

Martin Drive Trolley News

October 2005

43rd STREET NEEDS A GOOD DOSE OF NEIGHBORLINESS!!

By Sharon Williams
Chairperson, Walkers Committee

Over the last year, a number of neighbors living on 43rd St. had come with their complaints to the Martin Drive Neighborhood Association meetings about too much noise during the evenings and late night, too much litter, too many kids playing in the street, too little respect for other's property, too little opportunity to discuss complaints neighbor-to-neighbor, too many tenants living in one property, etc., etc.

There were so many differing opinions about what was really going on and how to reach some solutions that a number of us decided the only fair way to "get to the bottom" of the problems was to go see for ourselves. Nine Association members volunteered to serve on a Walkers Committee (WC). We organized ourselves so that at least two members would walk every evening of the week.

Our first "walks" began the third week in July. We quickly realized that we needed to walk both 43rd and 44th streets from about 9:00 p.m. to 11:00 p.m. to really see the activity on the streets. We found, unfortunately, that many of the complaints were valid.... there was too much noise, too much litter, too many kids playing in the street late at night! We also noted that as we walked through the neighborhood asking the kids to stop playing in the streets and to keep the noise down, we were not disrespected. In fact, we often were engaged in positive conversations with many of the kids and young people...and, eventually, with some of the adults.

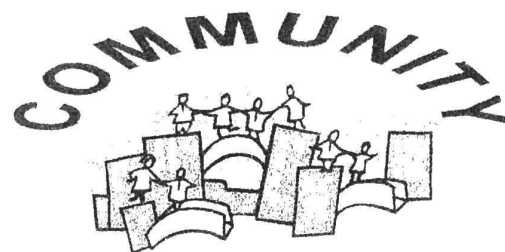
After two weeks, the WC decided that we should try to gather the adults together at a meeting. Committee members went door-to-door inviting neighbors on 43rd to the Washington Park Senior Center on August 15th. Letters were also sent to five landlords in whose buildings were located large numbers of the children identified as "neighborhood problems".

To our surprise about forty neighbors, including some teens showed up at the meeting on August 15. (The teens felt we were trying to exclude them, but we were only trying to open dialogue with the adults on the block.)

It was crucial that the meeting not be a negative experience where folks just made accusations and became defensive, so we used a process that would help everyone input their ideas on what they wanted their neighborhood to "sound like", to "look like", and to "feel like". Emotions were high, but everyone took part. We came up with three simple.

(Continued on page 7)

HOW TO BUILD A



Turn off your TV. Leave your house. Know your neighbors. Look up when you are walking. Sit on your stoop. Plant flowers. Greet people. Use your library. Play together. Buy from local merchants. Share what you have. Help a lost dog. Take children to the park. Garden together. Support neighborhood schools. Fix it even if you didn't break it. Have pot lucks. Honor elders. Pick up litter. Read stories aloud. Dance in the street. Talk to the mail carrier. Listen to the birds. Put up a swing. Help carry something heavy. Start a tradition. Ask a question. Hire young people for odd jobs. Organize a block party. Bake extra and share. Ask for help when you need it. Open your shades. Sing together. Share your skills. Take back the night. Listen before you react to anger. Mediate a conflict. Seek understanding. Learn from new and uncomfortable angles. Know that no one is silent though many are not heard. Work to change this. (Syracuse Cultural Workers)<>



Talent Show Participants - Story on page 2.

This newsletter accepts articles about events, issues, editorials, and letters pertaining to the Martin Drive Neighborhood. Submissions must have a name and telephone number for contact. Send submissions to adarouse@msn.com; deadlines are: January 1, April 1, July 1, October 1. Articles in this newsletter are written by Martin Drive Neighborhood volunteers.

MY BLOCK

By Shannon S.

Let me tell you about my block. It's on 43rd Street and we have it on lock. So many kids all over the place, with so much energy. It's hard to keep up with their pace. You see on my block you hear a lot of talking - some good and some bad. But to me, I think it's all sad. I wish we could come together as one. We could really have a lot of fun. We could talk, hangout. You Know. Get to know one another - kids and all! Pretty soon we won't see much of each other. It's almost fall. Then winter will come. We really won't see each other then. But as soon as spring breaks, all controversy will start up again! I think instead of rumors and shouting matches, the police always being called, we should come together early in the year and start to resolve! Resolve all issues at hand from young and old with only peace and truth being told! I bet every one of us has a story to tell! Let's be free instead of feeling like we're locked up in some scary jail! Let's learn to trust each other. Let's raise all our children with respect, dignity and pride! When was the last time we paid attention to the children's cry? With ignorance and violence in some Milwaukee hoods, we should really be proud that our children on this block don't run with those bands of crowds. We should all hold this block, my block, our block down as a whole.

My name is Shannon. I live on 43rd Street. I'm just letting the truth be told. Thank you - peace! <>

BACK TO SCHOOL TALENT SHOW

By Pat Mueller

On Wednesday, August 31, many neighbors attended the Second Annual Back to School Party on 43rd Street.

