

# LINCOLN VILLAGE VOICE

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*Lincoln Village's most interesting people*

## A NEW LV AUTHOR

Juan F. Fermin was born and raised in the Dominican Republic, in the island's northern province of Santiago de los Caballeros. In 1996, Juan and his wife, Angela L. Fermin, had the opportunity to emigrate from the DR and come to the United States with the help of a relative. They lived in New Jersey for two years before finding better employment opportunities in Milwaukee. Today, Juan and his family live in a lovely house on 15<sup>th</sup> Place, in the southwest corner of Lincoln Village.

Juan has an economics degree and worked in accounting and auditing in his home country, and he has harbored a lifelong passion for learning. Reading, he explains, is his "pastime," and from a very young age, he has devoured books on subjects as varied as philosophy, astronomy, and poetry.

He recently finished his first book, in which he tackles "anti-valores" (or anti-values) in a framework that is both philosophical and societal. He uses this theme as a forum for denouncing both the government and the police forces in the Dominican Republic. Juan is unsure how his book, once published, will be received. But he believes that the most important thing is to be frank, because if you do not speak truth, you will accomplish nothing.

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## Did you know that...?

Urban Anthropology produced a documentary about your neighborhood. The documentary, "*The Old South Side*," includes fascinating historical material and interviews with residents. Ordering information can be found at [www.urban-anthropology.org](http://www.urban-anthropology.org)

## Christmas in the neighborhood

*Tree lighting, contests, caroling, concerts, and Las Posadas*



On Sunday, December 20<sup>th</sup>, students of St. Josaphat Basilica Elementary School caroled to a group of Lincoln Village neighbors gathered at the intersection of Lincoln and 6<sup>th</sup>. The crowd enjoyed the singing and the bestowing of the Holiday Home Lighting Contest on the Gorecki family by the Lincoln Village Business Association. Other events this holiday season included performances by the Lira Ensemble, the Bel Canto Boys Choir, Master Singers, and the Milwaukee Symphony Orchestra at the Basilica.

### Las Posadas observed

Las Posadas (or The Inns) is a Latin American Christmas tradition mimicking the biblical Mary and Joseph's journey to Bethlehem. This year, Las Posadas was observed on the near South Side by children and adults associated with Voces de la Frontera (Voices of the Front) and the Milwaukee New Sanctuary Movement. They went "door to door" with information about immigrant rights and immigration reform.

## SKATING THIS WINTER AT KOZY PARK

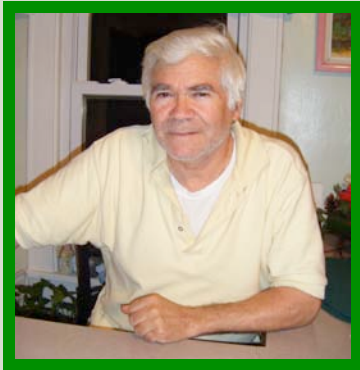


Lincoln Village neighbors of all ages are invited to participate in free ice-skating on the Kosciuszko Park lagoon this winter, sponsored by Urban Anthropology Inc. Our season will run from January 11<sup>th</sup> through February 2<sup>nd</sup>, and the ice will be open on Monday and Tuesday afternoons from 4:00 to 7:00 PM (weather and ice thickness permitting). Skates are available at no cost.

Whether you're a first-time skater or a seasoned pro, we welcome you to the second annual "revival" of this time-honored Lincoln Village tradition.

## JUAN FERMIN

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Juan says that finding employment in Milwaukee has not always been easy. And, though he is a great orator in his native Spanish, the language barrier he faces on the job market and with local institutions has been a constant frustration. He once had to fill out 14 credit applications to make a home repair—and none of these were available in Spanish! Despite this barrier, Juan is an involved member of the community. He has volunteered with a South Side organization in the past, and he is currently concerned for those residents who will be affected by the upcoming development of the Kinnickinnic River corridor. He believes strongly in the importance of the democratic process, even in small-scale endeavors such as block clubs.

## OUR SPONSORS

Lincoln Village has become a Healthy Neighborhood through these Urban Anthropology Inc. sponsors.



NIDA, in partnership with the City of Milwaukee



*Did you know that...*

## A BREWERY ONCE EXISTED IN LV?



Lincoln Village had its own German brewery at 2701 S. 13<sup>th</sup> St. on the Kinnickinnic River. It was called the Independent Milwaukee Brewery, but locally was known by its brand name, Braumeister Beer. The brewery thrived between 1902 and 1964.

## FOUR NEW BLOCK CLUBS IN LINCOLN VILLAGE

In order to develop a series of block clubs in Lincoln Village, Urban Anthropology Inc. has mapped the neighborhood into 50 clusters. This fall, staff have organized four new block clubs. The first is in cluster 21 (centered on S. 15<sup>th</sup> Place north of Lincoln), and the captain is Daniel Sanchez. The second is in cluster 22 (centered on S. 15<sup>th</sup> Place south of Lincoln), and the captain is Enrique Gomez. The third is cluster 42 (centered on S. 16<sup>th</sup> St. near the Kinnickinnic River), and the contact is Juan Fermin. The fourth is in cluster 3 (centered on 7<sup>th</sup> and Hayes), and the captain is Jill Florence Lackey.

To contact any of these captains, or to set up a block club in your neighborhood, contact Urban Anthropology Inc. at 271-9417 or [JFLanthropologist@sbcglobal.net](mailto:JFLanthropologist@sbcglobal.net).

## HELP AVAILABLE IN OWNING A HOME IN LV



Urban Anthropology Inc. now has a real estate agent to act as the residents' own agent in purchasing a home in Lincoln Village. His name is Chris Trotter. Each month, this newsletter will post a web site for all homes for sale in Lincoln Village. The link is <http://public.mlswis.com/link.html?oy9ot3ec88i..1>

To access your own agent at no cost, and to learn the latest on home buying grants and loans, call Urban Anthropology at 271-9417.