

## Quarterly Town Hall Meetings

For the 7th District

Starting in 2009, Alderman Wade will hold quarterly district-wide town hall meetings at the **Department of Public Works facility** at 3850 N. 35th St.

The meetings will start at 6:00 p.m. in the Assembly Room at the DPW facility.

The meetings will be held on the first Monday of every 3rd month throughout 2009:

- Monday, March 2nd**
- Monday, June 1st**
- Monday, September 7th**
- Monday, December 7th**

The meetings will include discussions of city services issues, public safety, economic development, sanitation matters and any other topics of interest in the 7th District neighborhoods.



New Beginnings Are Possible  
| Page 2 |



Unity Caucus  
| Page 6 |

# The Magnificent 7th



7th District Alderman Willie C. Wade

## Dear Constituents:

Winter 2008-09

I sincerely thank you for your continued support as your representative at City Hall. This was my 3rd time being elected (April 2008 election) and I thank you for your tremendous support.

Last year issues such as crime and infrastructure maintenance were major concerns in the city and in our district. With the redistricting of the 7th police district, restructuring of the neighborhood patrol strategies, use of new technology and working hard on police community relationships, 2008 brought some positive effects on crime.

I am a member of the Public Works Committee and we have completed an audit of the city's street paving program. We now have a full understanding of the issues and the commitment needed to address some of our infrastructure issues as we move forward.

I have also worked on development within the 7th Aldermanic District to increase our city tax base and have continued to work on youth issues. As always, I welcome your input about city services or improving our neighborhoods and once again, thank you for your support.

Sincerely,

Willie C. Wade  
Alderman, 7th District



## Committee Assignments & Memberships

### VICE CHAIR:

- Zoning, Neighborhoods and Development Committee

### COMMISSIONER:

- Redevelopment Authority of the City of Milwaukee (RACM)

### CHAIR:

- Unity Caucus

### MEMBER:

- Public Works Committee
- Community & Economic Development Committee
- Environmental Justice Task Force (SEWRPC)
- Local Initiatives Support Corp. (LISC) (Credit Committee and Board Member)
- Fresh Coast Basketball Classic
- Milwaukee Survive Alive Foundation
- Workforce Investment Board



Devin Harris Basketball Camp  
| Page 4 |

### phone

(414) 286-3764

### email

[wwade@milwaukee.gov](mailto:wwade@milwaukee.gov)

### web

[www.milwaukee.gov/district7](http://www.milwaukee.gov/district7)

### mail

City Hall, Room 205  
200 E. Wells Street  
Milwaukee, WI 53202

# In Your Neighborhood



New Beginnings Are Possible opened its newly owned facility at 3717 W. Fond du Lac Ave. The group provides at-risk youth in Milwaukee with a biblically-based moral foundation needed to make healthy choices to become contributing members of the community. Its curriculum is designed to address educational, social, emotional, physical and biblically-based spiritual growth and the center is now officially a Safe and Sound agency site serving the surrounding neighborhood.

## Benet Comes Back to Sing in the 7th

Singer/songwriter Eric Benet returned to the area he grew up in for a block party and concert on 23rd St. between Chambers St. and Burleigh St. The concert location was chosen to honor his ties to Milwaukee and give back to his community.

Benet's roots in the area and the district are deep. Benet spoke of his appreciation for the city and how it helped shape who he is.

"Eric Benet is a great example for our district. He proves where you come from matters and giving back to the place that made you who you are is essential to helping others recognize the opportunities for success that surround them," Ald. Wade said.

## Fresh Coast Tourney Becomes Annual



The Fresh Coast Basketball Tournament has become an annual event. The tournament, highlighting historically black colleges and universities, includes college fairs and a focus on education. Ald. Wade celebrated the second year of the event with a kickoff luncheon in November. Pictured with the alderman are fellow coordinators, Synovia Youngblood, CEO of the Fresh Coast Basketball Classic and Tom Boelter of Potawatomi Bingo Casino.

