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PHOTO BY MICHAEL COONEY

## Out of the gate

Oshkosh Marathon participants welcomed pleasant weather conditions Sunday for the marathon, half marathon and 5k races that started downtown and finished at the Leach Amphitheater. Dana Riederer, 36, of La Grange, Ill., won the 26.2-mile event with a time of 2:38:49, while Kaitlyn McDaniel, 23, of Kaukauna was top female finisher at 3:09:00. In the half marathon, Jason Ryf of Oshkosh (center in yellow jersey) won with a time of 1:15:06, with Madeline Krafka of Cary leading the women at 1:29:27. Joe Leschke of Oshkosh took the 5-kilometer event at 18:55, while Anika Nettekoven of Appleton was top female at 21:07. More details from all the races and age groups can be found at [www.dutriron.com](http://www.dutriron.com) under 2018 Results.

## Waite project to welcome all-day care

### Child Development Center looks to fill gaps for families

By Patty Brandl  
HERALD CONTRIBUTOR

Working parents could have one less concern when a new two-shift day care center opens in the summer of 2019.

The Common Council gave a unanimous thumbs up at its April 24 meeting to a facility that will help parents who work first- and second-shift jobs.

The Oshkosh Child Development Center is expected to start with 50 to 60 children from ages 6 weeks to 12 years, and about eight employees, but when fully developed could be expected to accommodate up to 210 children and as many as 25 employees, according to an April 18 report from City Planning Director Darryn Burich to the council.

Plans include the development of a gymnasium, an outdoor playground, a covered play area with sliding garage doors that can be used year-round, a kitchen and an art room. Hours of operation would

SEE **Waite child care** ON PAGE 9

# North students take classroom to community

## Refugee simulations get real for participants

By Amy Knoll-Owen  
HERALD CONTRIBUTOR

Students at Oshkosh North High School are turning classroom learning into community action thanks to a program designed to bolster students' soft skills and strengthen community engagement.

About 140 students are currently enrolled in the Communities program, which is split into two parts: Communities 1 for students in grades 9-10 and Communities 2 for grades 11-12.

Students must apply for the program, said program coordinator Julie Dumke. Because students participate in activities such as letter-writing campaigns, presenting in front of the Common Council and appearing on local television and radio programs, they have to be willing to go outside of their comfort zones.

"We want to create engaged citizens," said Dumke. "So you have to be willing to change the world a little bit."

The program helps provide students with a lasting understanding of the topics, said Rick Leib, a social studies instructor in Communities. The involvement within the broader Oshkosh community helps create knowledgeable and engaged citizens, further preparing students for life after high school.

"We have to give this generation a chance to show that they do care," said Leib. Before presenting in public, students

receive coaching from teachers in the Communities program and practice in front of teachers as well as their parents.

"They're very confident and they speak well and they've been practicing with knowledge checks, so before they go out and give their pitch, they know their stuff," said Dumke.

Communities 1 students recently participated in a refugee simulation that tied in with Leib's social studies class about the movement of people. He said the simulation helped the concepts come alive for students by illustrating the four central questions the class is studying: why people move, where they move to and from, how communities respond, and how governments affect the movement.



FONKEM

Leib said the simulation helped students see that refugees don't simply travel from their home country to the U.S. Instead, they pass through many countries to get to their final destination, a process called "step migration." The simulation also illustrated how dependent refugees are on chance. The students, said Leib, "were floored by that. It's just by — their name was called or whatever it might be."

Professor Michael Fonkem from the University of Wisconsin-Oshkosh facilitated the simulation, which he uses in his classes. Fonkem originally designed the simulation because Oshkosh receives a high number

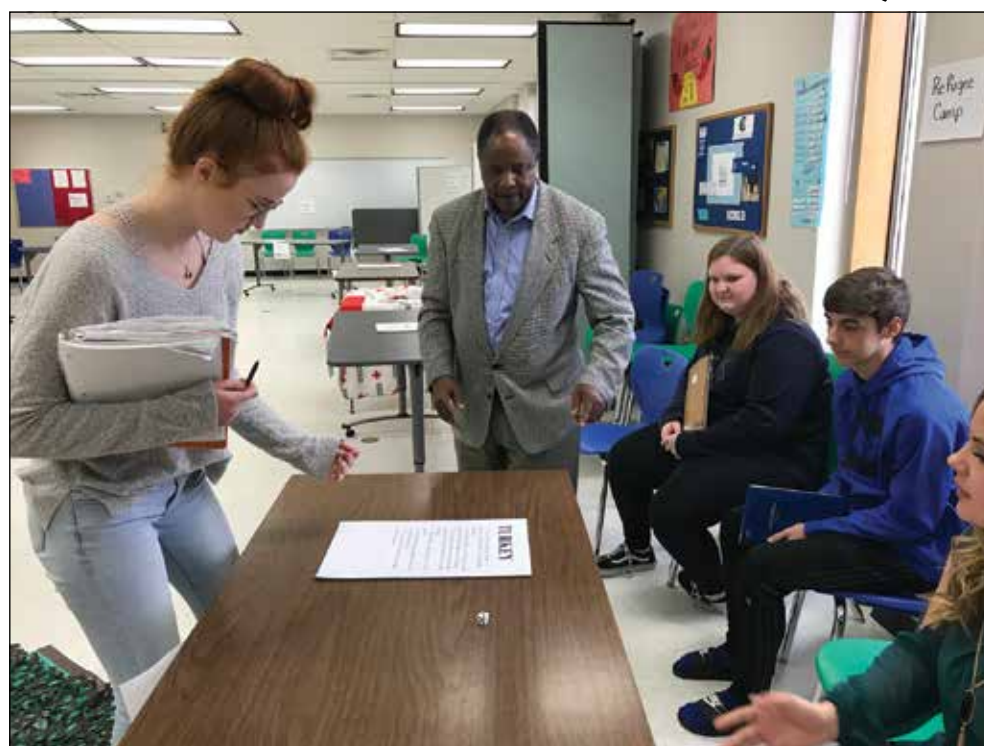


PHOTO BY JULIE DUMKE

UW-Oshkosh professor Michael Fonkem works with Oshkosh North students Hope Houts (from left), Vicki Krueger, Kyle Tierney and Alyssa Valdez on a refugee simulation project.

of refugees and he found that his students didn't know who refugees were, where they came from or why they were here.

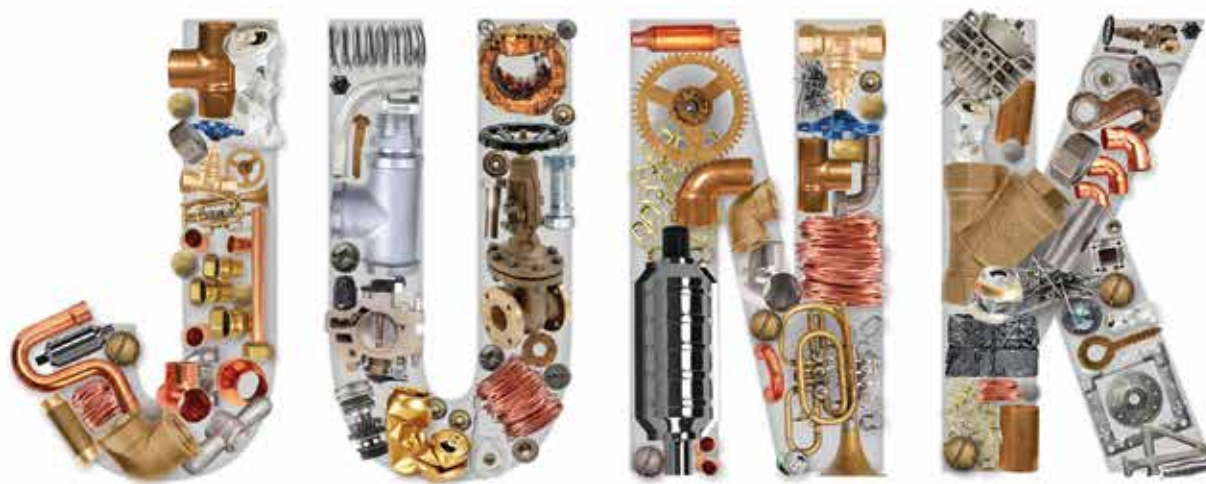
For the Communities simulation, Fonkem assigned each student the identity of an individual refugee from Syria. The ultimate goal was to make it to the United States. Students took turns rolling dice to move from country to country and determine outcomes along the way.

