



## **PINCKNEY NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION**

PO Box 125 Lawrence Kansas 66044

April 2012 Newsletter

### **Pinckney Neighborhood Association Spring and Early Summer Events Focus on Strengthening the Neighborhood**

Spring has come early this year and we've moved up the date of our annual brush and bulk yard waste pick-up to match it. Arranging with City crews to have them bring their chipper-shredder through Pinckney streets each spring is one thing your neighborhood association does for you. Clean up your yard and help make Pinckney **Neighborhood** a beautiful place to live!

We also are looking forward to another awesome annual picnic in June – with the signature Bounce Castle (generously donated by Anderson Rentals) for the kids! Last year we had the biggest crowd yet, great food and live music, and we're aiming for all that and more in 2012! We need a variety of donations from neighborhood businesses and individuals to make it another memorable community gathering for us. Please let us know if you can help out in any way – no donation or effort is too small!

Fundraising efforts don't only support our fun times, they also support the production of these newsletters and notices we send throughout the year. Because of the diverse demographic of our neighborhood, we are able to apply for Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) grant allocations. These grants have been severely impacted by the national economic situation, and our funding for 2012 looks to be the lowest yet in relation to our reported and justifiable needs. It is imperative that we supplement our grant funding with donations from businesses and individuals. Pinckney Neighborhood is an influential and vibrant part of Lawrence – please pitch in to help us keep it that way!

~ Linda Bush, president

#### ***Upcoming Neighborhood Meetings & Events***

##### **April 21 – PNA Monthly Meeting**

10:00 a.m. @ Lawrence Memorial Hospital (lower level)  
Main Topic: Pinckney Neighborhood Infrastructure Survey

##### **April 30 – Bulk Brush Pick-up**

Curb-side bulk brush pick-up starting early Monday morning

##### **May 5 – Neighborhood Infrastructure Needs Survey: Walking Tour of the Neighborhood**

10:00 a.m. – meet at LMH parking lot (4<sup>th</sup> & Michigan Streets)

##### **May 19 – PNA Monthly Meeting**

10:00 a.m. @ Lawrence Memorial Hospital (lower level)  
Main Topic: Neighborhood Potluck Picnic & Kids' Art Show

##### **June 16 – Pinckney Neighborhood Potluck Picnic With Kids' Arts & Crafts Show**

11:30 a.m. – 2:00 p.m. @ Clinton Park (5<sup>th</sup> & Maine Streets)

*Additional agenda items may also be discussed at each meeting. If you have a question or a discussion topic, please attend a PNA monthly meeting or send an e-mail to: [Pinckney.Neighborhood@gmail.com](mailto:Pinckney.Neighborhood@gmail.com)*

#### **PNA Launches Updated Website [www.PinckneyNeighborhood.org](http://www.PinckneyNeighborhood.org)**

If you haven't visited the Pinckney Neighborhood Association website lately, now is the time to check it out! We've been busy behind the scenes adding a new look, a quick-glance events calendar, a bunch of photos from past events, information about what's happening around town and right here in the neighborhood, and interactive features, such as a comments section and a link to Facebook. We also have some exciting new pages that are devoted to sharing and preserving historical information about our neighborhood. We're just getting started in this process and your ideas and information will be valuable in adding new content and features.

Please take a look, give us feedback on what you like and what we can improve, and contact us if you have any information we can add to the historical pages or other sections of the site.

Many, many thanks to Kendall Simmons who volunteered to create and manage the PNA website for years. Her generous contribution of time and effort served the Neighborhood well and has kept us informed, organized and involved.

**Neighborhood Infrastructure Needs Survey**  
**Saturday May 5 @ 10:00 a.m.**  
**WE NEED YOU!**

As beautiful as Pinckney Neighborhood is, there is always room for improvement. This Spring PNA plans to launch a detailed and systematic review of the entire Pinckney Neighborhood to identify sidewalks, streets, drainage, and other infrastructure problems. When the survey is complete, we will compile and prioritize the results and submit a request to the City of Lawrence to address those problems. While we can't be sure the City will be able to correct all the defects we find, other neighborhoods that have used this process have been pleased by the City's response.

Please join us on April 21<sup>st</sup> for the PNA monthly meeting to help us prepare a plan for complete neighborhood survey coverage. We need leaders for the central planning and needs analysis committee as well as volunteers from every sector of the neighborhood to help complete the survey.

We will gather on May 5<sup>th</sup> @ 10:00 a.m. in the Lawrence Memorial Hospital parking lot at 4<sup>th</sup> and Michigan Streets to separate into survey teams. Please bring a digital camera if you have one (nothing fancy needed) and wear good walking shoes. We'll provide light refreshment and give you instructions before you head out with your team for about an hour to an hour and a half of walking through your designated streets in the neighborhood.

