



May 19, 2006

Ald. Robert G. Donovan
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MEDIA ADVISORY

Flower Power Brings Beauty To Silver City

In a true collaborative effort to create a place and piece of beauty, volunteers will plant a community garden tomorrow (Saturday, May 20, 2006) in one of Milwaukee's historic business districts.

At a Wisconsin Walks workshop last November, neighbors indicated they wanted to see a vacant city owned property near S. 33rd St. and W. National Ave. turned into a community garden. With the help of Ald. Robert G. Donovan, that parcel will soon become a community garden and bring additional color and beauty to the Silver City Main Street District.

Ald. Donovan will celebrate creation of the community flower garden during a planting ceremony tomorrow at 9:00 a.m. in the 3300 block of W. National Ave. Joining the alderman will be state Rep. Josh Zepnick, 6th Police District Community Liaison Officer Jesus Gloria and Silver City Main Street volunteers. Media coverage is welcome.

“This effort shows that residents in our community can make significant changes in their neighborhoods, and make vital and valuable contributions to the 8th District and the City of Milwaukee,” said Ald. Donovan.

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Community Flower Garden Launch/ADD ONE

Ald. Donovan wants to thank a neighbor and business owner who have offered to provide water for the plants during the summer, and he also wants to thank the following:

- + Layton Boulevard West Neighbors' Americorps VISTA volunteer Rachel Westergren who spearheaded the effort to collect plant and labor donations.
- + Sunset Perennials of Germantown for supplementing plants that were not acquired from the neighborhood.
- + Master Gardener candidate Brian Thomas who assisted the group in creating a three-phase plan for the pocket park that will include raised flower beds, walkways, lighting and a central art piece.
- + The Milwaukee Department of City Development which assisted in acquiring top soil for the garden.

Ald. Donovan will join others as they serve as "bed masters" to direct other volunteers in planting the raised flower beds.