

October 15, 2021



Dear friend,

Every year on the third Friday in October, National Mammography Day joins in National Breast Cancer Awareness Month. This day, and month, serve as a reminder that the best defense is early detection. A mammogram can often detect a problem before there are any outward physical signs of illness. Cancer is the second leading cause of death in the United States, according to the CDC; CDC statistics also report that breast cancer is the most common form of cancer diagnosed in women. Screenings and exams are a critical part of the early detection process, and as a result of Covid-19, people have been pushing off these types of early detection measures. To learn more about prevention and early detection, visit <https://www.preventcancer.org/event/national-mammography-day-2021/>. Stay safe and healthy.

Sincerely,

Bob

In Case You Missed It

small business **SPOTLIGHT**



Salon on Sixth Will Have the Whole Family Looking Their Best



If you are looking for a one-stop shop where you can get everything from kids' cuts to full highlights and styling, look no further than Kenosha's Salon on Sixth (5038 6th Ave.). Staffed by experienced stylists who are always up on the latest trends, they make it their goal to provide friendly, knowledgeable services for the whole family. Check their [Facebook](#) page and [website](#) for hours and more.



Wirsch Office Hours This Saturday

This Saturday, October 16, from 1 to 2 pm, I'll be holding an "Office Hours" listening session in Activity Room A of Kenosha's Northside Library, 1500 27th Ave. Stop in to share your thoughts on the happenings in our state.



Racine County Hosting Job Fair

Representatives from many local companies that are looking for workers will be gathered at Fountain Hall, 8505 Durand Ave., Sturtevant, on Wednesday, October 20 from 1 – 4 pm for the

Racine County Fall Job Fair. The event is being hosted by The Racine Journal Times, the Southeastern Wisconsin Workforce Development Board, and Equus Workforce Solutions. To receive email updates and information about the event AND be entered to win a \$25 gift card, pre-register as a job seeker [here](#). You can find more information on the job fair, including job seeker preparation tips and a list of participating employers, [here](#).



AG Kaul Calls for End to Sham Election Investigation; Gableman, Who Says He Doesn't Understand How Elections Work, Didn't Vote in Seven Recent Elections

Wisconsin Attorney General Josh Kaul held a press conference earlier this week, during which he called for an end to the “fake investigation” into the 2020 election authorized by Assembly Speaker Robin Vos and led by former state Supreme Court Justice Michael Gableman. “This is not a serious investigation. Even if an investigation like this were justified – and it’s clearly not – this one suffers from glaring flaws that destroy any credibility that its results could have. In addition, this investigation isn’t being professionally or competently conducted. It’s clear that the investigators here are learning the basics of election administration as they go,” Kaul said. The last statement is a reference to a recent admission by Gableman that he does not understand how elections work. Meanwhile, an investigation by the Milwaukee Journal Sentinel found that Gableman had not voted in Wisconsin in seven elections over the last three years, including the 2018 race for Governor and the 2020 race for state Supreme Court.

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Global Energy “Perfect Storm” Will Likely Cause Winter Heating Bills to Soar

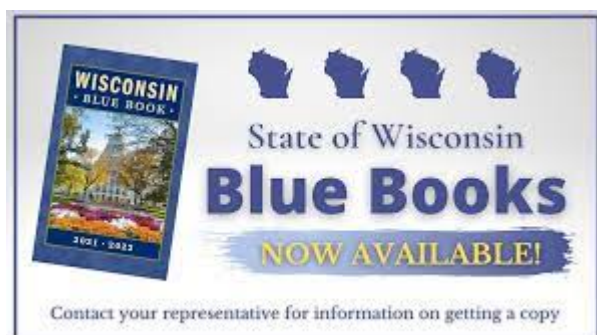
A surge in energy demand worldwide, combined with supply constraints, will likely result in Wisconsin residents paying more to heat their homes this fall and winter. On Wednesday, the federal Energy Information Administration forecast steeply higher heating bills for all U.S. households, regardless of the weather. The Midwest is expected to be hardest hit, with some households spending up to 69% more. For now, the added costs will affect gas bills, but customers could see an impact on their electricity bills starting early next year. What’s more, the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration predicts that this winter will be slightly colder than average, which could increase costs even more. The Public Service Commission is recommending that propane and heating oil customers fill up their tanks soon, as prices are expected to rise throughout the winter. The Citizens Utility Board encourages residents who are struggling financially to apply for energy assistance grants and those who can afford it to consider replacing old furnaces or adding insulation to their homes. Financial help is available from the state’s [Home Energy Assistance Program \(WHEAP\)](#) for households earning less than 60% of the state median, which works out to about \$50,000 for a family of three. Help is also available from the nonprofit [Keep Wisconsin Warm/Cool Fund](#). The state estimates that 205,000 households will receive an average of \$388 to offset heating costs this winter and about \$195 for electricity.



State Dept. of Administration to Hold Listening Sessions on WI Clean Energy Plan

The Wisconsin Office of Sustainability and Clean Energy has announced a series of listening sessions to gather public input in developing the Wisconsin Clean Energy Plan. Established by Governor Evers, the Office of Sustainability and Clean Energy is partnering with state agencies and utilities to develop a plan that will ensure 100% carbon-free electricity consumption in Wisconsin by 2050. The first-ever Wisconsin Clean Energy Plan will also help the state

mitigate climate change impacts through the use of clean energy resources and technology, while promoting workforce training, sustainability standards, and environmental justice. Topics covered in the listening sessions will include: Economic and Environmental Justice; Infrastructure and Industry; Transit and Transportation; and Clean Energy and Energy Efficiency. The first session, on Economic and Environmental Justice, will be held on October 19 from 6 – 8 pm. Registration is not required but it recommended. The full schedule can be found [here](#). You can join any session via Zoom using [this link](#) or by calling (877)873-8018, conference code 248199. The listening sessions will also be livestreamed via the Wisconsin Department of Administration's [YouTube channel](#).



Reserve Your Copy of the 2021-2023 State of Wisconsin Blue Book

The latest edition of the State of Wisconsin Blue Book has arrived. If you would like to have a copy sent to you, contact my office at (608)267-8979 or sen.wirch@legis.wisconsin.gov. These books are free and contain interesting and valuable information about our state's culture, history and government.



Plush Clothing

Congrats to Racine's Plush Clothing, Winner of WEDC's Fall Mini-Makeover Contest

Plush Clothing, a plus sized women's clothing boutique in downtown Racine, has been named the winner of the Wisconsin Economic Development Corporation's (WEDC's) second Main Street Mini-Makeover Contest. Owner Yolanda Coleman said, "It's amazing – this opportunity to be able to have some other eyes looking at my space to ensure my customers to have a good experience is just awesome. I have always had the dream of running this shop, and built it little

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by little but this opportunity takes the dream a little higher.” As the winner of the mini-makeover, Plush Clothing will receive personalized technical design and marketing guidance, as well as assistance to enhance her store’s lighting, improve flow throughout the shop and create a more enticing storefront. A team made up of WEDC staff and professionals from Retailworks, Inc., a Milwaukee-based interior design firm, will work closely with the team at Plush to develop the shop’s new look. The makeover will be completed during a 24-hour event in early November.