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School buses roll with obstacles

Driver shortage continues as license interest grows

By Kaitlyn Scoville
OSHKOSH HERALD

As students of all ages return to school in person after more than a year of studying either virtually or by hybrid means, an oftentimes overlooked service for them has been struggling for years.

Since 2015, the number of licensed school bus drivers in the state has dropped

by almost 1,500, according to the Wisconsin School Bus Association (WSBA), showing that the industry's needs were present long before the pandemic.

That decline continues despite the number of individuals with a certified driver's license (CDL) in Wisconsin increasing in the same time period by nearly 5,000.

The WSBA said in a press release they acknowledge the growing national issue and that the pandemic has exacerbated it.

"School bus transportation is an extension of the education system and used by at least 75 percent of the K-12 student

population in Wisconsin," the release states. "However, a shortage of drivers jeopardizes the ability to get 750,000 students back and forth safely to school and other activities."

WSBA notes several contributing factors to the shortage, including an increased risk to its aging operator fleet with one-third of its drivers being over 60 years old, vaccine hesitancy and people applying to drive but only using it to continue unemployment benefits.

SEE **School busing** ON PAGE 10

INSIDE



Story support
National grant gives lift to Hmong project
Page 3

School start
Classes in session amid mask clash
Page 4

Prep football
Lourdes shut out; North, West also fall
Pages 16-18



Photos by Michael Cooney

Jazz street

Dave Damiani from Los Angeles performs with members of the Water City Jazz Orchestra during the first Oshkosh Jazz Festival held Saturday on Main Street. Damiani was one of many national and regional artists taking the stage at the free inaugural, privately funded concert.



Museum director ends his chapter of city history

Larson helped develop Oshkosh's special story

By Dan Roherty
OSHKOSH HERALD

Longtime Oshkosh Public Museum director Brad Larson will miss shaping the community's understanding of its history as he retires this week, but not so much the steady funding challenges required to keep a public institution up to date.

Larson has managed and led the early 20th century Sawyer family home location and its collection of more than 300,000 items for more than three decades with a team that interprets Oshkosh area history in educational and compelling ways.

"It's the staff really that does the work that makes things happen. I'll miss the



Photos from museum

Brad Larson is stepping down after 32 years as director of the Oshkosh Public Museum.

interaction with the staff and the public," Larson said in an interview.

"The whole reason we exist is for the folks out there in the community to serve them, and it's a function that I really embrace, it's a mission that I embrace, so I know I'm going to miss being able to have that interaction with both the community members and the staff members."

Working with interim director Anna Cannizzo, Larson expects a smooth transition as they have been "going over projects and plans and contacts and all the rest of the things that on a day-to-day basis you don't normally think about."

Larson didn't expect such a long tenure here when he started "on a really cold day" in January 1989 after three years as director at the Kenosha County Historical Society that followed stints with the Wisconsin Historical Society at Old Wade House

in Greenbush and Villa Louis in Prairie du Chien. He admitted that Oshkosh posed a challenge and wasn't convinced it would be his final career stop.

"I was very intimidated by the amount of work that had to be done but on the other hand I could see that there was an awful lot of opportunity here," he said.

A fire that devastated the museum five years later in 1994 put Larson and the museum on a different trajectory where he managed a \$5.2 million recovery, restoration and rebuild effort.

"I couldn't really leave – here's the museum destroyed – and so I stayed to fix the museum and then after that things started to fall into place and I saw what great support I was getting from the community

SEE **Museum director** ON PAGE 15



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City project list gets extended look

By Kaitlyn Scoville
OSHKOSH HERALD

The Common Council has pushed back final approval of a five-year, \$143 million capital improvements program (CIP) amid late appeals by community members to push specific projects forward.

Residents of a more recent neighborhood development at Preserve Drive near Carl Traeger Elementary School and the YMCA facility expressed safety concerns for the lack of a path to the Sawyer Creek Nature Preserve along 20th Avenue.

“My biggest concern living there is there’s no sidewalk,” said Michelle Depa, who spoke ahead of her daughter, Allison

Stromske. “Anyone that’s been out there knows it can be a busy and dangerous area.”

Stromske, a 12-year-old athlete, spoke up and said she’s putting herself at risk running in the road training for the Lourdes Academy cross-country team.

“The only way to get to my running trail is through 20th Avenue, which you may know to be a very busy street,” she said. “I’m stuck running on the road face-to-face with cars. With a path, many people would benefit from a place to run, bike or walk, and my mom won’t have to worry about me.”

Residents in the 9th Avenue area also have expressed their neighborhood’s

concerns, most recently after a heavy storm in late July, asking for the city to deal with basement flooding as soon as possible.

The CIP program for the next five years consists of prioritizing projects aimed at improving the functionality and quality of life for residents and visitors, much of it involving roadway repairs and parkland improvement.

Deputy Mayor Matt Mugerauer motioned to delay the council’s CIP approval to encourage further discussion and possible amendments to the plan, which was subsequently approved. It will be on the council’s next regular meeting agenda this month.

Conversion therapy ban backed by city panel

Oshkosh Herald

The city’s Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Committee recently approved sending a symbolic resolution to the Common Council in support of a statewide ban on conversion therapy.

Council member Aaron Wojciechowski approached the group with the issue in late May.

According to the Trevor Project, 10 percent of LGBTQ people have been victims of conversion therapy and 78 percent of that group were subject to it before they were 18.

Being that the practice has oftentimes gone unnoticed because of how controversial it can be, a symbolic resolution could benefit the city in several ways, even economically as an inclusive community, he said.

As it stands, 20 states have banned conversion therapy and a dozen cities in Wisconsin have done so as well.

“This isn’t an issue that needs to take very long,” Wojciechowski said in May. “We are well aware of the issue; many neighboring cities have done something about it and I don’t think we need to drag our feet.”

Committee vice chair Angie Lee said she acknowledged city staff’s responsive approach to creating the symbolic resolution so quickly.

“I want to thank councilman (Wojciechowski),” Lee said. “Reading through it, I think it appropriately lists the dangers and adverse consequences of it and I personally feel strongly that this resolution will symbolically support our advocacy for youth that are most vulner-

able to these practices.”

Conversion therapy refers to any practice aimed at changing an individual’s sexual orientation or gender identity.

County executive assistant retires

Winnebago County executive assistant John Fink stepped down from his longtime role in the job last month and Ethan Hollenberger was named by county executive Jon Doemel to fill the position. Doemel noted the personnel change on his Facebook page.

Fink had served the county for 42 years.

Hollenberger, a communications specialist who has worked for other counties along with conservative political candidates, was previously hired by Doemel as his chief of staff after his election to the executive position in April, with a salary proposed at \$93,000, but had to step down June 30 after the new position failed to receive county board approval.

Another veteran county employee, Sheriff’s Department dispatcher Dennis Kallin, retired last week after 43 years in the office. Sheriff John Matz and his staff recognized Kallin on its Facebook page for his service starting with the beginnings of the 911 system through multiple system and facility changes.

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Photo from Mai See Thao

Members of the exhibit project installation team in UW Oshkosh's Anthropology, Global Religions and Culture Studies Department are shown.

Humanities grant will explore Hmong story

Oshkosh Herald

Mai See Thao at the University of Wisconsin Oshkosh's Department of Anthropology, Global Religions and Cultures received a National Endowment for the Humanities grant for a project titled "Cia Siab (Hope) in Wisconsin: A Hmong (Hmong) Story."

The \$74,418 grant will support planning and development of a traveling exhibit that will explore the battlefields of memory from the Secret War in Laos, both in American national and Hmong memory. It also will look at the ways refugee communities in Wisconsin cities have re-created new forms of belonging in the aftermath of war, violence and national forgetting.

The exhibit sheds light on American history, historical trauma and the humanities concepts of survival and healing. It will mark the 50th anniversary (2025) of Hmong resettlement in Wisconsin.

"This is a really big win for us to realize this award," Thao said. "It's saying that community members can tell their own stories and their own history."

The NEH grant will support a series of planning and community engagements on Hmong experiences in the U.S., the Secret War in Southeast Asia, silence in Hmong American stories, and Hmong cultural contributions to Wisconsin. It will allow Thao and her team to expand on their archive from a previous exhibit titled "The Battlefields of Memory" and create a K-12 curriculum plan.

"There's just so much excitement about this," Thao said.

Kong Pheng Pha, UW-Eau Claire assistant professor of critical Hmong studies and women's, gender, and sexuality studies, co-directs the project.

The project is in partnership with Appleton Public Libraries, Cia Siab Inc., Freedom Inc. the Hmong American Women's Association, Hmong American Center, Hmong Studies Consortium, Hmong Wisconsin Chamber of Commerce, Wisconsin Historical Society, Us 2 Behavioral Health, Wisconsin United Coalition of Mutual Aid Assistance, and University of Wisconsin-Madison Center for Southeast Asian Studies.

Afghan refugee donation drive underway in city

Oshkosh Herald

A donation drive is underway in the community to collect supplies for refugees from Afghanistan who fled their country with the final withdrawal of American troops that was concluding this week.

Fort McCoy in west-central Wisconsin is expected to house about 3,000 Afghan refugees with immigrant visa applications being processed and have worked with U.S. troops there, along with other vulnerable populations being evacuated.

Collections of diapers, baby wipes, infant onesies, fall outerwear, socks, combs and brushes, toothpaste and toothbrush-

es, feminine products and small comfort toys will be accepted from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Sept. 10-12 in the U-Haul parking lot at 900 N. Koeller St.

Organizers ask that donations be in new, unopened packaging and that clothing items be in slimlined containers to allow refugees to keep those items in their luggage. Collections will be delivered to the Red Cross to bring to Fort McCoy.

The fluctuating refugee population will stay until resettlement agencies can help find new homes in Wisconsin or elsewhere.

Contact Denise L'Hommedieu at dkdigitalarts@gmail.com for more information.

Day of national service marks 9/11

The first 9/11 Flag of Honor Across America Memorial will be held Sept. 11 in partnership with Global Youth Justice Inc. with the Winnebago County Teen Court chosen to host this event locally.

The memorial program starting at 8:46 a.m. will honor 50 people lost in the Sept. 11, 2001, attack in conjunction with other peer-driven programs and communities across the United States. All 2,983 lost lives will be honored. The day is meant to bring youth and community members together to remember those lost, as well as highlight youth justice programs.

An official 9/11 flag will be displayed, which was placed on the 9/11 Memorial in New York City and photographed with the Teen Court's registered number.

The public is welcome to participate. Those wishing to speak should contact Sarah Whitman at 920-236-1249.

School back this week as board meeting moved

By Kaitlyn Scoville
OSHKOSH HERALD

The Board of Education's last live meeting before this week's start of the 2021-22 school year was abruptly halted last Wednesday when protesters defied face mask mandates that had been reinstated for meetings and in all school buildings.

About 20 to 30 people stood outside the district administrative building leading up to the 6 p.m. meeting, expressing concerns for the recently updated decision to make mask-wearing mandatory instead of optional in school buildings and on buses until at least Oct. 1.

Though the mask mandate wasn't on the agenda, this was the board's first meeting to limit public comment to a total of

45 minutes and a maximum of 2 minutes per speaker. Twelve people had signed up to speak.

"The board was fully prepared to listen to public input on any agenda and non-agenda items," Superintendent Bryan Davis said in a letter to families.

The session was moved to a virtual format Monday night on Zoom where updates to the district's COVID-19 policies were to be voted on along with the regular 45-minute public forum.

Some who came to speak in support of the mandate were already inside, and demonstrators against it made their way in. Police officers at the site were reiterating the board's request that everyone wear a face covering.

The demonstrators challenged the officers once they were told to put a mask on, asking if they would be arrested if they didn't comply.

"These people are ignorant. We have to protect our kids," attendee Richard Plant said. "There is nothing wrong with having a mask on. Doctors wear masks all day long."

Kristy Walsh, one of the protesters, said the group will be back if the board doesn't hear them out.

