

January 2018

Volume 18 Issue 1

A Publication of
United Neighborhoods
of Evansville, Inc.

office@unoevansville.org

Neighborhood Associations
Working Together
to Preserve,
Enhance
and Promote
Evansville and
Area Neighborhoods

Neighbor to Neighbor

United Neighborhoods of Evansville



20 NW 4th St, Ste 501, Evansville, IN 47708 | www.unoevansville.org | 812-428-4243

Refresh Evansville: Ensuring Safe, Clean Drinking Water for You & Generations to Come

Mark your calendar now for our January General Meeting on Thursday, January 25, 2018, at 6:30pm at the CK Newsome Center.

Guest Speaker

Our guest will be Mike Labitzke, the Deputy Director Utilities, with the City's Program Management Office. Mike will be sharing information about the 2018 Projects with the Water Replacement Program for the City-wide Distribution System.

Refresh Evansville is a long-term strategy to replace aging water mains and supporting infrastructure.

The Evansville Water and Sewer Utility maintains 1,000 miles of water lines within the system, of which 600 miles are cast-iron pipes with an average age of over 90 years. These are now at or past their life expectancy.

Refresh Evansville will take decades to complete, but these ongoing annual improvements will ensure that our children and future generations will continue to enjoy safe, clean drinking water.

Several projects are underway which affect many of our neighborhoods.

- St. James Boulevard, Morgan to Keck Water Main Replacement
- West Mill Road and Mohr Road (Kratzville) Water Main Replacement
- St. George and Melody Hill Water Main Replacement
- Green River Road Phases 6 and 7 Water Main Relocation
- Vanderburgh Neighborhood Water Main Replacement
- Broadway Water Main Replacement
- Lodge Avenue Water Main Replacement

Additional information on these projects can be found at the program website, www.refreshevansville.com/design-phase.

A Customer Information Kit is available at their website: www.refreshevansville.com

Steps in the Process

The strategy involves Contractor Mobilization, Water Main Installation, Water Main Final Connections, Water Service Line Installation and, finally, Restoration.



What to Expect as Projects Are Implemented

Increased Activity

We'll see focused activity along the construction corridor, including the appearance of construction vehicles, personnel, surveyors, traffic barricades, erosion control items and other construction materials.

Door Hangers

Utility personnel will issue door hangers at certain times during the project to provide important information to those customers affected by the water main replacement project.


Periods of Inactivity


During the Installation/Testing phase, we may see activity for a time followed by long periods of inactivity.

Hydrants Flowing

When the new main is connected to the water supply, a hydrant or service will have a stream of water flowing from it for two or more days for testing. Please do not turn this off.

The Evansville Water and Sewer Utility's Facebook page is at www.facebook.com/EvansvilleWaterSewerUtility/.

 **General Meeting**
Thurs., Jan 25
6:30 pm
CK Newsome Center
100 Walnut St

PROGRAM TOPIC:

Ensuring Safe, Clean
Drinking Water
for You &
Generations to Come



From the President



Brent Jackson

It is tradition that the President of the United States gives his State of the Union address to the nation during the month of January. The same is true for Governors, Mayors, and sometimes even City and County Councils. It's a good tradition and one of which we should never be deprived. In this spirit, I deliver to you our Evansville *State of the Neighborhood* address.

As a community, we've seen many projects begin in 2016 and 2017 that are still underway today. Most of these projects are slated to be completed in 2018. I am most anticipating the change that will occur when the new downtown medical center is completed, and we regain use of our downtown streets. I have never seen our downtown streets in this much disarray as I do today. The new medical center will be one of the biggest changes that Evansville has seen in nearly all its history.

On the downside of things, Evansville lost two important grocery stores last year: the IGA on Main Street in Jacobsville and the Downtown Market on Lincoln and Garvin. These two closures have created a "Food Desert" in Evansville. I've created a map of Evansville's newly formed Food Desert, visible on the following page. The food desert is mostly the downtown area and envelopes all of the Ballard, Culver, Downtown, Goosetown, Blackford's Grove, Old Erie, and Riverside neighborhoods. Portions of Business 41, Glenwood, Jacobsville, Bellemeade/Bayard Park Neighborhoods Associations are also found in the Evansville Food Desert.

