

COMMUNITY ALERT

Free Days at Boerner Botanical Gardens

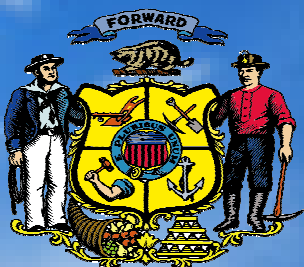
Free admission the first Tuesday of the month with proof of Milwaukee County residency
May 5 – Sept. 1

9400 Boerner Dr.
in Whitnall Park
Open 8 a.m. – 6 p.m.
Seven days a week

Dear Friend,

Thank you for reading the legislative update. I hope you find the information provided here useful.

As Always,
I'm Here to
Serve



Proposed 20-week abortion ban

Republicans announced on Thursday a proposal to ban abortions performed after 20 weeks' gestation. Republicans claim that 20 weeks marks the point where the fetus can feel pain, a claim that is widely disputed amongst medical professionals. Similar laws are now in place in 11 states across the country and have been declared unconstitutional in one state.



The bill makes no exceptions for pregnancies resulting from rape or incest, no exceptions for cases where the mother's life is in danger, and no exceptions for the possibility of the discovery of fatal fetal abnormalities late in a woman's pregnancy. The paradox of this law is that, according to the Guttmacher Institute, 98% of abortions happen before the 21-week mark. Furthermore, studies have shown that abortions after 20 weeks often result from extraordinary health complications that require doctors to consider every medical option available. Republicans, with this bill, are attempting to take the place of doctors and medical professionals and prevent access to acceptable health care options to the women of Wisconsin.

The Legislative Fiscal Bureau reported to lawmakers Wednesday that Wisconsin

Earth to Walker: It's not working



will see no additional revenue growth for the next two years. Republican lawmakers and Governor Walker had been hoping that the projected tax revenue would be enough to ease the Governor's proposed budget cuts to K-12 funding and the UW System. "If there is any additional revenue in the current year, it will likely be offset by reduced growth rates," wrote Bob Lang, the bureau's director. The Governor had argued that his policies, which included income and property tax reduction, would generate economic activity and increase revenue. Walker's absence in Wisconsin as he gears up for a 2016 presidential bid is clearly evident in his lack of understanding as to what this state needs. Governor Walker needs to understand his policies and budget cuts are hardly compatible and are unlikely to allow the state of Wisconsin to grow. It's not working.



Teen Poetry Slam at Villard Square

Calling all aspiring poets! Do you like writing poetry or lyrics but have nowhere to perform?

We want you and your words to be heard!

Give a dramatic performance of an original or not-so-original poem.

Monday, May 11, 2015 - 6:00 PM to 7:30 PM

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Contact Us!
We Enjoy Hearing From You!



Governor Walker and Republicans put Milwaukee drunken driving intervention grants in jeopardy

This week, Republicans on the Joint Committee on Finance rubber stamped Governor Scott Walker's removal of \$731,600 in funds for the Pretrial Intoxicated Driver Intervention Program, also known as the Intensive Supervision Program (ISP). The move also transfers the program from the Department of Transportation to the Department of Health Services, where it will have to compete with several other worthwhile programs, putting its funding at risk. The ISP keeps our roads safer and saves money. The ISP is proof that Governor Walker's 'lock them up and throw away the key' mentality is bad for Wisconsin. It's time Governor Walker and Republicans stop being tough on crime and start being smart on crime. Fewer drunk drivers on the roads mean we can invest more money in our schools instead of our prisons.



Budget committee funds independent investigations of officer-involved shootings



This week, the Joint Committee on Finance voted to fund four staff to assist the Department of Justice's Division of Criminal Investigation in investigating officer-involved shootings. As the Senate lead author of the law requiring these investigations, I was proud to vote for the positions. When the unthinkable happens, the families and communities impacted by an officer-involved death deserve at the bare minimum an independent investigation. However, we cannot stop at today's vote. We must continue to educate, discuss and take action to rid our society of injustice. That is why this week, more than 100 members of alumni chapters of all nine historically African-American fraternities and sororities held a day at the Capitol where they discussed social justice issues.

Wise Words of the Week!

"I don't know where the governor is, so, Earth to Walker, it's not working."
- Sen. Lena Taylor, D-Milwaukee.