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## INSIDE



**Zephyrs win**  
Crowe logs triple-double  
in key victory  
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**One term**  
Lang choosing to not  
seek re-election  
Page 3



Photo by David Hall

## Holiday wishes

*Santa and Mrs. Claus visited with children to hear what they want for Christmas as part of Future Neenah's A Very Neenah Christmas event Dec. 5 in downtown Neenah. Activities continued throughout the weekend as A Very Neenah Christmas Market was added to the festivities for the first time this year. Sparkling lights and décor were spread throughout downtown as part of the city's annual kickoff to the holiday season.*

## Horns A Plenty conductor set to pass the baton

### Annual holiday concert scheduled for Dec. 20

By Bethanie Gengler  
NEENAH NEWS

For more than two decades, Don Krause has stood at the center of a sea of brass, on a stage filled with festive foliage, lifting his hands to cue the warm, rich sound of dozens of horns playing in harmony.

This year's Horns A Plenty Christmas concert will look much the same to the audience. But for Krause, it will be his final time conducting the group he created 25 years ago.



Krause

Krause downplays his influence, instead pointing to the musicians who have passed through Horns A Plenty over the years. He has conducted players from top orchestras, including the New York Philharmonic and the Chicago Symphony.

"I have conducted French horn musicians from most of the major symphonies in America," he said.

Past guest musicians included the American Horn Quartet, Horns of the Apocalypse, Genghis Barbie, and members of President's Own United States

SEE **Holiday horns** ON PAGE 11

# Construction begins on homes for medical residents

By Bethanie Gengler  
NEENAH NEWS

Construction has begun on a 56-unit townhouse development for medical residents at ThedaCare Regional Medical Center-Neenah, located on the site of the former Roosevelt Elementary School.

The new housing development is situated at the corner of First Street and East Forest Avenue on Doty Island, adjacent to ThedaCare. The development is being built on the former school property, which closed after the 2022-23 school year.

ThedaCare announced last week that the development will support its new Graduate Medical Education (GME) program, which trains physicians through residencies, fellowships, internships and other specialty programs.

The GME program at ThedaCare's Neenah location was created as part of a \$100 million modernization project com-

pleted in January 2024 and is one of the first accredited GME programs in northeast and central Wisconsin.

"The development plans reinforce ThedaCare's commitment to training the next generation of physicians and addressing the region's growing health care needs," said Lynn Detterman, president of the North Region of Froedtert ThedaCare. "It can also help them adjust quickly in the community by embedding them in a familiar and supportive environment."

Detterman said on-campus housing benefits residents by reducing commute times, supporting work-life balance, providing networking opportunities, and facilitating on-call responsibilities.

Data from the Wisconsin Hospital Association indicates Wisconsin needs 2,000 to 4,000 more physicians by 2035. The data shows that nearly 55% of residents remain in the community where they train,



Neenah News

Construction began in October on a 56-unit townhouse development at the former Roosevelt Elementary School site on Doty Island.

and 70% stay in the state if they complete both GME and residency locally.

"We are deeply committed to fostering an environment where future physicians can learn, grow and serve," Detterman said. "By expanding our GME infrastructure,

we are investing in the health care providers of tomorrow while also ensuring our communities have access to high-quality care today and for years to come."

SEE **ThedaCare homes** ON PAGE 10



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### Corrections

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

## School carnival focuses on candy canes

Neenah News

A family-friendly event will provide an opportunity to learn about the candy cane and its connection to the Christmas story.

The Candy Cane Carnival will be from 10 a.m. to noon Saturday at New Hope Christian School, 1850 American Drive.

Attendees will be able to jump around

a bounce castle, frost cookies and make a themed craft together. Organizers said families won't want to miss the indoor "snowball" fight, plus more games and activities for the whole family.

The event is open to all ages, but organizers said it is ideal for 3-13 year olds, plus a special area for 2 and under.

## \$100K Powerball ticket sold in Neenah

Neenah News

A winning \$100,000 Powerball ticket was sold at the Pride of Neenah on 670 N. Green Bay Road for the Dec. 6 drawing.

The ticket matched four of five numbers (13-14-26-28-44) and the Power-

ball (7). The play included the \$1 Power Play feature, turning a \$50,000 prize into a \$100,000 winner because of the 2X multiplier.

It is the largest winning ticket ever sold by the new Lottery retailer.



Neenah Historical Society photo

## Christmas Cop

Neenah police officer Ken Foster took on the role of Santa Claus as he directed traffic downtown in 1967. The car is turning from Wisconsin Avenue (heading east) onto North Commercial Street.





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<div style="text-align: center;">  <p style="font-size: small;">Serving Neenah &amp; Fox Crossing</p> </div> <p style="font-weight: bold; text-align: center;">December 26th issue:</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Space Deadline</b> Thursday 12/18 Noon</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Classified Deadline:</b> Friday, 12/19 Noon</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Obituary Deadline:</b> Monday, 12/22 Noon</p>	<div style="text-align: center;">  <p style="font-size: small;">Serving Neenah &amp; Fox Crossing</p> </div> <p style="font-weight: bold; text-align: center;">January 2nd issue:</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Space Deadline</b> Thursday, 12/23 Noon</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Classified Deadline:</b> Friday, 12/29 3pm</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Obituary Deadline:</b> Monday, 12/30 Noon</p>
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# Calendar of events

## Friday, Dec. 12

Sleigh Rides on the Farm and Cider with Santa, 5 p.m., Cavanaugh Carriages, 3910 Fairview Road

Fox Valley Concert Band Wisconsin, 7:30 p.m., Neenah High School

## Saturday, Dec. 13

Candy Cane Carnival, 10 a.m., New Hope Ministries, 1850 American Drive  
Author Brittany Fera of "Sammy Goes to the Doctor" Book Signing, noon, Lyons Books, 127 W. Wisconsin Ave.

Paint and Peck: Snowlight, 2 p.m., Rooster Dreams Visual Arts, Downtown Neenah Marketplace, 124 W. Wisconsin Ave.

Harmony Lane Christmas Market, 2:30 p.m., Fellowship Hall, First Presbyterian Church, 200 S. Church St.

## Sunday, Dec. 14

Sleigh Rides on the Farm and Cider with Santa, noon, Cavanaugh Carriages, 3910 Fairview Road

## Tuesday, Dec. 16

Neenah High School Holiday Concert 5:30 and 7:30 p.m., Neenah High School Performing Arts Center

## Thursday, Dec. 18

Fused by Numbers Opening Reception, 4 p.m., Bergstrom-Mahler Museum of Glass, 165 N. Park Ave.

Santa Hat Run, 6 p.m., Lion's Tail Brewing Co., 116 S. Commercial St.

## Friday, Dec. 19

Sleigh Rides on the Farm and Cider with Santa, 5 p.m., Cavanaugh Carriages, 3910 Fairview Road

Cookies with Santa, 6 p.m., Fox Crossing Community Center, 1000 Valley Road

## Saturday, Dec. 20

Meet and Greet Author Marc Drewek of "Wings in the Timber: Reflections of a Grouse Hunter," 11 a.m., Lyons Books, 127 W. Wisconsin Ave.

