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Wrapping up Boys & Girls Club in holiday mode Page 4

### Reading guide Library staff offers some Great Reads Page 6

Prep sports Knights stop Warriors in boys basketball Page 16

### Jobless rate hits new low By Kaitlyn Scoville

<image>

### **Personal dispatch**

Winnebago County 911 dispatcher Nicole Binder and her colleagues have been collecting greeting cards to send out holiday messages that they hand-delivered this week to area care facilities. They send out about 500 cards each year.

## Middle school named for state leader

Photo by Michael Cooney

### Vel Phillips chosen by board after surveys

By Kaitlyn Scoville Oshkosh Herald

After reviewing survey votes and comments from the community, the Oshkosh Area School District Board of Education named the new middle school after civil rights leader Vel Phillips despite an original resolution that vied for Oshkosh suffragist Jessie Jack Hooper. "The Oshkosh school board amended the original naming recommendation put forth by its Facilities and Finance Committee - and chose to honor Phillips after a robust discussion," a press release from the district reads. The committee conducted a second community survey after the first yielded results too close to call a finalist. After allowing open-ended ideas for the names, the top three - Hooper, Phillips and EAA founder Paul Poberezny - were voted upon in a second survey. The Facilities and Finance Committee said they had come to a solution to use all three finalists throughout the school. "The additional naming recommendations were made based on community support for all three of the name finalists and



VOLUME 4, ISSUE 51

## Winnebago board chair won't seek new term

## Ramos stepping down after 16 years of service

By Steve Clark Oshkosh Herald

One of the longest tenured members of the Wiinnebago County Board of Supervisors will be stepping away when his term ends in April.

Shiloh Ramos, who has served on the board since 2006 and spent the last four years as the chairperson, announced at the

December meeting he will not seek re-election and will relinquish his spot on the board.

Ramos cited where his sons are in their lives as well as looking forward to new challenges as the reasons for his decision and emphasized that he en-



joyed being a part of county government.

"I didn't make this decision because of anything that was negative. I love it and I still enjoy it," Ramos said. "It was an extremely tough decision, and it still is quite frankly. I truly have a passion for it and

SEE **Board chairman** ON PAGE 21

forward in favor of naming the school after both Hooper and Phillips.

Mashebe Subulwa, board member for the city and school district's diversity committees, and his family submitted voice comments to the board in favor of naming the school after Phillips.

"(My kids) don't see Black teachers in their classrooms," Subulwa said. "Every-

Oshkosh Herald

Wisconsin's unemployment rate for November tied its all-time record low at 3 percent. The last time this has been reached was November 2018.

According to the state Department of Workforce Development (DWD) and the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS), the rate went down 0.2 percentage points from October's 3.2 percent unemployment.

"(This) jobs report illustrates the resilience of our Wisconsin employers, the productivity of our labor force and the strength of Wisconsin's economic position moving forward," Gov. Tony Evers said late last week.

In the Oshkosh-Neenah Metropolitan Statistical Area (MSA), the BLS reported a 2 percent unemployment in October, one percentage point below the state av-

SEE Jobless rate ON PAGE 21

Vel Phillips was an attorney, politician, jurist and civil rights activist who served as the first female Milwaukee alderperson and judge, and first female secretary of state for Wisconsin.

in an effort to further recognize those who have had a significant impact in Oshkosh and Wisconsin," the press release states.

Schools Superintendent Bryan Davis added it was best to vote at that meeting with design plans being finalized for the new school's development.

Several community members stepped

where they look in official spaces, they are opposite, invisible."

One of Subulwa's children also said, "It will help kids like me be seen."

Alicia Johnson also spoke in favor of naming the new middle school after Phillips, citing "the complex ways some individuals have to navigate multiple forms of oppression simultaneously.

"... Let the naming of the middle school after Vel Phillips be a symbolic renewal of the OASD's commitment to increasing inclusion and belonging for all their students, not just white students."

Kristopher Karns, who was elected in April, said the Board of Education would be "missing out on an incredible opportunity" if they didn't vote to name the school after Phillips.

"While she may not be from Oshkosh, she is from Wisconsin and represents a lot

See **Phillips** on Page 7



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#### Publisher

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## Stormwater rates to rise next year

#### By Kaitlyn Scoville OSHKOSH HERALD

Oshkosh's Common Council recently made changes to the city's stormwater utility rate for 2022 and residents can expect to see a rise in their utility bills by no more than 75 cents per month starting in April.

Stormwater utilities were implemented in 2003 "to fund improvements to the city's management facilities," according to a staff memo, which has funded several projects since then, including the Tipler Middle School dry retention basin, Melvin Avenue stormwater pump station and the South Park lagoon retrofit. With these projects, storm sewers are either replaced or upgraded with each street reconstruc-

### Local man, 22, found dead at railroad tracks

The Oshkosh Police Department is investigating the death of a 22-year-old Oshkosh man near the Canadian National Railway tracks.

According to police, at around 1:49 a.m. Saturday they received a call from railroad officials that one of its trains was traveling south through the area of Washington Avenue and Broad Street when it struck something but were not able to identify it.

Police said over the weekend that the death does not appear suspicious.

Investigators from the Police Department and Winnebago County Coroner's Office are continuing to investigate the incident.



DETAILS AT OSHKOSHPUBLICLIBRARY.ORG

#### tion project.

To provide funding for capital improvement program (CIP) projects next year, financial consultant Ehlers and city staff suggested a 6 percent increase in these stormwater utilities.

"This rate will allow the city to complete all of the projects listed in the 2022 (CIP) - storm sewer section, and also maintain daily operations," the memo reads.

Public works director James Rabe said the rate of increase for stormwater utilities is slated to drop between 0 and 2.5 percent by 2027 as they continue to pay off borrowing for large projects done in the late 2000s.

The council also approved site plans for the new middle school on the southeast corner of Nevada and Jackson streets, the Day By Day Warming Shelter at Ceape Avenue and Broad Street, and a new parks department administrative facility at 805 Witzel Ave.

The council also deferred funds from other projects to keep the four-seasons pavilion project at Lakeshore Park on track for completion, after bids came in \$1.5 million over what was originally budgeted because of supply chain shortages.

A memo from city staff noted the plan "is merely a reallocation of limited resources."



### **United Way support**

Lakeland Care employees recently donated \$27,600 to 18 local United Way organizations in northeast and north-central Wisconsin. Lakeland Care executive staff are shown presenting a check to Terri St. Lawrence (left) and Sue Luft (far right) from the Oshkosh Area United Way, who spearheaded the local campaign. Also shown from Lakeland are Dan Bizub, chief financial officer; Sara Muhlbauer, chief executive officer; Jen Harrison, chief operating officer; and Suzanne Sinjakovic, chief administrative officer.

### Back in the Day

Magic of Christmas Settles on Osh-

kosh: The magic of Christmas settles

over Oshkosh once again this Christ-



Oshkosh history by the Winnebago County Historical & Archaeological Society

mas Eve. Christians everywhere pause to experience the miracle of Christ's birth and the promise of peace on earth and goodwill to men. Christmas Eve is a time of preparation as neighbors greet neighbors, old friends meet, youngsters see their pals and families are gathering from near and far to share the joy of the holidays.

Source: Oshkosh Daily Northwestern, Dec. 24, 1957



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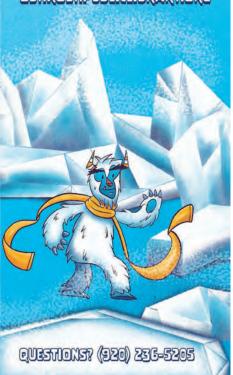
#### Corrections

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## County Board still looking to fill District 16 seat

By Steve Clark OSHKOSH HERALD

The Winnebago County Board of Supervisors remains short of being at full strength as the seat for District 16 is still open.

District 16 is situated around the University of Wisconsin Oshkosh campus and butts up against the Fox River, with Wisconsin Avenue serving as one of the borders of the area. The supervisor position was previously held by Alyssa Bolante, but had to be vacated when she moved out of the district.

According to board chairman Shiloh Ramos, the position has been posted multiple times but has yet to draw any interest from someone in the district.

"It's been open for a couple of months now," Ramos said. "This is the third one

we have had in the last three or four months, but the other two have now been filled (in November). We followed the same process for all of them and had three or four people interested in the other two districts, but we have not had anyone (for District 16) at this time."

Although replacing supervisors during a term is something that can happen from time to time, it's rare that a seat remains open.

"Over the four years I have been chair, this is the sixth or seventh time we have had to fill a seat, so I have been through this process many times," Ramos said. "But I think this is the first time we haven't had any candidates."

One possible reason for the position not getting filled is that the term for the supervisor is almost up.

Elections for county supervisors are held in April and with just a few months left in the expiring term, Ramos said there may not be interest in joining the group for a short haul.

In fact, if a suitable candidate is not found by January, it's likely the Board will move to keep the position open until elections. Ramos said that although it's an unusual situation, it's not unprecedented.

