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### Role in stabbing death brings prison sentence

By Bethanie Gengler

A Minnesota woman will spend a total of three years incarcerated and four years on extended supervision for her role in the Neenah stabbing death of Roger Ridgeway last year.

Terran Colwell, 30, was given 501 days of credit toward her prison sentence for time served. She was also ordered to pay about \$2,000 restitution to the Crime Victim Compensation fund to cover the cost of Ridgeway's cremation.

Colwell was originally charged with felony murder. The charge was later amended and she pled no contest and was convicted of substantial battery with intention to cause bodily harm and harboring or aiding a felon.

Mandel Roy, 27, of Minnesota, was charged with felony murder in the case. He pleaded not guilty and his next court hearing is scheduled for Oct. 31. While incarcerated in the Winnebago County Jail, he has been charged with four misdemeanor counts for destroying jail property, beating an inmate and scuffling with corrections officers.

# Valley VNA starts facility project

### Lyon Drive location will see many improvements

Neenah News

Valley VNA Senior Care took the next step in its Caring for Generations campaign with a groundbreaking event Thursday to mark the start of expanding its Neenah fa-

Valley VNA plans multiple renovations at 1535 Lyon Drive to improve senior living quality and safety. The project includes enhancing air filtration systems, ensuring people with dementia or increased physical requirements have better accommodations, improved safety of common areas and adding or updating other building spaces.

As part of the project, 9,835 square feet of new space will be added to kitchens, dining rooms and lounges. Living quarters, outdoor courtyards and special amenities such as the Namaste Room, Fitness Center and other areas will be added or improved.

"This project will allow us to make building renovations that ensure people with dementia or increased physical requirements will have better accommodations and enjoy their surroundings more," said Valley VNA president Theresa Pichelmeyer.

The 114-year-old Neenah nonprofit, which serves the Neenah-Menasha community, quietly launched the fundraising campaign in March 2020 before the onset of the pandemic with the public announcement in April 2021.

The organization also received a \$4.4 million grant from the city of Neenah that was part of statewide grants going to vulnerable populations and communities with long-term investments and recovery projects impacted by higher construction costs and inflation during the pandemic.

The project's first phase includes building 11 rooms with common space for activities and a courtyard, according to Tom Martin, president and partner with Community Living Services in Appleton, which is constructing the facility. While the addition is

SEE Valley VNA ON PAGE 5

# Taking an MLB road trip

### Schuelke completes extensive stadium tour

By Tim Froberg News contributor

In his classic hit "I've been everywhere," legendary country singer Johnny Cash told the world about his visits to countless cities across the United States.

Put a baseball theme and stadium spin to it, and Mike Schuelke could make a similar claim.

The Neenah resident and dedicated Milwaukee Brewers fan recently completed an extensive stadium tour that saw him visit all 30 Major League Baseball ballparks. It was a bucket-list-type journey that took 18 years and concluded Sept. 5 when Schuelke and his wife, Sue, took in a Colorado Rockies' game at Coors Field in Denver.

Schuelke is the one rare person who could look at the entire landscape of MLB stadiums and deliver the words 'been there, done that.'

"If someone builds a new stadium, I'm not going," said Schuelke with a laugh. "It took a while, but my list is complete. The really neat thing is that on the final trip to Denver, the Rockies were playing the

Schuelke's multi-stadium tour included stops at the Baseball Hall of Fame in Cooperstown, N.Y., the Negro Leagues Museum in St. Louis, Mo., Field of Dreams in Dyersville, Iowa, the National Softball Hall of Fame in Oklahoma City, Okla. and the Louisville Slugger Museum in Louisville, Ken.. He also attended games at the spring training headquarters of the Brewers, Rockies, Baltimore Orioles and Boston Red Sox.

And there are some stadiums that he visited twice.

Schuelke's journey started in 2004 with an East Coast road trip in late June when he and father, Harland "Bud" Schuelke, caught ballgames at eight stadiums in eight days. Philadelphia's Citizens Bank Park was the first stop followed by Boston's historic Fenway Park. The Schuelkes then took in a Subway Series in New York for Mets' and Yankees' games.



Neenah resident Mike Schuelke recently completed a journey that took him to every Major League Baseball stadium in the country. Here he is pictured at Angels Stadium in California.

Baltimore's Camden Yards was next, followed by stops at Cleveland's Progressive Field (then Jacobs Field), Pittsburgh's PNC Field and Chicago's Wrigley Field.

"That first road trip was pretty intense," said Schuelke, a retired former physical education teacher and coach at Neenah High School. "We would usually start driving as soon as the game ended and be on our way to the next one."

Schuelke, 71, drove to the vast majority of his stadium visits. Usually, either Bud or Sue accompanied him, but if they were unavailable, he'd go by himself. However, he often used the trips to reunite and visit with many of his former students and athletes, using social media platforms such as Facebook to contact and communicate with them.

Schuelke coached swimming and diving along with softball for 27 years at Neenah High School. He also was an assistant swimming coach at Appleton North and a diving coach at Appleton West (whose divers were comprised of

SEE **Stadium stops** ON PAGE 11

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### Corrections

It is the policy of the Neenah News to correct all errors of fact. For correction information, call 920-486-1616.

### About the newspaper

Published every Friday and mailed to subscribers through the U.S. Postal Service and available online at www.neenahnewsnow.com.

Neenah News content serves the Neenah Joint School District geographical footprint. Cover price: \$2.00

Neenah News is owned by Oshkosh Herald LLC, 36 Broad St. Suite 300, Oshkosh, WI, 54901. 920-385-4512.

# Supplies from local donors headed to Florida

Neenah News

Hurricane Ian's destructive path in southwest Florida has prompted local and statewide relief efforts, including one launched by the Neenah Police Department this week to get a semitrailer full of supplies to the Fort Myers area.

The truck provided by N&M Transfer

Co. based in Neenah, was parked at the Pick 'N Save on Green Bay Road while volunteers accepted donations through the day Wednesday, including four to six pallets of baby food, diapers and feminine and cleaning products from Jake's Network of Hope.

Water will be in high demand in that area

as service utility work continues, along with nonperishable items such as bleach, disinfectant wipes, paper towels, personal hygiene products and nonperishable food.

Neenah police said they were in direct contact with the Fort Myers police department who will assure the donated items are quickly distributed to those in need.

# Calumet County crash victim identified

Neenah News

A 52-year-old Neenah woman killed Sept. 27 when her vehicle collided with a dump truck in the Village of Harrison in Calumet County has been identified.

Patricia "Trish" Nau was traveling east in an SUV on State 114 at State Park Road when she turned in front of a dump truck traveling west and the vehicles collided, according to the Calumet County Sheriff's Office. Callers to police, including one at about 7:30 a.m. to 911, reported that the two vehicles were on fire.

Authorities who responded found Nau trapped in her vehicle. She was pronounced dead at the scene. The driver of the truck, a 47-year-old Greenleaf man, was able to escape from his vehicle with minor injuries. Police believe the angle of the sun may have been an obstructing factor in the crash.

Nau worked as a park and recreation planner for the State of Wisconsin at the East Central Regional Planning Commission for more than 25 years. In April, the Village of Harrison announced Nau was hired as assistant planner. The crash occurred near the Harrison Village Hall.



### Classic bake shop

Gene's Bake Shop advertised pumpkin pie for sale in this 1960s photo. The shop at 202 W. Wisconsin Ave. was established by Gene Van Gorp in 1947. Bob Krieg met his wife, Irene, while working at Gene's and they eventually purchased it in 1968. Gene's was known for its triple chocolate doughnuts.





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# Pet pantry welcomes compassionate donations

By Jenny Grunwald Neenah News

Lovie's Free Little Pet Food Pantry works like a little library but instead of books it's filled with pet food and treats donated by people in the community.

The pantry at 937 Adams St. in Neenah was set up and running in the summer of 2021 and is maintained by animal lover Nikki Chaganos, who got the idea from the little library concept but was inspired to set it up when she rescued her dog, Lovie, in 2020.

It has since taken off by word of mouth and on social media. People can find the pantry filled with cat and dog food, large amounts of pet food and various other pet supplies. It all depends on what has been donated that day.

"Each day is different," Chaganos said. When receiving larger amounts of pet food, Chaganos needs people to help bag and label the food, which people in the community have also been helpful with.

