



Supervisor Jason Haas, District 14  
 Milwaukee County Courthouse  
 901 N. 9th Street, Room 201  
 Milwaukee, WI 53233

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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. Visit [www.mam.org](http://www.mam.org)  
 for additional information.



**FREE on Mondays**

Visit [www.mpm.edu/visit/free-days/](http://www.mpm.edu/visit/free-days/)  
 for additional information.



**FREE Days for 2012: Dec. 1**  
**FREE Days for 2013:**

Jan. 5, Feb. 2, Mar. 2, Apr. 6, Nov. 2 & Dec. 7

**Special Holiday:** Thanksgiving Day,  
 Christmas Day & New Year's Day 2013

Visit [www.milwaukeezoo.org](http://www.milwaukeezoo.org)



**FREE on Mondays  
 from 9:00 a.m. - Noon**

Excludes major holidays.  
 Visit [www.milwaikedomes.org](http://www.milwaikedomes.org)  
 for additional information.



# Jason Haas

14th District County Supervisor



14<sup>TH</sup> DISTRICT COUNTY CONNECTION

FALL/WINTER 2012

Dear constituent,

Through my second year in service as your County Supervisor, my work in this role has deepened and expanded. Two of my board committee appointments continue: vice-chairman of the Parks, Energy & Environment Committee, member of the Personnel Committee and the Transit, Public Works & Transportation Committee, and the Personnel Committee. Earlier this year, following approved redistricting and election of the new board chairperson, I was appointed to the Finance & Audit Committee, which we then merged with the Personnel Committee. I now serve as vice-chairman of the combined Finance, Personnel & Audit Committee, which oversees the completion of the budget and handling of contracts and personnel matters. This committee's oversight is important, given the ongoing flux of Wisconsin law. Moreover, its composition is balanced between younger and older supervisors, and a desire for improvement carries our debates and policy-making forward.

Closer to home, I am proud to announce major progress on two parks projects. Since April 2011, I have been steadily working on the repaving of the southeastern walkways in Humboldt Park, and the installation of a new pier at the Holler Park lagoon. My office secured funding for work on the walkways in the 2013 budget, and they will be done next year. Humboldt Park will have safe walkways from corner to corner. Holler Park visitors and neighborhood residents were very familiar with the crumbled concrete base of the old pier and its frightening pitch toward the water. That is no more; the new pier is in place, stable and secure. I am confident that residents will enjoy these amenities. Both the Humboldt Park walkways and the Holler Park lagoon are items that I have been pursuing work on during my tenure. Thank you for your patience and dedication to working with me to accomplish these goals.

Please continue to be in touch with me, and thank you for accompanying me on this journey. I look forward to working together with you in the years ahead.

*Jason Haas*

Supervisor Jason Haas, District 14

*"If money is speech, there is no free speech!" Supervisor Haas declared at the July meeting of the Milwaukee County Board. The referendum calling for a constitutional amendment on the matter was approved, but was later vetoed by County Executive Abele.*



## Community Mental Health Services

*One in four Americans lives with a diagnosable mental illness. Four million children and adolescents in this country suffer from a serious mental disorder that causes significant functional impairments at home, at school and with peers. In our own state of Wisconsin, two people die by suicide every day. This data is staggering and we must do our part in saving lives. Mental illness is real, common and treatable... so it's time we invest in people.*

*Our current system relies too heavily on emergency room and crisis services provided at great fiscal and human cost. We must invest in our community services so individuals with mental health concerns can obtain the support they need, while still being able to maintain their health and independence. Our community needs to expand recovery oriented services including Community Living Supportive Services, Peer Support, and Supported Employment.*

*There are a number of advocacy organization and direct service providers in our community who are here to help move our mental health system in the right direction. For more information on mental health and resources in our community, you may contact Mental Health America of Wisconsin (MHA) at (414) 276-3122, (866) 948-6483 (toll free) or [info@mhawisconsin.org](mailto:info@mhawisconsin.org). A lot of information is available on their website at [www.mhawisconsin.org](http://www.mhawisconsin.org). MHA is dedicated to improving the mental health of all individuals through advocacy, education and service.*

*~ Kristina Finnel,  
 Mental Health America of Wisconsin*

### COUNTY BOARD COMMITTEES

- Finance, Personnel & Audit, Vice-Chair
- Parks, Energy & Environment, Vice-Chair
- Transportation, Public Works & Transit

### COMMUNITY MEMBERSHIPS

- Airport Gardens Neighborhood Association
- Bay View Historical Society
- Bay View Garden and Yard Society
- Bay View Neighborhood Association
- Garden District Neighborhood Association
- Hide House Community Garden
- Holler Park Neighborhood Association
- Humboldt Park Watch
- South Shore Park Watch
- South Side Business Club
- Town of Lake Neighborhood Association
- Victory Garden Initiative

# Honoring Wounded Veterans Through New "Purple Heart Pass"

## Purple Heart Pass Allows Veterans Year-Round Admission to County Attractions



With the country at war for the past eleven years, many of our soldiers are returning home wounded. Each of these veterans is awarded the Purple Heart, an acknowledgement of their injury or ultimate sacrifice in service to our country. I have worked with the Milwaukee County Veterans Service office to provide Wisconsin's Purple Heart recipients and one guest with free, year-round admission to Milwaukee County's cultural institutions.

County Parks Domes at Mitchell Park, Milwaukee County Parks Boerner Botanical Gardens, Milwaukee Public Museum, Milwaukee Art Museum, Discovery World, and the Harley-Davidson Museum.

I am proud to help announce this first-of-its-kind initiative designed to honor veterans, who have shed blood in combat in the service of this nation. They deserve this and so much more for all they've given.

