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VOLUME 2, ISSUE 49

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North falls short against tough Rockets
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# City schools overhaul reviewed

Oshkosh Herald

A long-term consolidation plan recommended for the Oshkosh Area School District would phase out six elementary and middle schools by closing some considered long past their prime while either building or modernizing other facilities.

The district's Facilities Advisory Committee presented the Board of Education with a breakdown of its work and preferred strategy last Wednesday. The executive summary was based on a facilities review study, six public forums and a professional survey on how the Oshkosh school system should be configured to be the most efficient and competitive as an economic driver for community growth.

The district's website (www.oshkosh. k12.wi.us) has a section dedicated to the

See **Consolidation** on Page 17

# Lakeshore Park plan praised

# 5-phase development advanced to council

By Tom Ekvall Herald Contributor

The Lakeshore Park Master Plan was hailed a visionary tribute for the future of Oshkosh as a passive recreation area by the city's Plan Commission, which unanimously recommended approval of the design submitted by SmithGroup of Mad-

ison at its Dec. 3 meeting.

Vice Chairperson Kathy Propp said she had never seen such a well-designed plan and would urge expedited funding for the proposal, which was divided into five phases for the overall project, budgeted at \$10,320,000 along with contingency costs for a total of \$13,875,000.

Greg Calpino with SmithGroup presented the park plan to the Plan Commission along with comments by Parks Director Ray Maurer.

Calpino said the proposed master plan

features a west park and east park as two separate but integrated designs. The west area represents an introverted approach that captures the passive nature of the surroundings, along with a trail system, while the east park represents a more developed and extroverted concept that also links to nearby parks, such as Mary Jewell and Rainbow Memorial Parks.

In their report, the consultants note that the plan will provide clarity for future use

SEE **Lakeshore** ON PAGE 17



Photo by Joseph Schul

Police and emergency vehicles surround West High School on Tuesday morning after a confrontation injured a police officer and student.

# West incident spurs precaution, care

# Shooting aftermath focus turns to students and staff

By Dan Roherty
OSHKOSH HERALD

In the wake of a West High School incident last Tuesday that injured a police officer and student while other unspecified online threats sparked district and statewide precautions, community response helped provide security and comfort to school families and staff.

Online information about the West incident — whether accurate or unconfirmed — and subsequent school threats against other local and regional schools traveled far and fast before news reports caught up to the verifiable information.

West students and teachers secured themselves into classrooms as part of their ALICE (alert, lockdown, inform, counter, evacuate) response training before evacuating the campus. Neighboring facilities

### **Talking about it**

Referrals for Rise Up clinical therapy through Catalpa Health: **920-750-7088** 

Wellness Screen through Samaritan Counseling: **920-572-4582**Rise Up Mental Health
Framework: Matt Kaemmerer, **920-424-0113** 

Additional resources at www.oshkosh.k12.wi.us

such as the Ahmadiyya Muslim Community Mosque across the street gave temporary shelter to the displaced campus population ahead of regrouping at Perry Tipler Middle School where parents could reunite with their children.

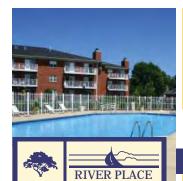
Classes were subsequently canceled at all Oshkosh schools the next day in deference to the community impact beyond West and potential for copy-cat threats while allowing families and staff to regroup. The incident was on the heels of a similar incident Monday involving an officer and student at Waukesha South High School and a vague threat to North High that was traced to an overseas origin.

Classes resumed in the city Thursday, but West waited until Friday as staff used the extra day to discuss preparations for welcoming and supporting students and teachers. Students were able to retrieve belongings left behind that day.

While the confrontation was restricted to the police liaison's office in a relatively short time period, the district's proactive response and disruptive aftermath lingers with staff, students and families while the emphasis shifts to finding normalcy after an anxious week.

Police agencies continue to investigate the incident and related responses for future evaluation, while health professionals who work both in and with the district

SEE **West regroups** ON PAGE 16



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#### **Publisher**

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#### **Corrections**

It is the policy of the Oshkosh Herald to correct all errors of fact. For correction information, call 920-508-9000.

#### About the newspaper

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# Herald Jackson St. corridor input sought

By Tom Ekvall HERALD CONTRIBUTOR

A public input meeting at 6:30 p.m. today (Wednesday) at Oaklawn Elementary School will discuss the new Jackson Street Corridor Study and Safety Plan being conducted for city planning in that area.

Ayres and Associates along with RDG Planning and Design Consultants have been hired by the city to conduct a multimodal traffic and quality-of-life study of Jackson from Church Avenue on the south to Interstate 41.

Input from city staff and the community will be used to develop a corridor plan to guide land use and mobility development from Murdock Avenue to 41 and study traffic conditions between Church and Murdock avenues.

The developed plan will guide future

land use, zoning, urban design and transportation improvements. The listening session will assess existing conditions in both areas and identify ways to enhance safety, mobility and current transportation concerns.

Before the meeting consultants will meet with residents along Jackson Street to hear their thoughts and insights through a series of small group discussions.

Commenting on the study, Shirley Mattox, a leader with the Historic Jackson Neighborhood Association, said, "This is a historic opportunity for neighbors to work together, address the opportunities and make a difference where we live, raise our family, invest in our beautiful homes, and hopefully enjoy life for many years." She said Jackson being the city's north gateway gives travelers their early impression of Oshkosh.

Mattox also announced that her Jackson group will have its second annual "Light Up Historic Jackson" contest, which will feature house decorating and lighting activities by neighbors.

# Christmas Sing staged at The Grand

The 34th annual Christmas Sing, a community holiday singalong event, will be presented by the Oshkosh Area Community Band at 7 p.m. Sunday at The Grand. A free-will offering will be taken to benefit the Salvation Army of Oshkosh.

Special guests will be the Madrigal Singers of all three Oshkosh high schools: North Madrigals directed by Bridget Duffy-Ulrich; Lourdes Academy Madrigals directed by Julie Ringlein and West Madrigals directed by Bethany Meyer.

Members of the band are drawn from Oshkosh, Omro, Winneconne, Butte des Morts, Fond du Lac, Eden, Greenville, Marksman, Neshkoro, Plymouth, Sheboygan, Menasha and Appleton.



# Correction

NOV. 20, PAGE 4: A story about a Nov. 6 incident at Ascension's Mercy hospital misidentified the man accused of being in possession of explosive devices. Winnebago County charges were filed against Steel M. Lee in the



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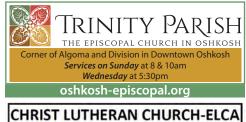
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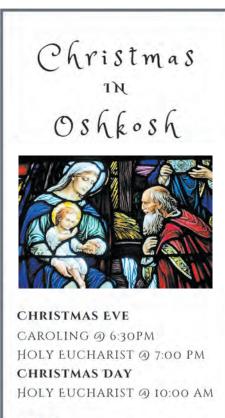
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# Fire team works on, off clock for residents

By Samantha Strong

The Oshkosh Fire Department's motto is two simple words: Be kind.

Fire Chief Mike Stanley expects his team to live out this motto on the job, but the department also tries to live it in their everyday lives through volunteer work, fundraising and community outreach.

Some of the fundraisers Fire Department staff participate in, organize or facilitate include the annual Guns 'n' Hos-

# Last in a series

es hockey game, a holiday food and toy drive, Stuff the Shelter fundraiser that gathers supplies for

the Day by Day Warming Shelter, and the Fill the Boot campaign that raises funds for the Muscular Dystrophy Association.

Firefighters and other department staff are not required to participate in extracurricular activities, but many choose to do so because of their deep connection to the community.

"We love that people appreciate us, but we are normal people who enjoy helping people," Anthony Olson, Oshkosh firefighter, said. "(The fundraisers take up) a couple of months each year, but it's always worth it to see how many smiles we can put on children's faces along with the recipients of our charity that gets chosen each year (for the Guns 'n' Hoses fundraiser)."

Guns 'n' Hoses was established 12 years ago to bring together first responders for a good cause. The event typically raises \$3,000 to \$5,000 each year for local charities that provide services to Oshkosh.

Answering the calls
The Oshkosh Fire
Department and its
public safety partners
key on city priorities.

Olson thinks it's important for the department to have a strong presence in the community because it shows their dedication to making Oshkosh a better place to live.

"Our mission is to always provide care with compassion, empathy and knowledge," Olson said. "These community activities showcase those things and we just love being social with our neighbors."

Another well-known and popular fundraiser organized by the department's team is the annual toy drive that concludes Thursday in Station 14's neighborhood. And this isn't just any toy drive effort, according to organizer and firefighter Eric Shea. This one involves Santa and a fire engine.

"We really go all out for this toy drive," Shea said. "We send the fire truck out and sound the lights and sirens to get people's attention and have Santa on the front of an antique engine that's decked out with lights, music and decorations."

Fire crews and Salvation Army volunteers follow behind collecting toys, food and cash donations for those in need during the holiday season.

"It's amazing to see the kids light up when they see Santa," Shea said. "It brings a tear to my eye. You're out there, the snow's falling and the younger kids don't really know what it's for, but they don't care because they saw Santa."

