

WINNECONNE NEWS

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

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\$1

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Maintenance of property in Butte des Morts questioned

By Anya Kelley
Winneconne News

The Town of Winneconne, during its meeting Oct. 16, discussed complaints about landscaping at a property on North Harbour Drive in Butte Des Morts after a resident called asking for the weeds in the rocks along the water's edge to be removed.

The lot is located on the Lake Butte Des Morts channel and spans 112 feet.

Town Clerk Yvonne Zobel said it's set about 100 feet back from Highway S making it virtually unbuildable. The town pays for the area to be mowed, and it is being maintained as a park, though there is

nothing located at the lot.

Supervisor Ryan Koch said if the town wanted to keep the lot designated as a park, they should be required to maintain the space but suggested selling the property. Koch said if there were a playground set and a sign designating the space as Winneconne Park, he would be more willing to spend the money on maintenance.

Chairman Eric Lang said the lack of parking would make the park inaccessible for many. Zobel said there is only 12 feet of buildable area on the lot making it unfit for a housing project. Zobel also said that there may be state zoning restrictions on the lot due to its access to the water.

"We make our commitment by mowing the area," Supervisor Russ Van Gompel said. "I don't think we have any commitment to do anything along the shoreline, and I don't think we should be spending any more money to do that."

Koch made a motion to allow the attorney to investigate the sale of that property before making any further decisions. The motion passed 3-1. Zobel said she would investigate the statutes first to see if the attorney fee can be avoided, and the item was added to next month's agenda.

The board voted unanimously for the

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Undefeated Wolves win conference, eye playoffs
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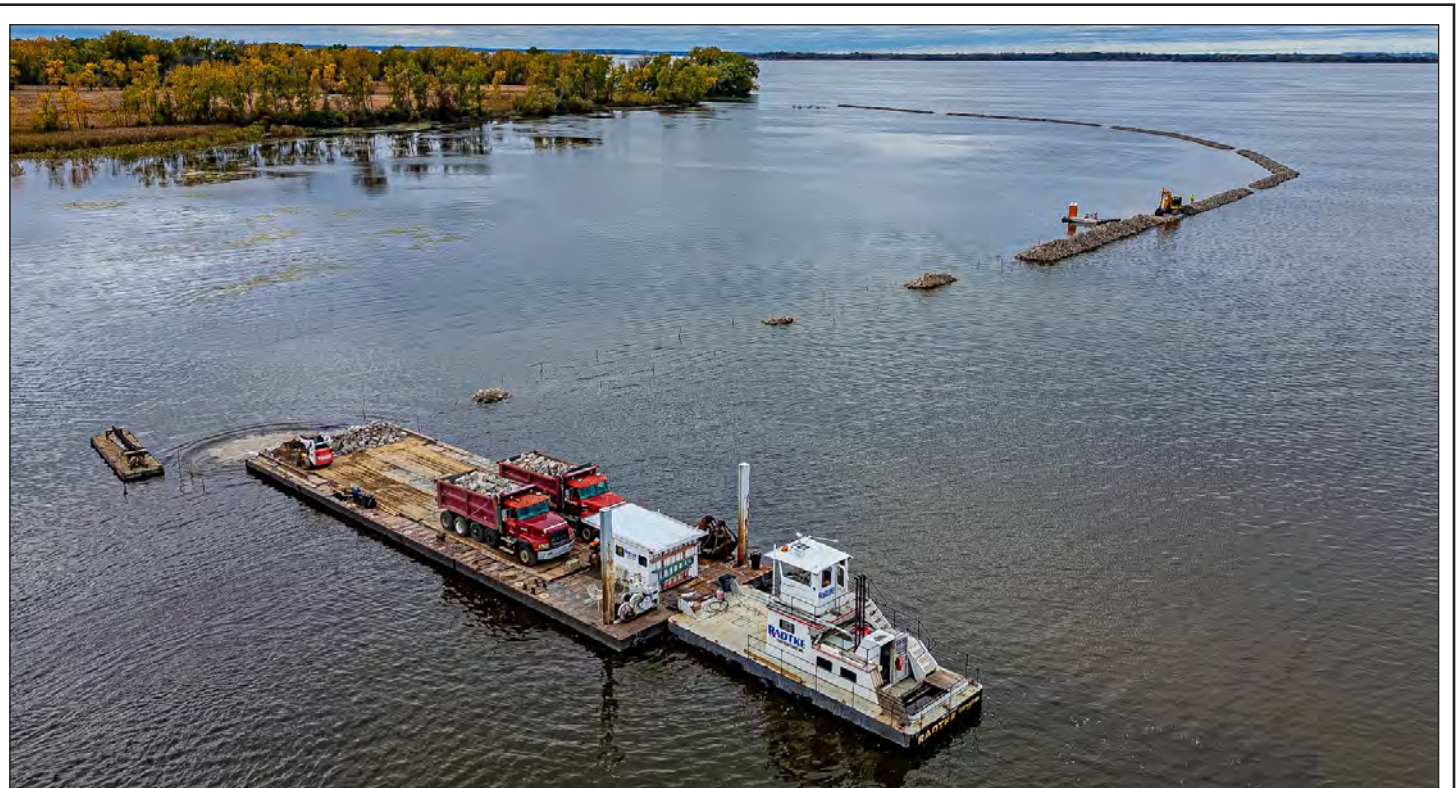


Photo by Tim McEnroe

Birdseye view

A project is continuing to install a breakwall system on the Wolf River off the south end of the Main Street bridge. The project led by the Winnebago County Land and Water Conservation Department is about halfway complete. Radtke Contractors offered to do the project this fall at the same price as a winter build using a barge system instead of waiting for the water to freeze in January.

Holiday provides bankers opportunity for community service

By Anya Kelley
Winneconne News

Every year on Columbus Day, Premier Community Bank goes MAD for a day to help give back to their local community, and this year, they cleaned and restocked the Winneconne Area Assistance Center (WAAC) and planted tulip bulbs in Marble Park.

Make a Difference (MAD) Day began 10 years ago in celebration of Premier's 75th anniversary as a fun way to get em-

ployees out into the communities they serve. Since then, employees have volunteered over 50,000 hours.

Branch managers from each of the 11 offices spend the year looking within their communities for opportunities to help those in need. Last year, the Winneconne branch helped at the Winneconne Historical Society before heading to Marble Park for garbage clean up. Volunteering at Marble Park has become an annual facet of MAD Day at the Winneconne branch.

"Over the past 10 years, I've gone to a couple of different communities [for MAD Day]," said Robin Christian, the senior vice president of retail. "Of course, I love coming here and doing the food pantry."

Winneconne branch manager Josh Webb said it's important for Premier's employees to get out into the community to build trust and show their members that



Submitted photo

A group of volunteers from Premier Community Bank spent part of the Columbus Day holiday performing various community service projects.

