



Milwaukee Neighborhood Forum

PUBLISHED BY URBAN ANTHROPOLOGY INC.

"IN THE TRADITION OF JANE JACOBS"

APRIL/MAY 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.

Five-part series from neighborhood oral histories: What Milwaukee residents have to say



April/May in-person activities in Milwaukee neighborhoods (most under \$10)

Total of 55 events under the categories of museums, arts, family, kids, holiday events, neighborhood celebrations, get-moving events, walks/tours, food/farmers markets, for the family, and several more

ENRICHMENT ACTIVITIES

What? ROOFTOP STARGAZING **When?** Fri., Apr. 28 9 to 10pm. **Where** Manfred Olson Planetarium, UW-M Physics building, 1900 E. Kenwood Blvd. **Description** Gaze at stars and planets through telescopes. **Admission** Free.



FOR THE FAMILY

What? STORYTIME AT THE DOMES **When?** Every Thu. 9:30 to 9:50am. **Where?** Mitchell Park, 524 S. Layton Blvd. **Description** Stories in Spanish and English. **Admission** Unk.

MUSEUMS IN THE NEIGHBORHOOD

What? HAGGERTY MUSEUM OF ART **When?** Daily 10am to 4:30pm, Thu.'s 10am-8pm; Sun.'s, 12 to 5pm **Where?** Marquette

Part five: People and structures that weaken neighborhoods

The past four issues have presented findings from the Milwaukee oral history conducted by Urban Anthropology Inc. on factors that strengthen and weaken neighborhoods. This issue will complete the discussion of factors that *weaken* neighborhoods. Part four discussed *activities* that weakened neighborhoods, including top-down government interventions and corporate abandonment. The next most salient factors include *people* that weaken neighborhoods and *structures* that weaken neighborhoods.

People that weaken neighborhoods

Informants brought up the negative impacts that law breakers and absentee landlords had on their neighborhoods.

Law Breakers. According to those interviewed, it was not just crime, but also the *perception* of crime that had negative effects on their neighborhoods.

From *Heritage Heights/Granville*: "They would be sending 13- and 14-year-old kids to knock on

ACTIVITIES IN MILWAUKEE NEIGHBORHOODS

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campus at corner of 13th & Clybourn Sts. *Description* Permanent collections include Old Masters' prints, Ralph Steiner photos, Marc Chagall Bible series, Barbara Morgan photos, and Finnegan, Fishman, Tatalovich, and Rojzman collections. <http://www.marquette.edu/haggerty/> *Admission* Free.

What? GROHMANN MUSEUM *When?* Mon. through Fri. 9am to 5pm, Sat.'s 12 to 6pm, Sun.'s 1 to 4pm *Where?* 1000 N. Broadway *Description* More than 1,000 paintings and sculptures representing the long evolution of human work. <http://www.msoe.edu/about-msoe/grohmann-museum/> *Admission* \$5, \$3 students, seniors; free <12.

What? ROZGA FAMILY'S OLD SOUTH SIDE SETTLEMENT MUSEUM *When* Reserve group tour at JFLanthropologist@currently.com *Where?* 707 W. Lincoln Av. *Description* Exhibits of the history, celebrities, and populations of the area; miniature Polish flat that the kids love (see photos). *Admission* Free.

What? CHARLES ALLIS ART MUSEUM *When?* Wed.'s through Sun.'s 10am to 4pm, reservations helpful as hours may vary. *Where?* 1801 N. Prospect Av. *Description* Self-guided tour of Tudor-style mansion of entrepreneur Charles Allis designed by Milwaukee architect Alexander Eschweiler in early 20th century. <http://www.charlesallis.org/> *Admission* \$10, \$5 seniors & students; Free first Wednesdays.

What? VILLA TERRACE DECORATIVE ARTS MUSEUM *When?* Wed.'s thru Sun.'s 10am to 4pm, reservations helpful as hours may vary. *Where?* 2220 N. Terrace Av. *Description* Self-guided tour of mansion informed by the design of a villa in Lombardy, Italy, complete with Renaissance Garden, and antique furnishings and artifacts. <https://www.villaterrace.org/> *Admission* \$10, \$7 seniors, military & students.

What? MILWAUKEE COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY *When?* Mon.'s, Wed.'s thru Sat.'s, 9:30am to 5pm *Where?* 910 N. Martin Luther King Dr. *Description* Permanent and rotating exhibits of Milwaukee County's history plus a research library. Current exhibit, "Brew City: The Story of Milwaukee Beer." <http://www.milwaukeehistory.net/> *Admission* \$8, \$6 seniors, military, students; children \leq 12, and members free.

What? NORTHPOINT LIGHTHOUSE MUSEUM *When?* Sat.'s and Sun.'s 1 to 4pm *Where?* Northpoint Lighthouse, 2650 N. Wahl Av. *Description* A historic, maritime experience, with artifacts related to the history of the Great Lakes. <http://northpointlighthouse.org/> *Admission* \$8, \$5 seniors & kids 5-11, free kids <4.

