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City finalizes Shattuck development plan

By Bethanie Gengler
NEENAH NEWS

The city of Neenah has finalized a development agreement that will transform the former Shattuck Middle School site into a residential housing development.

Umer Sheikh, owner of Investment Creations, is developing the Courtside Fields

Subdivision to the south of the former Shattuck Middle School under the name Shattuck Neenah.

The agreement was negotiated by the Community Development Department, Public Works and Water Utility, and outlines the responsibilities of the city and developer, including infrastructure instal-

lation and associated fees.

The project will create 31 lots along Elm Street and Reed Street for single-family residential use. Each quarter-acre lot has about 70 feet of frontage, which is wide enough to build an attached garage on. There are no design restrictions on the

SEE **Shattuck future** ON PAGE 9

INSIDE



Making music
Neenah alum part of STEEM performance
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Court calls
Neenah's short-term rental ordinance nixed
Page 5



Photo from Fox Crossing Parks & Recreation

Filthy fun run

Kids ages four and older raced through a wet and muddy obstacle course Saturday as part of the Filthy Fun Run at O'Hauser Park. The event organized by the Fox Crossing Parks & Recreation Department and Neenah Parks & Recreation featured a 1.6 mile course. Parents could also run or walk alongside their children with around 500 participants registered for the event.

County considers 'mega building' in long-term facility plan

Other options include renovation, consolidation

By Bethanie Gengler
NEENAH NEWS

After months of discussion, the Winnebago County Board of Supervisors recently got their first look at the complete facility master plan, which outlines long-term building and infrastructure needs across county departments.

One of the most significant recommendations to come out of the plan is the potential development of a centralized \$350 million "mega building" that would house county departments under one roof.

"What I want everybody to remember is that this is a master plan, just like the county's strategic plan. It's going to be a roadmap for the future," Facility Director Mike Elder said at the meeting.

The Winnebago County Master Plan was initi-

ated under former County Executive Jon Doemel, with funding approved during his tenure. The planning process was already underway when current Executive Gordon Hintz took office in April.

Brad Kwasny with Venture Architects presented the plan at a County Board meeting last month, with recommendations focused on combining departments and reducing maintenance costs.

Kwasny said the assessment process included interviews with all department heads and committee working sessions. The team evaluated county buildings, considered projected staffing needs and incorporated existing master plans for departments like Solid Waste and Parks.

"With this plan, you have to look to improve your efficiency, maximize the use of each building, address costs associated with each of the options that we're going to present," Kwasny said.

The county has about 1,000 employees who

SEE **Facility plan** ON PAGE 7



Photo from Winnebago County

The Winnebago County Administration Building was once a factory and office for Oshkosh B'gosh. Its limited parking space and outdated layout are among the challenges highlighted in the county's facility master plan.

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Publisher

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

Editor

Chris Lusvardi, 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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Cemetery Walk to feature costumed reenactors

Neenah News

The Neenah Historical Society is planning to hold the 40th Annual Cemetery Walk at the historic Oak Hill Chapel. The historical society said the event focuses on preserving memories through storytelling about Neenah's early settlers, prominent citizens and notable figures.

The stories highlight the monuments and shed light on the lives and legacies of those buried there. The event connects to the historical society's exhibit of Growing Up Neenah. The event is from 6 to 8 p.m. Thursday and starts in the newly renovated chapel. The walk will feature four costumed reenactors telling the stories of individuals who helped shape the expe-

riences of those who grew up in Neenah. The characters include Jennie Albee Jamison, Rev. J.E. Chapin, S.F. Shattuck and Helen Le Tourneaux Roberts.

"This year marks a remarkable milestone, 40 years of sharing the stories that shaped our community," said Erica Suchyta, Executive Director of the Neenah Historical Society. "The Cemetery Walk has always been more than a tour; it's a tribute to the people who built Neenah's legacy. In 2025, we're honoring that tradition with deeper history and a powerful sense of connection across generations."

Attendees pay at the cemetery gates. The cost is \$5 per person or \$10 per car. No advanced tickets are sold or required.



Neenah Historical Society photo

Balloon race

Kids enjoy a balloon race at the Green circa 1965. "The Green" or "Columbian Park" is Neenah's oldest designated park space, dating back to 1843.



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Extension tabs Hintz as interim director

Neenah News

Jayna Hintz has been named interim director of Winnebago and Outagamie counties for the University of Wisconsin Extension.

Hintz will continue in her role as area extension director for Calumet, Manitowoc and Sheboygan Counties. In these roles, Hintz provides leadership, support and direction to Extension staff and collaborates with community partners and stakeholders to ensure access to UW resources and research across the region.

Hintz began her Extension career in 2019 as the Ozaukee County 4-H educator.



Hintz



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Calendar of events

Friday, July 18

Attic Theatre presents Kiss Me, Kate, 7 p.m., Neenah High School

Zephyrs Community Theater presents Tuck Everlasting, 7 p.m., Jane Bergstrom Fine Arts Education Center, 1050 Zephyr Drive

Saturday, July 19

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

Art Mercantile, 9 a.m., The Plaza and Globe Coffee

Attic Theatre presents Kiss Me, Kate, 7 p.m., Neenah High School

Zephyrs Community Theater presents Tuck Everlasting, 7 p.m., Jane Bergstrom Fine Arts Education Center, 1050 Zephyr Drive

Sunday, July 20

Zephyrs Community Theater presents Tuck Everlasting, 2 p.m., Jane Bergstrom Fine Arts Education Center, 1050 Zephyr Drive

Tuesday, July 22

Children's Singer Tom Pease Concert, 6 p.m., Schildt Park

Wednesday, July 23

Future Neenah Summer Concert Series featuring STEEM, 6 p.m., Shattuck Park

Attic Theatre presents Kiss Me, Kate, 7 p.m., Neenah High School

Thursday, July 24

Out to Lunch Concert featuring Seth Brown Duo, 11:30 a.m., Shattuck Park

Brigade Music Academy Concert, 4 p.m., Doty Cabin's front lawn, 701 Lincoln St.

