

# **Evergreen Awards 2009**

## **Script**

**Mayor Jerry Smith and Virginia Olsen, Community Relations Director welcomed everyone and thanked Snohomish County-Camano Association of Realtors (SCCAR) for providing the grant funding for this program.**

**Nominees were judged in the following categories against properties within their neighborhood.**

### **Category 1 – Pride of the Neighborhood**

Awards go to property owners who have worked consistently to keep their homes looking their best. These properties shine with the efforts of the owners or occupants who take great pride in their property and whose high standards for building and yard maintenance contribute to the character of our neighborhoods and city.

### **Category 2 – Best Maintained Business**

This category honors businesses that rate high in visual quality. Consideration is given to appropriate signage, building design, maintenance and landscaping. These award winners fit in and are recognized for their extra efforts to add positively to the character of the neighborhoods and city.

### **Category 3 – Best Maintained Multifamily Property**

Awards go to property owners who have worked consistently to keep their multifamily properties looking their best. These properties shine with the efforts of the owners or occupants who take great pride in their property and whose high standards for building and yard maintenance contribute to the character of our neighborhoods and city.

### **Category 4 – Transformation Award**

This award honors owners for a residential, business, or multifamily property that has changed for the better over time, consistent with the city standards and with noticeable change of the past year. These properties have been transformed into a visual asset. This applies to properties that have been unnoticed and are now “showpieces”, as well as real “eyesores” that have simply become nice-looking properties.

### **Category 5 – Sustainability Award**

This award honors a property that best utilizes “green” features to help protect and preserve the environment and reduce its carbon footprint. Green features include things like solar heating, natural cooling, and native landscaping.

**4. Honorable Mention Title Slide:** We wanted to recognize the property owners who came close, but just missed out this year.

**5. Honorable Mention Pride of the Neighborhood: Delores Teller, Sharon Redden, Richard and Kathy Rossi from Town Center and George and Jan Gunn, Lake Ballinger.**

**6. Honorable Mention Pride of the Neighborhood: David & Cheryl Mestl, North Terrace; Don Dahlberg, Gateway, Jim & Marylou Neff, Lake Ballinger and Tom & Jan Rogerson, Gateway.**

**7. Honorable Mention: Sustainability: Christopher Shymko and Jennifer Reardon-Shymko and Carol Chaput.**

**8. Honorable Mention: Multifamily Properties: Lakeview Village, Lake Ballinger Estates, Andorra Estates, and Lake Ballinger Village.**

**9. Winning Properties Title Slide: And NOW, the winners!**

**Jeff Crandall narrated the presentation.**

### **EAST TERRACE**

**10. (2 slides) Ronald & Shelley Warhol (East Terrace):** This beautiful East Terrace home is immaculate! You have to look twice, just to make sure it is real. At Ron and Shelley Warhol’s house, except for the big, red truck, you might not notice anything specific because EVERYTHING looks so nice! The home is exceptionally well maintained and cared for, as the Warhol’s have resided here for 33 years. Unfortunately, these folks were unable to attend tonight. Not only do they have a beautiful residence, they work with their neighbors to raise money for the Food Bank with their annual neighborhood Christmas Lights show. Their home features palm trees, a Hydrangea Tree, perfectly manicured lawn, trees, neatly trimmed shrubs and flowers on a corner lot. A wide variety of interesting plantings in rich colors sets this home apart. Lampposts and gates add architectural detail to the beautifully trimmed yard. Ron told us, “Once you get it, it’s not that hard to maintain.”

11. (2 slides) **Bob & Sashil Pillay** (East Terrace): Just across the street sits Bob and Sashil's home and it's hard to determine who's keeping up with whom. Also on a corner lot, the Pillay's make excellent use of the hill with two rockeries to accent the manicured turf and an array of shrubs with different colors, textures and heights that create interesting dimensions and levels to the landscape to accentuate their well-maintained home. A Banana tree and palms along with a variety of well-trimmed plants and color spots add to the curb appeal of this East Terrace home.