What? GALLERY AT MILWAUKEE INSTITUTE OF ART & DESIGN *When?* Gallery showing exhibits Feb. 1 to Mar. 12, Daily 10am to 5pm *Where?* 273 E. Erie St. *Description* Rotating exhibitions of renowned artists, MIAD students, and MIAD faculty. <http://www.miad.edu/> *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, see room above)

707 W. Lincoln Avenue

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What? MILWAUKEE PUBLIC MUSEUM FREE DAY *When?* Free 1ST Thu.'s each month *Where?* 800 W. Wells St. *Description* Chance to visit one of the premier natural history and science facilities, world- renowned for its exhibits, collections, ongoing scientific research and educational exhibits. www.mpm.edu/ *Admission* Free (on dates designated).

What? MITCHELL PARK DOMES *When?* Wed. to Fri., 9am to 5pm; Sat.'s, Sun.'s 9am-4pm. *Where?* 524 S. Layton Blvd. *Description* A place to experience a desert oasis, a tropical jungle, and special floral gardens all in one visit. <http://county.milwaukee.gov/MitchellParkConserva10116.htm> *Admission* Free to \$8.

What? MILWAUKEE FIRE MUSEUM *When?* 1st Sun. of each month, 1 to 3pm, (except holidays). *Where?* 1516 W. Oklahoma Av. *Description* Opportunity to see exhibits and artifacts of the Milwaukee Fire Department back to the 1800s; stories of history of the department and fires. <http://city.milwaukee.gov/MUSEUMHISTORICALSOCIETY.htm#.VkoAEMArLIU> *Admission* Free.

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

What? HARLEY-DAVIDSON MUSEUM *When?* Daily 10am to 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).

ARTS, THEATRE, AND CRAFTS

What? THE WAREHOUSE *When?* Thru Dec. 16; Mon.'s through Fri.'s 10am to 4pm *Where?* 1635 W. St. Paul Av. *Description* Exhibit: *Objects of Substance*, 148 handmade objects from 14 countries. thewarehousemke.org/ *Admission* Free.

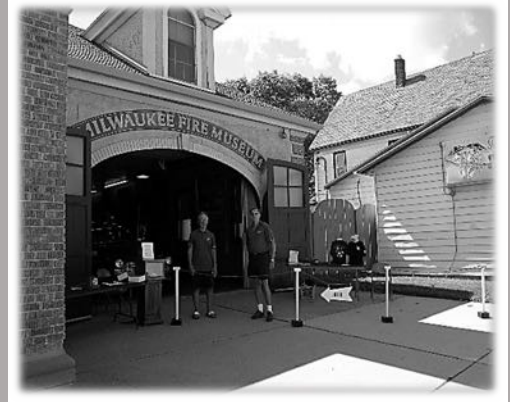
What? WALKER'S POINT CENTER FOR THE ARTS *When?* Tue.'s through Sat.'s 12 to 5pm. *Where?* 839 S 5th St. *Description* Ongoing exhibitions in a community setting. <http://wpca-milwaukee.org/> *Admission* Free to look.

What? ART BAR *When?* Daily 3pm to 12am. *Where?* 722 E. Burleigh St. *Description* Permanent and temporary art exhibits. <https://www.facebook.com/artbarmke/> *Admission* Adults, free to look.

What? GALLERY AT MILWAUKEE INSTITUTE OF ART & DESIGN *When?* Mon.'s through Sat.'s, 10am to 5pm. *Where?* 273 E. Erie St. *Description* Rotating exhibitions of renowned artists, MIAD students, and MIAD faculty. <http://www.miad.edu/> *Admission* Free.

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Happening in the Polonia neighborhood



Enjoy a bit of Milwaukee fire history at the Fire Museum

1516 W. Oklahoma Avenue
Open first Sunday of every month
at 1 to 3pm

ACTIVITIES IN MILWAUKEE NEIGHBORHOODS

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What? GALLERY 218 *When?* Sat.s 12 to 5pm. *Where?* 207 East Buffalo St. Suite 218. *Description* The cooperative gallery of the Walker's Point Artists Assoc., Inc. <https://gallery218.com/> *Admission* Free, donations welcome.

What? JAZZ GALLERY FOR THE ARTS *When?* Sat.'s 12 to 5pm. *Where?* 926 E Center St. *Description* New exhibits every other month. <https://riverwestart.org/> *Admission* Free.

What? VAR WEST GALLERY *When?* Thu.'s through Sat.'s, 11am to 4pm. *Where?* 423 W Pierce St. *Description* Focusing on exhibiting solo shows for emerging and established artists, including full bar for purchases during events. <https://www.varwestgallery.com/about> *Admission* Free to look.

