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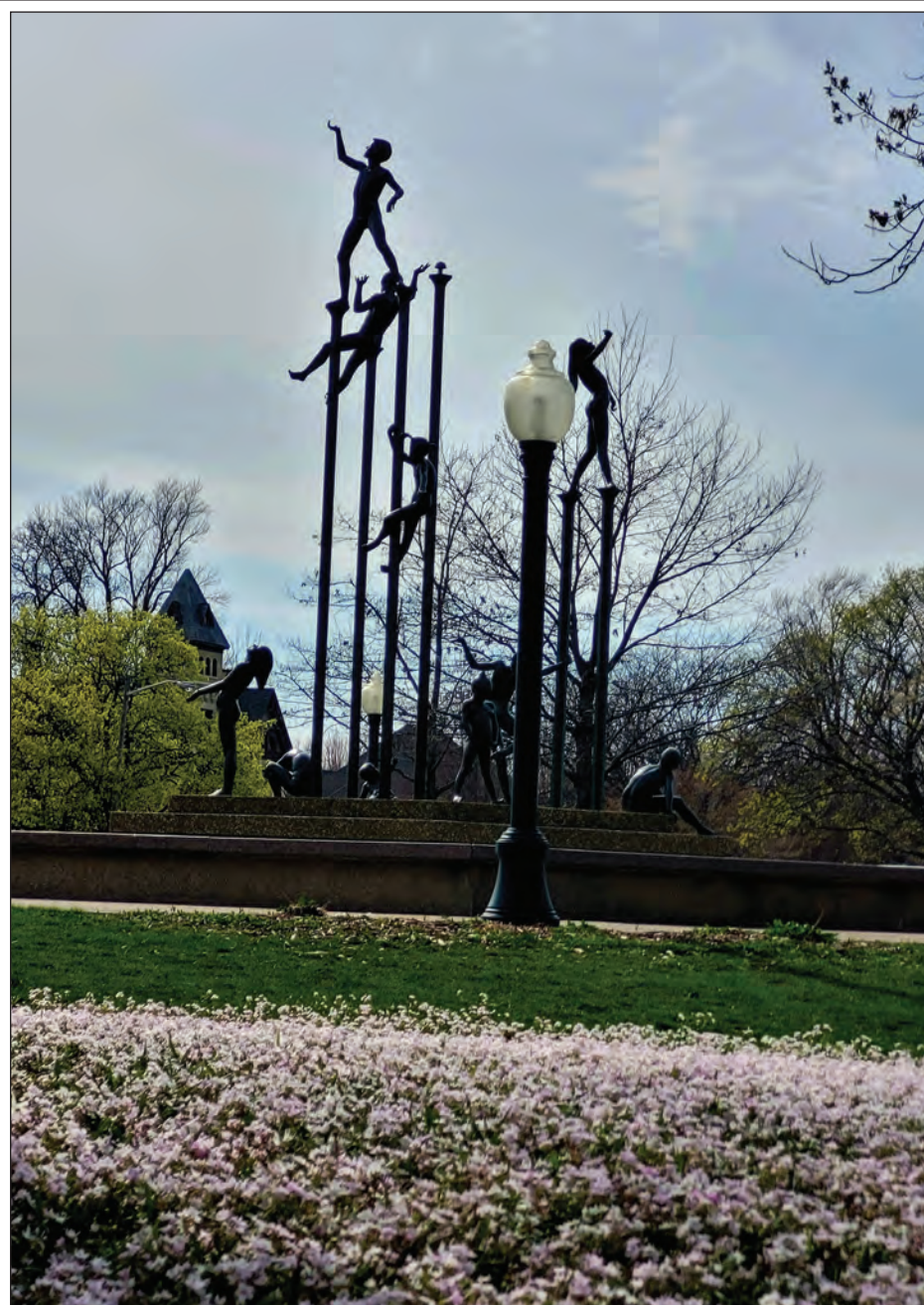
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Neenah News

Spring beauty

Riverside Park in Neenah took on vibrant colors with the bloom of spring beauty wildflowers this week.

Mental health court seeks alternatives

Initiative hopes for better outcomes in Winnebago

By Jonathan Richie
NEENAH NEWS

It can be difficult to connect people with the resources they need to live their best lives. A new treatment court being set up in Winnebago County seeks to help individuals and families connect with those resources.

The mental health court will operate similarly to other treatment courts such as the county's Drug Court with details still being discussed by a group of county employees who have been meeting monthly.

Circuit Court Branch 4 Judge Michael Gibbs, along with District Attorney Eric Sparr, have been meeting over the past 12 months with law enforcement, health services staff and the state public defender's office in developing a workable treatment court.

Gibbs attended a summit held by Chief Justice of the Wisconsin Supreme Court Annette Kingsland Ziegler where all counties were invited to see how mental health could be dealt with in the justice system. Gibbs said their efforts are based on Outagamie County's mental health court.

"The idea, generally, was there's a mental health problem that we've got going on," he explained. "It affects most professions and certainly affects the court system. What are some things each county

SEE **Health court** ON PAGE 9

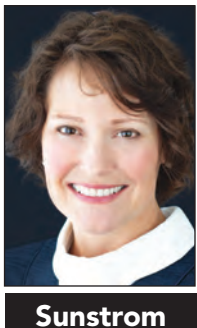
Homebuilders use infill development to meet demand

Creativity becomes key to affordable housing

By Bethanie Gengler
NEENAH NEWS

Fox Valley homebuilders are turning to creative means to meet the market demand for affordable housing.

Tiny houses, lot splitting and accessory dwelling units are some of the trends residents can expect to see as developers work to mitigate what the Realtors Association of Northeast Wisconsin (RANW) refers to as a housing crisis.



Sunstrom

A study conducted by Outagamie County Development & Land Services estimated that to meet housing needs, the region needs between 10,910 to 17,738 new dwelling units between 2020 and 2030, amounting to more than 1,000 new dwellings per year.

Jennifer Sunstrom, RANW director of public relations and government affairs, said low housing inventory, escalating home values and increasing construction costs are behind the shortage. The organization spearheaded a Housing Now Coalition to raise public awareness of the housing crisis and advocate for creative solutions to provide more.

"If we're going to fix the housing crisis, we're just going to have to do housing differ-

SEE **Housing options** ON PAGE 11



Neenah News

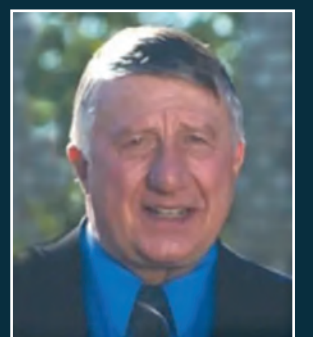
A triangle lot on Doty Island was used to build a small ranch home and garage.

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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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Interstate 41 project creates detour routes

Neenah News

A \$16 million rehabilitation project on Interstate 41 between Breezewood Lane and State 96 is putting motorists on some alternate routes and reduced lanes with road closures and shifting ramp access.

Most recently the westbound U.S. 10 to northbound I-41 ramp closed Tuesday until May 13 as crews work on expansion joints in the ramp pavement. Drivers will be detoured westbound on 10 to County CB, then back east on U.S. 10 to I-41.

The overall I-41 project involves pavement repair and diamond grinding of mainline I-41 and service interchange ramps, and replacement of bridge approaches, beam guard, deteriorated metal culvert pipes, median inlets and over the Green Bay Road bridge deck. Structure rehabilitation will take place at about 30 other structures.

Green Bay Road will be closed at I-41 for roughly four to five months between May and September due to the bridge deck replacement. Jacobsen Road will close at I-41 for up to a week for minor rehabilitation of the bridge and a lane of Cold Spring Road will be closed under U.S. 10 during daytime hours for about a month at a date to be announced.

Northbound lanes will be reduced full time from three to two in the vicinity of Green Bay Road for a majority of the project.

Both directions of I-41 will have areas reduced full time from three to two lanes for a significant portion of the project to facilitate replacement of bridge approaches, other structure repairs and reapplication of the high-friction surface treatment.

Concrete pavement repairs will require single and multilane closures during night-time and off-peak hours and I-41 traffic will be routed up and down interchange ramps during night-time hours to facilitate replacement of metal culverts.

Construction will include work restrictions around holidays and special events when possible but full-time lane closures along I-41 are anticipated to extend throughout the project.

