

MURRAY
HILL



NEIGHBORHOOD
ASSOCIATION

www.murrayhillna.org

Officers

President: Tory Kress
414-630-4707
tory.kress@gmail.com

Vice-President: J. Gerard Capell
414-962-4638
gcapell-mh@wi.rr.com

Treasurer: Gary Halvorsen
414-305-2853
gshalvorhead@att.net

Secretary:
Mary Johnson Grundle
414-962-2690
maryjohnsongrundle@yahoo.com

Board Members

Cate Deicher
414-988-2516
catexd2002@yahoo.com

John Bleidorn
414-455-5287
john@bleidorncpa.com

Gregory James
414-962-5158
gregbjames@icloud.com

Steve Klebar
964-2492
sklebar@promentor.biz

Cynthia Sommer
414-962-7076
wcsommer@yahoo.com

Block Liaison Coordinator:
Position Open

Editor: Cynthia Sommer
Position Open

Layout/Design: Jennifer Rzepka
414-559-6810
rzepkaj@wi.rr.com

Ad Coordinator: Jack Alves
414-335-1718
jalves@shorewest.com

Distribution: *contact info above*
Newberry-North:
Cynthia Sommer
Newberry-South:
Gary Halvorsen

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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.

President's Message

by Tory Kress, President

Thank you to all of our neighbors who have attended our recent General Membership Meetings. These meetings are traditionally held on the 4th Tuesday of the month at 7 PM at the Urban Ecology Center and provide neighbors the opportunity to hear speakers on local topics as well as updates from MPD 1st District, UWM, and elected officials.

In January, we received an update from Lieutenant Shaun Doyne from MPD's 1st District who brought with him four officers

to discuss MPD's commitment to our neighborhood and the progress that has been made to restore the "Report It, Record It" program. Residents are encouraged to call the

Report It, Record It number – 935-7211

for non-emergency noise nuisance issues (more information is available at: <http://murrayhillna.org/qol/report-it/>). In addition to the MPD update, we heard a fascinating presentation by David Russick, chief exhibit designer with the Milwaukee Art Museum, who gave listeners a behind-the-scenes peak into what it takes to create the outstanding exhibits at MAM.

continued on page 3

North Avenue is a Changing'

by Cynthia Sommer

Neighbors walking or driving along E. North Avenue cannot miss the burst of construction activity. A milestone was met with the completion and opening of the East Branch of the Milwaukee Public Library and the Standard apartment complex above the library but additional construction projects are still in various stages of completion on three apartment buildings on this strip of E. North Avenue between Oakland and Prospect.

The addition of new retail shops on the street level of these mixed-use buildings adds another dimension to the changes that are occurring in the area. These developments are building onto the newer but now established Whole Foods, Columbia-St. Mary's Hospital, the Educators Credit Union and Latitude Apartments. Future projects on North Avenue are still in the dream stage. Jim Plaisted,

continued on next page



*Construction of new apartment on
1800 E. North Avenue*

See Back Page for Upcoming Meeting Details

North Avenue *Continued from first page*

Executive Director of the East Side Business Improvement District, which encompasses the North Avenue commercial corridor, indicated that consultants have been hired to prepare a Master Plan to evaluate the retail market for the entire area of the business district along the E. North Avenue Corridor. Neighbors have raised concerns about overbuilding of apartments and the increased density and traffic in the area. All in all, a more urban, residential neighborhood with more housing, shopping, eating and playing options are being developed.

The location, pricing and size of the apartments are targeting those who seek a walkable community (90+ walk score; www.walkscore.com) and an urban lifestyle - the young professionals and the empty nester seeking the amenities the city offers. There has also been interest from downtown residents who want to shift from a high-rise to a neighborhood environment with the conveniences of grocery stores, theatres, libraries and other daily amenities and yet still allow them to be close to downtown events and venues. The incoming new residents will positively impact an already vibrant neighborhood by using the businesses, restaurants and shopping in their backyard rather than elsewhere.

The new apartments that will be added to the neighborhood include: the Standard at East Library (1910 E. North), 1800 E. North at Oakland building, the Overlook on Prospect (2217 N. Prospect), and the Greenwich Park Apartments, one block north of E. North avenue at 2303-2353 N. Farwell.

The Standard is a 5-story building with 99 apartments (1,2 and 3 bedrooms; \$1380-\$2340) with underground residential parking at the lower level and the East Branch Library at the street level. The apartments include many amenities such as hardwood floors, fitness center, club room and roof top terrace.