## Façade Upgrades for Businesses in the 7th District

There have been several façade upgrades for businesses along some of the main thoroughfares within the Magnificent 7th District. The businesses at the intersection of 27th and Burleigh St. are currently engaging in improvements in their appearance. The corner grocery store at 3100 N. 27th St. has installed an all new glass façade, lending to a more open and friendly appearance.

Directly across the street, the cell phone store is involved in similar exterior upgrades and the gas station at this intersection has upgraded its lighting and added new landscaping improvements that have made it more attractive to the neighborhood.

Last, but certainly not least, the former laundromat is being renovated and reopened to provide the community with a state of the art laundry facility. These business improvements are long overdue and are a welcomed sight for the residents in this area.

Other magnificent makeovers include the Citgo station on the corner of 27th St. and Capitol Dr. and its nearly completed glass and brick exterior renovations, to be followed by the installation of new gas pumps. Two blocks down the street at the corner of 25th St. and Capitol Dr. the grocery store tore down its formerly blighted building and built a new facility with onsite parking to add to the convenience and safety of customers. I would like to thank these business owners for their cooperation and investment back into our community.

# In Your Neighborhood

## *United House Apartments*

Ald. Wade celebrated the opening of United House Apartments, 2500 W. Center St., Milwaukee's first affordable supportive housing for persons experiencing mental health issues. "United House Apartments is an example of how I feel these citizens in our community should live. It is my hope that this sets a new bar for living standards and government responsibility as it relates to housing for citizens dealing with mental illness issues," he said.

Ald. Wade said he has toured United House and is pleased with the result. "I like what I've seen and I truly believe through our collaboration we have gotten it right," he said.



**The new United House Apartments at 25th St. and Center St. opened Labor Day weekend 2008 with the help of United Christian Church, Milwaukee County's Housing Trust Fund and Cardinal Capital Management Inc.**



**Alderman Wade spoke at the dedication of the United House Apartments. The facility is the first in Milwaukee to provide permanent housing for the mentally ill and on-site social services seven days a week.**

## *Brooklyn's Restaurant and Banquet Hall*



There is a new sit-down restaurant and banquet hall located in the heart of the 7th District. Brooklyn's Restaurant at 4610 W. Fond du Lac Ave. (the old Fruit Ranch site) is a 3,700 square foot facility with a 3,900 square foot banquet hall and conference center directly next door. Brooklyn's is a great addition to the development in the 7th District. Please join me in welcoming the owners of Brooklyn's to the Magnificent 7th District.

## *New Habitat For Humanity Houses in the 7th District*

Seven brand new Habitat for Humanity houses have been constructed in the 2900 block of N. 24th St. These single family, owner-occupied homes stand in what were formerly empty lots, helping to stabilize the area and move it in a positive direction. There are several other open lots in the neighborhood that are being targeted for new construction, helping to continue the positive trend.



Many of the citizens in this area are already dedicated to taking pride in their homes by keeping their properties well-maintained. This dedication, combined with other housing rehabs that have taken place in the area, is providing a revitalization that moves the area forward.

To support the initiative of the residents to keep the neighborhood clean and safe, I am also working with various city departments to make sure the city will do its part and am looking forward to even more progress in 2009.

# Just For Youth



LEFT: Alderman Willie C. Wade participates in the basketball camp ribbon cutting with NBA All-Star Devin Harris and State Senator Spencer Coggs.

BELOW: Devin Harris talks with youngsters at his 2nd annual basketball camp.



## 2nd Annual Devin Harris Basketball Camp

A total of 259 youngsters took part in a free four-day basketball camp held at North Division High School for the second straight year. New Jersey Nets All-Star guard and Milwaukee area native Devin Harris hosted the now annual event.

Harris said, "I know they've got a lot of things they've been thinking about. I tell where I came from and how I got to the point where I am now. I lived in the same neighborhoods they live in and overcame similar style obstacles. I try to tell them how I did it, and they can make their own decisions about certain things."

