

November 18, 2022



Dear friends,

This week marked the annual National Clean out Your Refrigerator Day. Now, it sounds silly, but the observance actually serves a purpose – to remind and encourage families to remove unwanted items from their refrigerators in preparation for the upcoming holiday season. Keeping a clean, tidy refrigerator is important for health and safety reasons, as well. Most of us are guilty of keeping out of date foods in the back of our refrigerators or keeping salad dressings in the refrigerator doors long past their sell-by dates. The day is also a chance to take stock of what we have and donate those still-good items that we probably won't use.

Until next time, stay safe and healthy.

Sincerely,

Bob

small business **SPOTLIGHT**



Downtown Racine Businesses Participating in “Ladies Night Out”

This Saturday, November 19, Downtown Racine Corporation will host the 4th annual “Ladies Night Out” from noon to 8 pm. More than 30 businesses have signed up to participate, offering specials, giveaways or other unique experiences. Some will feature free massages, nail art makeup tutorials and free samples.

The first 100 women will get a free goodie bag; each is different but they will all contain items over \$30 in value. Bags will be distributed at Marci’s on Main beginning at noon.

You will find a full list of participating local small businesses at racinedowntown.com/events.

In Case You Missed It



AG Josh Kaul Announces Settlement with Google Over Location Tracking Practices

Wisconsin Attorney General Josh Kaul and the state Department of Justice, along with 39 other state attorneys general, have reached a \$391.5 million settlement with Google over its location tracking practices related to Google Account settings. This is the largest multistate Attorney General privacy settlement in the history of the U.S. Wisconsin will receive \$8.42 million for its participation.

In announcing the settlement, Kaul said, “Big tech companies must respect people’s privacy and be transparent about their practices. I’m proud to be part of this bipartisan group of AGs that’s standing up for consumer privacy.”

Location data is a key part of Google’s digital advertising business. Google uses the personal and behavioral data it collects to build detailed user profiles and target ads on behalf of its advertising customers. Location data is among the most sensitive and valuable personal information Google collects. Even a limited amount of location data can expose a person’s identity and routines and can be used to infer personal details.

The attorneys general opened the Google investigation following a 2018 *Associated Press* article that revealed Google “records your movements even when you explicitly tell it not to.” The article focused on two Google account settings: Location History and Web & App Activity.

Location History is “off” unless a user turns on the setting, but Web & App Activity is automatically “on” when users set up a Google account, including all Android phone users.

The Attorneys General found that Google violated state consumer protection laws by misleading consumers about its location tracking practices since at least 2014. The settlement requires Google to be more transparent with consumers about these practices and limits Google’s use and storage of certain types of location information.



Courts Put Biden Student Debt Forgiveness Plan on Hold Pending Supreme Court Action

Federal judges have put the student loan forgiveness program instituted by President Biden on indefinite hold while they await expected action by the U.S. Supreme Court. In the meantime, the program is no longer accepting applications for loan forgiveness.



Free Thanksgiving Dinner at Festival Hall in Racine

Dan & Rays Rendering Thanks
13TH ANNUAL FREE THANKSGIVING DAY FEAST
Thursday, November 24, 2022
10:00 am to 2:00 pm
Racine Festival Hall
5 Fifth Street
Downtown Racine

Enjoy Live Entertainment
Cheryl McCrary Band:
(Formerly Mrs. Wisconsin
Society International)
Don the One Man Band
dance teams & more!

Delicious Traditional Thanksgiving meal
along with beverages and desserts!
Offering both carry-outs & sit down meals

Sponsor a table of 10 for \$50.00
If you would like to make a donation or sponsor please scan the QR code via Venmo (@route20cares), or make checks payable to Route 20 Cares.

Checks can be dropped off or sent to:
Route 20, 14001 Washington Avenue, Sturtevant WI 53177
Danny's Meats, 1317 4 Mile Road, Racine WI 53402

To help volunteer or sponsor a table,
please call Danny's Meats (262) 554-5440 or
Route 20 Restaurant (262) 898-7900 • rte20rocks@yahoo.com
www.facebook.com/renderingthankracine/

CASH DONATIONS ACCEPTED AT DOOR
Non-perishable food donations accepted for the Racine County Food Bank

OPEN TO EVERYONE

Thank you so very much for your generosity in helping us provide a successful event to the community.
Your donation is greatly appreciated.

