



Crescent Heights Neighborhood Association Newsletter

**Next CHNA
Neighborhood
Meetings**

**“Meet the
Mayor”**

When:
Tues, April 19
Doors open at
6:30pm, meeting
at 7:00 pm
(gardens open for
free 8-8:30)

What:
Joint meeting of
neighborhoods
featuring Mayor
Foster

Where:
Sunken Gardens
at 1825 4th St. N.

May Porch Party

May 13 from 7-9 pm
there will be a porch
party at the March's
Home of the Month,
Marty Hallas,
located at 726 27th
Avenue N. Please
bring an appetizer
to share and your
own beverages.
Meet your
neighbors and enjoy
the start to the
weekend.

CHNA Neighborhood Yard Sale

Saturday, May 7th • 7 am - 11 am

Spring cleaning? Put aside a "sell pile" and join our community-wide yard sale on Saturday, May 7th, 2011! This event will be widely publicized, and the Church of the Beatitudes will be holding their monthly morning market event on the same day, so many people will be shopping in the neighborhood.



All neighbors are invited to participate in the sale; however, we are offering special advertising to our due-paying members of CHNA. Your home address and details of your sale can be included on our neighborhood map, which will be distributed to potential buyers at all participating homes. To be included on our map, follow the instructions below:

1. If you are not already a member of CHNA, please join! Your dues help us to hold fun events all year long. Visit www.mychna.org/membership for information about how to pay your dues. Only \$20 a year per household! You can also pay the \$20 out of your yard sale proceeds and be included on the map. We'll make it easy for you and stop by toward the end of the sale on the 7th.
2. E-mail your address and a brief listing of items for sale to president@mychna.org. Information must be received by May 1, 2011.
We hope everyone can join the fun, either by hosting your sale or shopping the sales in the neighborhood.

Neighborhood meetings and gatherings!

Check out the sidebar to the left for the upcoming great neighborhood events. Join us at the “Meet the Mayor” night at Sunken Gardens on April 19 and the Porch Party on May 13. Also check out the back page for the annual Easter Egg Hunt at Crescent Lake Park on April 16th. We hope to see you there!

In Your Service,
Greg Holden, President
Crescent Heights Neighborhood Association
president@mychna.org

Neighborhood Appreciation Party wrapup

The March Neighbor Appreciation Party was a lot of fun! A big THANK YOU to the Banyan Coffee & Tea Co. for being such a wonderful host and putting together an amazing selection of snacks. The longest resident in attendance had lived on 24th Street N. for 26 years, and had many colorful stories to tell about the neighborhood. The newest residents in attendance were a couple currently renovating a home on 24th Street N. who had not yet even moved in. We are excited to welcome them and all of our other new residents to the neighborhood, and hope that you'll stay with us for many years to come. If you are a new resident and haven't joined us for an event yet, be sure to mark your calendars for the Sunken Gardens event in April (see page one). This is one of the most popular events of the year and it is a great way to visit a true St. Petersburg treasure for free, and also meet our mayor, Bill Foster.

4th Street Dreams – A Taste of 4th Street

Thursday, April 28 · 6:00pm - 9:00pm

2720 4th Street North (between Tanya Sharkey Photography and Ring Side Cafe - in the parking lot under the twinkle-lit oak trees)

Join the Friends of 4th Street for a fun event to raise money and awareness for The Children's Dream Fund. Stop by for music, socializing, a silent auction, a raffle, and a sampling of great food and beverages from restaurants all along 4th Street. For a \$10 donation, you can enjoy all the food samples you would like, and a complimentary beverage is included. This event will raise money for the Children's Dream Fund, which make dreams come true for LOCAL children who have life threatening illnesses. Last year the event raised just over \$2600, and they are hoping to top this number for 2011!

Kids & dogs welcome!

Confirmed Restaurants: Bowled, Three Birds Tavern, Evos, L'Moes, Caramello's, and many more to come.

Recommendations needed for service providers

Need to replace your roof, do some landscaping or replace your windows, but don't know who to ask? The Crescent Heights Neighborhood Association would like to create a list of recommendations based on your positive experiences. We will post these recommendations on the web site for reference by the neighbors. Neighbors will be responsible for their own due diligence, but can use this as a starting point to get projects completed. We are looking for recommendations for the following services—we will publish only companies that are favorably recommended. **Please send the name of the company, the phone number and a contact person to jfs2315@aol.com.** Thanks for your help.

Crescent Heights Recommended Service Providers

Air conditioner repair	Appliance Repair
Banking	Carpenter
Computer Repair	Dentist
Interior Designers	Landscaping Services
Pet Sitting	Physician
Realtor Services	Roofing
Tile Installer	Tree Trimming
Window Treatment Installer	Auto Repair Services
Attorney	Child Care Provider
Closet Organization Systems	Electrical Contractors
Handyman Services	Painters
Plaster/ Drywall Contractor	Pavers
Plumbers	Sprinkler Repair Services
Stucco Contractor	Upholsterers
Window Installer	

Place your ad here!