In December of 2017, I visited several area food markets to get a better look at the seriousness of Evansville's newly formed food desert. There are a few small food markets in the downtown area. However, none of them carry both fresh meat and fresh produce that meet federal guidelines. The most notable conversation I had was with the manager of Ronnie's Fruit Market at Columbia and Garvin Street. They said that they would be carrying more meat and produce starting next year. If so, Ronnie's Fruit Market could qualify as a grocer that meets the federal guidelines and eliminate a portion of Evansville's food desert as shown in the map. Ronnie's Fruit Market has some very competitive pricing to the likes of Walmart and IGA. I want to encourage all of our local neighbors to consider Ronnie's Fruit Market as a source of your next grocery calling.

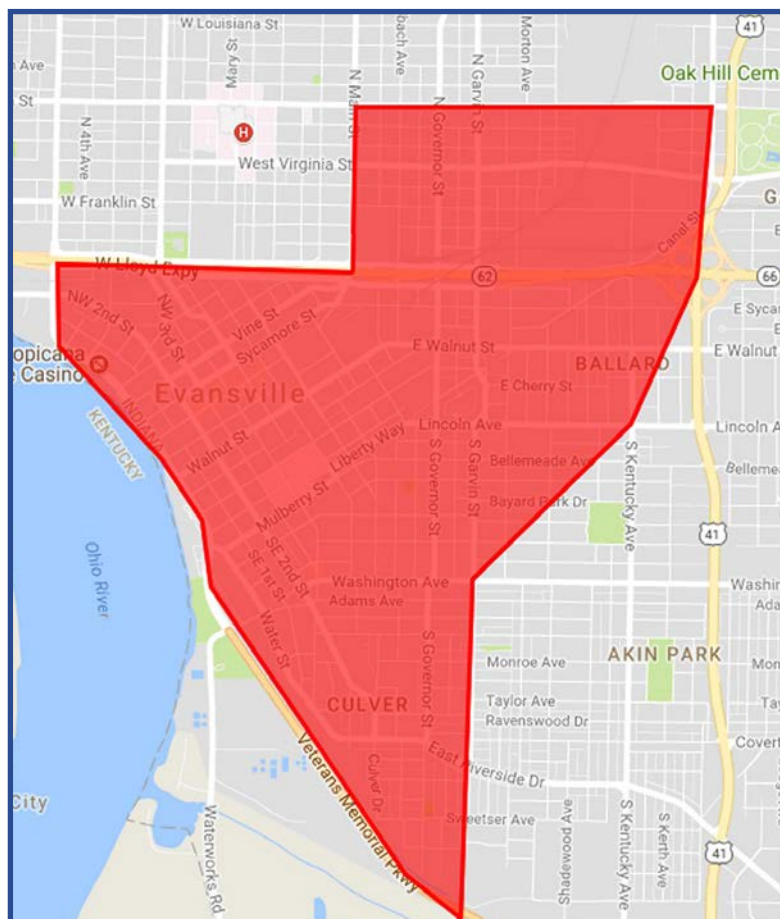
I further reached out to Kelley Coures, Director of the Department of Metropolitan Development, and asked about the perceived food desert. Mr. Coures always seems to have the statistics and the numbers in his back pocket and is compliant with sharing them. He said that, "The neighborhood surrounding the Downtown Market, as with the neighborhood surrounding the IGA on North Main, is neither populous enough nor prosperous enough to support a large supermarket. In the case of the IGA, both census tracts (19 and 20), have the highest poverty rate (36%) in the city. The census tracts (14 and 15) surrounding the Lincoln Ave. market is better, but only marginally so." Though, at one time, there was enough population and income to support the larger grocery markets, this has changed over the course of the last 20 years, as income levels and population density in these census tracts have dropped. Bottom line, it is not economically feasible for large chains to locate in these areas. Other options are being looked at, but it is a grim situation.