Emma Leib was one of the students who participated in the simulation and she

came the closest to the United States. Leib encountered a variety of challenges, including becoming indebted to smugglers and working off the debt, being forced into the sex trade, splitting up with her daughter, being denied entry into the U.S. in court, and walking across a border illegally. The simulation ended for Leib when she was blown up by a landmine.

The simulation helped her appreciate

SEE **Classroom** ON PAGE 4



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# Charges filed in UWO Foundation dealings

Oshkosh Herald

Criminal misconduct charges were filed last week against former University of Wisconsin-Oshkosh Chancellor Richard Wells and former Vice Chancellor of Administrative Services Thomas Sonnleitner related to the UW-Oshkosh Foundation's financial dealings and subsequent bankruptcy.

The state Department of Justice complaint contends Wells and Sonnleitner "knowingly made financial guarantees which were in excess of their authority and contrary to the Wisconsin Constitution and state law" regarding the foundation's separate and independent relationship with the university as a charitable institution.

The two are accused of improper transactions worth about \$11 million from 2010-2014 related to five real estate projects: the Premier Waterfront Hotel and Convention Center, biodigester structures in Rosendale and Oshkosh, the UW-Oshkosh Welcome and Alumni Conference Center, and the Oshkosh Sports Complex.

Both were ordered to make initial appearances June 11 in Winnebago County Circuit Court on five counts of misconduct in public office. Each of the felony charges carry fines up to \$10,000, three years and

six months in prison, or both.

Wells' attorney Ray Dall'Osto issued a statement last week on behalf of his client expressing disappointment with criminal charges being filed for loans and transactions intended to benefit the university through the foundation.

The DCI began investigating the financial relationship between the university and foundation in August 2016. Wells served as chancellor from October 2010 until August 2014 and was the direct supervisor of Sonnleitner, who was at the school from 2000 until February 2016.

In January 2017, the Board of Regents and UW System asked Justice officials to pursue civil charges against the two.

Foundation president Arthur Rathjen, who served from June 2006 until November 2016, and Wells signed an agreement between the university and foundation dated March 31, 2010, that in part laid out the legally independent nature of the relationship. It stated that the foundation would not act as an agent or official representative of the university, would follow state statute that requires all money collected by or on behalf of the state be separate from foundation funds, and any foundation obligations would not be those of the university or state.

The complaint points to Article VIII, Section 3 of the state Constitution that requires "the credit of the State shall never be given, or loaned, in aid of any individual, association or corporation." It says the five project ventures undertaken by the chancellor and vice chancellor were in the form of improper loan guarantees that implied the university's financial obligation.

"The Board took this unprecedented action because Dr. Wells and Mr. Sonnleitner failed to follow rules and statutes that govern university operations, and we are working diligently to rebuild confidence in our institutions and to improve the transparency of foundation transactions," Board of Regents Audit Committee chairman Michael M. Grebe said in a statement. "We

support these charges by DOJ, and will continue to seek justice in this case while serving students with integrity and transparency."

Current UW-Oshkosh Chancellor Andrew Leavitt issued a campus-wide statement in response to the charges.

"I know the circumstances surrounding this matter can be concerning for students, faculty, staff, alumni and university partners. However, together we will continue to exemplify resilience through stewardship," Leavitt said. "Together, we also continue to cultivate a campus culture of greater transparency and ethical behavior. UW-Oshkosh's many stakeholders share confidence and compassion as they see us putting our values into practice every day, fulfilling our honorable mission."

## New Oshkosh fire chief named

Mike Stanley, a commander with Aurora Fire Rescue in Aurora, Colo., was selected as the city's new fire chief by the Police and Fire Commission from among three finalists for the position.

"I am pleased with the Police and Fire Commission's decision to select Mike," City Manager Mark Rohloff said in a statement. "The commission and citizen panels recognized Mr. Stanley's proven record in fire and emergency response management, and his demonstrated commitment to the highest levels of community service."

Stanley has more than 20 years of emergency services experience, with more than 10 years as a supervisor and command-level officer. He has an associate degree from Red Rocks Community College, a bachelor's degree from Charter Oak State College, and a master's from Colorado State University. Stanley also earned designation as a chief fire officer from the Center for Public Safety Excellence, is currently an instructor for the National Fire Academy, and a certified instructor for the U.S. Department of Homeland Security.

As operations division commander, Stanley currently oversees the medical branch and all emergency medical services for the 400-member Aurora Fire Rescue Department.

The commission will formally swear in Stanley before his June 10 start date.



PHOTO BY TOM EKVALL

Teacher Erin Pletcher (from left), seniors Emma Dakoske and Annaka Lehman, teacher Scott Lanwehr and eighth-grader Alexandros Giannopoulos show their lake fly creation.

## Valley Christian artists captures lake fly buzz

By Tom Ekvall  
HERALD CONTRIBUTOR

Valley Christian School is one of 14 artist groups creating lake flies for a city project that will bring sculpted versions of the insects to the city May 5 at the Leach Amphitheater.

Erin Pletcher, one of two art teachers at the school, remarked that the school's lake fly Humblebug could be like the Pied Piper to lure the real flies away, saying it even has a voice piece in its mouth. Pletcher said fellow teacher Scott Landwehr deconstructed the insect, adding springs to the various pieces. The teachers added stained glass in the wings and students contributed to the painting.

The early May larvae hatch around Lake Winnebago forms dark clouds of the insects, also called chironomids or nonbiting midges, that the community endures and this year will be recognizing through art.

According to Alexa Naudziunas with the city Planning Services Department and coordinator of the project, all 14 lake fly sculptures will be on display at the Unity in Community Event at the Leach Amphitheater. They will be situated along the Riverwalk by the Fox River, Opera House

Square, Menominee Park Zoo and some private properties.

Those attending the Unity in Community Event will be able to vote on their favorite sculpture that will earn \$500 for the winning artist. The project will also be donating \$1,000 to the Oshkosh Area School District arts program for supplies and resources, Naudziunas said.

Other artist groups include Oshkosh West High School, Merrill Middle School, Evergreen Retirement Community and other local artists.

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PHOTO BY TOM EKVAL

The Rusch Park trailway runs along portions of the Sawyer Creek neighborhood.

## Rusch Park trail lighting still an issue for neighbors

By Tom Ekvall  
HERALD CONTRIBUTOR

Plans for development of Rusch Park in the Sawyer Creek neighborhood on Oshkosh's west side with street lighting along the trailway will be presented to the Parks Advisory Board at its May 14 meeting at 6 pm.

John Kneer, president of Rettler Corp., the planning firm drafting the master plan for the Rusch/Sawyer Creek Park, told those at a neighborhood meeting that he intended to leave the street lighting in the plan but said that his organization would continue to work with neighborhood residents over design of the lighting.

Many of those attending the April 25 meeting in the Carl Traeger Elementary cafeteria expressed opposition to the lighting being considered, noting it would also reflect on their properties. They also spoke out at two previous meetings noting they were not aware of the Polco survey to vote on the proposal.

Kneer said the city, through the web-based Polco online instrument, asked whether there should be street lighting, with 76 percent of those responding "yes" and 24 percent against it.

That comment brought questions about whether those responding were from the immediate neighborhood or elsewhere in the area.

