



Fleet Farm opens in Oconomowoc

OCONOMOWOC — Above: Freight team leader Sandra Blersch high-fives a customer as she enters the store during Fleet Farm's grand opening in Oconomowoc on Tuesday. The 218,000-square-foot Fleet Farm opened after more than 10 months of construction in Pabst Farms Towne Center. Fleet Farm President and CEO Derick Prella said Oconomowoc shares Fleet Farm's love for the outdoors and spending time with family.

At right: Fleet Farm President and CEO Derick Prella talks about why Oconomowoc is a great fit for Fleet Farm and how the two are similar in many ways.



Alex Nemecek/Freeman Staff

WAUKESHA

City wants to retrofit your water softener

Effort aimed at reducing chloride levels in wastewater

By Cara Spoto
cspoto@conley.net.com
262-513-2653

WAUKESHA — State Department of Natural Resources standards requiring water utilities to reduce the amount of chlorides entering the sewer system have the city of Waukesha and the Waukesha Water Utility looking right at your water softener.

Chloride loadings in water can be harmful to fish and aquatic life, and their largest source is the salt used in water softeners.

Since salt usage can be reduced by as much as 50 percent through water softener optimization, the city is partnering with local water conditioning companies to retrofit the water softeners of Waukesha Water Utility Customers to make them more efficient.

According to a city memo,

optimizing salt usage in water softeners will ensure that softeners use only the salt needed, reducing salt costs and handling while still providing softened water and reduced chlorides.

The city would pay for the bulk of the service calls, but customers would have to contribute a \$10 copay, city officials write.

Phase one of the program would take place over the next four years. The plan is to start with higher volume users first.

Phase two of the program would not be proposed later as additional softener adjustments will be needed after the city switches over to Lake Michigan water.

Aldermen recently approved implementing the program, which is expected to cost roughly \$270,000 over the course of the next three years.

IN BRIEF

Man allegedly found squatting in empty apartment building

WAUKESHA — Todd J. Drehfal, age 39, faces a charge of entry into a locked building and criminal damage to property after he was allegedly found squatting in a recently vacated apartment building.

According to a criminal complaint, on Aug. 13, an officer was dispatched to a property owned by the Waukesha County Housing Authority after an employee noticed doors open inside the building and a broken window. The employee advised that the authority evicted all tenants on July 1 and no one had permission to be in the building.

An officer allegedly found Drehfal hiding inside a closet in one of the apartments. The complaint says Drehfal advised he broke a window one week earlier to gain entry to the building to sleep. He said he had seen other people coming and going from the building. He was taken into custody.

Butler man arrested for 5th OWI

WAUKESHA — A 28-year-old Butler man was arrested for his fifth drunken driving offense Monday on Interstate 94 near County Highway C after an officer pulled him over for speeding, according to a Waukesha County Circuit Court criminal complaint.

Jesus C. Hernandez Gasper was charged with operating while intoxicated-fifth offense and misdemeanor obstructing an officer.

If convicted, he could face a maximum sentence of three years and nine months in prison.

Multiple motorists reported Gasper's vehicle Monday for alleged reckless driving on I-94. An officer parked close to an on-ramp for CTH C and clocked Gasper at 18 mph over the speed limit, according to the complaint.

When the officer pulled Gasper over, he noticed a crushed beer can and a bucket of beer inside the vehicle. Gasper also provid-

ed the officer with a false name.

Partway through the field sobriety test, Gasper failed the one-leg test stand and allegedly said, "I'm not going to make it. Just take me," according to the complaint.

Pizza Ranch eyeing September opening

WAUKESHA — Waukesha's first Pizza Ranch is slated to be open for business sometime during the first half of September.

Serving pizza, salads and chicken in a buffet-style setting, Pizza Ranch has locations throughout the coun-

try, including 20 restaurants in Wisconsin

Restaurant operators are still looking for employees for the Waukesha location, and encouraged interested would-be employees to apply online at careers.pizzaranch.com.

Lifeline Church to host 9/11 survivor

BROOKFIELD — On Patriot Day weekend, Sept. 9, Lifeline Church, 3285 N. Calhoun Road, will host Sept. 11 survivor Stanley Prainnath to share his unique story from the 81st floor of the World Trade Center.

Prainnath was in his office as the second plane struck the south tower, right where Prainnath was standing.

His story has been featured on The History Channel, CNN, and in Time magazine.

Patriot Day marks the day when community members remember the victims, families, and first responders impacted by the events on Sept. 11, 2001.

The event is scheduled for 10 a.m. For more information visit MyLifelineChurch.org or call the church office at 262-783-2900.

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Alex Nemecek

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