

# Fort Atkinson teen killed in snowmobile accident

By Kenneth R. Jones  
Special to the Reporter

On Feb. 10 at about 6:39 p.m., a 14-year-old boy was killed while operating a snowmobile in the Township of Sumner. The accident happened near CTH A/Advent Rd. when the 14-year-old failed to negotiate a curve and went off the trail. Other riders, as well as other citizens passing by, attempted life-saving measures until emergency personnel arrived on scene. The efforts to save the boy's life were unsuccessful. The boy was identified as John Jaeckel from Fort Atkinson. He was pronounced dead at the scene after hitting a barbed wire fence. Jaeckel was operating the snowmobile on designated Jefferson County trails with two friends who were able to complete the turn. Med Flight was dispatched, but later cancelled while it was still en route to the scene.

During the incident the Jefferson Fire Dept. was stationed in Fort Atkinson to provide coverage for additional emergencies. The Edgerton Fire Dept. had an ATV which was also requested to provide additional assistance with transportation to the scene of the crash, however, it was also cancelled. The high school was opened Sunday night to provide assistance for those who needed it. Teachers and counselors were available to students. More than 50 students attended. Shortly after this incident, another snowmobile accident occurred near the Groeller Rd. boat launch in the Town of Koshkonong. In this incident a 17-year-old girl flipped her snowmobile. Jefferson EMS was dispatched to the scene to assist with the second accident. Her injuries were treated, and she was transported to Fort Memorial Hospital.



Record-setting motorcyclist Ryan Suchanek.  
Photo by Mike Nightengale

## SUCHANEK

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might occur in a rodeo ring, Suchanek managed to steer the motorcycle on only its front wheel for 352 feet, a distance well beyond the length of a football field—or a typical rodeo ring, for that matter. With documentation by four witnesses and three cameras, the lengthy ride should be long enough to return Suchanek to the Guinness Book of World Records, based in London. “The record would be nice, but what really interests me is figuring out how to set up the bike to accomplish something like this,” he said. The adjustments he has made are numerous and ongoing, some performed at his business in Edgerton, others executed on the fly while on the ice. Among the most visible of the adjustments, Suchanek attached dozens of shiny spiked studs onto the front and rear wheels of the motorcycle in order to achieve a measure of traction and steering control. “It’s important to position the studs evenly,” he explained. “Placed just a fraction of an inch unevenly and the bike will want to travel off course, and when I’m moving that fast, off course occurs quickly.” Suchanek’s pursuit of this distance record arose after he ended his ongoing quest for another record on ice, one involving speed-throttling his motorcycle as fast as possible, all the while lifting the front wheel off of the ground and using only the rear wheel. An

“ice wheelie” is what he called it. He first set a Guinness World Record in this event back in February 2011, when he accelerated his motorcycle to 95 miles an hour, also on Lake Koshkonong. A year later, he broke his own record by ratcheting up the speed to 108.5 miles an hour, and, again, a year after that, when he reached 109.5 miles an hour. The following year, a cyclist from Sweden, Robin Gull, seized the top spot when he set an ice speed record of 114 miles an hour. But a year later, Suchanek regained the top rank when he nudged his motorcycle to up to 117.5 miles an hour. About that time, Suchanek began thinking he would call it quits in that event if it was simply going to be a case in which he and the Swede traded the record between them at ever-higher speeds. “It was just getting too fast,” said this cyclist who knows something about “too fast.” Just a decade ago, he lost his left leg below the knee when he collided with a car while riding his motorcycle in Milton. “Wheelies are an acceleration application, but stoppies are the exact opposite, a braking operation,” he said. “Speed matters less; it’s more a matter of balance and steering. “I’m still on the ice, but it’s safer, and it lets me focus on the technical things, the parts of the process that really interest me.”

