

*Making Things Happen*



**The View From Milwaukee's 14th District**

## Dear Neighbor,

Many new positive developments are continuing in the 14th District. I am optimistic that working together, we'll see many more opportunities to make our community a better place to live, work and play.

In this newsletter you will find articles on anti-crime fighting efforts and community revitalization. You'll also read about district events for the community and for the city as a whole. There's also information about measures I've sponsored to make our neighborhoods safer and to make Milwaukee a leader in the fair trade movement.

As always, it is truly a pleasure to serve you, and I ask that you call me directly if you have a question or a concern.

Sincerely,

**Tony Zielinski**  
Alderman, 14th District



Office 286-3769 TDD 286-2025 Fax 286-3456  
E-mail [tzieli@milwaukee.gov](mailto:tzieli@milwaukee.gov)  
City Website [www.milwaukee.gov](http://www.milwaukee.gov)  
District Website [www.milwaukee.gov/district14](http://www.milwaukee.gov/district14)

### Ald. Zielinski's Committee Assignments

**CHAIR** • Anti-Graffiti Policy Committee

**VICE CHAIR** • Community & Economic  
Development Committee

**MEMBER** • Public Safety Committee

**MEMBER** • Milwaukee Commission on Domestic  
Violence and Sexual Assault

## Ald. Tony Zielinski Leads The Way In Battle Against Graffiti In Milwaukee



**Ald. Zielinski, chair of the city's Anti-Graffiti Policy Committee, spoke during a spring 2007 news conference at City Hall kicking off the city's annual anti-graffiti efforts. Joining the alderman at the event were city officials and students and teachers from Guadalupe School, who are providing the poster artwork for this year's campaign.**

Staying tough on crime, the Common Council's Public Safety Committee voted in May to go forward with spending \$28,000 to buy 12 "tripwire" cameras that will be used to help catch graffiti vandals. Ald. Zielinski, the primary sponsor of the legislation and chair of the Anti-Graffiti Policy Committee, said the money for the cameras will come from the Common Council's contingent fund, and that the cameras should have an immediate and significant impact on graffiti vandalism in the city.

"These cameras can be mounted strategically in areas that are likely targets or near places that have been hit before, and the images they capture can be sent directly to a computer, a cell phone or a vehicle," the alderman said.

Most graffiti vandals or "taggers" commit their crimes in the late-night or early morning hours, under the cover of darkness and with no witnesses. The cameras are designed to generate images almost immediately after being triggered by heat or motion detected along a perimeter – hence the term "tripwire" is used when describing them.

**According to Ald. Zielinski, the cameras are well worth the investment.** "Last year 5,000 calls came into the anti-graffiti hotline, and the cost of removing graffiti in the city is about \$1.5 million per year. Apprehension of perpetrators is one of the best ways to eliminate graffiti. Constantly abating graffiti and having the vandal return is not winning the battle to maintain our neighborhoods."

## City of Milwaukee Neighborhood Speed Watch Program

Speeding drivers on residential streets is one of the most common complaints received by the Milwaukee Police Department and the Milwaukee Dept. of Public Works. The City's Neighborhood Speed Watch Program encourages neighborhood residents to become involved in addressing this problem, and is a part of Milwaukee's new Neighborhood Traffic Management Program.

Neighborhood Speed Watch is a public awareness program in which concerned citizens can take an active role in solving the problem of speeders in their own neighborhoods. City residents record speeds and license numbers of cars traveling in excess of speed designations on neighborhood streets. Notification is then sent from the City to the registered owners of those vehicles.

A minimum of two volunteers are required at all times during the speed watch. Volunteers must be 16 years of age or older to participate. Volunteers under the age of 21 must be accompanied by an adult 21 years or older. This allows high school and college students to participate in the program.

If you are interested in this program, contact David Schlabowski:

- by email at [dschla@mpw.net](mailto:dschla@mpw.net)
- by phone at 286-3144
- by mail at Milwaukee Department of Public Works, 841 N. Broadway, Rm. 918 Milwaukee, WI 53202



Citing in part the surge in violence this year that included the shooting death of four-year-old Jasmine Owens and the near-fatal shooting of a 12-year-old girl, Ald. Tony Zielinski held a City Hall news conference in May to build his case for the adoption of his anti-gang loitering ordinance, which he re-introduced and which was approved by the Common Council on June 19th. "The ordinance allows Milwaukee police to disperse gang members who try to control neighborhoods and intimidate law-abiding citizens," Ald. Zielinski said.

## Anti-Gang Loitering Ordinance Becomes Law

After more than a year of hard work, planning, and preparation, Ald. Tony Zielinski's "Anti-Gang Loitering" Ordinance has passed.