The 1800 E. North Avenue is a four-story apartment building located on the corner of North and Oakland, once the site of the former Pizza Man restaurant that burned down in 2010. This mixed use building will contain 39 apartments and 36 underground parking spaces with 6,000 sq. of commercial space. Joseph Properties Development is responsible for this building as well as the Overlook Apartments above the former Prospect Mall.



*New Retail and Apartments at
2217 N. Prospect near E. North Ave*

The 1912 building at 2217 N. Prospect Avenue, still called Prospect Mall by many neighbors, started as a Pierce-Arrow car dealership in 1912 and later was transformed in 1976 into an urban shopping center with restaurants, a theater complex and businesses. The building will now become an apartment-retail complex. The old façade of the building has been removed down to its original brick and four stories have been added to the original mall structure. The building will house 52 apartments and 52 resident parking spots. In addition, 10,000 sq. ft. of retail space on the street level is available and already houses PotBelly's Sandwich Shop. It is hoped that the 1-2 bedroom high-end apartments (\$1425-\$2000) with balconies will attract young professionals.

Construction on Greenwich Park Apartments is projected to start this spring. A 35-unit six story building will be built and managed by Mercy Housing Lakefront on the former City parking lot one block north of E. North between N. Farwell and N. Murray. This project is financed with federal affordable tax credits that require leasing of apartments at below market rents to people earning no more than 60% of the area median income. Forty five below market-value apartments and eight market-value apartments are planned. Mercy Housing Lakefront expects to rent to people working at Columbia-St. Mary's, Prospect Commons, other local businesses and UWM graduate students.

It may take a few years to see the true impact of these additions but one way or another it will be an exciting time.

President's Message *Continued from first page*

At February's meeting, we met a new addition to MPD's 1st District – Community Liaison Officer Thomas Kline – who expressed his commitment to attend our meetings, provide updates, and stay after to discuss individual concerns one-on-one with attendees. Also at the February meeting, we kicked off an exciting new initiative of the MHNA Board – Murray Hill Working Groups. These working groups will be volunteer driven and will meet on an as-needed basis to accomplish the goals set by the resident members.

Here is what we have to date:

- Sustainability (Solar, Sustainability Audit)
- Families (Playgroups, School Liaison)
- Marketing (Interactive Email Group, Neighborhood Promotion)
- Curb Appeal (Neighborhood Cleanups)
- East Side Retirement Opportunities
- Art & Culture (Murals)
- Best Practice Group (Research & Case Studies)

Each of these groups has between 2 and 6 interested individuals, and newcomers are welcome! If you have an interest in any of these groups, or just a new idea, please contact me and I'll put you in touch with other neighbors with similar interests.

In March, we had a packed house to hear updates from State Senator Chris Larson, Representative Jonathon Brostoff, and Alderman Nik Kovac. Upcoming meetings are listed on the back page.

I look forward to meeting more of you at our meetings and events in the coming months! Thank you for your interest and your enthusiasm for keeping Murray Hill a wonderful place to live, work, and play.

REPORT IT/RECORD IT

Crime, Unacceptable Behavior, Excessive Noise

Report by calling MPD District 1

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ask us about our
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— Dr. Megan Graham

New Recycling Facility in Milwaukee – Be a Partner!

by Cynthia Sommer and Rick Meyers, Recycling Manager, City of Milwaukee

How far we have come in residential recycling over the years! From limited collection of metals and scraps, to small collection tubs with limited types of recyclable materials, to large, divided carts for cans, plastics and paper and now to single-sorting of greater varieties of recyclable in one container. The newly renovated and technology-upgraded City of Milwaukee Materials Recovery Facility (MRF) in the Menomonee Valley that opened this spring will take the City one giant step further in residential recycling. To maximize the efficiency and minimize the cost, the recycling equipment investment is shared between the City of Milwaukee and Waukesha County through a historic Intergovernmental Agreement. The MRF is processing recyclables from Milwaukee and from 25 communities in Waukesha County. The recycling work has been contracted with Recommunity Recycling (www.recommunity.com).