Fire Lt. Matt Sommerfeldt, a 13-year department veteran who is president



of their aguinment at an

Firefighters let children try on some of their equipment at an Oshkosh school event.

of the Oshkosh Firefighters Charitable Foundation that formed about a decade ago, said many firefighters are involved in the foundation and even donate their own funds to the cause.

One of its initiatives is giving gift cards to victims of house fires to help get them

back on their feet. Another is the annual holiday food and toy drive. The foundation also funds two scholarships for Oshkosh North and West students going into the police or firefighting field.

"I think it's important to give back to the community that we serve, but these events also get us out there and explain to people what we do," Sommerfeldt said. "All of us like to give back and it makes us feel good. We typically see people on their worst days so we try to make it better."

When asked how he felt about his team and its community outreach, Stanley said he couldn't be prouder.

"Oshkosh and the surrounding communities have such a high caliber of people protecting them and the things they care about," Stanley said. "I get phone calls and emails and notes in the mail about the level of skill our firefighters have and the service they provide. I'm so proud

of the work we do, on and off duty."

This story is part of a series on the Oshkosh Fire Department, services it provides and community issues it is addressing. For more information visit oshkoshfd. com. To view other stories, visit oshkoshherald.com.



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# Oshkosh heritage shared with a beer

By Lee Reiherzer HERALD CONTRIBUTOR

Last February, Bare Bones Brewery in Oshkosh introduced a new beer named Oshkosh Lager. It was a beer going against the prevailing trends in craft beer.

It wasn't saturated with hops. It wasn't spiked with flavoring extracts, oddball ingredients or fruit. And it wasn't so strong that you had to reconsider your plans for the remainder of the day if you had a cou-



ple of them. Despite that, Oshkosh Lager quickbecame Bones' Bare best-selling beer.

"The feedback has been really positive and pretty universal," Jody Cleveland, head brewer at Bare Bones, said. "All sorts of people are drinking it. I'll see people coming in and starting with the Oshkosh Lager and then kind of working their way up to a porter or an IPA. Almost everyone who gets a flight of beers here will have that one in the mix."

Cleveland worked out the recipe for Oshkosh Lager by taking cues from the two best-selling beers ever produced in Oshkosh: Chief Oshkosh and Peoples Beer. Both of those had been off the market for more than 40 years by the time Oshkosh Lager appeared. The beer Cleveland came up with - pale-gold, balanced, and highly quaffable – is much in the vein of the beers that inspired it. Even the label, featuring a red arrowhead, is an homage to



Bare Bones brewmaster Jody Cleveland takes a sample from the sampling port on a fermenter.

the Chief Oshkosh label of the 1960s.

"It's such a good conversation starter," Cleveland said. "Since this came out, a lot of people have approached me and told me stories about their parents or their grandparents who worked in Oshkosh breweries. That's been great to hear. That kind of response is so different. I mean, you just don't get to hear those kinds of stories when you brew a hazy IPA."

Cleveland began dabbling in this sort of thing years before he became the head brewer at Bare Bones in early 2018.

"It started back when I was homebrewing," he said. "I was trying to find something for a friend of mine for Christmas. His grandfather had been a brewer at Peoples, but he'd never had a chance to try those beers. I thought it would be a good present to make him a clone of Old Derby Ale, one of the beers his grandfather brewed at Peoples. That went over really well. That's what really started fueling my interest in these beers."

In recent months, Cleveland has been mining Oshkosh's brewing history in a more concerted way. He's begun producing a series of beers from recipes used by Oshkosh breweries of the past. The third beer in the Bare Bones Heritage Series will be released at the brewery's taproom Dec. 17. That beer was brewed from the 1950s

#### OSHKOSH BEER

recipe for Chief Oshkosh Holiday Brew, a winter seasonal made by the Oshkosh Brewing Co. from 1935 until 1971.

"The heritage beers have gone over really well," Cleveland said. "The first one we did was Peoples Beer; that was a small batch and it was gone in 45 minutes. It's something people seem to really want to experience. I mean, I can go to the store and get just about any kind of beer imaginable, but you can't get these."

Cleveland may be revisiting the past, but he isn't living in it. The historical beers are more of a sideline endeavor. He's still brewing his share of hazy IPAs, pastry stouts and strong ales.

"But doing these older Oshkosh beers keeps it interesting for me as a brewer," he said. "And I'm finding that it's kind of lining up with the direction our customers seem to be headed in. People seem to be getting a little worn out on all the extreme

"We're definitely getting more people coming in looking for a straight beer. We released a porter recently and I kept hearing people say they were glad it was just a porter and didn't have peanut butter or other stuff in there." Cleveland said with a laugh. He shook his head and said, "You certainly don't find any of that stuff in those old recipes."

Lee Reiherzer has been writing about Oshkosh's beer and its brewing history since 2010 when he launched the Oshkosh Beer website. He is the co-author of the book "The Breweries of Oshkosh" and author of "Winnebago County Beer."







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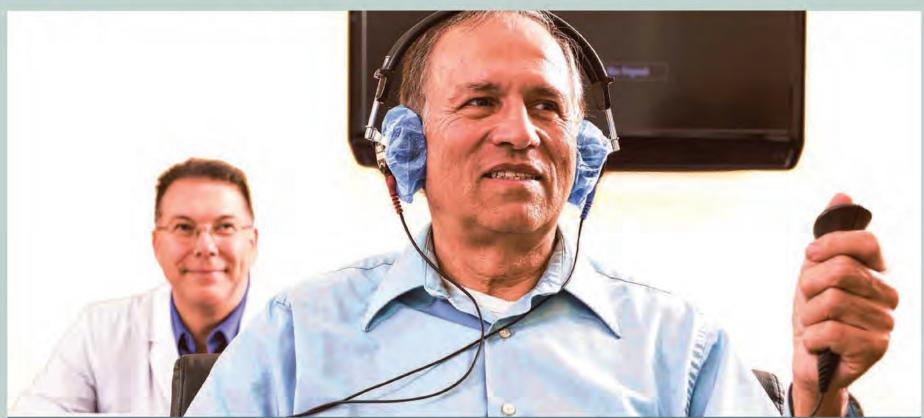
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WATERTOWN 920-261-7024 123 Hospital Dr., Ste. 112 Lower Level Medical Bldg next to Hospital

# **€**ommunity events

#### **Ongoing exhibits**

Nutcracker in the Castle, through Jan. 6, 11 a.m., Paine Art Center & Gardens, 1410 Algoma Blvd.

Deck the Halls, through Jan. 5, Oshkosh Public Museum, 1331 Algoma Blvd.

Celebration of Lights, through Jan. 5, 5:30 p.m., Menominee Park

#### Wednesday, Dec. 11

Active Older Adult Holiday Potluck, 12 p.m., Downtown Oshkosh YMCA, 324 Washington Ave.

Certified Child and Babysitting Safety Course, 2 p.m., Oshkosh Community YMCA, 3303 W 20th Ave.

Star Wars Trivia, 7 p.m., Dublin's Irish Pub, 2070 W 9th Ave.

#### Thursday, Dec. 12

"A Christmas Carol," 6:30 p.m., Becket's Atrium, 2 Jackson St.

Wiggles and Giggles with Santa, 9:30 a.m., Oshkosh Community YMCA, 3303 W 20th Ave.

#### Friday, Dec. 13

Wright Brothers Memorial Banquet, 5 p.m., EAA Aviation Museum 3000 Poberezny Road

Family Bingo Night, 5:30 p.m., Oshkosh Community YMCA, 3303 W 20th Ave.

Marine Corps League Bingo, 5:30 p.m., Marine Corps League, 4715 Sherman Road

"A Christmas Carol," 6:30 p.m., Becket's Atrium, 2 Jackson St.

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

#### Saturday, Dec. 14

Breakfast with Santa, 9 a.m., Hilton Garden Inn, 1355 W 20th Ave.

Oshkosh Youth Choir Holiday Concert, noon, Oshkosh Public Library, 106 Washington Ave.

Oshkosh Chamber Singers: A Festival of Nine Lessons and Carols, 4 p.m., Trinity Episcopal Church, 311 Division St

Ice Skating with Santa, 6 p.m., Oshkosh Community YMCA, 3303 W 20th Ave.

Morgan House Christmas Open House, 1 p.m., Morgan House, 234 Church Ave.

Kyle Cherek presents A Christmas Story, 6 p.m., The Howard, 405 Washington Ave.

"A Christmas Carol," 6:30 p.m., Becket's Atrium, 2 Jackson St.

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

#### Sunday, Dec. 15

Police vs. Fire Fundraiser for Christmas, noon, Bare Bones Brewery, 4362 County S

Yoga Workshop, 2 p.m., Downtown Oshkosh YMCA, 324 Washington Ave.

An Encore! Christmas Concert, 2 p.m., First Presbyterian Church, 110 Church Ave.

#### Monday, Dec. 16

Bounce Open Gym, 8 a.m., Precision Athletics, 2080 W 20th Ave.

Teaching Kitchen Demonstration: Holiday Eats and Treats, 5:30 p.m., Downtown Oshkosh YMCA, 324 Washington Ave.