"I want them to know kind of what they're getting, like what brand it is and what type it is and if it has a flavor because if the pet has an allergy, like if they're allergic to chicken," she said. "Whoever I have labeling, I tell them to put as much information on the label as possible."

The Neenah Animal Shelter and other rescue services will provide food if they have an overstock of food and treats in their own pantry. Lovie's is rarely low on stock because residents have been keeping it stocked.

"I think the Fox Valley is a very animal-loving community and I think it's a very generous community as well," Chaganos said.

Lovie's also runs during winter months. Anyone interested in donating or those in need can go to and from the pantry at their convenience.

The pantry is teaming up with the Neenah Animal Shelter and Lost Dogs of Wisconsin to create a program to help pet owners get their dog or cat microchipped. Customers can get a voucher from Lovie's that they can then take to the shelter with an appointment to get the chip implanted in their animal. Lost Dogs will reimburse the charge of the chip, including tax.

Microchipping pets is considered an important part of pet ownership because it can reunite owners of lost animals quickly and safely, without having to take the animal to a shelter.

"If we could get these animals home sooner than later, that's going to be amazing" Chaganos said.

She also runs an animal care business in the Neenah area called Pet Sitter Galore and More. Services include pet sitting, dog walking, nail trimming and other work depending on the pet and owners' needs. Chaganos takes on all animal breeds and pets with special needs.

Chaganos will go as far as running errands to pick up pet supplies for those who may have limited transportation access. Through her dedication and love for animals, her clients get reassurance their pets are being cared for by family.

More information about Lovie's Free Little Pet Food Pantry is on Facebook.



Submitted pho

Nikki Chaganos has operated Lovie's Free Little Pet Food Pantry since the summer of 2021.



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Dave Radford has deep roots in the Fox Valley. As the great, great grandson of Theda Clark Peters — whose gift launched the first ThedaCare hospital more than a century ago — Dave's family ties inspired him to pursue a career at ThedaCare. Today, Dave continues his family's legacy by sharing the inspiring stories from ThedaCare patients and by serving on the board of a private philanthropic foundation, offering grants to support community organizations.

Dave is one of 7,000 ThedaCare team members who are inspired to create a healthier future for all.



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# Book Festival features slate of authors in Neenah

Neenah News

The Fox Cities Book Festival celebrates its 15th anniversary Oct. 13-16 with an eclectic mix of noted authors spanning multiple genres, including five writers being hosted at

The Brigade in Neenah on Saturday, Oct. 15.

Best-selling author Jennifer Chiaverini will discuss her World War I novel "Switchboard Soldiers" at 11 a.m. to lead off writer presentations at The Brigade. She is the author of 32 novels, including critically acclaimed historical fiction and the "Elm Creek Quilts" series. Her works of nonfiction include seven collections of quilt patterns and original designs featured in Country Quiltmaker Woman, and Quilt.





Muldoon

"Switchboard Sol-

diers" is a historical fiction story set during World War I about an adventure-seeking and talented young womn serving in the U.S. Army Signal Corps that the author said was based on a Wisconsin woman's experience.

A native of Cincinnati and current Madison resident, Chiaverini graduated from the University of Notre Dame and University of Chi-

cago, and taught writing at Penn State and Edgewood College.

Wisconsin author Andrew Graff will lead a 1 p.m. discussion, reading and question-and-answer session about his newest book, "Raft of Stars." The fictional story is about two young boys from a small town in

# County supervisor decides to step down

Bob Poeschl, who was elected to the Winnebago County Board in District 19 earlier this year and has served on the Oshkosh Area School District Board of Education for nearly six years, will be resigning from both posts after accepting a position that would bring a conflict of interest to his public servitude.

At last week's Board of Education meeting, Poeschl said he has accepted a position with Disability Rights Wisconsin, which he described to be the "leading nonprofit organization that provides advocacy for persons with disabilities."

In his role, he said he will be part of both fundraising and communication elements of the organization, which includes regular interaction with school districts, municipalities and counties to represent the needs of those with disabilities.

"I'm not out of it," he added. "I'll still be engaged in our community; I just won't be engaged as an elected leader."



Wisconsin in 1994 who believe they have committed a crime and flee into the Northwoods.

A Lawrence University graduate who grew up in Marinette County, his fiction and essays have appeared in Image and Dappled

Graff



Chang

Peynado

Artist and writer Molly Muldoon will lead a Q&A from 2:30 to 3:30 p.m. She is a demisexual fanfiction enthusiast whose works include "A Quick and Easy Guide to Asexuality," "The Cardboard Kingdom" and "Dead Weight: Murder at Camp Bloom."

Things. After a tour of

duty in Afghanistan,

Graff earned an MFA

from the Iowa Writers'

Workshop. He lives in

Ohio and is a visiting

writing professor at Wit-

tenberg University.

Her diverse past includes being a preschool teacher in Tokyo, a Shakespeare master's student in London, an independent bookseller in Brooklyn, a librarian-in-training in Dublin and a freelance editor and writer in her hometown of Portland.

Lan Samantha Chang will read from her newest novel, "The Family Chao," from 6 to 7 p.m. at The Brigade. The author of two previous

novels, "All Is Forgotten, Nothing Is Lost" and "Inheritance," and a story collection, "Hunger," she is the director of the Univer-

sity of Iowa Writers' Workshop.

She has described "The Family Chao" as a literary caper and drama about an Asian American restaurant family living in a small city in Wisconsin. A tyrannical but charismatic restaurant owner and his wife have three sons, each adapting to immigrant life in America – and their father – in a different way.

Chang was born and raised in Appleton, then earned a bachelor's degree in East Asian studies from Yale University. She worked in publishing in New York City before getting her master's from the Kennedy School of Government at Harvard University.

Short story writer Brenda Peynado is featured at 7 p.m. with a discussion about how pandemics, social media, inequality and violence distance us from each other as we make sense of our lives and love. Her short story collection "The Rock Eaters" earned starred reviews from Publisher's Weekly and Kirkus Reviews, and was named one of NPR, the New York Public Library and Electric Literature's best books of the year.

Peynado is a Dominican American writer of fiction, nonfiction and screenplays, stories that have won an O. Henry Prize, Chicago Tribune's Nelson Algren Award and a Dana Award among her honors.

A Local Author Fair is also being featured at The Brigade from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. that Saturday. Writers include Adrian Martin, Barbara Wulf, Cailyn Lloyd, Chia Gounza Vang, David Cruickshank, Diane Dahl, J.B. Sensenbrenner, Jill Dobbe, Jill Sisson Quinn, Julia Flaherty, Julie Genisot, Kirsten Hopfensperger, Leah Dobrinska and Michelle Marez.

The festival kicks off Oct. 13 at River Tyme Bistro in Appletonwith an event honoring the late Ellen Kort from Appleton, who was Wisconsin's first Poet Laureate and a founder of the festival. People were invited to submit original art and poetry in response to her poem "Reading Our Lives."

Find the full schedule of authors and events scheduled throughout the Fox Cities at foxcitiesbookfestival.org.



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### **Valley VNA**

FROM PAGE 1

being built, Amber Court — the area closest to Lyon Drive — will be remodeled.

Once those projects are complete, Martin said the rest of the building will be remodeled, which includes knocking out walls to create larger rooms, bathrooms, replacing kitchens, increasing natural light, reconfiguring common space for activities and removing barriers for visualization of residents. He said the entire project should be complete by 2024.

Residential-style kitchens are planned that serve a smaller number of residents than a large dining room. These small kitchens will have a wheel-up breakfast bar where residents can watch some of the activity around their food prep in a more homelike setting.

"Mealtime routines are a comforting rhythm to our days, and they engender warm conversations between residents, families and staff," Pichelmeyer said when the project was first announced. "We want our residents to feel at home, and these improvements in our facilities will only match the excellent care they receive from our team. We are very happy to get started."

Valley VNA was established by Neenah and Menasha residents in 1908 as an independent nonprofit organization with visiting nurses providing home care, well-child visits and even dental care.

