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Plans for UW Fox Cities space paused

Menasha school district backs away from proposal

By Bethanie Gengler
NEENAH NEWS

The proposed sale of portions of the University of Wisconsin-Oshkosh Fox Cities campus to the Menasha Joint School District (MJSD) to be used for

child care after college classes end this spring semester and the campus permanently shuts down have fallen through.

The abrupt change comes after the school district issued a press release and social media post March 7 outlining its plan to establish multiple child care centers on campus and noting it is “dedicated to preserving the planetarium, current child care center, museum space, commu-

nity gardens and performing arts center to maximize educational opportunities for children and residents throughout the region.”

In comments under the post and at a school board meeting March 10, some residents questioned how the sale would impact Menasha’s taxpayers. At earlier

SEE **Campus future** ON PAGE 11

INSIDE



State journey

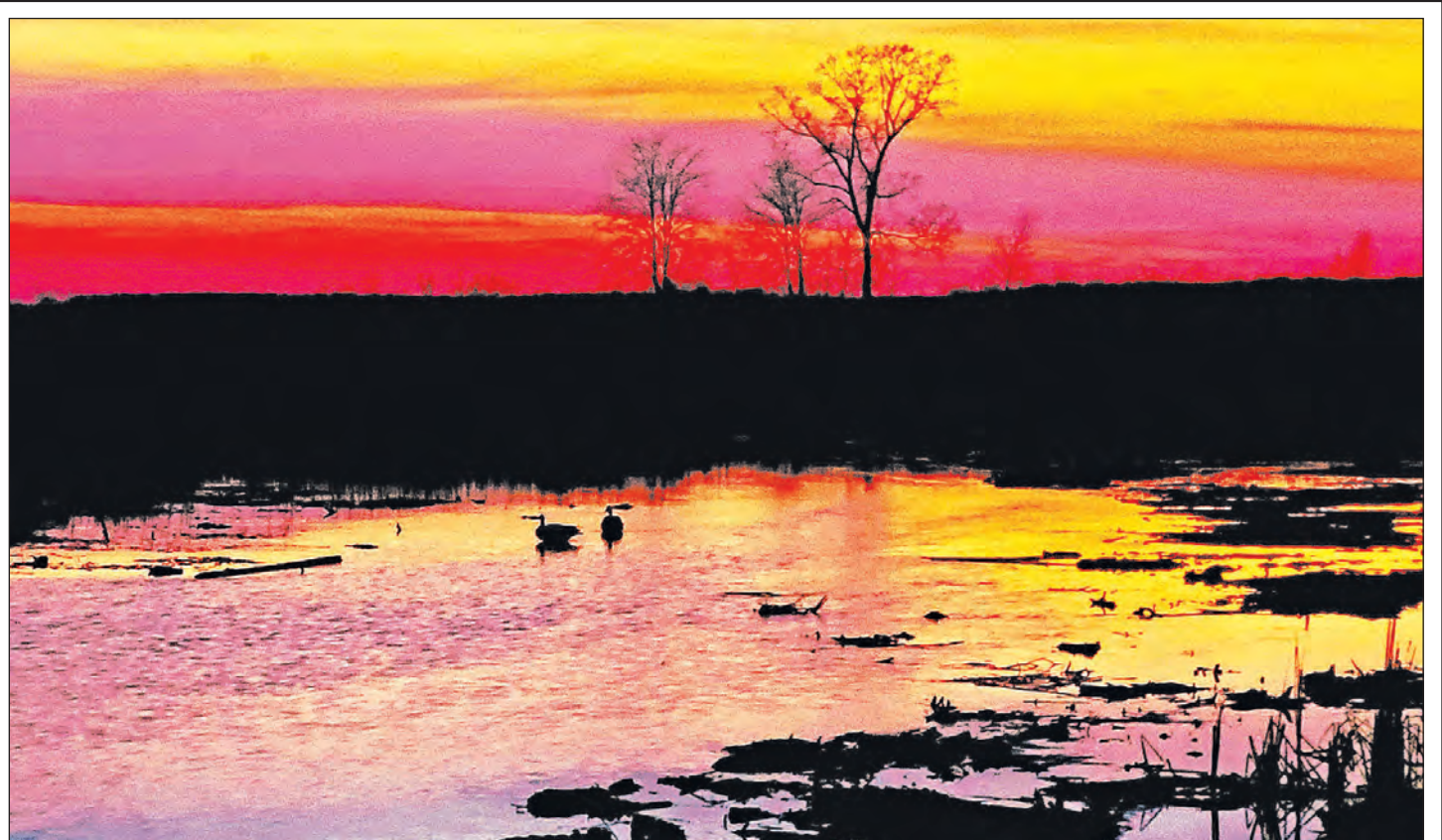
Zephyrs bring home second-place trophy

Page 13

Diversity policy

State GOP begins DEI inquiry on local level

Page 3



Neenah News

Sunset over stillness

A stunning sunset lit up the Rat River Wildlife Area shown from the Wiouwash State Trail in Winnebago County last Thursday in advance of a lunar eclipse overnight.

Upstairs, downstairs, downtown – life and work in Neenah

Great Harvest venture led to special project

By Patti Lee
NEWS CONTRIBUTOR

Several decades ago, a couple of IBM colleagues were riding their bikes across Iowa. John Skyrms recalls a pivotal conversation that took place along the way.

“My friend said he was going to quit his job working for IBM and bake bread. I told him he’d been out in the sun too long,” Skyrms recounts.

Rodd Hall went on to tell him about a cool place he and his wife had discovered in Minneapolis. “We think we could do it in Milwaukee,” he said.

They did just that. He left IBM, his wife quit her law practice and the two opened

the first Wisconsin Great Harvest Bread in the Milwaukee area. Skyrms quickly saw it wasn’t that crazy of an idea after all.

A year later IBM was downsizing and Skyrms was paid to exit. He did so happily and in 1994, that money was used to open a Great Harvest in De Pere.

Before they could open the bakery, they had to go to Dillon, Mont., for four weeks of training. John and Deb were dating at the time.

“That’s the number one reason why we were so interested. The first year you had to learn to make certain breads and certain cookies,” he says. “They wanted you to get really good at the basics. But then after that you had tons and tons of freedom. You can do whatever you want ... like I

SEE **Downtown space** ON PAGE 10



Submitted photo

Kevin and Melissa Lisowe stand with Melissa’s parents, Deb and John Skyrms, in front of Great Harvest Bread Co. in Neenah.

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Michelle is a Menasha native who has been working for Westgor Funeral Home since September 2009. She is currently the President of the Fox River Valley Funeral Director Association and was a charter member of the Rotaract Club of Neenah/Menasha as well as a member of the Neenah Kiwanis Club.

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Publisher

Karen Schneider, 920-858-6407
karen@oshkoshherald.com

Editor

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

Corrections

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

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Historic aircraft taking passengers this month

The Experimental Aircraft Association (EAA) is offering rides in two historic aircraft from different eras on March 28-30 at Wittman Regional Airport in Oshkosh with its Ford Tri-Motor and B-25 Berlin Express.

Tri-Motor flights will run from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. on those three days, while B-25 flights will run from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. with ground tours to follow from 2 to 5 p.m. The Ford Tri-Motor is known as the first luxury airliner, while the B-25 played a vital role during World War II as a medium bomber.

Both airplanes typically spend the year touring across the country stopping at select destinations to offer flights.

EAA's Tri-Motor was built by Ford Motor Co. and first flew in August 1929. The airliner was flown in Cuba and the Dominican Republic until it returned to the United States in 1949 where it would serve a variety of purposes including barnstorming and firefighting.

The B-25 was first accepted by the U.S.



Photo from EAA

A Ford Tri-Motor aircraft is shown that will be available for rides this month at EAA.

Army Air Forces in December 1943. The airplane left the factory fitted with two fixed .50-caliber machine guns and a massive 75 mm cannon. The airplane served out the war as an administrative aircraft, stationed at bases in Washington, Colorado and California.

Tickets aboard the Tri-Motor are \$105 for adults, and \$85 for children 17 and under. Tickets on the B-25 are \$475 when bought in advance and include a free hat.

