

Reduced pot fines get public airing

Council sets Jan. 23 vote on city penalties for marijuana

By Patty Brandl
HERALD CONTRIBUTOR

The Oshkosh Common Council will decide at its Jan. 23 meeting whether the current penalty for simple, first-time possession of small amounts of marijuana will change. If they decide that it should, the question remains: How high — or low — will it go?

Councilor Caroline Panske, who first proposed lowering the fine, said she would like to see the proposed ordinance, which puts the amount at \$200, amended to a lower amount. But citing some opposition on the Council, she said it's possible it could go higher than \$200 before the final vote.



Members of a local group supporting lower fines for marijuana possession attended the Jan. 9 council meeting to promote their case.

Councilors considered and discussed two proposed ordinances on the agenda before ultimately deciding to narrow it down to just one: city ordinance 18-18, which calls for lowering the fine for first-offense marijuana

possession from \$325 to \$200.

"We're not here to discuss the pros and cons, or legalization," Mayor Steve Cummings told a packed audience at the Jan. 9 meeting — the first Council meeting in 2018. Those present included University of Wisconsin Oshkosh students, who were attending for a class assignment, as well as members of an area group supporting cannabis decriminalization.

Council members including Panske, Lori Palmeri and Jake Krause weighed in on the remaining ordinance. Panske said she has been in favor of the \$25 fine requested in a 2017 citizens' petition, but would consider amending the ordinance with the fine lowered to \$150. Krause and Palmeri also agreed that the fine should be lower.

Calling it a big issue, Krause said, "I have a problem with the \$200 fine because it's out of line with other progressive cities in the state."

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Audience comments came from attendees on both sides of the issue.

Wearing a T-shirt brightly emblazoned with "Yes, We CANNABIS," Mark Kelderman, of Brownsville, expressed disappointment to the Council, mentioning the petition in support of lower fines submitted to the city with close to 4,000 signatures.

Calling the decision a compromise, Kelderman said, "It's OK if that's all there is." But he asked the Council to "put it out there" and let the public decide.

"The Chief (Dean Smith) said we're ar-

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Initiatives seek to assure kids make it to class

City, school agreement sought to boost ride options for students

By Dan Roherty
OSHKOSH HERALD

Oshkosh students within 2 miles of their school whose options are limited to either walking or paying for public transit are the focus of a support effort to help better coordinate public assistance to assure children get to class every day.

Students inside of the geographic area normally set by school districts as part of their overall transportation parameters don't qualify for free ride programs and may not have the public transit fees or other private options.

Bill Van Lopik, local ESTHER community organizer, said there are partial measures in place to help those students get transport costs covered, but a more defined and funded program is needed with cooperation between the school district and city.

"It's just a matter of gaining political pressure, political will, to push this forward," Van Lopik said.

A proposed revenue agreement between the school district and Go Transit would allow students ages 7 to 18 to ride public buses free of charge with an ID card. The agreement also would promote student education on use of

public transportation and could serve to ease some congestion related to city parking and school drop-off zones.

The Oshkosh Common Council and OASD Board of Education are expected to discuss the revenue agreement and related transportation issues during their joint session scheduled for 6 p.m. Jan. 31 in Room 404 conference room adjacent to the council chambers. The board and council meet periodically to discuss shared interests between the district and city, and the agenda being formed for this meeting will include school transportation and traffic concerns, among other topics.

ESTHER is an interfaith group that has been working on some short-term solutions through its Bus Tokens for Teens program, a fundraising effort that hoped to raise \$5,000 by mid-December but is accepting donations throughout the winter months, a time that adds an extra challenge to safely getting to



PHOTO BY MICHAEL COONEY

Community groups are working to close any financial gaps that could prevent Oshkosh students from getting to school every day.

school on time. The tokens are provided to students by social workers who can best identify those needing the assistance.

Deb Martin, a community advocacy leader, has been promoting the effort for groups and residents to help support the proposed revenue agreement along with the tokens program as a continuing stopgap solution. Emmaus Catholic Community is one group that will be accepting funds to be donated to the district.

According to a recent survey of 705 Oshkosh area high school students, 26 percent

said they missed at least one day of school last year due to a lack of affordable transportation. Another 32 percent said they were worried about how to afford transportation to and from school.

Van Lopik believes the student transportation issue is now closer than ever to being resolved.

"If you're in college at (UW Oshkosh), you can just hop on the bus anytime and not worry about paying for, it" he said. "It just

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Schools engage safety protocol when threats emerge

High school bomb scares during semester spur trained response

By McKenzie Konop
HERALD CONTRIBUTOR

When a bomb threat was reported at Oshkosh West High School early in the school year, the Oshkosh Area Board of Education and law enforcement said students' safety was their main priority.

Oshkosh West student Grace Johnson said she remembers the panic that ensued the day of the reported bomb threat in September.

"I was in English class and there was an announcement over the loudspeakers asking teachers to check their emails as soon as possible," Johnson said. "My English teacher went and checked it, and by the look on her face, we could tell something weird was up. A little later, she said there would be a fire drill and we would leave the building and to leave all of our stuff in the classroom."

"It only took a few minutes for rumors to start getting around that there was a bomb threat. People were shocked, nervous and confused wondering who it was."

A subsequent bomb threat at Oshkosh North in October triggered a similar safety protocol. A recommended student expulsion that went to the Board of Education last week may have been in reference to that incident,

though the district could not confirm specifics of that case in its policy to protect information concerning students.

To ensure students' safety, Deputy Superintendent David Gundlach said Oshkosh schools go through an effective process to handle these types of dangerous situations.

"When we have a threat to the school we immediately convene an emergency response team consisting of district staff and law enforcement," Gundlach said. "One of the first things we do is determine the credibility of any threat and then which actions, if any, are appropriate to take. As soon as we have a course of action, we operationalize a plan that includes early and ongoing communications with parents and community members. Fortunately, our Campus Messenger system works very well and allows us to alert our over 17,000 guardians and parents in a matter of minutes."

Gundlach also said the school brings threats made to them to the police's attention as an extra measure of precaution.

"If a student is caught making threats they can be charged with making terroristic threats by the police and/or face the potential of expulsion from school," Gundlach said. "Any

charges filed by law enforcement are separate from the districts pre-expulsion and expulsion process previously mentioned."

Katherine Mann, the Oshkosh Police Department's crime prevention officer, said they work with schools to protect students' well-being when threats are made.

"Each bomb threat incident is a little bit different so we have to adjust our police response accordingly," Mann said. "We treat every threat seriously and the safety of everyone is our utmost concern. We try to notify parents and the community as soon as possible as well, and this is done through media releases and other various means."

Overall, Johnson said that while she ended up safe, she was anxious about the school's process on handling the threat.

"What I did not like about the situation is the teachers lied to us and said it was a fire drill," Johnson said. "On the other hand, while we were outside waiting, some kids' parents were texting and calling saying they were sent an email about a potential bomb threat at the school. They did that very quickly and it was a good idea to notify the parents. I did feel uneasy, but in the end, we were safe."

Corporate Business Park designation approved for Oshkosh Corp. headquarters

By Patty Brandl
HERALD CONTRIBUTOR

Other highlights from the Jan. 9 Common Council meeting:

- The Council approved 6-0 (Councilor Thomas Pech was not present for the vote) a rezoning ordinance to create a new Corporate Business Park on the north side of the city encompassing the Oshkosh Corp. Global Headquarters campus as well as existing and new commercial properties. Mayor Steve Cummings said it will provide a properly planned "gateway" to the city.

- No formal action was taken on a proposed ordinance that would designate much of the Sawdust District, south of the Fox River mostly along South Main Street, as a Premiere Economic Development District. It would allow two additional liquor licenses to be offered for the area around the Menominee Nation Arena.

- The Council voted to approve the agreement to sell close to 33 acres of the Lakeshore Municipal Golf Course land to Oshkosh Corp. for use as its global headquarters.

- The Council discussed proposed changes to Court Street, including narrowing the street and changing parking from angled to parallel for a future vote. The Court Street reconstruction project will appear on a future agenda.

- Council members listened to a report on recent testimony given in Madison regarding state changes to a law regarding rental inspections. Cummings, along with Councilor Lori Palmeri and City Manager Mark Rohloff, represented the city as opposed to changes that would revert the law back to complaint-based and could affect the city's current program. Existing guidelines call for property owners to allow the city to inspect rental properties every five years.

- Rohloff announced the addition of POLCO, a new polling system for the city. Using citizen-engagement software, the application provides an opportunity for residents to anonymously voice opinions on issues by answering questions posed online by city staff. Rohloff expects the first question, regarding remaining Lakeshore Golf Course property usage, to go out sometime this month.

- Council members discussed development issues surrounding the Oshkosh Corp. land acquisition and sale in a closed session after the regular meeting. One issue involves an archaeological study, at a cost of about \$40,000, which must be done on the property before any work begins. Rohloff said if anything of value is discovered, it would be donated to the Oshkosh Public Museum.

da appealed to him, Rylance said.

"One is high, the other is higher," Rylance said.

