June 3, 2022



Dear friends,

June 6, 1944, was a decisive date in World War II and world history. Codenamed Operation Overlord, latter known as the Battle of Normandy, began on that day, which came to be known as D-Day. Some 156,000 American, British, and Canadian troops landed on five beaches along a 50-mile stretch of France's Normandy region. By late August 1944, all of northern France had been liberated, and by the following spring the Allies had defeated Nazi Germany. The Normandy landings of D-Day have been called the beginning of the end of the war in Europe. They were instrumental in preserving, and spreading, democracy throughout Europe and the world. We owe a great debt of gratitude to the men and women who planned, executed and participated in the D-Day landings. A number of them made the ultimate sacrifice for freedom and democracy, and we have a duty to honor their legacy by fighting to preserve our democracy today.

Stay safe and healthy.

Sincerely,

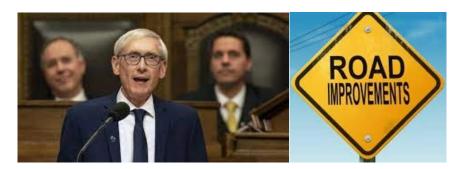
Bob



Kenosha's Slip56 Makes a Great Summer Hangout

As the summer starts to heat up, it's the perfect time for a cool drink and some great food. Slip 56, 506 56th Street. In Kenosha, offers both those and more with a great atmosphere and excellent selection of craft beers. With something on their menu for everyone, you can enjoy delicious dishes such as beer battered cod, a crispy chicken salad, or even their specialty Pinza, a lighter twist on pizza that comes in a wide variety of flavors. The cozy modern atmosphere ties it all together, making Slip 56 as place where anyone can go for a fun evening of great food and even better company. Check out their website for more information and a look at their menu.

In Case You Missed It



Governor Evers Announces Almost \$150 Million for Local Roads Projects

Nearly 350 local road improvement projects across Wisconsin will receive \$149 million in funding, thanks to a decision by Governor Tony Evers. As part of the allocation, the City of Kenosha will receive just over \$3 million for improvements to 22nd Ave.; Kenosha County's CTH H project will get almost \$550,000 and repairs to CTH EM will get almost \$1 million; and projects on CTH KR and V in Racine County will receive \$844,000 and \$471,000, respectively.



Republican-Approved, Taxpayer Funded Election "Review" Already Over Budget, with No End in Sight

The phone election investigation being led by former state Supreme Court Justice Michael Gableman has already gone over its initial budget by almost \$250,000, and the costs continue to pile up, even as ongoing lawsuits have put the review on hold for several weeks. The review, authorized by Assembly Speaker Robin Vos (R-Rochester) under pressure from former President Donald Trump, was initially given a budget of \$676,000; as of this week, the witchhunt has already cost \$900,000. A spokesperson for Speaker Vos told the <u>Milwaukee</u> <u>Journal-Sentinel</u> that "Gableman isn't over his budget because legal costs don't count." I think that they taxpayers who are footing the bill for this wild goose chase will disagree. The costs are likely to skyrocket even further, as the lawsuits involving the "investigation" continue through likely appeals once initial rulings are made. Gableman is currently involved in five lawsuits, two of which were brought against him and Vos for noncompliance of state open records laws.

Vos assigned Gableman last June to lead an investigation into baseless Republican claims of fraud in the 2020 Presidential election, which have been pushed by Trump and his allies. The investigation was originally supposed to end in October, but Vos has extended the review indefinitely after Trump bashed him for not doing more to validate his conspiracy theories. So far, Gableman's review has turned up no evidence, just more baseless allegations and innuendo. His claims have been debunked by nonpartisan sources time and time again. The review is currently "paused" while the lawsuits play out, but Gableman is still receiving \$5,500 a month from taxpayers.



Racine County in Need of Foster Parents

Racine County has announced a series of informational sessions for community members interested in potentially becoming foster parents. The County has scheduled seven sessions at its four county community aquatic centers during the month of June. Those who attend an information session will get a free day pass to one of Racine's aquatic centers; current foster parents who refer a friend to attend a session will be entered into a raffle to win a family season pass. There are currently approximately 120 children living in foster care in Racine County. Find more information, including dates and times, <u>here</u>. You can also contact Jessica Scheeler at jessica.scheeler@racinecounty.com or (262)638-6595.



Governor Evers Raises Progress Pride Flag Above the Capitol in Recognition of Pride Month

June is recognized throughout the United States a LGBT+ Pride Month. In recognition of this, on Wednesday, June 1, Governor Evers signed Executive Order #166, ordering that the Progress Pride Flag be raised over the Wisconsin State Capitol during the month of June. As part of his speech, Evers said, "My message today is also to elected officials here in Wisconsin and across the country: our actions matter. Our words matter. Doing what's right matters.
LGBTQ kids deserve our love and respect and support just like any other kid. And that's why I will always stand with them. It's why I will always fight to protect them. As long as I am governor, we will continue the fight to protect, support, and celebrate LGBTQ kids and the entire LGBTQ community." This marks the fourth consecutive year that Evers has ordered the Pride flag flown over the Capitol; he became the first Governor to do so in 2019. The flying of the Pride flag will not disrupt other flags that regularly fly over the Capitol, including the U.S. and Wisconsin state flags on the East wing flagpole and the POW-MIA flag on the North wing flagpole.



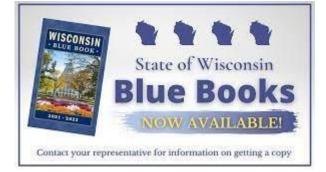
Kenosha County Holding Bike to Work Weeks

Our beautiful state is in bloom this month and now is the perfect time to enjoy it. Kenosha County will begin its "Bike to Work" weeks on June 4th, ending on June 18th. This included events focused around cycling and enjoying the natural splendor of Wisconsin alongside your neighbors. The Kenosha County Bike Rodeo will be held on June 4th, allowing families to enjoy food, raffles and lessons on bike safety. You'll find more information on Kenosha County Bike to Work events <u>here</u>.



EIGHT MORE Free Covid Tests Available

With Covid cases again on the rise, the Biden administration has is offering households eight additional at-home Covid tests, free of charge. You can order the eight tests at <u>https://www.covidtests.gov/;</u> you can also use this site to find nearby testing locations. The administration had previously made four at-home Covid tests available per household; you can still claim those using the same link if you haven't already done so. Additionally, because of actions by President Biden and Governor Evers, your health insurance provider may be required to cover up to eight at-home rapid tests per month.



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

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 <u>sen.wirch@legis.wisconsin.gov</u>. These books are free and contain interesting and valuable information about our state's culture, history and government.