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## County dissolves diversity panel

### Supervisors also put off ARPA funding proposal

By Bethanie Gengler  
NEENAH NEWS

On the seventh annual National Day of Racial Healing Jan. 17, Winnebago County voted to dissolve its diversity affairs advisory group. It also voted to send a proposal to establish a Spirit Fund with \$33 million in fiscal recovery funds back to the ARPA Commission at a contentious and lengthy County Board of Supervisors meeting.

The Board of Supervisors established the Diversity Affairs Commission (DAC) in 2020 with a mission of embracing diversity, inclusion and belonging, and encouraging the community to act in ways that help people thrive. It was started during the pandemic when interpersonal relations were stressed, documents stated.



Collard

The commission has repeatedly voted to dissolve itself in recent months. In

August, Jared Longsine was elected as DAC chair and District 1 Supervisor Rachael Dowling was elected vice chair, with Longsine then motioning to dissolve the DAC, which Dowling seconded.

At that time, the resolution indicated the commission's bylaws, strategic plan and mission statement rendered the DAC ineffective. The relationship with the Education and Agriculture Committee, which oversees the DAC, has been described as dysfunctional.

Some commission members said the

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Make 2023 your best  
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Photo by David Hall

### Afternoon on ice

A father and son share an ice fishing outing off Kimberly Point in Neenah recently with another fisherman in the background, looking south toward Davis Point over Lake Winnebago.

## County clerk looks back on public service career

### Ertmer served 40-plus years for Winnebago

By Bethanie Gengler  
NEENAH NEWS

For more than 44 years County Clerk Sue Ertmer has been a familiar face at the Winnebago County Clerk's Office. That will change next month with Ertmer's retirement.

With her last day in office Feb. 24, Ertmer took the time to reflect on her experience serving the county.

Ertmer was hired by Winnebago County in 1979 as a clerk and typist. She was fresh out of college with an associate degree from Western Wisconsin Technical Institute in La Crosse. She quickly moved up the ranks, serving as deputy county clerk from 1983 to 1998.

"As the years progressed, I got more involved with the elections and county board meetings and I just enjoyed the work and the people I was working with," she said. "So, when the opportunity came

to run for county clerk, I decided I would go for it."

Ertmer was elected county clerk in 1998 and went on to be re-elected seven times, serving in that position for 24 years.

Ertmer has issued countless marriage licenses and work permits. She's provided services to countless residents and municipalities within Winnebago County.

The clerk is the chief election officer of the county, in charge of all elections. The position also acts as a secretary for the County Board of Supervisors and each of its committees and commissions.

Over the years some of the roles have changed, but the office remains as a depository for County Board and election information.

In the early years, before things went digital, Ertmer said bookkeeping for accounts, revenues and expenses was a primary duty of the office. They didn't have

SEE **Ertmer retiring** ON PAGE 6



Sue Ertmer is retiring from her lengthy public service career next month.



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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](http://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.



Wisconsin Fairest of the Fairs photo

The top five contestants for Wisconsin Fairest of the Fairs included (from left) Sam Wirtz for Northern WI State, Barron County's Brooke Shatley, Sheboygan County's Zoe Ertel, Green County's Sharlene Swedlund and Winnebago County's Meghan Numrich of Neenah. Swedlund was named Fairest of the Fairs and Numrich was third runner-up.

## County fair spokesperson excels statewide

### Winnebago's Fairest of Fair ready to help

By Bethanie Gengler  
NEENAH NEWS

Winnebago County Fairest of the Fair Meghan Numrich was awarded third runner-up for the title of 2023 Wisconsin Fairest of the Fairs last week.

Numrich, 20, of Neenah, was among 36 contestants from across the state competing at the Wisconsin Association of Fairs three-day convention in Wisconsin Dells. The program was started 57 years ago.

Winners of the local county competitions have the chance to compete in the state competition each January. The state's Fairest of the Fairs is considered the spokesperson for all 75 Wisconsin county, district and state fairs, and travels across the state promoting the various opportunities available at those events.

The FOTF serves as the official ambassador of the Wisconsin State Fair in August, greeting guests, serving as a master of ceremonies, participating in contests and making media appearances.

Numrich was selected as Winnebago County's 2022 winner. She's pursuing a degree in geology from the University of Wisconsin Oshkosh, where she is vice president of the Geology Club and sings in an a cappella group. She works at the Weis Earth Science Museum in Menasha.

Numrich considers herself a nontraditional FOTF, as she did not grow up on a farm or show animals at the fair. To show at the fair, kids must be enrolled in a youth organization such as 4-H.

"I know when I was in high school I was literally called 'cow club girl' whenever I talked about (4-H), which was ironic because I have never shown a cow in my life," she said.

Instead, Numrich advocated for the addition of science-based projects for youth. When she was in seventh grade, the Winnebago County Fair added earth science, physics, astronomy and chemistry projects.

Numrich was a member of the Ridgeway 4-H Club for 14 years, serving in various leadership positions. She was awarded the Wisconsin 4-H Key in 2019 for her contributions to the 4-H program. She also won several geology and 4-H scholarships to aid in her secondary education.



Neenah News

Winnebago County Fairest of the Fair Meghan Numrich (left) and Fairest of the Fairs attendant Maria Zillges of Larsen.

Her FOTF platform was centered on advocating for urban communities to become more involved in fairs through non-agricultural-based projects.

"4-H specifically, for me, was something that shaped my adolescence and it helped me with my public speaking, gave me opportunities to travel and meet people from basically every single state in our country," Numrich said. "There's so many opportunities that people don't realize are within 4-H and within the fairs because it gets a reputation for being a cow club.

Jody Bezio is a director on the fair board who has spent a great deal of time with Numrich over the past year.

"She's just very upbeat and friendly and positive and she's also very caring," Bezio said of Numrich. "That comes through because she wants to help that next generation of kids get involved and have a positive experience at something like the fair."

Last week's state FOTF competition set several milestone achievements. It was the greatest number of contestants the contest has seen, the judges deliberated longer than at any other FOTF competition and

it raised more money for the Fair Association and FOTF program than any other year.

The FOTF contestants participate in several interviews and question-and-answer sessions during the competition. The judges look for outstanding communication skills, organization, professionalism and a passion for the fair industry.

"The theme for this year's convention was 'Keeping it rural,' and as someone from Neenah who did not live on a farm, never showed animals, I'll be honest, I walked in a little bit worried about what that was going to mean for me and for my platform of what the fair means to me," she said.

When Numrich's name was called out as one of the top five candidates, she was shocked.

"We were a little dumbfounded because all of the ladies there were completely capable of being a great state Fairest of the Fairs," she said.

Sharlene Swedlund, 22, representing the Green County Fair, was crowned FOTF. Brooke Shatley, 22, representing the Barron County Fair, was named first runner-up, followed by Zoe Ertel, 19, representing the Sheboygan County Fair and Numrich. Sam Wirtz, 19, representing the Northern Wisconsin State Fair, was named fourth runner-up and awarded the Tim Heffernon Congeniality Award.

