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Serving Neenah & Fox Crossing
November 6, 2026 | neenahnews.com
Volume 5, Issue 39

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Neenah schools balance budget

By MaryBeth Matzek
Neenah News

A lot of hard work went in to producing a balanced budget for the Neenah Area School District for the 2026-27 school year, according to Finance Director Jon Joch.

"It was a really tough year — to create a balanced budget without laying off any teachers was quite an achievement," he said.

The 2026-27 budget expenditure is $121,495,450.37. The tax levy increased $2.3 million to $41.6 million while the tax rate dropped to $5.55 per $1,000 of equalized property value, down from $5.64 in 2025-26.

The school board approved the budget Oct. 27.


Joch

To keep the budget balanced, Joch said he gave Superintendent Steve Harrison several options regarding staffing to keep salary costs in line, including not replacing all employees who retired or resigned. He said salary and benefits make up about 70% of the district's budget.

"You can debate about supplies and equipment, but staff is by far the top expenditure. We really concentrated on staffing at our enrollment level," said Joch, adding the district included a 3% raise for teachers and staff.

Keeping a close eye on enrollment levels includes being as accurate as possible with determining how many students will be in each grade so the district can have the correct number of elementary grade sections and estimating the correct number of students in the middle school and high school.

Joch said the district caught a break

See **School budget** on Page 7

Inside



Three straight
Neenah girls claim another state crown
Page 13



Photo by Michael Cooney

Voters took to the polls Tuesday to cast ballots in the general election. Polling places welcoming voters included the Neenah Police Station.

No ICE prisoners held at county jail

By MaryBeth Matzek
Neenah News

The Winnebago County Sheriff's Department is currently holding no U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) detainees in the county jail.


Matz

Sheriff John Matz made the announcement during Monday's Judiciary & Public Safety Committee meeting as he provided the monthly update on the county's 287(g) Warrant Service Officer (WSO) agreement with ICE. The agreement, which was signed March 3, 2025, is limited to individuals already booked into jail on criminal charges.

So far in 2026, 26 ICE detainees have been transferred to another facility or picked up by ICE. Matz said most inmates are transferred to other facilities.

See **ICE prisoners** on Page 6

Democrat Rippl wins county sheriff race

Democrats win trifecta in state government

By Jonathan Richie
Neenah News

Voters across Winnebago County cast their ballots in the midterm elections in federal, state and local contests.

This included a new sheriff for Winnebago County and a new governor for Wisconsin as Democrats won many of the key contests, including regaining the majority in the state legislature for the first time in 16 years.

Winnebago County voters elected Democrat Jason Rippl to serve as sheriff for the next four years. He defeated Republican Darin Rice by 3,705 votes.

"The campaign may be over, but the important work is just beginning," Rippl stated in a social media post on Wednesday morning. "I'm ready to roll up my sleeves, get to work, and bring practical leadership and positive change to the Winnebago County Sheriff's Office."

Sheriff John Matz, a Republican, was first elected in 2010 and served as the county's top law enforcement official for 16 years. Both Rippl and Rice work in the sheriff's office under Matz's leadership. Rippl is currently a patrol officer.

"I am proud of the campaign we ran and grateful for the opportunity to meet so many wonderful people throughout Winnebago County," Rice said in a social media post late Tuesday evening. "I congratulate Jason on his victory and wish him success as he takes on this important responsibility."

See **Election results** on Page 10

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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 22,000 homes and businesses in the Neenah and Fox Crossing areas. An E-edition of the newspaper can be accessed at www.neenahnews.com.

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

Participants invited to apply for police academy

Neenah News

Applications will be accepted this month for the third class of the Neenah Police Department's Citizen Police Academy.

The Citizens Police Academy will start in January and include weekly classes through the end of March. The free, 10-week program offers behind the scenes experiences with law enforcement through interactive topics, presentations and hands-on activities.

Program objectives include building relationships, educating participants and increasing communication. Class topics include active threats, crime scene, firearms, officer safety, OWI, search and seizure, specialty units, team building, traffic stops, training and use of force.

Classes are once a week from 6:30 to 9 p.m. along with graduation and an optional Saturday morning session. The program is limited to 16 participants who are selected by the department's command staff through an application process.

Participants should be 18 years or older and live or work in the City of Neenah. They should have no felony convictions, outstanding warrants or pending criminal cases. They should have no misdemeanor or OWI arrests within the past three years prior to the application date. Participants must pass a background check and sign a liability waiver.

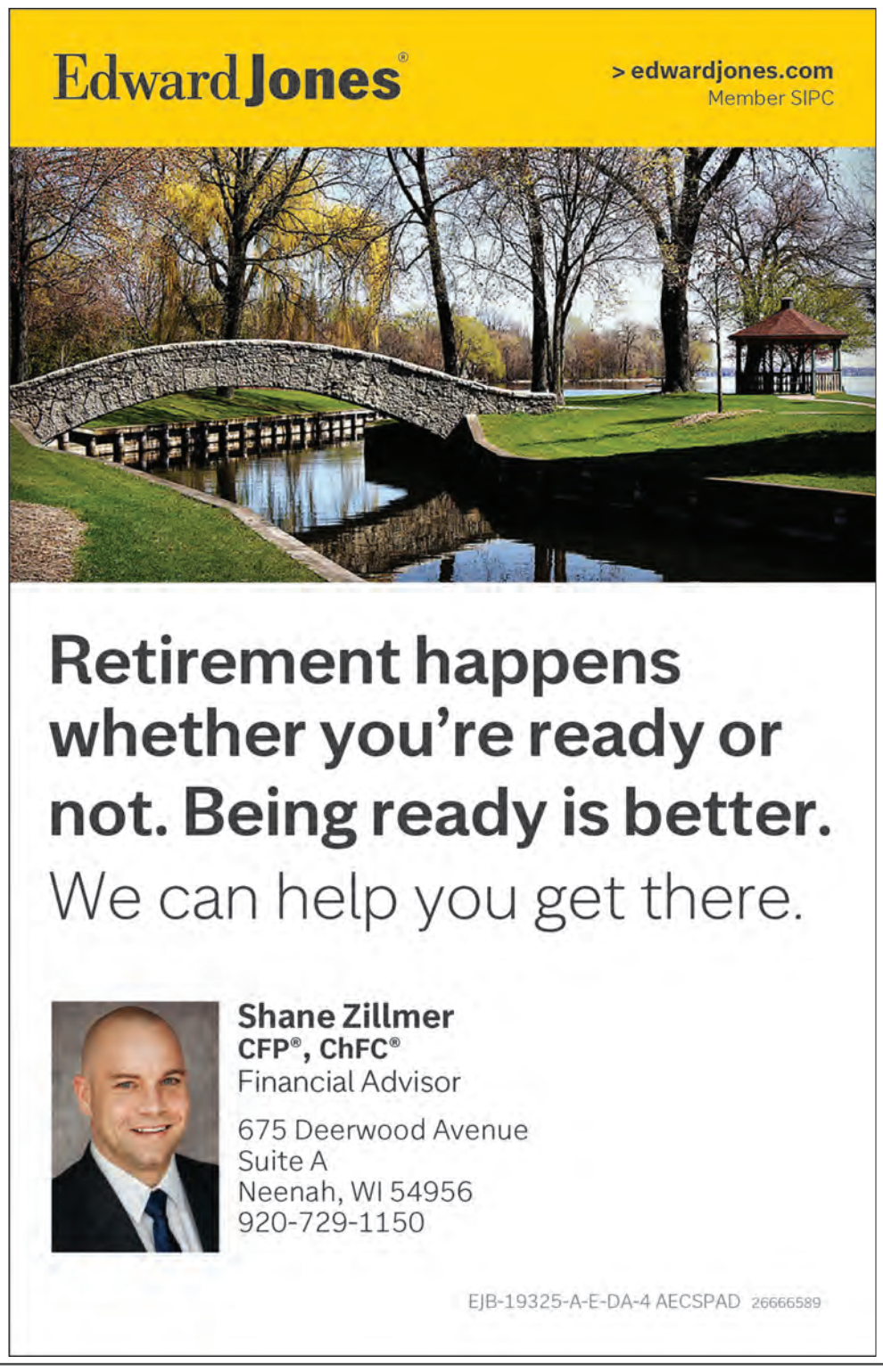
Application information will be available on the police department's Facebook page.



Photo from Neenah Historical Society

Veterans Day

Neenah-Menasha Civil War veterans in 1924. Front row left to right: John Nagel, Thad Sheerin, Joseph Faas and Murray McCallum. Back row: Wesley Lloyd, unidentified, Fred Greenwald and Luther Phetteplace. The picture was taken at Oak Hill Cemetery.



