School district leads expanded free meal effort

Oshkosh Herald

More than 50,000 meals were distributed at the end of last week through the Oshkosh Area School District’s Free Grab-and-Go Meal Program since it launched March 17 as an expanded effort to serve a community in need during the ongoing pandemic.

Meal packages ramped up from 5,448 in the first week to 20,267 given out in the fourth week that closed Thursday ahead of a Good Friday break, when four day’s worth of items were provided to cover the longer weekend.

More than two-thirds of the meals are reimbursed, while the larger need to feed families in general required outside funding that included notable donors such as Dynamic Drinkware ($25,000), Humanity First USA ($4,800), JEE Foundation ($5,000) and Service League of Oshkosh ($1,000) among others.

“"We are so grateful to continue to be able to meet this growing need in our community,’ the school district’s website states. ‘And we are so grateful for the many incredible individuals that are making it all happen.”

A letter received by food staff members from a student while distributing meals was shared by Superintendent Vickie Cartwright as an example of the appreciation expressed to those making it happen.

“Thank you for being a hero during this time and for helping the community. You’re awesome,” part of the letter read.

See Meal program on Page 15

Employees meet special challenges

Essential services put many in anxious position

By Joseph Schulz

Herald contributor

Thousands of workers in Wisconsin are coping with a heightened sense of anxiety as they risk exposure to COVID-19 to provide residents with essential goods and services.

Some of the businesses still open are stores selling groceries or medicine, restaurants offering carryout or delivery, and others providing the “necessities of life,” according to Gov. Tony Evers’ Safer at Home order.

Many of the jobs providing necessities such as cashiers, fast-food workers and retail staff face an elevated risk for COVID-19 exposure due to their proximity to others. Many earn less than the national median income and lack paid sick leave.

Oshkosh resident Grant Hunter, who works at a local grocery store, said the pandemic is “worrisome” because he’s

See Essential work on Page 17

Council adds 2 new members

Erickson, Ford gain seats with Mugerauer

By Dan Roherty

Herald contributor

Oshkosh voters navigated through the obstacles created by coronavirus precautions to choose their new Common Council and school district’s Board of Education in the state primary election.

Unofficial results for three seats on the Common Council showed challenger Lynne Gray Erickson leading all vote-getters with 5,890, followed by incumbent Matt Mugerauer with 5,637 and UW Oshkosh professor Michael Ford taking the third open seat with 4,670 votes to edge out incumbent Bill Miller, who had 4,548.

For two seats on the Oshkosh Area School District’s Board, incumbents Barb Herro and Bob Poeschl were easily re-elected over challenger Jen Sullivan.

In the only contested race for a Winnebago County supervisor representing Oshkosh, Julie Gordon retained her seat against challenger Joe Stephenson.

Wisconsin Supreme Court Justice Daniel Kelly also was losing to challenger Jill Karofsky in an election that went to the

See Election on Page 17

Commencement at UWO online

By Joseph Schulz

Herald contributor

The University of Wisconsin Oshkosh will host a virtual commencement program May 16, Chancellor Andrew Leavitt announced Friday.

“We plan to include as much of the pomp and circumstance that would mark an in-person ceremony,” Leavitt wrote. Graduates are invited to walk in the midyear commencement ceremony after the fall semester, which is set for Dec. 19 at UW, Leavitt said.

He wrote that the decision to cancel the in-person commencement ceremony for the spring semester was “painful.”

“We arrived at these options based on feedback we received from students, both in emails they sent to me personally and their responses to the survey that our commencement team created,” Leavitt wrote. “We look forward to ‘seeing’ our graduates and university community on May 16 as we participate from far and wide through the marvel of technology in this important moment.”

see introduction on page 15

Essential services put many in anxious position

Photo by April Lee

Workers continue to perform essential duties at places such as the local convenience store.
Local news coverage keeps us informed

An article titled "The Coronavirus Is Killing Local News" was published in The Atlantic magazine's March 25 issue by Steven Waldman and Charles Sennott that starts, "Among the important steps you should take during this crisis: Wash your hands. Don’t touch your face. And buy a subscription to your local newspa-
per.

We are fortunate to have a weekly community newspaper reaching the majority of Oshkosh and a daily newspaper that is a part of a larger media company whose network provides regional and national news as well as investigative journalism. Around the country too many communi-
ties are a news desert with no local media covering schools, government or community events.

Local newspapers engage readers and create momentum. In last week's Herald we shared the story of Ken Osmond, owner of Planet Perk, and how he is pro-
viding meals to those in need. Osmond posted on Planet Perk's Facebook page Thursday afternoon, "After the Oshkosh Herald article appeared, everyday angels started appearing. People with food, donations, food and offers to volunteer came to us in huge waves." Earlier this month we collaborated with the Oshkosh Area United Way and Mercy Health Foundation on "Together Osh-
kosh," a poster to put in a window to join proverbial hands with neighbors. We launched a letter-writing campaign for those isolated from friends and families in assisted living and nursing homes. Lana Teisberg, a program specialist for Evergreen skilled nursing, shared, "... residents were so happy and excited to read the letters. ... They couldn't believe someone would go out of their way to write them such a kind letter, so thank you for getting these to them!"

The local daily and its Gannett Wiscon-
sin Media group have been instrumental in bringing statewide attention to teen suicide and children's mental health in the Kids In Crisis series, raised awareness to the mental health of farmers, and of course keep us in the know of our beloved Packers and Brewers. They are also the recipient of a grant from Report for America, a national service program that places journalists in local newsrooms and helps pay up to half their salaries. The four positions will cover important issues facing people of Wisconsin: people in rural communities, the state's Native American communities, and African American and Latino com-
nunities, as well as other ethnic groups.

The partnering newsrooms are raising money to pay the other half of a reporter's salary; information on how to help is at www.greenbaypressgazette.com.

The coronavirus has put heavy weight on many in this industry where furloughs and pay decreases have already been im-
plemented. The businesses that are clos-
ing are our customers, those who make the Herald and Gannett able to provide a valued product that requires community support.

If able, can we count on your support? To support the Oshkosh Herald check the first column on this page.

Easter bunny service

Local Veterans of Foreign Wars members helped gather and distribute Easter baskets for children Saturday at Planet Perk.

Support the Oshkosh Herald

Membership
A $50 annual membership supports receiving the newspaper weekly. Call 920-508-9000 or visit www.oshkoshherald.com/store /membership.

