

CITY OF SANFORD HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION NEWSLETTER

Newsletter Date
Summer 2008



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National Night Out

By Matt Sakurada and Tim Mercer

The "25th Annual National Night Out" (NNO), a unique crime/drug prevention event sponsored by the National Association of Town Watch (NATW), has been scheduled for **Tuesday, August 5, 2008**. Two of our National Register Historic Districts, Hawkins Avenue and Rosemount-Mclver Park, will have National Night Out events in their respective communities.

The *Hawkins Avenue neighborhood* will hold *their* event on the grounds of St. Thomas Episcopal Church at 312 N Steele Street from 5:30 – 8:30 p.m. Activities will include children's activities, music, crime prevention techniques by the Police Department, food, and more. Bring a side dish to share and a chair to sit a spell and get to know your neighbors. To RSVP or help out, please phone (910) 723-1350.

Rosemount-Mclver Park will be celebrating with a

New Horner Street Signage

By Al Roethlisberger



For visitors and residents traveling through Sanford's Rosemount Mclver Park Historic District, one may notice the brown distinctive street signs throughout the neighborhood identifying the area's historic district designation. These signs can also be found elsewhere in Sanford's other historic districts and generally bound the district

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Silver Colored Old Fair theme. There will be free hot dogs and drinks, homemade ice cream, pop corn, and a pie baking contest to be judged by the other residents. Best pie will win a prize! All residents are being asked to bring a dessert or salad. There will be games for the children including a bean bag toss, face painting and their very favorite thing...the blow up castle to jump in! For the adults there will be an HPC booth, Neighborhood Watch Booth, and horse shoes. For more information, please contact Bailey Kohl at E-Mail: teabag625@yahoo.com or ph: (919) 777-9422.

of where the district begins and ends. However, although the Rosemount Mclver Park district's northeastern boundary is at Horner Boulevard, the special historic district street signs along the stretch of Horner Blvd. from Weatherspoon to Gordon Streets were originally omitted due to what were thought as NC Department of Transportation guidelines. However, in the last few months this omission has been corrected, and now travelers through Sanford on Horner Boulevard can clearly see where the Rosemount Mclver Park Historic District begins, and presents a fantastic marketing opportunity for Sanford and our historic preservation efforts. Many thanks to the City of Sanford for making this minor, but high impact change.

New Board Members

By David Montgomery

The HPC welcomes two new board members to the Commission, Katherine Zyla and Lora Wright. Katie Zyla and her husband, Rob, moved the first of the year to 311 North Gulf Street in the Rosemount McIver Park Historic District. Katie was formerly a Public Affairs Officer with the Marine Corps and is looking forward to using her marketing and communication skills to improve the lines of communication between the Commission, residents, property owners, realtors, and the public at large. Lora Wright is the owner of Southern Jewelers Inc. located at 143 S. Steele St. in the Downtown Sanford Historic District. She is a lifetime resident of Lee County with her husband Steve Wright. Lora owns 2 buildings consisting of 3 storefronts in Downtown. She also completed the first historic restoration of a mural in downtown – the Coke Mural on the side

of her building. Lora is very excited to be able to work with the other Commission members and believes it will be a positive, learning experience. She is committed to the progress of Downtown and very happy to see it and the surrounding areas coming alive in so many ways. The Commission would also like to thank the two Commissioners who are leaving us – Michael Humphrey and Laura Younger. They were commemorated with unofficial awards for their service – “a signed piece of aluminum siding” at the last meeting in June. They will be missed!