Numrich's fourth-place finish was the highest a Winnebago County contestant has ever placed.

"I think my placing kind of showed people you don't have to be all about cows, plows and sows to get far," she said.

Applications for the 2023 Winnebago County Fairest of the Fair contest are due March 31 and the contest will be held May 6 at Brighton Acres at 4057 Fisk Ave. in Oshkosh. Additional information is available at [winnebagoountyfaironline.com](http://winnebagoountyfaironline.com).

The winner will hold the title for a year and serve at the Winnebago County Fair set for Aug. 2-6.

"Anyone who wants to share their love of the fair should definitely consider applying," Numrich said. "The Fairest program isn't just for women in agriculture who want to make an impact, it's for anybody who wants to make an impact, which I think is really cool."



# Road salt restraint get statewide focus next week

## County, city work on conservation methods

By Dan Roherty  
NEENAH NEWS

The state Department of Natural Resources (DNR) and Wisconsin Salt Wise are emphasizing the negative impacts of road salt on drinking water and freshwater ecosystems during Wisconsin Salt Awareness Week that runs Jan. 23-27.

The DNR measures chloride levels in Wisconsin rivers over time, monitoring cumulative chloride loading results at 26 of the state's largest river systems. Recent studies have shown a steep increase in chloride loads.

In the early 2000s, the DNR measured about 600,000 tons of chlorides annually. By 2018, that number increased to nearly 800,000 tons per year. Fifty lakes and one stream in Wisconsin have been designated as impaired by high salt concentrations.

Counties and municipalities have been controlling road salt use by laying down brine, an anti-icing mixture, that treats road surfaces in the early stages of slippery conditions. The process can significantly reduce overall salt use and is easier for plowing equipment to remove after pre-treatment.

Neenah Public Works engineer Heath Kummerow said the pre-wetting process helps the brine stick better to surfaces while their street equipment can calibrate the proper spread amount.

"They do all of the main streets, and then for sure the overpasses and bridges because they are the first to freeze up," he said.

Wisconsin counties and municipalities have reduced road salt application by using brine as an anti-icer to pretreat road surfaces. The county highway department states that it only uses calcium chloride in extreme situations.

Neenah Public Works superintendent Greg Radtke said he looks at the brine treatment as "a cooking spray for salt and snow," keeping the snow from sticking to roadways.

Radtke said he is currently testing out a strictly liquid brine area of the city to learn more about its effectiveness under different conditions.

Instead of rock salt used with snowplowing, the liquid brine spray is an option that he said is cheaper and less corrosive to vehicles.

"I have had some pretty good results a couple of times I have tried it, but I am still learning," Radtke said, noting there's a big difference between treating a recent inch of snow and the much colder snow-ice mix that hit just before Christmas.

Between 1989 and 1991 the city was one of the first in the state to try a sand mix to treat slippery roadways in an effort to cut down on salt use.

"They used an 85% sand, 15% salt combination, and it did not work," Radtke said, noting that sand and other gravel material end up in the storm sewers when it washes off the roads. "And sand is not easy to clean."

Groups such as Salt Wise and the Fox-Wolf Watershed Alliance have offered workshops on parking lot and walkway maintenance in public and private spaces that focus on proper de-icing application rates and techniques, calibration of equip-

ment, understanding the weather and materials storage.

Neenah, Fox Crossing and surrounding towns are all members of the Northeast Wisconsin Stormwater Consortium (NEWSC), which with the Fox-Wolf Watershed Alliance coordinates stormwater programs in a five-county region that include environmentally focused use of road salt.

Neenah staff provide self-training resources for private companies to learn the most efficient methods for de-icing.

A series of YouTube livestreams featuring speakers and topics focused on the true cost of salt and how to be a freshwater advocate will be featured next week. Speakers include Sujay Kaushal (University of Maryland), Charlie Paradis (University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee), Allison Couture (UW Madison), Shannon Haydin (DNR) and Allison Madison (Salt Wise). Those interested can register in advance at [wisaltwise.com](http://wisaltwise.com) or watch afterward on the WI Salt Wise YouTube Channel.

While salt keeps roads and parking areas safe during winter, the DNR notes that using more than needed infiltrates lakes,

streams and groundwater. Radtke said city crews limit salt use on roadways adjacent to shorelines such as Lakeshore Drive.

According to Salt Wise, one teaspoon of salt is all it takes to make five gallons of water toxic for freshwater organisms. Chlorides also enter Wisconsin waters because of water softeners and fertilizers.

Nationwide, winter salt causes an estimated \$5 billion in damage to infrastructure each year, causing corrosion of bridges, roads and other infrastructure. Road salt can also impact pets by causing irritated paws or other health concerns if ingested.

Follow these steps on salt use:

- Clear walkways and other areas before the snow turns to ice. The more snow removed manually, the less salt needed and the more effective it will be.
- Scatter it so that there is space between the grains. A 12-ounce coffee mug of salt is enough to treat an entire 20-foot driveway or 10 sidewalk squares.
- Salt won't work when pavement temperatures drop below 15 degrees. Switch to sand for traction or a different ice melter.

## Charter Neenah band member dies at 96

Phillip J. Abendschein, who was the last performing charter member of the Neenah Community Band from when the group started in 1966, passed away Monday at age 96.

Abendschein was a lifelong Neenah resident and World War II Army veteran who played horn for the band before retiring in December. He was honored at the Dec. 18 winter concert.

He also was active in the YMCA, Winnebago Mental Health Association,

Neenah/Menasha Elks, the VFW Neenah Chapter and belonged to the Neenah Club. He was a member of the First Presbyterian Church of Neenah for 80 years.

Abendschein had received a Citation of Recognition from the city as part of his 90th birthday celebration for his longtime active role in many community organizations.

Funeral services will be held Saturday at First Presbyterian with visitation beginning at 2 p.m.

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# Some ideas for making 2023 a great year for beer

Let's be real, setting New Year's resolutions typically leads to disappointment. Instead, resolve yourself to making 2023 a great year for the enjoyment of beer. It's so easy to accomplish and adds so much joy to life, especially here in Wisconsin.

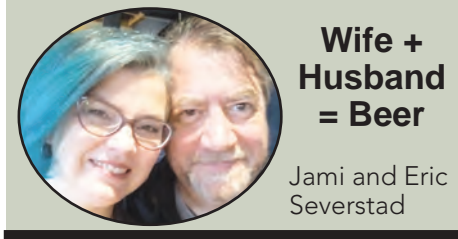
We're here to offer some suggestions to help you be an engaged beer-lover throughout the coming year.

If you're participating in "dry January," more power to you; although to us, giving up imbibing for a month seems silly. Anyway, you only have a week and a half left, and it's back to tipping pints.

One event you'll miss is Central Waters Brewing's 25th anniversary bash, which happens a week from tomorrow. This ticketed event is sold out, but we encourage you to make the trip to Amherst at some point this year. It's a wonderful oasis of incredible beer-making conveniently located off U.S. 10.

