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Neighbors improve quality of life through associations

Public safety, housing improvements among reasons for formation

By Tom Ekvall
HERALD CONTRIBUTOR

More than a dozen neighborhood associations are working toward enhancing the livability of their neighborhoods through a partnership with the City of Oshkosh Planning Services Division and a nonprofit organization known as Greater Oshkosh — Healthy Neighborhoods Inc. (GO-HNI).

The Healthy Neighborhoods movement began about a decade ago in Oshkosh with a goal that you don't have to move to live in a better neighborhood. Residents work together through forming an association and taking on projects that support their vision for the well-being of their area and improving the quality of life.



PHOTO BY TOM EKVALL

The Middle Village Neighborhood Association formed in 2010 and developed a neighborhood plan in 2013 that has shown visible results.

These associations are formally recognized by the Common Council and eligible for city funds, as are residents living in these neighborhoods, to undertake proj-

ects that strengthen their neighborhood and improve their homes.

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Student's performance career finds magic touch

RJ Lynch developed as magician with YouTube help at age 13

By Collin Goeman
HERALD CONTRIBUTOR

RJ Lynch was just 13 when he began making money by performing magic for thousands of people at a time.

They may have been watching via computer screen rather than live, but this experience set the stage for Lynch to go forward as a performing artist.

"When I turned 13 I wasn't very good at magic, so I would only do it for a camera. Then I thought, 'Oh, I'll start putting tricks on YouTube,'" Lynch said. "I got a ton of subscribers, like 1,000. So I was 13 and I was getting these checks from YouTube for like \$100, and when you're 13 that's like, woah!"

Lynch has made a name for himself in the Fox Valley by bringing his dinner show, *Now Serving Magic*, to multiple restaurants in the Appleton area, and made his Oshkosh debut at Paloma Modern Mexican on Valentine's Day.

Now Serving Magic is a three-course dinner show that includes three different magicians.

Lynch said he is excited to try out his show in Oshkosh after starting in Appleton, where there are deep roots in performing magic.

"Bringing the show to Oshkosh will be a little harder, just because Appleton



SUBMITTED PHOTO

RJ Lynch makes a goldfish disappear on a Green Bay television show last March.

has the natural ties to (Harry) Houdini because he's from there," Lynch said. "I want to move it and show it can work other places."

Lynch began his magic career at age 9 watching the Disney Channel with his cousin while growing up in Racine. Lynch said the movie "Now You See Me" initially sparked his interest in magic tricks.

"Me and my cousin Jackie would watch the show, and show each other the tricks we had learned," Lynch said. "We were both really horrible, but that's the first time that I did a trick."

Lynch said despite his interest and practice, it was hard for him to perform for a crowd.

"At that point I was like wishing I could perform to people, but I was too nervous, and that's why it took me so long to get into it," Lynch said.

Lynch said his first experience performing for a crowd wasn't as a magician, but in a male beauty pageant spoof in high school.

"That was the first time I ever made people laugh on stage," Lynch said. "That

SEE **Magic touch** ON PAGE 2

Rental inspection policy awaits legislative update

By McKenzie Konop
HERALD CONTRIBUTOR

City officials are weighing the potential impact of state legislation that has advanced to the Senate to limit rental property inspections and modify Oshkosh's current program adopted last year.

The Assembly bill passed Jan. 23 would restrict local governments' rental inspections to blighted areas and locations with numerous complaints. If an inspection doesn't reveal violations or they are corrected within a month, inspectors could not return to the property for five years and inspection fees would be waived.

City Manager Mark Rohloff has said a planned inspection on about 14,000 rental properties over five years citywide would ensure the residences are kept up to date on health and safety codes.

"The rental inspection ordinance was designed to ensure that basic health and safety regulations regarding rental housing were being followed in Oshkosh," Rohloff said. "The quality of rental housing, particularly in older areas of the city, and in particular around UW-Oshkosh, had deteriorated to the point where the Council felt that something must be done to ensure that this housing meets basic minimum standards for health and safety. The state Legislature got involved and created a statewide restriction on how such a program was to be administered."

Beside the health and safety violations, Councilor Lori Palmeri said there have been reports from tenants about "landlord intimidation."

"Not all landlords use intimidation, but this has been an issue in the past," Palmeri said. "Some landlords have made tenants cancel appointments because they don't want to pay for potential inspection costs."

Oshkosh landlord John Sullivan said he doesn't believe the policy was created to benefit landlords or tenants and is just a way to get extra money from them.

"I disagree with the current rental inspection policy because it is just a disguised tax on landlords and has not made anything better for the tenants they say need protecting," Sullivan said. "The current rental inspection policy is just taxation without representation. The City of Oshkosh has never tried to work with landlords to improve the properties ever since I have owned rental property."

Sullivan also contends the city does not keep proper documentation when it comes to violations discovered during the inspections.

"The City of Oshkosh is trying to say there are all these properties that are not safe but they have very limited documented safety violations," Sullivan said. "Most of what the City of Oshkosh publicly states about rental property in Oshkosh is undocumented rhetoric meant to get sympathy



ROHLOFF

SEE **Inspections** ON PAGE 5

Oshkosh Defense wins \$476M FMTV contract

OSHKOSH HERALD

Oshkosh Corp.'s Defense sector has been awarded a \$476 million contract to build the U.S. Army's next generation of Family of Medium Tactical Vehicles (FMTV), the company announced last week.

The U.S. Army Tank-automotive and Armaments Command (TACOM) Life Cycle Management Command has awarded Oshkosh Defense a firm fixed price requirements contract spanning up to seven years for 16 configurations of the FMTV A2 variant. There is no cap on the number of vehicles the Army could purchase.

"We are honored that the U.S. Army

has selected Oshkosh Defense as the winner of the FMTV A2 production contract," said Pat Williams, vice president and general manager of Army and Marine Corps programs at Oshkosh Defense. "With the Oshkosh FMTV A2, our troops are getting the safest, most capable and reliable FMTV this program has ever seen. We are fully prepared to build the next generation fleet of exceptional, cost-effective FMTVs to serve our troops in future missions."

Oshkosh Defense has manufactured and sustained more than 150,000 tactical wheeled vehicles for the DOD and its allies. Oshkosh Defense was first awarded the FMTV contract in 2009 and has delivered more than 36,000 FMTV trucks and trailers.

The large contract win for Oshkosh Defense follows a \$6.7 billion production award to manufacture the Joint Light Tactical Vehicle (JLTV). Last week the Army Contracting Command asked Oshkosh to build 416 new JLTVs in a \$106.3 million order announced Friday, as well as 832 installed and packaged kits, as part of a contract first awarded in August 2015.

The DOD recognized Oshkosh Defense with the Value Engineering Achievement Award for improvements that resulted in millions of dollars in cost savings for the Army, as well as improved performance and reliability.

"As the incumbent manufacturer, Oshkosh's FMTV A2 design features parts commonality that results in streamlined



SUBMITTED PHOTO

Oshkosh Defense will be manufacturing the next generation of the FMTV for the U.S. Army under a contract award announced last week.

maintenance, training, sustainment and overall cost efficiency for our customer," said Williams. "Oshkosh is ideally positioned, given its engineering, manufacturing and FMTV experience, to execute the next generation FMTV A2 program, running along the same warm production line that has been building FMTVs for the last eight years."

Oshkosh Defense submitted the FMTV A2 proposal in May in response to the Army's competitive request for proposal that required bidders to validate and produce an upgraded FMTV A2 fleet of vehicles with improved payload, underbody protection, ride quality, mobility, engine power, electronics, diagnostics and other safety enhancements.

The future generation FMTV A2 to be manufactured by Oshkosh will be composed of 16 models and associated trailers capable of carrying payloads ranging from 3 to 10 tons, and providing combat mission

support, relief efforts, logistics and supply operations.

"We have an exceptional team of professionals who delivered a world-class effort to bring this program home to Oshkosh, where it belongs," said Williams. "We are pleased to have been selected for this opportunity to continue to ensure that our troops get the best possible equipment to complete their missions, and return home safely."

Oshkosh Defense is a leading provider of tactical wheeled vehicles and life cycle sustainment services, mobilizing military and security forces with heavy, medium, light and highly protected military vehicles. Some of the company's advanced technologies and vehicle components include the TAK-4 independent suspension system, TerraMax unmanned ground vehicle solutions, Command Zone integrated control and diagnostics, and ProPulse diesel electric and on-board power systems.