Another change in our neighborhoods is the volume of houses being torn down at a rate that has not been seen since Benjamin Bosse was Mayor of Evansville. According to our own historical records, in 1918, Mayor Bosse used the new Indiana Housing ordinances to tear down over 200 houses in one year. Today, we have seen over 200 homes torn down in 2017. This number is expected to stay true into 2018. As President of UNOE, I cannot stress the importance of having a system for the City and County to tear down old dilapidated homes in our old town.

In next month's Presidents message, I will be expanding on this message. I'll be talking more about our town's old age, gentrification, the change in building materials, housing problems in Evansville and more detail about what is going on to address these problems. I'll further be talking about the change of opinion that I had on this subject about a decade ago. Stay tuned for a three-part series about Urban Sprawl and Evansville housing problems.

That is the State of things in the neighborhoods, my friends.
Till next month! God Bless!

Brent Jackson



Evansville's Food Desert

The USDA defines *food deserts* as “parts of the country vapid of fresh fruit, vegetables, and other healthful whole foods, usually found in impoverished areas. This is largely due to a lack of grocery stores, farmers' markets, and healthy food providers.”

“Many Americans living in rural, minority, or low-income areas are subjected to food deserts and may be unable to access affordable, healthy foods, leaving their diets lacking essential nutrients.” —Centers for Disease Control

With the closing of two important grocery stores last year: the IGA on Main Street in Jacobsville and the Downtown Market on Lincoln and Garvin, a “Food Desert” has been created in Evansville. The map to the left depicts the area affected by these losses.

The food desert is mostly the downtown area and envelopes all of the Ballard, Culver, Downtown, Goosetown, Blackford's Grove, Old Erie, and Riverside neighborhoods. Portions of Business 41, Glenwood, Jacobsville, Bellemeade/Bayard Park Neighborhoods Associations are also found in the Evansville Food Desert.

Logos & Links

Visit www.unoevansville.org and use the left sidebar menu to check out the webpage for your neighborhood.

As you review your page, can you think of additional *text, images or links that could be added* for site visitors to become better aware of your Neighborhood Association?

(Once your 2018 Membership Forms are completed and received by the office, we'll have the information for updating any officers, meeting information and/or contacts, or feel free to send that anytime via email.)

Logos — Does your Neighborhood Association have a *logo* or a *photo of your neighborhood's sign* that you'd welcome having added to your webpage on the UNOE website?

Links — Facebook, Twitter, YouTube, NextDoor.com, Etc. or Website: Does your Neighborhood Association has a presence on social media or its own website that can be linked from your webpage?

When you review your webpage on the UNOE site, please send any text updates, logos and/or links to office@evansville.org, so they can be added to your page.

Thanks for helping spruce up the website and your page!



WESTSIDE
IMPROVEMENT
ASSOCIATION, INC.



Nominating Committee Update

The Nominating Committee has presented the following slate of UNOE Officers and Board Members At-Large for the 2018 calendar year. Below are a few comments about each of the current nominees to help you become a bit familiar with each.

If you have someone in your neighborhood who would be interested in running for one of the offices listed, there is still the opportunity to be put on the ballot. We will be voting at our January General meeting. Please send new nominees, noting which office, to office@unoeevansville.org or call (812) 428-4243.

Current 2018 Election Nomination Slate

President: *Brent Jackson*, Presidents NA

Brent has been the President of the Presidents NA for eight years since launching in 2009. He has been the UNOE President during 2017, and has served as the Chair of the Technology Committee for several years. In addition, he was the Chair of the 2017 RNNC Core Committee.

Sr. Vice President: *Dave Ballew*, Culver NA

Dave served as President of Culver NA for over twelve years. Dave has served in the offices of President, Sr. Vice-President and Member At-Large with UNOE. He also has been involved with various community endeavors including serving as an instructor with the Vanderburgh County Community Emergency Response Team (CERT).

