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## Police chief defends Flock camera usage

By MaryBeth Matzek  
NEENAH NEWS

After listening to nearly 20 members of the public discuss their privacy concerns related to Flock Safety cameras, Neenah Police Chief Aaron Olson said the license plate reading cameras have helped the Neenah Police Department solve multiple crimes.

“Flock cameras are a tool that we use,” Olson said during Tuesday’s meeting of Neenah’s Public Services and Safety Committee. “They work 24/7 without costing us overtime and allow our officers to do more proactive policing. Flock has helped us a lot, but I understand people’s concerns.”

The meeting featured an update on how Neenah uses Flock cameras, which Oshkosh and Grand Chute have recently stopped using and Appleton is in the process of ending its contract with the com-

pany.

Flock cameras read license plates and capture basic information about the vehicle, such as the color and make. The information is then compiled into a searchable database that can be accessed by other police departments across the country.

The City of Neenah has 12 Flock cameras and pays an annual fee of \$30,000. Neenah’s contract with Flock runs through September 2028.

In Oshkosh, a Flock official told the Common Council that its cameras did not create heat maps of vehicle movements. The next morning, Police Chief Dean Smith logged on to the system to check for himself and found heat maps were created. The Oshkosh Common Council then canceled the contract. Multiple speakers referred to what happened in Oshkosh.

“Flock is not a trustworthy partner for the city,” said Neenah resident Nathaniel

Miller. “Flock says one thing, but it’s not true. If we were working with an arborist with this kind of history, we would hire someone else to work with our trees.”

Kate Hancock-Cooke, a Neenah resident and Winnebago County Board supervisor, expressed her concern about where the data collected by Flock goes.

“I can’t find any data showing Flock camera has decreased crime,” she said.

Flock cameras track the everyday actions of regular people, which is a level of surveillance that most people are not comfortable with, said Jordan Loeck of Neenah.

“Automatic license plate readers are a violation of the Fourth Amendment,” he said. “I don’t want to live in a surveillance state, and I doubt other people want to, either.”

SEE **Flock camera** ON PAGE 9

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#### State champs

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#### New roads

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Photo from Village of Fox Crossing

### Listen to the Loop

Despite the threat of rain, the show went on June 5 for the first Listen to the Loop Music Festival. Festival staff, performers and community partners welcomed attendees for an evening of live music, food and family-friendly activities along the Loop the Lake trail system. Venues for the event included Arrowhead Park in the City of Neenah, Fritse Park in the Village of Fox Crossing and Shepard Park in the City of Menasha.

## City of Neenah passes e-bike, scooter regulations

By MaryBeth Matzek  
NEENAH NEWS

The City of Neenah has new rules in place for e-bike and e-scooter riders.

The Neenah Common Council approved an ordinance at its June 3 meeting designed to improve safety, including a rule that riders walk their bikes or scooters when on the sidewalks on West Wisconsin Avenue between West Doty Avenue and Commercial Street. A first-time violation is a \$50 fine, with a second violation garnering a \$100 fine.

Another part of the ordinance requires children 16 and under to wear helmets while riding bikes and scooters. Instead of a fine, they will receive a helmet.

After the last council meeting where residents spoke out against the ordinance, the city made several adjustments, including allowing e-bikes to pull small trailers carrying children, pets and groceries.

“This ordinance is a way to protect people,” said alderman Mark Ellis. “We want people to be safe. We know people are using e-bikes more. But should be on Wis-

consin Avenue sidewalks where it’s busy? No.”

Police Chief Aaron Olson said there have been a lot of misunderstandings about what’s in the ordinance.

“You can ride your e-bike on the sidewalk if you’re pedaling except if you’re on those two blocks downtown,” Olson said. “There, you need to walk your bike if you’re on the sidewalk.”

Alderman Dan Steiner heard a lot from e-bike users and residents about safety.

“We’ve been working on this ordinance

for a while and police now have the tools to hold people accountable who are breaking the law,” he said.

Prior to the vote, several members of the public spoke against the ordinance, asking the council to send it back to committee and get more input from community members. Most pointed out that many people confuse e-bikes with e-motos, or electric motorcycles, which are faster and louder than e-bikes.

SEE **Common Council** ON PAGE 9

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### Corrections

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

### About the newspaper

A 501c3 newspaper published weekly and mailed free of charge Thursdays for Friday delivery (may vary based on U.S. Postal Service and holidays) to more than 21,000 homes and businesses in the Neenah and Fox Crossing areas. An E-edition of the newspaper can be accessed at [www.neenahnews.com](http://www.neenahnews.com).

Neenah News is owned by Winnebago Media Group, Inc., 36 Broad St. Suite 300, Oshkosh, WI, 54901. 920-385-4512.



Photo from Neenah Historical Society

## Roberts Resort

Built in 1822, the Roberts Resort hosted seasonal guests and avid fishermen until the early 1900s, when it was sold to the Strange Family.

### EARLY JUNETEENTH HOLIDAY DEADLINES

Please be advised the Neenah News will have **early deadlines for the June 19th issue:**

Space and copy deadline: **Friday, June 12, 2026 NOON**  
 Materials complete deadline: **Monday, June 15, 2026 3PM**  
 This is for classified and display advertising.  
 OBITS deadline is **Monday, June 15 at 3PM**



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# Calendar of events

### Saturday, June 13

Future Neenah Farmers Market, 8 a.m., Shattuck Park  
 Doty Island Rummage Sales, 8 a.m., Doty Island  
 Learn to Sail, 10 a.m., Riverside Park  
 Meet and Greet with Author Julie Gedemer of "Lentil the Bear," 10:30 a.m., Lyons Books, 127 W. Wisconsin Ave.  
 Fox Cities Repair Cafe, 11:30 a.m., Neenah Public Library

### Sunday, June 14

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

### Tuesday, June 16

Poetry Discussion Mary Doty and Effie Waller Smith, 4 p.m., Doty Cabin Museum

### Wednesday, June 17

Future Neenah Evening Concert featuring Kyle Megna and The Monsoons, 6 p.m., Shattuck Park

### Thursday, June 18

Future Neenah Out to Lunch Concert featuring The Pocket Kings, 11:30 a.m., Shattuck Park  
 Meet and Greet with Author Barb Wulf of "The Cellar Spider Who Went Camping," 4 p.m., Lyons Books, 127 W. Wisconsin Ave.

### Saturday, June 20

Future Neenah Farmers Market, 8 a.m., Shattuck Park  
 Art Mercantile, 11 a.m., The Plaza and Globe Coffee

### Tuesday, June 23

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

### Wednesday, June 24

Future Neenah Evening Concert featuring Grand Union, 6 p.m., Shattuck Park

### Saturday, June 27

Future Neenah Farmers Market, 8 a.m., Shattuck Park  
 Volunteer Buckthorn Removal, 8 a.m., Carpenter Preserve  
 Roosevelt School Statue Celebration, 10:30 a.m., Doty Park  
 Meet and Greet with Author Kathryn Gahl of "Yes, No, I Don't Know: Stories," 2 p.m., Lyons Books, 127 W. Wisconsin Ave.

## Correction

**June 5, Page 4.** In the article "Towns have a month to make shorelands zoning decision," it should have said the Town of Winchester created its own general zoning rules in the shorelands but did not hold a public meeting or request approval from the county board. That leaves its rules invalid, and the town is without valid general zoning in the shorelands area. Meanwhile, the Town of Winneconne board will deliberate the final required resolution at its June 18 meeting.

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# Library summer reading program gets underway

By Matthew Hoyman  
NEWS CONTRIBUTOR

The Neenah Public Library youth and family summer programs are in full effect, starting with its kick-off event next week.

On Tuesday, kids will be given a chance to do chalk paintings, bubble activities, which include making their own bubbles, and music throughout the event. There will be a themed backdrop scene where kids can lay inside a chalk drawing and get pictures taken from above.

During the summer, the library is known for two specific activities: the reading challenge and the in-person programs.

The summer reading challenge opened this week and goes until Aug. 21. Kids and adults alike are given separate reading logs, where they have to color in each drawing for every day read. It could be for reading for 10 minutes or two hours; they both count the same. Kids can earn prizes for every 10 days read, going up to 60 days, while adults are given a raffle ticket for every 10 days completed for a chance to win a prize at the end of the summer.

