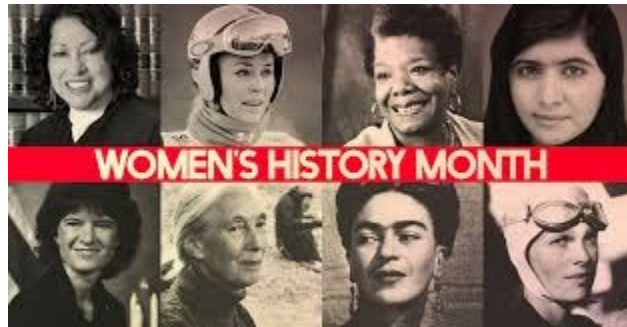




ROBERT W. WIRCH

STATE SENATOR TWENTY-SECOND DISTRICT

March 5, 2021



Dear friend,

March is upon us, and contrary to the old proverb, “In like a lion, out like a lamb”, we’ve been treated to some beautiful weather. Along with some good news on the Covid front, it is just what the doctor ordered to lift our spirits. March is also Women’s History Month, a time to recognize and celebrate the contributions women have made to our country. This is a particularly special Women’s History Month, as we have our first female Vice President, Kamala Harris, and women running for office in record numbers. There is excitement in the air, as the new one-dose Johnson & Johnson vaccine will be distributed to states for the first time next week, with Wisconsin allocating its 47,000 doses for teachers. In a speech earlier this week, President Biden said that the country would have enough vaccinations for everyone who wants one to get one by the end of May, which is certainly something to be hopeful about. Hang in there. If we all work together and do what we know we need to do, we will be closer to the end than the beginning. It’s been a long, rough road, but we can get there together. Stay safe and healthy.

Sincerely,

Bob

State Capitol, P.O. Box 7882, Madison, Wisconsin 53707-7882 • (608) 267-8979

Toll-Free Office Hotline: 1-888-769-4724

Email: Sen.Wirch@legis.state.wi.us • Website: <http://www.legis.state.wi.us/senate/sen22/news> • Fax: (608) 267-0984
(262) 694-7379

Printed on Recycled Paper

In Case You Missed It


small business **SPOTLIGHT**



Kenosha Area Chamber of Commerce Celebrates Small Business Week



Those of us who live in the Kenosha area are fortunate to have access to a wealth of wonderful small businesses, catering to almost your every need. Unfortunately, our small businesses have taken a big hit due to the Covid-19 pandemic. Some haven't made it, others are barely hanging on, and more have had to change their business models. To recognize and celebrate our terrific small businesses and support business owners, the Kenosha Area Chamber of Commerce will be holding its first-ever Small Business Week from March 7-13. During Small Business Week, participating businesses will offer promotional items and special deals, with the message "Shop Locally". For more information, including participating businesses and special offers, visit <https://kenoshaareachamber.com/sbw/>.



KENOSHA COUNTY
Public Health
Vaccine Clinic Update



ROBERT W. WIRCH

STATE SENATOR TWENTY-SECOND DISTRICT

Kenosha County Covid Vaccine Clinic Moving to Larger Location at former Shopko Site

Starting Wednesday, March 10, Kenosha County will move its Covid-19 vaccination clinic from its current site at the County Job Center to the former Shopko building at 5300 52nd St. in Kenosha. The new location is larger and will be able to accommodate vaccination of up to 2,700 people each day, depending on available vaccine supply. As of Tuesday, March 2, 15.3% of the Kenosha County population had received at least one dose of the two dose vaccines and 8.5% were fully vaccinated. Appointments will be required at the vaccination clinic, with slots open to those in eligible groups as determined by the State of Wisconsin who live, work or study in Kenosha County. Links to the Kenosha County online appointment system, as well as those of other local vaccine providers, are available at <http://bit.ly/KCCOVIDHub>; those without internet access can call the vaccination call center between 8 am and 5 pm, Monday-Friday, at (262)605-6799.

In Racine County, as of March 1, 13.8% of the population had received at least one dose of the vaccine.



Wisconsin to Receive 47,000 Doses of Johnson & Johnson One-Shot Vaccine Next Week; Teachers Will Be Prioritized

With the news that Johnson & Johnson's one-dose Covid-19 vaccine has been authorized for emergency use, it was announced that shipments to states will begin. Wisconsin will receive its first allotment - 47,000 doses - next week, and the state has made teachers the focus when it comes to distributing those doses. Earlier this week, Wisconsin surpassed 1.5 million doses administered;

State Capitol, P.O. Box 7882, Madison, Wisconsin 53707-7882 • (608) 267-8979

Toll-Free Office Hotline: 1-888-769-4724

Email: Sen.Wirch@legis.state.wi.us • Website: <http://www.legis.state.wi.us/senate/sen22/news> • Fax: (608) 267-0984
(262) 694-7379

Printed on Recycled Paper

500,000 Wisconsinites are fully vaccinated. Meanwhile, the state's Covid-19 vaccination registry hit some setbacks but has now launched. It will likely take a bit of time to be fully functional and operational.. The registry, <https://www.dhs.wisconsin.gov/covid-19/vaccine-registry.htm>, will help match eligible people who want to get vaccinated with providers who are in the area and have available supplies.

Kenosha County operates a Covid-19 Vaccine Call Center. The call center is open to people who don't have access to schedule a vaccination appointment online. These people can call (262)605-6799 to speak with someone who will walk them through the appointment process, if they are eligible. The online list of Kenosha County Covid vaccine providers is still available, at <http://bit.ly/KCCCOVIDHub>, as well.