The Polco survey also asked whether there should be outdoor exercise equipment, with 51 percent responding "yes" and 49 percent "no." Kneer said the master

plan will include use of such equipment.

While the Sawyer Creek Neighborhood Association had requested preparation of a master plan for the park, the concept of lighted parking has continued to divide the neighborhood. The association has also been active in promoting removal of buckthorn and other invasive species in the park area.

Kneer encouraged residents to work in cooperation with city staff to plan for park improvements in the future.

"This is a concept plan and we would like your input," he said, noting that the master plan is a "guiding document."

The plan will also include improvements to the northern sector at the entrance at Ruschville and Oakwood, planted buffer screening on the north side, trail development throughout the park, and boardwalk area improvements.

The police department has said that street lighting will assist with their patrol of the area for illegal activity.

Once the Parks Advisory Board acts on the master plan, it will go before the Planning Commission and Common Council for approval.

Chad Dallman, assistant parks director, said that there is no timetable for when park improvements will take place, other than getting rid of the buckthorn now. He said the park is a "passive area" with nature playing a prominent role. The master plan, he added, will not include cost estimates.

## Passport Day offers easier access, help at Post Office

The Oshkosh Post Office will host a Passport Day event from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. May 12 at its main office at 1025 W. 20th Ave.

"This is a great opportunity for Oshkosh residents planning to travel outside the United States to apply for a passport without making a reservation," said customer service supervisor Lori Beckler.

In addition to the passport book, travelers can also apply for a passport card, which can be used for land and sea travel between the United States and Canada, Mexico, Bermuda or the Caribbean region. The card is a less expensive alternative for those who travel to these destinations but not available for air travel.

To apply for a book or card for the first time, applicants need proof of U.S. citizenship in the form of their birth certificate issued by the city, county or state, or a certificate of citizenship or a naturalization

certificate. Applicants will also need a valid form of photo identification, and must submit a photocopy of that identification, such as a current valid driver's license, government ID or military photo ID. There will be passport photo service available.

For first-time applicants, the fee for a passport book is \$110 to the Department of State with an acceptance fee of \$35 to the Postal Service. The fee for an adult passport card is \$30. An expedited process is available for an additional fee.

Passport applications for both the book and card require a 2-by-2-inch color photo, which can be taken on site for \$15. The fee for minors under age 16 is \$80 for a passport book and \$15 for the card. Parents applying for children must both be present along with the child.

Customers can learn more about application costs and save time by downloading forms at [www.usps.com/passport](http://www.usps.com/passport).

## Classroom

FROM PAGE 1

how minor her daily challenges are compared to the challenges that refugees face.

"Most of the time they don't even get to their final destination, where they want to be," said Leib.

It also helped Leib see the refugees in her school in a new light. "It makes you realize it's kind of like a miracle. You appreciate them more because you realize all that they've been through."

One of the refugees, Praise Mugisha, also went through the simulation. Mugisha was born in Uganda and has been in the country for a little more than two years. He said the simulation helped show students the struggles for a refugee trying to get to another country and also helped them understand the frustrations involved. "The simulation gave them a way, an explanation, what is it like," he said.

Mugisha's identity for the simulation was that of an 8-year-old child, and together with the students assigned as his family members, he traveled from Syria to Turkey and back again before landing in Austria. Mugisha said his family experienced this in real life as they fled from war in their home country of Congo, then subsequently from wars in Rwanda, Burundi and Congo again. Eventually, they entered Uganda as refugees and began the process of applying to go to the U.S.

They began that process in 1999 and arrived in the U.S. in 2015. The simulation highlighted the amount of time it takes for refugees to reach their final destination, but with a significant difference.

"The refugee simulation, it's just minutes, but in real life it's years," said Mugisha.

To connect the classroom learning with the Oshkosh community, the students are promoting Unity in Community Day on May 5 and is designed to celebrate diversity. Dumke said students are creating posters, appearing on local television and radio programs, and partnering with elementary schools to encourage students to attend.

Promoting Unity in Community Day, said Rick Leib, pushes students even further in their understanding. "All of the learning activities, like the simulation, give the kids a general understanding and help them feel it and express it, or understand it a little more, so when they use it in front of an authentic audience, it has some power to it," he said.

And community engagement, said Leib, helps students take learning beyond the classroom.

"When these students walk away, my hope as a social studies teacher is that we have a better shot of the must-knows," he said. "That they're enduring."

Unity in Community Day is at Leach Amphitheater from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. May 5. More about the event is on their Facebook page Unity in Community: The Oshkosh Way, Twitter @uicoshkosh, or Instagram at uic\_oshkosh.



PHOTO BY TOM EKVAL

## Aviation advice

Afron Turriza of Oshkosh (left) was among Aviation Job Fair attendees at the Fox Valley Technical College's Spanbauer Center on Saturday meeting with Jordan Miller, a pilot and first officer for United Express. Turriza is majoring in aircraft mechanics at the Spanbauer Center, which hosted its second annual aviation career days with 26 companies represented. The college offers three aviation curricula on pilot training, airframe and power plant mechanics and aircraft electronics. Companies attending included airlines, aircraft manufacturers and service industries, and military interests.

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# Pageant with a purpose inspires participants

## Uniquely You's young founder keys on life skills

By Dan Roherty  
OSHKOSH HERALD

Hailey Herbst was all of 15 when she saw the opportunity to combine her two passions into one inclusive program.

The former contestant in the National American Miss pageant and recent Oshkosh North graduate founded Uniquely You Pageants in 2015 to create an organization for individuals with disabilities.



HERBST

Growing up with a brother and step-brother with special needs, Herbst saw firsthand how encouragement of growth and skills raises self-esteem. With the help of her family and many volunteers, the first Uniquely You Pageant was held Aug. 6, 2016, in Fond du Lac. It moved to Oshkosh North High School last year and returns there June 9.

"While being a girl from the pageant world, I have competed in National American Miss for five years now and since then, I have become so confident in myself that I wanted to create an organization that al-

lowed others to grow, just as I have," Herbst said.

Herbst's parents, Michele and Matthew Barnes, helped back the initial effort. As the organization has grown, local businesses and individuals have contributed time and resources to ensure its momentum. "We knew it was a really incredible opportunity for her," Michele said.

Herbst's pageant has helped a growing number of contestants and their families raise their self-confidence and build life skills. The experience has allowed some to expand their talents into other ventures such as dancing in "The Nutcracker" at the Paine Art Center, joining a traveling dance team and modeling.

Features of the pageant that set it apart from similar competitions are the male and female categories, a wider age limit and requirement of an interview event to focus on communications skills.

She said more than \$3,500 has been raised and donated equally to the Autism Society of the Fox Valley, Bridge the Gap, Covey and Special Olympics.

There is no entry fee for contestants; they are asked to donate at least five school supply items, which are packaged for students in need. One of those efforts went to Hurricane Harvey victims in Houston.

"We have contestants come from all over Wisconsin, but half of our contestants live here in Oshkosh," she said. "We have

vendors, advertisers and patrons that also live here in town."

Herbst said one of the most important changes has been the focus of competition. Initially, the required events were community service, fun fashion and formal wear.

"As we got to know the contestants and their families, we realized they had a voice to share and the ability to strengthen their communication skills," she said. "We decided it would be more beneficial to the contestants to have the focus be on interview, community service and formal wear." Optional events include personal introduction, talent and fun fashion.

Another change since the first pageant has been the addition of a prep day, which includes an interview workshop, confidence building and stage presence tips. That is offered from 6 to 8 p.m. June 8 a day before the pageant. There were 17 contestants at the first event and 21 last year.

Proceeds from admissions and other related fundraising are given to regional organizations that specialize in special needs. Herbst said a friend of the family donated T-shirts for volunteers and contestants, as well as gift cards for the winners. Prizes and other contestant gifts also are donated.