Urban Forestry Grant

By David Montgomery

Tree Consultant, John Sugg, is wrapping up his survey of the trees, both public and private, in the Rosemount–McIver Park District. A total of 1230 trees were surveyed and resulted in over 70 different trees being identified in the neighborhood. Trees condition and maintenance were noted as well as the diameter at breast height (DBH) which is the diameter of the tree stem 4 1/2 feet above the ground. The data will be used to develop a tree maintenance plan for the trees identified, which will be helpful for City Public Works employees and property owners to learn proper maintenance methods for the livelihood of their trees. Mr. Sugg will present his survey findings and maintenance plan to the public at a future date; all property owners within the district will be invited to attend. If you are interested in the results of the tree survey for your property, please contact the planning staff at ph: 919–775–8332 or e-mail:

david.montgomery@sanfordnc.net. If you need private consultation, John can be reached at ph: 252–291–5368 or e-mail: johnsugg@coastalnet.com.

Over the coming months the consultant will also be helping the City of Sanford Appearance Commission draft a tree ordinance for all new development throughout the City. The Appearance Commission hopes that this is an initial step in establishing Sanford as a “Tree City USA”. The Tree City USA program, sponsored by the Arbor Day Foundation provides direction, technical assistance, public attention, and national recognition for urban and community forestry programs in thousands of towns and cities that more than 120 million Americans call home. The many benefits of being a Tree City include creating a framework for action, education, a positive public image, citizen pride, and FREE TREES for planting in the community.

Historic District Entry Signs

By Al Roethlisberger

During the 2008–2009FY budgeting cycle, the Sanford City Council generously approved \$20,000 for historic markers to be erected at the entryways of Sanford's four National Register Historic Districts: Downtown Sanford, Hawkins Avenue, Lee Avenue, and Rosemount McIver Park. The initial plan is to erect two markers per district located at significant points of entry, which is an exciting opportunity to help educate the public about the role these districts played in Sanford, Lee County, and North Carolina history, and build upon civic pride.

Although the design and content is not yet set, these markers will likely share features and general appearance to other historic markers used by the State of North Carolina and other National Register districts. The City of Sanford's Historic Preservation Commission has created an ad hoc committee to



select and design these marker signs, and is currently evaluating options and gathering content for the markers. If you would like to contribute to this effort or make any suggestions, please contact Al Roethlisberger at albert@roethlisberger.org or 919-777-2721.

House Plaques

By Al Roethlisberger

Speaking of signs, last year the Rosemount McIver Park neighborhood ordered 12 custom National Register plaques for homes throughout our neighborhood. For those traveling through the neighborhood, these attractive bronze plaques no doubt help build a sense of continuity and interest throughout the district. We worked with Erie Landmark and due to the volume of the order and official status of our historic districts were able to enjoy a 10% discount. For property owners in any of our four historic districts that would like to purchase a plaque, we are working on another order with Erie and would be happy to include you in that order. Pricing is not yet set, but last year's 10x7 inch bronze National Register plaque cost each property owner approximately \$137 after the discount, including shipping, but will probably be

slightly higher this year. Final pricing will be determined once the complete bulk order has been submitted and quoted. The base list price for the plaque this year is \$152, which with a 10% discount equates to approximately \$137 before shipping. Shipping last year was \$7 per plaque, which will no doubt slightly increase. So total cost is likely to be about \$145 to \$150 per plaque. These plaques include the standard National Register verbiage, the property name, date of construction and can be seen online at www.erialandmark.com. If interested in placing an order for your property, please contact Al Roethlisberger at albert@roethlisberger.org or 919-777-2721 by August 31st.

**City of Sanford
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Remainder of 2008 Historic Commission Meeting Dates

August 25

September 22

October 27

November 24

December 22

The Historic Preservation Commission encourages you to attend their monthly meeting which is held the fourth Monday of every month beginning at 7:00 pm in the West End Conference Room at City Hall, 225 E. Weatherspoon Street. The West End Conference Room is accessible to persons with disabilities. If auxiliary aids or directions are needed, please call (919) 775-8332. Please call for directions.

Certificate of Appropriateness (COA) Applications Heard to Date since January:

Total -59

Minor - 41

Major - 18

City of Sanford
Historic Preservation
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*"We shape our buildings;
thereafter, our buildings
shape us."
Winston Churchill*