"They just got up and left without even hearing us," she said. "I think it's just ridiculous. We are not going to stop. They had to leave today; they are going to have to leave many times because we are going to be back."

Some parents outside the building were carrying yard signs reading, "Unmask our children" with the hashtag LetOurKids-Breathe.

A Facebook group that helped promote the signs, Save Oshkosh Schools (SOS): Concerned Families for OASD Children, said they were not aware of the planned demonstration. One of the group's moderators, nurse practitioner Ruth Staszak, condemned their actions.

"While topics and emotions can get heated at times, we want to remain as civil as possible," she said. "As a group, we have never condoned violence or any blatant disregard of laws or rules."

"We can appreciate (the group's) plight; however, we remain steadfast in the belief that in order to create change you must create a path of communication and at least a limited level of respect."

The SOS private page's administrator, Sara Noe, said the actions were "embarrassing."

"It made those people look no better than some of the stuff that occurred over the past year," Noe said. "SOS isn't violent and while we can be loud and persistent, we aren't here to make a name for ourselves."

She also said that although some school board members are supportive of optional masking, they didn't let the demonstrators voice their opinions.

In a press release, board president Bob Poeschl said he hopes residents will be respectful of the protocols and one another so that each voice can be heard and everyone can share their passionately held opinions.

"Let's remember that our children are watching how we interact and learning from our example," Poeschl said.

Davis said in his letter that he hopes the community data will lead to going mask-optional one day in the near future, but for now plans to remain mandated.

"We want to provide in-person instruction while protecting our families," Davis said. "I hope the community health data will improve and we can move away from the face covering requirement after the first month in school."

"I know community members have differing opinions on masks, but we are committed to using face coverings as one of our key mitigation measures to keep our staff and students safe and learning in-person in our schools and classrooms."

The Winnebago County Health Department last week reported 578 confirmed or probable COVID-19 cases over the previous two weeks, a 25 percent increase from its last report. The case burden is considered high by health experts.

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Rooting out the anger in our public discourse

More than a year ago, when the Oshkosh City Council first started discussing COVID-19 mitigation strategies, we had a tense meeting where residents argued passionately for and against a mask mandate. It was a hard one to sit through.

Government is not inherently good or bad, but it does have the ability to impact one's life in good and bad ways. It was clear in that meeting that many residents felt their local government was not working for them. It was also clear that a lot of people were angry.

Indeed, a recent Marquette Law School poll confirms widespread frustration with government. Eighty-four percent of Wisconsinites feel Washington is broken, and a large majority believe Wisconsin government is broken. More anecdotally, a scroll through Facebook – or sometimes my email inbox – reveals a sea of misinformation, assumptions of others' ill intent, and a whole lot of generalized anger.

I get where the anger comes from; the last 18 months has been a roller coaster that is often just too much to deal with. Being angry is easy. But it is also destructive.

So how do we reduce the anger in our political discourse? There are structural things, like nonpartisan elections, that



Michael Ford
Oshkosh
Common Council

make a difference. But I think the real solution is more personal.

First, we can all recognize that there is much we do not know. In terms of holding elected office, that means leaning on the knowledge of public employees, asking the right questions and putting in the effort to learn about things you do not fully understand. But in general, we can all do that when engaging in political discourse. It is OK to not have an initial opinion about everything.

Second, and closely related, is the importance of being able to admit when we are wrong. We live in a political era where winning seems to be seen as more important than doing what is right. But if nobody is willing to be wrong, nobody can learn from mistakes, and political division is permanent. Compromise should not be seen as losing but as the foundation for governing in a divided society.

sponse to a high level of community transmission of the COVID-19 virus in Winnebago County.

Library services will remain the same and public programming will proceed as scheduled. Required registration, virtual options and other safety measures are in place for children's programs to limit risk.

Third, we must recognize the validity of others' right to their own opinions, even when we disagree. This one is really hard, especially because some opinions are objectively incorrect. When that happens I find it best to share factual information and move on. Some people will not change their minds regardless of the facts at hand, but attacking their right to even hold an opinion will not remedy that situation.

Getting angry just makes things harder by shifting energy away from the matter at hand. In other words, the anger itself becomes more important than the topic over which there is disagreement.

Lastly, and most important, we cannot define people by their public policy preferences. One's attitude toward masks or vaccination or special assessments or anything else does not reveal everything about them. Perhaps we are drawn to partisanship because it is simple and ordered: You either belong to one camp or the other. You are either on my team or against me.

But neither life nor politics is that simple. Groupthink occurs when people take comfort in the superiority of their own opinions, gravitate only toward those who share those opinions, and police members of their circle who dare disagree with the consensus of the group. Groupthink also spurs anger against the other and leads to some pretty poor decision-making in a governing context.

Disagreement is the lifeblood of democracy. Self-government works when disagreements lead to debate, and ultimately workable compromises. That debate occurs in government but also at home, online and in the company of friends and strangers alike.

When disagreement breeds only anger, self-governing becomes impossible. It is up to all of us to keep that from happening.

Michael R. Ford is an associate professor of public administration at the University of Wisconsin Oshkosh, where he teaches graduate courses in budgeting, state and local government, and nonprofit management. He currently serves on the Oshkosh Common Council.

Library adds in-building mask requirement

Oshkosh Public Library is requiring patrons to wear face coverings when visiting the building, a decision made by its board of trustees at its Aug. 26 meeting. The mask requirement applies to all library visitors over age 2, regardless of vaccination status, and runs at least through Oct. 1.

Library officials said the change is in re-

District gains mental health grant

The Oshkosh Area School District received a \$75,000 mental health services grant for the 2021-2022 school year from the Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction.

The grant will be used to provide additional support and mental health resources to students, in collaboration with community health agencies.

"The mental health and wellness of our students and our school staff is paramount," state Superintendent Jill Underly said in making the announcement.

"This pandemic exacerbated the existing challenges our schools and communities face when trying to address mental health needs. While these grants do not completely resolve that demand, they do provide help to schools attempting to offer additional support, resources, and services."

The DPI awarded \$10,008,828 in school-based mental health services grants to 153 applicants, representing 144 individual public-school districts, eight consortiums and three charter schools.

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Fish fry, bingo event supports Cops 'n Kids Reading

Oshkosh Herald

The Kiwanis 'n Cops 'n Kids Reading Program will add to its literacy story with some fundraising fun at a fish fry and bingo benefit Oct. 8 at La Sure's Banquet Hall.

The Oshkosh Noon Kiwanis Club program is a partnership launched in March with the Boys & Girls Club of Oshkosh and Oshkosh Police Department to help children develop reading skills and get to know law enforcement in the city.

Police staff started coming to the club weekly to meet with members and either read with a child or listen to them read to them. The program, founded 20 years ago by retired Racine police officer Julia Witherspoon, has since expanded here into after-school programs and this summer's Reading in the Park event.

Noon Club president Doug Marone was looking for a public service program that could be done by a small to mid-size club and found a perfect fit. Member

John Schorse serves on the Police and Fire Commission, and member Cheryl Fowler works closely with the Boys & Girls Club as director of education for the Oshkosh Area Community Foundation. Her son, Alex, is a police officer.

"This program has been a proactive way for officers to engage children in reading and has also allowed us to interact with their parents and guardians," said Oshkosh Police public affairs officer Kate Mann. "Our motto at the Oshkosh Police Department is, 'Know Us Before You Need Us,' and the Kiwanis 'n Cops 'n Kids program

provides opportunities to engage our citizens so that they get to know us and are familiar with the officers in their city."

Bingo for a Cause will help support purchasing more books and expand the program. The event currently has sponsorship opportunities.

Doors open at 4:30 p.m. at 3125 S. Washburn St. with the fish fry dinner served starting at 5:30, followed by bingo at 6:30.

Tables of eight are available for \$280 and individual tickets are \$35 until Sept. 10. More registration information is on the Oshkosh Noon Kiwanis Facebook page.

Main Street grants available to promote downtown locations

The Wisconsin Economic Development Corp. is offering \$10,000 grants to incentivize businesses and nonprofit organizations to move into downtown locations.

The Main Street Bounceback Grants program provides funding to new or existing businesses and non-profit organizations moving into vacant properties in downtown and commercial corridors. Funds can be used to pay leases or mortgages, operational expenses and other business costs related to the newly opened location.

"We have worked with a few businesses including Winnebago Dock & Lift who

occupied their first commercial location in Nekimi earlier this year as well as The Venture Project who took over a longstanding vacant space on Main Street," Greater Oshkosh Economic Development Corp. Director Tricia Rathermel said.

Grant funds are available as part of the American Recovery Plan Act and will be distributed by WEDC's regional partners. Businesses must apply through the partner organization for the region in which they are located by June 30, 2022.

For more information visit wedc.org/programs-and-resources.

Healthy Neighborhoods names director

Oshkosh Area Community Pantry executive director Tom Fojtik is stepping down to become executive director at Oshkosh Healthy Neighborhoods, where he has served on its board since its formation in late 2015.

Fojtik, replacing Pam Ruder who is retiring after three years as its director,

will begin his new role Oct. 1. The pantry's board will begin the search for a new director through the Employment Resources Group.

The group announced it is also working with Feeding America to help provide personnel to assist during the transition.



Photo from Oshkosh Food Co-op

Some of the local produce featured at the new Oshkosh Food Co-op is shown.

Food co-op grand opening set

The Oshkosh Food Co-op will have its grand opening Sept. 9 through Sept. 11 with live music, sampling from local suppliers, food trucks and family-friendly activities, along with drawings for gift cards and other prizes.

The event runs from 5 to 8 p.m. Thursday and Friday and noon to 5 p.m. Saturday.

"The opening of northeast Wisconsin's first food cooperative was a momentous achievement. We invite everyone to come

celebrate with us," said co-op general manager Jeffrey Thouron.

The celebration will highlight community groups such as the Oshkosh Rhythm Institute's Drum Circle, the Stumble Brothers, a craft station from workshop hosts To Die for DIY, a Wisconsin based marimba player and food trucks.

A trivia-based game show will start at 3 p.m. Sept. 11 where three contestants will play for gift cards.

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Calendar of events

Ongoing

Walk this Way: Footwear from the Stuart Weitzman Collection, Paine Art Center, 1410 Algoma Blvd.
 "Titanic: The Wisconsin Connection," Oshkosh Public Museum

Wednesday, Sept. 1

NEW Food Truck Mashup, 4:30 p.m., 1600 S. Koeller St.

Thursday, Sept. 2

Waterfest with Child's Anthem: Music of Toto, 5:45 p.m., Leach Amphitheater
 Comedy Open Mic, 7 p.m., Bare Bones Brewery, 4362 County S
 Bingo, 7 p.m., American Legion Cook-Fuller Post 70, 1332 Spruce St.
 "One Six Right," 6:30 p.m., EAA Sky-scape Theater, 3000 Poberezný Road
 Luke LeBlanc, 6 p.m., Dockside, 425 Nebraska St.

Friday, Sept. 3

First Friday with Titantown, 5 p.m., downtown
 Craft Time, 6 p.m., Time Community Theater, 445 N. Main St.
 Marine Corps League bingo, 5:30 p.m., 4715 Sherman Road
 Kenny James Duo, 6 p.m., Dockside, 425 Nebraska St.

Saturday, Sept. 4

Oshkosh Farmers Market, 8 a.m., downtown
 Donnie Baker comedy, 7:30 p.m., Time Community Theater, 445 N. Main St.

Fire on High, 7 p.m., Dockside, 425 Nebraska St.

Sunday, Sept. 5

Jazz Orgy, 9 p.m., Fletch's Local Tap House, 566 N. Main St.

Monday, Sept. 6

Labor Day picnic, 11 a.m., South Park
 Monthly Flea Market, 8 a.m., Originals Mall of Antiques, 1475 S. Washburn St.
 "Sandlot," 6 p.m., Time Community Theater, 445 N. Main St.

Wednesday, Sept. 8

Brews on the Bay with Brad Emanuel, 5 p.m., Menominee Park
 NEW Food Truck Mashup, 4:30 p.m., 1600 S. Koeller St.

