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The view from above

Waukesha Police take flight with two drones on force



Hannah Weikel/Freeman Staff A Phantom 3 drone hovers in the Waukesha Police Department garage on Wednesday during a private demonstration.

By Hannah Weikel Freeman Staff

AUKESHA — Last October, when autistic 10-year-old Andrew Ounkham went missing from his rural home on the south side of the city, Waukesha Police the Department deployed a drone to find him.

The department's biggest concern was that he had ventured toward a river and was in immediate danger, so officers pointed the drone's camera along the river-





Kenny Yoo/Special to The Freeman U.S. House Speaker Paul Ryan addresses employees at Banker Wire in Mukwonago on Wednesday.

Ryan talks small business, health care reform in Mukwonago House Speaker visits Banker Wire

By Ashley Haynes Freeman Staff

MUKWONAGO — It's no secret that Speaker of the U.S. House of Representatives Paul Ryan is an advocate for tax reform, especially when it comes to the percentage of taxes on small, family-owned businesses. Wednesday, On the Janesville Republican continued his trend of visiting businesses across southeastern Wisconsin to discuss that and other issues. manufacturer of woven wire mechanics and engineering. and mesh, and later had a Q&A session with the com-

pany's workers. The upcoming Wisconsin Foxconn plant and how it will change the outlook of the rustic belt was one of the first issues brought up.

You've got to stay ahead of the curve and Foxconn is at the cutting edge," said Ryan. "This investment is bringing a generation's worth of development.'

Ryan says that Foxconn founder and chairman Terry Gou chose Wisconsin because he was impressed by the state's education sys-He toured Banker Wire, a tem and the focus on

banks and then on into cornfields and woods. Ounkham was eventually found safe 18 hours later, after a massive search that continued overnight.

The use of drones — or unmanned aerial vehicles is exploding in police work, along with commercial and hobbyist purposes. As popularity and demand increases commercially, drones drop in cost, making them more accessible to police departments.

According to an April 2017 Bard College study, at least 347 state and local police, sheriff, fire and emergency units in the U.S. acquired drones between 2009 and 2017.

the Muskego and Waukesha police departments regularly use drones. Waukesha can deploy its drone anywhere in the county and across the region.

deployed to arsons, officerinvolved shootings, homicide investigations, missing children searches and suicidal subjects walking around in woods across the county, said Waukesha Police Lt. Chad Pergande, who leads the department's program.

shows a search on horseback through a field.

The Waukesha Police Department purchased a second drone earlier this week. They currently have a DJI Phantom 3 that was In Waukesha County, both donated by a private citizen that has been used regularly for about a year, and a new, smaller DJI Spark drone that cost about \$700.

Pergande said they hope soon to add two more Spark drone,

The drone has been drones and a high-tech Matrice 210, which would cost about \$28,000, has a dual-battery system, can fly in sub-zero temperatures and rain and touts a thermal camera that can detect body heat to locate people at night.

Aerial footage from a city of Madison Police Department drone during a July 24 training drill

We can put these things up in the air, and really be able to cover wide areas of land in short periods of time and tell if they are there. In daylight, the ones we have right now would be able to do that for us. Our only limitation is at night," he said.

Waukesha police are requesting city budget money for the Matrice which Pergande

greatly believes would enhance the department's ability to search for missing people or runaway subjects by providing night vision from the sky.

Submitted photo

The Town of Oconomowoc Police Department doesn't have a drone and doesn't have immediate plans to buy one, said Chief James Wallis.

Wallis said the technology could be a great public safety tool for police in the right situation, but law enforcement should only use drones on a case-by-case basis. In Wallis opinion, the public's right to privacy should be considered

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See RYAN, PAGE 8A

Group drops fight over letting city use Lake Michigan water

group representing mayors and cities in the Great Lakes region has dropped its fight against letting Waukesha draw water from Lake Michigan.

On Wednesday, the Great Lakes and St. Lawrence Cities Initiative said it reached a settlement with

WAUKESHA (AP) — A the Great Lakes Compact Council, which represents the region's eight states. The council last year granted Waukesha permission to tap the lake, which ordinarily would be prohibited because the city is outside the watershed boundary.

