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Photos by Michael Cooney

Community Band live

Oshkosh Area Community Band music director emeritus Terry Hathaway (top photo) conducts the group in a Saturday concert at Alberta Kimball Auditorium. Marshall Potter (right) was the featured pianist for the performance of "Dreamsong" by Richard Saucedo. The concert also featured marches, music from the stage and screen, dance music and light classics.



TDS makes plans for fiber-optic network

Oshkosh Herald

Oshkosh residents will be seeing a new fiber-optic network being built by TDS Telecom, a Madison-based company that will offer TV, voice and internet services to residential and business customers beginning sometime next year.

The company announced last week that it expects the project to reach at least 19,000 addresses with services becoming available in phases. The fiber-optic network is expected to directly compete with cable provider Spectrum.

"We plan to begin permitting and pre-construction planning early next year, with the actual build work beginning in the spring/early summer," said Melissa Kellor, a TDS communications manager.

Public Works director James Rabe said the city has had preliminary discussions with TDS on the infrastructure work that he expected to be a 24 to 30-month project. Most of the work will be underground with some above-ground structures depending on the utility easements needed.

"They are currently planning 'hand-holds' in the terraces to set up for service connections at the homes," Rabe said. "Their hope is to be able to set these up near lot lines, so they can service two houses out of one handhold. We will see how well that works out during the design and permit review process."

He said the right-of-way permit review process is where the most work will occur to assure installation will not adversely im-

SEE TDS network ON PAGE 7

Time theater a place to enjoy more than movies

Entertainment venue mixes comedy, music, film

By Steve Clark
OSHKOSH HERALD

There was a time when the Time Community Theater in downtown Oshkosh just showed movies.

The historical venue still does, but there's much more that goes on inside the building nowadays.

From music to magicians to comedians to a night celebrating one of Oshkosh's own, the Time has become another place in the city to enjoy a night of high-quality entertainment.

"What it does for us is it fulfills our mission statement in that we're another place for local and national acts to have a presence in Oshkosh," said Phil Krause, president of the Time Theater of Oshkosh Group. "We're another place for things to

happen in Oshkosh."

The upcoming docket for the theater has some impressive highlights, starting Friday with its "Evening With Hornswoggle." Oshkosh native Dylan Postl will be discussing his career in movies and World Wrestling Entertainment (WWE) – where he was known as Hornswoggle – with performances by a couple of stand-up comedians mixed in.

Later this month, national touring comedian Christopher Titus will take the stage.

"The start of last year, a show promoter who brings national standup acts to the Midwest reached out to us to bring in Pauly Shore, and that was a success," Krause said. "He reached out to us again to bring in Christopher Titus."

For the non-national-level comics, Krause said the Time works with Fox Val-

SEE Time Theater ON PAGE 26



Oshkosh Herald

The Time Theater in downtown Oshkosh is a historical venue that provides more than just classic movies.



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www.oshkoshherald.com.

New school donors program launched

The Oshkosh Area School District Education Foundation has a new partnership with DonorsChoose, a national nonprofit helping teachers tap into a network to support classroom projects and better align with district strategy and operations.

Oshkosh's first districtwide Boost the Classroom campaign kicked off last week and will run through February with the goal of funding all project requests from teachers. Through DonorsChoose, individuals are able to donate directly to

classroom projects. Current teacher projects are available on the district's DonorsChoose webpage. To learn more visit www.donorschoose.org/oasd.

Ninety-six percent of district teachers surveyed have reported paying anywhere from \$50 to \$1,000 out of their own pocket for school supplies every year. DonorsChoose allows individuals to donate directly to classroom projects in order to bring this statistic down.

"This campaign will help enrich the ed-

ucation of students throughout the Oshkosh Area School District and empower teachers to transform their classroom experiences," said Theresa Duren, Education Foundation director.

With a match from the JEK Foundation, as well as a \$1,000 donation from Amcor, the foundation will fund the final 25 percent of all projects posted, up to \$200. The district can monitor all donated materials and principals are notified each time a project is funded.

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West stabbing case motions made

Oshkosh Herald

The trial for a 2019 stabbing incident at Oshkosh West High School may be delayed after last-minute motions from both the defense and prosecution ahead of the Dec. 6 court date.

Grant Fuhrman is on trial for first-degree intentional homicide after attacking police liaison officer Michael Wissink with a two-pronged barbecue fork. Wissink shot the student in the chest in defense.

State prosecutor Tracy Paider filed a

motion for adjournment to allow sufficient time to review the defense's request for an expert witness.

After being denied a change in venue in May, Fuhrman's defense attorney Corey Mehlos renewed the request to reduce the effects of pretrial publicity, citing several "overwhelmingly negative" news articles and community support for Wissink.

The court will reconvene for a status hearing Nov. 19 to determine if either motion may be approved.



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School mask mandate extended into December

Oshkosh Herald

Noting a “very high” level of COVID-19 cases in the community, the Oshkosh Area School District has extended its masking requirements for all students, staff and visitors through Dec. 3.

“While we continue to see COVID cas-

es impacting our school communities, we have been able to keep all schools open with in-person learning by focusing on our mitigation measures and using our on-site testing process,” said Superintendent Bryan Davis.

He said extending the mask mandate

Pete’s Garage fundraiser backs Head Start

Pete’s Garage Bar’s fifth annual Oshkosh Head Start sponsorship is underway that pitches a nickel in for every drink bought at the tavern toward providing 160 local boys and girls with some holiday gifts.

Individual donations are also added to the jars behind the bar from customers, and this year the ability to donate through

PayPal and Venmo has been added at www.petesgaragebar.com/petes-toy-drive for those who live farther away.

Last year, with people out of jobs and businesses struggling, the bar raised a record \$4,400 for gifts. Each child receives about four to six gifts at both Head Start locations in Oshkosh.

and the start of child vaccinations should help bring down the case burden level while assuring the continuation of in-person instruction. The Winnebago County Health Department reported that as of Friday 56.7 percent of county residents had received at least one dose of the vaccine – 96,692 of 170,411 people.

With the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention’s approval of Pfizer vaccines for children ages 5-11, the district said in a separate release it is hosting on-site vaccination clinics for that age group and immediate family members. 120 doses of the Pfizer vaccine will be available on a first-come, first-serve basis.

“The OASD is committed to improving access to the COVID-19 vaccine and

providing families with an easy way to get their children vaccinated if they so choose,” the release said.

Children under 18 must have a parent or guardian present and a signed consent form. No appointments, insurance or identification are required.

Shapiro STEM Academy will be hosting a vaccine clinic from 3:30 to 6:30 Nov. 16. Follow-up clinics to distribute the second dose will take place Nov. 29 at Oaklawn Elementary for those who received their first dose on Nov. 8, and Dec. 7 at Shapiro for those who received their first dose on the 16th.

ThedaCare health systems announced that it would start vaccinating children ages 5 to 11 this Tuesday.

Citizen Climate Lobby sets online meeting

The Oshkosh/Fond du Lac Citizens’ Climate Lobby is holding an online Zoom meeting at 6 p.m. Nov. 17.

Brad Spanbauer, the University of Wisconsin Oshkosh’s Campus Sustainability director, will talk about efforts the univer-

sity is making to reduce its carbon footprint.

News about the climate lobby’s support of a carbon fee and dividend will also be shared. Email oshkoshccl@gmail.com to receive the meeting link.

Jess' Favorite Pumpkin Pie

- 2 large eggs & yolk of 3rd egg
- 1/2 cup dark brown sugar
- 1/3 cup white sugar
- 1/2 tsp salt
- 2 tsp cinnamon
- 1 tsp ground ginger
- 1/4 tsp ground nutmeg
- 1/4 tsp ground cloves
- 1/8 tsp ground cardamom
- 1/2 tsp lemon zest
- 2 cups pumpkin pulp puree (mine is from a sugar pumpkin)
- 1 -1/2 cup heavy cream
- 1 pie crust

1. Preheat oven to 425 degrees
2. Beat the eggs in a large bowl. Mix in the brown sugar, white sugar, salt, spices—cinnamon, ground ginger, nutmeg, ground cloves, cardamom, and lemon zest. Mix in the pumpkin purée. Stir in the cream. Beat together until everything is well mixed.
3. Pour the filling into an uncooked chilled or frozen pie shell. Bake at a high temperature of 425°F for 15 minutes. After 15 minutes, lower the temperature to 350°F. Bake for 45 to 55 minutes more. The pie is done when a knife tip inserted in the center comes out wet but relatively clean. The center should be just barely jiggly.
4. Cool on rack for 1-2 hours

Catalytic converter thefts spark added awareness

Police seeing more vehicle part looting

By Kaitlyn Scoville
OSHKOSH HERALD

Minnesota cracked down with legislation on catalytic converter thefts in June while Wisconsin has been seeing an increase of reports in the past several months.

According to Oshkosh police officer of public affairs Kate Mann, the city has seen a rise in thefts since March with a spike in July. In the timespan between March and late October, 30 thefts have been reported to the department.

Winnebago County Sheriff John Matz said the county began tracking thefts in July. As of mid-October, 42 converter thefts were reported, not including what's been reported in Oshkosh, Neenah and Appleton.

"If you came outside to start your car up and it suddenly sounded like a NASCAR, think of how upset you would be," he said. "And a lot of times, it's an over \$1,000 repair and you don't want to turn it in because you don't want your insurance to go up. What could you have done to prevent it?"

He said some of the common places in the county where thefts have been reported are in and around Green Valley Court, County Y, the park-and-ride at state highways 116 and 45, and County A in both public and private parking spots.

"They've hit private residences and businesses, looking for the most expensive catalytic converter they can find: Cadillacs, Escalades, Priuses, those types of vehicles," Matz said. "They know which

ones bring in the most money."

Catalytic converters hold materials rising in price due to material shortages, such as rhodium, palladium and platinum. Some converters sold generally for about \$100, but now sell for as much as \$1,500 because of these much-desired materials.

Matz said platinum is selling for \$1,300 an ounce, and palladium is selling for more than double that.

"It's a lucrative business; they do it very quickly and the risk is relatively low, but we're cracking down as much as we can," he said. "It's almost like the drug trade, where you arrest one dealer and there's another one to take their spot. And a lot of (catalytic converter thefts) are done to fuel a drug habit."

Matz said two arrests have been made in the county regarding catalytic converter thefts, and both Oshkosh and county officials are using proactive techniques to deal with the issue.

"We're doing everything we can but there's always somebody to take their spot - they're out on bond and doing it again," Matz said. "We're watching those individuals very closely and we have extra patrol in the areas predominantly being targeted."

Mann and Matz suggest parking cars in a garage if one is available, or otherwise in a well-lit area or places monitored by video surveillance.

There are custom security cages or homemade rebar that can be used to protect converters that are situated under the chassis but also requires an added security expense.

The state Legislature has recently seen bills - Assembly Bill 415 and Senate Bill 408 - that would require sellers of catalytic

converters to show photo identification and proof of ownership to scrap dealers.

The Senate bill reads to "designate a catalytic converter as a type of proprietary article for which scrap dealers must follow certain requirements.

"Under current law, 'proprietary articles' include copper and aluminum conductors and wires, and plastic bulk merchandise containers." Other examples of proprietary articles include railroad ties, metal grave markers, manhole covers and beer kegs.

As it stands, scrap dealers are allowed to purchase proprietary articles from those 18 or older if they have current photo identification, if the dealer tracks the transaction or if the seller proves lawful ownership of the piece.

If the bipartisan bill is passed in both the Assembly and Senate and signed into law, it would make catalytic converters a proprietary article.

