

Watterson Park Word

A PUBLICATION OF THE CITY OF WATTERSON PARK, KENTUCKY

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From the Mayor



Despite the limitations placed upon us by the COVID-19 pandemic, and regardless of the fact that we are meeting virtually via Zoom, your Watterson Park Council has been working hard to ensure that the needs of our residents and businesses are being met. In addition to our usual legislative duties, we have wrapped up a couple of projects that have been ongoing for many months.

Louisville Paving has completed the resurfacing projects on Colonel Sanders Lane, Hodel Road, and Stober Road. This included the installation of a guardrail and warning signs at Stober Road and Watterson Park Road.

We have been addressing the flooding along the ditch line on Stober Road since the fall of 2018. I am happy to report that progress has FINALLY been made! After many months of working with our attorney, Norfolk Southern Corporation, and affected business owners, MSD just recently cleared the ditch line along the railroad tracks. They removed four 27-ton truckloads of brush and debris and six 27-ton truckloads of sludge from the ditch. This should be a step in the right direction toward eliminating this flooding problem. *(See project photos to the left.)*

Remember that you are invited to attend our legislative meetings each month, whether they are held virtually or in person. Upcoming meeting agendas and details can be found on our website, WattersonParkKy.com.

I hope everyone is healthy and following social-distancing guidelines. Our entire community must continue to work together to manage the threat and impact of this pandemic.



Stober Road ditch before clearing. Stober Road ditch clearing in progress.



Stober Road ditch project completed.

Sanitation Cart Etiquette

Please return your sanitation carts back to your home on the same day as pickup. Carts left at the street can be stolen or damaged, can signify to potential burglars that no one is home, and are unsightly. In the event that carts continue to be left at the street after pickups, the City may need to pass an ordinance imposing fines and/or cessation of trash pickup for violations. We prefer to not use this action.



Keeping Streets Clear

Please park your vehicles in your driveway on sanitation pickup days. Vehicles parked on the street pose maneuverability issues for the large sanitation trucks, creating a potential hazard. Also, when snow is forecast, please park your vehicle in your driveway to insure the safe and speedy removal of snow from the street in front of your house.



THANK YOU FOR YOUR COOPERATION AND FOR BEING A GOOD NEIGHBOR!

**"An optimist
is the human
personification
of spring."**

~ Susan J. Bissonette

Happy Retirement!

As 2020 came to an end, so did the role of Councilwoman Helen Arnold. After much thought, and having served our City with distinction for 24 years, Helen made the decision to not run for re-election in 2020.

In her role as Councilwoman, Helen took the lead on the installation of our signature entrance at the corner of Newburg Road and Bishop Lane. She also spearheaded the effort to install acorn lights on Gardiner Lane. Helen served for many years as the liaison for the City with Terminix and the Demolay property. In addition, she is the person who initially suggested "Watterson Park" as the name for our City.

Helen will truly be missed on our Council. However, she has agreed to serve as a member of our Ethics Board, so we will definitely stay in touch.

I'm sure you join us in thanking Helen for her many years of service and in wishing her the best during her retirement years.



On behalf of Watterson Park, Helen was presented with an engraved tray in recognition of her 24 years of leadership and public service to our City.

Watterson Park Committees

To better serve our residents and businesses, we have recently updated our Watterson Park committees. All listed are members of the City Council unless otherwise indicated.

BUSINESS LIAISON COMMITTEE

Communication between the City and our business community

▸ Mayor Linda Chesser (502.458.7613) ▸ Becky Ewan (502.416.2029)

CITIZEN LIAISON COMMITTEE

Communication between the City and our residents

▸ Mayor Linda Chesser (502.458.7613) ▸ Becky Ewan (502.416.2029)

COMMUNICATIONS COMMITTEE

Newsletter; website; City records

▸ Clerk Aggie Keefe (clerk.wattersonpark@gmail.com)

EVENTS COMMITTEE

Annual trip; Operation Brightside

▸ Marlene Welsh (502.459.5244) ▸ Becky Ewan (502.416.2029)

FINANCE COMMITTEE

Budget; audit; tax bills; monthly financial reports

▸ Treasurer Jerry Wild (502.744.7177) ▸ Gina Garrett (502.454.6669)

HEALTH & SAFETY COMMITTEE

MSD drainage; street lights; pest control

▸ Phil Johnson (502.777.7693) ▸ Steve Fortwengler (502.533.9466)

PROPERTY VIOLATIONS COMMITTEE

Property maintenance; parking violations; illegal signs; tall grass & weeds; excessive noise

▸ Jay Bourke (502.693.2625) ▸ Mayor Linda Chesser (502.458.7613)

PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE

Police patrol; crime; disaster preparedness

▸ Phil Johnson (502.777.7693) ▸ Jay Bourke (502.693.2625)

▸ Mayor Linda Chesser (502.458.7613)

PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE

Road work; signs; potholes; speed humps; snow removal

▸ Phil Johnson (502.777.7693) ▸ Steve Fortwengler (502.533.9466)

▸ Mayor Linda Chesser (502.458.7613)

SANITATION COMMITTEE

Garbage, recycle, & compost pickups; large trash pickups; sanitation contracts

▸ Marlene Welsh (502.459.5244) ▸ Becky Ewan (502.416.2029)

▸ Mayor Linda Chesser (502.458.7613)

URBAN FORESTRY & GREEN SPACE COMMITTEE

Tree planting & maintenance; lawn maintenance on rights-of-way & City-owned property; Tree City USA; Arbor Day

▸ Gina Garrett (502.454.6669) ▸ Marlene Welsh (502.459.5244)

▸ Mayor Linda Chesser (502.458.7613)

If your question or concern doesn't fall under one of the above committees, please email WattersonParkInfo@att.net and we will make every effort to reply in a timely manner.

