

# Martin Drive Trolley News

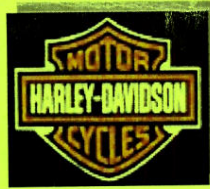
April 2006

## ANNUAL MARTIN DRIVE MEETING

May 8, 2006

Register at 6:15 pm  
Meeting Begins at 6:30 p.m.  
Harley Davidson University  
3800 W. Juneau

You are all invited to the annual meeting on Monday, May 8th at the Harley Davidson University beginning at 6:30 pm. We are excited and thankful that Harley Davidson will graciously accommodate our annual meeting.



Come to the meeting and hear all about the neighborhood programs beginning this summer. Sharon Adams president of Walnut Way Neighborhood Association will be our guest speaker. She will focus on how the Growing Power program was used to create a network of productive community gardens in the Walnut Hill Neighborhood.

The Martin Drive area will start a similar program this year in partnership with Growing Power and Milwaukee Urban League Academy of Business & Economics. Learn about the urban growing program that will use otherwise wasted products to develop rich organic gardens producing fresh vegetables and fruits that can be sold at our own small farmer's market.

Learn details of the paint and rebate program, resurrected with the help of Alderman Michael Murphy and Leo Ries of LISC. You will again be able to receive rebates of up to \$750 for improvements to your home.

Once again, we would encourage you to bring extra perennial plants to share with neighbors.

So, come and meet your neighbors and learn what we are planning to improve our neighborhood. Harley Davidson will be providing beverages and a number of neighbors will bring snacks and food.

**Very Important Bulletin Regarding the Annual Meeting** – For security purposes, it is necessary to pre-register to attend the Harley Meeting. Please complete the registration form in this newsletter and deliver it to deliver to Maggie's house, 1219 N. 45<sup>th</sup> Street or Heritage West 4303 W. Vliet Street (please use side door for Heritage West on 43<sup>rd</sup> Street). **Bring picture ID to the meeting.** <>

## 4<sup>th</sup> ANNUAL MARTIN DRIVE RUMMAGE SALE



Drag your "stuff" out on your lawn, and join us for the Fourth Annual Martin Drive Neighborhood Association RUMMAGE SALE.

It is earlier this year and lasts for **2 days: Friday, June 9**, from Noon to 5:00 pm. and **Saturday, June 10**, from 8:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. We hope to see lots of neighbors out on their blocks, either selling or shopping or both.

Call 933-5589; leave your name and address if you plan to participate. You will also get some lawn flags to identify you as a "selling" home. Last year we had 25-30 neighbors selling. Let's double that this year and **really** make it a neighborhood event. <>

## ALL YOU FOLKS WITH "GREEN THUMBS" AND THOSE WHO WISH THEY HAD THEM.....read on!

By Sharon Williams

The Martin Drive Neighborhood Association would like to begin a Backyard Garden Program. We would like to locate and train six or seven area neighbors who would be willing to raise a small backyard vegetable garden using the techniques of Will Allen's Growing Power processes. (See Shannon Visnaw's article on page 2 for more details.)

In a "nut shell", Will has developed and implemented methods of growing that produce a healthier product at a lower cost. This allows you to grow small plots on porches, on roof tops, in kitchens, in backyards, in vacant lots, etc., and does no damage to the environment.

As a member of the Backyard Growing Program, we can provide you with training (first come, first served).

We ask you to team up with at least two young neighbors who would help you with the planting, maintenance, and harvesting of your garden. In

(Continued on page 2)

(GREEN THUMBS - continued from page 1)

return for their "sweat equity", the young folks would share in the harvest. The percentage shared would be set within an agreed upon contract signed at the beginning of the project.

The Neighborhood Association would assist all you "backyard farmers" in selling your produce by sponsoring local farmer's markets within our area.

Making Connections Milwaukee has already funded the attendance of Sharon Williams, Shannon Visnaw, and Wesley Hapgood, a Milwaukee Urban League Academy of Business and Economics student. The school will be an associate in this program.

