

## IMPORTANT MDN NEWS!

By: Sharon W.

Our Neighborhood Association has been awarded a sizeable grant from The Milwaukee Foundation and the Making Connections Milwaukee organizations.

Using this funding the Martin Drive Neighborhood Association will be able to implement the following strategies to meet three major goals:

1. Increase the percentage of owner-occupied duplexes in the Martin Drive area, especially by first time buyers.
2. Improve the existing Martin Drive area housing stock.
3. Strengthen neighborhood cohesiveness.

### IMPLEMENTATION STRATEGIES:

#### Duplex Ownership

Create a video/PowerPoint presentation to show to community housing organizations promoting the advantages of owning a home in the MD area.

Organize a network of experienced MD duplex owners to support the new buyers.

Offer a \$500 minor repair incentive to the first five new owners who are qualified according to the proposal guidelines.

#### Housing Stock Improvement

Create and distribute a package explaining all of the available home repair rebate, grant and loan programs. Develop the porch light/address plate repair/replacement program.

Organize three-person teams to canvas each MD block by going door-to-door in the evening to assess the condition of porch lights, replace burned out lights, and record porches in need of repair, especially light fixtures and address plates. One member of each team will be a teen or young adult hired to help with the light bulb replacement.

Develop a plan to contact home owners about assistance the Association can give in making these repairs.

Identify local contractors and "handy persons" to hire for replacement/repair work.

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## BRIGHT IDEAS -THE LIGHT BRIGADE

By Pat M.

Sometimes the best ideas are the simplest ideas. And, turning on your porch light is a simple way to boost neighborhood curb appeal and limit opportunities for vandalism and crime.

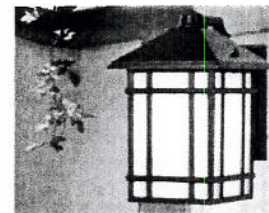


Our two-year grant will allow us to "**Light the Night**" in the Martin Drive Neighborhood. One of the first projects in our grant is the "**Light Brigade**." The light brigade will consist of walking groups of three neighbors going door to door, distributing information on rebate opportunities and specifically trying to encourage more people to turn on porch lights. The team will be equipped with energy efficient light bulbs and a ladder and a teen that will assist in changing bulbs of needy porch lights.

Focus on Energy has also given us \$2 coupons off the purchase of energy efficient light bulbs. By this process, we can identify porch lights that are faulty or need replacement. And, the grant will provide us funds to replace about 30 faulty porch lights through the neighborhood.

We had hoped to celebrate during National Night Out, which is always in the first week in August, by hosting a neighborhood celebration of the national promoting block clubs, but we got off to a late start while waiting on approvals. We may need to do this next year when we will have so much to celebrate.

Martin Drive has a brilliant opportunity to move this neighborhood forward on many levels. So, please open your door and connect with the **Light Brigade** when they visit your home. Or, volunteer to be on your block's **Light Brigade**. We want and need people from each block. Don't let your block be left in the dark. To volunteer or for more info, call Pat at 933-5589.



**Neighborhood Cohesiveness**

Plan block parties in each "section" of the area to explain all of the above and to organize around "quality of life" issues, i.e., tree lawn plantings, regularly scheduled block-wide clean-ups, keeping porch lights on, keeping lawns mowed, using Growing Power techniques (composting, vermiculite, hydroponics) to grow healthy "backyard" gardens, etc.

Foster relationships between area youth and adults by offering activities (basketball tournaments, reading/storytelling groups, drum circles, entrepreneurial projects, etc.) organized by a youth/community organizer hired to recruit participants assisted by neighborhood adults.

Fund our traditional activities: the newsletter, the Annual Meeting, the Trick-n'-Treat night, and the Annual Rummage Sale.

Funds are available to hire a part-time administrative aide and youth/community organizer to assist in the implementation of all of the above, but the Association will still need lots of help from our neighborhood volunteers!! We will be calling on our neighbors to serve on the porch light teams (The Light Brigades), to organize and attend your block's party, to become a member of the "new duplex owner" support group, to help with youth activities, to join the "Backyard Garden" group, etc.

We have a long list of evaluation standards, too long to list here, but the four most important are:

1. Establish a Steering or Oversight Committee to administer and implement the proposal. This has been done and the committee began meeting on Monday, July 16, 2007. Members are Maggie Blaha, Pat Devitt, Amy Peterson, Pat Mueller, Al Seimsen, Karen Spencer, Sandy Washington, and Sharon Williams. We are trying to get at least one representative from each block. Contact Maggie if you are interested.

