

ALDERMAN ROBERT G.  
**DONOVAN**200 E. Wells St. | Milwaukee, WI 53202 | 286-3533 | [www.milwaukee.gov/district8](http://www.milwaukee.gov/district8) | [rdonov@milwaukee.gov](mailto:rdonov@milwaukee.gov)

SPRING 15

**Hello Neighbors,**

Last month, **Layton Boulevard West Neighbors** commemorated its 20th anniversary of working to create healthy and robust neighborhoods by stabilizing and revitalizing the Silver City, Burnham Park and Layton Park communities. Founded in 1995, LBWN serves the community located between S. Layton Blvd., Miller Park Way, the Menomonee Valley and W. Lincoln Ave. and has improved the lives of some 6,000 neighbors. I am proud to partner with LBWN, and this newsletter includes several informational pieces about LBWN programs, events and initiatives.

On page 9, you will also read about the city's inaugural **Milwaukee Plays** project (located in the 8th District), on schedule to begin work this summer to revitalize the playground in **Arlington Heights Park** at S. 35th and W. Pierce Streets. With a new study out showing a correlation between the deterioration of municipal playgrounds and the economic hardship in the neighborhoods that surround them, the Common Council approved the Milwaukee Plays initiative in March.

This Spring 2015 edition of my newsletter also includes many other articles and bits of helpful information, including neighborhood improvement and housing articles, and public safety information – including an update about the successful Operation Alley Cat initiative. In addition, I have included information about new plans for Menomonee Valley development and an article about a young man who won a prestigious service award through work at a Boys & Girls Club located in the 8th District!

As always, please call me at **286-3533** if you ever have a question or an issue that you'd like to discuss. I look forward to hearing from you.

Please have a safe and enjoyable spring and summer!

Sincerely,

**Bob Donovan**  
Alderman, 8<sup>th</sup> District

**TOWN HALL MEETINGS**

Alderman Donovan has scheduled three spring town hall meetings to meet residents and discuss issues affecting the 8th District. Please attend the meeting that best fits your schedule or location. The dates and locations:

**TUESDAY, MAY 5**

Grant Street School, 2920 W. Grant St.  
6:30 – 8:00 p.m.

**WEDNESDAY, MAY 6**

Doerfler School, 3014 W. Scott St.  
6:00 – 8:00 p.m.

**THURSDAY, MAY 7**

OASIS Senior Center, 2414 W. Mitchell St.  
6:00 – 8:00 p.m.

Representatives of city departments (including the police) will be on hand to answer questions and discuss issues that you are concerned about including crime and crime prevention, graffiti, sanitation, recycling, and neighborhood development.

**PLEASE NOTE** that all meeting locations are handicapped accessible.

**COMMITTEE ASSIGNMENTS****MEMBER**

- Public Works Committee
- Public Safety Committee
- Anti-Graffiti Policy Committee

**VIEW MEETINGS ONLINE:**

[www.milwaukee.gov/citychannel](http://www.milwaukee.gov/citychannel)

**FOLLOW US ON TWITTER:**

@MKE\_CC, @cityofmilwaukee, and @MKE\_TV for City of Milwaukee Common Council and City Clerk news, info and updates.



## Menomonee Valley 2.0 ➤

After 18 months of thoughtful planning, interviews with Valley stakeholders, many public meetings, and input from hundreds of people, the Menomonee Valley 2.0 Plan has been developed. The City of Milwaukee and Menomonee Valley Partners are sharing the ideas of the plan and asking for comments and feedback.

This Menomonee Valley plan update or Menomonee Valley Plan 2.0 is an attempt to continue the vision and successful initiatives of the original Valley plan, “Market Study, Engineering, and Land Use Plan for the Menomonee Valley” (the 1998 plan) which was created as a response to the on-going blight and neglect of large industrial parcels in the Valley and the corresponding negative consequences on adjacent commercial and residential neighborhoods.

By almost all accounts, the 1998 Plan is a success. In the 16 years since its completion, most of the goals and objectives of that plan have been met or succeeded on multiple levels:

- Creation of the Menomonee Valley Partners
- Valley Business Improvement District
- Rebuilding and redesign of the 6th Street viaduct
- Development of the Menomonee Valley Industrial Center
- Redesigned/rebuilt Canal Street between N. 6th and US 41

- Development of the Harley-Davidson Museum and grounds
- Expansion of the Potawatomi Casino and Hotel
- Creation of Three Bridges Park
- A shared storm water park and public trails
- Expansion of the Hank Aaron Trail
- Long list of redevelopment and environmental awards and recognitions

To this end, the broad goals of MVP 2.0 are to make the Valley more:

- Job dense
- Connected
- Accessible
- Sustainable
- Visible

In short, the overall goal of this plan is to elevate the Menomonee Valley into one of the most successful, innovative and recognized urban industrial centers in the United States.

