DECEMBER 2020

# Pensacola Park Post

A Monthly Pensacola Park Neighborhood Distribution Find us also on the web @ www.PensacolaPark.org



# There has been a rash of break-ins lately (mainly cars), and theft off people's front lawns and within their garages. There also has been suspicious behavior reported of people videotaping and taking pictures of people's homes on Rosemont, Suburban, and Penmoken. With the holiday season well upon us, these incidences will probably increase (the ones listed below are from people reaching out to PPNA to let us know, there are probably more that have gone unreported.)

- 2 on Goodrich
- 3 on Lackawanna
- 3 on Wabash
- 2 on Penmoken
- 1 on Rosemont
- 1 on Suburban

#### So, what can we do as a neighborhood to stay safe?

Awhile back we had a meeting about forming a possible Neighborhood Watch, a local police officer visited to discuss what this entails; his first recommendations were to try these things within our neighborhood:

- 1. Keep an eye out:
  - a. Ask your neighbors.
    - i. Some of the easiest things to do are to have your neighbor keep an eye out on your property if you happen to be gone, or need to have a house sitter. They can pick up your mail, mow your lawn, or turn on your lights all common indications that you are not home if left undone for too long.
  - b. Do not leave things unattended. Many of the cars broken into had change, chargers, phones, purses, and other valuables left in them; Do not leave these in your car if you are concerned about them being stolen. The same thing goes for packages. If you are not going to be home, do not have a package delivered to your front step to sit there for hours. Instead have it held at a location for pickup, inform your neighbor to grab it and hold it for you, or even let the postman know where to hide it.
  - c. Surveillance. There are many security cameras on the market to watch over your property. Though as Rosemont residents experienced, some of those suspicious people who were taking photos of homes simply waved at the camera. So having a camera is good for catching someone in the act, but doesn't necessarily deter people from still stealing.
- 2. <u>Inform the police department about theft.</u> The police will not come out to investigate crimes if none are reported. The more they investigate, the more they will patrol. For more info, please visit this website, for how you can help better inform the police: <a href="https://www.lexingtonky.gov/neighborhood-watch">https://www.lexingtonky.gov/neighborhood-watch</a>. Also, it should be noted again, as we receive a lot of emails about this, if you are having an issue with your neighbor in regards to illegal behavior, please refer to the November 2020 newsletter we sent. If you cannot resolve an issue mutually, then please involve the proper authorities. PPNA is not a mediator for neighbor-to-neighbor disputes, and we are not the police.
- 3. <u>Stay clear of confrontations</u>. The police officer ended on this note with our meeting, "Do not put yourself into dangerous situations." Above all else, stay safe, and do not put yourself in a reckless situation by confronting anyone who may be doing something illegal. If you see something suspicious, call it in.

#### Is there a way to make Goodrich Park safer?

Some of you have reached out asking how to make the Goodrich Park safer, as some stolen paraphernalia has shown up here, and because there is a lot of foot traffic that comes through the park. While we aim to improve walkability in the city, we also want to encourage safety within Pensacola Park. So Pensacola Park Neighborhood Association made some recommendations to WGPL Neighborhood Association, of a solar powered motion-action light at the entrance from Southland, and possibly a self-closing (but not locking) gate at this entry to curb some of the foot traffic. While we would like to take this on as something we can implement as a neighborhood association, this park is currently still being developed under a grant that was given to WGPL a couple of years back, so PPNA cannot really add any safety features to the park without their organization's input. So if you are concerned about the park, please bring it up to them via email, or at their next neighborhood meeting. You can reach Charlie Sears (WGPL President) at <a href="mailto:president@wgplneighborhood.org">president@wgplneighborhood.org</a>.

#### **Drive safe on Penmoken!**

Lastly, please drive safely and slowly on Penmoken. There have been multiple reports over the past month of a child pretending to play dead in the road for the fun of scaring people. This is very dangerous for the child, and for all involved.

## <u>DON'T FORGET TO GET YOUR ORDER IN</u>

Just a reminder to get your emblem order in (Flag, Plaque, or Sticker). We will be collecting money for the first round of orders mid-end of December, and placing our orders for the beginning of the new year. It should take about a month for them to process. If you cannot make this round, no worries, we will be doing another order batch in March, and will continue to make this a quarterly endeavor.

#### LEND A HELPING HAND IF YOU CAN

Doubtful that anyone would disagree that this has been an exceedingly devastating year. So many are suffering: from deaths of loved ones, sickness, job loss, and inequality. We can help - at least a little - to alleviate some of that suffering. I don't really subscribe to the notion of giving until it hurts, which leads to resentment, but I do think that all of us in Pensacola Park who are able to do so should open our hearts and wallets to those who are suffering this holiday season.

