



12th District Milwaukee County Supervisor

PEGGY WEST

C O U N T Y C O N N E C T I O N

WINTER 2011

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Committee Assignments

Milwaukee County
Board of Supervisors
2nd Vice Chairwoman
Health and Human Needs, Chair
Finance and Audit
Economic and Community
Development



Dear Neighbors,

I hope you are in the best of health & spirits this Holiday Season. This newsletter is designed to keep you informed by providing news you can use every day. As always, if you have questions regarding Milwaukee County, its services or our budget, please feel free to contact my office directly at (414) 278-4269.

Milwaukee County is in a period of great transition as Governor-Elect Scott Walker leaves his post as County Executive to head to Madison and County Board Chairman Lee Holloway steps in as County Executive for 30 days before appointing another County Executive to serve until a new County Executive is elected. The next few months will be an exciting time for Milwaukee County and the entire state.

During this transition, District 12 will continue with business as usual. During the last year, I was successful in keeping a Human Service office on 9th & Mitchell (thanks to the help of former State Representative Pedro Colón), replacing the play lot in Mitchell Park, and working with Philanthropist Michael Cudahy and Parks Director Sue Black to install lights in the Mitchell Park Domes creating a wonderful light show and great amenity for Mitchell Park. This spring, Walker Square Park will be replaced, which will complete my goal of giving new life to every park in our district.

We continue to make great progress in and around District 12, and I am happy to share more good news with you in this newsletter. Thank you for allowing me the opportunity to work with you to make our neighborhood a great place to live, work & play.

Yours truly,

Peggy

2011 Milwaukee County Budget

Milwaukee County Executive Scott Walker released his 2011 Recommended Budget in September. The Finance & Audit Committee held hearings throughout October to review and vote on each organizational unit and each capital project. Tough decisions were made as the Finance & Audit Committee / County Board worked through the 2011 County Budget, which was finalized in November.

Your voices were very important to me during the budgetary process. Thank you for calling my office, returning your budget surveys and attending the public hearing and Town Hall meeting. Your input was valuable, and I appreciate you taking the time to let me know which programs and services were important to you.

Kosciuszko Community Center



The Kosciuszko Advisory Board hosted their 17th Annual Yvonne Ware Memorial / Breakfast with Santa event on December 4. Families enjoyed a delicious pancake breakfast, arts & crafts activities, pictures with Santa and a treat bag! Upcoming special events scheduled at the Center in 2011 include: State of WI Bench Press and Dead Lift Competition, Easter Egg-Citement and the 6th Annual Southside National Night Out celebration.

For additional information please visit:
<http://county.milwaukee.gov/CommunityCenters>.

Is Litter a Problem in Your Neighborhood?

The Office of the Commissioner of Public Works has implemented a new procedure that will enable all Milwaukee County constituents to opt out of porch and door drops of certain advertisements (ex: "Market Place" & "Weekend Plus" literature). Elected leaders and constituents asked for this procedure due to litter and debris concerns.

TO OPT OUT:

1. Log onto jsonline.com/services ■ 2. Scroll to bottom and click on the Weekend Plus or Marketplace banner
3. Enter zip code ■ 4. Enter name, address, and e-mail address (required fields)
5. Under Delivery Concern select DO NOT DELIVER

Those without computer access can call (414) 224-2989. If you are not interested in receiving this specific literature, please opt out. This will help to alleviate litter problems in your neighborhood.

Latina Resource Center Brides Walk

The 5th Annual UMOs Latina Resource Center Brides Walk was held on September 19 in conjunction with the UMOs Mexican Independence Day parade.

Supervisor West cruised the 3k parade route along with dedicated community members bringing awareness to domestic violence and its effects on the community. Participants march in white at this annual event to honor Gladys Ricart of New York who was murdered by her ex-boyfriend on her wedding day in 2003.

The UMOs Latina Resource Center provides comprehensive, culturally and linguistically supportive services and advocacy to adults, youth and children impacted by domestic violence, dating violence and sexual assault. If you or someone you know is a victim of domestic violence, please call the Latina Resource Center at (414) 389-6508 for assistance.