Cemetery Walk, 6:30 p.m., Oakhill Cemetery

Attic Theatre presents Kiss Me, Kate, 7 p.m., Neenah High School

Friday, July 25

Attic Theatre presents Kiss Me, Kate, 7 p.m., Neenah High School

Saturday, July 26

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

Attic Theatre presents Kiss Me, Kate, 2 p.m., Neenah High School

Tuesday, July 29

Neenah Community Band presents A Colorful Portrait, 7 p.m., Riverside Park

Wednesday, July 30

Future Neenah Summer Concert Series featuring The Britains, 6 p.m., Shattuck Park

Thursday, July 31

Out to Lunch Concert featuring Randy Peterson, 11:30 a.m., Shattuck Park

Jubricosa Academy presents Fiddler on the Roof, 7 p.m., St. Mary Catholic High School

Correction

JULY 4, Page 3: In the article about Jubricosa Academy's productions showcase cast talents, the performances of Fiddler on the Roof will be at St. Mary Catholic High School, 1050 Zephyr Drive, Neenah. Shows will run July 31 through Aug. 2, with evening performances at 7 p.m. on July 31 and Aug. 1, and two final performances at 2 and 7 p.m. on Aug. 2.

JULY 11, Page 15: The winners of the Neenah Parks and Rec Department's 14U boys doubles tournament was incorrect. Isaac Wallander and Ben Nimtzt teamed up to win the title.

New fire engine pushed into service in Fox Crossing

Neenah News

The Fox Crossing Fire Department's new Engine 41 officially started serving the community last week with its ceremonial push-in at Station 41.

Community members and fire department personnel helped push the new apparatus from Pierce Manufacturing into the station.

The engine's start of service comes after a longer than expected wait, Fire Chief Todd Sweeney said.

"Our apparatus are on a 24-year replacement schedule," Sweeney said. "This engine was ordered at the end of 2022 to replace a 1999 Pierce engine. It took over two years to get due to manufacturer supply chain issues and a backlog at the vendor."

The new engine cost \$850,000, which is paid for through the village's equipment replacement fund.

Each year, he said the village sets aside money based on life expectancy for the equipment replacement program to buy equipment.

Engine 41 will be used as the first en-

gine out of Station 41 on Valley Road.

"Our next apparatus due for replacement will be our rescue truck (a lower cost truck), which will be due in 2028," Sweeney said.

He added the tradition of a push-in has a history dating back to the 17th century when hand-drawn fire engines, ladder wagons, hose carts and other apparatus had to be pushed back into a station by hand after every call. The horse-drawn steam engines that followed in the 18th century could be backed up.

However, Sweeney said having to control the horses made it difficult to align the engine's steam connections with the station's steam connections.

For this reason, the horses were typically disconnected, and the engine was again pushed back into the station by hand.

"When the first motorized fire engine was put into service in the early 19th century," Sweeney said, "firefighters continued to honor the push-in tradition, which grew to mark each new purchase of fire apparatus."



Photo from Fox Crossing Fire Department

Community members and fire department personnel helped push the new engine into the station.

Police issue warning about vehicle break-ins

Neenah News

The Fox Crossing Police Department said last week it has received multiple calls of someone on a bicycle attempting to gain entry into vehicles.

Police said in a Facebook post the person who was dressed in black and wearing a black mask was caught on several residents' surveillance cameras. The incidents occurred in the areas of the Mill Pond, Agnes, Oxwood and Willow Hill neigh-

borhoods.

Police have received reports of vehicles that were entered as well as failed attempts as the vehicles were locked.

Police said the incidents serve as a reminder to residents to make sure their vehicles are locked and valuables removed each night. Additionally, police said to ensure garage doors are closed, all exterior doors are locked, camera systems functioning properly and exterior lights turned on.

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Future Neenah set to present STEEM at Shattuck Park

By George Halas
NEWS CONTRIBUTOR

Future Neenah's Evening Concerts in the Park is delivering a performance with some local connections as STEEM performs at 6 p.m. on Wednesday in Shattuck Park.

The group is co-founded by vocalist-multi-instrumentalist and 91.1 The Avenue mainstay Steve March-Torme and vocalist-multi-instrumentalist Vic Ferrari founder and long-time Neenah music educator Mike Bailey.

STEEM features talent that includes drummer/percussionist Mike Underwood, drummer/percussionist Wayne Salzmann II, vocalist/keyboards player Jamie Fletcher, accordion player Len Nelson and The HD Horns: trombonist Ken Skitch, trumpeter Tyler Jones and Chris Felts playing saxophones and flutes. Skitch also contributes by playing bass and harmony vocals.

The platinum standard for musical excellence in Wisconsin is the WAMI, the Wisconsin Area Music Industry Award, often referred to as the Wisconsin Grammy. Many members of STEEM have multiple WAMI nominations to their credit.

WAMI winners include Underwood, twice named Best Drummer and also cited for his work with The Jazz Orgy and Kyle Megna and The Monsoons, Fletcher for Best Keyboards Player, Skitch for Best Song and as a member of The Big Band Reunion and Nelson, who won multiple times for his work at WAPL and is also the recipient of the WAMI President's Award for his lifetime of contributions to Wisconsin Music.

Salzmann, a Neenah High School graduate, has won five Austin, Texas Mu-



Submitted photo

Neenah High School and Lawrence University graduate Michael Murphy plays lead guitar for STEEM and handles the lead vocals on select songs.

sic Awards and played on two Billboard Number One albums. Bailey, Felts, Nelson and Skitch have won as members of Vic Ferrari Symphony On The Rocks.

STEEM'S set list includes songs by Steely Dan, Chicago, Stevie Wonder, The Beatles, Elton John, The Band, Toto and Boz Skaggs.

Arguably the fastest rising star in STEEM is Neenah High School and Lawrence University graduate Michael Murphy, a multiple WAMI nominee who plays lead guitar and will handle the lead vocals on "The Lido Shuffle," "The Shape I'm In," "Rosanna" and "Funk 49."

