

THE 7th DISTRICT MILWAUKEE COUNTY UPDATE

Supervisor Michael Mayo, Sr. ♦ 7th District, ♦ 1st Vice Chair
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Committee Assignments: Transportation, Public Works & Transit (Chair) ♦ Finance & Audit ♦ Health & Human Needs

Happy New Year!



As we begin the new year, it's important to take a moment to reflect on the past year and spend quality time with our families and other loved ones.

Thank you for allowing me the opportunity to serve as your Milwaukee County Supervisor for another term. It has been a pleasure to represent you for the past 14 years. We have seen some success and challenges over the last year, and 2009 will be no different.

In this newsletter, I share with you some exciting news regarding the approval of November's advisory referendum, which was a major step forward in lowering your property taxes. At the same time, we hope to increase funding for parks, paramedics and mass transit, which so many people rely on to get from place to place in Milwaukee County.

It is my hope that the new year will bring joy to your family and all of Milwaukee County. I look forward to serving as your County Supervisor in 2009.

Sincerely,





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County Board Remembers Jeannetta Robinson

The members of the County Board of Supervisors were deeply saddened by the passing of community leader Jeannetta Robinson, the Founder and CEO of Career Youth Development. Our hearts and prayers go out to her many family and friends. We will miss the warm spirit and caring attitude with which she lived her life each and every day. The Milwaukee County community will never forget the helping hand she lent to one and all. The vision shared by Jeannetta

and her mother, Claretta Simpson, led to the building of an organization that is vital to giving hope to those who have nowhere else to turn. She was a great soldier and had the ability to take care of those who need the help most. This vision is a true inspiration to all of us. While we will never fully replace this loss to the community, Jeannetta's legacy will live on through the thousands of lives impacted during her stay with us. May God bless her soul.

Quality of Life

Milwaukee County voters approve advisory referendum on property taxes

On November 4th, Milwaukee County voters approved an advisory referendum on whether Milwaukee County should provide property tax relief of at least \$67 million by levying a one percent sales tax to remove mass transit, parks, recreation, culture and paramedics from the property tax rolls. In the 7th District, approximately 64% voted in favor of this referendum.

Many of you already know that the transit system is in a death spiral and will not survive after 2010 without a dedicated funding source. Parks are suffering due to \$300 million in deferred maintenance costs. And we need to maintain our top-notch emergency medical services paramedic program, which is essential to County residents in life and death situations.

Approving this referendum was an important step forward because Milwaukee County is a property tax island when

compared to other places in the Midwest. Chicago and Minneapolis both have higher sales taxes (10.25% and 7.4%), but also have lower property taxes than we do. A 1% sales tax will reduce your property taxes, while still enjoying a lower sales tax than those communities. Remember that a significant portion of sales tax dollars come from people who do not live in Milwaukee County. A recent study presented to the City of Milwaukee found non-residents pay 42% of Milwaukee sales taxes.

The property tax relief plan proposed in the referendum question, if enacted in 2009, would lower the levy from approximately \$258 million to \$191 million and would reduce taxes on the average Milwaukee home by \$170. We want residents to stay here. That's why we will continue to explore ways to reduce the property tax burden on County residents.

Community	Property Tax <i>(as percentage of income)</i>	Sales Tax
Milwaukee, WI	5.9%	5.6%
Chicago, IL	4.9%	10.25%
Detroit, MI	4.4%	6.0%
Cleveland, OH	4.3%	7.75%
Pittsburgh, PA	4.2%	7.0%
Minneapolis, MN	3.5%	7.4%
Cincinnati, OH	3.2%	7.0%
St. Louis, MO	3.0%	9.241%
Kansas City, MO	2.7%	7.55%
Indianapolis, IN	2.4%	7.0%
Denver, CO	2.0%	7.72%

(Sources: U.S. Census Bureau, The Tax Foundation, and State Departments of Revenue/Taxation)

SEWRPC Works to Revitalize, Spur Growth in Milwaukee County

30th Street Industrial Corridor

At the request of Supervisor Mayo, the Southeastern Wisconsin Regional Planning Committee is developing a revitalization plan for the 30th Street Industrial Corridor. The planning, to be completed this fall, brings together local, State, and Federal government agencies and private businesses to consider the potential for redevelopment, identify any obstacles to redevelopment, define actions needed to address those obstacles, and assemble Federal and State resources to assist in this effort.

