

# Watterson Park Word

VOLUME XVI, ISSUE 1 ★ A PUBLICATION OF THE CITY OF WATTERSON PARK, KENTUCKY ★ WINTER 2016

## SNOW REMOVAL

Again this winter, we are providing snow removal from City streets when needed. You can assist in our efforts by parking your vehicle in your driveway—not on the street—when significant snowfall is predicted. This will insure the safe and speedy removal of snow from the street in front of your house.

### CITY OF WATTERSON PARK COUNCIL AND OFFICERS

Mayor.....Linda Chesser  
Councilperson..... Helen Arnold  
Councilperson..... Steve Fortwengler  
Councilperson..... Scott Frisch  
Councilperson..... Gina Garrett  
Councilperson..... Mary Ann Liebert  
Councilperson..... Marlene Welsh  
Clerk ..... Aggie Keefe  
Treasurer..... Jerry Wild

## Watterson Park BUSINESSES

We would like to feature a different business each month on our website. If you would like to participate in this **FREE** service, go to

[www.WattersonParkKY.com](http://www.WattersonParkKY.com)

and click on the **BUSINESS BULLETIN** page. From there, you can download the questionnaire in PDF or Word format, fill it out, and return it to [WattersonParkInfo@att.net](mailto:WattersonParkInfo@att.net).

## Turning a *New Page*

In November 2015, Mayor Norman Liebert presided over the last City of Watterson Park Council meeting of his career. After 34 years as Mayor, he announced that he would be resigning effective December 8, 2015.



With thirteen months left on his term, Mayor Liebert said resigning at this time will “give an opportunity for someone to step in and fill the remainder of the term.” He added, “There is much to do now to get things in line.”

Along with former Council members Norvin Gottula, Walter Key, Ott Stoke and Joe Welsh [who are now deceased] and Lillian Wild [who is now retired], 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 his 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. Watterson Park businesses have also benefited from the low tax rate, strategic location, low crime rate, and affordable real estate.

Norm had a 54-year career in the public sector. In addition to 34 years as Mayor, he served 20 years as a firefighter/board chairman of the Camp Taylor Fire Protection District. Norm also had a 46-year career in the private sector, with 25 years at Louisville & Nashville Railroad Company and 21 years with the Holy Family parish community.

The Watterson Park Council and Officers would like to thank Norm for his esteemed service to the City of Watterson Park and congratulate him on his well-deserved retirement.

## Irish Retirement Blessing

*May you always have work for your hands to do.  
May your pockets hold always a coin or two.  
May the sun shine bright on your windowpane.  
May the rainbow be certain to follow each rain.  
May the hand of a friend always be near you.  
And may God fill your heart with gladness to cheer you.*

## A TRIBUTE TO

*Norman Liebert*

Many thanks again for all the tireless hours you devoted to making Watterson Park the growing, thriving, 5th class city it has become.

One of my long lasting memories: A meeting was held with just a handful of concerned neighbors because we were going to be annexed into the City of Louisville—meaning more taxes. So that night it was decided we would become our own city. Next you came to my house and said, “We have to give this city a name.” I pondered this for quite some time and came up with quite a few “put together” names, one being “City of Watterson Park,” and this was the one chosen most appropriate for the area. So we are today “The City of Watterson Park, Kentucky”!

~ Helen Jo Arnold, Council Member

During my short time as a Council member for our City, it became very evident that you took great pride in the betterment of the City of Watterson Park and its community. I’ve learned so much from you and will always remember to place the needs of the community and its people first, as I strongly believe that’s been your motto all these years. I’ll leave you with this quote from Thomas Jefferson, as it reminds me so much of what you stand for: “The care of human life and happiness, and not their destruction, is the first and only objective of good government.”

Wish you all the best!

~ Scott Frisch, Council Member

Many times I would say you were our “Mayor for life,” but it looks like that changed. Serving on the Council for 25 years, I have observed first-hand how much you have given of yourself to our City. You are an excellent leader and mentor. The projects you have initiated and overseen, including the formation of the City, are too numerous to mention. I thank you for making Watterson Park a city to be proud of.

~ Linda Chesser, Mayor

I really enjoyed being part of yours and Mary Ann’s lives as well as part of the City. I appreciated working with you on the City Council for these many years, and I know that Joe appreciated it also. Your leadership was overwhelming in keeping the City going and improving every year. I understand your wanting to retire after 34 years as Mayor, but I will miss you. Thank you!

~ Marlene Welsh, Council Member

Having worked closely with you over the last 34 years, I’ve witnessed first-hand the passion with which you carried out your duties as Mayor of the City of Watterson Park. You always conducted yourself with honor and dignity and represented our City well. You have laid the groundwork for our Council and new Mayor to continue moving forward, further strengthening the bonds with our residents and business community. I am proud to have served as your “right arm” all these years.

I salute you as you depart and thank you for your dedication, leadership, and friendship.

~ Aggie Keefe, Clerk

You are a wonderful leader in our community. You have done lots of volunteer work over the years. Unfortunately, I’ve only known and worked with you a short time as a Council member. But in that short time, I have realized what an asset you are to our neighborhood. I wish you lots of happy days as you journey on to new endeavors.

