

New Board Members

by Cynthia Sommer

Elections were held at the Murray Hill General Meeting on October 22 with returning board members Gerald Capell (vice-president), Gary Halvorsen (Treasurer), Cate Deicher (Board Member) being re-elected for 2 year terms. We welcome the two new MH Board members, John Bleidorn (Board Member) and Mike Darnell (Secretary) and appreciate their commitment to the Murray Hill neighborhood.

John Bleidorn has lived with his wife in an owner-occupied duplex on the 2700 block of N. Murray since 2006 and is an alumnus of UWM. He cares about and hopes to share his perspective on the Murray Hill area as a Board Member. John hopes that he can also share experiences as a landlord and his expertise as a small business owner (accountant, CPA and investment advisor).



Mike Darnell moved back to the Murray Hill area in 2011. He and his family lived in Murray Hill in the 1990s while he was finishing his graduate degree. Mike has taught and worked at UWM in several departments since 1997 and has extensive experience in management, financial functions and technology. Mike has already shared new ideas and his organizational skills as secretary on the Murray Hill Board for the past few months and has committed to serve the remainder of the term.



About MHNA

Murray Hill Neighborhood Association is a group of diverse residents working together to keep Murray Hill a great place to live, work and study. Murray Hill is the 58 block area bounded by Hartford Avenue to the North, Bradford Avenue to the south, Downer Avenue to the East and Oakland Avenue to the West. Our goals are to develop an atmosphere of respect for the rights and lives of all residents in the neighborhood, build a safe and clean community that improves the quality of life for all residents, and maintain open communications with UWM students and representatives to effectively find positive solutions to problems. Benefits to the neighbors include information on safety and crime, regular updates from elected officials, business owners and UWM representatives on neighborhood issues, providing monthly speakers on relevant topics, provide quarterly newsletter, maintaining a cleaner neighborhood through adopt-a- block program and neighborhood-student clean-up events, and welcoming and informing neighbors of the workings of the city. Residents of the area, including students renting property off-campus in this area, property owners, landlords and owners of businesses within the area are encouraged to be members.

Murray Hill Neighborhood Association is about making a wonderful neighborhood even better.

Murray Hill Membership Application

NOW is the time to join!

Clip and mail with your payment to:
MHNA / PO Box 71133 / Milwaukee, WI 53211
Membership Chair, **Gregory James:** 414-962-5158 or gjames@gjd.com

Name: _____
Company: _____
Address: _____
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Murray Hill
Neighborhood
Assoc. has 227
members in 147
households, and is
growing steadily

The Murray Hill Neighborhood Association serves a 58-block area from Hartford Ave. to Bradford Ave., and Oakland Ave. to Downer Ave. Membership is open to all residents, property owners and businesses. General membership meetings are held the fourth Tuesday of the month at the Urban Ecology Center (1500 E. Park Pl.) from 7-8:30 pm. To find out more about the association, or to share your interests and concerns, please attend one of our upcoming meetings, or contact us.

Family ☐ \$25
Individual ☐ \$15
Business ☐ \$30
Senior (age 65+) ☐ \$5
Student ☐ \$5
Newsletter Only ☐ \$

Please mark all that apply:

Homeowner ☐
Renter ☐
Landlord..... ☐



www.murrayhillna.org

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Murray Hill News

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2013

REMINDER: MHNA is on the Web and Facebook! — Don't miss our up-to-date news posts and event calendar! Bookmark us at www.murrayhillna.org and Like Us on Facebook at <http://on.fb.me/14mBwoT> We love feedback – send to webmaster@murrayhillna.org.

Changing of the Guard

by Cynthia Sommer

This fall has seen the departure of Captain Steve Basting from District-1 Milwaukee Police Department (MPD) and the addition of Captain Aaron Raap as the new Captain for our district. Both Captains and their staff came to the September MHNA general meeting to insure a smooth leadership transition with the community and restate their commitment to deal with the crime and quality of life issues in the neighborhood.

