

201 N. Detroit St. PO Box 187

West Liberty, OH 43357

937-465-2716

Mayor Jill C. McKelvey

**December 2022**

The Spirit of Christmas is in togetherness, it's in the thought to which we put into thinking about others, it's a selfless time, where we forgive, take stock of what's important and become better versions of ourselves.

Many have experienced great loss this year and the holidays become a very lonely time. So please reach out to those individuals and spread the love and joy of the season. There are others among us struggling with other issues, may we reach out to those as well. Our mission as humans is to do random acts of kindness. Kindness is the bridge between all people.

This year we have welcomed over 38 new residents/families to our village. May we all welcome them to our beautiful village. Our differences and willingness to find common ground make us a very unique and welcoming community. This community spirit will allow new families/ residents to become new friends. We don't need to agree on everything but listening to each other is important. As we continue into the holidays and new year, let us continue to spread the Spirit of Christmas.

Let us all remember the reason for the season!

From my family to yours, Merry Christmas,

**Mayor Jill**



**Heather Chamberlin Reflects on West Liberty's 1st Annual Spooktakular**

Over the last few weeks I have been reflecting on the amazing turn out of children we had at our Spooktakular event in Downtown West Liberty! The event was an amazing success and it made a huge positive impact and left a lasting memory in the minds of so many children whose parents took the time to bring them to our village to enjoy the hard work and dedication of the committee from the West Liberty Business Association who worked tirelessly to put this on.

This was not a simple or easy feat, the committee that worked on this did so for **MONTHS**, and I cannot thank them enough for their love that they poured into the children that were touched by their kindness and their unwavering desire to make this event a success. To Ashley Woolever, Becca Hager, Chelsea Bray, Emily Hyland and Alycia Brehm, **THANK YOU**.

To the businesses of West Liberty who supported this event, THANK YOU!!! Thank you for donating your money, your time, your energy, your love and your care to this event. I did not look anywhere that I didn't see a smiling child. I would also be remiss if I did not personally thank Marie's Candies for the overwhelming amount of Chocolate Covered Rice Krispy Treats that children waited in line for, and proudly exclaimed to many of us, "Look what I got! Marie's!" For many of those children, it is the one time a year they will get that special treat, and it is heartwarming and truly amazing to see. Marie's Candies does this every year and many children that we care for look forward to it every year.

Often times, these events come with a few kinks that we certainly will be working on for next year! But overall, it was a huge success and we thank all of you for being a part of it!

**Heather Chamberlain, West Liberty Business Association President**

**From the Police Chief:**  
**Shane Oelker**

As we approach the holiday season, I would like to remind residents that scammers and criminals don't take a break. I would like to remind all residents that they need to be aware that there are bad actors out there that wish to take advantage of us and our loved ones. I want all of us to have a safe and happy holiday season and would like to share some tips from the Ohio Attorney General's Office as a way to make sure we all stay safe. If anyone suspects that they have been a victim of a scam they should contact my office, or reach out to the Ohio Attorney General at [www.OhioProtects.org](http://www.OhioProtects.org) or 800-282-0515.

**Seasonal job scams.** Job seekers find an ad for a mystery shopping or package shipping position where they can work from home. They complete an online "interview" over chat or email. Once they're selected for the job, they receive a check. They're told to deposit the check and immediately wire a portion of the money somewhere else. Ultimately, the check is returned as counterfeit, and the job seeker loses any money he or she has sent.

**Package delivery scams.** Consumers receive a message saying a package is waiting for them. The "package" turns out to be a phony notice claiming they've won millions of dollars but must send money to redeem the prize. (In reality, the prize does not exist.) In another variation of the scam, consumers receive an email or text message with instructions to click a link for the status of a package delivery. Although the message looks real, it's a scam designed to trick consumers into clicking on the link and infecting their device with malicious software.

**Advance-fee loan scams.** Consumers apply for a loan online, but they're told they need to pay a few hundred dollars in advance to secure the loan. They send the money but never receive anything in return.