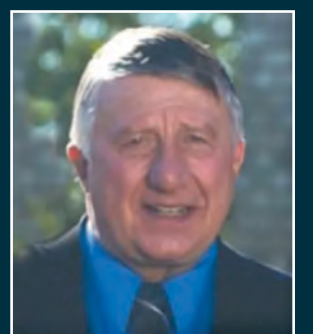
SEE **Premier Bank** ON PAGE 4

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Corrections
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Photo from Norbert Rich School Forest

Spooky time

The Spooktacular Halloween Story Hike Thursday at the Norbert Rich School Forest set a record with nearly 300 attendees. Winneconne High School FFA members helped to carve pumpkins and provide some spooks at the trick-or-treat stations. Others helped to greet guests and pick up hundreds of candlelight bags after the event.

Butte des Morts Lions hosting Halloween party

Winneconne News
The Butte des Morts Lions Club will be hosting a Kids' Halloween Party on Halloween evening.
The party starts at 6 p.m. at 5068 Washington St. in Butte des Morts. The Lions will be serving walking tacos, juice, popcorn and cookies to snack on. Kids trick or treat as they come in the door.
A costume contest will be held with

different age brackets and three prizes for each age bracket. The age brackets are 0-3 years, 4-7 years, 8-12 years and 13-18 years.



Firefighters handing out candy on Halloween

Winneconne News
Town of Winchester firefighters will be celebrating Halloween with a community outreach event.
Firefighters plan to be out in the community from 4 to 7 p.m. Oct. 31 handing out candy.
The fire department encourages community members to say hi to the firefighters and get a treat as part of their holiday festivities.

Calendar

Thursday, Oct. 23
Winneconne High School presents Rogues' Gallery, 7 p.m., Winneconne Community Arts Center
Friday, Oct. 24
MS Dance, 3 p.m., MS Commons and Gym
WHS Football vs. Milwaukee North/Lifelong Learning, 7 p.m., WHS
Saturday, Oct. 25
Winchester Area Historical Society Halloween Party, 9 a.m., Winchester Elementary School gym, 5270 Ann St., Larsen
Ghouls Day Out, 10 a.m., Cottage Collective
Village Wide Haunted Hop, noon, Winneconne
Winneconne High School presents Rogues' Gallery, 2 and 7 p.m., Winneconne Community Arts Center
Halloween Party featuring music by DJ Jim, 8 p.m., Talk of the Town
Halloween Party and Vinland Volunteer Fire Department Sportsman's Raffle featuring Minus One, 8 p.m., Winkler's

Westward Ho
Sunday, Oct. 26
Spooky Drop-in Archery, noon, Woodeye's
Winneconne High School presents Rogues' Gallery, 2 p.m., Winneconne Community Arts Center
Monday, Oct. 27
Fall Storytime: Special Halloween Trick or Treat, 10:30 a.m. Winneconne Public Library
Tuesday, Oct. 28
Winneconne Area Homeschoolers Documentary and Discussion or Teen Bookbinding Class, 9:30 a.m., Winneconne Public Library
Hocus Pocus Special Movie Event, 4 p.m., Winneconne Public Library
Winneconne Historical Society Meeting, 6 p.m., Community Room of Premier Community Bank, 915 E. Main St.
Wednesday, Oct. 29
The News is out. Subscribe today at winneconnenews.com.
Wool Club, 9 a.m., Primitive Gatherings

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History-inspired style on display in high school library

By Anya Kelley
Winneconne News

A handmade dress fashioned out of copies of the Winneconne News stands inside the Winneconne High School Library in front of a section of books on personal style and fashion throughout history.

The new art piece was created by Jane Koplitz, a part time library aide at the high school. Inspired by the text on the pages of books and the reflection process that reading awakens, Koplitz used four old issues of the newspaper, scraps of a book that was beyond repair, chicken wire and spray paint to craft the dress.

“That reflective paper with the newspaper reflects our history, and it reflects our interest in text,” Koplitz said. “I’m a big reader, and I really liked doing something like that.”

Koplitz had been brainstorming ideas for a larger art piece made from cornstalks that could be placed outside but was running into issues finding a stand that would be large enough. After a while, she lost motivation for the project. That was until she found the old dress form in a storage closet in the library.

“Then I saw that, and I went, ‘oh!’” Koplitz said.

Koplitz said district librarian Dana Jerebek is always willing to support the library aides in creative endeavors, especially when they make the library into a comfortable and welcoming space for everyone.

“She’s really helpful and has a good foresight and planning for connection between art ... in the library and gathering kids and meeting the curriculum needs,” Koplitz said. “So, I’m really lucky.”

Connection is the key focus of the library, and the history of Winneconne is at the center of it. Aside from the dress,



Photo from Jane Koplitz

Library aide Jane Koplitz designed this “dress” and made it from past issues of the Winneconne News. It is on display in the Winneconne High School library, which has a section on fashion and style.

a wall of Winneconne News issues is displayed, and hundreds of archived copies are available in the library.

Library aides have collected old Winneconne family photos and trinkets that are displayed as a record of the past while encouraging students to learn about the history of their hometown and promoting literacy.



Submitted photo

Timely collection

Winneconne Troops 629, 6629 and 3629 collected more than 290 bags of food from homes within the community Saturday during the 37th annual Scouting for Food drive. The food was donated to the Winneconne Area Assistance Center.

Rogue’s Gallery performance times change

Winneconne News

Times have changed for this week’s Winneconne High School performances of Rogue’s Gallery.

The previously scheduled Friday evening performance will now be Saturday afternoon due to the home football playoff game against Milwaukee North/Lifelong Learning.

Rogue’s Gallery show times are now scheduled for 7 p.m. Thursday, 2 p.m. and 7 p.m. Saturday and 2 p.m. Sunday at the Winneconne Community Arts Center. Tickets are free and reservations can be made online at winneconne-community-arts-center-ticketleap.com or by calling 920-582-5810 ext. 1120.

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Submitted photo

Premier Community Bank's Make a Difference Day included projects at the Winneconne Area Assistance Center.

Premier Bank

FROM PAGE 1

they care and want to be involved in the betterment of the area. Christian said the bank wouldn't be here without the support of the community.

"We need to have thriving communities and wealthy and healthy communities," Christian said. "So, we just like to give back that way as a way of support what we're asking for."

To learn more about MAD Day and see pictures and videos of previous volunteer activities, visit premiercommunity.com/community.html.

Businesses provide support for Marble Park Reimagined

Winneconne News
Area businesses are boosting fundraising efforts for Marble Park.

Winneconne Thrift & Gift was an early supporter of the Marble Park Reimagined Community Project, committing \$61,000 to the project.

"Winneconne Thrift & Gift is grateful for the support of the Winneconne community," board president Cindy Hendren said. "That is why we were happy to contribute to the Marble Park Project. It's a wonderful way for us to give back to the community that supports us. The Marble Park project supports the whole community, and we are thrilled to be a part of it."

