



The Village News

mywestliberty.com

201 N. Detroit St. PO Box 187

West Liberty, OH 43357

937-465-2716

Mayor Jill C. McKelvey

September, 2023

The West Liberty Pink Out honoring our breast cancer survivors will be a series of events this year. Please mark your calendars for these important events.

On **September 21** at the WL-S Homecoming Parade, the survivors will be invited to ride on the Trolley in the parade. Survivors should meet at Lions Park at the Trolley at 6:10 pm. The parade will begin at 6:30 pm. More information will be handed out that evening for the September 28th event.

September 28 will be the Pink Out Event at Town Hall. A Health Fair which is free and open to the public in the Opera House will be offered from 3-7 pm. The Health screenings offered included: blood pressure checks, skin cancer screenings, Maze Hearing, Prescription Bliss, Peak Performance Holistic Health, Kayatin Chiropractic, Hickory Medical, Affiliated Dermatology, Fearless Strength and Conditioning, Anytime Fitness, Homegrown Yoga and Pilates, Heaven's Dew, and Mary Rutan Health. In the northside parking lot the Mobile Mammogram Clinic will be set up to offer mammograms. A meal will be provided in the Firehouse for survivors, high school cheerleaders and football players along with the Little Tigers football players and cheerleaders from 6:30-7:30 pm. At 7:30 pm the Pink Out Event will take place at the Town Hall Gazebo on the north lawn. Ending with a survivor's lap of the downtown decorated storefronts.

On **October 6** at the West Liberty - Salem versus Mechanicsburg football game, a survivors' parade will occur during the pre-game at 6:30 pm. Fans at the game are invited to wear pink to celebrate our survivors.

Those interested in supporting this important fundraiser may sponsor a flag, purchase a shirt or donate money by picking up a form in the Clerk's Office. Shirts will be offered through the Logan County Cancer Society and WL-S for the pink out events.

The West Liberty Pink Out Event is coordinated with the Logan County Cancer Society partnering with the West Liberty Pink Out Committee.

A special thank you to West Liberty Athletic Director - Morgan Sullivan, Hickory Medical - Steve Barth, WL-S Cheer Coach - Allison Wygal, WL-S Football Liaison Eli Wilcoxon, WLBA President Heather Chamberlain, Councilman Trent Spriggs, and Logan County Cancer Society Tammy Allison and Christie Barnes for their help in making these events happen. The public is encouraged to be a part of all these events to support our survivors.

For more information or to register as a survivor contact the Clerk's Office or email mayor.mckelvey@mywestliberty.com by September 12.

Mayor Jill

Clerk's Corner

Solicitation in the Village of West Liberty

Anyone soliciting within the Village needs to come to the Clerk's Office with valid ID, company name, Phone number, etc. They need to give the Clerk dates and times when they will be soliciting. They will be given a permit to have proof that they gave all information needed. Clerk will contact police department and they will validate the company.

Contractor Registration:

Any tree company, landscaping, paving, companies etc. needs to register as a valid contractor with proof of insurance, bonds, etc. at the Clerk's office with a \$25 lifetime fee.

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

West Liberty Business Anniversaries

Elle A. Design

Est. September 1st, 2008

UPCOMING EVENTS:

September 1-4	West Liberty Labor Day Festival	
September 9	Ohio Fish And Shrimp Festival	10am to 10pm each Saturday
September 16		
September 23		
September 30	WWII Living History event	10-4pm Piatt Castle Mac-A-Cheek

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



Jeanette Zerkle Council Member

Severe Depression and Suicide in Ohio among our Youth

The summer has flown and the children are back into the hubbub of school and school activities.

I want to talk with you about a subject that is uncomfortable to talk about: the increasing risk of youth suicide. Below are just a few of the sobering statistics.

