

HIGHLIGHTER

WASHINGTON HEIGHTS NEIGHBORHOOD MAGAZINE

FALL/WINTER 2023



WHNA.net

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The *Highlighter* is a biannual publication of the Washington Heights Neighborhood Association. The neighborhood is located within boundaries from Highway 175 to North 60th Street and from Vliet Street to North Avenue.

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Sabrina Eder, husband Alec,
and son Archie.

From The Dining Room Table of the President

Dear Neighbors,

I hope this message finds you and your families well as we've had the opportunity to enjoy another beautiful Wisconsin summer and have started the transition into fall. I want to start by

saying thank you for your continued support of the Washington Heights Neighborhood Association. Without your support all of our activities, events and outreach into this wonderful neighborhood would not be possible. Your membership contributions and donations help make this association meaningful for all of our residents. Thank you.

I'm grateful to be writing you as your WHNA Board President – I'll be serving for the remainder of 2023 and into 2024 as well. Serving alongside me are Vice President Heidi Steeno, Treasurer Kinard Dozier and Secretary Kevin Driscoll. We meet monthly to make sure we are headed in the right direction for all of our neighbors, to ensure we are driving toward our goals and to make Washington Heights a fun, inclusive place to live for all of you. The four of us are in constant communication as issues, opportunities and new ideas are consistently being thrown our way. Heidi, Kinard and Kevin are such dedicated members of this neighborhood who continue to go above and beyond their positions on this board. I am so thankful to serve alongside them and for their enthusiasm and passion.

Last year we filed the application for WHNA to become an official 501(c)(3) organization. Working with a local attorney's office, we recently completed all of the needed paperwork. Once the application is approved, we will communicate on our social channels as well as send an email to all of our membership. This will make all contributions to WHNA tax deductible, and will allow us to qualify for grants so we can continue to make improvements in our neighborhood.

2023 NEIGHBORHOOD EVENTS

Unless noted, please visit whna.net, our Facebook or Instagram Pages for more details on each event.

October 21

Flights & Bites in the Heights

www.mtolivemke.org

October 28

Washington Heights Spooktacular

www.whna.net

November 4

Kidpreneur Fair

www.cloud9workshop.org

November 10-11

Holiday Happenings on Vliet Street

www.meetonvliet.com

November 24

Small Business Saturday

Shop local on North Ave. and Vliet St.

We hope you all had a fun and safe summer here in Milwaukee and enjoyed all of the spring and summer events like the Bloom and Groom Plant Sale, Neighborhood Clean-up and our Night Markets! Washington Park Wednesdays and Bastille Days West are always a hit, and we love being able to provide sponsorship to those activities. We are excited to once again host Spooktacular this fall in Area 2. We're looking forward to seeing how that area of the Heights comes alive this Halloween!

We will meet as a board in November to do our annual budget review and plan for 2024. This is when we will identify which events we want to bring to the Heights and listen to new ideas board members may have. If you have any ideas for a new event or ways to bring our community together, please reach out to me at president@whna.com. We want to hear from you. We wouldn't be able to put on all of these great activities without your support. Thank you!

Lastly, I want to extend a heartfelt **THANK YOU** to our board members who have been serving us for years and who are moving on to new adventures. I am filled with gratitude for their service to this neighborhood and their generosity as they gave so much of their personal time to support this community.

Lyra O'Brien served on the WHNA board as an at-large representative. I want to recognize her for her outstanding work pioneering our Night Markets when we needed them most back in 2020. She took an idea and grew it to be something truly special! In fact, our WHNA Night Markets were recognized in Milwaukee Magazine as #4 out of 10 Night Markets to experience in Milwaukee. Congratulations Lyra and thank you so much for your contribution to WHNA!

Eric "Ric" Gesell received the Volunteer of the Year award at our annual meeting back in May and we are so grateful for how he has shown up for WHNA over the many years. He supported us as treasurer and worked tirelessly to correct some financial issues we endured a few years back. Ric was also the Area 1 representative. Ric leans in to every single event – whether it be at a registration table for Spooktacular, staffing the WHNA booth at a Night Market or setting up and tearing down the Boulevard Bash. He's someone you can always count on, and I'm thankful to call him a friend.

Kirsten Finn served on the WHNA board as an at-large representative and always brought fresh ideas to our meetings and a positive attitude. I hugely appreciated how she would want to dive into problem-solving and come up with creative solutions to challenges we would encounter together as a board. She's a great listener and always made sure each voice was heard in our discussions. Kirsten is the Executive Director of the Wisconsin Bike Fed and would often think of ways to support Washington Heights through her professional network.

Eileen Seeger was our Area 3 representative and is so engaged with her neighbors and residents within Washington Heights. She's really in tune with their needs and desires as residents and did a fantastic job sharing that with our board so we were aware of the happenings and sentiment in her area. Eileen would light up the room when she walked into our board meetings – she has such great energy and is really passionate about serving her community.

Sarah Detro served as the Area 7 representative and was always such a pleasure to be around. With a smile on her face and can-do attitude, Sarah would show up to all of our events ready to give her time and effort to make sure they ran smoothly. She did this from the moment she joined our board. It has been such a joy to get to know Sarah and to see how passionate she is about Washington Heights. We live close to one another and see each other on walks with our families – Thank you Sarah for all of your effort and support of WHNA!

Stay Connected with WHNA Everyday



Sabrina Eder
WHNA President

SPOOKTACULAR

Saturday October 28

Everyone's favorite night of the year is right around the corner. Make plans with your family and friends to take part in the 2023 Spooktacular festivities on Saturday, October 28, 2023. Spooktacular is open to everyone who registers. Feel free to invite your family and friends to our longest running annual neighborhood event. Spooktacular takes place rain or shine. There is no make-up date. Updates will be posted at whna.net and on Facebook and Instagram.

Spooktacular Registration

All youth who wish to trick-or-treat and receive candy must register for Spooktacular and use the 2023 trick-or-treat bag.

Pre-Registration Events

\$5 / trick-or-treater for current WHNA members
\$10 / trick-or-treater for non-members
Cash, check, Venmo or credit card accepted.

Saturday, October 21 • 10AM-Noon
Tuesday, October 24 • 4PM-7PM

St. Sebastian Parish Gathering Space
5400 W. Washington Boulevard
Enter from 54th Street through the double doors.

Day of Registration Events

\$10 / trick-or-treater for both members and non-members
Cash, check, Venmo or credit card accepted.

