

# **Evergreen Awards 2014 Script**

## **Evergreen Awards**

**Mayor Jerry Smith, City Manager Arlene Fisher and Community Relations Director Virginia Olsen welcomed everyone to the awards ceremony.**

**We have 24 winners and 14 honorable mention properties in 6 neighborhoods.**

**The 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.

### **The Mountlake Terrace Garden Club assisted with the Evergreen Award Event.**

**Okay, we are ready to begin our presentation with our Honorable Mention properties:** We wanted to recognize the property owners who came close, but just missed out this year. Please come up and accept your honorable mention certificate after we show your home and pose for a photo. Then we’ll move to the next award to keep the program running.

Also folks, when I call your name, if you are the property owner or a guest of the property owner, please raise your hand and then we’ll know that you’re here. Thank you!

**For each HM home, we will usually show two photos and for the winners we show multiple views. We have 14 HM’s this year. By coincidence, most of the folks who cannot attend this year are in the honorable mention category and most of the winners are here so you won’t have as many people coming up at the beginning of our presentation.**

## **Honorable Mention Recipients for Pride of the Neighborhood:**

### **CASCADE VIEW (3)**

The Cascade View Neighborhood is bounded by 212<sup>th</sup> to the north, I-5 to the west, 220<sup>th</sup> to the south and the eastern boundary of the city.

#### **Charlotte Smith – Best Maintained Residence (Cascade View)**

Beautiful mature trees surround this lovely teal and white home in the Cascade View neighborhood. The landscaping is neatly trimmed and adds to the inviting and peaceful look of the home.

Charlotte has tulips and other colorful bulbs around the entry in the springtime to welcome visitors at the door. The Smith family moved into their Mountlake Terrace home in 1976 after living in Seattle. Charlotte said they moved here for the excellent schools. She told us the key to keeping the lawn green is not to cut it too short.

Charlotte's lovely home features geraniums, rhodies and azaleas in addition to the bulbs. She also received Honorable Mention status in 2013 and is on the verge of winning in 2015. Congratulations, Charlotte Smith!

Charlotte had to work tonight and is unable to come.

#### **Rick & Traci Ellersick – Best Maintained Residence (Cascade View)**

The backdrop of stately fir trees compliments the Ellersicks' sandy, brown home with white trim. A metal roof was added eight years ago and Traci remarked how easy it is to maintain. Pictured here are the salmon-colored azaleas and bench off the front porch that make the Ellersick home friendly and inviting.

In the summer, Traci has a number of rose bushes near the trellis adjacent to the front porch and snapdragons that accompany the Virgin Mary statue next to the driveway. Traci said the statue was stolen and her boys bought her this new one to replace it and gave it to her for Mother's Day. The other garden knickknacks and statues are gifts from her mother in law.

The Ellersick family is well-known in the community with boys that were active in Mountlake Terrace High School athletics and Rick owns Big E Brewery located just outside of our city limits. Big E has been a part of Tour de Terrace for many years both in the parade and at the festival.

Congratulations to Rick & Traci for a job well done!

### **John & Jodi Trimble – Best Maintained Residence (Cascade View)**

This cute Rambler with brick wainscoting and lap siding on a big corner lot has great curb appeal. The beautiful windows add to the rich look of the home. There are magnificent evergreen trees in both the front and back of this home that add to its natural setting. Colorful shrubs including rhodies, azaleas, and lilacs surround the lush green grass. It's such a wide corner lot that we needed to show an extra photo to display the whole property.

Jodi said generally she has whatever plants her mom needed to divide at her place but mostly she has day lilies, hardy fuchsias, sedum, hostas, rhodies, azaleas, black-eyed susans, hydrangea, crocosmia, and lilacs.

Jodi said she does the weeding, watering, and planting and John mows the lawn and helps with the bigger maintenance projects. John and Jodi selected Mountlake Terrace as a place to live because it is a centrally located city with easy access to downtown Seattle for commuting. They thanked the city for the award and said, "It's nice to know the yard work paid off!"

Again, we'd like to thank the Trimbles and the rest of our honorees tonight for improving our community one property at a time. The Trimble Family!

### **Brier Veterinary Hospital – Best Maintained Business (Cascade View)**

Dr. Carol Earls' new veterinary hospital moved from Edmonds to Mountlake Terrace in June of 2013. Located in the northeast corner of the city, near the Albertson's complex at 212<sup>th</sup> and 44<sup>th</sup>, Brier Veterinary Hospital is enjoying much success since moving into Mountlake Terrace. Dr. Earls wanted to stay local and still provide services at a reasonable cost for their customers.

We spoke to Jennifer at the office and she said they had a large following with the move to Mountlake Terrace because it is so easy to get there and the word is spreading to new clients.

Nominated by Jennifer Sittauer, she tells us, "Dr. Carol Earls bought the clinic from another doctor last June and turned the place into a state of the art veterinary hospital that the whole community can be proud of." This business sets the tone with visible, professional signage on both the building and the glass doors. We enjoyed the logo with paw print inside of a heart. To add little accents of home, there's a bench outside and a potted plant. All we need next year is a photo of dogs sitting on the bench. We'll show an example coming up here shortly. This business is poised to keep improving and progress to a Best Maintained Business next year. Thank you for moving into our community, Brier Veterinary Hospital!

## **CEDAR TERRACE (2)**

### **Abel Calderon - Best Maintained Residence (Cedar Terrace)**

This lovely home in soft light green with white trim is a study in greens. It has an impeccably manicured lawn framed by a variety of shrubs to accent its low, long lines to draw visitors to the front entry.

Hanging baskets and pots provide accent color and create interest along with several flowering shrubs. A palm surrounded with new beauty bark provides a nice focal point to mark the entry. The shadows cover some beautiful dahlias that we found when we visited again this summer. Despite a pretty warm summer, they've maintained their yard very nicely. The city's water utility appreciates that very much. This home will be a strong contender in the Cedar Terrace neighborhood next year.

Congratulations to the Calderon family!

### **Jim & Kathy Anderberg - Best Maintained Residence (Cedar Terrace)**

Peeking out from a lace leaf maple, a couple of "Easter Island" head statues (with plants as headdresses) greet you as you approach the Anderberg home. Jim and Kathy moved to Mountlake Terrace in 1989. Their white 2-story home with green shutters is beautiful, both inside and out. Framed by a colorful, annual flowerbed, the home has a new brick path from the driveway leading to the front door. A lovely covered porch with swing provides a sheltered area to sit and talk or just enjoy the yard.

