



# County Report

Milwaukee County Supervisor

**Jim Luigi Schmitt**

19TH DISTRICT

Winter 2009

## Contact Supervisor Schmitt

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Visit my Milwaukee County Website

[www.milwaukee.gov/Schmitt](http://www.milwaukee.gov/Schmitt)



Dear Friends,

Thank you for re-electing me to serve as your representative on the Milwaukee County Board of Supervisors for the 2008-2012 term. We recently adopted the 2009 County Budget and, just like the private sector and other local governments, Milwaukee County is facing challenges due to the constantly changing economy. As a result, difficult decisions are made to resist tax increases while preserving the amenities and services you desire most. I am proud to report that many of you will see a decrease in the County portion of your 2009 property tax bills.

As Chairman of the County Board's Intergovernmental Relations Committee, I am working with State lawmakers to make sure Milwaukee County gets its fair share of funding from Madison. Unfunded State mandates increase the burden on Milwaukee County taxpayers. This will be the focal point of my communications with the Governor and State Legislature on the upcoming biannual State budget.

In this newsletter, you'll also find the latest update on the Milwaukee County Grounds, including an exciting expansion project at Children's Hospital of Wisconsin. In addition to serving on the Milwaukee County Research Park Board, I am also a Board member of the Milwaukee County Historical Society and the Milwaukee Public Museum. This winter, be sure to check out the special "Titanic" exhibit currently on display at the Museum.

Finally, it's a pleasure to work on your behalf to make sure Milwaukee County remains a great place to live, work and raise a family. Please don't hesitate to get in touch with me. I am always available to meet with you or your organizations to discuss your concerns.

Sincerely,  
Jim "Luigi" Schmitt  
Milwaukee County Supervisor, 19th District

*Merry Christmas!*



The 12-story, 425,000 square foot expansion will have room to expand by another 72 beds in the future. The expansion is expected to open in spring 2009. Get a sneak peek of the West Tower expansion at [www.thisismychildren.org](http://www.thisismychildren.org).

## CHILDREN'S HOSPITAL EXPANDS IN WAUWATOSA

The Milwaukee Regional Medical Center (MRMC) contributes substantially to the health of the Milwaukee area by providing advanced patient care, the State's highest-level emergency trauma center, cutting edge medical education and medical research.

Children's Hospital of Wisconsin continues to expand its services in Wauwatosa. Their new 12-story West Tower will increase their patient beds from 236 to 294. This will help Children's Hospital better serve the needs of children from Wisconsin and beyond. The West Tower, expected to open in 2009, will also feature a large pediatric intensive care unit and an expanded Herma Heart Center. Children's Hospital continues to expand by proposing to build an adjacent tower with additional operating rooms next to the West Tower.

Children's Hospital, ranked as one of the best pediatric hospitals in the United States, leases land from Milwaukee County and reimburses us for services provided by the County. I have worked cooperatively with Children's Hospital, MRMC and the City of Wauwatosa to address both the opportunities and challenges that come with this success. If you would like additional information about the MRMC call 414-778-4570.

## 19th District Constituent Photos



Supervisor Schmitt pictured with David Higgins of West Milwaukee, a student at West Allis Central High School, during Student Government Day in March.



In November, Supervisor Schmitt honored two of his constituents who are retiring from Milwaukee County after a combined 66 years of service. Supervisor Schmitt presented a retirement citation to Assistant District Attorney Jon Reddin and his wife Mary Reddin, Deputy Chief Information Officer of the Information Management Services Division. Pictured from left: Jon Reddin (holding his grandson, Sam), Mary Reddin, their son Jake, Supervisor Schmitt.



Supervisor Schmitt joined the Friends of Hart Park and State Senator Jim Sullivan on Saturday, November 11th in removing the ever-invasive buckthorn from an extended area along the Menomonee River in Hart Park.



Supervisor Schmitt looks on as Tom Hlavacek, the Executive Director of the Alzheimer's Association of Southeast Wisconsin, speaks to the over 2,000 walkers at the 15th Annual Memory Walk on the Mount Mary College Campus grounds on Saturday, October, 4th. Luigi has been a walker and supporter of this great cause and event since 2000.

# Supervisor Schmitt Supports An Affordable 2009 County Budget That Maintains Programs and Services *Voted Against Proposed Tax Levy Increase*

On November 10, the Milwaukee County Board of Supervisors approved a 2009 Budget that maintains County services but reversed several proposals by the County Executive to privatize certain functions currently provided by public employees. I voted against the tax levy increase of 3.1% because I supported less costly proposals that would have reduced the tax burden on homeowners.

