

# WEST LAFAYETTE CITY NEWS

HOME OF PURDUE UNIVERSITY

WINTER 2011

## City Summit Jumpstarts New Year



*The city of West Lafayette is tackling a hefty agenda in 2011, reports Mayor John Dennis.*

Infrastructure projects, outdoor recreation and a continued high quality of life headline the focus for 2011, Mayor John Dennis reported in the State of the City address at the first annual City Summit, February 7, at City Hall.

Those plans follow a year of achievements, Dennis noted. "Smooth, safe roads remained a priority in 2010, and major improvements to Salisbury, Sycamore and Cumberland will be enjoyed for decades to come." He also thanked Tippecanoe County for funding the Lindberg Bridge, now under way.

Converting to a one-stop trash/recycling pickup system helped boost recycling by 4 percent, decreasing landfill trash

by 2.5 percent. Neighborhoods got a boost from the Neighborhood Resource Team, which addressed more than 2,600 complaints.

Other successes included improved school zone safety and receipt of the Indiana Department of Environmental Management Clean Community Award for recycling and bike/pedestrian trails.



## Volunteers Saluted for Springing Into Action

Hats off to winners of the first Volunteer Recognition Awards, honored at the City Summit.

### Mike Koning: Graffiti Eradicator

Since 2008, he's covered hundreds of graffiti spots, immediately responding to requests no matter how challenging. His work helps deter the damaging behavior and gang activity.

### Lynn Layden: All About Blooms

If the task involves the garden, count her in. This Master Gardener chairs the West Lafayette Tree Fund and Beautification Committee, coordinates Art in Bloom, greets Lilly Nature Center visitors, has served on the Parks and Recreation Foundation Board and speaks at Wabash Area Lifetime Learning Association.

### Wayne Merriman: Right-hand Man

He's been helping West Lafayette Police since 2007—recording car tows, assisting with the Drug Drop-Off



*Lilly Nature Center and the Celery Bog are open year round; photo courtesy Volunteer Recognition Award winner Sam Postlethwait.*

Program, taking squad cars to be washed and making deliveries to the prosecutor.

### Sam Postlethwait: Nature Guide, Photographer

Celery Bog visitors learn about native species from this nature lover and photographer. What he captures with his lens, he shares in prints and postcards sold to benefit the Celery Bog.

### Joan Mohr Samuels: Nature Lover

Name the nature organization, and you'll find her volunteering: Northern Indiana Citizens Helping Ecosystems Survive, Indiana Native Plant and Wildflower Society and Wednesdays in the Wild programs. She also created the Remove Invasive Plants Squad, founded Friends of Celery Bog and compiles the Native Roots newsletter.

READ MORE AT [WWW.WESTLAFAYETTE.IN.GOV](http://WWW.WESTLAFAYETTE.IN.GOV)

## Street Department - Our Heroes

By Mayor John Dennis

When temperatures drop, snow falls and ice forms, a 10-member West Lafayette team heads out to make our roads travel-safe.

While most residents huddle indoors, this crew is up early and out late. To ready our streets for travel, seven snowplows cover a combined 80 miles of streets. It's a daunting, sometimes dangerous task, and I thank Street Commissioner David Downey and his team for their dependability and persistence this winter.

It's a commitment I see every day from all West Lafayette employees, so let me extend that gratitude citywide. Your city workers are indeed committed to public service.



## Police Give to Youngsters

West Lafayette Police Office Janet Shepherd, pictured with a local child, was one of many officers from the area who participated in the annual Shop with a Cop holiday event, which treated 18 youths ages four to 14 with breakfast, time with Santa and a shopping trip. Children received warm clothing and toys, thanks to support and donations from individuals and local businesses.



Work is progressing on the Lindberg Bridge.

## Bridge Under Way, Fire Route Optimized

Jack Isom Construction of Reynolds, Ind., is making headway on the bridge project. Pile driving and pier support construction continue through the winter months, reports City Engineer Dave Buck.

The West Lafayette Fire Department is prepared to quickly serve all areas, despite the road closing, says Fire Chief Phil Drew.

"We are using Cherry Lane as our main route, and Station 1 is making the first response to the Lindberg Road area,"

Drew says. "Station 2 normally does, but we don't expect any drop-off in the initial response time because we've been travelling Cherry Lane over the years and it has proven to be nearly identical in response time as Station 2 traveling via Lindberg Road."

Also, West Lafayette has a mutual aid plan with both Purdue University and Wabash fire departments. "They can be dispatched at the same time when there is an anticipated need due to traffic or road conditions," Drew says.

## Getting a Jump on the Strategic Plan

A year into our updated five-year strategic plan, we've made progress on several action items.

Among them:

- Convening a Council of Neighborhood Presidents
- Hosting an annual city summit
- Developing a volunteer recognition program
- Partnering with West Lafayette Community School Corp. on the Village Fitness Trail
- Launching the city on Facebook and Twitter
- Working to create an ongoing capital improvements plan.

## Business News

**New businesses:** **Freddy's Restaurante Mexicano** and **Fresh Mix** in the Village; **Development Consultants** in Purdue Research Park. Coming soon: **Papa Murphy's Pizza** on Sagamore West.

**New names:** Chemtura is now **Great Lakes Solutions**; Purdue Employees Federal Credit Union is now **Purdue Federal Credit Union**.

**Other news:** **O'Bryan's Nine Irish Brothers** was featured in an article titled "Pouring Success" in the September/October issue of Building Indiana News ([www.buildingindiananews.com](http://www.buildingindiananews.com)) and named Greater Lafayette Commerce Small Business of the Year.

Alan and Julie White, **Golden Paws Investments**, have purchased the seven-acre former Kmart site on Sagamore West and plan to construct four to eight new buildings there; and **Cook BioTech** is adding 400,000 square feet to its facility.



