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November 25, 2026 | Winneconne News

Volume 155, Issue 47



Inside



Trio of athletes sign at Winona State
Page 8

Couple honored for work outdoors
Page 5

School board to get legal fee details

By MaryBeth Matzek
Winneconne News

Winneconne Community School District Board members may soon learn how much has been spent this year on its legal fees.

Board members, along with members of the public, have questioned President Kati Calewarts about how much the board has paid on attorney fees since it hired von Briesen & Roper, S.C. to investigate former District Administrator Peggy Larson in June. Those legal fees are in addition to those being charged by Renning, Lewis & Lacy, S.C., which also represents the school district and participated in the district's annual meeting.

At the start of the Nov. 16 meeting, board member Mark Kunde made a motion that Calewarts share the board's legal receipts with board members at the next meeting.

"I've been asking in meetings and through emails and not getting a response. I thought the idea was to view them so we could move forward," he said. "I keep asking to get them put on the agenda."

Board treasurer Cindy Otten seconded the motion. Calewarts ruled the motion was out of order, which Otten challenged.

Calewarts then said she would add the legal costs to the next meeting's agenda.

At the meeting, Calewarts also said the ad hoc committee selected to hire an interim district administrator has selected the candidates it wants to bring before board members. As for the timing, she said it could be in "the pretty near future."

Calendars approved: The school board approved the calendars for the 2027-28 and 2028-29 school years.

For the 2027-28 school year, the first day of school will be Sept. 1 for kindergar-

See **School board** on Page 4



Photo from Winneconne Area Assistance Center

Giving spirit

A group of homeschool students spent part of a recent day at the Winneconne Area Assistance Center helping put together Thanksgiving dinners for families in the community. The kids jumped right in, working their way down the line and filling bags with everything needed to help make Thanksgiving a little more special for their neighbors.

Village approves balanced budget, lower mill rate

By Chris Lusvardi
Winneconne News

The Village of Winneconne Board of Trustees adopted a budget that village officials say will strengthen its financial position while lowering the property tax mill rate.

Village administrator Logan Fuller said the mill rate will drop from $7.59 to $7.29. Residents can expect a slight decrease in property taxes with homeowners saving about $60 per year on a $200,000 home, he said.

The board approved the balanced $2.9 million budget plan at its Nov. 17 meeting after Fuller said months of work went into preparing it. He said the board sets goals each year for the village, and the budget aligns with those goals.

"We want to maintain services and prepare for opportunities in the future," Fuller said. "We're operating at a strong level."

Along with setting a 10-year capital improvement program, the village is planning for a reassessment in 2027, Fuller said.

Expected new construction will help spread the tax base out, village treasurer Mike Schoenberger said. Two housing developments – Wolf Run Estates and Sovereign Acres – are in the works.

"We can expect another decline once the reassessment is done," Schoenberger said.

Based on current development projections, the village anticipates the potential for approximately 26% growth over the next three years adding approximately $130 million in net new construction.

The capital improvement program will allow for better long-term planning, Fuller said.

See **Village budget** on Page 3



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Photo from Winneconne Historical Society

Holiday decorations

Buildings at the Winneconne Historical Society Museum are decorated for the holidays. The historical society thanks the community members who helped to decorate, including Kelly and Johnno Gonzales, Jaci Stelzner, Ian Livingstone, Katie Garrow and Angel Elmer.

Community invited to holiday event

Winneconne News

The Winchester Area Historical Society invites families, friends and neighbors to celebrate the season with Home for the Holidays, a festive gathering filled with holiday traditions, family fun and community spirit.

The event will be from 10 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Dec. 5 at the WAHS, 5270 Ann St. in Winchester.

Visitors are invited to step back in time with a charming, historically themed holiday photo setting, complete with vintage winter treasures. Families can gather for a memorable holiday photo, taken and provided digitally at no charge.

Children can enjoy free activities, including sugar cookie decorating, festive face painting and special goodies for those who arrive dressed in holiday cheer. A special thank-you to Festival Foods for sponsoring the children's cookie decorating activity.

Guests can warm up with complimentary coffee, hot cocoa and cider while visiting with friends and neighbors. A few additional holiday surprises are also in the works.

The celebration coincides with our Homemade Christmas Cookie and Candy Sale, featuring an assortment of homemade treats perfect for holiday gatherings, gift-giving or simply enjoying at home. Proceeds benefit the Winchester Area Historical Society.

At 12:30 p.m., the festivities will conclude with a brief program recognizing the 2026 Honor Members and their contributions to the Historical Society.

Planned development sought along Springhetti Lake

Winneconne News

Springhetti's Real Estate LLC is proposing a planned development district featuring 14 single-family lots and up to 28 detached condo homes on Springhetti Lake in the Town of Algoma.

The developer brought its plans before the Winnebago County Planning & Zoning Committee for a public hearing on Nov. 18. There was not a vote.

Springhetti Lake is on the land north of 1575 Leonard Point Road. The project application describes 23.351 acres of land besides the lake that is undeveloped with drainage, utility and wetland features. Residences are already in place on the north, south, east and west sides of the planned district.

Developers said the planned development district is needed since the project uses a private road, Prosperity Way, that does not front a public road as ordinarily required and one 7.6-acre lot has 28 detached condominium dwellings on it.

The site is currently zoned as R-2.

The planned development district would allow all 42 homes, access, utilities and phasing to be reviewed together.

Calendar

Thursday, Nov. 26
Gobble Wobble, 9 a.m., Talk of the Town
Thanksgiving Dinner Program, noon, Father Carr's Place 2B, Oshkosh

Friday, Nov. 27
WHS Boys Basketball vs. Ripon, 1:30 p.m., WHS

Saturday, Nov. 28
Small Business Saturday, all day
WHS Girls Basketball vs. Wisconsin Dells, 2:30 p.m., WHS

Monday, Nov. 30
Ruth's Pantry Food Assistance, A Ministry of Grace Lutheran Church, 9 a.m. and 4 p.m., 8401 Steeple Hill Drive, Larsen
WHS Boys Basketball vs. Omro, 7 p.m., WHS

Tuesday, Dec. 1
WHS Girls Basketball vs. Seymour, 7 p.m., WHS

Wednesday, Dec. 2
The News is out. Subscribe today at winneconnenews.com.

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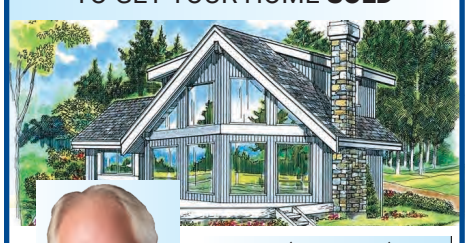



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Sat 9am-Noon
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Special appt times may be available upon request by calling 582-7091.

Fire department receives new pumper truck

Winneconne News

The Winneconne Poygan Fire District has received its new pumper truck.

The truck was delivered Nov. 13 and is now being prepared to be put into service, Fire Chief Kevin Allcox said.

He expects that could happen in early January after changes are made to have it ready. The district's existing skid unit, cabinetry and equipment will be transferred onto the new truck.

"Hopefully once we get it back, we can put it in service," Allcox said.

Earlier this year, the Winneconne Poygan Fire Commission purchased a 2027 Ford F550 from Ewald Automotive to replace the district's off-road pumper truck, which needed its engine replaced. Funding came from the district's three municipalities — the Town of Winneconne, the Village of Winneconne, and the Town of Poygan.

Police department collecting gifts for children

Winneconne News

This year's Winneconne Police Department Christmas Crusade is underway.

The police department says thank you to all who are willing to help families in need.

Police Chief Ben Sauriol said not as many families are signed up for the program as last year. An application process is being used this year, he said.

"We want to help but by operating within our capacity with the funding we have," Sauriol said. "This allow us to be more personalized."

Shoppers can participate by choosing an ornament from the tree in the police department lobby. Each ornament includes a child's need or wish for Christmas.

Clothing, outerwear and boot or sock requests include sizing information.

Gifts can be dropped off at the police department office on or before noon Dec. 14. Wrapped gifts are preferred.

Village budget

from Page 1

"Projects are going to happen," Fuller said. "It's not a matter of if; it's when."

Costs are solidified in the budget for three years, then Fuller said the projections could change later on with factors such as inflation making it hard to make exact predictions at this point. Items that could be considered in the future at least have been identified, he said.

"It's nice to see us looking at this for the future," Schoenberger said. "If a project comes up, we might already have our sights set on it."

Fuller added as projects are being planned and funding is allocated, both sides of the community will be developed in parallel.

He said having the budget in place with longer term projections should help residents plan for how much they might owe in future property taxes.

"Our objective remains to deliver quality municipal services at a responsible cost," Fuller said.

The budget is available on the Village's website for public view at winneconnewi.gov.



