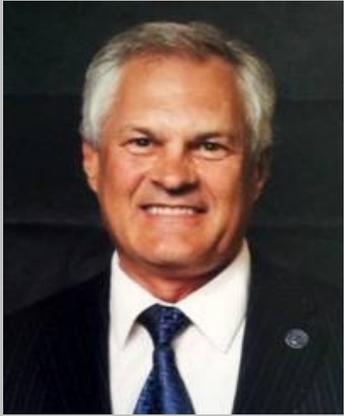


FOCUS ON COUNTY GOVERNMENT

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



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Dear Friends,

As County Executive, I have the honor and privilege of speaking to many different groups throughout the County. Whenever I am speaking to one of these groups, I tell them that Waukesha County is a powerhouse and this couldn't be more true.

Waukesha County is the 3rd largest County in population, and the second fastest growing County in Southeastern Wisconsin. We are the lowest per capita spending county in the state and second in value. We are one of only a handful of AAA/aaa bond rated counties in the United States.

In the last 50 years the population of Waukesha County has nearly doubled, and from the year 2000 to 2010, Waukesha County added about 30,000 residents. That is the equivalent of adding a city nearly the size of Menomonee Falls to the County in 10 years.

Waukesha County's Airport is the 3rd busiest airport in the State and the busiest corporate airport in the State. Waukesha County is home to 77 lakes and ranks #4 in the state of Wisconsin for tourism. We are home to the oldest college in the state (Carroll University) and the 4th oldest Catholic Parish in the Country, St. Joseph's Parish in Waukesha.

We have so much to be proud of here in Waukesha County, and everyday I am proud to be your County Executive.

Sincerely,



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COUNTY EXECUTIVE AWARDS WINNERS

County Executive Dan Vrakas announced the 2012 County Executive Award winners recognized for the excellence they demonstrate as a successful organization in the community:

Business of the Year - Kolb+Co.

Large Non-Profit of the Year - The Women's Center

Small Non-Profit of the Year - Your Choice to Live, Inc.

Government Agency of the Year - Waukesha County Drug Free Communities Coalition

An independent panel of judges that includes business executives, community leaders and past award winners, select award recipients each year.

The winners will be honored at the seventeenth annual County Executive Awards Luncheon at the Country Springs Hotel, Waukesha, on Tuesday, October 16. Registration will start at 11:30 a.m., followed by lunch at 12 p.m.

Craig Culver, owner and CEO of Culver Franchising System, Inc., will be the keynote speaker.

Reservations for the luncheon are available at \$45.00 per person, and corporate tables of 10 are available for \$450.00. For further information or to make reservations, contact Shirlene Hazelberg at 548-7902.

CAPITAL PLANS

County Executive Dan Vrakas announced the full list of Capital Projects to be included in the 2013 – 2017 Five Year Capital Plan which reduces borrowing by \$3 million and spending by \$12 million. In addition to infrastructure, the plan includes maintenance projects and a number of environmental and technological initiatives designed to reduce operating costs in the future.

The major facilities project in the plan is the Health and Human Services Building with funding of \$35.2 million, which has been reduced by \$1 million in the plan. Other facility investments include the replacement of a boiler, chiller and their controls at University of Wisconsin-Waukesha, HVAC and energy efficient upgrades at various County facilities.

The major road project is the completion of County Trunk Highway (CTH) L (Janesville Road) in the City of Muskego. Other road projects include expanding 1.5 miles of CTH VV (Silver Spring Drive) in Menomonee Falls and the widening of CTH M (North Avenue) from CTH YY (Pilgrim Road) to the East County Line (124th Stree) in Brookfield. Intersection improvements included in the plan are CTH M (North Avenue) at Brookfield Road in the City of Brookfield.

Waukesha County will migrate the County's public safety radio technology from analog to digital in the plan. As part of the radio system upgrades, Waukesha County, along with Milwaukee County, is funding a study to determine a possible joint venture where the counties will share radio towers which, in turn, will increase public safety radio interoperability and save taxpayer dollars.

Improvements in Waukesha County Parks include bikeway pavement improvements to the Bugline Trail, restroom renovations at Minooka Park and roof replacements at Eble Ice Arena.

The County Board will review Vrakas' full 2013 budget in late September with final passage expected in November.

“Waukesha County: Leading the Way ...”

