

THE HOLLOWAY REPORT



County News for 5th District Residents

Winter 2005/2006

5th District Supervisor
Lee Holloway
County Board Chairman



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Seasons Greetings!

This is the time of year when we step back from our day to day activities and think of the message of the holidays: peace on earth, good will to all men, women and children.

Here in Milwaukee County, the message of peace and good will must be a powerful one to overcome the many challenges and problems facing our community. From poverty and hunger to crime and lack of opportunity, we must work together to improve the quality of life for all citizen of Milwaukee County.

As you will notice elsewhere in this newsletter, as County Board Chairman and 5th District Supervisor, I have been doing my part to address many of these challenges on your behalf. From passing a 2006 County Budget with a modest tax increase despite numerous fiscal challenges, to overseeing the County Board Audit Department which has submitted its final report on the Milwaukee Public Museum, to working on several economic development projects, to enhancing human service programs, I have worked hard to achieve a balance of economic development, cultural programs and basic human needs for our community.

Some may not realize it, but all of these efforts are inter-related, for all affect the quality of life in Milwaukee County. By providing alternatives for young people to give them the experiences they need to be good citizens, by shoring up the Milwaukee Public Museum, we are assuring social and cultural opportunity. By financially assisting the Private Industry Council and Midwest Airlines, while at the same time finding ways to maximize opportunities for disadvantaged businesses, we are contributing to the diverse fabric of our community. By moving forward with the Park East redevelopment project and at the same time preserving the General Assistance Medical Program for needy County residents, we are shoring up the economic foundation of the community by making it a better place to live, work and raise families.

Working together, we can create a community of true brotherhood and caring. And that is the message of this holiday season. I look forward to working on your behalf in the New Year!

Lee Holloway
5th District Supervisor
County Board Chairman

Milwaukee County Board adopts a 2006 Budget that retains vital county services below tax levy target

The Milwaukee County Board of Supervisors recently approved a balanced County Budget for 2006 that retains vital programs and services and keeps the tax levy in check. Despite inflationary cost increases, especially for energy and health care, the County Board constructed a budget that is well under the state-imposed tax levy limit. The County Board was also able to restore funding to the courts, lower future pension costs and reduce bus fare hikes proposed by the County Executive.

The County Board thoroughly reviewed the County Executive's Budget and made several changes to keep services accessible and affordable. According to the Chief Judge, the proposal to cut court operations by abolishing 25% of the staff would have resulted in costly delays in processing criminal and civil cases and may have closed small claims court. The County Board restored the positions to help maintain citizen access to the justice system and expedite inmate processing to help avoid costly jail overcrowding. The County Board also rolled back a proposed 23% bus fare increase on regular riders to less than 8% to keep it affordable for people to get to work, school or shop. The County Board wants to keep the bus system one of the best in the country because it directly affects the economic vitality of our community.

The County Executive also proposed to underfund the employee pension contribution requested by the independent Pension Board by almost \$27 million. This would have resulted in a long-term cost to taxpayers of over \$69 million according to professional actuaries. Instead, the County Board chose to contribute an additional \$8.2 million to help reduce future pension costs and avoid the "effect of passing debt on to future taxpayers," as stated by the actuaries. The 2006 Budget also provides a 2% cost-of-living raise for county employees and increased the employee contribution for health insurance costs. County Supervisors will not get a raise, but will also pay substantially more for health insurance coverage in 2006.

Tax Levy Comparison

Milwaukee County & Municipal Projected 2006 Tax Levy Percentage Increases Over 2005

MATC	6.63%
Waukesha County	5.1%*
City of Milwaukee	5.0%
South Milwaukee	4.9%
Wauwatosa	4.7%
Oak Creek	4.5%
Walworth County	4.5%*
MMSD	4.0%
Franklin	3.95%
Whitefish Bay	3.78%
Washington County	3.56%*
MPS	3.2%
Cudahy	3.1%

Milwaukee County 2.97%

Bayside	2.94%
West Allis	2.75%
Racine County	2.67%*
Glendale	2.4%
Hales Corners	2.35%
Ozaukee County	2.35%*
Shorewood	2.3%
Kenosha County	2.2%*
St. Francis	2.2%
Brown Deer	2.1%
Fox Point	2.0%
Greendale	2.0%
River Hills	1.41%
Greenfield	1.0%
West Milwaukee	1.0%*

* indicates estimate

Local government spending cap for Milwaukee County- 3.6%.

In 2006, our nationally renowned parks system will be administered by a separate Parks Department, as the experimental merger two years ago with the Department of Public Works has been undone. This action was taken by the County Board to underscore how important parks are to our community and urban quality of life.

From the Department on Aging that cares for the elderly, to the popular Zoological Gardens, Milwaukee County impacts our lives in many ways each day.