Last year, sunglasses were given to all 2,500 people who signed up to attempt the challenge; this year, the popular item with kids is the flashlight pens. Every kid who completes the program gets a book, which happened to be 1,729 last year. Sign-ups have increased steadily since the COVID-19 pandemic.

The in-person programs have story-times for ages 0-5, family programs, tween programs for ages 9-14, and off-site programs. This allows families to interact with the library in a myriad of ways, from read-alouds all the way to making different art and crafts.

The summer programs help kids prevent reading loss during the long break, said Katrina Wulff, the long-time library Youth Service Manager.

“It’s super important for kids to keep reading throughout the summer because they can literally forget the things they learned during the school year and go back to school behind where they left off,” Wulff said. “If we can keep kids engaged in reading, sometimes it’s the only time they get to read for fun and enjoy reading instead of what’s assigned in school.”

Wulff said the decision for kids to consistently read or not can dramatically change their reading knowledge and comprehension skills.

“If kids don’t keep reading over the summer, it can take about three months of learning to get back to where they were at the end of May,” Wulff said. “Teachers definitely see that regression. But gains can be made, too; kids could start the school year ahead of where they left off if the reading is kept up with.”

The library wants to help create accessibility so that there’s no barriers, especially for the kids who could use the extra consistency or boost, Wulff said.

A major benefit during the summertime is that the library offers free lunch for kids every weekday during June and July at 11:30 a.m. to ensure kids have access to food, while they could also pair it with family activities, Wulff said.

“The schools only offer summer lunches in June, and we’re the only place in Neenah that offers them in July as well,” Wulff said. “There are definitely kids who need that support, which is why we’ve continued the program and looked for ways to

keep it going longer each year.”

Families can play a significant part in building a bond and love for reading by having read-alouds, Wulff said.

“A lot of parents stop reading to kids once they can read independently, but reading as a family is still really beneficial,” Wulff said. “It helps kids see the importance of reading, creates bonding and emotional connection, and lets families read books that might be above a child’s independent reading level.”

Furthermore, parents and caregivers can play a critical role in helping their kids grow their reading ability, Wulff said.

“Maybe a child couldn’t read Harry Potter on their own, but as a family you could read it together,” Wulff said. “There’s great vocabulary and concepts in those books, and then you can talk about them. Books like Little House on the Prairie can also

create opportunities to discuss terms we no longer use and how we think about Native Americans and other cultural issues today. Even high schoolers can benefit from family read-alouds or listening to an audiobook in the car.”

Even if kids are busy with activities during the summer, they can find time to pick up a book. Wulff mentions kids could read while going camping, in the car on a roadtrip, or even during downtime at Disneyland.

Wulff said the library recognizes the role they can play during the summer months.

“Summer is something we never stop thinking about,” Wulff said. “Every month we’re talking about what we’re going to do and what summer is going to look like. We always want more people engaged with the library, the Reading Challenge, and reading in general.”

## United Way announces first Upskill-A-Thon winners

Neenah News

The winners of Wisconsin’s first statewide Upskill-A-Thon were announced this week.

The initiative is a learning challenge that encouraged participants across the state to build in-demand skills through free, self-paced online courses.

Held Feb. 1 to March 31, the Community Upskill-A-Thon was led by United Way of Wisconsin in partnership with United Way Fox Cities and Microsoft. The statewide challenge invited learners to complete courses on CommunityUpskill.org, earning points as they built skills in areas such as digital literacy, business, technology and professional development.

Of the 281 participants, five from across

Wisconsin earned top honors based on total points accumulated through completed coursework. Winners received cash awards in recognition of their commitment to learning and career growth.

The winners of Wisconsin’s first statewide Upskill-A-Thon are first place Lattia Ference, second place Tiana Ho, third place Jill Klitz, fourth place Steve Stoczynski and fifth place Joseph Wheat.

CommunityUpskill.org offers no-cost courses in English and Spanish, along with opportunities to earn industry-recognized credentials. The platform is designed to support learners at every stage, from those just beginning their digital journey to those looking to advance or pivot in their careers.

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Neenah News

Neenah City Clerk Charlotte Nagel swears Mark Neuman in as the city's newest alderman.

## Council selects Neuman to fill vacant seat

Neenah News

Mark Neuman is Neenah's new District 2 Alderman.

The Neenah Common Council selected Neuman from among eight candidates at its June 3 meeting to fill the seat, which was created when Brian Borchardt was elected mayor in April.

A Neenah resident since 1965, Neuman is retired after a career in sales. He is ac-

tive in the community serving the city as a chief election inspector and inspector since 2019; volunteers with the Neenah Public Library and is an active member of the Friends of the Neenah Public Library; co-leads the Movie Talks program; and is a leader at Grace Lutheran Church, Neenah.

"Neenah has given me so much," Neuman said. "It is time for me to give back."

# Council approves new roads for muddy subdivision

By MaryBeth Matzek  
NEENAH NEWS

The Freedom Meadows and Freedom Acres subdivisions will be included in Neenah's capital improvement plan for new roads in 2028.

The Neenah Common Council voted 6-3 in favor of putting in final roads in the new subdivision near Woodenshoe Road and County G, which has been plagued by dusty and muddy roads. Residents have regularly appeared at council meetings for months to discuss their poor road conditions and asked the city to remedy the situation since the developer, Van Sistine Homes, did not respond to their requests.

The council considered two options with the subdivision. The first option was to put in a temporary road of a two-inch asphalt mat no later than spring 2027 and split the costs 50/50 between homeowners and the city. The second option was building permanent roads in the subdivision in 2028 and assessing the owners for the cost of the roads.

"I'm definitely in favor of putting the roads on the 2028 project list than splitting the cost 50/50 — that's a road I don't think we want to go down," said alderman Dan Steiner.

Alderman William Pollnow, Jr, expressed support for building temporary roads next year. He said adding the roads to the capital improvement plan in 2028 will delay other road projects in the city.

"Building a temporary road is not a perfect solution but it's not fair to delay these other street projects, which have been waiting longer to get done," he said.

Neenah Public Works Director Gerry Kaiser acknowledged some 2028 road projects will need to be moved to make way for the Freedom Meadows and Freedom Acres subdivision project but that "wherever we slot this project, other projects will need to be moved."

Some city residents who planned on having their streets redone in 2028 will not be happy to hear their project has moved to make way for the newer subdivision, said alderman Brian Defferding.

Moving the project to 2028 "will have a massive effect on the city. We've had the capital improvement plan on the website and people have seen when their streets are being done," he said.

Until the new roads are built, Kaiser said the city will continue to do what it can to mitigate the dust on the streets. It plans to either contract with a company or purchase its own equipment to put down calcium chloride on the streets to prevent dust from flying around. The developer was supposed to do that but did not.

"I have someone from my department down there at least once a day looking at what's going on," he said. "When people have their landscaping put in, we remind them to not put any dirt in the road since that makes the dust worse. We even put up signs about it."

## Community input on zoning code sought

Neenah News

The City of Neenah is going through a comprehensive zoning code update project and is looking to hear from the community.

Neenah residents, business owners, property owners and other stakeholders are invited to attend a public workshop on the zoning code from 6 to 7:30 p.m. Monday in the first-floor lobby and City Council Chambers of the City Administrative Building, 211 Walnut St.

The zoning code serves as the foundation for how land is developed and used throughout Neenah. The code establishes regulations for land uses, building placement, lot development standards, sign standards and other requirements. The code has been periodically amended

through the years but has not undergone a comprehensive update in more than 50 years.

Community input plays a critical role in the update process with the workshop providing participants with an opportunity to learn about zoning, discuss opportunities and challenges with the current code and share ideas about how future regulations can better serve residents, businesses and neighborhoods.

Additional opportunities for public participation will be available throughout the project.

For more information about zoning update project, contact the City of Neenah Community Development Department or follow online at [neenah.wi.gov/departments/community-development/](http://neenah.wi.gov/departments/community-development/).

## Weather postpones summer kickoff concert

Neenah News

Due to potentially unsafe weather conditions, the Future Neenah Summer Kick-off Concert that was scheduled earlier this week with The Glam Band has been postponed.