Tickets for the 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. event are available at the door, \$10 for adults and \$7 for children ages 12 and under. For more information to participate as a contestant, volunteer, vendor or in the advertising pro-

gram, contact [uniquelyyou2015@yahoo.com](mailto:uniquelyyou2015@yahoo.com), the organization's Facebook page or at 920-203-9905. Registration deadline is May 9.

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# Community events

## Ongoing events

Masterpieces of the Valley, Paine Art Center and Gardens, 1410 Algoma Blvd.

REPLAY!, Oshkosh Public Museum, 1331 Algoma Blvd.

### May 3

Independent Racket Night, 7:30 p.m., O'Marro's Public House, 2211 Oregon St.

### May 4

Glacier Dental Blood Drive, 9 a.m., Glacier Dental, 720 Congress Ave.

WHBA Spring Parade of Homes, 5 p.m., Winnebago County

Big Brothers Big Sisters Bowl for Kids' Sake, 6 p.m., Shore View Lanes, 1823 Grove St.

Mother's Day Pancake and Pajama Party, 6 p.m., Oshkosh Community YMCA, 20th Ave.

Steve March-Torme and Musical Friends, 7:30 p.m., The Grand Oshkosh, 100 High Ave.

Comedy Improv Show, 9 p.m., Backlot Comedy House, 424 N. Main St.

### May 5

Oshkosh Bird Fest, 6 a.m., Menominee Park, 520 Pratt Trail

The Amazing Oshkosh, 8 a.m., Oshkosh.

Khaos-Kon 2018, 9 a.m., Oshkosh Convention Center, 2 N. Main St.

BikeOsh 2018, 10 a.m., Oshkosh Seniors Center, 200 N. Campbell Road

African Violet Show and Sale, 10 a.m., St. Jude Church, 1025 W. 5th Ave.

Yoga'Rita and live music, 10 a.m., Algoma Club, 103 Algoma Blvd.

WHBA Spring Parade of Homes, 11 a.m., Winnebago County

Unity in Community Day, 11 a.m., Leach Amphitheater, 303 Ceape Ave.

The Hatching: Lake Fly Community Art Project, 11 a.m. Leach Amphitheater, 303 Ceape Ave.

Big Brothers Big Sisters Bowl for Kids' Sake, 1 p.m., Shore View Lanes, 1823 Grove St.

Oshkosh Gallery Walk, 6 p.m., Downtown

Bird Fest Under the Dome, 6 p.m., Oshkosh Public Library, 106 Washington Ave.

For Love of Country: Sawyer Brown and Craig Morgan, 7:30 p.m., Menominee Nation Arena

Comedy Improv Show, 9 p.m., Backlot Comedy House, 424 N. Main St.

### May 6

WHBA Spring Parade of Homes, 11 a.m., Winnebago County

African Violet Show and Sale, 11:30 a.m., St. Jude Church, 1025 W. 5th Ave.

### May 9

Oshkosh Bike Rodeo, 4 p.m., Kolf Sports Center, 785 High Ave.

### May 10

Women in Management, 11:30 a.m., La Sure's Banquet Hall, 3125 S. Washburn St.

WHBA Spring Parade of Homes, 5 p.m., Winnebago County

### May 11

WHBA Spring Parade of Homes, 5 p.m., Winnebago County

Comedy Improv Show, 9 p.m., Backlot Comedy House, 424 N. Main St.

### May 12

WHBA Spring Parade of Homes, 11 a.m., Winnebago County

Comedy Improv Show, 9 p.m., Backlot Comedy House, 424 N. Main St.



SUBMITTED PHOTO

Oshkosh Area School District named its 2017-18 Employees of the Year. They include (from left) Lindsay Hermsen, Meghan Neveau, Ruth Cottrell, James Pollack, Deborah Hilscher, Juston Wara, Marlene Gundlach and Samantha Cucci.

## School district honors eight special employees

Eight Oshkosh Area School District employees were recognized for exceptional service and commitment to the district, students and school communities for 2017-2018.

Elementary school employees of the year are Lindsay Hermsen, fifth-grade teacher at Washington Elementary School; and Meghan Neveau, instructional support teacher at Read Elementary School.

Secondary school honors went to Deborah Hilscher, science teacher at Carl Traeger Middle School; and Juston Wara, physical education teacher at Merrill Middle School.

Administrator of the year is Marlene Gundlach, principal at Smith Elementary School.

First-Year Teacher of the Year honors went to Samantha Cucci, a math teacher at Oshkosh North High School.

Support staff employees honored were

Ruth Cottrell, cross-categorical paraprofessional at Roosevelt Elementary; and James Pollack, building custodian at Jefferson Elementary.

"We have extraordinary educators and staff members throughout our district," stated Stan Mack, superintendent of schools. "These employees are deeply committed, talented and hard-working, and I am not only grateful for all that they do but I am also honored to work alongside them."

Members of the district leadership team notified award recipients April 11 during surprise visits to schools and classrooms.

A recognition ceremony and reception took place April 25 and the award recipients were also recognized during the Board of Education meeting.

Details of each employee's impact in the district and excerpts from their nomination can be found on the OASD website.

## Robotics team finishes in top 20 of world competition

The Oshkosh FIRST Wave Robotics team finished in the top 20 of more than 400 teams competing at the world champi-

onships in Detroit last weekend. Organizers said the group just missed out on making the top 10 finalists list.

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# Jefferson, Smith schools recognized by state DPI

Oshkosh's Jefferson and Smith elementary schools have been recognized as 2018 Title I Schools of Recognition by the state Department of Public Instruction in its Beating the Odds and High-Progress categories, respectively.

The awards praise the efforts of students, families, teachers, school administrators and staff to break the link between poverty and low academic achievement.

"The Oshkosh Area School District is committed to providing the best educational opportunities for families of all income levels," stated Stan Mack, superintendent of schools. "This recognition is a testament to the outstanding work of our educators and administrators and their ability to transform the lives of students and entire families throughout our community."

Jefferson Elementary School is in the top 25 percent of high-poverty schools in the state and has above-average student achievement. The school offers an environment where all students and parents are welcome.

"Each and every day we educate and inspire all students to achieve their full potential," stated Rhonda Buchanan, principal at Jefferson. "Our dedicated staff members work together, with each other, students and families, to give our students

the support they need. I am so proud of the entire Jefferson community and am excited to continue to work together to support our students."

Smith Elementary School is among the top 10 percent of high-poverty schools in the state and is making the most progress in improving student achievement. Learning at Smith is a cooperative effort between parents and teachers, with the focus on the learner.

"Our school community is made up of an outstanding staff, hard-working and goal-oriented students, and many caring families," stated Marcie Gundlach, principal at Smith. "This recognition demonstrates the growth mindset that has been instilled in each of our students and the progress they have made. I'm grateful for the commitment our entire school community has made to ensuring that all students rise to the challenge and surpass expectations."

The Title I Schools of Recognition includes 135 schools in the state. All receive federal Title I funding to provide services to high numbers or high percentages of economically disadvantaged families. The schools will be honored during a May 21 ceremony at the state Capitol and each school will receive a plaque recognizing their achievements.

# Khaos-Kon convention an all-day event

The second annual Khaos-Kon, a board game and miniatures convention, returns May 5 to the Best Western Premier Waterfront Hotel and Convention Center with expanded gaming events.

Khaos-Kon features board games, collectible card games, tabletop miniatures, demos of new releases, and role-playing events for all skill levels. Competitive tournaments will be running throughout the day.

Khaos-Kon will have a Play to Win section where attendees can try out different board games and enter a raffle to win them. There will be role-playing demonstrations with participants able to fight each other with padded foam swords. In the evening, there will be a Bizarre Bazaar for trading games and collectible items.

The convention runs from 9 a.m. to 10 p.m., and entry is free after 6 p.m.

# Literacy Council needs volunteer tutors

The Winnebago County Literacy Council (WCLC) is seeking volunteer tutors to help with a growing list of adult and adolescent learners who want to improve their literacy skills. The tutoring commitment is a minimum of an hour, once a week.