Shannon and Te Te were the organizers of the fun event that included nine performances of dance, poetry and song by kids from 43rd Street. The performers were: Shannon, Elon, Daxion, Te Te, organ, Sheila, Jeremy Jones, "3 Little Kids" group, Kathlina Lee, "The Twins," Nortell, Brandon, Tai and Muffin. Otis and Lenny acted as MC and DJ of the event. Mike was the "Sandman."

The evening began with face painting and a nice spread of food donated by Cousin's Sub and cake from Eat Cake!. After food and face painting the entertainment began.

The evening ended with a beckoning from those on stage to all of the audience to dance with the performers - and dance we did! Many of the audience were easily coaxed to the dance floor for a bit of exercise. Shannon and Te Te did a great job of organizing the event. It is safe to say that everyone enjoyed themselves, young and old, and it was truly a time to come together. Thanks are in order to Cousin's Subs, Eat Cake!, Virginia, Armando, Dan Larson, Pat Mueller, Sharon Williams, Shannon, Te Te and everyone else who helped. <>



WHAT'S UP WITH 46TH STREET?

By Terri Bartlett

The summer was hot, but looking back, the days seemed to move too quickly through the season, unless it is just me wanting more cool days than sweltering. In any case, there are blessings abounding for everyone.



One of the biggest blessings is the wonderful neighbors who live on 46th street and who have been very supportive maintaining the properties on each end of the street. They have mowed, moved the wood chips to the outside by the fence line and tried to water. Every time I had a chance or noticed the grass needing trimming, it was done. I know everyone appreciates the care and concern invested in those areas. A huge Thank you to the Baumgartens and anyone else who helped.

The heat of the summer and the lack of water from above didn't help the plants we put in this spring. We didn't have enough of us to adopt a plant and we lost many, so maybe next spring we can come up with a better way of doing things. I have a few ideas that I'm looking into. One is with the help of our own Alderman Michael Murphy.

Where my many phone calls didn't get results for chips this spring, Alderman Michael Murphy came through. He was instrumental in arranging for a huge load of chips. Thank you, Sir. We will try to acquire chips again, one more time this season; hopefully before November, to place under the trees to minimize mud and assist aesthetically. We really do want to add a picnic table there!

One day a woman called me and asked what she could do to help. I explained the rest of the chips needed to be moved. Others and I have spent a time on and off doing this. She took on the task and the next time I looked, it was gone! I would like to thank her, but my organizational skills keeping notes is not the best, so could you please call me, so I can thank you appropriately?

I, with several of the young children who lived near by watching and supervising, lined out the checker board game, the tic tac toe game and a mega hop scotch with a permanent marker on the driveway adjacent to the property. The kids were playing on them before I left. I have a special cement paint to outline the designs, but have not had the time to do. Any takers? It is funny how once committed to something, every unforeseeable obstacle hinders progress. Yet, little by little things are getting done.

Proposed plans for next year are the picnic table and planters and maybe a small garden cared for by the neighborhood youth. If this happens, that means we will have permission for the use of the water from the hydrant on the property line. How wonderful would that be? So, start praying.

Maggie will send an email about the upcoming fall clean-up. Remember to bring rakes and smiles. We have bags. <>

DID YOU KNOW....

By Pat Mueller

Vliet Street businesses support the community by sponsoring events like the Westside Artwalk and in the summer of 2005 Washington "Bark" Dog Day.

Those who have lived in the area for a long time know the many new businesses along Vliet Street - a gateway to our neighborhood - have dressed it with a certain vibrancy that was missing for many years. Please remember to support our local businesses too!

For every dollar you spend at a locally owned business, 45 cents is returned to the community. For every dollar spent at a chain store, only 13 cents is returned to the local community. Let's support each other. <>

WASHINGTON PARK RUMMAGE SALE

By Pat Mueller

The Washington Park Senior Center is having a rummage sale on Saturday, October 29, from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. If you would like to sell some rummage, tables are available for rent. A 7' table costs \$10 and a 14' table costs \$18.00. If interested contact Ann at the Senior Center, 933-2332. There is a \$1 admittance fee for the rummage sale. <>

3 ON 3 BASKETBALL

By Sharon Williams

The MDNA will have a Hurricane Katrina fundraiser - a 3-on-3 basketball tournament. Watch your mailbox for a flyer for more details. <>

MORE "STUFF"!

By Suzanne Moynihan

Got too much garbage? How about recycling? Actually, recycling makes sense and is required by state law. Think about it! Do you want your children to have to deal with overflowing landfills when they are adults? OR with a pleasant and healthy environment?

The state asks that we recycle these items:

- PAPER: Newspapers, advertising, junk mail, paperbacks, magazines, catalogs, phone books. Put in paper bags before putting in blue cart.
- CORRUGATED CARDBOARD: Cut and flatten cardboard boxes, cereal boxes and soda cans, steel food cans, empty aerosol cans
- GLASS: Food/soda containers only; glass jars/bottles - all colors
- PLASTIC: Check container bottom and only recycle those with a 1 or a 2 inside the arrows.