More information is at eaa.org/flight-experiences.

Fast Forward state workforce grant deadline extended

The state Department of Workforce Development (DWD) has extended the deadline for employers to apply for Wisconsin Fast Forward worker training grants from March 11 until April 2. Employers are encouraged to apply for this funding that helps deal with the critical demand for skilled workers.

The Industry Sectors Worker Training Grants reimburse the costs of customized occupational training for unemployed, underemployed and existing workers. Grants ranging from \$5,000 to \$400,000 – higher for consortium applicants – can cover training that qualifies workers for full-time posi-

tions, higher-level roles or increased wages.

Eligible applicants include public agencies, private organizations, a consortium of placement partners and tribal govern-

ing bodies of a federally recognized tribe or band of Native Americans.

Details about the grant program are at wisconsinfastforward.com.



Neenah Historical Society photo

School art project

Fifth-grade students from Lincoln Elementary School work on a diorama during the 1954-55 school year. Lincoln school was located near Adams and Isabella streets. It closed in 1969 and was demolished in 1971.

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State panel going after county DEI records

Federal push to remove diversity plans goes local

By Bethanie Gengler
NEENAH NEWS

National efforts to end diversity, equity and inclusion (DEI) initiatives are gaining traction beyond the federal sphere, now reaching state and local governments.

President Trump in his second term signed several executive orders targeting DEI and threatening to cut federal funding for entities that continue to utilize DEI programs. Several lawsuits have been filed to block the orders.

In Wisconsin, the Assembly committee on Government Operations, Accountability and Transparency (GOAT), which formed in January and mirrors Trump's Department of Government Efficiency (DOGE), is seeking information on county DEI programs.



Gustafson

The committee has been charged with "undertaking a review of county use of taxpayer dollars for positions, policies and activities related to diversity, equity and inclusion," according to a letter sent to each of Wisconsin's 72 counties and 50 largest cities in February by state Rep. Shae Sortwell, vice chair of the GOAT committee.

Winnebago County corporation counsel Mary Anne Mueller confirmed at a Judiciary & Public Safety Committee meeting earlier this month that the county received the letter requesting information on DEI-related grants, policies, training programs and positions, and the estimated costs associated with the DEI policies and trainings, with a date range from January 2019 to the present.

The email cites a statute noting that governing bodies of political subdivisions are required to "...assist legislative committees in the completion of their tasks."

Mueller said the initial request was sent to the Health Department, which is not a political subdivision, and a new request was submitted to the government of Winnebago County, which she forwarded to all county departments. Mueller said she responded to Sortwell's email to express concern about the breadth of the request.

The records requests were sent before the GOAT committee held its first meeting, which took place last Tuesday, and without the knowledge of Democratic committee members, according to a letter the members sent to the committee chair.

"The actions taken by Representative Sortwell are a clear overreach and show a lack of respect for the local governments that serve our communities," Rep. Angelina Cruz said in the joint statement. "Rather than focusing on divisive tactics, we should be working together to support our municipalities and ensure they have the tools they need to serve all residents."

Rep. Mike Bare, the ranking Democratic member of the committee, said GOAT should work in a bipartisan way to achieve accountable and transparent results.

"Otherwise, this will be nothing more than a DOGE wannabe creating chaos and confusion with no discernible policy goal," he said in a statement. "Our local governments need more resources and support, not micromanagement by one committee or member of the Legislature."

GOAT committee member Rep. Nate Gustafson of Fox Crossing is also a Winnebago County supervisor who co-submitted a resolution with four other supervisors in 2023 that dissolved the county's Diversity Affairs Commission.

When questioned by email about whether he was aware of the requests sent by the GOAT committee to counties before they were sent, Gustafson responded: "These requests are necessary, especially if they bring to light the deception being perpetrated by the Neenah Joint School District. If you look at what Wisconsin Institute for Law and Liberty exposed, they discovered how Neenah is rewording titles of positions and hiding departments through curious restructuring efforts."

Gustafson attached an email sent to Neenah school board members by Superintendent Steve Harrison and posted on the Wisconsin Institute of Law & Liberty Facebook page, noting that as of March 4, the district's position titles Equity and Inclusion coordinator and coach will be changed to Educational Access coordinator and coach.

The email noted that the DEI Department will no longer be listed as a separate entity on the district website and will be embedded within the Learning & Leadership Department to emphasize integration into overall instructional efforts.

"To be clear, this adjustment does not change our unwavering commitment to ensuring all students have access to a guaranteed and viable curriculum, nor does it alter our efforts to address disparities among student groups," Harrison wrote in the email. "Rather, this change is intended to keep the focus on our work without unnecessary distractions related to terminology."

Gustafson did not respond to a question about what county DEI policies and programs he thinks are impacting county taxpayers.

The bulk of the information presented during last week's five-hour GOAT committee meeting pertained to remote work for state workers.

Rep. Amanda Nedweski, GOAT committee chair, closed the meeting by acknowledging the DEI letters sent to the counties and cities, noting that the committee is working together with the Wisconsin Counties Association in coordinating responses to the records requests.

"If the information collected substantiates such, the committee may or may not pursue further action on this topic," she said.

According to the American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU), DEI efforts began to expand after the 2020 killings of George Floyd, Ahmaud Arbery and Breonna Taylor, which sparked nationwide protests and inspired communities, workplaces, schools and other institutions to incorporate anti-racism principles.

The ACLU wrote that the current administration's anti-DEI orders are part of a broader effort to dismantle civil rights gains that were made in recent decades.



Photo by David Hall

Creek bridge fishing

Warmer weather brought anglers out last week to try their luck on West Winneconne Avenue over the Neenah Creek.

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Council candidates discuss District 3 seat priorities

By Bethanie Gengler
NEENAH NEWS

Voters on April 1 will choose between Frank Cuthbert and Jeffrey Linski to represent Neenah's District 3, a seat that has not been vacant in 18 years.

The candidate that prevails in the election will take over for longtime council member Lee Hillstrom, who is not seeking re-election.

District 1 Alderman Kathie Boyette is also vacating her seat, which Flo Bruno is running for unchallenged. District 2 incumbent Dan Steiner is seeking re-election unopposed.

As the only council candidates with a challenger, Linski and Cuthbert participated in a recent candidate forum, sharing with voters why they're the most qualified for the position.

Cuthbert is a U.S. Navy veteran with a bachelor's degree who retired after working for the aviation industry for more than 40 years. He works at the Neenah Public Library and volunteers at community events.

"The experience of working with the city's leaders and attending the various city's committees and council meetings has given me the knowledge and the connections to have a good relationship already," he said.

Linski served in the U.S. Air Force for more than 24 years. For the past 14 years, he has worked as an aircraft maintenance manager in the aerospace industry. He's making his second run at a council seat after a loss in last year's election to Bill Pollnow Jr.

"If elected, I will always conduct myself in a professional manner, attend and participate in council meetings, serve on city



District 3 candidates Frank Cuthbert (left) and Jeffrey Linski are shown in the Common Council chambers after a candidate forum last week.

committees as appointed and be an active and equal participant, and be available at all times," he said.

Select questions from the forum and portions of each candidate's answer are below.

How do you plan to proactively communicate and hear feedback from District 3 residents?

Cuthbert: "It's vital for an alderman to initially get the word out, go to the meetings, understand what is being proposed – streets, sidewalks, changes in parks – things like that, it's important to have your constituents know as much information about what the city wants to do as possible, and then get their feedback and bring that feedback to the committees, back to the council and again, talk to your neighbors, talk to your friends and get their input."

Linski: "I'd have to say use all our tools we have to communicate. We all have cell-

phones now, so we're available, you know, 24/7. I would hope no one would call at 11 at night but if the crisis would need it I certainly would answer the call. Just again, social media is a big player and know we all have cellphones and we're all available."

The number of police calls in Neenah have tripled, while the number of officers have largely remained the same since 1982. What actions will you take to ensure Neenah is a safe community?

