



# Martin Drive Trolley News

SPRING 2011

## Come to the Annual Meeting Monday, May 9th

### Martin Drive Neighborhood Association Annual Meeting is Monday May 9, 2011!!

By Mary Andres

Don't miss the Martin Drive Neighborhood Association's annual meeting on Monday, May 9, from 5:45-8:00pm at the Washington Park Senior Center.

This annual get together helps us connect with our neighbors, after the winter as we turn our sights on the spring and summer events in our neighborhood.

We will begin the meeting at 5:45pm with a light supper, and we are asking that any neighbors, who are able to do so, please bring a small dessert or fruit to share.

Our agenda includes a special focus on neighborhood wide flowers, order forms will be available, and the plan for our shared neighborhood garden. Energy saving information, door prizes and a special guest, our City Alderman, Michael Murphy, will all be part of this meeting.

So don't be a stranger. Grab your neighbor and come on over to the Annual Meeting!  
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### Martin Drive Website is New & Beautiful

By Raymond Duncan

We have a wonderful website for our Martin Drive Neighborhood. You can find it on Google or by typing [www.martin-drive.org](http://www.martin-drive.org)

Last summer I took on the project of redesigning the website which costs the association about \$6 monthly for hosting the site and this price is locked for 5 years.

Some cool features include: When someone advertises a rental on Craigslist and uses "Martin Drive" in the listing, it links to our website. Properties for sale will also link to the site. Get information on how to be involved or see updated pictures of events in the neighborhood and stay up to date with our calendar listing events not to be missed. There are links to report potholes, get garbage and recycling pickup dates, and get information about elected officials and city services. There is also a link to the Me<sup>2</sup> project to save money and make your home more energy efficient.

Make the website your homepage. I will continue to update it with pictures, new events and information. If you have ideas, email me at [raymond.duncan@gmail.com](mailto:raymond.duncan@gmail.com)

### Message About the Milwaukee Healthy Neighborhoods Initiative

By Pat Mueller

As I write this in late March, I'm excited to see even brown grass emerging on formerly snow covered lawns. Spring is my favorite season.

It's a great time to think about our neighborhood mission. How can we re-commit to the mission through our programs and events?

*The mission of the Martin Drive Neighborhood Association, through programs and projects, will embrace and foster a sense of belonging and common purpose, resulting in a neighborhood that is beautiful, diverse, secure, and fun for everyone!*

This newsletter should offer many ideas. Start by reading it and keeping it on hand for future reference. Look at our website. Come to the meetings and see what sparks your interest and how you might participate. There is something for everyone!

An abundance of foreclosed homes on the market and the cautiousness of banks to lend have slowed the sale of homes. Our neighborhood is faring well with some investor homes being turned over to owner-occupants and some new homeowners making significant improvements to their homes, thus enhancing the appearance of the neighborhood. We need to continue that trend and showcase what a great neighborhood this is through projects like Bloom & Groom and



### One of Own on American Idol

By Sharon Williams

Naima Adedapo, who grew up on 42nd Street, has been a contestant on the recent edition of the American Idol television show. Her mother, Adekola Adedapo, and her aunt, Sharon Williams, still live in the Martin Drive area and are active in our Neighborhood Association.

Naima made it to the top ten and will be part of the Idol nationwide tour this summer. She made important contacts through IDOL and will probably be getting a recording contract. I'll put the schedule of her future gigs on the Martin Drive list serve for those interested. Her local reggae band is R.A.S. Movement. Look for them at Summerfest. Thanks to all of you who took time to vote.

The Martin Drive Neighborhood is grateful to have been selected to participate in the Milwaukee Healthy Neighborhood Initiative and to receive funding through the City of Milwaukee, NIDC and Greater Milwaukee Foundation to support our projects and activities.



Greater Milwaukee  
Foundation



## Involvement

By Raymond Duncan

The Martin Drive Neighborhood Association meets at the Washington Park Senior Center, 4420 W. Vliet Street, but in alternate months -- at 6:30 p.m. on the second Monday of the month in January, March, May, July, September, and November.

The group met in Maggie and Tom Blaha's basement for years, then had monthly meeting at the Washington Park Senior Center. With all the work that neighbors have done over many years the association no longer needs a meeting every month. Several committees within the Martin Drive neighborhood association continue to meet monthly to carry on the work of projects and events.

