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Sheriff's boathouse updates water response
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Adley, Elsie and Nevaeh took turns looking through the kaleidoscope after visiting the library with their mother Tuesday. The location is near where a new interactive instrument will be installed.

Neenah News

Added closures underway with work on I-41

Neenah News

A long-term closure of the northbound Interstate 41 off-ramp to Winneconne Avenue began Thursday and continues to mid-July as part of the I-41 Rehabilitation Project between Breezewood Lane and State 96 in Appleton.

The state Department of Transportation Northeast Region said the detour is to take Breezewood to Tullar Road to Winneconne Avenue.

Also starting June 3 through June 14, the southbound I-41 off-ramp to County II will be closed. The detour is U.S. 10 westbound to County CB to County II.

These closures are in addition to the northbound I-41 on-ramp from County II being closed until mid-September for re-decking the Green Bay Road overpass and continuous single-lane closures between Main Street and U.S. 10 on I-41.

Noteworthy: Library to get outdoor 'Serenade'

By Bethanie Gengler
NEENAH NEWS

A harmonious endeavor is underway at the Neenah Public Library to bring the sweet sound of a new interactive feature – a chimes instrument for patrons to play.

The "Serenade" outdoor instrument is expected to be unveiled in about a month at the library's entrance near the kaleidoscope sculpture and promises to strike a chord with visitors of all ages. Keep an eye out on the library's Facebook page for an announcement when it will be installed.

The instrument features a rainbow of 15 color-coded xylophone-style chimes that produce a gentle, tinkling tone when tapped with the attached mallets. Users play songs using either the color of the

bars or annotated notes on the bars and in the attached songbook.

Library director Nicole Hardina-Wilhelm said a longtime library patron and volunteer passed away in December and his family requested that memorial donations be sent to the library. She declined to name the late volunteer without permission from the family but said the chimes instrument will have a plaque installed in his honor.

"He loved music, he loved kids, he loved the library, and speaking with his family we thought that this would be a good way to memorialize him," she said.

The instrument costs about \$7,000 and

SEE **Serenade** ON PAGE 8

Some still waiting for ARPA

Public projects on hold pending approved funds

By Bethanie Gengler
NEENAH NEWS

It's been months since the Winnebago County Board of Supervisors approved awarding millions from the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) to municipalities and local nonprofits, but those entities still haven't received the funds.

At county board meetings in February and March, supervisors appropriated some of the \$33 million the county received from the federal government for pandemic relief, which it dubbed the Spirit Fund meant to be spent "in the spirit of ARPA."

The dollars must be appropriated by the end of this year and spent by the end of 2026 or the county loses the money. As of late March, the county had appropriated about 75% of the funds.

After a Neenah News inquiry about the status of the ARPA distributions last week, an email was sent out to the entities that appears to indicate that 18 nonprofits and municipalities are awaiting nearly \$7 million.

Municipalities that haven't received their money include Omro, Winneconne and Algoma, which were awarded a combined total of more than \$1 million for roadwork and infrastructure improvements.

Neenah-Menasha Fire Rescue hasn't received the \$500,000 it was awarded for a new training center, nor has Vinnie's Pantry received the \$500,000 earmarked for its expansion completed in Neenah last year.

YMCA locations in Neenah and Oshkosh, Fox Cities Habitat, the Boys & Girls Club of Oshkosh, NOVA Counseling and Solutions Recovery are all awaiting \$500,000 each.

Neenah is waiting on \$300,000 and Menasha \$185,000 to purchase traffic safety barriers for parades and large events. The process was extended by about a month after the board initially voted against approving funds for the barriers, which required city and police officials to lobby supervisors to change their vote at a subsequent meeting in March.

While the resolutions approved by the supervisors to award the funds don't appear to contain language regarding a memoran-

SEE **ARPA funds** ON PAGE 11



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

Ascension dealing with cyberattacks

Neenah News

Ascension Medical Group is continuing to investigate a ransomware cyberattack that has affected an undetermined number of patients across the country, including patients in the Fox Valley.

On May 9, an Ascension spokesperson announced, "Systems that are currently unavailable include our electronic health records system, MyChart (which enables patients to view their medical records and communicate with their providers), some phone systems, and various systems utilized to order certain tests, procedures and medications."

Last week Ascension, which has hospitals and facilities in 14 states, announced it is still working to restore services to patients.

"Ascension continues to work with industry-leading cybersecurity experts to investigate the recent ransomware attack and to rebuild and restore our systems

securely," said a statement posted on the Ascension cybersecurity event webpage. "While this process continues in earnest, our hospitals and facilities remain open and are providing care. Patients should continue to monitor the regional updates portion of this webpage for the latest information on a state-by-state basis."

All Ascension hospitals in Wisconsin and Ascension Medical Group locations remain open and operational.

"Our dedicated doctors, nurses and care teams are demonstrating incredible thoughtfulness and resilience as we utilize manual and paper based systems during the ongoing disruption to normal systems," Ascension stated.

The transition to this manual system has caused delays and extended wait times for patients going in for routine doctor visits, elective and non-elective surgeries.

Ascension retail pharmacies cannot cur-

rently fill prescriptions due to the cyberattack. People are being advised to call the pharmacy to find an alternative option.

"We thank you for your patience and understanding as we navigate this unexpected situation. Rest assured, our commitment to the health and safety of our community remains our highest priority," the Ascension website states.

Ascension detected unusual activity on select technology network systems May 8 and now believe it was a cyberattack. Since then, Ascension has announced it is working with cybersecurity experts and have notified law enforcement, including the FBI.

"If we determine sensitive data was potentially exfiltrated or accessed as part of this incident, we will notify applicable individuals and parties in accordance with our obligations," Ascension announced.

Updates are available at about.ascension.org/en/cybersecurity-event.



Neenah Historical Society photo

Pool patrons

The Neenah Pool opens for the season June 1. It has been keeping residents cool since 1940 and was most recently remodeled in 1997.

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<p style="font-weight: bold; color: yellow;">June 20</p> <p style="font-size: x-small;">Los Lonely Boys Chuck Prophet & The Mission Express Newski</p>	
<p style="font-weight: bold; color: yellow;">June 27</p> <p style="font-size: x-small;">Steely Dane Paul Cebar Tomorrow Sound The Fox Menagerie</p>	
<p style="font-weight: bold; color: yellow;">July 11</p> <p style="font-size: x-small;">ARRIVAL from Sweden: The Music of ABBA The Pocket Kings Salsa Manzana</p>	
<p style="font-weight: bold; color: yellow;">July 18</p> <p style="font-size: x-small;">Voices of Rock Radio Copperbox Kate Voss & The Hot Sauce</p>	
<p style="font-weight: bold; color: yellow;">August 1</p> <p style="font-size: x-small;">Gin Blossoms Toad The Wet Sprocket Vertical Horizon</p>	
<p style="font-weight: bold; color: yellow;">August 8</p> <p style="font-size: x-small;">British Invasion Night! Hermans Hermits Starring Peter Noone American English: The Beatles Tribute</p>	
<p style="font-weight: bold; color: yellow;">August 15</p> <p style="font-size: x-small;">The Mavericks Alex McMurray Band Lil' Davy Max</p>	
<p style="font-weight: bold; color: yellow;">Special Wednesday Event!</p> <p style="font-weight: bold; color: yellow;">August 21</p> <p style="font-size: x-small;">Danny Seraphine and CTA with former Chicago singer and Bassist Jeff Coffey Child's Anthem The Music of Toto</p>	

Buy now at WWW.WATERFEST.ORG

Calendar of events

Saturday, June 1

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

Sunday, June 2

Family Day, 11 a.m., Octagon House
Neenah Summer Fun Run, 6 p.m., Memorial Park

Thursday, June 6

Live Music Series: Jesse & James, 5 p.m., Batley's Grill & Bar, 1010 Cameron Way

Saturday, June 8

Future Neenah Farmers Market, 8 a.m., Shattuck Park
Learn to Sail and Sailing Open House, 10 a.m., Riverside Park
Doty Island rummage sales, 8 a.m., various locations

Tuesday, June 11

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

Wednesday, June 12

Summer Kickoff Concert: Love Monkeys, 6 p.m., downtown Neenah

Thursday, June 13

Out to Lunch Concert Series: Guy Parker Duo, 11:30 a.m., Shattuck Park
Live Music Series: Two of a Kind, 5 p.m., Batley's Grill & Bar, 1010 Cameron Way

Friday, June 14

Summer Fun Fest, 2 p.m., Evergreen Credit Union, 1500 W. American Drive

Saturday, June 15

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

Sunday, June 16

Neenah Summer Fun Run, 6 p.m., Memorial Park

Wednesday, June 19

Evening Concert Series: STEEM, 6 p.m., Shattuck Park

Thursday, June 20

Out to Lunch Concert Series: Russ Reiser, 11:30 a.m., Shattuck Park
Live Music Series: Pattie & Jeff, 5 p.m., Batley's Grill & Bar, 1010 Cameron Way

Art After Dark: Swiftie Fan Celebration, 5:30 p.m., Bergstrom-Mahler Museum of Glass

EV station expansion in county announced

Neenah, Oshkosh named in state initiative off I-41

Neenah News

Neenah and Oshkosh were each awarded funding for an electric vehicle (EV) charging station in the first round of the Wisconsin Electric Vehicle Infrastructure (WEVI) Plan to expand the number of locations where EVs can rely on power supplies for their travel needs.

