

WANTED: Murray Hill Leaders

David Allen and Michael Hauer have agreed to form the Nomination Committee for this year. As in past years we have elections of board members in October to help guide the organization and, more importantly, to serve the other roughly 220 members.

This year we have open 2-year positions for Vice President, Treasurer, Director No. 1, and Director No. 2. The board meets weeknights once a month for two hours.

If you receive a call from David or Michael, please strongly consider participating in probably the best neighborhood association in Milwaukee. The reward is not in financial terms but in knowing that you are making a difference to your family, neighbors, and the community.

If you want to nominate yourself or suggest someone to hold a board position, please contact David at David-D-Allen@wi.rr.com or Mike at mphauer@yahoo.com. All we ask is that you prepare a brief, one-page biography/ letter of intent, stating why you would be a good board member.

We are also looking for someone to attend the Crime Reduction meetings at the 5th District. This is a non-elected volunteer position, but critical to the organization for information about what is happening in the area and how we can interact with the police to help reduce crime in the neighborhood.

We can only serve you if we have dedicated volunteers willing to provide a little bit of their leadership qualities and time to make this a better neighborhood for us all.



The University Square/Oakland Ave. 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 **Oakland Trattoria, Lisa's, Bella's Fat Cat, George Webb's, Oakland Gyros, Subway, Shaharazad, Thai Kitchen, Cousin's Subs, Chin's Fresh Asian, Cold Stone Creamery and Shiraz.**

Don't forget your service and daily shopping needs can be fulfilled on your next visit to Oakland Ave. From **Clark Graphics, Atomic Records, 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!

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www.murrayhillna.org

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President's Message

by J. Gerard Capell

I hope you are having an excellent summer and have found time to enjoy some of our great festivals or State Fair these past few months. My wife and I were looking forward to attending Irish Fest, but family obligations and the weather did not cooperate.

It seems that AARP has recognized what we already know: Milwaukee is a great city in which to live. In the September-October issue of their monthly magazine, Sarah Mahoney writes that the "suburbs are boring" and more empty nesters are finding fashionable condos overlooking Lake Michigan or the river, and calling Milwaukee home. The convenience and diversity of services including restaurants, healthcare, cultural activities, and even boat slips coupled with affordable housing provides Milwaukee with a berth in the author's Top Five list. You can read the article at www.aarpmagazine.org.

The Murray Hill Neighborhood Association is doing what we can to make our corner of Milwaukee a little more livable by keeping you informed about developments. We work with the University, businesses, and City departments to resolve conflicts and "pinch points" that make the choice of living within a few blocks of a major university—with significant development pushing to change the mixed residential/commercial nature of the neighborhood—a challenge.

Some change is good and is needed to keep a neighborhood vital, especially in the commercial areas. The new Walgreens is being touted as a positive addition to the neighborhood, especially architecturally. The new Shiraz restaurant and the proposed streetscape changes on Oakland Avenue will ensure that the area will attract another generation of east-siders.

The same may be said about the changes now underway along Downer Avenue, despite the rancorous debate over building style and heights. As I walk along the street and see the people sitting outdoors at the restaurants and bars, the parade of shoppers going between stores for bread, groceries, wine and household items, and the construction underway in buildings long vacant, I realize that Downer is alive and thriving.

We are seeing refreshing action from UW-Milwaukee regarding student behavior and relationship to the neighborhood. Holding meetings and being proactive, students, landlords, property owners, and neighborhood associations share the goal of improving communications to reduce calls to the police or other City departments.

All of this relies on dedicated volunteers concerned with the community and the desire to make a difference. As in any volunteer organization, our answer to the question, "How do you eat an elephant?" is "one bite at a time!" We will have elections for new officers and board members in October; if you are asked to participate in this marvelous organization I sincerely hope you will say YES. If you can not commit to a board position, maybe you can volunteer to help on a committee or be a liaison to one of the other organizations with which we interact. In this way, we make Milwaukee and Murray Hill a great place in which to live.

Recycling Notice



Recycling bins in the area are being picked up twice a month instead of only once until November. During the months prior, residents must take their receptacles to the curb, just like the garbage cans. The Murray Hill area is divided into at least four zones, so you may need to call the Department of Public Works at (414) 286-8282 to verify pick up dates.

