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Candidates ready for April 5 election

Oshkosh Herald

All candidates in Winnebago County are lined up and ready for the April 5 elections for Oshkosh Area School District Board of Education, circuit court judge posts for three branches, county supervisors in several districts and Oshkosh's Common Council.

The county's League of Women Voters held a forum and roundtable discussion for each group with the exception of the council candidates.

School board

For the Board of Education, Kelly DeWitt and Sara Noe are taking on incum-

Time to vote

For more information on what's on your ballot and where to vote, visit myvote.wi.gov.

bents Stephanie Carlin and Liz Szilagyi.

Carlin, who is running for her third term, works with members of the Oshkosh Seniors Center seeking to hone their technology skills. She said she decided to run again to maintain consistency on the board through the pandemic and to advocate for mental health awareness in the district.

Incumbent Szilagyi was first elected in

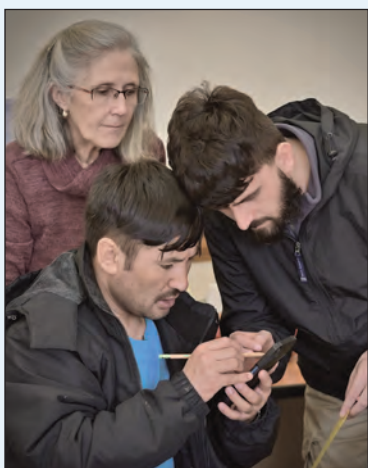
spring 2019 and decided to run again to focus on improving literacy and life skills in students. She is a licensed teacher and is working on her degree in professional counseling with a school counseling emphasis, expecting to graduate in 2023.

DeWitt is an Oshkosh native and was a student in the district. With 10 years working with children and families, she decided to run to apply what she's learned through experience and help for families who need it most.

Noe runs a trucking company out of Oshkosh and has also attended schools

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Photo by Michael Cooney

Fox River fishing

Kevin Van Landen fishes off the Rainbow Park pier on Sunday morning. The Green Bay resident said he was making his annual spring fishing trip to Oshkosh.

Board resolution encourages Oshkosh Defense to keep jobs local

By Steve Clark
OSHKOSH HERALD

The Winnebago County Board of Supervisors capped off a four-plus-hour meeting on March 16 with a resolution that backed the individual work ethic of county residents and encouraged one of the county's largest employers to use that local workforce to complete a new contract.

Supervisor Andrew Buck brought the resolution to the agenda with Koby Schellenger, Bill Wingren, Karen Powers and Doug Zellmer, which supported the local production of the next generation of U.S. postal delivery vehicles by Oshkosh Defense.

The resolution centered around Oshkosh Defense's recently awarded contract valued up to \$6 billion, to build postal

delivery vehicles over the next 10 years. The measure backed building a facility in Oshkosh and using a local workforce to complete the contract.

After tweaking the amendment language to reflect that the resolution affects all of Winnebago County as opposed to Oshkosh only, the measure resolution was adopted without any no votes, however, there was one person abstaining.

Buck introduced the resolution at the meeting and spoke passionately about the measure after the Oshkosh Common Council passed a similar motion.

He cited Mercury Marine and its continued expansion after the decision to keep its plant in Wisconsin as one example of what it would mean if Oshkosh Defense were to produce the new postal vehicles locally.

"These opportunities to keep these careers here in Winnebago County, I can't stop thinking about my kids, my grandkids, your grandkids and thinking about we had an opportunity to bring this to people's attention that we want to keep these careers in Winnebago County," Buck said at the meeting. "The next generation, we want them to have the same opportunities that many of us have had in this room."

"Having a good career solves a lot of issues in society and that's something we should keep in mind, and I urge you all to pass this resolution."

The resolution did not call for any specific action other than to encourage Oshkosh Defense to keep those jobs local.

"When I looked at the agenda and first looked at this, I kind of rolled my eyes

and thought the government shouldn't be telling business what to do," Supervisor John Hinz said. "Then I read it, and the big thing for me is that it encourages Oshkosh (Defense). We are not telling them, we are not ordering them, we are encouraging them. And that's a big deal with me."

Supervisor Vicki Schorse pushed the board to possibly do even more than just acknowledge the effort to keep jobs local.

"When I saw this, it's again one of those feel-good things. I support doing whatever we can to have those jobs stay in Oshkosh, but I think the people who brought the resolution forward should really be prepared to work with other entities to provide tangible incentives

SEE **County board** ON PAGE 16



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

Drop box option pulled for absentees

Voters in Oshkosh can no longer use the drop box at City Hall to return their absentee ballots.

Absentee ballots must be returned by other methods in order to be counted for the April 5 spring election. They must be submitted directly by the voter and not by another individual, except as explicitly allowed by law.

A court in Waukesha County issued a decision that significantly restricts the ability of local governments to use drop boxes for return of ballots.

According to Wisconsin Watch, there were about 500 absentee ballot drop boxes in the state in November 2020 and

nearly 2 million people voted absentee.

Based on that decision and advice from the Wisconsin Counties Association, the city of Oshkosh will not accept ballots submitted through the City Hall drop box.

The voter may return their ballot to the City Clerk's office on the first floor of City Hall, 215 Church Ave., between 8 a.m. and 4:30 p.m. Monday through Friday; to their polling place on election day or send through the U.S. mail.

If mailing, voters are advised to allow sufficient time for the delivery of the ballots to the City Clerk's office by election day.

A list of frequently asked questions and

answers about absentee ballots is available on the city's website.

In-person absentee voting began yesterday (Tuesday) at the City Clerk's office in City Hall and continues until April 1 between 8 a.m. and 4:30 p.m. Monday through Friday.

For in-person voting April 5, voters are advised to visit myvote.wi.gov to verify their polling place as voting districts and wards have recently changed.

The polls will be open from 7 a.m. until 8 p.m. April 5.

For more information about the spring election, contact the City Clerk's office at 920-236-5011.

Man convicted in April shooting death on Greenwood Court

A 46-year-old Appleton man was convicted of first-degree intentional homicide and possession of a firearm after a shooting at the 900 block of Greenwood Court last April that resulted in a death.

After calls of a gunshot around 6:30 p.m. April 27, police arrived to find a man with a gunshot wound. The victim, Deshawn Davis, was taken to the hospital for treatment, where he later died. Nobody

else was injured at the incident.

According to the criminal complaint, Eric Grady shot through the door and struck Davis. While the two have mutual acquaintances, a reason for why the shooting happened was not specified.

Grady's jury trial began March 14, with a verdict returned March 17.

His conviction carries a mandatory life imprisonment, with which Judge Daniel

Sex offender released to public, will reside in Oshkosh

The Oshkosh Police Department announced that a sex offender has been released into the public.

Jeffrey Johnson will be residing at 679

Franklin St. in Oshkosh. Any questions or concerns should be directed to the department's Crime Prevention Office at 920-236-5742.

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Bissett will decide if Grady is eligible for parole. Sentencing is set for May 25.

SRI announces opening of new sober living facility

Oshkosh-based Solutions Recovery announced the opening of its first men's sober living facility.

Late in 2021, Solutions was approached by Lighthouse Sober Living who proposed merging services.

Through the assistance of major donors, foundations and other community partners, Solutions and Lighthouse Sober Living became one. Solutions was able to acquire a new sober living home to provide a space for six men to start their recovery journey.

"We want men in our sober living homes to feel like it is a place they can heal and be themselves. They will spend the next six to nine months of their lives living in this home and working around the clock on their recovery - and getting their lives back," said Men's sober living coordinator Jeff Ringenberg.

John, a resident of the facility, said he's grateful for Solutions.

"The first time I walked through the doors of Solutions, I was shy, full of fear and miserable on the inside," he said. "Little did I know at that time Solutions would grow to be a big part of my recovery. I don't know what my life would be like without this place. I am very grateful that Solutions exists and I'm grateful for what it has done for me throughout my recovery so far."

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GO Transit downtown facility renovation to begin

By Kaitlyn Scoville
OSHKOSH HERALD

Renovations to Oshkosh's GO Transit downtown center will begin Monday after a site selection study last year concluded that converting the 30-year-old site into a permanent facility would be the best option for patrons of the service.

The study on long-term GO Transit needs was completed by SRF Consulting through a planning grant prepared by the city's transit operations and the East Central Wisconsin Regional Planning Commission last spring.

Seven sites were initially considered for a downtown transit center with three chosen for final designs. These included the present downtown site, the Oshkosh Convention Center's north parking lot and a location at Jackson Street and Pearl Avenue.

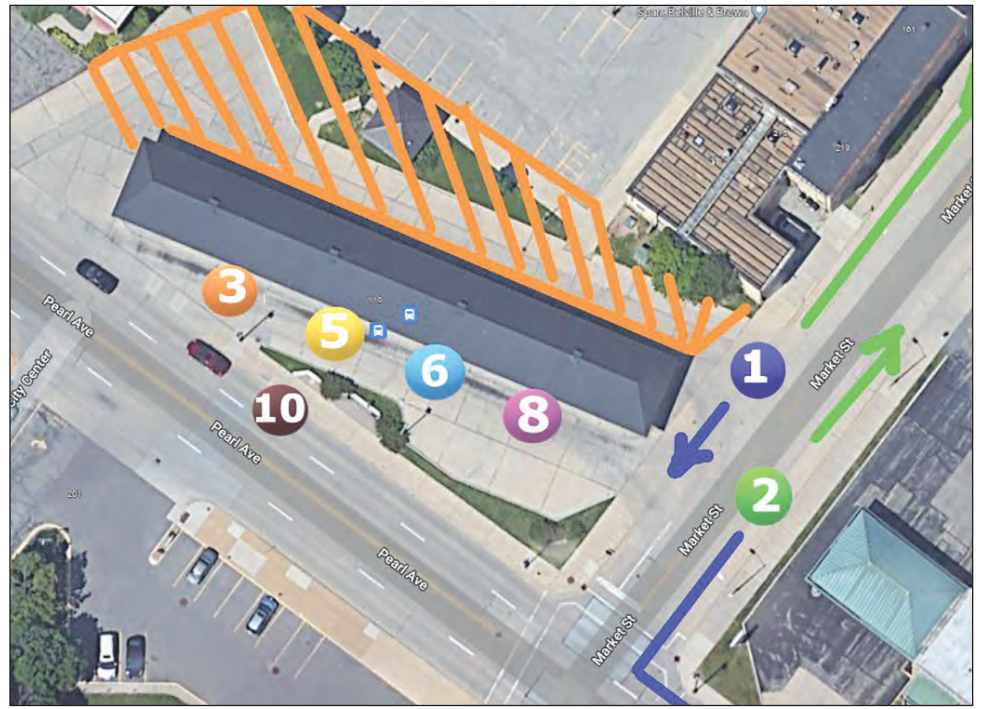
Three public input sessions were held as part of the planning process, and the choices narrowed down to the existing site and Jackson/Pearl Avenue locations.

The current site was chosen for a variety of reasons, including lower redevelopment costs estimated at \$5.6 million while the Jackson/Pearl site was put at \$12.2 million. An upgraded transit center would be able to handle 12 buses at one time while the present one can accommodate six.

Ridership surveys noted high priority for temperature-controlled waiting areas, restrooms and ticketing, customer service interactions, as well as having building security and durability.

In February last year, the Common Council approved the site selection. The GO Transit study was unanimously approved, with council member Lynnsey Erickson saying it was a step in the right direction in considering and holding true the value of mass transit in the city.

GO Transit recently updated residents and riders with changes of bus staging as the north side of the facility will be closed during the project. For more information about GO Transit, visit ci.oshkosh.wi.us/transit.



The GO Transit Center will begin renovations on Monday, March 28. The north portion of the Transit Center will be closed and buses will be staging at the map locations when boarding/alighting passengers while construction is underway.

Oshkosh Corp. stays on world's most ethical list

Oshkosh Corporation was recognized among the world's most ethical companies by Ethisphere, a global leader in defining and advancing the standards of ethical business practices.

This announcement is the seventh consecutive recognition of the company, which is among 136 global honorees, according to an Oshkosh Corp. release.

"Being named one of the World's Most Ethical Companies is truly a reflection of the 15,000 team members who work for Oshkosh Corporation," said Ignacio Cortina, Oshkosh Corp. Executive Vice Pres-

ident, general counsel and secretary. "Our core values guide everything we do and the commitment of our team members to do the right thing every day makes this recognition possible."

The Ethisphere assessment, Ethics Quotient, includes more than 200 questions on culture, environmental and social practices, ethics and compliance activities, governance, diversity and initiatives to support a strong value chain.