Winneconne Thrift & Gift is sponsoring playground equipment as part of their gift. Their commitment shows the power of local organizations giving back to make Marble Park a place where families, friends and future generations can gather, play and connect.

Another company, Switchgear Power Systems, last week announced its support for the project.

"We are excited to invest in the Marble



Photo from Winneconne Area Community Foundation

Winneconne Thrift & Gift made a \$61,000 donation to support the Marble Park Reimagined Community Project.

Park Master Plan because of the impact it will have on our employees, their families and the community," company president Adam Rens said. "The planned enhancements will give Marble Park the facelift it needs to continue to offer a beautiful recreational space that our Winneconne area residents and future generations deserve."

The goal for the first phase of fundraising for the community project is \$2.55 million.

Donations will be doubled through Dec. 31 thanks to a matching grant from the Oshkosh Area Community Foundation. For more information, call 920-426-3993 or visit WinneconneAreaCF.org.

Winneconne Historical Society changes meeting site

Winneconne News
The Winneconne Historical Society will be holding all its future meetings in the community room of Premier Community Bank, 915 E. Main St.

Attendees are asked to enter the door located to the left of the front main entrance to the bank. The doors will open 15 minutes before the time of the meeting.

The next meeting of the society is scheduled for 6 p.m. on Tuesday.

Election of officers will be held. On the

agenda are discussions on the CD the society has at Fortifi Bank, procedures for sending out holiday cards and for the annual craft fair. Decorating for the holidays at the museum grounds will also be on the docket.

Anyone who has time to volunteer, even if only a few hours, is invited to consider joining the society. Dues are \$10 annually.

The group's meetings had previously been held at the municipal center.



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Photo by Jenna Ingbreton

Spearers must buy a license by Oct. 31 if they wish to harvest a sturgeon from Lake Winnebago during the 2026 sturgeon spearing season.

Deadline approaching to purchase sturgeon spearing licenses

Winneconne News

The Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (DNR) reminds all spearers interested in harvesting a lake sturgeon from Lake Winnebago during the 2026 sturgeon spearing season to purchase their license before Oct. 31.

There are an unlimited number of licenses available for Lake Winnebago, and both residents and nonresidents can purchase a license through the Go Wild system or at any license sales location.

All license holders must be a minimum of 12 years old. However, military personnel home on leave during the spearing season and youth who will turn 12 between Nov. 1 and the last day of the 2026 spearing season do not need to purchase their license by the Oct. 31 deadline.

The Upriver Lakes fishery (lakes Poygan, Butte des Morts and Winneconne) is managed by a preference point system and lottery that is limited to 500 permitted spearers. Successful Upriver Lakes tag ap-

plicants have already been authorized for the 2026 season and have until the start of the spearing season to purchase a license. Successful Upriver Lakes tag applicants cannot purchase a tag for Lake Winnebago.

Sturgeon spearing license sales help fund the necessary management activities on the Winnebago System, such as staffing the registration stations during the spearing season and the work during the spawning season to gather data to set the sustainable harvest caps. The license sales also fund the large acoustic tagging project in the Winnebago System, which tracks lake sturgeon movement throughout the system and helps ensure all Winnebago lake sturgeon management decisions are made using the latest science.

The 2026 sturgeon spearing season will open on Feb. 14, 2026, and will run for a maximum of 16 days or until any of the predetermined harvest caps are met.

UWO trapshooting team heads to national competition

Winneconne News

Members of the University of Wisconsin-Oshkosh Trapshooting Team will be competing in an upcoming national championship event.

The competition will be Oct. 31 to Nov. 2 at Britany Shooting Park in Bunker Hill, Ill. The UWO team will be competing against other college trapshooters from around the country.

UWO's season started Sept. 21.

Team members include RJ Gropp of Berlin, Linsey Dutscheck of Oshkosh, Maggie Dobyns of Oshkosh, Kalista Liepert of Mayville and Ethan Young of Ozaukee along with coach Amber Evans.

Gropp, a sophomore, is ranked fourth in the league, breaking 98.66% of clay targets

shot at so far this season.

UWO is participating in America's largest non-profit clay target shooting sports organization, the USA College Clay Target League, which has over 53,000 registered athletes on more than 1,800 high school, college and home-schooled teams in over 36 states.

At least five Wisconsin colleges and universities have a trapshooting program.

The UWO team uses the Fox Valley Trap Club in Omro. The league's priorities are safety, fun and marksmanship. The league emphasizes safety, with no injuries reported since its inception in 2007. Each athlete must complete firearms safety certification before participating in the activities.

Shallow Lakes Chronicles

Outdoor News and Notes

By Matt Harp
Outdoor Reporter

There is a flurry of activity in the outdoors these days. Let me try to run down at least some of it.



Harp

The DNR reminds us that Wisconsin is home to many furbearer species, and the state's highly regulated trapping seasons play an important role in the DNR's efforts to sustainably manage those populations. The first trapping seasons opened last weekend and additional seasons continue to open throughout the fall.

Us other outdoor recreators should be aware that traps may be present on public lands. All first-time trappers must complete an approved trapper education course unless trapping under the youth supervised option, mentored trapping program or other exemptions.

These courses, taught by experienced trappers, cover basic trapping skills, regulations, safety and trapper ethics. For those just starting out, the DNR offers programs for beginners, such as the Women's Trap Camp and the Youth Trap Camp, enabling new trappers to learn in a safe and supportive atmosphere.

Trappers can visit the DNR's Trapping webpage for zone status updates and more information about trapping in Wisconsin.

Pheasant hunting season also opened last weekend and had a daily bag limit of one rooster per day. Starting Monday, the

daily bag limit increased to two roosters per day. This limit remains in place for the remainder of the season. Hunters may harvest a rooster or hen when hunting in designated rooster and hen hunting areas.

Once again, the DNR plans to stock approximately 75,000 pheasants from the state game farm on over 80 properties statewide. Depending on production levels, pheasants are released once before the pheasant hunting season and up to twice a week for the first two to three weeks of the season.

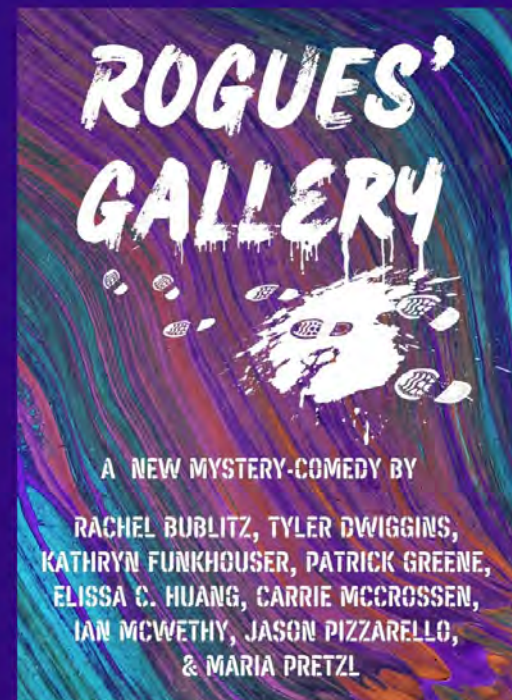
After that, birds are released about once a week until the nine-day gun deer season opens on Nov. 23, and stocking resumes once per week on only a handful of properties following the nine-day gun deer season.

