



2nd District Alderman

DAVIS

City Hall Room 205, 200 E. Wells Street, Milwaukee, WI 53202
286-3787 • jldavis@milwaukee.gov • www.milwaukee.gov/district2

Summer 2009 Newsletter

Dear Neighbor:

Just like the busy summer that has started for all of us, this edition of my aldermanic newsletter is bustling with articles and helpful information.

From the helpful contact information on this page, to the articles on pages two and three about home repair programs to help homeowners, to the helpful Focus on Energy article on page six, and even to the articles on page seven about the 2009 Earn & Learn Summer Youth jobs program and what to do if you get ticketed for not displaying a registration sticker. I hope this newsletter will help keep you informed and engaged.

We have a tremendous district and I'm working with you each day to help make it stronger. I look forward to serving you, and I welcome your calls and emails whenever you have a question or a concern. My email is jldavis@milwaukee.gov and my phone number is 286-3787.

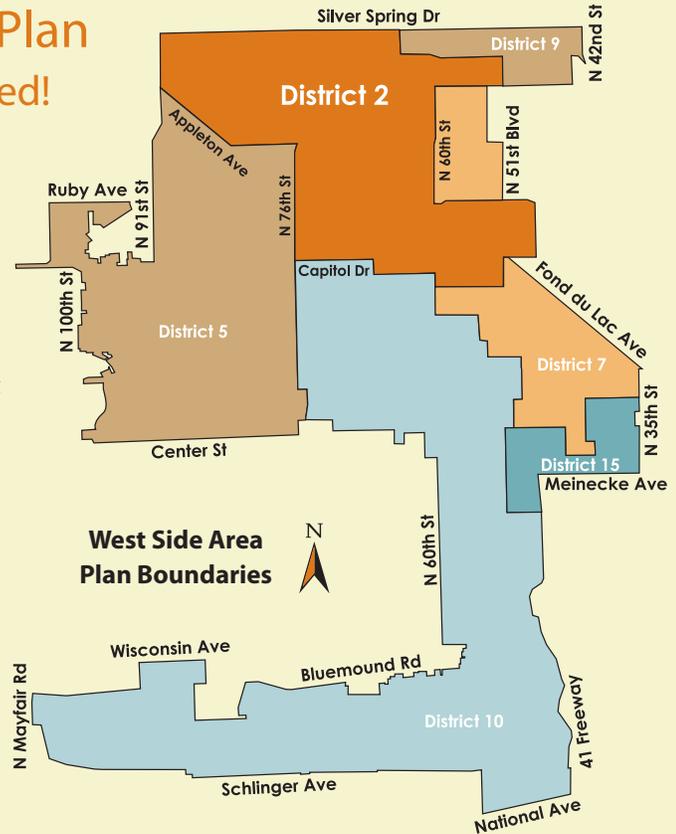
Sincerely,

Joe Davis, Sr.
2nd District Alderman



West Side Area Plan – Your Help Is Needed!

The Department of City Development needs you! As part of their city-wide planning mission, they are seeking input on improvements on the West Side. One way to participate is answering survey questions about your neighborhood. The survey is a fun interactive way of finding out what people think about the urban environment. Taking the survey is a way to give city planners your thoughts about what works and what doesn't. Results from the survey will form the basis for development policies and strategies in the West Side Area Plan.



Find out more online!

The Community Survey is available at: www.mkedcd.org/planning/plans/west
The Community Survey asks questions about the neighborhood and the larger plan area.

Committees & Boards

CHAIR

- Community & Economic Development
- Sister Cities Committee
- Convenient Lending Task Force

CO-CHAIR

- Fireworks Task Force

VICE CHAIR

- National League of Cities' International Council

MEMBER

- Judiciary & Legislation
- Steering & Rules
- Main Street Milwaukee Partners Board
- Milwaukee Economic Development Corporation
- National League of Cities' Community and Economic Development Committee Board of Directors' Rep.
- Public Safety
- National League of Cities

View meetings on the web at:
www.milwaukee.gov/channel25

Important Contact Information

- Emergency Police/Fire/Ambulance..... 911
- Police (non-emergency) 933-4444
- Police District 4 935-7243
- Police District 7 935-7273
- Domestic Violence/Sexual Assault 286-2997
- Flu Hotline..... 286-3616
- Parking Hotline 286-8350
- Dept. of Public Works 286-CITY(2489)
Snow removal, garbage pickup, etc.
- Dept. of Neighborhood Services 286-3441
Landlord questions, graffiti, etc.

