FOR INFORMATION CALL

January 9, 2008

Ald. Terry L. Witkowski (414) 286-2221

Businesses To Be Honored For Landscaping & Garden Efforts

Alderman Terry L. Witkowski and members of the 13th District Garden Committee will hand out 2007 business landscape and gardening awards Friday as a way of recognizing efforts to beautify properties and to further the image of the area as Milwaukee's "Garden District."

The inaugural awards ceremony will be held at 10 a.m. on Friday, January 11, 2008 at the Best Western Midway Airport, 5105 S. Howell Ave. Media coverage is invited.

Recent warmer-than-usual temperatures have sparked thoughts of spring – and gardening/landscaping projects – and that also serves to remind 13th District businesses that the committee will be keeping an eye out for the 2008 landscape and gardening award candidates later this year, said Ald. Witkowski. "The Garden Committee had an abundance of excellent properties we looked at, and we're proud to be honoring more than 30 Garden District businesses for 2007 which have gone out of their way to enhance their curb appeal through gardening and landscape improvements," he said.

"The committee believes the awards not only serve to recognize 'above and beyond' efforts to beautify, but will also encourage businesses and residents who see the awards displayed to launch landscaping and gardening projects of their own and to reinforce the 13th District's identity as the Garden District," the alderman said.

Ald. Witkowski has led an effort to call the 13th Aldermanic District the "Garden District" because of its proud tradition of beautiful, award-winning residential gardens, as well as intricately landscaped business properties. A Common Council resolution he's sponsored to officially designate the 13th District as the city's Garden District will go before the Council's Public Works Committee at 9 a.m. at City Hall on Wednesday, January 23, 2008.