923 S. Main St. #C
Oshkosh, WI 54902

General information

Phone: 920-508-9000

Website: www.oshkoshherald.com

News tips and story ideas

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Advertising

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Publisher

Karen Schneider, 920-858-6407

karen@oshkoshherald.com

Editor

Dan Roherty, 920-508-0027

editor@oshkoshherald.com

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Magic touch

FROM PAGE 1

made me think: Maybe I'm funny even if I don't act, or sing or dance, and kind of got the gears turning."

Lynch worked summers at French Woods, a performing arts camp in Hancock, N.Y., where he conquered his performance anxiety.

"They taught me how to use the little skills I had, like card tricks, into performing for hundreds of people rather than just performing for a camera," Lynch said.

French Woods is where Lynch met Eric Brown and Ben Hartley, two fellow magicians who quickly became close friends. Lynch said Brown was the one who inspired him to bring a three-course dinner show to Oshkosh.

"Eric had a show called Taste of Magic, and I thought it was super cool," Lynch said. "We talked a lot about me doing a similar show, because I had never heard of anything like that back home."

Brown said he was happy to help Lynch bring his own version of the show to Oshkosh.

"I wonder where he got an idea for something like that," Brown said wryly. "RJ and I talked quite a bit about this. I'd like to

think I was at least a little helpful in terms of him starting his show; I'm so glad it's going well."

Brown said Lynch has grown as a magician in the time they have known each other, and is happy with his progress.

"He was very new to magic when we first met, and now, in a very short time, he is a professional performing magician," Brown said. "It's hard to explain the massive difference between our first meeting and where he is today; it's really quite impressive."

Hartley said Lynch has been as much an influence on himself as he is for RJ.

"We help each other out now sharing our thoughts and ideas. He's a great magician and I can see him going very far with it," Hartley said. "RJ as a person has always been a bubbly, kind and great guy. He is also very good with the business side of things. And having done the magic, I can see having his business mind has helped with it too."

Lynch is a communications student at UW-Oshkosh and said his education has opened the door for other opportunities, such as having a TEDx talk, as well as giving a presentation at Carthage College on magic and psychology.

"I use these skills all the time to help my public speaking," Lynch said. "I was al-

ways shy and I had a stutter, so it helps a lot with presentation and giving a unique experience. I'm not only an entrepreneur but I'm a performer and a public speaker."

Lynch said aside from being a student, his magic career is his most important outlet.

"For the last year I haven't had a job, and I've only done magic. That's when I started doing my three-course dinner show," Lynch said. "I wasn't getting hired at a lot of restaurants, so I thought I should make my own event that I would want to go to, so I could show them that it can work."

Lynch said he plans to relocate to New York after graduation and live with his friends, Brown and Hartley.

"I haven't decided whether I want to look for consulting jobs on the side yet, or just go with my magic," Lynch said. "My ultimate goal would be to run a PR firm, slash marketing firm slash entertainment agency that would all work together to promote entertainers."

Hartley said Lynch stands out from other magicians, especially in the Fox Valley area.

"To have someone who's from Wisconsin, still young and a magician that's really good at his art that has already done a lot with it, I believe makes him stand out and will bring him much success," Hartley said.



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Silent winter journeys await at Terrell's Island

By Rob Zimmer
HERALD CONTRIBUTOR

Dressed in winter white, a majestic snowy owl perched upon the limestone breakwall at Terrell's Island, gleaming bright against a cobalt sky. The bird sat motionless as I walked along the looping trail that traverses out into Lake Butte des Morts and back again toward a wooded point.

Terrell's Island is a favored destination during all four seasons for many in the Oshkosh area, close to home, convenient and a spectacular place to become immersed in the wild.

A three-mile breakwall trail extends well out into the lake, providing breathtaking views from all vantage points as well as excellent opportunities to view water birds and wildlife year-round.

As winter comes to a close, the breakwall is largely snow-free, as it has been much of this season this far. Winds sweeping across Butte des Morts drift snow into beautiful formations along the edge of the limestone pathway, across the vast expanse of clear ice.

Owned and maintained by the local Butte des Morts Conservation Club, Terrell's Island began as a waterfowl restoration project, designed with a series of nesting islands enclosed within a breakwall to curb erosion from wave action. The aim was to create quiet backwater around the islands to



PHOTO BY ROB ZIMMER

Winter visitors to Terrell's Island may spot the elusive and elegant snowy owl perched upon the shoreline rocks.

encourage native aquatic and semi-aquatic plants that would provide cover and shelter among the low-lying island nesting areas.

Before the restoration was able to fully take hold, however, Mother Nature had plans of her own for this newly created wetland paradise. American white pelicans, searching for new areas to colonize as the population expanded into eastern Wisconsin, discovered the islands and decided they

provided everything a pelican could ask for.

Large numbers of breeding pelicans and accompanying cormorants denuded the newly established islands, making them unusable by the target waterfowl species they were designed to attract.

Today, a number of options are being explored to attempt to recreate an array of nesting locations for ducks, while at the same time, improvements made to the

breakwall allow visitors to circle the entire restoration area on foot.

Originally intended as a natural barrier, the breakwall was not intended as a recreational path for hikers and walkers. Trees and overgrown shrubs that quickly established themselves along the breakwall were removed, the entire length graveled and leveled, and a bridge was constructed over an opening in the structure near the gate.

All of these efforts have made the destination a hotspot for outdoor lovers, birders and others who find welcome peace and natural beauty close to home.

During winter, hiking along the breakwall is an exhilarating adventure, with sightings of bald eagles, hawks, snow buntings, even angelic snowy owls possible.

Snowshoeing the looping breakwall trail, as well as the additional wooded trails and out onto the frozen surface of the lake is a beautiful way to spend a crisp winter day.

Soon the sounds of spring will return to Terrell's Island as Canada geese, sandhill cranes and other wetland birds return with ice out and their voices fill the air.

Until then, get out and explore this treasured shoreline paradise.

Find Rob Zimmer on Facebook at www.facebook.com/RobZimmerOutdoors. Listen to *Outdoors with Rob Zimmer* on WHBY, now in Oshkosh at 106.3 FM.

Neighbors

FROM PAGE 1

As part of the city's Strategic Plan and its "Strengthen Neighborhoods" section, neighborhood associations are recognized for providing such benefits as coordinating and hosting community events, community service events, and providing a mediating role between neighborhood residents and city staff.

Residents here have a sense of community, identifying with the neighborhood, feeling connected and being supportive of one another as well as being willing and able to work together for the common good.

"We have 15 recognized neighborhood associations," said Darryn Burich, director of Planning Services with the Urban Development Department, who said he would like to see more neighborhood groups organizing, especially on the south side. In 2017, the Sacred Heart Neighborhood Association formed the first group in that area. The Congress Field Neighborhood Association also was established last year.

The focus by the city on neighborhood strengthening is Our Neighborhoods Engage (ONE Oshkosh), which brings together public and private resources to invest in neighborhoods through property improvements and stronger relations among neighbors. Burich said he is excited about what residents have been able to accomplish to strengthen their neighborhoods through working together to deal with issues, such as public safety, neighborliness, blight elimination, public improvements and affordable housing development.

Posted on a sign at the entrance to the Planning Services Division at City Hall is the ONE Oshkosh vision statement that states, "Oshkosh neighborhoods are desirable places to live" and that its mission is "to strengthen neighborhoods throughout the community for the benefit of all residents at any income level."

Burich said his division has two assistant planners, Steve Wiley and Alexa Naudziunas, who devote much of their time as staff liaisons to neighborhoods, providing technical support and information to the groups and the Oshkosh Healthy Neighborhood Alliance, which is a board commit-

tee of GO-HNI. The Alliance is composed of resident leaders from Oshkosh neighborhood associations who meet monthly to develop resident team leadership, work together on common issues, share resources and interact with city staff.

The city first partnered with NeighborWorks and its Badgerland chapter, a national organization promoting healthy neighborhoods and affordable housing, to help with organizing work, communications and development of neighborhood project activities. Today that work is done by GO-HNI, which formed in 2016 and receives funding support through the city.

Shelly Reinke is program coordinator for GO-HNI and served in that capacity with NeighborWorks as well as working for the city on an interim basis when the NeighborWorks partnership ended and the GO-HNI nonprofit group formed.

Wiley said planning for a neighborhood must always involve the most important people in the process – its residents and property owners.

One of the first neighborhoods to be recognized by the Council and engaged in neighborhood planning activities is the Middle Village Neighborhood Association, which is bounded by Church Avenue, Jackson Street, West Irving Avenue and North Main Street. The group formed in 2010 began the neighborhood planning process in 2013.

