Dear Neighbors,

We have seen increasing neighborhood and citizen engagement in fighting crime across the 2nd District and recent data from the Milwaukee Police Department illustrates that fact clearly.

From December 2016 to December 2017, burglaries in the district dropped by 13%, thefts from motor vehicles dropped 30%, motor vehicle theft dropped 8%, and crime in the district overall dropped 13%.

This is encouraging news and I want to ask you and your neighbors to continue keeping an eye out for suspicious persons or activity in your neighborhood, help neighbors by keeping an eye on their property for them while they’re away, and keep contacting MPD right away if you see anything that just doesn’t look right. Your vigilance is paying off and let’s keep the downward crime trend going!

In this edition of my newsletter there are a variety of articles to keep you updated about developments and things happening in the district. On page 2 you will read about the reconstruction of N. 91st St. from W. Mill Rd. to W. Good Hope Rd. and the reconstruction of the N. 76th St. bridge over W. Silver Spring Dr., on page 3 check out the new the multi-sport complex at Westlawn Garden’s Browning Elementary School and the Silver Spring Neighborhood Center (made possible by the Milwaukee Bucks and Johnson Controls), on page 4 learn more about StartSmart, the online tool to guide Milwaukee-based entrepreneurs launching new enterprises, and on page 7 meet my legislative assistant, Michael Gradus.

Those are just a few of the helpful articles in the newsletter.

As always please contact me directly at Cavalier.Johnson@milwaukee.gov or (414) 286-3777 if you have any concerns or questions you would like to discuss.

Have a safe and prosperous early spring 2018!

Cavalier Johnson
Alderman, 2nd District
Big Developments

Key Roadway and Bridge Projects Bring Improvements

The reconstruction of N. 91st St. from W. Mill Rd. to W. Good Hope Rd. and the reconstruction of the N. 76th St. bridge over W. Silver Spring Dr. are finished and the result will be better commuting across the 2nd District for many years into the future.

The N. 91st St. reconstruction from W. Mill to W. Good Hope replaced one half of the roadway in phases, leaving a minimum of one lane of traffic open for travel in each direction. The paving project—completed in November 2017—included removing and replacing the concrete pavement, curbs, gutters and driveway approaches, as well as culvert repair. Sidewalks were replaced as necessary and the northbound and southbound roadways were altered by at least two feet to provide bike lane accommodations for the entire length of the project.

N. 76th St. bridge: The segment of N. 76th St. (WIS 181) between Florist Ave. and Grantosa Dr. was in need of reconstruction, and the project successfully removed and replaced the existing bridge over Silver Spring Dr., reconstructed the adjoining interchange ramps, replaced existing traffic signals and rehabilitated the corridor’s pavement. The project was completed in mid-November 2017.

"Improving infrastructure is critical to keeping the 2nd District moving and open for business, and I am pleased both projects were done well and finished on schedule," Alderman Johnson said. "Thank you for your patience during the work phases on both, as we now have improved roadways that will serve us well for many years.”

Early Education Task Force Working to Narrow Achievement Gap

A new Milwaukee panel created by legislation authored by Alderman Johnson—the Early Education Task Force—is now working to address the early childhood achievement gap among Milwaukee children while also looking to establish a unified, city-wide approach to literacy.

The 13-member panel of civic and community leaders from the Common Council, Milwaukee Public Schools, Milwaukee Succeeds, United Way, Children’s Hospital of Wisconsin and other key community organizations. The task force aims to launch a birth-to-school literacy initiative to promote greater equity among Milwaukee’s children as they enter school.

Alderman Johnson, who serves as task force co-chair, said the panel is investigating ways to improve young children’s reading skills and reduce the achievement gap, as well as forming a plan to provide parents and caregivers with support and resources as they care for infants and young children and prepare them for school. He said the efforts will involve close partnerships with parents, caregivers, educators, day care operators and health care providers.

“There are some young students who started to learn the skills they need to succeed long before they ever set foot in a school,” Alderman Johnson said, “but there are also students whose home environments aren’t so supportive, and those kids can spend a lifetime trying to catch up.”

