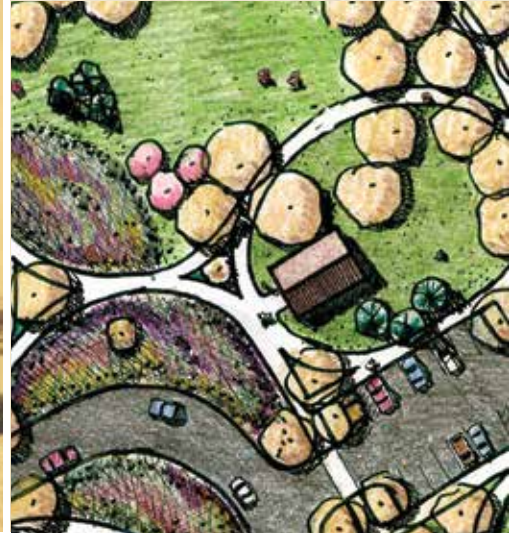




1879 Morris Schoolhouse moving to new Cason Family Park.



MORRIS SCHOOLHOUSE "FIELD TRIP"

The historic 1879 one-room schoolhouse is literally making a 900-foot trip across a field to its new home this spring on the site of a future park on Cumberland Avenue. West Lafayette resident, Lynn Cason, donated 13.6 acres to the City for a park to surround the schoolhouse that was once his grandfather's primary school. Only a few of Tippecanoe County's 108 one-room schoolhouses are still in existence, and saving Morris School will preserve Indiana's early public education history for future generations. Wolfe House and Building Movers from northern Indiana will transport the building across the field once the new foundation is laid and the ground is frozen enough to handle the move before spring.

What prompted the move was Cason's prior sale of 23 acres of land to Franciscan Health on the corner of Cumberland and US 231, where the school is currently located. Rather than raze the 136 year-old building, several members of the community, led by Sue Eiler, stepped up to save the school by raising funds to move and rehabilitate it. Generous grants from the Community Foundation and the Parks and Recreation Foundation, plus \$20,000 in private donations have secured the funds to move the school to the site of the future park, but more is needed to fully restore the building as a living historical site. Although the brick schoolhouse is basically sound, it functioned most recently as a grain storehouse and needs a lot of love to recreate the look of a 19th century schoolhouse. Namely, interior and exterior

repairs, windows, doors, slate chalkboards, desks, potbelly stove, and all the amenities. Think *Little House on the Prairie*.

The new park is full of possibilities with a conceptual plan already developed by landscape architect John Collier and architect Kurt Wahl. ADA-accessible schoolhouse and picnic shelters, a playground, and walking paths and biking trails are possibilities. Also, there's a good probability that some of the ideas generated from the Parks survey taken last year will be incorporated into the park, which is slated for development over the next five years.

How you can help

Sue Eiler and the Morris School restoration committee welcome community assistance in terms of volunteers, interpretive program development, and donations of post-Civil War schoolhouse memorabilia to make the project come to life. You may contact Sue at (765) 714-2213. Monetary donations are also greatly needed. Contact the West Lafayette Parks and Recreation Foundation, (765) 775-5110, or send a check to PO Box 2391, West Lafayette, IN 47906. Up-to-date information can be found on the Save Morris School Facebook page.

See the complete summary report of the Parks survey (Parks & Recreation Public Engagement Report) at www.wl.in.gov.



Purdue University/Charles Jaschke

Mayor's Column

STATE OF THE CITY

It's that time of year for our annual check-up. How are the vital signs? How do we rank on the growth chart? Are we striving and thriving or merely surviving? Accessing the different parts of the body that make up West Lafayette, I am pleased to report that our City is in excellent shape.

When you think of West Lafayette, you think of a vibrant, well-educated workforce striving to make a real difference in the world. Whether you work at Purdue University, at one of the companies in the Research Park, in the aerospace industry, or in a multitude of other successful businesses in the City, West Lafayette offers unparalleled opportunities. We overflow with youthful talent, professional skills, and a great sense of optimism (tainted with some healthy cynicism) that sets us apart from the rest.