Santa Storytime, 6 p.m., Oshkosh Public Library, 106 Washington Ave.

WCJO present A Big Band Christmas, 7 p.m., Fletch's Local Tap House, 566 N Main St.

#### Tuesday, Dec. 17

Wisconsin Herd vs. Austin Spurs, 7 p.m., Menominee Nation Arena, 1212 S Main St.

#### Wednesday, Dec. 18

Biodiversity in a Changing Climate, 4:30 p.m., UWO Reeve Union - Room 205, 748 Algoma Blvd.

#### Thursday, Dec. 19

Studio 8th Street Band, 7 p.m., Dwelling 2:22, 222 Church Ave.

#### Friday, Dec. 20

Tot Open Gym, 9:30 a.m., Precision Athletics, 2080 W 20th Ave.

Marine Corps League Bingo, 5:30 p.m., Marine Corps League, 4715 Sherman Road

Cory Chisel and Adriel Denae, 6 p.m., The Howard, 405 Washington Ave.

For Kids from One to Ninety-Two, 7:30 p.m., The Grand Oshkosh, 100 High Ave.

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

#### Saturday, Dec. 21

Audubon's 120th Annual Christmas Bird Count, Winnebago County

Oshkosh Farmers Market Winter & Holiday Bazaar, 9 a.m., Oshkosh Convention Center, 2 N Main St.

Lunch with Santa, 11 a.m., Ground Round at River's Edge, 1 N Main St.

Holiday Pajama Party, 6 p.m., Precision Athletics, 2080 W 20th Ave.

Copper Box Trio Holiday Show, 7 p.m., Manila, 107 Algoma Blvd. For Kids from One to Ninety-Two,

For Kids from One to Ninety-Two, 7:30 p.m., The Grand Oshkosh, 100 High Ave.

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

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# United Way to launch leadership event

The Oshkosh Area United Way will host an inaugural Emerging Leaders event called TEL Talk on Jan. 23 at Oshkosh Corp.'s global headquarters.

TEL Talk will be a biannual event in the Oshkosh and Fox Cities communities offering executive-level professional development opportunities on various topics. The first event will feature a discussion on leading change presented by Bryan Brandt, Oshkosh Corp. senior vice presi-

dent and chief marketing officer.

Emerging Leaders are young professionals within the United Way under age 40 that annually invest \$500 or more to the Oshkosh community through the Oshkosh Area United Way.

The United Way is extending an invitational to current and prospective Emerging Leaders within the community. Registration is \$15 or \$150 for a company table of 10.

CALL **920-969-8020** or visit **thecourtyardatoshkosh**.com



3851 Jackson St., Oshkosh, WI 54901

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# Program to boost UWO's international recruitment

**UW Oshkosh Communications** 

The University of Wisconsin Oshkosh will increase its international student population through a new collaboration with Kings Education.

The international program places stu-

dents from around the world at universities in the United States and United Kingdom, and has been successfully partnering with UWO's Fox Cities campus since 2017. The two-year campus has seen



Photo from Mark Nielsen

### WWII hero recognition

Former U.S. Rep. Thomas Petri (left) accepts a Distinguished Flying Cross for his father, Lt. Thomas R. Evert, a World War II pilot whose crew was credited 76 years after the wartime sinking of a German submarine off Bermuda. At right is Evert's nephew Lewis Podolske. The U.S. Navy recently confirmed that credit went to the wrong crew that destroyed a U-84 sub that had previously sunk six Allied merchant ships, taking dozens of lives. The former congressman who represented the Fox Valley's 6th District from 1979-2015 was 3 when his father died just months after the event. Petri was later adopted when his mother married Robert Petri after the war. His parents retained "Evert" as part of his name to honor his heritage.

exceeding Kings' recruitment projections.

The six-year contract between Kings and UW Oshkosh was approved last week by the UW System Board of Regents. It provides for international student recruitment through Kings for all three UWO campuses in Oshkosh, Fond du Lac and Menasha. Recruitment will begin next month for fall admission.

"This is just great for our institution," said UWO Dean of Students Art Munin. "It provides even greater access to an amazing educational experience at UW Oshkosh. And it provides an invaluable opportunity for our domestic students to interact with international students in and out of the classroom."

The program supports UWO's mission to prepare students "to become successful leaders in an increasingly diverse and global society."

Munin said the Oshkosh campus currently has 63 international students and university officials see opportunity for growth.

"International students help enrich our region," Munin said. "These students will be interwoven with our communities and their success and the success of the program will be dependent on our communities embracing these students."

Kings is projecting that it will bring 82 undergraduate and 14 graduate students to the Oshkosh campus for fall, and another 175 students to the Fond du Lac and Fox Cities campuses.

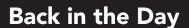
The agreement with Kings comes at no cost to UWO. International students pay their tuition and fees to Kings, and Kings transfers that money to UWO. International students pay a surcharge to Kings for the student support services the program provides. Part of the agreement calls for Kings to have a presence on all three campuses for academic and housing support and social programs.

# Veterans group gets local funding boost

Donations by local residents to the Orange Blossom Drive held at Festival Foods and Pick 'n Save locations in October and at two Kwik Trip locations this past summer were praised by local Chapter 437 of the Vietnam Veterans of America and Associate Vietnam Veterans of America.

The donations will go toward supporting Christine Ann Center, Oshkosh Community Food Bank, Day by Day Warming Shelter, Bella Medical Clinic, Winneconne Community Food Bank, VA Voluntary Services Tomah, Omro Community Food Bank, Salvation Army, Pat Mason for Veterans Quilts, as well as Christmas funds for two veterans' families.

Local chapter president Duane Canon said that a recently completed letter campaign raised \$6,000 in donations for area veterans to return to Korea on the Old Glory Honor Flight, an organization that also makes regular flights to Washington, D.C., memorials.





Oshkosh history by the Winnebago County Historical & Archaeological

#### Dec. 9, 1982

Professional basketball returns to Oshkosh: After an absence of too many years, professional basketball returns to Oshkosh beginning Dec. 8. The Wisconsin Flyers are revved up and ready to go. The home opener is to be played on Dec. 8 at the Oshkosh North Fieldhouse where the Flyers will face the Detroit Spirits. The 44game season schedule has been set and coach Dave Harshman is looking forward to a winning first season for the Flyers. (The new franchise team would finish 14-30 in their debut season, finishing third in the CBA Central division. The team relocated to Rochester Minnesota at the conclusion of the 1986-87 season. The franchise was owned by Oshkosh's own Killian Spanbauer, who is credited with bringing professional basketball back to Oshkosh).

Sources: Oshkosh Daily Northwestern, Nov. 9, 1982; Wikipedia

















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### **Holiday fun at Howard**

James Schwindt and his children Thatcher and Evelyn concentrate on an art project during the Holiday Market held Saturday afternoon at The Howard. Visitors could visit vendors' tables while enjoying beverages and treats from the bar and coffee shop.

### WRST-FM to air show on vaping dangers

WRST-FM at the University of Wisconsin Oshkosh will be broadcasting a special report called "Vaping: What You Don't Know Could Kill You" at 5 p.m. Friday (90.3 FM and wrst.org).

National reports have been circulating this year that people were being injured and dying after vaping, usually connected to black-market THC products. More information surfaced in November that a key cause of these injuries and deaths was a substance called vitamin E acetate.

The program includes talks with health officials, high school administrators and children, many of whom are unaware of the short- and long-term health impacts of vaping.

The special was produced by KRCB-FM, the Northern California Public Media station in Santa Rosa.





 $Dr. \ Brittany \ Uitenbroek \bullet Dr. \ Jody \ Jedlicka \bullet Dr. \ Candy \ McGinnis \bullet Dr. \ Melissa \ Dintelman \bullet Dr. \ Stephanie \ Long$ 

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# AirVenture free for kids

Young people ages 18 and under will be admitted free to EAA AirVenture Oshkosh 2020 in an effort to introduce more youth to possibilities in the world of flight. The 68th annual Experimental Aircraft Association fly-in convention will be July 20-26 at Wittman Regional Airport.

The Boeing Co. is financially supporting the effort for the next two years to encourage more aviation-minded families to attend, EAA officials announced last week.

"EAA's mission is growing participation in aviation and in 2019, after EAA reduced admission costs for students, we saw an increased number of families coming to AirVenture," said Jack J. Pelton, EAA chief executive and chairman of the board. "Inspiring young people and giving them a first look at what's possible in aviation is only achievable if they can get in the gate."

The free youth admission is available throughout AirVenture week.

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### West regroups

FROM PAGE 1

have made themselves available to an uneasy student body.

"Even if they weren't traumatized by the actual event, the fact that they had to flee the school or lock down their room — that in itself is a traumatic experience," said Matt Kaemmerer, district director of pupil services. "When you know that something is happening in your building, and you don't really know what it is, but you know that your safety is potentially in jeopardy, that's hard for anybody.

"I think that's what our students are going to struggle with the most."

Kaemmerer and his staff facilitates the Rise Up Program partnership with Samaritan Counseling and Catalpa Health to set up any requested counseling as part of its overall mental health services for students. Samaritan's program keys on high school student needs while Catalpa offers on-site therapy at specific schools on all levels.