The BP gas and service station off Interstate 41 at 1126 Main St., Neenah, and Kwik Trip off I-41 at 2400 S. Washburn St. in Oshkosh were chosen as locations for the charging stations from among those applying to be site hosts throughout Wisconsin.

The Neenah site was awarded up to \$422,280 through the federally funded program with a match share up to \$189,720. The Oshkosh location was awarded up to \$328,678 with a match share of \$184,881. Wisconsin will seek to secure non-federal matching funds of at least 20% from the awarded station owners and operators.

The state is expected to receive \$78.65 million in National Electric Vehicle Infrastructure (NEVI) Program funds throughout the five-year program made available to local governments and private entities.

Several alternative fuel corridors have been set up under the program to connect major interstates and highways across the state. Federal guidelines state that charging stations need to be installed every 50 miles along those corridors such as I-41 and be within a mile of the highway.

There are currently fewer than 10 sites in the state with NEVI-compatible stations. This initial round of awarded locations would add 53 EV sites.

"This is a robust plan that will support people no matter where they live or travel in Wisconsin," stated DOT Secretary Craig Thompson. "We're looking forward to a time when EV drivers don't have to worry about where to find their next charge."

Rob Ketter, who owns a fully electric vehicle and has been advocating for more charging stations in the state, said he sub-

mitted feedback to the DOT as part of the public input sought for the program. He had hoped the location would be at a location with more extended hours and commercial options.

"While I'm excited to see additional high-speed charging stations come to the area, I'm hopeful that this BP can install some additional offerings if they won't be extending their business hours such as more extensive outdoor vending options," Ketter said in an email.

Oshkosh is working with a consulting firm on a separate plan to set up the city with options and ideas for more EV stations. The EV Readiness Plan being developed by SRF Consulting with Oshkosh and East Central Wisconsin Regional Planning Commission is focused on documenting EVs on the road and potential for growth and identify the best places for public charging stations.

Bill Troe of SRF is studying the Oshkosh Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO), an area that includes the city along with the towns of Algoma, Black Wolf, Nekimi, Oshkosh and Vinland.

Valley Transit looks at nonpeak service options

Neenah News

Valley Transit is proposing changes to its bus service schedules during nonpeak times, including a move from fixed-route buses to VT Connector, the on-demand micro-transit service.

VT Connector supplements bus service with trips for riders who live or work outside regular route locations or need transportation outside of normal operating hours. Under the proposal, VT Connector would become the primary mode of pub-

lic transportation during these non-peak hours – after 6 p.m. weekdays and 1 p.m. Saturdays – requiring those rides to be scheduled at least two hours in advance.

The service change is anticipated to take effect in mid-July pending approval from the Fox Cities Transit Commission. A public hearing on the proposed changes is scheduled for 3:30 p.m. Tuesday at Appleton City Hall in the council chambers.

"We see a decline in ridership after 6 p.m.

on weekdays and after 1 p.m. on Saturdays," explained Valley Transit general manager, Ron McDonald.

Valley Transit expects these shift changes to attract new drivers to join the Valley Transit team.

Written comments submitted to Valley.transit@appleton.org or Fox Cities Transit Commission, c/o Valley Transit, 801 S. Whitman Ave., Appleton, WI 54914, will be accepted until June 10 and shared with the commission.

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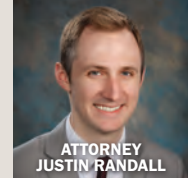
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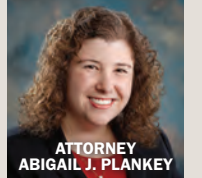
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- ▶ How veterans or their spouses can receive money to help pay for medical expenses.
- ▶ Why signing your home over to your kids might be a huge mistake.
- ▶ How planning in advance can help you and your spouse afford quality care.



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Opioid settlement grant aids inmate treatment efforts

By Bethanie Gengler
NEENAH NEWS

The Winnebago County Board of Supervisors recently voted to accept a \$60,000 grant and include \$120,000 from a national opioid abatement fund for the Sheriff's Office Medication Assisted Treatment (MAT) and Sobriety Treatment Assisted Recovery (STAR) programs.

The funding for jail inmates struggling with substance abuse comes as the county grapples with the aftermath of a record-breaking 50 overdose deaths last year and 2024 showing no signs of improvement with 30 overdose fatalities reported as of early May.

The MAT and STAR programs are supported by grants and the county's proceeds

from the National Opioid Abatement Settlement Fund that sent \$26 billion to state and local governments across the country.

The MAT program was started in the jail in September 2022, using medications to treat substance use disorders. The prescription medication Vivitrol is used to block opioids and alcohol and upon release inmates are offered an injection of the medication that can last 30 days.

In the first year of offering the program, the jail reported a 46% success rate for inmates remaining sober after being released from incarceration. Sheriff John Matz told the Oshkosh Herald that about 400 people inquired about the program in its first year, 63 returned and continued the program and 29 people are still in recovery.

In March, the sheriff's office was awarded another \$60,559 grant from the Comprehensive Opioid Stimulant and Substance Use Program (COSSUP) for its MAT pod, a new all-inclusive recovery housing unit for participating inmates considered more open and comfortable than general population pods.

The MAT pod offers program options such as life skills classes and information on obtaining insurance and housing after release. With the county board approving the grant last week, the sheriff's office will be upgrading the pod with equipment and furnishings to better support participants.

The STAR program was implemented to expand on the MAT program, partnering with Oshkosh-based Solutions Recov-

ery to offer recovery coaches and other programs for people with substance use problems. For inmates being released, the program offers transportation from jail to another facility where the person can continue working on their recovery.

The second resolution approved by the board last week requests County Executive Jon Doemel to include \$120,000 in next year's budget from the county's opioid abatement settlement funds to continue contracting with Solutions.

According to the resolution, the funds will assist individuals receiving medical treatment to obtain continued care and treatment post incarceration and help participants on a successful path to recovery after their release into the community.



Neenah News

Vintage visitors

Neenah police officer Joe Benoit (left) talks with members of area Model A clubs who displayed their early Ford vehicles at a car show outside Lucky Dog's in Neenah as part of Memorial Day activities Monday sponsored by American Legion Post 33.

Local college graduates

St. Norbert College in De Pere held graduation ceremonies May 12 for 381 students in the 2024 graduating class, including 361 candidates for baccalaureate degrees and 20 for master's degrees.

Graduates from Neenah:

Alexander Borgen, bachelor of business administration, Summa Cum Laude

Jordan Dias, bachelor of business administration, Magna Cum Laude

Ty Dias, bachelor of business administration, Summa Cum Laude

Katelyn Flanagan, bachelor of arts, Summa Cum Laude

Cassandra Fredrick, bachelor of arts, Summa Cum Laude

Seth Geiger, bachelor of business administration, Magna Cum Laude

Thomas Gritton, master of business administration

Ashley Ortscheid, bachelor of arts

Sarah Vanden Heuvel, bachelor of arts, Magna Cum Laude

The following individuals from Neenah were among the 2,480 prospective candidates for degree attending University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee commencement exercises May 19 in Milwaukee:

Cullin Hayes, bachelor of business administration, Sheldon B. Lubar College of Business

Thomas Otto, bachelor of business administration, Sheldon B. Lubar College of Business

Jamie Regnier, bachelor of arts, College of Letters & Science

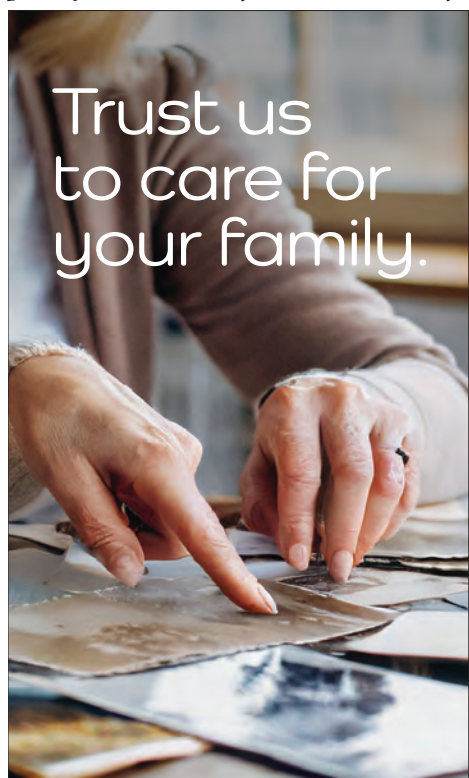
Benjamin Stern, master of arts, College of Letters & Science

Josie Wisneski, associate of arts and sciences, College of General Studies

Law enforcement run set at Riverside

A law enforcement fundraiser run for Special Olympics is set for Thursday at Riverside Park in Neenah.

The Fox Valley 2024 Torch Run, which starts at 10 a.m., is part of a statewide community event with hundreds of law enforcement volunteers raising money for Special Olympics Wisconsin through the Community Torch Runs that first started in 1986.



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www.trinityneenah.net • facebook.com/TLCNeenah

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Sunday School: Sundays Sept.- May @ 10:30am
Highschool Youth Group: Sundays Sept.- May @ 10:30am

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Please visit our website at
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Financial assistance is available

It's the neighborly thing to do

Sesame Street: "Who are the people in your neighborhood?"

