



Patricia Jursik *Update*

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E-NEWS

COMMITTEE ASSIGNMENTS

Finance and Audit

Judiciary, Safety and General Services

Personnel, Chair

SPECIAL COMMITTEES

Committee on Long Range Transportation Planning

Economic Stimulus Task Force

Long Range Strategic Plan Steering Committee, Chair

RTA Task Force, Chair

10 Wishes for District 8 in the New Year

1. **Hoan Bridge:** Our Wish is that the Engineering Studies of the Re-decking of the Hoan Bridge get done by this year so that the project can be budgeted and completed by the end of the next budget year. Simply put: Keep the Hoan Bridge!
2. **Fiscal Health:** Our Wish is for the successful completion of Strategic Planning as the County attempts to find a means to work through the structural deficit that has plagued our budgets and leads to the County's over-reliance on property taxes.
3. **Grant Park:** Our Wish is for a community-wide celebration of the **100th birthday** of Grant Park, may it lead to a renewed appreciation for what our forefathers created in preserving the lakefront and green space for generations to come. May we see the return of 7 Bridges which was badly damaged in the June 2008 storm.
4. **South Shore Renewal & 794:** Our Wish is for continued success in the planning of redevelopment of all the cities along the South Shore as each city through its Community Development Authority works to accomplish the visions created in their long range plans. May 794 be extended to the county line to assist in this renewal.
5. **Reading for Success:** Our Wish is for the libraries in our federated library system to continue to share resources while also planning local programs that serve both adults and children.
6. **Sheridan Park:** Our Wish is that the **Historical Landmark** recently designated by the Milwaukee County Historical Society regarding Sheridan may also lead to renewal of the park including replacing lighting and preserving the pools and pavilions.
7. **Labor Negotiations:** Our Wish is for completion of successful labor negotiations to give our County employees a fair contract while balancing the needs and concerns of the citizens to pay for services that are both necessary and affordable.
8. **Summer Activities:** Our Wish is for continued recreational programs for our citizens including our wonderful pools at Sheridan and Grobschmidt and our

wading pools at Greene and Pulaski, for more summer concerts in our South Shore parks, for great golf, for a new dog park in Warnimont, and for the many organized runs, walks and bike rides.

9. **Strong Transportation:** Our Wish is that the **Milwaukee County Transit System** continue to operate buses that serve the South Shore getting many to work and school; may we find a new way through an RTA to pay for our buses and give relief to property tax payers that currently pay for buses on property tax dollars.
10. **South Shore People:** Our Wish is that the fine citizens that make up the South Shore continue to get involved in the many civic organizations that serve our communities, support our veterans, staff Project Concern and Human Concerns, educate our young people and serve our elderly at the Kelly and Grobschmidt Senior Centers; that they continue to find meaning in their service; During the **2010 Census** we ask that each and every one of us be counted so that we obtain the aids and services necessary for our population.

HAPPY NEW YEAR! Keep the thoughts coming! What do you wish for on behalf of District 8? Let us know: patricia.jursik@milwenty.com

Domestic Partnership Benefits

Many constituents contacted my office wondering why the County was studying new benefits for our County employees during these difficult financial times. There was a great deal of misinformation regarding this issue in the press and on talk-radio. First and foremost, this resolution called for the study of a plan only and did not include the additional benefits for our County employees and did not raise taxes.

Secondly, the domestic partnership benefits issue is not one that was created by any of the County Supervisors. This designation was created in the last State budget. Corporation Counsel, the attorney that advises supervisors regarding County issues, has advised the Board that because of the State action, employees could include domestic partnership benefits in labor contracts without the need to bargain for the benefit. The costs of this are unknown.

For this reason, I voted to find out what the costs of this benefit would be and which employee “partners” could be included and/or excluded from the new benefit. Quite frankly, there was only one correct vote on this issue and one political/expedient vote. I chose to vote correctly in trying to find out the costs of this plan, including overriding the veto by the County Executive. This was the correct vote since voting against the resolution and not doing the study results in nothing other than the unknown; the rights to this benefit still exist and would add cost to the County’s health insurance benefit.

The Board sustained the County Executive’s veto of the study on a 7-12 vote (an override requires a 2/3 vote of 6-13). I would ask citizens to contact the County Executive’s office for his political reasons behind the veto if you desire additional information.

