

NCBC Meets GRPD at this year's Food Booth

by Susan Hessler

Here's something you don't hear at food booth—"Brats, hot dogs, soup and call 9-1-1!" No the food isn't criminal, however the guy trying to break into Faite Mack's house at the corner of College & Fountain was! While Scott &



I stirred the soup, we glanced out Jack's kitchen window and observed a man trying to open the sliding patio door on the back deck. Since the house is listed for sale, we assumed that Faite had someone there working. After all it's Saturday the height of the home tour. Realizing that this was an attempted burglary, we called 911, and the Food Booth Crew surrounded the house, waiting for the GRPD to arrive. The person was apprehended with the assistance of NCBC members helping the cops over the fence into the enclosed back deck. Other than that, we had another smooth running food booth.



But most of all a big THANK YOU Suzanne LaChance for opening your home for tour. What a gift, and right across from our food booth. The lines at her house were long, and we sure took advantage of it. Long time "regulars" of the tour were telling us how much they loved your home and how it was their favorite. Big hearty pats on the back's to Jack Hoppus for the use of his place the entire weekend and Jim Boylan for saying yes again to us and the use of his home.



I would think by now all of us could do this in our sleep. After all, this was our 25th food booth. We sure have come along way from the early days. This event runs like a super well oiled machine. Why wouldn't it

when you have dedicated volunteers who give of themselves tirelessly every year. This year's challenges were the heat & direct competition. It was 86 to 90 degrees, soup sales were slow and coffee and hot cider sales were non-existent, but we made up for it with brisk water and pop sales. The competition was a German Oktoberfest beer & brat tent at the Voigt House.

And like years in the past, it all started with the meatball rolling party at Jack Hoppus's. 18 pounds total. Thanks to Roberta Kok who while on vacation in the Netherlands bought the soup mix for us and packed the 24 envelopes in her luggage. Thanks to Tim Lowing for passing along his employee discount at Sysco and their kind donation of hot dogs and garden burgers.

Thanks to everyone for your donation of time, food and support of this year's food booth. We could not do it without all of you.

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NCBC Math: 46 now equals 50!

by Susan Hessler

In case you haven't heard, Jack & I have purchased 46 College NE. The house next door to us that burned. Where to start? The beginning usually is the answer, however I'll start in the past (the real beginning as you'll see.) 50 College NE was built in 1885 on a lot much larger than today's lot. Eventually part of that parcel was purchased and the home that we know as the Devries house (46 College) was moved into it's present location.

Now fast forward to today. We all have been aware of the difficulties to rebuild 46 College NE. That struggle ended on August 15, 2007 with the approval to demolish from the Historic Preservation Commission. I can not put into words our devastating disappointment. We so much wanted a house rebuilt but readily understood the major road blocks in the way--inaccessibility, skyrocketing costs, red-tape bureaucracy, etc. etc. Anticipating work to begin, we patiently put off our own fire related repairs, and now this blow. So, we sat and wondered nervously - "what now?"

Several weeks went by when Laura Devries (the owner) approached us and offered the opportunity to purchase the home and demolish it. Huh?! You're asking your #1 rebuilding cheerleaders to tear it down!? How ironic is this? We thought long about it. If we didn't purchase it how much longer would it sit as is? The Block can't have this go on. The approval to demolish from the HPC is for a whole long year from date of approval! NO! Not knowing what would become of the house, or the property we had our answer. We had to accept their offer and so we did!



We expect demolition to begin any day and anxiously await Pitsch Wrecking to give us a start date. In this process we also will be restoring the original lot of 50 College NE. We have come full circle. What was once the original parcel, then divided, is now reunited!

So out of a terrible, terrifying night back in January we have found the happy ending. Like the story of the Phoenix a new life emerges. Gardens, trees, flowers out of the rubble. I only hope that through this project we are able to turn a depressing ugly sight into one of beauty that will enhance our neighborhood.