The discarded ordinance, although calling for lower fines for smaller amounts, would have set penalties according to the weight of the drug, a proposal that would have carried potential problems for police, said Police Chief Smith.

The plant material would have had to be weighed, Smith told Council members, forcing officers to devote more time off the street during their shifts. Other issues would have to be considered related to the purchase and maintenance of scales that would require constant attention to calibration. Weighing edible marijuana products like brownies, oil or candy for actual THC content would be more difficult than weighing rolled cigarettes or loose marijuana, Smith said, and could carry criminal charges if assessed solely on weight.

Councilors will discuss possible amendments to the ordinance Jan. 23 ahead of their expected vote on the issue.

Community News Briefs

Discounted radon kits promoted for Winnebago County residents

As part of Radon Awareness Month in January, the Winnebago County Health Department is offering radon level test kits for \$5 for county residents.

Winter is considered the best time to test a home for radon levels, and test kits should be placed in commonly used living spaces. It is estimated that 5-10 percent of Wisconsin homes have radon levels above U.S. Environmental Protection Agency guidelines.

Radon enters homes through cracks, drain tiles, sump pits and other openings in basement floors and walls. The tasteless, odorless and invisible gas is known to cause cancer; testing is the only way to know if an unsafe level exists in a structure.

Visit www.winnebagohealth.org for pricing of test kits and locations. Radon questions can be made at 920-302-3000.

Food tasting event to benefit warming shelter, K-9 unit, OAWA

The Oshkosh Area Women's Association presents "Around the World in 80 Bites," a food tasting fundraiser, from 5 to 8 p.m. Feb. 2 at La-Sure's Banquet Hall, 3125 S. Washburn St.

Funding recipients will be the Day by Day Warming Shelter, Oshkosh Police Department K-9 Unit and the OAWA high school scholarship fund. Appetizers and hors d'oeuvres from several local restaurants and food vendors will be featured. Raffle tickets will be sold for prize drawings.

Tickets are \$15 and available at the door, West Pointe Bank or from OAWA members. For more information, contact Joyce at 420-2403, Judy at 379-1446 or on the OAWA Facebook page.

Sex offender moves reported

The Oshkosh Police Department informed the public recently that two convicted sex offenders have advised officials of residential moves as required through registration with local law enforcement.

Matthew R. Leitz, 41, has moved to 215 Division St. He was convicted in 2012 for child enticement and in 2000 of second-degree sexual assault of a child. James F. Gieringer, 46, moved to 644 Fredrick St. on Jan. 5. He was convicted in 2008 of conspiracy to commit sexual contact and of possession of child pornography. Both have served their sentences.

Contact the Oshkosh Police Crime Prevention Office at 236-5742 with any questions or concerns.

Free fishing in state this weekend

Wisconsin's winter Free Fishing Weekend is Saturday and Sunday, and free loaner equipment and ice fishing clinics allow open water anglers to discover ice fishing or introduce family and friends to this hard-water recreation.

The state Department of Natural Resources says fishing is free for state residents and visitors alike on these days. No fishing license, Great Lakes Salmon Stamp or Inland Trout Stamp is needed to fish all inland waters and Wisconsin's side of the Great Lakes and Mississippi River and other boundary waters. Spring trout ponds are not open. All other fishing rules apply, such as limits on the number and size of fish that anglers can keep and any seasons when anglers must release certain fish species.

Home and Outdoor show coming

The Wisconsin Home Builders Association presents its Home and Outdoor Living Show from 3 to 8 p.m. Friday, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturday and 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Sunday at Sunnyview Expo Center. Consumers can meet professionals who specialize in home products and services to meet their home improvement needs, and learn about the latest in home products and services. The cost is \$5; children ages 15 and under get in free.



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Pot Fines CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

resting one person every three days in Oshkosh. "These aren't bad people," Kelderman said, "and you're making criminals out of them for a substance that 30 states in America now have some form of legalization."

A round of applause for Kelderman's comments rolled through the chamber, and Cummings reminded the audience that it was a business meeting.

Oshkosh resident Sharon Koerner, who said she grew up in the 1960s and had used marijuana in the past, wasn't in favor of either proposal, calling marijuana use "illegal." Koerner said the strength of the marijuana today makes it unsafe, and would rather see the state decide the issue.

"I really resent that we're wasting time when we have better things to do to make the city grow," she said.

Dan Rylance, of Oshkosh, said he had signed the two petitions that had circulated, and that people wanted the fine lowered to \$25. Neither proposed ordinance on the agen-

Restaurant Week showcases new and classic menus

By Emily Miels
HERALD CONTRIBUTOR

For food-lovers who've wanted to try the latest dishes at Oshkosh's up-and-coming restaurants or long-standing eateries but haven't ventured out recently – now is the time.

Oshkosh Restaurant Week, which kicks off Jan. 25, will put 16 local restaurants in the spotlight and give local culinary experts a chance to show off their skills.

"Oshkosh Restaurant Week is an entire week honoring our great Oshkosh restaurants, celebrated by partnering with numerous local restaurants that offer their excellent food and service at special rates for one week only," Amy Albright, executive director of the Oshkosh Convention & Visitors Bureau, said via email.

The Restaurant Week rate is \$12 for three-course lunch specials and \$25 for three-course dinner specials at participating restaurants. From pasta primavera to chili cheese wings, there are menu options for every palate and dietary preference.

The Granary, which recently reopened its doors as a gastropub, is participating in the event. Andy Saray, chef de cuisine, said he's excited to show the community what the revamped restaurant has to offer.

"With us just opening up, anything we can get into to get our name out there is very important to kind of keep the momentum going," he said.

Jon Doemel, owner of ZaRonis, said he's also excited to get some new clientele through the door and create some buzz surrounding the local restaurant scene. He said locals tend to be "creatures of habit," and he hopes the inaugural Restaurant Week encourages them to step out of their comfort zones and routines.

"That's one of the fun things about it," Doemel said.

Besides improving business, Restaurant Week is also a great opportunity to try out some new menu items and have a little fun in the kitchen, Saray said.

"Restaurant Week is awesome because it showcases what you and your kitchen can do,"

If you go

What: Oshkosh Restaurant Week

When: Jan. 25-31

Cost: \$12 for three-course lunch specials and \$25 for three-course dinner specials

Information: Restaurants and menus at www.oshkosheatweek.com

Restaurants:

- Becket's, 2 Jackson St.
- Brooklyn Grill, 607 S. Main St.
- Chester V's, 2505 Oregon St.
- Dockside Tavern, 425 Nebraska St.
- Fox River Brewing Co., 1501 Arboretum Drive
- Gardina's Wine Bar & Cafe, 448 N. Main St.
- Granary, 44 W. Sixth Ave.
- Ground Round at River's Edge, 1 N. Main St.
- Manila, 107 Algoma Blvd.
- Oshkosh Country Club, 11 W. Ripple Ave.
- Paloma, 1160 Emmers Lane
- Primo, 2605 Jackson St.
- Ruby Owl Tap Room, 421 N. Main St.
- The Roxy Supper Club, 571 N. Main
- TJ's Harbor Restaurant, 7098 U.S. 45,
- ZaRonis, 2407 Jackson St.

he said. "You get to play around so much more back there so it gives you a little bit more freedom in that sense."



OSHKOSH HERALD PHOTO

The Granary will be showcasing its recently opened gastropub and menu during Restaurant Week.

Those involved said the premiere Oshkosh Restaurant Week comes at a time where local restaurants are changing and expanding alongside the Oshkosh community as a whole.

"A lot of people underestimate what Oshkosh has to offer," Doemel said.

Albright called Oshkosh "a community on the rise."

"It has been for a number of years already," she said. "We have seen a lot of great restaurants open in our community. When you couple that with all of the amazing restaurants that were already in Oshkosh, you get the high-quality selection of restaurants that we currently have."

Saray said he's happy to see more variety and revitalization, especially in the Sawdust

District where the Granary recently reopened alongside the Menominee Nation Arena, Fifth Ward Brewing Co. and other businesses.

"Competition is healthy, but it's all about what we can do with the competition," Saray said. "... If everyone moves forward together it's just going to make us so much better."

Oshkosh Restaurant Week has been discussed before, Albright said, but has never come to fruition until now. The Oshkosh Convention & Visitors Bureau, Candeo Creative and members of Propel Oshkosh have been working since mid-October meeting, and to prepare for the inaugural event.

"This will be an annual event and we expect many more restaurants to participate in the following years," Albright said.

Golden Tones Chorus seeks new members

The Golden Tones Chorus is in need of singers — especially in the bass register.

The Oshkosh Seniors Center Golden Tones Chorus is a volunteer group that welcomes new singers, but director Paula Steinert said there is an immediate need for bass singers at this time.

Any interested basses are asked to contact Steinert at 920-410-2253 or come to a rehearsal at the Oshkosh Seniors Center South Building at 200 N. Campbell Road on Mondays at 1:30 p.m.

MIA recovery effort in France from WWII is topic of EAA talk

By Dick Knapinski
FOR THE OSHKOSH HERALD

Since the United States entered World War II following the attack on Pearl Harbor on Dec. 7, 1941, countless American soldiers have gone missing in action during wars and conflicts. Many of these soldiers were never found and their families didn't receive the closure they deserved.