Thursday, Sept. 9

Oshkosh Food Co-op grand opening, 5 p.m., 155 Jackson St.
 Bingo, 7 p.m., American Legion Cook-Fuller Post 70, 1332 Spruce St.

Friday, Sept. 10

Summerland Tour, 7 p.m., Menominee Nation Arena
 Marine Corps League bingo, 5:30 p.m., 4715 Sherman Road
 Oshkosh Food Co-op grand opening, 5 p.m., 155 Jackson St.

Saturday, Sept. 11

Oshkosh Farmers Market, 8 a.m., downtown
 African Violet Show & Sale, 10 a.m., St. Jude the Apostle Church, 531 Knapp St.
 Downtown Oshkosh Fall Wine Walk, 1:30 p.m. registration, Time Community Theater, 445 N. Main St.
 "The Secret Life of Pets 2," 7 p.m., Time Community Theater, 445 N. Main St.
 Menominee Park Drag Race, 11 a.m.
 Oshkosh Food Co-op grand opening, 5 p.m., 155 Jackson St.

Winnebago CATCH-A-RIDE

Winnebago Catch-A-Ride is seeking more **volunteer drivers** to help people in and around Oshkosh get to work. **SIGN UP TODAY!**

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Public program will target toxic algae blooms

The Fox-Wolf Watershed Alliance's Winnebago Waterways program is working with biotechnology companies to develop a way to identify blue green algae blooms more quickly.

The team of BloomOptix, Ramboll and Opseyes, which developed a process to identify harmful bacteria in wastewater treatment plants, is shifting the same technology to more quickly identify harmful algae blooms. Proper identification can lead to fewer beach closures when the bloom is nontoxic and a more rapid response to toxic blooms.

Winnebago Waterways is looking for volunteers to provide samples from their piers when a bloom develops through the end of September into early October. Samples can be collected in any type of container and dropped off at the Fox-Wolf office, 526 W. Wisconsin Ave., Suite 2E, Appleton, from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Mondays



Photo from Winnebago Waterways

A testing program is underway to identify toxic blue green algae blooms more quickly.

and Thursdays.

Slides with algae samples will be created and used to teach the artificial intelligence (AI) technology to recognize cyanobacteria (blue-green algae). The goal is to teach

the AI to identify harmful algae blooms in 10 minutes rather than one or two days.

Potentially harmful algal blooms are caused by excessive amounts of nitrates, phosphates and nutrients entering an

aquatic ecosystem, often from sewage treatment plants and septic tanks, and stormwater run-off from fertilized lawns and farms.

Participants are asked to take precautions against potentially harmful algae blooms – wearing gloves and potentially a mask and hip waders. Contact Emily Henrigillis at emily@fwwa.org or 920-851-6472 for details.

The DNR is also seeking blue-green algae bloom reports at DNRHABS@wisconsin.gov along with close-up photographs for verification.

The University of Wisconsin Oshkosh's Winnebago Pool Lakes Harmful Algal Blooms Project is also looking for public input on harmful algal blooms in the Winnebago lakes by asking the public taking photos and sharing them on social media, along with surveys. More information is available on the UWO website.

More than 150 aquatic invasive species documented last year

More than 1,000 locations and 150 new populations of aquatic invasive species were documented last year by the state Department of Natural Resources and its partners.

"The overall importance of citizen detectors has become especially apparent during the pandemic," said Maureen Ferry, DNR statewide aquatic invasive species monitoring coordinator. "Monitoring Wisconsin's natural resources is an all-hands effort. The support of volunteers statewide is key to our success in controlling invasive species."

Less than 15 percent of all monitoring efforts uncover a new aquatic invasive spe-

cies population. Less than 1 percent of efforts reveal a prohibited species not already established in the state. Fortunately, most discoveries in 2020 were of commonly managed species such as curly leaf pondweed, purple loosestrife and yellow iris.

Monitoring efforts uncovered eight new instances of NR40-prohibited species – all of which were confined to private ponds and small localized areas. These discoveries included floating marsh pennywort, Japanese stiltgrass, starry stonewort, butterfly dock, common reed grass, water lettuce and graceful cattail.

The DNR website has a comprehensive list of the discoveries.

Every new invasive species discovery triggers the DNR's Invasive Species Response Framework for evaluation and recording. When small, isolated populations are discovered, they can be contained and possibly eradicated or controlled before they have a chance to spread to public waters. Likely sources of these new species are from contaminated watercraft or water garden stock. Purchasing from local nurseries is a way to reduce the risk of the garden pathway.

UW Extension and River Alliance of Wisconsin's programs include aquatic invasive species Snapshot Day, Citizen Lake Monitoring Network and Water Action Volunteers to join the volunteer monitoring efforts.

Members of the public who wish to control invasive species on their properties must receive a permit from the DNR's Aquatic Plant Management Program to manage these species with herbicides. No permit is required for manual removal.

DNR announces hunting season changes as early schedule starts

The 2021 combined Wisconsin Hunting Regulations pamphlet is now online and available soon at license agents and open service centers. For the second year, the combined regulations pamphlet brings season dates, shooting hours and regulations to one document.

Early teal and early goose seasons kick off the hunting season today (Sept. 1). There is no longer a Mississippi River duck zone. Instead, the DNR has added an Open Water zone on Lake Michigan. After a multiyear effort by sporting groups to raise the fee and increase crucial funding for waterfowl habitat conservation and restoration, waterfowl stamp fees have changed this season.

The opening of the archery and crossbow deer seasons run concurrently from Sept. 18 to Jan. 9. Archery and crossbow seasons are extended to Jan. 31 in metro sub-units and many counties will offer the antlerless-only holiday hunt between the Christmas and

New Year holidays.

Bonus antlerless deer harvest authorizations are still available in most counties, including Winnebago's Central Farmland (Zone 2). Check the DNR website for availability.

The deer season schedule:

- Gun Hunt for Hunters with Disabilities: Oct. 2-10
- Youth Deer Hunt: Oct. 9-10
- Gun Deer Hunt: Nov. 20-28
- Muzzleloader: Nov. 29-Dec. 8
- Statewide Antlerless Hunt: Dec. 9-12
- Farmland Zone Holiday Hunt: Dec. 24-Jan. 1

Updated bear zones will be in effect, approved as part of the 2019-2029 Wisconsin Black Bear Management Plan. Trapping and wolf harvest season regulations will be published as separate documents. For more information, visit the DNR Hunting webpage.

FREE - NATURALLY HEAL YOUR

KNEE WORKSHOP

SIGN UP TODAY!

Wednesday, September 15th from 6PM-7PM

Are you careful how you move because you're afraid your knee might "give out"?

Is your knee pain making it hard to keep up with family time and playing with grandkids?

Does the idea of going up and down stairs, or getting in and out of the car make you uneasy?

Do you try to just "keep going" with everyday activities but feel limited in what you can do?

Are you looking for a natural option to solve your knee pain and weakness other than surgery, drugs or injections?

Do you refuse to accept your knee pain as old age, and are sick and tired of being told that you just have to live with it?

If you answered yes to any of these questions, this opportunity is for you, come join us for a **FREE Workshop on September 15th from 6PM – 7 PM.**

Sign up today by calling us at 920-230-2747

Advanced registration is required. To follow health guidelines space is limited to 8 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 discover 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)

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Together we can help kids, community safe

At Ascension Wisconsin, it is heart-breaking for our providers and care teams to see children facing life-threatening medical conditions due to exposure to COVID-19, especially now when this outcome could have been prevented.

As a community, we must do everything we can to prevent people – especially children – from contracting this virus. We must continue using a multilayered approach to protect ourselves and each other as recommended by the American Academy of Pediatrics and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

The most effective ways to do that are for every eligible adult and child 12 and older to get vaccinated and to wear masks when indoors or in crowded areas.

The facts are simple and irrefutable. Vaccinations are safe and effective. Almost all of the patients being treated for COVID-19 across northeast Wisconsin hospitals are unvaccinated.

Vaccinated individuals who experience rare breakthrough cases rarely require



Tom Nichols
Ascension
Fox Valley

hospitalization and few experience serious symptoms. Masking is also proven to help reduce the spread of viruses.

As a health care provider and as a Catholic ministry, advocating for critical public health measures is part of our mission to serve our communities in northeast Wisconsin.

At this time, children under the age of 12 are not eligible to be vaccinated. It is our responsibility as adults to do everything we can to protect our vulnerable youth and prevent outbreaks of the coronavirus in our schools and communities. Ultimately, vaccinations and masking help to protect all of us.

While many children who contract

COVID-19 may not develop serious symptoms, we are seeing more children who require medical care or hospitalization. Children who contract the virus can easily spread it to family members, classmates and teachers, many of whom could face serious or deadly consequences. And, as the highly contagious Delta variant has shown us, we face the risk of continued mutation of the coronavirus as case counts surge.

Our dedicated providers and care teams face two difficult realities today: treating high-risk children with COVID-19 and advising parents on the

difficult decision to send children back to in-person learning or face another year of virtual courses. Both of these situations can be avoided if more of us practice all mitigation measures including social distancing, masking, hand washing and, most importantly, getting vaccinated.

Our children deserve a safe return to in-person learning. And all of us deserve to live and work in safe and healthy environments. If we work together, we can achieve these goals.

Dr. Tom Nichols is regional chief medical officer for the Fox Valley region of Ascension Wisconsin, and a pediatric hospitalist.



Oshkosh Herald

Back in the Day

Oshkosh history by the Winnebago County Historical & Archaeological Society

Sept. 1, 1950

KC Buys Club Property for Private Club: Oshkosh council No. 614 Knights of Columbus has purchased the property on Jackson drive known as Club 41. The

purchase price was not disclosed but the deal included a trade for the old council clubhouse at 100 Washington Boulevard. The tavern is closed to the public during renovations to convert the former tavern into a clubhouse. The premises will be used as a private club for Knights only. The former property on Washington boulevard was purchased by the K of C in 1925. It was formerly the home for Dr. M.E. Corbett, physician and surgeon.

Source: *Oshkosh Daily Northwestern*, Sept. 1, 1950

United takeover

Oshkosh Area United Way volunteers from Oshkosh Corp. and Amcor Flexibles ran concession stands at last week's Waterfest concert. To thank 2020 United Way donors, they were given free admission to the concert featuring the music of Journey and Boston. Concession proceeds benefited the United Way community.

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School busing

FROM PAGE 1

Even with serious candidates, it takes anywhere from four to 12 weeks to certify and train them.

"Schools will have to maximize utilization of existing staff to stagger pickup and drop-off times and combine routes," the release continues. "More children may be forced into less safe ways to get to and from school and many will have no safe way to get to school at all."

Regionally, both Lamers and Kobussen Bus Lines have experienced this shortage, more specifically in daily routes taking students to and from school and for sports and extracurriculars.

"It's getting increasingly harder" to find those willing to work amid the resurgence in COVID cases in the area, Lamers regional manager Alex Eisch said. "We just don't have enough drivers to get kids to where they need to be."

Eisch attributes the additional COVID-impacted shortage to the added risk of catching the virus, being in a small area with 50 children or more, sometimes fitting three to a seat.

Kobussen's Oshkosh terminal manager Bronson Enli has taken note of the accelerated issue due to the pandemic but says his location is faring better than some others.

"We'll be ready for day one to cover all routes but that's with office and shop staff," Enli said. "In the past, we've had to consolidate some routes, get creative in rerouting and have buses run for longer periods of time."

The difficulties with running longer routes is when some children feel the effect, some picked up as early as 6:30.



Kobussen Bus Lines has readied its fleet for the new school year.

Oshkosh Herald

Kobussen's east-central regional manager Casey Fields said another group impacting driver employment are parents who stayed at home due to their children shifting to virtual learning.

Both Fields and Enli have driven bus because of the driver shortage. Their mitigation efforts continue as they work with the Oshkosh Area School District and University of Wisconsin Oshkosh to recruit.