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Advertising deadline is noon Friday for the following Wednesday. The classified line ads deadline is 4 p.m. Friday for Wednesday.

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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
Published weekly and mailed free of charge Tuesdays for Wednesday delivery (may vary based on U.S. Postal Service and holidays) to more than 28,500 homes and businesses in the Oshkosh area.

Oshkosh Herald LLC, 923 S. Main St. Suite C, Oshkosh.

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As Miravida Living navigates this unprecedented time, we have witnessed fear met with courage, heroism and resolve. We have seen resilience, resourcefulness and our team contributing their highest and best efforts. It is with full hearts that we appreciate them and their work. Prayers, cards, notes, financial contributions, meals, candy, homemade masks ... donations large and small have been shared with our residents and team. Together, we are a testament to God's design.

Thank you for your outreach of love and support.
Pass/fail system in place for UW Oshkosh semester

By Joseph Schulz

The University of Wisconsin Oshkosh will switch to an optional pass/fail grading system for the spring semester, according to John Koker, provost and vice chancellor for academic affairs.

Koker announced Thursday that students will still receive letter grades, but at the end of the semester they will have the option to receive either a pass credit, a pass other or a no credit grade.

The new grading system will not affect students' GPAs and the deadline to apply for the spring semester, according to Koker.

For undergraduate students, a letter grade of A or B will count for a pass credit; a grade of a C minus, D plus, D or D minus will count as a pass other; and an F would count as a no credit grade.

For graduate students, a letter grade of A or B higher will count for a pass credit, a grade of a C plus, or B minus will count as a pass other, and an F will be a no credit.

Requests by undergraduates with a declared major will be reviewed by an advisor and determined by the college office of their major.

Undeclared undergraduate requests will be reviewed by the Undergraduate Advising Resource Center and other student support offices determined by the registrar. Graduate student requests will be reviewed by program advisors or coordinators.

"All requests and changes made will be communicated to you no later than June 26, 2020," Koker said. "We expect requests to be approved unless there is a negative impact on a student's academic progress or programmatic accreditation."

"The university will not be placing students on academic probation or suspension due to poor grades during this semester, he said.

"We will put some support mechanisms in place for those students who return in the fall and maybe would have been suspended or put on probation," Koker said.

Students have until May 15 to drop classes without affecting their GPA, he said.

"This has been a very anxious time for many of our students," Koker said. "Some of our students are worried and this would reduce that anxiety, (and) allow them to concentrate on their learning outcomes in our coursework."

He added that UWO has not yet decided whether to hold in person classes this summer but will make a decision "very soon."

Announced it will be discontinuing service to Oshkosh’s Wittman Field effective May 31. The airline boarded 69,967 passengers here in 1978, but fell to 32,644 in 1981, the year of the air traffic controllers’ strike. In the next few years, the number of travelers continued to decline. In 1983 the airline boarded 3,100 passengers in the month of February, in 1984 it dropped to 1,190. Republic Airlines came into existence in 1979 when North Central, a regional airline founded in Clintonville in 1944, merged with Southern Airlines. It acquired Hughes Air West the following year. Since then, Republic has several times needed wage cuts from its employees to survive. Officials will open talks with local air service provider Air Wisconsin about possibly expanding service to Oshkosh.

Source – The Oshkosh Northwestern
April 13, 1984

FINANCIAL FOCUS

Five Keys to Navigating Market Pullback

As an investor, you constantly want to see your portfolio move just one way – up. But that’s not possible, because the financial markets will always fluctuate. So, if you’re going to invest for any decades you need to be prepared for many ups and downs. Still, the recent market pullback from record highs, caused largely by the coronavirus, may have you particularly concerned. How can you navigate this environment?

Here are five suggestions:

• Avoid the temptation to panic. This pullback, while unsettling and unprecedented because of its speed, won’t last forever. And when it ends, you still won’t have to invest in the financial markets, because the biggest gains usually occur in the earliest stages of a market rally. Of course, there are no guarantees in the investment world, but we’ve seen many examples of this pullback/rebound pattern throughout history.

• Measure your progress against your goals. In the midst of a market downturn, it’s tempting to look back lovingly at the peak value of your portfolio, and that temptation will be more pronounced when that high point may well have just been a couple of months ago. But this isn’t a good “measuring stick” of your financial situation. Instead, consider the overall progress you’ve made toward your long-term goals since you first started investing. If you’ve been at it for quite some time – at least a decade – you’ll probably see that you’ve actually come a long way, despite what’s happened lately. So, if your goals haven’t changed, your strategy to achieve them shouldn’t either.

• Put time on your side. If you’re investing for goals that may be two or three decades away, you have the advantage of time to overcome market downturns, even severe ones. After all, you weren’t going to be cashing in long-term investments anyway. That’s not to say this pullback is irrelevant, of course – it may indeed slow your progress toward your goals, but it still shouldn’t stop you from achieving them. Here’s another point. If you need money from your portfolio for short-term goals, such as a wedding or a long vacation, you should keep those funds in investments that offer greater protection of principal – such as high-quality bonds and government securities – and are far less susceptible to fluctuating financial markets.

• Benefit from diversification. The headlines show how much the major stock market indexes, such as the Dow Jones Industrial Average, have fallen. But if you’ve built a diversified portfolio, containing a mix of stocks, bonds and other investments, your own results, while not great, are probably much better. Although diversification can’t always prevent losses or guarantee profits, it can help reduce the impact of volatility on your holdings and smooth out returns.

• Go “against the crowd.” When prices are falling, it’s not hard to join the crowd and start selling, in an attempt to “cut losses.” But cutting losses really means locking them in. Right now, prices of quality investments are lower than they’ve been in years, which can make for compelling buying opportunities. That’s why investors willing to go against the crowd.

Even by following these moves, you can’t eliminate all the effects of the market drop – but you may be able to create a softer landing for yourself.

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Edward Jones, making sense of investing.

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Van Dyne Lionesses in transition with merger

Local organizations had to decide on status
By Samantha Strong

After receiving an order from Lions Club International, the Van Dyne Lionesses service club will no longer be recognized by the international group as a sanctioned organization. Nationwide, Lioness clubs have three options: continue to operate as normal but lose standing, support and backing of the overall organization; merge with the local Lions club and all Lioness members become Lions members; or continue to operate as a Lioness club but there is an option to create a Lions club and become a Lion club.