Captain Basting was given a standing ovation to recognize his positive efforts in implementing the Report it/Record it program, District-1 crime data collection and his efforts to address quality of life issues on the Eastside. He was also presented with a check from the Milwaukee Eastside Neighborhood Associations (MENA) and local

continued on next page



Captain Aaron Raap and Captain Steve Basting at MHNA neighborhood meeting

President's Message - Your Continued Support Needed

by Steve Klebar

The University of Wisconsin Milwaukee and the Milwaukee Police Department (MPD) are working together on initiatives targeted at addressing nuisance activity in our community. The MPD have once again identified the value of the "Report It /Record It" program and would like you to continue to call 935-7211 in the event that you experience a quality of life issue. Please feel free to contact me at 414-737-2596 if you would like to discuss any concerns or issues that you may have.



**Arboretum
Grand
Opening
Celebration**
WELCOME KIDS!
**See Pages
4-5**

Murray Hill Meetings

Meetings held at the Urban Ecology Center – 1500 E. Park Place at 7:00 pm on the 4th Tuesday of the month
January, February, March, April, May and June – 414-964-8505 – urbanecologycenter.com

Topics and presenters will be released via e-mail.

Dates are subject to change at any time, so watch the web site for detailed information on upcoming meetings.

www.murrayhillna.org

Changing of the Guard *Continued from first page*

businesses to purchase a patrol bike for the area. This was just one example of his efforts to create win-win projects to get MPD officers into the community. Captain Basting assured the neighbors that Captain Raap has the police leadership experience needed for the job and has been oriented to the issues in our area. We all congratulate and wish Captain Steve Basting much success in his new position as commanding officer of the Neighborhood Task Force.

Captain Aaron Raap started his new position in early September but has been in the Milwaukee Police Department since 1990 in a variety of positions. His many different law enforcement experiences range from commanding the Neighborhood Policing Bureau and Neighborhood Task Force to the Office of Management Analysis and Planning that handles policy, research, compstat and tactical logistics. Captain Raap is known to value "community involvement and serving others". He is looking forward to applying his knowledge and experiences to the challenges of District 1 with its 50,000 residents and the hosting of 7.5 million visitors annually in its three entertainment districts.



Assistant Chief Habeck (UWM-PD) Captain Raap (MPD) and neighbor Pamela Frautschi at UWM-Police-Community gathering.

Captain Raap met the community at the gathering of neighbors, students, MPD, UWM-PD, UWM Housing, Neighborhood Relations and COAST Leaders on the 3000 block of N. Cramer on Sept 27th. The neighbors look forward to working with him and his staff to insure a safe environment for all.

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Nehring's Sendik's now on Downer

by Cynthia Sommer

New owners and a major upgrade have come to the Sendik's on Downer (2643 N. Downer). John and Anne Nehring purchased the business and moved in on October 15th. Changes are already evident with more to come over the next few months and into the next year. John Nehring worked for eight years at the Downer Sendik's before buying the Sendik's store on Oakland in Shorewood. He and his wife Anne have a love and enthusiasm for neighborhood grocery stores as is also evident from their ownership of G. Groppi and V. Richards food markets.