Jim and Kathy built the walk path together with Jim using a jackhammer to remove the old handicap ramp back in 2012. They both dug out the dirt for the new path and placed the bricks. The garden on the north side of the house is half flowers and half vegetables and fruit. They have 10 blueberry bushes, apples, raspberries, and strawberries. The back raised garden with rockery provides all sorts of nooks and crannies for adding interesting plants and garden art. It also offers a combination of sun and shade. In 2012, they planted a summer squash medley, but they tell us some of the squash were too scary looking to eat.

Kathy usually plants impatiens in her front garden but this year they all died off. She did some investigating and found out that there is a disease in impatiens and once you get it in your soil, you need to find something else to plant. It's a lesson in rotating what you plant.

Great job, Anderberg family!

## GATEWAY (3)

### **Jerry & Pat Hillis - Best Maintained Residence (Gateway)**

Jerry and Pat Hillis' two-story home is tucked into a park-like setting with layers of landscaping to accent the multiple levels of the house. Peaceful and secluded, this home provides both privacy and an inviting entry for visitors. Japanese maples and red azaleas, along with other colorful shrubs, catch your attention along with the red front door.

Jerry and Pat purchased their home in 1979. They actually saw it being built and thought it was in Lake Forest Park. It was the last home to be built in the development. They didn't realize until after they moved in that they were in Mountlake Terrace. When they arrived, their neighborhood was all forested. Twenty-seven more homes were built later, but they knew before they bought that more homes were coming.

Pat said they love their neighborhood. They both do the yard work. Jerry is in charge of the front yard and all of the grass. Pat is responsible for the flowers and plants and the backyard. "There are some plants that Jerry is not allowed to touch," said Pat. Many of the plants in the yard are 35 years old. They had the yard professionally reseeded several years ago. There are a row of azaleas, red lace leaf maple trees, cotoneaster, drift roses, flowering crabapples, dahlias, gladiolas, tulips, forget-me-nots, and daffodils. They pulled out all of the Juniper tams.

Pat noted that it's amazing how long the plants last. She said the evergreens and vine maple roots have spread so much that it is hard to dig in their yard. Pat said that she has a very unique woodland landscape in her backyard. She tried experimenting with plantings in the back but nothing seemed to work, so she hired a professional woodland landscaper who brought in shade plants and sarcococca or fragrant sweet box and it grew. Now they enjoy sitting on their back deck.

Pat said she loves being close to the freeway and reading *City Happenings* (our city newsletter) to keep up with things. Pat added that she likes the addition of Arbor Village (the new mixed-use building at 236<sup>th</sup> and 56<sup>th</sup>) and says the city is looking better all the time. I promise, we didn't tell her to say that! Well Pat and Jerry, we think you and your neighbors here tonight are making the city look better too. Let's keep it going!

Congratulations to the Hillis family! They notified us this morning that they had a medical emergency in the family and could not attend. Hopefully they will be back next year as a winner!

### **Kenneth & Sandra Troy - Best Maintained Residence (Gateway)**

The Troy home is a contrast of yin and yang with a variety of trees, bushes and shrubs highlighted by rocks that mimic dry riverbeds on one side and a clean brick driveway on the other. Many textures and colors add interest to this brown split-level home. Flowering shrubs, rhodies, potted flowers, and a Japanese maple keep the color fresh throughout spring and summer. A bright orange pot that is actually a fountain creates a focal point to the right of the house. A bench provides a sitting area for Kenneth and Sandra to take a short break and reflect in the garden. We were told that Kenneth does the outside of the house and Sandra takes care of the inside.

Kenneth has worked hard all spring and summer to maintain his property so that others might enjoy it as they venture by. Perhaps that is why he doesn't have time to sit back and enjoy all the benefits from his labor. Kenneth said he prides himself on maintaining his yard so that as he does sit back, he can enjoy the peace of all that he helped create. He added, "Sitting on a corner lot, I know that many will view my home and all of the plants, shrubs, and flowers and I hope that it also puts them in a state of mind to drive by slower and enjoy all that I have done to make a better view for them."

There are 169 varieties that reside in the Troy's yard and actually 185 because some have more than one plant. Some of these plants include: ferns, blue fescue, conifers, salina, Japanese maple, infinity, Ganna lily, arborvitaes, rhodies, azalea, hydrangea, garlic for slugs, roses, blueberry, lilac, peonies, holly, apples, plums, Alberta spruce, poppy and many more.

Thank you, Kenneth and Sandra, for creating a little slice of heaven in Mountlake Terrace. We did notice your corner lot and took some time to enjoy it. Congratulations!

### **Keith & Penny Roper – Best Maintained Residence**

The Ropers live in this cute, gray and white home with crimson trim and tile roof. Affectionately known to us as the "star house" for the large gray star placed at the top of the gable, this home is very tidy and well kept. The landscaping includes a variety of plants including rhododendrons, azaleas, and lavender and the front yard has a cute picket fence that's not shown in these photos. A beautiful curved walkway, lined with colorful tulips, leads to the front door.

We've driven by this home on 52<sup>nd</sup> Avenue several times over the last few years and it always stands out in its neighborhood. Unfortunately, we've been unable to reach the Ropers to find out their story. The home has received a fresh coat of paint and mysteriously, last year the star was relocated on the house. This year, the

Ropers got a new driveway so they continuously strive to improve. Thank you for making Mountlake Terrace shine! The Roper family!

## **LAKE BALLINGER (2)**

### **Danny & Brynn Ward– Best Maintained Residence (Lake Ballinger)**

This lovely gray-green Rambler with red door and white trim is a welcome surprise in this Lake Ballinger neighborhood. The owners, Danny and Brynn, have lived here for 6 years come October and their home is located near the Interurban Trail. It is exceptionally well-maintained and has great curb appeal. The trees and shrubs frame the house and highlight the front entry. The neatly mowed and edged lawn is championed by Danny while Brynn manages the flowers, weeding, pruning and fine-tuning. She said Danny likes to baby their rose bushes.

Both Danny and Brynn work in their backyard garden and they make yard work a fun, family affair by including their 5 1/2 year-old son, Cooper, their 3-year-old daughter, Stevie, and their Mastiff named Lola. The garden features lettuces, herbs, tomatoes and raspberries.