“We are examining the issue and will present recommendations to ensure that every child grows up in an environment that prepares them for a lifetime of learning,” he said.

The task force will align Milwaukee Public Schools outreach and early education initiatives with the Common Council’s Promise Zone initiative for community revitalization in distressed neighborhoods.

The resolution creating the task force was approved by the Common Council during early 2017 and was co-sponsored by Alderman Ashanti Hamilton, Alderman Tony Zielinski, Alderman Khalif J. Rainey, Alderwoman Chantia Lewis, Alderman Michael J. Murphy and Alderman Russell W. Stamper, II.
New Learning Lab Opens at Carmen Campus Thanks to Milwaukee Bucks and Froedtert/MCW

During August 2017 the community partnership between the Milwaukee Bucks and Froedtert & the Medical College of Wisconsin health network took an additional step forward with the unveiling of a new learning laboratory at Carmen High School of Science and Technology’s Northwest Campus, just in time for the start of the 2017-2018 school year.

The Froedtert & MCW Learning Center inside the school—located in the 2nd District at 5496 N. 72nd St.—will be the hub of Carmen’s health care and IT career pathways, providing an authentic setting where students and adults alike can develop critical skills for jobs in the growing field of health care. The Carmen program prepares students for employment as health care customer service representatives, certified nursing assistants, medical assistants and information technology service center technicians.

“This new program at Carmen has the potential to train more than 300 young people and adults from the surrounding neighborhood with critical career ‘soft skills’ over the next several years,” said Alderman Johnson. “It is a true new, shining community asset where both neighborhood youth and adults come to learn, explore and train for family-sustaining careers.”

The space that now houses the Learning Center was transformed from an unused, outdated machine shop classroom to a gleaming, hands-on training lab equipped with eight hospital beds, mannequins and nursing station components, all donated by Froedtert Health. A Froedtert Health facilities development team co-managed the renovation project with Carmen, including installation of new flooring, lighting, ceiling, cabinetry, window casements and electrical wiring.

As a result of the partnership between the Bucks and the Froedtert & MCW health network, Carmen piloted two career pathway programs during the last school year. Through the program, students earned eight or nine college credits from Milwaukee Area Technical College by taking three courses in either health care customer service or IT systems support. In August, eight Carmen students also completed the certified nursing assistant course at MATC, which MATC will offer at the new Learning Center in 2018.

This summer, 17 Carmen students participated in apprenticeships in either health care or IT. At Froedtert Hospital and Community Memorial Hospital, 11 student apprentices were placed in patient care units, admitting, nursing administration, nutrition service, and IT service center support. Another six students worked in IT systems support apprenticeships at the Milwaukee Bucks and other area businesses. Certified nursing assistant apprenticeships will begin once the students pass the certification exam.

Milwaukee Bucks and Johnson Controls Step up with Investments in the Community

The September 2017 grand opening for the multi-sport complex at Westlawn Garden’s Browning Elementary School and the Silver Spring Neighborhood Center was a huge success and a key milestone for the 2nd District. The Milwaukee Bucks partnered with Johnson Controls on the new complex that includes multiple basketball courts, a 200 meter track, playing fields, and other amenities.

Additionally, the Bucks and Johnson Controls are investing in the heart of Milwaukee’s Choice Neighborhood grant area by donating $60,000 annually for the next 10 years toward community programs at Browning Elementary School and the Silver Spring Neighborhood Center. The impact goes beyond District 2 and will be felt by the entire city. I am grateful that the Milwaukee Bucks are demonstrating that their commitment to our community goes far beyond the cranes we have seen in the sky downtown, and Johnson Controls continues to be a valued corporate citizen in our community. As an alderman of Milwaukee, I thank them for their support of our neighborhoods.

Additionally, the students served at Browning Elementary School, the Silver Spring Neighborhood Center, and the residents of the greater neighborhood have also extended their gratitude and are appreciative of this wonderful opportunity that will benefit Milwaukee’s youth and young adults.
Pursuit Policy Changes a Key Shift in the Right Direction

After many weeks of pressure from Alderman Johnson and Council colleagues, citizens, business owners, and others, in early September 2017 the Fire and Police Commission (FPC) approved a revised vehicle pursuit policy for the Milwaukee Police Department.

