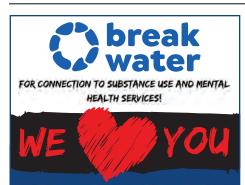


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VOLUME 3, ISSUE 51

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## INSIDE



Neighborly Historic 4th Ward forms an alliance Page 7

County court Winnebago judge position filled Page 4



#### **Back on track**

## Jackson St. corridor on new course

Separate initiatives key on traffic, growth

By Tom Ekvall Herald contributor

A pair of Jackson Street initiatives approved last week will update the traffic flow and overall development direction of that corridor in both its historic district and northern segment.

Common Council members approved

an implementation plan for multimodal traffic safety and a quality-of-life study for Jackson Street from Murdock Avenue south to Church Avenue, as well as a separate Envision North Jackson Plan that includes Murdock to Interstate 41.

The plans had been requested by the Historic Jackson Neighborhood Association to create a safer area for pedestrians and overall traffic. Neighborhood association leader Shirley Brabender Mattox commended the city's effort to look at the overall Jackson Street corridor along with a focus on the historic residential area.

"There's wonderful connectivity that these consultants have seen and potential for commercial, residential, neighborhoods — I just think it's a very thoughtful plan," said Mattox, a former council member, in recommending approval of the initiatives.

The council unanimously accepted a recommendation from planning consultants Ayres Associates to adopt reconfig-

See Jackson St. on Page 9  $\,$ 



Photos by Michael Cooney

#### Sparking awareness

Family-created holiday light shows collaborated over the weekend to raise funds and awareness for the National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI) Oshkosh. Each location has a computer-driven light show synchronized to Christmas music. Visitors can listen to the music from their cars. The three Oshkosh shows and one Berlin show will continue throughout the Christmas holiday and accept donations for various local causes. More information can be found at namioshkosh.com or the Collaboration of Lights Facebook page.



Lourdes girls get winning streak going Page 16

## City board advances alternative energy commitment

By Jack Tierney Oshkosh Herald

A resolution has been passed by a municipal advisory panel that the city should immediately cease any new investments in fossil fuels and divest from direct ownership and any commingled fund that includes fossil fuel public equities and corporate bonds within five years.

Additionally, the Sustainability Advisory Board, which passed the resolution

initiative last week 7-0, suggests that the municipal government, represented as the Common Council, seek out investments in clean technology, renewable energies, sustainable companies and projects, and sustainable communities, citing a city strategic plan that Oshkosh "has a responsibility to protect the lives and livelihoods of its inhabitants from the threat of climate change."

"I can't tell you how good that feels," advisory chair Margy Davey said after



passing the resolution, saying she has been working on passing it for nearly the past decade.

In coordination with the council-renewed March 2020 sustainability plan, Oshkosh will "collaborate with local companies emit-

ting air pollutants, exploring ways to con-

tinue to improve their pollution reduction practices and technology."

The resolution cites an Energy Investing: Exploring Risk and Return in the Capital Markets joint report with the International Energy Agency and the Centre for Climate Finance and Investment, stating that renewable energy investments exhibit higher returns than fossil fuels, showing 66 percent in five years and 192

See  $Energy\,plan$  on Page 15



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

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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.

#### Publisher

Karen Schneider, 920-858-6407 karen@oshkoshherald.com

## Back when issues used to be an issue

As I contemplated what our membership event to celebrate our third anniversary and kick off the Herald's fourth year would look like when I realized 2020 gave us more than just a pandemic. It gave us 53 Wednesdays thanks to Jan. 1 being the first of them and a little extra gift of leap year. So, the dilemma – does Volume 3 finish with Issue 52 or Issue 53? Does Volume 4 begin Dec. 30, 2020?

Isn't that just like this year? Dealing with situations we wouldn't have ever dreamed about 51 weeks ago. We could debate if it is 52 issues per volume or if it should go by calendar year.

But I think we've had enough to debate this year. I mean, between the presidential election, mask mandates, and virtual or in-person schooling, deciding on the number of issues in a volume seems a bit trivial. And most people I know are just debated out and looking forward to 2021 with hope.

I went back to Jan. 11, 2018, to revisit the hope we had when we introduced the Herald and revisit the goals we had



Schneider Oshkosh Herald publisher

set. I've always been one to set personal goals high and it has taken longer to get to certain benchmarks than I anticipated, but by being strategic in our implementation and with the support of the community (and the "Let's think this through" on many occasions from my team) I believe we have executed well in delivering the local, relevant news we set out to provide so that maybe, just maybe, when an extra Wednesday butts its way into the calendar in the next five to six years we will have emotional space to revisit the issues of calendar debate.

In the meantime, thank you to all our readers, supporters and advertisers that keep the issue count going and I'd like to extend an extra thank you to these

small businesses that realized the value of investing in an informed community and have been with us since we first rolled off the presses: First Weber Realtors, Piggly Wiggly, Reimer Jewelers, Re/Max on the Water, and Zaronis. And as I ended my first column, a special thanks to my husband for his support in keeping this project alive.

May you have a wonderful holiday season and may 2021 bring us all good health, good conversation and good news.

#### Property tax bills sent

Real estate and personal property tax bills were mailed out by the city Monday. Residents are encouraged to mail in tax payments, use the drop box outside the main doors of City Hall or at www.OshkoshBillPay.com.

Payments can be made at City Hall if necessary from 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Monday through Friday. In order to be credited with a 2020 tax payment, the payment must be received by Dec. 31.





#### EARLY HOLIDAY DEADLINES Dec. 30th Issue - Space and Copy Deadline

Display Ad Deadline - Noon, Wed., 12/23/2020 Classified Ad Deadline - 3 p.m., Wed., 12/23/2020

Jan. 6th Issue - Space and Copy Deadline Display Ad Deadline - Noon, Wed., 12/30/2020 Classified Ad Deadline - 3 p.m., Wed., 12/30/2020

#### **PUBLIC NOTICE**

Herald

#### **CITY OF OSHKOSH PROPERTY TAX COLLECTION NOTICE**

Due to COVID-19, property owners are encouraged to consider alternate methods to pay real estate and personal property taxes. The preferred method is to mail tax payments to City of Oshkosh, TAX COLLECTION, P.O. Box 1128, Oshkosh WI 54903-1128.

Additional options available for tax payments are as follows: 1. City Hall Dropbox, 215 Church Ave

- 2. Online at www.OshkoshBillPay.com
- 3. In Person\* at Community 1st Credit Union Lobby Only
  - a. 1492 South Park Avenue
  - b. 2424 Westowne Avenue
  - c. 2772 Oregon Street
- 4. In Person\* at City Hall, 215 Church Ave

\*Masks will be required for any in person payments and social distancing will be enforced. In Person capacities will allow for 10 individuals into City Hall, individuals may be asked to wait outside and could experience long wait times.

#### **HOURS OF OPERATIONS**

#### Editor

Dan Roherty, 920-508-0027 editor@oshkoshherald.com

#### 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. An E-edition of the newspaper can be accessed at www.oshkoshherald.com.

Hours of Ope	Hours of Operations		City Hall
	Monday – Wednesday	8:30am - 5:00pm	8:00am - 4:30pm
Normal Hours of Operations	Thursday – Friday	8:30am – 6:00pm	8:00am - 4:30pm
-	Saturday	8:00am - 12:00pm	CLOSED
	HOLIDAY Hour	rs of Operations	
Christmas Eve Observation	December 24	8:30am – 1:00pm	CLOSED
Christmas Day Observation	December 25	CLOSED	CLOSED
Christmas Day After	December 26	CLOSED	CLOSED
New Year's Eve	December 31	8:30 am – 5:00 pm	8:00am - 4:30pm
New Year's Day Observation	January 1	CLOSED	CLOSED
New Year's Day After	January 2	8:00am - 12:00pm	CLOSED

In order to be credited with a 2020 tax payment, the payment must be **received**, paid in person at any location, or placed in the drop box located by the main entrance to City Hall by December 31, 2020.