Saturday, October 28 • 10AM-Noon
St. Sebastian Parish Gathering Space
5400 W. Washington Boulevard
Enter from 54th Street through the double doors.

Saturday, October 28 • 4PM-7PM
Spook Central –SEE MAP

Spooktacular FAQ

Saturday, October 28, 2023

The fun begins at Spook Central and trick-or-treating takes place throughout Area 2 from 6:30 to 8:30PM.

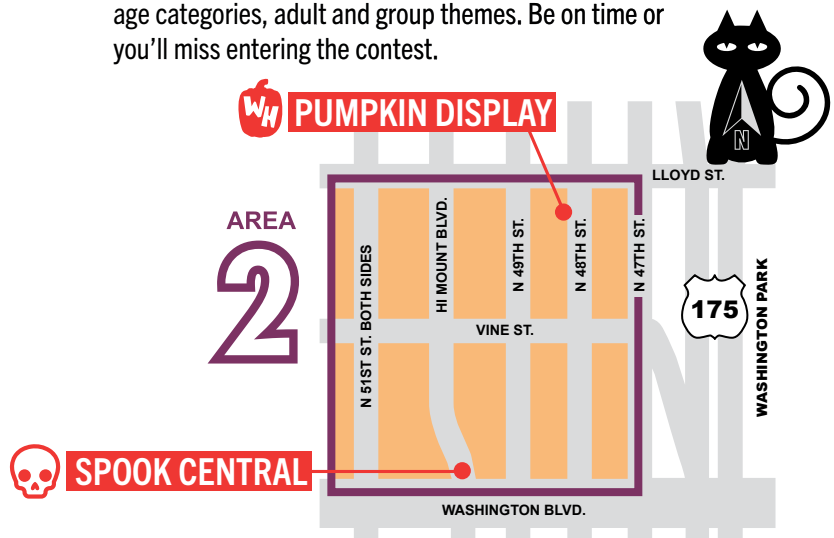
Washington Heights Pumpkin Display

1825 N 48th Street

6PM Costume Contest at Spook Central

Sponsored by Rainbow Booksellers

No registration required. Prizes awarded in a variety of age categories, adult and group themes. Be on time or you'll miss entering the contest.



VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

We need help from over 75 volunteers to make Spooktacular a success. Learn more about all the Spooktacular volunteer opportunities and sign-up using the corresponding QR code.



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MENTORSHIPS AND MEANINGFUL EXPERIENCES AT WASHINGTON PARK *by Melissa Muller*

The Dog Days of summer have come to an end, and I, along with many others, am eager for the upcoming lazy and milder months after spending a long, hot season at Washington Park. The park has been a hub of activity, with vendors, artists, musicians and attendees creating a vibrant atmosphere. It's not just about free music; there's an undeniable magic that surrounds the place.

The park is a great place for kids to burn off energy. Children can have fun chasing the Bubble Man or the Stilt Lady while enjoying some live music. They also benefit from free meals provided by Milwaukee Center for Independence. For parents, the park becomes a space to wind down close to home, listening to an array of performances on the stage that cater to diverse musical tastes. It's a place to socialize with friends and savor some Vennture Beer.

Washington Park Neighbors (WPN) strive to maximize diversity on the stage, encompassing a wide range of performances from acoustic to Zydeco music. The aim is always to authentically represent the neighborhood's diverse audiences while managing resources responsibly on a tight budget.

This summer, WPN introduced a new mentorship model for their stage management and audio/technical crews. Collaborating with The New State (TNS), a youth-serving performance and technical career center, they devised a fresh approach to working with the artists who performed on the stage. They paired TNS youth interns with experienced audio technicians, providing them 8 weeks of real-world mentoring and training. Though this initiative brought some delays to the show's flow at times, it was all part of the magic. Imagine MATC instructor Crash Crawford giving an intern a lesson in mixing microphones, or TNS Dima Pochtarev (Unifi Records / the MINiclassy) showing how to set up speakers properly. The dedication to teaching and learning on-the-go ensures that the next generation of music makers and performers will carry this knowledge into future careers.

WPN organizers deeply appreciate your financial donations. The funds raised help youth discover their purpose, compensate musicians for their performances in the park and will provide training for new businesses to become food vendors through a small-business incubator format. The profits generated from these ventures will directly benefit the community. The summer season brings forth the best opportunities to make a positive impact, and contributions from individuals like you play a vital role in making these initiatives possible. Thanks to all who participate in creating a vibrant and thriving community through their involvement and generosity.



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Outpost's Wild Rice and Mushroom Croquettes *by Lisa Malmarowski*

As the days get shorter and cooler, I find myself cooking more and leaning into heartier ingredients like these simple vegetable croquettes. Sure, call them patties, but croquettes elevate them to fancy dinner fare.

These are surprisingly simple, savory and elegant. The trick to making these is patience. Chopping all the vegetables finely makes for easy-to-shape croquettes and a lovely presentation. We used a flax mixture to keep the croquettes together and keep them plant-based, but you can substitute one lightly beaten egg. Chicken or turkey broth can be substituted for the vegetable broth if you like.

Store in the fridge in a sealed container for up to 4 days. They reheat nicely in a warm skillet and work great as veggie burgers as well.



Serves 10

Plant-based/Gluten-free

- 2 cups short grain brown rice
- 1/2 cup wild rice
- 5 cups vegetable stock
- 2 tablespoons olive or vegetable oil, divided
- 4-5 button or crimini mushrooms (1 cup), finely minced
- 1 small onion (1/2 cup), peeled and finely minced
- 1 small carrot (1/2 cup), finely grated
- 1/2 stalk celery (1/4 cup), finely diced
- 1/4 cup minced fresh flat leaf parsley
- 1 tablespoon ground flax meal + 3 tablespoons warm water
- 2 teaspoons mixed dried herbs like sage, thyme and rosemary
- 2 tablespoons Braggs Liquid Amino Acids or low-sodium gluten-free tamari
- Salt and freshly ground pepper to taste
- Olive oil for cooking

1. Wash rice and place in heavy pot with vegetable stock. Cover, bring to a boil, then reduce to a simmer and cook about one hour or until rice is very tender and slightly sticky.
2. In a small bowl whisk together ground flax and 3 tablespoons warm water. Set aside and allow to gel.
3. Over medium heat in a sauté pan, sauté the mushrooms, onions, carrots and celery about 10 minutes until softened. Add the parsley and dried herbs and set aside to cool.
4. When rice is cooked, add the sautéed vegetables and flax mixture to the pot, season to taste and stir very well until completely combined.
5. When cool enough to handle, form into 10 burger-sized croquettes.
6. Heat olive oil in a large sauté pan and cook croquette patties on medium heat about 5 – 10 minutes per side, until nicely browned and crisp.
7. Serve hot over steamed greens and top with gravy or sauce.