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UNITY Lutheran Church Festival, 5 p.m. to 8 p.m. Friday, 10 a.m. to 11 p.m. Saturday, 9:30 a.m. to noon Sunday, Christ the King, 4600 Pilgrim Road, Brookfield. Free admission, live music, cash raffle, Friday fish fry, Saturday chicken dinner, grilled food and drinks during entire festival, games & activities for kids and adults, social mixers, outdoor walking prayer path outdoor worship followed by brunch. Badger Military Collectibles Show,

3 p.m. to 8 p.m. Friday and 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday, Waukesha County Expo Center, 1000 Northview Road Waukesha. Admission: adults \$7; chil-

Fun Things To Do This Weekend

dren 14 and under free. Military collectibles show. www.bobandrocco.com

Bands on the Beach, 7:30 p.m. to 9:30 p.m. Friday, Rhodee Memorial Band Shell, 324 W. Wisconsin Ave. Oconomowoc.

Jammin' on Janesville, 5 p.m. to 9 p.m. Friday, along Janesville Road, Muskego. www.muskego.org

"Once Upon a Mattress," 7 p.m. today, Friday and Saturday and 3 p.m. Saturday and Sunday, Lake Country Playhouse, 221 E. Capitol Drive, Hartland. Presented by students ages 13

to 17 in The Playhouse Performing Arts Academy. https://www.lakecoun-tryplayhousewi.org/onceuponamattress/; tickets: http://onceuponamattresslcp.brownpapertickets.com.

Lake Country Carvers annual Woodcarving Show, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday, Life Enrichment Center, 1306 W. Wisconsin Ave., Oconomowoc.

Waukesha Art Crawl, 4 p.m. to 10 p.m. Saturday, downtown Waukesha. www.waukeshaart.com/waukesha-artcrawl

5th annual On-Street Show. 10 a.m.

to 2 p.m. Sunday, downtown Elm Grove on Watertown Plank Road. Registration 8 a.m. to noon. Entry fee is a donation benefitting TeamUp! Vendor area. Food and drink Facebook.com/CruisinTheGrove

Waukesha Civic Band, 8 p.m. to 9 p.m. today, Les Paul Performance Center, Cutler Park, 321 Wisconsin Ave. Dixie Band, music from "The Wizard of Oz." Sponsored by Randy Hopf & Gene Stevens.

Waukesha's Friday Night Live, 6:30 p.m. to 9 p.m. Friday, downtown Waukesha.

WEATHER



Tomorrow: Showers High 64 Low 53

See complete forecast on 8A



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Water From Page 1A

Waukesha needs a new water source because its groundwater is contaminated with radium, but has been mixing water from its deep and shallow aquifers to provide safe drinking water.

Waukesha had been required to be in full compliance with the Environmental Protection Agency's radium-in-water standards by June 30, 2018, or be fined under a previous agreement with the state. The city didn't receive final approval for the Lake Michigan project until June 2017, which left two years for planning, design and construction. A new agreement, reached in July, buys Waukesha five more years for completion, until Sept. 1, 2023.

The cities group unsuccessfully appealed the council's decision and had considered a lawsuit.

Ryan From Page 1A

With discussion of new and emerging technologies, the topic of net neutrality arose. Ryan said net neutrality goes back to the issue of who should be drafting bills for the American people- elected public officials or unelected bureaucrats who have no limit on the amount of time they are in power. He believes organizations like the Federal Communications Commission shouldn't be enforcing legislation.

On a national level, Ryan was also asked about the issues going in the Senate regarding the replacement of Obamacare. One Banker Wire employee said even though there is Republican alignment in the White House, Senate, and House for the first time in years, there are still problems getting legislation passed.

'The House has passed along almost all of the legislation that we had planned to," said Ryan. "Now we're just waiting on the Senate to get it done. I know how frustrating it is, especially when one senator voted a different way than he said he was going to.'



Kenny Yoo/Special to The Freeman

U.S. House Speaker Paul Ryan tours the industrial building of Banker Wire in Mukwonago with company president Dave Stout on Wednesday.

progress, but there are too many other distractions going on that don't allow the people to see when real work in Congress is being done. He

Ryan maintained there has been pointed to the week when former FBI Director James Comey made his testimony on Capitol Hill.

"We passed some legislation that day that no one even heard about,

said Ryan.

He emphasized that the House is doing everything it can to get some movement on the replacement of Obamacare and trying to get the Senate to gain traction as well.

"We're trying to get this to the Senate and get this done," said Ryan. "It will lower premiums and make it more affordable.'

He also pointed out that a major point in the new proposed health care bill for him is to make sure citizens are able to find out medical costs up front and shop around. He says our current system just doesn't work.

"I want to go to Travelocity for health care -let's do that," said Rvan.