"Ending the Lioness clubs was a decision made by the Lions Clubs International board of directors in April 2018 because we feel that men and women should have equal opportunity to be full-fledged Lions members," Shauza Schuda, Lions Club International senior media relations specialist, said. "We recognize that many Lioness clubs have a strong sense of fellowship and may want to keep their identity as a club in their Lions club name. In these cases, we recommend that the club apply for an official club charter and take advantage of the incentives we’ve put in place to make this transition easier.”

Schuda said Lions International created a bridge program to encourage Lionesses and Lion clubs to join and continue receiving the benefits of membership. Incentives include:

- No minimum number of members (typically need 20).
- Charter fee for existing clubs waived.
- Years as a Lioness carry over to Lions membership.
- Half international dues credit from July 1, 2019 to June 30, 2021.

The Van Dyne chapter has until next year to decide what they want to do, but tensions are already running high among both Van Dyne Lions and the Lionesses. Some Lionesses have already become members of the Van Dyne Lions, but not all Lioness members agree this is the right step to take. One of the main concerns is that their group does a lot of hands-on volunteer work that might be lost if the group is merged.

Bonnie Hughes, former Lioness president, said that over the years the group has done projects as diverse as sewing blankets to community members receiving an organ transplant to hosting community bingo.

"I was just heartbroken when I found out we couldn’t continue doing what we’ve always been doing," Hughes said, referencing the Lionesses working in concert with the Van Dyne Lions. "We work well together, we do our fundraisers together, we split the profits. We’re reaching twice as many people. There's going to be a change and unfortunately we can’t do anything about it." 

Holly Niemeyer is a member of the Van Dyne Lionesses and the Van Dyne Lions, one of the first three women who joined both organizations. She sits on the board of both clubs and said she joined the Lions because she wanted to be involved in the community, and is taking a large role in bringing change to one of the communitie's largest events: Van Dyne Small Town USA Day, which takes place in August.

"We don’t want to lose what we already have, we just want to re-energize it and put a new spin on it," Niemeyer said. "We want to attract more people. We have some exciting ideas. There hasn’t really been anything new done in 10 years.”

If the Safer at Home regulations are no longer in place, this year's event will include a parade, music from the 1980s and ’90s, and, of course, food.

Niemeyer said she will continue to be in the Lioness club in any case. Tom Wendt, incoming governor of the Van Dyne Lion, said the club will gladly welcome any Van Dyne Lioness who wants to join.

"I would definitely support them if they wanted to keep their own club," Wendt said. "It’s definitely strengthened our organization to have included women. On the local level, women bring the diversity and new ideas. We want more female input into our organization.”

Some service organizations in Oshkosh have already integrated their clubs to include men and women, such as Elks Lodge No. 262. In 1995, an amendment to the constitution of the Grand Lodge of Elks was made allowing women to join the previously all-male organization. The amendment came just after a lawsuit was filed involving the New York Civil Liberties Union and Women’s Rights Project of the ACLU.

While there are currently more men than women in Lodge 262, there are more women than men on the governance board, including the Exalted Ruler, which is the equivalent of organization president. Jeanie Lange just wrapped up her one-year term as Exalted Ruler of the Oshkosh lodge and said the lodge does not have any issues with women’s involvement and serving in leadership positions.

She said it wasn’t always like that and there were challenges she needed to overcome specifically because she is a woman.

"I think any woman coming into an all-male or majority male organization has to have a very strong personality and beliefs," Lange said. "You have to have the guts to stand up and stand behind your beliefs."

Lange said the Elks women are a strong group but there is still women and men who refer to the lodge as "the men.”

"It’s that mindset that for so many years it was strictly men," Lange said. "So I guess as a woman, you have to be a little more savvy, you have to know your stuff. That’s what it boils down to. Women are being more accepted, but it’s taken longer.”

The City of Oshkosh will be collecting yard waste starting April 27th and continuing through May 15, 2020. Brush and yard waste (including leaves) must be placed in PAPER BIODEGRADABLE BAGS or must be bundled and tied. No other container or bags will be collected. Bags must be out for collection by 7:00 a.m. on your regular garbage collection day. Brush will also be collected during this period. Brush should be less than three inches (3”) in diameter and bundled in four-foot (4’) lengths. The bundles shall not exceed fifty (50) pounds in weight. The City does not pick up grass, dirt, root balls, or stumps at any time.

Residents may also take yard waste and brush to the City Yard Waste drop-off center located on West 3rd Avenue, between Ohio Street and Idaho Street. Note: A PERMIT IS REQUIRED TO ACCESS THE DROP-OFF CENTER AND THE MUNICIPAL CODE OF THE CITY OF OSHKOSH PROHIBITS COMMERCIAL ENTITIES FROM USING THE SITE. Permits can be purchased at the Collections counter at City Hall, located at 215 Church Avenue; or at Kitz & Pfeil Ace Hardware, located at 427 North Main Street.

The seasonal drop-off center hours of operation are Monday through Friday, 11:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m., and Saturday and Sunday, from 10:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. The yard waste drop-off center is closed on holidays. Please empty all bags and containers at the drop-off center.

For more information, call (920) 232-5383 or (920) 232-5380, Monday through Friday, between 7:00 a.m. and 4:30 p.m.

NOTICE OF CITY OF OSHKOSH SPRING YARD CLEAN UP 2020

The City of Oshkosh would like to thank Ace Hardware for making the following Ace Hardware items available at a sliding scale price. Price reflects a discount off of the regular retail price. Ace Hardware items are available on a first come, first serve basis while supplies last. Ace Hardware hours are Monday through Friday, 11:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m., and Saturday and Sunday, from 10:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. Ace Hardware has a 22% sales tax, but coupons and Ace Reward cards may not be used. Ace Hardware has the right to refuse sale of certain items at certain times.

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PLEASE NOTE THAT YARD WASTE OR LEAVES WILL NOT BE COLLECTED FROM THE TERRACE UNLESS PLACED IN PAPER BIODEGRADABLE BAGS.
Spring Hearings offer online input option

The Experimental Aircraft Association is continuing to plan for AirVenture Oshkosh on July 20-26 while preparing for scenarios that could alter or delay the current schedule, Jack Pelton, EAA chief executive and chairman, noted that its headquarters have been closed with all staff working from home while continuing production of the monthly magazine, digital offerings and AirVenture planning. He said onsite preparation for the annual convention doesn’t happen until May when volunteer work parties start the work to prepare the grounds.