# Sheriff’s office reports from area counties

By Kenneth R. Jones  
Special to the Reporter

**Rock County Sheriff’s Office**  
On Jan. 29, at 9:42 p.m., deputies from the Rock County Sheriff’s Office responded to an alarm at the Armageddon Gun Shop at 2144 W Highway 14, in Janesville Township. Upon arrival, deputies confirmed entry was made into the gun shop.  
**Dane County Sheriff’s Office**  
Vehicle Thefts—Feb. 7—Over the past three weeks, Dane County Sheriff’s deputies have responded to 18 reports of thefts from vehicles in the Villages of Deerfield and Cambridge and the Town of Albion.  
Injury Crash—Wednesday, Feb. 7, at approximately 1:41 p.m. Dane County Sheriff’s Office deputies, along with units from Deforest EMS and med flight responded to STH 113 at CTH V in the Town of Vienna for a report of an injury accident.

Fatality—On Thursday Feb. 8, at approximately 12:20 a.m., Dane County Sheriff’s Office deputies, along with Mount Horeb Police and Mount Horeb Fire and EMS, responded to USH 151 east of Cave of the Mounds Road in the Town of Blue Mounds for a single vehicle versus pedestrian crash. The crash resulted in both southbound lanes of USH 151 being shut down for approximately 5.5 hours between Erbe Rd and USH 78. The preliminary investigation indicates a 34-year-old male from Dubuque, Iowa, was operating a 2010 Honda Accord southbound on USH 151 when he struck a pedestrian who was walking on USH 151. The 30-year-old female pedestrian was pronounced deceased at the scene. The driver of the involved vehicle was cooperative with the investigation and there are no charges at this time. The name of the deceased will be released by the Dane County Medical Examiner’s Office pending family notification. The crash investigation is ongoing. The Dane County Sheriff’s Office is interested in speaking with anyone who might have witnessed the crash or was in the area at the time of the crash. Anyone with information can contact the Dane County Communications Center non-emergency line at 608-225-2345, or the Dane County Sheriff’s Office Tip Line at 608-284-6900.  
Fatality (Update)—Feb. 9,—The name of the driver involved in Thursday’s pedestrian fatality crash is Jamie L. Winger, age 34, of Dubuque, Iowa. In a media release earlier today, the Dane County Medical Examiner’s Office identified the deceased as Chelsea Lynn Oakley, age 30, of Anamosa, Iowa. Despite the fact that they are both from Iowa, there is no relationship between the two

and they were not traveling together. The investigation into the circumstances of the crash remains ongoing. Anyone who may have witnessed the crash, or circumstances leading up to it, is asked to call the Dane County Tip Line at 608-284-6900.  
EMS Response—Feb 8,—At approximately 1:15 p.m., Dane County Sheriff’s deputies, courthouse weapons screeners, and Madison Fire and EMS responded to the first floor of the Dane County Courthouse when a 68-year-old man experienced a medical emergency and collapsed. Deputies and weapons screeners immediately performed CPR on Mr. Steven J. Robinson. An AED was also utilized, and after several series of CPR, Mr. Robinson regained consciousness and was transported by EMS to a local hospital.  
Narcan Save—On Thursday, Feb. 8, at 8:03 p.m., Dane County Deputies noticed an inmate was turning blue and was unresponsive on his bunk. Deputies and jail medical staff successfully initiated CPR, administered five doses of Narcan, and the inmate regained a pulse. The inmate, a 29-year-old man from Madison, was booked into the Public Safety Building jail on Feb. 6. He was conveyed by personnel from the Madison Fire Department to an area hospital where he is undergoing medical evaluation.  
OWI 6th—At 10:30 p.m., on Saturday, Feb. 10, a Dane County Deputy Sheriff arrested Christopher Stewart, age 49, of Madison, for sixth offense operating a motor vehicle while intoxicated. The vehicle was stopped for 71 mph in the 55 mph zone on the USH 12 beltline near Rimrock Road. Mr. Stewart was transported to the Dane County jail where he provided a breath

