

WINNECONNE NEWS

YOUR HOMETOWN NEWS SOURCE

Serving Village of Winneconne; Communities of Butte des Morts, Larsen, Winchester; Towns of Winneconne, Poygan, Vinland and Wolf River.

FEBRUARY 19, 2025 | WINNECONNE NEWS

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VOLUME 154, ISSUE 8

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WINNECONNE NEWS
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Ila Mae Wentzel Zimmerman celebrates 100

By Becky LaDue

The names “Wentzel” and “Zimmerman” have deeply entrenched roots in the Village of Winneconne. Why, the name Wentzel was emblazoned prominently on an east side sign for decades, not to mention the celebrity and storied history of the Zimmerman Mink Ranch.

Entwined within those familial roots none might be deeper than those of Ila Mae Wentzel Zimmerman, who will celebrate her 100th birthday on February 27. Ila has recounted some of her incredible life memories with the Winneconne News in advance of her centennial celebration.

Ila was born at home on February 27, 1925, the daughter of Erma Leiby and Edwin Wentzel. Little Ila was ultimately the baby of the family, with 5 older siblings at home watching over her.

As many do in the area, she grew up on her family farm and graduated from Winneconne High School in 1942. Back then the population of Winneconne was about 900 strong, and her daughters believe she is the only living graduate remaining from the Class of 1942.

Ila Mae was an accomplished student. At WHS, she earned many honors in forensics and band. She was band president, the class librarian, class treasurer, a student senate member, the



junior prom queen, and a twirler and drum majorette. Ila Mae won both the Civic League and Daughters of the American Revolution awards, and participated in the FIRST-ever Badger

Girls State in 1941 when the American Legion Auxiliary established the program. On top of all that, she found time

SEE **Zimmerman at 100** ON PAGE 2

INSIDE



Girls Wrestling Regional Champs!
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Patrolling the Beat
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The Addams Family delivers riotous musical romp



The Addams Family was a huge hit this weekend, performing to enthusiastic audiences at the WCAC.

Winneconne High School's 2025 musical production of 'The Addams Family - A New Musical Comedy' performed for four enthusiastic audiences

who laughed out loud as 35 talented Winneconne High School students

graced the stage of the WCAC last weekend to display their numerous talents.

“The students did a phenomenal job at all four shows,” said Director Tim Phillips. “The acting was high level, the vocalists shined, the choreography was amazing, and the pit orchestra, supported by community members and

SEE **Addams Family** ON PAGE 16

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Corrections

It is the policy of Winneconne News to correct all errors of fact. For correction information please call 920-582-4541.

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Zimmerman at 100

FROM PAGE 1



Ila Mae Wentzel Zimmerman at her high school graduation from Winneconne High School.

to hold a part-time job and worked at the canning factory in Winneconne, making 25-cents per hour.

Ila's best friend from the age of 5 to "forever" was Mary Catherine "Polly" Grimes Zimmerman. When they met it was an instant connection, and not only did they go on to be lifelong friends, but ultimately became sisters-in-law.

Polly and Ila attended UW-Madison together, and have many special memories of driving back and forth to college in a Model-T Ford. Ila remembers how difficult WWII made it to find gas

and tires for their journeys, but somehow the two persevered!

Ila graduated with a teaching degree and went on to teach elementary school in South Milwaukee and later, Winneconne.

On July 24, 1948, independent-minded Ila married Myrle "Red" Zimmerman and returned to her roots, settling in the Town of Winneconne. Her husband Red, along with his father Ben and brother Waddy, would establish the Zimmerman Mink Ranch—supplying raw material to clothing and fashion companies—and run it for more than 30 years, closing in the mid-80s.

When Ila and Red started their family she left teaching, but always one to stay busy began helping her sister, Vera Wentzel Kitchen, at the Arrowhead restaurant part-time.

With the Wentzel- Zimmermans owning the mink ranch, and the Wentzel-Kitchens owning the Arrowhead, the Wentzel family continued to sink roots in Winneconne when Gordon Wentzel—Ila Mae's brother—purchased Miller Ford, renaming it Wentzel Ford. Not to be outdone, her brother Clarence owned Pinecrest Cottages and also sold insurance in the village.

Ila and Red created a beautiful family, raising three daughters—Julie, Lori and Kay. Her daughters continue to be her crowning joy, along with 8 grandchildren and 9 great-grandchildren. Daughter Lori recalls that during annual Sovereign State Days parades, they would showcase some of the farm's mink. Her sister Julie, around age 12, would walk her "pet" mink on a leash, promoting the family business!

Ila's full life has also included a love of the game of golf, involvement in the First Presbyterian Church as an elder, the joy of many adventurous travels, and wonderful winters spent in Palm Desert, California with her sisters Vera and Mavis. In 2010 she permanently moved to Palm Desert, and said that California has treated her well – "I live in paradise."

Surviving breast cancer at the age of 53—she credits Dr. McDonald for saving her life—Ila says the best secrets to

living for 100 years include great family genes, faith and trust in God, exercising each day, and repeating this saying: "Each day I get up, dress up, show up, and never give up."

If you would like to send birthday salutations to Ila Mae, please direct them to:

Ila Mae Zimmerman
71 Conejo Circle
Palm desert ca 92260



Ila Mae, the bedazzled drum majorette!

CAMPUS CORNER

DRAKE UNIVERSITY: Oshkosh—Mara Schell, Fall Honors List.

MINNESOTA STATE MANKATO: Omro—Caleb Meunier, Fall Honor List. Winneconne—Jacob Bartelt, Fall Honor List.

UW-LACROSSE DECEMBER GRADUATES: Winneconne—Emily Friederick, Bachelor of Science, General Studies.

UW-OSHKOSH DECEMBER GRADUATES: Omro—Tierney Ecklund, Bachelor of Science in Nursing. Oshkosh—Jacob Lefebber, Bachelor of Science in Radio/TV/Film; Joseph Romberg, Bachelor of Business Administration, Management; Alexis Schaffer, Bachelor of Science, Biology. Winneconne—Kourtney Danko, Master of Business Administration, Business Administration; Katelyn Laabs, Bachelor of Business Administration, Accounting and Finance; Morghan O'Connell-Kallas, Bachelor of Science in Nursing, Nursing.

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Premier Community Bank introduces full-time fraud specialist role

Community Bank's new fraud

Premier Community Bank is excited to introduce a full-time Fraud Specialist Customer Care position, a vital step in the bank's mission to protect customers from fraud.



Winneconne News

Payton Zblewski is Premier Community Bank's new fraud specialist.

Payton Zblewski, who began with the Bank in 2022 as a member of the Customer Care Team, has transitioned into this important new role.

Zblewski brings wide experience in fraud prevention. Before joining Premier Community Bank, she worked as a payment verification specialist, reviewing fraudulent orders and verifying customers. She also gained valuable insight into fraud prevention while working in a legal department at a credit union, fueling her passion for helping customers combat fraud.

In her new role as Fraud Special-

ist Customer Care, Zblewski actively monitors transactions for unusual activity, reviews fraud reports, and communicates with customers to secure their accounts. She tracks daily reports to identify potential issues and collaborates with branches to educate staff on the latest scams and fraud prevention techniques.

"Fraud prevention is critical to protecting our customers' hard-earned money," Zblewski said. "I'm committed to educating the community through presentations and outreach, so everyone can better safeguard themselves and their families. Fraud may not be a fun topic, but it's an important one, and I'm proud to make a difference here at the bank.