“We have already identified those tasks that could be deferred until June, while still enabling us to have a safe and successful event in late July,” Pelton wrote in an online message. “Currently our timetable weighs in. We are doing our best to adjust to the current situation and protect the health and safety of our communities while continuing to provide an opportunity for the public to weigh in.”

For our next major decision point is not until May. In the meantime, we are continually preparing and in planning mode, which includes a variety of ‘what-if’ scenarios.

“The choices are stay the course, delay or cancel. Of course, the ability to delay would be dependent on volunteer support and exhibitor commitment and probably could not be later than late August.”

Demonstration teams with three of the top fighters in the U.S. military fleet are planned to be featured this year during the fly-in at Wittman Regional Airport.

The F-16 Fighting Falcon, F-22 Raptor and F-35 Lightning II will be flown and on display throughout the week for EAA’s 68th event.

“As we continue to plan for a full AirVenture event this summer, EAA members and other attendees overwhelmingly tell us that they love to see the speed and power of modern military aircraft on display,” said Dennis Dunbar, director of AirVenture air show operations. “The pilots of these aircraft love flying at Oshkosh as well, as they know they are performing in front of one of the most knowledgeable and appreciative air show audiences they’ll find anywhere.”

The F-16 Viper Demonstration Team will fly its own performances and participate as part of the Air Force Heritage Flight program, which matches current military aircraft with warbirds from previous eras. It comes to Oshkosh from Shaw Air Force Base in South Carolina.

The F-22 Raptor Demonstration Team demonstrates the abilities of the Lockheed Martin F-22, which was introduced by the Air Force in 1997 and is one of the premier air superiority fighter jets. The team’s headquarters is at Joint Base Langley-Eustis in Virginia.

The F-35A Lightning II Demonstration Team will also fly both solo and Heritage Flight performances with Capt. Kristin “Bee” Wol piloting. She is the Air Force’s first female F-35A team pilot and commander. It is based at Hill Air Force Base in Utah.

Exact dates and times of each team performance will be announced as they are finalized.

Oshkosh school honored by state

Jefferson Elementary was among 107 schools to receive Wisconsin Title I Schools of Recognition honors for the 2019-2020 school year by the state Department of Public Instruction. This is the third consecutive year that Jefferson has received this award.

The school earned the “Beating the Odds” Award, which recognizes the top 25 percent of high-poverty schools that have above-average student achievement in reading and mathematics. The award recognizes efforts of students, families, teachers and staff to break the link between poverty and low academic achievement. Details on the awards are at https://dpi.wi.gov.

“Our educators are incredibly committed to the success of every child, and our schools are places where all children, regardless of their background, are supported and able to thrive,” Superintendent Vickie Cartwright said. “This is a well-deserved recognition for the staff, students and families at Jefferson Elementary School.”

All Schools of Recognition receive Title I funding for services to high percentages of economically disadvantaged families.

AirVenture hopes to stay on course for July dates

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Spring Hearings offer online input option

While the state Department of Natural Resources (DNR) canceled the in-person portion of the statewide Spring Hearings that were set for this week, the public has the opportunity to provide input on the natural resources advisory questions through an online survey.

Online input will be accepted through a link on the Spring Hearing page of dnr.wi.gov that went live Monday and is open until 7 p.m. Thursday.

“We look forward to hearing from the public on these many natural resource issues,” said Larry Bonds, chairman of the Wisconsin Conservation Congress.

“We are doing our best to adjust to the current situation and protect the health of our communities while continuing to provide an opportunity for the public to weigh in.”

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Congratulations to the Oshkosh Herald’s 2020 City Picks winners and finalists!

City Picks is a two-phase contest where readers choose their favorites in dining, entertainment and shopping. Phase One was an open ballot and readers nominated their choice. The top nominees in each category moved on to Phase Two.

Thank you to the hundreds of readers who took time to complete and submit ballots.

### Winners and Finalists

**Museum/Art Gallery**
- **Winner:** Paine Art Center
- **Finalists:** EAA Museum, Oshkosh Public Museum

**Performance Space/ Theatre**
- **Winner:** Grand Oshkosh
- **Finalists:** Leach Amphitheater, Time Community Theater

**Patio**
- **Winner:** Dockside
- **Finalists:** Fletch’s, Ground Round

**New Restaurant** (opened after Feb. 2019)
- **Winner:** Greene’s Pour House
- **Finalists:** Gabe’s, Takins Mexican Cuisine

**Coffee Shop**
- **Winner:** New Moon
- **Finalists:** Planet Perk, Starbucks

**Breakfast**
- **Winner:** The Roxy
- **Finalists:** Primo, TJ’s Highlander

**Late-Night Food**
- **Winner:** Nikko Gyros
- **Finalists:** Perkins, Taco Bell

**Brewery**
- **Winner:** Fifth Ward Brewing
- **Finalists:** Bare Bones Brewery, Fox River Brewery

**Bakery**
- **Winner:** Festival Foods
- **Finalists:** Carrot & Kale, Gardina’s

**Juice/Smoothie**
- **Winner:** Carrot & Kale
- **Finalists:** Kwik Trip, Planet Perk

**Pizza**
- **Winner:** West End Pizza
- **Finalists:** Christian’s Pizza, Zaronis

**Vegan/Vegetarian**
- **Winner:** Carrot & Kale
- **Finalists:** Gardina’s, Mahoney’s

**Fine Dining**
- **Winner:** The Roxy
- **Finalists:** Primo, TJ’s Highland Steakhouse

**Steak**
- **Winner:** The Roxy
- **Finalists:** Mahoney’s, TJ’s Highland Steakhouse

**Brunch**
- **Winner:** The Roxy
- **Finalists:** Bar 430, Primo

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The YMCA (top photo) had the most votes for Kids Party Place, Summer Camp, Youth Program, Yoga and Gym; Leon’s (left) for Ice Cream and Desserts; and Pete’s Garage for Burger, Dive Bar, Jukebox and Cheap Date.

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Deviled Egg Potato Salad $3.69 lb.

Mild Cheddar or Land O' Lakes American Cheese $4.99 lb.

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Jennie-O Deviled Egg Potato Salad 1.99 lb.

Jennie-O Mild Cheddar or Land O' Lakes American Cheese 4.99 lb.

