



# Joe Sanfelippo



*Milwaukee County Supervisor - 17th District*

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## COMMITTEE ASSIGNMENTS

Parks, Energy  
and Environment  
(Vice-Chair)

Judiciary, Safety  
and General  
Services

Personnel

Dear Friends and Constituents,

Welcome to 2010, ready or not it is here.

Now that the big three are over (Thanksgiving, Christmas and New Year's), I hope that everyone has had a chance to sit back for moment and relax. While the snow and cold may put a damper on our outdoor activity for the next few months, this time of year is always good for catching up on our "round-tuits." You know, those things we all put off doing throughout the year until we can "get around to it." It's time to put a dent in that list.

With 2009 now in the rear view mirror, we can focus our attention on 2010 by setting goals for the year and preparing ourselves to take on whatever unexpected challenges may come our way.

Here in County government, 2010 promises to be every bit as challenging as 2009 was. Although seemingly insurmountable, the hurdles we face can be overcome if we all work together to do what is best for the citizens and taxpayers of Milwaukee County. By "we all," I am not only referring strictly to County elected officials and employees. I am speaking about you as well.

During the budget process this past fall, because many citizens just like you took the time to get involved by placing phone calls and sending emails, letters and faxes, we were able to kill a proposed wheel tax for Milwaukee County residents as well as control the tax levy by holding the increase down by the lowest percentage in six years.

I greatly appreciated hearing from those of you who made your comments and concerns known to me throughout the past year, and I encourage you not only to continue to stay involved by contacting me, but also to encourage your family, friends and neighbors to do the same. As your elected County Supervisor, you are my boss. In order for me to do the job you want, I need hear from you.

## Pension Changes

Beginning in 2010, as part of the budget, the County will begin to make some changes to the wage and benefit packages given to County employees. The first step in this process is a reduction in the pension multiplier from 2% to 1.6%. While this may sound like a relatively small change, it will save the county several million dollars per year.

A pension multiplier is used in calculating the amount of pension an employee will receive upon retirement. Currently, the number of years a County employee works is multiplied by two. That number then becomes the percentage of average annual income used to determine an employee's annual pension.

For example, prior to 2010, if a person retired after working 25 years, under the previous formula, his pension would be 50% of the average of his highest three years of salary (25x2). Under the policy change, for each year worked the multiplier is reduced to 1.6. The multiplier change reduces future pension calculations for each year worked by 20%.

This change has been put in place for all non-union employees so far. The County intends to make the change apply to all union employees as well and will negotiate with the various labor unions to effect that change.

The original resolution as written exempted all elected officials from participating in this change. I plan to introduce a resolution soon to include elected officials in these changes.

Wage and benefit concessions are desperately needed to help repair the County's ongoing structural deficit. I feel it is important that we lead by example. If we are going to ask employees to accept cuts, we must first be willing to accept them ourselves.

## 2010 CENSUS

Once every ten years the country conducts a census. The information gathered through the census is used to determine many things such as the amount of aid given to our County. Information is also used to determine the districts for your elected officials on all levels of government.

Please take the time to fill out and return your census forms as soon you get them in the mail.



## STIR-CRAZY SOLUTIONS

When you need a break from tackling that “round to it list” and that inevitable feeling of cabin fever sets in, keep in mind there are plenty of things to do in the winter in Milwaukee County. Here are a few of my favorites:

### **Milwaukee Public Museum:**

No matter how many times you have been there, going through the Streets of Old Milwaukee never gets old. And The Dead Sea Scrolls exhibit, which opens January 22, 2010 will be one you won't want to miss. It will have some 2000-year-old *original* pieces, not just reproductions.

800 West Wells Street  
Milwaukee, WI 53233  
Monday –Saturday 9:00am- 5:00pm  
Sunday 10:00am-5:00pm  
Phone: (414)-278-2702



### **Milwaukee County Zoo:**

A great place to take a nice relaxing walk on a mild winter day. Check out our famous Polar Bear, Zero!

10001 West Blue Mound Road, Milwaukee, Wisconsin, 53226  
January & February 2010 / November & December 2010  
Monday-Friday 9:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.  
Saturday-Sunday 9:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.  
Phone: (414) 256-5466

### **Charles Allis and Villa Terrace Museums:**

If you are a history nut, like I am, you will thoroughly enjoy touring these great old mansions...and the art is nice too!

Charles Allis  
1801 North Prospect Ave.  
Milwaukee, WI 53202  
(414)-278-8295

Villa Terrace  
2220 N. Terrace Ave.  
Milwaukee, WI 53202  
(414)-271-3656

Wednesday –Sunday 1:00-5:00pm

### **Milwaukee Art Museum:**

We are fortunate to have one of the best art museums in the country right here in Milwaukee County. Plan to go early and spend the entire day, you won't be disappointed. As a bonus, Milwaukee County residents get in free on Wednesdays. You can't beat that bargain!



700 N. Art Museum Drive  
Milwaukee, WI 53202  
(414) 224-3200  
Tuesday –Sunday 10:00am-5:00pm  
Thursday until 8:00pm Closed Monday

## Winter Fun in Milwaukee County

### Sledding Hills Now Open

Enjoy your Milwaukee County Parks with family and friends this winter while taking a plunge down one of the many sledding hills. Lighted sledding hills for day or night sledding include:

Whitnall Park, 5879 S. 92<sup>nd</sup> Street, Concessions and Warming Fireplace  
Brown Deer, 7835 N. Green Bay Road  
Currie Park, 3535 N. Mayfair Road  
Dretzka Park, 12020 W. Bradley Road  
Humboldt Park, 3000 S. Howell Avenue  
Mitchell Park, 524 S. Layton Boulevard  
Pulaski (Milwaukee), 2677 S. 116<sup>th</sup> Street



### Toboggan Slide at Whitnall Park

6700 S. 92 St., between College and Rawson Avenues  
Rentals are \$7 an hour with choice of 6 foot or 8 foot toboggans  
Thursday – Friday 4-8pm  
Saturday 12pm-8pm  
Sunday 12pm-6pm

Visit [www.countyparks.com](http://www.countyparks.com) or call (414) 257-6100 for more information



### Train Show, “Westward Ho” at the Domes

Starting January 16, 2010 and running to March 14, 2010 come enjoy the showcase of 500 feet of train tracks that run through western scenes such as the Mesa Verde, the Golden Gate Bridge and a cattle drive through your Milwaukee County Domes.

Adult admission is \$6.50, children ages 6-17 are \$5 and  
children under age 6 are free.

For more information go to [countyparks.com](http://countyparks.com) or contact the Domes at  
(414) 649-9830.