What? TERRY MCCORMICK CONTEMPORARY FINE AND FOLK ART GALLERY *When?* Call (414) 264-6766 to visit. *Where?* 2522 N. 18th St. *Description* Contemporary art by the founder, Evelyn Patricia Terry, along with several friends whose work she exhibits. <https://www.facebook.com/terrismccormick-gallery/> *Admission* Free to look.

ECO/NATURE ACTIVITIES

What? EARLY MORNING BIRDWALK—MENOMONEE VALLEY *When?* Most Tue.'s. 8 to 10am. Check website. *Where?* Menomonee Valley, 3700 W. Pierce St. *Description* A walk for bird watchers of all levels to explore Three Bridges Park for birds. <http://urbanecologycenter.org/programs-events-main.html> *Admission* Free.

What? EARLY MORNING BIRDWALK—WASHINGTON *When?* Most Wed.'s. 8 to 10am. Check website. *Where?* Washington Park, 1859 N. 40th St. *Description* A walk for bird watchers of all ability levels to walk through different habitats for birds. <http://urbanecologycenter.org/programs-events-main.html> *Admission* Free.

What? EARLY MORNING BIRDWALK—RIVERSIDE *When?* Most Thu.'s. 8 to 10am. Check website. *Where?* Riverside Park, 1500 E. Park Pl. *Description* A walk for bird watchers of all ability levels to explore different habitats for birds and other animals. <http://urbanecologycenter.org/programs-events-main.html> *Admission* Free.

FOOD AND FARMERS MARKETS

What? WINTER FARMERS MARKET *When?* Saturdays through Apr. 29 beginning at 8am *Where?* 5305 W. Capitol Dr. *Description* Produce, bakery, canned goods, meat. *Admission* Free to browse.

HOLIDAY EVENTS

What? COMMUNITY EASTER EGG HUNT *When?* Sat., Apr. 1, 10 to 11am. *Where?* Gordon Park, 2828 N. Humboldt Blvd.

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Happening in the
Menomonee Valley
neighborhood



Early morning
birdwalk

Menomonee
Valley
3700 W. Pierce Street

ACTIVITIES IN MILWAUKEE NEIGHBORHOODS

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Description Bounce houses, glitter tattoos, snacks, Easter egg hunt. *Admission* Free, register at [Community Easter Egg Hunt - Milwaukee with Kids \(mkewithkids.com\)](http://CommunityEasterEggHunt-MilwaukeeWithKids.com)

What? NATURAL EGG DYES *When?* Sat., Apr. 1, 10 to 11:30am. *Where?* Hawthorn Glen Educational Center, 1130 N. 60th St. *Description* Dye eggs with colorful plants and fibers. *Admission* \$5 to \$8.

What? BREAKFAST WITH THE EASTER BUNNY *When?* Sun., Apr. 2, 2 seatings, 9 and 11am. *Where?* The Factory on Barclay, 1120 S. Barclay St. *Description* Breakfast, cookie decorating, prizes. *Admission* \$15, 2 and under free.

What? EGG DAY AT MILWAUKEE COUNTY ZOO *When?* Sat., Apr. 8, 9:30am to 4:30pm. *Where?* Milwaukee County Zoo, 10001 W. Bluemound Rd. *Description* Easter parade, animals, and everything eggs. *Admission* \$8 to \$14.

What? BAYSHORE BUNNY HOP AND EGG HUNT *When?* Sat., Apr. 8, 12 to 2pm. *Where?* Bayshore Shopping Center, 5800 Bayshore Rd. *Description* Egg hunt, treats, dancing with the Easter bunny. *Admission* Free.

WALKING TOURS

What? SELF-GUIDED TOUR OF VA GROUNDS *When?* Daily, daylight *Where?* Just north of Zablocki VA Medical Center, 5000 W. National Av. *Description* A walk through the historic district 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? GUIDED TOUR OF BASILICA OF ST. JOSAPHAT *When?* Reserve tour on website. *Where?* Basilica of St. Josaphat, 2333 S. 6th St. *Description* Opportunity to see and learn about one of the most beautiful churches in America. <http://the-basilica.org/visit> *Admission* Free.

What? UNGUIDED TOUR OF BASILICA OF ST. JOSAPHAT *When?* Mon.'s through Fri.'s., 9am to 3pm *Where?* Visitor's Center, Basilica of St. Josaphat, 2333 S. 6th St *Description* Opportunity to see and learn about one of the most beautiful churches in America with informational exhibits on lower level. <http://the-basilica.org/> *Admission* Free.

What? SELF-GUIDED TOUR OF FOREST HOME CEMETERY *When?* Daily 8am-4:30pm *Where?* 2405 W. Forest Home *Description* Tour the beautiful Chapel Gardens, Landmark Chapel, and the Hall of History that tells the story of Milwaukee dignitaries, including European founders of Milwaukee, several mayors, major African American activists, and brewery tycoons. *Admission* Free.

