**Neenah News**

**Serving Neenah & Fox Crossing**

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**County OKs $33M in ARPA funds**

*Several supervisors oppose accepting aid*

By Bethanie Gengler

The Winnebago County Board of Supervisors voted to accept the second round of funding from the American Rescue Plan Act 2021 (ARPA) during its meeting last week, and to allocate the entire $33.3 million to lost revenue from the pandemic among county departments.

ARPA authorized the federal government to deliver $350 billion to state, local, territorial and tribal governments to bolster their response to the COVID-19 pandemic and deal with its economic impacts. The funding can be used for investments in water, sewer and broadband infrastructure, essential workers and other expenditures related to the pandemic.

Winnebago County was allocated $33.3 million to be disbursed in two payments. The second payment was voted on at the meeting last week, with several supervisors voicing opposition to accepting the funds.

District 9 Supervisor Donald Nausbaum voted against accepting money from ARPA.

“It’s a ripoff of the American people,” he said, adding that he thinks the funding is a money-laundering scam.

District 10 Supervisor Bryan Stafford

**Negligence not found in police transport death**

*Outagamie officers cleared in May 30 case*

By Bethanie Gengler

The Outagamie County Sheriff’s Office cleared several deputies who were transporting a woman when she jumped out of the moving vehicle on State 441 in Fox Crossing and sustained fatal injuries.

Deputies were transporting 43-year-old Xee Yang of Grand Chute from St. Elizabeth’s Hospital in Appleton to Winnebago County’s Winnebago County Jail on May 30 for failing to engage the child safety locks.

Deputies secured Yang in handcuffs and attached them to her to prevent her from any movement. They then placed her in a bed rail.

On May 30, police again responded to a call at Yang’s residence and transported her to St. Elizabeth’s hospital. Documents indicate the hospital treated Yang for acute psychosis and agitation. It was noted that she produced gutteral growling and ingest a religious piece of fabric jewelry from her wrist. Due to aggressive behavior, both of her arms were handcuffed to the bed rails.

Yang declined and said she instead wanted to do a religious ritual with her family and their shaman. Documents indicate the family performed a Hmong exorcism on Yang.

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Yang was committed and the Outagamie County Sheriff’s Office was called to transport her from the hospital to Winnebago County’s Winnebago County Jail. Deputies James Stordock and Thomas Van Horn placed Yang in handcuffs and attached them to a belly band, a restraint around her waist, and wheeled her in a wheelchair to the transport van. The deputies secured her in the back seat and seat belted her in before departing just after 5:30 p.m.

During transport, Stordock, who was driving, asked Van Horn to check on Yang because he noticed her doing something in the back seat. Van Horn checked on Yang and she told him she was cold and her blanket fell off. Stordock turned down the air conditioning. At some point he is believed that Yang removed her seatbelt.

About 15 minutes into the trip, while traveling on State 441 where the speed limit is 65 miles per hour, Van Horn heard the noise of a sliding door opening and highway noise. He checked the back seat and saw Yang stand in the door frame and lean from the vehicle. Because of the handcuffs and belly restraint, she could not use her arms to break her fall.

Yang rolled into the center lane of the highway. Witness Paul Rosen, a retired West Allis police officer, swerved into the next lane, narrowly missing her body with his vehicle, coming close enough that blood spatter was located on his vehicle.

A witness traveling behind Rosen said he saw Rosen swerve into his lane and he believed Yang was struck by the vehicle based on the way her body was rolling.

Rosen stopped his vehicle and checked on Yang. He yelled to the officers to call 911 and grab their first-aid kit. Rosen was told by a deputy that the transport van did not carry first aid equipment, which shocked him, documents state.

Van Horn initiated CPR and asked Stordock to check the van for a bag valve mask, which is used to provide breath during CPR, which Stordock was unable to locate in the van.

A second witness, Lisa Conn, a medical caregiver who has almost achieved CNA status, pulled over, exited her vehicle and approached the deputies. Conn said the deputies appeared to be in shock. She checked Yang’s pulse and found she had a faint heart pulse. Conn returned to her vehicle to try to find something to open Yang’s airway but wasn’t successful.

**See Police transport on Page 7**
Commercial St. review, police station funds OK’d

By Bethanie Gengler

The Neenah Common Council at its meeting last week approved additional funding for Commercial Street studies, agreed to add air conditioning to the police firearms range and decided on whether to continue providing two police officers to the school district and welcomed a new human resources director.

**Reconstruction updates**

The council approved a change order and additional funding to fulfill state Department of Transportation requirements as part of the Commercial Street reconstruction project. The approved change order was in the amount of $10,180 to conduct an archaeology field survey on Commercial. The survey team will gather background information on known cultural resources in the project areas, conduct fieldwork with shovel testing properties, clean and catalog any artifacts that are located and provide a full report detailing the survey results.

The council also approved spending up to $13,800 to conduct an intersection control evaluation at South Commercial and Winneconne Avenue as part of the project. The report will be used to determine the most appropriate intersection designs for the future. Alternatives that the consulting company will consider include the addition of a traffic signal with lane improvements, a multiline roundabout or a five-legged roundabout with Church Street realignment.