They make the kids' jobs fun so they really like to participate. Watering is their favorite activity, as it gives them an excuse to run through the sprinkler. The Wards also received an Honorable Mention in 2012. The Ward family! They were also unable to attend tonight due to another commitment.

### **Matt Weiss – Best Maintained Residence (Lake Ballinger)**

A split-level in the Lake Ballinger neighborhood along 66<sup>th</sup> Avenue, the Weiss home has great potential. The home is well-cared for, lawn neatly mowed and edged, and flowerbeds weeded and barked. The rhododendrons provide color and there is also plenty of room to expand plantings in the flowerbeds.

I've introduced myself several times over the past two years to the friendly black dog in the front window, but since Penny and I did not reach Matt, I don't know his pet's name. I can vouch for the fact that this dog watches over this Lake Ballinger neighborhood and alerts the neighbors about the lady with the camera. That's neighborhood block watch at its best. Good job doggie and congratulations to Matt!

## **MELODY HILL (0)**

This year there were no honorable mention recipients in the Melody Hill neighborhood just winners. Melody Hill is located west of I-5, south of 212<sup>th</sup> St SW, bounded by the Interurban Trail to the west and 224<sup>th</sup> Street and east to where 230<sup>th</sup> crosses over I-5. We do have some nice winners though. If you know some

nice properties that are tucked away in this neighborhood, be sure and let us know for next year.

## **TOWN CENTER (4)**

### **Cindy Anderson – Best Maintained Residence (Town Center)**

Cindy Anderson has lived in her Town Center home for four and a half years. We had a tough time taking a front view due to the fence getting in the way, so we're showing the front as well as the side yard view taken over the fence. This little brown Rambler with white trim includes a variety of landscaping features. There is a wishing well, nice trellis with hanging baskets, garden art and tomato plants. Cindy said it continues to be a work in progress. She moved in at Christmas time 2009 and remembers that the yard was covered in more than 2 inches of maple leaves, pine needles and pinecones.

Like Matt Weiss' home, Cindy's home is looked after by her dogs Max and Coco. They like to sit on the bench together but when I told them to smile, Coco jumped off and ran up to greet me at the fence.

Cindy shared how the home needed a lot of work and she had heard the previous owners had raised 10 children in the house. She totally remodeled the inside of the house and now she continues to work on the yard. Cindy won an honorable mention in 2012 and noted that progress had slowed due to some health problems but it still looked great when we took photos last spring when the rhodies were in full bloom and splendor.

Keep up the great work and congratulations, Cindy Anderson!

### **Bruce & Gwen O'Hara – Best Maintained Residence (Town Center)**

A pale yellow house with white trim, the O'Hara home is perched above street level to take full advantage of the sloped lot. Retaining walls and rockeries separate the landscaping beds from the driveway and the street. A bold stairway, highlighted by a white rail and colorful azalea, leads to the front entry. An array of trees, shrubs and flowers create a mix of textures and colors for the enjoyment of both residents of the home and people passing by. A wrap around deck over the garage doors provide a unique vantage point.

Bruce said he's lived in this house since 1980 and the trees and flowers were planted by his first wife who passed away. Gwen has lived here for 7 years and loves the weather here having come from the hot desert. Gwen helps take care of the yard but most of it is cared for by their gardener. The O'Haras say they love

the breezes that cool off the house in the evenings. They have a number of trees and flowers and listed some of them in an email to us including: Dogwood Trees, Sumac, Japanese maples, Evergreen tree, Lilacs, Variegated MorGold, Roses, Azaleas, Crocus, Tulips, Day Lilies, Ferns, Purple flowering Raspberry, Thimbleberry, Heather, Iris, Lavender, and Spirea Bumalda Dart Red.

Great job – The O’Hara Family!

**Paul & Carol Lindlow – Best Maintained Residence (Town Center)**

Located across the street from the O’Hara home is a long, low one-story home in beige with brown trim and brown tile roof belonging to Paul and Carol Lindlow.

Their home includes two driveways and three sections of lush green lawn. A concrete walkway offers a straight on approach to the entry. A beautiful pink rhododendron softens the hard lines of the roof and breaks up the long lines in the front center of the yard. Mature trees rise out of the green lawn and provide shade on the left side of the home.

Paul and Carol have lived in their home for 30 years. Carol’s best friend lived in Mountlake Terrace so they decided to take a look and ended up buying their home here. Paul says there are three parks close by and they love having kids’ parks so close. They have a cutting garden in the front of the home with dahlias, columbine, peonies, lavender, and about eight other cutting varieties of flowers. Roses and a vegetable garden are in the back. They grow squash, collards, cauliflower, carrots, broccoli, potatoes and rhubarb (lots of rhubarb) and all organic. They also grow three kinds of raspberries, Marionberries, Japanese pear apples, Italian prunes, and blueberries. They have several blueberry plants in front that they share with their neighbors.

In 1989, the Lindlows had a house fire. It was very cold weather and a baseboard heater that was supposed to be disconnected caused the fire that damaged 60% of the home. They told us a city worker drove by and saw what he thought might be smoke, so he called the Fire Department just in case. Just as the Fire Department arrived, the front window blew out and the fire took off. They were on their way home at the time, saw the engine and thought “Oh there’s a fire on our street, and as they got closer they realized it was their house. They like Mountlake Terrace because it is a pleasant, quiet neighborhood where the kids could play outside until dark and when it snowed they could sled down the street. Carol remarked that she also loves the library here.

Congratulations on a great job and being an example in the community you love, the Lindlow family!

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

### **CASCADE VIEW**

#### **Mick & Margaret Horton – Best Maintained Residence (Cascade View)**

Mick and Margaret Horton's sage green tri-level home with white trim and bay windows has plenty of curb appeal. Everything is perfectly groomed. A nice variety of trees, shrubs, and flowers grace the yard and are in proper scale for the size of the yard.

Mick and Margaret moved to this home six years ago and they have been Mountlake Terrace residents since 1989. They like the close but not too close proximity to Seattle and local sports teams. Mick said Margaret keeps things watered and is the "Idea Person" so by default that makes Mick the laborer. Two years ago, he painted the house himself and as a result, he ended up having arm surgery. Perhaps that was all the competitive tennis he plays, but painting the house sure didn't help. But it did help the Hortons win an Evergreen Award.

We heard the back yard is just beautiful but Mick said they removed some Evergreen trees this summer so it wasn't good timing to take photos. Out front, there's a tiny wiener dog statue. Mick said the dog was so cute, they didn't have the heart to get rid of him so they kept him. We love the raised flower bed shown here earlier this year. Congratulations to the Horton Family!