Hunters can use the DNR's Fields and Forest Lands Interactive Gamebird Hunting Tool to locate properties stocked with pheasants. The tool also allows hunters to use aerial maps, topography and measuring tools to identify areas of interest and make their trips more productive and enjoyable.

Reach Matt at lakeandpond2@gmail.com.

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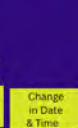
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Ambulance board begins to look at plans going forward

By Anya Kelley
Winneconne News

The Southern Winnebago Emergency Medical Services (SWEMS) board met on Oct. 15 to discuss updates to their mutual aid agreements with surrounding communities and began planning a future capital fund for the district.

Mutual aid agreements have stalled due to the City of Oshkosh expressing concern with the contract and potentially wanting to charge a fee for their services.

Mutual aid is usually an agreement signed by multiple municipalities that allows emergency response personnel to assist across jurisdictions. Mutual aid can be used during major disasters or simply to assist when a department has all its ambulances in use and another call comes through.

For smaller departments and groups like SWEMS who cover multiple municipalities, mutual aid can be beneficial.

Omro City Administrator Brandon Hennes said the administrators from Ripon and North Fond du Lac told him they will not provide mutual aid services if Oshkosh does not sign the agreement.

Mike Krueger, the EMS operations consultant for LifeStar EMS, sent two versions of a mutual aid agreement contract to all the surrounding municipalities except for Berlin EMS. Oshkosh returned with a copy of their mutual aid agreement from 2012 with Waushara County and North Fond du Lac.

"They were having their city attorney review that," Krueger said to the board. "That was last week, and they were going to present me with an updated agreement, which if not substantially changed, I would be OK operating under."

Krueger said he had not been told by the Oshkosh fire department that they wanted to charge for mutual aid. In conversations with North Fond du Lac EMS, there was concern about being the primary aid partner due to the size of the department and the distance from the area of coverage.

"They felt like it would be better if we were using Oshkosh as primary and I said that would make sense," Krueger said. "If we could keep the mutual aid within the county there would be benefits to that, but they would be a secondary backup if something big happened and they seemed OK with that."

Ripon officials said no to the mutual aid agreement citing the need to protect their residents first. As of this meeting, Waushara County is the only official mutual aid partner. Krueger said he plans to contact Berlin EMS with the contract details before the next SWEMS board meeting.

Board Commissioner Marty Johnson of the Town of Poygan presented ideas for a capital fund starting in the next budgeting cycle. Johnson suggested each municipality start out by putting \$1 per capita into a fund for SWEMS related purchases. The

board expressed interest in purchasing LUCAS machines for the ambulances and a joint capital fund would allow for that.

LUCAS machines provide automatic CPR so the emergency response team can be all hands-on deck elsewhere.

"Otherwise, we get to the point where we're ready to build a facility and now everybody's borrowing," Johnson said.

The board agreed on setting aside \$1 per capita for the first year to get the fund up and running. In the future, further analysis of relative municipal wealth and call volume may be considered for each municipality's yearly contributions.

Krueger introduced Heather Krueger as the acting interim supervisor for SWEMS until a local person is hired. Heather is a paramedic with LifeStar EMS and a health and human performance adjunct instructor at Concordia University. Krueger is from Mequon and has been with LifeStar EMS since 2018.

The next SWEMS board meeting will take place at 6 p.m. Oct. 30 in the Town of Omro Town Hall. The board is expected to hear further updates regarding mutual aid and facilities.

Town Board

FROM PAGE 1

rezoning of 6055 Hiawatha Drive. Zoning Administrator Katie Harter reviewed the request before the meeting and said due to the area being shoreland, the board didn't have much say and the two shoreland lots located there will be combined.

The Winnebago County Sheriff's Department has expressed interest in purchasing the town's old squad car. After reviewing the Car Fax and Kelly Blue Book assessment of the vehicle, Koch offered it for \$8,000, but the county requested a lower amount.

The car is a 2014 model with 23,400 miles on it. The decals have been removed, but the radio system and lights are still intact. The board approved selling the vehicle for \$7,500.

The board also unanimously approved the induction of Jim Marvin to the plan commission with no further discussion. The Town of Winneconne Board meets at 6:30 p.m. every third Thursday of the month in the Town of Winneconne Town Hall.

Man sentenced to life in prison for killing parents in 2023

Winneconne News

Erik Metzsig was sentenced Friday to life in prison for killing his parents at their Wolf River home in March 2023.

Metzsig, 28, had previously pled no contest to two counts of first-degree intentional homicide for the murders.

Winnebago County Judge Michael Gibbs sentenced Metzsig to two consecutive life sentences without parole for the murders of Jan Metzsig, 71, and Dave Metzsig, 72, who were the owners of Union Star Cheese Factory in Fremont.

Police found the couple inside the bedroom of their home on March 18, 2023 covered in blankets, with apparent gunshot wounds to the head.

After entering the no contest plea last year, Erik Metzsig attempted to change his plea but the court later found the alleged new evidence presented by Metzsig's defense was not credible and denied the defense motion to withdraw the original plea, allowing Gibbs to proceed with Friday's sentencing hearing.

Suspect arrested after Kwik Trip armed robbery

Winneconne News

A suspect in an earlier armed robbery at a Kwik Trip in the Town of Vinland was arrested Oct. 15 during a traffic stop.

According to the Winnebago County Sheriff's Office, deputies responded to the armed robbery at approximately 12:30 a.m. Oct. 13. The sheriff's office said a male suspect had presented a handgun and demanded money out of the cash register.

The suspect left on foot with an undisclosed amount of money and walked across the street where he had previously parked his vehicle. With the assistance of the Oshkosh Police Department and the Neenah Police Department, the area was promptly saturated with officers, but locating a suspect immediately after the incident was unsuccessful.

"We commend the staff and patrons of Kwik Trip for their quick thinking and keen observation skills that assisted in providing information about this inci-

dent," the sheriff's office said.

Through a variety of investigative resources, the Winnebago County Sheriff's Office was able to identify the suspect vehicle. It was quickly learned that the registered owner associated with the suspect vehicle had a history of robbery convictions.

Investigators located the suspect residing in the City of Oshkosh. The suspect is identified as 58-year-old Lorenzo Wood Jr.

The Winnebago County Sheriff's Office, in conjunction with the Oshkosh Police Department and the Wisconsin State Patrol, on Oct. 15 conducted a traffic stop on the suspect's vehicle and took Wood into custody without incident. A search warrant was then executed at the suspect's residence to gather further evidence in the case.

