



# Milwaukee Neighborhood Forum

PUBLISHED BY URBAN ANTHROPOLOGY INC. "IN THE TRADITION OF JANE JACOBS" DECEMBER/JANUARY EDITION

*Milwaukee Neighborhood Forum* is a bimonthly newsletter that highlights assets, history, events, and resources for and about Milwaukee neighborhoods. Residents and neighborhood organizations are encouraged to submit press releases on their events and successful programs. See back page for details.

## December and January in-person activities in Milwaukee neighborhoods (most under \$10)

*Total of 39 events under the categories of museums, art, crafts, family, theatre, special interests, neighborhood celebrations, tours, food, farmers markets, and get moving activities*

### NEIGHBORHOOD CELEBRATIONS

*What?* CHRISTMAS IN THE WARD *When?* Fri., Dec. 3 beginning at 5:30pm *Where?* Third Ward's Catalano Square, 147 N. Broadway. *Description* Tree lighting, Santa, hot cocoa, live reindeer *Admission* Free.

*What?* WINTER WONDERLAND MINI CAMP *When?* Sat., Dec. 4 9:30 -11:30am *Where?* Bay View Community Center, 1320 E. Oklahoma Ave. *Description* Children 3-6 can learn pre-school skills through play and socialization; snacks. *Admission* Free.

*What?* TREE LIGHTING *When?* Tue., Dec. 7 6-7pm *Where?* Garden District, 3989 S. 6<sup>th</sup> St. *Description* Tree lighting, caroling, holiday food. *Admission* Free.

### ARTS, THEATRE, AND CRAFTS

*What?* WALKER'S POINT CENTER FOR THE ARTS *When?* Tue. thru Sat., 12-5pm *Where?* 839 S 5th St. *Description* Ongoing exhibitions in a community setting. <http://wpc-milwaukee.org/> *Admission* Free.

*What?* THE WAREHOUSE *When?* Fri., Oct. 15- Jan. 28 10am-4pm *Where?* 1635 W. St. Paul Ave. *Description* Jan Serr: Now

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## Internationally recognized musicians that once lived in Milwaukee neighborhoods



*Seventh of a ten-part series on Milwaukee celebrities*

### Big band leader in the Harambee neighborhood

Woody Herman (1913-1987) was a major big band leader of the late 1930s and the 1940s. His band recorded hits such as "Wood-chopper's Ball." Later, recording with Columbia Records, the Woody Herman band won *Down Beat*, *Metro-*



*nome*, *Billboard*, and *Esquire* polls for best band in the big band business, all peer-nominated contests. Woody grew up on North 3<sup>rd</sup> Street in Milwaukee, the son of Otto C. Herman, a foreman for the Weldee Shoe Company, and Myrtle Bartoszewicz, a Polish immigrant from the German sector of Poland.

### Noted vocal performer/arranger from the Silver City neighborhood

Eugene Thomas Puerling (1929-2008) grew up on South 36<sup>th</sup> Street. He created and led the vocal

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# ACTIVITIES IN MILWAUKEE NEIGHBORHOODS

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& Then, Photographs of China. Dr. Curtis Carter, Dec. 2, 4pm.  
<http://wpc-milwaukee.org/> Admission Free.

*What?* UN FILM DRAMATIQUE *When?* Wed., Dec. 8 7pm  
*Where?* UWM Union Cinema, 2200 E. Kenwood Blvd., Union room 363. *Description* French film about Dora Maar school on the outskirts of Paris. *Admission* \$5, Free for UWM students

*What?* BRONZEVILLE CHRISTMAS STORY *When?* Sat., Dec. 11 2-6pm *Where?* Milwaukee Youth Art Center, 325 W. Walnut St. *Description* A new play reading of a Bronzeville family in 1959. *Admission* Free.

## MUSEUMS

*What?* ROZGA FAMILY'S OLD SOUTH SIDE SETTLEMENT MUSEUM *When?* Sun. thru Wed., 1-3pm, with reservation  
*Where?* 707 W. Lincoln Ave. *Description* Exhibits of history of Polish and Latino settlements on old South Side; miniature Polish flat for kids. *Admission* Free for groups of 2 or more with reservation made via email: [JFLanthropologist@currently.com](mailto:JFLanthropologist@currently.com)

*What?* MILWAUKEE PUBLIC MUSEUM *When?* Thu. thru Sun. 10am-5pm *Where?* 800 W. Wells Ave. *Description* Natural history collections, Streets of Old Milwaukee, much more. <http://www.mpm.edu/> *Admission* \$16-\$22.

*What?* MILWAUKEE ART MUSEUM *When?* Thu thru Sun. 10am-5pm (Thu. to 8) *Where?* 700 N. Art Museum Dr. *Description* Americans in Spain exhibit until Oct. 3; other exhibits; mask required. <https://mam.org/> *Admission* \$17-\$19 (kids 12 & under are free).

*What?* MILWAUKEE DISCOVERY WORLD *When?* Wed. thru Sun. 9am-4pm *Where?* 500 N. Harbor Dr. *Description* A science and technology center and museum. <https://www.discovery-world.org/> *Admission* \$14-\$20.

