



CITY of CRYSTAL

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

March 28, 2018

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Great Neighbors in Crystal Recognized at Crystal Ball on March 24

The City of Crystal recently held a “Neighbors Recognizing Neighbors,” recognition awards program to honor great neighbors who make Crystal a wonderful place to live and work. This year, four great neighbors were honored, but all 19 nominations highlighted the many kind and thoughtful neighbors living in Crystal.

Three of the top four nominees received their awards on Saturday, March 24 during the Crystal Ball at the Crystal Community Center. All four award winners received an inscribed crystal award and the thanks of their neighbors and community.

The winners are:

Tim Grundei

Tim was nominated by two different neighbors: Kay Christenson and Jason and Cori Roton.

Kay said that Tim has a big heart; and is kind, funny and generous. He came to her rescue last summer when she had an accident in her garage, and he mowed her lawn for two weeks when she was gone last summer.

She said he keeps an eye on homes when people are away, pushed many neighbors out of the snow during the Jan. 22 blizzard, and bakes warm brownies and shares them. She says, “If he ever moves, I might have to follow him!”

Jason and Cori, who also nominated Tim, said he is always willing to help, whether it’s removing snow, loaning tools, or just having a friendly conversation. They said, “He basically makes you feel like you are the most important person in the moment and is willing to be there for whatever you need.”

Jim Jopp

Jim was nominated by his neighbor, Lisa Senden, who said he is their block captain and is always there to help out. He mows many of the neighbor’s lawns, shovels driveways, dog sits and even drives some neighbors to work.

Lisa said Jim is always looking out for others and is the first person to call if there is an issue in the neighborhood. “We can always count on Jim,” she added.

Jerry Sultvedt

Jerry was nominated by his neighbor, Mary Roening, who said he mowed her lawn when she was on vacation and her lawn service couldn’t do it. And then he continued to do it all summer.

“I hear he does this for other people, too,” she added.

Jerry also heads St. James Lutheran Church’s annual Lutefisk dinner – a huge undertaking – and is instrumental in the church’s upkeep.

Recently, when the church's members from Africa wanted to have an African Food Festival, he offered to help them with planning and purchasing.

"I am sure Jerry does many things that I am not aware of," Mary added. "Plus he is just a nice guy."

Naomi Davidson (could not attend the presentation)

Naomi was nominated by her neighbor Brad Snyder, who said she is one of the most active members of our community. Naomi visits and helps neighbors, whether offering plants from her garden, assisting disabled residents or clearing driveways for elderly citizens.

She coordinated the Step It Up Dynamos Team last year. And with her leadership, the team was number one as a group.

Brad says, "We were only in our house a few days before she invited us to join "Step To It," and to attend party at her house. She has inspired me to become more active in our Brownwood Neighborhood to create a more social community."

Brad added that he thinks every neighborhood needs a Naomi: "I feel truly blessed at the community and friendships she has created and the new friends she has introduced me to.

About Crystal

The City of Crystal is a fully-developed, first-tier suburban community just west of Minneapolis in Hennepin County. The City became a Charter City in 1960 and has a population of 22,436 residents. Crystal enjoys an extensive park system, healthy residential neighborhoods and commercial areas that provide for the needs of a diverse population.