Calendar of events

Friday, Nov. 6

First Friday Concert featuring Christopher Gold, 2 p.m., Neenah Public Library

Fox Crossing Ladies and Lil Gents Dance, 6 p.m., Best Western Premier Bridgewood Resort and Hotel

Saturday, Nov. 7

Helping Hands Art and Craft Fair, 9 a.m., Neenah Middle School

Amanda Lauer Book Signing "My First Saint Nicholas Book," 10 a.m., Lyons Books, 127 W. Wisconsin Ave.

Fox Crossing Princess Tea Party, 10 a.m. and noon, Best Western Premier Bridgewood Resort and Hotel

November Art Activity – Glass Gobbler, 10 a.m., Bergstrom-Mahler Museum of Glass

Spirit of the Season: Snowman Decoration, 10:30 a.m., Neenah Public Library

Thursday, Nov. 12

Preholiday Shop and Stroll, 3 p.m., Downtown Neenah

St. Mary Catholic High School Fall Musical: Working the Musical, 7 p.m., Jane Bergstrom Fine Arts Education Center

Friday, Nov. 13

One Act Play Community Performance, 7 p.m., Neenah High School Performing Arts Center

St. Mary Catholic High School Fall Musical: Working the Musical, 7 p.m., Jane Bergstrom Fine Arts Education Center

Saturday, Nov. 14

William Manson Paperweight Demonstrations, 10:30 a.m., Bergstrom-Mahler Museum of Glass

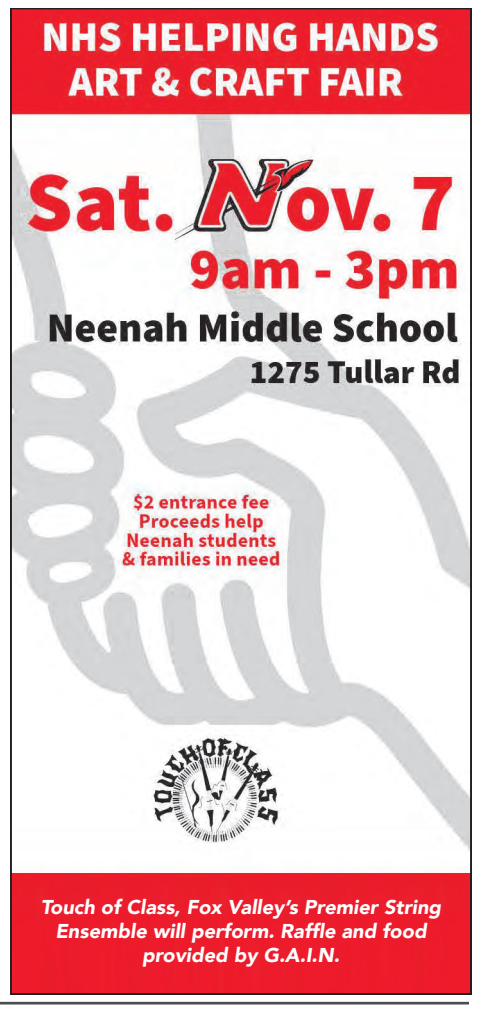
St. Mary Catholic High School Fall Musical: Working the Musical, 2 p.m., Jane Bergstrom Fine Arts Education Center

Future Neenah Fundraiser: The 920 Social Club, 7 p.m.

Friday, Nov. 20

Ice Skating Season Begins, 4 p.m., The Plaza and Globe Coffee

Puzzle Pursuit, 6:30 p.m., Whiting Boathouse





Neenah News

Trick-or-treating

Residents handed out candy and other goodies Saturday throughout the Neenah area as trick-or-treating took place to celebrate Halloween.

Local college graduates

The following students from Neenah completed degree requirements at the University of Wisconsin-La Crosse in August.

Bruce Argall, Bachelor of Science, communication studies major: media studies emphasis

Michael David Fairweather, Bachelor of Science, accountancy major; finance major, highest honors

Camryn Jan Krueger, Bachelor of Science, public health and community health education major

Adriana Origel Schaufelberger, Master of Science, healthcare administration

Lillian Kane of Neenah graduated from Western Technical College in La Crosse from the Digital Marketing Specialist program.

Herbert Ssegane of Neenah has earned a Master of Science in computer science from the Georgia Institute of Technology in Atlanta, Georgia.

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NOV 14
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Barbershop group sets Christmas shows

Neenah News

The Fox Valleyaires will be presenting its Barbershop Christmas shows.

This year's show is titled "Three Christmas Moments" and will include Christmas classics sung by the Fox Valleyaires Barbershop Chorus as well as our chapter quartets.

The annual Barbershop dinner show will be Dec. 2 at the DoubleTree by Hilton Hotel in downtown Neenah. Cocktails with a cash bar will be at 5:30 p.m. followed by dinner at 6:30 p.m. and the show starting at 7:30 p.m.

The dinner entree is Airline Chicken, which is a seared chicken breast topped with chicken au jus, garlic mashed potatoes and roasted mixed vegetables. A plated salad, dinner rolls and dessert are also included. Gluten-free and/or vegan/vegetarian entrees are available on request in advance.

Ticket sales end Nov. 17. Tickets include dinner, tax and tip.

The Barbershop Christmas theater show will be at 7 p.m. Dec. 8 in Neenah High School. The show follows two friends as they meet at the mall during their Christmas shopping year after year. Special guests will be the Neenah High School Madrigal Singers.

Tickets are $15 per person and $10 for students. More information on both events is available at foxvalleyaires.com.

Elks offering salute to veterans dinner

Neenah News

A Salute to Our Veterans Dinner is being offered as a way to honor the men and women who have served the country.

The evening of gratitude, fellowship and food will be Nov. 13 at the Neenah-Menasha Elks Lodge 676, 328 Nicolet Boulevard. Doors open at 5 p.m. with dinner served at 6 p.m.

The dinner will be from Cal's Pit Stop BBQ. Live music will be by Mark Monroe.

Veterans eat free. All other guests are $20 per person.

Guests are encouraged to bring their family and friends to help celebrate the courage, sacrifice and dedication of veterans.

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Photo by Pamela Hart

Model trains

The Neenah-Menasha Model Railroad Club and Milwaukee and Northern Railway Historical Society, Inc. held its annual open house last month. During the event, attendees could view model trains in the 144-year-old authentic railroad depot at 323 W. Forest Ave.

Drawing club exhibition opens at art gallery

Neenah News

An exhibition is opening for the Appleton Drawing Club at the Hang Up Gallery of Fine Art.

The opening reception will be from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. today at the gallery, 204 W. Wisconsin Ave.

In the words of the Appleton Drawing Club: "This exhibition features a wide range of drawings and paintings made at Appleton Drawing Club sessions and in our artist's home studios. We invite art enthusiasts, friends and family to come and celebrate the creativity and unique perspectives of our local artists."

The exhibition will run through Nov. 28.

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Animal shelter online auction will open for bidding Nov. 15

By Pamela Hart
News Contributor

The Neenah Animal Shelter's annual Holiday Online Auction will have over 30 items to bid on as a way to support the organization.

Bidding is scheduled to be open from Nov. 15 to Nov. 19. Bidders can preview the items beginning Nov. 13.

Bidding opens at 4 p.m. Nov. 15 and closes at 3 p.m. Nov. 19. A link will be provided on the shelter's website and Facebook page when the preview opens for viewing.

Organizers are hoping there is something for everyone to participate. Auction items include cat and dog, pet and family, Brewers, Packers, Badgers, spa, breakfast, gift cards, Christmas, coffee/morning, homemade runners, a diamond necklace donated by J. Anthony Jewelers, Bluey and other children's baskets.

Auction winners pick up their winning baskets from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. Nov. 21 at the Pop-Up Shop, which is located inside The Marketplace in downtown Neenah. The shop offers a variety of items including totes, purses and blankets handmade by a local resident who donates her profit to the shelter.

Neenah Animal Shelter apparel and bags with year-round and special Christmas themes are available for purchase. The shop is open to the public.

The Neenah Animal Shelter exists to humanely care for lost, surrendered, neglected, impounded and abandoned pets until loving, forever homes are found for them. Their LifeFirst philosophy is a commitment to never euthanize any animal because of lack of space or funding, but to save, restore and rehome all adoptable animals under their care.

