

Winter
2005-2006

James N.

Witkowiak

12TH DISTRICT ALDERMAN

Dear Friends:

Let me first wish you a happy and peaceful 2006.

Last year was a challenging but rewarding year for me and my colleagues on the Common Council. And I again promise that in 2006 I will continue to work to ensure that critical city services are delivered to you in an efficient and effective manner, and I will be working to reduce crime and to improve the commercial and residential quality of life in the 12th Aldermanic District.

In this newsletter you will read about the continuing rebirth of the Menomonee Valley, my efforts to improve parking in congested areas, to notify residents when sex offenders of juveniles move into our neighborhoods and many other stories about improving the quality of life in the district and city.

Please don't hesitate to call, e-mail or write to me if you have any questions or concerns about what is happening in the 12th District. I'm here to serve you.

Sincerely,



James N. Witkowiak
Alderman, 12th District



To Contact Your Alderman

You may either write or call Ald. Witkowiak or his Legislative Assistant Katina Robertson-Johnson.

Ald. James Witkowiak
City Hall, Room 205
200 E. Wells Street
Milwaukee, WI 53202
286-2861 (Office) • 286-3456 (Fax)

jwitko@milwaukee.gov
www.milwaukee.gov/district12

Ald. Witkowiak's Committee Assignments

CHAIR

- Licenses Committee

MEMBER

- Finance & Personnel Committee
- Community & Economic Development Committee
- Steering & Rules Committee

Sex Offender Notification - Your Right To Know

The Common Council is concerned about numerous occurrences where those who have been convicted of sex crimes against juveniles repeat the acts for which they had originally been convicted when they are released from custody. With evidence that the recidivism rate for released sex offenders of juveniles is alarmingly high, Ald. Witkowiak is the co-sponsor of an ordinance relating to community notification of those found guilty of the first, second or third degree sexual assault of a child.

The ordinance would direct the City Clerk to notify in writing residents within a 500-foot radius of a home where a sex offender of juveniles is living. The notice would include the offender's name, information sufficient to identify the offender, the offense and the agency supervising the offender.

You can learn more about the residency of sex offenders by visiting www.offender.doc.state.wi.us/public or call the **Wisconsin Department of Corrections Sex Offenders Registry** at **(608) 240-5830** between 7:45 a.m. and 4:30 p.m. Monday through Friday.

New 4" Snow Rule May Help Parking Congestion

Parking continues to be a serious problem in the 12th District and the source of numerous complaints, and Ald. Witkowiak, with the advice of his constituents, has taken additional steps to alleviate some of the congestion with adoption of a 4" snowfall rule for certain residential streets.



“In the last two years, 25% of the calls and complaints to my office have involved parking issues,” said Ald. Witkowiak. “Last year I was able to convince the city to allow cars to be parked all-night on both sides of certain residential streets during the summer, and now legislation I introduced, with input from many residents, has been approved to expand that two-sided parking to the winter months.”

In November 2005, 1,349 winter parking survey cards were mailed to eligible households on streets that met the requirements for the 4" rule. There was a 14% response and the results were as follows:

- 145 cards returned were in favor
- 43 cards returned were opposed
- 1 card returned was undecided

“While the 4" snowfall rule may at times be inconvenient,” said Ald. Witkowiak, “I believe the change on streets that are wide enough to accommodate two-sided parking will in the long run be more useful to those who live in what are some of the most dense neighborhoods in the city.”

According to the Department of Public Works there are no other streets in the 12th District that would meet the criteria for implementing the 4" rule.



The 4" rule now applies to 12th District residential streets that are posted “No Parking When Snow Falls 4 Inches or More.” Parking is allowed on both sides of these streets, with an overnight parking permit, except when 4" of snow has accumulated on the street surface. No parking is then allowed on the side of the street where the sign is posted, day or night, until the snow has been removed.

Other Winter Parking Concerns

Parked and abandoned cars are the single biggest problem in snow plowing, and Ald. Witkowiak urges residents to follow all signs describing the parking restrictions along streets that are affected by winter rules. If you are unsure about regulations on a particular street, call the **DPW Parking Enforcement Section** at **286-8350**. Streets are also listed on the Department of Public Works section of the city website, www.city.milwaukee.gov, under parking services.

Milwaukee Public Schools make some playgrounds and parking lots available for overnight parking during declared snow emergencies and clean-up periods. Call the **DPW Information Center** at **286-8282** for the location of a playground nearest your home.

Other Helpful Winter Tips

Remember that because sanitation crews who collect garbage and recyclables also plow snow, collection days may change during the winter, especially after a heavy snowstorm or especially frigid temperatures.