*What?* HARLEY-DAVIDSON MUSEUM *When?* Daily 10am-5pm *Where?* 400 W. Canal St. *Description* Exhibits on the history of the Harley-Davidson motorcycle. <https://www.harley-davidson.com/us/en/museum.html> *Admission* \$8-\$22 (4 or under are free).

## SPECIAL INTERESTS

*What?* BEST OF MILWAUKEE PARTY *When?* Tue., Jan. 4  
*Where?* Offices of the Shepherd Express. *Description* In person opportunity to learn the winners of the best of Milwaukee voting. *Admission* Free.

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## Happening in the Lincoln Village neighborhood



## The Rozga Family's Old South Side Settlement Museum

With neighborhood history exhibits and a Depression-era miniature Polish flat (which the kids will love)

707 W. Lincoln Avenue

# ACTIVITIES IN MILWAUKEE NEIGHBORHOODS

Continued from Page 2

## SPECTATOR SPORTS

*What?* MARQUETTE WOMEN'S BASKETBALL *When?* (regular season) *Where?* Al McGuire Center, 770 N. 12<sup>th</sup> St. *Description* Marquette University women's basketball games. <http://www.gomarquette.com/sports/w-baskbl/sched/marq-w-baskbl-sched.html> *Admission* Some tickets \$5 and \$10.

## FOR THE FAMILY

*What?* FAMILY FREE DAY AT THE ZOO *When?* Sat., Dec. 4 9:30am-4:30pm *Where?* 10001 W. Bluemound Rd. *Description* Sponsored by North Shore Bank and Fox 6. *Admission* Free.

*What?* FAMILY FUN NIGHT ICE SKATING *When?* Thu., Dec. 2 6-7:30pm *Where?* Petit National Ice Center, 500 S. 84<sup>th</sup> St. *Description* Ice skating for the family. *Admission* \$8, includes skates.

*What?* FREE FISHING *When?* Weather permitting, anytime *Where?* Pond at Kosciuszko Park, 7<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup> along Lincoln Ave. *Description* Fishing experience in well-stocked pond. (414) 645-4624 *Admission* Free.

*What?* YOUTH OPEN HOUSE AND FAMILY MOVIE NIGHT *When?* Fri., Dec. 10 6pm *Where?* City of Light Church, 6725 W. Burleigh St. *Description* Family movie. *Admission* Free.

*What?* LAKE LODGE 189 BREAKFAST WITH SANTA *When?* Sat., Dec. 18 8:30-11am *Where?* 1235 E. Howard Ave. *Description* Pancake breakfast and presents from Santa. *Admission* Free.

*What?* HOLIDAY COOKIE EXCHANGE *When?* Sat., Dec. 18 4pm *Where?* Black Husky Brewing, 909 E. Locust St. *Description* Bring a batch of cookies for exchange. *Admission* Free.

*What?* FAMILY FREE DAY AT THE ZOO *When?* Sat., Jan. 1 9:30am-4:30pm *Where?* 10001 W. Bluemound Rd. *Description* Sponsored by North Shore Bank and Fox 6. *Admission* Free.

*What?* POLAR BEAR PLUNGE *When?* Sat., Jan. 1 noon *Where?* Bradford Beach, 2400 N. Lincoln Memorial Dr. *Description* Watch or participate in the annual dive into the frigid waters of Lake Michigan. *Admission* Free.

*What?* MITCHELL PARK DOMES HOLIDAY SHOW *When?* Until Jan. 2, 2022, opens at 9am *Where?* Mitchell Park, 524 S. Layton Blvd. *Description* Holiday floral show and three trees decorated with different themes. *Admission* Free to \$8.

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## Happening in the Lake Park neighborhood



## Polar bear plunge

January 1, noon at Bradford Beach  
2400 N. Lincoln Memorial Drive

# ACTIVITIES IN MILWAUKEE NEIGHBORHOODS

Continued from Page 3

## HOLIDAY EVENTS

*What?* HANNUKAH ON THE HOAN COMMUNITY CELEBRATION *When?* Sat., Dec. 4 4-5:30pm *Where?* 642 E. Erie St. *Description* Lighting of the Hoan, ice sculpting, holiday snacks, live DJ, more. *Admission* Free.

*What?* ARTS @ LARGE HOLIDAY CELEBRATION *When?* Thu., Dec. 2 3-8pm *Where?* 1100 S. 5<sup>th</sup> St. *Description* Wreath making for families. *Admission* Free.

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*What?* LAKE LODGE 189 BREAKFAST WITH SANTA *When?* Sat., Dec. 18 8:30-11am *Where?* 1235 E. Howard Ave. *Description* Pancake breakfast and presents from Santa. *Admission* Free.

## NEIGHBORHOOD TOURS

*What?* SELF-GUIDED TOUR OF VA GROUNDS *When?* Daily, daylight *Where?* Just north of Zablocki VA Medical Center, 5000 W. National Ave. *Description* A walk through the historic district just north of the VA Center, which includes the Soldiers' Home, barracks building, old fire station, old hospital, Ward Memorial Theater, and more. <http://www.milwaukee.va.gov/visitors/campus.asp> *Admission* Free.

