

# Watterson Park Word

A PUBLICATION OF THE CITY OF WATTERSON PARK, KENTUCKY

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## Norman Raphael Liebert

Jan. 16, 1944 – Nov. 20, 2018

*Life is eternal, and love is immortal,  
and death is only a horizon;  
and a horizon is nothing  
save the limit of our sight.*

~ Rossiter Worthington Raymond

It is with great sadness that the City of Watterson Park announces the loss of former Mayor Norman Liebert, who passed away on November 20, 2018.

Along with former Council members as well as City Attorney John Treitz, Norm worked to incorporate the area now known as Watterson Park and was named its first Mayor—a position he held from 1981 to 2015.

Under Norm’s leadership, Watterson Park residents enjoyed an increased level of services: one of the lowest property tax rates in the state, free sanitation services, improved street lights, road paving and repair, well-maintained rights-of-way, snow plowing, and a forestry program that has earned us a Tree City USA award from the Arbor Day Foundation annually since 2001.

We will be forever grateful for Norm’s 34 years of dedication and service and for his many contributions to our community.

## From the Mayor



Happy New Year!

There is so much going on in Watterson Park, so I thought I’d take this opportunity to bring you up to date on what your City Council has been working on as well as upcoming projects.

LG&E has been working on a Gas Reliability Project on Gardiner Lane for several months. The next phase of the project will involve the following streets in Watterson Park: Bunton Road, Poplar Level Road, Regina Avenue, Gardiner View Avenue, Milldaun Road, Schmitt Avenue, Annshire Avenue, Conaem Drive, Vineyard Drive, and Colonel Sanders Lane. The project will follow four stages in each area. The **first** will be the upgrade to existing pipelines or installation of new pipelines, as appropriate. The **second** stage will be the changeover of the service line at each residence and business to the new facility; this may require excavation on the property and will require work on the meter loop at the house for all services. The **third** stage occurs after all services in an area have been changed over to the new pipelines. At this time, the old pipelines will be retired. The **fourth** step is for site restoration. A lot of the restoration will occur concurrent with stages 1 through 3; however, any remaining restoration will occur at this final stage. This includes seeding and applying straw to any disturbed green spaces as well as repairs to improved surfaces (sidewalks, driveways, and paved surfaces).

I attended the January 8 LMPD 6th Division Citizens Advisory Board Meeting, where it was reported that crime in the Sixth Division was down 10.5 percent for 2018, with the largest reductions being in property and violent crimes. The Sixth Division led all divisions in crime reduction.

Sixth Division Commander Major Bogan warned that there has been an increase in road rage incidents in Louisville. Also, he asked that we remind citizens not to warm up their unoccupied vehicles, as auto theft typically increases during cold weather.

We are working with Representative Tom Burch to continue the sidewalk on Newburg Road from Larkmoor Lane to the Metro Animal House property.

Upon the advice of arborist Cindi Sullivan, trees have been planted on Larkmoor Lane and on the Lillian Wild Walking Path.

We have been working with our engineering firm and with MSD to clear the obstruction in the creek behind the YUM! property.

On a more solemn note, former Mayor Norman Liebert recently passed away. A tribute to Norm can be found to the left and on the inside of this newsletter.

Please feel free to contact me or any of your Council members if you have any questions or concerns. Contact information can be found on our website: [WattersonParkKy.com](http://WattersonParkKy.com).

*Linda Chessard*

**"Winter bites with its teeth  
or lashes with its tail."**

~ Montenegrin proverb

The color of springtime is in the flowers;  
the color of winter is in the imagination.  
~ Terri Guillemets

"If winter helps you curl up and more,  
that makes it one of the best of the  
seasons."  
~ Murray Pura

Spring, summer, and fall fill us with  
hope; winter alone reminds us of the  
human condition.  
~ Mignon McLaughlin

"Many human beings say that they  
enjoy the winter, but what they really  
enjoy is feeling proof against it."  
~ Richard Adams

"Thank goodness for the first snow; it  
was a reminder—no matter how old  
you became and how much you'd seen,  
things could still be new if you were  
willing to believe they still mattered."  
~ Candace Bushnell

"To shorten winter, borrow some  
money due in spring."  
~ W. J. Vogel

"Welcome, winter. Your late dawns and  
chilled breath make me lazy, but I love  
you nonetheless."  
~ Terri Guillemets

"I prefer winter and fall, when you feel  
the bone structure of the landscape—  
the loneliness of it, the dead feeling of  
winter. Something waits beneath it, the  
whole story doesn't show."  
~ Andrew Wyeth

"Blow ye winds, like the trumpet blows,  
but without that noise."  
~ Jack Handey

In the depth of winter I finally learned  
that there was in me an invincible  
summer.  
~ Albert Camus



Photo by Johannes Plenio.