Publish December 16, 2020

**Russ Van Gompel Director of Finance** 



#### STUDENTS ARE AT THE HEART OF ALL WE DO.

## Winnebago judge named

#### Oshkosh Herald

LaKeisha Haase, a private practice attorney and University of Wisconsin Oshkosh graduate, has been named by Gov. Tony Evers to fill the Winnebago County Circuit Court vacancy created by



the retirement of Judge Karen L. Seifert.

"The people of Winnebago County and Wisconsin deserve judges who apply the law fairly and equally," Evers said in a statement. "LaKeisha Haase will do just that. She will be an excellent

judge for the people of Winnebago County."

Haase currently represents individuals and families in criminal and family law matters. She previously represented indigent clients as a state public defender. Her primary practice is in Outagamie and Winnebago counties but also includes work in

Brown, Calumet, and Waupaca counties.

"I am honored and grateful to be selected by Governor Evers to serve Winnebago County as a circuit court judge," Haase said. "I am excited to serve the citizens of Wisconsin and am committed to providing equal access to the court."

The Marquette University Law School graduate will be the first African American to serve as a Winnebago County judge. She is a member of the Wisconsin Association of African American Lawyers, the Wisconsin and national associations of Criminal Defense Attorneys, and Winnebago County Bar Association. She is active in the community and serves on the Outagamie County Racial Disparity Committee.

"I have known LaKeisha for many years and I have no doubt she will be a thoughtful and compassionate judge," said retired Winnebago County Judge Thomas Gritton. "Governor Evers made a strong appointment and the people of Winnebago County will benefit with LaKeisha's appointment to the bench."





FVTC culinary students work with face masks during course work this semester.

#### FVTC navigates semester amid pandemic

Despite a continuing surge of COVID-19 cases in the area throughout the fall, Fox Valley Technical College is closing in on the end of a unique, yet successful, fall semester. Students were provided with alternative delivery methods and a commitment to hands-on learning.

In the fall 2020 term, 58 percent of FVTC's program offerings continued an on-campus component. To accommodate students who need to physically demonstrate their skills in a particular occupation, class sizes were reduced to safely distance students and still provide hands-on training in areas such as welding, automotive technology and health sciences.

FVTC was able to manage almost 3,000

course sections in a variety of delivery methods, including online, hybrid and virtual classroom learning. By increasing the number of alternative delivery courses by between 220 and 1,900 percent depending on the method — FVTC has been able to keep students on track to hit their educational goals.

"I think the message here is we've done very well at not compromising the skill-building that needs to happen in person while also utilizing technology and distance learning modes to reach students where they are," said Chris Matheny, executive vice president and chief academic officer at FVTC.

Join us in welcoming our newest agent **Jess Shea!** 





weakness other than surgery, drugs or injections? Do you refuse to accept your knee pain as old age, and are sick and

Are you looking for a natural option to solve your knee pain and

tired of being told that you just have to live

in what you can do?

If you answered yes to any of these questions, this opportunity is for you, come join us for a FREE Workshop on Wednesday December 16th from 6PM - 7 PM or Saturday December 19th from 10AM - 11AM.

Sign up today by calling us at 920-230-2747 Or visit: page.pacptot.com/oshkneews

Advanced registration is required. To follow health guidelines space is limited to ONLY 12 participants (Guests are still welcome!). We will have seating 6 feet apart and extra precautions will be taken to ensure the safety of all who attend.

If you're confused about what to do next and looking for answers here's some of what you'll learn ...

- The 5 most common causes of Knee Pain (HINT: it is NOT only arthritis)
- How to avoid the #1 common mistake people with Knee Pain make.
- What successful treatment and permanent relief looks like without medications, injections, or surgery (which will save you a ton of time and money!)
- Attendees see a live, "five-minute miracle" sample treatment by a volunteer who will discover the cause, immediate relief, and solution to their knee pain
- All attendees qualify for a complimentary session to discovery the CAUSE and SOLUTION to their knee pain

Looking forward to seeing you there! Dr. Eric

Reserve your spot NOW 920-230-2747 (you can leave a message 24 hours a day) or visit page.pacptot.com/oshkneews

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## Community need is real; consider donating this season

Before the pandemic, Oshkosh was the host of several events, festivals and a great place to raise a family. Now, families all over Winnebago County have been impacted by COVID-19.

Many of our small businesses have suffered, and many families are worried about eviction or losing their homes. There is something we can do to help.

I have dedicated my time to Oshkosh Area United Way because the problems our community faces are spread over multiple areas. Financial strain has been no stranger to our community this year,

#### UW Oshkosh midyear commencement set

The University of Wisconsin Oshkosh will recognize the achievements of more than 1,000 students at its 56th midyear commencement Saturday with the awarding of nearly 750 bachelor's degrees, more than 150 master's degrees, about 170 associate degrees and eight doctorates.

The ceremony will stream online beginning at 9:30 a.m. and is produced by Titan TV and the radio TV film department. It Andrew Leavitt United Way 2020 Co-Chair

and United Way supports individuals and families in job placement, training, and sheltering options.

More people this year than ever have needed these programs, as well as our support.

will feature remarks from Chancellor Andrew Leavitt, Provost John Koker and two guest speakers. After the event, a recorded version will be available online.

Students are part of the class of 2021. Dr. John Newman, president of Aurora Medical Center Oshkosh, is a guest speaker. Sydney Devitt, a senior political science and international studies major, is the student speaker.



#### 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. With families anxious about COVID-19 and how to make ends meet, many have not made a plan to help their children learn.

As an educator, I love to support children's learning, especially at an early age. United Way focuses on giving children the tools they need to learn how to read and learn by distributing free books to young children and giving them the support they need in order to grow.

With social-distancing and financial strain, many of our neighbors have also struggled with mental health issues. United Way offers services to individuals and families to help connect them with mental health professionals so that they can cope and overcome the problems they face. Last year, the United Way campaign raised \$1.5 million. Our community's needs have changed considerably since then. Our friends and neighbors need your support more than ever before.

If you have been fortunate enough to not be financially burdened during this pandemic, I am asking for your help. You can give today at: www.oshkoshunitedway.org/donate. Let us come together to provide for the most vulnerable members of our community and show them that we are ready to recover together.

I am asking you to be bold for one another and act right now. Let's live united when we seem so far apart. Let's work together to make Oshkosh healthier, happier and safer.

In this year of COVID Christmas 2020 the Oshkosh Chamber Singers presents a gift of hope and music

## A "Virtual" Festival of NINE LESSONS & CAROLS

Recorded in the Historic Trinity Episcopal Church under the direction of Herb Berendsen

#### Premiering December 19, 2020

Available throughout the holiday season at:

- OshkoshChamberSingers.org/videos
- YouTube.com Oshkosh Chamber Singers channel
- Oshkosh Chamber Singers Facebook page

Look for us on the Oshkosh Media schedule (Spectrum Channel 2)





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 \$99.

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 of the Department of Public Works at (920)236-5065.

## Food Co-op gets healthy food access grant

The Oshkosh Food Co-op is among 20 organizations nationwide that will receive financial assistance awards through the America's Healthy Food Financing Initiative (HFFI) funded by the U.S. Department of Agriculture

The HFFI's Targeted Small Grants Program awarded \$145,000 to the Food Coop to help increase access to healthy food in Oshkosh's central city. The grant will help fund construction and inventory for the produce department and a point-ofsale system that accepts SNAP benefits.

Financial assistance totaling \$3 million was awarded through a competitive process open to eligible fresh food retail projects. had a total request of more than \$40 million in financing, according to a USDA press release.

