

Executive Update

Milwaukee County Executive Scott Walker's Weekly Newsletter

August 1, 2008

Message from County Executive Walker

The Public Policy Forum notes that property taxes went up 6.1% in 2008 in the region. That is the largest levy increase in the past five years.

The Milwaukee Common Council passed a \$20-per-year wheel tax with enough votes to override the Mayor's expected veto.

The Milwaukee County Board passed a resolution calling for a referendum vote on a \$130 million tax increase.

The Milwaukee Public Schools Board of Directors are considering a 14.9% increase in the tax levy.

THE TAXPAYERS NEED TO WAKE UP!!!

Local governments will say the increases are needed because the costs of gas, electricity, food and other items are going up. That is true, but they are also going up for all of our citizens which is precisely why taxes should NOT go up.

Scott



Parks Youth Job Partnership



County Executive Walker joined Gus Gnorski of WITI Fox6 TV to highlight the wonderful projects accomplished by the Conservation Leadership Corps in the park system. Shown above is Kletzsch Park at 6560 N. Milwaukee River Parkway where the corps of high school students recharged the trail by the picturesque waterfall dam, opened a canoe and kayak launch, built a take-out point upstream from the falls, and cleaned up debris from the recent flooding. The CLC also works in Bender, Washington, and Grant parks and the Schlitz Audubon Nature Center.

Johnson Controls hosted a Sustainability and Green Jobs Environmental Education event together with Milwaukee County Parks to assist the Conservation Leadership Corps students in converting environmental and leadership skills into "green collar" jobs after graduation.

State Fair



County Executive Walker addressed the crowd gathered for “The Grand Champion of Summer” opening ceremony for the Wisconsin State Fair, along with State Fair Park Executive Director Randy Prasse, West Allis Mayor Dan Devine, State Fair Board Chair Susan Crane, Governor and Mrs. Doyle, and performers with the Kids from Wisconsin at the Cousins Subs Amphitheater. The fair runs from July 31 through August 10. Visit www.wistatefair.com for details.

Pool Passes Reduced



August 1, prices for Milwaukee County’s season pool passes and Cool Waters individual and family pass will be substantially reduced.

The new cost for an outdoor individual season pass is \$5. The passes are valid at Jackson, Holler, McCarty, Grobschmidt, Sheridan, Washington, Wilson pools and the Pelican Cove Family Aquatic Center.

Call the Aquatics Office at (414)257-8098 for information .

Park Happenings

There are plenty of free or low-cost summertime events taking place throughout the park system. Coming up:

- **Lake Park – 3233 E. Kenwood**

Musical Mondays - August 4, 11, and 18 from 6:30pm– 8pm.

Movies in the Park – August 5, 12, 19 at 7:30pm.

- **Washington Park – 45th & Washington Blvd.**

Washington “Bark” Dog Day – August 10, 11am– 4pm. Rain or shine.

\$6 registration fee for dogs includes goodie bag of literature, coupons, and other treats. Families with multiple dogs enjoy a discounted rate of \$5 for each additional dog.

Entertainer John McGivern will serve as Master of Ceremonies. Proceeds from the 4th annual event will benefit the park. Celebrity judges will determine best costume, best trick, cutest dog, and a dog/owner look-alike competition.

The event has raised thousands of dollars to make improvements to Washington Park and is coordinated by Neighborhoods United for Washington Park, a non-profit group of volunteers. Call (414) 475-9072 for more details.

Community Events

County Executive Walker went on-air with Charlie Sykes on Newsradio WTMJ at the station’s booth at the Wisconsin State Fair grounds, met with Omar Ishrak - GE Healthcare President & CEO of Clinical Systems, and attended the Rams football practice at Concordia University this past week.