Sleigh Rides on the Farm and Cider with Santa, 1 p.m., Cavanaugh Carriages, 3910 Fairview Road

Horns A Plenty Christmas Concert, 2 p.m., 900 N Mason St., Appleton

## Sunday, Dec. 21

Sleigh Rides on the Farm and Cider with Santa, noon, Cavanaugh Carriages, 3910 Fairview Road

Peter Mayer Stars and Promises Christmas Tour, 7 p.m., Our Savior's Lutheran Church, 809 S. Commercial St.

## Friday, Dec. 26

Library After Dark Dance Party, 6:30 p.m., Neenah Public Library

## Monday, Dec. 29

Retro Video Game Extravaganza, 1 p.m., Neenah Public Library

Have a story idea?

Promotions or expansion at your business?

Community or school program to highlight?

Neenah News

Local news for you

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# Neenah mayor chooses not to seek a second term

By Bethanie Gengler  
NEENAH NEWS

Neenah Mayor Jane Lang announced last week that she will not seek a second term in office.

A lifelong Neenah resident, Lang served eight years as an alderman before being elected mayor in 2022. She is only the second woman in the city's history to hold the office.



Lang

In a statement, Lang said the decision to not seek re-election in April followed reflection and discussions with her family.

"Ultimately, my decision is based on my desire to spend more quality time with my husband and our four children and grandchildren," she said.

Lang said the decision was difficult to make, noting the demands of the office and her commitment to the job.

"The job of mayor can be all-consuming

for those who fully commit to it," she said.

Lang pointed to her deep family roots in Neenah, saying her great-great-grandparents arrived in the city in 1848, the same year Wisconsin became a state. She said growing up in the community and raising her family here helped shape her decision to seek public office.

During her tenure, she said she was grateful for the work of city staff, calling them an "excellent team."

"Their examples of unselfish dedication and servant leadership have inspired me and blessed me in countless ways," she said.

She also thanked her husband of 40 years, Fred, and her children for their support.

"We are extremely blessed in our city to have so many individuals who perpetually focus on making Neenah a better place, and I will forever be grateful to have had the opportunity to have worked alongside all of you who make a positive impact each and every day," she said. "Neenah is an amazing community, and my love for it

and for those who also call it home, will never waver."

Lang did not announce plans for future involvement in public service.

## High school holiday concert features two shows

Neenah News

The annual Neenah High School holiday concert is set for Tuesday and will have two shows at 5:30 and 7:30 p.m. in the high school Performing Arts Center.

The free event features performances

The winner of the mayoral election will serve a term through April 2030. Candidates have until Jan. 6 to file nomination papers.

from the high school band, choir and orchestra and will have reserved seating, so all attendees will need to obtain a ticket in advance.

Tickets can be reserved at [rocketplayers.com](http://rocketplayers.com).



Photo by David Hall

## Opening reception set for glass museum project

Neenah News

The opening reception for a project that is part of a free, multi-generational community art program is next week.

Fused by Numbers is targeted to women learners of all ages and skill backgrounds at the Bergstrom-Mahler Museum of Glass. More than 200 local women and girls came to the museum to co-create a fused glass mural honoring notable area women throughout history.

The original design for Fused by Numbers was developed by Neenah-based

artist, educator and museum docent Michelle Sharp. The program was originated and facilitated by Glass Studio Manager Taylor Moeller-Roy. Both Sharp and Moeller-Roy will offer remarks at the reception.

The reception is set for 4 to 6 p.m. Thursday at the museum, 165 N. Park Ave. Light refreshments will be served. RSVP to [stoll@bmmglass.com](mailto:stoll@bmmglass.com) by Monday.

Funding for the project was provided by a grant from the Kimberly-Clark Foundation.

## Prepping for the polar plunge

The legendary frontiersman, now a fixture in Neenah's Riverside Park, received a cozy knit scarf this week. With temperatures dropping and snow on the ground, the new Davy Crockett statue is officially bundled up and ready to face its first freezing winter in the Fox Valley.

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# Faith Technologies considers former UW Fox Cities campus

By Bethanie Gengler  
NEENAH NEWS

Faith Technologies Inc. (FTI) is considering acquiring the former University of Wisconsin-Oshkosh Fox Cities campus in Menasha to turn into a national hub for workforce development and advanced technology training.

FTI is a national engineering, construction, manufacturing and clean energy firm. The company currently employs about 5,000 workers nationwide and anticipates training thousands more in the coming years.

FTI announced last week that it is evaluating whether the former university site could support workforce training programs, including its apprenticeship and ICIAN (master technician) programs, as well as training in energy and technology skills. The company is also considering the location for future research, development and advanced manufacturing activities.



Hintz

According to a press release, FTI signed a letter of intent that gives the company 90 days to explore and evaluate a plan to acquire the campus, though it does not obligate either party to complete a sale. The evaluation includes whether the campus could serve as a location for the long-term growth of FTI's engineering professionals and skilled trades workforce.

"This exploratory step affords us the opportunity to determine whether the former UW-Oshkosh Fox Cities campus — and Wisconsin more broadly — could be a strong long-term fit for FTI's training, innovation and technology initiatives," said Charlie Fredrickson, executive vice president of FTI. "We are carefully evaluating how this location could support future engineering, technology and workforce development needs as we look ahead."

Winnebago County Executive Gordon Hintz said the exploratory process aligns with ongoing efforts to repurpose the campus following UW-Oshkosh's decision to close the two-year Fox Cities campus in June due to declining enrollment.



Photo from UW Fox Cities

The former UW Fox Cities campus could be turned into a national hub for workforce development and advanced technology training as Faith Technologies Inc. has expressed interest in utilizing the Winnebago County-owned facility.

"This presents a constructive opportunity to explore new life for a valuable community property," Hintz said. "While no decisions have been made, this process allows us to carefully assess the possibilities alongside FTI and determine how to best repurpose the campus to benefit the community, economy and the taxpayers of Winnebago County."

Winnebago County assumed ownership of the property July 1 after purchasing Outagamie County's ownership stake for \$1. The Winnebago County Board also approved nearly \$1 million in funding to sustain campus operations through the end of the year and authorized Hintz to negotiate short-term leases while longer-term plans were evaluated.

The 43-acre campus includes the Bar-

low Planetarium, the Communication Arts Center, the University Children's Center and outdoor community gardens. The Children's Center continued operating after the Menasha Joint School District assumed control and hired the existing child care staff as district employees. The Barlow Planetarium reopened in August.

The Weis Earth Science Museum also operated on the campus through June. As part of Winnebago County's agreement with Outagamie County, the museum has since closed, and its contents were donated to the History Museum at the Castle in Appleton.

As part of its review, FTI will consider whether a potential acquisition would include community amenities on the campus.