"Everyone wears the bus driver hat; whatever it takes to get everybody to and from school, everybody's all hands-on," Enli said, noting that Kobussen is ready for the school year with all routes covered.

A handful of coaches in the school district have expressed interest in taking the wheel and have either completed or are in the training process to get a CDL to drive school buses. Education majors at UW Oshkosh also are trying their hand at it to have more opportunities with children while they study.

Enli said Kobussen's scheduling is quite flexible to drivers' needs, even if newcomers may seem intimidated by taking responsibility for so many children. They can set them up with field trips, sporting events or extracurriculars where chaperones or coaches are available.

Otherwise, smaller special education and disabled student buses always have an aide riding along to help fasten students to their seats.

Enli and Fields said the work is more

than just driving the bus.

"It's more than just a job. A majority of our drivers love what they do because you're involved in the kids' lives and have an impact on them," Enli said. "The greatest compliment I've received many times is getting invited to graduation parties."

The company has been incentivizing the positions with pay increases, sign-on bonuses and also emphasizing that it's a great community service. Though the personal interaction is brief, Fields said it can be those that impact a student most.

"Some of these kids come from hectic homes, they get on a bus and see a familiar, smiling face that makes them feel good every morning," Fields said. "The bus driver is the person who never judges them and is always friendly."

SmartAsset ranks Oshkosh high among college towns

A new study by online financial advice group SmartAsset put Oshkosh at No. 3 on the list of "the most livable college towns" in America.

SmartAsset's report said, "Home to the University of Wisconsin Oshkosh, this town of nearly 67,000 residents ranks highly for housing costs that are just 19.69 percent of the median household income, sixth-lowest across our study. Oshkosh also has the 12th-highest concentration of restaurants and entertainment establishments (11.95 percent). With a relatively

low property crime rate (15th-lowest) and June unemployment rate (21st-lowest), Oshkosh is the No. 3 most livable college town according to our metrics."

About 120 cities with at least 40,000 people and a four-year college or university with the student population making up at least 10 percent were reviewed. Metrics included median household income, housing costs, restaurants and entertainment establishments, average commute time, internet access, unemployment rate and crime rates.

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<p>Fresh Cut Seedless Watermelon 89¢ lb.</p>	<p>6-oz. Fresh Blackberries \$2.99</p>	<p>California Cauliflower \$1.29 lb. California Broccoli Crowns... \$1.49 lb.</p>	<p>8-oz. - Pennsylvania Dutchman Whole or Sliced Baby Portabella Mushrooms \$2.49</p>
<p>Washington State Premium Honeycrisp Apples \$2.49 lb.</p>	<p>Sugar Sweet Jumbo California Cantaloupe \$3.99 ea.</p>	<p>Wisconsin Green Beans \$1.29 lb. 5-lb. Bag - Wisconsin Red Potatoes..... \$2.69</p>	<p>5-lb. Bag - Wisconsin #1 Russet Potatoes \$1.99</p>
<p>2-lb. Bag - Imported Sweet Seedless Clementines \$3.99</p>	<p>California Bartlett Pears \$1.49 lb.</p>	<p>Wisconsin Green Cabbage 49¢ lb. Acorn, Butternut or Spaghetti Squash... .79¢ lb.</p>	<p>Michigan Vine Ripe Tomatoes \$1.69 lb.</p>
<p>New Crop! 3-lb. Bag - Wisconsin Paula Red Apples \$3.99</p>	<p>Fancy Lemons 2.98¢</p>	<p>14-oz. Package - Fresh Express Old Fashioned or Deli Style Cole Slaw 2/\$3.50</p>	<p>2-lb. Package - Bolthouse Farms Baby Carrots \$2.49 1-lb. - Bolthouse Farms Organic Baby Carrots... \$1.69</p>
<p>14-oz. - Door County Tapuat Brewing Co. Kombucha 2/\$6</p>	<p>12-oz. Bottle Pom Wonderful Pom Teas Mix or Match! 4/\$5</p>	<p>Wisconsin Green Bell Peppers 99¢ lb.</p>	<p>1-lb. - Garden Fresh Red Radishes \$1.99 22-oz. - Bolthouse Farms Salad Dressings..... \$3.99 ea.</p>
<p>7.5-10-oz. Wholly Guacamole All Varieties! \$2.99</p>	<p>16-oz. - Jaffa Pico de Gallo \$5.99 16-oz. - Jaffa Guacamole..... \$6.49</p>	<p>11.5-12-oz. - All Varieties Marie's Salad Dressings All Varieties! 2/\$6</p>	<p>16-oz. - Little Potato Company Oven Ready Baby Potatoes \$3.49</p>

<p>7.5 to 10-oz. Bag O-ke-Doke Popcorn or Jay's Potato Chips \$1.99 WITH CARD</p>	<p>15.25 to 18.4-oz. Package - Select Pillsbury Cake or Brownie Mix 99¢ WITH CARD</p>	<p>12-Count or Select 24.5 to 30.65-oz. Maxwell House K-Cups or Coffee \$5.99 WITH CARD Select 10.2 to 15-oz. - Food Club Coffee Creamer..... \$3.49</p>
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<p>64-oz. Bottle - Select Mott's or Mott's Tot's Juice 2/\$5 WITH CARD</p>	<p>64-oz. Bottle - Select Northland or Old Orchard Juice \$2.29 WITH CARD</p>	<p>15-oz. Squeeze Bottle ReaLemon or ReaLime Juice \$1.79 WITH CARD</p>	<p>10 to 12-Quart Crystal Light Drink Mix \$2.89 WITH CARD</p>
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<p>18-oz. Cheerios, 18.6-oz. Lucky Charms, 18.8-oz. Cinnamon Toast Crunch or Honey Nut Cheerios, 18.9-oz. Golden Grahams, or 19.7-oz. Reese's Peanut Butter Puffs General Mills Cereal \$3.69 WITH CARD</p>	<p>4 to 10-Count Package - Select Nature Valley or Fiber One Granola Bars \$2.99 WITH CARD</p>	<p>64-oz. Bottle - Select Healthy Balance, Old Orchard Blends or 100% Juice \$1.79 WITH CARD</p>
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<p>10 to 12-oz. Package Nestle Baking Chips \$2.99 WITH CARD</p>	<p>12-oz. Fisher Roasted Peanuts 2/\$4 WITH CARD</p>	<p>16 to 19.10-oz. Package - Select Betty Crocker Deluxe Brownie Mix \$2.29 WITH CARD</p>	<p>8-Count - Burger Buns or 20-oz. Loaf - Butternut 100% Wheat or Large White Bread 2/\$4 WITH CARD (May not be available at all locations)</p>
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<p>17.1 to 18-oz. Quaker Life or Cap'N Crunch Cereal \$3.99 WITH CARD</p>	<p>46-oz. Bottle - Select V-8 Fusion or Vegetable Juice \$2.99 WITH CARD</p>	<p>32 to 34-oz. Bottle Food Club Ketchup \$1.19 WITH CARD 12-oz. - Dijon, Horseradish or Spicy Brown Food Club Mustard 99¢ WITH CARD</p>
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<p>1800 Pig Points SAVE 6¢ per Gallon of Gas! With Piggy Wiggle Card and One, 5-oz. Package Hormel Mini Pepperoni</p>	<p>2100 Pig Points SAVE 7¢ per Gallon of Gas! With Piggy Wiggle Card and One, 2-Count, 12-Inch Mama Mary's Pizza Crust</p>	<p>2700 Pig Points SAVE 9¢ per Gallon of Gas! With Piggy Wiggle Card and One, 3-lb Bag Red Potatoes</p>
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Museum director

FROM PAGE 1

and made a lot of friends," he said. "That was pretty much the watershed for me."

Decades later with a new generation of long-term exhibitions, collections and endowment funds and trusts, he believes the community will find a museum that is well positioned for the future through its staff, supporters and financing potential.

Education initiatives that started before COVID slowed them down will become a bigger emphasis with the help of the Deep Roots, Growing City project that is expanding the institution's digitized collection.

"When we digitize things – which is an ongoing project here – it's a great thing because we can make that accessible to the public where they are," Larson noted. "But to make that happen, that takes time and money and space," and intertwined with everything else the museum does to exhibit and store items.

Even with the virtual options to expand their collection offerings, physical space will continue to be a premium at the Sawyer house grounds. He said a building modification plan developed in 2019 would meet current and future needs at a cost of about \$6.3 million. But it will have to compete with all other city projects.

"There's just not a lot of space here, and we're seeing that right now with 'Titanic,'" he said, for simple things like moving



Photo from Oshkosh Public Museum

Brad Larson explains details of a dinosaur exhibit to children in this undated photo.

crates and objects in and out and with limited restroom and lobby space.

"At some point the building is going to have to change – whether that's in a couple of years or another decade – it's very challenging to continue on in this tight footprint that we have. It's not made for a 21st century museum."

Amid the ongoing challenges faced by most public museums, Larson is satisfied knowing that the new director and staff will be leading the museum into its second century while marking the institution's centennial celebration in 2024.

Larson praised the many Public Museum Board members who served during his time in helping him sound out project ideas, make connections to communi-

ty members and promote the museum's goals with city leaders to get those projects supported and funded.

"They serve because they want to serve – they want to help – so they're advocates for the museum," he said.

"The board performs a really critical function, and I've had some really great people to work with over the years."

Museum Board chairman and UW Oshkosh professor Gabriel Loiacona said he became involved with the board's work

Oshkosh artist's work to display at Priebe

Plastic Alphabet, an exhibition of paintings by Oshkosh-born artist Shane Walsh at the Allen Priebe Gallery in the UW Oshkosh Arts and Communications Building, will be on view from Sept. 9-30.

Walsh is a graduate of Oshkosh North High School, the Milwaukee Institute of Art and Design and the University of Washington, Seattle. He teaches painting and drawing in the Peck School of the Arts at UW-Milwaukee.

because of the director's generous mentoring of his students over the years.

"In behind-the-scenes tours and talks about careers, Brad has been really open and encouraging of students interested in a career in the museum world," Loiacona said. "A consummate professional, Brad really knows how to talk to lots of different audiences, including college students."

Former board president James Hoffman also appreciated Larson's advocacy for the museum and its work.

"He was always a good listener to members of the board and kept us updated on what was happening within the museum," he said. "He truly was a great leader and representative of the Oshkosh Public Museum. He will be missed."

As he steps into retirement, Larson said he has "way more hobbies than I have time," including hunting, winter sports, maintaining his older-era house and continuing to craft Scandinavian-style knives. But he will need a little time to unplug from the daily vigilance he put on himself for the welfare of the Sawyer house operations and staff.

"That's half my life. I've awakened every day for 32 years thinking about the museum, so there's going to be a transition period there," he said. "But I've been really blessed with having a great staff."

Walsh considers painting a form of collage where he playfully dissects and reconstructs visual languages to arrive at a form of abstract painting that is autobiographical and historically aware.

The public is welcome to Walsh's Artist Talk at 5 p.m. Sept. 16 at the Arts and Communications Building's Room S149 with a reception afterward in the gallery. The events are free and open to the public.

Labor Day picnic, car show set at South Park

The annual Oshkosh Labor Day Picnic and Car Show returns to South Park on Monday from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m.

The free event includes vintage and clas-

sic vehicles along with music by Fork in the Road. There will be concessions, raffles and free children's books. Car show registration is free with registration beginning at 10 a.m.

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Reedsville dismantles Knights in early season

By Dustin Riese
HERALD CONTRIBUTOR

Not too often two of the top five teams in the state meet this early in the season as No. 4 ranked Lourdes Academy Knights traveled to face No. 5 Reedsville.

What could be used as a measuring stick for both teams turned into a one-sided affair as the Panthers made quick work of the Knights, dominating them 40-0. Not only are blowout losses rare, but losses in general are rare for the Knights as this was their first in nearly two years.

“Our effort was good, but our execution was incredibly poor,” head coach Kevin Wopat said. “Reedsville deserves a ton of credit for that, and we didn’t do a good enough job as coaches making sure we knew assignments.”

