

# The Village News

201 N. Detroit St. PO Box 187

West Liberty, OH 43357

937-465-2716

[mywestliberty.com](http://mywestliberty.com)

December 2021



## Happy Holidays



### WL Village Clerk/Secretary

#### Clerk's Office Hours

Mon, Tues, Thurs, Fri 8:00 am - 4:00 pm

Wed 8:00 am - 12:00 pm

#### Holiday Hours

Closed Fridays Dec. 24 & Dec. 31st

Phone: 937-465-2716

#### 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 because payments will not be accepted if used.**

### WL Police Department:

In all of my years in law enforcement I am still amazed at how this community comes together in times of crisis. Earlier this month a young girl was missing from our village, and the outpouring of support was unlike any I had seen in some time.

It is sometimes easy for me to thank all of the public safety professionals, and forget that the citizens of our community play just as an important of a role in these situations.

I wish to publicly thank everyone who offered their assistance, who walked and drove the village looking for our missing girl, anyone who shared the information on social media, or provided food and beverage to the first responders.

In closing, I am again reminded at how amazing this community is, and I know you will answer the call if needed again.

**Shane Oelker**

**Chief of Police**

**West Liberty Police Department**

**111 Runkle St.**

**PO Box 187**

**West Liberty, Ohio 43357**

**937-465-2801**

### WL Mayor - Jill McKelvey

Wishing your family a very Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.

\* As we begin the holiday season, please mark this information on your calendar. The Village office will be closed on Christmas Eve Day and New Years' Eve Day. Trash will still be picked up on those two Fridays.

\* The West Liberty Business Association will be having a Tour of Homes on December 11 from 12-4 pm.

Pre-Sale Tickets for the tour of homes may be purchased at Neer & Farm, Civista Bank, and the Clerk's Office at Town Hall. Tickets are \$15 in advance. Tickets may be purchased the day of the event for \$20 at Town Hall.

\* The WL Historical Society has been very busy in the past few months finalizing the re-opening of the Opera House for public use. The Village is very grateful for all of the fundraising and work completed by this group of individuals who are committed to restoring the Town Hall to its previous beauty. If you have not been into the Town Hall to see the Opera House, come see it during the Tour of Homes. Donations may be made to the West Liberty Historical Society at P.O.Box 159, West Liberty.

\* If your child or grandchild was unable to see Santa after the Christmas Parade or would like to receive a personal letter from Santa, the WL Lion's Club is sponsoring "Letters From Santa". The forms may be picked up at local businesses or from the Clerk's Office. The cost for the personal letter from Santa is \$5 and the deadline is December 3. The form may also be downloaded at [www.westlibertylions.org](http://www.westlibertylions.org)

\* The Village is researching and gathering facts regarding medical marijuana dispensaries before any zoning codes are drafted. There will be two more meetings of the WL Planning Commission on December 8 and 15 at 6:30 pm to craft the language regarding this land use. The public may attend these meetings. After the Planning Commission drafts the zoning code for land use then it will be sent to the Council for approval. Council will conduct three readings on the proposed zoning code (received from the Planning Commission) for final passage. Licenses for marijuana dispensaries are licensed by the State of Ohio Board of Pharmacy. The Village has received emails thus far in regards to marijuana dispensaries. Dispensaries are awarded by the Ohio Board of Pharmacy via a lottery system. No decisions have been made regarding this issue. Residents were invited to the informational meeting which was held on December 1 (via our All Call system, advertised in local media, and Town Hall sign) to become informed on Ohio State Law in regards to this issue and what the Village may do in regards to the land use zoning.