The concert is rescheduled for 6 to 9 p.m. Tuesday in downtown Neenah for what organizers said will be an evening of great music, community and summer fun.

"We know this isn't the news anyone wanted, but the safety of our attendees, performers and vendors comes first," Future Neenah said. "Thank you for your understanding and flexibility."

Future Neenah's Evening Concert series is slated to start the following evening with Kyle Megna and The Monsoons performing from 6 to 8 p.m. Wednesday in Shattuck Park.

## Neenah student receives National Merit scholarship

Neenah News

Jack DeMenter, a recent graduate from Neenah High School, received a National Merit Rose-Hulman Institute of Technology Scholarship.

DeMenter's probable career field is electrical engineering.

Rose-Hulman Institute of Technology, founded in 1874, is a privately endowed college of Science and Engineering, situated just east of Terre Haute, Indiana. Rose-Hulman is a member of the major

academic and engineering associations.

National Merit Scholarship Corporation (NMSC) last week announced over 2,500 winners of National Merit Scholarships financed by U.S. colleges and universities. Officials of each sponsor college selected their winners from among the finalists in the 2026 National Merit Scholarship Program who plan to attend their institution.

These awards provide between \$500 and \$2,000 annually for up to four years of undergraduate study.



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# Local delegates attending Badger Girl State event

Neenah News

Badger Girl State is a week-long program sponsored by the American Legion Auxiliary and will be held June 21-26 at UW-Oshkosh.

The program gives junior high school students the opportunity to experience government, civic engagement and leadership through hands on participation and collaboration with peers from across the Wisconsin.

This year more than 600 students from around the state will take part in the program, creating the imaginary 51st state of Badger modeled after Wisconsin government. Participants are selected based on their leadership, involvement, character and potential to make an impact within their schools and communities.

Auxiliary Unit 33, and Char Kiesling, ALABGS advisor for 30 years, announced this year's delegates, which include Olivia Bushman, Alexandra Guden and Madeline Lee from Neenah High School and Nadia Alexander, Mina Jackson and Mariana Lopez from St. Mary Catholic High School.

An alternate was also selected from Clintonville High School, Zhendya Mattes.

Contributors to the program include Whirlwind Fencing & Hole-Drilling; Bergstrom Corp.; Salon Aura of Neenah; Lions Club of Larsen-Winchester; Dr. Bryan Mick DDS of Doty Island Dental, Neenah; Joyce Domico, Unit 33 member; and ALA Unit 33.

Auxiliary members and contributors congratulate and honor the delegates and wish them a lifetime experience and lasting friendships.



Submitted photo

To commemorate the Chamber's recent milestone, staff surprised its 2,000<sup>th</sup> member business, R&R Insurance, with balloons and flowers.

# Fox Cities Chamber hits benchmark with latest member

Neenah News

The Fox Cities Chamber has celebrated a major milestone by welcoming its 2,000th member, a benchmark that makes it the largest chamber of commerce in Wisconsin.

To mark the occasion, Chamber staff surprised the landmark member – R&R Insurance in Neenah – with a visit, including flowers, balloons and a special welcome.

“This milestone belongs to members like R&R Insurance, whose support and investment allow us to champion economic growth, support employers, develop future leaders and strengthen the

quality of life throughout the Fox Cities,” said Becky Bartoszek, Chamber president and CEO.

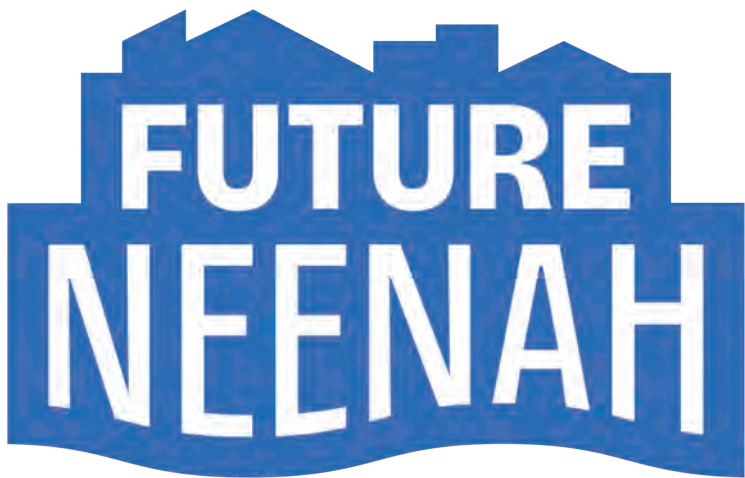
The achievement places the Fox Cities Chamber among the largest chambers of commerce in the nation, ranking in the top 1% by member count. But Bartoszek said the milestone is about much more than growth alone.

“It reflects the trust that businesses, nonprofits and community organizations place in the Chamber and their commitment to investing in the future of our region,” Bartoszek said.

Over the past four years, she said, Fox Cities Chamber membership has grown

from just over 800 organizations to more than 2,000. That growth has been fueled by innovative programs, expanded workforce and leadership initiatives, advocacy efforts, business education opportunities and the Chamber's Connect Free membership program.

Introduced in 2022, Connect Free removes financial barriers and provides qualifying small businesses and nonprofits access to Chamber resources, networking opportunities, educational programming, and business support at no cost. This, combined with other programming, reaffirms the Chamber's commitment to businesses and the local economy.



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We'll see you there.



# Farmers market prepares to open the season Saturday

Neenah News

The wait for the opening of the Future Neenah Farmers Market season is about to be over.

The 34<sup>th</sup> annual farmers market season Shattuck Park starts Saturday and will take place from 8 a.m. to noon through Oct. 10. The market is presented by Kimberly-Clark Corporation and Warner Commercial Roofing.

The community-driven experience brings together local agriculture, artisanal

crafts and live entertainment.

The Neenah Farmers Market features nearly 60 homegrown and handcrafted vendors. Visitors will find fresh produce from certified local growers along with meats, baked goods, farm fresh eggs, house plants, fresh-cut floral bouquets, coffee, maple syrup, honey, jewelry and a variety of unique crafts. The market also offers prepared and ready-to-eat treats for shoppers to enjoy while exploring the park.

“The Farmers Market continues to be



Photo from Future Neenah

The Future Neenah Farmers Market will open its 34<sup>th</sup> season Saturday. The season will continue through Oct. 10.



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one of Neenah's favorite summer traditions," Future Neenah Outreach and Development Director Michelle Dunning said. "It's a place where neighbors connect, families spend time together, and visitors experience the incredible local talent and products our community has to offer."

Live music will take place from 10 a.m. to noon each week thanks to sponsor Brehmer Law.

Kids' Days at the Market are back by popular demand and will be held on June 27 and Sept. 19. From 9 a.m. to noon, families can enjoy free themed children's activities including crafts, face painting, bounce house and more. New this year, several kid vendors will also be on-site selling their homemade and handcrafted goods.

The Neenah Farmers Market also offers

a free Loyalty Card program. Visitors can sign up at the information booth under the pavilion and check off each weekly visit. After five visits, participants receive \$5 in market tokens, and after 10 visits, they receive an additional \$5 in tokens to spend at the market.

Future Neenah Farmers Market accepts Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) FoodShare benefits. This program is made possible through a grant from Kimberly-Clark Corporation. The market also features vendors participating in the WIC (Women, Infants, and Children) Farmers Market Nutrition Program.

Parking is available in the Neenah Center tower lots and surrounding street parking. Visitors arriving by boat can also take advantage of nearby tie-up locations.



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# Fox Valley Community Table celebrates 35<sup>th</sup> anniversary

By Jill Trotter  
NEWS CONTRIBUTOR

Fox Valley Community Table will celebrate its 35<sup>th</sup> anniversary Saturday at the Future Neenah Farmers Market.

The nonprofit organization serves twice weekly meals to members of the community at St. Paul's Lutheran Church in Neenah. Staff members will be at the upcoming farmers market to raise awareness about the organization and to collect food and monetary donations.

To reflect the anniversary, site director Chrissy Goethel said the organization is "encouraging folks to do a food drive, maybe collect 35 of something, find a place to volunteer for 3.5 hours or donate \$35 toward (Fox Valley Community Table) or an effort in our community."