Come to a meeting and become involved in your neighborhood. If you are not able to attend the meeting but want to be involved in another way, I suggest e-mailing me at [raymond.duncan@gmail.com](mailto:raymond.duncan@gmail.com) or giving me a call at 414-294-3828. I can help you find a job that will make our neighborhood better.

## Martin Drive Community Garden

By Steve Falsetti

The summer of 2011 marks the third year of the Martin Drive Community Garden located at the green space on the corner of 46<sup>th</sup> and Vliet Streets. During the past two years neighbors, volunteers, and friends have helped beautify the green space and, as a community, we have transformed the garden into a neighborhood meeting place.



This year the garden is home to 8 raised flower and vegetable beds and 2 composters. A lot of the hard work was completed over the last 2 years and this year we hope and encourage neighbors to get involved in the growing process. There are 4 vegetable beds that are open for Martin Drive Neighborhood residents to adopt for the summer. Please contact [stevefalsetti@hotmail.com](mailto:stevefalsetti@hotmail.com) if you are interested in growing your own vegetables this summer -- both plants and assistance will be provided to those who are interested.

Additionally, we have discussed growing fruit plants, such as strawberries and raspberries, along the fence. The hope is that eventually the Community Pies Organization will be able to use the fruit for the pies they bake and sell to help support charitable causes. We are also calling local artists to help us with an art project by creating paintings to hang in a gallery on the chain link fence.

Currently I am growing plants for the garden from seed and I hope to have a large variety of vegetable and flower plants for our garden. Please contact Steve Falsetti if you are interested in collaborating on the garden this summer. I look forward to meeting new neighbors and working to create an even more beautiful community garden. <

## A History of Washington Park, Part Three of a Three Part Series — Present Day Washington Park

By Steve Falsetti

Since it opened to the public in the 1800s, live music has been a constant in Washington Park. After the Milwaukee County Zoo relocated from Washington Park to its current location in 1958, the weekly live music series have continued throughout the 1970s, 80s and 90s. Currently, the Washington Park Concert Series<sup>®</sup> continues the tradition of local, live music during the summer under the cover of the Blatz Bandshell.

Some of the Washington Park Zoo buildings were reused and relaunched as new, neighborhood meeting places. The Washington Park Senior Center is located in a building that previously housed the zoo's buffalo and was known as the buffalo pen.<sup>®</sup> The senior center, on the south side of the park (at 4420 West Vliet Street), has provided neighbors of age 50 and over with a place to meet, eat and pursue hobbies such as woodworking, gardening and tinkering with computers.

In 2007, the park welcomed the opening of Milwaukee's second Urban Ecology Center (UEC) a satellite center<sup>®</sup> - in the Community Building, alongside the park's large lagoon (at 1859 North. 40th Street). In four short years, the employees, members and volunteers at the UEC have totally transformed the north end of Washington Park. In addition to creating a well-kept, beautiful green space, vegetable gardens and a welcoming environment, the UEC also rents equipment to neighbors such as snowshoes and canoes. The UEC also offers interesting classes in gardening and more.

From its unveiling as West Park in 1895 until today, Washington Park remains an enormous, tranquil space with diverse expanses to enjoy. As the weather warms up this spring, make sure you explore Washington Park and find your favorite part of the park.



## Crime and Safety

By Raymond Duncan

In the Martin Drive Neighborhood, we are concerned about daytime burglaries even though burglaries have been few in number. One burglary is one too many. Being on the watch for anything suspicious can help save a neighbor a lot of trouble. What we do when we look out for each other is working. Several neighborhoods near ours have lower or no participation at the Community Networking Meeting the last Thursday of the month at 6:30 p.m. at the District 3 Police Station. The work that Eric Penebaker, Pat Mueller and myself is greater than nearby neighborhoods that have many more residents. You are welcome to join us for these monthly meetings. There are many tips and the meetings are of value.

The Milwaukee Police have a lot of stuff and they have no hope of returning because they can't identify it. Take a picture of the serial numbers on the back of your electronics and e-mail the pictures to yourself. Use your cell phone camera, or borrow one from a neighbor or a friend. Need help, E-mail me at [raymond.duncan@gmail.com](mailto:raymond.duncan@gmail.com) or call me at 414-294-3828. You can also get a free home security inspection by contacting:

PO Derrick Lemmie, 3rd District Community Liaison Officer  
phone: 414-935-7238

e-mail: [Djlemm@Milwaukee.gov](mailto:Djlemm@Milwaukee.gov)

# Earth Day Festival At Washington Park

By Jodee Benavides



On Saturday, **April 30 from 12–4 p.m.**, the Urban Ecology Center (UEC) at Washington Park will host an Earth Day celebration that promotes community-based earth-friendly lifestyle practices through fun, family-based programming. The Earth Day Celebration at Washington Park provides opportunity for neighboring communities to share a day filled with fun and education centered on themes of energy efficiency throughout the home, growing your own food, and making a difference through water conservation.