Recycling has been done through the ages, but organized residential recycling is a relatively recent effort. Most citizens now recognize the cost to the environment of improperly handled waste. The recognition of the need to meet pollution control standards is further strengthened by a strong demand for virtually all recyclables and the rising costs for virgin materials for manufacturing. Reprocessing of scrap aluminum requires only 5% of the energy used to make new aluminum from raw bauxite ore. China has become the number one buyer of our recycled paper since they are resource poor for paper due to their deforested land. Manufacturing of plastics is petroleum, natural gas and energy dependent.

Recycling starts with each of us insuring materials are identified and processed for recycling. Start with a simple rinse to remove food and contaminants – please protect the quality of the recyclables and respect the staff that handles them. Currently Milwaukee recycles #1, 2, 4 & 5 plastics or simply stated “most rigid plastic bottles and containers” - including large plastic buckets and laundry baskets. Plastic grocery bags should NOT be put into your recycling bins but taken to your local grocery or department store; the plastic bags get entangled in the machinery causing inefficient sorting. Corrugated and cardboard boxes should be opened and flattened for efficient processing. Because shredded paper can be lost through the sorting screens, it is recommend that it be put in brown paper bags and stapled or placed into a clear plastic bag so it can be recognized early and removed in the presorting stage. Metal caps on glass bottles should be separated because of the different properties of the materials. Aluminum

cans and plastic bottles do not need to be crushed unless your recycling bin tends to overfill. Styrofoam containers are NOT recycled since the material is mainly air, and the cost of processing outweighs the cost of virgin resin used for manufacturing. Under Wisconsin law, TV sets and electronics must be taken to local electronic stores, municipal recycling yards or other designated sites (E-cycle Wisconsin; dnr.wi.gov/topic/Ecycle). City removal of TV sets left at the curb will result in special pick-up charges to property owners. Essential to recycling is to insure your recycling cart is accessible near the back of your property or has been placed at the curb on the appropriate day for pick-up (for residence recycling day go to: mpw.milwaukee.gov/services/garbage_day).

The process of recycling in the City recycling facility involves some hand-sorting aided by conveyor belts, sorting screens, magnets and optical scanners - automated technology of infrared light detection of plastics based on their reflective properties. As materials move along conveyor belts, staff pre-sort large objects and contaminating materials. A set of screens remove cardboard and paper while crushing and separating the glass. Magnets can then remove iron and steel items but cannot bind non-ferrous material such as aluminum cans. However, an eddy current separator can create a positive electrical charge in aluminum cans that then allows their separation with magnets that repel them. Infrared optical scanners are dedicated to identify the most valued No. 1 and 2 plastics, and an air jet blast shoots them with at least a 93% capture rate into appropriate bins. A third and final optical sorter handles the remaining targeted plastics. Separated components are compressed into bales for shipping to paper mills, to metal salvaging facilities and plastic and glass recyclers for further processing and eventual use in the marketplace.

To learn more about recycling in our community visit MilwaukeeRecycles.com. Each of us can contribute to a better world by minimizing materials use and maximizing recycling - so get into the habit and be a partner!



Little Monsters – a Special Children’s Shop

by Cynthia Sommer

Little Monsters is a unique children’s clothing and toy store. The eyes of most drivers streaming downtown on Farwell just past the junction of Maryland, would notice the distinctive glass and wood building on the right containing the tee-pee in the front window of this shop (2445 N. Farwell). The retail space of Little Monsters is a dream for the owner and the shopper.

The owner, Andie Zacher, has been at this site, located a block from Whole Foods and across the street from the Maryland Avenue Montessori School, for 3 ½ years. Prior to becoming an independent business owner, she worked for 12 years as a manager and buyer for Boutique Bebe on Downer before it closed due to the retirement of the owner. The timing was right to make the big, though scary, leap to open a business. The closing of the Downer store and two other children’s stores in the Third Ward at that time was an added consideration. Zacher’s husband strongly supported the decision, and the unexpected availability of the retail space in the Keller/Dewan Dental Building insured that the dream of a shop could become a reality. The distinctive triangular glass and wood building that won the Mayor’s Design Award is owned and managed by Lora Keller and her husband Mike Dewan, whose dental practice is located above the shop. Andie has found Lora Keller’s support and friendship important in the success of her business.

Little Monsters has a great mix of children’s clothes, toys, books, accessories and candy. This cross-merchandizing provides a better balanced and a more democratic pricing of



products to attract a broader range of customers. Andie buys what she likes and hopes from her experience that she knows what kids and parents want. Girl’s and boy’s clothes, from infant to size 10, come from national, international and local designers. Local artists that design material with Milwaukee and Bayview images are now used to create unique bibs, blankets and soon to come quilts.

