

Warhawks soar past Spartans in sectional semifinals ▶ SPORTS, 1B



WAUKESHA COUNTY



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The battle for birds continues in Waukesha

Flock owner resists new chicken ordinance



Photo courtesy of Amy Manthey

Members of Amy Manthey's flock snack in the coop on her property.

By **Isabella Kostolni**
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WAUKESHA — The city of Waukesha's new chicken ordinance has ruffled some feathers in the days after its passing. Details of the ordinance are available for the public to view and can be found on the city's website. It is attached to the meeting agenda from Tuesday.

According to City Attorney Brian Running, the main points of the ordinance are "to limit the number of chickens that can be kept, to prohibit the keeping of roosters, and to place some requirements on the keeping of chickens with regard to cleaning up, manure removal, making sure feed is not left open so rats and other vermin can get into it, and

to require an enclosure so the chickens are not just running free."

Flock owner Amy Manthey is opposed to the legislation, noting that she doesn't plan on condensing her flock of 35. "Their expectation is that we have to cull our chickens, that we have to choose from these animals that are pets more so than used for their eggs," she said. "All of my chickens have names. They all have personalities. And I will not be compliant."

The Common Council included a grandfather clause in the ordinance, granting citizens 180 days to reduce their flock to only four chickens. To owners of large flocks like Manthey, six months doesn't feel like enough time to bring their collection into compliance. "That's an eviction notice," she said. "That's not a

grandfather clause."

Manthey noted that she has contacted a lawyer to try to appeal the ordinance. "They're demanding that we choose which chickens of ours will live and which will die," she said. "I have retained an attorney to fight this battle."

She insists that the events of Tuesday's meeting are the beginning of a long battle. "They're opening up a Pandora's box," Manthey said.

District 11 Alderwoman Alicia Halvensleben supports the ordinance. "There were obviously some people who were opposed to the ordinance, but overall I think it was a good ordinance that passed. I think it was great as it was written," she said.

See **CHICKENS**, PAGE 8A

Nicholas & Associates and Wingspan Development Group acquire nearly 59 acres in Pabst Farms

OCONOMOWOC — Nicholas & Associates and its sister company Wingspan Development Group announced Thursday that they acquired nearly 59 acres in Pabst Farms and will be proposing a new live/work/play concept for the site in Oconomowoc.

"We are very bullish on Oconomowoc and excited to share our vision for Pabst Farms with the city," said Nick Papanicholas, Jr., president of Nicholas & Associates, in a statement. "This is my Wisconsin home, so I have been driving by the property for years, and it would be an honor to add to the Pabst Farms legacy. Our family has 45 years of experience in developing thoughtful buildings that contribute to communities' quality of life — in fact, we've

already executed some school projects in Oconomowoc that reflect that philosophy. We plan to bring that same experience to this project and work closely with residents and officials to ensure the results align with local needs for modern live/work/play options."

Wingspan has had Class A suburban rental communities in Oak Creek, Brookfield, Tampa and suburban Chicago. Its apartment projects' typical amenities include outdoor pools, clubhouses with entertainment lounges and coffee bars, fitness centers, pet spas and dog parks, and remote work business suites and conference areas, according to a statement.

"Our Pabst Farms proposal will build on the region's growth while



Courtesy of Nicholas & Associates

Pictured is Nick Papanicholas Jr., president of Nicholas & Associates.

adding a sizeable tax base," said Christopher Coleman, vice president of development for Wingspan Development Group, in the statement.

SCHOOL DISTRICT OF WAUKESHA

Policy for library and educational materials complaints approved

Deputy superintendent also approved

By **Karen Pilarski**
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WAUKESHA — The School District of Waukesha Board of Education unanimously approved a policy outlining procedures for complaints concerning library and educational materials Wednesday.

The policy, as proposed, outlines how complaints should be channeled throughout the district, and when a book might be removed. According to the update, students, staff or citizens can register a complaint. The person should meet with the principal or a staff member to resolve the issue. If it is not resolved at a school level, the following will occur:

- Information will be gathered from the complainant and documented on the Complaints Concerning Educational/Library Materials form.

- A committee of the following members will be formed.
- Prior to the committee meeting, members will be provided with the Complaints Concerning Educational/Library Materials form and a copy of the resource.

- The committee will gather to discuss the complaint and make a recommendation.

- The team must develop a rationale for the recommendation and document it. Recommendations could include limiting access to material, moving it to a different grade level, leaving the material alone, and removing it.