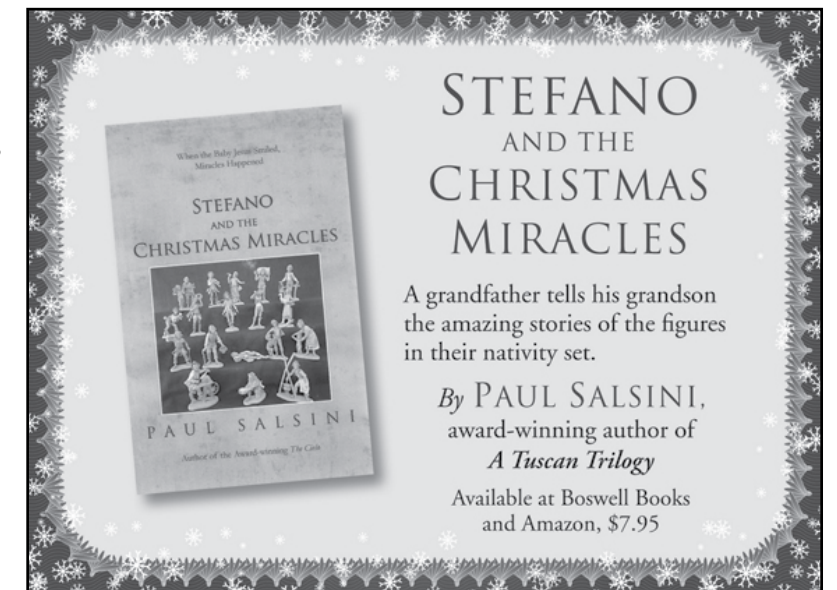
The store will have a similar flavor to the store in Shorewood with an expanded bakery, full service cheese offerings with many specialty cheeses and olives, an expanded hot and cold deli, more produce and the same availability of fresh meats. The interior will see upgraded refrigeration cases, new flooring and tin ceilings in parts of the store. Other major improvements in the future will be the addition of a separate entrance at the north-east corner of the store that will allow customers to get bakery and food items directly and to also eat at tables in that area. The floral department with its same offering will move in 2014 to the front window area and there are plans to change the current floral area into a full, sit-down area with wood-fired pizza, pasta, wine, beer and small plates. Kevan Oberdorf, the store director, has 11 years of experience in other Sendik's stores and is excited about the changeover and working with neighbors. A Milwaukee food tradition with upgrades – all are anxious to see the changes!

City Winter Updates

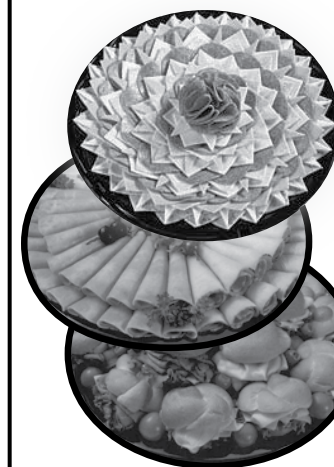
Residential or commercial property owners and occupants are required to clear the sidewalks abutting their property of snow or ice within 24 hours after the snow and ice have stopped falling. This includes the corner crosswalk area for property owners with corner lots or those whose property abuts a midblock crosswalk. Violators who are reported to DPW are issued a notice to clear the walk and will be assessed an initial inspection charge of \$25 for the first notice, \$45 for the second notice and \$90 for subsequent violations per City Ordinance 116-8. If the sidewalks still are not clear within another 24 hours, a Sanitation crew will clear a path on the walk, and the charge will appear on the property tax bill. The city is only responsible for the approaches to alleys; alleys are not plowed.

Residents living in single family homes who are physically unable to clear the sidewalk in front of their home may apply to the Sanitation Division for assistance with clearing the walk after a snowstorm. To be eligible, residents must certify that they and all other occupants of their home are senior citizens or

handicapped and are physically unable to shovel the sidewalk. They must certify that they were unable to obtain the services of any other individual. The service is referred to as a "hardship exception case." The Sanitation Division will send a plow to clear a path on the sidewalk in front of the residence only. For information on these services, call (414) 286-CITY (2489).



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Proposed Greenwich Park Apartments

by Cynthia Sommer

A neighborhood meeting was held on October 8th on the Mercy Housing Lakefront new proposal for six-story, 100 unit affordable housing buildings, the Greenwich Park Apartments. The proposed structures, to be built in two phases, would be located on parking lots owned by the City of Milwaukee and US Bank bordered by N. Farwell, N. Murray, E. Thomas streets and the US Bank drive through area.



the nearby Prospect Medical Commons structure will aid parking in the general area.