In addition to the camp, Harris has sponsored a playground league at North, where youngsters ages 8-12 participate in basketball, kickball and "capture the flag."

Harris' financial support provides T-shirts and transportation for about 160 youngsters in the summer program. "Devin Harris is a great example of remembering where you came from and giving back to your community. He shows kids how to achieve and reminds them what hard work can do," Ald. Wade said. "I'm thankful that Harris shares his talent and passion with our youth in this way and I look forward to the camp each year."

## Daddy Daughter Dance



The 5th Annual Daddy Daughter Dance was held in February 2008 at North Division High School, located at 1011 W. Center St. The event is designed to bring dads and daughters together for an evening of food, dancing, games and fun. Pictured is Judge Derek Mosley and his daughter Kallen (age 2), Alderman Wade and his daughter Payton (age 10) and Alderman Jim Bohl and his daughter Alyssa (age 5).



Alderman Wade looks on as Rabbi Cohen, principal of Yeshiva Elementary School, explains the menorah to students at Elm Creative Arts Elementary School during a cultural exchange activity.

**Want to stay informed about what is going on at City Hall?**

**Go to [www.milwaukee.gov/enotify](http://www.milwaukee.gov/enotify) and sign up for e-notify today.**

# Public Safety

## Homicide Rates Down in Milwaukee

One year into his appointment, Police Chief Edward Flynn announced that homicide rates were down in the City of Milwaukee. The homicide rate fell 32.4% from 2007 and nonfatal shootings are also on the decline. In 2008, there were 71 documented homicides citywide, down from 105 in 2007. By comparison, in the 7th Aldermanic District there were 6 homicides in 2008, down from 21 in 2007.

Gun homicides and homicides of young black males also decreased from 2007 to 2008 (84 firearms deaths in 2007 compared to 46 firearms deaths in 2008). “Our diligent attention to poverty, employment and a discussion that disputes are not to be negotiated with guns is having an impact. I encourage our neighborhoods to continue to be vigilant in their block watches and group work. We are making a difference,” Ald. Wade said.

Further police statistics show that the number of black male victims ages 15 to 29—historically an indicator for urban homicide trends—dropped 64.8% from 2007 to 2008. There were 19 black men killed in 2008 compared to 54 in 2007. “Our community is taking responsibility for one another and truly intervening in the way young men handle conflict issues. We must continue to support these efforts and sustain the message to young people that violence is not the way to solve problems,” Ald. Wade said.

“The positive impact we’ve had on these numbers is a direct result of the hard work of the Milwaukee Police Department, the Milwaukee Fire Department, community based organizations like block clubs and non-profit groups and dedicated residents. These individuals and groups, as well as my colleagues on the Common Council, deserve our thanks for their time and hard work,” Ald. Wade said.

If you are interested in joining or starting a block watch group, please contact Ald. Wade’s office at **286-3764**.

## Food Safety Inspections Available Online

A new City of Milwaukee website is offering a new system that lets visitors review inspection records of city restaurants, food stores and other outlets that serve food. The Food Establishment Inspection Reporting System, available at [www.milwaukee.gov/fi](http://www.milwaukee.gov/fi), provides timely information on the current city codes compliance of any restaurant, tavern or food store in the 7th District or anywhere in the city.

The search capabilities of the Food Establishment Inspection Reporting System are very flexible. For example, one may search by:

- City of Milwaukee aldermanic district
- ZIP code
- Establishment name
- Establishment street address

Inspection reports currently go back to January 2007 with special inspections starting June 2007. New records are added daily. “While the health department conducts routine and special inspections of all food establishments, citizens can file a complaint directly with the department at **286-3674**,” Ald. Wade said.



Alderman Wade stood in support of Governor Doyle as he signed SB 176, a bill that prevents police officers who have been discharged and are pending trial or investigation from being paid their regular salary.