Dogma: What to Expect When Boarding Your Pet

by Laura Burke



When you're looking to board your dog, it's important to find a situation that's comfortable for both you and your dog. These days, there are more options than ever to choose from when leaving your dog in the care of others. In addition to boarding kennels, there are dog sitters who will board your dog in their home or yours.

A good place to start is by asking your veterinarian, groomer, dog-owning friends or neighbors for the names of boarding kennels or dog sitters they recommend.

Quality is obviously key, but costs are also important when deciding on a boarding facility. Find out what the daily/nightly rates are, whether this includes walks and individual attention, what form of payment is accepted when payment is expected. Also ask about the checkout time and how much you are charged if you're late.

If your dog hasn't been boarded before, consider a short overnight stay before an extended stay. Even an afternoon of doggie daycare can be a good test. This will help your dog get more comfortable with the experience and give the caretaker a better idea of your dog's needs.

When you drop off your dog for boarding, bring their food, health and veterinarian information, bed and favorite toys. Be sure to leave up-to-date contact information, as well as an emergency contact. When you leave, be positive and upbeat. Keep the goodbyes short and sweet.

Often the hardest part of leaving town is trusting someone else to take care of your canine companion. Taking the time to find a boarding option you trust and one your dog enjoys will make all the difference.

Have a dog article you'd like to see in the future?

Please contact Laura: Washington Heights Pet Sitter at: Mariah969@yahoo.com

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CHANCES ARE YOU KNOW TRISH DULKA

Colleen DuVall's interview with Heights Author Trish Dulka



Trish Dulka is a Wisconsin native who has been at Hal Leonard Publishing for nearly 34 years and is the VP of marketing and communications. Recently, she became a published author when she dusted off a

manuscript started in high school about growing up around a racetrack, called *"Chances Are"*. It's a tough and tender coming-of-age young adult novel, with characters you will care about and gravitate to right away. I spoke with her recently about her love of horses and any words of wisdom she has for fellow writers.

Colleen: I see from your bio that you're a life-long fan of horse racing. I found this very intriguing—how did this passion develop?

Trish: (laughs) Right? How did a girl from the south side of Milwaukee wind up with a love of horse racing? My family and I watched the Triple Crown races every year. It may have happened as I became a preteen girl and started noticing the cute jockeys that rode. One passion led to another, but it was my older sister that pointed out that, you know there's Arlington Park racetrack in Illinois. I think on a day trip she took me there and (I remember) just being there among those beautiful thoroughbreds and the excitement of watching. It triggered something in me and even as I grew out of having crushes on jockeys, I stuck with it. I love everything about the sport.

Colleen: Was writing always a lifelong passion or did it come to you later in life?

Trish: Always a lifelong passion. I recently came across a file drawer with just hand-written stories that I wrote as a little kid. I always wanted to be a writer.

I actually wrote my first draft of *"Chances Are"* when I was the heroine's age. I would bring it out every couple of years, tweak it, go to writers' conferences, get one rejection, go cowering away for a couple years, then work my way back. Last year my husband had kind of a serious health diagnosis (he's fine—he's OK). But it just really started putting life into perspective.

Colleen: How much research did you have to do for your book? Or did a lot of that come from experience and what you already knew?

Trish: Most of the story was from my own experiences. When I travel, I always try to visit as many racetracks as I can. Whenever there was a tour, I would take the tour so I could see the backstretch and learn about how the starting gates work ... that research all came very naturally. Since my book had been in the works for quite a few years, I had to make sure that my timeline was right.

Colleen: Any good advice you'd give other first-time novelists, particularly when it comes to getting published?

Trish: The market—it was tough when I started and now it's only tougher. There are so few major publishers and so much competition to get to them and to get an agent to get to them. The webinars that I started attending last year were more about alternatives to those major publishers. The smaller publishers, the hybrid publishers... you work directly with them, which is great. If you're young and you're sure that you have the next big thing, absolutely try and go the traditional route. I knew that my story was sort of an old-fashioned one. It wasn't going to start any new trends. Well, who knows, maybe it will.

You can get your own copy of Trish's book at Rainbow Booksellers on Vliet Street, Amazon.com, and the Milwaukee Public Library. You can find her on Facebook (Trish Dulka Author) and Instagram (trish_dulka_author)





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WHAT IS YOUR PLAN? *by Bill Morse*

There is an instinctive urge every January 1 for each of us to form a plan to better our lives for the year ahead. Many times we don't draft the plan or create a system to follow through with our resolutions, which can hinder us from achieving our goals. What is your plan?

Have you noticed the same desire to start a new plan as Labor Day has come and gone? It's a powerful urge that comes from our formative years. The fun of summer is over, and it's time to get back to school and work. What is your plan?

There are natural systems in life. The passing of warmth of the summer sun to the vibrant colors and cooler weather of autumn requires a plan. The patio furniture needs to be covered or put away before winter's snow arrives. The same is true of the seasons of our lives. What is your plan?

Many of us graduate from college or move into a trade without ever being taught how to create a life plan. We move from finding a career, to buying or leasing our first car, to love and marriage, to a home and children and, suddenly, we're retired. If we never planned for retirement, we may find that we don't have sufficient income in retirement. What is your plan?

Creating a life plan can help guide you through the seasons of your life. As an experienced financial advisor who's earned the CERTIFIED FINANCIAL PLANNER™ certification, I help you build your plan for the future. Each plan should be customized to you and your family's life goals. Here are some ideas to get you on the right track:

1. Create a rainy day fund that will act as your "financial shock absorber" to keep the rest of your plan steady through the uneven road of life. This should be more than just a checking account – consider a long-term fixed income fund instead.
2. Get started immediately on your retirement plan. The first years are the most important, as you'll have 20 to 40 years of compounding that money. Do not wait! I can help guide you through your retirement plan.
3. Many of us may need to borrow money for our first car. Create a plan for this so it's the first and last car you will owe interest on.
4. Create a logical plan toward your dream home. I can work with a mortgage lender to create a plan for you.
5. Draft your base legal documents of a will, durable power of attorney and a medical power of attorney. I can work with an attorney who will draft these for you.
6. Plan for your children's education. Start an education plan to help you prepare.
7. With a home and children, your insurance needs will change. I can help you create an insurance plan to transfer catastrophic risk from you to the insurance company.
8. As the seasons of your life change, you may have other unexpected issues and questions. I can work with your other advisors as needed to help you with questions on taxes, special needs children, trusts, long-term care insurance and so much more.