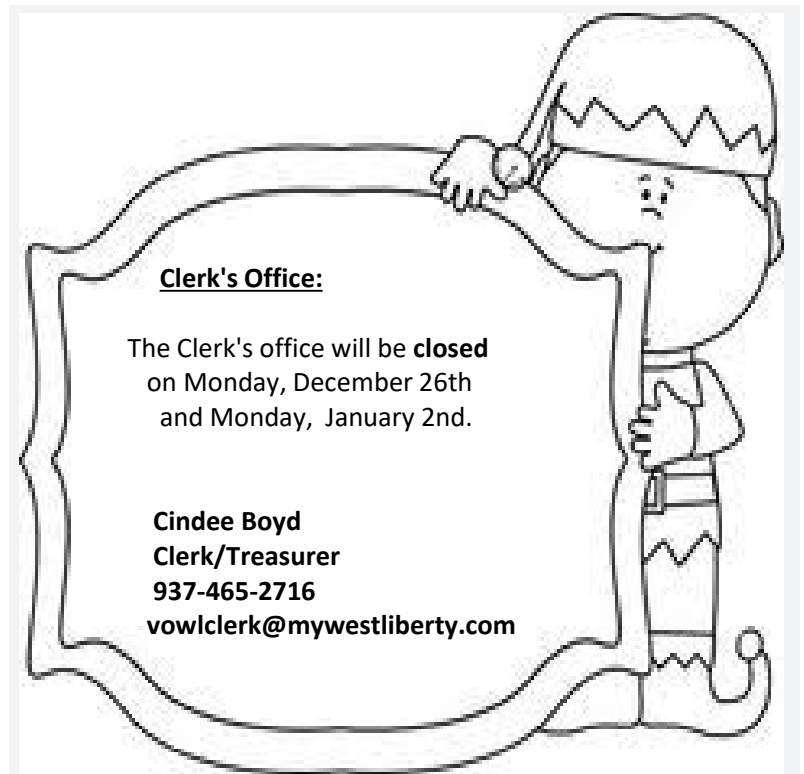
**Online shopping scams.** Con artists pose as sellers online, taking money for items they never deliver. For example, in the "puppy scam," consumers find an ad for a puppy on social media or classified ad websites like Craigslist, They pay the "seller" hundreds or thousands of dollars, supposedly to cover shipping fees, crate costs, insurance payments, or veterinary bills, but they never receive anything in return.

**Charity scams.** Con artists pretend to represent real charities, soliciting consumers by phone, online, or outside stores or malls. They make vague, phony claims about supporting a worthwhile cause and collect donations on the spot, but they keep the money for themselves.

**Signs of a possible scam include:**

- Requests for payment using money-transfer services, prepaid cards, or gift cards.
- Receiving a check and being told to send a portion of the money elsewhere.
- Pressure to act immediately.
- Guarantees that you'll make money.
- Having to pay to secure a loan, grant, or prize.
- Winning a contest, you never entered.
- Requests to send money out of the country.
- No written information or contact information.
- Unexpected, threatening calls.

**Shane Oelker**  
**Chief of Police**  
**West Liberty Police Department**  
**111 Runkle St. West Liberty, Ohio 43357**  
**937-465-2801 ext. 101**



**Clerk's Office:**

The Clerk's office will be **closed**  
on Monday, December 26th  
and Monday, January 2nd.

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

**UPCOMING EVENTS:**

- Saturday, December 10, 2022, 12-3pm** [Santa Saturday at Hillside Greenhouse](#)
- Saturday, December 10, 2022, 5-8pm** [Christmas in the Village Tour of Homes](#)
- Saturday, December 10,** Village Christmas lights Contest. See [Mywestliberty.com](http://Mywestliberty.com) for details

**From the Fire Chief:**  
**Darin Leach**

It is the time of the year that brings joy to a lot of people. It also brings colder weather and snow. The West Liberty FD wishes for everyone to have a safe and happy holiday season. A few reminders for this season.

- If you are using a live Christmas tree, please make sure to keep it watered daily. A dry tree can ignite from the lights or nearby flame and will grow intensely into a fully involved fire in just a matter of minutes.
- Please avoid using extension cords whenever possible. If you must use cords, use surge protectors if possible. Do not overload surge protectors or extension cords.
- Never plug portable heaters into an extension cord or surge protector. They are not designed for this type of application. Most fires involving space heaters are from the use of extension cords or on an overloaded circuit.
- If you must use a portable heater, keep it at least 3 feet away from any combustible object. Also make sure it is an UL approved heater with tip-over protection. If there is any damage to the cord or heater, discontinue use immediately and purchase a new one.
- It is important to try and keep snow removed from sidewalks and drives as it hampers our response in the event we must come to your house in an emergency. If you have elderly or handicapped neighbors and can assist them, it is very helpful as one day you will also be elderly and may need assistance.
- Please keep your address numbers clear and visible from the street. It makes it easier for us to locate you in an emergency.

The WLF D wishes everyone a safe and Happy holiday season! We hope you are not our next emergency!

**Darin Leach**  
**Fire Chief**  
**West Liberty Fire Department**  
**201 N. Detroit St, West Liberty, 937-465-3989**

**Buy your WL Apparel today**, sweatshirts, t-shirts, hoodies. All colors and sizes.



**Council Member**  
**Jim Hoffman**

I want to start by thanking you for exercising your right to vote this past month and supporting the energy aggregation proposals for the village of West Liberty. This opens the possibility for electric and natural gas cost savings for our community members. The Council voted in November to utilize the Logan county commissioners as our purchasing agents in the bid process to maximize the potential savings. Watch for media releases in the coming months for more information on this.

