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\$1

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WEEKLY AD FLYER

**IN TODAY'S
WINNECONNE NEWS!**

INSIDE



Samolinski finds his spot
on the lines
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Scout status
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Village ending Waste Management partnership

Board reaches tentative police union agreement

By Anya Kelley
Winneconne News

The Village of Winneconne will end its partnership with Waste Management after a unanimous decision made by the village board during its Sept. 16 meeting.

The village first entered an agreement in 2016 with Advanced Disposal Services Solid Waste Midwest in a contract that ran from Jan. 1, 2016, until Dec. 21, 2020, with an automatic five-year renewal if no action was taken. Advanced Disposal was acquired by Waste Management in 2020

after the contract was renewed.

Residents of the village have since been unhappy with the service.

Village administrator Logan Fuller said in the past year alone the village has received over 100 complaints. To discontinue the service, the village is required to give Waste Management a 90-day notice.

Fuller said the village has received one quote and is in the process of receiving another in the next few weeks.

"That couldn't come fast enough," trustee Joshua Janikowski said while other board members clapped.

The village board also discussed a ten-

tative agreement with the Wisconsin Professional Police Association (WPPA) and police union. Fuller said the village and the police union have been working together to address concerns with entry level wage discrepancies and insurance contributions.

The WPPA sought to close the 19% wage gap between entry level positions and tenured employees while also keeping tenured employees at or slightly above the average market for a similar sized police department. The union wants a uniform

SEE **Village board** ON PAGE 7



Photo from Giles-Luce American Legion Post 364

Winneconne Trap Team members sold 50/50 tickets Sept. 17 as part of the Giles-Luce American Legion Post 364 Sportsmen's Banquet at Woodey's Bar and Grill. The event included various prizes for the 340 attendees, including 45 youth who went home with donated camo hunting backpacks. Over \$20,000 was raised that supports veteran, youth and community programs throughout the year, including Boys and Girls Badger state, scholarships, youth archery club and trap club, outdoor education, community parades and fireworks.

Teachers consider impact of students using AI

By Anya Kelley
Winneconne News

The Winneconne Community School District (WCSD) school board was presented with findings from the "Teaching Writing in the Age of ChatGPT: Summer Symposium," at the school board meeting on Sept. 15.

Three English teachers – Robbi Brethouwer, Lisa Olson and Susan Roubidoux – attended the conference in Madi-

son this summer in hopes of learning how to better navigate teaching the importance of writing during the current evolution of technology.

"What I took from the conference was we need to think about AI literacy vs fluency, right," Brethouwer said. "Kids know how to use it; they're going to use it. How can we teach them the ethical use of AI?"

Brethouwer said that even if websites like ChatGPT are blocked on school sanc-

tioned devices, students can go home and use AI to write essays and create answers to homework assignments. She said the district needs to start considering how to teach AI as a tool, rather than being the "thinker for the student."

"Going to the conference made me consider just what I need to possibly change in the way that I teach," Olson said. "I think that kids are learning different ways and the way that we assess students needs

to possibly look different as the world continues to move and evolve."

Olson said AI is not necessarily something evil. She used the example of her daughter who is currently in college. Olson's daughter asked ChatGPT to create questions for a study guide based on the type of chemistry she's studying to help her better prepare for an upcoming exam.

SEE **School board** ON PAGE 5

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Submitted photo

Valuable donation

Cheemang Lee from the Community Blood Center of Oshkosh prepared Giles-Luce American Legion Post 364 member Dennis Lang for a donation. A blood drive was held Friday at the Post.

Countdown is on as Fall Fest approaches

Winneconne News
The Winneconne Fall Fest is coming to downtown and Waterfront Park from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Oct. 4.

A variety of vendors including artisans, crafters and direct sales will be in Waterfront Park as well as along Main Street. Food trucks and the new "truck or treat," a combination of touch-a-truck and trunk trick-or-treating, will be located on First Street.

Downtown businesses are featuring food and beverage specials all day. Live music will be playing all day long and The Bug Radio is broadcasting live from the event.

The Kids Zone has two new bounce

houses this year and is featuring face painting.

The kids fishing tournament is back and starts at 9:30 a.m. Families interested in participating can sign up through the Chamber of Commerce website. The tournament is located at the east side fishing pier, and a net will be provided. There are no bait regulations and night crawlers are available for everyone.

This year, Fall Fest will look like a block party. Starting at 7:30 a.m., Main

Street, from First Street to Sixth Street, and South First Street and South Second Street will be closed from Main Street to Adams Street. South Adams Street will be closed between South First Street and South Second Street.

A shuttle bus will run from Marble Park to the Winneconne Public Library to help alleviate parking difficulties. A map of the closures is available on the Chamber of Commerce website winneconne.org.

Calendar

Thursday, Sept. 25

WHS Boys Soccer vs. Menasha, 4:30 p.m., WHS

Friday, Sept. 26

Fox Valley Dragon Boat Club Ribbon Cutting and Inaugural Paddle, 5:30 p.m., The Landing on the Wolf, 111 N. First St. WHS Homecoming Parade, 6 p.m.

WHS Football vs. Xavier, 7 p.m., WHS, Homecoming

Saturday, Sept. 27

Youth Sight-In Day, 9 a.m., Poygan Conservation Club, 9195 Haase Road, Omro

Community For Hope Ride, 10:30 a.m., The Cove on Poygan

WHS Homecoming Dance, 7 p.m., WHS Gym

Monday, Sept. 29

WHS Freshman Parent Night and Open House, 6 p.m., HS Auditorium

Tuesday, Sept. 30

Winneconne Area Homeschoolers Homeschool Field Day, 1:30 p.m., Winneconne Public Library, registration required

Bubble Bangle Bracelet Keychain Program, 4:30 p.m., Winneconne Public Library

Wednesday, Oct. 1

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Town adopts county ATV/UTV regulations

By Anya Kelley
Winneconne News

The Town of Winneconne board voted last week to adopt Winnebago County's ATV/UTV ordinance regarding speed limit and hours of operation for riders.

A member of the Winnebago County ATV alliance requested the town review their current ordinance after the Winnebago County Sheriff's Office requested uniformity across all roads.

The speed limit on the county roads is 55 miles per hour while the towns limit is 35 miles per hour. The county also allows ATV riders to use the roads 24/7, but the town has a curfew from 10 p.m. until 6 a.m. every day.

"I'm OK with doing the 24/7 using UTVs," town chairman Eric Lang said during the Sept. 18 meeting. "I'm not in favor of changing our speed limits to try to be consistent with everybody else on the town roads."

Supervisor Dale Burghardt expressed similar concerns. Burghardt said a representative from the Department of Natural Resources (DNR) came to speak at a previous board meeting and told the board

ATVs do not belong on paved roads.

"Every one you purchase at a dealership has a big hang tag on it saying these should not be run on roads," Burghardt said. "We've already got this in place; we can do it at 35 miles an hour, but I think increasing it to 55 on our roads is a mistake."

Supervisor Ryan Koch said he understood concerns surrounding the speed limit but is in favor of less regulation. Koch said he was in support of adopting the county's ordinance as their own. The entire board agreed that the hours of operation should be extended to 24/7. All ATV/UTVs are required to have the proper head and taillights for nighttime safety.

Koch made a motion to adopt the county's ordinance that ultimately passed 3-1. The updated information will be located under chapter 296 vehicles, all-terrain and utility-terrain, including legal routes, operation requirements, speed limit information and penalties.

The Town of Winneconne board meets at 6:30 p.m. every third Thursday of the month in the Town of Winneconne Town Hall. The next meeting will take place at 6:30 p.m. Oct. 16.



Photo by Dave Witty

The fully autonomous Wisk Gen 5 aircraft known as Cora that flew over EAA AirVenture in 2023 is now on display at the EAA Aviation Museum.

EAA Aviation Museum to display autonomous airplane

Winneconne News

A fully autonomous eVTOL fixed-wing aircraft is now on display at the EAA Aviation Museum.