**To read the entire plan, please go to <http://www.planthevalley.org/2015-valley-20-plan---released-22615.html> ■**

## New City Plan for Menomonee Valley

The Department of City Development’s new plan for the valley is focused on five key projects, including continued development of businesses along W. St. Paul Ave. that make home and commercial décor, and feature showrooms that could become a regional draw for shoppers. That area now includes such businesses as Brass Light Gallery, BBC Lighting and House of Stone. A city-owned property, at N. 17th St. and W. St. Paul Ave., could provide parking for shoppers.

**THE OTHER FOUR PROJECTS ARE:**

- An east valley Menomonee Valley Industrial Center for food and beverage manufacturers. That 40-acre light industrial development would have buildings totaling about 700,000 square feet. The business park’s parcels could redevelop We Energies’ coal storage site, south of W. Canal St. and west of I-94, which becomes available when the utility’s power plant converts to natural gas by this fall.
- Preserving an industrial district on W. Pierce and W. Bruce streets. The Common Council last year approved a zoning ordinance designed to reduce conflicts between new residential developments and existing heavy industrial properties.
- A new western gateway with improved auto, bike and pedestrian connections between the valley and adjacent neighborhoods. That could include better connections between the 27th St. viaduct and W. Canal St.
- Additional connections, including a bike and pedestrian bridge linking the Harley-Davidson Museum with the Reed Street Yards water technology business park, and improvements to W. Mount Vernon Ave. ■



MENOMONEE VALLEY MASTERPLAN 2.0  
2014 © 2015 LA DALLMAN

# LAYTON BOULEVARD WEST NEIGHBORS

## Layton Boulevard West Neighbors Marks 20th Year of Service

Last month, Layton Boulevard West Neighbors commemorated its 20th anniversary of working to create healthy and robust neighborhoods by stabilizing and revitalizing the Silver City, Burnham Park and Layton Park communities. Founded in 1995, LBWN serves the community located between S. Layton Blvd., Miller Park Way, the Menomonee Valley and W. Lincoln Ave. and has improved the lives of some 21,000 neighbors.

“You will find no better community based organization in the State of Wisconsin than Layton Boulevard West Neighbors,” said Alderman Donovan, who sponsored and presented a Common Council commendatory resolution to LBWN marking the milestone. “The work they do is outstanding, and it has truly been an honor for me to partner with (LBWN) on so many projects over the years. I am confident they will be a key positive force for progress for many, many more years to come.”

## Layton Boulevard West Neighbors Offers Homeowner Resources

Whether you are looking to make home improvements or interested in purchasing a home in the Silver City, Burnham Park and Layton Park neighborhoods, Layton Boulevard West Neighbors offers a number of resources to assist you.

**MOST IMPROVED HOME CONTEST** Enter your home into this year’s Most Improved Home Contest to compete for a \$1,000 cash prize! Homeowners and investor-owners making improvements to the front of their homes located in Silver City, Burnham Park, Layton Park and Clarke Square are eligible to apply. The first 20 participants to complete their project will also receive a \$50 rebate! Projects must be completed by September 30th, 2015. A big thanks to the sponsors of this year’s contest including Tri City National Bank, the Zilber Family Foundation and The Home Depot.

**HOME IMPROVEMENT MATCHING GRANTS** If you are planning a home improvement project for a property in Silver City, Burnham Park, Layton Park, or Clarke Square, you may be eligible for a matching home improvement grant. These grants are available for up to \$1,000 for front exterior improvements visible from the street. There are also a limited number of \$3,000 matching grants available for roofing repair.

These resources are available to homeowners as well as investor owners, regardless of income, and are made possible by the Zilber Family Foundation and Wells Fargo.

**To apply for the Most Improved Home Contest or the Matching Grants, visit [www.lbwn.org/homeimprovements](http://www.lbwn.org/homeimprovements) or contact Kate Wolf at LBWN at (414) 944-6007 or [kate@lbwn.org](mailto:kate@lbwn.org)**

LBWN works to promote community safety, increase property values, and promote neighborhood confidence, and LBWN achieves this goal through empowering neighbors, business owners and stakeholders to invest their time and money into the community’s continued growth.