2. Hold block parties on each street. Besides having good food and fun, more detailed information will be given about the proposal and how you can help.

3. Organize the porch light teams for each block. We need two adults and one teen or young adult to canvas each block as soon as possible.

Funds are available to pay the teen/young adult members.

An Administrative Aide and the Youth Organizer has been identified.

Pat Mueller and Sharon Williams have spent many hours writing this proposal and meeting with staff of both organizations in order to qualify for their funding. They and the Association are indebted to Mike Schubert, a consultant working with the Milwaukee Foundation, Ray Schmidt of Select Milwaukee, as well as Bob Clark, Joanne Gray-Murray, and Roxanne Defoe of Making Connections for their encouragement, support, and guidance.

This is one of the most exciting things to ever happen to our neighborhood, but WE WILL NEED YOUR HELP to reach our goals. PLEASE VOLUNTEER when the Association asks for help!!

**VLIET IN THE NEWS**

By: Pat M.



A new restaurant has opened at and Vliet; it's called **Meritage** (French for Marriage). Jan, the chef of Barossa's, a popular restaurant, has purchased the building. **Meritage** means marriage of wine and food.

Also, **Fantastic Shortbreads** has bought the Suzy's building and has opened. They have been in business for 11 years, and will bake cookies and biscotti at the site, run a coffee shop, serve their product and Suzy's Cheesecakes. At this time they do not plan to serve meals. Pizzeria Tazza (50<sup>th</sup> & Vliet), formerly Milwaukee Coffee, has opened. It is so cute inside. Good things are worth waiting for!

**LAST DUMPSTER PICKUP**

**October 5, 2007**

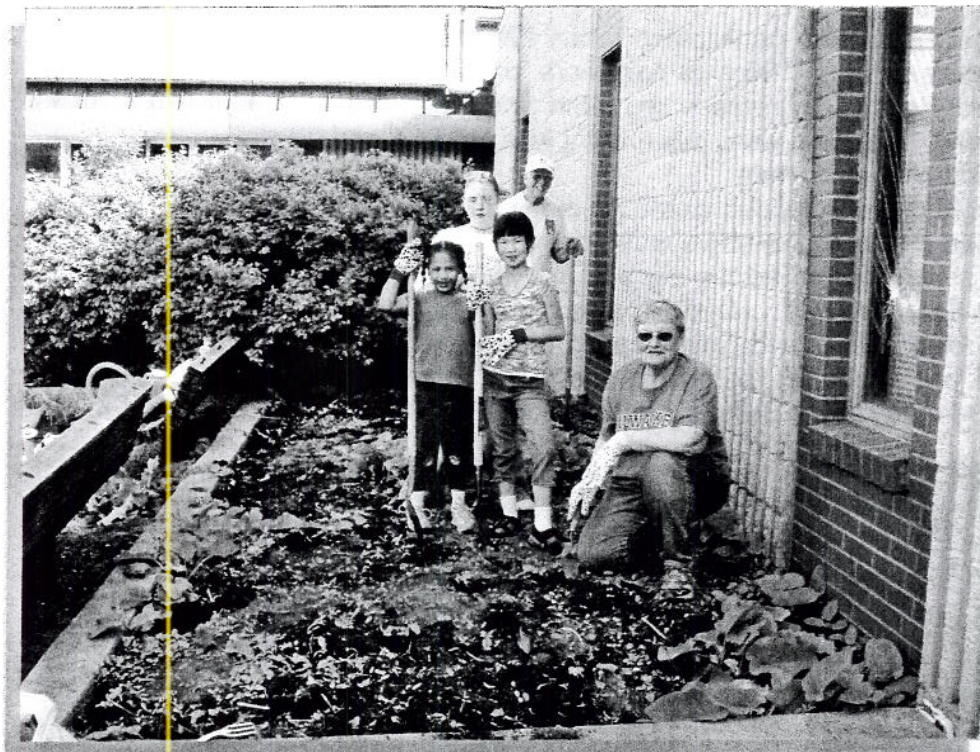
Juneau at 43rd, 45th, 46th & McKinley & Highland

REMEMBER:- **NO**

- ◆ tires
- ◆ construction debris
- ◆ building materials
- ◆ hazardous waste
- ◆ appliances
- ◆ yard waste
- ◆ recyclables

Please be sure to put the trash in the bins and not on the outside of the dumpsters.