A full list of the 2022 World's Most Ethical Companies can be found at worldsmo-esthicalcompanies.com/honorees.

Ahmad among three appointments to Fox Valley Technical College board

The Fox Valley Technical College board appointment committee reappointed three board members to fill upcoming openings on its board of trustees, including Oshkosh-based business owner Javad Ahmad.

Ahmad is the chief operating officer at Smart IS International, an information technology consulting partner and has over 25 years of experience in the field.

He is joined by Kaukauna-based Charles Spoehr Jr., representative at

North Central States Regional Council of Carpenters and Neenah-based Tammie DeVoght Blaney from International Association of Structural Movers.

Fox Valley Technical College is governed by a nine-member board of trustees composed of two employers, two employees, three additional at-large members, a school district administrator and an elected official. Each year, the terms for three board posts expire.

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Oshkosh prison staffing challenges continue

Recruiting incentives seek to fill security gaps

By Dan Roherty
OSHKOSH HERALD

Staffing challenges at Oshkosh Correctional Institution (OSCI) have been ongoing through the pandemic though not as acute as those at other Wisconsin prisons, some of which have reportedly been short-staffed in security positions by as much as 48%.

State legislation proposed by a local state legislator and others in Madison has focused on increasing both the protection and pay for prison security staff working shorthanded, while the state Department of Corrections (DOC) has equally advocated measures that would better serve both staff and inmates.

Along with many public and private business sectors, the DOC workforce pursuit preceded the pandemic, which in some ways complicated the ability to find and retain the people needed in different areas of the correctional system.

Wisconsin's Division of Adult Institutions cares for nearly 20,000 incarcerated across 36 institutions and correctional centers. Oshkosh Correctional, a medium-security facility, had 96 openings among its 328 full-time equivalent (FTE) positions near the end of February.

That is up from about 19% at the start of September, according to the DOC's Office of Public Affairs. It was as low as about 13.5% at the start of 2021 compared with almost 17% in March 2020.

John Beard, director of communica-

tions for the DOC's Office of Public Affairs, said vacancies were a primary concern before the pandemic at some institutions – mostly uniform staff – with job vacancy rates mostly going up since 2010.

"After remaining mostly stable and even improving at some facilities in 2020, vacancy rates in DOC began climbing in 2021," Beard said. "As we have seen, this is not an issue unique to DOC. As a result, many companies and agencies are increasing wages for qualified workers, further increasing competition."

He said vacancy rates have now gone higher for many other positions: nursing, social services, food service, psychological services.

"We have diminished capability to provide the comprehensive programming people in our care need to increase their chances of success," Beard said.

Recreation time for inmates was limited during the pandemic and whenever staffing levels aren't adequate. The impact on those serving time in terms of rehabilitation and preparation for returning to society is less measurable, but family contact options have expanded.

"Even with the resumption of in-person visits, we have left video visits in place as an option for loved ones who have to travel longer distance, may not have reliable transportation or may have health concerns that limit the ability to visit in-person," Beard said. "Video visits will also remain an option for court and some attorney visits, as well as medical consultation."

The DOC reopened its facilities for in-person visitation this month due to a

continued decrease in COVID-19 cases.

"We appreciate the patience and understanding of those in our care and their loved ones as we have navigated the COVID-19 pandemic," said DOC Secretary Kevin A. Carr. "Family connection during incarceration has shown to have a positive impact on success upon return to the community, and in-person visitation is one way of maintaining that connection."

Prison facilities with 24/7 operations can't offer the telecommuting options for staff that other businesses had during the pandemic.

State Rep. Michael Schraa of Oshkosh has advocated for OSCI and state prison security needs with Assembly bills related to pay increases and safety measures.

"Prisons around the state are in crisis due to a lack of security staff. Corrections officers and sergeants are routinely required to work 16-hour shifts day after day," Schraa said in a recent release regarding corrections system proposals. "Two maximum security prisons, Columbia and Waupun, have over 48% of the security jobs vacant. To attract quality staff, we need to pay a competitive wage."

While the DOC hasn't had success getting the state Legislature to approve pay increases for all corrections security staff, there have been some compensation increases for guards at maximum-security institutions and some positions at facilities with high vacancy rates.

Beard said the DOC was able to get some federal money for certain expenses related to the pandemic such as reimbursing counties for holding people

while they awaited transfer from jails to correctional facilities. Otherwise the focus has been on enhanced recruitment ideas and bonus programs.

"We've taken steps to improve recruiting and increase retention, including increased use of job postings on social media, truck wraps, TV and radio advertising," he said. "There was a recently announced \$1,500 referral bonus program, supplemental pay and market increases for a number of positions and raised minimum rates for several jobs."

Legislation is expected to be signed by Gov. Tony Evers that ends the prohibition on DOC advertising for jobs on billboards.

Evers also recently announced a \$3 per hour raise for correctional officers and sergeants, psychiatric care technicians, youth counselors and related supervisors to deal with ongoing effects of the pandemic which was put into effect last week.

"Historically high vacancy rates at several state institutions have affected day to day operations and have resulted in the need for extra incentives to retain and attract additional staff to work at those facilities," a release from the governor's office said.

This raise will affect more than 5,000 personnel between the DOC and the state Department of Health Services.

County jail staffing needs also have become unrelenting as Winnebago County Sheriff Matz made an appeal to the County Board late last year for his incarceration budget and inability to maintain the needed staff through his deputy resources.

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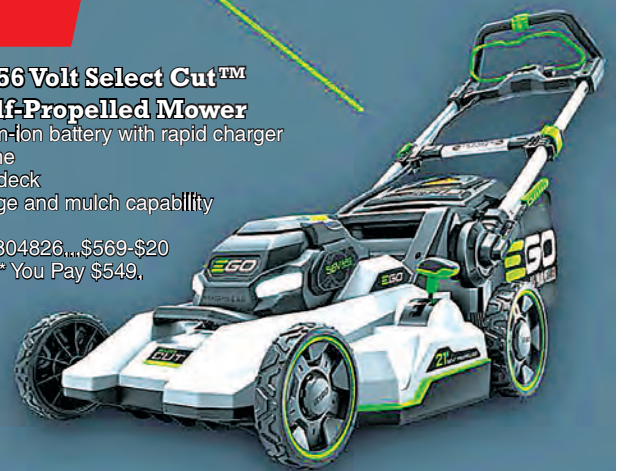
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New homeowner program helps with overdue payments

By Kaitlyn Scoville
OSHKOSH HERALD

A new state program is now available for homeowners who are behind on bills such as mortgage payments, property taxes and utilities as a result of the pandemic.

The federally funded \$92 million Wisconsin Help For Homeowners is open to homeowners both with and without a mortgage who meet income and other eligibility requirements and have experienced economic hardship since Jan. 21, 2020.

The state Department of Administration has partnered with Wisconsin Community Action Program Association agencies and Take Root Wisconsin to assist with applications and provide eligible services. DOA has also partnered with the Wisconsin state

treasurer, as well as local treasurers, to help homeowners in need of assistance with property tax arrearages.

WISCAP and other state organizations have provided over \$150 million in assistance, serving nearly 50,000 households in every Wisconsin county.

A maximum of \$40,000 in assistance for eligible households is available through the Wisconsin Help for Homeowners program to pay these overdue costs and provide services to help stay in one's home.

According to the DOA, eligible house-

holds are required to be in a single-family home, duplex, factory-built home or condo with an income below the county median for certain sized households, which in Winnebago County is \$79,900 for a one to four-person home.

Gov. Tony Evers, in an early March announcement, said many people throughout the state have been at risk of losing their homes as a result of the pandemic.

"Wisconsin stands ready to help folks make ends meet and get back on their feet because no one should ever have to worry about keeping a roof over their head for themselves or their family," Evers said.

Lu Scheer, affordable housing director at ADVOCAP, said the organization is always happy to work with people who are finally able to see a solution to a situation that has brought anxiety to their everyday living.

"It's a great opportunity for people who have been affected by COVID. The appreciation and relief households are experiencing are exactly why our staff is happy to assist," Scheer said. "Many of us feel different dealing with COVID. This program can provide relief and peace to people who are struggling to make their housing bills."

Advocap serves Winnebago, Fond du Lac, Green Lake and Calumet counties through this program, and is notified when an application is to be directed to the organization's office. Scheer said they can help with payments that were due on or before Jan. 1, 2020, including 2019 real estate taxes.

"The housing market has been insane," Scheer said, "but for those people who might have been thinking about selling their homes, we know they were also concerned about finding more affordable housing with how quickly houses have

been selling."

Scheer said not many people have been in a situation where they couldn't pay their bills, so they may not be as knowledgeable to work through a forbearance or loan modification.

"Those letters are hard to read and sometimes harder to understand. People are anxious to 'fix it' and move forward, so the notification that these funds are available helps a lot of people get a plan together in order to keep their housing," Scheer continued.

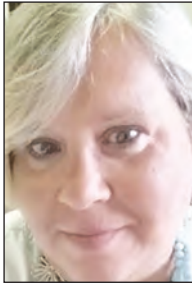
With Advocap's AHEAD foreclosure prevention program, they only are able to assist with \$5,000, and repayment is deferred for six months, at 0% – but they do require repayment. They are looking to help as many people as they can through the WHH.

"Although the WHH program is only in its second full week, we are seeing people who have been in a crisis situation since 2020 and are just now finding a way to recover," Scheer said. "Many people have gone through their savings, and even their retirement and children's college funds because we have a strong Midwestern mindset of taking care of our obligations."

Scheer said since the launch of WHH, there have been over 30 applications with others on the way.

"Advocap is ready to help – but each application does take time, so the more information you can complete and download into the on-line application, the easier it will be to proceed," she said.

For more information, visit Advocap.org or call 920-922-7760, call 855-2-HOME-WI or visit homeownerhelp.wi.gov to apply. For assistance on applying, call 855-246-6394.



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Area Literacy Council working with Afghan refugees

Oshkosh Herald

The Winnebago Area Literacy Council began taking Afghan refugees through its Road to Work program, just one step to getting them resettled and living comfortably in the Fox Valley.

Anna Metcalf, communications and events manager for the Winnebago Area Literacy Council, spoke about the organization's ongoing work with individuals and families from Afghanistan who have resettled in the Fox Valley area after being displaced when the United States ended military operations there last year.

Through a recent influx of refugees in the past couple months with World Relief Fox Valley, resettlement efforts are in full swing, especially to teach and refine their English language skills. Metcalf said she expects the literacy council to provide services to several hundred people this year.

The Road to Work program assists, guides and provides refugees and immigrants vocational literacy training to help them obtain employment and utilize their skills and potential in the workforce.

Those seeking job help will initially make an appointment with our vocational services director, Dr. Oxana Martynova-Perzentka, so she can assess what their abilities, work experience, education and interests are.

From there they are guided through every step they need to successfully land a job and keep it, such as building a resume, applying for jobs and preparing for interviews.

"We are exceptionally grateful to be a part of their journey to better understand, participate, and thrive in their new community. Our services help them interact with others, find employment, advocate for themselves and share their stories," Metcalf said.

Tom Perry, executive director of the literacy council, commented on how well everyone works together, regardless of country of origin or religion. They help and encourage each other to learn and adapt to their new community.

The program can span a range of time de-



Photos by Michael Cooney

Above: Winnebago Area Literacy Council instructor Jean McKnight works with a group of Afghan refugees to provide help with learning or refining their understanding of the English language. At right: Mohammad and Ali Ahmad work together on a cell phone during a Winnebago Area Literacy Council class while instructor Jean McKnight monitors from behind.

pending on one's needs. Metcalf said a session could be as short as adjusting a resume or as long as several months for those starting from scratch.

Refugees have been placed in jobs anywhere from manufacturing to education.

The literacy council also holds several clothing and personal hygiene drives and connects refugees to services around the community such as food pantries, colleges or transportation.

Volunteer opportunities and more information can be found at winlit.org.

"We depend on the kind hearts of our volunteers to keep our services accessible, especially as we welcome even more new neighbors to our area," Metcalf said. "Consider changing lives with us."



Drivers urged to be on high alert during construction season

The state Department of Transportation (DOT) is urging everyone to be prepared to keep crews safe as construction season draws near. The Wisconsin State Patrol's March Law of the Month highlights the rules and guidelines for work zones that aim to protect workers as they repair the roads.

"It's never too early to look for orange barrels," DOT Secretary Craig Thompson said. "From big projects to pothole re-

pairs, you can expect to see construction and maintenance workers out in traffic all season. Drive to protect them. Buckle up, phone down."