Lois Nugent and Sharon Williams are busy writing additional proposals to submit to other funding sources from which we hope to receive more grants to help with the expenses of this program.

This is a fabulous program that can help us develop a variety of assets for our entire area.

IF YOU ARE INTERESTED, PLEASE CALL 933-5589 AND LEAVE YOUR NAME. THERE ARE TWO MORE TRAINING SESSIONS COMING UP VERY SOON.



## SUMMER ARTS CAMP TAKING SHAPE

COME TO THE ANNUAL MEETING TO FIND OUT THE LATEST DEVELOPMENTS ABOUT THE SUMMER ARTS CAMP.

If you young neighbors want something to do during the month of July, be on the lookout for an announcement down on the MULABE (Milwaukee Urban League Academy of Business and Economics) playground on 46th and State St.

The Martin Drive Neighborhood Association, MULABE, and the Milwaukee Public Theater are joining forces to offer a lot of educational and recreational activities for upper elementary and junior high age students from MULABE and kids from our Martin Drive Association neighborhoods. Hopefully there will be art projects to be made and sold, dance, storytelling, and drumming, and maybe some puppet making.

## WE OWE IT TO WILL

By Shannon M. Visnaw

Because of future plans to improve Martin Drive and the Urban League school's gardens, another teenager, Wesley, and I got to take a trip with Sharon to the Growing Power office in Milwaukee.



We went to a workshop in the heart of the city to learn how to grow and produce vegetables, fruits and other plants, so we can hold our own farmer's market. We learned how to compost, feed plants and can probably now answer any question you have about growing and harvesting plants.

This was an extremely fun and interactive learning experience, both mentally and physically. Did you know that worms are one of the keys to a successful garden? Well, they are. That's what makes Will's business so cool.

Will Allen is the inventor of the whole idea to be able to grow and harvest produce and other organic plants outside all year round. His business started out as a small family idea to never be hungry.

When Will was little, his family was very poor, but they never ran out of food. They were farmers, and farming is naturally a lot of work. Most farmers spend a lot of time, trying to figure out how to make their work a lot easier, and a little more environmentally safe.

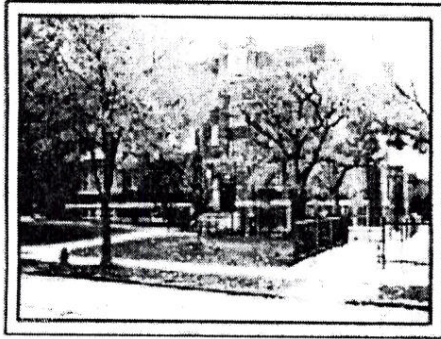
Over the years, Will has found a way to use the leftovers from meals and other activities during the day to make a compost that is easy on the plants and helps the way they grow. He also realized that using more things usually thrown out, cuts down on the garbage going to the dumps. This saves room on our planet and makes our crops grow better.

Will taught us lots of useful information, and by knowing this, we will now, hopefully, be able to have beautiful gardens all over Martin Drive.

## NEESKARA ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

By Linda Devitt

Neeskara Elementary School is on the west side of Milwaukee in an integrated neighborhood bordering Wauwatosa. Neeskara, At 1601 North Hawley Road, has an enrollment of 415 students,



including students receiving English as a Second Language and students with special education needs.

Over the past years, Neeskara has been recognized for its academic achievements. It strives to achieve excellence in all curriculum areas by fostering the ability to think logically, creatively, and critically and to communicate effectively, celebrate diversity in people, appreciate and participate in the arts, and contribute to society.

Neeskara's child-centered curriculum fosters positive self-esteem while providing for individual needs in a respectful, safe, and nurturing environment. These goals are achieved by developing a professionally empowered staff, fostering effective family collaborations, and promoting strong community partnerships.

