



The Village News

mywestliberty.com

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West Liberty, OH 43357

937-465-2716

Mayor Jill C. McKelvey



November, 2023

As the leaves begin turning and November 1 hits the calendar, we start to see the holiday shopping and family gatherings begin to fill our calendars. The first weekend of November is the West Liberty Businesses open house on **November 3rd and 4th** from 10am to 5 pm. This kicks off Christmas in the Village. If you shop local, every dollar spent locally, .80 cents stays in our community. These small business owners are our neighbors and friends and when we shop locally we help them sustain their shops in West Liberty.

The third Monday in November is always the West Liberty Lions Club Ham and Turkey Raffle. This tradition started in the late 1940s. This year's event will be held in the Opera House of Town Hall **November 20th at 7:00 pm**. Many hams and turkeys as well as other prizes are given away that night. Tickets are \$1 each or 6 tickets for \$5. This event helps the Lions Club do many things in our community with the money raised. So come out on November 20 and win a chance at a turkey breast or ham or cash prizes for the holidays!

November 24th at 6:30 pm is the Christmas parade. This year the theme is "Light Up the Village". The West Liberty Business Association is taking float entries through their email, wlbba@mywestliberty.com if your organization or group is interested. The emphasis is to see how many tractors that are lighted are involved. Santa will be part of the parade and will be seeing children in the gazebo afterwards. Shops will be open late on Black Friday so come early and then stay for the parade.

November 25th is Small Business Saturday and the Ohio State vs Michigan football game. Saturday morning Santa and his elves will be enjoying **Cookies and Cocoa** with the children from 9am to 10am in the Opera House. The shops will be open at 10 am and the first 150 shoppers may pick up a free gift bag at Sweetie Pie's. Please stop by Liberty Gathering Place to watch the game on the big screen televisions and enjoy some great food.

Have a safe and Happy Thanksgiving!
Mayor Jill



Happy Veterans Day !

To all who have served or are currently serving this great Country of ours, we salute you ! It is our great pleasure to honor you on this day set aside for all Veterans.

West Liberty Business Anniversaries

- 11-1 W. Liberty Presbyterian Church Est. 1841
- 11-2 Country Friends of Ohio Est. 2018

UPCOMING EVENTS:

- Nov. 1-25, 2023 Village Christmas Tree Auction (Silent Auction, bid at the City Building)
- Nov. 1-27, 2023 West Liberty Business Association Snowflake Basket Raffle
- Nov. 3-4, 2023 Christmas in the Village Open Houses
- Nov. 20, 2023 West Liberty Lions Club Ham & Turkey Raffle
- Nov. 24, 2023 Black Friday and Christmas in the Village
- Nov. 24, 2023 Community Soup Dinner @ the Fire House
- Nov. 25, 2023 Cookies and Cocoa with Santa in The Opera House
- Nov. 25, 2023 Small Business Saturday SHOP LOCAL

- 7PM at Town Hall
- Parade at 6:30pm
- 4-6:00PM
- 9:00 to 10:00 am



For more information about any of these events go to mywestliberty.com



Veterans Reception

Wednesday November 9th, 7:00 PM: please join us in the Opera House to honor all Veterans for Veterans Day. Light refreshments will be served. Open to the Public. Please join us.

Community Soup Dinner

Friday November 24th, 4:00-6:00pm - Donation-based Community Soup Dinner hosted by **W. Columbus Bridge Group** and served at the Firehouse. Ham & Bean soup and Chili ! - Bake sale - Come out, support a great cause and visit with your neighbors .

Clerk's Corner

The Clerks office will be **closed** on November 10th in observance of Veterans day, and also November 23rd in observance of Thanksgiving. **We will be open on Friday** November 24th. Have a Blessed Thanksgiving. Trash pick up will not be interrupted.

Dog tags can be purchased at Thoman's Saturday December 2nd from 9am to Noon.

The **2024 bridge calendars** are available for purchase at local businesses and the Clerk's Office. These would make great Christmas presents for friends and family.