The goal is to improve the quality and strength of the bond between people and their pets through education and example. Like any other non-profit, the shelter does not receive any federal government funding. Events such as the Holiday Online Auction and Pop-Up Shop provide an opportunity for the community to support their efforts.



Submitted photo

The Neenah Animal Shelter has items that will be up for bidding during its annual Holiday Online Auction, which opens Nov. 15.

Additional opportunities to support the shelter include Giving Tuesday, which is Dec. 1 with the focus on specific costs of care and encourage employer matching for Giving Tuesday as well as for year-end giving. The Holiday Appeal card will be mailed a week later.

The shelter's new addition is a Community Help-Yourself Pantry for anyone who needs food for their pets. Pet owners can stop by any time and pick up what they need. The pantry is located on the left side of the driveway. Donations are accepted for the pantry.

To learn more about funding opportunities and upcoming events, visit the Neenah Animal Shelter's website at neenahanimailshelter.org.

Fox Valley Chorus invites guests to perform

Neenah News

Guests are invited to the Fox Valley Chorus rehearsals at 7 p.m. Tuesdays, Nov. 10, Nov. 17, Nov. 24 and Dec. 1.

They can learn two songs and then sing with the chorus in their holiday performances on Dec. 5, Dec. 8 and Dec. 15. These rehearsals will take place at the First Presbyterian Church, 200 S. Church St., Neenah (Fellowship Hall entrance on Doty Ave.)

Women can unwrap a new hobby this holiday season. Whether they've been singing in the shower for years or are looking for a joyful, stress-free way to connect with a group of women, this is their opportunity to jump in.

Women don't need to read sheet music, audition or prepare a thing—just bring their enthusiasm. The Fox Valley Chorus will supply the music, warm welcome and fun. The chorus encourages women to experience the magic of four-part harmony firsthand, recharge their spirit and share in the joy of the holidays.

For more information, visit their website foxvalleychorus.org or email foxvalleychorus@gmail.com.

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Photo from Fox Crossing Parks and Recreation Department

Park updates

Kippenhan Park may be one of the Village of Fox Crossing's smallest parks, but it got some updates this summer. Updates included a brand-new playground for little adventurers, tree removal to open up and refresh the space and a new path. The Parks and Recreation Department is excited for families and neighbors to enjoy these improvements and make new memories at the park.

County seeks $250,000 FEMA grant

Neenah News

Winnebago County is seeking $250,000 in grant funds from the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) to help with costs related to the July 27 EF3 tornado and severe storms that hit the northern part of the county.

The major disaster declaration issued on Oct. 7 for the tornado and storms made the county eligible to apply for FEMA Public Assistance funding, which provides federal reimbursement for eligible disaster-related debris removal, emergency protective measures and repair or restoration of damaged public facilities and infrastructure.

County departments are compiling their disaster-related expenditures and supporting documentation as part of the FEMA request. The Finance Department came up with the $250,000 total after accounting for applicable insurance proceeds.

The Winnebago County Judiciary & Public Safety Committee at its meeting Monday approved the resolution supporting the Finance Department's efforts to move forward on the grant request. The county's Personnel and Finance Committee also needs to approve the resolution before it goes before the county board for final approval.

Tax relief deadline postponed for taxpayers affected by storms

The Internal Revenue Service said tax relief is available for individuals and businesses in Winnebago County affected by the July 27 tornado.

These taxpayers now have until Feb. 1 to file various federal individual and business tax returns and make tax payments.

Following the disaster declaration issued last month by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), individuals and households that reside or have a business in Winnebago County qualify for tax relief.

The declaration permits the IRS to postpone certain tax-filing and tax-payment deadlines for taxpayers who reside or have a business in the disaster area. For instance, certain deadlines falling on or after July 27 and before Feb. 1 are granted additional time to file.

As a result, affected individuals and businesses will have until Feb. 1 to file returns and pay any taxes that were originally due during this period.

The Feb. 1 deadline applies to individuals who had a valid extension to file their 2025 individual income tax return. Because tax payments related to these 2025 returns were due on April 15, those payments are not eligible for this relief.

The IRS automatically identifies taxpayers located in the covered disaster area and applies filing and payment relief. Affected taxpayers who reside or have a business located outside the covered disaster area should call the IRS Special Services toll-free number at 866-562-5227 to request this tax relief.

Taxpayers may download forms and publications from the official IRS website, IRS.gov.

The tax relief is part of a coordinated federal response to the damage caused by these storms and is based on local damage assessments by FEMA. For information on disaster recovery, visit disasterassistance.gov.

Under the recently enacted Public Law 119-64 Disaster Related Extension of Deadlines Act, the postponement of a federal tax return deadline due to a federally declared disaster is treated as an extension for purposes of calculating the limit on a tax refund, giving affected taxpayers additional time to claim a refund or credit.

Discussion to focus on digital security

Neenah News

The Neenah Public Library will host a Tech Talk discussion about digital security.

The event will be at 1:30 p.m. Tuesday in the library.

Topics include reviewing some of the most common risks facing online safety, along with the best steps that can be taken to make sure devices and online accounts are protected.

All interested individuals are welcome to attend this free event; registration is not required.

This program was made possible by the Friends of the Neenah Library and the Neenah Public Library Trust Fund.







Brucks receives alumni award

Katie Brucks, owner of Lucky Stables LLC and founder of The Lucky Foundation, has received the University of Minnesota Crookston's 2026 Outstanding Alumni Award.



Brucks

Brucks was honored during the university's Homecoming celebration. The award is the university's highest alumni honor, recognizing professional accomplishments, community involvement, humanitarian work and contributions to the university.

Brucks graduated from UMN Crookston in 2005 with a bachelor's degree in equine industry management. Today, she combines her passion for horses and teaching through riding instruction, equine-assisted services, and coaching youth, collegiate and equestrians with disabilities.

At Lucky Stables, Brucks helps riders of all ages and abilities develop horsemanship skills, confidence and independence. Through The Lucky Foundation, she works to expand opportunities for equestrians with disabilities, including support for participation in national competitions.

The alumni honor adds to a year of recognition that includes Brucks being named the 2026 Wisconsin Horseperson of the Year and The Lucky Foundation receiving the Wisconsin Horse Council's Special Achievement Award.

Outlook Group completes Pewaukee acquisition

Neenah News

Outlook Group, a single-source provider of printed packaging and a portfolio company of Aterian Investment Partners, has announced it has completed the acquisition and integration of the Pewaukee facility of ABX – Innovative Packaging Solutions.

The facility, its equipment, its customer relationships and the production team that runs it are now fully part of Outlook Group.

The Pewaukee operation adds three capabilities to Outlook Group: specialty label production, additional flexible packaging capacity and conductive film printing, including in-house ink formulation, for medical and electronic applications. These now sit alongside the pressure-sensitive labels, flexible packaging, folding cartons, and integrated contract packaging produced at the company's two Neenah facilities, bringing Outlook Group to three Wisconsin locations.

The Pewaukee facility's production, quality and customer service staff have all stayed on and been welcomed into the Outlook Group team. The integration is complete, and the facility has completed its ISO 9001 recertification under Outlook Group ownership.

Customers of both organizations continue to work with the same people they did before, now with access to a broader set of capabilities under one supplier.

Alongside the acquisition, Outlook Group has introduced a refreshed brand: a new logo, updated look, and a sharper point of view. The name, the people, and the Neenah headquarters are unchanged.

Terms of the transaction were not disclosed.



Photo from Neenah Joint School District

Champion Fair

Neenah High School hosted its fall Champion Fair last week built on the long-standing "College Fair" tradition. The Champion Fair expands the event into a comprehensive post-secondary planning opportunity for every student. Over 30 colleges, universities and military branches filled the gym during the two-hour block, while 50 guest speakers led sessions covering everything from college essays and financial health to resume building, job applications and life skills.

Brigade spreading holiday cheer by selling wreaths

Neenah News

The Boys and Girls Brigade Wreath Sale is about to be in full swing through Dec. 5 as fresh, fragrant evergreens are ready to deck doors and spread some holiday cheer.

Every purchase supports the group's programs and Camp Onaway. Wreaths can be ordered from a local Brigader or by stopping at the Brigade Warehouse located at 715 Fairwood Drive.

For other pick up options, contact the Brigade office at 920-725-3983 to place a wreath order.

ICE prisoners

from Page 1

In 2025, the department held 17 ICE detainees.

The arrest of Wendy Mendez, an employee at Vel Phillips Middle School in Oshkosh, by ICE last month while she was in Milwaukee drew renewed attention to the sheriff's department agreement with ICE during the meeting's public comment period. Several county residents spoke out against the 287(g) WSO agreement, asking the sheriff's department to reconsider its agreement with ICE.