Cuthbert: "They have been diligently working on stepping up patrols and having a greater presence in the community. If I'm elected as an alderman I will completely support the chief and see if we could get a little more money for the police force to get some more officers."

Linski: "I guess we'd want to hire more police officers. I think we're just like any other city where there's a shortfall not only in budget and manpower, you know, getting qualified applicants that want to stay. It seems like they're always running for the dollar to chase it down the road somewhere that pays higher. So we'd have to work with ... the different departments to hire and keep our police officers."

There has not been much activity at the former Shattuck school property. What can the city do to get this project moving along?

Cuthbert: "The Shattuck property has now been purchased by a private individual and that individual is not really doing very much with the property. The city can approach the individual and see if there is something that we could do for that facility. There was a lot of activity about three years ago, there were a lot of plans that were put together, and since the initial sort of activity has sort of died down, it's rather difficult to get the current owner to come back."

Linski: "It's privately owned property now so we'd have to get together again with the city aldermen, other alderpersons and

the mayor, and look at what our options are, what we can enforce, what they can't."

What are your thoughts on having a senior center in Neenah?

Cuthbert: "Yesterday on the news, there's a company called Evergreen which just purchased the K-C headquarters just off on Lake Street and they are planning to create a 55-plus community there. It wasn't really specific as to exactly what they were going to do other than they said that they were going to have facilities for activities. They didn't say how many people were going to be living there but that was exciting. So that building's been sitting vacant for a while and it's good to have a good use for it."

Linski: "I would be for it. I mean, we just would have to figure out how to fund it and how to create the space for it. I think our seniors need a place to live and it's more built for the seniors and I would definitely support it."

There has been a lot of talk about Winnebago County implementing a 0.5% countywide sales tax. Would you be in favor of that or not and why?

Cuthbert: "Honestly, I have to say that I was not aware of that. As I'm just finding out, I would first have to inquire as to what the county would provide for the city of Neenah for that half percent sales tax, and that would be my first question, and then I would have to dig a little deeper and find out, OK, so is that every resident, is that businesses? There's a lot that I would have to find out about that."

Linski: "We'd have to find out a lot more information on ... where it's coming from, what would it go to and how we could kind of divide it up and use it for different departments or municipalities, townships or cities and communities."

At the end of the forum, each candidate gave a closing statement.

"I will bring honest and open discussions to any issue that I receive," Cuthbert said. "Not everyone has the same idea for what is best for our community, but clear and factual decisions must be made and I am willing to do it. I am ready to start working with the residents of Neenah to keep Neenah as safe, friendly and a profitable community as possible."

"Neenah is a great place to live, great people, a place where people want to live and raise their children and I am committed to investing in future Neenah that works for all Neenah residents," Linski said in closing. "I would like to give something back to my community and believe that the best way to improve our community is to get involved in it and be that special person who puts the city of Neenah budget first and represents District 3 as a priority."

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Jury trial set for man charged in connection with homicide

By Bethanie Gengler
NEENAH NEWS

A Neenah man charged in connection with the death of a local homeless man was denied a bond modification request Monday by Judge Michael Gibbs and his case is headed to a jury trial in June.

Rodney Franklin, 52, had sought to reduce his \$35,000 bond to a signature bond. Gibbs already reduced his bond from an initial \$500,000 in January.

Franklin's attorney Danielle Gorsuch told the judge that Franklin has severe health concerns made worse in jail and has remained incarcerated for a significant time without the prosecution making any plea offers.

Tracy Paider, Winnebago County assistant district attorney, argued against reducing the bond, stating that no offers have been made because prosecutors are waiting on DNA testing results from the State Crime Laboratory "which will determine whether or not homicide charges are appropriate."

Keith Rieskamp, 73, who had been liv-

ing in area parks, was found dead Nov. 24 outside Franklin's apartment building on East Doty Avenue.

"The victim had been beaten severely outside of the apartment complex to the point where his face was not really able to be recognized," Paider said at the court hearing.

Franklin denied knowing Rieskamp. But when a search warrant was executed at Franklin's apartment, Rieskamp's blood-covered watch and bracelet, and his wallet and identification documents, were found in a kitchen drawer.

Franklin is the only person charged in connection with Rieskamp's death and has been incarcerated since Nov. 27 on charges of theft from a person or corpse and second offense possession of THC.

Paider said Franklin has past convictions dating to the early 1990s, the most recent being a conviction in Minnesota in 2019. She said Franklin missed court hearings in some of the past cases and argued that his current cash bond is appropriate.



Neenah News

Rodney Franklin leaves the courtroom after a hearing Monday where a judge denied his bond modification request and set a jury trial for June.

Gibbs noted the significant nature of the charges and the court's primary concern that Franklin appears for court as he denied the bond modification.

After the ruling, Franklin invoked his right to a speedy trial and the court set a plea and sentencing hearing for May 12 and a three-day jury trial set to begin June 3.

Business news roundup

Neenah based **Bon Voyage Boutique Travel** was recently honored as a recipient of the 2024 Million Dollar Travel Advisor Sales Award by the MAST Travel Network, a sales and marketing travel agency trade group based in Oakbrook Terrace, Ill. Travel consultants among 205 agencies across 16 states were recognized. Agents from Bon Voyage Boutique Travel include Jana Greenfield, Sara Smith, Shauna Neitzel, and owners Brittany Bartelt and Geoff Hendren. Bon Voyage also was awarded the All-Star Award, bestowed upon the top 10

MAST consortium agencies in the country.

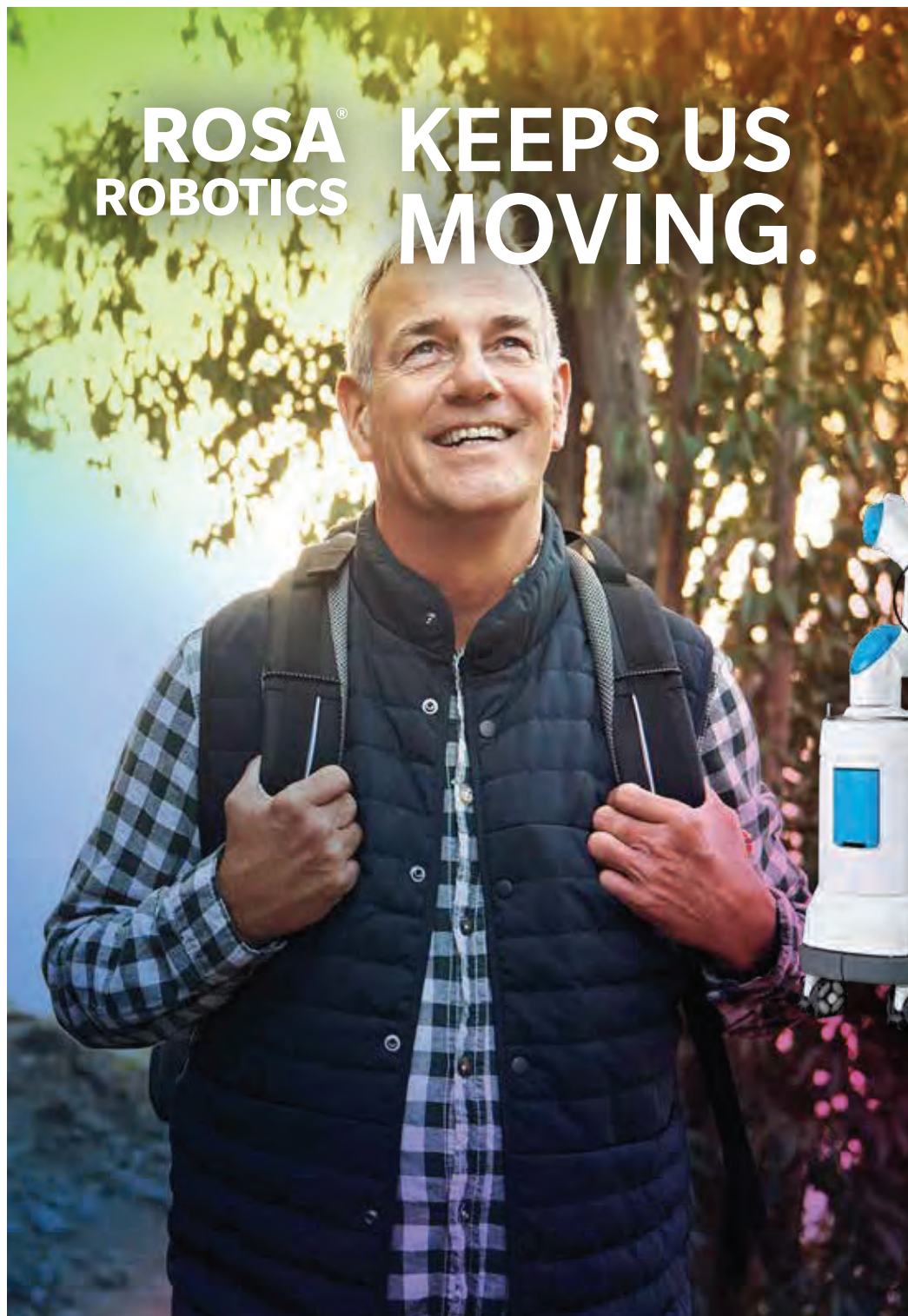
Jewelers Mutual Group recently announced **Chris Anderson** has joined the company as chief financial officer and treasurer. Anderson, who brings expertise in strategic planning, enterprise risk management and operational transformation, joins Jewelers Mutual from Baker Tilly US, where she served as managing principal of growth strategies. Anderson holds certifications that include Chartered Global Management Accountant and Certified

