



## **PINCKNEY NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION**

PO Box 125 Lawrence Kansas 66044

February 2012 Newsletter

### **Pinckney Neighborhood Association Elections – Why You Should Get Involved**

Saturday February 18, 2012 @ 10:00 am – Lawrence/Douglas County Health Department

Elections for the offices of Vice President and Secretary will be held at our February monthly meeting. These positions have a two year term and anyone who resides in the Pinckney Neighborhood is eligible to be an officer. We will also be forming committees for this coming year's projects. There is no age restriction on applicants: students are welcome to seek election or appointment as long as they are able to fulfill the responsibilities of the position. You might ask, "Why on earth would I want to run for office or sign up for a committee in PNA?" Well here are just a few really good reasons:

**Community Stability:** Pinckney Neighborhood Association is all about building a strong and vibrant neighborhood. We do this through many small projects that together provide big results. For example, each year we coordinate a bulk brush pick-up, set aside a day to clean each of our 5 area parks, sponsor a pot luck picnic, and invite many city officials and community leaders to our monthly meetings to discuss important issues affecting our neighborhood. This past year we also sponsored a fall trunk-or-treat party and collected nonperishable food for the Douglas County food bank. In 2012 we plan to survey the entire neighborhood for infrastructure needs, such as sidewalks in need of repair, roads in poor condition, drainage issues and street light concerns. The results of the survey will be prioritized and submitted to the City. PNA also monitors and spreads the word about issues that affect the neighborhood, such as the current discussions by the Lawrence Board of Education regarding possible closing or consolidation of Pinckney Elementary School.

**Friendships and Good Neighbors:** Each of us who has become involved in PNA has made new friends who share common interests. Pinckney Neighborhood is rich in history, natural beauty, compassion and creativity. By becoming involved in PNA, you will discover many great people – perhaps ones living just around the corner but out of sight – who will enrich your life.

**Public Service:** For many of us, giving back to our community is an important aspect of our life. PNA provides a way to join forces with others to achieve great results. Specific public service projects include the annual parks clean up day and food drive. Additional projects are under consideration. Your input and involvement are needed and will be greatly appreciated.

**Resume Building:** Are you a student getting ready to apply to college or grad school? Are you seeking a job or a promotion? A PNA officer or committee chair position may be just what you need to demonstrate that you are well-rounded, community-oriented, experienced and dedicated! It's the perfectly way to give back to your community and gain valuable experience.

If you have any questions about the positions or about the election/selection process, please attend the February 18, 2012 PNA meeting or contact PNA President, Linda Bush. Please also let us know of other committee ideas or skills you have to benefit the Pinckney Neighborhood.

#### **Positions Open for Election:**

Vice President & Secretary

#### **Committee Chairs and Members, including:**

Special Events (Picnic and Trunk-or-Treat)

Infrastructure Needs Assessment

Neighborhood History/Archives

Community and Public Service

Photographing Pinckney Events

## Lawrence Elementary School Consolidation Working Group Update

The Central and East Lawrence Elementary School Consolidation Working Group is scheduled to finish its work by mid-February. The group has considered a variety of proposals, and is awaiting analysis of some of those ideas by RSP & Associates, the District's consultant. This analysis will help us understand more clearly the enrollment and walkability impacts of the various consolidation ideas.

The Pinckney members of the Consolidation Working Group have worked extremely hard to develop ideas they feel are sound and responsive to a clear set of evaluation criteria. Their proposal strives to find workable solutions that consider not only the benefits to the students of Pinckney school, but also to all elementary school students in Lawrence and to the overall health of the community. We encourage everyone to learn more about the details of our proposal and others by visiting the District web site: [www.usd497.org/consolidation/](http://www.usd497.org/consolidation/)

## Neighborhood Infrastructure Survey – coming this Spring!

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, but other neighborhoods that have used this process have been pleased by the City's response.


Please plan to attend the February 18<sup>th</sup> and March 16<sup>th</sup> PNA monthly meetings 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. If you have questions, please attend the February 18<sup>th</sup> PNA meeting or contact PNA President Linda Bush.

**2011 Trunk-or-Treat & Food Drive Success!** PNA's first ever Trunk-or-Treat and food drive for Just Food Douglas County was a great success. We counted 14 vehicles and booths and approximately 75 attendees. Thanks to the generosity of Pinckney residents, we also collected 135 pounds of food for the food bank.



*Just a few pictures from the Trunk-or-Treat - more photos available for viewing on the PNA Facebook page.*

Your advertising helps fund publishing the PNA quarterly newsletter. For just \$30 per business-card sized ad, you can reach over 1500 households in the neighborhood. Contact Pat at [pgmiller@sunflower.com](mailto:pgmiller@sunflower.com) for more information.