There have been more than 12,000 crashes in work zones in the past five years. Those incidents led to about 61 deaths and more than 4,700 injuries. Most work-zone crashes are caused by speeding, tailgating and distracted driving.

Cellphone use is one of the most com-

mon factors in distracted driving incidents. Wisconsin law forbids texting while driving on any road. It is also illegal to use a hand-held mobile device in work zones. A new state law took effect in December that expands this ban to areas surrounding emergency response vehicles with flashing lights.

"Work zones require a driver's full and complete attention. Barrels, lane shifts, and traffic backups can appear sudden-

ly. Keep your eyes on the road and move over or slow down to protect construction crews and emergency responders," State Patrol Superintendent Anthony Burrell said.

The state's Move Over law requires drivers to move out of the lane of traffic next to first responders and maintenance workers.

If drivers can't move over they must slow down.

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UWO project will convert food waste into heating source

An innovative project will reduce natural gas reliance and boost the University of Wisconsin Oshkosh's institutional goal of reaching carbon neutrality.

Food waste — common throwaways like banana peels, egg shells and coffee grounds — will soon be converted into a renewable energy source for a large campus building.

The project, to be funded with a \$339,000 grant from the Public Service Commission's (PSC) Energy Innovation Program, will connect the UW Oshkosh Campus Services Center—home to its document services, facilities offices, postal services, shipping and receiving—to the adjacent dry anaerobic digester. Instead of being burned off, a portion of the biogas being created will be used as a source of heat energy.

"What is most significant about the grant is we are taking an existing resource we have on campus, biogas produced from methane gas, and using it to offset some of our energy needs," said Stephanie Spehar, director of Sustainable Institute for Regional Transformations.

Not all of the biogas is effectively captured

and is lost. Spehar said they are using something that would otherwise be wasted.

Estimates are that the converted methane gas will provide at least 75% of the heat being used at the Campus Services Center and provide an estimated average annual savings of around \$24,000.

The project continues to support the beneficial uses of the biogas energy produced from its digester operations and supports UWO's continued goal of reaching carbon neutrality, as well as providing annual cost savings by offsetting the use of natural gas, according to the grant request.

"We are leveraging an existing resource to reduce our energy costs and get closer to our goal of being carbon neutral by 2030," Spehar added.

Spehar, principal investigator for the grant; Brian Langolf, biogas director; and Brad Spanbauer, campus sustainability di-



Spanbauer

Wright, economics; and Seesavanh Xiong, electrical engineering.

The University of Wisconsin-Platteville recently awarded diplomas to two from Oshkosh: Riley Heider, mechanical engineering; and Melynda Vang, computer science.

UW-Eau Claire awarded degrees to two from Oshkosh: Samuel Fitzhenry, bachelor of business administration, management; and Shaylee Jerabek, bachelor of science, art.

UW-Stout awarded a degree to Megan Leverance from Oshkosh in applied science.

rector, submitted an application last fall to the PSC's Energy Innovation Grant Program for the project.

"We are very excited to have it selected and moving forward," Spanbauer said. "The PSC was also very excited about this project and wanted to work more with us as a partner to showcase this project."

Campus waste going to the digester includes all food waste from Blackhawk Commons, all pre-consumer food waste from Reeve Union, food waste from the Oshkosh Food Co-op that sells locally sourced and organic foods, yard waste from the Oshkosh campus, as well as from the city of Oshkosh and the Winnebago County landfill collection site, according to Kenny Johnson, biogas research and operations supervisor.

Johnson added that some waste comes from industrial sources. Each week, its largest industrial supplier, McCain Foods, supplies 20-25 tons of potato sludge and 50-60 tons of waste from breaded food.

The Campus Services Center has a large expanse—more than 55,000 square feet of space. The project will save money due to a reduced need for natural gas, it also will reduce emissions and lower consumption of fossil fuels.

Anaerobic digestion is a process by which organic matter is broken down by bacteria in the absence of oxygen. Composed mostly of methane, the biogas created at the digester

can be combusted to generate electricity and heat or it can be processed into renewable natural gas and transportation fuels.

The anaerobic digester currently produces about 8% of the University's electrical needs by converting 10,000 tons of yard and food waste each year. The PSC project will allow the excess methane to generate more heat.

"Right now all of the gas produced gets burned and what is produced is electricity and heat," Spanbauer said. "... We are not using the heat portion as efficiently as we could be, so that is what the PSC heat connection project will attempt to solve."

It is hoped that the UWO biogas program someday will make use of the energy in other ways, including the production of renewable natural gas.

"If we don't need to use that energy during some months, we could perhaps funnel that into fueling compressed natural gas or liquefied natural gas vehicles such as those owned by the city of Oshkosh," Spanbauer said. "This closes the loop by offering a fueling site for renewable fuel made from food and yard waste on campus."

UWO's strategic plan identifies its commitment to sustainability and reducing environmental impact through facilities improvements and renewable energy installations. The improvements result in lower greenhouse gas emissions.

UW campuses award degrees to local students

Students from Oshkosh were awarded bachelor's degrees by the University of Wisconsin-Madison during its fall commencement Dec. 19.

They include Erica Casper, marketing and Business: supply chain management; Jarred Day, computer sciences; Charlie Grey, finance, investment and Banking; Abigail Johnson, genetics and genomics; Kiera Miller, biomedical engineering; Dylan Moldrem, chemical engineering; Zach Quinn, computer sciences; Misa Rodriguez, Art; Tyler Whiteley, political science; Dylan

UWO listed as top 10 value in the nation

The University of Wisconsin Oshkosh was listed among the top 10 in the nation for best value colleges and universities in 2022 through ratings website College Consensus.

"A number of colleges and universities are working to increase their affordability, providing great educational value at low tuition rates," a statement from College Consensus reads. "The Top 100 Best Value Colleges and Universities offer students the chance to graduate with an impressive degree in their hand and money in their wallet."

The lists are formed by combining results of the most respected college ranking sys-

tems with averaged ratings of thousands of student reviews, the statement reads. It is then formed by ranking schools by affordability based on out-of-state tuition and fees listed by the National Center for Education Statistics.

UWO ranked eighth out of 100 colleges for in-person learning, and fifth out of 50 for online courses, trailing behind Eastern Illinois University, the University of North Dakota and Western Carolina University on both lists.

For more information and to see the full list, visit collegeconsensus.com.

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School district offers screenings of documentary film on anxiety

The Oshkosh Area School District will be hosting screenings of the documentary “Angst” April 7 and 8 to raise awareness around anxiety and open dialogue among families, leaders and experts in the community.

Each screening will feature a viewing of the film, followed by an informative discussion centered around understanding and supporting anxiety.

What is the difference between “being anxious” and having an anxiety disorder? Why is there still so much fear and stigma in just talking to others instead of hiding online? What can each of us do to make it better and best engage in a full and happy life?

Angst is on a mission to start a global conversation and raise awareness around anxiety. The 56-minute documentary delves into all aspects of society’s most common mental health challenge with:

- Candid interviews with kids and teens, who discuss their anxiety, its impacts on their lives and relationships, as well as how they’ve found solutions and hope.
- Expert perspectives, (from institutions such as Stanford University, Child Mind Institute), who talk about the causes of anxiety and its sociological effects and resources to help.
- Tips, tricks and strategies to help reset thinking patterns, push back against anxiety and support others.

- Awareness that anyone can be touched by – and overcome – anxiety, via a special and revealing interview with mental health advocate Michael Phelps, the most decorated athlete in Olympic history.

Learn more and watch the film trailer at indieflix.com/angst.

The OASD’s first screening will take place from 6 to 7:30 p.m. April 7 in the Webster Stanley auditorium, 915 Hazel St.

The second screening will be from 6 to 7:30 p.m. April 8 in the Alberta Kimball Auditorium at Oshkosh West, 375 N. Eagle St.

Seating is available on a first-come, first-served basis. The public is invited to attend, though the content is geared toward middle and high school students, parents, caregivers and community members.

Limited virtual viewing access is available for those unable to attend in-person or during the scheduled days/times. To request virtual access contact Jean Manecke, district SEL coordinator at 920-424-0170 ext. 4339, or jean.manecke@oshkosh.k12.wi.us.

The OASD’s community screenings are made possible through a mental health grant awarded to the district. A similar event focusing on social media balance was hosted in February. To learn more, visit oshkosh.k12.wi.us/district/student-services.

Groundbreaking set for Vel Phillips Middle School

The Oshkosh Area School District invites the community to a groundbreaking ceremony at 11 a.m. April 6 for the new Vel Phillips Middle School.

The event will feature stakeholders and representatives from the new school community and will be attended by district and school leadership.

The site of Vel Phillips Middle School is south of Nevada Avenue between Jackson Street and Kentucky Street (1401 Kentucky St.).

Individuals attending the groundbreaking can enter the site off Kentucky Street. This entrance is across the street from the current Merrill Elementary/Middle School.

Please note the event will be outside on an active construction site, attendees are advised to dress accordingly.

The construction of Vel Phillips Middle School is part of the \$107 million capital referendum that the Oshkosh community supported in November 2020.

The school construction is the first step of a multiphase, long-range facilities plan to improve and modernize district schools.

The Merrill Middle and Webster Stanley Middle school communities will join together as Vel Phillips Middle School, set to open for the 2023-2024 school year.

Kristi Levy, current principal at both Merrill and Webster middle schools, was named principal of the new school in July 2021.

A new elementary school will be built on the current Webster Stanley site once Vel Phillips Middle School is completed.

The entire project is part of enhancing school safety and security and strategically dealing with infrastructure and maintenance needs.

District administrators said the new schools will be more efficient, effective and equitable for the community.

Back in the Day



Oshkosh history by the Winnebago County Historical & Archaeological Society

March 1, 1969

New AM Station Will Start March 1: A new AM radio station, WAGO, will begin broadcasting on March 1. The

station, located at the intersection of Highway 41 and County Road Y, will feature programming of an adult nature and will employ an initial crew of 8 persons. The copper ground wire for the three towers, each 365 feet tall, have been laid. The station, broadcasting at 690 AM on your dial, will be on the air from sunrise to sunset.

Source: *Oshkosh Northwestern*, December 9, 1968

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Local elections

FROM PAGE 1

through the district. She said she is running to encourage parents and community members to actively take part in decisions for the district and its students.

While the incumbents focused on technicalities, district performance and accomplishments during their tenure to help with student achievement, DeWitt and Noe homed in on fostering engagement with parents and community members.

All four of the school board candidates advocated for student and staff emotional, physical and mental health, especially coming out of the pandemic. Noe, during her campaign, said she wasn't aware of the amount of bullying in the schools.

DeWitt also spoke in support of hiring additional school safety officers and educating students about the effects of social media.

Carlin said she is a strong proponent of breaking stigmas around mental illness and would like to continue providing care and services for students who struggle with mental health.

Szilagyi echoed Carlin in expressing a strong need to educate and encourage taking care of one's mental and emotional health.

The challengers encouraged parents and family members to participate in students' educational journey. Szilagyi encouraged parents to be their children's best advocate and cheerleader, noting that it is important to be part of their well-being.

Carlin expressed that she and the rest of the board do read, consider and respect parent input when they do receive it.

"Just because we don't always vote the

way parents wanted us to doesn't mean we aren't listening," Carlin said.

County board

Of the 22 Oshkosh districts on the Winnebago County Board, only seven will be contested races with three of those involving incumbents.

David Albrecht, who is the longest serving supervisor, having been first elected in 1986, will be one of four incumbents being challenged. Albrecht will be seeking another term in District 11, where he will be vying with Joshua D. Vincent for the seat.

The other incumbents being challenged in Oshkosh are Michael J. Norton in District 20, Andy Buck in District 24 and Robert Keller in District 32. Norton, who was elected to the board in 2000, is opposed by Eric D. Vlach; Buck, who has served since 2018, is going up against Lorenz Scherzer; and Keller, who has filled one of the rural Oshkosh districts since 2014, is running against Shanah Zastera.

The other contested races in Oshkosh will have Krystopher Driscoll and Edward Michael Robinson vying for the seat in District 15; Ed Demler and Bob Poeschl will be running against each other in District 20; and in District 31, Ralph Harrison and Joseph Connelly are on the ballot to fill that seat.

The remaining contested race will be in District 18, where James Ponzer and Phillip Walker emerged from the February primary and will be on the ballot for the election.

The race for District 25 in Oshkosh will also be a contested race even though neither of the two candidates will appear on the official ballot. Karen Powers, who is the current supervisor for the district, and Lydia Lyons are registered write-in candidates for the seat.