Next month, celebrate the romance in your life (or drown some sorrows) with beer. Put down the wine glass this year and replace it with the right brew. Some appropriate Valentine's Day beers include sweet pastry stouts, flavored milkshake IPAs, boldly fruited sours, or the perennial favorite New Glarus fruit brews like Wisconsin Belgian Red or Raspberry Tart. Heck, share some mead, or "honey wine," with your honey.

When the weather does become more welcoming to outdoor drinking, don't miss the patios at Neenah's Barrel 41 Brewing and Lion's Tail Brewing. Also, take a trip to Wauwatosa and experience Lion's Tail's second location, with plenty of outdoor seating.



**Wife + Husband = Beer**

Jami and Eric Severstad

McFleshman's in Appleton not only cranks up the outdoor music during Mile of Music, they have numerous chances to drink and chill all summer long. Badger State Brewing in Green Bay has a huge, dog-friendly outdoor courtyard with picnic tables, firepits, and cornhole in a historic part of the city. Fifth Ward Brewing in Oshkosh has a cozy outdoor area (often with a food truck and band) tucked within their neighborhood setting.

You're officially challenged to improve your beer-drinking by purchasing high-end glassware. We know, it sounds crazy to have a dozen different types of vessels simply for drinking beer, but they do add to the experience. Pour a fruit beer into a flute glass or sip stout from a snifter. It really does matter. We've found that a fun (and affordable) way to do this is by visiting Goodwill, St. Vincent de Paul or similar discount retailers. You can find some really cool glasses, mugs, steins, and even swag from breweries near and far.

Beer festivals are wonderful ways to try new beverages and meet other beer-loving souls. The Roar off the Shore Brewfest happens March 25 at the Kewaunee County Fairgrounds in Luxemburg. May 21 is the Wisconsin Micro-Brewer Beer Festival in Chilton, which everyone

should experience at least once. Take a trip up to Baileys Harbor on June 17 and enjoy live music, excellent local food, and 140+ beers during the Door County Beer Festival.

Summer beer festivals conclude with the Great Taste of the Midwest in Madison on the second Saturday of August. We mention this now because tickets go on sale in May and sell out quickly, so look that up and attend the best beer festival you can imagine.

Discover some new beer retailers in 2023. The adventure of finding a gem hidden among the typical shops is exhilarating.

Cellars Wine and Spirits on North Green Bay Road in Neenah has a huge walk-in cooler, loaded with new releases. Corks and Caps in Greenville really knows their stuff. Wine Cellar and Craft Beer Spot in De Pere is worth the trip. Incredible smells await at Wagner Market in Oshkosh as well as a nice selection of craft beer. If you're in Milwaukee, Discount Liquor on West Oklahoma Avenue (at South 51st Street) is a beer paradise.

While in Milwaukee, if you haven't tak-

en a tour at Lakefront Brewing, this year is the time to do it. Imagine the whimsy of an amusement park tour guide (think Jungle Cruise) combined with a brief history lesson, all while enjoying wonderful beer.

As always, remember to share your finds and fun with your circle of friends. Beer people are generous people, and building up good beer karma comes back around in the most delicious ways. Hosting a potluck tasting party featuring brews you've collected on your adventures can be a highlight of your year and expose you to tastes and styles you would have missed otherwise for fear of wasting money on something you worried would be a drainpour.

Husband: Happy brew year from both of us at Wife + Husband = Beer.

Wife: We truly hope you and your beer-loving friends enjoy an exciting year filled with tasty beverages. Cheers!

*Wife + Husband = Beer is a monthly column exclusive to Neenah News. Tell us what local beer-fans need to know, and we'll cover it. It's a sacrifice we make for you, dear readers. Email: wife.husband.beer@gmail.com*

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—Dr. Dintelman

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—Dr. Esser



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Neenah News photo by Bethanie Gengler

## Celebrating agriculture

The Winnebago County Farm Bureau held its second annual Community Night on Jan. 14 at Brighton Acres in Oshkosh to promote the Bureau and thank agriculturists for their hard work. The event included horse-drawn wagon rides, bingo, indoor mini golf, corn pools for children, a raffle and silent and live auctions. Half of the proceeds go to St. Jude Children's Research Hospital. The remainder will support the nonprofit Farm Bureau and its work to educate youth, adults and communities about agriculture.

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# Neenah Packers fan stands out statewide

## Thom named finalist for Fan Hall of Fame

By Tim Froberg  
NEWS CONTRIBUTOR

The Green Bay Packers are more than just a professional sports franchise to Robert Thom. They are a way of life.

The retired Neenah resident is a diehard, cut-me-and-I-bleed-green-and-gold Packers fan and getting recognized for his long-time devotion to the team.

Thom is one of 10 finalists for the Packers Fan Hall of Fame. The winner will be selected by a Hall of Fame committee, online voters and previous inductees, and will receive four club seats for a 2023 home game, a \$500 Packers Pro Shop gift certificate, a road trip for two to a Packers away game (including tickets, air fare and hotel accommodations) and a one-year subscription to PackersNews.com.

The winner's name also will be added to the list of Packers Fan Hall of Fame nominees recognized in the Packers Hall of Fame.

Thom is seeking to be the 25th member of the Packers Fan Hall of Fame. All nominees provided the organization with an essay of 500 words or less on why they should be selected.

Thom is certainly qualified for the top fan honor. Just drive by his house during the Packers season and you'll get a good idea of where his heart lies. He has a mailbox painted green and gold and decorated with a Packers logo and the words "No. 1 fan."

"The Packers have always been a part of me," said Thom in a phone interview. "That's my heart and soul. I live and die with them every Sunday. They're a part of me and in a way, I'm part of them."

Thom, 74, known more commonly as "Bob," is a season ticket holder (section 136, row 24) who has been attending home games since the early 1960s.

"I've spent a fair amount of money on the Packers over the years, but every cent has been worth it," Thom said. "Absolutely. I just can't get the same rush watching them on TV as I can by watching them in person. I feel like I'm contributing to the win. I know that may sound stupid or really anal, but to me, I've got to be there."

"That's what being a Packer fan is all about. It's not about a bunch of memorabilia laying around your house or a special Packers room. It's about being at the game, cheering them on."

Thomas has missed just one Lambeau Field home game – Dec. 9, 2007, against the Oakland Raiders – in the past 50 years. He had undergone shoulder surgery that Friday and was told by his doctor to watch



Photo from Robert Thom

Neenah resident Robert Thom is one of 10 finalists for the Packers Fan Hall of Fame.

Sunday's game on television.

"I told the doctor, 'I guess the surgery went pretty well, but I've got a Packer game Sunday,'" Thom said with a laugh. "He told me, 'I highly recommend against that. You've just had surgery and you don't want someone to bump into that.' I was like, 'Shucks, there goes my consecutive game streak."

"But we beat the Raiders (38-7) that day. They were able to do it without me."

Thom, who worked for years as sales manager for a Milwaukee company, strongly believes in using his vocal cords to provide the Packers with a lift.

"I've always said that if you don't leave the stadium hoarse, then you weren't cheering loud enough," Thom said. "I mean that, too. We're there to help them win. That's what home field advantage is about."