Willie Karidis, the new UEC branch manager, states "We love the communities that surround Washington Park and value connecting people to nature through our unique environmental educational programming."

Several organizations who lead the Green Movement in Milwaukee will be present to provide information about their respective missions. Some of these organizations are Victory Gardens, Transition Milwaukee, Outpost, and Four Corners of the World Fair Trade Store.

The Earth Day celebration is open to the public and will feature live music from local bands, food from some of Milwaukee's best known street vendors, and numerous activities such as screen printing on T-shirts and a kickball tournament. All activities are free of charge.

Thanks to a generous local donor, anyone who purchases a new membership with the Urban Ecology Center will receive a free 5'–6' plum, peach, cherry or apricot tree. In addition a special raffle will be held to start your own orchard. For \$1, you can buy a chance to win 5 fruit trees to plant in your yard or give away to friends. We hope to see you there!<>

## WHAT IS SUSPICIOUS?

*By Milwaukee Police Officer, Joseph Duncan*

Many times, we have that voice in our head, that some event or activity is out of the ordinary. The voice that keeps us and 'everyone' safe. Don't worry about bothering the police. Don't worry about being embarrassed if your suspicious activity proves unfounded. The following are a list of specific events that the police want to hear from you:

### Going Door to Door In a Residential Area

Especially suspicious if after a few houses are visited, and one or more of the persons goes to a back or side yard. This is even more suspicious if another person remains out front. This could mean that the person is casing for a house to burglarize, or there is a burglary in progress, trespassing, or soliciting. Solicitors must register with police before conducting door-to-door sales.

### Waiting In Front of a House or Business.

This is particularly suspicious if owners are away, or the establishment is closed. This could mean that a burglary in progress.

### Forcing Entrance To or Tampering with a Residence or Vehicle

This is suspicious and could mean that burglary, theft, damage to property, or trespassing is in progress.

### Non-Resident Going Into the Back or Side Yard of a House

This is suspicious under most circumstances. It could mean that burglary or trespassing is in progress.

### Carrying Property

This is suspicious depending upon the circumstances -- if it occurs at an unusual hour or in an unusual location or if the property is packaged as if just purchased. It could mean that the person is leaving the scene of a burglary, robbery, or theft.

### Heavy Human Traffic To and From a Certain Residence

This is suspicious if it occurs on daily or regular basis, especially during the late or unusual hours. It could mean vice, drug, or fencing operations.

### Parked, Occupied Vehicles

These vehicles may be considered suspicious when seen at unusual times and places. Be alert for occupied vehicles that may be the look out for burglaries and robberies in progress.

### Vehicles Being Loaded with Valuables

Suspicious if parked in front of a closed business or unattended residence. Even if the vehicle is a legitimate looking commercial unit, bearing signs identifying it as a repair vehicle or moving van. This might be a burglary or theft in progress.

### Abandoned Vehicles

Report vehicles that have been parked in the same spot for long periods of time. They may be stolen.

### Open or Broken Doors or Windows

At a closed business or a residence whose owners may be away. It might mean a burglary in progress or a completed burglary. You don't have to be the owner to call.

If it's suspicious, call the police. It could save a life, prevent an injury, or stop a criminal act and help affect an arrest. Don't worry about bothering the police. That's why they exist.

**FOR EMERGENCY POLICE SERVICE call 911**

**THE MILWAUKEE POLICE NON-EMERGENCY TELEPHONE is 933-4444**

**Block Reps Are Crucial**, *By Sharon Williams*

The Martin Drive Neighborhood Association has three committees that report at the bi-monthly neighborhood meetings at Washington Park Senior Center. These Committees are Projects & Planning, Business & Finance, and the Block Rep Committees. The Block Reps Committee is made up of one or two neighbors from each block who are **key communicators of the Association**. They are neighbors who deliver information about the MDNA projects and meetings to your door. Block Reps can help you communicate with the Association, problem solve neighborhood concerns and help you contact governmental departments about property and governmental services.

**Block Reps don't stand alone.** They receive support from each other, have a variety of resources and learn problem solving techniques at the quarterly Block Reps meetings. Being a Block Rep is a fun way to get to know your "block" neighbors.