See **POLICY**, PAGE 8A

NEW BERLIN

Crews work to clean up after gasoline spill

An estimated 70 gallons of gasoline spilled in fuel transfer; mitigation underway

By **Brian Huber**
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NEW BERLIN — Mitigation work is ongoing after about 70 gallons of gasoline was spilled at a gas station Wednesday night, and although it is believed there was no immediate risk to residents, questions remained Thursday about a lag in reporting the matter.

According to a social media post from the city Thursday morning, the spill occurred at a Mobil station on the southeast corner of Calhoun Road and Greenfield Avenue at about 6:30 p.m. Wednesday night, but was not reported until about 5 a.m. Thursday morning, when neighbors informed the city of it.

See **SPILL**, PAGE 8A

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WEATHER



Tomorrow:
Mostly cloudy
High 33 / Low 29

See complete forecast on Page 8A

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AP Photo/Evan Vucci

President Joe Biden speaks about his 2024 budget proposal at the Finishing Trades Institute, Thursday, in Philadelphia.

Policy

From Page 1A

The completed Complaints Concerning Educational / Library Materials form will be sent to the superintendent for final review and consideration regarding the concern. The complaint will be logged on the Final Library Book Concern and the Complaints Concerning Educational/ Library. The person who raised the concern can appeal the decision.

Anthony Zenobia, board vice president, brought up the concern of not capturing the rationale in books/material complaints.

"If the book is reviewed and found to be age-appropriate, then it will remain. If I read this correctly, it will remain for three years. If a book is found to be inappropriate, then it could be removed for three years. What we don't capture is why the book was reviewed and what was in the book brought the complaint in the first place," Zenobia said.

Zenobia added the next board will have to decide whether to bring a book back or to review it again. He also had a concern about documenting why a book was raised as an issue.

Kelly Piacsek, board president, pointed to the first page of the policy. The committee would gather to discuss the complaint and make a recommendation regarding it.

"The team must develop a rationale for the recommendation and documented on the complaint concerning education or library materials. So that rationale for whatever decision they are making would be documented in a record we would retain," she said.

Karrie Kozlowski, board clerk, said she walked through the complaint form and policy. For a parent who is raising a concern the initial discussion would start with the principal or teacher.

"If I'm bringing a recommendation of concern, there are different pieces of information I'm using. One of them is going to be I've read the book. As a parent, it's not required because other pieces I'm doing is that I've read the extensive review of a book," Kozlowski said.

She added using page numbers and excerpts, direct quotes, and wording would give enough understanding if a book is inappropriate. The documentation would give future board members the reason why the book was brought up and why it was or was not removed.

Piacsek suggested adding language to state the superintendent or designee is responsible for ensuring that a sufficiently detailed complaint and rationale is documented in the form.

Next deputy superintendent approved

The Board of Education approved hiring Jennifer Gennerman as the next deputy superintendent in the School District of Waukesha. Gennerman will replace Dr. Joe Koch, who announced his departure earlier in the year after being named the next superintendent of the Mukwonago Area School District. Gennerman is a current district employee, as well as a Waukesha resident. She has been the instructional data specialist for the SDW since June 2022. Before coming to Waukesha, she was the director of advancement & analytics for the Whitnall School District, the director of Continuous Improvement & Assessment for the West Bend School District, and the instruction and data specialist for the Muskego-Norway School District. She has also been a special education teacher and instructional coach.



Gennerman

Gennerman earned a B.A. in special education from UW-Oshkosh, a Master of Education in curriculum and instruction from Carroll University, and she completed the Superintendent Licensure Program at Concordia University.

"Jennifer has excelled in her current role in the School District of Waukesha and built solid relationships while enhancing data literacy with our administrative team. She is a positive and dedicated leader," the district said in a statement.

Spill

From Page 1A

Emergency Management crews, police, fire, stormwater management and the streets department were working to mitigate the matter Thursday. The crews determined gasoline had entered the stormwater system and discharged into a nearby creek. The city is working with the trucking company's hazardous materials mitigation firm, as well.

The city said there is no risk to residents and no cause for alarm, but neighbors in the area may notice a "heavy presence of cleanup specialists" as the mitigation work continues, the city said.

Jim Burns, Emergency Management manager for New Berlin, said the city was informed of the incident and dispatched police, fire, Emergency Management, Stormwater Management and Public Works workers to the scene.

"We contacted and had conversations with both the gas station owner and the transport company and from those discussion so far we've determined that was approximately a 70-gallon spill of gasoline," Burns said.

When asked if he knew what accounted for the overnight delay in reporting, Burns said, "We have some of the same questions as to why did it take so long for either of those parties to report this?"