*What?* WALKING TOUR—HAUNTED MILWAUKEE GHOST STORY TOUR *When?* At Dusk, Call for available dates. *Where?* Third Ward, Riverwalk and Downtown. *Description:* Join Milwaukee Tours visiting the historic haunted sites of Milwaukee and hear the stories of the ghosts that inhabit the downtown neighborhoods and the local establishments. <https://www.facebook.com/Milwaukee-Tours-100854865642646> Telephone or text (414) 207-4626. *Admission* Preregistration required; Special Offer \$20, adults only.

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# Happening in Bronzeville



Set in 1959 Bronzeville Milwaukee, the Dubois Family breaks with tradition and spends Christmas at home. When the grandparents decide to travel "up north" for the holiday, traditions are celebrated, and a secret exposed. This inter-generational story can be enjoyed by all ages. The play is presented as an updated version of a radio show with fun for the entire family.

By Sheri Williams Pannell; directed by Bill Jackson

Dec. 11, 2-6pm; Milwaukee Youth Art Center, 325 W. Walnut Street

# ACTIVITIES IN MILWAUKEE NEIGHBORHOODS

*Continued from Page 4*

*What?* GUIDED TOUR OF BASILICA OF ST. JOSAPHAT  
*When?* Per request *Where?* Basilica of St. Josaphat, 2333 S. 6<sup>th</sup> St  
*Description* Opportunity to see and learn about one of the most beautiful churches in America. <http://thebasilica.org/visit>  
*Admission* Unk; schedule a tour on their website.

*What?* UNGUIDED TOUR OF BASILICA OF ST. JOSAPHAT  
*When?* Mon.-Fri., 9am-4pm *Where?* Visitor's Center, Basilica of St. Josaphat, 2333 S. 6<sup>th</sup> St  
*Description* Opportunity to see and learn about one of the most beautiful churches in America with informational exhibits on lower level. <http://thebasilica.org/>  
*Admission* Free.

*What?* THIRD WARD MURAL WALKING TOUR *When?* Fri., Dec. 17, 11am-12:30 pm  
*Where?* Milwaukee Public Market, 400 W. Water. *Description* Tour with noted muralist Nyia Lula. *Admission* \$5-\$15.

## FOOD AND FARMERS' MARKETS

*What?* WINTER FARMERS MARKET *When?* Saturdays., Dec. 4- April beginning at 8am  
*Where?* Deer District, 333 W. Juneau Ave. *Description* Produce, bakery, canned goods, meat. *Admission* Free.

*What?* HOLIDAY COOKIE EXCHANGE *When?* Sat., Dec. 18 4pm  
*Where?* Black Husky Brewing, 909 E. Locust St. *Description* Bring a batch of cookies for exchange. *Admission* Free.

## GET-MOVING ACTIVITIES

*What?* HANK AARON TRAIL *When?* Daily *Where?* Multiple access points; see map on website  
*Description* Opportunity to enjoy natural and urban views and walk or bike trail across Milwaukee, from the lakefront to 94<sup>th</sup> Pl. <http://hankaaronstatetrail.org/>  
*Admission* Free.

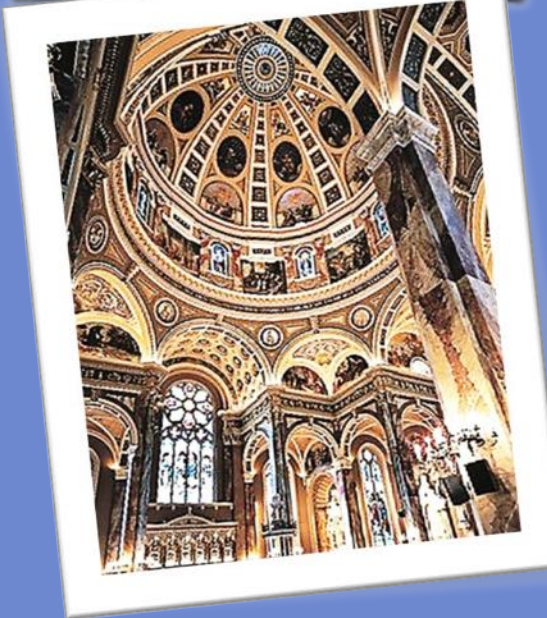
*What?* FIRESIDE YOGA *When?* Fri., Dec. 18 beginning at 11am  
*Where?* Urban Ecology Center at Riverside Park, 1500 E. Park Pl. *Description* Heat building beginner yoga session, *Admission* Free, but need to register at Urban Ecology Center.

### *Jane Jacobs on neighborhood walkways*

The sidewalk must have users on it fairly continuously, both to add to the number of effective eyes on the street and to induce the people in buildings along the street to watch the sidewalks in sufficient numbers. Nobody enjoys sitting on a stoop or looking out a window at an empty street.

From *The Death and Life of Great American Cities*.

Happening in the  
Lincoln  
Village neighborhood



2333 South 6<sup>th</sup> Street

Tour the Basilica of St. Josaphat on your own Monday through Friday 9am to 4pm, or take a guided tour by reservation

# MUSICIANS IN MILWAUKEE NEIGHBORHOODS

Continued from Page 1

groups named The Singers Unlimited and The Hi-Lo's, and received a Grammy Award for Best Vocal Arrangement for his arrangement of "A Nightingale Sang in Berkeley Square," as performed by The Manhattan Transfer.