The new-volunteer orientation will include information about the WCLC, as well as training to understand the different types of learners, tutoring basics and cultural considerations. These points of discussion prepare tutors to be learner-centered and matched with a learner quickly.

The next orientation will take place on the third floor of the Oshkosh Public Library from 5 to 7 p.m. May 8.

Interested volunteers may register by contacting education coordinator Julia Frasca at [frasca@winlit.org](mailto:frasca@winlit.org) or at 920-236-5219, ext. 4830.

# Conservation poster winner named

Seven-year-old Marit Lettau, daughter of Chris and Gretchen Lettau, has won the 2018 State Conservation Poster Contest for grades K-1. Marit is a first-grader at Clayton Elementary School. The contest theme was "Watersheds: Our Water, Our Home." The poster won the county, regional and state contests and will be representing Wisconsin at the National Poster Contest in December.

Marit was presented with her awards and prize at the April 5 Winnebago County Land Conservation Committee meeting.

# Fundraiser

Lourdes Academy's Spring Craft Fair and the Booster Club's Flower Sale will be held from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. May 12 at the school on 110 N. Sawyer St.



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## Business briefs

**Denise Parrish**, vice president for patient care services at **Ascension Mercy Hospital**, has assumed a broader role of chief administrative officer and vice president of patient care. Parrish has worked at Ascension Mercy since 1997 in many capacities, initially as a certified nursing assistant, then registered nurse, manager of nursing units, interim director of operations and director of acute care. She has worked as an instructional academic staff at the College of Nursing at the University of Wisconsin-Oshkosh. She received her bachelor's and master's of science degrees in nursing from UW-Oshkosh.

**Partnership Community Health Center** is now offering primary care at its Oshkosh dental location at 2310 Westowne Ave. An open house is planned from noon

to 3 p.m. May 4 to tour the facility, meet the team and learn about services. Light refreshments will be served.

The **Oshkosh Corporation School to Work Program** will launch this fall and the enrollment process is open until May 31. An informational meeting for students and parents will be from 6 to 7 p.m. May 7 at Fox Valley Technical College's Riverside Campus, Room 204. Eligible students must be entering their junior year of high school in fall.

Sheet metal fabricator **Muza Metal Products** of Oshkosh celebrated 90 years in business with an open house April 8 for employees and their families, where tours were given through one of the company's four facilities within the Murdock Avenue campus. Muza held a similar event April 9 for customers, suppliers, local leaders and city officials.

The **Oshkosh Area Humane Society** has been awarded a grant from the American Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals to assist in supporting a full-time veterinarian position. OAHNS Executive Director Joni Geiger said a major benefit of having an onsite veterinarian will be the ability to get more animals adopted faster. The job listing can be found at [www.oahns.org](http://www.oahns.org).

## Oshkosh Violet Society presents annual show

The Oshkosh Violet Society will hold its 38th annual African Violet Show and Sale from 10 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. May 5 and 11:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. May 6 at the parish hall of St. Jude the Apostle Church, 531 Knapp St.

According to club president Kevin Degner, the annual event is a showcase of magnificent plants grown by members and others who bring entries to the show. Plants will be judged on their merit by judges trained and recognized by the African Violet Society of America (AVSA), based in Beaumont, Texas. Ribbons will be awarded on respective characteristics such as foliage, blossom, symmetry and other qualities as set forth in AVSA guidelines.

## Fire sparks white mess in area, deemed harmless

Oshkosh Herald

Fire Department officials followed up on their response to an April 23 fire at the A.P. Nonweiler plant in north Oshkosh to assure residents that an oxide mineral in the building that mixed with the water used to put out the fire is not a threat to residents or aquatic life.

Water from the building's sprinkler system, which helped contain the fire until crews were able to extinguish it, reportedly made initial contact with titanium dioxide stored there. The mineral, used as a white pigment for paint and other products, dispersed outside with the water flow and into nearby waterways as a visible white residue that concerned neighbors.

"It was quite a mess, but it looked worse than it actually was," the department stated on its Facebook page.

Firefighters responded to A.P. Nonweiler on County A at 6:08 p.m. April 23 where heavy smoke and flames were seen in the building. Employees had been safely evacuated and there were no injuries. Officials said the fire was started by static electricity igniting toluene, a liquid solvent, being transferred into a mixing tank.

Titanium dioxide, also used in toothpaste, sunscreen and some food products like chewing gum, is generally recognized as environmentally safe to humans and aquatic creatures.

The mineral is water soluble and subsequently doesn't travel far and either dissolves or sinks, then dissolves. Waterways around the spill have been monitored by the Fire Department and state Department of Natural Resources with meters that have measured zero parts per million of the mineral.

Fire officials said the white foam people are seeing on some shorelines is a decaying algae that shows up at ice-out most years and was present before the spill, and said that some of the dead fish reported by residents near the area could be associated with the ice-out.

The DNR said biologists are further investigating the cause of dead sheepshead or drum fish that have been seen along the shoreline and in the lake. "While some fish mortality is common right after ice-out, due primarily to low oxygen levels caused by decaying organic material, the larger-than-usual die-off of sheepshead could be the result of another cause, possibly bacteriological or viral," the DNR said in a statement.

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## Community news briefs

### Schmid-Schultz named to head Farmers Markets

Michelle Schmid-Schultz, owner of Glacier Ridge Animal Farm, has been selected to transition into the role of manager of the Oshkosh Farmers Markets.

"I am proud and excited to be given the opportunity to be a part of such a fabulous community event," Schmid-Schultz said in a statement.

She has served on the Oshkosh Saturday Farmers Market (OSFMI) board of directors, managed the Community Outreach booths and was instrumental in launching the OSFMI-Winter as a market volunteer.

She and her husband own Glacier Ridge, which is home to the Glacier Ridge bison, and has been an active and supportive vendor of the OSFMI for nine years.

"After an extensive search the board of directors is delighted with the selection of Michelle as our new market manager. Michelle has the experience, passion and commitment needed to continue making the Oshkosh Farmers Markets a dynamic community event that brings people and 'buy local' together," board chairman Michael Cooney said.

Schmid-Schultz will be working with outgoing managers Dennis and Karlene Leatherman, who are retiring after 13 years of service to the market.

### Opening of inland fishing season this weekend

Opening day of the 2018 regular inland fishing season is May 5, and licenses are available through Go Wild, DNR Service Centers or Oshkosh sales locations.

Wisconsin residents and nonresidents 16 and older need a license to fish in state waters. Residents born before Jan. 1, 1927, do not need a license and resident members of the U.S. Armed Forces on active duty are entitled to a free license when on furlough or leave.

Anglers who have never purchased a license, or in the last 10 years, can get a discounted first-time buyers license at <http://dnr.wi.gov/permits/firsttimebuyers.html>.

Oshkosh sales locations include Air BP, 1585 W. 20th Ave.; Dick's Sporting Goods, 1015 N. Washburn St.; DNR Oshkosh Service Center, 625 E. County Y; Fish Tales, 4050 County A; Gehrkes Marine, 1102 N. Main St.; Hergert Sport Center, 1232 N. Sawyer St.; Jon's Sport Shop, 2968 Jackson Drive; Mills Fleet Farm, 177 N. Washburn Road; Rymers Lakeshore Mart, 7893 U.S. 45; Serv U Beverage Mart, 2531 Omro Road; and Walmart, 351 S. Washburn St.

### One-ways altered for Court St. reconstruction

Road construction on Court Street south of Ceape Avenue has prompted a change in traffic patterns in that area that makes Ceape, Otter and Waugoo avenues two-way streets to accommodate the work and provide local and business access.

Ceape has two-way traffic until the intersection of Court and Ceape is completed by early June. Otter and Waugoo avenues from State Street to Broad Street will be two-way through October.