12. (2 slides) **Cedar Plaza Shopping Center** John K. & Judy D. Stipek (East Terrace) 22803 44<sup>th</sup> Avenue West: This shopping center is always kept very attractive and clean. New pavement coating and beautiful landscaped areas make this shopping center a welcome gathering site for the community. Cedar Plaza's north entry was recently improved to include a meandering sidewalk, flowering trees, bushes and lawn to provide a beautiful gateway along its 228<sup>th</sup> entry. Lights on the trees and plantings of Red Geraniums provide accent color to make this shopping center inviting year round.

13. (2 slides) **Creekside Village** (East Terrace) 4208 236<sup>th</sup> Street SW, Mary Anne Jorgenson, General Manager: From its main entry along Cedar Way, this large multifamily complex has a welcoming and clean appearance. It has beautiful trees and rhododendrons that line the street and run throughout the complex. What gave this property the nod over the honorable mentions was noticeable when we drove through the complex. We found clean parking lots and sidewalks, well pruned and manicured landscaping inside and out, and no hidden clutter or trash. It also has a nice fountain feature by the leasing office.

14. (2 slides) **Kathleen & Dean Peterson** (East Terrace): The first of our sustainability awards tonight, Kathleen Peterson's home features solar tubes. When we called the Peterson household, husband, Dean, said his wife Kathleen "does it all". A pleasant surprise among the standard yards with basic front lawns, this oasis is one of our best sustainable landscapes in Mountlake Terrace. A huge variety of plant species to attract birds and other urban wildlife surrounds this well cared for home. Lined gravel pathways create a variety of outdoor rooms with accents such as a windmill, flower barrels, planters and benches. The homeowners and visitors can sit and enjoy the layers of plant life, colors, textures, smells and sounds from the birds and other creatures that make this yard their home.

#### GATEWAY

15. (2 slides) **Eddward & Leanne Hopkins** (Gateway): This Gateway Neighborhood home is very colorful and inviting. Attractive landscaping in reds,

purples, yellows, grays and greens accents the entry to this nicely maintained home. The winding pathway leads guests through the pleasant sights of the gardens. They make excellent use of the hill with lower plantings at the curb and taller plants leading up to the home.

16. (2 slides) **Lynn Drinnin** (Gateway): Original owner, Ms. Drinnin does all the work herself and the neighbors say she's the best gardener in the neighborhood. As you can see, even the neighbor's cat enjoys her yard. It was a tough year to photograph some of these properties after some of the hot weather we've been having. This property features nice color with the flowers and interesting plantings including a palm tree in the back yard and an eagle statue is visible over the fence on the left. Very well done and well maintained.

#### MELODY HILL

17. (2 slides) **Bobbie Barry** (Melody Hill): So much to look at, you need to come into the yard to see all of the details that make this home so special. Nicely trimmed trees and shrubs, plenty of color with a big variety of flowers, bird houses, solar lights and cactus plants to keep the cats away combine to make this a beautiful property in which to live. I'll bet the neighbors enjoy it too. The backyard contains additional interesting features, including a water feature and quiet place to sit and reflect.

18. **Premera Blue Cross** (Melody Hill) Tom Hebner, Director of Facilities Maintenance 7001 220<sup>th</sup> Street SW: The largest employer in the city, Premera is located in a high visibility corridor along 220<sup>th</sup> Street, just west of I-5. Tom Hebner, Director of Facilities, has a big job to do at the Premera Campus. A giant in the Health Care Industry, Premera offers a beautiful work environment for its more than 2,500 employees along with a clean, well-maintained professional business site for its thousands of customers. The grounds are immaculate with color spots and neatly trimmed trees and shrubs creating an inviting place to walk and sit out and enjoy lunchtime.

