

# Executive Update

Milwaukee County Executive Scott Walker's Weekly Newsletter

February 23, 2007

## State of the County Issue



### Walker Presents State of the County Address

County Executive Scott Walker presented his State of the County address on Monday at the Karen Peck Katz Conservation Education Center at the Milwaukee County Zoo.

Walker was joined by over 100 guests including Archbishop Timothy Dolan, County Board Chairman Lee Holloway, County Supervisors Mark Borkowski, Paul Cesarz, Dan Devine, Marina Dimitrijevic, Joseph Rice, Jim "Luigi" Schmitt and Peggy West, Milwaukee Mayor Tom Barrett, and other local leaders.

Walker's address focused on the many significant achievements of the past year, along with specific goals for 2007.

"We have a lot of work still to do in Milwaukee County, but we have made great strides in addressing many of the significant challenges facing the county," said Walker.

Walker noted areas of fiscal, social and economic progress. Some of the highlights included:

- County negotiated contract capping the lump sum backdrop for all new employees
- Pursuing Pension Obligation Bonds to save \$6.25 million annually for the next 30 years
- Present 6<sup>th</sup> straight budget later this year with no tax levy increase
- Provide additional housing for those with mental illness; move mental health complex to the former St. Michael's Hospital site
- Construct new grand entry, flamingo house, waterpark and hotel on zoo property
- Push for regional workforce development strategy
- Kick off celebration of 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of parks system
- Push action on the Park East corridor with the City of Milwaukee

Walker's State of the County address can be found at [www.county.milwaukee.gov](http://www.county.milwaukee.gov).

## Domingo Leguizamon Honored at Speech



Milwaukee County Office of Veteran's Services Director Domingo Leguizamon recently returned to the United States after serving the past year in Iraq with Company A of the 378<sup>th</sup> Military Intelligence Battalion of the U.S. Army Reserve. Leguizamon received three commendations while deployed and these were presented to him after the State of the County address by County Executive Walker, Chief of Staff Jim Villa, and Acting Veteran's Services Director Jim Duff.

## Walker Dedicates Office in Memory of John Hayes

In his State of the County address, County Executive Walker acknowledged the significant accomplishments of John P. Hayes, who lost his battle with cancer last year. Hayes was the Director of the Department of Child Support Enforcement and Walker announced he was introducing a resolution declaring the Child Support Enforcement offices as the "John P. Hayes Center." Hayes' wife, Eileen and two of their daughters were in attendance.



## Walker to Visit Every Military and Veteran Installation in County



In his State of the County address, County Executive Walker proclaimed 2007 as Armed Forces and Veterans year. In 2007, Milwaukee County will host the commissioning of the USS Freedom. In July, the county will host the U.S. Wheelchair Games. And throughout the year – on Memorial Day, Armed Forces Day, Patriots Day, Veterans Day, Pearl Harbor Day, and all other times – Milwaukee County will honor these heroes and their families.

Walker pledged to visit every military and veteran's installation in Milwaukee County to present them with proclamations. On Thursday, he visited the United States Coast Guard station and met with Sector Commander Captain Bruce C. Jones (above), and he presented a proclamation to members of the American Legion George Washington Post 180, who were accompanied by American Legion District Leadership (below) on Washington's Birthday.