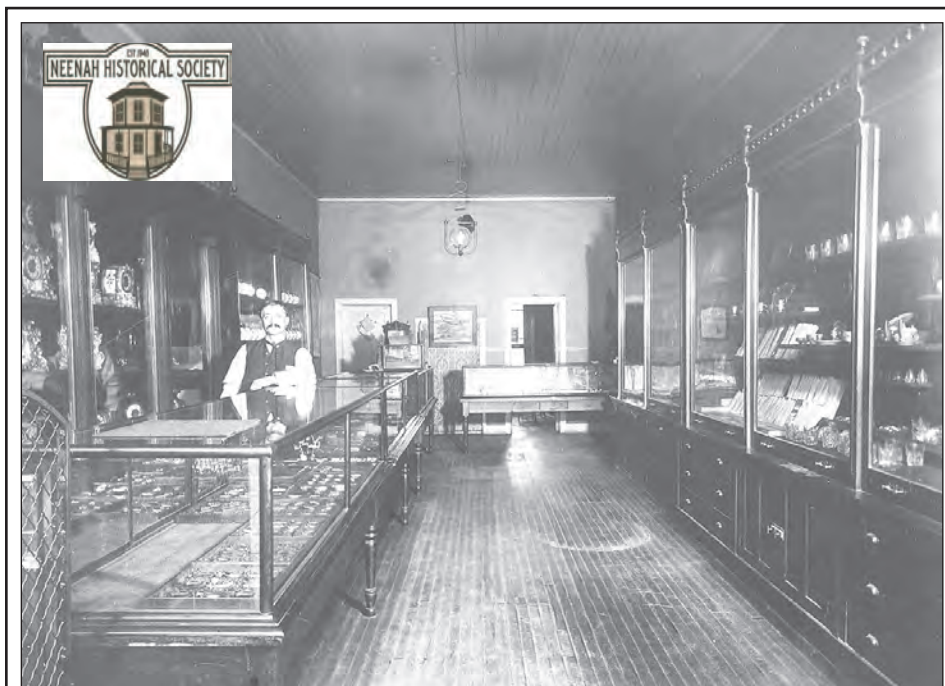
Other anticipated I-41 detours at some point during the project:

Southbound entrance ramp from State 114 (Winneconne Avenue); detour route will follow Winneconne Avenue to Tullar Road to Breezewood Lane to I-41

Northbound exit ramp to State 114 (Winneconne) detour: I-41 to Breezewood Lane to Tullar Road to Winneconne Avenue

Southbound exit ramp to Main Street in Neenah; detour: I-41 to Breezewood Lane to I-41 to Main Street

The benefit of the project is to extend the life of I-41 bridges and pavement by completing maintenance improvements along the corridor.



Neenah Historical Society photo

Jewelry specialists

Peter Haertl began a jewelry business in Neenah in 1879 near the corner of Wisconsin Avenue and Commercial Street. In 1905 he moved to the building at 119 W. Wisconsin Ave., which would serve as a jewelry store for more than 80 years. The store would eventually end up in the hands of the McCarthy family, who would operate their storefront until 1989. They were even responsible for maintaining the clocktower mechanisms.

Edward Jones

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Worship Directory

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Correction

APRIL 19, PAGE 4: A business news item regarding Cedar Bar & Grill listed Gretchen and Mark Diegel as owners and left out Kristin Zagrodnik. Sisters Gretchen and Kristin own the business and are in the process of selling it, but the sale has not been finalized.

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School safety still on point 25 years after Columbine

Neenah district team looks at security issues

By Bethanie Gengler
NEENAH NEWS

Last Saturday marked the 25th anniversary of the Columbine High School shooting, considered the first significant school shooting in the United States and inspiring dozens of copycat killings in the decades that followed.

On April 20, 1999, Dylan Klebold and Eric Harris entered the high school in Columbine, Colo., and opened fire, fatally shooting 12 classmates and one teacher before killing themselves.

Neenah isn't immune to such a tragedy. On April 14, 2019, 17-year-old Alex Kraus was arrested and charged with fatally shooting his grandparents at their Grand Chute home as part of a plan to carry out a school shooting at Neenah High School, where he was a student.

Kraus documented his plan in essays and wrote that he identified with the Columbine High School shooters.

But after killing his grandparents, Kraus apparently had a change of heart and called 911.

"I had plans, you see, to shoot up my school and I was going to kill my grandparents and then after that, drive to my school and then shoot everyone there on Monday morning, but killing is not really what I thought it would be," court records say Kraus told a dispatcher at the time. "This is all my fault."

Two years later, a 17-year-old was charged in a gun threat near Neenah High School that resulted in three schools be-

ing locked down.

Last year, a Neenah High School student was arrested after police found a handgun and ammunition in his backpack.

Last month, the school district received a ransom message claiming to be from a high school student threatening gun violence against the school, which was determined to be a scam.

Nationally, school shootings are now at their highest recorded level, with about 1,500 in the U.S. in the past 25 years, which is 57 times greater than all other major industrialized nations combined, according to data from the American Academy of Pediatrics.

The Center for Homeland Defense and Security reports that between 1970 and 2022, there were 27 school-based shooting incidents in Wisconsin, with about 60% occurring in the last eight years.

Last week, the state Office of School Safety held behavioral and threat assessment management training at Fox Valley Technical College in Appleton to emphasize the importance of preventing violence in schools. Neenah School District mental health coordinator Mike Altekruze participated in the event.

Communications director Jim Strick said the schools have a district emergency operations planning (DEOP) team of staff, area law enforcement, emergency management and fire/rescue that meets to develop, review and update the dis-

trict's safety plan. He added the DEOP team regularly evaluates incidents and safety strategies from around the country to continually improve the safety plan.

"We train staff within their buildings to respond appropriately to different emergency situations," Strick said. "This continues to be an ongoing process."

The district has three school resource officers from the Neenah and Fox Crossing police departments, one each at the middle and high school and one covering the elementary schools.

Students are prepared with lockdown drills at each school, which provide responses to active shooters and other internal and external threats that may occur.

"We have secure entrances at each school and a number of other security strategies in place that are not disclosed to the public for safety reasons," Strick said.

With a new high school that opened in Fox Crossing last fall, one concern from parents was the amount of glass in the building and whether that would be a safety issue in the event of a shooter.

Strick said the school has defense mechanisms in place no matter where an intruder is within the building, including areas where there is glass.

"We have worked closely with law enforcement partners to determine where students should go depending on where the intruder is in the building," he said.

The Wisconsin Office of Children's Mental Health (OCMH) reports that children who survive shootings have twice as many pain disorders, are 68% more likely to have a psychiatric diag-

nosis, and are 144% as likely to develop a substance use disorder than those who did not experience a shooting.

OCMH highlighted three strategies to help reduce school violence that include school belonging, safe storage and school safety drills:

- Schools that are welcoming and inclusive with anti-bullying programs tend to have better school belonging and fewer isolated students.

- Safe storage of guns separate from ammunition lowers the risk of gun violence by reducing the chances of youth acquiring a weapon.

- School safety drills including lockdowns with staff and students who practice where and when to exit the building are an important component of safety planning.

This month, several state agencies are promoting the "Speak Up, Speak Out" website at speakup.widoj.gov. The site includes a web form, mobile phone application or toll-free number for submitting school safety concerns or reporting threats.

In addition, it serves as a resource center for behavioral threat assessment and management, critical incident response and general school safety guidance.

OCMH director Linda Hall said gun violence is top of mind for many students and some do not feel safe at school.

"Everyone, no matter their role, can help create a sense of belonging and connectedness for our young people," Hall said. "When we reduce bullying and social isolation, we are doing the important work of supporting the physical and psychological safety needs of our youth."



Strick

District cited for music education

The Neenah Joint School District has been recognized as one of the Best Communities for Music Education by the NAMM Foundation for the second straight year.

Now in its 25th year, the Best Communities for Music Education designation is awarded to districts that demonstrate outstanding achievement in efforts to provide music access and education.

The district begins band courses in fifth grade and offers a Suzuki Talent Education program beginning in third grade. Neenah's extracurricular music program includes the Vintage and Act II show choir as well as the Touch of Class orchestra, jazz ensembles and marching band.

A total of 975 school districts nationwide were honored, including 37 in Wisconsin.

Inland fishing season slated to open May 4

Wisconsin's 2024-2025 general inland fishing season is scheduled to open May 4.

All state residents and nonresidents over age 16 are required to purchase a fishing license that can be purchased through Go Wild, the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources' license portal, or from a license agent.

This year, new fishing regulations include a small tournament registration requirement and a statewide daily bag limit of three walleye/sauger per day on all inland waters.

There are also bag and length limit changes for fish species in specific counties, not including Winnebago.


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Venomous black widow hitches a ride to Neenah

By Bethanie Gengler
NEENAH NEWS

A venomous black widow spider was recently found in Neenah, but an expert says that residents need not be concerned.

Ashley Bartelt posted photos and video on social media last week of a spider found in a Neenah home inside a container of crickets intended to be food for a reptile. Bartelt said the crickets were purchased from a reptile expo in Fond du Lac and she was in the container two days prior and did not notice the spider.



Draney

After photographing it and identifying the black widow's distinctive red hourglass on its underside, the spider was disposed of.

Entomologist and University of Wisconsin-Green Bay professor Michael Draney confirmed to Neenah News that the spider is a black widow. Because the specimen was destroyed without photographing the underside, Draney was unable to confirm the species but said it's likely a western or southern widow that



Submitted photo

A black widow spider was found in Neenah after hitching a ride with a batch of crickets.

hitched a ride with crickets imported from a different state.

While the vast majority of spider species produce venom, most are harmless to people. The northern black widow and brown recluse are the only medically significant venomous spiders in the state. Draney said to his knowledge there are no documented cases of a person being bitten by either species in Wisconsin.

Unlike the specimen located in Neenah,

the northern black widow typically has red spots down its back. Draney said the species has never been recorded in Winnebago County and is primarily found in counties near Lake Michigan due to the milder winters, with the bulk of sightings in Door County.

In recent years, there's been an uptick in sightings in the central part of the state and even Green Bay. Draney speculated the increase could be related to climate change.

"So, it's been a very mild winter, and I think that's causing more of them to survive, and then people see them more often," he said.

Southern, western and brown widows have been brought into the state accidentally

as stowaways, often with shipments of fruit, shipping containers or even lawn furniture. Draney noted at this time there's not a concern about those species becoming established because they die off in the winter.

"Possibly, with a whole bunch more global warming, that might change, but that's not going to change anytime soon now," he said.

Black widows are rarely inside homes, shy and aversive to biting. Draney said black widows are more likely to play dead than bite someone. Historically, bites were more frequent when making their webs in outhouses or wood piles.

"People would go and get wood out in a woodpile, and the black widows would be living in the woodpile, and you would smash it with one of your fingers, and then it would bite you," he said.