He is also a member of Murphy's Law

along with his brother and guitarist-keyboards player Jack Murphy, brother and drummer David Murphy and bass player Ryan Erdmann. Murphy's Law will headline the Future Neenah series concert on Aug. 13.

Family was integral in Michael coming to the attention of Bailey and joining STEEM. Michael's mother is Lori Murphy, an accomplished violinist who is a charter member of Vic Ferrari Symphony On The Rocks. Her connection led to Murphy's Law performing during intermissions and VFSOTR concerts.

But it was a STEEM concert in Neenah's Riverside Park that proved to be the

turning point for Michael.

"I'm a big Steely Dan fan," he said. "I went to the concert at Riverside Park and when they played the 'Alive in America' version of 'Reelin' In The Years,' I said to myself 'I've got to play with these guys.'"

Bailey concurred. "This is the band you should be playing in," he told Michael after the show. Michael marveled at the collective talent.

"This is a great, great band, the first band to play with all of these great players in one spot," Michael said. "The band is hard to market in some ways because it's so much."

He particularly enjoys the opportunity to play with Underwood and Salzmann, calling them "the best of the best."

Michael's role in STEEM has grown. "I first joined as the young kid who knew the 70's-80's rock and knew it well," he said. "I went from the young kid to a more sophisticated leadership role who calls some of the shots and pushes to add new songs to the set list."

"It's very important to me," he added. "I want to give this band all it deserves."

Michael's work with STEEM has led to a growing creative partnership with March-Torme. They have performed live in "Tumbleweed Reconnection," a show built around Elton John's groundbreaking "Tumbleweed Connection" album, and they recently released an album of original music entitled "Dalton Diamond."

In addition to contributing two original compositions, Michael played guitar, bass, keys, pedal steel and cello as well as producing, engineering and mixing the album in his home studio. The Shattuck Park show will include the song "Only Passing Through" from the album.



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Court strikes down short-term rental ordinance

By Bethanie Gengler
NEENAH NEWS

A Wisconsin appeals court has struck down a Neenah ordinance that limited short-term rentals to only properties that are the owner's primary residence, ruling that the local law is preempted by state statute.

The decision filed last week partially reverses a lower court's ruling that had upheld the city's tourist housing ordinance, effectively voiding it.

Residences in Neenah rented for more than six days but fewer than 30 days are considered tourist housing properties. In 2017, the city enacted a tourist housing ordinance requiring property owners to obtain a city permit and follow certain local regulations. A few months later, the state adopted its own law governing short-term rentals of tourist housing properties.

The Wisconsin Realtors Association filed a lawsuit in 2022 over the city's ordinance. The group challenged three requirements: that tourist housing properties require a permit and permits will only be granted to properties that are the primary residence of the owner; that tourist housing be rented no more than 120 days per year; and that tourist housing permits could be revoked for cause by the city's Community Development director.

Circuit Court Judge Daniel Bissett granted summary judgment to the city at a 2023 hearing, dismissing two of the Realtors Association's challenges and granting declaratory judgment to the group on the claim that the city's 120-day time limit violates state statute. Following the ruling, the city amended the time limit from 120 days to 180 days.

The Realtors Association appealed the ruling, arguing the circuit court should

not have granted summary judgment to the city because the ordinance restricting short-term rentals to primary residences is preempted by state law.

In a ruling published last week, the appeals court agreed, stating the ordinance unlawfully excludes certain residential dwellings from being rented based solely on ownership status.

"It is evident that this logically conflicts with the statute's prohibition against local limitations on the short-term rental of 'any' residential dwellings," the appeals court wrote.

The court also upheld the Realtors Association's standing to challenge the ordinance, rejecting Neenah's argument that the group lacked sufficient legal interest. The court noted that at least one member owned property in Neenah and intended to use it for short-term rental, making the issue directly relevant to the group's purpose of defending property rights.

The appeals court remanded the case to the circuit court with instructions to issue a revised order declaring the ordinance preempted and void.

When asked if the city is concerned that removing the primary residence requirement could encourage investors to convert more properties into short-term rentals and potentially reduce long-term housing availability, Community Development Director Kelly Nieforth referred the question to the city attorney for comment.

City Attorney David Rashid said the

city is disappointed in the ruling. He said it is unclear whether the Court of Appeals intended to strike down the entirety of the ordinance or just the portion requiring short-term rentals to be owner occupied. The city will seek clarity from the circuit court judge and may ask for the same through a motion to reconsider in the Court of Appeals.

"We don't know yet whether we will seek review through the filing of a petition to the Supreme Court of Wisconsin, which petition would be due 30 days from the Court of Appeals decision," Rashid said. "We need to further determine the expected efficacy of such an attempt, as well as whether the city wishes to bear the cost of further litigation."

Rashid said he will instruct Neenah's Community Development Department not to enforce the ordinance until the courts provide further clarity.

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Photo from The Plaza & Globe Coffee

Zephyrs Community Theater will present Tuck Everlasting

Neenah News

Zephyrs Community Theater is presenting its summer production of Tuck Everlasting this weekend.

The musical is based on the children's novel by Natalie Babbitt, which is celebrating its 50th anniversary this year. With a book by Claudia Shear and Tim Federle, music by Chris Miller, and lyrics by Nathan Tysen, performances are set for 7 p.m. today and Saturday, along with a matinee at 2 p.m. Sunday at the Jane Bergstrom Fine Arts Education Center, 1050 Zephyr Drive.

Joseph Courteny, 23, joins the cast for his first Zephyrs Community Players production.

"I think it tells a really important message about cherishing the time you have with the people on this earth," said Courtney, who works at Kimberly Clark and plays Miles, the oldest son of Angus and Mae Tuck.

Director Claire Schmidt knew from the moment she heard the Broadway recording of Tuck Everlasting that she wanted to bring it to the local stage.