For specific school incidents as this, more counselors are brought in and a crisis response page is added to the district website to offer expanded outreach for anyone needing help or information. Joining the response effort was a mental health navigator recently funded through the state Department of Instruction managed by Catalpa and based in a district office.

"Any time students are struggling, whether it be the result of this incident or just in general, they can always come down to our counseling office(s)," Kaemmerer said. "We never want to force students to talk to somebody ... that can be damaging. But we encourage them.

"We have worked hard in our district to destigmatize mental health, mental health





The Oshkosh Police Department was at West High School on Friday to help serve breakfast and snacks as students and staff got back to classes. Several individuals and businesses donated the food and beverages.

boo to go and talk to somebody, or to talk about emotional struggles."

Pointing to the schools' student-led Sources of Strength program formed last year at the high schools, Kaemmerer said the initiative has been credited for going beyond its suicide prevention focus into overall healing and support among class-

National trends on youth anxiety have been rising, but he said in this district "it seems like students are starting to become more open to talking about mental health and really seeking support when they need it."

Students often take cues from staff on whether things are getting back to normal.

"The quicker we can get our staff feeling that sense of normalcy again, the quicker our students will follow," Kaemmerer said.

West hockey coach John Thomson said his team worked to stay focused after they were able to communicate their safety while their game against Neenah that night was canceled.

'Together with the coaching staff and team we worked and managed our way

through the process," Thomson said in an email. "I sent a message to the team and parents expressing our thankfulness that all were safe."

He credited Athletic Director Craig Leider, the coaching staff and booster club for strong communication, and players who got together on their own for ice time.

"From a coach's perspective it says a lot about the character of our captains and players on this team," Thomson said.

The hockey team returned to the ice for its scheduled Thursday night game at Wisconsin Rapids, where Thomson was able to address the team for the first time since the incident.

Re-establishing a sense of safety and normalcy becomes a community effort that includes partnerships with city and the county police departments. The school district and local law enforcement are working under a Comprehensive School Security Framework and Wisconsin School Threat Assessment Protocol from the state Department of Justice, which provide guidance on assessing potential violence and diverting hazards.



# Officer out of hospital after incident

Michael Wissink, the Oshkosh Police school resource officer attacked the morning of Dec. 3 by a 16-year-old boy with a sharp instrument in Wissink's office at West High School, was released from ThedaCare Regional Medical Center in Neenah on Monday.

An initial report by the state Department of Justice Division of Criminal

Investigation said Wissink used his service gun to shoot the teen and subdue him.

Wissink has been a city officer 21 years and a school liaison since 2017.

State Justice officials turned over investigative reports to the Win-



Wissink

nebago County District Attorney's office, and the teen was placed in the county jail pending charges after he was released from a hospital for his gunshot wound.

No charges had been filed in the case as of Monday.

Every Oshkosh school building has safety and threat assessment teams composed of administrators, counselors and staff who review incidents and work through details on how to respond.

"We can't be everywhere. It really starts at home, it really starts with the parents really engaging their kids and demonstrating what are good expectations," Police Chief Dean Smith said at a Sept. 25 press conference at district offices as this school year got underway.

Kaemmerer singled out Red Cross staff who offered staff, supplies and mental health contacts after the incident, along with the UW Oshkosh Counseling Center for having staff on site.

"The community response has been overwhelming," Kaemmerer said. "My inbox has been flooded from providers across the community to ask me how they can help and from other school districts .... It's really positive and reassuring."

Other local groups looked to accommodate residents amid the week's disruption. The YMCA's two locations were free for students and accepted donations for snacks to provide for those who otherwise have free meal programs at their schools. The EAA Aviation Museum opened its doors to district students, staff and families as well as police employees and their families through the weekend as a place to go while classes were interrupted.

"While it was an awful event, our community has responded with overflowing support," Superintendent Vickie Cartwright told the Board of Education at its regular meeting the next evening. Also at the meeting was Glenn Rehburg, state Department of Justice deputy director for school safety, who praised the actions of staff and students that he witnessed there.

The mother of a West student was also at the meeting to thank everyone involved with the response effort and the steady stream of communication from the district. She said her daughter assured her of being trained for that and similar situations, though admitted that the emotional impact was still just sinking in.

"I don't know what that training involves. All I know is that my daughter was safe," she said.

#### Consolidation

FROM PAGE 1

group's work and goals, including the facilities review study, videos of the public forums and the full executive summary that breaks down the suggested options and survey results from research firm School Perceptions.

The committee took into account the school system as a whole while offering a four-phase approach to functional and cost-effective school buildings. Each of those phases would need to stand on its own — and potentially their own referendum — depending on the timeframes allowed by approval and funding.

The committee's preferred "pathway" would distribute West district students in five elementary schools and two middle schools compared with the current seven elementary and three middle schools along with the high school, now totaling 5,284 students. For the North district, six elementary schools would be reduced to four and there would be one instead of the current two middle schools. Including North High there are 3,952 students served in that district.

With more than \$100 million needed to make the long-term consolidation and renovations a reality, public referendum support will need to be measured before laying out the short- and long-term plans. Board President Barbara Herzog said gaining the needed support behind the study's findings is going to be essential if an initial public vote as early as April is going to succeed.

"We have to figure out as a board how we are going to use this data and move forward," she said.

"We have facilities that weren't designed for what we are asking them to do and we see people making work spaces, places where they meet with children in areas that were never designed for instruction."

The first phase would be the most crucial in dealing with immediate needs of some buildings' infrastructure, maintenance and safety updates, along with construction of a middle school on the existing Merrill site to serve both Merrill and Wester Stanley students. The majority of the 4,655 responding to the public survey support a referendum that would fund pressing infrastructure and maintenance needs, along with safety and security improvements.

The majority also gave support for a reconfiguration of schools as opposed to maintaining all existing schools, though a high percentage remain undecided on the best approach to any reconfiguration.

Speaking to one of the most common concerns heard — school consolidation means larger classroom numbers — Deputy Superintendent David Gundlach said their findings mostly show the opposite impact.

"The irony is, is that if we keep smaller schools in place it means larger class sizes for everyone," he said.

Gundlach noted as an example that Smith and Jefferson would each have had one fifth-grade class if both schools had been retained. With the merger this year they now have three smaller fifth-grade groups at Jefferson. He added that any increases in class sizes are offset by fewer sites that instructors have to visit, which he said makes teacher retention a challenge when they have to consistently travel among class locations.

He also emphasized in his summary of the findings that smaller school sites often limit the number of class offerings possible along with the full-time availability of specialists for instruction that ranges from music to special education.

Advisory Committee members shared with the board some of the community reactions and questions they heard during the public process, including the "sticker shock" related to costs needed for a large-scale overhaul of school buildings, while promoting a continued public outreach to share all of the gathered data.

The Board of Education's Dec. 4 meeting can be viewed at www. oshkoshmedia.org.



#### Lakeshore

FROM PAGE 1

of the parkland and how it integrates with the surrounding area and trail systems. They credited the public and city boards for providing important input into the design features, with an emphasis on trailways, nature and public art potential. Calpino said the submitted plan features a hybrid of the three conceptual design alternatives.

Essential features identified include promoting the Native American culture tied to the area and creating trailways for people to enjoy the park and native habitats. The Riverwalk extension will be completed next year that will traverse the east and west sections with Oshkosh Corp. global headquarters between the two. The master plan creates a set of priorities in sequence for plan implementation.

Maurer said the park project has thus far received strong public support.

In other action, the commission:

• Recommended approval of a zoning change at Oregon Street and West 8th Av-

enue, along with a general development plan and specific implementation plan, that will convert the former Koessel's Appliance store into a venom production and educational facility that will be known as M Toxins Venom Lab. Almost half of the building will be used for extracting venom from snakes and the other half for educational displays that would draw school trips from area schools.

- Recommended for approval a conditional use permit for Smett Investments, which wants to create a secured outdoor storage at 3300 Medalist Drive for Oshkosh Defense.
- Recommended approval of a zoning change, along with a general development plan and specific implementation plan, that will allow Bergstrom Automotive to add an auto sales, display area and service facility at 3365 S. Washburn St. adjacent to an existing auto sales facility.
- Heard a report from Planning Director Mark Lyons that the commission in 2020 will have all material submitted to them electronically through purchase of laptops for each member.

# **Public Library calendar**

#### Dec. 11

Memory Cafe, 1 p.m.; What's Cooking Book Club: Special Celebrations, 6:30 p.m.

#### Dec. 12

Afternoon Book Club, 1:30 p.m.; Winnebagoland Genealogical Society, 6 p.m.

#### Dec. 14

DIY Ornaments for Kids, 10 a.m. to noon; Oshkosh Youth Choir Holiday

Marsh Family Eyecare

Dr. Jeffrey Marsh & Dr. Jennifer Reiland

OPTOMETRISTS

Concert, noon; LEGO Wall Open Build, noon to 3 p.m.

#### Dec. 16

Santa Storytime, 9:30 a.m.; Monday Movie Matinee, 12:30 p.m.; Santa Storytime, 6 p.m.

