

## NEWS AND VIEWS FROM ELECTED OFFICIALS

From  
**DAVE  
TRAVIS**



**STATE REPRESENTATIVE**

**BadgerRx gold program offers affordable prescriptions**

There is a new state program to provide affordable prescription drug assistance for the 1.1 million people who lack prescription drug coverage and for the additional 300,000 who have no health insurance. The BadgerRx Gold Program is available to Wisconsin citizens who either have no prescription drug coverage or insufficient coverage. An individual enrollment fee of just \$25\*, or \$75\* per family, qualifies for prescription drug savings between 25-40%.

Affordable prescription drug prices are the one of the biggest health care concerns across this nation. Luckily, in Wisconsin, programs like BadgerCare and SeniorCare exist to help those seniors and families most in need of help. One out of every six Wisconsin citizens is forced to pay for medicine out of their own pocket because they are not old enough for SeniorCare (or make too much money to qualify for BadgerCare).

BadgerRx is administered through

the Madison-based Navitus Health Solutions and acts as a statewide purchasing co-op. It is similar to a successful program begun for state employees in the last state budget. The program is beneficial to the state because it will cover thousands of people and doesn't cost the state any money. Under this new program, even those who have health coverage but whose prescription coverage includes high deductibles are eligible.

Local pharmacies will also benefit from BadgerRx by reducing the need to buy medication online. Because more than 700 of the 880 pharmacies in the state have signed up for the program, enrollees will be able to use their new BadgerRx card at the local drug store.

Since this program was just recently offered, many individuals still haven't heard about the benefits they can receive through the new BadgerRx Program. Any Wisconsin citizen looking for reliable, available and affordable prescription drug coverage should enroll in the BadgerRx Program. \*Save an additional \$5.00 off of your enrollment fee by applying on-line at: [www.badgergold.com](http://www.badgergold.com), or contact me and I will mail the necessary information to you as quickly as possible.

Rep. Travis, Northside resident and State Representative, can be reached at 266-5340, [rep.travis@legis.state.wi.us](mailto:rep.travis@legis.state.wi.us)

From  
**JON  
ERPENBACH**



**STATE SENATOR**

**Blood donation needs are great in summer**

This summer is a great time to begin or renew a commitment to blood donation. With a lack of donors often causing critical blood shortages, summer is one of the most challenging times of the year for the Red Cross. Without enough donations from generous donors, patient care can be affected.

As a frequent blood donor myself, I can tell you that blood donation not difficult. It's not painful and doesn't take much time. I feel it's an easy way to help others in need.

I hope you will agree and find time to participate in the American Red Cross' "Get Hooked on Saving Lives" campaign this summer. The goal is to raise awareness about the need for summer blood donations and thank donors for giving the gift of life. All those who visit a Red Cross donation site or blood drive from May 23 to September 10 will receive a 'Give Blood' awareness band.

On behalf of the B.L.O.O.D. Coalition, I personally ask all eligible donors to get hooked on saving lives and give blood this summer to help the Red Cross maintain a reliable supply. Call 1-800-GIVE-LIF(E) to make an appointment to donate and visit [www.redcrossblood.com](http://www.redcrossblood.com) to find out more about the summer promotion.

There are two donation sites in Madison with set hours for donation. The locations for these sites and their hours are as follows:

**Madison-East**

Mon thru Thur: 1:00-6:30 PM  
American Center  
Fri: 8:00 AM – 1:30 PM  
4133 West Terrace  
Sat: 7:30 AM – 1:00 PM  
(608) 244-5060

**Madison-West**

Monday, Tuesday & Thursday:  
11:00 AM – 6:00 PM  
4860 Sheboygan Ave  
Wednesday & Friday:  
8:00 AM – 1:00 PM  
(608) 233-9300  
Saturday: 8:00 AM - Noon

Sen. Erpenbach can be reached at 266-6670 or 1-888-549-0027 or [senator.erpenbach@legis.state.wi.us](mailto:senator.erpenbach@legis.state.wi.us)

Visit us online at  
[www.northsideplanningcouncil.org](http://www.northsideplanningcouncil.org)

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**Ron  
Stauter**

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**Priced at \$144,900**

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**Scott  
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1026 N Sherman Ave

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MANAGER Tom Olson

**PROPS.**  
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