

Ed Asner as FDR

From Broadway to Miller Beach

Television and stage legend Ed Asner has enjoyed a long run on Broadway in a one-man show as President Franklin Roosevelt in **FDR**. Now, the show is coming to Miller Beach for a one-night performance at the Pavilion in Marquette Park, on **Tuesday, March 12 at 7:00 pm**. Sponsored by the Miller Beach Arts and Creative District and Mas Media VII, this will be the only performance of **FDR** in the Midwest.

Tickets are \$35 in advance or \$40 at the door. There are also VIP tickets for \$100 which include preferred seating and valet parking and tickets for \$250 which include an opportunity to meet and enjoy cocktails with Ed Asner. Tickets are available from Ayers Realtors on Lake Street or on-line at www.fdrinmillerbeach.eventbrite.com.

Reviewer Steve Seigel calls the performance “a tour de force of the actor’s craft, as intensely physical as it is emotional.”

Denny Davis retrospective

COME AND SEE. The Miller Beach Arts and Creative District is presenting a retrospective of works by Denny Davis, an exceptional Miller artist and one of the very few who actually made a living creating and selling paintings. The exhibition will take place at the **Gardener Center**, 540 S. Lake Street, with an opening on **Friday, March 15 from 7:00 to 9:00 pm**. The show will continue on the weekends of **March 16-17 and March 23-24: from 4:00 to 8:00 pm Saturdays and 12:00 to 3:00 pm Sundays**. This is an exceptional opportunity to see and admire the works of a notable Miller artist.

WORKS TO LEND? The Arts District is still asking people who own Davis works to lend them for the exhibition. If you have a work to contribute, contact Corey Hagelberg at cwhagelberg@bsu.edu. Works will be picked up, by arrangement, on March 7 and 8 and will be returned by March 28.

Duly noted . . .

ESSAY CONTEST WINNER. DeJuan Hedrick, a Wirt/Emerson senior, has won the first place prize in the Northwest Indiana Region for the “Keeping the Dream Alive” essay contest. He receives a \$500 scholarship and an opportunity to be recognized at a number of public events celebrating the legacy of Martin Luther King Jr. Congratulations!

WIRT/EMERSON WINNERS. The Wirt/Emerson concert choir, directed by Marion Lynn Boynes, had three ensembles of 20 voices each in statewide competition, and all three won gold medals. In addition, 20 soloists competed, winning 15 gold medals and 5 silver medals. Six piano majors taught by Judith Neville also won gold medals. Students Alex Clinton won a gold medal and Joseph Ryan won a silver in The Scholastic Art Awards, while Blessing Cousins and Jasmine Allen have works on display in the Museum of Science and Industry Black Creativity Awards Art Exhibit in Chicago. Congratulations to all of these star performers!

MILLER BEACH CALENDAR. There are a number of Miller calendars available on the internet, but no one place where all local events are listed. Now, Carmella Saraceno has created a calendar at www.experiencemillerbeach.com which is simple enough to become the community standard. Just go to the web site, click on "Post Event", describe the time, place and nature of the event, and submit. **You do not have to register; you do not have to log on; just make an entry.** Ms. Saraceno does reserve the right to delete items which she believes are inappropriate. Otherwise, any person posting an event is responsible for what they enter. Take a look at what is already posted, and consider adding events you want the public to know about.

MARCH 2013 MCC MEETING

THE NEXT MEETING OF THE MILLER CITIZENS CORP. BOARD OF DIRECTORS WILL BE HELD ON MONDAY, MARCH 11, AT 7:30 PM IN THE MEETING ROOM OF THE MARQUETTE PARK UNITED METHODIST CHURCH ON GRAND BLVD. 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.

BEACH AREA ASSESSMENTS. In the 2012 re-assessment of property, all the Miller residences south of the lakefront and north of Oak Avenue have been assigned to neighborhood code 2500, with a land value of \$900 per front foot. **George Rogge has given assurances that this value appears in the official records of the county assessor, even though the internet records still reflect a value of \$1,500 per front**

foot. If a resident checks the assessed value of his property on the internet, he can look at the assessor's records and subtract 40% of the land value plus the home value to get the amount on which his upcoming tax bill will be based.

CHARTER SCHOOL STILL IN LIMBO. The MCC has written a letter of support for the Charter School of the Dunes, whose charter was not renewed by its sponsor, Ball State University. The school has appealed the sponsor's decision, but no hearing date for the appeal has yet been set. Meanwhile, the school is looking for other sponsors and construction of their new school building is continuing at Rt. 20 and Old Hobart Road. CSOD board president Danielle Sleight explains that a completed school building might be sold or leased, while a half-finished building has no use for anyone.