#### Dec. 17

Rent Smart: Session 2 of 2, 9 a.m.; Free Legal Assistance Clinic, 4:30 to 6:30 p.m., Chess Club, 5 to 7 p.m.; Stories by Starlight, 6:15 p.m.

Winneconne Location

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908 East Main Street, Suite A



# NOTICE OF CITY OF OSHKOSH SNOW SHOVELING REQUIREMENTS

Residents are reminded of the following snow removal regulations:

PER SECTION 25-68 OF THE MUNICIPAL CODE -

Property owners are required to clear sidewalks abutting their property of snow and/or ice within 24 hours after the end of precipitation or accumulation. These requirements include all handicap ramps/crosswalk accesses which are adjacent to their property.

When ice cannot be removed, the sidewalk and handicap ramps/crosswalk accesses shall be kept sprinkled with material(s) to accelerate melting and prevent slipping. The ice must be removed as soon as possible.

Depositing snow from private property onto any public right-of-way, public property, or fire hydrant is also prohibited.

PER SECTION 25-69 OF THE MUNICIPAL CODE -

Failure to clear the sidewalk or handicap ramps/crosswalk accesses will result in the City completing the work and invoicing the property owner for the snow or ice removal.

#### THE MINIMUM CHARGE FOR THE COST OF SNOW REMOVAL IS \$100.

Property owners also face a potential citation for violation of the Municipal Code.

THIS FORFEITURE IS \$232 FOR THE FIRST OFFENSE.

VIOLATORS CAN BE REPORTED TO THE ENGINEERING DIVISION DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS AT (920)236-5065. Page 18 | oshkoshherald.com

December 11, 2019

# UWO students take on Tiny Earth initiative

By Natalie Johnson
UW OSHKOSH COMMUNICATIONS MANAGER

The student-sourced Tiny Earth project applies an old adage—many hands make light work—to a modern threat to human health worldwide.

This fall, students in Eric Matson's bacteriology class at the University of Wisconsin Oshkosh joined the effort to unearth new antibiotic-producing microbes to help combat "superbugs" like MRSA that have evolved resistance to antibiotics.

Based at UW-Madison's Wisconsin Institute for Discovery, the Tiny Earth project is a global network focused on student-sourcing antibiotic discovery from soil samples.

"As a scientist, educator and a citizen, I am very pleased and excited to have our UW Oshkosh students participating in such an important project," said Colleen McDermott, interim dean of UWO's College of Letters and Science.

Although engaging in scientific research with real-world implications always benefits learning and career potential, McDermott said the Tiny Earth project goes further in offering "an extraordinary opportunity for students and a potential

boon for public health."

With nearly 10,000 students in 45 states and 15 countries collecting soil samples, the project casts a wide net in seeking promising microbial isolates.

Matson, who attended a training at UW-Madison last winter to become a Tiny Earth partner instructor, said the sixweek project requires good collaboration and teamwork among students.

"This lab work is what real science feels like," he said.

Students like UWO medical technology junior Sam Amory learn a variety of laboratory techniques, including how to perform chemical extractions and work with agar, the gelatinous substance used in biological cultures.

"Tiny Earth gives our lab assignments more purpose," she said. "It's a real experience ... we could actually help with antibiotic discoveries."

Environmental engineering major Eliza Fitzsimmons, a senior from Oshkosh who graduates this month, is struck by the fact that students from around the world are all working to solve the same problem.

"This class has such a huge purpose," she said.



Photo by Rob Zimme

A recent snowfall decorated the forest and shores at Asylum Bay in pristine winter beauty.

# Winter on Asylum Bay reveals quiet beauty

By Rob Zimmer Herald Contributor

One of my favorite places in the Oshkosh area to explore during the winter season is the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources property at Asylum Bay.

Here, trails wind through different habitats, all wonderful to explore during winter, either on foot or on snowshoe. You can even cross-country ski through the area, however, be aware that there are no groomed trails that are maintained.

I love to explore the woods and lakeshore at Asylum Bay after a fresh snowfall. Trees tufted in fresh, white snow muffle the sound of each footfall as one strolls through the fresh snow, breaking trails that only the whitetail, cottontail and red foxes have explored before us.

Last week's beautiful snowfall created a spectacular paradise at Asylum Bay, picturesque and postcard beautiful everywhere one looked.

Every branch, twig and cattail were tufted in snow, while the tracks of deer, rabbits and foxes snaked along pathways through field, forest, wetland and meadow. It was a magical journey along the trails and along the lake as Mother Nature decorated the forest trees in a breathtaking blanket of fresh snow.

Asylum Bay is a popular fishing spot throughout the winter season, as well. Once the ice is safely formed on the quiet bay, ice fishermen take to the frozen water to try their luck.

The sheltered bay offers some protection from the winds on the open lake, as well as a popular and productive fishing location.

I enjoy exploring the edge of the bay once the ice is safe, wandering among the giant shoreline willows and other trees and among the cattails and backwater sloughs that can be found here.

Tracking wildlife, such as mink, river otter, whitetails, fox, rabbits, squirrels and other wildlife is a fun way to explore the winter wonder of Asylum Bay.

Bald eagles are frequently encountered here throughout the year, especially in winter when they can be seen perched in the treetops along the shoreline.

Of course, the historic lighthouse that stands at the entrance to the bay channel is a beautiful highlight of a visit to Asylum Bay this winter.

Find Rob Zimmer on Facebook at www.facebook. com/RobZimmerOutdoors. Listen to Outdoors with Rob Zimmer Fridays 4-5 PM and Saturdays 10-11 AM on WHBY. Online at www.whby.com.

#### Cookie Walk set at church

Cookies, candy and other homemade goodies will be on the annual Cookie Walk set for Saturday at Algoma Boulevard United Methodist Church. The public is invited to shop for homemade cookies and other treats from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.

The Cookie Walk is the largest fundraiser for the United Methodist Women's local, national and international projects.

# Fit Oshkosh releases book on Color-Brave exhibit

Fit Oshkosh Inc. has released "The Color-Brave Photo Exhibit: Black and Brown Faces," a compilation of the portraits and personal stories of local people of color as originally presented to Wisconsin communities in a 2018 traveling exhibition.

Photos were taken by Colleen Bies Photography. The individuals' stories are based on interviews conducted by Roberta



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Maguire, chairwoman of the English department at the University of Wisconsin Oshkosh; Alicia Johnson, professor of gender studies and director of the Women's Center at UWO; and Susan Rensing, a former associate professor of women's and gender studies and African American history at UWO. The Wisconsin Humanities Council was a co-sponsor of the project.

Fit Oshkosh board member Angie Lee, whose story is included in the book, said the storytelling is a powerful way to bring people together.

"Through the telling and passing on of stories, people realize that we share many fundamental beliefs, needs and desires," she said. "The portraits capture us in authentic moments, and the stories amplify our voices. Our stories may differ, but we are interwoven through this community."

The 47-page book will be available Jan. 1 at \$38 for the hardcover and \$27 for the softcover edition and at https://squarup.com and the Fit Oshkosh office, 36 Broad St.



Cory Chisel & Adriel Denae along with all-star guests will perform interpretations of traditional songs of the season.

A perfect event for the entire family, young and wise.

Friday, December 20 @ 7PM



General Admission and VIP + Dinner tickets are available. Visit thehowardoshkosh.com or call 920-479-1927.

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#### Saturday, November 24 – Sunday, January 5

Deck the Halls holiday experience in the beautiful Sawyer home, traditionally decorated in holiday décor. Peruse through each room and see something unique and different than you saw last year! The gorgeous Tiffany-designed interiors are the perfect backdrop for the warm and cozy feeling of the holidays. As a family, take time away from the hustle and bustle of the holidays and share in the fun with our ever popular Scavenger Hunt. Be on the lookout for Santa's elves cleverly hidden throughout the Museum.



1331 Algoma Blvd, Oshkosh, WI 54901 Tue-Sat 10am-4:30pm • Sun 1-4:30pm 920.236.5799 • oshkoshmuseum.org

# Herd wins 11th straight, secures bracket spot

By Ti Windisch HERALD CONTRIBUTOR

The Wisconsin Herd continues to do anything but lose ballgames, soundly beating the Rio Grande Valley Vipers on Saturday night to claim the top spot in the G League and push their franchise-record winning streak to 11 games.

Wisconsin pulled out a 128-115 victory at home against Rio Grande on the strength of another dynamic offensive performance. The Herd had plenty of scorers, with Frank Mason III, Rayjon Tucke, and Jaylen Adams all pouring in more than 20 points.

The Herd led comfortably throughout most of the evening's affair in Oshkosh, but the Vipers pulled close in the fourth quarter, at one point getting within 10 points of Wisconsin after the Herd led by more than 20 for much of the game.

It was Mason who took over to ensure the Herd came out on top in the clutch, as two straight assists that led to Jemerrio Jones layups followed by a dagger of an open catch-and-shoot three after a Rio Grande turnover put the game away.

Mason ended with 26 points, two rebounds, seven assists, three steals and four turnovers in 35 minutes of action, and Herd head coach Chase Buford praised the potent addition he is to Wisconsin's offense.