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# Clayton limits tax impact as budget grows in 2026

By Bethanie Gengler  
NEENAH NEWS

The Town of Clayton's 2026 budget increases both spending and revenues by just over 20%, while holding the overall property tax rate nearly flat, according to the final budget document.

The town's 2026 tax rate will rise by one cent to \$3.48 per \$1,000 of assessed value. The Clayton Sanitary District levy remains \$100,000, but its mill rate falls from \$1.13 to \$1.04 per \$1,000 of assessed value, an 8% decrease.

Administrator Kelly Wisnefske said higher assessed property values and new construction spread the levy over a larger tax base, helping limit the impact on the rate.

The amount of tax revenue flowing into the general fund will rise by about 5% from \$992,352 in 2025 to \$1.04 million next year. While the general fund receives a larger share of tax dollars, the town's overall property tax levy collected across all funds increases only 0.4%, from \$2.53 million to \$2.6 million.

The \$2.15 million general fund plan for 2026 marks a 20% increase from this year's \$1.79 million. Wisnefske said the town was able to increase general fund spending while keeping the overall property tax rate nearly flat through a one-time transfer to the debt service fund for a portion of the 2026 debt payment.

Miscellaneous revenue in the general fund will rise from \$55,320 in 2025 to \$282,844 in 2026, a 411% increase. Wisnefske said the jump is primarily due to a one-time use of fund balance for a 2023

anticipation note repayment of \$225,000 and interest earned on the town's bank account from previous years.

Public safety and recreation account for the largest department-level spending changes in the budget. Public safety will increase about 18%, rising to \$643,074. Wisnefske said the increase is primarily related to costs for contracted police services and wage and benefit increases.

Funding for culture and recreation will jump from \$5,500 in 2025 to \$32,250 in 2026, a 486% increase. Wisnefske said the jump reflects higher costs for contracted services, which have a big impact on a budget that was previously small.

Conservation and development spending is also slated to rise, increasing about 36% to \$82,123. Public works spending will decline by about 3% to \$397,585, while general government spending will remain essentially flat at \$766,990.

Governmental funds are projected to end 2025 with \$2.11 million in combined fund balance, up from \$1.72 million at the start of the year. The general fund balance is expected to reach \$1.85 million entering 2026.

Wisnefske said the 2026 budget holds the property tax levy largely stable while adding services and focusing on both short-term needs and longer-term capital projects, including road maintenance and construction.

Town Chair Russ Geise said the 2026 budget drew significant interest from residents, with 37 people in attendance at the Nov. 19 meeting where the Town Board adopted the final budget.



Submitted photo

## Seasonal fun

The Neenah Historical Society welcomed nearly 400 visitors last weekend to the Octagon House, including resident Patti Julius and her two dogs. Visitors could tour the Growing Up Neenah exhibit and have their pictures taken with Santa and his elf. The sleigh is retired from the Neenah-Menasha Santa Float.

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# Superintendent explains school district portion of tax bills

Each December tends to bring two big expenses for most homeowners: holiday shopping and that familiar envelope containing the annual property tax bill. And with it often comes a question I hear every year: "What determines the school district's portion of my property taxes?"

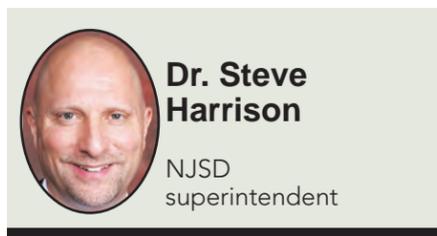
This is a topic I wrote about last December and is one I'll continue revisiting each year. My goal is to help our community stay informed about how school

funding works, how state decisions affect local taxes and how we use these resources to serve students and families in Neenah.

In Wisconsin, the school district tax levy is the centerpiece for how public education is funded. It represents the amount of money a school district collects through local property taxes to support daily operations which range from teacher salaries and student programs to classroom materials, safety measures and building maintenance.

Each year, the district develops a budget based on anticipated expenses for the coming fiscal year. Once state and federal funding amounts are known, the district determines how much local revenue through the tax levy is needed to balance the budget. The formula is simple: the district's mill rate (the tax rate per \$1,000 of assessed property value) is multiplied by the total taxable property value in the district.

For example, if the total levy is \$10 million and the district's total taxable



property value is \$500 million, the mill rate would be \$20 per \$1,000 of assessed value. That means a homeowner with a \$200,000 property would owe about \$4,000 in school taxes.

Wisconsin places levy limits on school districts to help control property tax growth and promote predictability for taxpayers. Often referred to as revenue limits, these restrictions cap the total revenue a district can raise through the combination of state aid and local property taxes. This past summer, the Wisconsin biennial budget provided a \$325 per-student increase in that limit for both the 2025-26 and 2026-27 school years. For Neenah and other districts across the state, this increase offers modest but meaningful support in addressing rising costs for staffing, student services and instructional materials.

While the \$325 per-student increase helps offset inflationary pressures, it does not fully cover the cost increases districts face, particularly in areas like utilities, transportation and health insurance. As a result, the local property tax levy continues to play a vital role in maintaining educational quality and stability.

The school district tax levy isn't just a

number on a bill; it directly shapes the learning experience in our classrooms. It influences class sizes by determining how many teachers and support staff we can employ, the resources and technology available to students, and the programs and opportunities we can offer, from music and athletics to special education and career readiness initiatives. A strong and balanced levy supports strong schools, and strong schools, in turn, strengthen our neighborhoods, our workforce and our community's long-term vitality.

It's also important to remember that the school district levy is only one portion of your total property tax bill. Other municipalities, including the City of Neenah, Winnebago County and Fox Valley Technical College, also levy taxes that contribute to your overall total. Understanding how these components fit together helps taxpayers make informed decisions and engage in meaningful dialogue about public funding, community priorities and the future of education in Neenah.

As your superintendent, I believe our community deserves clear and consistent communication about how your tax dollars are invested in our schools. That's why I will continue sharing this annual update each December - to keep you informed about the factors that shape the school district tax levy and how state funding, local support and community investment work together to sustain educational excellence in Neenah.

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Photo from Neenah Joint School District

## Crafty contribution

Neenah High School woodworking students made a contribution to this year's "A Very Neenah Christmas." The students built several of the 15 vendor huts for the inaugural Christmas Market in the Galloway Christmas Village, located adjacent to Gateway Park, Plexus headquarters and The Plaza. The students, under the guidance of teacher Dean Olkowski, built the huts over the past several months. Members of the Neenah-Menasha Firefighters Charitable Foundation also constructed several of the huts. They were used for vendors to sell unique goods over the weekend at the market.

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# Students learn about ice fishing safety from rescue teams

By Anya Kelley  
NEENAH NEWS

Rescue teams across Winnebago County gathered Saturday at Hexco Motorsports in Oshkosh for the second annual high school ice fishing safety training presentation.

Students cycled through 12 stations led by 10 rescue crews to watch live demonstrations of search and rescue equipment. Each presentation lasted 15 minutes and gave the students an opportunity to ask the professionals questions and share personal ice fishing stories.