sample of .18 BrAC. He was booked into the Dane County jail on the Felony OWI charge and a probation hold. He was also cited for operating after revocation, speeding, failure to have an ignition interlock device, no insurance, and operating with a prohibited alcohol concentration.  
Verona Crash—Feb. 12,—Dane County Sheriff’s Office deputies, along with officers from Verona, Fitchburg, and the Wisconsin State Patrol, are investigating a large crash on US Highway 18/151 eastbound just east of State Highway 69 in the Town of Verona. This motor vehicle accident had as many as 20 vehicles involved. Poor visibility due to heavy patches of fog is believed to be a contributing factor. Uninjured occupants and motorists from the immediate crash scene were transported to the Verona Fire Department. Concerned family members reported to the Verona Fire Department to make contact with their loved ones.  
Verona Crash (Updated)—Feb. 12, 2018 — The count of vehicles involved in the crash on US Highway 18/151 in the town of Verona is now up to 29. There is one confirmed fatality, a 53-year-old female. Six others were transported to local hospitals, one was taken by med flight to UW Hospital, and five others were taken by ambulance. Anyone who may have witnessed the crash is asked to call the Dane County Sheriff’s Office Tip Line at 608-284-6900.  
**Jefferson County Sheriff’s Office**  
Huber Walkaway—Kyle T. Nielsen did not return to the Jefferson County Jail as scheduled on Feb. 10. If you have any information on his whereabouts, please contact the Jefferson County Sheriff’s Office at 920-674-7311.

## CHAPTER SEVEN OF EIGHT



# KALI: A Polar Bear’s Tale

AUTHOR: CAROLYN MUELLER | ILLUSTRATOR: JEREMY PATTON & JAYNE BALLEW

## Chapter Seven:

The cubs circled around, sniffing the air and then running off into their own corners. But Luna was brave. She circled around Kali and then pounced on the little bear. Kali fell flat on his back, but he knew that Luna was only playing. Soon the baby bears were tumbling all around their room, happy to have a polar bear playmate to wrestle with. After that, Kali and Luna became the best of friends. The two played hard each and every day. For enrichment, Caitlyn put an empty turtle sandbox in their room. Every evening, when the keepers were headed home, Kali and Luna could be found curled up together in their sandbox, exhausted from playing, nose to nose, belly to belly, dreaming sweet polar bear dreams together. Soon the cubs outgrew their original enclosure and were moved to a larger yard. This yard had a pool in it, where the cubs could splash and play. Caitlyn was always surprised by the cubs’ energy. Even when there was a -30-degree wind chill outside, the first thing Kali did each morning was sprint to the pool and jump right in. Caitlyn would call to him to come and get his breakfast, and in his brief run from the pool to his bedroom, his fur would freeze, covered in balls of ice. Kali didn’t seem to mind, though. He was a true Alaskan polar bear, never bothered by the cold. All too soon, though, Kali was no longer a “little” bear. When he arrived at the Buffalo Zoo, he was only 65 pounds. Two years later, he weighed in at 850 pounds! The shy baby flown in from Alaska had gained almost 800 pounds in two years! If Kali were still living with his mother in Alaska, he would be preparing to leave her at the age of two, to begin his life as a solitary, male bear. Kali needed to leave Luna and head out on his own. He was quickly on his way to becoming a full-grown bear, and the Buffalo Zoo did not have enough room to keep both him and Luna as they grew into adulthood. It was time for Kali to move to a new home.



Photo Credit: Buffalo Zoo

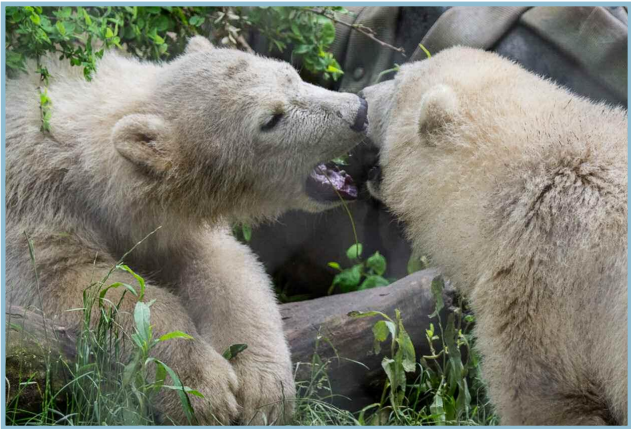


Photo Credit: Buffalo Zoo

## Ask Zoo Keeper Julie

### How big are polar bears?

Male polar bears can measure up to 10 feet when standing on their hind legs. Female polar bears usually only weigh about half as much as males.

### Fun Fact:

Scientists believe that the polar bear evolved from a common brown bear ancestor about 200,000 years ago.

## Newspaper Connections

Create a Kali and Luna cartoon or comic.