The revised policy was drafted in response to the FPC’s July extension that directed Police Chief Edward Flynn to submit a revised pursuit policy to allow officers to pursue more vehicles involved in violations of the law. The multifaceted revised policy now allows officers to pursue vehicles involved in reckless driving and suspected mobile drug trafficking.

“To be frank, the old pursuit policy had emboldened those inclined to ignore stop lights, to those who like to engage in reckless driving and to those individuals caught up in the mobile drug trade. They knew that if there was not a violent felony involved, then Milwaukee Police would not be pursuing them,” Alderman Johnson said. “This lowered the morale of our officers and caused widespread fear among average citizens who saw how unsafe our streets were becoming.”

“I am proud and grateful that the Fire and Police Commission made the policy changes and during the past few months MPD traffic enforcement activity has skyrocketed across the city. We will continue to monitor the situation on our streets, but I know that the pursuit policy changes were the right move at the right time,” he said.

StartSmart Now Helping Milwaukee Entrepreneurs

StartSmart, the online tool to guide Milwaukee-based entrepreneurs launching new enterprises, is now active on the City of Milwaukee’s website in both English and Spanish.

Alderman Johnson said StartSmart is increasing the viability of new business ventures across the city. “Reducing red tape and obstacles for those interested in starting new businesses in Milwaukee is critical to boosting the chances for success, and streamlining our processes just makes good sense,” he said.

The City of Milwaukee recently received a $50,000 award from the Small Business Administration (SBA) for winning the “Startup in a Day Competition.” This competition, which was created by the SBA and announced by President Obama in 2015, is an initiative to help U.S. cities simplify the process and paperwork required to start a business so entrepreneurs can launch and grow their businesses in less time and at a lower cost. The city’s platform that won this competition—StartSmart—was officially unveiled at a news conference late last year.

The new tool is part of the City Clerk’s Red Tape Rescue program, which was inspired by the Local Business Action Team or LBAT—a group of city officials and local business leaders who have worked to streamline the city’s permitting, licensing and inspection process to make it more user-friendly for small and locally-owned businesses.

Please go to milwaukee.gov/StartSmart to access the English and Spanish-language versions of StartSmart.

Nyob Zoo Milwaukee TV on the Air

Milwaukee’s large Hmong population is now tuning in to Nyob Zoo Milwaukee TV—the first local over-the-air broadcast television newscast produced in their native language.

According to Alderman Johnson Nyob Zoo means “Hello” in Hmong, pronounced “nyaw zhong.”

“This new source of news for the Hmong community in Milwaukee and across southeastern Wisconsin is a huge positive development,” said Alderman Johnson, whose 2nd Aldermanic District includes a large Hmong presence and influence.

“The programming allows the Hmong community to share important information about news, events, milestones and other critical content,” he said.

The Nyob Zoo Milwaukee TV programs reach more than 52,000 Hmong residents with a primary coverage area extending throughout the Milwaukee metropolitan area, Racine, Kenosha, and Sheboygan.

The newscast can be viewed on Channel 38 and runs Fridays at 11:30 p.m. to midnight with replays on Saturdays from 7:30 a.m. to 8:00 a.m. WTSJ-LP 38 is a UHF channel and an Azteca-affiliated digital television station.
**Flick the Switch Program**

Alderman Cavalier Johnson launched the Flick the Switch program during a news conference in June 2017 at Grantosa Drive Elementary School.

Alderman Johnson said the Flick the Switch program will encourage people to turn on exterior home lights to dissuade criminal activity. “Criminals and burglars often use the dark to carry out their crimes without exposure. Exterior lights can help deter and discourage them from attempting such crimes,” he said.

At the news conference Alderman Johnson was joined by BBC Lighting General Manager Michael Nooyen, local Block Watch captain Ron Kreutzer, the Office of Violence Prevention and members of the Milwaukee Police Department.

