

Do You Have a Pet?

By Jill Kline

The Wisconsin Humane Society knows that people in the Murray Hill neighborhood value their animals and want to keep them safe. Letting your pet roam can expose him to many risks. Keep your companion animal safe while walking her by ensuring that she is on a leash. Local ordinances require that leashes be six feet or less. Unleashed dogs are considered "at large", and you can be ticketed for allowing your companion animal to roam.

WHS carries humane collars and harnesses that provide control for the guardian and make walking your dog an easy

and enjoyable experience. If you walk your dog with a choke chain, consider replacing it with a collar that helps train instead of restrain. They are an excellent alternative to choke collars by providing control without the likelihood of damaging the dog's throat.

In case your dog or cat gets away, make sure they have an identification tag that includes their name and contact information. Also consider a microchip - a small computer chip the size of a grain of rice, painlessly and permanently inserted between your animal's shoulder blades. It provides an additional form of identification that increases the

chances a lost animal will be returned home.

WHS offers manners classes for dogs at convenient times, and we use positive reinforcement to teach. Among other things, your dog will learn to walk nicely on a leash and come when called (a valuable cue if your dog gets off leash). Classes are reasonably priced and, in addition to teaching your dog manners, can be a great bonding experience for you and your dog.

Following these guidelines will help keep your animal and your community safe. For more information, visit our website at www.wihumane.org.

UWM Athletes Help Clean Up the Neighborhood

By J. Gerard Capell

On a brisk October Sunday morning, about 25 members of the UW-M baseball team, tennis squad, and swim teams trekked up and down the streets of Murray Hill and Cambridge Wood with neighbors, cleaning up the litter. We were armed with plastic bags and pick-up sticks and a strong desire to help make the neighborhood a little bit better. We were also armed with Benny from the University

Landscape Department and a University truck, so we cleared away sofas and other furniture, discarded carpets, broken limbs and shrubs, whatever did not belong on the curb.

Most of the students were struck by the amount of litter strewn about, and recognized that what they were doing was making the neighborhood look the way it should. At the end of the day, neighborhood representatives thanked them profusely for their help, with

words of encouragement and instructions to tell their friends about their labors, and to think about it the next time they consider dropping debris along their travels. However, I think they were a little more impressed by the free pizza.

Thanks to Oscar Perez, UW-M's Community Liaison Officer, who organized the event and along with the other UW-M personnel made it a very successful event.

Murray Hill Membership Application

NOW is the time to join - Clip and mail with your payment to:
MHNA / PO Box 71133 / Milwaukee, WI 53211

Name: _____

Company: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____

E-mail: _____

Murray Hill
Neighborhood
Assoc. has 194
members 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:

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

Membership Chair, **Gregory James:** 414-962-5158 or gjames@gjd.com

Susan Knows Murray Hill... Murray Hill knows Susan!



Susan McCabe

Have a real estate question? Selling, Buying or both?
Just like to know the value of your property?
Call Susan at 414-322-6526 www.firstweber.com



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Printing provided by
MHNA Member
Clark Graphics



Murray Hill News

Volume 6
Issue 1
Winter
2006

President's Message

By J. Gerard Capell

The Holidays are upon us. It's time to clean the house and decorate it. It's time to arrange schedules with family, friends and co-workers, and calculate how to travel from one end of the state or country to the other to visit family members, and not drive ourselves crazy.

It is also the time to give thanks for the blessings received during the year, and express thanks to those close to us for how they enrich our lives.

Often we restrict those thanks to gifts for family members we see on a regular basis, and send cards to others to indicate that they are in our minds and hearts during the holidays, with hopes of a peaceful and prosperous year ahead.

This is also the time of year that we receive mail or calls from all kinds of organizations for tax-deductible contributions. I want to offer my thanks and blessing to others and also ask something from you.

First, I want thank my fellow 2006 Board members, Jennifer Rzepka, Pam Frautschi, Richard Ippolito, David Allen, Michael Hauer, Gregory James, Marilyn Goris and John Gilligan who accomplished so much of what we set out to do, who represented you on the Board and to our elected officials, and provided guidance to me over the past year. I also want to thank Joe Duehmig, Cate Deicher, and Cynthia Sommer for agreeing to fill positions on the 2007 Board.

I want to thank Murray Hill's liaison and committee leaders; Janis Ramos (Downer Ave. Merchants), Susan McCabe (Friends of Lake Park), Jane Pelton (District 5 Crime Update), Paul Stafford (District 5 Crime Update), Cynthia Sommer (University Square Business Assoc.), and Kay Baldwin (UNA and so much more); without your invaluable time and reporting we would be deaf, blind and mute to the going-ons in the neighborhood.

I want to thank the officers at District 5, especially officers Castro and Braeger who have taken on so much of the day-to-day and night-to-night patrolling of the neighborhood and who have been so responsive to needs of the residents. A special thanks goes to Officer Bruce Scott, who is retiring this month after many years on the force and who has made communications so easy between the beat cops, the police department leadership and us.