Town Hall Meetings

Alderman Davis will host three town hall meetings in August to meet residents and discuss issues affecting the 2nd District.

- **Aug. 10, 6:30 - 8:30 p.m.**
Grantosa Elementary - 4850 N. 82nd St.
- **Aug. 11, 6:30 - 8:30 p.m.**
Bryant Elementary - 8718 W. Thurston Ave.
- **Aug. 12, 6:30 - 8:30 p.m.**
65th Street School - 6600 W. Melvina St.



Alderman Davis spoke during a news conference announcing the 25 raised gardens created by Grasslyn Manor area residents (led by Steve O'Connell) as part of a partnership with the city's Neighborhood Improvement Project. The residents received a grant and partnered with the NIP to create the signature gardens, which will provide food for residents.

Home Repair Help: Grasslyn Manor TIN

Residents within the Grasslyn Manor Targeted Investment Neighborhood (TIN) area (N. 51st St. to N. 60th St., from W. Vienna to W. Capitol Dr.) may be able to take advantage of helpful city programs for home repairs.

The first initiative residents in the targeted area should know about is the Neighborhood Improvement Program (NIP) -- a home maintenance and repair program designed to correct building code violations, to make building component repairs, and to address lead-based paint hazards. It consists of two parts: Maintenance work and mechanical work. The maintenance portion of NIP is a forgivable grant which requires the homeowner to own and occupy their home for five years after completion of the work. At the end of five years, the loan is forgiven. The mechanical portion consists of work on plumbing, electric, HVAC and concrete service walks. Costs for mechanical work are not forgivable, rather, they become a zero interest deferred payment loan to the homeowner. The homeowner may repay the mechanical costs at any time, but must repay the cost of repairs if and when the house is ever sold. The average NIP budget is approximately \$24,500 per home. Mechanical costs are typically less than 1% of the budget.

For more information please call Dave Weber at (414) 286-5626.

Proposed New Police District Boundaries

On Thursday, June 4 Police Chief Edward Flynn presented the Common Council's Public Safety Committee his proposed plan to re-district MPD police districts and to change some personnel assignments. Alderman Davis, who serves on the committee, asked the chief questions about how the new personnel assignments and the new district boundaries would affect the 2nd District and the city as a whole.

The proposed district boundary changes do not affect the 2nd Aldermanic District; we are still served by Milwaukee Police Districts Four and Seven. The only change to District Four boundaries is a small portion at the very southeastern end of the Police District that is located in another Aldermanic District.

The chief has sole authority to implement the re-districting, which he envisions putting into effect sometime in July.



Find out more online at: <http://milwaukee.legistar.com>
Search for File: 090153

This link will allow you to view the chief's PowerPoint presentation, to view the map of the new police district boundaries (Police Districts 1 & 5, and 2 & 6), and to watch video from the June 4 Public Safety Committee meeting, including the questions and comments from Alderman Davis.

For Sale Vehicles Will Need Permit if Parked on Public Property

The days of slapping a "For Sale" sign in the back window of your vehicle and parking it out on the street in Milwaukee are pretty much over.

Alderman Davis was a co-sponsor of legislation approved by the Common Council April 14 to enforce citywide an ordinance requiring any vehicle for sale on public property to display a special \$40 city permit, no matter if the vehicle currently displays valid day and/or night parking permits. Specifically, the ordinance requires a seller to meet certain criteria and then purchase the \$40 permit from the Department of Public Works before a vehicle could be parked on the street or in a public lot with a "For Sale" sign on it. The criteria that must be met to receive a permit include proving that the applicant owns the vehicle or that the applicant has the permission of the owner to sell the vehicle on the owner's behalf. Also, the vehicle's identification number cannot be altered in such a way as to render it illegible. Each "For Sale" vehicle will require a permit and each permit will be valid for six months.

