the concession stand, fish fry, and pancake breakfast. The fireworks draw a larger and larger crowd every year. All of these events allow us to showcase the best of our village and our people. Everyone that I spoke to had a great time and said they would come back. Please thank the WLBA, our Lions Club for an awesome Fish Fry and Pancake Breakfast, and of course our Chief of Police Shane Oelker for organizing the fireworks. It takes all of us working together to have that big of a celebration be so successful.

The Sherman Ricketts event held in June was a great day to honor a fallen hero. And many bicyclists and runners are enjoying the amenities at this park. A big thank you to the Ricketts family/the park committee/ and other volunteers that helped us prepare for that day.

We still have many large/x-large bicycle helmets and small/medium helmets from the Put A Lid On It event. The helmet is not adult or child but based on the circumference of your head. So if you would like a helmet stop by the Clerk's office while supplies last. The helmets are free of charge, so please tell everyone you know.

On April 8, 2024 a total solar eclipse will happen in our area. In June there was a meeting held to begin the discussion regarding how to handle the thousands of people expected on our roads, in the hotels/Airbnb's, eating in our restaurants, and enjoying the attractions in our area. If you are interested in helping organize this for Logan County please send me your name and contact information and I will forward it to the county organizer which is the Logan County EMA.

If you are in need of help during the summer storms, please contact the village. I spoke with the Mayor of North Lewisburg in July and she said they were without power in their village during the June storm for over three days. So don't hesitate to ask for help. If we can provide some relief for those without power during these summer storms, let us know.

We are working on many other projects this summer which will help our residents and businesses so stay tuned.



## **WL Water Department:**

Our Water Treatment plant run time has increased approximately 3 to 4 hours per day during the summer months. This accounts for an additional 45 to 60 thousand gallons per day of treated water. Treatment and Operations continue . . .

Interesting Water Facts\*:

- Less than 1% of the water supply on earth can be used as drinking water.
- About 6,800 gallons (25,700 liters) of water is required to grow a day's food for a family of four.
- An acre of corn will give off 4,000 gallons (15,000 liters) of water per day in evaporation.
- An estimated 790 million people (11% of the world's population) live without access to an improved water supply.
- A small drip from a faucet can waste as much as 34 gallons or 128 liters of water a day.
- Bottled water can be up to 2000 times more expensive than tap water and it may not be as safe.
- More than half of the water used in a home is used in the bathroom.
- Less than 1% of the water treated by public water suppliers is used for drinking and cooking.
- 90% of all Americans receive their drinking water from a public water supply.
- In 1998 the National Resources Defense Council completed a 4-year test of 103 bottles water, and found that 1/3 of them contained bacteria and other chemicals at levels exceeding industry standards.
- Freshwater animals are vanishing faster than those on land or at sea.
- To produce one chicken, we need 330 gallons of water.
- According to the EPA, a full bathtub requires about 70 gallons of water, while taking a five-minute shower uses 10 to 25 gallons. The average leaky toilet can waste about 200 gallons of water per day.  
That's over 6,000 gallons a month (\$49.90) for just one leaking toilet!
- The aging infrastructure in U.S. causes a water main break every two minutes.

If you have any questions or concerns, please send email to [b.hudson@mywestliberty.com](mailto:b.hudson@mywestliberty.com) or call 937.210.1652.

## **Wastewater Dept. News and Facts:**

In other news . . . There was a recent power outage on July 10th that only affected a few customers near Crown Gymnastics. It was only one phase of three legs of power that we use for our wastewater lift station near there. This caused the pumps not to work and our lift station to start filling up. Thank you Kelly Septic for helping to assuage the situation by emptying our lift station. This bought us time for AES Power to install a new transformer.

In order to empty the station we had to remove about five hundred pounds of swiffers, rags, grease, rubber gloves, mop heads etc. (with hand tools, not fun). These are all things that should not be flushed down the toilet. The problem is that they float to the top and build up or plug up in our pumps. Both are detrimental.