Layton Boulevard West Neighbors has leveraged the investment of more than \$40 million in homes, public space and business developments, and implemented more than 200 community service events and projects in which approximately 8,000 neighbors have participated. LBWN has helped create 116 new jobs and 31 new businesses, and has achieved the outcomes of \$7.2 million invested in improving over 1,000 homes and \$6.2 million invested in 71 facilitated home sales. ■

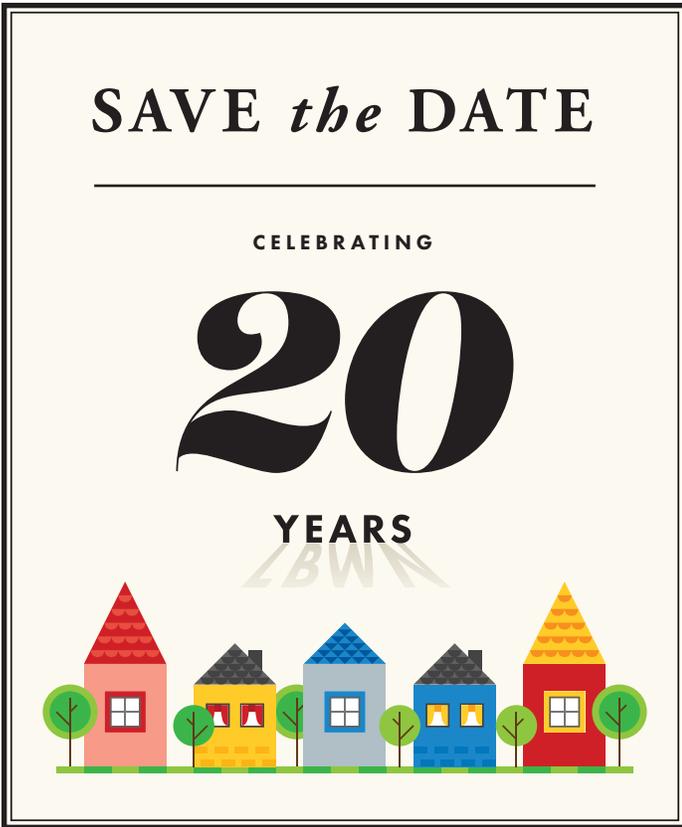
**HOMEBUYING RESOURCES** If you are looking to purchase a home in Silver City, Burnham Park or Layton Park, there are a variety of resources to assist you in making your homeownership dream a reality.

- **Down Payment Assistance:** Owner-occupant homebuyers purchasing a home in the LBWN neighborhoods are eligible for grants up to \$5,000 to assist with the down payment on a house.
- **Strong Neighborhoods Homebuyer Assistance:** Homebuyers are eligible for a forgivable loan up to \$20,000 to assist with the renovation of city-owned homes in the City of Milwaukee.
- **Tour of Homes:** Attend this free, guided-tour of Layton Boulevard West to view available homes for sale, explore the neighborhoods, and learn about homebuying resources including mortgage options, homeownership education and more! Saturday, June 6th, 10:00am-12:30pm, Urban Ecology Center, 3700 W Pierce Street. Registration required.

**To learn more about these homebuying resources or to register for the Tour of Homes, visit [www.lbwn.org/buyhome](http://www.lbwn.org/buyhome) or contact Brianna Sas-Perez at LBWN at (414) 385-5300 or [brianna@lbwn.org](mailto:brianna@lbwn.org)** ■



**SIMPLY CALL 211 TO GET HELP WITH LIFE.**  
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UNITED WAY OF GREATER MILWAUKEE & MILWAUKEE COUNTY



**Save the Date:**  
**LBWN Community Events** ➤

Join your neighbors in celebrating LBWN’s 20 years of stabilizing and revitalizing the Silver City, Burnham Park and Layton Park neighborhoods. Event highlights include free ice cream, remarks from elected officials and neighbors, youth activities and more! Please pack a picnic to bring to the event!

