Dear Friends,

I am excited about a lot of new developments to share with you!

The 13th Street/Oklahoma Area Business Improvement District was approved by the City Planning Commission in November and then given final approval by the full Common Council in December. This is exciting as it will allow the business community in that area to take advantage of a number of economic development tools.

Additionally, Café India and Cream City Swirl on Kinnickinnic Avenue will be opening in spring 2014. Lazy Susan on Howell Avenue will be opening in early next year as well. Moreover, the old Mama Demarinis on Potter Avenue is getting a complete new revamping with a new Restaurant Group.

The Avalon Theater update is that we are looking at the grand opening in May 2014!

On the public safety front I co-sponsored legislation that is resulting in additional cops being trained. The stronger the police presence the more effective our public safety efforts will be. There also has been an increase in the number of block watches in our district as well, and anyone wishing to start a block watch please email me at tzieli@milwaukee.gov and we will set one up for your area as well.

A few months ago I successfully sponsored legislation that calls on the state to end the practice of locating serious sex offenders in densely populated neighborhoods near schools, parks and playgrounds.

Finally, from an economic perspective we should be getting some information on the business activity that was generated in our community as a result of my Buy Milwaukee/Buy American Legislation passed last year. I firmly believe that the economic woes in our country are primarily due to the mass exodus of jobs leaving for overseas sweat shop wages. I am doing my part at City Hall to give preference to local companies over companies that exploit workers for economic gain.

In closing, I take a very broad view of my job responsibilities representing your interests. Please do not ever hesitate to contact me! If I can be of service I will. If not, I will know who to refer you to.

It is both an honor and pleasure representing you and I am looking forward to working with you to continue improving the 14th District and the city in 2014.

Sincerely,

Tony Zielinski

Alderman, 14th District

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Common Council Approves S. 13th St. Business Improvement District

Support for the 13th St. BID was unanimous among local business owners who attended the initial organizing meetings.

The Common Council has approved the creation of Business Improvement District (BID) No. 50 – S. 13th St./W. Oklahoma Ave. – and also its first year operating plan, Alderman Zielinski said.

“This is great news for the S. 13th St. and Oklahoma business community and I anticipate that economic development activity there will continue to gain momentum,” Alderman Zielinski said.

The BID No. 50 creation was recommended unanimously for approval by the Council’s Community and Economic Development Committee (which Alderman Zielinski is a member of).

Alderman Zielinski and business owners held meetings to discuss the BID, and the idea had unanimous support from everyone in attendance.

A BID is a defined area within which businesses pay an additional fee that helps fund improvement projects within the district’s boundaries. These improvements can include grant funds, beautification projects, promotional efforts and other programs aimed at increasing business and economic development.
Art Stop Project Continues to Attract Attention

The Public Art Bus Shelter at Kinnickinnic Ave. and Lincoln – set to break ground in spring 2014 – is continuing to attract positive attention.

In August the Business Journal published an article on the shelter and monument project. In part it stated:

“The Bay View Art Stop is designed to catch the eye. Solar panels on modern sweeping steel trusses will power LED lights, and large concrete foundations will bear the name of Bay View. It will stand in a triangle-shaped plaza bordered by Kinnickinnic, South Howell and East Lincoln avenues.”

The project will be constructed on city-owned land, and the bus shelter will be maintained by Milwaukee County. The county is contributing $50,000 for the project, and the largest investment ($150,000) is coming from the estate of the late David John Dombrowski, a 30-year employee of the Department of Public Works who bequeathed money to the city.

A plaque at the shelter will commemorate the generous gift of Mr. Dombrowski, who lived in Bay View.

New Crime Watch Sign Program

An ordinance to establish a crime watch sign program throughout Milwaukee has recently been approved by the Common Council. Although the police have yet to set up eligibility guidelines for participation of neighborhoods, business and block watch groups, provisions for the three types of crime watch signs have already been made.

The three types of signs that will be put in for the program will be those installed at locations along the perimeter of participating neighborhood crime watch areas, those installed in a business watch area and signs installed on individual blocks.

