
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE



FOR INFORMATION CALL

May 18, 2007

Ald. Robert G. Donovan
Ald. Joe Dudzik
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Take Back Your Neighborhood

Want to help make the streets of your neighborhood safer? Then you'll want to attend the kickoff of the **Take Back Your Neighborhood** campaign this weekend, featuring an event to raise awareness of crime prevention methods for city residents.

The 6th Police District Block Watch Council is sponsoring the event tomorrow, **Saturday, May 19, 2007 from 11:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. at Pulaski High School, 2500 W. Oklahoma Ave. Media coverage is encouraged.**

Ald. Bob Donovan, chair of the Common Council's Public Safety Committee, is encouraging residents to attend. "People are telling me that it's sad they fear for their safety in their own neighborhoods and are afraid to let their children play outside," said Ald. Donovan. "If we can get more people involved and aware of what they can do as individuals, we can take a major step toward regaining control of our neighborhoods from the criminal element," he said.

The Milwaukee Police Department will present information on the Neighborhood Safety Initiative announced this week by Chief Nannette Hegerty, an effort that will have more police officers in squad cars and on foot patrolling targeted neighborhoods. Police will also have exhibits of the horse patrol, gang and drug units and other special teams. The District 6 police station, located just down the block from Pulaski High School, will be open for tours during the event.

In addition, sheriff's deputies will provide iris scans and finger printing for children and seniors, and "stranger danger" information will be provided. The Milwaukee Fire Department exhibits will include the Dive-Rescue Team.

-More-

Saturday Safety Event/ADD ONE

Ald. Joe Dudzik, who also represents areas covered by the 6th Police District, calls the event a positive way to bring people together and bring about a change to the escalating crime problem. “The Take Back Your Neighborhood Fair will be emphasizing the importance of the Block Watch program and how to get organized,” said Ald. Dudzik. “Gangs, drugs, graffiti and violence endanger the entire community and in order to reduce crime the police need help from everyone in the community,” he said.

In addition to public safety exhibits, representatives from the Anti-Graffiti Policy Committee, Department of Neighborhood Services, Sanitation Department, the Domestic Violence Task Force, community organizations and elected officials are expected to be on hand to answer questions.

The event will also feature carnival games, entertainment and refreshments.