For more information, visit [www.lbwn.org](http://www.lbwn.org)

LBWN 20th Anniversary Picnic	Silver City International Food and Art Walk
Saturday, June 13 <sup>th</sup>	Saturday, September 12 <sup>th</sup>
12:00 – 2:00pm	12:00 – 5:00pm
Burnham Park (35th and Burnham)	West National Avenue (33rd to 35th Street)

Celebrate the Silver City neighborhood’s rich cultural diversity through the arts! Highlights include international dining specials, live music, dance, visual art, and youth activities. [www.silvercitydistrict.org](http://www.silvercitydistrict.org) ■

**El Señorial Mexican Restaurant to Expand in Burnham Park Neighborhood** ➤

A popular ethnic restaurant in the Burnham Park neighborhood is planning an expansion that will result in new jobs, expanded seating capacity, and an outdoor patio for Summer dining!

El Señorial Mexican Restaurant owner, Miguel Huerta, has been working with Layton Boulevard West Neighbors and a variety of community partners over the last several months on expansion plans for his well-known business. Additionally, Alderman Donovan has been supportive of this project from the beginning, helping to shepherd it through the various city committee, licensing and permitting requirements.

The restaurant—located at 1901 S. 31st Street—will remain open during construction, and when the expansion is completed in Fall 2015, neighbors of the 8th District will be able to enjoy a fully-renovated dining area and facade as well as new outdoor seating.

This project will also inject new economic vitality into the Burnham Park neighborhood by creating up to eight new jobs and doubling the capacity of the restaurant.

Additional partners in this expansion have included Tri City National Bank, WHEDA, LISC Milwaukee, and BMR Architects.

If you are looking to open or expand your business in the Layton Boulevard West neighborhoods, please visit [www.lbwn.org/business](http://www.lbwn.org/business) ■



## HOME Program Connects Housing Supply to Demand ➤

A sizeable inventory of homes upon which the city has been forced to foreclose due to unpaid property taxes, and a population of thousands of Milwaukeeans on waiting lists for public, low-rent housing—taken at face value, these two facts paint a bleak picture.

But an innovative new city program seeks to use the inventory of city-owned foreclosed properties to address Milwaukee's affordable housing needs. The Housing Opportunities, Management and Employment ("HOME") program was approved last year by the Common Council, and is currently in development by the Department of City Development.

"The HOME program will leverage community partnerships and additional investment in reinforcing struggling neighborhoods," Alderman Donovan said. "In addition, while we're saving housing stock and creating new homes, we will also be providing on-the-job training and family-supporting employment for residents in need."

Similar to recent city partnerships with organizations like the Wisconsin Regional Training Partnership and Big Step to provide jobsite training on signature projects like the new Northwestern Mutual tower downtown, the HOME program will seek community partners to redevelop, manage and rent or sell foreclosed properties to new occupants. Previously blighted properties will be restored to address affordable housing needs, while Milwaukee residents who are struggling to find employment will learn the skills they need to establish a career in the trades.

To learn more, watch for updates at [milwaukee.gov/DCD](http://milwaukee.gov/DCD) ■

## White Box Program Helps Fill Storefronts, Improve Look of Businesses ➤

There's no denying that a visitor's first impression of a business district makes a difference for potential customers, neighbors and the city as a whole. While vacant, broken-down storefronts can cast a pall over an area and attract crime, attractive building facades strengthen and enhance area businesses, and can significantly impact property values and the marketability of the area.

With this in mind, the City of Milwaukee offers a façade improvement grant program to cover 50 percent of project costs up to \$5,000 per street-facing storefront. All work must be done on a street-facing exterior of an existing building and result in a publicly visible improvement. Applications are reviewed monthly.

The City-Wide White Box program is designed to provide targeted financial incentives to assist in recruiting new businesses to vacant commercial spaces. New business development incentives are available to commercial building owners and developers, offering reimbursable grant funds up to \$10 per square foot, with a maximum grant in the amount of \$25,000. The grant may not exceed 75 percent of the total white-box project costs.

Business and commercial building owners will continue to be eligible for City-Wide Façade and Retail Investment Fund grants. However, there are some restrictions on using these programs in combination.

For more information, visit [milwaukee.gov/facade](http://milwaukee.gov/facade) and [milwaukee.gov/whitebox](http://milwaukee.gov/whitebox) ■



**Worried about your mortgage or property taxes?**

**Concerns about owing more than your home is worth?**

**Not sure if you qualify under any refinance or modification programs?**

**TAKE ROOT MILWAUKEE HAS RESOURCES THAT CAN HELP!**

## Program Aims to Help Homeowners Facing Tax Foreclosure ➤

The City of Milwaukee is working to assist delinquent taxpayers to help them avoid foreclosure because of unpaid taxes.