MILLER GARDEN CLUB. The Miller Garden Club welcomes visitors to its monthly meeting, which will be held at the Aquatorium in Marquette Park on Saturday, March 16 at 10:00 am. At noon, **following the meeting, James Hicks will instruct and supervise club members in pruning trees and shrubs at the Aquatorium. This might be a helpful tutorial for other Miller residents who have their own trees and plants to trim.**

MILLER CLEANUP SCHEDULED. Save the date! Members of the Miller Citizens Corp., the Miller Business Association, and the Miller Garden Club will be coming together for the annual Miller cleanup, the morning of **May 11**, with the meeting place across from the Miller town hall, Miller Ave. and Montgomery St. **If you don't belong to any of these organizations, you are still welcome.** Come out and lend a hand to keep Miller looking good.

CAMP FOR KIDS. Discovery Charter School in Porter is hosting Camp Invention from June 10 to 14 – a weeklong summer enrichment program for children entering grades one through six. The program focuses on problem solving and teamwork through hands-on fun. The cost is \$215, and more information is available online at www.campinvention.org.

Miller business news

Local places to check out

MILLER BEACH MARKETPLACE is located at 925 N. Shelby Street, by the Flamingo, the Beach Café and the Perk. Owner Carmella Sraceno describes her new shop as a “specialty convenience store”. It is now open for business and is filling up with merchandise, which includes convenience store basics like milk and eggs, along with a wide range of gourmet items and **ice cream**. Wine and beer will be coming soon. Stop in and browse, and stay to sit and chat.

MARQUETTE PERK. Check out the new spacious dining area at the **Marquette Perk** coffee shop. The shop has been closed for remodeling since New Year’s, but it is **now open on its normal schedule** – every day from 6:00 am to 2:00 pm, offering coffee, tea, and soft drinks, along with bagels, sweet rolls, and other goodies. Owner Jason Sasak is still working on the new kitchen, which will be the source of hot food for breakfast and lunch once it is finished.

NEW ON LAKE STREET

AMERICAN FAMILY INSURANCE. Ken West, who also operates an agency in Hobart, has opened up at 410 S. Lake Street, offering all types of insurance – home, auto, life, whatever.

MILLER SMOKE SHOP. Next to the Fifth Third Bank, offers cigarettes, soft drinks and nibblies.

SONNY’S PHOTOGRAPHY takes group, school, church, family and individual photos. Phone 219-714-7991 or 775-531-2920 or e-mail sonny2850@yahoo.com or see www.sonnysphotographystudio.com

AROUND THE CORNER ON MILLER AVENUE

THIS AND THAT SHOP. The shop, at 6039 Miller Avenue, across from St. Mary of the Lake Church, has been around for some time, offering used items – bric-a-brac, tools, kitchen items, clothing and furniture—you name it. For the past year, the building also houses **ULTIMATE COMPUTER**, where Jeff provides computer repair, diagnostics, and troubleshooting and **NANAS TIDBITS & DELIGHTS** with home-made jellies, pickles, peppers and other jarred items. If you’re a shopper, or you have items in good repair that you don’t need any more, stop in.

Shoreline committee at work

In March, the MCC Shoreline Committee will be meeting with public safety officials from the City and County, to discuss plans for the upcoming beach season. They want to repeat the law enforcement efforts which were so effective in the summer of 2012.

The committee will urge the Gary Park Department to charge Gary residents the same parking fee for automobiles at Lake Street and Marquette Park. Last year, the charge at Marquette Park was \$3.00 per car, while the charge at Lake Street was \$7.00. Both should charge \$3.00. The higher fees at Lake Street for cars with boat trailers would not change, since they need more space and also require facilities for launching the boats.

In the background, the committee is prepared to distribute brochures and to take other measures to **publicize beach rules**. Other issues include **trash pickups on weekends, monitoring water quality, and liaison with other lakeshore organizations**, like Save the Dunes, DNR, and the Great Lakes Alliance.

A continuing subject of discussion is **on-street parking in the beach neighborhood**. In general, parallel parking is permitted in residential areas, despite numerous signs to the contrary, although the issue is complicated by the frequent absence of curbs and sidewalks. The Shoreline Committee discussed having "Resident only" parking areas, but the need for resident stickers, guest stickers, and enforcement procedures make this option unattractive. Residents who have opinions on this subject might pass them on to the MCC at mcceaton@aol.com.

In any case, it is illegal for residents to collect money for parking on the street or on their property unless they have a parking lot license. If you see people violating this rule, call the police.

TRASH COLLECTION STATION. Gary planning director Dwayne Williams has found a way to relocate the trash collection station for the Marquette Park refreshment stand to a less conspicuous place, next to the existing electrical transformer at the eastern fringe of the park property, where it will be rebuilt slightly shorter and veiled by shrubs. Once this plan has been implemented, visitors will get an initial impression of the beautiful park, the beach and lake, the Chicago skyline in the distance, and not a lot of garbage.