#### **Lois Harris - Best Maintained Residence (Cascade View)**

Lois Harris' house is picture perfect! This crisp white split-level home with brick red trim catches your eye as you drive through this Cascade View Neighborhood. Everything is in balance with the lines and colors of the home and anchored by the 49-year-old Japanese maple just to the right of the front entry. The maple was a house warming gift many, many years ago and it still looks beautiful today!

The lush green lawn is neatly mowed and perfectly trimmed. The curved walkway provides a dramatic approach to this large corner lot home. Pink and white candytuft flows over the rockery to the right side of the driveway. Lois acknowledged that she gets landscaping assistance from her two grown sons and isn't able to keep it up on her own, but we know that she has taken great care of her home for several decades.

When we visited in spring, Lois proudly showed us the back yard that includes Siberian lilies from the lily farm her son owns. A number of rhodies surround the

patio and adjacent to that are the lilies, a collection of irises, and other assorted bulbs next to the smaller lawn. Her fence is very well maintained. In the planting bed between the walkway and house, there are hostas, bleeding heart, and more lilies.

Thank you for taking such pride in your home, Lois Harris!

**Brad Wauldron & Marianne Tynan– Best Maintained Residence (Cascade View)** Marianne stated that they were thrilled to receive the letter informing them that they were winners of a best-maintained residence award. As is the case with most of you, they didn't know they had been nominated.

Brad and Marianne have lived in their house since 2005. Brad takes care of the lawn and helps with any major projects like tree planting and old shrub removal (lucky him said Marianne!). She handles the majority of the landscape design, plant selection and weeding. Since they bought the house nine years ago, they have replaced about 90% of the front yard landscaping. Also, last year they painted the house in a darker green color and Brad personally put on a new roof, installed a new front door and added shutters to the upper windows.

These folks definitely plan out each season. In terms of the plant and flower selections for the yard, Marianne said she tries to choose an assortment of plants that will create some year-round interest. There is some heather, candytuft, hyacinth, viburnum, carpet bugle, a rhododendron and lilac as well as a Shindeshojo Japanese maple that has pinkish red foliage in the spring. For summer, there are roses, peonies, lavender, black-eyed susans, and a Himalayan honeysuckle as well as hanging flower baskets on the front porch.

In fall they have four burning bush plants as well as asters and two red Laceleaf maples. In winter, there are some evergreen foundational plantings such as a dwarf shore pine, mugo pine, arborvitae, nest spruce, pieris, cypress topiary, boxwood and some coral bells and a Gulf Stream Nandina for color.

In addition, they have redone a majority of the backyard as well in a modified Japanese-garden style with nine different varieties of Japanese maple.

Congratulations on an amazing job, Brad Wauldron and Marianne Tynan!

## **CEDAR TERRACE**

### **James Coolbaugh - Best Maintained Residence (Cedar Terrace)**

An array of color greets you as you approach the Coolbaugh's corner lot home at the end of 220<sup>th</sup> Street up the road from Cedar Way Elementary School and Bicentennial Park. Red, pink, and white Rhodies and Azaleas are strategically placed around a lush green oval expanse of lawn. A wrought iron ornament for hanging baskets adds a nice piece of garden art to the front flowerbed of this cream colored Rambler with white trim.

Fresh bark adds to the appearance and curb appeal, while helping prevent weeds and saving water by holding moisture for the plants. According to Snohomish County Assessor records, this home was built in 1957. And as you can see from this County Assessor photo, it has come a long way in improving its curb appeal. Great job, James Coolbaugh!

### **Sharon and David Wheeler - Best Maintained Residence (Cedar Terrace)**

Sharon and David Wheeler came out to greet me on a Monday afternoon when I noticed their home. Residents for 40 years, the Wheeler property backs up against Bicentennial Park just a few homes away from James Coolbaugh. Their street got new sidewalks a few years ago and they love them! They also like the fact that they were able to keep their big tree when the sidewalks were installed.

The Wheelers moved into their Mountlake Terrace home in January of 1975, almost 40 years ago. They love the beautiful willow tree in their front yard. Sharon's favorite colors are red, white and blue. So her son planted a row of Azaleas in red and white along the walkway to their front door. Since they couldn't find a blue Azalea, Sharon decided to plant blue lobelia in her hanging baskets.

Sharon graduated from Mountlake Terrace High School and moved here to be close to her family. Her parents recently moved to Darrington. She shared an interesting story that her parents were supposed to come to her house for a visit, but their plane arrived late the night before and she argued with her sister to let them sleep in. Sharon won the tiff and they got to sleep in which was fortunate because the Oso mudslide happened that morning and they might have been driving down Highway 530 as the slide hit.

Sharon said she does the flowers and loves to keep everything neat and tidy. David does the mowing and trimming. When the kids were young, they would help with the yard work. She noted that it seems that this pride in taking care of your home is passed down from generation to generation. Both of their kids' yards are

beautiful too. Sharon likes to teach respect for their neighborhood and they love living next to Bicentennial Park that their backyard adjoins. She thanked the parks department for taking such good care of the park but I will add that the effort to clean up this park was a huge partnership with the community after several volunteer park clean ups.

Sharon said they enjoy making a difference in their neighborhood and keeping their home nice. She shared that she likes using “oops paint” or paint that was returned to the store because the people didn’t like the color. It’s only \$20 for 5 gallons and an inexpensive way to keep your house looking good along with hard work. They have looked at other locations to move because they would like more land, but they haven’t found any place better than Mountlake Terrace. Thank you and congratulations to the Wheeler family!

### **Elise Hegrat - Best Maintained Residence (Cedar Terrace)**

Elise said, “What a nice surprise, and quite an honor. I have owned my home for about 15 years. I have done most of my own yard work with the exception of the mowing. I had a crew for a couple years but not to my satisfaction so now I either do it myself or have a friend do it for me.”

Elise shared that she had landscapers out for a lawn renovation about six years ago. She has used TruGreen to fortify the lawn regularly for the last four or five years. Several years ago Elise had a tree service out to take out some oversized trees and replaced them with smaller dogwood and a dwarf Japanese maple. The service also skirted a couple large evergreen trees in the back, making it possible to put in the gardens she has on her back terrace.