Public Accountant. She earned her bachelor's degree in accounting from the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee and has completed executive education programs at Harvard Business School and Chicago Booth Executive Education.

Keller Inc. will be the architect and general contractor on a 4,400-square-foot building addition for **Milltown Paper Inc.** at 1286 Ehlers Road in Neenah. The addition will enhance workflow and communication among employees, ensure

their comfort and support the company's continued growth. The project will be completed in the fall.

The **Community First Fox Cities Marathon** has announced **Fleet Feet Fox Valley** as its new 10K run/walk sponsor. The 10K run/walk, which started in 2020, starts and finishes at Riverside Park in Neenah. The 6.2-mile course has three water stations throughout and shares a start and finish line with the Ascension 5K Run/Walk, which is stroller and dog-friendly.



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Schools begin deep dive into literacy goals for students

In last month's article, I summarized key action steps that will be implemented based on staff and community input gathered through numerous listening sessions earlier this year. One significant outcome of that feedback is the recent implementation of a comprehensive evaluation of the English Language Arts (ELA) program for students in grades 5K-6.

At Neenah Joint School District, we remain committed to providing every student with a high-quality education that fosters essential literacy skills for lifelong success.

Our ELA program evaluation is a multiphase process designed to examine student achievement data, instructional ma-



Steve Harrison

NJSD superintendent

terials, assessment systems, intervention strategies and professional development opportunities. This effort ensures that our curriculum and teaching practices align with the latest research and best support students' needs.

The evaluation process began in February with an introductory session where stakeholders – including educators and administrators—established

norms and discussed the study's purpose. Since then, we have systematically analyzed student achievement results, starting with grade-level data and progressing to more detailed domain and demographic breakdowns.

Throughout the spring, our team will review how our current assessment and intervention systems support students' literacy development. These discussions will help us identify strengths and areas for improvement, allowing us to provide more targeted support for learners at all levels.

Looking ahead to the fall, we will focus on instructional materials, teaching practices and professional development opportunities. Using tools provided by

CESA 6, we will conduct an in-depth audit to evaluate the effectiveness of our resources and strategies. Additionally, we will conduct a SWOT (strengths, weaknesses, opportunities and threats) analysis to gain a comprehensive understanding of our overall ELA system.

The final stage of this evaluation will result in a set of recommendations for the future of our ELA program. These recommendations may include adapting or refining instructional practices, selecting new materials, enhancing assessment strategies and strengthening professional development initiatives to support our educators.

We are truly excited about the progress of this initiative and the positive impact it will have on our students. Literacy is the foundation of all learning, and by critically examining our ELA program we are taking an essential step toward ensuring every child in Neenah has the opportunity to thrive academically.

I look forward to sharing with you updates as we continue this work and appreciate the collaboration and support of our educators, families and community members. Together, we are building a stronger literacy foundation for all students in Neenah.



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Wisconsin Supreme Court race draws rally, protest

By Bethanie Gengler
NEENAH NEWS

Supporters of Wisconsin Supreme Court candidate Susan Crawford took to the sidewalk in front of The Dome in Neenah on Sunday to protest a “Save Wisconsin” rally for Crawford’s opponent Brad Schimel, which took place inside.

Crawford, a Dane County Circuit Court judge since 2018, has the support of Democrats for the nonpartisan position, while Schimel, a Waukesha County Circuit Court judge since 2019 and former Wisconsin attorney general, is supported by Republicans.

The Schimel rally at the bar owned by state Rep. Dean Kaufert, Neenah’s former mayor, was organized by George Bureau, a Winnebago County supervisor, 6th District chairman for the Republican Party of Wisconsin and vice chair of the Winnebago County Republican Party.

“I think saving America starts with Wisconsin, and I think it comes down to we want to protect liberties, that’s what it’s all about,” Bureau said.

Schimel shared similar sentiments, stating he wants to save Wisconsin “from the madness, from a supreme court that’s completely lost its objectivity, which will destroy our constitutional republic.”

Other speakers included Rep. Glenn Grothman, Rep. Nate Gustafson and Winnebago County Sheriff John Matz. Though the county sheriff is a nonpartisan elected position, Matz wore his uniform at the event and endorsed Schimel.

“I think it’s important that our Supreme Court is nonpolitical, and Brad is that person,” he said.

Outside the event, about 50 Crawford



Photo by Michael Cooney

Supporters for both state Supreme Court candidates talk outside a rally for Brad Schimel.

supporters protested, chanting and waving signs. They say a Schimel victory will erode abortion rights, threaten voter ID laws and lead to the loss of constitutional liberties.

“It’s possible we could lose our fair maps,” said Lisa Gehrke, a member of the Appleton area National Organization for Women (NOW) and Indivisible Fox Valley. “It’s possible that Wisconsin women would lose the right to choose and have control over their own bodies. So yeah, there are so many bad things that could happen.”

The Wisconsin Supreme Court race has

attracted record spending, with WisPolitics reporting that as of March 12, \$33.3 million has gone into Schimel’s campaign and \$25.5 million into Crawford’s.

Some protesters said they are upset with Elon Musk, who after spending near-

Follow healthy lifestyle to reduce heart disease risk

ThedaCare Communications

Key steps for reducing a person’s risk of heart disease are often within grasp: eating a healthy diet, exercising, and abstaining from smoking, to name a few. One factor beyond people’s reach, however, can play a pivotal role in heart disease risk.

“When it comes to heart disease, family history could be the most important risk factor to consider,” said Dr. Ameer Kabour, a cardiologist and medical director of ThedaCare Cardiovascular Care.

A family may be genetically predisposed to certain types of heart disease and conditions, increasing family members’ risk of developing those conditions, Kabour said.

“Note the history of your parents, grandparents, and siblings. Include aunts and uncles,” he said. “Make sure to gather information for both sides of the family. Sharing this information can help your providers understand how heart disease may run in your family, and what recommendations may be best for you.”

Kabour encouraged people to learn the type of disease, conditions, or procedures relatives have or had, noting how old they were at diagnosis, treatment, or death.

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) offers family health his-

ly \$300 million to elect Trump is putting money into two groups that have spent a combined total of more than \$12.2 million on Schimel’s campaign, according to Wisconsin Ethics Commission reports.

“He’s here to further Trump’s agenda,” Appleton area NOW member Marie Neseemann said. “That’s not what we need in a judge.”

Mother and daughter Rebecca and Katie, who requested that their last name not be used, said they feel helpless and protesting is the only thing they can do.