Valley VNA's current community outreach includes foot care clinics, coordinating the Meals on Wheels program, In-Home Care and caregiver support programs like Lyrics & Laughter music groups and monthly Memory Care Respite Part-





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Oct. 13

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Oct. 25

Oct. 29

Oct. 30

Oct. 31

Oct. 27-28

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# Hall of Fame event marked with laughter, tears, cheers

By Patti Lee
News Contributor

The Neenah Joint School District's Hall of Fame banquet honored five new members, including two former city mayors, at its seventh event Saturday night.

An eclectic presentation of pre-event and luncheon music at Bridgewood Resort was provided by the Neenah High School Touch of Class Orchestra. Master of ceremonies Gary Lemieux provided a tutorial on the NHS School Song, followed by full-throated participation by guests and honorees.

District Superintendent Mary Pfeiffer welcomed attendees and honorees, proclaiming it to be "a great place to be on a Saturday morning after a Homecoming victory," adding, "By the way, Kimberly lost!"

Pfeiffer noted that the district has come a long way since 1876 when the first graduating class consisted of nine students. She stressed the importance of "believing in yourself" and "turning doubt into dreams," noting that this theme would resonate in the stories of all the honorees.

Pfeiffer gave special accolades to attending coaches and members of the undefeated Neenah High football team, reigning state basketball champion and national champion debate team.

Committee chair Jim Strick introduced the Hall of Fame Committee and past inductees in attendance before LeMieux introduced the new inductees.

Marigen Carpenter, a 1952 graduate who also taught in the district in 1978 and 1980, was Neenah's longest-serving mayor and

first female city leader, serving for 16 years from 1982-98. She also was the first female city council president while serving five years as an alderperson. Carpenter was key in the development of the industrial park on the city's south side and, near the end of her term, initiated the planning of the current Neenah Public Library.

"I do remember my teachers but since I'm 88 years old, name-dropping probably wouldn't work too well," she said.

She creditied her experiences with the League of Women Voters and attending Neenah City Council meetings with her discovery that she was a political "addict."

"You don't do anything by yourself, with two exceptions," she said. "A mayor can issue proclamations and doesn't have to ask anybody's permission, and she can also give permission to ride a horse through town."

Pat Hawley is a 1970 graduate, most valuable player of the high school's 1970 WIAA state runner-up basketball team and still ranks seventh in school history with 830 career points. A Neenah native, he was renowned as a leader who put up big numbers. Hawley went on to serve as the chief financial officer at ThedaCare from 1990-2007 and at Alta Resources Corp. from 2007-2015.

In a moving reminiscence, Hawley credited his education at Neenah High and Coach Ron Einerson for his success later in life

"It gave me confidence and it taught me humility," Hawley recalled, displaying deep pride in remembering his team "that just overachieved. (Einerson) taught us how to



Neenah Joint School District photo

The school district's Hall of Fame inductees this year included (from left) Susan Karamanian, George Scherck, Pat Hawley, Marigen Carpenter and Tom Jensen, who was represented by two of his daughters.

win in a humble way. It was just a tremendous experience."

Hawley still volunteers as a math tutor and mentor to students. "You've got to give back. Not everyone is as fortunate as I have been," he said.

Tom Jensen taught social studies and coached boys cross country at the high school from 1968-95, earning 11 conference championships and 11 trips to the state cross country meet. He is a member of the Wisconsin Cross Country Coaches Association Hall of Fame and was the district's teacher of the year in 1983. He helped originate the Neenah Summer Fun Run program in 1995 and has been leading that annual tradition for the past 27 summer sees.

Unable to attend due to a recent health issue, Jensen's award was accepted by long-time colleague and friend Will Scribner. Regaling the attendees with stories, Scribner spoke of his years with Jensen as his walking partner.

"The theme I think you'll see with Tom is that Tom's life exemplifies the St. Francis prayer," Scribner said. "His life is to make life better for the other people."

Scribner noted that Jensen didn't want people praising him or his volunteerism and said Jensen's running career started with a personal challenge: "He quit smoking, he started running and he never stopped."

Hands down, the most traveled inductee is Susan Karamanian. A 1976 graduate, she is currently dean of Hamad Bin Khalifa University College of Law in Doha, Qatar. She previously served as provost at the American University of Sharjah in Dubai, United Arab Emirates and as the associate dean for international and comparative legal studies at George Washington University.

She was the first Auburn University graduate to earn a Rhodes scholarship. Karamanian has educated more than 1,500 law students from around the world, including

those who later served as the chief justice of Bhutan, a judge on the Extraordinary Chambers in the Court of Cambodia, diplomats, judges and prosecutors in their home countries, especially Japan and Korea.

Karamanian recalled her life of travel as an Air Force kid.

"You get used to adjusting. You don't resist change, you embrace change," she said. "I talked to the students the other day about the importance of maintaining curiosity in your life."

Karamanian noted the impact of Conservation Club bicycle trips, meeting the late governor and Sen. Gaylord Nelson, and her years on the debate and forensics teams.

George Scherck taught social studies and coached 70 seasons' worth of combined sports in Neenah from 1967-99 while also serving in city government for 37 years. He was mayor from 2002-14, a term highlighted by the combining of the fire department with Menasha and the health department with Winnebago County.

Scherck was a city alderman for 25 years, the district's teacher of the year in 1976 and 1986, and coached Neenah's softball teams to WIAA state championships in 1990 and 1995.

He emphasized how happy he was to have taught in Neenah.

"You've heard over and over again that Neenah is great ... and it really is. I found it to be a special place," he said.

As to what motivated him to add city government to his already full life, Scherck responded, "You know that old saying, 'Practice what you preach.' I had constantly emphasized to my students that they had responsibilities and they needed to get about it. So I decided to do just that."

The Hall of Fame program topped off a full Homecoming weekend that included a football victory over the Kaukauna Ghosts for the undefeated Rockets.

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### 'Rainbow' fentanyl pill warning issued

The Drug Enforcement Agency (DEA) is warning about brightly colored "rain-bow fentanyl" pills that it says drug cartels are using to target young people, adding a new threat in the opioid crisis.

DEA officials said the drug is being sold in pills and powders in different colors, shapes and sizes intended to look like candy. Sometimes traffickers even nickname the products "Sweet Tarts" and "Skittles" after real candy.

Fentanyl is a synthetic opioid that is up to 50 times more potent than heroin and 100 times more potent than morphine. Nearly 108,000 people died of drug overdoses in the U.S. last year, with 66% of

those related to synthetic opioids like fentanyl, according to data from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

"Fentanyl is being laced into everything and it can be specifically concerning for our young people in our community," said Hannah Wainio, coalition coordinator for Breakwater in Winnebago County. "Youth are constantly being marketed to in all aspects of their lives and substances are no exception to that."

Wainio said this can provide an opportunity to start small conversations with young people about the dangers of fentanyl and substance use. To learn more about Breakwater and how to have conversations, visit breakwaterwi.org/be-courageous.

October 7, 2022 NEENAHNEWSNOW.COM [] PAGE 7

# Dog training specialists work with a positive plan

By Bethanie Gengler

There's a new school on Commercial Street and all of the students have fur and a tail.

Neenah resident Amy Siracusa opened Yahr Complete K9s at 1020 S. Commercial St. last month, and an open house and grand opening celebration is set for 12:30 to 3:30 p.m. this Saturday.

The dog training business was previously in Kimberly under the name Balanced K9s and moved its services to Neenah this year. Siracusa said she rebranded her business Yahr Complete K9s with the move, choosing her fiance Eric Yahr's surname, which will be her surname once she's married. She said Yahr has been supportive of her dog training career.

Siracusa is a pet parent to a year-old German shepherd named Hela, a 7-yearold Tibetan terrier mix named Paxton and a 12-year-old cat named Gibbs. Her 12-year-old Labrador greyhound mix named Shelby passed away a few weeks

After obtaining a psychology degree from Loyola University in Chicago in 2016, Siracusa moved to Wisconsin and accepted a dog training position with Petco, completing its dog training instructor program. She started her own business in 2019, offering a variety of services including private in-home lessons, a puppy day school and group training lessons.

Although there is no formal license or certification required to become a dog trainer, Siracusa said ethical dog trainers will voluntarily complete coursework, certifications and continuing education.



Neenah News photo by Bethanie Gengler

Yahr Complete K9s owner Amy Siracusa works with a Bernedoodle named Winston at the new dog training business.