Fox Valley Community Table serves lunch from 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Tuesdays and Saturdays. On Tuesdays, they serve approximately 80-100 guests, and on Saturdays there are typically 75-80 guests. Unlike many other meal programs, they do not require proof of residence or have limitations on income.

"Any(one) is welcome to come," Goethel said. "If you want to be there, we want you there."

She notes that with the cost of living on the rise, grocery prices increasing, and the tough housing market in the area, the service that the organization provides is more essential than ever.

It is not just a meal program; it is a gathering space for many area residents.

"This is a place where people can come in and you can just leave your troubles at the door," Goethel said. "Come in, and we'll take care of you."



Submitted photo

Members of the Fox Valley Community Table will be celebrating the group's 35<sup>th</sup> anniversary Saturday at the Future Neenah Farmers Market.

The program meets different needs for each person. Some use it to stretch their grocery budget; for others Goethel said it "just gets you out of the house if you live alone and you don't talk to people very often and you just want to get out and have that social community. For some people, this is the main meal that they have each day."

The organization also provides information and resources to guests in need of other community programs and services.

The group began 35 years ago with community members noticing a need and working to fill it. It started out with just a few serving groups and has now grown to 20 groups. The volunteer groups sign up for a serving date and then create the menu, prepare the food and serve the meal.

While Fox Valley Community Table is not affiliated with St. Paul's, the church do-

notates the use of its commercial kitchen to prepare the meals and its dining rooms for guests to use. The meals vary from homemade casseroles to catered meals, and they are always nutritious, consisting of a main course, fruits and vegetables, dessert, and milk. The volunteer groups mainly consist of businesses, families, church groups and high school students.

"No one group could do this alone, but together we consistently serve twice a week, 160-200 meals each week," Goethel said. "The consistency and community make a real impact."

Fox Valley Community Table is always accepting donations and new volunteers.

Goethel notes that "local food drive giving overall has been down this year, while the need is up."

The organization uses food donations in two ways. They use the food in the meals they serve, and they have a giveaway ta-



Submitted photo

Fox Valley Community Table volunteers serve lunch to guests on Tuesdays and Saturdays.

ble where guests can take any items they need. This includes health and personal use products that aren't covered by WIC.

"We truly appreciate any donations, and gardeners when you grow extra, please think of us," Goethel said.

St. Paul's Lutheran Church is located at 200 N. Commercial St. in Neenah. For more information about Fox Valley Community Table, visit its Facebook page. For specific inquiries, email [foxvalleycommunitytable@gmail.com](mailto:foxvalleycommunitytable@gmail.com) or email Goethel at [chrisseygo10@gmail.com](mailto:chrisseygo10@gmail.com).

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Rendering of Evergreen Fox Crossing front entrance





Photo from Neenah Police Department

### Ice cream treat

K9 Bo, who recently joined the Neenah Police Department, received a special ice cream treat last week in celebration of a recent fundraiser. Bo and his handler, Officer Bryce Sweeney, thanked the Dairy Queen in downtown Neenah for supporting area police K9 funds by selling blue popcorn on May 14. Dairy Queen donated 100% of the sales to the Neenah, Menasha and Fox Crossing police departments, which each received an \$850 check raised from the Archie's Famous Popcorn sold that day.

# County overdose deaths rise 8% last year

Neenah News

Drug overdose deaths increased 8% in Winnebago County in 2025 for a total of 26, according to county statistics.

The Winnebago County Overdose Fatality Review (OFR) Team's annual report noted fentanyl remains the leading cause of overdose death, accounting for 12 of 26 deaths. Half of the overdose deaths occurred among between 25 and 44 years of age with 20 of the 26 individuals being male.

The report reflects the work of 46 partners representing 33 agencies who continue to meet monthly to review overdose cases, identify systemic gaps, and implement solutions designed to save lives and strengthen the community. The report emphasizes that progress remains possible through coordinated prevention, recovery support, trauma-informed care and upstream intervention efforts, said OFR Project Manager Jennifer Skolaski.

"This work cannot be done by one agen-

cy, one system or one strategy alone," she said. "Every conversation, intervention, resource and act of support matters. The strength of this work comes from partners continuing to show up together with urgency, compassion and hope."

The report shows that overdose deaths peaked in 2023 with 47. The report also breaks down the age of the deceased person and the primary cause of death. Seven of the fatalities were people between 25 and 34 years old and six were between 35 and 44 years old. There were three fatal overdoses of people over 65 years old.

The most common substance in these overdoses was fentanyl followed by methamphetamine, cocaine and alcohol.

Of the 26 overdose deaths, 24 of the victims were white, one was Black and one was Hispanic.

The report highlights major accomplishments and collaborative initiatives completed during the past year, including:

- The Gold Cross Ambulance Leave-Behind Narcan Program, developed in

partnership with multiple counties and municipalities to expand overdose prevention resources directly into homes and communities.

- The expansion of the Handle with Care program, which has generated more than 2,300 referrals during the 2025-26 school year alone, helping schools quickly respond to children experiencing potentially traumatic situations.

- The Neenah and Fox Crossing Overdose Intervention Pilot, which brought together law enforcement, public health, schools and community partners to expand Narcan access, strengthen overdose prevention efforts and reduce overdose deaths through data-driven, community-based action.

- The launch of Version 2.0 of the We Heart You App, offering easier navigation, expanded resource listings, improved mapping and live connections to recovery support specialists by phone, text, chat and email. The app can be downloaded at [weheartyou.org/app](http://weheartyou.org/app).

# Police investigate shots fired in Neenah

Neenah News

The Neenah Police Department is investigating gunshots fired in the city during the early morning hours of Wednesday.

Police officers were canvassing the area of the 600 block of Henry Street responding to a report of gunshots when they heard more gunshots.

Two men were located in the area. Neenah Police said one of the men allegedly tossed an item while the two were walking.

Officers reported the tossed item was a firearm. Officers believe the shots were

fired in the 300 block of Monroe Street. Police said that "approximately 10 empty shell casings were recovered."

# Arrest made in Fox Crossing shooting

Neenah News

Police officers responded early Monday morning to a residence in Fox Crossing for reports that a woman was shot.

The Fox Crossing Police Department is investigating the shooting that took place at an apartment building in the 2400 block of Honey Lou Court just before 6 a.m. Monday.

When officers arrived, the female victim was already being driven to the hospital by

There were no reported injuries linked to the incident. Police said one person is in custody linked to the incident.

a friend.

The suspect and victim allegedly know each other. Police arrested a suspect, 29-year-old Denaja L. Butler, at approximately 3:15 p.m. Tuesday at a residence in Oshkosh without incident. Police said Butler was transported to and booked into the Winnebago County Jail.

The case is being investigated by the Investigations Division of the Fox Crossing Police Department.

# Medical helicopter services announce merger

Neenah News

Flight For Life and ThedaStar have officially come together as one unified air medical transport program.

The merger brings together two teams with one shared mission: delivering safe, high-quality, life-saving care when it matters most.

By combining their experience, expertise and resources, the companies said the integration will expand access to air medical transport across the region, improve coordination and aircraft availability, reduce delays and response times, and

strengthen service for patients, EMS, hospitals and communities.

Together, the two programs serve tens of thousands of patients across Wisconsin and officials said they are now better positioned to meet the growing needs of the communities they serve.

The companies expect no disruption to service.

Both Flight For Life and ThedaStar will continue operating under their current names, and their partners in health care can use the same dispatch numbers they currently rely on.

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Photo from Future Neenah

## Art installation

The paint-by-number mural that the Neenah community helped create during last summer's Boogie Back to School Concert was recently installed in Alta Alley. "Among the Wildflowers," designed by Emma Santiago, was made possible through support from the Oshkosh Area Community Foundation and the Wisconsin Arts Board. According to Future Neenah, the transformation of Alta Alley continues to take shape as a revitalized public space.

## Common Council

FROM PAGE 1

Neenah resident Aaron Roecker said the ordinance is difficult to understand and believes it will be challenging to enforce.

"I think this ordinance will lead to more banning of e-bikes," he said. "It seems like a lot of the issues people raise are with e-motos and I don't know why we aren't doing more to address them."

Many people do not own a car and use e-bikes to get around, said Neenah resi-

dent Lyn Biedermann.