Providing Care to Those Who Need the Help Most

Over the past year, the Milwaukee County Behavioral Health Division (BHD) has experienced some challenges. I serve as Chairwoman of the Committee on Health and Human Needs, which has been receiving regular briefings on patient care, site security, staffing issues, and building maintenance. In May, the County Board stepped in and approved a resolution creating a Community Advisory Board, which brings together patient care staff, law enforcement, patient advocates, peer support specialists, crisis intervention team officers, and experts on sexual assault and violence to look into issues surrounding mental health treatment and patient safety at the county's Behavioral Health Complex. The Board also passed a resolution in July, which appropriated funding to help fix deficiencies at the facility.

That said, I don't want coverage of the recent incidents at BHD to overshadow the great work that is being done at the Milwaukee County Behavioral Health Facility every day. Wraparound Milwaukee, a cost-effective managed care program operated by BHD, which provides comprehensive individualized treatment to children with complex mental health and emotional needs, was awarded the prestigious Innovations in Government Award from the Harvard University School of Government in 2009. This program has served as a model for other communities looking to implement effective programming for at-risk youth.

While recent events have highlighted the need for further review, there is a lot of good work being done at BHD every day. As we look to the future, we will continue to focus on how to provide the best care for patients in Milwaukee County.

Milwaukee County Transparency



In an effort to provide all Milwaukee County constituents with the ability to be the eyes and ears of the officials you elect, you can now listen to County Board meetings live.

Live audio of County Board meetings

<http://media.county.milwaukee.gov/room200>

Live audio of Committee meetings from room 201-B

<http://media.county.milwaukee.gov/room201b>

Live audio of Committee meetings from room 203-R

<http://media.county.milwaukee.gov/room203r>

"Inside the County Board" airs the first Sunday of every month at 9:00 p.m. on News/Talk 1130 WISN and is hosted by the County Board's Public Information Manager, Harold Mester. The first and only program of its kind in the Milwaukee area, this broadcast gives listeners a more in-depth analysis of public affairs and action taken by the Milwaukee County Board of Supervisors.

Archived audio from previous shows can be found at county.milwaukee.gov/insidethecountyboard.

Healthy Neighborhood Tips

Hanging Tennis Shoes? Do you have a pair of tennis shoes hanging from electrical wires in your neighborhood? If so, please contact WE Energies at 1-800-242-9137, select option "0" and a consultant will assist you. Please have the location/address available.

Concerned About Neighborhood Crime?

Contact your Milwaukee Police Department Community Liaison Officer Jesus Gloria at (414) 935-7228. Start a block watch today!

NEIGHBORHOOD NEWS SERVICE

The Milwaukee Neighborhood News Service (NNS) is a news website being developed to provide objective, fair reporting about revitalization efforts in under-covered city communities. NNS also will include community-specific information sites for Lindsay Heights on the North Side and Clarke Square on the South Side. Please take a few minutes to go online at <http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/NNS1> to help us learn how we can attract people to visit the websites, and what would make people keep coming back. Call Barb at (414) 257-3853 with any questions.

Mark Your Calendar and Save the Date!



THE MITCHELL PARK DOMES ARE OPEN DAILY!

Monday-Friday ■ 9 a.m. – 5 p.m.

Saturday & Sunday ■ 9 a.m. – 6 p.m.

Extended Winter

Thursday evening hours 9 a.m. – 9 p.m.

ADMISSION:

Adults, \$6.50

Kids (6-17 yrs), \$5

Milwaukee County Seniors
with ID & Students, \$5

*For additional event information please call
the Mitchell Park Domes at (414) 649-9830.*

The Mitchell Park Domes Calendar of Events

Jan. 15 – Apr. 3, 2011

"Story Book Tales" Train Show

Featuring multiple model trains running on
over 500 feet of track.

Jan. 21, 2011

Restaurants Under Glass

Milwaukee's 20 top restaurants offer
samples of their menus for tasting. Great
night out! *special rates apply

Jan. 22, 2011

Polish Festival

This mini festival offers visitors a glimpse of
the culture, food and traditions of Poland.

9 a.m. – 3 p.m.

Jan. 29, 2011

Chinese New Year's Celebration

Celebrate the Chinese New Year in a
traditional way recognizing customs with
displays and programs. 9 a.m. – 5 p.m.

Feb. 12, 2011

Turkey Under Glass

Learn more about Turkey through dance,
food and interactive displays.

9 a.m. – 4 p.m.

Feb. 14, 2011

Valentines Event

Bring your sweetheart and experience the
Domes at night. Music, food and drink
make this a memorable occasion.