If you have any questions prior to the date of the survey, please attend the April 21<sup>st</sup> PNA meeting or contact Linda Bush at: [Pinckney.Neighborhood@gmail.com](mailto:Pinckney.Neighborhood@gmail.com)

**Annual Pinckney Potluck Picnic**  
**Kids' Arts & Crafts Show**

**Saturday June 16 @ 11:30 a.m. – Clinton Park**

Mark your calendar now for this year's Pinckney Neighborhood Potluck Picnic. The Kids' art show was such a success last year that we'll host it again this year. PNA will provide hot dogs, veggie dogs, and beverages. You need to bring a dish to share with your neighbors and your kids' art work or crafts for display. Also on tap at this year's Picnic are:

**Bounce Castle provided by Anderson Rentals**

**Great Clips Haircuts for just a donation**

**Green Violin Italian Ice**

**Music - Door Prizes - Arts & Crafts Activities - Face Painting**

More information and details will be coming – look for updates on the Pinckney Neighborhood website and on Facebook. A postcard reminder will be sent in early June.

Want to help? Melinda Toumi has graciously volunteered to be the Special Events chair for PNA this year. Please contact her if you have questions or want to get involved.

**Melinda Toumi: [melindatoumi@gmail.com](mailto:melindatoumi@gmail.com) or 785-979-2477**

*Introducing Erika O'Shea:*  
*The New PNA Coordinator*



Greetings fellow travelers!

Let me start off by introducing myself. My name is Erika O'Shea and I am your bright eyed and bushy tailed new Pinckney Neighborhood Association Coordinator. I grew up in Topeka but moved to Lawrence in 2004

and attended Bishop Seabury Academy, graduating as a Prefect in 2008. Currently, I am a fourth year student at the University of Kansas majoring in Architectural Engineering and I hope eventually to go on to receive a Master's Degree in Historical Preservation. I love music, dancing, participating in the Kansas City Renaissance Festival, being outdoors in the sunshine, and everything that comes with living in Lawrence! I'm excited to get the opportunity to serve the Pinckney community and can't wait to see what my time with you all brings!

One of the things I am most enthused about this year is the chance to broaden student involvement efforts within the neighborhood. We have several great opportunities for elementary through university students to become involved with community, garner valuable service experience, and make great connections with the area's residents – all while having a great time! Below I've listed a few of our events that we will be seeking volunteers for. Food will be provided to those who volunteer and we are always more than happy to provide certification of service hours. Anyone who wishes to become involved in one or more of the events or has further questions is free to contact me at: [eoshea@ku.edu](mailto:eoshea@ku.edu)

- Neighborhood Infrastructure Needs Survey, May 5
- Potluck Picnic & Kids' Art Show, June 16
- Pinckney Parks Clean-up, September 22
- Trunk-or-Treat & Food Drive, October 27

That's all for now! ~Erika O'Shea

**6<sup>TH</sup> STREET TUNNEL**  
**BEAUTIFICATION PROJECT**

The tunnel that connects the Pinckney Neighborhood and Old West Lawrence is vital to our community's safety. New lighting was installed last summer, and combined efforts of the city, school, and community have made the tunnel better – and we think it can be beautiful, too! We are starting a fundraising campaign and are still in the planning stages of this important community improvement project. We will update everyone as the details are worked out, but if you have ideas or monetary support to donate to this project, then we'd love to hear from you! Please contact Jenny Skillman at [jbyrdskillman@gmail.com](mailto:jbyrdskillman@gmail.com) or call 424-4082.

## PNA Annual Fundraising Effort

### Reaching out to Pinckney Area Businesses and Individuals

For the past few years, PNA has combined preparation for the Potluck Picnic with a fundraising drive to support the picnic and other activities provided to the neighborhood by PNA. In the next few weeks, PNA volunteers will be contacting businesses that are located in and/or serve the residents of the Pinckney Neighborhood to request funds or donated items to support PNA's work. This newsletter and PNA's website include lots of information about PNA's projects, such as neighborhood-building social events, history preservation, infrastructure assessments and upkeep, and neighborhood communications. The City provides some grant funding through the CDBG program to support PNA's efforts, but that funding is a fraction of the total cost of the projects and funding levels have decreased in recent years due to federal and state budget constraints.