Ramos said that a candidate or candidates may already be in line to run for election to the position. Candidates were able to start taking out papers Dec. 1 for election but whether someone took out papers in District 16 would only be known by the county clerk. Papers must be filed by Jan. 4.

Even if there is no one on the ballot in April, that doesn't necessarily mean the

District 16 spot will stay vacant.

"Hypothetically, if no one takes out papers for that seat, someone could be elected as a write-in and that's happened before," Ramos said. "If one name is written in, that person could be declared the winner and offered the seat."

The vacancy in one district does not impede the board from fulfilling its tasks, by any means, but there is certainly a desire to make sure all of the seats are taken.

"The board function still occurs, although (when a supervisor leaves) there are committee openings to be filled, which we have done," Ramos said. "It's really about representation, first of all. Technically people in that district are not being represented by an individual when the seat is vacant. That's the reality."

## Breakwater projects continue for Lake Butte des Morts

Construction efforts will continue into 2022 for the Terrell's Island breakwall removal and the Samers Bay breakwall restoration project on Lake Butte des Morts, according to an update from the Fox-Wolf Watershed Alliance.

The first phase of construction began in early 2021 with 460 feet of the total 1,400 feet planned breakwater removed at Terrell's Island. The rock was used to build 1,000 feet of the new Samers Bay breakwall, which will be a planned total of 5,850 feet.

Goals for early 2022 are to remove the remaining 940 feet of breakwall and reuse it to build 2,000 feet of the Samers breakwall, add a turnaround point on the south end of the breakwall opening at Terrell's

and remove artificial rock islands within the island.

The second phase will be building the remaining 2,850 feet of breakwall at Samers Bay using new stone.

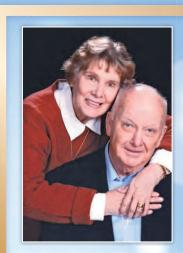
The project is a collaboration with the Butte des Morts Conservation Club, Winnebago County Land and Water Conservation Department, Fox-Wolf Watershed Alliance and state Department of Natural Resources.

Contractors must use a time window when ice conditions can support the heavy equipment needed - at least 2 feet of solid ice for construction traffic.

Terrell's Island trail is closed until further notice amid the construction efforts.



Work is underway on the Terrell's Island and Samers Bay breakwall projects.



# John and Joan Ruetten 65th Wedding Anniversary

On the sunny winter morning of December 29, 1956 Joan (Gilbeck), Madison, WI and PFC John Ruetten, Fort Knox, KY were married at Sacred Heart Catholic Church, Cashton, WI. That's 65 years ago!

Joan and John Ruetten are the parents of five children: Sue Leach (David), Jeff Ruetten (Wendy), Trasy Ruetten, Chris Ruetten (Liza) and Marc Ruetten (Lisa). There are five grandchildren: Ben Ruetten (Stephanie Metcalf), Kelsey Miller (Mason), Nate Ruetten (Nancy Hart), Josh Ruetten and Justin Ruetten. Four delightful great-grandchildren light up their lives: Alex and Otto Ruetten; Scarlett and Duke Miller.

**CHRISTMAS MASS TIMES** ST. RAPHAEL THE ARCHANGEL CATHOLIC CHURCH 830 S. Westhaven Drive **Christmas Eve** 4:00 pm, 7:00 pm, 10:00 pm **Christmas Day** 8:30 am, 10:30 am raphael.org



Oshkosh – home for 63 years – has provided business and volunteer opportunities, medical/personal care, religious affiliations (St. Mary's, UW-O Newman Center and Most Blessed Sacrament), entertainment and educational facilities (11 UW-O family graduates including Joan) along with wonderful neighborhoods. All of these people, places and things have contributed to the health and happiness of the Ruetten Family.

An informal gathering of almost all 23 family members had a professional photo taken and picnic lunch on July 07, 2021 as an early celebration.



room supplies, learning center supplies like calculators and staplers, shower sup-

plies, gym equipment (basketballs, foot-

balls and soccer balls), and musical equip-

ment. Winter sporting goods donations

help children try new activities for the first

time like ice skating and skiing. A full wish

Club chief executive Tracey Ogden

said club youth continue to have their basic needs met, have a safe place to go

after school, people to guide them on ac-

ademics, mental health and staying active

"We have especially been blown away

with the generosity of our donors this sea-

son as they have been providing Thanks-

giving dinners, adopting families for the

holidays, purchasing warm winter cloth-

ing and boots for youth and so much

more," Odgen said in the club newsletter.

Looking ahead to the club's building ex-

pansion project, three more neighboring

houses will be taken down in the next few

weeks to expand the club campus while

working with Habitat for Humanity to

salvage building materials. Other hous-

es were removed last year along Monroe

Indoors, staff are finishing up the inte-

Questions regarding the current shut-

down can be sent to director of club ser-

vices Kevin Mueller at 920-233-1414,

extension 121, or kevinm@bgcosh.org.

Those who paid for the non-school-day

program that had been scheduled for

Thursday will receive credit to their ac-

rior design and plans for children's spaces that will be influenced by focus groups

during the cold months.

list is at bgcosh.org/support/wishlist.

## Club praises community for ongoing holiday support

#### Oshkosh Herald

The Boys & Girls Club of Oshkosh was able to regain some normalcy in programming this year after the challenges of 2020 and has been celebrating the holidays with programs and a party.

Unfortunately that ran into another pandemic delay last week when a staff member's positive COVID-19 test forced the downtown location to be closed until Jan. 3. Radford, Quest and Teen programs will not be held during that time, or after-school transportation to the club.

Marketing and communications director Jessica Carr said last week that their office was full of gifts for its Adopt a Family effort. There were a record-breaking 215 kids adopted out this year (85 families) and 100 donors. Carr said they are still in need of tennis shoes of all sizes.

"We're in the middle of the fun and (welcome) chaos of getting those gifts out to the families," she said. "The club continues to welcome help as it wraps up another calendar year and going into the winter months and looks to add some part-time staff help."

Carr said the Club Family Night and Christmas party last Tuesday had a strong turnout with children able to make or pick out gifts for parents or guardians and wrap them.

End-of-year monetary donations support general operations, which were able to safely expand in 2021 with more children per classroom in summer and fall programs. Basic needs also continue after the holidays in the form of helping members with doctor and dentist visits, providing winter outerwear and handing out bus tokens. Hygiene supplies are also desired.



Children created and picked out gifts for parents and guardians, and wrapped them up, at last week's Christmas party.

Just a few weeks ago the club delivered 39 Festival Foods Thanksgiving meals to member families and an additional 20 meals from TJ's Harbor restaurant while also holding its Thanksgiving family night. The club always needs board games, art



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Santa read letters with children at a recent Oshkosh Winter Farmers Market.

### Area Santa says the more the merrier

Santa Brian, who calls himself the Fox Valley Santa, said he is working harder than ever this year with double the bookings from what he thought was a busy last year.

On a typical weekend Santa Brian can visit from six to nine places within a day. Traveling with wife Marion as Mrs. Claus for an average of 200 miles a day, the locations can be anywhere from 10 minutes apart to hours.

He said the last few years have been hard on the professional Santa population as a result of retirements and the pandemic impact. Santa Brian believes this is a great time to take on the role.

"If you have the right heart and spirit and are doing it for the love of the moment and the reason for the season, it is a great job," he said. "You are not going to strike it rich; the rewards come from the love from the families and the kids that come up to get a hug that just warms your heart."

The Fond du Lac resident started in the Santa business in 2015 and has appeared at the Oshkosh Winter Farmers Market annually.

MIRAVIDA

## Mugs for Rugs program supports fall prevention

#### Oshkosh Herald

The Oshkosh Fire Department is highlighting its ongoing efforts to decrease falls by older adults with a promotion with the help of local businesses.

Mugs for Rugs allows residents to bring one or more throw rugs (4 by 6 feet or smaller) to a participating location where they can exchange it for a free mug and cup of coffee.

Fire department officials have seen an escalation of emergency medical service (EMS) calls that are related to falls. Recent data shows about 20 percent of Oshkosh EMS calls are fall related.

Falls are the leading cause of fatal and nonfatal injuries among adults 65 and older, most often occurring in the home and more specifically in the bedroom and bathroom. Throw rugs contribute to many of these falls.

"Mugs for Rugs will help older adults to be safer at home and avoid falls," Fire Chief Mike Stanley said. "As our population ages, it's critical for us to find ways to improve the health of our older adults and their ability to remain independent."

The initiative received a \$1,000 grant from the Ladies Benevolent Society of Oshkosh, and mugs were donated by 4imprint. Local business partners include Caramel Crisp Corner, Mike's Place Family Restaurant, New Moon Cafe, Pilora's Cafe and Planet Perk Coffee Houses. The Oshkosh Seniors Center is also participating.

### Literacy Council awarded \$30,000 grant

The Winnebago Area Literacy Council was one of three major grant recipients from the J.J. Keller Foundation with a \$30,000 gift to celebrate the foundation's 30th anniversary and a milestone of \$70 million in giving.

