



Larson Report



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November 2010
E-NEWS

STANDING COMMITTEE ASSIGNMENTS

Personnel

Parks, Energy and
Environment

Judiciary, Safety,
and General
Services

SPECIAL COMMITTEES:

Pension Study
Commission

WHAT DO YOU THINK?

What events would
you like to see
happen in our parks?

Please call me or
send me an email
with your thoughts.

Dear Neighbor,

Greetings!

I hope you are doing well and enjoying the fall. This is the first email newsletter we've done since June. By state law, I could not send out communications during election season. I'm using this newsletter to update you on many things that have happened over the last few months and letting you know of some neighborhood events coming up.

Supervisor Dimitrijevic and I are hosting a public hearing on Milwaukee County's 2011 Budget tonight from 7 to 8pm at South Shore Park Pavilion. Please attend and let your opinions be heard. If you cannot make it, please email me or call at 278-4252. We will be adopting the County's budget on this coming Monday, November 8th.

I look forward to hearing from you soon,

In this issue of the Larson Report you'll find:

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- ***Furlough Give Back***
- ***Foreclosure Help***
- ***Energy Assistance***
- ***Free Landlord Training***
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Wilson Park Supporters Step Up!

As reported by CBS58:

When the economy took the turn public and city budgets were in dire straits.

The Wilson Park Neighborhood Association knew that and that could mean maintenance at their park, the heart of their neighborhood, could be in danger.

Instead of complaining, they banded together. They found citizens who volunteered for cleanup. Students from Bay View High School helped restore benches around the lagoon. And, some residents even adopted benches to call their own.

Local businesses donated food and drinks to keep the volunteers going and it got only better from there.

They tapped into grant money through the city and are now reaping the rewards of their efforts with a park to call their own and money for special signs to border their neighborhood.

<http://www.cbs58.com/index.php?aid=13382&mid=Making-Milw-Great2>

*****Thanks to everyone who helped with this amazing project*****

Furlough Give Back

Due to massive structural deficits and the lagging economy, Milwaukee County instituted 12 furlough days at for 2010 for Milwaukee County employees to save over \$9 million. I have also committed to returning 12 days-worth of pay although, as an elected official, I would have been exempted from doing this. These are tough economic times and each of us is going through them in our own way. We as a community must continue to step up and come together if we are to make it through this challenging time.

Foreclosure Help

This year, the City of Milwaukee has funded a new foreclosure mediation program that can help struggling home owners with foreclosure help. The program offers legal aid to homeowners facing foreclosure and helps them negotiate solutions with their lender. Visit <http://www.milwaukeehousinghelp.org> for more details.

Energy Assistance

Energy assistance provides low-income residents with financial benefits for fuel costs, emergency furnace repair and replacement, and restoration of utility services. These services include:

- * Regular energy assistance to help with your annual home energy costs.
- * Crisis assistance includes: retention of utility services, reconnections, oil deliveries and furnace repair or replacement. (Note: furnace repair or replacement is only available when home is owner occupied). It is offered when funds are available.
- * Referrals for other heating related services.

It is intended to help pay a portion of heating costs and is not intended to pay the total annual heating cost. The amount of heating assistance benefit varies according to household size, income level, and household heating costs.

If you are interested in making an appointment click [HERE](#) or to get more information click [HERE](#)

Free Landlord Training

The Landlord Training Program: classes from the City of Milwaukee

Be the landlord that everyone wants to rent from or live next door to. These **FREE** classes from the Department of Neighborhood Services are a great way to learn effective, professional property management practices to keep out illegal and destructive activity.

The award winning landlord training program holds classes on a regular basis throughout the year on evenings and weekends to accommodate anyone's schedule. The classes are generally either 1 five hour session or 2 two and half hour sessions held over two days. Class attendees receive a free 100 page manual and a variety of handouts on a variety of legal and business issues related to managing a property.

Advanced registration is required for all classes as space is limited. Call Jeanne Hagner at 286-2954 or email jhagne@milwaukee.gov to register. For more information on the classes or to hear what other landlords have said about the classes [click here](#).

Wednesday, November 10th, 2010

9:00 A.M. Sign-In, Class from 9:30 A.M. - 3:30 P.M.