Both Siracusa and fellow Yahr dog trainer Lacey Miehe, of Darboy, have obtained completion certificates from the Karen Pryor Academy, a training program for professional dog trainers that utilizes positive training methods.

"With us being positive reinforcement force free and fear free – everything we do comes from psychology and how both

people and animals learn and we actually apply that and that's what makes it so that we can actually work with any species of animal, not just dogs," Siracusa said.

The business sees a wide variety of breeds with varying challenges. She said one commonly occurring issue is the surge of people who got "pandemic puppies" during COVID-19 lockdowns,

dogs that were not properly socialized.

"We've been seeing a lot of stranger fear coming in with dogs that are approximately a year to two years old so we've been working on a lot of counterconditioning and desensitization with it," she

Siracusa used the analogy of a person who is afraid of spiders. Putting that person into a room filled with them will not resolve their fear but will likely make it worse. The same goes for dogs that have a fear, she said.

"We're empowering the animals to make decisions for themselves instead of putting them into situations where they feel the need to, for lack of a better term, yell at the trigger," she said.

She added that the most important training consideration is for the animal to be comfortable.

"Not humanizing the animals but we still want to be looking out for their welfare and we still want to be empowering them because if we can build up their confidence and if we can give them a choice in the matter, that's where we really see them flourish," she said.

Yahr Complete K9s' new location is about 1,500 square feet and renovated for the safety of the canine students. Several walls were removed, the carpeting was replaced with an epoxy floor and an office was added. The area has livestream cameras so pet parents who use the puppy day school can check in on their pets

Those interested in the services can stop by during the open house Sunday or visit yahrcompletek9s.com.



Neenah News photo by Bethanie Gengler

Yahr dog trainer Lacey Miehe works with is a cattle dog mix named Mabel.

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Page 8 [] NEENAHNEWSNOW.COM

# Care facilities see hiring refugees as good business

By Cheryl Hentz News Contributor

We hear a lot about inclusion and diversity in today's workplace, including hiring refugees who come to the United States from a multitude of other countries. According to the Fiscal Policy Institute, studies show that companies that hire refugees find success on many levels.

Those benefits include being known for having a diversity and inclusion policy in their hiring process; higher rates of recruitment and retention; potentially developing a solid recruitment resource; strong employee performance and increased productivity.

As more refugees move to the Fox Valley region, several long-term care, assisted living and retirement living facilities and communities – known collectively as the Refugee and Long-Term Care Workforce Collaborative – have banded together on successful Afghan refugee resettlement by providing housing and support for their transition into the area. Some are offering training and employment for many of the refugees.

The collaborative is being guided in its efforts by LeadingAge Wisconsin, a leader in senior advocacy, education and formulation. LeadingAge also serves as a resource for these facilities, assisting them in problem resolution, and providing services and programs to meet their needs.

"Leading Age Wisconsin is the convener of the discussions to create a multiorganizational partnership program which would support not only the workforce crisis longterm care organizations are facing, but would allow our mission-driven providers to support (our) community's refugee resettlement efforts," said Theresa Bertram, president and chief executive of Miravida Living.

Formerly Lutheran Homes of Oshkosh, Miravida Living is composed of Bethel Home, Simeanna Apartments and other facilities on their campus that provide a wide continuum of care. With so many buildings and clients, Miravida needs a large staff but like many employers, it has been dealing with a worker shortage.

Miravida and other organizations in the Collaborative – Evergreen Retirement Communities, Oakridge Gardens, Park View Health Center, M3 Insurance, World Relief, Forward Service Corp. – meet regularly to discuss problems, share successes and learn from the progress or mistakes each may be making.

World Relief and Forward Service updates the other groups on how many refugees they are working with, what countries they have come from, what types of skills they have, and what kind of work they're looking for. They then work with employers in the collaborative to place the refugees.

Many of the refugees settling here don't speak English and are unfamiliar with local customs, culture, etc., so World Relief helps them navigate those adjustments before and after they find employment.

"New refugees work with a caseworker for 90 days after arriving here and getting situated in their homes. Part of that includes getting them set up with English classes," said Nicole Gerow, employment specialist with World Relief. "We find out what their work experience was in their native country and where their interests or passions lie

from a work standpoint. We also help them work on resumes and take them to job fairs."

Gerow said World Relief gets a lot of interest from employers in Neenah but at present don't have any clients working in those areas due to transportation considerations. She said their current clients in Oshkosh and Appleton are usually placed close to or on the Valley Transit bus line.

World Relief likes to see refugees employed somewhere between 30 and 90 days after arriving here. That gives them a chance to adjust to the time change, new surroundings and generally get their bearings. A skills analysis and training of some basic job skills are done during those first 30 days.

"We work with them on things like time management, dependability, workplace relationships and expectations, social interactions, and manners in the United States," Gerow said, adding they also partner with Goodwill Industries to help refugees obtain additional job skills. "We also teach them some digital skills like Google Translate, Google Maps and things like that."

An interpreter is often hired to go along with the newcomers during the job application process, interviews and any onboarding paperwork or orientation – even on-the-job training.

More information about the Refugee and Long-Term Care Workforce Collaborative can be found at leadingagewi.org, forwardhealth.wi.gov or worldrelief.org.

### Diary links to early Doty family history

By Marin Kniskern NEVILLE PUBLIC MUSEUM

This diary belonged to Adam Martin, who wrote in it from 1770 to 1780. Martin was born on August 27, 1739, in Sturbridge, Worcester, Massachusetts Bay Colony, to Aaron Martin and Sarah Newell. Adam married Abigail Cheney in Sturbridge on Dec. 19, 1762. Adam and Abigail had five daughters and at least one son.

Adam joined the military in 1775 and was a captain in the Revolutionary War, first in Col. Ebenezer Learned's 14th Massachusetts Bay Provincial Regiment in 1775, then in Col. Timothy Bigelow's 15th Massachusetts Regiment, Continental Army in 1777.

Adam and Abigail's son Walter became a brigadier general in the War of 1812, established the village of Martinsburg in New York in 1803, and served in the New York State Senate.

Walter's son Morgan Lewis Martin is someone Green Bay history buffs are more familiar with. In addition to building Hazelwood Historic House and serving as a Brown County judge, Morgan L. Martin was a delegate to the U.S. House of Representatives from the Wisconsin Territory during the 29th U.S. Congress and served in the Wisconsin State Senate and Wisconsin State Assembly.

One of Adam and Abigail's daughters is also of note in Wisconsin history. Sarah Martin married Hon. Chillus Doty and had several children, including James Duane Doty. James was crucial to the development of the Wisconsin Territory and



Photo from Neenah Historical Society

This diary was written between 1770 and 1780 by Adam Martin, the grandfather of James Duane Doty. The Neenah Historical Society provided the photo to the Neville Public Museum for its Dear Diary Day feature.

was even largely responsible for the selection of Madison as the capital. He lived in Green Bay for some time, and went on to become a district judge, a member of the Michigan Territorial Council, the Wisconsin Territory's congressional delegate, governor of the Wisconsin Territory, delegate to the First Wisconsin Constitutional Convention, member of the House of Representatives for Wisconsin, Superintendent of Indian Affairs for the Utah Territory, and finally, Governor of the Utah Territory.

James Duane Doty's home was located on what is now known as Doty Island between Neenah and Menasha. The home fell into disrepair over the years, so a replica was built in 1948. The replica is now on the National and State Register of Historic Places. Doty's Cabin is in Doty Park on the southeast riverfront of Doty Island.



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Photo by Scott Kruger

### Firefighter fund event

The inaugural Mayor's Charity Run/Walk, based at The Globe Plaza downtown where there were games and activities afterward, was a 3.5-mile event on the Loop-the-Lake Trail for that welcomed everyone along with their pets. Mayor Jane Lang, shown at left with former Mayor Dean Kaufert at the registration table, presented the event along with the Neenah-Menasha Firefighters Charitable Foundation and other sponsors.



Neenah News photo by Bethanie Gengler

Terran Colwell speaks with her attorney during her sentencing in Winnebago County Court for her role in the death of Roger Ridgeway.

### **Prison sentence**

FROM PAGE 1

A third suspect, Charles Hoofman, 53, of Neenah, was charged with a felony in possession of a firearm after authorities executed a search warrant in relation to the killing and located a gun, which Hoofman is prohibited from possessing due to a prior felony drug conviction in Arkansas. He has not directly been charged in Ridge-

Ridgeway, 22, of Fox Crossing, was found stabbed six times near Gord's Pub on April 21, 2021, and was pronounced dead at the scene.