## Fight the Flu!

Influenza is a highly infectious viral illness that can cause disease among persons of all ages. Although the rate of infection is highest among young children, the occurrence of serious illness and fatality are greatest among the elderly.

Annually, influenza causes an average of 36,000 deaths and more than a quarter-million hospitalizations nationwide.

The influenza virus is constantly evolving. One strain will predominate, becoming the most common flu virus in circulation until another strain surpasses it. Because the dominant influenza strains in circulation change yearly or sometimes even within the same season, the immunity gained through illness or vaccination is only rarely adequate from one flu season to the next. For this reason, a yearly influenza vaccination is necessary to increase your chances of avoiding the flu, especially for the very young and the elderly.

The City of Milwaukee Health Department (MHD) still has a limited amount of influenza vaccine available at any of its three walk-in immunization clinics. Flu shots are \$30.00 for adults and free to children under 18 years of age. Medicare Part B and Medicaid are accepted.

To increase your chances of avoiding the flu, MHD offers the following recommendations:

- Wash your hands often with soap and water or use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer when you can't wash
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose, or mouth
- Cover your nose and mouth with a tissue when you cough or sneeze
- Avoid close contact with people who appear sick, and stay home if you become ill yourself

For more information, call the flu hotline **414-286-3616** or visit our website at [www.milwaukee.gov/health](http://www.milwaukee.gov/health).

# Public Safety



Members of the Unity Caucus addressed a quadruple homicide in Milwaukee during a news conference at City Hall in July 2008. Ald. Wade hosted this “call to action” and explained that the Caucus, consisting of elected officials who represent inner city districts, stands together in stating that it is “unacceptable for violence to be used to resolve problems, and it’s also unacceptable not to help law enforcement solve this heinous crime if people have information they can pass along.”

## A Helping Hand For District Seniors

Seniors in the 7th District who need help around the house with lawn care, snow shoveling or minor maintenance are invited to call **Interfaith Older Adult Programs** at 291-7500. Interfaith can also add some excitement to the lives of our seniors who are looking to keep active with such activities as arts and crafts, board and table games, health workshops and more.

**Interfaith Older Adult Programs** also offers a senior dining opportunity. There are 13 meal sites in Milwaukee County coordinated through Interfaith Older Adult Programs and they are all safe, comfortable and easily accessible to the senior population.

The Program is open to ALL SENIORS age 60 & over and spouse of any age (regardless of income).

For more information on registration or meal locations, please contact **Interfaith Older Adult Programs** at 291-7500.

## People’s Voice Against Crime

Gangs, drugs and violence endanger our community. In order to reduce crime, the police need help from everyone in the community. “Too often people are reluctant to get involved in the safety and security of their neighborhoods for fear of reprisals,” said Ald. Wade. “But there is an answer, the WeTip Hotline, and no one will ever know who you are.”

**Call WeTip at 1-800-78-CRIME. You may be eligible for a reward up to \$1,000.**

*The hotline is answered by bilingual operators 24 hours a day, 365 days a year. Calls are taken for all crimes. All calls are anonymous and confidential.*

## Services and District Information are Just a “Click” Away

For those with computers and Internet access, remember the city also has special “one-stop” locations to request information or services.

By using **E-Service Request** you can register a request, resolve an issue, or express an opinion. Your request will be routed to the appropriate city department for action. The city services listed on this web site include some of the most common requests. And after submitting your request, you can easily check its status by simply entering your e-mail address and a password. Previously, most service requests were delivered to departments via inter-office mail and returned in the same way. Ald. Wade expects the service to increase the awareness of the scope of city services and information available online.

“**E-Service** greatly expands our communication sounding board with the public,” said Ald. Wade. It’s believed that Milwaukee is one of just a few major U.S. cities offering such a fully-integrated, trackable, user-friendly online city service request system. The E-Service request can be accessed on the city web site at [www.milwaukee.gov/eservices](http://www.milwaukee.gov/eservices). The site currently serves about 10,000 visitors daily.