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 smccabe@firstweber.com



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 230
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

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

September 25

Community Policing, with
Officer Ray Robakowski from District 5

September 29

Urban Ecology Center's Fall Festival 12 to 4 pm
at their community center in Riverside Park

October 23

The Emerald Colored Threat to Our Trees, with
Randy Krous, City of Milwaukee Forestry Department

November 27

Wisconsin Corporate Tax Policy and How it Affects You,
with Jack Norman of the Institute for Wisconsin's Future

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

To our new student residents, Welcome! To our returning residents, Welcome Back!

The Murray Hill Neighborhood Association encourages you to introduce yourselves to your new neighbors and to get to know the people in your neighborhood. The East Side is a diverse and busy place to live, and the members of MHNA work hard to keep the neighborhood a wonderful place to live, work . . . and go to school!

MHNA was created to maintain and celebrate a safe, peaceful and respectful neighborhood. We collaborate with state, city, UWM leaders and other neighborhood organizations on how to address the needs of residents. We also provide opportunities to socialize and have fun.

If you live in a neighborhood with a MHNA block captain, you will receive a packet with useful information on parking, trash, litter and recycling, landlord and tenant rights and responsibilities, safety, noise violations, important phone numbers and websites for city services. If you don't receive one, send an e-mail to phfmkel@juno.com, and a packet will be delivered.

MHNA meets the 4th Tuesday of the month at the Urban Ecology Center in Riverside Park. Meetings regularly feature guests whose topics include city and state government, safety, arts and culture. Visit our website at www.murrayhillna.org to find out more about us.

We look forward to meeting and working with you, and once again, welcome to the neighborhood.

UWM Student Association C.O.A.S.T. Program

UWM Student Association is looking for student leaders to help initiate the Community Outreach and Assistance for Student Tenants (C.O.A.S.T.) program this fall. The program is a network of students living off-campus who will serve as liaisons between the university and off-campus students. The C.O.A.S.T. leaders will be students hired, trained, supported, and supervised by the Neighborhood Housing Office to serve as peer educators and as a resource for student blocks. Student civic responsibility will be promoted and supported. Leaders are needed for the following blocks: 3100-3200 N. Bartlett Ave., 2900-3000 N. Cramer Ave., 2900-3000 N. Murray Ave., 2900 N. Maryland Ave., 2800-2900 N. Farwell Ave., and 3300-3500 N. Downer Ave. Contact the UWM Neighborhood Housing Office at 414-229-6999 or housing@aux.uwm.edu for more information or to apply.

MHNA Ad Rates:

Do you want to advertise
your business or services
to others in MHNA?

- 1/8 page business card** (3.5" x 2") \$40/issue, \$35 for subsequent issues in the same year.
- 1/4 page** (3.5" x 4") \$60/issue, \$50 for subsequent issues in the same year.
- 1/2 page** (7.5" x 4.5" or 3.5" x 9.75") \$100/issue, \$90 for subsequent issues in the same year.
- Full Page Insert** (8.5" x 11") \$200/issue, \$165 for subsequent issues in the same year.
- Full Page Inserts must be supplied to MHNA already printed by the advertiser.
- Format for all ads: Print-quality (high-resolution) .pdf files are preferred.
- We can work with many other formats, please call for details: 414-559-6810

North East Side Comprehensive Plan Update

by Pam Frautschi and Gerard Capell

About 60 people attended the August 29 NorthEast Plan public meeting at UWM's School of Architecture. Janet Grau, the City's DCD Project Co-ordinator, Christine Carlyle of the Chicago consultancy firm, and Vanessa Azares presented findings from their community meetings and Plan stakeholders.

The primary concern in all five areas was crime. Four of the five areas listed Property Taxes. Area A, the northernmost section, also listed parks, affordable housing, parking and transit. Area B, including Riverwest, listed parks, jobs and absentee landlords. Our Area C, including UW-M and Murray Hill, listed student behavior and condos. Area D, southwest of us, included gentrification and density. Area E, south of us, shared the crime, condos, landlords, parking, property taxes and density concerns of the other areas.

Transportation in the entire area is one of NE Plan's focal points, and their area-wide strategies include descriptive mapping as a promotional marketing vehicle, an Adopt-a-Park program, "traffic calming" and streetscape enhancement, a community-based technical assistance program, strengthening transit, and a lighted schoolhouse program making our schools more available for community uses.

