

# Executive Update



Milwaukee County Executive Scott Walker's Weekly Newsletter

November 12, 2009

## Message from County Executive Walker

*First, I want to thank all of the men and women who have served our country in the Armed Forces and those serving today. We should thank you every day and not just on Veterans' Day. You are the defenders of our freedom and we are grateful!*

*One way to uphold those freedoms is to speak out about those who run your government. The County Board of Supervisors will vote next Wednesday on any vetoes I send down on the 2010 budget.*

*Your calls to the County Board already made a difference - as a move to enact a new wheel tax was defeated and a move for a 4.4% property tax levy increase was defeated. In the end, however (after hours of behind-closed-doors meetings), the County Board passed a budget with a tax levy increase of nearly 4%. The vote was 10 to 9.*

*When my vetoes come out in the next few days, I will restore a no tax levy increase. At a time when so many people are finding it hard to pay the bills and so many employers are looking to reduce jobs, we need to send a strong message to keep residents and jobs here in our county.*

*Just as it was done on the wheel tax, your voice can make a difference. Between now and Wednesday, please call your member of the County Board at 278-4222 and let them know that you want them to vote for a no tax levy increase budget. Be polite, be courteous, but be firm. We can make a difference.*

Scott

P.S. Here is an interesting story about the budget:  
<http://tinyurl.com/yjoy53v>

## Veterans Day events



County Executive Walker walked in the **46<sup>th</sup> Annual Veterans Day Parade** downtown last weekend (photo above). The United States Marine Corps and Marine Reserves were the special guests of honor this year.

Walker addressed those in attendance at the Milwaukee Police Post 415 and Milwaukee Fire Fighters Post 426 of the American Legion annual "**Armistice Day – Veterans Day**" Memorial program.



County Executive Walker also attended the annual **Veteran of the Year Dinner** (below) and presented a proclamation to Veteran of the Year, Carolyn Tyler. Walker received the Patriot Award at the event.



## County Furlough Days

The following furlough days were implemented to close the gap in the 2009 budget:

Friday, November 13

Wednesday, November 25\*

Friday, December 4

Thursday, December 24

\*Dept. of Health and Human Services (DHHS) will be closed on Friday, November 20 instead of Wednesday, November 25. Full list: <http://tinyurl.com/yh7jesu>

- The Courthouse will be closed on Thursday, December 24, but will be open on all other furlough days.
- The only departments open in the Courthouse on the furlough days will be the Courts Administrative offices, District Attorney and courtrooms.
- The Cogg's Center will be closed on all furlough days, except November 25. In place of the November 25 furlough day, the Cogg's Center will close on Friday, November 20.
- The Safety Building, Criminal Justice Facility, and Vel Phillips Juvenile Justice Center will be open on all furlough days.
- The Behavioral Health Division - Patient Care units will be open on furlough days, but administrative offices will be closed.
- Parks facilities, golf courses (weather dependent), indoor pools and community centers will be open on furlough days. The Parks administrative offices will be closed.
- General Mitchell International Airport and Timmerman Field are open on furlough days.
- Zoo will be open on furlough days.
- The Medical Examiner's office will be open for all furlough days.
- The Department on Aging and the Aging Care Management Organization (CMO) administrative offices will be closed on the furlough days. Programs and services run by other organizations will be open.
- Department of Transportation and Public Works (DTPW) departments and administrative offices (excluding the Airport) will be closed on all furlough days.
- City Campus will be closed on all furlough days.

## Gold Medal Presentation



County Executive Walker, Parks Director Sue Black and members of the County Board of Supervisors gathered for a local presentation of the National Gold Medal Award by Jerry Pagac, Executive Director of Champaign County Forest Preserve District.

## Postal Service unveils stamp



County Executive Walker spoke at the unveiling of the US Postal Service's stamp honoring the Military Order of the Purple Heart at the Milwaukee County War Memorial Center.

## Visit from German Sister State

County Executive Walker met with Karin and Anthony Bindewald of Hessen, Germany - active members of the Wisconsin Counties Association. Hessen has been a sister state of Wisconsin since 1976. (Photo below).