Tanner Mann of Appleton said the department's relationship with ICE puts the sheriff's office in a bad light.

"The 287(g) agreement with ICE undermines the public trust people have in the sheriff's department," he said. "It's a historically challenging time with ICE right now and it's a stain on the community to have any cooperation with ICE."

Supervisor Kristl Laux noted that while the county did not arrest Mendez, it was still something that happened in the community and reminded people of ICE's local presence.

"I've never supported the 287(g) agreement with ICE," she said.

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National book award finalist featured at short story night

Neenah News

National book award finalist Kimberly Blaeser will join a special edition of Short Story Night.

The Neenah Public Library event will be at 7 p.m. Monday at Lion's Tail Brewing in Neenah.

Blaeser is a former Wisconsin Poet Laureate, founding director of Indigenous Nations Poets and a member of White Earth Nation. Her collection of short stories, "Red Ants," has just been long-listed for a National Book Award, and will be available for purchase and signing at the event.

Attendees at Short Story Night can expect plenty of laughs and literary discussion. Copies of the featured story are available on the Neenah Public Library's second floor.

Neenah library program focuses on dinosaurs

Neenah News

It's Dinovember again at the Neenah Public Library.

Guests are invited to meet in the Shattuck Community Room for dino-art, dino-excavation, dino-search and dino-movement.

They can make dinosaur rubbings and silhouette "stained glass" art, dig for dinosaur bones and go on a hunt for 12 dinosaurs in the Youth Department.

The program will run from approximately 6 to 7 p.m. Nov. 12. No registration is required. While activities are ideal for ages 5 and up, all ages are welcome. A parent, caregiver, or responsible older child must be within sight and sound of children under 9.

School budget

from Page 1

since its health insurance costs only increased by 3.5%.

"I know many places where those costs went up a lot more," he said. "By going up only 3.5%, it saved us hundreds of thousands of dollars."

The district is also slowly closing the gap on the number of students it loses each year to open enrollment. For the 2026-27 school year, the district lost a net 244 students compared to losing a net 344 students in 2024-25. State aid follows students so decreasing the number of students who open enroll elsewhere can save the district money.

"It was important for us to not need any short-term borrowing or go into our fund balance to make it work," Joch said. "We are in a better position than most of the surrounding districts."

With the 2026-27 budget wrapped up, Joch said plans have started on the 2027-28 budget. The new governor and legislature will work together on a new biennial budget, which Joch hopes will include more funding for schools.

"We are definitely hoping for more general school aid in the next budget," he said.



Photo from Neenah Joint School District

Science presentation

Alliance Charter Elementary students participated in a high-energy, hands-on learning experience last week with a visit from the Earth Rangers program. The interactive, STEM-aligned assembly brought science and conservation to life as students explored local habitats, wildlife adaptation and practical ways to protect ecosystems.



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Monday, November 16 at 10 a.m. OR 2 p.m.
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Photo from Neenah Police Department

Special request

Officers Joe Benoit and Ben Kosiorek represented the Neenah Police Department Oct. 30 during the Milwaukee Police Department championship parade. The Milwaukee Police Department put out a mutual aid request for public safety during the event and police departments from around the state answered the call.

Officials warn community to beware of disaster fraud

Fraudulent activity typically increases after disasters. Con artists may try to get money or ask for personal information to try and steal an individual's identity.

Individuals affected by the July 27 tornado should be aware that fraud and scams can occur anytime. If someone's home or personal property was damaged, be careful when giving out personal information.

FEMA, the U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA) and other federal and state disaster workers will never ask for money and never require payment in any form.

If a FEMA inspector comes to a home and the resident did not submit a FEMA application, their information may have been used without their knowledge to create a FEMA application. If this happens, residents should inform the inspector that they did not apply for FEMA assistance, so they can submit a request to stop further processing of the application.

Those that have not applied for assistance but receive a letter from FEMA should call the FEMA Helpline at 800-621-3362. The Helpline will submit a request to stop any further processing of that application.

FEMA teams, housing inspectors and other officials will be working in areas affected by the July 27 disaster. Always ask to see I.D. FEMA personnel always have an official identification badge.

Be careful of unexpected phone calls or visits to a home from people claiming to be FEMA housing inspectors or people claiming they work for FEMA.

FEMA inspectors will already have the resident's nine-digit registration number, but they may ask you to verify personally identifiable information by phone. Someone who is unsure whether a FEMA call or visit is legitimate can contact the FEMA Helpline at 800-621-3362 to verify.

Don't give your banking information to a person claiming to be a FEMA housing inspector. FEMA inspectors do not collect or ask to confirm personal financial information.

For more information, visit fema.gov/assistance/individual/disaster-fraud.

Individuals that believe they are the victim of a scam are advised to report it immediately to local law enforcement.



Photo from St. Mary Catholic Schools

Guest speaker Troy Albrecht speaks to St. Mary Catholic High School students about medical career related opportunities.

Students hear about array of medical careers

Neenah News

St. Mary Catholic Schools recently launched its Zephyr Medical Mentoring Program.

Students are given the opportunity to job shadow, as well as hear presentations from various local healthcare professionals.

Opportunities for students have ranged from observing medical clinics, surgeries and working out in the community alongside first responders, including local fire departments.

One recent guest speaker was Troy Albrecht, program director for the radiologic technology program in the area.

Albrecht spoke to students about career opportunities in medical imaging.

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Photo from Neenah Equestrian Team

State competition

The Neenah High School equestrian team competed last weekend at the Wisconsin Interscholastic Horse Association state meet in Madison. The competitors included Caroline Weber, Cailey Janssen, Hannah Zilm and Ali Stumpf, who placed fourth out of 14 teams in the district.

Hunting, trapping seasons opening this month

The Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources reminds hunters and trappers to prepare for the opening of hunting and trapping seasons in November.

There are four important dates throughout November when seasons open. Hunters and trappers are encouraged to double-check the regulations and confirm that they have all the necessary licenses before heading into the field.

The seasons opening Nov. 7 include beaver (Zones A, B and C, trapping only); mink (Southern Zone, trapping only); muskrat (Southern Zone, trapping only) and otter (trapping only). On Nov. 9, the seasons opening are mink (Mississippi River Zone, trapping only) and muskrat (Mississippi River Zone, trapping only).

Later in the month, on Nov. 21 crow and gun deer seasons open. The muzzleloader season opens Nov. 30.

The DNR also reminds hunters and trappers that mobile-friendly resources are available, including regulations, season dates, hunting hours, pheasant stocking and more, on the DNR's Hunting or Trapping webpages. Hunters and trappers can also find information on species population levels and hunting opportunities in the DNR's 2026 Fall Forecasts.

Find public lands open to hunting using the DNR's Public Access Lands webpage at dnr.wisconsin.gov/topic/lands. These resources let hunters and trappers plan their next adventure from their homes.

It takes everyone to ensure Wisconsin remains a safe place to hunt and trap. When hunting or trapping alone, hunters should always let someone know their plan; if their plans change, keep others updated.

Hunters should also remember to follow the basic rules of firearm safety:

T - Treat every firearm as if it is loaded.

A - Always point the muzzle in a safe direction.

B - Be certain of your target, what's before it and what's beyond it.

K - Keep your finger outside the trigger guard until you are ready to shoot.

Anyone born on or after Jan. 1, 1973, must have a hunter education certification to purchase a hunting license unless hunting under the Mentored Hunting Law.

All first-time trappers must complete an approved trapper education course unless they are trapping under the youth-supervised option, mentored trapping program or other exemptions. Experienced trappers teach this comprehensive course, which covers basic trapping skills, including legal methods, regulations, safety and ethics.

