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VOLUME 3, ISSUE 10



INSIDE



Senior Standout Rockets softball star **Coulman profiled** Page 7

Matrix memories

Local jazz icon Harmon to share new book Page 5

Housing loans made available in state program

Neenah News

Wisconsin's new Infrastructure Access Loan program is now available to developers and municipalities statewide to help cover the costs of public infrastructure related to workforce and senior housing through the Wisconsin Housing and Economic Development Authority (WHEDA).

Neenah district selects leader

Assistant superintendent from Appleton named

Neenah News

Appleton assistant superintendent Steve Harrison has been chosen to lead the Neenah Joint School District as its new superintendent with the retirement of Mary Pfeiffer after 15 years in the role.

Harrison will start in the position July 1 after the Board of Education approved his hiring in a meeting April 15.

He has been assistant superintendent for assessment curriculum and instruction for the Appleton Area School District for the past five years and before that was the

> school improvement coordinator for math, science and health starting in 2015.

"In many ways, this

ing specialist at Spring Road Elementary School. "I spent a lot of time in my mom's classroom while grow-

ing up and it fueled my desire to work in education. It's exciting to come back to a district that has given so much to my family. It's really a dream come true."

Harrison was chosen through an interview process that narrowed the finalists to three, including Michael McMahon, director of teacher and student learning in the Grafton School District; and Tina Owen-Moore, superintendent of the School District of Cudahy.

"Steve brings a fresh vision and energy to Neenah," board president Brian Epley

SEE **Superintendent** ON PAGE 6

Earth in focus with good chemistry

Science group, local venues get charged up

By Patti Lee NEWS CONTRIBUTOR

Earth Day has special significance to the state of Wisconsin. In 1969, U.S. Sen. Gaylord Nelson came up with the idea to have a designated national day focusing on environmentalism.

Earth Day was first observed April 22, 1970, with an estimated 20 million people nationwide attending inaugural events at thousands of locations. It was adopted globally in 1990.

The day expanded, first to Earth Week and eventually the month of April, nationally designated as Earth Month. In that spirit, Chemists Celebrate Earth Week has events on tap for Neenah, Oshkosh and Appleton families as they present "Get a Charge out of Chemistry."

Oshkosh kicked it off Thursday and Friday at its public library spearheaded by children's librarian Marie Boleman and Pat Hallquist, an American Chemistry Society member and volunteer.

Neenah families can get a jolt out of Saturday's event at the Neenah Public Library from 10:30 a.m. to noon when Hannah Shraufnagel, Kara Nell and Mary Glesner, together with dozens of volunteers, will guide young and old through



Photo by Patti Lee Mary Glesner and her children Lydia, EJ, Summer and Kent experiment with simple items

Harrison

district's continuous

feels like I'm coming home," said Harrison, whose mother, Barb, was a longtime read-

The 2023-25 biennial budget provides one of the largest state investments in workforce housing - \$525 million - in state history, including measures to fund the Residential Housing Infrastructure Revolving Loan Fund and Program, now called the Infrastructure Access Loan program.

"This new program gives us yet another

SEE Housing loans ON PAGE 6

the activities in programs created to appeal to a wide spectrum of participants.

The Appleton Atlas Science Center event takes place April 27 with "Get a Charge out of Chemistry" activities as part of a larger event from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m.

The stimulating activities at all locations include The Great Electron Ripoff, featuring experiments using simple items such as tape, balloons and thin plastic such as tape, balloons and thin plastic bags to demonstrate aspects of static electricity.

bags to demonstrate aspects of static electricity; Metals: They are Electrifying, utilizing D cell batteries, aluminum foil and a flashlight bulb; and Ice Tray Battery, where participants construct an actual battery using an ice cube tray, distilled white vinegar, galvanized nails, copper wire and an LED light of any color. If the last one sounds a bit complicated, fear not. That's where the teams of volunteers come in. These trusty science nerds are ever present, walking and directing the kids through each activity.

Kara Nell, Northeast Wisconsin ACS chair, explains.

"We also know at Neenah library, peo-

SEE Earth Day ON PAGE 6

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Publisher

Karen Schneider, 920-858-6407

We Energies, WPS apply for rate increases

Wisconsin Public Radio

Two of Wisconsin's largest utility companies are asking for about \$800 million in rate increases over the next two years. We Energies and Wisconsin Public Service — both owned by WEC Energy Group — filed applications April 12 with the Public Service Commission of Wisconsin to increase electric and gas rates in 2025 and 2026.

The requests come after We Energies, which serves customers in Neenah and other parts of northern Winnebago County, has increased electric rates each year since 2019, following four years when rates fell slightly. A document from the utility says We Energies' electric rates went up by 9.2 percent in 2023 and 2.3 percent this year.

Consumer advocates are calling on the Public Service Commission to limit the size of the increases and prioritize affordability.

We Energies hopes to increase electric rates by 6.9 percent in 2025 and 4.6 percent in 2026, according to the utility's application with the PSC. It also request-



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ed increases for both of the gas utilities it owns. We Energies' gas utilities would increase rates by 15 percent and 11.8 percent by 2026. We Energies' steam utility in downtown Milwaukee also asked for an 8.4 percent rate hike in 2025, but no increase in 2026.

Meanwhile, Wisconsin Public Service is requesting an 8.5 percent electric rate increase in 2025 and a 4.9 percent increase in 2026, according to the utility's application. WPS also requested gas rate increases of 6.8 percent next year and 3.9 percent in 2026.

If approved, a typical residential We Energies customer's electric bills could rise between \$10 and \$11 per month in 2025 and between \$7 and \$8 in 2026, the utility estimates. A typical residential WPS customer's electric bill could rise by between \$10 and \$12 a month next year and between \$5 and \$6 the following year.

WEC Energy Group spokesperson Brendan Conway said much of the proposed electric rate increases are tied to construction costs from renewable energy and natural gas projects that have already been approved by the Public Service Commission.

While construction projects may be affecting rates now as they come online, Conway said the utility anticipates customers will save about \$2 billion over 20 years because of the clean energy transition.

Conway also said the proposed rate increases include investments to address outages caused by severe weather. Since 2019, We Energies has had eight severe weather-related outages but only had six such outages between 1976 and 2019.

Conway said a winter storm knocked out power to about 90,000 We Energies customers and roughly 120,000 WPS customers earlier this month. He said investments in trimming "hazard trees" in this rate case are aimed at preventing similar outages in the future.