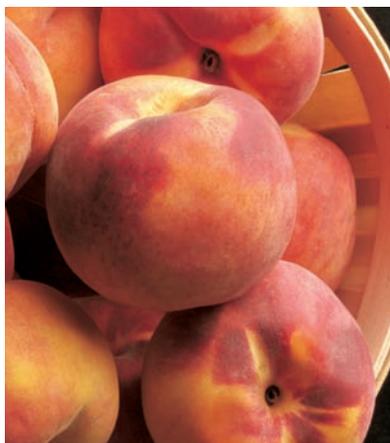
The Milwaukee Police Department, Milwaukee Police Association and Sheriff Clarke all supported this initiative as an additional and important tool to help the police department fight crime. This ordinance is the next step in the ongoing quest to provide a pleasant and, above all, safe environment for the residents of Milwaukee.

This ordinance allows the police to disperse gang members in certain situations where they otherwise couldn't. If the gang members refuse to disperse, the police can then issue a massive \$5,000 maximum

fine. The general loitering ordinance only allows for a \$500 maximum fine.

Mayor Tom Barrett, in support of the ordinance, said the MPD will provide training specifically related to the provisions contained in the ordinance to members of the police force. "Primarily members of the Gang Intelligence Unit and anti-gang officers will carry out enforcement of the ordinance," the Mayor said.

"The Milwaukee Police Department's Gang Intelligence Unit and anti-gang officers are focused on breaking up criminal gangs and have strong working relationships with local, state, and federal law enforcement agencies," Ald. Zielinski said.



## New Grocery Store for S. 13th Street

If you have not visited the My Land/Mi Tierra Grocery Store at 2901 S. 13th St. then please do so. This grocery store offers a full line of quality grocery items. Getting another grocery store on 13th Street has been a top priority, and this store has certainly proved to be an asset to the neighborhood.

The grocery store is very accessible for seniors and others in the neighborhood who don't drive.

# Avalon Theatre Update



**Ald. Tony Zielinski and Avalon Theatre owner Lee Barczak (left) hold a rendering depicting what the theatre will look like when complete.**

**T**he Avalon Theatre is still well over a year away from being re-opened. The reason for the delay is that the project is turning out to be more expensive than originally planned. Originally, the project was to cost in the neighborhood of \$4 million but now could be as much as \$7 million. So far I have secured financial assistance for the project and I am in the process of securing significant additional financial assistance.

**The plan is to retain the historical integrity of the building** while expanding the number of screens. A couple of extra screens will be added in the balcony that will be closed off from the main theatre. Each one of the two screens should accommodate 150 people. Additionally, the apartments will be replaced with an upscale boutique hotel. Another addition will be a 5,000 square foot full service restaurant. This restaurant will also provide food and beverages for the moviegoers wanting to eat and drink during the movie.

## Crime Prevention: The Block Watch Program Works

**E**xpanding the Block Watch program in the 14th District has been one of Ald. Zielinski's top priorities since taking office. Just as he's done with the **Ohio Park Neighborhood Association**, he has been working successfully to put together partnerships with neighborhood groups and area businesses to expand the number of Block Watch groups in the district.

"The Block Watch program is designed to make neighborhoods safer places to live, work and play and, therefore, can help provide a safer environment for our children," said Ald. Zielinski, who has also been setting up and attending Block Watch meetings regularly in the district for years. "Good Block Watch organizations can help stabilize entire neighborhoods and business areas, and that's why I support them so strongly."

Most crimes are crimes of "opportunity" and therefore can be prevented. The Block Watch program provides residents with specific information on how to reduce or eliminate opportunities for crimes.



**Ald. Tony Zielinski met recently with officers of the Ohio Park Neighborhood Association to discuss its Block Watch efforts. The group represents the area bounded by S. 6th St. on the east, S. 13th St. on the west, W. Morgan Ave. on the south, and W. Oklahoma Ave. on the north.**

**To start up a Block Watch, please contact Ald. Zielinski at 286-2873 or call one of the community liaison officers of the 2nd Police District at 935-7228.** Then talk to your neighbors to get as many residents on your block involved as possible. Officers will assist in providing information at the first meeting. The program will improve communication, cooperation and organization among residents, as well as between residents and the Milwaukee Police Department.

If you would like Ald. Zielinski to attend one of your Block Watch meetings (even "organizational" meetings), please call his office at 286-2873.

When citizens become involved in a Block Watch, a common bond develops between neighbors that instills neighborhood pride and protectiveness. This can only enhance the quality of life in our city.

