

# The Garden District

13th District Alderman

# Terry L. Witkowski



200 E. Wells St. | Milwaukee, WI 53202 | 286-8537 | [www.milwaukee.gov/district13](http://www.milwaukee.gov/district13) | [twitko@milwaukee.gov](mailto:twitko@milwaukee.gov)

SPRING 16

## Dear Neighbors,

I thank you for the confidence in me you have shown by electing me alderman for a fifth time. Over the past 12½ years, we have done a lot to improve this district. I will continue to work to build upon our quality of life and the desirability of living, playing, working or owning a business here.

When I started as alderman, I questioned if our area was falling behind the rest of the city in renewal of the area. We have changed, and have become a model of what other neighborhoods could be. I will strive to maintain that progress and momentum.

On a citywide level, we have our problems, but continue to find new ways to address them while living under a state-imposed tax cap and shrinking shared revenue. I am pleased to see the city growing, with more people moving in downtown and near downtown. The new construction adds to the tax base, reducing the proportion of the tax burden on neighborhoods like ours and helping maintain the quality of affordable city services. Investments are being made in Milwaukee by others from around the nation, which speaks to the quality of life here.

I have seen more change in Milwaukee these past 15 years than I have throughout the rest of my lifetime. It is happening just as it did when the city was built, from the center outward. These next four years will be exciting for Milwaukee as development continues at a rapid pace, providing more badly-needed jobs and income.

This is the only newsletter I get to send out this year, so I wanted to get the schedule of this year's neighborhood events to you. It is these community and neighborhood association events that help make this a desirable place to live. Pull out the enclosed schedule, keep it handy and participate in the good things that the Garden District has to offer.

See you in the Garden District!

**Terry L. Witkowski**  
Alderman, 13<sup>th</sup> District



## MEETING DATES

### Southlawn Playground Improvement

Wednesday, May 18 at 6:00 PM

St. Luke's Hospital auditorium  
2900 W. Oklahoma Ave.

### Town Hall Meeting

Monday, May 23 at 6:30 PM

Tippecanoe Library  
3912 S. Howell Ave.

### Gra-Ram Neighborhood meeting

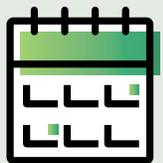
Tuesday, May 24 at 6:30 PM

Garland School  
3120 W. Green Ave.

See inside for a listing of  
Garden District events

## GARDEN DISTRICT EVENTS CALENDAR

What's happening this year in the Garden District? Lots! See the center of this newsletter for a pull out calendar of events. Of special note is the return of National Night Out, a great family event, the rummage sales that started last year and the artist market. There is also an inaugural December tree lighting at the gardens, which is still in the planning stages. Watch for news on that one later this year. Thanks to all the volunteers who make these things happen—and to become one, call **379-2450** and leave a message.



## Gra-Ram Neighborhood Meeting

I have had a request to hold a meeting in the area between Grange and Ramsey, west of 27th Street, to bring neighbors together. Please come out to talk about the area and its needs. Can there be any Garden District beautification along Parnell? What can neighbors do to keep the area sound? What are today's problems, and how can we address them? How do you get your concerns addressed promptly? Should we develop a neighborhood association, and what are the benefits? I invite all residents to meet with me at 6:30 p.m. on Tuesday, May 24, at Garland School, 3120 W. Green Ave. ■

## Meeting to Improve Southlawn Playground

The Historic Southgate Neighborhood Association has joined forces with the MPS Recreation Division to get neighborhood input on improving Southlawn Playground. Should this asphalt block be softened? Can it look more like 6th and Howard? What would draw more adults and children to use it?

Please join your neighbors in offering your views during a meeting on Wednesday, May 18th at 6:00 p.m. in the St. Luke's auditorium, on the lower level. ■

## How to Fix a Pothole

Calling it in is the best way! Jot down the nearest address and call 286-CITY. Street maintenance crews cannot fill a pot hole they don't know about, so please let us know where it is. This time of year, they can generally fill it in three working days. ■

## District Roads to Be Resurfaced in 2016

- W. Grange Ave. from S. Howell Ave. to S. 6th St.
- S. 16th St. from W. Oklahoma Ave. to W. Windlake Ave.
- W. Abbott Ave. from S. 13th St. to S. 15th Pl.
- W. Maplewood Ct. from S. 14th St. to S. 15th Pl.
- S. 14th St. from W. Abbott Ave. to W. Maplewood Ct.
- S. 15th Pl. from W. Abbott Ave. to W. Maplewood Ct.