**Block Reps play a crucial role in the success of the neighborhood association.** Get to know your "Rep" since they play a major role in the health of your street.

**ALSO...become a Block Rep.** We need help on N. 46<sup>th</sup> St. between Juneau and Martin Drive and on N. 44<sup>th</sup> St. between Vliet and Juneau and on Highland Boulevard. N. 44<sup>th</sup> Street is a long block and could use two or three neighbors acting as "Reps". If you would like more info contact Sharon Williams at 414-933-5589 or email at [MDNAREps@yahoo.com](mailto:MDNAREps@yahoo.com).

**Martin Drive Neighborhood Block Reps**

<b>Martin Drive</b>	
Sharon Williams .....	933-6800
<b>Martin Drive Apartments</b>	
Eric Pennebaker .....	313-9861
<b>McKinley Court</b>	
Mary Andres .....	344-3970
<b>42<sup>nd</sup> Street</b>	
Betty & Al Siemsen .....	344-3846
<b>43<sup>rd</sup> Street (Juneau to Vliet)</b>	
Raymond Duncan .....	294-3828
Vicki Provencher .....	828-8250
<b>43<sup>rd</sup> Street (Martin to Juneau)</b>	
Amy Peterson .....	750-1005
<b>44<sup>th</sup> Street (Juneau to Vliet)</b>	
.....	Volunteer Needed
<b>44<sup>th</sup> Street (Martin to Juneau)</b>	
Linda & Pat Devitt .....	344-1019
<b>45<sup>th</sup> Street (Juneau to Vliet)</b>	
Rod & Sandy Washington .....	763-8848
Maggie & Tom Blaha .....	344-0688
<b>45<sup>th</sup> Street (Martin to Juneau)</b>	
Kathy McCauley .....	517-9797
Tom Gillard .....	688-3185
<b>46<sup>th</sup> Street (Juneau to Vliet)</b>	
Steve Falsetti .....	608-443-9337
<b>46<sup>th</sup> Street (Martin to Juneau)</b>	
.....	Volunteer needed
<b>46<sup>th</sup> Street (Martin to State)</b>	
Bonnie Morscher .....	339-0731

**Some Upcoming 2011 Events in Martin Drive Neighborhood**

June 4	Bloom & Groom Planting/Curb Appeal Project
June 19	Farmers Market begins every Sunday
June 25	District Block Watch Picnic @ Washington Park
July 11	MDNA Neighborhood Meeting
July 30	MDNA Summer Sizzle Party @ Community Garden
Wed. evenings July & August	6:30 pm Concerts at the Shell
August 3	Neighborhood Police Walk

There are many working committees in Martin Drive. Each neighborhood committee has their own email group and you can communicate with them at the addresses below:

**Projects and Programming:** [MDNAPandP@yahoogroups.com](mailto:MDNAPandP@yahoogroups.com)

**Block Representatives:** [MDNAREps@yahoogroups.com](mailto:MDNAREps@yahoogroups.com)

**Newsletter Committee:** [MDNANewsletter@yahoogroups.com](mailto:MDNANewsletter@yahoogroups.com)

**Summer Picnic Event:** [MDNAPicnic@yahoogroups.com](mailto:MDNAPicnic@yahoogroups.com)

**Garden Committee:** [MDNAGarden@yahoogroups.com](mailto:MDNAGarden@yahoogroups.com)

**Programs Available to Martin Drive Neighbors**  
**Are you afraid of losing your home?**

You are not alone. Attend free workshops to learn your options and timeline for a positive outcome. Home Preservations Specialists are available to help you navigate this difficult subject. Confidential and trustworthy services.

**Contact Iris Gonzalez at Select Milwaukee 414-562-5070**

**Would you like to make your home more energy efficient?**

**Single Family Home** – Me<sup>2</sup> Can Help You  
Energy audit with recommendations to help save big \$'s.  
Certified, qualified Contractors.  
Financing Options  
See details in attached flier in newsletter.

**Duplex** – Up to 8 Multi Unit Building  
Focus on Energy is available to help you.  
See Details in attached flier in newsletter.

**Have you experienced an expensive necessary home repair project you don't have the funds to pay for?**

Homeowners Emergency Loan Program (HELP) can help.  
Loans from \$1,000 to \$7,500 available for up to 5 years.  
Monthly payments are \$50  
Income range is 80% of Area Median Income as of Dec. 2009

**Contact 286-5608**

**Are you disabled, low income or a senior struggling to stay in your home and make repairs?**

Rebuilding Together Greater Milwaukee is equipped to put together many services to help...from referral and completion of home repairs, senior dining site, and many other referral services to your safety, security and independence.

