

Annual Meeting

Good food, good fun, good neighbors and great information.

Join fellow residents on **Monday May 18** for the Martin Drive Neighborhood Association's annual meeting. Come to learn about exciting new projects in our neighborhood and how you can get involved! You will also have the opportunity to voice your thanks and concerns to our alderman Michael Murphy, who will be in attendance.

The meeting will begin at 6:15 pm at the Washington Park Senior Center. We will discuss the community gardens, plans for a community picnic and a variety of other interesting topics. **Come early and come hungry, as we will be providing a Qdoba taco bar for all participants!** Your attendance and input is requested.

Martin Drive Stimulus Package

Healthy Homes = Healthy Neighborhoods

Thanks to a grant from the City of Milwaukee through the Neighborhood Improvement Development Corp, the Martin Drive Neighborhood Association is offering residents matching grants for exterior home improvements.

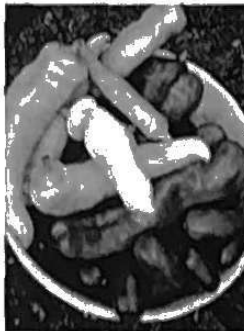
Please refer to the insert to see how YOU can take advantage of this incredible offer. Now is the time to do that project you have been putting off all winter—paint your home, grow that garden or hang those shutters for half the price!



Martin Drive Community Gardens

The Martin Drive community continues to blossom and grow - literally! During April, neighbors worked to construct six raised bed gardens on the green space where 46th Street and Vliet Street converge. Volunteers have spent hours cleaning, maintaining and preparing the space for flower and vegetable gardens.

Two of the raised beds will be filled with ornamental plants and flowers. The remaining cedar beds will be filled with vegetables such as tomatoes, peppers, lettuce and onions, planted and cared for by residents of the Martin Drive community. Neighbors young and old, both green thumbs and gardening rookies, are **STRONGLY** encouraged to plan, plant, construct and contribute to the gardens this summer.



Plan to participate, meet your neighbors, learn about gardening and - best of all - sample our homegrown produce! If interested, feel free to contact **Steve Falletti** at (608) 443-9337 or join us for one of the sessions listed below.

Community Garden Events (Meet at noon)

- Sun. May 10 - Spring Vegetables & Hoop House**
- Mon. May 25 - Summer Plants & Composting**
- Sun. June 7 - Sign Painting & Spring Harvest**

More dates to come!

BE NEIGHBORLY - Leave Your Porch Lights On. If you have off street parking, use it. Bring a new neighbor or an elderly neighbor to the next meeting.

Martin Drive Neighborhood Association **PLANS FOR THE FUTURE**

When you imagine our neighborhood 25 years from now, what do you see? This was one of the questions that prompted discussion at the Martin Drive Neighborhood Association's Planning Meeting held at the Washington Park Senior Center on Saturday March 21, 2009.

Over 35 neighbors came together to review and prioritize the results of the 70+ surveys received—YES, there were that many responses!! All expectations were met, and exceeded, when a diverse group of neighbors came in the door ready to talk and listen. Teens and seniors, singles and family folks, white, black, men and women took seriously the responsibility of representing the neighborhood's interests in working on future plans.

Small groups looked at both what works in the neighborhood and the challenges the Martin Drive community faces. Early in the day, a topic addressed was the differences between neighbors who rent and neighbors who own. After healthy and reflective discussion, the group confirmed that it is the kind of neighbor that makes the difference in our community and not the housing category.

Led by Frank Martinelli of the Center for Public Skills Training, the group examined what works and how to address challenges. Residents and neighbors worked through lunch, generously donated by Highland Parks and Pies, and prioritized four major goals:

1. Create and maintain a strong sense of community and neighborhood involvement among residents.
2. Build and maintain a livable, stable and safe neighborhood.
3. Promote a positive image of the Martin Drive Neighborhood
4. Strengthening the Martin Drive Neighborhood Association

The next steps are reviewing the organization's mission statement and developing a structure to support and carry out the goals for the future. Are you interested in being part of the process? If so, please contact **Mary Andres** at 344-3970

Award Winning Neighbors

CONGRATULATIONS to Raymond Duncan (Martin Drive) and Adekola Adedapo (42nd St.).

Raymond has been named one of the 150 teachers to be recognized by the Metropolitan Milwaukee Alliance of Black School Educators (MMABSE) for success in teaching urban public school students. Honorees were chosen by their schools for closing the academic gap through use of effective, research-proved instructional practices. The award, a beautiful crystal apple, was given at a banquet May 3rd and his picture will be displayed at the MPS Central Office on Vliet Street along with other honorees.



