

WISCONSIN STATE JOURNAL

Sundance rides away

Robert Redford, the red-hot actor from the '70s who would win a directing Oscar, has died at 89

OBITUARY. A11



GETTING CLOSER?

Watson looking to get back to practice soon

SPORTS. B1

You've got it

4 weeknight meals you can fashion with ingredients right in your kitchen

TASTE. B10

Listen to the music

Quartet finally gets together to make their own album; what took so long?

ENTERTAINMENT. A17

Wednesday, September 17, 2025

WHERE YOUR STORY LIVES

MADISON.COM

MADISON SCHOOL DISTRICT | SURVEY OF RESIDENTS

More choice desired?

Parents receive an opportunity to weigh 'neighborhood' model

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The Madison School District wants to know if residents want more educational options.

The district's latest survey asks respondents if they'd like the district to offer schools that focus on things like the arts, foreign languages or STEM — schools that children from anywhere in the district could attend.

Madison schools have long used the "neighborhood schools" model, under which — with a few exceptions — students attend

the elementary school closest to them, which then feeds into the closest middle and high schools.

Among its 52 schools, the district currently offers only seven options for parents seeking more specialized experiences for their children.

The Spanish-English immersion charter school Nuestro Mundo gives priority to students

living in its attendance area but allows students outside that area to apply for admission through a lottery system, according to Assistant Superintendent of Strategy and Innovation Cynthia Green. The same approach applies to "magnet" middle schools Wright and Spring Harbor, and the district-controlled charter Badger Rock Middle School.

Meanwhile, the district's smaller alternative high schools — Shabazz, Capital High and the Innovative and Alternative Education program — are open to students living anywhere in Madison, not just for students who have struggled in the city's four traditional high schools, Green said.

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FRIENDS' FLOTILLA

Enjoying a twice-a-summer tradition they've continued for 15 years, a group of friends share a leisurely, 90-minute float down the Yahara River in Madison on Tuesday. From left are Linda Marx, Jill Schneider, Diane Marx and Sharon Fallon.

JOHN HART,
STATE JOURNAL



PUBLIC HEALTH COVID-19

State urges shots for all

DHS departs from new federal stance

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People ages 6 months and older should consider getting a COVID-19 booster vaccine this fall, regardless of the federal government's new limitations on who should get the shot, Wisconsin's Department of Health Services recommended Tuesday.

But questions remain on who will foot the bill for vaccines and whether insurance companies will continue to cover them, given the new federal limits.

DHS announced the recommendation Tuesday, with the state's chief medical officer, Ryan Westergaard, saying that,

Please see VACCINE, Page A6

CHARLIE KIRK'S ASSASSINATION | SUSPECT CHARGED

Texts point to decision

ASSOCIATED PRESS

PROVO, Utah — Prosecutors brought a murder charge Tuesday against the man accused of killing Charlie Kirk and outlined

evidence, including a text message confession to his partner and a note left beforehand saying he had the opportunity to kill one of the nation's leading con-

servative voices "and I'm going to take it."

DNA on the trigger of the rifle that killed Kirk also matched that of Tyler Robinson, Utah

County Attorney Jeff Gray said while outlining the evidence and announcing charges that

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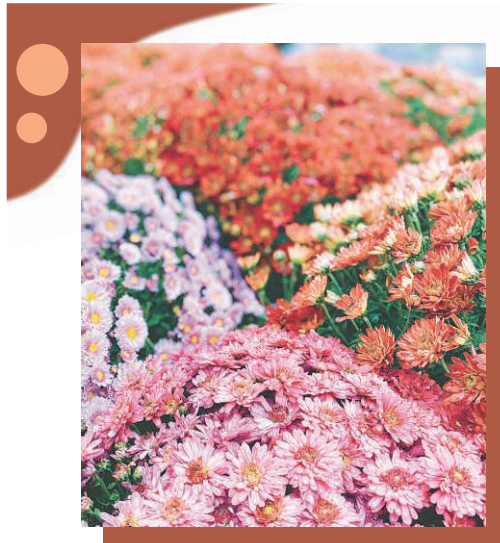
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Clouds and sun; warm
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