# Earth Day 2007



Saturday, May 19<sup>th</sup>, Betty & Al Siemson and Pat Mueller took several neighborhood kids to join in the Washington Park Clean-up. Our group tried to clear the weeds to prepare for a natural wildflower bed next to the Urban Ecology Center. The center opened on August 17, 2007. After our clean-up efforts we went to McDonald's for lunch. A good time was had by all. <

## WASHINGTON PARK NEWS BLURBS

- ⇒ The group 'Neighborhoods United for Washington Park' has purchased three park signs which direct park goers to the Washington Park band shell.
- ⇒ Big News regarding a \$1.9 million Washington Park project for 2008. Supervisors Lee Holloway and Lynn DeBruin have put together a budget request for a reconfiguration of the park drive following suggestions made in the park Master Plan by Quorum Architects.
- ⇒ The Urban Ecology Center celebrated the Grand Opening of its new center located at the Washington Park Boat House, 1859 N. 40th Street on August 17, 2007. Please support this center and wish Joey Zocher, the WP Coordinator, the very best!

## MONEY SMART WEEK

October 7-13, 2007  
By Ada R.

Many seminars are offered in the city of Milwaukee during Money Smart Week, however, **seminars run through February 2008**. Most of these are open to the public. To see the list of seminars, go to [www.moneysmartWI.org](http://www.moneysmartWI.org) and select event calendar. I viewed this site and some interesting seminars are:

- protecting your \$ future
  - hidden financial costs
  - car buying tips
  - home buying
  - how to start a business
- This web site is very informative. Check it out!



## HELP IT THRIVE – MARTIN DRIVE

By: Pat M.

### Call for Help on 44<sup>th</sup> and 46<sup>th</sup> Streets

In conjunction with our grant, we are looking for each block to host a block gathering. We can provide paper products, (plates, napkins, cups, etc), some food to start the party, and flyers. We expect to have more fun than business. It will be easy because the MDNA will help you.

It is very important that someone from each block help by allowing us to host a party on your block. We need space. As I mentioned, we can provide flyers, paper products and some food. Everyone will be welcomed to the party. Once again, don't let your block be left out or not hear about all the exciting grant opportunities that we have to offer!

**44<sup>th</sup> and 46<sup>th</sup> Streets – I need to hear from you.** Please call with questions or to volunteer – Pat 933-5589.

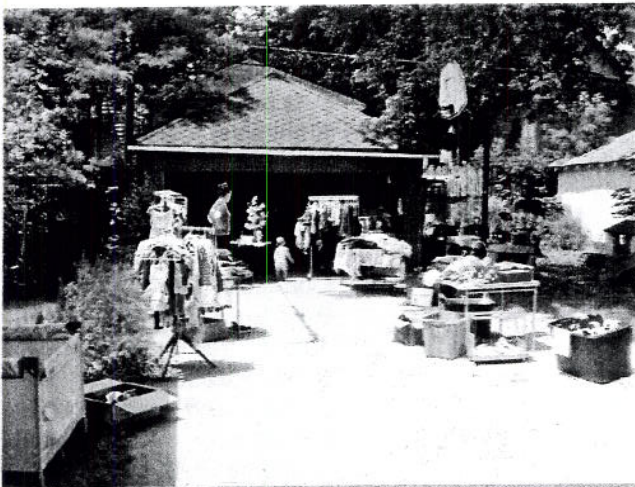
## RUMMAGE SALE 2007

By: Sharon W.

Again, thank you to all of the neighbors who participated in the Fifth Annual Martin Drive Rummage Sale held on Saturday, June 16. Between 18 and 20 area neighbors "drug their stuff" into their backyards and driveways to sell. Although every block was represented, 45th Street had the most participants with Martin Drive coming in a close second. The skies were clear, but it was HOT!! Many wondered if that had an effect on the seemingly lower number of customers.

Many thanks, also, to those neighbors who helped distribute the Rummage Sale "reminder" flyers on their block. As usual, there was an ad placed in the Milwaukee Journal Sentinel for that weekend, and the signs went up around the area. This year we placed the signs in the yards of different neighbors. "Thank you" to those folks who put a sign in their yard and.....we didn't lose one sign.

As usual, the neighborhood association will decide in the spring of 2008 whether to have the rummage sale or something like it. We need your feedback, so please attend our monthly meetings, especially in February and March, every second Monday at the Blaha's, 1219 N. 45th Street.



### CHILDREN & ANIMALS

By Jill Kline, Wisconsin Humane Society

Petey, a Miniature Pinscher, was accidentally dropped down the stairs by a four-year-old family member, breaking his two hind legs. Although Petey recovered, his story highlights the need to supervise children when they are spending time with animals. Animals can be great companions for children, but the Wisconsin Humane Society would like to share the following guidelines to help ensure the safety of both animals and children.



