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County looks at homeless restrictions

Supervisors consider ban on public camping

By Bethanie Gengler
NEENAH NEWS

Camping on Winnebago County-owned property may soon be prohibited after two county committees voted this month in favor of an ordinance targeting the growing homeless population.

The ordinance bans camping on any county right of way or property, including parks, parking lots and trails, with few exceptions. It permits the issuing of

a citation only if a person continues to camp more than an hour after receiving a warning. Each day a violation continues or occurs constitutes a separate offense. A second offense is punishable by a fine of \$250 and up to six months in jail.

An additional ordinance that prohibits loitering would allow officers to issue a citation or arrest a person who meets certain criteria, such as taking flight upon appearance of an officer, refusing to identify themselves while on county-owned property, or if an officer believes the person has committed or is committing a violation of the law. That ordinance proposal failed to

pass both committees.

The ordinances are only enforceable on county-owned property and do not overrule individual municipalities' ordinances.

At the start of last week's Judiciary and Public Safety Committee meeting, several residents and representatives from local organizations spoke in opposition to the ordinances, calling them the criminalization of homelessness and citing the shortage of available housing.

"The people who we're talking about that are homeless, they have no place to

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Neenah News

Powwow greetings

Tribal dancers at last Saturday's Neenah-Menasha Intertribal Powwow greet participants who joined the festivities at Shattuck Park in Neenah.

Boat landings in county shift away from parking permits

Launch fees to include kayak and canoe usage

By Bethanie Gengler
NEENAH NEWS

All users of Winnebago County boat launches, including kayakers and canoeists, will now be required to pay a launch fee after the Winnebago County Board of Supervisors on Tuesday approved a modification to replace "boat landing trailer parking permits" with "boat launch use permit fees."

Winnebago County maintains boat

launches at Butte des Morts, Eureka, Black Wolf, Boom Bay, Lake Poygan, Grundman Park and Asylum Point Park.

Previously, boaters who park an attached or detached trailer in any Winnebago County park or boat launch were required to pay a daily, annual or multi-year parking fee ranging from \$7 daily to \$100 for a three-year pass for a non-resident.

The county uses boat landing fees to maintain and improve boat launches and fund the installation, removal, repair and maintenance of buoys.

The amendment clarifies that all boat-

ers, including those who live on the lake and frequently use the landings, are required to pay the fee for using the launch.

"These individuals are still utilizing the launch, bathroom facilities, floating docks, loading areas, and buoys," Parks Director Adam Breest wrote in a memo. "Users that live on the lake and launch their boats at the beginning and end of the season should pay for the use of the boat landing just like the other users of the facility."

Among the discussion at Tuesday's meeting was whether snowmobilers should also be charged for using the launches to get out on the frozen lake.

District 13 supervisor Steven Binder said the county currently doesn't charge snowmobilers and if the county needs to raise revenue in the future it needs to consider charging them.

"I don't think it's fair to charge one person to use the launch and then all winter somebody else can use the launch for nothing," he said.

The change comes after the Department of Natural Resources contacted the Winnebago County Parks Department last year and notified staff that per state code

SEE **Boat landings** ON PAGE 2



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Corrections

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Local candidate forums set by league

Neenah News

Voters are invited to a forum with candidates for Winnebago County register of deeds set for 6:30 p.m. Sept. 26 at Oshkosh City Hall, 215 Church Ave.

Democrat Christopher Larson and Republican Susan Snyder will answer questions submitted by the audience. Sponsored by the League of Women Voters of Winnebago County and Oshkosh Media, the forum will air live on Oshkosh Media

Gov TV on Spectrum Cable Channel 10 in Oshkosh and on Channel 99 on AT&T U-verse. It will also stream live on the Oshkosh Media YouTube channel and on the free Oshkosh Media apps on Roku, Amazon Fire TV and Apple TV.

The forum will be available on demand on the Oshkosh Media YouTube channel and re-air several times before Election Day on Gov TV.

Candidates for Wisconsin Assembly

District 53 will appear at another forum at 6:30 p.m. Oct. 3 at the Neenah Public Library. Republican Dean Kaufert and Democrat Duane Shukoski will respond to questions submitted by the audience. This forum, sponsored by LWV of Wisconsin, LWV of Winnebago County and LWV Appleton/Fox Cities, will be available for later viewing on YouTube and at lwvwinnebago.org.

Questions must be intended for both candidates and will be reviewed to prevent duplication and ensure clarity. Before the forums, questions may be directed to wcLWVinfo@gmail.com. Assembly and Senate district boundaries were recently redrawn; visit tinyurl.com/wisconsinmaps to verify the district boundaries.

A forum invitation was sent to candidates for U.S. congressional District 6, state Senate District 18 and Assembly districts 54 and 55. LWV officials said all Democratic candidates agreed to participate while Republican candidates either refused or didn't respond. LWV policies do not allow a forum to be held with only one candidate.



Neenah News

Special celebration

Arline Dabill was moved to tears on her 100th birthday Wednesday as four busloads of students from Alliance Charter School showed up at her Doty Island home to sing "Happy Birthday." Having lived across the street from the former Roosevelt Elementary School for 64 years, she's Grandma Dabill to the students, who she told, "You're the best part of my 100 years."

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Boat landings

FROM PAGE 1

the county could not charge for parking but could charge for launching a boat.

Last December, the county considered increasing the fee assessed at the seven boat landings maintained by the county in an effort to keep up with maintenance costs and make the boat landings more self-sustaining in the future. The fee increase was not brought to the full county board for a vote.

Breest said the fee will remain the same and the county will use park rangers to enforce the requirements at boat launches and potentially recover some of the income it would have expected from the fee increase.

The penalty for launching a vessel from a county boat launch without purchasing or displaying a permit is \$35, which must be paid within 48 hours. After 48 hours, the penalty increases to \$50 and if the penalty is not paid within five days it increases to \$75.

The County Board voted 32-2 in favor of the change, which went into effect immediately.

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Former city attorney pleads guilty to child porn charge

By Bethanie Gengler
NEENAH NEWS

A former Neenah city attorney charged with recording and distributing child pornography pleaded guilty in federal court last week.

Adam Westbrook, 35, formerly of Neenah, signed an agreement Sept. 12 to plead guilty to one count of distribution of child pornography.



Westbrook

Westbrook, who resigned from his position as Neenah's city attorney in 2022, was employed as Outagamie County's human resources director when he was arrested and charged in February and a search warrant was executed at his Neenah home. He subsequently resigned from his Outagamie County position.

Police said Westbrook recorded videos of a prepubescent naked male child and sent them to Preston Kite, 37, who was a Racine County sheriff's deputy at the

time. Kite was terminated from his job Feb. 8 after a person reported that he masturbated and exposed himself in a public bathroom while on duty and in uniform.

The investigation into the exposure incident uncovered evidence that led authorities to charge Kite with 47 counts of child pornography, child sexual exploitation and bestiality, and led to the charges against Westbrook.

Two more Fox Valley men have also been charged in connection with Westbrook. Jacob Boudreau, 30, faces 12 possession of child pornography charges; and Noah Thiel, 21, was charged with four counts of bestiality.

Leading up to Westbrook's plea were proceedings surrounding evidence recovered from an iPad seized from his office at the Outagamie County Government Center.

The iPad contained an image of suspected child pornography that Westbrook received from Kite and two items of suspected child pornography that Westbrook sent to Kite. Westbrook had not been charged in relation to the exchange.

Westbrook's attorneys argued the evidence from the iPad should be suppressed because the government possessed it for 72 days before obtaining a warrant to examine its contents. The government argued Westbrook had no expectation of privacy in his office and the iPad was in plain view.

By signing the plea agreement, Westbrook resolved all possible federal criminal violations known by the government at the date of the plea, any criminal violations related to the material found on

the iPad and conduct that took place between May 21, 2023 and March 1, 2024 in a Telegram group, documents say. Telegram is a messaging app with encryption and privacy features that make it attractive for illegal activities.

