



The Village News

mywestliberty.com

201 N. Detroit St. PO Box 187

West Liberty, OH 43357

937-465-2716

May 2022

WL Police Department:

Over the past few weeks we have seen an increase in complaints regarding scams throughout the village. We have received reports of individuals calling and demanding that gift cards be purchased and provided to the callers or arrest warrants will be issued. We are also receiving reports of residents being contacted by scammers claiming to be from the IRS demanding payment in the forms of gift cards. These scammers are targeting our elderly population and these criminals are relentless and have called one resident over 33 times in one day.

We are working with these residents that have been scammed as well as their financial institutions to monitor their bank accounts as well as continuing to educate them on how these scammers work. We are aware that it is often times difficult or impossible to find and convict these criminals that prey on our vulnerable citizens, but we continue to work to make sure that these frauds do not continue to occur.

We remind our citizens that if they receive a phone call and the citizen believes it to be a scam to HANG UP and not interact with the scammer on the phone. We continue to remind residents that anything they say could possibly be used by the scammer to continue to call or possibly gather personal information.

We also want to remind residents that agencies like the IRS or any law enforcement agency will not ask for any personal information over the phone.

We also ask that if you have been scammed of money or know of someone that has to call our office and we will assist you further. If you have any questions feel free to contact me.

Shane Oelker Chief of Police
West Liberty Police Department
PO Box 187

111 Runkle St. West Liberty, Ohio 43357

WL Mayor - Jill McKelvey:

Summer is getting closer and many good things are happening in the village.

National Tourism Week - "Tourism starts at Home" kicks off in Logan County on May 1. The focus on West Liberty will be **May 5** with free hot dogs at the Ohio Caverns from noon to 4 pm and then from 3pm - 7pm at the Piatt Castle there will be free tours and samples of Marie's Candies. Our local businesses will also be having sales that day from noon to 4pm with food trucks. If you have not been to our West Liberty mural on the south side of Neer and Farm, please stop by and see the mural created by our local business Elle A. Design. The mural ribbon cutting will be on May 5 at 5:30pm.

On **May 21** from 8am - 4pm we will be having our annual Fire Sales (business sales and garage sales all over town). Since this is our 100th Anniversary of our Fire Department, the fire department will be hosting a pancake breakfast that morning from 8am until supplies last and other activities.

Monday, May 30 at 11 am we will be recognizing 8 more Purple Heart Veterans. From 11:30am-1:30pm the Purple Heart Veterans or their families will be able to talk with the public in a more one on one setting. As I have listened to these stories and seen the memorabilia, I would encourage you and your families to come and listen. It will be a very moving experience. We are very excited to finish the addition of the 8 stones to our Purple Heart Memorial with our new parking lot and sidewalk. Berry Digital has been recording these veterans and uploaded their stories to our www.mywestliberty.com website. The Memorial Day Parade starts at 2pm.

If you did not receive a Be A Good Neighbor Guide either at your home or business (either dropped at your door or in the mail), please stop by the village office to get your copy.

Many other projects and solutions to issues (parking and flooding) are being researched and discussed. More information to follow in the coming months. It takes a village and we appreciate your commitment to making West Liberty a great place.



WL Water & Waste Department: The Quarterly "Drip"

Water Dept. News:

We have recently had a couple complaints regarding scale buildup on sinks and fixtures. This is most noticeable on stainless steel and black sinks. Scale buildup is particularly noticeable when boiling water. The evaporation of the boiling water will leave dissolved solids of calcium, magnesium and a small amount of sodium, which are left after our softening process. We recently sent a sample in to Hawkins Inc. Water Treatment Group. They are analyzing our water to determine the best product to minimize our scaling issue. The product will likely be a liquid polyphosphate, which would help to sequester the dissolved solids that are present in our water. More information will be shared before any changes will be made to our water treatment.