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PROCEDURE CHANGED IN NOISE PAMPHLET

By Linda Hanig

Among the many pieces of informational literature available at Martin Drive Neighborhood monthly meetings, usually is a pamphlet entitled "Milwaukee's Nuisance Noise Ordinance."

One procedure listed in it for reporting loud car stereos is no longer valid. The Milwaukee Police non-emergency number should be called instead, said Officer Thomas Kupsik, the MDN community liaison officer.

On the back cover, the pamphlet states that for car stereo noise to "visit any police station and request a PL-36 Noise form." This form is no longer used, Kupsik said. For honking horns and loud music from a vehicle, call 933-4444.

The pamphlet, provided by the Department of Neighborhood Services and dated July 13, 2001, still provides important information and advice on how to rectify problems with loud noise in a neighborhood.

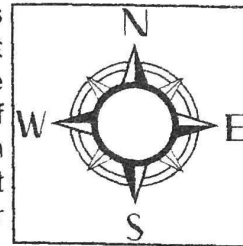
For more information, go to the DNS website at www.ci.mil.wi.us or call 286-2268.<>

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MAPS TELL OF BIG NEIGHBORHOOD CHANGES IN THE 1920s

By Linda Hanig

Significant transformations took place in the 1920s in what we know now as the Martin Drive Neighborhood. The City of Milwaukee annexed parts from the Village of Wauwatosa. Street names changed, particularly our namesake.



Recently while taking a break from my schoolwork, I looked over several old maps in the Frank P. Zeidler Humanities Room at Milwaukee's Central Library. With help from the research librarian, I found fun pieces of information that added to my understanding of this neighborhood.

Martin Dr. itself was once called Menomonee Dr. Three maps show a planned extension of this street west of 46th St. It would have swung up through the block between 46th and 47th streets, run south of Vliet St., headed southward toward Juneau Ave. and ended at N. Hawley Rd.¹ I guessed that the street would have continued to follow the top of the bluff, as it does now.

In December 1926, Menomonee Dr. was renamed Martin Dr. At one time, State St. east of the Milwaukee River was called Martin St., after Morgan L. Martin. The city decided to call the street State St. for its entire length. To continue to honor Martin, the name came here.²

A map³ shows that the border between Milwaukee and Wauwatosa once ran through this neighborhood. The border ran along Chestnut St., which we now know as Juneau, until Highland Blvd. It followed Highland and turned south at 40th St. to State St. Now this State St. is not the State St. we know today, but the street between Highland and present-day State St., which at that time was called Watertown Plank Road. Fortieth Street no longer exists here, as it was taken up when Miller Brewing Company's corporation headquarters was built. The border continued along State St. to 35th St., where it turned south. In 1926, the border moved west to N. 60th St.⁴

A fire insurance map indicates that 43rd St. between Vliet and Juneau was once called Schiller St.⁵ Coincidentally, one of two large

(Continued on page 8)

HAROLD - THE HELPFUL GUY

By Terri Bartlett

Prepare your garden for spring this fall. This is a great time to get a jump on enjoying the outdoors next spring. Just follow some of these suggestions before you settle in for the winter, and you'll be among the first to benefit when warm days return.

Rake debris from your yard and garden, but don't dispose of all your fall leaves. Gather leaves and place them around your most fragile plants. You can also shred leaves with your lawn mower to create a natural mulch fertilizer for your lawn or garden. Put some aside to contribute to your compost pile throughout the winter. Add them to layers of kitchen greens, grass clippings and dried brush and soil to create an excellent nutritional supplement for your garden.

Alternatively, if you simply let leaves mix with dirt or water rot in a plastic bag over the winter, and occasionally churn the mixture, you'll have a fine batch of leaf mould to mix with your composting or planting soil in spring.

Dig new flower beds and yard borders before the ground gets hard. This is a great to plan your spring garden, and give your yard new definition. Prepare the earth now to give your garden space for more flowers.

In the spring with less space devoted to grass, you'll have fewer overall maintenance requirements and fewer resources that will be needed for your lawn next year.

Get planting before the weather turns too colds. You can plant many hardy perennials and flowering bushes in the fall, when their growth is less active, and they are less likely to be stressed by extremely hot or cold weather. Fall is also the time to plant spring bulbs like crocuses, narcissus, hyacinths, tulips, and daffodils. Check with your garden center to ensure your timing, exposure and species are ideal for maximum enjoyment. Position your bulbs to enhance your window sightlines, and water all new plants regularly, right up until the cold sets in - you're going to love them in just a few short months!

Get more sunshine! Tour your yard and determine the sun's spring path. Then make planting decisions that will maximize direct sunlight exposure for your bulbs.

Trim away dead or unnecessary branches that may cast shadows over your flowerbeds a few months from now longer months from now (don't forget, the days will start growing longer again in late December).

Generally speaking, you should have evergreens on the north to protect your home and garden from

cold winter winds as well as early and late summer sun, and deciduous trees on the south, to protect you from the high sun's peak summer heat, and to allow winter and spring sunshine through.