*Each road is scheduled for a one-day paving.*

No other streets in this district will be done this year, and no alleys are funded for reconstruction in the 2016 budget. ■

## Rain Barrel and Compost Bin Sale

The Garden District will host the City Rain Barrel and Compost Bin Sale on Saturday, June 4 from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. at the Wilson Senior Center parking lot, 2601 W. Howard Ave. Last year, the rain barrels were sold out by 11:30! I am told that the sale will move to another part of the city next year, after two years here. New this year, you can also order your rain barrel or compost bin online at [enviroworld.us/milwaukee](http://enviroworld.us/milwaukee); the deadline is May 29. Rain barrels cost \$60, and compost bins cost \$50. Compost kitchen caddies, aerators and thermometers will also be available for purchase. ■

## Tippecanoe Library Saturday Hours to Start This Summer

For the first time in years, the Tippecanoe Library will have Saturday hours through a budget amendment I sponsored. Beginning this summer, the library will be open from 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. on Saturdays. Also, look for great landscaping and gardens to appear as the renewal of the library is completed. ■

## Panhandlers? Keep the Change

Giving money to panhandlers keeps them coming back for more, and is not helping them with their problem—if they have one. There is an established system to assist those in need of food, shelter and other services that can be reached by dialing 211. The district attorney's office and police say their research shows that 70 percent of local panhandlers are not homeless.

I initiated a citywide effort called "Keep the Change," and materials are now available to stores, business groups and citizens. There are street signs, window signs, counter fliers and small cards to give to panhandlers advising them of where to get help. The materials encourage people to help

panhandlers by giving to charities instead of people on street corners. This ensures that help goes to those who truly have a need.

Learn more at [milwaukee.gov/ktc](http://milwaukee.gov/ktc) ■



# 2016 Event Calendar

## MAY - JULY

TERRY L. WITKOWSKI  
ALDERMAN, 13TH DISTRICT



The Garden District

➤ MAY 14, TUESDAY

### SPRING PERENNIAL & SEED EXCHANGE

10:00AM - 12:00PM

Bring your plants and seeds; exchange with others.

FARMERS' MARKET GROUNDS  
S. 6TH ST. AND W. HOWARD AVE.

➤ MAY 16, MONDAY

### FUNDRAISER FOR THE GARDEN DISTRICT NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOC.

5:00 - 7:00PM

Eat here this evening and a portion of your purchase will go to the GDNA!

CULVER'S  
575 W. LAYTON BLVD.

➤ MAY 18, WEDNESDAY

### SOUTHLAWN PLAYGROUND IMPROVEMENT MEETING

6:00PM

Join neighbors to help plan improvements for the Southlawn Playground.

ST. LUKE'S HOSPITAL AUDITORIUM,  
2900 W. OKLAHOMA AVE.

➤ MAY 23, MONDAY

### TOWN HALL MEETING

6:30PM

TIPPECANOE LIBRARY  
3912 S. HOWELL AVE.

➤ MAY 24, TUESDAY

### GRA-RAM NEIGHBORHOOD MEETING

6:30PM

Meeting to plan the future of the Grange to Ramsey neighborhood west of S. 27th St.

GARLAND ELEMENTARY  
3120 W. GREEN AVE.

➤ JUNE 3, FRIDAY

### MOVIES IN THE GARDEN

AT DUSK

FARMERS' MARKET GROUNDS  
S. 6TH ST. AND W. HOWARD AVE.

➤ JUNE 4, SATURDAY

### RUMMAGE SALE

9:00AM - 4:00PM

FREE stalls available; contact Dawn at (414) 379-2450.

FARMERS' MARKET GROUNDS  
S. 6TH ST. AND W. HOWARD AVE.