The University of Wisconsin-Madison's Missing In Action Recovery and Identification Project is working to change that one soldier at a time.

Three members of this group — Dr. Ryan Wubben, clinical associate professor at the UW School of Medicine and Public Health, UW Biotechnology Center Associate Director Charles Konsitzke, and forensic archaeologist Dr. Leslie Eisenberg — will be presenting as part of the EAA Aviation Museum's Aviation Adventure Speaker Series at 7 p.m. today in the Vette Theater.

They will be discussing the group's successful recovery of the remains of Lt. Frank Fazekas, a WWII P-47 Thunderbolt pilot shot down over northern France in late May 1944.

In conjunction with the Defense POW/MIA Accounting Agency (DPAA), an office in the Department of Defense, the group spent time the last two summers excavating the reported crash site in France, eventually unearthing the downed P-47. When they were able to match the serial numbers of recovered machine guns to those of the missing P-47, they knew they had the right airplane.

"We found the beginnings of the wreckage and then the key factor we found was ... six of the M2 machine guns, which is important because the machine guns actually have individual serial numbers on them," said Wub-

ben, a longtime volunteer at EAA AirVenture in both the North 40 aircraft camping area and the medical services facility. "During WWII, when an aircraft failed to return from a mission, a report was filled out called a Missing Aircrew Report, which basically gave the details of what happened from eyewitnesses, people in his squadron who may have witnessed the aircraft going down but more importantly for us, they recorded the serial numbers of the engine, the airframe, and the machine guns. That became important because the serial numbers matched. That was kind of the 'eureka' moment that we were on the right case and had the right aircraft."

While successfully recovering and identifying Fazekas' remains was rewarding in itself, Wubben noted that it became much more personal when Fazekas' son, also named Frank, visited the crash site and developed a relationship with members of the team helping to clear up the mystery of his father's death.

"The cool thing about the first season in 2016 is that we actually had the son of the pilot out there with us for part of the time," he said. "Frank, the son, was also an Air Force pilot himself. He flew C-130s in Vietnam and also flew KC-135s. He had a 20-year Air Force career himself as a pilot. To have him come out there was very special and it kind of brought everything home to why we were doing this."

"He actually did not know that his father was technically listed as missing. He was under the impression for a long time that his father had been recovered and been buried in France. It was only in recent years that he had come to the understanding that his father was actually listed as missing. For him to be able to go out to the site and see us doing this excavation and doing the work to clear up this mystery as to

what had happened and also to recover his remains was deeply impactful for him."

Although Wubben studied anthropology and archaeology as an undergraduate student in college, he has spent his professional life as a medical doctor and therefore this project was a new experience for him. Safe to say, he's happy he got involved.

"I've not done anything like this before, but it has been immensely satisfying," he said. "We're all essentially volunteers and for us, it's our ability to give a little something back. From that standpoint, it has been immensely satisfying on our part. But we've also developed a relationship with Frank the son, who is an amazing individual himself. ... In the end it was a success. Success in this case will be measured by the fact that Lt. Fazekas will be interred at Arlington National Cemetery in March. That is the culmination of all this work, the funeral at Arlington that will be coming up."

The UW MIA Recovery and Identification Project's partnership with DPAA was a trial run and with its success, DPAA has opened up opportunities like this to other universities. Ryan doesn't know yet what the group's next project will be but knows one will be coming.

"DPAA, based on our success in the summer of 2016, then opened up projects with other universities," Ryan said. "This past summer, the University of Maryland, East Carolina University, the University of New Orleans were all in the field working on similar projects. The word is they'll be expanding that even further come the summer of 2018. For 2018, we don't quite know what case we might get. We are in active discussions with DPAA right now to determine what cases might be there for us to work on this coming summer."

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Jon Doemel
Oshkosh
Chamber
chairman

Chamber here to help Oshkosh grow as a team

Oshkosh is evolving and is on the move. An awakening has happened.

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Oshkosh is happening.

As a community, we are coming together as a team. The driving factors of this city have been collaborating for the good of our local economy. Not only are people becoming more involved, they are becoming more aware of the issues that affect us all. We are focused as a community about what is most important. That is the growth of Oshkosh.

The Chamber has embraced its role in this change. We have reached out to community counterparts and help in any way we are able to. We have been at the table during this great awakening along with our partners at GOEDC and city officials. We are ready to continue our role in the future of Oshkosh.

The Chamber is here to help. We have multiple programs to assist businesses, both large and small. We are here for established businesses as well as startups.

We house SCORE to offer programs to help you with writing a business plan. We offer business assistance to help you with the financing of your startup or expansion. We hold seminars to showcase business trends and help forecast your business for the future. We have networking gatherings to help you make the connections you need to be successful. We conduct the Leadership Oshkosh Program, which shows future leaders the fine history and inner workings of this great community.

Our annual Business Expo gives businesses the opportunity to promote and showcase their products and services. Amplify Oshkosh is a Chamber program that leads the way in critical technologies and advancement of information technology in our business environment. PROPEL is ready to spread its wings and expand our young professionals' impact in our community.

We also have an excellent partnership with the schools, helping to grow the workforce of the future. We are a key factor in bringing you Waterfest every summer through our partnership with Waterfest Inc. We are invested in our community and will proudly continue to do so.

We look forward to serving Oshkosh and helping guide her into the future. We are excited to be a part of the Oshkosh Herald and are honored to have been offered a monthly column going forward. Communication is the key to success. Feel free to reach out to your Oshkosh Chamber of Commerce. We are here for you.

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CENTER FOR SUICIDE AWARENESS

The Center for Suicide Awareness held a rally in September at the state Capitol in Madison to illustrate the number of suicides reported in 2016 by using more than a thousand pairs of boots and shoes.

Groups embrace those who grieve in their own ways

By Alycia Fritschka
HERALD CONTRIBUTOR

Losing our loved ones is a part of life nobody is ever truly ready for. Even when it is anticipated — terminal illness or the end of a long life — no amount of preparation can absolve us from the pain that follows the realization that they are really gone.

We sometimes can feel isolated and believe nobody can possibly understand everything we are feeling the moment when the floodgates of our unconscious mind open and release all the buried memories of the bereaved, regrets about those times we thought about calling but didn't, and the opportunities we missed to tell them we loved them.

That's a part of grieving, and the members of the faith community in Oshkosh want residents to know they are not alone.

Everyone grieves in their own way and in their own time. Some prefer to grieve privately while others may find themselves aching for another human soul to connect with who can relate to how they are feeling, offer a bit of perspective, or simply a listening ear.

Despite some concerns that Oshkosh does not offer enough grief counseling help, Nathan Bettger, a local spiritual director and chaplain, points out the list of options included on the websites of local funeral homes such as Seefeld and Konrad-Behlman, and concludes otherwise.



"I think it comes down to people knowing where to look and taking that first step to find support," Bettger said.

The Rev. Tom Willadsen of First Presbyterian Church has referred members to grief support groups, but isn't certain of who actually uses the services he suggests. When asked why it could be that those grieving don't follow through with getting support, Bettger offered his insight:

"I think many who are really struggling with their grief might not want to sit down in a group and talk and cry together," Bettger said. "This is not the only way to grieve. It takes some courage, or maybe feeling like we have no courage left, to come to a grief group, and I think many probably want to 'get through it' or 'get over it' on their own so they can get back to the way life was. Grief is not something to get over and it's not something that happens to us. It's something we do, and we have to learn how to do it with some skill."

Bettger leads a non-religious "grief gathering" every season that is held Tuesdays from 6 to 7:30 p.m. for six weeks at Mercy Medical Hospital. On his website, Bettger writes, "Each week combines elements of ritual, theory, reflection, sharing, and hands-on work with the grief we have."

He requests people to RSVP and to commit to the entire six weeks. The next starting date is March 13.

The Oshkosh Senior Center holds a monthly gathering the first and third Thursday of every month from 1 to 2:30 p.m. and does not require registration.

For those who are unable to attend an afternoon support gathering, St. Jude the Apostle hosts a grief support group the first and third Thursday of every month from 7 to 8:30 p.m.

Miravida Living and Mercy Medical Center sponsor A Time to Mourn Grief Support Group for adults who are grieving the loss of an adult loved one that meets in the Fox Cities three

times a year for six consecutive weeks.

St. Agnes Hospital in Fond du Lac hosts the peer support group The Compassionate Friends for parents grieving the death of a child of any age and meets the second Monday of every month at 7:30 p.m.

Family and Children's Service Society offers bereavement support for parents who lost a newborn or infant.

The loss of a child to suicide creates its own special grieving process for the families left behind. Suicide is the second leading cause of death among teens in Wisconsin, and this reality is getting harder to ignore as more teenagers are beginning to appear in obituaries alongside the elderly.

The community is being forced to acknowledge a subject too uncomfortable to talk about, but Barb Bigalke, founder and executive director of the Center for Suicide Awareness, says people must talk openly about it to aid not only in the grieving process, but in preventing suicide to begin with.