Since the annexation in 2015, virtually doubling the footprint of the City, we rank high on the growth chart. Physical growth coincided with equal growth in services for newly-annexed areas. Development for Rolls-Royce and the Innovation District were made possible because of our investment in infrastructure. Coming down the road is the redevelopment of State Street, following on the heels of the completed River Road and Happy Hollow Road projects. Refurbished, multi-use roadways attract new businesses and make for happy travels.

We live in interesting times. Our country is experiencing a sociological tug of war reminiscent of what we witnessed 50 years ago. Many of these experiences have been difficult to observe. But like most difficult times, they can lead to positive and lasting changes if addressed openly, patiently, and constructively. It's important to remind our community of our long-standing philosophy.

We thrive because we value the diversity of our multi-cultural citizens, student residents, and visitors. West Lafayette is a leader not only in the physical element of our community, but also because of our human element. We are fortunate to have one of the best school systems in the country, and that's no accident considering the efforts of educators and parent-volunteers alike. Events like Globalfest, the Naturalization Ceremony, the Holocaust Remembrance Ceremony, and Outfest are a few examples of how a diverse population can celebrate differences as well as things in common.

As I do every year, I commend the work of the Council, the City Clerk, and our City employees — those men and women in charge of delivering city services with efficiency and integrity. Our department heads and their staff continue to provide services which have made us the safest and strongest large college community in Indiana, and they deserve our deep gratitude and respect. Moreover, West Lafayette is what it is because our citizens are who THEY are. I am grateful for the ideas, energy, and contributions of all West Lafayette residents who make us a top city in the nation to live, learn, work, and play.

MAKING PROGRESS

Several of the Married Student Housing buildings will be razed to make room for **Innovation Place Apartments**, a privately-owned mixed-use residence hall with over 800 beds in apartments. The bottom floor retail space will serve the community and add vibrancy to the west end of campus. Construction slated to begin in the spring of 2018.

The Hampton Inn and Suites on Tapawingo Drive will open for business on March 5, 2017. Each of the 105 spacious guest rooms and suites will be equipped with microwaves, mini-refrigerators and mini bars, and guests will have access to 24-hr. business and fitness centers.

The **Rolls-Royce** jet engine R&D space in the Purdue Technology Center Aerospace will be dedicated with a ribbon-cutting ceremony on March 23, 2017. It's the first of many buildings to occupy the 980-acre site.

The Hub at West Lafayette, a new high-rise student apartment building with parking and retail space, is coming to the NE corner of S. Pierce and Wood Streets. Expectations are for construction to start this month and to be open by August 2018.



OFFICER OF THE YEAR

Officer **Marcus Slifer**'s hard work on the police force and his can-do positive attitude were factors in his being awarded WLPD's Officer of the Year. Officer Slifer patrols the West Lafayette School District on motorcycle, maintaining safety by controlling traffic in school zones. Occasionally, these traffic stops expose those wanted for crimes other than speeding.



A former D.A.R.E. Officer, he remains committed to young people and the community in general. Officer Slifer is in charge of the R.A.D. program where he teaches self-defense and personal safety to citizens, especially women and children. Congratulations, Officer Slifer!

The road to success for 99% of people isn't a jump. It's a steady incline from one successful project to the next. Lee Morris



State Street Project Traffic Plan for April 1 – May 14, 2017

STATE STREET PROJECT – FULL STEAM AHEAD!



Fasten your seatbelts, West Lafayette; State Street redevelopment gets rolling this April in earnest. Familiarize yourself with alternate routes to make your journeys less stressful. Go to www.StateStreetWL.com for maps and construction timelines through November 2017. Sign up for traffic alerts if you haven't done so already at www.nixle.com.