**School resource officers**

The decision on whether the police will continue to provide two school resource officers (SROs) to the Neenah Joint School District next year was delayed. Chief Olson said at an Oct. 11 Public Services & Safety Committee meeting that Superintendent Mary Pfeiffer informed him that as of July 9 the district would only be funding one SRO for the middle and elementary schools. Olson said negotiations have been ongoing with the police department expansion was originally estimated to be $2,000 she received as one of the 50 national finalists.

Bennett will be able to expand the existing program by installing additional hydroponics units that can harvest up to 60 pounds of lettuce per week for students and staff. The lab will be run by students who will also receive high school and college credit.

Formerly called the police school liaison officer, SROs are responsible for law enforcement activities at the school during regular hours, but not general student discipline.

With the completion of the new Neenah High School next year, middle school students will move to the former high school. Roosevelt and Wilson Elementary students will move to Horace Mann and Alliance Charter School will move to Wilson. Olson said the new configuration is going to be a challenge for police. He said the officer at the middle school can’t keep up with all the calls and that elementary school calls average more than 100 per year, making it unsustainable to expect one SRO to cover the middle school and all elementary schools. He said the district’s decision is setting the city up to look like they don’t care about the students.

With the new high school in Fox Crossing, Neenah police will no longer be supplying an officer at that location. Alderperson Todd Stevenson said Pfeiffer doesn’t want to fund a second SRO in Neenah because the district will also need to fund one in Fox Crossing.

The council was set to vote on whether Neenah police will continue to provide two SROs to the district at the meeting but instead tabled the issue for a later date.

**New HR director**

Amy Fairchild was introduced as the city’s new HR director at the meeting. Fairchild relocated to Neenah from Sand Springs, Okla.

“1 made the 850-mile trek up here to serve your wonderful citizens and employees and I’m excited to (serve),” she said.

Hydroponics project earns teaching award

As a second-place winner, Bennett will receive the $10,000 award in addition to $2,000 she received as one of the 50 national finalists.

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Future of county diversity panel remains in doubt

By Bethanie Gengler
Norwalk News

Inflating among county supervisors regarding the potential dissolution of the Winnebago County Diversity Affairs Commission (DAC) continued at a Board of Supervisors meeting last week.

District 1 Supervisor Rachael Dowling chastised District 3 Supervisor Karen Pow- er, inquiring whether members of the DAC were racist and accusing a member of being a part of QAnon, a right-wing conspiracy theory.

Power said she didn’t accuse a DAC member of being a part of QAnon but did relay that information that she was told by a resident that a committee member was a part of QAnon.

“No one has insulted anyone and certainly have not suspected Supervisor Dowling in any way whatsoever and if she has something written or something recorded that she can prove me wrong, bring it on,” she said.

Board chair Thomas Egan said the person of concern was warned about what could happen next time.

“Remember, we are all grownups here,” he said.

The fate of the DAC has been a heated topic in recent months, with the committee adopting a resolution to dissolve itself at a meeting in August.

County executive Jon Doemel said during the September Board of Supervisors meet- ing he was considering disbanding the commission, stating he has struggled to maintain a full commission and the DAC has become political.

The DAC is overseen by the UW Educa- tion, Extension and Agriculture Committee. That committee discussed dissolving the DAC last month.

According to the resolution, the commis- sion is ineffective and the relationship with the Agriculture Committee is dysfunctional. Some members of the Agriculture Com- mittee disagree, expressing that they feel the push to dissolve will affirm that diversity has taken a step back in the county.

District 13 Supervisor Steven Binder said during the discussion that Doemel had done everything in his power to dismantle the DAC. He said he offered Doemel many qualified candidates to be on the commis- sion and Doemel didn’t appoint any of them.

The committee voted to table the dissolu- tion vote until November.

Dowling said, referring to the August meeting where Jared Longsine was elected as chair and Dowling as vice chair, after which Longsine mentioned to dissolve the DAC, which Dowling sec- onded.

At the October meeting, two other peo- ple interested in becoming members attended.

The DAC is a part of the $33 million to department revenue. It was discussed whether the DAC should receive the ARPA funding.

“Remember, we’re all grownups here,” he said, adding that the future use of surplus revenue would await further action based on recommendations from the ARPA Strategies and Outcomes Commission.

The board voted 27-9 in favor of accept- ing the ARPA funding. They then discussed a resolution to disperse the entire $33 million to cover revenue losses incurred be- tween March 4, 2021, and Sept. 30, 2022, for departments including sheriff, coroner, emergency management, parks, informa- tion systems, facilities and property man- agement, and Park View Health Center.

District 2 Supervisor Rebecca Nichols expressed concern over the fund balances created by the ARPA reve- nue.

She proposed an amendment to the reso- lution, adding that the future use of surplus revenue would await further action based on recommendations from the ARPA Strategies and Outcomes Commission. The board voted against Nichols’ proposal.