Adekola was honored by being chosen as one of the fifteen women featured in the 2009 "Women Putting Their Stamp on Metro Milwaukee" luncheon sponsored by the United States Postal Service to celebrate Women's History Month. Adekola is a noted jazz singer, storyteller, actress, and educator who has worked at Lloyd Street School for the last eight years. She was a faculty member of the Wisconsin Conservatory of Music for many years, has worked with every major Milwaukee black arts performing group, and was named the Wisconsin Area Music Industry's "Female Vocalist of the Year" in 2001.



Give these two a "high five" next time you see them.



Within Walking Distance: Washington Park Senior Center



When Bob Bogan was looking for an affordable place to exercise over twenty years ago, a friend suggested that he check out the free fitness room at the Washington Park Senior Center. Bogan, a resident of Milwaukee, was impressed with the fitness room, but even more keenly interested in the center's enormous and impressive woodshop.

"I always wanted to do woodwork, but never had the opportunity before. I knew what a hammer and a screwdriver was, and maybe a nail, but that's it," said Bogan.

With the help of an onsite instructor, Bogan quickly acquired woodworking skills and he has become quite an accomplished craftsman. Since discovering his knack for developing woodwork projects, Bogan has designed and built numerous impressive pieces, including an entire bedroom set, a five-foot remote control replica of the USS Missouri and an ornate, prize-winning coffee table.

"The camaraderie in the woodshop is absolutely fantastic," said Bogan. "When new people come to work in here, our crew is helpful and we work together. There is someone here who can help solve any woodworking problem."

That feeling of camaraderie and a constant air of activity echo throughout the Washington Park Senior Center at all times. Aside from the woodshop, the center provides other facilities that residents 50 or better can take advantage of for free, such as a fitness center with an onsite trainer, a well stocked craft room, a mature workers resource center, a library and rec room.

"There is a misconception that the Washington Park Senior Center is a place where people live," said the center's director, Lorrie Pardo. "We are working very hard to let people know that the center is here to serve people 50 and older, which includes a lot of baby boomers. Therefore, we are working on a wide array of programs that appeal to a wide range of participants."

Some of the classes offered throughout the week at the Washington Park Senior Center include computer classes designed for all knowledge levels, yoga, a gardening club, piano lessons, language classes, ceramics, nutrition classes and Tai Chi. Many classes are free, although a nominal fee is required to cover the costs associated with some of the classes.

"Everyone who comes here has a reason why they're coming," said Pardo. "You're never too old to learn something new."

The Washington Park Senior Center is managed by Interfaith Older Adult Programs and funded the Milwaukee County Department on Aging. Interfaith also offers the opportunity for younger members of the community to help seniors living in their neighborhoods. Volun-

teers are always sought to either help at the senior center or aid older members of the community whom require extra assistance. By registering at the office of the Neighborhood Outreach Program within the senior center, volunteers can help older neighbors with errands, transportation and other helpful tasks.

The Washington Park Senior Center provides a platform for residents to discover and nurture new talents, as Bogan discovered when he began frequenting the center daily nearly 22 years ago.

"I have seen lots of people who have absolutely no woodworking experience become skilled woodworkers," said Bogan.

There is an added bonus to taking advantage of the facilities and programs at the Washington Park Senior Center - you are certain to meet great people that share your interests.

"My favorite part about working at the senior center is the attitude and spirit of the people here," said Pardo. "They are wonderful, very caring people."

A schedule detailing all of the center's classes is updated each month and can be picked up at the center's front desk or it can be downloaded from Interfaith's website:

<http://home.interfaithmilw.org/sc/washington>

For more information, contact the senior center staff at:
414.933.2332

MEET YOUR NEIGHBOR - Do you know that knowing the names and faces of the folks living on each side of your home & across the street makes for a secure and friendly neighborhood? Consider inviting your neighbor over for a cup of coffee or a backyard barbeque this summer.

The History of Washington Park

Part One of a Three-Part Series

Part One: Origins

During its 114 year history, Washington Park has seen numerous transformations and enormous changes.

When land was purchased for the park in 1891, detractors objected because the park was over a quarter mile outside of Milwaukee's city limits.

The world renowned landscape architect Fredrick Law Olmstead was hired to design the new park. Olmstead brought a wealth of experience to the job from previous projects he had led, such as New York's Central Park and Lake Park in Milwaukee.

On June 20th, 1895, Washington Park (known as "West Park" until 1900) was opened to the public. To mark the event, a concert was conducted by Clauder's Orchestra to a crowd of over 3000 people.

Weekly horse races, a man made lagoon, row-boats and an observation deck to view the deer, antelope and black bears housed at the park, ensured that Washington Park was very popular with residents of Milwaukee.