“We’re having our freedoms eroded daily,” Rebecca said as she began crying. “He’s attacking women, trans, immigrants, Medicaid, veterans. He’s erased the police misconduct website, he’s removed diversity and inclusion, he’s censoring everything.”

“My grandpa was in the cold war in Alaska and fought fascists,” Katie added. “I can’t let this happen.”

Though the rally and protest remained civil, some of the Crawford supporters said they felt unsafe due to a counter protester and his partner with a camera who heckled those outside.

The winner of the Supreme Court race on April 1 will either change the balance of power on the court by shifting the current 4-3 liberal majority, or will maintain the existing narrow margin.

tory tools and resources and recommends letting health care providers know if close family members have or had any heart-related diseases or conditions, including:

- Angina
- Arrhythmias, such as atrial fibrillation
- Aortic aneurism
- Cardiomyopathy
- Congenital heart defects
- Coronary artery disease or atherosclerosis
- Heart attack, heart bypass surgery, or heart failure
- High blood pressure or high blood cholesterol
- Implantable cardioverter-defibrillator
- Pacemaker
- Percutaneous coronary intervention or coronary angioplasty

The good news is that people can take steps to reduce their heart disease risk, Kabour said. That includes adopting a healthy lifestyle and treatment of medical conditions that could lead to heart disease.

“Many people who have a family history of early heart attacks also have other risk factors such as high blood pressure, high cholesterol, diabetes, or obesity,” Kabour said. “All of these can be surveilled and managed.”

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Neenah Alderman District 3

- Dedicated to the City of Neenah: Works at the library and volunteers for community events like the Neenah Pow Wow Canoe Ride, Winterfest, and Carpenter Preserve. Led a task force to standardize QR codes for Oak Hill Cemetery's military memorials.
- Background: U.S. Navy Veteran with a B.S. from Southern Illinois University and 40 years in the aviation industry as an Operations Manager and Completions Executive.
- Paid for by Frank Cuthbert

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Local college graduates

Just over 2,000 students received degrees during the University of Wisconsin-Madison's winter 2024 commencement at the Kohl Center. Graduates from Neenah included:

Ava Asbury, master of science-biomedical engineering

Arielle Barber, bachelor of arts, English, history

Kylie Carriveau, bachelor of arts, psychology

Quintin Longland, bachelor of arts, mathematics

Bre Lortscher, bachelor of science-health promotion and health equity

Matthew Meinke, bachelor of science-education

Lauren Meyer, bachelor of science, biology

Ana Petereit Cruz, bachelor of science-engineering mechanics

University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee commencement exercises held Dec. 15 had 1,340 prospective candidates for degrees in attendance. Graduates from Neenah included:

Biviana Abella, bachelor of arts

Alexis Davis, bachelor of business administration

Julianna Miller, master of science

Lauren Miller, master of social work

Logan Schumacher, bachelor of business administration

Aurora Vargas, bachelor of arts

William Zickler, bachelor of science

More than 800 students graduated from the University of Wisconsin-Whitewater at winter commencement Dec. 14. Graduates from Neenah included:

Ella Bathke, bachelor of science in psy-

chology

Ethan Coons, bachelor of business administration in accounting

The University of Wisconsin-Platteville awarded diplomas to about 400 undergraduate students in its winter commencement ceremony Dec. 14. Graduates from Neenah included:

Ethan Krueger, industrial and systems engineering

Sydney Wirth, electrical engineering

The University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point conferred degrees to 462 graduates for the fall 2024 semester. Graduates from Neenah included:

America Ambriz-Zermeno, bachelor of science, elementary education

Lauren Engelbreth, bachelor of science, resource management

Nathanual Hoks, bachelor of arts, history

Two students from Neenah completed degree requirements at the University of Wisconsin-La Crosse in December:

Blake Groleau, bachelor of science, finance major

Anna Horn, bachelor of science, biology major

Abbey Schuff of Neenah graduated with a bachelor of arts degree in human social services from Wisconsin Lutheran College in December

Carley Wilharm of Neenah received a master of science degree in occupational therapy from Clarkson University in Potsdam, N.Y., on Dec. 14.

Jack Keller of Neenah earned a bachelor's degree in computer science from the Georgia Institute of Technology in Atlanta, one of about 6,400 undergraduate and graduate students presented degrees Dec. 12.

Gavin Llewellyn of Neenah graduated

from Milwaukee School of Engineering in the fall with a bachelor of science degree in mechanical engineering.

Ethan Gustafson of Neenah graduated from the University of Wisconsin-Stout in December with a bachelor of science degree in mechanical engineering.



Photo by David Hall

Youth creativity in glass

Bergstrom-Mahler Museum of Glass is featuring glass art made by area high school students in its *Teen Voices in Glass: 2025 Area High School Glass Exhibition* that runs until April 18. After creating art in the museum's Glass Studio, students from more than 16 area high schools are participating in the annual exhibit.

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Downtown space

FROM PAGE 1

could have a cookie recipe and introduce it to Great Harvest.”

It's called a Freedom Franchise, allowing owners great latitude in operations such as ordering local products, having access to the franchise recipes and ability to create their own special breads and pastries.

“This whole bakery thing was started by a couple of hippies out in Montana,” John says. “From what I was told, these guys were baking and selling bread from a card table to make money for school. A friend of theirs – I think their folks might have owned a bakery – said, ‘Oh, this is really good. Do you mind if we bake your bread?’ Then there was kind of a ‘hmmm’ moment.”

That Great Harvest franchise office is still there and the owners “are still alive and kicking and climbing mountains in Montana.”

“It was as far away from computers as I could see, and what a great jump for me,” John says of starting a bakery. He recalls milling fresh flour for the first time.

“You were upstairs,” he says to Deb. “I came running up from the basement – that’s where the mill was – with this flour in my hands and I showed it to you. Deb looked at me like, ‘Yeah, I don’t get it.’ But it was pretty cool!”

It was cool enough for the couple to open a Neenah location in 1997 at 116 W. Wisconsin Ave. in a building constructed in 1875. As part of a National Historic District, the structure marked its sesquicentennial this year.

Reminiscing about the Neenah opening, the couple picks up on each others’ memories.

“We opened March of ‘97,” says John, “and the day before was a blizzard ... back when we had big blizzards.” “We drove down the night before,” continues Deb, “because we knew it was supposed to be such a horrible snowstorm. But no turning back ... we already had everything marketed for an open house. You know it’s happening, storm or not.”

The couple stayed at the hotel down the street and climbed over snowdrifts in the wee hours to bake the bread.

“We were just crushed,” John recalls. “We put all this effort into marketing and promotion for a grand opening. We made all this beautiful bread. We stood there looking at each other saying, ‘Nobody’s gonna come.’ And then guess who was our first customer? Mayor Marigen Carpenter.

“She was such an amazing woman. I have so much respect for her. In she came, saying, ‘Someday you’ll laugh about this.’ And that was 28 years ago, so I guess she was right.”

The Skyrms ran Great Harvest for seven years, becoming colleagues and friends with the neighboring businesses.

By 2004 the couple was living in Waupaca on a few acres of land with some



Photo by Patti Lee

Some of the installed ceiling tin is shown at the Skyrms' Wisconsin Avenue apartment home.

chickens. Besides the bakery, their daughter and son-in-law, Melissa and Kevin Lisowe, had just given them their first grandchild, Carson.

The Lisowes were each running a Pizza Hut franchise at the time and shifted their management and marketing skills to Great Harvest.

“The grandkids were involved,” says John. “Like, we have memories of Carson at the table making dog biscuits. Standing on a stool and rolling the dough ... and they even worked retail when they got a bit older.”

Melissa and Kevin bought the business two years later, and in 2009 some downtown buildings became available for John and Deb to purchase, including the bakery location.

The only hitch was that the Skyrms were still in Waupaca, with everything and everyone else in Neenah. Deb suggested they turn the upstairs, which still held remnants of cubicle offices for Kimberly-Clark Corp., into an apartment.

“Then it turned out so neat we decided to sell Waupaca and just move in,” says John.

Neat is quite the understatement. The upstairs apartment is a 2,000-square-foot creative work of art, an open-air beauty of a home.