Westbrook faces a maximum of 20 years in prison, lifetime supervision and a \$250,000 fine at his sentencing hearing Dec. 5.

If the court accepts the plea agreement, the judge must sentence Westbrook in the range of 8-12 years in prison.

Vietnam veterans wall coming to Sunnyview

Neenah News

Sons of the American Legion Squadron 70 will be hosting the Traveling Wall from the American Veterans Traveling Tribute from Oct. 10-13 at Sunnyview Expo Center.

The Traveling Wall is a replica of the Vietnam War Memorial in Washington, D.C., that measures 8 feet tall at the apex and 360 feet long. The memorial honors service members of the U.S. armed forces who fought in the Vietnam War, those who died in service in Southeast Asia and

those unaccounted for (missing in action) during the war.

The wall will arrive Oct. 9 and be escorted under colors by the American Legion Riders and various local police and fire departments to Sunnyview Expo Center. A special addition this year will be a Vietnam-era Huey that will provide an aerial escort. The opening ceremony will take place at 7 p.m. Oct. 10.

The Traveling Wall will be open continuously from 3 p.m. Oct. 10 until noon Oct. 13.



Neenah Historical Society photo

Foundry founding

The Neenah Foundry was founded in 1872 by William Aylward Sr. under the name The Aylward Plow Works. That name was eventually changed, and focus shifted from manufacturing castings for plows and stoves to construction castings. In 1958, production capacity was 250 tons daily with employment of more than 600 people.

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Civic group celebrates 50 years of serving community

Lions Club continues to make big differences

By Bethanie Gengler
NEENAH NEWS

The Larsen-Winchester Lions Club is celebrating 50 years of community service under the group's motto, "We Serve."

Chartered in 1974, the club is part of the Wisconsin Lions and Lions Clubs International that together make up the largest service organization in the world.

A pancake breakfast from 8 a.m. to noon Oct. 6 at Winchester Elementary School, 5270 Ann St., will raise funds for the club. Tickets are \$8 for adults, \$6 for children ages 4-12 and free for children under 4, and can be purchased at the door or in advance from members of the club.

Irv Korth, who's now a member of the Butte des Morts Lions, is one of the founding members of the Larsen-Winchester club.

The way Korth explains it, in the 1970s the Lions Club was trying to get more local branches started. One evening, the Lions' district governor was at a bowling alley in Neenah and offered to make some of the men members for \$10. After a night of festivities, the men paid the fee and joined.

"I went home and told my wife that and said that we've got to look in the encyclopedia and see what Lions do because I had no idea," he said. "Then we looked it all up and I said, 'Well, after six months I'll be history from Lions' because I wasn't going to do all of that."

It was a tragic fire in the town of Larsen that claimed the lives of two sisters in 1976 that changed his mind. Volunteers from the Larsen-Winchester club helped clean up after the fire. Korth said that it helped him realize all the good the organization does for the community.

Pete Christianson, who has been a Lion for about 22 years, has been the lead volunteer at the club's medical equipment loan locker for the past four years. At age 81, he recently handed over the title to another volunteer.

Christianson shared that in 1925 Helen Keller challenged the Lions to become "knights of the blind in the crusade against darkness," which impacts the services the club offers still today.

The Lions Eye Bank of Wisconsin (LEBW) facilitates eye organ donations in the state and uses the "Cornea Express" to transport corneal tissue via a relay system. Korth is among those who've transported the donated eyes.

At the Wisconsin Lions Camp in Ro-



Neenah News

Neenah resident John Williams picked out a new cane at the Larsen-Winchester Lions Club medical equipment loan locker Tuesday with the help of a volunteer.

sholt, the club offers camp experiences for youth and adults who are blind or have other disabilities.

The group collects used eyeglasses and hearing aids, which are recycled and redistributed internationally to those who cannot afford new ones.

"When we were going to Mexico and giving out eyeglasses, there was a 10-year-old girl that put on a pair of eyeglasses and she said, 'Look mommy, I can see my feet.' She couldn't see her feet before that," Korth said.

Other eye-related programs supported by the Lions Club include Leader Dogs for the Blind and vision screening for youth in schools throughout the state.

Volunteers at the group's warehouse near Trailhead Park in Larsen on Tuesday were eager to share the organization's extensive programs and contributions over the past five decades.

Several key programs play a significant role in the club's mission of service:

Medical equipment loan locker: This program started in 1983 loans out essential medical equipment to those in need, including wheelchairs, hospital beds, crutches and walkers, at no charge. The club collects medical supplies at the loan locker warehouse in Larsen and on Tuesdays and Saturdays from 9 to 11 a.m. volunteers assist people in checking out the equipment they need for as long as they need it.

Handicap ramp building program: Volunteers construct and install handicap ramps for residents in Neenah, Menasha, Appleton and the surrounding 25-mile

radius, excluding Oshkosh. The program is free for qualified residents in the towns of Clayton and Winchester and outside of the towns, the club charges half the cost of materials needed for construction.

Deer hide collection: Each fall the club collects deer hides which are repurposed into leather products. The proceeds from the hides are used to fund state-level programs for the blind and the Wisconsin Lions Camp in Rosholt.

Adopt-A-Highway program: Each spring, summer and fall, members pick up trash along a two mile stretch of County II in Winchester, contributing to a cleaner environment.

Recycled plastics program: The club collects plastics as part of an innovative program that turns the materials into benches that are placed in local parks, transforming waste into useful community assets.

Scholarships: The club offers scholarships to graduating seniors at Neenah and Winneconne high schools, helping youth further their education.

Orphan Grain Train: The club sends trailers of surplus medical supplies to Orphan Grain Train, which ships them out to impoverished countries.

Community garden: This year the club started a community garden, with all the produce donated to Ruth's Pantry.

Financial assistance: The club regularly sends financial donations to other organizations that provide services to the community. Beneficiaries include the Fox Valley Veterans Council, Salvation Army, Diabetes Education and Canine Compan-

ions for Independence.

Trailhead Park: The club has worked extensively to improve Trailhead Park, which is adjacent to its Larsen warehouse. Improvements include the addition of playground equipment, a pavilion and a basketball and pickleball court.

The Larsen-Winchester volunteers include both club members and nonmembers who embody the "We Serve" motto.

Judy Zimmerman said she visited the medical loan locker about 30 years ago to pick up equipment for a hospital patient and immediately decided that she'd start volunteering once she retired.

"I retired on a Wednesday, I was here on a Saturday and I've been here ever since," she said.

Jackie Ige said being able to offer services to residents brings "joy."

"I'm a retired physical therapist and it's fun to get people what they need," she said.

Larry Lichterman said about three years ago he stopped at the warehouse to drop off some medical supplies and inquired about volunteering. With working experience fixing medical equipment, he quickly became a valuable asset.

"They chained me to the workshop ever since," he said with a laugh.

Club president Beck Hilliker said one challenge is that the advanced age of many of the members and volunteers makes it difficult to take on new projects. Those interested in joining are welcome to attend a club meeting held on the second Monday of the month at the Century Elm Supper Club in Larsen.

The volunteers are rewarded with gratitude from the community, with a bulletin board at the warehouse filled with thank you notes.

"I am so grateful for the use of your bed and trapeze," one note read. "My husband would not be able to be at our home without your equipment."

"Your hard work in supplying us with a wheelchair is appreciated more than you can believe," read another.

Neenah resident John Williams was at the medical loan locker Tuesday to pick up a replacement cane, as his had become wobbly.

Williams said that following the amputation of his leg, the club has been a valuable resource in helping him get the supplies he needs. That includes a wheelchair, shower chair and a wheelchair ramp the club built at his home about three years ago.

"Excellent service; I can only say good things about them," he said. "The people are so friendly and eager to help you out and find what you need."