Our new UW-M Community Liaison, Oscar Perez also deserves a heart-felt thank you for his effective and enthusiastic response to bridging the gap between the University, its students, and the neighborhood residents.

And I certainly want to thank YOU, the members and residents of Murray Hill who care enough to support our organization and make what we are trying to do worthwhile. Without your support none of these people would want to be here and do what we do.

Now comes the time for me to ask you for even more of your support. We don't need your money, nor do we need your blood or food, but we do need your participation. We have initiated the Block Captain program to monitor and communicate what is happening in the neighborhood. Your efforts can make a large impact on the neighborhood, one block at a time. See the article within the newsletter for more details. Currently we have 26 Block Captains who will make communication within and to the individual blocks more effective, and subsequently make MHNA more valuable to everyone. Please consider giving a little bit of your time to making our small corner of the world a little more peaceful, with good will for all.

J. Gerard Capell
MHNA President

MHNA Calendar of Events

MHNA Meetings are held at the Urban Ecology Center,
1500 E. Park Place at 7:00 pm. 414-964-8505
urbanecologycenter.com

Jan 23rd: The Next Two Years of the Legislature
Rep. Jon Richards

Feb 27th: The Cultural Side of UW-Milwaukee
Poly Morris, Peck School of the Arts

Mar 27th: The Milwaukee River -
Our Neighbor to the West
Kim Gleffe, River Revitalization Fund

Watch the web site for detailed information on
upcoming meetings: www.murrayhillna.org

Status Update on Threatened Kenwood Blvd. Bungalows

By Pam Frautschi

Carlen Hatala of Milwaukee's Historic Preservation Commission compiled an excellent report on the historic preservation qualifications of 2005 and 2009 E. Kenwood Boulevard. They are among six houses built by Louis Auer & Sons in that block. Hillel and the Jewish Federation bought these properties with plans to raze and replace them with an office and meeting building for Hillel Jewish students. Upon initial notice of this plan, MHNA opposed it last June. The current Hillel student house in the 3000 block of N. Stowell has been a good neighbor there for decades. Alderman D'Amato opposes Hillel's current plan and also recommended alternatives.



Neighbor Robin Van Harpen, who initiated the preservation request, and many MHNA members appeared at the initial October hearing in support of saving the properties. The Hillel/Federation group requested and was granted a two-week period to reconsider their plans. That meeting has been further postponed until Monday, December 11, 3 p.m. at City Hall room 301A. MHNA encourages your attendance at that meeting to oppose the razing and to support historic preservation status of the properties.

A recent Jewish Chronicle article disclosed that the Federation had considered and rejected over a dozen other properties in the UWM area. Ian Martin, Real Estate attorney at Godfrey & Kahn, represents Hillel in this issue. Attorney Stephen L Chernof who

requested the postponement is the Federation's Co-Chair of Community Capital Campaign Steering Committee.

University Square (Oakland/Locust Area) Update

Demolition of the old Sentry on Oakland is beginning, with construction for the new Walgreen's building to follow. It is expected to be completed by spring or summer 2007.

Milwaukee's DCD has given tentative support and has matching project money for University Square's Streetscape proposal which includes extending the sidewalk out five feet into Oakland Avenue between Geneva and Linnwood, to accommodate cafe chairs and tables, and make the area more pedestrian friendly. Consideration is being given to alternative routes of the bicycle path in that segment. It's likely that the Streetscape plan would not be done until 2008.

A \$6,000 budget was approved for Holiday Lights for the University Square area. These businesses are also concerned

about potential costs for sidewalk and curb snow removal should heavy storms occur this winter. Downer Avenue sustained a one-time cost of \$10,000 after a heavy storm last year. Graffiti and trash removal continue to affect portions of their budget.

Raymond L. Robakowski was introduced as 5th District Community Liaison officer. He can be reached at 414-935-7258 or e-mailed at rrobak@milwaukee.gov. Armed robberies were experienced this fall at Walgreen's, George Webb's and a delivery truck for Oakland Gyros. The person who attempted armed robbery of a plain clothes officer by the Laundromat on Locust was arrested. University Square and the police are working with UWM intern, Anna Blooma, who is going door to door to emphasize crime prevention.

You can also obtain a copy of the City of Milwaukee DCD handout, "How to Organize Historic Preservation Research" at www.mkedcd.org/planning/historic/plghow.html.

More areas of Murray Hill would benefit from the protection of historic preservation designation. Let us know of your interest in serving on a committee for this purpose. To search Wisconsin Architecture and History Inventory go to www.wisconsinhistory.org/ahi/ and click the Search option to choose Milwaukee. On the subsequent page choose City of Milwaukee, and continue following directions.

Downer Avenue Business Improvement District

At the last Downer Avenue Merchants' meeting Mr. Boris Gokhman of New Land Enterprises (NLE) presented the preliminary master plan for Downer Avenue, including his revised design for the proposed high-rise condominium at Stowell and Webster.