Thanksgiving dinner program to serve community

Neenah News

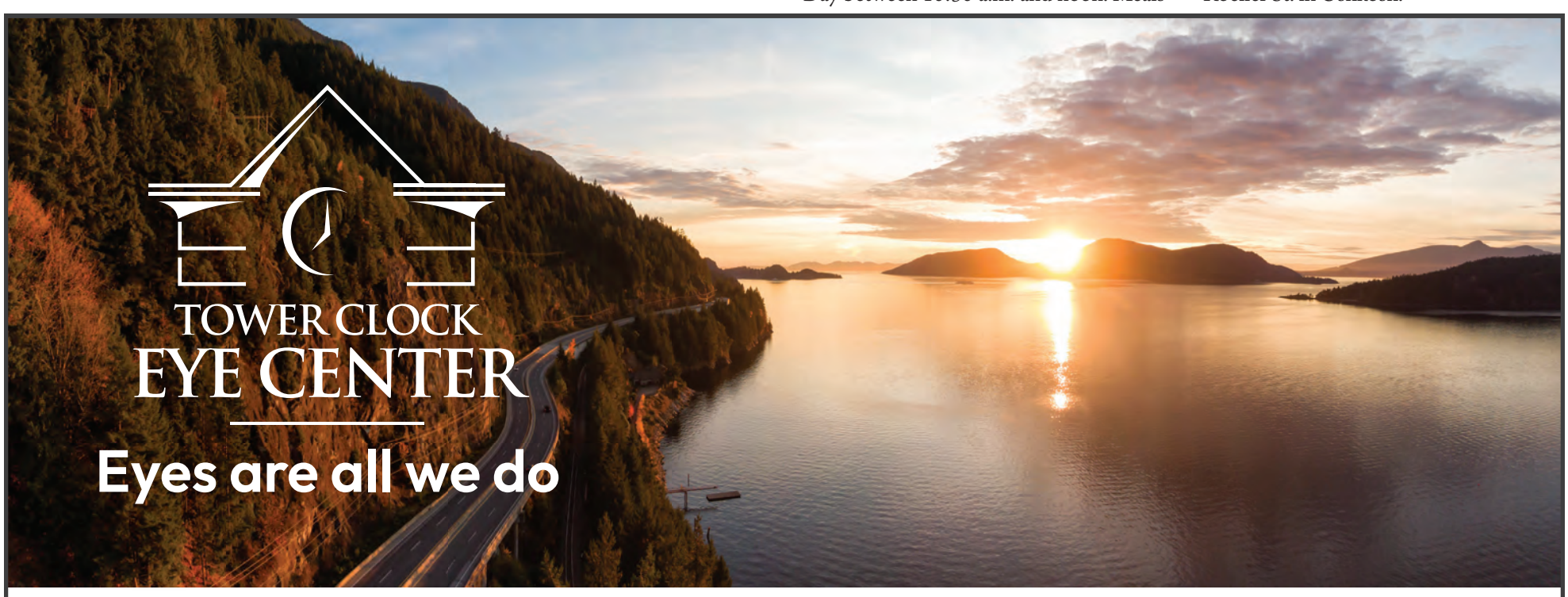
Father Carr's Place 2B is having its annual Thanksgiving Day Dinner program.

Dinner will include roasted turkey, mashed potatoes, vegetable and pumpkin pie for dessert. For meals to be delivered, call 920-231-2378.

Meals will be delivered on Thanksgiving Day between 10:30 a.m. and noon. Meals are delivered to all of Winnebago County only. Orders are now being taken.

For those who prefer to dine in the Saint Mother Teresa Center at Father Carr's on Thanksgiving Day, food will be served from noon to 1:30 p.m. No reservations are necessary; guests are invited to just come in. All are welcome.

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Election results

from Page 1

Rippl collected 36,398 votes across the county compared to Rice's 33,323. There were also 55 unresolved write-in votes in the contest.

Danielle Falesnik, an independent, dropped out of the race in August, after the primary had been held but she had already earned a spot on the ballot. Despite dropping out of the race, she still gathered 2,164 votes in the general election.

Desiree Bongers won her reelection bid in the Winnebago County Clerk of Court race. The Democrat was running unopposed in the race.

All results are unofficial until the municipalities certify the votes during canvasses. Vote totals are from the Winnebago County Clerk's office and the Associated Press.

Assembly 53

In Assembly District 53, voters elected Democrat Becky Nichols, a former Menasha City Council member.

Nichols defeated Republican David Daniels and Independent Rachael Dowling in Tuesday's election. In Winnebago County, Nichols collected 12,193 compared to 8,835 for Daniels and 1,428 for Dowling.

Nichols won the seat previously held by former Neenah mayor and longtime state Rep. Dean Kaufert, who has announced plans to retire. The seat was widely seen as one of the pivotal races in flipping control of the Assembly to the Democrats.

Assembly 55

Incumbent and Republican Nate Gustafson defeated Democrat challenger Alex Corrigan by 12 points in the race for the State Assembly seat in the 55th district.

Gustafson had 3,639 more votes in Winnebago County.

Winners in these contests will be sworn in ahead of the 108th Wisconsin Legislature, which will begin on Jan. 4.

State Senate 19

In the race for state Senate in the 19th district, incumbent and Republican Rachael Cabral-Guevara won her reelection bid by 18 points as she defeated Democrat challenger Emily Tseffos.

This will be Cabral-Guevara's second term in the state Senate. She had 3,578 more votes in Winnebago County.

Statewide races

In statewide races, Democrats won the governor's seat and a majority of seats in the state Senate and state Assembly.

Milwaukee County Executive David Crowley defeated Congressman Tom Tiffany in the race to be Wisconsin's next governor. Across the state Crowley won by over 215,000 votes and had 3,694 more votes than Tiffany in Winnebago County.

"We don't let you down, Wisconsin," Crowley said following his victory. "Serving as your governor will be the honor of a lifetime."

Crowley and Lt. Gov.-elect Sarah Godlewski will be sworn into office on Jan. 4.

"While this was not the outcome we had hoped for, I am grateful to everyone who supported our campaign and believed in our vision for a stronger, more affordable Wisconsin," Tiffany said. "I congratulate David Crowley on his victory. We both care deeply about Wisconsin, and I wish him and his family the very best as he prepares to serve as our next governor."

In the Attorney General race, Democrat incumbent Josh Kaul won his reelection bid and will start his third term next year. Kaul defeated Fond Du Lac County District Attorney Eric Toney in a rematch from their race in 2022, which was decided by a single percentage point. This time the margin was close to 9.5 percentage points.

The victory was a similar margin to the governor's race with almost 250,000 more votes for Kaul across Wisconsin and 4,529 votes across Winnebago County.

In other statewide races, Democrats won the seats for Secretary of State and Treasurer. JoCasta Zamarripa defeated Jay Schroeder for Secretary of State, while Yee Leng Xiong defeated John Lieber for State Treasurer.

Congressional District 6

Incumbent Glenn Grothman (R-Glenbeulah) was elected to his seventh term as the U.S. Representative from Wisconsin's Sixth Congressional District.

He defeated Democrat Brad Smith by 9.5 percentage points and more than 30,000 votes across the district.

However, Smith had 4,209 more votes than Grothman in Winnebago County.

The race had three other candidates who combined to get a total of 3,203 votes in Winnebago County and over 12,000 votes district-wide.

Grothman was one of the Republican incumbents who held onto their seat as others, including two in Wisconsin, were defeated as Democrats gained control of the U.S. House.

Referendum questions

Three referendum questions were also on the ballot for voters that would amend the state constitution.

The amendments followed party lines with most Republicans favoring all three and Democrats opposing them.

Two of the three questions passed. Voters were in favor of prohibiting the governor's partial veto power to impose taxes and that the government shall prohibit discrimination.

However, voters did not approve of a constitutional amendment to allow places of worship to stay open during public health emergencies.

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Quilt shop celebrates America's 250th by fundraising for veteran

By Emme Hornung
News Contributor

Quilters and sewers will find themselves in a wonderland this holiday season at Primitive Gatherings' 2026 Red, White and Blue Quilt Show.

This year's theme celebrates America's 250th anniversary, and the cost of admission goes straight to Primitive Gatherings' charity of choice: Missions of Honor. The organization's Freedom to Liberty: A Mission of Healing Retreat flies veterans of the Global War on Terrorism to New York City for three nights to visit 9/11 memorials and landmarks, offering an opportunity for healing and honoring their service while also recognizing those who lost their lives.



Bongean

"I really have a soft spot for veterans and what they give up and what they have been through, and I just really want to help out in any way that I can," said Lisa Bongean, owner of Primitive Gatherings.

Each year, Bongean supports a new cause, but since the cost to pay for a Missions of Honor flight is so high, coming in at $75,000, this is year two of working toward this cause.

However, to date, with the help of creative ways to raise money such as special sticker sales and luggage tags being sold as part of the fundraising campaign, they've raised nearly $50,000. The hope is that after this year's holiday quilt show, they can fund that flight for veterans.

"We charge $5 to come in, and all that money goes to Missions of Honor," Bongean said.



Photos by Kali VandeHey

Above: Primitive Gatherings is located just off of Highway 45 in Larsen.

At right: Primitive Gatherings regularly hosts classes and events.