Black widow bites are painful, causing muscle spasms that increase in severity over six to 12 hours. The bite is rarely deadly, although it can be fatal in the young or elderly, particularly if breathing is affected. Draney said consuming alcohol after being bitten can make the symptoms worse.

Since the black widow found in Neenah likely wasn't a native species, Draney said the finders made the right call by destroying it. If it was a native species, Draney said to release it into its natural environment.

"Just leave it alone," he said. "That's the only way you're going to get bitten is if you mess with it."

Native plant sale offered by Wild Ones

Wild Ones Fox Valley Area is holding its annual native plant sale from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. May 18 for those looking to start a native garden or add natives to an existing garden.

Those efforts help pollinators and attract birds by adding Wisconsin native plants that provide the most benefit.

The event is at the Wild Center, 2285 Butte des Morts Beach Road, Neenah.

Plants will be available for different habitats, including host and nectar plants for monarchs, trilliums for woodlands, other flowers, grasses and ferns.

The plants are nursery-propagated in 4-inch pots. Wild Ones members can help pick out plants appropriate for a habitat.

Go to foxvalleyarea.wildones.org for more information or contact wildones-foxvalley@gmail.com with questions.

Fox Crossing moves away from No Mow May

Neenah News

The Village of Fox Crossing, based on a recommendation from its Sustainability Committee, has determined that the No Mow May program may not be achieving the goals initially set when it approved the program in previous years and will not be participating this year.


The idea behind the initiative, initially proposed in the region by a Lawrence University professor, is to create a habitat and provide resources for bees and other

early-season pollinators.

But recently one of the primary academic studies behind the No Mow May program was found to have errors or faulty conclusions and had to be retracted by its authors.

Village officials also cited new information from South Dakota State and other universities that contradict the original beliefs of the No Mow May program and could even stress a lawn and build up grass clippings that cannot be mulched.

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Volunteers lend a hand cleaning for those in need

By Bethanie Gengler
NEENAH NEWS

For people recovering from surgery, illness or a traumatic event, cleaning the house or cooking a warm meal is often the last thing on their mind.

That's where Support With A Shine comes in. The local group of volunteers is offering judgment-free and payment-free cleaning, maintenance and meal prep to community members in need.

Founder Jill Luebke told Neenah News that the support comes with no strings attached, allowing residents to focus on their well-being instead of stressing about household chores.

Several of the organization's volunteers had boots on the ground in Neenah this month. On April 13, they cleaned the home of a woman who recently completed treatment for cancer.

"(She) is a cancer survivor that's just really struggled during all of her chemo," Luebke said. "So now she just needs help getting back on track."

Two days later, volunteers assisted a local mother whose been falling behind on housework due to significant time spent in the hospital with her child's father, who is on life support.

"She's in school, she works full time, and then any spare moment she has she's at the hospital with her son so he can be by his dad," Luebke said.

Luebke lives in Hortonville with husband Broc, son Kaiden and stepdaughter Tabby. She's always loved volunteering and was inspired to start the organization after a three-day stay in the hospital in December.

"I just remember my house being a mess and the anxiety that it caused," she said.

"You feel so much better once your house is clean."

Luebke said she isn't one to ask for help, but when her friends started dropping off meals, she realized how important having that kind of support is.

"I'm like, oh my God, this is like the greatest thing that's ever happened to me to not have to worry about what my family is eating for dinner," she said.

Not wanting to reinvent the wheel, Luebke began researching organizations that offer free cleaning and meal prep services and came across Hot Mess Express, a national nonprofit organization of women who help other women in need. After weeks of attempting to volunteer with the organization and start her own chapter with little support, Luebke decided to set off on her own course.

In February, Support With A Shine was launched. It has since procured about 40 volunteers who complete missions throughout the Fox Valley to help people in need.

"They're just moms and dads going in, helping to just clean up," Luebke said.

All of the cleaning supplies that the volunteers use were donated by friends and family.

"I put a wish list out on Amazon and they've just flooded in," she said.

Recipients of the service nominate themselves or are nominated by others. They include people experiencing a terminal illness, who have been in an accident or hospitalized, suffered a loss of a family member in the past year or are experiencing other significant life events. Luebke said preference is given to those who don't have a support system.

Support With A Shine is in the process



Submitted photo

Volunteers clean a cancer survivor's home in Neenah earlier this month.

of obtaining its 501(c)(3) designation from the IRS to operate as a nonprofit organization. To raise funds to complete the nonprofit process, the organization is hosting a rummage sale from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. today and Saturday and 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Sunday at 1701 Elk Trail Drive in conjunction with the Irish Road neighborhood rummage sales.

The rummage sale items were donated by supporters. St. Vincent de Paul in Neenah also allowed volunteers to go through books and shoes to choose items for the sale. Volunteers will be present at

the sale, which is being held at a volunteer's home.

Nominations, donations and volunteering are the ways that Luebke said the community can help Support With A Shine's mission. The organization has a Facebook page and group with details about upcoming missions. For more information, email sprrtwithashine@gmail.com.

After only a couple of months of operation, Support With A Shine has helped nine local families.

"It's been so rewarding," Luebke said. "Like, unbelievably rewarding."



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Cellaring beer at home requires a cool spot, some patience

The cold winter months are behind us, but you may still find big, bold beers at breweries and on store shelves that you'd like to enjoy at some point before they're gone and then magically reappear next fall.

We can't help you with brews that are strictly found on tap, but some packaged beers – treated well – may be stored and enjoyed months (or perhaps even years) down the road.

You've likely heard about cellaring beer, or aging it, but before you spend your cash on numerous wonderful beers, we've got some advice.

To be clear, cellaring beer is a roll of the dice. It's never a sure thing. So, you're taking a risk when you put beer down for any length of time. How much risk you want to take is up to you, but you can take some action to minimize beers going bad.

Let's start with beer style. A huge majority of beers are meant to be consumed as soon after they're brewed as possible. Pilsners, lagers, IPAs, wheat ales, session beers (low alcohol), and even many dark beers, such as bock, are terrible candidates for aging. Drink these fresh!

So, what beer styles are prime for aging? In general, think about various strong stouts, barleywines, Belgian-style beers, and some sour beers. These are often brewed to keep us warm during frigid winter months, that's why some may still be available. These typically happen to be high-alcohol beers, over 8% alcohol by volume (ABV), which can be a good first step when evaluating what to cellar.

Don't overlook beer labels. Many will tell you that the beer within is right for cellaring. Keep your eyes open for that guidance. Heck, even contact breweries and ask if a particular beer that you're considering is right for aging.

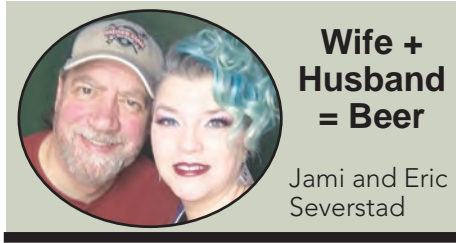
Once you have a candidate or two, attempt to create the optimal conditions. You don't need a special storage device, like a humidor for cigars, just follow some basic best practices.

Temperature is a biggie. A cool, consistent temp, best between 45-55 degrees Fahrenheit, is ideal. Most basements and cellars in Wisconsin stay cool in summer and warm in winter. If that's not available, a closet may be the best you're going to get (in an air-conditioned room).

That brings us to light, which can damage a beer incredibly quickly and create the well-known "skunky" aromas and flavors. A dark cellar, a dark closet, a dark... wherever is better than a bright location. If the packaging completely blocks light (more on cans later), the better the aging.

Your cellaring location should also be selected based on how long you think those beers can remain there unmoved. It's not vital to keep them stationary for years straight, but agitation does accelerate oxidation, so if you can avoid moving or handling cellared beers, do it.

Oxidation is the enemy of delicious beer. When various compounds in beer react with oxygen, hoppy and malty flavors



Wife + Husband = Beer

Jami and Eric Severstad

degrade (many describe a "cardboard" taste), skunky or metallic tastes emerge, and astringency is increased, which is harsh on the tongue.

Now is a good time to talk about cans versus bottles. Cans have a thin liner that offers some protection from oxygen, but it's not perfect. For long-term aging (we're talking years) thick glass bottles might be slightly better than cans. However, for most beer aging purposes, it's a negligible advantage.

Beer cans or capped bottles should be stored upright. Some people that regularly age beer will heat wax and dip the top of the bottle to help prevent oxygen from damaging the beer. Corked bottles (usually with a metal cage) can be laid on their side to keep the cork moist.

If you have styles you're not confident will age well, put those beers in a fridge to be safe. The cool temps mostly stop any aging a beer may do, although crisp hop flavor characteristics will diminish over time even if stored in a refrigerator.

Again, most beers are best enjoyed now. Some odd (and risky) experiments pay off. Our first aging of a Dogfish Head 120-Minute IPA resulted in a candy-like beer unlike anything we've had before. Yes, we previously mentioned that aging IPAs isn't smart, but the high ABV of this imperial IPA (18%) persuaded us to try aging one bottle.



Where and how you age your beers doesn't have to be fancy or feature perfect conditions, but following some guidelines can help develop a tasty brew.

The result after five years was a wonderful beer that resembled a barleywine (a favorite style) with much less hop bite than when fresh. So, now there's always at least one bottle of that beer in our basement. How did we know that aging would work? We didn't – it was just a guess.

Some experiments fail miserably, and it's easy to question why you just threw away hard-earned dollars on a beer that was once wonderful but is now a drain pour. A well-known example for us is Dark Lord from 3 Floyds Brewing. The annual release of this unique Russian Imperial Stout (another favorite style for us) has turned Dark Lord Day into a beer-geek's annual pilgrimage to

Munster, Ind. FYI, it's May 18 this year.

