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Oshkosh Northwestern

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The EAA Aviation Museum has announced fall and winter 2026 events, including Space Day, Roads and Runways, speaker programs and holiday celebrations. GARY C. KLEIN/USA TODAY NETWORK-WISCONSIN

EAA Aviation Museum plans fall, holiday events

Nida Tazeen
Oshkosh Northwestern
USA TODAY NETWORK – WISCONSIN

OSHKOSH – The EAA Aviation Museum in Oshkosh will close out the year with a series of aviation-themed programs, exhibits and community events beginning in September and continuing through December.

The lineup includes guest speakers, educational programs, family-focused activities and special events, according to a community announcement.

Among the featured events is a Sept. 11 Speaker Series program marking the 25th anniversary of the Sept. 11, 2001, terrorist attacks. Members of the New York City Fire Department and New York Police Department are scheduled to share reflections on the events and honor first

responders who served during the crisis.

A new event, Roads and Runways, is planned for Sept. 19 near Pioneer Airport and will showcase classic and custom vehicles.

Museum schedule includes aviation and space programs

The museum’s fall calendar continues with ScaleVenture on Oct. 17. The scale-model event returns after several years and will feature displays, a swap meet and a presentation by former F-14 Tomcat pilot Meagan Flannigan.

Space Day is scheduled for Oct. 24 and will include hands-on activities centered on space exploration. A guest speaker will be announced later, according to the announcement.

The final Speaker Series event of the

season is set for Nov. 19. Cape Air pilot Dave Zarella will discuss experiences flying twin-engine Cessna aircraft along the East Coast.

Holiday events conclude museum’s year

The museum’s annual Christmas in the Air celebration will take place Dec. 5. The free community open house will include holiday activities and musical performances throughout the facility.

The year concludes with the Wright Brothers Memorial Banquet on Dec. 11. The ticketed event recognizes the achievements and legacy of Wilbur and Orville Wright and will feature a keynote speaker who has not yet been

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Calumet County eyed for two natural gas plants

Francesca Pica
Milwaukee Journal Sentinel
USA TODAY NETWORK – WISCONSIN

A national energy developer wants to build a pair of natural gas-fired plants in Calumet County that can produce nearly two gigawatts of power.

Chicago-based developer Invenergy submitted engineering plans to state regulators for two natural gas-fired power plants in Brillion, a town of 1,650 about 15 miles from Appleton. Combined, the two plants would produce up to 1.95 gigawatts, or enough to power up to 2 million homes.

Invenergy has not yet disclosed how much the plants will cost. The 750-megawatt Union Depot Energy Center would run continuously, while the 1.2-gigawatt Forest Junction Energy Center will act as a “peaking” plant that fires up during high-demand days.

If approved, Forest Junction would be the second-largest natural gas plant in Wisconsin.

“Invenergy is focused on meeting Wisconsin’s growing energy demand and building a modern, resilient grid with all domestic resources, from solar and storage to natural gas,” lead project developer Daniel Birmingham told the Milwaukee Journal Sentinel in a statement.

“This project will power homes, businesses, and critical infrastructure and contribute to a more reliable, affordable, cleaner electricity mix — in addition to providing a significant economic boost to Calumet County and the Fox Valley region as a whole.”

We Energies plans to bring the project into service by December 2031, according to filings the utility submitted in its ongoing rate case. The company would have to make an application with state regulators to purchase the facilities from Invenergy.

We Energies did not say whether the project is intended to serve hyperscale artificial intelligence data centers, whose immense energy needs are driving infrastructure build-outs by utilities across the state. The utility will reveal more information “in regulatory filings

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Falesnik exits race to back Rippl for Winnebago County sheriff

Justin Marville
Oshkosh Northwestern
USA TODAY NETWORK – WISCONSIN

OSHKOSH – The dark horse in the Winnebago County sheriff’s race is bowing out.

Expressing concerns about splitting the progressive vote, mental health counselor Danielle Falesnik is withdrawing her candidacy and endorsing Democrat Jason Rippl for county sheriff to ensure “the strongest challenger to the current administration advances.”

Falesnik made the announcement in a news release and a subsequent Facebook video Aug. 30 before confirming the news in an interview with the Northwestern ahead of the Nov. 3 election.

“The decision kind of came after the primaries with Francesca Hong and David Crowley where there was a lot of back and forth and we didn’t want to run the risk of having an open window for the Republican candidate,” Falesnik said.

“Ideally, we believe Ripple gives the community a better chance to keeping this seat accountable.”

What to know about the county sheriff election

The shock withdrawal comes just two months before the Nov. 3 election, where Falesnik was slated to face Rippl

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Danielle Falesnik is withdrawing her candidacy for Winnebago County sheriff. PROVIDED BY DANIELLE FALESNIK

