

Watterson Park Word

A PUBLICATION OF THE CITY OF WATTERSON PARK, KENTUCKY

Contents

- From the Mayor 1
- National Good Neighbor Day 1
- Do you know your neighbor? 2
- Your home's fall checklist 3
- Fall Brightside cleanup 4
- Upcoming large trash pickup 4

National Good Neighbor Day

September 28 is National Good Neighbor Day, a day created to acknowledge and celebrate the importance of being a good neighbor.

A short history...

In the early 1970s, Becky Mattson of Lakeside, Montana, recognizing the importance of good neighbors, started the effort to make this a National Day. With the help of Montana Congressman Mike Mansfield, she succeed in getting three presidents (Nixon, Ford, and Carter) along with numerous governors to issue proclamations.

The day was initially celebrated on the fourth Sunday of September. In 2003, the U.S. Senate passed a resolution, sponsored by Montana Senator Max Baucus, officially making September 28 National Good Neighbor Day.

~ Sources: Wikipedia, HolidayInsights.com, and National Association of Realtors



From the Mayor



Today, there are many discussions at the national and local levels regarding infrastructure. Watterson Park has a number of roads throughout our City that we are responsible for maintaining. We continually assess what roads are in need of repairs so that sufficient funds are provided in the budget.

With the completion of the Jennings Crossings commercial complex, the Chefs Way repaving project is finally underway. This is our second-largest road project since the inception of the City in 1981. Chefs Way is home to a number of businesses,

including Louisville Plate Glass Company headquarters, Heidelberg Distributing, NexGen, Forklift Systems, Laird Plastics, and Ole Mexican Foods. The project includes new curbs/gutters, clearing the brush on the east side, and installing a new sidewalk. Upon completion of the road work, three 400-watt street lights will be installed.

As you travel Newburg Road, we are making improvements at the intersection of Newburg Road and Champions Trace Lane. The entrance to Champions Trace is being widened and curbing installed to improve traffic flow and to give a more finished look to that intersection. MSD is replacing the drainage pipe in the ditch. We are also repairing a section of Stober Road

Residents on Bantam Court may have noticed some work recently completed on their street. Watterson Park contracted with County Wide Lawn & Landscaping to spray, trim, shovel, and clean the curbing. (If you see County Wide crews working throughout our City, be sure to stop and thank them for doing such a fantastic job of keeping our City beautiful.) And MSD has it on their fall schedule to repair the catch basin at the corner of Bantam Court and Champions Trace Lane.

Your Mayor and Council are doing everything we can to make Watterson Park aesthetically appealing, but we also need residents and business owners to do their part. Your property is probably the largest investment you will ever make...take pride in that investment!

Linda Chesser, Mayor

National Good Neighbor Day Proclamation 4601, introduced by President Jimmy Carter in 1978

As our Nation struggles to build friendship among the peoples of this world, we are mindful that the noblest human concern is concern for others. Understanding, love, and respect build cohesive families and communities. The same bonds cement our Nation and the nations of the world. For most of us, this sense of community is nurtured and expressed in our neighborhoods, where we give each other an opportunity to share and feel part of a larger family.... I call upon the people of the United States and interested groups and organizations to observe such day with appropriate ceremonies and activities.

Being a good neighbor
is an art which
makes life richer.

~ Gladys Taber

We can live without our friends, but not
without our neighbors.

~ Thomas Fuller

If only you could sense how important
you are to the lives of those you meet;
how important you can be to people
you may never even dream of. There is
something of yourself that you leave at
every meeting with another person.

~ Mr. Rogers

A little among neighbors is worth more
than riches in a wilderness.

~ Welsh Proverb

When strangers start acting like
neighbors, communities are
reinvigorated.

~ Ralph Nader

How seldom we weigh our neighbor in
the same balance with ourselves!

~ Thomas a Kempis

It is easy to believe we are each waves
and forget we are also the ocean.

~ Jon J. Muth

The good neighbor looks beyond the
external accidents and discerns those
inner qualities that make all men
human, and, therefore, brothers.