District 4 Supervisor Paul Eisen strongly opposed allocating all the ARPA funding to cover lost revenue. He proposed referring the amendment to the board’s ARPA Com- mission, which the board voted against before voting 27-7 to allocate the entirety of the $33 million to department revenue losses.

By Bethanie Gengler
Norwalk News

Neenah News

Pierce Manufacturing’s Volterra zero-emissions pumper has won the annual Coolest Thing Made in Wisconsin competition.

The Appleton-based Oshkosh Corp. com- pany with facilities in the Town of Neenah and Fox Crossing was among 16 finalists in the 2022 competition, which included seven products manufactured in Northeast Wis- consin. The contest is sponsored by Wiscon- sin Manufacturers & Commerce (WMC) and Johnson Financial Group to highlight innovative products made in Wisconsin.

“Throughout the competition, a strong sense of pride and dedication to innovation was evident with every match-up,” said Lisa Barwick, vice president of marketing in the Fire & Emergency Segment for Oshkosh Corp. “Winning is an incredible distinction, and we are thankful for the support of our Oshkosh Corp. and Pierce team members, the community, our dealer network across North America, and our customers.”

Since the Volterra’s introduction in 2021, Pierce has placed three zero-emissions pumper into three communities: Madison, Portland, Ore., and Gilbert, Ariz.

WMC received more than 100 nominees for its seventh annual contest that had been narrowed down to 16 this week.

“Neenah-based businesses nominated were personalized lithopanes from Anoth- er Turn Woodworks, Quidel Savanna from Plexus Corp, handcrafted mugs from Sunset Hill Stoneware and Big Bag Yellow Popcorn from Valley Popcorn Co.”

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Federal funds

also expressed concerns about accepting the funding.

“We have a lot of great uses for these dol- lars and I’m not going to dispute that we could do a lot of good with this, but where I struggle with this is the money that we take will also hurt us, so it’s almost like a poison pill,” he said.

District 6 Supervisor Brian DeFendorf said he is worried that accepting the funds will create a fiscal cliff for the county in 20 or 30 years.

“What will happen is eventually the money will run out and we’ll have to find ways to continue on with maintaining all these pet projects,” he said.

District 24 Supervisor Andy Buck ques- tioned County Executive Jon Doemel, who said he was unaware if any of the other 71 counties in Wisconsin had declined ARPA funds.

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District 2 Supervisor Rebecca Nichols expressed concern over the future use of the fund balances created by the ARPA reve- nue.

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District 4 Supervisor Paul Eisen strongly opposed allocating all the ARPA funding to cover lost revenue. He proposed referring the amendment to the board’s ARPA Com- mission, which the board voted against before voting 27-7 to allocate the entirety of the $33 million to department revenue losses.

“Ultimately, every dollar that gets spent has to be run through this board,” he said.

“If you’re afraid that accepting this money will create a problem in 30 years because of the way we spend it, then choose wisely when we spend the money. This is about accepting it, so that we can set a framework, so we can choose which projects we should fund.”

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– Dr. Dintelman

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The University of Wisconsin Oshkosh is helping to foster a successful election Nov. 8, supplying a class of trained student poll workers.

More than two dozen students from the Quest III course: Essentials of Civic Engagement were trained in class by Oshkosh City Clerk Jessi Balcom and two representatives of her office. Balcom said the students will serve as paid election inspectors, helping to staff the 15 polling locations in the city.

With elections being such an important part of government—how leaders and representatives are chosen in the political process—Balcom is grateful for those who provide their time and talent to make sure those who are eligible and willing to vote will have the opportunity on Election Day.

Franklin native, Kesha Patel, a sophomore majoring in biomedical science, said she will be helping people get through Election Day processes and is assigned to the Oshkosh Public Library polling site.

“I am excited to work as a poll worker but also very nervous,” she said. “I am excited because this is something that I have never done before. I have voted but it will be interesting to work behind the scenes to see what goes on in the background.”

Patel has a few nerves, when she considers the job involves people’s ballots and votes.

“Our class focuses on lots of aspects of civic engagement and how we as individuals can apply those practices in everyday life,” said Sam Ramaeker, a sophomore student from Neenah who is considering majoring in ecological and organismal biology, said she will be working at Sunnyview Christian Church.

Some of the training students received involved getting voter information, including legal name and place of residence. They were trained how to register people on the day of the election, providing them with the correct ballot based on their address, and even how to find voters’ correct polling place.

“I’m not a huge fan of politics in general because I do not really identify with either party, but I do think this class is beneficial,” she said. “I have already learned that although I do not agree with any one party, engagement in the community is still extremely important.”

Memorable experiences will undoubtedly come during a full day at the polls with hotly contested state races and predicted strong voter turnout.

“This work has a value for our students in that it helps them understand our democratic process and their ability to participate in that it helps them understand our democratic process and their ability to participate in it,” said James Krueger, political science department chair who is teaching the class. “It also provides a substantial benefit to other students who might be more interested in voting if they see their peers staffing the polls and offering to help them register to vote.”