Cindee Boyd
Clerk/Treasurer
937-465-2716
vowlclerk@mywestliberty.com

Curbside Recycling

As of November 3, the Village will no longer pay to pickup curbside recycling.

We have been operating without a contract with Republic, who currently picks up the recycling curbside. They have proposed a 5 year contract with 5% annual escalators. Starting November 1, 2023 the rates for collection would go up to \$4,310 per month and \$51,720.00 a year.

With the present curbside recycling each resident now pays a \$5 per month fee which with the new five year contract would go up to \$6.63 for the first year, then 5% every year (\$6.96, \$7.31, \$7.68, \$8.06) over the course of the contract. This was just too much of an increase to pass onto the residents of the Village.

We are not eliminating recycling as a whole, just curbside recycling. Residents are encouraged to recycle and can take it to the Sidney Street Recycling Center at no cost.

Residents can either take recycling to the Sidney Street Center or put it in orange Village trash bags for pickup on your normal trash day. After this date any material in recycling bins or cardboard , boxes, etc. on the ground will not be picked up, they must be broken down and put in orange Village bags or taken to the recycling center. The Village receives a stipend for items taken to the recycling center on Sidney Street.

You may keep your recycling bins to transport your recycling to the center or you can use them for yard waste. Bins are available at Town Hall if you need them.

West Liberty Village Christmas Lights Contest:

Everyone living within the 43357 West Liberty Zip Code is encouraged to decorate the outside of their home for West Liberty's Annual Christmas Lights Contest. On the evening of Wednesday, Dec. 13, residents and village visitors are encouraged to walk or drive around the community to enjoy the [#wlchristmaslights](#).

[Please find contest rules and a registration form @mywestliberty.com](#)

Columbus Street Bridge Update

Jayne Griffith was appointed to the Village Council in 2019. She was concerned about how long the West Columbus Street Bridge had been closed. When she posed the question, the response was it was closed in 2013 to all vehicles and pedestrians by Logan County and ODOT. She wanted to raise awareness and money to get the bridge reopened. Everywhere she turned the answer was a complete lack of interest. But Jayne kept working on this project even when no one offered hope.

Many visitors to Dodge Park ask why the bridge was barricaded and not repaired. In 2021 Jayne started the Columbus Street Bridge Group and began looking at ways to raise funds and awareness. The 2023 calendars raised money and became a great way to showcase all of the events happening in our community throughout the year. These calendars have raised money from our local businesses and showed their support for our community and the bridge. The 2024 calendars are available for purchase at local businesses and the Clerk's Office.

All the money raised from the calendars and other fundraisers have gone to cover the engineering costs. The engineering work was necessary, so that the Village could apply for grants to replace the bridge. We have talked about this bridge with elected officials at the state and county level for years.

We have applied for grants and didn't see much progress BUT last month (in October) we made progress and it looks like funding will be available for us to move forward with the replacement of the bridge next year. So THANK YOU Jayne for all your work on reopening this bridge and removing an eyesore from the West Columbus Street neighborhood and the entrance of Dodge Park. Hope and perseverance pays off! 🍀

Jayne Griffith Council President

Once upon a time in a smiling valley lived an amazing population of young people. These kids worked hard, were respectful and made a difference in their little community. The adults delighted in the efforts of their youth.

Though this sounds like the beginning of a fairy tale, for those of us in the smiling valley of West Liberty AND the charming tiny town of Kingscreek, this is no story. Rather, it's real life. It's not once upon a time, but it's right now.

Several things that I've seen have caused me to stop and reflect on our kids and their endeavors lately. Their turnout and enthusiastic support for our breast cancer survivors at the Pink Out was something to behold. The thrilling achievements of our hard working and talented athletes makes it hard right now to not wear a little Tiger Pride on your sleeve. The marching Tiger Band is so exciting to watch. Their sound and Spirit is unequaled in my opinion. The WLS high school choir performed a very stirring rendition of the National Anthem at the homecoming football game. So powerful! These are a few of the things I've had the privilege to see since the school year began.

