

30 • 40 • 50



## NURSERY TIME

Congratulations! 2021 is the **30th** year West Lafayette has been designated as a Tree City USA® by the Arbor Day Foundation. Moreover, the West Lafayette Tree Friends (WLTF) celebrates **40** years of planting and pruning the City's 10,000 + street trees. Since the City is experiencing an increased demand for trees driven by urban development, climate change, and the Emerald ash borer devastation, the Friends are launching its most ambitious project to date. WLTF founder Helen Lillich proposed a home-grown solution years ago to build a municipal tree nursery to plant more trees for the community at a lower cost.

The goal is to raise **\$50,000** to build a tree nursery that can support 720 trees in a 120' x 300' production plot. The project also includes building shelters where young seedling trees are protected, and native trees, shrubs, and plants can grow from seeds. The WLTF operates entirely on volunteers and donations. Please consider volunteering or donating to the 30-40-50 Tree Nursery Project by visiting: [wltreefriends.org/donate/](http://wltreefriends.org/donate/).



## WELCOME TO MY HOUSE

### Grand Opening

**Saturday, August 14 | 10 am - 2 pm**

The West Lafayette Wellness Center is throwing open its doors to welcome you during the free Grand Opening on Saturday, August 14. Come and see the interior beauty and functionality of the state-of-the-art facility on Kalberer Road. Take a tour, sample classes, go swimming, or try out the cutting-edge fitness equipment. Love it? Sign up for a membership package! The fun starts at 10 am and continues until 2 pm. For more details, go to: [westlafayette.in.gov/parks/](http://westlafayette.in.gov/parks/) OR [facebook.com/WestLafayetteParks/](https://www.facebook.com/WestLafayetteParks/).

### Wellness Center Safety Reminders:

- Anyone less than 18 years of age must have a legal guardian sign a waiver before using the facility.
- Anyone less than 14 years of age must have an adult or guardian on-site at all times.
- Shirts and shoes are required for entry, even if just using the pool.
- Attendees must follow the City's COVID regulations.

*Please Note: Unattended children will be given a Red Bull, a kazoo, and a free puppy when leaving this open house.*

Anonymous



John Dennis, Mayor

## GOOD TO SEE YOU

It's good to see smiling faces again, unmasked and open to possibilities. The days seem brighter, and life feels more precious because of all we've gone through. Moving past some COVID-19 restrictions and transitioning into the newest normal in this historical context is significant.

We're all doing a new thing together. I'd like to share some thoughts on going forward.

**Please do your part and get vaccinated.** It's the fastest and most effective way to beat the pandemic and the rippling, crippling effect it wreaked on our nation. According to the CDC, all COVID-19 vaccines are safe and effective at preventing the virus. Let's eradicate this together. For more information and guidelines, please go to [cdc.gov](https://www.cdc.gov).

**Live in faith and not fear.** There will always be something that challenges us. We cannot avoid every illness or misfortune that crosses our path. That's life. It's how you respond or react that makes all the difference. I've seen the best examples of humanity adapting in kind, giving, and prayerful ways during the pandemic. So, when fear knocks on the door, let faith answer.

**Not every hero wears a cape.** Unfortunately, police officers and firefighters don't have the luxury of working from home. Nor can they physically distance themselves from others in performing their duties in saving lives, putting out fires, or fighting crime. Regardless of the circumstances, they risk their lives in putting others first. Please thank these heroes when you have the opportunity.

**Patronize local businesses.** Many establishments suffered severe economic ramifications over the past year. These businesses are the backbone of our community and depend upon our support; please shop and eat locally. And while you're out, make sure to stop by Margerum City Hall or the Wellness Center. We'd love to see your face.



## NEW TRAIL COMING TO TOWN



It's more than a trail. Salisbury & Grant streets are undergoing a reconfiguration to create a multi-modal path for bikes, scooters, pedestrians, rollerblades, and strollers separated from the roadway by a newly-landscaped buffer zone.

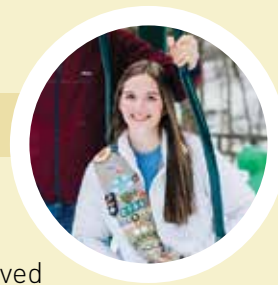
The City of West Lafayette is now approaching 50 miles of trails!

As phases of the project are developed with trail and landscaping installation, please note there will be simultaneous utility realignment, new curb lines, and road resurfacing. As a result, residents will experience minor inconveniences during construction, which begins mid-summer.

**Summer projects** include paving Dodge, Evergreen, Garfield, Hayes, and Allen streets. The City is using a new oil-based asphalt rejuvenator to restore and preserve new asphalt to extend its durability. Be aware: a Tippecanoe County project has closed Lindberg between KBS Railway to US 231. It will reopen in late 2021.