Almost 50% of the County Budget is devoted to providing safety net services to the most vulnerable citizens in our community, especially children, seniors and the mentally ill. I favored funding for our nationally acclaimed County Paramedic program, which provides advanced lifesaving services to our community, and planning for a new and efficient mental health facility to serve our most vulnerable citizens. I also supported partnering with a local non-profit agency and UW-Milwaukee to operate the Call Center at the Department of Health and Human Services to better handle the one million attempted calls per month to coordinate public assistance, primarily for women and children. I also voted for the expansion of the cost-effective Family Care Program in Milwaukee County to begin serving people with disabilities under the age of 60 next year.

I strongly supported funding for public safety and the district attorney. My constituents have told me that Sheriff patrols, especially in the parks, tough drug enforcement and prosecution of criminal activity should be a top priority. But our 15,000 acres of County Parks are also hugely popular, so I pushed to reduce large fee increases proposed for golf, boating and swimming. We must keep our urban recreational pursuits accessible and affordable because they add so much to

our quality of life in Milwaukee County. That's why I opposed the installation of parking meters on Lincoln Memorial Drive so that our beautiful lakefront remains uncluttered and open to all. In addition, I helped secure infrastructure improvements at the Milwaukee County Zoo to help keep it one of the best in the country.

As Chairman of the Intergovernmental Relations Committee, I have taken the lead in working with the State and Federal governments to ensure that Milwaukee County is treated fairly and provided the necessary resources to carry out mandated services. Since less than 19 cents on every dollar spent by Milwaukee County comes from property tax revenue, State and Federal support is critical to maintaining our programs and services. But the economic slowdown has impacted all levels of government, and we must work together to find more efficient ways to deliver programs and services without asking taxpayers to foot the bill.

The 2009 Budget contains total expenditures of \$1.39 billion and a property tax levy of \$257.6 million, which is a \$7.7 million, or 3.1%, increase from the 2008 Adopted Budget. The property tax rate per \$1,000 of equalized value is \$3.95, which is an increase of seven cents per \$1,000 from 2008. An average Wauwatosa home assessed at \$245,000, can expect a decrease of approximately \$23 on the County portion of their tax bill. This is primarily due to the change in the state-determined equalized valuation for Wauwatosa this year compared to other communities.

*These are just a few of the highlights contained in the 2009 Milwaukee County Budget. Please feel free to contact me for additional information.*

## 2008 Total Percent Amount of Taxes Per Taxing Authority Milwaukee County represents 17% of your tax dollar



\* State of Wisconsin share is approximately one cent  
\* Total may not add to \$1.00 due to rounding

## Average Tax Levy Increases 2003-2008

Walworth County .....	7.13%
MPS .....	6.94%
MATC .....	5.42%
Fox Point .....	5.32%
Franklin .....	5.13%
Shorewood .....	4.52%
Wauwatosa .....	4.31%
City of Milwaukee .....	4.08%
Whitefish Bay .....	3.90%
Kenosha County .....	3.86%
St. Francis .....	3.84%
Cudahy .....	3.76%
West Allis .....	3.49%
Hales Corners .....	3.48%
MMSD .....	3.46%
South Milwaukee .....	3.42%
Racine County .....	3.31%
Oak Creek .....	3.04%
Waukesha County .....	3.03%
Greenfield .....	2.85%
Brown Deer .....	2.81%
<b>Milwaukee County .....</b>	<b>2.74%</b>
West Milwaukee .....	2.68%
Ozaukee County .....	2.64%
Washington County .....	2.51%
Bayside .....	2.51%
Glendale .....	2.28%
Greendale .....	2.02%
River Hills .....	1.47%
<b>Mean Average .....</b>	<b>3.65%</b>



Milwaukee County Supervisor

**Jim Luigi Schmitt**

19TH DISTRICT

PRSR STD  
US POSTAGE  
PAID  
MILWAUKEE, WI  
PERMIT 1630



Milwaukee County Courthouse  
901 N. 9th Street RM 201  
Milwaukee, WI 53233

**Milwaukee County FREE Days!**

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



MILWAUKEE ART MUSEUM  
**FREE Every Wednesday!**  
(excludes special exhibits)



**FREE Every Monday!**  
from 9:00AM - Noon  
(except major holidays)



**Milwaukee Public MUSEUM**  
A World of Difference  
**FREE Every Monday!**  
(additional charges apply for the Humphrey IMAX Dome, Daniel M. Soref Planetarium & special exhibitions)