Mr. Rogers: "Hello Neighbor!"

Ned Flanders from 'The Simpsons': "Hi Diddly Ho Neighborino!"

Surely, we can be better than fictional characters on a TV show! And yet, do you know your neighbors, really know your neighbors?

Do you keep an eye out on their house, water their tomatoes or collect their mail when they're out of town? (They went out of town? I never noticed!) Do you have their emergency house key? Can you name their dog? Have you purchased Girl Scout cookies or booster club coupons from their children? (Hold on, they have kids?)

We often hear that people see or meet up with friends and neighbors at Future Neenah's events such as the Farmers Market. One of Future Neenah's goals with our many special activities is to create that welcoming community atmosphere.

Another thing we often hear is Neenah has that small town feel with some bigger city amenities. It seems in smaller towns everyone knows everyone. While everyone is a stretch, maybe asking a neighbor to join you at one of Future Neenah's Out to Lunch concerts could go miles toward creating a neighbor/friend bond.

If that's too intimidating, just dropping off a loaf of yummy Great Harvest bread could literally open a door.

I recently received a thank-you note in my mailbox from a neighbor several doors down who (shamefully) I had not met. She was grateful when I had my snowblower out, I just kept going clearing walks in front of houses down the block. She really made my day with the simple act of that card.

A co-worker's dryer recently died, and her neighbor came in clutch providing many loads of dry laundry for days. Neighbors helping neighbors.

Even television's "Home Improvement" Wilson character whose face was never seen over the fence said, "Hidey Ho Neighbor!" Today let's be a Wilson. A small gesture can go a long way - start with a wave.

And, we'll see you soon, neighbor, at one of Future Neenah's many summer events and activities.

Jobless rate falls to 2.6% in metro area for April

Neenah News

The Oshkosh-Neenah metropolitan area and Winnebago County saw a drop in its unemployment rate from 3% percent to 2.6% percent between March and April, according to preliminary data from the state Department of Workforce Development.

Last April's jobless rate in Oshkosh-Neenah and the county was 2.2%.

The non-seasonally adjusted data shows jobless rates in Metropolitan Statistical Areas decreased in all of Wisconsin's 12 metro areas over and month and increased compared with the previous April.

Unemployment rates decreased or stayed the same in all of Wisconsin's 35 largest cities over the month; rates increased in 34 cities over the year.



FUTURENEENAH

Let's put the FUN in Neenah all summer long!

We hope to see you this summer at the Future Neenah Concerts and Farmers Market. All events are free to attend thanks to our sponsors and are family-friendly.

SUMMER KICKOFF CONCERT
June 12 from 6-8pm
with The LoveMonkeys



BOOGIE DOWNTOWN
August 28 from 6-9pm
with Boogie and the Yo-yoz



Wisconsin Ave. will be closed for the two street concerts. Food and beverages will be available for purchase from the businesses of Downtown Neenah. Please bring a lawn chair. Free parking is available in the Church Street ramp and surrounding lots.

Live Music at Shattuck Park

Evening Concerts
Wednesdays
6-8pm



Out to Lunch Concerts
Thursdays
11:30am-1pm

June 19 - STEEM

June 26 - Smart Mouth

July 10 - FBI & The Untouchable Horns

July 17 - Rising Phoenix

July 24 - The Pocket Kings

July 31 - That 90's Band

August 7 - Karen's Hit List

August 14 - The Britins

June 13 - Guy Parker Duo

June 20 - Russ Reiser

June 27 - Grey Fedora

July 11 - Hailey James *Swiftie Concert

July 18 - jim 'n' Nancy

July 25 - Olsen & Evenson

August 1 - Murphy Boys Duo

August 8 - Randy Peterson *Kids' Concert

August 15 - Sly Joe & The Smooth Operators

August 22 - Northsoul

August 29 - Luma Knotty



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Winnebago County sheriff's new boathouse completed

By Jonathan Richie
NEENAH NEWS

After a year of waiting, construction and a little more waiting there is a new boathouse along the Fox River that will help law enforcement keep Lake Winnebago safe for recreation as we head into summer.

The Winnebago County Sheriff's newly constructed boathouse is the home of Marine 1, a 25-foot Boston Whaler with twin Mercury 200 horsepower engines, which patrols much of Lake Winnebago and nearby waterways.

The sheriff's office maintains Marine 2, kept on a trailer at the sheriff's office on Jackson Street in Oshkosh for easy deployment and Marine 3 is at Neenah-Menasha Fire Rescue Station 32 to access the waters in the northern section of the county. The three vessels are responsible for waterways across the county.

Winnebago County Sheriff's Office Boat Patrol coordinator Lt. Tim Eichman said Marine 1 is used for quick deployment onto the Fox River and Lake Winnebago. Marine 1 patrols the area and responds to various calls, which can range from injuries on the water to a disabled vessel.

"We respond to various calls during the season. Some can be just the boat ran out of gas," Eichman said. "When patrolling, the boat looks for DNR violations and water rescues."

Lake Winnebago is primarily patrolled by the sheriff's office with the Fond du Lac County sheriff responsible for the southern tip of the lake and Calumet County covering the eastern coast of the lake.

The boathouse cost \$450,000, according to Mike Elder, county facilities and property management director. He explained there were some delays with the new facility that sits south of Broad Street in Oshkosh on the Fox River next to the railroad truss bridge.

One issue was hazardous materials in the soil where the boathouse was being



Neenah News

The Winnebago County Sheriff's Office Marine 1 sits in the newly completed sheriff's boathouse south of Broad Street in Oshkosh on the Fox River.

built. The process of deciding where the hazardous materials could go caused delays.

There were also delays with installation of the dock pilings and decking wood.

"The contractors didn't follow the plans specifically, but the error doesn't affect the functionality," Elder said.

County executive Jon Doemel was not pleased with these errors and spoke about it at a September County Board of Supervisors meeting.

"It was not built to spec. I am not happy about that," Doemel said at the time and suggested having the company that built it tear it down and start over.

"If it's not operational by next spring, I'm going to be really unhappy."

Doemel's assistant Ethan Hollenberger

told the Herald the county executive's office has no reason to be dissatisfied with completion of the project.

"We needed a rapid response boat on that side of the river to have quick access to Lake Winnebago and the Fox River. This boathouse achieves that," Hollenberger said.

He said the only issue is that long-term maintenance of the building will be more difficult.

The former boathouse was demolished last spring. The age of that structure is difficult to pin down with Elder saying he knows it was built before 1980. He said having a new boathouse is great since the old one was "falling down."

"This will be standing for the next 50 years," he said.

Eichman reminds all boaters to stay safe on the water this season by having the proper flotation devices and following the law when it comes to alcohol.

"We respond to a lot of excessive drinking calls," he said. "That behavior puts everybody at risk."

The Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources is also reminding residents about water safety, including checking equipment such as boat and trailer lights, and inspecting life jackets for wear and tear.

"Safety is an important part of water fun," said Lt. Darren Kuhn, DNR boating law administrator. "Wisconsin rivers and lakes can be relaxing and family-friendly



Neenah News

The boathouse is shown from Pioneer Drive across the Fox River. Marine 1 is housed at the boathouse and will be patrolling Lake Winnebago.

places to spend a spring day when you put safety first and respect the water."

Other tips:

- Wear a properly fitted and fastened life jacket when on or near the water. It keeps you on top of the water if you walk off an unexpected drop-off or are overpowered by a wave or current.

- Enjoy the waters sober. Alcohol blurs a person's judgment, reaction time and abilities.

- Shorelines and sandbars pose unseen dangers. Higher, fast-moving water can tax an individual's boating, paddling and swimming skills.

- Keep an eye on the weather and always tell someone where you are going.



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Public library calendar

June 2
LEGOs in the Library: 1-3 p.m.

June 3
Free Summer Lunches: 11:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.

June 4
Toddle Time Storytime: 9:15-10 a.m.
Storytime for Everyone at Valley VNA: 10-10:45 a.m.
FREE Summer Lunches: 11:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.
Family Program: Pop-a-Palooza: 1-2 p.m.
Mah Jongg Meetup: 5:30-8:30 p.m.
Powered by Yarn: 6:30-7:30 p.m.

June 5
Baby Time Storytime (birth-12 months): 9:15-10:15 a.m.
Musical Movers Storytime (all ages): 10-11 a.m.
FREE Summer Lunches: 11:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.

June 6
Wee Read Storytime (ages 2 & up): 10-10:30 a.m.
FREE Summer Lunches: 11:30am - 12:30 p.m.
Open Chess: 5:30-7:30 p.m.
Ukulele Open Jam: 6-7:30 p.m.

June 7
Sunrise Yoga: 6:30-7:30 a.m.
Bibliocycle at Fritse Park: 10:30-11:30 a.m.
Free Summer Lunches: 11:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.

June 10
Free Summer Lunches: 11:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.
Pressure Canner Gauge Testing: 6:30-8 p.m.
Short Story Night at Lion's Tale: 7-8 p.m.

June 11
Toddle Time Storytime (ages 12-24 months): 9:15-10 a.m.
Storytime for Everyone at Valley VNA: 10-10:45 a.m.
FREE Summer Lunches: 11:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.
Family Program: Stick Families: 1-2 p.m.
Legal Assistance Clinic: 4:30-6:30 p.m.
Mah Jongg Meetup: 5:30-8:30 p.m.