Before opening Primitive Gatherings in 2003, Bongean traveled the country showing, teaching, and selling all things quilts for 15 years.

"I wanted to stay home and watch my grandchildren grow up, so instead of running around the country, I decided that I'm going to try to build the best retreat center that a quilter could go to," Bongean said.

Today, with a team of 50 employees, the Larsen-based business is far more than quilting, providing socials, multi-day retreats, and regular classes for attendees from around the globe.

"If you want to learn it, there's no reason why you can't do it, so we have all skill levels and all kinds of needle arts too, not just quilting," Bongean said. "We do a lot of wool appliqué. We do some rug hooking. We do cross stitch. We do a lot of embroidery. There's a lot of different types of things that you can get involved in."

When Primitive Gatherings first opened, its operations were under three separate roofs, but in 2021 its new facility opened at 8567 South Loop Road in Larsen, just off of Highway 45.

"We wanted to be under one big roof, just kind of be this center for stitchers," Bongean said. "I still have to pinch myself every time I pull into my parking lot because it is quite the dream."

As a world-renowned designer for a major fabric producer, Bongean often sees retreat guests coming from around the world to learn specialized skills, and Bongean takes the opportunity to share the Fox Valley and Midwestern way of life with travelers.

"I hold retreats all through the year, and we go out on a field trip, and I take them to my favorite spots like Vande Walle's Candies and Simon's Cheese and Union Star, and some of the smaller boutiques that are around. It's just so fun to be able to show them how we live in Wisconsin because it's different than a lot of other parts of the world," she said.

That same spirit of Wisconsin hospitality takes center stage each holiday season as Primitive Gatherings welcomes quilters from near and far for the annual holiday quilt show, taking place Nov. 19 through Dec. 18. As its largest fundraiser of the year, the holiday quilt show features nearly 150 unique quilts and other projects on display from artists around the country, making it something to experience this holiday season.

As Bongean describes it, "it's like a Disneyland for stitchers."

So, for sewers of any kind, or those that simply appreciate the art and dedication of quilting, there is something to enjoy at Primitive Gatherings, all while supporting a good cause. Learn more about the upcoming lineup of classes and events, the quilt show, and fundraisers at primitivegatherings.us.



Zephyrs' battle back from rough start in sectional final loss

By Joe Matzek
News contributor

After dropping the first two sets in its sectional semifinal match, St. Mary Catholic clawed its way back to force a fifth set before falling short.

The Zephyrs nearly captured the second set, too, but dropped the last six points of the set to Marathon, which prevailed 25-21, 26-24, 14-25, 17-25, 15-9 Saturday.

The Red Raiders, ranked second in the Wisconsin Volleyball Coaches Association Division 3 state poll, dominated the match at times with the hitting of senior Kate Love and freshman Maddy Jansen. But the Zephyrs had their moments, especially in the middle three sets.

"At this point of the season, anybody left standing is going to be playing good volleyball, so we knew we were going to play really well," Zephyrs coach Mike Mauritz said. "We did (play well) in sets two, three and four, and not so much starting off the fifth set. They (the Red Raiders) are obviously a nice team."

Marathon (31-3) led most of the opening set and won the last three points to close it out.

SMC came back in the second set and led by as many as six points before Marathon tied the score at 20-20. The Zephyrs won four straight points and needed just one more to pull even in the match, but the Red Raiders' finishing run put SMC down two sets to none.

"We had great momentum. I think we just got in our heads," senior outside hitter Luci Nackers said. "Our serve receive wasn't the best and ultimately that kind of killed us. I think that momentum was brought into the third and fourth sets and we had the energy then. We just lost momentum in the second set."

Undaunted, the Zephyrs (31-4) took command in the third and fourth sets as they cut down on their errors in serve receive and passing while their serving improved and their offense started humming.

"I definitely think we were more focused on playing to win than playing not to lose, so we just had confidence," junior setter/outside hitter Adele Brennan said of the comeback.

The third set was tied 11-11 before SMC went on a run, taking 14 of the last 17 points.

The Zephyrs also led most of set four, breaking away with an 11-4 surge after seeing the Red Raiders cut their lead to 14-13. SMC's offense kept rolling while Marathon struggled to stay in system. A Nackers kill sent the match to a fifth set.

But the Red Raiders regained momentum quickly by taking the first five points in set five.

The Zephyrs could only trade points the rest of the set until Love's kill down the line ended the match.

"The postseason is so different from the regular season," Brennan said. "Every team is focused to win and teams are bringing their all to the court. It's definitely way harder to win. You've just got to give it your all to stay focused."

Nackers had 15 kills, Autumn Crowe had 12 kills and 16 digs and Brennan had 11 kills and 14 digs. Emmi Weiss had 25 assists and Brennan had 18. Bitsy McCauley had 14 digs.

"This team is awesome," Nackers said. "We're all so supportive. I think what makes this team special is we have different options. We don't have just one player that stands out, one good hitter, we have everyone, and the bench is awesome, they're loud, and that's what makes it a great team."

The Zephyrs lose four seniors, all starters – Crowe, Nackers, McCauley and Piper Neubauer.

"I can't say enough about them, not only on the court but off the court," Mauritz said. "They're just solid kids. They mean a lot to the program and they certainly will be missed."

The Zephyrs reached the sectional final with a 25-20, 22-25, 20-25, 27-25, 15-10 over Wrightstown last Thursday in Wrightstown.

Leading the Zephyrs was Crowe with 14 kills and 15 digs, Nackers with eight kills and 10 digs and Rayna Brelage with seven kills.

Brennan and Weiss each totaled 21 assists in the match, while McCauley led the team with 27 digs.

Rockets' tourney road ends in sectional final

Neenah News

It took a run in with Neenah's nemesis to keep the Rockets from making the WIAA State Girls Volleyball Tournament.

Powerhouse Kimberly conquered Neenah for the third time this season on Saturday night in Manitowoc, handing the Rockets a 25-20, 25-15, 27-25 loss in a WIAA Division 1 sectional final.

Neenah finished 30-9 on the season with a third of the losses coming at the hands of the Papermakers, who are the No. 2 seed in the Division 1 state tournament field. Of the Rockets losses this year, five were to teams who made it to the Resch Center for this weekend's tournament.

Elaina Kramer led the Rockets against Kimberly with 13 kills, while Brielle Brown and Cara Bosovic each finished with seven kills in the game. Finley Kelley finished with 19 assists with Sena Messner adding 13.

Kelley also had three of the team's five aces in the match, while Neenah had only three service errors on the night.

Paige Hoelzel finished with four total blocks in the match, followed by Kramer with three, while Aubrey Lindgren posted a team-high 22 digs.

Neenah advanced to the sectional final with a convincing 25-19, 25-23, 25-14 victory over Appleton East on its home floor last Thursday.

The Rocket hitters lit up the Patriots to the tune of 41 kills in the match, led by Brown with 11 and Lilly Romjue with 10. Leah Oldenburg chipped in eight and Hoelzel finished with six.

Kelley and Messner totaled 18 and 17 assists, respectively, in the match, with Messner also collecting a team-high five aces.

Hoelzel and Bosovic finished with five and four total blocks, respectively, for Neenah with Lindgren leading the team with 10 digs.


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Rockets edge Vikings for third straight state title

By Steve Clark
Neenah News

As the runners in the Division 1 girls race approached the final mile at the WIAA State Cross Country Meet on Saturday, Neenah was once again showcasing its talents.

The Rockets just weren't on top of the leaderboard at the time.

"It's definitely a motivator," senior Maddie Schoonover said. "When I heard that we were down, it made me race even harder and try to get all of the extra points I could get."

After winning the last two Division 1 state titles, Neenah had to mount a late charge to extend its streak to three, edging Mount Horeb by two points for the crown at The Ridges Golf Course in Wisconsin Rapids.

It's the second time in program history Neenah has won three straight state titles, also accomplishing the feat from 1981-83. They are one of 11 girls programs in the state – among all divisions – to have won three straight state titles but the only program to have done it twice.

Waukesha West won four straight state crowns from 1998-2001.

"It feels very surreal, but also kind of like a breath of fresh air," junior Elsa Weiland said. "I know we all felt a lot of pressure."

Despite the expectations and the Rocket Stadium sized bull's-eye on their backs, Neenah weathered the pressure and came through when it counted again.

"They had that pressure on the entire season and it built as the season went," Neenah head coach Mike Heidke said. "Just all the hard work they put in this season and how they try to be as a team, I thought it was very satisfying.

"The experience (is the difference). These girls have big meet experience."