"This generous funding will allow us to expand our Road to Work program and

Tom Perry, Literacy Council executive director. "Thanks to the J. J. Keller Foundation for including us in their celebration." Road to Work assists, mentors and pro-

serve considerably more individuals," said

vides refugees and immigrants with vocational literacy training to obtain employment and utilize their skills in the workforce.

#### Longtime Oshkosh Public Museum curator retires

Oshkosh Public Museum staff member Debra Daubert is retiring after serving the institution for 44 years.

She has been the curator of exhibitions at the museum. Recently retired director Brad Larson praised Daubert's dedication.

"Deb devoted her career to this wonderful place. She helped acquire count-

Merry Christmas

less historical items along with significant donations. Most notably, Deb worked tirelessly to put everything back together again after devastation was visited upon this place in 1994," Larson wrote.

"Over the decades she presented hundreds of programs and talked with thousands of school kids."

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## Discover 2021's Great Reads from library staffers

By Dan Roherty Oshkosh Herald

Anyone looking to update their reading list can access popular sites like Amazon and Goodreads for best-sellers and critics' choices, but readers also can't go wrong with recommendations from their local librarians.

Michael McArthur has been doing some form of an annual Great Reads list and sharing it since joining the Oshkosh Public Li-



the Oshkosh Public Library in 2013, and this year expanded it to any and all of his knowledgeable colleagues.

"In the last couple of years, I have pulled in different librarians with different reading interests. This was the first year that I really pulled

McArthur

in anybody who was interested in talking about books in the library and the Winnefox offices," he said.

A local history and genealogy expert, McArthur said his own reading habits have broadened with the diverse and eclectic input of the other librarians, who offer suggestions from many genres: fiction, nonfiction, poetry, self-help, memoirs, even Star Wars literature.

"The only criteria I gave to people is, 'Tell me something you really liked to read,'" he said, and has been published in the 12 months since last November.

He titles it Great Reads to avoid the 'best books' label and keep it from being too subjective. They just want to offer "any hand we can give people to narrow the field a little bit."

As for the pandemic impact on reading trends – the library also has a list of the books area patrons checked out the most



Library staff talk about some of their picks for Great Reads of 2021 at oshkoshpubliclibrary. org, where details on the library's top checkouts for the year can be found.

Adiche

this year – McArthur said it's mostly about how people read.

"Our physical circulation went down when people can't come in and browse, and have that serendipity of just seeing something on the shelf and pulling it off," McArthur said.

"It supercharged the trend of e-books, which were already going strong well before that."

### Great Reads 2021

Presented by Public Library staff

FEATURED BOOKS

Crying in H Mart by Michelle Zauner
Infinite Country by Patricia Engel
Anxious People by Fredrik Bachman
House of Hollow by Krystal Sutherland
Velvet Was the Night by Silvia
Moreno-Garcia

•What Kind of Woman by Kate Baer •Somebody's Daughter by Ashley C. Ford

•Brood by Jackie Polzin

•Star Wars: The Rising Storm by Cavan Scott

•Star Wars: Light of the Jedi by Charles Soule

•**Truly Like Lightning** by David Duchovny

•Death Washes Ashore by Patricia Skalka

•Outlawed by Anna North

•Fox & I by Catherine Raven

•Clarity and Connection by Yung Pueblo

•Later by Stephen King

•You'll Never Believe What Happened to Lacey by Amber Ruffin and Lacey Lamar

•Fuzz by Mary Roach

•To Be Honest by Michael Leviton

•Trejo: My Life of Crime, Redemption, and Hollywood by Danny Trejo and Donal Logue

•One Last Stop by Casey McQuiston FICTION

•A Marvelous Light by Freya Marske •Build Your House Around My Body y Violet Kupersmith



•Cloud Cuckoo Land by Anthony Doer •Crossroads by Jonathan Frazen

•Everyone in this Room will Someday be Dead by Emily Austin

•The Four Winds by Kristin Hannah

•Heard it in a Love Song by Tracey Garvis Graves

•Hour of the Witch by Chris Bohjalian

•How Beautiful We Were by Imbolo Mbue

Intimacies by Katie Kitamura

•Judge's List by John Grisham

•Klara and the Sun by Kazuo Ishiguro

•The Lincoln Highway by Amor Towles

•The Love Songs of W.E.B. Du Bois by Honorée Fanonne Jeffers

•My Heart is a Chainsaw by Stephen Graham Jones

•Once There Were Wolves by Charlotte McConaghy

•The Other Black Girl by Zakiya Dalila Harris

•Peaces by Helen Oyeyemi

•The Personal Librarian: A Novel by Marie Benedict and Victoria Christopher Murray

• Project Hail Mary by Andy Weir

•The Push by Ashley Audrain

•Quiet in Her Bones by Nalini Singh

• The Sentence by Louise Erdrich

•We Were Never Here: A Novel by Andrea Bartz

•All the Frequent Troubles of Our Days by Rebecca Donner

•Empire of Pain: The Secret History of the Sackler Dynasty by Patrick Radden Keefe

•Finding the Mother Tree by Suzanne Simard

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•Shooting Midnight Cowboy: Art, Sex, Loneliness, Liberation, and the Making of a Dark Classic by Glenn Frankel

•Tacky: Love Letters to the Worst Culture We Have to Offer by Rax King



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## Blanket project to benefit shelter and Covey clients

A nonprofit group that creates opportunities for people with intellectual and developmental disabilities will be making fleece tie blankets for the Day By Day Warming Shelter.

Covey Connects, a Covey program that brings adults with disabilities to skill-building classes and promotes volunteering through helping local organizations, has scheduled Jan.12 for the blanket project where clients will gain experience in the greater community while building

### **Phillips**

#### from Page 1

of the values we want to teach our kids," Karns said. In his comments to other board members, he also made the motion to amend the originally stated resolution.

The group voted 4-3, with Beth Wyman, Barb Herzog and Chris Wright against, to decide on the resolution as amended: naming the middle school after Phillips and naming the school's media center after Hooper.

Wyman was strongly in favor of having a person with connections to the city be selected.

"I'm sorry this has become a (race) issue. To me, it's an Oshkosh issue," Wyman said.

As per district policy, votes for naming any schools, facility must be passed by a super-majority, or two-thirds of the board. After a short recess, members voted 5-2 to name the school after Phillips – with Wright and Wyman against.



self-confidence.

"People underestimate and don't understand the value our clients bring to our community," Covey CEO Pam Schutz said. "By working together, this project brings awareness to two groups of marginalized citizens."

Covey Connects will deliver the fleece tie blankets and take a tour of the shelter at 449 High Ave. on Jan. 19.

For more information, call Risa Hill at 920-292-1120 or email rhill@covey.org.

According to the district's press release on the matter, "Phillips was the first African American woman to attend and earn a law degree from the University of Wisconsin's Law School.

"In addition, Phillips was the first woman and African American to be elected to the Milwaukee Common Council, was Wisconsin's first African American judge when appointed in 1971 and served as Wisconsin's first woman and non-white secretary of state for two terms."

Hooper is a notable figure in Oshkosh due to her residency in the city and work in the women's rights movement. Poberezny was an aviator, military veteran, aircraft designer, entrepreneur and former resident. He is credited with founding EAA's Air-Venture.

"Each of these individuals is worthy of being recognized and honored," Poeschl said. "Their names and legacies will live on, and students will not only know who they were and the impact they had but they will be inspired to follow their own passions and impact the world around them as well."



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In-person voter registration events

have been sidelined due to the pandemic,

but there will be a discussion about when

Three Winnebago County high schools

There are some volunteer opportuni-

ties for training students to handle the

job as well as having someone present at

Nonmembers are welcome to join

the Jan. 4 Zoom meeting. The link is

us02web.zoom.us/j/86843407441#suc-

a few events can be done safely.

are interested in hosting events.

each event to oversee the process.

## Store steps up for D.C. flight

#### Oshkosh Herald

David DeCono was able to accompany his 84-year-old Army veteran father for his Stars and Stripes Honor Flight to Washington, D.C., recently with an assist from an Oshkosh shoe store.

Nine weeks before the Oct. 16 trip out of Milwaukee that had been postponed last fall due to the pandemic, DeCono, from Watertown, shattered one of his heels in an accident and was restricted from putting any weight on his foot for eight weeks.

DeCono said with all of the expected walking through airports and in the nation's capital with father,. Richard and their group of Wisconsin veterans, his heel would be tested soon after recovery with the bones needing to heal correctly to avoid further issues.

David's mother, Nancy, located a pair of SAS shoes online at Brittons Walk-Over Footwear in Oshkosh with owner Brad Britton assuring he could personally fit the shoes with separate sizes to accommodate the injured right foot with extra support



bmitted photo

Richard DeCono and son David traveled to the nation's capital recently through the Stars and Stripes Honor Flight program.

and width. The shoes arrived on time for the trip and Britton covered the priority shipping charges as a courtesy.

"I thought it was Christmas. The shoes fit perfectly," DeCono said. "You made my Honor Flight doable with my dad. My feet thank you."