"The decision to locate in Oshkosh's central city, a USDA food desert, was made by the co-op's founding members many years ago," said grants team lead Samantha Larson. "Our grants team has worked hard to find funding to support our vision to strengthen local economies, promote health, and build communities."

Of the 20 financial assistance awardees, 40 percent serve rural communities and 65 percent are owned or led by people of color, low-income people, women or Native Americans.

"The pandemic has underscored the necessity of having a robust and just food system, where all Americans, regardless of where they live or how much they earn, can

easily get nutritious, affordable food," said Don Hinkle-Brown, president and CEO of Reinvestment Fund, which administers the HFFI program for the USDA. "HFFI resources are a critical part of the solution set to strengthen local economies, grow entrepreneurship and quality jobs, and further develop essential and sustainable infrastructure, particularly in underinvested rural and urban communities."

The member-owned grocery store is scheduled to open by next fall at Jackson Street and Pearl Avenue. The grant award is part of a larger Food for All program currently in development. Ownership shares cost \$180; more details are at www.oshkoshfoodcoop.com/join.

#### **Park View names** new administrator

Park View Health Center has a new administrator with this week's appointment of Kara Gruber to head the county-owned, skilled nursing facility for Winnebago County residents in need of long- and short-term care, along with specialized behavioral services.

County Executive Mark Harris announced the selection pending County Board approval of Gruber to fill the position that had been held by interim administrator Tom Geske after the departure of Marleah Keuler.

Gruber has been the administrator of Rennes Health and Rehab Center, a 129bed nursing home facility in Appleton with more than 180 employees, since January 2019.







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★ Any needed x-rays

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## Historic Fourth Ward joins neighborhood alliance

The Historic Fourth Ward Neighborhood Association has become the 19th recognized neighborhood alliance in the city, announced with last week's official recognition at the Common Council meeting.

Neighborhood residents began the process of forming an association earlier this year and over the summer a series of meetings brought together a vision and mission, along with an outline of neighborhood boundaries.

The association's boundaries are Merritt Avenue (both sides), Irving Avenue (south side of Midtown Neighborhood), Jefferson Street (east side) and Grand Street (both sides). Residents in that neighborhood who attended a Nov. 10 meeting approved the alliance, its bylaws and general rules.

Historic Fourth Ward organizers said they envision a community where neighbors are connected and valued with a goal of bringing residents together in an inclusive community.

The Historic Fourth Ward's area dates back to a previous district voting zone.

"Our neighborhood is a great place to

2 Honey Sticks

Gummie Sample Pack

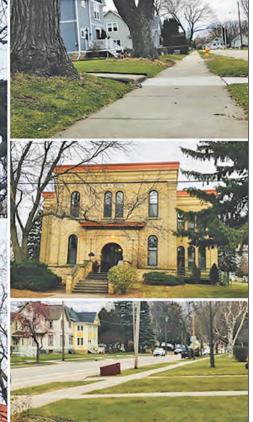
• Relief

Wellness

Beauty

Pets





Submitted photos

Oshkosh Healthy Neighborhoods has welcomed the Historic Fourth Ward area as its newest association.

live, and we look forward to having this association to help connect neighbors with each other," said Dan Braun, association chairman. "We are excited to see our hard work come to fruition."

City recognition will allow the association to access funding through the Community Building & Engagement Program administered by Greater Oshkosh Healthy Neighborhoods, Inc. (GO-HNI). In addition, the association will be eligible to apply for the city's Great Neighborhoods funding to support capital improvements in the neighborhood. Property owners will be eligible to apply for financial housing incentive programs to recognized neighborhood associations.

Participating in neighborhood associations is voluntary and there are no fees associated with membership. More information is available at 920-230-2717 or www.gohni.org.



# BLOCK PARTY **ON BROAD**

HOLIDAY

2 Topical Cream Packets

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## Save the Date: 50th Celebration **JUNE 6, 2021**







Thank you to the Oshkosh community for helping us to celebrate our 50th anniversary this year! We hope you will join us next year to celebrate at our Block Party on Broad on June 6, 2021. We wish everyone happy holidays and a Happy New Year! May you and your family stay safe and healthy!

#### Were you a part of Boys & Girls Club of Oshkosh in the past as a member, staff or volunteer?

We would love to connect with you, hear your Club stories and keep you informed about Club events! Please reach out to us online www.bgcosh.org/alumni-friends



## District officials engage families on return plans

#### Oshkosh Herald

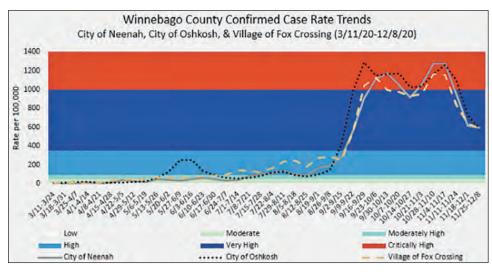
Concerns from families who have watched their children learn from home this year met with school district officials Thursday in a listening session to discuss future virtual and in-person learning options.

Superintendent Vickie Cartwright and other administrative staff heard from families who gathered at Carl Traeger Elementary School while sharing their perspective on moving forward on future efforts to get students back in the classroom in some form.

The district will remain in the virtual learning model until at least Jan. 11.

A school committee is being formed to focus on the learning models that will be used to get students through the 2020-2021 year following public appeals to reopen classrooms as the pandemic continues since it first forced shutdowns in March.

Another segment of families have discouraged the district from resuming classroom instruction until health protections are assured due to compromised immuni-



Winnebago County Health Department graphic

#### COVID trends down

The previous two-week trend of COVID-19 case rates per 100,000 people released from the Winnebago County Health Department shows Oshkosh has removed itself from the "critically high" to the "very high" category, representing about 600 cases per 100,000 people in Oshkosh. Lines represented on the graphic show the city of Neenah, city of Oshkosh and village of Fox Crossing. All three areas are trending along similar paths, currently all around the 600 cases per 100,000 mark.



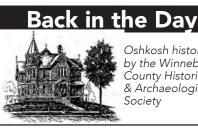
ty and related issues.

"We are committed to continuing to evaluate the latest information available and to use that, along with guidance from the Winnebago County Health Department, to guide our decision-making," Cartwright said in a statement last week.

#### Gift baskets going to isolated elderly

Home Care Assistance, Bella Vista, St. Croix Hospice and Edenbrook Oshkosh are compiling gift baskets for seniors in the community who may not otherwise have a holiday partner.

The Santa Claus for Seniors effort is hoping to deliver 50 baskets filled with Christmas cheer between Dec. 21 and 23. Many of the families receiving them



Oshkosh history by the Winnebago County Historical & Archaeological Society

#### <u>Dec. 16, 1960</u> **Residents Busy Finishing Outdoor Trim for Contest:**

Oshkosh residents who have been lagging have been happy to take advantage of unusually mild weather this past week to erect outdoor lighting displays for the holiday season. A contest sponsored annually by the Lions Club offers prize money to the best decorated homes in the city. This year, first place wins \$50, second place

"We have also heard from many stakeholders that our current Instructional Models Matrix is confusing."

Additional feedback from other constituents will be sought once a draft matrix has been created and a progress update was to be issued this week.

are affiliated with the Aging & Disability Resource Center of Winnebago County, Family Care, Lakeland Care District, Aurora Hospital and Ascension health groups.

Residents who know someone who could use some holiday cheer and a holiday gift in the community are asked to email Lindsay@edenseniorhc.com.

receives \$35, \$25 for third and \$5 each for eight homes receiving honorable mention. Judging is done by a committee consisting of service club members using a point system with 30 points each on artistry and lighting technique, and 20 points each for originality and ingenuity of decorations. Residents are urged to keep their decorations lighted in the evenings in order that others touring about the city may be able to appreciate the variety. The board of directors has decided that the previous year's winner is not eligible to compete for first place again this year, to provide a greater impetus to competition.