#### NORTH TERRACE

19. (2 slides) **Seth Church** (North Terrace): This very unique property is both interesting and well cared for. It is also both inviting and yet secluded. The entry gate with rock accents that matches the rock fireplace ties the entry to the home. Nice lights on top of the entry gate lights the way for the homeowner and guests. Garden sculpture adds an interesting touch, like the fish jumping out of a water feature in the front yard. A hanging plant draped all the way around the eaves,

brings the garden into the home. A wide array of plants provides a relaxing escape from the traffic along 48<sup>th</sup> Avenue. There is so much going on in this yard it is hard to see it all at first glance. (The ladder leaning against the house was there because they were painting.)

20. (2 slides) **Cecil & Marilyn Scott** (North Terrace): This beautiful property really stands out right along 48<sup>th</sup> Avenue at 218<sup>th</sup> Street. It is such a wide property, it was difficult to photograph and get all the features in one shot. When we spoke to Marilyn Scott, her husband Cecil said in the background, “They should see the back yard!” A decorative iron gate at the side leads to the backyard via a flagstone walkway that curves around with attractive landscaping that provides a natural screen. The beautiful landscaping and bench out front is very inviting. There are many details including artwork in the fencing, nice plant selection, and the scale is great.

#### TOWN CENTER

21. (2 slides) **Mario Tostado** (Town Center): Tucked away on the back streets of the Town Center Neighborhood, we found two jewels. Mr. Tostado’s house is really quite different from all the others in the neighborhood. It is on a hill that drops down from east to west. They make great use of the different levels to create a grand entry at the front of the home complete with rockwork, water feature and corn plants that seem to rise out of the fountain in a whimsical fashion. This home is also on a corner lot. A lovely white arched gateway beckons visitors to venture into the backyard to escape into the shady oasis.

22. (2 slides) **Dale & Robin Anderson** (Town Center): As we pulled away from the Tostado property, sitting below the tall, majestic Evergreen trees, we found an array of color at the Anderson home. Located kitty-corner from the Tostados, the Andersons told us they have really gotten into gardening the past 5 or 6 years. Their well-maintained property offers a variety of focal points including a round planting bed with color spots and Japanese maple and a very neatly trimmed pompom-style hedge that guides visitors up a walkway to the entry to the home.

23. (2 slides) **Mark & Sharon Brumfield** (Town Center): Located on 220<sup>th</sup> street, very close to Mountlake Terrace Elementary School and 52<sup>nd</sup> Avenue, no one misses the Brumfield home. Perfect! Quite possibly the highest water bill might belong here with a beautiful green yard and gorgeous flowers, set against a well-maintained and clean, bright blue and white home. The Brumfield’s were in the midst of building a fence on the west side of their property when we were there to take photos. It is now completed.

24. **Cousins Hair Design** (Town Center) Julie & Rodney Casper: Mountlake Terrace residents always recommend Cousins Hair Design to their friends and new neighbors. Not only do they execute great hairstyles, their business always looks neat, approachable, friendly and professional in the heart of our redeveloping Town Center neighborhood. Located right on 56<sup>th</sup> Avenue and 234<sup>th</sup> Street, Cousins simple block style building is accentuated by its attractive and well cared for landscaping.

25. **The Bowen Company** (Town Center) Fred Bowen: The Bowen Company received a several nominations from neighbors in the Town Center. This nicely maintained business in the Town Center is surrounded by residential properties. It features beautiful rhododendrons and azaleas, accented by beautiful green lawn, brick pavers and attractive signage. It fits nicely into this neighborhood.

26. (2 slides) **Tim & Mercia Ayers** (Town Center): One of our two most sustainable landscape winners, the Ayers property has so much to show, it's difficult without walking the property. Tucked in the Evergreens and surrounded by natural landscape, this town center home is a contrast to the hustle and bustle of activity that encircles it. Drought tolerant lavender plants and herbs flow through the iron fence to soften the lines and invite passersby to enjoy the sense of our environment. Native species plantings abound in the landscape with gravel pathways leading to a variety of interesting views. The variety of colors and textures create an interesting habitat to attract birds and urban wildlife.