### EARLY HOLIDAY DEADLINES

Oshkosh

Dec. 29th Issue - Space and Copy Deadline Display Ad Deadline - Noon, Thur., 12/23/2021 Classified Ad Deadline - 3 p.m., Thur., 12/23/2021

Jan. 5th Issue - Space and Copy Deadline Display Ad Deadline - Noon, Thur., 12/30/2021 Classified Ad Deadline – 3 p.m., Thur., 12/30/2021



### Voter volunteer information offered

The League of Women Voters of Winnebago County's voter services team is presenting a volunteer information meeting over Zoom from 6:30 to 7:30 p.m. Jan. 4.

Vote411.org is the online voter guide that gives information about candidates and issues.

Volunteer opportunities include reaching out for candidate contact information from municipal clerks and helping to draft candidate questions. Questions will be drafted and members will talk about what issues to pinpoint in different races.

### Travel fishing planner cites Winnebago

cess.

The world's largest online travel fishing company that connects anglers and fishing guides with trip destinations has Lake Winnebago on its top eight list of fishing destinations.

FishingBooker's outreach specialist Karin Mayer said Lake Winnebago was chosen for having the world's largest self-sustaining lake sturgeon population and a 16-day sturgeon spearing season among other attributes.

### Wild Ones conference set at convention center

Wild Ones Fox Valley Area Chapter is celebrating its 25th anniversary Toward Harmony with Nature Conference on natural landscapes, native plants and biodiversity Jan. 29 at the Oshkosh Convention Center.

The conference features keynote speaker, Douglas Tallamy, a nationally recognized environmental speaker and author of "Bringing Nature Home," "Nature's Best Hope" and his most recent book "The Nature of Oaks - The Rich Ecology of Our Most Essential Native

al popularity of a location, suitability for ice fishing and quality of the fishing. They also include locations with special events like ice fishing tournaments.

She said the criteria include the gener-

Other destinations on the list include Brainerd, Minn.; Lake Habeeb, Md.; Devils Lake, N.D.; Copper Harbor, Mich.; Castle Lake, Calif.; Boysen Reservoir, Wyo.; and Moosehead Lake, Maine.

Trees."

The conference also includes speakers on creating or enhancing a healthy habitat in gardens and yards. There will also be vendors, exhibitors and a silent auction throughout the day.

The conference is sponsored by the We Energies Foundation and Bright Idea Fund within the Community Foundation for the Fox Valley Region. Go to www.towardharmonywithnature.org for more information and registration. Space is limited and no walk-ins



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## hancellor to recount pandemic response in TELTa

University of Wisconsin Oshkosh Chancellor Andrew Leavitt will be the featured speaker at the quarterly Today's Emerging Leader Talk (TELTalk) that will be held virtually at noon Jan. 12 and presented by the Oshkosh Area United Way. Registration is free and open to the public.

"When the pandemic hit, it was crucial we did whatever it took to protect our students, employees and community," Leavitt said. "Our team's innovative approach toward tracking, treating and containing the virus earned our campus and region national attention."

Leavitt's "Steering into the Waves: UWO's Collaborative Course Through COVID-19" will highlight how the institution leaned on its faculty and scientists, expertise of public health and nurse professionals, and skill of its data-centric public safety emergency commanders, in collaboration with regional health care specialists and executive leaders to successfully navigate through the pandemic.

"I look forward to sharing how our partnerships deepened during this challenging time through support from and research with the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, the surgeon general of the

### UW-Milwaukee local grads announced

Eight people from the Oshkosh area were among more than 1,900 candidates for degrees at the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee virtual commencement exercises held Sunday.

They include:

Loudon Barnes, Peck School of the Arts, bachelor of fine arts.

Jacy DeBoer, College of Engineering and Applied Science, bachelor of science in engineering.

Christine Hamer, Helen Bader School of Social Welfare, master of social work.

Abigail Hammonds, Sheldon B. Lubar School of Business, bachelor of business administration.

Ismail Kamel, Sheldon B. Lubar School of Business, bachelor of business administration.

Travis Peer, Joseph J. Zilber School of Public Health, master of public health.

Aaron Vang, Sheldon B. Lubar School of Business, bachelor of business administration.

Susan Wade, College of Letters and Science, doctor of philosophy.



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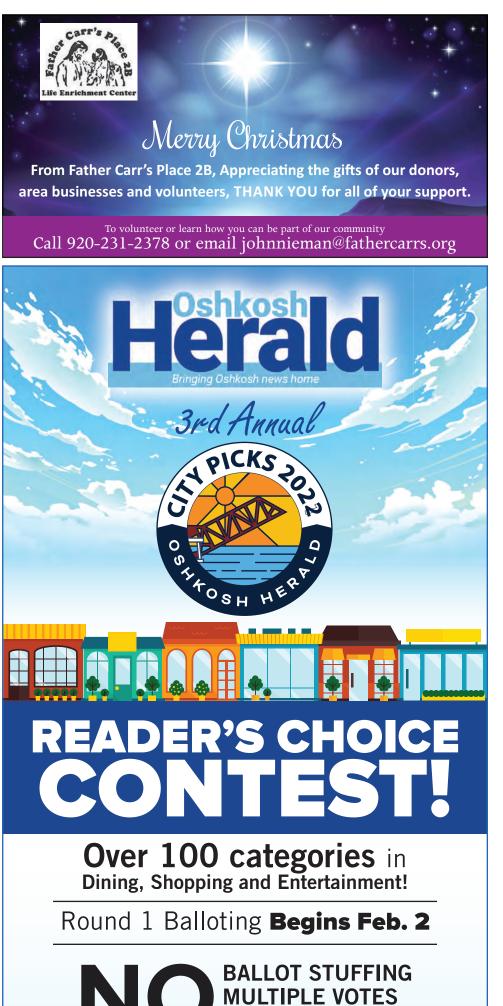


uwo.sh/cye21

United States and other key Wisconsin stakeholders," Leavitt said.

Register at oshkoshunitedway.org/jan-

uary12teltalk. Visit Oshkosh Area United Way's Facebook page for more information.



### ONLINE VOTING

Campaign to be Oshkosh's City Pick for Best of! Winners announced in the April 13, 2022 **Oshkosh Herald** 

### City Picks is a 2-phase contest

Phase 1

Readers nominate their favorite in each category in the Oshkosh Area School District boundaries.

### Phase 2

Readers vote for their favorite Top 3 Phase 1 nominee

\*Each eligible ballot must include a min. of 30 category votes.

Contact your ad rep to begin your City Pick campaign today! Call: 920-508-9000 or advertise@oshkoshherald.com

## Interns stepped up for UWO's Digital Marketing Clinic

By Laurie Schlosser UW Oshkosh Today

To say they've earned their University of Wisconsin Oshkosh diplomas is a colossal understatement.

Four student interns have spent the last 10 months with UW Oshkosh's Digital Marketing Clinic (DMC) – an enterprise borne out of necessity during the pandemic – rescuing dozens of small businesses in dire need of digital marketing expertise.

"The DMC really started because of the trend during the pandemic of moving from a brick-and-mortar store front to online, and many of our clients don't know where to start," said Justin Schmitz, a senior from De Pere, graduating with a degree in marketing.

"Educating them on how and why, has been a huge impact to our clients in order to help them grow their businesses. Along with this, we do quite a few website builds for companies. It's surprising how many companies don't have their own website or even social media."

The students have found many small

business owners struggle with digital marketing: knowing how to schedule and post content on social media, understanding keyword research or planning new websites.

With CARES Act funds designated to help businesses suffering the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic, the innovative program connects talented UWO student digital marketing interns with small business owners. CARES funding is provided through the Wisconsin Small Business Development Center (SBDC). The Digital Marketing Clinic works in partnership with SBDC-UW Oshkosh.

"Small business owners typically need a lot of digital marketing help," said Yasmilet Esquivel of Janesville, another student intern graduating with a degree in marketing with a digital marketing emphasis.

She said her client projects pointed to social media scheduling and implementation as some of their biggest challenges.

"They struggle with taking the time to plan out social media posts or what type of content to post on certain platforms,"



# **Oshkosh**



Student interns have spent the last 10 months helping small businesses in need of digital marketing expertise.

Esquivel said.

Schmitz said the students provide a lot of education. Though social media has been around 10-15 years, they've found many companies don't know how it works when it comes to marketing, or even the impact it has.

Schmitz said working on real projects that make a difference has had a huge impact on his future. He's worked with companies in a multitude of industries, met inspiring entrepreneurs and "dove into many different angles of marketing," with no two days the same. He said the work prepared him for the work world in ways beyond just marketing.

On top of implementing a variety of marketing skills, students developed speaking skills and professional etiquette as they held meetings with business owners.

"Our interns provide owners an improved degree of confidence," said Kathy Fredrickson, Digital Marketing Clinic director and marketing faculty member at UWO, who noted the students witnessed marked improvement in brand presence and effectiveness online for their clients.

Since its inception 10 months ago, the DMC intern teams achieved 1,758 consulting hours, 123 clients served and 894 jobs supported, according to Fredrickson. They've also delivered four social media marketing webinars to more than 200 registered attendees.

Dan Brosman, UWO Small Business Development Center director, said the DMC launched in February using CARES Act funds to hire a managing director and four student interns.