Stack boxes from France, foreign language building blocks and Jellycat soft stuffed animals are artfully and colorfully displayed and intermixed

with clothes, shoes, books and other accessories. Customers can choose from heirloom classic wood toys and puzzles from Germany and France or buy retro Fisher Price toys. Shoppers can also choose from displays of “just fun” toys such as finger

puppets, mustaches, paddle balls, bows and arrows, or superhero figures.

Adding to the shopping experiences are the jars of old fashioned candy located at the checkout desk. They bring back pleasant memories for the parent and grandparent shoppers and, of course, get the attention of the kids.

Also, the nearby tee-pee in the corner of the shop that contains toys, is more than a window dressing – it becomes a kid’s secret hideout in which to play while his or her parents are shopping.

Little Monsters is open Monday-Saturday from 10 am to 5:30 pm with extended hours on Tuesday until 7 pm. They will gift wrap purchases which any busy mother would consider a plus. So whether you need to buy a baby shower or birthday party gift or just shop for your own family, stop by the Little Monsters for a great shopping experience.



Congratulations RUHS on 100 Years!



Go Tigers!

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, Lil' Caesars, Lisa's, George Webb's, Oakland Gyros, Subway, Shahrazad, Thai Kitchen, Cousin's Subs, Five Guys Burgers and Fries, Cold Stone Creamery, Shawarma House and Black Rose.

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

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!

Spring Is In The Air!

*by Dr. Tim Gordon, Dean of Students and
Jesica Berndt, Director, UWM Neighborhood Housing Office
University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee*



The thaw has begun and while we may still see a bit more snow, it does seem like we have turned the corner into warmer weather this year. For our UWM students, this usually means more projects and exams requiring attention and more time in the library, union, and local businesses studying and writing papers. It also means our students are making plans for summer classes, employment, and moving. Warmer weather brings more time outdoors, windows open to let in the breeze, and a chance to look around and say "hello" to the neighbors we haven't seen during the colder times. I also encourage our students to continue their efforts to be safer in the neighborhoods like walking with another person, being aware of their surroundings, and utilizing safety services like "Be on the Safe Side (BOSS)" and Safe Walkers. This is also a good time to be a "Good Neighbor", including becoming involved in cleaning up the neighborhood after the winter snow melts.

Many lease terms may also be coming to a close and the Neighborhood Housing Office is hosting its annual Housing Fair on Friday, May 8th from 10am-3pm in the UWM Union Concourse to help students find quality, affordable off-campus housing options. This event brings partner landlords together with hundreds of students seeking their next home away from home. The Preferred Tenant Program is also returning for sessions on April 4th and 17th. This renter education program provides student tenants with the knowledge and tools to be positive members of the local community as renters. Students who complete the program also benefit from rent/security deposit discounts with participating local landlords. Interested landlords can contact Jes Berndt in the Neighborhood Housing Office for details (berndt2@uwm.edu).

Our Neighborhood Relations Team is also developing a refreshed neighborhood newsletter due for launch this fall. Neighbors interested in being a part of this communication are invited to join at the following link: <http://goo.gl/rbev19>

Murray Hill History – Did you know?

by Cynthia Sommer

Riverside/Shorewood Sanitarium

In the late 1800's to the early 1900's, the City tried to address the many health and social problems resulting from rapid population growth with the establishment of formal institutions. Several of these were built on the not yet populated Eastside of Milwaukee. Near Lake Drive, Sister's Hospital (now Columbia-St. Mary's) addressed general medical needs; Girl's Industrial School was built for the "care of vagrant children"; St. Rose orphan asylum was established to "shelter and support destitute female children of deceased parents". With the outbreak of small pox in the 1890's a temporary hospital was also established on the grounds of Milwaukee Downer College (now UW-Milwaukee). A little further north, the Riverside/Shorewood Sanitarium, a private hospital, addressed individuals with mental health issues.

Columbia-St. Mary's Hospital has one of the few original buildings left but the stories and traces of the other institutions are still among us. The preserved greenspace associated with the Edgewood condos built between 1999-2001 and bordered by Maryland, Edgewood, Prospect Avenues and Stratford Court, provides some clues about one of these institutions – the Riverside/Shorewood sanitarium.