The 2006 Budget contains total expenditures of \$1.25 billion and a property tax levy of \$232.5 million. The 2.9% change in the tax levy for 2006 is almost 20% less than the state-imposed tax levy limit, and much less than the 4.1% rate of inflation for the past twelve months. The property tax rate per \$1,000 of equalized value is \$4.07, which is a decrease of 47 cents per \$1,000 from 2005.



Enjoy Milwaukee Public Museum Events

Humphrey IMAX Dome Theater Films

SHARKS supported by Chase Bank - Now showing-Feb. 3, 2006

Presented by Jean-Michel Cousteau, IMAX-goers come face to face with the ocean's most misunderstood hunters to discover the truth about their precarious spot atop the aquatic food chain. To make reservations, call (414) 319-4629 or visit the Museum's Web site, www.mpm.edu. Tickets are \$8.50 for adults (16-61), \$7.50 for seniors (62 plus) and \$7.00 for children (3-15). Children 2 and under seated on an adult's lap are free. Discounts are available when you visit the Museum, or see an IMAX matinee, or see two IMAX shows.



Mystery of the Nile - Now Showing-June 4, 2006

Complete the first-ever descent of the entire Blue Nile and Nile rivers, encountering deadly rapids, ruthless bandits and ancient Egyptian wonders. A 3,260-mile journey into history! To make reservations, call (414) 319-4629 or visit the Museum's Web site, www.mpm.edu. Tickets are \$8.50 for adults (16-61), \$7.50 for seniors (62 plus) and \$7.00 for children (3-15). Children 2 and under seated on an adult's lap are free. Discounts are available when you visit the Museum, or see an IMAX matinee, or see two IMAX shows.

Lewis & Clark: Great Journey West - Now Showing-June 4, 2006; Mondays-Fridays

In this National Geographic production narrated by Jeff Bridges, join the remarkable and perilous 8,000-mile journey undertaken by the Lewis and Clark's Corps of Discovery 200 years ago from St. Louis to the Pacific Ocean and back, all to map the West. Tickets: \$8.50 for adults (16-61), \$7.50 for seniors (62 plus) and \$7.00 for children (3-15). Children 2 and under seated on an adult's lap are free. Discounts are available when you visit the Museum, or see an IMAX matinee, or see two IMAX shows. For more information or to make reservations, call (414) 319-4629, (888) 700-9069 or visit the Museum's Web site, www.mpm.edu

MILWAUKEE COUNTY FREE DAYS

Complimentary admission to Milwaukee County Residents with a valid ID on the following days:

Free every Monday

Free every Monday from 9:00-11:30 a.m. (except major holidays)

Free Days for 2006:

January 7	February 4
March 3	April 2
November 11	December 2

Free every Wednesday

Resolutions / Legislation Sponsored by Supervisor Holloway

Labor/Privatization - Any elimination of a service or program currently provided by county employees, where such elimination constitutes a 10% reduction in the county workforce, shall be brought before the full County Board first.

Park East Redevelopment (PERC) - Create Community and Economic Development (CED) Fund and adopt Park East Redevelopment Compact (PERC) in order to provide additional sustainable community benefits for development of the County Park East land.

State Relief for Mandated Services - Placing two advisory referendum questions on the April 2005 ballot on whether the State of Wisconsin should pay for cost of state mandated court system and human services programming.

Family Care for Seniors - Strengthen the administration of the Family Care Program Care Management Organization (CMO) by transferring responsibility for the CMO from the Department on Aging to the Department of Health and Human Services.



Transit - Creating a transit services advisory committee reporting recommended transit service changes to the Committee on Transportation, Public Works and Transit (sponsor - ref. 6-23-05)

Prescription Drugs - Enrolling Milwaukee County in a prescription drug discount card program.

AODA Treatment - Make administrative and policy changes abolishing the limit to the number of times a person is eligible to receive AODA treatment in Milwaukee County

Family Care - Requesting a wage increase for Family Care caregivers and adoption of the Caregiver's Bill of Rights.

Chairman Holloway's Leadership and Efficiency Initiatives

- **Park East Corridor** - Created the Park East Community Advisory Committee (PERC) to assure appropriate development of County-owned property on the Park East Freeway lands that complies with the best interests of the citizens of Milwaukee County.
- **Midwest Airlines** - Helped lead County agreement with Midwest Airlines to keep airline financially viable while minimizing risk to Milwaukee County.
- **Aurora/VNA Hospice** - Led County efforts to approve a Memorandum of Understanding with Aurora/VNA and authorize an easement for development of a hospice on the west side, while retaining parkland and neighborhood environment.
- **Private Industry Council** - Led efforts for a loan guarantee to allow for consolidation of PIC programs and assure the long term viability of PIC administered programs, while also addressing community concerns regarding off-site PIC programs.
- **Southeastern Wisconsin Regional Planning Commission** - A member of SEWRPC Board of Directors, Supervisor Holloway has pushed for maximum scrutiny of use of water from the Greater Milwaukee Watershed to the benefit of the citizens of Milwaukee County. Has also pushed for an increased focus in Milwaukee County and the diversity on its staff. SEWRPC currently has 10% non-white staff.
- **Milwaukee Public Museum** - Created a Financial Oversight Committee with the County Executive consisting of community leaders to assure that the Milwaukee Public Museum is returned to a sound financial footing.
- **General Assistance Medical Program** - Strengthened the fiscal viability of the GAMP program and preserves it for County residents by extending the residency requirement from 60 to 180 days.
- **Disadvantaged Business** - Created the Community Business Development Partners (CBDP) Advisory Committee to provide policy and operational oversight to the Office of CBDP. The Office of CBDP promotes business opportunities, capacity building and overall economic viability for small and disadvantaged businesses in Milwaukee County.
- **Safe Alternatives for Youth** - Established program and providing seed funding for initiative that provides activities for disadvantaged Milwaukee County youth. A task force has been established that includes representatives from the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee, WE Energies, Fighting Back, North Milwaukee State Bank to disseminate dollars to various community organizations. They have also been charged with generating additional funding to make this an initiative an ongoing program.