This case is currently under review for federal prosecution.

Drivers urged to use caution with increased deer activity during the fall season

Winneconne News

Winnebago County was in the top 10 of Wisconsin counties with the most crashes involving deer last year.

The Wisconsin Department of Transportation Division of Wisconsin State Patrol reported 532 deer-related crashes in Winnebago County in 2024. There were more than 17,000 crashes involving deer last year across the state, killing nine people and injuring 707.

More than one-third of those crashes happened in October and November. With the changing season comes in-

creased activity from deer and a greater risk for deer related crashes. The State Patrol urges drivers to stay alert with more deer on the move during the fall rut or mating season.

"This is the time of year when we typically see the most crashes involving deer," said Wisconsin State Patrol Superintendent Tim Carnahan. "As the hours of daylight become shorter and more deer are crossing the highways, drivers should be especially cautious and scan the road ahead to prevent dangerous crashes."



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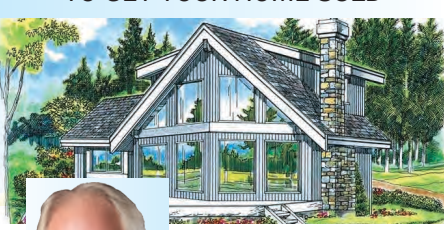

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SENIOR SPOTLIGHT

Michaud cooking up another strong season for Wolves

By Steve Clark
Winneconne News

There's a reason that Winneconne football standout Jesse Michaud dabbles in the kitchen from time to time.

He's a lineman. He likes to eat.

"I'm a bigger guy so I'm always interested in food," Michaud said. "I'll try anything. I'll be on my phone, and I'll see something that looks good so I will be like what are the ingredients."



Michaud

Many of his culinary attempts turn into tasty dishes – just not all of them.

"I've tried to make some dishes that didn't turn out the greatest," Michaud said with a laugh. "You can tell there is definitely a skill gap with how good some chefs are."

Outside of the kitchen, Michaud is cooking up another big season with Winneconne's second-ranked, undefeated football team.

Michaud is one of the veteran anchors of the Wolves' offensive line that has paved the way for Winneconne's potent running game. He also starts on the defensive line where he has accumulated 32 tackles this season, including seven tackles-for-loss, while he has an interception that helped seal the win against Fox Valley Lutheran two weeks ago.

Playing in the trenches over the course of a 48-minute game isn't for the faint of heart and Michaud said the chemistry with his fellow linemen helps him get through the battles.

"It takes a lot of mental resilience," said Michaud, who was a first-team Bay Conference selection on the defensive line last year and a second-team offensive lineman. "There's some guys on our line that go both ways the entire time, and we like to lean on each other. That's a really strong thing for our team. We can always lean on each other to the end because you never want to give up on the person next to you."

The strong chemistry isn't reserved for

those on the line, either.

Michaud said one of the keys to the success of the team is how close they are both on and off the field.

"It's our whole team. It doesn't have to be a team-bonding event, either. We are hanging out with each other outside of school," Michaud said. "Whether it's going to get food after the game or hanging out on Saturday to watch sports or something. I've known most of these guys since I was five years old and got to be really close."

Being such a close-knit squad made last year's breakout season when the team went to the semifinal round of the Division 4 playoffs even more special.

And as Winneconne looks to open this year's playoff run on Friday at home against Milwaukee North/Lifelong Learning, Michaud is hoping for another extended playoff experience.

"With our experience last year, a lot of us know what to look for when it comes to playoff football," Michaud said. "A lot of us didn't know what to expect going into the playoffs last year. You get that playoff environment where everyone wants to be there, and it's lose or go home. Everybody is putting everything out there they have to offer."

Michaud is also taking a different approach to the playoffs this season.

"The journey is going to be a grind and last year, I don't think I appreciated the journey as much as I should have," Michaud said. "Enjoy the process you are going through. Don't always be looking forward to the next thing. Enjoy where you are at."

Being a high school lineman doesn't usually result in a lot of on-field glory. Most of the time, it means simply colliding with another 250-pounder to either try to make a hole for a teammate to run through or plug up a hole to bring down an opponent.

Michaud broke that mold a little bit last year recording two interception returns for touchdowns.

"It's a big man's dream. It's really cool," Michaud said. "In the moment you don't realize what's happening. It usually takes



Photo by Doug Sasse

Jesse Michaud picks off a pass during a recent game against Fox Valley Lutheran. Michaud helps anchor both the offensive and defensive line for the two-time Bay Conference champion Winneconne football team.

until the next day to process what happened. It just turns to instinct. It's like when you would play at recess and get the ball and just run into the end zone at full speed."

Michaud wouldn't mind visiting the end zone at some point again.

"I hope it's coming," Michaud said. "It would be awesome for that opportunity to arise in the playoffs."

Michaud is interested in playing football at the next level and has received interest from some college coaches but remains undecided about what his future holds.

But he has put those decisions on hold to keep his focus on his final season of high

school football and possibly ending his career walking out of the tunnel at Camp Randall Stadium in Madison to play for a state title.

"That would be cool. With our team we only talk about who our opponent is that week but it's always a thought in the back of your head about walking out in Camp Randall, especially being a kid growing up in Wisconsin. That's everyone's dream," Michaud said. "We have to keep being us and don't listen to the outside noise. We just need to go into every week thinking it's a good opponent and be ready to attack."

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Wolves top Thunder to stay undefeated; draw Blue Devils in playoff opener

By Steve Clark
Winneconne News

A second straight undefeated regular season and a second straight Bay Conference championship were the rewards for the Winneconne football team as it walked off the field Friday night following a 29-12 win at Seymour.

But now, the real fun begins for the Wolves.

Winneconne earned the No. 1 seed in its eight-team grouping in the WIAA Division 4 playoffs and will open postseason on Friday at home against Milwaukee North/Lifelong Learning.

“We finished (the regular season) with our two hardest games of the year, and it’s a good way to go into the postseason,” co-head coach Ryan Krings said. “I think (Milwaukee North) is the best pairing we could have got as far as being able to come into this game and get some guys some rest and heal up some bumps and bruises.”

Milwaukee North enters the game with just one on-field win this season, having topped Milwaukee South, 22-18, in Week 8. The Blue Devils’ two other wins on the year have been a result of forfeits.

A Winneconne victory would earn them a matchup at home against either fourth-seeded Altoona or fifth-seeded Seymour. Freedom is the No. 2 seed in the bracket and a potential Level 3 matchup for the Wolves.

“I don’t think we have the hardest of the Division 4 brackets, but we have our work cut out for us,” Krings said. “We will concentrate on Milwaukee North this week and then see what comes after that. It’s definitely going to get harder after this week.”

Winneconne found itself in a playoff-type atmosphere last Friday and had to respond against a Thunder team that entered the contest undefeated and ranked eighth in Division 4.