Photo from Winneconne Public Library

Giving thanks for books

Everyone attending the Winneconne Public Library's Get Lit Book Club's Friendsgiving gathering Nov. 4 at the American Legion Giles-Luce Post 364 brought the book they're most thankful for as they gathered around a soup bar. Each member received a personalized book bag to celebrate the commitment they have shown to the group over the past six years.

Two men charged in connection to near-fatal overdose

Winneconne News

Two men have been charged in connection to a near fatal overdose in Winneconne that occurred in August.

Winneconne Police Chief Ben Sauriol announced the charges in a video posted Friday to social media. He reported that during the August incident officers responded to a Winneconne home with an individual that was unresponsive with no pulse and not breathing following a suspected crack cocaine and fentanyl overdose.

Officers used Narcan on the individual, who was then transported to a local hospital in critical condition. When searching the home officers allegedly found crack cocaine, fentanyl and drug paraphernalia.

Sauriol said the extensive investigation resulted in the arrest of Joseph Harries, 29, and Samuel A. Hetzel, 31, in October.

Harries is currently in custody at the Winnebago County Jail on $200,000 cash bond. He's been charged with second degree recklessly endangering safety, manufacture/deliver fentanyl and manufacture/deliver cocaine.

Hetzel is in custody at the Ozaukee County Jail. He has also been charged with second degree recklessly endangering safety, manufacture/deliver fentanyl and manufacture/deliver cocaine along with two counts of felony bail jumping.

According to the criminal complaint, the overdose occurred on Aug. 4. Police allegedly found 3.1 grams of crack cocaine in the home and 3.3 grams of fentanyl.

The victim told police the person who sold them the drugs came from Milwaukee.

The complaint alleges that Hetzel set up the deal and Harries is the one that sold the victim the substance. Hetzel had three active warrants going back to 2024.

The complaint includes alleged messages from Facebook Messenger and text messages that show the victim and Hetzel talking about purchasing drugs.

There are also text messages that allegedly indicate Harries drove to Winneconne to deliver the drugs to the victim.

A Winneconne police officer began communicating with Hetzel via the victim's Facebook page with the consent of the victim. In September they set up a controlled buy with Hetzel in Milwaukee with help from local law enforcement.

Hetzel was taken into custody. He later allegedly confirmed to officers that Harries was the person that sold the drugs to victim in August.

In October, law enforcement executed a search warrant at Harries' home in Milwaukee County. Harries was outside the residence when police attempted to arrest him.

Harries fled on foot and allegedly threw a handgun on the ground while he was fleeing the scene. He was ultimately taken into custody.

Officers allegedly found 10.8 grams of cocaine and 8.5 grams of fentanyl on his person. Then found more 4.5 ounces of cocaine inside the home along with 2.1 ounces of fentanyl.

"This investigation demonstrates what can be accomplished when strong partnerships with local, state and federal law enforcement agencies," Sauriol said.

Winneconne PD was assisted by the Milwaukee Police Department along with personnel from the Department of Home-

See **Overdose investigation** on Page 12



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Submitted photo

The Winneconne Area Assistance Center thanks Colton Booker for making a donation to help others in the community.

Boy learns lesson in giving by donating to WAAC

Eleven-year-old Colton Booker recently learned a lesson about giving back to his community — and his family made sure it was a lesson he could experience firsthand.

Colton is homeschooled, and as part of a lesson on giving to the community, the Booker family chose to make a large donation of food and supplies to the Winneconne Area Assistance Center.

When the family delivered the donation to WAAC, they made one thing clear: they wanted Colton to receive the credit.

For WAAC, the donation was not only generous, but also a wonderful example of teaching a young person what it means to care for the people around him.

At just 11 years old, Colton was able to see firsthand how giving can make a difference close to home. The food and supplies donated by his family will help WAAC continue providing assistance to individuals and families in the Winneconne area.

Lessons like this go far beyond a school assignment. They teach compassion, generosity and the importance of being part of a community that looks out for one another.

WAAC is incredibly grateful to Colton and the entire Booker family for their generosity and for choosing the Winneconne Area Assistance Center as part of this special lesson.

School board

from Page 1

ten through ninth grade and Sept. 2 for 4K and grades 10-12. Winter break will last eight days, and spring break will be held the last week of March. Graduation will be the Saturday of Memorial Day weekend, and the last day of school will be June 1.

In 2028-29, the school year begins Sept. 1 for kindergarten through ninth grade with 4K and grades 10-12 starting Sept. 5. Winter break will last seven days, and spring break will be the last week in March. Graduation will be the Saturday of Memorial Day weekend, and the last day of school will be May 31.

Citing the holidays and busy school schedules, the board voted to meet once in both December and January — Dec. 14 and Jan. 18.

County saves $1M in borrowing costs

By MaryBeth Matzek
Winneconne News

A simple change made by the Winnebago County Board of Supervisors helped save the county more than $1 million in borrowing costs.

"This is substantial savings to the county," said County Executive Gordon Hintz.

During the Nov. 17 board meeting, Hintz said the board's decision to give the county's bond agency, Baird, flexibility on when to enter the borrowing market helped it lock in an interest rate of 4.14%.

Hintz said the board approved providing Baird with additional flexibility, which allowed the county to move forward when market conditions were optimal instead of moving forward on a specific date, which it had done in previous years.

He said Baird contacted the county saying market conditions looked favorable and suggested moving forward with borrowing. When the company presented an estimated interest rate for borrowing in October, Baird projected 4.75% — well above the 4.14% secured.

At the meeting, the county board also approved applying for nearly $2 million in federal grants to fund an initiative to provide supportive services to people experiencing homelessness to help them obtain and maintain stable housing.

The $1,912,719 in U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development Continuum of Care grant funding for the two-year Supportive Services Only (SSO) project would support the county's Homeless Eviction Loss Prevention, or HELP, program. Some of the funded services include childcare, job training, medical care, mental health and substance abuse counseling and moving expenses as well as case management and staff salaries.

The grant would cover the employees and programs that make the HELP program work.

The board also approved a $50,000 federal grant application through the Projects for Assistance in Transition from Homelessness (PATH) program. The grant, which is administered by the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration, targets unhoused adults who have a serious mental illness or co-occurring substance use disorder.

Housing Revolving Loan Fund: The county moved a step closer in setting up its Housing Revolving Loan Fund by naming members to its Housing Revolving Loan Fund Advisory Board.

Hintz appointed Mary Anne Mueller, Winnebago County Corporation Counsel; Lu Scheer, Winnebago County Housing Grants Specialist; Carol Van Gruensven, Winnebago County Deputy Finance Director; and Logan Fuller, Industrial Development Board.

County Board Chair Frank Frassetto appointed Supervisors Steven Binder, Andy Buck, George Bureau and Brenda Pluchinsky.

All appointments are three-year terms, ending Dec. 31, 2029.

Town of Winneconne passes budget

By MaryBeth Matzek
Winneconne News

The Town of Winneconne passed its budget on Thursday with a $505,966 property tax levy.

That's a 2.51% increase over the 2026 property tax levy.

The town needed to increase its tax levy to address the increased costs in providing ambulance and fire services to the community, as allowed by state statute. As costs continue to rise, the town wanted to ensure services can still be provided.

For 2027, the proposed revenue is $1,406,266, a decrease of 9.79% from 2026.

While the budget shows a drop in miscellaneous revenue from $358,500 in 2026 to $90,274 in 2027, town officials said the line item covers items that may or may not be budgeable revenue streams. For example, in 2026, the town received a grant from the Wisconsin Disaster Fund to help offset the cost of snowplowing during the March 2026 blizzard.