College students from a civil engagement class at UW Oshkosh learned about the local voting process.

Sturgeon spearing license deadline nears
Those interested in sturgeon spearing have until Monday to purchase a license for the 2023 Lake Winnebago sturgeon spearing season.

The season opens Feb. 11 for Lake Winnebago and the Upriver Lakes of Butte des Morts, Winneconne and Poygan, and will run for a maximum of 16 days or until any of the predetermined harvest caps are reached.

The Department of Natural Resources (DNR) notes that during the season, some spearmen use technology such as underwater cameras to help them harvest a sturgeon.

The DNR considered additional regulations on technology used during spearing but decided not to move forward at this time with any additional restrictions this season.

Resident and nonresident licenses can be purchased through the GoWild system or at any license sales location.

Hunting mentor programs offered by DNR
The state Department of Natural Resources (DNR) is encouraging experienced hunters to share their skills and knowledge with novice hunters by becoming hunting mentors this fall.

Mentored hunting is a one-on-one learning experience that can be a great way to help new hunters navigate hunting scenarios with the guidance of somebody with experience.

“Not only do we see interest in learning to hunt from people of all different backgrounds, but many established hunters ask us how to mentor someone new,” said Emily Lehl, DNR hunting and shooting sports program specialist.

“Hunting involves skills that can be uncomfortable to teach and learn with someone you don’t know, such as navigating the woods at night, handling firearms and processing the emotions that come with harvesting an animal. Knowing that you are somebody you can trust is important.”

The DNR offers a variety of opportunities to help facilitate mentor hunting for people of all ages and backgrounds. Go to dnr.wisconsin.gov under the Hunting/Hunter Education and Safety for details.

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By Laurie Schlosser
UW Oshkosh Today

Students learn how to work at election polls

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Debakey students win national honors

Neenah High School seniors Parker DeDeker and Robert Barthell were among three recipients statewide of the National Speech and Debate Association’s Speaking and Service Award. The award was presented to 184 students nationally out of more than 140,000 members of the organization.

The award recognizes students who have reached the maximum number of service points in the student honor society. Students earn distinction through speech and debate competition, as well as community service, public speaking and leadership activities. Example activities include judging that gave them techniques for working with a variety of populations, learned how to safeguard their own mental health and the importance of checking on each other.

The week of training culminated with a variety of populations, learned how to safely and effectively when encountering people living with mental illness. Officers heard presentations of nearly new appliances!

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Volunteer needs

Volunteer Fox Cities’ annual volunteering and wish list guide can be found at volunteer.focists.org. The publication includes holiday-specific volunteer opportunities like bell ringing, helping at nonprofit holiday fund-raisers/parties, holiday meals and sorting/wrapping gifts for nonprofit organizations in the Fox Valley and Oshkosh. It also includes wish list items for local nonprofits.

Orphan Animal Rescue Sanctuary (OARS) is looking for volunteers who love cats and kittens to help feed, clean and play with adoptable kittens and cats at 610 S. Commercial St., Neenah. It usually takes about two hours. For details, contact Patti at 920-729-9600 or lptcomil@gmail.com.

St. Vincent de Paul Neenah/Menasha is seeking friendly cashier volunteers, at least age 18, with some experience, to volunteer in four-hour shifts. Staff members are available for backup and training is provided. After 30 days, volunteers receive a 50 percent discount on everything in the store priced $1.5 or less. For details, contact Toni at volunteercoordinator@svdpeenah.com or 920-727-1766, ext. 3.

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Town of Neenah sets voting equipment test

The public is invited to attend and observe the testing process for the Town of Neenah’s voting equipment at 1 p.m. Tuesday at the Town Hall, 1600 Breeze-wood Lane.

The Public Service and Election Commission administrative rules outline a security protocol to secure the integrity of Wisconsin elections. All municipalities are required to conduct a public test of their voting equipment within 10 days of each election.

Programming is verified by feeding a set of pre-marked ballots into each machine and reviewing the results tape that is generated. Following the public test, the voting equipment and memory devices are secured.

Alzheimer’s awareness featured in play

In partnership with the ADRC of Winnebago County, CLIMB Theatre is presenting its Alzheimer’s Awareness play, “Grandpa and Lucy,” at 1:30 p.m. Nov. 5 at the Neenah Public Library.

November is Alzheimer’s Awareness Month, and CLIMB is helping spread awareness with “Grandpa and Lucy,” based on the children’s book by Edie Weinstein. The youth-centered organization based in Inver Grove Heights, Minn., uses theater to teach social-emotional learning. The touring company brings the programming to schools and libraries across the Midwest, including several dates in Wisconsin.

Starting as a Girl Scout Silver Award project, Weinstein wrote the book as a ninth-grader. Artistic director Anton Jones then adapted the book into CLIMB’s play version, which first toured in 2019. This play aims to help kids and parents strengthen their intergenerational relationships with older relatives who may be struggling with Alzheimer’s or other forms of dementia.

