

Executive Update

Milwaukee County Executive Scott Walker's Weekly Newsletter

December 18, 2009

Message from County Executive Walker

Our Executive Update is filled with things to do for the holidays. From ice skating at Red Arrow Park, to a visit to the Domes, or lights in the parks downtown and Christmas trees at the front of the zoo, there are so many wonderful things to do right here in Milwaukee County. Skates, sleds, toboggans, skis and more...and plenty of stops to stay inside and keep warm too.

Most of all, I hope each of you will find time to gather together with your family and friends and enjoy the warmth of relationships this season.

From Tonette, Matt, Alex and me, we wish you a very Merry Christmas (and to all of our Jewish friends a Happy Chanukah) and a very wonderful New Year!

Scott



Skating rink opens at Red Arrow Park



County Executive Walker and Parks Director Sue Black held a ribbon cutting at Red Arrow Park to open the "Slice of Ice" skating rink for the season. The Milwaukee Brewers Racing Sausages, Roscoe from the Admirals, Bango with the Milwaukee Bucks, Bradford Beach with the Wave and mascots from Marquette and UW-Milwaukee joined the Wisconsin Figure Skating Club on the ice for the opening.

The downtown ice skating rink has become a traditional stop for many families. The Starbucks café next to the rink is the perfect spot to warm up and enjoy a hot beverage. Skaters with their own skates can skate for free. Skate rental is \$6/pair. Group discounts are available – visit www.countyparks.com.



The Italian Sausage (in photo at left) from the Milwaukee Brewers/Klement's Racing Sausages just barely fits in the garage when sitting on the ice rink's Zamboni. Local sports teams' mascots entertained the skaters attending the grand opening of the rink.

New Year's Eve Events



Plans are underway for County Executive Walker to host the Red Arrow New Year's Eve countdown at the skating rink, with Mayor Tom Barrett ringing the bells at City Hall for the start of 2010.

(Photo above from last year's event shows the festive scene of skaters watching the fireworks from the rink).

23rd Cool Kite Festival on New Year's Day



The 23rd Annual Cool Kite Festival will take place at Veterans Park on New Year's Day immediately following the Polar Bear's jump into Lake Michigan at noon until about 5pm. Free hot chocolate, coffee and snacks will be served while supplies last, compliments of Caribou Coffee. Ice carvers will be at work, and allowing the public to give it a try. Horse drawn carriage rides, and, of course, kite flying, round out a great way to spend New Year's Day. Call (414) 305-3145 or visit www.giftofwings.com for information.

US Census Jobs

Milwaukee County residents have the opportunity to apply for more than 1500 positions on the 2010 US Census Team. Temporary, part-time and full-time openings with flexible hours paying at least \$11.25 an hour for office jobs and at least \$15 an hour for field positions with weekly pay and paid training are available. Call the toll-free jobs line at 1-866-861-2010 to schedule the required 30-minute basic skills test at a time and location convenient for you.

Visit www.2010censusjobs.gov for more information.

Community Events

County Executive Walker recently help deliver Christmas trees to area churches, an annual charitable event sponsored by **Curtis Ambulance**. Walker joined Meg McKenzie and Dave Murphy this week to co-host their "**Murphy and Meg in the Morning**" show on **WRIT 95.7** for their Christmas radio programming. The show features local notables on-air in the week leading up to Christmas.

Volunteer Opportunity



The Salvation Army needs 1400 volunteers for their annual Christmas Toy Shop which staffs 350 volunteers every day. They bag nearly 100,000 toys every Christmas, and volunteers will sort toys, help parents select toys, and restock.

Dates remaining: Saturday, December 19 and Monday, December 21. The shop is located at 5880 N. 60th Street. To volunteer, visit their website at www.SAmilwaukee.org, or call (414) 302-4300 x2163.