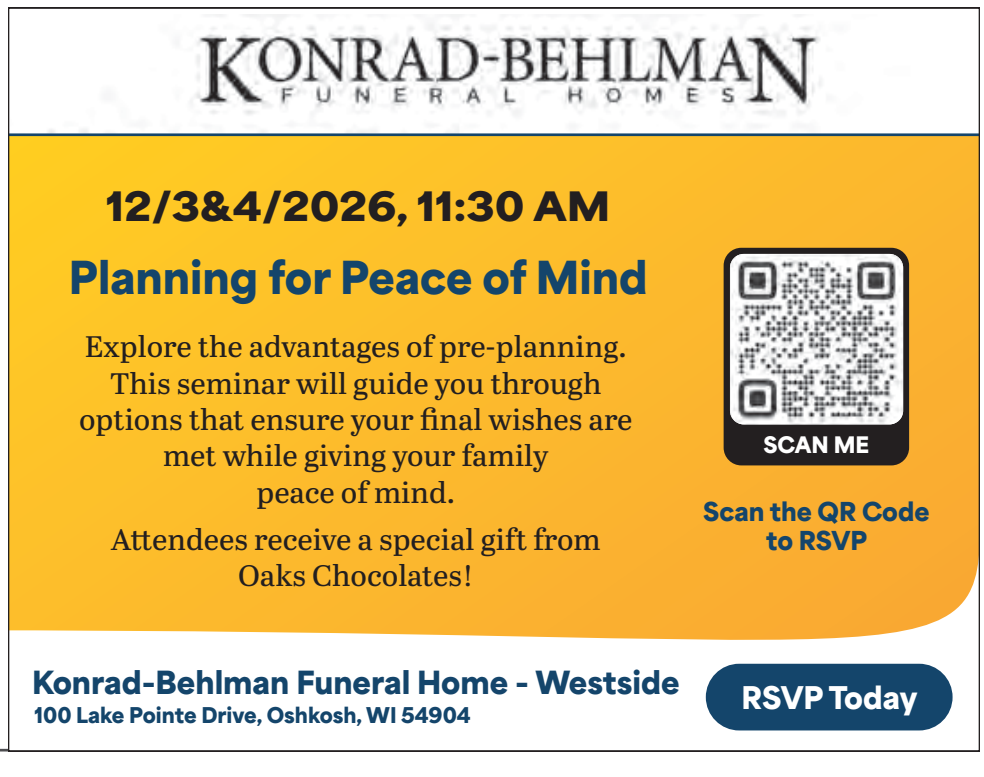
Miscellaneous revenue is also where budget carryover is placed so it's not truly a revenue, said Town Clerk Liz Knaack. In 2025, the town had more funds left over in the highway budget that was carried over into the 2026 budget than the town has this year to carry over into 2027.

The town is increasing its permit fees to offset the rising costs of hiring a building inspector. Currently, the Town of Winneconne does not receive enough revenue from building permit fees to pay for the cost of a building inspector. The proposed fee increase is to directly offset the cost of building inspector fees, Knaack said.

"The town's goal is to responsibly manage taxpayer dollars while maintaining the infrastructure and services provided for the townspeople," Knaack said.

She added the Health and Human Services expenditure line item covers the costs for the cemetery and humane society. The budget for those services is only $5,700 and accounts for only 0.40% of the town's overall budget. Those costs are not expected to change for 2027 and are therefore remaining the same as the 2026 budget.







Submitted photo

Rory Williams, left, and Diane Perschbacker receive the 2026 State Natural Areas Volunteers of the Year from Jared Urban, DNR state natural areas volunteer coordinator. Williams and Perschbacker take care of the Oshkosh-Larsen Trail Prairies State Natural Area.

DNR honors couple for state natural area work

By MaryBeth Matzek
Winneconne News

Diane Perschbacker and Rory Williams enjoy spending time outside and were looking for a way to give back.

The couple discovered the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources held workdays in state natural areas where volunteers help eradicate invasive plant species and help protect rare plant species. In 2017, they attended a workday at the Oshkosh-Larsen Trail Prairies State Natural Area, adjacent to about four miles of the Wiouwash Trail.

"We're both interested in nature and hiking outdoors, and it wasn't too far away from the house," Williams said.

The couples' involvement grew with Perschbacker and Williams taking over as the site's volunteer coordinators in 2019 after attending specialized training.

"After a while, you realize you're making a difference to those species that are out there and you enjoy it more and more," Williams said.

That continued commitment and dedication led Perschbacker and Williams to be honored as the 2026 State Natural Areas Volunteers of the Year for their efforts along the Oshkosh-Larsen Trail Prairies State Natural Area.

"Diane and Rory are consistent. They started in 2017 and average 200 hours per year. That amount of time can really change a site," said Jared Urban, DNR state natural areas volunteer coordinator. "Year after year with that amount of time, you really see some results with the invasive plants."

As the site's volunteer coordinators, Perschbacker and Williams can plan their own workdays with the DNR trusting their abilities.

"The DNR began saying to us, 'go ahead and take care of the sweet clover or could you take care of this?'" Williams said.

Sweet clover is the biggest invasive species the crews deal with in the state natural area. State natural areas are unique places that support 90% of Wisconsin's rare plant species and 75% of its rare wildlife species.

Besides taking care of invasive species, Perschbacker and Williams work to preserve rare plants, such as Golden Alexanders and native orchids, and insect species. Williams has spotted rare butterflies and bumblebees, including the endangered rusty patched bumblebee.

"The State Natural Area has a fairly robust number of yellow bumblebees, which is an area of special concern. I throw on a camera and draw out there and document what we're seeing," he said. "We've also documented Tiger beetles and this year we helped out UW-Madison with a fungus beetle survey."

The DNR's Urban said taking care of plants benefits butterflies, insects, birds and mammals.

"A healthier prairie equals healthier wildlife," he said.

When Williams retired, he wanted to find an organization that could bring together several of his hobbies — being outside, documenting rare species and helping remove invasive flora to make room for spare flora. Likewise, Perschbacker was looking for something that got her outside throughout the year and incorporate hiking.

"Having the trail so close to home is a bonus," she said.

The segment of the Wiouwash that runs adjacent to the state natural area they oversee is very busy, Perschbacker said.

With the duo working so hard in the Oshkosh-Larsen Trail Prairies State Natural Area, Williams said the DNR can send crews to other state natural areas in the state that do not have volunteers taking care of the area. Perschbacker and Williams contact the DNR for larger projects requiring more people and larger equipment.

The busiest times of the year in their state natural area runs from June to August, Perschbacker said. At that time of year, they can spend up to 12 hours a week working.

"We were excited to win the award and hope it draws more attention to the work we do so we can recruit more volunteers and eventually help us recruit the person who wants to be the next steward for the area," she said. "The older we get, it's not as easy to bend over so much. It can be hard physical labor. We would love to pass on what we've learned and train the next steward."

The DNR actively recruits for volunteers to help take care of state natural areas. No experience is necessary.

Shallow Lakes Chronicles

Hunting for success

By Matt Harp
Outdoor Reporter

I'm not a good hunter. I don't know, maybe I just don't apply myself in an efficient manner.



Harp

The thing is, when afield, I'm OK with just seeing what I'm seeing – whatever that day brings. Now, if I measured each day with the number of ducks Lu retrieved, I no doubt would be a little more focused out there.

I mean, how many sunrises over a set of bluebills, goldeneyes and canvasbacks does a guy need to take in? How many squirrel-rustling-induced heart attacks can I guy stand? Well, apparently a thousand more.

You see it every day in the likes of Facebook and Instagram - guys filling a freezer with perch, ducks, geese or deer. Those guys always impress me – kinda.

Marginal sets, too few decoys, bad wind direction, forgot the robo duck, bad aim, all have a play in a typically average day for me, and that's just fine. That I think might be my problem.

Maybe what I need to do is keep some data on pounds harvested per hour or something of the sort. Be more intentional. "There's always tomorrow," I tell myself. And there is – I'll just go out again tomorrow.

It seems what I lack in ability or insight, I make up for in outings. If you go out 50 days, but only get one each day, you're in the top 10% of hunters – a pretty poor average, but as a total, not too bad at all. Why would you want to minimize your days out anyway?

Sometimes I feel like Thomas Edison. He tried aver a thousand different ways to make a light bulb last long and be affordable. With each failed attempt you'd think he would become more and more depressed. Instead, he would remark that he singled out over a thousand ways not to make a light bulb and pressed on until eventual success.

Well, I'm sure I've come up with a thousand ways not to harvest game. Maybe the next time it'll come to me. Until then, I guess I'll keep hunting for the secret to good hunting.

Hah, maybe that's it. I've been hunting the wrong thing all along.

Here's to your successful hunts.









Village officials look to build Winneconne's future

By Logan Fuller
Village Administrator

As Village Administrator, I have the privilege of working alongside a dedicated team of municipal professionals, elected officials, community partners and developers who share a common goal: ensuring that Winneconne remains a financially responsible, economically vibrant and exceptional place to live, work and raise a family.


Fuller

On Nov. 17, the Village Board took several significant actions that reflect years of planning, collaboration and disciplined financial management.

These decisions represent more than the approval of an annual budget or individual development projects. They mark an important chapter in Winneconne's history and establish a foundation for opportunities that will benefit our community for generations.

Responsible financial management

I believe one of the most important responsibilities of local government is to be a good steward of the public's money. Every dollar we collect represents an investment made by our residents and businesses, and we have an obligation to manage those resources responsibly.

With the adoption of our balanced 2027 General Fund Budget, I am pleased to report that the Village is continuing to strengthen its financial position while lowering the Village's property tax mill rate from $7.59 to $7.29.

This achievement is particularly meaningful given the increasing costs of providing municipal services, maintaining aging infrastructure and meeting the operational demands facing local governments throughout Wisconsin.