The aircraft known as Cora is Wisk's Gen 5 (serial number 7) that first was seen during a public demonstration flight at EAA AirVenture in 2023. Those attending the show could watch Cora fly without a pilot onboard over the two days it flew over Oshkosh.

During the demonstration, the aircraft could be seen flying full transitions from hovering to wing-borne flight. The aircraft is considered a pioneer in urban air mobility, as it was developed as a fully autonomous, electric-powered vertical takeoff

and landing, fixed-wing air taxi.

Gen 5 was built to evaluate vertical propulsion systems, avionics and software. It helped solidify Wisk's proprietary boom design and configuration and was used to test airspace integration and autonomous flight in controlled airspace.

It will be displayed in the EAA museum's Innovations Gallery, with signage, video and QR codes with more information coming soon to enhance the exhibit. Other unique aircraft on display in that area include the prototype Aerocar, Opener's Blackfly personal eVTOL air vehicle, and the same-mold reproductions of the Voyager and SpaceShipOne.

No vote taken on county sales tax

By Jonathan Richie
Winneconne News

After weeks of anticipation, an effort to create a county sales tax failed before a vote was even cast.

The Winnebago County Board of Supervisors was set to vote on a resolution last week that aimed to create a 0.5% sales tax. Supporters of the sales tax said it would lessen the burden on property tax.

However, on Sept. 16 when Vice Chairman Chuck Farrey made the motion to bring the resolution he authored to the floor to discuss and for a vote, there was not a single county board supervisor willing to second the motion, and therefore the resolution failed.

There could still be an opportunity for a new resolution on a county sales tax to be brought to the county board in the future.

Farrey's resolution noted the county has a growing structural deficit and that the proposed 2026 budget will add an additional \$3.3 million to the county's deficit.

A number of residents spoke out against the sales tax at the meeting.

County Executive Gordon Hintz said he did not support the resolution in part because of the 30% revenue sharing with Winnebago County municipalities. No county in Wisconsin shares more than 10% of sales tax revenue with its municipalities.

Additionally, some supervisors did not

support the resolution because it did not outline exactly what the revenue from the new tax would go to support.

County Supervisor Rachel Dowling of Menasha used her social media platform to rally opposition to the sales tax. She questioned the idea that the new tax would reduce property taxes and added that renters were unlikely to see any of those savings passed to them.

The proposed county sales tax of 0.5% was expected to earn between \$17 million and \$20 million annually. Between \$5.1 million and \$6 million of that would have been shared with municipalities.

This could have meant around \$2.3 million for Oshkosh, just under \$1 million for Neenah and almost \$88,000 for Winneconne.

The Oshkosh Common Council has requested the state allow the city to have a 0.5% sales tax. The council discussed the sales tax would put less pressure on the collection of property tax and was categorized as an extra tool in the city's tool belt for providing services.

A sales tax could be added to non-essential purchases like TVs, tablets and other luxury items. Essential purchases such as groceries and medication will not be subject to a county or city sales tax.

Winnebago County remains one of two counties in Wisconsin that do not have a sales tax.

County executive holding budget listening sessions

Winneconne News

Winnebago County Executive Gordon Hintz will be holding listening sessions to provide information about how the 2026 county budget will work.

Hintz will provide an opportunity for residents to learn about county programs

and service. Residents will be able to share their thoughts on the future of the community.

The sessions includes a meeting at 6 p.m. Oct. 8 at the Winneconne Municipal Center. Hintz plans to provide updates on his Facebook page.

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Eagle Scout creates school forest team building stations

Winneconne News

Cody Tipler, a Winneconne High School senior, has recently become Winneconne Troop 629's latest Eagle Scout.

Each Eagle Scout must earn 21 merit badges, show leadership and successfully complete a community service project to meet the Eagle Scout requirements.

Tipler enjoyed field trips to the school forest and wanted to do a project that would help fellow students learn while having fun. He approached Pat Kolbe, Norbert Rich School Forest director, who mentioned creating team building stations appropriate for middle school students which resonated with Tipler.

Throughout this past spring and summer, Tipler designed, fundraised, organized and managed the creation of three different team building stations at Norbert Rich School Forest. These stations teach cooperation, communication and problem solving skills to groups of students in a fun setting.

The stations are called "Whale Watch," "Weave" and "Islands." There are signs at each station to explain the challenges and goals plus a QR code that links to demonstration videos.

The project took 96 hours and eight build days to complete. Tipler said it would not have been possible without support from Kolbe, sight prep by Tim Scheider, TES Construction Services; woodchips provided by James Fluette, the Village of Winneconne Director of Public Works; meeting space and printing service by Amanda O'Neal, the Winneconne Public Library director; guidance from Mike Heider, the Eagle Project Consultant; Dave Giebel, the Twin Lakes District

Advancement Committee Member; Phil Sperling, the Troop 629 Scoutmaster; Lisa Zemlock, the Troop 629 Advancement Coordinator; Cody's parents Eric and Linda and everyone who helped with donations and volunteered time to help build the project.

"I was not expecting this project to be as big as it was, but I was surprised at how willing people were to help me through my Eagle Project as well as the other requirements to get to this point," Tipler said.

Visit the school forest during open hours to check out the stations. Visitors are welcome to join all the activities with the Cub Scouts (girls and boys in kindergarten to fifth grade) or the Scouts BSA Troop (girls and boys age 11-17 years old). Learn about Scouting groups in the area at scouting.org.



Submitted photo

Cody Tipler stands in front of Whale Watch, a platform that needs to be balanced.



Submitted photo

Islands is where students move from one island platform to the other by walking across planks.



Submitted photo

Weave is a station where a separate rope needs to be woven through a web without touching the web.

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Police monitoring for illegal dumping at compost site

Winneconne News
The Winneconne Police Department last week released a statement on its Facebook page reminding residents of the rules for the compost site located at 65 W. Industrial Road.

The compost site is for village residents only and does not accept electronics, furniture, mattresses, toys, mopheads or plastic items. The site is now monitored 24/7 after the installation of new cameras.

"If we catch somebody illegally dumping, it's going to be an automatic citation," Police Chief Ben Sauriol said at the Village

Board meeting on Sept. 16.

Accepted materials include brush, grass clippings, tree branches, yard waste and scrap metal. Scrap metal is managed by the Winneconne Trap Club for its Scrap for Trap program. Scrap metal cannot be from any item containing freon.

The public works department is working on updating the signage that is posted outside of the compost site. Sauriol said if the situation does not improve, the police department will consider locking the gate overnight and suspending 24-hour access.

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Shallow Lakes Chronicles

Shallow Lakes Duck Forecast

By Matt Harp
Outdoor Reporter



Harp

I tease around this topic each year around this time, so why don't I just come right out and put it out there? It's official: here is my take on the 2025 Shallow Lakes Duck Outlook. In short, the forecast is good.

Let me expand.

First there is the statewide forecast which shows an uptick in duck counts. The 2025 total breeding duck modeled population estimate of 564,693 was 7% higher than the 2024 modeled estimate of 527,791, and was 26.9% higher than the long-term mean.

Overall, the total duck population esti-

mate for 2025 was similar to what we have experienced over the last few years (2020-2024) and above the average total duck numbers experienced across the prior 10 years. The mallard modeled breeding population estimate of 149,568 was 2% higher than the 2024 estimate of 146,578 and was 15.7% lower than the long-term mean.

The blue-winged teal modeled breeding population estimate of 75,894 was 14.8% lower compared to the 2024 estimate of 89,083 and was 27.3% lower than the long-term mean. At 89,885 the 2025 population estimate for wood ducks was 1.8% lower than the 2024 estimate of 91,566 and 5.1% higher than the long-term mean.

The modeled Canada goose population estimate of 131,567 was 8% lower compared to the 2024 estimate of 142,935 and 20.8% higher than the long-term mean. The population estimate of "other ducks" was 258,886, which was 41.7% higher than the 2024 estimate of 182,706 and was 269.9% higher than the long-term mean.