Riverside/Shorewood sanitarium began with the establishment in 1898 of a "Woman's Hospital" for surgery by Dr. Frank Studley in one and eventually two houses on Humboldt Blvd. near Capital. With the influx of nervous and "hysteria" cases to this private 15-bed facility, the name changed two years later to Riverside Sanitarium. It became an "institution devoted to the care and treatment of mild mental and nervous diseases, insanity, alcohol and drug habitués and chronic invalids.". An early publication described it as a "quiet home-like retreat" with patient expense of "\$10 per week upwards according to the case" and "within the means of every class, particularly of those whose only recourse is the County Hospital or the Insane Asylum."

The eight acres of wooded land on Humboldt surrounding the Riverside hospital had rustic paths, a quiet forest and a grand view from the west bank of the Milwaukee River – a place adapted to the care "of those requiring rest and quiet". Routine treatment for the majority of cases consisted of "hydrotherapy, needle spray, massage, Swedish movements and exercise". Today, many stress relief centers provide similar approaches.

continued on next page



Riverside Sanitarium in the 1910's – with permission Wisconsin Historical Society

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The success of the sanitarium resulted in the construction by 1905 of a new three-story hospital closer to Lake Michigan on land in the Village of Shorewood. Forty-two shareholders paid \$100 each to cover the cost of the building and land for the hospital. The main building consisted of 24 patient rooms, an office, lab, dining room and seven rooms on the top floor for employees. In the early days they would raise their own chickens and cows for milk because of the distance to town.

Rapid expansion of the original building followed with construction of a second connecting building in 1907 with 10 additional patient rooms and then a third L-shaped building (the Annex) in 1911 with 20 more patient rooms. In 1930, the name of the institution was changed from Riverside Sanitarium to Shorewood Hospital-Sanitarium. The facility was sold to Columbia Hospital in 1969 and the word "sanitarium" was dropped from its title. The last patients who left in 1978, were charged an average daily room rate of \$40. The property was finally sold to the City of Shorewood for \$1.3 million for future development.

The hospital was administered by Dr. Frank Studley from 1898 until his untimely death in 1933 while testifying in a court case. Dr. William Studley, his son, and also a specialist in neurology and psychiatry, assumed the responsibility of the hospital until it closed. While other accepted mental health treatments at the time were used, such as psychotherapy, drugs, insulin and electroshock therapy, the healing properties of nature were still felt to be important.

Between 1930 and 1945, Dr. Wm. Studley planted over 160 trees on the property and many of the rare types of trees still survive and are tagged. They include bald cypress, paper bark maple, persimmon, yellow wood, tulip tree, and ponderosa pine. Native trees that already existed in the area included red oaks, white oaks, ironwood and basswood. Some of these trees are state champions. There are also two ancient Indian trails that run through the property.

Another important part of the story about this land was the active role of the neighbors in preserving, as much as possible, the trees prior to the construction of condos that began in the late 1990's. They worked with the developer to save an important greenspace and many trees. While the property is private, neighbors can see some of the unusual trees, such as Yellowwood, Kentucky Coffee tree, Bald Cypress and Ginkgo tree while taking a walk along Edgewood Avenue, Prospect Avenue and Stratford Court.

**Take the time to discover another interesting
aspect of your neighborhood!**

Coming this Summer – SOLAR EASTSIDE!

by Tory Kress and Elizabeth Hittman, Sustainability Program Coordinator, City of Milwaukee

If you were ever thinking of installing solar panels to generate energy for your own home, now is the time to act. This summer, home and business owners in Milwaukee's Eastside neighborhoods will have the opportunity to take advantage of record low solar pricing through a limited-time solar group purchase program. The Solar Eastside program is a solar group buy program that can help residents invest in lower cost solar installations through the power of volume-purchasing. The program is open to Milwaukee-area residents outside of the Eastside, but its main outreach focus will be within the neighborhoods. The more residents who sign up to install solar, the more the price decreases for everyone who participates. And because the installer, the technology and the exact price of PV are provided upfront, it is much easier for residents to make the decision to go solar.

In addition to the benefits provided by the group purchase volume pricing, residents can save even more this year through Focus on Energy rebates and federal tax incentives that are only available for a limited time, and expected to phase out in coming years.