Our approach has been deliberate. We have focused on controlling expenditures, maintaining appropriate financial reserves, managing debt responsibly and prioritizing investments that provide long-term value to the community.

Our financial reserves provide stability and flexibility, helping protect the Village from unforeseen expenses while positioning us to address future infrastructure and capital needs. Likewise, our approach to debt management ensures that investments are evaluated against both current affordability and their long-term financial implications.

For residents, the lower mill rate means a reduced Village tax rate per $1,000 of assessed property value. While individual tax bills also depend on changes in assessments and the levies of other taxing jurisdictions, our objective remains to deliver quality municipal services at a responsible cost.

A balanced budget is not simply an accounting accomplishment. It reflects the priorities, discipline and accountability necessary to maintain a financially sustainable community. The budget is available on the Village's website for public view – winneconnewi.gov.

Historic economic development

While responsible financial management provides the foundation for our operations, economic development creates opportunities to strengthen that foundation for the future.

At the Nov. 17 meeting, the Village Board approved two significant residential development actions, advancing projects that will substantially expand Winneconne's housing opportunities.

Sovereign Acres subdivision

The Board approved the final plat for Phase One of Sovereign Acres Subdivision, consisting of 57 single-family residential lots. This is the first phase of a larger development anticipated to include 202 single-family homes upon completion.

These homes will provide opportunities for families to move into our community, support local businesses and contribute to our future property tax base.

Wolf Run Estates

The Board also approved the Planned Unit Development ordinance for the next addition to Wolf Run Estates, allowing the developer to move forward with the multifamily residential portion of the development.

The addition of multifamily housing is an important component of a healthy housing market. It provides options for young professionals, working families and residents seeking alternatives to traditional single-family homeownership.

Together, these developments represent a significant expansion of housing opportunities and an important investment in Winneconne's future.

Switchgear Power Systems

Equally significant is the progress being made with Switchgear Power Systems and Tax Incremental District No. 9.

With the required approvals completed to date, the project is approaching its final district actions in December. Following completion of the remaining steps, anticipated after Dec. 15, Switchgear Power Systems will be positioned to advance construction of a new approximately 245,000-square-foot manufacturing facility.

This investment will establish Winneconne as the company's global headquarters, creating new employment opportunities and strengthening our position within the regional manufacturing economy.

The importance of this project extends beyond the facility itself. It represents the opportunity to attract skilled workers, support local businesses, encourage additional private investment and strengthen our community's long-term economic foundation.

Generational growth

To put these developments into perspective, Winneconne has historically experienced an average annual growth rate of approximately 0.2% over the past 50 years.

Based on our current development projections, we anticipate the potential for approximately 26% growth over the next three years adding approximately $130 million in net new construction.

That is a substantial change from our historic development patterns and represents an opportunity that communities of our size do not encounter frequently.

Growth of this magnitude must be approached responsibly. New homes and businesses require adequate infrastructure, utilities, public safety and municipal services. These considerations have been central to our planning and development review processes.

Our goal is not simply to grow for the sake of growth. It is to ensure that new development contributes positively to the community, expands economic opportunities, and strengthens our ability to provide quality services over the long term.

At a time when many municipalities are confronting difficult financial decisions, including reductions in services, deferred infrastructure investments, and staffing challenges, Winneconne is positioning itself to expand its tax base, attract private investment, and support continued community improvements.

These opportunities are the result of intentional planning, not coincidence.

Quality of life

Economic growth and financial stability are important, but they are not the only measures of a successful community.

We must also continue investing in the amenities, public spaces, and recreational opportunities that make Winneconne a desirable place to call home.

Through partnerships with the Oshkosh Area Community Foundation and Winneconne Area Community Foundation, we have advanced more than $2 million in park and recreational improvements this year.

These investments are particularly meaningful because they demonstrate what can be accomplished when local government works collaboratively with community organizations and philanthropic partners.

Our parks and recreational facilities serve residents of all ages. They bring families together, provide opportunities for healthy activities, and contribute to the character and quality of life that make Winneconne special.

By leveraging these partnerships, we have been able to advance substantial community improvements while reducing reliance on traditional property tax funding.

The people behind the progress

I want to emphasize that none of these accomplishments happened overnight, nor were they achieved by any single individual.

The work required to bring these projects forward has been extensive.

From property annexations and developer agreements to financial evaluations, engineering reviews, utility capacity assessments, land-use approvals, and coordination with county, regional, and state agencies, each initiative has required countless hours of professional effort.

Our Village employees have worked exceptionally hard to ensure that these projects were evaluated thoroughly, that appropriate procedures were followed, and that the Village's long-term interests remained a priority.

I am proud of the professionalism, dedication and commitment demonstrated by our team.

I also want to recognize the Village Board, Plan Commission, our development partners, engineering consultants and the many regional and state organizations that have contributed their expertise and cooperation.

Effective local government requires collaboration. The ability to bring together different perspectives, navigate complex regulatory requirements, and reach informed decisions is essential to accomplishing projects of this magnitude.

These recent milestones demonstrate what can be achieved when people work toward a shared vision for the community.

Looking ahead

As Administrator, I recognize that growth brings both opportunities and responsibilities.

We must continue to be thoughtful about how our community develops, ensure that infrastructure and services keep pace with new investment, and remain

See **Administrator** on Page 11

The Winneconne News Office Will Be Closed 11/26/26 and 11/27/26.

Happy Thanksgiving!

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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
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Winneconne
920-706-0047
Winnchurch.org
Sundays: 8:30 a.m.
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Evangelical Lutheran Church of America
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Winneconne, WI 54986
(920) 582-2622
Pastor Kevin Heffernan
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
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Omro
920-875-0755
www.messiahomro.com
Evangelical Lutheran Synod
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- Regular Sunday Worship, with Fellowship to Follow
Wednesday Prime Service
Wednesday Bible Study

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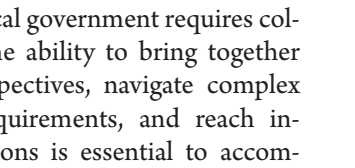

Sat. Confession 3:30pm; Mass 4:00pm
Sun. Mass 10:30am
Wed. Mass 7:30am
Fri. Mass 7:30am followed by Holy Hour & Confession

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Stpaulsfamily.com
St. Paul's Evangelical Lutheran Church
Thursday: 9:30 a.m. - Bible Study.
Contemporary music practice.
Saturday: 4:30 p.m. – Worship Service.
Sunday: 8 and 10:30 a.m. – Worship Service. 9:10 a.m. - Bible Study.

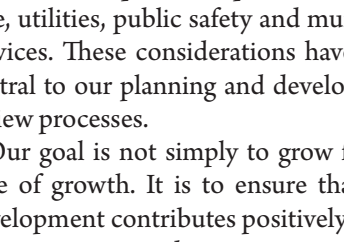

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Photo from St. Mary Catholic Church Winneconne

Veterans celebration

St. Mary Catholic Church honored veterans as part of a recent service at the church. The veterans celebration was held Nov. 15.

EAA Aviation Museum hosting holiday season events

Winneconne News

The EAA Aviation Museum brings excitement and joy to the holiday season in northeast Wisconsin with several events scheduled between Thanksgiving and the new year.

The museum will welcome everyone on Dec. 5 for its traditional Christmas in the Air open house. The annual event features performances from local music, choral and dance groups.

Santa Claus will arrive by helicopter (weather permitting) at noon followed by a tree lighting ceremony and photos. Children can also write letters to Santa that he will take with him on his flight back to the North Pole. Christmas in the Air is presented by Festival Foods.

In addition, EAA's annual Wright Brothers Memorial Banquet will be on Dec. 11.

Beginning on Nov. 27, EAA hosts the Oshkosh Celebration of Lights for the fourth consecutive year on the EAA grounds. The event will be open daily from 5:30 to 9 p.m. through Dec. 31. Santa will be available for visits from 5:30 to 8:30 p.m. Nov. 27 to Dec. 23.

The Oshkosh Celebration of Lights' free community nights will also include free admission to the EAA Aviation Museum, allowing visitors to enjoy both attractions in one day. The free community nights are scheduled for Nov. 29 along with Dec. 6, 13, 20 and 27.

The Oshkosh Celebration of Lights path will also be part of the route for the 24th Race for the Light 5K Run/Walk benefiting Oshkosh Area United Way at 4:30 p.m. Dec. 6.

Lunch Menus

Nov. 30-Dec. 4
Advocap
Winneconne Meal Site
920-517-0950

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 - (Home Delivery) Chili with Pasta, Crackers, Carrots, Pineapple Tidbits

Wednesday: Chili Mango Chicken, Sour Cream and Chive Potatoes, Broccoli, Mandarin Oranges

Thursday: Frozen - (Home Delivery) Beef Stew, Green Beans, Grape Juice, Biscuit

Friday: Baked Pork Chop, Oven Browned Potatoes, Carrots, Peaches





Submitted photo

Winneconne FFA Members spent a day learning about dairy at the 2026 World Dairy Expo.