Thom attended home games for 40-plus years with his wife, Audrey, who now typically watches the home games on television after hip and knee surgeries.

"I'm happy for Bob and he's very excited about it," Audrey said. "It brings back a lot of good memories. I still remember the game when (Don) Majkowski got hurt and Brett Favre took over. I was like, 'Who in the heck is that.' Little did I know things were going to get really exciting. After that, games were just fun."

Thom, a 1967 graduate of Neenah High School, usually attends home games these

days with close friend Eric Paulson of Green Bay. The two have a long-standing tradition of tailgating before games and then turning it up vocally.

"Bob and I are loud," Paulson said. "We don't drink during the game. I don't think I've had a beer at a game since I was 18. We're strictly there to cheer for the Packers. Something has to be really important for us to miss a game. Weather doesn't factor into it."

Both Thom and Paulson attended the iconic Ice Bowl, the 1967 NFL Championship Game between the Packers and Dallas Cowboys when the game-time temperature plunged to minus 15 at Lambeau. Thom, who was a high school senior at the time, attended the game with his father, Robert Sr. Paulson admittedly snuck into the game, racing past an open security gate.

"I was sitting next to a guy who had a jug of Mogen David wine," said Thom. "By the end of the game it was a solid block of ice. Yeah, it was really cold and nobody had clothing back then for the weather. We just showed up wearing what we normally wear. I don't think thermal wear had even been invented."

"At the time, no one knew the game was going to be famous. The NFL really wasn't a big deal back then. We didn't know that we were at a historic game."

Thom recalls two other games that were just as memorable. One came on a snow-

packed Dec. 1 of 1985 when the Packers beat the Tampa Bay Buccaneers 21-0 in what is known as the Snow Bowl. Twelve inches of snow fell in the area before the game and another 5 inches dropped during the contest. Many roads leading to the game were practically impossible to navigate and only 18,856 fans showed up at Lambeau, including Thom.

"Luckily for me, a friend of mine was a Chevy dealer and had access to a four-wheel drive," Thom said. "Otherwise, we never would have made it. I remember people were sliding down the steps to the stadium. The snow was coming horizontally. The last thing I grabbed leaving my house was a pair of snowmobile goggles and that was a great idea because they allowed me to see the game. It's the smallest crowd I've ever seen at a Packers game."

Thom's other most memorable game at Lambeau was a 30-13 win over the Carolina Panthers on Jan. 12, 1997, in the NFC Championship Game. The win punched Green Bay's ticket to Super Bowl XXXI in New Orleans where the Packers won their first Super Bowl since 1968.

"I still remember the euphoria of that one since it had been so long since the Packers had been in the Super Bowl," Thom said. "Everyone was jumping around. Everyone was your best friend. It finally got the monkey off our backs."

"Back then, cellphones really weren't that big yet and I'll always remember the guy sitting next to me handing me his phone and asking, 'Is there anyone you want to call and share this with?'"

One thing Thom won't share are his Packers tickets with opposing fans. As a dedicated fan and Lambeau regular, he gets frustrated by Wisconsin residents selling their game tickets to fans of opponents.

"I've always felt like that's like taking money out of the church collection plate," Thom said with a laugh. "You just can't do that."

Thom's days as a Packers fan have come full circle and he's well aware he's now one of the senior citizens sitting in the Lambeau stands.

"Wow, the years have gone really fast – I'm no longer that teenager watching the Ice Bowl," Thom said. "It's kind of strange now realizing I'm one of the older fans at games. But it's been great. We've met so many wonderful people and made so many friends at the games."

"I don't have any plans on missing any games in the future. I'm pretty stubborn. I'm not going to leave any time soon."

Online voting is open until Jan. 31. To cast a vote for Thom or anyone else, go to [packers.com/fans/fan-hall-of-fame](http://packers.com/fans/fan-hall-of-fame).

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# Ertmer retiring

FROM PAGE 1

a copy machine, so carbon paper was used to make duplications. When the office finally got an electric typewriter, it was shared among all five employees.

“Government doesn’t move real quickly when it comes to modernizing, anyway, so when each of us were able to have our own electric typewriter it was quite the godsend back in the early 1980s,” she said.

The election process has changed significantly since then.

“We used to have the types of voting booths where you’d go in and close the curtains and you had this big monstrosity in front of you that you’d click down little arrows that would make little cuts in the paper behind the scene, and that paper would be rolled out of the machine and the votes tabulated,” she said. “It was all very antiquated voting equipment.”

The votes would be tabulated by hand and the results were called in. Now the county uses an optical scan voting system, which uses a scanner to read the ballots and tally the results, with the results

transmitted by modem.

“Elections have always been meaningful because that outcome is so exciting at the end, after all the work that you put in the months before, and then to have election night come and to see those results,” she said.

Ertmer shared some touching moments during her time with the county.

“We’ve had instances where people were dying and we’d have to go to the hospital and issue a marriage license,” she said. “People that have been together for years and things turn critical and they decide they really want to make it legal for various reasons; so those types of cases or instances are very heartfelt.”

Some of the relationships she’s developed with co-workers and supervisors have lasted for 30 years or more. Julie Barthels, who will be taking over the county clerk position for the remainder of Ertmer’s term which ends in January 2025, has become like a sister to her.

“We’re very close and she’s got the same philosophy that I do – that we’re here to help people – and she’ll do a great job,” Ertmer said.

In retirement, Ertmer plans on taking it easy, visiting with family and taking a few trips.

“Just to spend time with friends, enjoy my fur babies and my house, and enjoy getting up and not having to rush into the office in the morning,” she said.

She thanked voters for electing her so many years and allowing her to serve in the position.

“The county is a service organization and if you have the right attitude coming in, knowing that the work you’re doing is there to help people, you get a lot out of it,” she said. “It makes for a very happy career.”



Brigade photo

The Brigade’s Onaway Island facilities are welcoming winter camping groups for select weekends.

# Onaway Island camps are open for outdoor interests

Neenah News

Active outdoor weekends are on the winter schedule at the Brigade’s Onaway Island on Otter Lake in Waupaca County with four excursions and a built-in snow date planned through February for the general public.

The scheduled weekends all offer Wisconsin winter activities such as ice fishing, ice bowling, broomball, skating, snowshoeing, sledding, cross-country skiing and fort building on and around the island that the Brigade has owned since early in its 122-year history.

Onaway, which provides accommodations in year-round facilities that include a headquarters and mess hall, was purchased by S.F. Shattuck in 1910 about a decade after he helped found the organization at a Neenah Presbyterian church.

Island programs have changed and evolved from the original rough camping experience. Structures were built and much of the top of the island was cleared to allow for added activities such as sporting competitions, music and team building that Brigade youth groups enjoy most of the year.

Participants take a three-quarter-mile walk across the ice to the island camp to a facility that can hold about 35.

These winter dates are contingent on weather conditions and ice safety:

**Jan. 27-29:** 10th Grade and Co-Leader Weekend. Participants are required to ride the bus that leaves the Brigade at 6 p.m. Friday and returns at noon Sunday

(\$25/person). Featured are a wintertime cross-country race, a Chain o’ Lakes Birkebeiner, a bonfire on the ice and other unannounced activities.