Five of the seven runners on this year's squad competed at state last year, while Schoonover, Natalie Schultz and Izzy Malloy ran on the last two state championship teams.

"It's definitely an amazing experience," Schultz said. "Not many people can say they have gotten this many championships so it's awesome."

Sam Zilm finished fourth for the second straight season to lead the Rocket runners, finishing, five spots ahead of Mount Horeb's top runner. Zilm's time was more

See **Cross country** on Page 15

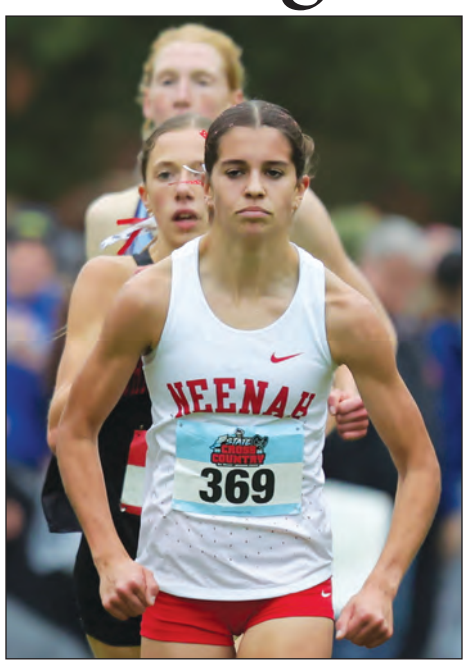


Photo by Doug Sasse

Sophomore Sam Zilm races past a pair of runners on her way to taking fourth in the WIAA Division 1 girls race on Saturday.



Submitted photo

The Neenah girls cross country team celebrated winning its third straight WIAA Division 1 state title on Saturday at Wisconsin Rapids.



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SWIMMING

Rockets finish second at conference meet

A strong showing in the diving and breaststroke events helped propel Neenah to a runner-up finish at the Fox Valley Association Meet held in Fond du Lac on Saturday.

Neenah finished with 468 points at the meet, trailing only Appleton North's total of 525. Appleton West/Kimberly was third with 403.5 points.

The Rockets divers spearheaded Neenah's charge with four finishers in the top five led by Sydney Hansman. Hansman finished with a total of 457.80, which was more than 50 points ahead of the rest of the field.

Meredith Buttron finished third in the event, followed by Sophia Diaz in fourth and Stella Ratliff in fifth.

Another strong event for the Rockets was the 100-yard breaststroke, where Neenah placed three swimmers among the top six finishers.

Kirsten Brygger led the group with a second-place finish, with Lily Sampson taking fourth and Aubrey Murwar finishing in sixth.

Neenah's lone victory in the pool came from Elisabeth Hang, who placed first in the 500-yard freestyle. She also added a second place in the 200-yard freestyle, falling three-hundredths of a second behind the win.

Bridget Bloomhuff picked up a third place in the 50-yard freestyle and a fourth place in the 100-yard freestyle, with Breleigh Maurer notching a fourth place in the 100-yard butterfly and a fifth place in the 100-yard backstroke.

Brygger also added a fourth place in the 200-yard individual medley for the Rockets.

Other top-10 finishes at the meet for Neenah were: Anna Benthein, tied for eighth in the 50-yard freestyle; Ellen Farrell, eighth in the 100-yard backstroke and ninth in the 100-yard butterfly; Sampson, ninth in the 200-yard individual medley; Lilly Kerr, ninth in the 500-yard freestyle; and Daphne Vandenslunt, 10th in the 100-yard butterfly.

Neenah also finished second in the 200-yard medley relay, while taking third in the 400-yard freestyle relay and fourth in the 200-yard freestyle relay.

The Rockets will compete in a WIAA Division 1 sectional meet on Saturday.

FOOTBALL

Neenah's season ends with loss to Pirates

Bay Port's explosive offense was too much for Neenah last Friday night as the top-seeded Pirates topped the Rockets, 49-7, in a WIAA Division 1 Level 2 playoff game.

Neenah ends the season with a 7-4 record, with three of the four losses coming against teams who are still alive in the postseason.

Ashton Van Beek scored on a two-yard run in the opening quarter to give the Rockets the early lead in the game, but the Pirates were able to control the Rockets the rest of the way.

Bay Port tied the game at seven late in the first quarter and then erupted for a 28-point second quarter that broke the game open.

The Pirates finished with 420 yards of total offense in the game.

The 49 points was the most Neenah had allowed in regulation this season and the second most overall, Green Bay Notre Dame scored 56 points in handing the Rockets an overtime loss in the season opener.

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Photo by Doug Sasse

Neenah seniors Natalie Schultz (363) and Maddie Schoonover (367) keep pace with the pack during the Division 1 girls race at the WIAA State Cross Country Meet on Saturday.

Cross country

from Page 13

than 20 seconds faster than last season.

Malloy was the second Neenah runner to finish, placing 28th overall, seven spots and about eight seconds ahead of Weiland in 35th place. Weiland moved up 13 places over the final mile to help lead Neenah's charge.

Schoonover also moved up 13 places over the final mile to finish 45th overall and help push the Rockets past the Vikings, while Schultz was just seconds behind in 51st place.

Lizzy LaPlant (56th place) and Olivia Landrath (102nd) rounded out the team for Neenah.

"To me, it's an awesome feeling," Malloy said. "I was very emotional afterward. I wouldn't want to do this with anybody else."

The Rockets finished the meet with 96 points, while Mount Horeb – who won the Division 2 state championship last year – totaled 98. Menomonie finished a distant third place, followed by Bloomer – which was leading the race until a team member walked off the course because of injury – and Madison West.

Last year's runner-up Slinger was sixth overall, while fellow Fox Valley Association member Appleton North, placed 10th.

"To complete my senior year this way is absolutely incredible and I couldn't do it with any other group of girls. It was surreal it was such a tight race and it was good to come home with a win," Schoonover said. "Every high schooler dreams of having a state tile and to have three of them and podium every year that we have gone to state is amazing."

Although Schultz and Schoonover will be lost to graduation, with five of the seven runners returning it's likely the Rockets will be in the conversation to win another title next fall and join Waukesha West.

Heidke isn't ready to start thinking about that yet.

"Maybe over the summer we'll start thinking about it. They need some time to take some time off and decompress," Heidke said. "The less you start thinking about that the less time the pressure will build on them."

The runners are following a bit of a different timeline.

"On the way home, I know there were a few of us looking at who is going to be a senior, who is going to be gone next year for the team's that were at the top," LaPlant said.

Malloy echoed those thoughts and said she did the same thing after winning the crown in 2025.

"I started thinking about the third one when the second one was over so same thing," Malloy said. "I've already started thinking about it. I don't know how other people feel but I think we should all be thinking about it."

Rockets' Drake improves on last year's time

Neenah sophomore Elliott Drake finished 64th out of 189 runners in the Division 1 boys race on Saturday, improving on last year's performance. He finished about eight seconds short of making the top 50.

Drake was nearly 20 seconds faster than what he ran in 2025, when he participated as part of Neenah's state-qualifying team. He finished 88th overall.

Zephyrs' duo completes first state meet run

Both freshman Myla DeLeeuw and sophomore Fritz Staner competed in their first state meets on Saturday for St. Mary Catholic.

DeLeeuw finished 86th out of 105 runners in the Division 3 girls race, finishing strong over the final mile to post a time of 21-minutes, 56.2 seconds. Clare Higgins was the last Zephyr girl to compete at state and finished 64th in 2024.

Staner placed 73rd among the 152 runners in the Division 3 boys race, posting a time of 17:54.1. Staner is the first Zephyrs' boys runner to compete at the state meet since 2023 when St. Mary Catholic qualified as a team. Ian Albano was the top finisher for the Zephyrs that year with an 83rd place.



Photo by Doug Sasse

St. Mary Catholic's Fritz Staner charges to the finish in the Division 3 boys race at the WIAA State Cross Country Meet on Saturday.

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Legal Notice

STATE OF WISCONSIN, CIRCUIT COURT WINNEBAGO COUNTY

IN THE MATTER OF THE NAME CHANGE OF: Gouri Kalyani Bollepalli

Notice of Name Change Hearing Case No. 2026CV001066

NOTICE IS GIVEN:
A Petition was filed asking to change the name of the person listed above:
From:
First – Gouri
Middle – Kalyani
Last – Bollepalli

To:
First – Gouri

Middle –
Last – Kalyani

Birth Certificate:
First – Gouri
Middle – Kalyani
Last – Bollepalli

This Petition will be heard in the Circuit Court of Winnebago County, State of Wisconsin:
Judge's Name: Michael S. Gibbs
Place: 415 Jackson Street, Room 211, Oshkosh, WI 54901
Date: 12-9-26
Time: 11:15 am

If you require reasonable accommodations due to a disability to participate in the court process, please call 920-236-4868 prior to the scheduled court date. Please note that the court does not provide transportation.