Milwaukee County Transit System Development Plan

SEWRPC has also been working to address the needs of the Milwaukee County Transit System. The County and SEWRPC have been working with transit staff to develop a comprehensive plan to assess the unmet transit needs for Milwaukee County residents, evaluate the efficiency and performance of existing transit routes, and consider alternative modes of transit. The study's findings will be used to develop a short-range plan addressing recommended transit system service modifications, improvements and capital projects. The study will also help provide an estimate of short-term capital and operating needs and offer recommendations on how to address likely funding shortfalls.



Regional System Funding

Another transit item of focus for SEWRPC has been the looming financial crisis in transit funding in Milwaukee County and Southeastern Wisconsin. The Commission has been working with Milwaukee County, the business community, the Public Policy Forum, the Urban Economic Development Association, and the Southeastern Wisconsin Regional Transit Authority in identifying the actions needed to address the problem.

7th District Veterans Qualify for Wide-Range of Services

The Milwaukee County Veterans Service Office is located at 5000 West National Ave. (Building 4). It is part of what people commonly call the VA Grounds. Built in the 1890's, it has served for many years as the recreation center for veterans living on the grounds. In fact, the bowling alley in the lower level is still in use!

The Office's main function is to help veterans and their families apply for the many benefits that are available. Potential benefits for veterans include personal loans to tuition reimbursement, compensation, aid and attendance pension, soldiers' homes and burial sites, home improvement and loan programs, and health care at the VA Hospital.

The Office is also reaching out to Vietnam Veterans, especially those that served in-country and have never, or not recently, utilized the services of the VA. Many of you may suffer from illnesses related to exposure to Agent Orange and the Veteran's Office would be honored to help you with that.

You earned your benefits through service. Contact the Veteran's Office at (414) 382-1753 to access them!

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Family & Health

County to save more than \$50 million in health care costs by 2011

Milwaukee County will save \$13.5 million annually in employee medical and prescription drug costs, a savings of \$40.5 million from 2009 to 2011, through the newly-created Division of Employee Benefits. This savings is on top of the \$10 million savings achieved in 2007 by the Division, for a total savings of over \$50 million. The County Board approved a 2007 Budget Amendment that created the Division, including the creation of a Director of Employee Benefits.

The model was developed by Chairman Lee Holloway to focus specifically on controlling the County's spiraling health care costs. Supervisor Mayo credits the efforts of Mr. David Arena, the County's Director of Employee Benefits, and his staff for bringing our health costs down and improving the County's financial picture in the process.

The savings were realized by issuing a request for proposals for both medical and prescription drug services for the period from 2009 through 2011. The Employee Benefits Division analyzed several providers in both areas and negotiated 3-year contracts with United Health Care for medical plans, with projected annual savings of \$11.3 million, and Medco Health Solutions for prescription drug services, saving \$2.2 million annually.

Supervisor Mayo is pleased that this new division is achieving the goals the County Board had in mind when approving the Budget Amendment creating this division. These changes should go a long way toward bringing employee and retiree health costs under control.

Have Some Winter Family Fun with Milwaukee County FREE Days!
Complimentary admission to Milwaukee County Residents only with valid photo ID on the following days!

- Milwaukee Public Museum: FREE Every Monday!**
(Additional charges apply for Humphrey IMAX Dome, Daniel M. Soref Planetarium & special exhibitions)
- Mitchell Park Domes: FREE Every Monday!**
from 9:00AM - Noon (Except major holidays)
- Milwaukee Art Museum: FREE Every Wednesday!**
(Excludes special exhibits)
- Milwaukee County Zoo: 2009 FREE Days**
February 7, March 7, April 4,
November 7, December 5,
Thanksgiving Day, Christmas Day
& New Year's Day

Healthy Together

With the new year comes the opportunity to give up old habits and work to become healthier. You can help me lose 75 pounds by inviting me to participate in your neighborhood bicycle rides.