## THE POWER OF ONE

Thanks to the fundraising efforts of Girl Scout Lauren Kish of Troop #2748, the Lilly Nature Center received the financing to automate its entrance doors. Having surplus funds from contributions that purchased multiple ADA-accessible park swings, Lauren chose to use the rest to make it easier for children and adults with disabilities to enjoy the center.



## PLAZA FOR THE PEOPLE

Beautiful changes are coming to downtown West Lafayette. Construction is underway for a new plaza for festivals and events between City Hall and the West Lafayette Public Library on Chauncey Avenue. The area between the two buildings will be closed until November. Beginning in 2022, Global Fest, Starry Night, and other events will be festival-friendly, with permanent power outlets for vendors and tables and chairs for the public. New benches, landscaping, trees, street lighting, and ADA crosswalks are also in store.

During construction, the City will lay a CSO Relief Interceptor pipe underground to improve drainage. In addition, new for-pay electric vehicle charging stations will be available along Chauncey Avenue, which will remain open for two-way traffic until blocked off for a party on the plaza.

Global Fest is back!



## IT'S A SMALLER WORLD

**Global Fest | Saturday | September 18**

We have much to celebrate as we re-emerge from a worldwide pandemic that affected every person in every culture. Purdue Convos and the City of West Lafayette are planning a smaller version of the annual live and in-person festival. Let's call it a more intimate gathering of international talent found right here in our backyard, thanks to the cultural diversity at Purdue and within City limits. Surprises await you at the 25th Annual Global Fest which is still free and full of fun for the whole family with international food, entertainment, crafts, and displays. The street festival will be held on Northwestern Avenue and Columbia Street in West Lafayette. Please see the City's website for hours and more details:

[westlafayette.in.gov](http://westlafayette.in.gov).



## SIT. STAY. PLAY.

**The Happy Hollow Dog Park** is officially open! You'll find a spacious grassy area with a Fido-friendly obstacle course, two fire hydrants, a teeter-totter, and a doggy drinking fountain. It is open from dusk to dawn and is a perfect place for well-behaved pups to run and socialize with other dogs. Please adhere to the posted rules regarding dog park etiquette.

*My goal in life  
is to become as  
wonderful as my  
dog thinks I am.*

Anonymous

## YOUTH GIVEN THE GREEN LIGHT



The Go Greener Commission added a one-year term youth commissioner position for high school juniors and seniors living in West Lafayette to give voice to the youth. The mission

of the commission is to promote environmental health in our community for current and future generations. For more information, please contact GGC Chair Lindsey Payne at [paynel@purdue.edu](mailto:paynel@purdue.edu).



*If you are  
smoking in here,  
you'd better be  
on fire.*

Anonymous

## BURNING TOPICS

The next time you fire up the grill or light a torch or campfire, please remember these safety tips from the West Lafayette Fire Department:

- Keep grills, fire pits or fireplaces, and torches 10 feet away from your home and away from deck railings.
- Keep children and pets three feet away from your grill or fire. According to the National Fire Protection Association, roughly 9,500 people per year go to emergency rooms because of burns from grill fires or hot grills.
- Use grill mitts and long-handled utensils when grilling to prevent burns.
- Don't start fires in windy conditions (over 15 mph). See all burning guidelines in the Open Burn/Fire Pit City Ordinance at [westlafayette.in.gov](http://westlafayette.in.gov).

When not putting out fires, WL firefighters hone their skills by conducting training drills independently and alongside neighboring fire departments. They focus on fire attack, victim rescue, haz-mat, and other technical rescue skills to coordinate joint efforts for a safer community.

Every WL firefighter has completed training through Indiana's Driver/Operator Aerial class, enabling confidence in the safe operation of the department's two aerial devices. In addition, the department received a grant for a training system to educate the community on the proper use of fire extinguishers. Residents are welcome to attend free demonstrations at the West Lafayette Farmers Market on June 16 and October 6.



Simulated fire attack training alongside Wabash and Battle Ground firefighters.

## CHECK THESE BOXES FOR CYBER SECURITY

IT Specialist Tracey Stanifer-Dewey urges all citizens to become more aware of cyber threats to safeguard their online presence.

- Passwords:** Don't use the same passwords twice, write them down, or share them. Consider creating a passphrase (without spaces) or using password-managing software.
- Phishing:** Look for red flags such as bad spelling and grammar, urgent or threatening language, requests for money, and links/ attachments. If it looks suspicious, it probably is unsafe.
- Software Updates:** Prevent malware infections and data leaks by keeping your devices and software up-to-date. Enable automatic updates wherever possible.
- Social Media:** The more you share publicly, the bigger the target you become for scammers who gather intelligence and build profiles of their victims. Double-check your privacy settings and "friend" only the people you know.
- Physical Security:** Shred sensitive documents when no longer needed, be aware of your belongings in public areas, and ensure screen and phone security.