Jennie-O Polish Style Ham 4.99 lb.

Jennie-O Macaroni and Cheese 1.99 lb.
By Joseph Schulz
 HERALD-STAFF

State prisons deal with virus cases, lawsuit

Three inmates at the Oshkosh Correctional Institution were confirmed to have COVID-19, according to the Department of Corrections website last week.

As of Thursday, there have been no confirmed cases among staff with a total of 12 completed tests at the facility, the website stated. Eight tests were reported as negative and one test is pending.

The prison has isolated the inmates confirmed to have the virus and is working to test those who have been in close contact with, according to state Rep. Michael Schraa, a Republican who represents the 53rd District and chairs the Assembly’s Committee on Corrections.

COVID-19 has showed up at seven of the state’s adult prisons. The only other one where inmates have tested positive is Columbia Correctional Institution, where there have been two positive tests. Staff members have tested positive at Columbia, Milwaukee Secure Detention Facility and Waupun Correctional Institution.

In response to positive tests, the American Civil Liberties Union of Wisconsin filed a lawsuit in the state Supreme Court on Friday asking for the release of elderly and vulnerable people from state prisons to avoid an outbreak that could strain Wisconsin’s health care capacity, according to a press release.

The lawsuit was filed on behalf of two incarcerated individuals with pre-existing conditions by state criminal defense lawyers and Disability Rights Wisconsin.

It asks the court to order Gov. Tony Evers and corrections officials to decrease the prison population “to a level where social distancing is possible,” giving priority to those at high risk of COVID-19 complications and death.

ACLU of Wisconsin executive director Chris Ott, in a written statement, described Wisconsin’s prisons as a “ticking time bomb” that threatens public health.

“The very modest steps taken so far by state officials are simply not enough to prevent an outbreak that would strain our hospital system, endanger public health and claim thousands of lives,” Ott said. “State officials have the power to avert this catastrophe — and they have to act now.”

“The Department of Corrections facilities are roughly 30 percent over designed capacity, and the state has only reduced its prison population by 1.3 percent, the ACLU said. The lawsuit says a COVID-19 outbreak could overwhelm available hospital beds and ICU units in communities that have prisons.

In a written statement, ACLU staff attorney Tim Muth said public health experts believe reducing prison populations is necessary to combat the disease.

“Lives are at risk and we simply cannot afford to wait,” Muth said. “We’re asking the court to intervene and force state officials to take action to prevent state prisons from becoming dangerous powder kegs of this disease.”

The ACLU says the number of people over age 50 in state prisons more than tripled between 2000 and 2016. The lawsuit also asks the Supreme Court to ask the circuit courts to take actions to reduce the number of people being held in jails awaiting trial.

Under Wisconsin law, the ACLU said Evers has the power to issue reprieves for inmates during a health emergency and that after the emergency sentences could be reinstated.

The lawsuit is filed on behalf of two state prison inmates with pre-existing conditions. One of them is Ramond Ninneman, who is 66 and has 16 months remaining on a two-year sentence, the ACLU said. He has been diagnosed with cardiac disease leaving him with only 25-30 percent of heart function.

Ninneman’s daughter, Rana, said in a press release that she fears her father’s remaining 16 months could turn into a life sentence.

“The Department of Corrections hasn’t even been able to provide adequate treatment for his heart condition, let alone put in place the social distancing measures needed to stop the spread of COVID-19,” Rana said. “State officials need to act now so that my dad and other people with pre-existing conditions can come home where they can safely practice social distancing and help keep all of us healthy.”

UW Oshkosh Head Start program keeps focus on families

Like other educational programs and institutions, the University of Wisconsin Oshkosh’s Head Start program has transitioned from its regular in-person operations to helping families from a distance last month.

“We’re doing remote teaching remotely, where as some college instructors may have done some remote teaching before. That’s just not something you do in early childhood,” said Lynn Hammem, director of UW Oshkosh Head Start.

Head Start programs are free for families at or below the federal poverty level with early childhood programs, classroom curriculum and mental health, nutrition and disability services. UW Head Start also gives students experience in fields like early childhood education and social work.

UW Head Start closed its nine sites the week of March 16, impacting about 500 children in Winnebago, Outagamie, Calumet and Shawano counties. Children were given at-home learning kits while teachers are reaching out daily with ideas for educational activities through texts, emails, calls or video chats. Some are filming read-alouds, others their own musical numbers.

“One teacher actually made a little teaching corner in her home so that she could start each day by doing some of the same kinds of things she would do in her classroom,” Hammem said. “She’s videotaping that. It’s just super, super creative.”

Family resource specialists are connecting weekly with families to see to it they have adequate support.

“One of the things that sets us apart from what K-12 systems or other early learning systems might be doing is the fact that we are a comprehensive service provider,” Hammem said. “That means we don’t think only about the education of the child, we think about the whole family.”

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New Moon Cafe won best Coffee and Place for Sober Socializing; Ruby Owl was picked for Trivia Night and Beer Bar.
House of Flowers (top photo) won for Florist; Reimer (middle) won for Jeweler; Paine won for Museum and was a finalist for best Outdoor Venue.
Big Brothers, Sisters mentoring continues

Big Brothers Big Sisters of East Central Wisconsin (BBBS) is working to fight the effects of social isolation with creative new methods of mentoring.

On a typical day matches from BBBS would meet at schools, workplaces and out in the community. Now working from home, BBBS staff is keeping their Bigs (mentors) and Littles (mentees) in touch through virtual means like video chat, phone calls, emails and letters.

“We find ourselves in a period unlike any that we have experienced,” Lindsay Fenlon, chief executive officer of the agency, said in an email. “We anticipate that the added layer of social isolation that our community is facing will cause and increase in the number of youth and adults seeking positive mentoring friendships. We are continuing to surround those currently in our programs with innovative and creative ways of staying connected while planning to support those looking for greater social connectedness in the future.”

Big Brother Mark was able to write and record a song through video for his Little Brother that’s available through the organization’s social media. Big Sister Cheryl dropped off a package full of arts and crafts supplies at her Little’s front doorstep. “During this crisis it is very important to stay connected to our Little Brothers and Sisters,” said Mark Richardson, a Big Brother. “A lot of these children have already experienced abandonment in their lives, and they don’t need to re-live bad experiences. A phone call, a letter, even a video are just some of the ways to say Hi and let them know you’re still there for them. Recently the first-ever virtual match for mentoring continued. Big sister Cheryl dropped off a package of arts and crafts supplies at her little sister’s front doorstep recently. They are looking for volunteers open to starting a virtual mentoring relationship that can transfer to in-person. Contact Amy Niemuth at aniemuth@bbbsecw.org or www.bbbsecw.org/bigs/application.