Response was swift. Within 72 hours, more than 30 applications for no-fee consultation were submitted; and by May, 75 applications had been received – indicating strong demand for the program.

Four additional students and a contract-

ed project coordinator joined the team in mid-May to increase capacity.

Brosman said one or two student interns are assigned to each business, providing roughly 15 hours of assistance to each client. They address "online deficits" for small businesses with under \$2 million in annual revenue who apply to the SBDC.

"The DMC has been an amazing opportunity to apply the skills we learned from school to the real world," said Adam Branch, a marketing major from Downers Grove, Ill. "Kathy (Fredrickson) has done an incredible job leading the team to success and I've made plenty of memories along the way."

Branch said in his experience, clients are most interested in social media audits, keyword research and strategic recommendations. A project that stood out was for Elektra Cruise, a fully electric boat tour service. Most of the work was done face-to-face and involved photography, a social media audit and best practices to help them understand how to use Facebook and Instagram for business.

He said the skills developed through DMC have prepared him for a career he loves and have shown him that hard work always pays off. He credited Brosman and Fredrickson for their guidance. Branch said he plans to move out West to work for a full-service marketing agency.

Esquivel said a client project that stands out for her was for the Women's Fund of Oshkosh. It was a large team project that included a "brandscape" – analyzing a company's branding and messaging.

"I was able to take the lead on the logo design and color recommendations which has helped me find what I'm most interested in when it comes to digital marketing," Esquivel said. "It guided the way to my interest in design and branding. In other words, I love working with aesthetics."



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DECEMBER 22, 2021



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DECEMBER 22, 2021





#### Ongoing

Celebration of Lights, 5:30 p.m., Menominee Park, through Jan. 1 Morgan House Holiday Open House,

234 Church Ave., through Tuesday White Christmas: The Exhibition, Osh-

#### kosh Public Museum, through Jan. 23 Wednesday, Dec. 22

Christmas Jazz with the Jazz Orgy and special guests, 7 p.m., Becket's, 2 Jackson St.

### Thursday, Dec. 23

"The Night Before the Night Before," 7:30 p.m., The Grand Oshkosh

#### Sunday, Dec. 26

Pat McCurdy, 1 p.m., Bare Bones Brewery, 4362 County S

#### Monday, Dec. 27

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Wisconsin Herd vs. Long Island Nets, 7 p.m., Oshkosh Arena

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#### Wednesday, Dec. 29

UW Oshkosh Winter Classic Basketball Tournament, 3:30 p.m., Oshkosh Arena

#### Thursday, Dec. 30

UW Oshkosh Winter Classic Basketball Tournament, 1:30 p.m., Oshkosh Arena

#### Friday, Dec. 31

New Year's Eve Family Night, 6 p.m., Oshkosh Community YMCA, 3303 W. 20th Ave.

New Year's Eve Celebration, 7 p.m., Oshkosh Convention Center

New Year's Eve at Ground Round, 8 p.m., 1 N. Main St.

Jeremiah Jams Band New Year's Eve Bash, 9 p.m., Fletch's Local Tap House, 566 N. Main St.

DJ Bingo, The Hangar, 7 and 9 p.m., 1485 W. 20th Ave.

Vice Versa Rockin' New Year's Eve, 6 p.m., Twisted Roots Tavern, 693 N. Main St.

Star Six Nine, 7:30 p.m., Revs Bowl Bar & Grill, 275 N. Washburn St.

New Years Eve at Northside Bar & Grill, 9 p.m., 2126 Algoma Blvd.

#### Monday, Jan. 3

Harlem Globetrotters, 7 p.m., Oshkosh Arena

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### Cartwright to hold book signing

Oshkosh native and best-selling author Keith Ryan Cartwright will be hosting a signing and discussion about his latest book, "Black Cowboys of Rodeo: Unsung Heroes From Harlem to Hollywood and the American West," at Caramel Crisp Corner in Oshkosh on Dec. 29.

The event is slated to run from 2 to 4 p.m. and is open to the public. In addition to meeting the author and having the opportunity to get a signed copy, a discussion of the book will also take place in the bookstore section of the store with local students reading select passages.

### Eastern District judge nominated

event.

Judge William S. Pocan was nominated last week by President Biden for the U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of Wisconsin, which serves Winnebago among its 16 counties in the Green Bay Division of the district.

Pocan was recommended to U.S. Sens. Tammy Baldwin and Ron Johnson by the bipartisan Wisconsin Federal Nominating Commission. In June, Baldwin and John-

FISH FRY

son recommended Pocan to the White House for consideration to succeed Judge William C. Griesbach, who has assumed senior status.

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To pre-order a copy and receive a free

signed book plate from Cartwright, call

920-231-4540 or stop at the book counter

Cartwright is a 1989 graduate of Osh-

kosh North High School and an accom-

plished writer and journalist who has

covered the Professional Bull Riders tour

since the early 2000s, which eventually

The book was released in mid-Novem-

ber and Cartwright said he was looking

forward to returning to Oshkosh for the

led him to writing his book.

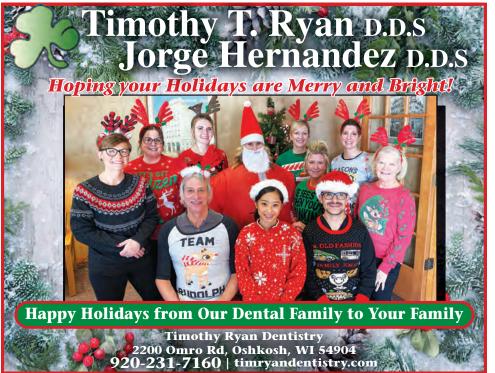
at Caramel Crisp.

Pocan is currently deputy chief judge of the Milwaukee County Circuit Court, where he has served since 2006. He is a graduate of the University of Wisconsin Law School in 1984 and the University of Wisconsin-Parkside in 1981.



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## Warriors can't match Knights experience in loss

## Lourdes uses experience to hold off Valley Christian

By Dustin Riese Herald contributor

Playing with a young and inexperienced team comes with some challenges across the high school level, but having a young team going up against a senior-dominated team is a different ball game and that is what Valley Christian was up against Friday night.

Facing cross-town rival and defending WIAA Division 4 state champion Lourdes, the improving Warriors couldn't keep up with the Knights in the 77-48 loss.

"It took our kids a little while to settle in tonight and adjust to their zone," Lourdes head coach Dennis Ruedinger said. "Their zone took away some of our aggressiveness on the offensive end early and we started to become a bit more passive than we like. We did a much better job adjusting in the second half."

Valley Christian coach Louis Giannopoulos understands a loss is a loss, but couldn't have been happier with the effort from his players.

"We gave it 100 percent from an effort side of things on the court tonight," Giannopoulos said. "We are a very young team, so we are not as deep as some of these other teams are. Regardless of that, I am proud of these kids tonight. They played hard against a very good and wellcoached Lourdes team."

Valley Christian was able to keep up with Lourdes early on until a 10-3 run improved the Knights' lead to 18-8. Valley Christian did its best to keep it within single digits but Lourdes made it 41-26 at the half as they broke down the Warriors.

"I thought defensively, we did a phenomenal job keeping them off balance to start the game," Giannopoulos said. "Our rotations were there, and kids were where they needed to be at all times. Eventually you could see us starting to get a little fatigued, and when that happened, Lourdes was able to break us down more consistently."

Despite a comfortable lead at the half, Lourdes needed just a few minutes to all but put the game away. Sparked by a J.J. McKellips three and another Malith Liabwell slam, the Knights couldn't have asked for a better start to the half with a 12-0 run to extend the lead to 53-26.

Ruedinger loved the effort from his team over those first few minutes as that seemed to turn the tide.

"We didn't really change too much offensively, we just moved some players around," he said. "In return that helped us get some easy looks and we knocked them down. For the most part we have had to rely on our offense this season, so it was nice for the defense to set the tone and rely on that side of the ball."

Fatigue was an issue for the Warriors throughout the game. Once the Knights got off and running during that run Giannopoulos knew it was going to be tough to overcome.

"We came out flat in the second half and that is all there is to it," he said. "Our first four possessions resulted in four turnovers. That was tough to overcome, and you can't do that against a team as skilled as Lourdes. I thought we would come out with a bit more energy to start the second





Photo by Andy Ratchman

J.J. McKellips of Lourdes goes up for a short jumper against Valley Christian's Alexandros Giannopoulos in Friday's game.

half and unfortunately that didn't happen."

Refusing to go down quietly, Alexandros Giannopoulos started to play the way he has this season after getting off to a rough start in the first half. His size and rebounding ability on the inside allowed the Warriors to get the Knights into some foul issues as points on the inside were their go to. The more touches he got on the inside the more open looks Isaiah Humiston had behind the arc as he had the hot hand from deep, knocking down several threes.

Humiston and William Kehoe led Valley Christian with 12 points while Giannopoulos had 11 points and six rebounds. Humiston made 4-of-9 from deep in the loss.

Holding a 72-41 lead after a Seibold

bucket, it was time for the Knights to empty their bench and give some of their reserves a chance to see the floor.