Every taxpayer who handles their delinquency in year one not only saves the city money on collections, but it will also reduce the city's eventual tax foreclosure volume. City leaders are committed to reducing tax foreclosure volume as part of the Strong Neighborhoods Plan.

Please call the Take Root Milwaukee hotline at (414) 921-4149 for more information. The city's website [milwaukee.gov/STRONG](http://milwaukee.gov/STRONG) also has contact information for all of the partner organizations in the effort to help delinquent taxpayers avoid foreclosure. ■

## Community Improvement Project Grants Strengthen Neighborhoods

Groups of people who are working together to strengthen Milwaukee neighborhoods now have a powerful tool to help them out—Community Improvement Project (CIP) matching grants provided by the city’s Neighborhood Improvement Development Corporation (NIDC). CIP grants provide resident leaders, community groups and organizations with a dollar-for-dollar matching reimbursable grant to support projects that improve neighborhoods and engage community members.

Some examples of CIPs that NIDC has supported include community gardens, green infrastructure projects and neighborhood safety initiatives. CIP matching grants of up to \$4,000 are available to groups throughout the entire City of Milwaukee. However, projects taking place in one of the Greater Milwaukee Foundation-designated “Healthy Neighborhoods” are eligible to apply for grants of up to \$10,000.

For more than seven years, the City of Milwaukee has partnered with the Greater Milwaukee Foundation Healthy Neighborhood Initiative to support Milwaukee residents investing in their neighborhoods. The GMF designates specific Healthy Neighborhoods based on a formalized application process that includes a review of existing neighborhood development efforts and neighborhood data. Please note that CIP grants are not awarded for individual home improvement projects.

In 2015, resident leaders, neighborhood groups and organizations are required to attend an orientation session before submitting a CIP application. Two CIP orientation sessions are held each month.

**For information about session dates and times, please call (414) 286-5901 or visit [milwaukee.gov/CIPs](http://milwaukee.gov/CIPs) ■**

## New Tools for Policing Disruptive After-parties

Milwaukee police will be able to crack down on persistent late night parties in homes and businesses past bar time under new Common Council legislation.

The ordinance adds “after set activity”—the unlicensed sale or distribution of alcoholic beverages or the operation of public entertainment on an unlicensed premises—as a public nuisance. This opens up new avenues for enforcement that were not available to police before, and will make unlicensed premises owners or operators subject to fines and administrative costs associated with enforcement.

Once police respond to an after-hours party at a location, the department will issue a written notice of the violation to the premises owner. If there are repeated violations within two weeks of the written notice, the chief of police may notify the premises owner that, under the city’s nuisance abatement law, they will be subject to fines up to \$5,000 for repeated violations in a given year, as well as paying the cost of enforcement.

All costs are charged to the owner as a lien against the property, requiring payment as a special fee included in the annual property taxes.

**To learn more, visit [milwaukee.gov/ChronicNuisance](http://milwaukee.gov/ChronicNuisance) ■**

## Keeping Crime and Disorder in Check

New efforts to curb crime and other nuisances on the near south side are meeting with success, and a group of law enforcement officers that is near and dear to Alderman Donovan—the Community Prosecution Unit—is at the heart of that effort.

The CPU is tasked with handling long-term problems that often times cannot be handled with a single call for service to the police department, with a focus on nuisance properties that are the scene of repeated problems at the same address such as drug dealing, trouble with neighbors and loud music. It’s a big, broad job.

In general, the CPU handles cases involving loud music, loitering, illegal drug activity, disorderly conduct problems, animals disturbing the peace, licensed premise violations, problems with taverns, drug houses, gang houses and other issues. They are also active at community meetings with residents to find out about problem locations in their neighborhoods.

The CPU is comprised of five police officers and supervised by one sergeant. But the effort to crack down on near south side crime has also included stepped up foot patrols in problem areas—something that has been boosted significantly by Alderman Donovan’s Operation Impact. Operation Impact has paid for extra beat patrols on the near south side for years by utilizing the generous donations of foundations, businesses and residents.

**You can contact the CPU at (414) 935-7763 ■**

# SPRING CLEANING

## Spring Cleaning? Project Clean & Green Can Help

**Project Clean & Green** is being held again this spring, allowing residents of the 8th District to leave extra materials and items out for pickup by sanitation crews. However it should be noted that no construction materials, appliances, hazardous waste, paint, electronics, more than five automobile tires, or brush piles larger than two cubic yards (equivalent to a 6-foot sofa) will be accepted.