The city will be able to tow parked for sale vehicles not displaying the permits. The permits will be sold only at the city tow lot, 3811 W. Lincoln Ave., during its normal business hours (Monday - Friday, 8:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. and Saturday 8:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.).

The ordinance has been on the books -- but only for certain areas of the city's south and near south sides -- since 2003. It began as a pilot program created by Alderman Bob Donovan, who said he initiated it as a quality of life ordinance "to keep Milwaukee streets and public lots from resembling used car lots" and to discourage attempts to sell stolen vehicles.

Alderman Davis said he and colleague Terry Witkowski brought the legislation forward after Council members quickly saw its value and asked that it be extended to their districts. "It just made sense to make it a citywide ordinance," he said.

Ordinance Allows City to Track, Recoup Costs on Neglected Properties



On March 3, 2009 the Common Council approved a measure to track and recoup costs associated with properties where garbage, lawn care, snow shoveling and other basic homeowner duties are ignored or neglected.

The ordinance provides an initial inspection charge and increases other special charges when the owner, occupant or other person in charge of the property fails to comply with code provisions to keep sidewalks clear of snow, to return garbage and recycling carts to original positions after pickup service and to mow grass or weeds. The intent of the ordinance is to recover actual costs related to processing complaints, inspecting premises and other costs of administration including printing, public education and accounting.

The ordinance provides an initial charge of \$25 if, upon inspection, the inspector determines that the owner or responsible party is in violation. The ordinance increases the special charge for failure to return a service cart to original storage after notice or order to do so from \$20 to \$35 for the first violation following written notice or order, and from \$35 to \$60 for a subsequent violation in a calendar year.

The ordinance also:

- Provides a special charge of \$65 for failure to mow grass or weeds, and a special charge of \$100 for each subsequent violation within the calendar year.
- Further increases the special charge for failure to keep sidewalks clear of snow and ice from \$25 to \$45 for the first violation and each additional violation in a calendar year will be subject to a special charge of \$90.

“The City of Milwaukee is working very hard to weather the foreclosure crisis and is providing a variety of resources to residents. One service we can also provide is to help make banks responsible for the properties they hold and help keep property values in our neighborhoods intact,” Alderman Davis said.



For more information go to: www.milwaukeehousinghelp.org

Other resources are available to residents facing foreclosure, including a number of approved agencies to help with credit counseling and mortgage information help.

Project to Infuse Neighborhood with \$\$ for Façade Work

With help and support from Alderman Davis, 38 homes in the 2nd District will be participating in the **Capitol Heights Neighborhood Improvement Project**.

The project – covering the area from N. 61st St. to N. 67th St., from W. Fiebrantz to W. Marion – provides free design assistance and rebates for façade improvements to homes. Part of the city's Healthy Neighborhoods program, the Capitol Heights project is making a total of \$9,000 available for homeowner rebates as part of a partnership between the city and the Greater Milwaukee Foundation.

Rebates will be offered to homeowners based on the number of program participants on each block. For more information please contact the project coordinator, Antoinette Vaughn, at 640-6852.

What We're Doing About the Foreclosure Crisis

Milwaukee neighborhoods are being impacted by increasing numbers of foreclosed homes. The City of Milwaukee is working to address the problem of foreclosures in a number of different ways. Alderman Davis has been actively involved in these efforts, as a member of the Steering Committee of the Milwaukee Foreclosure Partnership Initiative, as well as the Common Council's Joint Committee on the Redevelopment of Abandoned and Foreclosed Homes.