"Frank was unreal pretty much most of the whole night, offensively especially," Buford said. "He's been great since coming back, we're thrilled to have him. He adds a lot to our team from a scoring and playmaking standpoint."

Despite securing yet another victory, Buford was not thrilled with his team's performance in the second half, especially when it came to shot selection.

"I thought our ball movement tonight was poor," Buford said. "Maybe first half it was better, but (in the) second half we started taking the first shot we saw. The second half as a whole is not indicative of who we want to be and who we have been for the most part of this run. It happens, you get complacent at times, and credit Rio Grande, they came out and kept playing."

Buford went on to say despite having individual players capable of putting up numbers, the Herd offense is at its best when everybody is involved in the scoring.

"Moving the ball is when we get thegood shots," he said. "We try to be a team





Herd players celebrate during the team's winning effort against the Rio Grande Valley Vipers on Saturday, which marked their 11th straight victory.

### Team provides tickets to West students

In response to the traumatic events last week at Oshkosh West High School, the Wisconsin Herd provided free tickets to any West students who wanted to attend the game Saturday. Herd president Steve Brandes said the team wanted to do whatever it could to help the community.

where it's not one guy creating all the offense, most nights we've got five or six guys in double figures and the scoring is pretty spread, and that's by design. If we move the ball and we share and we take the good ones, that's what's going to happen."

Wisconsin guard Shannon Bogues, who posted 13 points, six rebounds and a steal in 17 minutes, concurred, saying that while all of the players in the G League want to post their own numbers, the Herd players truly enjoy playing together and moving the ball.

"We're listening to what coach is telling us, and having fun, really," Bogues said. "We just go out and have fun, move the

"In a time of need it is so important for communities to rally together and support each other," Brandes said. "We felt providing tickets was the right thing to do. We wanted to provide Oshkosh West families an opportunity to escape and spend quality time together."

ball, and make the right decisions."

The chemistry of the team is palpable, as players on the bench and on the court are constantly celebrating each other's big plays and moments. Buford said his players truly care for each other, which is fueling all of the winning.

"They're all good kids, they're about the right things — they're about the team and group success," Buford said. "They all want to score, they all want to do well, we're all here to help them get where they want to go. But it's a special group in there in terms of cheering each other on and caring about each other's success."

All of that winning has resulted in more

than just a potentially temporary spot on top of the G League. Going into Saturday's game the Herd had locked in a spot in the Championship Bracket of the new tournament format of the G League Winter Showcase in Las Vegas.

The tournament Dec. 19-22 will involve Wisconsin competing with three other teams in a single elimination tournament, with the winning team splitting \$100,000 in prize money. Those games count toward regular season standings as well, so plenty will be at stake under the bright Vegas lights.

Wisconsin will be back in town before then, after road games Saturday and Monday. The Herd is back Tuesday when the Austin Spurs visit.



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# Late surge pushes Neenah past Spartans

By Dustin Riese HERALD CONTRIBUTOR

Teams can look at an early game as a season-defining victory depending on the situation. For the Oshkosh North boys basketball team, a win against a team that made it to state just a season ago could go a long way in terms of boosting its confidence.

With Max Klesmit, arguably the best player in the conference, sitting out most of the first half the Spartans knew they needed to capitalize if they wanted any chance of winning. Despite playing sound defense much of the game, North found itself down double digits on multiple occasions only to rally to tie things up late in

However, those early game opportunities would come back to bite North, as the Rockets showed its grit down the stretch to close out the game on a 14-3 run en route to a 79-68 win Friday at North.

Despite what the scoreboard indicated, head coach Brad Weber couldn't have been prouder of his players as they showed they can play with anyone in this league.

"I can't say enough about the fight our kids showed tonight," Weber said. "The talk at halftime was that we needed to play tougher than we did in the first half. Neenah gave us a gift in the first half with Klesmit out and we just couldn't take advantage of it. That is on us as we didn't play hard enough in the first half."

"The second half was a much different story for us," he added. "I told our guys that I can't fault the effort they brought forth throughout the second half de-



Photo by Dustin Riese

Spartans guard Josh Dilling works the ball against Neenah's Chevalier Emery Jr. in an FVA contest Friday night in Oshkosh.

spite our execution being far from where it needed to be. That is the FVA for you, as often it comes down to the final three minutes or so to decide a winner. Unfortunately, Neenah was able to make more plays than we did tonight."

For much of the first half, both teams

struggled to get things going as both offenses struggled to get shots to fall. Once the first field goal was made from either side after the first three minutes, Mason Day was able to capitalize on a missed free throw knocking down a corner three for an early 6-2 lead.

That is when Neenah began to show its depth with sophomore guard Chevalier Emery Jr. beginning to control the pace putting the Rockets up 10-9. Things remained tight for a good chunk of the first half with Jalen Keago patrolling things with the hot hand before a 14-3 Rockets run gave Neenah a 34-24 lead before Greg Harden added four points late to close within 37-31 at the break.

The second half started almost identical to the first as both teams struggled to find their groove. Neenah had their man back as Klesmit began to light up the Spartans defense pushing the lead to 48-39. It was only a matter of time before Klesmit got going and Weber knew that once the second half began.

"Everybody knows about Klesmit and rightfully so," Weber said. "The kid is a great player and works his tail off to get there. It shouldn't have come as a surprise to anyone that he was the best player in the building tonight and when he sits out the first half that is a gift for anyone. Once the second half got started, we knew he was going to get his, although nine of his points did come from the line."

In danger of things getting out of hand in a hurry, the Spartans relied on the three ball to climb back into things as Josh Dilling and Day combined to hit five threes over the next series of Spartan possessions to give North its first lead of the second half, 61-59. With the score tied at 61, Klesmit provided the energy for the Rockets by scoring four quick points including a one-handed dunk off a steal to put Neenah back up 65-61.

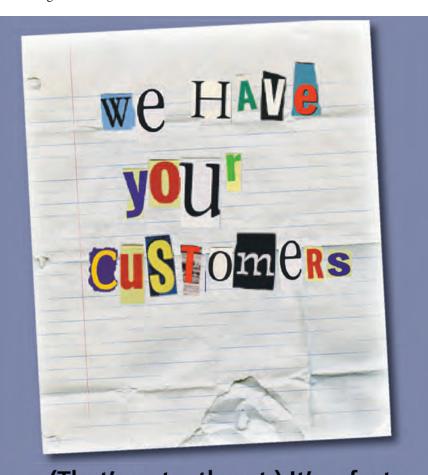
The Spartans didn't go down without a fight as Dilling helped lead the charge to tie things up once again 65-65 with less than four minutes to go. That was when Neenah put the clamps down on the Spartans as Carter Thomas followed up a missed shot attempt for the put-back, giving Neenah the lead for good.

That set things up for Emery, Klesmit and Thomas down the stretch as they were near automatic from the free throw line helping the Rockets close out the game on a 14-3 run.

Although the scoreboard read an 11-point win, Weber knows the game was much closer as his team proved they will be tough to beat this season.

"We have to play together as a team and give max effort the full 36 minutes," he said. "That certainly wasn't happening in the first half, and it wasn't happening when we let Neenah get us down by double digits.

"We are never going to be a perfect team, so to compensate we need to be an all-effort group. We were not consistent tonight, but when we were, we showed we can play with anybody."



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# **Prep sports roundup**

#### **WRESTLING**

#### North takes 12th place at Slinger Invitational

The Oshkosh North wrestling team competed in the Slinger Gunslinger Invitational on Saturday, finishing 12th out of

The Spartans had three top five finishes as Cade Schmitz led the way with a 4-1 record, finishing third at 138 pounds. Dylan Besaw finished fourth at 126 pounds while Jacob Medina was fifth at 106 pounds.

Carly Ochoa and Jeremiah Chmielewski added sixth place finishes at 113 and 182 pounds while Copeland Barrett was seventh at the heavyweight class. Matthew Schallhorn had a top 10 finish, finishing eighth at 145 pounds.

#### West wrestlers go 4-1 in dual tournament

The Oshkosh West wrestling team went 4-1 Saturday in the Luxemburg-Casco Spartan Duals.

In round one, the Wildcats picked up a 42-32 win over Bay Port and then beat Port Washington 52-30 in the second. In the third, West beat Green Bay Preble 49-19 and then suffered its only loss in round 4, 57-23, to Luxemburg-Casco. The Wildcats won the final round 66-12 over Sheboygan Falls.

Leading West was Elijah Geffers, who won the 113-pound title, going 5-0 on the day. Alec Hunter also went 5-0 at 120 pounds while Logan Grota and Drew Best went 3-0 at 138 and 145 pounds.

#### **GIRLS BASKETBALL**

#### North falls on the road

The Oshkosh North girls basketball team got blown out in the second half in a 70-41 loss against Neenah in a Fox Valley Association contest on the road Friday.

North, which only trailed by eight at half but was outscored 40-19 in the second half, was led by Emma Leib who had

Bailey Boulter and Meghan Gruse added eight points while Gabriella Kempf had five. Mallory Ott had four points, eight rebounds, two assists and two blocks for the Spartans (0-3).