It turned out that aging this super-strong, complex beer has usually turned its taste into soy sauce – at least that was the classic tasting note that repeatedly appeared on social media and on beer-focused websites. At \$20 a bottle (at the time), aging didn't turn out to be a wise investment.

A few more tips (we need to finish; we're getting thirsty here). Aging can completely alter a beer and bring out notes you'd never experience otherwise. It just takes time and patience. If you have the ability to purchase a six pack of, say... Bigfoot Barleywine from Sierra Nevada Brewing... drink one fresh, and then every four months, crack one open. It should age well, and you can experience the subtle differences over time. Take notes and compare them.

We have a bottle of Bigfoot from each son's birth year that we're saving until they're legal drinking age. It should be fun to taste a 21-year-old brew (twice; one for each kid).

If you're into tracking, make a spreadsheet with an area for tasting notes. You'll always know what you have on hand and which brews age best. Lastly, it's fun to share your experiences with friends and family. When you offer a 6-year-old Bell's Expedition Russian Imperial Stout, it'll start a conversation, that's for sure.

Now that spring has sprung, we're excited to get outside. Next month's column of Wife+Husband=Beer will offer several local "beer crawls," or mini-tours, you take on foot with your beer-loving friends. See you next month. Cheers!

What beer-related topic should we cover in W+H=B? Email us at wife.husband.beer@gmail.com.

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Submitted photo

St. Mary Catholic High School's "Shrek" production included a private showing for Make-A-Wish families.

'Shrek' performance makes a difference to student

Tessa Rutchik, who played Dragon in St. Mary Catholic Schools' recent production of "Shrek, the Musical," helped make a wish come true for her family.

Rutchik has a sister with a genetic heart condition. Her family participated in Make-A-Wish in 2017 that was granted to her sister for a Florida adventure.

"The memories from that trip are without a doubt invaluable. I have endless appreciation for the Make-A-Wish Foundation and the opportunities they provided not only to my sister and our family but to all families dealing with critical illness," Rutchik said of the trip.

The performance of "Shrek" March 16 sponsored by Bergstrom Automotive held a lot of sentimental value for Rutchik as it included a private showing free for Make-A-Wish families.

"It was such an honor to be a part of cre-

ating a joyful experience for other Make-a-Wish kids and their families," said Rutchik. "My family can understand some of the struggles these kids go through so I know how special it is to be offered an experience that is simply enjoyable – where you can sit in a theater for an afternoon and forget about the challenges you (and your family) are facing."

Fine arts director Eric Conner said it was the first time for many of these families to experience a live performance.

"It was so inspiring to see their (the families) smiles light up after the show when they got to meet the cast as well," he said.

Rutchik also took first place in the state forensics competition earlier this month in the Storytelling category and qualified to compete in Musical Theatre and Classical Voice at the State Solo & Ensemble Festival on April 27.

Household hazardous waste disposal offered

Neenah News

Winnebago County Solid Waste operates a seasonal Household Hazardous Material (HHM) collection facility that is accepting in-county household-sourced materials free of charge this month by appointment only.

Schedule an appointment online through winnebagocountysolidwaste.com or call 920-232-1800 at least two days in advance to drop off materials. If there is a large number of items to drop off, schedule two sequential appointments.

Household hazardous materials ac-

cepted include pesticides, spray paint, solvents/degreasers, herbicides, varnish/stain, waxes/polishes, insecticides, thinners/strippers, aerosols, poisons, wood preservatives, mercury, weed control fertilizers, adhesives, fire extinguishers, fuel additives, driveway sealer, gasoline, disinfectants, starter fluid, drain cleaner, oil/lead-based paint and pool chemicals.

Winnebago County partners with Brown County Resource Recovery to offer free disposal for Winnebago County residents. Visit their website or call 920-492-4950 for more information.

Chemical Society awards event features local native

Neenah News

Neenah native and retired chemical engineer John Dwiggins will be the featured speaker at the Northeast Wisconsin local section of the American Chemical Society's (ACS) spring banquet Thursday in Appleton.

Dwiggins' appearance before an audience of graduating students about to start professional careers along with individuals at all career stages comes just ahead of the release of his new book "FunFilling Career," a guide to achieving both a fun and fulfilling career and enhanced personal life.

Dwiggins graduated from the University of Illinois with a degree in chemical engineering with high distinction in the curriculum.

During his 37-year engineering, product development and inventing career he secured 86 U.S. and worldwide patents. Hundreds of millions of cases of the products he helped design have been sold.

The ACS annual awards banquet for local members of the world's largest scientific organizations is being hosted by the Atlas Science Center in Appleton.

ACS section chair Mary Glesner, a research and development director for Georgia Pacific, said the most important focus of the event is on the region's science program graduates.

"Each institution can nominate a graduating student in the chemical sciences and we give out a small monetary



Neenah native John Dwiggins has a new book coming out titled "FunFilling Career."

award to each student to recognize them as they pursue additional education or seek to enter the workforce," Glesner said.

"When we review our yearly impact in the community, our section is very active in local science outreach and has strong community partnerships. Our outreach and local partnerships won an award in the past year."

Grants are also awarded to high school chemistry teachers for classroom supplies or professional development.

The group is hosting the Great Lakes regional meeting of the ACS next year, which will draw researchers and students from the Upper Midwest.

Regional concern for PFAS low with new federal standards set

Neenah News

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency has issued new standards for manufactured chemicals that have been used to make various products since the 1940s.

The new federal standard for per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS), which are used in products to resist grease, oil, water and heat, is four parts per trillion (ppt).

Municipalities such as Neenah, Menasha and Oshkosh that use surface water, like Lake Winnebago, usually don't have high concern with PFAS. Neenah Water Utility's 2023 report found PFOS levels at 1.0 ppt and PFOA at 1.11 ppt.

PFAS are long-lasting chemicals used

in making different consumer, commercial and industrial products – this includes cleaning products, water-resistant fabrics and non-stick cookware, according to the Wisconsin Department of Health Services.

Research continues on human consumption of PFAS, but current research suggest exposure to PFAS may lead to adverse health effects.

Oshkosh currently meets the federal and state standards for PFAS in municipal water.

The Wisconsin standard, which was implemented in 2021, is 70 parts per trillion for the compounds PFOA and PFOS. For the compounds PFNA, PFHxS and GenX, the state standard is 10 parts per trillion.



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Sat. May 4	7 p.m.	Lawrence University Memorial Chapel, Appleton
Sun. May 5	2 p.m.	Xavier High School Fine Arts Theatre, Appleton

Tickets are available from chorus members and online at www.macdowellchorus.com. For more information call the chorus phone at (920) 460-9884.

Health court

FROM PAGE 1

can do to address the problem.”

Gibbs knew there were programs in the county that would be beneficial to those with mental health issues.

The group will approve final documents to move forward with expectations of establishing the new treatment court by the end of this month. The court has not been budgeted so the expectation is to have 10 participants.

There will be one staff member from the county’s Human Services department designated as case manager for the mental health court.

“This is not groundbreaking. It’s already being done in other counties in the state,” Sparr said, including Brown and Outagamie counties.

Those eligible would be those with a diagnosis of a major mental illness identified in the Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders fifth edition or DSM-5. Some of the mental health disorders in the DSM-5 include schizophrenia, bipolar disorder and major depressive disorder.

“They have to have some kind of major mental illness diagnosis. Generally, they are charged with a crime or have the potential to be charged with a crime,” Gibbs said.

The group developing the court is still discussing whether the court would be for people before they are officially charged as a diversionary measure, or after they are convicted as more of a probationary measure.

“We’re trying to move things up as early as possible and find out who would be appropriate and get them assessed, and



Neenah News

Winnebago County Circuit Branch 4 Judge Michael Gibbs has been working with the different groups over the past year to develop the mental health court in Winnebago County.

ultimately that would lead to them getting services earlier,” Sparr said. “Sometimes law enforcement will be dealing with someone, and they’ll recognize it right away.”

The officers would then be able to contact the prosecutor who would be assigned to mental health court and flag the case as potential for the treatment court.

Sparr said anyone in the process could be the first to notice the defendant has a mental illness – whether it’s law enforcement, the prosecution or the defense attorney.

“It could come from a lot of different places. The referral could even come from a judge in court,” he said.

After the person goes through the assessment process there would be a determination on what level of intervention would be necessary.

“If it’s a person that needs mental health help, the earlier we can intervene the better,” Gibbs said. “Those individuals tend to use a lot of resources within the jail. The jail tends to be the housing area for those suffering from major mental illnesses.”

He added it’s not the best place for these people to be as jails don’t have all the resources the people may need.

“That ends up costing the taxpayer a whole lot more money because of the resources used in the jail,” Gibbs said. He

also noted that these cases often require a competency report while the defendant is just sitting in jail.

“It’s just making sure we have enough resources made available, having those incentives in place and enough hand-holding for them to be successful,” Sparr said.

One of the main goals of the treatment court would be to help family members of those with mental illness get access to the resources they also may need. Human Services has resources to help these people in and out of the court system.

“Getting these people the help they need so they’re not struggling with their mental illness is a major goal of this project,” Gibbs said.

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Winnebago County Fair photo

Lexi Novak (left) was crowned Winnebago County Fairest of the Fair on Saturday and will be assisted this year by first runner-up Izzy Braasch.

Winnebago Fairest of the Fair named

Neenah News

Winnebago County Fairest of the Fair for this year is Lexi Novak of Neenah, who was crowned Saturday as the newest ambassador for the County Fair being held July 31 through Aug. 4 at Sunnyview Expo Center.