The resident-led neighborhood planning process is a component of the city's Healthy Neighborhood Initiative and established in the ONE Oshkosh Strategic Plan.

Wiley said the four elements that are key to a healthy neighborhood include image, market, physical conditions and neighborhood management. Neighborhood management deals with the leadership of residents to become involved in their neighborhoods.

Council member Lori Palmeri was active in the formation of the Middle Park Neighborhood Association and served as a coordinator for the Neighborhood Plan Work Group, which included residents, landlords and a representative of Christ Lutheran Church. She said her concerns for the neighborhood were instrumental in her later running for the Council. Palmeri serves as the Council liaison to the Oshkosh Healthy Neighborhood Alliance.

Getting started

Interested in creating a neighborhood organization? Help is available through Shelly Reinke at GO-HNI or the City Planning Services Division. She can be reached at 230-2717 or at shelly@gohni.org. The city Planning Services Division can be reached at 236-5059 or at planning@ci.oshkosh.wi.us. Members of the Oshkosh Healthy Neighborhood Alliance can also help with the process.

She said the neighborhood association formed over concerns about crime in the neighborhood, blight, a desire for public improvements, and a desire to encourage home ownership as the area experienced increasing rental housing development. "We wanted to get residents engaged in the future of the neighborhood," she said. "It was time to stop the bleeding (turnover of residents moving elsewhere)."

Since formation of the neighborhood association, the group has experienced a healthy transformation.

"We are seeing younger families moving back into the neighborhood," she said. "We are taking our neighborhood back."

Palmeri said the organizers of the neighborhood association wanted to go beyond being just a Neighborhood Watch group, a program through the Oshkosh Police Department.

One resident who lives on Frederick Street said he purchased a home in May because "he was excited by revitalization activities taking place here," adding that he had lived in the neighborhood as a child until moving with his family to Omro.

"It's a lot nicer now," he said, "and I have gotten to know my neighbors."

Wiley noted that while a single issue may be the sparkplug for getting residents interested in working together — crime, dilapidated housing, lack of certain amenities — it is important for associations to focus on broader issues that can create or maintain a healthy neighborhood. He said some associations are more active than other groups, often dependent on the continuing leadership of those organizing the neighborhoods as well as that of new emerging

leaders.

Some groups have newsletters, signs in yards promoting upcoming meetings, a website, Facebook page, and fliers to advertise meetings or events delivered to all residents.

For the Middle Village Neighborhood Association, it meant a yearlong process in 2013 to develop a Neighborhood Plan in partnership with the City Planning Services Division within the Urban Development Department. The top three issues identified by residents were property conditions, safety/crime and landlord involvement, along with the need to attract new homeowners with a desire to invest in the neighborhood's future.

As to neighborhood assets, residents in the planning process cited close proximity to the downtown, friendly neighbors and historic character of the area.

Since approval of the neighborhood plan by the city in 2014, Middle Village has eliminated three vacant and blighted homes and purchased a vacant lot for green space; took a traffic survey in response to residents' concerns with speeding; developed Project Safe Passage to deal with issues associated with the Downtown Pub Crawl; and developed affordable housing initiatives.

Other neighborhood associations that have completed a plan include the Millers Bay Neighborhood, Stevens Park Neighborhood and the River East Neighborhood.

The city's process for neighborhood group recognition involves organizing and holding at least one general meeting and one neighborhood-wide activity, establishing a set of bylaws, election of officers, voluntary participation, description of neighborhood boundaries, and formal request to the Council to be recognized.

Neighborhood groups are eligible for a \$1,000 grant from the city to help with organization expenses. They can also participate in other city-funded programs dealing with revitalization. Recognition opportunities are open to any neighborhood, but homeowner associations with mandatory participation and dues requirements are excluded.

Wiley said groups have used the \$1,000 grants for brochures, food for community events, and holding a picnic, block party or cleanup day.

Realignment puts UWs in tighter regional orbit

Fox Valley, Fond du Lac campuses will share UW-Oshkosh alliance

By Dan Roherty
OSHKOSH HERALD

With the restructuring of University of Wisconsin campuses into integrated clusters around the state, UW-Oshkosh's alliance with UW-Fox Valley and UW-Fond du Lac will build on an already strong relationship among the three schools.

Pushed by changing demographics and declining enrollment in the UW System statewide, the Board of Regents is mandating a new alignment of the campuses this year that will try to deal with those challenges in a way that assures the future health of two- and four-year institutions through streamlined degree programs and their administration.

"All of the UWs are experiencing enrollment declines, including us, and they are certainly felt first and foremost at the two-year college campuses," said UW-Oshkosh Chancellor Andrew Leavitt. "That's partly due because we have such a good economy right now. And there are a lot of students that are opting not to go to college at all."

Fox Valley and Fond du Lac campus enrollments are down about 30 percent over the past five years, and UWO is also seeing about 10-15 percent fewer students during that period while looking to close a \$9.5 million budget deficit over the next two years. Regional technical colleges are also not immune to recent enrollment drops.

Leavitt said the overriding goal of their group's multileveled realignment plan is in gradually creating one regional institution — "three campuses, one university" — not a main campus with satellite facilities.

He said each location will develop a niche or existing regional specialty that they serve while retaining the overriding UW education mission.

"This is a tremendous opportunity for us, and the region," Leavitt said. "We are bringing on two very strong campuses. They have great faculty staff cultures, they've got robust student populations and they're ensconced in terrific communities."

Some of the traditional distinctions between two-year and four-year universities will begin to fade over time as Fox Valley and Fond du Lac start to pick up specific bachelor's degree curriculums while Oshkosh adds more focus to the needs of the older student, where two-year campuses have offered the most expertise.

UWO will be looking at ways to become even more accessible to adult learn-

ers through more flexible schedules that accommodate work and family schedules for that demographic.

"A real potential for us and a skill set that is brought by the two-year campuses is adult education," Leavitt said.

UW Colleges Online, considered a 14th campus, will play a growing role in that process. Each institution would offer its own online associate of arts and science (AAS) degree program while coordinated at the system level. Oshkosh's expansion into AAS programs would be part of its oversight with the other two campuses.

Leavitt said UWO will be assigned those two campuses starting July 1 and the Higher Learning Commission, which has regional accreditation responsibilities for post-secondary education institutions in the central United States, will designate UW-Oshkosh as the accredited institution overseeing UW-Fox Valley and UW Fond du Lac.

Leavitt said the three campuses are in closer proximity than most other state groupings and share the Fox Valley's Interstate 41 corridor. "We will be able to extend our influence and our reach into these very important communities," he said.

UW-FV is already Oshkosh's main student transfer school, with UW-Fond du Lac also generating a steady supply of transfers as it has since starting out as a branch campus of UWO.

Leavitt said people won't see any immediate change in operations or offerings but more a gradual shift that will extend years down the road. He wants to assure the public of the ongoing stability of the campuses as they continue business as usual.

"We want people to continue to apply and come to these two great two-year campuses," he said. "We are open for business and both (UW-FV and UW-Fond du Lac) are doing very well."

"What we're concerned about is that people will see this as confusion. You approach this fall as you would any other fall. If you're interested in two-year college education, that's the place to apply."

Showing an organizational chart that defines more than 50 areas of interest potentially affected by the restructuring, with anywhere from 10 to 15 people working on each of them, Leavitt said the university's administration is casting a wide net to catch all the opportunities that can be found with such a move.

Martin Rudd, regional dean of the Fox, Fond du Lac and Manitowoc campuses, is UWO's strategy officer for the UW System Restructuring Steering Committee on reporting progress and issues to the regents. He will represent the work groups for the three campuses in reporting to the steering committee.

"As we move forward, more than 40 restructuring work groups will be looking at a wide range of processes, finding solutions

and envisioning the future," Rudd said. "Our faculty, staff and students from UW-Fond du Lac and UW-Fox Valley are stepping forward to serve on these work groups with colleagues from UW Oshkosh."

Rudd said that combining three campuses from different sectors, resolving operational differences and creating shared common practices and policies are just three of the challenges faced by the restructuring and joining.

"But opportunities like these are bringing out the best in collaborative ideas to better serve our region's students," he said.

"Faculty, staff and students who otherwise may not ever have met or collaborated professionally are reaching out to each other and talking about the future of education in our Lake Winnebago region. Student leaders are reaching across campuses and working together on projects. Through all of this, the UW Oshkosh faculty and staff have been open and welcoming to our campus communities."

