

Executive Update

Milwaukee County Executive Scott Walker's Weekly Newsletter

May 15, 2009

Message from County Executive Walker

Armed Forces Week is a great time to thank all of the men and women in uniform and the families that support them each and every day. Thank you!

To all those who serve – Army, Navy, Air Force, Marines and Coast Guard; active duty, Guard or Reserves – we thank you for all that you do (and have done) to protect the freedoms we hold dear.

Also, don't forget to join us for Operation Freedom 2009 at the Milwaukee County Zoo. Admission is free for all military personnel, their families and veterans on Sunday, July 5 from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m.

Wristbands are required for admission and are available at county veterans service offices or by calling (414) 382-1780. We are still looking for individuals to volunteer and businesses to donate this year. Please call (414) 382-1780 to support this special event.

Scott



ESGR Breakfast



County Executive Walker attended the Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve (ESGR) breakfast (photo: Walker chats with Executive Director of ESGR Mike Smith). ESGR offers the opportunity to support and better understand guard or reserve employee's vital role in today's military. The National Committee for ESGR, the Milwaukee Armed Services Committee, and the 128th Air Refueling Wing hosted the event at the Wisconsin Club.

35-hour workweek

County Executive Walker ordered the implementation of a 35-hour workweek for county employees beginning June 28 to address a potential 2009 year-end shortfall of more than \$14 million. The reduced workweek is a reasonable way to address the budget challenges that everyone is facing without having to resort to extensive layoffs and service reductions. The Department of Administrative Services presented a Fiscal Report to the County Board Finance & Audit Committee this week outlining the funding gap. Walker directed the order to his cabinet departments and requested the other constitutional officers to participate as a matter of fairness to all employees.

BOMA panel discussion



County Executive Walker participated in a panel with Melanie Holmes of Manpower and Blair Williams of WiRED Properties for the Building Owners and Managers Association (BOMA) at the Milwaukee Athletic Club. *The Pulse of Milwaukee* panel focused on private development and private industry choosing Milwaukee for business development.

Best to Gokey



County Executive Walker donned Gokey glasses to present a proclamation declaring it Danny Gokey Day for Danny's American Idol concert in Milwaukee last week. While Danny did not advance to the final week, Milwaukee County is proud of all of his achievements and wishes him much future success.

Community Events

County Executive Walker addressed the Council of Small Business Executives (COSBE) at their Board of Directors meeting. COSBE Director Mary Steinbrecher included the update from the county executive on their agenda for an overview on transportation issues facing the county. Walker also attended the 29th Annual Civic Dinner Dance at the 128th Air Refueling Wing.



County Executive Walker held a 2010 Budget Listening Session for the public (photo above) at the Elks Lodge #46. The site also serves as a senior meal site for county residents under an agreement with the Elks. Exalted Ruler of the Elks Lodge – Phil Claiborne, (photo at right with Walker), welcomed the attendees to their facility.



Bahrain Ambassador visit



County Executive Walker met with Rose Sager – Trade Representative with Bahrain Gateway, Ambassador of the Kingdom of Bahrain to the US Houda Ezra Nonoo, and Charles Mulcahy, Sr. Advisor at McKinley Reserve.