Neenah Historical Society photo

Downtown gift shop

Hermene Homblette opened Hermene's Gift Shop in 1938. Known as "The Valley's Smartest Gift Shop," Hermene's advertised gifts for every occasion. Hermene's son Jack would run the store from 1970 until it closed in the late 1980s. It was first located at 207 W. Wisconsin Ave. and later moved to 110 W. Wisconsin.



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Dan Roherty, 920-508-0027 editor@oshkoshherald.com

Corrections

It is the policy of Neenah News to correct all errors of fact. For correction information call 920-385-4512.

About the newspaper

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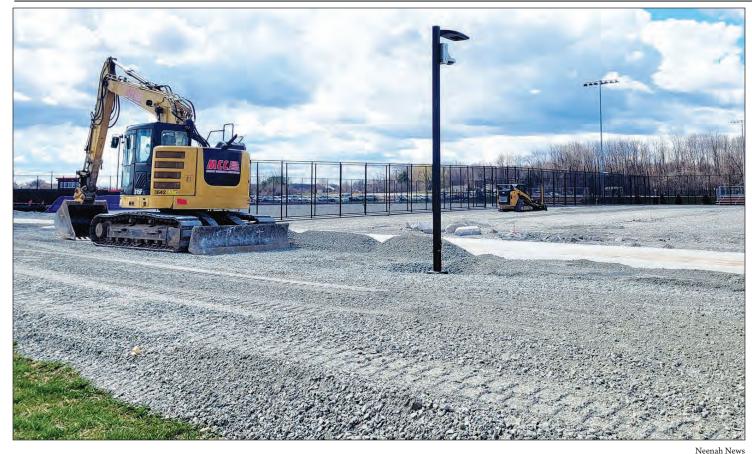
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Work began this month to deal with grade control and drainage issues with athletic fields at Neenah High School.

High school athletic fields under repairs

Neenah News

Renovations are underway to improve athletic courts and fields at the Neenah High School that opened in Fox Crossing in August.

A large pile of dirt in a field adjacent to the school signifies the maintenance currently underway.

Communications director Jim Strick said the work is required to achieve longterm performance of the tennis courts and natural grass athletic fields.

Strick said that after the tennis courts

had the surface coating and lines applied, issues with grade control and appropriate drainage were identified. The tennis court reconstruction involves removing the existing surface and applying new asphalt and surface coating. The work began this month and will be completed by the end of July in advance of the 2024 girls' tennis season in the fall.

The athletic field work is on the two baseball fields, two softball fields and practice soccer field. The game field for soccer was reconstructed last fall. Strick said the field work is required due to insufficient drainage and ponding observed in certain areas.

"Additional testing and evaluations were conducted, finding that the fields would not have adequate drainage for long-term use," he said. "The fields are safe for use this spring and will be completed in time for the 2025 spring season."

The athletic court and field improvements are being completed under the terms of the original contract with no additional expense to the school district.



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Mexican restaurant plans opening at Applebee's site

Neenah News

The former Applebee's restaurant at 1111 Westowne Drive could soon be buzzing with new business as Cozumel Mexican Grill makes plans to open a second location at the site.

Cozumel has operated on Witzel Avenue in Oshkosh since 2016. Owner Alejandro Torres previously submitted an application for a liquor license to open a second Cozumel bar and restaurant at the former OptiVision site at 240 1st St. on Doty Island but abruptly withdrew the application in December in anticipation of changing the location.

Applebee's abruptly closed in early 2023, with the location on the Southwest corner of the Interstate 41 and Winne-

conne Avenue interchange vacant for more than a year. The building is 5,060 square feet, sitting on just over an acre and a half of land.

Wisconsin real estate transfer records indicate Robert Drifka of Drifka Group purchased the former restaurant March 12 for just under \$1.6 million. Last week Drifka transferred the site to Torres under a land contract.

On Tuesday, the Common Council approved an alcohol beverage retail license and plan of operation for Cozumel, which will serve alcohol in its bar, dining room and patio area at the former Applebee's location.

Torres did not respond to a request for comment or disclose a possible opening date.

Business news roundup

Cedar Bar & Grill has new ownership after 26 years. Gretchen and Mark Diegel recently held their last event as owners before turning over the business to longtime customers Ken Luloff and Dave Halverson. The bar and grill at 1330 S. Commercial St. began operating in 1998 and is expected to continue operating as usual with the same employees.

Allchillakill and Cereal Ice Cream Bar opened Tuesday at 1001 Winneconne Ave. in the hut in front of True Value Hardware. Hugo Ramirez of Frio Mexican Treats in Appleton owns the new Neenah business that serves traditional Mexican foods including chilaquiles (fried corn tortilla chips with toppings), ice cream, organic coffee, churros and horchata.

Elements Unleashed clothing boutique recently moved five doors down to the former Subway location at 224 W. Wisconsin Ave. The new location is twice the size and will be used to expand prod-



uct lines, including the addition of children's clothing and accessories and tailoring services.

Wisconsin employers who hire veterans are encouraged to apply to the Vets Ready Employer Initiative, a Wisconsin Department of Workforce Development designation awarded to organizations that go above and beyond for the veteran workforce. Vets Ready recognizes organizations that hire and retain veterans, build veteran support systems, and connect with veterans in the community. It also helps employers attract and retain veteran talent. Applications are open through July 19. Learn more at dwd. wisconsin.gov/veterans.

Realtor.com's February Hottest Housing Markets Report released this month showed that the Oshkosh-Neenah metro area was the country's No. 10 market in February. Homes in the area saw an average of just 41 days on the market and a median listing price of \$325,000.



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Photo by David Hall

Game ambassador

An egg toss was among the many yard games offered Saturday at Fritsch Park in Fox Crossing during the third annual Brews with the Bunny event, where live music from Plastic Knives, food trucks and a beer tent drew residents for some early evening festivities.

Jake's Network seeks help on menstrual supplies

Jake's Network of Hope's On the Dot program, which provides vital menstrual supplies to girls and women in need, is facing a shortage that the organization is hoping the community can assist with.

Jake's development director Jenn Harper noted that recent studies show one in four girls and women struggle to access necessary period supplies, impacting their



Friday, April 19

Jennifer & Kate, 7 p.m., Xe 54, 1350 W. American Drive, Fox Crossing

Saturday, April 20

Earth Day program, 10:30 a.m., Neenah Public Library

Fox Valley Craft Fair, 11 a.m., Lucky Dog'z, 157 S. Green Bay Road

Charleyville 2024, 6 p.m., Cranky Pat's, 905 S. Commercial St.