- According to the most recent records (2012-2021) suicide was the second-leading cause of death among Ohioans 10-24 years of age; that number increased by 7% to 14.8 deaths per 100,000 population in 2021.
- Of the 15 counties with the highest rates of suicide, 14 are rural counties.
- Five Ohioans die by suicide every day; one youth (10-24 years) dies by suicide every 34 hours. **THINK ABOUT THAT!**
- Male youths are 80% more likely to commit suicide than female youths.
- According to *Mental Health America*, over 1 in 10 youths (11.5%) in the US are experiencing severe depression; only 27% of those youths receive consistent mental health treatment.
- Although 2022-2023 statistics are not available, the prediction for increases in these statistics is far greater since COVID-19.

What can parents, grandparents, aunts, uncles, teachers, and friends, do to help our precious children? AWARENESS!

- First, recognize the warning signs:
 - Drastic mood changes (not just normal teen-aged drama);
 - Violent behaviors;
 - Withdrawal and separation from family and friends;
 - Use of drugs and/or alcohol;
 - Obsessive talk of death;
 - Looking up ways to commit suicide on the internet; websites that glorify death and suicide; sites that demonize normal family relationships and activities; sites that encourage your child to disrespect others and authority; website activity that you recognize is detrimental to your ethnic and moral beliefs.
- Secondly, get your child the Mental Health help needed. Professionals are trained to help with the types of behaviors that lead to severe depression and potential suicide. Seek professional mental health assistance available in directing your child through this crisis.
- Most importantly, encourage your youth to be a part of family and everyday life activities. Spend time with your child. With an understanding heart, let your child know how much he/she is loved and cherished and how important each one is to your family; let your child know there is a great future ahead.

Links to mental health information sites:

<https://mhanational.org/> <https://afsp.org/suicide-statistics/> <https://988lifeline.org/> cyelton@mhdas.org

These are just a few of the statistics of severe depression and suicide among our youths that are both alarming and troubling. We can make a difference in the children that we know and love by encouraging them to be honest and instilling in them the knowledge that they are important to our future. Suicide should never be the number two cause of death among our precious children.

Jeanette Zerkle

Bill Detrick Street Superintendent

It has been a very busy summer this year. The West Columbus Street reconstruction project is now completed. This street was one of the worst in town and is heavily traveled in the summer for access to Dodge Park for ball games. I know it was a big inconvenience for the residents that live on this street during construction and I appreciate your patience. I urge residents to take some time and drive up to see the completed project.

Another paving project going on in the Village will start sometime in mid-October. Streets being paved are East Newell Street from Washington Street to the dead end in the Cul De Sac, North Street from East Newell to Linden Street and Race Street from Pickrelltown Road to Linden Street.

I am also trying every year to pave some of our alleys as many of them are in rough condition. I am starting with the most heavily traveled and worst conditions first. Two alleys off of East and West Baird Streets were just paved. Street light and traffic light posts were recently painted black because they were rusting and it is our responsibility to keep them in good condition. The traffic lights were repainted for higher visibility.

I also had the yellow center line on Detroit Street shifted to the east from Columbus Street to just beyond Veterans Park to make for safer parking on the west side of street. This is how the street was laid out years ago. Per councils request the crosswalks were repainted to a ladder style for higher visibility. Council also had two new crosswalks installed which was funded by grant money. These crosswalks are located at Runkle Street and Leonard Street.

Many have asked about the intersection of County Road 5 and Zanesfield Road. The State will no longer replace any damaged guardrails in the Village as they have done in the past. We are responsible for guardrails from Ricketts Road to State Route 508. Over the years, many semis making right turns onto 68 have damaged the guardrail on County Road 5 causing damage that needed to be repaired. To keep this from happening the guard rail will be moved further back off the corner to make it easier for them to turn north. In order to move the guardrail the ditch had to be leveled with fill which came from the West Columbus Street project. By doing this it will save us the cost of future replacement.

We have a new street sweeping company as the old company was not reliable. They have swept the streets the last two times and so far I have been very happy with their service. **The next dates for sweeping are September 11th and October 2nd.**

Bill Detrick



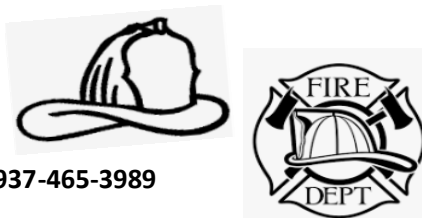
Darin Leach W. Liberty Fire Chief

As of July 31, 2023, the West Liberty Fire Department had responded to 140 calls for service. 81 of those calls were fire related incidents and 59 were rescue and EMS type responses. 34% of the calls were in the village limits. Of the fire incidents, we have had 26 working fires, with 13 being structure fires.