APRIL 1 – MAY 14, 2017

FULL CLOSURE: State Street from University Street to Airport/McCormick Road, Marsteller from State to Harrison, and a portion of Tapawingo Drive near State Street; no vehicular traffic is allowed. Good news — you'll still be able to walk along that stretch, and deliveries to all buildings and residences will continue. You can use University, Martin Jischke, and Airport/McCormick Roads to cross State Street in this section during construction. Detours: use Stadium, Northwestern, or US 231 to go east or west. This section will undergo construction until Thanksgiving. In the works: making State Street into a two-way street with separated cycle tracks and sidewalks.

OPEN WITH RESTRICTIONS: State Street from Tapawingo to Salisbury Street; restricted traffic allowed. Good news — Wabash Landing and nearby businesses are accessible while lanes of traffic are being redirected from one side to another. In the works — a new roundabout at Tapawingo and additional parallel street parking for Wabash Landing. Be sure to patronize your favorite stores and restaurants, even if it takes a little more effort.

WESTBOUND ONLY: State Street from Airport/McCormick to US 231; one-way to the west is the only way to go. Good news — Airport/McCormick Road will always be open during construction for your north/south travels through this area.

LOCAL TRAFFIC ONLY: Avoid these streets unless you live or work on them to facilitate construction efforts — Tapawingo from State to River Rd; Russell Street from Harrison to State Street and State Street to 1st Street; McArthur Drive from State to 3rd Street; McCutcheon from State to 3rd Street; Waldron from State to 1st. Good news — you're going to love it when it is all finished.

LOOKING AHEAD TO SUMMER

MAY 15 – AUGUST 11, 2017

FULL CLOSURE: State Street from Salisbury all the way through Airport/McCormick will be completely closed during the summer months. Good news — access through the Village and west to University Street will be reopened by August 11 in time for the students' return and many one-way streets will become two-way streets.

For updates, maps, and the complete 2017 construction schedule, visit www.StateStreetWL.com.

OH, WHAT A RELIEF IT IS!

We saluted the completion of the CSO Relief Interceptor Project on River Road with a ribbon-cutting ceremony on December 2, 2016. It was completed three years prior to the Ind. Dept. of Environmental Management deadline of November 2019 and 190 days earlier than the construction contract deadline of May 2017, and shows how teamwork and wise use of materials can shorten construction time and save money. The final cost for the project was \$4.75M less than the preliminary engineer's estimate.

What propelled the project was the need to get the 8' concrete pipe under River Road prior to the reconstruction of State Street, which will commence this April. The CSO Relief Interceptor can now contain heavy rainfall or snowmelt until it can be processed at the Wastewater Treatment Plant, thus eliminating many combined sewage overflows into the river.

The innovative project also included a roundabout connecting River Road to Tapawingo and Williams Street. It facilitates traffic flow and provides an alternate route to campus. Look for more landscaping and aesthetic improvements as weather permits. Special thanks to local businesses, property owners, and residents for their cooperation.

Caution: Men at Work

Women work all the time; men have to put up signs when they work. Unattributed

VOLUNTEER RECOGNITION

Sue Eiler | Socially Active

Sue Eiler recently retired after 28 years as a clinical social worker with Purdue's Counseling and Psychological Services. Sue continues to lend a compassionate hand by serving on the Board of Directors for the West Lafayette Parks and Recreations Foundation Board and took the lead in organizing a committee to save the old Morris School, built in 1879, and located on the corner of US 231 and Cumberland Avenue.

Sue's passion for this project began when she read a journal that a school examiner had carried in his saddlebag as he traveled to examine one-room schoolhouses in Tippecanoe County. Two of her favorite quotes from the journal were "difficult to hear the children recite, due to the hogs under the schoolhouse," and "arrived at the schoolhouse — it had burned down."

Thanks to Sue's efforts, and those of historians, teachers, park staff, construction folk, and Mr. Lynn Cason's donation of 14 acres, the schoolhouse will soon be moved to its new home in the Cason Family Park.