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Grants available to help train skilled workers

The state Department of Workforce Development encourages Wisconsin employers to apply for the latest Wisconsin Fast Forward grant for funding to train

skilled workers.

The Wisconsin Fast Forward program helps employers develop solutions to their area's workforce needs. Industry Sectors Worker Training Grants reimburse occupational training costs for unemployed, underemployed and existing workers.

Training that qualifies workers for full-time employment, higher level employment or increased wages can be reimbursed through grants of \$5,000 to \$400,000.

Eligible applicants include public agencies, private organizations in all industry sectors, a consortium of placement partners and tribal governing bodies.

The deadline to apply is 3 p.m. Oct. 28. More information can be found at the Wisconsin Fast Forward Program.

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Neenah News

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Business news roundup

Urban Market Neenah, a cafe with a European flair that serves local and organic foods, is having its grand opening this weekend at 207 W. Wisconsin Ave. in Neenah after a ribbon-cutting event Thursday. Owners are Kimberly and Rich Van Sistine, who said one of their daughters is running the kitchen line while others are working in the store and helped with the store design. There is also a food market that carries more than 1,000 items including groceries, and a wine bar with a variety of selections from Cyprus.

Rich Batley, founder of the Best Western Premier Bridgewood Resort Hotel & Conference Center, Copperleaf Boutique Hotel & Spa in Appleton and Batley's Grill & Bar in Neenah, is being inducted into the Wisconsin Lodging Hall of Fame by the state's Hotel Lodging Association. Batley had key roles in Bergstrom Hotels earlier in his career before purchasing Bridgewood Golf Course and later helping renovate and develop Best Western Premier Waterfront Hotel & Convention Center and the Ground Round restaurant in Oshkosh.

Four new Fox Cities area business leaders were recently added to the **Fox Cities Chamber** board of directors. Joining for three-year terms are Michael Richart, executive VP/chief business officer, Faith Technologies; Kurt Wolfgram, vice president for business development, Miron Construction; Troy Youngbauer, chief operations officer, Galloway Co.; and Ryan Batley, general manager of Best Western Premier Bridgewood Resort Hotel & Conference Center. In addition, new officers were named. Brad Werner, vice president/senior municipal engineer at

McMahon, was named board chairman; Steve Miller, vice president for commercial underwriting at Secura, was named incoming chair; and Tim Hoff, chief lending officer at Community First Credit Union, became past chair.

Plexus Corp. was one of nine companies cited by **Wisconsin Manufacturers & Commerce** as recipients of a Wisconsin Business Friend of the Environment Award for its sustainability efforts. For 34 years, WMC has presented this award to companies that have demonstrated environmental leadership through sustainability, stewardship and innovation. Awards are presented based on company size and businesses that demonstrate they have made significant improvements in one of three areas: sustainability, environmental stewardship or environmental innovation.

J. J. Keller & Associates has been certified for the eighth year by Great Place to Work, the global authority on workplace culture, employee experience and leadership behaviors. This year, associates ranked J. J. Keller most highly for being a physically safe place to work; being treated fairly regardless of race, sexual orientation or gender; how the company contributes to the community; the facilities' work environment; and being able to take time off when necessary.

Four **ThedaCare** hospitals, including its Neenah facilities, have received American Heart Association's Get With The Guidelines - Stroke quality achievement awards for ensuring stroke patients have access to the most appropriate treatment according to nationally recognized, research-based guidelines, which can lead to more lives saved and potentially reduced disability. ThedaCare Medical Center-Berlin, ThedaCare Medical Center-New London and ThedaCare Medical Center-Waupaca also received the recognition.

The **Fox Cities Chamber** is holding its final Grow Seminar of 2024 called "Navigating the Advertising Landscape: How to create a media buying strategy for your business," from 7:30 to 9:30 a.m. Oct. 9 at Community First Credit Union in Neenah. The seminar starts with a presentation by A2Z The Agency on understanding media options and creating a plan. Participants will learn how to develop an advertising strategy by looking at their target audience, demographics and behaviors. For more information, visit foxcities-chamber.com.

Badger Girls State delegates celebrated

American Legion Auxiliary (ALA) Unit No. 33 honored ALA Badger Girls State delegates at its annual family picnic recently with three delegates receiving scholarships of \$400 each to attend the Legion Auxiliary Badger Girls State Conference in June at the University of Wisconsin Oshkosh.

This year's delegates from Neenah High School were Elise and Fiona Hendrickson, daughters of Sara Hendrickson, and from St. Mary Central High was Gabrielle Callan, daughter of Lacie Callan. Delegates were elected to senator positions, local city officials and delegate; Elise was elected as a Supreme Court justice in the fictional state of Badger.

Badger Girls State accepts high school juniors to train as future stateswomen in the science of government and to develop their leadership skills.

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Jewelers Mutual photo

Engaging backdrop

Jewelers Mutual Group has added a giant engagement ring to the landscape at its headquarters in Neenah. The company suggests using it for a photo backdrop for those newly engaged or for other celebrations.

Diaper banks unite for regional effort

Neenah News

Diaper Need Awareness Week, which is being marked next week, will emphasize a new partnership in the Fox Cities as United Way Fox Cities and Jake's Network of Hope unify their diaper banks under one location to better serve eastern Wisconsin families.

Kimberly-Clark Eastern Wisconsin Diaper Bank will pool resources and expertise in response to a study that revealed that 47% of families are struggling to afford diapers.

Most child care providers require a day's supply of disposable diapers, and an estimated one quarter of families miss an average of five days of work per month because they cannot afford enough diapers.

Jake's Network of Hope is now co-located at United Way Fox Cities Hub at VPI's Kensington production facility and its team will oversee the Diaper Bank's daily operations, including product procure-

ment, warehousing, inventory management, partner engagement and fundraising.

United Way Fox Cities will coordinate and manage packing opportunities for volunteers and corporate partners to meet the community's basic needs for diapers, period products and adult incontinence products.

"United Way Fox Cities is truly excited about our new collaboration with Jake's Network of Hope," said president and chief executive Lisa Kogan-Praska. "By combining our talents and resources, we can serve more families and have an even greater impact across our region."

From 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Tuesday, the Diaper Bank will host an open house at The Hub, 110 N. Kensington Drive, Appleton.

Partners and community members can help repack diapers, enter to win a door prize, and learn more about the local effort.

Bird count set for Winnebago County

Neenah News

Winnebago Audubon's annual September bird count is set for Saturday throughout Winnebago County, where observers will help record all birds seen or heard in a 24-hour period.

The county's annual bird count, conducted every September since 1995, is an opportunity to identify birds not only visually but by their songs. The effort contributes to ongoing bird research around the world.

Anyone can participate in the bird count and the amount of time committed can vary.

It can include watching feeders in a yard for an hour or all day, or walking, biking or boating in a certain area. The more dedicated birder can survey one of the 30 designated county areas.

Participants will record the number of each species seen or heard, the time spent watching and distance traveled, and the names of all observers. Unusual species and their numbers should also be documented.

For more information on the counts or if interested in surveying an area in the county, contact Tom Ziebell at thomas-jziebell@gmail.com or 920-312-1976.



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Submitted photo

Art show honors

Neenah High School sophomore Lucious Filo-Klockzein won the student category at the Create! A Wisconsin Art Show at the Richeson School of Art & Gallery in Kimberly with his ceramic piece titled "Houdini." The show had a record 185 art submissions this year from across the state and marked the opening of the exhibit last Friday.

Homeless issue

FROM PAGE 1

go," said Menasha resident Mike Bonertz, who retired as executive director of Advocap in 2021. "If they are loitering, where are they going to go? We have homeless shelters that are largely full, we have a number of different organizations that are working with homeless people, but there are more of them than there is funding to take care of them."

