

# FOCUS ON COUNTY GOVERNMENT

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



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Dear Friends,

Since the severe flooding that Waukesha County experienced in June of 2008, the County has been dedicated to preparing our County employees, emergency responders and residents to deal with emergency situations. This June, the Town and Village of Eagle were affected by a tornado, and in July many parts of Waukesha County, specifically the Northeast quadrant of the County, were affected by severe flooding. These events have once again shed light on the need to prepare for weather related emergencies.

Waukesha County emergency responders are well-prepared to handle any situation, and I am confident that their training and experience will make them great leaders when faced with a disaster. Waukesha County is also fortunate to have many businesses and non-profit organizations willing to help out in a time of need.

I believe that many County residents – individuals and families – are also prepared to deal with a potential disaster; however, you can never be too prepared. Waukesha County has a number of resources and programs to help residents better prepare for an emergency. Last month, in this newsletter, an article featured the recommended items for an emergency kit. This month, I encourage you to read the article about Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) training. This program is a great opportunity for residents to learn about emergency management and be better prepared for a potential disaster. I encourage you to take advantage of this program and other outstanding emergency preparedness programs offered in our community!

Sincerely,

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Waukesha, WI 53188  
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**Budget preparation continues in the month of August.**

## BUDGET KEY DATES

### September 28

Executive Budget Presented to County Board

### October – November

County Board and Committees review budget

### October 20

Finance Committee Public Hearing  
8:30 a.m., Courthouse, Room 179

### November 9 (expected date)

County Board Budget Adoption  
9 a.m., Courthouse, Room 350

- Listen to all County Board meetings online by visiting [www.waukeshacounty.gov](http://www.waukeshacounty.gov) and clicking on the “Live Audio” link on the bottom of the page
- To view all County Board meeting agendas and minutes, visit [www.waukeshacounty.gov](http://www.waukeshacounty.gov) and click on the “Agendas & Minutes” tab under “Quick Links”

## 2010 WAUKESHA COUNTY EXECUTIVE AWARD WINNERS

County Executive Dan Vrakas is pleased to announce the 2010 County Executive Award winners for the excellence they demonstrate as a successful organization in the community:

**Fox Bros. Piggly Wiggly**  
Business of the Year

**Humane Animal Welfare Society**  
Large Non-Profit of the Year

**St. John’s Northwestern Military Academy**  
Honorable Mention for Large Non-Profit of the Year

**Interfaith Senior Programs, Inc.**  
Honorable Mention for Large Non-Profit of the Year

**Association for the Rights of Citizens with Handicaps**  
Small Non-Profit of the Year

**Hamilton School District**  
Government Agency of the Year

An independent panel of judges that includes business executives, community leaders and past award winners, select award recipients each year. Due to the number of exceptional award applications that were received in 2010, these volunteers decided to provide St. John’s Northwestern Military Academy, and Interfaith Senior Programs, Inc., both large non-profit entries, with special recognition by providing them with “honorable mention” status.

The winners will be honored at the fifteenth County Executive Awards Luncheon at the Country Springs, Waukesha, on Thursday, October 14. Registration will start at 11:30 a.m., followed by lunch at 12 p.m. Reservations for the luncheon are available at \$42.00 per person, and corporate tables of 10 are available for \$420.00. For further information or to make reservations, contact Shirlene Hazelberg at 548-7902.

*“Waukesha County: Leading the Way ...”*

## WAUKESHA COUNTY AIRPORT CELEBRATES 75<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY

This week, the Waukesha County Airport celebrates its 75th anniversary. In 1935, just 32 years after the Wright Brothers' famous first flight, Waukesha County Airport began as an airport for aviation enthusiasts to learn to fly. Today, the airport serves a variety of business and recreational flight, providing nearly 1,000 jobs that generate over \$24 million in wages and payroll per year for the local community, according to a 2009 economic impact report. The airport is also credited with generating nearly \$81 million in sales for the organizations that use it for aviation and the companies that provide goods and services to them.

More than 50 local businesses regularly use the airport, including large and small companies transporting staff to meetings with customers and branch offices; consultants and experts such as engineers traveling to meet customers; charter aviation companies taking their clients to and from important meetings; flight schools training students to fly; and a variety of companies based at the airport that provide equipment and services to aircraft owners and guests that fly into the airport.

## WANAKI 40<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY

Last week, Wanaki Golf Course, located in the Village of Menomonee Falls, celebrated 40 years of golfing excellence. Originally designed and projected to operate as a private club named "The Meadows" and later "Westwood Country Club," the Waukesha County Park and Planning Commission purchased the semi-developed Wanaki Golf Course property in 1967 for \$184,420.

The property sits on what was an 1800's sawmill that utilized the current day Fox River at its center. Renovations were done to the initial design and by 1970, Wanaki was able to open 9-holes with the entire 18-hole layout opened in 1971. A new full service clubhouse was opened in 1990 replacing a small starter shack.

This beautifully preserved golf course offers something for all player levels from the novice golfer to the low handicapper. The course has preserved the natural features and characteristics of the local landscape. The scenic Fox River and many glistening ponds come into play on 11 of the 18 holes making the course a beautiful and memorable experience.



County Executive Dan Vrakas celebrates Wanaki's 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary with the Klement's Racing Sausages.

*"Waukesha County: Leading the Way ..."*

# FOCUS ON COUNTY GOVERNMENT

## MEDIATION

Waukesha County is a longtime supporter of the Mediation and Restorative Justice Center in Waukesha. The Center, located across from the Waukesha County Courthouse at 414 W. Moreland Blvd., in the City of Waukesha, offers conflict resolution and communication skills training, victim offender conferencing, and community and professional workshops on conflict resolution, among other things.

Mediation is a process that helps parties resolve conflicts or disputes. Mediation sessions offer people the opportunity to create mutually agreeable solutions and discuss problems with a trained, impartial, third-party mediator. Mediation sessions are informal, structured discussion to help clarify the issues and move toward agreement.

The Mediation and Restorative Justice Center has been successful in helping to resolve small claims disputes, domestic problems, work place issues, and many other matters. For more information or to request mediation services, call Wisconsin Community Services at (262) 544-1647.



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Vrakas on Twitter!**

**Username:  
CoExecDanVrakas**

## COMMUNITY EMERGENCY RESPONSE TEAM (CERT) TRAINING

Disasters can strike at any moment, whether you are ready or not. Being prepared can make many situations considerably less difficult. A program, CERT, has been set up to train individuals to prepare, protect and assist yourself, your family, your neighbors and your co-workers until professional help arrives. CERT is a nationally recognized training curriculum designed to make our communities safer and stronger by covering fire safety, evacuation, sheltering in place, packing a disaster supply kit and many other preparedness topics appropriate for all levels of experience.

The course has eight units which will help you learn to:

- Recognize hazards in your home
- Provide basic first aid
- Conduct light search and rescue
- Extinguish small fires
- Locate and turn-off utilities
- Respond to incidents in your home

For more information or to register visit [www.coadwi.org](http://www.coadwi.org), or contact Waukesha County Program Manager Linda Botts by emailing [lbotts@waukeshacounty.gov](mailto:lbotts@waukeshacounty.gov) or calling (262) 446-5077.

*“Waukesha County: Leading the Way ...”*