

JOB LOSS & ECONOMIC MELTDOWN

In 2009 Milwaukee County lost over 30,000 jobs – the unemployment rate jumped from 5.5% to 9.2% in just one year.

[Bureau of Labor Statistics, bls.gov]

Vetoed using a \$2 million gift for economic development, instead used it to claim a “surplus” for 2008 budget year

Walker announced Monday that the 2008 budget would likely finish in the black. Earlier projections of an '08 deficit were partly offset by a \$1.25 million donation, a lawsuit arbitration award to the county of \$628,000, and \$1 million from an earlier sale of a Park East parcel.

[Milwaukee Journal Sentinel, 4/21/2009]

Walker vetoed using the money for economic and community development purposes

Results of May 21, 2009 County Board Meeting Votes

May 21, 2009, <http://bayviewcompass.com/archives/922>

11-8 Veto sustained (No: Borkowski, Broderick, Cesarz, Jursik, Rice, Sanfelippo, West, Holloway) to override the County Executive's veto of a resolution to establish an interest earning trust fund for the purpose of depositing monies bequeathed by the estate of Frank and Maxine Allen to economic and community development purposes.

Fox Point Woman Bequeaths \$3.1 million Estate to Milwaukee County, State

Posted: Jan. 23, 2009, <http://www.jsonline.com/news/milwaukee/38201239.html>

Allen, who died at age 85 in February 2008, left an estate worth \$3.1 million - with about \$2 million bequeathed to Milwaukee County in what may be the largest unrestricted gift ever given to the county. The State of Wisconsin will get the rest, after fees for lawyers and bankers are deducted.

One clue as to the reason for the couple's unusual charity: Frank Allen worked for 24 years as a court reporter for Milwaukee County, retiring in 1973.