



OFFICE OF THE COUNTY EXECUTIVE
Milwaukee County
SCOTT WALKER • COUNTY EXECUTIVE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

July 2, 2010

Contact: Fran McLaughlin (414) 235-6592

WALKER TO HONOR MILITARY AT ZOO EVENT JULY 3
Presenting Sponsor: Forest County Potawatomi Foundation

MILWAUKEE – County Executive Scott Walker will host Operation Freedom, a tribute to our military, on Saturday, July 3 at the Milwaukee County Zoo. Operation Freedom is free to Wisconsin military personnel on active duty, in the Reserves and in the National Guard, veterans, and also their families.

Last year approximately 17,000 members of the military and their families enjoyed the free picnic, zoo exhibits, military vehicle displays, patriotic program and Wisconsin Department of Veterans Affairs Supermarket of Veterans Benefits.

Forest County Potawatomi Foundation is this year's presenting sponsor. Other major sponsors include We Energies, Waterstone Bank, Associated Bank, J.P. Cullen & Sons, Miller-Coors, Pepsi, and Karl's Rental. Wristbands, required for free entrance to the zoo grounds for the event, were distributed by Veterans Service Offices statewide.

Radio host James T. Harris of Newsradio 620 WTMJ will co-host the formal program with Walker. A flyover by the Commemorative Air Force will take place during the program, along with an all-services Color Guard by the American Legion 416 of Greendale, a flag-folding ceremony by the Southeast Wisconsin Young Marines, music by the Festival City Barbershop Chorus, and patriotic songs sung by "Two Smooth."

The United States Postal Service will set up two locations at the Zoo with their Operation: Seasons Greetings without the Snow program to hand out priority mailing boxes that can be used to mail packages to the troops. In addition, Hunger Task Force will be onsite with their Stockbox program for qualifying seniors.

The zoo will also be open to the public with regular zoo admission.

Please note Shuttle Service: Parking will be limited at the zoo lots. Operation Freedom visitors are encouraged to use the free shuttle at Milwaukee County's Fleet Management lot at 10320 Watertown Plank Road at Highway 45 and Watertown Plank Road west of Interstate 94. **All Will-Call admissions are at this location.**

DATE: Saturday, July 3, 2010 – 9am to 5pm
PROGRAM TIME: 2:00pm (pre-program music at 1:30pm)
LOCATION: Milwaukee County Zoo, stage at south end of parking lot

ATTENTION ASSIGNMENT EDITORS: Please call Fran McLaughlin at 235-6592 to schedule an interview with County Executive Scott Walker.

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