"Audiences should attend Tuck Everlasting because it's a thoughtful adaptation of a beloved book," said Schmidt, who is co-directing with Jodi McGinn.

Doty Cabin hosts Brigade Music Academy concert

Neenah News

Music will be heard Thursday on the Doty Cabin front lawn, 701 Lincoln St.

Students from Brigade Music Academy will be playing an acoustic set of classic

"Our production specifically pulls out all of the stops and will leave audiences thinking about their own journey in life."

Winnie Foster dreams of a life filled with adventure beyond her white picket fence.

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Grace Callies, 15, is excited to share her joy of theater as she portrays Winnie Foster, who meets the Tuck family for an unexpected adventure.

"Life is a gift," she said. "We all experience life differently but it's important to realize no one knows everything about life."

Tickets for adults are \$15 with seniors and students tickets \$12. Tickets are available at onthestage.tickets/st-mary-catholic-schools.

songs. Attendees are encouraged to bring a lawn chair or blanket.

The cabin will be open extended hours for tours during the concert, which starts at 4 p.m.

Out to lunch

The Future Neenah Out to Lunch Concert Series featured Mr. Billy & Friends performing July 10 at The Plaza. The concert series continues at 11:30 a.m. Thursdays through Aug. 14 at Shattuck Park.

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Facility plan

FROM PAGE 1

work out of more than 138 buildings. The plan identifies significant infrastructure challenges, including \$69 million in maintenance across county buildings.

“The longer that gets pushed off, or you do a little bit here, a little bit there, you can expect those costs to go well north of \$100 million just in maintenance,” Kwasny said. “That does nothing to improve your buildings, other than keeping them warm and cool.”

According to the plan, current facilities are inefficient, with departments scattered across multiple locations and buildings not designed for their current uses. One example is the Administration Building, which was once a factory and office for Oshkosh B’gosh. Adding office space there would mean building into an already undersized parking lot.

“The other problem is you have insufficient parking at almost every facility in the county, and if we’re going to maintain the buildings where they sit now, we have to basically add on to every one of the buildings,” Kwasny said.

The plan notes challenges with the current courthouse and Human Services buildings in Oshkosh, both of which are on the National Register of Historic Places. Human Services has grown significantly and will require space for more than 100 additional employees by 2035.

Kwasny said the county courthouse “doesn’t even come close to current standards for maintaining safety in a court facility.”

The Coughlin Center and Law Enforcement Center are among the few facilities in good condition with some capacity for expansion, according to the plan.

The plan presented three main strategies. Under Option A, the county would retain all services in their current locations, addressing maintenance needs, renovations and additions over time. However, Kwasny warned this could lead to inefficient layouts, aging mechanical systems and unpredictable emergency repairs. The estimated cost of Option A is \$183.2 million.

Option B calls for existing buildings to be expanded, renovated, repurposed or abandoned, and for new buildings to be constructed to accommodate growth and improve efficiency by bringing related departments together. It would require resolving legal questions related to Health and Human Services and Administration being in close proximity to the county’s 980 criminal offender housing. The projected cost is \$100.8 million to \$345.8 million.

“The way this would help is you could



Photos from Winnebago County

Top: The courthouse in Oshkosh is one of the county buildings that is considered to have challenges, as it does not meet current standards for maintaining safety in a court facility.

Bottom: The Winnebago County Law Enforcement Center on Jackson Street in Oshkosh is one of the few county facilities considered to be in good condition that could be considered for expansion.

move your facilities all much closer together geographically, and when you’re geographically closer together, it makes Facilities’ life easier,” Kwasny said.

Option C explores building a new central county campus on an undeveloped site, though it would require purchasing property, a cost which was not included in the total estimated project cost of between \$348 million and \$351.6 million, depending on final design decisions.

Kwasny said Option C is essentially a placeholder option for those who might not like the previously presented sites, providing a generic alternative location for potential development.

Following the presentation, county supervisors questioned Elder and Kwasny

about the plan.

Supervisor Karen Powers raised concerns about bus routes, noting that the current transportation system doesn’t adequately serve county facilities.

Elder suggested engaging the city to ensure bus routes meet county service needs, proposing alternative approaches like potentially renting library rooms for outreach in areas with limited transportation.

“I’m familiar with people not being able to get to the different places, so we’ll have to talk to the bus department, the transportation to try and get a bus route out there,” Elder said. “But there’s also alternate means of transportation that could possibly be arranged for; but there’s also

alternate ways of delivering services to the people.”

Powers suggested the new buildings should incorporate rooftop gardens.

“Experts seem to tell us the next major war that’s fought will not be over oil, but over water,” Powers said.

Supervisor Kristl Laux questioned why the county would build a mega building when it’s much less expensive to upgrade the buildings the county already owns.

Kwasny said upgrading and moving staff to other buildings would be less expensive, “but if you want to make the building function as efficiently as possible, then you’re looking at a pretty extensive process.”

Supervisor George Bureau challenged the proposed square footage and the cost for an addition to existing county buildings, noting it would add an additional 100,000 square feet of space and questioning whether the county truly needs such extensive additional space.

“We cannot tax our citizens out of their homes, but we also cannot be inefficient in how we provide their services,” he said.

Supervisor Steven Binder expressed skepticism about the investment, pointing to an aging population and uncertain future needs.

“I guess I’d like to say sometimes you have to live within your means, and I don’t see a way we can afford all this,” he said. “You know, we have people right now living on Social Security who can barely get by.”

Supervisor John Hinz noted the importance of considering transportation and accessibility for all county residents.

“Oshkosh is approximately 70,000 of 170,000 (county residents),” he said. “That means there are 100,000 people elsewhere in the county that need to get to these buildings as well. So that’s something to think about in the future.”

Elder said any decisions about how to implement the master plan will start with the county administration, which will make recommendations to the Facilities Committee. The committee will bring proposals to the full County Board for a vote.