After putting together an impressive debut in his first start, freshman quarterback Wade Lindahl struggled to duplicate his performance as the Panthers defense was all over him. Lindahl completed seven of his 13 passes in the game, but threw for less than 50 yards in what was a tough night both offensively and defensively.

While Lindahl and the offense struggled to find their footing, the same can’t be said about Reedsville senior quarterback Brennen Dvorachek, who made life difficult for the Knights. Although he only completed three of his six passes for 43 yards, one of those completions went for a score. He did most of his damage on the ground where he continued to show his versatility as a player. He carried the ball 12 times for 175 yards and one score as the Panthers slashed through the Knights defense for nearly 400 yards on the ground.

Cole Ebert cashed in from eight yards



Photo by Andy Ratchman

Reedsville quarterback Brennen Dvorachek dives for extra yardage against Lourdes in a game where he rushed for 175 yards on 12 carries in the Panthers’ victory.

out for one of his three rushing touchdowns in the game to put the Panthers up 7-0 late in the first. Brennen Dvorachek then found Camden Dvorachek for his long touchdown pass connecting from 18 yards out to make things 14-0.

As the first half was winding down, the Panthers finished off what was an impressive showing with Ebert finding the endzone again from four yards out to make things 20-0.

“Reedsville was much better along the defensive line than we thought they were,” Wopat said. “We made some mental mistakes in the first half when we had a few opportunities to do some stuff with the ball. The biggest credit to Reedsville is they kept the ball out of our hands. We only ran 23

plays of offense, which is a crazy low number.”

Much like in the first half, the Panthers offense turned the Knights offense away with relative ease and put long physical drives together to wear down the defense. The result was a pair of third-quarter touchdowns with Weston Liebrecht getting the first with a two-yard touchdown run midway through the first while Ebert capped off his three-score day from five yards out to make things 33-0.

Add in the long 54-yard score from Brennen Dvorachek to open the fourth quarter and the Knights were facing a deficit they are not accustomed to seeing trailing 40-0.

“He’s a great player,” Wopat said of

Brennen Dvorachek. “It is impossible to simulate him in practice, and it showed when he got into the open field. Their entire backfield is full of nice players, but Dvorachek is a stud.”

When you have a dominating program like the Knights have had over the last five seasons, losses are extremely rare. The key to keeping the success rolling is how this team bounces back from a loss that not many people expected to happen, at least by that score.

“We were thoroughly outplayed and outcoached,” he said. “I don’t want our team overreacting to one bad game. We didn’t play well, and Reedsville deserves the credit for that. We need to bounce back, improve at our basics, and get back to executing our game plan.”

Along with Lindahl in the passing game, the Knights were led by Gavin Stelter and his 19 yards receiving while Marshall Koch added 16. Koch also led the team in rushing with 12 yards on the ground as overall yards were hard to come by.



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Prep sports roundup

FOOTBALL

Nicolet pulls away from North for 20-6 victory

It was a quiet Friday night for the Oshkosh North football team's offense as Nicolet pulled away for a 20-6 nonconference win at home.

After Nicolet scored in the first quarter on a 53-yard pass, a scoreless second quarter kept things at 7-0 at halftime. North finally struck midway through the third quarter when Hunter Carlson scored from one yard out to make it 7-6 – after an extra point kick was missed.

That was it for the Spartans (1-1) as Nicolet scored twice more, once three minutes later and late into the fourth quarter to pull away for the win.

North's Peyton Lyon was 13-for-34 for 149 yards through the air while Carlson led the way on the ground with 84 yards on just 10 carries.

Drake Moxon had five catches for 51 yards and Evan Chopp added three for 58 yards.

Nicolet rushed for 222 yards as a team as Braeden Ott had the majority of those, rushing for 186 yards.

St. Mary Catholic/VC storms back for win

The St. Mary Catholic/Valley Christian 8-Man football team scored 24 fourth-quarter points to pick up a dramatic 36-34 win over Wisconsin Heights in the season opener Saturday.

After a blocked kick was returned for a touchdown in the first quarter from St. Mary's/Valley Christian's Connor Riehl, Wisconsin Heights responded with 21 points to take a 21-6 lead midway through the second quarter.

Danny Griffith found Luke Steffen for a 22-yard touchdown as St. Mary/VC was able to cut the halftime lead to 21-12.

Wisconsin Heights scored twice – on two 50-plus yard plays – in the third quarter to make it 34-12, but St. Mary/VC did not go away.

The rally started early in the fourth when Griffith found Atticus Johnson for a 20-yard touchdown pass, followed by a two-point conversion. Griffith found Ethan Campbell four minutes later from 5 yards out, making it 34-28. Griffith ran in the two-point conversion.

Then with 3:03 left on the clock, Griffith found Campbell again, this time from 60 yards out. A passing score for the two-point conversion gave them the two points they needed to break the 34-34 tie.

BOYS SOCCER

West opens season with win and a loss

The Oshkosh West boys soccer team picked up a 3-1 win over Hartford last

Tuesday before falling to Milwaukee King/Juneau on Thursday, 2-1.

No individual statistics were available.

North dominates West Bend East for win

The Oshkosh North boys soccer team started the season with a win, beating West Bend East 6-1 last Wednesday.

North pulled away in the second half, scoring four goals. Masumbuko Kitungano had two goals for the Spartans while Patrick Wilondja, Erik Duran-Cachu, Steven Tapia and Mitera Lazaro added goals.

Kyle Gillingham didn't record a save in the win as West Bend East only had one shot on goal.

VOLLEYBALL

Wildcats go 3-4 at Stout invitational

The Oshkosh West girls volleyball team competed in the UW-Stout Invitational this past weekend, finishing 3-4, which was 27th out of 40 teams.

The Wildcats picked up wins over Regis (2-0), Stevens Point (2-0) and Prescott (2-1) while falling to Mosinee (2-0), Eau Claire Memorial (2-0), Grantsburg (2-0) and Athens (2-1).

Avery Pakula led the Wildcats, who are 3-6 this season, with 42 kills and 56 digs while Emily Blaskowski added 49 digs. Maddi Choinski had 92 digs while Lauren Troudt recorded 126 assists in the tournament.

Valley Christian goes 1-3 at Lourdes Invitational

The Valley Christian girls volleyball team went 1-3 this past weekend at the Lourdes Invitational, going 1-3.

The Warriors picked up their win against Williams Bay, winning 25-15, 25-23. Camryn Hass led the way with six kills and five digs while Ellie Dinkelman had five kills. Maliha Demler had 16 assists in the win while Grace Rolston added five digs in the victory.

Anna Giannopoulos had two aces for Valley Christian.

The losses for the Warriors came in 2-1 matches to Berlin and Amherst while Paccelli swept them 2-0.

North 0-3 in La Crosse

The Oshkosh North girls volleyball team went 0-3 on Friday in a tournament held at JustAGame FieldHouse in La Crosse.

North fell to Kewaskum 2-0 (25-12, 25-9), Aquinas 2-0 and Green Bay Southwest 2-0.

No individual statistics were available for the Spartans, who are 0-6 this season.

Compiled by Alex Wolf, Herald contributor



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Late-game interception seals Wildcats' fate

By Dustin Riese
HERALD CONTRIBUTOR

Coming off a dominating performance against Green Bay East in week one, the Oshkosh West football team returned home but miscues proved to be the deciding factor as a late-game interception sealed the Wildcats' fate with Verona picking up the 17-14 victory.

"We knew coming in this would be a playoff type opponent for us," said Andrew Dittburner, who with Cole Yoder took over for head coach Duane Hartkopf after he accepted a position at Appleton North. "We scheduled Verona for a reason as they will be a similar test to what the Fox Valley Association will be for us this season. Verona has a great team offensively and we have a tough defense that was lights out tonight. If it wasn't for a couple of costly mental mistakes and/or play calls sent in, this score would look different in the end."

The game came down to the wire late. After Verona punted, holding a 17-14 lead, Kyle Ketter came away with a nice return, setting the West offense up with a chance to win the game. With less than four minutes to go and one timeout remaining, West put the ball in the hands of their leader.

Roman Martell found Riley Taylor for a couple of first downs to move into the red zone, and facing a third and long situation and the game on the line, Martell's pass was intercepted to seal the game for Verona.

"We had the ball late in the game with a chance to win," Dittburner said. "That is all you can ask for as a coach. We put the ball in our best players' hands and wanted him to make a play. Maybe I could have called a better play at the end, but he gave us everything we needed him to during that drive."



Photo by Jim Koepnick

Oshkosh West runner Jasiah Williams outruns Verona defenders in Friday's contest.

As the fourth quarter got underway, you could see the physicality of Kyle Krantz and the Verona running game starting to take over as the West defense started to show cracks in the armor and signs of fatigue. That set the Verona offense up inside the 20, but once again it was Ketter coming through with not one, but two huge defensive plays to prevent a touchdown and forced Verona to settle for a 30-yard field goal try to give them a 17-7 lead.

Facing a fourth-down situation in Verona territory, the other part of Martell's game showed up as he took the direct snap and powered his way for another West first down. A few plays later Martell saw Verona bringing plenty of pressure and found a way to avoid another sack. The result was what West needed as Martell found Jasiah

Williams for a 19-yard touchdown pass as West pulled within 17-14.

"Martell gives us a different dimension at quarterback this season," Dittburner said. "David Kohl was a super tough player for us last season, but didn't have the passing skills. If you watched us last season, as the year went on, we threw in some passing plays for Martell, and he did a great job with them. We felt comfortable with him running the offense this year and he is one of our best players."

With Mason Fink at quarterback and Krantz and Isaiah Marsh in the backfield, the Verona offense was taking it to the West

defense on their opening possession with West looking for answers.

That led to the game's first score as Verona head coach Dave Richardson was aggressive all game long. Facing a fourth down from the 30, Verona chose to go for it as Michael Valitchka took the end around from Fink, made a few West defenders miss and then did the rest taking it 30 yards for the games first score and 7-0 Verona lead.

After both teams turned the ball over, West tied things up after Jasiah Williams turned up his speed and found the end zone from 27 yards out. It was an ugly finish to the end of the first half as more turnovers and defensive play kept it 7-7.

After a quick three and out to start the second half, the West defense was put to the test with Fink finding his man on the far sideline for 28 yards. That was the beginning of a lengthy drive as Verona converted on two fourth-down situations including one from the one-yard line where Krantz took it in to give Verona a 14-7 lead midway through the third. On their next possession, Martell was looking to make things happen but a communication breakdown in the backfield led to another fumble that Verona recovered at the West 33-yard line.

"We had some careless mistakes across the first half and second half that gave Verona an opportunity to put us away," Dittburner said. "Fortunately, our defense was able to come away with some critical stops throughout the game and gave us a chance to win. We had a chance to win the game late and that is all you can ask for as a coach."

EAA's Skyscape movie screenings set

EAA's Skyscape Theater Royale returns to the Aviation Museum with monthly films. The showings are held on the first Thursday of the month beginning at 6:30 p.m. Admission is free for EAA members and \$5 for nonmembers.

The schedule for fall showings:
Thursday: "One Six Right": This documentary follows the love of aviation as told through one airport and a group of dedicated people who all enjoy different aspects of flight.
Oct. 7: "Barnstorming": This is the true story of an unexpected friendship that de-

veloped between a farm family and two pilots who literally dropped out of the sky.

Nov. 4: "When We Were Apollo": Apollo's story is a metaphor for our ability to rise to challenges and exceed with bold solutions. Behind every astronaut who set foot on the moon was Apollo's workforce: a team of more than 400,000 who knew that the program was only as good as their effort.

Dec. 2: "Spitfire": In commemoration of the Royal Air Force's centennial, the history of the Spitfire airplane and the fighter pilots who helped win World War II's Battle of Britain is explored.

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Revamped West looks to hold its own in FVA

By Tim Froberg
HERALD CONTRIBUTOR

Oshkosh West has built a rock-solid girls' volleyball program.