Regional Vice Presidents:

• **East — *Susan & Steve Harp*, Oak Hill NA**

Susan served for over eleven years as President of the Oak Hill NA. She and Steve have been Regional Vice-Presidents with the East Sector since 2013. Susan was a Presenter at the 2017 RNNC and Steve served as a volunteer during the conference. Both have provided volunteer assistance for numerous UNOE projects, meetings and events.

• **South — NO NOMINEE YET**

• **West — *Bob & Jenny Thomas*, Diamond-Stringtown NA**

Bob is a Past-President of Diamond-Stringtown NA. Bob and Jenny have served as Regional Vice-Presidents for over five years. Both serve on the Sparkplug Committee and have volunteered at the 2017 RNNC, various UNOE events and many community activities.

Secretary: *Linda Jones*, CHAIN

Linda has served as Secretary and is a Past-President of CHAIN, as well as serving in the role of Secretary for UNOE in eight different years. She has served on numerous UNOE committees over the years. She is the chairman of National Night Out for Evansville and is very involved in many community endeavors.

Treasurer: *Kelly Al Nashmi*, Greater Lincolnshire

Kelly was Past-President of Greater Lincolnshire NA. She serves on the Finance Committee and has volunteered with many UNOE projects and events, especially the Sparkplug Banquet.

Member At-Large: (elect 5)

• ***Leonard Collins*, Goosetown NA**

Leonard has been the President of Goosetown NA for over six years. Formerly, he served as a Regional Vice-President for the South Sector and has been a Member At-Large for three different years with UNOE. He has served as a volunteer with the 2017 RNNC and other UNOE events.

• ***Nancy Currie*, Plaza Park NA**

Nancy was formerly Past-President of Akin Park, before moving and becoming Vice President of Plaza Park NA. She has also served as Chair of the Zoning Committee and a member of the Finance Committee.

• ***Pam Grewe*, South Dexter NA**

Since the formation of South Dexter NA over six years ago, Pam has served as Secretary, UNOE Representative, Vice-President and is the current President. She also served in several vital ways with the 2017 RNNC.

• ***Larry Samples*, Westside Improvement**

Larry was previously involved with Hilltop NA and has more recently joined Westside Improvement. He has attended various UNOE General Meetings. He is avidly interested in being aware of needs and supportive of solutions for community issues.

• ***Melanie Stagg*, Western Terrace NA**

Melanie has been the President of Western Terrace NA for over five years. She has been a Member At-Large with UNOE for over four years, serving as the Chair of the Marketing/Public Relations Committee as well. She also served on the 2017 RNNC Core Committee.

• ***Jenny Triggs*, Helfrich NA**

Jenny is a Past-President of Helfrich NA. She has served as a member of the Finance Committee, Nominating Committee and the Sparkplug Committee.

• ***Lucy Williams*, Glenwood NA**

Lucy has been the President of Glenwood NA for eleven out of twelve years, while serving as the GNA UNOE Representative for one year. She has been a Member At-Large with UNOE for nine different years.

How to Run for Public Office

Join *Stepping Up* on January 12, 2018 for the first in a series of free training sessions for women interested in public service, seeking public office, serving on boards and supporting other candidates.



Stepping Up: How to run for public office, will be from noon to 1:00 p.m. on Friday, January 12, in the Blue & Gold Room in the first floor atrium of Old National Bank, One Main St. Arrive by 11:30 a.m. to purchase lunch at Fresh Harvest Deli or bring a brown bag lunch.

Elected office holders and those who have worked in campaigns will talk about their experiences and give advice for succeeding in the political arena.

Vanderburgh County Councilwoman *Stephanie Terry* and *Denise Johnson*, director of Mayor Lloyd Winnecke's re-election campaign, will moderate a panel which includes Indiana State Senator *Vaneta Becker*, former Vanderburgh County Coroner *Annie Groves*, recent City Councilwoman *Anna Hargis* and *Lori Sherman*, attorney with Kittlinger & Gray and 2016 candidate for Indiana Representative for District 77.


