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## Lawyer lapse can derail cases

### Public defender shortage felt locally, statewide

By Bethanie Gengler  
NEENAH NEWS

With a statewide backlog of an estimated 35,000 cases, Wisconsin's shortage of public defenders continues to be a challenge, and the issue is moving closer to home.

Last month, an appeals court ruled that child molestation charges against a Brown County man be dismissed because the county's inability to find a public defender to represent him violated his constitutional rights.

Christopher Butler is a registered sex offender from charges in 2000. The Green Bay man was arrested and charged in October 2019 with molesting two young girls. His initial appearance was held that same day but adjourned until counsel



Neenah News

District Attorney Eric Sparr (right) consults with court-appointed public defender Scott Ceman during a sentencing hearing in Winnebago County Circuit Court.

could be appointed.

Court documents say Butler was held in custody for 321 days before his initial appearance was completed and 342 days before his preliminary hearing.

Documents state that when Butler inquired with the court commissioner why the process of finding counsel took

SEE **Public defenders** ON PAGE 8

## INSIDE



**Outdoor imbibing**  
Places to grab a beer outside around Neenah  
Page 4

## Water study suit puts city, town at odds

By Bethanie Gengler  
NEENAH NEWS

The Town of Clayton is suing Neenah over the city's refusal to turn over documents related to a water distribution capacity and growth study report from 2021.

The lawsuit filed in Winnebago County Circuit Court June 7 alleges Clayton submitted an open records request for Neenah's water study in May, which was denied. The city's stated reason for denial is that the report is confidential, protectable as a trade secret and that permitting record access would result in harm to public interest.

The study was commissioned by the city and presented at a March 2021 Waterworks Commission meeting. The purpose was to examine the western and northwestern sections of Neenah and determine the best course of action to add capacity to the water system.

The city's meeting minutes indicate the study included a model of the distribution system's fire flows, water age and pressures, which can be used to help with Capital Improvement Plan projects and deter-

SEE **Water report** ON PAGE 8



Nodaway Yacht Club photo

Sailboat club racing is back in full swing through the efforts of the Neenah-Nodaway Yacht Club and Fox Valley Sailing School.

## Sailing club's long history cruising along

### Neenah-Nodaway thrives as a welcoming club

Neenah News

Neenah has strong roots in yachting that can be traced to the late 1850s and a racing boat built for a member of the Doty family. The first news report of the local sailboat racing club winning a lake championship was in 1863.

Early races quickly gained popularity among the locals, becoming a cherished activity that attracted many spectators. In

1905, the group merged with a separate club that focused on racing cat-yawl vessels, creating a new unified entity known as the Neenah-Nodaway Yacht Club.

The club has become an integral part of citywide water-based recreation of various types. Its fleet of yachts expanded to include various types of vessels, including the J-24, S.J. 21 and Flying Scots, which are now part of three international fleets. The club's influence has brought the joys of sailing and yachting to residents and visitors alike.

Jenny Olson, who has been part of the

club's racing events for 10 years, said the group continues to grow and add more younger participants in recent years.

"I love the people; they have become an extended version of a family," she said, "so that part of it is wonderful."

Sailing novices can join the group with the help of Fox Valley Sailing School instruction that teaches fundamentals on a smaller boat. One of the school's boats is available for rent for those who either have sailing experience or have gone through a

SEE **Yacht club** ON PAGE 8

# Neenah News

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Submitted photo

Miron Construction's annual Build Like a Girl event was held last week at the Neenah Police Department's expansion site.

## Event bulldozes construction stereotypes

By Bethanie Gengler  
NEENAH NEWS

Twenty-five female students attended Miron Construction's Build Like a Girl event last week, which included a project site tour of the Neenah Police Department's training center expansion.

The daylong program is in its seventh year and showcases opportunities for women in the construction industry and deals with what Miron calls a severe lack of women in the field and a skills gap affecting the industry.

Miron vice president of human resources Dave Walsh said the construction industry is unbalanced when it comes to gender diversity, with women comprising only 10.9% of that workforce. An estimated 1% of laborers are women.

Build Like a Girl is a free annual event open to seventh to 10th grade girls interested in learning about careers in construction. Special this year was a tour of the new \$6.9 million police training center construction site. The addition includes a firing range, armory, conference room, defense and arrest tactics room, virtual 3-D training room and fitness center.

The event featured a presentation and project overview at Miron's corporate office at 1471 McMahan Drive in Neenah, and hands-on activities at Miron's yard operations in Menasha.

Miron craftspeople walked participants through activities including masonry,



Submitted photo

Miron Construction's annual Build Like a Girl event was held last week at the Neenah Police Department's expansion site.

where they constructed a brick wall; carpentry, where they assembled raised garden beds to be donated to local organizations; and equipment operation, where participants operated a crane and boom lift.

There were conversations with women in the industry and discussions on typical wages in construction, apprenticeship opportunities and safety.

Walsh said Miron is committed to inclusion and Build Like a Girl is an initiative to create lasting, impactful change.

"It is events like this one that help drive us towards a more diverse workplace, fill the skilled trades gap with passionate and smart individuals, and increase gender diversity in the construction industry," he said.

## Habitat for Humanity marks 30 years in area

Neenah News

The Greater Fox Cities Area Habitat for Humanity is celebrating 30 years of impact in the Fox Cities that includes serving more than 4,000 individuals.

That number includes 320 families who are now homeowners, 20 neighborhoods enhanced through its Rock the Block programs and individuals assisted with home improvement projects they otherwise could not have afforded due to its zero-interest home loan program.

"Our mission at Habitat for Humanity is to ensure everyone has access to decent, safe and affordable housing," said chief executive John Weyenberg. "To be celebrating three decades of impacting lives is incredible and to hear from the families, now decades later, about how being able to become homeowners has changed their lives is even more rewarding."

The organization held a celebration event at Smith Park in Menasha on June 8 for staff, volunteers and homeowners, who swapped stories about the impact

Habitat has had over the years.

"Habitat has changed our life completely," said homeowner Erika Bustos.

Her family of six moved into their home last year after successfully completing the application process, performing months of sweat equity, and participating in classes.

"We volunteered at the ReStore, made lunches for Senior Crew, did construction on other homes and eventually construction on our house. We loved volunteering because we learned so much (about home

ownership) from the process," Bustos said.

Some of the longest-standing volunteers are from the Senior Crew, a group who commit to a somewhat regular volunteer schedule.

"I've been a part of so many Habitat for Humanity projects over the years," said Bob Logan, Senior Crew volunteer since 2011. "I keep coming back for more because there is nothing like it out there. The work Habitat does is a ripple effect that can be felt throughout the community, even now 30 years later."

## FVTC names new board members, reappoints two

The Fox Valley Technical College District Board Appointment Committee selected two new board members and reappointed two current members to fill upcoming openings on its board of trustees.

Justin Krueger, in the Special Education Department at Appleton West High School, was reappointed to another three-year term. He will fill the elected official category.

John Weyenberg, president and chief executive of Greater Fox Cities Habitat

for Humanity, was reappointed to another three-year term. He will fill the additional member category.

Victoria Weiland, community member, was appointed to a three-year term. She will fill the additional member category.

Mike Slowinski, superintendent of Kaukauna Area School District, was appointed to a one-year term. He will fill the employer category being vacated by trustee Erik Lampe.

# County considers youth group home property purchase

By Bethanie Gengler  
NEENAH NEWS

The Winnebago County Board of Supervisors will vote in July on whether to purchase the Silvercrest Group Home in Neenah from the Winnebago County Housing Authority.

Winnebago County has been renting the group home from the housing authority since 1995 and recently learned it will be listed for sale, with the county offered the first opportunity to purchase.

Human Services director Bill Topel gave a presentation on the potential purchase at the county board's Tuesday meeting.

Silvercrest is a live-in group home for boys ages 12-17 at 1021 Green Acres Lane. Silvercrest partners with Winnebago County to help troubled youth who are exhibiting harmful behaviors. The boys are court ordered to stay at the home for six months to a year.

"It's a type of facility that we need in our child welfare system so that when a judge decides that a child needs to be placed outside of home, there's different levels of care," Topel said.

Teenage boys are referred to Silvercrest from Winnebago County, with many of them attending the Neenah Joint School District. The facility is licensed to serve up to eight clients at a time.

The boys may be experiencing mental, emotional, behavioral or academic problems, according to the Silvercrest website. The group home also serves those with multiple diagnoses, sexual offenders and children with delinquent behaviors.

The 4,300-square-foot building is an unlocked, open facility that is staffed 24 hours a day. It features eight beds, four



Neenah News

Silvercrest Group Home at 1021 Green Acres Lane is being looked at for purchase by Winnebago County, which has been renting the property.

bathrooms, a new fully functional kitchen, finished basement with a recreation area and a three-car garage.