"Suicide is a different kind of grief. It doesn't bring people to your door with casseroles and offers for support like other deaths do, Bigalke said. "Suicide is the only death that people attach blame, shame, and guilt to."

Her mission is to break the judgment society puts on those who die by suicide and their loved ones and to instead encourage people to look beyond how someone has died and focus on the loss and those that miss them.

The Center for Suicide Awareness, a statewide group based in Kaukauna, offers counseling for those grieving a death by suicide where people are free of judgment and are given respect and dignity. The grief services and counseling for those at risk of suicide are faith-based, encouraging those seeking guidance to find their purpose and acknowledge their gifts.

It is also home to the HOPELINE, a text-in, free service for emotional support. It can be reached at 741741 anywhere in the state.

Other local groups offering suicide awareness and counseling services are the Community for Hope in Oshkosh (920-230-4840) and the Winnebago County Human Services Crisis Intervention Helpline at 920-233-7707 or 920-722-7707.

ADAM ROSSMANN PHOTOGRAPHY

Oshkosh faith communities and funeral homes try to point those grieving over the deaths of loved ones to different counseling options.

Garden dreams can come true with solid spring planning



PHOTO BY ROB ZIMMER

Mark Dwyer, director of horticulture at Rotary Botanical Gardens in Janesville, will speak at the upcoming Winter Escape, Summer Dreams gardening conference.

Master Gardeners events in Oshkosh and Madison

By Rob Zimmer
HERALD CONTRIBUTOR

It's time to think spring and the Winnebago County Master Gardener Association has some wonderful opportunities for exploring garden dreams. Get out of the cold and into the garden, literally, and join the master gardeners as they gear up for a spectacular gardening year.

The group is offering a bus trip to the Wisconsin Garden Expo in Madison on Feb. 10. Join the master gardeners on their bus trip to the popular garden convention held each year at the Alliant Energy Center. You do not need to be a master gardener to join the fun.

If you've ever dreamed of attending the popular annual gardening event, but were hesitant to go alone or make the drive, this is a great chance to explore the world of gardening in Wisconsin with a group of peers dedicated to all things botanical.

Spend the day enjoying vendor booths, gardening demonstrations, viewing exciting new plants and ways to grow them, garden art and gardening trends.

"Garden Expo is sponsored by Wisconsin Public Television and the UW-Extension and is a midwinter oasis for people ready to venture out and dig their hands into the dirt," said Marge Menacher, Winnebago County Master Gardener volunteer. "Join gardening enthusiasts to share ideas, gain inspiration and create something new."

The cost of the trip is \$35 per person, which includes bus transportation and ticket

to the event.

For more information, visit the Winnebago County Master Gardeners on Facebook or email marmen4105@charter.net. You may also call 920-420-8472.

The following week, Feb. 17, the garden dream continues with the annual Winter Escape, Summer Dreams conference, sponsored by the Winnebago County Master Gardener Association, held at LaSure's Banquet Hall, Oshkosh.

This year's conference features exciting speakers and topics sure to inspire your garden dreams in 2018.

Mark Dwyer, director of horticulture with Rotary Botanical Gardens, Janesville, will introduce you to Sensational Shrubbery, his take on gardening and landscape with some of the finest and most exciting shrubs for Wisconsin gardens.

Learn all about the study of Phenology: Tracking Seasonal Transitions in a Changing Climate from Mark D. Schwartz, distinguished professor of geography, University of Wisconsin, Milwaukee. He will explain how wildlife and plant study over the seasons can tell us much about our changing climate.

The Importance of Pollinators will be the topic of Jennifer Lazewski's program, where you'll learn about how pollinators are necessary for fruit and seed crops throughout the world, as well as steps you can take to invite them into your yard and landscape.

Plant pest and disease specialist Bernadette Williams, with the state Department of Natural Resources Department of Forestry, will give an update on local invasive species research and status including jumping worms and other new invasive species in our area.

To register, visit www.winnebago-master-gardeners.org.

Attorney enters race with Ceman to fill open Branch I judicial seat

Attorney Teresa Basiliere has announced her candidacy for Winnebago County Circuit Court judge, seeking the Branch I seat being vacated by Judge Thomas Gritton.

Winnebago County Deputy District Attorney Scott Ceman, who has been a county prosecutor for 10 years, also is seeking the open judicial seat.

Basiliere filed her

papers a day before the extended Jan. 5 deadline that was required when Gritton failed to file for re-election after 18 years in the position. Basiliere has been a practicing attorney for more than 27 years, and began her legal career as a staff attorney for Legal Services of Northeastern Wisconsin before moving into private practice.

She is the senior partner in the firm she founded; Basiliere, Thompson, Bissett, Castonia and Swardenski, LLP. She also works as a guardian ad litem.

The general election for the seat will be April 3.



Sue Panek
Oshkosh Area
United Way
executive
director

United Way keys on moms' challenges

The Oshkosh Area United Way is working hard to move people out of poverty — women in particular. As one of the backbone organizations in the hub initiative, OAUW has committed to providing funding to help remove barriers to employment for single women with dependent children (SWw/DC).

The hub is a network of 25 local organizations working together to provide wrap-around services to people in need to help them get ahead and stay ahead. One main element of the hub is the coaching model where participants are matched with a hub coach who assesses the current situation, looks at the strengths the participant brings to the table, helps them develop goals, and provides motivational support. The success of this model is based on participant progress along the hub self-sufficiency matrix, the bundling of services, and a shared but confidential database.

This year, OAUW initiated the EMPOWER project. EMPOWER is a word that conjures up different thoughts in different people. To the OAUW, EMPOWER means to support and promote the achievement of a person's full potential. The OAUW developed the EMPOWER initiative to fill a gap in existing programs that support single moms.

The objective is to offer services and resources that can help SWw/DC improve their financial stability through full-time employment paying at least \$15 per hour. The initiative is intended to remove barriers by providing financial support for single moms who are motivated to improve their lives by increasing their level of income. OAUW will provide barrier removal funding for women who are engaged at hub-approved coaching sites for up to \$5,000 a year for up to three years. Qualifications include being a single mother with a dependent child or children, living in the Oshkosh Area School District, and being eligible for benefits such as Food Share, BadgerCare, free or reduced lunch, or the Women, Infants and Children (WIC) program.

Participants must be willing to actively engage in the development and execution of an improvement plan and coaching through a hub partner coaching site, and demonstrate progress toward improved financial stability through full-time employment paying at least \$15 per hour.

The Salvation Army hub coaching site has three women who are receiving support from the EMPOWER project. "Alberta" (not her real name) is a single mom with a 1 1/2-year-old child. Alberta previously completed her cosmetology certificate and while she has many strengths, needs help overcoming some barriers. The biggest barrier in gaining employment was having her driver's license reinstated.

With the EMPOWER grant, Alberta completed the classes she needed and was able to pay off her fines in order to get her license back. This is the first time she has had her license in more than five years. Needless to say, Alberta is very thrilled and grateful. The EMPOWER grant has also paid for six months of car insurance for her to enable her to safely transport her daughter and herself to and from day care, work, and eventually school.

She is planning to attend Fox Valley

Technical College to complete the Phlebotomy Certificate Program. She has experience in this field and greatly enjoys it. After doing some research she learned she was eligible for some financial aid and the EMPOWER is helping with the remaining tuition and books. She has registered to attend classes in the spring semester, and the grant also will assist her transportation needs as she will need to drive to Appleton for classes.

Throughout all of this, Alberta has done all of the background work and research for the things that she is trying to accomplish, and has demonstrated high motivation to achieve her goals. She is very excited about the prospect of starting school and this work is anticipating future success.

These are the kinds of success stories that will continue to make projects like the hub and EMPOWER help people in our community turn their lives around and ultimately break the cycle of poverty. A special thanks to Lisa Winkler and Al Rolph at the Salvation Army for embracing the hub model and working with the Oshkosh Area United Way to pilot the EMPOWER project.

The EMPOWER project will continue to provide barrier removal funding for Alberta. If she continues to work with her hub coach, continues to make progress on the self-sufficiency matrix, and achieves her personal goals she will be eligible to receive up to \$5,000/year for a total of three years. The EMPOWER project is moving women and children out of poverty, one step at a time.

The Oshkosh Area United Way fights for the health, education and financial stability of every person in the Oshkosh community. United Way relies on donations from individuals and businesses to provide support for 50 health and human service programs in our community.

For information about how to make a donation or how to volunteer, call 920-235-8560 or email sue@oshkoshunitedway.org.

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Bowlers will be knocking pins down for Lilly this weekend

A bowling benefit to help cover the medical bills for 9-year-old Lilly Doemel will be held at noon Sunday at Shoreview Lanes, 1823 Grove St.

Lilly, daughter of Jon and Anne Doemel of Oshkosh, came down with a fever Dec. 6 that developed into Kawasaki's disease, which causes inflammation of arteries throughout the body. She was treated, then suffered side effects of the treatment that caused severe spinal fluid pressure. After five spinal taps and more than two weeks in hospitals, including Children's Hospital of Wisconsin, she was able to come home. The family had no health in-

surance and is being overwhelmed by the bills associated with a prolonged hospital stay.