\*<https://www.espwaterproducts.com/water-facts/>



**Brad Hudson**  
Water/Sewer Superintendent

## **WL Street Department:**

***Street Sweeping will be done on the following dates***

Aug. 9th

Sept. 13

Oct. 4th

\*Please move all vehicles off the streets between the hours of 6:30am thru 12:30 pm so streets can be swept properly. By Village Ordinance, vehicles may be towed at owner's expense if not moved within the time frame. I apologize to the residents of the Village as on July 8<sup>th</sup> a call alert went out at 6:52 am. This call was not intended to go out at this time and I take full responsibility for the inconvenience and assure you it will not happen again. Just a reminder, trash pickup is not affected by a Holiday unless your trash day falls on that day. If a Holiday falls on either a Tuesday or a Friday your trash will be picked up on the next workday. If there is any change to this you will be notified in advance by the call alert system.

More good news, we have recently been awarded the Ohio Public Works Commission Grant which provides funding for street paving in 2023. The estimated grant is for \$80,889.60 which includes the required 10% put down by the Village. I have submitted paperwork for the streets that we would like to have paved. More information on this will be provided in later newsletters once total costs on street work is back from the County Engineers.

This year we also are planning to chip/seal and fog seal more streets in the Village and fog seal Pickrelltown Rd that didn't get finished last year. These treatments are done to preserve the streets and extend the life of the pavement.

**Bill Detrick**  
Street Superintendent

## **WL Historical Society:**

Donations are always welcome.  
PO Box 159 West Liberty, OH 43357  
[www.westlibertyhistory.com](http://www.westlibertyhistory.com)  
[WLHistoricalSociety.Ohio@gmail.com](mailto:WLHistoricalSociety.Ohio@gmail.com)

## **Clerk's Office**

The Clerk's Office will be closed on Monday September 5th for observance of Labor Day

Did you know??

Second Harvest Food Truck makes a stop at the Lions park on the third Wednesday of each month from 12:00 - 1:00 PM. The criteria for the "drive Thru" only service is as follows:

1. Must be 60 yrs. of age
2. Must bring your identification with you; and
3. If picking for someone else, must bring a note from that person, along with the persons' identification. This is a supplemental food service program for Senior Citizens.

**Cindee Boyd**  
Clerk/Treasurer  
937-465-2716  
[vowlclerk@mywestliberty.com](mailto:vowlclerk@mywestliberty.com)

## **WL FIRE DEPARTMENT:**

The West Liberty Fire Dept has responded to 135 calls from 1/1/22 – 6/30/22. Call types were as follows.

Fires	26
Rescue and Emergency Medical Services	41
Hazardous Condition (No Fire)	22
Service Calls	10
Good intent Calls	16
False Alarms	20

We cover 138 square miles, and our territory covers the village and all or parts of six townships in two counties. Our average response times from Dispatch to on scene is 8:47. This includes the time it takes to get to the station, get dressed and arrive on scene.

We also have completed over 1700-man hours in time for public service, training meetings and other work detail. We appreciate the community's support and hope that you feel as though the community can count on us to be there should the need arise.

Respectfully,  
Darin C. Leach, Chief

□

As we continue to celebrate 100 years of our West Liberty Fire Department here are some long time members from present and the past.

## **Firefighter Acknowledgements**

### **Doug Miller, Retired Assistant Chief:**

Served on the West Liberty FD from 1964- 2004. He started as a firefighter, became a Lieutenant in the late 1990 and moved to the rank of Assistant Chief in 1999. He is a second-generation firefighter with the West Liberty FD. He and his late wife Nancy grew up in West Liberty and raised two sons Greg (Connie) Miller, and Rick (Pellar) Miller.

### **Richard (Dick) McDaniel, Retired Assistant Chief:**

Dick McDaniel served on the Department from 1964 until Nov. 1999. He became a Lieutenant in 1974 and moved to the rank of Assistant Chief in the early 1980's until he retired. Dick owned and operated McDaniels Garage and he and his wife Janie together raised three children. Dick also served as Liberty Twp. Trustee for over 20 years.

## **UPCOMING EVENTS:**

Champaign County Fair August 5-12, 2022  
<https://champaigncountyfair.com/>

Lions Club Fish Fry August 13th 5:00-7:00 PM  
Pancake Breakfast August 20th 7:00 - 11:00 AM

BOSS Run 1 mile and 5K run August 20th  
<http://www.bornandracedinwestliberty.com/>

Fall Open House for West Liberty Sept. 9-10th  
[www. mywestliberty.com](http://www.mywestliberty.com) for more information

## **West Liberty Business Association**

The West Liberty Business Association would like to thank the incredible village of West Liberty for all of your support at our Summer Street Market! We had an extremely successful car show, we had hours of entertainment and lots of people who supported our downtown businesses and also enjoyed the fireworks that evening!