News from the Winchester Area Historical Society

In the month of February, the Winchester Area Historical Society has set goals for 2025 to include the aggressive reduction of its existing roof debt.

There is still nearly \$146,000 yet to be collected to pay off the society's new roof, with last month's donations delivering \$970 in support. Donations came from Al and Sue Ihrig, Wayne and Janine Krueger, Pat Thompson, Sally Zeinert, Rob and Patti Nelson, Alfred and Virginia Ducommun, Judith Mathison, James and Noritha Voight, Ray Peterson and Patty Winkler, Carla Olson, Janice Drews, and Julie Servias. President Glenn Winkler says that WAHS cannot move forward with any other major projects until this debt is handled.

Another key improvement that

needs to take place at WAHS's facility is the maintenance of its parking lot, with some spots in serious disrepair along with drainage issues.

As for events, WAHS is planning a Winchester School Teacher/Student Reunion on June 21. Members are seeking participation from all students and teachers. For more information on the event, or to get involved in planning, please call Winkler at 920-659-3823.

If you wish to donate to help with the society's roof appeal, please send it to P.O. Box 84, Larsen, WI 54947 or to the Oshkosh Area Community Foundation, 230 Ohio St., Suite 100, Oshkosh, WI 54902. Please list 'WAHS Roof Project' in the memo line.

Students attend ECC Honors Choir

Sixty high school singers from across the East Central Conference (ECC) came together on Jan. 31 for the ECC Honors Choir held at Kewaskum High School.

Dr. Paul Thompson from Ripon College led the group for the choral event. Winneconne High School was well represented by Adyson Vanier, Evy Rosenow, Hattie Engeldinger and Chloe Wyssbrod.



Winneconne News

Left to right, Adyson Vanier, Evy Rosenow, Dr. Paul Thompson, Hattie Engeldinger and Chlie Wyssbrod.

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Conveyor automation crushes cyber week increasing E-comm shipments up to 650%



Winneconne News

Multi-Conveyors recently installed conveyor for a global footwear giant.

Winneconne's Multi-Conveyor recently installed a masterful new conveyor system for a globally operated mail-order footwear giant headquartered in Glendale, WI. The goal? To crush cyber week.

The 1.2 million square foot facility moves individual "pairs" of six major shoe brands over 13.5 miles of overall conveyance, from pick to ship. Multi-Conveyor was the first OEM supplier to install automated conveyor systems within their production floor that incline; overhead transport; decline; 180° curve; accumulate; justify; divert and reject.

The newly wrapped single lane product discharges at a rate of 40 pairs per minute (PPM) onto an ARB conveyor with 1:2 divert capability. This system will feed two separate lanes of 20 PPM labelers ahead as controlled by the line operators.

Multi-Conveyor's electrical engineering team stepped up and took the only onsite upfront technical support reins on calibrating the sensors, tim-

ing, controls and communications between OEM equipment.

By installing a new conveyor system, shrink wrapper and labelers, the company increased output from 6 PPM to 40 PPM, a 556% increase in output. However, the conveyors were specified up to 45 PPM, building in a total 650% eligible increase in future growth.

Plan for Healthy Lawns in 2025

While lawn care maintenance schedules are blank in January, now is THE time to plan how to achieve a quality lawn with less overall care and reduced use of chemicals in 2025. Proper fertilizing, mowing, and good soil conditions are all keys to healthy lawns.

Fertilizing has a significant impact on lawn health. Lawns need nitrogen fertilizer on an annual basis, but oftentimes information is unclear on proper amounts to apply. Full sun lawns need about three pounds of nitrogen per 1,000 square feet for the entire growing season, with about half that amount suggested for shade lawns. Individual applications should be one pound of nitrogen per 1,000 square feet of lawn area or less. Clippings returned after mowing recycle nitrogen.

Focus on May and early September as optimum times for fertilizer applications. Resist the urge to heavily fertilize lawns as soon as spring arrives. Instead, wait until your lawn has resumed growing and ideally you have mowed twice before making a spring fertilizer application. The second key time for applying nitrogen fertilizer to lawns is Labor Day. Choose quality slow-release or controlled-release nitrogen fertilizers for your lawn. Although often overlooked in im-

portance, proper mowing is key to both healthy looking lawns and reducing chemical use. Mowing too short is a common, correctable problem on home lawns. Mow at about three inches high for more attractive lawns with fewer weed issues, especially crabgrass. Follow the rule of one-third, which simply says mow often enough so not removing more than one-third of the leaf blade when mowing. Returning clippings does not cause thatch, and since they recycle nitrogen, you can apply less nitrogen fertilizer.

On established lawns with soil problems underneath, consider core aerating in your 2025 lawn care plan. This practice gradually improves conditions for roots, which translates to better quality lawns that long-term will require less care. Core aerating is also an ideal way to manage thatch problems, as it both degrades existing thatch and addresses the most common causes, soil issues like compaction and poor drainage.

Bruce Spangenberg is a Horticulture Outreach Specialist with UW-Madison Division of Extension. Get answers to your lawn, landscape, and garden questions anytime at www.go.wisc.edu/GardenQuestions

Great Turnout for Knights of Columbus Free Throw Contest



Winneconne News

Left to right, bottom row: Evelyn Steffes, Ariana Leksander, Brooklyn Leksander and Emmie Kaemmerer. Top row: Arlo Janiszski, Calvin Meyers, Dexter Kruse and Lawson Schneider.



SATURDAY, MARCH 8, 2025
11:30 - 1:00pm (Doors open at 11:00am)

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Keynote speaker: Tess Domnie

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The Winneconne/Omro Knights of Columbus Council 8810 recently sponsored its annual Free Throw Contest at Winneconne Elementary School, enjoying a nice turnout complete with a cacophony of bouncing balls and several "sunk" baskets!

The contest is open to boys and girls ages 9-14. Winners advance to district, regional, and state levels of competition. The Knights of Columbus International Headquarters announces the international champions based on the state level scores.

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SkillsUSA regional competition 4 from Winneconne to compete

The fifth SkillsUSA Wisconsin regional competition in 2025 will be held on Feb. 21, at Fox Valley Technical College, Appleton campus. Winneconne High School (WHS) will be sending four students to compete--Conner Jeffords - Technical Drafting, Ryan Juers - Faciliton, Gabryel McDonald - Welding, and Diesel Haemerle - Welding.

Competitions will run from 9 a.m. to noon with over 248 students competing in 18 categories ranging from automotive service technology to welding sculpture. Judging will be from noon to 1 p.m., with closing ceremonies at 1 p.m.

"Winneconne is being represented by some really talented young men and women this year!" said STEAM edu-

cator Chris Arps. "The competition is fierce, but the students have really put in some time learning their contest."

Those who place in the regional competition will advance to participate in the 52nd annual SkillsUSA Wisconsin State Leadership and Skills Conference in Madison. Right now, WHS has 11 students set to appear at state, with more potentially earning a spot. State competitions are hosted at the Alliant Energy Center and Madison Area Technical College in Madison with more than 1,750 middle, high school, and college/post-secondary students, over 200 teachers, and more than 300 industry volunteers working in over 75 competitions.



Diesel Hammerle preparing for his welding event at the SkillsUSA tournament.

Wisconsin approves limited betting

Amid a recent change in the legality of sports betting, Wisconsin has chosen a middle path between states where it remains illegal, and those that permit online gaming.