The cost is \$240,000; with an extra \$100,000 needed for repairs. Under the existing arrangement, Winnebago County is paying between \$36,000 and \$38,000 per year to rent it.

Topel said under state law the county is required to either have a group home or must be able to contract for that level of group home service.

Silvercrest is already zoned and licensed for that purpose.

"We have been using this home, as I said, for well over the last 20 years and it's served Winnebago County well," he said.

Topel said if the county acquires the property, it may request to change the property to be licensed co-ed, so that it could also provide shelter for girls in need.

The board will vote next month on whether to approve spending a total of \$340,000 on the home, including repairs, funded by the general fund or borrowing. The county will continue contracting with the existing company that's operating it.

Most of the supervisors who spoke after the presentation were in favor of the purchase, although some questioned future expenses such as unexpected repairs and the potential need for additional county staff.

In response to a question about the lo-

cation, Topel said the facility has been operating in Neenah for years and the neighbors are comfortable with it.

"I can tell you in 15 years as director, I have never had one person complain, as a neighbor, about the facility or anything that was going on there," he said. "That says a lot to me."

If approved, Silvercrest Group Home will join a 16-bed home for troubled youth in Oshkosh that the county board agreed to purchase for \$1 million last November, with repairs included in that expense.

Topel said the existing lease is through the end of the year. Operations at the group home would be unchanged if the county takes over ownership.

## Neenah High School names SRO

Fox Crossing Police Department officer Clay Davis has been selected as the first school resource officer (SRO) for the new Neenah High School, the school district announced.



Davis

Davis has more than 11 years of service for Fox Crossing. He has been active as a defense and arrest tactics instructor, a field training officer and a member of the depart-

ment's honor guard.

He will be one of three school resource officers in the district, joining Nate Franzke and Erica Geschrei from the Neenah Police Department.

Franzke has been at the high school for the past two years. Geschrei was hired in February and has nearly two decades of law enforcement experience, previously working for the Winnebago County Sheriff's Office. Franzke and Geschrei will oversee Neenah Middle School and the elementary schools in the city of Neenah.

## 'Beauty and the Beast JR' on St. Mary stage

Neenah News

Future Stars Theatre Company is presenting "Beauty and the Beast JR" today through Sunday at the Jane Bergstrom Fine Arts Education Center on the campus of St. Mary Catholic High School in Fox Crossing.

Future Stars is a theater organization offering a place for youth interested in performing arts.

The company specializes in musical theater and offers opportunities in dance, acting, improvisation, ensemble work and vocal performance.

Started in 2020, the theater is run by college students who attend accredited art programs across the nation. This year's performance tells the classic story of Belle and Beast, a young prince who needs to feel love and give love in order to break the spell he is under.

The nonprofit spent more than four hours at the Neenah Public Library last month auditioning children from all over the Fox Valley for Beauty and the Beast. With a cast of 41, every kid that auditioned was selected for a role.

The performance is based on the Broadway production that ran nearly 14 years and nominated for several Tony awards. It will feature music from the Disney motion picture by Alan Menken and Howard Ashman in addition to new musical pieces by Menken and Tim Rice.

"Beauty and the Beast JR" opens at 7 p.m. today and Saturday, and 2 p.m. Sunday, and runs about 75 minutes. Go to futurestartheatre.org for tickets.

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# Warm weather means drinking cold brews – outdoors

This is our time, beer drinkers! Warmer weather means tipping back a pint while enjoying the outdoors.

Of course, getting out on the water or gathering around a roaring campfire are great ways to share a beer or two with family and friends. Yet, if you can't get away, there are some options here within Neenah's city limits that at least feel like a mini vacation.

The authors of "Wife + Husband = Beer" have done the research. It's a sacrifice we make for you, dear readers.

Before we begin, know that these opportunities don't relate at all to the recently established temporary designated outdoor refreshment area (TDORA) mentioned in last week's Neenah News. That limited section of downtown (210 Main St. to 211 E. Wisconsin Ave.) only applies to special events and allows imbibers to enjoy drinks on closed-off streets/sidewalks when served by a licensed establishment with a special event permit.

The following opportunities are available whenever we're experiencing nice weather. So, get out there now and often. Cheers!

The large, pet-friendly outdoor patio at **Ground Round** is loaded with umbrellas and happy folks. Firepits, numerous games and an ongoing Thursday evening music series make this a must-stop this summer.

**Bee Hive Barn and Grill** just southwest of town receives high marks for their burgers, crispy onion rings, and Brew City fries. Bring a friend and a sociable pet and enjoy a cold one while watching the sunset.



**Wife + Husband = Beer**

Jami and Eric Severstad

**Short Branch Saloon** features an entire outdoor bar and stage, not just seating. It's spacious, and the prices are friendly. A side of bacon with a tasty bloody Mary and beer chaser? Yes, please.

Also showcasing an outdoor stage and bar (shaped like a pirate ship), **Willie Beamon's Bar & Grill** is a staple on the west side. The overall focus is on food and mixed drinks, so the beer selection isn't extensive, but it is cold! Same goes for the **Woodshed Bar & Grill's** small patio just down the road.

With such wonderful smells inside, why would you want to sit outside at **Cranky Pat's Pizza**? Well, to enjoy a brew and some cheese curds while you wait for your pie, of course.

Don't let the name fool you, **XE54 Wine & Cocktail Lounge** has local craft beer on tap. Pronounced "zee S4," these fun-loving folks have a charming patio and welcome well-behaved pets.

Similarly, the name **Copperstill Bourbon Bar** doesn't scream "beer!" but it does offer a half-dozen craft brews on tap. Numerous tables with large umbrellas fill up the patio along Wisconsin Avenue just across from Shattuck Park, so it's a fine option during concert season.

There's not a ton of space along the downtown sidewalk, but **Greene's Pour House** makes the most of it. Plus, the

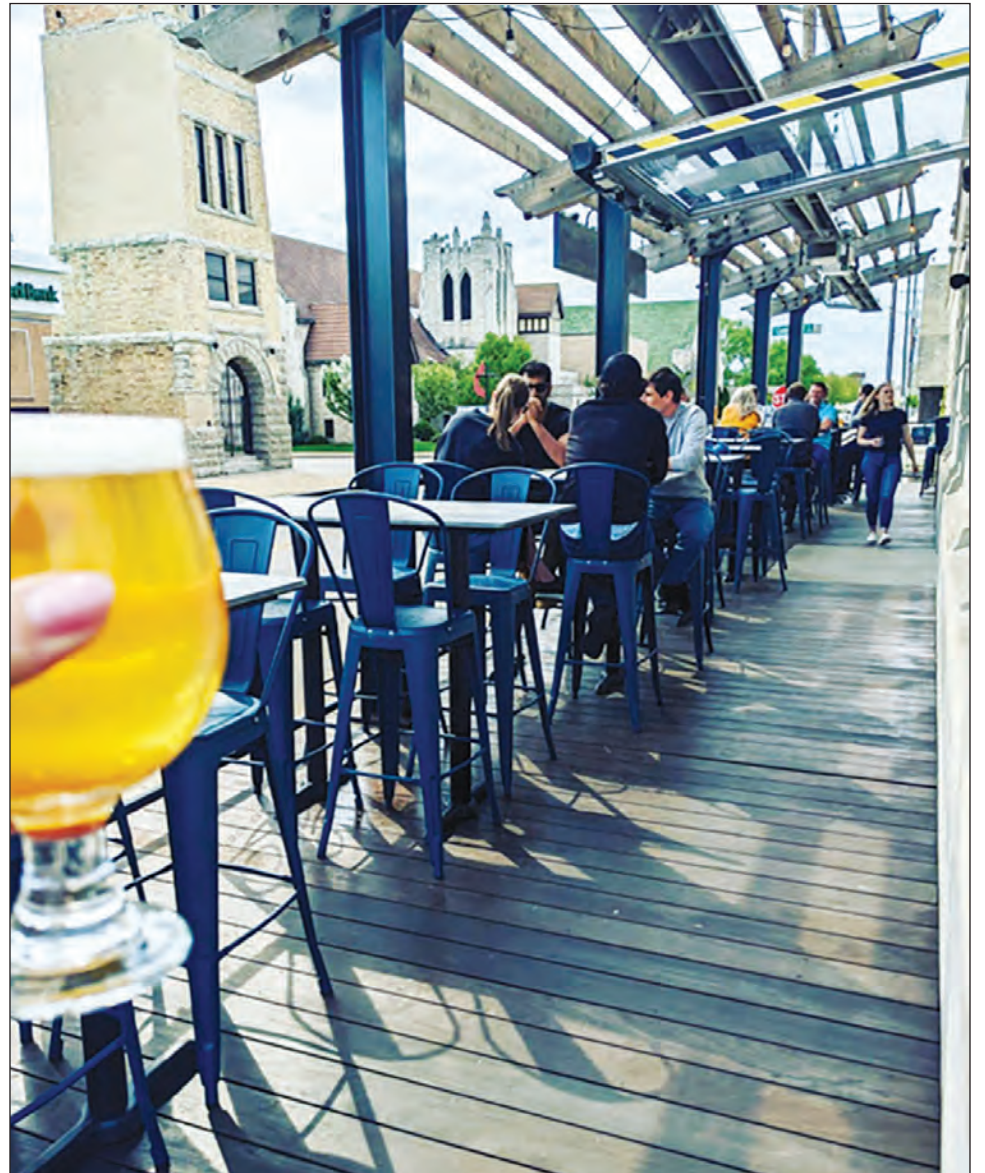


Photo courtesy of Lion's Tail Brewing

Wonderful weather months are few here in Neenah, so get out now and enjoy some beers in the outdoors, such as Lion's Tail seen here.

front-facing garage doors roll up to provide an outside feel for tables just inside. A better-than-average beer selection and pet-friendly attitude make this a destination.