FFA members attend World Dairy Expo

By Maddie Biggar
Winneconne FFA Reporter

"Opening New Doors for Dairy" was the theme of the annual World Dairy Expo, which is exactly what it did for the Winneconne FFA members.

Located in Madison and held from Sept. 29 to Oct. 2, "The World Dairy Expo is an international trade show and dairy exhibition that was founded in 1967. The Expo serves as a meeting place for dairy producers, researchers, industry leaders, commercial suppliers," and, of course, FFA members.

This year eight members had the opportunity to compete in two different judging contests: Dairy Products and Dairy Cattle.

The first team of four competed in Dairy Cattle Judging where they evaluated and placed four different breeds of dairy cattle based on their production traits and physical traits. Levi Sitter, Regan Nickerson, Lizzy Parker and Julia Nelson placed 53rd out of 106 teams with an overall score of 519.

The next team that competed was the dairy foods team. They were divided into four different groups and evaluated on Milk defects, Cheese ID and Product ID along with taking a written test. Leo Wolf, Maddie Biggar, Everly Behm and Sophie Olson placed 29th out of 72 teams with an overall score of 361.

While judging was a big part of the day for some of the members, the other attendees from the Winneconne FFA Chapter got the chance to walk around the career expo, do some shopping, try delicious food and watch the exhibitors show off their skills in the show ring. Overall, this made for a fun and successful day for the Winneconne FFA Chapter at the World Dairy Expo in Madison.







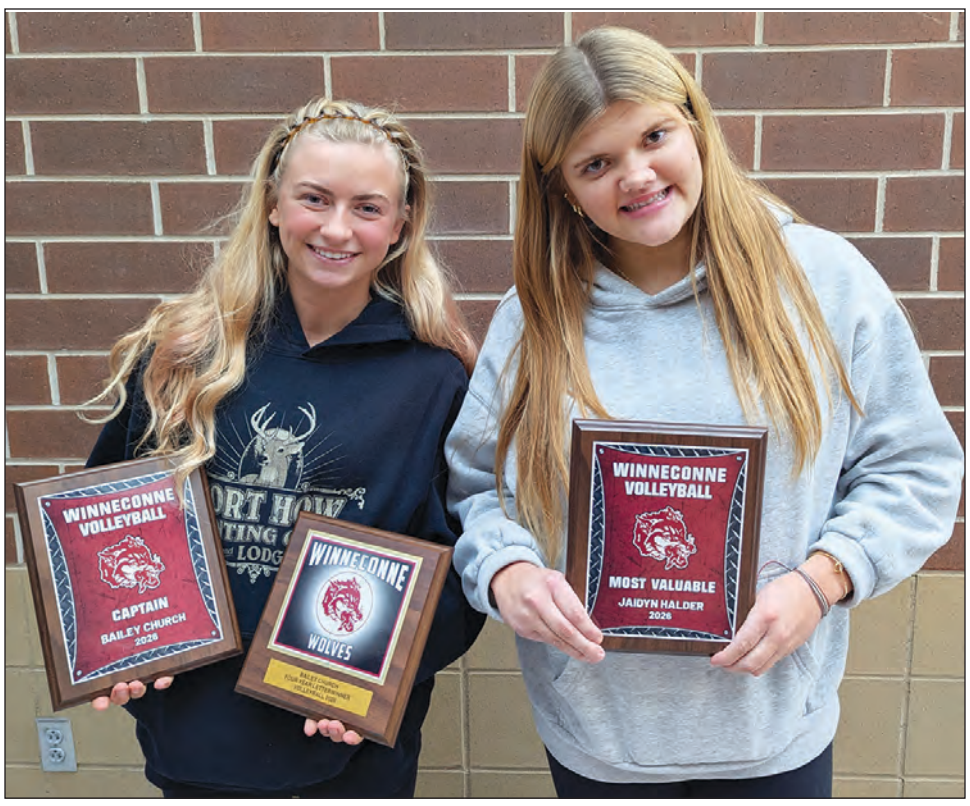


Photos by Doug Sasse

Winona State Bound

A trio of Winneconne High School athletes on Nov. 11 signed their National Letters of Intent to attend NCAA Division II Winona State University. Top, Ruby Kuehn (track and field); center, Grace Mitchell (basketball) and, bottom, Harper Neace (basketball) will be continuing their athletic careers with the Warriors next fall.





Submitted photo

Volleyball duo honored

Seniors Bailey Church (left) and Jaidyn Halder were honored at the season-ending banquet recently. Church earned a plaque for being captain as well as a four-year-varsity letterwinner award, while Halder was named the team's Most Valuable Player.

Subcommittee to look at County Board scholarship breakdown

By MaryBeth Matzek
Winneconne News

A special subcommittee will decide how many seniors from county high schools and homeschooled students can receive the college scholarships handed out annually by the County Board of Supervisors.

As part of the 2027 county budget, the board approved adding two additional $2,100 scholarships, bringing the total to 11. During that discussion, it was mentioned there were 10 high schools located in the county and that homeschooled students should also be eligible with many supervisors incorrectly thinking a student from each high school received a scholarship.

Last spring's scholarships went to two students each from Neenah High School, Oshkosh North High School, Winneconne High School, one student from Wyldewood Christian School and two homeschooled students.

Since there were no guidelines in place about how the scholarships were to be divided up or if they went to the top overall candidates, Corporation Counsel Mary Anne Mueller suggested the University of Wisconsin Education, Extension and Agriculture Committee put some rules in place.

Supervisor Kate Powers, who is not on the committee, said she's been involved with the scholarships "a long time" and made the initial motion at the budget meeting to add a 10th scholarship since the county had gained another high school. She went to the library to look up information about the scholarship's founding in 1998. Back then, one scholarship went to one senior at each county high school, but that has changed through the years.

As part of the application process, students need to fill out an application form and write an essay answering the question "If I were to run for a Winnebago County Elected Position, which one would I run for and why?"

"I think we need some protections around the homeschooled students, otherwise we're opening it up to abuse. They do not have any official documents that we can confirm someone is actually a student," Powers said. "It could be a 27-year-old guy filling out applications in his mother's basement, seeing it as an easy way to make money. You can create anything with the Internet, and he could make up any type of documents he wants."

Powers recommended earmarking one scholarship for homeschooled students with the other 10 going to students from brick-and-mortar high schools.

Supervisor Tim Macho suggested since the committee was starting over with how the scholarships are handed out, "why don't we go back to one scholarship per high school?"

But what if no students from a high school apply, asked Supervisor Kristl Laux.

"Would that scholarship go unused, or would it go to another top student at a school that already received a scholarship?" she asked.

Committee Chair Lucas Reinke acknowledged Powers' concerns about fraud, but he was unsure how frequent something like that would happen since a parent, teacher or principal has to vouch for a student.

Powers responded someone abusing the system could pretend to be their own parent, too.

Since the applications for the 2027 scholarships open in February, Reinke recommended forming a subcommittee of committee members to put guidelines together and then bring it back to the full committee. He was going to confirm the process of forming a subcommittee with Mueller and then form the group.

Meeting room changes: The UW Education, Extension and Agriculture Committee also reviewed proposed changes put together by UW-Extension about meeting room usage at the James P. Coughlin Center.

When the rooms are not used for county use, nonprofit organizations and community partners are allowed to use them on a first-come, first-served basis and can only be used for educational, civic or informational purposes only. For-profit, religious and political groups are not allowed to use the space.

Beginning Jan. 1, the Coughlin Center will have a new fee schedule in place. No fees are charged when the county, Department of Natural Resources or the U.S. Department of Agriculture use meeting rooms. A $15 fee per meeting reservation will be charged to Winnebago County 4-H groups, clubs, boards and committees and Winnebago County HCE groups, clubs, boards and committees. All other eligible groups will pay a $30 fee.

Winneconne Boys Basketball Preview



Photo by Doug Sasse

Sophomore Drew Lenz averaged more than 19 points and five assists per game as a freshman and is the lone returning starter from last season.

Boys basketball team turning to younger players

By Steve Clark
Winneconne News

Winneconne head coach John Flanigan relied on a strong collection of seniors to lead the way for the boys basketball team a year ago.

The third-year coach will not have that luxury this season.

The Wolves graduated four of the five starters and five of the top six scorers from last year and will turn to a host of young players as the 2026-27 tips off.

"Our youth will have to mature quickly, but I have confidence they can do that," Flanigan said. "A lot of the youth that I have have put in a lot of time and are ready to step in to be contributors."

