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CASE HIGH SCHOOL



RYAN PATTERSON PHOTOS, RYAN.PATTERSON@JOURNALTIMES.COM

Case student Seth Green works at Fischer to assist in producing salt and pepper mills for Eagle Manufacturing. Green likes working on machines and said he has “the type of mind to make things and see how things are made.”

‘Outstanding opportunity’

Capstone project launches ongoing business venture

RYAN PATTERSON
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RACINE — David Groen occasionally didn’t feel like working on the project.

However, Groen knew his peers were counting on him, so he completed his tasks.

Groen led a small group of engineering students that recently helped create salt and pepper mills for a Case High School capstone project.

The mills can be used at home and commercially. Twisted Cuisine restaurant and Sebastian’s restaurant, among other entities, use the mills, which are customizable and available in nearly any color.

Capstones are the final project for Racine Unified School District seniors.

Students apply their knowledge and skills to solve a real-world problem and demonstrate their mastery of the subject matter and readiness for next steps in life.

About 20 Case students worked on the project as employees at Eagle Manufacturing, a student-led company that started in fall 2024.

Students said the project was more work than they anticipated but largely enjoyable.

“It was nothing like I’ve ever experienced before,” said Brayden Lipari, Case junior. “Working together with other departments is mind-blowing. It was really fun getting to know (people) and working all together on one big project.”

Jayden George, Eagle Manufacturing chief executive officer, said the capstone was “an outstanding opportunity” to gain a better sense of what his career may entail.

Students learned how to use time effectively and collabora-

rate with their peers.

“You got to find out what motivates people,” said Luke Smith, Case senior.

Eagle Manufacturing plans to continue next school year, meaning capstone students in 2025-26 will build upon the work started this school year.

Area partners

RUSD partnered with Racine Area Manufacturers and Commerce and Fischer on the capstone project.

RAMAC was an angel investor to get Eagle Manufacturing up and running.

Fischer is a Racine-based company that specializes in manufacturing spindles.

The project originated last summer when Ryan Brath, Fischer managing director, pitched to a RAMAC committee the idea of a manufacturing business run by high schoolers.

RAMAC supported the idea and reached out to RUSD and Gateway Technical College,

which both quickly agreed.

Case students began working on the project in October. They are not paid for their work at Eagle Manufacturing, and proceeds from sales go back into the company.

Workers include a chief executive officer, chief financial officer, vice president and general manager from the business pathway; software developers in Case’s computer science pathway; and engineers in the engineering pathway.

Three pathway teachers oversaw the project and occasionally gave suggestions, but students did the labor.

Most work in the first several months involved brainstorming about company goals, intended customers and prices.

Prices are \$75 for one mill, \$146 for two, \$355 for five, \$690 for 10, \$1,675 for 25, \$4,875 for 75 and \$6,300 for 100.

Please see CASE, Page A4

WISCONSIN SUPREME COURT

Leak suspect remains unknown

Investigation into draft order in abortion case is concluded

SCOTT BAUER
Associated Press

MADISON — Investigators concluded in a report released Wednesday that the leak of a Wisconsin Supreme Court abortion order last year was likely deliberate, but they were unable to determine who was responsible.

The June leak of a draft order showed the court would take a case brought by Planned Parenthood, which is seeking to declare access to abortion a right protected by the state constitution. A week after the leak was reported, the court issued the order accepting the case.

The draft order, which was not a ruling on the case itself, was obtained by online news outlet Wisconsin Watch.

The Supreme Court’s seven justices, in a statement released with the investigative report, called the leak “a breach of trust the court had not experienced in its history.” All seven justices condemned the leak.

The leaked order in June came in one of two abortion-related cases before the court. The court also heard a second case challenging the 1849 abortion ban brought by Attorney General Josh Kaul. A ruling in that case is pending.

The court has yet to set a date for oral arguments in the Planned Parenthood case that was the subject of the leaked memo.

Investigators questioned 62 people, including all seven Supreme Court justices, staff, interns and people with access to the court during a two-week period in June from the date the draft was available until Wisconsin Watch published its article.

Network logs, including individual web histories, shared folder files, individual folders,

Please see SUSPECT, Page A4

Downtown to get new thrift store

One Stop Shop Thrift opening Saturday at 240 Main St.

CAROLINE NEAL
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RACINE — No matter the city, Tara Gutierrez likes to thrift any chance she gets, with some of her best finds including a vintage Coach purse she gifted to her cousin.