Remember, if you make sure you get every ray of sun that comes your way, you'll be the first to enjoy the arrival of spring' <>

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CITY OF MILWAUKEE NUISANCE ORDINANCE

Is there a property in your neighborhood where nuisance activities such as possible drug activity, littering, loitering and other suspected criminal activities are happening on a regular basis? If so, there's a tool the city can use to make those problems go away.

The **Chronic Nuisance ordinance** brings Milwaukee Police to bear on the problem. The ordinance works to reduce complaints about nuisance properties by notifying landlords and other property owners of repeated nuisance calls and giving them the opportunity to correct the problems.

The nuisance ordinance can be activated if the police determine that three or more nuisance activities have occurred at a property within a 30-day period. In such a case, the police can notify a property owner and request a plan to stop the problem from continuing. If problems persist, the cost for additional police calls for nuisances are charged directly to the tax bill of the property owner. That possible future cost is usually enough to get property owners to act responsibly.

The ordinance covers both residential (including rental) and commercial property. To report a nuisance, call police at **933-4444**. Be as detailed as possible about your observations. The MPD tracks repeated calls for service and can use this information to determine if the chronic nuisance code was violated. You should also keep a log of the date and time the nuisance/s occurred (make sure to include the name/s of people you contacted to report it). You can also forward your observations about a property to the 7th Police District. The non-emergency phone number for the 7th Police District is **935-7273**.

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Keep your eyes open for details on
RETREAT TO VLIET
November 18-19, 2005

Summary of M.D. Neighborhood Association Minutes July 11, 2005

28 neighbors in attendance. Neighbors' concerns:

The need to bag garbage versus tossing it in containers unbagged. Bagging, and securing the bags, prevents losing pieces on the street. Each household needs to assure cleanup after the garbage pick-up. A neighborhood is labeled by the amount of litter in the gutters. 45th Street now has split garbage days due to the city combining garbage pick-ups. Trash is supposed to include all items smaller than 2 sofas. **All garbage carts are due back in place within 24 hours of the pickup** Left out carts offer a negative connotation of the neighborhood. Firecrackers continue to be illegal. The noise causes unrest and fear, as well as the concern of the possibility of a fire resulting from the fall out of the explosive material.

Pat M. reminds us Washington Park is to have an art truck in the park area from noon to four from July 18-22 for kids 4-14 years of age. Lois, Pat, Linda and Cathy volunteered to help the people in the art truck near the boathouse.

Jazz in the Park will continue through the month of July. On August 14, offerings include food vendors, artists, and general picnic type activities.

Sharon reminded us of the all neighborhood rummage sale July 23 from 9 to 1 p.m. Larry Gietl will make signs for each street plus two large ones for Vliet Street and Highland Blvd.

Our next dumpster day is 8/5/05 on Juneau between 42nd and 43rd Streets.

Ada noted the Martin Drive Trolley News was ready for editing with the delivery by the end of the week. We are grateful to the small group of people who make this item possible. Extra hands/eyes are always welcomed by this group.

Officer Thomas Kupsik, our community liaison, listened and offered informative words of encouragement concerning problems addressed by neighbors. The City of Milwaukee nuisance ordinance and loitering with intent to be intimidating. The number to call during the day to report such negative activity is 935-7733. The more details the caller presents, the better the chance of change. This does take time. Three calls on one address in one month, provides cause for a citation.

Positive comments included recognition of Ada's birthday, pleasure from the diversity of neighbors, enjoyment of the fresh cookies, and the wonderful results of the renovated bandshell. New neighbors were in attendance as well as the seasoned people who have history with this neighborhood, including one from 1948 to some from 2005. We agree that this is a good place to live. We also recognized that there are problems when people do not respect others.

August 8, 2005

25 neighbors attended. We had one new neighbor who is looking for a house in the Martin Drive Neighborhood.

Pat Mueller shared with us the updates of Afternoon in

the Park being held Sunday, August 14, from noon to 4:00 p.m. All neighbors were welcome to enjoy the mini art fair, free concert and the camaraderie the event promises to present. Food will be available for sale. People could bring grills and blankets and hope for good weather for this afternoon in the park. Washington Park's "Bark" Dog Day, Aug. 28 1:00 - 4:00 p.m.

Pat M. reported on an informative conference she attended concerning the Olmstead Conservancy in Buffalo, New York. Attendees developed an understanding of the importance of private/public support of the parks across our nation working together to save our parks. Pat said similar experiences are happening across our country. Watch for news about new activities utilizing our very own Washington Park.

Sharon reported on several meetings held at her home with neighbors who are trying to improve conditions on 43rd Street by getting to know the people who spend the later hours of the day on the street. There would be a meeting on **Monday, August 15, at 6:00 p.m. at the Senior Center in Washington Park for the adults living on 43rd Street, the walkers, and other interested neighbors.** It was hoped that all will come to an understanding of what is expected of adults and children who live in this congested area. Several of the neighbors are trying to organize a block party for August 31 for 43rd Street (see article on 43rd St. on page 1).