The project includes reconstruction of Court Street from the Fox River to Washington Avenue, Otter from State to Broad, and Washington Avenue from Main Street to Broad. Utility work involves State from Otter to Waugoo. The State Street parking lot will be resurfaced and the Otter Street parking lot reconstructed.

## UW-Oshkosh Model UN team keeps winning

Continuing its winning streak, the University of Wisconsin-Oshkosh Model United Nations team won Outstanding Delegation Awards at National Model United Nations. It was the 34th consecutive year that UW-Oshkosh won Outstanding Delegation Awards, the highest award at the competition.

UW-Oshkosh received two Outstanding Delegation awards, winning with both of the countries it represented, making it the seventh consecutive year UW-Oshkosh students won two Outstanding Delegation Awards while representing two countries.

Only three universities from among the 136 universities participating won two Outstanding Delegation awards in 2018. UW-Oshkosh students represented the African nation of Equatorial Guinea and the Pacific island nation of Brunei Darussalam at the competition held in late March at UN Headquarters in New York.

In addition to the team awards, UW-Oshkosh students were named Outstanding Delegates in their committees by vote of the participating students in two committees, and also won five position paper awards.

The 2018 competition involved more than 6,500 student competitors from 180 universities in 48 countries on six continents. Participants are judged on their diplomatic and negotiating skills, ability to write accurate legal documents that embody the agreements reached, accuracy with which they represented their respective nations, knowledge of global issues, familiarity with the UN system and their speaking ability.

### UW-Oshkosh honored for Radio TV Film work

Radio TV Film students at the University of Wisconsin-Oshkosh earned honors for their media productions with awards from two competitions in April.

At the Broadcast Education Association's Festival of Media Arts on April 10 in Las Vegas, Pafoua Yang took third place for her radio news spot on American Airlines adding Appleton to its route schedule. For video studio program/multi-camera or live-to-tape, third place went to "Cole and Claudia's Christmas Show," a black and white program done as an homage to the network TV holiday specials of the 1950s and 1960s. Cole Boettcher, Claudia Blair, Tess Kraly and Alex Wright were producers.

UW-Oshkosh's WRST-FM garnered five awards from the Midwest Broadcast Journalists at its April 14 conference in Bloomington, Minn. The station took first place for radio newscast anchored by Emma Resop and featuring a report by Gary Dodge. WRST also took first place in sports programming for "Oshkosh Sports Saturday" hosted by Hunter Magdanz and Jordan Fremstad.

WRST took another first place for the live broadcast of the NCAA football semifinal between UW-Oshkosh and the University of Mount Union, by Hunter Magdanz and Alex Loroff. An award of merit went to Magdanz and Nicholas Bode for their live broadcast of the UW-Oshkosh vs. UW-Whitewater football matchup. The station also took an award of merit for sports reporting for a news spot by Yang on concussion insurance available to high school athletes.

In the professional competition, director of radio services Randall Davidson took three awards for a long-form feature on the history of pro basketball in Oshkosh. Davidson took first place for best broadcast writing and best soft feature and an award of merit in sports reporting.



A Planning Department rendering shows the proposed Oshkosh Child Development Center at the Waite Rug redevelopment project.

## Waite child care

FROM PAGE 1

be from 5:30 a.m. to 11:30 p.m. Monday through Friday.

"There's been a great need for this in our community," Burich said. "It's definitely something that will fill the gap."

Ty Gerber, owner of Gerber Child Development Center in Menasha, will be director of the center. Oshkosh/Winnebago County Housing Authority owns the property, and Gerber will lease it. It's a collaborative effort, said Housing Authority Executive Director Sue Van Houwelingen, who has wanted to do a project like this for the community since she became director four years ago.

There's no question as to the need for the day care facility, she said, and the outcome will be two-fold: Not only will it provide child care from early morning to late at night for parents who work jobs in industries like retail, factories and restaurants, but because Gerber is licensed to teach, the center will provide an opportunity for interested residents to receive hands-on training to become licensed providers.

Van Houwelingen said parents who decide to become certified day care providers through the center will receive discounted child care. The licensing program and day care jobs will help those in it to become more self-sufficient.

"We're hoping to get students from Fox Valley Technical College and the University of Wisconsin-Oshkosh to work there during the evenings," she said, noting that



VAN HOUWELINGEN

students would have time to study when children are sleeping later at night.

The new day care is part of the redevelopment of the Waite Grass Carpet property and situated in the western portion of the building. Built in 1910 at 223 E. Nevada Ave. and listed on the Wisconsin Register of Historic Places, the Waite Rug site became home to Lenox Candle Factory in 1966. The first phase of the project included 56 one- and two-bedroom affordable housing units. Additional site improvements will include parking lots, storage units and landscaping with an outdoor picnic area.

Van Houwelingen said she expects that some elderly residents would be among those who rent units in the housing portion of the property, and they might be able to fill "grandparenting" day care roles.

Plans call for families to pay for child care according to income levels. The goal is to keep the cost affordable, not just for those whose income falls far below the Federal Poverty Level, but also for those families who fall into a financial "gap" where earnings are too high to qualify for assistance but are often too low to afford some basic needs.

Funding for the center will come from a mix of private donors and a variety of local, state and federal grants.

"We have a few possible financial resources, and we're always open to more," Van Houwelingen said. "We're reaching out for grants in any way, shape or form."

The logo for the child care center will incorporate the idea of "sun to moon," referring to the 18 hours per day that trained and licensed staff will care for the community's most precious residents.

"It's going to be so much fun," Van Houwelingen said. "I'm very passionate, and we're all very excited about the new day care center."

## Job fair coming to arena May 8

The Oshkosh Area Employment and Resource Fair is set from 1 to 4 p.m. May 8 at the Menominee Nation Arena with at least 95 employers registered and looking to fill a variety of full-time, part-time, seasonal and apprenticeship roles.

Some employers will offer on-site interviews, while technical colleges and eight job service partners will have information about training opportunities and work search assistance. No preregistration is required. More information can be found at [www.fvwdb.com](http://www.fvwdb.com).

The annual fair is a collaborative effort of the Fox Valley Workforce Development Board, Oshkosh Chamber of Commerce, Fox Valley Technical College, Greater Os-

hosh Economic Development Corp., state Department of Workforce Development and Woodward Radio Group.

Job fair prep workshops are offered from 1:30 to 2:30 p.m. May 3 and 9 to 10 a.m. May 4 in at the Oshkosh Job Center, 219 Washington Ave., where trainers will provide tips on updating a resume, interviewing best practices and ways to be most prepared for a job fair visit. Preregistration is not required and the session is open to anyone planning to attend the fair or looking for pointers to improve their search.

Questions can be directed to Chris Augsburger, Department of Workforce Development, at 920-424-0331 or [christine.augsburger@dwd.wisconsin.gov](mailto:christine.augsburger@dwd.wisconsin.gov).

## Students partner with city to help run BikeOsh Event

Three juniors from the group Communities at Oshkosh North are partnering with assistant city planner Alexa Naudziunas to help run BikeOsh from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. May 5 to raise awareness about sustainable and healthy living, and to promote

a more bike-friendly community.

Students spent time investigating biking in the community and related benefits, and helped solicit donations from small businesses and publicize the event on social media.

# Prep sports roundup

## BASEBALL

### West tops Kaukauna 15-9

The Oshkosh West boys baseball team pounded out 15 hits in a 15-9 win over Kaukauna in a Fox Valley Association game Thursday.

West scored seven runs in the third and six in the sixth in the win as Kaukauna hung around.

Dylan Wright picked up the win for West, giving up four runs in four innings. Riley Frey relieved him, giving up three runs in three innings. They combined to strike out 12 batters.

Jordan Brewer led the way, going 4-for-5 with two RBIs while Tyler Whitley, Michael McBriar, Jordan Steinbock and Derek Kroll each contributed two hits. Whiteley had 3 RBIs to lead West while McBriar and Kroll chipped in 2 RBIs apiece.