**Feb. 3-5:** Family Weekend. All ages can participate in a balance of planned activities, events and free time. Each family will have sleeping arrangements in their own bunkroom. Arrive at Onaway landing (E1703 Pine Ridge Lane) after 7 p.m. Friday, depart by 11 a.m. Sunday (\$45/person, \$35/under 11)

**Feb. 10-12:** Parent/Son Weekend. Onaway camp designed specifically for boys and a parent or guardian. Dads, uncles, granddads and any other mentor welcome. Each family will have its own bunkroom. Carpool from Brigade at 6 p.m. Friday and return at noon Sunday (\$45/person)

**Feb. 17-19:** Parent/Daughter Weekend. Designed specifically for girls and a parent or guardian. Moms, aunts, grandmas and any other mentor welcome. Each family will have its own bunkroom. Carpool from Brigade at 6 p.m. Friday and return at noon Sunday (\$45/person)

Snow dates are Feb. 24-26 should ice or weather conditions prevent safe travel. Brigade staff evaluate conditions before each event, and a decision will be communicated no later than 48 hours before the start time.

The communication protocol would include a post on the Brigade home page at [bgbrigade.com](http://bgbrigade.com) or a call can be made to 920-725-8992 if desired.

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# County board

FROM PAGE 1

DAC has no functional purpose other than educational events. According to the resolution to dissolve, other public organizations in Winnebago County have existing programs to help support residents.

District 2 Supervisor Rebecca Nichols said the DAC isn't the issue, it's the members, adding that it's not mandatory to participate in the group.

"Why do some people feel the need to take the opportunity away from others?" she said. "Approving this resolution sends the message that Winnebago County is an unwelcoming place to work; an unwelcoming place to live; an unwelcoming place to have a business; an unwelcoming place to raise a family."

The county board spent more than an hour deliberating on whether to dissolve the commission. It voted against postponing the dissolution vote until 2024 and it voted against changing the wording of the resolution so that the DAC would report directly to the county board. The final vote was 19-14 in favor of dissolving the DAC in its current form.

The board then discussed the proposal to rename the ARPA Strategy & Outcomes Commission to the Spirit Fund Commission and establish a new Spirit Fund for the \$33.3 million in federal American Rescue Plan Act funds Winnebago County received.

In October, the board voted to designate all ARPA funds as lost revenue from the pandemic. Director of administration Mike Collard wrote in an agenda item report that once ARPA funds are designated as lost revenue the money can be spent on any general government service provided after March 3, 2021, with few exceptions.

The sum of \$18.2 million would be placed into the undesignated general fund and \$15.2 million into a Park View Health Center fund. The money would then be

removed from the two funds and placed into a new Spirit Fund.

Moving the money into a Spirit Fund is a reporting loophole that allows the county to spend the ARPA funds outside of pandemic-related expenditures, while avoiding federal auditing requirements.

Park View financial services manager Doug Petraszak told the board the county would use Park View's wages from 2020 and 2021 to show that it has spent \$15.2 million. He said the maneuver could cause Park View to lose all of the supplemental payments that it received from the state those years, in the amount of \$5.4 million.

"It could affect it none, or we could lose it all," Petraszak said.

District 23 Supervisor Koby Schellenger said the potential financial impact on Park View is substantial.

"I don't think we can risk losing that kind of money until we know what can happen with Park View's other government funding," he said.

Collard said the Park View designation was determined in October when the board voted to report the ARPA money as lost revenue. He said that if Park View's auditors determine it could be at risk of losing funding due to the maneuver, a budget repair resolution would be brought to the board identifying different expenses.

"The objective was to identify expenses that wouldn't cause us any trouble," he said. "We have a variety of expenses to pick from. Maybe we should have found expenses that were all in 2022 rather than 2021, which would save us some money on doing that compliance audit that our same auditor firm does."

The board voted 20-14 to send the Spirit Fund proposal back to the ARPA Commission.

The County Board was set to vote on about \$5.2 million in spending proposals for the Spirit Fund dollars. Those measures were postponed based on the board's vote.

## Restaurant management webinar planned

Neenah News

A webinar for local restaurants looking to grow their business is being offered through a collaboration with the Fox Cities Chamber and Small Business Development Center (SBDC) ahead of Restaurant Week Fox Cities 2023.

"How to Position Your Restaurant for Success in 2023," set for 9 a.m. Tuesday, is open to any restaurant in the Fox Cities. Participants will learn strategies for growth and success through tips on how to optimize pricing, analyze cost controls, build a team, and hire and retain top talent.

Presenter Jesus Nanez is the lead consultant for the Wisconsin Restaurant Initiative,

a program of the Wisconsin Small Business Development Center. Jesus and his wife own Farmhouse Paint Bar & Banquet Hall and Chuchos's Red Tacos in Milwaukee.

Preregistration is required through foxcitieschamber.com under the Media tab and Newsroom.

The program can help restaurants prepare for Restaurant Week Fox Cities, which runs from Jan. 27 to Feb. 5 and showcases a special menu designed for the event.

Guests select from multi-course breakfast, lunch and dinner options, and no pre-registration or tickets are required.

Plan visits by viewing the Restaurants tab at restaurantweekfoxcities.com.

# Calendar of events

## Friday, Jan. 20

King's Conquest in concert, 6:30 p.m., Word Fellowship, 1020 Tullar Road

## Thursday, Jan. 26

Meditation session with Zen River Sangha, 6 p.m., Bergstrom-Mahler Museum of Glass

## Friday, Jan. 27

Uncorked & Uncapped, 7 p.m., Bridgewood Best Western Premier

## Saturday, Feb. 4

Art Activity Day, 10 a.m., Bergstrom-Mahler Museum of Glass

## Sunday, Feb. 5

Sunday Concert Series: Caravan Gypsy Swing Ensemble, 2 p.m., Neenah Public Library

## Monday, Feb. 6

Famous Hikes Around the World, 2 p.m., Neenah Public Library

## Tuesday, Feb. 13

Monday Matinee, 1 p.m., Neenah Public Library



Photo from Neenah Historical Society



## Ongoing tradition

Lake Winnebago has been home to ice boat regattas since the 1880s. As seen in this photo, clubs would race in courses along the frozen lake. This weather-dependent sport still takes place on winter days in Neenah.

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Photo by David Hall

## Winter festival

Children had the chance to roast some marshmallows during the Winter festival celebration last Saturday at Washington Park.

## Ski Club students involved in bus accident

Neenah News

A group of Neenah High School students suffered minor injuries in a bus accident Jan. 11 while returning from a Ski Club trip to Nordic Mountain in Waushara County near Wild Rose.

One of two buses carrying 22 students home slid off the road and onto its side in foggy and icy conditions in Waushara County at about 8:45 p.m. Two students with minor injuries were taken to a hospi-

tal and released to their parents later that night.