The Wildcats have fielded one of the best teams in the Fox Valley Association in recent years, posting a combined 14-3 record the past two seasons and a 19-7 mark the last three years.

To continue their momentum, coach Jillian Pakula's Wildcats need to rebuild on the fly.

West, which finished second at 7-1 behind league champion Appleton North in the FVA during the 2021 alternate season, sustained heavy graduation losses and returns only one player who was a regular member of its rotation.

The Wildcats started a freshman, two sophomores, two juniors and a lone senior in their season-opening competition: the FVA Fall Classic where they went 1-4 in match play.

"We've had discussions about needing to find our identity as a team," said Pakula, who is back for her 21st season. "Our season needs to be looked at as a marathon - focusing on getting better every day in practice and every match - with our eyes on playing our best ball at the end of the season."

The Wildcats graduated first-team all-conference players Rachel Mueller and Morgan Yenter along with second-team all-FVA choices Randi Wellhoefer and Natalie Johanknecht, and libero Eva Beeth, who received all-FVA honorable mention.

"It's a very young team," Pakula said. "Our ability to fight for every point and be scrappier than everyone will be key for us. We need to start positive and push to get

GIRLS VOLLEYBALL PREVIEW

better each day."

West returns five seniors: Sabrina Pickart, Claire Tigert, Rylie Liptow, Jillian Schawke and Lauren Troudt along with juniors Eleisha Schimmel, Emily Blaskowski, Mallory Miller, Sierra Kunde, Kadence Saladin and Maddi Choinski.

Choinski was the team leader in digs (39) at the FVA Fall Classic and had five service aces. Blaskowski and Tigert contributed 19 kills and three blocks in the five matches. Troudt, the team's setter, had a team-high 73 assists along with three blocks.

Sophomores Avery Pakula and freshman Maeve Lasky will also fill key roles. Lasky topped the Wildcats in kills (21) and service aces (nine) at the FVA Classic, while Pakula had 35 digs.

West also expects to get contributions from sophomores Kiersten Martin and Paige Seckar.

The Wildcats' lone win at the FVA Classic was a 2-0 victory (25-13, 25-21) over Oshkosh North. They lost matches to Fond du Lac (0-2, 11-25, 18-25), Kimberly (0-2, 25-27, 20-25), Kaukauna (0-2, 18-25, 22-25) and Appleton West (1-2, 21-25, 25-15, 15-17).

"As we saw at the FVA Classic, everyone can play with everyone," said Jillian Pakula. "Whoever is playing cleaner will come out on top."

West opens FVA play Thursday at home against Oshkosh North.

North builds experience

The Spartans struggled through a win-

less season in the FVA (0-8) and went 1-10 overall during the spring alternate schedule but return several contributors and are expected to be far more competitive.

"My expectations revolve around how well we work together as a team," said North co-coach Stephanie Korell, who is sharing the coaching duties with Jamie Stille. "Communication and trust are what we're working on the most. You can have the best athletes in the world, but if you don't properly communicate and trust each other, you won't have a successful season."

"Our hopes for the season are to work hard, communicate and win."

Senior Payton Uptagraft leads a long list of returning players. Uptagraft - a fourth-year varsity player - received all-conference honorable mention as a middle blocker, but will be an outside hitter this fall.

"Payton will have a major impact on our team," said Korell. "She's powerful, smart and very experienced."

Uptagraft will be joined by seven additional senior contributors: defensive specialist/libero Halle Marquardt, setter Kaydence Kaquatosh, middle hitters Jessica Swapp and Emma Rhode and right-side hitters Aimee Footit and Kayleigh Sievers.

Another key player back is junior defensive specialist/libero Morgan Wilson.

"Morgan and Halle's overall communication, hustle and quickness are what this team needs," Korell said. "Communication, defense and problem solving will be keys for us. Being able to know what's working and what's not working will be big. Figuring out how to get out of bad situations will show how much we move forward."

Freshman setter Ava Lee has been one of the most impressive newcomers.

"Ava has been adjusting very well to varsity," Korell said. "Her quickness, defense and serving should allow her to be a huge contributor. She's a player to look out for in the coming years. She adapts well, is very coachable and we expect her to do great things the next four years."

This is Korell's sixth season with the North volleyball program.

Lourdes has new leader

The Knights have a new coach (Katie Hofmeister) and are returning just three seniors: setter Madison Peerenboom, defensive specialist Adriana Geddes and middle blocker Camille Clark.

Junior outside hitter/defensive specialist Rylee Kuklinski and sophomore outside hitter/middle blocker Charley Mullen are also back.

The remainder of the roster is filled with underclass performers. But with youth comes energy and hunger. Hofmeister has been impressed with the Knights' work ethic and is fired up about the season. Lourdes finished 0-3 in the Trailways Conference and 0-9 last season.

"I'm very excited about this young team," said Hofmeister. "The girls work hard and are very dedicated to the sport and to each other. As the new coach here, I'm very excited to meet the new competition. I expect us to finish in the top part of the conference."

Hofmeister replaces Trudi Woods as Knights' coach. The team graduated most of last year's starters like Lauren Hamill, Carmen Lowe and Paige Droessler. Hamill was a second-team all-Trailways East selec-

SEE **Volleyball** ON PAGE 22



2021 Oshkosh High School Volleyball Schedules



LOURDES ACADEMY 	OSHKOSH NORTH SPARTANS 	OSHKOSH WEST 	VALLEY CHRISTIAN 
Sep 2 @Oakfield 7:30pm	Sep 2 @Oshkosh West 7:00pm	Sep 2 Oshkosh North 7:00pm	Sep 2 Horicon 7:30pm
Sep 7 Dodgeland 7:30pm	Sep 9 Appleton North 7:00pm	Sep 9 @Kaukauna 7:00pm	Sep 7 @Oakfield 7:30pm
Sep 9 Amherst 7:30pm	Sep 16 @Appleton East 7:00pm	Sep 16 Neenah 7:00pm	Sep 14 Wayland Academy 7:30pm
Sep 14 @Horicon 7:30pm	Sep 23 Hortonville 7:00pm	Sep 23 @Appleton West 7:00pm	Sep 16 @Johnson Creek 7:30pm
Sep 21 Wayland Academy 7:30pm	Sep 28 @Kimberly 7:00pm	Sep 28 Fond du Lac 7:00pm	Sep 21 @Hustisford 7:30pm
Sep 28 @Valley Christian 7:30pm	Sep 30 @Fond du Lac 7:00pm	Sep 30 Appleton North 7:00pm	Sep 28 Lourdes Academy 7:30pm
Sep 30 Hustisford 7:30pm	Oct 5 Kaukauna 7:00pm	Oct 5 @Appleton East 7:00pm	Oct 1 @Central WI Christian 7:30pm
Oct 5 Central WI Christian 7:30pm	Oct 7 @Neenah 7:00pm	Oct 7 Hortonville 7:00pm	Oct 5 @Dodgeland 7:30pm
Oct 14 @St. Mary Catholic 7:00pm	Oct 14 Appleton West 7:00pm	Oct 14 @Kimberly 7:00pm	Oct 12 Hilbert 7:15pm

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UW Oshkosh unveils its largest sports induction

The University of Wisconsin Oshkosh Athletics Hall of Fame will welcome its largest class of new members when 10 individuals are inducted Nov. 7 in a ceremony at the Culver Family Welcome Center.

The 2021 induction class features former student-athletes Blaine Felsman (football, wrestling), Ayla (Mitchell) Helland (cross-country, track and field), Greg Henschel (soccer), Willy Kaul (cross-country, track and field), Erin (LeRoy) Klump (swimming and diving), Terri (Schwamb) Kruse (track and field), Rich Schroeder (baseball), Rob Stoltz (football, baseball), current sports information director Kennan Timm, and former student-athlete and coach Ted Van Dellen (basketball).

The honorees will join 211 others selected to the previous 46 induction classes.

Felsman was a multiple award winner in football and wrestling from 1974 until 1978. On the football field, the Waupun High School graduate played center and received All-Wisconsin Intercollegiate Athletic Conference First Team recognition when the Titans shared the league championship with UW-Platteville and UW-River Falls in 1976. He earned a pair of All-America citations and one conference title on the wrestling mat.

Helland transferred from the University of Minnesota and quickly became a standout performer at both the conference and national levels for the women's cross-country and track and field programs from 2007-09. The New Richmond High School graduate totaled three All-America awards and two conference titles in cross-country while compiling two national titles, five All-America cita-

tions and six conference championships in track and field. Helland won NCAA Division III titles in 2009 for the indoor mile and outdoor 5,000-meter runs.

Henschel helped elevate the men's soccer program to national prominence during his four seasons as a Titan from 1991-94. The Brookfield East High School graduate earned a pair of NCAA Division III All-Midwest Region awards from the National Soccer Coaches Association of America as UW-Oshkosh compiled a 61-11-7 record while competing in three postseason tournaments and advancing to one Final Four.

Kaul earned a pair of All-America awards in cross-country with his fourth- and second-place finishes at the NCAA Division III Championship in 2006 and 2008, respectively. He was the WIAC champion in 2008 and the league's runner-up in 2006.

Klump was a member of the women's swimming and diving program from 1999-2002, where the Oshkosh North High School graduate accumulated five NCAA Division III All-America awards while diving to three WIAC titles.

Kruse enjoyed a celebrated career as a member of the women's track and field program from 2004-08. UW Oshkosh won NCAA Division III indoor and outdoor titles during her first season and the Titans then captured national indoor championships in 2005 and 2006 before winning the 2007 national outdoor championship at the Oshkosh Sports Complex.

Schroeder was an infielder for the baseball team from 1968-70 and helped the Titans to a 63-24 record and a WIAC championship each year. He compiled a

.288 batting average during his three seasons. The Waterloo High School graduate received All-WIAC First Team and NAIA All-America Honorable Mention recognition in both 1968 and 1969.

Stoltz appeared in 39 football games from 1992-95 and caught 155 passes for 2,691 yards and 24 touchdowns. He currently ranks second for the Titans in career receiving yards and third in both career receptions and career receiving touchdowns. The Greendale High School graduate received All-WIAC honors as a Second Team selection in 1994 and a First Team pick in 1995.

Timm's 37 years as sports information director have extended well beyond the coordination of the publicity for the school's 19-sport athletics program. He has served as the host media relations director for the finals of 31 NCAA Divi-

sion III Championships and more than 50 Division III regional tournaments. The Oshkosh West High School graduate was a member of the wrestling media relations staff at the 1984 Summer Olympics in Los Angeles and worked three years as a radio/television spotter in the press box for Green Bay Packers football games.

Van Dellen accepted the challenge in May 1990 of leading a men's basketball program that he played for, guiding a basketball program that won only 113 games in the 11 seasons before his appointment to 358 victories and five NCAA Division III postseason appearances in the 22 years (1991-2012) that followed. Van Dellen, who owns the sixth-most coaching victories in WIAC history, compiled a 358-225 record (.614 winning percentage) while leading UW-Oshkosh to 17 winning seasons.