Ann Hunt | Community Caregiver

Ann Hunt, Purdue Professor Emeritus of Nursing, has been involved with community and volunteer activities since she moved to West Lafayette in 1969. Her distinguished teaching was recognized by the highest accolade possible for undergraduate teaching, the Murphy award. Her above-and-beyond attitude extended not only to her teaching, but also to numerous community service projects.

Ann served on our City Council from 2003-2015, and was president of the Council for about nine of those years and was a liaison to West Lafayette Parks and Recreation Board from 2003-2015. She currently serves on the Mayor's CDBG Advisory Committee, and is involved several WL committees: Tree Friends, Art in Bloom,



Sue Eiler



Ann Hunt



Kurt Wahl

and the Beautification Committee. Her passions for photography and gardening are expressed in her weekly photos of the West Lafayette Farmers Market.

Ann has mentored other City leaders and volunteered countless hours of service. Her contributions to West Lafayette have helped transform our city into a more pleasant place to live.

Kurt Wahl | Building Community

Kurt Wahl is the president and principal architect for Wahl Architecture Studio. Kurt's passion to preserve and restore historical buildings led to his appointment on the Lafayette Historic Preservation Commission in 2005. He served as president for many terms, and continues to be an active part of the commission today.

Since 2011, he has been a consultant for the WL Historic Preservation Commission and has worked on the establishment of the New Chauncey Local Historic District, for which he wrote the ordinance and guidelines and educated fellow commissioners on the Certificate of Appropriateness review process, which ensures that New Chauncey will preserve its historical charm. Kurt is also a member of the Morris School House Moving and Restoration Committee.

The citizens of West Lafayette are fortunate to have gained from his expertise and we are thankful for his generous devotion and willingness to serve.

MOR' DANC'N

The 24th Annual Mor' Danc'n Recital will be held Saturday, April 29 @ 4 pm at Purdue Loeb Playhouse. Enjoy live entertainment in all styles of dance ranging from jazz, lyric, tap, ballet and modern, performed by talented dancers, ages 3-17.

Call Morton Center, **(765) 775-5120** for tickets and information.



STOP THE GYPSY MOTH

Measures to stop the spread of this invasive moth will be performed this spring via an aerial treatment by the Ind. Dept. of Natural Resources. For more information please contact the State Chemist's Invasives Hotline at **(866) 663-9684** or visit **www.gmsts.org**.



NEW MAN ON THE STREET

West Lafayette welcomes back **Ben Anderson** as the new Street Commissioner. He previously worked for the City under Dave Buck and Dave Downey's tutelage, learning the ropes to lead the department. His goal is to provide an excellent level of service to a growing city, taking care of more roadways, more households, and more businesses. He's evaluating processes and efficiencies to make sure the City is best taken care of with his available staff and equipment. A newer snowplow with "wings" is now part of the posse, with the ability to plow 1.5 lanes per pass, as well as a new trash truck with a split body to be able to collect trash and recycling at the same time. Another new item on the docket is to expand storage facilities to protect the vital equipment that takes care of West Lafayette.

Anderson said, "We're like a football team. You've got offense, defense, special teams. We've got trash, recycling, we've got streets and maintenance of the roadways, traffic signals, and we clean all the sanitary sewers. It takes all of us to make it happen. We have a tremendous team of men and women that work here who get it done — every day."



Heron by Jeff Laramore, the sculpture at the Celery Bog, won the Landscape Award from the Indiana Parks and Recreation Association.

TEAM DEVELOPMENT

Erik Carlson, Director of Development is making positive changes within his team to better serve the community. "Our aim is to carry West Lafayette even further into the 21st century by developing and modernizing the vibrant community that it has always been," said Carlson.

Bev Shaw's new title is Quality of Life, as she'll continue working on place-making opportunities which encompass arts, beautification, Art on the Wabash, WL Farmers Market, marketing, and writing grants to improve the quality of life in West Lafayette.

Julia Zuchkov, the new Economic Development Administrative Aide, will be your first contact when you visit the department, and she will assist with development and the Historic Preservation Commission.