Lilly is now recovering and is back to school. She has follow-up appointments to check on potential long-term complications.

Adult bowling for three games will cost \$16 and children for \$10. Free pizza will be offered from ZaRonis. There will also be an after party from 5 to 8 p.m. at the Elks Club, 175 W. Fernau Ave., with a 50/50 raffle, other raffle items and a life-size Yoda raffled off separately.

More information is available from Jon Doemel at 920-203-4739 or at zaronis@outlook.com.



EAA PHOTO

An early EAA AirVenture air show schedule has been announced.

EAA air show performers announced

www.eaa.org

Fan favorite air show performers and newcomers to the field in Oshkosh have committed to flying during the afternoon and night air show lineups at EAA AirVenture Oshkosh 2018, set for July 23-29 at Wittman Regional Airport.

The afternoon air shows are scheduled to kick off at 2:30 p.m. daily during AirVenture, while the night shows will take place at 8 p.m. Wednesday and Saturday.

Many more thrilling air show performers will be announced in the weeks leading up to Oshkosh. Complete daily air show lineups and schedules will be announced as they are determined.

EAA AirVenture air show performers:

- AeroShell Aerobatic Team
- Vicky Benzing
- Canadian Harvard Aerobatic Team
- Bob Carlton
- Kirby Chambliss
- Matt Chapman
- Class of '45 (Yoak/Tobul)
- Kyle Fowler
- Kyle Franklin
- GEICO Skytypers
- Michael Goulian
- Rob Holland
- Jerry Kerby
- Greg Koontz
- David Martin
- Jessy Panzer
- Paradigm Aerobatic Team
- Patriot Parachute Team
- Jim Peitz
- Gene Soucy and Teresa Stokes
- Bill Stein
- Skip Stewart
- Trojan Thunder
- Sean D. Tucker
- Patty Wagstaff
- Scott Yoak
- Matt Younkin

Humane Society fundraiser Feb. 3

The Oshkosh Area Humane Society's annual Wags and Whiskers Evening at The Fin is set for Feb. 3 at the Fin 'n' Feather restaurant in Winneconne.

All proceeds go to the Humane Society's medical fund, which covers the group's animal needs and ensures each animal is spayed or neutered before finding a new home and given required vaccinations. The society handled more than 2,000 animals this past year.

Entertainment by jazz pianist John Harmon will be featured, along with hot and cold finger food, a dessert station, cash bar, games with prizes, raffle items and a Think Spring

Silent Auction featuring outside treasures designed and donated by local businesses. The event runs from 5 to 9 p.m. and costs \$25 individually and \$45 per couple

Sponsorships are welcome to allow donation of raffle items, gift baskets, services, gift cards and cash. Those wanting to make a cash donation can make a check out to OAHWS, Wags & Whiskers 2018 and sent to OAHWS, 1925 Shelter Court, Oshkosh, WI 54901. More information is available from event coordinator Nikki Hronis at nikkihronis@yahoo.com.

Kids to School CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

seems appropriate to us that high school and middle school students can do the same."

Jennifer Considine, associate professor for Communications Studies at UW Oshkosh, brought her research expertise to help identify the issues through involvement of all groups involved in public transportation here. While student busing issues are consistently under review by the district, more recent input by school and city officials along with public survey results have better identified the connection between poverty and transportation gaps.

"We didn't have any really good numbers to try to understand the scope of the problem," Considine said.

When Considine sought the input of school principals, they also brought in social workers who confirmed that transportation to school was an ongoing problem and that solving it would make a difference in helping children of disadvantaged families.

The district identifies students who have missed enough school to see whether transportation problems are involved, and provide financial help as needed. Children who have documented dangerous crossings to negotiate

or some who live on the west side of Interstate 41 have been able to get school-provided busing.

Households that qualify for school busing are informed in August. Currently a family would need \$20 a month to get each of their children to school on GO Transit if they didn't qualify for school bus rides.

Considine pointed to these ongoing efforts by the district and the token program as helpful but incomplete pieces of the solution that the revenue agreement could ultimately solve. She has consulted with transportation experts in the district and with GO Transit that would model the agreement after the one between UWO and the city. Green Bay and Appleton have similar agreements between their school districts and cities.

The revenue agreement would require about \$50,000 annually from a combination of district and city budgets, and possibly grant funding that could become available.

The local ESTHER group's Transportation Task Force meets the first Tuesday of each month from 4 to 5:30 p.m. at Congregation B'nai Israel to discuss the transportation initiative and other community efforts.



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Boys & Girls Club member recognized

The Boys & Girls Club of Oshkosh has named Nichole Van Hoof its 2018 Youth of the Year winner.

A local Youth of the Year committee selected Van Hoof based on service to her club, community and family; academic success; strong moral character; life goals; and poise and public speaking ability.



VAN HOOF

In December, Van Hoof competed against five other local club members for the title. She was awarded a \$10,000 scholarship from the club's Charles F. Hyde, Jr. Youth of the Year Scholarship Endowment.

"As Youth of the Year, I hope to be a good example for kids younger than me that attend the club and to show other young women and men confidence and help them gain more themselves," Van Hoof said.

Youth winners from local Boys & Girls Clubs across the state will travel to Green Bay to compete for the state title in March. Nichole will compete against 16 others for the title of Wisconsin State Youth of the Year. The state winner receives a \$5,000 scholarship from BGCA and Disney, and a \$1,500 scholarship from the Boys & Girls Clubs Wisconsin Area Council.

Nichole is a junior at Oshkosh North High School and plans to pursue higher education at Marian University to prepare for a career in law enforcement.

"My biggest goal is becoming a police officer in the near future," Nicole said. "I feel my purpose is to help those in need and those in my community and world."

She has been a member of the Boys & Girls Club of Oshkosh for more than four years.

Nichole has been involved in programs like the Professional Workshop, Power Hour Homework Help, Career Launch, Money Matters and the Keystone Leadership Club. She currently serves as the Keystone Leadership Club vice president.

For one of her Keystone projects, she took a leadership role in helping coordinate a special evening that fostered positive communication between teens and the Oshkosh Police Department that included a dinner, panel discussion and an obstacle course with teens and officers. This past summer, she also worked as a volunteer distributing food at a Feed America food drive held at the club.

"Nichole is one of those teens that you just know is going to do big things. She doesn't shy away from a challenge and she not only takes advantage of every opportunity offered to her, but she takes leadership of those moments," said Teen Center director Tiffanie Bolling. "I'm proud of the strong, confident, outgoing and outspoken young woman she is transforming into."

"We are so proud of Nichole and look forward to all that she will accomplish academically and professionally in the next few years and most of all to how she ultimately will give back to her community," added CEO Marc Dosogne.

Community events

Thursday
Aviation Adventure Speaker Series, 7 p.m., EAA Aviation Museum, 3000 Poberezny Road

Friday
WHBA Home and Outdoor Living Expo, 3 p.m., Sunnyview Expo Center, 500 E. County Y
Riverside Park Ice Rink grand opening and ribbon cutting, 5 p.m., Riverside Park Ice Rink, 2 N. Main St.
Comedy Improv Show, 9 p.m., Backlot Comedy House, 424 N. Main St.

Saturday
Oshkosh Farmers Market, 9 a.m., Merrill Middle School, 108 W. New York Ave.
WHBA Home and Outdoor Living Expo, 10 a.m., Sunnyview Expo Center, 500 E. County Y
Wisconsin Herd Basketball, 7 p.m., Menominee Nation Arena, 1100 S. Main St.
Comedy Improv Show, 9 p.m., Backlot Comedy House, 424 N. Main St.

Sunday
WHBA Home and Outdoor Living Expo, 9 a.m., Sunnyview Expo Center, 500 E. County Y

Wednesday
Wisconsin Herd Basketball, 11:30 a.m., Menominee Nation Arena, 1100 S. Main St.

Jan. 25
Oshkosh Restaurant Week begins
Oshkosh Business Expo, 10 a.m., Oshkosh Convention Center, 2 N. Main St.

Jan. 26
Oshkosh United All-Stars U14 Girls Donosti Cup Spain Fundraiser, 7 p.m., Beckett's Atrium, 2 Jackson St.
Population 485, 7:30 p.m., The Grand Oshkosh, 100 High Ave.
Comedy Improv Show, 9 p.m., Backlot Comedy House, 424 N. Main St.

Jan. 27
Toward Harmony with Nature, 8:15 a.m., Oshkosh Convention Center, 2 N. Main St.
Oshkosh Farmers Market, 9 a.m., Merrill Middle School, 108 W. New York Ave.
Indoor Rummage Sale and Craft Fair, 9 a.m., Sunnyview Expo Center, 500 E. County Y
Kamikaze Fireflies, 2 p.m., The Grand Oshkosh, 100 High Ave., Oshkosh.
Larry the Cable Guy, 7:30 p.m., Menominee Nation Arena, 1100 S. Main St.
Comedy Improv Show, 9 p.m., Backlot Comedy House, 424 N. Main St.

Jan. 28
The Wedding Faire, Noon, Oshkosh Convention Center, 2 N. Main St.