**E-Notify** is another on-line service of the city that can keep you abreast of neighborhood events, legislation and issues affecting the 7th District.

By using **E-Notify** you can find out when important things happen in the city. You can receive several different types of notices from the City of Milwaukee and Milwaukee Public Schools, including news releases, meeting notices and agendas, job announcements, new property sale listings, bid notices, online auction items, and many others. Once you choose your topics, just sit back and wait for the pertinent information to come directly to you. Sign up on the city web site by going to [www.milwaukee.gov/enotify](http://www.milwaukee.gov/enotify).

## Block Watch – Citizens Working Together To Prevent Crime

Ald. Wade wants to encourage residents of the 7th District to be active citizens and help reduce residential crime. “Block Watch is a community crime prevention program that can make a difference and can be started by anyone in the community. Communication and information are keys to controlling crime, and Block Watch depends on the involvement of neighborhood residents for success,” said Ald. Wade.

The alderman said residents care about their neighborhoods, but he’d like to see much more participation in programs that work to control criminal activity, a major issue throughout the district. If you are interested in organizing a **Block Watch**, please call Ald. Wade at 286-2863 and he will put you in contact with the community liaison police officer in your area.

# Public Safety

## Community Prosecution Team Fights Nuisances Proactively

Identifying problem properties and people and removing both from the community can bring down the crime rate, said Ald. Wade. And that's the role of the **Community Prosecution Unit** and the **Chronic Nuisance Ordinance**.

The Community Prosecution program deals with urban blight and quality of life issues. Partners in the program include police, Assistant City Attorney Adam Stephens, Milwaukee County Assistant District Attorney David Malone, city health and public works departments, community-based organizations, and citizens. The community prosecutors have an office in the 7th District Police Station at 3626 W. Fond du Lac Ave. Attorney Stephens can be reached at **935-7746**, attorney Malone at **935-7758**.

Nuisance properties, which can include gang, gun and drug houses, noise, overgrown weeds and trash complaints, are among the main issues the community prosecutors face. They act as liaisons with landlords and with the police department regarding repeated nuisance calls, and try to give owners the opportunity to correct the problems before prosecution. Criminal charges or civil actions can be brought against problem tenants or owners for nuisance activity and criminal behavior.

### Responsibilities of the Community Prosecution Unit include:

#### Nuisance Properties

Homes and buildings that are the repeated sources of complaints and police calls involving drug dealing, prostitution, gambling, trash, dangerous dogs and code violations. Encourage landlords to enroll in the free city Landlord Training Program.

#### Crime Prevention

The Community Prosecutor is available to work with schools, churches and community groups to help residents get involved, to discuss crime prevention techniques and how to effectively report criminal behavior to the police.

To report a nuisance property you can also call the police department. The 7th Police District non-emergency number is **933-4444**. Ald. Wade also wants tenants to know that the city **Tenant Retaliation Ordinance** prohibits a landlord from terminating the lease agreement or otherwise retaliating against a tenant for complaining of chronic nuisance violations to the police. A landlord may still evict a tenant for failure to pay rent, committing nuisance activity or violating terms of the lease.

**Get in touch with Alderman Wade online!**

Website: [www.milwaukee.gov/district7](http://www.milwaukee.gov/district7)

Email: [wwade@milwaukee.gov](mailto:wwade@milwaukee.gov)

## Need A Smoke Detector?

The City of Milwaukee continues to see tragic fires in which smoke detectors were removed or not operating. **All homes need working smoke detectors.**

A smoke detector is a very inexpensive safety tool. The fire department recommends that one detector be placed on each floor of your home and one in each bedroom and/or sleeping area. Ald. Wade encourages residents of the 7th District who do not have a working smoke detector in their home to **call the Smoke Detector Hotline at 286-8980** to see if they might be eligible for a free detector.



Community Day 2008, hosted by the Milwaukee Police Department and Milwaukee Fire Department, was held at Engine 13, 2901 N. 30th St. Pictured are Alderman Willie C. Wade, Fire Captain Spencer Basile and staff, Community Liaison Police Officer Shelly Lubus and members of the community.