In a case where a scrap dealer failed to comply with requirements listed, they are subject to a fine of up to \$1,000 and/

or imprisonment for up to 90 days for a first-time violator. A repeat violator may face up to \$10,000 in fines and up to nine months in jail.

Matz said he would prefer penalties for all parties.

"(The bill may help catch) the person in the middle who is doing it more for profit than fueling a drug habit. I think it might make a difference, and I think we need to do more on the front end with the person actually committing the thefts as well," he said.

"Other states have passed laws where any time someone steals a catalytic converter, it becomes a felony. I would prefer there's a much stiffer penalty up front for everybody involved."

In the meantime, the county is using both technology and manpower to deal with the situation.

"We're going to maybe stop it in this area, and then it moves to Outagamie or Fond du Lac counties and they'll have to deal with it," Matz said, "but we're hoping to make a dent and be one step ahead."

Back in the Day



Oshkosh history by the Winnebago County Historical & Archaeological Society

Nov. 5, 1956

Army Reserve Center to be Built on Sawyer Avenue Site:

Mayor Ernest R. Siewert announced plans to construct an Army Reserve Center by fall of

1957. The training center is estimated at a cost of \$100,000 and will include a long-term lease with the federal government. The facility will be built to house equipment and activities for four Oshkosh reserve units. Those units will include Company F of the 334th Infantry Regiment, 445th M.P. criminal investigation detachment, the 695th Engineers heavy equipment company and Battery C of the 884th Field Artillery Battalion.

Source: Oshkosh Daily Northwestern, Nov. 5, 1956



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Looking Back In Time...



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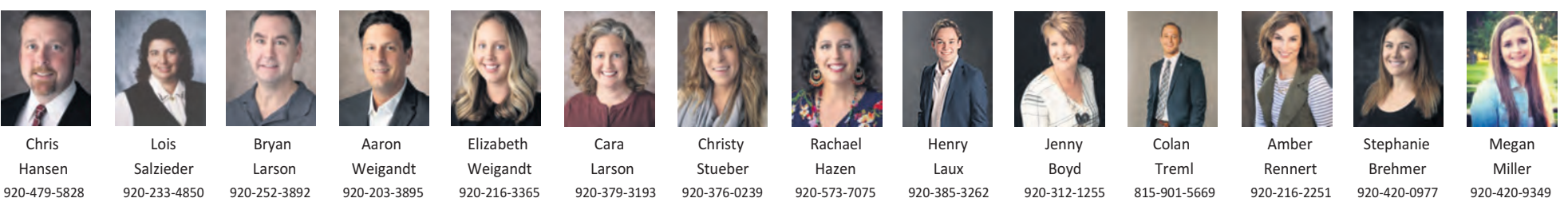
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Special gifts support anti-trafficking efforts

By Kaitlyn Scoville
OSHKOSH HERALD

With the holiday season fast approaching, the third annual Fair Trade Festival on Tuesday at Venue 404 will support both survivors of human trafficking and gift shoppers.

Terra Koslowski is outreach coordinator for Damascus Road and a Freedom Fighter with Better Way Designs. She said everyone's purchase at the festival makes a huge difference for the women they work with.

"Everyone is looking for holiday gifts. You can let someone know there's something extra special about that gift – it's creating and sustainable jobs for them," Koslowski said, "that brings dignity to women who have been told they're only worth what they can get for their bodies."

Damascus Road is a nonprofit organization focused on prevention, awareness and aftercare for survivors of human trafficking, while Better Way Designs creates relationships between vendors and companies that specifically hire and support these victims.

Fair trade provides wages based on the standard of living in one's country. They're also given appropriate breaks and safe work conditions. According to fairtrade.net, it "supports and challenges businesses and governments, and connects farmers and workers with the people who buy their products."

The two organizations work in tandem to bring handmade products such as jewelry, blankets and home decorations to Oshkosh and bring them to light with a

style show featuring some of the items.

"The event is unique in that all of the participating vendors feature products made by survivors of human trafficking or cyclical poverty as a means of creating dignified employment," Koslowski said. "For the victims, being part of a business partnership is far more dignifying than a charity. They are able to pay off their debts, move into a home and make a modest living to support their families."



Koslowski

Koslowski said human trafficking is difficult to report and keep accurate records of because victims of-

tentimes don't see themselves as being victimized despite it being the second largest criminal industry in the world.

Since Damascus Road started keeping record of its services in 2017, the organization has helped over 400 women who were either victims of human trafficking or commercial sexual exploitation.

Traffickers tend to seek ways in which they can manipulate others, including the pursuit of those who have psychological or emotional vulnerability, economic hardships, lack of a social safety net and political instability, according to the Department of Homeland Security.

January marks National Slavery and Human Trafficking Awareness Month, but the festival is held in November to help holiday shoppers looking for a special gift.

"We all buy things, especially this time



Photo from Damascus Road

Fair Trade Festival sale items support efforts to work against human trafficking.

of year for the holidays. What companies we choose to purchase from, it can really make a direct difference in the lives of women who have been trafficked or who are at a high risk of being trafficked be-

cause of their circumstances," Koslowski said. "Sometimes, a job is the best solution."

SEE **Fair Trade** ON PAGE 7

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Photo from Damascus Road

Shoppers look at goods at a previous Fair Trade Festival.

Fair Trade

FROM PAGE 6

2020's Fair Trade Festival had a much better turnout than its first year in 2019, Koslowski said. On average, \$250 in sales is equal to about 40 to 80 work hours they can create for women. Better Way Designs works with 18 different companies in 10 countries, including India, Bolivia and in Southeast Asia.

"These companies we partner with through Better Way Designs help women on so many levels – not only with job skills in making the items but also teaching them leadership skills to move up within the company," Koslowski said. "It's very holistic; it's a job helping them heal through the process of creating products."

She also said the festival helps bring a fun atmosphere to a dark topic.

"We want to celebrate the beautiful items these women make. Somebody finds it valuable and worthwhile enough to want to buy it, and that's so dignifying to the women that make those products," she said.

"It helps these victims know there's a

safe place for them to work. For women who have experienced trauma, getting a job is scary and quite difficult. The goals of the companies we sell for are not necessarily to keep them working there (for their entire life; they want them to grow and learn leadership and pursue whatever their dream is."

And even for Koslowski and other vendors with Better Way Designs, she said it is also dignifying for them because they have business partners who make beautiful items.

"Shop with a purpose this year," she said.

Aside from supporting survivors through the trade event, Damascus Road has several volunteer opportunities such as helping with monthly family dinners and being on-call drivers.

Those interested in finding out what is needed can go to damascusroadproject.org.

Those looking for help can contact the national hotline at 888-373-7888, Christine Ann Domestic Abuse Service's 24-hour hotline at 920-235-5998, Winnebago County DA Victim Services at 920-236-4977 or text "info" or "help" to BeFree (233733).

Sidewalk, driveway approach project work begins in city

Letters have been sent to property owners and residents in 2023's Sidewalk and Driveway Approach Rehabilitation areas noting the city's water utility staff will be locating water curb stops.

The curb stops are being marked with blue paint and a blue "X" on the adjacent street or sidewalk. Defective sidewalk sections and driveway approaches will be marked with fluorescent green paint.

Staff will inspect the sidewalk again in

the spring of 2023 to determine if repairs are needed for sidewalk and driveway approaches such as cracks, raising, settling or incorrect cross slope.

Additional information will be mailed to property owners at that time on repair options, contractor information and cost estimates. The estimated cost to remove and replace a typical 5-by-5-foot section of 4-inch-thick sidewalk in 2021 was \$210.

TDS network

FROM PAGE 1

pact other utilities. TDS said notifications will be made to adjacent property owners.

"Although residents will need to be patient during construction, it is exciting to add another service provider," Rabe said. "Like any construction project, it will take time to reach every included address, but I'm confident residents will appreciate

having a new choice and faster internet speeds available to them."

TDS recently announced fiber network expansion in the greater Green Bay area where it has offered business services for more than 20 years.

"We're pleased to deepen our roots in Oshkosh and offer residents a new provider choice," said Andrew Petersen, TDS senior vice president of corporate affairs.

TDS also recently announced the launch of a fiber network in the Fox Cities.

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Accepting Applications for:

Winnebago County Board Supervisor, District 16

Winnebago County Board Chairman Shiloh Ramos is accepting applications for Winnebago County Board Supervisor, District 16. To be eligible for this position, you must be a qualified elector and reside in District 16.

District 16 is comprised of Wards 3 & 4 in the City of Oshkosh.

For a map of the district, please contact the Winnebago County Clerk's Office at 232-3430. If you are eligible and interested in applying for this position, submit your resume by Friday, November 12, 2021 to:

Chairman Shiloh Ramos
 Winnebago County Board of Supervisors
 112 Otter Avenue
 Oshkosh, WI 54901

Submitted this 27th day of October, 2021
 Susan T. Ertmer
 Winnebago County Clerk

NOTICE OF CITY OF OSHKOSH

2021 FALL LEAF & YARD WASTE COLLECTIONS

Keep debris out of the street and stop it from reaching the storm sewer.
That means less pollution in Lake Winnebago and a clean and efficient storm sewer system.

Disposal Options

(1) **LOOSE LEAF COLLECTION GUIDELINES:**

- Leaves must be raked onto the terrace. **DO NOT RAKE LEAVES INTO THE STREET**, in the gutter line, on sidewalks, around parked cars, mailboxes, fire hydrants, power poles or other obstructions.
- Street Division crews complete several collection cycles for the whole city. Please see schedule below.
- Please **DO NOT** place yard waste, branches, or grass clippings into the same piles as the leaves. Rocks, branches, and other debris can injure employees or damage expensive equipment. Vacuum equipment crews will NOT pick up leaf piles that contain these materials.

****STARTING MONDAY, OCTOBER 18, 2021, THE PRIMARY DAY FOR LOOSE LEAF COLLECTION WILL BE THE DAY AFTER YOUR GARBAGE COLLECTION DAY.****

FRIDAY GARBAGE = MONDAY LEAVES	10/18	10/25	11/01	11/08	11/15
MONDAY GARBAGE = TUESDAY LEAVES	10/19	10/26	11/02	11/09	11/16
TUESDAY GARBAGE = WEDNESDAY LEAVES	10/20	10/27	11/03	11/10	11/17
WEDNESDAY GARBAGE = THURSDAY LEAVES	10/21	10/28	11/04	11/11	11/18
THURSDAY GARBAGE = FRIDAY LEAVES	10/22	10/29	11/05	11/12	11/19

LOOSE LEAF COLLECTION MAY END EARLIER DUE TO WEATHER. SCHEDULED LOOSE LEAF COLLECTION WILL END THE WEEK OF NOVEMBER 15 THRU 19 ON YOUR SCHEDULED LEAF COLLECTION DATE.

(2) **YARD WASTE IN PAPER BIODEGRADABLE BAGS:**

- Sanitation Division crews will collect yard waste in **PAPER BIODEGRADABLE BAGS**. Bags will be picked up **on your regular garbage collection day** during the first full collection week in November and December. Please place leaves, flowers, garden waste, etc., only in **PAPER BIODEGRADABLE BAGS**. Bags CANNOT exceed a weight of fifty (50) pounds. Grass clippings CANNOT be put out for collection and must not be mixed with the yard waste.

(3) **DROP-OFF CENTER:**

- Another option is to take your leaves to the drop-off center located on W. 3rd Avenue between Idaho Street and Ohio Street. **THIS OPTION REQUIRES THE PURCHASE OF A DROP OFF PERMIT AT CITY HALL OR KITZ & PFEIL.** The hours of operation are 11:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m., Monday through Friday, and 10:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. on Saturday and Sunday. The drop-off center is closed on holidays. Please empty your containers at the drop-off center. All yard waste being transported in trucks or trailers to the drop-off center must be properly secured with a tarp or tied.