Also downtown, **Town Council Kitchen & Bar** only has two small tables along the sidewalk, but the beer selection is always impressive, with at least eight taps pouring craft delights. The food here actually outshines the beer, it's that good.

Two years ago, **Lion's Tail Brewing Co.** invested in a top-notch patio (leashed dogs are welcome) that runs along the sidewalk and wraps around the building, also providing an additional entrance into the main space. Check their social media for the food truck schedule that complements their ever-changing

menu of wonderful beer.

**Barrel 41 Brewing Co.** has carved out some of its parking lot for outdoor drinking (and a snack when a food truck is visiting). Of course, the beer choices are many, with new releases happening nearly weekly. Filled water dishes are available for dogs, so bring your best friend. The late-day sun gets intense in this shadeless spot; be prepared.

What did we miss? Let us know about your favorite place to grab a cold one outside or any pet-friendly spots, and we'll update readers with fresh thoughts next month.

*Wife + Husband = Beer is a monthly column exclusive to Neenah News! Tell us what local beer lovers need to know, and we'll cover it. Email: wife.husband.beer@gmail.com*



Submitted photo

Many venues throughout Neenah have invested in outdoor patios, including freshening up 115-year-old buildings. Photo courtesy of Lion's Tail Brewing Co.

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# Downtown concert visitors enjoy outdoor spirits

By Bethanie Gengler  
NEENAH NEWS

Hundreds of locals attended the Future Neenah Summer Kickoff Concert last week, where they listened to music, socialized and openly consumed and carried alcohol on closed-off portions of Main Street, West and East Wisconsin Avenue and North Commercial Street.

The concert marks the first event since the Common Council voted to establish the area as a Temporary Downtown Outdoor Refreshment Area (TDORA), paving the way for outdoor drinking during approved and permitted events. Future Neenah had special plastic cups for the event that included a QR code that participants could access to view the mapped area and rules.

Alderman Cari Lendrum posted on social media that everyone was calm and enjoying themselves during the free event sponsored by Bergstrom Automotive and Community First Credit Union.

"See that sticker on my drink?" Lendrum



Photo by Scott Kruger

Wisconsin Avenue became a dance hall at last week's Summer Kickoff Concert.

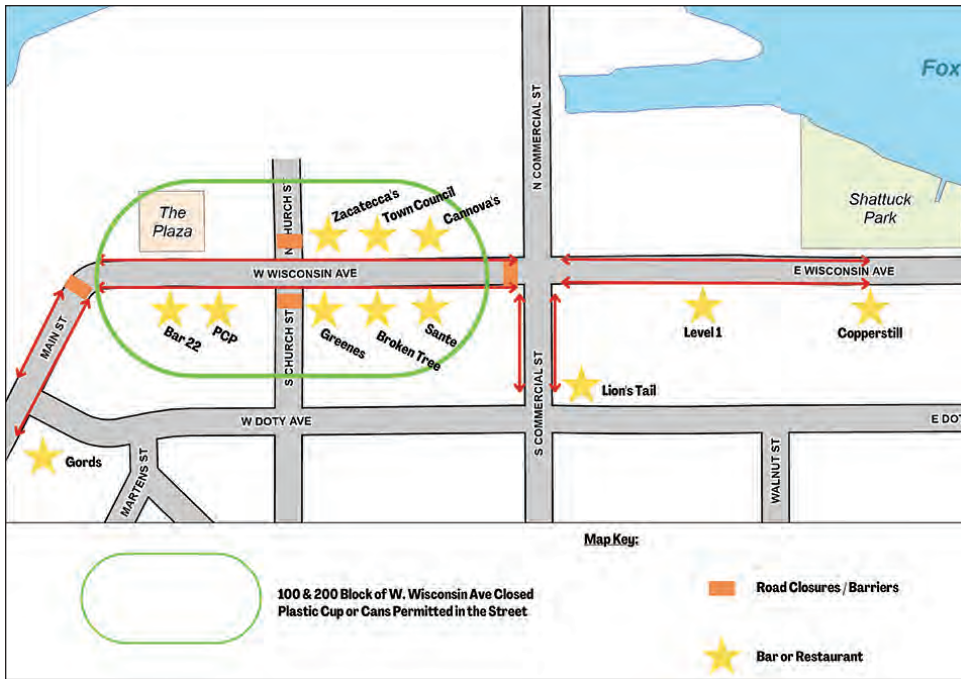
said. "Yep, just voted to allow this within a very controlled area for two hours."

Road Trip entertained the crowd with pop, rock, dance and country hits on a stage near Associated Bank. Concession vendors served up food; and beverages were available for purchase from downtown Neenah businesses.



Neenah News

Last week's Summer Kickoff Concert drew crowds downtown to enjoy live music and be able to drink alcoholic beverages in a specified outdoor area.



## Calendar of events

### Saturday, June 24

Future Neenah Farmers Market, 8 a.m., Shattuck Park  
Art Mercantile, 11 a.m., The Plaza and Globe Coffee

### Sunday, June 25

Central Wisconsin Auto Collectors 41st annual benefit car show and swap/flea market, 8 a.m., Brennand Airport, 3282 Breezewood Lane

### Monday, June 26

Storytime, 10 a.m., The Plaza and Globe Coffee

### Tuesday, June 27

Movie Talks: "Knives Out," 6:30 p.m., Neenah Public Library

### Wednesday, June 28

Fused by Numbers: A Women's Collaborative Mural, 1:30 p.m., Neenah Public Library  
Spicy Tie Band, 6 p.m., Shattuck Park

### Thursday, June 29

Out to Lunch Concert with Birdman, Rhino & Unicorn, 11:30 a.m., Shattuck Park  
Ground Round Live Music Series: Red Fish Remix, 6 p.m., 1010 Cameron Way

### Saturday, July 1

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

### Monday, July 3

CommunityFest, Riverside Park in Neenah and Jefferson Park in Menasha  
Parade of Lights, 9:15 p.m., Riverside Park to Main Street in Menasha  
Storytime, 10 a.m., The Plaza and Globe Coffee

### Tuesday, July 4

CommunityFest, Riverside Park in Neenah and Jefferson Park in Menasha

### Wednesday, July 5

Pegasis, 6 p.m., Shattuck Park

### Thursday, July 6

Out to Lunch Concert with B.D. Greer, 11:30 a.m., Shattuck Park  
Ground Round Live Music Series: Rosetti & Wigley, 6 p.m., 1010 Cameron Way

### Saturday, July 8

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

### Sunday, July 9

Neenah Fun Run, 6 p.m., Memorial Park's George Scherck Shelter

### Monday, July 10

Storytime, 10 a.m., The Plaza and Globe Coffee  
Short Story Night, 7 p.m., Lion's Tail Brewing Co.  
Monday Matinees, 1 p.m., Neenah Public Library

### Tuesday, July 11

Neenah Community Band, 7 p.m., Riverside Park

### Wednesday, July 12

Fused by Numbers: A Women's Collaborative Mural, 1:30 p.m., Neenah Public Library

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# Father sentenced for injuries to baby

By Bethanie Gengler  
NEENAH NEWS

Robby Kacynski was sentenced last month in Winnebago County court for abusing his child while in a car in a Neenah fast-food parking lot last year.

Kacynski, 33, is the father of a then 7-month-old infant who was rushed to ThedaCare Regional Medical Center in February 2022 with a brain bleed and airlifted to Milwaukee for emergency surgery.

The child's mother, who is not named in the criminal complaint, told police that Kacynski is homeless and was using her vehicle to baby-sit the male child while she was working at Arby's on Westowne Drive. She said Kacynski texted her while she was working, stating the child was being fussy.



Kacynski

A review of text messages indicated Kacynski sent several alarming statements to the child's mother while in the car with the infant.

"I'm seriously going to kill this thing," one message said.

"I hate this kid, like I don't care what DNA says, I'll never claim this thing," another message read; and "I can't claim something that never stops crying. Literally never."