While the Wisconsin numbers were lower for teal and wood ducks, I think there is reason for optimism in our area. Wild rice has really taken a foothold not only in Boom Bay, but up the Wolf and Rat rivers and in adjacent wetlands to the rivers and creeks. Not only a great food source for waterfowl, the emergent growth provides additional hunting areas for waterfowlers.

Add to that various management activities, and there is even more cause for optimism. While the jury is still out on the success on the mallard hen tubes installed by the local Delta Waterfowl chapter, it is not uncommon to see 50-80% usage of these structures and, well, let's just say they can't hurt. Dozens of wood duck houses also see significant use and are contributing to our local duck populations.

For the first time in a long time, the Army Corps of Engineers (ACE) actually stuck to the Linde Plan on raising and lowering water levels that mutually benefit wildlife and boaters. It's tough to notice

what isn't there, but blue-green algae is at a minimum in at least Lakes Poygan and Winneconne – owing to the increased submerged aquatic plant growth brought on by proper water level management.

Those increased aquatic plants are not only an important food source for south migrating ducks in the fall, but it also feeds them on their way north in the spring. The DNR fisheries guys will tell you also that aquatic plants and their spring remnants are an invaluable habitat for Shallow Lakes fisheries.

Finally, my own annual observations while boating and during the youth hunt tell me that we have a robust local population of wood ducks, mallards and teal. With warmer temperatures and not much migration yet, things are only going to get better from here on out.

Good luck waterfowlers, and be safe and considerate out there.

Reach Matt at lakeandpond2@gmail.com.

School board

FROM PAGE 1

Olson said it can be used as a great study tool, but students need to learn how to critically think for themselves instead of using AI as a replacement.

All three of the educators felt like the conference left them with more questions than answers. Olson said this is just another part of an evolution, and that education needs to change with it, but the Department of Public Instruction (DPI) hasn't figured out how yet.

"I personally use AI as a tool for a variety of things," Roubidoux said. "But I have pretty strong concerns about students using AI and missing the learning process and the struggles that it's important to learn the critical thinking and then have the base of information and skills they need to actually use it as a tool and not as a crutch."

Roubidoux said it's going to be important moving forward to send teachers from all subjects to conferences like this one because AI can impact everyone. When Brethouwer asked the board if they had any questions, the group was immediately met with many comments.

Board member Dean Ackmann asked if the purchase of a TurnItIn.com account is enough to help mitigate AI use in the classroom. Olson said while it works well for detecting plagiarism, AI is getting smarter, and the program is picking up on it less.

At the high school, educators have shifted to giving students a diagnostic writing test. That allows teachers to have a baseline understanding of where each student's writing skill is and help them identify AI use in future essays. Teachers are also moving toward having students finish all their work in class so they can lock the Chromebook screens on specific websites.

"We want to have students critically thinking and creatively thinking, but also not feel like we have to constantly walk around and monitor, monitor, monitor," Olson said.

School board clerk Mark Kunde said he agrees that AI shouldn't be hidden from students, but there needs to be an educational structure in place to ensure that critical thinking is still happening. Board member Kati Calewarts said AI "creeps her out" and she won't let her children use it for as long as possible, but she can see how it might be beneficial for the right person who has the right kind of knowledge on it.

David Jerabek, the director of technol-

ogy for the WCSD, said he has been focused on educating teachers about the appropriate use of AI in their own work. As AI pulls from everywhere on the internet, it can produce "hallucinations" or inaccurate information in its answers.

"I said we need to get in front of people just to make sure that our teachers are using it from an ethical standpoint too," Jerabek said. "We shouldn't just be putting a student's paper in there and asking it to grade it. That's an inappropriate use from an educational standpoint."

Jerabek said that most teachers know, from a professional standpoint, what is right and wrong when AI is producing

an answer, but students don't have that skill yet. Teachers need to help them gain knowledge to be able to identify the pitfalls and the positive uses of AI.

"At the end of the day, we want kids to leave school being prepared and knowing this is out here," Olson said. "We're not going to ignore it and pretend AI doesn't exist, but how can we use it in an ethical way?"

The WCSD school board meets every first and third Monday of the month unless otherwise designated. Meetings take place in the middle school library at 6:30 p.m. and are also livestreamed and uploaded to youtube.com/@Winneconne.

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Patrolling the beat

The Winneconne Police Department reported the following incidents occurred in August.

Aug. 2 – Fire call

A fire was reported burning inside a dumpster on South Fifth Avenue. Winneconne/Poygan Fire Department was called. The fire was contained near a brick wall and was believed to have been burning for some time before the fire department arrived.

Aug. 2 – Animal

An adult female was observed leaving a dog inside a non-running vehicle to enter a private business. Although the front windows were down slightly, the dog began to show signs of distress. While inspecting the exterior of the vehicle, the odor of marijuana was apparent. The responding officer asked staff to send the female outside, who then became very belligerent. She stated her destination was Marble Park, but when finding out dogs were not allowed, went instead to purchase a quick snack. When asked about the odor of marijuana, she denied possession and use. The dog was removed from the vehicle and a search was completed. She ultimately admitted there was marijuana in the vehicle and detailed the location. She was issued citations for possession of THC and paraphernalia, as well as a citation for animal offense. The female was then released to a responsible party and left the vehicle legally parked for the night.

Aug. 3 – Fire call

An officer assisted in evacuating a residence due to a carbon monoxide detector that had alerted. There was an odor of natural gas inside the home. The fire department arrived on scene shortly after to check the residence.

Aug. 7 – Accident/Hit and run

An officer was dispatched to a hit and run accident on North Eighth Avenue. An individual witnessed a minivan sideswiping a parked vehicle and parking in a driveway a few houses away from the scene. The parked vehicle had visible damage to the driver's side with noticeable paint transfer from the offending vehicle. The driver of the minivan was identified and admitted he was the driver who hit the parked vehicle. The odor of intoxicants was noticeable when speaking with the driver. A preliminary breath test was refused by the driver. Due to the delay between the accident and contact with the driver, it was unable to be determined whether the driver had been intoxicated while operating the vehicle. The driver was cited for hit and run, failure to maintain control and failure to notify law enforcement of an accident.

Aug. 9 – Animal

An officer explained concerns over a dog observed inside a vehicle that wasn't running. Outside temperatures were in the high 80's and although the windows were down slightly, concern for the animal's welfare was addressed with the owner. There was someone in the vehicle and the AC was on. No further action was taken.

Aug. 9 – Damage property

An officer was approached by a customer at a village tavern, reporting someone had keyed their friend's vehicle in the parking lot. The victim did not wish to become involved and although the reporting party had suspicion about who may have caused the damage, no proof was available. An attempt to contact the victim at another location within the Village was unsuccessful, and no other individuals were present during the damage. Follow-up will continue.

Aug. 9 – Theft

An officer was dispatched to a theft call on South Second Avenue. The reporting party stated two envelopes containing emergency funds were taken from inside her unlocked vehicle overnight, as well as cash stored in the unlocked glove box. Her wallet and purse with additional money were also in the vehicle but were not taken. She expressed suspicion toward several individuals but did not have functioning outdoor security cameras to provide proof. Neighbors did not observe any suspicious activity and did not have active security cameras. The reporting party was assured that increased patrols would be completed in the area and was advised that law enforcement remain available for further assistance as needed.

Aug. 13 – Theft

An officer was dispatched to the report of a purse theft at the circus. Lost and found at Marble Park was checked but no purse was found. When talking with the reporting party, the odor of intoxicants was noticeable. No further action was taken.

Aug. 13 – Animal

Two dogs running loose on Poppy Lane entered an open garage and bit the homeowner's dog. The homeowner also reported a minor injury from the incident. The dog was treated for injury, and the owner of the offending animal was cited for animal violation first offense.

Aug. 15 – Damage

Photos were taken following the report of a vandalized vehicle parked by Talk of the Town. Damage to the passenger side door appeared to be from "keying." Investigation continues.