Incumbents running unopposed in Osh-

kosh are Maribeth Gabert (District 12), Steven Binder (District 13), Julie Gordon (District 17), John Hinz (District 21), Doug Zellmer (District 22), Koby Schellenger (District 23) and Chuck Farrey (District 30).

Other uncontested races will have Tom Swan running in District 14 and Conley Hanson in District 26.

The seat for District 16, which has been vacant since late 2021, did not have a candidate return nomination papers.

Circuit court judges

Judges in branches three, four and five of the Winnebago County Courthouse are also up for election come April 5. Uncontested is Judge John Jorgensen in Branch 5, first elected in 2010 and re-elected in 2016.

In Branch 3, Neenah residents Bryan Keberlein and Lisa Krueger are vying for Judge Barbara Key's position after she announced her retirement late last year.

Keberlein, a Menasha native, practiced law in the Fox Valley for more than 16 years and has been Winnebago County's judicial court commissioner since 2014.

Krueger has been the county's family court commissioner since 2012 and was an attorney in Little Chute from 2003 to 2012.

Both Keberlein and Krueger emphasized through the forum that the public should spend more time getting to know the justice system.

And though they both come from different commissioner offices, each said they have seen people from all walks of life come through their doors. Keberlein and Krueger also describe themselves as having a calm demeanor in what seems to be

a stressful environment for most people.

"The more people can observe and interact, the more they will understand," Keberlein said.

And when discussing ways to possibly make the judicial process more efficient, Krueger said the county should do as much as they can to avoid delays and emotional stress on litigants.

Keberlein said in a recent study of the county, the nine judicial figures in the courthouse run on the efficiency of 10.5 judges. He said that it's not the court system that needs to be improved but the processes to make it better for residents.

Branch 4 Judge LaKeisha Haase is seeking to maintain her seat after being appointed by Gov. Tony Evers in December 2020. Her challenger, Neenah native Mike Gibbs, has been a practicing attorney in the Fox Valley area for more than 16 years.

Gibbs described himself in the courtroom as fair, regardless of what they're there for, whereas Haase said she was fair and respectful.

Both candidates expressed a need for the community to get involved and be informed of the day-to-day operations in the courthouse.

"An informed community is a powerful community," Haase said.

Gibbs said judges should be involved with boards around the county, with schools and other community partners.

Common council

Three seats are open on the city's Common Council. Incumbents Lynnsey Erickson, Michael Ford and Deputy Mayor Matt Mugerauer are all seeking re-election with Robert Wilcox being the only filed challenger.

Verve credit union named to NABR list

Verve, a Credit Union was recently named among the Top 101 Employers in the nation on the fall 2021 National Best and Brightest Companies to Work For list administered by the National Association for Business Resources.

Previously, Verve was named to the Best and Brightest Companies to Work

For list in 2019, 2020 and 2021 in the Milwaukee and Chicago regions, as well as earning the national honor in 2020 and 2021.

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WITH CARD

LIMIT 2

Tito's Handmade Vodka



1.75 Liter Bottle

\$31.99

30-Pack, 12-oz. Cans

Pabst Blue Ribbon

\$15.39 Each

When You Buy Multiples of Two



Barefoot Wine



750 ML Bottle

\$4.99 Each

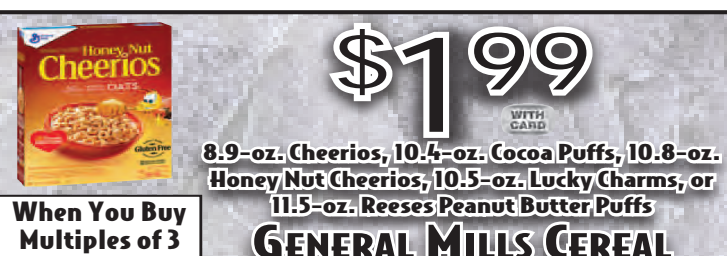


59¢

10 to 15-oz. Can

FOOD CLUB TOMATOES

LIMIT 6 OR TOMATO SAUCE



\$1.99

8.9-oz. Cheerios, 10.4-oz. Cocoa Puffs, 10.8-oz. Honey Nut Cheerios, 10.5-oz. Lucky Charms, or 11.5-oz. Reeses Peanut Butter Puffs

GENERAL MILLS CEREAL

When You Buy Multiples of 3

24-Pack, Half-Liter Bottles

Nicolet Natural Spring Water

\$3.99



6-Pack, 24-oz. Bottles

Pepsi or Mountain Dew



3/\$9 With Card



79¢

5-oz. - In Oil or Water

STARKIST CHUNK LIGHT TUNA



5/\$5

7.25-oz. - Original Only

KRAFT MACARONI & CHEESE

LIMIT 5

FREE when you redeem 3200 PIG POINTS



\$2.99

48-oz.

FOOD CLUB ICE CREAM



99¢

64-oz.

FOOD CLUB APPLE JUICE



\$5.99

21.75 to 31.60-oz.

BREW PUB LOTZZA MOTZZA PIZZA



89¢

13.50 to 15.25oz. Can

DEL MONTE VEGETABLES



\$2.99

6.5 to 10-oz. Bag

CHEETOS OR FRITOS

When You Buy Multiples of 3



99¢

2-Liter Bottle

7UP, RC COLA, OR DR PEPPER


When You Buy Multiples of 4

From the Bakery
Bakery Fresh

Bagels 

\$2.99 6-Count

From the Deli
Our Very Own

Beer Dip 

\$4.99 per pound

Cheese & Sausage Tray 

\$6.99 per pound

From the Meat Department

Spring River Breaded Popcorn Chicken 

\$3.99 32-oz.

Cannon Sockeye Salmon Fillets 

\$8.99 1 lb. Package

Produce

Extra Large Green or Black Seedless Grapes \$1.49 lb.	6-oz. Fresh Blackberries \$2.99	Extra Large Roma Tomatoes \$1.29 lb.	5-lb. Bag - Wisconsin Russet Potatoes \$2.49
Jumbo Cantaloupe or Golden Pineapple \$3.49 ea.	6-oz. Raspberries or 1-lb. Premium Strawberries \$3.99	Garden Fresh Green Beans or Broccoli Crowns \$1.69 lb.	Giorgio 8-oz. - Giorgio Whole White Mushrooms \$1.99
Washington State Honeycrisp Apples \$2.99 lb. 2-lb. Bag - Washington Opal Apples.....\$2.99	2-lb. Bag Sweet Clementines \$4.99 Fancy Lemons.....69¢ ea.	2-lb. Package Bolthouse Farms Baby Carrots \$2.49	8-11-oz. - Fresh Express Lettuce Trio, Premium Romaine, Spinach or Green & Crisp Salads 2/\$5
Fresh Picked Flavor Bartlett Pears \$1.99 lb.	Washington State Granny Smith or Pink Lady Apples \$1.69 lb.	8.5-oz. - Giorgio Stuffed Baby Portabella Mushrooms \$5.99 <i>All Varieties!</i>	3-lb. Bag - Green Giant Gold Salad Potatoes \$2.99 Red Salad Potatoes.....\$3.99 lb.
6.5-7-oz. Del Monte Fruit Naturals 4/\$5 <i>Mix or Match!</i>	32-oz. Bottle Bolthouse Farms Juice \$4.99 <i>All Varieties!</i>	Garden Fresh Green Cabbage 69¢ lb.	14-oz. Bottle Bolthouse Farms Salad Dressing 2/\$7 <i>All Varieties!</i>
Lighthouse Wildflowers Bouquet \$15.99	Blueberry Scone Bouquet \$13.99	Spring Garden Bouquet \$11.99	4-Inch in Clay Pot Cacti Plant \$5.99

Organic  Some items may not be available at all locations.

12-oz. Squeeze Bottle Full Circle Organic Honey Bear \$3.69	64-oz. Full Circle Organic Apple Juice \$2.99	5-lb. Bag Full Circle Organic Flour \$4.89	17-oz. Full Circle Organic Balsamic Vinegar \$2.99	6-oz. Annie's Mac & Cheese \$1.29
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Look for over 900 Pig Point Items In-Store!

1200 Pig Points SAVE 4¢ per Gallon of Gas! With Piggy Wiggly Card and One, 12-oz. - 4-Count Bar-S Corn Dogs	1200 Pig Points SAVE 4¢ per Gallon of Gas! With Piggy Wiggly Card and One, 12-oz. Bag Bolthouse Farms Baby Sweet Supreme Carrots	2400 Pig Points SAVE 8¢ per Gallon of Gas! From Our Deli With Piggy Wiggly Card and One, 8-oz. Package Athenos Traditional Feta Chunk Cheese	1200 Pig Points SAVE 4¢ per Gallon of Gas! From Our Bakery With Piggy Wiggly Card and One, 24-oz. Loaf English Muffin Bread
1500 Pig Points SAVE 5¢ per Gallon of Gas! With Piggy Wiggly Card and One, 64-oz. Carton Organic Valley Milk	1800 Pig Points SAVE 6¢ per Gallon of Gas! With Piggy Wiggly Card and One, 20-oz. Bag Rana Filled Pasta	1800 Pig Points SAVE 6¢ per Gallon of Gas! With Piggy Wiggly Card and One, 48-oz. Food Club Chicken Broth	1200 Pig Points SAVE 4¢ per Gallon of Gas! With Piggy Wiggly Card and One, 6-Pack Food Club Popcorn
2700 Pig Points SAVE 9¢ per Gallon of Gas! With Piggy Wiggly Card and One, 8.5-oz. Package Incogmeato Burger	3300 Pig Points SAVE 11¢ per Gallon of Gas! With Piggy Wiggly Card and One, 42-oz. - Food Club Quick Oats or Old Fashioned Oats	3300 Pig Points SAVE 11¢ per Gallon of Gas! With Piggy Wiggly Card and One, 3-lb. Bag Red Delicious Apples	

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

6-Pack, Half-Liter Bottles or 6-Pack, 7.5-oz. Cans Pepsi or Mtn Dew \$3.99 WITH CARD	12-Pack, 12-oz. Cans or 8-Pack, 12-oz. Bottles Coke, Sprite or Diet Coke \$5.79 WITH CARD When you buy 3 - LIMIT 3 -	12-Pack, 12-oz. Cans or 8-Pack, 12-oz. Bottles 7UP, RC Cola or Dr. Pepper \$2.98 WITH CARD When you buy 2 - LIMIT 2 -
16-oz. Bottle Body Armor \$10.10 WITH CARD	2-Liter Bottle Coke, Sprite or Diet Coke \$2.35 WITH CARD When you buy 2 - LIMIT 2 -	1-Liter Bottle Polar Seltzer 89¢ WITH CARD
12-oz. Can Alani Energy Drink \$2.39	1-Liter Bottle LifeWater 2/\$3 WITH CARD	16-oz. Can 3D Energy Drink \$3.45

32-oz. **Wide Awake Creamer**

\$2.29 WITH CARD

64-oz. **Sunny D Citrus Juice**

\$1.39 WITH CARD

16-oz. **Food Club Cottage Cheese**

\$1.79 WITH CARD

16-oz. - Select **Food Club Frozen Premium Vegetables**

\$1.69 WITH CARD

5-Count **David's Deli Bagels**

\$1.39 WITH CARD

21.4 to 25.25-oz. Pizzaria, 13 to 18.1-oz. Primo Thin, or 29.2 to 33-oz. Rising Crust **Palermo's Pizza**