Alderman Johnson said MPD has agreed to take a helpful and proactive role in the launch of the Flick the Switch program. “The Milwaukee Police Department is helping by going door to door to connect with residents and give away free light bulbs. This is very positive outreach by MPD and I appreciate their collaboration,” he said.

**New Business Relocates to 2nd District from Sussex**

Last spring Alderman Johnson took part in the grand opening ceremony of Dakonte Product Group, Inc. at 6615 W. Mill Rd.

Kate and Don Hill acquired the company in 2016, when there was a possibility of a loss of jobs if the company was sold out-of-state. Alderman Johnson said, “The business brought jobs from Sussex and relocated them to Milwaukee where most of their workforce lives.”

Dakonte Product Group, Inc. is a store that oversees several product lines, from industrial envelopes to menu covers.

The Dakonte facility is located in Business Improvement District #31 (Havenwoods). The Havenwoods BID area is home to many industrial businesses and manufacturers, the state’s largest Asian Public Market and a natural gem in the Havenwoods State Forest.

**Milwaukee Now an Employer of National Service**

The City of Milwaukee is looking to improve its chances of attracting alumni of key national service organizations.

File #170543, a resolution sponsored by Alderman Johnson allowing city officials to apply to the Corporation for National and Community Service for Milwaukee to be designated an Employer of National Service, was approved by the full Common Council on January 17.

Alderman Johnson said the move encourages alumni of AmeriCorps, Peace Corps and other national service agencies to apply for positions with the city. “This is exciting because having the Employer of National Service designation means the city can expand its pool of qualified employment candidates, including AmeriCorps and Peace Corps alumni, to help tackle some challenging issues that require a unique range of skills,” he said.

The city was awarded federal grants to fund five AmeriCorps positions with My Brother’s Keeper organizations, including Running Rebels, the Office of Violence Prevention, Legal Action Wisconsin, Employ Milwaukee and the Legacy Redevelopment Corp., Alderman Johnson said.

“It just makes sense for us to have a pipeline, and Employers of National Service connects AmeriCorps and Peace Corps alumni with employers from the private, public, and nonprofit sectors, thereby increasing access to a dedicated, highly qualified, and mission-oriented pool of potential employees,” he said.
Alderman Johnson Sponsors Legislation Creating Rules for Roadside Memorials

Alderman Johnson is the primary sponsor of Council File #170361—a proposed ordinance laying down regulations for roadside memorials that have become far too commonplace near intersections and at other locations across the city.

“Sadly some have taken liberties with roadside memorials dedicated to friends or loved ones who have passed,” Alderman Johnson said. “I believe paying tribute can be done in a peaceful and respectful way, and that is what my legislation is looking to encourage.”

The ordinance provides that roadside memorials may be erected in public places and public ways for not longer than 10 consecutive days. Additionally, while peaceful assembly is respected as a First Amendment right, unlawful activity is not permitted. Such activity includes, but is not limited to: loitering on private property outside of the public place or public way; noise contrary to the city code; speeding; public intoxication; littering; trespassing; and unpermitted grilling.

The ordinance sets mourning hours from 7:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. It states that the Department of Public Works may remove memorials prior to the completion of 10 days if guidelines are not adhered to.

Smoke Detectors: Proven to Save Lives

It is critically important for Milwaukee residents to have working smoke detectors in their homes. It is an early detection and life-saving device in the event of a fire. It can give you and your family those extra seconds that count when faced with smoke and flames.

Check your smoke detector today, and make sure to check it on a monthly basis.

If you do not have a working smoke detector you can request one to be installed by calling the Milwaukee Fire Department Smoke Detector Hotline (414) 286-8980.
Click2Work Email List Connects Residents to Job Opportunities

Milwaukee residents who are interested in staying up-to-date on job openings throughout the city, career fairs and vocational training opportunities can now sign up to receive regular email and text updates from the city.

Users can register for the Click2Work E-Notify list at milwaukee.gov/enotify. There, new users can sign up for an E-Notify account, and those with an existing account can subscribe to the Click2Work list under the "Information Updates" category.

Connect to Milwaukee

Stay up-to-date on city news and information, and access key city services from the palm of your hand. Download MKE Mobile and MKE Park to your mobile device, and sign up to receive email or text alerts at milwaukee.gov/enotify.