Aug. 16 – Disturbance

Dispatch advised an officer of a bar fight that had occurred recently. It was reported that a male was being disruptive and causing a scene at a local bar after being denied an open tab. The male then became verbally aggressive and reached over the bar toward the female bartender. A male patron stepped between them and held down the male until an officer arrived. Both males sustained minor injuries, and one was treated by first responders. The offender refused to speak without a lawyer present. Based on the statements provided, the male was cited for disorderly conduct. While upset about the citation, he was reminded that he had declined to speak with an officer and instead requested legal representation.

Aug. 16 – Violation court order/OWI

An officer responded to a harassment complaint from a female who stated her ex-boyfriend had been calling, texting and driving by her apartment. She stated he had been verbally aggressive in the past and she was concerned for herself and their shared children. A friend arrived to transport her and the children to another location. There was an active protection order from another state preventing the male from making contact with the female or the children. The male arrived and parked behind the vehicle to prohibit them from leaving. When approaching the male's vehicle, an odor of intoxicants as well as bloodshot glassy eyes and slurred speech was observed. The male refused to identify himself and was clearly agitated. The male was detained and was placed in an assisting officer's squad. An open alcoholic beverage was observed inside the vehicle and while initially detained for safety of the situation, probable cause for an arrest was present. An ambulance responded after the male complained of defensive injuries caused by the female earlier that day. Standardized Field Sobriety Tests were not completed due to injury, combative state and quick change of moods. A WRAP device was determined to be the safest way to transport the male, and while he initially refused to cooperate and attempted to bite one of the assisting officers, the WRAP was applied. While waiting for EMS medics, the male made what were considered directed threatening comments toward law enforcement. The male was then transported to the

jail and attempted to make a deal, refusing to agree to a legal blood draw until his request was met. A warrant was obtained for the legal blood draw, and the male was transported to the hospital for the procedure. He was then transported to jail without incident. A breath sample obtained at the jail read .101 several hours after the arrest. Charges were referred to the District Attorney's office for battery to a law enforcement officer, threats to a law enforcement officer, violation of a court order, resisting/obstructing, and disorderly conduct. No-bond conditions were applied. He was also issued municipal citations for OWI second offense, operating without a valid license, possession of open intoxicants and failure to equip with the required bumper.

Aug. 16 – Noise complaint

A neighbor reported loud music and suicidal comments coming from next door. An officer spoke with tenant, who stated they would turn the music down and that the comments were from a TV show she had been watching. Nothing further was needed.

Aug. 18 – OWI/Assist probation and parole

An officer located a vehicle whose driver was involved in a recent disturbance in a neighboring community. The vehicle belonged to a female who was known through prior contacts, historically relating to crack cocaine use. The on-duty officer was advised by an assisting officer that a recent phone conversation with the female raised concerns that she was under the influence of some sort of substance. Records confirmed the female was currently on active supervision with the Department of Corrections for a prior drug conviction and was Act 79 eligible. The officer made contact with the female driver and noticed a distinct odor of intoxicants. When asked about the odor, she admitted consuming alcoholic beverages. A preliminary breath test was administered, with a result of .201. Standardized field sobriety tests were performed showing clues of impairment. A search of the vehicle found alcoholic beverages open and within reach of the driver, a violation under the terms of supervision. A probation and parole agent placed a hold on the female, and

SEE **Patrolling the beat** ON PAGE 7

Marble Park Lanes Bowling

Sept. 10

WWWL

Team Standings

Tinys	14-4
Beiser Realty	9-9
Marble Park Lanes	9-9
Muellers	4-14

Last Week

Beiser Realty def. Muellers	7-2
Tinys def. Marble Park Lanes	7-2

Top Scores

Team Scratch Game

Beiser Realty	745
Tinys	623

Scratch Game

Holly Manteufel	233
Karen Marx	208

Team Scratch Series

Beiser Realty	2106
Tinys	1789

Scratch Series

Karen Marx	583
Holly Manteufel	568

Team Handicap Game

Tinys	895
Beiser Realty	869

Team Handicap Series

Tinys	2605
Beiser Realty	2478

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Patrolling the beat

FROM PAGE 6

she was arrested for OWI, operating with PAC and open intoxicants, following a breath test with results showing .150. She was transported to jail without incident and the vehicle was towed to the police impound lot.

Aug. 19 – Drugs

A traffic stop was initiated after observing a vehicle with an illegible temporary plate in the rear window. The three occupants were observed behaving suspiciously before the stop. Two of the occupants were identified, the third initially stating she did not have ID, then offering false identifying information. The driver was homeless and was staying at a nearby shelter. He was also on active supervision and stated he was traveling to a village assisted living facility to pick up a friend. It should be noted that the facility was being monitored out of suspicion stemming from previous investigations of employee theft and providing alcohol/illicit drugs to patients. The two female passengers were both found exhibiting signs of crack/cocaine use. All three occupants were asked to exit the vehicle and were searched without incident. A K9 sniff of the vehicle alerted on the vehicle and a search located drug paraphernalia and suspected crack/cocaine. The substance was field tested and returned with a positive result. When interviewed, the driver then divulged that the female without ID had given a fake name and revealed her name and that she had warrants. He also stated that the drugs and paraphernalia were hers and that she was a prostitute. The female was ultimately arrested and transported to jail. She was referred to the DA's office with charges of possession of cocaine, possession of drug paraphernalia, resisting/obstructing an officer and bail jumping. The male driver and female passenger were released without citations. Parole officers were made aware of the incident for both parolees involved.

Aug. 20 – Accident/injury

An officer was dispatched to a vehicle versus pedestrian on a bicycle accident with injury on West Main Street. The driver stated she saw the bicyclist in the bike lane as she was approaching the intersection but did not see him any longer and proceeded, then realized she had hit him with her vehicle. First responders evaluated the bicycle rider, who denied further medical attention. There was no damage to the vehicle. No citations were issued.

Aug. 24 – Assist agency

A standby was requested by a male to retrieve some of his belongings from a residence in Winneconne. He was advised of the civil process necessary to obtain his property. Later that day, his ex-girlfriend was arrested for making death threats. It was also known that a loaded firearm was inside the residence. It should be noted that the female had been arrested previously for disorderly conduct toward the male. She was taken into custody for do-

mestic disorderly conduct as advised by West Bend Police and transported without incident.

Aug. 25 – Ordinance/Overnight mooring

An officer was inspecting vessels moored overnight at village owned docks at the North First Street boat launch. A faded and illegible overnight mooring permit was observed. The registered owner was identified and issued a citation for an overnight mooring violation. It should be noted that the owner has been warned and/or cited for the same violation several times in the recent past.

Aug. 27 – Assist agency

Officers attempted to serve a search warrant requested by a detective from Dubuque, Iowa Sheriff's Department in a sexual assault investigation. The search warrant was issued to seize a cellular phone and to take a DNA sample from the suspect. The parties present at the residence were cooperative and the items included in the warrant were seized without issue, then entered into evidence at the police department.

Aug. 27 – Suspicious vehicle

A motor home seen in several locations around the village was reported as suspicious. An officer made contact with the driver of the vehicle, who stated that he lived in the motor home and parked it at a relative's home on Lakeshore Drive. Consent was granted to search the vehicle; nothing illegal was found and the driver was released. No further action was taken.

Aug. 28 – Accident

Officers were dispatched to a reported vehicle versus pedestrian accident in a business parking lot. A male with minor injuries declined ambulance transport, although first responders and emergency medical services were requested to assess him. It was reported that the male had been walking to his vehicle when the driver struck him at a low speed. The driver then exited the vehicle and remained on scene with the male until the officers arrived. The male was able to stand up and move on his own following the incident. No citations were issued.

Aug. 29 – Assist agency

A female was helped out from under her vehicle after she accelerated quickly and ended up in a ditch. She attempted to leave the vehicle and slipped underneath it. A lift team consisting of several officers allowed a firefighter to pull the female safely out from under the vehicle. The female was unharmed and there was no damage to the vehicle.