The building is designed with a dramatic glass façade on the corner of Farwell and Thomas, burnished masonry to complement the US Bank building, metal accents, and bay windows to capture sunlight. The building design has won several architectural

awards and received approval on October 15th from the East Side Architectural Review Board.

The proposal has also passed the City Planning Commission public hearing on Oct 28th, but still needs to be considered for changes in height and density at the City Zoning, Neighborhoods and Development Committee on December 10th. A final approval by the Common Council on Dec 17th will allow Mercy Housing Lakefront to apply for tax-credits in January, 2014, and if approved, they would start construction before the end of 2014 for phase I and completion of phase 2 by the end of 2016.

Mercy Housing Lakefront is a national, non-profit organization that has established and manages affordable housing in Chicago (24 facilities) and Milwaukee (3 facilities). Affordable housing is housing affordable to working families based on the median income for the neighborhood, which is \$70,200 for this area. The developers would lease apartments at below-market rents to people earning no more than 60% of the area median income.

Mercy Housing had previously submitted a proposal for this project in 2010 for financing through Wisconsin Housing and Economic Development Authority (WHEDA) tax credits but did not meet the criteria that required a location in a low-income neighborhood. The new WHEDA guidelines include support for housing close to possible workplaces. The Eastside would also meet the criteria of a high walkable score (92/100), a measure of an individual ability to get to work, schools, parks, churches and shopping. Columbia-St. Mary's Hospital is supporting this project with the hope that some of their employees would find housing in the new development. A concern raised by neighbors is the increasing density in the area.

The amount of tax credits available from WHEDA this year was also lower and the development team of Mercy Housing and Korb-Tredo Architects were pushed to redesign the original building into two stand-alone structures that would work together but be built in two phases and supported by two rounds of financing through WHEDA.

The first phase building will contain 56 rental units with the second phase building adding 44 more units. The design also includes a 4,000 sq. ft. retail area that faces N. Farwell and a significant change to the US Bank drive entrance. Parking is addressed by including 119 parking spots for residential use, 25 spots for US Bank and the public and 10 additional on-street parking spaces. Free evening and late night parking at

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Susan McCabe

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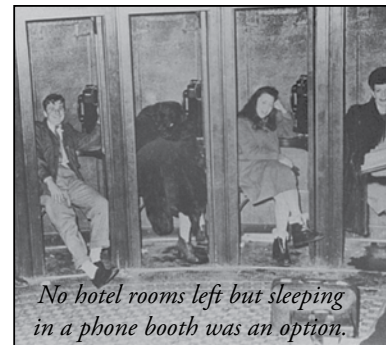
Murray Hill History – Did you know?

by Cynthia Sommer

Blizzard of '47

Every generation remembers a snowstorm that they would say was the worst ever! While several memorable snowstorms have hit Milwaukee, the worst was the blizzard in January, 1947 because of the amount and length of snowfall, the wind conditions, the drifts created, the impact on the city, and the cost for clean-up.

For three days snow fell to more than 18 inches with winds blowing from the northeast at 25-45 mph with gusts to 60 mph and visibility at times near zero. Drifts of more than 15 feet brought all traffic to a standstill. All



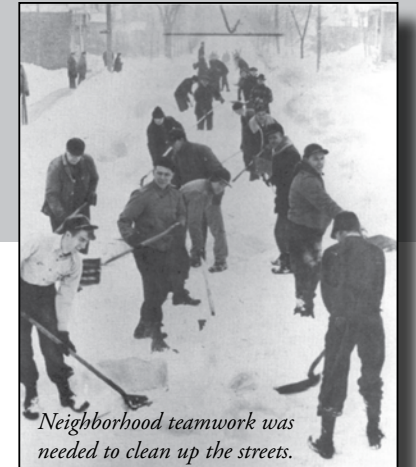
stores, factories, offices and schools were closed for several days. Many people were stranded in cars, buses, trains, railroad depots and hotel lobbies unless they were able to walk home by foot