The Anderson Building, 4001 S 6th Street - 3rd Floor

Green Print Saves Milwaukee County Money

"We have already reduced our annual electricity consumption by \$800,000 and reduced greenhouse gas emissions by 6,500 tons per year," Supervisor Dimitrijevic said. "That's the equivalent of removing more than 1,500 vehicles from the road or planting 1,600 acres of trees. At the Zoo alone, we're saving more than 100 million gallons of water per year. It's clear that the Green Print is paying off for Milwaukee County residents. On average, our energy efficient upgrades pay for themselves after just eight years. After that, it's pure savings. As we continue along this path and pay off the upgrades, millions of dollars in the future will be saved."

The effects are being seen all across Milwaukee County, including the Airport, Parks, Courthouse, Public Museum and the Zoo. Waste materials from construction projects are being recycled, asphalt is being reused, Parks bathrooms are more sustainable, and green roofs and solar panels are being installed. "It is clear that all County Departments have begun to adopt our Green Print. This itself is a major accomplishment," Supervisor Dimitrijevic said.

At General Mitchell International Airport, 25 tons of construction waste were recycled from a restroom remodeling project. Energy-efficient sensor-controlled LED lighting was also installed as part of this project. A number of solar projects have been completed at the Zoo, including adding solar panels to power the admission booths and a solar-powered water heating system as part of the HVAC replacement project at the Aquatic-Reptile Center.

"We have enhanced our recycling efforts, are using more hybrid vehicles in Parks and Public Works, and are taking delivery of near zero-emission busses and electric-powered Zoomobiles at the Milwaukee County Zoo. We have even ordered a hybrid electric bucket truck," Supervisor Dimitrijevic added. "These milestones are setting a great example that our residents can follow. There are many upgrades and retrofits available that can, in many cases, pay for themselves in a short period of time. I encourage everyone to follow our lead in saving money while improving the environment."

A new website dedicated to the Green Print is now available to educate and promote efficiency efforts to employees and the public, in hopes of increased participation.

<http://county.milwaukee.gov/DPW/MilwaukeeCountysGreenPrint.htm>

Farm and Fish Hatchery Update

The Farm and Fish Hatchery has once again been cut from the budget. Some of my fellow Supervisors and I are working on restoring these important aspects of Milwaukee County in the 2011 budget. As I've written about in the past the Farm and Fish Hatchery are very important to Milwaukee County. Every year, approximately 40,000 fish are produced for county park ponds and lagoons, including Holler, Humboldt, Wilson, and Saveland. Each year hybrid bluegill and yellow perch are released in February, April, and May. As always, the timing of the fish stocking is planned to encourage youth participation in fishing.

Without stocked fish, most lagoons would have little or nothing to offer anglers. In April, fish were released prior to spring fishing clinics held at nine parks, including Humboldt and Wilson. Many area children were on hand to learn more about angling. Prior to the summer school recess in June, the hatchery released 29,000 perch and sunfish into lagoons. These efforts help our ecosystem by balancing out algae levels in these small bodies of water.

As a result of these efforts, no fish need to be purchased for Milwaukee County. In fact, our hatchery is one of the few sources of live display fish for the Milwaukee County Zoo and the Wisconsin DNR. In 2008, we began a program to raise fish for animals at the zoo, providing further savings for the county.

Once again this fight is upon us, and once again I will work full-time on finding a solution that is practical and fiscally responsible.

Repairing the Hoan Bridge

After a lot of hard work the Coalition to Save the Hoan is coming towards the light at the end of the tunnel. Due to our hard work and diligence on this matter the State is now singing a different tune. Deck repair has begun, including concrete masonry deck patching. The southern portion of the bridge will be addressed first. Westbound Carferry ramps (which carry traffic north initially) will be closed so the ramps can be resurfaced. WisDOT has directed that two lanes of westbound traffic (traveling north on the Hoan) remain open during the project. WisDOT anticipates completion of deck repair in 2011. Thank you to everyone who has supported the effort to save the Hoan. The completion of engineering studies by the end of 2010 will make it possible to budget for the desperately needed re-decking of the bridge.

Milwaukee's Gateway Aerotropolis

The County Board voted 14 to 4 in support of Milwaukee's Gateway Aerotropolis collaborative planning efforts. The General Mitchell International Airport has been a great engine for regional job growth and, with the proper planning and cooperation, can contribute to even more economic development. The Milwaukee Gateway Aerotropolis is an excellent way to coordinate regional economic efforts and promote a strong economy in the South Shore.