#### **Omro beats Lourdes**

The Lourdes girls basketball team had a tough go offensively Friday night in a 59-37 loss against Omro at home.

Hope Burns led the Knights with 13 points while Molly Moore added seven. Nora Sammons chipped in six in the loss.

#### **BOYS BASKETBALL**

#### **Valley Christian opens** season with home win

Valley Christian used a 10-0 run late in the second half to seize control against Princeton/Green Lake in posting a 57-51 win over the Tigersharks at Menominee Nation Arena on Saturday.

Three players — Yianni Giannopoulis, Isaiah Wade and Nickolai Thur — each finished with 15 points to lead the Warriors, who were an impressive 20-of-28 from the free-throw line in the win, including 18-of-23 in the second half.

It was three free throws from Thur, on two separate possessions that started Valley Christian's key run after Princeton/ Green Lake had taken its biggest lead of the game at 43-39 with just under seven minutes to play.

Thur then drained a 3-pointer with 5:24 left to push Valley Christian to a 45-43 lead before Giannopoulos' two free throws and a three-point play from Isaiah Humiston stretched the advantage with 50-43.

Princeton/Green Lake answered with the next four points before two free throws from Thur snapped the Tigersharks' spurt before Andrew McFarlane and Giannopoulous finished off the win at the foul line for the Warriors.

Valley Christian led nearly the entire first half and took a 24-23 lead at intermission on Wade's tip-in at the halftime

#### **Hortonville tops Wildcats**

The Oshkosh West boys basketball team dropped a Fox Valley Association contest on the road Friday, losing 80-67 to Hortonville.

No statistics were available.

#### **BOYS HOCKEY**

#### Ice Hawks fall to 0-3

The Oshkosh Ice Hawks boys hockey team dropped to 0-3 on the season after getting shutout on the road on Thursday, losing 4-0 to Wisconsin Rapids.

William Engedal had 29 saves in the loss for Oshkosh, which had 28 shots on goal compared with the Red Raiders' 33.

#### **GIRLS HOCKEY**

#### Warbirds shut out

The Fond du Lac Warbirds girls co-op hockey team was shutout on the road on Thursday, losing to Wisconsin Valley Union 2-0 in a game played in Waupaca.

Hailee Scheier had 23 saves in the loss for Fondy.

#### **BOYS SWIMMING**

#### West hosts invitational

The West boys swimming & diving team hosted its annual Oshkosh West Wildcat Invitational on Saturday and the Wildcats finished sixth while Oshkosh North/ Lourdes was fourth out of eight teams.

Leading Oshkosh North/Lourdes was Owen Konop, who was third in the 200yard free (1:57.39) and fourth in the 100 yard fly (59.47). Chase Pecore added a third place finish in the 500 yard free (5:16.51) while Pierce Pecore was fifth in both the 200 and 500 yard free.

The same three were also a part of the 200- and 400-yard free relays, which both finished fourth overall. Joining those three on the team was Trey Pecore.

Oshkosh West had two top five finishes - Sam Blaskowski was fourth in the 50yard free (23.81) while the 200 yard medley relay team was fifth (1:56.03). That team consisted of Brant Wruck, Ethan Wruck, Eric Bal and Blaskowski).

Bay Port won the invite with 562 points, followed by Neenah (521) and Brillion/ Valders/Chilton (276).

Compiled by Alex Wolf, Herald contributor







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# West team looks to build on success

By Dan Kohn HERALD CONTRIBUTOR

After finishing runner-up to champion Kaukauna last year in both the regular season and Fox Valley Association Wrestling Tournament, the Oshkosh West Wildcats look to build on that success with yet another strong squad.

Back is junior Alec Hunter and senior Logan Grota, both state qualifiers a year ago, as well as senior Henry Foust, who was ranked in the state all last season until suffering a season-ending injury.

#### WRESTLING fifth at the state **PREVIEW**

Hunter placed meet at 106 pounds and is wrestling at 120 this season,

while Grota, a state qualifier at 132, is wrestling at 145.

"Our team set goals last March to be in the top three in the FVA and qualify multiple individuals to the state tournament again," Wildcats coach Duane Hartkopf

West has already started the season strong, taking third place this past weekend at the Luxemburg-Casco Spartan Duals, going 4-1 there. Hunter, last year's FVA champ, was dominant, going 5-0 with two pins and one technical fall, while Grota was 3-1 with three pins while wrestling at 138 and 145.

Depth will not be a problem for West, which boasts a number of seniors and big numbers.

"We have over 50 athletes on our team this year in which a majority have spent time on varsity the past season or two," Hartkopf said. "With that, we have a good amount of depth at a few weights which helps in dual meets."

With that depth, team success has been evident as a number of wrestlers have started fast. Elijah Geffers at 113 went 5-0 with three pins at Luxemburg-Casco, while J.R. Brown (106), Drew Best (138 and 145) and Roman Martin (195) all went 4-1. Picking up three wins was Max Carlin (126).

"A great deal hinges on how well we develop a few of our younger wrestlers," Hartkopf said. "In all honesty, we have a team that come February could look much differently than it does in December. Time will tell as we need to stay healthy to reach our full potential.

"Just continuing the program buy in and focusing on getting better each day up in the room."

Among the many other wrestlers expected to contribute include Brady Meyer (132), Carson Hollis (160), Collin Jones (170), Joey Truss (182), Calum Balke (220), David Johnson (285) and Camden Schettle (285). All wrestled varsity this past weekend.

#### North looks to improve with returning veterans

After a 2-7 FVA season and eighthplace finish at the FVA meet a year ago, the Spartans look to build around a solid nucleus of returning wrestlers.

Back are two-time state qualifier Cade Schmitz, who finished sixth at Oshkosh On the Water a year ago, sectional qualifier Dylan Besaw and girls state runner-up and sectional qualifier Carly Ochoa.

In the opening FVA match of the season last week at Fond du Lac, Schmitz (138), Besaw (126) and Ochoa (113) all won their matches by pin, as did Antonio Cervantes at 170.

"(We're looking to) grow throughout the season and grow through the sport of wrestling," Spartans coach J.R. Zemke said. "Our numbers are up to over 40 kids and very young. We just need to keep growing as the season goes on."

Other wrestlers who earned wins against Fond du Lac included Jacob Medina (106), Jonathon Burk (120), Skyler Jagodzinski (132), Matthew Schallhorn (145), Jeremiah Chmielewski (182), Matthew Mathusek (195) and Raymond McCann (220).

Among the many others expected to contribute include Landon Spanbauer (152), Adrian Rodriguez (160) and Copeland Barrett (285).

# **Pond hockey** tournament joins fisheree

Pond hockey competition is joining the annual Otter Street Fishing Club's Winter Fisheree event off Menominee Park on Lake Winnebago.

The Otter Street Pond Hockey Nationals tournament will be an adult 3-on-3 event set for Jan. 31 and Feb. 1 with two divisions (open age and over 30).

Organizers are looking to get 16 teams signed up in each division. Information on registration can be found on the Otter Street Pond Hockey Nationals' Facebook page and from tournament director Devan Kuether at Dkuether017@yahoo.com.

The fisheree runs from 10 a.m. to 10 p.m. Feb. 1 based at Millers Bay and feature prizes, food and a live band.

# **Rec basketball** league results

#### Nov. 21

#### THURSDAY RECREATION

Hoops I did It Again def. Team Manila ......57-55 Oshkosh Tattoo/Good Girl Piercing def. CLIC 68-50 608 Brewing Company def. Oblio's ............ 118-53 Legends ......bye

Standings: 608 Brewing Company 4-0 Hoops I Did It Again 4-0 Oshkosh Tattoo & Good Girl Piercing 2-1 Legends 1-2 Team Manila 1-2 CLIC 0-3 Oblio's 0-4

#### Trap league signups set

Fox Valley Trap Club is accepting registration for two-person winter trap league that runs from Jan. 6 to March 30. Membership fees are waived for this league, which is taking signups at the clubhouse at 5934 County E, Omro.

# Titans men split pair of games on court

The University of Wisconsin Oshkosh men's basketball team split a pair of games over the weekend, losing to Alma College (Mich.) 88-81 Friday while bouncing back with a big 89-50 win over Calvin University (Mich.) on Saturday.

In the win Saturday, Adam Fravert led the way with 22 points while grabbing nine rebounds and dishing out four assists. Jack Flynn added 19 points and Will Mahoney had 12 as UWO (5-3) shot 55 percent from the field.

In the loss Friday, Fravert led all scorers again with 25 points and had 10 rebounds and four assists. Flynn added 19 points and Eric Peterson and Levi Borchert had

12 points for the Titans, which struggled from beyond the arc (5-for-25) while turning the ball over 14 times.

The Titans had a 72-69 lead with just over six minutes left in the game but a pair of free throws, followed by a 3-pointer 30 seconds later gave Alma the lead, something it wouldn't lose.

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# Respiratory illnesses noted at UWO, other campuses

Two University of Wisconsin Oshkosh students have had confirmed cases of adenovirus, a common respiratory illness that is easily spread, over the past several weeks.