Bryce Patz's new title is Neighborhood Vitality, where he's serving as greenspace administrator and liaison with neighborhoods to help keep WL green and growing.

Talent wins games, but teamwork and intelligence wins championships.

Michael Jordan

SO, WHAT DO YOU THINK?

The Public Arts Team is seeking input for a new sculpture to be installed at the Kalberer entrance of Cumberland Park. The park is home to many recreational activities, including a new playground and many soccer fields. What comes to your mind as the embodiment of Cumberland Park? (A sculpture for the Farmers Market will be installed later this year at the Salisbury entrance.) Please send your input to bshaw@wl.in.gov.



Rehmel Student Art Show

CITY NEWS

NEW HIRES

Ben Anderson

Street and Sanitation
Department
Street Commissioner

Mike Morefield

Jesse Scroggins
Street and Sanitation
Department
Driver/Collector/Processor

Bryce Patz

Department of
Development
Neighborhood Vitality

Julia Zuchkov

Department of
Development
Economic Development
Administrative Aide

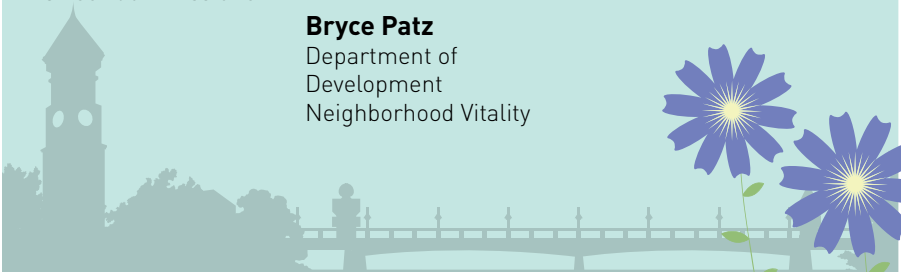
SPRING ARTS

Morton Center is hosting a premiere event, The Spring Arts Celebration, which combines art and theatre.

APRIL 8 | 5-7 PM Rehmel Student Art Show | Rooms 106 and 108
Showcases students of all ages and levels who have been studying with artist Jeannette Rehmel.

7 PM Morton Youth Actors perform in the Multi-Purpose Room.

Free and open to the public.



NEWS BY EMAIL: To receive City newsletters by email, visit the email notification page under Services at www.wl.in.gov

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

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

www.wl.in.gov

West Lafayette City Hall (Police Dept.)
711 West Navajo Street
West Lafayette, IN 47906

Committed to Going Greener



A Tree City USA



Tired of shoveling snow?

Get a list of local businesses/people for hire at 765-775-5165.

LET'S GO EVENT CALENDAR

Rx/OTC Take-Back

11:30 am – 1:30 pm
March 9 | April 13 | May 11
2nd Thursday of the month
West Lafayette Police Station

City Offices CLOSED

February 20 | Presidents' Day
April 14 | Good Friday
May 29 | Memorial Day



Wednesdays in the Wild

Wednesdays | Lilly Nature Center
www.wl.in.gov/parks

Riverside Skating Center

Call for hours (765) 743-7465
\$5 per person | \$3 skate rental
Tapawingo Park

West Lafayette Farmers Market

Wednesdays beginning May 3
3:30 – 7 pm | Cumberland Park

Purdue Spring Fest and Bug Bowl

April 8 & 9 | 10 am – 4 pm
Purdue campus
www.purdue.edu/springfest



1st Annual Spring Arts Celebration

Saturday | April 8 | 5 – 8 pm
Morton Community Center



Morton Youth Actors

Purdue University/Charles Jischke



Purdue Grand Prix

Saturday | April 22
Purdue Grand Prix Track
1500 McCormick Road
www.purduegrandprix.org

24th Annual Mor' Danc'n Recital

Saturday | April 29 | 4 pm
Purdue Loeb Playhouse

Round the Fountain Art Fair

Saturday | May 27
9 am – 4:30 pm
Courthouse Square