Free Thanksgiving Meals in Kenosha

Saturday, November 19: Noon to 3 pm – God’s Kitchen of Kenosha with St. Anthony’s Catholic Church (2223 51st St., Kenosha)– Free holiday meal, haircuts and clothing giveaway

Thursday, November 24: 8 to 9 am – Grace Lutheran (2006 60th St., Kenosha) - Breakfast
Noon to 2 pm – First United Methodist Church of Kenosha (919 60th St., Kenosha) – Free, dine-in only dinner

5 to 6 pm – Shalom Center Soup Kitchen (4314 39th Ave., Kenosha)



DOT Urges Drivers to “Know Before You Go” with Winter Road Condition Reports on 511wi.gov

With winter weather reaching the state this week, the state Department of Transportation is encouraging drivers to visit [511wi.gov](https://www.511wi.gov) to check road conditions before you get behind the wheel.

WisDOT leveraged technology in January 2022 to share winter road conditions for more than 14,000 miles of roadway, which is updated at least twice hourly, 24 hours a day. In addition to the winter road conditions, travelers are encouraged to check live traffic cameras along their route. Both the winter road condition reporting and camera system have been significantly upgraded in the past year.

How to use the winter road condition system:

- Visit 511wi.gov online, or download the 511 Wisconsin smartphone app
 - In the map legend, make sure “winter road conditions” is checked
 - Look for the colors outlining the roadways near you
- The colors are listed from best to worst: good winter driving (green); slippery stretches (purple); snow covered (blue); ice covered (red); and travel not advised (black)

How to view live traffic cameras:

- Visit 511wi.gov online or download the 511 Wisconsin smartphone app
- In the top right corner under the map legend and 511 layers box, click the “cameras” checkbox
 - Look for the camera icons along your route
- On 511wi.gov click the camera icon and look for “show video” button to view the live camera feed
- On the 511 Wisconsin smartphone app, press “play” in the bottom right corner



Kenosha County Residents Asked to Test Their Internet Connection Speeds

Officials with Kenosha County are asking that residents and business owners to take an online speed test to help gather data on internet speeds throughout the county. The test will be available online through the end of the year at www.kenoshacounty.org/quickconnect. It takes

less than a minute to complete. Data collected from the speed tests will be used to determine future county investment in broadband infrastructure.



Healthcare.gov Open Enrollment Has Begun

The open enrollment period on the individual health insurance marketplace known as healthcare.gov has now begun. The period started on November 1, 2022, and lasts until January 15, 2023.

During this limited time, all Wisconsinites are eligible to get enrolled in one of the health plans available on the federal marketplace. Those who already have insurance through the marketplace can also renew, update or upgrade their health plans during this period. In 2020, Governor Tony Evers directed the Office of the Commissioner of Insurance and the Department of Health Services to create WisCovered.com, an accessible resource to connect consumers with free, expert help. These experts assist Wisconsinites in understanding their coverage options and determining if they qualify for subsidized health insurance premiums through the marketplace or low-cost coverage through BadgerCare Plus.



Wisconsin Families Can Get 5 Free Covid Tests Each Month

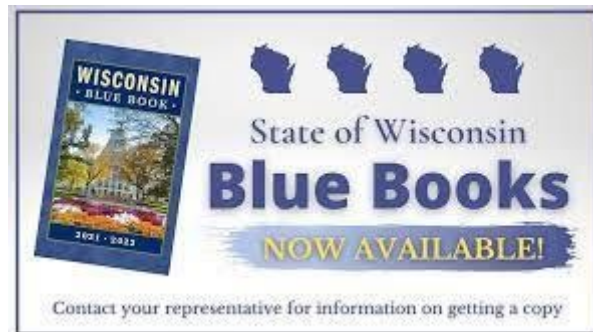
Wisconsin residents can now get Covid-19 tests sent to them free of charge from the state. The Wisconsin Dept. of Health Services (DHS) says that the [Say Yes! Covid Test website](http://SayYes!CovidTest.com) is now live and operational. The site allows households to order five rapid tests for free **each month**.

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.