At the end of the mother's shift around 3 p.m. she noticed Kacynski was running toward the door carrying the child and she went outside to ask why the child wasn't wearing a jacket. Kacynski said they needed to go to the hospital.

While taking the child to the hospital, Kacynski said he had been sleeping in the car and when he woke up, the child's car seat was tipped over. The child was lethargic and appeared to stop breathing a couple of times.

"He was freaking out, concerned he may have caused it," the mother said in a written statement.

The emergency room doctor said when the child first arrived his right arm was seized up against his chest, his left arm and both of his legs were extended and stiff, and he appeared to be having a seizure. A head scan revealed bleeding between the child's skull and brain, which required him to be airlifted to Milwaukee for emergency

surgery to remove a portion of his skull to alleviate pressure.

The doctor and a representative from Child Protection Services agreed they did not believe the injury the child sustained was consistent with the story of how he received it. When police informed the mother of the doctor's findings, she became defensive and said Kacynski would never injure the child on purpose.

Kacynski described falling asleep in the backseat with the child while wearing earplugs to mute the sound of the child crying. He said when he woke up, he discovered the child making unusual noises like he was choking and the car seat was tilted with the child positioned with his head near Kacynski's knee.

Kacynski gave several conflicting accounts to investigators, stating while the child's mother was working he drove with the child to several places before returning to Arby's. It was determined that Kacynski and the child did not leave the Arby's parking lot. He also said he works nights and had gotten little sleep but investigators discovered he had not been to work in two days.

He provided several statements indicating he may have struck the child with his knee while he was sleeping or the car seat could have been shaken and the child was "jostled around." Kacynski admitted he was the only person responsible for the child and whatever he did resulted in his child's injuries.

A doctor with Children's Wisconsin hospital determined the child was a victim of physical abuse and abusive head trauma, likely caused by being violently slammed, shaken or thrown. The doctor said the injuries would not be suspected with falling from a couch or bed and wouldn't occur from Kacynski hitting the child with his knee, but may have been caused by the car seat being shaken violently.

Kacynski was charged with felony child abuse causing great harm. He entered a not guilty plea and was convicted by a jury in March. Winnebago County District Attorney Eric Sparr said the state recommended a sentence of five to seven years' initial confinement and five years of extended supervision. The child's mother suggested Kacynski be sentenced to time served.

Last month, Judge Michael Gibbs sentenced him to two and a half years in prison and five years of extended supervision. He was given 456 days credit for time served.



Photo from FVTC

Myles enjoys his new electric Lamborghini ride-on car he received last week at Fox Valley Technical College along with Evelyn from Neenah.

## Special kids receive some custom EV cars at FVTC

They may not be 16 years old yet, but Evelyn of Neenah and Myles of Clintonville will hit the sidewalks in style this summer with their own cars.

The two Fox Valley-area toddlers are the first recipients of specially modified ride-on cars through a new partnership between Children's Wisconsin and Fox Valley Technical College.

The Go Baby Go program provides modified ride-on cars to children ages 0-3 who experience limited mobility.

The collaboration partners Children's Wisconsin physical and occupational therapists with students and faculty from Fox Valley Technical College. They partner together to determine the right modifications for each child's specific mobility needs. The students and faculty then build each car, which are provided to families for free.

"Children's Wisconsin is thrilled to partner with Fox Valley Tech to expand the Go Baby Go! program," said Amy Van Donsel,

therapy manager Fox Valley, Children's Wisconsin. "These cars benefit kids and families in so many ways. It helps increase a child's independence, encouraging them to explore and interact with others, building their confidence and resiliency. We are excited to see this program grow."

Aaron Daane, electromechanical technology instructor at FVTC, said students have enjoyed using their engineering skills to modify the vehicles and experience the joy it brings the children as they explore independent mobility.

"This is a great way for our students to be involved in making a difference for the children and the communities they live in," he said.

The program expects to build two cars a month during the next year. Families can see if they qualify and apply to the Go Baby Go! Fox Valley program by visiting [childrenswi.org](http://childrenswi.org).

The program is solely funded through donations.



Neenah Historical Society photo

### Pre-park site

Shattuck Park is a beautiful part of our city that hosts the Neenah Farmers Market, summer concerts, the Intertribal Powwow and other events. In 1912, Clara Shattuck bought this unsightly dumping ground and developed the land into the park we enjoy.

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# Community garden runs into water source issue

By Bethanie Gengler  
NEENAH NEWS

Construction of a new police department training center is impacting the neighboring community gardens by eliminating its water source.

The Twin Oaks Gardens reside on land that was donated to the city by Kimberly-Clark Corp. For 16 years, the gardens have operated at the site, sandwiched between the police station and a city-owned dog park that opened in 2021.

The Neenah Police Department has been providing water to the neighboring gardens for years, but with the department undergoing an 18,550-square-foot training center addition, the water spicket being used by the gardens will be eliminated.

Earlier this year, Twin Oaks president Jerry Rickman approached Police Chief Aaron Olson about running a water line from the new building to the community gardens. A May 19 memo indicates the city determined there were two options for police to continue supplying water to the gardens.

One option is to run water under the building and add a spicket to the west side of the new building expansion and then run a hose to the community gardens at a cost of \$5,000. The other option is to run a pipe under the new firing range all the way to the community gardens at a cost of \$9,700, which was determined to be the best solution.

Last month, the Board of Public Works declined a change in construction to add the water pipes during the police department expansion. City staff were instructed to work with the gardens to find an alternative water source.

Rickman said the cost for the community gardens to run water pipes from the police department expansion was prohibitive.

“We don’t have resources of that magnitude to pay for an underground mine they would have approved,” he said.

The 96 slots in the gardens are rented by 62 different gardeners who pay \$25 per plot. The proceeds are invested back into the gardens for supplies including wheelbarrows, hoes, shovels, rakes, lawn mower repairs and gas.

“That’s all at our expense,” Rickman said. “The money we collect is rapidly turned over each and every year. So at the end of the year, you know, I wouldn’t say we’re starting at ground zero, but we’re close there.”

The gardens receive some support from local businesses and individuals who donate food compost, woodchips, manure and other necessary gardening supplies.

Residents who rent a space are required to volunteer a minimum of four hours per plot, which includes pulling weeds, mowing lawn, painting, filling water tanks, getting compost and other tasks.

“That’s all volunteer time that members supply,” Rickman said. “It’s all self-sustaining. We don’t hire any labor; we just solve



Neenah News

Residents work on their plots at Twin Oaks Gardens in Neenah between the municipal dog park and the police department.

all volunteer work from within.”

More than 50% of the gardeners are Hispanic or Hmong, and many are seniors or on low income.

“The people in our Hmong community have really opened the eyes of people that have gardened more traditionally in America because they garden different,” Rickman said. “They have different fruits and vegetables they plant. But we share, we learn, we help each other.”

As the only community garden in Neenah and one of few in the county, Rickman considers Twin Oaks one of the largest sustainability efforts in the city. For residents who live in apartments or other areas not conducive to gardening, Twin Oaks may be the only option in Neenah for growing their own fruits and vegetables.

Rickman said asking gardeners to bring in their own water is not an option and that without an alternative source, the community gardens will cease to exist, potentially impacting a food source for residents.

“These people are planting the gardens to feed their family,” he said. “They aren’t selling it at farmers markets. They are taking it home and processing the food and putting food on the table.”

The gardens are temporarily hooked up to a different faucet at the Neenah Police Department, but that water source is expected to be eliminated with the continuing construction.

Rickman said the Twin Oaks Gardens are hoping to get through this season and are exploring water source options to continue operating the gardens.

“You gotta crawl before you walk, and walk before you run, and we’re still in the crawling stages of trying to find alternative solutions to the water situation,” he said.



Neenah News

Five Below discount chain will be taking the space formerly occupied by Shopko on Green Bay Road.

# Discount retailer coming to former Shopko location

Neenah News

Five Below is opening this fall in a 9,504-square-foot storefront at 699 S. Green Bay Road. The Philadelphia-based discount chain sells products \$5 or less and an assortment of items from \$6 to \$25.

Five Below is joining other new businesses at the site, including a Planet Fitness that opened last year, a Big Lots that’s under construction and expected to open later this year, and a Noodles & Co. constructed on a new lot south of the main

entrance that opened in May.

Nearby Five Below locations include West Wisconsin Avenue in Appleton, East Calumet Street in Appleton, and South Koeller Street in Oshkosh.

Shopko filed for bankruptcy and closed all its locations in 2019. Brothers Phil and Larry Langohr of AIG Properties purchased the 94,000-square-foot former Neenah Shopko for \$1.6 million in 2021 and are redeveloping the site to hold several businesses under the name Spring Creek Center II.

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# Water report

FROM PAGE 1

mine if there are additional infrastructure needs for growth.