“Anytime I see something (and) it catches my eye, then I’ll just stop in and see what’s in there,” she said. “I love it because you find so many

unique things.”

Now, Racine thrifting and shopping enthusiasts will have a new spot to look for their own unique finds.

Gutierrez is opening One Stop Shop Thrift at 240 Main St this weekend. Accepting donations from the community, the store will sell a variety of goods, including clothing, at affordable prices.

This comes as 8 in 10 Americans are planning to rely more on second-hand shopping to offset rising costs, according to a StorageUnits.com survey. Of that, 48% cited high traditional retail prices as the primary rea-

son for turning to thrifting, and 69% said it was to save money.

One Stop Shop Thrift officially opens at 10 a.m. Saturday, May 3, with grand opening celebrations occurring from 2-4 p.m.

Gutierrez, who has been thrifting since she was in her 20s, said she previously considered opening a retail store, like a boutique, but “wasn’t really interested in that” and “didn’t really know where to begin.”

But when her daughter, Fy Ness, suggested last year that

Please see THRIFT, Page A4



CAROLINE NEAL, CAROLINE.NEAL@JOURNALTIMES.COM

Tara Gutierrez is opening One Stop Shop Thrift on Saturday, May 3. “I wanted to do something affordable for the community where they can get nice quality items for a very low price,” Gutierrez said.

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Home	B8	Obituaries	A4	TV	A6



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Ronald J. Tempesta

October 2, 1945—April 25, 2025

RACINE—Ronald Joseph Tempesta, age 79, passed away Friday morning, April 25, 2025, at Ascension All Saints Medical Center. Ronald was born in Racine on October 2, 1945, the son of the late Ezio Joseph and Sarah Anna (née Graceffa) Tempesta.



Ron attended St. Joseph Grade School and graduated from Wm. Horlick High School, Class of 1963. He proudly served in the U.S. Army Reserves for 14 years.

On February 24, 1968, Ron was united in marriage to the love of his life, Irene Paula Lentz, at St. Rita Catholic Church.

In his younger years, Ron and his brother, Bob, ran D&D Texaco Station at the corner of Drexel and Durand. He was later employed with Twin Disc for 37 years before retiring. In his spare time, he loved restoring and working on older cars with his brother and best friend, Bob. He also enjoyed hunting, fishing, golfing, and playing cribbage with family and friends. Above all, he cherished the time spent with his family.

Ron will be dearly missed by his loving wife of 57 years, Irene; his children, Rebecca (Randall) Rovik, Anna Tempesta (Frank Cacciotti), Joseph (Aubrey) Tempesta, and Sarah Sorensen (Adam Lantz); his grandchildren, Cali Allan, Benjamin Rovik, Taite Allan, Samuel (Nicole) Rovik, Elizabeth Rovik, Zachary Tempesta, Julia Rovik, and Roy LaPerriere; his sisters, Rose Ann (Chuck) Hoeft and Annette Tempesta-Thibodeau; his sisters-in-law, Cathleen Tempesta, Gail Lantz, and Carol (Bruce) Hansen; as well as many beloved nieces, nephews, other relatives, and friends.

In addition to his parents, Ron was preceded in death by his son, Zachary James Sorensen; and his siblings, Joseph Tempesta, Sarah Jean (James) Sorensen, Richard (Suzanne) Tempesta, and Robert Tempesta.

All are invited to a Celebration of Ron's Life at Preservation Hall, 740 Lake Avenue, on Saturday, May 3, 2025, from 5 to 8 p.m. There will be a time of sharing memories, followed by Full Military Honors at 6 p.m.

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Case

From A1

People interested in learning more can email eamlemanufacturing@gmail.com.

Materials to make the mills include stainless steel, aluminum and high-density plastic.

Students want to lower prices in the future, but "it was hard to get the same quality and use cheaper materials," Green said.

There were challenges along the way, including time management, but participants learned as the project went along.

"Anytime you start something new like this, there's going to be bumps in the road," said Mark Lewis, RAMAC president/CEO. "We felt some bumps, but then we built some smooth roads as well. I think it's a building process for next year."

Thrift

From A1

Gutierrez open a thrift store, Gutierrez said it was "an amazing idea."

"I wasn't hesitant to jump into it," she said.

For the past seven months, Gutierrez and Kirsten Murriel, her sister and business partner, have worked to prepare the store, figuring out what donations would be accepted and collecting items for the store.

In fact, Gutierrez said the store is full, and she has overflow in storage.