The ordinances were introduced by District 26 Supervisor Conley Hanson and supported by Winnebago County Sheriff John Matz and Deputy District Attorney Christian Gossett.

Concerns arose in June that several un-housed people were camping on the west side of the Orrin King building in Oshkosh, which contains the district attorney's office and other departments linked to the county justice system. People had been living there because it was considered a safe place and the metal grates on the side of the building provided warmth.

After a press conference that month, Gossett outlined some of the issues.



Winnebago County photo

Deputy District Attorney Christian Gossett speaks to the county's Judiciary & Public Safety Committee on a proposed ordinance that would ban camping on county-owned property.

"The area had turned into a space where people were urinating in public in front of windows with employees inside, they have defecated into the grates, openly used drugs and discarded drug paraphernalia into the grates and syringes out in the open," he said.

This type of activity was occurring at the location before this past summer, but there weren't as many people and it wasn't as problematic, according to District Attorney Eric Sparr.

Gossett was the only person to speak in favor of the ordinance during public comment last week, repeating his earlier statements that the people camping near the building struggle with substance abuse and mental health and that this group has not shown interest in dealing with those issues.

"When we're faced with individuals, at some point in time we go from being helpful, loving citizens, to being enablers," he said. "And there's a reality to our enabling. When we enable people to maintain a drug-addicted lifestyle, an alcohol-addicted lifestyle, they are going to die from that and we are part of that."

The city of Neenah approved a similar ordinance banning camping early this year in response to concerns that unhoused people were camping in the right of way in front of businesses in the 900 block of South Green Bay Road.

Matz cited Neenah's ordinance when urging the committee to support the camping ban.

"I have video, I have pictures, we have a camera that was set up, I can show you the public urination, I can show you the shooting up, I can show you a shoving match that occurs - borderline fight - yes, we can do something about that by addressing (it) with those individuals,

but we've also created an environment where it's OK for you to be here after hours, it's OK for you to camp and it's OK for you to do the things that you do ...," he said.

Matz told the committee that he doesn't want people to underestimate what's happening.

"When we deal with a population that is addicted, has mental health issues, there is a high propensity for use of force and we're setting ourselves up for issues and I'm concerned about that - very concerned - I hope I don't have to come back here and tell you about an encounter that we had that turned bad, because it very well can," he said.

Under a jurisdictional agreement between the Oshkosh Police Department and the sheriff's office, police are responsible for services outside of the Orrin King building and the sheriff's office is responsible for inside the building, similar to other locations across Oshkosh.

If the county board approves the ordinances, Matz said the sheriff's office would then have jurisdiction both outside and inside county buildings in Oshkosh.

County Executive Jon Doemel, who must sign such an ordinance before it can go into effect, said that without changes he wouldn't support it, "but I think it could get to a place where I could," he said after being asked directly a second time whether he would support it.

The ordinance banning camping on county property was passed by the Judiciary and Public Safety Committee last week and the Facilities & Property Management Committee this week.

Both ordinances targeting the homeless are expected to go to the Winnebago County Board of Supervisors in October for final approval.

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How 'charity beers' raise awareness for important causes

Beer is a social lubricant, of course. Yet, in addition to helping connect us as humans, it also can help us be better humans.

On a regular basis, breweries partner with organizations that make our world better, whether that's raising awareness of life-threatening diseases, promoting social issues, finding safe homes for our furry friends or any number of worthy causes. Beers brewed to make a difference in some way – often called “cause brewing” or “charity beers” – are more common than ever, and they're beneficial for not only the cause they support but also the breweries that make them.

Brewers are as passionate about our world as any people you're likely to meet, and they often take the opportunity to promote causes important to them through their craft. As well as doing the right thing, breweries are also looking for ways to stand out in a competitive marketplace that rewards companies that give back to their communities. Investing time and energy into releasing unique products that connect with customers in an emotional way is a smart marketing move.

Let's explore some in-state examples of “cause brewing” beers.

Some breweries in northeast Wisconsin participate in NEW Top Dog, a fundraiser – and contest – among eight local animal rescues and seven breweries as well as Kiwanis Oshkosh Mid-Morning. Local dogs are featured on cans of beer, and online voting (costing \$1 each) determines the winner, with net proceeds split 50/50: half going to shelters (to support pets) and half going to Kiwanis (to support kids) after expenses. Neenah Animal Shelter is our participating local animal shelter.

Here are examples of NEW Top Dog beers: Bare Bones Brewing's 2023 beer was “A Smackerel of Hunny” a 4.8% ABV honey blonde ale that featured local pooch (and Grand Champion) Hunny. Cocoon Brewing's entry was “A Lemon Entry, My Dear Watson,” a 4.5% ABV lager with lemon and hibiscus. In 2022, Fifth Ward Brewing made “Groot Beer,” an 8% ABV root beer Scotch ale in honor of a hound named Groot.

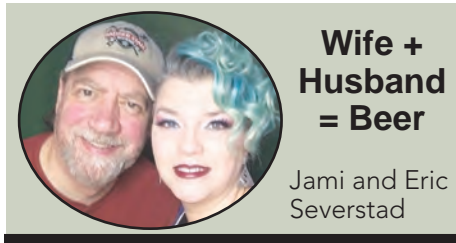
Entries for 2024 begin next Friday at newtopdog.com, so take a fabulous photo of your dog now and enter next week!

A portion of proceeds from a Bare Bones brew currently on retail shelves goes to Walk to End Alzheimer's. Called “Amber To #ENDALZ,” it's an American amber and features info to connect with and support the Alzheimer's Association.

Every year in October (this year on the 12th), Central Waters Brewing holds its River Run to raise funds for Amherst's Jensen Community Center. Participants in either the 2- or 5-mile race receive a can of “River Run” beer (each year a different style) and the chance to buy a bottle of “Black Gold,” the brewery's highly sought-after stout aged in bourbon barrels.

Last month, MobCraft Beer released draft-only “La Nacional Lager,” a 5% ABV Mexican-style lager beer. One dollar of every pint sold goes to help pay maintenance, insurance costs and youth programming at the National DIY Skatepark in Milwaukee's Walker's Point neighborhood.

Some breweries – usually larger ones – have the resources to create ongoing programs dedicated to community support, such as New Glarus Brewing's



**Wife +
Husband
= Beer**

Jami and Eric
Severstad

“Only in Wisconsin Giving” program that, according to their website, focuses on “solving issues associated with food insecurity, housing, health care, education and conservation.” In Milwaukee, Lakefront Brewing's charitable arm called “Ripple Effect” assists with efforts to “impact climate justice, racial equity and a stakeholder-driven economy.”

More locally (and back to “cause brewing”), Lion's Tail is hosting two special events this weekend, one of which features a “charity beer” of sorts. The Community First Fox Cities Marathon takes place Sunday, so the brewery is throwing a post-race celebration beginning at 10 a.m. Participants can show their medal or bib for \$1 off a pint of “Pace Yourself Pilsner,” an easy-drinking beer at 4.2% ABV brewed just for the occasion.

Similar to how special “cause brewing” beers offer unique tastes at special times, Oktoberfest celebrations include seasonal beer releases you won't get any other time of the year, and that season has begun!

Lion's Tail's Oktoberfest celebration is now legendary, featuring authentic live music in a beer garden atmosphere, family-friendly games and brews that are the perfect complement: “Oktoberfest” and “Mile of Munich” are both European-style lagers available.

The event also gives back to our community. The Neenah High School Wrestling Booster Club is running the food stand, you'll see Boy Scout Troop 12 selling pretzels and the Neenah-Menasha Firefighters Charitable Foundation in charge of games. Hours are Friday 3 to 11 p.m. and Saturday noon to 11 p.m.

Oshtoberfest is Oshkosh's version of Oktoberfest, and it happens Saturday at Sometimes Pioneer Island. Fifth Ward Brewing is the beer vendor and the host for games. Food from Pilora's is available, and three bands are performing between 11 a.m. and 11 p.m.

