

Executive Update

Milwaukee County Executive Scott Walker's Weekly Newsletter

December 12, 2008

Message from County Executive Walker

As mentioned last week, state and local governments all across the country are talking about tapping into a federal "stimulus" package to get aid for their budget shortfalls. In Wisconsin, the state government faces a \$5.4 billion deficit and the Governor is asking for help.

Certainly, the recession plays a role in the budgetary plights of these governments, but part of the problem still stems from previous decisions to rely on one-time revenues or by delaying expenditures into the next biennial budget. Balancing the current \$5.4 billion shortfall with a one-time windfall from the federal government will likely lead to another big hole in the next state budget.

As Americans, we need to realize that our economic crisis is largely driven by our failure to restrain spending at the federal, state, county, municipal - and even personal levels. Now is the time to make courageous decisions that protect future generations.

Scott



30th Street Corridor



Pictured L-R: Tim Casey – Industrial Corridor Corporation President, Willie Hines - Milwaukee Common Council President, Sup. Michael Mayo, Sr., Ken Yunker – Southeast Wisconsin Regional Planning Commission Deputy Director, County Executive Scott Walker, and 7th District Milwaukee Police Captain Patrick Mitchell.

County Executive Walker attended a news conference organized by Supervisor Michael Mayo, Sr. to release the "Roadmap to Revitalization" report regarding the 30th Street Industrial Corridor. The event was held at Penebaker Enterprises, a roofing company in the corridor that includes a five-mile long segment of rail line stretching from Highland Boulevard to Hampton Avenue.

Representatives from Milwaukee County, the City of Milwaukee, the 30th Street Industrial Corridor Corporation (ICC), law enforcement, local businesses and federal and state agencies worked with the Southeastern Wisconsin Regional Planning Commission (SEWRPC) to develop the guide for future investment in the corridor. The Roadmap provides the framework for the revitalization process to increase jobs and businesses.

Dog Sled Rides!



Veterans Park will have a new winter activity starting this weekend, December 13 and 14 from 11am to 1pm. Door County Sled Dogs has made up a team of four to six Siberian Huskies to provide sled rides at a cost of \$10 per child, \$15 per adult. The public will also get a chance to learn about the sport of mushing and learn about sled dog training. The dog sleds will be located at the pavilion at 1010 N. Lincoln Memorial Drive (the site of the old Coast Guard station). The rides will not be offered the Dec. 27 or 28, and will continue through March 31, weather permitting.

Student "Late Skate"

Students with current IDs are invited to "Late Skate" nights at Wilson Ice Arena, 4001 S. 20th Street on Friday evenings through January 2 from 9:30pm – 11:30pm. A DJ and mood lighting will add to the fun of this alcohol-prohibited event. Concessions are available for purchase, admission is \$3 and skate rental is \$2. Visit www.countyparks.com.

Still thinking golf?

Milwaukee County Parks is selling golf gift cards this holiday season and offering discount golf card renewals at three area malls: Mayfair, Southridge and Bayshore Town Center. Or take advantage of the heated indoor driving range at Currie Park Golf Dome, 3535 N. Mayfair Road. Open every day from 8am to 10pm, the range offers target greens, PGA lessons and video analysis and more. Visit curriegolfdome.com or call (414) 453-1742 for more information.

Good Neighbor Project needs volunteers

County Executive Walker encourages Milwaukee County residents to help the Interfaith Good Neighbor Project by volunteering to assist our older adults with the task of snow removal. The Project makes it easy by matching volunteers of all ages close to their neighborhood or workplace. Call (414) 220-8650 for volunteer information.

Community Events

County Executive Walker was at the zoo over the weekend to promote the Free Day sponsored by North Shore Bank and WITI TV Fox 6, and the display of 25 trees donated by Hawks Nursery and decorated by local school and community groups at the US Bank Gathering Place.



The Zoo will also be hosting a birthday party for Zero, the polar bear, on December 14. Zero will mark his 19th birthday and be given a cake made of his favorite foods at 2pm at the Polar Bear Exhibit. An educational display by the American Association of Zookeepers will be featured at the Wolf Woods Cabin from 12:30pm to 2pm and includes items like a polar bear claw, skull, fur and radio collar.



(Visit www.milwaukeezoo.org for more information).