

FOCUS ON COUNTY GOVERNMENT

MONTHLY UPDATE FROM THE DESK OF WAUKESHA COUNTY EXECUTIVE
DANIEL P. VRAKAS



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Dear Friends,

Next Tuesday, November 2nd is Election Day across the country, and in Waukesha County we have a number of very important elections for federal, state and local offices. Not only is voting a right extended to us as Americans, it is also a civic responsibility that should be taken seriously.

On Tuesday, you will be asked to make some very important decisions that will affect the future of this country. I encourage you to research the candidates and make an informed decision at the ballots.

Waukesha County plays a very important role in elections. Our County Clerk, Kathy Nicholaus, prepares and distributes the ballots and supplies, programs election equipment, works with municipalities on voter registration and training, receives and tabulates unofficial elections results and runs the board of canvass for all county, state and federal offices in Waukesha County.

The Clerk's Office's website has a number of resources available to you including information on election results, election dates, how to find your polling place and sample ballots. This information can be accessed by visiting www.waukeshacounty.gov, clicking on the "County Clerk" webpage and then the "Election Information" link.

Your local city, town or village hall can also be a resource for you if you are seeking election information. Be sure to vote on Tuesday!

Sincerely,

515 W. Moreland Blvd., AC320
Waukesha, WI 53188
262.548.7902 office • 262.896.8510 fax
www.waukeshacounty.gov



Transportation referendum appears on ballots next week.

TRANSPORTATION FUND REFERENDUM: *VOTE "YES" TO STOP THE RAIDS*

On November 2nd, voters in 53 counties will be asked the following question on ballots:

Should the Wisconsin Constitution be amended to prohibit any further transfers or lapses from the segregated transportation fund?

In other words, should all transportation fund dollars collected be used only to fund transportation projects?

The segregated transportation fund, which is mostly funded (90%) by the gas tax and vehicle registration fees, is intended to be used for transportation infrastructure building and improvements. Despite the intention of the fund, over the past decade the state of Wisconsin has transferred approximately \$1.2 billion from the transportation fund to the state's general fund to fill the holes in the state budget and avoid making tough budget decisions. There is a disconnect between the purpose of the dollars and the purposes in which they are currently used.

Most state constitutions nationwide include a provision preventing the raid of transportation funds; Wisconsin is one of only a handful of states still allowing this practice to continue.

A "yes" vote on the referendum would help put an end to this practice.

NOVEMBER FLU CLINICS

Waukesha County Public Health Division is offering flu immunization clinics in November. Yearly flu shots are recommended for all people ages 6 months and older. Waukesha County Public Health Division will be holding walk-in flu vaccine clinics for adults (ages 19 and up) at the following times and locations:

- Nov. 1 – St. Luke's Lutheran Church, Waukesha 3-6 p.m.
- Nov. 2 – Brookfield Lutheran Church, Brookfield 3-6 p.m.
- Nov. 9 – St. Mary's Episcopal Church, Dousman 2-5 p.m.
- Nov. 10 – Sheppard of the Hills Church, Pewaukee 3-6 p.m.
- Nov. 11 – Mt. Olive Lutheran Church, Mukwonago 1-4 p.m.
- Nov. 15 – Holy Cross Lutheran Church, Menomonee Falls, 1-4 p.m.
- Nov. 17 – Trinity Lutheran Church, Waukesha 4-6 p.m.
- Nov. 22 – Forest Park United Presbyterian Church, New Berlin, 3-6 p.m.

Flu vaccines will also be available to adults on a first come, first serve basis on Mondays, Tuesdays, and Fridays from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the Waukesha County Public Health Center located at 615 W. Moreland Blvd., Waukesha.

Flu vaccines cost \$30 for adults. Please contact the Waukesha County Public Health Division to inquire about flu vaccines for children. If you have any questions, please contact the Waukesha County Public Health Division at 262-896-8430 or on the web at www.waukeshacounty.gov/flu.

“Waukesha County: Leading the Way ...”