Aug. 30 – Suspicious person

A resident with a new construction home reported seeing a suspicious male attempt entry to their home via outdoor camera. An officer was requested to check the area and make sure the home was secure. After reviewing the camera footage, the male was located at a residence nearby. He explained that he had the wrong house and was looking for a family gathering in the area. The homeowner was advised of the findings.

Aug. 30 – OWI

A vehicle was observed traveling at a

high rate of speed on West Main Street. A radar unit indicated the vehicle's speed was 44 MPH in a 25 MPH zone. A traffic stop was initiated. The driver continued for some time before finally stopping. A single male occupant was driving and was asked to exit the vehicle after displaying several signs of impairment including dry mouth while attempting to speak, dilated pupils and body tremors. He admitted smoking a large amount of marijuana earlier in the day. Sufficient probable cause was found, and the male was placed under arrest for operating while impaired. The vehicle was towed to the police impound lot and was ultimately released the following day. The driver consented to a legal blood draw and was transported to Mercy without incident. He was issued citations for OWI, speeding and possession of THC.

Aug. 30 – Public indecency

While on patrol an officer observed a male who appeared to be urinating on the wall at the east end of the bridge. The male, who had been holding a cup, appeared highly intoxicated and did confirm he had been drinking alcoholic beverages recently. A citation for public indecency was issued and explained.

Aug. 31 – Traffic stop/alcohol

A vehicle observed without illuminated taillights. A traffic stop was initiated, and the two occupants were identified. It was noted that the passenger had bloodshot eyes, and the odor of intoxicants was noticeable. The driver denied drinking and consented to a preliminary breath test, which confirmed his statement. The passenger also consented to a preliminary breath test, which resulted in a reading of .114 and a citation for underage drinking. An open alcoholic beverage was found in the vehicle, confiscated, and the driver was cited for open intoxicants. Both were then released from the scene.

Village board

FROM PAGE 1

increase across all pay scales.

"The final structure achieved both objectives: narrowing entry level disparity and maintaining a competitive pay rate for experienced staff," Fuller said. "While the board's targeted wage proposal was declined, the parties agreed to a uniform 5% annual increase over four years totaling a 20% adjustment."

The agreement also included a new work week schedule. According to the tentative agreement provided to the board, starting Jan. 1, 2026, officers would work four days on and five days off in 12-hour shifts. Police Chief Ben Sauriol said the new schedule allows for more predictability in scheduling and better work-life balance for the officers.

For non-union employees, the village currently contributes 80% to their health insurance and the employee pays 20%. For union employees, the split is 85/15. With the rising costs associated with health insurance, the union compromised with the village for employees to pay 16%, 17% and 18% premium shares over the next three years.

"I think that the insurance contributions are low," trustee Paul Olson said. "Every other employee is an 80/20 balance. They don't even get to the 20% in 2028. I think they need to readjust those numbers."

Many of the board members were unhappy with the insurance portion of the agreement. Janikowski made a motion to approve the tentative agreement, but with no second, a vote was not taken. Olson then made a motion to reject the agreement, seconded by trustee Michael Bouras, and the motion passed 2-1.

"All right, go back to the drawing board," Village President Chris Boucher said.

The village board meets at 5:30 p.m. every third Tuesday of the month in the village boardroom. Its next meeting is at 5:30 p.m. Oct. 21.



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Prep Roundup



Photo by Doug Sasse

Winneconne's Jovan Zeller wraps up a Shawano ball carrier while Dallas Walker (54) and Jesse Michaud (57) close in to help on Friday night.

FOOTBALL

Big first quarter carries Wolves to another win

For the second straight game, Winneconne put up 35 points in the first quarter and cruised to an easy win by posting a 42-0 thumping of Shawano Friday night.

It was the first shutout of the season for the second-ranked Wolves, who have allowed just 24 points combined in five games this season. Winneconne also topped the 40-point mark for the fourth straight game and have outscored its opponents 105-12 in the first quarter this season.

Five different players scored touchdowns in the game for Winneconne as the Wolves racked up 300 yards of total offense.

Bryce Jones, Brody Schaffer, Andon Lang and Mason Mathe each ran for a touchdown, while Koltyn Kachur picked up a 6-yard touchdown reception in the win. Schaffer also returned an interception 31 yards for a touchdown to round

the Wolves' scorers.

Jones paced Winneconne's offense with 81 yards on 10 carries with Mathe chipping in 54 yards rushing in the game. Schaffer finished 11-of-18 passing for 120 yards, while Ryan Quigley and Jordan Nettekovan each caught three passes in the game.

The Wolves' defense was led by Hudson Samolinski, who registered 4.5 tackles, including two tackles-for-loss and recovered a fumble. Jovan Zeller and Andrew Dorn also had fumble recoveries for the Wolves.

Winneconne will next go in search of its 16th straight regular season win when it hosts Xavier on Friday night in Winneconne.

The Hawks enter the game 1-4 overall this season and 0-3 in the Bay Conference coming off a 21-15 loss to New London last week. Winneconne beat Xavier 37-19 last season to snap a five-game losing streak against the Hawks. Kickoff in the Wolves' homecoming game is slated for 7 p.m. on Friday.



Photo by Doug Sasse

Winneconne's Andrew Dorn pounces on an onside kick during Friday's win over Shawano.

GOLF

Wolves finish first in conference event at Ridgeway

Mia Rust continued her run of strong play by capturing medalist honors at a Bay Conference South Division mini-meet held Sept. 15 at Ridgeway Country Club in Neenah.

The Wolves won the meet with a team score of 200, 11 shots better than second-place Fox Valley Lutheran.

Rust finished with a round of 46 to finish one shot ahead of the rest of the field and take home medalist honors.

Jada Kaiser tied for second place at the meet, one shot behind Rust. Taryn Meyer had the next lowest round for Winneconne with a 53, followed by Allie Groff with a 54 and Emma Cegielski with a 55.

VOLLEYBALL

Winneconne wins title at Berlin

The Wolves overcame a loss in pool play by beating Campbellsport Saturday in the championship match at the Berlin tournament.

Winneconne edged the Cougars, 26-24, 26-24, in the title match to cap a 4-1 day at the tournament. The Wolves lost to Campbellsport, 25-21, 25-21 in their pool play match. Winneconne also beat Markesan and Columbus in pool play before topping Amherst in the semifinals to earn the second shot against the Cougars.

Alyssa Koval finished with 40 kills at the tournament to lead the Wolves, while also finishing with 45 digs. Malia Bodoh also had a strong day with 37 kills, nine blocks and nine aces in the five matches.

Bailey Church posted a team-high 64 assists with Tess Immel finishing with 44 assists and 10 aces. Hallah Josephson led the team with 62 digs.

Neela Gardner also chipped in 23 kills on the day for Winneconne.

Earlier in the week, the Wolves suffered their first Bay Conference set back in a five-set loss to Freedom. Winneconne forced a fifth set to have a chance to win but ended up falling to the Irish 19-25, 25-19, 25-18, 18-25, 15-9.

Koval and Bodoh each had 14 kills in the match to lead the Wolves, while Gardner finished with 10 and Jaidyn Halder added seven.

Koval and Church each finished with three aces to lead Winneconne with Bodoh leading the team in blocks with three. Church also led the team with 37 assists.

Three players finished with double-digit digs in the match led by Josephson with 26, followed by Church with 13 and Koval with 12. Gardner and Kendell Vette each had eight digs in the match.

SOCCER

Winneconne comes up short against Green Bay East

The Wolves dropped the Bay Conference match on the road, 4-1, on Thursday.

Winneconne is now 2-5 overall and 1-3 in the conference.

CROSS COUNTRY

Winneconne girls second at Smiley Invitational

Quinn Leroy posted a top-10 finish to lead the Wolves to a runner-up finish Saturday at the Smiley Invitational hosted by Wausau East.

Winneconne finished with 130 points to finish behind only Kiel in the 20-team Division 2/3 field. The Raiders won the meet with 104 points.