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Happening in the
Forest Home Hills
neighborhood



Self-guided tour of
Forest Home
Cemetery

2405 W. Forest Home
Avenue

ACTIVITIES IN MILWAUKEE NEIGHBORHOODS

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What? WALK THROUGH MILWAUKEE'S LATINO HISTORY
When? Daily **Where?** United Community Center, 1028 S. 9th St.
Description Opportunity to learn about Latino history by visiting tannery and foundry exhibits, photos, and art inside the UCC building, and historical murals on two sides of Bruce Guadalupe School next door. <http://www.unitedcc.org/index.htm> **Admission** Free.

What? THE HOP STREETCAR TOUR **When?** Most Thu.'s 10:30 to 11:30am through Apr. 29. **Where?** 235 E Michigan St.
Description Explore urban renewal from the edge of the Menomonee Valley to Downtown's Yankee Hill neighborhood. <http://historicmilwaukee.org/walking-tours/> **Admission** Free to \$15.

What? SKYWAUKEE TOUR **When?** Most Thu.'s 10:30 to 11:30am through Apr. 29. **Where?** 161 W. Wisconsin Av. **Description** Stroll through the skywalk system and learn about significant Milwaukee landmarks from a new angle – one story up! <http://historicmilwaukee.org/walking-tours/> **Admission** Free to \$15.

SPECTATOR SPORTS

What? KIDS AND SENIORS BREWERS DISCOUNT DAYS
When? Afternoon home games. **Where?** American Family Field, 1 Brewers Way. **Description** Milwaukee Brewers games. Website: [Kids and Senior Citizens Discount Days, courtesy of WPS Health Insurance Milwaukee Brewers \(mlb.com\)](http://www.milwaukeebrewers.com/kids-seniors) **Admission** 50 percent off tickets.

NEIGHBORHOOD CELEBRATIONS

What? I LOVE BINGO **When?** First Tuesday of every month, 1:30 to 3:30pm **Where?** Bay View Community Center, 1320 E. Oklahoma Av. **Description** Snacks and prizes. **Admission** Unk.

GET-MOVING ACTIVITIES

What? CROSS COUNTRY SKI RENTALS **When?** When snow conditions permit **Where?** Hawthorn Glen Outdoor Education Center, 1130 N 60th St. **Description** Boots, skis, and poles are provided; first come/first serve. **Admission** Unk.

What? SLEDDING--WILSON PARK **When?** When snow permits, daytime. **Where?** Wilson Recreation, 4001 S. 20th St. **Description** Sledding hills for family and friends. <http://county.milwaukee.gov/Sledding> **Admission** Free.

What? SLEDDING—INDIGENOUS PEOPLES PARK **When?** When snow permits, daytime. **Where?** 7301 W. Courtland Av. **Description** Accessible sledding hills for family, groups, and friends. <https://www.jsonline.com/story/life/wisconsin-family/2019/10/28/winter-2019-sledding-hills-milwaukee/2454041001/> **Admission** Free.

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Happening in the
Columbus Park
neighborhood



***Sledding in
Indigenous
People's Park***

7301 W. Courtland Avenue

ACTIVITIES IN MILWAUKEE NEIGHBORHOODS

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What? SLEDDING--PULASKI *When?* When snow permits, daytime, lighted evenings 4:30 to 8:30pm. *Where?* Pulaski Park, 2701 S. 16th St. *Description* Sledding day or night on lighted hill. <http://county.milwaukee.gov/Sledding> *Admission* Free.

What? SLEDDING--MCCARTY *When?* When snow permits, daytime. *Where?* McCarty Park, 8214 W. Cleveland Av. *Description* Sledding hills for family and friends. <http://county.milwaukee.gov/Sledding> *Admission* Free.

What? SLEDDING--MCGOVERN *When?* When snow permits. *Where?* McGovern Park, 5400 N. 51st St. *Description* Sledding hills for family and friends. <http://county.milwaukee.gov/Sledding> *Admission* Free.

What? SLEDDING—HUMBOLDT PARK *When?* When snow permits, daytime. *Where?* 3000 S. Howell Av. *Description* Sledding hills for family. <https://www.jsonline.com/story/life/wisconsin-family/2019/10/28/winter-2019-sledding-hills-milwaukee/2454041001/> *Admission* Free.

What? KIDS' YOGA (Age 8 to 11). *When?* Sat.s, 9 to 10am. *Where?* Bay View Community Center, 1320 E Oklahoma Av. *Description* Opportunity to practice mindfulness while stretching and strengthening bodies. *Admission* Unk.

What? HANK AARON STATE 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 94th Pl. <http://hankaaronstatetrail.org/> *Admission* Free.