Rudd credited Leavitt and his leadership team for regularly visiting the UW-Fond du Lac and UW-FV campuses and hosting open forums, answering questions and encouraging dialogue.

"Culture and identity — this is the No. 1 issue to a successful joining, is to get the culture and identity right," Leavitt said. "And all the rest of this stuff is nuts and bolts. These are the true relationships that you have to build not only within the university but outside of the university with the local communities."

Laurie Krasin, regional director of communications for the UW Colleges Northeast Region, leads the restructuring team's Culture and Identity initiative.

Leavitt said early questions that arose from those working at the three campuses ranged from organizational to personal.

"How are we going to be able to standardize curriculum, are we going to standardize curriculum, what about our calendars," he said were some of the concerns. "How is it going to impact the workload of individuals on this campus?"

Two-year campuses initially were concerned with the possibility of job reductions, but Leavitt said that is not the intent and wouldn't be a part of the restructuring process.

"We're not going to design a new university that cuts people out," he said.

The two-year campuses went through a regionalization process just two years ago that created four regional clusters from the 13 institutions and already required lean efficiencies to implement.



RUDD



LEAVITT

Superintendent candidate meet-and-greets scheduled

Community residents are invited to meet with finalists for the Oshkosh Area School District superintendent position at a candidate meet-and-greet session Feb. 20 and 21.

Candidates will be available to meet with attendees and answer questions. Attendees will be encouraged to complete candidate impression forms and share opinions with a member of the Board of Education during the sessions. Additional candidate information and details will be shared as the search process progresses.

Under the direction of search firm Ray & Associates, the Board of Education met Feb. 5 to narrow down the pool of candidates to seven, who were interviewed this week. The board will decide upon the final-

"They're change warriors," Leavitt said of the many individuals who have responded more than once to university shakeups on one level or another.

The Milwaukee Journal Sentinel reported last week that UW System President Ray Cross had advanced the realignment move without the input of campus governance groups, UW Madison faculty or the leadership of the 13 two-year campuses while it was being outlined to state legislators.

Leavitt said financial considerations are primarily the responsibility of the regents, who are directing the unwinding of the system while maintaining its financial stability. Leavitt said his focus through UWO is to assure the good-faith efforts they will bring to the ongoing process for their now-tighter partners.

"I've actually explicitly asked the faculty and staff on these campuses for their trust," he said. "And they're meeting me in a friendly manner."

Leavitt was involved in similar restructuring efforts involving two- and four-year institutions as an administrator at the University of West Georgia, where he found out what made for a successful joining of campuses as well as what kinds of things to avoid in the process. He said it's critical, for example, to assure the three campuses' buildings and properties stay strong for the counties that invest in them.

The campuses will retain their separate foundations to raise money for efforts related to the merger, keeping UWO's current foundation struggles somewhat isolated in the process, while Leavitt plans to actively join with the other two campuses in helping them with any realignment funding needs in the long term.

"Wisconsin has a very long and proud tradition of shared governance, so it's important that we involve our faculty, staff and students in the decisions that we make, and these governance structures are going to change as a result of this restructuring," Leavitt said.

He said they will now have to figure out how to maintain those important governance structures with the pending alliance changes.

"We have a lot of great roots," Leavitt said. "We have a tremendous relationship with the faculty and staff on these campuses. This predates me — it's been around forever because we've always worked together."

With no actual ground being broken or construction barriers to be found with this type of restructuring, students and other campus interests will only be seeing the changes in small pieces within curriculum options and evolving degree opportunities. UWO officials don't want the general public to approach the campuses any differently than they have from semester to semester.

"It's going to take many years for this restructuring to actually set in and fully develop," Leavitt said. "... Five years from now it will be as if we were never separated."

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Singer Gladys Knight in concert at arena

Seven-time Grammy winner Gladys Knight will appear Feb. 24 at Menominee Nation Arena.

Known as the "Empress of Soul," Knight debuted her first album with Gladys Knight & the Pips at age 16. They turned out steady hits with songs like "I Heard It Through the Grapevine" and "Best Thing That Ever Happened to Me," but it was the No. 1 smash "Midnight Train to Georgia" that established the group as a worldwide sensation.

The star of pop, gospel, R&B and soul has recorded more than 38 albums, including four solo albums in the last decade. She earned her star on the Hollywood Walk of Fame in 1995, and the following year, Gladys Knight & the Pips were inducted into the Rock & Roll Hall of Fame.

The Pips were presented with the Lifetime Achievement Award from the Rhythm & Blues Hall of Fame. In 2004, Knight received the Lifetime Achievement Award at the annual BET Awards ceremony.

A humanitarian and philanthropist, Knight is devoted to various causes, including the American Diabetes Association — she is a national spokesperson — the American Cancer Society, the Minority AIDS Project, amFAR and Crisis Interven-



Gladys Knight takes the stage Feb. 24 at the Menominee Nation Arena.

tion, and the Boys and Girls Club. "I've said all along that entertainment would be a big part of our operation," said Greg Pierce, arena managing general partner. "Adding Gladys Knight to our schedule shows our commitment to providing first-class entertainment in our venue."

Tickets to the 7:30 p.m. performance are available at the Menominee Nation Arena box office or online.

Talent Takeoff Hiring Event keys on flight

The inaugural Talent Takeoff Hiring Event set for this weekend is one of several initiatives underway to support Wisconsin's growing aviation and aerospace industry, which employs more than 24,000 people nationwide and generates nearly \$7 billion in annual economic activity.

The Menominee Nation Arena will host students from area post-secondary schools for the first Talent Takeoff Hiring Event from 1 to 4 p.m. Feb. 17. The event will offer top students in science, technology, engineering and mathematics from area universities, colleges, technical and trade schools an opportunity to engage with companies in Wisconsin's growing aerospace industry.

This event will also help connect stu-

dents and aerospace/aviation manufacturers to help bridge the jobs gap in the industry.

Wisconsin has more than 300 companies with ties to the aerospace sector, including more than 140 suppliers to Boeing. From 2001 to 2011, the number of jobs in aerospace parts and product manufacturing in Wisconsin increased almost 57 percent.

Event partners include the Greater Oshkosh EDC, City of Oshkosh, Oshkosh Chamber of Commerce, East Central Wisconsin Regional Planning Commission, Wisconsin Economic Development Corp., Wisconsin Aerospace Partners, Wittman Regional Airport, Appleton International Airport, Fond du Lac Skyport and Envision Greater Fond du Lac.

Inspections

FROM PAGE 1

for their discriminatory practices."

Rohloff, who attended the Jan. 3 Assembly hearing about amending the policy, said the status of the legislation's final version remains unclear.

"We explained to the Assembly committee our experience and why we feel that inspections should continue," Rohloff said. "We also explained that we do not need to have a citywide inspection program, but rather focus on areas that have a history of deteriorating housing."

Keying on certain housing units would help better those areas around the neighborhood, Rohloff said.

"There are many areas of the city that we do not see any need to have an inspection program," he said. "This will enable us to focus on the area that needs fixing. The amended bill will also allow rental units that have a clean inspection, or correct identified problems within a 30-day period, from not having another inspection for eight years. This will give our inspections staff reason to focus only on those properties that have clear violations and are not correcting them in a timely manner."

Even with revision of the program, Winnebago Apartment Association presi-

dent Donn Lord said the city needs to include all parties involved on decisions pertaining to rental inspections.

"The whole program is so flawed it should be scrapped and redesigned with input from all stakeholders (including renters and providers)," Lord said. "This program was imposed with little input from those in the rental community. If they had worked with the rental community rather than against it perhaps a greater percentage of renters would have allowed inspectors into their homes than the 8 to 10 percent that did."

Rohloff said there wasn't a group of landlords representing a cohesive voice for the city to work with. He still believes the end results of amending the program would be beneficial to the community while forming the policy.

"Whatever the state does, we're all going to have to work together on this," he said, while continuing to hold bad landlords accountable.

"If we can focus on problem areas and allow responsible landlords to easily correct minor problems, I think that our inspection program will help achieve its stated goal of improving the overall housing stock of the city and protect our older neighborhoods," he said. "We are hopeful that the final product is something that we can work with."

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Jon Doemel
Oshkosh Chamber
president

Unwarranted fees mar rental inspections

The rental inspection program has been a hot button issue for Oshkosh. The Chamber took quite a bit of heat for our position on this program.

Yes, the Chamber was against the rental inspection program, but not because we support unethical business practices. We were against it because we are against unethical fees.

