



# Joe Sanfelippo



*Milwaukee County Supervisor - 17th District*

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February 2010

## COMMITTEE ASSIGNMENTS

Parks, Energy and Environment  
(Vice-Chair)

Judiciary, Safety and General Services

Personnel

Dear Friends and Constituents,

You may recall that in last month's newsletter I commented on the fiscal challenges facing Milwaukee County. It is truly a serious situation. Resolving many of the situations that exist will require serious consideration of new and perhaps bold reform. Difficult decisions must be made sooner rather than later, and all ideas presented by those on each side of every issue must be carefully, openly and honestly considered.

Since last December, County Executive Scott Walker and his staff have been holding weekly meetings with Board Chairman Lee Holloway, Finance Committee Chairperson Elizabeth Coggs and County Board staff to review and manage the County's fragile 2010 budget. This is exactly the type of teamwork and cooperation required to navigate our way through 2010 and chart a course of reform with the goals of eliminating our structural deficit and putting our county on a sound financial footing.

When you have twenty different elected officials running the county, (one County Executive and nineteen Supervisors), you are going to get twenty different opinions at times. This is what makes our form of government both great and challenging. The key is to be able to put aside personal agendas and, through the process of open and honest debate, carefully consider proposals strictly based on their merit, advancing those that offer the greatest chance of improvement for the County and its citizens while rejecting those that do not.

Holloway, Coggs and Walker have set a good example so far. County taxpayers and employees have already benefited by their open communication and cooperation. The rest of us on the Board must now follow this example. And I intend to do just that.

## State of the County Address

On January 12<sup>th</sup>, County Executive Walker gave his annual State of the County Address from the newly constructed headquarters of a great family run business that recently relocated from Waukesha County to Milwaukee County.

The address highlighted some of the great accomplishments achieved during 2009 such as our Parks Department winning the prestigious National Gold Medal for Excellence as the best park system in the country, as well as outlining some things to look forward to such as the County's accelerated capital improvement plan that will spend an additional \$38 million in improvements to our parks.

### “Milwaukee County Government: Should it Stay or Should it Go?”

A recent report by the Public Policy Forum titled “Milwaukee County Government: Should it Stay or Should it Go?” takes an in-depth look at the major departments within County government and discusses the possibility of the services currently performed being handed over to some other entity thereby allowing for the downsizing or outright elimination of County government.

The report was written as a result of public statements from individuals in both the public and private sectors suggesting that Milwaukee County government could be eliminated all together with the responsibility for the services it provides being turned over to local municipalities, the state and, in some cases, newly created operating districts.

I always enjoy reading reports from the Public Policy Forum as I find them to be very detailed, unbiased and concise. This particular report is no different. It lays out both the pros and cons of reform or dissolution and highlights several different items needing attention before any plan is put forth.

I expect this report will spur many conversations, ideas and potential recommendations over the next several months. I look forward to openly and honestly debating every idea that emerges as a result of this work.

### Goal Accomplished!

In my Fall 2009 Newsletter, I vowed to return 50% of my Individual Office Account and that goal was successfully reached! Of the \$8,000 that is given to each Supervisor annually, I returned \$4,616.72 of my account, that is 57%!

Expenses were cut by reducing the number of newsletters sent out. I also don't seek reimbursement for expenses incurred when attending district related events and activities.

To view the latest Expense Report, please visit:

[www.county.milwaukee.gov/Sanfelippo/ExpenseReport](http://www.county.milwaukee.gov/Sanfelippo/ExpenseReport)

## Music Under Glass

Live music at The Domes!

Tuesdays and Thursdays from 6:30-8:30pm

**February 2, 4, 9, 11, 16, 18, 23 and 25**

Regular admission applies

Mitchell Park Horticultural Conservatory (The Domes)

524 S. Layton Blvd., Milwaukee, Wisconsin, 53215

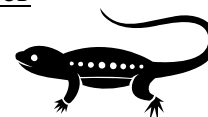
Information: (414) 649-9830

Visit The Domes [website](#) for more information on dates and times

## Reptile Day at the Wehr Nature Center

**Sunday, February 14, 2010**

1:00pm-4:00pm



Come experience slimy snakes, lizards and turtles up close and personal at Reptile Day at the Wehr Nature Center. Refreshments will be served. Admission is \$1 and regular parking rates due apply.

Wehr Nature Center

9701 W. College Ave., Franklin, WI 53132

Information: (414) 425-8550

## More Snow Means More Sledding!

Make sure you take the plunge at your Milwaukee County Parks sledding hills!

Whitnall Park, 5879 S. 92<sup>nd</sup> Street, Concessions and Warming Fireplace

Brown Deer, 7835 N. Green Bay Road

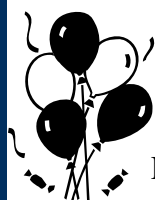
Currie Park, 3535 N. Mayfair Road

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



## Party in the Parks

Graduation? Anniversary? Birthday? Retirement?

Have your celebration in one of your Milwaukee County Parks!

Pavilions accommodating 50 to over 125 persons may be rented on a 3-hour basis for \$135 to \$180. (South Shore Pavilion has a capacity for 210 persons).

Additional hours at most pavilions are available for \$45 to \$65 per hour. Rental includes alcohol permit. Prepared food may be brought in or catered.

Call the Milwaukee County Public Services Office to book your party today!

Phone: (414) 257-8005