6 – 10 p.m. * special rates apply

Feb. 19, 2011

NEW Star Wars Event

A great family event! See characters and
scenes from the movie set against the
backdrop of the Domes! Experience a
special LED light show and a laser sword
fight between good & evil.

Noon – 9 p.m.

Feb. 26-27, 2011

Collectible All-Scale Train Exhibit

Displays of different scale train sets and
layouts by hobbyist and train enthusiasts
complimenting the train show.

Mar. 13, 2011

Irish Family Day

A mini ethnic festival showcasing the
culture, dance and food of Ireland.

Noon – 5 p.m.

12th District Community Calendar and Events

Music Under Glass Concerts at the Domes

The Domes Music Under Glass series runs every Thursday through March 31, 2011 from 6:30 – 8:30 p.m.

Awe inspiring, computer generated light shows will occur during the evening concert breaks and after performances. Regular admission prices apply. Food and beverages are available for purchase.

CONCERT SCHEDULE

- | | |
|---------|--|
| Jan. 6 | The Squeezettes
Polka |
| Jan. 13 | Frogwater
Celtic, Bluegrass, Country |
| Jan. 20 | Eddie Butts Band
Pop, Funk, R&B, Cover |
| Jan. 27 | Paul Cebar
African, Latin, Caribbean |
| Feb. 3 | Cold Sweat
Latin, Jazz |
| Feb. 10 | Hounds Tooth
Blues |
| Feb. 17 | Chasin' Mason
Country |
| Feb. 24 | Christopher's Project
R&B, Jazz, Cover |
| Mar. 3 | De La Buena
Latin, Jazz |
| Mar. 10 | Leahy's Luck
Irish |
| Mar. 17 | H2-OH
Folk, Rock |
| Mar. 24 | Copper Box
Americana & Accordion Rock |
| Mar. 31 | The Britins
Beatles, Rock |

Community Calendar

Thursday, January 6, 2011

Milwaukee Art Museum Free First Thursday
700 N. Museum Drive
10 a.m. – 8 p.m.

Saturday, January 8, 2011

Family Free Day Milwaukee County Zoo
10001 W. Blue Mound Road
9:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.

Thursday, February 3, 2011

Milwaukee Art Museum Free First Thursday
700 N. Museum Drive
10 a.m. – 8 p.m.

Saturday, February 5, 2011

Family Free Day Milwaukee County Zoo
10001 W. Blue Mound Road
9:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.

Thursday, March 3, 2011

Milwaukee Art Museum Free First Thursdays
700 N. Museum Drive
10 a.m. – 8 p.m.

Saturday, March 5, 2011

Family Free Day Milwaukee County Zoo
10001 W. Blue Mound Road
9:00 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.

Saturday, March 26, 2011

State of WI Bench Press & Dead Lift
Kosciuszko Community Center
2201 S. 7th Street ■ 10 a.m.

Saturday, April 16, 2011

Easter Egg-Citement
Kosciuszko Community Center
2201 S. 7th Street ■ 11 a.m.

Supervisor West Receives "People First Wisconsin" Award

County Supervisor Peggy A. West received an award from People First Wisconsin in recognition of her support for people with disabilities and their right to build lives in the community outside of institutions.

"I am honored and humbled to receive this award from People First Wisconsin and thank them for all the work they have been doing to help people with disabilities. I strongly believe in their mission," Supervisor West said. "During the 2011 Budget process, I fought hard to pass legislation to downsize a unit at Hilltop to place certain individuals in the community for a better quality of life. It's important for these individuals to socialize and, in some cases, seek employment and live with minimal assistance while contributing to society and leading a fulfilling life."

Supervisor West also introduced an amendment to construct a new Crisis Resource Center on Milwaukee's north side. The south side already has a Crisis Resource Center which provides respite care for individuals who would otherwise be admitted through the psychiatric emergency room at the County's Mental Health Complex.



Pictured from left to right: Estee, Barry Kress, Cynthia Bentley, Supervisor West and John.

This community option saves Milwaukee County \$600 per patient per day and helps the County reduce ER admissions.

"Milwaukee County is behind in reducing its psychiatric emergency room admissions," Supervisor West said. "We haven't done enough to end the use of this archaic practice."

Congratulations Supervisor West



Robert and Patricia West of South Milwaukee are proud to announce the engagement of their daughter, Peggy Ann West, to Osvaldo Romo, son of Gloria and Ovaldo Ramos of Greenfield.

