



5th District Milwaukee  
County Supervisor

**Russell W.  
Stamper II**

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### Milwaukee County Free Days!

Complimentary admission to Milwaukee Residents ONLY with valid photo ID on the following days:

#### Milwaukee Art Museum

Free the first Thursday of every month Free for all visitors

For more information visit mam.org

#### Mitchell Park Domes

Free on Mondays from 9:00 a.m. - Noon  
Excludes major holidays

For more information visit milwaukeedomes.org

#### Milwaukee County Zoo

2014 Free Days:

January 4, February 1, March 1,  
April 5, November 1 and December 6

Special Holidays:

Thanksgiving Day, Christmas Day  
and New Year's Day  
Visit milwaukeezoo.org

Dear Neighbors (Friends),

It's been almost two years that I have had the honor of serving as your 5th District Milwaukee County Supervisor. I have learned a great deal since you elected me and will remain committed to learning as much as I can on how to improve the quality of life of Milwaukee County residents.

There has been significant improvement on moving Milwaukee County forward, but there is much more work to accomplish. I will continue to support and work towards the enhancement of public safety, economic and employment opportunities, a robust transit system, preservation of our parks and a fiscally sound, sustainable and responsible county budget.

As promised, I will maintain my commitment to being accessible, responsive and a strong voice for our district. I hope you enjoy this newsletter, as it gives you a glimpse into the great things taking place in the 5th district, as well some of the great accomplishments in the 2014 County Budget.

Thank you for the opportunity to serve you. In an effort to reach as many constituents as possible; please send me your e-mail address to receive my E-newsletter that includes County Board updates and community information.

As always if you have any questions, concerns or suggestions, please don't hesitate to contact me.

Respectfully,

Supervisor Russell W. Stamper II

## Milwaukee Moves Closer to a Competitive Taxi Cab Market

Supervisor Stamper co-sponsored a resolution with Supervisor John Weishan that calls for the County Executive to open negotiations with the City of Milwaukee for the County to take over the regulation and operation of taxicab service.

There are currently fewer taxicabs in Milwaukee than there were 20 years ago after the city capped the number of public passenger vehicle permits, and a judge has ruled that the cap is unconstitutional.

"This is a natural addition to intermodal coordination county-wide," Stamper said. "It will help to increase competition and lower costs to the consumer. It will enhance the quality of service and help to serve areas where service is unavailable or difficult to obtain."



Supervisor Russell W. Stamper II  
Milwaukee County Courthouse  
901 N. 9th Street, Room 201  
Milwaukee, WI 53233

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## Milwaukee County 2014 Budget

The County Board adopted the Milwaukee County 2014 Operating Budget on November 12, 2013. The total county budget is about 1.3 billion dollars and I'm happy to say that for the first time in 10 years the County's portion of your property taxes will not go up. The budget focuses on improving and sustaining County services and public safety. Supervisor Stamper played a pivotal role during the budget process as a member of the Finance, Personnel and Audit Committee. Here is a glimpse of some key items in the budget:

- Indoor pools at Noyes and Pulaski Park will remain open and key repairs will be made
- Supervisor Stamper is working to enhance Public Safety by attempting to reduce gun violence in our parks and neighborhoods with an investment in the City of Milwaukee ShotSpotter program (which detects location where shots are fired) and the restoration of sworn law enforcement positions
- Rejects a request made by County Executive Chris Abele for \$400,000 for personal security; instead \$100,000 is allowed for security and the other \$300,000 will go to homeless shelters in Milwaukee County
- Reduces fares for Paratransit by \$0.50 after fixing a \$3 million mistake in the budget by the County Executive's administration
- Reforms to the Milwaukee County mental health system move forward in a manner that prioritizes patient care and safety and promotes County-run community support programs as a healthy and effective alternative
- Sustains the Mental Health Complex's long-term care units
- Reduces the salaries of highly paid bureaucrats to fund other needed services and bring them in line with their counterparts at the state level

## Supervisor Stamper's Second Annual Socks Drive



Supervisor Stamper kicked off his Second Annual Socks Drive this summer, issuing a call for new socks in an attempt to reach a goal of 500. Not only was the goal met, but the overwhelming support led to the drive being extended.

You might ask, "why a socks drive?" We often hear of coat, hat, scarf and gloves drives. This service initiative stands out to me because it helps ensure that families in need are able to keep their feet warm now that the cold weather has returned.

Last year, the drive donated more than 500 pairs of socks to the families of the Children's Hospital Sickle Cell Disease Program. This year we are partnering with Hi-Mount Community School in the 5th district to donate children socks. Donated infant and adult socks will go to a local shelter and senior center.

"These socks are going to needy families throughout Milwaukee County. It warmed my heart to see the smiles on the families' faces as we handed them socks last year, and I hope to see even more smiling faces this year," Supervisor Stamper said.

Because this is an ongoing drive, brand new socks donations can be dropped off at the Milwaukee County Courthouse, 901 N. 9th Street, in room 201.