Leroy finished sixth overall to lead Winneconne. Lydia Luce was the next Wolves runner to finish by placing 21st followed by Ruby Kuehn in 27th. Lauren Wiedemeier in 40th place and Vivian Verich in 60th place rounded out the scoring runners for Winneconne.

The Winneconne boys placed fourth overall with 173 points and were led by Grant Wenzelow, who placed seventh overall in the Division 2/3 race.

Tyler Bostwick and Merrick Heise were the next two runners to finish, placing 35th and 42nd, respectively, while Silas Sarbo placed 67th and Broc Berglund took 60th for the Wolves.

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SENIOR SPOTLIGHT

Samolinski anchors line for Wolves' football team

By Steve Clark
Winneconne News

Hudson Samolinski hasn't always been the 6-foot-3, 280-pound behemoth who now takes the field for the Winneconne High School football team.

There was a time – in the not too distant past – when the hulking offensive and defensive lineman for the Wolves actually played at both quarterback and wide receiver and was darting around slow-footed defenders.

Then, something happened.

"I just kind of inflated in middle school," Samolinski said. "I was a little, skinny guy up until like sixth and seventh grade. That's when I figured out that I could go into the pantry and get a snack whenever I wanted to."

And with a growing body, it often didn't matter what he found on his searches for sustenance.

"Honestly, it was just whatever we had," Samolinski said. "And usually, it wasn't the type of stuff that is the best to be putting in your body."

Winneconne opponents probably wished he would have stayed the little, skinny guy he was.

Samolinski was a unanimous first-team all-Bay Conference selection last season as both an offensive and defensive lineman. He was the only non-senior named as a first-team offensive lineman last year, while also finishing with a team-high 13 tackles-for-loss in leading the defense.

Following the breakout season and combined with some strong showings at different camps last spring and summer, Samolinski committed to NCAA Division I FCS member Illinois State University. He expects to play on the defensive line for the Redbirds.

But first, there is some unfinished business with his high school teammates to take care of.

"This is the only senior season I get, and I will start thinking about college football after it," Samolinski said. "Right now, it's all about my boys. They don't need me to gain weight or lose weight; they just need me to do what I do."

So far, the Wolves – who reached the Division 4 state semifinals last season – are doing very well.

Winneconne is ranked second in Division 4 after starting the season with five straight wins, the last four coming in dominant fashion.

The potential for a special season is certainly brewing, but Samolinski is adamant about keeping the team's success in per-



Winneconne News

Hudson Samolinski was a two-way unanimous first-team all-Bay Conference selection last season and over the summer committed to continue his football career at Illinois State University.

spective.

"We have to get through the regular season and game-by-game, that's where our focus is," Samolinski said. "It would be an amazing experience (to play at state) because we have all been dreaming of it, but we take it step-by-step before we think about the big goal."

Samolinski willingly shares his approach with the rest of his teammates and likes that he is in a position to be a leader for this group.

It's a role that he said is very important to him and one he takes pride in.

"It brings me a lot of joy that they think of me as a leader," Samolinski said. "I like playing football because I love playing for my guys. They are out here every single night with me going through the exact same conditioning and running – just a whole bunch of sweat."

Slamming into other large, muscular dudes about 70 times on a Friday night doesn't seem like it would be much fun.

But it seems that Samolinski wouldn't

want to be anywhere else.

"I like that we get to be physical. It's a battle in the trenches on every play," Samolinski said. "It can get pretty tiring, but we have been doing more conditioning this season so that we can play both ways there."

Plus, whether he's on offense or defense, there are certainly some rewards for the hard work.

"I get to open up holes for my running backs," Samolinski said. "Bryce (Jones), Mason (Mathe) or Brody (Schaffer), I get to provide them with an opportunity to gain some yards, get a first down or score."

And when he sees one of his teammates take one to the end zone?

"I'm even more excited than they are. I'm running all the way to the end zone. It's an electric moment," Samolinski said. "When we can give our running backs the opportunities to get those big gains, it not only reflects on how shifty they are, how fast they are but it also comes back to the line. I love when we can celebrate in the end zone."

As much as he likes helping pave the way to the end zone for a teammate, there is something special about playing defense.

And there is a reason why his future is landing on that side of the line of scrimmage.

"I've always gravitated toward defense. I've always said that offense requires too much brain power. Defense you get to think a little bit less and you don't have to memorize as many plays," Samolinski said. "I like being destructive and I like tackling people. The electricity in the air after a big TFL or a big hit in the backfield, it's a great experience."

In addition to football, Samolinski is a state-caliber thrower in track and field as well as a very successful powerlifter.

Yet, when it comes down to it, football has always been his No. 1 choice.

"Football is something I took a liking to when I was very, very young and I have always wanted to play at the next level," Samolinski said. "The biggest thing in sports is teamwork, especially in a sport like football. A real skill that you can learn and take with you is how to get along with and work with others."

Samolinski said that working with this group of Wolves and with all of his fellow seniors has been special and something he will take with him even after he takes off the Winneconne maroon for the final time.

"When you can rely on other guys to pick you up and rely on if you are having a bad day or make a mistake, it's nice to be a part of that," Samolinski said. "It's one big family. On the practice field we are a secondary family. Being a senior is special and being able to play on a football field under the Friday night lights with these guys is very cool."

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Bible Baptist Church
At First Presbyterian Church

32 S. Third Avenue
Winneconne
920-582-7100

Sundays: 10:45 a.m. - Sunday School. Noon - Worship.

Immanuel Lutheran Church

9077 North Road
Zittau
920-836-3543

Sundays: 9 a.m. - Worship.
Mondays: 10 a.m. - Bible Study.

First Presbyterian Church

32 S. Third Avenue
Winneconne
920-706-0047
Winnchurch.org

Sundays: 8:30 a.m.

Services are livestreamed on Facebook/recordings uploaded to YouTube.

Lord of the Lakes

6090 Harbour S Dr
Winneconne, WI 54986
(920) 582-2622

Evangelical Lutheran Church of America

6090 Harbour South
Winneconne
920-582-2622
Lordofthelakes.net

Thursday: 8:30 a.m. - Bible Study.
Sunday: 8 and 10 a.m. - Worship.
Monday: 5 p.m. - Narcotics Anonymous.
Wednesday: 6 p.m. - Swag Youth Group

Messiah Evangelical Lutheran Church – Omro
Evangelical Lutheran Synod

7394 Liberty School Rd.
Omro
920-875-0755
www.messiahomro.com

Sundays: 9 a.m.
- Regular Sunday Worship,
with Fellowship to Follow
Wednesday Prime Service
Wednesday Bible Study

St. Mary's Winneconne

210 Pleasant Dr., Winneconne, WI 54986

Thursday: 2 p.m. - Rosary
Sunday: 8:30 a.m. - Mass/Fellowship.
Monday: 7:30 a.m. - LOW w/communion.
Wednesday: 7:30 a.m. - LOW w/communion.

www.stmarychurches.org
(920) 582-7712

St. Paul's Lutheran Church
8 South Fourth Street
Winneconne
920-582-7772
Stpaulsfamily.com

Thursday: 9:30 a.m. - Bible Study.
Saturday: 4:30 p.m. - Worship Service.
Sunday: 8 and 10:30 a.m. - Worship Service. 9:10 a.m. - Bible Study.
Monday: Contemporary music practice.

St. Peter's Lutheran Church, WELS
8630 County Road MM
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920-878-3001
Stpeterslarsen.com

Sundays: 10 a.m. - Service w/Bible Study; Fellowship to Follow.
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Confirmation classes for 7th and 8th graders

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Lunch Menus

Sept. 29-Oct. 3

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

Monday: Kielbasa with Sauerkraut. Baked Beans. Fresh Orange.

Tuesday: Frozen. Chili with Pasta, Tomatoes, Kidney Beans. Saltine Crackers. Carrots. Pineapple Tidbits.

The October menu has not yet been released.

