

August 12, 2022



Dear friends,

We all lead busy, hectic lives. There is so much going on all of the time, we need to take a step back and remember to relax once in a while. That's the message behind National Relaxation Day, which is recognized annually on August 15. The day gives us a reminder to unwind and focus on your mental and physical well-being. National Relaxation Day was founded in 1985 based on the idea of a 9 year old from Michigan. Sean Moeller, who was in 4th grade at the time, suggested that on this day people should not do anything of real value. While he is now a grown adult, Sean is still committed to the cause. Each year on this date, he recognizes one person for having a significant proclivity for relaxation. This year, the date falls on a Monday. While I'm sure you will all be busy, make sure you take a little time for yourself, as well.

Stay safe and healthy.

Sincerely,

Bob

small business **SPOTLIGHT**



Smarty's Sweets & Treats Holds Grand Opening of 3rd Location

If you are in Kenosha or Racine and have a real sweet tooth, you now have three opportunities to try the delicious baked goods, ice creams, boba teas and other goodies from Smarty's Sweets & Treats. Recently, Smarty's held a Grand Opening for their third location, 5821 6th Ave. in Kenosha. The new location joins the existing Kenosha location, 3424 14th Ave., and a Racine store, 2210 Rapids Dr. Owner Marty Perez and her family operate the business, and Marty does most of the baking herself. Check out their [Facebook page](#) for more information.

In Case You Missed It



Check State and Local Election Results

On Tuesday, August 9, Wisconsin held its fall primary election. A number of local and statewide offices were on the ballot. You can use the links below to check the results in Kenosha and Racine Counties and statewide.

<https://www.kenoshacounty.org/1405/Election-Results>

<https://www.racinecounty.com/departments/county-clerk/election-information/election-results>

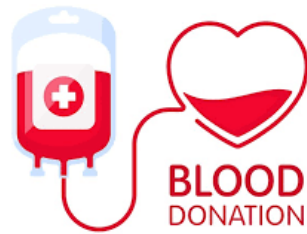
<https://www.jsonline.com/elections/results/2022-08-09/state/wisconsin/>



Kenosha, Racine Voters Split on Public Safety Referendums

Voters in the cities of Kenosha and Racine were asked on Tuesday to increase their property taxes in order to fund new public safety (police and fire) positions. Kenosha's referendum narrowly passed, 53-47%, while the Racine referendum was defeated, 56.4-43.5%. As a result of the defeat, city leaders in Racine say that some service cuts might be necessary.

Shared revenue – tax revenue collected by the state and shared with counties and municipalities – has been drastically cut under the Legislature's Republican majority, forcing a growing number of cities, villages and towns to turn to referendums to fund public safety initiatives.



Donate Blood for a Chance to Win a Year's Supply of Gas

The American Red Cross is offering anyone who donates blood during the month of August a chance to win free gas for a year. There will be three luck winners. Everyone who gives blood or platelets in August will also receive a \$10 e-gift card to a merchant of your choice. Donors can schedule an appointment by visiting RedCrossBlood.org or calling 1-800-REDCROSS (1-800-733-2767). Locally, there are a few upcoming blood donation opportunities.

Kenosha

August 19, 2022 – 1:30 pm to 6 pm – Sozo Chiropractic, 1711 Green Bay Rd., Suite C
August 25, 2022 – 1 pm to 6 pm – Kenosha Masonic Center, 115 56th St.

Racine/Mount Pleasant

August 25, 2022 – 1 pm to 6 pm – Racine Public Library, 75 7th St.

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

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August 31, 2022 – 12 pm to 5 pm – Mt. Pleasant Family YMCA Sealed Air Branch, 8501 Campus Dr.



City of Kenosha Asks Residents for Help in Keeping Beach Clean

The City of Kenosha is asking residents visiting the beach along Lake Michigan to help keep the area free of litter and trash. City workers have set up a clean up station at the Simmons Island beach that includes white plastic buckets that people can use to pick up trash along the shoreline. The buckets can be emptied into a trash can that's part of the kiosk and then returned to the station. This effort is in addition to the work of the Parks Department, which continues to patrol the beaches each day looking for trash.



Take My 2022 Legislative Survey

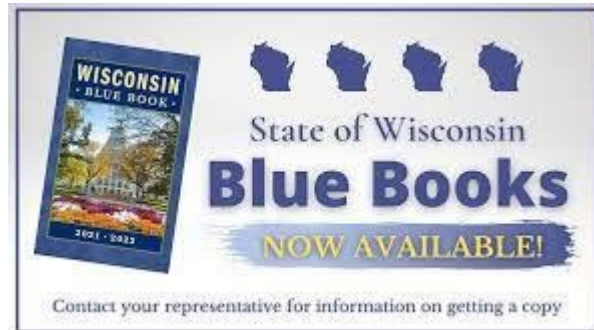
It's very important to me as a legislator to hear what you think about the important issues of the day. I've put together a survey on a variety of topics that I am hoping you will take the time to complete. You can find an online version of the survey at <https://legis.wisconsin.gov/senate/22/wirch/surveys-and-petitions/2022-legislative-survey>.



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 <https://www.covidtests.gov/>; 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.



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.