Source: The Oshkosh Northwestern. Dec. 16, 1960



**Closed Christmas Day** Merry Christmas & Happy New Year from Linda, Shawn, Ann and all the staff at



## \$5.00 FREE Purchase a \$25 Gift Certificate for only \$20!

#### **Open House** Saturday, December 19, 2020 • 11:30am-1pm

Homes of Hunters Ridge A Condominium Community 3288 Elk Ridge Drive, Oshkosh **Behind the Outlet Mall** Waukau Ave, Left on Elk Ridge Drive Construction

------



New

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#### **Jackson Street**

#### from Page 1

uration changes to reduce the four-lane stretch from Murdock to Church to single 11-foot-wide lanes along with a 13-footwide center lane with two-way left-turn lanes for more controlled traffic flow.

Accompanying the reconfiguration will be speed feedback signs to increase driver awareness and curb "bump-out" extensions that would be added after the Algoma Boulevard reconstruction project is finished in 2023.

The Alternative 2A option was recommended by the planning consultants as well as the Traffic and Parking Advisory Board and Bike and Pedestrian Advisory Committee in support of "pedestrians, students and healthy neighborhoods, and to make the roadway safer to vehicles."

The fiscal impact includes \$80,000 for the feedback signs, \$70,000 for paint and sign removal, restriping and additional signage, and \$100,000 for curb extensions. City Manager Mark Rohloff said there is \$60,000 budgeted in the city's Capital Improvements Program (CIP) for the safety plan and that 2020 Great Neighborhood Funding could provide an additional \$90,000.

Council members and city officials dis-

#### Mercy volunteer to lead state group of the group, which shares information on

Ascension Mercy Hospital volunteer Peg Larson will serve as president of the Partners of the Wisconsin Hospital Association for 2021 and 2022.

The nonprofit service organization was founded in 1951 as Wisconsin Hospital Association Auxiliaries Partners and now has more than 9,000 members statewide. Mercy Hospital Volunteers are members

cussed concerns raised about how the traffic changes might affect residents in terms of leaving driveways and refuse pickup but did not foresee any significant impact. Neighborhood groups in the area had expressed overall support for the traffic plan during the public input process.

Rohloff said the city will proceed on the traffic redesign with consideration for the rebuilding and expansion of the adjacent Merrill Middle School campus.

Envision North Jackson was prepared by another planning consultant, RDG Planning and Design, and will continue efforts to elevate the northern Jackson corridor by promoting high-level development in the adjoining area. The plan reviews existing conditions and community preferences, markets for north Jackson, corridor urbanism ideas, a framework for growth and implementation plans.

The Plan Commission, Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Committee and Traffic and Parking Advisory Board all endorsed the north corridor plan.

In other action at the last meeting of the year, the council approved:

• A 7 percent increase in stormwater utility rates to support continued funding of city projects and improvements outlined in the 2021 budget. As recommended by the CIP recently approved by the council, the rate of \$210.60 per equivalent

successful auxiliary programs, fundraising

Larson has been a Mercy volunteer

since 1987 and has been its volunteer rep-

resentative on the Partners board since

2009 when she became the Lake Win-

trends and volunteer ideas.

nebago District chair.

residential unit or ERU — the billing unit used for stormwater utility fees ---will go into effect April 1.

Sewer use charges averaging a 3.5 percent increase over the previous year also were approved to meet bond requirements.

Council member Matt Mugerauer noted that since 2016 the city has seen a cumulative 54 percent increase in the stormwater fee rate and hoped there would be a review of when those increases would plateau. Rohloff said the city will be completing a 20-year project plan by 2027 that will reduce the size of those fee increases that have been funding storm utility projects in response to flooding events between 1990 and 2012.

• An amendment to its transportation agreement with the school district for providing free bus service to students by adding another year to the agreement through August 2023 as a result of the pandemic. The outbreak led schools to modify class schedules with virtual schooling that limited use of transportation services. The revised agreement was approved Dec. 2 by the school board.

• Pay raises for employees covered through local unions and for nonrepresented employees. Raises for members of the Oshkosh Professional Police Officers Association are at 2.5 percent for 2021, 1.75 percent for 2022 and 3 percent for 2023; Oshkosh Police Supervisors Association are at 2.5 percent for 2021, 1.75 percent for 2022, and 3 percent for 2023, and American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees Local 796 Transit, will receive 2 percent for 2021, 1.5 percent for 2022, and 2.5 percent for 2023. Nonrepresented employees will receive a 2.5 percent increase for 2021.

OSHKOSHHERALD.COM | PAGE 9

lice Department totaling \$534,744 that extends an existing contract by five more years and includes additional equipment for the Police Department. First-year costs total \$122,424, then \$103,080 for each of the remaining four years.

• A transportation utility fee analysis that will offer specific information as the city continues to look at options to replace special assessments for road construction. The \$55,000 cost will fund the work by R.A. Smith consulting engineers, which is doing similar analyses for other Wisconsin communities, to develop a trip generation model that could be used to consider a traffic-based fee system. "We need to give (businesses) a better idea of what this would look like," Rohloff said.

• A three-year agreement that continues the city's public-private relationship with the Greater Oshkosh Economic Development Corp., with \$105,000 allocated for 2021. The city investment totals \$179,353 and is combined with Winnebago County Industrial Development Board funds.

• Continuation of a service agreement with AECOM Technical Services for methane monitoring and abatement at three former landfills on the city's south side. The \$120,300 contract for 2021 is an increase of \$47,700 from last year's agreement due to additional services required for the Kienast-Paulus quarry locations.

• A six-month option to purchase two vacant lots totaling 52 acres in the Northwest Industrial Park off Vinland Avenue from the city by an undisclosed interest with a purchase price of \$26,000 per acre.

· General development and specific implementation plans for a multifamily housing development on Logan Drive west of Jackson Street that would include six townhome apartment buildings comprising 46 units on a 4.6-acre lot.

• A cooperative purchase of body cam services with Axon Enterprise for the Po-

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## Startup business competition winners named

Debtle of Kohler, and Pure and Complete Phonics LLC of Oshkosh were named winners at the NEW Launch Alliance Hatch Event, held virtually Dec. 3, from among six competitors who had won local pitch events during Startup Week in Wisconsin.

The two startups will be invited to pitch again at the New North Summit next year to receive broader investor attention.

"The judges and I were impressed by the strength of the entrepreneurial ideas put forth by our six competitors," says Barb LaMue, president of the event sponsor New North. "It reinforced the strength of the startup community in our region."

Winning the pitch competition, including prize money of \$3,000, was Debtle, presented by co-founder Stephanie Hoskins. Debtle is helping companies and their customers negotiate and settle overdue invoices through a scalable cloud-based platform that automates and improves the negotiation of bad debt accounts.

Debtle has found early success with pi-

lot sites for businesses and individuals. It plans to use the prize money to wrap up its pilots and launch the product over the next three months.

Finishing second and receiving a prize of \$2,000 was Pure and Complete Phonics, presented by Dr. Shawn A. Robinson



(aka "Doctor Dyslexia Dude"). The startup is developing a gamebased spelling and reading application for students in grades 4-8 with dyslexia that judges called authentic, realistic and culturally responsive.

Robinson has been personally affected by dyslexia, having been diagnosed going into his senior year of high school by Dr. Robert T. Nash. Robinson graduated high school reading at an elementary level and started the Project Success summer program in 1996.

With the help of Project Success, along with Nash, Dr. William Kitz and Michael Flanagan at the University of Wisconsin Oshkosh. Robinson learned to read and went on to receive bachelor's, master's and doctorate degrees.

"I was a lost kid, and after overcoming my struggles with dyslexia I was liberated," he said.

Robinson continues development of his game designed for students with the learning disorder. He said the prototype with limited functionality has received positive feedback and his goal is to reach as many children as possible, both nationally and internationally.