*** LOOSE LEAF COLLECTION WILL END THE WEEK OF NOVEMBER 15 THRU 19 ON YOUR SCHEDULED LEAF COLLECTION DATE. LEAVES WILL ONLY BE COLLECTED AFTER THIS DATE IF THEY ARE PLACED IN PAPER BIO-DEGRADABLE BAGS TO BE PICKED UP DECEMBER 6 THRU 10 ON YOUR REGULAR SCHEDULED GARBAGE DAY.***

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

Making sense of Oshkosh's form of government

I often encounter questions about Oshkosh's form of government when interacting with a community member: How can the city manager be in charge of city government if the position is not elected? What is the purpose of the mayor if the mayor is not in charge of the city? What exactly does the Common Council do?



Michael Ford
Oshkosh
Common Council

Answering these questions first requires a basic understanding of the difference between politics and administration.

A cliché in the field of public administration is that politics decides, administration does. In other words, politics is the way in which society decides the appropriate size and scope of government, while administration is tasked with implementing the will of political actors.

In the case of Oshkosh, the Common Council are the political actors, while the city employees are the administrative actors. At the center of it all is the city manager.

The city manager holds a unique position that requires managing down, i.e. overseeing their staff, while also managing up, i.e. being responsive to the council. City managers are generally well compensated because, well, it is a difficult job.

Oshkosh has a \$140.56 million operating budget and more than 550 full-time employees (in addition to almost 200 part-time and seasonal employees). Overseeing an organization of this size and complexity requires very specific training and a well-developed set of managerial skills.

A place like Oshkosh, that is not

politically homogeneous, is particularly challenging. In theory a city manager can ensure the day-to-day operations of government are done professionally in an environment insulated from politics.

So, what is the deal with our mayoral position? It is not terribly uncommon to have both an elected mayor and appointed city manager, but importantly the mayor in our form of government is not the executive.

But the position does have significant responsibility. In addition to voting as a council member, the mayor presides over council meetings, enforces rules of order during meetings, issues proclamations, and nominates residents to serve on boards and commissions (subject to council approval). Neither the mayor nor the council, however, are involved in managing staff or implementing policy.

What does the Common Council do? Foremost, the council hires and evaluates the city manager. In theory the council is the bridge between the values of the community and the operations of government. The council expresses the will of the governed by passing ordinances and resolutions, and giving directives to the city manager.

Both the council and mayor have exactly one employee: The city manager.

Oshkosh's form of government dictates the relationships and communication methods among all involved in the governing process.

For example, as a council member I should not be giving directives to city staff. If I have an issue I should communicate it to the city manager. If the city manager is not responsive to the needs of the council, or if the council is dissatisfied with the direction of city government, it is the responsibility of the council to find a new city manager. Taking such an action requires a majority vote from the council.

Though our form of government is imperfect, it is structured to keep short-term political whims from derailing the long-term work of local government. When properly understood by all involved, it also reduces conflict and improves government performance.

I say it is imperfect because buy-in is not always universal. In addition, even the best structure requires competent human beings to be successful.

And perhaps most important, the lines between politics and administration are

not always clear. The conflict that does arise in our form of government is generally a result of disagreement or confusion around proper roles.

Is the city manager form of government best for Oshkosh? I sure think so. While it is impossible to fully insulate the daily work of government from politics, the vast majority of government work is truly apolitical. There is no right-wing or left-wing way to plow snow, or fill potholes, or ensure clean drinking water. But there is usually a most efficient way to do it.

Political debate is important, it is how we set the course of action, but the ultimate success of government requires competence from those actually doing the work. On that note, our form of government puts us in the best position to succeed.

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.

Volunteer needs

The **Winnebago County Historical Society** is seeking volunteers to assist with its Holiday Open House event. Volunteers are needed to help decorate the Morgan House at 234 Church Ave. beginning at 9 a.m. Dec. 4. Another opportunity is to act as an informational guide during the event Dec. 11 and 28 from 4 to 7 p.m. Guides will be provided with scripted details to share with visitors. Contact Stacey at leesfran01@yahoo.com or 920-267-8007 and leave a message.

Community Blood Center is looking for cafe attendants to arrange snacks and beverages for donors and converse with them to make sure they are feeling healthy

after they have completed their donation. Volunteer for a 3-4-hour shift once a month in Oshkosh, Little Chute and Appleton. Must be 18 and training is provided. Contact Heather at 920-560-6632 or hduvall@communityblood.org.

Aurora Medical Center Oshkosh is seeking a front-entrance ambassador to assist with helping patients/visitors find their way to their appointments throughout the hospital. Volunteers greet patients at the front entrance, assist with wheelchairs and walk patients to the appropriate area. Volunteers must be at least 15. Contact Michelle at michelle.tisljar@aah.org.

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Arrowhead Systems to be acquired by Regal Rexnord

Oshkosh Herald

Arrowhead Systems LLC, which has a plant in Oshkosh, has been purchased by Regal Rexnord Corp. of Beloit.

Arrowhead Systems has 320 employ-

ees across its seven facilities, according to the company's overview on Dun & Bradstreet. The company is based in Randolph.

The all-cash sale of Arrowhead Systems will be for a reported \$297 million and is

expected to close in the fourth quarter.

Arrowhead dates back to 1946 with the founding of Busse Bros., which patented the first machine for stacking cans on pallets, or automatic palletizer, and was subsequently acquired by Arrowhead Conveyor in 1999.

The business proceeded to broaden and deepen its capabilities in palletizing and conveying, including adding a suite of aftermarket services and solutions and extending its reach outside the United States. Arrowhead more recently implemented a digitization project to support the industrial internet of things, artificial intelligence and predictive maintenance capabilities, according to the press release.

Arrowhead Systems has emerged as

a global leader in providing industrial process automation solutions, including conveyors and palletizers, to the food and beverage, aluminum can, and consumer staples end markets. The acquisition will complement Regal Rexnord's conveying offering, which includes plastic and metal conveyor belts, tabletop conveyor chains, guide rails and transfer/divert stations as well as related motion control products and electric motors, the company said in a press release.

Regal Beloit Corp. changed its name to Regal Rexnord after completing its acquisition of the legacy Milwaukee-based Rexnord industrial business in October. The Arrowhead Systems was the first acquisition announced by Regal Rexnord.

Amcor among state companies cited for environmental efforts

The Wisconsin Manufacturers and Commerce's combined state chamber and manufacturing association announced nine companies receiving the Wisconsin Business Friend of the Environment Award, with Amcor placed under Environmental Innovation.

"It is an honor to recognize Wisconsin businesses that go above and beyond in their efforts to grow their business while protecting the environment," said WMC director of environmental and energy policy Craig Summerfield. "All of these businesses are great examples of the business community's efforts to grow the

economy and preserve the environment for the future of Wisconsin."

Businesses receiving the award represent companies "that have made significant improvements in the areas of sustainability, innovative technology and environmental stewardship," an announcement from the WMC states.

Amcor also received the Brighter Image award from the NEW Manufacturing Alliance, "with company tours, job opportunities, presentations at school career fairs and funding STEM programs" to promote the growth of youth in manufacturing.

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Wednesday, December 1st from 6-7 PM

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 Do your children worry about you falling and worry about you living independently?
 Have you started using a cane or walker recently (Or have been told to... and are resisting?) Are you starting to avoid activities you love because you feel unsteady and fearful?
 Do you find yourself feeling less confident and worrying more about falling?

If you answered "Yes" to any of these questions (or you have a stubborn spouse or parent who is in denial) -Our "Balance and Fall Prevention Workshop" on Wednesday, December 1st, from 6-7 PM, may be a life-changing (and possibly life-saving event).

It will provide the information and guidance to get your confidence back.
 Advanced registration is encouraged, as space is limited to 12 participants. CALL 920-230-2747 to register you and one guest.

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

- The three main systems in our bodies that control balance
- Quick do it yourself balance tests to determine if each balance system is working at its full potential
- The three things you can do immediately if you're hoping to avoid the next fall and remain independent
- How you may be able to receive a: "Balance and Falls Risk Assessment" from the experts at Physical Achievement Center at no cost to you.

P.S. The event is limited to the first 12 people to register.
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Gaming connections keep veterans in the loop

By Dan Roherty
OSHKOSH HERALD

Looking to evolve military veterans services into a more modernized support system, Zach Zabel is forming an Oshkosh-based organization as a digital community that connects through gaming while supporting a path to high-tech job opportunities.

Tech For Vets will be launching Jan. 1 as a nonprofit organization focused on younger veterans through technology and the gaming competition they are already experiencing in the online community.

Zabel, community engagement manager for the Fox Valley Veterans Council, said veterans can find it difficult to comfortably share their experiences through either traditional organizations or directly with non-veterans.

"We have found that through gaming, veterans find a space where it is easier to connect," he said.

"We choose to connect to veterans with the intent of building both an in-person community, as well as a digital communi-

ty. We are not limited by geographic scope because we leverage technology to reach a global audience."

Zach was an electronics technician in the U.S. Navy and has maintained many of his connections to service members through gaming, an activity that is expected to double as an industry in the next five years.

"I'm a younger vet. Every veteran I know who is in my age group or younger – we all game," he said.

The 501(c)(3) nonprofit will have a separate focus from his work with the Veterans Council, which takes care of basic needs and emergency support with other area veterans groups. He is working with the council on a grant to support an e-sports curriculum as he sets up Tech For Vets as a dedicated program for a modernized approach to his generation.

"There's nothing established from the institutionalized veteran need approach that is for younger veterans," he said.

Zabel envisions having gaming tournaments at local venues along with other fundraising programs and grant applications to fund education programs for vet-

Veterans Day events

- The Oshkosh Patriotic Council is holding Veterans Day ceremonies starting at 10:45 a.m. Thursday at American Legion Post 70 at 1332 Spruce St.
- Vietnam Veterans of America Chapter 351 of Appleton will present "Reflections of Vietnam" from 2 to 5 p.m. Thursday in Reeve Memorial Union at UW Oshkosh. The free event will feature one of the largest collections of Vietnam War memorabilia and artifacts in the Midwest. Formal programs will be held at 3 and 4 p.m.
- The Military Veterans Museum and Education Center will be open from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Thursday.

erans to become desirable candidates for tech work positions.

Unemployed, underemployed and career transitioning veterans would be able to use their military experience and pair it with some of the education certifications. Zabel said vets often have IT training from the military for which they need assistance to match with relatable civilian positions.

"Demand for employees is high across the board, and this is a great opportunity for us to partner with veterans so they can

develop their knowledge, skills and abilities," he said.

Zabel said the organization's focus will be in Oshkosh with the benefit of his community connections here, which include gaining his undergraduate degree and master's in business administration from UW Oshkosh.

While the website is under construction, more information on the group's mission can be found on the Tech For Vets Facebook page, where its donation arm is certified through GuideStar.

'Reflections of Vietnam' to highlight UW Oshkosh events

UW Oshkosh Today

Veterans Week activities at the University of Wisconsin Oshkosh will feature an educational program that brings the history of the Vietnam War to life.

Vietnam Veterans of America Chapter 351 of Appleton will present "Reflections of Vietnam" from 2 to 5 p.m. Thursday in Reeve Memorial Union. The free public

event will feature one of the largest collections of Vietnam War memorabilia and artifacts in the Midwest. Formal programs will be held at 3 and 4 p.m. with veterans sharing their personal stories of service.

