



November 12, 2010

Ald. Bob Donovan
(414) 708-2096

MEDIA ADVISORY

Grade Schoolers to Rake Leaves at Vacant South Side Homes

Students will join Alderman Bob Donovan Saturday morning in spruce up effort

Alderman Bob Donovan will be joined by 10-15 students from **Mitchell School**, 1728 S. 23rd St., tomorrow (Saturday, November 13, 2010) at **10 a.m.** to rake leaves outside vacant homes on the city's near south side.

The students, sixth and seventh graders at Mitchell, have volunteered to help rake outside vacant homes "because they want to help out the community," said Alderman Donovan. "These youngsters have made the connection that helping spruce up the community – even if it's raking leaves for an hour or two – is a positive way of giving something back to their neighborhoods and to the city," he said. "These are kids doing something positive for free, and on their own time."

Mitchell teacher **Patti Koscielak**, who is coordinating the raking effort with Alderman Donovan, said she and other teachers at the school have rounded up enough rakes for the students to use tomorrow. She said the students are excited "to be helping people in the neighborhood feel good about where they live." "They (students) have a lot of community spirit, and they also know that homes that are unattended attract crime and they want to do their part to deter that type of behavior," she said

The students and Alderman Donovan **will meet at 10 a.m. at the southeast corner of S. 23rd and W. Mitchell Streets** prior to heading out to rake some of the vacant houses, all located roughly between S. 21st St., S. Layton Blvd. (S. 27th St.), from W. Lapham to W. Burnham Streets.

WHAT: Students raking with Alderman Donovan
WHEN: 10:00 a.m., Saturday, November 13
WHERE: S. 23rd and W. Mitchell Streets

-30-