Recently, the city received an allocation of \$9.2 million from the United States Department of Housing and Urban Development under the Neighborhood Stabilization Program to help address the problem of vacant and foreclosed homes in city neighborhoods. The city is using this funding to provide resources for the purchase and rehabilitation of foreclosed properties. If you are interested in purchasing a home for homeownership, forgivable loans of up to \$30,000 are available under the program.

There are some great homeownership opportunities in the 2nd Aldermanic District and with the resources currently available, now is a great time to consider a home purchase. Resources are also available for existing homeowners who may wish to purchase a foreclosed home in their neighborhood for rental purposes, and for responsible landlords who are interested in purchasing and renovating foreclosed homes.

For more information on the program, go to www.milwaukeehousinghelp.org or call (414) 286-5610.



In Your Neighborhood...



■ Bryant Heights Neighborhood Association Meeting



■ Walkthrough of neighborhood with Captain Jerome O'Leary (4th Police District)



■ TIN Program Kick-off with Will Allen of Growing Power

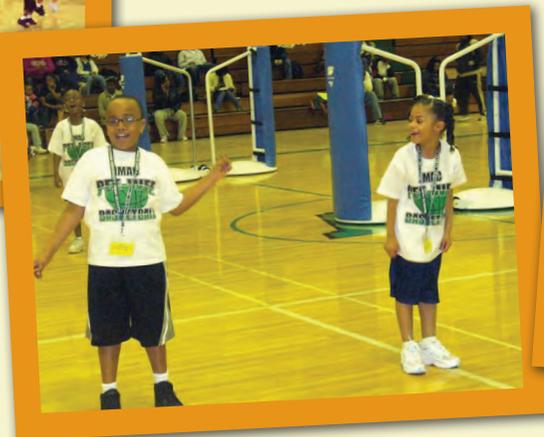


■ Lighthouse Block Watch



■ James Madison Academic Campus Peewee B-Ball League

■ Officer Shellee Lubus (Community Liaison Officer) addressing the Midtown Business Association



■ Keeping Our Community Strong LIGHTS ON PROJECT



■ Grasslyn Manor Block Watch Community Clean-up



■ Alice of Excalibur Cars

Excalibur Car May Ride Again

Excalibur Automotive Corp., previously known as Studebaker, is an iconic company, started in Wisconsin, and known for the “Excalibur car,” which has received national acclaim. In 1963, Brooks Stevens was a design consultant at Studebaker and was inspired by the Mercedes SSK and wanted to create a vehicle along similar lines, using contemporary running gear and selling for a very competitive price. He called this car a “contemporary classic.”

The Excalibur had a long, impressive reign and most of the 3,268 cars built in the 40 years of Excalibur are still on the road today. Because of its popularity, Ecurie Excalibur, LLC, the owners of Excalibur Automotive, have been working for the past 4 ½ years to reintroduce a new line of Excalibur cars. According to Ecurie Excalibur, LLC, 90% of the parts needed for the old original cars are available or can be made. The only thing now is to hear from car lovers and see if the interest is still there. “This business is a great example of entrepreneurial spirit and creative genius for continuing on with the legacy started by Brooks Stevens,” said Alderman Davis.

Excalibur models can be viewed and purchased at Camelot Classic Cars, Inc., located at 8428 W. Kaul Ave. In addition, this company also appraises vehicles, inspects cars, finds cars and lists Excalibur or antique cars on its website.

Restaurant Health Code Display Ordinance

The City of Milwaukee Health Department regularly inspects food establishments to ensure that they comply with Wisconsin Food Code standards. **Each food inspector prepares a report based on what he or she sees at that time of the inspection and the report serves as a “snapshot” of the facility.**

This year, a new ordinance passed by the Common Council requires inspectors to give a placard to business owners and requires them to display their food inspection results and provide inspection contact information to consumers.

Alderman Davis, who supported the ordinance, said, “I strongly believe the consumer should have as much information about the restaurants they frequent.”



While a large majority of restaurants are safe, recent food-borne illness outbreaks spark enhanced caution and awareness. “Residents should

have clear knowledge of how their restaurant fared in its inspection; and restaurants should be challenged to keep a healthy and safe environment at all times,” Alderman Davis said.