County Residents saved more than \$207,000 on prescription drugs through the first half of 2008

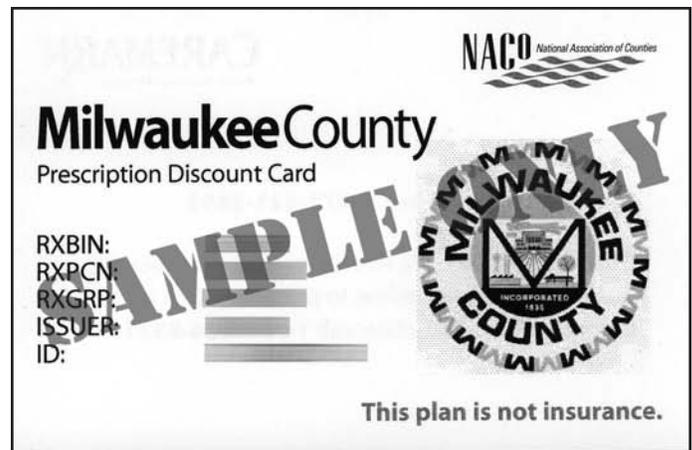
Savings up to 50% available to all Milwaukee County residents with no prescription drug coverage

A record number of Milwaukee County residents are taking advantage of a discount drug card offered by Milwaukee County and the National Association of Counties (NACo). The free prescription drug discount cards offer an average savings of 20% off common retail prescription prices. As of June, residents saved \$207,316 on prescription drugs since the program was launched in 2006. Milwaukee County residents saved more than \$200,000 in 2008 alone! Those savings greatly exceed what Milwaukee County pays in dues to NACo on an annual basis.

Special thanks go to former County Supervisor Richard D. Nyklewicz, Jr., who took the initiative to offer this program to Milwaukee County residents in 2006. While residents can save 20% at the pharmacy, even bigger savings can be realized through a mail order service. This program will deliver three month supplies of certain medications to you for 50% off the retail price.

No enrollment forms or membership fees are required. Regardless of age or income, any Milwaukee County resident without prescription drug coverage can receive the discount by simply showing the card at any participating pharmacy or by calling a toll-free number. To obtain a card, Milwaukee County residents can contact their County Supervisor at 278-4222. For more information about NACo's free prescription drug discount card, call toll free 1-877-321-2652 or visit <http://naco.advancerx.com>.

Cards can also be obtained from one of the following locations: Milwaukee County Board Offices, 901 N. 9th Street, Courthouse Room 201, General Assistance Medical Program, 9501 Watertown Plank Road; Department of Health and Human Services, 1220 W. Vliet St. and 1673 S. 9th St.; Department on Aging, 310 W. Wisconsin Ave.;



Tear off this card and start saving today!

Easy Simply present your card, provided to you in a joint effort of your local county government and the National Association of Counties (NACo), at a retail participating pharmacy and save an average of 20% on your prescription drugs. Finding a pharmacy is easy; 8 out of 10 pharmacies nationwide accept your discount card. No enrollment form, no membership fee, one card. Immediate use.

No Limits You and your family may use your prescription discount card any time your prescription is not covered by insurance. There are no restrictions and no limits on how many times you may use your card.

Extra Savings As part of this program you will also be eligible for higher discounts on select medications, as well as high-tech and injectable drugs. For details of these programs and our mail service program, which offers an average savings of 50% on a 3-month supply of select medications, call toll free 1-877-321-2652 or visit <https://naco.advancerx.com>.

Información en Español en la parte atrás del folleto

Southside Health Clinic, 1639 S. 23rd St.; MLK Heritage Clinic, 2555 N. King Drive; 16th Street Health Center, 1032 S. 16th St.; Clinica Latina, 1238 S. 16th St.; Lubsey Clinic, 5300 W. Villard Ave.; Milwaukee County Parks Administration, 9480 Watertown Plank Road.

Safety & Community

Milwaukee County Key Phone Numbers

County Board of Supervisors.....	278-4222
County Executive	278-4211
Behavioral Health Division	257-6995
Boerner Botanical Gardens	525-5600
Child Support Enforcement	278-5160
Clerk of Circuit Court.....	278-5362
Courts	
Criminal Court	278-4538
Civil Court	278-4120
Children's Court	257-7700
Small Claims Court	278-4140
County Clerk	278-4067
County Treasurer	278-4033
Department of Audit Fraud Hotline	93-FRAUD
Department on Aging	289-6874
Dept. of Health & Human Services.....	289-6817
Disabilities Services Division.....	289-6660
District Attorney	278-4653
Economic & Community Development	278-4905
Economic Support Division	289-6000
Election Commission	278-4060
GAMP Program.....	289-5700
House of Correction.....	427-4700
Humphrey IMAX Dome Theater	278-2728
Marcus Center for the Performing Arts....	273-7206
Medical Examiner.....	223-1200
Mental Health Complex.....	257-6995
Milwaukee Art Museum.....	224-3200
Milwaukee County Historical Society.....	273-8288
Milwaukee County Parks	257-PARK
Milwaukee County Sheriff	278-4766
Milwaukee County Transit System.....	344-6711
Milwaukee County Zoo	771-3040
Milwaukee Public Museum	278-2700
Mitchell International Airport	747-5300
Mitchell Park Domes	649-9800
Office of Persons & Disabilities	278-3932
TTY.....	278-3937
Register in Probate.....	278-4444
Register of Deeds	278-4011
Timmerman Airport	461-3222
UW-Milwaukee extension	290-2400
Veterans Services	278-4054
War Memorial Center	273-5533
Wehr Nature Center.....	425-8550



