

Executive Update

Milwaukee County Executive Scott Walker's Weekly Newsletter

March 16, 2007

Message from County Executive Walker

Next week marks the one-year anniversary of the tragedy of Purvis Parker and Quadrevion Henning, the two boys who were found drowned in a lagoon in McGovern Park.

Their disappearance and subsequent discovery united our community and called attention to the importance of teaching water safety to our kids.

With the ice on area lakes, rivers and lagoons once again melting, it is important to again stress water safety education in Milwaukee County.

The Milwaukee County Parks Department and the Boys and Girls Clubs have joined to present a program to teach water safety to over 400 kids. Part of the program will include a presentation by the Milwaukee Fire Department Dive Rescue Team.

In addition, the Parks Department is planning to make a number of pool passes available to area children this summer season.

Most of all, I encourage parents to ensure that their children learn water safety.

Scott



Celebrate St. Patrick's Day At The Domes



County Executive Scott Walker joins Fox 6 News reporter Gus Gnorski and Irish dancers at the Mitchell Park Domes

Everyone is invited to "The Wearing of the Green" at the Mitchell Park Domes, 524 S. Layton Boulevard, on St. Patrick's Day, Saturday, March 17 from noon to 5pm. This day of celebration and fun will feature all things Irish including dancing, singing, displays, crafts and savory Irish food and treats.

Visitors will experience traditional Irish ballads, celtic harp music and be entertained by Irish step dancers. They may learn the "Ceili" dance and how to play the "Bodhran," an Irish drum. Lectures on St. Patrick, the patron saint of Ireland may also be heard. Irish lace and wool, along with a spinning wheel will be displayed. Children may create their own St. Patrick's Day badge or a St. Bridget's Cross.

For more information, go to www.countyparks.com.

Volunteers Needed For Wheelchair Games

Milwaukee County will play host to the 27th National Veterans Wheelchair Games this summer from June 19-23.

More than 600 athletes from the United States, Puerto Rico and Great Britain will compete in a variety of events throughout Milwaukee County.

More than 2,000 volunteers will be needed to accommodate the needs of the athletes for this exciting event. Volunteers are needed for a variety of functions including transportation, event set-up, water distribution, assistance with meals, and many other activities.

To sign up to volunteer, call Denise Jashinsky at (414) 389-3999 or e-mail her at denise.jashinsky@va.gov.

Walker Walks In St. Patrick's Day Parade



County Executive Scott Walker participated in the St. Patrick's Day Parade last Saturday. Warm weather made for a big crowd and a great parade.

Walker Visits Grand Avenue Club



Last Friday, County Executive Scott Walker took a tour of the Grand Avenue Club in downtown Milwaukee.

The Grand Avenue Club was founded in 1990 by a coalition of community groups that were concerned about a lack of support for people with mental illness.

Milwaukee County helps to fund the club which serves almost 400 people in the county.

The club's mission is to provide the opportunities and support that enable people to assume the responsibilities of all citizens. What makes the club unique is that members and staff work together in running the club, so they learn how to work while enjoying the camaraderie of other club members.

In October of this year, the Grand Avenue Club is hosting the 14th International Clubhouse Seminar. Between 800-1,000 people from similar clubs throughout North America, Europe, Scandinavia, Australia, Israel, China, and South America will meet in Milwaukee from October 13 to 18.

For more information: www.grandavenueclub.com.