"This isn't a lecture or a history book – it's personal experiences," said Jerry Clusen of New London, a Navy veteran and active member of Chapter 351.

The "mobile museum" will fill up the

Gail F. Steinhilber Art Gallery on the third floor of Reeve Union. Artifacts include weapons, military hardware and personal equipment from U.S., Viet Cong and North Vietnamese forces. The exhibit has been shown throughout Wisconsin over the past 20 years and is nationally recognized by the National Vietnam Veterans of America in Washington, D.C., as a model educational program.

The two educational break-out sessions will feature veterans providing their personal stories. Veterans also will be available to explain the memorabilia and artifacts on display.

Jessica Williams and Thomas Wolf will be honored as Veterans of the Game Nov. 13, when UW Oshkosh takes on UW-River Falls at 1 p.m., in the final home football game of the season at Titan Stadium.



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Barrel-aging brew program slow but steady

By Lee Reiherzer
HERALD CONTRIBUTOR

Fifth Ward Brewing Co. will celebrate its fourth anniversary Saturday at the brewery's South Main Street taproom. The annual event has grown into a showcase for Fifth Ward's barrel-aging program.

This year will bring that into focus with the brewery releasing five barrel-aged beers over the anniversary weekend. They are among the most complex beers ever produced by an Oshkosh brewery.

"We got into barrel aging three years ago," says Zach Clark, who co-owns Fifth Ward with Ian Wenger, where they share brewing duties. "We're at a point now where it's coming together in a really good way."

In the world of craft beer, three years is an eternity. But there's no way to rush this sort of thing. The concept sounds simple. A finished beer is racked into a used spirits barrel where it matures and takes on qualities of the barrel and the liquor that had resided there. The actual execution, though, is much more involved.

It all starts with a recipe, or in this case several recipes.

"It's never just brewing one batch of beer, putting it into a barrel, then coming back 12 months later and saying here's a barrel-aged beer," Wenger says. "We'll brew three or four completely different recipes, each with a specific quality in mind. One might be dryer and another sweeter. Another might be stronger with more bitterness."

"It's about trying to get the right balance," Clark chimes in. "We're always keeping in mind what we want the finished product to be. In the end, when we get to the blending, we have to have those



Photo by Lee Reiherzer

Zach Clark (left) and Ian Wenger pull samples from barrels at their Fifth Ward Brewing operations recently.

different flavors to work with to get what we're looking for."

The recipes may be the least of it, though. These are process-driven beers. And it's a process unique to itself. The deviations begin upstream with the wort – the sugary liquid coaxed out of a mash of malted barley and water. For most beer, the wort is boiled for 60 to 90 minutes.

"With these beers, we'll go with a 13- or 14-hour boil," Clark says. "We're trying to thicken the wort, so we boil it down until it's reduced to the volume we want."

"And you really need that super-long boil to caramelize some of those sugars," Wenger adds. "You need that for color, too. We want that dark-brown, cappuccino-like foam."

Fermenting a wort so thick with malt sugar is no less of a challenge.

"With that kind of viscosity you need to pump in a lot of oxygen so the yeast can survive and stay healthy," Clark says. "Otherwise it will just quit on you. We literally have to pump oxygen into the tank during the fermentation to keep it going."

At the end of fermentation, the beers are dark behemoths that can be as strong as 14 percent alcohol by volume. Into the wooden barrels it goes.

Over the past year, Clark and Wenger have been working with about 40 oak barrels. Their first use was in the production of spirits such as bourbon, rye whiskey or tequila. About a third of those filled this year at Fifth Ward have been holding bourbon for the past 10 years. Each barrel is topped up with 53 gallons of beer.

Then the waiting begins. The back half of the brewery is the bar-

rel cellar. Stacked four high, the barrels rest in an environment where the Wisconsin weather will add another layer of complexity.

"In the summer the barrels up on top will get to be over 85 degrees," Wenger says. "And in winter it will get much colder back there than it does in the front of the building. They go through quite a range of temperatures."

Time is another influence. A full year of aging isn't unusual.

"The youngest we've ever pulled was at five months, but that's not ideal," Clark says. "That's not enough time to create the flavors we're looking for."

At the end of September, the barrels em-

SEE **Brew project** ON PAGE 12



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Former parsonage to be sold; restaurant patio advances

By Tom Ekvall
HERALD CONTRIBUTOR

A zoning change for a single-family home that had previously been used as a parsonage for Immanuel Lutheran Church was unanimously recommended for approval by the Plan Commission last week.

The zoning change, if approved by the Common Council, will enable the church to sell the property at the southeast corner of North Eagle Street as a residential home. The present institutional zone designation for the property does not allow marketing it for sale as a single-family

home.

In another action, the commissioners recommended approval of amendment to a specific implementation plan for vacant land at 1844 Oshkosh Ave. that will enable developers to build a 14-by-57-foot outdoor patio area for a proposed Mexican restaurant.

The council had approved a general development plan and a specific implementation plan Oct. 13 for the commercial development that will become La Taqueria restaurant along with a Starbucks coffee shop location.

Food Co-op names acting manager

The Oshkosh Food Co-op has named Ryan Rasmussen as its acting general manager, replacing Jeffrey Thouron, who resigned his position effective Oct. 28.



Rasmussen

Rasmussen is an Oshkosh native who first became involved with the co-op as an adjunct board member through the Leadership Oshkosh program. Before the store opened, Rasmussen served on the hiring, membership recruitment, and communications and site teams, bringing leadership skills and knowledge in food and beverage sales while working with the Experimental Air-

craft Association and Levy Restaurants at Lambeau Field.

“Ryan just threw himself into this project from the first day he joined us. He has such a passion and commitment to what we all see our co-op can bring to our members and the community,” co-op president Brenda Haines said in making the announcement.

Rasmussen was appointed earlier this year to fill a vacant seat on the co-op’s board of directors. He will step down from this role while the board conducts a national search for a new general manager.

Thouron was the first general manager of the co-op starting in December within the Brio Building at Jackson and Pearl streets.



Photo by Lee Reiherzer

Zach Clark makes notes on samples from barrels at Fifth Ward Brewing.

Brew project

FROM PAGE 11

ployed for this year’s batch of beers were brought out of the cellar for a tasting to determine the blends that will create the final beers. It’s a heady art, akin to a painter mixing colors to create a specific hue.

“We want to hit that right balance using the different qualities coming out of the individual barrels,” Clark says.

“They’re all components at that point,” Wenger says. “You’re looking for the best flavor and you have to build it out of those separate parts.”

The extensive process produces a remarkably rich and nuanced beer. Big Willy Style – a blended, barrel-aged barley wine that will be released at the anniversary celebration – has booming notes of bourbon,

vanilla, burnt sugar, oak and raisin. At 16 percent alcohol by volume, it’s stronger than most wines and has a depth of flavor that seems inexhaustible.

Until recently, that’s not the sort of beer you’d expect to find in a can. But this year, for the first time, Fifth Ward will release these beers in 16-ounce cans. “It’s really what our customers are expecting now,” says Wenger.

Both Clark and Wenger are intent on growing their barrel-aging program.

“We could probably get this up to 200 barrels,” Clark says. “But right now we just don’t have the tank capacity to fill that many. We’re working on that. This is still just the beginning.”

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

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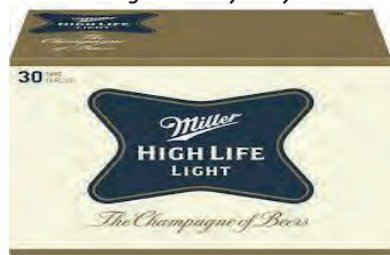
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<p>Large Red Seedless Grapes \$2.49 lb.</p>	<p>Washington State Red Delicious or Gala Apples \$1.49 lb.</p>	<p>5-oz. Package Fresh Express Organic Salads \$3.79</p>	<p>Garden Fresh! Broccoli Crowns \$1.69 lb.</p>
<p>Washington State Bartlett Pears \$1.49 lb.</p>	<p>12-oz. Fresh Cranberries \$2.49 <small>Fancy Lemons 2/98¢</small></p>	<p>Jumbo Sweet Onions \$1.29 lb.</p>	<p>8-oz. - Giorgio Whole White Mushrooms \$1.79</p>
<p>3-lb. Bag - Wisconsin Empire, Gala or Cortland Apples \$3.99</p>	<p>3-Count Package or 64-oz. Bottle Affy Tapple Caramel Apples or Ziegler Apple Cider \$3.99 ea.</p>	<p>2-lb. Bag Bolthouse Farms Cello Carrots \$1.49</p>	<p>Wisconsin Green Cabbage 69¢ lb.</p>
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<p>13 to 14.5-oz. - Almonds, Strawberry or Honey Roasted Post Honey Bunches of Oats Cereal \$2.29 WITH CARD</p>	<p>6-Count Package Food Club Toaster Pastries 99¢ WITH CARD</p>	<p>Select Varieties Food Club Cereal \$2.99 WITH CARD</p>
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<p>16.5 to 18.3-oz. Package Food Club Brownie or Cake Mix 99¢ WITH CARD</p>	<p>64-oz. Bottle Food Club Apple Juice \$1.49 WITH CARD</p>	<p>42-oz. Quaker Old Fashioned or Quick Oats \$4.59 WITH CARD</p>
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 WITH CARD
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52-oz. Bottle
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<p>12-oz. - Assorted Varieties Klement's Pork Links or Ground Italian Sausage \$3.49</p>	<p>Sugardale Ham Steaks \$3.49 lb.</p>	<p>10-oz. - Chicken Kiev, Cordon Bleu or Broccoli & Cheese Oven Cravers \$3.99</p>
<p>12.5-oz. - Wholey Crab Cakes \$4.99</p>	<p>Individually Vacuum Packed - 12-oz. - Supreme Choice Wild Salmon Fillets \$4.49</p>	<p>Fresh - Wild Caught Cod Fillets \$9.99 lb.</p>

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<p>Jennie-O - Pan Roasted or Smoked Honey Turkey Breast \$6.99 lb.</p>	<p>Assorted Varieties Badger Ham \$5.99 lb.</p>	<p>Loaded Ranch Baked Potato Salad \$2.99 lb.</p>	<p>Chicken Alfredo \$6.49 lb.</p>
<p>Mild Cheddar \$5.49 lb.</p>	<p>5-oz. - Assorted Varieties - BelGioioso Italian Cheese Cups \$2.99</p>	<p>Coleslaw \$1.99 lb.</p>	<p>17-20-oz. - Reser's Main St. Bistro Sides \$4.99</p>
<p>Wisconsin Sharp Cheddar \$5.99 lb.</p>	<p>Caprese Pasta Salad \$5.49 lb.</p>	<p>Pumpkin Mousse \$4.99 lb.</p>	

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<p>14-oz. French Bread \$1.69</p>	<p>16-oz. - White or Farmer's Bread \$1.99</p>	<p>8-Count Brioche Buns \$2.99</p>	<p>12-Count - Mini Sheboygan Hard Rolls \$2.49</p>
<p>4-Count Piggly Wiggly's Very Own Cinnamon Rolls \$2.99</p>	<p>12-Count - Assorted Strudel Bites \$2.69</p>	<p>3-Count Chocolate Croissants \$3.49</p>	<p>6-Inch - Suzy's Cheesecakes \$1.199</p>
	<p>8-Inch Strawberry Rhubarb Pie \$5.49</p>	<p>24-Count - Our Very Own Mini Piggly Wiggly Cookies \$2.99</p>	

piggly wiggly Beverage Headquarters Some items may not be available at all locations.

