

Bridges



Newsletter of the Northside-Hester Park Neighborhood

April 2011, Tenth Edition

SPRING CLEAN-UP & PIZZA!

April is becoming recognized as “Neighborhood Spring Clean-Up” month in St. Cloud. The city assists neighborhoods, organizations and individuals in this endeavor by providing bags, latex gloves, and pick-up of the trash collected.

We invite you to join in the **Northside-Hester Park Neighborhood Spring Clean-Up** on **Saturday, April 16, 2011**. Plan to meet at Hester Park pool. Crews will spread throughout the neighborhood from **9AM—Noon**. Arrive anytime. Our goal is to rid the neighborhood of trash that has been hidden under the snow in the park, along the roads, in the alleys, near the river, or any other public spaces.

Participants will be able to enjoy pizza and each others’ company in the park afterwards.

In case of questions or inclement weather, contact: Janet (255-0751), David (251-7608) or Kaye (259-8737).

Northside-Hester Park Steering Committee Officers:

Chair: Kaye Schimnich 259-8737

Co-Chair: (seeking)

Secretary: 2-month rotation of committee members

Treasurer: Pam Haugen 253-8068

Did you know you can see copies of our ‘Bridges’ newsletters with original color photos on our wikispaces site? To find these or more information about what’s happening in our neighborhood visit our home page at: www.northside-hesterhark.wikispaces.org/

CALENDAR OF NEIGHBORHOOD EVENTS:

MONTHLY STEERING COMMITTEE MEETINGS

Time: 1st Thursday of the month, 7:30 p.m.

Place: Cathedral High School Conference Room

(Anyone is welcome to attend! We’d love to have you join us!)

SPRING CLEANUP

Time: Saturday, April 16th 9 a.m.--Noon

Meet at Hester Park wading pool

NEIGHBORHOOD HOME TOUR

Time: Sunday, May 1st 1-4 p.m.

(see insert with this newsletter for details)

HESTER PARK RAKING/CLEANUP AND PLANTING

Times:

Sunday, May 15th 10 a.m.—4 p.m.

Sunday, May 22nd 10 a.m.—4 p.m.

(Come for an hour or come all day!)

Place: Hester Park ravine (near north bridge)

HESTER PARK PLANTING

Time: late May/early June (call Joan 253-8403 or Kelly 253-8068 if you would like to help out)

MUSIC IN HESTER PARK

Dates/Time: summer months (1/month) TBD

JULY 4TH FUNDRAISER IN HESTER PARK (contact Steve at 253-1840 if you would like to help out)

SUMMER NEIGHBORHOOD PICNIC IN THE PARK (tentative August activity)

ANNUAL MEETING 2011

The Northside-Hester Park Neighborhood 4th Annual Meeting was held on February 27, 2011. Over 40 people gathered in the Cathedral High School cafeteria to acknowledge and celebrate what we as a neighborhood have accomplished in the past year and to look ahead to some activities for this year.

While viewing photos and a short video from activities of 2010, people indicated those for which they volunteered or in which they participated, occasionally commenting on aspects they particularly remembered or enjoyed. Having completed a number of “one-time” or “time-specific” projects in the past few years, the steering committee is anticipating a quieter year in terms of number and scope of upcoming projects/activities.

Attendees were asked for input about the timing of our annual neighborhood meeting. Late February was initially chosen as it coincided with the Healthy Neighborhood Partnership Training in which a number of our steering committee members participated. The general consensus was that mid to late fall might be an easier time for people to attend and would also spread our activities out more.

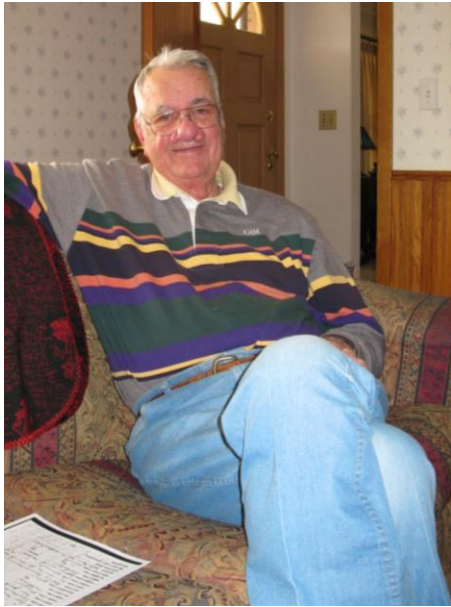
The summer wading pool schedule was also discussed. Like last summer, the city will open all wading pools, but for a shorter period of time, giving neighborhoods the option of funding additional weeks. It was agreed that it would be a good thing for us as a neighborhood to support extending the pool hours an additional 2 weeks, like we did last year, and that we will use the remainder of the pool funds raised 2 years ago, as well as any money received in donation jars set out at the Home Tour.

During a game of *Where Do You Think This Is?* slides of “interesting neighborhood features” were shown and people at each table worked together to identify their locations. Drawing for door prizes took place throughout the meeting. Special thanks to all who donated door prizes: Jen Thompson Photo, Good Earth Coop, Coborns, River’s Edge Skating Academy, Books Revisited, D.B. Searles, Denny & Kathy’s Ace Hardware, Mexican Village, Theo Lanz, House of Pizza, Pacific Wok, Ellen (Susie) Lies, Kaye Schimnich, and the Northside-Hester Park Steering Committee.