## Hit actor/singer from the Sherman Park neighborhood

Jacob O'Neal Latimore (1996-) grew up on North 41<sup>st</sup> Street, son of Latitia Taylor and Jacob Latimore Sr. He is a rising star. Latimore's first single "Best Friend" was released in 2005, followed in 2006 by "Superstar. In June 2014,



he released his hit song "Heartbreak Heard Around the World." In 2016, he released his debut album *Connection*. As an actor, he is known for his roles in *Collateral Beauty*, *Black Nativity*, *The Maze Runner*, *Detroit*, and *The Chi*. He also starred in the Netflix Original movie *Candy Jar*.

Photo by We R Charm Brasil - Own work, CC BY-SA 4.0, <https://commons.wikimedia.org/w/index.php?curid=52855273>

## Polka king from the Polonia neighborhood

Bob Kames (1925-2008) was an American polka musician. Born Robert Kujawa to Polish parents Valentine and Esther Kujawa, Bob spent most of his youth on South 16<sup>th</sup> Street. Father Valentine represented the area as an alderman. During his lifetime, Bob Kames recorded over 70 albums and became a member of the Wisconsin Area Music Industry's Hall of Fame.

## Celebrated musician in Shorewood

Jeremiah Griffin Harrison (1949-) is an American musician, songwriter, and producer who once lived on North Stowell Avenue just north of Milwaukee. He began his career as a member of the cult band, the Modern Lovers. He later became keyboardist and guitarist for the new wave band, Talking Heads. Harrison was inducted into the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame in 2002 as a member of Talking Heads. Harrison graduated from Shorewood High School and later attended Harvard University in order to study architecture. There, he and Jonathan Richman formed The Modern Lovers.

Photo by Ron Baker - <https://www.flickr.com/photos/kingsnake/4548904800/in/faves-24788065@N02/>, CC BY-SA 2.0, <https://commons.wikimedia.org/w/index.php?curid=10123130>



## Noted jazz singer in Muskego Way neighborhood

Jacqueline Ruth "Jackie" Cain (1928-2014) spent her early years on Muskego Avenue. Her father, Roy Cain, was an office furniture salesman who also managed a community theater. Jackie became an American jazz singer known for her partnership with her husband in the duo Jackie and Roy. She was the sister-in-law of singer Irene Kral.

## Ten-part series continues on celebrities that lived in Milwaukee neighborhoods

Have you ever wondered who might have lived in your Milwaukee neighborhood? For ten issues, *Milwaukee Neighborhood Forum* features nationally recognized celebrities that once resided on our city's blocks.

The order follows:

- (1) Political/Activist leaders (December issue),
- (2) Military leaders (February issue),
- (3) Writers/Journalists (April issue),
- (4) Religious leaders (June issue),
- (5) Scientists (August issue),
- (6) Artists (October issue),
- (7) Musicians (this issue),
- (8) TV/Film stars,
- (9) Sports heroes, and
- (10) Corporate leaders.

## Renown bassist in the Juneau Town neighborhood

Howard Norman Epstein (1955- 2003) was a bassist with Tom Petty and the Heartbreakers. He spent his early years with his parents and grandparents on East Mason Street. His father, Sam Epstein, was a top local record producer who worked with rock and soul groups in the 1950s and 1960s. In his youth, Howie Epstein often visited the music studios, watching his father work and following his direction.

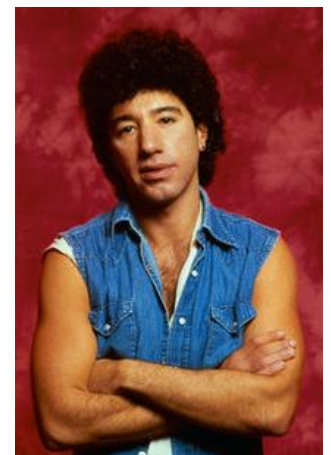


Photo credit: [http://image1.findagrave.com/photos250/photos/2010/48/7206802\\_126648587609.jpg](http://image1.findagrave.com/photos250/photos/2010/48/7206802_126648587609.jpg), Fair use, <https://en.wikipedia.org/w/index.php?curid=29602204>

# Northpoint neighborhood: from a poor-house parcel to a milieu for mansions

Northpoint is a long, narrow neighborhood that is adjacent to Lake Park and encompasses a small section of Back Bay Park. The housing stock ranges from large mansions along Lake Drive, Terrace Avenue, and Wahl Avenue to a mix of smaller, more modest houses on its western boundaries. The predominant architectural styles are English Tudor, followed by Colonial, and Georgian, French, Mediterranean, and German Renaissance.

## HISTORY

As upscale as Milwaukee's Northpoint neighborhood appears today, it had quite humble beginnings. The first known property built within its borders was a poor house. The same year that the City of Milwaukee was chartered, the city purchased a 40-acre parcel to be used "for welfare or charitable" purposes within the boundaries of what is today Maryland and Downer and Bradford and North. The hospital for the indigent was built in 1846, followed by a "pesthouse" for patients with infectious diseases.