Find out more online!

For more information go to:
www.milwaukee.gov/fi

The City of Milwaukee has created an online system for viewing the inspection reports of food establishments.

Together We Save

Join the Milwaukee Neighborhood Efficiency Project



Focus on Energy, We Energies and the **City of Milwaukee** are working together on an energy efficiency project aimed at helping homeowners make their homes more energy efficient. The project, Together We Save, is a community-based pilot project designed to encourage homeowners to make energy efficient improvements in their homes in two Milwaukee neighborhoods. On the north side, the neighborhood is bounded by Capitol Dr. (south) to Villard Ave. (north) and 84th St. (west) to 60th St. (east).

Participating homeowners will receive personal service and objective advice to help them identify energy-saving opportunities and learn ways to reduce their monthly energy bills. An Energy Advocate will be assigned to each home, to assist homeowners with the process from start to finish.

Alderman Davis is supportive of the program, which is being tested in only two city neighborhoods (District 2 and an area on the city’s south side). “Participating homeowners will receive personal service and objective advice to help them identify energy-saving opportunities and learn ways to reduce their monthly energy bills,” he said.

The process includes:

- A free walk-through audit (including information collection about the home’s energy use, installation of free water-saving devices and energy efficient compact fluorescent light bulbs and energy-savings tips)
- A professional energy assessment and report detailing recommended improvements
- Installation of upgrades (which may include insulation, sealing air leaks and replacing the furnace or boiler)
- A post-test to verify that all improvements are complete and effective
- A certificate of completion

Generous financial incentives as well as financing assistance are available to homeowners who choose to make the recommended energy efficiency improvements.



Find out more online!

Participation is limited – apply today!

Don't miss this opportunity to save energy and money with energy efficient improvements that are good for you, your family and the environment!

If you own a residence in one of the two targeted neighborhoods,

I encourage you to apply. Contact Focus on Energy today to sign up.

Call 800-762-7077 or visit: www.focusonenergy.com/togetherwesave



Simply call 211 to get help with life.

To call using a cell phone, dial 414-773-0211
or on a pay phone, dial 1-866-211-3380.



On June 22, some of the 3,000 Milwaukee teens taking part in the City of Milwaukee's Earn & Learn Summer Youth Internship Program spent part of their first full work day helping launch this year's program with Milwaukee Mayor Tom Barrett and others outside the Manpower, Inc. world headquarters downtown.

Earn & Learn Supported Again for 2009

Alderman Davis and the Common Council again supported budget funding for the Earn & Learn Milwaukee Summer Youth Internship Program. The program will employ 170 young people in professional City of Milwaukee positions for eight weeks. The program pays the 16-19 year old students \$7.25 per hour and gives them the opportunity to not only learn more about the city, but to experience a professional workplace setting and provides exposure to a variety of career opportunities.

The program is open to high school juniors or seniors, aged 16-19 with good school attendance and a letter of recommendation. Students are also required to be residents of a Community Development Block Grant area and cannot have been placed in the program in previous years. The program runs from June to August.

"This program is an excellent example of the City of Milwaukee using its own resources to support not only the educational interests of our youth, but to also foster the growth and development of talent within our own community," Alderman Davis said.

Although the application process for 2009 closed at the end of March, you can go to www.mkedcd.org/earnlearn to learn more about the program.

Ticketed Recently for Not Displaying Sticker?

What to do if ticketed for not displaying your registration sticker on your vehicle:



State law and city ordinance require that your license plate display proof that your vehicle is properly registered.

1. If you've been ticketed but you are registered, go to a DMV office within five days of ticket issuance to request a **free replacement sticker**. No police incident report is necessary.
2. **Failure to replace your registration sticker within the five day grace period may subject you to another citation and a tow.**

3. If you are towed, call the City of Milwaukee Tow Lot at (414) 286-2700. The lot is located at 3811 W. Lincoln Ave.

Contesting the legality of a tow:

To contest the legality of a tow while your vehicle is in the tow lot, you must go to the Milwaukee City Attorney's Ordinance Enforcement Division at 951 N. James Lovell St., 2nd floor. *Walk-in reviews only.*

Contact the alderman's office for a brochure at 286-3787. More information is also available at www.dot.wisconsin.gov/drivers/plates.