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# Part Time Job Opening – PNA Coordinator

Pinckney Neighborhood Association is accepting applications for a part time Coordinator. PNA is a nonprofit association of members of the Pinckney Neighborhood who work together to build a strong and vibrant neighborhood. This position is the behind the scenes person supporting PNA in its activities, reaching out to residents, organizations and businesses in and near the Pinckney Neighborhood and keeping the association running smoothly.

The primary duties of the Coordinator include: attending monthly PNA meetings (3<sup>rd</sup> Saturday of month at 10:00 am); scheduling speakers/guests for PNA meetings and other events; attending one or more meetings per month (e.g., City Commission, City planning committees or Lawrence Association of Neighborhoods) on behalf of PNA; assisting in preparing the quarterly PNA newsletter; managing annual fundraising efforts and newsletter advertising; assisting in updating the PNA website and Facebook page; and assisting in organizing and managing periodic events (e.g., annual picnic, parks clean up).

The position will last from immediately upon selection until August 31, 2012, with a time commitment of approximately 35 hours per month, fairly flexible hours and paying a living hourly wage. Desired skills include: good written and verbal communications abilities; a strong interest in meeting and working with people; good organizational skills; familiarity with word processing software programs and access to a computer; a working knowledge of internet websites to the extent necessary to keep the website and Facebook updated; some fundraising and/or advertising experience. Scrapbooking and/or historical research skills would be a helpful, but are not mandatory.

A position description can be found on the PNA Website, the PNA Facebook page, or by contacting Pat Miller (phone and e-mail listed below). Please submit a brief letter of interest along with a resume or statement of skills, a completed application (very short), and two (2) references by no later than **February 29, 2012** to one of the following addresses:

By Email: [Pinckney.Neighborhood@gmail.com](mailto:Pinckney.Neighborhood@gmail.com)

By Mail: Pinckney Neighborhood Association, PO Box 125, Lawrence, KS 66044

The position will be discussed, with an opportunity to ask questions, at the February 18<sup>th</sup> PNA monthly meeting. For additional information, please contact Pat Miller at [pgmiller@sunflower.com](mailto:pgmiller@sunflower.com) or 785-550-6958.

**The Pinckney Neighborhood Association Coordinator position is an equal contracting opportunity available to all persons.**

## **Second Annual KU Big Event**

### **KU Student Volunteers Offer Free Help with Spring Cleaning!**

KU students have a growing tradition to give back and say thank you to members of the Lawrence community through a day of service call The Big Event. Last year over 500 KU students volunteered at over 100 sites to help with raking, painting, sweeping, mopping, window cleaning and so forth for free!

This year, in tradition, the KU students want to make it even bigger! This year it will be on Saturday, March 31st. Students will come either in the morning spring cleaning. They will volunteer anywhere including homes, community agencies, schools, parks or anything that has been requested (within reason and inspection).

**Your request is due by Friday, February 24th.** You can find a link to the "Online Job Requests" form on the KU Big Event website: <http://thebigeventku.com/>

Please check out the KU Big Event website. If you have questions, the e-mail address for The Big Event is: [bigeventku.outreach@gmail.com](mailto:bigeventku.outreach@gmail.com)

# PNA Needs Person Knowledgeable about 503(c) Nonprofit Status

PNA would like to explore whether 503(c) nonprofit status would be appropriate and beneficial. If you or someone you know is a lawyer, accountant or otherwise has experience regarding the nonprofit startup processes and would be willing to volunteer to consult with PNA's executive board, please contact PNA President Linda Bush.

## JOIN PINCKNEY NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION ON FACEBOOK!

Keep up with important local issues, connect with your neighbors, and get meeting and event notices.

Find us on Facebook at "Pinckney Neighborhood Association" or follow this link: [PNA](#)

### Upcoming PNA Meetings & Events

#### February 18 – PNA Meeting

10:00 am @ Lawrence/Douglas County Health Department  
200 Maine Street (1<sup>st</sup> floor meeting room)

Topics: Election of PNA Vice President and Secretary,  
selection of committee chairs, update on Lawrence  
Elementary School Consolidation Task Force

#### March 16 – PNA Meeting

10:00 am @ Lawrence Memorial Hospital (lower level)  
Topic: Pinckney Neighborhood Infrastructure Survey

*Additional agenda items may also be discussed t 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 Contact Information

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

E-mail: [Pinckney.Neighborhood@gmail.com](mailto:Pinckney.Neighborhood@gmail.com)

Facebook: ["Pinckney Neighborhood Association"](#)

#### Officers:

Linda Bush – President

(785) 856-6435 [LCBush@gmail.com](mailto:LCBush@gmail.com)

Harry Miller – Secretary

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

Kristen Fellows Walker – Treasurer

(785) 331-6585 [kristenfellowswalker@live.com](mailto:kristenfellowswalker@live.com)

#### Newsletter:

Pat Miller

(785) 550-6958 [pgmiller@sunflower.com](mailto:pgmiller@sunflower.com)

### 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: \_\_\_\_\_