What? INDOOR SKATING *When?* Weekdays, check website for times. *Where?* Wilson Park Arena, 4001 S. 20th St. *Description* Indoor skating. Wilson Ice Arena (milwaukee.gov) *Admission* \$6.50, \$4.75 juniors and seniors, skate rentals extra.

What? RUN/WALK TRACK AT THE PETTIT *When?* Hours vary, see website. *Where?* Pettit National Ice Center, 500 S. 84th St. *Description* Walk or run on 430-meter track with lockers and showers for \$1 extra at limited times. <http://thepettit.com/sports/run-walk-track/> *Admission* \$4.

What? PUBLIC ICE SKATING AT THE PETTIT *When?* Hours vary, see website. *Where?* Pettit National Ice Center, 500 S. 84th St. *Description* Indoor ice skating and skate rentals. <http://thepettit.com/public-skate/> *Admission* \$7.50, \$6.50 kids 13-15; \$5.50 kids 4-12 and seniors; free <4.

What? OUTDOOR ICE SKATING—BAY VIEW *When?* Only when ice is 6 inches thick; 3 to 8pm. *Where?* Humboldt Park, 3000 S Howell Av. *Description* Ice skating for adults and children (heed "thin ice" signs). <http://www.humboldtparkmilwaukee.org/park-amenities/ice-skating/> *Admission* Free.

What? OUTDOOR ICE SKATING—DOWNTOWN *When?* Winter. *Where?* Red Arrow Park, 920 N Water St. *Description* Ice

skating for adults and children. *Admission* Free, but charge for skate rentals.

Happening in the East Town neighborhood



Ice Skating at Red Arrow Park 920 N Water St.

Jane Jacobs on neighborhood parks:

Neighborhood parks fail to substitute in any way for plentiful city diversity. Those that are successful *never* serve as barriers or as interruptions to the intricate functioning of the city around them. Rather, they help to knit together diverse surrounding functions by giving them a pleasant joint facility.

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

New Coeln—neighborhood of ever-changing populations

New Coeln is one far south side neighborhood among many that makes up today's Garden District. The boundaries of the Garden District are those of the 13th Aldermanic District, which include New Coeln. All Garden District neighborhoods were once part of the Town of Lake, with boundaries of Lake Michigan to South 27th Street and Greenfield to College Avenues. By the mid-1950s, the City of Milwaukee had annexed the areas that today encompass the Garden District.

Early populations

In the 1840s, a group of German immigrants from the area around Cologne (German *Köln*) set up a farming hamlet on Howell near today's College Avenue. They called their hamlet New Coeln. By 1847 the hamlet had about 50 settlers and a new Catholic parish, St. Stephen's. Their inn, variously known as New Coeln House, Deuster's Saloon, and the New Coeln House Dancehall is still open as the Landmark 1850 Inn, and is on the National Register of Historic Places. See photo below.



New Coeln House still standing on the border of Mitchell Field

The era of Saveland

The next generation of settlers came at the turn of the 20th century. Many of the far southside neighborhoods that comprise today's Garden District owe a debt to the dreams of a local Norwegian named John Saveland. Saveland owned a booming business on Water Street that provided provisions for fishing boats, steamships, and schooners that sailed from Milwaukee. And he also had an interest in real estate. In 1887 Saveland organized a group of investors that purchased 30 acres of land bordered by today's Bradley, Howard, Whinnall, and Howell. The group hoped to attract upper middle class home buyers to their project—people who would work in the city and retire to their county estates at the end of the work day.

But despite a convenient Milwaukee streetcar with stops along Howell Avenue, few lots were sold in the early days. Saveland ultimately turned some of the land into a recreational venture, with an amusement hall and grounds. It wasn't until the time of Saveland's death in 1909 that the area was finally

beginning to attract settlers. These were not the upper middle-class professionals that Saveland had expected, but south side working class people—mostly Poles.

Post-World War II

For most far south side neighborhoods, it wasn't until the end of World War II that the housing market really began to take off. Newly arriving settlers were migrating from Near South Side and Historic South Side neighborhoods and settling alongside German families from past generations. By 1958 there were just over 50 residences in the New Coeln area. Most were Poles and Germans, with a scattering of Italians, Bohemians, Irish, Swedes, and English. See a family profile below.

New Coeln family profile (1950s)

The Behlendorfs

In the 1950s, the Marian Rose and Howard Behlendorf family lived at 5937 South Howell Avenue. At the time, they operated Howard's Tap just up the street at 5957 South Howell. They ran the neighborhood tavern for 18 years.

Marian Rose (nee Eckart) was a native of Antigo, Wisconsin. Her parents were both children of Bohemian immigrants. At age 20, Marian moved to Milwaukee where she met and married Howard.

Howard was born and raised in Milwaukee. The parents of Howard and his brother Arnold were Edwin and Rachel F. Behlendorf (nee Lambert). Father Edwin was the son of a German immigrant. Howard's parents divorced when he and his brother were very young. His mother ended up running a rooming house on 11th Street. The ethnic background of Rachel is unclear. The 1920 census lists her and her two boys as Mulatto, but other censuses list them as white (no other information was found on Rachel).