June 12
Baby Time Storytime (birth-12 months): 9:15-10:15 a.m.
Bibliocycle at Neenah Pool: 9:30-10:30 a.m.
Musical Movers Storytime (all ages): 10-11 a.m.
Lunch with the Library at Schlidt Park: 11:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.
Free Summer Lunches: 11:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.
Outreach at Primrose Apartments: 5-6 p.m.

June 13
Wee Read Storytime (ages 2 & up): 10-10:30 a.m.
Free Summer Lunches: 11:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.
Open Chess: 5:30-8:30 p.m.
Ukulele Open Jam: On the Road: New Moon Cafe: 6-7:30 p.m.

June 14
Sunrise Yoga: 6:30-7:30 a.m.
Bibliocycle at Fritse Park: 10:30-11:30 a.m.
FREE Summer Lunches: 11:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.

June 16
LEGOs in the Library: 1-3 p.m.

June 17
Free Summer Lunches: 11:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.

Memory Cafe: Fishing: 1:30-3 p.m.
Not Quite Cozy Mystery Book Club: 6:30-7:30 p.m.

June 18
Toddle Time Storytime (ages 12-24 months) 9:15-10 a.m.
Storytime for Everyone at Valley VNA: 10-10:45 a.m.
Free Summer Lunches: 11:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.
Family Program: Taking Flight: 1-2 p.m.
Mah Jongg Meetup: 5:30-8:30 p.m.
Cookbook Book Club: 6:30-7:30 p.m.

June 19
Baby Time Storytime (birth-12 months): 9:15-10:15 a.m.
Musical Movers Storytime (all ages): 10-11 a.m.
Bibliocycle at Neenah Pool: 10:30-11:30 a.m.
Lunch with the Library at Schildt Park: 11:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.
Free Summer Lunches: 11:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.
Outreach at Primrose Apartments: 5-6 p.m.

June 20
Wee Read Storytime (ages 2 & up): 10-10:30 a.m.
Free Summer Lunches: 11:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.
Open Chess: 5:30-7:30 p.m.
Ukulele Open Jam: 6-7:30 p.m.

June 21
Bibliocycle at Fritse Park: 10:30-11:30 a.m.
FREE Summer Lunches: 11:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.

June 22
Tween Craft: Sea Glass Succulent Art: 10-11 am

June 24
Monday Morning Book Klatch: 10-11

a.m.
Free Summer Lunches: 11:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.

June 25
Toddle Time Storytime (12-24 months): 9:15-10 a.m.
Storytime for Everyone at Valley VNA: 10-10:45 a.m.
Free Summer Lunches: 11:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.
Family Program: Camp Kindness: 1-2 p.m.
Mah Jongg Meetup: 5:30-8:30 p.m.
Movie Talks: "The Towering Inferno/ Earthquake": 6:30-7:30 p.m.
Dollar a Day Boys: A Musical Tribute to the Civilian Conservation Corps: 6:30-8 p.m.

June 26
Baby Time Storytime (birth-12 months): 9:15-10:15 a.m.
Bibliocycle at Neenah Pool: 10:30-11:30 a.m.
Musical Movers Storytime (all ages): 10-11 a.m.
Lunch with the Library at Schildt Park: 11:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.
Free Summer Lunches: 11:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.
Outreach at Primrose Apartments: 5-6 p.m.

June 27
Wee Read Storytime (ages 2 & up): 10-10:30 a.m.
Free Summer Lunches: 11:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.
Open Chess: 5:30-7:30 p.m.
Ukulele Open Jam: 6-7:30 p.m.

June 28
Bibliocycle at Fritse Park: 10:30-11:30 a.m.
Free Summer Lunches: 11:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.

Serenade

FROM PAGE 1

while the memorial donations won't cover the full cost, the library is using trust funds to cover the difference – about \$4,000.

The library's kaleidoscope is a steel structure planted with flowers that allows patrons to view shifting colors and patterns through a viewing scope.

With the kaleidoscope and chimes planned for the front of the library and an obstacle course around it, Hardina-Wilhelm said the hope is to foster creativity, connection and joy – all things that the late volunteer supported.

"It is just such a perfect fit for him be-

cause he loved music, the outdoors, kids and the library," she said.

The Serenade instrument will join another outdoor musical instrument in downtown Neenah, the Dance Chimes in Gateway Park. The nine bronze tiles produce music when jumping or dancing on them.

Looking to the future, Hardina-Wilhelm said the library hopes to add additional musical instruments around the building to make the visit a more interactive experience.

"From ages 0 to 100, to be able to use their imagination and create music, but also memories," she said, "come to the library and either before you come in or when you're leaving, making a little music together creates memories."



Photo from Freenotes Harmony Park

Serenade is a color-coded chimes instrument that will be placed outside the library for visitors of all ages to play.

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Neenah High honors graduating seniors with awards

Neenah High School's top senior students in academics, fine arts and athletics were honored as award recipients for the Class of 2024.

Tristin Yun received both the Outstanding Math Student and Outstanding Science Student awards. Hayley Clark earned the Outstanding Social Studies Student award and Anabelle Hodges received the Outstanding English Student award.

In world languages, Yun and Kyria Tailon shared top French student honors, Henry Ratliff was the top Chinese student and Olivia Archanbo won top Spanish student honors. The Outstanding Technology and Engineering students were

Lexi Dorner, Broc Giesen, Emma Dumbleton, Adrian Fifield and Aidan Colby.

Outstanding Family and Consumer Science Student awards went to Kayla White, Jennifer Murphy and Ella Trampe. Outstanding Art Student awards went to Gabi Brazee, Madyson Janicheck, Alix Johnson and Sean Zeier.

In music, Lauren Linstedt received the John Philip Sousa Outstanding Senior Band Student Award and Aubrey Oitzinger won the Louis Armstrong Jazz Band Award. Stephen Soderberg claimed the National Orchestra Award and Sarah Brunel won the National Choral Award. Marley Van Domelen was named the

Neenah Community Band outstanding senior and Allison Denzin received the Semper Fidelis Marine Corps Band award.

In athletics, Brady Corso was named Male Athlete of the Year and Rachel Dietrich was named the Female Athlete of the Year. Awards recognizing spirit and competition were presented to Myah Wenzel, who won the Kim Dodge Spirit Award, and Owen Wise, who won the Jerry Gollnick Award.

Awards presented to athletes for academic success, character and leadership went to Amaya Jones, who won the Connie Lambert-Jan Wisheart Trophy and Nate Cleveland, who won the Marlon Batterman Trophy. The Mel Northway

Awards for hard work and dedication to their teams went to Lydia Delene for girls and Austin Price for boys.

Allie Ziebell was presented a special recognition for her basketball career, finishing fourth in state history in all-time scoring, participating in several national all-star games and winning a gold medal with the USA under-19 national team.

Dietrich and Owen Grotenhuis were recognized for their nomination as WIAA Scholar Athletes. Nine students were honored as letterwinners in three sports: Dietrich, Wenzel, Grotenhuis, Emma Donahue, Abbie Fischer, Leo Wilhelm, Braden Loudon, Jaden Leal and Sam Scheer.

School district names administrators

Neenah News

Two Neenah Middle School administrators have been selected to fill positions at the district level of the Neenah Joint School District.

Middle School Principal Jackie Munoz-Ellmann has been selected as assistant district administrator for learning and engagement, replacing Chad Buboltz. Associate Middle School Principal Curtis Bartlett has been selected as director of curriculum, instruction and assessment, replacing Tim Kachur. Buboltz and Kachur recently accepted positions outside of the district.

Munoz-Ellmann has been in the district for 18 years and has been a middle school principal for the past nine years.



Bartlett



Munoz

She was at Horace Mann Middle School from 2015-22 before spending a year at Shattuck Middle School and the inaugural year of Neenah Middle School. Previously she was principal at Clayton Elementary from 2012-15 after serving as a special education teacher. She was named the district's Administrator of the Year in 2020-21.

Bartlett is completing his 12th year in the district and his first as middle school associate principal. He was STEM coordinator from 2015-23 after previously spending three years as a math teacher at Neenah High School. He also held teaching positions for four years in Austin, Minn., and two years in Washington, N.C.

School district offers free lunch program

Free lunches will be offered on summer school days for children ages 18 and under who reside in the Neenah Joint School District, regardless of whether they are attending summer school.

Meals will be served Monday through Friday, June 3-28 at Horace Mann, Hoover, Taft and Tullar schools. Meals will be available for summer school students and their siblings from 11 to 11:25

a.m. and for all children from 11:25 to 11:45 a.m.

Meals also will be served on those dates from 11:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. at the Neenah Public Library.

All meals must be consumed on site and feature special guest appearances. Students can register daily for a Nintendo Switch drawing that will be awarded on the final day.

Museum's kiln campaign has matching funds

All donations to the Bergstrom-Mahler Museum of Glass Help Us Grow kiln campaign through June 15 will have double the impact through a matching gift from the Community Vision Fund, Helen Hardt Family Fund, and Raymond and Betty Smith Charitable Fund II within the Community Foundation for the Fox Val-

ley Region.

The museum is halfway to its goal of \$25,000 to support the kiln's mission of providing glass experiences with classes, Art Activity Day and other studio events.