Clayton does not have its own municipal water system. In 2018, Clayton entered into an agreement for Appleton to supply water to the town, at an estimated cost of \$26 million.

After spending \$144,000 to install a sewer and water line, the project was abandoned when Clayton began negotiating with Fox Crossing for the village to supply water to Clayton.

In 2021, Fox Crossing applied to construct a booster station and water transmission main to expand its service area into Clayton at an estimated total cost of \$2.6 million. As part of the deal, Clayton paid Fox Crossing \$11.5 million and Fox

Crossing agreed not to annex any part of Clayton for 10 years.

Court documents are unclear on the significance of Neenah's water study to Clayton. Neenah Water Utility director Tony Mach said he's unable to share any information about the water study at this time.

Clayton argues Neenah's denial of the open records request was improper and violates Wisconsin's public records law. The town is asking for the court to declare Neenah's denial violates the law and an order compelling the city to immediately produce the report. Clayton is also asking for attorney fees and damages.

Clayton town chairman Russ Geise said due to the lawsuit he can't comment, "except to say, we are narrowly focused on the fact the city of Neenah refuses to release a standard document used in planning utilities. Why do they want to keep it secret?"

# Yacht club

FROM PAGE 1

certification process.

"Completely inexperienced people can go sailing if there is somebody willing to take them," Olson said.

Boats and crews are handicapped so that everyone gets a chance at racing success. Fast and slower boats have their own divisions.

Race nights are Tuesdays for mixed keelboats and Wednesdays for Flying Scot dinghy boats from Riverside Park's boardwalk, while Thursdays feature Lasers, one-person dinghies that sail out from Recreation Park boat launch. There are different skill divisions and start times that are about five minutes apart.

An open house held in early June invites residents to learn about the club, sailing and how to get involved. The main attraction is the chance to take free tours around the harbor on a 19-foot Flying Scot called Where Next?, courtesy of the Fox Valley Sailing School.

The local sailboat experience showcases the natural beauty of Neenah from the perspective of the river, including its lush trees, charming homes and some glimpses of majestic fish swimming by.

Individuals with differing interests are invited to join, whether it be for the freedom of harnessing the power of wind and water or thrill of competitive racing. Those interested can contact a club member directly or visit nnc.org to register and get more information.

"I like the scientific aspect of sailing and how to tweak the sails - it's like math and geography. It's kind of cool once you figure it out," Olson said.

"Every time you're out there it's differ-



Nodaway Yacht Club photo

Weekly sailing competition draws boaters to Riverside Park.

ent because the wind changes, so it's never the same experience."

Club member Allison Willman moved to the area in 2017 and credits her membership with an overall improvement in her life.

"Anyone with the disposition to the feeling of freedom one gets from sailing while utilizing our primitive knowledge of reading the wind and the water will understand the urge to join. There's something deep down in us that compels us to this activity," she said.

"I'm a huge outdoor lover and was invited one day to sail during a race. From there, I continued to sail and met many amazing friends along the way. Never in a million years did I ever dream of sailing, but the activity seems to have chosen me and as of this season, I can proudly now call myself a new boat owner."

# Public defenders

FROM PAGE 1

so long, the commissioner responded, "Shortage of attorneys willing to take public defender cases. That's the only explanation I can give you."

The appeals court wrote that the circuit court lost personal jurisdiction over Butler by not completing his initial appearance within a reasonable time. The case was dismissed on appeal without prejudice; and three weeks later prosecutors refiled it.

Butler's case illustrates a growing issue across the state: Stagnant wages for public defenders and private sector attorneys are leading to a shortage of lawyers willing to take the cases and potentially violating defendants' constitutional rights.

Under the state and federal constitution, citizens have a right to legal counsel. If a defendant cannot afford an attorney, a state public defender (SPD) is appointed to represent them. The SPD may either be a staff attorney or a private sector attorney who is certified to take public defender appointments.

Public defender positions in Wisconsin start at \$27.24 per hour, which is about \$56,659 per year. SPD legislative liaison Adam Plotkin told Neenah News last year that turnover for public defenders has nearly doubled compared with pre-pandemic levels, leaving 20% of positions vacant in Wisconsin.

When counties are unable to find public defenders to represent defendants, private attorneys are hired, at a cost of \$70 per hour, which Plotkin said is far below the market rate. In comparison, the federal office pays private bar attorneys about \$150 per hour, and court-appointed attorneys get \$100 per hour.

This week, the Winnebago County

Board of Supervisors approved a resolution requesting that the state review and revise the compensation rate for SPDs and requesting the state reimburse the county the hourly rate it pays to private bar attorneys in criminal cases requiring representation.

The resolution comes as Gov. Tony Evers' 2023-25 budget recommendations include a \$7 per hour increase for prosecutors and public defenders. The Legislature's Finance Committee approved an even greater pay increase for SPDs last month; to \$36 an hour, or about \$75,000 a year.

Wages for private attorneys would also increase under the plan, to \$100 per hour for case work and \$25 to \$50 per hour for travel. Evers is expected to approve the budget in July.

District Attorney Eric Sparr told the County Board's Judiciary and Public Safety Committee earlier this month that prosecutors and public defenders were concerned the pay increase would only apply to starting wages but said it will apply to new and existing employees.

Sparr said the lack of public defenders and private attorneys willing to take SPD appointments has been an issue in the county, and has been an even greater issue in the northern and western parts of the state.

"I think one of the issues is that they didn't have as many lawyers there and one of the side effects of that is it was causing some people to remain in jail longer without being able to do anything with their case," he said, "so that should make it a little bit easier to get lawyers on cases."

Sparr is hopeful that when Evers approves the budget, the pay increase will be in there to make it easier to recruit and retain employees in both offices.

"Very good news in the budget for prosecutors and public defenders," he said.

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Submitted photo

Mike Blank and his sons Caleb and Braeden are shown with former Marquette University and NBA player Steve Novak at Marquette High School in April where they advanced to the sectional round of the statewide shooting contest.

## Family scores its way along basketball shooting course

NEENAH NEWS

Mike Blank and his family are sharing a competitive experience while showing some hot hands on the basketball court in a statewide shooting contest.

Blank and his two sons recently conquered the 2s Frees & 3s shooting course on the regional level and advanced to the sectional round with \$10,000 in prize money on the line. Blank took second place statewide last year in his 16-54 age group.

2s Frees & 3s is open for everyone to showcase their talents on the course with a score based on time and accuracy. Champions are crowned by division, and divisions are broken down by age.

NBA veteran and noted 3-point shooter Steve Novak created the shooting course designed for both younger and elite shooters.

Blank and his sons Braeden, 11, and Caleb, 8, shot the lights out April 23 at Marquette High School in Milwaukee to all win their divisions. Braeden won the 10-12 age group with a perfect score of 21.

Forty-year-old Blank won his regional with a perfect score of 21 and the fastest recorded time to date.

"You have two minutes to make shots around the court - 21 total. You can't move to the next spot until you make it from that location," Blank explained in an email. "Last shot to make is a half-court shot."

Next up is the sectional round July 13 in Delafield, one of the state locations where eight will advance to the championship Aug. 6 at the Al McGuire center at Marquette University, where Novak played from 2002-06 with teammates that included Dwayne Wade and Travis Diener.

The boys play basketball for Neenah schools with coaching help from dad, who was a varsity assistant coach for Neenah High in 2010, and their mother, Amanda. Mike's playing experience includes the Rockets along with Oshkosh North High School, where he holds 3-point shooting records. He played college ball at Lakeland University.

# Neenah Legion suffers loss against Sheboygan

By Dustin Riese  
NEWS CONTRIBUTOR

Things haven't gotten off to the start the way the Neenah Legion Baseball team has wanted this summer, and after a 9-0 loss to Sheboygan on Monday the team fell to 0-7 and are still searching for their first win.

Despite the loss, head coach Matthew Waite did take some positives from the effort.

"I know the score doesn't show it, but this was an important step for us and our program," Waite said. "This whole season is going to be a learning experience for the young guys on this team to see how the game is played at this level. Games like this will only help us grow as a team."

Making the start for Neenah was Braden Wendt as he gave Neenah 3 1/3 innings of work. Wendt walked five compared with three strikeouts, and allowed three hits in his outing.

He was also charged with six runs, however, one of which was earned because of Neenah errors.

With two on and two out in the first, Wendt was on the verge of getting out of that inning until an error opened the floodgates and allowed two runs to score to put Sheboygan in front for good. Wendt would hit the next two hitters he faced before a bases loaded walk made things 3-0 entering the second.

Wendt struggled with his command in the second inning, but was once again on

the verge of getting out of things without further damage.

That was until another error allowed two more runs to score as Sheboygan opened up a 5-0 lead.

"For the most part, our pitching was decent as they battled throughout the game," he said. "However we had two costly errors in the first two innings that gave Sheboygan five runs and put us in a massive hole. We can't do that against teams like this as they make you pay for all of your mistakes."