Sunday, April 21

PP3: Kenny James Live event, 2 p.m., Lucky Dog'z, 157 S. Green Bay Road Lawrence University student jazz

quintet, 2 p.m., Neenah Public Library

Monday, April 22

Earth Day Cleanup, 9 a.m., Fox West YMCA

Friends of the Neenah Public Library annual meeting, 5:30 p.m., Neenah Public Library

Tuesday, April 23

Author John Harmon: "From the Heart: The Story of Matrix," 7 p.m., health, dignity and participation in daily life. The group partners with more than 30 organizations and schools to distribute these items.

Donations that are made to jakes-diapers.networkforgood.com will go toward purchasing a pallet of tampons, ensuring uninterrupted support to those who rely on the organization.

Neenah Public Library

Thursday, April 25

Neenah-Menasha Emergency Society Kitchen Tour, 10 a.m., five local homes

Friday, April 26

Irish Road Rummage Sale, 8 a.m., various locations

Grey Fedora, 7:45 p.m., Xe 54, 1350 W. American Drive, Fox Crossing

Mitch McVicker, 7 p.m., Faith Global Methodist, 1025 Tullar Road

Saturday, April 27

Irish Road Rummage Sale, 8 a.m., various locations

WHBA Spring Parade of Homes, 11 a.m., various locations

Life! A Reality Budget Fair, 10:30 a.m., Neenah Public Library

Sunday, April 28

WHBA Spring Parade of Homes, 11 a.m., various locations

Lawrence University student jazz quintet, 2 p.m., Neenah Public Library

Irish Road Rummage Sale, 10 a.m., various locations

Tuesday, April 30

Movie Talks: "One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest," 6:30 p.m., Neenah Public Library



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Jazz veteran shares his time with Matrix band in new book

By Jenny Grunwald News contributor

Longtime Fox Valley jazz musician John Harmon, who founded a nationally recognized jazz band in the 1970s, will talk about his book on that experience Tuesday at the Neenah Public Library.

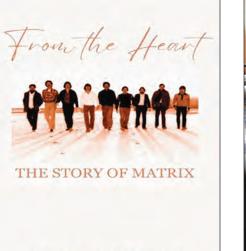
Harmon will share the story of Matrix through his memories and experiences at 7 p.m. in the library's Shattuck Room, where copies of "From the Heart: The Story of Matrix" will be available.

After years of Harmon's wife, Linda, and their friends trying to persuade him to write about his time in Matrix, Harmon finally agreed to give it a go. Written on legal pads and mostly from his memory and those of his bandmates, he writes about his adventure that started in 1974 with nine musicians in Appleton.

The jazz fusion ensemble led by Harmon as its composer and keyboardist rose to prominence on the national festival circuit and recorded six albums.

Harmon found a passion for jazz early in life, listening to his father's record collection and becoming inspired to play it back on the piano. He soon learned to pick up more complex styles and other jazz-related music as he played.

While in his third year of teaching jazz studies at Lawrence University, Harmon was having such a good time with incredible musicians but thought it was about to



JOHN HARMON

end. He said the university had to let him go because at the time it could not afford to pay him a livable wage.

His idea for Matrix was born to keep that from happening, inspired by not letting go of this group of jazz performers. Seemingly overnight the band grew a following that went from jazz music lovers to top music critics.

Harmon said jazz music wasn't the most popular genre in the 1970s when Matrix was active and touring. Most were listening to bands like the Rolling Stones, ABBA and Bee Gees. Fifty years later it's much the same but Matrix's music is still available and Harmon hopes to get read-

Life budgeting event for children offered at library

A drop-in event for children ages 12 and up will teach them budgeting and financial security skills with real-life scenarios using the Game of Life from 10:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. April 27.

Participants will be given a script with a

job and credit score from which they can make choices on how they want to budget and spend their earned finances in the game.

Giveaway items will be distributed at the end of the event.



John Harmon is shown working on a musical composition in this undated photo.

ers interested in those recordings through his book.

"I want (readers) to be interested enough to maybe seek out the music because we have a bunch of excellent stuff," said Harmon, urging readers to listen to the audio book where they can experience the songs and music Harmon talks about in "From the Heart."

"That old urge has never died," he said. "If the band was intact and the agent called tomorrow, I'd be on that bus."

Harmon said a Matrix reunion show is in the works with a July 10 date in mind.





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Superintendent

from Page 1

said. "His strong background in curriculum and instruction set him apart as a candidate. He also brings an inclusive mindset to build a connected culture across the entire district."

While in Appleton, Harrison oversaw a continuous school improvement process that aligned goals, systems and structures across its 23 schools. He also led a literacy audit at the early elementary level and a program review of the English Language Arts program that has led to improved literacy skills districtwide.

I'm really looking forward to connecting with students, families and community members to build a foundation of trust and transparency," Harrison said in a statement. "Neenah is a special place and

Housing loans

from Page 1

opportunity to add much-needed affordable housing throughout the state by helping developers and municipalities reduce the cost of development-a price that is normally passed on to working individuals, families, and seniors in their rent or mortgage," said WHEDA executive director Elmer Moore Jr.

The Infrastructure Access Loan program provides loan funding to cover the costs of installing, replacing, upgrading, or improving public infrastructure related to workforce housing or senior housing. These costs are typically covered by the developer. Borrowers can apply for up to 20 percent of the total development cost of residential housing and related infra-

it's where I want to be to finish my career in education."

That career has also included being an assistant principal at Oshkosh West High School for two years, where he also taught science for 10 years. He started teaching at Badger High School in Lake Geneva in 2000.

He holds a doctorate from Cardinal Stritch University and master's degrees from UW-Milwaukee and UW Oshkosh. He has been an instructor at UW Oshkosh since 2015.

Harrison and wife Margo live in Winneconne and have four children ages 11 to 21.

The search firm of Hazard, Young, Attea and Associates assisted with the process through community focus groups, surveys and bringing in the three finalists to tour schools while meeting with other administrators, staff and high school students.

structure at a rate of 3%, or 1% in municipalities with a population of fewer than 10,000 or for senior housing.

Excessive and outdated regulations add more than \$93,000 to the final price of a new home, according to the Wisconsin Builders Association, increasing the total by nearly 24 percent.

The new legislation requires municipalities and developers to collaborate when applying for funding.

WHEDA is also administering funding for two other loan programs that have emerged from the workforce housing legislation: Restore Main Street and Vacancy-to-Vitality loan programs. WHEDA will accept applications until April 30, and then again in the fall for all three loan programs until all funds are distributed.

For additional information, go to wheda.com.