"We are excited to use this platform to highlight the importance of inclusion, increasing cultural perspectives on dyslexia and the importance of meeting kids at the intersection of learning and technology with our digital platform," he said after receiving the award.

Pure and Complete Phonics had won the Nov. 17 pitch event for Winnebago, Outagamie and Fond du Lac counties. There were 21 entrepreneurial pitches made at the local qualifying event, each producing two winners.

The other four competitors were Experienced Associates LLC, presented by Chad Hendricks; Lovin The Skin I'm In, presented by Rhonda Chandler; Sheboatin' Manufacturing, presented by Justin Vannieuwenhoven; and Tempo, presented by Alex Hunt.

Among the partner organizations that supported the competitions were the Oshkosh Chamber of Commerce and Small Business Development Centers of UW-Green Bay and UW Oshkosh.

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## **Energy plan**

from Page 1

percent in 10 years versus fossil fuel investments, which earned negative returns in five years and 97 percent over 10 years.

Also cited was the 2009 Copenhagen Accord, which the resolution notes "almost every government in the world has agreed to," that states any warming above 2 degrees Celsius would be unsafe for current and future generations in Oshkosh and around the world.

A fossil fuel company will be defined as any of the 200 publicly traded companies with the largest coal, oil and gas reserves as measured by gigatons of carbon dioxide that would be emitted if those reserves were extracted and burned. It is estimated that 2,795 gigatons of C02 are available, which would be five times the amount that can be released without exceeding 2 degrees Celsius of warming.

"I would hope the council sees the economic advantages and job opportunities a shift from fossil to alternative fuels provides both our community and the rest of the world," Davey told the Herald. "It is the only sustainable path forward, and the best way to fight accelerating climate change."

The resolution will move to council for approval. It must be read and approved twice to be recognized by the city.

## Mason of year named by Oshkosh lodge

The Oshkosh Freemasons recognized Paul Brown as its 2020 Mason of the Year at a special ceremony Dec. 5. Brown distinguished himself by consistently volunteering for the many charitable and ser-

vice activities that Oshkosh Lodge No. 27 held this past year.

Brown is on the faculty of the Human Kinetics & Health Education Department at the University of Wisconsin Oshkosh.



## Steinert Printing announces merger

Steinert Printing Co. is joining with EnvisionInk Printing Solutions, another family-owned business based in Neenah, starting Jan. 1.

Mark and Anne Steinert said in a statement that the merger will strengthen its printing capabilities that will be done at EnvisionInk's new facility at 2730 West American Drive, Neenah. They said some of the Steinert Printing equipment and team will be making the transition to EnvisionInk.

"This decision was not one that we've taken lightly," Mark Steinert said. "Our most important concern was to find someone ... with our same values, reputation and abilities. We believe Pat (Raaths) and his team at EnvisionInk are just those people."

## UWO waives electronic application fees

Electronic application fees at the University of Wisconsin Oshkosh and nine other universities will be waived for the next two years, the UW System Board of Regents announced Thursday.

The \$25 per application waiver takes effect immediately and is intended to provide economic relief amid the ongoing

HAPPY

pandemic and lead to increased applications.

"We are absolutely delighted by this decision, which further validates our commitment to removing barriers to higher education," said Aggie Hanni, UWO assistant vice chancellor for enrollment management.

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## Lady Knights top Hustisford in Trailways contest

By Dustin Riese Herald contributor

The Oshkosh Lourdes Lady Knights got off to a slow start this season by dropping their first four games. Something appeared to click with two straight wins heading into Saturday, where Lourdes disposed of Hustisford 59-43 for their first conference win.

Led by Hope Burns, who head coach Quinn Heintz thought played one of her better games, the Knights defense set the tone by taking what was a close game and turning it into a strong win.

"Great win for us," Heintz said. "I thought our girls played really well. I thought Hope played one of the best games of her career all around. She was huge for us tonight. We played very consistent and got contributions from everyone."

Both teams came out struggling. After Charley Mullen opened the scoring, the Falcons responded with buckets from Kelsey Ewert and Rylie Collien to take a 4-2 lead.

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After the Knights' Molly Moore hit a three-pointer, Paige Droessler went inside to put the Knights back in front. Burns got in on the action with four points to take a 12-7 lead. Hustisford responded and went ahead 13-12, which would be their last lead of the game.

The Knights went a 7-0 run sparked by Burns and Moore. Lourdes ended the first half on a 15-4 run for a 28-17 halftime lead.

"We started out a little rough, but we made some adjustments with our post positioning against their zone," Heintz said. "That created a lot of great looks for us not only to end the first half, but in the second half also. Credit to coach Johnson, Steve and Guerrero on those adjustments. Our assistant coaches have really been incredibly valuable in getting our start turned around."

Mary Husman opened the second-half scoring with a runner bucket to put the Knights up 30-17. Up 10 points following a Kayla Millikin shot, the Knights defense stepped in to put the game away.



Photo by Andy Ratchman Lourdes' Molly Moore hits a three-pointer against Hustisford.

Lourdes was able to generate countless turnovers that led to open looks from Moore and Burns on the outside with Droessler and Mullen getting points inside. The Knights used another 10-0 run to take a 10-point game and flip it to 41-21.

"Our defense is our calling card," Heintz said. "We know we have to play great defense every night and we are capable of it. Our guards do a tremendous job pressuring the ball and turning them over. I thought our bench was a huge part of that





as well. Paige (Droessler), Nora (Sammons) and Madison (Peerenboom) really helped create those turnovers for us."

In need of offense, the Falcons continued to rely on Bischoff along with Morgan Kehl who was beginning to get involved. Whenever it looked like Lourdes was about to bust things even more wide open, the Falcons responded with a small run of their own.

Droessler and Mullen finished off the scoring for the Knights, but the Flacons ended the game on a 14-5 run sparked by Bischoff, Ewert and Kehl.

This is the kind of effort Heintz has been seeing from his team of late as they have responded from their slow start.

"We have been getting better with each game," he said. "We've went through a lot of adversity already this year. We struggled at the start, Addy (Hafemeister) was lost for the year and we had to regroup. Our kids have done a tremendous job stepping up in their new roles and working hard to improve every day. It's so much fun to show up daily with this group and see what they can do."

Moore lead the scoring with 14 points, Burns added 13, and Mullen and Droessler chipped in with 12 and eight a piece. Hustisford was led by Collien with 14 as she was the lone Falcon in double figures. Bischoff added eight with a trio of players scoring six points each.

The Knights are amid a four-game road trip this week at Horicon, North Fond du Lac and Oakfield.



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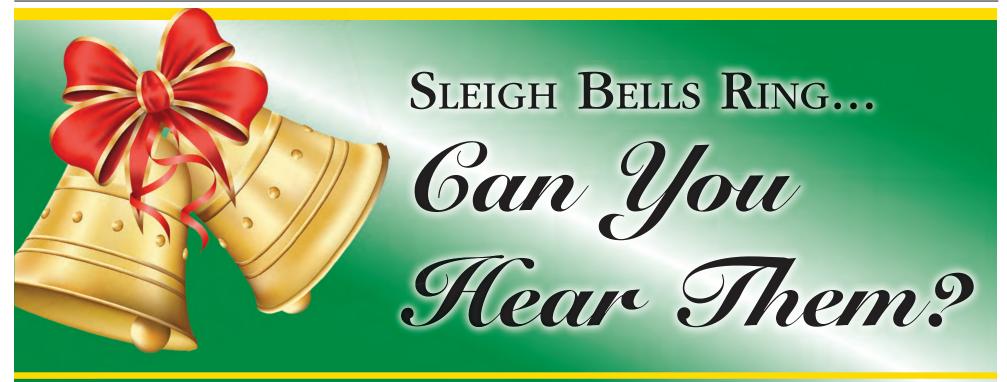


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## Prep sports roundup

#### **BOYS BASKETBALL**

#### Lourdes picks up wins over Horicon, Ripon

The Lourdes boys basketball team improved to 4-0 on the season as the Knights picked up two big wins over the weekend, beating Horicon 79-32 and Ripon 108-73.