Winneconne Community School District

Monday: ES - Mini Pizzas, Turkey and Cheese Sandwich or Chef Salad. Garlic Breadstick. Garden Bar. MS - Mini Pancakes. Babycakes. Sausage Patty.

Quick Bites - Hamburger/Bun, Chef Salad, Grilled Chicken Salad, Fruit Bowl and Smuckers PB&J. HS Country Roads - Chicken Nuggets. Smuckers PB&J. Assorted Veggies. Buttered Pasta. Fruit and Salads - Fruit Bowl, Chef Salad, Grilled Chicken Salad and Yogurt Fruit Parfait. Stadium Burger - Chicken Patty/Bun. Spicy Chicken Patty/Bun. Waffle Fries. Willies Pizza - Cheese Pizza.

Tuesday: ES - Orange Chicken, Turkey and Cheese Sandwich or Chef Salad. Broccoli. Lo Mein. Garden Bar. MS - French Bread Pizza. Winter Blend Vegetables. Quick Bites - Chicken Patty/Bun, Chef Salad, Grilled Chicken Salad, Fruit Bowl and Smuckers PB&J. HS Country Roads - Cheesy Chili Dog. Smuckers PB&J. Baked Beans. Fruit and Salads - Fruit Bowl, Chef Salad, Grilled

Chicken Salad and Yogurt Fruit Parfait. Stadium Burger - Pizza Burger. Rice Bowl/Lo Mein. Willies Pizza - Pepperoni Pizza.

Wednesday: ES - Hamburger/Bun, Turkey and Cheese Sandwich or Chef Salad. Garden Bar. Tri-Tater. MS - Rice Bowl. Broccoli. Quick Bites - Corn Dog, Chef Salad, Grilled Chicken Salad, Fruit Bowl and Smuckers PB&J. HS Country Roads - Chicken Tenders. Smuckers PB&J. Corn. Fruit and Salads - Fruit Bowl, Chef Salad, Grilled Chicken Salad and Yogurt Fruit Parfait. Stadium Burger - Chicken Wings. Taco Bowl. Willies Pizza - Bosco Sticks/Sauce.

Thursday: ES - Chicken Nuggets, Turkey and Cheese Sandwich or Chef Salad. Garden Bar. Mixed Vegetables. Buttered Pasta. MS - Baked Zitti. Roasted Vegetables. Quick Bites - Bosco Sticks/Sauce, Chef Salad, Grilled Chicken Salad, Fruit Bowl and Smuckers PB&J.

HS Country Roads - Grilled Cheese Sandwich. Smuckers PB&J. Assorted Veggies. Tomato Soup. Fruit and Salads - Fruit Bowl, Chef Salad, Grilled Chicken Salad and Yogurt Fruit Parfait. Stadium Burger - Hamburger/Bun. Mac and Cheese Bowl. Willies Pizza - Sausage Pizza.

Friday: ES - Fish Sticks, Yogurt Fruit Parfait or Chef Salad. Garden Bar. Broccoli/Cheese Sauce. Rice Pilaf. MS - Mini Corn Dogs. Mixed Vegetables. Tri-Tater. Quick Bites - Lunch Box, Chef Salad, Grilled Chicken Salad, Fruit Bowl and Smuckers PB&J. HS Country Roads - Chicken Ranch Wrap. Smuckers PB&J. California Blend. Fruit and Salads - Fruit Bowl, Chef Salad, Grilled Chicken Salad and Yogurt Fruit Parfait. Stadium Burger - Fish Patty/Bun. BBQ Chicken Totchos. Willies Pizza - Pickle Ranch Pizza.

The Weekly Whisk

Pumpkin Spice White Russian

Fall flavors meet cocktail hour in this Pumpkin Spice White Russian. Creamy, spiced and just a little indulgent, it's the perfect drink to sip while the leaves change — or when you want that cozy autumn feeling in a glass. With the warm notes of pumpkin spice blended into a classic White Russian, this cocktail feels festive and comforting all at once.

- 2 ounces vodka
- 1 ounce coffee liqueur

2 ounces pumpkin spice coffee creamer
 Combine all the ingredients in a glass, add a large ice cube, and stir to combine.

For questions or comments email weekly-whisk01@gmail.com



UW-Oshkosh tops fundraising goal

Winneconne News
 The University of Wisconsin-Oshkosh surpassed its goal and raised a record-breaking \$198,389 as part of its Titan Day of Giving campaign.

The fundraiser held Sept. 12 in celebration of the university's founding in 1871 rallied 463 donors to help surpass the goal of \$150,000.

Contributions raised through Titans Day of Giving fuel scholarships, enhance academic and co-curricular programs and provide resources that empower both students and faculty. University officials said matching gifts offered by partners ampli-

fied the impact, helping drive momentum throughout the day.

While the campaign has concluded, UW Oshkosh leaders emphasize that opportunities to support the university continue year-round. They said every contribution helps inspire students, empower faculty and strengthen the broader community.

For more information on supporting UW Oshkosh, visit uwosh.edu/foundation.

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Winchester fire department participates in 9/11 memorial stair climb

Winneconne News
Members of the Town of Winchester Fire Department participated Saturday in the annual 9/11 Memorial Stair Climb at Lambeau Field.

The annual event is a tribute to the 343 firefighters who gave their lives on Sept 11, 2001 during the terrorist attacks at the World Trade Center.

The Winchester team joined other members of the community in climbing the equivalent of 110 stories - the height of the fallen World Trade Center towers - on the steps of Lambeau Field. Each climber is given a badge with the name and photograph of one of the fallen firefighters to symbolically complete the climb with one of the fallen.

At the equivalent of the 78th floor of the World Trade Center towers, which is the



Photo from Town of Winchester Fire Department
Town of Winchester firefighters and first responders Sadie Konow, Kari Joas and Katie Joas participated in the 9/11 Memorial Stair Climb at Lambeau Field.

highest floor firefighters reached on 9/11, each climber rings the fire bell in honor of the fallen firefighter on their badge.

Classifieds

Miscellaneous

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Public Notice

MINUTES OF REGULAR BOARD MEETING WINNECONNE COMMUNITY SCHOOL DISTRICT WINNECONNE MIDDLE SCHOOL LIBRARY 100 WOLF RUN WINNECONNE WI 54986 AUGUST 18, 2025 – 6:30PM

Call the meeting to order and pledge of allegiance
Board President, Donna Hanson called the meeting to order at 6:30 pm.

Board Member Roll Call
Board Member: Jaci Stelzner, Kati Calewarts, Dean Ackmann, Nathaniel Harter, Mark Kunde
Donna Hanson
Absent: Jill Verich

Administrative Team and Visitor Recognition and Open Forum
District Administrator, Peggy Larson, High School Principal, Leah Michaud, Elementary Principal, Lisa Hughes, Assistant High School Principal, Dan Dobner, Assistant Middle School Principal, Carley Harvath, Assistant Elementary Principal, Mike Meunier, Director of Learning, Joe Pitsch, Pupil Services Director, Laurin Dodd, Business Manager, Monica Knapp, Technology Director, Dave Jerabek, Facilities Director, Steve Cady

VISITORS: (See Visitor List on file)

OPEN FORUM- There was no community comment in open forum

OPEN SESSION
5. consent items:
A. Approve Minutes of July 21, 2025, Regular School Board Meeting
B. Approve Minutes of August 04, 2025, Regular School Board Meeting
C. District Checks #1001778 to #10016808 in the Amount of \$120,502.29
D. Student Activity Checks #915697 to #915702 in the Amount of \$12,653.19
E. District ACH Payments \$65,900.30
F. SA Ach Payments \$277.92
G. Credit Card Report \$60, 441.48
H. Approve New Compliance Officers, Joe Pitsch and Laurin Dodd
I. Approve Head Varsity Softball Coach (Pending HR Protocol)

Motion made by Harter, seconded by Calewarts to approve Consent Agenda Item B-G
Roll Call: Stelzner-Aye, Calewarts-Aye, Ackmann-Aye, Harter-Aye, Kunde-Aye, Hanson-Aye
Motion approved: 6-0

6. Act 95
The Board of Education has asked that we revisit ACT 95 tie-breaking procedures. March 03, 2025, the board passed the tie-breaking criteria that impacts the class of 2026, however we did learn that the waiver is not submitted annually, but good for four years. Class of 2026 ACT 95 results were included in the review. Administration team strongly believes that current tie-breaking system is in the best interest of all students.