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Photo by David Hall

Roasting marshmallows

It wasn't too hot Tuesday to roast marshmallows for s'mores as Neenah Police Department Community Policing Coordinator Joe Benoit and other officers joined members of the community for a Campfire with Cops event. The evening at the Memorial Park firepit included games, songs and skits.

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Real estate firm opens new office

Neenah News

Coldwell Banker Real Estate Group has opened new office space in downtown Neenah.

The office at 210 W. Wisconsin Ave. is approximately 2,200 square feet and replaces the previous space on East Bell Street, said Megan Jacquet, vice president of sales for Wisconsin, who oversees Neenah and other offices in the state.

She said the Neenah location is one of 16 Coldwell Banker offices in the state, as it is part of the largest franchise affiliate in the country.

Jacquet said the Neenah office has 18 agents working out of the space, which

consists of drop-in spots to work from, two lounges, four flex offices and three conference rooms.

"There was a full remodel of the building once Mike Prodehl, CEO of Coldwell Banker Real Estate Group, began the lease," Jacquet said. "In conjunction with the building owners, a 9x30 section of original cream city brick was exposed, and an internal brick wall was discovered."

Jacquet added they plan to work with The Hang Up Gallery of Fine Art, located at 204 W. Wisconsin Ave., to feature local artists on a rotating gallery in the office, with all pieces being available for purchase at the Hang Up store.

Festival celebrates magic of glass

Neenah News

The Bergstrom-Mahler Museum of Glass will hold its annual GLASS Arts Festival from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Aug. 9.

Executive director Amy Moorefield said the event is a special day dedicated to celebrating the magic of glass.

"We are delighted to present the only glass festival of this kind in the United States, admission free for all," Moorefield said.

She said attendees can browse the grounds and galleries and enjoy an admission free, family-friendly lakeside day. Glass art will be on display and available

for sale from more than 40 artists from around the country and across the globe. The event will also feature the opening of a solo exhibition by the first-place winner of last year's juried GLASS Arts Festival Award, Michael Mikula.

Festival attendees will witness glass blowing demonstrations with the mini-dragon, "Ray," as molten glass temperatures climb to over 2,000° F. Entertainment will be provided by Kate Voss & The Hot Sauce, while food trucks from around the area will be on site. Activity tents will be setup for kids to create their own art to bring home.

Brennand Airport to host open house, fly-in

Neenah News

An open house and fly-in event will feature family-friendly aviation-related activities at Brennand Airport, 3282 Breeze-wood Lane in the town of Neenah.

EAA Chapter 41 is organizing the event Aug. 9 to celebrate recreational aviation. Food will be available for purchase throughout the event, along with aircraft and vehicles on display, raffle prizes, airplane rides and more. Aircraft displays include the Thedastar EMT helicopter,

Army National Guard Blackhawk helicopter and Civil Air Patrol Fox Valley Composite Squadron airplanes.

Other activities include a powered parachute demonstration, kids can fly drones in the Drone Net, flight simulator demonstrations and music by DJ Galaxy. Additional displays include antique and collector cars and town of Vinland fire trucks.

Flying activities are weather-dependent, but organizers said the event will be held rain or shine.

Local college graduates

Students from Neenah who earned degrees from the University of Wisconsin-Whitewater at spring commencement held May 17 include Alan Baumgarten, instructional design and learning technology - MS; Jason Boeldt graduated Summa Cum Laude, communication - BS; Jaime Chapin graduated Cum Laude,

early childhood education - BSE; Maddie Jack, business education - MS; Rebecca Konetzke graduated Summa Cum Laude, special education - BSE; Sam Petersen, social work - MSW and Laura Seidl graduated Cum Laude, accounting - BBA.

The University of Wisconsin-Eau Claire recognized 1,230 graduates in May from the Eau Claire and Barron County campuses. Students from Neenah include Tanalie Kapp, arts and sciences, BA, psychology and Colin McCowry, arts and sciences, BA, journalism.

Noah E. Johnson of Neenah, who earned a master of science, aerospace engineering, was among the more than 1,950 students who graduated from Wichita State University this spring.

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Neenah News

Land surrounding the former Shattuck Middle School, shown in the distance, is slated for redevelopment into single-family housing.

Shattuck future

FROM PAGE 1

new homes, so builders can construct anything that meets the city's development standards.

The subdivision includes three outlots that are considered unbuildable. One outlot located north of Laudan Boulevard will be owned and maintained by the developer and remain undeveloped as open space. A second outlot south of Laudan Boulevard will be transferred to the city for the construction of a regional stormwater pond with a paved walking trail around it. A third outlot along Reed Street that includes an existing sidewalk providing access to the nearby tennis courts will also be deeded to the city.

Committee members Tami Erickson and Dan Steiner noted that maintaining two additional properties and sidewalks could be challenging without hiring more staff. They said future city budgets should include funding for maintenance staffing.

Currently, no water, sanitary sewer, or storm sewer laterals exist on the site. The agreement requires the developer to pay the full cost of installing those services, as well as underground electric, gas, phone and cable utilities throughout the subdivision.

Deputy Director of Community Development Brad Schmidt said the builder and future property owners will be responsible for connecting the lots to public utilities.

"If those connections aren't completed before street reconstruction and utility work, the city will install them and charge

the costs to the property owner through a special assessment," he said.

The city will manage and fund the reconstruction of Elm Street, Reed Street and Laudan Boulevard adjacent to the development. Property owners will not be subject to special assessments for the work. The streets will be rebuilt to approximately their existing widths, with Laudan Boulevard adjusted to fit entirely within the right-of-way. Work on Laudan Boulevard is expected to take place next year.

The developer is also required to pay a \$1,000-per-acre subdivision fee totaling just over \$8,200; \$200 per lot for terrace trees totaling \$6,200; and submit a \$55,800 escrow payment for new sidewalk installation along Elm Street. The city will hold the payment until the street is reconstructed and use it to construct the sidewalks. Damaged existing sidewalks will be repaired at the developer's expense.