Maggie distributed an informative flyer on **nuisance properties.** A training meeting on nuisance properties in our community will be held Tuesday, 8/30/05, from 5:00 - 6:30 p.m. at Christian Union Church on the corner of N. 39th and W. Garfield. Property can become a nuisance very quickly if neighbors do not work together to call police about the criminal activities. We need to be alert and aware of the happenings on our block.

Sharon W. reported that the All Neighborhood Rummage Sale seemed to be a success with approximately 30-35 neighbors selling their goods. **Bradley Realty** donated the flags to identify those who pre-registered. **Gietl Sign Shop** printed the signs placed on Vliet, Highland & Martin Drive. The event has tripled in size for the same number of years.

Other neighbor concerns included a white, Pontiac GrandAm, perhaps '97/98 being driven through the neighborhood by an underage female with 5-6 young teens hanging out the windows and/or sitting on the moving vehicle. This is a 911 call if you are a witness to this unlawful activity. It is our hope to prevent a fatal accident and/or a crippling one.

Also, a "peeping tom" has made his/her presence known on Martin Drive and possibly the lower portion of 45th St.

Nelda offered good news from a former neighbor who was sent a newsletter. This caused the daughter of the

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COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIP FOR PROTECTING CHILDREN

By Terri Bartlett

In January of this year, I offered a brief outline of the CPPC and to refresh your minds, It is a group of Making Connection area residents, businesses, churches and social and economic services focused on keeping children safe from abuse and neglect.

This project is being done in only four other cities in the country. Involved groups and organizations include the support of the Annie E. Casey Foundation, Child Welfare, W2/Maximus, Milwaukee Public Schools, behavioral and domestic violence services and other supportive services such as housing, employment and food stamps, to name a few. All are committed to creating this new program. They plan on sharing a common site in the Making Connections area (a hub) to be more assessable to those using the services and also to be more integrated in the community which they serve, serve being a key word. The concept and goal of the project is to help children and families become healthy and independent through a process which allows the **family** to be an integral part of the healing process. A care plan is created, with goals and approaches, **by the families** involved and supported by the service provided in the hub. I have been involved as a resident member of the CPPC, community resident council, since last summer and it continues to be interesting!

I have seen ideas take form and become reality. I have heard commitment from all parties involved and I am in awe at the resident involvement and talent holding hands with support services creating an even more resident involved process.

Several of the biggest fences to hurdle include the privacy act, HIPPA. We have all heard and or been involved in parts of this new protection act, but what it boils down to, in a very simple format, is this: medical and personally sensitive information can not be shared without your permission and then it should be only need to know information. This makes it difficult, for example, for Maximus and Child Welfare to work together. Often they are creating two separate care plans to help someone when they should join hands and work smarter not harder, but currently laws and policies have not allowed or at the very least they have hindered this from happening. So you can imagine if there are many services involved with one family and they each have their own paperwork to complete how confusing that can be to the family and also the process. At times there could be duplication or holes where there are needs. But now the supportive services involved are working to make this happen and are developing a single plan of

care that all supportive services can be privy to and assist the families to accomplish their goals step by step.

Another hurdle is for agencies themselves to step outside of the box to create a holistic approach reaching out to and supporting other agencies that would best assist families to meet their concerns and needs. In the past, services have acted independently to help families. Now this too is progress in the making. Maximus and Child Welfare are actually doing it. The two key agencies are embracing the resident driven concept and are piloting the joint venture to better meet and plan for contingencies once the hub opens and other agencies join the services offered.

While the aggressive program's schedule hoped to open the first hub in September of this year, the reality is the site is close to being selected. In spit of the site draw back, all parties involved have made other great strides toward the full implementation of the Hub. Recently, the Community Leadership Council spent an evening interviewing and choosing an interim director. The Director, Dolores Green, will facilitate the sharing of information among all services, creating and meeting goals projected to the program including budget, services and marketing to name a few of the position's responsibilities.

The Community Leadership Council has also created a newsletter to promote communication to the MC area residents (Martin Drive Neighborhood included). Currently, the CLC has several openings for interested residents in the Making Connections area who have used the noted services, are using the noted services or who have a heart and desire to be a part of this exciting program. As a member of the council your voice will be a support to your neighbors and the community. The volunteer position enlists your time for only several hours a month. If you feel this may be the position for you or have a few questions or concerns about the position or the program, please feel free to give me a call. All comments are appreciated. 931-0435.

CLC Participants: Co-Chairs: Ayoka Huff & T.W. Prescott Members: Duane Berry, Saidah Binns, Dick Bushmann, Arteret Carson, Ted Fancher, Raeshann Ford, Alex Hardy, Leatha Harmon, Veronica Lewis, Renee Ray, Kishah Walters, Beverly Williams... Consultant Dick Theado with Marno Batterson & Carla Robinson <>

NEIGHBORHOOD MAP (Continued from page 4)

statues across from the band shell in Washington Park is of Friedrich von Schiller. A plaque states the statues were "Erected by the German Citizens of Wisconsin and dedicated to the city - June 14, 1908." I wondered if there was a connection between the street name and the statue.