<p>8-Pack, 12-oz. Bottles or 12-Pack, 12-oz. Cans Coke, Sprite or Diet Coke 3.15</p>	<p>2-Liter Bottle Pepsi or Mtn Dew 2.3</p>	<p>2-Liter Bottle 7UP, RC Cola or Dr. Pepper 2.4</p>	<p>24-Pack, 12-oz. Cans Miller Lite or Coors Light \$18.98</p>	<p>12-Pack, 12-oz. Cans or Bottles Heineken \$14.59</p>	<p>12 or 15-Pack, 12-oz. Cans or Bottles Blue Moon \$12.29 ea.</p>
<p>30-Pack, 12-oz. Cans Pabst Blue Ribbon \$17.49</p>	<p>30-Pack, 12-oz. Cans Miller High Life \$16.49</p>	<p>12-Pack, 12-oz. Cans White Claw Hard Seltzer \$17.29</p>			
<p>6-Pack, Half-Liter Bottles Coke, Sprite or Diet Coke \$12.28</p>	<p>6-Pack, 12-oz. Cans Bubbl'r \$4.99</p>	<p>1-Liter Bottle Polar Seltzer 89¢</p>	<p>4-Pack, 12-oz. Bottles Frostie \$4.10</p>	<p>750 ML. Bottle Sunny with a Chance of Flowers \$8.49</p>	<p>3-Liter Box Franzia Wine \$9.49</p>

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Calendar of events

Wednesday, Nov. 10

Blood drive, 1:30 p.m., Ascension Mercy Hospital, 500 S. Oakwood Court

Thursday, Nov. 11

Veterans Day ceremonies, 10:30 a.m., American Legion Post 70, 1332 Spruce St.
 "Reflections of Vietnam," 2 p.m., UW Oshkosh Reeve Memorial Union
 Bingo, 7 p.m., American Legion Cook-Fuller Post 70, 1332 Spruce St.

Friday, Nov. 12

"Escanaba in da Moonlight," 7:30 p.m., The Grand Oshkosh
 An Evening with Hornswoggle, 7 p.m., Time Community Theater, 445 N. Main St.
 Marine Corps League bingo, 5:30 p.m., 4715 Sherman Road

Saturday, Nov. 13

"Escanaba in da Moonlight," 7:30 p.m., The Grand Oshkosh

En Vogue – 30th Anniversary Concert, 7 p.m., Oshkosh Arena
 Fair Trade Festival, 9 a.m. (style show 11 a.m.), 404 N. Main St.
 Josh Wilson, 7 p.m., Dwelling 2:22, 222 Church Ave.

Holiday Wonders Shopping Expo & Craft Fair, 10 a.m., Sunnyview Expo Center
 "White Christmas: The Exhibition" opens, Oshkosh Public Museum
 "Ready Player One," 7 p.m., Time Community Theater, 445 N. Main St.

Sunday, Nov. 14

"Escanaba in da Moonlight," 2 p.m., The Grand Oshkosh
 Fox Valley Vintage Fest, 10 a.m., Oshkosh Convention Center

Monday, Nov. 15

Gnome for the Holidays, 6 p.m., Oshkosh Recreation Department, 425 Division St.
 Free Community Meal, 5 p.m., River Valley Church, 1331 High Ave.

Thursday, Nov. 18

Christopher Titus stand-up comedy, 7:30 p.m., Time Community Theater, 445 N. Main St.
 Downtown Oshkosh Holiday Parade,

6:15 p.m.

Downtown Oshkosh Holiday Tree Lighting, 5 p.m., Opera House Square
 Bingo, 7 p.m., American Legion Cook-Fuller Post 70, 1332 Spruce St.

Friday, Nov. 19

Nutcracker in the Castle (through Jan. 10), Paine Art Center
 Wisconsin Herd vs. Fort Wayne Mad Ants, 7 p.m., Oshkosh Arena
 "White Christmas," 7 p.m., Time Community Theater, 445 N. Main St.
 Marine Corps League bingo, 5:30 p.m., 4715 Sherman Road

Saturday, Nov. 20

Handmade for the Holidays Urban Craft Fair, 10 a.m., Becket's, 2 Jackson St.
 Craft and Bake Sale, 3 p.m., Good Shepherd Lutheran, 2450 W. 9th Ave.
 Ruby's Pantry, 9:30 a.m., St. John's Lutheran Church, 491 Old Oregon Road
 "Planes, Trains and Automobiles," 7 p.m., Time Community Theater
 16th Annual Craft Fair, 8 a.m., Lourdes Academy, 110 N. Sawyer St.

Sunday, Nov. 21

Wisconsin Herd vs. Fort Wayne Mad Ants, 5:30 p.m., Oshkosh Arena



Oshkosh Public Museum photo

Starring roles

Dresses worn by Rosemary Clooney and Vera-Ellen in the film "White Christmas" are shown as part of the other costumes, production photos and memorabilia in the traveling exhibition that has arrived at the Oshkosh Public Museum for showings starting Saturday and running through Jan. 23.

Shuttle commander Gibson headlines Wright Brothers banquet

Robert "Hoot" Gibson, a five-time space shuttle flight veteran whose aviation background ranges from military jets to air racing, is this year's featured guest at the Experimental Aircraft Association's annual Wright Brothers Memorial Banquet on Dec. 17 at the EAA Aviation Museum.

Tickets are available at the EAA Aviation Museum website. Attendance is limited to 350.

Gibson's space experiences are unique, as he flew aboard four of the five active

shuttles (Columbia, Challenger, Endeavor and Atlantis) and totaled more than 860 hours in space.

Gibson's final mission, when he commanded STS-71 in Atlantis in 1995, was a historic first-time docking of the shuttle with the Russian Mir space station. Gibson also served as chief of NASA's Astronaut Office in 1992-94 and deputy director of Flight Crew Operations in 1996 before retiring from NASA.

Gibson also flew carrier-based combat

missions for the U.S. Navy in Southeast Asia, graduated from "Topgun" Naval Fighter Weapons School, and had more than 300 carrier landings. He was enshrined in the National Aviation Hall of Fame in 2013.

EAA's annual Wright Brothers Memorial Banquet honors the Wright brothers' successful flights at Kitty Hawk, N.C., Dec. 17, 1903, that began the era of manned flight. Tickets are \$65 for members and \$85 for nonmembers.

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Late UWO professor's global legacy continues

UW OSHKOSH TODAY

For more than five decades, the late international studies professor Kenneth Grieb changed the lives of University of Wisconsin Oshkosh students through his classroom teaching and his mentorship as adviser to the best Model United Nations team in the nation.

"Dr. Grieb was relentless in his commitment to build and sustain a tradition of excellence," said alumna Jessica King (1998), of Oshkosh, who represents the Grieb estate. "His legacy is felt at home and around the globe as his proteges use diplomacy, strategy and consensus-building to resolve problems in the private, government and nonprofit sectors."

Grieb died in July 2018 at age 79. With the recent establishment of the Kenneth J. Grieb Professorship through a bequest of more than \$2 million, future generations of students will continue to benefit from top-caliber international studies faculty, such as UWO geographer Angela Subulwa, the first to receive the honor.

"Dr. Grieb and the Grieb estate want-

ed to ensure financial support for faculty pursuits to build competitive, world-class learning opportunities for students," King said. "My hope is that future generations of students have the opportunity to develop their critical-thinking skills pursuing an interdisciplinary education."

She added that UWO's international studies curriculum explores the interrelated and interdependent nature of economic, social, cultural and political realities.

"A strong curriculum can only be maintained with dedicated faculty. This bequest builds the capacity of the faculty to develop global and non-Western course content and create experiences to prepare students for the future," King explained.

Subulwa joined UWO's geography department in 2008 and became the international studies program director in 2020. She first sensed Grieb's impact when she began to recognize the quality of the students the two had in common.

One such student was Karee Orrick, who doubled majored in international studies and geography. As an undecided,

first-generation college student, she discovered her passion for geography in Subulwa's world regional geography class during her first semester at UWO.

"Dr. Grieb really pushed and challenged me. Dr. Subulwa challenged me too, and also mentored and supported me. She and I really see the world in similar ways," said Orrick, who is finishing up her master's degree with the University of Kansas and working full time as an environmental project manager in Denver.

Orrick sees the great value in Grieb's professorship.

"I think it's important for faculty and staff to be supported in their research and travels. It is essential to have engaged faculty. It's the only way to bring those experiences back to the classroom," she said. "When Dr. Grieb would talk about his experiences in class, we could listen for hours. It really changed the impact of our class readings. It opened up the world for students and brought the readings to life."

Subulwa said Grieb truly understood that international studies faculty need to

do field work and the only practical way for that to happen is during the summer months when professors have more time for their work outside the classroom.

"This professorship allows me to get into the field more frequently, consistently and for longer periods of time," Subulwa said. "Then I can bring that back and have new information to share with my students and, perhaps, even design a new course."

Her research is primarily concerned with the political, economic, developmental and cultural challenges that come with displacement in Africa.

This past summer, Subulwa's research supported by the Grieb professorship took her to the Mongu District of Zambia. She studied the barriers to accessing adequate and equitable sanitation and hygiene in the area, a component of the United Nation's sustainable development goal.

In her project, Subulwa is seeking to understand perceptions toward different types of toilets, such as pit latrines, ventilated improved pit latrines, pour-and-flush system and flush toilets.

Father Carr's will host Thanksgiving Day drive-thru meals

Father Carr's Place 2B will again host a drive-thru-style meal Thanksgiving Day from 10:30 a.m. to noon on its campus at 1062 N. Koeller St.

Advance reservations are required and must be made by Nov. 22 by calling 920-231-2378. Individuals can request multiple meals for those in their household or fellow neighbors when making the reservation.

Father Carr's also will be coordinating group meal deliveries to select apartment complexes for those unable to access the

event. Those accessing the drive-thru will receive meal fixings that can be enjoyed immediately or reheated.

"Last year we provided over 900 Thanksgiving Day meals and we are eager to once again help those in need," said John Nieman, Father Carr's Place 2B executive director. "We are grateful for the countless volunteers, businesses and organizations that make this possible."

To meet the expected need, the nonprofit organization is seeking donations of fro-

zen turkeys that can be dropped off at the Mother Teresa Center. For more information contact johnnieman@fathercarrs.org or 920-231-2378.

Club seeks meal donors: Festival Foods is providing prepared Thanksgiving Day meals to the Boys & Girls Club of Oshkosh that donors can purchase for families in need. Those interested in buying a meal for a club family can contact chief executive Tracy Ogden at 920-233-1414, ext. 116, or tracyo@bgcosh.org by Nov. 17.



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Titans' head coach holds to high expectations

By Dustin Riese
HERALD CONTRIBUTOR

Matt Lewis is no stranger to having success with the University of Wisconsin Oshkosh men's basketball program. Not only did he win the Division III National Title in his first year as a head coach but followed that up with a Wisconsin Intercollegiate Athletic Conference tournament championship in year two for another trip to the NCAA tournament.

Last season was more of the same as Lewis led his program to a 5-2 mark in what was a challenging season. After not knowing if a season would even happen, the WIAC came together and announced an eight-game regular season with conference teams. Oshkosh suffered the most of any team missing games due to COVID issues, but it was still a great season all things considered.



Borchert

"The 2020-21 season was as unique of a season as you could think of," Lewis said. "We practiced for a few months before finding out we would have the opportunity to play games. We had eight regular season games scheduled, but only got to play seven games, including our two WIAC tournament games. Truly, every day was a question mark... would we get to practice? Would we get to play? Our players found a way to improve and come together as a team. The year provided us a great foundation for this season."

The Titans entered the season ranked No. 17 and won their opener Saturday against Augustana College 90-70.