“What we did is we gutted it,” says Deb. “Kimberly-Clark had offices for most of this block, and it was all connected,” John continues. “They had 8-foot drop ceilings and little office cubicles, this whole space.”

Deb points out the beams the contractor removed and reinstalled in order to build a loft.

“We had a phenomenal contractor with really good ideas,” she says of Dave Halverson.

John points out two ceiling treatments. “We believe those areas used to be skylights. And the tin came from a bar down the street that they were demolishing – The Therapy Tavern, 208 Main Street. The city said we could have the tin if we kept it downtown. So that was great.”

Every amenity an urban dweller could dream up graces the space. Each area is generous in size and warmth. There’s even a substantial outside deck, complete with flowerbeds – and a small garage.

Tall windows shine light upon a comfy indoor window seat.

“We like to sit here and meditate,” Deb explains. “We actually sat on the floor right here to decide how deep we wanted the window seats.”

The apartment home has undergone quite a flip from 1997 when the Skyrms were doing the buildup for the bakery. They had found dishes in the ceiling and learned that when it was a restaurant the grandparents and some family lived upstairs. They had a dumbwaiter, and grandma would make chili and send it down to the restaurant.

During its various iterations, the space has featured a candy store, bridal shop, dry goods store and a tobacco shop.

All these years downtown have fashioned the Skyrms into experts when it comes to the historic buildings. Currently listing a space above Keller Plaza, they have been leasing downtown Neenah properties to commercial clients for more than 15 years as owners of Historic Neenah Properties LLC.

“Above Keller Plaza, that’s all businesses up there. But there are apartments up and down Main Street,” John says as he ticks off the more recently renovated areas. “Mary Powell (Fibre/The Revival) and Bob Wedge (Natural Boutique) live above their businesses. Some of them are even apartments above apartments.”

“Debbie (Rasmus) at Canova’s has two or three places that she rents out on a short-term basis,” he adds.

It so happens that her father owned a pizza place in Freeport, Ill., where John grew up.

“John knew the family,” adds Deb, “which proves it’s such a small world.”

Both agree that it’s a tight-knit group. “People are super considerate of each other. It’s a good thing, a good feel.”

The downtown lifestyle is a perfect fit for the energetic couple.

“The Y is right there, we have Shattuck Park for concerts and lunches, Zacatecas for gourmet Mexican ... last night we went to Sante for dinner and a glass of wine,” Deb extolls.

She reflects upon the ongoing journey. “The whole philosophy from the franchise to downtown just fit in so well with who we are.”

John agrees. “You give back to the community. You make it a place for people to come that’s welcoming and great. You know the board on the left (at Great Harvest) when you enter, where they cut stuff up and give it to you? It’s not a sample board. It’s a generosity thing.”

“If you come to my house, I offer you something, right? People are coming to the bakery’s house. May I get you a slice of bread? Yes, it’s just a hospitable thing to do.”



Photo by John Skyrms

A view of the interior space at the Wisconsin Avenue apartment space downtown.

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Campus future

FROM PAGE 1

meetings on the topic, it was estimated the campus would cost \$750,000 annually just for heating.

Winnebago and Outagamie counties, who own the property at the campus, issued a joint press release March 11 announcing the collaboration with MJSD “to address current needs within the community and maintain access to valuable educational programs.”

Winnebago County scheduled a press

conference on the future of the campus for the following day that was canceled about six hours later.

That evening, Outagamie County’s Property Committee held a meeting where they voted to pause the sale of the campus and have three appraisals completed to determine its value.

Then on Tuesday, MJSD issued another press release, backing out on acquiring the property.

“A common theme in the community feedback received by the district was a desire for more information about the project’s impact on Menasha Joint School

District taxpayers and the potential costs to the school district,” Superintendent Matt Zimmerman wrote. “Without these details and more opportunity for public discussion about these details, our plan lacks sufficient support.”

Zimmerman noted MJSD remains committed to finding solutions to the child care crisis in the community but will not be taking over ownership of the campus.

The original 39,000-square-foot building at UW Fox Cities was constructed in 1960 on 20 acres in Menasha and grew to 40 acres and more than 250,000 square feet.

Several additions over the years included the Barlow Planetarium, Communication Arts Center, University Children’s Center, Weis Earth Science Museum and Community Gardens.

The counties have been in talks since last June about what will happen to the campus after UW-Oshkosh announced classes there will end in June and the campus will permanently close in December due to declining enrollment and financial challenges.

UW Fox Cities will be the sixth two-year campus to close after a statewide merger of two-year campuses with four-year campuses in 2018.

Water leak prevention tips highlighted

The state Department of Natural Resources (DNR) is highlighting the importance of preventing household water waste and practicing water conservation in recognition of the Environmental Protection Agency’s Fix A Leak Week, March 17-23.

Household leaks can waste more than 1 trillion gallons of water annually nation-

wide, costing consumers millions of dollars. By fixing household leaks promptly, consumers can save water and money and prevent damage to their floors, furniture and possessions.

The EPA’s Fix A Leak Week webpage (epa.gov/watersense) provides guidance on detecting and fixing the most common household leaks.

Volunteer needs

Beaming Inc. is looking for horse handlers and side walker volunteers. Horse handlers are responsible for the horse’s behavior while a participant rides; side walkers assist program participants with maintaining balance, control, and interpreting directions given by the Riding Instructor during lessons. Volunteers must be 14 years old; all training will be provided. Contact Denise at volunteer4beaming@gmail.com.

Children’s Wisconsin is seeking volunteers to provide donation support in assigned areas. Duties include organization,

inventory, and item acceptance. Shifts are available between 9 a.m. and 2 p.m., Monday-Thursday. Minimum age: 18. To learn more, contact Lisa at lnitecki@childrenswi.org or 920-967-9129.

ThedaCare at Home seeks Music Enhancement volunteers to share their musical talents with hospice patients. Opportunities are available in ThedaCare facilities, patient homes, and throughout their service area. Flexible scheduling. Contact Shana at shana.farrell@thedacare.org or 920-422-7583 to learn more.

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Gradual restart advised to outdoor exercise

ThedaCare Communications

Spring is just around the corner. That's welcome news to fitness enthusiasts across northeast and central Wisconsin, many of whom have largely been confined to indoor gyms and health and fitness centers through the winter months.

Marianna Sieracki, a physician assistant with ThedaCare Orthopedic Care, has advice for those itching to restart their outdoor training sessions.

"Exercising outdoors is great for our physical, mental, and emotional health," she said. "Fresh air, sunshine, and time in nature are all positive things. But just take it easy, at least to start."

Easing back into outdoor training, especially for people that have mostly been sedentary all winter, helps minimize the potential for injuries, Sieracki said.

"Whenever we make changes to our exercise routine or activity level, it's important to start slowly and listen to our bodies," she said. "We can get so excited about being able to be outdoors that we may accidentally overdo some activities."

That can lead to injury, so Sieracki encourages those planning to train in the

spring weather to pay attention to new aches or pains and increase their activity levels gradually.

"The last thing you want to do is get injured and have to pull back on your exercise plans," she said. "Even if you stayed active with indoor activities in the winter, you may need to adjust. For example, running outdoors versus on a treadmill uses different motions and muscle groups."

"Your times and distances may vary as your body acclimates to a different running motion," she said. "Even walking outdoors results in a different stride than walking on a treadmill. Recognize that your muscles may react differently while exercising outdoors, and adjust your activity level."

Warming up the muscles before exercising is important, Sieracki explained.

"Dynamic stretching effectively stimulates blood flow to multiple muscle groups," she said. "That will reduce the risk of muscle tears and strains."

Examples of dynamic stretches include jumping jacks, toe touches, and walking lunges. After exercising, take time to stretch and cool down.

It's also important to wear appropriate clothing and invest in quality footwear.

"As we age, our feet change and need support in different areas," she said. "If we don't support our feet properly, stresses can transfer up our bodies to various joints, muscles, and even the spine."

Layer clothing and wear lightweight, moisture-wicking apparel. Choose well-fit-

ting shoes that are appropriate for the activity in question. Also, wear sunscreen, sunglasses, and a hat.