One of the young players that Flanigan will be counting on will be sophomore Drew Lenz, who started every game for the Wolves last season and earned second-team all-conference honors.

Lenz averaged 19.2 points and 5.5 assists per game last season, highlighted by a 34-point effort against Menasha. He shot nearly 40 percent from 3-point range and finished second on the team with 51 3-pointers, while also shooting 74.6 percent from the free-throw line.

Flanigan expects Lenz to be even more productive in his sophomore season and likes the way he has stepped into a leadership role with the team.

"He has invested a lot of time in his craft and I think you will see an uptick in his scoring, his assists and I think he will be a kid who is going to be first-team all-conference player," Flanigan said. "Drew's big step this season – and he's already taken some steps toward this – is bringing his voice and his leadership to the team. He leads all of the workouts and so he's starting to find his voice with this group."

Junior Aaron Zimmer also returns after serving as the sixth-man for much of the season a year ago. Zimmer will enter his third season at the varsity level and averaged about four points and four rebounds per game last season.

In addition to that duo, sophomores Jack Busching and Aiden Van Allen saw limited varsity minutes a year ago but will be counted on for a bigger role this season.

Along with the returning group, Flanigan expects a couple of newcomers to make an impact for the Wolves this season.

Sophomore Henry Chase, who transferred from Omro where he played 18 games for the Foxes as a freshman, is expected to contend for minutes as will freshman Nolan Flanigan, who will likely shoulder some of the scoring load the Wolves lost to graduation last year.

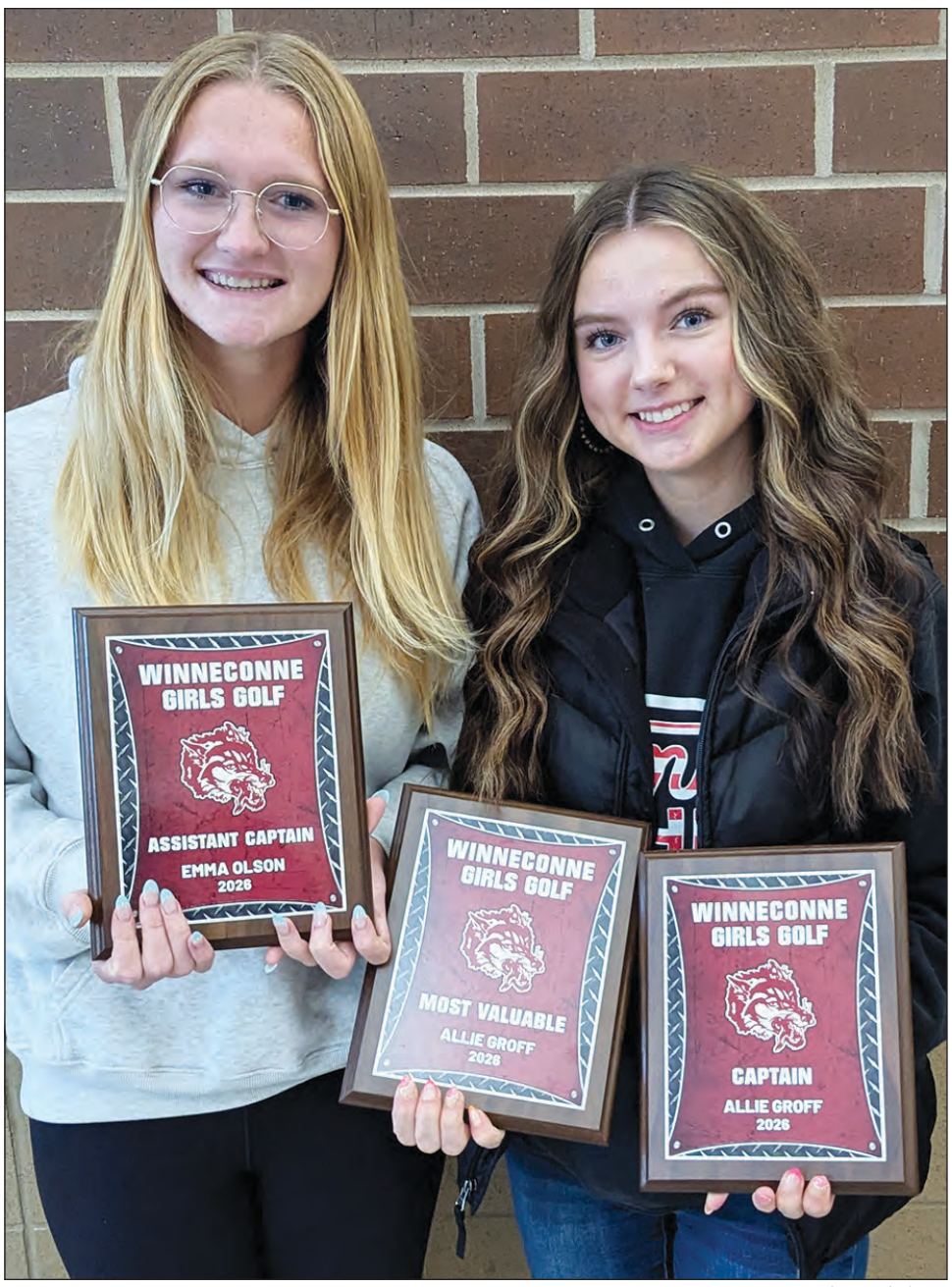
The two underclassmen aren't the only key newcomers to the squad this year as Flanigan noted a trio of seniors – all standing 6-foot-4 or taller – have joined the team this season.

Sully Ramthun, Colton Tisler and Steven Baker will help anchor the post play for the Wolves and, along with Zimmer, bring a physical presence to the squad.

"Those three and Zimmer will be our size and physicality that we needed," Flanigan said. "Getting some of those older guys out answered a little of our concerns which was our size and our physicality."

Winneconne will play three games in six days to open the season, having faced Waupaca in the season opener on Tuesday night before facing Ripon on Friday afternoon at the Oshkosh Arena. The Wolves then host rival Omro on Monday.

Winneconne will open Bay Conference play at home on Dec. 8 when it hosts Shawano.



Submitted photo

Golf awards

Sophomores Emma Olson (left) and Allie Groff were honored for their performances this season with the Winneconne High School girls golf team. Olson was named assistant captain while Groff was named captain and earned Most Valuable honors on the team.



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Administrator

from Page 6

disciplined in managing public resources.

We must also remember what makes Winneconne special.

Our community's character, natural resources, local businesses, neighborhoods and strong sense of community are assets worth preserving. Economic development should complement those strengths, not diminish them.

The actions taken by the Village Board this November reflect a broader commitment to that balance.

We have adopted a balanced budget, reduced the Village's mill rate, continued responsible management of reserves and debt, advanced major residential and industrial developments, and invested millions of dollars into recreational opportunities.

Each accomplishment is significant on its own. Collectively, they reflect a community embracing deliberate, responsible growth while preserving its unique character and enhancing the quality of life for current and future generations.

I am proud of what our team and community partners have accomplished, and I am even more encouraged by the opportunities ahead.

Our responsibility is not simply to manage Winneconne as it exists today, but to make decisions that leave the Village stronger, more financially sustainable and better positioned for the generations that follow.

That is the standard we will continue working toward.

Channel Tap and Lanes Bowling

Nov. 18
WWWL

Team Standings	
Beiser Realty	67-32
Tinys	53-46
Muellers	35-64
Channel Tap & Lanes	34-65
Top Scores	
Team Scratch Game	
Beiser Realty	725
Channel Tap & Lanes	662
Scratch Game	
Karen Marx	237
Brittnie Faulks	234
Team Scratch Series	
Beiser Realty	1999
Channel Tap & Lanes	1743
Scratch Series	
Karen Marx	639
Brittnie Faulks	617
Team Handicap Game	
Beiser Realty	933
Channel Tap & Lanes	884
Team Handicap Series	
Beiser Realty	2623
Tinys	2439
Handicap Series	
Karen Marx	732
Brittnie Faulks	698

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NOTICE OF SPRING ELECTION
Village of Winneconne
April 6th, 2027

Election Details
An election will be held in the Village of Winneconne, on Tuesday, April 6th, 2027. The following offices are to be elected to succeed the present incumbents listed:

Office	Incumbent
Village Trustee	Jaci Stelzner
Village Trustee	Joshua Janikowski

Office Terms
The term for village president and village trustee begins on April 20, 2027. All terms are two years unless otherwise indicated.
For Candidates
The first day to circulate nomination papers is December 1, 2027, and the final day for filing nomination papers is 5:00 p.m., on Tuesday, January 5th, 2027, in the office of the village clerk.
Primary Election
If a primary is necessary, the primary will be held on Tuesday, February 16th, 2027.
Additional Information
Acceptable Photo ID will be required to vote at this election. If you do not have a photo ID you may obtain a free ID for voting from the Division of Motor Vehicles.