\$3.99 WITH CARD

Half-Gallon **Borden's Lactose Free Milk**

\$3.49 WITH CARD

32-oz. **Food Club Non-Dairy Creamer**

\$1.79 WITH CARD

8-oz. **Food Club Spreadable Butter**

\$1.79 WITH CARD

6-Pack **Outshine Bars**

\$3.99 WITH CARD

14-oz. **Haagen Dazs Ice Cream**

\$3.99 WITH CARD

18 to 60-Count **De Wafelbakkers Pancakes**

\$3.29 WITH CARD

10-oz. - Select **Pictsweet Vegetables**

2/\$3 WITH CARD

24-oz. **Mr. Dee's Potatoes**

\$2.29 WITH CARD

64-oz. **Old Orchard Juice**

\$1.99 WITH CARD

23.9 to 24-oz. **Ragu Pasta Sauce**

\$1.99 WITH CARD

12-Pack **Kellogg's Pop-Tarts**

\$2.99 WITH CARD

12-Count Package **Food Club Single Coffee Cups**

\$2.99 WITH CARD

2.6-oz. **Starkist Chicken Creations Chicken Salad**

99¢ WITH CARD

32-oz. **Food Club Beef or Chicken Broth**

\$1.29 WITH CARD

6 to 10-Pack **Hostess Cakes**

2/\$6 WITH CARD

17.1 to 18-oz. **Quaker Life or Cap'n Crunch Cereal**

\$3.99 WITH CARD

24-oz. Sunbeam Texas Toast or 16-oz. **Sunmaid Cinnamon Bread**

\$2.69 WITH CARD

12.20 to 14.40-oz. **Honey Maid Graham Crackers**

\$2.99 WITH CARD
 When You Buy Multiples of 2

20-oz. **Brownberry Italian Bread**

\$1.99 WITH CARD

46-oz. Bottle **Food Club Tomato Juice**

\$1.99 WITH CARD

Select 23 to 26-oz. Premium or 30-oz. **Hills Bros High Yield Coffee**

\$5.99 WITH CARD

12 to 14-oz. **Food Club Deluxe Mac & Cheese**

\$1.99 WITH CARD

15.25-oz. **Duncan Hines Cake Mix**

\$1.79 WITH CARD

34-oz. **Colvita Extra Virgin Olive Oil**

\$8.99 WITH CARD

6.7-oz. Jar **Filipo Pesto Sauce**

\$1.99 WITH CARD

Select 6-Count **Swiss Miss Marshmallow Cocoa**

\$2.49 WITH CARD

16 to 20.10-oz. **Nesquik Drink Mix**

\$4.99 WITH CARD

46-oz. Bottle **Food Club Vegetable Juice**

\$2.49 WITH CARD

24-oz. - Wheat, Sourdough or **Village Hearth Cottage White Bread**

\$2.69 WITH CARD

1 to 1.5-oz. **Food Club Seasoning**

2/98¢ WITH CARD

24-oz. **Pace Salsa**

\$2.99 WITH CARD

6 or 12-Pack **Orville Redenbacher Popcorn**

\$4.99 WITH CARD

1.48 to 6.67-oz. **Gerber Snacks and Entrée's**

\$2.29 WITH CARD

12-Count - Double Roll **That's Smart Bathroom Tissue**

\$3.99 WITH CARD

8-Rolls **Simply Done Décor Paper Towels**

\$4.99 WITH CARD

12 to 16-lb. **Match Light Charcoal or Kingsford Briquets**

\$9.99 WITH CARD

14 to 24-Count **Top Care Pads**

\$1.89 WITH CARD

18 to 32-Count **Tippy Toes Diapers and Training Pants**

\$3.89 WITH CARD

80-Count **Arm & Hammer Disinfectant Wipes**

\$3.99 WITH CARD

24-oz. **Ivory Dish Soap**

\$2.89 WITH CARD

13.5 to 16-lb. **Meow Mix Cat Food**

\$12.99 WITH CARD

22.5-oz. **Pup-Peroni Original Beef Treats**

\$9.99 WITH CARD

11-oz. - Blue Buffalo **Bits Dog Treats** or, 15-oz. - Blue Buffalo **Sizzlers Dog Treats**

\$10.29 WITH CARD

28 oz. or 2-Count - Select **Mr. Clean Disinfectant or Magic Eraser**

\$1.99 WITH CARD

7 to 8-oz. **Crystal Farms Sliced Cheese**

\$2.49 WITH CARD

15-oz. **Wishbone Dressing**

\$1.79 WITH CARD

20-oz. Squeeze Bottle **Heinz Ketchup**

\$1.69 WITH CARD

32-oz. **Food Club Shredded Cheese**

\$5.99 WITH CARD

24-Pack **Ice Mountain Water**

2/\$9 WITH CARD
 LIMIT 2

6-Mega Roll or 12-Double Roll **Cottonelle Bath Tissue**

\$6.99 WITH CARD

43.75 to 50-oz. **Arm & Hammer Detergent**

\$2.49 WITH CARD



12-Pack, 12-oz. Cans or Bottles
Miller Lite
\$8.89 ea.
WHEN YOU BUY MULTIPLES OF TWO



18-Pack, 12-oz. Cans or Bottles
Coors Light
\$12.99 ea.
WHEN YOU BUY MULTIPLES OF TWO



12-Pack, 12-oz. Cans
Topo Chico Hard Seltzer
\$17.69
1500 PIGGY POINTS Save \$ Per Gallon of Gas!



12-Pack, 12-oz. Cans
Vizzy Hard Seltzer
\$17.69
1500 PIGGY POINTS Save \$ Per Gallon of Gas!



12-Pack, 12-oz. Cans or Bottles
Leinenkugel's
\$13.89
1500 PIGGY POINTS Save \$ Per Gallon of Gas!



12-Pack, 12-oz. Bottles
Miller High Life
\$7.49 ea.
WHEN YOU BUY MULTIPLES OF TWO



12-Pack, 12-oz. Cans or Bottles
Blue Moon
\$14.99
1500 PIGGY POINTS Save \$ Per Gallon of Gas!



15-Pack, 16-oz. Aluminum Pints
Miller Lite or Coors Light
\$13.99
AFTER MAIL-IN REBATE



30-Pack, 12-oz. Cans
Milwaukee's Best
\$16.39
1500 PIGGY POINTS Save \$ Per Gallon of Gas!

Our Meat Department Welcomes You



Smithfield Boneless Pork Chops
\$2.79 lb.
Thin Sliced or Tenderized Boneless Pork Chops \$2.99 lb.



CERTIFIED ANGUS BEEF
Fresh **Ground Sirloin**
\$4.99 lb.
Thin Sliced Sandwich Steak... \$5.99 lb.



All Natural Boneless Pork Loin Roast
\$2.49 lb.



CERTIFIED ANGUS BEEF
Sirloin Tip Roast
\$4.69 lb.
Sirloin Tip Steak... \$4.99 lb.



BUTTERBALL
16-oz. **85% Lean Fresh Ground Turkey**
\$3.49
WITH CARD



Fresh **80% Lean Ground Beef Patties**
\$3.99 lb.



CERTIFIED ANGUS BEEF
Fresh **Ground Sirloin Patties**
\$5.99 lb.



Regular or Seasoned - 16-oz. - Butterball **85% Lean Turkey Patties**
\$4.49 WITH CARD



Smithfield 2.1-oz. **Cooked Bacon**
\$3.79 WITH CARD



QUICK TO FIX! 12-oz. - Gary's Quick Steak **Corned Beef, Chicken or Quick Steak**
\$5.99 WITH CARD




14-oz. - Assorted Varieties **Klement's Smoked Sausage**
\$4.49 WITH CARD




Sugardale Ham Steaks
\$3.49 lb.



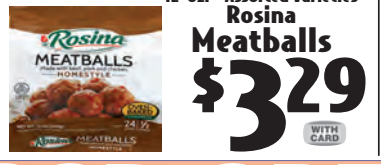
All Natural Full Rack Baby Back Ribs
\$5.99 lb.



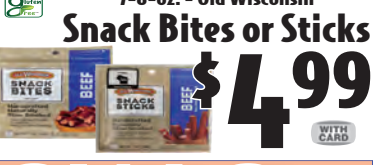
2-lb. Box - Glenmark **Steak Eaters Burgers**
\$9.99 WITH CARD
2-lb. Box - Glenmark Bacon Cheddar Burgers..... \$11.99



12-oz. - Assorted Varieties **Klement's Ground Italian Sausage or Pork Links**
\$3.49 WITH CARD



12-oz. - Assorted Varieties **Rosina Meatballs**
\$3.29 WITH CARD



7-8-oz. - Old Wisconsin **Snack Bites or Sticks**
\$4.99 WITH CARD

LENTEN SEAFOOD SPECIALS



16-oz. - Wholey **Swai Fillets**
\$4.49 WITH CARD



Fresh **Catfish Fillets**
\$8.99 lb.



Individually Vacuum-Packed - Wholey **Norwegian Salmon Fillets**
\$8.99 lb.



16-oz. - Wholey **Tilapia Fillets**
\$6.49 WITH CARD



16-oz. - Hawk's Catch - Breaded **Haddock or Cod Fillets**
\$6.99 WITH CARD



16-20-Count - 16-oz. - Wholey **Cooked Shrimp**
\$11.99 WITH CARD



Frozen **Haddock Loins**
\$10.99 lb. WITH CARD



8-oz. - Louis Kemp - Assorted Varieties **Imitation Crab or Lobster**
\$2.69 WITH CARD

Deli Homemade Taste

Some items may not be available at all locations.



8-oz. - Sartori **Shredded Italian Cheese**
\$4.49 WITH CARD



Cady Creek Mild Cheddar
\$5.49 lb.
Cady Creek Sharp Slicing Cheddar...\$5.99 lb.



Assorted Varieties **Badger Ham**
\$6.49 lb.



Steakhouse Coleslaw
\$2.99 lb.



Assorted Varieties - Kretschmar **Chicken Breast**
\$7.99 lb.



Dawn's Potato Salad
\$3.49 lb.



Spinach Pasta Salad
\$4.99 lb.



Pasta Fresca
\$3.49 lb.




Lenten Specials
Wednesdays & Fridays


Deli Hand-Breaded **Cod Fillets** \$9.99 lb.
Fish Dinner..... \$6.99 ea.
4-oz. Cod Fillets, 4-oz. Potato Wedges, 4-oz. Coleslaw and 1 Dinner Roll.
Family Fish Fry \$21.99 ea.
2-lb. Cod Fillets, 2-lb. Potato Wedges, 1-lb. Coleslaw and 4 Dinner Roll.
Fish Sandwich 2 for \$4
Pasta Fresca \$3.49 lb.

Bakery Homemade Fresh


Some items may not be available at all locations.




NEW ITEM! 10-18.7-oz. - Cheesecake Factory **Breads & Rolls**
\$3.49 WITH CARD




16-oz. **Wheat Bread**
\$2.49




16-oz. **Sourdough Round Loaf**
\$2.49




8-Inch - Olson's **Angel Food Cake**
\$4.49 WITH CARD



9.7-12.3-oz. **Pretzella Pretzel Bites**
\$5.49 WITH CARD




6-Count **Egg & Onion or French Sandwich Rolls**
\$1.99




4-Count - Large **Turnovers**
\$3.69



6-Inch - Assorted Varieties **Suzy's Cheesecakes**
\$11.99 WITH CARD



12-Count **Silver Dollar Dinner Rolls**
\$1.99



24-Count - Our Very Own Mini **Piggly Wiggly Cookies**
\$2.99

piggly wiggly Beverage Headquarters

Some items may not be available at all locations.



SAVE \$3 ON LAY'S CHIPS
LOWEST LEGAL RETAIL
24-Pack, 12-oz. Cans **Budweiser or Bud Light**
\$19.98



12-Pack, 12-oz. Cans **Truly Hard Seltzer**
\$15.69



WHEN YOU BUY MULTIPLES OF TWO
12-Pack, 12-oz. Cans **Bud Light Next**
\$9.79 ea.



12-Pack, 12-oz. Cans or Bottles **Modelo**
\$14.29



1.75-Liter Bottle **Epic Vodka**
\$4.99



1.75-Liter Bottle **J. Brevet Brandy**
\$17.99



1.75-Liter Bottle **Admiral Nelson Spiced Rum**
\$8.99



1.75-Liter Bottle **Rich & Rare Canadian Whiskey**
\$7.99



1.5-Liter Bottle **Sutter Home Wine**
\$8.99



750 ML Bottle **Clos Du Bois Wine**
\$8.99



3-Liter **Bota Box Wine**
\$13.99



750 ML Bottle **Deadly Sins Wine**
\$12.99

While supplies last. We reserve the right to limit quantities and correct all printed errors. Not all varieties available at all locations. Prices subject to state and local taxes, if applicable. No sales to dealers. Purchase requirements are calculated after promotional discounts, and before tax, and does not include gift cards, lottery, tobacco, bottle deposits or other service desk services. All prices with card are discounted by using your Piggly Wiggly Rewards Card. Free promotions will be applied to item of least value. Gluten free information comes direct from the manufacturer (Always check the label, as ingredients may change. Contact the manufacturer with additional questions).

Calendar of events

Ongoing

“Ubuhle Women: Beadwork and the Art of Independence” runs through May 22, Paine Art Center

Wednesday, March 23

Wisconsin Herd vs. Raptors 905, 7 p.m., Oshkosh Arena

Thursday, March 24

Bingo, 7 p.m., American Legion Cook-Fuller Post 70, 1332 Spruce St.