Court documents indicate police were called to Gord's earlier in the evening due to an altercation involving Ridgeway's mother, Amber, and several members of the Hell's Lovers motorcycle club. Ridgeway went to Gord's around 10:30 p.m. to inquire about the altercation.

Surveillance videos show Ridgeway leaving Gord's a short time later with Roy, Colwell and Hoofman. Roy leads Ridgeway to a grassy area in a nearby parking lot where a fight breaks out. Roy is captured on video beating Ridgeway with a tire knocker. Colwell jumps in and at some point is recorded calling for a knife. Documents indicate Roy and Colwell continued beating Ridgeway while he tried to get

Roy and Colwell were then recorded running around the block and entering Eagle Nation Cycles. Colwell was seen in footage carrying a knife and Ridgeway's wallet, which was never located. A witness told police that Roy had blood on his hands. All of the parties involved said they didn't see a knife and didn't know who stabbed Ridgeway.

District Attorney Eric Sparr said at sentencing that an acquaintance of Colwell later turned in several items that were believed to be connected to the incident, including a knife that was found to have Ridgeway's DNA on it. He said there was not enough evidence to prove that Colwell had done the stabbing.

Colwell has a prior record out of Minnesota including drug offenses, forgery, giving a false name and an aggravated robbery charge from an offense that occurred two months before Ridgeway's death. While incarcerated at the Winnebago County Jail she has received five conduct reports for making threatening comments.

At sentencing, the judge heard testimony that Ridgeway was a compassionate person who would go out of his way to help others. His godfather, James Oskola of Neenah, shared that at a past job Ridgeway befriended a person from Africa and learned to speak Swahili to facilitate communication.

Oskola quoted a statement made earlier in the hearing by Colwell's attorney, Paul Zilles.

"As far as the sentencing, no sentence is good enough because if I may state something that Mr. Zilles said, he said, 'Mandel Roy may have started and finished it, but she was there,' and that means she could have stopped it. And in that case, my godson - Amber's son - a young man who I felt like was my son, would still be alive today and we would not be here this afternoon," he said.

Amber also spoke to the judge and said Ridgeway was everything to her.

"I want you to imagine that my son was beaten with something that resembles a bowling pin and they broke it on him; and he endured the horror of being stabbed six times," she said. "He died in an ally after being robbed, cold and in the dark, and all alone in terror, and I don't think anybody in this room would want to die like that, especially all alone."

Judge Daniel Bissett sentenced Colwell to the maximum allowed for the charges.

"I think this is a case that necessitates, warrants and requires the maximum exposure available to the court for the reasons stated," he said.

### Armed robbery sentence delivered

By Bethanie Gengler Neenah News

An Oshkosh man was sentenced in September for his role in a 2021 Neenah armed robbery where a person was shot in both legs.

Javontae Mabry, 23, was sentenced to four years in prison and five years on extended supervision for party to the crime of armed robbery with use of force as a repeater. He was previously convicted of a felony for his role in a 2016 home break-in and burglary in Grand Chute when he was 17.

In February, Trino Sanchez, 21, of Oshkosh, was sentenced to four years in prison and five years of extended supervision for party to the crime of reckless injury and recklessly endangering safety.

Tyrell Anderson, 22, of Oshkosh, will be sentenced Oct. 17 for party to the crime of armed robbery as a repeater. He was convicted last year of a felony for bail jumping, two counts of theft and one count of obstructing an officer for an incident that occurred in 2020. He is also headed to sentencing Oct. 20 for a felony sex registry violation as a repeater.

Documents indicate a woman referred to as Victim 1 (V1) was residing in the basement of a home on Primrose Lane in Neenah when she answered the door around 9:30 p.m. Aug. 3, 2021. Anderson, Mabry and a third man she didn't know - later identified as Sanchez - were at the door. V1 took the three men into the basement.

According to the criminal complaint, Mabry offered to pay V1 \$250 he owed her and asked to purchase \$800 worth of methamphetamine and ecstasy. V1 told the men that she didn't have drugs to sell and showed the men that all she had was a box that contained some marijuana and suboxone, a

medication used to treat opiate addiction, along with about \$22 in cash.

The three men exited the house, walked out to their vehicle and then came back inside. They returned to the basement and Sanchez pointed a handgun at V1 and said, "Look, we're going to need everything, including that box."

When V1 refused, Sanchez repeatedly struck her in the face with the gun while Mabry tackled her to the bed. The men grabbed the box along with two cellphones and ran out of the house. V1 pursued them and yelled "stop them."

At the same time the men were exiting the home, the homeowner returned with his son and a 28-year-old man, referred to as Victim 2 (V2). V2 saw the three men fleeing and ran after them.

Sanchez, Anderson and Mabry jumped into their vehicle. One of the men in the back seat pointed a gun out the window and shot once, hesitated, and then shot V2 once in the leg. The bullet traveled through both of V2's knees and down into his left leg. He was hospitalized for his injuries.

Documents indicate that when V1 heard the gunshots she fled the scene because she was worried she would be arrested due to active warrants. She was located at a nearby motel two days later and agreed to speak with police.

V1 said the men pistol whipped her for "\$20, literally," and "they thought I had cash or drugs." She said her face bled for two days after the incident and she sutured it herself.

All three men were later arrested and charged. A handgun similar to the one used in the robbery was recovered from a vehicle during Sanchez's arrest. None of the men admitted to being the shooter.



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# Museum of Glass hosts 'Between Seeing & Knowing'

Bergstrom-Mahler Museum of Glass presents "Between Seeing & Knowing," an installation by artists Anna Boothe and Nancy Cohen composed of hundreds of objects fabricated using multiple glass processes starting Saturday through Feb. 5.

The large-scale, site-specific installation was created as part of a Collaborative Residency that took place at the Studio of the Corning Museum of Glass in 2012. The artwork has been exhibited at Accola Griefen Gallery, Philadelphia Art Alliance and Philadelphia's International Airport.

"Between Seeing and Knowing" is the result of both artists' long-standing interest in and in-depth study of Tibetan Buddhist thangka paintings, ordered cosmological paintings, often scrolls, created for the purpose of meditation and composed of visual elements.

"We are honored to present this thought-provoking, site-specific installation to our museum audience," said Amy Moorefield, executive director. "At the exhibition's core is the notion of meditation, something we all need these days in such a hectic world."



Submitted photo

Installation images from Philadelphia Art Alliance (left) and Accola Griefen Gallery show some of the "Between Seeing & Knowing" exhibit coming to Bergstrom-Mahler.

With degrees in sculpture from Rhode Island School of Design and glass from Tyler School of Art/Temple University, Boothe has worked with glass since 1980. Included in the permanent collections of the Corning Museum of Glass, Racine Art Museum, and Tacoma Muse-

um of Art, her cast glass work has been widely exhibited.

With an MFA in sculpture from Columbia University and a BFA in ceramics from Rochester Institute of Technology, Cohen has been working with glass and other materials since 1990. Her work examines

resiliency in relation to the environment and the human body. Cohen's work has been widely exhibited throughout the United States and is represented in collections, such as The Montclair Museum, The Weatherspoon Art Gallery, and The Zimmerli Museum.

# Calendar of events

#### Friday, Oct. 7

The Hallows: A Haunted Trail Walk, 6:30 p.m., Memorial Park

First Friday concert, 2 p.m., Cedric

Bae'tche, Neenah Public Library

### Saturday, Oct. 8

Future Neenah Farmers Market, 8 a.m., Shattuck Park

Build-A-Scarecrow, 10:30 a.m., Riverside Park

The Hallows: A Haunted Trail Walk, 6:30 p.m., Memorial Park

### Sunday, Oct. 9

The Driftless Plowboys, 2 p.m., Neenah Public Library

Sweet Adelines Concert, 3 p.m., First

Presbyterian Church, 200 S. Church St.