By contributing to PNA you are helping to keep the Pinckney Neighborhood vibrant, which will in turn benefit your business. There are many ways you can help – first and foremost, your direct financial contribution provides the most flexibility to fund projects, as needed. In addition, your donations of food, gift certificates or other items for events such as the picnic are always welcome and appreciated. You can also place an ad in the quarterly newsletter for just \$30 per issue, sponsor the PNA website for \$25 per month or \$75 per quarter, or you can find out about one of our options to bundle advertising with a donation. Individuals, families, groups and small business owners are also encouraged to contribute. Please discuss your options with the PNA volunteer when they visit your business, or contact:

**Melinda Toumi: 785-979-2477 or melindatoumi@gmail.com**

**Erika O'Shea: 785-760-3137 or eoshea@ku.edu**

**Pat Miller: 785-550-6958 or pgmiller@sunflower.com**

### PNA Contact Information

**Website:** www.pinckneyneighborhood.org  
*Subscribe to a periodic news bulletin on the PNA website*  
**E-mail:** Pinckney.Neighborhood@gmail.com  
**Facebook:** "Pinckney Neighborhood Association"

#### Officers:

Linda Bush – President  
(785) 856-6435 LCBush@gmail.com  
Harry Miller – Secretary  
(785) 832-2443 wheresharry@sunflower.com  
Kristen Fellows Walker – Treasurer  
(785) 331-6585 kristenfellowswalker@live.com

#### PNA Coordinator:

Erika O'Shea  
(785) 760-3137 oshea@ku.edu

#### Newsletter:

Pat Miller  
(785) 550-6958 pgmiller@sunflower.com

## Annual Curbside Brush Pick-up

### Monday April 30th

Yes, it's that time of year again – springtime yard clean-up! To help dispose of your trimmed brush and tree limbs, we've scheduled a special tour through the neighborhood on April 30<sup>th</sup> for the Lawrence Parks Department's wood chipper / shredder. The city crew will pick-up and process brush and oversize yard debris you leave at the curb. Brush does not need to be bundled, and limbs should have their butt-end facing the street. This is for brush and limbs only, since other yard waste is routinely picked up by sanitation crews each Monday. The brush and limbs will be chipped up to add to the city's compost and mulch piles. The city is not able to dispose of railroad ties and other wood fencing materials. Also note that city staff is not allowed to go into private yards to clean up or retrieve the debris.

If you need assistance in bringing your debris to the curb, please call Linda Bush (856-6435) or send an email to **Pinckney.Neighborhood@gmail.com** to arrange assistance from some helpful neighbors. Although it may take a couple of days for the crew to work its way through the neighborhood, **please have your brush ready at the curb by the morning of Monday April 30<sup>th</sup>.**

### Notice from the City of Lawrence

#### **Reductions Available to Low-Income Elderly for Water and Sewer Service Charges**

A low-income elderly person (one who is sixty years of age or more on or before the 1st day of January of the year in which the reduced services charge is applicable) who has an income during the preceding calendar year from all sources of less than \$11,979 (or any elderly person who is the head of a family with a family income during the receding calendar year from all sources of less than \$16,181) may qualify for a reduction in city services charges. If approved, a low-income elderly person shall pay a flat rate monthly charge per dwelling of 35% the regular monthly residential water and sanitary sewer charge. Applications for reduced charges shall be on forms supplied by the City, filed or mailed to the Utility Billing Division of the Department of finance. Applications and more information can be requested of the Utility Billing Division at 832-7878.



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## Get Active in Your Neighborhood! Get Active in PNA!

If you live in the Pinckney Neighborhood, you are a member of PNA.  
Now is the time to become an ACTIVE member!

Name(s): \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_ Apt.# \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

(Join the list to receive e-mail notices before monthly PNA meetings and special events. We will keep your information private, including your e-mail address, and your in-box won't be full of PNA junk e-mail.)

*Participation and membership in PNA is free – but annual donations of at least \$1 per person, or \$2 per household, are suggested and greatly appreciated.*

Please bring this form to the next PNA monthly meeting or mail it to:

**Pinckney Neighborhood Association, PO Box 125, Lawrence, KS 66044**

## PNA Volunteers Needed!

Please volunteer to participate. We need people of all ages with skills or interest in:

- School & Student Connections
- Media: Newsletter, Photography, Website Management, etc.
- Fundraising and/or Advertising
- Neighborhood Social Event Organizing
- Nature, Gardening, Environment and/or Sustainability
- Local History / Historic Preservation
- Sidewalks, Traffic, and Infrastructure
- Music, Art, Crafts
- Community Service Projects
- Parks Clean-up Day Volunteer
- Youth Member and/or Leader
- Adult Mentor for Youth Volunteers
- Other: \_\_\_\_\_