over many miles. The city was literally paralyzed and soon became a "ghost town". A light snow started to fall on that Tuesday evening and the weather forecast in the Milwaukee Journal for Wednesday was an expected "inch or so" – a typical winter snowfall. People went to work, children were off to school and the City Sanitation Department chose to believe the weatherman and did not switch from garbage collection to street plowing. Heavy flakes of snow began to fall by 8 am and by mid-morning it became clear that this was "no ordinary snowstorm". Heavy snow and howling east winds increased and soon produced large drifts of 5-8 ft. All transportation shut down quickly because the cars stuck in the snow were blocking all traffic. Stories are still told today of those who walked for 6-8 hours in the heavy snow and treacherous conditions. Some found overnight shelter along the way home in snow-trapped streetcars since the electric wires could still provide power for heat and light. Many workers were stuck for several days in downtown hotels and buildings and slept in

telephone booths, stairways or on any floor space that they could find. The snow and wind continued all Wednesday night through late Thursday. Over 400 streetcars and buses were stranded all over the city. The snowplows were no match for the amount of snow (estimated at 9.6 billion pounds) and it took the City six weeks at a cost of \$810,000 to eventually restore the city streets and alleys.

Ask any senior today who lived through the blizzard of '47 and they will clearly remember the conditions and stories of that storm. Accounts include: neighbors shoveling a path so the doctor could come to deliver a baby; a mother and new baby going home on a toboggan from Columbia Hospital to Downer Avenue; a husband walking miles along the streetcar route to find and help his pregnant wife home (pregnant with our board member Gary H); going down Oakland Avenue on skis; teams of neighbors shoveling out their street so they could go to work again; people with snowshoes, skis or toboggans delivering milk and food to desperate mothers; coffee, sandwiches and blankets offered to strangers by strangers and strangers becoming close and grateful friends. The blizzard was a test by Mother Nature that brought out much good in people.

It is hoped that if such a storm came again, the results would be different due to better weather forecasting, snowplowing and snow blowing equipment, communication alert systems and emergency planning. But no matter the level of our professional responses, there would always be a need for neighbors to help neighbors.



Milwaukee Rotary Centennial Arboretum

by Cynthia Sommer

What a treasure in our backyard! The new Milwaukee Rotary Centennial Arboretum with 40 acres of urban green space located adjacent to Riverside Park branch of the Urban Ecology Center had its Grand Opening Celebration on Saturday, Sept 28, 2013. This event celebrated six years of collaborative work with numerous “cooperating organizations, experts across the state, a dedicated team of staff and thousands of volunteers”. An arboretum is a green space of trees and plants that rely on each other to survive and grow – “a living museum of trees and plants”. A rare endangered oak savannah habitat, hundreds of new native trees, tens of thousands of native plants, shrubs and wildflowers, 6 acres of reclaimed industrial land, ImagiNature stations and a beautiful new handicapped accessible trail all help to create a space to play, explore and learn. This tract of nature will serve as an outdoor classroom, research lab and public space...and it is free for all to enjoy every season of the year!

There is much to discover as you walk under the artful stone archway entrance and along the sustainable and universally accessible trails. You will see samples of trees



indigenous to Southeastern Wisconsin (the 28 species of trees already present in the mature forest of Riverside Park have grown to 70+ total species of trees). A newly created oak savannah habitat consists of a variety of prairie plants and wildflowers native to S.E. Wisconsin. These trees and native plants provide essential food and habitat for many birds, insects, rabbits, deer, foxes, hawks and wild turkeys.