I'll leave you with two Italian sayings that have helped me in this long year-Pace e Bene (Peace and Good) and Tutto e Possibile (All is Possible).

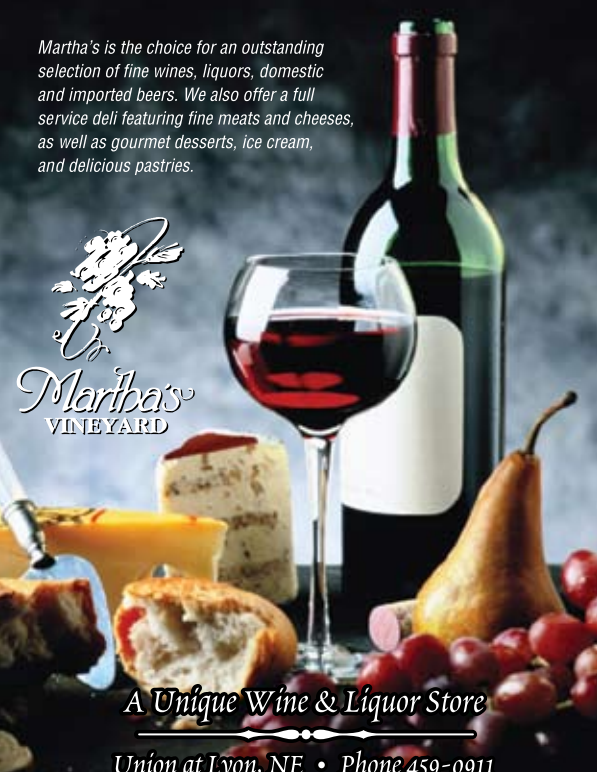


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Party Schedule



To host a party contact Jack Hessler:
jasus@aol.com or call 454-8121

2007

November *Open*
December 15 **Holiday Party**
57 College NE

2008

January *Open*
February **Texas Hold'em**
60 College NE

Celebrating Birthdays

Happy birthday to all of those with recent and upcoming birthdays!



October

Jennifer Lewis 10/7
Rick Wright 10/8
Michael Mamp 10/10
Chris Sierz 10/11
Kurt Koetsier 10/15
Fred Cahall 10/16

November

Britta Bailey 11/11
Dianne Thole 11/12
Tom Potter 11/19
Ken Jones 11/22

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NCBC Presidents Message for October 2007

by Jack Hessler



Kind of busy month with Food Booth and all.

First, a hearty 'thank you' to all who supported the 2007 Food Booth in some way. Special Thanks to those who worked (or ate) both days. See the article in this newsletter. The Heritage Hill informal talk is that the tour attendance was down this year – maybe everyone went to the beach on those 86 degree days! See 'blistering' images of the 2007 Food Booth at WWW.NCBC.CC.

Needless to say, we were not disappointed in this year's profits which we can now send out to local charities. This year we will give donations to Heritage Hill, YWCA Women's Crisis Center, Heartside Ministries, GRPS Homeless Students, C-Snip, and Central Reformed Church Food Pantry. We donated our left over food to God's Kitchen. Your block club efforts have made this a better community.

Second, we welcome the opening of **The Green Life Market** by our neighbors **Kristine & Joel Bersche**. The grand opening is October 22nd and offers a variety of organic & natural groceries and products. See their ad in this newsletter.

Lastly, you now know about Susan & my news regarding our purchase of 46 College NE. We hope to take this terrible event and turn it into something wonderful that can be appreciated by the entire block.

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New Front-Yard Foliage

by Clare Wade

We were sad to see the mighty oak tree near the street curb at 60 College NE cut down just before Labor Day. It was a well trafficked, highly entertaining squirrel path -- just a JUMP to the trees and power lines across the street. Rotted out near the base, however, the oak was marked with white paint last fall. Afterward, Tom was determined to plant a strong tree since two previous saplings didn't adapt. Now, we are happy to welcome the colorful new maple tree. Fingers crossed this time!