Also tomorrow, at 3 p.m., Omega Brewing Experience in Omro is releas-



Photo by Lion's Tail Brewing

Earlier this month, Lion's Tail Brewing donated a portion of the proceeds of Heckrodt Honey Blonde, which features wildflower honey harvested at Heckrodt Wetland Reserve in Menasha and was served at the grand opening of the new Coneflower Pavilion Project during the Heckrodt Prairie Hootenanny.



Photo by Eric Severstad.

From helping pets to celebrating marathoners to finding a cure for diseases, many breweries create beers to support charities and local events.

ing its Oktoberfest-themed Marzen beer called “Omegafest.” Enjoy “Omega Brats” from Wagner Market and music by Adrian Lambrecht from 4 to 7 p.m.

Cheers to all the brewers who give back in ways that are important to them,

and also the organizations they support. We'll see you at many of the celebrations!

What beer-related topic should we tackle next? Let us know: wife.husband.beer@wife.husband.beer@gmail.com.

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Calendar of events

Friday, Sept. 20

Oktoberfest Celebration, 3 p.m., Lion's Tail Brewery
The Britins, 7 p.m., Bridgewood Resort Hotel & Conference Center
Live jazz, 7 p.m., Xe54, 1350 W. American Drive

Saturday, Sept. 21

Future Neenah Farmers Market, 8 a.m.,

Shattuck Park
5K and 10K run/walk, 9 a.m., Riverside Park,
Oktoberfest Celebration, 3 p.m., Lion's Tail Brewery
Menasha Harvest Festival, 10 a.m., downtown Menasha

Sunday, Sept. 22

Marathon, half marathon and marathon relay, 7 a.m., finishing at Riverside Park

Tuesday, Sept. 24

Movie Talks: "Double Indemnity," 6:30 p.m., Neenah-Menasha YMCA

Thursday, Sept. 26

Art After Dark: Renaissance Faire,

5:30 p.m., Bergstrom-Mahler Museum of Glass

Friday, Sept. 27

The Hallows haunted trail walk, 6:30 p.m., Memorial Park
Live jazz, 7 p.m., Xe54, 1350 W. American Drive

Saturday, Sept. 28

Future Neenah Farmers Market, 8 a.m., Shattuck Park
The Hallows haunted trail walk, 6:30 p.m., Memorial Park

Friday, Oct. 4

The Hallows haunted trail walk, 6:30 p.m., Memorial Park

Live jazz, 7 p.m., Xe54, 1350 W. American Drive

Saturday, Oct. 5

Future Neenah Farmers Market, 8 a.m., Shattuck Park
Third annual Mayor's Charity Run/Walk, 9 a.m., Arrowhead Park
Wine Walk, noon, downtown Neenah
Dragonboat and Mooncake Festival, 1 p.m., Neenah Public Library
The Hallows haunted trail walk, 6:30 p.m., Memorial Park

Sunday, Oct. 6

Allergy Friendly Costume Skate, noon, 229 W. Wisconsin Ave.

Traffic signals at First St., Forest Ave. slated for removal

By Bethanie Gengler
NEENAH NEWS

The traffic signals at the intersection of First Street and Forest Avenue may soon be removed due to a significant decline in traffic volume with the closing of Roosevelt Elementary School last year.

Since the school's closure, the signals have been operating in yellow-red flash mode, with traffic engineer James Merten noting there were minimal safety concerns other than reports of a few drivers stopping for the flashing yellow signals.

With rising costs of electricity and maintenance, city staff proposed removing the signals and replacing them with two-way stop signs, with drivers on Forest Avenue stopping for traffic on First Street. That mirrors the current setup, with drivers on Forest stopping for a flashing red signal, while drivers on First have a flashing yellow signal.

In suggesting removing the signals,

Merten said his biggest concern was pedestrian safety, though he noted at this time the intersection doesn't meet pedestrian volume warrants for a traffic signal.

"If the pedestrian situation becomes a particular concern for people, what we would instead do - instead of having traffic signals there - is we would put a pedestrian beacon there," he said.

Merten proposed utilizing the above-ground infrastructure from that intersection for the signalization of the Tullar Road and West Cecil Street intersection, with council authorization.

He said that intersection was selected because of peak periods of traffic. In addition, a crossing guard said she has issues with it being a four-way stop at that intersection.

"You have to read what other people are doing and the left turn movements can really throw people off, and so then you get a lot of wasted time and confusion and frustration for everyone involved, includ-



Neenah News

The intersection of First Street and Forest Avenue has reduced pedestrian traffic with the closing of nearby Roosevelt Elementary School.

ing pedestrians," he said. "So I think taking that equipment from First and Forest, which is really a low benefit area at this point, and putting it over at Tullar and Cecil, which would have a much higher benefit from having traffic signals there, that's kind of the thought process."

If signalizing the Tullar/Cecil intersection were not approved, Merten said the equipment would serve as backup for other intersections.

Though Merten noted there is a poten-

tial for traffic to increase at First Street and Forest Avenue if additional developments occur in the area, he said that is unlikely.

"But if that were to happen, we have the underground infrastructure so then it would just be replacing the above-ground infrastructure," he said.

The proposal to remove the traffic signals was approved by the Public Services and Safety Committee and the Common Council was expected to vote in favor of it at a meeting this past Wednesday.

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Senior Standout is brought to you by: **Nicolet NATIONAL BANK**

Murray headlines talented Neenah tennis team



Neenah News

Izzy Murray is a four-year varsity player for the Neenah tennis team and is in her second year of playing at the No. 1 flight.

By Steve Clark
NEENAH NEWS

Izzy Murray grew up playing tennis. Her mother, Nicole, played the sport in college and had her daughter on the courts at a young age – serving both as a part-time coach and occasional opponent.

The more she practiced and played with her mom, the better she got. And then came the day when the student finally bested the teacher and Izzy picked up the first win against her mother.

“My mom, God bless her, she is the sweetest, most amazing person I have ever met ... but she was a little mad that she lost,” Murray said while taking a break from practice earlier this week. “She didn’t make me do any chores or anything, but she was a little salty that she lost. She wanted a rematch right away, but I said no. I wanted to have my win for a minute.”

Murray’s mother can take solace in that fact that her daughter has bested a lot of opponents over the years while playing for Neenah High School.

Murray has spent all four seasons playing in the Rockets’ varsity lineup. She was at No. 4 singles as a freshman on Neenah’s state-title winning team and then qualified for individual state at No. 2 singles as a sophomore.

The past two seasons she has been elevated to the No. 1 singles slot for the Rockets, meaning she goes up against the best players every opponent has to offer – and often succeeds.

Senior Standout



Yet, even when she faces top-flight talent, Murray doesn’t back down from the challenge.

“I’m definitely impressed by them if they are insanely good,” Murray said. “Some of them are honestly way better than me, but I try not to think that people are better than me because if I think that, then I won’t stay focused. I try to stay locked in and keep myself in every point.”

Neenah head coach Dan Grassl credits Murray’s mental toughness for being able to attack each challenge she faces on the court.

“Izzy is incredibly mentally tough,” Grassl said. “She knows when she is playing one of the top players in the state that it is going to be tough, but she goes out there wanting to win and working hard until the very last point no matter what the score is. And that’s contagious for the rest of the team.”

Murray’s on-court approach has been important on Rocket teams that have had a majority of underclassmen the past two seasons.

Being the top singles player in the lineup

SEE **Senior Standout** ON PAGE 15



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Rockets look to bounce back from loss against Wildcats

By Steve Clark
NEENAH NEWS

This may have been a spot for one of those so-called “trap” games for Neenah.