Friday, March 25

Steeem, 7:30 p.m., The Grand Oshkosh Wisconsin Herd vs. Raptors 905, 7 p.m., Oshkosh Arena
 “Nosferatu,” 7 p.m., Time Community Theater, 445 N. Main St.
 Father Carr’s Place 2B drive-thru food pantry, 10 a.m., 1062 N. Koeller St.
 Marine Corps League bingo, 5:30 p.m., 4715 Sherman Road

Saturday, March 26

Altrusa’s Art in the Garden Art Show and Sale, 10 a.m., Hilton Garden Inn, 1355 W. 20th Ave.
 Intercepting Perspective, 2 p.m., The Grand Oshkosh

Sunday, March 27

Wisconsin Herd vs. Grand Rapids Gold, 2:30 p.m., Oshkosh Arena
 Altrusa’s Art in the Garden Art Show

and Sale, 10 a.m., Hilton Garden Inn, 1355 W. 20th Ave.

Monday, March 28

4 Seasons Building groundbreaking, 4 p.m., Lakeshore Park at Punhoqua Street
 Free community meal, 5 p.m., United Methodist Church, 1174 Algoma Blvd.

Tuesday, March 29

Winter Warm-up community meal, 11:30 a.m., Trinity Lutheran Church, 370 Bowen St.

Vietnam Veterans Day, 10 a.m., Military Veterans Museum, 4300 Pobereznay Road

Thursday, March 31

Bingo, 7 p.m., American Legion Cook-Fuller Post 70, 1332 Spruce St.

Friday, April 1

Father Carr’s Place 2B drive-thru food

pantry, 10 a.m., 1062 N. Koeller St.

Marine Corps League bingo, 5:30 p.m., 4715 Sherman Road

Saturday, April 2

Winefeast, 5 p.m., Oshkosh Convention Center

Miles That Matter 10k Race and Family 5k, 8 a.m., Oshkosh Community YMCA, 3303 W. 20th Ave.

Wisconsin Herd at Delaware Blue Coats, 6 p.m. (Final game of regular season)

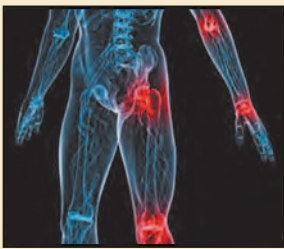
Sunday, April 3

Fox Valley Vintage Fest 2, 10 a.m., Oshkosh Convention Center

Trinity of Terror Tour (Black Veil Brides, Motionless In White, Ice Nine Kills), 7 p.m., Oshkosh Arena

Spring Wedding Fashion Show Expo, 11 a.m., Venue 404, 404 N. Main St.

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Research reveals administrative response to pandemic

City managers and village administrators across the state say their experiences responding to the COVID-19 pandemic showed the need for better communication and clearer lines of authority regarding public health, according to new research by the University of Wisconsin Oshkosh.

The report, released recently, is titled Wisconsin Professional Manager Response to COVID-19 and is the result of work done through the university's new Whitburn Center for Governance and Policy Research. The study was conducted by UW Oshkosh's Michael Ford, associate public administration professor, and Samantha Larson, assistant public admin-

istration professor.

In September 2021 they surveyed 38 city managers and village administrators throughout Wisconsin and conducted in-depth Zoom interviews with seven Wisconsin municipal managers.

These professional managers were the focus because they are hired by an elected city council or village board with the intention of insulating day-to-day operations from politics. Still, a popular critique of these professional managers is their distance from direct electoral accountability prevents the public from evaluating their performance. And as the pandemic became more and more politicized, these managers were forced to navigate a public

health crisis from an apolitical position while pandemic politics raged around them.

Ford is director of the Whitburn Center and Larson is deputy director. The Whitburn Center launched in fall 2021 with the mission of conducting practical applied research focused on evaluating and improving governance, professional management and public policy.

Other findings from the surveys and interviews include:

- Local measures mostly were limited to information sharing and maintaining service delivery.
- Local managers often were reacting to fast-changing guidance instead of proac-

tively responding to COVID-19.

• Who had authority for what was ambiguous, creating conflicts between state and local government. Conflict was heightened by poor cooperation.

• Local government leaders were very dissatisfied with state response to COVID-19.

• The legal battles between the state executive and legislative branches eroded public confidence in the government response to COVID-19.

• Cities and villages with more experienced leadership teams fared better throughout the pandemic.

To read the full report, visit uwosh.edu/whitburn-center under the "Research" tab.

County board

FROM PAGE 1

to encourage the jobs to remain in Oshkosh," Schorse said. "If we, as a county, are going to support this type of effort, we should be ready to put some money on the table if that is what is required as opposed to just going through an exercise of trying to influence based on public opinion."

During discussion, the Board also highlighted the work done in keeping the company's headquarters in Oshkosh and approving different measures to help the company as ways that the county has already worked with Oshkosh Defense in the past.

In other action at the board meeting:

- It was acknowledged that this was the last planned meeting for this specific Board of Supervisors as the next scheduled meeting (April 19) would be after

the elections and therefore the makeup of the board will change. Supervisors who were not seeking re-election were awarded a plaque for their service and thanked for their efforts by Chairman Shiloh Ramos, who himself is stepping down.

• After significant debate, the bylaws and strategic plan for the Diversity Affairs Commission were approved by a majority vote.

• A transfer of funds totaling \$293,200 to the Winnebago County Sheriff's Department to remodel jail cells for health

and safety reasons was approved after clarifying language in the resolution.

• A contract was approved to allow the Winnebago County Sheriff's Office to provide patrol coverage for the Town of Clayton.

• An accelerated benefits and lateral transfer policy for the Winnebago County Sheriff's Office was approved, despite some significant discussion about the matter and how it might translate to other areas of the county.

UWO to host candidate meet-and-greet

The new Center for Civic and Community Engagement at the University of Wisconsin Oshkosh will host a discussion March 29 about important local issues, local government and why local elections matter, along with a meet-and-greet of candidates vying for posts in the April 5

election.

Twenty-two candidates for Oshkosh Area Board of Education, Common Council, Winnebago County Board and county judicial positions will be available at this public event set for 6 p.m. in Reeve Ballroom.

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OSHKOSH HERALD

Oshkosh Art Collective's first show to feature local artists

By Kaitlyn Scoville
OSHKOSH HERALD

The Oshkosh Art Collective is hosting its inaugural art show April 16 at The Gibson Social Club, 537 N. Main St., featuring artists of all styles throughout Oshkosh and the Fox Valley.

Jessica Lomena began the collective three years ago with the goal of providing an inclusive platform for local creatives to share their work.

"Over the last year, the OAC has grown to include many artists and host in-person events," Lomena said.

Planning and making this event happen has been in her head since nearly the beginning of her journey, finally coming together with the support of organizations such as the Oshkosh Convention & Visitors Bureau and Women's Fund of Oshkosh.

Attendees from 6 to 10 p.m. can expect to see paintings, sculptures and fiber art among its offerings. Live art demonstrations will be available, allowing guests to learn something new. DJ Jay Be ill will also be at the event that includes more than 30 artists in the region.

Lomena said the reception from the art



Photos from Art Collective

Works by (from left) Andrew Barber, Brian Caulk and Shaniah Krueger are among the pieces to be seen at the Oshkosh Art Collective's inaugural show set for April 16.

community has been welcoming and added that some art categories are already full.

Artists of all skill levels and backgrounds can register if they are over age 16. Lomena said it is recommended to have eight to 15 pieces to put on display. For more information, email oshkoshartcollective@

gmail.com or visit any of the collective's social media pages @oshkoshartcollective.

"My favorite part is seeing the connections develop between people," Lomena said. "Whether it's artist camaraderie, art-

ists and business owners, or artists and the community, it makes my heart happy. All too often we tend to feel alone and disconnected in the world, and I think art can help with that."

Local nurse honored by Advocate Aurora

Mallory Fife, a nurse at Aurora Medical Center-Oshkosh, was selected as a 2021 Nurse of the Year for her commitment to Advocate Aurora Health's core nursing values and delivery of exceptional nursing care.

With more than a decade of nursing experience, Fife's role at Aurora in Oshkosh was very different the past two years as she picked up additional shifts on a COVID-19 unit to ease staffing shortages.

She attributes her appreciation for teamwork to caring for patients under difficult circumstances with other clinicians.

"Mallory is highly regarded by both leadership and her peers for her deep sense of compassion for our patients and families as well as the nursing profession," said Shane Carter, chief nursing officer at Oshkosh.

More than 700 nominations were received from across the patient care continuum.

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Expanding paid leave could ease working parent woes

U.S. remains an outlier in failing to help families

By Jenny Peek
WISCONSIN WATCH

Chanel Clark returned to work six weeks and one day after delivering her son Thane in 2013. The Madison child care provider had coached countless parents on such transitions yet struggled to navigate her own journey as a new working parent.

"It was way too soon. I was not ready for it at all, not even a little — and I knew what to expect," Clark said.

Repeated sobbing marked her first day back at work at Little Chicks Learning Academy — a highly rated, nationally accredited day care that she couldn't afford for her own child. Tears flowed as she dropped Thane off to an unregulated in-home center that charged \$150 per week, far less than Little Chicks. Clark recalls practically sprinting out of work to pick him up after her shift — to breathe in his newborn smell again.

Although Thane is now a healthy 9-year-old and the family cultivated and maintains a deep, supportive relationship with his first in-home provider, Clark wished early on that she could enroll him at Little Chicks, where she made \$12 an hour before gradually rising to executive director.

"That's a tough nugget to swallow," she said. "Like I'm good enough to teach this and to offer this, but I can't actually give it to my own kid."

Despite not feeling ready, Clark had no choice but to return to work. Her family needed the income. She wasn't paid while on leave, and her husband took off just one unpaid week from his job. They burned

through savings and leaned heavily on credit cards during Clark's short time off.

Such are the excruciating choices new parents face across Wisconsin and the country. The tradeoffs affect career prospects, financial stability, mental health, infant development — while shaping the broader economy.

Parents of kids of all ages struggle to afford child care due to the broken economics of a heavily regulated industry that pays its workers less than \$27,000 a year yet still must charge high rates to cover costs. But the earliest weeks of parenting are especially crucial. Day care for infants is toughest to find, forcing many parents to forfeit their paychecks or miss out on valuable postpartum recovery and bonding. Recovering from a cesarean section — the delivery mode for about one-third of births — generally takes about six weeks.

That means many parents — most often mothers — stay home those first several weeks, risking harm to their careers. Like so many challenges, lower-income workers face the most stress, particularly women of color. And child care obstacles are crimping the workforce as employers are struggling to attract workers.

Expanding paid leave benefits could ease parental pain, improve the health of infants and deliver long term benefits for employers, a growing body of research shows.

Nearly 30% of working women in the United States pause paid work when they have a child, according to research by Kelly Jones, an assistant professor of economics at American University, and doctoral candidate Britni Wilcher. Paid leave programs in California and New Jersey increased the labor participation rate for up to five years

following a birth.

"There's serious inertia in these decisions," Jones told WPR. "Even if women are leaving with the intention of it being temporary, many times it actually ends up being much longer term than they expected."

Despite broad public support, the U.S. is the only country among 41 European Union and Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development nations that fails to guarantee paid parental leave. Access is slowly growing, but just one in four American workers had the benefit in 2021, according to the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics.

In Congress, President Joe Biden's Build Back Better Act would have guaranteed paid family leave to most workers. But negotiations shrunk those benefits from 12 to four weeks, and the legislation was derailed in the Senate after clearing the House in November.

Some states have taken their own action, but Wisconsin's Republican-controlled Legislature has not advanced recent proposals to broaden access.

The second half of the 20th century saw record numbers of women leap into the U.S. workforce as cultural shifts unlocked opportunities. But the share of women working for pay has dipped since peaking at 60% in 1999 — now hovering around 56%, according to the federal statistics bureau.

More working women mean more economic growth, said Betsey Stevenson, a University of Michigan professor of economics and public policy. But the COVID-19 pandemic worsened challenges that predated the public health crisis, Stevenson testified during an October hearing of Congress' Joint Economic Committee.

"The challenges that parents faced during the pandemic were not unique to the recession," Stevenson testified. "Instead, they highlight our failure to adapt child care, workplace flexibility and workplace parental leave policies to meet the needs of a workforce in which women held half of the jobs prior to the pandemic."

The child care crunch hits new parents

particularly hard, because few day care centers accept infants younger than 6 weeks. Infant care is staggeringly expensive. Wisconsin ranks 20th among states and the District of Columbia for most expensive infant care — with an average annual cost of nearly \$12,600, according to the Economic Policy Institute. A minimum wage worker in Wisconsin would need to work full time for 43 weeks to pay that bill.

But, as Jones says, "When a child arrives, someone has to take care of it."