## **Gone From My Sight**

*I am standing upon the seashore. A ship, at my side,  
spreads her white sails to the moving breeze and starts  
for the blue ocean. She is an object of beauty and strength.*

*I stand and watch her until, at length, she hangs like a speck  
of white cloud just where the sea and sky  
come to mingle with each other.*

*Then, someone at my side says, "There, she is gone."*

*Gone where?*

*Gone from my sight. That is all. She is just as large in mast,  
hull and spar as she was when she left my side.  
And, she is just as able to bear her load of living freight  
to her destined port.*

*Her diminished size is in me – not in her.*

*And, just at the moment when someone says, "There, she is gone,"  
there are other eyes watching her coming, and other voices  
ready to take up the glad shout, "Here she comes!"*

~ Henry Jackson Van Dyke

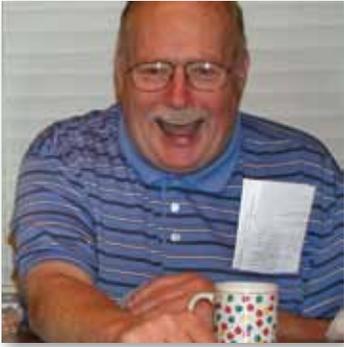
**"Norm is the genuine article of civic faithfulness and accomplishment,  
and as good and loyal a friend as one could find."**

~ John Treitz, Attorney

A TRIBUTE TO

*Norman R. Liebert*

*Written by his granddaughter Lindsay Oberhausen.*



Norman Raphael Liebert was born on January 16, 1944, in Louisville, Kentucky, to Raphael and Bernice (Lege) Liebert. On his birthday in 1965, he married his one true love, Mary Ann Niemann. Together they raised two wonderful daughters, Denise and Christina. Norman was blessed with a large and immensely loving family. He had nine grandchildren and two great-grandchildren, whom he loved greatly.

Norman's life was host to a diverse set of professions: volunteer firefighter, railcar welder at L&N, and nearly 35 dedicated years as the mayor of the City of Watterson Park. He was a committed member of Holy Family Parish and a frequent community volunteer. He was even bestowed his state's highest honor by being named a Kentucky Colonel.



*With wife, Mary Ann, and daughters, Christina (being held) and Denise—early 1980s.*

He was preceded in death by his mother Bernice, father Raphael, and brother Donald. He is survived by his wife Mary Ann; daughters Denise and Christina; grandchildren Nicholas, Lindsay, Amber, Tracy Jr., Christian, Tyler,

Brayden, Delaney, and Hunter; great-grandchildren Andie and Tracy III; and brothers and sisters Roger, Judith, Jean, and Larry.

While all that is written above are facts about this man's life, none convey the enormity and impact of his soul. Norman was larger than life—he had a big

belly, a big laugh, and an even bigger heart. Despite all his many accomplishments, to him, the greatest gift he could give to others was a smile. Those honored enough to call him friend, brother, uncle, husband, dad, or papa knew him as a prankster who would do anything to get a laugh. One of his favorite tricks included blowing his nose into a handkerchief, then immediately showing innocent bystanders its contents with a loud, "LOOK AT THAT!" Even during his many recent hospital stays, he found opportunities to joke by giving nurses fake names for himself, requesting inordinate amounts of turkey sandwiches and ice cream to share with his great granddaughter, and pre-warning (or not) his visitors about impending flatulence.



*In 2018 with daughter Christina.*

Norman went out of his way to help anyone that needed it, whether that meant fixing a crooked drawer, bringing over a pot of his famous vegetable soup, or just lending a listening ear and a warm hug. He was a genuine ray of sunshine to those that knew him, and his absence echoes loudly like a mournful bell ringing in a cavernous, empty room. But let those of us who knew this great man fill our rooms with each other. That's what Norman would want. Let us all join together to honor the life of this extraordinary, exceptional human being. Let the memories of Norman flow, let the laughter he excites in our souls overpower our sadness, until all we can remember are those happy eyes and that warm spirit. Let us linger forevermore on that infectious smile, as it's surely beaming down on us all from above.



*Receiving a Public Service Award from Louisville Metro Council District 10 in 2016.*

*Special thanks to Lindsay Oberhausen for giving us permission to reprint this tribute, and to Christina Liebert Cook for providing the above photos.*



## City of Watterson Park

P.O. Box 35334  
LOUISVILLE, KY 40232

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## Snow Removal

Again this winter, we have contracted with County Wide Lawn & Landscaping to provide snow removal from City residential streets. You can assist in our efforts by parking your vehicle in your driveway—not on the street—when significant snowfall is forecast. This will insure the safe and speedy removal of snow from the street in front of your house.

### SAVE THE DATE!

2019 Operation Brightside  
Community Wide Cleanup  
**SATURDAY, APRIL 13**

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

## Welcome...

to the newest member of our City Council, **Brett Ashley**. Brett ran for public office for the first time this past November. He is a student at Bellarmine University majoring in political science. Brett looks forward to serving the Watterson Park community.



## Watterson Park Businesses

If you would like a **FREE** listing of 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

## City of Watterson Park Council and Officers

Mayor .....	Linda Chesser
Councilwoman .....	Helen Arnold
Councilman .....	Brett Ashley
Councilwoman .....	Gina Garrett
Councilman .....	Phil Johnson
Councilwoman .....	Marlene Welsh
Councilwoman .....	Tiffany Woodson
Clerk .....	Aggie Keefe
Treasurer .....	Jerry Wild

## Large Trash Pick-up

Saturday, April 20, 2016

Place your items at the curb no later than 6 a.m. Refrigerators, freezers and air conditioners must have Freon removed and must be tagged by a licensed technician before they can be picked up.

**WattersonParkKy.com**