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North girls fall short against Appleton West

By Charleigh Reinardy
HERALD CONTRIBUTOR

Although the Oshkosh North girls basketball team suffered a tough 63-53 loss to Appleton West in a Fox Valley Association game Friday night, head coach Jayme Engen was proud to see his girls had battled hard.

"We got outrebounded; that really hurt us," Engen said. "First half especially. I thought we cleaned it up better in the second half, but the rebound issue hurt us a lot in the first half."

"Tonight I thought we had our best collective effort as a team. We are a young team and we are still trying to figure some of those kinks out at times, but I thought they were really together tonight as a unit and that helped our play."

Junior Ashley Wissink, top scorer of the game with 18 points, scored enough to keep North in the contest. In the second half Wissink sank a 3-pointer to catch up to Appleton West, 36-35, with North still trailing.

"It's a privilege to be the leading scorer; I do it for my teammates, every basket I make is always for my team," Wissink said. "It always starts in practice. I'm always going my hardest in practice and putting up shots after practice when I have time, just putting in the extra work."

Wissink made shot after shot when she had 11 free throw attempts and made eight.



PHOTOS BY CHARLEIGH REINARDY

Brooke Ellestad of Oshkosh North shoots over Appleton West defenders (above) and looks for a passing opportunity (left) Friday night during a 63-53 home loss.



Brooke Ellestad and Emma Leib followed Wissink. Ellestad scored 10 points with three layups and Leib added nine points, hitting three 3-pointers.

"My teammates mean everything to me, if they are on the bench cheering or if they are in the game, they always try to high-five me and we are always trying to be positive with each other," Wissink said.

"She's been leading us all year long," Engen said of Wissink. "I wouldn't expect anything else from her, she's a great kid, and a great role model to have a part of the program."

The North girls trailed the whole first half as Appleton scored multiple lay-ins, taking a 28-22 lead at the break.

Leib hit a 3-pointer from the corner to tie the game 30-30 at the beginning of the second half and then Ellestad tied it up again at 32

with a layup.

Once Wissink tied it up for the third time by making two free throws, Saige Turner helped the Spartans take the lead with a 3-pointer after a steal making the score 42-39 with 9:30 left to go.

Appleton West recovered fast and went on to continue scoring and hold back North. With four minutes left North trailed 54-45. Scoring went back and forth but North wasn't scoring enough to catch up, fouling with 26 seconds left Appleton West scored their last points of the night with two free throws.

Results from Tuesday's FVA game against Neenah weren't available because of print deadline. The Spartans next game will be the big cross-city rivalry game against Oshkosh West, which will be Friday night at 6 p.m.

Neenah Rockets storm back to beat Wildcat boys

By Ali Ott
HERALD CONTRIBUTOR

The Oshkosh West boys basketball team battled hard with Neenah on Friday, but the Rockets used a late push to pick up a 71-65 win over the Wildcats in a Fox Valley Association game played in Oshkosh.

"It was a tough game," head coach Mike Johnson said. "We got ahead of them and then they responded. Coach Lee (Rabas) is really good. His guys, they came back and

played hard. The game kind of turned in the end of the first half where we didn't keep that 10- to 15-point lead. If we could have kept that it would have been a different story."

West led 39-31 at the half and senior Derek Kroll led the team with 23 points, followed by sophomore Karter Thomas who had 16 and junior Luke Haasl chipped in 11.

The Wildcats started off strong as Kroll scored the first basket of the game and immediately after, Thomas forced a turnover and scored on a fast break, following with a

3-point shot.

"We came out and shot well at the start. Our defensive intensity was good to start," Johnson said.

Neenah answered after a few Wildcat baskets with a full-court press to try to upset their strong offense. This, however, didn't stop Oshkosh's Ben Kohl from hitting back-to-back 3-point shots. With 12 minutes left in the first half, West was up 18-5. Neenah struggled to secure rebounds in the first half, which increased the Wildcat shot count.

Around the 9:45 mark, Kroll went for a 3 and missed, but there was a scramble for the rebound. Neenah had possession, but Kroll stole it back and went in for a jump shot, increasing West's lead to 23-10.

"We just kind of came out and hit Neenah in the mouth, and they weren't quite ready," Johnson added.

With less than 5 minutes left in the half, Neenah was catching up. Kohl was called on an offensive charge, and a scramble for possession ending with Neenah scoring seemed to have chanced the pace of the game for the Rockets.

The Wildcats shot well to start the second half of the game, but Neenah had their eyes set on a win.

"We started playing on our heels and lost a little bit of confidence," Johnson said.

With 10 minutes remaining, Neenah was closing in. West's scoring slowed as Neenah fought for possession, and the West boys were struggling to make the shots they were in the first half. With 6 minutes left, Neenah



PHOTO BY ALI OTT

Oshkosh West's Luke Haasl shoots over a Rockets player Friday night during a 71-65 home loss.

trimmed the lead to just one - 53-52.

The game ended with Neenah pulling ahead in the last 45 seconds. West couldn't keep up with their offensive drive as Jake Hablewitz led the Rockets with 17 points.

Johnson knows it's a long season and said that they have to get back to practice and improve to not let leads slip away.

"We are halfway through the season," Johnson said. "It's a long season. Our guys just have to get back to work tomorrow."



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Prep Sports Roundup

BOYS BASKETBALL

Spartans bounce back with win over Terrors

The Oshkosh North boys basketball team bounced back after losing its first game of the season to Kaukauna last Tuesday, picking up a 87-67 win over Appleton West in a Fox Valley Association Showdown in Appleton on Friday night.

The Spartans used a dominating first half, where they scored 49 points and led by almost 20, to cruise to the win.

Quincy Anderson was North's leading scorer, scoring 20 points while Tyrese Haliburton added 20.

Gout Deng had his best game of the season, scoring 15 for the Spartans while Abe Schiek and Will Schmidt chipped in seven points apiece.

Eli Hartjes had a game-high 31 points for the Terrors.

In last Tuesday's showdown with Kaukauna – both teams entered the game ranked No. 1 in their division — the Spartans lost a tight, high-scoring affair, 94-89.

Jordan McCabe had a big game for the Ghosts, scoring 41 points, hitting six 3-pointers.

Anderson led the Spartans in that game as well with 24 points, while Haliburton had 19. Wesley Schiek had 18 points – all on 3-pointers.

Results from Tuesday's game against Neenah weren't available before print deadline. North will host Oshkosh West in a FVA game Thursday at 7:30 p.m., after the girls game.

GIRLS BASKETBALL

West Wildcats lose tight game to Neenah Rockets

The Oshkosh West girls basketball team built a 7-point lead at halftime but Neenah used a big second half to pull out a close 38-35 win in a Fox Valley Association game played in Neenah on Friday.

Kiersten McNulty led the Wildcats with nine points while Megan Kaminski added seven.

Callista Rochon-Baker added six while Anelise Hammonds had four for West, who will travel to face Oshkosh North in a big cross-city rivalry game on Friday. Tip for that game is at 6 p.m.

Results from Tuesday's game against Kimberly were not available due to print deadline.

Big first half propels Knights in win over Oakfield

The Lourdes girls basketball team jumped out to a big lead and never looked back as it picked up a 55-40 Trailways-Conference win over Oakfield on the road Friday night.

The Knights outscored the Oaks 26-12 in the first half and got 19 points from Alexis Rolph in the win. Lourdes stays perfect in the conference with a 6-0 record, holding a one game lead over Central Wisconsin Christian.

Abi Giese and Quinn Godfroy added 10 points for Lourdes, while Raechel Russo had seven and Maggie Berenz had six.

Brianna Sabel had a game-high 20 points for Oakfield.

Lourdes' next game will be Thursday at home against Hustisford, tipoff at 7:15 p.m.

BOYS SWIMMING

North/Lourdes, West compete in Neenah Invite

Both the Oshkosh North/Lourdes and the Oshkosh West boys swimming team participated in the Neenah Sprint Invitational Saturday. Oshkosh North/Lourdes took sixth while the Wildcats were eighth.

North/Lourdes ended up with 188.5 points while West had 167. Host Neenah took first with 481.5 points while Eau Claire Memorial/North and Appleton North/East rounded out the top three.

Eddie Hansen captured a first-place finish, taking the 50 Breast with a time of 29.80. Hansen added a fifth-place finish in the 100 IM for ON/Lourdes while Grant Lattery was seventh in the Diving competition with a score of 289.65.

For the Wildcats, Joe Herrick was fourth in the 50 Breast (30.56) and the 100 IM (1 minute) while Andrew Groth chipped in a pair of sixth-place finishes in the 50 Fly and 100 Free.

ON/Lourdes' 100 Medley Relay team (Jack Leggett, Hansen, Andrew McAvoy and Dylan Konop) was fourth with a time of 54.50.

ON/Lourdes 4th, West 5th at Appleton North Invite

On Friday both Oshkosh North/Lourdes and Oshkosh West participated in the Appleton North Lightning Invitational, finishing fourth and fifth out of seven teams.

ON/Lourdes had 288 points while West had 251. Appleton North/East won the invite easily with 448 points, followed by Ashwaubenon (328.5) and Appleton West/Kimberly (325).