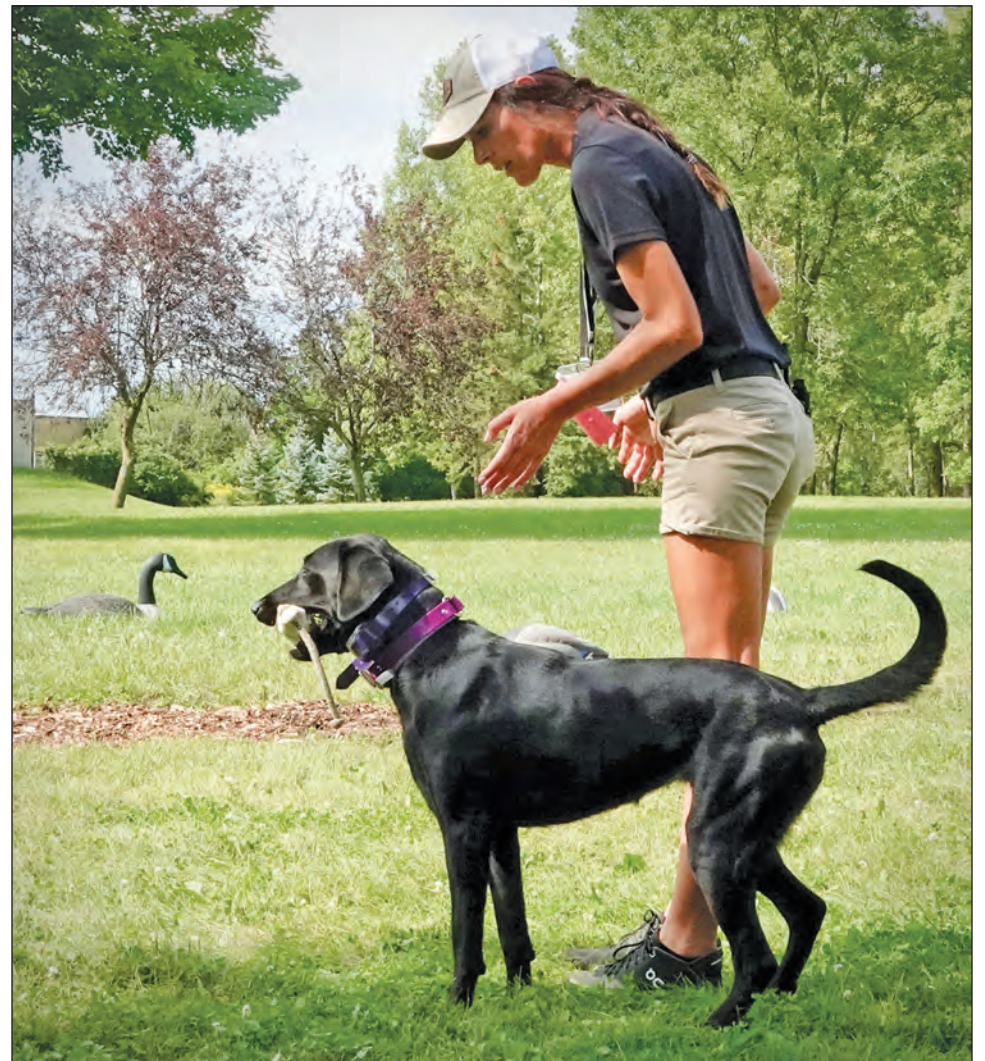


Photo by Michael Cooney

Training time

K-9 Academy instructor Jessie Lee Richards, owner of Full Throttle Kennel in Campbellsport, works with a Labrador on waterfowl hunting during the inaugural Waterfowl Hunters Expo on Saturday at Sunnyview Expo Center. Expo manager Bruce Ross, who is also the executive director of the Wisconsin Waterfowl Association, said Oshkosh is within 90 minutes of the majority of waterfowl hunters in Wisconsin as measured by the sale of waterfowl stamps. He said attendance topped 2,000 people.

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Skilled Wildcats look to challenge Neenah in FVA

By Tim Froberg
HERALD CONTRIBUTOR

Rockets are difficult to throw off course.

The Neenah Rockets are no exception, but a skilled, match-tested Oshkosh West girls' tennis squad may have the counter weapons to prevent the nine-time defending champions from hitting their usual target as Fox Valley Association champs.

The Wildcats return several key players from a rock-solid team and are expected to be one of the elite squads in the FVA.

"Our players have a great deal of experience in tough matches over the past years that will allow them to step up when challenged," said West coach Andrew Schaller. "My goal is to at least finish in second place."

That's where West (6-1) placed during the spring alternate season behind the 7-0 Rockets. The Wildcats went 12-3 in dual meets.

West returns almost its entire roster, graduating only Brinley Bettcher, who was part of the No. 1 doubles team.

Sophomore Keagan Potter, last year's No. 1 singles player, leads the talented group of returnees that includes senior Ella Nguyen (No. 2 singles), junior Hannah Chung (No. 3 singles) and senior Anika Larson (No. 4 singles).

West is also loaded at the doubles spots. Senior Courtney Carpenter, who teamed with Bettcher as West's No. 1 tandem, is back along with the No. 2 doubles team of senior Sam Lightner and sophomore Kate Conger, and the No. 3 team of seniors Ella Steffen and Megan Augustine.

Potter was a WIAA state individual meet qualifier in singles play, while Carpenter, Lightner and Conger were state meet doubles participants. Chung (No. 3) and Larson (No. 4) were FVA conference meet singles champions along with the No. 2 doubles duo of Lightner and Conger. Nguyen (No. 2 singles) and the doubles team of Steffen

Police host 5K run for mental health

The Oshkosh Police Department is hosting its annual Mental Health and Wellness Awareness 5K on Oct. 2 at Menominee Park.

A wellness committee was formed in 2018 to help combat the stigma associated with law enforcement officers and mental health by offering officers, non-sworn staff and their families support, education and training. Proceeds from the event will go

GIRLS TENNIS PREVIEW

and Augustine were conference meet runner-ups.

Schaller will likely experiment with different combinations and lineups in the preseason before settling on individual and doubles slots.

"This team is solid overall and we look forward to continuing to grow and improve," Schaller said. "The key will be staying healthy and always challenging ourselves to play our best tennis in all situations. The mental aspect of tennis is extremely important. Very often, this is where players either win or lose their match."

Neenah – FVA champions since 2012 – is once again the preseason favorite. Oshkosh West was the last team besides Neenah to win the FVA title in 2011.

"They're the team to beat," Schaller said. "There will definitely be some very challenging matches to fight for the second, third and fourth positions. Kimberly is bringing in some solid players and Appleton North will have a great team again."

As strong as the Wildcats appear, they will also face some major challenges in the postseason.

"Unfortunately, the WIAA sectionals were redrawn," Schaller said. "Not only do we have Neenah in our sectional, but powerhouse Homestead will join us along with some other very tough teams. Our girls will need to dig deep to challenge these teams."

Schaller is returning for his fifth season with the West girls, holding a 26-4 FVA mark and a 59-20 dual-meet record.

North adds experience with returning roster

The Spartans finished at the bottom of the FVA (0-7) during the spring alternate season, but return several players and should be much improved.

toward those efforts.

The fun run/walk will begin at 9 a.m. with a 7:30 a.m. check-in and registration. Details are at runsignup.com/Race/WI/Oshkosh. Sign up by Sept. 9 to receive a T-shirt with registration.

Contact Tori Heidemann at theidemann@ci.oshkosh.wi.us or 920-236-5729 for information about donations and sponsorship.

Sophomore Maya Walker will be the No. 1 singles player after competing at the No. 2 spot last season. Sophomore Julia Bock (No. 2 singles) and junior Madeline Drews (No. 3 singles) will both climb a slot after handling the No. 3 and No. 4 spots. Senior Sophie Mikle, who was part of the No. 2 doubles team, completes the singles lineup at No. 4.

The Wildcats also boast experience in doubles play. The No. 1 team of seniors Mia Salbego and Avery Doemel is back along with the senior tandem of Madelyn Dutscheck and Chloe Rockteschel, which moves up a notch to No. 2 doubles.

"My hope is that all my players come into the season feeling they've made improvements in their game," said Brynn Hartzell, North's second-year head coach. "I expect them to support one another and put forth their best effort in both practice and matches. It's important they know it's not all about winning and losing. It's about playing the best they can and being a class act."

"Although we may not be the strongest team in the conference, I want my girls to be proud of how they played and proud to play for Oshkosh North."

Lourdes stronger with veterans back in action

A year's experience should bolster a young Knights team, which returns most of its roster.

"Half the team was in its first year playing the sport last year," said George Spoerl, who is back for his third year as Lourdes coach. "The players have all grown and improved so much since

then. It's amazing to see our four freshmen playing up to a new level compared to where they were at the beginning of last season. Last years' experience has allowed everyone to grow their skills at a faster rate."

Olivia Nielson, the No. 1 singles player, is back and will lead the singles lineup. Nielson, a junior, was voted as the team's most valuable player. Sophomore Melanie Tushar, who competed at No. 3 singles, and senior Clare Foss (No. 4 singles) are also back.

Doubles players returning are Siya Pharma, who was part of the No. 1 team; juniors Ryaan Williams (No. 2) and Lily Meyer (No. 3); and sophomores Ailish Mains (No. 2), Lucy Foss (No. 3) and Avery Halla (No. 3). Spoerl is expected to look at different combinations before deciding on his lineup.

Pharma received last season's coach's award for her strong work ethic, respectful attitude and excellent work in the classroom. Foss was selected as most improved player and Clare Foss has been named as team captain.

"Siya Pharma, Olivia Nielson and Melanie Tushar are all improving at astonishing rates," Spoerl said. "A key for us will be relying on the fundamentals. Often, our girls will practice with perfect form, but sometimes that gets abandoned if the match gets tough or close. We need to stay away from bad habits."

"If we can keep up good form throughout match play, it may slow us down in the short term, but accelerate us towards success in the conference."

Spoerl considers St. Mary Catholic as the team to beat in the conference.



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AA/EOE

Wildcats look to build off success

Volleyball

FROM PAGE 19

By Alex Wolf
HERALD CONTRIBUTOR

Despite having to move its season to the spring because of COVID, the Oshkosh West girls cross-country team had an amazing season.

The girls qualified for the WIAA Division 1 state championship, finishing seventh overall. What makes head coach Stephanie Polak excited is that of the seven runners who made it to state, six of them return.

“Last season, running cross-country in the spring was a very unique experience and I was so proud of how wonderful our athletes handled it,” Polak said. “They were truly amazing with following all the COVID protocols and I was grateful we were able to compete in the spring.”

Returning for the Wildcats from that state team are seniors Bailey Wright and Alaina Palomaki, juniors Rachel Weickert and Faith Galica, and sophomores Braelee Jodarski and Laina Hammen. Taylor Guido also returns for West for added depth.

Jodarski had the best finish as a freshman at state, finishing 15th overall with a time of 19:43.1.

Polak said she expects sophomore Madison Nestruck to make an impact this season.

On the boys’ side, the Wildcats return six from last year’s team in Elijah Gefers, Anders Larson, Jerry Sowers, Collin Haese, Caden Moon and Matthew Montano. Polak said freshman Celso Collins should make an impact this season.

“Honestly we are taking it one day, one week and one meet at a time,” Polak said. “Our athletes are just beyond excited that cross-country is back to the fall and we are looking forward to the season.”

North works to move up

For the Oshkosh North boys cross-country team, head coach Steve Danza said there will be many new faces and he’s hoping they can crack the top seven in the Fox Valley Association.

CROSS-COUNTRY PREVIEW

The Spartans will have to replace a handful of graduates such as Zach Tjugum, who finished 47th at state last spring.

The top returner for North is Matthew Crawford and Danza said he expects newcomers Chase Pecore and Owen Schulze to make an impact this fall.

On the girls’ side, Lily Saunders and Klara Stelzer return for a Spartans team that Danza hopes for a top five finish in the FVA.

Danza said he expects newcomers Ava Hansen, Allyah Mossman and Lauren Geer to make an impact this season.

Lourdes ready to get back

Lourdes cross-country head coach Tim Moore said last year he saw a lot of success but at the same time was disappointed with their conference showing.

The girls cross-country team got beat out in the Trailways Conference last season as Dodgeland edged them out. Moore does not want that to happen again.

“We want to be back on top of our conference as a team, that is our number one goal,” Moore said. “Any added championship run will be an added blessing to our team’s hard work.”

On the plus side, the Knights had two advance to the WIAA state championship in Mary Husman and Molly Moore. Another plus – those two return as juniors, as well as three others who will be running once again in juniors Mackenzie Stelter and Addy Hafemeister and sophomore Ella Slusarski. Hafemeister is out for the year due to a basketball injury but hopes to return late in the year.

Moore expects a group of freshman girls to make an impact in Erin Moore, Darya Averkamp and Allison Huizenga.

On the boys’ side, it was disappointing to Moore that they weren’t able to move

any athletes through to state last season because of COVID contact tracing.