➤ JUNE 4, SATURDAY

### RAIN BARREL & COMPOST BIN SALE

9:00AM - 3:00PM

First come, first served.

WILSON SENIOR CENTER PARKING LOT  
2601 W. HOWARD AVE.

➤ JUNE 7, TUESDAY

### GARDEN MEETING

6:30PM

Raw Food Demo

TIPPECANOE LIBRARY  
3912 S. HOWELL AVE.

SATURDAYS, JUNE 11 THROUGH OCTOBER 15

### FARMERS' MARKET

1:00 - 5:00PM

No market on July 2.

FARMERS' MARKET GROUNDS  
S. 6TH ST. AND W. HOWARD AVE.



➤ JUNE 11, SATURDAY

### CHOOSE TO RE-USE: BICYCLE DONATION AND REPAIR

1:30 - 4:30PM

Event by Dream Bikes—donate your old bikes to a worthy cause.

PARKING LOT SOUTH OF THE FARMERS' MARKET  
S. 6TH ST. AND W. NORWICH ST.

➤ JUNE 18, SATURDAY

### CHOOSE TO RE-USE: SPORTS EQUIPMENT EXCHANGE AND KIDS' CLOTHING DONATION

1:30 - 4:30PM

Event by (not at) Souls Harbor Church.

PARKING LOT SOUTH OF THE FARMERS' MARKET  
S. 6TH ST. AND W. NORWICH ST.

➤ JUNE 25, SATURDAY

### CHOOSE TO RE-USE: TOOLS/GARDENING EQUIPMENT EXCHANGE AND BOOK EXCHANGE

1:30 - 4:30PM

Event by (not at) Resurrection Evangelical Lutheran Church.

PARKING LOT SOUTH OF THE FARMERS' MARKET  
S. 6TH ST. AND W. NORWICH ST.

WED JUNE 29 THROUGH SUN JULY 10

### SPRECHER TRAVELING BEER GARDEN



HOLLER PARK  
5151 S. 6TH ST.

➤ JULY 5, TUESDAY

### GARDEN MEETING

6:30PM

Edible weeds, at the community garden

FARMERS' MARKET GROUNDS  
S. 6TH ST. AND W. HOWARD AVE.

### FARMERS' MARKET

1:00 - 5:00PM

Official Grand Opening Ceremony.

FARMERS' MARKET GROUNDS  
S. 6TH ST. AND W. HOWARD AVE.

SAT  
9  
JULY

➤ JULY 9, SATURDAY

### CHOOSE TO RE-USE: HOME DÉCOR, HOUSEHOLD GOODS AND HOLIDAY DECORATIONS

1:30 - 4:30PM

PARKING LOT SOUTH OF THE FARMERS' MARKET  
S. 6TH ST. AND W. NORWICH ST.

NEW THIS YEAR

### TASTE OF THE GATEWAY

5:00 - 7:00PM

Come out and join the Gateway to Milwaukee for an evening of great food and company; sample food from local restaurants and mingle with your neighbors. FREE event.

FARMERS' MARKET GROUNDS  
S. 6TH ST. AND W. HOWARD AVE.

WED  
20  
JULY

➤ JULY 22, FRIDAY

### MOVIES IN THE GARDEN

AT DUSK

FARMERS' MARKET GROUNDS  
S. 6TH ST. AND W. HOWARD AVE.

➤ JULY 23, SATURDAY

### CLEAN OUT THE CLOSET DAY

1:30 - 4:30PM

Sponsored by Keep Greater Milwaukee Beautiful.

PARKING LOT SOUTH OF THE FARMERS' MARKET  
S. 6TH ST. AND W. NORWICH ST.

# 2016 Event Calendar

## AUG - DEC

TERRY L. WITKOWSKI  
ALDERMAN, 13TH DISTRICT



The Garden District

➤ AUGUST 2, TUESDAY

### GARDEN MEETING

6:30PM

Tour of Energy Exchange, featuring a green roof and mushroom farm.

4121 S. 6TH ST.

➤ AUGUST 12, FRIDAY  
NATIONAL NIGHT OUT

4:00 - 7:00PM

FARMERS' MARKET GROUNDS  
S. 6TH ST. AND W. HOWARD AVE.