Offering a parent six, eight or 12 weeks of leave following a birth may seem small, Jones said, but the implications "can reverberate throughout the rest of her working life."

Without paid leave, women are more likely to leave the workforce for longer periods — even years — after giving birth, Jones found. That means lost wages and lower future earnings. The median working woman loses more than \$250,000 in wages after staying home for six prime working years. That's on top of foregone wage increases over the rest of her career.

Amy's life might have looked different had she taken more time off after delivering twin boys in August 2020. She worked as a Madison-based behavior analyst for kids with autism. She requested that her last name be withheld to protect her family's privacy and avoid drawing attention to her former employer.

Twins run in Amy's family, so she wasn't shocked to see them on an ultrasound. But disbelief struck when she went into labor 10 weeks early.

Although generally healthy, each of the twins weighed less than 4 pounds at birth and couldn't breathe or eat on their own. Amy had up to 12 weeks of unpaid leave through the federal Family and Medical Leave Act. That meant paying her company while away to continue her health insurance, which required monthly contributions. A relatively new employee, she didn't qualify for their short-term disability plan.

SEE Unpaid leave ON PAGE 19

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Unpaid leave

FROM PAGE 18

Amy took just three weeks of leave, returning to remote work even before the twins finished a 45-day stint in the neonatal intensive care unit. “I’d take my computer to the NICU and just kind of do what I need to do,” she said.

She constantly checked her work email alongside the twins, saving the rest of her unpaid leave for when the hospital cleared them to go home.

“It just felt like I had to push past any physical or mental pain and just field it because that’s what I had to do,” she said.

The twins are now thriving at 17 months old. But Amy laments missing out on crucial moments while working full time.

“In the morning it’s like: up, fed, dressed, out the door, drop them off,” she said. “And at night, it’s like fed, bath, bed. I don’t play with them.”

The result: Just before last Christmas, Amy quit her job in a field that’s short of workers. She’s now staying home with her sons and nannying another child for extra income. The family will roughly break even by avoiding child care costs.

“It’s been a really big decision, because I’ve worked really hard,” she said. “I have a master’s degree and passed the board exams.”

Paid leave policies deliver additional benefits to public health — including strengthening early child-parent bonds, research shows.

That bond reduces infant mortality, improves brain development and increases timely vaccinations. It also lowers the chances of postpartum depression and anxiety among parents.

Choosing day care doesn’t inherently harm a baby, but stress — whether related to the separation or worries about the quality or cost of care — can hinder their development, said Julie Poehlmann-Tynan, a University of Wisconsin-Madison professor of human development and family studies.

“Babies are often really sensitive to what’s going on,” she said.

Since babies require high-quality, low-

er-stress care, Poehlmann-Tynan said, policymakers should consider how best to support a child’s transition to family life.

Waukegan cosmetologist Leah Cummings said she constantly worried about finances while on unpaid leave after delivering each of her three daughters, sometimes scouring the house for loose change.

“It definitely causes some level of depression when you have to worry so much about money just to make ends meet,” she said. “It’s draining and exhausting and it takes away the joy and the happiest time of your life.”

That was the case for Megan Diaz-Ricks, who returned to work completely heartbroken eight weeks after delivering her second son in August 2021.

As an executive at the Madison-based nonprofit Common Wealth Development, Diaz-Ricks lacked paid family leave benefits. Under different circumstances, she could have tapped paid sick and vacation days, but she burned through most of those while grieving her mother’s death in 2019.

She took six weeks off at two-thirds of her pay under a short-term disability plan she paid into and was not paid during her final two weeks away.

“It was really hard for me to feel the stress of the financial weight of ‘How are we going to pay our bills?’” she said. “And also, how am I going to spend as much time with my son as possible?”

While pregnant with her first son in 2018, Kari Rongstad, who teaches ninth grade English at Madison’s Memorial High School, was surprised to learn that she lacked paid family leave benefits — particularly in a field composed primarily of women who teach children. She delivered a second son in December and is now at home — using roughly five weeks of accrued paid sick time and taking an additional 10 weeks of unpaid leave.

The five-week cushion seemed precariously thin, especially during the pandemic. Rongstad worried about the coronavirus every day in the classroom; even if it didn’t harm her or the child, exposure could trigger a quarantine that would drain her sick days even before she delivered her son. (The

Madison School Board approved a paid COVID-19 sick leave policy for teachers and staff in mid-January, but only after Rongstad delivered her son.)

“Teaching is a really stressful profession, especially now,” she said. “Being a parent and being a teacher, there’s a balance that seems impossible to kind of find.”

The House-approved version of Biden’s Build Back Better Act would mandate and fund four weeks of paid family leave. It would apply to nearly every U.S. worker, including the self-employed.

But the bill, which would also cap child care costs for working families, among many other provisions unrelated to parenting, has been declared dead in the Senate. Democrats narrowly control the chamber, but Sen. Joe Manchin, D-W.Va, has voiced opposition to the bill alongside Republicans.

The inaction persists despite the popularity of paid family leave. Some 84% of Americans backed such a mandate in 2019, according to a CNBC survey.

Wisconsin legislation has gained even less traction.

In 2019, Rep. Sondy Pope, D-Mount Horeb, and Sen. Janis Ringhand, D-Evansville, introduced bills to establish a paid family and medical leave insurance program for Wisconsinites. Like a health insurance or retirement plan, employees who opt in could contribute to a trust fund and draw untaxed funds during leave.

Sara Finger, founder and executive director of the Wisconsin Alliance for Women’s Health, who helped draft the bills, said the proposal “is really about an employee contribution,” taking pressure off employers.

Neither bill received a hearing in the GOP-controlled committees that received them. Finger and her colleagues are weighing a fresh proposal while monitoring negotiations in Washington.

“The demand continues to grow as Wisconsinites and Americans all over are realizing the impossible situation we’ve been put in prior to the pandemic — and even more so during the pandemic,” Finger said. “We can no longer treat these issues as partisan.”

And when employers pay for family leave? It can yield benefits. California made paid leave available to workers through a payroll deduction beginning in 2004. In a 2010 survey, 87% of businesses reported no increased costs, and 9% reported cost savings through reduced turnover.

A 2016 study of Rhode Island’s similar program “found little evidence of significant impacts of the law on employers.”

Missy Hughes, secretary and CEO of the Wisconsin Economic Development Corp., said Wisconsin’s workplaces increasingly find paid leave a sound investment.

“Employers who are making smart moves to support their families — whether it’s offering on-site child care, or child care benefits or paid leave — those employers are saying to me, ‘Missy, I wish we had done this sooner,’” she said.

Leah De Gabriel said a paid parental leave policy solidified her commitment to work at Madison-based Hy Cite Enterprises, which manufactures household products.

The mother of two used unpaid leave after delivering her first daughter, but the company instituted a paid leave policy before she delivered her second daughter, making the experience far less stressful, De Gabriel said.

“It was one of the things that I knew made me want to stay at the company, just knowing that it was one of the benefits — and they did it because they wanted to,” she said.

This story was edited by Wisconsin Watch Deputy Managing Editor Jim Malewitz. The nonprofit Wisconsin Watch (wisconsinwatch.org) collaborates with WPR, PBS Wisconsin, other news media and the University of Wisconsin-Madison School of Journalism and Mass Communication.



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YMCA Miles that Matter 10K race, Family Walk event scheduled April 2

The Oshkosh YMCA will be hosting its first annual Miles that Matter 10K race and Family Walk on Saturday, April 2 to support local cancer survivors, veterans and Parkinson's Disease warriors in the Oshkosh community.

The 10K race for ages 14 and up will begin at 8 a.m. starting from the 20th Avenue YMCA at 3303 W. 20th Ave, and the 2.5-mile Family Walk for all ages will begin at 8:45 a.m. starting from South Park. Both events are set to finish at the downtown

YMCA at 324 Washington Ave.

Shuttle buses will be available for transportation upon finishing. Children ages 5 and under participating in the walk are free.

Youth ages 6-17 are \$15 and adults are \$30. Dogs are welcome, additional fee \$5 and includes a bandana.

10K fees are \$15 for youth ages 6-17 and \$60 for adults. Shirts are included with registration fees. Day of registration will be accepted. For more information and to register, visit oshkoshymca.org.

Ice conditions report

By Jim Nobbe

PAYNE'S POINT HOOK & SPEAR FISHING CLUB
As of today 3-21-2022 the 2021-2022 ice season on Lake Winnebago is virtually over. The shoreline ice has deteriorated to the point the lake is not accessible and the rest of the lake ice is becoming water logged. If we keep getting mild temperatures and rain and snow, the ice will be gone in the near future.



Even with the lack of snow, it was a surprisingly long season on the ice

this year. Even though it was a busier than average year for ice rescues and vehicle recoveries on the Winnebago system due to lack of snow and travel during dangerous conditions as I'm writing this there has been no loss of life from those incidents this year, knock on wood. That is the most important thing of all in my eyes.

Please support the local fishing clubs through the year, they play a major role in providing access and keeping people safe on the lake. Most all of the clubs are active year round with different fundraising events and club oriented activities. Remember the ice is never 100% safe.



Photo by Michael Cooney

Downtown demolition

A structure at 309 Washington Ave. estimated to be built sometime in the 1920s is in the process of careful demolition. The building has been an Oshkosh landmark due to its size and Spanish Colonial style with suggestions of Art Deco period stucco style. The three-story apartment building across from the downtown YMCA had reached a state where restoration and upgrading was not considered financially feasible. The Corbett House next door is in the process of being restored by its new owners.

County warning sirens to be tested starting Saturday

Winnebago County's outdoor warning sirens will be tested every Saturday at noon starting this weekend and will continue through at least September.

Tests will be canceled if severe weather or other serious conditions are imminent.

The Winnebago County Office of Emergency Management reminds residents that the sirens are designed to warn people who are outdoors that a severe weather situation is happening or likely to happen. They should then seek shelter

inside a sturdy building.

Residents can enhance their severe-weather readiness with a NOAA Weather Radio that can be purchased at the records window in the Sheriff's Office and may also be available from local retailers.

For more information, contact the Winnebago County Office of Emergency Management at 920-236-7463.

Winnebago County also will participate in a statewide mock Tornado Drill on April 7.



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Obituaries

Brian Wilson

Brian David Wilson passed peacefully in his sleep at his home in Oshkosh, WI on Dec.11, 2021. Brian was born in Madison, WI to Darrell and Lynne (Blood) Wilson on Dec.18, 1969. He is the youngest of four children.

The family moved to Fall Creek, WI in 1974, where he went to school until moving to Black River Falls, graduating in 1988.

Brian completed the CNA course in Reedsburg and worked at the Sauk County Health Care Center. Brian loved working with the elderly and continued to do so when he moved to the Fox Valley. He worked in nursing homes in Neenah and Oshkosh. Brian worked for the Oshkosh Cab Company and Accu-Com Security until his passing. Brian loved camping with his kids, fishing and was an avid fan of old movies and TV shows, especially The Lone Ranger. He was also very supportive of Vietnam Veterans. He loved learning about history, especially in regard



to Native American history in this country.

Brian has two grown children, Charlie and Emily, who survive him in Oshkosh. Brian is also survived by his parents, sisters Barbara Wilson (Kurt Maehl) of Neenah, Laura (Aaron) Cheadle of Fulda, MN and Jennie (Carlos) Martinez of Manassas, VA. He is also survived by many nieces, nephews, aunts, an uncle, and many cousins.

Brian is preceded in death by both paternal and maternal grandparents, great-grandparents, a great-niece Emilie Anderson and two uncles, Rodney Wilson and William Blood Jr.

A visitation will be from 2-4 pm on Sat, March 26, 2022 at the Seefeld Funeral Home in Oshkosh, WI. A prayer service will be held at 4 pm. The service will be live streamed via the Seefeld Funeral Home Facebook page. In lieu of flowers, if you would care to make a donation in his name, Brian would appreciate a donation to Vietnam Veterans of America, Chapter 5.



Joan Romnek

Joan Agnes Romnek, 80, of Menasha, passed away on February 22, 2022 in Oshkosh. After a well fought battle with Cancer and Alzheimer's.

A short service will be held at St John's Cemetery, Menasha on April 23, 2022 at 1:00 pm.

Joan was born in Neenah, Wisconsin to Hillard and Angeline Romnek, on July 20, 1941. She worked as a general laborer for Banta Corporation 44 years. Joan and her quirky sense of humor made everyone smile, even at her chemo sessions. Back in the



day, she enjoyed camping, fishing, bowling and softball. She was a loyal Packer backer as well as supporting the Brewers and the Badgers.

