



**Neighborhood Notes**  
**Cambridge Woods Neighborhood Association**  
**September - November, 2007**

Greeting neighbors, or more accurately- *Farewell*,

As I was thinking about writing this message, it occurred to me that it will be my last *Neighborhood Notes* as the CWNA President. This must be the reason I have put this off as long as I did. Some six years ago, I was asked to be part of the first neighborhood association board. At the time I believed that I lived on the best block in the area, as far as neighbors go and for raising kids. There were situations and incidents that caused me to want to reach out beyond my block and see how I could help be part of a bigger area. So I welcomed the opportunity to participate on the CWNA Board which led to becoming the 'prez' four years ago.

I have felt very fortunate to meet so many great people in my expanded block, but the time has come to step aside and let someone else be part of this great neighborhood. At the time of this writing, we do not have someone that has come forward to be CWNA President. I am confident that this will be resolved, as the slate for remaining board is strong. In my professional life, I often come across information regarding leadership and the attributes that surround the topic. I would like to share a bit of an interesting piece on *Leadership Mythology* (by Gregory Smith) I came across that I found insightful and may be useful for others.

Leadership Myths:

1. **Leadership is a rare ability only given to a few.** The key ingredient making people good leaders is the ability to care about others. The second ingredient is a sense of purpose, vision or mission.
2. **Leaders are charismatic.** Most leaders are not. However, the best leaders are those who work toward a common goal.
3. **The person with the title, most rank or the highest position is the leader.** True leadership is not based on position or rank. Rather, it is based on action, performance, and effectiveness.

**Odds 'n Ends:** As reported in past emails, the survey regarding connections across the river in the Cambridge Woods area produced some mix results. While most did favor a connection, a strong dissenting position was expressed in the survey and voiced again at the last CWNA General Meeting that featured a panel presentation on safety. The survey was done in response to suggestions made in the City's North East Area Plan. As a result, the consultants for this long range plan have since backed off on the potential crossings in Cambridge Woods, limiting a possible connection under Locust Street Bridge. Similar results have been expressed at the Milwaukee River Workgroup Community Workshops. Concerns raised at the workshops seem more environmental than the criminal concern that was raised in our survey. I would reiterate that nothing has been formally proposed and connections are just one discussion item of possible uses along the river. I hope people keep in mind that the recent up-tick in criminal assaults reported in the paper occurred without such a river connection, but I feel good that their voices have been heard.

In keeping with the river and neighborhood theme, our November meeting will feature both. I hope people come out and hear from our guest Pieter Godfrey, who lives along the river near Riverside Park and has immersed himself in both the nature and the history of his surroundings. Although this is my last Neighborhood Notes message, the CWNA Board has discussed putting together a newsletter that will allow more people to contribute and improve communications. Finally, I conclude with a sincere thank you for allowing me to be part of a great neighborhood. The experience has been very fulfilling, but now it is time to return to the (best) block!

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