

Executive Update

Milwaukee County Executive Scott Walker's Weekly Newsletter

September 12, 2008

Message from County Executive Walker

Seven years have past since September 11, 2001. Sometimes that seems like a lifetime ago. Other times, it seems like yesterday.

On Thursday, we stopped to remember that day and the nearly 3,000 lives lost in New York City, at the Pentagon and in a field in Pennsylvania. Each innocent life lost was a son or daughter, a husband or a wife, a brother or a sister or just a friend.

We must never forget them and we must never forget what took place that day seven years ago.

We must also never forget to thank those who put their lives at risk on September 11th and the people who continue to do it each and every day: those in fire protection, law enforcement, other first responders and the members of our Armed Forces. We thank you!

Scott



9-11 Observance



County Executive Walker hosted a 9-11 memorial ceremony at the War Memorial. The Milwaukee County Sheriff's Office Honor Guard presented the colors, Veterans Service Office Director Domingo Leguizamon sang the National Anthem, Rabbi Marc Berkson lead a prayer, Milw. County First Responders laid wreaths in honor of the victims, a rifle salute was done by the Badger Detachment Marine Corps League and Nathan Hennlich of Cudahy High School played Taps. Participants rang the USS Milwaukee bell at the conclusion of the observance in memory of the victims.

MU Law School Forum on transit



County Executive Walker participated in a forum with Mayor Tom Barrett at Marquette University Law School hosted by Mike Gousha on their transit plans. At the center of the discussion was deciding on the best option for use of \$91 million in federal transportation funds. Walker's plan identifies routes for Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) that allow transit-dependent workers from around the county a faster, more efficient ride to work, as opposed to the mayor's limited 3-mile loop around downtown and eventual light-rail component.

Walker invited the mayor to support a plan to obtain an additional \$50 million in funding as part of another federal grant program that would allow several of the BRT routes to be implemented to demonstrate the advantages of a non-fixed rail transportation system. Both the mayor's and the county executive's plans include a BRT component.

See the county executive's preliminary BRT plan here:

http://www.county.milwaukee.gov/ImageLibrary/Groups/cntyExecutive/SMART_plusWeb.pdf

Parks Happenings

A few summer items are still in the works at county parks. **Jazz in the Park** continues for two more Thursday nights – with Grooveology on Sept. 18.

Boerner Botanical Gardens will hold “**Stop and Smell the Herbs and Roses**” on Saturday, Sept. 13 and Sunday Sept. 14 from 10am – 4pm. Information on drying herbs and roses, organic rose growing, edible flowers and rose and herb flower arranging will be available at the event. Visit www.countyparks.com for more information.

The **30th annual Time Warner Cable Frank Mots International Kite Festival** – 10am – 5pm Saturday, Sept. 13 and Sunday, Sept. 14 will once again take place at Milwaukee County Veterans Park on the lakefront. A grand launch of 500+ kites will take place at noon. Special appearances by precision and stunt kite teams will be featured, along with a 75 foot Teddy Bear kite and a giant octopus kite.



Community Events

County Executive Walker was the keynote speaker at a luncheon for The Executives Group at the Wisconsin Club, attended the 18th annual Milwaukee Night in Washington, DC event hosted by the Metropolitan Milwaukee Association of Commerce, and continued departmental budget briefings in preparation to deliver his 2009 Recommended Budget to the county board later this month.