In the 8th District, **Clean & Green** will occur:

April 20–24 for residents located in Zone 2  
May 11–15 for residents located in Zone 5

It should also be noted that no garbage or recycling will be collected on the following days this calendar year:

### MEMORIAL DAY

Monday – May 25, 2015

### INDEPENDENCE DAY

Friday – July 3, 2015

### LABOR DAY

Monday – September 7, 2015

### THANKSGIVING

Thursday & Friday – November 26 & 27, 2015

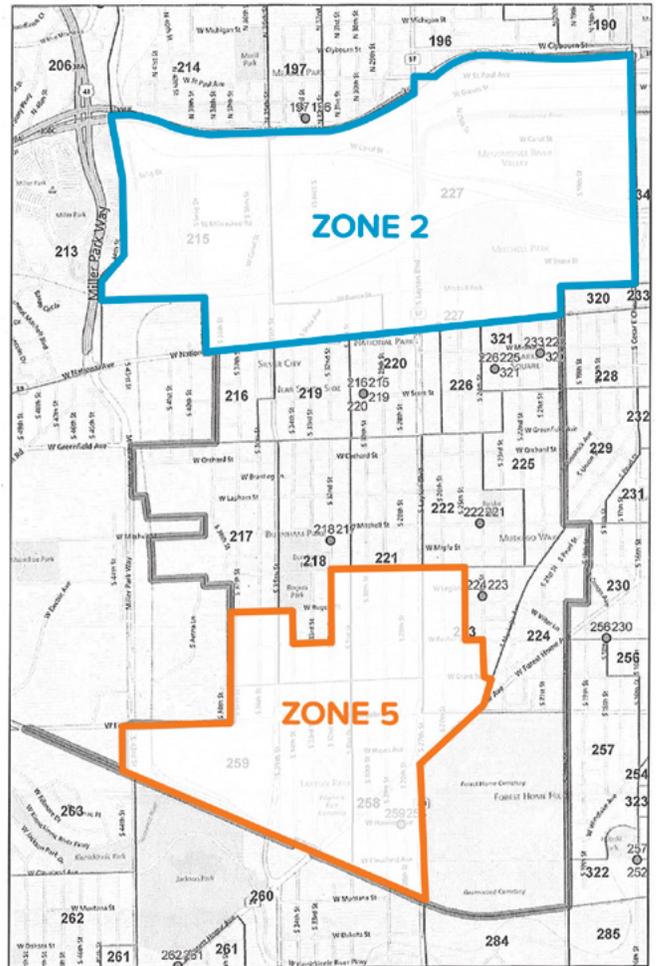
### CHRISTMAS EVE & DAY

Thursday & Friday – December 24 & 25, 2015

### NEW YEAR'S EVE & DAY

Thursday & Friday – December 31, 2015 & January 1, 2016

For more info, visit [milwaukee.gov/district8](http://milwaukee.gov/district8)



April 20–24      May 11–15

## City Increases Snow and Ice Removal Fines

The fines for failing to remove snow and ice from sidewalks in Milwaukee have increased, effective January 20, in order to provide uniformity with other city regulations and ensure that sidewalks remain passable in winter.

City of Milwaukee private property, residential or commercial property owners and occupants are required to clear the sidewalks abutting their property of snow or ice within 24 hours of a snow fall. This includes the corner crosswalk area for property owners with corner lots, and those whose property abuts a midblock crosswalk.

If a property owner is found to be in violation of this ordinance, a special charge of \$50 (up from \$25) will be assessed. Property owners who fail to clear all sidewalk snow and ice within 24 hours of receiving a notice of the violation will be assessed

additional special charges of \$75 (up from \$45) for the first violation and \$100 (up from \$90) for a second violation and any violations thereafter, plus the cost of snow and ice removal if the city is forced to do the work.

The changes create a relatively uniform fine structure for sidewalk clearing violations in the winter and lawn mowing violations throughout the rest of the year. Property owners are required to keep grass and weeds trimmed to seven inches or less, or they will face an assessed fine of \$50 on a first offense and \$100 if the violation is not addressed.

The Department of Public Works staff is responsible for monitoring properties for snow and ice removal compliance and provides clean-up services when necessary. Residents can also alert DPW of problem properties by calling (414) 286-CITY.