## Restaurant Group Expands To Bay View

**Merryweather's Super Bar & Eatery** will soon be opening in a building at Lincoln and Kinnickinnic Avenues in Bay View, Ald. Zielinski said.

"The restaurant group, which owns and operates Trocadero and Café Hollander, saw a great opportunity to become part of the mix of businesses that are making Lincoln and KK a thriving dining and entertainment destination," he said.

In a recent news article, partners Eric Wagner and Mike Eitel said the thriving, dynamic neighborhood and a corner building full of character were too much to pass up. "It definitely fits our model," Wagner said, adding: "we absolutely love the idea of breathing new life into such a great building."

"Alderman Tony Zielinski's input and support were contributing factors as we made the decision to invest in Bay View," Wagner said.

Existing businesses in the area include next door neighbor Palms, Café Lulu, Riviera Maya, Guanajuato, Highbury Pub, Schwartz Bookstore, Future Green, Collector's Edge Comics, Wildflour Bakery, Stone Creek Coffee Shop, Maritime Bank, Babe's Ice Cream, Omega Restaurant, Bay View Family Restaurant and Broad Vocabulary.

Ald. Zielinski said Merryweather's will include outdoor seating and a courtyard that will feature green technology, and it will serve lunch, dinner, late night food and Saturday and Sunday brunches.



Visit me on the web at:  
[www.milwaukee.gov/district14](http://www.milwaukee.gov/district14)  
 Email me at:  
[tzieli@milwaukee.gov](mailto:tzieli@milwaukee.gov)

## Bay View Bash Is Sept. 15

The festive Bay View Bash is **Saturday, September 15, 2007 from 10:00 a.m. to 11:00 p.m.** and will run along S. Kinnickinnic Ave. from E. Potter Ave. to S. Clement Ave.

A large neighborhood street festival, the Bay View Bash features three live music stages, activities for teens and children, an arts and crafts village with **more than 100 Bay View area food, art and novelty vendors**, and a large demonstration area. The event, sponsored by the Bay View Neighborhood Association, attracts people from all over the Milwaukee community to play, dance, sing and shop in the streets of Bay View.

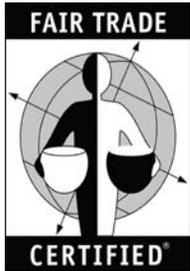
Visit [www.bayviewbash.org](http://www.bayviewbash.org) for more information.

**Tony Zielinski**  
 City Hall, Room 205  
 200 East Wells Street  
 Milwaukee, WI 53202

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## Milwaukee Adds "Fair Trade City" Title

Adding to its many designations, Milwaukee can now boast to be the nation's first "fair trade city" after the Common Council passed Ald. Tony Zielinski's fair trade city resolution in July. The alderman said he believes the "fair trade" status will help the city economically and in other ways.



"Fair trade city status is the right thing to do from a human rights standpoint because of the horrible sweatshop conditions that produce far too many products that make it into this country," he said. "But fair trade is also important because sweatshop practices in other countries are costing Americans family supporting jobs, and government must use its purchasing power to lead the way to social justice."

With adoption of the resolution, the City of Milwaukee joins more than 300 Fair Trade Towns within the United Kingdom and Europe.

Michael Howden, coordinator of the Milwaukee Clean Clothes Campaign – an effort to convince stores here not to carry sweatshop-produced clothing items – said the fair trade city status is important for all Milwaukeeans to embrace. "We've found that most of the Milwaukee residents we talk to about the fair trade issue agree with the moral and ethical stand that is being taken against the degradation, exploitation and abuse that occurs in sweatshops, and now we're moving forward with educating people so that governments, businesses and individuals can make responsible buying decisions and support fair trade," said Howden.

## Putting More Police On Our Streets

I have successfully fought this year to have additional new Milwaukee police officers trained so that they can be deployed for street patrol duty as soon as possible. This development – in combination with my successful efforts for additional police officers last year – means that we'll have even more police on the streets this year.

Getting more cops on the street is a top priority of mine because a strong and visible police presence is critical if we are to efficiently wage war on crime. Nevertheless, we still do not have enough police officers and I will continue my efforts to get more cops on the street.



## Bay View Has Special Trick-Or-Treat Hours

The Bay View Neighborhood Association's evening trick-or-treat hours will be on Saturday, **October 27, 2007 from 5 p.m. - 8 p.m.** The boundaries for the evening trick-or-treat are Bay Street on the north, the lake on the east, Howard on the south and Chase/Howell on the west.

**NOTE:** 14th District areas not located inside the Oct. 27th evening trick-or-treat boundaries (see above) will have trick-or-treat from 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. on Sunday, October 28, 2007, during the official citywide trick-or-treat hours.