With the Purple Heart Pass, Milwaukee County veterans will gain free admission to the Milwaukee County Zoo, Milwaukee

The program takes effect January 1, 2013, and passes will be issued through the Milwaukee County Veterans Service office.

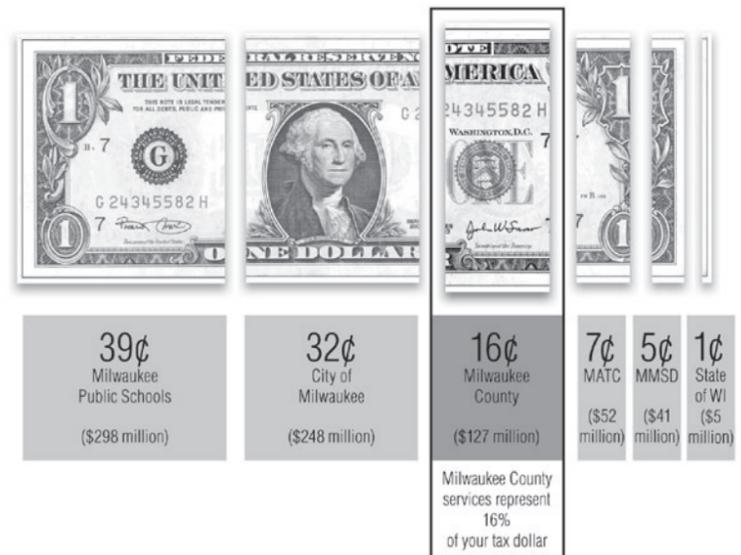
Please help me spread the word to any potentially interested Milwaukee County Veterans; applicants can apply for the pass and get on the mailing list starting November 2012 by contacting Jim Duff at **414-266-1235** or **Jduff@milwcnty.com**.

## Your Property Tax Dollar

Through the process of crafting the budget, the County Board strives to increase public safety. Similarly, we have taken steps to ensure that we don't throw money at wasteful contracts that would bring creeping cost increases and a minimum of accountability. The revised budget enhances the role of the Deputy Sheriffs in our Parks, transfers the 911 cellular phone call response to the City of Milwaukee, and beefs up the award-winning countywide Emergency Medical Services (EMS) program. Finally, it adds two new investigator positions to the District Attorney's office to provide an increased focus on domestic violence cases and installs driver-protection shields on all MCTS buses.

Funding for our beloved County Parks will remain stable, although no changes were made to offset inflation or other cost increases. To counter that in part, the Finance Committee approved my amendment to create a crowdsourcing intern, which will help bring donations of money and volunteer time into our Parks. In line with the emphasis on public safety, the budget restores funding to Sheriff's Department for a dedicated, proactive parks patrol. Meanwhile, my community work to build Friends of the Park groups continues unabated. Bay View Park, Tippecanoe Park, and Copernicus Park each are high on my list for this effort.

Looking to the wider world, the County now begins a larger role in boosting small businesses and economic development. These range from drawing innovators to the MKE Regional Business Park, located at the former 440th Air Reserve, and creating a micro-loan program that will



provide the startup capital to small businesses. The amended budget keeps property tax increases lower than the rate of inflation, which will help both residents and businesses alike.

The final 2013 budget was completed on November 14, 2012, and will take effect on January 1, 2013. As your county supervisor, I look forward to helping plot a positive course for the County to grow in service delivery and efficiency.

## Ideas shine at Milwaukee Parks Unconference



Supervisor Haas listens as residents share and create new ideas for improving County Parks at the Milwaukee Parks Unconference.

I am happy to report that the first Milwaukee Parks Unconference was a great success. This event brought two dozen people together to have a facilitated discussion about what they want to have happen in their parks. The event was held at Bucketworks, an arts and business incubator on S. 5th Street in Walker's Point. The discussion started out with a broad subject, our Parks, and the facilitator, James Carlson, worked to shape our individual views and interests into ways to improve our parks, both individually and collectively.

Carlson was able to take the numerous questions that we aired in the beginning of the session and unite them into three groups of topics: engaging residents with the "Big Famous Parks" and with the "Secret Little Parks;" earning money through the parks and their governance structure; and reclaiming unused urban spaces as park land.

A focus on collaboration with non-governmental organizations (NGOs) and private partnerships was explored for some specific parks, such as Kosciuszko, Lincoln, and Saveland. One participant pointed out that some of our parks are more for "passing through," while others are honed at having people linger. Ways to raise community safety at the parks were aired.

Given the success, we have begun to plan a second parks unconference for February 2013. To find out about it, sign up for my office's e-newsletter through this URL: <http://tinyurl.com/haasnews>.

## Garden District Farmers Market and Community Garden Update



Supervisor Haas, his daughter Hari, County Parks Interim Director Jim Keegan, and neighborhood children join in cutting the ribbon on the new playground for 2 to 5 year-old children at Humboldt Park on Saturday, October 27, 2012.

The community garden farmers market on S. 6th Street, south of W. Howard Avenue, is wrapping up its second great season. Over two-thirds of the garden plots were rented this year, with the remaining plots used to grow food for food pantries. In 2011, over 500 pounds of food grown at the gardens was given to the Bay View Community Center and Tippecanoe Presbyterian Church for their respective pantries.

A total of 18 farmers or food vendors rented space, along with six non-profit organizations were present at the farmers market, a substantial increase over 2011's rate.

All this happens on land that is owned by Milwaukee County and leased to the Garden District Neighborhood Association.

Here's to an even greater growing season in 2013!