Neeskara offers an excellent academic program, before and after school childcare, specialty classes, after school enrichment activities and has exemplary staff members. Neeskara is one of the best elementary schools in the Milwaukee Public Schools' system! <>

## MILWAUKEE WIRELESS INITIATIVE



The city is working with a locally-owned business to provide a citywide wireless network accessible to all residents. This initiative positions Milwaukee to become the first fully wireless large city in America. The wireless Demonstration Area to be built first to test the overall concept - 10th St. to Highway 41 North and Canal Street to Vliet Street - may possibly be installed by August. Residents will be able to surf the Internet from their home or anywhere in the boundaries of the city.

Mayor Barrett said this initiative is "a big step toward bridging the digital divide" and lauded the opportunities to provide Internet access to low-income residents.

More details/updates will be provided in future issues of the Martin Drive Trolley News. <

## TIPS FOR A SUCCESSFUL GARAGE SALE

By Pat Mueller

Garage sales have been around a long time. They are an excellent way to get rid of stuff you no longer use or need and make money at the same time. Here are some ideas to make your summer rummage sale a success.

**Pick A Date:** Join your neighbors and take advantage of our free advertising of the Martin Drive Neighborhood rummage on Friday, **June 9**, from Noon to 5:00 p.m. and Saturday, **June 10** from 8:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Almost anything will sell at a garage sale if it is a bargain. Some items that usually sell well are tools, kitchen gadgets, household items, computer related items and musical records. Clothing can be a big seller.

**Setting Up For the Sale:** Try to lay most items on tables. Make sure everything is visible and priced. Clothing looks best when hanging, and it makes it easier to browse. You can string a cord between two trees and hang clothes.

**Pricing:** A good rule of thumb for garage sales is to keep most things under \$5. Having many smaller items that sell for \$1 or \$2 is a good idea. It may seem like a small amount but it can really add up. Of course, higher quality or more valuable items, like furniture or bikes, will be sold at a higher price. But try to keep it under \$50.

**Group Items by Price.** Divide tables into areas for different price ranges and display a sign letting people know the range. Under \$2 is a good range, then \$2-\$5, \$5-\$10 and over \$10 are some basic price points.

**Bargaining:** Bargaining is a big part of the tradition and excitement of garage sales. Be willing to bargain. Sometimes, someone will offer you a price way below what you have it marked. In that case you can counter offer and maybe meet in the middle.

You are under no obligations to bargain, but it may be to your advantage if your goal is to sell everything and you don't want to carry a bunch of stuff back in your house.

**Garage sales can be fun,** a family activity and a great way to meet neighbors and make some extra cash.

## DUMPSTER SCHEDULE

May 12	On Juneau between 44 <sup>th</sup> & 45 <sup>th</sup> (4404 W. Juneau)
May 26	On Juneau between 43 <sup>rd</sup> & 44 <sup>th</sup> (4304 W. Juneau)
June 19	On 42 <sup>nd</sup> @ McKinley (1200 N. 42 <sup>nd</sup> )
July 14	On Juneau between 45 <sup>th</sup> & 46 <sup>th</sup> (4504 W. Juneau)
Aug 11	On Juneau & 46 <sup>th</sup> (4607 W. Juneau)

### THINK SPRING!

By Terri Bartlett



Did you ever wonder why earth worms come out on the sidewalk when it rains??

Most people assume it's because during the heavy rains they come out to avoid drowning in their tunnels. In fact, worms can live totally submerged in water, so drowning isn't the problem. But the rainwater that filters down through the ground contains very little oxygen, so the real reason earth-worms come to the surface is to breathe!

Once above ground, they are very sensitive to light and even a brief exposure to the sun's rays can paralyze them. Unable to crawl back into their burrows, they eventually dry out and die on the sidewalk. So, if you feel like it, save a worm and throw it back into the soil. Even cover it up. I'm sure there's points for that.

'Tis the season to think about painting the town, I mean the house.