The event started two years ago when founder and co-coach of the Neenah High School fishing team, Chris Jones, decided he wanted to expand their mandatory safety training session into something bigger.

“I think one of the important things about being a coach of the fishing team is recognizing the opportunity to share your love of the outdoors with other people,” Jones said. “Part of that is fish catching and spending time outside but making sure that everyone is safe when they’re out

there.”

By bringing together multiple municipalities, students got to see a wide range of unique rescue devices in action. The Town of Algoma’s fire department showed off their search and rescue drone that uses thermal imaging to help locate bodies. The drone can carry up to 20 pounds of gear and has a speaker the operator can communicate through while over 400 feet in the air and up to nine miles away.

The Boom Bay Fire Department brought out its Sherp – an all-terrain vehicle that’s nearly impossible to trap in any condition. During the live demonstration, the operator broke through the ice to show how the vehicle can float as well as exit the water. The Winneconne/Poygan Fire Department demonstrated a shoreland rescue using a special sled that allows better leverage to pull someone out from the water. Neenah/Menasha Fire Rescue demonstrated different types of dive suits and the Omro Fire Department gave students a ride on its air boat.

Freshman Braxton Theissen and junior Skye Sarnowski were in attendance with



Neenah News

Rescue crews demonstrated how ice rescues are performed during a safety training session Saturday at Hexco Motorsports in Oshkosh.



Neenah News

Students learned about ice fishing safety and saw equipment first responders use during cold weather search and rescue operations.

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the Winneconne High School Fishing Team. Both started fishing with their dads at a young age and grew to love ice fishing.

“I would always go fishing with my dad all the time,” Sarnowski said. “He was always around and I had a blast doing it and I just always had a joy for it.”

During Winneconne/Poygan’s presentation, Theissen shared he’s fallen through the ice while out fishing and had to apply safety techniques to save himself.

“It’s quick,” he said. “It gets cold really fast. It’s not fun at all. I mean, even if it’s shallow, your heart drops for that split second. You just got to focus on getting out.”

He saved himself using ice picks, something that all students on the Winneconne fishing team are required to wear. Ice picks are a two-handled device that is worn

around the neck. They create something to grip on when the ice is slick. Theissen and Sarnowski were also wearing full float suits.

“I feel like they’re warmer and you know you’re going to be able to float and take your time,” Theissen said.

Besides the importance of safety training, Jones said the other focus of the day was getting students from across the Fox Valley to connect with one another outside of a competitive setting.

“Kids are in groups with some other students from other schools, so they’re meeting kids that have the same passions and interests as they do,” Jones said. “They’re forging some friendships and building bonds of camaraderie, which we don’t normally get to do.”

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# New alert system launched to prevent notary fraud

Neenah News

The Winnebago County Register of Deeds office has introduced a new fraud prevention tool designed to protect notaries and the community from the growing threat of notary-related document fraud.

The Notary Fraud Alert (NFA) program is a free, easy-to-use service that allows notaries to monitor activity under their name and quickly detect signs of misuse.

“This new alert system empowers notaries with information so they can catch fraudulent activity early and in doing so, helps safeguard the entire community from property fraud and related scams,” county registrar Susan Snyder said.

Once enrolled, notaries can choose to receive daily, weekly or monthly alerts whenever a document is recorded in Winnebago County, or any they chose to sign-up for, that includes their name as the

notary.

Each alert includes the document number, type and parties involved, which Snyder said makes it easy to identify suspicious filings at a glance.

Notary fraud can occur when someone forges a signature, misuses a notary seal or records a document without the required presence or authorization. These actions can lead to property theft, financial loss and legal complications. With this alert system, Snyder said notaries are no longer in the dark — they are part of the frontline defense.

This service is offered at no cost. To sign up for Notary Fraud Alert or learn more, visit [NotaryFraudAlert.com](http://NotaryFraudAlert.com).

Anyone who suspects they are a victim of notary fraud, consider reaching out to law enforcement or legal counsel for further action.



Neenah News

## Party at the North Pole

Clayton Elementary School third and fourth grade students sing “Party at the North Pole” last week during the Winter Concert at the Pickard Auditorium. The concert, which also featured kindergarten, first grade and second grade students, kicked off with “A Holiday of Music.”

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# Theisen's plans new Neenah store to open in the spring

## Retailer adding its fifth Wisconsin location

Neenah News

A new retailer will be moving into a recently-vacated building in Neenah.

Theisen's Home, Farm and Auto, a family-owned and operated retailer founded in 1927, last week announced plans to open a store in the former Krueger's True Value building at 999 Winneconne Ave. Krueger's had been owned and operated by the Krueger and Webb families for more than 150 years before closing this fall.

As the family transitions into retirement, they expressed their excitement about seeing the property's legacy continue with another long-standing family business.

"We are thrilled that Theisen's decided to open in our community," said Brian Webb, representing the Krueger and Webb families. "Both of our families share the same values and philosophy when it comes to putting the customer first. It is a great fit for the community, and we know Theisen's will be very successful here."

The new store is expected to open in the spring, marking Theisen's fifth location in Wisconsin and 26<sup>th</sup> overall, with its other locations in Iowa.

The building includes a 44,683-square-foot main structure and a 10,500-square-foot attached pole shed.

Theisen's will remodel the full interior after the first of the year, creating an updated sales floor, new office areas, expanded warehouse space and a refreshed customer experience.

"We are excited to bring Theisen's to Neenah," said Tony Theisen, president and CEO. "This community is a great match for our home farm auto and pet offering. With our family's long history in the business and our commitment to putting customers first, we look forward to serving Neenah for many years to come."



An overview of the property at 999 Winneconne Ave. shows how Theisen's plans to use the main structure along with attached pole shed when it opens in the spring.

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# ThedaCare homes

FROM PAGE 1

Local businessman John Bergstrom and other community members facilitated the Roosevelt School property's sale to ThedaCare and the ThedaCare Family of Foundations in 2022. Bergstrom also donated funds to demolish the 100-year-old school and convert the site to green space in preparation for future development.

The project will be built in two phases. The first phase is currently under construction on the west half of the property and includes two buildings with 14 units each. It is expected to be completed by summer 2026. The second phase on the east half of the property will add two more buildings with 14 units each, with construction beginning next fall.

The final development will include 32 one-bedroom and 24 two-bedroom townhouses, each with an attached one- or two-car garage.

Bergstrom said the development will be a tremendous addition to Neenah.

"We're going to have all these smart young doctors here in our community, maybe because they've gone through



Photo from ThedaCare

A digital rendering shows what a housing development near ThedaCare Regional Medical Center is expected to look like once complete.

medical school and now they're going to take the residency program, which is how they're going to specialize, and I hope a bunch of them, after they finish school, decide they want to stay here," he said.

The first cohort of internal medicine residents is expected to begin July 1, following Match Day in March, when medical students learn where they will complete their residency training.