Those who contribute \$100 or more will receive a handmade glass flower sun catcher.



Photo by Neenah Joint School District

New school graduates

Neenah High School celebrated its Class of 2024 last week with graduation ceremonies, the first at its new campus.

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AS PART OF DOWNTOWN NEENAH SINCE 1941

Advanced Physical Therapy gets patients back in game

By Jennifer Parmley
NEWS CONTRIBUTOR

As the spring sports season is underway, weekend warriors and student athletes alike often incur injuries such as ankle sprains, ACL and meniscal tears, and other issues associated that arise with overuse.

Today, the “playing hurt” mindset has been replaced with a focus on prevention and incorporating physical therapy when needed.

“Therapy is a good option from a value base,” said Josh Zilm, a doctor of physical therapy at Advanced Physical Therapy & Sports Medicine in Neenah. “We just need to educate our public more. Most people want to prevent surgery, and therapy is a great option.”

Located at 145 N. Commercial St., APTSM was founded in Appleton and now has 28 locations in Wisconsin. Its team of physical therapists and athletic trainers offer a variety of therapeutic services for overuse and sports injuries. Types of treatment include manual therapy or therapeutic exercise, soft tissue mobilization techniques, dry

needling, functional training and strength training.

High school athletes who participate in multiple seasons are particularly at risk for injury. Not having proper warmups and making sure the muscles are as balanced as they should be also contribute to the problem, said Madeline Kehler, also a doctor of physical therapy at APTSM.



Kehler

Kehler, a Neenah native who played soccer as a child and continues to play as an adult, held an injury prevention clinic for the Neenah Soccer Club last fall that taught FIFA 11+, an injury prevention program specifically designed to prevent soccer injuries.

“Ankle sprains are common in spring sports and that can be easily rehabbed and prevented,” Kehler said. “A lot of the time with rolling your ankle it’s hip weakness or proprioception (the body’s ability to sense

movement). We train proprioception and muscle imbalances.”

Injuries to the anterior cruciate ligament (ACL), located in the middle of the knee, are also common among athletes. They can occur from rapid direction changes, sudden stops, landing from a jump incorrectly or through direct contact, such as with a tackle in football.

Increasingly, women are suffering from injuries to the ACL. This is due to differences in physical conditioning, muscular strength, neuromuscular control, differences in pelvis and lower leg alignment, increased looseness in ligaments, and the effects of estrogen on ligament properties, according to the American Academy of Orthopaedic Surgeons.

“ACLs is a pandemic for women’s sports,” Zilm said. “I’d like to never see another ACL injury.”

To that end, Zilm said there are things that

can be done to prevent ACL tears such as strength training, proper warmups, teaching proper balance and technique and encouraging rest to prevent overuse.

APTSM also has an occupational therapy team that helps people recovering from injury to regain skills and offers specialty services and programs such as cancer rehab, pulmonary rehab, cardiac therapy, and pelvic health services.

Pelvic floor therapy is a newer area of treatment that focuses on alleviating issues with pelvic floor dysfunction. Physical therapy includes several exercises that help pelvic muscles relax and get stronger.

“Issues can include pain during intercourse, tailbone pain or incontinence” Kehler said. “People joke about being incontinent when they run, but it doesn’t have to be like that.”

Wisconsin is one of 26 states that allow direct patient access to physical therapy, Zilm said, pointing out no referrals or prescriptions are needed to access the service. Insurance plans vary on coverage, however, so it is up to the individual to verify coverage.

Regional pride event prepares for Riverside Park location

Neenah News

A Fox Valley Pride event will move forward in Riverside Park after the group was unable to secure a downtown location.

Set to take place from 1 to 8 p.m. June 22, the event is headlined by Wisconsin indie rock group Betsy Ade and the Well-Known Strangers and will feature entertainment, food trucks, more than 70 vendors and resource booths in the park along East Wisconsin Avenue.

Organizers of the event originally planned to host it in the 100 and 200

blocks of West Wisconsin Avenue downtown where outdoor consumption of alcohol is allowed on a temporary basis for approved and permitted events.

That location was changed after the city declined to close the street for the event, with Mayor Jane Lang noting it was the first request to close the historic business district on a Saturday since the streetball basketball event ended several years ago.

“That event sparked issues for our downtown business owners who in many cases were faced with closing their doors

on the busiest day of the week due to traffic and parking disruption,” she said.

The decision disappointed Fox Valley Pride organizers, who considered other locations before announcing last week that it will be moving forward in Riverside Park.

Neenah prohibits consumption of alcohol in parks and organizer Dana Johnson confirmed there will be no alcohol at the event.


“Local ordinance does not allow for the sale or consumption of alcohol in Neenah city parks,” he said. “This was one of our original reasons for seeking the down-

town Neenah location.”

Despite that restriction, Fox Valley Pride wrote on social media that the location has a little bit of everything: trees, benches, a river, stage, fountain statue and historic mansions across the street.

Originally called Appleton Pride, the event rebranded to Fox Valley Pride and celebrates LGBTQ+ (lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, queer/questioning and others) identity, culture and community.

Johnson said the event is expected to bring 3,000 members and allies to the city.



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SOS begins at home: Find ways to save our songbirds

By Tom Ziebell
WINNEBAGO AUDUBON

Wisconsin's songbirds are in serious trouble and need your help.

The songbirds we love to see and hear have suffered the biggest declines: warblers, tanagers, orioles, grosbeaks, thrushes and sparrows. Even the American robin is declining. But, you can help.

SOS: Save Our Songbirds is a statewide initiative of 180 groups, including Winnebago Audubon in our area. They are committed to sustaining songbirds and encouraging people to take immediate action at home to save them. You can help bring back our songbirds by doing three things at home: Plant, Protect and Purchase.

Plant natives

Habitat destruction and degradation are the biggest causes of bird loss. Our yards, no matter their size, can provide important habitat for birds. Plant some native plants that are good for birds. 96% of land-based birds feed their young insects.

Native trees, shrubs and wildflowers that have evolved in Wisconsin provide far more insects than the nonnative plants common in many of our yards. Also, native plants can supply nectar, seeds, berries, shelter, and nesting areas for our birds.

Where can you get native plants? The Wisconsin DNR has a listing at dnr.wisconsin.gov and our Fox Valley Area Wild Ones has a native plant sale every spring.

Protect windows

Glass is invisible to birds. Up to 1 billion die every year after colliding with U.S. buildings, nearly half at home windows. Birds see reflections of habitat and sky in windows or see habitat through a window on the other side – and think they can fly to or through that habitat. By fixing just one window birds fly into, you can immediately save birds.

There are many options for treating windows: screens, patterns, decals, cords.

Farmers Market set to open downtown June 8

Shattuck Park in Neenah will again host the Future Neenah Farmers Market on Saturdays from 8 a.m. to noon starting June 8 through Oct. 12.

Local agriculture, artisanal crafts and live entertainment from 10 a.m. to noon are featured each week with more than 50 home-grown and hand-crafted vendors. There are also prepared and ready-to-eat foods available.



Information on window solutions can be found at sossaveoursongbirds.org

Purchase bird-friendly coffee

Most coffee is grown in ways that destroy songbird wintering habitat. Vast swaths of forest are cleared in Central and South America to grow open fields of coffee, eliminating songbird wintering habitat.

But there's good news, some coffee is grown bird-friendly under a canopy of native trees and vegetation, providing critical winter habitat for songbirds.

Bird-friendly coffee is also grown organically without industrial fertilizers, pesticides and herbicides. Coffee that meets the Smithsonian's strict bird-friendly standards carries the Bird-Friendly seal and is the best choice to help birds.

A second option is USDA organic certified coffee, which is probably grown under some shade and native vegetation that supports songbirds.

Many bird-friendly coffees are available online; visit the Smithsonian's site nationalzoo.si.edu. Birds and Beans Coffee is Bird-Friendly Certified and available at Wildbird & Backyard in Appleton or can be ordered at birdsandbeanscoffee.com.

USDA organic certified coffee is widely available at local stores and coffee shops. Look for the USDA organic certified seal.

Please take the three actions at home to help save our songbirds. And spread the word about SOS Save Our Songbirds: sossaveoursongbirds.org.

Winnebago Audubon is a chapter of National Audubon, which encourages people to enjoy and protect birds, other wildlife and habitats. They have several bird walks planned this spring that are free and open to the public.

Kids' Days at the Market will be held June 22 and July 20 with free children's activities each week with crafts, face painting and bounce houses.

The market offers a free Loyalty Card program that visitors can sign up for at the information booth under the pavilion and accepts Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) food share benefits.

ARPA funds

FROM PAGE 1

dum of understanding, county Finance Director Paul Kaiser wrote in an email to Neenah Mayor Jane Lang that the county was considering requiring a signed agreement that would authorize it to use the city's traffic safety barriers "in case of need."

In addition, Kaiser wrote that Neenah must either spend or have a purchase order for the barriers before the funds would be transferred.

Neenah's finance director Vicky Rasmussen confirmed the city paid for the barriers upfront "as they're a necessity for the safety of our residents and visitors with summer events on the horizon that draw large crowds."

But an email from Lang to Kaiser in early May asking about the status of the latest round of fund allocations went unanswered.