I am not against the beautification of Oshkosh. I agree that some properties have become run down. I do not condone the idea of a "slumlord" and would like nothing better than to improve the quality of life for our citizens. This program is simply for cosmetics.

If it accomplished safety protocol for rentals, I would be the largest supporter for this program. If it could check to make sure windows opened, gas didn't leak, mold wasn't affecting tenant health, and all safety alarms were working, I would champion this.

Most of these inspections have been made from the perimeter of the dwelling at a cost of \$145 per unit that includes a \$100 trip charge by the inspector. In a few instances, a \$100 trip charge was assessed even though the inspector had just walked next door.

These fees could amass to a staggering \$1.5 million tax increase. That's \$1.5 million that will not go to fixing a window, stopping a leak or cleaning mold. I assume there are properties with code violations that need to be fixed.

There is a resource that residents can rely on to ensure their homes are safe. There are already inspectors who can come out and ensure that rentals are up to code. This service is already provided on a complaint basis and covered by the city since it affects residents' overall health.

Tenants also have a responsibility to maintain the properties that they rent. They must upkeep their own residency within reason. The blame does not necessarily rest solely on the property owner. There are many respectable property owners in Oshkosh, many of whom are Chamber members. We had their back in this. We supported their efforts to fight the inspection program.

Cosmetics are important. We must maintain an image of a clean and beautiful city. We should be doing that through incentives, not unjust inspection fees, whether the property is run down or pristine.

Look at all the neighborhood associations that have become more active as of late. Let them take the lead. Give people the resources to better their own lives. Who knows, if you let them initiate the process they might even let you in to inspect the property.

If you want to raise revenue, use the process that is already in place. Let more people know about your rental service, encourage them to have them initiate the inspection, and fine the abusers and force them to fix the issues. Do not punish those who are doing it right.

Legislation is on the way to fix this. I hope we can get it right this time around.

Community news briefs

Worker training grants awarded to area firms

The Fox Valley Workforce Development Board will receive two state Department of Workforce Development Fast Forward Grants valued at more than \$300,000 to train 60 workers in manufacturing fundamentals and press brake operations in the region.

The Workforce Development Board partnered with eight different companies on the two grants and named Fox Valley Technical College as their education provider for all training. The announcement was made by Lt. Governor Rebecca Kleefish and DWD Secretary Ray Allen at a press conference Feb. 6 at Jay Manufacturing in Oshkosh.

The Mechanical Fundamentals Grant is a \$200,000 award to train 36 employees to repair mechanical equipment in an industrial setting. Companies partnering in the grant will be Gusmer Enterprises and Waupaca Foundry in Waupaca, Hoffmaster Creative in Oshkosh, Creative Converting in Clintonville and JM Smucker in Ripon.

A Press Brake Grant for \$110,194 will train 24 employees in the operation of a press brake, used to keep production costs competitive. Companies partnering in the grant are Jay Manufacturing, Muza Metal Products and SMC Metal Fabricators, all of Oshkosh.

Oshkosh fire chief Franz retiring after 17 years

Oshkosh Fire Chief Tim Franz has announced his retirement after 17 years in the position and 32 with the department.

He informed the Police and Fire Commission of his decision and plans to retire at the beginning of June.

In his retirement letter, Franz thanked the commission and city for giving him the opportunity to serve in "one of the best fire departments in the state and country." He also thanked Fire Department members,

past and present, for making the department what it is today and thanked his family for their sacrifices and support during his tenure.

Oshkosh Corp. named to Most Admired list

Oshkosh Corp. has been recognized as one of Fortune's World's Most Admired Companies, one of 330 companies to achieve this honor as ranked by industry peers.

Oshkosh Corp. ranked fourth in the Construction and Farm Machinery category. This is the first time it has received this prestigious award and is one of only five Wisconsin-based companies named.

Fortune collaborated with partner Korn Ferry on a survey of corporate reputation and began with about 1,500 candidates, including the 1,000 largest U.S. companies ranked by revenue, along with non-U.S. companies in Fortune's Global 500 database that have revenues of \$10 billion or more. The top-rated companies were picked from a pool of 680; the executives who voted work at the companies in that group.

To determine the best-regarded companies in 52 industries, Korn Ferry asked executives, directors and analysts to rate enterprises in their own industry on nine criteria, including investment value, quality of management and products, social responsibility and ability to attract talent. A company's score must rank in the top half of its industry survey to be listed.

Norovirus taking its toll on UW-Oshkosh campus

The University of Wisconsin Oshkosh campus is dealing with a growing number of cases of the highly contagious norovirus. As of Monday, more than 300 people had self-reported norovirus-like symptoms. Most of them live in residence halls.

Norovirus can cause the sudden onset

of stomach pain, severe vomiting and diarrhea. The most effective way to stop the spread of the norovirus and other gastrointestinal illnesses is by effective handwashing and hygiene and staying home if symptoms are present.

Signs have been posted across campus alerting the campus community about proper care and sanitization needs.

People experiencing persistent, severe vomiting or diarrhea are asked to go to the Student Health Center, a health care provider or an emergency health care facility.

Campus officials are asking faculty, staff and students to self-report if symptoms are present. Dining Services offers a sick tray option for students who rely on campus food services.

Northeast residential, commercial project set

Anchorage Realty recently announced the availability of new residential townhomes, self-storage units and commercial contractor rental space on the northeast side of town. The two six-unit townhomes are at 2525 and 2601 Bowen St.

When the company's Anchorage Center burned down in November 2015, President Russ Williams said it was decided to rezone the property for mixed residential-commercial use.

Windward Townhomes are available now for rent along with 54 new self-storage units, and 6,500 square feet of heated contractor warehouse space on the adjacent property on Leeward Court West, about a block behind the new residential units.

Each townhome features three bedrooms and two full baths; one of the three bedrooms is located on the ground floor. A landscaping project will commence in spring with flowering trees, shrubs, lawns, new sidewalks and lighting installed.

The self-storage and commercial space features a security camera system, and Anchorage's new management office is on-site at 610 Leeward Court West.

Battle on Bago winter edition coming Feb. 23-24

The Midwest's largest ice fishing tournament returns to lakes Winnebago, Butte des Morts, Winneconne and Poygan on Feb. 23 and 24 based at Menominee Park in Oshkosh.

The 11th annual Battle on Bago is expecting to bounce back after warm weather forced cancellation of the 2017 tournament. More than \$275,000 in cash and prizes will be given away to the thousands of participating anglers.

The tournament opens at 6 a.m. Feb. 23 with ticket sales ending at that time. Scales are open from 4 to 8 p.m. that day,

then from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. Feb. 24. A kickoff party will be held Feb. 22 starting at 5:30 p.m. at the Menominee Nation Arena.

Fish may be taken with tip-ups or by rod and reel. There is no age requirement on participation. Cash prizes will be determined by the weight of a single registered fish and by the earliest time in the case of a duplicate weight.

Battle on Bago was created in 2007 by a group of five Oshkosh Southwest Rotarians to support area youth and conservation efforts throughout the state.

Beneficiaries receiving funds from Bat-

tle on Bago embody the mission statement of the event: "For Kids and Conservation." Tournament officials said it has generated net proceeds of nearly \$500,000.

Participants don't have to fish to join the event. Go to www.battleonbago.org for details and contest rules.

REPLAY



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Fundraisers

Chili cook-off: Knights of Columbus Post 11305 and La Mariposa Foundation will be hosting their first February Fiesta Chili Cook-Off at St. Raphael's Good Samaritan Hall from 6 to 9 p.m. Feb. 17.

Tickets for \$1 will be sold at the door to try different chilis and fixings. To accompany the best chilis in town, there will be a desert table with tres leches cake and Fifth Ward Brewery will be serving craft beer and soda. Mariachi music will entertain guests.

A silent auction table will have more than \$1,500 in donated items and a 50/50 raffle is planned. All proceeds will go toward obtaining all-terrain wheelchairs for up to 15 underserved families in Nicaragua.

Those interested in entering their chili can contact Mike at caribou672@gmail.com.

Golf outing: Area golfers can begin registering for the 10th Annual Oshkosh Area United Way Golf Outing. This annual event, presented by Jackson Kahl Insurance, brings together local golfers in support of the programs and agencies funded by United Way.

The golf outing will be held at Lake Breeze Golf Club on June 13. The cost is \$110 per person if registered by May 15; and \$125 thereafter. Registration can be done at oshkoshunitedway.org/golf. Businesses interested in becoming a sponsor can sign up under the sponsorship tab.