**Don't expect your child to take full responsibility for your pet.** Although your child should be encouraged to help care for an animal by doing age-appropriate tasks, children should not be expected to train or walk an animal without supervision. Children cannot take on all of the responsibilities of caring for an animal alone.

**Supervise all interactions.** It is important to supervise children whenever they spend time with pets. Although you may have a well-behaved animal, some normal childhood behaviors such as chasing and teasing may make your animal uneasy and put your child at risk.

**Teach your children to respect animals.** Children may not understand their animal's need for space. It is important to teach your child to treat your animal with respect, and a basic knowledge of animal body language may help. Teach your child how to identify your animal's body signals so that he or she knows whether or not it is safe to approach your animal.

Animals can enrich the lives of children, if these basic safety precautions are followed. Contact the Wisconsin Humane Society with questions or for more information at (414) ANIMALS.

## SUMMARY OF MDN MEETING MINUTES

### May 14, 2007 (Annual Meeting)

Maggie welcomed over 50 neighbors to the annual meeting at the Washington Park Senior Center.

Jared, from Alderman Michael Murphy's office, made note of questions neighbors had with the promise that he would respond as soon as possible.

Recycling occurs about every three weeks. Ask for an extra cart if one does not meet your needs.

William Crystal from Advanced Waste Services listened to questions from neighbors about a slightly sweet chemical odor permeating the neighborhood. Mike Griffin from the DNR wants to hear from anyone concerning this problem by noting the date, time and intensity of the odor (on a 1 to 10 scale with 1 being unnoticeable). His number is 414-263-8554. Thanks to alert neighbors.

Speaker of the evening was Joey Zoher, from the Urban Ecology Center located in Washington Park. The goal is to use the park as much as possible, and the Center's purpose is to connect children to their environment through activities that help them develop respect and understanding of nature.

The Student Conservation Assoc. helps to clean up the park; they wear vests identifying them as Junior Park Rangers. Schools that are in a radius of two miles can participate in the Center's activities that take place during the school year with each group meeting a minimum of three times. There is a Saturday morning gardening group.

Summer camps are available. 150 kids eat lunch in the park every day in the summer. Artists in Education work with these kids. Joey urged neighbors to call her with ideas and needs. Four corporations support these programs, including Quad Graphics and Trinity (trek bikes).

Pat and Sharon informed us of many upcoming events and news:

- ◆ Shepherd Express - Battle of the Bands.
- ◆ Neighborhood Rummage Sale & Vliet Street Sidewalk Sale
- ◆ Backyard Garden Project.
- ◆ Growing Power.
- ◆ West End Development's paint and rebate program.
- ◆ Captain Harpole's (from District #3) monthly walks.

Patrick plugged the "Covenigma" - 10 year anniversary of Mark Borchardt's film, Coven at the Times Cinema

Thank you to all who brought snacks, beverages and perennial plants to share and the door prizes donors. <>

### June 11, 2007

Dumpsters were delivered on Friday, June 15th to four corners, NW corner of Juneau at 43rd, 45th, and 46th as well as the SW corner of McKinley at Highland Blvd. The next opportunity to have dumpsters in the neighborhood would be in July.

Pat M. had several items of interest for neighbors.

- ◆ Captain Harpole will join the neighbors on the monthly Monday night walks and neighbors are to meet at Pat's office on Vliet.
- ◆ Members reviewed a possible new logo for our letterhead and envelopes.
- ◆ West End Development would be handling the rebate for improvements up to \$750.
- ◆ New Vliet St. businesses will be showing their wares on Saturday, June 16.
- ◆ Hallogen or high pressure sodium lights for front porches were discussed. Neighbors are encouraged to keep their porch lights on each evening.
- ◆ Discussion followed concerning the accidents on the curve near Martin Drive/Highland Blvd. Drivers need to be alert to the problem.

Maggie alerted neighbors to the panhandlers again visiting the neighborhood. We are looking for the most improved property in the neighborhood. Send your recommendations to Maggie.<>

### July 9, 2007

Needed: block captains on 44th north of Juneau, 46th Street, and the west side of Highland Blvd. Please contact Maggie if you can help. Requirements are about 1 - 2 hours a month to: attend the monthly meeting, listen to neighbors' concerns, provide them with information needed and be a spokesperson on their behalf at the monthly mtgs. All neighbors are encouraged to attend the monthly meeting, but it is most beneficial to the block captains.