In the wake of a 2018 U.S. Supreme Court ruling, sports betting has been legalized in 39 states, including 3 of Wisconsin's 4 neighboring states. In 31 states, legalization has occurred for the next frontier: online sports betting.

Wisconsin permits sports betting, but only via compacts with its tribal nations. As of Dec. 30, 9 tribal nations

had amended their gaming compacts with the state to authorize sports wagering. These operations primarily consist of retail -- rather than online -- sports betting.

Meanwhile, non-tribal sports betting remains banned under the Wisconsin Constitution. Any effort to broaden access in Wisconsin beyond tribal gaming, should policymakers desire it, would require amending the constitution.

In exchange for having exclusive rights to conduct certain gaming oper-

ations, the tribal compacts also stipulate they make annual payments to the state. These revenues go to programs including gambling regulation as well as health, veterans, higher education, and other programs.

States that have legalized sports betting have reaped financial rewards in the form of hundreds of millions of dollars in tax revenue. The revenue increase has been especially large in states that now permit adults to place sports bets online.

However, these states also are encountering some negative impacts. New research suggests the availability

of sports betting in some other states can negatively affect household finances, particularly in the case of low-income participants and online betting.

The potential benefits of online sports betting to state coffers are considerable. At the same time, policymakers also should consider the implications of making gambling available in all places and at all times, with just a few taps on a screen.

Source: Wisconsin Policy Forum - wispolicyforum.org.

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Sports

Winneconne girls claim regional title

Winneconne's girls wrestling team edged Horicon for the team title and the Wolves advanced all six wrestlers to the sectional tournament at the WIAA Regional Tournament held last Friday in Beaver Dam.

Winneconne finished with 157 points to capture the crown among the 22 teams at the tournament, while Horicon collected 154 points. Beaver Dam finished a distant third with 115 points.

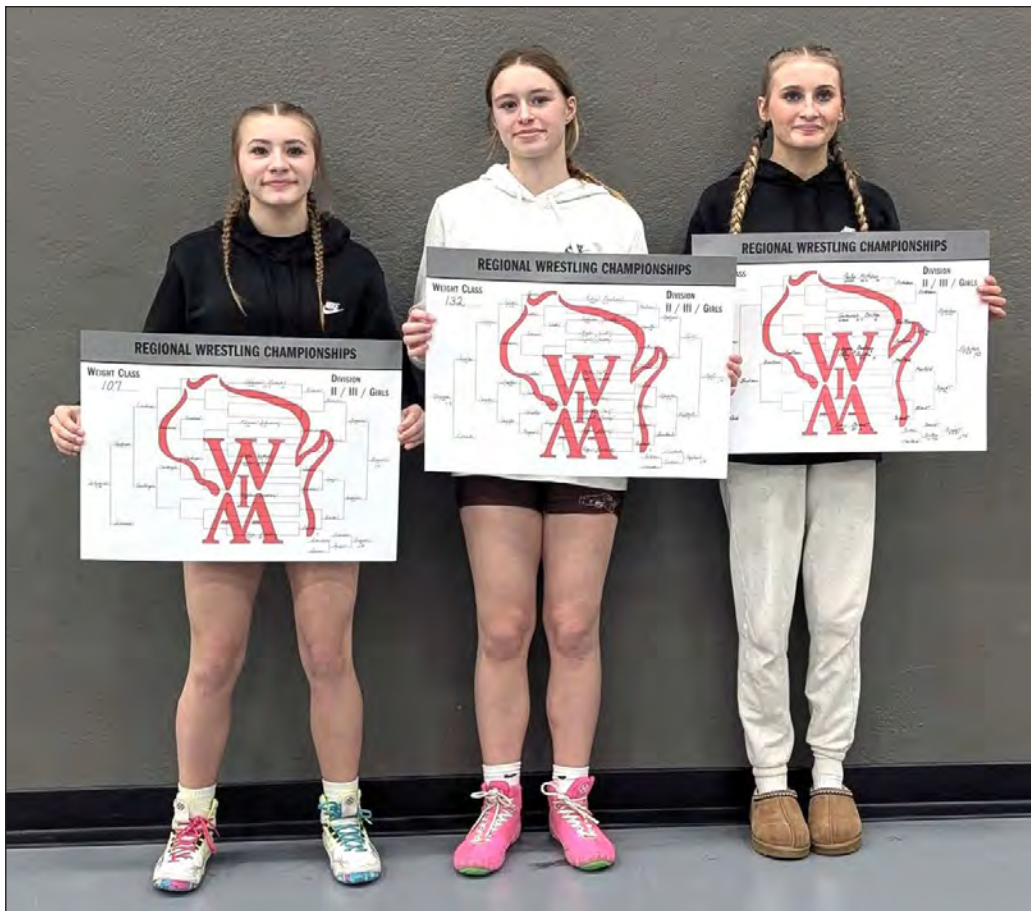
The Wolves had three individual champions and three runner-up finishers on the day.

Nora Last went 3-0 to win the 132-pound title for the Wolves, while Paityn Fritchen (100) and Addison Brown (107) each posted a pair of wins to collect their titles.

Last pinned all three of her opponents, notching first-period pins in her first two matches. She then topped Alex Burback of Hustisford in 3:42 in the title match.

Fritchen notched a pair of pins to earn her title, stopping Horicon's Ruby Brandt in 5:14 in the championship match.

Brown needed just 20 seconds to notch a pin in her first match and then won a 19-1 technical fall over Khia Bearder of the Rio co-op team to win the crown.



A trio of Winneconne wrestlers claimed titles at the WIAA Girls Regional Tournament at Beaver Dam last Friday. Winning titles for the Wolves were (from left) Addison Brown, Nora Last and Paityn Fritchen as Winneconne claimed the overall team title among the 22 teams at the meet.

Marley Rewolinski (120), Jayden Mahlke (145) and Denna Gehrke (152) each picked up second-place finishes for the Wolves.

Mahlke had the busiest day of the three runners-up, finishing 3-1 on the

day with one pin. She won a wild 24-18 decision over Beaver Dam's Charlee Wieneke in the second-place match to earn her trip to sectionals.

Both Rewolinski and Gehrke went 1-1 on the day with Rewolinski earn-

ing her victory with a pin.

The Winneconne boys wrestling team qualified three wrestlers for sectionals at its regional tournament in Denmark on Saturday.

Briar Vroman (113) and Trey Zemke (150) each finished second at regionals, while JJ Mavroff (120) took third to earn their spots at this Saturday's sectional meet at Seymour.

Vroman improved to 30-12 on the season by finishing 3-1 at the tournament recording all three of his victories by pin. Vroman bounced back from a semifinal loss to pin Xavier's Will Geurtz in 52 seconds before stopping Chilton/Hilbert's Ayden Daul in 2:48 in the second-place match.

Zemke, who is 17-2 on the year, pinned his first two opponents – including a 23-second victory over Little Chute's Riley Cornell – to reach the final where he fell by decision to Freedom's Murphy Beyer.

Mavroff went 2-2 to take third in his bracket, posting both wins by pin. He dropped a hard-fought 6-5 decision in the second-place match to Denmark's Brady Vieaux to finish third.

Carson Piotraschke went 4-2 with four pins to finish fifth at 175 pounds, while Ryden Jezwinski took sixth at 106 pounds, posting a win by pin.

Powerlifters shine at regional meet

Winneconne's powerlifting team had a strong day at the regional meet on Feb. 8 in Neenah with five lifters earning medals on the day, while eight Wolves advanced to the state meet.