Remember that residential and commercial property owners and occupants are required to clear sidewalks abutting their property of snow or ice within 24 hours after a storm. **Remember: the city does not plow alleys.**

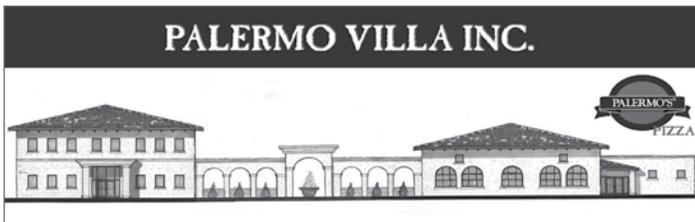
If you have elderly or disabled neighbors who need help with snow shoveling – please help them out when you can. And “adopt” a fire hydrant to ensure maximum visibility for firefighters in the event of an emergency.

Winter hours are in effect at the city’s Self Help Center at 3879 W. Lincoln Ave. Mon.-Sat., 7 a.m. – 3 p.m. No Sunday hours.

Menomonee Valley Business Park Gets First Tenants

Before anyone even thought about creating a city here, the Menomonee Valley was a vital resource for the native tribes of the area. By the early 1900s, what became the Milwaukee Road was the city's largest employer with 5,000 jobs. Other industries hired tens of thousands of workers, and neighborhoods grew up around the valley.

After years of neglect, the valley is transforming itself once again. An important milestone occurred recently with ground-breaking ceremonies for a new Italian villa-style building to house the new headquarters and pizza production facility for **Palermo Villa** and its 270 employees. It is the first company to begin construction in the new Menomonee Valley business center.



"With offices at 551 W. Historic Mitchell St. and a pizza plant at 800 W. Maple St. in the 12th District, Palermo has been a good neighbor and corporate citizen," said Ald.

Witkowiak. "I thank Palermo for its decision to remain in Milwaukee on the northern boundary of the 12th District, and with a large workforce nearby, I expect that other companies will also be attracted to the area and help meet our goal of bringing 800 to 1,200 family-supporting jobs to the valley industrial center."

In addition, **Proven Direct**, a Menomonee Falls company that provides printing and direct mail marketing services, has announced plans to move to a new building at the former Milwaukee stockyards site at 1201 W. Canal St. Proven Direct is one of only four Wisconsin companies to rank on the "Inc. 500" list of the nation's fastest growing companies. Construction is to begin this spring and should be completed by the end of 2006. Proven Direct has 56 employees and plans to expand to more than 80 by 2008.

Work continues on the extension of W. Canal St. from N. 25th St. to Miller Park with completion expected in the spring. A roundabout at the intersection of N. 25th St. and W. Canal St. was dedicated recently. The project literally and figuratively paves the way for the largest industrial redevelopment effort in the city's history.



Katina Robertson-Johnson, legislative assistant to Ald. Witkowiak.

Meet Ald. Witkowiak's Aide

Hello 12th District residents. My name is Katina Robertson-Johnson and it is my pleasure to serve you as the legislative assistant to Ald. Witkowiak. I've been able to help many of you already, and you can always contact me at **286-2861**.

I'm a native of Milwaukee, and served eight years in the **U.S. Navy** after graduating from **Custer High School**. After completing active duty I returned to school, earned a master's degree from **Cardinal Stritch University** and am currently in an unyielding pursuit of a Ph.D. in Leadership. I am your liaison with Ald. Witkowiak, and when you call the office you have successfully contacted the alderman. If I am assisting other constituents when you call, please leave a voicemail message and it will typically be returned within 24 hours.

Prior to joining Ald. Witkowiak I worked with the **Milwaukee Police Department** and the **Department of Neighborhood Services** and I'm very familiar with the city and city services. I will exhaust every avenue to assist my boss in making sure your needs are addressed and met. After all, I have a GREAT boss.

Let Me Hear From You Please take a moment to complete this card and mail it to my office. Your input is important as I deal with crucial city issues.

What is your opinion of the following city services?

Check one:	Excellent	Good	Fair	Poor
Garbage Collection				
Street Repair				
Street Lighting				
Police/Fire Protection				
Snow Plowing				
How am I doing?				

Name _____

Phone _____

Address _____

The City of Milwaukee has free, informative printed materials that I would be happy to send you. Please check off those you would like to receive.