Specific goals for nine sections of the NE Plan were presented. Goals for our area include increasing home ownership through UWM's Walk to Work program, strengthening code enforcement and nuisance control measures, and working with the University to extend Chapter 17.

NE Plan's next community meeting is on October 7. For more details of the NE Plan's progress, check the website at www.mkedcd.org and go to "Planning".

Weekend Noise Guide

As another fall season begins, parties begin to proliferate in Murray Hill. This Guide tells you how to deal with noise. We have help in the form of Oscar Perez of UWM Neighborhood Relations and extra Milwaukee Police patrols funded by a grant from UWM.

On August 16th, Oscar again started his weekend (Thursday/Friday/Saturday) Team Approach patrols. If you were not able to participate last season, you may want to try this year. From 11 pm to 3 am, Oscar patrols the neighborhood in a UWM van, assisted by a responsible student and, often, a neighborhood organization member. It makes for a late night, but there is no better way to get a real understanding of the neighborhood at night. Those of us who participated in the past recommend it. These patrols will continue through October. Contact Oscar Perez (229-4451, oop@uwm.edu) if you want to give it a try.

The extra police patrols begin August 30, and continue for seven weeks. They will allow faster response to complaints, and we hope shut trouble down quickly.

MHNA asks that you do the following when you are affected by party noise:

- 1)** Identify the address involved. This may mean getting up and walking about, but it is important that the location be accurately identified.
 - 2)** Call the police department and register a complaint. Use the non-emergency number: 414-933-4444. Tell them exactly where the problem is. You may remain anonymous if you choose, but it is more effective if you identify yourself, provide your phone number and address, and use the "magic words": "I want a citation issued". Often the police arrive too late to witness the problem themselves. If you are willing to be a "complaining witness", they will issue citations anyway. You may even make your complaint a day or two after the event. For example, calls can be made to the police station on Monday for a violation on Saturday.
 - 3)** Make notes and save them. Record the time you made the complaint, whether you went outside to identify the property, how long the noise problem had been going on, and any other pertinent facts. If citations are issued and you are the complaining witness, there is a chance that the recipient of the citation will contest it. Your notes will make a difference, since these hearings occur months after the actual event. The more specific your notes are, the better. For example: "a blond, tall skinny young man was giving out cups after receiving something in his left hand (selling cups)" or "five guys on the porch yelling back and forth to those on the street".
- Those of us who have gone through this process have usually been satisfied with the outcome.

- 4)** Call, or better yet, send an email about the problem. An email is best because it delivers the message to all concerned and also creates a record. Make sure to copy all of the following people:

- **Officer Ray Robakowski**
Milwaukee Police Neighborhood Liaison Officer:
rrobak@milwaukee.gov, 935-7258
- **Oscar Perez**
UWM Neighborhood Relations Liaison:
oop@uwm.edu, 229-4451
- **Alderman Mike D'Amato**
mdamat@milwaukee.gov, 286-2221
- **Marty Collins**
Dept. of Neighborhood Services: mcolli@milwaukee.gov
- **Kay Baldwin**
MHNA representative to University Neighborhood Association:
kathleen1@wi.rr.com
Kay gathers complaint information to be presented to state legislators, the Mayor's office, Board of Regents, etc.

- 5)** Contact the property owner. You can look up property information on the City's web site at <http://www.city.milwaukee.gov>. There is a "Get Property Information" button on the left side of the home page. You may also use the City's "Map Milwaukee" site to find property information: <http://www.city.milwaukee.gov/display/router.asp?docid=3480>. If the site is not working or you find it difficult to use, send an email to Greg James gjames@gjd.com and he'll look up the information for you.
- 6)** If you feel that your call has not been taken seriously, Captain Anthony Smith, MPD District 5 Captain, asks that he or the Lieutenant in charge be called at the 5th MPD district: 935-7250.

If we all respond quickly and firmly, we should sleep easier this fall.

City of Milwaukee Raises Fines on Unlicensed Rooming Houses

by Marty Collins, Commissioner,
Department of Neighborhood Services

For many years, the City of Milwaukee has had a code limiting occupancy in a dwelling unit to not more than three unrelated adults. The Department of Neighborhood Services (DNS) is able to use undercover efforts to conduct sting operations on landlords who offer to rent in violation of the code without a rooming house license. The problem has been that the minimum fine was only \$150.