ON/Lourdes got its best finish from its 200 Free Relay team (Chandler Spanbauer, Adam McAvoy, Dylan Konop and Eddie Hansen), ending up fourth with a time of 1 minute, 39.14 seconds.

The 200 Medley Relay team of Jack Leggett, Hansen, Adam McAvoy and Adam McAvoy were fifth with a time of 1:53.41 while the 400 Free Relay team (Konop, Spanbauer, Zach Quinn, Jack Leggett) were sixth for ON/Lourdes.

Oshkosh West got two fifth-place finishes from its 200 Free Relay team (Andrew Goth, Nathon Johannes, Cameron Kumbier, Joe Herrick) and 400 Free Relay team (Groth, Andrew Engedal, Henry Laux and Herrick).

Individually, Herrick had a great day for the Wildcats. He was first in the 100 Free (51.45) and was third in the 50 Free (23.38). Groth added a third-place finish in the 100 Fly for West while Engedal was fifth in the 500 Free.

For ON/Lourdes, Eddie Hansen was second in the 100 Breast (1:06.58) and sixth in the 200 IM (2:20.64). Adam McAvoy added a sixth-place finish in the 100 Free (53.98).

Results from Tuesday's duals weren't available because of deadline.

WRESTLING

Wildcats go 4-1 at Stevens Point Duals tournament

The Oshkosh West wrestling team competed in the Stevens Point Duals Saturday and finished second with a 4-1 record.

They picked up wins over Manitowoc (64-12), Stevens Point (40-22), Baraboo (44-33) and state-ranked Rhinelander (40-35), while suffering its only loss to champion Prairie Du Chien (47-27).

Henry Foust (132-pounds), Connor Collins (145), Edgar Heredia (170) and Andrew Kalfas



OSHKOSH HERALD PHOTO

Lourdes players wait for a rebound opportunity during their Friday night conference game at Oakfield. The girls team came away with a 55-40 win to stay unbeaten in the Trailways Conference.

(heavyweight) all went 5-0 on the day, while 106-pound Alec Hunter went 4-1.

Oshkosh West will travel to Kaukauna in a FVA dual meet at 7 p.m. Thursday.

Oshkosh North finishes sixth in New London

The Oshkosh North wrestling team finished sixth out of 14 teams in the New London Cutler Classic Saturday, scoring 129 points.

Dalton Holmes had the best day for the Spartans, finishing first with a 3-0 record at 152-pounds. Cade Schmitz (120) and Thomas Urben (126) also earned podium finishes, taking third with a 3-1 record.

Carly Ochoa (106), Dylan Besaw (113) and Josh Stephanie (160) all were fourth while Landon Spanbauer (138) and Davinci Yang (170) were seventh and eighth, respectively.

Pulaski won with 251.5 points, followed by Weyauwega-Fremont (188.5), Coleman (183), Ripon (157.5) and New London (157).

North will host Appleton North in a FVA dual at 7 p.m. Thursday.

Lourdes' Kraus captures first-place finish at FVL

Carson Kraus went 5-0 and finished first at 132-pounds as Lourdes finished ninth overall in the Fox Valley Invitational Saturday. Oshkosh West's JV team participated in the invite and finished fifth with 100 points.

Lourdes only had four wrestlers on the day, but still finished with 54 points. Chilton/Hilbert won the invite with 219 points.

Kraus had three pins on the day.

Cameron Kelly and Keagan Stelzer added third-place finishes for the Knights as Kelly went 2-1 at 126 pounds. Kelly pinned Carson Hollis of West in 2:56 to capture the bronze medal.

Stelzer pinned FVL's Cody Thelen in 1:22 to capture his third-place finish and ended up 2-1 at 220 pounds.

Steven Lee went 0-2 for Lourdes at 152-pounds, his first action of the season.

Results from Tuesday's Trailways duals weren't available because of deadline. Next up for the Knights won't be until Jan. 27, when they will participate in the Dirk Sorenson Door County Classic.

BOYS HOCKEY

Ice Hawks go cold early in loss to Brookfield

The Oshkosh boys hockey team couldn't get on the scoreboard until the third period, but by that time it was too late, as it dropped a 6-2 game against Brookfield on the road Saturday.

Brookfield scored one goal in the first and three more in the second before Logan Uecker and Branden Hamer got Oshkosh on the board with goals at the 7:14 and 16:17 mark in the final period.

Tyler Baumann had 39 saves for the Ice Hawks in the loss while Jack Strey and Grant Kuharski recorded assists.

Oshkosh will hit the road Thursday to face Kenosha Bradford, starting at 7:10 p.m.

Toronto showcase games shine light on Herd chemistry

New and veteran players able to step up as a team

By Ti Windisch
HERALD CONTRIBUTOR

One of the most important traits for a team in the G League is resilience, and that's something the Wisconsin Herd has learned the hard way. After losing James Young to the Philadelphia 76ers, the Herd lost three straight games until finally pulling out a tight 93-92 victory against the Austin Spurs on Friday afternoon.

The match-up against Austin was Wisconsin's second G League Showcase game. The G League Showcase is a tradition dating back to when the G League was known as the D-League, and it sees all the teams meet up in one spot to play a few games each.

The spot was Toronto this year, home of the Raptors 905, and the number of games was two. Wisconsin first played the Texas Legends, and lost, 124-113.

Xavier Munford, newly signed to the Milwaukee Bucks on a two-way deal but playing with Wisconsin, and Joel Bolomboy, newly signed by the Herd after being released by the Bucks, led the way, scoring a combined 50 points in the loss.

Bolomboy excelled again in Wisconsin's next game in Toronto against the Spurs. He posted 27 points and eight rebounds, while Munford added 18 of his own. Without Young around, Bolomboy has stepped up into the second scorer's role in the starting five.

Bolomboy's performances stood out

among all G Leaguers, and he was named to the 2018 All-NBA G League Showcase First Team as a result.

Toughness is always necessary to snap a losing streak, and Munford talked about Wisconsin's tough nature as a team after a comeback win against the Canton Charge earlier in January.

"We're just definitely a resilient team," Munford said. "... We know what it takes to dig in and grind out wins."

Some of that adaptability surely comes from one of the true veterans on the Herd, Shannon Brown. Brown is the older brother of Milwaukee Bucks rookie Sterling Brown, and has two NBA championship rings from his time with the Los Angeles Lakers in 2009 and 2010.

Brown said he's benefiting from his teammates as well as assisting them, and emphasized that everybody on the Herd wants to get better together.

"Anything I can help with, I'm willing to help. Anything," Brown said. "Somebody got a question, I'm willing to help them out. It's all about everybody getting better, me included. These guys do a great job helping me, and I just want to give it back."

The Herd have managed to stay in games, even their losses, in part due to a bench unit anchored by Cliff Alexander. Alexander is up to 17 points per game in his 21 appearances with Wisconsin, all of them from the second unit. He's only scored less than 10 points four times in his Herd career thus far.

The more strong performances that Bolomboy and Alexander have, the more chance a team might use one of their two-way contract spots to scoop them up. As sad as it might



WISCONSIN HERD PHOTO

Shannon Brown has brought his veteran leadership to the Herd and the weight of two NBA championship rings he earned with the Los Angeles Lakers.

be for Herd fans, the intention of the G League is for players to get as many opportunities as possible at the next level.

On the bright side, the Bucks have another two-way deal to use as well. That spot could

go toward keeping a standout player on the Herd or adding another top player to Wisconsin's team, when the player isn't already spending time with the Bucks.

JuBriCoSa Winter Arts Academy classes slated

JuBriCoSa has announced registration for the 2018 JuBriCoSa Winter Arts Academy at its Oshkosh and Neenah locations. The classes are open to young people ages 7-18 who have a desire to learn self-confidence and responsibility through the performing arts.

The Oshkosh classes will begin Tuesday from 5:30 to 8 p.m. and then meet every Saturday morning from 9:30 a.m. to noon and from 6 to 8 p.m. Tuesday at Oakbrook Church, 3126 W. 20th Avenue. The first

night of class will consist of a short student/parent orientation meeting, followed by an audition workshop. The musical revue "Broadway Rhythm" will be performed March 1-3 for four performances. The production includes songs from "Hamilton," "Footloose," "Mama Mia," "Oliver," "Into The Woods" and more.

Students will learn theater basics and some advanced theatrical techniques. In the second part of the class, students will take what they have learned and apply it

to rehearsing for the large-scale musical production. Every student will have a part in the production.

The cost for registration is \$150 and includes the curriculum, T-shirt, cast picture and a script/textbook.

Registration information can be found at www.jubricossa.org or by emailing Jim Hart at theatreman300@yahoo.com. Class sizes are limited to the first 30 students. Contact JuBriCoSa if there are potential conflicts or financial concerns.



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Obituaries



Yvonne Geraldine Hoffman

God called home Yvonne Geraldine (Brady) Hoffman, age 82, on Sunday, January 14, 2018.

Yvonne was born on May 14, 1935 in Marion, WI. She was the daughter of Irene (Dieck) and Patrick Brady. She grew up on her parent's farm on Hwy J in Tigerton, WI.