Hydration before, during, and after exercise is crucial.

"Hydrate, hydrate, hydrate; we can never stress that enough," she said. "And, avoid sugary drinks."

Eating a balanced diet is equally important. Proper nourishment is vital for good health.

"It's not about counting calories but more so being aware of what nutrients your body needs to be healthy," Sieracki said. "Eat a balanced diet that includes fruits, vegetables, whole grains, lean proteins, and healthy fats."

Avoid processed foods and those high in saturated fats, she added.

Physical activity is essential, and so is getting adequate rest and letting the muscles recover.

"I say, 'Move it or lose it,' a lot to my patients, and resting our muscles is equally important," Sieracki said. "Give yourself rest days, and vary your exercise activity so you're working different muscle groups."

Finally, if looking to establish a new routine, consider finding a pal to help with accountability.

"Last spring, my husband and I started walking together every morning, and it became an important part of our day," Sieracki said. "It wasn't a chore to get up earlier to have that experience together. It was good for us physically and emotionally. I'm looking forward to doing that again this spring."

Having someone to share in that time can be motivation to stick to a routine.

"You've committed to being active, and you're doing something good for you," she said. "Applaud yourself for taking this positive step."



Sieracki

Calendar of events

Friday, March 21

Mike Kubicki Trio, 7 p.m., Xe 54, 1350 W. American Drive

Saturday, March 22

B.D. Greer, 8 p.m., Xe 54, 1350 W. American Drive

Sunday, March 23

Neenah Community Band Spring Concert, 3 p.m., Neenah High School PAC

Monday, March 24

Big Band Reunion, 7:30 p.m., Cranky Pat's, 905 S. Commercial St.

Tuesday, March 25

Film Series: "Some Like it Hot" (1959), 1 p.m., Neenah-Menasha YMCA
Movie Talks: "Oppenheimer," 6:30 p.m., Neenah Public Library

Friday, March 28

Melissa Chakar Trio, 7 p.m., Xe 54, 1350 W. American Drive

Saturday, March 29

Outagamie County Master Gardener Association spring garden conference, 8 a.m., Bridgewood Resort Hotel, 1000 Cameron Way

Sunday, March 30

Erin Krebs Trio, 2 p.m., Neenah Public Library

Monday, March 31

Big Band Reunion, 7:30 p.m., Cranky Pat's, 905 S. Commercial St.

Friday, April 4

Marty Robinson Trio, 7 p.m., Xe 54, 1350 W. American Drive

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St. Mary Catholic girls grab state runner-up finish

By Steve Clark
NEENAH NEWS

The St. Mary Catholic girls basketball team brought home a trophy from the WIAA state tournament held last weekend at the Resch Center in Green Bay.

It just wasn't the color the Zephyrs had in mind.

St. Mary Catholic had trouble navigating Cuba City's trapping defense and fell to the Cubans, 53-50, in the Division 4 state title game to earn the silver basketball trophy.

"It was definitely the wrong color ball we wanted to bring home but we made it until the end," said senior Brityn Voss. "We played as much basketball as we could in one season and I'm proud of how far we have come."

The Zephyrs shot a respectable 35 percent from the floor in the title game but it was generating enough shots against Cuba City's defense that was the issue.

St. Mary Catholic had an uncharacteristic 23 turnovers in the game and the Cubans outscored the Zephyrs 23-9 in points off those turnovers.

"They were aggressive on their defenses and they double teamed us and that was successful for them," St. Mary Catholic head coach Jeff Chew said. "Defensively they played a good game against us."

Cuba City's defense forced the Zephyrs to get away from the offense that had carried them to the state title game.

"We couldn't get the drives we normally get in games and they stopped us down low as well," said senior Emily Vogel. "When they started double-teaming us, I don't think we were expecting that right away."



Neenah News

The St. Mary Catholic girls basketball team huddles up before its WIAA Division 4 State Semifinal game against Durand/Arkansaw at the Resch Center in Green Bay last Thursday.

Vogel scored seven of the Zephyrs first 13 points in the game and 10 of the team's first 21 points to help St. Mary Catholic take the lead in the first half.

Her 3-pointer with 13:32 left in the opening half edged the Zephyrs in front 11-10, while back-to-back treys from Autumn Crow and Vogel extended the

advantage to 21-13 about three minutes later.

"I think I did try to come out aggressive but I think all of the girls did," said Vogel, who finished with 13 points and nine rebounds. "I try to be aggressive all game but obviously they stepped up defensively and stopped that more."

Cuba City closed the half on a 7-2 run to take a one-point lead at intermission and then started the second half strong and built a 42-32 advantage near the midway point of the stanza.



Voss

A Brityn Voss 3-pointer snapped the Cuba City run and sparked a 10-0 outburst for the Zephyrs that tied the score with just under eight minutes remaining in the game.


Voss, who also capped the run with an inside basket, finished with a career-high 18 points in the title game, including hitting four 3-pointers.

"Brit was great. She came out there and hit some 3's for us," Chew said. "She was very successful bringing us back when we were struggling a little there and she hit some shots. She did a great job."


Voss, who had not scored in double figures this season after notching her career-high 10 points as a junior, credited her teammates for helping her put up the points.

"The 18 points just happened. I did try my best but it was from passes from

SEE ZEPHYR GIRLS ON PAGE 14



CONGRATULATIONS ON A GREAT SEASON! D4 STATE RUNNER UP!



ST. MARY CATHOLIC ZEPHYRS GIRLS BASKETBALL



Zephyr girls

FROM PAGE 13

my team that helped and we all did it as a team," Voss said. "It felt really nice to have 18 points, but I was just doing it for my team."

Although the Zephyrs were able to pull even with the Cubans, St. Mary Catholic was never able to regain the lead in the second half.

A Voss 3-pointer with 5:52 remaining brought the Zephyrs to within one, while a Luci Nackers basket with 1:11 left sliced Cuba City's five-point lead down to 50-47.

Cuba City then knocked down three free throws in the final 38 seconds before Voss closed the game with a 3-pointer for the final margin.

"I'm so proud of everyone on the team. I think we gave it our best effort," Vogel said. "We did make it the furthest we could go and I think that's an accomplish-

ment there. Obviously it didn't end the way we wanted it to but I'm proud of the effort everyone put in the whole season."

Crowe added eight points and eight rebounds in the game for the Zephyrs, while Lauren Ripley tallied a team-high 11 rebounds while also picking up five assists.

St. Mary Catholic advanced to the championship with a convincing 58-45 win over Durand-Arkansaw in the semi-finals.

The Zephyrs overwhelmed the Panthers with their inside duo of Vogel and Nolie Anderson as St. Mary Catholic out-scored Durand-Arkansaw 44-18 in the paint to fuel the win.



Anderson

"Going into the game we knew our advantage was going to be inside. We knew we had the height advantage," Vogel said. "I think we all did a nice job of moving the ball around so we could get the ball inside and score those easy baskets."

Anderson led the Zephyrs with 24 points and 11 rebounds, finishing an impressive 10-of-13 from the field in the game.

Vogel chipped in 19 points and eight rebounds for the Zephyrs, who won despite finishing 1-of-14 from 3-point range.

"We did a nice job of scoring around the basket," Chew said. "They hit the boards and got some rebounds and they made some close ones which was what we have been talking about."

St. Mary Catholic trailed most of the first half but closed the stanza with an 11-0 run to take a 31-23 lead at intermission.

Anderson started the surge with a free throw before Ripley's driving lay-up tied the game at 23. Vogel also added a basket in the outburst while Crowe capped the half with a layup.

The Panthers got as close as two points in the second half but St. Mary Catholic answered with an 11-1 spurt – with Vogel



Neenah News

Lauren Ripley and Autumn Crowe (10) trap a Durand/Arkansaw player as Emily Vogel (4) looks on last Thursday.



Neenah News

Emily Vogel races the ball up the court in the state semifinal last Thursday.

racking up seven points in the surge – and led by double digits the rest of the way.

"It was important to get those runs," Anderson said. "Those runs are obviously helpful but sometimes those TV timeouts kind of squashed the momentum."