That appears to follow a pattern in the county's distribution of the funds. In March 2023 the board approved disbursing \$3 million among the 21 county municipalities. Five months later, only one municipality had received the money and the county announced new conditions that each municipality had to first spend the money and then be reimbursed. The county later amended some of the requirements for municipalities that may not have the funds to cover large projects in advance of receiving the ARPA dollars.

The email sent out to the entities last week was not sent by Kaiser, who is a county employee, but by volunteer ARPA Commission member Beth Oswald, who included a checklist of items required to finalize the "grant contracts."

The grant contract appears to be a new requirement and the wording has not been

shared with the entities receiving the funds.

Oswald wrote that she isn't a part of the distribution process and doesn't have any additional information on the terms of the grant contract, next steps or an anticipated timeline.

The checklist includes an option for ARPA funds that are requested before purchasing or starting the project, which conflicts with the email Kaiser sent to Lang requiring project completion for disbursement.

An examination of 18 resolutions approved this year to appropriate the ARPA funds indicates that the entities are required to submit supporting documentation to the county finance director upon completion of the project, but does not state that the funds are only disbursed after completion.

Neenah News spoke with officials from municipalities and nonprofits who are disappointed that the promised ARPA funds have been slow to materialize, hampering their ability to deal with pressing community needs ranging from infrastructure improvements to social welfare programs.


"This very long and arduous process has been frustrating for the city of Neenah, and the city is still awaiting receipt of the Spirit Fund grant money that was approved by the county board back in March," Lang said. "We have fulfilled every request from Winnebago County to provide information in order to receive this funding and yet we have not received the Spirit Fund grant that was awarded."

The common theme appears to be a sense of disillusionment and exasperation with the lack of transparency and communication from county officials regarding the status of the ARPA funds.

County Executive Jon Doemel has not responded to phone or email requests for comment.

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Rockets roll past Redwings in regional opener

By Steve Clark
NEENAH NEWS

Mack Krause wasn't messing around on the mound for the Neenah High School baseball team.

That's exactly what Rockets head coach Aaron Nelson expected from his sophomore hurler and why he ran Krause out on the mound in a WIAA Division 1 regional game.

"That's just Mack. That's his mentality. That's why you put him out there in a game like this because you know what you are going to get from him. He's going to throw strikes, he's going to compete and that's exactly what he did today," Nelson said. "Mack never fades. He's locked in as soon as he steps in the park and that's what

you are going to get from the first pitch to last pitch."

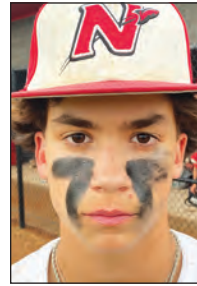
Krause struck out eight and needed just 82 pitches to dispose of Sheboygan South, 15-0, in five innings in the Rockets' tournament opener on a rainy Tuesday afternoon in Neenah.

Despite less than ideal conditions, Krause wasn't about to let someone else finish what he started, notching a pair of strikeouts in the final inning before getting a weak grounder for the final out.

"Coach came and asked me if I wanted to finish and I said yeah. I wanted the complete game," Krause said. "There were a couple of innings where I had trouble finding the zone but toward the end there, I started to get my feel back. Especially

with the fastball."

Krause said the key to his strong outing was his fastball since the rain made it difficult to throw some of his other pitches.



Krause

But working fast and throwing a lot of fastballs simply left the Redwings over-matched.

"My off-speed stuff was all right today but it was kind of hard with the rain," Krause said. "So I just tried to blow fastballs by them."

Krause was backed by plenty of offensive support with the Rockets scoring at least one run in every inning.

The top three hitters in the Rockets' lineup - seniors Trevor Stichman, AJ Price and Ethan Van Dyke - had a huge day to lead the offense. The trio went a combined 7-for-10, reached base in 11 of 12 plate appearances and scored a total of seven runs.

"If we get those guys hot and we can keep riding them, this team could go anywhere," Nelson said. "Stichman, he's getting on base and setting us up at the top. AJ's just been phenomenal. Anything around the zone he's just putting a swing on for a double. And EVD has done what he's done the last three years as a varsity guy. He sees his pitch and he hits line drives all over the park and drives runs in."

Van Dyke's single and stolen base followed Price reaching on a fielder's choice to put runners on second and third with one out in the first inning. Andrew Carlson followed with an RBI-single and Krause brought in another run when he reached on an error.

In the second inning, Payton Miller started the inning with a walk and a stolen base and scored on Price's double. Price later scored on passed ball to give the Rockets a 4-0 lead after two innings.

"(The early runs) gives me comfort and I feel like I have some space to breath. I'm

just a little more relaxed," Krause said. "I think we all really wanted to play today. We were all excited and I think we were all looking forward to it."

Neenah then broke the game open with a five-run third inning, with four of the runs scoring with two outs in the inning.

Isaac Verbruggen had an RBI single to start the rally, but it was Will St. Clair's clutch two-out double that plated a run and allowed Stichman, Price and Van Dyke to each follow with run-scoring base hits.

"These guys at the bottom of the order are doing their job," Nelson said. "You get those guys on and then it gets it turned over to the top of the order."

The Rockets ended the game with six runs in the fourth before Krause worked a perfect top of the fifth.

Van Dyke finished 4-for-4 with two RBIs to lead the offense, while Price, Verbruggen and St. Clair chipped in two hits apiece.

The Rockets were slated to face the winner of Slinger against West Bend West on Thursday. Those two teams had their game rained out Tuesday and were going to play Wednesday.

Nelson was glad the Rockets were able to get the game in Tuesday, despite having to play in the rain and cold.

"Anytime it's on the schedule, you want to get it in," Nelson said. "It gives us a day in between and we can get a practice in. We really haven't been able to practice on the field so it will be nice to get out here and get ready."

Neenah, which is seeded third in the regional, will certainly bring some momentum into the regional final.

The Rockets have won eight straight games after Tuesday's win and nine of their last 10 and are looking to keep things rolling.

"For sure we are on a roll," Krause said. "We have beaten some good teams in (the winning streak) so it definitely gives us momentum."

NEENAH COMMUNITY BACK TO SCHOOL FAIR CAMPAIGN 2024

We need your help to provide backpacks, school supplies and school appropriate clothing for the coming school year.

NMES members collaborate with both the Neenah and Menasha school districts to reach out to children in need. Children are identified by schools, social service agencies and other sources.

The Fair is held in August of each year. Each child receives a backpack containing supplies for them to start the school year prepared to achieve academic success and a certificate for a pair of shoes redeemable at Rogan's.

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Prep sports roundup

TRACK AND FIELD

Rockets ready to roll at state meet

Neenah will be well represented at the WIAA Division 1 State Track and Field Meet, which kicks off today at UW-La Crosse, after both the girls and boys squads finished second at the West Bend West sectional last week.

The girls were led by a trio of individuals who will be returning to the state meet.

Mazie Olkowski won both the 1,600 meters and 3,200 meters and will be running in both events this weekend, while Lydia Delene qualified for state by taking second in the shot put and third in the discus. She competed in the discus last season.

Rachel Dietrich will also be returning in the 800 meters after placing second at the sectional meet.

Three Rockets will be making their first trip to state in individual events as Celia Gentile won the long jump title at the sectional meet to advance, while Brynn Fox in the 100 meters and Elsa Gruber in the 3,200 meters each finished third to earn a spot at the state meet.

Neenah will also be sending three relays to the state meet after each took second at sectionals.

The 400-meter relay team of Fox, Gentile, Lilly Granditzke and Abbie Fischer qualified along with the 1,600-meter relay foursome of Gentile, Dietrich, Julia Rangel and Ava Schalow. Also advancing to state was the 3,200-meter relay group of Gruber, Natalie Willes, Lexi Dorner and Brooke Veith.

The Neenah boys defending state champion 1,600-meter relay team advanced to the state meet by winning the sectional title, with this year's group consisting of CJ Fredrickson, Alex Thayer, Owen Wise and Grant Dean.

The 3,200-meter relay team of Fredrickson, Thayer, Braden Loudon and Bly Wheeler also earned a spot in La Crosse after taking second at the sectional meet.

Wyatt Armock will be competing in a pair of individual events for the Rockets after taking third at sectionals in both the 1,600 meters and 3,200 meters, while Dean advanced to state after winning the sectional title in the 400 meters at sectionals and Sam Scheer placed third in the discus to qualify for state.

Dean was also added to the field in the 100 meters after taking fourth at sectionals, but running a qualifying time of 11.01 seconds.

Anderson to defend state title for Zephyrs

Nolie Anderson will be back in La Crosse to defend her WIAA Division 3 state discus title after qualifying at last week's sectional meet in Rosholt.

Anderson finished second in the discus



Facebook photo

The Neenah High School boys tennis team dominated its WIAA Division 1 sectional last week, winning titles at six of the seven flights. The Rockets are represented by its No. 1 and No. 2 singles and doubles at the individual state tennis meet this weekend and will head to the team state tournament next weekend.

at sectionals to advance and also qualified in the shot put after taking fourth at the sectional meet.

Joining her at the state meet will be Lauren Ripley, who qualified by placing fourth in the 1,600 meters and the Zephyrs' 3,200-meter relay team of Ripley, Addison Dinka, Claire Higgins and Maria Marti, which finished second at sectionals.

The lone St. Mary Catholic boy to qualify for the state meet was Ashton Post, who took fourth in the pole vault to advance.