In the win over Ripon on Saturday, the Knights led 53-29 at the half as Preston Ruedinger had a huge night – scoring 36 points. Jack Huizenga added 14, Jack Mc-Kellips had 13, Josh Bauer had 12 and J.J. McKellips chipped in 11 in the high-scoring affair.

Against Horicon, Lourdes jumped out to another big start as it led 45-20 at the break. Ruedinger led the way with 14 points as 10 different Knights saw the stat sheet. Malith Liabwell added 11 points in the win.

#### Wildcats fall to Neenah in FVA competition

The Oshkosh West boys basketball





Oshkosh North's Mallory Ott fights for a loose ball against Kimberly's Paige Cullen in Friday night's game.

team got behind early as Neenah stayed undefeated with a 80-51 win in a Fox Valley Association contest Friday night.

Senior Jacquez Overstreet led the Wildcats (0-4) with 17 points as they trailed 50-27 at the half. James Bradley added nine points in the loss.

The Wildcats traveled to Appleton West this Tuesday. They will host Appleton East at home Friday night.

#### Warriors top St. Thomas

The Valley Christian boys basketball team had eight players score in a big 74-33 win over St. Thomas Aquinas on Thursday night.

The Warriors, who led 38-22 at half-

time, got 17 points and eight rebounds from Elijah Wade and 16 points from Isaiah Humiston. William Kehoe added seven points, five rebounds and five assists.

#### North over Jaguars in OT

After a tough loss to Kimberly on Friday night, the Oshkosh North boys basketball team responded with a 76-74 nonconference win Saturday over Ashwaubenon.

No statistics were available.

#### **GIRLS BASKETBALL**

#### Wildcats hang on to defeat Marshfield

The Oshkosh West girls basketball team

hung on for a 45-44 win on Saturday, as visiting Marshfield missed a shot at the buzzer for a chance to win.

After a back-and-forth game, West (1-3) had its biggest advantage with seven minutes left – taking a 38-33 lead – before Marshfield came back to eventually tie things up.

Kiersten McNulty led West with 13 points while Lauren Best and Meredith Posanski added eight points.

On Thursday the Wildcats traveled to face Neenah and lost 70-46 as the Rockets led big at halftime.

McNulty led the way with 18 points while Best chipped in eight points.

#### Spartans drop two games

Appleton North cruised to a 77-17 win over Oshkosh North in a Fox Valley Association game played Saturday.

The Spartans got seven points from Meghan Gruse in the loss while Bailey Boelter added four points.

The Lightning had a 42-1 halftime lead.

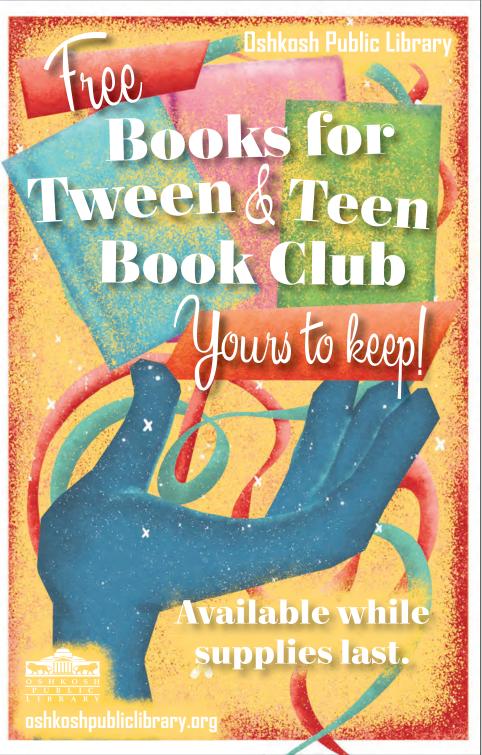
Oshkosh North hosted Kimberly on Friday night, losing 77-24. Boelter and Ava Hanson led the Spartans with seven points a piece as Kimberly jumped out to a 53-13 halftime lead.

#### **BOYS HOCKEY**

#### Ice Hawks get behind early in loss to Cedarburg

The Oshkosh Ice Hawks trailed 3-0 after the first period in a 6-3 loss to the Cedarburg Bulldogs on Saturday.

See  $Prep\ roundup$  on Page 19







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#### Prep roundup

from Page 18

The Ice Hawks (1-2) didn't get on the board until the second period when Karsen Thomas scored on an assist from Dylan Sprister at the 7:02 minute mark. Cedarburg scored three goals in the first and one more early in the second as they led 4-1 going into the third.

Oshkosh got goals from Sprister and Logan Farber on two power plays in the final period as Michael LaMore, Dean Kuberski and Winston Knoblock recorded assists.

Sam Kellenberger had 37 saves in the loss as the Ice Hawks had 26 shots on goal against Cedarburg's 43.

#### **WRESTLING**

#### **Lightning stops Spartans**

The Oshkosh North wrestling team picked up two wins as they struggled against a tough Appleton North team on Saturday.

Matthew Schallhorn received a forfeit for the Spartans at 145 pounds while 152-pounder Landon Spanbauer won a tight 6-5 decision over Appleton North's Cole Verhyen.

#### Neenah dominates West

The Oshkosh West wrestling team dropped a 57-18 Fox Valley Association match against Neenah on Saturday.

Picking up wins for West were Clayton Ellison at 106 pounds (pin in 5:18), Alec Hunter at 126 pounds (pin in 3:53) and Roman Martell at 195 pounds (forfeit).

> Compiled by Alex Wolf, Herald contributor



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## Kimberly overpowers North in FVA contest

By Dustin Riese Herald contributor

One of the biggest issues for Oshkosh North boys basketball last season was consistency. Through three games entering Friday it was again something the team was searching for.

With a mix of outside shooting, athletic ball handling and a defense that will give any coach a headache, second-ranked Kimberly topped the century mark for the second time this season in taking down the Spartans 108-76 at Kimberly.

Head coach Brad Weber gave the Papermakers a ton of credit, but also knows his athletes can do better.

"This Kimberly team is really good," Weber said. "They have so many shooters on the floor and their defense is extremely tough. They will be a tough out for anyone this season."

Oshkosh played with grit early on. With Jackson Paveletzke and Owen Pawlikowski leading the Papermakers offense in the first few minutes, North responded

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as Kaden Lasee, Jalen Keago and Cooper Juedes kept things close.

At that point the momentum shifted after a Jackson Dudek layup on the inside. Pressure from the Papermakers defense induced several Spartan miscues that turned a 8-7 game into a 22-7 Kimberly advantage.

Steven Clark did his best to stop the momentum, but the Kimberly offense started to show its overall depth. Whether it was Paveletzke and his 28 first-half points, Tommy Ellison with double figures off the bench, or a cast of big and athletic players finding the hoop, Kimberly took a commanding 65-35 lead at the half.

"You can't have mental breakdowns with a team that talented," Weber said. "We would hang tough for a while and then would relax and stop doing what was making us successful. This Kimberly team will test your toughness and ability to stay focused. We are not a mature enough team to match that intensity, yet."

The Spartans continued to battle and opened the scoring in the second half with

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a three-pointer by Lasee to get things going. Following six quick points from Grant Asman and Paveletzke, Clark got in on the action as the Spartans offense looked much better.

But whenever it looked like North was about to get on a run, Kimberly responded. Both teams exchanged baskets with Keago starting to take over on the inside for North. He led the Spartans with 28 points, but Weber said he knows he needs more help.