This event is free and open to the public ages 5 and up. There will be a talkback after the event and Brewing Futures Mobile Cafe will be selling drinks, hotdogs, popcorn and snacks from 12:30 to 1:30 p.m. There will be activities for children after the show from 3 to 4 p.m.

Winnebago County residents have free access to CLIMB’s online platform of additional resources, including an animated version of the play, fun activities, and supplemental curriculum. For more details go to climb.org.

Officers immerse in mental health training

Neenah News

Crisis intervention team training was provided to area law enforcement officers earlier this month by NAMI (National Alliance on Mental Illness) Oshkosh that included ride-alongs with Winnebago County caseworkers.

The 40-hour training brought community leaders together to give police officers more tools to do their job safely and effectively when encountering people living with mental illness. Officers heard presentations of nearly new appliances!

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Make the Ride Happen is seeking volunteers to provide transportation to older adults during the week so they can get to essential services, such as the grocery store, pharmacy, dentist and medical appointments. Drivers are eligible to receive 31 cents per mile. Volunteers and passengers wear face masks. Contact Jan at 920-832-9360 or jsrp@volunteerfoxcities.org.

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Recovery programs seek to solve food waste, insecurity

By Charlie Hildebrand and Riley Sumner
WISCONSIN Watch

Driving a university-owned van, University of Wisconsin-Madison student Morgan Barlin traverses the campus, making stops at three dining halls on a spring afternoon.

At each stop, Barlin is met by kitchen staff who present her with various leftover foods, from sweet potatoes to breakfast omelets. These foods, which would have otherwise been thrown away, will be redistributed to students at no cost.

At the end of her route, Barlin records the weight of each donation. Her calculations show that on this day, she saved 271 pounds of food from ending up in the landfill. Barlin’s organization, the Food Recovery Network at the UW-Madison, uses the recovered food to provide free community meals.

The state Department of Natural Resources’ 2020-21 waste characterization study estimates that 854,000 tons of food were thrown away in Wisconsin last year, more than 70% was still edible, which DNR calls “wasted food.” While 1.7 billion pounds of edible food ended up in the garbage in Wisconsin, in 11 people across the state faced hunger.

Groups across the state have searched for alternatives to get food that would be otherwise thrown away, to provide free meals to the community.

“I think it’s more of a keyhole problem,” said Helen Osborn-Senatus, director of operations at the River Food Pantry in Madison. “There’s this secret in the food bank world that began with Second Harvest, and they’re sourcing their food from grocery stores. But redistributing restaurant and grocery food — but what is the quality of that food?”

“Waste a matter of taste”

Brandon Scholz, the CEO and president of the Wisconsin Food Processors Association, acknowledges such efforts do cut dumpster fees, but he says that isn’t the only goal.

“When you have to put (food) in the dumpster, you are wasting that money — which you don’t want to do,” Scholz said. “The last thing (grocers) would do, (after) the expiration date, they would test the food. It’s the season where election ads and big box messages crowd the airwaves and social platforms. Don’t get lost in the shuffle!

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Police transport

Van Horn continued CPR until the ambulance arrived. Yang was pronounced dead before arriving at the hospital. It was determined Yang was able to exit the moving vehicle because the child safety locks, which would have prevented her from opening the back doors from the inside, were unengaged.

Both of the sheriff’s deputies involved in the transport consented to a blood draw and were placed on administrative leave pending the outcome of an investigation by an outside agency. The Winnebago County Sheriff’s Department was selected to complete the investigation.

Documents indicate Van Horn and Steele both obtained legal consent and refused to consent to an interview about the incident if it was recorded. According to a written summary of the interviews, Van Horn said he didn’t hear Yang remove her seatbelt before her exiting the vehicle.

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Van Horn’s 30-year law enforcement career. Both deputies confirmed they never received special training on transports and there wasn’t a checklist used before transport. They both said they believed all transport vans had their interior handles disabled because their only role in Yang’s death was failing to check that the child safety locks were engaged. He noted there is no Outagamie Sheriff’s Office policy requiring deputies to check the child safety locks. The sheriff’s office did not respond to a request for comment.

“I conclude these officers’ failure to check and enable the child safety lock setting is not an act constituting criminal-ly negligent handling or operation of the transport van, and conclude no criminal charges are appropriate,” Levin wrote in the death review.

Yang was a married mother of two young children.

Food recovery

they exhausted all other options, is throw it away.”

If a grocery store is throwing away food, the U.S. Department of Agriculture does not regulate food items’ code dates, which include consume-by, sell-by and freeze-by dates, among other phrases.

“Basically, what this means is, a portion of food we receive in via donation and distribute out is in fact past (its) listed code date. (But) this does not impact the safety of the food being distributed,” Steele said.

Scholz explains these dates are “more of a guideline than a requirement,” adding, “What happens if you eat a product with a sell-by date of April 7th on April 8th? Really nothing.”

Grocers are more motivated to keep food fresh to satisfy customer demand rather than because of any health code requirement, he said.