TENNIS

Neenah dominates sectional tourney

The Rockets crowned sectional champions at six of the seven flights to easily capture the sectional title last week and earn another trip to the team state tournament next weekend.

Neenah will have four flights competing at this weekend's individual state tennis tournament in Madison as both the Rockets No. 1 and No. 2 singles and No. 1 and No. 2 doubles advanced.

At the sectional meet, the Rockets won all four singles titles, starting with Carl Hein at the No. 1 flight. Hein dropped only five games in three matches and beat Oshkosh West's Jacob Stinski, 6-0, 6-1 in the title match.

At No. 2 singles, Brady Lawatsch scored a 6-0, 6-0 win in the sectional championship match over Oshkosh West's Kole Stauffacher to claim the title, while Joe Schultz edged Sheboygan North's Elijah Lee, 6-4, 6-3 for the title. Harrison Tanger completed the singles sweep at the No. 4 flight by toppling Cameron Hahn of Menasha, 6-1, 6-1.

Winning sectional titles in doubles were the No. 2 pairing of Tristan Yun and Hunter Brown, who rolled to the title with a 6-1, 6-1 win over Gavin Steiner and Reid Potter of Oshkosh West.

Henry Farrell and Luke Grassl at the No. 3 flight also claimed the sectional crown by outdueling Sheboygan North's Austin Kohn and Aiden DeRuyter, 6-4, 7-5.

The Rockets' top pairing of Andrew Werner and Brady Hildreth earned their state trip with a third-place finish. The duo

lost a three-set heartbreaker to the eventual sectional champions from Plymouth, but bounced back to knock off Ryan Jorgensen and Yoseff Edsell of Oshkosh West in the third-place match.

Zephyrs' top doubles team heads to state

St. Mary Catholic's No. 1 doubles pairing of Grant Bergstrom and Wesley Auth

SEE **Prep roundup** ON PAGE 14

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Prep roundup

FROM PAGE 13

earned a spot in this week's WIAA Division 2 state tournament with a fourth-place finish at the Kohler Sectional last week.

The duo punched their ticket to Madison by winning its opening round match over St. Mary Springs' Gavin Slinde and Jack McGuire, 6-4, 6-2. Bergstrom and Auth dropped its next two matches at the meet, including a marathon match for third place against Xavier's Nick Bittner and Nate Hall, which the Xavier pair won 4-6, 6-3, 13-11.

The Zephyrs' No. 3 doubles pairing of Ethan Tines and Alex Walsh also finished fourth in their flight and also lost a lengthy three-set decision in the third-place match.

BASEBALL

Nigl's gem lifts Zephyrs to regional victory

Collin Nigl tossed a two-hit shutout and sixth-seeded St. Mary Catholic knocked off Kewaunee, 1-0, in a WIAA Division 3 regional semifinal Tuesday.

The Zephyrs were slated to face second-seeded Shiocton on Wednesday. Results of the game were not available by our deadlines.

Nigl struck out eight and walked only one in earning the complete game victory over the Storm.

He also finished 2-for-4 and drove in the only run in the game, plating Luke Fairweather in the third inning for the game-winning tally.

Fisher Mackenzie also finished with a pair of hits for the Zephyrs, who totaled six hits and five walks in the game.

SOFTBALL

Zephyrs fall just short in regional final

St. Mary Catholic rallied for two runs in the top of the fourth inning to whittle away at an early deficit but couldn't com-

plete the comeback in a 3-2 loss to Random Lake in a WIAA Division 3 regional final last Thursday.

Nevaeh Saringer drove in both runs for the Zephyrs, who finished with five hits in the game. Saringer's two-run single scored both Rhiannon Reichenbacher and Samantha Weiss to trim the Rams' lead to 3-2.

Emily Vogel and Ainslie Liddy also had hits in the game for the Zephyrs.

Saringer scattered seven hits and did not walk a batter in taking the loss in the circle for the Zephyrs. She struck out two in the game.

Neenah knocked off by Watertown

The Rockets saw their season end with a 12-1 loss to Watertown in a WIAA Division 1 regional final.

Neenah ends the season with a 14-10 record.

BOYS LACROSSE

Neenah secures first WIAA Tournament win

Neenah boys lacrosse opened up its inaugural WIAA Tournament with a resounding 26-5 win over Green Bay Notre Dame on Tuesday.

The 26 points were the most the Rockets have scored in a match this season. Their previous high total was 22.

The top-seeded Rockets were slated to face eighth-seeded Kimberly on Thursday, with the winner advancing to a sectional semifinal match on Saturday.

Neenah knocked off Kimberly 10-6 in a match earlier this season.

GIRLS LACROSSE

Rockets fall in inaugural WIAA Tournament match

Neenah was knocked out of the WIAA Tournament on Tuesday in a 9-3 loss to Oconomowoc/Pewaukee.

The Rockets finished the season with a 4-10 record.

Harwood garners softball honors after freshman season at UWSP

Former Neenah High School softball standout Morgan Harwood earned a pair of top honors from the Wisconsin Intercollegiate Athletic Conference.

Harwood, a freshman at UW-Stevens Point, was named the league's Pitcher of the Year and Newcomer of the Year along with her first-team all-conference honor.

Harwood ranked second in the conference with a 0.86 earned run average, while pitching more than 97 innings in her first season with the Pointers. She finished fourth in the league with 119 strikeouts and fifth in the conference with a .188 opponent batting average.

Harwood finished the season with a 14-3 record, with those 14 victories ranking as the second most among WIAC

pitchers. She also picked up three saves on the season.

Harwood is just the second player in program history to be named Pitcher of the Year in the conference. Karen Guckenberger won the award in 2002.

She was one of four Pointers to be named to the all-WIAC first team and just one of four freshmen to be named on the 20-member squad.

Harwood was also named to the National Fastpitch Coaches Association all-Region first team and is a finalist for the NFCA Division III Freshman of the Year Award.

During the season, Harwood pitched consecutive no-hitters. The first was a combined no-hitter as she pitched the first five innings in a start against St. Scholastica and then followed it with a five-inning no-hitter against St. Norbert.

She also had eight straight scoreless outings against WIAC opponents this season.



Harwood

Area athletes named to WBCA All-Star teams

Four area basketball players will be participating in the Wisconsin Basketball Coaches All-Star Games to be held at Justagame Fieldhouse in Wisconsin Dells in June.

Neenah teammates Brady Corso and Charlie Wunderlich will be a part of the Division 1 White Team after helping lead the Rockets to their third straight WIAA State Tournament this past winter.

Corso was a unanimous first-team all-Fox Valley Association selection after leading the Rockets in scoring at 22 points per game this season. Wunderlich was a second-team all-FVA selection after finishing as the Rockets second-leading scorer.

The Neenah duo will be joined by two fellow FVA players on the White team. Appleton East's Joey LaChapell and Kimberly's Thomas Meyers were also named to the 10-member squad.

Oshkosh North standout Stevie Clark was named to the Division 1 Red team.

The Division 4 boys game will also fea-

ture an area player as St. Mary Catholic's Fisher Mackenzie was named to the White team. Mackenzie was a first-team selection in the Big East North this past season after averaging 17.6 points and nine rebounds per game for the Zephyrs.

Trey Keller of Kohler was selected as a member of the Division 4 red team, while Camden Dvorachek of Reedsville will play in the Division 5 contest.

On the girls side, St. Mary Catholic's Audrey Norville was selected to play on the Division 4 North team. Norville was a unanimous first-team all-Big East North selection after helping the Zephyrs to the conference title while averaging 14.3 points per game.

Norville is the lone Big East player participating in the Division 4, although two conference players will compete in the Division 5 contest. Elkhart Lake-Glenbuelah's Coryn Fromm and Reedsville's Mallory Novy were selected in Division 5.

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ThedaCare nurse asks all people to be donor difference

ThedaCare Communications

Nearly eight years ago, Sarah Forster, an operating room nurse at ThedaCare Regional Medical Center-Neenah, had just gotten home from working a night shift when she received a call from her son's school.

"They let me know he was experiencing a medical situation, but didn't know the extent," she recalled. "When I got there, it was a whirlwind."

Her son, 12-year-old, Nicholas, lived with a brain condition. He was non-verbal and used a wheelchair. Later, it was determined that Nick suffered cardiac arrest at school. School staff members performed high-quality cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) on Nick. It was their quick action that allowed him the opportunity to save lives through organ donation.

"During those first few days, when they were monitoring Nick's prognosis, it's amazing to think that our family and someone else's family were both praying so hard for our children," Forster said.

Nick's family was told that he would not survive. Because of Forster's background as a nurse, the family asked to be connected with an organ donor network.

"It was during that time that we found hope," said Forster. "It is hard to believe that as your child is dying you would find hope. It was hope that our little boy would have the opportunity to save someone."

Nick passed away on May 21, 2016. He donated his heart, liver, kidneys, and corneas so that others could live full and happy lives. The family learned that through his selfless donation, Nick's life would continue in five other people.

"I think it is important to know that living with a disability does not automatically rule

a person out as a potential organ or tissue donor," Forster explained.

Although Nick was considered blind while he was alive, his corneas were able to be donated. Nick's corneas were given to two men in Mexico, and their vision was restored.

"All of this was beautiful and tragic," his mom explained. "Eight years after his death, we never regret sharing his gifts. He was a hero."