Coming off a game against one rival in Kaukauna, the Rockets have crucial Fox Valley Association



Vanevenhoven

football games against Appleton North and Kimberly looming in the weeks ahead. In between is a matchup this Friday against a struggling Oshkosh West squad. The Wildcats are 0-2 in conference play and have lost three straight contests and could be the kind of team to be overlooked in some situations.

But considering the Rockets lost a 17-6 heartbreaker last week to the Ghosts – which included an injury to standout Grant Dean – Neenah head coach Steve Jung doesn’t think focus will be a problem against West.

“They don’t feel very good about last week so we are motivated this week,” Jung said after Tuesday’s practice. “Kaukauna came out really physical and they executed really well. We didn’t match their physicality and we didn’t execute.”

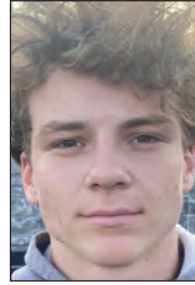
The loss dropped Neenah to 2-2 overall and it was the second year in row that Kaukauna has handed the Rockets a loss.

“It left a bad taste in our mouth,” senior linebacker Cole Fenske said. “We were looking forward to that one and it stung a little bit. Hopefully it won’t happen again. It shouldn’t happen again.”

Fenske added that the loss will help the Rockets prepare for the Wildcats.

“It does help,” Fenske said. “We’re ready. We’re focused. We’re dialed in.”

The Rockets will be taking the field without their best offensive weapon, who was injured in the first quarter against the Ghosts. Jung said Dean was definitely out for Friday’s game, but he is expected to return sometime later this season.



Fenske

In his absence, the Rockets will need others to step up and try to fill the void his injury has created.

“Offensively, we still have a lot of weapons. It hurts not to have Grant but we still have a lot of playmakers,” Jung said. “Offensively, we have to get clicking, execute better and just pay attention to those fine details.”

Senior quarterback Evan Vanevenhoven could be a player who will be counted on for more production. He completed 12-of-16 passes for 182 yards and scored the Rockets’ lone touchdown against Kaukauna.

Senior Dray Hannan was the Rockets’ leading rusher last week, but rushed for just 36 yards after Dean was injured, while sophomore Ashton Van Beek was the team’s leading receiver with 96 yards on three catches.

“We have guys who can step up and I think they will,” Vanevenhoven said. “We’re definitely going to try to mix it up and do a lot of different things.”

One area the Rockets must improve is

Week 5 games

Fox Valley Association

(records reflect FVA games)

Oshkosh West (0-2) at Neenah (1-1)

Kimberly (2-0) at Appleton East (0-2)

Fond du Lac (0-2) at Kaukauna (2-0)

Appleton North (2-0) at Hortonville (1-1)

in the red zone.

Neenah had four trips inside the 20-yard line last week, but came away with just one score. A repeat performance in that area could give the upstart Wildcats a shot at the upset.

“We just have to execute (in the red zone) and be more mentally tough,” Vanevenhoven said. “It’s definitely frus-

trating but we just have to be better and bounce back this week.”

Defensively, Jung said he thought the unit “played really well” against Kaukauna and hopes the effort continues against Oshkosh West.

The Wildcats played two different quarterbacks in a loss to Appleton North last week and also alternated a pair of running backs but were held to less than 200 yards of total offense.

“They are a team in the FVA so we have to be sound everywhere. Wherever they go, we will be there,” said Fenske, who ranks second behind Luke Jung in tackles on the team. “The key is just listening to coach and playing hard and physical, understanding what we have to and getting the job done.”

Zephyrs gear up for tough test against potent Raiders

By Steve Clark
NEENAH NEWS

In its first season in the Eastern Wisconsin Conference, the St. Mary Catholic football team will get an introduction to the best the league has to offer this Friday.

Kiel, ranked fifth in Division 5 and who finished second in the conference last season behind only jettisoned Two Rivers, will be at Zephyr Field on Friday night as the Zephyrs look to pull the upset for their first EWC win.

“They are a really good team, and one of the top teams in the conference,” St. Mary Catholic head coach Josh Young said. “We will have to take everything out of the tool box this week and throw it out there and see what we can accomplish.”

The undefeated Raiders enter the game averaging 43 points per game and have been held to less than 40 only once this season.

They are led by running back Bryce Gullixon, who is averaging 8.4 yards per carry this year and has scored 10 touchdowns, while quarterback Cade Voelker has completed 74 percent of his passes for nearly 600 yards and nine touchdowns.

The Zephyrs are coming off a game where they allowed 327 yards rushing in a 34-10 loss to option-oriented Chilton offense and will need to tighten things up in order to slow down the Raiders.

“Chilton ran the option really well against us and we had a hard time tackling their pitch man and offensively, we put our defense out there a little more than we wanted to,” Young said. “Chilton is a much better ballclub than their record through the first three games.”

The Zephyrs churned out only 42 yards

Week 5 games

Eastern Wisconsin Conference

(records reflect EWC games)

Kiel (2-0) at St. Mary Catholic (0-2)

K/SL/SC (1-1) at Brillion (1-1)

New Holstein (1-1) at Roncalli (1-1)

Chilton (1-1) at Valdars (1-1)

rushing against the Tigers, but did get 228 yards passing from quarterback Maddox Dwyer, including a touchdown pass to Daniel Harness for the team’s only touchdown.

Dwyer, who has thrown for 1,012 yards and seven touchdowns through four games, continues to improve in his first full season as the starting quarterback for St. Mary Catholic, but Young is looking for even better play from his signal caller.

“His presence in the pocket is pretty good and he’s spreading the ball around to different receivers, we just have to cut down on the interceptions,” Young said. “We knew there were going to be some bumps in the road.”

Young said the key offensively against Kiel will be figuring out what the Zephyrs can do to move the ball and then expand the options on those plays as much as possible.

“We want to see what we do well against the kind of defense they play but then we also want to see what we can build off of those plays. I think that’s going to be the key for us to make hay this week,” Young said. “If we can limit the number of mistakes we have offensively I think we’ll be able to at least move the ball and disrupt things a little bit and see what we can do.”

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Rockets overcome slow start in sweep of Tritons

By Steve Clark
NEENAH NEWS

It was kind of like trudging through a muddy swamp in the first set for the Neenah boys volleyball team – nothing came easy or pretty, but the Rockets kept progressing.

And once the team found itself on solid footing, the rest of night went pretty smooth.

Neenah overcame its sluggish start to improve to 2-0 in the Fox Valley Association with a three-set sweep of Green Bay Notre Dame, 25-19, 25-15, 25-16 on Tuesday night.

“Just a lot of errors on our side. Missed serves, hitting errors, things that are out of character for us,” Neenah head coach Jake Coenen said about the first set against the Tritons. “We just didn’t get going right away. I think they overthink the game and have a mental preset mind of what they do right away instead of just letting the game come to you.”

Neenah never trailed in the opening set and the score was tied only once at 1-1, but the Rockets never held more than a six-point advantage at any point and watched the Tritons score back-to-back points to pull within 21-19.

Coenen called a timeout and the Rockets started rolling.

Ben Donaldson sent a spike to the floor out of the timeout to boost the Rockets’ lead to three before a pair of Triton errors pushed Neenah to game point.

Myles Weaver then registered one of his 14 kills, slamming a spike off a Notre Dame block, to close things out.

“Having a slow start is not a good thing but we are able to pull ourselves out of any adversity. We will always be able to pull ourselves out of adversity,” said Donaldson, who finished with six kills and five blocks. “It gets electric on the bench (when one



Neenah News

Ben Donaldson (20) slams a ball past a pair of Notre Dame blockers during on Tuesday.

player gets a spike). We all cheer each other on and act like we are one big family because we are one big family and that contributes to how we play.”

Notre Dame kept things close early in the second set but it didn’t take long for Neenah to break things open.

Weaver had four kills in a six-point span to give the Rockets an 11-5 lead before two kills from Donaldson and a Notre Dame error boosted the lead to 14-6 as Neenah was able to pull away for the victory.