“There is not necessarily a specific law that says you have to get rid of lettuce that looks brown,” Scholz said. “This is a highly competitive business, so you don’t want to have crummy looking produce, because if your competitors have better looking stuff, then your customers are going there.”

On an $100 grocery sale, after various expenses, a grocer is only left with just 80 cents in profit — a margin of less than 1%, Scholz said.

“If a grocery store is throwing away food, it’s probably for a reason,” he said. “There’s probably some foolish retailer out there that does (throw away food for no reason), but I can assure you that there isn’t one in Wisconsin.”

Restaurants must adhere to health codes that sometimes prompt them to discard edible food.

Food must be kept at certain temperatures, says Susan Quam, executive vice president of the Wisconsin Restaurant Association. If food is continuously kept within the required temperature range, it can be re-served and not wasted, she says. But, “If it’s something that is supposed to be kept cold, and was kept at room temperature, then you are not able to keep that product — you must dispose of it within four hours,” she said.

Restaurants are under the same pressure as grocery stores. Quam says profit margins in the industry are low, and restaurants are incentivized to reduce food waste since they are losing money for each dish that is discarded. But safety is the top priority.

“Food safety plays a big factor in anything a restaurant does,” she said. “We protect public health first and foremost. Ideally we have (restaurant) operators not doing anything that produces waste.”

Beyond waste produced at grocery stores and restaurants, Barlin says the majority of food waste is generated by individuals. According to the USDA, 31% of the edible food supply in the United States was not eaten in 2010 — with consumers responsible for more lost food than retailers.

That year, consumers threw away 90 billion pounds of food; Barlin notes this presents a good opportunity for people to learn how to reduce food waste at home, with campaigns dedicated to repurposing food components often thought of as inedible, such as broccoli stems.

The task can be as simple as making a grocery list to avoid overbuying, or educating themselves on unregulated “best by” dates to avoid throwing away food while it’s still edible.

“If you’re more attuned to how far your food has traveled to get to your plate or who has labored to get that food to your plate,” Barlin said, “it’s much harder to throw out that meal.”
It’s time for Round 2. Fox Valley Association co-champions Neenah and Kimberly will meet for the second time this season Friday night at Rocket Field as the two teams collide in a WIAA Division 1 Level 2 playoff game. Kimberly won the regular-season meeting 31-10 in Week 8, but the Rockets are hoping for a different outcome this time around where the winner extends its season at least one more week to face the winner of the Middleton-Waunakee game.

“Our kids have risen to the occasion all season and as coaches, we have to put them in a situation to have success,” Neenah head coach Steve Jung said. “Our kids believe in what we are doing. I expect it to be a great game.”

One of the most notable differences this time around is that the Rockets get to hold the game on their home field. The regular-season meeting was at Kimberly.

“It’s awesome to get to play them again, especially at our place. We got another shot at them,” said senior lineman Blake Dietzen. “They got us pretty good but we didn’t feel like we were 100 percent for that one. We have to come out fast and physical. That’s always been our motto. We didn’t do that the first time.”

Neenah’s offense is highlighted by senior quarterback Evan Vanevenhoven. He added 122 yards on just nine carries with a touchdown and three for a score as well.

The Rockets led only 7-0 after the first quarter against the Spartans and the game was tied early in the second quarter before the Rockets rattled off 33 straight points to break the game open.

Jung is looking for an even faster start against the Papermakers, who blanked the Rockets in the first half last time.

“We have to score on our first or second drive. That’s a must,” Jung said. They did some nice things against us defensively and we need to be able to adjust our game plan and attack what they give us.”

Defensively, the Rockets may look to change some things up for this meeting after allowing nearly 400 yards of total offense the first time.

Kimberly’s talented runner Blake Berry ran for 228 yards against Neenah, while quarterback Seth Mirron finished 10-of-14 for 161 yards, so giving the Papermakers some different looks will certainly be part of the game plan.

"Hopefully we can catch them off guard with it,” senior linebacker Trevor McGinnis said. “That first meeting is the past, so we just have to move on and be ready.”

Plus, there is more at stake this time when the two teams hit the field and this time, that field will be grass and located when the two teams hit the field and this time, that field will be grass and located in Neenah.

“It’s going to be a game-changer,” McGinnis said. “If we can get past Kimberly, that would be a big boost and we would be unfazed when it comes to who is next.”

McGinnis echoed Dietzen’s thoughts about playing at home.

“His going to be a game-changer,” McGinnis said. “If we can get past Kimberly, that would be a big boost and we would be unfazed when it comes to who is next.”

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"Its going to be a game-changer," McGinnis said. “If we can get past Kimberly, that would be a big boost and we would be unfazed when it comes to who is next.”
Rockets’ Dorner almost enjoys going for a run

By Steve Clark

Senior Spotlight

It wasn’t full speed ahead for Jack Dorner when he took up cross country in seventh grade.

Well, maybe it was. But there just wasn’t a lot of speed there yet.

“I didn’t really like it and I wasn’t very good at it,” Dorner said. “I wasn’t very coordinated or athletic at that point, so I really didn’t have anything else to do. I was just going to stick with it and see what happened. I didn’t expect to be good at it.”