No Health Care Coverage?

You may qualify for the Milwaukee County General Assistance Medical Program (GAMP): A community based health care program

The General Assistance Medical Program (GAMP) is a County and State funded program that purchases health care for qualified Milwaukee County residents. As the program has limited funds, a set of eligibility requirements has been established.

A network of providers, including 13 community-based clinics, has been established to act as the gatekeeper for all the services clients require. Services include, but are not limited to:

- Primary Care Diagnostics
- Pharmacist Lab
- Specialty Care Inpatient hospitalization

Unlike traditional insurance, clients do not pre-enroll for coverage. Instead, the client must be seeking services or treatment due to a medical need.

At the time of application, the person chooses the community clinic he/she would like to use for primary care. If approved, the client must use this clinic and its network for the 6-month eligibility period. At the end of each 6 months, the person must reapply at one of the sites or the clinic they belong to in order to determine continued eligibility.



Where do I enroll?

Any of the GAMP contracted community clinics can complete an application which will be forwarded to the GAMP office. A decision is rendered **within 15 business days** of receipt of the application.

The following two clinics have a GAMP Health Care Specialist on site that can **determine eligibility on the date of application**:

MLK Heritage

2555 North Martin Luther King Drive
Monday – Friday; 8 a.m. – 3 p.m.
372-8080

South Side Health Center

1639 S. 23rd Street
Monday – Thursday; 8 a.m. – 4 p.m.
286-6011

In addition, all hospital emergency departments in Milwaukee County may take GAMP applications for patients seen there.

Eligibility Requirements

- You must have been a Milwaukee County resident for the last **180 days**.
- You cannot be eligible or on any other entitlement program (T-19 or T-18) or any third party public or private insurance.
- Your social security number must be verifiable.
- You must meet the following income guidelines:

Family Size	Monthly Gross Income Limitations	Family Size	Monthly Gross Income Limitations
1	\$902	6	\$2,218
2	\$1,166	7	\$2,484
3	\$1,429	8	\$2,758
4	\$1,697	9	\$3,033
5	\$1,966	10	\$3,306

What do I take with me when I apply?

- Form of Identification with photograph (Wisconsin Driver's License, passport, school ID, Milwaukee County ID)
- Proof of Milwaukee County Residency [Wisconsin Driver's License, current lease w/lessor, telephone number and address, current utility bill (except water bill), faxed memo from your place of residence (shelter, halfway house)]
- Proof of Income
Check stubs, statement from your employer, award letters, etc.
- Verifiable Social Security Number
- A Cashier's Check, Money order or personal check in the amount of \$35 made payable to **Milwaukee County GAMP**. This is a non-refundable per person administrative fee for processing your GAMP application.

Call 257-7200 with questions or concerns.



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 901 N. 9th Street
 Milwaukee, WI 53233

PRSR STD
 US POSTAGE
 PAID
 MILWAUKEE, WI
 PERMIT 1630

Current resident or

211: Linking callers to the right resource the first time

By simply dialing "2-1-1", you can have immediate telephone assistance and intervention for a range of community needs, including:



Funded by Milwaukee County, this 24-hour central access point for information and referral serves more than 70,000 people each year. Community Resource Specialists assess each caller's needs and help to solve problems and providing information on and referrals to the many family, health and social service organizations available in the greater Milwaukee area.



For more information, just dial 2-1-1

Would you like information on Milwaukee County?

There are several brochures and booklets available for Milwaukee County residents through my office.

Please check the brochure you'd like to receive and send this form to:

County Supervisor Lee Holloway
Milwaukee County Courthouse, Room 201, 901 N. 9th Street, Milwaukee, WI 53233

- Milwaukee County Map
- Milwaukee County Parks Recreation Guide
- Milwaukee County Transit Guide
- Milwaukee County War Memorial Brochure
- Museum Public Museum Brochure
- Milwaukee Public Museum Discount Coupon
- Oak Leaf Trail Map

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ Zip Code _____

Phone _____ Email _____