## LEAGUE CYCLING INSTRUCTOR EQUITY SCHOLARSHIPS

West Lafayette was awarded the bronze status for bike communities by the League of American Bicyclists. To support more biking across America, they have 40 scholarships for black people, indigenous people, and people of color (BIPOC) to attend out-of-state training seminars to become League Cycling Instructors. The workshops enable future bike educators to share the joy and skills for safe cycling within their respective communities. For application information, please contact the League of American Bicyclists: [education@bikeleague.org](mailto:education@bikeleague.org).





## CLERK'S CORNER FUN FACTS

City Clerks have been in office since times of antiquity and serve as the keepers of the archives. They, along with tax collectors, were among the first public servants. Before written meeting minutes were kept, Clerks were often called *remembrancers* because of their exceptional ability to retain and recall information.

Ancient Greece had a city secretary who read official documents publicly at the opening of a meeting. If someone was trying to deceive the people, this official could change their minds with a curse! American colonists set up local governments akin to those they were accustomed to and established the Clerk's Office to keep the records straight. West Lafayette City Clerk **Sana Booker** holds our past and documents the present for future generations.

## POLICE STORIES

Mental health, addiction, homelessness, domestic violence, and abuse are realities for a community of over 42,000 year-round residents and 40,000 Purdue students. In response to an overwhelming need to provide assistance and resources for those in crisis, the West Lafayette Police Department hired a new (and first-time-ever) mental health professional. **Devon Moore** is a licensed clinical social worker who brings much knowledge to the force. Serving as the Social Service & Crisis Response Specialist, she will assist in getting to the root cause of an issue by partnering with local resources to make all attempts to break any routine cycle of behavior. Devon was chosen through a very competitive selection process.

Recognition is due for Officer **Jeff Dunscomb** who has loyally served the WL community for 30 years. His contributions to the agency include serving as a detective in the Criminal Investigations Unit and as a Tippecanoe County Drug Task Force member, among other duties. Officer Dunscomb is currently serving in the K-9 Unit alongside a specially-trained Hungarian Vizsla named **Bak**. Together, they detect narcotics and track suspects and missing persons. "Jeff is a true leader who inspires and mentors our young officers. We are very fortunate to have him," said Police Chief Troy Harris.



**WEST LAFAYETTE**  
HOME of PURDUE

## CITY NEWS

### NEW HIRES

**Jennifer Gardiner**  
Economic Development  
Administrative Aide  
Development

**Devon Moore**  
Social Service & Crisis  
Response Specialist  
West Lafayette Police

**Chad Nush**  
Probationary Patrol Officer  
West Lafayette Police

**Jordyn Spangler**  
Probationary Patrol Dispatcher  
West Lafayette Police

**Michelle Payne**  
Building Administrator | Parks  
& Recreation

**Wesley Geib**  
Entry Level Firefighter  
West Lafayette Fire

### RETIREMENTS

**Captain David Lord**  
Captain of Patrol  
West Lafayette Police

John Dennis • Mayor  
765/775-5100  
mayor@westlafayette.in.gov

Sana Booker • Clerk  
765/775-5150  
clerk@westlafayette.in.gov

[westlafayette.in.gov](http://westlafayette.in.gov)

Sonya L. Margerum City Hall  
222 N. Chauncey Ave.  
West Lafayette, IN 47906

River Days: weekends, July 2 – July 18

Committed to Going Greener



A Tree City USA



LET'S GO EVENT CALENDAR

**RX/OTC Take Back**

2nd Thursday • 11:30 am - 1:30 pm  
July 8 • August 12  
West Lafayette Police Station

**City Offices Closed**

Independence Day • Monday • July 5  
Labor Day • Monday • September 6

**West Lafayette Farmers Market**

Wednesdays May - October  
3:30 - 7 pm • Cumberland Park

**West Lafayette Municipal Pool**

12 - 1:50 pm, Daily • Adult Lap Swim  
2 - 7:50 pm, Daily • Public Swim  
Salisbury & Kingston streets



**Wednesdays in the Wild**

Wednesdays • 1 - 3 pm  
[westlafayette.in.gov/parks](http://westlafayette.in.gov/parks)

**River Days**

July 2 – July 18 on the weekends  
Tapawingo Park  
Sign up & learn more at  
[WabashRiverfest.com](http://WabashRiverfest.com)

**Stars & Stripes**

Sunday • July 4 •  
Citizens Band Concert at 8 pm  
Fireworks begin at dusk  
Riehle Plaza • Downtown Lafayette

**Tippecanoe County 4-H Fair**

July 17 - 24  
Tippecanoe County Fairgrounds

**Taste of Tippecanoe**

Saturday • July 31  
6 pm - midnight  
Downtown Lafayette

**Indiana Fiddlers' Gathering**

Friday - Sunday • August 13 - 15  
Tippecanoe  
Battlefield