"This ordinance affects seniors who use e-bikes for exercise. I am not strong enough to walk my e-bike for two blocks," she said. "You need to take this back to committee and get more feedback from stakeholders."

The Village of Fox Crossing and the cities of Menasha and Neenah worked together to create similar ordinances since the municipalities share Loop the Little Lake Trail. Fox Crossing already passed its ordinance and Menasha is scheduled to vote on its ordinance later this month.

## Flock camera

FROM PAGE 1

Other speakers referred to a Menasha police officer who allegedly accessed Flock data to locate an ex-girlfriend's car for personal reasons while off duty.

Neenah resident Gloria DeGrave said she can't trust her data is not being shared illegally.

"I'm a domestic violence survivor and I need to feel safe in my community, but with Flock cameras here, it's hard to feel safe," she said.

While several speakers expressed concern that the data collected by Flock cameras was being collected by the government, Olson said he reached out to the FBI office in Milwaukee to see if it had access to Neenah's Flock footage.

"He told me they didn't," the police chief said.

Alderman Brian Defferding said while that official may be willing to work with Olson, his concern was higher-ups in the government.

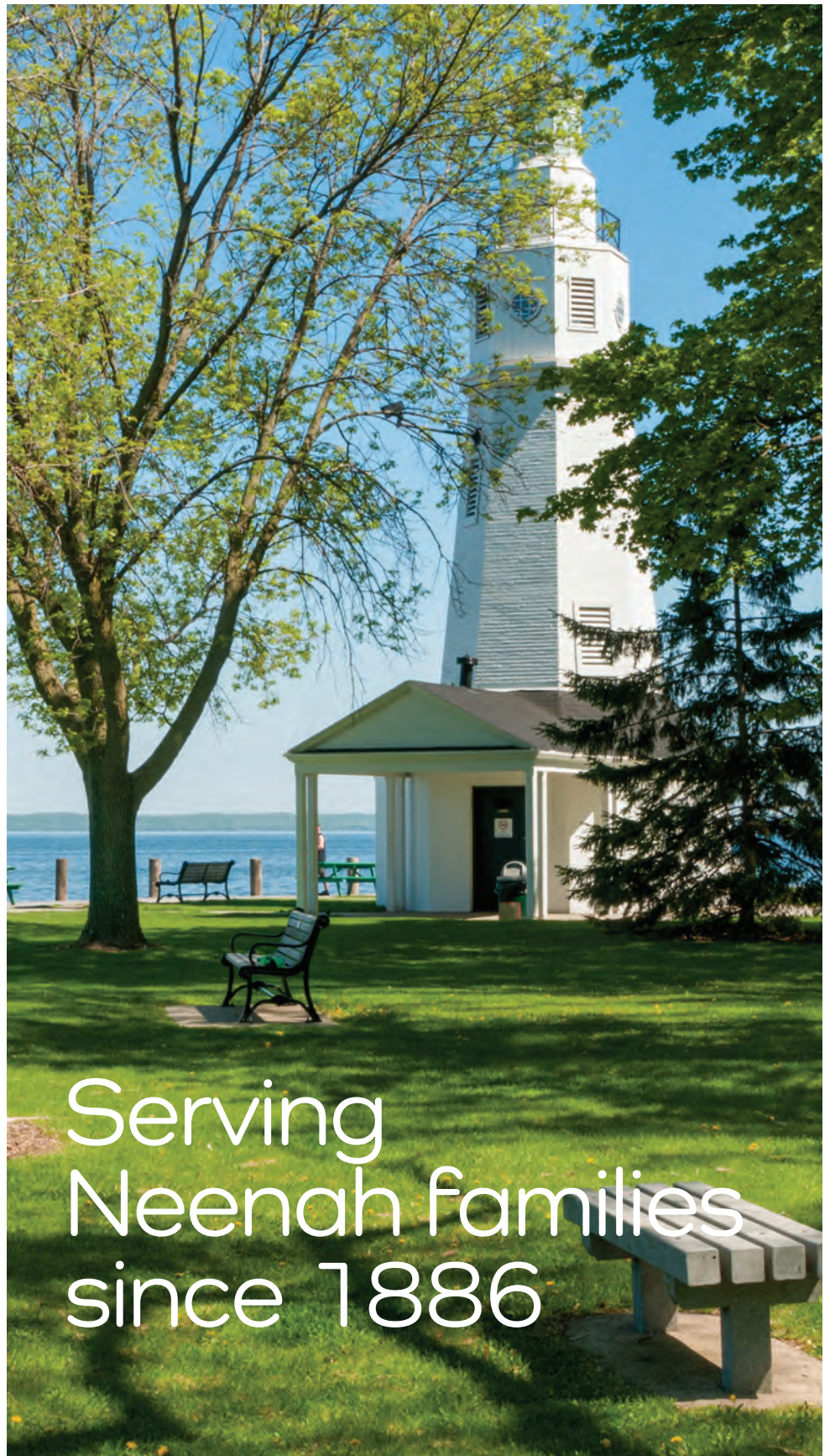
"There's always bigger bosses," Defferding said. "(Flock) is a tool that can be used against us. We have to realize Flock and the federal government can access this information. We have to value our residents' privacy."

Flock cameras have showed their value with local cases, but Alderman Dan Steiner said he has questions for the company.

"I suggest we follow up with them," Steiner said.

Olson said a Flock representative was supposed to be at Tuesday's meeting, but something came up. He said someone from Flock could be made available at the next meeting to answer questions from aldermen.

The next Neenah Public Services and Safety Committee will be held at 5 p.m. June 30.



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# Neenah girls earn second straight runner-up finish at state

## Sophomore Severson wins shot put, discus crowns

By Steve Clark  
NEENAH NEWS

As a freshman last year, Emma Severson thought she was ready to compete at the WIAA State track and field meet.

The talented Neenah thrower had attended the previous two state meets as a spectator and supporter of her future teammates and felt that experiencing the atmosphere would prepare her for when she would be competing.

It didn't work out exactly how she



Photo by Doug Sasse

Celia Gentile flies through the air on a long jump attempt at the WIAA State Track and Field meet last Friday.

thought.

"I thought just attending the state meet would help me but competing is a different vibe than watching and I learned that last year," Severson said. "I didn't perform how I wanted to."

Things couldn't have gone much better the second time around.

After finishing fourth in both events last year, Severson captured WIAA Division 1 state titles in both events this year and spearheaded Neenah's drive to a second straight runner-up finish at the WIAA State Track and Field Championships in La Crosse last weekend.

"It's surreal honestly," Severson said of being a state champion. "I worked really hard and I'm glad my work was shown at the state meet. I'm proud of myself and I had a lot of supporters there with family and the team. It was a great way to end my season."

Severson's haul marked a handful of medals for the Neenah girls.

Celia Gentile finished second in both the long jump and triple jump, while the Rockets' 400-meter relay team of Brynn Fox, Molly Snider, Kobi Meyer and Gentile finished fifth.

The Neenah boys were also represented on the medal stand as Nate Kramp took fourth in the shot put.

Severson won her shot put title with a toss of 47-feet, 11.5-inches, nearly four feet further than anyone else in the 24-competitor field.

The winning mark came on the second of her six throws and she was hoping that would be a starting off point rather than her best distance.

"I was proud of that throw but the plan was to build off of that and get a higher



Photo by Doug Sasse

Neenah sophomore Emma Severson won the WIAA Division 1 shot put and discus titles last weekend after placing fourth in both events last season.

mark and it just didn't happen," Severson said. "I wanted to break the state meet record and that didn't happen. Obviously, I won a state title so I couldn't be upset but I was unsatisfied."

Severson ran into more competition in the discus where she won the event with a school-record setting distance of 156-feet, 4-inches. That was two feet better than Baraboo's Lily Rogers.

"Obviously having a state title gives you confidence but I knew discus would be more tight and I would have to perform," Severson said. "Going into shot, it's not that I wanted to get it out of the way but I wanted to start out the weekend with a win so I could go into discus more relaxed. It was definitely a different feeling on both of the days but they ended the same way."

Neenah head coach Kelly Ellington said that Severson's accomplishments are the result of the hard work she puts in.

"She wants to get after it every day. She has really high goals and has definitely worked for it the whole year," Ellington said. "She was not going to come back disappointed this year. She had a whole different confidence in herself."