Community Calendar

Thursday, December 31, 2009 – Ride FREE on all 30 regular Milwaukee County buses, beginning at 8pm until the regular ending times of most routes. Additionally, Routes 10, 11, 12, 15, 18, 19, 21, 22, 23, 27, 30, 62, and 80 will extend service until 4am the next day,

operating each half hour. Thanks to MillerCoors for its sponsorship of the free rides
www.ridemcts.com

Friday, January 1, 2010 – Cool Kite Festival, Noon-5pm

Kite-flying lessons available with purchase of a kite. Ice artists in action. Complementary hot chocolate and coffee while it lasts thanks to Caribou Coffee. Dress warm. At Veterans Park, 1010 N. Lincoln Memorial Dr, Milwaukee. www.giftofwings.com 277-9121

Friday, January 1, 2010 – Zoo FREE to County Residents with photo ID, 9:30am-2:30pm

At Milwaukee County Zoo, 10001 W. Blue Mound Rd, Milwaukee. milwaukeezoo.org 256-5466

Saturday, January 2 – Family FREE Day at the Zoo, 9:30am-4:30pm

All visitors receive free admission. The parking fee remains in effect. At Milwaukee County Zoo, 10001 W. Blue Mound Rd, Milwaukee. milwaukeezoo.org 256-5466

Monday, January 4 – Friends of the Library Book Sale, 9:30-11am

Buy used books at South Milwaukee Public Library, 1907 10th St, South Milwaukee. 768-8195

Thursday, January 7 – Music Under Glass, 6:30-8:30pm

Salt Creek (Bluegrass). Enjoy the new lighting of the domes with light shows at the break and following the concert. At The Domes, 524 S. Layton Blvd. Regular admission applies. 649-9830
www.county.milwaukee.gov/FloralShowampEventSc10360/MusicUnderGlass.htm

Tuesday, January 12 – Friends of Mill Pond meeting, 6:30pm

At Marquette Manor (2409 10th Av, South Milwaukee). 571-1191

Thursday, January 14 – Friends of Grant Park meeting, 7pm

At Grant Park Clubhouse (100 Hawthorne Av, South Milwaukee). 764-0612

Sunday, January 17 – Samson Stomp & Romp for the Zoo, throughout the morning

Participate in a run, walk, or a children's romp in honor of Samson the gorilla. At Milwaukee County Zoo, 10001 W. Blue Mound Rd, Milwaukee. Register here:
milwaukeezoo.org/events/samson.php Save gorillas by bringing old cell phones to recycle. Recycling cell phones reduces the need to mine for colton and destroy lowland gorilla habitat in Congo.

Tuesday, January 19 – Grant Park “Park Watch” meeting, 7pm

In art room at Wil O Way in Grant Park, 207 Lake Dr, South Milwaukee. 764-7262

Thursday, January 21 – Music Under Glass, 6:30-8:30pm

Streetlife with Warren Wiegratz (Blend of R&B and Smooth Jazz). At The Domes, 524 S. Layton Blvd. Regular admission applies. 649-9830
www.county.milwaukee.gov/FloralShowampEventSc10360/MusicUnderGlass.htm

Friday, January 22 – Opening of “Dead Sea Scrolls and the Bible” at the Museum

Call 223-4676 or visit www.mpm.edu/dead-sea-scrolls/visit/ to purchase assigned time-entry tickets. County residents can purchase discounted \$10 tickets on Mondays for use the same day. Photo ID with a Milwaukee County residence must be shown by each adult in order to receive discounted rates. At Milwaukee Public Museum, 800 W. Wells St, Milwaukee.

Wednesday, January 27 – Cudahy Neighborhood Watch meeting, 6pm

At Cudahy Family Library, 3500 Library Dr, Cudahy. 414-324-5531

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Ongoing: ICE SKATING

At Sheridan Park Lagoon, 4800 S. Lake Dr, Cudahy
Bring your own skates. Open weather permitting.
Call 257-PARK (7275) for current conditions.

M–F: 3–8 pm
Sat & Sun: Noon–8pm

At Red Arrow Park, 920 N. Water St, Milwaukee
(accessible via Route 15, www.ridemcts.com)

M–Th: 11am–8pm
Fri & Sat: 11am–11pm
Sun: 11am–6pm

FREE rink, \$6 skate rental (includes tax) or bring your own. Enjoy the adjacent warming house with restrooms and hot beverages! Closed for blizzard, wind chill or cold weather advisories from the National Weather Service.