The chief of police has yet to establish standards for the size, placement, wording, etc. for all of the signs, but that is said to be happening soon.

Residents will be glad to know that the Department of Public Works will be installing these signs at no cost to the participating neighborhood association, business group or block club. They will be responsible though, for any sign fabrication costs that may come up in the future.

Any neighborhood association, business or block watch group interested in participation in the crime watch sign program should apply to the police department through the community liaison officer at the nearest district police station.

Bay View to Add Two More Restaurants

Bay View’s restaurant scene will be expanding with the addition of a new restaurant and the re-opening of an old favorite. Mama DeMarinis Restaurant, which closed in 2012, will be re-opening in a new location, 2860 S. Kinnickinnic Ave.

An ownership group that included William and Jessica Seidel, owners of Burnhearts on Logan Ave., applied for a $200,000 loan from the Milwaukee Economic Development Corp to help open a restaurant at the former location of Mama DeMarinis. The owners of the proposed, not-yet-named new restaurant are hoping to open early spring 2014.

New 2014 Virtual Night Parking Permit System

For the convenience of the city's night parking permit customers, there will be no requirement to display a physical permit for 2014. When residents buy a night parking permit after December 20, 2013, they will complete the same application accurately listing the applicable license plate number. Residents will receive a confirmation number to prove purchase of the permit, but will not receive a physical permit to place on the vehicle's window.

The license plate number will be used by parking enforcement to determine whether it has a purchased, valid permit. All customer service problems arising from misplaced or stolen permits will be eliminated. Failure to purchase a permit will still be subject to a $20 citation.

When a resident purchases a permit online, the cost savings of no permit production, handling, and mailing will be passed on to customers. The convenience fee will be reduced from the current $2.25 to $1.00.

Visit www.milwaukee.gov/parking to purchase a night permit online and avoid the hassle of standing in line to pay in-person. Please call 286-CITY (2489) with any questions.
Spring 2014 Opening Set for the Avalon

Avalon Theater owner Lee Barczak has renovation work underway at the historic Avalon building, 2469 S. Kinnickinnic Ave., and expects to re-open the grand movie house in May 2014.

“This is very positive and we are on track for films to be on the big screen at the Avalon next spring – it is tremendous news,” Alderman Zielinski said.

The “new” Avalon will also feature a bar and restaurant served by a separate entrance from the street and will feature a menu serving high quality pub food. Seating will accommodate 24-26 diners. The total cost of renovation work at the property will exceed $2 million.

Last year, Barczak bought and reopened two other neighborhood theaters, the Rosebud Cinema in Wauwatosa and the Times Cinema on Milwaukee’s far west side. He’s now ready to add the Avalon to that operation, known as Neighborhood Theater Group LLC.

Indoor Entertainment Center Bouncing in to the 14th District

Bounce Milwaukee, a new business featuring indoor entertainment and activities for the whole family, will be opening at 2801 S. 5th St. in the 14th District, according to Alderman Zielinski.

Attractions at Bounce Milwaukee will include an inflatable sports arena, laser tag, rock climbing, inflatable obstacle courses with giant slides and vintage arcade games, all included for a single admission price.

One of Bounce Milwaukee’s owners, Becky Cooper-Clancy, said she is looking forward to the business’s opening in early 2014. “We’re longtime Bay View residents with strong ties to Milwaukee and feel people shouldn’t have to drive out to the suburbs to enjoy a variety of activities all in one place,” Ms. Cooper-Clancy said. “We couldn’t think of a better location than this, and I want to thank Alderman Zielinski for his input, guidance and support along the way to help make this a reality.”

Ms. Cooper-Clancy added that she and her partners are actively sourcing supplies and materials from Milwaukee-area businesses, ensuring their investments benefit the community, and they have already collaborated with local non-profits on fundraising events.

Alderman Zielinski, who has been working diligently to assist business owners in making his district an even busier and more successful destination, said he anticipates Bounce Milwaukee will be successful from the start. “This unique addition enhances the existing business synergy that we have in the area,” Zielinski said. “I’m very pleased that my district continues to attract vibrant business innovations like Bounce Milwaukee.”