What happened was that Dorner discovered the more he ran, the faster he would get. So he trained a little bit for his eighth grade year and started getting better. As he entered high school, he started training even more and that led to some success.

As a sophomore, he had developed into a varsity runner and was Neenah’s fourth finisher on a team that took seventh at state and then finished “1st overall and was the Rockets’ second finisher at the state meet as a junior.”

“The middle to end of my sophomore year, I realized that if I started working on this, I could actually be pretty good at it, so then I trained more,” Dorner said. “Over the course of five years I grew to the point where I almost enjoy running now, which makes it easier to train.”

Almost enjoy running?

“I’m getting close,” he said with a smile. Dorner may not fully enjoy it, yet, but that hasn’t diminished the results he’s put up in his senior season.

He finished third at the Fox Valley Association meet to help lead the Rockets to their third straight conference title and was Neenah’s fourth finisher at their third straight conference title and was Neenah’s fourth finisher at the State and then finished 71st overall and didn’t make it to keep doing it when I’m older,” Dorner said. “It was so exciting for all of us to see him do that.”

Dorner doesn’t have visions of following in Henderson’s exact footsteps Saturday, but he is looking for a much better finish in his second trip around the course at The Ridge.

“I just want to race well. This year, I know what to expect and I hope to place in the top 30 or top 20, we’ll see how it goes,” Dorner said. “The third mile, it’s probably the most difficult third mile in a course we face all season. It’s mostly uphill the whole third mile so you have to be careful you don’t go out too fast, but it’s a downhill start so it’s difficult.”

Even if Dorner doesn’t fully enjoy running, there are advantages that he pulls from getting out and training.

He said that running on his own gives him a chance to think about the future – whether it be an upcoming test in a tough class or what awaits him three years down the road. He also uses the time to visualize a race if there is one upcoming.

“Sometimes, it’s just relaxing to go out and get a good run in. It clears your mind and it’s great to get the fresh air,” Dorner said. “I find that I just feel smarter when I’m running. When I’m not doing something, I feel sluggish, but I find that during a season or when I’m training, I feel sharper.”

Dorner hopes to continue running throughout his life and aims to extend his competitive running career next year at the Milwaukee School of Engineering.

“It’s important to finish my career at state. That was my biggest goal coming into the year – to get the team to the state meet,” Dorner said. “This is by far one of the best teams here at the high school. A great culture and a great history. It’s awesome.”

Dorner said he was disappointed with his finish at the state meet last year – “The course kind of surprised me” – but overall, it was a good day to be a Rocket runner.

Teammate Austin Henderson finished first in the Division I race and that dispersed any ill feelings about the day.

“Coming across the finish line and hearing that he had won it, that was easily the best day of the season and it was one of the best moments of my high school career,” Dorner said. “It was so exciting for all of us to see him do that.”

Senior Jack Dorner has been the No. 1 runner all season for the Neenah Rockets and will lead the defending Division I champions into the state meet this weekend in Wisconsin Rapids.
The Neenah squad set to make famous trip to state meet

By Steve Clark
Neenah News

Both the Neenah High School girls and boys cross country teams are headed back to Wisconsin Rapids to compete in the WIAA State Cross Country Championships.

The girls advanced by finishing first at the Stevens Point sectional last Saturday, while the boys took second to earn their trip to The Ridge Golf Course.

“It’s a trip that both teams have made of- ten. The girls will be making their 29th ap- pearance at a state meet as a team, which is the second most in WIAA history, trail- ing only Stevens Point’s 31 state trips. The boys rank sixth overall with 36 appearanc- es as a team, trailing only Stevens Point (49), Shorewood (45), Madison West (44), Whitefish Bay (41) and Racine Park (43).”

“It’s really exciting,” said senior Ian Cowell. “We put in a lot of work, not just in season but a lot leading up to the sea- son. Overall, it’s really a cool experience to get to go as a team again like last year. “

Cowell. “We put in a lot of work, not just during the season but also throughout the year. We want to represent ourselves well and they have our own internal team goals that are important to us and we’re looking forward to see how we compare to the state as a whole.”

The Neenah runners should be free of pressure this week, now, unlike the sec- tional meet. Both runners finished in the top 15 of their respective races and will be looking to improve on their performance.

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“We’re hoping to be healthy going into the meet,” Heidke said. “Once you get to the postseason, it’s all about where we place,” Cowell said.

The Neenah girls will also have four members of last year’s state-qualifying team returning for Saturday’s meet.

Senior Lauren Tears is the top returning finisher from last year’s meet having placed 5th overall while junior Lexi Dorner and sophomores Brooke Veith and Maize Ol- kowski also ran with the state team last season.

The fouriers will be joined by junior Lauren Linsteadt and freshmen Natalie Williams and Elsa Gruber.

“We’re hoping to be healthy going into the meet,” Heidke said. “Once you get to the postseason, it’s all about where we place,” Cowell said.

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The Zephyrs finished with 6.5 sacks in the Post averaged 18.1 yards per carry and had en route to the win.

