

Executive Update

Milwaukee County Executive Scott Walker's Weekly Newsletter

June 12, 2009

Message from County Executive Walker

Milwaukee County will start on a 35-hour workweek starting on June 28, 2009. The negative impact of the economy and of the state budget are the two largest factors for the county government facing a gap of up to \$14.9 million by the end of the year.

With this in mind, we are taking aggressive actions to insure that the budget is balanced by the end of the year. Our 35-hour workweek plan and the 3% reductions are the largest parts of the plan.

To obtain certainty for the county government and the taxpayers we represent, we considered several options to ensure the savings. One was the possibility of layoffs in the areas where a union suggests that they will attempt to challenge the 35-hour workweek. Thankfully, all but one of our unions have agreed to not fight the plan. They recognize that our intent is to keep people employed.

Another option is to seek a quick interpretation of the plan. We are filing paperwork to conduct a June 24 hearing on the plan. A ruling must come back within 45 days, but our Corporation Counsel believes it is likely to come back sooner.

The nice part about the second option is that we only have to consider layoffs if the plan is thrown out (we believe it will be upheld). If we win, the 35-hour workweek continues through the end of the year or until the economy gets better. If we lose, or partially lose, we will be forced to do even more layoffs than were speculated about recently.

With this in mind, we will go forward with 35-hour workweeks and no layoffs. We believe that a ruling will only show that our argument is correct.

Scott



Aquatic Center Opens



County Executive Walker was joined by members of the Schulz family and supervisors Elizabeth Cogg and Theo Lipscomb to open the David F. Schulz Aquatic Center at Lincoln Park. Schulz passed away in 2007, and his son, Bobby, reprised his father's famed ride down the waterslide wearing Hawaiian jams his mother made from the same fabric used for his father's big splash. The water park features a Lazy River, heated water, lap lanes, zero-depth entry, diving boards, tube and body slides, and an interactive children's play area.



Walker presented Schulz' widow, Jo Ann, and son, Bobby, with lifetime passes to the water park. Information on admission rates and hours can be found at www.countyparks.com.

Veterans' housing development



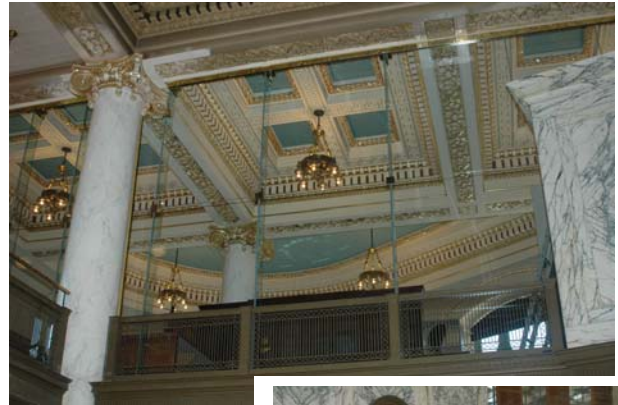
County Executive Walker signed a resolution approving the development of 52 units of low-income housing for veterans at North 35th Street and West Wisconsin Avenue. The developers, Cardinal Capital, will use \$465,000 of supplemental Community Block Grant funding to purchase and develop the property. Joining Walker at the ceremony were Erich Schwenker of Cardinal Capital Management; Bg. Gen. (Ret.) Robert Cocroft, Exec. Dir.-Center for Veterans Issues; County Supervisors Theo Lipscomb and Elizabeth Coggis; and Jim Hill – Housing Administrator for Milwaukee County.

Swim lessons, free day

Free swim at pools noted below on Saturday, June 13 from 1pm –5pm. Free “Safe-Swim” swimming lessons will continue this summer thanks to anonymous support from a local foundation. The lessons begin on June 20 and take place every Saturday (except July 4) through August 22 from 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. at the following pools: **Grobschmidt, Hales Corners, Holler, Jackson, McCarty, Pelican Cove at Kosciusko, Washington and Wilson.**

To sign up for lessons, simply go to one of the pools listed above on Saturday, June 13 between 9 a.m. and noon. Information is also listed on www.countyparks.com under “Water-based Recreation.”

Historical Society



**June 30, 2009
Universal Pictures
summer blockbuster
Premier Benefit
Screening:
Public Enemies**



County Executive Walker and Bob Teske, Executive Director of the Milwaukee County Historical Society, look at recent interior building renovations. Some of the restoration projects were the result of the filming of *Public Enemies* with actor Johnny Depp last year. The film will have its Milwaukee premier June 30. The fund-raising event will begin at the Historical Society, with the screening to follow at the Majestic Cinema. Tickets and additional information are available at:

<http://tinyurl.com/nmvv12>

Community events

County Executive Walker addressed the 7th Annual Wisconsin Entrepreneurs' Conference at the Hyatt Regency. The Wisconsin Technology Council, headed by President Tom Still, runs the conference and entrepreneur contest.

Walker also attended the 19th Annual International Conference (June 10 –13) for the Greenleaf Center for Servant Leadership at the Midwest Airlines Center.