- Milwaukee: City Government & How It Works
- Postcards of City Hall
- Call For Action booklet

FREE Tax Preparation Services

Access to Car Loans So You Can Get to Work

• Fast and Free • No Refund Fee! • Questions? Call (414) 963-2694

What you will get:

- Free Income Tax Preparation of year 2005 and prior years tax returns.
- Free E-Filing of returns. Receive a refund in 7-10 days with direct deposit.
- Earned Income Tax Credit to help put more money in your pocket.
- Information about loans for car purchase or repair(s).
- Information on health insurance and food stamps.
- Information on Energy Assistance.
- Opportunity to open a no-charge, low-balance checking or savings account or a Chase Visa® Debit Card.
- Financial Education workshops.
- Assistance with the completion of FAFSA forms.

Visit one of these free VITA Super Sites through April 15, 2006:

SDC Richards

4041 N. Richards Street
Milwaukee, WI 53212

Mon., Wed. & Fri.: 11 am - 7 pm

Tue. & Thurs.: 9 am - 5 pm

Sat.: 9 am - 1 pm

(414) 906-2700

SDC Southside Center

931 W. Madison Street
Milwaukee, WI 53204

Mon., Wed. & Fri.: 9 am - 5 pm

Tue. & Thurs.: 11 am - 7 pm

Sat.: 9 am - 1 pm

(414) 643-8444

Please bring these items:

- Picture identification.
- All W-2 and 1099 statements.
- Social Security Cards for the taxpayer, spouse, children, and other dependents.
- Amount of 2005 payments for student loan interest, child care expenses, and college tuition.
- Child care provider's tax payer ID number.
- Amount of Wisconsin rent or property taxes paid.
- Proof of bank account for direct deposit.
- Copy of 2004 income tax return.
- For Homestead tax credit, bring a completed, signed rent certificate or a copy of your 2005 property tax bill.

New Library Hours

Make a New Year's resolution to read more this year. In the 12th District, Forest Home Library is located at 1432 W. Forest Home Ave. The hours are Monday thru Thursday – 1 p.m. to 8:30 p.m., Friday – 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. and Saturday – 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. through May.

Forest Home Library offers a multi-ethnic collection featuring Spanish and Native American materials. It also maintains a computer lab, a data base with information about useful agencies around the neighborhood, an Adult Study Center and one-on-one tutoring program to serve adults and students in the community.

Several public library locations also regularly host book club meetings, including on the second Wednesday of each month at Tippecanoe Library at 3912 S. Howell Ave. New members are welcome at any time. Call 286-3085 for book club information.

For information about other libraries and hours, please call 286-3000.



People's Voice Against Crime

Gangs, drugs and violence endanger our community. And in order to reduce crime, the police need help from everyone in the community.

But too often people are reluctant to get involved in the safety and security of their neighborhoods for fear of reprisals. There is an answer, **1-800-78-CRIME**. You can call WeTip anonymously. No one will ever know who you are.

WeTip crime hotline is a resource for people who have information about a crime, but are afraid to tell anyone. If you want a safer neighborhood, call **WeTip** anonymously 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, not just confidential.

New Location For Hazardous Waste Disposal

There's a new permanent site for disposal of harmful household chemicals. The City and **Milwaukee Metropolitan Sewerage District** have opened the new permanent site on Fridays and Saturdays from 7 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the city **Self Help Center** at **3879 W. Lincoln Ave.**

Celebrating its 10th anniversary, the **Household Hazardous Waste program** has collected about 7.5 million pounds of harmful chemicals such as oil, gas, antifreeze, paint and pesticides. "We need to keep these chemicals out of the storm sewers that drain directly to our rivers and Lake Michigan," said Ald. Witkowiak. "This new centrally located, permanent site will make it more convenient for residents to dispose of these materials and protect the environment." Call the **Milwaukee Metropolitan Sewerage District** at **225-2066** for disposal information.

Servicios de Preparación de Impuestos GRATIS

y acceso a préstamos de autos para que usted pueda llegar a su trabajo

- ¡Rápido y gratis
- Sin comprobación para el reembolso!
- ¿Preguntas? Llame a (414) 963-2694

A usted le darán:

- Preparación gratis de impuestos del año 2005 y los años previos.
- Ayuda con Archivo Electronico de Reembolsos. Reciba su reembolso en 7-10 días con depósito directo.
- Ayuda con el crédito por ingreso de trabajo para poner más dinero en tu bolsillo.
- Información sobre préstamos para auto o reparación de autos.
- Información sobre seguro médico.
- Información sobre el Programa de Asistencia de Energía.
- Una oportunidad para abrir una cuenta de cheque/ahorros con límite bajo y sin costo.
- Talleres de educación financiera.
- Asistencia para completar las formas de FAFSA (Asistencia Financiera para la Universidad).

