

# RECYCLING IN COLLEGE HILL

## College Hill Recycling Drive--Saturday, September 12

Because of COVID-19 and some new state laws that have affected the way recycling businesses operate, our neighborhood hasn't had a recycling drive for many months. But the wait is almost over! We hope you've been keeping your recyclable metals for College Hill, since we will have a recycling drive on **Saturday, September 12**. Please have your aluminum and other metals (including steel cans) on your porch (visible from the street) by 9 a.m.

**Need a separate pickup? Questions? Contact** Carol Christensen (785) 554-8068

Since our neighborhood began recycling in 1990, it has earned over \$13,600 from recycling. We hope that you will keep and donate your recycling metals for College Hill, thus, making both our world, and our neighborhood, a better place in which to live!

## WE NEED YOUR HELP!

**Do you love your College Hill neighborhood?** Work together with your fellow neighbors and volunteer for College Hill events and neighborhood improvements! We always need more volunteers, so consider helping out. We have great events throughout the year that would greatly improve with your skill set and enthusiasm!

**Contact the board today!** [president@collegehilltopeka.org](mailto:president@collegehilltopeka.org)

## NEIGHBOR HIGHLIGHT: SUE BOLLEY

When she retired from teaching, she knew she needed a plan. So College Hill resident Sue Bolley made a list of things to do to keep busy and involved in the Topeka community. At the top of her list was volunteering for Harvesters Food distribution and running for Topeka Public Schools Board of Education. Weeks after retiring, she was distributing food in the Harvesters drive through lines, and in 2020, she was elected the Position 5 School Board member in District 2. Her term expires in 2024.

"I believe educators should serve on the school board. It's even more powerful to have a teacher who worked in the district – in the midst of things," said Bolley. She said she thinks educators have a great understanding of the students' needs, as well as needs of the families, school staff expectations and how to run a school facility.

Bolley's years of teaching experience have helped her immensely as schools have dealt with the global pandemic COVID-19. "This year, I just want everyone to be healthy. And I want kids to progress and learn," Bolley said. "Our Superintendent Tiffany Anderson is dynamic and has led us through this pandemic. She is smart and forward thinking." Bolley said Board members have worked very hard developing plans and keeping families informed. Information is sent through weekly emails and is available on social media. She said the district is working hard to develop a remote learning program that is quality and equitable. But always, in the front of her mind, are the students. "I know kids will adjust to the changes caused by COVID. They can probably handle it better than most adults," Bolley said. "But my heart just breaks for them. I'm sorry they won't have the traditional school experience."

As well as enjoying her retirement from teaching, Bolley said serving on the Topeka Public Schools Board is a rewarding job. "I would encourage others in our neighborhood to look at their interests, and get involved," she said. "I love this job, because I felt like I wasn't done giving back to kids – and the school community."



# THE COLLEGE HILL BOOSTER FALL 2020

## CH ANNUAL MEETING MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 21

Please join us **Monday, September 21st at 7 PM** in the **Fellowship Hall at Westminster Presbyterian Church** located at **13th and Boswell** for the **Annual College Hill Neighborhood Association** meeting. Please social distance and wear a mask. The chairs will be spaced out appropriately. We will be holding board member elections. The **College Hill Nominating Committee** will provide the slate of officers at that time. We also hope to have speakers, like a representative from the Street Department.

## PRESIDENT'S CORNER

Dear Friends and Neighbors,

As my term as president of the College Hill Neighborhood Association winds down, I look back at the last two years and think what a pleasure it has been to get to know more of you and I cannot express how much appreciation I have for all the old friends that have volunteered and all the new friends that have pitched in to make our events and neighborhood so special.

The last few months have been such a challenge for all of us to keep connected and to keep our collective spirits up. A special recognition is expressed to all the households that decorated their yards and porches to light up our slice of Topeka. Thanks for adapting to the Blossoms event and our Independence Day celebration and sadly all the things that have been canceled or postponed.

As I walk the neighborhood, I am inspired by all the gardens and home improvement projects that have been happening. That faith in our future and investment in your homes and our neighborhood are moving and exciting.

We will all come through this unprecedented time stronger. It is wonderful to learn of stories of neighbors that held joint suppers in their alley, fireworks still lighting the College Hill sky on the 4th, hearing neighbors exchanging greetings as they walk or from across the yards from their porches.

Thank you for all your support for the last two years. It has been my pleasure to serve our great neighborhood. As always, turn on your porch lights. Keep helping each other and stay safe and healthy.

