

# Bridges



## Newsletter of the Northside-Hester Park Neighborhood

February 2010, Sixth Edition

### Join Us At Our Meetings

Members of our steering committee have done a great job working together on past projects. Because so many of the same people were involved in our four subcommittees we have decided to roll those groups back into the main committee with a Project Leader assigned to each activity/event.

All neighbors are invited to attend the steering committee meetings and participate with projects as able. **We meet the 1<sup>st</sup> Thursday of each month at 7:30 p.m. in the Cathedral High School South Building basement conference room.** Any change in meeting dates or times will be posted at <http://northside-hesterpark.wikispaces.com/Steering+Committee>.



Steering Committee members met at Hester Park during the summer of 2009

### Steering Committee Officers

Chair: Kaye Schimmich 259-8737  
Vice-Chair: Michelle Johnson 230-5987  
Secretary: John Augustin 654-9428  
Treasurer: Kristi Laliberte 251-0019

We welcome your questions or input!

### CALENDAR

#### Upcoming Neighborhood Events

#### “SNOW CREATIONS IN THE PARK”

Let's gather at Hester Park and see how many creative snowmen and other snow creatures we can make!

Time: After the first February snowfall of at least 3 inches find out when/where to meet by:

to: <http://northside-hesterpark.wikispaces.com> or:

Calling Kelly at 253-8068

#### MARCH SOCIAL

Take an opportunity to just “meet and hang out with neighbors” for an evening.

Time: TBD (watch for upcoming flyer with info)

Place: Hemsing's Deli

#### NORTHSIDE-HESTER PARK 3<sup>RD</sup> ANNUAL NEIGHBORHOOD MEETING

Time: Sunday, February 28<sup>th</sup> 1-3 p.m.

Place: Cathedral High School Cafeteria (South Building – 3<sup>rd</sup> St. & 7<sup>th</sup> Ave. N.)

#### SPRING CLEANUP

Time: Thursday, April 22<sup>nd</sup> (several time slots throughout the day--more info to come in April)

Place: Hester Park, along the Mississippi River, and throughout our neighborhood

#### NEIGHBORHOOD HOME TOUR

Time: Saturday, May 1<sup>st</sup> 1-4 p.m.

Place: Homes on tour to be announced as plans progress

#### GRANITE CITY DAYS PARADE FLOAT

Time: Saturday, June 26<sup>th</sup>

#### HESTER PARK 100<sup>TH</sup> BIRTHDAY CELEBRATION

Time: Saturday, Sept. 18<sup>th</sup>

Place: Hester Park (lots more info to come about this in future issues)

### **Wading Pool Fundraiser 2009 Wrap-Up**

Gayle Minor, City of St. Cloud Director of Recreation stated in a recent letter to the Northside-Hester Park neighbors:

*"On behalf of the Recreation Department I would like to commend you and your neighborhood for your devotion to your quality of life opportunities. You took the news that the City would not be operating all wading pools this past summer as a challenge and through your collaboration were successful in providing your neighborhood with their pool."*

The total bill came to \$5,803.00, significantly lower than the City's initial \$7,500 estimate when we began the fundraiser at the end of April. Through the generosity of many of you we were able to raise \$7,447.40!

Our neighborhood received "Mayor's Special Recognition" certificate for our efforts, as well as a \$100.00 "Friend of Youth" award from the St. Cloud Morning and Central Minnesota Noon Optimist Clubs, which put us over our original \$7,500 goal. Funds raised in excess of last year's final bill have been put into the general operating fund of the Northside-Hester Park Neighborhood, as indicated on the original flyer requesting donations. Those funds will be earmarked toward future park projects.

### **You Are Invited! 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Meeting of Northside-Hester Park Neighborhood!**

Please join us for our 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Neighborhood Meeting on Sunday, February 28 from 1-3 p.m. in the Cathedral High School Cafeteria. The event will include light refreshments, door prizes, an update on past and future neighborhood events, and a bit of neighborhood history, as we will be celebrating Hester Park's 100<sup>th</sup> birthday later this year. Free childcare will be available. Call Denise from Studio D at 202-0288 to sign up for complimentary photographs to be taken before the meeting begins.

### **Did You Know?**

Northside-Hester Park Neighborhood is one of seven neighborhoods in the St. Cloud Neighborhood Coalition (SCNC). Membership in SCNC, which has non-profit status, allows us access to grants, volunteer liability insurance, the ability to accept tax-deductible donations, and access to information about city policies for neighborhoods.



### **Stormwater Management Project**

The 18 Avenue North Phase 2 Project was the City of St. Cloud's first reconstruction project to implement bio-retention as a form of stormwater management.

As part of the project a special type of concrete called pervious concrete was used. This is a concrete with high porosity that allows stormwater to pass directly through and infiltrate into the ground. This reduces stormwater runoff by infiltrating it into the underlying rock beds and soils which treats the water by removing pollutants through chemical and biological processes. This reduces the pollutants entering the Mississippi River.

You can help to make this project successful by removing sediment and wastes in your driveway and alley and disposing of it in the trash as well as limiting the use of sand or salt in the winter. Because of its make-up ice does not build up on the pervious concrete.

The City will sweep the alleys routinely and perform maintenance on this concrete 2 to 3 times a year to remove clogged sediments.