Gentile won a pair of state titles in her jumping events at last year's state meet but finished second behind Arrowhead's Payton Eicher in both this season.

She jumped 18-feet, 10.5-inches in the long jump and 38-feet, 8.75-inches in the triple jump – both slightly less than what she posted at last year's state meet.

"Going in, I was hoping for gold but competing at the state level is an accomplishment on its own," Gentile said. "Even though I was shooting for gold, coming home in second was nothing to be disappointed with."

"In the triple jump, I feel it was a really good day for her but maybe not as good of a day for me. I definitely feel like I could have competed a little closer to her."

In addition to her jumping events, Gentile ran the anchor legs on both the sprint relays for the Rockets.

Both relays are made up of the same four girls – running in the same order – a unique strategy that helped the foursome succeed in both races.

"I definitely think it gives us an advantage. We keep the same order for the relays so we are always handing off to the same people," Gentile said. "We gave it our all. We set school records again in both relays so it was a successful weekend for us."

In addition to the fifth place in the 400-meter relay, the 800-meter relay finished seventh, missing a spot on the podium by less than three-tens of a second.

"Both (sprint) relays got PRs which is the best you can do and you can't control what anyone else does," Ellington said. "The goal was maybe to place a little bit higher but the times were just incredible. There was no disappointment there."

SEE **Neenah track** ON PAGE 15

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# Zephyrs' Davel strikes gold in hurdles at state meet

By Steve Clark  
NEENAH NEWS

Ellie Davel has been dominant in the hurdles all season long for the St. Mary Catholic girls track and field team.

That gave the sophomore the confidence needed to compete at the WIAA State Track and Field Meet last weekend in La Crosse. But as confident as she was and as well as she had performed all season, she knew racing against the best in the state was going to be a challenge.

As she has all year, Davel simply cleared that hurdle with ease.

Davel became the second WIAA Division 3 state track and field champion in school history by claiming the 100-meter hurdles title last Saturday.

"I had pretty good confidence that I was going to do well but I didn't think I was going to win," said Davel, who joined Nolie Anderson, who won the discus title in 2023, as Zephyr state champions. "It feels pretty good (to be a state champion). I am so proud of myself for the accomplishment and just grateful I got to have that experience."

Davel, who finished eighth in the event at the state meet last year, won her preliminary race on Friday with a time of 15.11 seconds before posting a time of 14.59 seconds in the finals to win the title.

She finished fourth-tenths of a second ahead of De Soto's Paisley Egge with the top seven finishers all crossing the finish line within a second of each other.

"It was fun to see her win it. It was going to be a tough race and halfway through it was neck-and-neck," St. Mary Catholic head coach Chad McCartney said. "We thought she would have a chance but we knew if she ran a clean race it was going to be tough to beat her."

Davel said she was completely focused on her hurdles and wasn't aware of where she was in the running order until the end of the race.

"I wasn't looking anywhere but ahead of me," Davel said. "I could tell people were close to me, but I didn't know I was in the lead until I crossed the finish line."

Even though she ran at last year's state meet, Davel admitted there were some nerves before the start of her preliminary race on Friday.

But notching that win – she finished first by nearly seven-tenths of a second –



Photo by Doug Sasse

St. Mary Catholic's Ellie Davel (center) goes over a hurdle during her preliminary race in the 100-meter hurdles at the WIAA State Track and Field Meet last Friday in La Crosse. Davel won the Division 3 state title in the event.

helped set her up for success on Saturday.

"I was excited to be there but I was also really nervous, especially for the prelims," Davel said. "When I won the prelim, it made me feel kind of calm and confident going into the next day, I knew I had done it before."

The medal for winning the 100-meter hurdles wasn't the only piece of hardware Davel brought home from La Crosse.

She joined Cora Epping, Autumn Crowe and Luci Nackers to take third in the 400-meter relay and added a third place in the 800-meter relay along with Crowe, Nackers, and Claire Higgins.

Both relays had been strong all season for the Zephyrs, but the state hopes for the 800-meter relay squad took a hit when lead-off runner Moorea Steckling was lost for the season with a knee injury suffered at the conference meet.

McCartney said the coaches had some options to fill the void caused by Steckling's injury and opted to go with Higgins, a junior who had competed at the state meet before.

"She anchored our (3,200-meter) relay

at state the past two years and we thought that experience would help us out," McCartney said. "We put her in at regionals and she proved she was up to the task. She definitely exceeded our expectations."

State experience was prevalent in both relays.

Higgins was also a state cross country qualifier as a freshman, while Crowe and Nackers have played on the Zephyrs' back-to-back state qualifying basketball teams.

Add in Davel's experience at last year's state track meet and it was a pretty seasoned group.

"I think (the experience) helped relieve some of the nerves. There are going to always be some nerves at state but it did seem like it seemed like it relieve some nerves," McCartney said. "Saturday they went out to compete and they acted like

SEE SMC track ON PAGE 15

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# Rockets gear up to face familiar foe at team state

By Steve Clark  
NEENAH NEWS

There will be a bit of *deja vu* for the Neenah tennis team on Friday.

The Rockets will be at the WIAA State Team Tennis Tournament at Nielsen Tennis Stadium and will be facing off against Marquette in matchup of the fourth and fifth seeds – the same quarterfinal match-up as last year.

Neenah, which is the No. 5 seed this year after playing as the No. 4 seed last year, hope the end result of the match also has a familiar feeling.

“They graduated a lot of players and we graduated a lot of players so it’s hard to base a lot off of last year,” said Neenah head coach Kyle Falk, whose Rockets posted a 4-3 win in that match. “That said, Marquette is very well coached, they have got great talent and amazing coaches and we know they are going to be prepared to play well.”

The two team also played in a tournament earlier this season with the Hilltoppers pulling out a 4-3 win.

Although the lineups might look slightly different from that early-season match-up, a lot of the players are going to be the same so there is definitely something can be taken from that.

“We can read and see what they do and base our game styles on what we saw earlier in the year. That can definitely help,” said No. 1 singles player Hunter Brown. “We’re hoping to get as far as we can. Everyone just has to show out and do our best.”

The Rockets will be making their 23<sup>rd</sup> appearance at the team state tournament – second most appearances, just two behind Eau Claire Memorial. Neenah has won at least one dual meet in 15 of the previous



Submitted photo

The Neenah tennis team poses with the plaque after winning the WIAA Division 1 sectional title recently to advance to this weekend’s team state tournament. The team consists of: (front, from left) Joseph Buttron, Tim Zhao, Mercer Moss, Nick Zenzick, Ryan Stamm; (back from left) Charlie Perry, Hunter Brown, Henry Farrell, Luke Grassl, Brady Lawatsch, Max Gerken, Eric Hein.

tournament trips.

Marquette qualified for the team state tournament for the 22<sup>nd</sup> time.

Having the experience of playing at Nielsen Tennis Stadium and in the team state tournament is an asset for both teams.

“My freshman year, I played No. 3 dou-

bles and we had a rough match because the nerves were super high and it was a really new environment,” said No. 2 singles player Henry Farrell. “So having been there definitely helps.”

Both Brown and Farrell have competed at the team state meet before Neenah along with the No. 1 doubles pairing of Brady Lawatsch and Luke Grassl.

However, the rest of Neenah’s lineup will be new to the event and competing in Nielsen Tennis Stadium for the first time as a Rocket. Singles players Mercer Moss and Nicholas Zenzick along with the doubles teams of Max Gerken and Tim Zhao and Charlie Perry and Eric Hein are expected to round out Neenah’s lineup.

“We’re going to try to get the younger guys ready for that by keeping the intensity up at practice,” Farrell said. “There really is no way to prepare them 100 percent. Really, they just have to go out there and play their game and be ready to go.”

The entire team did accompany the individual state qualifiers to the individual state meet at Nielsen last week, but it was a rough outing for the Rockets who did not have any entrees advance into Saturday’s medal rounds.

Neenah is hoping to use that experience as well.

“No one really did their best last week and I can use that as motivation,” Brown said. “I can learn from it. See what went wrong and just try to change it for this weekend.”

That will be a key for the Rockets finding a way to bounce back and be playing

their best when they take the court Friday afternoon.

