



## **Pinckney Neighborhood Association January 2010 Newsletter**

### ***A Message from the PNA President***

The Pinckney Neighborhood Association (PNA) provides a way for neighbors to come together and deal with common concerns as a group. We are more powerful when working with others than individually.

Pinckney is one of the original neighborhoods of Lawrence and, because of its age, much of the development and infrastructure has grown in a haphazard manner that can threaten long-term stability and quality of life in our neighborhood. We believe it's important to promote zoning and development policies that encourage the growth and retention of single family housing which provides a more stable neighborhood. As a result, we are concerned with blighted and run down properties in our neighborhood that make the neighborhood less safe as well as lead to lower property values. We had the opportunity at the December 19th PNA meeting to discuss how to express our concerns regarding blight and other issues of concern to the neighborhood for health and safety reasons with Brian Jimenez, the City of Lawrence Code Enforcement Manager.

We are concerned with making sure we don't lose park, recreational and green space in our neighborhood and have actively been working with Lawrence Memorial Hospital to come to a resolution regarding the potential loss of Woody Park next to the hospital. We will have the LMH President at our January 16 monthly meeting to further discuss this issue.

We are concerned with traffic safety in our neighborhood. We have recently asked the City of Lawrence to reverse its decision to increase the speed limit on 4th Street from 30 to 35 mph. There will be future discussions with the Traffic Safety Commission on this issue.

We are concerned about crime in our neighborhood. We have contacted the Lawrence Police Department on several specific situations where neighbors have had crime issues they wanted looked into and dealt with by police. We have invited the Lawrence Police Department's Neighborhood Resource Officer to be our guest speaker at the February 20th monthly PNA meeting.

So, as you can see, the Pinckney Neighborhood Association has been doing a lot to enhance the quality of life in our neighborhood. Pinckney residents enjoy our neighborhood and want to see that it continues to be an enjoyable place to live. The PNA has developed a good relationship with City of Lawrence officials and, as a result, are able to direct attention to many issues of neighborhood concern.

But our association only remains successful and useful by having continuing support of the neighbors. We meet the 3rd Saturday of each month at 10:00 am at Lawrence Memorial Hospital. Please come and join us in our efforts to keep Pinckney a vibrant and thriving neighborhood.

Steve Braswell,  
President

## **Annual PNA Meeting and Election of Officers**

Please plan to attend the February 20, 2010, PNA monthly meeting. The Vice President and Secretary positions are up for election. Your participation, input and involvement provide direct support back to our community.

## **Woody Park Update**

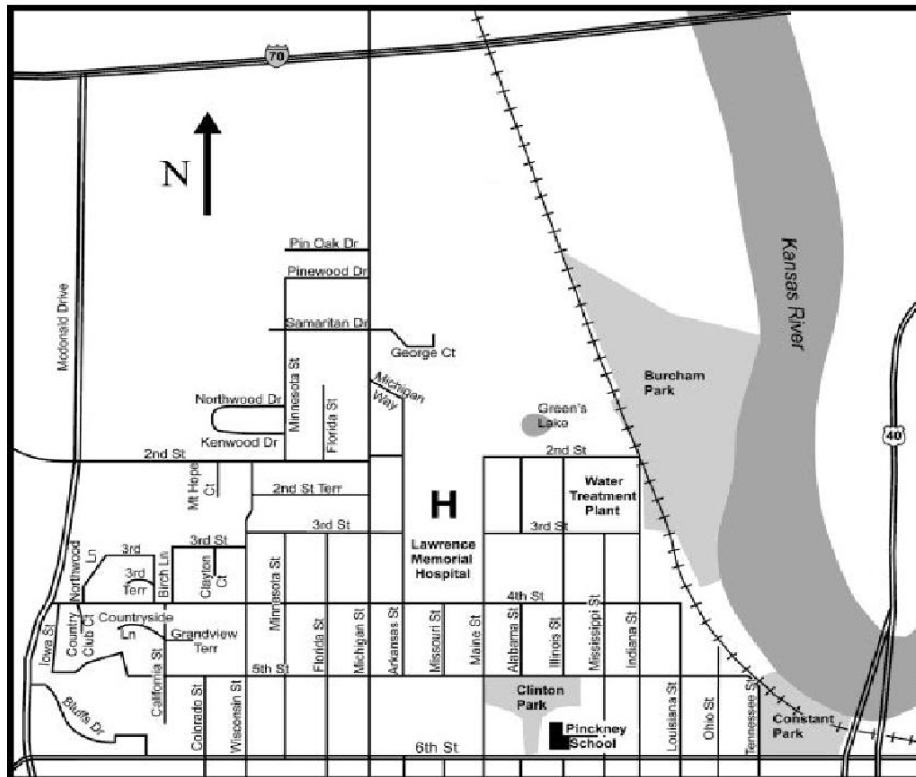
The fate of historic Woody Park, the small ballpark at 2nd and Maine Sts, has been a topic of discussion at PNA meetings since August. It is named in honor of Elgin Woody, who cleared and maintained the area and organized teams and athletic events when such facilities for African-Americans were limited. The park is now wanted for conversion to a parking lot by Lawrence Memorial Hospital (LMH).