Novak will be graduating from University of Wisconsin-Whitewater this spring with a degree in English education and minor in theater education. She has been involved with the fair since eighth grade as a youth exhibitor and was a camp counselor with the Winnebago County 4-H camp for three years before becoming a full-time counselor for the YMCA.

First runner-up is Isabelle Braasch from Oshkosh, who is currently attending Fox Valley Technical College to earn an as-

sociate degree in animal science, agriculture accounting, and agribusiness science and technology. She has been a member of the National Professional Agricultural Student Organization and Oshkosh West FFA.

Fairest of the Fair is a marketing and public relations position that promotes the variety of opportunities – educational, agricultural, social, cultural and commercial – available at the Winnebago County Fair and its related industries. That person also welcomes guests, appears at events, interacts with youth exhibitors and engages fair attendees.

Former Fairest of the Fair winners were invited to attend the crowning ceremony along with reigning ambassador Amber Hammond.

Neenah-Menasha Elks install new officers

Neenah-Menasha Elks Lodge 676 recently installed new officers for the 2024-25 year and for the first time includes a female Exalted Ruler.

Kay Buck has served as a lodge officer, including as lodge secretary for seven years.

Members elected her to lead the 74-member lodge based on the experience and leadership she has shown in the

community. Other officers include Matt Schneider, Ted Lichterman, Kyla Brown, Pat Buck, Dean Sword, Chris Alfonso, Jason Splinter, Roy Eckberg, Sean Wilkinson and Tom Buck.

Locally, the Neenah-Menasha Lodge donates more than \$15,000 annually to local charities and supports Scouts, Boys & Girls Clubs, veterans, people with disabilities and others in need.

Library volunteer of the year named

The Friends of the Neenah Public Library have recognized Dodi Gauthier as 2023 Volunteer of the Year.

Gauthier started volunteering at the library in 2019 and is considered an invaluable addition, volunteering 150 hours last year on many projects, mostly in the youth department.

She helps prepare materials for take and create kits, crafts to go, and activities for outreach and youth programming. She also assisted with the book sale and summer lunch program over the last two summers.

“The library is just a beautiful, serene



Gauthier

place and it offers incredible opportunities for learning, relaxing, and going on adventures,” Gauthier said.

She also volunteers her time at The daCare Regional Medical Center and Reach Counseling in Neenah and assists her sister with fostering dogs through Sandy Paws Rescue out of Fond du Lac. She has been volunteering with AWHONN (Association of Women’s Health, Obstetric and Neonatal Nurses) since 1978.

Lisa Laux-Robak, the library’s volunteer coordinator, said, “Not only is Dodi a wonderful volunteer, but she is also a smart, positive, kind woman.”

Those interested in volunteering at the library can contact Laux-Robak at 920-886-6321 or fill out an application at neenahlibrary.org.

Ridgeway 4-H member earns Key Award

Madison Oeftger, a member of Ridgeway 4-H Club, was recently named a Key Award winner, the highest 4-H recognition.

The Neenah High School junior serves as club secretary and has held all officer positions in previous years. Oeftger also

serves as a co-president on the Winnebago County 4-H Leaders’ Association Board and has been a 4-H camp counselor.

Oeftger has also received the Winnebago County 4-H Youth Challenge and Youth Leadership awards.

Calendar of events

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

Tuesday, April 30

Neenah High School Orchestra concert, 7:30 p.m., NHS Performing Arts Center

Movie Talks: “One Flew Over the Cuckoo’s Nest,” 6:30 p.m., Neenah Public Library

Thursday, May 2

Neenah High School Band concert, 7:30 p.m., NHS Performing Arts Center

Friday, May 3

Jeff Pockat, Gaelic harpist, 2 p.m., Neenah Public Library

Saturday, May 4

Beaming’s Day at the Derby, 4 p.m., 2692 County GG

Wednesday, May 8

Touch-A-Truck, 10 a.m., Memorial Park

Saturday, May 11

Junk in the Trunk rummage sale, 8 a.m., Neenah Pool parking lot

Vintage Show Choir finale, 7:30 p.m., Pickard Auditorium, 1275 Tullar Road

Tuesday, May 14

Neenah High School Choir concert, 7:30 p.m., NHS Performing Arts Center

Thursday, May 16

Touch of Class jazz/choir concert, 7:30 p.m., NHS Performing Arts Center

Friday, April 26

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

Rocket Players: “Kodachrome,” 7 p.m., Neenah High Black Box Theater

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

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

Rocket Players: “Kodachrome,” 7 p.m., Neenah High Black Box Theater

Sunday, April 28

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

Rocket Players: “Kodachrome,” 2 p.m., Neenah High Black Box Theater

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



Parade of Homes

April 27 - 28 & May 4 - 5

Go to WHBA.NET to get \$2 off a ticket



Housing options

FROM PAGE 1

ently than we've done before and that means higher densities, smaller lots, smaller homes that are more affordable to the average working person," she said. "We're going to need more housing diversity."

Some of the diverse housing examples listed on the coalition website include zero lot line homes, tiny homes defined as 500 square feet or less, and attached or detached accessory dwelling units such as a basement apartment or living space above a detached garage.

A plan approved by the Common Council earlier this month would split a double-frontage parcel at 806 Main St. into two lots, creating space for an additional home to be constructed behind the existing home, facing Edward Street.

Sunstrom said the method is referred to as infill development, where houses are built in established neighborhoods using vacant land, typically on double lots.

"With infill development, the sewer and water and all the infrastructure is already there," she said, making it appealing to homebuilders.

According to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, the benefits of infill development include financial savings for municipalities, increased property values, easier travel, reduced pollution and economic stabilization of neighborhoods.

In many cases, Sunstrom said developers don't need to go through the process of subdividing a double city parcel for development because there's already a separate parcel number. The Main Street parcel required city approval because the size of the two lots would be less than the 60-foot width and 7,200-square-foot area required.

The plan to split the lot was met with "nimbyism," a term coined from the phrase "not in my back yard," referring to neighboring residents who oppose housing developments. Sunstrom said nimbyism is often one of the biggest hurdles in new housing.

"Oftentimes, nimbyism results in delays, which adds costs," she said. "It results in re-



Neenah News

A developer plans to construct a home and attached garage on a portion of a double lot facing Edward Street.

ducing density, which adds cost. So, the developer isn't going to absorb that; it just gets passed on in the form of higher prices for lots. Or, if you're doing an apartment, it just means you have fewer units you can rent. It means that the units you do create are going to have to be rented for more."

Several neighboring homeowners spoke at meetings in opposition of dividing the lot.

Resident Joan Doucette told the council that splitting the parcel is a crazy idea and that there isn't enough room to build a house on such a small lot.

"I want to make sure that they look at that and what it's going to do to the rest of the houses on that street, because it's not right," she said. "It shouldn't go through."

Jane Estrangela said Edward Street doesn't need another house.

"We've got enough problems with the people that live there now," she said. "So I don't know what kind of house you would be building there, but I'm against it."

Duane Murphy of Expert Real Estate Partners is a member of RANW and owns the subject site. He told the council that within a block of the home are 18 properties under the ordinance size requirement, including the neighboring lot. Other than a small home, he said there's nothing that could feasibly fit on the empty land.

Although the site plan hasn't been decided, Murphy said he envisions a small single-family home with a garage behind it. He explained that infill development requires creative plans, including shortening the front of the house to allow space for a sidewalk, and having an attached garage.

"To try to, again, fulfill a need for that affordable housing that is just nonexistent in today's market, and then to build on lots that are not bringing in any tax dollars and not really serving us," he said.

Another example is at the corner of Ahnaip Street and Nicolet Boulevard on Doty Island, kitty-corner from Luigi's Pizza. The lot is just over 6,000 square feet and purchased by Akey Property Management of Neenah last year.

Trisha Akey of Akey Property Management obtained a variance to construct a garage smaller than what Menasha typically allows on the triangle corner lot. She wrote in the application that the parcel is unique to this area and there are few lots of the shape in the city. The company has since constructed a small ranch-style home with attached garage.

While both the Neenah and Doty Island parcels were approved for variances, Sunstrom said in some cases outdated zoning ordinances may hinder development.

"Maybe we should reduce our lot sizes for some of these residential districts," she said. "Maybe we should allow more flexibility and diversity in housing products in our residential districts."

In 2022, the city's zoning ordinance prevented a housing development at the former

Shattuck Middle School, which would have brought 89 apartments and 49 single-family homes.

Nimbyism brought some residents to council meetings in full force to voice their opposition of the development. The council sided with residents and voted against rezoning the site from its current R-1 single-family residence designation to the traditional neighborhood development district. The failed rezoning caused the developer to back out on the sale.

The site was later sold to Neenah developer Umer Sheikh of Investment Creations. Sheikh said he will construct apartments inside the former school building and sell lots for single-family homes, but the parcel has sat vacant other than the Neenah School District's Health and Wellness Center, which continues operating from the building.

Sheikh did not respond to a reporter's repeated requests for more information on the status of the project.

Sunstrom said every month that a developer is holding on to land and not selling lots they incur care costs and interest. She said more communities are beginning to look into ways to facilitate development rather than hinder it.

For residents who want to weigh in on housing developments, Sunstrom said the appropriate time is when the city develops its comprehensive plan, which includes land use and housing.

"They have to, by law, provide plenty of opportunity and seek out public input, and that is where the community gets to look at what the residential zoning districts are going to be," she said.

As the shortage of available housing continues, Sunstrom said to expect more diversity in housing.

"Nothing stays the same," she said. "If a community isn't growing, it's dying."

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Nigl making plenty of noise at the plate for Zephyrs

By Steve Clark
NEENAH NEWS

Hitting a baseball is one of the toughest things to do in sports.

St. Mary Catholic senior Colin Nigl has been making it look pretty easy so far this season.