With autumn here, winter is coming. And so is next summer's sunshine. You know you should create a life plan. If not today, when?



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YOU ARE AN ATHLETE!

by Rebacca Nault

Most of us don't spend our weekends throwing touchdown passes, running marathons or sinking the game-winning three pointer, but all of us depend on the same muscles as professional athletes to rake leaves, shovel snow and get things done in our daily lives. Since we don't have a highly-paid staff of athletic trainers standing by, it's up to us to care for our bodies both pre- and post-activity. Failing to do so can result in injury, pain and a reduced quality of life.

All professional athletes have a set of exercises and drills they do to condition their bodies to prevent injury and ensure success at their particular sport. This includes a proper warm-up with easy low-load cardio, strengthening to build stability and performance, and a cool down which usually includes stretching.

Welcome to "game day": you just woke up to 8 inches of snow, and you need to be at work in an hour. Before starting your athletic activity, in this case shoveling snow, perform dynamic warm-ups for no less than 5 minutes to prepare your body. Including upper body and spinal rotation exercises would be especially helpful for activities such as shoveling and raking. Think there isn't enough time for warm-ups? March in place while brushing your teeth or do lunges while your coffee brews. Simple warm-up exercises include:

Marching in place

Going for a short walk making sure to swing your arms

Riding a stationary bike or elliptical with low resistance

Walking lunges

Proper form is key to athletic excellence. While shoveling or raking, you should always follow the basic rules of body mechanics. When you lift, follow these rules:

Keep the object close to your body

Lift with your legs

Keep your back straight

Do not twist

A routine of strengthening exercises targeting your core can strengthen your body's built-in natural back brace to prevent injuries. Strengthening exercises include:

Bridges

Planks

Lunges

Squats

Once the game is over, it's time for a proper cool-down. This can consist of another easy walk, marching in place or a 5 minute bike ride. There are also some simple stretches you can do to keep your muscles from tightening up. Cool-down stretches include:

Single and double knee to chest

Prone back extension

Lower trunk rotation

Cat/cow yoga pose

Above all, it is critical that we know our limits and what our body can handle. Following all these principles to a T still does not guarantee that you won't get injured. If you have recurring pain, whether it's related to your "sport" of choice or not, it's important to seek treatment in a timely manner to avoid further injury and stay at the top of your game. MKE Physical Therapy is here to help!

For more information on the exercises mentioned in this article, as well as more tips to prevent injury, visit mkephysicaltherapy.com/you-are-an-athlete or scan the QR code.



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5 MIN WARMUP

March in place
Take a short walk

Stationary Bike
Walking Lunges

- Stagger your feet with one foot in front of the other and stand at a wider stance
- Widen your grip on the rake with one arm high on the rake and the other at a lower position
- Hinge at the hips, bend your knees, and keep your back straight
- Be sure to switch sides every few minutes to avoid overuse and muscle fatigue
- Pace yourself, take rest breaks and know your limits

- Use an ergonomic shovel if available
- Hinge at the hips, bend your knees, and keep your back straight
- Push the snow whenever possible
- Turn sideways by lifting your feet and avoid twisting
- Pace yourself, take rest breaks and know your limits

5 MIN COOL DOWN

March in place
Take a short walk

Stationary Bike
Simple Stretches

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OCT. 7
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THE LANDING AT HOYT PARK





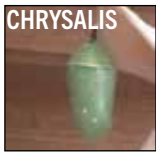
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BACKYARD OASIS FOR MONARCHS

by Julie Paasch-Anderson

Perhaps you have noticed fewer monarchs in your backyard over the years. Environmental factors such as loss of habitat and pesticide use have accounted for a decline in the monarch population. One way you can help is by planting milkweed. It is the only food the caterpillar will eat. Adult butterflies need nourishment too. Besides milkweed, native nectar plants will provide food for the adults and help attract monarchs to your yard.

Milkweed is the host plant for the monarch butterfly. Monarchs lay their eggs on the milkweed leaf. Within a few days, the caterpillar (larva) hatches and begins noshing on the milkweed. Soon it becomes too big for its skin and it molts. The caterpillars become eating and pooping machines! Over the next two weeks the caterpillar will shed its skin four times as it grows in size.

The next stage of the life cycle is the pupa. This is when the caterpillar turns into a beautiful green chrysalis with dots of gold. The caterpillar will form a silk nub and hang upside down in the shape of a "J" for a day or so before it turns into a chrysalis. In 10 to 14 days, the chrysalis will turn black and you will be able to see the orange and

black wings. Soon it will emerge and begin to inflate its wings. It will take several hours for the wings to dry before the monarch takes flight.

Adult monarchs live for approximately one month except for every 4th generation. These monarchs live for up to 9 months. The monarchs born after mid-August will fly all the way to Mexico to over winter. In spring, they will head north and start laying eggs along the way.

It is quite amazing to watch the monarch life cycle and watching it can be easily done at home. The best way is to look for eggs on your milkweed plant, typically on the underside of a leaf. Bring in the leaf with the egg and put it in a small vase with water. As the caterpillar grows, add fresh leaves to the vase. In time you will have to cut a stalk of milkweed and put it in a large vase. Make sure you have access to plenty of milkweed to feed the caterpillar as it grows. Keeping the caterpillar in an aquarium is a good way to collect and clean up the frass (poop). The caterpillar gets very active and crawls around quite a bit when it is searching for a place to form into a chrysalis. Putting a screen top on the aquarium helps keep it contained.



NOT A FAN

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me is a *breeze*.

"I'm not just a real estate agent, I'm also your Neighbor."



Amy Berger, Broker Associate

414-255-4588

amytberger@kw.com

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WHAT'S GOOD WASHINGTON PARK *by Kevin Driscoll*

The Washington Park Friends (WPF) is a friends group affiliated with the Park People, a non-profit 501(c)(3). This friends group was formed in spring 2023 and follows previous efforts of the Washington Park Partners (pre-COVID), not to be confused with the Washington Park Neighbors that runs the Washington Park Wednesdays concert series.

This WPF group convened to discuss the status of the park and what is being planned in and around the park.