## GATEWAY

27. **Gateway Place**, Matt and Bill Steiner (Gateway) Gateway Place is located at the major intersection of 244<sup>th</sup> SW (at the County line) and Ballinger Way, just east of I-5. Dale Behar's company does a fantastic job with this property. The home of Canyons Restaurant, Office Depot, and the Cinebarre Theatre, this modern business park is always clean and attractive for customers. It shows off its name "Gateway Place" by creating a beautiful gateway into the City of Mountlake Terrace. With its neatly trimmed hedges as a backdrop to a beautiful array of colorful flowers, Gateway Place signage announces its presence to the thousands of drivers that pass by daily.

28. **Haider Construction** (Gateway) Ron Haider: Converted from a block home rental, Ron Haider and his construction company came along about 4 or 5 years ago and did a fantastic job transforming this section of the Gateway neighborhood.

Located on the highly traveled county line, just west of 56<sup>th</sup> Avenue, Haider Construction stands out among the other residences and businesses in Gateway. Nice landscaping, crisp, sharp building with professional signage, other businesses should strive to emulate this company's work. This is a great example of how our downtown block homes can be redeveloped to create an atmosphere that is more visitor-friendly and safe. Ron told us the grass was 3 feet high when he purchased the property.

29. (2 slides) **Steve Harmon & Kathy DeHart** (Gateway): Steve told us that they bought the property 21 years ago and upgraded it when they had the opportunity to hook up to the city sewer. They were in an unincorporated island of Snohomish County. They decided to get rid of all the problem trees since the front yard was torn up anyway and Kathy did all the flowers herself. This very charming residence stands out in its neighborhood with its barn red color and white trim and details on the front porch. The rock pathway leading to the front door curves from the driveway and is accented with beautiful lawn and a nicely planned flower bed that showcases the bay window.

#### LAKE BALLINGER

30. (2 slides) **Danny & Ruth Abad** (Lake Ballinger): There was stiff competition in the Lake Ballinger neighborhood with two winners in the residential category. There were very nice properties in the vicinity, but the Abad household really stood out among the others. It becomes a fairy tale attraction with its details such as the blue fountain with figurines, little animal yard art, dwarfs, rock garden and angled brick edging. Wreathes hang from the sides of the front window and an arched gate leads to the backyard. All of the landscape plantings are neatly trimmed. Very nice.

31. (2 slides) **A.J. & Kathryn Housler** (Lake Ballinger: Down the street from Danny and Ruth Abad, AJ and Kathryn Housler have a charming home that they've worked hard to enhance. They are hosting their granddaughter's birthday party tonight and have sent neighbors Patti and Charlie Marquis to accept on their behalf. Kathryn said they painted the house this year and got a new driveway. She said she does the flowers and AJ does the rest. Kathryn said they are also really proud of a gorgeous pond they have in the back yard. The colorful flowerbeds in the front lead the viewer's eye uphill to this stately home. When they are not minding their own garden, you often see the Houslers volunteering on the grounds of St. Pius.

32. **Terrace Manor A. F. H.** Gerald & Roslyn Jackson (Lake Ballinger). We entered this property in the business category, although we've heard it was quite a transformation. As you drive along 66<sup>th</sup> Avenue from Melody Hill or the Town Center, it's hard to miss this statuesque business. Owned by Gerald and Roslyn Jackson, we understand that this was a rundown rental property that was demolished to build this lovely, well cared for Adult Family Home. The front of the home is clean and inviting and there is plenty of space in the back for residents to relax and get out into the garden.

33. **Viola Scoby** (Lake Ballinger): This home, built in 1954, has been transformed from a plain home in need of some TLC to an attractive, modern looking residence. A new roof and windows along with architectural details including split cedar shakes to accent the gable roof ends, slate rock façade and splash of white siding gives extra dimension to this home. The newly configured driveway, colorful flowerbeds, and nice fencing replace the old overgrown shrubbery to add the finishing touches to this property to make it a gem in the neighborhood.