Joan is preceded in death by her parents, brother, James Romnek and life partner, Susan Love.

Joan is survived by her twin sister, Jean Staerke (Donald). Nieces and Nephews, Mary Coles (Keith), Michael Romnek (Susan), Donald H Staerke (Fawn), Thomas Romnek (Alicia), Susan Romnek-McKinley (Tim).

The family of Joan wishes to extend our sincere thanks to her Aurora at Home Hospice team, the aides at The Residence of Oshkosh and the team at the Vince Lombardi Cancer Center, for the love, laughs and support that they showed her.

Scott D. Triechel

Scott D. Triechel, age 54, passed away on Tuesday, March 15, 2022, at Ascension Mercy Medical Center. He was born to Donald and Ellen (Kennenberg) Triechel on January 1, 1968, in Belvedere, IL.

Scott is survived by his mother, Ellen Sundquist; father, Donald Triechel; sisters, Sue Henderson, and Sheila Triechel; brother, Steve Triechel; stepbrothers,



Walter (Brenda), Daryl (Necy), and Robert (Michelle) Sundquist; stepsisters, Valerie Sundquist, and Christine (Geoffrey) Hansen-Sundquist. Scott is further survived by his nieces and nephews, Sven, Monica, Alexi, Dalton, Shyloe, Kayla, Kimberly, Keisha, Adam, David, Bradley, Kenny, Jeremy, Tiffany, Alayna, DJ, Sommer, Josh, Trver, Tyler, Quintin, Logan, Faith Ann, and caretaker, Heather.

Scott was preceded in death by his stepfather, Walter Sundquist.



Clarence Rennert

Clarence "Bud" Rennert, age 93 was born to Clarence and Clara (Gomoll) Rennert on Nov. 24, 1928 and was called home on March 19, 2022. Bud was married to Ruth Zimmerman on Jan. 1, 1948 and was with her until her death on March 7, 2001. He then married Marian Ziesmer on May 17, 2002, until her passing on March 3, 2022.

Bud was preceded in death by his parents, brother, Richard "Dick" Rennert and sisters, Marilyn Ulrich and Peggy Berndt and is survived by his three children, Connie (Gary) Falkenstein, Nancy Fillmore and Casey (Lynn) Rennert. Grandchildren, Alexa (Falkenstein) Jarvis, Erica (Falkenstein) Dierks, Matthew Fillmore, Jennifer (Fillmore) Mayville, Ben Rennert and Amanda (Rennert) Musial as well as eleven Great Grandchildren. His siblings, Carol Mathwig, Ralph (June) Rennert, Sandy (Wayne) Brody and Bonnie (Donald) Hass

Bud began his career for the Chicago

Northwestern Railroad in 1941 and retired as a section foreman in 1989.

Bud's Uncle, Herman Gomoll, fostered his love of the outdoors, teaching him the ways of hunting, fishing, and trapping. Bud loved his dogs which he had by his side for most of his life. Bud was also an avid poet and blessed his family with a poem at every occasion.

Bud's family would like to thank the staff of Bella Vista for their kindness that they showed him as well as the staff at Aurora Hospital for making Dad's passing as painless as possible.

The visitation is Friday, March 25, 2022 at Konrad-Behlman Funeral Homes East-side (402 Waugoo Ave) from 9:00 AM - 11:00 AM with the service following officiated by Pastor Mark Wenzel of Grace Lutheran Church in Omro. The interment follows immediately at Lakeview Cemetery.



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Obituaries

Thomas Arndt

Thomas D. Arndt led a life devoted to his family, his community, and to his country. He passed away March 12, 2022 at the age of 90. Throughout his lifetime, Tom was selflessly committed to helping the people around him and was a shining example of generosity. He made countless memories throughout several generations of his friends and family. A friend to everyone and a mentor to many, he was a fun guy and people loved to be in his company.

Tom was born on December 6, 1931, in Antigo WI. He was a graduate of Antigo

High School and attended Northland College before moving to Milwaukee where he worked for Milwaukee Road as a blacksmith and a switchman.

He married Arlyn Grimm on May 3, 1952, at First Congregational Church in Antigo and in 1954 they moved to Oshkosh where they owned and operated A & A Window Cleaners for 39 years. Tom served his country as a part of the 32nd Red-Arrow division of the National Guard for 21 years and rose to the rank of 1st Sergeant. In the late 1960's, Tom retired from the National Guard and obtained his private pilot license which allowed him to enjoy many flying experiences with his friends and family.

Following retirement, Tom and Arlyn moved to Lily, WI and built their home on their 80-acre property where everyone was welcomed and where they enjoyed hosting for generations of gatherings with family and friends.

Tom made 17 trips to Alaska where he hunted grizzly bears, moose, duck, geese and caught many salmon and halibut with his son Randy. Tom even got to try his hand

at Snow Machining in the mountains.

During his residency in Lily, Wisconsin, Tom was a proud member of the Town of Langlade Volunteer Fire & Rescue Department for 25 years. Tom dedicated countless volunteer hours to the team.

Tom served as a deacon at Faith United Church of Christ in Antigo. He was also a member of Trout Unlimited and the Lily Snowbird Club for over 40 years, where he groomed and maintained some of the best snowmobile trails in the state. Tom proudly served with the Sparks-Doernenburg American Legion Post 3 Antigo acting as Sergeant at Arms for their honor guard.

He moved back to Oshkosh in 2017 where he was a member of the First Congregational Church. He was a proud member of the American Legion Cook Fuller Post 70 Oshkosh.

Tom enjoyed hunting and fishing and everything outdoors. He shared his knowledge and love for nature, wildlife, and forestry with his children, grandchildren, and great-grandchildren.

Survivors include two daughters, Lynnel Arndt of Oshkosh and Andrea (Ed-

ward) Schneider of Oshkosh; son, Randall (Esther) Arndt of Wasilla, Alaska; 8 grandchildren; Andy (Leslie) Buck, Sarah Arndt, Adam Sheveland, Bethany (Rob) Kobiske, Chad Sheveland, Joel Schneider, Adam (Tiffany) Schneider, Luke Schneider. 15 great-grandchildren; sisters, Peg (Ron) Schroepfer Wierzba, Pat (Dick) Nonnenmacher, Mary Lou (Dick) White, all of Antigo; and brother, Fred (Pat) Seggelink of Medford, Oregon.

Preceding him in death was his wife of 52 years Arlyn R. (Grimm) Arndt, his parents, Fred and Marie (Winters) Arndt, sisters, Alice Seggelink, Margaret Peters, Mary Seggelink, and Karen Humphry, as well as his brother, Lee Seggelink.

A funeral service will be held at 3:00 on March 31, 2022 at First Congregational Church Oshkosh. Visitation will start at 1:30 and go to the time of service. Reception to follow in the Fellowship Hall.

Graveside service and Burial will take place at the Lily Cemetery on July 8, 2022 at 11:00 with lunch at North Woods Inn Diner, Pickerel, following the service.

Tom's family would like to thank the staff of Arbor View Assisted Living and Heartland Hospice for the kindness and compassion they extended to Tom and his family.

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Kathleen M. Mieritz

Kathleen "Kathie" M. Mieritz, age 77 of Oshkosh, passed away at her home with her husband and children at her side on Sunday, February 20, 2022.

A celebration of life for Kathie will be

held at 12:00 PM on Saturday, April 2, 2022 at Zion Lutheran Church, 400 N. Sawyer St. Visitation will be held from 10:30 AM until the time of the service.

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Trailblazer: Dorothy Butler Gilliam

Imagine being told you couldn't do something just because of the color of your skin. That's what happened to Dorothy Butler Gilliam.

Dorothy wanted to be a reporter at a major daily newspaper. When she first applied, she wasn't hired. But that didn't stop her from trying again.

In 1961, she became a trailblazer as the first African-American woman to work as a reporter at *The Washington Post*, one of the largest newspapers in the United States.



Photo: Harry Haldeman / Washington Post

HARD WORK Reciting a Famous Poem

When Dorothy was a young girl, she memorized and recited the entire poem 'Twas The Night Before Christmas at a church service. It took both the ability to read and hard work to accomplish that.

1942
 — 1936

Dorothy was born in 1936. She recited the poem in church in 1942. How old was she then?

INFORMED A Newspaper in the Home

Dorothy's father believed in being informed about the community and the world. He read two newspapers every day.

Fill in the missing vowels in this quote by Dorothy:
 "My_w_r_ess of the n_wsp_p_r, through h_ving it in our h_m_, was one of the th_ngs that g_ve m_the c_r_ge to_pply for a secretarial_j_b at a n_wsp_p_r."

Dorothy's father became ill when she was 14. Their family moved to a small house in the country with no running water.

She was determined to go to school. She walked a half mile to catch a bus to a school for black children. Schools in Kentucky were segregated — they did not allow white and black students to attend the same school.

SECRET CODE

- = D ■ = N
- = E ■ = O
- = F ■ = R
- = I ■ = S
- = L ■ = U
- = M ■ = V

DETERMINATION Newspaper Delivery

At 9 years old, Dorothy sold and delivered the local newspaper to people in her Kentucky neighborhood. Years later, when she began to attend Ursuline College, she got a job as a secretary at the same newspaper. Use the code to discover the paper's name.



COURAGE Career Start

what she needed to succeed.
 to write some stories. With no courage and hard work to learn secretary, the editor asked her experience as a reporter, it took in her career as a journalist. A few weeks after starting as a It would be the first step

ADVENTURE Stories of Africa

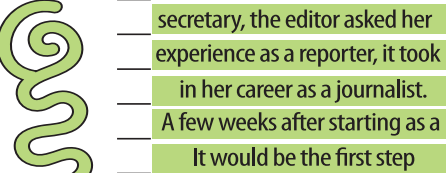
After graduating from Columbia University Dorothy received a scholarship to travel to Africa. An editor at *The Washington Post*, was interested in her trip. Few Americans, black or white, had ever traveled to Africa. He asked Dorothy to write articles about her experience. Because her articles were interesting and well written, she was offered a full-time job at the newspaper.

PERSEVERANCE Opening the Front Door

The Washington Press Club _____ Dorothy with a Lifetime Achievement Award in 2010. Being the _____ black woman reporter at *The Washington Post* wasn't easy. When Dorothy arrived at a wealthy Washington woman's _____ to report on her 100th birthday party, the doorman told her she couldn't _____ through the front door. "The maid's entrance is around the back," he said.

"I am not a maid, I am a _____ for *The Washington Post*," she replied.

Number these lines in order to read the paragraph.



Replace the missing words.

- REPORTER
- ENTER
- FIRST
- AWARDED
- HOME

START Find the way to Dorothy's school?

Extra! Extra! Character Counts

For each of the following character traits, find a person in the newspaper who shows that trait.

- Hard Work
- Courage
- Perseverance
- Commitment

Standards Link: Understand the importance of character in a community.

REPORTER'S CORNER

Choose a story about a person in this newspaper. Write or paste the headline in this box.

WHO is this story about?

What questions did the reporter ask to find out all about this person?

What other questions would you ask this person?

Standards Link: Reading/Writing: Draw evidence from informational text.

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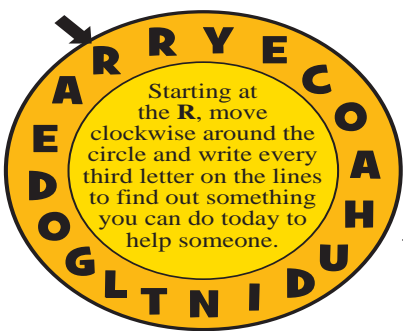
Write On!

Good Leadership

What are the qualities of a good leader? Who do you know that is a good leader? Why do you think of that person?

Kid Scoop Puzzler

What's a great way you can help someone today?

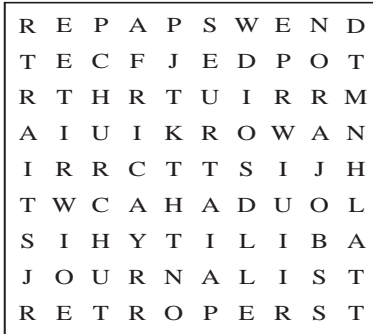


R _____

Double Double Word Search

- JOURNALIST
- NEWSPAPER
- REPORTER
- DOROTHY
- ABILITY
- AFRICA
- TRAITS
- CHURCH
- WRITE
- HARD
- WORK
- MAID
- TRIP
- BUS
- JOB

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



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

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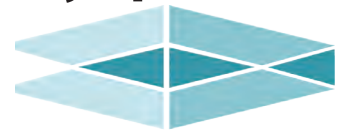
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