Our neighborhood has received a grant from the Greater Milwaukee Foundation and Making Connections to support owner occupied duplexes and the beautification initiative (see article on page 1). Pat M. and Sharon W. presented the details of this proposal. We are grateful for the dedication of Pat and Sharon. Alderman Michael Murphy enlightened us about a new link on the city website providing information about inspections of restaurants. He will be holding a meeting about budget items including the boulevards. Neighbors voiced their opinions about the value of the boulevards as a quality of life issue. He encouraged us to watch for these meeting notices and to participate in the meetings.

A healthy discussion about traffic and drivers followed. The alderman made suggestions about improvements that could be made. One of the hot

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spots is Highland at Vliet. People will drive through McKinley and 42<sup>nd</sup> St. in order to avoid the stoplight. Speed is one of the great concerns of the all of our residents but especially those on 42<sup>nd</sup> and McKinley. Also people are driving south on 42<sup>nd</sup> which is a one way going north. Alderman Murphy will request that a speed indicator be placed on 42<sup>nd</sup> Street to allow drivers to see how fast they are really going. The neighbors have shelved the idea of speed bumps at this time due to cost.

There was a discussion about the dumpsters and violations due to companies using them. There is a large fine for the violators. We were reminded of the difficulty that the driver has in positioning the dumpsters if there are cars parked where DPW expected to place the dumpsters.

The monthly neighborhood walk with Captain Harpole, Alderman Murphy takes place on the third Monday, of the month beginning at 43<sup>rd</sup> and Vliet at 6:15pm Grant discussion resulted in the following commitments. Volunteers for the Steering Committee are Pat M., Sharon W, Linda and Pat D, Amy P, Al S, Karen S, Sandy W, and Maggie B. Light Brigade volunteers are George, Eileen and Betty on 42<sup>nd</sup> St, Highland and Vliet; Pat M. on 43<sup>rd</sup> St., Linda and Pat on 44<sup>th</sup>. We still need volunteers for 43<sup>rd</sup>, 44<sup>th</sup> north of Juneau, 45<sup>th</sup> and 46<sup>th</sup> north and south of Juneau. Lois and Sandy on 45<sup>th</sup> Street will coordinate the upper block party. Tandria will volunteer to work on the Neighborhood Cohesiveness goal focusing on youth activities. <>

WESTSIDE  
artwalk

**Westside ArtWalk**

Friday, September 21, 5-9 p.m.

Saturday, September 22, 10 a.m.-4 p.m.

Discover the Westside's thriving art scene. Visit Vliet Street, from 60<sup>th</sup> to 43<sup>rd</sup>, the Village, and other Wauwatosa locations. Explore diverse art galleries, restaurants and shops abundant with art and special entertainment during our 2-day event. Over 35 locations will feature art, entertainment and special events. New this fall, Milwaukee High School of the Arts students' work will be featured along with local artists. You will be surprised at what the Westside has to offer. Visit our website [www.geocities.com/westsideartwalk](http://www.geocities.com/westsideartwalk).

Don't miss the art and entertainment at **Dèjà vu Consignments and Eat Cake!**

# Party for the Parks

Saturday, September 29, 2007

11 a.m. - 10 p.m.

Washington Park, 1859 North 40<sup>th</sup> Street

Join us as Milwaukee County Parks celebrate their 100th anniversary. We'll gather in Washington Park with plenty of music and fun for the entire family!

If you haven't bought your Anniversary Raffle Ticket, this will be your final opportunity for a chance to win great prizes. **FREE** admission and parking.

Tentative Schedule

**MAIN STAGE**

1:30-3:30 p.m.  
4:00-6:30 p.m.  
7:00-10:00 p.m.  
8:00-8:30 p.m.

Eddie Butts Band  
Brandon James Band  
The Love Monkeys  
**Raffle Drawing**

**LAGOON/BOATHOUSE**

11:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m.  
11:00 a.m.-7:30 pm  
  
1:00 p.m.-5:00 p.m.

DNR Fishing Clinic  
Urban Ecology Satellite  
Open House  
Paddle Boat Rides

**KIDS' VILLAGE**

Noon-5:00 p.m.  
Noon-7:30 p.m.  
12:30 p.m.-1:30 p.m.  
12:30 p.m.-5:30 p.m.  
12:30 p.m.-5:30 p.m.  
1:30 p.m.-2:30 p.m.  
2:00 p.m.-3:00 p.m.  
3:30 p.m.-5:30 p.m.

Worldwide Day of Play  
Balloon-ville  
Street Jam Show  
Rock-Climbing Wall  
Inflatable Slides  
Tattoo Station/Games/Music  
FREE Kite-building  
Karaoke



**WATCH FOR FLYERS REGARDING THE ANNUAL MARTIN DRIVE NIGHT TIME TRICK OR TREAT.**