Our coverage area consists of 138 square miles covering all or parts of 6 townships in two counties. Our average response time from being dispatched out getting a truck in response is 4 minutes and 20 seconds. This includes our drive time to the station, getting dressed and responding. We are fortunate to have a quick response being 100% volunteer. We are averaging over 6 firefighter per call. This doesn't include the extra hours of training, truck checks, meeting or other public relation events. West Liberty Fire personnel are happy to give to the community the ability to serve and protect the village of West Liberty as well as our surrounding townships. We hope the community appreciates the dedication and commitment of the volunteers.

The volunteer fire service is dwindling, and we are no different. We are always looking for good people who want to give back to their communities. Candidates must have a diploma, be physically fit to perform, must go through training and be willing to be available to help serve. Anyone interested may stop in Monday evenings at the firehouse, or you can stop in at the village office and pick up an application.

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





(937)465-2500 128 North Detroit St. West Liberty, Ohio 43357

Article written and submitted by Brenda Snyder, WLBA Secretary

We would like to congratulate Liberty Chiropractic, LLC for being selected at the West Liberty Business Association's August 2023 Business of the Month. Liberty Chiropractic, LLC is a healthcare facility that offers Chiropractic, whole food nutrition services, massage, and just recently added reflexology.

Liberty Chiropractic, LLC is owned by Rex Huffer, DC, and his wife Chris. Dr Huffer is the chiropractor, and his wife Chris is the nutritional consultant. The business was opened on June 1, 1998. Besides Dr. Huffer and his wife, they have 6 additional employees. Something unique about Dr Huffer is that he is a 2nd generation chiropractor offering 37 years of experience of whole family care.

This business is located at 128 N. Detroit St. in downtown West Liberty. According to Dr. Huffer, this building sat dormant for 30 years before he purchased it in 1998. Before that, the building had been used for a pool hall, a barber shop, a grocery store way back, and he even has a photo of when the south portion was used by an undertaker, D.D. Smucker, Undertaker.

Liberty Chiropractic, LLC offers very affordable sport physicals to athletes from any area schools. Dr. Huffer says it is very important for athletes to get regular Chiropractic adjustment for optimal performance in whichever sports they choose. They offer their services to all including newborns, pregnancy, athletes, and geriatric patients.

Dr. Huffer is very involved with his community. He has been a member of the West Liberty Business Association since shortly after opening his office. He is also a member of the West Liberty Lion's Club. He loves serving this community and the wonderful people who reside here. When asked what he thinks his customers appreciate the most about his business he said, "I hope it's the friendly, caring service we provide, becoming healthier, learning how nutrition, massage, reflexology, and Chiropractic all complement each other for a more complete health care system." When they are not working in their business, they love spending time with their grandkids. Dr. Huffer has a shop at home where he likes to build things as well. He has built a canoe, several dining tables, cabinets, etc. He loves learning new things and working around the house.

Dr. Huffer feels that the best thing about owning a business in West Liberty is making a difference in someone's life, helping them reach their goals in their healthcare, educating them. "We have the BEST patients!" says Huffer. His favorite thing about West Liberty itself is the small rural farm community with strong Christian based beliefs. Liberty Chiropractic would like to express their appreciation for allowing them to serve you for the past 25 years and they are looking forward to many more to come!

The business is located at 128 N. Detroit St, West Liberty. Their phone number is (937) 465-2500. The hours of operation are Monday 8am to Noon and 2pm to 7pm, Tuesday 8am to Noon, Wednesday 8am to Noon and 2pm to 7pm, Closed Thursday, and Friday 8am to noon and 2pm to 7pm.

Again, congratulations to Liberty Chiropractic, LLC!