An Aerotropolis requires coordination of airport-centered commerce, real estate development and various transportation options. The Cities of St. Francis, Cudahy, South Milwaukee and Oak Creek have participated in the Airport Area Economic Development Task Force which, for two years, has brought together municipalities along with business and tourism groups from the Airport region and other agencies. These representatives have consulted with planning staff to review and coordinate land use and area plans for the Airport region. As a result of this success, the participants founded Milwaukee's Gateway Aerotropolis, a non-profit organization that will coordinate planning among governments. All eight cities involved have voted to support this proposal. The Milwaukee Gateway Aerotropolis will be controlled by its member governments and include representatives of local business associations.

Register for E-Notify

If you would like to continue receiving e-newsletters from my office, you will need to sign-up for e-notify at <http://www.milwaukee.gov/enotify>. Once you have registered, you can choose what type of information you would like emailed directly to you. This includes news releases, meeting notices, agendas and job notices to name a few. This e-newsletter will be sent out through our email list until the end of summer when it will be going directly through the e-notify program. Feel free to pass this information along to anyone you think might be interested in it.

If you would like to hear live audio of the board and committee meetings check out the links below:

Live audio of County Board meetings

<http://media.county.milwaukee.gov/room200>

Live audio of Committee meetings in 201-B

<http://media.county.milwaukee.gov/room201b>

Live audio of Committee meetings in 203-R

<http://media.county.milwaukee.gov/room203r>

If you would like to get Milwaukee County Board Meeting Schedules click [here](#). For the Milwaukee County Committee Meeting Schedule click [here](#).

November Neighborhood Group Meetings:

Bay View Neighborhood Association

Contact: Bob Schneider bob@gteammarketing.com

<http://www.bayviewneighborhood.org>

November Meeting

When: Tuesday, November 16, 6:30pm

Where: Cafe Central, 2306 S. Kinnickinnic Ave. Bay View, WI 53207

Town of Lake Neighborhood Association

Contact: Julia O'Connor (Interim President) at (414) 430 – 4711

November Meeting

When: Thursday, November 11 (2nd Thursday of the Month), 6:30 pm

Where: Saveland Park Pavilion

Oklahoma Gardens Neighborhood Association

Contact: (414) 672 – 6758

No November Meeting

Contact: Jose Vasquez

jvasquez@villastfrancis.org

Holt Park Neighborhood Association

Contact: Diane Kosarzycki

(414) 645 – 1967 or dianekosarzycki@att.net

For November meeting information contact Diane Kosarzycki

Tippecanoe Park Watch

Contact: (414) 278 – 4252

No Meeting in November

City Meadows Neighborhood Association

<http://www.Citymeadows.org>

Garden District Neighborhood Association

Contact: Connie Wilson at (414) 759 - 9009

No November Meeting

Uncas Park Neighborhood Association

Contact: Connie Wilson (414) 759 – 9009 or uncaspark@yahoo.com

No November Meeting

Airport Gardens Neighborhood Association

Contact: airportgardens@earthlink.net

<http://www.airportgardens.org/index.html>

South Shore Park Watch

Contact: Barbara Chudnow at southshoreparkwatch@yahoo.com

November Meeting

When: Thursday, November 11 (2nd Thursday of the Month), 7:00pm

Where: South Shore Park Pavilion, 2900 S. Shore Dr.

Holler Park Neighborhood Association

Contact: President, Chris Kuester at (414) 769 – 1815

November Meeting

Where: Holler Park Easter Seals Pavilion

When: Monday, November 29 (last Monday of the month), 7:00pm

Humboldt Park Watch

Contact: Ruth Simos at (414) 483 – 9330 r.simos@sbcglobal.net

November Meeting

Where: Humboldt Park Pavilion

When: Tuesday, November 7, 7:00pm

Wilson Park Neighborhood Association

Contact: Tammy Kukla (414) 383 – 2007 TammyKukla@aol.com

For November meeting information contact Tammy Kukla

Copernicus Park Neighborhood Association

Contact: Kelly Hughbanks k_hughbanks@yahoo.com

No November Meeting

Supervisor Larson Working on Your Behalf



Milwaukee County Supervisors Speaking Out Against Failures at the Mental Health Complex



Supervisor Larson with the new Clean Diesel MCTS bus.



Milwaukee County Supervisors and Staff take their first ride on the new Clean Diesel MCTS bus.



Supervisor Larson speaking with community members at the Humboldt Pavilion Opening.