The former Shattuck Middle School closed following the 2022-2023 school year and Sheikh purchased the property that August. The large Shattuck building, which another developer previously assessed as needing extensive maintenance including about \$1 million in asbestos abatement, has sat vacant, other than the Neenah Joint School District's Health and Wellness Center, which Sheikh allowed to continue operating from the building.

Current plans indicate the former Shattuck building will remain unused. Schmidt said any use or reuse of the building will require site plan approval from the city.

The Common Council was expected to vote on final approval of the Courtyard Fields Subdivision development agreement at its meeting Wednesday.

Jury trial set for former Neenah police officer

Neenah News

A former Neenah police officer charged with two counts of possession of child pornography entered not guilty pleas at his arraignment last week and a jury trial was scheduled for November.

Owen Halls, 22, was arrested in March after a 6-month-long investigation that was initiated after the Kaukauna Police Department received an Internet Crimes Against Children (ICAC) Cyber-Tip back in September from the National Center for Missing & Exploited Children.

According to the criminal complaint, two files of suspected child pornography were uploaded from an address in Kaukauna. Halls, who had been employed



Halls

with the Neenah Police Department for about a year, was one of four residents who lived at the address.

Investigators with ICAC later interviewed Halls, who admitted to having accounts on Kik and Telegram he uses for "probably stuff I shouldn't" and acknowledged knowing the links he accessed sometimes contained underage content. He told investigators he closed out of the material when he recognized it but didn't report it.

When officers said they had viewed videos from his account showing teens under 18 performing sex acts, Halls nodded and said, "mmhmm," according to the complaint.

Halls was arrested and fired on March 26, and police are seeking to have him decertified as a Wisconsin officer. If convicted, he faces 3 to 15 years in prison on each charge, plus up to 10 years of extended supervision.

Chamber to hold next Fox Talk in Neenah

Neenah News

The upcoming Fox Cities Chamber Fox Talk seminar will focus on social media for small businesses.

Speakers Alayna Hansel of We Rose Marketing and Ashley Johannes of Ashley Kalbus Photography will offer strategies and insights to help small business owners show up online and connect with their ideal audience.

The seminar will be held from 8 to 9:30 a.m. Aug. 13 at Community First Credit Union, 1575 Dresang Way in Neenah.

Hansel's presentation will focus on how to define a social media marketing strategy, how to curate informative and

engaging content, how to grow a business using social media marketing, and how to understand analytics and measure results.

Johannes' presentation will cover the basics of Instagram, as well as strategies to reach ideal clients. She will discuss optimizing profiles, hashtags, posting strategies and reels. Her goal is to help other small businesses feel comfortable with Instagram and show them how to use the platform effectively.

The seminar is free for Chamber members and \$25 for non-members. To register, visit members.foxcc.net.



Hansel



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Final preparations underway as EAA AirVenture arrives

Neenah News

Attendees and those trying to navigate around EAA AirVenture next week in Oshkosh can expect some changes in an attempt by organizers to make the experience as smooth as possible. In addition, EAA has announced several highlights for those planning their visit to the show at Wittman Regional Airport or observing it from the surrounding area.

The show is scheduled to start on Monday and continue until July 27.

EAA is planning to convert a former camping area into the new Purple Auto Parking Lot. EAA said the 4,400-space lot will allow faster parking and access off Interstate 41 and Pobereznny Road. Continual shuttles will carry attendees from the lot to the new South Knapp Gate admissions area.

“As we look at the growth of the event and the grounds, we work to accommodate everyone,” said Jim Busha, EAA vice president. “Campers who spend an extended time here have priority for easy access to the flightline, while we want to maintain the most efficient in-and-out possible for those attendees who drive to the grounds each day.”

For motorists traveling into the area for the show between Oshkosh and Berlin, the Wisconsin Department of Transportation has said a portion of Wisconsin Highway 91, which has been closed this summer due to construction, will reopen and work suspended for the week.

Traffic coming on and off Interstate 41 for the show will be routed to parking areas, impacting some surrounding streets. Traffic from the north will be directed to take Exit 116 west onto Wisconsin Highway 44 (South Park Avenue), turn right onto Highway 44, turn right onto Washburn Street, turn right onto 20th Avenue, turn right on South Park Avenue, turn left onto Knapp Street and stay right on Pobereznny Road to follow the traffic pattern to general parking.

Interstate 41 traffic from the south will be directed to take Exit 113 east (Wis-



Image from EAA

Cherokees will be part of the planned mass arrivals coming this weekend to Oshkosh for EAA AirVenture.

consin Highway 26/County Road N), then turn left onto Pobereznny Road and proceed two miles to general parking. The alternate south route will take Exit 116 east (Highway 44/South Park Avenue), turn right onto Knapp Street and stay right on Pobereznny Road to follow the traffic pattern to general parking.

Traffic patterns, which the Oshkosh Police Department determines, reverse in the afternoon and evening.

For anyone looking to catch a glimpse of group arrivals of aircraft, EAA said a tradition is continuing this weekend in consultation with the FAA that is considered a unique part of the “World’s Greatest Aviation Celebration.”

The announced mass arrival schedule, which is subject to change, includes at 10 a.m. Mooneys, 1 p.m. Bonanzas and 5 p.m. Cessnas on Saturday. At 10 a.m. Sunday, Cirrus is scheduled followed by at noon Cherokees. The mass arrivals are expected to take 10-20 minutes each, with other arrivals on hold during those periods. EAA said other aircraft should be aware of these dates and times and

plan their Oshkosh arrivals accordingly.

Daily air shows are scheduled to take place from 2:15 to 6:30 p.m. July 21-26, and from 1 to 4:30 p.m. July 27. The night air shows will begin at 8 p.m. July 23 and 26. EAA said the schedule for each show is subject to change without notice.

EAA said some of the afternoon air shows throughout the week will feature unique themes. July 22 will be Innovations Day. BETA Technologies will make an appearance, and American Drone will be performing spraying demonstrations using unmanned aircraft. July 23 will honor the 80th anniversary of the end of World War II with a parade and run-up featuring several aircraft from the era. July 25 will be EAA’s annual Salute to Veterans, headlined by the Wisconsin National Guard, which will showcase various aircraft from its fleet.