Quorum Architects completed a master planning study of Washington Park in 2000 with

recommendations for implementation, and much of the 2000 study still applies. Now there are big plans in the works, such as the WIS 175 Reimagining Study, reconstruction of the parking lot along 40th Street, major building improvements to the Urban Ecology Center, replacement of the bridges crossing the lagoon, active street improvements by the City of Milwaukee along Galena Street from 40th Street to 35th Street, in addition to being a site for the national Olmsted Network annual conference this September. WPF is involved in collaborating and being a conduit for communication for neighbors, residents and businesses in the district and around the park, with a focus on what is going on in the park.

The WPF group welcomes everyone interested in improving and sustaining the experience of the park and people in the neighborhoods surrounding the park. Our guiding principle is respect, including and amplifying voices, neighbors and other people who use our park. Our meetings and working groups are currently focusing on a few topics and themes including:

- Access into and around the park (planning benches and signs and upcoming improvements to Olmsted Parkway and WIS 175)
- Lagoon and Watershed planning
- Legacy of Olmsted Park and pre-colonial history
- Pool
- Mapping
- Media team
- Governance and Fundraising

WPF is independent from Washington Park Neighbors, Urban Ecology Center, United Methodist Children's Services, West Vliet Street Business Association, Uptown Crossing BID 16, City of Milwaukee, Milwaukee County Parks and the Wisconsin Department of Transportation but actively collaborates with these entities regarding Washington Park. For more information check out "What's Good Washington Park" on Facebook for updates on events in and around the park. What are you interested in seeing in Washington Park? You can bring your ideas and creative minds to a monthly meeting. For more information on the upcoming meeting schedule or to donate to Washington Park Friends, please contact washingtonparkfriends@gmail.com.



Courtesy of Quorum Architects



NEIGHBORS MAKING A DIFFERENCE THROUGH FOSTER CARE

by Ashley Argall

Did you know that there are currently more than 1,900 children in foster care in Milwaukee County? Foster families around Milwaukee have stepped up to provide children with a stable, safe and nurturing place to call home until they can return to their family or find permanency through adoption. Foster families offer support as families work toward growth, healing and reunification. There are several foster families doing this amazing work in the Washington Heights neighborhood. Meet two of these extraordinary families making a difference.

Lawrence and Felecia Pipkins



Why did you become foster parents?

"We absolutely love kids and our hope, prayers and dreams are to assist kids in a positive environment. We hope to give kids stability, support and love while providing resources on their journey to make positive decisions. We also strive to provide kids with good opportunities to be the best they can be and are meant to be. We can do all things through Jesus Christ who strengthens us."

Lawrence and Felecia are treatment foster parents, meaning they are licensed to work with children with higher levels of physical, medical or behavioral needs due to the trauma they have experienced in their young lives. The Pipkins have been fostering since September 2009 and now use their experience to provide guidance to newer foster families.

Anthony Meyer and Emma Hughes-Meyer

Why did you become foster parents?

"When we decided to become foster parents, we weren't fully sure what we were doing but had a couple of vague intentions, from knowing we wanted our family to come together in an unconventional way, to supporting children and families in the community. Ultimately we crossed paths with other foster families, and it seemed like something we wanted to experience ourselves."

Anthony and Emma have been fostering since 2016, and earlier this year they became respite foster parents, meaning they provide short-term care for kids for a few days at a time as a way to support long-term foster families. They have adopted one daughter through foster care.

Hughes-Meyer Family



Have you ever thought about becoming a foster parent? If you are interested in learning more about fostering, or how you can support current foster parents, please visit childrenswi.org/fostercare or reach out to Ashley Argall at aargall@childrenswi.org or 414-292-4096.

The Vliet Street Mailbag

*Bonjour,
Charles here -*



Back again to share the contents of the West Vliet Street Business Association Mailbag and to answer your burning questions about the best street in the city.

Dear WVSBA Mailbag,

Christmas is my favorite time of the year! I love decorating the Christmas tree, singing carols at the top of my lungs and shopping for just the right gift for the ones I love. Any ideas where I might find some good shopping in the West Vliet Street area?

Sincerely,

Clueless Consumer

Dear Clueless,

I have never met anyone with a more accurate moniker. Have you no eyes to see the array of beautiful shops on West Vliet Street? It is a veritable shopping heaven! And on top of it, Holiday Happenings on Nov. 10, 2023 (5PM-8PM) and Nov. 11, 2023 (10AM-4PM) will offer shopping specials, carolers, a cookie exchange and a horse and wagon ride for one and all to enjoy. Questions on that, Clueless? Contact Mitch at Luce Lighting and Luxuries or (414) 431-1719.

Dear WVSBA Mailbag,

I love shopping on West Vliet Street year 'round, but the holiday shopping is tough. Not because I can't find anything, but because there is so much to choose from! Do you have any suggestions for making local holiday shopping easier this year?

Sincerely,

Overwhelmed Gifter

Dear OG,

Your question couldn't possibly be better timed. West Vliet Street businesses will be offering something special for the 2023 holidays – Meet On Vliet Value Packs: Your Ticket to Great Deals. One purchase and the benefits keep on rolling in! Watch for the value packs this fall at your favorite Vliet Street businesses.

Finally a fond adieu to George Voell and our neighborhood staple, the Wonderbar. We thank George for his constant presence and kind contributions to West Vliet Street. We all wish you well in your next chapter.

Interested in The Wonderbar story? There were plenty of news stories marking its closing. Check articles in the Milwaukee Journal Sentinel and the Milwaukee Record. To learn more about the future of the building, see the article "Biersal Tavern to Replace Wonderbar on Vliet Street" in Urban Milwaukee.

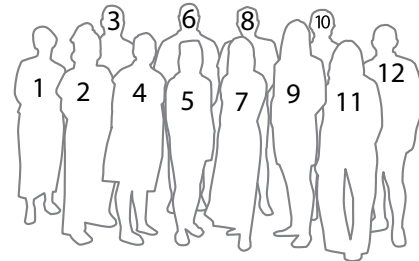
Many a merci for your kind inquiries.

Fini! Charles

Meet the 2023-24 WHNA Board of Directors



The WHNA Board, comprised of nine area representatives and seven at-large representatives, meets monthly January through November.



- | | | |
|----------------------------|------------------------|---------------------|
| 1. Rochelle Brien | 5. Sabrina Eder | 9. Erin Ninmer |
| 2. Sara Czarnecki-Reynolds | 6. Zach Burger | 10. Steve Roeder |
| 3. Robin Palm | 7. Catherine Creighton | 11. Amanda Jacquart |
| 4. Heidi Steeno | 8. Zach Wambold | 12. Kevin Driscoll |

Not Pictured: Olivia Smidel, Kinard Dozier, Simon McConico, Cameron Weitzner

Join us for the St. Seb's Fish Fry!



