

New MCC board elected

At the annual meeting of the MCC membership in October, half the members of the board of directors were elected. Hopefully, some of them are people you know. Talk to them when you see problems in our community – as individuals and as a group they are here to help make things better. Here is the complete list of board members:

Jason Arndt	Elkhart St.
Marsha Bradley	Forest Ave.
John Collie	Locust Ave.
Cullen Ben Daniel	Lake Street
Howard Darby	Birch Place
Tom Eaton	Oak Avenue
Ron Gholson	Lake Street
Douglas Grimes	Ironwood Avenue
Barb Hansen	Lake Street
Janet Johnson	Lakewood Avenue
Ed Johnston	Warren Street
Demuth King	Lakewood Avenue
Cari Kniola	Juniper Avenue
Robert Leonard	Hancock Street
Heather McCarthy	Lake Shore Drive
Pauline Millard	Lakewood Ave.
Samantha Norton	Hickory Ave.
Wendy Prettyman	Oak Avenue
Anita Quiett	Lake Shore Drive
Eric Reaves	Locust Ave.
Wardella Roby	Ironwood Avenue
George Rogge	Union Street
Doretha Rouse	Vanderburg St.
Carol Smith	Ripley Street
Louis Stewart	Lake Shore Drive
Judy Tonk	Randolph St.
Roland Walker	Vermillion St.
Deb Weiss	Oak Avenue
Rachel Weiss	Morgan St.
Joseph Winfrey	Morgan St.

Duly noted

MBA SEASON WRAP-UP. The Miller Business Association (MBA) invites the public to its **Summer Season Wrap** on **Tuesday, November 19 from 5:30 to 7:30** at the Gardner Center on Lake Street. The program will include a **video of Lake Street by Drew Fox, owner of the new 18th Street Brewery**, who will describe why he has chosen to locate here. **He will also bring samples of his beer to taste.** (Fox has surmounted almost all of the administrative hurdles and hopes to be

ready to start brewing by mid-November.) J. Forest Hayes, Director of the Gary Department of Commerce and the Gary Economic Development Corp., will make a presentation on **significant upcoming developments in Miller**. Gene Ayers will discuss progress in **undevelopment** – tearing down eyesore buildings. Admission is free for MBA members but there is a charge of \$10 for other attendees to cover the refreshments.

EMPTY BOWL PROJECT. The food bank of North-west Indiana is sponsoring a fund-raiser at Temple Israel on Montgomery St. on **Sunday, November 10 from 1:00 to 3:00 pm**. The event also aims to increase awareness of hunger and poverty in the Region. Local artists and students are donating bowls which will be filled with a variety of soups and chili as an afternoon supper. The bowls themselves will then be auctioned off. The entrance fee is \$5.

TOSCANINI BIOGRAPHY. Miller Beach Arts will present a film biography of Arturo Toscanini, the iconic figure of classical music and opera in mid-20th century America, at the Gardner Center, on **Saturday, November 16 at 7:00 pm**. There will be an introduction by Larry Lapidas. Admission is \$12 and refreshments are available.

COMMENT ON THE ILIANA EXPRESSWAY. The Northwest Indiana Regional Planning Commission (NIRPC) has scheduled several opportunities for public comment on the proposed Iliana Expressway, which would connect I-65 south of Lowell with I-55 in Illinois. Meetings are set for **Wednesday, November 13 from 4:00 to 6:00 pm** at NIRPC headquarters on Southport Road in Portage (the other side of Rt. 249 from Bass Pro) and on Tuesday, **November 19 from 2:00 to 4:00 pm** at the city hall in Michigan City. MCC members are prepared to make negative comments because the expressway would facilitate the proposed Peotone airport to the detriment of the Gary airport and would encourage further urban sprawl. Additional public comment would be welcome.

BREAKFAST AND BLOOD DRIVE. The Ladies Auxiliary of the American Legion on Old Hobart Road is sponsoring an “all you can eat” breakfast from 9:00 am to 1:00 pm on **Sunday, November 17**. Cost is \$6 for adults and \$3 for children. During the breakfast, the Auxiliary is also conducting a blood drive.

HOLIDAY SING-ALONG. The Lake Street Gallery will present the **21st annual Holiday Sing-along**, with Kaye Lewis at the organ accompanying the attendees in the whole repertoire of popular holiday songs. **Saturday,**

December 7 from 7:00 to 10:00 pm. Refreshments, including Joyce's renowned chili, will add to the festivities. The **Lake Street Gallery** will be open every day, with extended hours, from November 30 until Christmas. Starting November 30, there will be '**Soupy Saturday**' every week, with a bowl of soup for each customer, to keep their strength up while shopping. For the Arts District's **Pop-up Bazaar on December 14**, the Gallery will feature works by Therese Carey and Deanna Piskor.

NOVEMBER 2013 MCC MEETING

THE NEXT MCC BOARD MEETING WILL BE HELD ON MONDAY, NOVEMBER 11 AT 7:30 PM, IN THE MEETING ROOM OF THE MARQUETTE PARK UNITED METHODIST CHURCH ON GRAND BLVD.