## **WL Street Department:**

### **Why do the plows block my driveway with snow?**

The primary goal of plowing is to remove snow from streets so that the road is open to vehicular traffic. Plowing pushes snow to the side of the street and unfortunately this results in snow piling up in front of driveways. Snowplows push snow to the right of the travel lane and the driver has no control over this. Also, the driver cannot stop or raise the plow at each driveway as this would leave a pile of snow in the roadway. Residents are advised to wait until the plow has been through their road prior to cleaning their driveway and mailbox area. If drifting or more snow occurs the plows may have to make multiple passes on a road at a later time to keep the road clear. If possible, plow drivers will try to prevent excessive blockages at driveways but at times this is not possible. If you shovel snow out into the street from your driveway when plows come by again it will get pushed into your freshly cleared driveway. To prevent this shovel your snow to the sides of driveway and not into the street. Please remember that the clearing of driveway and mailbox areas is the responsibility of the resident. If possible keep vehicles off the street so we can clear snow all the way back to the curbs. This prevents ice build up in curbs and flooding when snow melts. If you have no off-street parking, once you see the other side of street cleared completely back to curb, immediately move your vehicle to that side of the cleared street.

**Trash Pick Up** - Dec. 24 & Dec. 31 WEST SIDE ONLY

**Recycling** - Dec. 24 & Dec. 31

**Bill Detrick**  
**Superintendent**  
**West Liberty Street Dept.**

## **Upcoming Events**

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

### **West Liberty Christmas Tour of Homes**

Dec. 11 12:00 - 4:00 pm

Pre Sale Tickets \$15, Day of \$20 at Town Hall

### **VILLAGE CHRISTMAS LIGHTS CONTEST**

Dec. 11

Everyone living within the village of West Liberty is encouraged to decorate the outside of their home for Christmas before the Christmas Home Tour.

On the evening of the Christmas Home Tour, attendees and residents are encouraged to walk or drive around the community and upload a photo to Facebook of their favorite decorated home using the hashtag #wlchristmaslights. The home that receives the most votes will win \$50 in Liberty Bucks to be spent shopping locally just in time for the holidays!

## **WL Fire Department:**

In case you're wondering, Thanksgiving is the peak day for home cooking fires. The day has three times the average number of reported home structure fires involved with cooking equipment. Please be careful this holiday season.

The National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) discourages the use of outdoor, gas-fueled turkey fryers, which can lead to devastating burns, destruction of property, and other injuries. Additionally, Underwriters Laboratories (UL), the organization that certifies safe products, does not certify these types of fryers with its UL label. **Both organizations discourage the use of open-flame fryers due to the following:**

Turkey fryers tip easily, spilling their contents, and causing oil to ignite.

Overfilling the fryer is common. The oil spills out of the pot when the turkey is placed in the fryer, engulfing the whole unit in flames.

With no thermostat controls, the oil is prone to overheating to the combustion point.

The handles and lid get extremely hot, which can cause severe burns. Since the unit is designed for outdoor use, rain or snow can fall on the unit, splattering the oil and converting the water to scalding steam.

**Despite these hazards, if you still plan on using a turkey fryer, please follow these safety guidelines:**

Always use the fryer outdoors on a flat surface, safely away from structures, wooden decks, and covered patios. No matter what, DO NOT be tempted to use the fryer in a garage.

**Have the correct kind of fire extinguisher nearby and ready to use.**

To ensure you are using the right amount of oil, place a thawed turkey in the fry pot and add enough water to cover the bird by ½". Remove the turkey and mark the water level. Dump the water and thoroughly dry the pot and turkey. Fill the pot with oil to the marked level.

Do not leave the fryer unattended. Monitor the temperature of the oil with a thermometer to prevent the oil from overheating and catching fire. If the oil begins to smoke, immediately turn the gas off. Ensure the turkey is COMPLETELY THAWED to prevent a fire or explosion hazard. Raise and lower the turkey slowly to prevent oil splatter, burns, and fire.

Keep children and pets away from the fryer to prevent tipping, even after the turkey is done. The oil is dangerously hot for hours.

Use your safety tools: Oven mitts, gloves, and safety goggles.

Stand upwind of the propane tank and fryer so heat blows away from you.

**Darin Leach**  
**WL Fire Chief**