## First “Milwaukee Plays” Project in the 8th District! ➤

With a new study out showing a correlation between the deterioration of municipal playgrounds and the economic hardship in the neighborhoods that surround them, the Common Council approved the **Milwaukee Plays** initiative in March.

And, thanks to the Council’s action, the inaugural Milwaukee Plays project is on schedule to begin work this summer to revitalize the playground in **Arlington Heights Park** at S. 35th and W. Pierce Streets, Alderman Donovan said.

Milwaukee Plays lays the groundwork for a new collaborative, community-oriented process for leveraging private investment in new play spaces. Championed by Council President Michael Murphy as a means of building on the success of the Playground Improvement Challenge Fund, there’s already been significant interest from philanthropic groups in funding Milwaukee Plays. ■

## Stay Informed About Silver City! ➤

The Silver City neighborhood is a bustling and diverse area that is home to the Mitchell Park Conservatory Domes, Miller Park stadium, the bustling Miller Park Way commercial district, and the Menomonee Valley.

In 2005, Layton Boulevard West Neighbors began an economic development strategy in the Silver City neighborhood focused on growing businesses and creating jobs to support the local economy. Since that time, LBWN has expanded this effort to the Burnham Park and Layton Park neighborhoods and has resulted in 116 full-time and part-time jobs, established 31 businesses, and facilitated more than \$6.7 million in public and private investments. Silver City partnerships have also produced more than 7,500 volunteer hours in the neighborhood, 160 business events and promotions and more than 400 instances of technical assistance consultations to businesses and entrepreneurs.

In short, there is always something happening in Silver City, so please go to [www.silvercitydistrict.org](http://www.silvercitydistrict.org) to stay on top of all the latest neighborhood news and information. ■



## 8th District Youth Wins Citizenship Award ➤

**Alex Hilario Reyes**, 16, a member of the Don & Sallie Davis Boys & Girls Club, 1975 S. 24th St., has been honored with a 2015 Argosy Citizenship Award.

As a member of the Davis Club, Alex participates in many different activities, including education programs and Keystone Club. He volunteered his time during the summer of 2014 to help out at the “Great Garden Kick Off” at the Guest House of Milwaukee, which is a homeless shelter. Alex also helped turn two vacant lots into gardens which will be tended to and used by guests at the shelter.

Alex would like to create an annual gallery night at the Davis Club to showcase members’ artwork. This will allow people from the community, including parents and family members, to support the members’ artwork and possibly bid on the work with proceeds going toward the community. This project will reward members for their artistic expression and give them an opportunity to grow as artists while also benefiting the community. ■

## Visioning Session to Identify Redevelopment Opportunities for Six Properties

A community partnership is in the works to create redevelopment plans for six underutilized properties that are ripe for revitalization in the Silver City and Clarke Square neighborhoods. Over the past several months, Layton Boulevard West Neighbors (LBWN), the Clarke Square Neighborhood Initiative (CSNI), Alderman Donovan, and UWM's Community Design Solutions (CDS) have hosted a variety of visioning sessions to identify new economic development opportunities at these sites.

This visioning process seeks to build on the recent economic growth and investment in these communities that has resulted in small business development, job creation and new housing opportunities.

## Our Daily Salt

**Our Daily Salt**—an artisan wood-working business—is the winner of the Silver City Business Plan Competition. The Competition was a companion initiative to Layton Boulevard West Neighbors' Rent-to-Own-Homes, through which LBWN, Impact Seven and other partners have transformed 24 vacant, foreclosed properties into move-in ready residential and commercial spaces. Our Daily Salt now occupies a beautifully-restored historic storefront where there once stood a blighted, vacant property on one of Milwaukee's major commercial corridors, National Avenue.

Since moving to the Silver City neighborhood, Our Daily Salt has seen sales grow significantly, and they are positively contributing to the economic vitality of the neighborhood.



CDS will soon present their final report including detailed renderings for the types of businesses that could move into these spaces. At that time, LBWN and CSNI will continue to work with the Alderman and other stakeholders to recruit prospective business owners to the neighborhood and connect them with financing and other resources.

Financial support for this effort was provided by the Zilber Family Foundation, Milwaukee Department of City Development and LISC Milwaukee.

Stay tuned to [www.lbwn.org](http://www.lbwn.org) for more information.