The more a candidate learns about the process before running for office the better her chance will be to succeed. Dates to file for office in Indiana in 2018 are from January 10 to February 9, 2018.




Stepping Up is a non-partisan organization which exists to offer encouragement, support and training for women interested in running for office, serving on boards or stepping up in business. The goal is to increase participation by women in the public arena. Women Stepping Up resolves to join nationwide efforts to celebrate women and to write women back into history. The organization is committed to preserve the stories of all women here through a video project and a dramatic production, *HerStory*. The training program is designed to train women to step up in to government and business service through board membership and political office. Stepping Up also celebrates women's right to vote with an annual luncheon called Women's Equality Day, which will be Aug. 24, 2018.

www.SteppingUPEVV.com

812-455-6608



Annual Election of Officers
Thu., Jan. 25 - 630pm—C.K. Newsome Ctr



Vote

Final nominations & voting will take place during the
January General Meeting

REMINDER
ONLY
NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION
REPRESENTATIVES CAN VOTE
in the elections during the
January 2018 General Meeting!

*Make sure your representatives are
up-to-date with the UNOE office!*

2018 Membership Packets on Their Way

The 2018 UNOE Membership packets have been mailed to all 2017 Neighborhood Association Presidents. If your NA hasn't received the packet by January 10th, please inform the office.

Please complete all the paperwork and return the required forms to the UNOE office by March 1st.

If you would rather receive the UNOE newsletter via email, please mark that selection with your officer information. This will save not only time, but printing and postage costs.

Please keep the office updated with any new addresses, phone numbers or emails by emailing the information to office@unoevansville.org or by calling 812-428-4243. Your updated contact information helps when we receive requests for the latest Neighborhood Association information from the city and other organizations throughout the year.

Upon return of your UNOE 2018 Membership Registration **Forms, \$25 dues and City and/or County Registration**, your association will **receive 2000 free copies this year** to help get the word out!

Get Involved with a Committee in 2018

Transform your skills and interest into actions and ideas to better the neighborhoods and our city. Consider joining a committee listed below and in the Membership Packet.

Connecting Externally with the Community

- **Disaster Preparedness/Safety Awareness/Community Emergency Response Team**—Provide educational information, increase awareness of natural and man-made disaster situations, work with EMA, CERT and the Red Cross
- **Government** — Advise neighborhoods of issues they can become involved with by: letter writing, voicing their opinions at City/Council meetings, emails, petitions, etc. In an election year, contacting candidates to speak at the General Meetings.
- **Parks, Trees & Beautification** — Keep communications open and productive between UNOE, individual neighborhood associations, City Parks Department, City Arborist, and Keep Evansville Beautiful in an effort to better our community.

Handling Internal Organizational Matters

- **Finance** — Ensure that UNOE maintains the highest degree of integrity and accuracy in all financial aspects.
- **Grant Writing** — Help UNOE and member neighborhood associations seek funding for support and services through grants that enable them to preserve and enhance their neighborhood communities.
- **Personnel** — Foster healthy and lawful employee relationships.
- **Public Relations/Marketing** — Promote the mission and work of UNOE throughout the community.
- **Sparkplug Banquet** — Plan and coordinate the annual banquet.

For more information on the different committees, call the office at (812) 428-4243 or email office@unoevansville.org

Inclement Weather Policy

UNOE office policy states that if the EVSC schools are closed due to inclement weather, the UNOE Office will be closed also.

Community Awareness Event



Drug Trends in Our Community

Tues., Jan. 16, 2018 6:30 pm
Fairlawn United Methodist Church
2001 S Parker Drive

Hosted by
Eastview Neighborhood Association
Southeast Side Neighborhood Association

Can't make it?
Watch on  LIVE

at www.facebook.com/unoevansville

Mardi Gras Parade 2018



Sat., Feb. 10, 2018
4:00 p.m.
Franklin Street

Join the fun as part of the UNOE float in the Franklin Street Events Association's **5th Annual MARDI GRAS GRAND PARADE!** Walk or ride in your Mardi Gras attire — all are welcome to join in!