Earth Day

from Page 1

ple come with their whole family: older kids, younger kids, there will be something for all of them," she said. "As they go from station to station they can explore. The great thing is we've taught our volunteers that if they see younger kids, they're going to speak in simpler language. For tween to teen age, they'll engage them in a different way ... ask more challenging questions, allowing them to do more of the discovery."

"Everyone who walks in the door will have had experience with a battery, will have experience using electricity," Mary Glesner, local ACS chair-elect, adds. "Just as with last year when we were talking about algae, everyone is somewhat familiar with it but have you actually thought about the chemistry behind it? Have you thought about the importance of it?"

Glesner said when people think about Earth Week, they don't always consider chemistry and chemists.

"They think of environmental scientists, biologists, ecologists, but there's so much chemistry that needs to happen when we think about preserving the Earth for the future," she said. "When we think about sustainability it requires interdisciplinary work with all of the sciences working together."

The intellectual chemistry among and between these scientists and educators is palpable. The thought and care put into the activities is meant to prompt questions about today's life experiences but more importantly about the future: Who's going to be designing the batteries of the future? What's harmful in today's batteries and how can we improve them?

"All of those things ... we strive to inspire and for the students to start asking those questions," Nell said. "We want them to start thinking through and do their own discovery, because there's still so much advancement in the field as we move towards a more battery powered life. Things are shifting to sustained, renewable

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energy and the mediums in which to store that energy.

April 19, 2024

"And, yeah...your pitch is going to be really different for a 13-year-old as opposed to a 3-year-old. You're not going to talk reclaiming lead to the 3-year-old. But their grandfather might also be there, or their parents. And that invites a conversation that might get the middle school or older kids excited."

Shraufnagel is eager to agree.

"I was nodding through all of that. I come from a natural resources and conservation biology background in school and I work as a naturalist at the YMCA. My knowledge is very different from the expertise they (Glesner and Nell) have," she said. "So my eyes are wide open and I'm learning so much. Expert scientists speak so enthusiastically and passionately as they share with the community."

The benefit of holding these programs at the library is clear. When people ask a question that "stumps the experts," volunteers and librarians can guide people to books, articles or programming that lead to answers and insight.

"Do your own exploration and do your own research, and learn more" Glesner said. "I love when people stump us and that happens all the time, right? We're experts in certain fields, but we don't know everything. And it allows students to see that as well."

As always, the libraries will partner and display some relevant books in preparation for Earth Week to serve as a lead in for students to explore on their own. Right on the heels of Earth Month, Neenah Library and ACS volunteers are preparing citizen science kits for May as part of an ongoing program of creative pouches for families to take home for further exploration.

The bags contain supplies for simple dipping: pond exploration, pond dipping and macroinvertebrate identification. For those who might want to expand into seeing what citizen scientists do, they can submit their data to worldwide science. The library will connect folks with the "spy starter" website that will help them take that next step into discovery.

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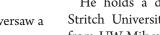
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Senior Standout is brought to you by: National BANK

Speedy Coulman provides spark for Rockets

By Steve Clark NEENAH NEWS

Being a good hitter isn't the only attribute that makes a good lead-off hitter.

There are aspects of having confidence, bringing energy and using speed that are equally important to the role of being a team's first batter of a game.

It's a position that Neenah High School senior Bella Coulman has filled on the teams she has played on since she was a youngster. And it's a spot that Coulman continues to thrive in, serving as a spark for the Rocket offense.

"It doesn't bother me at all being at the lead off," Coulman said. "The main objective is just to get on base to start off the game and give the team momentum. I definitely get in pressure situations, especially against the bigger teams but I have learned to zone in because this is just what I have done for so long."

Coulman was an honorable mention all-conference selection in the Fox Valley Association a year ago and has returned to lead a young Rocket roster this season.

She does that by setting the stage for the heart of the Neenah lineup and has the goahead from her head coach to do whatever is needed to give the team a spark when she steps to the plate.

"We trust her within the batter's box. If she wants to do her own thing, she has the green light – especially when she is leading off," Neenah head coach Steven Gross said. "Bella leads a lot by example. She's not necessarily a vocal leader for us but she's constantly hustling."

Taking on a leadership role was something that was important to Bella – and for the Rockets – entering this season.

Coulman, who plays club softball with the Wisconsin Bandits, is one of the most seasoned players for the Rockets and after



losing 10 seniors from the roster last season was needed to step into a leadership role.

"It's been an adjustment, but in a good way," said Coulman, who is batting .357 so far this season. "I have been on a lot of teams and, from a leadership perspective, it's not hard to lead this team."

Coulman is quick to point out though that she isn't the only one driving the Rocket bus.

"We have only six seniors this year and we all have leadership roles on the team. At the same time, the juniors that came up from junior varsity all have the same mentality as us, too," Coulman said. "I'm not saying it's not hard to fill the shoes of the seniors because it's definitely an adjustment but I feel like we are doing pretty well with it."

It's not hard to see the speed Coulman brings to the diamond, but her best quality as a lead-off hitter may be something that can't be seen or measured.

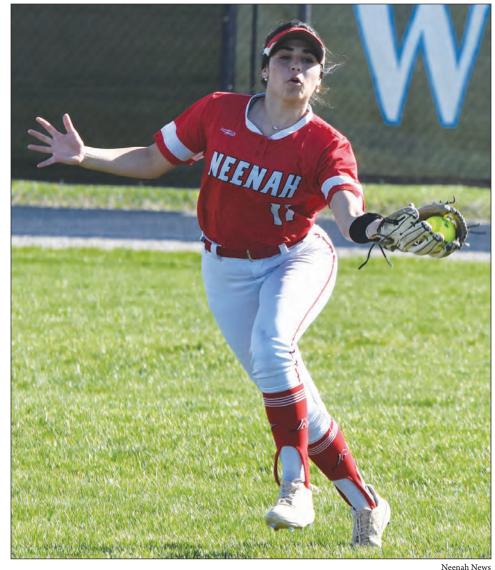
With the experience she has under her belt and the ability she's shown, she never lacks in belief that she is going to accomplish what she needs to.

"You just have to have a lot of confidence in yourself to start off the game and you just can't get too hard on yourself," Coulman said. "You have to be somewhat selective so your teammates can get a good glimpse of what they are going to be up against. You just can't get too hard on yourself, too."

Despite being a natural right-handed hit-

SEE Senior Standout ON PAGE 11





Senior Bella Coulman is one of the leaders for the Neenah softball team and will be continuing her softball career next season at UW-Green Bay.