Rebecca Williams was the lone girl powerlifter to medal, placing second in the Girls Raw 242-pound division with a total lift of 600 pounds.

Brody Cross added a second place in the Boys Raw 148-pound division with a total lift of 985 pounds.

Earning third place finishes for the Wolves were Ethan Albrecht in the Boys Raw 181-pound division and John Grewe in the Boys Raw 198-pound division. Albrecht had a total lift of 990 pounds while Grewe

had a total lift of 1,130 pounds.

Waylon Hernandez also placed in the Boys Raw 165-pound division with a total lift of 1,015 pounds.

Cross, Grewe and Hernandez each qualified for the state meet with their efforts and will be joined by teammates Camryn Becker, Kendal Vette, Aleya Heffernon, Mason Mathe and Hudson Samolinski.

The Wisconsin State Meet will be held on March 8-9 in Appleton.



Winneconne News

The Winneconne powerlifting team had five medal winners at the team's regional meet held at Neenah Middle School on Feb. 8. Pictured are (from left) Rebecca Williams, Waylon Hernandez, Brody Cross, Ethan Albrecht and John Grewe.



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Sports

Prep Sports Roundup



Doug Sasse

Winneconne's Neela Gardner finished with a season-high 16 points in the team's win over Wautoma on Monday.

GIRLS BASKETBALL

Wolves dominate, pick up three victories

Winneconne reached the 20-win mark with three decisive wins this past week.

The Wolves stretched their winning streak to eight games with victories over Wautoma, Berlin and New London with the wins coming by an average of 51 points. Over the course of Winneconne's current winning streak, the eight wins have come by an average of about 38 points, while the Wolves have posted 12 of their 20 wins this season by at least 20 points.

Winneconne started the week with an 83-17 win over Wautoma with four players reaching double figures and 10 different players scoring.

Jada Kaiser hit four 3-pointers and finished with 18 points to lead Winneconne, while Neela Gardner followed with a season-high 16 points. Grace Mitchell added 15 points and six assists, while Harper Neace finished with 11 points, nine rebounds and seven steals.

The Wolves picked up an East Central Conference win, holding Berlin to nine points in each half for a 60-18



Doug Sasse

Harper Neace gets fouled as she puts up a shot in a game against Wautoma last week.

win.

Neace posted a double-double with 17 points and 11 rebounds and Kaiser added 11 points. Brooklyn Messerschmidt and Abby Rogers chipped in eight points apiece in the victory.

Winneconne wrapped up the busy week with an 80-36 win over New London.

Neace had her second straight double-double posting 25 points and 11 rebounds, while Mitchell added 18 points. Kaiser hit four 3-pointers and finished with 14 points, with Millie Braman chipping in seven points.

The Wolves, who are ranked 10th in Division 3, will play for a share of the ECC title on Thursday when they travel to face conference leader Kettle Moraine Lutheran in the regular-season finale. The Chargers, the second-ranked team in Division 3, beat the Wolves, 66-30, earlier this season.

Pairings for the WIAA Tournament were announced over the weekend and Winneconne earned a No. 1 seed in its sectional. The Wolves will face the winner of Ripon and Two Rivers in a regional semifinal on Friday, Feb. 28. If they win, they will play at home on Saturday night for the regional title.

BOYS BASKETBALL

Wolves top 100 points in win over Wautoma

Winneconne set a season high with 103 points and topped the 100-point mark for the second time this season in a 103-72 win over Wautoma last Monday.

The Wolves hit 10 3-pointers in the game and had three players top the 20-point mark. Parker Ingles led the team with 27 points followed by Brody

Schaffer with 25 and Gage Bartel with 21. Cody McLeod added eight points, while Cal Volp and Aaron Zimmer each had six points.

Bartel led the team with nine rebounds, while Schaffer and Ryan Quigley each had seven rebounds. Quigley also registered a team-high six assists.

On Thursday, the Wolves were held to just 14 points in the second half as they fell to Berlin, 59-54 in an East Central Conference tussle.

Winneconne led 40-30 at halftime. Schaffer finished with 23 points, 10 rebounds and seven assists for Winneconne, while Ingles chipped in 13 points.

The Wolves will travel to Kettle Moraine Lutheran for a conference game on Friday before hosting Omro on Tuesday night.



Doug Sasse

Ryan Quigley surveys the defense in the first half against Berlin last Thursday.



Doug Sasse

Winneconne's Aaron Zimmer puts up a shot over a pair of Berlin defenders last Thursday.

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- Line dancing at 7pm

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National

FEBRUARY 15-22, 2025



In October, 10 middle school and freshmen students attended the FIRE Conference at Fox Valley Technical College.



Molly Otto, Ryan Selwitschka, Hailey Domke, Lindsey Mathison, Elyse Brehmer and Addie Gilson make up this year's FFA officer team for the Winneconne FFA.



A great group of Winneconne FFA Leaders attended the National FFA I Am/Connect Conferences in Stevens Point this year.



A couple of the Winneconne FFA members who worked the Farm Bureau Food Stand during the Winnebago County Fair. This year we once again held a fish fry using our school-raised Tilapia!



The Advanced Wildlife Class spent a morning of service out at the Norbert Rich School Forest splitting and stacking firewood in preparation for our winter activities.



Over two dozen students represented Winneconne FFA at the Wisconsin FFA Convention in Madison this past June!

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Ryan Selwitschka and Elyse Brehmer had an opportunity to attend the FFA's Washington Leadership Conference in Washington, DC representing Winneconne.



FFA Members recently took a tour of Sassy Cow Dairy en route to a Badger Hockey Game!

FFA WEEK



In February, 17 students competed in the District speaking contest at Waupaca High School with some earning hardware for their efforts!



In September, 26 students attended the Fall Leadership Workshop at Pulaski High School.



In February, 30 students had an opportunity to go to the Badger Hockey game in Madison, on the way they stopped at Sassy Cow Creamery in Columbus for some delicious ice cream treats.



This past fall our Advanced Animal Science class was able to spend some time on campus at FVTC to get a tour and participate in some hands-on learning.



The fourth hour Aquaculture and AgriScience class was able to get outside on a beautiful fall day to pick from our Ag Department's apple trees. Multiple bushels were picked and then processed into cider and dehydrated apple chips.



The Winneconne FFA Chapter is regularly the largest club in the school district. This year we have 134 members!



This past summer, recent WHS graduate Collin Albrecht was named as the State Winner of the Agricultural Mechanics Repair and Maintenance Proficiency Award. He is only the third member in our 85 year history to earn this honor!



Our chapter has its meetings in the evenings, usually at 6 p.m. We always feed the members and have a meaningful activity to go along with our agenda. Our attendance is usually more than 40 students and sometimes over 70, which is really impressive! Sometimes we even meet in barns...

Wisconsin's Top 10 Consumer Complaints of 2024

As the state's primary consumer protection agency, the Wisconsin Department of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection (DATCP) responded to 11,374 written consumer complaints in 2024. The resulting mediations, enforcement actions, and settlements returned over \$23 million to Wisconsin consumers through refunds and restitutions directly returned to consumers, and civil forfeitures deposited into the state's common school fund for the benefit of public education.

The top ten complaint categories of 2024 are:

1. Landlord-Tenant Issues

With 2,525 complaints filed in 2024, landlord-tenant issues remained DATCP's number one consumer complaint category. The most common disputes between landlords and tenants reported to DATCP include failure to maintain the premises, security deposit returns, unauthorized entry, mold and infestation, inadequate disclosures, and unsatisfactory service.