For more information about day/time/location of decorating the float and parade lineup or to let us know you'd like to participate, contact Susan Harp at 812-455-5292 or lablady13@aol.com or the UNOE office.



Meet Local Legislators

• January 13 • February 10 • March 10 •

9:15 AM
doors open at 9:00
Browning Rooms

Central Library
Walnut & ML King
Downtown Evansville

2018
Meet Your Legislators

exercise your rights as a citizen of Indiana

Please join
EVANSVILLE MAYOR LLOYD WINNECKE

for
CLEAN
Evansville

Vann/Pollack Park

Saturday, January 6th, 2018 • 9:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m.

Trash Bags and Gloves Provided



To Volunteer For a Team:
Call Keep Evansville Beautiful • 812-425-4461
Evansville Parks and Recreation • 812-435-6164

Sponsored by the City of Evansville,
Keep Evansville Beautiful, and Republic Services.

www.cleanevansville.org

LOOKING AHEAD...

Saturday, February 3, 2018 — 9:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m.
Clean up is set for the Jacobsville area.
The meeting will be at Garvin Park

UNOE OFFICE HOURS

UNOE Office hours for 2018
Mon - Thu., 9:00am - 3:00pm

Interact with the Mayor

Mayor's Traveling City Hall Program



Wednesday, January 25th

5:30-7:00pm

Pine Haven Health & Rehab Center
3400 Stocker Drive

**Program: METS Service,
Fare & Route Changes**

Coffee with a Cop



*Join your neighbors
and police officers
for coffee and
conversation*

Tue., Jan. 16 7:00 - 9:00am

Donut Bank
Green River Rd.

*The mission of Coffee with a Cop is to break down the
barriers between police officers and the citizens they serve
by removing agendas and allowing opportunities to ask
questions, voice concerns, and to get to know each other
as people.*

Building relationships. One cup at a time.

Metro Planning Organization

Evansville MPO



Henderson • Vanderburgh • Warrick

Evansville Metropolitan
Planning Organization
committees meet monthly on
the 2nd Thursday.

UPCOMING MEETINGS

Jan. 11, 2018 Feb. 8, 2018

Civic Center Complex

10:00am—**Technical Committee**, Room 318

4:00pm—**Policy Committee**, Room 301

Learn more at <http://www.evansvillempo.com>

Neighbor to Neighbor

United Neighborhoods of Evansville
20 NW Fourth St, Ste 501
Evansville, IN 47708

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unoevansville



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Instagram.com
Unoevansville



Pinterest.com
Unoev

DATES TO REMEMBER

- **South Sector Meeting** — Thurs., Jan. 4, 6:00pm at the CPU Office, 401 E. Columbia St.
- **Recycle Day** — Sat., Jan. 6, old Walmart West, 4551 University Dr. More info: call (812) 436-7800
- **UNOE Finance Committee**—Tues., Jan. 9, 9:30am, **UNOE Office**, 20 NW 4th St., Ste. 501
- **East Sector Meeting** — Tues., Jan. 16, 6:00pm at the CPU Office, 401 E. Columbia St.
- **UNOE Board Meeting** — Wed., Jan. 17, 4:00pm, **Third Floor Conference Room, Hulman Building at 4th & Sycamore**
- **West Sector Meeting** — Thurs., Jan. 18, 6:00pm at the CPU Office, 401 E. Columbia St.
- **Recycle Day** — Sat., Feb. 3, old Walmart West, 4551 University Dr. More info: call (812) 436-7800

UNOE GENERAL MEETING —Thurs., Jan. 25, 2018, 6:30pm
CK Newsome Center



GUEST SPEAKER:

Mike Labitzke, Deputy Director Utilities
Program Management Office, City of Evansville

Annual Election of Officers



Final nominations & voting
will take place during the
January General Meeting