Several maps indicate the houses and other buildings torn down to build the freeway along 47th, 48th and 49th streets to present-day State St.⁵ The only noteworthy building on the west side of 47th from Vliet to Juneau, at that time, was the 3rd District Police Station.⁷

A different insurance map, showing a wider area, indicates that 42nd St. was once called Norris Pl.⁸

These maps do not tell why or how the changes took place. In many cases, they do not designate an exact time, but only point to a range of years. Occasionally they are not consistent or complete. Yet they give us an understanding of the development of our neighborhood. Look at them sometime.

For more about the history of the neighborhood, check out the website at www.martindrive.org.

¹ Wagner's Complete Map of Milwaukee & Suburbs. 1925, 1926, and 1927.

² Taken in part from *Milwaukee Streets: The Stories Behind Their Names* by Carl Baehr.

³ Commercial Map of Milwaukee, 1924.

⁴ Wagner's 1927.

⁵ Insurance Maps of Milwaukee, WI. Published by The Sanborn Map Company of New York. 1910-26. Vol. 7, Part 1, p. 701.

⁶ Insurance Maps 1910-61, Vol. 7., Part 3, pp. 772-3.

⁷ Insurance Maps 1910-61, Vol. 7., Part 3, pp. 771.

⁸ Insurance Maps 1910-61, Vol. 7., Part 3, pp. 773-4.

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WANTED

Winter memories of Washington Park - all ages are invited to send notes and/or your contact information to Linda Hanig at the Martin Drive Website or call 345-9754 for her to contact you. Watch for the January issue of the Martin Drive Trolley News to "remember when" with your neighbors.

43rd STREET NEIGHBORLINESS (Continued from page 1)

clear statements that have already helped to begin laying the groundwork for better communication between the neighbors.

1. Everyone on 43rd Street will do his or her part to keep the street clean.
2. Everyone on 43rd Street will keep the noise level down and use respectful language.
3. Everyone on 43rd Street will be respectful of others and their property, and communicate in a neighborly fashion to resolve issues and complaints.

Unfortunately, while these more positive activities were happening, many negative activities were also occurring.... acts of petty but costly vandalism, and threatening, intimidating behaviors.

It seemed that many of the more negative forces in our society were present on 43rd St. All "the Gaps" were in force...generational, racial, social, and economic.

The older residents, many of whom were homeowners and white, grew tired of trying to communicate with the newer residents, and simply withdrew into their houses, especially during the evening and night time. This seemed to give the newer residents and their children, who tended to be renters and African-American, free reign to create a quality of life on the block that satisfied them without having to consider the needs of all their neighbors.

Many of the conversations between the WC members and the 43rd St. neighbors, young or old, white or black or Hispanic or Hmong, homeowner or renter, were basically about neighborliness. There was a severe breakdown of communication on this block! Anger, mistrust, fear, rumor mongering, and intimidating, threatening behaviors were becoming the norm. Some homeowners were just simply giving up and moving away.

CRISIS!! Losing strong home owning neighbors strikes a deep fear in any neighborhood association!! The quality of life for the entire Martin Drive area can become threatened. The WC saw that we also needed the help of our alderman and our district police. We needed to develop a comprehensive plan that would address all of the factors lessening the quality of life on 43rd St.: the disturbing and inconsiderate behaviors, the overcrowding and abundance of seemingly unsupervised children, the landlords who weren't monitoring nor properly maintaining their properties, and the severe lack of positive communication between neighbors.

We had noticed from the beginning of our walks that there seemed to have been a larger police presence on 43rd. We attributed this to two occurrences. First, the Third District Community

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43rd STREET NEIGHBORLINESS (Continued from page 8)
Liaison Officer had attended our July Association meeting. Officer Kupsick noted the many complaints about 43rd and offered suggestions for taking action. Second, many individuals had followed up by more frequently calling both the police and our Alderman, Michael Murphy. *But none of us were quite prepared for what happened next.*

Alderman Murphy and Third District Police Captain James Harpole had agreed to meet with the WC and to then walk with us on 43rd. The evening before the two were to join us, police cruisers rolled through the neighborhood at what seemed like twenty or thirty minute intervals for most of the evening and night. We later found that this was a strategy used by the Police Department to bring order and calmness to problem neighborhoods. None of the WC was aware this was to happen, but it did have at least one positive impact.

Many of the WC members happened to be on the street, going door-to-door inviting people to come out the next evening to talk with the alderman and the police captain when the police squads rolled through. Everyone was wondering, "What on earth is going on!" The children and teens seemed to be the most upset and were demanding to know, "Why would you (the WC) do this!" We, of course, were as astounded and worried as everyone else. It was a tense, emotional evening, but this seemed to finally cause some open and honest communication.

