

October 28, 2022



Dear friends,

It is easy to take for granted that first responders – police officers, fire fighters, EMTs – will be there when we need them. However, these are men and women with families and lives of their own who have dedicated themselves to serving others, and it’s important that we reflect on their service and sacrifices. In 2017, Congress designated October 28 as National First Responders Day to remind us of just that. If you have a first responder in your life, thank him or her and let them know they are appreciated.

Until next time, stay safe and healthy.

Sincerely,

Bob

small business **SPOTLIGHT**



Gloria's Cakes in Racine Can Make You the Cake of Your Dreams

Gloria Garcia's love of making decorating cakes has been with her much of her life. She is self-taught, beginning by learning how to decorate cakes from books and videos. After years as a cake decorator for a local grocery store, she opened her very own bakery in Downtown Racine in 2017. Gloria's specializes in cakes, cupcakes, muffins, bars and brownies. Stop in during business hours and pick up a single treat or call to get a custom cake or other bakery item. Whether for a wedding cake, baby shower, birthday cake or just because, Gloria can turn your vision into reality. Check out [her Facebook page](#).

In Case You Missed It



In-Person Absentee Voting is Now Open

In-person absentee voting, sometimes known as "early voting", is now open across the state. Hours vary by municipality. City of Kenosha voters will find information [here](#); voters in the City of Racine can go to this [site](#). If you live in Somers (262-859-2822), Mount Pleasant (262-664-7800) or Elmwood Park (262-554-7818), check with your municipal clerk before making your plans to vote. Absentee ballots by mail can be requested through November 3 by visiting <https://myvote.wi.gov/en-us/> or through your municipal clerk.



Accommodations Required for Voters with Disabilities

The Wisconsin Disability Vote Coalition wants to make sure voters with disabilities are aware of assistance and accommodations that are required to ensure they can properly cast their ballots. First, Wisconsin voters can have their absentee ballots returned or delivered by another person. The Disability Vote Coalition recommends that these voters let the person who's assisting them know they may be asked to confirm that they are returning the ballot for a person with a disability but that they should not be required to fill out any extra paperwork or provide proof of disability. Polling places are required to be made accessible to voters with disabilities. That requirement includes machines with equipment that allows blind people to cast a ballot, wheelchair accessibility, access to a signature guide to aid the signing of the poll book, access to a magnifier and help from someone else when voters are asked by a poll worker for their names and address.



John Bryant Center Hosting "Trunk or Treat" Event

The City of Racine Parks, Recreation & Cultural Services (PRCS) will host its first Trunk-or-Treat event in the parking lot of the Dr. John Bryant Community Center, located at 601 Caron Butler Dr. in Racine. The event will take place from noon to 5 pm on Sunday, October 30. It will include music, games, candy, other food, and entertainment. Everyone with a participating car is encouraged to dress in a Halloween theme and have candy to hand out, and children are encouraged to dress up, too.

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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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Prescription Drug Take Back Day this Saturday

Saturday, October 29, is the next National Prescription Drug Take Back Day. Events will be held locally in both Kenosha and Racine Counties. In Kenosha, you can bring unused meds to the Boys & Girls Club of Kenosha (1330 52nd St.) or the Kenosha County Center (Hwys 45 and 50 in Bristol) between 10 am and 2 pm. Racine area locations include a drop off site at the Mount Pleasant Police Department (8811 Campus Dr.) from 9 am to 1 pm. The Kenosha locations will also feature training on and free supplies of Narcan, the opioid-overdose reversing medication.

Drop off sites will be accepting any of the following: prescriptions and over-the-counter medications; ointments; inhalers; patches; non-aerosol sprays; creams; vials; and pet medications. You should NOT bring: illegal drugs; needles/sharps; mercury thermometers; aerosol cans; biohazardous materials; flares; personal care products, such as shampoo, soap, lotion or sunscreen; or household hazardous waste.



Local Trick or Treat Times

Area municipalities have set their trick or treating times. Last minutes changes may occur due to weather.

Racine – Oct. 31, 5:30 – 7:30 pm

Elmwood Park – Oct. 31, 5:30 – 7:30 pm

Mount Pleasant – Oct. 31, 5-7 pm

Kenosha – Oct. 31, 4-7 pm

Somers – Oct. 31, 4-7 pm



Wisconsin Launches Program to Send Out Free Covid Tests

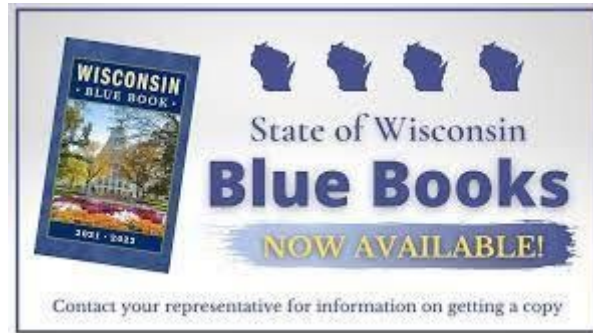
Wisconsin residents can now get Covid-19 tests sent to them free of charge from the state. The federal government had been offering free Covid tests, but the funding for that program has run out.

The Wisconsin Dept. of Health Services (DHS) says that the [Say Yes! Covid Test website](#) is now live and operational. The site allows households to order five rapid tests for free. Households can still get up to eight rapid Covid tests per month through their insurance providers, as well.



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>.



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.