Howard and Marian Rose had two children. Before opening Howard's Tap in the New Coeln neighborhood, Howard had worked in industry as a foreman.

After 18 years at Howard's Tap, the couple retired and spent their days traveling throughout the United States in their fifth wheeler. Howard died in 1975. Marian Rose moved to Florida and returned to Wisconsin shortly before her death in 2008. Both were interred at Arlington Park Cemetery in Milwaukee.

NEW COELN NEIGHBORHOOD HISTORY

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South Howell Avenue

In 1955 the only businesses in New Coehl were on South Howell Avenue. Below is the short list.

Addresses on S. Howell in New Coeln area in 1955	Names of businesses and organizations from the <u>Milwaukee City Directory</u>
5957	Howard's Tap
6039	St. Stephen's Cemetery
6280	Dowodzenka's Service Station
6247	Howell Garden's Tavern
6279	Haase Service Station

Notes:

- The land for this cemetery was donated to the parish of St. Stephen's Catholic Church by Peter Joerres in 1848.
- The Dowodzenka gas station may have been owned by Marian Dowodzenka who lived at 4367 S Honey Creek Dr.

The population of New Coeln would gradually become more diverse. This happened for two reasons. First, Milwaukee Latinos continued migrating south from the Near South Side in the 1970s and 1980s. Second, the founding of the Islamic Center of Milwaukee in 1982 attracted Muslims from the Middle East and Northern Africa.



Houses on 1st St. & W. Uncas Avenue

Today, small New Coeln has fewer than 800 residents. Just under half are European Americans. Slightly over 3 in 10 are Latinos (mostly Mexican, but

including quite a few Puerto Ricans), and approximately 1 in 6 are Asians (including Hmong/Lao, Filipinos, and Koreans). There are also a scattering of American Indians, African Americans, Arabs, and people of multiple backgrounds.

The median household income in New Coeln is just over \$25,000, placing the neighborhood on the margin between low income and lower middle-income strata. The largest number of occupations claimed by residents are in the fields of administration, sales, and production.

Gardening (or as some apparently say—farming) is a major hobby among New Coeln residents—a tradition carried over from the time when the neighborhood was part of the Town of Lake. In 2008, the Common Council approved a resolution to name all the neighborhoods in the 13th Aldermanic District (which includes the western section of New Coeln) the *Garden District* of the City of Milwaukee, capitalizing on a long tradition of gardening among residents and businesses. At the time, Alderman Witkowski said, “Residents and businesses here have worked hard to solidify this identity. We have had perennial exchanges and gatherings, lectures by noted gardeners, and even awarded area businesses landscaping awards to encourage and foster the character of our area.” The idea for the Garden District grew from discussions between the alderman and residents about the interest in and tradition of gardening and landscaping within the district. The effort began in earnest in early 2007, when a group of individuals formalized a garden committee and met regularly to create a vision for the 13th Aldermanic District that focused on gardening and landscaping to beautify and improve quality-of-life.

Quotes from an ongoing oral history of the Garden District by Urban Anthropology Inc

“[There are a lot of] children’s activities. There’s the new library with an emphasis on kids. And recent developments that focus on gardening and being green. And then, when the Garden District does an event, kids can do planting. There’s the Halloween parade, Easter egg hunt, hay rides. A lot of volunteers to do them.”

“There’s been some interesting religious practices. One of the micro-farms in the district is Native American. There have been some ceremonies related to that mini-farm in the Garden District, on the UW side, north of Howard, but south of Holt.”

“There’s been a lot of religious sharing. I think it’s legitimate to point out that the amount of interfaith work since 911 has increased a lot because there is a recognition in the District and in the faith communities that there’s a need to develop a deeper understanding and appreciation of each other.”

PEOPLE AND STRUCTURES THAT WEAKEN MILWAUKEE NEIGHBORHOODS

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doors and they would say, 'Hey I'm looking for Billy.' And Billy doesn't live here. So, you would go down to the next house and keep doing it, and what you find out is that they are the scouts, and if nobody answers the door then they're going to make a signal with a guy down the street to break into your house and steal stuff and take it away with their stolen minivan."



From Parkway Hills/Granville: "The neighborhood changed fast. I feel like half of my neighbors are new in the last four years. It feels like there was a little bit of a crime wave over in the 100's—the triangle of [street names]. There's a triangle. In there is a little bit of low-income housing and gang activity. The gang is called the Wild 100s. When I moved into the neighborhood, they were robbing houses and cars, but that's calmed down quite a bit."