Despite trailing 5-0 through three, Neenah finally got something going offensively in the fourth and put themselves in a great position to break through.

Two-out singles from Trevor Stitchman and Blake Griesbach had the Neenah offense in business before Sheboygan wiggled out of trouble.

Eduardo Rangel also singled to start the inning before being erased by a double play to account for the only three hits in the game for Neenah.

"We are starting to put together much better at bats as a team," Stitchman said. "We just need to find a way to string more hits together and come through with runners on base. Once that happens, the sky's the limit for this team as we have some talented kids that know how to put the ball in play."

Following that fourth inning, Sheboygan went on to add another run in the

SEE **Legion baseball** ON PAGE 11




## Commemorating Neenah High School Alumni!

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# Spring sports all-conference roundup

## BASEBALL

### Swanson leads Neenah's all-FVA honorees

Senior Elliott Swanson was Neenah's lone selection to the all-Fox Valley Association first team.

Swanson, one of five outfielders named on the 21-member first team, finished the season with a .284 batting average and nine RBIs for the Rockets. He also led the team with seven doubles.

Junior second baseman Ethan Van Dyke garnered second-team honors for the Rockets, after batting .288 and leading the team with two home runs and 14 RBIs.

Senior outfielders Will Sorenson and AJ Price along with senior pitcher Beckett Davidson were named to the honorable mention list.

Hortonville players swept the top honors in the league with Camden Kuhnke being named Player of the Year and Thomas Burns and Nate Vela sharing Pitcher of the Year honors.

### Zephyrs' Ripley earns first-team accolades

St. Mary Catholic senior Owen Ripley led a trio of Zephyrs recognized on the all-Big East teams by earning first-team honors as an infielder.

Ripley, who was a second-team all-conference pitcher last year, finished the season with a .415 batting average with one home run and 15 RBIs. He led the Zephyrs with 23 runs scored. He was the lone St. Mary Catholic selection on the 17-player first team.

Junior infielder Colin Nigl garnered second-team honors for the Zephyrs after posting a team-best .426 batting average, while also leading the team with eight doubles and 16 RBIs.

Junior pitcher Fisher MacKenzie rounded out the Zephyrs honorees by being named to the honorable mention list as a pitcher.

Random Lake senior infielder Matt

Merlo was named Player of the Year in the conference for the second straight season.

## SOFTBALL

### Senior trio lands all-FVA first-team nod

Three members of Neenah's softball team earned spots on the 19-member all-Fox Valley Association first team.

Seniors Morgan Harwood at pitcher, Savanna Knuth at infielder and Quinn Marnocha as a utility player were each tabbed to the top squad. Harwood was a second-team all-FVA selection last year, while Marnocha earned honorable mention honors.

Knuth, who played shortstop, was the team's leading hitter with a whopping .449 average. She led the team with 24 runs scored, 11 doubles, six home runs and 25 RBIs on the season.

Marnocha, who committed to play softball at South Dakota State next fall, finished the year with a .349 batting average with a home run and 17 runs scored.

Harwood was one of three pitchers named to the first team after striking out 148 batters in 100 innings and finishing with a 2.38 earned run average. She was also second on the team with a .385 batting average and had three home runs and 21 RBIs.

Senior outfielder McKenna Herm, senior catcher Piper Alberg and freshman pitcher Kyleigh Mathe were named to the all-FVA second team. Alberg posted a .367 batting average this season, while Herm finished .286. Mathe had a 1.24 earned run average with 97 strikeouts in 67 2/3 innings.

Junior outfielder Bella Coulman was named to the honorable mention list.

Kaukauna sophomore Karly Meredith was named Player of the Year in the conference for the second straight season.

### Schneider leads Zephyrs on all-Big East list

Freshman outfielder Adel Schneider led

a handful of St. Mary Catholic honorees on the all-Big East softball teams by garnering first-team honors.

Schneider, the only freshman named to the first team and one of two first-year players to earn first or second-team honors, led the Zephyrs with a .484 batting average, while leading the team with 31 hits and eight stolen bases. She also scored 26 runs this season.

St. Mary Catholic landed three players on second team in senior infielder Chloe Vogel, junior pitcher Nevaeh Saringer and sophomore infielder Emily Vogel. Chloe Vogel posted a .333 batting average and scored a team-high 28 runs, while Saringer finished with a 2.18 earned run average and 10-4 record, while also batting .390 with five home runs and 29 RBIs. Emily Vogel racked up a .400 batting average with 25 runs scored and 19 RBIs.

Junior infielder Rhiannon Reichenbacher was named to the honorable mention list.

Random Lake junior pitcher Jayla Harter was named Player of the Year in the league.

## SOCCER

### Rockets land three players on first team

Seniors Bella Jones and Leah Kodama-Forget along with sophomore Mia Wasco earned spots on the 15-player all-Fox Valley Association first team.

Kodama-Forget, a midfielder, repeated as a first-team selection and earned all-conference accolades for the third straight season.

Jones was the only goalkeeper named to the first team after earning second-team all-conference honors a year ago.

Wasco, who also played midfield for the Rockets, was one of only two sophomores named to the first team and joined Kodama-Forget as one of the key playmakers for the Rockets.

Senior defenders Marina Kummerow and Nicole Schmidt were named to the

second team, while senior defender Sage Kirklewski and sophomore forward Emily Snider earned spots on the honorable mention list.

Junior forward Emily McCarthy of Kimberly was named Player of the Year, while the Papermakers' Andrew Sutton was named Coach of the Year.

### Wanless, Norville recognized by Big East

A pair of St. Mary Catholic players garnered recognition on the all-Big East soccer teams.

Sophomore Audrey Wanless was named to the second team, while junior Audrey Norville garnered honorable mention all-league honors for the Zephyrs.

Cedar Grove-Belgium sophomores Cora Erickson and Olivia Bahr were named the conference's Offensive and Defensive Players of the Year, respectively.

## GOLF

### Lynch leads St. Mary Catholic honorees

Two-time state qualifier Spencer Lynch led a trio of Zephyrs honored on the all-Big East Conference golf teams.

Lynch, who was the Division 3 state runner-up earlier this month, was named to the first-team all-conference list. He finished third at the Big East Conference meet.

Fellow seniors Cole Uhlenbrauck and Danny Griffith were each named on the honorable mention list.

### Rockets' Gallmeier honored by FVA

Neenah sophomore Julian Gallmeier was the lone Rocket to earn all-Fox Valley Association mention, earning honorable mention honors.

Gallmeier finished with the second-most all-conference points among sophomores and was one of two sectional qualifiers for Neenah this season.

SEE **All conference** ON PAGE 11

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# All conference

FROM PAGE 10

## TENNIS

### Rockets dominate all-FVA top honorees

Neenah's conference champion and state qualifying squad had its entire lineup garner Fox Valley Association recognition, including filling six of the seven first-team flights.

Singles players to earn first team honors were sophomore Carl Hein at the No. 2 flight, junior Tristin Yun at the No. 3 flight and freshman Brady Lawatsch at the No. 4 flight.

All three doubles teams earned first-team honors led by seniors Satchel Moss and Ben Kotcher at No 1 doubles, junior Brady Hildreth and sophomore Andrew Werner at No 2 doubles and seniors Drew Kearny and Zach Bitter at No. 3 doubles.

Senior David Murphy, a two-time state qualifier, was an honorable mention selection at No. 1 singles.

### Six flights earn honors for St. Mary Catholic

Three singles players and all three doubles teams for St. Mary Catholic received recognition from the Wisconsin Combined Tennis Conference.

Earning first-team honors for the Zephyrs were No. 1 singles player Wesley Auth and the No. 1 doubles team of Grant and Harry Bergstrom. Both flights also qualified for the Individual State Tennis Tournament.

Freshman No. 2 singles player Jose Vaquero earned second-team honors while Gabe Groom who played at No. 3 singles

as well as the No. 2 doubles team of senior Michael Fairweather and sophomore Jon Osland and No. 3 doubles team of junior George Staner and sophomore Ethan Tines were honorable mention all-conference.

## TRACK AND FIELD

### Zephyrs land contingent on all-Big East lists

St. Mary Catholic landed four individuals and two relay teams on the all-Big East Conference track and field first team.

Highlighting the list was sophomore Nolie Anderson, who earned the first-team nod for the discus. She went on to win a WIAA Division 3 state title in the event.

Fellow state qualifiers senior Charlie Nackers in the high jump and junior Ashton Post in the pole vault were also first-team honorees as was sophomore Laura Ripley in the 1,600 meters.

The two relay teams to earn first-team honors were the girls 3,200-meter relay, consisting of freshman Alejandra Cunillera-Fernandez, sophomore Maria Marti and juniors Norah Lee and Addison Dinka, and the boys 800-meter relay, consisting of Nackers, Post, senior Dylan Dwyer and sophomore Harry Higgins.