Make sure you’re subscribed to Alderman Johnson’s 2nd Aldermanic District E-Notify list (2nd District News Releases) for the latest updates that affect your neighborhood.

JobLines Connects Residents with Reliable Jobs and Transportation

In an effort to provide residents with reliable transportation and employment, JobLines was recently introduced to the community. JobLines is a joint initiative of Milwaukee Inner-City Congregations Allied for Hope (MICAH), Black Health Coalition of Wisconsin (BHCW) and Milwaukee County Transit System (MCTS) connecting residents with nearly 1,000 daily rides on MCTS Routes 6 and 61 to suburban employment opportunities. These routes not only help stem the tide of unemployment in our community, but also promote economic growth locally and regionally.

Targeting nine Milwaukee zip codes, commuters utilize JobLines for access to more than 150 employers in Waukesha and Washington Counties. JobLines 6 runs south to BuySeasons in New Berlin from N. Port Washington Road to W. Capitol Drive in Milwaukee, and JobLine 61 runs north to Walmart in Germantown from N. 35th St. and N. Toronto St. (Near W. Capitol Dr.)

Learn more about JobLines at ridemcts.com/joblines.

Welcome 2nd District Legislative Assistant Michael J. Gradus

Michael J. Gradus joined the office of Alderman Cavalier Johnson as the Legislative Assistant in June 2017. He most recently worked as a Development Fellow with G Strategies LLC, a political consulting firm in Milwaukee. Previously, Michael served as a Team Leader in the National Civilian Community Corps where he implemented federal grants at non-profit organizations across the northeastern United States and managed a team of AmeriCorps volunteers. As a part of his service, Michael managed S.T.E.M education events throughout the state of Maryland, built homes for Hartford Area Habitat for Humanity in Hartford, Connecticut, facilitated youth engagement at the Boys and Girls Club of Pawtucket, Rhode Island, and organized a Geographical Information Systems (GIS) project aimed at urban renewal for the Pawtucket Foundation. He also worked with the Cal Ripken Sr. Foundation by engaging with at-risk youth through baseball and building their relationships with law enforcement.

Additionally, Michael served on the Incident Command Staff for the largest AmeriCorps Disaster Response Team deployment in the organization’s history. His disaster relief efforts remediated flood damaged homes for the most distressed portions of Baton Rouge, Louisiana, following the historic and tragic flooding in 2016. Michael worked to build a stronger Milwaukee during his time at the United Way of Greater Milwaukee & Waukesha County and began his public service career interning for the Mayor’s Office of the City of Milwaukee.

Michael was a four-year student-athlete at St. Norbert College while earning his B.A. in International Studies and Political Science. His studies included semesters in Washington, D.C. and Amman, Jordan. As a lifelong resident of Milwaukee, Michael looks forward to using his experience in serving the residents of the 2nd Aldermanic District and helping build stronger, more resilient communities.
Last year Alderman Johnson took part in a news conference announcing the launch of issuance of municipal identification (ID) cards. Alderman Johnson was a co-sponsor of the ordinance that paved the way for the creation and issuance of a municipal identification (ID) card for city residents only. Anyone living in the City of Milwaukee may be eligible to receive an ID, with just a few requirements, including first calling and setting up an appointment with the License Division at (414) 286-2238. Additionally, once issued, the ID CANNOT be used to vote in Wisconsin and applicants must be 14 years or older to apply (minors must be accompanied by a legal guardian).

Parents: Protect Your Kids
Get Lead Safe in 3!

✔️ Look for Lead
Check your home for chipping, cracking or peeling paint, lead pipes and plumbing, or other possible lead sources like painted toys and ceramics.

✔️ Talk to a Doctor about Lead Testing
If you are pregnant or have a child under age 6, you may need to be tested. All children should be tested three times before age 3, and some children should continue to be tested up to age 6.

✔️ Get the Facts
Find information and resources to take action at LeadSafeMKE.com

LeadSafeMKE.com
SAFE PAINT SAFE WATER SAFE KIDS