The poorhouse structures soon became neighbors to St. Mary's Hospital (the first private hospital in Wisconsin), Protestant and Catholic homes for the elderly, a public school, and an orphanage. But land speculators were envisioning the neighborhood as something much more than a conglomeration of services. They believed the lakeshore area was ideal for affluent families seeking to move on from other upscale areas like Grand Avenue and Yankee Hill.

By the turn of the 20<sup>th</sup> century, they knew they had been right.

## Early populations

Unlike the affluent Yankee Hill neighborhood, which was largely populated by Yankee transplants from the east coast, scores of the earliest property owners at Northpoint were second generation immigrants of German, Czech, Irish and other European ancestry. Many of these were children of wealthy industrialists. For example, Lloyd Raymond Smith, the son of A.O. Smith of the A.O. Smith Company, built a sprawling Mediterranean styled mansion on Terrace Avenue in 1923. Today that building is known as the Villa Terrace Decorative Arts Museum (see photo below). Other children of major industrialists that built homes nearby included Gustav Pabst, son of Capt. Frederick Pabst, and Elsie Cudahy Beck, daughter of Patrick Cudahy.



The Villa Terrace Decorative Arts Museum

However, one family with a famous member that settled very early in Northpoint did have some Yankee ancestry. See the family profile in the next column.

## Northpoint family profile (early 1900s)

### The Bartletts

Sometime prior to 1920, Ferdinand Arlt Bartlett, Elizabeth (nee Towles Thompson) Bartlett, and their two children, Thompson ("Tommy") and Elizabeth Bartlett had moved to Lake Drive in today's Northpoint neighborhood in the old 1<sup>st</sup> Ward. Ferdinand's family had originally come to Wisconsin from Vermont. His father was a physician who worked out of his home on Jefferson Street. Elizabeth was born in Missouri, but her ancestry went back to Revolutionary War hero, Colonel William Lewis, of Augusta County, Virginia. He had been tagged the "Civilizer of the Border" during the war, and represented August County at the Second Continental Congress.

The couple lived in relative luxury on Lake Drive, as they had in their natal homes. The Lake Drive home had a nurse employed to care for the children and a maid to serve the household. Ferdinand was self-employed, possibly in the cigar trade.

It was son Tommy who would become a household name. He took an interest in the entertainment industry early, becoming a broadcaster for Milwaukee's WISN radio

in 1927--at age 13. After moving to Chicago and working for CBS radio, he enlisted in the U.S. Army Air Corps during World War II where he learned to fly and became a flight instructor.



Upon returning from the war, he hosted radio shows *Meet Tommy Bartlett*, *The Tommy Bartlett Show*, *Welcome Travelers*, *Meet the Missus*, and *The Missus Goes to Market*.

Bartlett's career took a sharp turn in 1949 when he was a spectator at a waterskiing show on the Chicago lakefront. He decided to create his own traveling water ski show that he originally called the "Tommy Bartlett Water Ski & Jumping Boat Thrill Show." When he took the show on the road and appeared at the Wisconsin Dells, the area Chamber of Commerce asked him to keep the show in the Dells permanently, which he did (see photo). Bartlett was later inducted into the Water Ski Hall of Fame in 1993. He died in 1998.

In time, people from the professions and small businesses joined the Bartletts and the industrialists. Nearly all were European Americans.

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# Northpoint neighborhood

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## Downer Avenue

Downer Avenue became the commercial corridor for the Northpoint neighborhood. Originally named Glen Street, Downer was renamed in 1898 after John Downer, a justice of the Wisconsin Supreme Court. Downer, a Vermont native, had once served as editor of the *Milwaukee Sentinel*. Downer College, also named after John Downer who was one of its founders, was established on Downer Avenue, at Kenwood Boulevard.



*Café Hollander on today's Downer Ave.*

By the early 20<sup>th</sup> century, Downer Avenue was bursting with commercial establishments. In the early 1940s, the business district was well equipped to meet the basic needs of Northpoint residents, with 5 grocery stores (including 2 supermarkets), 3 butchers, 1 deli, 3 pharmacies, 11 healthcare providers, 1 hardware store, 1 cleaner, and a variety of clothing stores. Downer Avenue merchants reflected an apparent interest in high culture in the area, with many music teachers, artists, interior designers, and photographers leasing space on the street. And unlike in most Milwaukee neighborhoods prior to 1970 where few shopkeepers had attended high school, many in the Downer district had. All the teachers and nurses whose records could be found had completed high school and the dentists and physicians had completed professional school. The furrier, Elmer C. Boughton, had completed four years of college.

### Northpoint random merchant (1940s): Lea Janet Alston

In many ways, Lea Alston reflected the cultured nature of Downer Avenue in 1941. She was a music teacher among a group of other music teachers with an office (and possibly living quarters) at 2603 N. Downer. At age 24 she had already traveled abroad with her parents—both to Scotland and to Canada.



Lea's father was a Scottish immigrant. As a child, she and her family lived in Milwaukee's Ward 21. She later graduated from West Division High School (see her yearbook photo).

Lea married John Joseph Olk, the son of a German immigrant father. John served in World War II. The couple later made Northpoint their home, moving to a home on Lake Drive off of Bradford sometime after 1950.