"We need to have better balance in our offense approach," Weber said. "As the season goes on, more and more teams are going to commit to stopping Jalen. We need to play through him and let him create for everyone. He is a gifted passer. I think when he does that, he is even tougher to guard and will get easier baskets because of it.

"We have a lot of good shooters. We need to use each other better than we have been. That is a whole team problem."

With Kimberly up 100-62, North continued to fight as they never let the game



reach a running clock.

That is when Juedes went on to score the team's next seven points but it wasn't nearly enough as the Papermakers continued their early season dominance.

Despite the lopsided loss, there were a few positive signs the Spartans could take from this game. North continued to fight until the final whistle and scored a season-high 76 points as they were much better offensively than in previous games.

North was only outscored 43-41 during the second half, and Weber credits his players for figuring things out and refusing to quit.

"I think we adjusted to the mistakes we were making in the first half," he said. "We had a lack of communication and execution in the first half that we were able to correct in the second. It is tough to maintain your effort when you are getting beat by a large margin. I am happy with our ability to stay in the fight and not give in just because the score was not in our favor."



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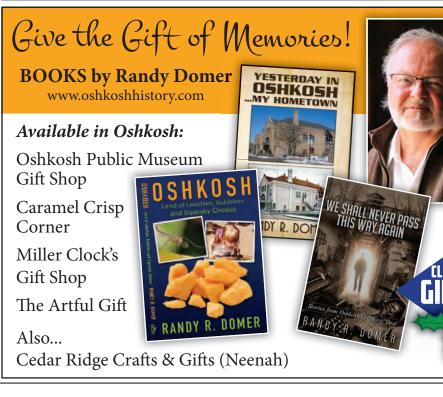
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## WIAC winter sports will return in February

Winter sports competition for the Wisconsin Intercollegiate Athletic Conference (WIAC), including the University of Wisconsin Oshkosh, will resume in February, the WIAC Council of Chancellors voted last week contingent on the securing of ongoing COVID-19 testing.

The resumption of play includes men and women's basketball, women's gymnastics, men and women's ice hockey, men and women's indoor track and field, men and women's swimming and diving, and wrestling.

The plan requires WIAC institutions to secure testing for student-athletes, support staff and game officials. The strategy will need to adjust to the changing conditions of the pandemic.

"WIAC leadership, athletic directors, coaches and chancellors throughout the conference are committed to safety and the preservation of student-athletes' experiences," said UW Oshkosh Chancellor Andrew Leavitt, who is also the Council of Chancellors president. "We have more work to do. However, I appreciate the collaborative spirit and the determination we share as we move toward the launch of a winter sports season."

The conference-only schedules will begin the week of Feb. 1 and be released at a later date. All contests will be conducted in accordance with NCAA Division III regulations.

## **Football conference shift** denied for North and West

A proposal by Oshkosh North and West's football programs to leave the Fox Valley Association conference starting in 2022 was denied by the WIAA Conference Realignment Task Force last week.

Both schools were seeking to join the Fox River Classic Conference, which consists of Green Bay area schools along with Manitowoc and Sheboygan North and South. Menasha and West De Pere were added this season for football only.

The schools can appeal to the task force by Jan. 4 ahead of its Jan. 6 appeals meeting and possibly to the WIAA Board of Control directly depending on the procedure schools need to follow.

Schools that apply for realignment need to provide the WIAA with significant documentations as to why they intend or want to make a move, such as district demographics, participation data for their sports, enrollment trends, letters of impact from teams affected and a proposal for a solution they would like to see happen.

The FVA went down to eight teams this fall for football only, with Hortonville and Appleton West heading to the Wisconsin Valley Conference.

The Spartans and Wildcats are scheduled to play in the newly formed Fox Valley Classic Football Conference for the alternate spring season.

## UWO campuses plan sport clubs

The University of Wisconsin Oshkosh plans to invite students to participate in sport clubs on its Fond du Lac and Fox Cities campuses for the 2021-22 year.

As a result of COVID-19 disrupting campus activities, the dissolution of the former UW Colleges and the retirement of

the Wisconsin Collegiate Conference commissioner, sports on the Fond du Lac and Fox Cities campuses, as well as other twoyear campuses, were suspended this year.

The pause allowed UW System institutions to explore how best to provide athletic options at the access campuses.



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## Wrestling programs adjust to safety protocols

By Dan Kohn HERALD CONTRIBUTOR

Nothing these days is "normal." Due to the coronavirus pandemic, high school sports are in uncharted waters. After spring sports were canceled, fall sports proved to be a mixed bag with some going on with restrictions and others stopped altogether.

This winter it's much the same. But instead of lamenting the pandemic restric-

PREVIEW look to persevere.

tions, the Oshkosh WRESTLING North and West wrestling teams

"(We're) just learning how to

adjust and keep moving forward," North coach J.R. Zemke said. "We're just happy to be back."

And if wrestlers get COVID-19, there is a plan in place to keep teammates and opponents safe.

(We'll) keep them home and trace who they have been with," Zemke said.

West coach Duane Hartkopf said the plan was well thought out.

"It's not as hard as people make it out to be," Hartkopf said. "(We) simply have to

embrace these changes to have an opportunity to compete. Obviously, new safety measures and such make for longer checkin processes and such, but it is what you make of it.

"Our district and county health department have protocols in place to keep athletes and staff safe. If a positive case arises, the county health department, our athletic training staff and school nurse takes over to conduct contact tracing and make sure we are limiting any further exposure."

Although it won't be an ideal season, Hartkopf said at least it's an opportunity, one they almost didn't have.

"(We have to) follow our safety protocols to best keep our athletes and coaches safe," he said. "Also, to make the most of a season that is drastically impacted by limited competition unlike other sports. We talk every day about being fortunate to compete; this holds more true than ever this year, so we will make the most of our opportunities to compete."

#### **Oshkosh West**

The Wildcats, who opened their season Dec. 5 with a 78-6 win over rival Oshkosh North, will look to improve on last sea-



Josh Dukelow and Karen Schneider Herald discuss local Headlines from the



Karen Schibline, CPCU 920.252.2575



son's 5-4 Fox Valley Association record and 9-5 overall mark. Leading the way will be two-time Fox Valley Association champ and state runner-up Alec Hunter, a senior, who wrestled at 113 pounds a year ago. He opened this year at 126.

West's other state qualifier was junior Roman Martell (220), who did not place in Madison at 182 last season. He did not compete against the Spartans in the season opener.

Also expected to power the Wildcats this season are junior Elijah Geffers (120), senior Riley Stobb (220) and junior Ben Buehring (220), who are returning sectional qualifiers.

"(Junior) Max Carlin (132) and (senior) Junior Brown (120) will also be back in our varsity lineup looking to build off of last season," Hartkopf said of the Wildcats' top wrestlers.

Also competing against North in the opener were junior Clayton Ellison (106), sophomore Domanic Schreiber (113), sophomore Lukas Schroeder (138), senior Carson Hollis (145), junior Clayton Eckstein (152), sophomore Vincent Bird (160), senior Blake Langlitz (170), senior Joey Truss (182), freshman Mason Klinger (195) and senior Mason Wilke (285).

Bird, Klinger, Stobb, Wilke and Hunter all won their matches by pin.

No matter what happens this season due to the pandemic, the Wildcats are determined to make the best of their situation.

"We simply want the opportunity to compete and know that we have to do our part to maintain this opportunity," Hartkopf said. "Our team is bought in and already holds itself to a higher standard, so this is something we are taking in stride. At the end of the day much of this is out of our control."

As for the conference race, it probably will come down to powerhouse Kaukauna once again.

"Kaukauna is the clear-cut favorite as they return a majority of their lineup from last year and have brought in a few other wrestlers," Hartkopf said. "Kimberly and Neenah will also round out the top three as they also return most of their lineup from last year and have a few solid freshmen coming in.