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Norville boosts Zephyrs to easy win over Resorters

By Dustin Riese NEWS CONTRIBUTOR

St. Mary Catholic continued its strong start to the 2024 soccer season Tuesday night, playing through windy and rainy conditions to claim a 6-0 win over Elkhart Lake-Glenbuelah.

The Zephyrs extended their unbeaten streak to five games and improved to 3-0-2 on the season with senior Audrey Norville leading the way with a five-point night.

"I think our team has grown a lot together since the start of the season," Norville said. "We have tremendous team chemistry and have great leaders at each level, which helps us a ton. Having captains on defense, midfield and up front makes things so much easier as everyone knows where everyone needs to be."

The Zephyrs' first quality scoring chance came in the 12th minute when

Teagan O'Neil sailed a free kick just over the crossbar.

That shot showed St. Mary Catholic was finding its offensive rhythm and the Zeph-



yrs scored two minutes later when Audrey Wanless tallied a goal off a Norville assist. Less than five min-

utes later, Norville fired a cross to the far side of the penalty area where Claire Benz took care of the rest to extend the lead to 2-0.

Norville added her third assist in the 26th minute with Bitsy McCauley putting SMC in front 3-0 at the half.

"Norville played a terrific game as always," head coach Chris Carrao said. "She did a great job leading our transition, playing through balls to the open teammates, and just taking the shots when they were given to her. That freed up a lot of players to make things happen, which led to a great game by us."

Looking to build on their first-half lead, the Zephyrs opened the second half on the attack with Norville again leading the charge.

This time instead of finding her teammates for the assist, she blasted one from well outside the penalty area and sneaked it under the crossbar to extend the Zephyrs lead to 4-0 two minutes into the second half.

"I was just in the zone tonight," Norville said. "The rain, the wind and the overall weather, this is what soccer is all about. I wanted to have a good game tonight and I went out there and played my best."

The Resorters, who played with only one substitute, had its best chance to score shortly after the Norville goal but Zeph-

yrs' goalkeeper Bethany Ruppert made a tough save on a free kick to keep Elkhart Lake-Glenbeulah scoreless.

St. Mary Catholic dominated the final 25 minutes of the match getting a goal from McCauley to push the lead to 5-0 before Norville capped the scoring with her second goal of the night for the final margin.

Carrao loves the way his team has played thus far and is excited to see where things will end.

"This was a collective effort win for us tonight," Carrao said. "We played a lot girls from seniors all the way down to freshman tonight. We have had to battle some injuries to start the season, but we are getting healthier. The senior leadership this group has shown this season has been incredible and I'm excited to see where this team can go."

VA tussle with Wildcats Veenah falls short in close

By Steve Clark NEENAH NEWS

Neenah's young softball team was within reach of notching its fourth straight win to start the season heading into the bottom of the seventh at Oshkosh West on Monday.

The Wildcats needed only two batters to alter the Rockets' fortunes.

West's Emmy Reichenberger belted a two-run, walk-off home run two batters into the inning to saddle Neenah with a 2-1 loss as the Rockets suffered their first loss of the season.

"Anytime we come here or West comes to us, it's always a close game, a fun game," Neenah head coach Steven Gross said.

"(Alayna) Sadowska did a nice job of getting on base (in the seventh) and (Reichenberger) just caught it right."

Up until the seventh, Neenah starter Kyleigh Mathe had kept the West hitters in check.

The Wildcats had only two hits in the first six innings and Mathe had not walked a batter, while striking out three.

She pitched around a one-out single in the fourth inning and then stranded a runner at third base after a two-out triple in the sixth.

"Kyleigh does her thing on the mound and the defense plays hard behind her," Gross said.

Neenah's offense was also kept quiet but

did generate a couple of scoring chances and ended up stranding five runners on base.

Aubrey Oitzinger reached on a one-out error in the third inning and advanced when Bella Coulman followed with an infield single. Olivia McNulty's bunt advanced both runners but they were stranded at second and third as West got out of the inning.

In the fourth, Mathe ripped a one-out single and took second on Parker Zipperer's ground out. Kaylee Marhefke then delivered a single to right field to easily plate Mathe for the first run of the game.

"Kaylee had been struggling a little bit at the plate the last couple of games and

we told her to keep working and that it will come and she came through for us tonight," Gross said. "She did a nice job staying relaxed and sticking what we work on every day."

Neenah was unable to add to its lead in that inning and couldn't extend its advantage over the final three frames despite getting two-out hits from Tatum West in the sixth and Grace Berkholtz in the seventh.

"So far this season it's been really, really good," Gross said. "The kids are having fun and working hard and the chemistry is great. They are a tight group of kids and that's what is helping us right now."



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Prep sports roundup

BASEBALL

Neenah erupts in 8th inning for win

The Rockets broke a 10-10 tie by scoring six runs in the top of the eighth inning and secured a 16-11 win over Appleton West in a Fox Valley Association game Monday.

Neenah forced extra innings by scoring a run in the top of the seventh. The Rockets scored at least one run in six of the eight innings, taking a 7-5 lead with a three-run fourth frame.

Trevor Stichman went 4-for-4 with a walk and collected three doubles on the day. He scored five runs and drove in four in the win.

AJ Price and Andrew Carlson each chipped in a pair of hits, while Ethan Van Dyke drove in four runs and Carlson added three RBIs.

Gus Weinholzer allowed one run in 2 1/3 innings of relief to earn the win on the mound.

On Saturday, the Rockets rallied for three runs in the seventh inning but lost to Slinger 6-3. Will St. Clair and Mack Krause each had two hits, while Price drove in two runs.

The Rockets also dropped a 4-1 decision to Hortonville on Thursday with Van Dyke collecting Neenah's lone hit in the game.

Zephyrs top Wildcats, fall to Reedsville

Colin Nigl tossed six strong innings and St. Mary Catholic scored five runs over the final three innings to earn a 6-1 win over Oshkosh West on Saturday.

Nigl allowed only three hits, while striking out seven to earn the win. He surrendered his lone run in the bottom of the fourth. Aidan Birling pitched a scoreless seventh to close out the win.

Nigl also helped fuel the offense going 2-for-4 with three RBIs, while Joseph Pirillo added a pair of hits and drove in two runs. Fisher Mackenzie reached base three times, including a double, and scored three runs.

The Zephyrs dropped a 10-2 decision to Reedsville in a Big East North contest on Monday.

St. Mary Catholic scored both of its runs in the top of the first but Reedsville answered with six runs in the bottom of the inning and was able to hold off the Zephyrs from there.