Done in the Village of Winneconne,
On November 25, 2026.

Leah Kramer, Winneconne Village Clerk

(**Note:** The Type A Notice is published by the municipal clerk on the 4th Tuesday of November preceding the spring election, when municipal candidates are to be elected §10.06(3)(a); at least 40 days preceding a special municipal primary and election* §10.06(3)(f).)

Type A Notice – Nomination Papers (for Villages) /Rev 2021-06 / Wisconsin Elections Commission, P.O Box 7984, Madison, WI 53707-7984/ 808-261-2028/ web: elections.wi.gov / email: elections@wi.gov

Published Nov 25, 2026
WNAXLP

Meeting Notice

Town of Winneconne
Sanitary District #5
Winneconne Town Hall
Dec. 9th 2026 at 6:00pm

Published Nov 25 and Dec 2, 2026
WNAXLP

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

The Vinland Town Board will hold a public hearing at the Vinland Town Hall; 6085 County Rd T, Oshkosh on Monday, December 14th at 6:45pm to review the issued Conditional Use Permit. Said meeting will follow the Plan Commission meeting of December 7th at 6:30pm.

Public comment from Town Residents and Applicant on the permit will be accepted at both hearings.

Description of Subject Site:
Applicant: One Energy Renewables
Tax Parcel: 026060602
Location: 2345 County Rd GG, Neenah
Explanation: 6 Megawatt ground-mounted solar facility on 30 acres of the 47.35 acre parcel developed and constructed for sale to WE Energies

BE ADVISED: Notices are only sent to neighboring properties within the 300 feet prior to the 1st hearing.

Don O'Connell, Zoning Administrator

Published November 25 and December 2nd, 2026
WNAXLP

Notice of Pending Application for Storm water pond

Eric Hoffman, J4LLC has applied to the Department of Natural Resources for a permit to construct a stormwater pond that is within 500' of a stream and is in an exempt wetland. The project is located in the SW 1/4 of SE 1/4, Section 15, Township 19, Range 15 E, Village of Winneconne, Winnebago County.

The Department will review the proposal provided by the applicant and any information from public comments and the public informational hearing. The Department will determine whether the proposal complies with ss. 1.11, 30.19 and 30.208, Wis. Stats., and ch. NR 150, Wis. Adm. Code.

The Department has made a tentative determination that it will issue the permit for the proposed activity.

If you would like to know more about this project or would like to see the application and plans, please visit ePermitting at https://permits.dnr.wi.gov/water/SitePages/Permit%20Search.aspx and search for Hoffman or WP-IP-NE-2026-71-X11-11T14-56-32.

Reasonable accommodation, including the provision of informational material in an alternative format, will be provided for qualified individuals with disabilities upon request.

Any person may submit written comments by emailing Kathleen.Kramasz@wisconsin.gov, by leaving a voice message at phone (920) 449- 8006, or writing to Kathi Kramasz, 1155 Pilgrim Rd., Plymouth, WI, 53073 by mail.

Comments should include the docket number or applicant name and should relate to whether the project meets the legal standards listed above. Comments must be submitted or postmarked no later than 30 days after the date on which the Department first publishes the notice on our Internet website.

If you would like to request a public informational hearing, the request must be submitted or postmarked within 20 days after the date on which the Department first publishes the notice on our Internet website. A request for hearing must include the docket number or applicant name and specify the issues that the party desires to be addressed at the informational hearing. If no hearing is requested, the Department will issue its decision without a hearing. If a hearing is held, comments must be submitted or postmarked no later than 10 days following the hearing date.

The final decision may be appealed as indicated in the decision document. Docket Number IP-NE-2026-71-03419

STATE OF WISCONSIN DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES
For the Secretary By:

Kathi Kramasz
Water Management Specialist

Published: 11/25/2026
WNAXLP

Classifieds

For Sale

California King Size Bed - Best Offer!
(920-216-7078)

Wanted to Buy

I buy classic cars especially convertibles 50/60s impala/ 55-57 bel air/ Cadillac/ Monte Carlo/ cutlass/ Buick/ caprice/ Chevelle / Mercedes/ etc , any condition 414-514-1828 Bill

Real Estate

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

Wilde Farm Inc. Land Auction – 153± acres of Winnebago County, Wisconsin farmland near Oshkosh. Bidding opens November 26 and closes December 3 at 1PM. Bid online at SteffesGroup.com.

Miscellaneous

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 1-888-425-2108 today!

Audien Hearing. The world's first hearing aid with touchscreen controls. No tiny buttons, apps or prescriptions. 45-day risk free trial. Free shipping. Lifetime support. More than 1.5 million happy customers. Call Audien 1-833-824-3349

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 12/27/26.) Call 1-844-260-2934

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.

No more cleaning out gutters. Guaranteed! LeafFilter is backed by a no-clog guarantee and lifetime transferrable warranty. Call today 1-855-948-3442 to schedule a FREE inspection and no obligation estimate. Get 15% off your entire order. Plus, Military & Seniors get an additional 10% off. Limited time only. Restrictions apply, see representative for warranty and offer details.

Got News?
Call
920-582-4541

Public Notice

STATE OF WISCONSIN
CIRCUIT COURT
WINNEBAGO COUNTY
BRANCH 6
CASE NO. 26 CV 902
COMMUNITY FIRST CREDIT UNION
P.O. BOX 1487
APPLETON, WI 54912-1487

Plaintiff,
v.
GRANT Q. STROOK
7540 Richter Ln
Larsen, WI 54947-9635,
Defendant.
AMENDED SUMMONS
THE STATE OF WISCONSIN
To the person named above as a Defendant:
You are hereby notified that the Plaintiff named above has filed a lawsuit or other legal action against you. The Complaint, which has been sent to you by U.S. Postal Service First Class Mail, states the nature and basis of the legal action.
Within forty (40) days after November 18th, 2026, you must respond with a written answer, as that term is used in chapter 802 of the Wisconsin Statutes, to the Complaint. The court may reject or disregard an answer that does not follow the requirements of the statutes. The answer must be mailed or delivered to the court, the Winnebago County Courthouse, whose address is 415 Jackson Street, P.O. Box 2808, Oshkosh, Wisconsin 54903-2808 and to Plaintiff's attorney, whose mailing address is P.O. Box 186, Little Chute, WI, 54140-0186. You may have an attorney help or represent you.
If you do not provide a proper answer within 40 days, the Court may grant judgment against you for the award of money or other legal action requested in the Complaint, and you may lose your right to object to anything that is or may be incorrect in the Complaint. A judgment may be enforced as provided by law.
A judgment awarding money may become a lien against any real estate you own now or in the future and may also be enforced by garnishment or seizure of property.
Dated: November 5th, 2026
VAN LIESHOUT LAW OFFICE
Attorneys for Plaintiff
/s/David J. Van Lieshout
State Bar No. 1012641
davevl@littlechutelaw.com
P.O. Box 186
Little Chute, WI 54140-0186
(920) 788-0800

Published: 11/18/26, 11/25/26 and 12/02/26
WNAXLP

SPECIAL SCHOOL BOARD MEETING
WINNECONNE COMMUNITY SCHOOL DISTRICT
MONDAY OCTOBER 26, 2026, (IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING ANNUAL MEETING)
WINNECONNE PERFORMANCE ART CENTER
400 N 9TH AVENUE, WINNECONNE WI 54986

Meeting notices were sent to0 members of the press, members of the school board and were posted on the front doors and/or in the vestibules of district school buildings. This is a meeting of the Board of Education in public for the purpose of conducting the school district's business and is not to be considered a public hearing.
AGENDA
1. Meeting Called to Order by Board President
2. Board Members Roll Call
BOARD PRESIDENT CALEWARTS CALLED THE MEETING TO ORDER AT 7:56 PM, ASKED BOARD MEMBER KUNDE IF HE WOULD CONTINUE TO BE ACTING BOARD CLERK, KUNDE AGREED
BOARD MEMBER ROLL CALL:
Present: Kati Calewarts Jill Verich, Cindy Otten, Dean Ackmann, Mark Kunde, Donna Hanson
Absent: Kari Flagg
Legal Counsel Parliamentarian: Chad Wade- Renning & Lewis
Administrative Team
High School Principal, Leah Michaud, Dean of Students, Dan Dobner, Middle School Principal Carley Horvath, Elementary Principal, Mike Meunier, Elementary Assistant Principal, Mary Gogo, Director of Technology, Dave Jerabek, Director of Learning, Joe Pitsch, Business Manager, Mike Sippert
VISITORS: See Visitor Sign In for meeting on File
OPEN SESSION
Resolution 26-1: Adoption of Proposed Tax Levy
BE IT RESOLVED That the sum of $10,505,124 is hereby levied against the taxable property of the Winneconne Community School District for the current operation and that $2,391,944 against the same property for debt retirement, for a total levy of $12,897,068
Motion Made (read) by Verich, second by Hanson to adopt the proposed Tax Levy
Roll Call: Ackmann-Aye, Verich-Aye, Calewarts-Aye, Otten-Aye, Kunde-Aye, Hanson-Aye
Motion Approved- 6-0
Motion made by Kunde, second by Hanson to adjourn the Special Board Meeting of the WCSD Board of Education.
Motion passed- All Ayes
Mark D. Kunde
WCSD-Acting Board Clerk
8:10pm