- All-You-Can-Eat Fried or Baked Fish
- Salad Bar, Milk, and Coffee Included
- Shrimp Chowder
- Chicken Nugget Kid's Meal (dine in only)

2023-24 Dates

<u>Dine In & Carry Out</u>	<u>Carry Out Only</u>
October 6	February 16
November 3	February 23
December 1	March 8
January 5	March 15
February 2	March 22
March 1	March 29
April 12*	
May 3	

* Adjusted for Easter break

4:30—7:30 p.m.

**St. Sebastian School Cafeteria
1740 North 55th Street**

**FOR MORE INFORMATION
Call 414-453-1061**

PARK AT N. 56TH STREET AND W. NORTH AVE. COMPLETION

Naming the Park is the Last Step

by Ann Dee Allen, BID 16 Volunteer

Work on Uptown Crossing's pocket park located at 5531 W. North Avenue continues to progress, even as the park draws enthusiastic crowds to events such as Business Improvement District (BID) 16's Uptown Get Down; by fall, the park should have two colorful sun sails, festive overhead string lighting on permanent poles and new sod at the south end of the site.

Already in use are rolling picnic tables that provide seating for park-goers to enjoy a bite and a drink from one of the many nearby restaurants and event vendors and two substantial sections of a metal shipping container repurposed for food and beverage service and performances. The containers were designed and constructed by Brandon Minga — who also designed and fabricated the park's winged sculpture "Together Feathers." The containers feature bold graphics, based on BID 16's logo, and large windows and doors that can be opened during events.

The sun sails will match the vibrant colors of the Uptown Crossing BID's logo. They will be installed over the north/central section of the park, while the shipping containers anchor the south and east sides.

"The sun sails and overhead lights will add additional color, visual interest and opportunities to further enjoy the park during the day and after sunset," said Jim Wood, account executive and safety coordinator for Kujawa Enterprises Inc. (KEI), which is leading the project. "The renovated park will provide an exciting new draw for businesses, residents and visitors into the daily life of the Uptown Crossing community." Landscaping includes pavers and planting beds, with an emphasis on native perennials that attract pollinating insects, such as bees and butterflies.



Work on the park upgrades began in fall 2022 and has moved forward in planned stages. As can occur with any project, unexpected challenges caused some delays. Electricity was added for food service and entertainment needs, but as of mid-August, it hasn't been finished or inspected by the city. To adapt, BID 16 rented generators for its Uptown Get Downs. The biggest obstacle by far turned out to be a buried fuel tank discovered while digging a hole for a light pole. The tank was successfully emptied of fuel and removed, but it did push the project completion timeline back several weeks. "Construction projects always come with their surprises. We learned how to roll with it," says Tracy Staedter, BID 16's executive director.

BID leaders and KEI focused on overcoming the challenges to create a contemporary neighborhood meeting space that fulfills the vision for the park while staying within the project's budget. "The BID 16 Board and executive director have been great to work with on shaping the design of the space and the installation process," Wood said. "Once the park renovation is complete, it will provide visitors with daily access to a welcoming, well-planned recreational space and BID members the flexibility to schedule a wide variety of special events."

The finishing touches for the park are on track — in fact the only thing left to decide is the park's name. The board is accepting proposals for names until October 31. Ideas can be emailed to info@uptowncrossing.com.

STADIUM FREEWAY IS ALREADY GONE

Opinion by Robin Palm

The first public involvement meeting on the Stadium Freeway was held May 11, 2023, at the Washington Park Senior Center. At the meeting, the public had the opportunity to learn more about the study while sharing comments on the existing condition of the freeway area and identifying priorities for improving WIS 175. This meeting was the first of several public involvement meetings.

The meeting kicked off a lively discussion in Washington Heights on the future of the Stadium Freeway / WIS 175. The discussion focused on the question of whether the Stadium Freeway should be replaced with an at-grade boulevard. But that focus assumes that a freeway or thoroughfare will always be there. This is not the case.

The Stadium Freeway, built in 1962, is actually an incomplete section of the Park West Freeway. The Park West Freeway project was cancelled in 1974. The Stadium Freeway has not seen significant improvements, upgrades or reconstruction since 1962. The Stadium Freeway is about 20 years overdue for a complete reconstruction. The bridges and overpasses have also reached their 50-year lifespans. The only conclusion from a planning/engineering standpoint is that the Stadium Freeway must be completely replaced. Because design standards have changed drastically since 1962, even a “replace in kind” roadway could have a much different footprint than the existing freeway.

The question we should focus on as a community is, since the Stadium Freeway must be removed anyway, what do we want to see in that empty space? Imagine these improvements in the “empty space” between 47th Street and Washington Park:

- Easier access to the park and library
- Fixing the nightmare intersections at Lisbon and North and Lisbon/Lloyd/Sherman
- Rerouting brewery truck traffic away from the Martin Drive Neighborhood
- Improving bike and pedestrian connections
- Building new affordable housing
- Reducing noise and particulate pollution
- New commercial development

This is a unique opportunity. The powers-that-be are seeking our input. What does this neighborhood want?



GET INVOLVED



Mount Olive Christian Day School

The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod

5301 W. Washington Blvd. Milwaukee, WI 53208

www.mtolivemke.org 414.774.220

Flights in the Heights will be returning this year at Mount Olive, but with a new name and slightly new twist. We invite you to join us on;

Saturday, October 21st at 6pm

Flights & Bites in the Heights- A food and beverage pairing event

We thank those of you who joined us last year for this event to benefit the upkeep and expansion of our newest play space, which is there to benefit our school and neighborhood children.