Brody Schaffer registered the first of his three touchdown runs early in the second quarter to open the scoring for the Wolves, but Seymour kept Winneconne quiet the rest of the half.

The Thunder then put up the next two touchdowns and took a 12-6 lead into halftime.

“The game started slow for us,” Krings said. “The first half was kind of ugly, but we turned it around in the second half.”

The Wolves took the lead for good midway through the third quarter when Schaffer darted in from seven yards out and Hudson Samolinski added the two-point conversion run for a 15-12 lead.

Then, in the fourth quarter, Schaffer connected with Jordan Nettekovan on a short touchdown pass before rambling into the end zone from 18 yards out to cap the scoring.

Schaffer finished with 147 yards rush-



Photo by Doug Sasse

Winneconne’s Dallas Walker (54) flies in to block an extra point attempt against Seymour on Friday night.

ing on 28 carries, while Ethan Duel and Karter Hawthorne paced the Wolves’ defense with eight tackles apiece.

More importantly for the Wolves, it was the second straight four-quarter game after Winneconne finished its prior six games with a running clock.

“Our starters were able to play the full game and see where they were for four quarters,” Krings said. “It’s a good way to go into the postseason. If you play a couple of teams at the end of the year that aren’t going to give you a challenge, it makes it tougher.”



Photo by Doug Sasse

Jovan Zeller (14) and Noah Bouras (4) combine for a tackle against Seymour on Friday night.



Photo by Doug Sasse

Winneconne’s Brody Schaffer tries to break a Seymour defender’s tackle.



Photo by Doug Sasse

The Wolves’ Karter Hawthorne looks to catch a pass during Friday’s game at Seymour.

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Prep Roundup

CROSS COUNTRY

LeRoy wins Bay Conference title to lead Wolves

Freshman Quinn LeRoy was the first runner to cross the finish line to claim the individual title in the girls race to lead Winneconne at the Bay Conference meet on Saturday in Green Bay.

LeRoy's victory propelled the Wolves to a runner-up finish in the girls standings, while the Winneconne boys also finished second in the program's first appearance at the Bay Conference meet.

LeRoy finished with a time of 20:10.3, about eight seconds ahead of runner-up Claire Fischer of Fox Valley Lutheran, to win the girls race. The two runners had separated themselves from the rest of the field.

Lydia Luce joined LeRoy in the top 10 finishing in the seventh spot, with Audra Schaffer finishing close behind in 12th place. The next three Winneconne runners crossed the line within a span of about 30 seconds as Lauren Wiedemeier was 16th and Suri Hottmann placed 18th to round out the Wolves' scoring runners. Vivian Verich was close behind in 20th place.

The Wolves finished with 54 points at the meet, just five behind Fox Valley Lutheran while edging Shawano by six points for the runner-up spot.

On the boys side, it was Grant Wenzelow leading Winneconne with a third-place finish.

Joey Shepherd and Silas Sarbo finished back-to-back in 12th and 13th place, respectively, with Merrick Heise taking 19th place and Maxwell Helfrich coming in 22nd.

The Wolves topped Shawano by five points for second place in the team stand-

ings, while Fox Valley Lutheran captured the boys title.

VOLLEYBALL

Wolves cap regular season with pair of wins

Winneconne wrapped up its regular season with convincing wins over New London and Menasha last week.

The Wolves rolled past the Bulldogs 25-12, 25-11, 25-16 behind eight kills from Alyssa Koval and five by Malia Bodoh.

Winneconne had a great night at the service line in the win, posting 20 aces in the three sets. Bailey Church led the team with seven aces and Neela Gardner had five as seven different servers registered at least one ace.

Church also led the team with 12 assists with Tess Immel adding seven and Hallah Josephson led the team with 15 digs.

Earlier in the week, Winneconne breezed past Menasha 25-13, 25-20, 25-13.

Gardner and Koval led the Wolves' hitters with 11 and 10 kills, respectively, while Bodoh finished with seven. Bailey Brantley and Jaidyn Halder each chipped in five.

Church led the team with 23 assists with Tess Immel adding 15. Church also paced the Wolves with four aces with Koval, Tess Immel and Kendal Vette each finishing with three.

Koval led the team with 12 digs, while Church and Gardner each had eight and Josephson finished with seven.

Winneconne earned a No. 2 seed for the WIAA tournament and will host a regional semifinal on Thursday at the Wolf Den against either Plymouth or Oshkosh North. The winner advances to a regional final on Saturday night.



Photo by Doug Sasse

Carsten Blakesley heads a ball during the Wolves' shutout win over Campbellsport last week.

SOCCER

Winneconne stretches winning streak to four

The Wolves closed out the regular season with a pair of wins to run their winning streak to four games, improving to 7-8 on the season.

Winneconne broke a tie match in the second half to beat Columbus 2-1 Oct.

13 and followed it up with a 5-0 win over Campbellsport Thursday. It was the Wolves' fourth shutout win of the season.

Winneconne will travel to Port Washington for a WIAA regional match at 6:30 p.m. Thursday.



Photo by Doug Sasse

Winneconne senior Neela Gardner makes a pass against Menasha in a match last week. Gardner totaled 11 kills and eight digs in the victory.



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Obituaries

Carla J. Linstedt

Carla J. Linstedt, 82, of Oshkosh, died Thursday, October 16, 2025, at her home. She was born March 24, 1943, to the late Oscar and Ruth (Zerbert) Linstedt.



A visitation for family and friends will be on Friday, October 24, 2025, from 9:00 to 11:00 a.m. at Living Water Lutheran Church 1585 S. Oakwood Rd. Osh-

kosh. A funeral service will be held on Friday at 11:00 a.m. at the church with Pastor John Dorn officiating. Inurnment will be

in the St. Peter's Cemetery #1, Town of Winchester.

Carla's wishes for her obituary were no fuss, just the facts.

Carla's family would like to give a heartfelt thank you for the compassion and care of the Moments Hospice staff, especially Lexie, Michelle, Jamie, and Ali.

Mueller Funeral Home-Winneconne is assisting the family. If you wish, please submit online condolences/memories to muellerfh.net. If you wish, please submit online condolences/memories to muellerfh.net.



Robyn Lynn Neabling

After many years of pain and suffering, Robyn Lynn Neabling passed away on April 28, 2025. She was born on October 14, 1977, in Oshkosh, WI to Susan and Roland Neabling of Winneconne.

Robyn was preceded in death by her mother Susan just 11 months earlier, also her grandparents Erna and Louis Neabling of rural Oshkosh, and Eleanor and Willam (Bill) Schlapman of Winneconne; and an uncle, William Schlapman Jr. of Huntsville, AL.

She is survived by her daughter, Eloise of Allenton, WI; brother, Ryan (Jamie) Neabling of Winneconne; niece, Lauren Neabling of Neenah; aunt, Ruth Schlapman of Huntsville; AL and father, Rollie

Neabling of Larsen.