Lewis will continue to put high expectations on his group and knows they have the talent to live up to them.

"We have the same goals and high expectations that we always have," he said. "We strive to compete for both a WIAC regular season and conference tourna-



UW Oshkosh photo

Senior Eddie Muench led the Titans in scoring last season.

ment championship, advance into the NCAA tournament and make a run in March. Rather than focus on those we focus on investing each and every day. Being an everyday program is what will hopefully allow us to compete deep into a season."

With the NCAA granting every athlete an extra year of eligibility, including last year's seniors, the Titans find themselves in a better spot than most programs as Tommy Borta is the only player who won't be back this season. However, he will be on the sidelines as an assistant.

Senior Eddie Muench returns after leading them in scoring with 18.9 points per game. Muench displays a great midrange touch shooting north of 51 percent from the field and knocked down nearly 43 per-

cent of his 3-point attempts.

Sophomore guard Hunter Plamann averaged 15.6 points per game last season with fellow sophomore guard Will Mahoney adding 13.3. Eric Peterson will be entering his fourth season and third year as a starter coming off a career-high 8.6 points per game, while sophomore Levi Borchert had a breakout season averaging 14.4 points and adding 10 rebounds per

UWO Men's Basketball Preview

game. Borchert was selected last week to this season's D3hoops.com Men's Basketball Preseason All-America Third Team.

Add in Quinn Steckbauer, Cole Booth, Nick Otto and others, and this team will be loaded.

Mahoney is going to be a crucial piece for the team but will be lost for part of the season after suffering a knee injury late last season. Lewis doesn't have a timetable for when he will return but knows the value he brings to the table when on the court.

As is the case with most successful programs, the influx of young talent is crucial to long-term success. Despite adding just four freshmen to this season's roster, they are a talented group who will help this program for years to come. That may not happen now but Lewis demands competition in practice and the new faces are going to compete for as many minutes as possible.

"Our freshmen class is talented and competitive," Lewis said. "They will be a lot of fun for fans to watch as we move through this year and into the future. Our freshmen are Connor Jenkins, Ethan Post, Jonah Rindfleisch and Jacob Townsend."

From five starters to practically every contributor from last season's team back, transitioning from eight games to a normal 25-game season should be easier for the Titans than other teams. That bodes well as they embark on the 14-game gauntlet known as the WIAC.

There are three other WIAC teams in the top 25, including UW-Platteville at No. 5 and UW-La Crosse at No. 15.

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Titans women looking to build off strong 2021

By Dustin Riese
HERALD CONTRIBUTOR

Since Brad Fischer took over the University of Wisconsin Oshkosh women's program a decade ago, they have been one of the most consistent teams in the Wisconsin Intercollegiate Athletic Conference.

After landing in the Sweet 16 in 2020, before COVID wiped away the NCAA tournament, the Titans responded with a 9-2-mark last season and WIAC conference tournament championship. Not bad for a shortened season, especially when it looked like a season wasn't a certainty.

"We had a tremendous year considering everything that was going on and all the



Fischer

challenges everyone faced just to get on the court to play games," Fischer said. "We felt like with most of our team set to return for this year we could use last year to do some experimenting and try some things. We also felt like whoever

handled the protocols and realities of the season was going to win the league, so I'm proud of our team for rising to that challenge. I thought it was one of our best years and definitely one of the best teams we've had during my time at Oshkosh."

That alone is scary as the Titans could be in for an incredible season. A pre-season poll conducted by the league's head coaches and sports information directors and released Thursday has picked the Titans to win the WIAC this year.

After trying new things last season and



UW Oshkosh photo

Senior guard Leah Porath is a first team All-American and two-time WIAC Player of the Year.

finding success, the Titans now have a sense of what works and what doesn't as they focus on 2021-22. With most of their team back into the fold, expectations are going to be high but that is something Fischer and his staff won't focus on all that much.

"We don't spend a lot of time talking about goals," he said. "So much of what

can happen in a season at our level has very little to do with us. You never know who other teams in the conference or country are going to add, what transfers are going to impact things, etc. So, we just want to take our team and become the best version of what we're capable of. I think we've done a really good job these last nine years of focusing on getting better with that team."

With the NCAA granting an extra year of eligibility to any athletes involved in athletics last season, most players are returning for the Titans. That includes senior guard Leah Porath who had a phenomenal season last year and will be looking for more. She will be joined by Ju-

UWO Women's Basketball Preview

lia Silloway, Abby Kaiser, Brooke Freitag, Jenna Jorgenson, Katie Ludwig and Nikki Arneson, among others. They will have to fill the gap left by Karsyn Rueth after her graduation last year.

"We have eight seniors so everything will start with them," Fischer said. "We have a handful of All-Conference players within that group but also just a lot of experience. Last year's primary starting lineup is back, and we hope that some of that continuity shows itself early in the year when we're trying to get our footing. Coming off just 11 games last year it feels like a completely different deal preparing for a 25-plus game season ... so we're hoping our depth will help us get through what may feel like an even longer year than normal."

The Titans also welcome in three freshmen.

"Our experience will probably make it difficult for freshmen to carve out playing time early, but I know they'll be improving every day in practice for when their time comes," Fischer said.

Although the Titans have been successful in recent years, UW-Whitewater, UW-Eau Claire, UW-La Crosse and UW-Stevens Point all have strong programs capable of winning this league.

"I anticipate Whitewater, La Crosse and Eau Claire to be very good just based on how their seasons went last year and what I believe they have returning," he said. "However, everyone in our league is good enough to beat everyone. Stevens Point, Platteville, River Falls and Stout were all very young last year so if they return the majority of their cores, everyone is capable of being in the mix. I think all of those teams got a win against one of the teams I mentioned initially."

The Titans opened the season Friday with a 60-53 win at Finlandia University.

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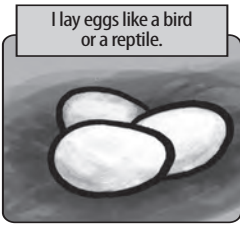
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Mystery Animal Riddle: What Am I?



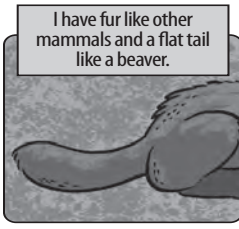
I have a bill and webbed feet like a duck.



I lay eggs like a bird or a reptile.



Mothers of my breed feed our babies with milk like a mammal.

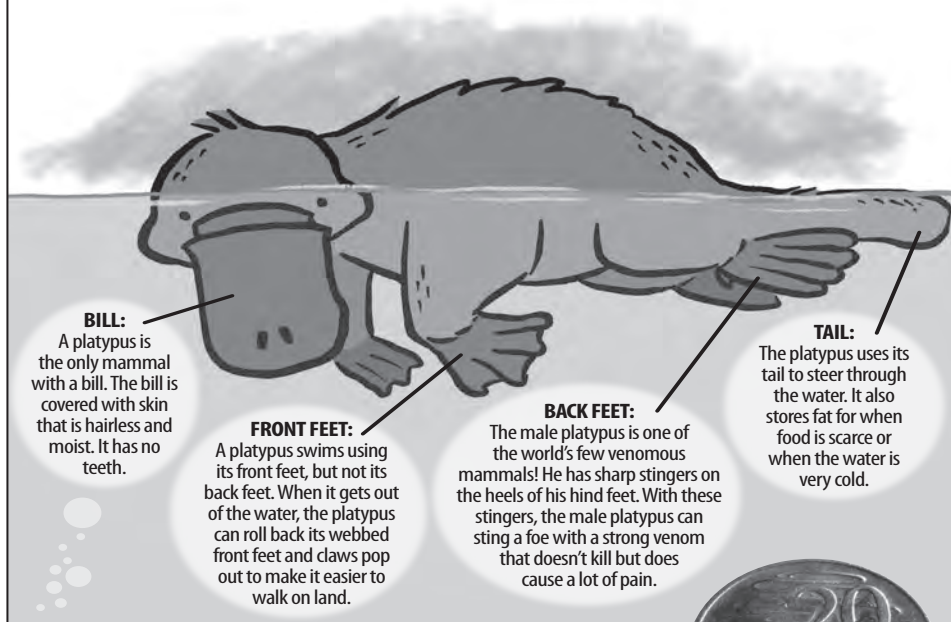


I have fur like other mammals and a flat tail like a beaver.

Circle every other letter to discover the mystery animal:

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P B J I M L K L D E
R D T P S L V A B T
W Y C P H U J S

D U



BILL: A platypus is the only mammal with a bill. The bill is covered with skin that is hairless and moist. It has no teeth.

FRONT FEET: A platypus swims using its front feet, but not its back feet. When it gets out of the water, the platypus can roll back its webbed front feet and claws pop out to make it easier to walk on land.

BACK FEET: The male platypus is one of the world's few venomous mammals! He has sharp stingers on the heels of his hind feet. With these stingers, the male platypus can sting a foe with a strong venom that doesn't kill but does cause a lot of pain.

TAIL: The platypus uses its tail to steer through the water. It also stores fat for when food is scarce or when the water is very cold.

Use the code to discover more platypus facts!

- = wild
- = food
- = venom
- = reptiles
- = dinosaurs
- = Australia
- = puggle
- = paddle
- = Africa



The Commonwealth of Australia reveres this remarkable mammal so much that it honors the platypus with a place on its 20-cent coin.



A baby platypus is known as a

A platypus spends 10 to 12 hours each night underwater looking for

Platypuses can only be found in

Platypuses are long-lived, surviving 20 years or more in captivity and up to 12 years in the

A platypus spends most of its life alone. But a group of platypuses is called a

Scientists have discovered evidence that shows that they first evolved more than 112 million years ago, long before the extinction of the

Extra! Extra! Picture Riddles

Create "What Am I" riddles for pictures in the newspaper. Share your riddle with a pal and see if they can guess which photo you were describing. Take turns!

Standards Link: Write descriptively.

Kid Scoop Puzzler

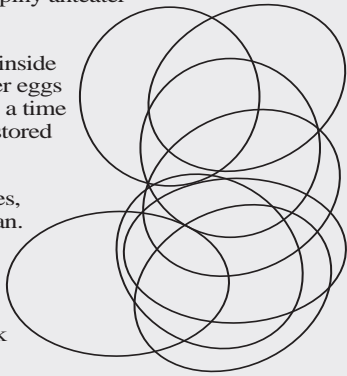
A mammal that hatches from eggs? The platypus is one of two kinds of mammals that lay eggs. The other is the spiny anteater or echidna.

How many platypus eggs do you see here?

Mother platypus lays her eggs inside a chamber and curls up with her eggs for about 10 to 12 days. This is a time when she really needs that fat stored in her tail!

When the baby platypus hatches, it is about the size of a lima bean.

Baby platypuses stay in the nursery chamber for the first three or four months of life. Like other mammals they drink their mother's milk.



Double Double Word Search

- UNDERWATER
- VENOMOUS
- PLATYPUS
- POUCHES
- MAMMAL
- BILLED
- GRAVEL
- CLAWS
- BEAN
- DUCK
- WALK
- EGGS
- MEAL
- TAIL
- MILK

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

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

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

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I eat leaves from the top of trees. My tongue is about 21 inches long. I come from Africa. Like my tongue, my neck is really, really long. **What am I?**

I have short legs to crawl along the ground but I live mainly in waters. Slow is how I travel. When tired or threatened, I lay down and pull into my hard shell. **What am I?**

When I fly through the air, I make a buzzing sound. My tail has a stinger. Workers collect pollen and help the flowers grow. Back at the hive, together we make honey. **What am I?**

Pick and animal you like and write clues for your own "Who am I?" riddle.