"The response from the community has been great," she said. "People are excited. They're looking forward to it."

Gutierrez said her spot

in Downtown Racine lets her be "right in the middle of everything."

"To me, downtown is the perfect spot because it's for everything — all types of businesses," she said.

Gutierrez said she's excited to meet community members who have been "looking for this type of store."

"It's a family friendly thrift store," she said.

Gutierrez said she'd also like to help people find certain items that might not be available at regular thrift stores and get it for them at a low price.

Offering quality items at affordable prices is an important goal, and she's willing to negotiate prices "to help the community."

In her own experience, Gutierrez has noticed in-

creased prices at some second-hand stores.

Often, when she shops second-hand, Gutierrez will spot a graphic shirt priced at \$50, but in her store, customers will be able to get similar items for around \$10.

"I wouldn't sell anything that I wouldn't buy," she said. "But the difference is instead of going in and having to pay \$50 for it, you can pay \$8 or \$9 for it."

Located in the upstairs unit of a downtown storefront, One Stop Shop Thrift is a smaller space compared to other thrift stores, she said.

"Not everyone likes to be in a big environment, so I think that's a plus," Gutierrez said.

Although One Stop Shop Thrift is Gutier-

re's first retail endeavor, she didn't have concerns about opening the shop.

"I have a lot of faith, and I know this is something that I was meant to do. It's been exciting for me," Gutierrez said. "It's a small space that I did a lot with, and I think people will be excited to see it."

One Stop Shop Thrift will be open Thursday through Saturday from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. and Sunday from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Currently, the store is accepting donations. Gutierrez said she'll take "everything, even down to diapers" and board games.

However, the store is unable to take jewelry and furniture, except smaller items such as end tables, due to limited space.

To donate, call 262-412-9052.

to use the Fischer machines.

Fischer was "a huge, huge support," George said.

Case manufacturing pathway students Seth Green and Mason Rowlette said it took time to learn what to do, but they have greatly enjoyed the hands-on work at Fischer.

Green likes working on machines and has "the type of mind to make things and see how things are made," he said.

Brath hopes the capstone project will result in more young people pursuing manufacturing careers by giving them direct experience.

That is the case for Green and Rowlette, who said the experience has made them much more interested in manufacturing work in the future.

"It's a great opportunity," Rowlette said.

In recent weeks, students finalized a brochure and presentation.

They also presented to RAMAC manufacturers committee members to see whether any were interested in purchasing the salt and pepper mills, and some were.

The students are scheduled to present May 1 to

Fischer and May 8 to an RUSD committee.

At future presentations, Lewis suggested the students talk more about their personal experiences and what they learned working on the project.

They could "tug at the heartstrings a little bit to get people to open up their wallet," Lewis said.

Students based some of their work on a salt and pepper mill manufactured by a Fischer business in Switzerland that is run by young people and makes a variety of products.

Similar to the Swiss company, Brath hopes that Eagle Manufacturing will develop "a full lineup of products here in five or 10 years."

Students appreciated helping start Eagle Manufacturing, and they look forward to what comes next for the company.

Lipari will be the CEO next year and said he learned a lot from the seniors.

"What they've done with this company is just incredible," Lipari said. "It helps out a lot so when I can take on this business, I know what I'm doing."



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Suspect

From A1

and emails from all employees with access to the draft order were also reviewed, the report said.

Additionally, printer data was analyzed to see who may have printed off a copy of the draft order.

"All available leads have been thoroughly pursued, and no suspects have been positively identified at this time," the report said. It added that there was no evidence that the leak was the result of a breach of the court's computer system.

The report did conclude that the draft order had been forwarded to the personal email account of Justice Ann Walsh Bradley, one of the four liberal justices on the court who voted to hear the abortion case.

Bradley's law clerk told investigators that forwarded important documents to Bradley's personal email account was standard operating procedure.

That was the only time prior to publication of the Wisconsin Watch article that the draft order was forwarded to an email outside of the state court system, the report said.

Bradley did not return an email on Wednesday asking about the report. Wisconsin Watch declined to comment.

Bradley is retiring at the end of her term in August. She is being replaced by Dane County Circuit Judge Susan Crawford, who won election to the court in April, ensuring that liberals will maintain their 4-3 majority.

Missing computer data hindered the investigation, the report said. The logs showing websites visited in the two weeks leading up to the Wisconsin Watch story about the leaked order were incomplete, the report said. Only logs from June 26 and June 27 were available, not from June 13 through June 26 as requested. The article was published on June 26.

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