Wastewater Dept. News:

We have issues . . . Any time it rains consistently for several days; we take on large amounts of excess water to our sewer system. While it is raining, surface water flows in to low lying manhole covers that have small orifices used to lift them for inspection. When ground water tables rise, water seeps in to old mortared joints in manholes and joints in original clay sewer mains. Typically our dual pump sewer lift stations run 5 or 6 hours per day total time. During and after these rain events we run both pumps 24 hours per day. This often goes on for weeks in order to pump this excess water out of our sewer collection system, to our wastewater plant to treat and ultimately pass through to the Mad River. Poggemeyer Design Group has recommended a study in order to discover the extent and specific volume of the problem and create a long term comprehensive plan. We are currently researching ideas for funding this large problem. I mentioned the number \$2 million to the engineer and he said that may get us started. A solution of this magnitude without any "free" infrastructure money could be solved locally with a \$10 to \$20 per month capital charge added to sewer bill for a predetermined time period. I have spoken with many other systems with similar issues. Most have had marginal success unless a full scale, comprehensive plan was employed. If you made it this far, I suppose I should share that I my branch out from this quarterly newsletter. I have considered writing a short novel, "The Origin of the Feces" ☺.

If you have any questions or concerns, please send email to b.hudson@mywestliberty.com or call 937.210.1652.

More information will follow.

Brad Hudson

Water/Wastewater Superintendent

WL Street Department:

Spring has sprung and yard cleanup has begun. Yard waste is picked up on Wednesdays, please have it set out by 7am. This is a 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 clippings are to be in 5-gallon buckets.

No trash, food scraps, metal, animal feces etc. in containers. These items should go in your orange bags for trash pickup. Do not use recycling bins for yard waste, it will not be picked up.

When mowing grass do not mow towards the street. Grass clippings blown into the street pose a hazard to bicyclists and motorcyclists. It also can clog storm drains which can cause flooding. Placing debris in the street is also against Village ordinances.

Thank you for your cooperation

Bill Detrick

Street Dept. Superintendent

937-465-0971



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 previous WLFD Chiefs each month in the newsletters.



May 2022: Fire Chief Donald Holdren

There are two fire fighters remaining who served under Fire Chief Donald Holdren, who served as WL Fire Chief from 1949-1973. They are Richard LeVan and Doug Miller. Both still live in the West Liberty area. In a conversation with Doug Miller he fondly recalled that every vehicle purchased under Chief Holdren was Holdren-ized. Holdren Brothers Metal Fabricators, located on Runkle Street actually "built" several of the trucks after the village purchased the chassis and added the final touches to the rest.

Don Holdren was well respected by his firefighters. Under his leadership the fire department provided good fire protection on a small amount of money.

He set a strong standard that our fire department still maintains.

- Jayne Griffith, WL Village Council President



West Liberty Salem Schools:

On May 3, 2022, West Liberty-Salem Local School District will ask voters to continue their support of the 1% income tax levy. This levy has become one of the main local revenue sources for the district. Below are some facts about the levy.

Fact #1 On May 3, the West Liberty-Salem Local School District will ask voters to approve a five-year school levy. Approximately \$1.6 million dollars of the district's regular operating budget comes from the 1% income tax levy. When one levy expires, citizens must vote to continue providing local school support through levy dollars.

Fact #2 This is NOT a new tax. In 1992, voters originally approved a three-year levy. Since then this levy has been renewed nine times and will currently expire at the end of 2022. The levy on the May 3rd ballot will RENEW the levy and provide school funding for the next five years (2023-2027).

Fact #3 Levy dollars make up the difference between what the State pays and what it actually costs to operate our public schools. State allocations and federal funding provide only a portion of the total dollars needed to operate public schools. Local funding through school levies makes up the shortfall. At West Liberty-Salem, this is approximately 33% of our total budget.

Fact #4 Levy dollars help support the following programs/activities: · Student activities and programs like: Band, Choir, Science Olympiad, Athletics, etc. · Textbooks and instructional materials · School security and safety improvements · Technology & support · School staffing · Special education services · Bus transportation · General classroom programs and support.

Fact #5 The Board of Education and the Audit Committee meet regularly to review district financial needs and make recommendations regarding the levy needs. The Board of Education and administration have determined that this levy is necessary to provide operational revenue for quality educational programming that our community has come to expect.

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. Set up with memorabilia will be at 10:00 am. Tables will be provided. 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.

For more information, contact Sherry Barger 937-603-0569 or email: s.barger@mywestliberty.com

West Liberty Purple Heart Veteran's Story Videos can be viewed online at the following links:

- 1) mywestliberty.com/purple-heart-veterans.html
- 2) https://youtube.com/playlist?list=PLjztZEdaOm_KvzEytTygSiRtGDeUDQ7rh



WL City Council:

Hello people of West Liberty, I am proud to announce Opening Day for the 2022 Season for the Peoples Savings & Loan and Colepak Splash Pad at Lions Park.