Elise said she didn’t think she could possibly list all of the plants she has, because there are so many, but here are the most common: Dogwood, Japanese Maple, Azaleas, Hostas, Vinca, hydrangeas, tulips, day lilies, calla lilies, tiger lilies, Japanese irises, muscari and much more for spring and early summer color, Heavenly bamboo, Forsythias, and several lilacs.

Elise said when she was looking in the Mountlake Terrace house market so many years ago, she had a very limited budget and saw a lot of homes that didn’t seem to have much to offer until she walked into this house. She said the house was a bit of a ‘dog’, but the yard was large and open. In the first five minutes, she said she saw so much potential and knew this was the place for her. Elise shared that it was all she could afford, but she knew she could do something with it and she hasn’t stopped since. She added that her home is her creative outlet, her stress reliever, and her hobby. Elise said she has done dozens of projects, both inside and out, and

she now loves the home that 4007 has become. Guess what, Elise? We do too. Congratulations and keep up the great work!

## **GATEWAY**

### **Chris, Laurel & Evan Connolly – Best Maintained Residence (Gateway)**

This wonderful split entry sage green home is both inviting and stately. It has a unique terraced yard with a beautiful brick driveway. The pathway to the front entry is lighted to help guide you to the door. This home has crisp clean lines and is framed by a backdrop of beautiful evergreen trees. There are a variety of textures and colors in the landscaping, which is kept in a pleasing scale to the size of the home.

Chris and Laurel purchased this home in 2003 when Laurel was pregnant. Here is a before photo. She was hoping for a small yard so there would be no yard work because she really just wanted to move in and get ready for the new baby. They looked at what seemed like hundreds of homes, but this was the height of the housing boom and houses were being snapped up fast. So they found this old blue split-level home in Mountlake Terrace with fake plants under the windows. It had been a rental house for 20 years. It was definitely a fixer-upper, with burnt orange carpet, old wood paneling that looked like tree bark, and a lemon yellow oven from 1964.

About one month before Laurel's delivery date, Chris got ambitious and totally gutted the house. There was no running water or heat and it was fall.

The Connolly's did the work on this home themselves. Laurel said it took three months of Sundays to get the work done. They replaced the old double paned aluminum windows, one at a time. They built a brick retaining wall for the front yard and set down the pavers for the driveway. They just recently finished remodeling the kitchen and we noticed a nice, modern front door.

A couple of friendly owls greet visitors to this home at the stairway entrance. The colorful flowerbeds create a formal, yet relaxing setting for both residents and visitors to enjoy.

Chris loves the yard work. Laurel says it's his Zen. "It's where Chris finds peace." She says he loves the birds. Former Evergreen Award winner and neighbor, Leanne Hopkins, gave the Connolly's a basic garden design for their yard. They had a shared vision. The majority of the plants in the landscaping are cuttings from friends and neighbors. Some of the plants are coralbark maple, Vulcan magnolia,

Kentucky wisteria, Black bamboo, Camilia, Honeysuckle, Black eyed Susan, Dahlia, Gerbera daisy, rhodies, hostas, ferns, azaleas and more.

The Connolly's 10-year-old son Evan is the lawn manager. He mows and edges by hand with scissors. Evan attends Terrace Park School and is in the fifth grade. He is also involved in MTYAA Baseball. What a fantastic transformation for the Connolly's!

**Craig Matheson & Amy Jeffries - Best Maintained Residence (Gateway)**

A unique house in Mountlake Terrace with three-levels on a corner, sloped site, Craig Matheson and Amy Jeffries have lived in their home for four years now. They moved from Shoreline and were looking for a home to accommodate their four children. We've noticed this home several times over the years while working on the Evergreen Awards and this year, it really stood out. Why?

When we spoke, Craig said Amy likes color! Well Amy, we noticed. He said Amy tells him what she likes and he helps make it happen. Craig noted, "I am the donkey." The yard was pretty blank when they bought the home, according to Craig, and they planned the landscaping. Up front on the main entry level, plantings include bamboo, ornamental grass, dahlias, and hydrangea to name a few. On the north side, there's a dinosaur plant with huge leaves and ligularia.

Other plantings include alovers, hostas, potted geraniums, and fuscia. Black mondo grass and sedums are located near the street, and lilies and asters are planted near the rockery. On the lower, 238<sup>th</sup> side, is an American Dogwood tree with beautiful white blossoms along with a layered terrace that add even more interest to the landscaping. We love the colors you have here in these photos.

Next year, more focus will be placed on this side of the property Craig said. Congratulations on a job very well done! The Matheson/Jeffries family!

**Pat & Barb Otter – Best Maintained Residence (Gateway)**

Pat and Barb have lived in their beautiful yellow rambler for 11 years. They moved to Mountlake Terrace because it is so close to everything and they wanted a rambler (which can be hard to find). Their children are older (A son is a senior at Mountlake Terrace High School) and they wanted a house that they could eventually retire in.

The house is as neat as a pin. It has a lovely bay window with a birdbath strategically placed for bird watching. They enjoy doing all of their own yard work. One of the main features is the miniature garden in the front of the home and along the side yard where there's an attractive fence lining the property. Barb

enjoys creating this intriguing garden for the children in the neighborhood to explore as they pass by. She encourages them to stop and teaches them about the plants. She loves to repurpose old birdhouses and shops the Goodwill to enhance her creations. Barb has placed lights into the houses but hasn't wired them up yet.

Barb loves to decorate for Halloween, Christmas, Valentines' Day, etc. She said a little boy named Evan comes by to help put out the pumpkins for the Halloween decorations. He is very particular about placing the pumpkins in just the right spots. A couple of her neighbors have contributed to the miniature garden by dropping off items such as a tiny watering can and an old birdhouse. Some of the plants in the miniature garden include many succulents, and sedums. She has lavender, blueberries, wild strawberries, ground covers including Irish moss, babies tears, mini thyme, coreopsis, saxifrage, coral reef, creeping thyme, pin cushion, mother hen and baby chicks, stone crop, Alpine geraniums, Japanese spurge, and more.

The Otter's food garden is in the backyard with kale, cabbage, potatoes, cucumbers, pumpkins and zucchini. Barb works in a children's dental clinic and has made little books like the "I Spy" books to share with the kids. She loves meeting new people and the gardens make people stop by and engage in conversation. When I asked what was special about her house, she said her friendly neighborhood, where people watch out for each other and stop to chat.

That's one of the things we love about the Evergreen Awards too, Barb. Meeting people like you and introducing you to each other. Congratulations to the Otter family!