Milwaukee Joins Prescription Discount Program

On April 14, the Common Council voted to join the National League of Cities' (NLC) Prescription Discount Card Program administered by CVS Caremark Corporation.

Alderman Davis, who serves on the organization's board of directors, sponsored the resolution. The program allows the City of Milwaukee to offer prescription drug discount cards to residents free of charge and cardholders may be eligible for discounts that average up to 20%. "It's critical that assistance of this kind be made available to people who are hurting and without health insurance during these difficult economic times," said Alderman Davis, chair of the Council's Community and Economic Development Committee.

Participation in this program is growing rapidly and Milwaukee is among the largest cities to participate. "I'm very pleased my Common Council colleagues approved this legislation. The NLC works hard to address the issues at the heart of urban life and provide solutions to many of the roadblocks our residents face," Alderman Davis said.

The discount cards, good at more than 59,000 participating pharmacies and at over 80 Milwaukee locations, should be available this summer.

Alderman Davis has been an active leader in the NLC, serving as past chair of the NLC's Community and Economic Development Policy and Advocacy Steering Committee and currently serving as a member of the NLC's International Council for 2009.





2nd District Alderman

DAVIS

City Hall Room 205, 200 E. Wells Street, Milwaukee, WI 53202
286-3787 • jldavis@milwaukee.gov • www.milwaukee.gov/district2

“ I wish you a safe, healthy and enjoyable summer season. ”

Summer 2009 Newsletter

Learn Effective Property Management

Landlords can learn to screen new tenants and how to deal with nuisance properties by enrolling in the City of Milwaukee's **FREE Landlord Training Program**. You'll receive five hours of training and a 100-page manual describing professional property management guidelines.

For more information or to register call the Department of Neighborhood Services Program Assistant Jeanne Hagner at **286-2954** or email her at jhagne@milwaukee.gov.

Ald. Davis
City Hall, Room 205
200 E. Wells Street
Milwaukee, WI 53202

PRSRT STD
US POSTAGE
PAID
MILWAUKEE WI
PERMIT NO 4678



Find out more online!

The Landlord Training 2009 summer schedule can be found online at: www.milwaukee.gov/landlordtraining

Two Organizations Receive Wal-Mart Foundation Grants

Wal-Mart Foundation distributed two \$10,000 grants to two 2nd Aldermanic District groups earlier this year.



Capitol West Neighborhood Association is a membership-based, nonprofit organization founded in 1995 that mobilizes the community to “address important issues named by the people in our area and to achieve a safe, economically stable and inclusive neighborhood.”

The **Nigerian Community** is a nonprofit organization that assists Nigerians living in Milwaukee and promotes unity, while also promoting the “art, culture, heritage, and overall development of Nigeria.” The Nigerian community also actively participates in city of Milwaukee events.

Alderman Davis said, “This is great news for our community. The Wal-Mart Foundation recognizes that these organizations enrich and strengthen community ties and it is making a positive investment in the overall safety and economic development of our area.”

Wal-Mart Foundation’s mission is to improve the lives of individuals and families in communities through fiscal contributions, other donations and volunteerism. The foundation’s four main focus areas are education, workforce development/economic opportunity, environmental sustainability and health and wellness.

Association Lends a Hand to Midtown-Area Businesses

The **Midtown Business Association**, started with help from Alderman Davis and the Department of City Development (DCD), is ready to begin work encouraging business development in and around Midtown Center.

The association’s meetings will be held each first Tuesday of the month at varying locations. If you would like to get involved in this initiative, please contact DCD’s Jose Perez at (414) 286-8639 or Deshea Agee at (414) 286-0793.



Midtown Summer Kick-off event.