# Chamber names education award nominees

Neenah News

The Fox Cities Chamber has announced nominees of the 2026 Excellence in Education Awards.

Nearly 250 nominations were received from school districts across the Fox Cities.

The full list of nominees can be viewed at [bit.ly/3Ye2K05](https://bit.ly/3Ye2K05).

The 10 award recipients will be announced in January, and will be formally recognized and receive their awards March 12 at the Chamber's Excellence in Education Awards Program at DoubleTree by Hilton, Neenah. Learn more about the event, and buy tickets at [members.foxcc.net](https://members.foxcc.net).

A variety of sponsorship levels are available. For information, contact Eric Broten, vice president – business growth and development, Fox Cities Chamber at [ebroten@foxcc.net](mailto:ebroten@foxcc.net) or 920-831-4908.

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Neenah News

Don Krause conducts the Horns A Plenty ensemble during a past Christmas concert at the Wisconsin State Capitol rotunda.

## Holiday horns

FROM PAGE 1

Marine Band and Pershing's Own United States Army Band.

At 85, Krause has been playing horn, commonly called French horn, for 73 years and continues to mentor the next generation of horn players through lessons at his Neenah home.

Horns A Plenty was founded through Krause's efforts to support young musicians. For several years, he made an annual contribution to a graduating senior in the Fox Valley Youth Symphony, but when the organization's board learned of the gift, Krause was told he could no longer make the contribution himself. Instead, he was informed the funds could be donated through the organization, which would decide how they were distributed.

"Well, I walked out of the meeting to get to my car a couple blocks away and suddenly I said to myself, 'I'm gonna invent Horns A Plenty Christmas,' and the rest is history," he said.

Each year, Krause brings together dozens of horn players to perform holiday music in a single, horn-only ensemble, a concept similar to TubaChristmas. Horns, Krause said, have the widest octave range of any brass instrument, allowing the ensemble to play multiple parts simultaneously.

Krause has never taken compensation for Horns A Plenty, donating his own money to cover expenses and to support scholarships for young horn players. To date, more than \$15,000 has been awarded to students through the program.

An especially memorable accomplishment for Krause was leading Horns A Plenty to achieve a Guinness World Re-

cord in 2007 for the largest French horn ensemble, with 85 horns playing at City Center Plaza in Appleton.

After more than two decades leading Horns A Plenty, Krause is preparing to step down and pass the baton in part because of ongoing health challenges. He said arthritis in his left arm has made conducting increasingly difficult, even as he continues to play horn.

Krause has faced heart and lung disease and undergone major surgery, including a quintuple bypass and placement of stents. Five years ago, he became the first patient in the world to undergo a stem cell treatment for heart disease. He credits decades of playing horn, an instrument that relies on breath and diaphragm control, with helping him recover and stay strong enough to continue performing.

Krause's final Christmas concert as conductor will take place at 2 p.m. Dec. 20 at Belfry Hall, 900 N. Mason St. in Appleton. The free, public performance will showcase the ensemble he has nurtured for 25 years and marks the close of his tenure.

"This will be the final concert for me, but I'm so glad to hear that it will keep going on even after," he said.

The concert will feature a special performance of "Mountain Spires," complete with a five-foot screen projection of mountain scenery.

"There's never, ever been anything done like that in the entire French horn world that I'm aware of," he said.

Krause said he hopes the event's "depth of music" and "variation of sound" will inspire both audiences and performers.

While he steps down as conductor, the Horns A Plenty Christmas concert and its spirit of music, mentorship and community will play on.

## Tickets on sale for EAA AirVenture Oshkosh 2026

Neenah News

Advance tickets are now on sale for the EAA AirVenture Oshkosh fly-in convention, which will be held July 20-26.

The 73rd edition of "The World's Greatest Aviation Celebration" hosted by the Experimental Aircraft Association takes place at Wittman Regional Airport in Oshkosh.

"As the excitement builds for the world of flight returning to Oshkosh in 2026, we wanted to ensure that advance tickets are available for those who enjoy giving AirVenture tickets as holiday gifts," said Rick Larsen, EAA's vice president of communities and member programs, who coordinates AirVenture features and attractions. "Even at this time of year, aviation enthusiasts around the world are planning for their own AirVenture experience and sharing photos, videos and memories of

past trips to Oshkosh."

EAA AirVenture 2026 programming plans are already underway, with more details on specific aircraft, events and personalities will be announced as they are confirmed. EAA officials were also present at this month's International Council of Air Shows convention to solidify the air show lineup for 2026.

Along with AirVenture admissions, other items available for advance purchase include camping credentials, auto parking passes and Aviator Club tickets (both North and South locations), as well as B-25 and Ford Tri-Motor flights. A special "Oshkosh Bound" T-shirt is also available for those already planning their journeys to AirVenture, as well as a unique way to gift wrap those holiday AirVenture passes. All advance purchase items are available at EAA.org/Tickets.



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# Crowe sparks Zephyrs to key early-season triumph

By Steve Clark  
NEENAH NEWS

Autumn Crowe did a little bit of everything for the St. Mary Catholic girls basketball team on Monday night.

The junior not only racked up a triple-double – totaling 20 points, 14 rebounds and 10 assists – but likely popped the popcorn for the concession stand, mopped up the melted snow and ice tracked in from the parking lot and made sure all the pencils at the scorer’s table were sharpened.

Most importantly, Crowe played a key role in the Zephyrs picking up a huge 47-39 win over rival Manitowoc Lutheran in an

early-season matchup of two of the favorites in the Big East North on Monday night.

“Autumn stepped up. Offensively, defensively she did a nice job,” head coach Jeff Chew said. “She practices hard all of the time. She is a leader for us.”

Crowe is the lone returning starter from last year’s team that shared the conference title with the Lancers before beating them in the sectional final to advance to the state tournament.

She knows she will be counted on to shoulder some of the load for a team that didn’t have a senior take the court on Monday.

“I have a different role than I did last year,” Crowe said. “If we’re struggling or down by a little bit, I will try to take the ball and get a bucket for us. Otherwise I will look to pass and find my teammates. Obviously, it’s a different role for me but I’m willing to step into it.”

Another key factor in Monday’s win was the way the Zephyrs’ aggressive defense was able to contain a potent Manitowoc Lutheran team.

The Lancers had scored at least 61 points in each of their first four games and topped the 70-point mark twice. They were never held below 50 points in a game last season.

“We did a really nice job defensively,” Chew said. “We tried to take some of the scorers out and I think we did a good job of that. People stepped in and we played defense as a total team.”

The Zephyrs, who improved to 5-0 on the season, held the Lancers to just four points over nearly eight minutes to start the game and led by as many as eight points through the midway point of the



Neenah News

St. Mary Catholic’s Piper Neubauer battles for the ball against a pair of Manitowoc Lutheran defenders in the first half on Monday night.



Neenah News

St. Mary Catholic’s Autumn Crowe looks to put up a shot under heavy defensive pressure against Manitowoc Lutheran on Monday night.