## EVENTS

### RECYCLING DRIVE

SEPTEMBER 12

### CH ANNUAL MEETING

SEPTEMBER 21

### CH MEETING

NOVEMBER 16

### RECYCLING DRIVE

DECEMBER 12

### HOLIDAY DECORATING

DECEMBER 21

### CH MEETING

JANUARY 25

Best regards – Ardith Woertz

# COLLEGE HILL BOARD

**President** **Ardith Woertz**  
president@collegehilltopeka.org

**Vice President** **Christi Stewart**  
christiastewart@sbcglobal.net

**Treasurer** **Tom Luellen**  
(785) 580-9425

**Secretary** **Gail Kennedy**  
gailkennedy@cox.net

**Wall of Fame** **Sue Fackler**  
(785) 235-6758

**Recycling** **Christensens**  
(785) 554-8068

**Newsletter & Chili Feed** **Erin Snethen**  
(785) 608-9839

**Code Compliance** **Delores Smith**  
(785) 234-2883

**College Hill Blossoms** **Sue Fackler**  
(785) 235-6758

**Spring Clean-Up & Website Maintenance** **Ben Alford**  
(785) 633-2351

**3rd of July** **Erin Snethen**  
(785) 608-9839

**4th of July Parade - We need a volunteer!**

**National Night Out & Porch Fest** **Andy Fry**  
farmerfry@gmail.com

## STAY CONNECTED!

Stay up-to-date with neighborhood announcements & events!

- **NEW!!** [www.CollegeHillTopeka.org](http://www.CollegeHillTopeka.org)  
*Find the meeting minutes online!*
- Facebook **CollegeHill-TopekaNeighborhood**
- NextDoor
- Twitter **@CollegeHillINA**
- Email [Neighbors@CollegeHillTopeka.org](mailto:Neighbors@CollegeHillTopeka.org)

# PORCH FEST

## OCTOBER 10

A new fall event for College Hill! A progressive, afternoon concert that will be located throughout the College Hill neighborhood, featuring several local musicians. In partnership with National Night Out, we want to continue to promote the beautiful landscape of College Hill with local performers on porches and in yards for an afternoon of fellowship and music.

- Come with your families and friends!
- Bring your blankets and lawn chairs.
- Please social distance and masks are encouraged.

Details to come. Look for the flyer soon! Do you want to help with the event? Volunteers welcome.

**Contact** Andy Fry  
**Email** [farmerfry@gmail.com](mailto:farmerfry@gmail.com)

# NEIGHBORHOOD DUES HELP US THRIVE!

**Annual College Hill Dues** are now **\$20**.  
**What if the entire neighborhood paid their dues?** \$12,000 (600+ households)

### Why pay dues?

- FREE family events
- Biannual newsletters to keep you updated
- Neighborhood Improvements
- Up-to-date Website
- **Send Dues to Tom Luellen, 1619 Plass**

## CH MEETINGS

**Join in on the discussion!** New Meeting Schedule! Join us bi-monthly, on the 3rd Monday of that Month at 7pm at Westminster Presbyterian Church, 13th & Boswell. Or if necessary, via Zoom.  
**All neighbors welcome!**

# SAFETY IN LIGHTING

Visibility at night is key in maintaining a sense of comfort around your house or block. There are simple ways to improve the safety of our neighborhood but it takes each one of us. Improving street lighting has been shown to correlate positively with decreased crime, an enhanced sense of safety, an increase in outdoor physical exercise, and greater civic pride (Welsh & Farrington 2008; The Conversation 9/28/18). College Hill has many street lights on our numbered streets running East and West, but not as many running North and South. Here's where you come in. Neighbors, turning on porch lights can do wonders! This simple act will light up your block! Some have even found light bulbs with a photocell. You leave the light switch on, it turns on at dusk and turns off at mornings light. Front porch lights help create a better lit space for families, evening dog walkers or pedestrians on their way to one of our delicious neighborhood restaurants. Challenge the neighbors on your block. Block by block, we can improve the safety of College Hill.

**IDEA TO CONSIDER** An 8W LED from Home Depot costs roughly \$2 and lasts for approximately 5 years when turned on for 12 hours a night. The light bulb uses around 35 kWh over the course of a year, which cost approximately \$4 to light a porch for a year. Yes, home improvements and maintenance isn't cheap but \$4 a year seems reasonable. This small and simple improvement can increase safety and inhibit crime throughout the entire neighborhood.

College Hill Neighborhood Association is working on several grants to enhance lighting throughout the neighborhood. If we all work together, we can make a difference!

Discussion or questions? **CONTACT** Andy Fry [farmerfry@gmail.com](mailto:farmerfry@gmail.com)

# TRAFFIC CALMING

College Hill is widely known as an active community. We love to take advantage of our walkable neighborhood for leisure, work, and school. Similarly, it's disheartening when your kids are playing in the front yard and a car flies past going faster than the speed limit. We all want to feel safe and comfortable on our neighborhood roads and sidewalks and on our own property. There are several neighbors interested in looking at ways to make small, incremental changes to some of our intersections to make it safer. These changes would encourage drivers to slow down as they pass through College Hill.

### TRAFFIC CALMING EXAMPLES

- Extending crosswalks out from the existing curb with paint or plastic road sticks.
- Providing additional paint in existing crosswalks to bring more visibility. Examples could include crosswalks along College Ave, 15th Street, and MacVicar.

This process is still in the brainstorming stage, so more ideas to come. These treatments are just initial ideas and would be reviewed and studied by the City Traffic engineer. If you are interested in sharing some thoughts or ideas on places that might be a concern, feel free to email Andy at [farmerfry@gmail.com](mailto:farmerfry@gmail.com). We hope to discuss this topic at the September College Hill meeting and would love to hear insights, ideas and concerns at that time.