Motion made by Hanson, seconded by Kunde to approve the ACT 95 as presented.
Roll Call: Calewarts-Aye, Ackmann-Aye, Harter-Aye, Kunde-Aye, Stelzner-Aye, Hanson-Aye
Motion approved: 6-0

7. Annual Reading Curriculum Review and Plan Report

Annual Reading Curriculum Review and Plan Report was reviewed for all grade levels; this reviews the WI Forward Testing and the I-Reading testing results which are the district results
Motion made by Calewarts, seconded by Harter to approve the Annual Reading Curriculum Review and Plan Report as presented
Roll call: Ackmann-Aye, Harter-Aye, Kunde-Aye, Stelzner-Aye, Calewarts-Aye, Hanson-Aye
Motion approved: 6-0

8. Marble Park
A letter of support towards the updates for the Arthur Marble Park was asked for the signatures of the WCSD Board of Education.

9. Administration Reports- (See updated reports on file)

10. Board Reports
A. Communications – There were no Communications to be read
B. Committee Reports:
• HR/Financial Planning- Committee have met, presenting in closed session
• PR/ Marketing- Has not met
• Policy- will be meeting prior to Regular Board of Education Meeting September 15,2025

Executive Session
Motion made by Kunde, second by Stelzner to move into Executive Session under 19.85 to approve Executive Session Minutes from July 21, 2025, and August 04, 2025, and Wis. Stat. 19.85 (1)(C) considering performance evaluation data of any public employee over which the governmental body has jurisdiction or exercises responsibility for District Administrator Evaluation, and proposals for coaching stipend increase. The board will move into an open session and may take action on items discussed in the Executive Session.

Roll Call: Harter-Aye, Kunde-Aye, Stelzner-Aye, Calewarts-Aye, Ackmann-Aye, Hanson-Aye
Motion approved: 6-0

Open Session

The Board of Education moved back into the open session at 7:25 pm

Coaching Stipends

Motion made by Kunde second by Stelzner to approve a 10% increase in all coaching stipends, and to add five (5) Assistant Varsity Coach positions where each of the Assistants will receive a \$2000 stipend

Roll Call: Kunde-Aye, Stelzner-Aye, Calewarts-Aye, Ackmann-Aye, Hanson-Aye
Motion approved: 6-0
Motion made by Harter, second by Calewarts to adjourn the meeting of the WCSD Board of Education
Motion passed- All Ayes

Mark D. Kunde
WCS- Board Clerk
7:30 pm

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Battle of The Big Bands returns to benefit Casa Esther

By George Halas
News Contributor

The Battle of The Big Bands 2 will be held Friday at Becket's Atrium in Oshkosh.

The "battle" will feature the Neenah-based Big Band Reunion and the Oshkosh-based Water City Jazz Orchestra for the benefit of Casa Esther.

Doors open at 6 p.m. and the music will begin at 7 p.m. Tickets will be \$25 at the door but can be purchased in advance for \$20 at secure.qgiv.com/event/bobb2025/. The event will also include a silent auction, a wine pull and a 50/50 raffle. In addition to tables and chairs for sitting and listening, there will be an area for dancing.

The format for the "competition" at Becket's will have the bands playing "alternating tunes throughout the night," according to Big Band Reunion co-director Ken Skitch.

"Each band will highlight a wide variety of big band music, both old and new," he said. "The real winners will be the audience."

"The audience can expect an evening of entertainment, dancing and very approachable music," echoed Water City Jazz Orchestra co-director Kurt Shipe. "At the end of night, the bands will combine for some drum battles and some of the members of each band will switch places."

"We're all good friends, and we all admire each other," Shipe added, although both he and Skitch mentioned that "there might be some friendly ribbing" throughout the evening.

Building on the success of last year's inaugural Battle of The Big Bands, which "couldn't have gone any better and was

entertaining for everyone," according to Shipe, this year's event will be different in that vocalist Janet Planet will sing with the BBR while vocalist Erin Krebs will perform with the WCJO.

"This year will be different," Shipe said. "Erin sang with both bands last year, and she was phenomenal, but we've added Janet this year to make it even better. They are both world-class singers."

The BBR's set list will include songs from Planet's "Just Like A Woman" and "Venus Moon" big band albums as well as a special guest solo by Father Joe Mattern, who is an original BBR member as well as founder, president and spiritual advisor to Casa Esther.

Mattern founded Casa Esther in 2008 focused on helping the immigrant farm worker community in Omro.

"We now serve all of Winnebago County," said executive director Sara Kosmicki. "We now have three program areas. Our basic needs distribution program includes rental assistance, eviction and homelessness prevention, helping people get securely housed and we have the flexibility to help with utility bills and hotels for people in transition."

"We have a non-violence advocacy program aimed at college students to train the next generation of leaders in the power and use of non-violence," she continued. "Our Gather in The Garden program works with local youth to help them learn to grow their own food as well as growing food to donate to local food pantries. We partner with the UW Extension, the Omro Public Library and the Boys & Girls Club."

"We want to thank the organizers at Casa Esther for including us," Shipe said. "They are the best, especially Father Joe."



Submitted photo

The Water City Jazz Orchestra will be playing Friday along with Big Band Reunion during the Battle of The Big Bands 2 at Becket's Atrium in Oshkosh. The event is a fundraiser for Casa Esther.

The fundraiser will serve as the season opener for both bands. The Big Band Reunion will begin its 34th year at 7:30 p.m. Monday at Cranky Pat's in Neenah. The Water City Jazz Orchestra begins its

11th season the same evening at 8 p.m. at Fletch's Tap House in Oshkosh.

Both bands play every Monday night through the end of May and admission for both is free.

Comedian performing at Time Community Theater

Winneconne News

Comedian Lara Beitz is performing Saturday at the Time Community Theater in Oshkosh. Doors open at 6:15 p.m. for the 7 p.m. show.

Originally from Milwaukee, Beitz has performed in the Los Angeles comedy scene and has become a favorite regular at Hollywood's Comedy Store. Her stand-up has been featured on Showtime, Comedy Central and The Late Late Show with James Corden.

On Comedy Central's Lights Out with David Spade, she was the first comedian ever to do stand-up. Following that per-

formance, she was made a regular panelist on the show.

She has toured with Joe Rogan, Marc Maron, Theo Von and Pete Holmes, and has been interviewed on The Joe Rogan Experience, WTF with Marc Maron and You Made it Weird with Pete Holmes. Her comedy special "STOPPABLE" is out now on AppleTV+ and Prime Video.

Beitz will be joined in Oshkosh by Adam Burke, Sonal Aggarwal and Ryan Mason.

The event is for guests age 18 and older. Tickets are on sale at foxvalleycomedy.com.



SEPT 24	SEPT 26	SEPT 27	SEPT 27-28	SEPT 28
Music on Main FREE 5:30-7pm Last of the year! Live music by <i>The Professionals</i> in Opera House Square.	FREE! UWO Volleyball Community Night Free Kid Fest at 5pm UWO vs UWSP at 7pm. Help set the 3,200 fan record!	Oktoberfest Oshkosh Masonic Center 12-4pm Family friendly event with food, drinks, polka music & dance. Music by <i>Val Sigal's Polka Band</i> .	Gem & Mineral Show Sat. 9am-5pm, Sun. 10am-4pm Sunnyview Expo Center Rocks, minerals, fossils, jewelry • Displays & demos • Kids' fun • Food • Raffles	Crafts & Critters A Zootastic Fall Faire Menominee Park Zoo FREE 9am-3pm Shop handmade crafts, art, & fall-themed decor - plus local food trucks.



All this and more!
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