NOTICE TO NEWSPAPER AND PETITIONER:

Notice of this hearing shall be given by publication as a Class 3 notice for three weeks in a row prior to the date of the hearing in the following newspaper Neenah News.

BY THE COURT:
DATE SIGNED: October 26, 2026.
Winnebago County Circuit Court Judge, Branch 4

Runs: November 6, 2026, November 13, 2026 and November 20, 2026.

WNAXLP

CITY OF NEENAH
Advertisement for Bids
Contract 7-26

Notice is hereby given by the City of Neenah by the undersigned Board of Public Works for this project bids will ONLY be received and accepted via the online electronic bid service through QuestCDN.com until 1:00 PM, local time, on the 13th day of November 2026.

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S. Commercial Street (Tyler Street to Aloctt Street)
Furnish & Install 1.25" to 1.75" Bare Root Trees (Various Species) 48 Each
Furnish & Install 1.50" to 2.00" Ball and Burlap Trees (Various Species) 52 Each
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The above public work will be let to the lowest responsible bidder and shall be performed in accordance with the plans, specifications, and contract now on file in the office of the Director of Public Works.

No bid shall be received or considered unless accompanied by a certified check equal to five (5) percent of the bid or bid bond in equal amount payable to the City as a guarantee that, if the bid is accepted, the bidder shall execute and file the proper contract and bond within ten days from the date the lowest responsible bid is accepted. In case the bidder fails to file such contract and bond within the time set by the City, the check or bid bond shall be forfeited to the City as liquidated damages.

Complete digital project documents are available at QuestCDN.com. A contractor may view the contract documents at no cost prior to becoming a Planholder. Input the QuestCDN project number 10422356 on the website's project page to download the digital documents for $32.00. Project bid documents must be downloaded from QuestCDN which will add your company to the Planholder list and allow access to VBid online bidding for submittal of your bid (which is required for this project). Bidders will be charged a fee of $52.00 to submit a bid electronically. Documents may be examined in the office of the Director of Public Works.

The minimum wage scale to be paid on said project by the Contractor is either included in the specifications or on file in the office of the City Clerk in accordance with Section 66.0903, Wisconsin Statutes.

Dated at Neenah, Wisconsin this 30th day of October.
Board of Public Works
City of Neenah
by Mark Rohloff, Interim Director of Public Works

Advertise: October 30th & November 6th, 2026

WNAXLP

CITY OF NEENAH
NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that a Public Hearing will be held by the City of Neenah to consider a Special Use Permit request by Fox Valley Community Learning Center, Inc. (property owner) on behalf of Lake Edge Learning Center (applicant), to establish a day care use within the east wing of the building located at 600 Elm Street, Neenah, Wisconsin.

The property for which the Special Use Permit is requested is legally described as follows:

Lot 1 of Certified Survey Map 8270, located in part of the Northeast ¼ of the Southwest ¼ of Section 27, Township 20 North and Range 17 East in the City of Neenah, Winnebago County, Wisconsin.

Plan Commission Informal Hearing
Hauser Room – 211 Walnut Street
Tuesday, November 10, 2026
4:00 P.M.

Council Formal Hearing
Council Chambers – 211 Walnut Street
Tuesday, November 17, 2026
6:00 P.M.

Brad Schmidt
Deputy Director of Community Development
Neenah, Wisconsin

Charlotte Nagel
City Clerk
Neenah, Wisconsin

Publish: October 30th and November 6th, 2026
WNAXLP

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Free Fun!

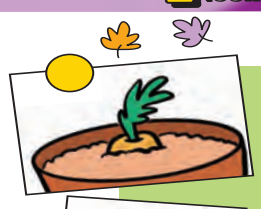
How many fall leaves can you count on this page? Have a friend try. Who found the most leaves?

Do you hear people around you worrying about money? You can help by finding ways to have fun without spending any money. There are lots of **FREE** things you can do each and every day!

Try some of the fun activities on this page—some might be more fun than playing with expensive toys and games!











Grow a Little Garden

Next time you eat a carrot, cut off the top and use it to start a plant. Use several carrot tops and you can start a garden.

1. Cut the carrot tops off so they are about one inch long. It works best if there is a little bit of growth at the end of the carrot.
2. Eat the rest of the carrots!
3. Plant the carrot tops in a container filled with dirt. Be sure a little of each orange top peeks above the dirt. Keep the soil moist, but not soggy. Be sure your container has a hole for drainage. Place the container by a sunny window.
4. Watch your carrot plants grow! When you plant carrots this way, your plants won't make new carrots. But they will have pretty leaves to decorate your home.

Number the pictures in order.

Make a Sock Puppet!

Turn a sock into a puppet. Sew on buttons for eyes. Use markers to make a mouth. Thread string or yarn through the sock to make hair.

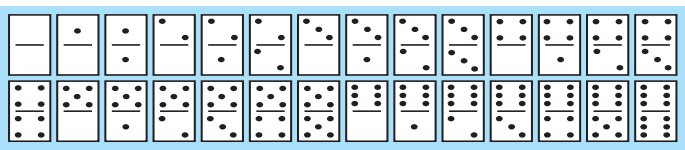
Have your puppet read one of your favorite books aloud!

Standards Link: Reading Comprehension: Follow simple written directions.

Make Your Own Dominoes

Start by taking a walk around your neighborhood. Collect 28 flat light gray stones that are about the same size. Use a black marker or paint to draw dots and lines so that the stones look like the set of dominoes at right.





Put on some music and DANCE, DANCE, DANCE!

Look carefully: Can you find the two identical dancers?





Go to the Library

Imagine a room with all kinds of **free books** that you can take home! That's a library! Visit your local library and check out fun books to read. Ask the librarian to help you find books that interest you.

Reading Riddle

Gabriella loves nothing more than listening to the rain at night as it patters against the window panes. She has never read this book. And she will never finish it. Use the code to find out why!

A=14	E=11	R=4
B=2	G=9	S=10
C=7	I=6	T=17
D=19	L=13	U=15

E _ _ _ S E
2 11 7 14 15 10 11

_ _ _ _ _ E _ _ _
9 14 2 4 6 11 13 13 14

_ S _ _ _ _ _
6 10 14 7 14 17

Extra! Extra! Fun Search

Look through your local newspaper for information about festivals, museum exhibits and other free fun. Share what you find with your family and see if you can attend together.

Standards Link: Reading Comprehension: Use the newspaper to locate information.

Kid Scoop® Puzzler

Making a collage of fall leaves is a fun, free project.

How many differences can you find between these two pictures?



Double Double Word Search

Find the words by looking up, down, backwards, forwards and diagonally. Then look for them in this week's *Kid Scoop* stories and activities.

BOOKS
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DRAW
FREE
FUN
INCH
LIBRARY
MONEY
PATTERS
PUPPET
READ
SOGGY
SUNNY
YARN

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

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

Kid Scoop FIT&FUN™

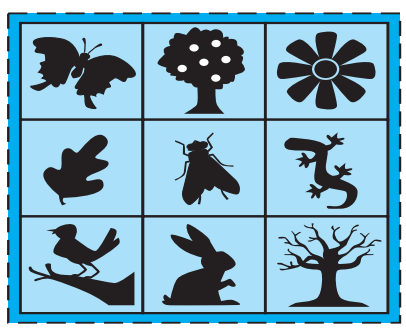
Nature Walk Bingo

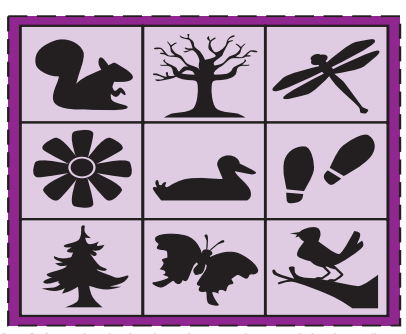
Go for a nature walk with some friends. Each of you select one of the bingo cards below. When you see one of the things shown on the card, cross out that space. The first person to black out their card wins!











Standards Links: Physical Education: Understand the benefits associated with participation in physical activities.

Write On!

Spending Time

Write about the people you enjoy spending time with.

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