This new fundraising event will feature several local food sources for sampling with pairing options featuring a variety of beers-wines and spirits. Games and voice auctions will take place throughout the evening. The **cost** for the evening's fundraising event will be **\$50.00 per person**. Reservation and payment information will follow and be distributed throughout the neighborhood by the time you are reading this, but for now please feel free to contact:

Laura Grace Peek: lgpeek@hotmail.com

Kristine Tickner: kristine.mareth@gmail.com

with any and all questions or concerns. We look forward to seeing you all again for this wonderful evening

THE 30TH STREET INDUSTRIAL CORRIDOR

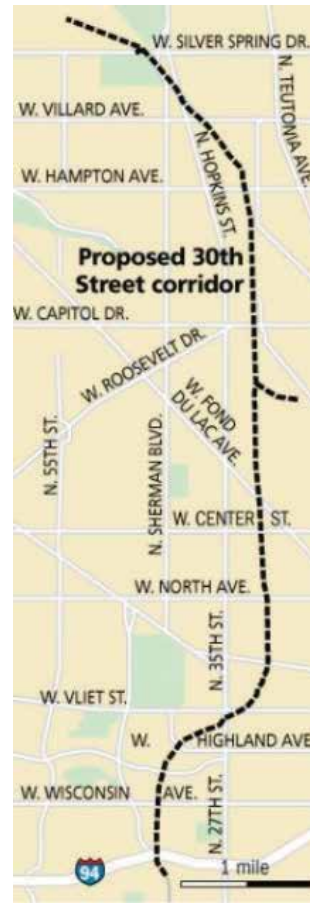
by Representative Evan Goyke (D)
18th Assembly District

I'm writing in this issue to introduce an idea that I've been working on with several community partners over the past few years. This project is far from being "shovel ready" and there are many hurdles to overcome before we can announce that the project will in fact move forward - though we continue to make slow and steady progress and support is growing! I thought it important to share the vision because I've dedicated a substantial amount of time to it and believe it can be a transformative project for Milwaukee.

There is a railroad track that runs through MolsonCoors and Harley Davidson's properties. Driving on State Street you go under the railroad track, while driving on Highland or 35th or Vliet Street, you drive over the track. From the near west side, these tracks go all the way through the north side and beyond. This railroad line forms the heart of what we call the 30th Street Industrial Corridor ("Corridor").

You likely know the Corridor's history. Once home to tens of thousands of quality jobs and some of Wisconsin's most iconic businesses, the Corridor today looks very different. The railroad is still in operation, but many of the businesses are gone. Most recently MasterLock announced that it will be moving its operations out of the Corridor.

Our idea is to co-locate a bike/recreational trail along the rail line. This is what we call "rail-with-trail," meaning the rail line would remain active and the trail would be separated by fencing (at least). The idea is more than a trail - think a linear park or greenway - that connects to the Hank Aaron State Trail on the south and branches of the Oak Leaf and future extensions of the Beerline Trails on the north. We also envision public art and lighting, restoring natural vegetation, improved storm water management and increasing safety by reclaiming vacant spaces and providing safer routes off busy city streets. We also believe this new infrastructure could spark collaboration of existing stakeholders to further develop employment opportunities and housing.



Proposed 30th Street Industrial Corridor Trail

An important step forward happened in June. The Wisconsin Department of Transportation provided funding through the Southeast Wisconsin Regional Planning Commission and Milwaukee County to conduct an engineering study of the Corridor. The engineering study will provide the technical information necessary to advance the project, as there are unique physical and topographical challenges to contend with.

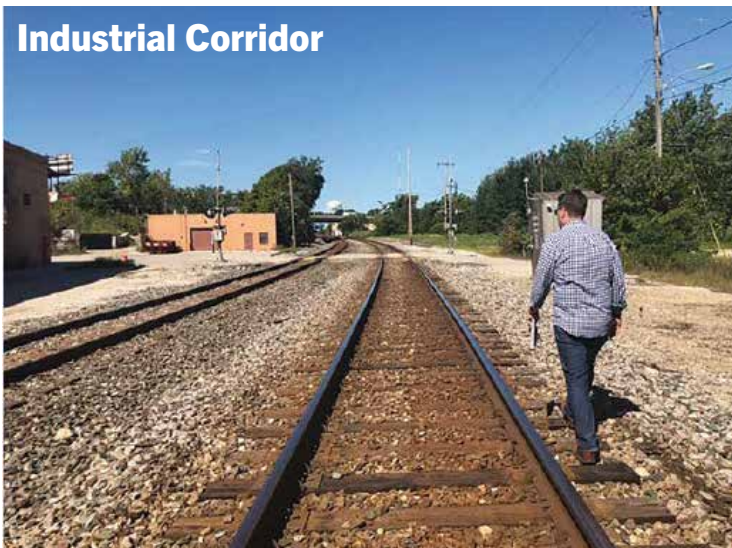
I believe this project will be transformational and a major improvement to our area and the entire City. I ask that the next time you are driving over - or under - the 30th Street railroad tracks, take a look. Envision what it could look like and the opportunities that could flow from developing the trail.

I intend to keep working on this project until it is realized. Please feel free to reach out if you have questions, concerns or ideas.

Please continue to stay tuned to my e-updates and social media for up-to-date news. As always, please do not hesitate to contact me at any time. My email is Rep.Goyke@legis.wisconsin.gov and my phone number is (608) 266-0645.

State Representative Evan Goyke
18th Assembly District

Industrial Corridor



Walking the Corridor (sorry for the trespassing) over the years has revealed a different side of the City and a clear view of the massive potential for this project to positively impact Milwaukee for years.

CITY UPDATES

from Alderman Michael Murphy

I hope you've all had a safe and enjoyable summer. I am pleased to provide you with the below updates on City and neighborhood matters.

Sales Tax Update

In July, my colleagues and I voted in favor of implementing a 2% city sales tax. While it was not an easy decision, this tax will help avert drastic cuts and take the City from the path to insolvency. I look forward to working collaboratively with my colleagues to utilize this revenue to help improve quality of life for the citizens of Milwaukee.

The new city and county sales tax will go into effect January 1, 2024. For a complete list of items included and excluded from the sales tax, please visit the Wisconsin Dept. of Revenue website.

Late August	Mayor's Public Hearing on the 2024 Budget
Late September	Mayor presents 2024 Proposed Executive Budget to Common Council Proposed Budget & Notice of Joint Public Hearing published in Milwaukee Journal/Sentinel
October	Finance & Personnel Committee Hearings on 2024 Proposed Budget
Early October	Joint Public Hearing on 2024 Proposed Budget
October 27	Finance & Personnel Committee Budget Amendment Day
November 3 9:00 AM	Budget Adoption Common Council Chambers

Residents should visit the City of Milwaukee's website to sign up for continued budget updates and to take the 2024 Budget Priority Survey, which will be available soon. Your input is critical in helping the City decide how to prepare a budget that is responsive to the needs of people and our community as a whole.

Reckless Driving Efforts

With reckless driving continuing to be a top concern for residents throughout the city, the work to find new and creative ways to mitigate speeding on our streets has not slowed down.