Nigl, Jason Ernsting and Noah Decker each had two hits in the game, while Nigl and Ernsting each drove in runs. The Zephyrs led 6-2 before Reedsville scored four runs in the bottom of the seventh to send the game into extra innings.

Rhiannon Reichenbacher finished 3-for-4 with a pair of doubles to pace the Zephyrs' offense. She also pitched two innings in relief to get the win in the circle.

Emily Vogel and Neveah Saringer each added a pair of hits, while Saringer also drove in three runs.

St. Mary Catholic split a doubleheader with Iola-Scandinavia on Saturday, losing the opener 3-2 before taking the second 10-2.

Saringer and Jaylyn Akey had RBIs in the opener for the Zephyrs. In the nightcap, Adel Schneider and Vogel each had three hits, while Paige Danen had two hits and drove in three runs.

Last week, the Zephyrs pounded Hilbert 11-1, led by three hits apiece from Vogel, Saringer and Ainslie Liddy. Saringer belted a home run.

SOCCER

Zephyrs register tie with Wrightstown

Audrey Norville tallied a second-half goal to lift St. Mary Catholic to a 1-1 tie with Wrightstown on Saturday.

Bethany Ruppert made eight saves in goal for the Zephyrs.

Ruppert made 11 saves in a 0-0 tie with Lourdes Academy/Valley Christian on Thursday.

BOYS LACROSSE

Neenah opens season with pair of wins

The Rockets rolled up 27 goals in two games to open the 2024 season, beating Frankin 15-1 on Saturday before topping Sauk Prairie, 12-0, on Monday.

In the win over Frankiln, Jackson Brown led the Rockets with four goals and three assists, while Evan Hans, Brandon Price, Owen Grotenhuis and Keane Sullivan each added two goals. Ben Carey, Drew Green and Jensen Rodriguez also scored.

Jack Rosmos finished with eight saves in the win.

In the win over Sauk Prairie, Grotenhuis led the way for Neenah with six goals, while Price finished with two and Hans, Brown, Carey and Sullivan each had one. Sullivan and Price each totaled two assists in the win.

Romsos needed to make just three saves in goal to earn the shutout.

GIRLS LACROSSE Schoultz sparks Rockets'



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<u>SOFTBALL</u>

Big inning boosts Rockets to triumph

Neenah used a six-run fourth inning to break open a close game and went on to beat Hortonville, 8-1, in a Fox Valley Association game last week.

Kyleigh Mathe allowed just two hits and struck out eight to earn the win, while also going 3-for-4 at the plate and scoring three runs.

Parker Zipperer added a pair of hits and drove in two run in the win.

Zephyrs pull out win over Panthers

St. Mary Catholic scored a run in the top of the eighth inning to break a tie game and collected a 7-6 win over Reeds-ville on Monday.

win over West Bend

Rae Schoultz scored four goals as Neenah rolled past West Bend, 9-3, for its first win of the season Friday.

Ainsley LeClaire added a pair of goals in the win, while Ellie Hammerschmidt, Izzy Bugge, Josie Mroczkowski and Lily Schmear also scored for the Rockets.

Elliott Pershing made 10 saves in goal for the Rockets.

The night before the Rockets dropped a 5-3 decision to De Pere with Schmear, LeClair and Schoultz tallying goals for Neenah. Pershing finished with five saves. **GOLF**

Rockets come up short against Polar Bears

Cartyr Simonson led the Rockets with a

SEE **Prep roundup** ON PAGE 10



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Prep roundup

FROM PAGE 9

39 as Neenah came up short in a Fox Valley Association dual meet against Hortonville, 167-171, on Tuesday.

Calvin Zinda followed with a 43 with Ryan Geary adding a 44 and Carson Seitz had a 45.

Neenah was coming off a 10th-place finish at a 20-team invitational at High Cliff Golf Course on Monday. The Rockets tied with Kaukauna with a team score of 348.

Cooper Zinda led the team with an 83, followed by Simonson with an 86, Calvin Zinda with an 88 and Dominik Clark with a 91.

The Rockets also participated in the two-day Hartford Invitational over the weekend, finishing 31st among the 41 complete teams in the meet held at Washington County Golf Course. Simonson led the Rockets with a 175.

Moschea posts top 10 finish at Big East Meet

Ethan Moschea fired a 42 at Blackwolf Run to claim eighth place and lead St. Mary Catholic at the Big East Major meet on Tuesday.

The Zephyrs finished eighth among the 10 full teams at the meet with a score of 202.

Dawson Radosevich added a 49 for St. Mary Catholic followed by a 54 from Mason Uhlenbrauck and a 57 from Zach Trudeau.

On Monday, the Zephyrs finished 19th at a 20-team meet at High Cliff Golf Course with Moschea shooting a 90 and

TENNIS Neenah breezes past **Appleton North**

The Rockets opened their Fox Valley Association schedule Tuesday by blanking Appleton North, 7-0.

Carl Hein at No. 1 singles and Brady Lawatsch at No. 2 singles each won their matches without dropping a game, while the No. 1 doubles team of Andrew Werner and Padraig Hasz dropped only one game in posting its win.

The Rockets did not lose a set in the dual meet.

Over the weekend, Neenah took part in the Brookfield Central Invitational and placed sixth in the 32-team event after posting a 3-2 record. The Rockets had wins over Franklin, Green Bay Notre Dame and Nicolet while falling to Brookfield Central and Homestead.

Lawatsch led the way for the Rockets at the tournament posting a 4-1 record at No. 2 singles. Carl Hein posted three wins at No. 1 singles, while Harrison Tanger had two wins at No. 4 singles.

Neenah also went 3-2 at both No. 2 and No. 3 doubles on the weekend using an array of players and pairings to fill the flight.

TRACK AND FIELD

Zephyrs sweep team titles at Big East quad

Both the boys and girls teams at St. Mary Catholic posted wins at the Big East quadrangular meet held Tuesday at Reedsville.

easily outdistance second-place Manitowoc Lutheran with 72.

Lauren Ripley and Nolie Anderson each finished first in a pair of events for the Zephyrs. Ripley won the 800 meters and the long jump, while Anderson finished first in the shot put and discus.

St. Mary Catholic also finished first in all four relays.

Adding second-place finishes for the Zephyrs were: Cora Epping in the 100 meters; Addison Dinka in the 400 meters; Claire Higgins in the 800 meters; Katharine Schoeni in the 3200 meters; and Marissa Hahn in the discus.

The boys topped Manitowoc Lutheran 97.5-73.5 to finish first. It was a victory keyed by a trio of 1-2 finishes.