This year some of the air show performers will take time to meet attendees and fans. Each day during the week of AirVenture, performers will be featured at the EAA Member Center, which is located on the EAA Four Corners, west

of Boeing Plaza. The event is open to all attendees. The first meet-and-greet each day is scheduled at 8:30 a.m., with the second guest scheduled to appear at 10 a.m.

EAA said this year’s lineup is highlighted by Michelle “MACE” Curran, a former USAF Thunderbird pilot and combat veteran.

In addition, Goodyear is planning to celebrate the 100th anniversary of its famed airships by bringing two of them to Oshkosh. The appearance of two airships marks a unique occurrence in the more than 50 years that Goodyear has brought its blimps and airships to Oshkosh.

“There is no aviation event more ‘blimp-worthy’ than EAA AirVenture Oshkosh and to have two of Goodyear’s airships over the grounds will make this year unforgettable,” said Rick Larsen, EAA’s vice president of communities and member programs, who coordinates AirVenture features and attractions. “We have seen the excitement that Goodyear’s presence at Oshkosh has created throughout the years, whether it is flying during the air shows or even parked as a memorable photo opportunity on the grounds.”

Plans are for the airships to participate in flying activities during the week, in both the afternoon and night air shows on selected days. When not flying, at least one of them is scheduled to be parked near the EAA Aviation Museum and Pioneer Airport during the duration of its stay.

Goodyear said one of the aircraft, Wingfoot One, will be wrapped in its 1925 markings, in honor of 100 years of Goodyear flying the blimps. The markings honor Goodyear’s first blimp, Pilgrim, which began flying in 1925.

Goodyear’s airship participation at Oshkosh began in 1971 when America made an appearance at the EAA fly-in. Since then, it has been a regular visitor to the gathering, with its last appearance in 2021.

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Neenah Legion drops close contest

Neenah News

The Neenah Legion baseball team took the early lead against Shawano on Tuesday night but couldn't pull out the win as they fell 7-6 in eight innings.

Zachary Waite and Wilson Baltus each had two hits in the game, while Baltus, Brett Walther and Hunter Hilgers each drove in two runs for Neenah.

Baltus drove home Waite with a single in the first inning and then scored on a bases-loaded walk to Hilgers to stake Neenah to a 2-0 lead. Baltus then scored on a Shawano error in the fifth inning to break a 2-2 tie and boost Neenah back into

the lead.

In the top of the sixth, Owen Pire scored on a Baltus single before Walther delivered a two-run single for a 6-2 lead.

Shawano answered with three runs in the bottom of the sixth before tying the game in the seventh. The hosts then scored the winning run in the bottom of the eighth inning.

The Legion also dropped a 7-1 decision to Waupaca last Friday with Aiden Stark collecting two hits in the game and Devin Pasic tallying a double.

Walther scored the lone run in the game for Neenah.

Parks and Rec tennis tournaments held

Neenah News

The Neenah Parks and Rec Department Tennis Program held tournaments for girls 16 and under doubles and boys 16 and under singles recently.

Olivia Hackfort and Brielle Farmer won the doubles title beating Lily Walsh and Eleanor Huss, 6-0, 6-1 in the title match. In the third-place match, Siri Johnson and Addy Gutschow topped Mila Walsh and Sloane Desai, 6-2.

The boys singles title went to William Lepp, who beat Ben Nimtz, 6-2, 6-0, to take home the title. Third place went to Jaden Dharmarante, who beat Aemin Hartzheim, 6-2.

Winning first-round matches in the tournament were Liam Scott, Simon Lepp,

Charlie Nimtz and Lucas Kane, while Oliver Ludka, Caleb Thomas, Ben Huss and Aaron Dharmante also participated in the tournament.

The Parks and Rec Department also held men's tournaments in both singles and doubles.

The singles title went to Judd Stevenson, who won a 7-5, 6-1 match over Brandon Lepp. Stevenson topped Adam Hendries in the semifinals, while Lepp defeated Nathan Hayward to reach the final. Stevenson also won a preliminary round match over Jacob Mast.

In the men's doubles tournament, Jay Wilde and Bill VanNuland teamed up to beat Steve Reilly and Kyle Tanger for the title.

WFCFA all-star games set for this weekend

Neenah News

The Wisconsin Football Coaches Association high school all-star games will be held this weekend at Titan Stadium in Oshkosh.

The weekend begins with the 8-Player all-star game on Friday at 6 p.m. The Small School all-star game will kick off at noon on Saturday with the Large School all-star game following at 4 p.m.

Former Neenah High School standout Luke Jung will be playing in the Large School game.

The annual events features top high school football players from around Wisconsin and benefits the Children's Hospital of Wisconsin. Each all-star game will feature players divided into North and South squads, who have spent the week practicing in preparation for the game.

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

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

Please donate by completing and mailing your donations by July 21, 2025 to:

Community Back to School Fair
c/o Neenah News Kicks for Kids
124 W. Wisconsin Ave.
Suite 090B
Neenah, WI 54956

- _____ \$40 shoes
- _____ \$75 backpack/supplies
- _____ \$100 to sponsor one of the 1000 local students
- \$ _____ to help meet the need of 1000 local students

Please make checks payable to: NMES Subject: Back to School Fair

Name _____
Name as it should appear in the Donor Thank You in the Neenah News

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

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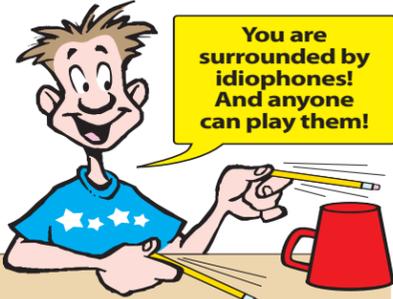
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Strike Up the Band!



You are surrounded by idiophones! And anyone can play them!