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first half. But the Lancers were able to close the gap to 21-18 by halftime and then scored the first four points of the second half to take the lead. The game remained close, with the teams exchanging the lead, in the opening minutes of the second half before St. Mary Catholic was able to seize control. Over an eight minute span in the second half, the Zephyrs held the Lancers to just one field goal and turned a two-point deficit into a 41-31 lead. “As a team we are small and quick, so we tend to focus on defense a lot more,” Crowe said. “Our defense leads to a lot of offensive buckets or fast breaks and that helped us (tonight).” Gabby Guerrero’s layup tied the game at 29 and ignited the 12-2 run while it was a

SEE **Zephyrs win** ON PAGE 15

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# Prep sports roundup

## GIRLS WRESTLING

### Kurczewski claims title at Papermaker invite

Kyle Kurczewski pinned three of her four opponents en route to winning the 126-pound title at the Kimberly Invitational on Saturday.

Kurczewski earned a bye in her match before rattling off two first-period pins to advance to the title rounds. She pinned Alexander Trapasso in the semifinals in 1:26 then topped Taya Johnson of Menasha by a 12-1 major decision in the final.

Ava Armatti added a second place at 145 pounds and Amari Richard took third at 138 pounds. Rayleigh Pearson (132) and Lluvia Carrillo (185) each took fourth.

The Rockets also finished first at the Bay Port quadrangular last Thursday, posting dual-meet wins over Bonduel (36-21) and Shawano (45-21), while beating Bay Port on a tiebreaker after finishing tied 36-36.

Earning pins in the dual meet with the Pirates were Maya Ives (103), Kurczewski (132), Richard (138) and Armatti (152).

Cassidy Steinberg (114) and Kylie Alexandroni (145) won by forfeit.

Kurczewski, Richard and Armatti each finished 3-0 on the day.

## BOYS WRESTLING

### Neenah dominates field at Kaufmann Scramble

Six Rockets captured individual titles and Neenah finished easily ahead of runner-up West Allis Hale to claim the team crown at the Kaufmann Scramble hosted by Nicolet High School on Saturday.

Highlighting the champions for the Rockets was Dane Granditzke, who pinned all five opponents he faced in finishing first at 144 pounds. Brandon Butzke (113) and Kaden Roth (190) each registered four pins and a forfeit in winning their titles, while Cashtin Tiedt (132), Jaxon Ennis (138) and Declan Koch (165) each posted three pins in claiming their titles.

Carson Finch (106), Marcus Peterson (120), Landen Sheppard (157) and Willy Brucks (215) each finished second at

their respective divisions, while Garrett Nedens (132), Declan Epley (150) and Brayden Milbrodt (285) each took fourth.

Neenah opened its season with a 47-26 dual-meet win over Bay Port last week.

Finch (103), Ennis (138), Granditzke (144), Joaquin Quinonez (157), Koch (175) and Roth (190) all earned pins for the Rockets, who dominated the upper weights winning matches in five of the heaviest six weight classes.

Butzke (113) and Milbrodt (285) each won by major decision, while Sheppard picked up a decision win at 165 pounds.

## BOYS BASKETBALL

### Rockets stifle Polar Bears in FVA win

Neenah held Hortonville to just 13 second-half points as they rallied for a 57-35 win at home last Friday.

The Rockets trailed by six at halftime but outscored the Polar Bears 41-13 in the second half to collect the win in their Fox Valley Association opener.

Roan Koeper finished with 11 points and six rebounds to lead Neenah, while Matthias Charles added 10 points off the bench in the win. Kolton Fleege chipped in eight points for the Rockets.

Neenah outrebounded Hortonville, 31-16, in the game.

### Zephyrs charge to win over Lancers

St. Mary Catholic erupted for 38 points in the second half to rally past Manitowoc Lutheran in a 66-57 Big East North win on Tuesday.

The Zephyrs trailed by three at halftime

but outscored Manitowoc Lutheran 38-26 in the second half.

Mason Uhlenbrauck finished with 19 points and went 9-of-9 from the free-throw line in the game to lead the Zephyrs. Uhlenbrauck scored 12 points in the second half to help fuel the rally.

Dylan Brenn added 16 points and Luke Fariweather finished with 13 points in the win. Mason Wagner also reached double figures with 10 points, all of which came after halftime.

St. Mary Catholic was coming off a 105-101 win over Menasha in a non-conference game last Friday.

Five players scored in double figures for the Zephyrs, led by Tarver Trinkner who finished with a career-high 29 points. Uhlenbrauck added 20 points, with Fairweather and Brenn each scoring 16 and Wagner adding 11.

The Zephyrs hit 10 3-pointers in the game.

## GIRLS BASKETBALL

### Klesmit, Buss fuel Rockets win over Ships

Rowan Klesmit scored 27 points and Ellie Buss added 24 to lead Neenah to a 74-62 road win over Manitowoc Lincoln in a nonconference game on Tuesday night.

Klesmit finished 7-of-7 at the free-throw line and added six rebounds for the Rockets, while Buss knocked down six of the team's nine 3-pointers in the victory.

Sydney Michalkiewicz added nine points for Neenah, while Farrah Danforth grabbed a team-high nine rebounds.

Neenah trailed by one point at halftime

SEE **Prep roundup** ON PAGE 15



Submitted photos

## Rocket signings

A pair of Neenah High School girls basketball players signed their National Letters of Intent recently. Rowan Klesmit (top photo) will head to Wright State University next year to play for the Raiders. Klesmit was a first team all-Fox Valley Association selection last year and joins older brothers Max and Cal in playing basketball in college. Ellie Buss (bottom photo) will attend Maryville University to continue her career next year. Buss was a second-team all-FVA selection a year ago and follows in the footsteps of older sister, Sammie.



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# Uhlenbrauck making his own mark with Zephyrs

By Steve Clark  
NEENAH NEWS

Don't expect Mason Uhlenbrauck to mimic the Harlem Globetrotters in spinning a basketball on his finger.

He admits he can't do it very well.

But he might have the edge on Curly Neal or Meadowlark Lemon in another area.

"I can spin flat things on my finger," the St. Mary Catholic senior said. "I can't spin a basketball very well but a notebook I can spin really well."

It's a talent that even Uhlenbrauck doesn't know the origin of.

"I have no idea where it comes from," he said with a laugh. "I can just do it."

What Uhlenbrauck can do well with the basketball, though, is shoot it and it's something he has done as a varsity regular for the past three seasons with the Zephyrs.

Uhlenbrauck shot nearly 43 percent from the 3-point line and 83 percent from the free-throw line in averaging about a team-high 15 points per game last season for the Zephyrs when he was an honorable mention Big East North selection.

He made 76 3-pointers a year ago and totaled 123 for his career entering this season.

It's an ability he developed while growing up with older brother Cole, who was also a standout shooter at St. Mary Catholic and now plays at St. Norbert College.