"After that, I would say Oshkosh West, Hortonville and Fond du Lac will compete well in their duals and battle to finish in the top half of the conference. Obviously, any amount of quarantines of COVID cases on a team could drastically impact their ability to compete well in duals."

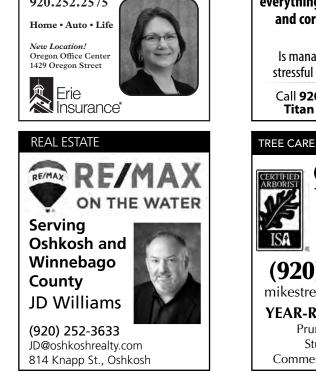
#### **Oshkosh** North

The Spartans also finished 5-4 in league play a year ago, but face the unknown due to graduation and the pandemic.

In the opening match against West, the Spartans were shorthanded and forfeited seven matches.

North's top returning wrestlers are seniors Dylan Besaw (152) and Landon Spanbauer (160) and junior Jeremiah Chmielewski (220). Others competing against the Wildcats were sophomore Jonathon Molash (126), senior Jose Collins (160), junior Drew McKay (170), sophomore Conner DeSalva (195), sophomore Bryaden Klauer (220) and junior Raymond McCann (285).





## COTS gains affordable housing grant

Community First Credit Union has awarded \$20,000 in grants to four northeastern Wisconsin nonprofits, including the COTS women's shelter in Oshkosh, that offer affordable housing assistance to vulnerable populations hard hit by the COVID-19 pandemic.

The funding was made possible by a grant from the Federal Home Loan Bank to the nonprofits who each received \$5,000. The other three groups awarded were Habitat for Humanity agencies for the Fox Cities, Green Bay and Manitowoc County area.

"The generous gift comes at a time when we are seeing more individuals, especially single mother households, entering homelessness," said Cindy Sahotsky, COTS executive director. "We have recently opened a Single Mothers with Small Children facility in Oshkosh to

#### Chamber presents 'Lessons and Carols'

The Oshkosh Chamber Singers will present a gift of hope and music through a virtual version of its traditional "A Festival of Nine Lessons and Carols."

The concert will premiere Saturday and be available throughout the holiday season at OshkoshChamberSingers.org/ videos; YouTube.com, Oshkosh Chamber Singers Channel; and the Oshkosh Chamber Singers Facebook page. It also will be broadcast on Oshkosh Media (Spectrum Channel 2). Recorded in the historic Trinity Episcopal Church under the direction of Herb Berendsen, the performers will include select singers from the full choir in small group ensembles.

Instruments include a brass quintet with Marty Robinson, Tyler Jones, Bruce Atwell, Dylan Chmura-Moore and Devin Ott; Jared Stellmacher, organ; Serena Kamps, harp; and Joanna Kamps, oboe.

More information is available at OshkoshChamberSingers.org.

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Community First president and CEO Cathie Tierney said in a statement, "In the midst of COVID-19 as nonprofits face increased challenges, we are happy to provide these funds to help make a difference for individuals and families in the communities where our member-owners live and work."

## **Obituaries**

#### **Vanessa Hawkins**

It is with great sadness but staunch hope that we will see her again someday that the family of Vanessa Marie Hawkins (Muza Teskey) announces her passing on Friday, December 4, 2020 at the age of 36. Gone



far too soon, Vanessa will be forever remembered and cherished by her husband Mike, her Mom and Step-Dad Barbara and Paul Reed, her Dad and Step-Mom Van and Sue Teskey, her sisters and brother, Amie, Katie, Maddy, Tatum, and Tucker, her Grandmas Dot and Eileen, her Grandpa Tom, all of her aunts and uncles, cousins, nieces and nephews,

god-children, in-laws, and friends. She truly loved and was loved by so many, it'd be impossible to list them all.

Born in Alexandria, VA on February 19, 1984, "Ness" moved to Oshkosh, WI shortly thereafter where she grew up into a fun-loving, adventurous, athletic, competitive, and successful young woman. Graduating with honors from Oshkosh North High School in 2002, Vanessa attended the U.S. Air Force Academy in Colorado Springs, CO. While there, she created a program for victims of sexual assault and harassment from the ground up. Cadet Muza Teskey graduated in 2006 with a commission as a 2nd Lt in the Air Force and an assignment to Royal Air Force Lakenheath in the U.K. as a personnelist. Following her active duty career, she continued her government service as an

#### **Michael F. Scott**

Michael F. Scott, age 79 of Oshkosh, passed away at Lakepoint Villa on Tuesday, December 8, 2020. He was born on August 30, 1941 to the late Eugene and Elaine (Yohann) Scott.

## Music, ministry event set at 2:22

Don Shire, an international trumpeter and minister, brings his mix of stories and music to the Dwelling 2:22 stage at 7 p.m. Friday. Shire runs a ministry for orphans in Honduras and widows in India.

Doors open at 6 p.m. for concessions and fellowship at 222 Church Ave. Tickets are available through www.eventbrite.com and contacting dwelling222.net.

Executive Assistant to the Commander of the 49th Fighter Training Squadron at Columbus AFB, MS in 2007. While working there she met Mike and the two were married in 2008. Selflessly choosing to follow him and his Air Force career, "v girl" enjoyed volunteering at church, writing, doing product promotions, training and attending classes to become a Certified Nurse Assistant, hosting family and friends at various duty stations, and raising the couple's massive German Shepherd dog, Zeke.

Vanessa was first and foremost a Christian who loved God and others above herself. She was one of the most selfless people you'd ever meet and her smile and laugh were contagious. V never met a stranger and would literally give you the shirt off her back if you needed it. She will always be remembered as the beautiful, tender-hearted, caring, and strong woman, wife, daughter, sister, aunt, god-mother, grand-daughter, niece, and friend that she strived to be every day of her sweet life.

Loved ones who are welcoming her to Heaven are Grandpas John Muza, Ed Teskey, Bill Reed, and Carl Hawkins, Grandmas Garnett (Waters) Teskey, Florence Reed, Janet Flaherty, and Evie Hawkins, Aunt Jaye Teskey Malkie, and Great-Grandma Nannie Waters.

A private celebration of Vanessa's life was held on Friday, December 11, 2020, at Most Blessed Sacrament Parish in Oshkosh, with her cousin Father Daniel Schuster officiating. To view a video of the funeral Mass, please visit the link, https:// youtu.be/ReZw-7PlLuQ.

In lieu of flowers a memorial will be established.

KONRAD-BEHLMAN

partner, and friend.

He is lovingly survived by his significant other of 40 years, Lou Schultz-Andrews; daughters, Kristin (Rob Bielfeldt) Scott and Amy (Jana Marcus) Scott; step-children, Michele (Jeff) Beck, Jeffrey Andrews, Daniel Andrews, and Pamela (Tad Seder) Andrews; grandchildren, Joshua Scott, Andrew Jones, Emma Bielfeldt, Ondrea Beck, Ty (Heidi) Beck, Nathaniel Andrews, Garrett Andrews, Lily Andrews, and Helen Andrews; sisters, Mary and Peggy Scott; daughter-in-law, Amy Scott-Egerbrecht; brother-in-law, Paul Padzuiakas. In addition to his parents, Michael was preceded in death by his son, Thomas J. Scott; brother, Thomas E. Scott; sister, Ann Padzuiakas; grandson, Andrew Bielfeldt.

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Beginning very early on, Michael was a talented athlete. He was a basketball star throughout high school. An avid sportsman and fan, he played competitive tennis, while active in softball, golf, and swimming. He had a love for the arts, especially opera, foreign films, and music. Above everything, was a dedicated father,

Per Michael's wishes, no services will take place.

Thank you to the staff and caregivers at Lakepoint Villa for the loving care provided to Michael during his time there.







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