You likely received a magazine entitled "Good Giving Challenge." This magazine, from the Blue Grass Community Foundation, provides information about non-profits doing good work for youth, the environment, health, and so on. Go to BGGives.org for information about these organizations and the opportunity to donate.

One of the listed non-profits is God's Pantry Food Bank. For 65 years, this food bank has served central and eastern Kentucky. Driven by Covid 19, the number of food insecure people in the 50 counties served by God's Pantry has risen to 253,010. In our country as a whole, food insecurity has risen from 35 million in 2019 to 50.4 million this year. Kentucky has the tenth highest percentage (18.1%), with 809,820 statewide suffering from lack of adequate food. God's Pantry addresses this serious problem, providing over 12.5 million meals in the most recent quarter (July 1 - October 30). A \$1.00 donation can provide eight meals. So while God's Pantry is happy to accept donations of food at their Jaggie Fox Way distribution center, donations of money stretch much further. Go to Godspantry.org/give.

While you're considering your options, keep the fire stations' toy program in mind. Fire Station #12, on Southland Drive, is accepting new, unwrapped toys for boys and girls ages 0-17. The non-human animals and their owners also need our help. Consider Life for Pets, Hope Spay Neuter Clinic, and the Primate Rescue Center.

Also, please do not forget about the local small businesses that are hurting from losing holiday foot traffic. Consider take out from a local business vs. fast food. Consider shopping small business this season.

Lastly, remember your neighbors. Reach out and find out if someone is in need in Pensacola Park. Making a meal or picking up your neighbor's groceries can mean a lot.

As the great Mohammed Ali once said, "Service to others is the rent you pay for your room on earth."

#### WHATS HAPPENING ON SUBURBAN/NICHOLASVILLE:

Rumor has it that a demolition permit is set to occur for 1733-1739 Nicholasville Rd. and a planned 4-story apartment building is to go in its place, with 60 car parking. The developers are asking the city for a hardship variance on the backyard requirements, height of the building allowed in the area, omission of trees as required by zoning code, and lessoning of required open space. If you would like to know more about this, or how to become involved in letting the city know your thoughts, please contact us at pensacolapark@gmail.com. Someone there will point you in the right direction.

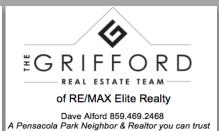
#### THE PENSACOLA PARK GARDEN

Free mulch! Collect curbside leaves and add them to your compost pile or right into your beds. Layers of organic materials

promote healthy soil.

SUPPORT LOCAL PENSACOLA PARK BUSINESSES (PLEASE CONTACT US TO PLACE AN AD. IT IS \$5 A MONTH AND YOU MUST RESIDE IN PENSACOLA PARK):





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### HOW TO DONATE TO PENSACOLA PARK

All donations to Pensacola Park Neighborhood Preservation Society go 100% back into the community and are tax deductible! We also receive donations from Amazon Smile and Kroger Community Rewards if you choose us as your charity! We accept donations 1 of 3 ways:

- Cash or Check (which you can drop off to our GREEN mailbox at 107 Lackawanna Rd.)
- Paypal. We have a paypal link on our website at pensacolapark.org. Or you can send it through your paypal to: pensacolapark@gmail.com
- Venmo. We have a venmo link on our website at pensacolapark.org. Or you can send it through your venmo to: @Pensacola-Park

#### <u>ABOUT PENSACOLA PARK PRESERVATION SOCIETY</u>



Pensacola Park Preservation Society is a non-profit 501(c)3 formed by Pensacola Park Neighborhood Association in order to bring together residents and businesses located in the Pensacola Park Nationally Registered Historic Boundary, for the common good of (1) preserving the historic integrity and resources of the area; (2) creating an environment that promotes sustainable and appropriate growth for the neighborhood; (3) providing historic education and assistance to those in the Pensacola Park Neighborhood for the preservation and rehabilitation of historic homes, structures, and landscapes; and (4)Unifying and being representative of all the original streets in the Pensacola Park Historic boundary. Also check us out online at www.pensacolapark.org, and follow us on Facebook @ Pensacola Park Preservation Society.

If you have any questions or would like to submit topics or op-eds to Pensacola Park Post, please feel free to write us at pensacolapark@gmail.com. If you would like to stop receiving the free monthly post, please write us and put "stop post" in the heading, along with your physical address. Thank you.