### Laconia stops Lourdes

The Lourdes baseball team dropped a 10-5 game against Laconia in a nonconference game held on Friday.

The game, which lasted five innings because of rain, got off to a fast start as Lourdes scored four in the top of the first and then the Spartans answered with four of their own. Laconia went on to score three more in the second and two more in the fourth to extend its lead.

Doug Ryan was 1-for-3 with a double while Gavin Meyers was 1-for-2 with a double.

Brady Madigan had a monster day at the plate for Laconia, going 4-for-4 with a home run and a double and 4 RBI.

### North falls to Lightning

The Oshkosh North baseball team gave up 17 hits as Appleton North cruised to a 14-3 win on Thursday in a Fox Valley Association game.

Nate Noe led North with a double as the Spartans scored all three runs in the bottom of the sixth inning.

## SOFTBALL

### West splits doubleheader

The Oshkosh West softball team traveled to Muskego on Saturday, falling 7-5 in the first game against Divine Savior Holy Angels and ended it with a 13-6 win over Muskego.

In game one the Wildcats jumped to an early 2-0 lead but then DSHA scored four in the second. West was able to add on another in the third and fourth innings to tie it up but the Dashers retook the lead with a three-run fifth to pick up the win.

Lacey Cruz struck out four over six innings, but took the loss despite the Wildcats outhitting the Dashers 11-8. Emily Miller and Alyssa Brewer led the attack

with three hits each.

In the second game, the Wildcats knocked out 13 hits – 11 extra base hits, 8 doubles and 3 HR.

Annika Johnson struck out 12 in the win and added three doubles offensively with 2 RBIs. Kendra Davis homered and drove in 4, Miller added two doubles and an RBIs, Leah Engstrom had three hits with two home runs and 3 RBIs.

### West crushes Fond du Lac

The Oshkosh West softball team got nine strikeouts from Annika Johnson as she pitched a complete game in a 12-2 win.

Emily Miller was 2-for-3 with a double, Alyssa Brewer was 4-for-5 with 4 RBI, Johnson was 2-for-4 with a double while Kendra Davis was 3-for-4 with a home run and 3 RBI.

West trailed 2-0 after one inning, but scored two in the second and third and added three in the fourth and sixth innings to help seal the win.

### North scores 21 in win

The Oshkosh North softball team scored nine runs in the second and five in the third and fourth innings in a 21-1 game that lasted only four innings on Friday.

Brooke Ellestad and Sophie Averkamp combined for five hits and 5 RBIs to lead North while Syd Supple, Shea Thull and Mathina Higgins each added two RBIs.

Supple earned the win, striking out five.

### Lourdes shut out on road

The Lourdes softball team was no-hit in a 10-0 loss against St. Mary Catholic.

Lourdes, which had four errors in the loss, struck out 12 times as Anna Little went all six innings for St. Mary Catholic.

### Big inning sparks North

The Oshkosh North girls softball team scored six runs in the top of the sixth inning to pick up an 8-1 win over Oshkosh West in a cross-city rivalry game played on Thursday.

West had a 1-0 lead going into the fifth inning, but North scored two to take a 2-1 lead. Then North unleashed its bats, scoring six runs on a bunch of singles to help seal the win.

Supple pitched seven strong innings for West, striking out 11 while going 3-for-4 with a double and triple at the plate. Ellestad was 3-for-5 for North while Averkamp added two RBI.

For West, Annika Johnson lasted five innings, striking out six as she took the loss. Lacey Cruz led the way offensively for the Wildcats, going 2-for-3 with a double.

## TENNIS

### North 3-0 in triangular

The Oshkosh North boys tennis team

picked up a 6-1 win over Two Rivers, a 4-2 win over Monona Grove and a 6-1 win over DeForest in its home triangular Saturday.

In the win over Two Rivers, Josiah Miller (6-1, 6-2), Logan Froseth (6-3, 6-0), Richard Stille (6-2, 6-2) and Sam Eiden (6-0, 6-2) picked up wins at singles while the teams of Bryce Butzlaff/Michael Grant and Dane Laufer/Cade Schmitz earned wins at doubles.

Against Monona Grove, Isaac Bock (7-5, 6-3), David Burns (6-2, 6-1) and Miller (6-1, 6-0) picked up wins in singles play while Laufer/Schmitz won their doubles match.

Lastly over DeForest, Charlie and Isaac Bock and Burns all swept their singles matches while Casey Bryant/Kauldon Larson, Grant/Butzlaff and Schmitz/Laufer won their doubles matches in straight sets.

## BOYS GOLF

### North, West at Westridge

The Oshkosh West golf team went 2-2 Friday, facing four teams while playing only 18 holes. The Wildcats shot a 162 – losing to Kimberly who shot a 146 while beating Hortonville who had a 167, getting a 37 from Ben Willeford and a 40 from Trent Krause. Faysal Amin added a 41 while Drew Slife chipped in a 44.

The other nine the Wildcats fired a 171 – falling to Fond du Lac who had a 156 while beating Appleton East who had a 180. Krause led the way on that 9 with a 38 while Willeford chipped in a 39.

Oshkosh North shot a 191 and a 200, losing all if its matches. In the 191, Thomas Urben led the way with a 44 while Tick Tjugum (46), Josh Hoffman (50) and Alex Bork (51) rounded out the scoring.

On the other 9 where they shot a 200, Urben fired a 46 while Anthony Blando (48), Hoffman (52) and Tjugum (54) rounded out the scoring for North.

### Lourdes hosts golf invite

The Lourdes boys golf team held its invitational on Friday at Lake Breeze Golf Course, finishing seventh out of 15 teams. The Knights shot a 366 while Oshkosh West also sent a team, finishing with a 413.

Lourdes was led by Dan Dunn, who was two shots away from being medalist, with a 77. Preston Ruedinger (87), Caden Chier (99) and Peter Chartier (103) rounded out the scoring.

Oshkosh West was led by Riley West (92), while Dominick Fosso (100), Jack Zangl (105) and Dylan Kimball (116) rounded out the scoring.

## TRACK & FIELD

### Lourdes at Pewaukee meet

The Lourdes boys finished ninth out of 10 teams at Pewaukee, going up against

some tough competition.

The Knights got a first-place finish from T. Jackson Moore in the 1,600, as he finished in a winning time of 4 minutes, 37.26 seconds. Connor Barfknecht also earned a first-place finish, taking the high jump with a height of 5-10.

On the girls' side, Lourdes finished with 41 points, good for seventh out of 12 teams.

Alexis Rolph finished second for the Knights in the 100 with a time of 13.18 seconds.

## GIRLS SOCCER

### West shuts out Hartford

The Oshkosh West girls soccer team got a goal from Lauren Singstock late in the game to help seal a 2-0 win over Hartford on Thursday.

The Wildcats scored first in the 41st minute on an own goal by the Hartford defense. Taylor Reichow made one goal in save for West.

### Lourdes settles for a tie

The Lourdes girls soccer team scored two goals in the second half in a 2-2 tie against North Fond du Lac on Thursday.

Maggie Berenz scored on an assist from Haley Klysen in the 55th minute while Klysen added a goal four minutes later, which gave the Knights a 2-1 lead, but NFDL answered four minutes later.

Paige Droessler had eight saves for Lourdes.

### GB Southwest tops North

North was tied 1-1 going into the half, but Green Bay's Elizabeth Cumber scored two second half goals to hand North a 3-1 loss in a game played on Thursday.

Ruby Salbego scored North's lone goal.