#### Wednesday, Oct. 12

Rocket Players present "Anastasia," 7 p.m., Pickard Auditorium

Downtown Neenah blood drive, 8 a.m., DoubleTree Neenah Hotel

### Thursday, Oct. 13

Rocket Players present "Anastasia," 7 p.m., Pickard Auditorium

### Friday, Oct. 14

Rocket Players present "Anastasia," 7 p.m., Pickard Auditorium

### Saturday, Oct. 15

Fox Cities Book Festival, 11 a.m., The Brigade, 109 W. Columbian Ave.

Rocket Players present "Anastasia," 7 p.m., Pickard Auditorium

### Sunday, Oct. 16

Rocket Players present "Anastasia," 2 p.m., Pickard Auditorium

### Tuesday, Oct. 18

Trick-or-Treat Trail, 5:45 p.m., Fritsch Park, Fox Crossing



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OCTOBER 7, 2022



Submitted phot

Mike Schuelke (far right) watches a game at American Family Field along with (from left) his sister, Lynn; father, Harland; and wife, Sue.

### Stadium tour

FROM PAGE 1

students from West, Appleton North, Appleton East and Kimberly).

"It started as strictly baseball trips and ended up being reunions in different states with a lot of people I coached in high school," Schuelke said. "We'd visit and have dinner. It was a lot of fun."

So what were Schuelke's favorite stadiums?

"Pittsburgh's stadium (PNC Park) is just gorgeous when you're sitting behind home plate and get to see the outfield and the whole city landscape," Schuelke said. "The same goes for San Francisco (AT&T Park) when you're sitting behind home plate and you can see the Bay.

"But from a historic standpoint, my favorite was Fenway Park. I mean, the history of that place is amazing. I remember walking to the stadium and you turn a corner and it's right there. Your heart just beats a little faster, because you know the history of that stadium and the Green Monster."

As far as fans go, Schuelke said that Phillies fans were the most memorable.

"They were quite boisterous," Schuelke said with a chuckle. "But every stadium you go to, fans are loud and just crazy for their team."

When asked about experiences that stand out, Schuelke will never forget the way he was treated by the Red Sox organization when he tried to score tickets for two at Fenway.

"The stadium was sold out for the game we wanted to go to – all they had were single tickets," Schuelke said. "I couldn't get them online, so I called the Red Sox and told them what I was doing. They said they'd see if they could get us tickets that were close together. They ended up getting us seats right behind home plate, just a little ways away from one another. I mean, they were fantastic seats. We were very appreciative."

Schuelke took plenty of photos on his stadium tour and developed a ritual of walking around the stadium before the game and observing it from different angles. He also made sure to sample a hot dog and purchase a mini bat at every ballpark.

So who had the best 'dogs?

"One of the most flavorful hot dogs was probably at San Diego (Petco Park)," Schuelke said. "As for the most memorable hot dog, I have to go back to Boston. We bought a Monster Dog and that suck-



Submitted photo

Mike Schuelke enjoys a quick bite at Nationals Park in Washington, D.C.

er was big. It was like 12 inches long with a circumference of maybe an inch and a half all the way around. It was huge, but we finished it."

Schuelke said that Milwaukee's American Family Field stacks up well with the rest of the magnificent stadiums he experienced.

"I go to a lot of Brewers games and no matter where you sit, it's a good seat," Schuelke said. "Plus, the interior of the stadium is very nice. It reminds me of Denver. What's really cool about Denver (Coors Field) is that you can walk through the hallways and see the game on the windows. Very few stadiums have that."

Schuelke doesn't care to guess how much his stadium tour cost. But with the sights he saw and the memories he made, he feels it was money well spent. And Sue, who took in seven of the stadiums, agrees.

"This was on his bucket list for like 30 years, so I had no problem with it," Sue said. "He spent a lot of time planning it and wanted to do it, so I had no problem with it."

Schuelke added: "When I took off on a trip with my dad or by myself, she was probably, like, 'Wow, I have two weeks to myself – this is sweet."

Now that his stadium tour has been completed, Schuelke may have to reward Sue with a thank-you gift for her patience.

"Oh yeah, I'll probably get something in return," Sue said with a chuckle. "I want a dog, so that might be it."

### Volunteer needs

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 facemasks. Contact Jan at 920-832-9360 or rsvp@volunteerfoxcities.org.

**AARP Foundation Tax-Aide Program** is looking for volunteers to be tax preparers, greeters and appointment schedulers.

No previous tax experience is needed, as comprehensive training is provided. Computer experience is desirable. Service is offered at several locations throughout the Fox Cities. For information, call Marv at 920-205-7476.

**St. Vincent de Paul Society:** Volunteers are needed in both the store and food pantry at 1425 S. Commercial St. Contact 920-727-1766 or go to www.svdpneenah. org/volunteer-information for details.



Neenah News

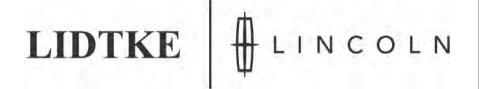
### **Detection event**

Members of the Northeast Wisconsin Metal Detecting Club took part in a timed search for coins planted but not buried in an area of Town of Clayton Park on Saturday. The Mike Lee Memorial Hunt was part of a picnic gathering for the group.



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# Rockets ready for showdown with Kimberly

By Steve Clark NEENAH NEWS

As the temperatures start to drop in the fall, the importance of high school football games can rise.

And there may be no bigger game in Wisconsin on Friday than the one in Kimberly.

Undefeated and third-ranked Neenah will travel to face perennial state power-house Kimberly – coming off its first loss of the season – in a game that will likely decide the Fox Valley Association title and could have seeding implications for both teams in the WIAA playoffs.

"First of all, it's pretty exciting to be in this position," Neenah head coach Steve Jung said. "Kimberly poses a number of challenges for us. They are big, strong and physical, and they have systems in place they have been very good at for years ... a lot of years."

Neenah has not beaten Kimberly since the 2005 season, although the series took a couple of years off when the two teams were in different divisions of the now defunct Valley Football Association.

The Papermakers won last year's meeting 35-23 in Neenah as the Rockets held Kimberly to its second-lowest point total of the regular season. The 23 points the Rockets scored was also the most given up by Kimberly in a game all of last season.

The Rockets have won all seven games this season by double digits and have had a winning margin of at least 18 points in only one game this season. They have been held to fewer than 35 points only in Week 5's 21-10 win over Appleton North – and have not allowed more than 20 points to an opponent.

Kimberly, though, is a different animal and Jung knows the Rockets will have to be clicking on all cylinders to compete with the Papermakers.

"The thought process for us going in is to definitely have a good game plan in place and then executing the game plan," Jung said. "They do a great job of finding weaknesses and exploiting them."

Neenah can certainly learn some things

### Week 8 games

Fox Valley Association (all games at 7 p.m., unless noted)

Neenah (7-0) at Kimberly (6-1)

Fond du Lac (4-3) at Appleton North (5-2) Appleton East (1-6) at Kaukauna (4-3)

Oshkosh West (1-6) at Oshkosh North (2-4-1)

from last season, but they will also likely be taking a look at last week's game where Fond du Lac jumped out to a 21-0 lead on Kimberly, which proved to be a big key to the Cardinals' victory.

Jung said getting off to a good start is something that both teams will be looking to do in a contest like this but no matter what happens in the first quarter, it will definitely take until the fourth to decide a winner.

"I think we both really want to start fast, take control of the game and then put a lot of adversity on your opponent," Jung said. "It's a game where I think there will be a lot of adversity and we are going to have to really be prepared to play 48 minutes.

Neenah enters the game with two of the top three rushers in the conference in senior running back Jase Jenkins (1,102 yards) and sophomore quarterback Evan Vanevenhoven (893). The duo combined for 312 yards and five touchdowns in last Friday's 35-14 win over Kaukauna.

Kimberly's offense is led by quarterback Seth Miron, who is completing nearly 74 percent of his passes this season and has thrown for more than 1,200 yards with 15 touchdowns and just four interceptions. Ethan Criter and Jaxson Garbisch are the Papermakers' top two receivers and average 19.9 yards and 15.7 yards per catch, respectively.

"Miron, he's done a really nice job of throwing the ball. They have a really nice short passing game and then they can throw the deep fade on you so they have some plays where they can out-athlete you on. That's really concerning," Jung said. "And then they have a really good running game. Trying to take away the running



Neenah News

Senior running back Jase Jenkins (2) leads the Fox Valley Association in rushing with 1,102 yards. He is averaging nearly 8 yards per carry and has 19 total touchdowns.

game and take away the passing game is a big challenge."