Myanmar benefit: Christian's Pizza & Italian Restaurant will be donating a portion of Feb. 20 proceeds to the building of a new dormitory at Rainbow Children's Home in Myanmar. "Have a Heart!" is sponsored by Asia Frontier Outreach-USA, an Oshkosh-based nonprofit organization whose mission is to raise awareness and funds for the children's

homes and other ministries of Asia Frontier Outreach in Southeast Asia.

Rainbow Children's Home is home to 30 girls ages 7 to 17. The planned new dormitory will house 50 girls with increased personal space for the girls, and apartments for caregivers. The home is one of three by Asia Frontier Outreach in Myanmar.

Spaghetti dinner: A spaghetti dinner from 5 to 7 p.m. Feb. 22 hosted by Mid-Morning Kiwanis Club of Oshkosh and Communities at Oshkosh North ninth- and 10th-graders will raise awareness about maternal/neonatal tetanus (MNT) in developing countries.

Students are investigating MNT and learning about the causes, effects and the 14 countries still working to eradicate the disease. Research into The Eliminate Project initiative aided their understanding.

Spaghetti, salad, garlic bread and desserts will be served. This year's dinner will be held before the boys varsity basketball game against Neenah High School.

Chili dinner: Golden Oak 4-H Club's annual chili dinner and raffle will be held from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. Feb. 18 at Nekimi Town Hall, 3790 Pickett Road. Tickets are \$6 and include drink and dessert. Hot dogs and quarts of chili are available for purchase. Raffle drawings will be held at 3:30 p.m. Grand prize is a hand-made queen-size quilt.

Utica Fire donation: The Oshkosh Area Women's Association presented a check to the Utica Volunteer Fire Department from an OAWA fundraiser in November, the annual dinner style show. The donation was the most recent given by OAWA in 2017, bringing the total to: \$20,833.

Mentoring conference slated

Cultivating Your Career, part of the Girl Scouts' annual Leadership Mentoring Experience, will be held March 8 at La-Sure's Banquet Hall.

Both events will begin with informal networking from 11:30 a.m. to noon, with the luncheon and panel discussion from noon to 1 p.m. Three panel speakers will focus on how they overcame adversity in order to establish their careers.

Panelists include Ashley Foster, learning and development operations specialist at Footlocker.com/Eastbay; Jenni Molash, human resources manager at Silver Star Brands; and Kim Molitor, principal and relationship manager at Windward Wealth

Strategies. Brian Davidson of Farmer's Insurance will be moderator.

Cultivating Your Career is open to anyone who wants to learn more about excelling in the workplace and climbing the corporate and nonprofit ladder.

Sponsorship support of the Girl Scouts of the Northwestern Great Lakes has the benefits of positive brand association with the preeminent leadership organization for girls. Sponsorship opportunities, all with customizable benefit options, include Mentor Sponsorship for \$1,000, Professional Friend Sponsorship for \$500, Coach Sponsorship for \$250 and Sponsor a Table of Six for \$200.

UW Varsity Band coming to Omro

The University of Wisconsin's celebrated Varsity Band will perform at 2 p.m. Feb. 24 in the Omro Fieldhouse.

Under the 49-year direction of professor Mike Leckrone, the nationally renowned ensemble is famous for its exceptional energy, showmanship and musicality.

Wendy Fisher, Omro band director, has been working with UW Madison to bring the popular group that has several

former Omro and Oshkosh students. Tuba player Claire Bischel is an Oshkosh West graduate who will be playing at the show.

The Varsity Band contingent coming to Omro will have about 120 student musicians.

Profits from the concert will help support Omro school bands. Tickets are \$12 for adults and \$10 for students in advance, \$15 at the door.

Masterpieces of the Valley exhibit opens

The Paine Art Center and Gardens presents Masterpieces of the Valley, featuring more than 50 exceptional artworks from the collections of the Paine and regional institutions, on view through May 27.

The exhibition includes European and American paintings dating from the mid-19th through early 20th centuries, the period in which the Paines focused their collecting efforts. The dramatic "Salon-style" installation in the Main Gallery will show

visitors how art exhibitions may have been installed and experienced during that time period.

Drawn from the collections of the Paine, the Oshkosh Public Museum, Oshkosh Public Library, Lawrence University and others, highlights include masterpieces by Jules Breton, Leon Augustin Lhermitte, William-Adolphe Bouguereau, George Inness and Winslow Homer.

Lead sponsor of the exhibition is Jewelers Mutual Insurance Co.



The Teachers' Closet, Inc.

Mission Statement

The Teachers' Closet, Inc. was created to support all teachers in the Oshkosh Area, who are teaching in Non-profit schools by providing them with teaching supplies and materials for themselves and for their students.

Our goal is to reach students who need assistance through their teachers and to enrich the school experience for all children in our community's classrooms.

The Teachers' Closet, an independent 501(c)(3) non-profit organization operated by volunteers, accepts donations of money and/or goods AND your donations are tax deductible.

Thank you to all who supported our teachers and students with donations of money or supplies.

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For information about The Teachers' Closet please contact the director, Kay Kuenzl-Stenerson at 920-426-5480 or kay.marie.ks@gmail.com. We are located in Peace Lutheran Church, 240 W. 9th Ave., Oshkosh, WI 54902.

Prep Sports Roundup

WRESTLING

Oshkosh West sends 10 wrestlers to sectionals

The Oshkosh West wrestling team had a good day Saturday, finishing third as a team while sending 10 to sectionals after competing in the Division 1 regional held in Slinger.

The Wildcats got two first-place finishes from 106-pounder Alec Hunter and Edgar Heredia at 170 pounds. Hunter won 10-1 in the title match over Slinger's Carter Ziebell while Heredia won 5-1 over West Bend West's Jason Dicesare.

Also advancing for West included Josh Coopman (120), Logan Grota (126), Reese Thompson (132), Henry Foust (138), Connor Collins (145), Kevin Loos (160), Blake Framke (182) and Andrew Kalfas (285).

Oshkosh North, which finished sixth, advanced three wrestlers to the sectional in Dalton Holmes, Cade Schmitz and Thomas Urben. Holmes was crowned champ at 152-pounds while Schmitz lost the third place match to finish fourth. Urben finished third.

Finishing second for the Wildcats was Thompson, Foust, Collins, Loos and Kalfas, Framke was third and Coopman and Grota all finished fourth.

Slinger won the day with 255 points, followed by Neenah (225) and the Wildcats (197.5). North finished with 85 points.

Lourdes sends three from team to sectionals

The Lourdes wrestling team went to the regional with only three wrestlers and all three advanced after participating in the Division 3 regional held at Laconia High School Saturday.

Camron Kelly (126) and Keagan Stelzer (195) brought home first-place finishes while Carson Krause lost the first-place match on a close 3-1 decision to finish second.

Lourdes was sixth out of seven teams despite only having three wrestlers, finishing with 69.5 points. Princeton won with 203.5 points.

GIRLS BASKETBALL

Appleton East downs Oshkosh West in FVA

The Oshkosh West girls basketball team had a tough time going against Apple-



PHOTO BY ALI OTT

Oshkosh West's Callista Rochon-Baker works under the basket against Appleton East in a home conference game Friday night.

ton East's full-court pressure, falling 69-41 in a Fox Valley Association game Friday.

Lead scorer for the Wildcats was Anelise Hammonds, who finished with eight points.

Appleton East was able to jump out to a 41-22 lead at halftime and then the Wildcats could only muster 19 points in the second as they had a tough time finding the bottom of the net.

Delaney Clark led Appleton East with 14 points while Lexie Schneider and Chelsey Van Gompel chipped in 12 and 10 points.

Callista Rochon-Baker and Kiersten McNulty each added six points in the loss for the Wildcats.

Spartans can't hang with No. 5 Appleton North

The Oshkosh North girls basketball team couldn't keep up with fifth-ranked Appleton North as the Lightning stormed out to a 30-point first half lead in a 73-31 win over the Spartans Friday night.

Ashley Wissink led North with 15 points while Nydia Griffin added six. Kari Brekke and Paige Schabo led Appleton North with 15 points a piece.

The Spartans will travel to face Neenah on Thursday night.

BOYS BASKETBALL

Spartans cruise to win over Appleton North

The Oshkosh North boys basketball team improved to 19-1 on the season with a 75-40 crushing win over Appleton North last Thursday in a Fox Valley Association game played in Appleton.

Quincy Anderson led North with 22 points while Tyrese Haliburton chipped in 14 points. Matt Berger had 12 points and added four rebounds for the Spartans while Gout Deng had nine points and five rebounds.