"We are starting to learn our roles as a team and get comfortable in those roles," Ruedinger said. "It takes time to come together as a team and we are starting to come together right now. Tonight was a lot of fun, especially when you get everyone involved.

"It is one of my favorite things about coaching. When you see the joy and excitement from the fans when our reserves are on the floor makes everything so much fun."

Jack Seibold led the Knights in scoring with 22 points while Liabwell had 16 and Dominic Kane added 15.

Store Hours: Monday 9am-8pm; Tuesday-Thursday 9am-4pm

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## Kaukauna continues mat dominance over West

#### By Dustin Riese HERALD CONTRIBUTOR

Coming off a 42-25 loss to Neenah in their second dual of the season, the Oshkosh West wrestling team was looking to rebound against one of the best teams in the state in Kaukauna. The Ghosts have been dominant for quite some time, winning 16 straight FVA championships.

West is no stranger to success on the mat but hasn't been able to knock off Kaukauna in quite a while. First-year head coach Matt Cuadra found out how good the Ghosts can be as they ripped off 47 consecutive points after the Wildcats took the lead before cruising to a 65-15 victory.

"I think our team did a great job of coming to the match prepared," Cuadra said. "However, there were times when we didn't take advantage of some situations that we were in."

With the 120-pound class kicking things off, Edwyn Schroeder took on Mason Hansen in what was supposed to be a great match. Throughout the first period, the match delivered as both did a great job grabbing mo-

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mentum. In the end it was Schroeder coming away with the pin at the 1:38 mark to put the Wildcats on top 6-0.

"Edwyn stepped up and went up a weight class," Cuadra said. "When I asked him to do that, he didn't think twice about it and just got to work. Since the beginning of the year, we have been talking about how we might ask you to do something that is better for the team, and he did exactly that."

After that, the Ghosts began to impose their will. A 16-0 tech fall victory by Lucas Peters over Ryland Schneider at 126 pounds pulled the Ghosts within 6-5 and then an 11-6 lead with a second-period pin by Bryan Winans over Jaxen Lloyd.

At 138 pounds, the Wildcats appeared to be on the verge of a huge win as Max Carlin took a 2-0 lead and controlled the first period. Connor Smith rallied back to knot things up 2-2. As the second period continued, Carlin was unable to finish the match, which gift wrapped another six points for Kaukauna.

"What happened to Max was unfortunate, but it isn't one match that changes a duel," Cuadra said. "It's a team effort and from an

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effort side of things, it was great. The results just didn't always show that."

Pin falls became the theme of the night as the Ghosts went on a run of five consecutive pins from 145 through 182 pounds to take a 47-6 lead.

Looking to put an end to the run was Roman Martell, who took the mat at 195 pounds. Squaring off against Bryant Correa, neither wrestler seemed to want the upper hand as Martell held a 1-0 lead through the first two periods. Correa stayed alive as his point tied things up and forced a sudden death situation.

In the first overtime period it looked as if things were going to go to a second one only to see Martell come away with two points to end the long run from Kaukauna and make things 47-9. Cuadra knows that Martell is one of those kids who can put the team on his back to come away with big points when needed.

"Martell wrestled a good match but couldn't find what was working for him right away," he said. "He overcame a tough match and was able to finish it when he needed to."

Kaukauna got right back to doing what they do best in the next four matches.

Jordan Loose needed just 37 seconds to pin Nelson Fournier at 220 pounds, then Ben Krueger earned a forfeit win at 285 pounds. Michael Posorski was locked into a great battle with Joshua Booth at 106 pounds, only to pin Booth with 13 seconds left in the first period to secure the final points of the night for the Ghosts. Clayton Ellison secured the final points for the Wildcats with a forfeit win at 113 pounds.





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### Prep sports roundup

### **WRESTLING**

### Lourdes competes in Fond du Lac Invite

The Lourdes/Valley Christian wrestling team competed in the Fond du Lac Invitational on Saturday, competing against a handful of Division 1 powerhouses.

The Knights finished 21st out of 25 teams despite having one wrestler compete in 126-pounder Mason Carpenter.

Carpenter had a solid showing, finishing fourth. He received a bye in the first round and then pinned his opponent in the second round in 2:18. He lost his next match on a close 2-1 decision and in the third place match, lost on a 7-2 decision to Port Washington's Kaiden Schumacher.

### Kimberly too much for Spartans on mat

The Kimberly wrestling team showed their strength Thursday, picking up a 64-12 Fox Valley Association victory over

#### Oshkosh North.

Picking up wins for the Spartans was Jonathon Burk (138 pounds) on a 4-3 decision, Jamaul Ragland-Schreck (160) on a pin and Cormac Sammons (285) on a 5-1 decision.

Kimberly recorded six pins in the win.

### **GIRLS HOCKEY** Warbirds stop Brookfield then fall to Onalaska

The Fond du Lac co-op girls hockey team shutout Brookfield last Wednesday, winning 5-0 at home in an Eastern Shores Conference game.

Then on Friday, the Warbirds were shut out 1-0 against Onalaska on the road.

The Warbirds jumped to a 2-0 lead in the first period against Brookfield as Josie Kooima and Emily Brown scored goals while Allison Waara, Chloe Tobin and Ella Spies also found the back of the net for goals.

Brown, Waara and Kooima recorded as-

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sists while Spies had three. Hailee Scheier had seven saves in the win.

In Friday's loss, Onalaska got its goal early in the first period and it was quiet after that. Scheier recorded 13 saves.

### **GIRLS BASKETBALL** West picks up third victory of season

The Oshkosh West girls basketball team improved to 3-6 this season with a 65-47 Fox Valley Association win over Appleton West on Friday night.

No individual statistics were available. The Wildcats will host Sussex Hamilton next Friday night.

### Rally comes up short for Spartans vs. FDL

The Oshkosh North girls basketball team rallied in the second half, but came up short in a 68-63 Fox Valley Association contest against Fond du Lac on Thursday night.

After trailing 39-22 at halftime, the Spartans outscored the Cardinals 41-29 in the second half. Ava Hanson had a big night for North, scoring a game-high 23 points to go with four rebounds, three assists and six steals. She was 9-of-14 from the field.

Mallory Ott added 16 points and five rebounds while Lauren Geer chipped in nine points. The Spartans made 7-of-13 three-point shots in the loss.

### Oaks sneak by Lourdes in big Trailways matchup

The Oakfield girls basketball team picked up a 54-52 win in overtime against Lourdes on Thursday, moving them to the top of the Trailways-East Conference.

The two teams came into the game with 3-0 records in conference. The rematch will happen Feb. 8.

The Knights led by double digits at half-

time but the Oaks outscored them 30-19 in the second half to force overtime.

Molly Moore had 17 points to lead Lourdes, while Addy Hafemeister grabbed 17 rebounds.

### **BOYS BASKETBALL**

### Wildcats pick up first wins of season

The Oshkosh West boys basketball team entered this past weekend with an 0-5 record, but came out of it with two wins as they picked up a 73-59 win over Appleton West on Friday and a 59-56 victory over Wausau East on Saturday – both at home.

In the win against the Terrors, Ethan Shefchik had a monster game –27 points with 11 rebounds and five steals. Dylan Taylor added 12 points – all three-pointers – to go along with four rebounds and five assists. Mike Stack added 11 points for West, which as a team made 10-of-33 threes .

The Wildcats had 16 steals in the win. No statistics were available from Saturday's game.

## Spartans improve to 7-1 with big win over FDL

The Oshkosh North boys basketball team is off to a hot start this season, moving to 7-1 after a 90-61 win over Fond du Lac in a Fox Valley Association win at home Friday.

Xzayvion Mitchell and Steven Clark nearly outscored the Cardinals themselves, combining for 60 points as each scored 30. They also were efficient in their shooting as the two combined with 25-of-36 from the field.

Mitchell added 10 rebounds, four assists and four steals in the win while Quintin Fisher added nine points.

The Spartans shot 58 percent and went 16-of-20 from the free throw line.

Compiled by Alex Wolf Herald contributor



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## **Herd loses** opener of league's Showcase

#### Oshkosh Herald

The Wisconsin Herd lost the first game of the G League's Showcase Cup on Sunday in Las Vegas to the South Bay Lakers, 119-112.

The Herd secured a spot in the single-elimination tournament last weekend by finishing among the top eight teams in the league after 12 games with a 9-3 record.

Jalen Lecque scored a season and career-high of 22 points for the Herd in the loss. Paris Bass earned a double-double for the Lakers with 23 points and 18 rebounds.

The Lakers led 97-84 at the end of the third quarter and had a 19-point lead at one point in the game before the Herd got within three points with less than two minutes left.

The Herd played again Tuesday in the Showcase Cup consolation bracket against the Fort Wayne Mad Ants.

No. 1 overall seed Delaware had no problem in its tournament opener with a 126-101 win over the Mad Ants.

The Blue Coats came out with 39 points in the first quarter. They made a total of seven three-pointers in the game, with four coming in the opening period.