Paint is very important. One should never cheat on quality. Use what is recommended by reputable paint stores. It's their business for a reason. Doing what is best in the first place will pay in the end.

For example: there was this house painter who was looking to save money, so he thinned his paint to make it go further. He was painting the local church his usual way when one day, just as he was nearly done, he was up on the scaffold painting away. Suddenly there was a horrendous clap of thunder and the sky opened up. The rain poured down, washing the thin paint off the church and knocking the painter down onto the lawn into the puddle of water filled with his thinned and use-less paint.

Fearing this was a judgment from the Almighty, he fell down on his knees and cried, " Oh God! Forgive me! What should I do?"

And from the thunder a mighty voice spoke, "Repaint! Re-paint and thin no more!"

And on that note I hope your spring will spring into fun and laughter with all those neighbors you haven't seen all winter long and a few new ones you didn't know moved in <>

## UPCOMING EVENTS

### **Westside Artwalk**

*Art\* Music\* Gifts\* Food\* Enrichment*

**Friday, April 28** – 5:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.

**Saturday, April 29** – 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Merchants of Vliet Street

From 43<sup>rd</sup> to 60<sup>th</sup> & Vliet

& Village of Wauwatosa

### **Martin Drive Annual Meeting**

**Monday, May 8, 2006**

6:00 p.m.-7:30 p.m.

Harley Davidson University, 38<sup>th</sup> & Juneau

### **Garden Party**

Sidewalk Sale

**Saturday June 10**, 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Merchants of Vliet Street

to 43<sup>rd</sup> to 60<sup>th</sup> & Vliet

### **Martin Drive Neighborhood Annual Rummage Sale**

**Friday, June 9**, Noon to 5:00 p.m.

**Saturday, June 10**, 8:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

### **Christmas in July**

Sidewalk Sale

**Saturday, July 15** – 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Merchants of Vliet Street

to 43<sup>rd</sup> to 60<sup>th</sup> & Vliet

### **July Jazz Series**

During July, **every Saturday night** at the Washington Park Bandshell, beginning at 6:30 p.m.

### **Washington Bark Dog Day**

Huge dog fair, contests, demo's food & fun

**Sunday, August 6** – Noon to 4:00 p.m.

Washington Park Bandshell

**DID YOU KNOW...** You now have to take your garbage carts to the curb (or to the alley). During the last collection, a tag should have been affixed to your cart that shows collection days for your area.

## SUMMARY OF MDNA MINUTES

### February 13, 2006

Twenty-eight neighbors attended. Captain James Harpole from District 3 of the Milwaukee Police Department was present.

District 3 covers the area from Center Street to the Menomonee River, and from Marquette University to Highway 100. Our district—one of seven in the police department—includes Marquette University, Miller Park, the Milwaukee County Zoo, Miller Brewery and Harley-Davidson.

Captain Harpole complimented the Martin Drive neighborhood for the walking program, which was implemented by neighbors last summer. He joined the walkers one night and realized the impact such a program had in potentially eliminating rumors, neighbors getting to know each other, and implementing the talent show and the 3-on-3 basketball tournament. He felt the program was a model for the city. A "thank you" to the organizers of the walks.

Officer Tom Kupsik, the chronic nuisance program director, has identified 20 properties in the district for the most violent people and places. These properties have the most drug arrests, calls for service, and crimes in this district.

District 3 had 4,000 calls for service in January. We have had three homicides in the district at that time.

The Captain has a crime analysis meeting every month for District 3. There was one in January at the church on 25th and Wisconsin. The February one was at Washington Park Senior Center on the 15th. Anyone is welcome.

Questions by neighbors were handled by ten officers in attendance. Anonymous caller information was requested. Nationally the number is 1-800-78CRIME (782-7463). District 3 Contact Guide sheets are available containing all the phone information needed by citizens to reach the correct department or person in the police department.

If you want a copy, come to the monthly meeting or check the Martin Drive website. They will be available at the meeting in March.