“One of the things we talk about every time we go on the court is that the best compliment you can give your opponent is your very best tennis,” Falk said. “So that means getting yourself into a place where you are ready to play is an expectation we have and it’s a standard that the players set for each other.”

If the Rockets are right, they believe they match up well with the Hilltoppers.

“We know the spots where it is going to be close and we know where (we should win). We just have to get some wins at other spots, which we definitely can,” Grassl said. “Really, we just have to have fun and go out and play our best tennis.”

The winner between Neenah and Marquette will likely face top-seeded Whitefish Bay in the semifinals on Saturday. Whitefish Bay faces Hudson in the quarterfinals.

If the Rockets find themselves in the semifinals, Falk believes they will have a chance to keep going.

“I think that if we lay everything on the table and play our best tennis, we can be competitive with any team in the state,” Falk said. “That being said, every team down there feels the same way so every team has to be ready for a battle.”

“One of the things that we are fortunate to have is a group of tennis players who are always preparing to play their best tennis. But when you get down to the team tournament, that’s the case with all of the teams.”

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# Weinholzer shines on mound, at plate for Rockets

By Steve Clark  
NEENAH NEWS

Gus Weinholzer didn't mind playing center field for the Neenah baseball team and he definitely had a knack for it.

The senior is a two-time first-team all-Fox Valley Association selection as an outfielder – one of only three conference players since 2019 to earn first-team nods in the outfield in back-to-back seasons.

But there was a reason he preferred to be on the mound for the Rockets.

"I feel way more in the game when I'm pitching. You're involved in every play and so close to everyone," Weinholzer said at a Neenah baseball practice recently. "I like pitching a little more because there's more to do than just sitting around in the outfield. You are so far away and just kind of watching kind of sucks."

Wherever Weinholzer line up for the Rockets he helped contribute to a resurgence on the diamond for the Rockets.

After a rough 2025 season, Neenah climbed back into the upper half of the FVA this season and advanced all the way to a Division 1 sectional final – falling one win short of making the state tournament.

"It was definitely the kind of year I wanted to have taking third in the FVA after last year. I don't even know what place we were in," said Weinholzer, a two-sport standout for the Rockets, who also plays hockey. "A lot of us were in the dugout for the sectional semifinal our sophomore year. We talked a lot about how fun that was and how we wanted to get back to that."

As a pitcher, Weinholzer was one of the aces for the Rockets' staff and averaged roughly a strikeout an inning when he was on the mound.

The righthander attacked hitters with a fastball that was in the upper 80s and a slider he often used to send an opposing batter back to the dugout.

"I think about finishing guys with sliders," said Weinholzer, who also has a change-up in his repertoire. "I just chuck it as hard as possible. I feel like I can strike people out with it more than a fastball."

Weinholzer also served as a key cog in the Rockets' batting in the two-hole much of the season.

He was part of a top four in the lineup – along with Mack Krause, Cal Juckem and Ethan Helligreen – that spearheaded the Rockets' offense and often gave

**Senior Standout**

opposing pitchers a lot to deal with.

"Mack gets a hit and maybe I bunt him over or get a hit it. That gets us going," Weinholzer said. "I know we've had a lot of big first innings this year just bouncing energy off each other at the top of the order and then all the way down."

Although talented at both hitting and pitching, he said he doesn't let one influence what he does when he is doing the other.

"They are both separate," Weinholzer said. "When I'm up there, I just think about hitting the ball. I don't really think about what pitch is coming or anything."

But the matchup between the pitcher and hitter is what he likes most about being on the diamond.

"I like the one-on-one competition with the batter and the pitcher. Obviously, it's a team sport but if I strike a guy out or I get a hit, that's a better feeling," Weinholzer said. "In hockey, it's five-on-five and you may not contribute to scoring a goal even though you are on the ice. So, one on one stuff just feels a little better."

Weinholzer spent part of his high school athletic career playing with his older brother Jack, who graduated last season.

Weinholzer admitted it was a little different not having his brother there with him this season but he certainly felt his influence whether on the ice or the diamond.

"Growing up I played with him all of the time so it was pretty normal by high school because we had just played together so much. It wasn't out of the ordinary," Weinholzer said. "It's a little weird now, but I have been playing with these guys so long it's not that different."

Being the younger of the duo helped fuel Weinholzer's competitive side.

"We would play catch and just try to throw it as hard as possible to each other. I got hit in the face a couple of times," Weinholzer said. "It just made me more competitive. It made me want to compete to be better than everyone else."

Weinholzer plans to attend UW-La



Neenah News

Gus Weinholzer played a key role in Neenah's success this season both on the pitcher's mound and as the No. 1 hitter in the Rockets' lineup.

Crosse next season but doesn't plan on joining the Eagles baseball program.

That's not to say he is completely walking away from the athletic arena.

"Definitely want to play softball and maybe some men's league (hockey). I

want to get into coaching in the future, too. I definitely want to stay in sports even if I am not playing them," Weinholzer said.

"Sports has taught me to just push yourself to be better at anything and to be the best version of yourself."

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# Neenah baseball falls just short of earning state trip

By Steve Clark  
NEENAH NEWS

Facing a familiar foe, Neenah gave itself a chance to win in the bottom of the seventh inning on Tuesday.

The Rockets just fell short of getting the run they needed.

Neenah stranded two runners on base in the bottom of the seventh inning and lost to Fox Valley Association rival Fond du Lac, 3-2, in a WIAA Division 1 sectional final baseball game in Manitowoc on Tuesday evening.

"The boys showed up. They came to play and were ready to go," Neenah head coach Aaron Nelson said. "I told the boys after the game, we couldn't have asked for anything more. They left it all out on the field."

Neenah, which finishes the season 20-10, scored single runs in the third and fourth inning to tie the game at 2, but

Fond du Lac had a solo home run in in the top of the fifth inning to regain the lead.

The Rockets went scoreless in the fifth and sixth innings but then got a Levi Boivon single to open up the seventh.

After the Cardinals got the first out the inning, Mack Krause reached on a Fond du Lac error to put runners on first and second with two of Neenah's top hitters – Gus Weinholzer and Cal Juckem – coming up.

Fond du Lac, however, was able to retire both hitters and escape with the one-run win.

"Those guys have done it all year. We couldn't have asked for a better situation," Nelson said. "That's just the game of baseball."

Boivon and Landen Sheppard each finished with two hits in the game, while Juckem and Boivon each drove in a run.

Juckem, who got the final two outs of

the first game of the day, pitched all seven innings and allowed just four hits. He struck out six, while walking only one.

Juckem got the save in the 7-6 win over West Bend West, after another strong start by Weinholzer.

Pitching on an injured ankle, Weinholzer allowed just two runs over the first six innings against the Spartans. West Bend West rallied in the seventh to score four runs and cut the deficit to one before Neenah secured the win.

"We had Gus and Cal and we rode them all year and they showed up to give us a chance," Nelson said. "Gus was phenomenal on the mound and the guys showed up and shut the door."

Neenah tied the game with a run in the top of the second and then took the lead with a four-run fourth inning. The Rockets added single runs in the fifth and sixth inning to take a 7-1 lead heading into the

bottom of the sixth.

Juckem finished with two hits and two RBIs in the game, While Owen Pire, James Weiland and Boivon also had two hits in the game. Krause added a solo home run for the Rockets.

The Rockets earned the regional title with a 10-3 trouncing of Hartford at home.

Neenah scored four runs in the first inning to take the lead and broke the game open with a five run sixth inning.

Krause, Weinholzer and Boivon all hit home runs in the game, while Krause, Pire and Weiland each had two hits.

Juckem went the distance on the mound, striking out eight and scattering six hits.

"It was a good year and I enjoyed making the run with the boys," Nelson said. "It just would have been nice to get one more crack at it."

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# Neenah track

FROM PAGE 10

Those six events allowed the Rockets to accumulate 42 points at the meet, which was just shy of the 46 the team scored in finishing second last year.

But unlike last year where Neenah ended up five points behind state champion Arrowhead, the Warhawks scored a whopping 70 points to take the title this season.