"My dad would bring us to the gym when we were younger, so to have him as an inspiration, it has helped me a lot," Uhlenbrauck said. "We didn't (play one-on-one) that much. It was more just shooting drills and building each other up."

When the two did face off in one-on-one contests, though, it was a learning experience for Mason.

For one, as his older brother, Mason said Cole never took it easy on him, plus being bigger and stronger taught him how

**Senior Standout**



to compete against a size disadvantage as well as develop other parts of his game.

"With him being a little bigger than me, it gave me the experience of how to work against size," Uhlenbrauck said. "Since I'm a little smaller, I'm a little quicker and that helps on defense. I'm able to shoot, but having the other versatile areas in my game helps."

Having an older sibling be a standout in the same sport can be difficult for those following in those footsteps.

Uhlenbrauck has had to deal with that some in his time at St. Mary Catholic but doesn't see that as too much of an issue.

"A little bit I've had it," Uhlenbrauck said. "I don't like to compare us. He played his own game and I like to play my own game."

Uhlenbrauck isn't only about putting points on the board.

He gets just as much satisfaction preventing an opponent from scoring as he does putting the ball through the hoop for the Zephyrs.

"I love to play defense," Uhlenbrauck said. "You can have bad offensive slumps, but playing good defense will give you the fast transitions to offense."

Uhlenbrauck has started for the Zephyrs since his sophomore year, after playing limited varsity minutes as a freshman – and was on the roster when the team reached the WIAA State Tournament.

It's a memory that has stuck with him the past few years.

"To be a part of that was amazing,"

SEE **Senior Standout** ON PAGE 15



Neenah News

Senior Mason Uhlenbrauck was the leading scorer for St. Mary Catholic last season and returns this year with high hopes for the Zephyrs.

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# Rockets look to continue success

Neenah News

The Neenah High School swimming team has a bit of a different look as the 2025-26 season begins.

The Rockets don't have the crew of returning state qualifiers to build around that it has in the past, but there is still plenty of talent in the water for Neenah and the team will look to make waves in the Fox Valley Association as the season progresses.

## Swimming PREVIEW

"We have an overall younger group," commented head coach Carrie Raeth. "The team has had a great start to the season, so we look to continue to get better every day."

The Rockets do have one swimmer who competed at the state meet a year ago, swimming on both of Neenah's state qualifying relay teams.

Junior Burke Wendell helped both the 200-yard medley and 200-yard freestyle relays place in the top five at state last year

and will be one of the key swimmers on this year's squad.

Senior Gideon Benner and junior Ryker Zarda also were regulars in the varsity lineup and will look to be leaders on the team – both in meets and out of the pool.

"That's part of the leaders from last year's legacy, is that they led by example and now it's time for our upperclassmen to step into those roles," commented Raeth. "We have guys that understand that it takes hard work and drive to get to where we want to be at the end of the season."

The Rockets' lineup should get a boost from freshmen Jack Kippa and Josh Powell but it could be a work in progress to find where every swimmer fits the best.

"It's a little hard to say (where our strength will be) with the new chemistry of this group, which we are still learning," Raeth commented. "The non-freestyle events will be good ones for us and we'll be ready with the freestyle as we progress through the season."

# Zephyrs win

FROM PAGE 12

free throw by Bitsy McCauley that put St. Mary Catholic ahead to stay.

Crowe followed with a three-point play and added another lay-in, while adding another basket to help close out the run.

Guerrero's drive to the basket with just under seven minutes left to play gave the Zephyrs the 10-point lead.

"When teams try to take Autumn away, Gabby does a nice job handling the ball for us," Chew said.

Guerrero's layup would be the last field goal of the game for the Zephyrs as St. Mary Catholic salted the win away at the

free-throw line.

Guerrero chipped in 13 points in the win, while Luci Nackers finished with six and Lucy Norville had five.

"It's a huge confidence boost. Not everybody was sure we could do it because we have a whole new team basically this year," Crowe said. "Even though we lost four of our starters, we showed that we can still win against a good team and it doesn't matter who's on the team."

Chew was certainly pleased with the win but knows there are more tests awaiting the Zephyrs down the road.

"It's a good step for the season that's for sure," Chew said. "This was a nice win but it's only our fifth game and we have a lot of tough ones going forward."

and Phenix Yahr in diving recorded the other first-place finishes for the Rockets.

Benner also picked up a second-place finish in the 100-yard backstroke, while Burke Wendell posted second places in the 200-yard individual medley and the 100-yard breaststroke.

Also adding second places were Ryker Zarda in the 100-yard butterfly and Gage Jensen in the 500-yard freestyle. Neenah was also second in all three relays.

On Saturday, Neenah took fourth in the Wildcat Invitational hosted by Oshkosh West.

The best event on the day for the Rockets was the 100-yard backstroke where Zarda finished third, Kippa was fifth and Jensen tied for sixth.

Wendell had the highest finish of the day for Neenah, placing second in the 100-yard breaststroke, while also picking up a third place in the 100-yard freestyle. Other top 10 individual finishes for the Rockets were: Zarda, fifth in the 50-yard freestyle; Benner, seventh in the 200-yard freestyle; and Kippa, eighth in the 100-yard butterfly.

The team of Kippa, Wendell, Zarda and Benner took fourth in the 200-yard medley relay, while Neenah added a fifth place in the 200-yard freestyle relay and a seventh place in the 400-yard freestyle relay.

## HOCKEY

### Rockets blank Warriors to stay unbeaten

Neenah/Hortonville/Menasha skated to a 7-0 win over Waupun on Tuesday night at the Champions Center in Appleton.

The Rockets are now 5-0 on the season and 2-0 in the Badgerland Conference.

# Obituaries

## Lois R. Sacher

It is with deep sorrow and much love that we mourn the loss of Lois R. Sacher,



who passed away in Roswell, Georgia on November 28, 2025. Born in Green Bay, Wisconsin on June 24, 1935, she attended Green Bay East High School and was a cheerleader for the Green Bay Packers in 1952. She attended nursing school in Oshkosh and practiced on and off until her recent retirement.

On October 13, 1956, she married Michael Sacher, of Pennsylvania and St. Norbert's College. They spent 4 years in the Navy in San Diego and 18 months in Michigan, then settled in Neenah, Wisconsin in 1962. In 1980, they moved to Roswell, Georgia.

Lois raised 3 children, was active with The United Way and The League of Woman Voters, and broke gender barriers when elected as a Winnebago County Board Supervisor from 1978-1980.

She earned her bachelor's degree in

health care administration at age 53. She served as national health policy director for the Job Corp, traveling every other week to centers nationwide for decades, retiring at age 85. She served as President of Willow Springs Country Club.

Lois was passionate about bridge, travel, and life, spreading laughter and joy wherever she went.

She was preceded in death by her husband, Michael; her parents, Rollin and Edith Jacques; and her sister, Sandra Jacques.