Daniel Harness and Harry Higgins finished first and second, respectively in the 100 meters, while Benjamin Schoeni and Ian Albino Gonzales went 1-2, respectively, in the 3,200 meters. In the pole vault, Ashton Post took first followed by teammate Noah Valentine in second.

Braden Brenn added a win in the high jump and took second in the 110-meter hurdles, while Benjamin Schoeni in the 1,600 meters, Nathan Seiske in the 800 meters, Post in the 200 meters, Jacob Hall in the triple jump and Carson Emenecker also added second-place finishes.

St. Mary Catholic also won the 1,600-meter and 3,200-meter relays.

Neenah boys take top spot at FVA quad

Ben Donaldson won both hurdle events and Neenah took first in the 1,600-meter and 3,200-meter relays to lead the Rockets to a

first place finish at a Fox Valley Association quadrangular at Hortonville on Monday.

Grant Dean and Rylan Mendoza added a 1-2 finish, respectively, in the 100 meters, while Braden Louden in the 400 meters and Alex Thayer in the 800 meters also collected wins. Dean in the long jump and Will Radies in the triple jump each finished in second place.

The girls hosted an FVA quad on Tuesday and finished third behind Kimberly and Hortonville.

The Rockets got wins from Allie Ziebell in the 400 meters, Elsa Gruber in the 800 meters, Nathalie Schultz in the 3,200 meters and Lydia Delene in the pole vault, while Celia Gentile took second in the 100 meters.

Neenah also finished first in the 400-meter and 3,200-meter relays.

Last week, both track teams hosted a nonconference triangular meet at Rocket Stadium.

Dean won the 100, 200 and 400 meter races to lead the boys, while Wyatt Armock in the 800 and 3,200 meters and Sam Scheer in the shot put and discus each added multiple wins. Will Radies also picked up a first place in the triple jump.

Celia Gentile led the way for the girls winning both the 200 and 400 meters as well as the long jump. Rachel Dietrich finished first in both the 800 meters and 1,600 meters, while Bella Chandik took first in both the 100-meter and 300-meter hurdles.

Also winning events for the Rockets were Brynn Fox in the 100 meters and Maddie Harris in the triple jump, while Avery Gentile tied for first in the high



Obituaries

Philip L. Waterworth

Philip L. Waterworth, age 81, died at home surrounded by family on Tuesday,



April 9, 2024. Phil was born on December 20, 1942 to Lee and Caroline (Swarthout) Waterworth in Columbus. He was married to Peggy Jones on December 7, 1963 in the Town of Elba. Phil graduated Fall

River High School in 1961. He graduated UW-Platteville in 1965 with a bachelor's degree in Mathematics and Physics. Phil earned a National Science Foundation grant to attend LSU where he earned a master's in Mathematics in 1970. Phil worked for the Neenah Joint School Dis-

Senior Standout

FROM PAGE 8

ter, Coulman bats solely from the left side of the plate - a transition she undertook in fifth grade to take advantage of her ability to get down the baseline quickly.

She can swing fully when she's at the plate but often tries to slap hit her way on base. That's when the fun begins.

"It's fun being fast. You get to mess with the other team's defense - in a good way for my team," Coulman said. "If you are able to get yourself to second without a hit, that really sets your team up for success. Then, on a hit to the outfield, it's an easy run."

Coulman said that she started playing t-ball when she was in kindergarten before starting in softball the following year.

One of the reasons she gravitated to the diamond was because her father, Len, played baseball in college and he has helped her develop every step of the way.

"A lot of playing catch in the back yard," Coulman said. "My dad has helped me a lot. He's obviously helped me with my skills, but my mindset, too. He's helped with my confidence and staying focused."

Coulman, who plays centerfield and has been an outfielder since she was young, started this season with two new aspects surrounding her game.

First of all, with Neenah debuting on its field at the new high school, Coulman had a whole different view than what she was used to.

"It was weird," Coulman said. "I love our new field but it was definitely odd when I ran out to center and looked around."

More importantly, Coulman entered this year with a set plan for the future.

In November, she committed to join the UW-Green Bay program and is looking forward to eventually getting to wear a Phoenix jersey.

trict from 1965 to 1998 when he retired. Phil and Peggy moved to their property in Fountain Prairie in 1998. He enjoyed hunting, sailing, flying his powered parachute and riding his Harley-Davidson.

Phil is survived by his wife Peggy of Fall River; sons Brian Waterworth of Neenah, Scott (Tracy) Waterworth of Neenah, Eric (Marie) Waterworth of Fairfax, VT; grandchildren Nicholas, Jared, Alexander, Sean; Sister Kathryn (Larry) Prenn of Hayward; brothers Gary (Cindy) Waterworth of Fall River, Gene (Debbie) Waterworth of Fall River; cousin Terry (Marcie) Waterworth of El Dorado; nieces, nephews, other relatives and friends. Phil is preceded in death by his parents; twin brothers David and Joseph; grandson Cameron; and sister-in-law Barb.

A memorial service will be held at 11:00

"I just felt really comfortable on campus and when I met the girls I would be playing with. Obviously they have to take everything real seriously playing at that level but at the same time they all are great girls," said Coulman, who plans to major in Psychology and move into prelaw. "The coach was very interested in me and they offer a lot of academic support for their athletes. They have a pretty good program for my major - a lot of support and a lot of opportunity."

But first, Coulman hopes to have one more successful season with the Rockets, even though that means trying to tame the always talented FVA.

"You can have a good game against anyone in the conference," Coulman said. "But in other conferences in Wisconsin, you are not going to get that. It keeps the game fun playing good competition."

Coulman also believes this Neenah team can be successful once the conference season is done.

The past two seasons, the Rockets have advanced to the sectional level of the tournament only to be turned away short of making it to Madison for the state tournament.

This year she hopes to change that.

"We just have to support one another and keep building," Coulman said. "We have a lot of talent and we just have to put the pieces together which is hard because we only have one year with this group."

Whether Neenah can make it there or not, Coulman is certainly going to value her time spent playing the past four years.

"Whenever I'm done with high school softball I will be upset," Coulman said. "I will still be excited about the future and I'm very grateful for that opportunity, but still, this is an experience that can't be rep licated. High school softball is a once in a lifetime thing."

A.M. with visitation beginning at 10:00 A.M. on Saturday, April 20, 2024 at the Columbus United Methodist Church. Rev. Jim Cotter will officiate. Inurnment will be in Fountain Prairie Cemetery, Town of Fountain Prairie.