## Enter: Preservation movement at Northpoint

The preservation movement took hold in Northpoint in the 1970s, when development began to threaten the neighborhood's low-density residential identity. In 1973, residents founded the Water Tower Landmark Trust, which was later renamed the Historic Water Tower Neighborhood Inc. It became one of the most effectual preservation organizations in the city, lobbying for stricter building code enforcement and a new zoning ordinance.



*Water Tower and Columbia/St. Mary*



*Houses on Wahl Ave.*



*Bogk House on Terrace, designed by Frank Lloyd Wright*

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# Northpoint neighborhood

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## INTERESTING FEATURES IN THE NORTHPOINT NEIGHBORHOOD



Mansions on Lake Dr.

- **Villa Terrace Decorative Arts Museum** at 2220 N. Terrace Ave., a mansion informed by the design of a villa in Lombardy, Italy, complete with Renaissance Garden, antique furnishings, and artifacts.
- **Northpoint Lighthouse Museum** at 2650 N. Wahl Ave., a historic maritime lighthouse with artifacts related to the history of the Great Lakes
- **Northpoint Water Tower** at the far east end of North Ave., built in 1855 to equalize pressure on the city's water mains
- **Downer Avenue shops**, including grocer, drugstore, dry cleaner, restaurants, bakery, liquor store, theater, coffee house, bank, hardware store, boutiques, book store
- **Downer Theater**, Milwaukee's oldest movie theater



Northpoint Lighthouse Museum

### Current populations (as of 2021)

The current population of Northpoint remains European American (over 80 percent). People of German descent remain a high proportion in the neighborhood. Approximately 1 in 15 residents are African Americans. The remaining residents are Latinos (mostly of Mexican ancestry), Asians (mostly Chinese and Filipino), and people of multiple backgrounds.

As wealthy as many parts of this neighborhood appear, the upper middle class (those with annual household incomes between \$75,000 and \$150,000) comprise only about one quarter of the neighborhood population. In addition, approximately three-quarters of all properties in Northpoint are rented, rather than owned. Students of the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee account for a large number of renters. The leading occupations in the area are in the fields of education, management, and administration.

What is significant about the people of Northpoint is their level of education. They are among the most well-educated in Milwaukee, with nearly half of the population holding bachelor's degrees. This is significantly higher than the proportions of college educated in the City of Milwaukee and Milwaukee Metro.

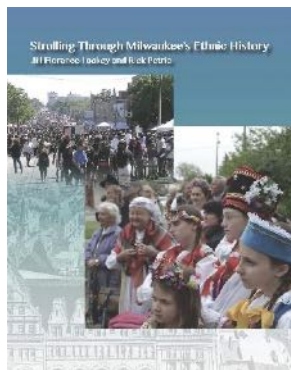
*"There are many neighborhoods in Milwaukee where you can find some beautiful spots—parks, river walks, a string of lovely old homes, a landmark building—but you find these features here and there. Often, they are interspersed with huge concrete and glass structures or pre-fab-looking homes or decaying buildings. But in Northpoint you can walk six blocks in any direction (especially in the eastern section) and all you see is beauty—Lake Park, Lake Michigan, and all the gorgeous Victorian and Revival homes—each one different from the other."*



Downer Theater

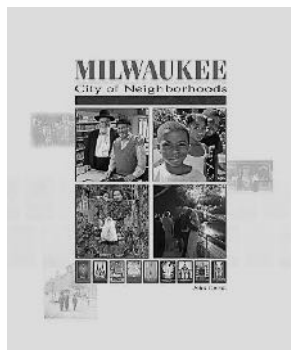


## Books on Milwaukee Neighborhoods



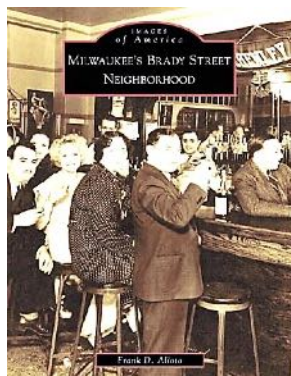
### Strolling through Milwaukee's Ethnic History By Jill Florence Lackey and Rick Petrie

This latest work provides an "up close and personal" look at local ethnic life by directing readers to the neighborhoods and venues where the groups left their marks. It brings readers directly into their experiences, whether it involves strolling through the neighborhoods they built or participating in contemporary ethnic activities. "Strolling . . . is an intriguing guide to the ethnic history in our midst and a colorful reminder that Milwaukee has always been a city of newcomers." - John Gurda. <http://mecahmilwaukee.com>



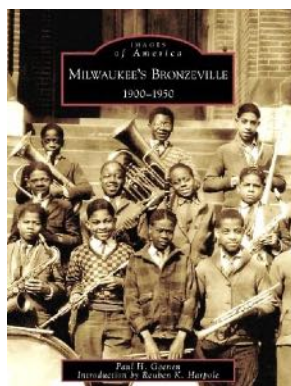
### Milwaukee, City of Neighborhoods By John Gurda

*Milwaukee: City of Neighborhoods* is the most comprehensive account of grassroots Milwaukee ever published. Richly illustrated, engagingly written, and organized for maximum ease of use, the book is a fine-grained introduction to the Milwaukee community, and its communities, that will endure as a standard work for years to come. <https://historicmilwaukee.org/milwaukee-city-of-neighborhoods/>.



