

**July 28, 2023**



**Dear friends,**

**They say that education is the great equalizer, and public schools make that possible. They are available to everyone and serve as the cornerstones of our communities. However, efforts are underway nationwide to undermine our public schools, shifting taxpayer money to private schools and starving our public schools of resources. That's what makes National Support Public Education Day – July 30<sup>th</sup> – so important. We need to recognize and spread the word about the value of public education and the disastrous consequences we will face if we allow our public schools to be demonized and destroyed. Thank you to all of the educators and activists already engaged in the fight. Stay safe and healthy.**

**Sincerely,**

*Bob*

## small business **SPOTLIGHT**



**Avenue Pet Shoppe**  
Grooming & Supplies

### *Avenue Pet Shoppe has all of Your Pets Needs*

If there is something you need for your pet, you'll more than likely find it at Avenue Pet Shoppe, 3222 Washington Ave in Racine. The store specializes in a variety of pet foods – wet, frozen or dried – for both dogs and cats. That's not all, though. They also sell food for reptiles and aquatic animals and a wide array of dog and cat toys, treats and grooming supplies. Avenue has an in-house groomer, and the owner has years of experience in the business. Find more at <https://www.facebook.com/avenuepetshoppe/>.

### In Case You Missed It



### **Italian Festival 2023**



### *Racine's Roma Lodge Turns 100, Hosts Italian Fest*

Roma Lodge in Racine, an organization dedicated to preserving Racine's Italian heritage, is celebrating its 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary this year, as it prepares for the 44<sup>th</sup> annual Italian Fest this weekend.

Beginning today and running through Sunday, Italian Fest will be held on the Roma Lodge grounds, 7130 Spring St., Mt. Pleasant. They'll be serving traditional Italian food and snacks. There will be a vendor craft fair today (Friday) from 4 to 9 pm and Saturday from 2 to 8 pm, as well as live music. You can find the schedule of activities at

<https://www.romalodge.com/members/italian-fest-2023>.



## ***City of Racine Offers New Tool to Help Renters***

The City of Racine has launched an innovative new tool to help renters find a safe place to live.

The program is called Tolemi, and it enables renters to gain access to important property information like code violations, providing prospective renters transparency. Residents are able to search by address or by clicking properties on the map to find detailed history. To try out Tolemi, visit <https://racine-wi.tolemi.com/>.



## ***Wisconsin Breaks Record in Number of Jobs***

According to data from the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics for June 2023, showed Wisconsin's total number of nonfarm jobs had reached a record high of 3,006,900. That is 52,900 more jobs than three years ago and an increase of 6,900 from the May 2023.



## ***Americans with Disabilities Act Turns 33***

The landmark Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) was signed into law on July 26, 1990, by then-President George H.W. Bush. It has been called one of the most important civil rights laws in our history. The ADA prohibits discrimination against individuals with disabilities in all areas of public life, including jobs, schools, transportation, and all public and private places that

are open to the general public. The law is meant to ensure that people with disabilities have the same rights and opportunities as everyone else.



## ***UPS, Teamsters Union Reach Tentative Deal and Likely Avoid a Strike***

The Teamsters Union, representing 340,000 UPS worker, announced this week that it had reached a tentative contract agreement with UPS, seemingly averting a strike that would have started as early as next week. The agreement is for five years and includes raises for UPS workers; a pledge by UPS that all vehicles purchased beginning in 2024 will have air conditioning; and the elimination of forced overtime on drivers' days off. The deal still needs to be approved by rank-and-file UPS Teamster members; member voting begins August 3 and concludes on August 22.