A special thank you to the staff of SSM Clinic - Columbus, Prairie Ridge Health, Hillside Hospice Care, Dr. Joanna Zurko and Dr. Rolf Poser.

Memorials may be directed to Prairie Ridge Health or Columbus United Methodist Church.

We encourage you to share your online condolences with Phil's family at jensenfuneralandcremation.com

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Dated: April 9, 2024. ATTORNEY BRYAN WARD LLC Attorneys for Plaintiff Bryan M. Ward, WI Bar #1066268 5555 N. Port Washington Road, Suite 305 Milwaukee, WI 53208 bmw@bryanwardlaw.com Phone: 414-271-4849

This is an attempt to collect a debt and any information obtained will be used for that purpose. If you have previously received a discharge in a Chapter 7 bankruptcy case, this communication is not and should not be construed as an attempt to hold you personally liable for any discharged debt.

Run April 12, 2024, April 19, 2024 and April 26, 2024 WNAXLP

STATE OF WISCONSIN, **CIRCUIT COURT** WINNEBAGO COUNTY IN THE MATTER OF THE NAME CHANGE OF: **CODI JAY SEEMANN BY CODI JAY SEEMANN** Notice and Order for Name **Change Hearing** Case No. 2024CV000287

NOTICE IS GIVEN:

A Petition was filed asking to change the name of the person listed above: From: Codi Jay Seeman To: Cody Jay Seemann Birth Certificate: Codi Jay Seeman

IT IS ORDERED: This Petition will be heard in the Circuit Court of Winnebago County, State of Wisconsin: Judge's Name: Hon. Michael Gibbs Place: Winnebago County Courthouse Branch 4 Room 211, 415 Jackson Street, Oshkosh, WI 54903 Date: May 1, 2024 Time: 11:30 am

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DEFENDANT JACQUELINE T. MECKLENBURG

You are hereby notified that the Plaintiff named above has filed a lawsuit or other legal action against you. The Complaint, which has been mailed to your last known address, states the nature and basis of the legal action.

Within forty (40) days after the first publication date of this summons, you must respond with a written answer, as that term is used in Chapter 802 of the Wisconsin Statutes, to the Complaint. The Court may reject or disregard an answer that does not follow the requirements of the statutes The answer must be sent or delivered to the Court, whose address is: Winnebago County Clerk of Court 415 Jackson Street, Oshkosh, WI 54903-2808

and to Plaintiff's attorney whose address is: •Attorney Bryan Ward LLC 5555 N. Port Washington Rd., Suite 305, Milwaukee, WI

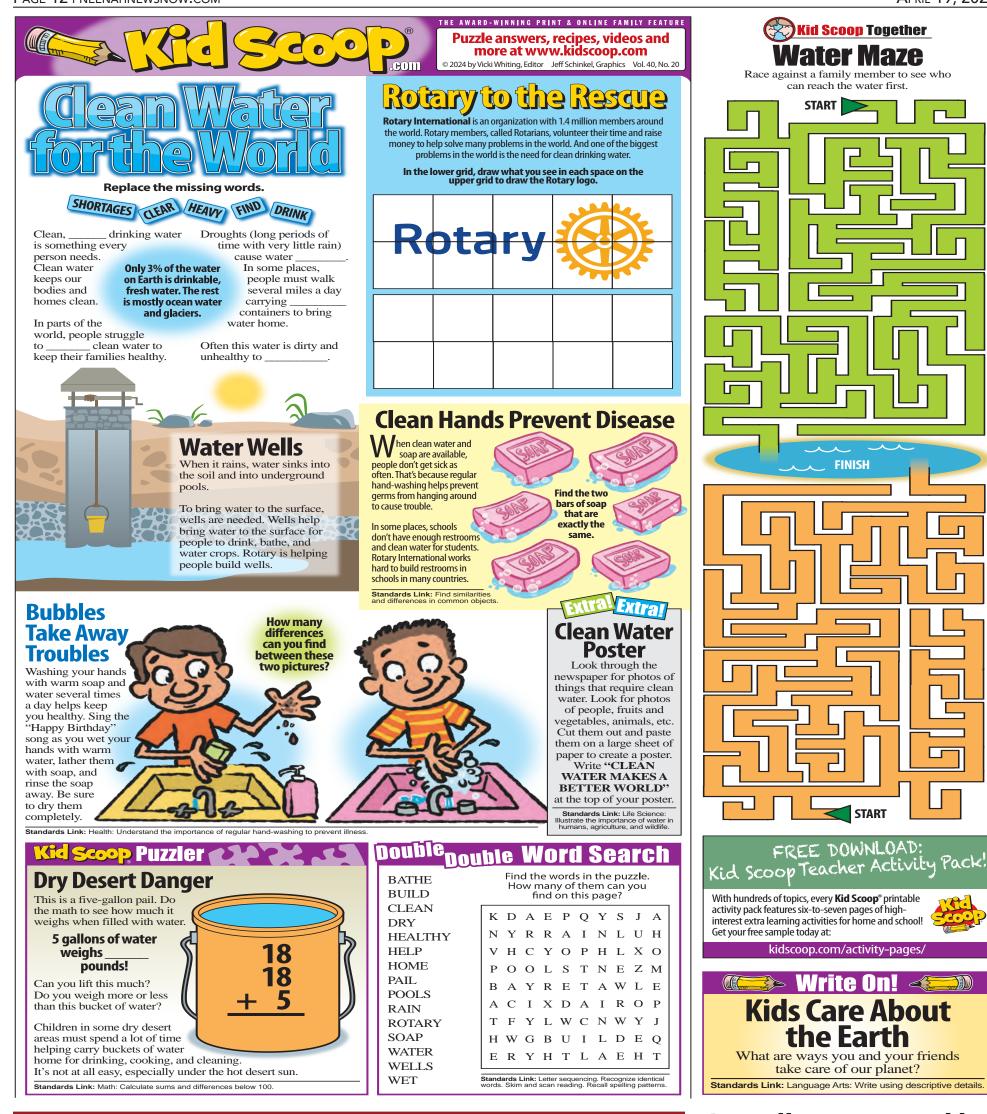
IT IS FURTHER ORDERED:

Notice of this hearing shall be given by publication as a Class 3 notice for three (3) weeks in a row prior to the date of the hearing in the Neenah News a newspaper published in Winnebago County, State of Wisconsin.

BY THE COURT: DATE SIGNED: March 27,

2024 /s/ Hon. Michael S. Gibbs Run April 5, 2024, April 12, 2024 and April 19, 2024 WNAXLP

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