**2009 FREE Days**  
Jan 3, Feb 7, Mar 7, Apr 4, Nov 7, Dec 5,  
Thanksgiving Day, Christmas Day  
& New Year's Day

# Service Guide for 19th District Milwaukee County Residents

**19th District Milwaukee County Supervisor**

**Jim "Luigi" Schmitt**..... 278-4273  
Legislative Assistant Terri Lukaszewski ..... 278-4751

**Airports**

Mitchell International Airport..... 747-5300  
Timmerman Airport ..... 461-3222

**County Clerk** .....

278-4067

**County Executive**.....

278-4211

**County Treasurer**.....

278-4033

**Courts**

Small Claims ..... 278-4140  
Civil Division..... 278-4120  
Criminal Division..... 278-4538  
Children Court ..... 257-7700

**Department on Aging**

General Information ..... 289-6874

**Department of Audit Fraud Hotline** .....

93-FRAUD

**Department of Child Support Enforcement**.....

278-5160

**Department of Health and Human Services** .....

289-6817

**District Attorney's Office**

John Chisholm..... 278-4653

**Economic and Community Development** .....

278-4905

**Economic Support Division** .....

289-6000

**Election Commission** .....

278-4060

**Emergency/Public Safety**

Sheriff (non-emergency)..... 278-4766  
Burn Center Hotline (24 hours)..... 272-2876  
Mental Health Crisis TTY-TDD..... 278-4766  
Emergency Management..... 278-4709  
Poison Center ..... 266-2222  
Suicide Prevention/Intervention  
Mental Health Crisis ..... 257-7222

**GAMP Program** ..... 289-5700

**House of Correction**

General and Visiting Information..... 427-4700

**Jury Services**

General Information ..... 278-4468  
Emergency Call..... 278-4621  
Reserve Juror Message..... 985-6200/958-6000

**Low Income Housing**

Rent Assistance ..... 278-4894

**Marcus Center for the Performing Arts** .....

273-7206

**Marriage Licenses** .....

278-4070

**Medical Examiner**

General Information ..... 223-1200

**Mental Health Complex**

General Information ..... 257-6995  
Admitting..... 257-7260  
TTY-TDD Hotline..... 257-7112

**Milwaukee Art Museum**

General Information ..... 224-3220

**Milwaukee County Historical Society** .....

273-8288

**Milwaukee County Parks**

Boerner Botanical Gardens ..... 525-5600  
General Information ..... 257-PARK/257-7275  
Golf Reservations..... 475-6222  
Web Page: www.countyparks.com/golf  
Mitchell Park Domes ..... 649-9800  
Park Watch ..... 257-PARK/257-7275  
Pool/Beach Hotline ..... 257-8098  
Permits/Reservations..... 257-8005  
War Memorial Center ..... 273-5533  
Wehr Nature Center..... 425-8550  
District 19 Parks  
Chippewa Park (11500 Park Hill Ave.) ..... 464-8400

Cooper Park (8701 W. Chambers St.)..... 871-4020  
Hansen Park (1800 Swan Blvd.)..... 464-8400  
Hoyt Park (1800 Swan Blvd.) ..... 464-8400  
Jacobus Park (6504 W. Hillside Ln.)..... 464-8400  
Lafollette Park (9418 W. Washington Ave.)..... 327-8906  
Rainbow Park (700 S. 119th St.)..... 327-8906  
West Milwaukee Park (5000 W. Burnham St.)..... 464-8400  
Wisconsin Avenue Park (10300 W. Wisconsin Ave.)..... 672-5052  
City of Wauwatosa Park in 19th District  
Hart Park (7300 W. Chestnut St.)..... 471-8420

**Milwaukee County Zoo**

General Information ..... 771-3040

**Milwaukee Public Museum**

General Information ..... 278-2702  
IMAX Theater/Planetarium..... 319-4629

**Office of Persons with Disabilities**

General Information ..... 278-3932  
TTY ..... 278-3937

**Register in Probate**.....

278-4444

**Register of Deeds** .....

278-4011

**Sheriff's Department**

General Information ..... 278-4766  
TTD Emergency ..... 278-4011

**Transit System**

Bus Routes/Schedules/Fares..... 344-6711  
Customer Comments..... 937-3218  
Transit Plus..... 343-1700

**UW-Extension** .....

290-2400

**Veterans Services** .....

278-4054

**Victim/Witness Service**

General Information-Felony ..... 278-4667  
General Information-Misdemeanor ..... 278-4538/278-4670