North recorded 21 steals in the win.

The Spartans will host Kaukauna in a pivotal FVA matchup Friday night. Both teams are 15-1 in the conference and with just a couple of games remaining, the winner could determine the league champ.

Kroll's 31 leads Wildcats over Appleton East

Derek Kroll had a huge night for the Oshkosh West boys basketball team, putting up 31 points as the Wildcats won 54-52 over Appleton East in a Fox Valley Association contest last Friday.

Karter Thomas added 10 points for West (9-11), which led by five at halftime. Luke Haasl and Riley Saginak added four points a piece in the win.

Appleton East was led by Mitchell Nowak, who had 18 points.

The Wildcats will face Fond du Lac Friday night.

Valley Christian Warriors fall 84-57 to Hustisford

The Valley Christian boys basketball team trailed by 22 in the first half and couldn't get that back in the second in a 84-57 loss at home last Thursday to Hustisford.

Dan Dunn led Valley Christian with 19 points while Yianni Giannopoulos and Ari Giannopoulos added 13 and 12, respectively.

Justin Kuehl had a big night for Hustisford, scoring 32 points.

BOYS HOCKEY

Ice Hawks shut out at home by Sheboygan

The Oshkosh boys hockey team failed to score a goal in a 3-0 loss to Sheboygan on Saturday.

The Red Raiders got two goals from Luke McKinch as they scored once in each period in the win.

Tyler Baumann had 42 saves in the loss for the Ice Hawks – who earned the 10 seed in the WIAA Tournament, which started Tuesday night with Oshkosh facing No. 7 Bay Port; results weren't available ahead of deadline.

SWIMMING

West's Groth earns bid to state tournament

The Oshkosh North/Lourdes and Oshkosh West boys swimming teams competed in the WIAA Division 1 sectional held at Neenah this past weekend, with the Wildcats finishing ninth out of 11 teams, and North/Lourdes ending up 10th.

Winners of each sectional event in Division 1, plus the next 18 fastest individuals/relay teams from all sectionals advance to state, which is this upcoming Saturday at the UW Natatorium in Madison.

Oshkosh West's Andrew Groth was the lone Oshkosh swimmer to win an event in Neenah – edging out Bay Port's Aaron Donovan by .07 seconds in the 200 free with a time of 1 minute, 46.46 seconds. He also made it to state in the 500 free after taking second – behind Donovan – in the 500 free with a time of 4:52.61.

Compiled by Alex Wolf,
Herald contributor

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Knights boys win easily vs. Wayland

By Charleigh Reinardy
HERALD CONTRIBUTOR

Wayland Academy showed up to Lourdes Academy on Thursday night with a strong defense and aggressive offense, but couldn't stand against the Knights, who won 81-44 in a Trailways-East Conference game.

Freshman Preston Ruedinger led the Knights with six 3-pointers and 20 points to end the night. To help back up Ruedinger, senior Connor Barfknecht scored 16 with one slam dunk to excite the crowd while playing tough defense all night.

"We come out here and play hard," Barfknecht said. "Getting plays like that (dunk) really hypes our team up. It feels good to show up and keep our winning streak open, but we still have three more. We have to finish this out, try going for the conference title and we have more in mind after that."

Throughout the game both teams were highly aggressive on both defense and offensive. Each team made it difficult for the other to make shots.

Wayland scored the first five points, but that was the biggest lead it would hold. Henry Noone was fouled and shot two,

Ruedinger answered with his first 3-pointer of the night to tie the score 5-5 and it was all Lourdes after that.

The Knights struggled to make shots early but gained shooting momentum after Ruedinger stole a ball and passed to Charlie Wolfgram for a layup. Ruedinger also stole the next Wayland possession that resulted in a layup for Benny Huizenga to make the score 14-11.

Lourdes continued to stretch out its lead and keep Wayland from scoring to take a 50-23 lead at the half.

The Knights continued to play tough defense in the second half to prevent any chance of a comeback for Wayland.

"Being a senior, you definitely hold a lot of responsibility," Barfknecht said. "Especially with a young team like we have, we have a lot of freshman. They (freshman) really look up to you, you have both the weight of your performance on your shoulders as well as how they do. How they play really revolves around how me and Dougie (Ryan) play. We have a big leadership responsibility."

Charlie Wolfgram added 12 points for Lourdes while Dougie Ryan added 11.

Michael Xie led Wayland with 17 points.



PHOTO BY CHARLEIGH REINARDY

Knights guard Benny Huizenga defends Wayland Academy's Michael Xie in a Thursday night game at Lourdes.



PHOTO BY ANDY RATCHMAN

Lourdes player tops 1,000

Lourdes Academy basketball player Alexis Rolph holds a trophy ball she received to commemorate her topping the 1,000-point mark in her high school career. The junior guard achieved the milestone Feb. 6 in a game against Horicon.

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Herd gets through tough stretch before NBA All-Star Break

Four-game losing streak tied to injuries, roster shift

By Ti Windisch
HERALD CONTRIBUTOR

The Wisconsin Herd lost all three of their games last week, extending a losing streak to four games in advance of the All-



OSHKOSH HERALD PHOTO

Bronson Koenig, former Wisconsin Badgers standout, was in Oshkosh on Friday night as a member of the Grand Rapids Drive in its win over the Wisconsin Herd. Koenig had 17 points and seven rebounds in the game.

Star Break. Herd players will have time to rest and refocus, as the team does not play again until Feb. 21.

Despite some strong individual performances, Wisconsin could not pull out wins in games against the Lakeland Magic, Grand Rapids Drive or Long Island Nets. The game against the Nets on Saturday was the closest, as the Herd lost by nine.

Injuries and roster moves made life difficult for Herd head coach Jordan Brady, as Cliff Alexander and Joel Bolomboy did not play at all during the week due to injuries. Xavier Munford was with the Milwaukee Bucks all week, likely because of injuries to Matthew Dellavedova and Malcolm Brogdon, and Marshall Plumlee and D.J. Wilson were with the Bucks at various times as well.

Brady said the break could not have come at a better time for this team, especially considering only eight players suited up for Saturday's game, which saw the Herd on a back-to-back taking on a well-rested Long Island team.

"You got to get away, you got to relax your mind, you got to relax your body," Brady said. "These guys have been giving it everything they've got. It's a really good time for them to just rest physically, rest mentally which is every bit as important as physical rest."

Herd forward Kyle Casey, who logged 40 minutes and scored 14 points on Saturday, agreed that the upcoming break was helpful to the Herd, and all of the G League.

"I think everyone in this league could use a break," Casey said. "It's a tough league, a lot of traveling, a lot of back-to-backs. We work really hard to get out there and pro-



OSHKOSH HERALD PHOTO

The Wisconsin Herd stayed in the game Saturday night against the Long Island Nets despite only having eight players available for their last game before the break.

duce so we could definitely use a break to recalibrate ourselves, and hopefully come back and get back on track and close the season out strong."

With Alexander, Bolomboy and Plumlee unavailable, Casey had to play minutes at center on Saturday, as well as next to Michael Dunigan as a forward. He said moving around positionally is just part of what he offers as a player.

"It's my role," Casey said. "I'm a versatile player, I embrace my role, it's something that coach trusts me to do, to play multiple positions. It's just my responsibility to step up and do my job at whatever position I'm at, whether that's five, three, guarding point, I can do it."

Saturday was a big night for JeQuan Lewis, who despite coming off the bench managed to score a season-high 32 points against Long Island. Lewis was quick to credit the coaching staff and the game plan for his offensive explosion after the game.

"It's more-so what coach needs me to do," Lewis said. "I'm one of those point guards who can do both, thank goodness, I can pass and I can score. I can get myself going when I need to and also get other players involved. When he needs me to get

players involved and get them going I can get them going, but if he needs me to be aggressive and score points I can do that."

After the Nets took a more than 20-point lead, it looked as though Saturday's game could turn into a blowout, but Wisconsin fought back to make things close in the fourth quarter. Even when the game looked out of reach in the last minute, Herd players continued to trap defensively and look for buckets on the offensive end.

Brady credited his team for not relenting all night or all season long, even in the midst of a tough stretch of games for Wisconsin.

"They play so hard, and I've said that all along, our guys always play hard," Brady said. "They did everything they could tonight. I rode guys really long minutes and they all stuck with it. They gave it every chance they had, and I'm really proud of them."

At 17-20, Wisconsin is now eighth in the G League Eastern Conference and third in the Central Division. With only six teams from each conference going to the postseason, the Herd will need a strong run after the break to get back into the playoff picture in their inaugural season.