A man at the gas station who identified himself as the owner declined to comment late Thursday morning, saying he had only recently been informed. A reporter was directed to a man on the scene wearing a Klemm Tank Lines logo, and he, too, declined to comment. Calls placed to Klemm Tank Lines' parent company seeking comment were not returned Thursday.

Burns said he met with the filler's hired cleanup contractor to visit spill areas that were easily accessible, including seeking permission from residents to go onto their properties to investigate further, as the creek that received the spillage meanders through several properties to the south and west of the area. "Fire Department and Emergency

Management deployed a boom and absorbent materials in the waterways we were able to access in order to stop the flow of those materials as best we could further to the west and also applied similar materials and booms along the paths we were able to access to control the further spread and begin the process of absorbing that gasoline. That was being done in order to minimize additional contamination and begin removing that product," Burns said.

He added the cleanup contractor is "putting together a plan how they are going to be able to contain and absorb and remove these products and test water and soil to be sure it is cleaned up properly."

Until that plan is received, Burns said it was difficult to estimate how long the remediation process will take. But the city is working with the state Department of Natural Resources, and that agency has been helping to direct the response and will review the cleanup plan as well.

He compared the amount of gasoline spilled to being about equal to what large SUVs might hold. But Burns reiterated there was no evidence to believe there is a threat to residents.

"Right now with regard to gasoline in the water itself there is not a high enough concentration, at least from what we've looked at; obviously the gasoline is evaporating to a certain extent depending on what surface it is on. We are still in the process with the cleanup contractor to determine exactly what areas were affected.

"Obviously there is a lot of testing and a lot of analysis that goes on. This is not a situation where they just let it all evaporate and everything gonna be fine; this is something that the cleanup company will be required to do their due diligence on to be sure that water and soil that might have been contaminated is removed and properly disposed of."

Burns said the city shared news of the spill on social media for several of its departments and will update those outlets as additional information becomes available.

Biden lays out budget plan

Challenges GOP to follow suit

PHILADELPHIA (AP) — As political gridlock puts the government at risk of defaulting, President Joe Biden on Thursday made an opening bid with a budget plan that would cut deficits by \$2.9 trillion over the next decade — a proposal that Republicans already intend to reject.

It's part of a broader attempt by the president to call out House Republicans who are demanding severe cuts to spending in return for lifting the government's legal borrowing limit. But the GOP has no counteroffer so far, other than a flat "no" to a Biden blueprint with tax increases on the wealthy that could form the policy backbone of Biden's yet-to-be-declared campaign for reelection in 2024.

Striding around a stage at a union training center in Philadelphia, Biden seemed to be in full campaign mode as he spoke about his plan for the government's finances and how his values contrasted with Republican priorities.

"I just laid out the bulk of my budget," Biden said. "Republicans in Congress should do the same thing. Then we can sit down and see where we disagree."

Yet the president doubted that GOP lawmakers could make their numbers match their calls for a balanced budget and he suggested that any efforts to do so could come at the expense of middle-class families.

"How are they going to make the math work?" Biden said. "What are they going to cut?"

Biden's package of tax and spending priorities is unlikely to pass the GOP-run House or the Senate, where Democrats hold a slim edge, as proposed.

this time," he said.

In addition to deficit reduction, Biden's 10-year budget largely revolves around the idea of taxing the wealthy to help fund programs for the middle class, older adults and families. It would raise \$4.7 trillion from higher taxes, with an additional \$800 billion in savings from changes to programs.

Biden has floated a new 25% minimum tax on households worth \$100 million or more. Also, the tax that companies pay on stock buybacks would rise fourfold and those earning more than \$400,000 would pay an additional Medicare tax that would help to keep the program solvent beyond the year 2050. Medicare could negotiate on the prices of more prescription drugs, helping to save the government money.

Accompanying that would be \$2.6 trillion worth of new spending, including the restoration of the expanded child tax credit that would give families as much as \$3,600 per child, compared with the current level of \$2,000. That credit would be "fully refundable," which means households could receive all of that sum even if they don't owe any taxes.

At a time of increased tensions with Russia and China, the budget shows a decline in military spending as a share of the U.S. economy over the next decade. But federal spending would be equal to roughly one-quarter of economic output as the spending on Social Security and Medicare climbs, essentially keeping the government the same size as it is currently.

The budget would seek to close the "carried interest" loophole that allows wealthy hedge fund managers and others to pay their taxes at a lower rate, and prevent billionaires from being able to set aside large amounts of their holdings in tax-favored retirement accounts.