Earning second-team honors were senior Gabby Ruback in the 100-meter hurdles and Ripley in the 800 meters as well as the girls 1,600-meter relay team of Ripley, Marti, Lee and Dinka.

Honorable mention honors were collected by Ruback in the long jump and Dinka in the 800 meters.

### Rockets register plethora of all-FVA finishes

Neenah's track and field teams had nine

individuals and four relays garner all-conference recognition based on finishes at the Fox Valley Association Meet.

Leading the way with first-team honors was sophomore Mazie Olkowski, who was honored in both the 1,600 and 3,200 meters. Junior Rachel Dietrich in the 800 meters also earned first-team accolades.

Senior Lauren Tears in the 1,600 meters and junior Lydia Delene in the shot put, along with junior Connor Briones in the high jump were second-team and junior Lilly Granditzke, senior Jack Dorner in the 1,600 and 3,200 meters, junior Charles Fredrickson in the 400 meters and sophomore Grant Dean in the 200 meters were all honorable mention.

The girls 1,600-meter relay consisting of junior Ava Schalow, Dietrich, Tears and Granditzke earned first-team honors as did the boys 1,600-meter relay group of Fredrickson, Dean, senior Ethan Snider and junior Owen Wise.

Other boys relays to earn all-conference recognition was the 800-meter relay team of Snider, Dean and seniors Jack Zemlock and Jase Jenkins which was second team and the 3,200-meter relay quartet of Fredrickson, seniors Drew Gentile and Carson Timm and junior Alex Thayer, which was honorable mention.

# Legion baseball

FROM PAGE 9

fourth on a sacrifice fly, which was the final run charged to Wendt.

Josh Waite took over from there, allowing an RBI double in the fifth and then a pair of RBI singles in the sixth to cap off the scoring.

"As we continue to grow as a team, we should be able to cut down on a lot of the mistakes we have made so far this season," Waite said. "If we do that, we are going to put ourselves in a better position to not only compete, but to also win some of these games."

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# Neenah News

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## Be a part of Neenah history!

The new Neenah High School is set to open for the 2023-24 school year, replacing the current school that opened in 1972. This is a rare opportunity to show your support and appreciation for the old school and new school.

Neenah News is creating a commemorative section that will feature stories, photos, memories and achievements of Neenah High School over the past five decades. You will also get a glimpse of the new school, which will offer state-of-the-art facilities, innovative programs and enhanced opportunities for students and staff.

The commemorative section will be published Aug. 25, 2023, and mailed to nearly 21,500 homes in the Neenah Joint School District. It will be in print and online, reaching thousands of readers in the community and beyond.

Whether you are a local business, organization, alumni group or individual, you can advertise products, services or messages in this special edition.


To reserve ad space in the section contact us at 920-385-4512. Space deadline is Tuesday, Aug. 1, 2023.

Don't miss this chance to be part of Neenah High School's past, present and future. Order your ad space today!

**Publish Date: Friday, August 25, 2023**

**SPACE & COPY Deadline: Tuesday, August 1, 2023**

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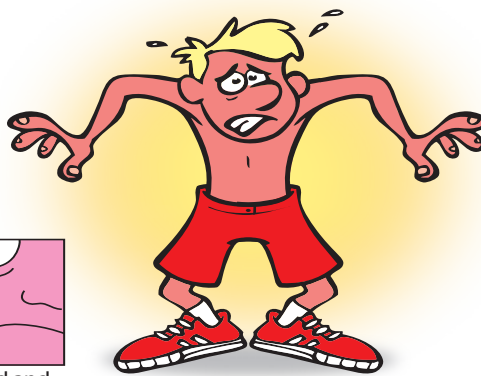
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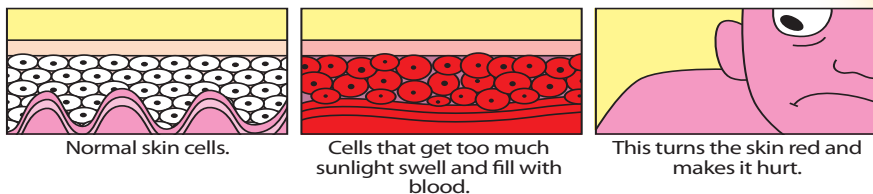
**[www.neenahnewsnow.com](http://www.neenahnewsnow.com)**

# SUNBURNS!

**OUCH!** Hot fun in the summertime can be painful! Too much fun in the sun can burn your skin.



## How does the sun burn skin?



## To burn or not to burn?

Everybody has tiny grains of color called **melanin** in their skin.

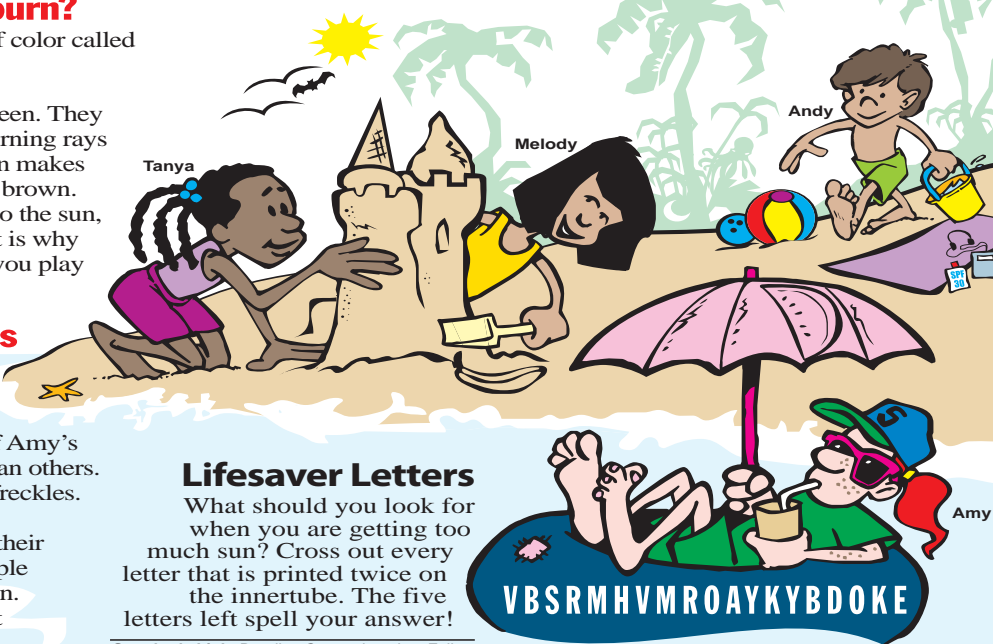
Melanin grains are like a screen. They protect the body from the burning rays of sunlight. Everybody's skin makes melanin. Melanin grains are brown. When your skin is exposed to the sun, it makes more melanin. That is why your skin gets darker when you play in the sunshine.

## Different skin types

Tanya has a lot of melanin in her skin. Andy and Melody have a little. Amy has very little. Some parts of Amy's body make more melanin than others. These dark spots are called freckles.

Everybody needs to protect their skin from the sun. Even people with lots of melanin will burn. Their skin won't burn as fast as Amy's, but it will burn.

Find: • banana • watermelon • moon • dolphin • car  
• bat • bowling ball • crocodile • ice cream • octopus



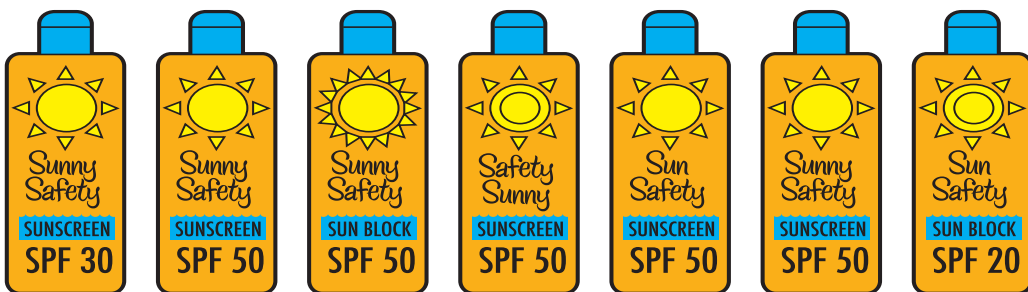
## Lifesaver Letters

What should you look for when you are getting too much sun? Cross out every letter that is printed twice on the innertube. The five letters left spell your answer!

V B S R M H V M R O A Y K Y B D O K E

Standards Link: Reading Comprehension: Follow simple directions; identify common sight words.