### **Featured Resident Marje Moore**

Marje Moore, our octogenarian member of the Northside-Hester Park Neighborhood Steering Committee, is like the Energizer Bunny: she keeps going, and going, and going.

Marje was part of the Healthy Neighborhood Partnership training in early 2008. She helped plan and was a greeter at our Neighborhood Visioning Event in February 2008. She has attended 17 of the 21 steering committee meetings we've had so far, missing only because of illness or to attend a Minnesota Orchestra concert. She has delivered neighborhood newsletters, helped at the Neighborhood Watch informational meeting, attended last year's talent show at the Area Learning Center and helped plan our 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Neighborhood Meeting. She picked up garbage for the Earth Day Spring Cleanup, helped plan and was a hostess for our Inaugural Home Tour, and supported the Hester Park Wading Pool fundraising efforts.

Marje is also involved in many other organizations, including the League of Women Voters, Delta Kappa Gamma (an international educational women's organization), Retired Educators of Central MN, SCSU Women's Reading Group, and International Neighbors. She frequently attends musical events, seldom missing St. Cloud Symphony or Minnesota Orchestra concerts.

Marje was a widow when she moved to St. Cloud in 1962 with her two children, Diane and Rick. She had been hired as a school nurse over the telephone, "sight unseen," by the St. Cloud school superintendent Jim Mische. It took several attempts for him to persuade her to uproot herself and her children to take the job, but she now knows it was just the right move. She was supervisor of school nurses in the St. Cloud School District for 22 years. She helped implement programs such as early childhood screening and scoliosis screening. Marje later served as a parish

nurse for Salem Lutheran Church for 17 years.

Widowed for 18 years, Marje never thought she would marry again. That was until she met Ben. They were married in 1972 and shared a good 31 year marriage until he died in 2003. She and Ben moved into our neighborhood in 1989. Marje loves the quiet atmosphere of the neighborhood. She feels people are respectful of each other and of their own and others' property.

Marje has high praise for our neighborhood organization and would like to see more neighbors become involved. She speaks highly of the collaboration she has witnessed and is very proud of what we have accomplished in a relatively short time. She thinks we are "a wonderful example for the whole city."

Marje has recently experienced a decline in her health. She is currently staying at the Quiet Oaks Hospice House. Still sprightly, she welcomes phone calls (255-5433) and visitors.



### **Hester Park T-shirt Design Contest**

Win a \$25.00 prize and a free t-shirt by designing the winning t-shirt for our Hester Park 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary celebration!

We're looking for a design that reflects the spirit and nature of the Northside-Hester Park neighborhood and the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Hester Park.

Please call 259-8737 to submit your design(s) to Kaye by February 23rd. All entries will be displayed at our February 28<sup>th</sup> Annual Neighborhood Meeting where neighbors will help to select the design for the 100<sup>th</sup> birthday shirts!

### **Water Treatment Facility Work Continues**

The City of St. Cloud Water Treatment Facility located at Hester Park is undergoing a rehabilitation project to upgrade equipment that was not replaced during the early 1990's expansion. Work will be taking place from November through April to take advantage of the lower water demand. Subsequently, the City is asking for the public's cooperation again this sledding season.

The fenced driveway area at the bottom of the North to South sliding hill is being used to bring equipment in and remove material from the building. In an effort to enhance the safety of the public and to avoid any conflicts with the construction project while using Hester Park, people are encouraged to use the West to East hill for sledding. Signs will be posted.

The Park Department promote sledding as a healthy winter activity and is not proposing the discontinuation of this opportunity, but only a temporary change as a safety precaution.

Contact the Park Department at 255-7216 or the Public Utilities Department at 255-7225 with any questions.

**Check out our informational and interactive neighborhood website at: <http://northside-hesterpark.Wikispaces.com>**

### **Neighborhood Volunteer "Wish List"**

Participating in our neighborhood activities doesn't have to be all-consuming or require a regular, ongoing commitment. Several people have expressed a willingness to help on an "as needed" or "as able" basis. Following is a list of some volunteer opportunities. If you can help in any of these areas, please call Kaye at 259-8737.

#### **Newsletter**

- Write articles
- Recruit advertisers
- Deliver newsletters
- Help coordinate delivery routes

#### **Annual Meeting**

- Help obtain door prizes
- Help setup/takedown tables & chairs
- Help with childcare

#### **Spring Cleanup (Thurs. April 22<sup>nd</sup>)**

- Participate sometime throughout the day

#### **Home Tour (Sat. May 1<sup>st</sup> 1-4 pm)**

- Have your home on the tour
- Help distribute posters
- Be a host/hostess at a home
- Be a musician
- Be a crafter/artist

#### **Granite City Days Parade (Sat. June 26<sup>th</sup>)**

- Help decorate float
- Be part of float during parade

#### **Hester Park 100<sup>th</sup> Birthday (Sat. Sept. 18<sup>th</sup>)**

- Be part of planning committee
- Help with 100<sup>th</sup> birthday shirt—assist with style selection and/or ordering process
- Be part of historic play
- Share musical or other talents
- Help with food stand



**Steering Committee members met at and toured the Water Treatment Facility during their November meeting.**