Alderman D'Amato sponsored a code change that raises the minimum in these cases to \$2,500. It will be less financially attractive to violate this code in the future.

UWM Community Alcohol Task Force

by Cynthia Sommer

A new community subcommittee of the UWM Alcohol and Other Drug Abuse (AODA) task force was convened on August 8, 2007 to generate suggestions on how to change the culture of drinking on the UWM campus. As MHNA representative, I was informed of the educational and intervention programs on the UWM campus to reduce high-risk drinking and associated serious consequences (e.g., date rape, drunk driving, property damage, personal injury).

The Center for Disease Control recently reported that Wisconsin is **number one** in prevalence of binge and heavy drinking among adults. Binge drinking is defined as five or more drinks on one occasion for men, and four or more for women. This public health problem is combined on the college campus with new freedoms and the perception by some students that drinking should be a part of the "university experience". A survey of all UW-System campuses concluded that off-campus house parties are the major problem regarding alcohol abuse. A proposed 3-in-1 intervention framework composed of the student at risk, the general student population, and the community, is the suggested approach to reinforce a change in the culture of alcohol use. The message is to "drink responsibly".

UWM has education, intervention and referral programs to reduce high risk drinking by students. Information is distributed in residence halls, on campus bulletin boards, during Alcohol Awareness week, and at special events to increase awareness of alcohol leading to date rape and drunk driving. Residence hall assistants are trained to recognize the signs and symptoms of alcohol poisoning and high risk alcohol behavior. A Wisconsin DOT grant supports a "Virtual House Party", where the serious consequences of high risk drinking are presented. The safe-ride program helps deter students from driving under the influence of alcohol, in addition to decreasing the risk of assault and other crimes. Alcohol-free activities are sponsored on weekend nights in the residence halls each semester. The Dean of Students also meets with students cited for house parties serving alcohol.

As the new semester develops, we need to do what we can to change the culture of drinking on and around the campus. Start by getting to know students who live on your block. If alcohol abuse problems do occur, report underage drinking, illegal taverns, providing alcohol to a minor, and excessive noise to police, and inform landlords about problems in their rental property. We want a community where people care about and are accountable to each other.

For more information on the general issues go to: www.collegedrinkingprevention.gov/.

Hazardous Waste Collection

As we do our fall clean-up of basements and garages, there are local opportunities to dispose of hazardous waste through the Milwaukee Metropolitan Sewage District (MMSD). Two mobile collection sites will be open to all Milwaukee County residents: at Whitefish Bay Cahill Square, 1001 East Fairmount on Saturday, September 29th from 8 am- 2pm, and at State Fair Park (gate 8) off South 76th Street on Friday, October 12th from 11 am - 6pm and Saturday, October 13 from 8 am - 2 pm. For more information on the schedule or what you can or cannot bring, contact the MMSD at 414 225-2066 or visit www.mmsd.com.

Hillel Who, What, When?

by Gerard Capell, MHNA President

For a significant neighborhood proposal that caused a lot of commotion last winter, it has been very quiet of late. Early in August the Zoning, Neighborhoods and Development Committee approved the transfer of land between Stowell and Prospect to accommodate the parcel sale from UW-M to the Jewish Federation. The Federation representative indicates that the design process is still in the early stages with nothing to share with the neighbors yet.

However, contrary to earlier reports that there was no or very limited concern about the new proposed Hillel House to be located on Stowell behind the Helene Zelazo Center for the Arts, it seems that several neighbors have serious concerns and are receiving very little information from the Federation on the new proposal. They all agree that the Hillel House is a great neighbor with minimum impact on the neighborhood. However, questions about what will happen to the existing building, the impact of losing parking behind the Zelazo Center, and the infill of what seems to be a very large facility, must be addressed.

MHNA will keep you posted on further developments and do what we can to make sure that the final project is a benefit to the neighborhood.