## **LAKE BALLINGER**

### **Jason & Danielle Kohler - Best Maintained Residence (Lake Ballinger)**

Clean and green! A lovely gray and white split-level along 66<sup>th</sup> Avenue, the Kohler home is very neat and well kept. It has a grand entry with a rockery separating the entry from the garage. A lush green lawn compliments the rock façade at the front of the house. A red azalea and other plants including grasses and nicely trimmed bushes add to the clean design in the front yard.

The Kohler's yard is separated on one side from their neighbors by a nice split rail fence with rock posts. Jason told us they were having trouble doing their yard work right now because he broke his elbow and Danielle is expecting.

These photos look pretty good to me and the judging committee! Great job by the Kohler family!

### **Daniel & Jessica Ertel– Best Maintained Residence (Lake Ballinger)**

Dan and Jessica have lived in their house with their two young children for six years as of this October. They moved to Mountlake Terrace because of its great location. Dan works in North Seattle and Jessica worked downtown at the time they bought the house and now she now works in Edmonds.

Jessica shared that their front and back yards were bare except for bushes. She and Dan redid the entire yard and they just got a new roof and had the windows replaced last year. We went out last week to update photos and noticed new beauty bark and a new exterior in progress. Yesterday I drove by and the home has a fresh coat of blue paint and looks just gorgeous.

Since they have a six-month old baby, Dan has taken the lead on yard maintenance of late but normally Jessica takes care of the plants. They both help keep up on the weeding.

The Ertel family has many different plants and flowers including rhododendrons, maples, blue spruces, lavenders, heathers, grasses and many other plants. We are so glad you moved into Mountlake Terrace and created this lovely home! Best wishes with your new baby. The Ertel family!

### **Blair & Kim Scarth – Most Sustainable (Lake Ballinger)**

A winner in the sustainable category, the Scarth home is one of our hidden gems. From the front, it looks like a lovely secluded teal rambler with a gorgeous hydrangea near the front door and a 12<sup>th</sup> Man flag (not visible in the spring when we took some photos).

However, as you move around to the back, you find they have solar panels on the roof, clothesline for drying clothes, vegetable gardens and more. In keeping with sustainable practices, it appears that they do not water their turf in the backyard. It is shady enough in front that the lawn stays green throughout the year. There is a beautiful old lilac bush at the corner of the home. Unfortunately, we were unable to reach the Scarth family and we tried. We are curious to learn more about the solar panels and how those are working. There's a new Mountlake Terrace chapter of Solarize WA and another Mountlake Terrace resident is the city's representative. If anyone knows the Scarth family, please let them know we would like to talk to them for a few minutes and learn more. Congratulations on your sustainable practices – the Scarth Family!

## **Lake Ballinger Village – Best Maintained Multi Family Property (Lake Ballinger)**

Lake Ballinger Village is a 44-condo complex, built in 1979. Mountlake Terrace has a fair amount of large multi-family properties and the city feels it is important to reach out to the folks in these communities and recognize the hard work it takes to maintain such a huge property. Multi-family properties have a major visual impact on the image of our community and Lake Ballinger Village does not disappoint.

They've won two Honorable Mention awards, the first one back in 2009. You'll recognize Lake Ballinger Village, located just across the street from Lake Ballinger and Ballinger Park along Lakeview Drive, by its tall stand of Evergreen trees shown in the right side of the photo. Resident Ruth Allen shared that everyone else along Lakeview Drive has cut down their Evergreen trees, but not Lake Ballinger Village. They serve as an icon with the stately trees almost standing guard over the property.

Homeowners Association President Rich Boudet said their units were recently refreshed with a new roof, new stucco surfacing and lighting. He noted that Edmonds Landscaping and Seattle Maintenance Solutions handle the landscaping and maintenance. It's obvious that they have a big responsibility and they do a terrific job!

Residents Susan Kuhn and Ruth Allen nominated the property and sent us some of these pleasant photos of the residences and complex. Susan and Ruth are here tonight to accept the award. Congratulations, Lake Ballinger Village!

## **David & Margaret (Peggy) Dahl – Best Maintained Residence (Lake Ballinger)**

The Dahl home is an attractive, beige split-level home built in 1966. The lawn is nicely mowed and edged. Located west of 66<sup>th</sup> about 234<sup>th</sup> Street, the home faces east and we had to battle glare from the sun in the afternoon and shadows in the late morning when out taking photos.

Color is the name of the game at the Dahl's house and the flowerbeds are well organized and very colorful. The bushes out near the street are trimmed in perfect scale to the home. Three palms and red geraniums along with interesting ground cover draw your attention to the entry and help separate the yard from the street. There are roses, lobelia, violas, and Japanese maple.

We wish we could have reached the Dahl's to learn more because the next door neighbors said, "You ought to see their backyard." We could catch a glimpse and tell it's special, but unfortunately we were unable to connect or get photos of the backyard.

Despite that, the front yard shows how well-cared for the home is and it definitely stands out in the neighborhood. Great job, David and Peggy Dahl.

## **MELODY HILL**

### **Kurt & Margie Metzler – Best Maintained Residence (Melody Hill)**

Hanging baskets, trellis, new fencing, colorful flowers, newer paint and a bright, newer curved walkway invite you to visit the Metzler home on a deceptively large ½ acre lot. Located on 66<sup>th</sup> Avenue just a couple of blocks south of 220<sup>th</sup>, Margie bought the house in 1973 but renters lived here for the past several years and let it go downhill. Margie said it was well-known by our code enforcement officers.

She finally retired and they moved back home a few years ago. Their contractor who did the wonderful walkway is a Mountlake Terrace resident and came to our event back in 2010 when they won a "Best Transformation" Award. If I didn't mention it, you can only win once in a category, and the Metzlers are our first two-time winners with a Best Maintained Residence Award this year.

The Metzlers added the walkway that they border with colorful, seasonal flowers in 2010 and sections of new fencing are added as funds permit. This year they removed some huge Evergreens in the back yard and now that there's an abundance of sunshine, they redid the deck on the back of the house.

The transformation included Margie selecting the nice green paint and new house numbers, adding a variety of flowers, hanging baskets and tomato plants. They change out the flowers and colors frequently. Friends and relatives buy gift cards for Lowes and Home Depot to keep them "in flowers" and they love it because it spreads cheer to the neighborhood. I can't wait to drive by and see what's in bloom each month and Kurt said folks stop by all the time and say their home makes them happy.