Second Café India Location Opening in Spring in Bay View

Café India, an Indian and Indian-American fusion restaurant that has established a presence in Walker’s Point, will be opening a second location in Bay View during spring 2014, Alderman Zielinski said.

Work is underway to remodel the new location at 2201 S. Kinnickinnic Ave.

Owner Mr. Rakesh “Ryan” Rehen said that when renovations are complete, the restaurant will feature a brand new kitchen, a remodeled casual dining space with a capacity of 80 to 90 people, a full bar and an outdoor hookah bar patio and dining space. He anticipates opening the restaurant in March.

Mr. Rehen said that the new Café India location will feature the same menu as his existing restaurant. His fare is focused on traditional Indian food, but Mr. Rehen’s menu also offers some Indian-American fusion to cater to patrons who are unfamiliar with the cuisine.

About 60% of Mr. Rehen's offerings are vegetarian or vegan dishes, with the remainder featuring chicken, lamb, fish or shrimp.

“I’m pleased to welcome Mr. Rehen and Café India to the Bay View neighborhood,” Alderman Zielinski said. “His business is an excellent addition to the unique and vibrant fabric that makes Bay View the hottest neighborhood in Milwaukee.”

Alderman Zielinski with Café India owner Rakesh “Ryan” Rehen and building owner Bill Doyle at City Hall.
Citizens’ Successful March Raises Awareness

This past August Bay View residents took to the streets to help raise awareness about community safety issues and to further demonstrate their commitment to keeping Bay View secure. This walk took place on August 26, 2013, following a sexual assault that took place near the 2500 block of S. Howell Ave.

Incidents such as this are taken very seriously by the community and local officials. Alderman Zielinski led the walk, which started near the location of the assault and traveled north along Kinnickinnic Ave. to Becher St., then back south to Lincoln Avenue.

The march helped illustrate that citizens are aware and determined to make a difference. “We are organized.” Alderman Zielinski told the Milwaukee Journal Sentinel. “We are getting the message out,” Alderman Zielinski said, noting that he wants the maximum penalty for the offender when he is caught.

After the assault and the safety concerns it brought forth, citizens felt compelled to participate. “I’m a runner, and this whole safety issue is important to me,” Deb Reiser, a Bay View resident told the Journal Sentinel. “This causes me to step back and take notice.”

Please go to my webpage (www.milwaukee.gov/district14) to watch a video clip of the walk (“Bay View Night Walk – 2013”).

Zipcar Drives into Bay View

Although Zipcars are already present in various Milwaukee locations they have made their way out to the Bay View area, making their first appearance on October 4, 2013.

These new additions to the Bay View community are located in the parking lot at Ward St. and S. Kinnickinnic Ave. The lot will have two Zipcars, a Toyota Prius and a Honda CR-V all wheel drive.

The cars will be available for hourly or daily rental, the Prius costs $9.75 an hour or $77 for the day and the CR-V costs $10.75 an hour or $86 for the day. Monthly passes are also available for $60. For more information please visit www.zipcar.com.

One Call That’s All: 286-CITY (2489)

That one number can connect you with 21 departments, 8,800 employees and 100s of city services, ranging from building permits to parking permission to library hours to garbage pickups.

Alderman Zielinski says the city continues to seek ways to improve communications with residents, and this one-stop number for city services makes it even easier to find the right department and person to handle your complaint or request. Residents will still call 911 for emergencies but can use the new number for any other city-related calls.

Of course you can always contact Alderman Zielinski’s office by calling 286-2873.
Making it New Again!

Milwaukee Recycling Program – 2012 Year in Review

We do it every day – tossing old cans, jars, bottles, paper and cardboard into the recycling cart to turn them into something new! These recyclables are turned into a wide variety of products including paper toweling and writing paper, cardboard boxes and newsprint, new soda cans and beverage bottles, carpeting, patio furniture, auto parts, construction materials and more.

