

March 25, 2022



Dear friends,

On March 25, National Medal of Honor Day, we honor the valor and courage of our most decorated servicemen and women. The President of the United States awards the National Medal of Honor to military members who have gone above and beyond the call of duty. There are actually three different versions of the Medal of Honor, for the Army, the Navy and the Air Force, though Coast Guard members and Marines are also eligible for the Navy version. To date, 3,525 Americans have been awarded the Medal of Honor, and March 25 is a day to honor their exemplary service.

Stay safe and healthy.

Sincerely,

Bob

small business **SPOTLIGHT**



Inaugural “Downtown Kenosha Small Business Bunny Hop” Coming Up on April 9

On Saturday, April 9, Visit Kenosha will hold its inaugural Downtown Kenosha Small Business Bunny Hop from 10 am to 1 pm. Participants visit participating businesses; there children can collect an easter egg filled with candy and adults can collect an egg with a surprise special offer inside. Eggs will be available while supplies last, and Visit Kenosha asks that you take only one egg per person at each venue you visit. Those who spend \$50 during the event will be entered to win a \$200 Downtown Kenosha gift cards. Check out the [website](#) for a list of participating businesses and more information.

In Case You Missed It



Bucking Precedent, U.S. Supreme Court Rules Against Evers Maps, Raising Questions about November Elections

In a move that stunned legal experts, the U.S. Supreme Court has overturned a Wisconsin state Supreme Court ruling selecting legislative maps submitted by Governor Tony Evers to be used for the next decade. The decision comes just weeks before candidates for the fall election begin circulating nomination papers.

The opinion issued by the U.S. Supreme Court, with dissent from Justices Sonia Sotomayor and Elena Kagen, concluded that the state court had not done enough to adequately determine

whether Assembly districts in Milwaukee complied with the federal Voting Rights Act. Federal law on the issue is complex; when drawing electoral maps, race must not be considered in many instances but are mandated to do so where there are large minority populations.

In the dissent, Justice Sotomayor wrote, “The Court’s intervention today is not only extraordinary but also unnecessary.” The U.S. Supreme Court has repeatedly deferred to the states and state courts when it comes to issues of redistricting. Just last month, the Court declined to hear a challenge to new district maps in Alabama, saying it was too close to the election.

In a separate ruling, the high court agreed with the state Supreme Court’s ruling to accept Evers’ maps for the state’s congressional districts.

The legislative map ruling requires the state Supreme Court to revisit the case but leaves open the possibility that the court will again select Evers’ maps, provided they hear further testimony. Evers’ attorneys have asked the court for swift action.



Local Climate Activists Announce ‘March Forth to Earth Day’ Events

A group of local climate activists, who are part of the national March Forth to Earth Day”, have been holding rallies on Fridays at noon all through the month of March to increase awareness of the impact of climate change and the need to protect our natural resources. The group has announced plans to continue its efforts with a series of events. In the event of rain, the session will take place at Immanuel United Methodist Church, 5410 Sheridan Rd. You can find the full list of events and more about the group [here](#).



There's Still Time to Get an ID to Vote in April Election

The Wisconsin Spring Election, to be held on Tuesday, April 5, is just weeks away, but there's still time to get the necessary identification if you don't have one. Wisconsin driver licenses or IDs are the most common form of identification used for voting purposes; military and student ID cards are also valid. To see if a card meets the requirements, visit the Wisconsin Elections Commission [website](#). Local DMVs can provide ID cards for voting purposes free of charge. DMV operates a toll free Voter ID hotline at (844)588-1069 for questions on obtaining an ID to vote.



Kenosha's HarborMarket Expanding into Racine

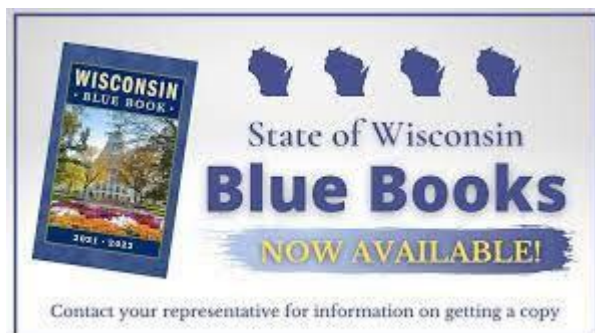
Kenosha Commons Market, Inc., the parent company of the Kenosha HarborMarket, has announced plans for the company to start a Racine HarborMarket. The new Racine market will begin on June 30 and run the last Thursday of each month through September, from 4:30 to 7:30 pm, in Monument Square. More information can be found at <http://www.racineharbormarket.com/>.



Free Covid Tests Available

You can now sign up to receive two (2) sets of four free Covid-19 tests per household, thanks to an order from the Biden administration. With just your name and address, you can order the

tests for your household at <https://www.covidtests.gov/>; you can also use this site to find nearby testing locations. If you already ordered your first set of 4, you can use the above link to order your second set. Additionally, because of actions taken by both President Biden and Governor Evers, your insurance may be required to cover up to eight at-home rapid tests per month. If someone you know either doesn't have or doesn't use a computer, please call my office at (608)267-8979 for assistance ordering your household's tests.



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.