
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE



FOR INFORMATION CALL

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Ald. Bob Donovan
(414) 286-3778

"Warriors" Will Wage Battle To Keep City Neighborhoods Strong, Vibrant

Citizens Lending a Helping Hand to Beautify Areas, Ald. Donovan Says

Armed with Weedwackers, brooms, shovels and a "can do" attitude, a resilient group of citizen volunteers is taking to the streets of Milwaukee's near south side, vowing to help enhance the look of some neighborhoods.

The Weekend Warriors – a name coined by Ald. Bob Donovan (who helped organize the effort) – will kick off their street-level summer work activities at 11 a.m. Saturday, July 7, 2007 at the Milwaukee Christian Center, S. 22nd St. and W. Greenfield Ave. The busy volunteers should offer good visual opportunities, and all media are invited.

Ald. Donovan said the grassroots Warriors will be performing graffiti cleanup/removal, weed and grass cutting, litter pickup and some minor landscaping work. He said they deserve credit for "taking the bull by the horns" to improve the look and thus the overall quality of life of their neighborhoods. "Too often we hear about negative activities and outcomes, and here we have citizens who are donating their time and skills and helping to take back their neighborhoods block-by-block," he said.

"My hat's off to these people who 'walk the walk' when help is so genuinely needed," the alderman said.

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Weekend Warriors Coming/ADD ONE

The Weekend Warriors are being supported by many local businesses and organizations who are donating items and equipment (big and small) to make their work as efficient and effective as possible. For instance, the Lopez family (Lopez Auto Dealers, an 8th District business) has donated a large equipment van that the volunteers are already using to help transport supplies and equipment. “The Warriors are buoyed by the support they’re getting from the community, and the community also feels like a part of the effort by donating everything from beverages and snacks for the volunteers to pressure washers, paint rollers and dozens of other items,” he said.

Ald. Donovan, who represents the near south side’s densely populated 8th Aldermanic District, said he believes the Weekend Warriors can be duplicated in other parts of Milwaukee. “There are good, able-bodied people throughout this city who are looking to do something positive to improve their neighborhoods, and I think this is one effort that can make a big difference in a short time frame,” he said.

Anyone interested in learning more about the Weekend Warriors can call Ald. Donovan’s office at 286-3533 for more information.