### March 13, 2006

Seventeen neighbors were present. The annual meeting in May was discussed. Two of our young people, with Sharon Williams, are already involved in the leadership program at Growing Power with Will Allen.

Martin Drive budget information and suggestions were discussed. Our newsletters need approximately \$1,000 per year to print. Pat M. may have a contact and is waiting for a reply. Halloween is self-sufficient. We take in what we spend. It was suggested that advertisers be in our newsletters or the website, a neighborhood activity fundraiser and to ask for donations at the annual meeting. Final plans will be made at the April meeting.

Sharon Williams spoke on the issue of summer

activities. The most exciting possibility is the use of Growing Power. He delivers produce baskets to the Washington Park Senior Center, once a week, by order only. Growing Power is located at 55<sup>th</sup> and Silver Spring. Milwaukee Urban League Academy of Business and Economics and Making Connections are interested in this program for the youth. MULABE hopes to have an art camp for the neighborhood kids, which is still in planning stages. The walker program will continue and expand, encouraging neighborhood communication, highlighting possible problem situations, and promoting property upkeep.

Tasks in the organization and connecting names were identified. One neighbor concern was the high incident of broken car windows over several blocks in the neighborhood both in the driveway and in the street. Remember to keep valuable items out of your cars. Break in times were identified between 3 and 6 a.m.

### April 10, 2006

Twenty-two neighbors were present. Alderman Michael Murphy and Supervisor Lynne De Bruin were present. A survey from Rep. Tamara Grigsby was circulated for people to complete.

#### **Alderman Murphy's responses to questions are bulleted to conserve space.**

The Hawley Road project will be completed the first week in July. "Four alderman, including Murphy, are in favor of some type of smoking ban, but it does not appear to be a favorable item for the Common Council at this time. "Pedestrians have the right of way in crosswalks and drivers should be mindful of their speed. "Highland Bridge will be replaced, but Murphy will notify us when this will happen. "Milwaukee Metropolitan Sewage Department encourages us to disconnect the downspouts. Rain barrels are available. "Economic development in our neighborhood area received grant money for outside work such as O'Brien's new windows and the shops along Vliet St. "Murphy is working with Mayor Tom Barrett on the Research Park near the Veterans' Hospital. "Two positive employers in the Menomonee Valley will be Manpower and a major laundry business. "WI-FI pilot program with free Internet service will have 50 websites, including neighborhoods.

**Supervisor Lynne DeBruin needs to hear from us about the Washington Park Pool renovation.** See article on page 6).

**Our Annual Meeting will be May 8, 2006 at the Harley Davidson University on 38<sup>th</sup> St. and Juneau Ave.** (See article on page 1 for details).

There are places for rent in the neighborhood and some houses for sale. We are a solid neighborhood working to improve.

Submitted by Maggie B.

## PLANS FOR WASHINGTON PARK'S POOL ARE BEING REVIEWED

BY LYNNE DEBRIN

Your input is needed in order to help Milwaukee County make the right decision about the future of the Washington Park Pool. Several options are being discussed this month and the County Board could vote on options as early as June, 2006.

I believe that the only kind of pool that should be built at Washington Park is one that the surrounding neighborhood residents will use on a regular basis. We do not have that kind of pool right now. Knowing your preferences and working with the neighborhoods to reach consensus will help get that kind of pool built. Please contact me with your questions and reactions. My work phone # is 414-278-4263; home phone # is 414-778-0515; email is [LDeBruin@milwcnty.com](mailto:LDeBruin@milwcnty.com).

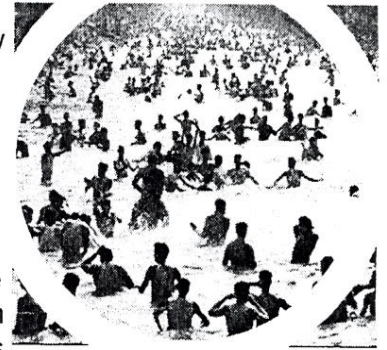
The County's aquatics decision making process  
In 2000, Milwaukee County adopted a county wide Aquatics Master Plan. The aquatics plan made recommendations for the future use of all of Milwaukee County's outdoor pools, including Washington Park Pool. Recommendations ranged from demolishing certain pools to building two new large family aquatic centers in addition to Greenfield Park's Cool Waters.