Crowe with eight points and Ripley

with seven points rounded out the scoring against the Panthers as only four Zephyrs tallied points in the game.

It was the Zephyrs' first trip to state since winning the title in 2009 and was the program's third trip to WIAA state tournament overall.

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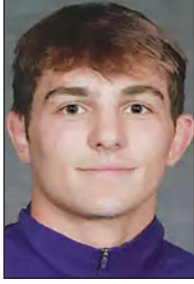
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Neenah alum takes third at DII wrestling championships

By Steve Clark
NEENAH NEWS

Former Neenah High School wrestling standout Drake Hayward earned all-American honors at the NCAA Division II Wrestling Championships held in Indianapolis last weekend.

Hayward, a redshirt junior at Minnesota State University, finished 6-1 over the two-day tournament to finish third at 174 pounds. Hayward was participating in his first national tournament.



Hayward

"It feels great. It's really nice knowing my years of hard work have paid off and I was able to achieve a life-long goal of mine," said Hayward, a 2021 graduate from Neenah. "I've always known I've had the ability to perform like I did last weekend so it was nice having that come to fruition and, I guess, prove it when it mattered."

Hayward breezed to a win in his prelim-

inary round match at the national tournament but then suffered a loss in the first round to McKendree University's Matt Ortiz.

Moving to the consolation bracket, Hayward rattled off three straight victories – including back-to-back, one-point decisions – to reach the consolation semifinals. In that match, he got a rematch with Ortiz and this time pulled out a 4-1 win in the sudden victory round to advance to the third-place match.

"It was nice little feeling to get that one back," Hayward said. "I made a couple small mistakes in that (first) match and it sucks knowing I was that close."

In the third-place match, Hayward scored a 4-3 decision over Bryce Dagle of St. Cloud State.

"It's been a pretty good feeling since winning that third-place match," Hayward said. "I just tried to keep going on the (consolation bracket) and was just trying to keep learning from the little mistakes I was making each match as the tournament went on."

"I had high expectations going in that

I could win it so after losing first round, third was the next first."

Hayward finished the season with a 32-7 record, which tied for the most wins on the team.

The all-American finish had Hayward already thinking ahead to next season where he hopes to finish a couple of steps higher on the final awards podium.

"Next year it will be nice knowing I had taken third but not making it bigger than what it is," Hayward said. "It will be more of an expectation to meet that again and

come back and win it all next year."

Hayward, who was a four-state qualifier with the Rockets and finished as the state runner-up at 145 pounds in 2021, credits his development in the Neenah program under head coach Kyle Kleuskens for helping him reach this point.

"I truly think Neenah has the best coach there is. He's been such a great mentor for me, getting me ready for not only high school but college wrestling," Hayward said. "I felt when I got to college, I was way ahead of a lot of my other teammates."

Powerlifting competitors in state meet

Neenah News

The St. Mary Catholic High School powerlifting team had an impressive showing at the recent Wisconsin High School Powerlifting Association (WHP-SA) state meet earlier this month, with six athletes competing.

Seniors Maria Marti and Dan Harness, junior Marcos Muniz, and sophomores Cora Epping, Dominic Todd and Gavin Post all qualified for the meet at region-

Marti and Epping both earned podium finishes in the 132-pound raw weight class. Marti secured second place with an 815-pound total, while Epping finished fifth with a 629-pound total. Harness placed sixth in the 220-pound raw division with a total lift of 1,268 pounds.

St. Mary Catholic is competing this week at the USAPL Powerlifting High School Nationals in Appleton starting Thursday with nine athletes among the 847 competitors from 40 states.

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Kid Scoop Together: Lepre-coins

By selling fairy shoes, Lily Leprechaun has earned a lot of golden lepre-coins (that's Leprechaun money).

Work with a parent and help Lily count her money. You'll need a **RED, BLUE** and **GREEN** crayon to circle the coins that add up to each amount. **IMPORTANT:** You can only circle each coin once, and when you're done, every coin should be circled.

Circle in **BLUE**: \$1.30 worth of Lepre-coins

Circle in **RED**: 55¢ worth of Lepre-coins

Circle in **GREEN**: 40¢ worth of Lepre-coins

How Do Leprechauns Get Their Pots of Gold?

Around St. Patrick's Day, you will often hear legends about leprechauns and their pot of gold at the end of the rainbow. **Have you ever wondered where they get all of that gold?**



We make shoes for fairies!



Their shoes wear out very quickly because fairies dance all night.



So, we are always busy making new shoes for them. And they pay us in gold—LOTS of gold!

Watching the Costs

Just making and selling shoes isn't enough to collect the gold needed to fill a leprechaun's pot. Leprechauns have to keep an eye on the **costs** of making fairy shoes, too.

Take a look at the cost of shoe supplies on this list.



How many shamrocks can you find on this page?

What if the leprechaun spent more gold coins to make the shoes than he charged the fairies? He would run out of gold pretty quickly!

If it costs 7 gold coins for the supplies to make one pair of fairy shoes, what should the leprechaun charge so that he covers his costs and has some money left over to pay himself for his work to make the shoes?

50 gold coins!? That's way too expensive for me!



Price matters!

Picking the right price is important. If the leprechaun charges too little, he will lose money. But if he charges too much, he will lose customers.

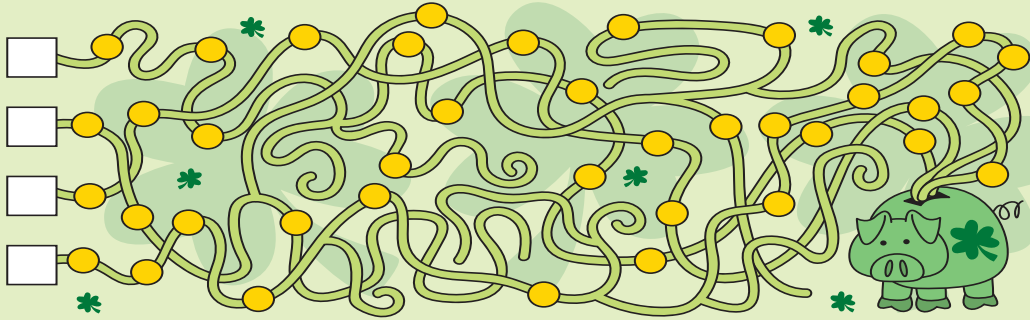
Use these worksheets to add up the costs of making each pair of shoes. Then find the difference between the costs and the selling price to determine the profit for each pair of shoes.

Pixie Prancers	Pretty Petunias	Refined Rosies
TREE BARK	TREE BARK	TREE BARK
DAISY PETALS	DAISY PETALS	DAISY PETALS
PINE NEEDLES	PINE NEEDLES	PINE NEEDLES
LILAC PETALS	PETUNIA PETALS	ROSE PETALS
TOTAL COST: _____	TOTAL COST: _____	TOTAL COST: _____
PRICE: 13	PRICE: 16	PRICE: 20
PROFIT: _____	PROFIT: _____	PROFIT: _____

LEPRECHAUN'S GOLDEN VOCABULARY WORD:

PROFIT: Money earned after the expenses are paid.

Add up the coins on each path that leads to the Leprechaun piggy bank. Which path has the most gold coins?



Extra! Extra!

Math is GOLDEN!

Numbers are useful every day. Look through the newspaper to find a number that tells each of the following:

- An address
- A price
- A phone number
- An age
- A year

Standards Link: Research: Use the newspaper to locate information.

Kid Scoop Puzzler

Fairy Shoe Sorter

Draw lines between each pair of fairy shoes to make exact matches. Look carefully!



Standards Link: Follow simple written directions.

Double Double Word Search

LEPRECHAUN
CUSTOMERS
PATRICK
LEGENDS
FAIRIES
PETALS
PROFIT
COSTS
SHOES
PRICE
NIGHT
GOLD
PAIR
BUSY
POT

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



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

Write On!

Four-leaf Clover

I knew my luck would change the moment I picked up a beautiful four-leaf clover. *Finish this story.*

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