Visite El Super Sitio de VITA empesando el 17 de enero del 2006:

SDC Richards

4041 N. Richards Street
Milwaukee, WI 53212

lunes, miercoles y viernes:

11am - 7pm

martes y jueves: 9am - 5pm

sabado: 9am - 1pm

(414) 906-2700

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931 W. Madison Street
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lunes, miercoles y viernes:

9am - 5pm

martes y jueves: 11am - 7pm

sabado: 9am - 1pm

(414) 643-8444

Por favor traiga estos artículos:

- Tarjetas de Seguro Social para el contribuyente, esposa/esposo, niños, y otros dependientes.
- Todos los W-2 y estado de cuenta 1099.
- Identificación con fotografía.
- Cantidad de pagos de interés del préstamo al estudiante del 2005, gastos para el cuidado de niños, y matrícula del colegio.
- Numero de identificación de contribuyente del proveedor para el cuidado de niños.
- Cantidad de renta o impuestos de propiedad que se a pagado.
- Prueba de cuenta del banco para el depósito directo.
- Copia de los impuestos del 2004.
- Para el crédito de impuestos de casa (Homestead) presente un certificado de renta completo y firmado o una copia de impuestos de la propiedad del 2005.

Father Eleazar Perez



Popular south side priest Father Eleazar Perez with Ald. Witkowiak in the Common Council Chamber at City Hall after Father Perez presented the invocation prior to a meeting of the Common Council.

Clases Básicas de Computación e Internet en Español

Nunca es tarde para aprender computación o Internet. ¿Tiene preguntas sobre computación pero no habla muy bien el inglés? No hay problema. La Biblioteca de Forest Home les ofrecen clases básicas de computación e Internet en español. Todas las clases son gratis. Espacio limitado. Estas clases se han hecho posibles gracias a los donaciones de SBC Foundation y el Universal Service Fund.

Biblioteca de Forest Home • 286-3083
1432 W. Forest Home Ave.

Milwaukee Police Department DIVISION DE GANGAS



Para reportar informacion sobre GANGA, ARMAS, O' DROGAS por favor llame nuestra oficina. Su nombre se quedara anonimo.

925-7768 | 935-7781

To report gangs, guns or illegal drugs, please call the Milwaukee Police Department at 935-7768 or 935-7781. Your name shall remain anonymous.



James N.

Witkowiak

12TH DISTRICT ALDERMAN

Winter
2005-2006

City Hall, Room 205
200 East Wells Street
Milwaukee, WI 53202

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US POSTAGE
PAID
MILWAUKEE, WI
PERMIT NO. 4678

Call For Action

Take back your neighborhood. Pick up the phone and call.

You just received the new **2005-2006 "Call For Action" booklet** with this newsletter, and a limited number of 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 jwitko@milwaukee.gov or call me at **286-2861**. You may also call after normal business hours and leave a voice mail message.

Remember the city also has a special "one-stop" spot to request services if you have a computer and Internet access. The online request form allows citizens to request a service without knowing which city department would provide the service. Click on "E-Service" at www.city.milwaukee.gov and your request will be sent automatically to the appropriate city department. As always, please call or e-mail me with questions or concerns.

City Hall Makeover & Parking Alert

Planning a trip to City Hall? Ald. Witkowiak wants you to know that with the City Hall restoration project underway, a visit will be a bit more complicated for the next three years. Market St. is partially closed and a number of on-street parking spaces have been removed.

In order to make parking more convenient and accessible during the restoration, a parking validation program has been implemented at the Milwaukee Center at the corner of N. Water St. and E. Kilbourn Ave. The City Hall office being visited will issue a validation coupon entitling the parker to a discounted rate of \$1 per hour for a maximum of five hours, the same rate charged for on-street parking. The program has no financial impact on the city.

You may also want to consider taking care of city related business by phone, on the Internet or by using public transit.

Energy Assistance Available



With predictions of 12% to 18% hikes in the cost of heating homes this winter, Ald. Witkowiak would like to remind residents of the **Social Development Commission's Energy Assistance Program**. It could save the lives of Milwaukee residents whose home heat and electricity have been or are about to be disconnected.

Energy services include regular energy assistance to help pay heating bills and crisis assistance for residents facing heating fuel disconnection and furnace repair/replacement, home visits for the elderly/homebound, and referrals to other heating related services. Energy assistance is available for residents with natural gas or heating oil service.

The SDC and Milwaukee County operate several sites throughout the city and county offering crisis energy services. The **Energy Assistance Program** is a joint effort of **Milwaukee County's Human Services Department, WE Energies** and the **Social Development Commission**. For the location of the nearest program site, please call **289-6146**.

211 SOCIAL SERVICES HOTLINE

Need help with a wide variety of non-emergency family, financial, health and social service issues? Call the 211 hotline, available 24 hours a day.