Because the "Walkers" were familiar faces, it seemed the older residents were more willing to talk about their needs and expressed relief that "the authorities" were finally paying attention to their complaints. The younger residents, though initially angry, were more willing to be less defensive and really talk to us about their perceptions. (Thankfully in the middle of all of this, several natural leaders on the block began to emerge...and one of them was a high school student.) On August 29, the next evening, as we all walked the block with the alderman and the captain, there were more neighbors out on the street than we had seen before. I'm sure they got an "earful" from everyone.

As we began to identify households having the most unsupervised children and suspected vandals, it became clear that absentee landlords owned most of these properties. We had invited five of them to our first meeting, but only one responded...in writing.

The WC felt we were being ignored, so the alderman sent them letters "requesting" their presence at a meeting in his City Hall office. Early in September all the landlords met with us. Each said they were unaware of any problems, and wanted to be kept informed. A few did acknowledge having received our letters.

After explaining the specific problems and incidents on 43rd St., Alderman Murphy explained how the new

Milwaukee Nuisance House ordinance would impact on negligent landlords and/or their disruptive tenants. We insisted that they help improve the quality of life on the street by better screening future tenants, that is, making sure that they understood the expectations of consideration and neighborliness, and that they move quicker to evict those not cooperating. One landlord had just evicted a tenant for this reason.

The meeting seemed productive with promises made by the landlords to better screen future tenants and more closely monitor their properties. Time will tell. We made sure that they understood the Association was not going away. We would continue to monitor the situation and hope that 43rd St becomes a street where the norm of behavior is the same as on the other streets of the Martin Drive area. It ended with Alderman Murphy inviting the landlords to join us for one of our walks in the evening and to not just accept what they might have seen during a day visit.

In conclusion, I'm happy to report that (1) the young people on the street produced a very well organized talent show at the end of August to show that all the "kids" on the block were not problems. (2) Some neighbors from 43rd meet each Saturday to clean up litter on 43rd, 44th, and Martin Drive. (3) A three-on-three basketball tournament is being planned by a small group of teens and adults to raise money for hurricane victims. (4) Our Association's traditional evening Halloween Trick-or-Treat for elementary aged kids will still happen. Some members of the Association were very worried that this would give the negative folks an excuse for more anti-social behavior, but because members of the Walkers Committee now knew many of the young folks on 43rd, we were able to convince the Association to not cancel a twelve-year-old tradition. Instead the MDA solicited the volunteer teens' help and made it very clear that they would not be given candy as trick-or-treaters at our doors.

We are hoping that all of these projects will continue to result in productive dialogue with our young neighbors and that, eventually, the older residents will join in so that next summer will not be a repeat of this one. We hope that every neighbor on 43rd, as well as, every street in the Martin Drive area will: (1) *will keep the noise level down, especially after 10:00 p.m., and use respectful language,* (2) *do his or her part to keep the street free of litter and garbage, and* (3) *be respectful of the property of others and communicate in a neighborly manner when resolving issues and complaints.*

On a personal note, I pray that we can find the civility and neighborliness to create a good quality of life for not only 43rd Street residents, but for all of us in our area!

PS: If any of you would like to react to this article, please come to our next Association meeting on Monday, October 10 (look for the signs), write to our newsletter, or speak to me when you see me around the neighborhood. PEACE! <>

MDN MINUTE SUMMARIES (Continued from page 6)

former neighbor to come back and check us out by visiting one of our businesses. Terri praised neighbors who are helping to spread the mulch and mow the small park area on north 46th St. Gratitude was expressed for all who care for their properties.

September 12, 2005

34+ in attendance. Al S. (treasurer) offered balance information. The balance in our account is due to a stipend received from Making Connections for Sharon & Terri attending a leadership training. Ald. Michael Murphy enlightened us to: 1. The negative challenges on 43rd Street He shared the meeting he had with neighbors & several landlord/lady's to explain the concerns and efforts that the MD neighbors have had with their rental properties. Owners of those properties must exercise responsible expectations when renting and/or writing a lease for their renters. A neighbor suggested trimming trees to allow more light and permit people to feel safer. 43rd and 44th Sts. are a focus, as we are aware of several new/newer homeowners moving to that area. Hopefully, this movement will be positive and eliminate the feeling of being alone against the negative elements. Our volunteer walkers offered an update of the positive impact on helping people know more of their neighbors, which relieves some tensions that arise when so many people live so close together. Our walkers have also been role models for the rest of us in their dedication and focus on changing and improving our sense of safety.

The item of garbage collection fees being levied instead of taxes. Ald. Murphy answered concerns about the rise of fees. Since the state imposed a maximum percentage that cities can raise in taxes, the use of fees has had to replace the income not raised in taxes. Fees are common. The budget for the police department takes a major percentage of the entire city budget. More police classes/more police on the streets

Two neighborhoods are working with the city on a downspout experiment. City of Milwaukee residents have been forced until recently to have their downspouts connected to the sewer line. This is now becoming a choice. There is a waste of relatively clean water being pumped through the city system. We will be notified of the success and problems connected with the removal of the downspouts from the MMS

Two workers from the American Cancer Society presented their viewpoint about the ban on smoking in public establishments.