~ Martin Luther King Jr.

A bad neighbor is a misfortune, as
much as a good one is a great blessing.

~ Elbert Hubbard

All will concede that in order to have
good neighbors, we must also be good
neighbors. That applies in every field of
human endeavor.

~ Harry S. Truman

Live for thy neighbor if thou wouldst
live for thyself.

~ Seneca

Do you know your neighbor?



My story...

When we first bought our home in Watterson Park over 26 years ago, we decided to paint and do everything that we wanted to update the house before moving in, as so many other couples do. We would work away, usually until dark every night.

Late one afternoon we heard a knock on the door. The 80-year-old couple behind us came over to introduce themselves and welcome us to the neighborhood and said, "We thought you might get hungry while you were working, and we know we don't like to stop to go pick something up when we are in the middle of a job, so we brought you over some homemade vegetable soup and cheese and crackers."

How thoughtful!

That small act of kindness set up the foundation for a lifelong friendship with that couple. We would sit on their back porch on a hot summer afternoon and they would reminisce about the old days when all the houses in the neighborhood were first built (ours was built in 1959). They told us about all the fun block parties on a Saturday night where the kids would all get together and play while the adults played cards or horseshoes.

A lot has evolved over the years, but one thing has been consistent—my neighbors.

When I had pneumonia in the hot summer a few years ago, female neighbors came over to mow my lawn because they knew I couldn't do it—and they also knew me well enough to know it was killing me, because I loved to work in my yard.

When I had arm surgery two years ago and couldn't drive, once again neighbors took me to the store, out to eat lunch, and to my doctor appointments.

Every year I grow a vegetable garden and I love to share with neighbors and friends. I can give a neighbor eggplants and zucchini, and the next night I am eating eggplant parmesan and zucchini cake.

Of course, to have good neighbors you have to be one. Did you ever wonder why a well-known insurance company has the slogan "Like a good neighbor, _____ is there"? Could you put your name in the blank? If not, you might want to consider putting down that cell phone, turning off the television or laptop, and saying "Hi" to the person next door. Dog owners love to tell all about their furry family members when they walk them; and, believe me, you will notice when they don't come around for a while.

We, your Watterson Park Council members, try to make decisions that will keep our neighborhoods beautiful, clean, and safe. We can plan fun activities like zoo trips, yard sales, and Brightside pick-ups with Easter egg hunts; but it is up to our residents to be good neighbors. We have wonderful residents in our City. Maybe that is why we are in the TOP 10 Louisville suburbs [according to movoto.com].

If you don't know who your neighbor is, you might just want to find out. The person next door just may become your friend for life!

And that is my story.

~ Gina Garrett, Neighbor and Councilwoman

Do you have an interesting story to tell that we can include in the next newsletter?
If so, email us at WattersonParkInfo@att.net.

Fall is the perfect time to take care of the little things that can make a big difference for you and your home. Most of the tasks listed below are well within the average person's ability. But even if you choose to have a professional handle them, it's worth the expense. You'll save money... and maybe even your life.

It's time to begin preparing your home for the upcoming winter.

Get your mind in the gutters. Inspect and clean gutters and downspouts. Your roof's drainage system annually diverts thousands of gallons of water from your house's exterior and foundation walls. Clogged gutters can lead to damaged exterior surfaces and to water in your basement. They are also more prone to rust and corrosion.

Button up your overcoat. A home with air leaks around windows and doors is like a coat left unbuttoned. Seal gaps and cracks around windows and doors with weather-stripping and caulk. Gaps in caulk and weather-stripping can account for 10% of your heating bills, according to the U.S. Department of Energy. While you're at it, also check for missing or damaged caulk around windows, doors, and entry points for electrical, cable, phone, gas, and so on. Seal any gaps with a suitable caulk.