Supervisor West and Osvaldo met while she was volunteering at Mexican Fiesta in 2009. Their romance blossomed soon after and they have become inseparable as their love has grown ever stronger.

Osvaldo is a Landscape Supervisor for Metropolitan Maintenance & Landscaping in West Allis. The couple is very active in the community volunteering together for UMOS, Inc., Hope House of Milwaukee, South Side National Night Out, Mexican Fiesta, and Kosciuszko Community Center where Mr. Romo is the Vice President of the Kosciuszko Advisory Board.

The couple will marry in May 2011 and will reside in the Silver City area of Milwaukee's South Side with their three daughters.

Can We Do It? We Can If We Have a Plan! Milwaukee's 10-Year Plan to End Homelessness

Two years ago, the Milwaukee Continuum of Care launched a comprehensive planning process that resulted in the 10-Year Plan to End Homelessness. Approved by the Milwaukee County Board of Supervisors and the Milwaukee Common Council, the 10-Year Plan is this community's blueprint for action on the critical issue of homelessness.

What are the key elements? #1 is preventing homelessness whenever possible by getting people the help they need before they end up in shelter. This means investing in eviction prevention, providing short-term rent assistance and stopping discharges to the street from hospitals, prisons and foster care. #2 is tackling the problem of unemployment among homeless workers. Most homeless people (72%) have a high school diploma and about a third (30%) has training beyond high school. Yet 79% are unemployed. The 10-Year Plan includes strategies to make existing employment and training resources work better for homeless workers so they can get back in the workforce and maintain permanent housing.

Also critical is #3 – insuring high quality mental health and substance abuse services for people whose problems in these areas prevent them from keeping a job and being housed. #4 focuses on creating new permanent supportive housing for people with disabilities. The 10-Year Plan sets a goal of building 126 new units a year over the next 10 years. Part of the housing solution is also making sure that the city and county work together to prevent zoning issues from stopping worthwhile projects.

Everyone has a role to play in ending homelessness. If you are interested, there's more information at the Milwaukee Continuum of Care website at www.milwaukeeecoc.org. The entire 10-Year Plan is available on the website. If you would like to be on the Continuum's email list, contact Kari Lerch at Karim@communityadvocates.net. Your ideas and support are valuable and needed!

News You Can Use

Effective July 1, 2009 important phone numbers changed for Milwaukee County constituents receiving the following services: BadgerCare Plus, Family Planning Waiver, Foodshare, Medicaid (T19), Caretaker Supplement and Wisconsin Shares (child care).

If you need to apply for benefits, check benefits, report changes, have your case renewed or ask case questions/get help with your case:

- Call 1-888-947-6583 or (414) 289-6464
- Fax: (414) 438-4580
- Go online to: ACCESS.wi.gov
- Mail: Milwaukee Enrollment Services Center
P.O. Box 05676 ■ Milwaukee, WI 53205-0676

You can also utilize the following In Person – Full Service Locations:

Coggs Center (1220 W. Vliet Street)

M – F: 7:30 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.

UMOS (2701 S. Chase Avenue)

M – F: 8:00 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.

Services available: apply for benefits, report changes, pay a premium, ask questions, renew your case, request interview appointments, meet with a worker, get a new QUEST card and submit proof/verification documents.

In Person – Self Service Location:

Robles Center (1673 S. 9th Street)

M – F from 8:00 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.

Services available: Apply for benefits, report changes, check benefits and submit proof/verification documents.

\$2 off



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Daniel M. Soref Planetarium

For show times, call 414-319-4629 or visit www.mpm.edu

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Not valid with matinee pricing, other discounts or promotions.

Expires September 30, 2011

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News You Can Use

South Side National Night Out

South Side National Night Out

The 6th Annual South Side National Night Out celebration was held in August. The event featured Milwaukee Police Department displays and personnel, Bell Ambulance, Milwaukee Fire Department Engine #31, Ace Boxing demonstration and a bike raffle courtesy of Cornerstone Security.

Attendees enjoyed hot dogs, chips, water, juice and soda. Entertainment was provided by DJ Monk and Orquesta Veneno. Adults and children took a refreshing dip in Pelican Cove compliments of Milwaukee County Parks. Mark your calendars for this year's South Side National Night Out event scheduled for Tuesday, August 2, 2011.