An old postcard featuring Washington Park

Washington Park was quite busy during the summer when people sought out the park's green lawns and shade trees. The park also drew crowds of picnickers for band concerts which were held multiple times each week.

Continued in Part Two: Zoo

BLOCK WATCH

The new Police Chief Flynn believes in community policing and there is a move to reinvigorate block watch activities thru Milwaukee. Block watch, or joining with your neighbors to watch out for each other, is a highly effective way of reducing crime. Interested in starting a block watch on your block or even with a small number of your neighbors? If interested in more information:

Contact Community Liaison Officer Hue Kong (935-7733 or hkong@milwaukee.gov) or Pat Mueller (933-5589)

Neighbors Raymond Duncan and Eric Pennebaker have been attending the monthly District Squad Rep meetings and attended a community workshop held at Marquette University Union on May 2.

Neighbors interested are also encouraged to attend the monthly Martin Drive Neighborhood Association meetings to learn more.

YOU CAN'T BEAT A NEAT STREET - Spring has sprung and it is time for our annual spring clean up. Meet your neighbors at the **Martin Drive Community Gardens at 10 am on Saturday May 16th**. Trash bags and litter pick up sticks have been provided by Keep Greater Milwaukee Beautiful and two dumpsters will be placed in the neighborhood. Raymond Duncan will be organizing volunteers and activities for the clean up.

Martin Drive Neighborhood Stimulus Plan

Thanks to a grant from the City of Milwaukee, through the Neighborhood Improvement Development Corporation, the Martin Drive Neighborhood Association is offering matching grants for exterior improvements that enhance the curb appeal of homes and duplexes.

Here's How It Works

Now is the time to take on that home improvement project you have been hesitant to tackle. Receive an incentive for exterior improvements to your home. The more neighbors you are able to join you in your quest to improve your home & our neighborhood, the larger the incentive. Here's how it works:

- If one resident on a block invests \$400 or more improving the exterior curbside look of their property, he or she will receive a \$200 rebate upon completion.
- If two residents on a block each invest \$600 or more, each resident will receive a \$300 rebate upon completion.
- If three residents on a block each invest \$1,000 or more, each resident will receive a \$500 rebate upon completion.

Interested? Here's What To Do

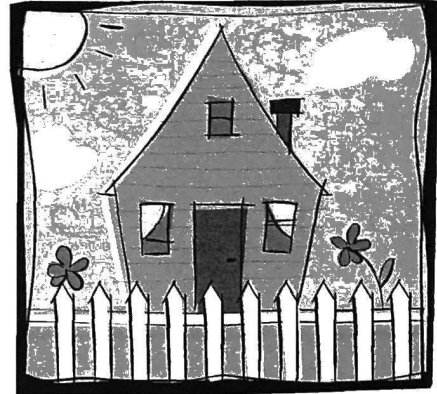
Complete and return the program application on the reverse side by May 23rd.

Complete your project by September 15th. Verify your costs with original receipts only. Start work only after your application has been approved.

To qualify, your work must improve the curb-side look of the property.

If applications submitted exceed grant money, those blocks whose projects make the biggest curbside improvements will be selected.

It is likely this opportunity will never come around again. Take advantage now.



The list of eligible curb appeal improvements includes improvements to the exterior of your home:

- Concrete stairs, walkways & driveways
- Garage replacement
- Lighting
- Painting and siding
- Landscaping
- New windows and storms
- Perennial flowers
- Porch repair/replacement
- Replacement doors
- Shrub removal/replacement,
- Urban gardens

Contact

Martin Drive Community Organizer with questions

Pat Mueller

414-933-5589

hwproperties@netzero.com





Martin Drive Stimulus Plan

Application and Contract—Due May 23, 2009

Name: _____ Property Address _____

Telephone: _____ E:Mail _____

Description of work to be completed: _____

Use Additional paper if necessary. Feel free to submit drawings

Budget of work to be completed: : _____

Use Additional paper if necessary.