Neenah's defense comes into the game playing well, though, having pitched a shutout in the second half against Kaukauna

In fact, the Rockets have not allowed a touchdown in the second half in the past three games and surrendered just 30 points after halftime all season.

"We got some big stops defensively (against Kaukauna) and then we really controlled their offense in the second half and that was really what took over the

game," Jung said. "Our last couple games have been good stepping stones. We've had played well and also quite a bit of adversity and we have had to be tough."

Jung said that as much as anything Neenah does Friday night, the foundation for being able to pull out a win won't be built when the first whistle blows.

"We just need to get better each day of the week so we can match their physicality and their strength and their speed," Jung said. "We need to have a great week of practice so that we can have a great Friday pight"

# Zephyrs to face Abundant Life in Homecoming tussle

Neenah News

After a one-week switch to 11-player football in a 36-14 loss to Menominee (Mich.) last week, the St. Mary Catholic/Valley Christian football team returns to its more comfortable 8-player style of game.

The Zephyrs will host Madison Abundant Life on Friday night in the school's annual Homecoming game in a contest that could all but seal up another conference title for the Zephyrs as both teams enter the contest with 2-0 conference records

Zephyrs' head coach Josh Young said that the game against Abundant Life kicks off a three-game run to end the season and he hopes his team is ready to finish the year strong.

"It's super important these last three games to play hard and win them because this is all they get," said Young, whose team finishes with contests against Williams Bay and Wisconsin Heights. "It would be a great way for the seniors to go out, winning another conference championship. It's important to play well and not have a brain fart game in these last three but they have done a good job of staying focused all season."

In 8-player games, the Zephyrs have been simply dominant this fall in winning

all five of their games.

St. Mary Catholic/Valley Christian has shut out two of its five opponents this season, while outscoring the other teams by a combined 294-36 margin.

Abundant Life, which played only at the junior varsity level last season and did not have a varsity squad, may be the Zephyrs toughest test of the season, though.

The Challengers come into the game having posted three straight wins, including a 50 -7 win over Elkhart Lake-Glenbeulah last Friday. The offense has racked up 138 points in the last three games.

But St. Mary Catholic sports the highest-scoring offense in the conference led by quarterback Danny Griffith (847 yards, 17 touchdowns, two interceptions), running back Ashton Post (753 yards. 14 touchdowns, 9.9-yards per carry) and wide receiver Atticus Johnson (29 receptions, 629 yards, 13 touchdowns).

With that kind of explosiveness, Young is more focused on what the Zephyrs are going to do on Friday night, rather than what the Challengers will bring to the field.

"We will put in a couple of different things for this week which are new," Young said. "Other that, we're just trying to sure up some things and other than that it's just a matter of staying focused."

### Young garners Packers Coach of the Week honor

St. Mary Catholic/Valley Christian football coach Josh Young was announced as the Green Bay Packers Coach of the Week last week, following the Zephyrs 96-7 win over Elkhart Lake-Glenbeulah.

Young is in his second season as the Zephyrs' head coach and has led the program to 14 straight wins after struggling the previous two years following a shift to 8-player football.

The Zephyrs needed to drop down to 8-player football because of a lack of numbers, but they are slated to return to 11-player football next fall.

"Personally, I think it means I did a pretty good job in getting a staff and getting a group of guys that can work well together," Young said in a press release from the Packers. "This is pretty big for our program. ... (Last year) it was the first conference championship the school had in about 50 years, so it's a huge deal for the school. So personally, it feels really good to come in and make a difference, but the staff is the biggest thing. If we didn't work well together, we wouldn't be very successful."

Young, who is an Appleton North alum, previously coached at Appleton West and Kaukauna before taking the head-coaching spot with the Zephyrs. His staff includes Lane Peterson, TJ Schouten, Gannon Demler, Nathan Jansen, Aaron Rohde, Adam Dwyer, John Leonardi, Rodney Leech and Trainer Ryan Johnson.

The Packers will recognize one outstanding high school coach as their 'Coach of the Week' winner during the 2022 high school football season. Winners are awarded several items and privileges, including a \$2,000 donation to the school's football program from the Green Bay Packers, Buffalo Wild Wings and the NFL Foundation, as well as recognition of the award on Packers.com, Wissports.net and Wifca.org

The program is presented by Buffalo Wild Wings.

October 7, 2022 NEENAHNEWSNOW.COM [] Page 13



The St. Mary Catholic volleyball team wrapped up the Big East Red title Tuesday with a sweep of Mishicot. The Zephyrs finished 6-0 in conference.

### Prep sports roundup

### **VOLLEYBALL**

### **Zephyrs top Indians** to claim conference title

St. Mary Catholic breezed past Mishicot in three sets, 25-13, 25-16, 25-15, on Tuesday night to finish unbeaten in the Big East Red Division.

Lauren Fischer led the way for the Zephyrs, finishing with 14 kills and two blocks in the match. Eliana Brenn added five kills.

Brenn led the team with seven aces as St. Mary Catholic finished with 25 aces in the match. Olivia Noel finished with six, while Audrey Norville chipped in five.

Katie Laemmrich led the Zephyrs with 10 digs, while Stella Virlee posted a teamhigh 12 assists.

Over the weekend, St. Mary Catholic went 1-4 at the Wrightstown Tournament as the Zephyrs picked up a win over Manitowoc Lutheran.

Fisher finished with 38 kills and 35 digs on the weekend, while Brenn added 17 kills, Norville had 28 digs and Olivia Noel and Virlee finished with 41 and 32 assists, respectively.

### **Balanced Kimberly** too much for Neenah

Neenah played with Fox Valley Association-leading Kimberly on Monday night but couldn't pull out the win, falling 25-20, 25-17, 25-19 to the Papermakers.

Carly Stamm and Claudia Merizon each had seven kills to lead the Rockets, with Merizon chipping in 11 assists and seven digs. Marissa Corso and Haley Meyer each added four kills.

Leading the team in aces was Elizabeth Oldenburg with five, while Jenna Lawatsch added a team-best 25 digs and Leia Kersten finished with nine assists.

"Really impressed with Kimberly's diverse offense," commented Neenah head coach Emily Bennett. "They had weapons at every spot and could hit a huge variety of spots on the court. We are looking forward to wrapping up conference play in the next week and a half and going into the postseason."

Neenah also hosted a weekend where it 0-4 with losses coming to Bay Port, Verona, Maniotowoc Lincoln and Hortonville.

Stamm finished with 12 kills and eight blocks, while Merizon finished with 10 kills, seven aces, 12 digs and 30 assists.

Oldenburg had six aces and 25 digs, while Leia Kersten finished with five aces, 16 digs and 21 assists. Lawatsch led the team with 45 digs.

### **GOLF**

### Rockets' season ends at WIAA sectional

High Cliff Golf Course and a talent-rich roster of teams made things tough for Neenah, which failed to advance any golfers to the state meet from Tuesday's WIAA Division 1 sectional.

The Rockets finished fifth as a team with a score of 363, as Bay Port (344) and Kaukauna (350) claimed the state qualifying team spots.

The Rockets' Emma Buss and Aubrey Oitzinger led the way as each posted a

SEE **Prep roundup** ON PAGE 15



# **Rockets fall to Terrors**

By Dustin Riese

As well as his first year has been going for Neenah head coach Wil Krautkramer, the season's smooth sailing hit a bit of a hiccup Tuesday.

Appleton West rolled into Neenah and stunned the Rockets by claiming a 3-2 victory to hand Neenah its first Fox Valley Association loss of the season.

"Our performance tonight was disjointed, hectic and unexpected, yet these boys still had a chance to win," Krautkramer said. "We missed out on a great opportunity, and it stings a bit. We will certainly learn from this setback, and it will make us better as we move into the tournament."

One of the Rockets biggest strengths has been their defense as it has made life difficult for their opponents.

Through 15 games this season, the Rockets have allowed a total of 21 goals, five of which came in a loss to Baraboo. Neenah has registered seven shutouts and allowed just one goal seven times, so the Terrors' three-goal eruption was out of the ordinary.

Krautkramer felt that having homecoming last weekend may have played a part in the team's struggle.