Larry and Linda Leverenz, January Beautification Award winners.

## Climb Aboard the Beautification Bandwagon

**Plant Orange Flowers This Spring.** As you browse garden catalogues and order summer plants, think orange annuals and blue accents. Those are the flower colors residents are asked to plant for a unifying theme in 2011. The West Lafayette Beautification Committee will host a springtime sale of orange annuals, once we thaw out.

**Beautification Award Winners.** Larry and Linda Leverenz, 1210 Western Way, received the January Beautification Award. Their yard features a planted berm, herb garden, bird feeders, garden art and even a whimsical array of bowling balls.

## Sign On to Volunteer

Looking for a way to get involved with the city of West Lafayette? Consider these volunteer opportunities.

### Art in Bloom Garden Tour

Art in Bloom is an annual tour of West Lafayette gardens that are further enhanced by local art displays. This year's is Saturday, June 25. Docents are needed. Contact Lynn Layden, 463-2242 layden.lm@frontier.com

### Global Fest

Volunteers are needed for fun and easy two-hour shifts during the Labor Day weekend event. Contact Ann Brandyberry annbrandyberry@aol.com

### Go Greener Commission and Community Harvest

The Go Greener Commission needs a volunteer coordinator (not recruiter); committee members for Green Events, Eliminate Plastic Waste and others; and a graphic designer for print materials. Contact Diane Damico clearlyorganized@mac.com

The Go Greener Community Harvest Program, which promotes sustainability and sound nutrition, is looking

for fruitful trees, overflowing gardens and volunteers to pick. Yields are divided among owners, volunteers and local charities.

Contact ggcommunityharvest@gmail.com

### Lilly Nature Center

Please help spread mulch along the trails this spring. Contact Dan Dunten, 775-5172 ddunten@westlafayette.in.gov

### Sagamore West Farmers Market

Help us spread the word about the goodness of local produce. Volunteers are needed to coordinate music, help set up and tear down, staff the volunteer table and survey the public. Contact Denise Dorsey-Zinn ddzwriting@earthlink.net

### West Lafayette Tree Fund

You don't have to dig holes to be a part of the West Lafayette Tree Fund. Help plan projects that make this a great, tree-lined city. Meetings are held the second Tuesday of each month at noon at City Hall, or ask to be notified of spring and fall pruning sessions.

Contact Lynn Layden, 463-2242 layden.lm@frontier.com



## West Lafayette Takes a Bow

From national rankings to an engineering case study, recognitions keep rolling in for our community.

Among recent tributes for the Lafayette Metropolitan Statistical Area (Benton, Carroll and Tippecanoe counties):

- No. 11 in best cities and towns with populations under 250,000 for college students to live in, American Institute for Economic Research
- No. 12 in best small cities with populations under 245,000 for business and careers, Forbes.

A Coldwell Banker survey ranked our community No. 32 in most affordable college town housing markets of 120 schools in the Football Bowl Subdivision.

Cumberland Avenue's roundabout and roadwork were dubbed "smart and green" and "safe and sustainable" in The Schneider Corp's Industry News & Views.



**Prescription Drug Drop-off.** Dispose of unwanted or expired prescription drugs, 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m., Thursdays, March 10, April 14 and May 12, West Lafayette Police Dept.

**Cherry/Northwestern Left Turn Signal.** A left-turn signal for northbound traffic on Northwestern Avenue has been installed temporarily at Cherry Lane to keep traffic flowing during Lindberg Bridge and Mackey Arena construction.

**CLEAN Update.** Since accepting the Comprehensive Local Environmental Action Network (CLEAN) Community Challenge last June, the city is marking achievements:

- The street department used 81 recapped tires in 2010, reducing solid waste and saving money
- The food waste receiving station is processing Purdue food scraps into energy for the wastewater treatment facility.

# Leap Into Spring

## City Hall Closed

February 21 • April 22 • May 3

## Riverside Skating Center

743-7465 for hours  
\$4 per person, \$2 skate rental,  
cash only

## Blue Man Group

Purdue Convocations  
7:30 p.m. • March 1 and 2  
Elliott Hall of Music

## Drawings by Frank Big Bear

Purdue Galleries  
March 7 to April 23  
Stewart Center Gallery

## Boiler Blast

April 2 • For volunteer help,  
register at [www.purdue.edu/  
boilerblast/jobrequest](http://www.purdue.edu/boilerblast/jobrequest)

## Bug Bowl and Spring Fest

April 9 and 10  
Purdue University Campus

## 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee

7:30 p.m. • April 15-April 23  
Purdue Theatre, Pao Hall

## Morton Spring Dance Recital

4 p.m. • Saturday, April 30  
Loeb Playhouse, Purdue

## Lemonade Day

May 1  
Lemonade stands throughout  
the community.  
Register at [www.  
greaterlafayettecommerce.com](http://www.greaterlafayettecommerce.com)

## Sagamore West Farmers Market

3 to 6:30 p.m.  
Wednesdays beginning May 4  
Cumberland Park



## Tour de West Lafayette Videos Online

Step inside some of West Lafayette's most unique homes and interesting neighborhoods right from your computer. Webcasts featuring history, architecture and neighborhoods in West Lafayette are now online at [www.tourdewestlafayette.com](http://www.tourdewestlafayette.com), or visit [www.youtube.com](http://www.youtube.com) and search for Tour de West Lafayette.

Webcasts include Hills & Dales, New Chauncey, The Village and two Mid-century Modern Homes and feature area businesses and homeowners. The project was funded by the Lafayette-West Lafayette Convention & Visitors Bureau and the city of West Lafayette.

TWO GREAT CITIES, ONE GREAT UNIVERSITY.

## Volunteer for West Lafayette and its events; details inside.



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