The boys only return one runner from last year in Isaac Kohls. Moore said he expects newcomers Kyle Hipple and Joshua Rucinski – both sophomores – to make an impact.

“It will be a rebuilding year with the loss of our senior boys but each athlete is excited to see their improvement as the season progresses,” Moore said.

Patterson leads way for VC

The Valley Christian boys cross-country team had its best season ever last year, finishing third in the conference.

This season will be a little different as the Warriors graduated a handful from last year’s team.

“We had a solid boys team last year and we were able to finish third in the conference which was our best finish ever,” head coach Carey Holtz said. “We had a couple graduate last year that were key runners. This year will be a rebuilding year for us.”

Holtz said the team has one veteran runner coming up from middle school, Ethan Reinke, and he will be juggling soccer and cross-country. She said he was a great runner in middle school and usually placed well at meets. The Warriors also have a new sophomore coming in, Michael Sawall, who has not run before.

On the girls’ side, junior Leah Patterson returns after placing 16th in the WIAA Division 3 state meet.

“Leah will be a strong team leader, along with senior Cielo Gutierrez,” Holtz said. “We have a solid core group of veteran runners coming back for the girls that include Norah O’Brien and Rebekah Freund. All of these girls really love cross-country.”

Besides those girls, Holtz said Valley Christian is gaining four new girls in Chloe Mueller, who ran track last spring, Samantha Duehring, and two international students Tatiana Sobusiak and Tanya Atanasova.

tion. Lowe received honorable mention.

Young players who may contribute are junior middle blocker Kate Johnsen, sophomore right-side hitter Maggie Peterson and the freshman group of defensive specialist/libero Reagan Jaber, outside hitter Kate Lynn, setter Grace Meyers and outside hitter Delaney Ruedinger.

“As a team with a lot of young and new players, a key will be working together and getting comfortable playing with one another,” Hofmeister said.

Lourdes opens the season Thursday with a conference match at Oakfield.

Valley Christian rebuilds

Expect an upgrade from the Warriors, who finished 1-12 overall and 0-2 in the Trailways East last season.

Valley Christian returns four starters, including its top player: senior right-side hitter and setter Camryn Hass, a second-team all-conference selection.

Additional returning starters are sophomores Stella Wright (outside hitter), Katie Wallace (libero) and Anna Giannopoulos (middle hitter).

“Camryn’s main role will be as a hitter,” said Valley Christian coach Lizzy Potratz. “The three sophomores all started as freshmen and we’re excited to see what they’ll accomplish as sophomores.”

Senior outside hitter, Ellie Dinkelman, a transfer student, and freshman setter Malaha Demler are among the top newcomers.


Others looking to make contributions are seniors Rinah Peterson (setter-outside hitter) and Sydney Miller (defensive specialist), juniors Josie Matias (middle hitter) and Grace Rolston (defensive specialist), and freshmen Alaina Wojtowski (outside hitter) and Kaylia Humiston (middle hitter).

Valley Christian opened the season by posting a 1-2 match record at the Fall River Quad. The Warriors beat Deerfield (2-0) but dropped consecutive sets to Living World Lutheran and Fall River.

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Obituaries

Robert R. Swan

Robert Richard Swan, 94, passed away peacefully with family at his side on August 25, 2021 at St. Elizabeth's Hospital in Appleton. He was the husband of Barbara (Drahn) Swan, and son of Bernard R. Swan and Jadwiga (Luzenska) Swan.

Bob was born in Berlin, Wisconsin on June 21, 1927, graduated valedictorian for his class at Berlin High School in 1945, then proudly served his country during WWII in the United States Navy, and was honorably discharged in August, 1946. He received his Bachelor's Degree at the University of Wisconsin-Madison in 1950, majoring in Economics. He was also a member of the UW Marching Band under Ray Dvorak, playing the piccolo. After starting Law School, he later decided to join his father at the Truesdell Fur Company in Berlin, where he worked, eventually as President, until 1985. He was active in the Berlin community, serving as Alderman for the Berlin City Council in the 1970s. He was an active member of the Jaycees, and Boy Scouts of America as an Eagle Scout with Order of the Arrow.

He then moved the family to the Chicago area, working at York Furrier in Elmhurst, Illinois from 1985 until his retirement in 1994. In 1995, he and Barbara moved back to Wisconsin, living out his remaining years in Oshkosh, including a post-retirement career at 4imprint, where he worked until he was 90 years old.

Bob was loved universally by everyone he came in contact with for his easy demeanor, light-hearted humor and unflappable nature.

He is survived by his wife, Barbara D. Swan, son Thomas R. Swan (Oshkosh), daughter Catherine A. Seris (Paris, FR), and son William O. Swan (Oakland, CA). Robert is also survived by four grandchildren, Emile, Henry, Olivia and Brenna.

He was preceded in death by his parents, Jadwiga, Bernard, and also Kunda (Kay) Swan.

Visitation will be held beginning at 9:30am followed by a Mass of Christian Burial celebrated at 11am on Tuesday, September 7th, 2021 in Most Blessed Sacrament Catholic Church (St. Mary Site, 605 Merritt Ave.) with the Rev. Jerome Pastors officiating. Burial will be in Lake View Memorial Park, Oshkosh. Funeral arrangements by Fiss & Bills-Poklasny Funeral Home, Oshkosh.

In lieu of flowers, donations in his honor may be made to Most Blessed Sacrament Catholic Church, local organizations in support of homeless vets such as Day by Day Warming Shelter, Father Carr's Place 2B, or to a local charity of your choice.



Medicare program presentation set

A free information session about Medicare options is being presented online at 5:30 p.m. Sept. 30 by the Aging & Disability Resource Center (ADRC) of Winnebago County.

The program is for anyone eligible for Medicare, or approaching eligibility, to become familiar with various parts and plan options. To receive the login information contact Joan Jaworski at 920-236-4685.

Program to reduce falls offered at Seniors Center

Stepping On, a program offered by the Oshkosh Seniors Center through the Wellness Plus Collaboration and proven to reduce falls by 30 percent, is being offered from Sept. 9 through Oct. 21 - 1 to 3 p.m. Thursdays - in the South building.

One in four older adults has a fall each year, according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, and Wisconsin leads the nation in fall-related deaths for those 60 and older.

Stepping On gives participants strategies for avoiding falls including balance and strength exercises, home safety check suggestions and medication review. Guest experts including a physical therapist, pharmacist and others. The workshop is designed specifically for people ages 60 or older who have fallen and have a fear of falling.

To register, contact Winnebago County Health Department at 920-232-3000.

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BY **KAMREN JOSEPH HAYES**
Case No. 21CV568

NOTICE IS GIVEN:
A Petition was filed asking to change the name of the person listed above:
From: Kamren Joseph Hayes
To: Kamren Joseph Hendricks
Birth Certificate: Kamren Joseph Hayes
IT IS ORDERED:
This Petition will be heard in the Circuit Court of Winnebago County, State of Wisconsin:
Judge's Name: Hon. Teresa S. Basiliere
Place: Winnebago County Courthouse, 415 Jackson Street, Oshkosh, WI 54901
Room 410 - Fourth floor
Date: September 29, 2021
Time: 8:30 am
IT IS FURTHER ORDERED:
Notice of this hearing shall be given by publication as a Class 3 notice for three (3) weeks in a row prior to the date of the hearing in the Oshkosh Herald a newspaper published in Winnebago County, State of Wisconsin.
BY THE COURT:
DATE SIGNED: August 24, 2021
/s/ Hon. Teresa S. Basiliere
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It's School Time Again!

You may be having a lot of different and mixed feelings about going back to school this year. You might experience feelings of excitement about the new school year, sadness about summer being over, or nervousness about new teachers, new friends and new stuff to study.

Having different feelings at the same time is normal! But it can also be tiring. So, doctors agree it is good to take care of your body, to help manage all of the feelings.

Draw the expression to show how you feel about each of these things. Share what you drew with a family member to talk about it.



FRIENDSHIPS



HOMEWORK



READING



MATH



NEW TEACHER



THE YEAR AHEAD

How many pencils can you find on this page?

10 Easy Steps to a Better School Year

1. Clean out that backpack.
Clearing the clutter out of your backpack at the end of each day not only lightens your load, it helps you stay on top of school assignments.

2. Never skip breakfast.
Breakfast helps you stay energized and focused at school. A bowl of oatmeal or a breakfast burrito keeps your brain running at full speed until lunchtime.

3. Get some sleep.
Your body needs some downtime to recharge – about 10 hours of sleep for kids ages 7 to 12 every night.

4. Do your homework first.
Do your homework first thing after school and the rest of the day is yours!

5. Be on time.
Starting your day rushing to get to class makes it hard to focus once you are there. Leave home a little bit earlier instead.

6. Share your work with your parents.
Show your schoolwork to a parent each evening so they know how you're doing in school. They'll be able to see when you need extra help, too.

7. Ask questions.
Sometimes your teacher might be moving through a new lesson faster than you can understand it. Don't be afraid to raise your hand and ask to go through it again. (Someone else in class likely has the same question as you, but is too chicken to ask!)

8. Be ready to go.
Make each morning easier by laying out your clothes the night before.

10. Unplug!
Spend time doing non-electronic things. Read, solve puzzles, or draw. These things use parts of the brain that electronics do not.

9. Play!
Exercise keeps blood flowing to your brain. And it's fun, too!



Smiling Lifts a Bad Mood

Scientists have found that smiling on purpose can help people feel better. Just the simple act of putting a smile on your face can lead you to feel actual happiness, joy, or amusement.

When one person in a classroom smiles, everyone else feels better. Maybe **your** smile can transition a bad day into a good one!

How many differences can you find between these two pictures? Now have a friend try. Who found the most differences?



Extra! Extra! Headline Humor

Have a laugh with your new friends! Select a headline from the newspaper and rewrite it to have the opposite meaning.

Standards Link: Read from a variety of texts.

Kid Scoop Puzzler

Share a Smile

Draw lines to connect each riddle with its punch line. Then share these jokes with friends to spread some smiles!

Why do math books always look sad?
Why was the clock always in trouble at school?
What is the smartest insect?
Which vegetables do librarians like best?
Why was the broom late for school?

- IT OVER-SWEPT.
- THEY HAVE A LOT OF PROBLEMS.
- QUIET PEAS.
- FOR TOCKING TOO MUCH.
- SPELLING BEE.

Double Double Word Search

- TRANSITION
- HAPPINESS
- HAPPIER
- SADNESS
- SUMMER
- NORMAL
- SCHOOL
- SMILE
- SLEEP
- BRAIN
- MOOD
- LAZY
- BODY
- WEAR
- JOY

Find the words in the puzzle. How many of them can you find on this page?

N H A P P I N E S S
O N A G E T A B G J
O O D P W E A R N O
S L E E P I L A Z Y
T R A N S I T I O N
R E M M U S E N M G
Y D O B R H T R S S
S O S C H O O L L E
D E I S S E N D A S

Standards Link: Letter sequencing. Recognize identical words. Skim and scan reading. Recall spelling patterns.

REPORTER'S CORNER

Choose an article in this newspaper.

Cut out the headline and glue it in the box below. Or write the headline in the box.

WHO gave the reporter some information? List the names of the people and organizations in the article that provided the reporter with information.

What questions did the reporter ask to get this information? Write down at least three questions you think the reporter asked to get the information in the article.

KID SCOOP'S MISSION

Children are born curious. From their earliest days, sensory exploration brings delight and wonder. New discoveries expand their minds. When they unlock the joy of reading, their world widens further. **Magic happens.**

Kid Scoop opens the doors of discovery for elementary school children by providing interactive, engaging and relevant age-appropriate materials designed to awaken the magic of reading at school, at home, and throughout their lives.

Literacy Tips for Kid's Scoop

1. If your child read and loved one book by a certain author, help them find other books by an author they enjoyed.
2. Making reading to your kids a priority over the numerous distractions that come our way creates important one-on-one time with your kids.

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