The arboretum is designated as an official USDA Forest Service Children's Forest; this means that it was designed with unique “discover and play” or “ImagiNature” sites scattered throughout the acreage for kids of all ages to explore. What is also amazing about the green space is that part of it is reclaimed contaminated industrial land. New soil was created from composted leaves from the city (after young volunteers removed the trash) along with clean fill from local construction sites to a layer of 12 inches. The ground was then covered with 6 inches of topsoil. It is now a place where a new, living world can grow.

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Osaka *Continued from previous page*



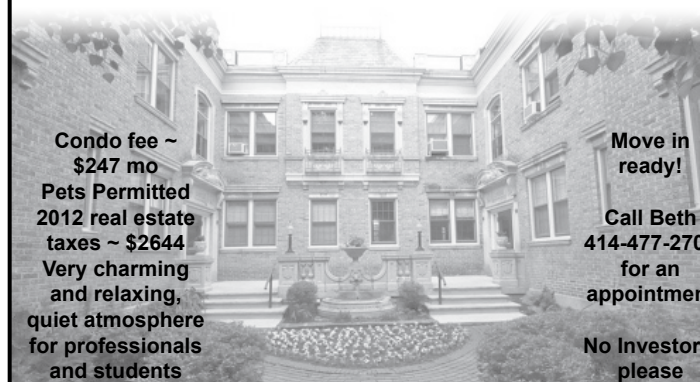
Every meal at Osaka is previewed with a salad featuring a delicious house dressing and gigimi, a Korean style veggie pancake. No matter what you order for your entree, be it sushi or ramen, you will not be disappointed. Have friends that turn up their noses at sushi? Tell them to try the Miso Ramen. With a Friday Night Fish Fry, if you need a relaxing place to unwind on a Friday evening Osaka is the place to go! Feeling adventurous this winter? Try the tasty Fall and Winter Special of Kimchi Ramen; it may be an acquired taste (and you must love spicy food), but it will not let you down! For a reasonable price (ramen dishes range from \$7.75 - 13) you'll have a delicious meal, and with the portions the sizes they are, a tasty lunch for the next day! If it's lunch you're craving, you're in luck; Osaka serves lunch specials Tuesday through Friday, 11:30 am to 2:30 pm. Dinner hours are Tuesday through Thursday 4:30 pm to 9:00 pm; Friday 4:30 pm to 10:00 pm; Saturday 12:00 pm to 10:00 pm; and Sunday 3:00 pm to 8:00 pm. Mondays Osaka remains closed.

So, Murray Hill, when you're out and about town looking for a great new place to eat, stop by Osaka, where ramen is no longer the dinner of starving college kids, but will have you coming back for more.

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Milwaukee Snow Tidbits

By Cynthia Sommer

The manuscript of Robert's Rules of Order was written by Captain Henry Martyn Roberts during the severe winter of January, 1874 in Milwaukee. Captain Roberts was a military engineer who was assigned to supervise construction of lighthouses on Lake Michigan and provide improvements of rivers and harbors. Due to the severe winter weather that year, he had time to write the collection of his previously researched information on parliamentary procedures into a publishable manuscript.

The first recorded use of snow plows was from Milwaukee in 1862. The snow plow consisted of a team of horses pulling a plow attached to a cart. Many other horse drawn snow plow designs quickly gained popularity in the US over the course of the next decade.



Osaka: A Taste of Japan Just Down the Block

by Margaret James

Ramen. It's a food most of us associate with more frugal college days. And it may not be the best of associations. But the East Side's newest Japanese restaurant, Osaka, might just change your mind. Now occupying the former site of Ichiban, at 2336 N. Farwell Ave., Osaka has revitalized Murray Hill's Japanese cuisine options. Opened by husband and wife team Jin San Koh and Jenny Kim at the end of April 2013, Osaka boasts a Korean-infused Japanese menu of ten varieties of Ramen in addition to Udon noodle dishes, classic and house sushi rolls. But with its quiet opening, Osaka may have slipped below the radar of the East Side's noodle seekers.