### Milwaukee's Brady Street Neighborhood By Frank D. Alioto

Milwaukee's Brady Street neighborhood began in the mid-19<sup>th</sup> century as a crossroads between middle-class Yankees from the east and early German settlers. Polish and Italian immigrants soon followed, working the mills, tanneries, and brewers that lined the riverbank. The hippies arrived in the 1960s. By the 1980s the area fell into blight, neglect and decay. Now, a true model for new urbanism, the Brady Street neighborhood is the midst of a renaissance. <https://www.arcadiapublishing.com/Products/9780738551746>



### Milwaukee's Bronzeville: 1900-1950 By Paul H. Geenen, Introduction by Rueben Harpole

With the migration of African American sharecroppers to northern cities in the first half of the 20<sup>th</sup> century, the African American population of Milwaukee grew from fewer than 1,000 in 1900 to nearly 22,000 by 1950. Most settled along Walnut Street, an area that came to be known as Milwaukee's Bronzeville, a thriving residential, business, and entertainment community. Bronzeville is remembered by African American elders as a good place to grow up. <https://www.arcadiapublishing.com/Products/9780738540610>

## The dramatic gift of one author

Mystery writer and Milwaukee native, Sienna Jacks, is creating a series of novels that take place in Milwaukee neighborhoods called "The Milwaukee Series." She is donating all of her royalties to Urban Anthropology's neighborhood exhibits' program.

The proceeds from *The House Off of Brady* (see following page) are currently being used to create all new exhibits at the Rozga Family's Old South Side Settlement Museum.

Mystery novels that are currently available or shall eventually be included in this series will take place in these Milwaukee neighborhoods:

- Brady Street
- Bronzeville/Brewer's Hill
- Lincoln Village
- Walker's Point
- Riverwest
- Granville

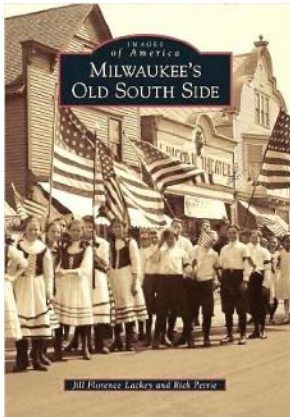
Currently, all of Sienna Jacks' novels have perfect five-star ratings from readers at Amazon.com

To enjoy wonderful reading and to contribute to neighborhood museums and exhibits, purchase the Jacks' books from the publisher at

<http://mecahmilwaukee.com/Fiction.html>

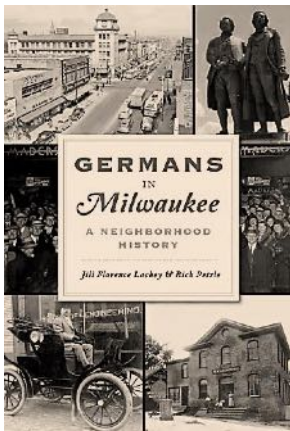


## Books on Milwaukee Neighborhoods (Cont.)



**Milwaukee's Old South Side**  
By Jill Florence Lackey and Rick Petrie

In the late 1800s, the Old South Side was developed by immigrant Poles, who became the dominant population for over 100 years. While other Milwaukee ethnic neighborhoods gradually dissipated in the mid-20<sup>th</sup> century because of assimilation pressures, freeway building, or urban renewal programs, the Old South Side remained solidly Polish. A survey nearly a half century later revealed that people of 110 national backgrounds now lived in the Old South Side, with the three largest groups being Mexicans, Poles, and American Indians. <https://www.arcadiapublishing.com/Products/9780738590691>

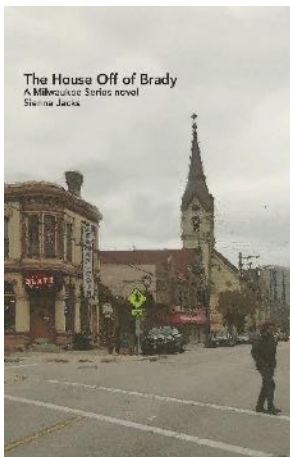


**Germans in Milwaukee: A neighborhood history**  
By Jill Florence Lackey and Rick Petrie

Germans dominated Milwaukee like no other large American city. Their presence inhabits the city's neighborhoods, from its buildings and place names to its parklands and statuary. Their influence also lives in the memories shared by local residents. A small Milwaukee neighborhood south of Miller Valley was christened after a farmer's pigs, and a busboy turned beer baron built the famous Pabst Brewery in West Town. A ghost is said to haunt the old Blatz Brewing compound. And the remains of the early tanning industry can still be seen in Walker's Point. Compiling more than 1,200 interviews, authors Jill Florence Lackey and Rick Petrie share these ground-level perspectives of the lasting German influence on the Cream City. [www.arcadiapublishing.com/Products/9781467147286](http://www.arcadiapublishing.com/Products/9781467147286)