Big Brothers, Sisters mentoring continues

Six school sites are providing the meals along with assistance from Kobussen Buses to bring meals to five neighborhood locations. Pickup times and other details could change so residents are encouraged to check www.oshkosk.k12.wi.us/families for details and updates.

Parents and guardians can request meals for any children at home by letting workers know how many children they have and the schools they attend. Children may also request meals for their siblings or parents at home.

Free virtual Earth Day trivia contest set

The Northeast Wisconsin American Chemical Society is sponsoring a virtual Earth Day Trivia Contest that is free to all families with pre-college students.

While supplies last, participating families will receive free print copies of the Earth Day issue of Celebrating Chemistry, which has hands-on activities parents can do with their children. Top scores will be entered into a drawing for additional prizes.

Families can enter the contest through this Google form: https://forms.gle/S8LPWoGmFYGtWLb6 and questions can be emailed to aconnortheastwisc@gmail.com.
Seasonal flood emergency zones declared

A flood emergency was declared last week for specific waters in Winnebago County by the Sheriff’s Office that sets a slow-no-wake zone within 500 feet of any permanent structure. The list of no-wake zones can be found at www.co.winnebago.wi.us/sheriff, and include the Fox River in Oshkosh and lakes Poygan, Winneconne, Butte des Morts and Winnebago.

The emergency declaration will remain in effect until water recedes to a non-threatening level. Call 920-236-7488 for the current status and it is encouraged that boaters check frequently as the updates may change.

Local ordinances, DNR regulations and Coast Guard maritime rules remain in effect.

Post office promotes its online services

Post offices in Oshkosh are reminding customers they can access many postal products and services online. The Postal Store on usps.com offers different stamp denominations that are delivered. Those without a computer can ask their local office or carrier for a Stamps by Mail order form.

For packages, order free Priority Mail and Priority Mail Express boxes, or other package supplies at usps.com. Using Click-N-Ship on the website, mailing labels can be printed with the appropriate postage from home. Schedule a carrier pickup by letting the post office know where to find the package.

Oregon Street project continues west of 21st

Oregon Street from West 21st Avenue to the Glatz Creek bridge is closed starting this week for reconstruction work along with installation of a sanitary sewer interceptor and street patching from the bridge through the West 28th intersection. The work will include concrete paving, grading, sidewalk and driveways, storm sewer, sanitary sewer, water main, and laterals. This overall contract with PTS Contractors is expected to last through November.

Food pantries

These resources are among those available to assist with hunger issues during the COVID-19 pandemic. Many schools and community agencies are still providing free meals and groceries for families in the area.

Oshkosh Area School District: Free grab-and-go meals offered Monday through Friday at several schools and neighborhood locations. Updated locations and hours are listed at www.oshkosh.k12.wi.us/families/at-home-learning/free-meals.

Lutheran Food Pantry (714 Division St., 920-379-4774) Curbside pickup for clients. Call or visit website for its expanded hours and information: www.jericho-roadoshkosh.com.

Oshkosh Area Community Pantry

(2551 Jackson St., 920-651-9960) Pantry will distribute packaged food near the front door of the St. Vincent de Paul building. Clients will receive drive-up service or be given food if they arrive by public transit. Call or visit website for its expanded hours and information: www.oacpoday.org.

St. John’s Food Pantry (808 N. Main St., 920-231-5480) No financial forms to fill out. Food back entrance and follow signs. Call or visit website for hours and information: https://stjohnsonmain.org.

Father Carr’s Place 2B Food Pantry: (1082 N. Kessler St., 920-231-2378) Vehicle will be directed to the side of the building where volunteers will load groceries. Call or visit website for hours and information: http://fathercarrs.org.

Food friends

A friend of the Boys & Girls Club of Oshkosh is providing a meal for 30 families every week. This Saturday the meal was catered by The Rarty. The donor is using a different restaurant every week.

Warming shelter shifts fundraiser efforts

Day by Day Warming Shelter has canceled its Mile of Style fundraising event that was scheduled for May 13, instead announcing a $10,000 challenge match to toward the match program and can contact info@warmingshelter.com.

Saided to sponsor the Style Show event, direct donations made to Dayby Day will be matched to that amount. Those who purchased tickets to the style show are asked to consider donating the money provided toward the match program and can contact info@warmingshelter.com.

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Trinity Lutheran Church
36 Broad St., Ste 100 - Oshkosh
920-231-6570
Sunday Worship 9:30 am

St. Paul’s Lutheran Church
River Street and 4th St. Oshkosh
920-232-9440
Services on Sunday at 10:00 a.m.

Trinity Lutheran Church
370 Bowen St., Oshkosh
920-230-5401
Worship: Sat. 9:00 AM, Sun. 10:00 AM

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handling money and doesn’t know which customers could be carrying the virus without symptoms. Recently his store in- stalled a plexiglass partition between ca- shiers and customers.

“It’s definitely reassuring to have it there,” he said. “The difficult part, though, is encouraging customers to stay in front of it.”

Hunter’s employer encourages work- ers to use personal protective equipment (PPE) such as masks and gloves. Hunter also encourages customers to maintain their social distance when in line because some “are not taking it as seriously as they should.”

He’s also trying to limit his interactions outside of work, “totally closing off” from face-to-face interaction with friends and family to prevent spreading the virus.

“It’s been weird,” Hunter said. “I still connect with people through FaceTime, text messages and Snapchat, (but) that’s really the only outside interaction I have.”

Another grocery store worker is Nick Wielgosz, who works at a different food store in Oshkosh. He said his employer is encouraging customers to stay in front of it. “I have very little interaction with people there, someone’s go- ing to end up catching it.”

If a worker contracts the virus, he says the company would send them home for two weeks without pay. Despite his worries, he said he needs to continue working throughout the pan- demic.

“I mean, I still have to pay my bills,” he said.