Advertise your business or services in the CHNA newsletter and get noticed by your neighbors. Very reasonable rates and help fund the newsletter bettering our neighborhood!

More info at newsletter@mychna.org and get rates on the back page.

March Home of the Month – 744 23rd Ave North

Home & Owner info: Bob & Amy Kessler at 744 23rd Avenue North – they have lived there 16 years!

Why did you choose to live in Crescent Heights?: We were about to be married and were looking for a fixer upper in a promising neighborhood. This house simply appealed to us, even in its original condition. It was the right price, right neighborhood and we have never regretted our decision.

Have you done any major projects or renovations in your home?: Did you see our house! After we lived in the house for about 5 or 6 years, we came across a 1920's Florida Bungalow that was slated to be demolished due to St. Petersburg High Schools enforcing eminent domain to build a parking lot. We decided to purchase the home and have it moved onto our lot which was mostly vacant since the existing house was all the way at the back of the property line, a two story garage/apartment domicile. Many of the homes in the neighborhood have these on the back of their lots and are often rented out. We planned on connecting the two structures due to the requirements imposed by the City as a condition to allow us to move this bungalow. We felt the bungalow would fit right in to the style of our neighborhood and it was built in the same time frame as the back structure, so it was perfect. One thing we did not anticipate, however, was that the City wanted us to move our house much closer to the front of the property than we originally plan. This increased the space between the two structures from 9 feet to 20 feet. Once we got the bungalow onto the property, we spent some time cleaning up the appearance so that it would not become an eye sore for our kind neighbors. We started renovating in November of 2009 by hiring an architect and joining the two structures. Bob has been working continuously on the front replacing the siding with cement clapboards, replaced windows, new roof, refinished fireplace replacing sun porch. The interior is still unfinished, gutted right now, but we've been picking up items that will be used for the interior when he's completed the exterior.

Are there any unique features in your home?: The most unique I guess will be that it will end up being a tri-level home when it's completed. Since the property slopes toward the back, it made for an interesting layout. The front section (bungalow) will contain the sun porch, living room, dining room and kitchen. The middle section is two stories which will contain two bedrooms and a bath upstairs, one bedroom and bath downstairs. The back section will contain the garage/laundry room and the master suite above. There are two decks, one off the kitchen and the other is off the master suite.

What do you love about living in St. Pete?: I think I love the casual life style and our down town is hard to beat. Being near Crescent Lake is a bonus, but in general, I just love the small town feeling it has and the way that the neighborhoods are laid out so that you can walk and talk to your neighbors and enjoy the activities that our city promotes all year long.

Any other info?: We cannot wait to be finished with the home so we can have an open house. We have appreciated the patience of our friends and neighbors while we have been going through the renovation process. We can only do so much at a time due to the expense, so we can't thank them enough for being so supportive and helpful to us throughout the process. Crescent Heights has the best folks living in this neighborhood that anyone can ask for and we are blessed to be here amongst them!



JTS TAX SERVICE Of Pinellas County 860 24th Ave North

**727-824-5601 • 813-361-4328-cell
e-mail: msswess@earthlink.net**

Owned and Operated by Stephanie Pitts

- **Specializing in Electronic Filing**
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If you have any questions, don't hesitate to call me.

824-5601

Remember to relax and let me do your taxes

ESSAY - A U-HAUL YANKEE IN ST. PETE by Kristen Noakes-Fry

Funny how, even 18 years since I first arrived in Florida, I often feel like a wide-eyed “U-Haul Yankee” (as a store-owner called me when I was first shopping for furniture), an explorer discovering the Gulf Coast of Florida for the first time. I was amazed by this world of leaping fish, flowering trees, and sudden downpours. When one of these downpours threatened to flood the parking lot, a co-worker advised me, “Take off your shoes and stockings and run barefoot through the rain to your car – that’s what we do.” Not very dignified, in a business suit with my briefcase held over my head, but it worked. And I also remember:

- A classmate in an evening course remarking to me that first Spring, “Y’all wear so many *clothes!*”
- Signs outside cafes and convenience stores that said “Hot Pressed Cubans Here” – and the amazing images that flashed through my mind.
- That it could be clear and sunny on one end of the Howard Frankland Bridge and pouring rain on the other.
- Dark-coated windows making it impossible to tell if a place of business was open or closed.
- Encountering the scent of orange blossoms for the first time on a morning walk – hardly able to believe that this was a naturally occurring perfume.
- Remembering to take a jacket when I went out – not for the trip to the restaurant, theatre, or store, but to wear once I got inside.
- Swimming pools kept at body temperature – anything lower greeted by the shivering swimmer as “brisk.”
- Watching lunch-hour joggers on the city streets at 12:30 in the afternoon in 90-degree heat – “It takes some getting used to,” they tell me.
- Outdoor laundromats with people lounging and chatting at picnic tables in the warm pre-dawn hours waiting for their laundry.
- Finding it difficult to locate a diner or an Italian restaurant (available on just about every corner up North), but lots of seafood and Spanish/Mexican/Cuban restaurants – and no shortage of grouper cooked in every imaginable style.
- So much of the often quite private business of daily life taking place outdoors – in the “lanai” (an early Florida vocabulary word I learned), in the courtyard, on the balcony, in the street.
- Hearing a squawking sound and looking way up at the branches of a huge tree looming above me -- to see that it is filled with brilliantly colored parrots.

And what I most loved – and still love – is that the breeze from the Gulf smells like spices (unlike the breeze from the Atlantic, which smelled like dead fish), that every day the Florida sun is always out or trying very hard to come out, that the relaxed lifestyle often seems like a permanent vacation, that the air is sparklingly clear, that the wonderful technicolor tropical greenery flourishes everywhere, and that almost every day is like the 4 or 5 perfect summer days up North. And, delightfully enough, I somehow still feel like a newcomer -- even though I have lived in Pinellas County longer than I have ever lived anywhere. I guess you could say that I have come home.

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3637 – 4TH St. N. Ste. 460
(Florida Capital Bank Building)

896-2346

CHNA Flags still for sale – get your today!

CHNA Flags are available for sale - you are probably starting to see them crop up around the neighborhood on houses and businesses. Please support CHNA by purchasing a flag for \$40. These are high quality flags and the neighborhood is NOT making a profit on this - we are doing this purely to encourage neighborhood spirit and solidarity. We want to be the best neighborhood! You can send your check to CHNA @ PO Box 76051, St. Petersburg, FL 33734 or bring it to an upcoming event, or buy online at www.mychna.org.



Forbes Ad

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PO BOX 76051
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USEFUL NUMBERS TO KEEP HANDY

Emergency – 911 Non-emergency - 727-893-7780

Community Service Officer - 727-551-3182

Tip Line - 727-892-5000

Call Before You Dig - 800-432-4770

Mayor's Action Line - 727-893-7111

Trash & Brush Collection/Recycling - 727-893-7398

Progress Energy (Report Street Light Outage)

800-228-8485 (location and pole #)

Senate District 16 - Jack Latvala- (727) 556-6500

House of Representatives District 52 - Jeff Brandes - (727) 552-2573

Congressional District 10 - Bill Young - (727) 893-3191

County Commissioner District 7 - Kenneth T. Welch - (727) 464-3377

City council District 4 - Leslie Curran - (727) 893-7117

Easter Egg Hunt at the park

Easter Egg Hunt for kids to be held at Crescent Lake on Saturday April 16th at 9:30 am. If you are going to attend with your child(ren) please drop off filled eggs to Mary Yates at 834 26th Ave N-there will be a container on the front porch to place the eggs in and you should probably make about 15 per child. Your child might not get the eggs you fill, but in order to make sure we have enough for everyone we would appreciate your participation! If anyone is interested in volunteering for this event (we always need people to help hide the eggs and set up snacks) contact Mary Yates at marycyates@mindspring.com.

Please help deliver the newsletter!!

Looking for an easy way to get involved in the neighborhood? We still need help delivering the newsletter to 22nd Ave N. This commitment only requires about an hour of your time each month, and you can deliver the newsletters when it is convenient for you. Contact Jennifer Wright at jennifer.lyn.wright@gmail.com if you would like to volunteer.

Advertising in the CHNA Newsletter

The Crescent Heights Neighborhood Association Newsletter is published monthly, except August and December, and is distributed to each of the nearly 600 homes in Crescent Heights and to neighborhood businesses. Advertising helps offset printing costs for the newsletter. Advertising space is made available each month; deadline for all ads is the 25th of each month prior to the publication. All ads should be camera-ready or in electronic format. Payment is due at time of ad placement. If you are interested in advertising or need rates, please email you needs to newsletter@mychna.org.

Join the CHNA Association TODAY! Help support the neighborhood and efforts to make this a great place to live. Cost is just \$20 a year (Jan-Dec).

Sign up for membership online and pay with PayPal at www.myCHNA.org! Or fill out this membership form and mail or bring to the next monthly meeting.

Name: _____ Address: _____

Alternate Address: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

Fee is \$20 payable to CHNA. Bring to meeting or mail to CHNA, PO Box 76051, St. Pete, FL 33734