From Fairfield/Granville: "Everyone knows the Jesse Anderson story [Anderson—a man who killed his wife in a parking lot and initially blamed it on African Americans]. That was kinda the clincher that flipped the area. And that's when everyone started leaving. . . There had been some shoplifting at the mall, and then all of a sudden Jesse Anderson happened. And that cinched it where everyone became convinced. So, it took the Granville area and any retail future that it had . . . It went from this boomtown in the '70s. By the time it hit the mid '90s, it became full circle."

From Lincoln Village/Old South Side: "Perception is everything. Today, when I say I live in Lincoln Village, people insist that this is a gang area. But I've never seen a sign of gang activity, or for that matter, of groups of kids hanging out in the street. It seems to be because there is this large Latino population that there's this perception that there must be gangs."

From Southgate/Old South Side: "Some things are better now. Even though there are some aldermen who talk about all the crime on the South Side, it's

really not the case. Do the numbers. Listen to the news. You rarely hear about a serious crime in this area. Rarely. But back in the '80s and maybe '90s you seemed to hear more. I keep hearing there are gangs here—but if they are, I'm not seeing them."

Absentee Landlords. While not all absentee landlords in neighborhoods ignored their properties, informants discussed those that did. At times, problems were made worse by the failure of the city to enforce building codes.

From Silver Spring/Granville: "And what's changed is, and I have alluded to it before, is that now that the townhouses are now owned by absentee landlords, I definitely have not seen properties kept up."



From Dretzka Park/Granville: "The landlords don't always stay on top of things so there's been a decline in the property value of the area as well."

From Brewer's Hill: "You had a lot of absentee landlords buy property because it was inexpensive. The city wasn't monitoring the condition of the properties that closely. The ratio between homeownership to absentee landlords was probably 70 percent of the properties were absentees and 30 percent were owner occupied—really, really bad numbers. I came into the neighborhood with a business background and a business perspective. At the time, I just looked at why the city was ignoring a neighborhood that was seven blocks from city hall. Why were they not basically enforcing the codes and assisting the property owners in cleaning it up and turning it around? I couldn't understand the mentality and the game plan, if you will, of the city of Milwaukee at that time. And in actuality, there really wasn't any game plan. They'd basically just written the neighborhood off."

Structures that weaken neighborhoods

In addition to *activities* and *people*, residents also brought up *structures* that weakened neighborhoods, including underperforming schools and shopping centers.

Underperforming Schools. Informants talked about the way that residents left neighborhoods (and at times the city altogether) due to failing schools.

PEOPLE AND STRUCTURES THAT WEAKEN MILWAUKEE NEIGHBORHOODS

Continued from Page 12

From Sunset Heights/Sherman Park: “[T]here was a flight from the community by middle-class Jewish people [because] the Milwaukee Public Schools were starting to slip. Up until that time, [name] High School had been one of the premier schools in the city. [Another school name] was also a very good school. All of a sudden there was a perceptible change in the public schools. . . They [the Jewish residents of the time] moved to Whitefish Bay, Shorewood, Nicolet, places where they wanted their children to be. It was still for public education, but public education with standards. And it was clear that MPS was breaking down.”



From Halyard Park/Bronzeville: “Today the big issue is Milwaukee Public Schools. There’s no control over them. The test scores and grades keep going down. I’ve seen case after case where families move out of the city just to get their kids into better schools.”

From Southgate/Old South Side: “The school system in the last 20 years has gone down. Teachers don’t know how to handle kids and they don’t try. People are moving out because of the kids—to get them into schools where more is expected of them.”

Shopping Centers. Informants also addressed ways that the advent and growth of some shopping centers and strip malls had negative impacts on neighborhoods.

From Forest Home Hills/Old South Side: “After the war Milwaukee grew. The first shopping center was either Bayshore or Southgate on 27th and Oklahoma. This began the deterioration of commercial streets like Lincoln or Mitchell. They had cars and would drive out to shopping centers. Then larger centers developed and people could go out there for more variety. Now it’s reverting back.”

From Historic Mitchell/Old South Side: “[E]verything I needed was on Mitchell [Street]—you had the Schuster’s and the JC Penney and Goldmann’s and the food places. But when everyone started driving to these places out on the

highways [strip malls] and far from here, then these stores moved out of the neighborhood. And then I had to learn to drive.”



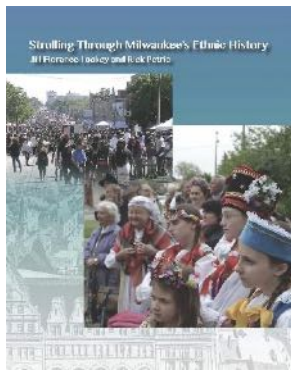
From Merrill Park: “First you had that expressway that removed all the houses in the neighborhood, so you had homeowners that had to move, and then you had all those strip malls popping up and you lost your neighborhood grocery stores.”