MUKWONAGO DOG PARK PLANNED

In early August, plans were announced to create a dog exercise area at Waukesha County's Mukwonago Park, located at W325 S9945 Beulah Road in Mukwonago. This will be the third off leash dog area within the County Park System.

Dog exercise areas have continued to grow in popularity, and the County has experienced positive feedback at Minooka and Nashotah Parks. When a group of people came to the County with signatures for a dog exercise area, the County saw the demand that fit into the County's business model.

The Mukwonago Park Dog Exercise Area will include parking, mowed grass walkways, entrance gates and signage for the Large Breed and Small Breed areas, as well as perimeter fencing and signage. The existing nearby park shelter will be incorporated into the design. In the future, a new restroom facility will be added to the nearby picnic area for park users and dog exercise area users.

Dog Exercise Areas have shown to be very popular, and help introduce this segment of the population to other features of our parks. The cost to construct the facilities is returned through park user revenues, typically within two years.

APPLE HARVEST FESTIVAL

Enjoy the beautiful fall weather at the 26th Annual Apple Harvest Festival, sponsored by AppleTree Credit Union, at Retzer Nature Center on Saturday, September 22 from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Families can enjoy the Children's Area, full of games, horse-drawn wagon rides from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m., the many art and craft vendors, and the guided nature hikes at 10:15 a.m., 12:15 p.m. and 2:15 p.m.

Bring the whole family together with the folk music of Ken Lonnquist from 2:30 to 4:30 p.m. Visit the craft fair for demonstrations by numerous art and craft vendors or stroll down Scarecrow Lane.

Due to this Spring's unusual weather, local apples are unavailable, so instead a variety of Farmer Market exhibitors will be available. We will have your favorite apple pie, apple crisp, and caramel apples still available and for sale.

Enter a pie in the apple pie baking contest by 10:30 a.m. and have it judged at 11 a.m., or enter AppleTree Credit Union's coloring contest for kids three to eight years old. You can find more information by logging on to www.appletree.org.

The admission fee is \$5 per car to attend this event. For more information, we invite you to call Retzer at (262) 896-8007 or visit www.waukeshacountyparks.com.



Children enjoying Apple Harvest Festival at Retzer Nature Center.

“Waukesha County: Leading the Way ...”

FOCUS ON COUNTY GOVERNMENT

NATIONAL PREPAREDNESS MONTH

September is National Preparedness Month. If Waukesha County was affected by severe weather or a disaster would you and your family be prepared? Now is the time to review your emergency plans.

To recognize National Preparedness Month, Citizens and Organizations Active in Disaster (COAD), a partner of Waukesha County, is offering two different preparedness presentations. The first is a fun, interactive program educating students in Kindergarten through 5th Grade on simple ways to help their families prepare for disasters. The second is a more comprehensive preparedness presentation to organizations and their staff members. Both presentations are free to any school or organization and will be offered throughout the month of September.

To find out how your school or organization can benefit from these free, educational programs contact Lisa Raebel, COAD Marketing & Event Manager at 414.395.4735 or lisa@coadwi.org.



**Follow County
Executive Dan
Vrakas on Twitter!**

**Username:
CoExecDanVrakas**

BACK TO SCHOOL IMMUNIZATIONS

As children prepare to go back to school, Waukesha County Public Health Division would like to remind you to make sure your child's shots are up to date. The Wisconsin Immunization Law has been effective in boosting the immunization rates for school age children. In the 2011-2012 school year, 93% of Waukesha County students received their vaccines. Vaccines protect not only the student that receives them, but students around them who can't be vaccinated due to medical reasons.

Wisconsin Immunization Law requires children in licensed day care centers and students through grade 12 to be immunized against certain diseases. Students must provide dates (month, date, and year) of immunization upon admission to school, or be subject to exclusion or legal action. Parents may be fined up to \$25 per day for non-compliance with the law. Waivers are available for medical, religious, or personal conviction.

Immunization Clinics are held each month in communities throughout Waukesha County. For immunization clinic dates, times, and locations, please visit www.waukeshacounty.gov/immunizations or call the Waukesha County Public Health Division at (262)896-8430. Immunizations are also available at the Waukesha County Public Health Center located at 615 W. Moreland Blvd., in Waukesha, Monday through Friday from 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Walk-in service is available at all clinic locations.

“Waukesha County: Leading the Way ...”