After graduating from Lourdes Academy in Oshkosh, Robyn attended Palmer School of Chiropractic and graduated Magna Cum Laude from UWO.

After cremation, a private celebration of life was held in her honor by family and close friends.



The Weekly Whisk

Easy Chicken and Dumplings

When the weather turns cool, nothing satisfies like a bowl of creamy, savory chicken and dumplings. But who has time for scratch-made dough on a Tuesday? This incredibly simple recipe swaps homemade dumplings for refrigerated biscuit dough, cutting the prep time down to 10 minutes flat. You get all the classic flavor — tender chicken, rich broth and pillowy dumplings — with none of the fuss. It's the ultimate cozy dinner hack for busy families.

- 2 tablespoons butter
- 1 cup diced celery
- 1 cup diced carrots
- 1 medium yellow onion, diced
- 4 cups chicken broth (low sodium is preferred)
- 1 can (10.5 oz) cream of chicken soup
- 1/2 cup milk or heavy cream
- 2 cups cooked chicken, shredded or diced (use rotisserie chicken for the fastest prep!)

- 1 teaspoon dried thyme
- 1/2 teaspoon black pepper
- 1/2 teaspoon salt (or to taste)
- 1 can (10.2 oz) refrigerated biscuit dough

Melt the butter in a large, heavy-bottomed pot or Dutch oven over medium heat. Add the diced celery, carrots and onion. Sauté for 5-7 minutes until the onions are softened and translucent. Pour in the chicken broth, cream of chicken soup,

and milk/cream. Stir well until the cream of chicken soup is fully dissolved into the liquid. Add the shredded chicken, thyme, salt and pepper. Bring the mixture to a low, steady simmer (do not boil).

Open the can of biscuit dough. On a cutting board, stack the biscuits and cut them into 6-8 pieces each (cut each biscuit into quarters, then cut those halves in half again). Gently drop the biscuit dough pieces into the simmering broth one at a time, ensuring they are separated.

Once all the dough is added, cover the pot tightly and reduce the heat to low. Allow the dumplings to steam and cook for 10 to 15 minutes. Do not lift the lid during this time. The steam trapped inside is essential for the dumplings to rise and cook through.

After 10-15 minutes, remove the pot from the heat and take off the lid. Gently stir the soup to check that the dumplings are cooked (they should be puffed up and no longer doughy in the center).

For questions or comments email weeklywhisk01@gmail.com

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Call or text with any questions you may have : **920-376-0389**

Lunch Menus

Oct. 27-31

**Advocap
Winneconne Meal Site
920-517-0950**

For information or meal reservations, please call by 12:30 p.m. a day in advance.

Monday: Spaghetti and Meat Sauce. Corn with Red Peppers and Black Beans. Fresh Orange. Garlic Bread.

Tuesday: Frozen – Chicken Breast Sandwich. Baked Beans. Coleslaw. Tropical Fruit.

Wednesday: Pork Chop Suey. Broccoli/Cauliflower. Brown Rice. Pineapple Tidbits. Grape Juice.

Thursday: Frozen – Smothered Steak. Mashed Potatoes. Peas/Corn. Fruited Jell-O.

Friday: Tuna Salad Sandwich. Romaine/Spinach Salad with Tomato and Cucumber. Fresh Carrots with Dip. Mandarin Oranges.

Winneconne Community School District

Monday: ES – Hot Dog/Bun, Smuckers PB&J or Chef Salad. Baked Beans. Sweet Potato Fries. MS – Cheese Bites/Sauce. Peas. Quick Bites – Hamburger/Bun, Chef Salad, Crispy Chicken Salad, Fruit Bowl and Smuckers PB&J. HS Country Roads – Chicken Nuggets. Smuckers PB&J. Baby Carrots. Buttered Pasta. Fruit and Salads – Fruit Bowl, Chef Salad, Crispy Chicken Salad and Yogurt Fruit Parfait. Stadium Burger – Chicken Patty/Bun. Spicy Chicken Patty/Bun. Sweet Potato Fries. Willies Pizza – Cheese Pizza.

Tuesday: ES – Pizza Cruncher, Smuckers PB&J or Chef Salad. Sun Chip. Broccoli. MS – Soft Shell Taco. Winter Blend. Rice Pilaf. Quick Bites – Chicken Patty/Bun, Chef Salad, Crispy Chicken Salad, Fruit Bowl and Smuckers PB&J. HS Country Roads – Mini Corndogs. Smuckers PB&J. Winter Blend. Rice Pilaf. Fruit and Salads – Fruit Bowl, Chef Salad, Crispy Chicken Salad and Yogurt Fruit Parfait. Stadium Burger – BBQ Rib Patty. Rice Bowl/Lo Mein. Willies Pizza –

Pepperoni Pizza.

Wednesday: ES – Hamburger/Bun, Smuckers PB&J or Chef Salad. Tater Tots. California Blend. MS – Mashed Potato Bowl. Corn. Quick Bites – Pizza Calzone, Chef Salad, Crispy Chicken Salad, Fruit Bowl and Smuckers PB&J. HS Country Roads – Chicken Tenders. Smuckers PB&J. Baked Beans. Fruit and Salads – Fruit Bowl, Chef Salad, Crispy Chicken Salad and Yogurt Fruit Parfait. Stadium Burger – Chicken Wings. Taco Bowl. Willies Pizza – Bosco Sticks/Sauce.

Thursday: ES – Chicken Tenders, Smuckers PB&J or Chef Salad. Wheat Dinner Roll. Mashed Potato/Gravy. Corn. MS – Pretzel Dog. Cheesy Potatoes. Baked Beans. Quick Bites – Bosco Sticks/Sauce, Chef Salad, Crispy Chicken Salad, Fruit Bowl and Smuckers PB&J. HS Country Roads – Ham and Cheese Melt. Smuckers PB&J. Soup Cheeseburger. Corn. Fruit and Salads – Fruit Bowl, Chef Salad, Crispy Chicken Salad and Yogurt Fruit Parfait. Stadium Burger – Hamburger/Bun. Mac and Cheese Bowl. Willies Pizza – Sausage Pizza.

Friday: ES – Pepperoni Pizza, Yogurt Fruit Parfait or Chef Salad. Cornbread Muffin. Green Beans. MS – Pepperoni Pizza Slice. Roasted Vegetables. Quick Bites – Yogurt Fruit Parfait, Chef Salad, Crispy Chicken Salad, Fruit Bowl and Smuckers PB&J. HS Country Roads – Buffalo Chicken Wrap. Smuckers PB&J. Assorted Veggies. Fruit and Salads – Fruit Bowl, Chef Salad, Crispy Chicken Salad and Yogurt Fruit Parfait. Stadium Burger – Fish Patty/Bun. Buffalo Chicken Totchas. Willies Pizza – Supreme Pizza.

Vinland fire department receives grant for equipment updates

Winneconne News

The Town of Vinland Fire Department is one of 54 rural emergency response departments receiving a grant from Compeer Financial to fund equipment and technology upgrades.