➤ AUGUST 12, FRIDAY  
MOVIES IN THE GARDEN

AT DUSK

FARMERS' MARKET GROUNDS  
S. 6TH ST. AND W. HOWARD AVE.

➤ AUGUST 28, SUNDAY  
ARTIST MARKET

12:00 - 4:00PM

FARMERS' MARKET GROUNDS  
S. 6TH ST. AND W. HOWARD AVE.

➤ SEPTEMBER 6, TUESDAY

### GARDEN MEETING

6:30PM

Grilling your veggies; Held at the garden. Please bring a vegetable and a recipe.

FARMERS' MARKET GROUNDS  
S. 6TH ST. AND W. HOWARD AVE.

➤ SEPTEMBER 10, SATURDAY  
FALL PERENNIAL & SEED EXCHANGE

10:00AM - 12:00PM

Bring your plants and seeds; exchange with others.

FARMERS' MARKET GROUNDS  
S. 6TH ST. AND W. HOWARD AVE.

➤ SEPTEMBER 10, SATURDAY  
FREE DOCUMENT SHREDDING DAY

1:30 - 4:30PM

Conducted on-site with the help of Keep Greater Milwaukee Beautiful.

PARKING LOT SOUTH OF THE FARMERS' MARKET  
S. 6TH ST. AND W. NORWICH ST.

➤ SEPTEMBER 30, FRIDAY  
MOVIES IN THE GARDEN

AT DUSK

FARMERS' MARKET GROUNDS  
S. 6TH ST. AND W. HOWARD AVE.

➤ OCTOBER 1, SATURDAY

### FALL FESTIVAL & FARMERS' MARKET

1:00 - 5:00PM

FARMERS' MARKET GROUNDS  
S. 6TH ST. AND W. HOWARD AVE.

➤ OCTOBER 4, TUESDAY  
GARDEN MEETING

6:30PM

Aromatherapy, at the Water Tower  
4001 S. 6TH ST.

➤ NOVEMBER 1, TUESDAY  
GARDEN MEETING

6:30PM

Assembling cards for the Troops, at the Water Tower.

4001 S. 6TH ST.

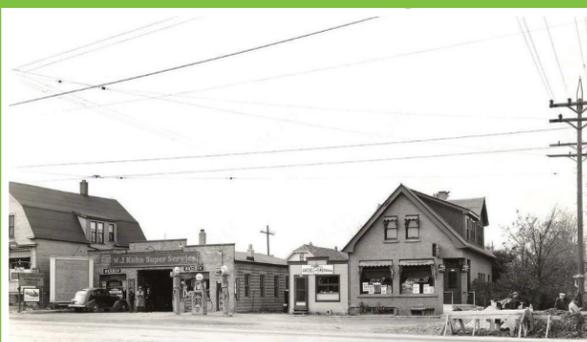
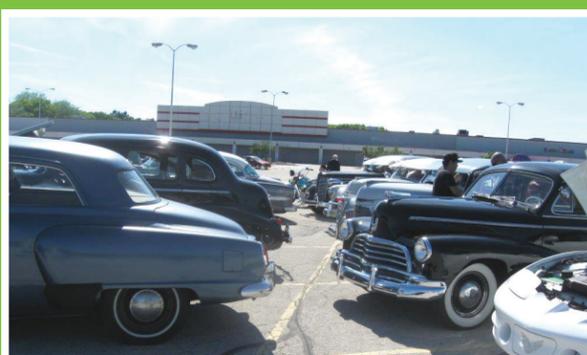
### TREE LIGHTING

6:30PM

Details TBA.

FARMERS' MARKET GROUNDS  
S. 6TH ST. AND W. HOWARD AVE.

TUE  
6  
DEC



## Fire Department Alternate Response Vehicle



In April, the Milwaukee Fire Department rolled out a new SUV that will be used to respond to emergency medical calls in the area served by the firehouse at S. 13th St. and W. Boden Ct. This is a pilot program that I sponsored after residents asked why firefighters responded to emergency medical calls with a half-million dollar vehicle that gets two miles per gallon of gas.