## Get License Application Info Via E-Notify

Are you concerned about reports that a new tavern may be moving into the neighborhood? Ald. Wade wants you to know that you can now receive electronic notification of any City of Milwaukee licensing applications in your area, thanks to a new initiative of the Common Council and Office of the City Clerk.

Simply register a valid e-mail address and password at the City of Milwaukee's "E-Notify" link, and you'll be notified whenever a license application is submitted within 600, 1,000 or 2,640 feet from the registered address. Go to [www.milwaukee.gov/enotify](http://www.milwaukee.gov/enotify) to sign up.

In addition to licensing information, users also have the ability to use the E-Notify system to receive informational city updates and news releases in a wide array of subject and department categories.



## Call For Action – By The Book

A limited number of “Call For Action” booklets are still available. Additional copies can be obtained by contacting my office. The popular telephone directory is arranged alphabetically by specific problems and topics. If you would like additional copies please send me an e-mail at [wwade@milwaukee.gov](mailto:wwade@milwaukee.gov) or call me at **286-2863**.

## Take Care In Cold Weather

It is important to note that people who are involved in outdoor cold weather activities should always be aware of weather conditions and be properly dressed to protect themselves from prolonged outdoor exposure.

In addition, the young and elderly are more susceptible to extreme cold so it is important to check in on elderly neighbors and ensure young children are dressed properly before going outside. Please remember that pets need extra care when temperatures fall.

## The Response Depends On The Storm

The Department of Public Works will use only one or two salt trucks to tackle intermittent salting of isolated slippery spots, but a full-scale plowing for a big storm will use over 360 pieces of equipment, supplemented by private contractors. The most common operation is a general ice control in which 90 salt trucks are sent out citywide.

During a major storm, a general plowing is called. It may take 12 to 18 hours to complete the initial plowing followed by several more days cleaning up after parked cars, touching up intersections and widening streets. “Sometimes plows must make four to six passes down a street to clear it curb to curb,” said Ald. Wade, “and while the city tries to do this at one time, it’s best to wait, if possible, until the plows finish before shoveling out your driveway approach.”

## Move Your Car To Help Snow Removal

The single biggest problem during major snowstorms is parked and abandoned cars. The plows try to get as close to the curb as they can but those “snowbirds” get in the way and prevent them from completing the job. Ald. Wade asks that you move your vehicles so plows can clear the streets curb to curb. Remember it is illegal to park in one place for more than 24 hours.

The Milwaukee Public Schools make a number of school playgrounds available for overnight parking during snow emergencies. Call the **DPW Information Center** at **286-8282** for the location of a playground nearest your home.

# The Magnificent 7<sup>th</sup>



7th District Alderman Willie C. Wade

Ald. Wade  
City Hall, Room 205  
200 E. Wells St.  
Milwaukee, WI 53202

PRSRST STD  
US POSTAGE  
PAID  
MILWAUKEE WI  
PERMIT NO 4678



## Snow Removal Required By Law

A reminder that property owners and occupants are required by city law to clear sidewalks abutting their property of snow or ice within 24 hours after the snow and ice have stopped falling. Failure to do so could result in the city doing it and charging you.

## “Hardship” Assistance Can Help

Is shoveling your sidewalk after a big Milwaukee snowstorm a “mission impossible” because of age or disability? Ald. Wade wants you to know that city sanitation workers may be able to give you a helping hand. If you are a senior citizen or disabled and living in a single-family, owner-occupied home, and physically unable to do the shoveling, you may be eligible for “hardship” assistance.

### Eligibility requirements:

- Resident must own the home
- Others in home must also be unable to shovel
- Only the public sidewalk is cleared, no driveways
- Shoveling done only when city plows streets
- \$10.00 flat fee put on tax bill for this service
- Call the **Sanitation Division** at **286-3345** for an application