**Contact 414-312-7531 or 414-319-9828**

# Bloom and Groom

By Pat Mueller

On Saturday, June 4<sup>th</sup>, MDNA will be taking advantage of huge discounts on annual and perennial plants. All nine Milwaukee Healthy Neighborhoods will participate in the event. The buying power of the Healthy Neighborhoods Group makes it possible to offers astounding savings and is sure to put flower power on the Martin Drive map.

Just like last year's Blooming Blocks, we are encouraging neighbors to plant "front and center" (in the tree lawns – the area between the curb and sidewalk) where everyone can enjoy the plants.

Come to the annual meeting on May 9<sup>th</sup> and sign up to purchase the plants. Plants can be picked up on June 4<sup>th</sup> between 10:00 a.m. and noon at 3700 W. Vliet Street, a new pop-up park designed to add curb appeal to Vliet Street.

The plants are discounted more than 50% off what you would pay in a store. You can purchase quart containers of perennials for \$1 and large gallon size perennial plants for \$2. There will also be an assortment of annual flowers available for \$4 per flat or \$2 per half flat.

You can host a planting party on your block, or host a healthy competition between blocks to see who can achieve the most curb appeal. We can also provide tools if needed. Advice and instructions are free. Later on June 4<sup>th</sup>, there will be grilled food and beverage for those who want to share stories of the curb appeal and new friendships forged while you Bloom and Groom your block.

## Plants Available for Purchase:

### Perennial Plant Name

*Quart Size \$1, Gallon Size \$2*

- Rudebeckia
- Geranium
- Purple Coneflower
- Sedum 'Autumn Joy'
- Daylily 'Happy Returns'
- Hosta 'Golden Tiara'

### Annual Plants Name

*½ Flat \$2 or Full Flat \$4*

- Alyssum
- Cosmos
- Impatiens
- Petunia
- Zinnia – mixed color

## Bloom & Groom

Curb Appeal & Planting  
Project

Saturday, June 4, 2011  
10 a.m. – Noon

Come to 3700 W. Vliet Street @  
new pop up park to pick up your  
plants

Preorder your plants through the  
Block Reps or at the Annual  
Meeting May 9<sup>th</sup>. Pick up plants  
on June 4<sup>th</sup>.  
½ DOWN PAID WITH ORDER

**VOLUNTEERS NEEDED** between 9am and noon on June 4<sup>th</sup>

to help with set-up, flower distribution and sales.

PLEASE VOLUNTEER.

Call Pat @ 933-5589 to schedule a time to help.

**Flower orders are on a first come first serve basis until the inventory runs out. We reserve the right to limit the numbers sold to an individual if demand requires. It is our desire to spread the flowers as far as possible thru Martin Drive.**

Thank you to the City of Milwaukee NIDC  
Healthy Neighborhoods Initiative  
and the Greater Milwaukee Foundation.





# Bloom and Groom Order Sheet

*Annuals and Perennial Plants at Insanely Low Prices! Order Now, these will Sell Out Fast!*

*All Orders Must be Accompanied with at least One-Half Down Payment. Flowers available for pick-up June 4, 2011.*

*In the event orders exceed available plantings, MDNA reserves the right to limit the number of plants per household.*

*Perennials in two sizes. Quart size \$1 Gallon Size \$2 Choose from these lovelies:*



*Rudbeckia*

*Geranium*

*Purple Coneflower*

*Sedum Autumn Joy*

*Daylily Happy Returns*

*Hosta Golden Tiara*

	<b>Rudbeckia</b>	<b>Geranium</b>	<b>Coneflower</b>	<b>Sedum</b>	<b>Daylily</b>	<b>Hosta</b>
Quart						
Gallon						

*Annuals in two sizes. Half Flat \$2 Full Flat \$4 Choose from these lovelies:*



*Alyssum*

*Cosmos*

*Impatiens*

*Petunia*

*Zinnia - Mixed Colors*

	<b>Alyssum</b>	<b>Cosmos</b>	<b>Impatiens</b>	<b>Petunia</b>	<b>Zinnia</b>
Half Flat					
Full Flat					

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Address: \_\_\_\_\_ Total \$ \_\_\_\_\_ Paid \$ \_\_\_\_\_ Due \$ \_\_\_\_\_