The Neenah Joint School District coordinated with Kobussen Buses and another bus was dispatched to transport the students home. The students were able to wait on the second bus before returning home.

The Wautoma Area School District had been closed to classes and after-school activities that day citing severe winter driving conditions.

# Driver gets prison term for continued OWI offenses

By Bethanie Gengler  
NEENAH NEWS

A 56-year-old Neenah man was sentenced Jan. 13 to a three-year prison term for driving while intoxicated on his eighth such offense.

According to the Winnebago County Sheriff's Department, officers received a report March 22, 2020, around 12:50 p.m. from an off-duty Fox Crossing police officer that a vehicle on Interstate 41 was crossing the fog lines, almost hit a pole and went up on the curb.

The vehicle exited I-41 on Main Street in Neenah and pulled in at a Mobil station. A deputy pulled over the vehicle as it was leaving the gas station and made contact with the driver, Scott Butterfield.

Documents indicate Butterfield had bloodshot and glassy eyes and his speech was slurred. The deputy asked Butterfield to exit the vehicle and began administering field sobriety tests. During the one leg-stand test, Butterfield lost his balance and the deputy had to catch him to keep him from falling into traffic. The deputy ended the tests for safety.

Butterfield told the deputy that he was prescribed trazodone, an antidepressant medication, which he took that morning. The deputy determined Butterfield had 10 prior OWI convictions on his record since 1989, with the most recent in 2004. He was arrested for OWI 11th offense and unsafe lane deviation. He was transported to jail.

The deputy noted that the circuit

court records showed duplicate charges for Butterfield's OWI convictions in 1989 and 1991, so for the purpose of sentencing enhancement his charge was amended to eighth-offense OWI.

Butterfield violated the terms of his bond on several occasions since the arrest. On July 15, 2020, Neenah police arrested Butterfield after receiving a tip that he was drinking at Lucky Dogz bar on Green Bay Road.

In January 2022, Butterfield was charged with violating bond conditions for failing to abide by the requirements of the 24/7 alcohol monitoring program.

On July 16, police were dispatched to Old 41 Saloon on Green Bay Road after a person called and reported Butterfield was drinking there. When officers arrived, he ran out the back door. Officers found him hiding in the bushes and arrested him.

Butterfield was subsequently found guilty of three felony bail jumping charges for the incidents. Several other bail violations were dismissed but read in.

Last week, Butterfield pled no contest and was found guilty of eighth-offense OWI, a felony. He was sentenced to three years in state prison, with 292 days credit for time served and a year of extended supervision. His driver's license was revoked for two years and he was ordered to have an ignition interlock device for two years. The unsafe lane deviation charge was dismissed.



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# St. Mary Catholic girls hold off Lourdes Academy

By Dustin Riese  
NEWS CONTRIBUTOR

Emily Vogel's big night helped St. Mary Catholic secure a big win.

Vogel finished with a team-high 19 points and ignited a victory-sealing 12-3 run over the final two minutes as the Zephyrs knocked off Lourdes Academy, 69-57, in a nonconference girls basketball game between two state-ranked teams on Tuesday.

"This was a very hard-fought win for us tonight against a very good basketball team," St. Mary Catholic head coach Jeff Chew said. "They put us in a tough spot early as we had to overcome some adversity in the first half. Once we started to settle in and play our style of basketball, things became easier and we were able to come away with the win."

The Zephyrs, who have won nine straight games and improved to 14-1 on the season, extended a six-point halftime lead to 12 points to seemingly take control of the game with Vogel leading the way.

The sophomore scored five straight points for the Zephyrs and eight of 10 over a longer stretch as St. Mary Catholic took a 45-33 lead.

The Knights wouldn't be dismissed that easily, though, and slowly climbed back into the game.

With less than two minutes remaining, Lourdes Academy narrowed the margin to 57-54, before Vogel went coast-to-coast for a layup to stem the tide.

The Zephyrs would hit all six of their free-throw attempts down the stretch as part of the 12-3 run that sealed the victory.

"This is one of our best overall showings this season," Chew said. "They (Knights) have a ton of great players on their team that know how to shoot the ball extremely well. If they get hot it can be tough for anyone to stop. Defensively we did a fantastic job generating pressure on the ball to get them off their spot and that helped us get out in transition."

The Knights had the Zephyrs down early in the game jumping out to a 13-4 lead at the start.

St. Mary Catholic came storming back, though, rattling off nine straight points to knot things up.

Lourdes Academy pulled back ahead with a basket before Sienna Anderson drained a 3-pointer for the Zephyrs that started a 19-5 run and St. Mary Catholic would not trail again.

Behind Emily Vogel's effort, Audrey Norville finished with 17 points, while Chloe Vogel was limited to 15 points.

"You have to give (Lourdes Academy) a



Photo by Dustin Riese

St. Mary Catholic's Audrey Norville speeds the ball up the court during Tuesday's win over Lourdes Academy.

ton of credit for how they defended Chloe most of the game. They made things difficult for her and took away a lot of what she likes to do," Chew said. "The good thing

about our team is that we have so much balance that others will step up when called upon. Tonight, it was Emily's night to step up and she did that."

## Prep sports roundup

### SWIMMING

#### Neenah dominates home sprint invite

Neenah's swimming team rolled to a first-place finish as hosts of a seven-team sprint invitational on Saturday, totaling 687 points to finish nearly 300 points ahead of runner-up Oshkosh West.

The Rockets placed four individuals in the top eight in four different events, highlighted by the 25-yard freestyle where Quinn Koepfer, David Murphy, Josh Belin and Jack Dorner grabbed the top four places, respectively.

Koepfer also won the 50-yard freestyle, with Dorner taking third, Bellin finishing in fourth and Dylan Knutson placing seventh. In the 50-yard breaststroke, it was Drew Gaerthofner collecting the win followed by Braden Loudon in fourth, Murphy in fifth and Knutson in seventh.

The other event in which Neenah had four of the top eight finishers was the 100-yard freestyle where Julian Kuehn and Tanner Trustem took second and third, respectively, while Marc Lefeber and Justin Sina were seventh and eighth, respectively.



Photo by David Hall

The Neenah High School swim team hosted an invitational on Saturday and came away with a dominant first-place finish as a team. The Rockets finished nearly 300 points ahead of the rest of the seven-team field.

Gaerthofner also picked up a win in the 100-yard individual medley, with Joshua Youngwerth taking third.

In the 50-yard backstroke, Trustem was second followed by Youngwerth in fifth and Liam Sieck in eighth, while Braden Loudon took third and Kuehn was seventh in the 50-yard butterfly.

Neenah also won two of the three relays with Nick Miller, Murphy, Loudon and Koepfer placing first in the 100-yard med-

ley relay, while Trustem, Kuehn, Youngwerth and Gaerthofner teamed up to take first in the 200-yard freestyle relay.

### GIRLS BASKETBALL

#### Ziebell paces Rockets in win over Cardinals

Allie Ziebell knocked down six 3-pointers and finished with 24 points as Neenah dispatched Fond du Lac, 74-31, on Friday

night.