April is National Donate Life Month. Each year, hospitals honor donors, as well as their families, and recognize those who have received the gift of hope. The month also promotes awareness of organ, tissue and eye donation and the need for registered donors.

To promote organ and tissue donation, Forster recently spoke at an event at ThedaCare Regional Medical Center-Neenah. She shared Nick's story in the hope that it inspires others.

"If people are considering organ donation, I would tell them to look inside themselves and sign up to be the difference," she said.

According to UW Organ and Tissue Donation, one organ donor can save up to eight lives. The organization reports 103,000 patients currently waiting for a lifesaving transplant, nearly 1,500 of whom are right here in Wisconsin.

Information about donations:

- Anyone age 15 or older can register as a donor in Wisconsin, regardless of health, gender, ethnicity or racial background.

- Nearly 3 million Wisconsin residents, almost 60% of those eligible, have registered on Wisconsin's Donor Registry.

- All major religions in the United States support donation and view it as a final act of love and generosity.

Andy Sonneborn, a chaplain with the ThedaCare Pastoral Care Team, recently spoke about helping families have organ and tissue donation conversations.

"We're often in the rooms with families as they are making decisions," he said. "We listen and talk. We also try to help them find meaning and what is sacred to them."

Chaplain Sonneborn said frequently there are two conversations taking place in situations where a person is critically ill.

"We often discuss what the loved one would want and how families can carry out those wishes," he said. "Many times, the con-

versations about what a person would want have not occurred, and those times can be more challenging."

While those conversations can be upsetting and difficult to have, Sonneborn recommends having them with family members before a loved one becomes ill.

"When having those discussions, I like to remind people that it is not just the person who receives the organ or tissue who is impacted, it's their loved ones – friends and families," he said. "If someone is saved through an organ or tissue donation, there is a ripple effect in the community."

Obituaries

Jean R. Ziolkowski

Jean R. Ziolkowski, age 80 of Menasha, passed away peacefully surrounded by family on Tuesday, May 21, 2024. She was born in Oshkosh on May 16, 1944 to the late John C. and Ruth (Rubbert) Kroll.



Jean dedicated her life to her work as a beautician and later found joy in creating books at Banta Corporation.

Jean's love for mother nature, specifically animals, should have been reason for her nickname to be "Snow White" of Menasha. She adored the feathered and furry friends in her neighborhood, ensuring they were always well-fed and cared for, especially the birds who flocked to her backyard.

In addition to her love for animals, Jean had a passion for painting and golfing, finding solace and joy in these creative pursuits throughout her life. Her artistic talents and love for the game of golf

brought a unique vibrancy to her days.

Jean is lovingly survived by her children, Jay (Debbie) Miller and Kerri (Scott) Goodale; grandchildren, Alex and Cody Miller; brother, John "Jack" (Lana) Kroll; nephews, John "Johnny" (Angie) Kroll and Michael "Mike" (Laura) Kroll.

In addition to her parents, Jean was preceded in death by her husband, Tom Ziolkowski.

A funeral service for Jean will be held at Konrad-Behlman Funeral Home-Westside, 100 Lake Pointe Dr. on Monday, June 3, 2024 at 5:00 p.m. with Pastor Jon Kuske officiating. Visitation will be held at the funeral home from 3:00 p.m. until the time of the service. Private interment will be held at Lake View Memorial Park.

In lieu of flowers, a memorial will be established.

Jean's family would like to extend their gratitude to Compassus Hospice, especially Nicole. Thank you for all of the assistance and compassionate care provided to Jean.



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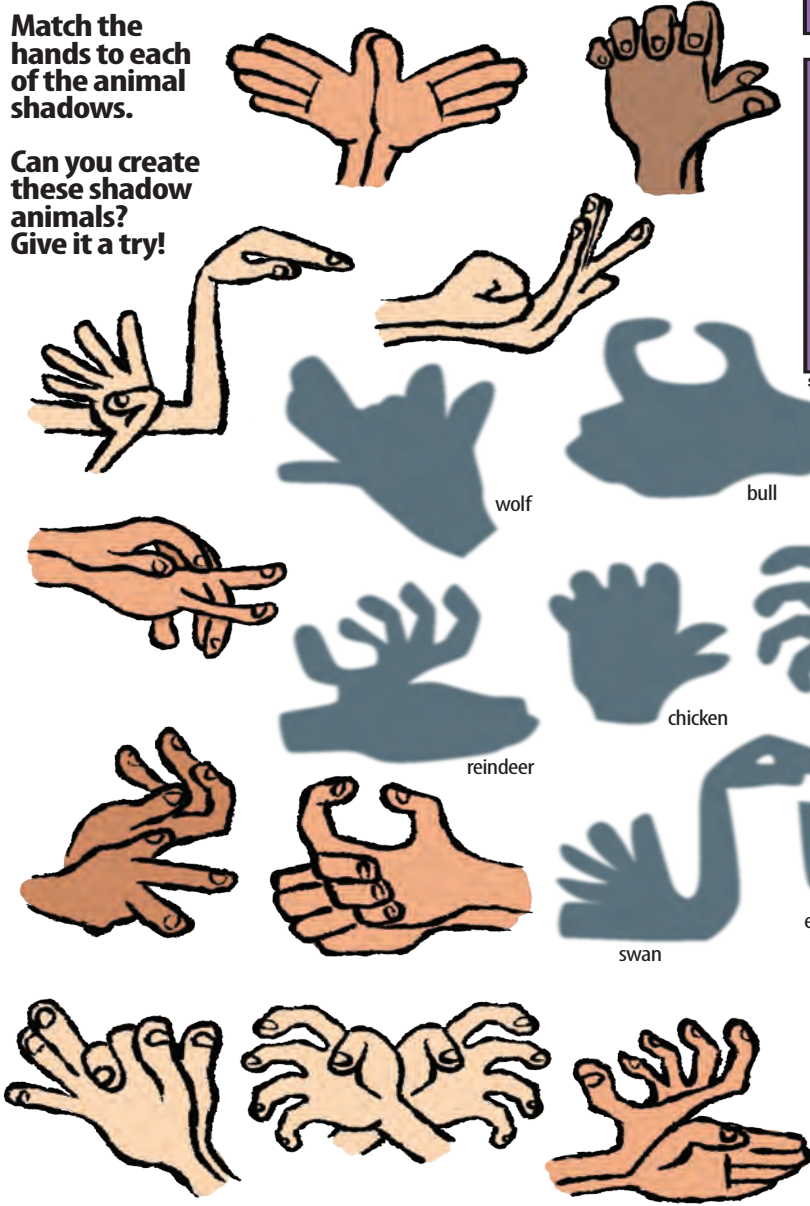
Hand Shadow Puppets

Creating the shapes of animals, trees and faces using hand shadows is fun and sometimes challenging. You'll need a dark room and a flashlight or small desk lamp. Then, try to create some of the hand shadows on this page. See if you can make your hand shadow puppets speak or move realistically. It takes some practice!

Standards Link: Follow visual cues.

Match the hands to each of the animal shadows.

Can you create these shadow animals? Give it a try!



How many differences can you find?



Standards Link: Find similarities and differences in common objects.

Extra! Extra! Comical Shadows

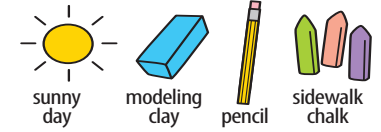
Look in the newspaper comics and find a character you like. On a piece of construction paper, carefully draw the character's outline. Cut out the shape and tape it to a popsicle stick. Use a flashlight to project its shadow on the wall and see if your friends and family members can recognize the character.

Standards Link: Reading Comprehension: Follow simple written directions.

Kid Scoop Together Shadow Path

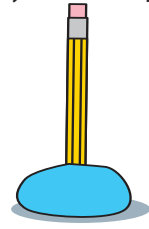
Work with a family member to see how a shadow changes throughout the day.

STUFF YOU'LL NEED:



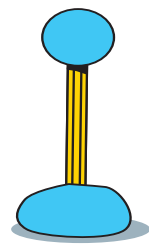
STEP 1

Make a ball of clay and place it on the cement outside. Stick the pencil in the clay so it stands upright.



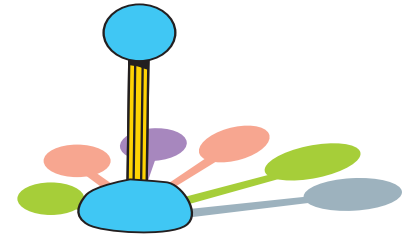
STEP 2

Make another small ball of clay. Stick it on the top of the pencil.



STEP 3

Starting at 1:00 p.m., use sidewalk chalk to trace the shadow. Trace it once an hour for six hours to show how the shadow moves and changes as the sun gets lower in the sky.



Standards Link: Follow multiple-step directions.

Kid Scoop Puzzler

Look carefully! Can you find each flashlight's exact twin?



Standards Link: Find similarities and differences in common objects.

Double Double Word Search

- ANIMALS
- CREATE
- CUT
- DRAW
- FIND
- FLASHLIGHT
- FUN
- HAND
- LAMP
- MOVE
- PAPER
- PUPPETS
- SHADOW
- TAPE
- WALL

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

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

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

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Write On!

Where does your shadow go at night?

Write about it. Be creative!

Standards Link: Language Arts: Write using descriptive details.



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