PARKS' ENTRANCE STICKERS FOR SALE DECEMBER 1ST

Waukesha County Parks' 2011 Annual Park Entrance Stickers will be available beginning December 1st. These entrance stickers are good from date of purchase through December 31, 2011.

You can purchase your sticker from 8 am to 4:30 pm at any of the eight park entrances, Retzer Nature Center, or the Parks and Land Use Office located at 515 W. Moreland Blvd., Room AC230, in Waukesha.

Waukesha County's annual Parks' Entrance Stickers allow year-round access to all seven County Parks, two dog parks, three beaches and countless picnic areas, camp grounds and playgrounds. The stickers make a great gift for family and friends and help support our County parks and natural resources. Discounted stickers are available for Waukesha County residents and senior citizens. Also, the second vehicle is half-price.

For more information, please call (262) 548-7801, or visit www.waukeshacountyparks.com.

WAUKESHA WEST BYPASS UPDATE

Waukesha County's Department of Public Works, through consultation with the West Waukesha Bypass advisory group and the project study team, has eliminated the following proposed routes for the Waukesha West Bypass:

- Route connecting I-94 at the County SS interchange
- Route using Grandview Boulevard and Moreland Boulevard
- Route cutting through the Kame Terrace subdivision
- All alternatives using Townline Road and the west side of the Merrill Hills Country Club

These alternatives were eliminated from consideration based on public and local government input, impacts to the natural environment and adjacent homes and businesses, cost, and their ability to address existing traffic, crash and design problems.

The alternatives analysis, as part of the environmental impact statement, will continue to consider the "no-build alternative" and improvements to County Highway TT. South of Sunset Drive (Golf Course East), the study team will consider improving Merrill Hills Road and extending a roadway through the Pebble Creek corridor, and using Sunset Drive and County Highway X to connect to Highway 59. These alternatives will be studied further from an engineering and environmental perspective and will be included in the environmental impact statement.

A public information meeting will be held in early December to allow the public an opportunity to review a more detailed look at the remaining alternatives and to provide feedback about the alternatives that have been retained.



The Waukesha West Bypass will create a travel route around the City of Waukesha.

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ALCOHOL TREATMENT COURT AWARDED FEDERAL GRANT

The Waukesha County Criminal Justice Collaborating Council (CJCC) has been awarded a \$1,275,000 grant from the Department of Justice and the Department of Health & Human Services to enhance Waukesha County's Alcohol Treatment Court Program.

The program, which this year celebrated its 100th successful graduation from the program, is geared toward reducing the number of repeat drunk drivers and jail days served through a comprehensive rehabilitation program. The awarded grant will allow the program to expand annual caseloads by about 60%.

In order to graduate from the program, each participant must complete four rigorous phases of Alcohol Treatment Court lasting a minimum of one year. Each phase involves intensive supervision, frequent interactions with the judge, alcohol testing/monitoring and on-going treatment.



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Executive Dan
Vrakas on Twitter!**

**Username:
CoExecDanVrakas**

WINTER WEATHER WARNINGS

As we enter the winter season, the National Weather Service, when necessary, issues winter storm warnings and watches. Do you know what to do when warnings are issued? Below is a summary of what each warning means and what you should do if the warning is issued.

Winter Storm Watch: Winter storm conditions (heavy snow, sleet and freezing rain) are possible within the next 36-48 hours. You should: Continue monitoring the weather forecast.

Winter Storm Warning: A significant winter event is occurring or will begin in the next 24 hours. The combination of snow, sleet, freezing rain and moderate winds will impact travel and outdoor activities. You should: Take necessary precautions – consider canceling travel plans.

Blizzard Warning: A dangerous event with winds that are 35 mph or greater in combination with falling and/or blowing snow that reduces visibility to 1/4 mile or less for a duration of at least 3 hours. You should: Expect and be prepared for almost anything. Weather can range from dense fog and flooding rains to widespread heavy snows and blizzards that can isolate a community for days. Have an emergency kit ready and review your family's emergency plans.

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