

Executive Update

Milwaukee County Executive Scott Walker's Weekly Newsletter

June 1, 2007

Message from County Executive Walker

The weather is great and that means exciting things are happening all over Milwaukee County these days.

Cool Waters opened last weekend, the outdoor pools will open on June 16 (see story about pool passes), our golf courses look great, the 100+ free concert series started last week, River Rhythms and Jazz in the Park start next week, the Oak Leaf Trail has grown and we just had a great Kite Festival last weekend at Veteran's Park. That is just a taste of the excitement in the parks as we celebrate our 100th anniversary!

Just as exciting is our zoo. In the past week, I was out four different times with all of the excitement. From feeding the sharks and sting rays, to seeing the koalas, to showing off our very unique bushbaby, there is plenty to do at the zoo. This weekend, I will drop in as my two sons join Scouts from across the area to camp out in the zoo for conservation weekend.

In a few weeks, we will take off on our Harley tour around the state (www.countyexecutivesride.com) to promote the parks, the zoo and plenty of other attractions in the Milwaukee 7 area.

Despite a couple of losses, the Brewers are still in first place and Friday nights are rocking at Miller Park. On the 28th, Summerfest opens for its 40th anniversary as the World's Largest Music Festival. An amazing display of military re-enactments and equipment will be out on the VA grounds this weekend with a parade on Saturday morning at 10:00. Enjoy!

Scott

Exciting Times at the Zoo



A shark is fed by hand at the Chase Sting ray & Sharks Reef exhibit

This past week saw many exciting events at the Milwaukee County Zoo. First, the Sting Ray & Shark Reef exhibit opened, sponsored by Chase. This interactive special exhibit gives people the opportunity to feed sharks and sting rays in two touch pools. This exhibit runs through September 9 in the Otto Borchert Family Special Exhibit Building.

Also new to the zoo are Bamba and Muuri, two young male koalas, who will be spending the summer at our zoo on display in the Australia Building. They will be at the zoo from May 26 through September 9.

Finally, "Simon" the bushbaby continues to be a big draw at the zoo. Simon was made famous during the finale of "American Idol" when it was announced that the show had sponsored a bushbaby at the Milwaukee County Zoo, in honor of a comment that one of the judges, Simon Cowell, made in reference to a contestant.

Walker Competes in “Great Paddle-Off” at Riversplash



County Executive Walker and Parks Director Sue Black compete in the Great Paddle-Off

Today, County Executive Scott Walker and Parks Director Sue Black teamed up to compete in the Great Paddle-Off to help kick off Riversplash at Milwaukee County’s Pere Marquette Park.

Riversplash is a three-day festival held at a variety of venues along the Milwaukee River in downtown Milwaukee. Riversplash is the traditional kick-off to the summer festival season and features music, food, drink and fun for all ages and runs from June 1 to June 3. For more information, go to www.riversplash.com.

Walker Spreads the Word on Parks Pool Passes

On Thursday, County Executive Scott Walker visited the morning shows at 96.5 WKLH, 97.3 The Brew, and 102.9 The Hog to talk about the many exciting events happening in the parks this summer. He especially highlighted the new pool passes that are available this year. The passes, which cost \$10 for kids under 12 and \$15 for adults and kids 12 and older, allow unlimited use of all outdoor pools except for Cool Waters for the entire summer. For more information, go to www.countyparks.com.

Walker Helps Honor Heroes on Memorial Day



County Executive Scott Walker attended a number of events to celebrate Memorial Day.

He participated in the Tippecanoe Memorial Day Parade on Milwaukee’s south side and in Milwaukee’s Annual Memorial Day Parade downtown. Also, he attended the Memorial Day Ceremony at Wood Cemetery on the VA Grounds. Finally, Walker spoke at the wreath laying ceremony at the Milwaukee County War Memorial and the brick laying and POW/MIA ceremony at the Vietnam Veterans Memorial.

Department on Aging News

County Executive Scott Walker helped induct five new members into the Milwaukee County Senior Citizen Hall of Fame last Friday at the Italian Community Center.

The 2007 inductees are: **Richard Bachman**, Wauwatosa; **Donald Brockman**, Milwaukee; **Casper Green**, Franklin; **Beverly Krass**, Milwaukee; and **Jayne Pelton**, Milwaukee.

Today, Walker spoke at the Connecting Caring Communities program to announce a new neighborhood partnership guide to add more neighborhoods to the programs that reach out to and organize older adults in Milwaukee County. The program is funded through a major grant from the national Robert Wood Johnson Foundation. For more information, go to www.milwaukeeecc.org.