## Which two bottles of sunscreen are exactly the same?



## Extra! Extra!

### How Hot Are You?

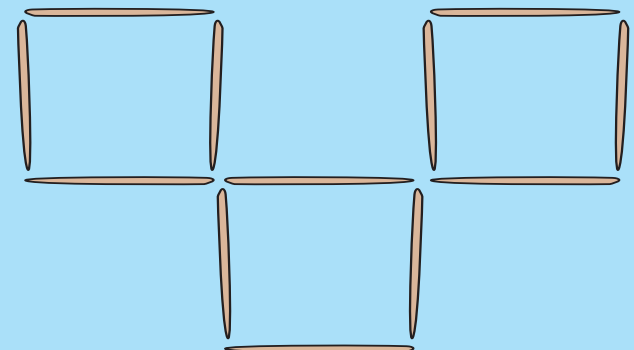
How many words can you find in today's newspaper that mean the same as **HOT**? Score yourself:

- 1-3: Pretty Cool
- 4-6: Hot Stuff!
- 7+: Steamin' Hot!

Standards Link: Language Arts: Identify synonyms in reading.

## Kid Scoop Puzzler

Using 12 toothpicks, try this puzzle. Lay out the toothpicks as shown below. Can you make **four** squares by moving only **three** toothpicks?



Standards Link: Math: Problem solving. Make a model to solve a puzzle.

## Double Double Word Search

- BURN
- LIFESAVER
- SKIN
- MELANIN
- SUNSHINE
- DARKER
- BEACH
- BODY
- COOL
- SPOTS
- HOT
- RAYS
- BROWN
- TINY
- HURT

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



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



## Kid Scoop Together: SAFE FUN IN THE SUN

Think about important summer safety tips for kids (bike safety, pool safety, sun safety, etc.)

Select one of the tips. Then list three steps to help kids follow this safety tip. Write the tip and then illustrate it in the boxes below.

### SAFETY TIP:

#### STEP 1

#### STEP 2

#### STEP 3

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## Write On!

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# 2023 Community Arts Section

## Performing, Music, Visual Arts and more!



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**Welcome to the first Oshkosh Herald and Neenah News Arts section celebrating the arts in Oshkosh and Neenah. This section is dedicated to showcasing the vibrant arts scene in our communities - from performing arts organizations to art shows and festivals - we have something for everyone.**

**This section will inspire you to explore the many cultural offerings in our communities and support the arts from the professional touring companies to the local recitals and concerts.**

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#### **Oshkosh Community Players**

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#### **Morgan House**

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https://mvmecc.org

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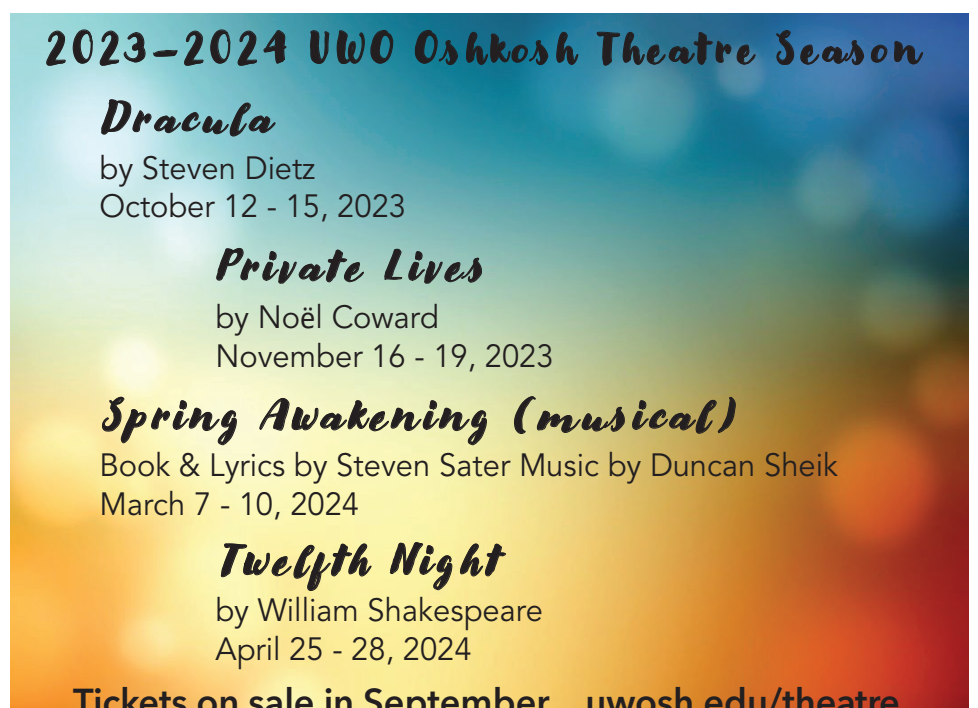
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Saturday afternoon  
October 28, 2023

**A Festival of Nine Lessons & Carols**  
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2 p.m. & 5 p.m.

**Spring Collaboration**  
with Milwaukee Master Singers and Madison Chamber Choir  
Saturday afternoon  
March 16, 2024

**UW Oshkosh Chamber Choir Collaboration**  
Saturday, April 20, 2024



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October 12 - 15, 2023

**Private Lives**  
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November 16 - 19, 2023

**Spring Awakening (musical)**  
Book & Lyrics by Steven Sater Music by Duncan Sheik  
March 7 - 10, 2024

**Twelfth Night**  
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April 25 - 28, 2024

**Tickets on sale in September** [uwosh.edu/theatre](http://uwosh.edu/theatre)

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[www.facebook.com/OshkoshYouthChoir](http://www.facebook.com/OshkoshYouthChoir)

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[www.jambalayaartsinc.wixsite.com/artfromwisconsin](http://www.jambalayaartsinc.wixsite.com/artfromwisconsin)

**ArtSpace Collective**

[www.facebook.com/artspaceoshkosh](http://www.facebook.com/artspaceoshkosh)

**Oshkosh Jazz Festival**

A free community concert held in August featuring national and local musical acts.

[www.oshkoshjazz.com](http://www.oshkoshjazz.com)

**Oshkosh Fine Arts Association**

Embracing, promoting, and nourishing the arts in the community.

[www.oshkoshfinearts.org](http://www.oshkoshfinearts.org)

**UWO Titan Thunder**

College marching bands are an experience that connects students and builds lasting friendships, trips away, and allows students to engage in creativity while taking a break from academics.

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[www.uwosh.edu/theatre](http://www.uwosh.edu/theatre)

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UWO music students are active on campus and in the community.

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**UWO Arts Department**

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[www.uwosh.edu/art](http://www.uwosh.edu/art)

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[www.waterfest.org](http://www.waterfest.org)

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**Neenah Community Band**

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**Bergstrom-Mahler Museum of Glass**

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www.bmmglass.com

**Jubricosa Arts Academy**

A ministry to share God-given talents and with hopes these talented performers will share their talents with others as they go into the world and continue to grow spiritually.  
www.jubricosa.org

**R. Harder Gallery of Gems & Minerals**

Located off the lobby of Jewelers Mutual Group, The R. Harder Gallery hosts a display of gems and minerals in their natural forms.  
www.jewelersmutual.com

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**ON BROADWAY**  
@Oshkosh North High School Auditorium  
Wednesday, July 12th, 7 P.M.

**POTPOURRI CONCERT**  
w/ Children's conducting Competition  
@Oshkosh North High School Auditorium  
Wednesday, July 26th, 7 P.M.

**JOIN THE BAND!**

Our rehearsals are on Monday evenings. We rehearse in the Oshkosh West High School band room at 7 pm and if you are a "post high school" adult, you are welcome to join us! You may enter directly into the bandroom through "Door 34" located on Eagle Street just South of the Alberta Kimball Auditorium. There are no fees and no auditions to join. We hope some of you will consider joining us!

[oshcomband@yahoo.com](mailto:oshcomband@yahoo.com)  
P.O. Box 2931 • Oshkosh, WI 54903-2931.

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Returning to your Fox Cities P.A.C. where she first appeared in 2017 as Elphaba in Broadway's WICKED, it's celebrated singer Jessica Vosk.

**Makin' Cake with Dasha Kelly-Hamilton**



**FEB 27**

Join us for layered storytelling about race, culture and class through the eyes of baking and American history.

**San Jose Taiko**



**MAR 14**

Where the contemporary meets tradition, travel to Japan with San Jose Taiko and explore the beauty of the taiko art form in an innovative drumming experience.

**MOMIX Authentic Dances with Alice**



**APR 9**

You'll find yourself enthralled when you travel down the rabbit hole and experience illusions, acrobatics, magic and whimsy in this creation inspired by Lewis Carroll's classic "Alice in Wonderland."

**MARIACHI HERENCIA DE MEXICO HEREDEROS**



**APR 13**

Experience the energy of this musical style performed by these Mexican American musicians as they honor the past, celebrate the present and create the future of mariachi music.

**VIEWPOINT SPEAKER SERIES**  
inspire • connect • grow

**NOV 14**



Through the Lens: Creating a Ripple

**JAN 23**



How to Astronaut

**APR 30**



Into the Canyon: Exploring a National Treasure

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