

Executive Update

Milwaukee County Executive Scott Walker's Weekly Newsletter

January 30, 2009

Message from County Executive Walker

The members of a County Board committee voted down our plan to partner with IMPACT (the people who run the 211 call line) and UWM to run our call center for public benefits. They said no and then said that they want me to come up with an emergency plan to fix the challenge from the growing number of people needing benefits.

We have one – and they voted against it. Hopefully, the members of the full County Board will have a different view next Thursday.

Our plan would increase the number of calls taken by 87%. Even when the county-run call center is fully staffed, it can handle just over 13,000 calls per month. Our plan would take 25,000 calls per month. Plus, they can start right away.

For those who truly want to help people in need there is a simple plan to provide the most help possible and that is our plan to partner with IMPACT and UWM.

Scott



Vel R. Phillips honored



County Executive Walker officially renamed the Children's Court Center after the Honorable Vel R. Phillips at a ceremony attended by former Governor Patrick Lucey, Chief Justice Shirley Abrahamson, Congresswoman Gwen Moore and other state and local officials. Supervisor Elizabeth Coggs, with strong support from Chairman Lee Holloway, sponsored the resolution renaming the center the Vel R. Phillips Juvenile Justice Center.



Phillips dedication, cont.



Governor Patrick Lucey with the Honorable Vel R. Phillips. Governor Lucey was the keynote speaker at the dedication ceremony.

Quintin Oliver Coby, special godson to Vel Phillips, recited the poem, "Dream of Freedom" by Langston Hughes



Laura Snyder, bassist with the Milwaukee Symphony Orchestra, sang the invocation and benediction.

Chief Justice Shirley Abrahamson relates stories from their early days serving in the judiciary.



Congresswoman Gwen Moore (left) and below with Sup. Elizabeth Coggs, Walker and Mrs. Phillips



Community Events

Another free day at the zoo is coming up on Saturday, February 7, 2009 from 9:30am – 4:30pm sponsored by North Shore Bank and Fox 6. Visitors receive free admission, but the parking fee remains in effect. Visit www.milwaukeezoo.org for more information.



County Executive Walker congratulated his mother, Pat Walker, for receiving the "Let Your Light Shine Service Award" at the annual Spirit of St. Jude's Award given at a mass celebrated Archbishop Timothy Dolan. Mrs. Walker was honored for her outstanding volunteer service to the community.



County Executive Walker presented proclamations to the South Suburban Chamber's Business of the Year – Mark Carstensen Construction and Development and Pride In Premises winner KEI – Kujawa Enterprises, Inc. Walker is pictured above with the nominees. Others nominated in the business category were Black Diamond Group, Gus' Mexican Cantina; and for the premises award Andy's Station and Wheaton Franciscan Healthcare in Franklin.