McCarthy has called for putting the U.S. government on a path toward a balanced budget. But by refusing to raise taxes or cut Social Security and Medicare spending, GOP lawmakers face some harsh math that makes it hard to reduce deficits without risking a voter backlash before a presidential election. He has said his plan's release was pushed back because Biden's proposal was only now coming out.

'Biggest government in history'

House Speaker Kevin McCarthy, R-Calif., said the president's proposed deficit reduction was inadequate. "It just seems like it's going to create the biggest government in history. I don't think that's what we need at

other complaints of any other domestic animals that anybody sees any need for an ordinance."

Halvensleben does expect the public to look more closely at Waukesha's presently enacted pet legislation. "We do have ordinances on the books for other types of animals, including regulations on how many cats and how many dogs you can have," she said. "I don't anticipate any other specific animals, but I think this will draw more attention to some of the existing ordinances."

Halvensleben recommends that citizens with questions contact the Community Development Department. "They are very helpful in helping people navigate whether or not something is needing an ordinance," she said. "If they do have concerns about chicken owners in the area, that is where they should direct those questions."

Chickens

From Page 1A

Running is in agreement with Halvensleben. "I think for the vast majority of the city, the regulations that are imposed by this ordinance are pretty reasonable and are in line with what other communities have done in regulating chicken keeping," he said.

Neither Halvensleben nor Running foresee any new animals being brought to the council's attention. "Currently, we don't have any complaints about any other animals," said Running. "The council will come up with these ordinances in response to complaints. The aldermen had received complaints about chickens and that's why one of them led the reconsideration of a chicken ordinance. I am not aware of any

FIVE-DAY FORECAST

TONIGHT
Mostly Cloudy
20

TOMORROW
Mostly Cloudy
34/28

SUNDAY
Snow Likely
35/22

MONDAY
Mostly Cloudy
29/12

TUESDAY
Mostly Sunny
32/18

REGIONAL FORECAST

COMFORT INDEX
4
What the air will feel like tomorrow, based on the temperature, humidity and wind speed.
1 poor; 10 excellent.

ALMANAC
Statistics for Milwaukee Yesterday
High/Low, West Bend 36/32
High/Low 39/37
Normal High/Low 42/27
Last year's high for date 39
Last year's low for date 26
Precipitation, West Bend . . . 0.00"
Precipitation, Milwaukee . . . Trace
Precip. month to date 0.54"
Precip. year to date 6.87"
Snowfall Yesterday Trace
Snow season to date 28.5"
* Precipitation is the liquid equivalent of snow, ice and rain.

WIND CHILL TOMORROW
A composite of the effects of temperature and wind on the human body
8 a.m. 20
Noon 23
4 p.m. 23
8 p.m. 22

HEATING DEGREE
An index of energy consumption indicating how many degrees the day's mean temperature was below 65 degrees.
Yesterday 27
Month to date 239
Season to date 4388
Normal season to date 4945

TEMPERATURES SHOWN ARE TOMORROW'S HIGHS AND LOWS.

ILLINOIS
Chicago 36/32
Rockford 37/31

WISCONSIN
Superior 31/27
Ashland 31/25
Florence 32/21
Eau Claire 33/28
Wausau 30/24
Green Bay 32/27
La Crosse 34/30
Oshkosh 33/27
Appleton 33/28
Beaver Dam 34/28
West Bend 33/28
Madison 35/30
Milwaukee 34/30
Waukesha 33/29

Sunset today 5:52 p.m.
Sunrise tomorrow 6:12 a.m.

Moonrise tomorrow 10:34 p.m.
Moonsset tomorrow 8:00 a.m.

NATIONAL FORECAST

Saturday, Mar. 11, 2023

SOUTHEASTERN WISCONSIN
Tonight: Mostly cloudy. A 20 percent chance of light snow in the late evening and early morning. Lows in the lower 20s. North winds 5 to 10 mph.
Saturday: Mostly cloudy. Highs in the lower 30s. East winds 5 to 10 mph.

MARINE FORECAST
Lake Michigan near shore forecast:
Tonight: NNE wind 10 to 20 kt. A slight chance of snow between 9pm and 3am. Waves 6 ft subsiding to 3 ft. Saturday: NNE wind 10 to 15 kt. Mostly cloudy. Waves 2 to 3 ft.
Lake Michigan water temperature is 35 degrees.

ULTRAVIOLET INDEX FORECAST
The UVI forecast for Saturday is 4
UV scale and warnings on possible skin damage: 0-2 low risk, 3-5 moderate risk, 6-7 high risk, 8-10 very high risk, 11-over extreme risk.

COMING UP IN THE FREEMAN



Stay on track

10 science-backed tricks to help you focus when working from home

In Saturday's Success section