In May, I was proud to sponsor legislation allowing Milwaukee police to tow the vehicles of repeat reckless driving offenders. The new state law, signed by Governor Tony Evers earlier this year, allows communities across the state to pass ordinances letting police tow a reckless driver's vehicle if they have a prior unpaid reckless driving fine in the last four years. In order for the driver to get their car back, they will have to pay outstanding traffic fines as well as the tow and impound fees within 90 days. If that doesn't happen, the driver will not be allowed to retrieve their vehicle. The ability to tow vehicles of known dangerous individuals will prevent that vehicle from being used to put you and your loved ones in harm's way.



If you or your neighbors are interested in making your block safer, I encourage you to fill out a Neighborhood Traffic Management Request form. The Department of Public Works will survey your block and contact you with recommendations for engineering improvements tailored to the needs of your area.

As always, please do not hesitate to contact my office with any questions or concerns related to city services. I can be reached at mmurph@milwaukee.gov or (414) 286-3763.

Sincerely,
Michael J. Murphy
Alderman, 10th District

MINI ECO-ART HOUSES

by Kelcey Kalumbula Owner of Cloud 9 Workshop



Find your creative bliss this fall at Cloud 9 Workshop's all new Open Studio. Each time you visit you will enjoy and explore new projects designed for both kids and adults. Make sure to also mark your calendar for the 6th annual Kidpreneur Fair, November 4 & 5. Cloud 9 Workshop's Kidpreneur Fair is a market and share space for kids to sell their products and share their ideas and inventions. Attendance at the fair is free.

Materials Needed:

1/2 oatmeal container, precut door opening
construction paper
circle template (ice cream gallon lid)
fabric scraps
glue, hot-glue or liquid glue
markers

Optional:

egg carton
caps from glue etc.
fluff (wool, cotton ball, fiber fill)
bottle caps
decorations, pom poms, buttons, sparkles, ribbon
air dry clay
artificial flowers
natural objects, sticks, acorns etc.



Mini Eco-Art Houses
Video Demo

PROCESS

ADULTS

- Cut oatmeal container in half and cut door opening using a utility knife or scissors
- Help hot glue items as needed

KIDS

Roof: Trace circle with container lid & cut out + Draw line from circle center to circle edge & cut +
Door: Cut piece of fabric and glue above door opening
Furniture: Create mini house furniture using found materials. For example, cut apart sections of an egg carton & glue to plastic bottle caps for chairs



A LETTER FROM MILWAUKEE COUNTY SUPERVISOR BURGELIS

It is my honor and privilege to serve as your County Supervisor. Thank you again for your trust. I am proud to represent you and work towards making our community a better place. This year, I have focused on improving Milwaukee County's fiscal outlook, helping property taxpayers, improvements to Washington Park and improving safety and security on Milwaukee County Transit System (MCTS) buses.

Milwaukee County 0.4% Sales Tax Increase

On Thursday, August 3, County Executive Crowley signed the 0.4% Milwaukee County sales tax increase into law. This new tax is scheduled to take effect on January 1, 2024.

With over \$1 billion in deferred infrastructure needs, \$760 million in pension liability and a \$25 million transit deficit, passing the sales tax was paramount to Milwaukee County's long-term fiscal stability. Had the tax not passed, Milwaukee County would likely be forced to close senior centers, eliminate half of all bus routes, end the use of our tax levy for the parks system and institute a 20% cut to vital services including public safety, the court system, and mental health services.

When the sales tax was approved by the Board of Supervisors, I co-authored an amendment to the legislation which calls on the County Executive to prepare a 2024 Budget that reduces the overall county property tax levy and increases funding for parks, transit and other services.

Act 12 (the state law) also requires Milwaukee County employees to transition to the stable Wisconsin Retirement System. Revenue from the sales tax increase can be used only to pay down our unfunded pension liability. This fiscally responsible move will help property taxpayers in the long term.

By dedicating the sales tax to the unfunded pension liability, Milwaukee County will no longer use property tax levy for this purpose. Not only will this free up money for important county services like parks, transit and senior centers, but it also gives Milwaukee County the ability to offer property tax relief to county homeowners. Once our unfunded pension liability is paid off, the 0.4% sales tax will be retired.

I look forward to the County Executive's 2024 Budget Proposal and will continue to fight for property tax relief in District 15 and the entirety of Milwaukee County.

Washington Park Updates

Congratulations again to the recently formed Washington Park Friends! I look forward to the continued work the group is undertaking to preserve, maintain and improve safety and access to Washington Park.

I have also been pushing for improvements in Washington Park. Fresh bike lanes were painted along Olmsted Way this spring to improve safety for all park-goers. Additionally, the Washington Park lagoon bridge replacement project is currently in the design phase. Designs are set to be finalized this December with construction slated to begin in March 2024. Construction should be completed by June 2024. The two bridges will be replaced by similarly designed concrete bridges to preserve the historic look of the park. The pathways leading to the bridges will also be renovated according to ADA standards. A one million dollar parking lot repair project will also occur in coordination with repairs and improvements to the Urban Ecology Center.

MCTS Security Taskforce

The MCTS Security Task Force recently approved final recommendations for safety improvements at MCTS. I am proud to serve as co-chair of this important committee.

Since February, the MCTS Security Task Force has met to evaluate best practices and policy improvements so that Milwaukee County can better protect the bus system, passengers and operators. Final recommendations will now be sent to the County Board and County Executive.

Recommendations include:

- Improving the visibility of security vehicles and uniforms
- Providing bus operators with a copy of an incident report within 48 hours of filing
- Guidance on how operators can address individuals sleeping on the bus in a way that meets the needs of all bus riders
- Considering the needs of unhoused individuals when developing safety and security policies
- Assigning a member of the security force to MCTS dispatch
- Creating a security force, either Milwaukee County employees or MCTS employees, consisting of either 41 or 51 officers and community support staff

I look forward to working with my colleagues on the County Board, the County Executive and our various Milwaukee County Departments to implement these policy solutions.

Thank you for your continued support. I am committed to serving you and our community, and I will keep you updated on my progress on important County issues. If you have any questions, concerns, compliments or want to discuss the County, please do not hesitate to reach out!

Sincerely,
Peter Burgelis
Milwaukee County Supervisor,
District 15
Peter.Burgelis@milwaukeecountywi.gov
(414) 278-4255

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**betty brinn
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ZOO**

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Remaining in 2023: 10/7, 11/4, 12/2.

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Lyra O'Brien

Steve Draganchuk

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SINCE 2006**



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