"I think our focus was off from last weekend's festivities, and the student athletes were not able to stick to our system," he said. "Our athletes often revert to trying to do 'too much' when we get in tight spots and we found ourselves in a tight spot all night."

Alex Thayer's rebound goal tied the score at 1 and the match stayed knotted into halftime.

Appleton West's Ross Erstad broke the tie on a penalty kick before the Terrors' Evan Rodriguez made it 3-1 shortly after.

Neenah struck back on a penalty kick by Nolan Hassenthaler to cut the deficit to one goal, but that would be as close as the Rockets would get. The Rockets couldn't take advantage of some scoring opportunities and ended up with a loss that left them in second place in the FVA behind only Oshkosh West.

"All season long we have preached the mindset of playing our best half as our next half," Krautkramer said. "Things were tough early on, but once the kids bought into what we wanted to do, you could see our confidence as a program rise. We will continue to focus on 'team' defense to help clean up some issues from this tilt. Overall, we battled hard to stay ahead in the game, but the blown hand ball call and miscommunication in the back was too much to overcome last night. I think we may get another shot at West in the tourney."

The Rockets will see some quality programs to finish out the season, which will prepare the team for the WIAA tournament.

Krautkramer knows what his team needs to accomplish to be back at their best come the postseason.

"We continue to show gratitude through any grief," he said. "Starting Now" we look to our next half to be our best half. If that is the mindset we continue to take into all of our matches, our best soccer is still in front of us and that is exciting to think about."





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# Swanstrom enjoys Zephyrs' success to close out career

By Steve Clark NEENAH NEWS

Owen Swanstrom has gotten used to this winning thing.

Over the past two seasons, he has walked onto a football field for an 8-player game 14 times and each time he has walked off helping secured a 'W.'

Yet, the co-captain and defensive leader for the Zephyrs doesn't take the victories for granted. He knows very well what it's like to walk off the field with the opposite result and so he appreciates every victory he and his teammates can get.

"Once you win, you get used to winning. So, if you don't win and then you start winning, it makes you really grateful when you do win," Swanstrom said before a practice last week. "Going from not winning at all to winning every single game was a lot better. It's so much better than my first two years because I didn't like losing."

Swanstrom wasn't even sure if he was going to play football when he got to high school but opted into the program, which was making the switch to 8-player football because of low numbers. But it wasn't a switch for Swanstrom.

Having played in the Valley Christian youth program, Swanstrom had played 8-player football since he started in sixth grade so to him, it was just football.

"It's been easy for me (playing 8-player football) because it's really all I know, except for watching college football or the NFL," said Swanstrom, who was looking forward to the team's 11-player game last Friday against Menominee (Mich.). "I have never played an 11-man (football) game, so I can't wait to finally play one."

Swanstrom credits head coach Josh Young and the coaching staff he assembled for the turnaround in the Zephyrs' program, and it wasn't just the X's and O's the group brought in.

"They made it so much fun and everybody is just so happy coming out here," Swanstrom said. "I think that plays a fac-

### **Senior Spotlight**

tor how much effort everybody gives and whether we win or not."

Swanstrom certainly has had a hand in the Zephyrs' victories.

Through the first five games, the senior linebacker leads the team with 55 tackles this season, including 11 tackles for loss.

He also makes all of the defensive calls for the Zephyrs, which is a lot of responsibility but a role he relishes.

"It's a lot of pressure sometimes, especially when you are playing a better team, but it's great knowing that when anyone has questions, they come to you," Swanstrom said. "Being a leader is pretty fun."

Swanstrom also has registered one sack, a forced fumble and an interception - a play he returned for a touchdown. He's also returned a blocked punt for a score.

Linebackers don't always have such nifty return skills, but Swanstrom has some ball carrying experience in his background and called on that to weave his way to the end zone for his touchdowns.

"I was a quarterback at one point, so I kind of understood how to run the ball," Swanstrom said of his 64-yard interception return in the season-opener against Belmont. "I followed like three guys and they made some great blocks and I just got lucky to get into the end zone."

For many high school football players around the state, starting 5-0 would mean looking forward to a postseason run and the potential for a state title.

Unfortunately, that's not the case for the Zephyrs. St. Mary Catholic/Valley Christian is not eligible for the 8-player postseason due to enrollment numbers, which means the final game of the regular season is their final game.

"It's disappointing knowing that you are playing but not playing for any reward," Swanstrom said. "We can get the conference championship, which would be

SEE Senior spotlight ON PAGE 15



Owen Swanstrom is one of the defensive leaders for the second-ranked St. Mary Catholic/ Valley Christian 8-player football team.

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### Prep roundup

FROM PAGE 13

round of 87 - five shots out of the final individual qualifying spot for state.

Dawson Anderson capped her prep career with a round of 93, while Natalie Quella rounded out the scoring golfers for the Rockets with a 96.

#### SOCCER

### St. Mary Catholic drops Big East match on road

St. Mary Catholic registered five shots on goal but couldn't find the back of the net in a 4-0 loss to Sheboygan Christian/ Sheboygan Lutheran on Tuesday.

The Zephyrs are now 9-3-2 overall.

### **BOYS VOLLEYBALL**

### Neenah can't keep pace with Appleton North

Senior spotlight

like that which is kind of a letdown."

Neenah dropped a three-set match to

FROM PAGE 14

great, but we can't win state or anything

That makes these next three games very

important. He and his fellow seniors want

to end things on right note and will be fo-

Appleton North on Tuesday night, falling 25-17, 25-19, 25-19.

Noah Harmon, Miles Weaver and Chip Calcaterra each had five kills in the match, while Calcaterra and Harmon each added three blocks.

### **SWIMMING**

### Neenah racks up easy win over Appleton East

Neenah nearly swept every event as the Rockets easily outdistanced Appleton East, 146-30, in a Fox Valley Association dual meet on Tuesday.

Winning individual events for the Rockets were Emma Bottensek (200-yard freestyle, 100-yard butterfly), Anna Mulroy (200-yard individual medley), Naomi Cortina (50-yard freestyle, 500-yard freestyle), Alliyah Lima (100-yard freestyle, 100-yard breaststroke) and Rylie Bauman (100-yard backstroke).

Neenah also finished first in all three relay events.

cused on finishing things out with wins.

"It's kind of tough (to stay focused), but for us seniors it's our last three games ever, so that's easy for us," Swanstrom said. "It's just cool to play with a lot of your friends. You build a relationship with the guys. I don't hang out with all of these guys anywhere but football so it's fun to be with

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### 'Anastasia' coming to Pickard stage

Neenah High School's fall musical "An-

astasia" will be staged by the Rocket Players for five performances Oct. 12-16 in Pickard Auditorium.

Based on the animated movie from 20th Century Fox, "Anastasia" includes classic songs from the film such as "Journey to the



Past" and "Once Upon a December." Mad-

die Van Zeeland plays the title role. "Anastasia has been a joy to rehearse,

with beautiful music, a fast-moving and compelling story, plenty of comedy, and a lot of heart," said director Kathleen Mc-Curdy. "It is appropriate and heartwarming for all ages."

Shows are at 7 p.m. Oct. 12-15 and at 2 p.m. Oct. 16.

Tickets, available at rocketplayers.com or at the Pickard box office an hour before the show, are \$10 for adults and \$8 for seniors and students.

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there's a

puddle on

the floor!

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## **hree Bears Fact and**



Read each of the following statements by the characters in The Three Bears. Decide if the character is sharing a FACT or an OPINION. Have a family member check your work and discuss your answers.

- 1. "This porridge is not too hot nor too cold," said Goldilocks. "It's just right!" □FACT □OPINION
- 2. "My chair is broken!" cried Baby Bear.

☐FACT ☐OPINION

3. Mama Bear said, "It's a lovely day for a walk in the forest."

□FACT □OPINION

4. Papa Bear growled, "Someone has been sitting in my chair!"

□FACT □OPINION

**5.** "I'm getting sleepy," said Goldilocks after eating Baby Bear's bowl of porridge.

□FACT □OPINION

6. "This chair is too soft." said Goldilocks. □FACT □OPINION

7. Baby Bear shouted. "Someone has been sleeping in my bed. And they're still here!"

□FACT □OPINION

8. "Going into unfamiliar places can be dangerous," said Goldilocks.

□FACT □OPINION



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