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Pensacola Park Post

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

WINTER SOLSTICE POTLUCK GATHERING FOR THE NEIGHBORHOOD:

WHERE: Hunter Presbyterian Church – Large Undercroft Room

WHEN: **December 16TH 5 p.m. – 7 p.m.**

There will be holiday decorations, festive music, drinks and BBQ from Blue Door Smokehouse (arguably the best BBQ in town) provided by PPNA. If you are attending, please bring a dish to share if you can! We had such a wonderful variety of food at the Summer Solstice potluck; excited to see what everyone will bring for the Winter one.

HISTORY CORNER: WHY THE NAMES? BY REBECCA C. GLASSCOCK

Barr Street is named for Robert Barr, Transylvania's first recorded graduate. Rebecca Road and Shirlee Drive were named after two home builders. Race Street is named after the 19th century Kentucky Association racetrack. But what about the names of our streets?

The origins of some of the names are easy: Nicholasville Road, because the road goes to Nicholasville; Suburban Court, because that's where suburbia began back in the 1920s; Penmoken Park, because that was the name of the pony farm on which our neighborhood was built. In the 1930s, with the railroad tracks providing the western boundary of our neighborhood, streets were named after various railroads. The Goodrich railroad, in Georgia, operated from 1871 until 1880. The Lackawanna railroad, that began in Scranton, Pennsylvania, operated from 1851 until 1960; in its heyday, it operated in Pennsylvania, New York, and New Jersey. The Wabash railroad, that began in Indiana, operated from 1837 until 1964; initially, it ran primarily along the Wabash River, from Ohio to Illinois; it expanded into Ontario Canada. The Pensacola railroad, in Florida, began building a 160-mile track across the Florida panhandle in 1881. Much more recently, we saw street signs for Norfolk Drive and Chesapeake; both railroads originated in Virginia. That leaves Rosemont Garden. In October of 1920, the Rosemont Gardens Company was incorporated. A 1920 Lexington Leader article, entitled 'Suburban Bungalows "Rosemont Gardens"', stated that "...we are to have a beautiful entrance into the gardens, then grass plats on either side....and beautifully parked in the middle." I think the incorporators were evoking imagery of the Garden City Movement, with the icing on top: the rose, the most romantic of flowers.

As for Pensacola Park, the neighborhood was so named in a 1930s planning document. But why? The L&N was a major rail line and a source of pride for Kentuckians. Chartered on March 5, 1850, its maiden journey on August 25, 1855 carried 300 people eight miles, starting in Louisville. By October of 1859, the L&N had laid 187 miles of track to Nashville. Rails were damaged during the Civil War, but the L&N's financial situation was strong and tracks continued to be laid. In the 1880s and 1890s, the L&N absorbed 56 competing railroads. A major acquisition for the L&N was the Pensacola Railroad. On October 20, 1880, the Pensacola became a subsidiary of the L&N. This line, the southernmost acquisition of the L&N, was highly successful. From the time the houses in our neighborhood were being built until the end of 1982, the L&N chugged along "our" tracks many, many times. The name Pensacola Park harkens to the great L&N and its reach - all the way to the Gulf of Mexico.



IN OTHER NEWS:

WE ARE A NEW PLANT ZONE:

The USDA has updated their Plant Hardiness Zone map for the first time in over a decade. Lexington, KY went from a zone 6b to a zone 7a (0 to 5 F). This new map shows that half the country has shifted to warmer zones. While this still doesn't allow us to grow most citrus plants, please keep in mind that we still get cold snaps (like last spring), so it is always wise to buy plants that are more tolerant of colder zones than the zone you are located in, e.g., still look for plants that can grow in a zone 6a/6b. These maps generally account for an average over a given time, they do not account for hard swings in temperatures that may happen.

SHORT-TERM RENTAL (STR) APPLICATION DEADLINE:

If you currently operate a short-term rental (e.g. AirBNB, VRBO) in the neighborhood, you have until January 11th 2024 to be grandfathered into a zoning compliance for a *hosted* site (meaning you live within the property you are hosting). If you have an Accessory Use Dwelling (ADU) on your property that you live on, or if you own a house that you are renting out as a STR (*which would make it an unhosted site*), you will need to apply for a conditional use permit as well. While you can apply after January 11th, the city will start fining operators who do not carry a license. Per the LFUCG, the anticipated fine is \$500 per day; they are using a site called AirDNA to locate operators.