~ Gina Garrett, Council Member

Norm enlisted in the efforts to form the City at the very earliest stages in the 1980s. We worked together to form a coalition of residents and businesses to thwart the City of Louisville’s attempt to annex our territory. Yeoman efforts were exercised by Norm to advocate the City’s creation and to persuade his neighbors and friends to support this project. As with all of Norm’s projects, the City was successfully formed and the City was honored to have its Advocate-in-Chief selected as its first Mayor. In the beginning years, the City was confronted with many challenges; Norm always led the way and achieved success in these myriad battles, principally the war with the City of Louisville when it attempted to annex a largely commercial area of our City. Under Norm’s leadership and guidance of over thirty years, our City has prospered and all of its citizens have enjoyed the many improvements the City has effected and have saved enormous sums of tax dollars. Through Norm’s prudent conduct of the City’s financial affairs, he departs with the City prosperous and solvent, unlike so many other municipalities. It is difficult to think of the City without seeing Norm’s thorough, robust, yet gentle exercise of responsibility and endeavor.

On a more personal note: I have never enjoyed working with a client more than our former Mayor. Norm is the genuine article of civic faithfulness and accomplishment, and as good and loyal a friend as one could find.

~ John Treitz, Attorney

“We make a LIVING by what we get, but we make a LIFE by what we give.” ~ Winston Churchill

## In the Works...

**STOP Signs** — Your City Council is working with Saf-Ti-Co and the American Association of State Highway and Transportation Officials (AASHTO) to install decorative STOP signs at the Robards Lane and Gardiner Lane intersection.

**School Clusters** — Your City Council is working with Metro Councilman Pat Mulvihill and the Jefferson County Board of Education to change the resides middle and high schools for our area.

**City-Sponsored Trip/Tree Program** — Councilpersons Gina Garrett and Marlene Welsh are organizing a field trip for residents in the spring as part of our Tree Program. Watch for additional information as plans are finalized.

**Lab Corps Property** — Your City Council is working with the new owners of the old Lab Corps property to change the address from 4500 Conaem Drive to a Stober Road address so that traffic on the adjacent residential streets can be kept to a minimum.

## Large Trash Pickup

**SATURDAY, APRIL 16, 2016**

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

## Watterson Park in Top Ten Best Suburbs in Louisville To Retire

Watterson Park came in number 8 in the top ten best suburbs in Louisville to retire according to movoto.com. They looked at a wide array of data—including safety, location, and affordable homes—to figure out the best Louisville suburbs to retire, then narrowed it down to the top 10. Watterson Park was noted as having “plenty of affordable ranch, bungalow, and craftsman style homes,” safe streets, and a convenient location.



## Welcome...

to the newest member of our City Council— **STEVE FORTWENGLER**. A resident of Larkmoor Lane, Steve was appointed to fill the Council seat formerly held by Linda Chesser.

## Mayor Linda Chesser



Former Council member Linda Chesser was appointed Mayor by a unanimous vote at the City Council meeting held on December 9, 2015. Mrs. Chesser will serve out the remainder of the term of Mayor Norman Liebert, who resigned his position effective December 8, 2015. Upon accepting the nomination, Mrs. Chesser stated that she was both humbled and honored by the faith the Council had in her. She noted that Mayor Liebert's shoes would be hard to fill but that she would give it her best effort. She enlisted the assistance of the Council and Officers to help her during the transition.

Mrs. Chesser has been a resident of the City of Watterson Park since 1979 and began serving on the City Council in 1990. She represents Watterson Park on the District 10 Advisory Board and the LMPD Sixth Division Citizens Advisory Board. Mrs. Chesser has been instrumental in a number of City projects, among which are the speed humps on Conaem Drive, Annshire Avenue, and Champions Trace; additional lighting on Stober Road; the privacy fence on Regina Lane; Operation Brightside semi-annual clean-ups; the annual community yard sale; and changing our resides elementary school to Hawthorne Elementary located in the Highlands. She also worked closely with Council member Helen Arnold to get decorative street lights installed on the Gardiner Lane corridor, Champions Trace, and Bantam Court.

You can reach Mayor Chesser at 502.458.7613 or [Mayor.WattersonParkKY@gmail.com](mailto:Mayor.WattersonParkKY@gmail.com).

CITY OF WATTERSON PARK  
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LOUISVILLE, KY 40232



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Address any comments or suggestions regarding this newsletter to:

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## Insurance Tax...

Please be sure to place the insurance sticker provided in this newsletter on the payment slip when you mail your insurance premium payment (except worker's compensation or health insurance). Remember that doing so will NOT increase your taxes or the cost of your insurance. It will help us ensure that the license tax on insurance companies that is already being collected is properly received by the City of Watterson Park and used to pay for services for your benefit.

Phone – 502.458.7613

Mailing Address – P.O. Box 32391  
Louisville, KY 40232

Website – [www.WattersonParkKy.com](http://www.WattersonParkKy.com)

E-mail – [WattersonParkInfo@att.net](mailto:WattersonParkInfo@att.net)

City Council Meeting –  
2nd Wednesday of each month, 7 p.m.  
Jefferson County Farm Bureau  
4200 Gardiner View Avenue

## *Be a Good Neighbor!*

- Pick up litter on and around your property.
- Return your garbage/recycle cans to the rear of your property after pick-up.
- Keep your lawn mowed and trimmed.
- Clean your gutters, remove mold from exterior surfaces, and paint when needed.
- Keep your trees trimmed; keep shrubs and other vegetation from spreading onto your neighbor's property.
- Keep your cars parked in your driveway instead of on the street.
- Pick up after your pets and keep them off your neighbor's lawn.
- Be friendly...a simple wave when you see your neighbor goes a long way.
- If you have an issue with a neighbor, discuss it with him or her in a civil manner. Don't get the police involved unless you feel threatened.