Local resident Emily Togstad works for a home improvement store in Oshkosh, where signs on the floor indicate how far apart customers need to be. He doesn’t interact with customers too much but the threat is always present. He said shopping carts are continuously sprayed with dis- infector between uses, and when the store closes at night workers thoroughly clean with bleach water.

Like after 9/11, when airports became more secure, he hopes employers will continue stringent cleaning procedures after the pandemic.

“I think if you close at 10 p.m. you’re go- ing to work until like 10:30 p.m. because they’re going to have additional cleaning,” Mittelstaedt said.

For one 24-year-old female retail worker in Oshkosh, being deemed essential has meant being in close contact with a multi- tude of people.

When cashiering, she says there are stickers on the ground that tell customers how far away they need to be when waiting in line. But when a customer is at the front of the line getting items scanned, they are only about 2 to 3 feet from an employee. “The 6-foot rule definitely does not ap- ply,” she said.

She wants people to take the virus more seriously and stop shopping for non-es- sential items until it’s safe to do so.

“We’re not in quarantine because it’s all fun and games,” she said. “Essential busi- nesses aren’t open so you can come hang out when you’re bored.”

Tuesday, Postal delivery delays were expe- rienced throughout the process amid the general pandemic lockdown and added another challenge to voters if they wanted to switch to an early vote method when walk-in polling was not a guarantee.

Of the more than 1.2 million absentee ballots requested, more than 200,000 had not been returned as of Saturday, accord- ing to the Elections Commission.

Mayor Lori Palmieri said she has heard from residents who didn’t receive their requested ballots in time to get them sub- mitted either through mail or at City Hall despite being within the allotted time frame.

“That’s the big question mark as to what happened to those and whether they will show up,” she said, adding that the un- planned absentee voting surge and overall uncertainty put limits on participation.

“I do believe there are a number of peo- ple who had to make a choice” between ab- santee or in-person voting based on health and work issues, she said, and found them- selves without a feasible option.

An organizational meeting of the new council is set for April 21.

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Athletes adjusting to new workout regimen

By Dustin Riese

Spring in Wisconsin is unpredictable and can be downright frustrating. Rarely does the season start on time, let alone go on without some sort of cancellations because of weather.

After years of horrendous weather that often led to the season not getting underway until about mid-April, weather has finally been tremendous.

However, COVID-19 has put a stop to this year's spring season. The pandemic has canceled all spring sports and activities until further notice – which included the closing of all schools and gyms.

So for athletes trying to stay in shape come the season arrives, it has been a challenge to be able to work out properly.

"I am just doing all I can right now," said Lourdes junior Jack McKellips, who plays baseball. "Getting games of catch in and keeping my arm healthy is important right now. Also just trying to get stronger and put on some good weight is a goal of mine but is more difficult now that the facilities are closed!"

McKellips is focusing on a lot of running and basic body work that he can do at home.

"I am not doing a lot of body weight stuff at home trying to stay on some sort of routine to keep my body in shape," he said. "Lots of push-ups and sit-ups and some running and speed work. As well as going to the cages to get swings in to stay ready and working on some things."

Lourdes head coach Cole Boge has also been tremendous in helping us stay ready for the season by giving us some good workouts to do at home. At this point baseball is my sole focus, but in the summer when hopefully everything is back to normal, I will definitely be working on my basketball and football skills along with baseball."

"I am doing a lot of body weight stuff at home," said Schmidt. "I have my own 'field' in my backyard with a goal," she said. "I practice area in my back yard and so I keep my foot on a ball constantly and I continue to run drills to be ready if the season does start."

While the high school season holds on to a glimmer of hope, college athletics suffered the toughest blow. About two weeks after the NCAA spring seasons got underway, all remaining winter and spring championships were canceled. Schools soon followed suit by canceling their seasons, including the University of Wisconsin-Oshkosh.

Track and field was given the benefit of the doubt to finish its indoor season as outdoor was just getting underway. Despite a great indoor season, UW-O's Brant Sanderfoot was devastated by cancellation of the spring season knowing the potential his team had this year.

"Canceling right around our season for track and field was an unfortunate event, but it was the necessary decision to make in regard to the COVID-19 pandemic," Sandefur said. "Ensuring the health and safety of our society is a priority. However, training for track and field without having our outdoor competitions has had an impact on training. Knowing that the meet we would usually prepare for on Saturday is now no longer an event to look forward to, finding motivation to train some-times can be a struggle. Also, not having access to a track, weight room, or any type of training facility makes training sub-optimal."

Keeping in shape for track is something many can do on their own without a set schedule. But for field events the training is much more challenging.

"Having facilities being closed does make training somewhat difficult, especially for the field events," Sanderfoot said. "However, staying in shape does not require access to facilities. Personally, my routine is to try to get about two to three hours' worth of exercise every day to stay in shape. My workouts have consisted of hill sprints, short sprints in the road, body weight exercises in my home, or taking bike rides and using hills for added resistance."

Science cannot answer the questions directly because science is woefully incapable of determining the origin of all living things. However, science has been able to provide descriptions of the stunning complexity of cellular systems.

My goal is to describe some cellular systems so that people's answer is an informed one. Ultimately you are making a choice between two incompatible beliefs: Darwinian Evolution, random and purposeless, or design for a different part of the same protein."

Two teams of scientists have calculated the probability that a disulfide bond could be made by DE. (That is a bond formed between two cysteine residues in the same protein.) One team, scientists of DE, calculated that in a human population of one million, random mutations needed a billion generations to make a single disulfide bond. The other team, evolutionists, using slightly different assumptions, calculated one hundred million generations.

A billion or a hundred million – incredibly long times to produce a single bond. An interface has numerous bonds, disulfide and others, all requiring long times for random mutations to make them. Since the formation of bonds is independent events, meaning the occurrence of one has no effect on the occurrence of others, their probabilities multiply. That means for two bonds to form, one billion times one billion generations are needed. For each additional bond, more generations are needed. That is why DE cannot make an interface between two proteins.

By extension DE could not have made the thousands of enzymes in our cells that are large protein complexes with several polypeptide chains. For example, an enzyme in ATP synthesis has 45 polypeptides with many interfaces.
Diver receives pair of All-America awards

UW Oshkosh junior Matt Wilke received two NCAA Division III All-America honors from the College Swimming and Diving Coaches Association of America for the second straight year. He repeated as an All-America honoree in both the 1- and 3-meter diving categories. He was proposed to compete in the NCAA Division III Championships, but the meet was canceled due to COVID-19. Wilke earned his second straight trip to the Division III Championship by diving to a pair of top five finishes at the Region 1 Championship on Feb. 28-29. He competed against 20 other divers at the meet and placed third with 348.50 points off the 3-meter board and fifth with 424.10 and placed third with 438.50 points off the 1-meter plank.