Compiled by Alex Wolf,  
Herald contributor

## Back in the Day



Oshkosh history by the Winnebago County Historical & Archaeological Society

### May 2, 1931

**Flag pole sitter perches atop Raulf Hotel:** At 12:05 p.m., pole sitter Betty Fox climbed a flag pole perched atop the Raulf Hotel. Her goal was to sit there regardless of weather conditions for 100 hours to break her former record of 96 hours. Fox received well wishes from hotel owners Conrad and Charles Raulf as she began her ascension to a 12-by-14-inch platform mounted at the top. Her attire was simply tennis shoes, white overalls, a jumper jacket and helmet. A telephone was installed at the top of the pole that allowed Betty Fox to take phone calls from well-wishers during her feat. She descended on the afternoon of May 6, breaking her former record. At the time it was also considered the world record for female pole sitters.

Source: *Oshkosh Daily Northwestern*, May 2, 1931, Page 11; *Oshkosh Daily Northwestern* May 7, 1931, Page 17

# Oshkosh Gymnastics Center competes in regionals

The Oshkosh Gymnastics Center level 8-10 teams competed in the USA Gymnastics Regional Championships for Region 4 on April 13-15 at Concordia University in St. Paul.

Level 6-7 teams also competed in Region 4, Junior Olympic Championships, April 21-22 in Minneapolis. Region 4 includes Iowa, Minnesota, Missouri, Nebraska, North Dakota, South Dakota and Wisconsin.

**Level 6:** Cecelia Brown placed 1st on vault (9.65), 3rd on beam (9.225), 2nd (T)

on floor (9.5) and 3rd All-Around with a score of 36.950 for Senior C.

**Level 7:** Sydnee Nelson placed 3rd on vault (9.45) for Junior A. Natasha Konop placed 1st on beam (9.55) for Junior C. Madeline Anderson placed 4th on vault (9.25) and 4th on floor (9.4) for Junior C. Angelina Vu placed 3rd on bars (9.375), 1st on beam (9.6) and 4th All-Around with a score of 37.200 for Senior A. Audrey Brenner placed 5th on vault (9.325) and 5th (T) on bars (9.275) for Senior A. Samantha Lor placed 2nd on vault (9.525), 2nd

on beam (9.7), 2nd on floor (9.4) and 2nd All-Around with a score of 37.475 for Senior B. Anna Otto placed 5th (T) on vault (9.3) and 5th on bars (9.35) for Senior B. Alyssa Casey placed 4th (T) on floor (9.375) for Senior F.

**Level 8:** Taylor Emery placed 3rd on floor (9.3) and 5th All-Around with a score of 35.950 for Senior D. Hanna Reichenberger placed 1st on vault (9.375) for Senior D. Trinity Schaefer placed 5th on bars (9.075) for Senior F.

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# Oshkosh Bird Fest takes flight at park, other locations

By Rob Zimmer  
 HERALD CONTRIBUTOR

Celebrate International Migratory Bird Day at the annual Oshkosh Bird Fest on May 5 at Menominee Park.

I'll be there, presenting two birding programs, Winnebago Wild and Wings in the Garden. Winnebago Wild will feature the incredible and varied birdlife found along the shores of the Winnebago lakes. Wings in the Garden will showcase plants and plantings to attract birds, along with butterflies to our backyard landscapes. This is especially important after what we just experienced with the recent blizzard and it's devastating effects on songbird populations.

"After the recent snowstorm, it is important to realize that if we have native shrubs, trees and flowers in our backyards that produce berries and seed, we can provide, naturally, food and shelter year round for our avian friends," said Janet Wissink of the Winnebago Audubon Society.

The daylong event starts out at 6 a.m. with the Big Sit, a great way to watch birds from one spot, recording all the birds you'll

see and hear from one location. It's sure to be a productive morning as May migration will be in full force and we could see potentially large numbers of warblers, orioles, tanagers, thrushes and, of course, water birds.


The fun moves to the Oshkosh Public Library from 6 until 9 p.m. with Birdfest Under the Dome. This exhibit will feature 23 bird photographers from all over the state during the Saturday Night Out Oshkosh Gallery Walk.

The downtown Gallery Walk will feature bird-themed displays and live birds, and a student bird art exhibit at the Oshkosh Masonic Center.

Oshkosh Bird Fest is sponsored by the Winnebago Audubon Society, Glacier Dental, Wild Ones Fox Valley Chapter, as well as The Animal Hospital of Oshkosh, Oshkosh Zoological Society, Thrivent Financial for Lutherans, Mike's Place, Provident Financial Consultants and Wildbird & Backyard.

Find Rob Zimmer at [www.facebook.com/RobZimmerOutdoors](http://www.facebook.com/RobZimmerOutdoors). Listen to *Outdoors with Rob Zimmer*, Fridays 4-5pm and Saturdays 7-8am on WHBY, now in Oshkosh at 106.3FM.

**Beverly J. Decker**  
 Beverly J. Decker was ushered home by angels on April 29, 2018.  
 Bev was born in Oshkosh, Wisconsin on April 9, 1930, daughter of Wilbur & Rose Coombs. Bev was a lifelong resident of Oshkosh and graduated from Oshkosh High School in 1948. She also attended Oshkosh Business College.



Early in her life she worked at Oshkosh B'Gosh. On May 24, 1952, Bev married James Decker; they had 57 years together. Raising their three children was her joy. Bev enjoyed working with "Welcome Wagon", selling "Swipe" and "Holiday Magic". She also worked at ALS Printing as a sales representative.

Bev loved the Lord and lived for Him faithfully. She was an active member of Plymouth Congregational Church, where she served as a Deaconess for over 20 years. She served as a Sunday School Teacher, Trustee, and worked with Girls for Christ. Bev also led a women's neighborhood Bible Study on Tuesday afternoons for 50 years. She last regularly attended Country-side Church, where her son had served as Pastor. Bev was an avid reader and loved to cook. She enjoyed the outdoors, especially the wonderful times at their cottage near Wautoma. Bev was also an animal lover. At age 80 she bought a puppy (her beloved Bella). But most important to Bev was the love and encouragement she showed the family she held so dear. She was deeply loved, cherished and respected by so many. Bev leaves behind a rich heritage of love and faith.

Bev is survived by her sons, Greg (Nancy), Scott (Ann), and daughter, Sherry (Sam) TenBrink; her eight grandchildren: Josh (Vanessa), Kelly, Brennan (Emily), Abby (Keegan), Tyler (Lisa), Ashley, Landon, Carson (Lynn); and six great-grandchildren: Sophia, Mateo, Josephina, Aubrey, Savannah, and Lucy. She is also survived by her sisters, Sally (Wayne) Wesner and Linda Wiese, as well as many cherished nieces and nephews.

Bev was preceded in death by her parents, her husband, her sister Lorraine Coombs, her brother Howard Coombs, a nephew Jeffrey Wesner and a niece Kim Kucksdorf.

The family would like to express their deepest appreciation to Lorraine with The-da Care Hospice, to Stacy the manager at Garden Gate, Evergreen Manor along with the support staff, as well as to all who visited.

A private gathering of family was held to honor and celebrate Bev's life and homegoing. Memorial gifts can be made out to "Beverly Decker Memorial Fund" and mailed to Konrad-Behlman Funeral Homes, PO Box 78, Oshkosh, WI 54903.

Bev was preceded in death by her parents, her husband, her sister Lorraine Coombs, her brother Howard Coombs, a nephew Jeffrey Wesner and a niece Kim Kucksdorf.

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 Saturday, May 5th 7:00 - 1:00  
 (See Craigslist for more info)

**A HUGE church Rummage Sale**  
 Algoma Blvd. United Methodist Church  
 1174 Algoma Blvd. - Corner New York  
 Friday, May 4, 7 am - 4 pm; Saturday, May 5, 7 am - 2 pm.  
**All day Saturday everything is half price.** Furniture, vintage, household items, books, clothing for all ages and sizes, toys, tools, crafting supplies.

**Garage Sale**  
 4107 Forte Road, Oshkosh  
 Thursday and Friday 8-5, Saturday 8-Noon.

**Estate/Garage Sale**  
 1616 Grove St, Oshkosh  
 Friday and Saturday, May 4 - 5; 9:00 - 5:00  
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