The Zephyrs No. 3 batter is sporting a hefty .500 batting average six games into the season, with three multi-hit games already to his credit. For Nigl, it's been a matter of confidence that has translated into his success, and he hopes to keep it rolling.

"I try to always go up there with the confidence that I am going to do damage and I'm going to put a ball in play," Nigl said. "For me, it's my mentality. If I go up there confident and know what I want to do, I can more easily see the ball and hit the ball."

Nigl is no stranger to producing in the Zephyrs lineup.

He was one of the top hitters on the St. Mary Catholic roster last season when he earned second team all-Big East Conference honors. That success has carried over into this season and is one of the reasons for his hot start.

"I think it did carry over," Nigl said. "Last year, I did really well but this year I want to improve and top what I did last year. I want to play even better than I did."

Even with all of the hitting Nigl has done with the Zephyrs, there is something missing from his offensive roster - he has yet to hit a home run while donning a St. Mary Catholic uniform.

He has hit dingers with traveling and tournament teams and has knocked plenty out of St. Mary Catholic's baseball field during practice, but has yet to do it in a game.


"One hundred percent I want to hit one this year," Nigl said. "Last year, I hit about seven balls off the wall and that was so frustrating. I really wanted those to go over. I guess I need to hit the weight room."

Even though he hasn't gone deep yet for the Zephyrs, Nigl has amassed plenty of hard-hit balls and there is a special feeling when he connects correctly.

"It feels amazing," Nigl said. "When I hit it super well, it feels like I didn't even hit. When I really connect with it, it feels so loose and my bat - I don't know, it just feels great. It just gets me excited."

Nigl mostly batted fifth for the Zephyrs last season but has been bumped up in the order this season into one of the key run-producing spots in the lineup.

Senior Standout



That's exactly where Nigl likes to be. "I love the pressure. I feel like I perform pretty well under the pressure," Nigl said. "Being No. 3 in the batting order I know I can expect a lot of first-pitch curve balls. So, if I know it's coming, I can jump on it right away."

Nigl started high school at Neenah High School before transferring to St. Mary Catholic in the middle of his sophomore year.

That meant, because of WIAA rules, he was unable to play varsity baseball that spring. Although he did get a limited number of junior varsity at-bats - the Zephyrs didn't play a full junior varsity season that year, only a few games - he spent much of that season simply practicing and watching.

"It was so frustrating not being able to play," Nigl said, heavily emphasizing the "so." "I've been playing baseball all of my life - it's the sport I love. I have been through the ups and downs of it and all that stuff and that was one of the worst seasons."

Nigl, who plays both shortstop and second base for the Zephyrs, as well as taking the mound at times, said that playing baseball is something that came pretty natural to him.

Yet, as comfortable as he was with the basic skills of the game, it's also taken a lot of hard work to get him to this point.

"Most of the stuff came natural to me. I just had to improve and work on it," Nigl said. "Freshman season I didn't hit the best and didn't hit how I wanted to so every day I would go into a facility and hit balls and just focus on what I needed to improve."

One of the guiding factors on his baseball journey has been his current head coach, Jeff Hogenson.

Nigl said that he started playing on tournament teams with Hogensen at the 12U and 13U levels and credits his current coach for helping him reach this level of success.

"I've always looked up to him and he has taught me well," Nigl said. "I feel like I wouldn't be where I am today as a hitter if it weren't for him."

The tutelage Nigl has received from Hogenson is something that he tries to pass on



Submitted photo

St. Mary Catholic senior Colin Nigl is batting .500 six games into the 2024 season after earning second-team all-conference in the Big East last year.

when he can.

Being a senior, he has stepped into more of a leadership role with the Zephyrs this season and that's something Nigl puts a high priority on.

"I like to step in and help underclassmen with anything they need but this year, being a senior it's a lot bigger shoes to go into it. I have felt more like a leader this year,"

Nigl said. "I always try to be available if someone needs help. I will step in or if they ask I will always help them. To me being a leader is one of the most important things on the team. Any way I can be a leader I try to do that and show (the younger players) what the team and the program is about."

SEE **Senior Standout** ON PAGE 15

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Rockets double up Patriots to earn FVA triumph

By Dustin Riese
NEWS CONTRIBUTOR

Neenah's baseball team seems to have hit its stride.

After winning just once in their first four games, the Rockets have heated up over the last week and notched their fifth straight win Tuesday night in an 8-4 victory over Appleton East in a Fox Valley Association contest in Neenah.

"Effort has been good," Neenah head coach Aaron Nelson said. "We are getting good leadership from the seniors and veterans at the top of the lineup, which has been the catalyst to get us going. We're competing in all aspects and will continue to get better, as long as we stay focused."

The Rockets grabbed the lead early against the Patriots on Tuesday and stayed in front the entire game.

Neenah took advantage of a pair of Patriot errors and added an RBI single from Andrew Carlson to take a 3-0 lead after the first inning.

Leadoff hitter Trevor Stichman started the rally with a single and Ethan Van Dyke also had a hit in the frame as the top of the Rockets batting order continues to spark the offense.

"The top of the lineup, which has led us on this (winning streak), was ready to go," Nelson said. "Keeping it simple, getting into plus counts and hitting the ball the other way have allowed us to be successful. Starting fast allows us to take control and stay with our game."

Neenah then broke the game open in the fourth inning, plating five runs to take an 8-0 lead.

Back-to-back doubles by Tavian Ramos and Isaac Verbruggen opened the inning before Verbruggen scored when AJ Price reached on an Appleton East error.

Van Dyke then knocked in a pair of runs with a single before Will St. Clair's sacrifice fly capped the outburst.

All of the offense was key for the Rockets as it backed Gus Weinholzer, who was

making his first varsity start.

The righthander pitched 3 2/3 scoreless innings, which included working out of a bases-loaded, one-out jam in the second inning to keep the Patriots from answering the Rockets' early offense.

"The biggest thing I'm proud of is the shut down inning after (the first) as we have struggled to put up a zero after scoring," Nelson said. "(Weinholzer) had a little trouble settling in but was able to finish without allowing a run. He gave us a chance to win."

Weinholzer scattered four hits and three walks in his stint on the mound while striking out seven.

Tyler Huss came on for Weinholzer and finished a scoreless fourth inning, but the Patriots plated a run in the fifth and a run in the sixth to narrow the gap.

The Rockets then surrendered two runs in the seventh inning and had the bases loaded when Mack Krause came on to get the final out of the game and preserve the win.

"Pitching tonight did well," Nelson said. "I think defensively we have one of the most veteran teams, with a lot of FVA innings. We talk to our guys about being around the zone and pitching to contact to allow our guys to work. With two guys getting their first FVA action on the mound, I thought they responded well."



Photo by Dustin Riese

Neenah's Payton Miller slides safely into third base during the Rockets' 8-4 win over Appleton East on Tuesday.

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Prep sports roundup

BASEBALL

Neenah collects FVA win over Kaukauna

Ethan Van Dyke went 3-for-4 and Neenah used a four-run fifth inning to take the lead for good in a 7-4 road win over Kaukauna in a Fox Valley Association baseball game Thursday.

The Rockets trailed 2-1 entering the fifth inning but jumped into the lead with the big inning. The Ghosts got a pair of runs back in the bottom of the frame before two runs in the seventh sealed the win for Neenah.

Trevor Stichman and Andrew Carlson each chipped in a pair of hits for the Rockets, while Will St. Clair drove in three runs in the game.

AJ Price struck out eight and did not allow an earned run in five innings to earn the win on the mound.

On Saturday, the Rockets swept both ends of a nonconference doubleheader with Oregon.

Neenah pounded out 16 hits and won the opener, 10-9, with a run in the bottom of the ninth.

Stichman finished 4-for-5 and scored three runs, while Van Dyke added three hits and finished with four RBIs. Price, Carlson, Gus Weinholzer and Isaac Verbruggen each chipped in two hits, while Adam Lorrig tossed three innings of scoreless relief to earn the win.

In the second game, five different play-

ers finished with two hits and the Rockets seized control with a six-run third inning in a 13-6 win. Verbruggen drove in three runs in the win as eight of the nine starters for the Rockets finished with at least one hit.

Bad inning sinks Zephyrs against Indians

Mishicot erupted for an eight-run third inning that proved to be too much for St. Mary Catholic to overcome in a 12-2 loss to the Indians on Monday.

Aiden Birling, Colin Nigl, Mason Wagner and Luke Fairweather accounted for the Zephyrs' four hits in the game, while Wagner and Fisher Mackenzie each drove in runs.

Over the weekend, St. Mary Catholic lost a pair of nonconference games, falling 5-4 to Wisconsin Lutheran and 13-0 to Nicolet.

SOFTBALL

Zephyrs can't rally past Reedsville

St. Mary Catholic fought back from one three-run deficit but couldn't do it a second time as the Zephyrs fell to Reedsville, 6-4, in a Big East North softball game Tuesday.

The Panthers scored three runs in the top of the first but the Zephyrs tallied a run in the second and two in the third to even the score. Reedsville then regained the lead with a three-run fourth frame and

the Zephyrs could only get as close as the final margin.

Neveah Saringer finished 2-for-4 in the game, while Jaylyn Akey, Aubrey Weber and Saringer drove in runs.

On Saturday, the Zephyrs split a pair of games at the Shiocton Triangular, beating the host Chiefs, 10-5, while falling to Fox Valley Lutheran 13-1.

Saringer finished 3-for-4 with four RBIs in the win over Shiocton, while Adel Schneider, Ainslie Liddy and Samantha Weiss each added a pair of hits. Rhiannon Reichenbacher scored a team-high three runs in the game, while also picking up the pitching win.