In addition to landlord-tenant issues, DATCP received other housing related complaints including 45 complaints about manufactured housing and manufactured housing community concerns.

2. Telemarketing

Telemarketing was DATCP's second most-reported consumer complaint category of 2024, with 1,513 complaints. Issues include phishing and

spoofing, imposter scams, robocalls, harassment, and Do Not Call Registry violations. While the complaints in this category have generally decreased over the last few years, that does not mean the calls themselves are decreasing. Instead, consumers are using tools



like the Do Not Call Registry and anti-spam technologies built into the latest cell phones to reduce those calls.

3. Home Improvement

There were 664 consumer complaints filed with DATCP in the home improvement category in 2024. Top concerns include quality of work, de-

lays in performance, failure to provide services and materials, failure to honor warranties, deceptive and misleading representations, and failure to disclose lien rights.

4. Identity Theft

DATCP received 618 complaints of identity theft in 2024, an increase over the previous year. The top issue in this category remains online account takeovers, with many of the complaints involving compromised Facebook accounts.

5. Telecommunications

In 2024, DATCP received 527 complaints from consumers about their telecommunications services. Consumers reported issues about billing disputes, customer dissatisfaction, agreed-upon terms not being followed, deceptive and misleading representations, refund and adjustment policies, and denial of cancellation requests. Consumers should carefully read their contracts and policies to understand the extent and limitations of the services they purchase, and keep the original documentation.

6. Medical Services

Consumers filed 439 complaints related to medical services in 2024. The top issue in this category was medical billing disputes. Other topics include unsatisfactory service and misleading representations.

7. Motor Vehicle Repair

There were 341 motor vehicle repair complaints filed in 2024. Consumers reported issues such as unsatisfactory quality of work, damage and loss of property, failure to honor agreements or perform work, performance delays, and charges for work not permitted by the vehicle owner.

8. Motor Vehicle Sales (New and Used)

The eighth most common consumer complaint in 2024 concerned sales of both new and used motor vehicles, about which DATCP received 297 complaints. The most common issues cited in these complaints were inadequate disclosures, prize notice mailers, and untrue, deceptive and misleading representations. DATCP works closely with the Wisconsin Department of Transportation (WisDOT) on motor vehicle complaints, as WisDOT is the state agency responsible for regulating sales while DATCP handles issues of advertising and marketing.

9. Travel

DATCP received 244 travel complaints in 2024. The travel category covers a variety of areas such as airlines, hotels and lodging, auto rentals, and travel service bundles, with common consumer complaints including billing disputes, refund and adjustment policies, failure to provide services, failure to return deposits, and unsatisfactory service.

10. Motor Vehicle Accessories

DATCP's tenth most common consumer complaint category of 2024, having received 141 complaints, was motor vehicle accessories. Refunds, failure to deliver products, and deceptive and misleading representations were the top issues reported by consumers.

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The Fox Valley Chorus of Sweet Adelines



Winneconne News

The Fox Valley Sweet Adelines.

The Fox Valley Chorus of Sweet Adelines will present "A Slice of American Pie" on Sat., Feb. 22 at the First Presbyterian Church, Neenah. Doors open at 1:30 p.m. for pie, and singing begins at 2 p.m.

In addition to the Fox Valley Chorus' performance, guests singers will include Fox Sounds, It's About Time, Sweet Addiction, Bari-tones, and the Miss-fits. Plus, there will be a chance to WIN the popular Pie of the Month raffle and premium pies will be avail-

able for other raffles.

Join the chorus on George Washington's birthday for this fun time with singing, pie, and a little history—emceed by none other than George Washington himself!

Women singers are invited to visit the chorus' regular Tuesday evening rehearsals in Neenah. For further information visit www.foxvalleychorus.org or email foxvalleychorus@gmail.com.

The chorus welcomes women of all ages to experience first-hand the fun of creating four-part harmony. Prior musical experience or ability to read music is not necessary. Any woman of average singing ability, with or without vocal training, will find a part that fits her voice range.

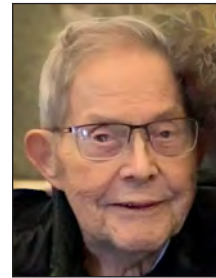
Tickets for "A Slice of American Pie" are \$10, which includes a slice of pie. Call 920-420-2192 for more information.

Obituaries

Richard E. Nelson

Richard E. Nelson, age 98 died February 7, 2025 at Bethal Home. He was born

February 14, 1926, to Carl B and Anna (Anderson) Nelson in Ruthven, Iowa. He was bap-



tized as a child of Christ in 1926 at Zion Lutheran Church in Ruthven.

Richard graduated from Ruthven Public School in 1943 and also graduated with a degree in electrical engineering from Iowa State University in 1948. He became a registered Professional Engineer and was licensed in 17 states. He practiced his engineering profession from 1948 to 1998, last employed at SNC Manufacturing Company in Oshkosh, Wisconsin. He served in the Army Air Corps in 1944-45.

He met Alanna Borkus Beane in Des Moines, Iowa and they married there in 1952. Alanna preceded him in death June 12, 1986 at age 54. Alanna and he were blessed with three children: Bradford C. (Sara), Barry A. (Lynne), and Vanessa H. (James) Fixel. Children of Brad and Sara are Amanda (James), Siri (Tom), and Brett (Lindsie). Barry and Lynne's children are Julie (Brooks), Kevin (Beth) and Carl. Vanessa and James Fixel's children are Alanna (Anthony) and Jacklyn. He is further survived by 18 great-grandchildren.

Richard's siblings were Kenneth, Verda, Verla, and Verling.

Richard's life was richly blessed by God in his having a loving family and many friends (particularly in his elder years), Florence Dickey of Oshkosh.

KONRAD-BEHLMAN
FUNERAL HOMES

Joseph Jauregui Tovar

It is with deep sorrow that we share the passing of Joseph Jauregui Tovar on January 31, 2025. Joe

(as he was known to most) was a cherished friend, mentor, and respected figure who made a profound impact on the lives of so many.



A ceremony honoring his life will be held this summer. Please check for the full obituary and updates on the celebration at the Fox Cities Funeral and Cremation, Oshkosh, WI, website. <https://memorials.foxcitiesfuneral.com/joseph-tovar/5546766/index.php>



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Tales From The Land of Retirement

Life After Death

By Jeanne Lehr

I have often wondered what's worse: losing a loved one at a young age, or after being with them for 50+ years?



Lehr

When you are young, you have a job and an ongoing life. When you are retired and left alone, where do you turn?

It seems like a weekly event to read of the passing of another friend or acquaintance. I mourn for their spouses because I know what they will be facing. They will be faced with decisions and matters their spouse took care of. There will be financial issues to be dealt with. There will be lessons to be learned on how to survive your daily life.

Men perhaps don't realize how much they were taken care of by their wives. The cooking, cleaning, laundry and shopping were all generally covered by the wife. Women, in turn, need to learn the jobs their husband took care of - the car, the furnace, home maintenance, the yard work, and probably even the finances.

If you have the kids in the area, that can be a blessing. If you have the kids in the area, it could also be a curse. In your grieving, those kids may push you to decide on things you are not ready for. What is good for them is not necessarily good for you.

I am here to tell you there is a life out there no matter how old you are. You can survive on your own. You are smart enough to handle the problems that pop up. Being alone does not mean you have to be lonely. There are things you can do to fill the emptiness, but it takes effort.