To our sponsor, Malia K, Hughes, Powered by Fathom Reality, you always support our village and we thank you for always supporting the WLBA! Your never ending encouragement and sponsorship is championed and appreciated! We could not have done this without you!

To the residents of E Columbus St, thank you for your patience and support! We had such wonderful feedback from our participants about the area we used! Your beautiful homes were the perfect backdrop for our car show!

Thank you to the village, Mayor Jill McKelvey, and to everyone who volunteered along with their families to pull this event off!

To the vendors and car show participants, thank you for coming out and being a part of our car show event! We hope you come back next year and tell your friends and family about it!

Our hope is to continue to build this event and expand it for next year! If you would be interested in being involved in a committee role we would love to have you! Please email us at [wbla@mywestliberty.com](mailto:wbla@mywestliberty.com)

Your WLBA board,

Heather Chamberlain, Linda Vernon, Katie Neer, Tami Cox and Brittany McElroy

## **Labor Day Festival sponsored WL Lions Club**

September Friday 2nd - Monday 5th

Country Legends Festival will be Friday and Saturday with 10 bands including Bellamy Brothers, Thompson Square, Terri Clark and Craig Morgan.

[www.CLFestival.com](http://www.CLFestival.com) for tickets and more information.

FREE: Sunday is CAIN presented by RiseFM and Colepak 7:00 PM - bring lawn chairs or blankets for seating.

[www.risefmohio.com](http://www.risefmohio.com) for more information

Parade starts at 10:30 am Saturday - sign ups are at 215 Runkle St.

### **All weekend:**

Duck Races, Sawmill Demonstrations, Antique Equipment, Flea Market, Craft Tent, Food Vendors, Pony Rides, Barrel Train Rides, Splash Pad, Bingo, Basketball Tournament, Chicken BBQ, and Golf Cart Drawing. MUCH MUCH MORE

### **New this year:**

Ice Cream Social, DJ & Car Cruise-In Friday evening!

Kids Coloring Contest (details released soon!)

Mini Golf all weekend

Pizza Eating Contest

COSI Show is back

Chicken BBQ offered on Monday at Fat Racks Smoking Co. food truck

American's Beauty & Grace Pageant

Watch our Facebook page (West Liberty Lions Club) and our website ([www.westlibertylions.org](http://www.westlibertylions.org)) for the most up-to-date information.

This spring came as a shock to many of us as news came out that we would be seeing our electric rates rise! Some people are paying almost double per kilowatt hour as they were last year! Having family that live in the village, that live on a fixed income, I felt like my hands were tied!

My sister in law and I were having a conversation about this and she told me about the electric aggregation programs many towns and villages had set up, or were working to set up!

How aggregation works is a city, village, or multiple cities/villages come together and negotiate as a whole with the electric and/or gas suppliers! In a neighboring town it drove down rates to 0.04 cents a kilowatt hour when most people are now up to 0.10 or 0.14 cents a KWH.

Like any good thing, this takes time! It has to be put on the ballot and voted for! The awesome thing about aggregation is you can opt in or out whenever you want, so you're not tied down.

Your village council and mayor are working diligently to get relief to the residents of West Liberty but we need everyone to go vote this November for the aggregation!

There's power in numbers and if we can get this set up, we will be able to get locked in at a cheaper rate than you are seeing now! Remember to get out and vote this November for the aggregation!

Trent Spriggs

### **West Liberty Association Business of the Month - August 2022**

#### **Peoples Savings and Loan**

110 N. Detroit St.

West Liberty, Ohio 43357

937-465-4931

Peoples Savings and Loan has been in business since 1890 - 132 years. Their building was built in 1895 and has ALWAYS been a bank. We want to thank them for supporting our schools, the Village, Fire Department, EMS, Green Hills Community, Lions Club and many other organizations. They offer very competitive interest rates on both loans and savings products.