Meet Your Mayor and Council

Watterson Park is self-governed through the election of a Mayor and City Council. The Council establishes codes, rules, and regulations for the public health, safety, and welfare of its residents. The Mayor is the chief elected official of the City and as such is the City's executive authority. Below are your current Mayor and members of the City Council.



Mayor **LINDA CHESSER** has been a resident of the City of Watterson Park since 1979. She began serving on the City Council in 1990 and has been the Mayor since December 2015. Linda also serves on the Jefferson County League of Cities Board of Directors and represents Watterson Park on the LMPD Sixth Division Citizens Advisory Board and District 10's Advisory Board. She has received Levels I, II, and III in City Governance training. Linda grew up in Germantown, graduated from Mercy Academy, and is a member of St. Raphael Catholic Church. She retired from GE, where she worked as an Executive Assistant. Linda and her husband, Marvin, have four children and five grandchildren.



Councilman **JAY BOURKE** was born and raised in what is now Watterson Park and moved back in 2015. He is a lifelong member of Holy Family Catholic Church and graduated from St. Xavier High School. Jay has been the owner and operator of PIP Printing, Marketing and Signs for more than 30 years. He and his wife, Jackie, have three children and four grandchildren.



Councilwoman **BECKY EWAN** was born and raised in Louisville. She is a longtime member of Holy Family Catholic Church. She has been a resident of Watterson Park for 20 years. Becky is an avid fan of NCAA men's basketball, has no favorite team, and enjoys the sport and watching all the teams play. She is happiest when spending time with her daughter and grandkids.



Councilman **STEVE FORTWENGLER** has lived in Watterson Park since 1987. He has two children: Kaitlin and Lucas. Steve retired from Ford Motor Company in 2007. He enjoys hunting and is involved with Boy Scouts of America.



Councilwoman **GINA GARRETT** was born and raised in Louisville's South End. She attended Mill Creek Elementary School and graduated from Doss High School in 1977. Gina worked with Private Practice Physicians for 19 years and is currently employed with Seven Counties Services, where she has been an Office Coordinator in the Adult Mental Health Division since 1997. In the past, she served on the Goals for Greater Louisville Committee. Gina has a daughter, Ginny, and three granddaughters. In her spare time, she enjoys gardening, fishing, boating, and camping.



Originally from Winchester, Kentucky, Councilman **PHIL JOHNSON** moved to Louisville in 1984 and has lived in Watterson Park since 2010. He retired in 2017 from the U.S. Postal Service, where he worked for 32 years as an Electronic Technician, a Customer Service Rep., a Finance and Budget Analyst, and an Information Systems Specialist. From 2004 to 2016, Phil volunteered as a board member of the Louisville Federal Credit Union, serving as Chairman of the Supervisory Committee and Chairman of the Board. He now enjoys golfing, gardening, and spending time with friends and family.



Councilwoman **MARLENE WELSH** was born in Louisville and has lived here her entire life. She graduated from Sacred Heart Academy and is a member of St. Raphael Catholic Church. Marlene was a mortgage originator for fifty years and has been retired since 2006. She has one son, four grandchildren, and one great-grandson.

502.458.7613

WattersonParkInfo@att.net
WattersonParkKy.com

Behold, my friends,
the spring is come;
the earth has gladly
received the embraces
of the sun,
and we shall soon
see the results
of their love!

~ *Sitting Bull*

City of Watterson Park

P.O. Box 35334
Louisville, KY 40232

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Watterson Park Named Tree City USA

Watterson Park was named a 2020 Tree City USA® by the Arbor Day Foundation. This is the 18th year in which we have achieved this recognition. Watterson Park met the program's four requirements: a tree board or department, a tree care ordinance, an annual forestry budget of at least \$2 per capita, and an Arbor Day observance or proclamation.



TREE CITY USA®

For more information:
arborday.org

Address any comments or suggestions regarding this newsletter to:
Aggie Keefe, Editor • City of Watterson Park • P.O. Box 35334 • Louisville, KY 40232
WattersonParkInfo@att.net

LMPD Sixth Division Commander

MAJOR COREY ROBINSON is the Commander of the LMPD Sixth Division, which patrols Watterson Park. He took over in June of last year after the previous commander retired. Major Robinson has sixteen years in law enforcement: thirteen with LMPD and three with the FBI. The Sixth Division is located at 5600 Shepherdsville Road. You can contact them at 502.574.2187.



Brightside Cleanup

Due to the pandemic, the annual Brightside community-wide cleanup was not held. However, neighborhoods were able to organize their own cleanup events. The Resident Assistant at **Sullivan University** contacted us regarding facilitating a neighborhood cleanup in which the students could participate. We want to recognize and express our appreciation to Sullivan University and the students who participated in this event. Despite the rain, they were able to clean up several streets throughout our city.

Large Trash Pickup – April 17

Place items at the curb no later than 6 a.m.

Acceptable Items:

- Furniture and appliances. NOTE: All mattresses, box springs, and upholstered furniture must be wrapped in plastic.
- White goods (A/C units, refrigerators, freezers, etc.) must have Freon® removed by a licensed technician and tagged.
- Outdoor goods, such as patio furniture and grills.
- Broken down boxes (bundled and tied).

Unacceptable Items:

- Commercially generated brush and landscape materials.
- Bricks, concrete, dirt, shingles, and tree trunks.
- Remodeling, construction, and demolition debris.
- Cardboard boxes filled with debris.

For general sanitation guidelines, please visit our website, **WattersonParkKy.com**, or call Republic Services at 502.638.9000.