MCC members are invited to attend and participate.

Contact the MCC between meetings at P.O.Box 2645, Gary, IN 46403, or e-mail mceaton@aol.com. You can also visit the MCC website at www.millercitizenscorp.org.

CHRISTMAS BAZAAR – DEC. 7 & 8. St. Mary of the Lake Church will hold its annual Christmas Bazaar on **Saturday, December 7 and Sunday, December 8 from 10:00 am to 3:00 pm.** On sale are all manner of merchandise, books, handicraft items, and plants. For lunch, enjoy a variety of soups, sandwiches and sweets.

POP-UP BAZAAR. The Arts District pop-up event for December will be the Holiday Bazaar, and they are currently looking for participants who have paintings, craftwork, jewelry, or FOOD for sale. Apply on-line at www.milleerbecharts.org.

PLANTER BOX REPAIRED. The planter box in the middle of Lake Street at Fourth Avenue was damaged several times, being hit by out-of-control drivers, and it went unrepaired for several years, sparking continuous complaints from passers-by. **The planter has finally been repaired due to private effort.** The city of Gary couldn't get it fixed, but Miller people could.

FAMILY FUN IN THE DUNES. The Douglas Center on Lake Street has resumed its **free open house programs for families**, every **Saturday from 9:00 to 4:00**, starting October 25. Every week, visitors will have a chance to play with hands-on exhibits, make craft items, feed the resident fish and turtles, or play in the outside nature play area. There will also be special programs each week. On **November 9**, visitors will learn how to **make penny whistles**. On **November 16 at 1:30 and 2:30**, there will be slide shows illustrating the rebound of the **wild turkey** population, followed by puppet shows featuring a turkey character. There's no charge to participate.

Volunteer efforts continue to beautify Miller area

The MCC Shoreline Committee, the Miller Garden Club, the Gary Sanitary District and many unattached local residents keep working to make the Miller streets and park more attractive.

A large number of trees and shrubs have been planted around the cell phone tower on Montgomery, softening the harsh landscape and contributing to stormwater management, which is the priority for Sanitary District Director Dan Vicari. The plantings will have even more effect in future years as they grow. The Garden Club members, with help from MCC workers and financial support from the Miller Business Association have planted more than 1,500 bulbs, in the planters on Lake Street and around the Father Marquette statue in the Park. We should all enjoy a profusion of tulips, daffodils and alliums blooming in the spring.

All of this volunteer effort has helped to compensate for the work the city cannot afford in Marquette Park and in other public places.

Work under way on a plan to run Marquette Park

In September, MCC President Eric Reaves documented – in living color – problems with the maintenance and operation of Marquette Park, and he pulled together a delegation of eight Miller Residents, to meet with Mayor Freeman-Wilson and renew the idea of creating a private not-for-profit organization to manage and fund Marquette Park. The meeting took place early in October, and the MCC delegation was surprised to hear the Mayor agree with them, that the city did not have the needed resources

to properly maintain the park. She was now open to developing a private organization which would be responsible for park operation, in return for raising money to pay for the job.

The Mayor agreed to appoint a negotiating team from the city and the MCC would develop a team from the private sector to work out a detailed agreement. The MCC team will consist of Eric Reaves, Carol Smith, George Rogge, and Tom Cera. So far, the two groups have not met, but we are hopeful that an arrangement can be worked out, in time for next year's park season.

Recycle almost everything

Recycling is beneficial in two ways – the recycled materials have value, and they reduce the cost of putting material into landfills. **Everyone benefits when we recycle as much as possible.** The Gary Recycling Department is encouraging everyone to do just this.

MATERIALS TO RECYCLE include paper, magazines, cartons, cardboard, aluminum cans, empty aerosol cans, plastic bottles (number on bottom of 6 or less), and glass bottles. Isn't that almost everything?

You can **place all of these items into your regular red/pink recycling bins** for pickup the same day as other trash (in Miller, that's Tuesday). If you regularly have too much recycled material to fit in these bins, you can obtain, on demand, a **large recycling container**, the same as your regular green trash container but with a yellow top. Just call the Recycling Department at 882-8445, ext. 3 and they will deliver one to you.

Grass clippings, which are easily bio-degradable, can be placed in your **regular green trash containers**, without any bags or packaging. However, **leaves, small sticks and branches** must be placed in **brown paper bags** and left for pickup the second and fourth weeks of October and November. **Other yard wastes** can be dropped off at 7015 W. 5th Avenue, on weekdays from 8:00 to 3:00 or Saturdays from 8:00 to 12:00.

Drop off electrical items at 900 Madison St. on weekdays from 7:00 am to 2:00 pm. This includes computers with mouse, keyboard and monitor; copiers, fax machines, typewriters, laptops, printers, microwaves, cell and house phones, VCRs and scanners.

If you then put kitchen scraps into your compost pile, there will be almost nothing left for the regular trash pickup.

hip renewal.