“Last year, we thought it would be really cool to have (finishing first as a team at state) as our next goal and it definitely was on our list as a pie-in-the-sky goal. Looking at the amount of athletes (Arrowhead) had and their ability to score how they did, it was probably an unrealistic to attain that goal,” Ellington said. “No disappointment at all. That was the best we could do that day. It’s incredible competition and really tough to compete at your best there and I think everyone of our athletes did that and I’m so proud of them and our coaches.”

The Rockets came close to adding to their point total in a number of events.

Izzy Malloy, one of only three sophomores in the field for the 800 meters, finished just sixth-tenths of a second out of scoring, taking ninth in the race.

Malloy also anchored the Rockets’ 3,200-meter relay team that finished ninth, running behind Elsa Gruber, Sam Zilm and Anna Benthein.

Mirella Taschner tied for 10<sup>th</sup> in the high jump and Zilm picked up a 12<sup>th</sup> place in the 3,200 meters – both of whom were making their first appearance at the state track meet.

“Those kids are young and now they have that experience,” Ellington said. “Mirella came in with confidence and poise and high jump can be a fickle event. It’s a mentally testing event but she han-



Photo by Doug Sasse

Neenah’s Kobi Meyer takes the baton from Molly Snider during the preliminary race of the 800-meter relay in La Crosse on Friday.

dled it well. Izzy might have been a little down because she sets her expectations so high, but she leaves everything out on the track.”

The Rockets’ also qualified in the 1,600-meter relay where the team of Gruber, Benthein, Aubrey Strosahl and Payton Schaefer finished 24<sup>th</sup>.

Fox, Gruber and Schaefer were the only seniors that competed at state for Neenah, which means the bulk of roster will be returning – with a year of experience under their belts, too.

“We brought some really young kids as alternates (for the relays) so they could see the atmosphere and get motivated to make the next step. It is really exciting to think about,” Ellington said. “Maybe one of these we will have the opportunity to go for it.”

That could be next year. “I definitely think that is a very good goal for us,” Gentile said. “It is a very possible goal in the future and hopefully we can come home with the gold next year.”

The Neenah boys qualified four events for the state meet with Kramp grabbing the top finish for the Rockets.

Kramp uncorked a throw of 54-feet, 1.75-inches on his fifth throw of the com-



Photo by Doug Sasse

Neenah sophomore Owen Fox clears a hurdle during his preliminary race in the 300-meter hurdles last Friday at the WIAA state track and field meet.

petition to earn his fourth-place finish.

Owen Fox competed in two events at the state meet, finishing 12<sup>th</sup> in the 300-meter hurdles – where he was the only sophomore in the field – and placed

24<sup>th</sup> in the long jump.

Neenah’s 3,200-meter relay team of Gideon Benner, Elliott Drake, Drew Sabatke and Oliver Steiner finished 18<sup>th</sup> overall.



Photo by Doug Sasse

Autumn Crowe hands the baton to Luci Nackers during the preliminary race of the 800-meter relay on Friday.

# SMC track

FROM PAGE 11

they belonged. They are some of the best in the state and they competed like it.”

The experience of running on a relay at state was just as thrilling as competing as an individual for Davel.

“I ran at state last year and it was cool, but it was so much cooler to be there with a team and not just by yourself. It’s a really different aspect,” Davel said. “I had confidence in myself and my team that we were going to do well.”

The Zephyrs might not be done making ways on a state level either.

All of the competitors who took the track at the state meet are underclassmen

and are expected to return next year.

“We were talking about it after (the state meet) because we shaved so much time off from the beginning of the season until the end in both relays. We were like and next year we are going to be better,” Davel said. “We are just really excited to see where it goes.”

Not only will the Zephyrs get this year’s state crew back but have other athletes – Marissa Hahn in the throws, Lucy Norville in the high jump and a healthy Steckling in the relays and hurdles – who are likely to be in the mix to make it to La Crosse next year.

“This group can be really strong next year,” McCartney said. “If we have everything work out right, we could have a good showing at state next year.”

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## JUNE DAYS TO CELEBRATE!

**JUNE 5**

### Donut Day

They're round and sweet! And June 5 is a day to celebrate with a bite of a donut!

Put this donut in the box.

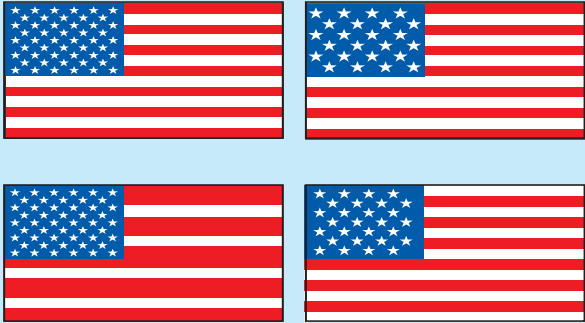


**JUNE 14**

### Flag Day

Flag Day is a special American holiday celebrated every year on June 14. It's like a giant birthday party for the United States flag. And this year, America will celebrate its 250th birthday on the Fourth of July!

Only one of these flags is the real American flag. Circle it. Then, have a family member check your answer.



ANSWER: Only the first flag is correct.

**JUNE 21**

### Father's Day

Father's Day is the third Sunday in June. It was started in 1910 by a woman named Sonora Smart Dodd. She wanted to thank her single father for raising her and her siblings. The first celebration was in Spokane, Washington, and it became a permanent U.S. national holiday in 1972.

Color this Father's Day award. Cut it out and give it to a special dad to wear.



Standards Link: Visual Arts: Create projects using multiple mediums.

**JUNE 1**

### Say Something Nice Day

This special day was started in 2006 by the then mayor of North Charleston, South Carolina. Imagine if everyone in the world said nothing but nice things for a day—and everyday.

Replace the missing vowels to reveal nice things to say:

TH \_NK Y\_ \_!  
TH\_ T WAS V\_ \_RY  
K\_ \_ND OF Y\_ \_!

Y\_ \_ ARE A  
S\_ \_PER CR\_ \_TIVE  
PERS\_ \_N!

YOU M\_ \_KE A  
L\_ \_T OF P\_ \_PL\_ \_  
H\_ \_PPY!



**JUNE 14**

### National Children's Day

This is a day to celebrate the joy and importance of being a kid! It is dedicated to celebrating, protecting and listening to kids everywhere. It reminds people around the world that every child has the right to be safe, happy, healthy and educated.

### Longest Day of the Year

The longest day of the year, bringing the most sunlight, usually happens around June 20 or 21 in the Northern Hemisphere. It occurs because the Earth is tilted toward the sun, making it the official first day of summer.

Circle every other letter to see what this day is called.

**S T O L M J M V E T R Y S M**  
**O W L H S P T L I A C K E C**

S U

**JUNE 19**

### A Holiday with Many Names

The Juneteenth holiday combines the word "June" and the word "nineteenth." It's sometimes called "Emancipation Day." But it has other names, too.

Use the code to discover Juneteenth's other names.

A = 16	F = 12	L = 8	R = 4
B = 15	I = 11	M = 7	S = 3
D = 14	J = 10	N = 6	U = 2
E = 13	K = 9	O = 5	Y = 1

**F**  
12 4 13 13 14 5 7 14 16 1

**E**  
10 2 15 11 8 13 13 14 16 1

Standards Link: Reading: follow simple written steps in sequence.

**Extra! Extra!**

### World Caring Day

June 7 is World Caring Day. Look through the newspaper and find five or more ways people are caring for each other in your community. Send a letter to the editor thanking these people for caring for others.

Standards Link: Reading: follow simple written steps in sequence.

### Double Double Word Search

CARING  
CELEBRATE  
DAY  
DONUT  
EARTH  
FLAG  
HOLIDAY  
JOY  
JUNE  
NICE  
PICKLE  
SAFE  
SUMMER  
SUN  
THANK  
YEAR

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

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

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

### Kid Scoop Together

## June is Cucumber Month

Cucumber Month takes place throughout June! Cucumbers taste good and keep people cool. They are great treats for the hot summer months.

### In a Pickle

What's a pickle? It's a cucumber soaked in vinegar and spices.

Circle the numbers inside each pickle jar whose sum, when added together in a line down or across, is the same as the number at the top of the jar.



Standards Link: Math: Calculate sums and differences.

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### Write On!

## Celebrate Children's Day

How do you think people should celebrate National Children's Day?



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