Applicants agree to:

- Allow Martin Drive Neighborhood (MDNA) to take before, during and after photos of projects as a requirement to qualify for the rebate.
- Provide MDNA with a final cost balance sheet, including original receipts only.
- Maintain a Martin Drive Improvement sign in front of property during the program.
- Allow MDNA to use photos for promotional and media activities in the future.
- Accept that rebates may be made as late as October 15, 2009
- Start project no sooner than receipt of signed approval by MDNA.
- Complete by September 15th

Signature: _____ Date: _____

Mail or drop off application to: Pat Mueller, 4303 W. Vliet St, 53208 (side door if delivering)

Approval of project plan on behalf MDNA by:

Signature: _____ Date: _____



Martin Drive Neighborhood Resources

2009 Neighborhood Dumpster Schedule

May 15	On Juneau between 44 th & 45 th (4404 W. Juneau)
May 15	On 42 nd @ McKinley (4140 W. McKinley)
May 29	On Juneau between 43 rd & 44 th (4304 W. Juneau)
June 12	On Juneau between 45 th & 46 th (4504 W. Juneau)
July 10	On Juneau & 46 th (4607 W. Juneau)
Aug 14	On 42 nd @ McKinley (4140 W. McKinley)

Vliet Street Community Green Market

The neighborhood farmers market will start its second season in front of the Washington Park Senior Center each Sunday June 14 thru October 18 from 11 am to 3 pm. This summer the market will be bigger and better—expect a variety of local vendors and entertainment.

Would you be interested in vending or do you have a musical or other talent that you would be willing to share in the form of a performance or brief demonstration? If so, it will add to our community market. Contact Pat Mueller at 933-5589.

May 2009

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						

June 2009

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
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7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30				

July 2009

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

- 10 - Garden: Spring Plants & Hoop House
- 15 - Dumpster in Neighborhood
- 16 - Spring Clean Up at 10 am
- 18 - Annual meeting at WPSC*
- 25 - Garden: Summer plants & Composting
- 28 - Milwaukee Police 3rd District Captain's Networking Monthly Meeting
- 29 - Dumpster in Neighborhood

- 7 - Garden: Sign painting & spring harvest
- 8 - Monthly meeting at WPSC
- 12 - Dumpster in Neighborhood
- 14 - Vliet St. Community Green Market begins at WPSC & continues Sundays through Oct. 18 (11 am - 3pm)
- 25 - Milwaukee Police 3rd District Captain's Networking Monthly Meeting

- 1 - Wed. at Washington Park Music Series through Aug.
- 5 - Vliet Street Green Market continues every Sunday in July
- 10 - Dumpster in Neighborhood
- 13 - Monthly meeting at WPSC
- 30 - Milwaukee Police 3rd District Captain's Networking Monthly Meeting

* WPSC - Washington Park Senior Center

Martin Drive Neighborhood Resources

ARTISTS WANTED!

Calling all artists!

Help with a collaborative neighbor art project. Design benches to create with children and other neighborhood volunteers for the gardens & green space at 46th and Vliet St.

Contact Amy Peterson P: (414) 750-1005
Email: PetersonA@archmil.org

Neighborhood Contact Guide

Spring Clean Up Coordinator (May 16)	Raymond Duncan	(414) 294-3828
Community Garden Coordinator	Steve Falsetti	(608) 443-9337

Block Contacts

42nd Street	Betty & Al Siemsen	(414) 344-3846
43rd Street	Pat Mueller	(414) 933-5589
44th Street	Volunteer Needed	
45th Street	Rod & Sandy Washington	(414) 763-8848
46th Street	Steve Falsetti	(608) 443-9337
Martin Dr. and Neighborhood Coordinator	Pat Mueller	(414) 933-5589
McKinley Blvd. and Newsletter Committee	Mary Andres	(414) 344-3970

Web Resources

Website	http://www.martindrive.org/
Blog	http://martindrive.blogspot.com/
Yahoo Group (List Serve)	http://groups.yahoo.com/group/Martin-Drive

WASHINGTON PARK WEDNESDAY NIGHT CONCERT SERIES

Load up a basket of food, grab your beverage of choice, round up your friends & family and head down to the Emil Blatz bandshell **Wednesdays at Washington Park** for the summer concert series. Come down and "get down" in a family friendly, uncrowded and fun environment.

The concert series begins on July 1st and runs through August 26th. Concerts will begin at 6:30 pm and run until 8:30 pm.

This year's concert series features a little something for everyone. From Eddie Butts funky R&B to the epic sounds of the Eastbrook Symphony & Delossi Brass to the harmonica & guitar-based blues of Reverend Raven & his Chain Smoking Alter Boys, every Wednesday visitors will be able to sample the varied sounds of Milwaukee's best bands.

Take a look at the schedule and plan to spend your Wednesday evenings listening to great live music at Washington Park!

- July 1st** Terri Sims Band
- July 8th** Eddie Butts
- July 15th** Paul Spencer Band
- July 22nd** Reverend Raven & his Chain Smoking Alter Boys
- July 29th** Eastbrook Symphony & Delossi Brass
- August 5th** DeLaBuena
- August 12th** Lackloves
Extra! - Our Next Generation drum workshop for kids
- August 19th** Altered Five
- August 26th** Barrettes
Extra! - Bay City Bruisers roller derby crew will be skating