Yvonne was united in marriage on June 4, 1955 to Frank L. Hoffman at St. Anthony's Catholic Church in Tigerton. They were married for 54 years and celebrated their golden anniversary in 2005. "Vonnie" met Frank at a dance in Tigerton.

They raised their family in Oshkosh where they lived for over fifty years. When their children were young they also enjoyed camping as a family. Vonnie and Frank built a cabin behind the farm where she grew up where they enjoyed that as a "second home".

Yvonne graduated from Tigerton High School. Her freshmen year she was on the prom court and in her junior year she was prom queen. She went to beauty school in Green Bay and went to work as a beautician in Appleton. She was a hairstylist in different salons and was the first to be employed at Julie's Beauty Salon in Oshkosh, where she worked another 24 years until she retired in 2000.

Yvonne was a talented seamstress, and took courses in upholstering and tailoring. She made suits and re-upholstered sofas and chairs. Vonnie was also a great cook and baker. She enjoyed making huge meals for family events.

Yvonne is survived her four children, Mary (Chuck) Eichinger, Mark (Debbie Lux) Hoffman, Michael (Laura) Hoffman, Matthew (Beverly) Hoffman; and grandchildren Carla and Kevin (Kathleen) Eichinger, Brady, Erin, Andrew (Kaley DeGrave), Alex, Jacob and Shawn Hoffman.

Yvonne was preceded in death by her husband Frank L. Hoffman, parents Irene & Patrick Brady, two sisters, Ruth Irene Brady & Sharon Tratz; sister-in-law Virginia Morris, and mother & father-in-law Irene (Jahnke) and Frank G. Hoffman.

Mass for Yvonne will be held at 11 am on Friday, January 19, 2018 at St. Raphael's Catholic Church, 830 S. Westhaven Drive, Oshkosh, with Fr. Matthew Rappl officiating. Burial will follow at Union Cemetery in Tigerton. Visitation will be from 9 am until the time of mass.

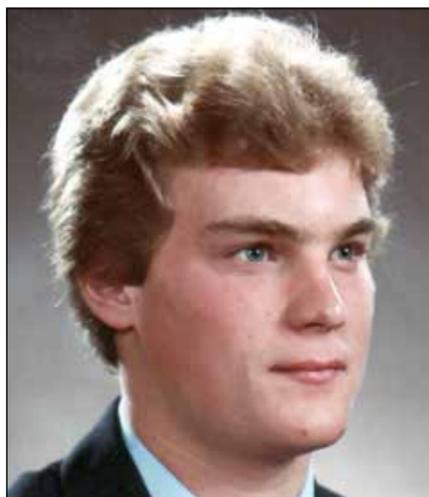
Carl A. Bucholtz

Carl A. Bucholtz, age 100, passed away on Sunday, January 14, 2018 at Bethel Home. He was born on January 8, 1918 to the late Albert and Ella (Yankee) Bucholtz in Clintonville, WI. He married Mary Jane Strey on September 27, 1940 in Oshkosh. They shared nearly 54 years of marriage until her passing in 1994. Together they had five children. Carl worked as a painter and was a member at Trinity Lutheran. He enjoyed fishing and gardening. He also enjoyed watching sports of all kinds.

Carl is survived by his children, Robert (Dianna) Bucholtz, Judy Herring, Charles "Chuck" (Sharon) Bucholtz, Ronald (Kathleen) Bucholtz, Karen (Richard) Oberts; 15 grandchildren, and numerous great-grandchildren, and great-great-grandchildren.

In addition to his parents, he was preceded in death by his brother, James Bucholtz.

Private services will be held by the family.



Anthony E. Koch

Anthony E. "Bubba" Koch, 52, passed away on Thursday, January 11, 2018. He was born on November 19, 1965 to Edward G. and Carol J. Koch. He graduated from Oshkosh North High School in 1984.

He worked at Warehouse Food in Oshkosh, Pick N Save in Fond du Lac, and Save-A-Lot in Fond du Lac and Beaver Dam.

He was an over the road semi driver for H.O. Wolding in Amherst, WI and had over a million accident free miles.

Anthony is survived by his wife of 30 years: Lori; pets, Norman, Charlie, Carson, George, and Doc; his parents: Edward and Carol Koch; his brother, Michael (Tina) Koch along with their children, Erika and her fiancé Tanner Griedl and Macy Koch; father and mother in law, Walter (Dorothy) Kaszynski; brother in law, Larry (Terri) Kaszynski, and their children Lincoln and Emily; sisters in law; Mary Exferd and her son Matthew Exferd, Doreen Kaszynski; her son Steven (Kara) and their children Piper and Job; and brother-in-law Rick Exferd. He is further survived by many aunts, uncles, cousins, and friends.

Engagements



Sorey/Schuster

Caroline Sorey and Matthew Schuster are planning a November wedding in Buxton, N.C. The bride-to-be is the daughter of Page Sorey and the late Bentley Sorey of Kitty Hawk, N.C. The prospective bride groom is the son of Stan and Connie Schuster of Oshkosh. Sorey is a 2017 graduate of Virginia Commonwealth University. She is currently seeking her master of science degree at East Carolina University, Greenville. Schuster is a 2015 graduate from UW Oshkosh with a bachelor's degree in human services leadership and is working as a guide for Knee Deep Adventures in Greenville, N.C.

Marriages



Angela Schuh/Joe Jarvis

Married Dec. 13 in Mayville
Attendants: Mat and Misti Miller
Parents of bride: Patricia Adkins and Daniel Schuh
Parents of groom: Joanne and Edward Jarvis

Senior Center calendar

Tax assistance appointments

are offered Feb. 1 through April 13 on Thursdays and Fridays from 8 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. at the South building. Contact the Oshkosh Area United Way to set up an appointment at 651-3060. The tax assistance program provides help to low- and middle-income taxpayers and individuals over age 60. Volunteer counselors assist individuals with the preparation of tax returns in accordance with guidelines established by the IRS, AARP and VITA. Allow adequate time for appointment as delays may occur.

Women's Education: Food, Fitness and Fun!

In a New Year, Find a New You program from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. Feb. 24 in the South Building. The cost is \$85 by Feb. 2 and \$95 after that. For more information and to register, contact conted@uwosh.edu; call 920-424-1129. UW Oshkosh's Continuing Education Department and the Oshkosh Seniors Center are partnering to offer a day centered on women's wellness and education. There will be healthy cooking demonstrations, and movement and exercise opportunities modified for all fitness abilities. Aurora physical therapists will share information and strategies for maintaining the best women's health possible. The program will be led by Rebecca Aldag, certified nutrition specialist, and Kristie Butler, a licensed dietitian.

Mindfulness Meet-Up at 2:45 p.m. Tuesdays through Jan. 30 at the South building. Instructors are Donna Janus and guests. There is a small fee. Mindful awareness is the process of actively and openly observing one's physical, mental and emotional experiences. Beginners to advanced meditators are welcome.

Blood pressure checks given from 10:30 a.m. to noon Jan. 25 at the South building. Sponsored by: Valley VNA Senior Care, the free checks are given by a Valley VNA Senior Care staff member.

A Healthier You! from 1 to 2 p.m. Monday at South building. Presented by Dena Meyer, registered dietitian and diabetes educator at Aurora Diabetes and Nutrition Center she shares health tips with recipes to try at home. Free.

Options for Knee Pain program at noon Jan. 25 in the North building. Presenter is Dr. Joel Cler, an Aurora orthopedic surgeon. Free with Stay Active Pass. Register by Jan. 23. Cler will explore surgical and nonsurgical options for treating knee pain, including information on the effects of arthritis and total knee replacement.

UWO assistant chancellor takes new post

Jamie Ceman, University of Wisconsin Oshkosh assistant chancellor and chief communications officer in University Marketing and Communications, has accepted a role as a vice president at Chapman University in Southern California.

Ceman will start her new position in early February and her last day at UW Oshkosh was Wednesday.

"I am incredibly happy for and proud of Jamie, and I am excited for her and her family," Chancellor Andy Leavitt said in a statement. "Saying goodbye to a leader of Jamie's experience and caliber is never easy. Nor is it easy to quantify the positive impact she has had in her 10 years at UWO. I will try."

Leavitt said Ceman helped build a team and a campus culture that inspired staff to own and nurture the institution's identity and brand. He said she and her team helped them embrace the daily role they play as storytellers.

Leavitt will appoint an interim supervisor to help oversee UMC as they search for a new unit leader.



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Incorporations

J.E. Borst Equipment Services Inc., James E. Borst, 1639 Burdick St., Oshkosh.

Outdoor Solutions Pressure Washing LLC, Jordan Klemmer, 40 Farmstead Lane, Oshkosh.

Cultural Fine Arts and Jazz Society of Oshkosh Corp., Agnes Footman, P.O. Box 1674, Oshkosh.

Silver Salon LLC, Pa X. Yang, 130 Farmstead Lane, Oshkosh.

Proex Home Inspections LLC, John K. Kleinschmit, Jr., 656 W. 17th Ave., Oshkosh.

Wisconsin Risk Management LLC, David Maas, 3970 Summer-view Drive, Oshkosh.

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