

# Executive Update

Milwaukee County Executive Scott Walker's Weekly Newsletter

December 11, 2009

## Message from County Executive Walker

*On Monday night, we turned on the lights on the Christmas tree in the rotunda of the courthouse. Today, I light the first menorah candle for the Festival of Lights that begins Chanukah. Tonight, we open up the ice skating rink at Red Arrow Park.*

*There are signs of the season all over. It is my hope that you and your family will find time to enjoy the holidays. Take advantage of our many wonderful attractions.*

*Come see "A Children's Christmas" at the Domes which features a 27-foot tree and hundreds of poinsettias. (Click here to see the incredible panoramic photo that appeared in the Milwaukee Journal Sentinel: <http://tinyurl.com/ycl4fqj> ).*

*Or visit the amazing lights at three of our downtown parks via Holiday Lights Festival.*

*The Zoo has a wonderful display of Christmas trees in the US Bank Gathering Place that were donated by Hawks and decorated by different youth groups from around the area. Or enjoy the snow at one of our many sledding hills open throughout the park system.*

*Overall, enjoy the holidays with your family and friends and be safe!*

Scott



## County Christmas tree



County Executive Walker hosted a tree-lighting party for county employees and their families. The tree was donated by Char and Rick Heiden of Franklin (photo above), who joined the county executive to flip the switch to light the tree. Children made ornaments for the tree and posed for photos with Santa.

Refreshments were supplied by the courthouse cafeteria vendors: Elliott's and City.Net Café. The Milwaukee County Diversity committee began a new project this year to benefit Toys for Tots. They decorated the tree with large gold, silver and bronze stars for each contribution and will send the proceeds to the gift-giving program.

An Angel Tree is also set up in the rotunda with gift tags for employees to purchase gifts for youth at five local charitable organizations: Carmelite Boys Home, St. Rose Youth and Family Services, Salvation Army, La Causa, and Liberty & Truth Ministries.

## Menorah lighting



County Executive Walker joined Rabbi Mendel Shmotkin and students from Hillel Academy to place a menorah for Chanukah in the Courthouse rotunda. The students performed traditional songs that incorporated African drumming.

## Congrats United Way!



United Way of Greater Milwaukee surpassed its goal and raised \$45.5 million. Co-chairs Stephen Roell and Keith Nosbusch announce the news in photo at left. Walker was a community leader on the campaign.

## Tool & Die Association



County Executive Walker toured The Wagner Companies with members of the Tool & Die Machining Association of Wisconsin (TDMAW).

Robert Wagner, CEO of The Wagner Companies (at right in photo above with Walker), explains a machining process.

## Ice Skating at Red Arrow



County Executive Walker will host the grand opening Friday, December 11 of Red Arrow Park's "Slice of Ice" skating rink for the season. The Milwaukee Brewers Racing Sausages and Roscoe from the Admirals will join skaters on the ice following a performance by the Wisconsin Figure Skating Club.

The Starbucks café at the rink provides the perfect spot to take a break to warm up and enjoy hot beverages and snacks.

Skating is free for those who bring their own skates; skates may be rented for \$6. Rink hours: Monday through Thursday 11am – 8pm, Friday and Saturday 11am – 11pm, and Sunday 11am – 6pm.

## Milwaukee Police Assn.



County Executive Walker attended the Milwaukee Police Association's annual holiday gathering this week. (Photo: MPA President John Balcerzak and Walker).