The Herd went into the tournament af-

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Jalen Lecque led the Wisconsin Herd on Sunday with 22 points in the team's loss to the South Bay Lakers in the Showcase Cup.

ter beating the Iowa Wolves on Thursday night, 131-117, which was a season-high winning margin. Lindell Wigginton led the Herd with a career-high 30 points and

went 7 for 11 outside the three-point line. Wenyen Gabriel posted a double-double with 23 points and a team-season high of 17 rebounds

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## **UWO** soccer player honored

University of Wisconsin Oshkosh junior defender Mackenzie Bennett was named to the 2021 United Soccer Coaches NCAA Division III Women's Scholar All-America Second Team.

Bennett, the first USC Scholar

All-American in the 28-year history of the program, was among 42 players recognized for their performance on the field and in the classroom.

Bennett has a 3.82 cumulative



gradepoint average as a nursing major. She collect-

ed All-Region IX First Team honors from the USC this fall after helping the Titans compile a 16-2-2 record, capture Wisconsin Intercollegiate Athletic Conference regular season and postseason championships and a bid into the Division III national tournament.







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## West athlete strives for the top in his three sports

By Tim Froberg Herald Contributor

Tackling Roman Martell in the open field is tough. Pinning him on the mat is even tougher.

Labeling him, though, might be the toughest of the three.

Martell is an athlete of all seasons. He's an all-conference running back in the fall, an elite wrestler in the winter and a solid baseball player in the spring.

Toss in an impressive 3.7 grade-point



average and it's easy to deduce that the Oshkosh West senior does a variety of things well.

"I just try and find that balance between playing sports, keeping up with school and staying up to date with everything else going

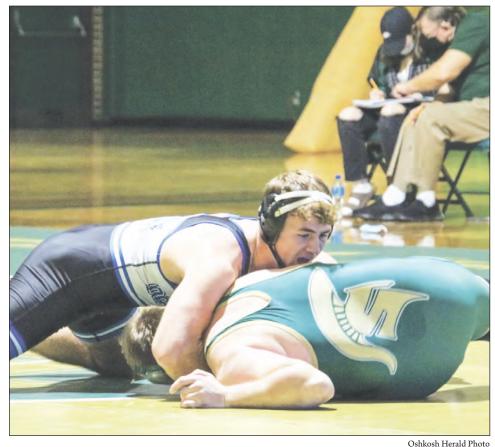
Martell

on in my life – like my family and friends," said Martell. "It gets a little hectic at times for sure. But I feel like the people I'm around - and what I've learned the past couple years - helps me balance everything."

Martell played quarterback and running back for the West football team, leading the Wildcats in both rushing (599 yards, four touchdowns) and passing yards (446 for four touchdowns). He also contributed on defense as a linebacker. Martell landed first-team honors as an H-back on the all-Fox Valley Association football team.

"Of the three sports, football is my favorite but wrestling is pretty close," he said.

It's easy to see why. Martell is extremely



Roman Martell is a three-sport standout at Oshkosh West excelling in football, wrestling and baseball.

skilled on the mat. He's a two-time WIAA state individual tournament qualifier and entered last weekend with an 12-1 record for the 2021 season - seven wins coming via pin.

"The reason Roman is a great wrestler is because he's always doing what it takes to become better," said wrestling coach Matt Cuadra. "He'll ask questions about areas he needs help in and then he'll practice it right away. If he isn't getting it down, he'll ask for more help. He's dedicated to making himself better by getting after it every day."

Martell is ranked third in the Wisconsin Wrestling Online rankings in Division 1 at 195 – a weight class he plans to stick with all season. Martell hasn't placed at the state individual tourney the past two years and is determined to change that in February.

"I fully plan on going back to the state tournament and making some noise," Martell said. "I set pretty high goals and hold myself to a high standard. It would be awesome if I could be a state champion at the end of February. Getting on the podium, finishing at least in the top three and being a state champion – those are my goals.

### **Senior Spotlight**

come as no surprise. He's been wrestling since the second grade and grew up in a wrestling family. His father, Matt, was a West wrestler who graduated in 1988. Roman's two older brothers, Nolan (2017 graduate) and Avery (2019) also wrestled for the Wildcats. Roman's younger brother, Garth, a sophomore, fills out the current West lineup as the team's heavyweight.

"It's pretty cool because wrestling is something we all have in common," Martell said. "It's something we can all talk about whether we're at the dinner table, or out and about. We've all competed and have watched a lot of wrestling in our lives, so it just brings us together."

Wrestling is arguably the most physically draining and demanding prep sport ... and that's just fine with the hard-working Martell.

"I think what I enjoy most about it is how hard it is," Martell said. "I always try and work harder than other wrestlers. Physically it benefits you so much. I feel that during the wrestling season I'm in the best shape of my life. That makes me feel so much better about myself.

"The better you get in wrestling, the more fun you have. I've been improving and improving the past few years and I just fell in love with the sport."

Martell will attend college next year but hasn't settled on a school. He's interested in competing athletically.

"Football is my first option, but if there's an opportunity to wrestle, I'd definitely consider it as well," he said.

Until then, Martell is focused on doing his part to pile up points for a good West wrestling team.

"Getting to team state is a big goal for us and I believe that's fully achievable," he said. "We have a great group of guys and great coaching staff. It's just a great network and atmosphere here."





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Josh Dukelow and Karen Schneider discuss local Headlines from the

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### **Pantry boosters**

Members of the Society of Oshkosh Brewers presented a check for \$2,269 to Karl Buelow (center, holding check) of the Oshkosh Area Community Pantry last week at Oblio's. The money was raised for the pantry from sales of beers produced by area breweries and brewed by members of the club as part of its 30th anniversary.

### Jobless rate

#### from Page 1

erage. Last October's jobless rate in Oshkosh-Neenah was at 3.6 percent; Winnebago County was at 3.5 percent.

November's data was not readily available in the Oshkosh-Neenah MSA.

Tricia Rathermel, president of the Greater Oshkosh Economic Development Corp., said there is a lot to celebrate reflecting on where the state and Oshkosh-Neenah MSA was in March and April 2020.

"This is an indicator of the resiliency of our state economy to move beyond recovery and into growth," Rathermel said. "We know almost every local business has available positions and we are proud of the efforts made by our organizations and partners to remove hurdles and connect people to jobs in the Winnebago region." She also said the GO-EDC's efforts lie in

retaining quality jobs in the area among several other facets to successful employment. "The workforce and labor market will

always need attention," Rathermel said. "Our focus at this point is on increasing the skill level and efficiencies in our workforce to enable future growth in our companies."

The non-seasonally adjusted data shows jobless rates in MSAs decreased in all of Wisconsin's 12 metro areas over the year and month. Appleton, Eau Claire, Fond du Lac, Green Bay, La Crosse, Racine and Wausau experienced record low unemployment rates in October.

Unemployment rates declined in all of Wisconsin's 34 largest cities and 72 counties over the year and over the month.

### **Board chairman**

from Page 1

it's going to be hard come April, knowing that's the end of it."

Ramos has worked in local government for the past 20 years serving on the Appleton City Council for four years before being elected to the District 5 post, one of six supervisor seats from the city of Neenah.

Ramos, who is also a medical doctor, didn't rule out a return to politics in the future but at this point isn't sure that will happen or in what regard.

"It's certainly not part of the plan right now and I'm not stepping away for that reason. But, down the road, it would be possible that I would consider another position. Certainly that's possible," Ramos said. "I could see myself pursuing some other position down the road."

However, his involvement in the community may not be politically related either.

"It doesn't mean I wouldn't get involved with something in the community in the future," Ramos said. "There may be other things I do in the community but not in the same way, but still being involved. I would certainly be open for that."

Ramos said that before making the announcement at the board's December meet-

### **Send Business Bits**

Breaking ground? Opening a new business? Promotions? Expanding staff? Send in business news to businessbits@oshkoshherald.com. Our readers are looking for information on what businesses are doing in Oshkosh. Help us share the news by emailing businessbits@oshkoshherald.com or calling 920-479-6301. ing, he had let County Executive Jon Doemel know as well as others on the administrative staff and most of the supervisors.

He could have waited to make the announcement but wanted to allow others time to consider taking on the responsibilities of the chairperson as well as assist others in transitioning to a new role with the board.

"I wanted to give folks the opportunity and some time to consider it. That certainly was part of the timing when I did that," Ramos said. "For one, it gives the others on the board who might be interested to be able to consider that earlier than otherwise. And it lets the public know if they are interested in the county board. I could have waited longer but that would have been only for myself."

Ramos has served through quite a few changes in Winnebago County as well as the world in general, but he responded instantly to the most noteworthy change from when he first stepped onto the board in 2006.

"I think the public is much more involved in county government and county affairs than when I first started," Ramos said. "Through the years, the public has gotten more and more interested and involved, which I think is a great thing."