UNA Report

by Kay Baldwin, MHNA UNA Representative

Chapter 17/18: The committee is still undergoing revisions of Chapter 17, with Chapter 18 to follow. The committee hopes to be ready for public input sometime in the fall of 2007. Revisions will then be presented to the Regents, possibly in January, 2008, and public hearings will then be conducted by a Regent's committee. Following a decision by the Regents, any revisions will need ratification by the State legislators. The time line could be up to two years.

Safety on and around campus: Following the Virginia Tech killings, UWM is working on a campus safety notification program. UNA representatives strongly urge an open communication crime announcement program between the neighborhood associations and UWM, similar to one presently used with students.

UWM cannot give an enrollment figure at this time due to lack of a state budget and thus student loan availability.

The UWM Walk-to-Work program will finally be initiated in October, 2007. UNA presented the Select Milwaukee program to UWM back in 2002. This will assist faculty and staff in purchasing housing near campus.

Transportation: UWM's car-sharing program (operated by Flexcar) was kicked-off Sept. 7. This site explains how car-sharing works:

www.flexcar.com/Default.aspx?tabid=158

Cars (including hybrids) will be available around UWM for students, staff, and neighbors to use. As a special introductory offer for UWM, rates will be only \$7 per hour or \$60 per day, and the first year's annual membership fee will be waived (a \$35 value) when you join Flexcar by November 28, 2007. See the site for more details!

Children and Animals

by Jill Kline, 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 with animals. Animals can be great companions for children, but the Wisconsin Humane Society would like to share the following guidelines:

Don't expect your child to take full responsibility for your pet

Your child should be encouraged to help care for an animal by doing age-appropriate tasks, but 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

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 an animal's need for space. Teach your child to treat any animal with respect. A basic knowledge of animal body language may help. Teach your child how to identify your animal's body signals, so that the child 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 for more information at (414) ANIMALS.

Pursuing Historic Preservation Status

At Murray Hill's membership meeting in May '07, Paul Jakubovich, Associate Planner of Milwaukee's Historic Preservation Commission, told us that the blocks of Stowell, Prospect and Farwell between Kenwood and Park (the 3000, 2900, 2800, 2700 blocks of Stowell, Prospect, Farwell) are among those worthy of researching. Their potential was brought to his attention by Jim Draeger, a Deputy State Historic Preservation officer. Tax credits are among the benefits for areas designated as National Register Historic Districts if the owner chooses to use the credits and registers appropriately for them.

Only local designation helps protect the owner's investment, because there are standards for all the properties within the district. Too many altered houses or buildings can remove a block from the eligible category.

Richard Ippolito, Pam Frautschi and Jean Fleet of MHNA are seeking additional volunteers to participate in preservation research under the guidance of Carlen Hatala, Senior Planner of Milwaukee's Historic Preservation Commission. The research includes house-by-house photography as well as creation of a data base of information on dates of construction, architects, sequence of owners, etc.

Contact Pam at 962-1541 or e-mail her at phfmke1@juno.com (that's a numeral one before the @) to indicate:

- 1) your interest and availability to be among the volunteers on this project,
- 2) your willingness to have your house photographed and researched.

Shiraz Open for Business on Oakland Avenue

by Mike Varney

Shiraz Restaurant has been added to Oakland Avenue's menu of world cuisine choices.

Brothers Ehsan and Mehran Edalatpour have been offering moderately priced Persian cuisine at 2921 N. Oakland Avenue since June 6. "We wanted an East Side location and knew the former owner of Lula's Café," Ehsan said. The brothers aren't new to the restaurant business, though, having previously run restaurants downtown (Sahar) and in Wauwatosa (Shiraz).

"We specialize in kabobs and stews," Ehsan said. "We have three different kinds of stew available every day." The owners are also proud of their fresh vegetarian dishes. And the falafel? "It's the best in Milwaukee," according to Ehsan.

The staff of local UWM students does an excellent job explaining what's available and what your options are at this cafeteria-style eatery. Portions are generous so come hungry.

Starting September 1, Shiraz will open daily at 6:00 a.m., offering Alterra coffee and muffins. At 10:30 a.m., their regular Persian menu takes over until 10:00 p.m. Beer and wine are available and credit cards are accepted.

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414-962-5915

Your health means the world to us.