Please find link for additional information here: <https://www.lexingtonky.gov/short-term-rentals>

PLEASE CONSIDER DONATING TO PENSACOLA PARK NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION

As an organization we do not currently collect any neighborhood association dues, instead we function off of grants, fundraisers, and donations from the neighborhood. Donations allow us to go after matching grants, buy trees to increase our canopy, improve street conditions, throw community events, and be able to print this newsletter. If you would like to donate, you can either: (1) Drop off Cash or Check to our GREEN PPNA mailbox at 107 Lackawanna Rd / (2) Use Paypal @ pensacolapark@gmail.com

New Leadership in 2024:

After almost five years of helping run Pensacola Park Neighborhood Association, I have decided to pass the buck on to Mr. Francois Pomerleau beginning of the New Year, who has been a previous neighborhood director when WGPL was still in effect. He also currently runs the Facebook account of PPNA, and is well known in the neighborhood, so the transition here should be an easy one. He has my full support, as he has been nothing but a positive energy when helping run our current neighborhood association. Going forward we will have 4 newsletters a year (which Rebecca C. Glasscock and I will still put together) and these will be delivered by the same street captains as are listed on our website (please note we still need a street captain for Suburban). We will still throw 2 solstice neighborhood potluck gatherings (one in spring/summer and one in fall/winter), our Easter Egg Hunt will still be in April, our Plant Sale event still in May (which I will also still help run), and our Garage Sale Event in August (which will still be run by Mr. Greg Scarsboro). Francois will staff the pensacolapark@gmail.com account as well as our Facebook one, and get you any needed information.

When I helped start PPNA, with about 32 of us in my dining room, it was on the basis that we wanted the neighborhood to be informed of the development events that were directly affecting our 420 homes that make up Pensacola Park. Questions that came up were: what did it mean to (1) densify, (2) have an overlay, (3) develop new properties; and who were our council representatives? I would like to believe that we have achieved that open communication to the best of our abilities with the volunteerism that the neighborhood has shown. So before I semi-sign off (you know I will still be around for some events) I just want to send a thank you to those who have helped, and I hope that others in the neighborhood, both new and old, will consider volunteering in the New Year. For our neighborhood to thrive, and to be communicative and well informed, it comes down to engagement.

In the time I have been director, we have written 54 newsletters; this will be our 55th one. I could not have done this without the consistent help of one person in particular, Rebecca C. Glasscock, the editor and historian of the paper, and organizer of the potlucks. I have no good words to tell her my overwhelming thanks, but know it is there. I also want to thank Lisa Riddle for creating our website, which is such an invaluable informational tool for our neighborhood. Many thanks to Lisa for her continued maintenance of the site. The newsletter, our website, our listserv, and our Facebook page (Francois, you know you deserve a huge thank you as well) are cornerstones to how we deliver information to the neighborhood, and they require a lot of time and effort, so thank you to this informational team. I am also proud of the street captains, who have gone door to door to deliver the newsletter and other fliers since 2019. Thank you to: Mike and Pat Bardo, Barb Bush, Kristin Cruser, Nicole Gauthier, Iris Dooling and Dan Solberg, Matt Gooding and Elizabeth Graves, Zitsi Mirakur, Peggy Somsel, Barbara Szubinska, Tenlee Tarrier, Phil Theobald, and Dennis Webb.

I am especially proud of the increase in tree canopy that I have helped facilitate. This effort began with our late CM Jake Gibbs who gifted the neighborhood with free trees and has continued with our new CM Dave Seigny who donated neighborhood money for street trees. We have planted over 50 trees in the last three years. I want to thank all the neighbors who wanted to help increase this canopy by requesting a tree, and by helping dig a hole. I ESPECIALLY want to give a huge thanks to my partner James Johnson, and our neighborhood friend, Matt Gooding. The three of us have figured out the perfect roll and drop when it comes to planting trees, and I really feel we could take this show on the road. If you are a neighbor that still wants a tree, don't worry, I will still continue to work on increasing our canopy. Call me a tree hugger; I wear that badge with honor.

Lastly, the plant sale, my neighborhood initiative pride and joy. Every year we've had the plant sale, the number of plants donated and the money raised for the neighborhood has doubled. In 2024, I hope more people will want to grow some plants for the sale. Please reach out if you'd like to help. I have accumulated a ton of seeds to cultivate for the sale, but I do not have the space to grow them all, so if you are good at growing seeds, consider joining the neighborhood plant team.

I will see you all around the hood. Signing off as Director.
Jesse Voigt

Up and Adam
Handyman Services.
Small jobs, appliance
installation, tile
backsplashes, light
fixtures, holiday decor,
gutter cleaning,
shelving, painting, deck
repair and other odd
jobs.
\$50 first hour, \$30 for
each add'l hour
859-797-6107

HOW TO ORDER A PENSACOLA PARK EMBLEM

Please visit our website www.pensacolapark.org to order any emblems, or write us at pensacolapark@gmail.com. Payment is via PayPal, check, or cash. The Plaque is holly bronze metal and comes in two sizes: 8x8 (\$165) and 5x5 (\$100)



ABOUT PENSACOLA PARK PRESERVATION SOCIETY AND PENSACOLA PARK NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION

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 Neighborhood Association.

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.

Pensacola Park Neighborhood Association (PPNA) and Pensacola Park Preservation Society (PPPS), our nonprofit. PPNA/PPPS represent ALL streets in Pensacola Park Historic District, including: Goodrich, Lackawanna, Nicholasville, Norfolk, Penmoken, Pensacola, Rosemont, Suburban, and Wabash.