Kurt continues to work on the lawn, which was still mostly green even after a hot, dry summer. We are featuring the Metzlers story in the October issue of our City Happenings newsletter because they show how a modest home can shine and stand out; it can make people smile; and it can have a positive impact on the neighborhood and the city. The Metzlers are glad they moved back into the house and we are too. Thank you for your hard work and dedication – the Metzler family!

### **Tim & Lynn Smith - Best Maintained Residence (Melody Hill)**

Tim and Lynn Smith have lived in Mountlake Terrace for 26 years. The Smiths said they moved to Mountlake Terrace, because it has so many family friendly neighborhoods and the Edmonds School district is very highly regarded. They raised their three children, and held soccer and baseball practice in their yard. Their home overlooks the Sunset Landing development and has a beautiful view of the Olympic mountain range to the west.

Lynn shared, “Now that the kids are grown, we tore the yard up and brought in some new soil and bricks to create the yard my husband has always wanted! Our yard had been a desert wasteland during this process for over two years. This is our second year with new grass and we are slowly adding to our planting areas.

My husband Tim is the main caretaker and force behind the yard. I enjoy doing pretty planters, flowers and a little weeding, and I gladly give credit for our yard to him.”

In addition to the front yard that looked like Safeco field last spring, we noticed a gorgeous brick patio and grilling area to the north with new plantings and a rock wall that borders the street when we came back recently.

Your work paid off, Smith family, because we definitely took notice this year. Congratulations and good luck on your continued progress!

### **Kelley Family Dentistry – Best Transformation --Business (Melody Hill)**

Dr. Matthew Kelley opened his practice across the street from his current location on 220<sup>th</sup> and 64<sup>th</sup> Avenue in 2008. The doctor comes from Michigan originally and he met his wife in Southern California. Since she’s from Shoreline, they liked this area moved up here to start the practice.

Dr. Kelley said his business was on the south side of 220<sup>th</sup>, near the end of the Azteca Restaurant complex so visibility was poor. When this site became available, he jumped on it because visibility was terrific from 220<sup>th</sup> and there was ample parking.

Dr. Kelley purchased the building last October and was open for business by the end of the year – quite a quick transformation as you can see here. The city is very pleased that we were able to retain a business and know that the relocation has been a success! Dr. Kelley said he’s very happy with the new location because there’s plenty of room to work and grow his business.

Here's a glimpse inside of this totally remodeled building with a crisp and modern waiting room and brand new patient rooms waiting for you to come in for your biannual checkup!

We have a couple of photos of the former business – a Super Deli Mart with a huge sign on 220<sup>th</sup> that said, “Kegs to Go”. The city was very pleased when this professional business transformed the deli mart into their clinic and installed clean and attractive signage showing that Mountlake Terrace is open for business. Kegs to go went away and we smile about the relocation of Kelley Family Dentistry. I'm sure their patients have gleaming smiles too. Congratulations on a successful transformation and best wishes to your business ventures, Kelley Family Dentistry!

### **Hall Lake Townhomes – Best Maintained Multifamily (Melody Hill)**

The Hall Lake Townhomes are an example of some of the new developments that are changing the face of Mountlake Terrace in a very positive way. Tucked away behind the Interim City Hall/Redstone Corporate Building just south of 212<sup>th</sup> on a very steep hill at 212<sup>th</sup> Place and 60<sup>th</sup> Avenue, the Hall Lake Townhomes are very well maintained.

An eight residential unit development, Landsverk Quality Homes property management takes very good care of their property. A rock retaining wall serves as a border from the new sidewalks that are required to be installed with the new development. Plantings include azaleas, white rhodies, birch trees, Japanese maple and heather.

Hall Lake Townhomes is another transformation that is improving our community and quality of life. Thank you for bringing your project to Mountlake Terrace, Landsverk Quality Homes!

## **TOWN CENTER**

### **Richardo Lusuegro – Best Maintained Residence (Town Center)**

We pass by this two-story beige home with red trim on 58<sup>th</sup> Avenue in the Town Center often, and Mr. Lusuegro is often working outside. Unfortunately he has to work tonight but his family is here.

The Lusuegro home is very inviting and has wonderful curb appeal. The palms stand at attention along the sidewalk to frame the entryway. A variety of lovely plants and brickwork lead you to the door. The lawn is always neatly mowed and edged. Japanese maples echo the color of the trim to keep everything in balance

on this corner lot. A raised brick bed shows off a rock garden with ferns and other little interesting plants. The trees and planted areas are bordered with decorative retaining wall blocks. This summer we found some beautiful colors of dahlias in the side yard adjacent to an attractive driveway complete with basketball court.

Penny found a “before” photo on the County Assessor’s website and we wanted to show what a lovely job the Lusuegro family did to create a little oasis in their front yard and add joy to the neighborhood.

Congratulations on your hard work and thank you for improving your neighborhood! The Lusuegro Family!

### **Clifford & Janet Rice – Best Maintained Residence (Town Center)**

Janet and Cliff Rice have lived in Mountlake Terrace for nearly 50 years. The Rice family transferred from Tacoma and was looking for an affordable place to call home back in the 1960’s with their five kids. We noticed the Rice home when we were photographing the new sidewalks that were constructed across the street along 54<sup>th</sup> Avenue not too far from the Evergreen Playfield complex and tennis courts. The lawn was a lush green and neatly trimmed and edged. Janet said they installed a sprinkler system about 3-4 years ago and that has helped keep the lawn healthy. (Our utility fund just loves that!)

In addition, adjacent to the walkway are solar pathway lights to ensure that visitors have a clear path to the welcoming entry.

Their home has a big backyard and a daylight basement. The gray and white color scheme with attractive white shutters looks clean and tidy. Janet said they liked it too so they decided to stick with it the last time they repainted.

They have a Japanese maple tree and rhodies that are pruned appropriately as not to block any views of the house, a stately lamppost and decorative bricks outlining their property in the absence of sidewalks on their side of the street.

Thanks for a job well done! The Rice Family.

Here to accept on their behalf is Paul Rice.

### **Mark & Karen Blake – Best Maintained Residence (Town Center)**

Karen and Mark were recently married. Karen purchased her Mountlake Terrace home in May of 1984 and has lived there for 30 years. The main reason she chose Mountlake Terrace was that this home was affordable. They hire out the mowing

and edging and do some of the work in between. She has magnolia trees and a very old Japanese maple. Karen said when she bought the home, it was only 900 square feet and had three bedrooms and one bath. About 22 years ago, she added on another 1,700 square feet.