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Ice Hawks take next steps after showing growth

By Dustin Riese
HERALD CONTRIBUTOR

Building a high school program from the ground up is never an easy task. Oshkosh Ice Hawks third-year head coach John Thomson has found out firsthand how difficult that can be.

After going 2-22 in his first season, the Ice Hawks showed significant signs of improvement last year going 6-11 in a COVID-stricken season.

That type of improvement may be a small moral victory to some, but for the Ice Hawks it was a significant step in reaching the level it

wants to play at.

“Yes, we definitely made progress as a team last year,” Thomson said. “COVID, without a doubt, put a twist on the season. It created many challenges for the players and coaching staff. I am not really sure anything could have prepared us on how to deal with all the protocols and changes that came our way.”

The Ice Hawks also have the right attitude and mindset. That is half the battle as Thomson is putting a ton of expectations on his group as he feels they can take that next step as a program.

“The expectation for this season will be to learn from our mistakes from last season

and take what we know and improve,” he said. “The expectation and attitude is always that we can win games. We’re not too focused on the other team, but rather what we are or are not doing that will change the outcome of the game. Our key is to play as a team and always come prepared.”

A big reason for the improvement was the play of six seniors, including Dylan and Jacob Sprister. Dylan finished second on the team with 22 points off nine goals and 13 assists while Jacob added nine goals and 10 assists.

“We will miss our seniors from last year, and that always creates gaps that need to be filled,” Thomson said. “We have six new seniors that have come up. I always push them to understand their leadership roles and the impact they have on the younger players.”

Look for senior Marshall Koch to build off last season where he finished third on the team with 20 points. Nine of those points came off goals with 11 coming via assist.

Winston Knobloch returns after putting in eight goals to go with 15 assists last season as he led the Ice Hawks with 23 points. Add in Ethan Hoodie and Will Verstegen, who both added more than 10 points last season, and they should have more than enough firepower returning.

“Returning players for this season that we will be looking to are Ethan Hood-

ie, Will Verstegen, Marshall Koch and Michael La More in the senior group,” Thomson said. “Then some other returning players who will make an impact are Winston Knobloch, Landon Braun, Leo Ulrich, Alex Beck, Evan Neitzel and Kaleb Winter in the junior/sophomore group.”

The Ice Hawks will have plenty of new faces coming aboard to make their roster that much stronger and deeper.

Look for senior goalie Oliver Rylance to play a huge role on the team this season but won’t be alone as freshman Gage Bauer will also challenge for time in goal. Fellow freshman Armani Fisher will look to crack the regular rotation at the forward spot in hopes of replacing some of the scoring that is no longer on the team.

“We are always looking to and challenging our JV group to grow as players and always aspire to do more and improve,” Thomson said. “However, we do have an incoming goalie this year and a couple of freshmen I feel will make contributions.”

Ever since their team was founded, the Ice Hawks have participated in one of the best conferences in the state known as the Badgerland. Along with annual powers Neenah and St. Mary’s Springs, several other teams have shown the ability to be successful. Appleton United had a four-year run resulting in a state title, Waupun put together an incredible season a few

years ago, and even Fox Cities and Fond du Lac have had moments where they have proven to be a tough out for anyone.

Add in Shawano/Bonduel/Clintonville to the mix and the Badgerland is going to be one of the better conferences in the state once more.

“With the addition of Shawano into the conference this year, I see it as a great addition and I welcome them into the Badgerland Conference,” he said. “In the conference this year I see Neenah and Springs being strong favorites, but the rest of the league is as wide open as ever.”

UWO athletics renews Rise as One

The University of Wisconsin Oshkosh athletics department is renewing the Rise as One campaign to raise championship-level resources for its 19 athletics programs.

Donations will be tax deductible and all funds raised will be used for athletics and program-specific operational assistance, facility enhancements designed to elevate the student-athlete experience, and can go directly to a sport or the athletics department itself.

The campaign raised nearly \$93,000 for the Titans athletics department and its 19 sports in 2020.

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County sports healthy deer numbers; feed ban in place

Oshkosh Herald

With the gun deer season in Wisconsin a little more than a week away, the outlook for hunters taking to the woods and fields in Winnebago County is a good chance for a successful hunt.

According to Jeff Pritzl, a deer program specialist with the state Department of Natural Resources, the size of the herd in the county is strong.

“Overall deer population is looking up and it’s as high as it has been in recent history,” Pritzl said. “The population trend has been going up.”

Pritzl said that Winnebago County is in a special situation when it comes to deer hunting.

The amount of deer habitat in the county represents just a small portion of the overall land. That translates, according to Pritzl, to Winnebago County having the lowest kill per square mile of the counties in the Central Forest Region of the state.

“If you look at what we consider deer habitat, though, then Winnebago County is in the top 15 in the state for its deer population,” Pritzl said. “There are definitely deer in the county.”

Hunters in the county are once again dealing with a baiting and feeding ban due to positive CWD cases in adjoining counties to Winnebago.

Recently, a deer testing positive for CWD was discovered in north-central

Fond du Lac County, within 10 miles of the border of Winnebago County. That renewed the baiting and feeding ban in Winnebago County.

According to Pritzl, a baiting and feeding ban, which nearly all of the counties in the state are dealing with, won’t affect a majority of the hunters, especially in Winnebago County.

Baiting is most often used when hunting in marginal deer habitat as a way to increase the chances of drawing deer into a hunter’s area.

“If you are where the deer want to be, you don’t need to bait anyway,” Pritzl said. “Big picture, we won’t see any harvest change numbers at the county level due to the presence or absence of a baiting ban.”

Arps, Hirsbrunner lead Wildcats in swimming

Oshkosh Herald

The Oshkosh West girls swimming and diving team finished second at the WIAA Division 1 sectional on Saturday in Neenah, while advancing to the state championships in seven different events.

Qualifying individually for the Wildcats were Lilly Arps and Addy Hirsbrunner – who both made it in two events – while three relays also made it to state.

Arps had a first-place finish in the 200 yard free with a time of 1:54.30 while finishing fourth in the 100 yard butterfly at 58.30. Hirsbrunner finished third in the 100-yard butterfly with a time of 57.94 while finishing fourth in the 100 yard backstroke with a time of 59.53.

Both were also a part of the 200-yard

medley relay, which finished second, while partaking in the 400-yard free relay team that finished third. Claire and Carly Salzer were a part of the 200-yard medley team while Melana Zeinert and Caitlin Schneider were a part of the 400-yard free team.

Also finishing with a top five finish was the 200-yard free relay team, which finished second. That team consisted of Claire and Carly Salzer, Zeinert and Schneider.

Appleton North won the sectional with 358 points and Oshkosh North/Lourdes was 12th with 45 points.

The state championships will be held at the Waukesha South Natatorium on Saturday.



UW Oshkosh photo by Terri Cole

The UW Oshkosh women's soccer team celebrates its WIAC championship Saturday.

UWO women take WIAC soccer title

UW Oshkosh sports

Mackenzie Bennett tallied a match-winning goal for the third consecutive contest as UW Oshkosh defeated UW-La Crosse, 2-1, in the championship game of the Wisconsin Intercollegiate Athletic Conference Women’s Soccer Tournament held Saturday at Titan Stadium.

Bennett, who previously scored the decisive goal in UW Oshkosh overtime wins of 1-0 against UW-River Falls on Oct. 30 and 3-2 versus UW-Eau Claire on Nov. 4, put the Titans ahead of UW-La Crosse for good with a 30-yard free kick during the contest’s 32nd minute of play. The goal was Bennett’s sixth of the year.

UW Oshkosh survived 13 UW-La Crosse shots the rest of the way to earn the WIAC’s automatic bid to the 64-team NCAA Division III Championship that begins play Friday with 32 first-round and 16 second-round contests. UW Oshkosh will face the Wheaton College Thunder in its first-round match this weekend.

UW Oshkosh, which set a program record with its 16 victories (16-2-1 record) this season, will be appearing in the Division III Championship for the fifth time. The Titans previously participated in the NCAA tournament in 2006, 2011, 2014 and 2015.

Titans start fast in rout over Pointers

The University of Wisconsin Oshkosh football team dominated the first three quarters Saturday as they routed UW-Stevens Point, winning 49-17 at home.

The Pointers scored the first points of the game – a 48-yard field goal early in the first quarter – but the Titans went on an offensive rampage after that. UWO rattled off 49 straight points as they led 49-3 after three quarters.

The Titans (6-2) outgained the Pointers in total yardage – 408 to 299 – and rushed for 236 yards in the win.

Kober Berghammer led the way for UWO offensively, completing 12-of-21 passes for 163 yards and two touchdowns while Mac Winkler had 114 yards on the ground with two scores. Mitch Gerhartz added two touchdowns rushing while Bryce Huettner added one as well.

Tony Steger had two catches for 60 yards and a touchdown, Steven Maki-nen had two catches for 33 yards and a touchdown while Mitchell Gerend had four grabs for 28 yards to lead UWO, who will close the regular season on Saturday against UW-River Falls at home.

Rec basketball

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State proposal would clear rooftop solar barrier

By Kari Lydersen
ENERGY NEWS NETWORK

After years of regulatory uncertainty, a new proposal in Wisconsin would finally clarify that utility customers do not need to own their rooftop solar installations.

The draft legislation would authorize an arrangement known as third-party solar, in which a company installs panels for a customer and then either leases the panels or sells the power or net-metering credits to the property owner.

The model is allowed in most states and is a popular option for helping homeowners and businesses avoid the steep upfront costs of solar, and it also allows government and nonprofit entities like schools, churches, and hospitals to access tax incentives that they couldn't otherwise tap.

Such arrangements are not explicitly prohibited in Wisconsin, but developers have been reluctant to enter them since utility We Energies halted a third-party-owned installation in 2018 for the city of Milwaukee, arguing that the solar developer would be acting as a public utility.

Two Republicans are co-sponsoring draft legislation, LRB 1550/1, which would specify third-party ownership is legal and mandate utilities interconnect such projects. The proposal is backed by the Wisconsin Conservative Energy Forum, with Executive Director Scott Coenen describing it as a matter of market choice.

"This is really a conservative argument around financing and consumer options, it's a very pro-consumer bill," said Coenen. "We shouldn't be outlawing financing options for someone who wants solar."

State Sen. Robert Cowles, R-Green Bay,



Photo by Coburn Dukehart/Wisconsin Watch

Cody Van Ginkel, an electrician with Arch Electric, surveys rooftop solar panels he helped install on the management and maintenance facility of Westlawn Gardens, a public housing project in Milwaukee, in February 2019. The installation is part of the city's plan to draw 25 percent of its energy from renewable resources by 2025.

and Rep. Rachael Cabral-Guevara, R-Appleton, circulated their bill for co-sponsors this month. The bill has added about 10 co-sponsors, and could be introduced this fall, according to advocates working with the legislators.

At least 29 states specifically authorize or allow third-party-owned solar, according to the organization DSIRE, and at least six states have raised legal barriers.

DSIRE's map lists Wisconsin's status as "unclear," but Renew Wisconsin director of government affairs Jim Boullion said the group's analysis shows Wisconsin is the only state where no types of third-party ownership have been possible.

"As far as we can tell, no other state has passed proactive legislation or regulations banning all forms of third-party financing," he said.

Last summer, two other Republican legislators introduced a bill to clarify that third-party ownership of community solar installations is legal. That bill, SB490 and AB527, is now in committee, and is backed by the Wisconsin Conservative Energy Forum, environmental groups and builders and real estate trade groups, and opposed by utilities and energy cooperatives.

Solar developers and advocates have long sought a clear statement from regulators, legislators or the courts confirming that third-party ownership is legal.