Though the restaurant seating area is small, the atmosphere encourages an intimate yet casual dining experience. The sushi bar separates the dining room from the kitchen, offering solo diners a social spot without taking one of the few tables. On busier nights Osaka may be crowded, but there is rarely a wait for a table. And with the delicious menu, finding a table right away may come as a surprise. In that rare circumstance where a wait is required, the wonderful service received when you sit down more than makes up for it. The entire staff of Osaka, which often includes the owners popping out from the kitchen to assist, is kind, attentive, and does everything possible to make your dining experience great.

Osaka serves wonderfully fresh sushi, sashimi and rolls; both classics, like a Dragon Roll, and house specialties, like the Oklahoma Roll. And while the sushi is a delight, the real gem of this establishment is a soul-warming bowl of ramen. Made in-house with traditional recipes, Osaka's ramen puts the Japanese noodle dish front and center. Each steaming bowl of ramen uses chicken broth made from scratch as a backdrop to the delectable noodle, nori, cabbage, and mushroom combination. And it's topped with the ubiquitous hard boiled egg and meat. But vegetarians of the area shouldn't worry, the No-Meat Ramen is made with a veggie-friendly broth that gives all other broths a run for their money. (The secret ingredient for the depth of flavor? Apples!)

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Arboretum *Continued from previous page*

The transformation of this site took the generosity and commitment of many individuals and organizations. The \$400,000 gift of the Milwaukee Rotary Club to honor its centennial year in the city, served to accelerate and insure the ongoing efforts of an array of groups to make the arboretum a reality. The Urban Ecology Center was the lead partner in the project and upon completion will be responsible for the maintenance of the Arboretum. The River Revitalization Foundation (RRF) facilitated the land transfer and provided expertise on conservation and restoration of Milwaukee River and nearby land. Pieter Godfrey, a driving force behind conservation along the Milwaukee River and a visionary for the Arboretum, donated 4.5 acres of land worth over 1.6 million dollars. Unfortunately, Pieter Godfrey died in 2011 before seeing his dream completed. The Milwaukee Urban River Foundation that was set up by Pieter Godfrey, worked with RRF to facilitate the purchase of another key parcel of land. The Milwaukee County Park system facilitated the transfer of land into the Parks Department and provided design expertise. The Environmental Protection Agency's Great Lakes Restoration Initiative provided \$953,450 to fund ecological restoration work. A grant from the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources Knowles-Nelson Stewardship Fund assisted with the acquisition of land. There were many other government entities, local churches, neighborhood groups, businesses, schools and universities that aided the project. Over 8 million dollars of grants, gifts and donations insured the development of this unique environment along with an estimated 12,000 hours donated by 2,000 volunteers.



Their vision, perseverance and efforts allow us and future citizens for many generations to be able to appreciate nature in an urban environment.

Thank you for a wonderful gift!

Photos provided by the Urban Ecology Center

The Upper East Side/ Oakland Avenue Business Improvement District

The East Side's most eclectic two-block business district featuring food from around the world, services for your daily life, and vibrant entertainment venues.



The B.I.D. is actively engaged in making your shopping and entertainment visit to our neighborhood the best it can be! We salute the efforts of our neighborhood partners at MHNA.

Enjoy delectables from Solo, Lisa's, George Webb's, Oakland Gyros, Subway, Shahrazad, Thai Kitchen, Cousin's Subs, Five Guys Burgers and Fries, Cold Stone Creamery, Shiraz, Black Rose, and West Allis Cheese and Sausage Shoppe.

Don't forget your service and daily shopping needs can be fulfilled on your next visit to Oakland Ave. From Clark Graphics, Atomic Glass, Gilbert's Liquor, The Washing Well, Walgreen's, Sal's Barber Shop, and Cloud Nine!

And don't forget the eclectic mix of entertainment at our beloved Miramar Theater or grab a game of pool and a cold one at Axel's. On Oakland Ave., we have it all!