From Martin Drive: “There was more shopping here when we moved. You could go up or down the streets and there would be shops and you could get all of your shopping done not far from your neighborhood. Now everything is in a strip mall or a big chain store. We do not have a lot of strong small businesses anymore.”





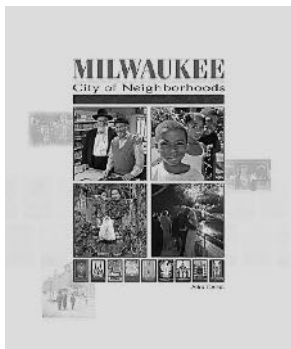
Books on Milwaukee Neighborhoods



Strolling through Milwaukee's Ethnic History

By Jill Florence Lackey and Rick Petrie

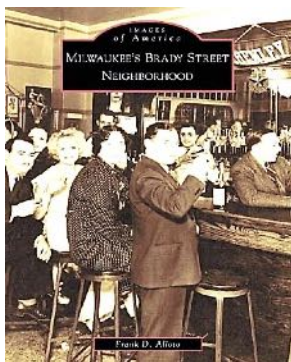
This latest work provides an “up close and personal” look at local ethnic life by directing readers to the neighborhoods and venues where the groups left their marks. It brings readers directly into their experiences, whether it involves strolling through the neighborhoods they built or participating 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/>.

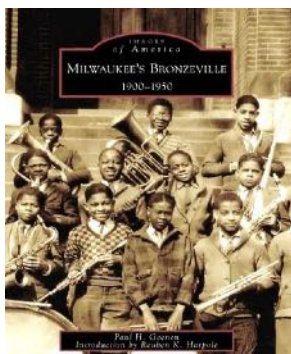


Milwaukee's Brady Street Neighborhood

By Frank D. Alioto

Milwaukee's Brady Street neighborhood began in the mid-19th 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>

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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 20th 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 will 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

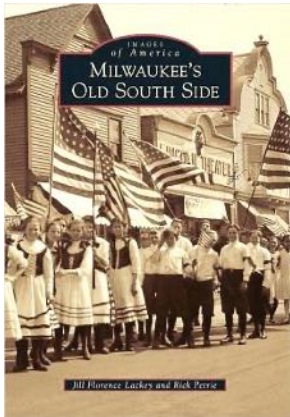
Currently, all of Sienna Jacks’ novels have perfect five-star ratings from readers at Amazon.com

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>

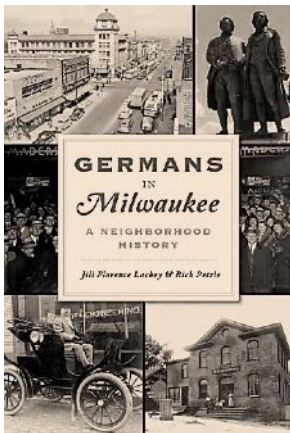


Books on Milwaukee Neighborhoods (Cont.)



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-20th 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>

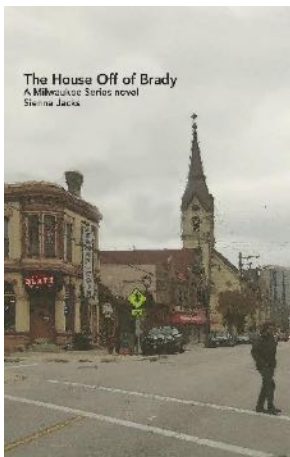


Germans in Milwaukee: A neighborhood history
By Jill Florence Lackey and Rick Petrie

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

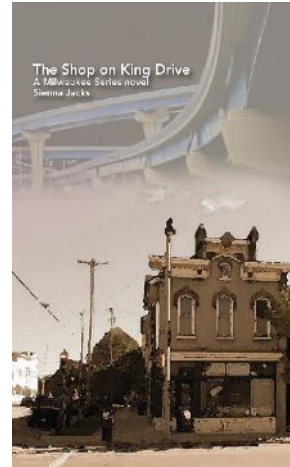
spectives of the lasting German influence on the Cream City. www.arcadiapublishing.com/Products/9781467147286

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>



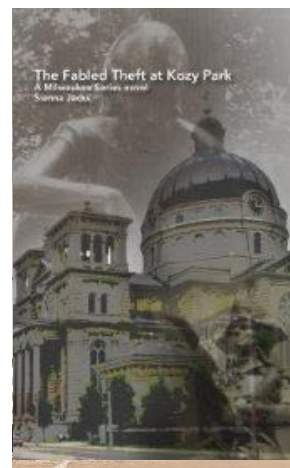
The Shop on King Drive A Milwaukee Series novel
By Sienna Jacks

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>

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 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 25th of the month preceding publication. Publication dates are on the 1st day of June, August, October, December, February, and April. Please send your stories to Dr. Jill at JFLanthropologist@currently.com.

ⁱ Photo attribution: https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/d/d4/New_Coeln_House_Dec09.jpg

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/>