During the past several years, recycling has been on the rise in Milwaukee. From 2009 through 2012, recycling pounds per household have increased by 13%! This means that more materials are headed back to industries where they support jobs and are made into new products.

In 2012, Milwaukee residents recycled over 24,000 tons of household materials, saving over $1.5 million between avoided landfill disposal costs and the revenue earned from the sale of recyclables, net of processing costs. Beyond the recycling cart, residents brought over 2.1 million pounds of electronics, over 90 tons of carpet and carpet padding, and nearly 3,400 gallons of used cooking oil to DPW’s Self-Help Centers for recycling.

We can still do more to conserve natural resources, save landfill space, reduce pollution, save money and bolster our economy. So, give your recyclables new life and keep them out of the trash!

Learn more at www.MilwaukeeRecycles.com

Bay View’s Dog Park Improves Community

The groundbreaking for Bay View’s new, off-leash dog park occurred at the end of July 2013 and is a venture that the city and the county are quite proud of. This new amenity is located at the intersection of E. Lincoln Ave. and Bay St. and will be well utilized by the community.

“For years I’ve heard from residents having a need for such a facility,” Alderman Zielinski said. “We have a lot of dog owners in our district and it is high time we have a place for them to let their dogs run off-leash.”

This venture was a collaborative effort between the city, the county, Chairwoman Marina Dimitrijevic and Alderman Zielinski. “Working together we are continually adding new amenities to improve our quality of life and making this the best part of the city to live in,” Alderman Zielinski said.

South Shore Frolics Festival Improvements Discussed

The South Shore Frolics, a yearly event in Bay View, was the subject of discussion at a meeting led by Alderman Zielinski; he was joined by Lyn Graziano, president of the Bay View Lions Club, and a staffer for Milwaukee County Board Chairwoman Marina Dimitrijevic. The three worked to find ways to improve the South Shore Frolics for next year.

Reports from the 2013 event showed improvements, the atmosphere was much friendlier and there was a significant decrease in disruptive behavior. But, citizens still felt that the fireworks were too loud, so organizers will be meeting with individual neighborhoods to discuss this issue for next year.

“We are working on ways to improve the Frolics for next year,” Alderman Zielinski said. “I want to credit all of the Frolics volunteers who have been working tirelessly on the event.”

The South Shore Frolics, which is sponsored by the Lions Club, is one of the oldest festivals in Milwaukee and celebrated its 64th year in 2013. The three-day summer festival features a parade, live music and fireworks at the lakefront.
Support Your Local Library!

As you may know, unfortunately libraries are continuously struggling to stay open, but there are some things you can do to support your local library.

• Get a library card
• Return books on time
• Pay fines
• Hold community meetings there
• Patronize
• Participate in programming
• Encourage others to use the library

Find out more at: www.mpl.org

Bay View Library – 2566 S. Kinnickinnic Ave.
Tippecanoe Library - 3912 S. Howell Ave.

Please Shovel Your Sidewalk – It’s The Law

Remember that residential and commercial property owners and occupants are required to clear sidewalks abutting their property of snow or ice within 24 hours after a storm. If violations are reported, a 24-hour notice is issued. If the sidewalks still are not cleared, a sanitation crew will clear a path and put the charge on the property tax bill. Note: the city does not plow alleys.

If you have elderly or disabled neighbors who need help with snow shoveling – please help them out when you can.

And make our city safer by shoveling out the fire hydrants near your home. Ald. Zielinski said “adopting” a fire hydrant will ensure maximum visibility for firefighters in the event of an emergency.

Holiday Tree Disposal

Garbage collection crews will pick up the tree if it is placed where the garbage is collected. If your collection is in an alley, Christmas trees must be placed at the alley line for collection, not on the street. Only residents whose garbage is collected from the street may place their tree at the curb to be picked up.

Trees may also be taken to the Self-Help Centers where they may be composted for use by city forestry crews. The Self-Help Center closest to the 11th District is located at 3879 W. Lincoln Ave.