Published Nov 25, 2026
WNAXLP

MINUTES OF REGULAR BOARD MEETING WINNECONNE COMMUNITY SCHOOL DISTRICT
WINNECONNE MIDDLE SCHOOL LIBRARY
400 N 9TH AVE WINNECONNE WI 54986
NOVEMBER 2, 2026 - 18:30

CALL THE MEETING TO ORDER
Board President, Kati Calewerts called the meeting to order November 2, 2026, at 18:30.
PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE
BOARD MEMBER ROLL CALL
Present : Mark Kunde, Jill Verich, Kari Flagg, Cindy Otten, Donna Hanson, Kati Calewarts
Absent : Dean Ackmann
ADOPT AGENDA: Motion to Adopt Agenda: Kunde Second: Flagg
Motion passed unanimous: 6-0
ADMINISTRATIVE TEAM: Multiple administration present
VISITORS: (See Visitor List on file)
6. Public comment relating to agenda 18:33-18:47 multiple community members spoke about interim district administrator
7 . Consent Agenda :
a. Approve Minutes from October 19, 2026 Regular School Board Meeting
b. Approve Minutes from the October 19, 2026 Annual Meeting Part 1
c. District Checks #10018143 to #10018189: $80,730.52
d. SA Checks #916033 to #916041: $4,761.85
e. District ACH Payments $210,695.05
f. SA ACH Payments $730.75
Motion to approve consent agenda a-f: Verich Second: Hanson Verich-Aye, Flagg-Aye, Otten-Aye, Hanson-Aye, Kunde-Aye, Calewarts-Aye
Motion passed: 6-0
8 . Enrollment update attached in agenda, Mr. Sippert
9. Admin reports reviewed in packet-special congratulations to the equine team division B championship and the Girls Cross Country team finishing 5th out of 16.
10. Board Reports
a. Communications - Thank you card from the Tildalt- bastian family for the generous and thoughtful gift in memory of brother in law and Email communication from former educator was read
b. Committee Reports-
1. Human Resources & Finance-have not met
2. Policy -have not met
3. Ad hoc committee had a closed session an update to the full board will be done in 8 days
Motion to extend public comment for this meeting :Verich
Second : Otten Flagg-Aye, Otten-Aye, Hanson- Aye, Kunde-Aye, Verich-Aye, Calewarts-Aye
Motion passed: 6-0
11. Public comment non-agenda related items Community residents spoke selecting an interim district administrator and the effects on the community
8. Motion to Adjourn: Hanson Second: Flagg Motion passed unanimously at 19:18
WCSD Board Clerk, Kari A. Flagg

Published Nov 25, 2026
WNAXLP

Obituaries

Jerome "Jerry" Schultz

The family of Jerry Schultz, 79, Winneconne is saddened to announce his passing on November 14, 2026, after suffering many years from exposure to Agent Orange in Vietnam.



He was born to Harry and Josephine (Schaffer) Schultz on October 1, 1947, in Chicago, Illinois. Jerry was raised in Chicago and graduated from Saint Rita High School and subsequently entered the U.S. Navy in 1966 and was awarded a Bronze Star and a Navy Achievement Medal.ve

He spent 3 years on active-duty serving a full tour in Vietnam with the Armed Forces Police. It was there he met a San Diego motorcycle police officer who inspired him to pursue a career in law enforcement. Following his time in the service, Jerry joined the Willow Springs (Illinois) Police Department in 1970 where he spent over 32 years dedicated to public service, retiring as Chief of Police in November 2002.

For many years, Jerry also worked security at the Willowbrook Ballroom, which is where he met the love of his life, Phyllis Gemmell. The two married in 1990 and made their home in Justice, Illinois. Throughout the years, Jerry gave back to his community by managing and serving for over 20 years on the district board for the local youth baseball league and serving as an officer on the St. Laurence Father's Club, for which he went so far as to dress up and entertain the crowd as the "Little Old Lady from Pasadena" to help raise money for the club's annual fashion show. Anyone who knew Jerry knows he was always making people laugh any time he could.

After his official retirement in 2002, Jerry relocated to Winneconne, Wisconsin and made the family's vacation home full-time residence. It's a community he loved and where he became a member of the Winneconne Men's Club with his brothers-in-law. In addition to leaning into his love of fishing as much as possible, he decided to keep busy by working at the post office located inside the Morton Pharmacy in Neenah until the time it closed. In the years that followed, Jerry became very active with the Giles-Luce American Legion Post 364, where he served as the building manager, membership chairman, and bartender. In the last few years Jerry was very involved with Quilts of Valor and nominated more than 50 Veterans to receive quilts. He wanted to honor some special people from the Legion who did not receive QOV, so this Summer (at his expense) Phyllis and Lanie Stanek created 15 quilts that were distributed from Jerry.

Jerry is survived by his wife of 36 years, Phyllis; son, Army Lieutenant Colonel Brian M. Schultz, daughter-in-law, Army Major Olivia Fraser DMD; grandson, Nathan Schultz; faithful companion, Zoey; brother, Len (Colleen) Schultz; brother-in-law, Joe (Judy) Gemmell; sisters-in-law, Rose (Mike) Ciolkosz, Fran (Bruce) Strimel, Kathy Gemmell, Aleta Gemmell; along with over 60 nieces, nephews and their spouses; plus many dear friends and great neighbors.

He was preceded in death by his parents, Harry and Josie; father-in-law and mother-in-law, Tom and Peanuts Gemmell; brothers-in-law, Tom "T-Bone" Gemmell, Herb Adamson, and Richard Gemmell; sisters-in-law, Alice Adamson and Sally Gemmell; and nephew, Rob Ciolkosz.

A visitation for family and friends will be on Saturday, November 28, 2026, from 9:00 to 10:45 a.m. at St. Mary Catholic Church 210 Pleasant Drive Winneconne. A funeral Mass will be held on Saturday, November 28 at 11:00 a.m. at the church with Fr. Erwin Obias officiating. Following Mass inurnment with military honors will be held at the Winneconne Cemetery.

In lieu of flowers, donations can be made to the Winnebago County Veterans Service Office of which Jerry had served on the Winnebago County Veterans Service Board.

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

MUELLER FUNERAL HOME EST 1941 Where Caring Is A Family Tradition

Ways to help prevent the spread of illness

Aurora Health Care

Ahead of the Thanksgiving holiday when people will be gathering with friends and family, Aurora Health Care is urging everyone to take steps to protect themselves and those around them.

Simple actions like practicing good hygiene, staying up to date on vaccinations and staying home when sick can help keep individuals, families and communities safer this sick season.

Health experts strongly recommend the following steps to help keep more people healthy and limit the spread of illness:

• Stay home when sick: Protect others by staying home if you have symptoms of respiratory illness, such as a cough, fever or fatigue.

• Get vaccinated: Vaccines remain the most effective tool for preventing severe illness. Make sure you are up to date on vaccinations appropriate for your situation, including this year's updated flu and COVID-19 shots and the RSV vaccine, if appropriate. Talk to your doctor if you have questions or need guidance about the best options for you.

• Practice good hygiene etiquette: Wash hands frequently, cover your nose and mouth when coughing or sneezing, and avoid close contact with others when feeling sick.

"When we each take these steps — like staying home when sick, getting vaccinated and practicing good respiratory etiquette — we help protect not only ourselves but also our families, neighbors and the most vulnerable members of our community," said Dr. Robert Citronberg, executive medical director of infectious disease for Aurora Health Care, part of Advocate Health. "Together, these simple actions make a meaningful difference in reducing the spread of respiratory illnesses this season, especially with Thanksgiving upon us."

Overdose investigation

FROM PAGE 3

land Security and the Drug Enforcement Agency.

"Fentanyl is a serious epidemic affecting communities of all sizes, including ours," Sauriol said. "If you come to the Village of Winneconne to distribute these dangerous drugs we will investigate, we will find you and we will work to bring you to justice. We will not tolerate drug trafficking that threatens the safety of our residents."

WMG Winnebago Media Group