

Bridges



Newsletter of the Northside-Hester Park Neighborhood

May 2013, Fourteenth Edition

This project is funded in part by the Initiative Foundation, a regional foundation

Hester Park Work Day

Time to get out your work gloves and lawn implements and head over to Hester Park to help with the annual spring clean-up!

Join us on **Saturday, June 1st, from 9:30-11:30 a.m.**

Meet your neighbors at the tennis courts. Bring a rake if possible, bags are provided.

Many hands will make quick work of raking the ravine and picking up litter throughout the park.

Doughnuts and juice will be available at 11:30.

Fourth of July

It's less than 100 days before the Fourth of July, 2013! As in past years, we plan to have a booth and do some fundraising as part of the festivities at Hester Park. If you would like to help with this endeavor and you weren't able to sign up at the Neighborhood Meeting, contact any member of the neighborhood group to volunteer. We area always looking for new people and new ideas!

Last year we battled the record-high temperatures to raise funds for various neighborhood improvements including extended hours at the Hester Park pool.

Many volunteers helped us sell iced water and pop and ice cream treats and mingled with the crowds to sell the traditional "glow" necklaces.

We raised almost \$600 last year and hope to meet or exceed that goal this year!

Find Us Online

We are a participating member of the St. Cloud Neighborhood Coalition. Visit SCNC.us to sign up and be sure to "like" us on Facebook.

Annual Meeting Notes

Thanks to all neighbors who made it to our Annual NSHP Meeting last month. About 50 people were able to join us and enjoyed pizza from the House of Pizza and time to visit and get to know each other.

City officials were there, including Mayor Dave Kleis, City Council members George Hontos & John Libert, as well as Scott Zlotnik, Parks Director and Lisa Volbrecht, Asst. Director of Public Utilities. The mayor shared some insights on city planning and Scott and Lisa provided updates on the Beaver Island Trail work and planning and the Water Treatment Plant work.

Door prizes were awarded, some compliments of St. Cloud Hospital's gift shop and North Star Press.

Thanks to everyone who worked to put together this meeting and played host the night of the event.

Special thanks to JanetReigstad from the neighborhood steering committee who did a great job as the evening's emcee!



A Little Bit of Christmas Cheer

Although we're all plenty sick and tired of winter this year we'd like to take a moment to recognize our neighbors who took the time and trouble to make their homes beautiful during the holiday season at the end of last year.

In early December six members of the NSHP Neighborhood group were chauffeured robustly by Susie Lies down every street in our area to view each and every one of the beautifully, creatively and distinctly decorated homes in our neighborhood.

Ten homes were selected as the best of the best and each homeowner was presented with a \$25.00 award in recognition of their efforts to make NSHP a great place to live.



And the winners are:

David & Rebecca Medvec 1715 Hillcrest Rd N.
Laura Capes 1944 6th Ave. N.
Nathan & Lydia Hoffman 1553 6th Ave. N.
Russell Pallansch 719 4th St. N.
Chris Scott 1015 7th Ave. N.
Simon & Karen Schloe 826 7th Ave. N.
Dean Borgman 713 7th Ave. N.
Brandon Pauman & Seal Dwyer 528 7th Ave. N.
Brent Engelbrekt 1003 8th Ave. N.
Molly & Steve Olmscheid 717 6th Ave. N.

Dubious picture quality doesn't do justice to these beautifully decorated homes!

Hello Neighbors!

In every issue we identify someone in our neighborhood and chat with them so we can introduce them to the rest of our neighbors.

This time we'd like you to meet Seal (Cecelia) Dwyer and Brandon Paumen. Seal is a lifelong St. Cloud resident but Brandon hails from Annandale.

In 2003 when Seal was looking for an older home to purchase, she focused her search on the Northside-Hester Park neighborhood. She has an affinity for the older homes that are so abundant here. She also has fond memories from her childhood spending holidays with her grandmother who lives in the area. One of her favorite memories is going down to the artesian well that used to flow by the water treatment plant.

They were fortunate to find a stately turn of the century home for sale at 528 7th Avenue North and decided to purchase it. The house was built in 1905 for \$2,200, which was a tidy sum at that time. It was built by the Lahr family who also have a beautiful commercial building (now Geocom) downtown on St. Germain named after them. Looking at the deed, Seal noticed that all of the names on it were women – very unusual for that time.

The house has wonderful “bones” but had suffered many years of questionable home remodeling. The front porch was removed and there was a fake wooden fireplace. Not to mention lots of bad wallpaper.

They bought the house with a vision of what it could become again. As renovations proceeded they found three hidden doors, two boarded up windows and an old tub that had been in a former closet and rotted through the floor. In digging post holes for the new deck they found a rotted wooden barrel full of draft horse size metal horseshoes. Their next big projects will be a new

front porch and a conservatory addition to the southwest corner of the house.

Their new deck gives them a view of the orchard and gardens they are cultivating including many fruit trees and shrubs.



Both Seal and Brandon work for North Star Press, which was started by Seal's grandparents in 1969. Seal manages the business while Brandon designs both paper and e-books. Seal and her mother took over the business in 2001 and have run it since then. They publish fiction, nonfiction, historical, poetry and other books as long as they have ties to Minnesota.

(continued on back page)

One of their best-selling books is *Hooked X* by Scott Wolter, which is about the Kensington Runestone. They also published a book about the Burma Shave company and their iconic promotion strategy of putting up Burma Shave highway signs. Another interesting book they publish is *Abercrombie Trail*, which tells the story of the 1862 Indian Uprising from the St. Cloud area and north of here.

Brandon and Seal love to meet their neighbors – stop by if you see them out in their yard and get acquainted! They bring lots of energy and devotion to our neighborhood!

If you know someone who lives in our neighborhood and would like to see their story let someone in our Neighborhood group know and you may see them next in the newsletter. You can also offer to appear yourself in our pages!

Good Neighbor Recognition

Have you noticed someone in your neighborhood who is helping to make this a better place to live? Has someone worked hard to improve the structure or appearance of their home or the landscaping around it?

Now we will have a new way to recognize these folks who are helping to improve the physical image of our wonderful neighborhood by making an investment in their property and our community. These types of improvements and investments have a physical, visual and financial effect that we all benefit from. They impact our neighborhood appeal.

We think it is important to let people know that we recognize their work and are grateful for their investment.

Once the ground thaws we will be putting out "Good Neighbor" recognition signs at these homes.

If you would like to nominate someone for their work please contact any member of the Neighborhood group with your input.

We welcome everyone's involvement to create an ongoing positive future for our neighborhood. Get involved by joining our steering committee or working on various projects.

For more information contact:

Joan Rydberg 253-8403

Susie Lies 251-5194

Janet Reigstad 249-1293

Home Tour Update

We are still planning to have a neighborhood home tour this fall or next spring – but we need volunteers to open their homes as well as people to work on the event before we can set a firm date.

Do you have a beautiful home you'd just love to show off?

Contact Brandon Paumen at _____ or call him at 320-229-0526.