Get on top of roof problems. Inspect your roof for damaged or curled shingles, corroded flashing, or leaky vents. Inspect from top to bottom, using binoculars if necessary. Check ridge shingles for cracks and wind damage. Look for damage to metal flashing in valleys and around vents and chimneys. Scan the entire roof for missing, curled, or damaged shingles. Look in your gutters for large accumulations of granules, a sign that your roof is losing its coating. Finally, make sure your gutters are flowing freely.

Walk the walks (and drives). Take steps to repair damaged sidewalks, driveways, and steps. Damaged walkways, drives, and steps are a hazard year round, but their dangers are compounded when the weather turns icy. Look for cracks more than 1/8-inch wide, uneven sections, and loose railings on steps. Check for disintegration of asphalt or washed-out materials on loose-fill paths.

Chill out. Drain and winterize outdoor faucets and irrigation systems. Take steps to ensure that outside faucets and



Your home's fall checklist

inground irrigation systems don't freeze and burst. Close any shut-off valves serving outside faucets, then open the outside faucet to drain the line. If you don't have shut-off valves, and your faucets are not "freezeproof" types, you may benefit from styrofoam faucet covers sold at home centers.

Freshen your filter. Clean or replace dirty furnace filters. Furnace filters trap dust that would otherwise be deposited on your furniture, woodwork, and so on, making it harder to keep your home at a comfortable temperature and increasing your utility bills.

Give your furnace a physical. Have a professional inspect your heating system once a year. To avoid the last-minute rush, consider scheduling this task in early fall, before the heating season begins.

Gather 'round the hearth. Check fireplaces for soot or creosote build-up. Better yet, schedule a visit from a reputable chimney sweep. Even if you use your fireplace only occasionally, you should check it annually for damage and hazards.

Keep the humidifier humming. Clean the plates or pads to ensure efficient operation. You may know that bone-dry winter air is bad for your health, but did you also know it can make fine wood

more prone to cracking? You and your home will feel more comfortable if you keep your central humidifier in tip-top shape during the months it is running.

Head-off gas problems. If you have a gas-fired room heater, have it inspected by a pro. In addition, perform any routine maintenance recommended by the maker. Keeping a gas heater in good shape is both a safety and a cost issue. An improperly maintained heater can spew poisons into the air of your home, or it may simply be costing you more to operate. Have a professional check these devices annually.

Keep the wood fires burning brightly. Wood stoves are making a comeback. To avoid a deadly situation, be sure to inspect yours before firing it up. Woodburning stoves are a great way to add atmosphere and warmth to your home. But regular inspections are needed to ensure that these devices don't become a safety hazard.

Keep your family safe at home. A home safety check should be an annual ritual in every household. Test smoke and CO monitors, inspect (or install) fire extinguishers, review fire escape plans, and rid your home of old newspapers and other fire hazards.

~ from *Better Homes and Gardens*



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Address any comments or suggestions regarding this newsletter to:
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Fall Brightside Cleanup

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Saturday, October 21

The Fall Brightside Cleanup is scheduled for Saturday, October 21. We will meet at The Lillian Wild Walking Path on Gardiner Lane at 9 a.m. Shirts, gloves, and bags are provided by Brightside but must be ordered in advance. If you would like to participate, call Tiffany Woodson, Councilwoman/Events Co-Chair, at 502.498.0542.



GO TO OUR OFFICIAL WEBSITE

WattersonParkKy.com

to find services, crime tips and notifications, Ordinances, links to Watterson Park businesses, City data, meeting agendas and minutes, ordinances, contact information, and much more.

Watterson Park Businesses

If you would like to list your business on the Business Bulletin page of our website, please email the following information to **WattersonParkInfo@att.net**:

- Business name
- Address
- Phone/Fax number
- Website URL
- Email address
- A short description of your services

This service is provided **FREE** to all businesses within our City boundaries.

Large Trash Pickup

Saturday, October 21

Have items at the curb no later than 6 a.m. No tires, paint, batteries, or any items that contain Freon will be picked up. For general guidelines furnished by Republic Services of Kentucky, please visit our website, **WattersonParkKy.com**, or call Republic Services Customer Service at 502.638.9000.