



DATE: December 19, 2011  
TO: All Neighborhood Presidents  
RE: Bea Christy Nominations

When was the last time you honored the people who make your neighborhood such a special place to live? The ones who support, encourage, and are always there to work. They are the people who have a passion for making neighborhoods better places to live and are willing to do whatever it takes to make it happen.

Twenty-five years ago the Lansing Neighborhood Council hosted a dinner to honor and thank those people. That dinner, the Bea Christy Award Dinner, has since become a Lansing tradition. Every year around Valentines Day, neighborhood people, family, friends, and local dignitaries gather to share a meal and highlight the fine work these neighbors continue to do. The dinner is a testament to the idea that one person does make a difference.

The Bea Christy Award Dinner is an excellent opportunity for your organization to recognize someone who contributes time and energy to your neighborhood. On **Friday, February 10, 2012** one person will be selected for the special Bea Christy Award.

In order to make this special evening possible **we need your help in locating these hard working neighbors.** We would like to encourage your organization to nominate someone for this year's Bea Christy award. All nominees will be honored at the dinner.

Attached you will find a nomination form and criteria. This form must be completed and returned to the **Lansing Neighborhood Council** by **Friday, January 27, 2012.** Free dinner tickets will be provided for your nominee and a guest. **We hope you will be able to sell additional tickets to members of your neighborhood group.**

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Cheryl A. Risner". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned to the right of the typed name.

Cheryl A. Risner

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**NOMINATION FOR THE  
BEA CHRISTY AWARD**

"The Heart of the City"

Nominee Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Nominated By \_\_\_\_\_  
(Organization)

Please use the attached form to list the reasons you are nominating this person.

Background of Nominee (include information which would be included in a press release) \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Please return this form to the Lansing Neighborhood Council office no later than **Friday, January 27, 2012** Thank You



## BEA CHRISTY CRITERIA

Bea Christy was a dedicated member of the Eastside Neighborhood Organization(ENO)for more than ten years until her death. She also worked with other organizations to make the neighborhood and community a better place to live. She was the kind of individual who volunteered to do the "unglamorous" tasks, who worked quietly and diligently and behind the scenes, who never sought recognition for her efforts.

She was a good neighbor in her immediate neighborhood, welcoming new people, planting flowers in the churchyard across the street from her house, taking elderly folks to the doctor, noticing where the sidewalk needed repairs. Bea was also active in ENO, which covered a large geographic area. She helped edit and deliver the ENO neighborhood newspaper, made soup for the annual Spring fund-raiser, helped plant flowers in the community bed on Michigan Avenue, and helped in countless other ways.

Bea was also an active member of her church, volunteered with Radio Talking Book, and helped initiate and continued volunteering with the Lansing area CROP walk. She made these contributions in addition to being a devoted wife, mother, and grandmother.

It is quiet, committed, unsung people like Bea who make neighborhood organizations successful and the community as a whole a better place to live. So in making your nomination for this award, please consider those qualities exemplified by Bea Christy.

Consider the following when writing your nomination:

1. Variety of activities in your neighborhood organization.
2. Unsung nature of contributions.
3. Overall good neighbor.
4. Reliability-"always there"
5. Willingness to take on tasks.
6. Other service to community

Nominees need to be 18 years or older (teenagers and youth have other opportunities for recognition through school, churches, etc.)

All Nominees must be alive at time of nomination (LNC has a "Mary Margaret Murphy Woll Lifetime Achievement Award" for those special volunteers that have passed on).

When judges receive copy of the nomination form from each group, all personal information is deleted. The judges don't see names, organization, street names, or gender of the nominee. Neighborhood's can use TP (this person) or ON (our nominee) in place of the person's name.

*Please find below a copy of a past nomination that show how to write about your nominee without it having to be edited.*

***The person whom we wish to nominate deserves this honor because of the numerous contributions to our community.***

***In an area of our neighborhood that was used as a public dump, prostitute hangout, and drug infested site, this citizen took the initiative to change the appearance of the unsafe and unsightly part of our neighborhood. The nominee began by removing all the couches, trash, tires, and large appliances that were dumped. Next they undertook the task of the removal of weeds, hazardous trees and re-graded the land. This notable individual then planted trees and sowed grass seed to give the area its now park like appearance. This area, which was once nothing but an eyesore and dangerous spot, is now a beautiful; safe play site and meeting place for our community.***

***In addition to this outstanding display of community dedication, our nominee has continually contributed time and their skills to the neighborhood. This person has and continues to restore broken bicycles, which are not only used for community recreational activities, but also have been donated with a kind heart to children who do not have and can not afford bicycles. This is not the only contribution this individual makes to our neighborhood, they have also acted as the baseball coach, and continuing to pinch-hit for the current coach when ever it is desired. This outstanding individual is always there with an open hand or heart whenever someone is in need.***

# ***BEA CHRISTY AWARD DECISION MAKING PROCESS***

**Step 1:** All Bea Christy Award nominations are turned in to the LNC office. Nominations are dated as to when they are received and then numbered in random order.

**Step 2:** LNC staff then proofreads all nominations to assure that the identities of the nominees remain unknown to the judges. Any information that may give a clue to who the nominee might be is deleted from the original nomination. For example, the name of the nominee, gender, as well as any organization the nominee may be directly connected with.

**Step 3:** Three judges are selected ahead of time by the Staff of the Neighborhood Council. The Director arranges a time to meet with the judges to explain this process and distribute the following information:

- \* A description of Bea Christy and Essay criteria
- \* A rating sheet with instructions for judging the nominee
- \* Numbered nomination essays

**Step 4:** The judges then review the nominations and rate each essay on a scale of 1 to 25 in the following categories:

- \* “Good Neighbor”
- \* Variety of Involvement
- \* Reliability - “Always There”

The ratings are then given to the LNC office by the judges.

Ratings are tabulated and averaged by the LNC Director to assure there is not a tie. In case of a tie, the Director will ask the judges to review the highest scores to try to break the tie.

**Step 5:** The Director and Judges then meet for a luncheon to discuss the nomination and confirm their ratings. After confirming the ratings, the Director will then announce the winner to the judges by number. The name of the winner will remain unknown from the judges until it is announced the night of the awards dinner.