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oshkosh-episcopal.org

Gymnastics results

Oshkosh Gymnastics Center level 3-10 teams competed Jan. 19-21 in Indianapolis at the Circle of Stars Gymnastics Invitational.

Level 3: MacKenzie Parrish placed 1st on vault (9.225), 1st on bars (9.6), 1st on beam (9.1), 1st on floor (9.5) and 1st All-Around with a score of 37.425 for Jr C. Cali Vroman placed 5th on vault (8.8), 4th on bars (9.2), 1st on beam (9.025), 4th on floor (9.1) and 3rd All-Around with a score of 36.125 for Sr B. Emma Rogers placed 2nd on vault (9.125), 2nd on bars (9.325), 1st on beam (9.225), 3rd on floor (9.05) and 2nd All-Around with a score of 36.725 for Jr B. Katherine Brenner placed 5th (T) on bars (8.9) and 5th on beam (8.4) for Jr A. Emily Syring placed 3rd on bars (9.225), 3rd (T) on beam (8.7), 5th (T) on floor (8.825) and 4th All-Around with a score of 35.650 for Sr A. The Level 3 team took 2nd place overall for the session.

Level 4: Greta Morris placed 3rd on vault (9.025) for Jr C. Sedona Wedell placed 1st on bars (9.325), 2nd (T) on beam (9.15), 1st on floor (9.15) and 2nd All-Around with a score of 36.350 for Sr B. Neva Schlies placed 1st on vault (9.025), 5th on bars (9.025), 1st on floor (9.075) and 1st All-Around with a score of 36.025 for Jr B. Aubryn Gudex placed 5th on floor (8.65) for Jr A. Bella Spatt placed 4th on beam (9.2), 5th on floor (8.9) and 4th All-Around with a score of 35.825 for Jr C. Katelyn Gatchell placed 4th on beam (9.1), 2nd (T) on floor (9.0) and 5th All-Around with a score of 35.625 for Sr B. Estella Marshall placed 3rd on beam (9.125) for Jr A. The Level 4 team took 3rd place overall for the session.

Level 6: Cecelia Brown placed 1st on vault (9.25), 1st on beam (9.3), 3rd on floor (9.35) and 2nd All-Around with a score of 36.300 for Sr A. Madison Johnson placed 4th on bars (8.675), 2nd on beam (9.15) and 5th All-Around with a score of 35.575 for Jr C. Tiana Loynes placed 5th (T) on vault (9.0), 4th (T) on bars (8.35) and 3rd All-Around with a score of 35.575 for Sr B. Elaine Nowicki placed 1st on vault (9.325), 5th on beam (9.2), 3rd (T) on floor (9.3) and 5th All-Around with a score of 35.525 for Sr B. Sarah Penzenstadler placed 4th (T) on bars (8.35) and 2nd (T) on beam (9.25) for Sr B. Brea Griffis placed 2nd (T) on beam (9.25) for Sr B. The Level 6 team took 5th place overall for the session.

Level 7: Samantha Lor placed 1st on vault (9.375), 2nd on floor (9.5) and 5th All-Around with a score of 35.875 for Jr C. Alex Budde placed 4th on vault (9.25) for age Jr. C. Audrey Brenner placed 2nd on vault (9.325), 5th on bars (9.025), 4th (T) on floor (9.425) and 4th All-Around with a score of 36.525 for age Jr C. Natasha Konop placed 4th (T) on floor (9.5) for age Jr A. Madeline Anderson placed 5th (T) on vault (9.1) for age Jr A. Edyn Marx placed 3rd (T) on vault (9.2), 4th on floor (9.325) and 4th All-Around with a score of 35.825 for age Sr A. Anna Otto placed 4th on beam (9.05) for age Jr C. The level 7 team took 5th place overall for the session.

Level 8: Taylor Emery placed 5th on vault (8.35), 5th on beam (8.625), 5th on floor (8.9) and 5th All-Around with a score of 33.875 for age Sr A. Gabrielle McGregor placed 4th on beam (8.65) for age Sr A. Hanna Reichenberger placed 5th on vault (8.15) for age Sr A. Trinity Schaefer placed 4th on beam (8.775) for age Sr B.

Level 9: Cambree Greidl placed 2nd on vault (8.475) and 2nd on floor (8.6) for Sr B. Rachel Hencke placed 5th on beam (8.15) for Sr A.
Level 10: Jenna Nelson placed 5th on bars (8.65) for Sr A.

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Business notes

Dr. Fadi Hussein from the **Aurora Transplant Team** has begun providing nephrology services in Oshkosh. Individuals that suffer from end-stage renal disease may need a kidney transplant for survival. The transplant process is one where the surgeons place a healthy donated kidney from either a recently deceased donor or a living donor into the recipient's body. More information about the clinic or transplant team is available at 920-303-8700.

Advertising agency **Candeo Creative** welcomed three new team members in January: **Chad Fulwiler** as account services director, **Colleen Bies** as traffic and finance manager, and **Cassie Murray** as media buyer. Fulwiler brings nearly 30 years of marketing, business development and leadership experience. Bies contracted with Candeo for several months before accepting a full-time position. Her prior work experience includes more than a decade of service and managerial experience with the U.S. and Wisconsin Army National Guard, several years as an accountant for a metal fabrication company and running her own business for nearly a decade. Murray was a regional marketing representative for Biolife Plasma Services for five years, along with several years of fundraising, event planning and managing volunteers for a nonprofit.

Engagements



Pouzar/Hansen

Bob and Diane Pouzar of Oshkosh are pleased to announce the engagement of their daughter Kristen to Chris Hansen, son of Mindy Hansen of Waupaca and the late Eric Hansen. Kristen is a 2008 graduate of UW-Oshkosh and is employed by Pacon Corp. in Appleton as a benefits coordinator. Chris is a 2013 graduate of Fox Valley Technical College after having served eight years in the U.S. Navy and is employed by Walker Forge in Clintonville as a design engineer. The couple is planning an October 2018 wedding.

Obituaries

Ada A. Chase

Ada A. Chase, age 95, passed away on Friday, February 9, 2018 at Bethel Home.



She was born to the late Gustav and Edith (Mansfield) Affeldt in Sugarbush, WI on August 23, 1922. She married Eugene Chase on July 31, 1943 and spent 30 years of marriage together until his passing in 1973; together they had two children. She spent her working career as a CNA at Bethel Home.

Ada is survived by her two children, Donna (Peter) Gillingham and James Chase; three grandchildren, Jamie Gillingham, James (Daisy) Chase, Kyle (Beth) Chase; and four great-grandchildren, Aiden, Liam, Sofia, and Eli Chase.

In addition to her parents and husband she is preceded in death by her eight siblings.

A celebration of Ada's life will be held at a later date.

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Back in the Day

Snapshots of Oshkosh history

Feb. 1, 1961

Open For Business: West End Pizza began doing business at 111 N. Sawyer Street next door to Nubs and Leroy's Service Station and across the street from Lourdes High School. West End owner John "Schnockeye" Neustifter started in the pizza business with his former business partner and friend, "Red" Lawler, in 1958 with The Pizza Parlor, 711 Oregon St. Neustifter went on to build his reputation for making one of the best pizzas in town. Lawler would also branch off and open his own successful business, Red's Pizza.

Source: "Yesterday In Oshkosh...My Hometown" by Randy R. Domer

Feb. 8, 1940

"Gone With The Wind" -

Oshkosh Premier: Cinema classic "Gone With The Wind" premiered at 8 pm at the Oshkosh Theater. The David O. Selznick production was filmed in Technicolor starring Clark Gable, Leslie Howard, Vivien Leigh and Olivia DeHavilland. The promotional ad stated, "This production WILL NOT be shown anywhere except at advanced prices...at least until 1941."

Nightly shows were \$1.10... matinees 75 cents. The Oshkosh Daily Northwestern reported on Feb. 9 the movie opened before a "good sized and thoroughly enraptured audience," who endured the four-hour-long event.

Source: Oshkosh Daily Northwestern, Feb. 8, 1940,

From the Winnebago County Historical and Archaeological Society



SUBMITTED PHOTO

Sturgeon success

Tom Radig of Oshkosh landed this 115-pound, 8-ounce sturgeon from Lake Winnebago during the first week of the spearing season. The 69.5-inch fish was registered Saturday morning at Jerry's Bar in Oshkosh. The first-week harvest from Lake Winnebago was considered low at 56 fish, with 68 from the upriver lakes.

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