There are others in the same boat. Take advantage of their knowledge and support. Join group activities and meet new people. I laugh at how long it takes me when I make a trip to the grocery store. I run into so many people I have met through the years, and I take the time to stop and catch up (I'm retired, you know). Most of these people I met after I stopped working, through other part-time jobs and groups I got involved with. I created a new community for myself.

Keep learning. Education is never done. Do something different. If in doubt, search out the answer. If it is a financial problem, seek out a financial planner. If it is a real estate problem, find a realtor. If it is a cooking problem, Google a recipe or visit the library. If you want someone to talk to, go visit a nursing home. There are lots and lots of people who could use someone to talk to.

Just because you are left behind, your life isn't over. You were left behind to do something, so make it happen.

It may be a task of moving to smaller, more user-friendly accommodations. Leaving a long-term residence can be hard, but it is easier for you to disburse

your excess material objects than to leave the task to your children after you are gone. If you are looking for something to do, taking care of your items will keep you busy for a long time, trust me.

Life is just life. It will throw you a curve ball every step you take. Learning

to hit a curveball helps. Bad things happen. Good things happen too. You need to go through it all, no matter what.

You can do this. Embrace the new life you have and make it count.

Reach Jeanne at genie6364@yahoo.com

Shallow Lakes Chronicles

The Enchanted Shanty

By Matt Harp, Outdoor Reporter

Oh, I suppose thoughts could go back as far as the Garden of Eden. Utopia. The perfect place at the perfect time.



Harp

We've all dreamt about such things. All the universe's elements coming together for us, for at least one moment in time. It never seems to actually happen, but just the thought of

it, just knowing that the chances are out there, ignites for us the struggle, the attempt, the desire to achieve the improbable...Well, that's pretty much the life of a sportsman.

Mr. Debruijn, my 8th grade science teacher, once told me the odds of two stars colliding were about the same as two people standing 20 feet apart and throwing BBs at each other, 10 minutes apart, and landing a strike. Well, testing that theory, my fourteen-year-old self spit into the air, knowing that my ride was arriving in 10 minutes. A funny thing happened. A gust of wind took it to a tree branch and disgustingly, it hung there, clinging to life. My ride arrived, and it dropped harmlessly to the ground about 2 seconds after he pulled into the driveway. A near impossibility just about happened, but it was so much closer than I ever imagined.

Such are certain days for the fisherman, the hunter, the trapper, the photographer, heck, just the casual observer. The days you drill a hole and catch a bluegill on your first cast, see multiple deer on your first sit, or get that prime otter on your first set of the season. Utopia is out there, and it probably only

happens a few times in your life, but that is the stuff, if you do it long enough and with enough determination that CAN happen. Pure heaven.

Sturgeon spearers are probably the most extreme; on the bad side, mind you. "Like duck hunting out of a chimney," many have likened the sport. To be looking through 48 square feet of 167,000 acres of water - equal to .00000581 percent of the Shallow Lakes bottom. Impossible odds.

The season descends, you cut in, you throw the dice, and get what you get. And every so often, the Gods smile upon you.

Such was the case for the opening few days at the Nelson family shack. Doug, as previously reported, got his fish on Sunday, a respectable 55-incher.

In another near impossibility, Doug's grandson Warren was gifted 9 points just the day before the season began. While he didn't get a fish on Saturday or Sunday, on Monday he was able to sit with his dad Cody and Doug, and took a beautiful 63-pound fish out of the same hole that Doug got his. Unbelievable odds for a very young, 12-year-old spearer.

The "Enchanted Shanty" provided yet again when a third spearer in the same hole, took a massive 116-pound fish. Crazy cool how this lake can surprise you.

So, there it is. Never think of all the odds that are against you. Think instead about all that can go right, and get out there. At the very least you'll have the memories of the day, but that day just might give you the memories of a lifetime.

Reach Matt at lakeandpond2@gmail.com



The Nelson family outside their "Enchanted Shanty", from left to right, Warren, Cody and Doug Nelson.

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Church Notes

St. Mary's Catholic Church
210 Pleasant Drive
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Priest Celebrants
Fr. Tom Long
& Fr. Ben Pribbenow
Deacon Paul Vidmar, Pastoral Coordinator

Thurs.: 2 pm - Rosary. 2:30 pm - Sorrowful Mysteries/church.

Sat.: 3:30 pm - Confession. 4 pm - Mass.

Sunday, Feb. 23: 10:30 am - Mass.
Mon: 7:30 am - LOW w/communion. 9 am - Huddle.

Tues.: 1:30 pm - My Father's Father/Kaudy Hall. 6 pm - Sorrowful Mysteries/Kaudy.

Wed: 7:30 am - LOW w/communion. 3:10 pm - FF, ES; 6:30 pm - HS.

Immanuel Lutheran Church
9077 North Road
Zittau
Pastor Tauna Roth
Sundays: 9 am - Worship.
Mondays: 10 am - Bible Study.

Lord of the Lakes (ELCA) Church
6090 Harbour South
Winneconne
Pastor Kevin Heffernan
Thurs.: 8:30 am - Bible Study. 6 pm - Bible Study.
Sunday, Feb. 23: 8 & 10 am - Worship/Annual Mtg. between services.
Mon.: 5 pm - Narcotics Anonymous. Newsletter Items DUE.
Wed: 4 pm - Guitar Grp. 5 pm - Bells. 6 pm - Choir. 6 pm - SWAG Youth Group.

St. Paul's Lutheran Church
8 South Fourth Street
Winneconne
Pastor Ben Berger
Pastor Darin Warnecke
920-582-7772
Thurs.: 9:30 am - Bible Study. 6 pm - Bible Basics Class.
Saturday: 4:30 pm - Worship.
Sunday, Feb. 23: 8 & 10:30 am - Worship. 9:10 am - Bible Study/Family Impressions.
Mon.: Contemporary Music Practice.
Tues.: 8:30 am - Quilters. 5:30 pm - Child Care Mtg. 6:30 pm - Evangelism Mtg.
Wed.: 6:30 pm - Catechism study.

St. Peter's Lutheran Church, WELS
8630 County Road MM
Larsen
Pastor Paul Ibsch
920-878-3001

Sundays: 10 am - Service with Bible Study/Fellowship to Follow.

Also online through Facebook.
Free Little Food Pantry 24/7 at North Entry of Church.

First Presbyterian Church
32 S. Third Avenue
Winneconne
920-706-0047
Pastor Emily Lueder
8:30 am - Sunday Service.

Bible Baptist Church
At First Presbyterian Church
32 S. Third Avenue
Winneconne
Pastor Robert Hatch
920-582-7100
Sundays: 10:45 am - Sunday School. 12 pm - Worship.

Messiah Evangelical Lutheran Church - Omro
Evangelical Lutheran Synod
7394 Liberty School Rd.
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www.messiahomro.com
920-875-0755
Pastor Philip Geiger
Sundays: 9 am - Regular Sunday Worship, with Fellowship to Follow
Wednesday Prime Service
Wednesday Bible Study

AA and Al-Anon
St. Mary Church Basement
Thurs.: 7 pm - Al-Anon.
Please refer to the district website for available AA meetings in our area.

Lunch Menus

Feb. 24-28 Advocap Lunch Menu
Mon: BBQ rib sandwich, sweet potato, baked beans, pears.
Tue: Chicken cordon bleu casserole/pasta, salad, green beans, hot apple bake.
Wed: Cheeseburger, roasted potatoes, diced beets, orange.
Thurs: Turkey ala King, brown rice, carrots, tropical fruit, apple cake.
Fri: Breaded fish sandwich, tater tots, coleslaw, fruit cup.