He ended his Q&A session by briefly stating that House members will continue to work on drafting some more bills that have been on their to-do list. He said he will continue to work as hard as he can to get as many pieces of legislation possible finished and deliver on the promises Republican lawmakers have been making for years, including the repeal and replacement of Obamacare.

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Mayor Shawn Reilly expressed happiness with the outcome.

"We are pleased that the GLSLCI (Cities Initiative) has chosen not to further appeal the approval by the Great Lakes Compact to allow Waukesha to use and return Lake Michigan water. We will continue to move forward toward providing a sustainable, reliable, and safe drinking water supply for the City of Waukesha," Reilly said in a statement.

"The Great Lakes Compact Council stated, 'none of the evaluated alternatives were found to be reliable sources for a longterm, dependable, and sustainable public water supply and, therefore, the Applicant is without a reasonable water supply alternative' to using and returning Lake Michigan water. The Compact Council based its decision on science, the law and the years of research behind Waukesha's application."

Under their deal, the cities group and the state council will review the process for considering similar requests in the future, with an eye toward involving more stakeholder groups and having more public hearings.

"We are moving forward on permitting and then construction of the project, and anticipate using and returning Lake Michigan water by 2023," Reilly said

> Also contributing: Katherine Michalets, Freeman Staff

Drones From Page 1A

before any use of a drone by law enforcement.

Summit Police Lieutenant Steve Schroeder said his department hasn't considered purchasing a drone, but sees advantages to their use.

Schroeder said law enforcement agencies elsewhere in Waukesha County do a great job of sharing the technologies they have with other departments, and he imagines that would likely be the case with drones should one group need the technology.

Waukesha's drone has already been deployed to Summit to aid a homicide investigation and Milwaukee during a police-involved shooting along the lakefront.

FAA rules and regulations

Police drones must be registered by the Federal Aviation Administration and comply with certain rules and restrictions, as with any across the country. public aircraft.

Each time Waukesha police deploy a drone, they first have to call the Waukesha Regional Airport because the entire city is considered "class D" airspace, meaning all flights, including drones, must be cleared by the FAA.

Officers who fly the drone must receive FAA-approved training and undergo regular in-flight tests, Pergande said.

There are fewer than 10 officers trained to deploy and operate drones in the Waukesha Police Department, but that number is expected to increase. Police drones are subject to FAA rules similar to those covering commercial

flights, like flying only 400 Madison, said new surveilfeet above ground and always remaining within the operator's line of sight.

But other commercial flight rules, like restricted night launches and no flying over people, are waived for police, Pergande said.

Most police departments also create protocol for their force's use of drones, including state and federal privacy statutes that comply with the Fourth Amendment.

Concerns have been raised as UAVs in police work skyrockets, such as whether officers could use them to invade privacy and obtain video and photos of places, like back yards, where they normally couldn't go.

Privacy concerns

Drones used for surveillance have been hotly contested in multiple U.S. Supreme Court cases and in state courts, which has created an extensive amount of legislation and case law

At the core of those concerns is privacy.

Alan Rubel, an associate professor of information studies and legal studies at the University of Wisconsin-

lance technology like drones can present a delicate balance between ensuring public safety and breaching privacy guaranteed by the U.S. Constitution.

"Everyone is protected from unlawful searches and seizures and there's a tension between new technology and how those are treated under the Fourth Amendment,' Rubel said.

According to a 2017 Rasmussen poll, the issue is divided, with 36 percent in favor and 39 percent against the use of drones in police work.

As it stands, Waukesha police deploying drones must abide by similar laws as they would when searching a car, Pergande said. In Wisconsin, a warrant is needed for searches unless there is an immediate threat to someone's safety. Police are not allowed to use drones to spy on private citizens through a window, but are allowed to fly them in homes to serve a warrant or to locate a dangerous person inside.

Drones are often lumped with manned aircraft, like helicopters and airplanes, but Rubel said they should be



Hannah Weikel/Freeman Staf

A Phantom 3 drone hovers above police patrol vehicles in the Waukesha Police Department garage Wednesday during a private demonstration.

treated differently because used in police work are they are cheap, easily hidden and can get into spaces that most manned aircraft cannot.

With ever-advancing technology like artificial intelligence, facial recognition and thermal imaging, the lines of what should or shouldn't be becoming more blurred and often new technology is outpacing laws and regulations.

Still, it's hard to ignore the huge benefits police drones bring for the safety of officers and citizens, Rubel said.

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