Their home has a park like feel with a variety of colors, layers, textures, a bench and flower baskets. The plantings also provide some privacy and make us curious to learn more about it. To the south next to the driveway, they have a very attractive wisteria arbor, lattice gate and fence that complement the park-like feel.

Karen said she is excited to see the new businesses coming into town and people cleaning up their homes and yards. We are too, Karen! Karen and Mark were unable to attend the event but we congratulate them on a job well done! The Blake Family!

### **234<sup>th</sup> Street Townhomes – Best Maintained Multifamily (Town Center)**

The 234<sup>th</sup> Street Townhomes include seven residential units and one commercial space. It's situated just east of 56<sup>th</sup> Avenue on 234<sup>th</sup> near Cousins Hair Salon and Bethesda Lutheran Church.

These townhomes were finished last year and exemplify the improvements that come with new development. Anyone heard of street furniture? Well that term is used to describe the design standards for things like benches, garbage cans, street lights and tree grates. We have some examples in these photos. As we mentioned earlier, new development brings with it new sidewalks, which really add to our quality of life and the walkability we desire throughout the city and particularly in the Town Center neighborhood.

Congratulations on a great project in our Town Center neighborhood, 234<sup>th</sup> Street Townhomes!

### **James Ito & Melanie Granfors – Most Sustainable (Town Center)**

Melanie Granfors and Jim Ito bought their home on 223rd Place in 1999. They quickly painted over the aging, chipped and faded paint, added new windows and began scheming about how to change the landscape into a beautiful, sustainable yard that passersby could admire.

They learned early on that low maintenance and year-round beauty are not mutually exclusive, but it takes knowledge, and *patience* to create a landscape that is environmentally responsible, functional and beautiful.

Four years ago, they decided to eliminate the substantial front lawn, and replace it with beds full of Northwest Natives, drought-resistant and eye-catching plants. They used the cardboard & mulch "lasagna-method" to smother the turf-- and built curved walls and bed borders with recycled, broken concrete--all of it free-- from various Craigslist sources.

They experimented with lawn replacements such as clover, Irish moss and succulent ground covers. Covering ground with hardy, drought -resistant plants and a healthy bed of arborist chips has become their most successful strategy.

Melanie reports that they have not watered their garden at all this summer, pointing to the variety of plants they selected that are superbly drought tolerant.

Four rain barrels grace each corner of their house. They worked with RainThanks and Greywater to create rain gardens on the property and reduce their use of city water for landscape purposes to almost zero.

They learned the hard way about how pervasive weeds can be in a landscape like theirs. They recently hired Alluring Landscapes to help with maintenance, after four years of struggling to keep up with it themselves. They use no pesticides, in an effort to promote a natural wildlife habitat, filled with birds, bees, worms and lots of soil microbes!

They have hired a garden designer and coach, Morning Dew Gardens, to plan for a 2015 transformation. They will be focusing on giving their yard more "year-round" interest, and continuing with the sustainability and low maintenance goals.

Thanks for your sustainable practices, Jim and Melanie! You are a great example for others to follow and I'm going to shop for rain barrels!

### **Diamond Knot Brewpub@MLT - Best Business Transformation (Town Center)**

Diamond Knot's Brewpub at MLT opened for business early this year and it's apparent that the downtown is forever changed and we have a glimpse of the future. Their restaurant and brewpub replaced the Washington State Korean Association that looked vacant most of the time, and people didn't know anything was there! If you don't know, the Brewpub@MLT (a future icon) is located next door to MLT's other icon, DD Meats, in the heart of our downtown at 232<sup>nd</sup> Street and 56<sup>th</sup> Avenue and next to the post office.

Pictured here are photos from their grand opening that they called a christening in keeping with the nautical theme. The city buzzed with excitement after Diamond Knot officials announced their plans to come to Mountlake Terrace. And for good reason. The Brewpub creates an authentic, fun, upbeat atmosphere in our downtown that is embraced not only by Mountlake Terrace residents but extends into the North King/South Snohomish County area and beyond. In addition, it has put our city on the brewing map and the Brewpub at MLT is a brewing hot spot for those loyal to the Diamond Knot brand.

While the brewing experience adds another manufacturer to the downtown business district, the restaurant creates a destination where families enjoy gathering for dinner or a weekend breakfast. The building was constructed with families in mind with a family restroom, skylights to keep things bright and cheerful, open viewing to the brewing area. They've also added new outdoor seating to encourage an outdoor café feel that is adjacent to the active grain silo that greets visitors and serves as a landmark.

Diamond Knot installed new lighted signage and painted their logo on their trademark grain silo. Both look fabulous in the daytime as well as in the evening as the photos show.

Another benefit of this business is their civic-minded philosophy, partnering with the community and wanting to make their business a reflection of this community. This business builds pride in our community not only in their well-maintained location and community spirit, but it provides the gathering place our downtown really needed where everyone feels welcome. Mountlake Terrace is known as a friendly, welcoming community and Diamond Knot's new establishment represents that feeling and serves as a catalyst for more businesses to locate here.

We are pleased to present this award to the Diamond Knot contingent including CEO Bob Maphet, Brewpub @MLT Manager Rick Berlin, and Sales & Marketing Wrangler/Chief Storyteller and All-Around Octopus Sherry Jennings plus others. Yes, that really is her title.

### **Mountlake Terrace Garden Club:**

These beautiful flowers were planted by the Mountlake Terrace Garden Club and I'd like to thank them and a few others for volunteering to help us tonight.

For those of you who may be interested, the Garden Club plants the flowers by the library as well as other prominent city entryways such as Evergreen Playfield, Ballinger Playfield, 48th and 244th, and 236th by the Transit Center among others.

If you're interested in meeting new people and volunteering with the Garden Club, their contact information is in the program on your tables.

That concludes our program, however we have two requests. Go out and nominate! Winners are not eligible to win in the same category but you may participate by nominating others. Honorable mention winners, we expect you will go for the win and be nominated again next year.

Will all the winning property owners now please bring your awards to the back for a couple of quick photos before you leave? Congratulations to all of our winners and honorable mention recipients. Your pride in your properties has been contagious and more property owners are following your lead each day. Congratulations to everyone for making Mountlake Terrace shine!