Under third-party ownership, solar panels can be leased — potentially leading to ownership — and the property owner gets the energy or net metered credits directly.

The solar developer that owns the installation can also sell energy from the panels to their customer through a power purchase agreement, at an agreed-upon price.

Both such arrangements mean the entity tapping the solar power does not need to pay for the panels up front, and much of the risk is removed from the investment.

After the city of Milwaukee contracted Iowa-based Eagle Point to build and co-own a 1-megawatt installation on six city buildings, We Energies in 2018 refused to do an interconnection to the grid and argued in letters that Eagle Point would be acting as a public utility.

Eagle Point sued We Energies and the state Public Service Commission demanding it take a stance on the issue, but a circuit court dismissed the case. The PSC has not acted on repeated pleas for it to clarify the legality of third-party ownership.

"Everybody is kind of pointing fingers at each other to figure out this issue — we're not the ones to resolve it, you have to resolve it," said Coenen. "Policymakers want to step up and bring some certainty to this market."

The co-sponsorship memo circulated to legislators explained that an informal 2012 letter from a PSC division administrator triggered the legal limbo surrounding third-party solar financing. Responding to a state representative following a con-

SEE **Solar legislation** ON PAGE 25

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Solar legislation

FROM PAGE 24

stituent query, the letter included guidance that said third-party financing would “meet the definition of a public utility.”

“This has consistently been used to prevent third-party financed arrangements and refute legal claims resulting in a ban in effect on these arrangements,” the legislation’s co-sponsorship memo said.

Solar proponents are hopeful the bill will pass, but are not expecting an easy path.

“There will be a lot of opposition from the utilities and obviously they have a lot of influence at the Capitol,” said Tom Content, executive director of the Citizens Utility Board. “But these are the kinds of issues folks have been wanting to tackle for a while.”

In emailed answers to questions, We Energies spokesman Brendan Conway said, “This proposal is bad policy that will shift costs to customers across Wisconsin who can’t afford or choose not to have solar panels. That’s why labor unions, business groups and utilities are all opposing it. This cost shift is not theoretical, it is happening.”

Utilities nationwide have invoked the cost-shift argument in opposing the proliferation of distributed solar, arguing that once solar panels lower a customer’s bills, those customers are not paying their “fair share” to keep up the grid.

When asked whether third-party-ownership would create a different kind of “cost-shifting” than the spread of solar more generally, Conway did not directly answer but said, “We do not oppose rooftop solar, we interconnect on average more than one residential or business project a day. At the same time, it’s important to



Photo from Dubuque Public Works

This solar array of 836 panels on the Dubuque, Iowa’s Municipal Services Center was the subject of a lawsuit that opened the door in Iowa for private companies to partner with governments and other entities to provide solar energy.

note that cost shifting is happening with those projects. People with rooftop solar do not pay their fair share of the poles, wires and other costs to serve them, yet they benefit from our reliable grid.”

He added that We Energies does not oppose the leasing of solar panels, saying, “What we do oppose, and what is illegal, is unregulated rooftop solar companies selling power to customers.”

Michael Barnett, project engineer at the architectural and engineering firm HGA, said many of his clients, including health care organizations and government agencies, would like to obtain solar through third-party ownership, but have been unable to do so.

“Because of the ambiguity there is a lot of hesitation to pursue it, and there’s not a lot of people out on the market offering

it because they might not be able to complete the project” in the face of utility challenges, he said.

He said the financial incentives aren’t the only benefit of third-party ownership; his clients would also prefer another company manage and maintain the installation.

“These health care organizations, especially now with COVID, their focus is really on their patients,” Barnett said. “To go out and figure out how to get solar, they’re just too overwhelmed. Project managing a solar installation takes time away from projects related to patient care.”

In 2018, We Energies introduced a program called Solar Now where customers can get monthly payments by letting We Energies place its own panels on their property — an arrangement often referred

to as Rent-a-Roof. Solar and consumer advocates said the arrangement denied customers market choice and didn’t let them fully benefit from solar.

“Utilities are basically owning the panel on your roof and getting their monopoly return on that,” said Content. “If you are shopping for a furnace, or shopping for a car, there are lots of lease options available where you can rent instead of own. (Third-party ownership) is just giving customers more optionality for solar.”

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Safety week spotlights crash responders

This week has been proclaimed as Crash Responder Safety Week by Gov. Tony Evers with the state Department of Transportation (DOT) and other organizations raising awareness about the important and dangerous job of crash response.

An average of 136,000 traffic crashes occur throughout the state each year, many of them creating a need for emergency response because of property damages or medical needs.

"Thousands of first responders and highway workers put their lives on the line every day to help us," DOT Secretary

Craig Thompson said. "We can help them too, every time we get behind the wheel. Always eliminate distractions, mind your speed and watch for roadside incidents."

Wisconsin.gov/staysafe offers safe driving tips, links to best practices for winter road safety, and the law.

The DOT will feature social media stories from first responders across Wisconsin this week who have had close calls while responding to highway incidents, along with a podcast from first responders on the frontlines of crash response.

Time Theater

FROM PAGE 1

ley Comedy, which set up the Hornswoggle show as well as bringing an event in December which will feature a number of comedians from their roster.

"They are bringing us the Fox Valley Standup Showcase in December," Krause said. "The last time we did that it was pretty successful."

Krause also mentioned a holiday rock 'n' roll show that will feature a toy drive.

Musical acts are a special sound experience at the Time. The venue was originally built as a place for vaudeville performances and the acoustics inside the venue have remained top-notch over the years.

"Musicians sound really great at the Time; it was set up as a vaudeville theater and I don't think it has lost much of that," Krause said. "It's got the cloth on the walls, which is kind of ugly but it makes it acoustically rich."

The Time had been a movie theater through the 1980s when it eventually was shut down while owned by Marcus Cinema.

In the 1990s it was used by Rebel Alliance Theater group for stage productions before beginning its current endeavor in 2007 when local individuals set up a non-profit group and took over the building.

Musical acts played a key role in the Time's revival, although it may well be known for its showcasing of classic movies and cult favorites.

"The founders, their vision was live mu-

sic and they did live music once or twice a week for a long time," Krause said. "Then, one of the former presidents was a movie buff and he started screening those. And it was a lot easier to slap in a DVD and get a projector than it is to arrange with a band or what have you. So that became the main focus of the Time."

Hosting musical or comedy acts does take more work from the volunteer staff - there is more setup to be done and often higher concession sales - but even the mildly successful shows can be more profitable than a big movie night.

"Every movie show, we have to pay for rights and then a check goes to someone," Krause said. "When we have a live event, even if it's only moderately successful, we're not sending a check to anybody so it's a profit thing for us, too. We make a little more money to keep building up."

During the COVID-19 pandemic, the Time took on another role.

The venue served as a vaccination clinic during the Saturday morning Farmers Market, opening its doors to help keep Oshkosh healthy.

Krause said that on the final Saturday of the Farmers Market, the Time provided first shots or boosters to 114 people.

"The 114 was the most but there wasn't a week where we did less than 25 or 30," Krause said. "It's right there and not really another place you could do it downtown. I imagine when Farmers Market comes back, people are going to need boosters and the Time will be a place where you can do that."

Obituaries

Caroline L. Farrell

Caroline L. Farrell, age 96 of Oshkosh, WI, went home to the Lord on Sunday, November 7, 2021. She was born on November 20, 1924 to the late Frank and Leda (Netz) Miller in the Oshkosh area. After the early death of her father, she was raised by her mother and stepfather, Bernd "Ben" Wiegmann.

Caroline's strong faith goes back to her roots at Zion Lutheran Church in Oshkosh. Later in life, she became a dedicated member of Chapel by the Sea of South Padre Island, TX. In more recent years, she attended First English Lutheran Church of Oshkosh.

She was a very active member of each community she lived in throughout her life. When she resided in Port Isabelle she was chosen "Person of the Year". She was a member of the Board, and also served as President of "Friends of the Library" for the Port Isabelle Library. She was instrumental in the fundraising for and building of the new Port Isabelle Library, and later the addition of its Children's wing. While living in Oshkosh, she served as a docent at the Paine Art Center and Gardens, as well as Worthy High Priestess of White

Shrine, a Masonic group.

Caroline is survived by her children, David (Carla) Schrader and Diane Mueller; grandchildren: Sarah Nigl, Matthew (Angie) Schrader, Christopher (Kari) Mueller, and Meredith (Erik) Florentz; 11 great-grandchildren, and one great-great-grandchild; brother: Kenneth (Madeline) Wiegmann; brother-in-law: Richard (Joyce) Schrader; aunt: Betty Kroona. She is further survived by many nieces and nephews.

In addition to her parents, she was preceded in death by four husbands, Clarence Schrader, Harold Barber, Clifford Farrell, and William Leslie; sister: June (Harold) Metko; brother-in-law: Robert (Beatrice) Schrader.

A graveside service for Caroline will be held at 2:00 PM on Friday, November 12, 2021 at Lake View Memorial Park, Oshkosh, WI with Rev. Tim Greenwald officiating.

In lieu of flowers, please consider making a donation in memory of Caroline to Chapel by the Sea, PO Box 2478, South Padre Island, Texas 78597, or the Library of Port Isabelle, 213 N. Yturria Street, Port Isabel, TX 78578.



Doris Hodge

Doris Ruth Keller Hodge, age 86, died November 5, 2021, at Aurora Hospital after a stroke. She was born in Milwaukee, WI July 31, 1935, to Ruth (nee Schieffelin) and Walter Keller. She received a BA in English from the University of Wisconsin-Madison in 1956, and married William "Bill" Hodge September 15, 1957. They spent several happy years living in New Mexico as he did anthropological research with Native Americans. Doris taught high school English for several years in Massachusetts, and later returned to Milwaukee when Bill took a job with the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee. Doris and Bill moved to Oshkosh with their children in 1972. She was an avid reader, bridge player, and gardener. As the children grew older Doris started work as a secretary for

Wisconsin Tissue Mills, where she enjoyed the people and learning the ins and outs of business. She retired as administrative assistant to the head of Purchasing in 2007.

She is survived by her brother John Keller, daughter Shoshana Keller (spouse Deborah Reichler) of New Hartford, NY, sons Matthew Hodge and Peter Hodge (spouse Chanda Anderson) of Oshkosh, and three grandchildren: Emily Noffke (spouse Ben), Madison Hodge (partner Sam Smith), and Christina Hodge. Doris is preceded in death by her husband, William; and her parents.

A private service is being held.

Fox Cities

Funeral & Cremation Services

Al died of sudden medical issues as he was beginning a new chapter of life after being a caring companion to his mother in the final months of her life. Al's ashes were interred at Sacred Heart Cemetery with his mother, Ann Delores Cider.

His sisters believe the only memorial he would want is for friends to enjoy a day outside in the sunshine doing a favorite activity, such as a game of golf. When he stayed in Oshkosh, Al was often at the Municipal Golf Course.

Alexander Cider

Alexander (Al) Charles Cider, 75, died September 7 at his home in Mesa, AZ. Al graduated from Lourdes High School, attended St Norbert College in De Pere and was a math teacher and coach in Wisconsin and Arizona before retiring.

He is survived by his sisters, Mary Ellen Cider of Oshkosh and Marie Therese Rogers, who lives in Mexico. Also by many nieces and nephews in the USA and Mexico.

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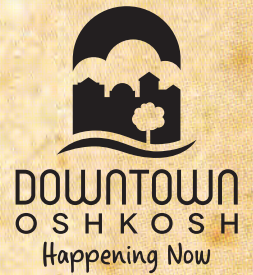


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