People in Racine can sign up for email updates on vaccination progress at <https://crchd.com/covid-19-vaccine>. A list of Racine area vaccination providers is available at <https://crchd.com/covid-19-vaccine#Locations>.



Local Covid Testing Options

There are a number of options locally for anyone looking to get tested. Your primary health care provider is always an option, but there are many community testing sites available, as well.

CVS Pharmacy: Drive-through testing available at CVS in Kenosha (3710 57th Ave.) and Racine (3915 Durand Ave.); advance registration required at <https://www.cvs.com/minuteclinic/covid-19-testing>

Froedert South: Drive-through testing is available to those who qualify after completing an initial phone evaluation at (262)671-7777 between 8 am and 4:30 pm Monday-Friday

Kenosha Community Medical Center: A drive-through testing site at the former Chase Bank, 5506 Seventh Ave., is open to patients who complete a quick registration process at <https://www.kenoshachc.org/covid-19-resource-center/>. Testing is conducted Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays from 8 am to 4 pm.

Old Kenosha Fire Station No. 3: Free, drive-through testing will be offered during the following hours at the former No. 3 Fire Station, 2121 Roosevelt Rd., Kenosha: Tuesdays, 2-6 pm; Thursdays, 2-6 pm; Saturdays, 9 am - 1 pm. This testing is being offered in a partnership between locally-owned Modern Apothecary, the Wisconsin DHS, and the Kenosha Fire Department. An appointment and preregistration is strongly encouraged, with appointment times available at <https://modernapothecary.10to8.com> and registration available at <https://register.covidconnect.wi.gov>. Anyone who lives or works in Wisconsin, ages 5 and over, can be tested.



ROBERT W. WIRCH

STATE SENATOR TWENTY-SECOND DISTRICT

National Guard Testing in Union Grove: March 10, 10 am to 5 pm, at the Racine County Fairgrounds, 19805 Durand Ave.; vehicles should enter the fairgrounds from Main St.

To find other testing sites in the state, visit

<https://www.dhs.wisconsin.gov/covid-19/community-testing.htm>.

UW System schools statewide, including Parkside, have been provided with a limited number of rapid-result Covid-19 tests. These tests provide results in 15-30 minutes. The tests are free of charge and available to the public, and you don't have to have symptoms to get a test. A positive rapid test will need to be confirmed with the regular Covid-19 test but will provide you some guidance on whether or not you need to quarantine during that period. Registration at <https://www.doineedacovid19test.com> is required. The tests are administered in De Simone Gym in the SAC on the Parkside campus Monday-Thursday, 9 am - 5 pm, and Friday, 9 am - 1 pm. Testing is expected to last at least several weeks.

<https://www.uwp.edu/explore/news/surge-testing.cfm>



Ron Johnson Vows to Slow Down Federal Covid Relief Bill that Would Bring Stimulus Checks to WI Families, \$5.5 Billion to State and Local Governments

Since the Inauguration, the Biden administration and federal lawmakers have been working to pass an emergency Covid relief package that would, among other things: provide direct cash payments to hurting families; extend federal emergency unemployment benefits; prolong the federal eviction and foreclosure moratorium while allocating more money for housing assistance; create new grants for small businesses; and provide \$5.5 billion in Wisconsin alone to state and local governments. Poll after poll shows the package is overwhelmingly popular with the American people, whether Democrat, Republican, Independent or none of the above. Economists say it is just what the country needs to

State Capitol, P.O. Box 7882, Madison, Wisconsin 53707-7882 • (608) 267-8979

Toll-Free Office Hotline: 1-888-769-4724

Email: Sen.Wirch@legis.state.wi.us • Website: <http://www.legis.state.wi.us/senate/sen22/news> • Fax: (608) 267-0984
(262) 694-7379

Printed on Recycled Paper

jumpstart our Covid recovery. A version of the legislative package has passed the U.S. House of Representatives. However, the U.S. Senate is a different story. Inexplicably, one of Wisconsin's two U.S. Senators, Ron Johnson, has pledged to not only oppose the bill but do everything in his power to slow it down, planning to offer amendment after amendment and use every parliamentary trick at his disposal. This is nothing more than a delay tactic; with a 50-50 tie in the Senate, Vice President Kamala Harris would cast the deciding vote. Sen. Johnson is simply keeping economic relief out of the hands of struggling families and much-needed resources from state and local governments for vaccine distribution, testing, safety precautions and school reopenings.



Additional Rental Assistance Resources Available

With new federal funding available, and building off of the successful WRAP grant program, Governor Evers has announced a new emergency rental assistance program. The Wisconsin Emergency Rental Assistance Program (WERA) will provide direct financial assistance for rent, utilities, home energy costs and wraparound services for qualifying individuals and families. To be eligible, you must be a Wisconsin resident who demonstrates a risk of housing instability, have seen your income reduced by the Covid-19 pandemic, and/or earn a household income [at or below 80% of the county median income](#). Approved applicants can receive up to 12 months of assistance; rental and utility payments are made directly to the landlord and utility provider on behalf of the tenant. In Kenosha and Racine Counties, the program will be administered by the [Racine-Kenosha Community Action Agency](#). More details can be found [here](#).



Budget News and Details

To read a detailed and in-depth analysis of Governor Evers' budget proposal, you can visit the Department of Administration's Executive Budget page, <https://doa.wi.gov/Pages/2021-23%20Executive%20Budget.aspx>. You can also find a nonpartisan analysis of the Governor's budget proposal by the Legislative Reference Bureau at https://docs.legis.wisconsin.gov/misc/lrb/010_2021_budget_bill_analysis.pdf.