A kick-off meeting is scheduled for Thursday, May 21st at 7:00 PM at Colectivo Coffee - Prospect Cafe (2211 N Prospect Ave). In addition to the kick-off meeting, a series of additional

public information sessions at locations all around the Eastside will follow throughout this spring and early summer. Attendees will learn how solar works, how to finance their solar install, information on energy efficiency, what incentives are available, what a typical return on investment would look like and how they can save money through a solar group buy program.

Solar Eastside is a partnership between the City of Milwaukee's Milwaukee Shines, the Midwest Renewable Energy Association and the Murray Hill Neighborhood Association and is modeled after similar successful programs that focused on the Riverwest, Bayview, Layton Boulevards West, and Washington Heights neighborhoods. More information is available online at: www.midwestrenew.org/milwaukee or by contacting Peter Murphy with Midwest Renewable Energy Association (MREA) at 414-431-0907 or peterm@midwestrenew.org.



Murray Hill Real Estate Report



JACK ALVES
414.335.1718



JackIsNimble.com
jalves@shorewest.com

There were 48 Murray Hill residential sales in 2014. The overall number of sales is similar to last year. The median price was up about 8%.

About half of Murray Hill sales are single-family homes. The median price for these homes was almost \$278,000, about 13% higher than last year. Median prices are still well below the glory days. If you bought a single-family home before 2004 or after 2008 you could have some equity. Call me to get information specific to your house.

I love this neighborhood, but I understand there could be reasons to move away. In that case, if you must leave this fabulous neighborhood, call me to discuss how to prepare your house for sale.

Milwaukee Police Department Update from District 1

by Captain Leslie Thiele, District One 414-935-7210



Well, spring is around the corner – thank goodness. This winter has been long, but one that has been good for our district. We have had some personnel changes since the fall, but these have brought opportunities to strengthen our partnership with the community and neighborhood associations.

In late fall, Lt. Shaun Doyne joined District One as our new second shift lieutenant. An additional sergeant has been added to our third shift to assist with supervision and I hope to have a new lieutenant in place by mid-summer. An additional Community Liaison Officer, Police Officer Tom Kline, has also been assigned to work along with Officer Jose Alba. Officer Kline will work 11:00am to 7:00pm and will be readily available to attend meetings with the association and to answer any questions or concerns you may have.

Our officers and supervisors here at District One continue to work hard in developing and maintaining the partnerships with the various businesses, schools, and residents who make up this wonderful district. Lt. Doyne, Officer Kline and the officers assigned to the UWM area have attended some of the recent Murray Hill Association meetings in order for the residents and officers to get to know each other and to hear first-hand the issues the residents are experiencing. This also gives an opportunity to explain to the members the reasons why the police can or cannot take action in particular situations. Lt. Doyne has continued to work with the association on making sure the Report It Record It program is functioning properly and is being used the way it was intended.

Our district, as well as those city-wide, continues to experience auto thefts by juvenile offenders. With hopefully the cold weather soon to be behind us, the amount of people who start their cars and leave them unattended in order to warm them up, will drop immensely. We ask that the residents in District One do not leave their keys in the vehicles, as well as not leaving their valuables and especially their vehicle TITLES in the glove compartments. If your vehicle should get stolen and your title is left in the car, this gives the thief an opportunity to retile your vehicle. You may get your car returned to you, but it can be a logistical nightmare with the Department of Transportation and required paperwork to get everything figured out.

As the weather gets warmer officers will be conducting more park and walks in the UWM area on the weekends and addressing those houses that are causing disturbances in the neighborhoods. I plan to work with Kevin O'Connor from UWM to create a video to address the drinking among the students and the behavior issues in the neighborhoods, along with our expectations on both. We hope to address the students this fall at the new student orientation to discuss these same issues, along with some target hardening ideas, such as locking the doors of their residences, not leaving valuables in their vehicles, walking in groups, and their overall behavior when walking to and from their homes/dorms. We would like them to work with the association on how to be good neighbors to each other.

We continue to work with the MHNA and hope that you will continue to bring forth your concerns or issues that you encounter with either our department or with UWM. We strive to continue to strengthen the partnership that we have with MHNA in order to help make this spring a peaceful one for all.



Great 11th Annual Egg Hunt - Fun for All!



*Thanks to our many participants, volunteers and our sponsors:
Murray Hill Neighborhood Association, Walgreens,
Murray Hill Pottery Works and Upper East Side BID.*



Exploring the Oak Leaf Trail

by Nicole Gultatz

In Murray Hill, we're incredibly lucky to have several access points to the Oak Leaf Trail, a 118-mile paved path with multiple loops that connects many of the county parks in our system. With spring coming and the weather warming up, this is the perfect time to take advantage of this treasure in our neighborhood.