Shortly after the plan was approved, Milwaukee County decided to sharply reduce its capital spending for a period of five years to reduce future interest payments. Additionally, the pension scandal and sharply rising health care costs have weakened the county's fiscal condition. As a result, plans for several major parks projects, including the Aquatics Master Plan was put on hold.

The delay has exacerbated the decline of our county pools, most of which are reaching the end of their useful life due to age. Aquatics and engineering staff predict that, if allowed to continue, the current rate of pool decline will force Milwaukee County to close all but two or three of its outdoor pools within five years. Closing pools would easily cost \$250,000-500,000 per pool for demolition alone. Conversely, completely implementing the year 2000 Aquatics Master Plan would cost almost \$40 million.

Since both options are unacceptable to many, in 2005, the Board created the Milwaukee County Aquatics Advisory Committee. Its purpose

is to recommend how the plan should be changed to reflect current community interests, updated aquatics standards, pool conditions, and the County's finances. I am a member of this special committee.



Washington Park Pool Options being considered  
Parks aquatics staff recently put together some possible options for the Aquatics Committee to consider for Washington Park Pool. They are:

- One option is to have the County make \$300,000 in pool repairs. This would leave the pool shape and usage the same as now.
- A second option is to tear out the pool and replace it with a \$1 million water playground that has water play features and wading areas but would not have a deep end for swimming or diving. This option was recently included in a package of recommendations suggested by aquatics staff as a way of reducing the county's overall costs in implementing an aquatics plan. This option is being seriously considered due to Washington Park Pool's very low attendance and high cost per swimmer.
- The third option is to keep the current aquatics master plan recommendations for Washington Park Pool intact. This would have the pool demolished but replaced with a \$5.5 million dollar modern medium sized family aquatics facility. The facility would be approx. half the size of Greenfield Parks Cool Waters but contain many of its features including interactive water play equipment, concessions, green space, a pool that starts at zero depth to allow non-swimmer usage of the pool, and deep end features for swimming, diving, and possibly lane swimming or slides. <>

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. Submit articles to Ada Rouse at [adarouse@msn.com](mailto:adarouse@msn.com). Submissions deadlines are: January 1, April 1, July 1, October 1. Articles in this newsletter are written by Martin Drive Neighborhood volunteers.


# ANNUAL MARTIN DRIVE MEETING

May 8, 2006

Register at 6:15 p.m. - Meeting begins at 6:30 p.m.

By the generosity and community commitment of Harley-Davidson Motor Company, we will have the annual meeting in the Harley Davidson University Auditorium at 38<sup>th</sup> and Juneau. You are asked to enter 38<sup>th</sup> Street from Highland and park in one of the lots. If you are planning to attend the meeting, please sign up by submitting the bottom portion of this sheet.

You can turn in the bottom portion of this form to either of these locations:

Heritage West Properties 4303 W. Vliet Street (go to the side door on 43 <sup>rd</sup> )		Maggie & Tom's home 1212 North 45 <sup>th</sup> Street
------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------	-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------	-----------------------------------------------------------

Or, you can e-mail your name, address, phone or email address to Maggie at [mtblaha@sbcglobal.net](mailto:mtblaha@sbcglobal.net).

**Because of security purposes, you will need to bring a picture ID** to enter the building. This is a policy that applies to all who enter the Harley-Davidson buildings and is not just for this meeting. If you have never been there, you will get a glimpse of some of the items that may be shown at the museum that will be opening in 2008. Hope to see you there.

**Please detach and return**



Yes, I will be attending the meeting.

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

Additional family members attending:

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