The Zephyrs, who finished 8-0 in 8-player games this season, scored four touchdowns in the first quarter and led 48-0 at halftime en route to the win. 

The Zephyrs, who finished in fourth place in the final team standings, just five points behind Pettsville for third place. Pacelli and Pardeeville grabbed the top two spots. 

American Groppe led St. Mary Catholic in 18th place, two spots ahead of teammate Benjamin Schoeni. Nathan Seiske was 22nd, with Ian Albino taking 26th and Owen Ripley finishing 42nd. 

Rockets fall to nationally ranked Oconomowoc 

Neenah’s volleyball season came to an end as the Rockets fell to Oconomowoc 25-15, 25-20, 23-25, 15-25 in a WIAA Division 1 regional final. Oconomowoc is ranked 17th in the nation.

Carl Stamm and Marissa Corso each had six kills to lead the Rockets, while Claudia McDermott notched the next two points to close the set. Oconomowoc came back with four points to establish an 11-point lead at 23-12. The Rockets fought back to tie the set at 23, but the Lightning notched the next two points to close out the set.

After the first set, we decided to come out and be aggressive from the beginning and to not back down,” Coenen said. "It was so proud of our guys for how they battled the entire set. We had no quit and Noah Harmon really got us going from the middle with some nice swings and looks to drive us up a group.”

The Rockets finished the season with a 16-13 record, which was the first time the program has finished with a season record since 2002 – the last time the program advanced to the state tournament.

Coenen credits the team’s talented se-

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The Neenah High School Boys Basketball Boosters will host its annual Fish Fry Dinner Fundraiser Nov. 10. 

The evening speakers are Todd and Carol Dekker, parents of University of Wisconsin–Madison former basketball player Sam Dekker. The Dekkers will sit down with Coach Lee Babas to answer questions and discuss their basketball journey.

"One of the biggest things that I think about people and relationships,” Babas said. "People will attend for one of two reasons, Neenah or basketball, and hopefully in many cases, both. My hope is for this to be one of the times each year when former players, parents, coaches, fans, and people of Neenah come together to re-establish, strengthen, and perhaps even begin new relationships.

The event begins at 5:30 p.m. with a so- cial hour and dinner. Burritos and a variety of food will be served from 6:30 p.m. and the evening concludes with the speakers, raffle and silent auction win-

Tickets are $50 per person, $80 per couple, $300 for a table of 8, or $30 for former players or district staff. Tickets can be purchased at neenahboyshoops.com or by contacting Rabas at rhabas@neenah.12.wiaa.
Standards Link: Science Investigation: Conduct simple experiments.

**THE EXPERIMENT**

1. Spray each piece of food with a little water.
2. Place each piece of food in a separate jar, screw on the lid and write the food type and date on the lid.
3. Place the jars in different locations—in sunlight, a cool place (in your refrigerator) and one in a warm place.
4. Examine the jars everyday, observe the changes and record how quickly food gets moldy.

**The Science**

Molds don’t grow from seeds. They grow from spores that float in the air. These spores multiply on damp food and the chemical they produce will make the food rot.

**Extronal Halloween Science**

Halloween Humor

If you were a scientist and could invent something extraordinary, what would it be?

Explaination: Baking soda added to vinegar creates a chemical reaction that makes carbon dioxide. This gas rises upwards into the balloon, inflating it.

**STUFF YOU’LL NEED:**
- canning jars with lids
- water in a spray bottle
- bread, cheese, apple cut into one-inch cubes

**STUFF YOU’LL NEED:**
- balloon
- 1 cup vinegar
- 1 tbsp baking soda

1. Pour the vinegar into the plastic bottle.
2. Carefully pour a tablespoon of baking soda into the balloon.
3. Stretch the neck of the balloon over the bottle opening.
4. Slightly lift the balloon from the top so that the baking soda falls into the vinegar. Watch out!

**WRITE ON!**

**HALLOWEEN EXPERIMENT**
- SKELETON
- PUMPKINS
- BUBBLES
- SPORES
- SPIDER
- BLACK
- MOLDS
- SEEDS
- JACK
- SOAK
- GLOW
- DAMP
- ROT

Find the word in the puzzle. How many of them can you find on this page?


**Double Double Word Search**

**STUFF YOU’LL NEED:**
- bowl of water
- highlighters
- bubble solution
- black light

Have a parent help you open the highlighter pen.
Pull out the felt and place it in a small amount of water. Let it soak for a few minutes and then discard the felt. Add a small amount of bubble solution to the rest. Your mixture should be half highlighter water and half bubble solution.

**Halloween Hunt**

Look through the newspaper to find:
- a pumpkin
- a costume
- a spider
- a black cat
- a spooky house
- a ghost
- a skeleton
- a black cat
- a costume

Hunt this information.

**Only two of the jack o’lanterns below are exactly the same. Can you find them? If you get stuck, do the math. The two even-numbered pumpkins are the matching pair.**

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Use the newspaper to locate the matching pair of pumpkins.