I'm sure there's so much more going on with our children and young people than just what I've mentioned. And as great as these accomplishments are, what inspires me is knowing the work, study, practice and dedication they've put into these things to reach their goals. Very often, they've put their own egos aside to be a part of a team, whatever that team is, to make that team work. That's not easy! But it's a characteristic that makes things work in a community; whether it's a little valley village or a great big city. To our amazing youth I want to say, your hard work, respect, and the differences you're making is delighting your community.

I would be remiss if I didn't mention one more thing. Recently West Liberty Salem High School pretty much closed down one day after lunch and sent teams of students and teachers out for community service. I have no idea where all of them went, but the group I spoke with were digging, planting, weeding and cleaning. I was very impressed with their efforts. To all who took part in this event, thank you! You make a difference.

A quick word from our Street Superintendent: Bill Detrick

Leaf season is about 3 to 4 weeks behind this year, we are picking up the few that have fallen. When leaves do fall it will be a race against the clock to get the leaves picked up before we have to get the trucks changed over for snow season. Your cooperation is much appreciated.





5071 US Rt 68 South, West Liberty, Ohio. 937-465-8300 Hours are by appointment only, Monday-Friday, 8am-6pm

November 2023 Business of the Month – West Liberty Healing Arts We would like to congratulate West Liberty Healing Arts for being selected as the West Liberty Business Association’s November 2023 Business of the Month. West Liberty Healing Arts is a health care facility that offers medical and relaxation massage, reflexology, as well as Reiki massage.

Mary Clasen and her late husband, Dr. Tony Clasen, started West Liberty Chiropractic and Massage Therapy in 1997. When Dr. Tony passed away in 2014, Mary changed the name to West Liberty Healing Arts to include modalities other than massage. The business includes a receptionist, 2 massage therapists, a reflexologist, and a Reiki master. West Liberty Healing Arts is dedicated to being as holistic as possible directing clients to people or places that will help their healing process. Their customers love feeling better post treatment. They always leave with a smile on their face! Mary is involved with her church as well as being a member of the West Liberty Business Association. She loves to read and spend time with friends and family when not working in the business. One thing she loves about owning a business in a small community is that the only advertising needed is word of mouth. Mary’s favorite thing about West Liberty is the neighborhood comradery; where everyone knows and helps each other. Mary wants each and every client to know how much she appreciates them and how blessed she feels and honored to be a small part of their lives.

West Liberty Healing Arts is located at 5071 US Rt 68 South, West Liberty, Ohio. Their phone number is 937-465-8300. Their hours are by appointment only, Monday-Friday, 8am-6pm.

Each month Marie’s allows the Business of the Month to come in and pick out their favorite candy. Mary chose Dark Chocolate Tur’Kins. There will be an award presentation held on Nov 4th at 10am.

Again, congratulations to Mary and West Liberty Healing Arts!

Written and submitted by: Brenda Snyder, WLBA Secretary

SAT. DEC. 9, 2023, 4-8PM - Christmas in the village tour of homes

Our downtown will be open all evening featuring a unique shopping experience along with the tour of homes! Here are the homes that will be featured on this Years tour.

- West Liberty Town Hall** 201 N. Detroit St. West Liberty
- Chamberlian Home** 1111 E SR 296 Urbana
- Longaberger Home** 9348 CR 47 West Liberty
- Sells Home** 4547 Ludlow Rd. Urbana
- Poland Home** 309 E Newell St. West Liberty
- Bodie Home** 4193 Sullivan Rd. West Liberty
- Red Hawk Ridge Retreat** 1338 SR 507 West Liberty
- People's Savings & Loan** 110 N Detroit West Liberty
- And possibly more**



Tickets can be purchased on-line using the link below :
<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/west-liberty-christmas-tour-of-homes-tickets-740375762837?aff=oddtcreator>

Tickets can also be purched at local Merchants

Christmas Tree Auction

Stop in the Town Hall to view the Christmas Trees, and place your bids. The Christmas Tree Auction is to help the West Liberty Business Association host all the events throughout the year. The auction starts November 1st and ends November 24th at 4:00 PM. Pictures will be on mywestliberty.com