MHNA Reactivates Committee of Landlords

MHNA encourages owners of duplexes or other buildings with rental units for students to join our Committee of Landlords. The Committee is a solution-seeking group addressing itself to solving common problems and improving conditions and relationships in the Murray Hill neighborhood. Murray Hill includes the East side of Oakland Avenue through the West side of Downer between Bradford and Kenwood, as well as the two blocks north of Kenwood at Cramer.

If you are interested in attending the Committee of Landlords meeting at 7 pm, October 1, RSVP as soon as possible to Pam at 962-1541.

Start Your Engines for RPP

On September 3rd the City will begin enforcing the long awaited Residential Parking Permit program. This took eight long years with seemingly endless meetings and discussions with UW-M, the State Legislature, and the City Council. Essentially, many of the streets around UW-M, and particularly in Murray Hill, will provide resident-only parking on one side of the street. Look for the new street signs.

To be deemed a resident you must go to District 5 Police Station (2920 N. 4th Street) with your driver's license showing that your current address is within the affected area. Two parking permits are available per household, and must be renewed annually. Additional information can be found at Alderman D'Amato's website: www.milwaukee.gov/district3.

The RPP does not guarantee that residents will be able to find a parking space in front of their home at any time of day or night, but it does improve the chances of finding one close by.

Remember When...UWM parking was plentiful?

Photo and information obtained by Cynthia Sommer

This was the sum total of automobiles used in 1913 by the faculty and students of the State Normal School of Milwaukee, which is now the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee. These six Fords, three Dodges and the custodian's riding lawn mower (in the center of the lineup) did not cause many parking problems around the early college campus. All of the drivers were men, for in the days before self-starters, it took a strong back to crank the engines into action. Included in the photo are Model T, "touring cards" which two enterprising students (Joseph Nicholson and the late Nugent Glennon) operated as "Jitney busses" on Downer Avenue. Their thriving business helped defray their school expenses. Everyone else, including the president of the faculty, Dr. C. G. Pearse, rode the trolley cars which passed the school.

Picture courtesy of Mrs. Nugent Glennon and the information courtesy of Joseph Nicholson and the Milwaukee public library's local history collection.



Murray Hill History *Did you know?*

Prospect Avenue

One of the definitions of the word prospect is a "pleasant view, especially of scenery". That was the reason that James H. Roger in 1847 gave for naming this street that was located on the bluff and gave a great view of Lake Michigan. He owned the land along Prospect Avenue from Juneau Avenue to Brady Street and west to Humboldt. Prospect Avenue was quite the place to live in the early years of Milwaukee.

Downer Avenue

Jason Downer was a lawyer, judge and philanthropist. He moved to Milwaukee in 1842 after obtaining his law degree from Dartmouth College. He was one of the original founders of the Milwaukee Sentinel and served as editor for six months before Rufus King was named editor. Downer spent most of his life as a lawyer, served as a circuit judge, and later was elected to the Wisconsin Supreme Court. He disliked judicial duties and after three years returned to private practice and business ventures. He became a wealthy man, and left the bulk of his estate to the Wisconsin Female College at Fox Lake which later combined with Milwaukee College. The College was named in his honor as Milwaukee Downer College. Several buildings of the original Downer College still stand on the UWM campus.

Cramer Street

Cramer Street was named after Eliphalet Cramer, an early Milwaukee settler. As a young man of 23, he moved to Milwaukee from Waterford, N.Y. in 1836. Cramer was a lawyer and businessman who saw the importance of infrastructure for trade. He invested first in plank roads (i.e. Watertown Plank Road) and then railroads. He was also a founder and later president of Milwaukee Gas Company and the State Bank of Wisconsin. Still standing at 514 N. Water (near Clybourn) is the second oldest known building in the historic central business district, built for Mr. Cramer in 1854. Cramer shared his wealth with various religious and educational institutions, and was a strong supporter of the anti-slavery movement.

Downer Avenue Merchants Update

by Janis Ramos, MHNA Downer Avenue Liaison

Plein Aire Event

Merchants, artists and the neighborhood agreed that this was a positive event. Of the 60 artists who participated, 40 sold their works. 30% of the proceeds go to Artists Working in Education (AWE). There will be further discussion on plans for next year.