The Christmas in the Village events kicked off in November and continue through this month. On Saturday, December 10, you are encouraged to enjoy the village and support our local businesses by shopping during the extended hours, participating in the Village Tour of Homes, and taking in the entertainment that evening in the Town Hall Opera House.

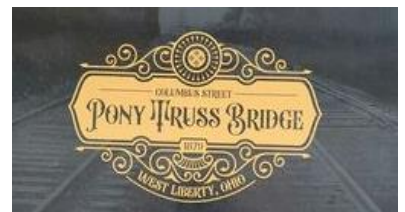
Most of all, though, my hope is that this month you are able to take a breath, slow down at least a little in the midst of hectic schedules and reflect on the true message of this season. Starting with the reminder of all we have to be thankful for during Thanksgiving and focusing throughout this month on the Christmas message of love and grace, let us move together into 2023 with the hopeful expectation for a great new year!

**Jim Hoffman**



*Would make great Christmas gifts.... Order today !*

**Pony Truss Bridge Calendars**



With the purchase of this calendar, you can help to restore this historical bridge. If you are interested, they can be picked up in Town Hall for \$10.00 cash/check.



Scan the QR code or go to.....  
<https://villageofwl.itemorder.com/shop/home/>

*Congratulations*



*December 2022 Business of the Month*

**102 Zanesfield Rd. 937-935-8008 Open Mon. - Sat. By appointment**

The Village of West Liberty is home to one of the most knowledgeable and successful realtor's in this area. Malia Hughes has been licensed since 2008 and she has been fundamental in one of the largest decision making processes people ever make in this community, buying and selling homes! She is the 2022 Pinnacle of Performance Sales Award Winner and has been for the past 9 years! The Pinnacle Performance of Sales Award winner is the highest award given by Ohio Realtors and Malia Hughes has once again proven that honesty, hard work, ethical treatment and integrity continually bring people back to her beautiful office located at 102 Zanesfield Rd. in West Liberty for all of their Real Estate needs.

Malia offers a Full - Service Real Estate Office. She is a Licensed Realtor, Agent/Branch Owner, Powered by Fathom Realty. Malia was licensed in 2008 and her husband Tom Hughes was licensed in 2004. Both work Full-Time together. Malia specializes in Residential, Farm and Commercial Real Estate Services. Up to date knowledge of our local real estate industry, housing stats, long and short term housing. She also holds the title of District Director for Fathom Realty which is a Managing Broker Level, she serves and mentors 48 additional agents, from Lima to Dayton.

In 2018 Malia purchased 102 Zanesfield Road, West Liberty and opened her own office. Although they are mobile agents, they use this space for meetings, closings, etc.

Malia & Tom are invested in the West Liberty Community. Malia is an active member of the West Liberty Lions club and the West Liberty Business Association. They also own several rental properties in West Liberty and very soon will offer an Air B&B called Red Hawk Ridge Retreat that will be able to host a large family for gatherings. This will be located in a country setting near their residence. We love our little community. It may be small, but there are a lot of BIG hearts in our little village.

When not working hard at their business, Malia and Tom love spending time with their middle schoolers, Bell & Blaine, and their family/friends. They also enjoy being outdoors and visiting Indian Lake.

Malia Hughes is one of the most giving individuals in our community. When there is any need to be filled Malia Hughes can be called on to fill that gap! Philanthropy calls to Malia and it shows in many ways throughout our community and we are all very blessed she and Tom are a part of our amazing village. If you are in need of a realtor,

**Please call Malia at 937-935-8008!**

**Happy New Year**

**WL Historical Society:**

**Historical Society Meeting :** Thursday December 8th at 4:00 PM, in the Opera House. Presentation by Greg Shipley on the Wapatomica Site.

**More information** go to: [mywestliberty.com](http://mywestliberty.com)

**Christmas in the Village Tour of Homes:** Saturday Dec. 10th.

**Carols at the Opera House,** 3 Choirs will perform for your enjoyment from 5-8 pm.

**Horse Drawn Carriage Rides** from Town Hall courtesy of Aaron Francis of Royer Realty from 5-8:00pm

**New Years Gala:** Fundraiser for the Opera House Stage. 8:00 PM to Midnight.

Dinner and dancing! \$100 per person ticket. Seating is limited to 80 people. **Call 937-650-1869** or email [wlhistoricalsocietv.oh@gmail.com](mailto:wlhistoricalsocietv.oh@gmail.com)