The third set followed suit as the Rockets took an 11-point lead on a Weaver kill and led 22-12 after a kill and an ace from Nick Elter. The Tritons rattled off the next four points to narrow the gap, but Sam Printz’s tip found the floor for a sideout and the Rockets scored the next two points for the win.

“That second set just kind of built it. We were much better at the net and that helps us defensively when we are setting blocks bet-

ter and getting easier swings,” Coenen said. “That just flows through everybody. One person gets a block then another one gets a dig or a kill, it frees everybody to play free, play smooth and play without overthinking.”

Julian Kuehn chipped in five kills for the Rockets, who had eight players register at least one kill in the game. Kuehn, Zach Schneider and Cam Diekfuss each had two aces to lead the team.

Diekfuss led the team with 30 assists as the sophomore continues his strong play in the setter’s role this season.

“From last year to this year he has grown not only physically but also mentally. He understands the game so much better and puts us in right spot,” Coenen said. “His knowledge and growth from last year is huge for

us and allows us to run so much more offensively.”

Weaver and Eli Yoder led the Rockets with eight digs apiece, while Kuehn finished with seven and Schneider had six.

It all added up to a victory for Neenah to stay unbeaten in the FVA and matches the Rockets league-win total from all of last season.

“There’s nothing better than coming off two wins in the conference. I’ve always had a positive outlook for this team and had high hopes and they are really delivering,” Donaldson said. “Even with a slow start, we’ve come out on top and I think that is in part with the energy we have on our team. All of the players are so energetic and love the sport. It brings so much to the court.”

Neenah News

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Questions! Questions! Let us introduce ourselves!

Who owns the Neenah News?

Neenah News is family-supported by Jeff and Karen Schneider of Oshkosh. Karen is the sole owner of Oshkosh Herald LLC, parent company for both the Oshkosh Herald and Neenah News. She has worked at several newspapers since the mid-1980s where she got her start in the A/R department of the Arizona Republic.

We are locally owned and operated and not affiliated with any other media organization, nor are we a rebranded News-Record.

Why Neenah?

Schneider likes to say that after receiving many requests to expand the Herald, which debuted in January 2018, in different communities over the years one writer from Neenah/Fox Crossing “caught me at a weak moment” and the expansion to Neenah began in February 2022.

Why did I start receiving it every week in the mail?

Our mission began as a quest to have better-informed communities by filling the void of local news.

Originally launched as a subscription model, Neenah News increased its distribution using bulk mail to every address in ZIP code 54956 in August 2023 with a special issue featuring the new Neenah High School.

Nearly 1,000 families and several local businesses supported Neenah News from the beginning, knowing community news is vital for a healthy community. What the businesses learned is that “print is not dead” as an advertising vehicle and requested Neenah News to follow the bulk mail model of the Herald.

How many newspapers get mailed every week?

We now mail just over 21,300 copies in ZIP code 54956 of the Neenah News. The Herald has a mailing of 32,000. Together we reach more than 53,000 homes and 88,000 readers in Winnebago County.

Is a weekly newspaper sustainable?

Great question! One thing to understand is the Schneiders’ investment is in paper and postage. Unlike brick-and-mortar stores that may put their capital in equipment and inventory, our investment’s value is in the information we share – which isn’t something you can take to the bank.

The newspaper is a “community” product. Its sustainability is based on the support of advertisers and community members who support our mission. The advertising will be sustainable if we “shop local.” We often hear how a reader shops at XYZ because they advertise in the News or Herald. We receive donations from readers and we have a Membership program where readers join for \$50 annually. Members and supporters receive offers throughout the year as a Thank You for their support.

If you have questions, please email karen at karen@oshkoshherald.com.

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Prep sports roundup

CROSS COUNTRY

Rockets reign at Phantom Invitational

Both the girls and boys cross country teams picked up titles at the West De Pere Invitational last week.

The girls dominated the event as all seven runners finished in the top 10 and the Rockets finished with just 18 points, well ahead of runner-up Kimberly with 49.

Mazie Olkowski was the top individual, while Natalie Schultz took second and Elsa Gruber was third. Maddie Schoonover added a fifth-place finish, while Eme Olkowski, Natalie Willes and Brooke Veith took seventh, eighth and ninth, respectively.

The boys totaled 35 points in winning the boys race as the five scoring runners all finished in the top 11.

Bly Wheeler led the way for Neenah in third place, followed by Finn Lettau in fifth and Braedy Klawikowski in sixth. Carson Verhagen and Harmon Posegate placed 10th and 11th, respectively.

Ripley, Higgins lead Zephyrs at invite

Lauren Ripley finished fifth and Claire Higgins took sixth to lead the St. Mary Catholic girls as they hosted the Jakubek-Willems Invite on Tuesday.

Alice Troian Mello placed 18th and Addison Moder was 26th for St. Mary Catholic, which did not have enough runners to compete as a full team.

The boys placed fifth among the six teams at the event and were led by Ethan Auer in 20th, Brad DeLeeuw in 22nd and Nathan Seiske in 24th. Brandon DeBral in 48th and Anderson Homburg in 62nd rounded out the scoring runners for St. Mary Catholic.

SWIMMING

Bauman paces Rockets in win over West-Kimberly

Rylie Bauman won two individual events and was a part of four first-place finishes overall as Neenah took down Appleton West-Kimberly, 115-70, in a Fox Valley Association dual meet on Tuesday.

Bauman led a sweep of the top three places in the 50-yard freestyle, while teammates Aubrey Murwar was second and Bridget Bloomhuff finished third. Bauman also finished first in the 500-yard freestyle.

The senior also swam on two winning relays, joining Bloomhuff, Anna Mulroy and Kacie Stamm to win the 200-yard freestyle relay, while winning the 400-yard freestyle relay with Mulroy, Stamm and Breleigh Maurer.

Neenah also picked up a 1-2 finish in diving with Sydney Hansman taking first and Hannah Slabbert finishing second.

Mauer in the 200-yard individual medley, Mulroy in the 100-yard butterfly and Stamm in the 100-yard backstroke also picked up wins in the meet for Neenah.

Taking second places were Mulroy in the 200-yard freestyle, Stamm in the 100-yard freestyle, Maurer in the 100-yard breaststroke and the 200-yard medley relay team.

Last Friday, the Rockets won a pair of events and placed third at the Terror Relays hosted by Appleton West.

Neenah finished just four points behind Appleton West-Kimberly in the final team standings, which were topped by Appleton North.

The Rockets posted wins in the 400-meter freestyle relay with a team of Bauman, Stamm, Maurer and Mulroy, while Mulroy, Stamm, Bauman and Bloomhuff finished first in the 200-meter freestyle relay.

The Rockets also finished second in the 200-meter medley relay and placed third in the 100-meter freestyle relay.

GOLF

Rockets pick up FVA win over Fond du Lac

Annika Searles earned medalist honors with a 46 as Neenah shot a team score of 200 to finish 26 shots ahead of Fond du Lac in a Fox Valley Association dual meet.

Lilly Quella added a 48, followed by Adrienne Oitzinger with a 52 and Jordyn

Brockman with a 54.

TENNIS

Zephyrs finish 2-2 at Waunakee Invitational

St. Mary Catholic split four matches at the two-day Waunakee Invitational, scoring a 5-2 win over Oregon, while falling to Verona, 4-3 on the first day, before posting a 4-3 win over Madison Memorial while falling to Madison West 4-3 on Saturday.

The Zephyrs swept the doubles matches in both dual meets with Adel Schneider and Vivie Auth at No. 1 doubles, Emily Vogel and Nadia Alexander at No. 2 doubles and Nolie Anderson and Lorelai Miller at the No. 3 flight. Each posted two wins, with the top two flights winning both matches in straight sets.

Alice Cole at No. 3 singles and Kaylee Sommerfeld at No. 4 singles posted straight-set wins to wrap up the victory over Oregon.