The state Department of Health Services has reported three UW campuses with confirmed cases of adenovirus, including UW-La Crosse and UW-Madison. UWO health officials do not consider the number of cases on campus as an outbreak. Both students have recovered.

UW Oshkosh volunteers as a surveillance site to help the DHS track influenza in the state, according to Shawn Ekstrom, senior physician with the Student Health Center. The two campus cases of adenovirus were discovered as part of this mon-

"Adenovirus infection is easily spread, which is why we tend to see it in places where large groups gather, like college dormitories and classrooms," said state health officer Jeanne Ayers. "While symptoms vary, the virus can be especially hard on people with weakened immune systems or who have lung or heart problems."

Antibiotics do not work on the virus. People with symptoms should see a doctor, stay home from work and school, and practice good health hygiene to avoid spreading adenovirus to others. People who have had the virus but no longer have symptoms could still spread it.

# Oshkosh Corp. on top management list

Oshkosh Corp. has been named one of the Best Managed Companies of 2019 by the Wall Street Journal for the third straight year, ranking No. 133 among the top 250.

The list measured more than 800 companies based on customer satisfaction, employee engagement and development, innovation, social responsibility and financial strength. The methodology is weighed and developed by the Drucker Institute and the ranking is based on overall corporate effectiveness. Companies included are traded on either the New York Stock Exchange or Nasdaq.

"It's an exciting time to be part of the Oshkosh family. We have a growing People First culture, our innovative products continue to power global progress and our MOVE strategy continues to deliver results for our shareholders," said Wilson Jones, president and chief executive officer.

Oshkosh Corp. was also recently named a Top Ten Military Friendly Employer by Viqtory, a national organization that assists military families.

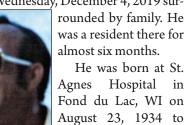


Santa and Mrs. Claus are coming to Ascension Mercy Hospital from 9 a.m. to noon Saturday to greet the public. Everyone is welcome bring a camera for a photo, and children can share their wish list with Santa. There will be an opportunity to make personalized ornaments and a coloring contest can be entered.

#### **Obituaries**

#### Ellwyn "Al" Carl Helmer

Ellwyn "Al" Carl Helmer, age 85, went to eternal peace at Bethel Home in Oshkosh, WI on Wednesday, December 4, 2019 sur-



Carl and Fern (nee

Thornton) Helmer, Al grew up and lived most of his life in Wisconsin in the communities of Theresa, Mayville, Winneconne, and finally Oshkosh. While growing up he worked on many farms in the area. He did live briefly in Witchita, Kansas as an adult. He traveled with his family of six girls to Virginia, Maryland, Illinois, and Colorado, camping throughout along the way.

Al was a skilled carpenter, mechanic, and all-around fixer upper/repairman for his family. He belonged to the local Carpenter's Union #252 in Oshkosh. He built his own home and was very proud of it. He worked on all kinds of cars and motors. Al collected John Deere toy tractors, matchbox cars, antique clocks (which he repaired), and was a skilled gardener of roses. He taught his daughters many of his

Al is survived by his wife, Carol J. Helmer, of 65 years; daughters, Deb (Steve) Jungwirth, Sharon Schrank, Sue (Bob) Green, and Laura Rebeck; son-inlaw, Dennis Berndt; grandchildren, Jeremy (Erin) Jungwirth, Amanda (Ross) Bernal, Stacy Jungwirth, Joshua (Mckenzie) Berndt, Ryan (Katie La Combe) Berndt, Danielle Canchola, Stephanie (Greg) Brooks, Robbie Gorschels, Corey (Rachel Davis) Berndt, Linsey Schrank, and Matthew Rebeck; 16 great-grandchildren; sisters, JoAnn Grainger, Char (Jeff) Zielke; brothers, Ben (Virginia W.) Helmer and Norm (Anne) Helmer, and many nieces, nephews, and cousins.

He is preceded in death by his parents, Carl and Fern; his mother-in-law and father-in-law, Ernest and Nelda Glasshoff; brothers, Duwayne, Robert, and Dave Helmer; brother-in-law, Dave Grainger; sister, Judy Clem; sister-in-law and brother-in-law, Ozzie and Lyla Hanold; Son-inlaw, Keith Schrank and Jerry Rebeck.

A celebration of Al's life will be held at Zion Lutheran Church, 400 N. Sawyer St. Oshkosh, WI on Sunday December 8, 2019 with visitation beginning at 3:00pm and lasting until time of service at 4:00pm.

Memorials may be sent to Zion Lutheran Church.

Special thank you to the staff at Bethel Home in Oshkosh for taking such loving care of our loved one. He celebrated his 85th birthday at Bethel Home with friends, residents, family and staff there.

His daughter Pattie in Heaven was waiting for him and will show him the ropes and take good care of him.

Until we meet again as one big family, love you Dad and say hello to all our friends and family there. We will miss you here but know you are at peace.



# **Library holiday events**

Holiday season events at the Oshkosh Public Library:

Oshkosh Youth Choir Holiday Concert at noon Saturday, Under the Dome. The Aria singers perform holiday music and invite the audience to sing along.

Santa Storytime from 9:30 a.m. and 6 p.m. Monday, Under the Dome. There will be time for photos and visits.

Monday Movie Matinee, 12:30 p.m. Monday in lower-level meeting room. A holiday classic about a young girl who begins to believe the Macy's Santa might be

Wild Winter Read Off from Dec. 21 to Feb. 22. It all leads up to a visit by Wisconsin author Lisl Detlefsen during the Wild Winter Read Off Celebration.

Noon Year's Eve Celebration from 11:15 a.m. to noon Dec. 31. Under the Dome. Children and grownups can dance in the noon year before naptime.



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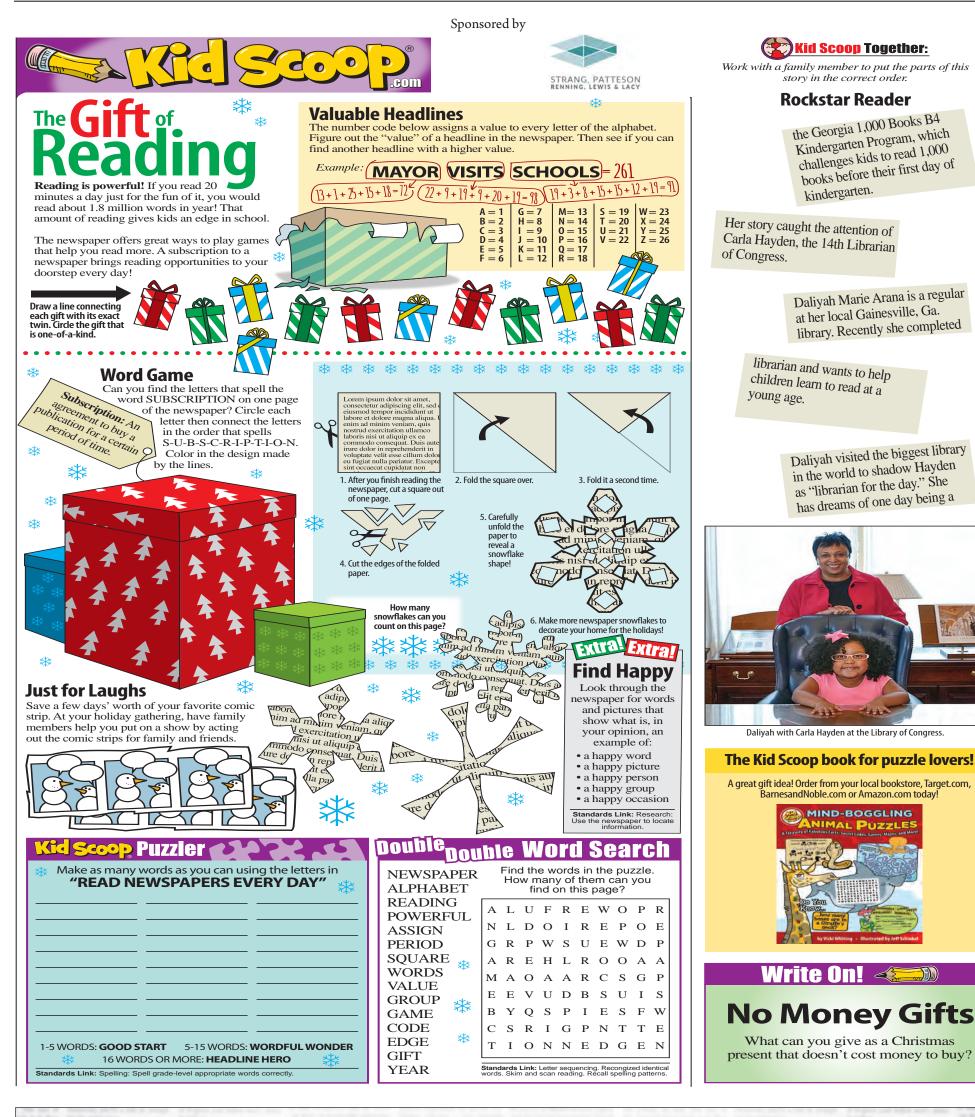
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