Winneconne Community School District
ES: Along with main entrée and rotating vegetable, garden bar, assorted fruit, PB&J pocket, chef salad, and milk are offered daily.
MS: Along with main entrée, chef salad, rotating salad, fruit bowl, PB&J pocket, turkey (or ham) and cheese sandwich, snacks, garden bar, assorted fruit and milk are offered daily.
Mon.: **ES:** Popcorn chicken, buttered pasta, corn. **MS:** Cheese quesadilla, grains, veggies.
Tues.: **ES:** Nacho Grande, rice pilaf. **MS:** French toast, sausage patty, potato

chunks.
Wed.: **ES:** Soft pretzel/cheese, yogurt, peas. **MS:** Pasta bowl, California blend.

Thurs.: **ES:** Spaghetti/meat sauce, broccoli, garlic bread. **MS:** Grilled cheese, tomato soup, peas/carrots.

Fri.: **ES:** Grilled cheese, tomato soup, peas/carrots. **MS:** Tater tot casserole, green beans.

Calendar

Thursday, Feb. 20: 5:45 & 7:15 pm - JV/V Girls' BB @ KML.

Friday, Feb. 21: 4 pm - Winterfest Dance Set up. 4:30 pm - MS Wrestling @ East Jr. High. 5:45 & 7:15 pm - JV/V Boys' BB @ KML.

Saturday, Feb. 22: Winterfest Dance/WHS.

Sunday, Feb. 23: Worship at the Church of Your Choice.

Monday, Feb. 24: 5:30 pm - Historic Preservation Comm./Municipal Ctr. 5:30 pm - Library Board Mtg./Municipal Ctr. Junior/Parent Night @ WHS. 7 pm - Town of Wolf River Board Mtg./Wolf River Town Hall.

Tuesday, Feb. 25: 6:30 pm - HS Solo & Ensemble Recital/WCAC.

Wednesday, Feb. 26: The News is out! Subscribe today at winneconne-news.com. 1 pm - Mahjong group/Public Library.

Recycling right

The ABC's of Recycling Right is a digital book written by Tri-County Recycling Solid Waste staff, and teaches individuals how to recycle correctly using each letter of the alphabet.

While written at a third-grade reading level and great to share with young children, the book contains helpful information for all ages. View and share the book via <https://tinyurl.com/ycys3fh>.



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Art Activity Day

Saturday, March 1

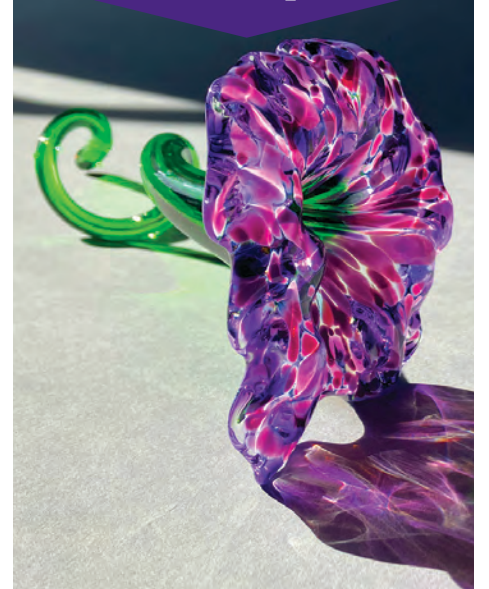


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January 2025 - Patrolling the Beat

Jan. 2 - SUSPICIOUS SITUATION

An officer received information from dispatch regarding a suspicious situation between the reporting party's adult son and someone he sent pictures to on a dating app. It was reported that after sending the photos, the person demanded money, or the photos would be shared; the person then messaged and stated they were in an auto accident on the way to the male's house and demanded restitution for damages to "forget contact ever happened". After the demand for money, the male received phone calls from two numbers, one being from a party claiming to be a detective from a neighboring county's sheriff's office. The officer attempted to make contact at both numbers. One was disconnected; a male answered at the other number but disconnected when the officer identified himself. The male was advised not to send any money and to block the contact numbers. Investigation continues.

Jan. 3 - FRAUD

A female that was scammed in November 2024 called dispatch looking for help fighting charges made to her credit card. She had called the police in November, but did not file a report at the time. An officer contacted the female and explained how to file an online report. She was also advised to provide a written statement to local police if her credit card company re-

quired a report.

Jan. 8 - DAMAGE

An officer responded to the report of a vehicle hitting a gas pump at Kwik Trip. Upon arrival, it was determined that the vehicle did not hit the pump; instead, a curb was cut and the truck hit concrete. The driver and Kwik Trip will handle the issue internally.

Jan. 9 - WELFARE CHECK

An officer was dispatched for a welfare check on a 73-year-old male who had not been in contact with family for several days. The male was checked on in his home and found to be fine. He reported that his phone had died, and he was waiting for a new one. The officer contacted the reporting party with findings.

Jan. 11 - ASSIST AGENCY

An officer assisted Omro Police with a report of a disturbance between a male and female. The officer gathered information and obtained a written statement from a witness.

Jan. 20 - ASSIST MEDICAL

Officers stayed on scene with a female who was ultimately transported to the hospital by emergency responders following a medication adjustment that left her incoherent.

Jan. 21 - WELFARE CHECK

An officer was dispatched to a disturbance between a married couple. The female reporting party stated that her husband threatened to shoot himself in front of her and her daughter

after arriving home intoxicated. It was also reported that the male left the residence in his vehicle, possibly having a firearm in his possession. Several locations were checked, but the male was unable to be found. The following morning, the female met with an officer outside the police department to report that her husband had returned to their residence. An officer tried unsuccessfully to make contact with the male. There were no criminal violations, and no emergency commitment was authorized.

Jan. 22 - SUSPICIOUS VEHICLE

An officer checked on a vehicle that had been parked in front of a resident's home with no activity. The vehicle was found to be unoccupied and had a snowmobile inside. The officer left a message with the registered owner of the vehicle and informed the reporting party of the findings.

Jan. 23 - ASSIST MEDICAL

An officer assisted with the initial assessment and care of an elderly male who had fallen and needed help getting up. Paramedics took vitals and the officer followed the male home and helped him inside his house.

Jan. 23 - EMERGENCY COMMITMENT

An officer was dispatched to a high priority medical call following the report of an elderly female found unresponsive by her neighbor. The female was awake and able to confirm that she could hear the officer. Several bottles of prescription pills were found with few remaining pills in each. First re-

sponders and paramedics arrived on scene and transported her to the hospital for further medical care. Crisis was contacted, and due to a similar incident occurring just a few days prior, probable cause was found to hold the female on an emergency commitment.

Jan. 25 - DRUGS

Officers were on patrol when a vehicle with an improper exhaust was observed. A traffic stop was initiated, and contact was made with both occupants of the vehicle. The driver had a suspended license and was on probation, and stated he was driving because the passenger was not feeling well. A noticeable odor of marijuana was coming from the passenger side of the vehicle. Both occupants admitted marijuana was in the vehicle. The passenger stated she had medical conditions that she treated with the drug. The passenger was cited for possession of THC, and the driver for operating while suspended and a warning for the exhaust system.