In the win over Madison Memorial, the Zephyrs again swept the doubles matches, while getting a win from Cole at No. 3 singles. Against Madison West, Cole, Schneider and Auth and Anderson and Miller posted the St. Mary Catholic wins.

Earlier in the week, St. Mary Catholic rolled to a 7-0 win over Roncalli/Two Rivers.

SEE **Prep roundup** ON PAGE 15

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Prep roundup

FROM PAGE 14

Audrey Wanless posted a 6-0, 6-0 win at No. 1 singles to lead the way, while Erin Blaney at No. 2 singles, Vogel and Alexander and Anderson and Miller dropped only one game in their matches.

Rockets place second at Nicolet Invite

Ella Motto took first place at No. 3 singles to lead Neenah to a second-place finish at the 16-team Nicolet Invitational.

Motto posted a perfect 4-0 record at the two-day event to claim the title.

Ava Motto and Rebekah Thomas finished second at No. 2 doubles, while Celia Gentile at No. 2 singles, Meredith Werner and Sydney Michalkiewicz at No. 1 doubles and Josie Kohlbeck and Evelyn Buss at No. 3 doubles were each third.

Neenah also posted a pair of 7-0 FVA dual meet wins over the past week.

The Rockets swept Oshkosh North on Tuesday as Izzy Murray at No. 1 singles and JB Kennedy at No. 4 singles each posted 6-0, 6-0 wins.

Murray, Gentile and Ella Motto had perfect 6-0, 6-0 wins in the dual meet win over the Lightning.

GIRLS VOLLEYBALL

Zephyrs sweep Wolves to stay unbeaten in Big East

Eliana Brenn totaled eight kills as St. Mary Catholic rolled past Hilbert last week 25-21, 25-23, 25-18 to improve to 2-0 in Big East Conference play.

Brenn also chipped in three blocks and three aces in the win.

Sammi Weiss finished with 13 assists

and six digs for the Zephyrs.

Neenah knocks off Fond du Lac

The Rockets won a close third set to up-end Fond du Lac last week, 25-20, 23-25, 28-26, 25-22 in a Fox Valley Association match.

Ella Nigl finished with 11 kills to lead the Rockets, while Elaina Kramer had nine and Lily Romjue totaled eight. Romjue and Paige Hoelzel also finished with five blocks apiece.

The Rockets also got 24 digs from Ella Lindgren, while Nadia Marchionda and Ally Corrente led the team with 20 and 19 assists, respectively.

Neenah lost to Kaukauna on Tuesday, dropping a 23-25, 25-8, 25-19, 22-25, 15-11 match.

SOCCER

Zephyrs split pair of conference matches

St. Mary Catholic scored a 2-1 win over Kohler on Tuesday night in Big East/Eastern Wisconsin Conference play. The Zephyrs also dropped a league match, 4-0, to Kiel last week.

Rockets play through busy stretch

Neenah finished 1-1-2 over a span of six days.

Both ties came in FVA matches as the Rockets played to 2-2 draws with both Oshkosh North and Kimberly.

On Saturday at the Sheboygan North Tournament, the Rockets lost to Sheboygan North 2-0, while scoring a 3-2 win over Hartford.

Senior Standout

FROM PAGE 11

naturally thrusts the leadership on a player and it's a role that Murray embraces.

"I do feel like I have to lead a little bit more sometimes. I try to be nice to everybody but I'm also a pretty outspoken girl," Murray said. "I also really love my sport. I've worked really hard to be better, so I try to push the girls a little bit more."

Grassl said Murray has a perfect blend of knowing when to work and knowing when to have fun to drive the team.

"Izzy is an incredibly hard worker and focused and driven but also has that personality that is able to help all of her teammates and bring out the fun and everything we need to be a very strong team," Grassl said. "She is a great leader and is the perfect person to have leading the team."

Murray has reaped the rewards of her hard work throughout her career at Neenah, highlighted by being a part of the state championship squad.

She was the only freshman in the lineup and won two of her three matches at Nielsen Tennis Stadium, helping the Rockets claim the crown with a 4-3 win over Divine Savior Holy Angels.

"I didn't feel pressure because I knew my team would have my back no matter what, but I wanted to win. I just wanted to win for my team," Murray said. "Our No. 1 doubles team (Sophia Paape and Shelby

Roth), we were waiting for them to decide who would win state and when they won, we just rushed onto the courts at Nielsen and cheered. It was a very magical experience."

As much as tennis is an individual sport, there is definitely a team aspect to it.

That's part of why Murray enjoys it and a key reason why she thinks Neenah excels on the court.

"I think our team, by far, does the best job of cheering and hyping everybody up," Murray said. "Our whole team likes to get that energy flowing and I think that can make a big difference in how you play your matches. You are out there individually, but it is our team that is supporting them and it helps people not get down on themselves. It boosts them up to keep going, keep playing."

Murray hopes to continue playing tennis at the collegiate level but has not cemented any plans of where that will be yet.

But when she does find a new home-court, she will be following in the footsteps of her mother who she credits for creating her love for the sport.

"My mom and I played all of the time. It strengthened our relationship I felt like and it made us a lot closer and that's how I started to love the sport," Murray said. "Neenah tennis is such a great thing. It's such a good environment to be in. It's a fun team we have here this year, too, and I'm looking forward to seeing how the season goes."


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Safe on the Playground!

Kabir and Aisha want kids in their neighborhood to be safe. They are going to take a look at their local playground, the Hometown Playground, to see if it is a safe place to play.

Yikes! They've found many ways in which their playground is not safe. Use the Hazard Hunt checklist to find the hazards in their playground.



How many things on this page can you find that start with the letter S?

Standards Link: Identify initial graphemes and phonemes.

Hazard Hunt Checklist

Circle each hazard you find on the Hometown Playground.

- Trash on the ground
- Things you could trip over
- Broken parts
- Missing parts
- Splintered wood
- Chipped or peeling paint
- Holes or cracks in plastic
- Sharp corners or edges
- Nails or bolts sticking out
- Open S-hooks or chain links

Dress Safely on Playgrounds

Mateo and Riley are not dressed for playground safety. Use the code to find out what they should not be wearing.

A=15	I=10	R=5
C=14	K=9	S=4
D=13	L=8	T=3
E=12	N=7	W=2
G=11	O=6	Y=1

How safe are the playgrounds in your neighborhood? Use the Hazard Hunt checklist to inspect them.

START

Extra! Extra! Accident Watch

Look through the newspaper for pictures or articles about accidents. Discuss whether these accidents could have been prevented and how.

Standards Link: Recognize safe and unsafe behaviors and practices.

13 5 15 2 4 3 5 10 7 11 4
15 7 13 7 12 14 9 8 15 14 12

Playground Safety Words

Find three important words along the correct path through this maze that are the keys to a great playground.

Kid Scoop Puzzler

What's something you should wear every time you play outside?

Circle every third letter to reveal the answer!

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S

Standards Link: Follow simple written directions.

Double Double Word Search

Find the words by looking up, down, backwards, forwards, sideways and diagonally.

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

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

Kid Scoop Together Missing Words

Work with a family member to replace the missing words in the below article.

LEATHER NEW BUCKLE LAWS CAR YEARS

The First Seat Belt

The first lap belt that resembles the modern seat belt was a _____ strap used on a U.S. Army airplane in 1910. For the next 25 _____, seat belts were used mostly in airplanes.

In the 1940s, studies showed that injuries in _____ accidents were less when a seat belt was worn. Even so, many people did not choose to _____ up.

The government started passing _____ requiring automakers to put seat belts in all _____ cars. By the 1970s, seat belts were used commonly.

A car accident happens almost every minute. Do you think it is a good idea to buckle up?

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Write On! Safe on the Playground

What are three safety rules students should follow on the playground?

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