Rockets split four conference contests

Neenah split a quartet of FVA games over the past week, falling to Kaukauna 6-0 and Appleton North 3-2, while defeating Appleton East 14-4, and Kimberly 7-3.

No other information was available from the games.

BOYS LACROSSE

Neenah tops Oneida Nation to stay unbeaten

The Rockets ran their record to 5-0 with a 15-4 win over Oneida Nation on Tuesday night.

Neenah also scored a nonconference win over Homestead on Saturday as Evan Hans scored four goals to lead the way. Owen Grotenhuis chipped in a pair

of goals and an assist, while Keane Sullivan and Jackson Brown also added goals. Brown also had three assists to finish with four points.

Jack Romsos tallied 11 saves in the win.

Ben Carey scored six goals while Hans finished with four goals and two assists in a 16-7 win over Wausau last week. Grotenhuis finished with three goals, Brown had two and Brandon Price had one. Price also led the team with three assists, with Brown adding two.

GIRLS LACROSSE

Neenah dealt first loss by Kimberly

Rae Schoultz scored three goals and Elliott Pershing made 15 saves but the Rockets came up short in a 6-5 loss to the Papermakers last week.

Lily Schmeier and Ainsley LeClair each added goals for the Rockets.

GOLF

Uhlenbrauck leads Zephyrs at mini-meet

Mason Uhlenbrauck shot a 44 at Winagamie Golf Course as St. Mary Catholic finished fourth at the Big East North mini-meet Tuesday.

Uhlenbrauck tied for eighth overall to lead the Zephyrs, who shot a 190 as a team.

Ethon Moschea added a 47, Dawson

SEE **Prep roundup** ON PAGE X

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Radosevich scored a 48 and Thomas Bertram and Wyatt Birling each carded 51s for St. Mary Catholic.

Rockets pull out two close FVA wins

Neenah collected narrow wins over Oshkosh North on Monday and Appleton East on Tuesday in FVA action.

The Rockets beat the Spartans 181-184 with Cartyr Simonson earning medalist honors with a 43. Calvin Zinda added a 44, while Ryan Geary had a 46 and Carson Seitz and Dominik Clark each finished at 48.

In the win over the Patriots, it was Geary leading the way with a 39 to earn medalist honors. Calvin Zinda followed with a 42, while Simonson and Cooper Zinda added 43 and 46, respectively.

TENNIS

Rockets finish 3-2 at Brookfield Invite

Tristin Yun and Hunter Brown went 5-0 at No. 2 doubles to highlight Neenah's efforts at the two-day Brookfield Invitational over the weekend.

Yun and Brown won four of their matches in straight sets, while rallying from a 6-1 loss in the first set to score a win against Arrowhead in a dual meet the Rockets won, 4-3.

Neenah also beat Brookfield Academy (5-2) and Eau Claire Memorial (7-0), while falling to Middleton (5-2) and Brookfield East (6-1).

Carl Hein and Brady Lawatsch added three wins each at No. 1 and No. 2 singles, while the No. 3 doubles team of Henry Farrell and Luke Grassl also picked up three wins on the weekend.

Neenah also pulled out a 4-3 win over Kimberly on Tuesday in FVA action.

The Rockets swept all three doubles matches in the win with Brady Hildreth and Andrew Werner winning at the No. 1 flight, Grassl and Farrell posting a win at No. 2 doubles and Joe Schultz and Harrison Tanger winning at No. 3 doubles. Yun posted the Rockets' lone singles win at the No. 3 flight.

SOCCER

St. Mary Catholic drops Big East match

The Zephyrs scored a goal in each half but fell to Ozaukee/Random Lake, 4-2, last week.

Bitzy McCauley and Audrey Wanless each scored goals for the Zephyrs, who trailed 2-1 at halftime. Moorea Steckling picked up an assist in the game.

Bethany Ruppert finished with 12 saves in goal.

GIRLS TRACK AND FIELD

Rockets finish second at prestigious Preble Relays

Rachel Dietrich was a part of three relay wins, while Lydia Delene and Cecelia Gentile each finished first in individual field events as Neenah took second place at the Preble Relays last week.

Dietrich helped Neenah win the 3,200-meter relay along with Mazie Olkowski, Elsa Gruber and Brooke Veith, while the foursome of Lexi Dorner, Dietrich, Eme Olkowski and Mazie Olkowski won the distance medley relay. Neenah also won the sprint medley relay with the team of Gentile, Chloe Dwyer, Abbie Fischer and Dietrich.

The Rockets also finished second in the 1,600-meter relay, third in the 800-meter relay and the Thrower's Relay and fourth in the 400-meter relay.

Delene picked up her win in the shot

put, while Gentile finished first in the long jump. Gruber added a second-place finish in the 1,600 meters, Bella Chandik was fourth in the 300-meter hurdles and Delene added a fifth place in the discus.

The Rockets finished with 110 points, four behind girls champion Kimberly.

On Monday, Cecelia Gentile won a pair of events as the Rockets edged Appleton North by six points in an FVA quad.

Gentile won both the 100 meters and 400 meters, while Mazie Olkowski and Natalie Willes posted a 1-2 finish in the 1,600 meters. Delene also collected a win in the shot put.

Adding second-place finishes were Brynn Fox in the 200 meters, Elise Braaten in the 3,200 meters and Gabriella Motto in the triple jump.

The foursome of Nadia Marchionda, Avery Gentile, Molly Snyder and Kobi Meyer won the 400-meter relay, while the Rockets were second in both the 800-meter relay and 1,600-meter relay.

BOYS TRACK AND FIELD

Neenah captures team title at Watertown

The Rockets shined in the distance races and captured the team-title at the 12-team Watertown Invitational on Friday.

Neenah had three finishers in the top four of the 3,200 meters with Nolan Smith took second, Owen Martin was third and Carson Verhagen was fourth. Alex Thayer and Bly Wheeler added a 1-2 finish in the 800 meters, while Wyatt Armock and Harmon Posegate were third and fourth, respectively, in the 1,600 meters.

Owen Wise won the 400 meters, while Alex Karlin was third in the pole vault and Sam Scheer in the discus and Will Radies in the triple jump were each fourth. The Rockets also took second in both the 1,600-meter and 3,200-meter relays.

Neenah also finished first in an FVA boys quad held Tuesday in Oshkosh.

The Rockets posted individual wins from Rylan Mendoza in the 200 meters, Owen Wise in the 400 meters and Sam Scheer in the discus, while Braden Loudon in the 800 meters, Oliver Steiner in the 1,600 meters, Zane Sano-Giles in the 3,200 meters and Will Radies in the triple jump were each third.

Neenah also won three relays with Evan Vanevenhoven, Matthew Machacek and Radies running on both the 400-meter and 800-meter relays. Matthias Charles rounded out the 400-meter relay and Mendoza finished up the 800-meter relay.

Aidan Apa, Nathan Johnson, Harmon Posegate and Sam Kleisner teamed up to win the 3,200-meter relay.

COED TRACK AND FIELD

Zephyr girls take second, boys third at Rosholt

Lauren Ripley was a part of three wins to lead the St. Mary Catholic girls track and field team to a second-place finish at the 12-team Rosholt Invitational.

Ripley won the 800 meters and then was a part of the first place 1,600-meter and 3,200-meter relay teams. Maria Marti, Claire Higgins and Nora Lee joined Ripley on the 1,600-meter relay team, while Marti, Higgins and Addison Dinka were on the 3,200-meter relay team.

Ripley also added a fourth place in the long jump.

Other top finishers for the girls were Moorea Steckling, second in the 300-meter hurdles and third in the 100-meter hurdles; Luci Nackers, fourth in the 200 meters; and Higgins, fourth in the 400 meters. The Zephyrs were also second in both the 400-meter and 800-meter relays.

The boys finished third place overall and were led by Noah Valentine and Ashton Post, who tied for first in the pole vault.

Post added a third place in the 200 meters, while Ethan Auer in the 800 meters, Braeden Brenn in the 110-meter hurdles

Senior Standout

FROM PAGE 12

Nigl hasn't set plans for after high school yet but he is interested in continuing to play baseball at the collegiate level.

He said it wouldn't matter where he ended up playing as long as he could keep going to the diamond every day.

"Playing at the next level is something I've always wanted to try to do, even as a kid," Nigl said. "If I could do that, it would be great. I love baseball and I would regret it if I didn't try to play at the next level."

and Alexander Groppe in the 300-meter hurdles were also third, while Maddox Dwyer was fourth in the 200 meters. Brenn and Valentine tied for fourth in the high jump, while the Zephyrs also placed in the top four in all four relays.

A strong finish to his season and a successful run in the postseason for the Zephyrs may help Nigl reach that goal of playing at the next level.

And even after a tough start to the season, he believes this group has the potential to do some pretty special things.

"We're at practice and we are always working hard. I feel like our effort is going to help us and our work ethic is going to help us go pretty far," Nigl said. "I want our season to be looked at like the 2016 season (when the Zephyrs won the WIAA state title). I want our season to be remembered like that."