The design for the condominium now has nine stories with fewer but larger units at a higher cost per square foot, and one parking space per bedroom. They also propose to increase the setback along the streets, and are still setting back the upper two floors to reduce the building's apparent mass.

Of greater import is the proposed master plan for most of Downer Avenue. New Land Enterprises is looking at developing the parking lot at Bellevue and Downer by having underground and elevated parking for 60 vehicles and ground floor retail, including Associated Bank, which will move from its current location.

The existing, mostly vacant, space above the current Associated Bank, Downer Avenue Liquors, Breadsmith, the recently relocated Optix, and others will be converted into medical office space for a plastic surgery group. The space vacated by Associated Bank will become a spa and recovery facility for the patients of the plastic surgery center.

NLE is also proposing to re-pave the sidewalks along Downer Avenue in a simulated brick or stone pattern, and upgrade other street accessories.

We welcome our new neighborhood café, Café Hollander, which has renovated the former spaces for Gil's Cafe and Optix, and will offer an "affordable, approachable and casual" breakfast, lunch and dinner, including Sunday brunches, as well as a full bar (as reported by owner Mike Eitel and OnMilwaukee.com's Andy Tarnoff).

There are definitely lots of changes in the wind for Downer Avenue, and we all hope that these changes will lead to a more vibrant neighborhood from which we can all benefit.

Residential Parking Gets the Boot

Just as scofflaw parkers in Chicago get "The Boot" attached to their cars to disable them from being driven, the Residential Preferred Parking program was disabled by the Public Safety Committee on a three-to-two vote November 22nd. Alderman D'Amato presented a well-outlined history and detailed implementation plan for the program. The RPP has the support of all of the neighborhood associations, UW-M, the Department of Public Works, the Milwaukee County Transit Authority, University Square Business District, and has been approved in concept by the State Legislature and the Governor in their enacting legislation. Against it is the UW-M Student Association.

**Call to Action
We Need Your Help!**
**Please pick up the
phone and call
today!**

The students actively lobbied the aldermen to not support this long-desired effort to provide greater access to convenient on-street parking for neighborhood residents (property owners and students alike). Aldermen Puente, McGee and Zielinski were the three opposing votes; supporting were Aldermen Donovan and Witkowski. Most of the public testimony and discussion centered on UW-M's cost for parking, the reduction of county satellite parking lots, and the reduction and cutting of county bus routes, none of which are controlled by the Common Council, and therefore can not be directly affected by passing the RPP.

Alderman D'Amato will present the RPP to the full Council on December 12th, but has identified only five of the minimum eight votes required. We need to write and call to convince Council members that they should support this proposal, as do all of the organizations. The SA's primary complaint is that they can not afford parking at 70 cents per hour, and have a right to free public parking at the expense of the neighborhood residents. This is a constituency which has no long-term relationship with the neighborhood, and many of whom are not even citizens of the City of Milwaukee.

In an e-mail, Alderman D'Amato asked that we call or send e-mails to thank the Aldermen who supported the RPP: Robert Donovan (286-3533) and Terry Witkowski (286-8537), Public Safety Committee members, and Robert Bauman, who spoke in favor at the meeting (286-2886). We should also contact other members of the Council to request their support:

Ald. Ashanti Hamilton
1st District: 286-2228

Ald. Joe Davis, Sr.
2nd District: 286-3787

Ald. Jim Bohl
5th District: 286-3870

Ald. Mike McGee, Jr.
voted against at committee
6th District: 286-2994

Ald. Willie C. Wade
7th District: 286-2863

Ald. Robert W. Puente
voted against at committee
9th District: 286-3767

Ald. Michael J. Murphy
10th District: 286-2074

Ald. Joe Dudzik
11th District: 286-3446

Ald. James N. Witkowiak
12th District: 286-2861

Ald. Tony Zielinski
voted against at committee
14th District: 286-3769

Ald. Willie Hines
15th District: 286-2221
Council President

UNA Update

The University Neighborhood Association is still waiting for a start of discussion with the UW regents regarding chapter 17 (off-campus student behavior). They indicated an eagerness to put this issue on a front burner over a month ago, but we have not heard anything from them yet. We will continue to press them on this very important responsibility that they have to the entire community.



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Your health means the world to us.

Join MHNA and the Block Captains' Program

By Pam Frautschi

Block Captains deliver your quarterly newsletters, convey your perspectives and concerns to our Board of Directors, and encourage MHNA membership. Many blocks in our 58 block area still need Block Captains. To become a block captain or learn who your representative is, call or e-mail Pam Frautschi, phfmke1@juno.com (that's a numeral one after phfmke), 962-1541. Join our current 26 block captains and serve as a valuable part of this communication network.

Join MHNA. Send your dues payment with the orange membership form right now while you're thinking about it. Members also receive e-mail notices of neighborhood activities, crime and safety reports, and agendas affecting us. Visit our web site at www.murrayhillna.org.