Earlier this season Wilke finished second in both the 1- and 3-meter diving competitions at the WIAC Championship with respective scores of $21.20 and $22.25.

Wrestler Lemcke earns All-America honors

University of Wisconsin Oshkosh junior wrestler Jordan Lemcke was named to the NCAA Division III All-America Second-Team from the National Wrestling Coaches Association, the league announced recently. Lemcke was one of six named to the second team at the 285-pound weight class. He is UW-O’s 12th Division III All-American and fourth since 2014. Lemcke finished 22-7 this season with five pins and qualified for the DIII championships by winning the 285-pound title at the Midwest Regional on Feb. 28-29. He has tallied season records of 25-14 (10 pins) in 2019 and 5-14 (1 pin) in 2018. He owns a career record of 32-35 (16 pins).

I hope that the sunshine and nicer weather has brought each of you some moments of hope. These times are previously uncharted. Most of us haven’t experienced anything like this; we can use our skills and resources to continue to manage what we are able to. I encourage you to make sure that you are taking excellent care of yourself by eating well, managing your stress, reaching out and getting some physical movement in each day. I encourage you to ask for help if you need it. Now is an excellent time for you to think about what help might be able to provide to others (cards, letters, phone calls) and what help you may need (masks, grocery runs, assistance in online ordering, financial or goods needs).

We’ve lost our freedom to move about without an increased awareness of risk, we’ve lost physical closeness with those we do not reside with and we have lost in person gathering due to our current Safer at Home orders. Each of us can create a list of our current and future (anticipated) supports of reality is that there are losses you are personally experiencing, grief is a normal and expected reaction. Grief can show itself in a variety of ways in our lives, physically, spiritually and emotionally. There is no one right way to respond to your loss. In fact, the most important thing you can do for yourself right now is to acknowledge that you are experiencing loss and begin to take notes about how you are feeling grief. As you notice your responses, you will be more able to take the best care of yourself.

It is not helpful for us to compare our loss to each other. What feels small to one person might be the biggest loss for another. If you find yourself in this situation on either side try to remind yourself that your shared experience is grief. You are both responding to that loss that is important to you. When we remind ourselves of this, we are more able to support and care for each other. It can be very difficult not to try to fix hard situations and negative emotions.

As you face what we’re experiencing grief we can find ways to decrease our suffering and support those around us. First, create space in your life to manage the experiences of grief. Your sleep can affect your emotions; change can and you might be experiencing a wide swing of emotional responses. All these are perfectly normal. Don’t forget that many of the emotions associated with grief require physical attention to manage; exercise, sleep, healthy eating will all support the body as it experiences grief.

Other strategies for managing difficult feelings include creative arts, journaling, talking to others and creating meaning in your loss. It might feel too new right now to think about, but healthy habits that emerge, a gratitude practice can help us to focus ourselves on the good that is still present in the world.

Family gatherings may be different for a while. Some families may choose and have the ability to celebrate together by using technology. If you are unable to do this, perhaps you can share your menu or recipe for your favorite food item and include this in your household meal that day. Or you can send a note or text or call to share a memory of a prior family gathering that brought you joy with those whose you are unable to be with in person.

Remembering a memory re- leases in the brain the same “feel good” chemicals that flooded it at the time of the actual experience. Yes, family gatherings will be different but with a little creativity we can continue to be connected. Every Wednesday I am hosting a “Let’s Talk” conversation from 10-11: Join Zoom meeting on internet: https://uwextension.zoom.us/ and use this Meeting ID: 211 546 347 and enter your meeting password of 135 (Chicago) and use this MEETING ID: 211 546 347. Stay connected to your Facebook to see real-time updates and resource sharing, call or email (Amanda.Dornfeld@wisc.edu) with any questions or concerns.
In sloths' life, slow is the word. They're great reminders that sometimes it's a good idea to kick back, relax and just enjoy

**Sloth Diet**
Sloths eat very slowly. They eat mostly leaves and fruit. Because they move so slowly, they don't go looking for watering holes. They get their water from the fruits and leaves they eat.

Sloths digest food slowly. It can take up to a month for a sloth to digest a single meal. According to the Jacksonville Zoo in Florida, sloths can stay underwater by breathing through their skin. They can stay underwater by breathing through their skin. They can also move on land. Faster than they can swim, loths can swim more slowly than a drifting iceberg.

**Super Slow**
While on the ground, three-toed sloths travel at just 6–8 ft (1.8–2.4m) per minute! They're slightly quicker in the rainforest canopy, where they can catch up to 15 feet (4.6m) per minute! Even at their fastest, they still move five times slower than a drifting iceberg.

There is a little moth that only lives on a sloth. It feeds on the algae that grows in the sloth's fur. Sloths can eat up to 300 leaves a day, using their long arms and shaggy fur. This helps camouflage them as they hang from the trees in the rainforest. Their fur look a bit green. This is because the algae makes their fur look a bit green. This is a good thing because algae and fungi grow on sloths' fur. This helps to camouflage them when they are hanging from branches in the rainforest.

We sloths rarely come down from the trees because on the ground is when we're most easily caught by predators. Once a week, we descend for one reason. Why? We'd love to see you at the Jacksonville Zoo in Florida.

**Sloth Diet**
How many leaves can you find on this page? Have a friend try. Who finds the most?

**Sloth Facts**
There are two main species of sloth. One has two and the other three toes on their front feet. The two species look a lot alike. Two-toed sloths are slightly faster. Three-toed sloths have markings on their faces that make them look like they're always hanging around.

**Sloth: More Than One Meaning**
Sloth is a name for one of the world’s slowest moving animals. And it’s a word that means lazy, slow-moving lack of effort. Look through the newspaper for three or more other words that have more than one meaning. Cut out each word and write down its different meanings. This is a great way to find out which words have more than one meaning. You can use them in your stories. It’s a great way to find out which words have more than one meaning. You can use them in your stories.

There is a little moth that only lives on a sloth. It feeds on the algae that grows in the sloth’s fur.

They also have two extra neck segments, allowing them to turn their heads 270 degrees!