Discussion: MDN concerns about the future of the Halloween evening trick or treat. Katrina has been the wonderful organizer of this event for its life of ten years. She is concerned that we need many more safety monitors to guarantee a safe night for all the participants. Two major concerns: Last year volunteer teens abandoned their post and went trick or treating in addition to the bag of candy they received for volunteering and teens, not from the neighborhood, were also trick or treating. When told they did not have the official

neighborhood bag to receive candy, they became verbally abusive to families with children present. After discussion, the neighbors decided to continue this event with more assistance and stringent guidelines. Many people stated their interest and willingness to help. Erika Henry will print the flyers once Katrina has updated the information. The flyer will be placed in the October newsletter. The following neighbors are willing to pass the newsletter with the application for trick or treating: Rachel Lustig-42nd & McKinley, Cathy Mackay-43rd St., Linda and Pat D. 44th St., Tom 45th St. Jennifer-46th St., Ada-Vliet & Highland, Sharon-Martin Dr. A date for trick or treating was chosen. The meeting went two hours. Martin Drive is the neighborhood it is because of the wonderful people who live here and try hard to be pleasant, respectful and alert neighbors.<>

THE QUESTION IS...

Who has lived in the Martin Drive Neighborhood the longest? Discussion at the last neighborhood meeting had lots of names floating around, but no one was picked. So, if you know who that person is or if you are that person, please contact Maggie Blaha at 344-3584. We want to talk to you!



MDN Newsletter Group<>

RUMMAGE SALE 2005

By Sharon Williams

Thanks You! Thank You!

Thank you to all who participated in the Third Annual All Area Rummage Sale. About 35 to 38 neighbors sold a wonderful variety of their "stuff" on Saturday, July 24. This is up from the 15 that participated in the first all area rummage sale in 2003. Every block was represented. We were blessed again with good weather. Many reported that the new professional signs helped to remind them of the date and to attract more customers.

We are considering having the rummage sale earlier next year. Both the Story Park and the Washington Heights neighborhood associations have theirs in late May and early June. While I wouldn't suggest that we have our sale on the same day as theirs, perhaps the second or third weekend in June might work. There has even been a suggestion that we might want to wait until fall. Come to our Association meetings to voice your opinion about the date for next year. We need your input. We want more people to participate.

Either way, keep up with the announcements in this newsletter about our 2006 Fourth Annual All Area Rummage Sale<>

MARTIN DRIVE PRESENTS: SPOOKTACKULAR '2005

11th Annual Night-Time Trick-O-Treat-
Friday , October 28th - 7:30 - 8:30 P.M.

We need your help! We are asking each family to do the following;

1) Contribute \$1.00 per child registered, and donate a bag of candy (100 pcs. or more per family) If more than 4 children (2 bags)

2) Volunteer your services if at all possible.

(Safety Monitor, Deliver Treating Home Packs, Help with Registration on any of the dates listed below.)

Teens we could really use your help, please see us at the registration site.

THIS EVENT IS FOR ~~RESIDENT CHILDREN ONLY~~
AGES 12 AND UNDER!!

ALL CHILDREN "MUST BE REGISTERED" TO PARTICIPATE AND ACCOMPANIED BY AN ADULT!

REGISTER at Heritage West
4303 W. Vliet St.

Wednesday, Oct. 19th & Oct. 26th 6:30-8:30 P.M.
Saturday, Oct. 22nd 9:00- Noon

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____

Child's name:

1 _____

2 _____

3 _____

4 _____

REGISTRATION MUST BE IN PERSON.

THERE WILL BE "NO LATE" REGISTRATION AFTER OCTOBER 26th

THE MARTIN DRIVE NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION IS PROUD TO
BE SPONSORING OUR 11th ANNUAL "SPOOKTACULAR" NIGHT -
TIME TRICK-OR-TREATING!!

**WE ARE IN NEED OF SEVERAL VOLUNTEERS TO
HELP US WITH THE FOLLOWING JOBS:**

1) HELP AT THE REGISTRATION SITE.

(Wed.) Oct. 19th & Oct. 26th 6:30-8:30 pm

(Sat. Oct. 22nd 9:00-Noon

At 4303 W. Vliet St.

(Heritage West) Next to Eat Cake

**2) HELP WITH DELIVERING TREATING HOME
PACKS.**

**3) SAFETY MONITORS (WE NEED "MANY"
VOLUNTEERS TO ENSURE A SAFE EVENT
FOR ALL!) (You will also need a flashlight!)**

**WE WOULD ALSO LIKE TO ENCOURAGE THE
NEIGHBORHOOD TEENS TO *HELP* SO THAT
"ALL" CAN ENJOY THE NIGHT.**

**SEE US AT THE REGISTRATION SITE TO
VOLUNTEER.**

46th St is sponsoring the trick or treat
if you can hand out candy call me
at 933-3292

Thank you Jenny