In recent years, 85 percent of the fire department’s runs have been emergency medical runs. I asked the comptroller to study the issue, and his report indicated that between capital costs on the vehicles and fuel savings, the small vehicles would pay for themselves in 11 months—and after that, they would be saving taxpayers money. The fire department has been directed to put two of these vehicles in service as a pilot program. ■

## Collecting \$144 Million Owed to the City

I have had the Common Council approve a work group to review the measures the city uses to collect outstanding debt. When I did this ten years ago, departments learned from each other and now collect millions more annually than they used to in fines and fees. Since that time, the state law has changed, and no department has taken advantage of the state’s new, free collection options.

I also found that, although the departments to which major debt is owed enlist the services of collection agencies, they pay different rates ranging from 5 to 20 percent. Two collection contracts expire this year, and now is the time to make contract and procedure changes. The work group, which I will chair, should be reporting its findings by the end of July. So look for a news story then, because I expect major change and better collections in the near future. ■

## The Health of Downtown and the Garden District

Downtown makes up three percent of the land in the city, but pays 18 percent of Milwaukee’s property taxes because downtown property values are the highest in the city. Any time new buildings are built downtown, that helps our district, because more property tax money becomes available to fund services citywide. ■

## Join the Public Art Committee

Founded after I hosted meetings last spring, the Garden District’s new Public Art Committee ran an art market and executed a pavement painting. Chairman Ryan Laessig says this year, they will host the Artist Market on Sunday, August 28 from noon until 4:00 p.m. They will also help Burdick School with two street paintings in May and work on a project to place decorative wheel barrows with flowers in different parts of the district. Other projects are being discussed. Artists young and old and anyone who’s interested in improving this district are welcome to join by emailing Ryan at [milwaukeeALT1@gmail.com](mailto:milwaukeeALT1@gmail.com). ■

## District History Committee Formed

The Garden District Neighborhood Association has formed a History Committee. It will be focusing on local history of the 13th Aldermanic District. Please come and share old photos, memorabilia and historic stories. The group is open to all residents, wherever they are from. If interested, please contact Marshall Lee at [marshall@milwaukeeegdna.com](mailto:marshall@milwaukeeegdna.com). The group plans its first meeting in late May.

For more information, email Marshall or join the group’s Facebook page at [facebook.com/gdnahistory](https://facebook.com/gdnahistory) ■

## Home Cleaning and Recycling Events are Back

The Choose to Re-use recycling events are back at the Farmers’ Market parking lot. Clean out the stuff you no longer use from your house and donate it so someone else can use it! Each of these events runs from 1:30 to 4:30 p.m. Each event focuses on a different category of donated goods, and this year’s are:

Bicycles	June 11
Sports equipment and children’s clothes	June 18
Books, tools and gardening supplies	June 25
Home Décor, holiday decorations and household goods	July 9
Clothing, blankets, belts, shoes and drapes	July 23
Document shredding on site	Sept 10

All are listed on the calendar insert in this newsletter. Call 286-8537 for more information. ■

The Garden District

13th District Alderman

Terry L. Witkowski



200 E. Wells St. | Milwaukee, WI 53202 | 286-8537 | www.milwaukee.gov/district13 | twitko@milwaukee.gov

SPRING 16



Terry L. Witkowski

Alderman, 13th District  
200 E. Wells Street  
Milwaukee, WI 53202

PRSR STD  
US Postage  
**PAID**  
Milwaukee, WI  
Permit No. 4678



In an effort to get persistent panhandlers to move along, Alderman Witkowski and other civic leaders launched the "Keep the Change" initiative, which urges residents to give their spare change to charitable organizations instead of people on street corners. Learn more inside!

## WANT TO GET THE WHOLE STORY ABOUT YOUR PART OF TOWN, THE GARDEN DISTRICT?

The Garden District promotional video on my website gives you more information in 3½ minutes than an hour's lecture. It was produced by the City Channel, and people who have seen it love it. I've also posted a new informational video. This overview of the Green Corridor project on South 6th Street was created over the winter by two UWM students.



View online now at  
[milwaukee.gov/District13](http://milwaukee.gov/District13)