Where Do You Think This Is?

FEATURED RESIDENT: KEITH MAURER HAS STRONG TIES TO NEIGHBORHOOD



Keith Maurer shares fond memories.

“Now don’t make me into something I’m not,” were Keith Maurer’s words at the end of the interview for this article. This modest 86-year old has resided for the past 20-years in an equally modest, yet very comfortable home on 7th Ave. N. But his history with the Northside-Hester Park Neighborhood goes back much farther than that.

Born November 15, 1924 on a farm near Mayhew Lake, Keith’s family came to live with his mother’s parents in the large house at 805 7th Ave. N. in 1928 when the farm was lost. These were the only grandparents Keith knew, as his father came west in the late 1800s on an orphan train. Because times were so hard in 1928, Keith, not even 4-years old then, and his 10-year old brother were soon placed in the orphanage, while their 2 sisters were sent to live with relatives. After 3 years at the St. Cloud Children’s Home, the boys went back to live at their grandmother’s house.

Slightly fuzzy on the time frame because he was so young at the time, Keith believes it was shortly after this that his Grandfather Boos, while trimming a tree in the yard, died when he fell and hit his head on a slab of granite. As was customary in those days, the wake took place in the parlor. Eventually Keith’s family moved to the west end, but Grandmother Boos continued to live in her house until she died in 1947. Keith could have bought that house for \$6500, but recalls, “I didn’t even have \$65 in those days!”

Having graduated from Tech High School, Keith joined the Navy shortly after his 18th birthday and served as a signalman, spending time in all 4 theaters of World War II. It was after he returned from the Navy that Keith met Jeanette Legatt, at a dance at the Coliseum. Keith’s face lit up as remembered, “She was a beautiful woman.” Keith and Jeanette Maurer were married on February 15, 1947 and lived for a time in the house across the street from his grandmother’s house. When they were raising their 11 children (6 girls and 5 boys), they lived in a large house near St. Augusta. After the kids were all grown and they were ready to down-size, Keith told Jeanette, “The only house I want to live in is on the north end.” So they moved back to the neighborhood, as it happens, a block north of where daughter Maureen and her family lived at the time.

When Jeanette developed Alzheimer’s, Keith cared for her at home for 5 years and then visited her daily at St. Benedict’s Center another 5 years until she passed away a year ago. Now Keith receives regular visits from his children and recently returned from a fishing trip with his sons. He is hoping to sell his house soon and move to a townhome adjacent to an assisted living facility, as he is ready to turn upkeep over to someone else.

“MEET YOUR NEIGHBOR” ON CHANNEL 19

As some people may know, the city is planning to do a series on channel 19 called "Meet Your Neighbor." The concept involves interviewing various community members with different backgrounds from throughout the city.

To kickoff the series, a half hour round table discussion focusing on St. Cloud’s current neighborhood organizations was taped on March 25th and has been airing at various times on channel 19. Panel members for that initial session were Mayor Dave Kleis, Kelly Bartlow, St. Cloud Neighborhood Coalition chair and past chair of Seberber Roosevelt Neighborhood Association, Marge Pryately, former chair of St. Cloud Neighborhood Coalition, and active steering committee member of Lake George Neighborhood Association, and Kaye Schimnich, chair of Northside-Hester Park Neighborhood organization.

For more information about when the segment airs, go to the City’s website at: www.ci.stcloud.mn.us and click channel 19.

If you would like to be or know anyone you think should be highlighted in a future segment, contact the mayor’s office at 255-7201.



Jennifer Wildeson and Peter Johnson make music in Hester Park in August 2010.

CALLING ALL LEAF RAKERS!

Gather with neighbors for a peaceful time of raking in Hester Park.

Come for an hour or come all day!
(Note: more rakers=less time!)

All ages welcome to help care for **our park!**
Special Note to Kids: we can use some of your energy and enthusiasm!

B.Y.O.R. (Bring Your Own Rake)
Water and bags will be provided.

If you are able to bring a trailer and have a permit for the city compost site, please notify Joan (253-8403) or Kelly (253-8068) in advance.

**DATES: Sunday, May 15
& Sunday, May 22**

TIME: 10 a.m.—4 p.m.

**LOCATION: Hester Park Ravine
(near tennis courts)**

WEATHER PERMITTING

MUSIC IN HESTER PARK

Plans are underway to offer music in Hester Park this summer. Andra Van Kempen-Middlestaedt, a communication specialist at the St. Cloud Hospital, who is also a member of the Northside-Hester Park Steering Committee, organized the inaugural Music in Hester Park last August. Some listeners came just to enjoy the music and ambience of the park on a beautiful summer day, while others brought their lunches to this come-and-go-as-you-please weekday noontime musical event. The hope for this summer is to have one such musical event each month in Hester Park. Any neighborhood musicians willing to assist with this are encouraged to call Andra at 229-5199, ext. 71386. And of course, all neighbors are invited to come experience Music in Hester Park!