The festivities will be the weekend of memorial day, more precisely on the 28th of May from 10am - 12pm.

The first 50 children will get a free goody bag.

It appears that there will likely be a food truck, concessions, and possibly even a radio station present as well.

We will also have EMS, WL Police, Logan County Deputy Cole Piatt & K-9 Thor, and the Fire Department making an appearance, so be sure to say Hi to them. If you would like a T-shirt, they will be available for sale at Neer & Farm and at the Town Hall for \$15 and only available in child sizes. T-shirts will also be available to purchase on Sat. 5/28 Opening Day as well.

The Splash Pad will be open seven days a week from 10am - 8pm, however on Tuesdays it will be open from 10am - 5:30pm and will be available to reserve for private parties from 6pm - 9pm. Reservation of the Splash Pad costs \$125 and the reservation includes Shelter House #3 nearby. If you are interested in reserving the Splash Pad, please contact Cindee Boyd at 937-465-2716.

Please remember while using the Splash Pad to adhere to all posted rules and guidelines. Hope to see you all out there!

Joanna Hostetler
Village Council Member



WL Business Association:

Hello everyone! My name is Heather Chamberlain and I am the owner and CEO of Theresa's Gingerbread House Childcare Centers and I am honored to be the new WLBA President. I am excited about the opportunity to work with all of you, and to work together for the betterment of our business community! I look forward to meeting all of you at our next WLBA meeting, Thursday May 12 at 5:30pm at the Liberty Gathering Place in West Liberty.

Thank You, Heather Chamberlain



WL Business Association Business of the Month - May 2022

Writer: Bailey Kolb, Beighliebird Photography.

Elle A Design Co.

105 North Detroit St.
West Liberty, OH 43357
www.elleadesign.com
937-935-3396

Email: lindsey@elleadesign.com

Nestled in West Liberty's downtown, is our very own graphic design team, Elle A Design. Lindsey McGlone, the Owner and Creative Director, started business in 2008 after graduating from Bowling Green State University with a Bachelor's in Fine Arts and a specialization in Graphic Design. After working from home for 8 years, she purchased the store front space at 105 N. Detroit Street in 2016, which we now know to be a completely renovated and absolutely stunning workspace. That same year, Chelsea Bray joined the team as Lead Designer and Lane Yoder was brought on a few years later in 2019 as their Designer/Photographer.

Full interview is available on mywestliberty.com



Upcoming Events

All events and info : www.mywestliberty.com

National Tourism Week - LOCO

Logan County Visitors Bureau

"Tourism Starts at Home"

West Liberty - Thurs. 5/5

-WL Business Sales & Food Trucks, 12pm - 4pm

-Ohio Caverns, 12pm - 4 pm, Free Hot Dogs

-Piatt Castle, 3pm - 7pm, Free tours, samples of Marie's Candies.

-WL Mural Ribbon Cutting, Near & Farm, 5:30pm

www.experiencelogancounty.com

West Liberty Lions Club: Pancake Breakfast

Sat. 5/7, 7am - 11am

West Liberty Lions Park

www.westlibertylions.org

Mother's Day

Sun. 5/8

West Liberty Lions Club: Fish Fry

Sat. 5/14 5pm - 7pm

Adults \$12, Child \$6, dine-in or carry-out

West Liberty Lions Park

www.westlibertylions.org

West Liberty Fire Sales (Garage Sales)

Sat. 5/21, 8am - 4pm

West Liberty Fire Dept. Pancake Breakfast

Sat. 5/21, 8am until supplies last

Raffle Drawing for Smoker Grill

West Liberty Fire Station

Peoples Savings & Loan and Colepak Splash Pad

Opening Day Festivities

Sat. 5/28, 10am - 12pm

WL Lions Club Park

Piatt Castle Mack-A - Cheek

A Peaceful Citizen goes to War for the Republic

Sat. 5/29, 2pm

www.piattcastle.org

Memorial Day Activities:

WL Purple Heart Veterans

Mon. 5/30

Introduction of New Purple Heart Veterans

11am -11:30am

Meet with Purple Heart Veterans

11:30 - 1:30pm

Opera House - Town Hall

WL Memorial Day Parade

2pm, West Columbus St. (at old high school)