The Rockets erupted for 42 points in the first half to take a 26-point lead and cruised in the second half.

Rowan Klesmit added 14 points and Ava Kok chipped in 10 points for Neenah, which went 12-of-25 from 3-point range in the game, while forcing Fond du Lac into 27 turnovers.

SEE Prep roundup ON PAGE 11

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# Buss enjoys smooth transition into Rocket lineup

By Steve Clark  
NEENAH NEWS

Sammie Buss is competitive. Whether its cribbage, board games or basketball, the Neenah High School senior admits that any kind of competition is where she feels comfortable.

"I love to compete. I'm a very competitive person," Buss said. "I always want to win and that's what makes me competitive and not just in basketball but other things."

Right now, though, basketball is where her focus lies.

As a starting guard on the state-ranked Neenah girls basketball team, Buss is averaging just over nine points per game while shooting better than 46 percent from 3-point range. She has reached double figures in eight of the 16 games this season, with a season-high of 20 points against Wausau West in the second game of the season.

The play has been impressive given the fact that Buss is in her first year of wearing the Rockets' red and white.

Buss played her first three prep seasons at Xavier High School, where her father BJ Buss, was the head coach. He resigned following the end of last season and Buss opted to join the Rockets.

"The transition was very smooth and everyone was really welcoming to me. It couldn't have gone any better and I really like it (at Neenah a lot)."

Buss said the decision was hers whether to transfer or not but leaving the Xavier program did come with some mixed emotions.

"I just think this was the best option for me," said Buss, who was a second-team all-Bay Conference selection after last season. "There are some differences (be-



Neenah News

Senior Sammie Buss is averaging 9.1 points per game while shooting better than 46 percent from 3-point range this season for the Rockets after transferring from Xavier.

tween the Fox Valley Association and Bay Conference) but they are two of the best conferences in the area, so it's nice to play in both of them."

Buss came to Neenah without having to meet everybody on the team.

She said that she has played on the same AAU team as junior forward Allie Ziebell, so there was at least one familiar face when she started practicing with the team.

"It helped a lot. We were great friends

## Senior Spotlight

before I came here, so I think that has helped me play with her here," Buss said. "Playing with her in previous years helped me come over here and play with her. The rest was super easy, just getting to know the girls."

It certainly seems to be working.

With the talented Buss joining a team that reached the sectional final a year ago, Neenah has gotten off to a 15-1 start this season and are tied for the top spot in the FVA with Hortonville.

The Rockets are also ranked fourth in Division 1 and are one of the contenders to be playing at the Resch Center in the state tournament later this winter. Not that Buss or her teammates are overly concerned with that at this point of the season.

"Obviously, everybody hopes to get there but we don't talk about it very often," Buss said. "We just take it one day at a time and focus on each game."

Buss certainly has basketball in her blood as both of her parents have coached at the high school level. While her father led the program for five seasons, her mother, Jen, coached for Appleton East and Appleton North while Buss was growing up.

"You grow up in it," Buss said. "You love it. You live it. It's just normal."

As much as she learned from her parents, Buss' skills were sharpened against another member of the family - her younger sister, Ellie.

Buss said the two sisters have been competing against each other since she was in second grade. Not all of the days playing with and against each other have ended peacefully - the case with most siblings - but Buss credits her younger sister for pushing her to be at the level she is.

"We always loved to compete with

SEE **Senior Spotlight** ON PAGE 11

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# Prep roundup

FROM PAGE 9

## Neenah picks up home win over Marshfield

Allie Ziebell finished with 28 points and 10 rebounds and Neenah racked up a 62-54 win over visiting Marshfield on Tuesday night.

The Rockets collected the win despite making just 6-of-22 attempts from 3-point range in the game. Marshfield was 7-of-16 from behind the arc.

Sammie Buss also reached double figures for the Rockets with 10 points. No other Neenah player had more than six points.

## Zephyrs rally to collect win over Indians

St. Mary Catholic erased a seven-point halftime deficit and pulled out a 55-51 win over visiting Mishicot last Friday.

Chloe Vogel finished with 18 points and six rebounds to lead the way for the Zephyrs, who outscored Mishicot 33-22 in the second half.

Sienna Anderson added 11 points and Lauren Ripley chipped in nine in the win for St. Mary Catholic.

The Zephyrs forced 21 turnovers in the game to help key the win. The two teams combine for 40 fouls with each squad having two players foul out.

## BOYS BASKETBALL

## St. Mary Catholic rolls past Sheboygan Christian

Cole Uhlenbrauck scored 27 points to lead three players in double figures as the

Zephyrs cruised to the 86-62 win over Sheboygan Christian.

St. Mary Catholic seized control of the game in the first half, taking a 43-21 lead at intermission.

Charlie Nackers added 20 points, while Danny Griffith finished with 15 points in the win for St. Mary Catholic. Spencer Lynch chipped in nine points.

## Neenah loses close battle with Fondy

Cal Klesmit scored 25 points but Neenah lost 67-63 to Fond du Lac last Friday night in a showdown between the leaders of the Fox Valley Association.

Both teams entered the game with just one loss in conference play, but the Cardinals took over sole possession of the lead league with the win.

Brady Corso added 13 points for the Rockets, while Jackson Schломann and Elliott Swanson each added eight.

On Saturday, the Rockets bounced back with a 65-57 road win over Brookfield East as four players finished in double figures.

Corso paced the team with 17 points, while Klesmit and Schломann finished with 13 and 12 points, respectively. Sam Coulthard also reached double figures with 12 points.

## WRESTLING

## Rockets post easy wins at FVA double dual

The Neenah wrestling team breezed through both dual meets at the Fox Valley Association double dual last Thursday, toppling Oshkosh North 69-12, while also collecting a 70-7 win over Fond du Lac.

Against Oshkosh North, the Rockets posted nine wins by pin, including four

in the first minute of the match. Eli Gast (195) had the fastest pin at 15 seconds, while Eric Schaufelberger won his match in 26 seconds, Eli Armatti (113) needed 29 seconds for his win and Nate Cleveland (285) earned his win in 38 seconds.

Other pins were registered by Declan Kock (120), Jacob Herm (126), Jayden Sheppard (132), Nick Novak (152) and Joey Dringoli (160).

Neenah benefitted from five forfeits in beating Fond du Lac, with Koch, Novak, Gast, Jeremy Wiggs-Schmalz (195), Schaufelberger and Cleveland all winning by pin.

Aiden Carey (170) also went 2-0 on the day, posting one win by decision and second by major decision.

## BOYS HOCKEY

## Rockets can't hold off Fond du Lac

Neenah/Hortonville/Menasha tallied the opening goal against Fond du Lac on Tuesday night, but the Cardinals proved to be too much, handing the Rockets a 5-2 loss in a Badgerland Conference matchup.

Kolten Hunter scored the opening goal less than two minutes into the game, with Chase Collins and Calvin Zinda picking up assists on the tally. The Rockets held the lead for more than eight minutes, but Fond du Lac scored three goals in the final nine minutes of the period to take a 3-1 lead.