Jan. 25 - ASSIST AGENCY

Officers assisted another agency with a disturbance involving a male and female. The male had been drinking and was uncooperative. He would not leave the apartment to speak with police and was currently on probation. The female was somewhat cooperative. They both refused medical attention, and stated there had not been any violent behavior. The male continued to refuse to exit the apartment, even

SEE **Patrolling the Beat** ON PAGE 15

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Cost : 3 months: \$130 • 6 months: \$208 • 1 Year: \$338

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Patrolling the Beat

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after a warrant to enter the apartment was obtained. He ultimately opened the door and began yelling at the officers involved, who then were able to detain him and place him in the squad for transport to jail, following a felony hold on the male by probation and parole.

Jan. 26 – DRUGS

An officer stopped a vehicle after the plate returned suspended due to an unpaid parking ticket. The driver claimed he didn't know his registration was suspended. While speaking with the driver, the odor of marijuana was evident. A criminal history check revealed the driver was in violation of his probation for possession of narcotics. He admitted to possessing THC and paraphernalia within the vehicle. A probable cause search was completed, and those items were found, as well as several boxes of NARCAN and an overdose/testing kit. Although the driver did not appear to be exhibiting any signs of drug use, Probation and Parole was contacted, who placed a hold on the driver. Dispatch informed the officer shortly after that the hold was rescinded. The driver was released from custody and was issued citations for possession of THC, possession of drug paraphernalia, and operating after suspension.

Jan. 28 – DOMESTIC DISTURBANCE

An officer was dispatched to an assist complaint. The reporting party

stated they were looking for advice on how to proceed with their adult son, who lived with them and has a history of violence and battery cases, as well as continued drug use. Upon arrival, both parents explained that a recent confrontation resulted in him turning over a plastic bag containing a syringe with a red liquid and a pipe used for smoking methamphetamine. During the altercation, the father received minor scratches. Their son was ultimately arrested for possession of methamphetamine, drug paraphernalia, and disorderly conduct with a domestic enhancer and then transported to jail without incident. The 72-hour no contact order was waived. The evidence seized was tested, found positive for methamphetamine. The DA subsequently charged the male.

Jan. 30 – DISTURBANCE

Officers were made aware of a disturbance that occurred earlier at an establishment on W. Main St. They contacted the owner of the business, who stated that a male patron was being loud and trying to fight with another male. He was then told to leave the bar. The other party involved in the fight admitted to yelling back. He stated he turned around to walk away and was struck in the back. The on-duty bartender stated the male who was told to leave was the clear instigator. Contact was made with the male, who admitted to the argument but denied striking the other party. A citation for disorderly conduct was issued. Due to the repeated behavior of the male at other establishments, this establishment decided to trespass the individual.

County Extension offers free programs for Wisconsin Idea Week

Extension Winnebago County is thrilled to invite community members of all ages to participate in Wisconsin Idea Week, April 7 to 11. The week will feature free, engaging events designed to connect our community with the educational resources of UW-Madison and showcase how these resources benefit the people of Winnebago County.

Programs include:

- **Hygiene Drive (March 31–April 7):** Drop off donations of soap, toothpaste, and feminine hygiene items during business hours to earn raffle tickets for exciting prizes.

- **Sensory Walk Workshop (April 7, 5:30 pm):** This hands-on workshop invites participants of all ages to create concrete steppingstones for the JPCC Outdoor Learning Center's sensory walk.

- **Planning AHEAD (April 8, 10 am):** Adults are invited to take the first steps in end-of-life planning during this informative workshop.

- **Credit. Credit? Credit! (April 8, 6 pm):** This workshop is perfect for teens and adults looking to understand credit reports, credit scores, and how to build and maintain good credit.

- **FoodWise in the Kitchen (April 9, 5 pm):** Join this family-friendly cooking class where participants will learn to prepare nutritious, easy-to-make meals. Everyone leaves with recipes and skills to try at home.

- **Program & Partner Fair (April**

10, 5:30 pm): Connect with local organizations and learn about community wellness initiatives and services. During the fair, join us for a Badger Talk at 6:30 pm on "How Wisconsin Became the Cheese State" by Dean Sommer, Cheese Technologist.

- **ChickQuest Program (April 10, 6:30 pm):** Kids and families can discover the fascinating process of chick development with this interactive program.

- **Reach Your Audience with Plain Language (April 11, 10 am and 1 pm):** This professional development workshop teaches adults how to communicate clearly and effectively using plain language.

- **Seed Starting for Success (April 11, 5 pm):** Participants will learn tips and tricks for successfully starting seeds indoors. Leave with a tray of your own.

For more details, visit <https://winnebago.extension.wisc.edu/> or contact Robin at rfranitz@wisc.edu.



The Weekly Whisk

Stuffed Peppers

My cousin recently shared this recipe for Copycat Costco Stuffed Peppers. Costco has ready-made stuffed peppers in their fresh food case, made in-store. You take and bake! Costco uses ground beef but you could substitute ground turkey if you prefer.

For questions or comments email weeklywhisk01@gmail.com

- 1 tablespoon olive oil
- 1/2 onion, diced
- 1 pound ground beef or ground turkey
- 24-ounce jar of your favorite spaghetti sauce
- 6 bell peppers, any color
- 1/2 cup uncooked white or Basmati rice
- 1/2 cup of water
- salt and pepper to taste
- 1 1/2 cups shredded parmesan cheese

Preheat the oven to 375 degrees. To prepare the bell peppers, cut off the tops, and scoop out the ribs/membrane and seeds. Discard the stems but chop the pepper tops and sauté the pieces along with the onion in olive oil on medium heat for 3 minutes. Add ground beef turkey, crumble and sauté until it's no longer pink. Add about 14 ounces (a little more than half the jar) of pasta sauce to the meat and onion mixture. Add the rice and water, cover, and cook on low heat for about 15 minutes or until tender. Add in one cup shredded Parmesan, stir and taste. Add salt and black pepper to taste if necessary.

Divide the filling evenly into the bell peppers. Place the peppers in a 9x13 glass casserole dish. Pour the remaining spaghetti sauce over the peppers, cover with foil, and bake for 40 minutes or until the peppers are tender. Remove the foil and cook for an additional 5 minutes.



Classifieds

Miscellaneous

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Addams Family

FROM PAGE 1

alumni, directed by Stephanie Rahn, was simply superb! All who came were thoroughly entertained.”

Phillips said that despite the weekend’s challenging weather—delivering about a foot of snow to the area—attendance was strong, and the community certainly showed its support of the youth performers.

Next up for WCSJ is the production of Shrek Jr. the Musical, performing April 10-13 by the district’s middle school students.



So much to cheer about.

<p>FEB 20/22 +25</p>	<p>Wisconsin Herd Capital City Go-Go 6 PM Motor City Cruise 7 PM Windy City Bulls 6 PM Oshkosh Arena</p>
<p>FEB 21-23</p>	<p>RV & Boat Show Main Event Over 150,000 square feet of blowout sales on RVs, Boats, and accessories. Food and bar available. EAA Grounds</p>
<p>FEB 23</p>	<p>Winnebago County Farm Bureau Community Night Fun, food, family, friendship and fundraising, celebrating community farms! Brighton Acres • 2-9 PM</p>
<p>FEB 23</p>	<p>Bridging Past & Present: Exploring Native American Cultural Heritage Increase your understanding of our region’s Indigenous communities, past and present. Learn about the recent Menominee Park archaeological work. Convention Center • 2 PM</p>

This is just the start. Activities and fun for all ages, indoors and out! Scan here and make plans now.