The Vinland fire department will use the funding for turnout gear.

Compeer Financial is providing funding of up to \$4,000 to each recipient for a total of \$202,673 through its Emergency Response Equipment Grants.

The grants are intended to help volunteer fire, rescue and ambulance departments improve their operational efficiency, safety and response times.

The grant will change slightly in 2026 to the Emergency First Responders Grant, accounting for both the needs of the department to service the community and the safety needs of the volunteer first responders. The grant amount will also increase from the current maximum of \$4,000 to a maximum of \$7,500.

Applications will open April 15, 2026, and close May 31, 2026. Departments that have not received a grant the prior two years will be eligible to apply for two new grant areas: essential response equipment and responder life-safety need.

PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE
 Before the Town of Vinland Planning Commission and Town Board
 Town of Vinland Town Hall
 6085 County Road T • Oshkosh, WI 54904

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that on Monday, November 3, 2025 at 6:30 p.m. the Town of Vinland Planning Commission will hold a public hearing and on Monday, November 10, 2025, Town Board will hold a public hearing at 6:45 p.m. for the following petition:

Daniel Sturm is requesting a Conditional Use Permit from the Town of Vinland, Winnebago County, Wisconsin, for tax parcel number 026-002601. The proposed use is to allow a personal storage building to be built on his property.

The hearing is open to the public and all interested parties are encouraged to appear in person or by agent and be heard. If you cannot appear in-person, any person may submit written comments by letter addressed to: Zoning Administrator at 6085 County Rd T Oshkosh, WI 54904 or email at zoning@townofvinlandwi.gov

Don O'Connell,
 Town of Vinland Zoning Administrator

Published October 22 and 29, 2025
 WNAXLP

Want Friends With Benefits? Find us on Facebook for all the extras we can't fit in the paper. www.facebook.com/winneconneews

**JOINT TOWNS OF
 POYGAN, POY SIPP
 SANITARY DISTRICT #1**

Commission Meeting
 Wednesday, October 29, 2025
 3:30 p.m. at Treatment Plant

To act on tax levy.

Lisa Kallas, Secretary

Published 10/01,10/15,10/22,10/29
 WNAXLP

Wolf River Town Hall
 8800 County Road II
 PO Box 338
 Fremont, WI 54940
 Phone: 920-446-3837
 FAX: 920-446-2491

Town of Wolf River Board Meeting will be held on
 Monday, October 27, 2025 7:00 p.m.
 Wolf River Town Hall
 8800 County Road II, Fremont

Respectfully submitted,
 Susan J. Gilbert, Clerk

**ALL MEETINGS ARE OPEN TO THE PUBLIC
 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION ENCOURAGED**

Published 10/22/25
 WNAXLP



ATLAS
 Your local guide to Dining, Arts & Entertainment

A quarterly magazine reaching over 55,000 mailboxes in Oshkosh, Winneconne & Neenah

This Go-To Guide will deliver your advertising & holiday message, local content and Events Calender to over 90,000 readers!

PUBLISHED DECEMBER 3!

Classifieds

Miscellaneous

Consumer Cellular - the same reliable, nationwide coverage as the largest carriers. No long-term contract, no hidden fees and activation is free. All plans feature unlimited talk and text, starting at just \$20/month. For more information, call 1-855-748-6332

Donate your car, truck, boat, RV and more to support our veterans! Schedule a FAST, FREE vehicle pickup and receive a top tax deduction! Call Veteran Car Donations at 1-844-406-2647 today!

Jacuzzi Bath Remodel can install a new, custom bath or shower in as little as one day. For a limited time, waiving ALL installation costs! (Additional terms apply. Subject to change and vary by dealer. (Offer ends 12/31/25.) Call 1-877-403-3670

Consumer Cellular - the same reliable, nationwide coverage as the largest carriers. No long-term contract, no hidden fees and activation is free. All plans feature unlimited talk and text, starting at just \$20/month. For more information, call 1-833-518-2155

Prepare for power outages today with a Generac Home Standby Generator. Act now to receive a FREE 5-Year warranty with qualifying purchase. Call 1-888-355-6955 today to schedule a free quote. It's not just a generator. It's a power move.

For Rent

Highlands at River Crossing for seniors 55+. Spacious one and two bedroom apartments. Rent includes: Heated underground parking, cable TV and internet access. Prepare to be impressed with amenities beyond compare! Call today for a private showing! 920-582-7200. *Some apartments reserved for moderate income. HighlandsCommunities.com

Pub Date	Ad Space/Copy Deadline	Creative Press Ready Deadline
December 3:	Tuesday, November 18	Friday, November 21
March 4, 2026:	Tuesday, February 17	Friday, February 20
June 3, 2026:	Tuesday, May 19	Friday, May 22
September 2, 2026:	Tuesday, August 18	Friday, August 20

Quarterly Advertising Opportunities:

Ad Sizes:	Full Page	Half Page	Quarter Page	
	\$ 1600	\$ 900	\$ 550	7.5" W x 10.0" H
				7.5" W x 5.0" H or 3.25"W x 10.0" H
				3.25" W x 5.0" H

Special Annual Incentive – participate in four consecutive ATLAS issues, receive *50% Discount off one ad. (50% Discount reflected off the smallest ad published in the series of four ads.)

Call 920-385-4512 now!

Creativity on display at Trunk or Treat event

The Winneconne PTA organized a Trunk or Treat event Thursday with everything from imaginative trunks to incredible costumes on display.

Organizers said the event was unforgettable and thanked everyone who made it possible.

The evening was filled with treats, fun and Halloween magic.

The family-friendly event at Winneconne Elementary School was open to all ages.

Photos from Winneconne PTA



Your ticket to every kind of fun...

October 25
The Masked Murderer
6-9pm • doors open at 5:30pm
A Halloween who-done-it dinner & show.

October 26
Run with the Herd 5K/1K
8am
5K Run and 1K Family Fun Run

October 31
Trick-or-Tease
7-9pm • doors open at 6pm
Sultry Halloween musical theater show.

November 1
Fox Cities Roller Derby
Monsters Brawl
5-9pm • doors open at 4pm
Come cheer on your favorite monsters - costumes encouraged!

November 8
Kansas & Blue Oyster Cult
7pm • doors open at 6pm
Two legendary rock bands in one show!

November 11
Wisconsin Herd Basketball
6pm
FIRST HOME GAME OF THE SEASON!

December 3
Crazy Train: America's Ozzy Tribute
7-10pm • doors open at 6pm
Ozzy's birthday bash!

December 4
Lonestar Christmas and Hits Tour
8-10pm • A night of holiday cheer and country music magic.

December 31
Harlem Globetrotters
2pm • doors open at 1pm
New Year's Eve basketball fun for all!

Find more ways to keep the fun going!
Scan here for upcoming events.

Discover Oshkosh
DiscoverOshkosh.com