Mark Hecker, Assistant Director of Parks & Recreation for the City of Lawrence, spoke with PNA members at our September and October meetings. He pointed out that the City owns both the hospital property and the park land. We learned that some encroachment has already occurred over time, and the field is no longer a usable size for any league play. The Lawrence Parks and Recreation Department is concerned about losing a green space and play area, but also looks at the \*big picture\*. Several options for recovering the green space lost if Woody Park becomes a parking lot were discussed and remain possibilities. All parties want to retain some recognition of Mr. Woody's contribution to the community and history of the area. Neighborhood input is invited and welcome.

In addition to green space and recreational issues, the PNA hopes to learn more about the long-term land use plans of LMH. In light of this, hospital president Gene Meyer will speak at our upcoming meeting on Jan. 16.

## **Pinckney Neighborhood Map**

You are a member of the Pinckney Neighborhood Association if you live, own property or have a business within the Pinckney Neighborhood. The Pinckney Neighborhood is bounded by the Kaw on the east, I-70 on the north, Iowa Street/McDonald Drive on the west and 6th Street on the south.



## ***PNA Bylaws & Purpose***

*(Selected passages from the Pinckney Neighborhood Association Bylaws Approved February 19, 2005 at the Pinckney Neighborhood Association Annual Meeting)*

### **ARTICLE II - Purpose**

Section 1. The purpose of the Pinckney Neighborhood Association shall be to promote understanding with the City of Lawrence; to improve property, living conditions, and to improve communication within the Pinckney Neighborhood, and to promote good public relations with the businesses within the neighborhood.

### **ARTICLE III - Membership**

Section 1. Eligibility. Any person who resides or owns property in the Pinckney Neighborhood or who subscribes to the purposes of the Pinckney Neighborhood Association shall be eligible for membership in the Pinckney Neighborhood Association.

Section 2. Types of Membership. The membership of the Pinckney Neighborhood Association shall be composed of voting members and nonvoting associate members. Voting members shall be residential property owners and other residents of the Pinckney Neighborhood. Associate members shall be business owners and other owners of non-residential property within the Pinckney Neighborhood and all other interested persons who have paid their dues.

### ***Upcoming Meetings***

PNA meetings are held on the third Saturday of each month starting at 10:00 a.m. at Lawrence Memorial Hospital (usually in Meeting Room D-South on the lower level). If there is a change in the date, time or location, we will provide notice on the PNA website, in our monthly e-news bulletin and in the quarterly newsletter.

*Agenda items tentatively planned for upcoming meetings include:*

#### **January 16, 2010**

Guest: Gene Meyer, President and CEO of Lawrence Memorial Hospital, to discuss Woody Park and long range plans for LMH growth  
Nominations for PNA Vice President and Secretary

#### **February 20, 2010 (refreshments provided)**

Annual Meeting and Elections for Vice President and Secretary  
Guest: (tentative) Lawrence Police Department Neighborhood Resource Officer

### ***Other Issues Under Discussion***

- Sidewalks
- Blighted and run down properties
- Speed limit on 4th St. between McDonald Drive and Michigan (recent change from 30 to 35 mph)
- Parks & Recreation - neighborhood green space
- Getting advance notice of items of the City Council's agenda that will directly impact the Pinckney neighborhood
- Long-term growth of Lawrence Memorial Hospital and surrounding medical offices

Let us know what's important to you.

Contact Steve Braswell at 785-841-6902 or [steve@acornwebworks.com](mailto:steve@acornwebworks.com)

### ***Other Upcoming Events***

The following events are in the works for the Pinckney Neighborhood. Please let us know if you have additional ideas or would like to help coordinate any of these events:

- Annual Brush Pick-up - usually in May or June
- Annual Picnic and Dedication of PNA Park Bench in Burcham Park - to be determined
- Guided tour of Water Treatment Plant - to be determined

### ***PNA Contact Information***

#### **Website**

[www.pinckneyneighborhood.org](http://www.pinckneyneighborhood.org)

#### **Monthly E-mail News Bulletins**

If you sign up for the monthly PNA e-news bulletin, you will get a reminder about the PNA monthly meetings and a draft agenda, a summary of the previous monthly meeting, and a notice of any upcoming events. You won't get an in box full of junk e-mail and our e-mail list won't be sold or distributed. To start receiving a monthly e-mail news bulletin, visit our website and follow the "Newsletter" links to the "subscribe" page.

#### **Officers**

President: Steve Braswell Phone: 785-841-6902

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Secretary: Harry Miller Phone: 785-832-2443

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#### **Facebook**

Add "Pinckney Neighborhood Association" as a Friend on Facebook:

<http://www.facebook.com/group.php?gid=117029931007>

### ***Calling all Print Media Maniacs!***

Pinckney Neighborhood Association is in search of a few kids between 10 and 18 to help update the PNA website and create and publish upcoming editions of the PNA quarterly newsletter. Experience is not necessary, but interest and enthusiasm are! The time commitment will be a few hours each month -- maybe a little more at the beginning.

For more information, please contact Pat Miller.

785-832-2443 or [pgmiller@sunflower.com](mailto:pgmiller@sunflower.com)