Downer Avenue Bike Race

Despite the last-minute decision of Columbia/St. Mary's Hospital to back out of the \$6,000.00 title sponsorship, the event turned out to be a positive day for everyone. Some merchants reported that the race is not a good day for business, while others said it is. All agree that it is a good day for the neighborhood. The bike race and treasure hunt are always a huge success. There is consensus that they should begin planning the event earlier, and possibly resurrect "Downer Days" and create additional classes of racers. A committee meeting was scheduled for September 19th for all who want to participate in plans for next year.

Urban Playground

On Friday September 7th and Saturday September 8th, there will be free beer, wine and cheese tastings, live-remote from 102.1 FM, a marketplace, AWE's art truck, UEC's teepee and more. There will be music on Hackett until 9pm and at the main stage on Downer Ave. until 11pm. This should be an exciting and positive event. Fliers were distributed to merchants and neighbors. There will be street closures on Downer, Bellevue and Hackett. Businesses are encouraged to stay open late.

New Land Parking Structure and Downer Construction:

Renderings of the new parking structure were passed out. Alderman D'Amato reported that the plan went through numerous changes, with the Historic Preservation Society making it much more modern in appearance. The material used on the building is tinted green concrete. There is still no timetable for the project to begin. Work is proceeding above Schwartz Books. Doug James reports that it is very trying at times, but it has been helpful to have a good rapport with the on-site builders as issues arise.

Shorewood Pediatrics will open October 1st on Downer.

Merchants Website

Maria Costello from Cre8tive Resources (also a neighborhood resident) presented a web site proposal. The current website is outdated. The new website will have a welcome page, members page, map page, upcoming events page, links, and "buying local" page. There will be updated, rotating photos.

Milwaukee Recreation Classes

Time to stay in shape, learn a new skill and meet new people! The fall schedule of classes offered through the Milwaukee Recreation program will start soon. Most classes begin the last full week of September, but there are also single-session topics and others with two to four sessions from September through December. Riverside High School and other neighborhood sites will offer adult enrichment classes as well as youth/teen sports and activities. Aquatic classes and open lap swim are also available. You can register on site at Riverside High School or check the schedule at www.milwaukee recreation.net.

Oakland Avenue BID

by Cynthia Sommer, MHNA Oakland Avenue BID Liaison

Great!! The Oakland/Locust intersection has been paved and the potholes are gone. The white inlaid crossing tape and clean asphalt blacktop give a nice look to the intersection. The City schedule was revised and moved up due to the persistent requests of the Oakland Business owners, the voices of neighbors and the support of Alderman Mike D'Amato. The Oakland Business owners will contract and pay for the additional pedestrian crosswalks at Newberry Avenue and Linnwood Avenue. Thanks to all - we really did need this upgrade.

If you haven't had a chance to visit the new Walgreen's store, please do so. This store is one of the most attractive Walgreen's in the city with its bright interior, attractive landscaping, pedestrian benches, a wall of glass windows, a drive-through pharmacy and adequate parking. The interior has an open look and expanded merchandise and food offerings. A grand opening is scheduled for the near future.

Subway's at Locust and Oakland has new owners and is reopening after remodeling this summer. Food establishments in our shopping district now include Oakland Trattoria, Lisa's, Bella's Fat Cat, George Webb's, Oakland Gyros, Shaharazad, Thai Kitchen, Cousin's Subs, Chin's Fresh Asian, Cold Stone Creamery and Shiraz.

The University Square BID is developing a streetscape plan with the City Department of Public Works, Department of City Development and elected officials. Michael Loughran of the DPW Transportation section discussed with the University Square Board some of the specifics of designing a streetscape. The Board authorized staff to begin negotiations with the City regarding financing of the project and specifics of the plan. Over the next several weeks, street plans with a variety of sidewalk widths and bump-outs will be prepared, and drawings will be presented at the next University Square BID meeting. The wider sidewalks between E. Geneva Place and E. Linnwood should allow pedestrian access, outdoor dining and beautification of the shopping district. Bump-outs are not allowed at bus stops and at some intersections to provide for left turn lanes and the turning of large vehicles. Oakland Avenue below E. Geneva Place and above E. Linnwood Avenue is 50 feet from curb to curb, while Brady Street is 40 feet wide. At the Locust intersection, Oakland is 60 feet wide. Changes in lighting, parking meters and signage for the area are also planned. More definite plans and budgets will be shared with neighborhood groups before proceeding.

Nearby Neighborhood Associations

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