What is an **idiophone**? **Idio** means **self** and **phone** means **sound**. Idiophones are instruments of solid materials that vibrate when hit, shaken, plucked, scraped, rubbed, stamped or crashed together. But who's to say what's an instrument?

Stomping your foot on the floor turns the floor into an idiophone. Tapping a pencil on your desk uses the desk as an idiophone. Think of other things that could be idiophones.

Standards Link: Performing Arts/Music: Students perform a varied repertoire of music on instruments.

Make a Gutbucket!

STUFF YOU'LL NEED:

COFFEE A sound box (you can use an empty coffee can, bucket or cardboard box)

Pencil or dowel

A stick about twice the height of your sound box

String or wire



File a notch on one end of your stick. The notch will help hold the stick in place on the rim of the can.

On the other end of the stick, have an adult drill a small hole. Feed the string through and tie to secure.

Turn the coffee can upside down. Have an adult punch a small hole in the bottom of the can. Feed the string through and tie a pencil or dowel on the end of it. Set the notch end of the stick on the rim of the can.

Hold the gutbucket as shown here, pulling the string taut. Then, start plucking!

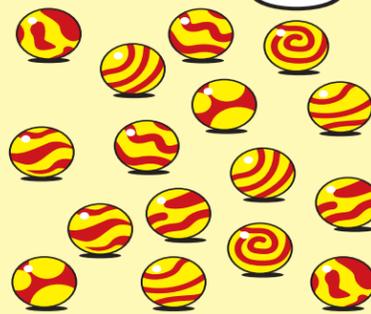
Find the differences between the two pictures.

Mini Maracas

Partially fill empty plastic yogurt containers with different things: sand, seeds, marbles, uncooked beans, rice or pasta. Cap and shake. Notice the different sounds each makes.



Match the marbles.



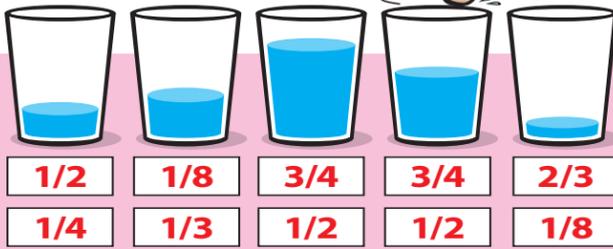
Singing Glasses

During the 1700s, playing music on glasses was a popular pastime. The glasses were partially filled with water and the person playing the glasses would slightly wet a finger and rub it around the top of the glass.

The more water you put in the glass, the deeper the note it will play.

Fill some glasses with different amounts of water, and see what kinds of sounds you can create.

Try tapping the rim of each glass with a pencil or spoon for another kind of sound.



Under each glass, circle the fraction that best describes how much of the glass is filled with water.

Standards Link: Math/Number Sense: Identify and use fractions.

Extra! Extra! Your Country

Look through the newspaper for ten or more words that describe your country and how you feel about it. Put these words into alphabetical order.

Standards Link: Spelling: Arrange words in alphabetical order.

Kid Scoop Together:

What is a Yankee Doodle Dandy?

You know the song. But do you understand its meaning? Fill in the missing words using the Word List to discover the origins of this classic American song.

British _____ used the song **Yankee Doodle Dandy** to make fun of the American colonists during the Revolutionary War. In response, the American _____ adopted it as their _____ song. When the war began, Americans were proud to be called Yankees, and **Yankee Doodle** became the colonists' most stirring anthem of defiance and liberty.

But why macaroni?



When the song **Yankee Doodle** first became _____, the word **macaroni** in the line "stuck a feather in his cap and called it macaroni" didn't refer to the _____. Instead, a **macaroni** was a traveled young man who liked overdressing in very _____ clothing. So by just sticking a _____ in his cap and calling himself a "macaroni," **Yankee Doodle** was proudly claiming to be the country _____. (an awkward and unsophisticated person) that the English mocked.

Word List

COLONISTS TROOPS FANCY POPULAR THEME BUMPKIN PASTA FEATHER

Standards Link: Reading Comprehension: Use context clues to determine the meaning of words.

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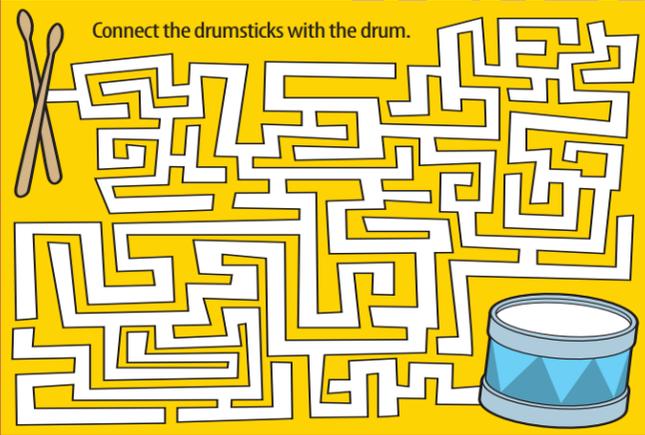
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SAND
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STICK
WATER
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Find the words by looking up, down, backwards, forwards, sideways and diagonally.

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

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

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- ### Top 5 reasons to support YOUR local community newspaper:
- **Stay Connected to Local News and Events:** Local newspapers provide coverage of community-specific news, events, and issues that larger media outlets often overlook, keeping you informed about what's happening in your area.
 - **Support Local Journalism:** By supporting Neenah News with a membership you help sustain independent journalism that holds local governments, businesses, and organizations accountable.
 - **Promote Local Businesses:** Community newspapers often feature advertisements, profiles, and stories about local businesses, fostering a stronger local economy and encouraging residents to shop locally.
 - **Preserve Local Culture and Voices:** Local newspapers highlight community stories, achievements, traditions, and unique perspectives that contribute to the area's identity and cultural heritage.
 - **Build a Sense of Community:** Supporting your local newspaper strengthens community ties by providing a platform for discussion, celebrating shared successes, and addressing collective challenges.

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