Luke Sutton's power play goal in the second period left Neenah/Hortonville/Menasha trailing by just one but Fond du Lac tallied two goals in the third period to close out the win.

Caleb Moore stopped 27 of the 30 shots he faced in the game.

# Senior Spotlight

FROM PAGE 10

each other. We are a competitive family," Buss said. "She definitely pushes me to be good. Together, just pushing each other helps us both get better."

Buss' talent was well recognized even before she arrived at Neenah.

She had committed to Presentation College in Aberdeen, S.D., prior to the start of the season and was looking forward to the opportunity to play for the Saints.

Earlier this week, Presentation College announced that the school was closing its doors, which means her college destination will be changing and that her recruitment would be opening.

Wherever she ends up, Buss knows that she must step her game up to compete at the college level. And as she would have at Presentation College, she is ready to work on her game to make the jump.

"(The college game) is really different than high school. I know it's going to be tough," Buss said. "I just have to keep working on my game and get better every day."


### WRITING OPPORTUNITIES

**Do you have the pulse on the community? Interested in feature stories or prep sports?**

We are looking for writers interested in creating community features, news stories or sports reporting on a freelance basis for either the Oshkosh Herald or Neenah News weekly newspapers. Submissions would need a local focus that also can connect to broader topics. Compensation is on a story-by-story basis.

Contact [editor@oshkoshherald.com](mailto:editor@oshkoshherald.com) to get more details.








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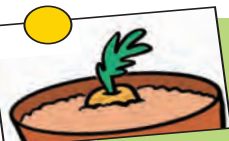
Do you hear people around you worrying about money? You can help by finding ways to have fun without spending any money. There are lots of **FREE** things you can do each and every day! Try some of the fun activities on this page—some might be more fun than playing with expensive toys and games!



## Make a Sock Puppet!

Turn a sock into a puppet. Sew on buttons for eyes. Use markers to make a mouth. Thread string or yarn through the sock to make hair.

Have your puppet read one of your favorite books aloud!



## Grow a Little Garden

Next time you eat a carrot, cut off the top and use it to start a plant. Use several carrot tops and you can start a garden.

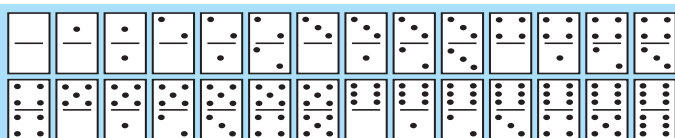
1. Cut the carrot tops off so they are about one inch long. It works best if there is a little bit of growth at the end of the carrot.
2. Eat the rest of the carrots!
3. Plant the carrot tops in a container filled with dirt. Be sure a little of each orange top peeks above the dirt. Keep the soil moist, but not soggy. Be sure your container has a hole for drainage. Place the container by a sunny window.
4. Watch your carrot plants grow! When you plant carrots this way, your plants won't make new carrots. But they will have pretty leaves to decorate your home.

Number the pictures in order.

Standards Link: Reading Comprehension: Follow simple written directions.

## Make Your Own Dominoes

Start by taking a walk around your neighborhood. Collect 28 flat light gray stones that are about the same size. Use a black marker or paint to draw dots and lines so that the stones look like the set of dominoes at right.



## Put on some music and DANCE, DANCE, DANCE!



## Go to the Library

Imagine a room with all kinds of **free** books that you can take home! That's a library! Visit your local library and check out fun books to read. Ask the librarian to help you find books that interest you.

## Reading Riddle

Gabriella loves nothing more than listening to the rain at night as it patters against the window panes. She has never read this book. And she will never finish it. Use the code to find out why!

A=14 B=2 C=7 D=19 E=11 G=9 I=6 L=13 R=4 S=10 T=17 U=15

$$\begin{array}{r} E \quad S \quad E \\ 2 \quad 11 \quad 7 \quad 14 \quad 15 \quad 10 \quad 11 \\ \hline 9 \quad 14 \quad 2 \quad 4 \quad 6 \quad 11 \quad 13 \quad 14 \\ \hline S \quad E \\ 6 \quad 10 \quad 14 \quad 7 \quad 14 \quad 17 \end{array}$$

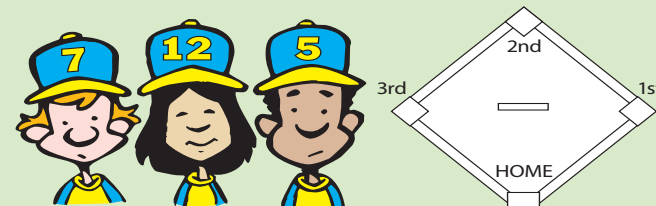
## Extra! Extra! Fun Search

Look through your local newspaper for information about festivals, museum exhibits and other free fun. Share what you find with your family and see if you can attend together.

Standards Link: Reading Comprehension: Use the newspaper to locate information.

## Kid Scoop Puzzler

Ben, Bobbie and Brendan can't remember who will play which base today. Use the coach's clue to help them out. Draw a line from each player to the base they will play.



### COACH'S CLUE:

The third baseman's number is twice the first baseman's number plus 2.

Standards Link: Mathematical Reasoning: Use strategies in the problem-solving process.

## Double Double Word Search

- BOOKS
- CARROT
- DANCE
- DRAW
- FREE
- FUN
- INCH
- LIBRARY
- MONEY
- PATTERS
- PUPPET
- READ
- SOGGY
- SUNNY
- YARN

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

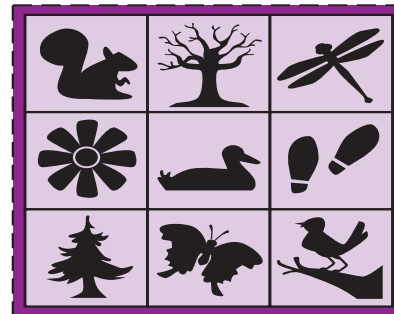
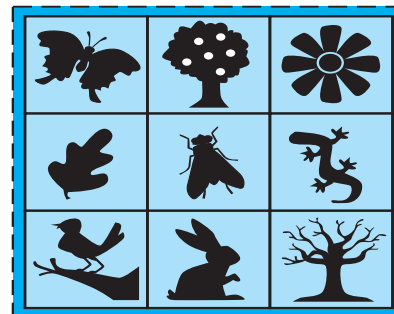
R Y K H C N I D S L  
 N N T B N U F O W K  
 P N R O X D G N A P  
 U U Z A R G K O R A  
 P S P R Y R D M D T  
 P Q L I B R A R Y T  
 E C N A D Y G C V E  
 T P P B O O K S Z R  
 V Q M O N E Y S O S  
 E F R E E F R E A D

Standards Link: Letter sequencing. Recognize identical words. Skim and scan reading. Recall spelling patterns.

## Kid Scoop FIT & FUN

### Nature Walk Bingo

Go for a nature walk with some friends. Each of you select one of the bingo cards below. When you see one of the things shown on the card, cross out that space. The first person to black out their card wins!



Standards Links: Physical Education: Understand the benefits associated with participation in physical activities.

## Write On!

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