## 5th District Neighborhood Clean-Up



On August 24th, more than 30 community members gathered for the Second Annual 5th District Community Clean-up. A majority of our participants were youths, some as young as four years old.

The community clean-up concluded with a barbeque and kickball game at Washington Park. Raffle prizes were also distributed to our volunteers. Ms. Delores Green enthusiastically served as lead coordinator of the community clean-up.

Community Clean-up sponsors included Bethany Lutheran Church, Lisbon Avenue Neighborhood Development, Central Marketing, Inc., Keep Greater Milwaukee Beautiful and Operation DREAM.

## Supervisor Stamper Joins Effort to Plant Positive Seeds in Uptown Community Garden of Peace



Supervisor Russell Stamper joined the Uptown Crossing Neighborhood Association and the surrounding neighborhood for the first "Uptown Community Garden of Peace Picnic" this summer. The community garden is located at 2321 N. 45th Street (adjacent to Walgreens).

After hearing of the death of her grandson's friend, Russell Setum, and continuing to witness the deterioration of her community due to crime, Tina Holst, President of the Uptown Crossing Neighborhood Association, found it important to unite the community through a positive initiative.

"We want to shine a light on the families of victims of violent crimes," Holst said. "This garden allows us to do that by representing peace as opposed to destruction. In this garden of peace, we are growing stuff as opposed to tearing stuff down, which is unfortunately what is occurring in our streets."

Russell Setum was murdered outside of his home last April, just blocks from the community garden. His mother Leona witnessed her son's murder while pleading for the gunmen to spare his life. As a result, she suffered a gunshot wound to her foot.

The Garden of Peace features a cherry tree, affectionately named "Russell's Hope for Peace". Leona Setum cut the ribbon on the tree dedicated to her late son.

Walgreens was a pivotal sponsor in this project with the donation of supplies. Milwaukee Common Council President Willie Hines helped acquire the lot for the garden. Ann Knoedler, Vice President of Uptown Crossing Neighborhood Association, serves as the Chairperson for the community garden. Other key sponsors include the Milwaukee Urban Garden, Waterworks, Victory Gardens and the Sherman Park Community Association.

## Washington Park Swimming Program is a Success



Supervisor Stamper is proud to announce the Aquatics Incentive Program at Washington Park was a huge success. Approximately 150 youths participated in the swimming program and not only walked away with swimming skills, but also great memories from the summer.

Four neighborhood agencies: Our Next Generation; Westside Academy; Urban Ecology Center and Washington Park Partners actively participated in the program. Both Our Next Generation and Westside Academy incorporated the swimming lessons into their daily summer camp curriculum. Our Next Generation had nearly 100 participants from grade 5K through 8th grade in an eight-week program. Seventy-five children earned a free annual deep-well swimming lesson pass for either attending a required number of swimming lessons or by participating in four park volunteer opportunities. Westside Academy had 40 participants in 4th through 8th grades that were registered for lessons. Westside Academy had a six-week program that corresponded with their summer camp schedule. Urban Ecology Center and Westside Academy participants were children who participated in the program by performing at least four hours of community service to earn their free pass. A few members of the public also enrolled in the free program.

The Aquatics Incentive Program will continue next year at Washington Park and could possibly be established at other County pool centers.

## Co-Sleeping Deaths in Milwaukee

With 15 co-sleeping deaths reported in the city of Milwaukee so far this year, Supervisor Stamper and other elected officials are speaking out to educate parents and relatives on potential fatal effects of co-sleeping.

The infant mortality rate in Milwaukee County is unacceptably high, especially in the African-American community. Supervisor Stamper believes this is the issue we should all be focused on. Infant deaths are often related to a number of factors, including unsafe sleeping environments, premature births and birth defects.

Supervisor Stamper agrees with the City of Milwaukee Health Department in that the existing Wisconsin laws surrounding

child abuse and/or neglect provide ample authority for our justice officials to pursue criminal charges. He is confident that the District Attorney's office pays very close attention to infant deaths and would move forward with charges when appropriate.

The leading cause of infant deaths in the city is complications due to prematurity, which make up more than 50 percent of infant deaths. Deaths due to unsafe sleep environments make up approximately 15 to 20 percent of all infant deaths.

Mayor Tom Barrett and City of Milwaukee Health Commissioner Bevan Baker visited several churches on "Safe Sleep Sabbath" on Sunday, October 13, to discuss the dangers of co-sleeping and to share the A-B-C's of sleeping: "Alone, on their back, in a

crib, in a smoke free environment."

Mayor Barrett's goal is to reduce Milwaukee's overall infant mortality rate by 10 percent and reduce the African-American infant mortality rate by 15 percent by 2017.

The City of Milwaukee Health Department will provide free cribs for any mother in need through the Cribs for Kids Program. To be eligible, mothers must reside in the City of Milwaukee, must be up to four weeks from due date or have a baby up to six months old.

For more information about this program or to acquire a crib, please call **414-286-8620**.