### **Rec basketball**

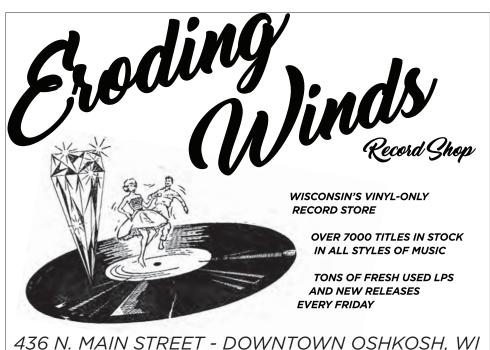
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### Yard waste center hours altered for holidays

The city's yard waste drop-off center located on West 3rd Avenue in Oshkosh will be closed Thursday and Friday, Dec. 30 and Dec. 31.

Winter hours are from 7 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Monday through Friday.



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2:30 - 4:30 p.m. (NEW HOURS!) Fox Crossing Fire Department (1326 Cold Spring Rd, Neenah)

#### **EVERY WEDNESDAY IN OSHKOSH**

1:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m. Sunnyview Expo Center (500 E County Road Y, Oshkosh)

Find more COVID-19 vaccine clinics at www.wcvaccine.org or call 920-232-3026.

### Duplicate tax bills mailed to some residents

About 500 real estate and personal property tax bills were sent inadvertently as duplicates to residents, city officials noted last week. They ask that residents who have received a duplicate bill to forward their parcel number and address to tax@ci.oshkosh.wi.us.

The bills were mailed out Dec. 10 and

the final batch of tax bills were mailed Friday.

The city is looking into how the duplication occurred.

Residents can mail in their tax payments, use the secure drop box outside City Hall or use the online option at www. OshkoshBillPay.com.

### **Bank First announces staff changes**

Bank First has announced promotions for key team members.

Joan Woldt, executive vice president and regional president, is being promoted to executive vice president and co-chief operating officer. Joan started with Bank First in 2010 and was first responsible for the Oshkosh market.

She also serves as president of the Oshkosh Chamber of Commerce board of directors.

Jason Krepline, executive vice president and senior loan officer, is being promoted to executive vice president and chief lending officer. He started with Bank First in 2005 as vice president of business banking.

Bill Bradley, senior vice president and market manager of Appleton, is being promoted to regional president of Bank First's Fox Valley, Green Bay and Waupaca markets. He joined Bank First in 2013.

Joshua Patterson, vice president branch manager, is being promoted to vice president - market manager in Wa-



Joan Woldt

tertown. He joined Bank First in 2020.

Cody Mlsna, credit analyst, is being promoted to credit officer. He joined Bank First through its merger with Timberwood Bank in 2020.

Bank First's Oshkosh location is at 1159 N. Koeller St.



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54901 with Rev. Connie Weiss officiating.

Visitation will be on Tuesday morning at

the church from 9:00 am until the time of

KONRAD-BEHLMAN

More than anything, Steve loved his

family and cherished his role as husband

and father. Survivors include his wife,

Beth Conover; sons, David Raybine and

Samuel Raybine; father, E. Arthur Reh-

bein; brother-in-law Robert Conover (Ju-

lie); sister-in-law Emily Conover (Patrick

Craig); nephews, Alex Conover and Brian

Conover, and niece, Kathryn Conover;

as well as other beloved family members.

He was preceded in death by his mother,

The family wishes to thank the skilled

and compassionate doctors, nurses, and

staff at Nebraska Medical Center who

cared for Steve during his last days. A cele-

bration of Steve's life will be held the week-

end of January 15, 2022, at First Unitarian

Church of Omaha and will be streamed

online. Details will be available on Steve's

Caring Bridge and Facebook pages. In lieu

of flowers, contributions in his memory

can be directed to The Nature Conservan-

cy, First Unitarian Church of Omaha, or

the Pulmonary Fibrosis Foundation.

service

Margery.

lives that he touched.

### **Obituaries**

#### **June Backus**

On December 14, 2021, June Elizabeth Backus left the aches and pains



the aches and pains of her final years on Earth for the glories of Heaven! She was born in Oshkosh in August

Oshkosh, in August 1922, to William and Elsie (Lautenschlager) Esslinger. June attended

Washington Elementary and Merrill Junior High Schools and graduated in 1940 from Oshkosh High School.

It was during the 1940s, while she was working at Wilson's Music & Appliance Store, that she met Henry Backus. He was a traveling salesman from Kewaskum, Wisconsin. Several years passed, and the young couple married in 1948. In the decade of the 1950s they began sharing their love with four noisy and mischievous little boys, who they were proud to introduce to others when the opportunity arose.

Dad passed away in 1970, and Mom decided that she needed to embark upon a career to provide for her kids, still at home. She returned to school and graduated from Fox Valley Technical College as a Practical Nurse ... at the age of 50 ... in 1973. With her new skills, she began what would be a fulfilling career as an LPN at Mercy Medical Center. She retired when she was 75 years young!

June was a life-long member of Christ Lutheran Church. Singing in the choir, and cooking and baking for special events were opportunities that added to the happiness of her church life.

She also shared her love for singing when she participated for many years as a member of both the Oshkosh Choraliers and Musicale.

June is survived by her sister: Betty Lou Carter of Oshkosh ... by her four sons: James, Mark (Mary) and Gerald of Oshkosh; and Paul (Ann) of Knoxville, Tennessee ... by her six grandchildren: Elizabeth, Ryan (Christine), and Shawn Backus of Oshkosh; and Brett (Carla), Eric (Kathryn), and Adam Backus of Knoxville, Tennessee. Also missing Grammy are her six great-grandchildren: Natalie and Sydney Backus of Oshkosh; and Haven, Bella, Rebecca, and Elizabeth Backus of Knoxville, Tennessee.

June was preceded in death by her parents, her husband, Henry, her twin sister Jane Fauk, and her sister Germaine McGraw; and two grandsons: Brandon and Nathan Backus of Oshkosh.

Our family extends its sincere thanks to the wonderful members of her Beth-

#### **Patricia Schaefer**

Patricia Ann "Pat" Schaefer, age 89 of Oshkosh, passed away peacefully



sed away peacefully December 12, 2021. She was born on January 13, 1932, to Alex and Eleanor (Nigl) Lautenschlager. Pat was united in marriage to George P. Schaefer on June 21, 1951. He preceded

her in death on November 25, 2019, after 68 years of marriage.

Pat's greatest fulfillments in life were raising her six children, watching her grandchildren and great-grandchildren grow, and working side by side with her family at George's Gaslight Inn, their home away from home for 35 years. Pat enjoyed live music and loved to dance. She was so good at the jitterbug, that she earned the nickname, "Swivel-hips"! Pat enjoyed an occasional casino trip, playing cards, knitting, annual cookie exchanges, and hosting Christmas Eve.

She is survived by her children: Greg, Chris (Dennis) Stadler, Wendy (Gary) Gelhar, Lance (Cindy), Steph (Phil) Netzer, and Cory; grandchildren: Heidi (John) Jesse, Heather (Casey) Springer, Kelly (Eric) Alvarez, Ben Gelhar, Adam (Taryn) Netzer, Brandon (Ashley) Netzer, Danielle (Ryan) Beach, Athena, Nevada, Brett, and Brenna Schaefer; step-grandchildren: Justin (Katie) Poeschl and Ross (Roxy) Poeschl; twelve great-grandchildren and five step-great-grandchildren; brother, Jerry (Jane) Lautenschlager; special friends: Pat Brockway and Shirley Rennert; many nieces, nephews, cousins, and dear friends.

She was preceded in death by her brother, Donald; sister, Elizabeth (John) Priske; daughter-in-law, Angela Schaefer; and great-granddaughter, Kera Alvarez.

Pat was forever grateful to Chris, Wendy, Steph, Heidi, and Dennis for enabling her and George to live out their golden years at home.

Thank you for being such a great mom. We love you and we will miss you. You will live on in our hearts forever.

A private service will be held.



el Home family for the love and care they gave to Mom during her stay!

A funeral service for June will be at 11:00 am on Tuesday, December 28, 2021, at Christ and Our Saviors Lutheran Church, 1860 Wisconsin Street, Oshkosh, WI

**Steven A. Raybine** 

Steven A. Raybine (Rehbein), 67, passed away peacefully with family at his



side on December 3, 2021, in Omaha, Neb. following a year-long battle with idiopathic pulmonary fibrosis. Steve was born in

Oshkosh, Wis. on June 18, 1954, to Margery A. and E.

Arthur Rehbein. He earned a BA in percussion performance from the prestigious Eastman School of Music, an MA from UW-Madison, and a doctorate in music theory and composition from the University of Iowa. Steve married his loving wife, Elizabeth A. (Beth) Conover, in 1988.

Steve was an accomplished recording artist and solo performer and worked with numerous jazz legends. His music and art enriched the lives of countless jazz fans. Steve was a wonderful teacher and mentor to hundreds of students of all ages; he will live on through his music and the many

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review ads to the best of their ability. Unfortunately, many unscrupulous people are ready to take your money! PLEASE BE CAREFUL ANSWERING ANY AD THAT SOUNDS TOO GOOD TO BE TRUE! For more information, or to file a complaint regarding an ad, please contact The Department of Trade, Agriculture & Consumer Protection 1-800-422-7128 (WCAN)

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