She is survived by her children: son, Kevin (Gayle); daughter, Lisa Davis; and son, Mark; her nine grandchildren: Ashley (Edgar) Moreno, Samantha, AJ, Jackson, Conrad, Noelle, Bryson, Presley, and Campbell; four great-grandchildren: Jaylynn, Isabella, Kyle, and Romeo Moreno; and her brothers: Rollin, Jr. and Thomas (Judy) Jacques.

Lois has requested a small service for immediate family and close friends.

In lieu of flowers, the family requests a donation to the United Way.

To offer your condolences and share cherished memories, please visit [www.roswellfuneralhome.com](http://www.roswellfuneralhome.com).

# Senior Standout

FROM PAGE 14

Uhlenbrauck said. "That team, the way they came up and played all together, and seeing the energy they had. I would love to bring that to us this year."

The Zephyrs are coming off a 13-13 season a year ago but returned the bulk of the roster from last year.

Uhlenbrauck is one of two seniors on this year's roster and likes that the leadership role has fallen in his lap.

"It feels really weird (being a senior). Being the top dog in the school it feels a lot different than being younger," Uhlenbrauck said. "But you have to use that to your advantage and help out the others and help build up the program."

Being a leader is a trait that Uhlenbrauck believes can carry over off the court as well.

"With the gift I have been given with leadership, I think building that off of basketball is going to be big in my life," Uhlenbrauck said. "Taking that role of helping others and doing the right thing is important."

Uhlenbrauck, who is also a varsity golfer for the Zephyrs, plans to continue his

basketball career at Gustavus Adolphus University in Minnesota next year where he intends to play basketball.

He said he connected with the coaching staff and his future teammates instantly and liked the campus and basketball facilities at the university.

Making the jump to the collegiate level won't be easy, however, he can lean on his brother for tips and advice when needed.

"It helps a lot having him," Uhlenbrauck said. "I have used his program from St. Norbert for lifting so that has helped and learning some the moves he's learned on reading (the defense) on offense."

Having ended his freshman season at the state tournament, Uhlenbrauck would like nothing better than to do the same thing as a senior.

However, even if he doesn't, he expects the season to be a good one for him and the team and be a big success in at least one area.

"That's one of our main attributes and one of things we talked about is to have fun," Uhlenbrauck said. "Obviously you want to win and play as hard as possible, but being able to have fun and enjoy the year is the biggest thing."

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# Prep roundup

FROM PAGE 13

but scored 45 points in the second half en route to the win.

The Rockets were coming off a 54-47 win over Hortonville last Friday in a game where four Neenah players reached double figures.

Celia Gentile led the way with 13 points, while Klesmit finished with 12 points and nine rebounds. Buss and Danforth each scored 11 points.

## Zephyrs roll to easy victory

St. Mary Catholic outscored Hilbert 45-4 in the first half and cruised to a 60-19 win over the Wolves last week.

Autumn Crowe led the Zephyrs with 19 points followed by Luci Nackers with 11 and Gabby Guerrero with 10 points.

Lucy Norville had eight rebounds to lead St. Mary Catholic.

## SWIMMING

### Neenah pulls out close win in FVA dual

Neenah used a sweep of the top three places in the 100-yard freestyle and its overall depth to help pull out a 97-82 win over Appleton West/Kimberly in a Fox Valley Association dual meet on Tuesday.

Neenah finished first in only three of the 12 events but racked up enough points to earn the win.

The victory was highlighted by the strong finish in the 100-yard freestyle where Jack Zippa took first, followed by Ben Munson and Crawford Pfeifle.

Gideon Benner in the 50-yard freestyle

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## Thrifty & Fritter Budgeting for the Holidays

Fritter, we're NOT going to go totally crazy during holiday shopping. We need to...

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Fritter, you really need a BUDGET!

Okay, but can you carry the budget? My arms are full!

A budget is a plan that helps you to spend **only** the amount of money you can afford.

### Shopping On A Budget

Look at the things Jodi would like to buy for her family. She has \$50 budgeted for her holiday shopping. Make a list of the things she could buy on her budget.

INCOME	
Allowance	\$15
Shovel Snow	\$20
Run Errands for Elves	\$15
<b>TOTAL:</b>	

EXPENSES	
Carrot Sticks	\$10
Flying Lessons	\$12
Reindeer Games Entry Fee	\$10
<b>TOTAL:</b>	

How much money does Thrifty have left over each month?

**THINK ABOUT IT:** What could Thrifty do to save more money each month?

Standards Link: Economics: Students understand basic concepts of managing money.

How many silly things can you find at this holiday party?

Standards Link: Investigation: Identify objects that fit into a category and those that do not belong.

**Extra! Extra!**

### Holiday Party Time!

Thrifty and Fritter are planning a holiday bash for family and friends. They have budgeted \$500 for the party.

They will need food, decorations and gifts. These are called **goods**.

They also need entertainment and perhaps folks to help set up and clean up. These are called **services**.

Look through today's newspaper and help Thrifty and Fritter find what they need. Stay within their \$500 budget!

**GOODS:** \_\_\_\_\_

**SERVICES:** \_\_\_\_\_

Standards Link: Economics: Understand the differences between goods and services.

### Kid Scoop Together: Count Your Cash!

Fritter wants to buy each of the items below. Look at each item and its price. Figure out how he would pay for it. The first one is done for you.

Item: Pack of Cards  
 Price: \$2.50

To pay for it, I would use:

# of dollar bills: 2

# of pennies: \_\_\_\_\_

# of nickels: 1

# of dimes: 2

# of quarters: 1

Item: Crayons  
 Price: \$3.59

To pay for it, I would use:

# of dollar bills: \_\_\_\_\_

# of pennies: \_\_\_\_\_

# of nickels: \_\_\_\_\_

# of dimes: \_\_\_\_\_

# of quarters: \_\_\_\_\_

Item: Soccer Ball  
 Price: \$7.57

To pay for it, I would use:

# of dollar bills: \_\_\_\_\_

# of pennies: \_\_\_\_\_

# of nickels: \_\_\_\_\_

# of dimes: \_\_\_\_\_

# of quarters: \_\_\_\_\_

Item: Scarf  
 Price: \$3.90

To pay for it, I would use:

# of dollar bills: \_\_\_\_\_

# of pennies: \_\_\_\_\_

# of nickels: \_\_\_\_\_

# of dimes: \_\_\_\_\_

# of quarters: \_\_\_\_\_

Standards Link: Measurement: Students understand how different coins can be combined to equal the same amount.

### Kid Scoop Puzzler

Who bought what? An ice cream cone costs \$1.50. A comic book is \$1.65. A deck of cards is \$1.10. Count each person's money to see what they bought.

**Deb**      **Vanessa**      **Theresa**

Standards Link: Mathematical Reasoning: Problem solving using money.

### Double Double Word Search

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

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C	I	F	V	U	K	L	S	U	Y
G	I	E	E	L	B	S	O	T	E
A	B	M	Y	T	F	I	R	H	T
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Standards Link: Letter sequencing. Recognize identical words. Skim and scan reading. Recall spelling patterns.

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