I was first introduced to the Oak Leaf Trail in the summer of 2012. My husband and I were apartment hunting, getting ready to move to Milwaukee from Washington, DC. Many of the apartment buildings we wanted to look at from the Third Ward to the East Side were in busy neighborhoods and we thought that it might be easier to conduct our search by bike rather than try to find street parking with each stop. After picking up rental bikes for the day at Cory-The Bike Fixer on Murray Avenue, we were thrilled to discover that the Oak Leaf Trail was a beautiful and peaceful trail that could quickly take us through the city.

Since we moved, the Oak Leaf Trail is one of our favorite places to go whether we're biking, jogging or walking. We often take out our bikes and zip down the trail for date night at a restaurant downtown or for Sunday morning shopping at the Milwaukee Public Market. While I was bike commuting to my office off of Wisconsin Avenue, the trail proved to be a much less stressful commute south than Farwell Avenue. We also quickly discovered the trail is a great way to get to Summerfest and the other ethnic festivals if you want to avoid all of the traffic (you just have to be

careful on the way home, as it does get pretty dark!)

There are many resources available if you're interested in biking on the trail. Free maps of the trail are available online from Milwaukee County (county.milwaukee.gov/OakLeafTrail8289.htm). For \$2, you can download a map of Milwaukee's Lakeshore routes from bikeeverywhere.com. Wisconsin Bike Fed (store.wisconsinbikefed.org) also has a set of maps for sale that provide more specific information about the route and access points. If you don't have a bike but are interested in exploring, don't let it deter you! By joining as a member of the Urban Ecology Center (\$35 Individual / \$45 Family), you can rent a bike for free.

If you're planning a walk along the Oak Leaf Trail, keep in mind that it's also one of the best places in the city for bird watching. The Milwaukee Country Parks System has developed the Oak Leaf Birding Trail which highlights different areas where it's common to see the 100 species that live in Milwaukee County and 150 additional bird species that migrate through the area in the spring and fall. Several bird watching sites are located within or very close to Murray Hill. Riverside Park and Lake Park that border our neighborhood are highlighted bird watching sites on the trail where you might see Red-headed Woodpeckers, Red-eyed Vireos, Blue Jays and Cardinals. You can find the birding map and other suggestions for trying birding on the county's website at county.milwaukee.gov/Birding9202.htm.

Whatever you like to do, the Oak Leaf Trail has something for you, be sure to take advantage of it this spring and summer when it is at its best!



— Meeting Information —

Meetings held at the Urban Ecology Center
1500 E. Park Place at 7:00 pm on
the 4th Tuesday of the month
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

April 28

Bob Bryson, P.E.

*Chief Traffic and Street Lighting Engineer &
Samir Amin of the Department of Public Works,*

*Street Planning and Repair
& College Possible Presentation*

May 26

Gerry Broderick, County Supervisor

Updates on Milwaukee County

June 22

TBD

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: _____

Phone: _____

E-mail: _____

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

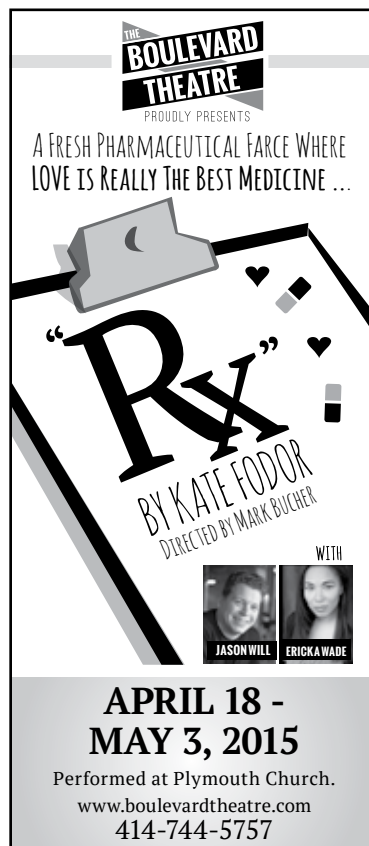
Newsletter Only ☐ \$

Please mark all that apply:

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Renter ☐

Landlord ☐



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