Supervisor Mayo salutes all veterans and those currently serving on active duty, especially those serving overseas. Supervisor Mayo especially appreciates the military service currently being performed by two of his constituents. His son, Michael Mayo II, currently assigned to the U.S. Marines, is a Navy corpsman and served three tours in Iraq. In addition, Domingo Leguizamon, Director of the Veterans Service Office, recently returned to Milwaukee County after serving a tour of duty in Iraq. We support the efforts of all veterans in protecting our nation's freedom.



Historic Sister Cities Agreement Signing with Executive Mayor of Buffalo City, South Africa

County Supervisor Michael Mayo, Sr., along with Board Chairman Lee Holloway and County Executive Scott Walker, welcomed Buffalo City, South Africa, Executive Mayor Ntombentle Peter to Milwaukee County during a ceremonial signing of a Sister Cities agreement with Buffalo City, which promotes friendship and greater understanding between the two communities.

The agreement signed in the Courthouse rotunda further encourages joint efforts to promote a bridge between the people of both nations through mutually beneficial business, health, and culture exchanges, and supports development of a program of activities to strengthen the relationship. Mark Anderson, President/CEO of the Center for International Health, hosted the Buffalo City dignitaries during their stay in Milwaukee. One of the most important aspects of this Sister Cities relationship is developing an international health initiative. The goal is to build off of our history as a founding member of the Center for International Health.

Milwaukee County is a full participating member of Sister Cities International, inaugurated in 1956 by President Dwight Eisenhower. The membership is entirely funded within the County Board's budget. In 1997, the County established a Sister Cities agreement with King Williams Town. But it was necessary to re-establish the agreement after King Williams Town merged with two other townships, East London and Bisho, and was renamed Buffalo City. Ntombentle Peter was elected as the City's first female Executive Mayor in 2006.

Our Seniors & Students

Earlier this year, the County Board hosted Student Government Day as well as the Senior Statesman Program. High school students and senior citizens from around Milwaukee County met with County Supervisors and received a behind-the-scenes tour of Milwaukee County Government, including the Courts, the jail and sitting in on a County Board meeting.



Supervisor Mayo meets with Senior Statesmen and discusses the County Board's role in Milwaukee County government.



Raven Presberry, a student at the Milwaukee School of Entrepreneurship, met with Supervisor Mayo during the County Board's 2008 Student Government Day.



Supervisor Michael Mayo, Sr.
 Milwaukee County Courthouse
 901 N. 9th Street, RM 201
 Milwaukee, WI 53233

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YOUR OPINION MATTERS

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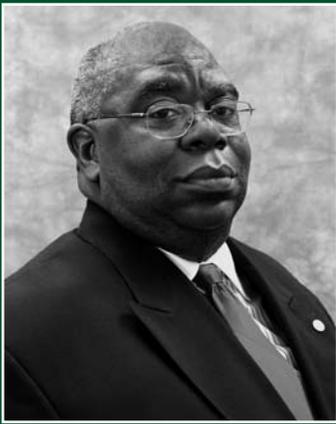
Phone: _____

E-mail: _____

Comments: _____

Please check the following 2008 Milwaukee County items you would like to receive

- | | |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Milwaukee County Map | <input type="checkbox"/> Department on Aging Info |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Milwaukee County Transit Guide | <input type="checkbox"/> Milwaukee Art Museum |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Milwaukee by Bike | <input type="checkbox"/> Milwaukee Public Museum |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Milwaukee County at a Glance | <input type="checkbox"/> Dogs in the Parks |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Prescription Discount Card | <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Golf Course Map | |



Mail your response to:

Supervisor Michael Mayo, Sr.
 Milwaukee County Courthouse
 901 N. 9th Street, RM 201
 Milwaukee, WI 53233-1425

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 your response to:
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