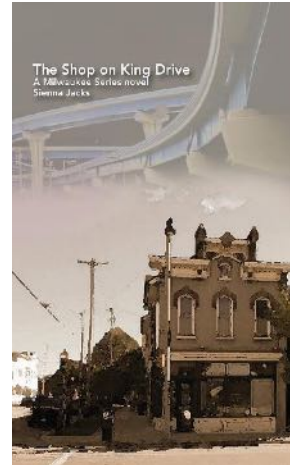
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## Fiction



**The House Off of Brady** A Milwaukee Series novel  
By Sienna Jacks

Two young anthropologists, trying to convince a local nonprofit to sponsor a neighborhood house museum, must show that the historical occupants of the house were representative of Milwaukee's Brady Street, and that they project positive images for the neighborhood. Their efforts are boosted by a personal journal left behind by one of the home's occupants--Giuseppe Russo. But as the young anthropologists translate and transcribe the journal, they learn that Giuseppe had been banished from his former community in the Third Ward. Are they about to stumble on information that could kill the project—or something perhaps even worse? <http://mecahmilwaukee.com>



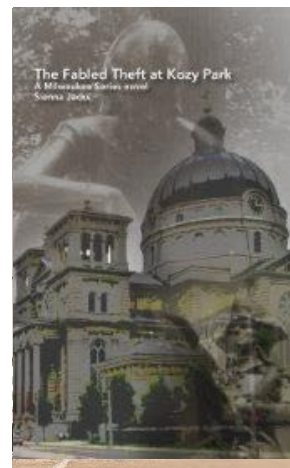
**The Shop on King Drive** A Milwaukee Series novel  
By Sienna Jacks

A mystery arises out of the ruins of urban renewal. Two young anthropologists, conducting research that would illuminate one dark period in Milwaukee's central city history, confront painful but sometimes puzzling accounts. During the 1950s and 1960s, over 8,000 homes and an entire business district of the African American Bronzeville community were razed. While

interviewing survivors, the anthropologists note that the name of a particular attorney kept entering the conversation. The lawyer claimed to be helping the black community fight the removal, but his efforts had the opposite effect. Suspicions remained for over 50 years over who was behind the deception and why. <http://mecahmilwaukee.com>

**The Fabled Theft at Kozy Park** A Milwaukee Series novel  
By Sienna Jacks

The anthropologists at City Anthropology were asked to use their research skills to look into a man's confession that might crack the longest unsolved mystery on Milwaukee's old South Side—the theft of the squirrel lady statue at Kozy Park. According to reports, the man Raf (now deceased) also implicated members of a local Polish club with an



agenda of removing non-Polish influences from the neighborhood. Assigned to the project, Enid and Meyer are baffled by the information they are getting from those who witnessed the confession, little of which supports Raf's story. Further inquiry points to events surrounding Raf's stepson. Who really was he and why did he inexplicably appear on the scene all those years ago? Their quest for answers leads them to the club in question, but with unexpected results. The ultimate mystery they must solve is the true reason why Raf made this confession and steered them to a list of alleged conspirators. <http://mecahmilwaukee.com>

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# Milwaukee Neighborhood Forum

*Milwaukee Neighborhood Forum* is published bimonthly by Urban Anthropology Inc. and is managed by volunteer anthropologists. The purpose of the newsletter is to offer neighborhood groups and individuals opportunities to share news and information about their neighborhoods. The newsletter does not receive funds from any external source. The editor is Dr. Jill Florence Lackey.

## Subscriptions

The newsletter is emailed to anyone wishing to receive it. If you wish your email or that of a friend to be added to the subscriber list, send the email addresses to [JFLanthropologist@currently.com](mailto:JFLanthropologist@currently.com) and indicate the name of this publication.

## Submitting events

*Milwaukee Neighborhood Forum* is interested in events from individuals, businesses, and organizations that have a neighborhood appeal. These can include block parties, church picnics, local music festivals, sports on the block, get-moving activities that take place outdoors, and art and theatre events involving neighborhoods. All event submissions should include a one-sentence description, date and time, location, and website or phone number for additional information. Photos may also be submitted.

## Submitting stories/press releases on neighborhoods

In the spirit of Jane Jacobs, stories should always focus on assets of neighborhoods. They must be between 100 and 400 words. Some editing will be done to match our style guidelines and spatial constraints. We will write the stories for you if you simply send us a list of the information that you want included. A photo is always required.

## Submission deadlines

Submit events or stories by the 25<sup>th</sup> of the month preceding publication. Publication dates are on the 1<sup>st</sup> day of June, August, October, December, February, and April. Please send your stories to Dr. Jill at [JFLanthropologist@currently.com](mailto:JFLanthropologist@currently.com).

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Now live . . .

# Website on 191 Milwaukee neighborhoods

## Links on each neighborhood include:

- *6 to 35 pages of information*
- *Brief neighborhood description*
- *Population-focused history (including ethnic roots)*
- *Snapshots of commercial districts of the past*
- *Quotes from residents*
- *Quotes from oral histories (where available)*
- *Low cost nearby outings for families*
- *Demographics of current neighborhood*
- *Photos of neighborhood*

*The website currently includes ALL 191 of the neighborhoods, courtesy of Urban Anthropology Inc.*

<http://neighborhoodsinmilwaukee.org/>