Alderman Donovan was joined by residents and business owners during a news conference in late March at S. 35th and W. National regarding panhandling in the public right-of-way. Alderman Donovan, a member of the Common Council's Public Safety Committee, said panhandling is out of control across the city and is not helping the panhandlers or the city. The alderman has introduced a proposed city ordinance that would ban panhandling in the public right-of-way along city streets and at intersections. "We have individuals holding signs and panhandling daily at freeway off-ramps, major intersections, and other locations across the city – often darting in and out of traffic – and it's time that we put a stop to it before someone gets hurt," he said.

## Alderman Donovan Stands Up for Beleaguered Residents

**Alderman Donovan** stood with neighborhood residents last fall to address serious neighborhood nuisance and disorder issues connected to a residence near S. 33rd St. and W. Lincoln Ave.

Alderman Donovan said the neighbors were fed up with the residents of the property – especially after a large fight broke out in the street. “Police responded, but no one was arrested. After the police left, the fight broke out again and this time, shots were fired! The cops came back and made three arrests, but not before the entire neighborhood was terrorized by these idiots,” he said.

“I am simply fed up with the level of safety in our neighborhoods, and I am standing up for the growing number of residents who are too afraid to even sit outside or go for a walk,” he said.



## Operation Alley Cat Initiative Pays Off with Arrest

Late last year Milwaukee police arrested a man suspected of stealing items from alley garages thanks in large part to the quality of video surveillance footage captured by one of the **Operation Alley Cat** cameras according to **Alderman Donovan**, who helped launch the project.

The alley behind 1105 S. 36th St. (the alley segment located between W. Scott and W. National, from S. 36th to S. 37th) was near where the footage was captured.

Alderman Donovan said the image of the suspect (see photo) captured from the alley-mounted video camera clearly illustrates the effectiveness of the Operation Alley Cat initiative. “The video footage in this case has helped identify this suspect, and police are investigating to see if the guy is responsible for other possible thefts in the area,” he said. “The video doesn’t lie, and I believe this is exactly what Operation Alley Cat can do to help make life a living hell for cowardly crooks who think they can operate unseen in our alleys.”

The video surveillance cameras were being installed as part of a pilot program and in a partnership arrangement involving Alderman Donovan’s Operation Impact across the **Operation Impact** area (additional cameras may be installed as additional funds become available). The alley cameras add yet another tool to help fight crimes such as illegal dumping, graffiti, illegal car repair, drug dealing and drug use, as well as break-ins and

burglaries. The cameras will provide footage that can be monitored by the Milwaukee Police Department.

The Operation Impact target area is located within the 2nd Police District and is bounded by W. Pierce St. on the north, W. Lincoln Ave. on the south, S. 16th Street/S. Cesar Chavez Dr. on the east and S. 38th St. on the west. ■



An Operation Alley Cat surveillance camera took photos that led to an arrest of a suspected burglar.

# ALDERMAN ROBERT G. DONOVAN



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SPRING 15



## A Young Hero in Our Midst

The Common Council recently honored 15-year-old Joseph Brown for his quick actions and presence of mind to save the life of an 8-year-old neighbor. While waiting for his brother's school bus, he saw a vehicle hit the neighbor boy and begin to drag him underneath. The driver appeared unaware of what had happened, so Joey ran to the vehicle, pounded on the window and then opened the door to get the driver to stop. Emergency help was summoned, and Joey crawled under the vehicle to comfort the boy until firefighters lifted the vehicle and pulled him out. Emergency personnel said the accident would have been fatal if the vehicle was not stopped when it was. Alderman Donovan said he was honored to meet Joey, and to thank him for his quick-thinking and selfless actions. ■



### Robert G. Donovan

Alderman, 8<sup>th</sup> District  
200 E. Wells Street  
Milwaukee, WI 53202

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Permit No. 4678

## Walk with Alderman Donovan in Your Neighborhood

Accompanied by police officers and inspectors/officials from the Department of Neighborhood Services and the Department of Public Works, Alderman Donovan will soon begin his regular series of 8th District neighborhood walk-throughs to learn about residents' concerns and to see conditions firsthand. Postcards will be mailed to residential addresses in the area prior to the walk-through, alerting neighborhood residents. The walks will be at noon every Monday and Wednesday from May through October 2015.

Please join the alderman when he comes to your area.

Also, if you would like Alderman Donovan to come to your block or neighborhood, please call his office at 286-3533 to request a walkthrough. ■



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