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PREPARE FOR POWER OUTAGES TODAY with a GENERAC Home Standby Generator. Act now to receive a FREE 5-year warranty w/ qualifying purchase. Call 1-877-626-1009 today to schedule a free quote. it's not just a generator. Its a power move. (WCAN)

REG COCKER SPANIEL PUPS & REG KING CHARLES SPANIEL PUPS \$400-\$600 dewes/ shots/vet worm **715-536-0697** or **715-316-2522** (524892) (WCAN)

REG COCKER SPANIEL PUPS shots/wormed/ dewes/vet Ready May 1 \$600 No Sun Calls **715-257-1158**

REPLACE YOUR ROOF w/the best looking & longest lasting material, steel from **Erie Metal Roofs!** 3 Styles & multiple colors available. Guaranteed to last a lifetime! Limited Time Offer - up to 50% OFF Installation + Add'l 10% off install (for military, health workers & 1st responders) Call **Erie Metal Roofs 1-877-845-6606** (WCAN)

THINKING ABOUT INSTALLING A NEW SHOWER? American Standard makes it easy. FREE design consultation. Enjoy your shower again! Call **1-844-479-1327** today to see how you can save \$1,000 on installation, or visit **www.newshowerdeal.com/wcp** (WCAN)

Garage/Estate Sales

Neenah 53rd Irish Road Neighborhood Rummage Sale. Numerous Houses Participating! Friday 4/26: 8-5pm, Saturday 4/27: 8-5pm, Sunday 4/28: 10-3pm. For more information, visit <https://irish-roadrummageale.square.site>

Miscellaneous

47TH ANNUAL AUTO PARTS SWAP MEET & CAR SHOW! April 26-27, Jefferson Co. Fair Park, Jefferson, WI. **2 DAY SWAP MEET CAR CORRAL-CAR SHOW!** Adm \$15; No Pets. Fri 8-6pm, Sat 6-4pm, **madisonclassics.com 608-244-8416** (WCAN)

"GO FISH - CANADA!" KINGFISHER RESORT Cabin-Boast-Motor-Gas \$91 per person/day. **JULY/AUG/SEPT SPECIAL** \$88 per person/day, Easy Driving Access **800-452-8824** **www.kingfisherlodge.com** (WCAN)

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LAWRENCE DUBORE ESTATE, Ringle, WI - **Saturday, May 4th @ 11AM** - Farm Equipment, Shop Equipment, Misc. Items. Online bidding at **www.equipmentfacts.com** with 5% buyer's premium. Sale Conducted by **NOLAN SALES LLC**, Marion, WI, 715-754-5221. WI Lic. Auctioneers #165 & #142.

WCAN (Wisconsin Community Ad Network) and/or the member publications review ads to the best of their ability. Unfortunately, many unscrupulous people are ready to take your money! **PLEASE BE CAREFUL ANSWERING ANY AD THAT SOUNDS TOO GOOD TO BE TRUE!** For more information, or to file a complaint regarding an ad, please contact **The Department of Trade, Agriculture & Consumer Protection 1-800-422-7128** (WCAN)

Legal Notice

STATE OF WISCONSIN, CIRCUIT COURT, WINNEBAGO COUNTY Large Claim Replevin Publication Summons And Notice Case No: 24-CV-52 Case Code: 30303

21st Mortgage Corporation, a foreign business corporation 620 Market Street, One Center Square Knoxville, TN 37902 Plaintiff, v. Jacqueline T. Mecklenburg 3755 Glenhurst Lane, # 51

Oshkosh, WI 54904 Defendants.

PUBLICATION SUMMONS STATE OF WISCONSIN: TO 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 53217

You may have an attorney represent you. If you do not provide a proper answer within forty (40) days, the Court may grant judgment against you for the award of money or other legal action requested in the Complaint, and you may lose your right to object to anything that is or may be incorrect in the Complaint. A judgment may be enforced as provided by law. A judgment awarding money may become a lien against any property you own now or in the future, and may also be enforced by garnishment or seizure of property.

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**

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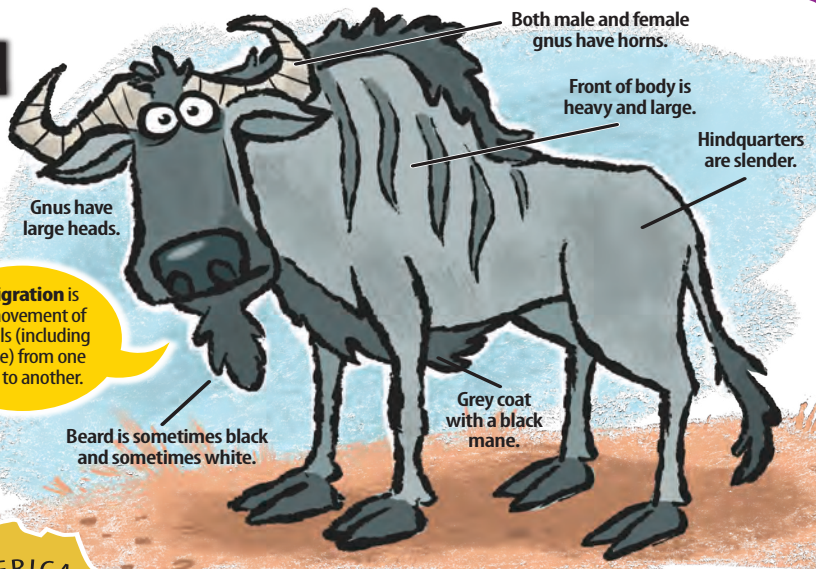
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The Great Gnu Migration

There is an African animal that travels about 1,000 miles every year in what is known as the world's largest animal migration.

This migrating animal is called a **gnu**. They travel in one large herd that has a million gnus! They travel to find food and water. Some people call this enormous migration one of the "Seven Wonders of the Natural World!"

Standards Link: Animals move from place to place for survival.



A migration is the movement of animals (including people) from one place to another.

What's a gnu?

It is a member of the antelope family which includes hooved animals with horns that graze. There are about 135 different kinds of animals in the antelope family.

The G is silent in the word gnu. It's pronounced like "new."

Unscramble the letters to reveal other members of the antelope family.

PHESE

TELACT

TSGAO



Find the gnu that's different from all the others.

Extra! Extra! Scavenger Hunt

Look through the newspaper to find:

- A word with a silent letter
- A word that describes a gnu
- An example of the way people travel today

Standards Link: Follow simple written directions.

Gnu name?

Use the code to discover another name for gnu.

- = B
- = E
- = L
- = T
- = D
- = I
- = S
- = W

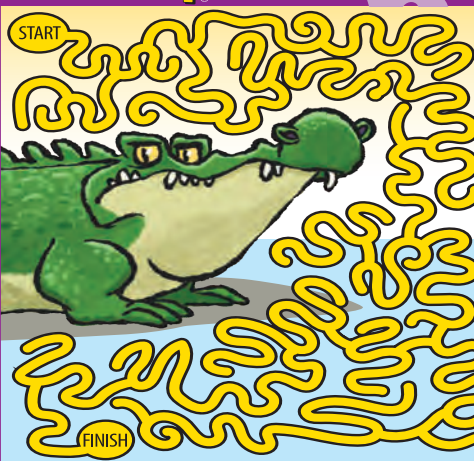


Baby Gnu

Since gnus travel nearly every day, baby gnu must get up and walk right away. The babies, called calves, start walking within minutes after they are born.

Standards Link: Young animals have features that aid in survival.

Kid Scoop Puzzler



Travel Troubles

Gnus face many dangers as they travel. In the grassy plains, they are hunted by predators like lions, cheetahs and hyenas.

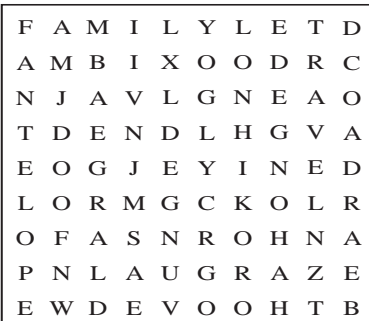
Along their migration loop, they cross large rivers filled with crocodiles.

Follow the maze to avoid this hungry crocodile!

Double Double Word Search

- ANTELOPE
- BEARD
- COAT
- FAMILY
- FOOD
- GRAZE
- GNU
- HERD
- HOOVED
- HORNS
- LARGE
- MANE
- MILLION
- NAME
- TRAVEL

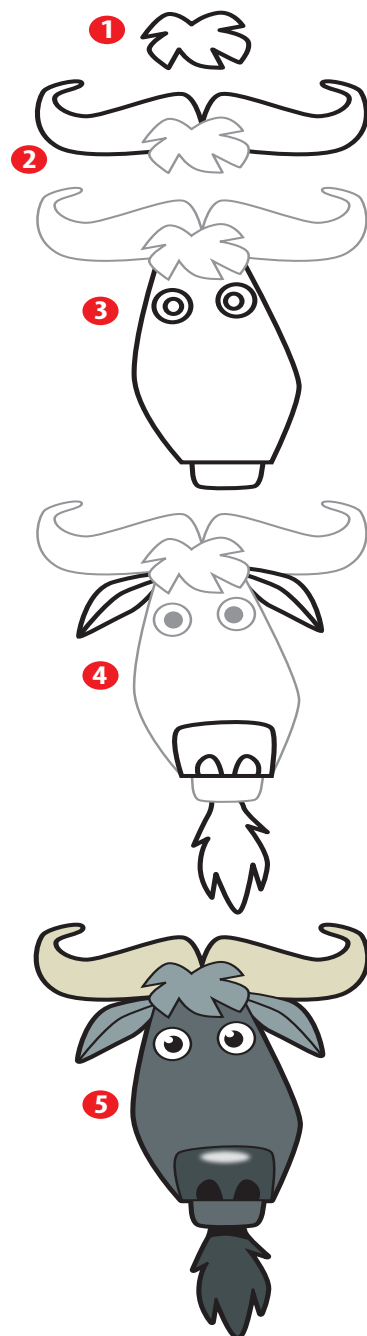
Find the words in the puzzle. How many of them can you find on this page?



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

Kid Scoop Together

How to Draw a Gnu



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Standards Link: Language Arts: Write descriptively using a main idea and supporting details.

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