

March 30, 2022 | OSHKOSHHERALD.COM



NSIDE



Cashing in Music of Johnny Cash coming to Grand Page 10

On the diamond

A look at the upcoming prep baseball season Page 20



Photos by Michael Cooney

Ice invasion

A home on Lake Winnebago on Lake Rest Lane at Roe Point owned by Mike and Rosemary Sammons was damaged by an ice shove last week. It was one of at least three houses on Lake Rest Lane affected by the shove, which came in at least 10 feet onto the shore and 10 feet deep. Gusty winds above 20 mph were reported, which pushed the lake's melting ice toward the shore over open water. PRST STD U.S. POSTAGE PAID SHAWANO, WI PERMIT NO. 135

POSTAL CUSTOMER

VOLUME 5, ISSUE 13

Options for bridge work reviewed

Jackson-Oregon connection nearing end of its service

By Kaitlyn Scoville Oshkosh Herald

After a five-year hiatus, the Common Council reviewed options for replacing or rehabilitating the Jackson-Oregon street bridge at a workshop last week.

The existing bridge constructed in 1956 is nearing the end of its service life, City Manager Mark Rohloff said. The state Department of Transportation (DOT) met with Public Works director James Rabe in June 2020 to discuss a plan of action.

The DOT began an environmental study in 2015 to explore improvement alternatives to extend its new service lifespan but in 2017 delayed the construction until summer 2028 and subsequently postponed the environmental study to last spring.

In 2017, the council voted 4-3 in support of a full bridge replacement with an on-alignment lift bridge, with strong concern about accepting bridge ownership after its replacement.

The DOT has noted deficiencies in operation and safety over the last several years, including corrosion, cracking on concrete services and narrow sidewalks showing unsafe conditions for walking and biking pedestrians.

DOT project manager Bill Bertrand presented at the workshop with 10 options for consideration: doing nothing, a

SEE Aging bridge ON PAGE 9

West grad hoping to rise in Rangers organization

By Tim Froberg Herald contributor

Going to work for Jake Guenther doesn't involve time clocks, regimented 40-hour workweeks or casual Fridays.

It's all about responding to lightning-fast



for three minor leaguers: infielder Osleivas Basabe, catcher Heriberto Hernandez and outfielder Alexander Ovalles.

Guenther, a 2015 Oshkosh West graduate, is participating in spring after a prolific 2019 season at Texas Christian University where he was named as the Big 12 Newcomer of the Year.

"I'm excited to see where this season goes," Guenther said in a phone interview. "My defense has been going well and I'm of .340, a slugging percentage of .383 and an OPS (on base plus slugging) percentage of .723.

Guenther broke into the pros by playing 48 games for Princeton in the Appalachian (rookie) League in 2019, compiling an im-

pitches and Bugs Bunny curveballs, and delivering a red-stitched sphere to distant, unoccupied places on a diamond.

Professional baseball demands that hitters like Guenther, a first baseman/outfielder, make adjustments and the 24-year-old Oshkosh native is doing that.

Guenther is now a Texas Rangers prospect after being acquired from the Tampa Bay Rays in December 2020 along with fellow first baseman Nate Lowe in exchange training at the Rangers' complex in Surprise, Ariz. He has been training daily with other minor leaguers since late February, getting a head start on the Major

Leaguers who didn't report until mid-March due to the MLB strike. Guenther was originally a seventh-round pick by Tampa Bay in the 2019 MLB draft pretty close with my hitting. I'm just putting in the work and hoping that when the season comes around, my swing is where it needs to be."

Guenther played the entire 2021 season at the High Class A level (same as Wisconsin Timber Rattlers) for the Hickory Crawdads and put together a solid season. In 94 games and 309 at bats, Guenther hit .256 with nine home runs, 43 RBIs and three stolen bases. He had an on-base percentage pressive .320 batting average with two homers, 30 RBIs and an OPS of .853.

His numbers in North Carolina with the Crawdads were decent, but Guenther was far from satisfied.

"I definitely wasn't," he said. "I'm a guy who doesn't strike out a lot and gets on base a ton. But it was my first full season, so I can't be too critical. In this game, you have to take

See **Guenther** on Page 17





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Advertising deadline is noon Friday for the following Wednesday. The classified line ads deadline is 4 p.m. Friday for Wednesday.

Publisher

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

County shuffles administrative posts

By Steve Clark Oshkosh Herald

A reshuffling of staff at the administrative level of Winnebago County has filled some key positions for now.

In moves that were made in middle to late February, Mike Collard is now serving as acting finance director, Carol Blackmore is the assistant finance director and Mark Habeck has filled Collard's former position and is acting human resource director, according to Ethan Hollenberger, the chief of staff for county executive Jon Doemel.

The moves stemmed from Vicky Fitzgerald's departure as finance director at the beginning of the year. Collard, who had been the county's director of human resources, took on the finance director's position on an interim basis while the county conducted a search for a new director.

With no viable candidates coming to the forefront, the decision was made to move Collard to acting finance director to put him in the position full time.

"We had a retirement and some other things that were planned and Mike just said he could go over (to Finance) full

Transit center upgrade work begins

NOTICE OF MEETING

BOARD OF REVIEW

CITY OF OSHKOSH

Notice is hereby given that the Board of Review of the City of Oshkosh for the year 2022, will hold the annual open book session for public review of the 2022 assessment

rolls from April 11, 2022 through April 14, 2022, from 8:00 a.m. until 4:30 p.m., in

room 206 of City Hall, 215 Church Avenue. Any property owner objecting to their

property assessment may obtain an objection form and file it with the City Clerk for a

hearing with the Board of Review. The Board of Review will meet on Wednesday, May

• If a person who does not allow the assessor to complete an exterior view the Board of

· After the first meeting of the Board of Review and before the board's final adjournment,

no person who is scheduled to appear before the Board of Review may contact, or provide

information to, a member of the board about that person's objection except at a session of

• No person may appear before the Board of Review, testify to the board by phone or contest

11, 2022 at 9:00 a.m. to organize, board member training and hold hearings.

Review may deny a hearing to a property owner. (section 70.47(7)(aa), Wisconsin

Construction started this week at the GO Transit downtown transit center to include a building addition with a driver break room, driver computer station, customer transaction window and supervisor office.

City officials said the work will allow for improved communication and training opportunities. The project will also imtime," Hollenberger said. "We were able to move Mike over into a full-time basis and that helped us to have full-time support."

Hollenberger noted that Doemel has not appointed either Collard or Habeck



to their respective positions as both would have to be sanctioned by County Board of Supervisors approval. However, the administrative staff will look like this moving forward.

The county is also still shopping for a

full-time finance director which, if hired, would move Collard and Habeck back to their original positions.

For now, with Collard leading the way and having Blackmore in her new role, the county has the needed pieces in place. Blackmore was promoted from budget manager after more than 20 years working for the county.

"Mike is reviewing some practices and procedures to get a grasp of ways we can improve with Carol who has been in the

the prove safety and security on and around

the platform including new pavement, lighting and cameras. Landscaping work is also planned.

The project is separate from a proposed more extensive expansion of the Transit Center, which remains under study. Questions about the project can be directed to transportation director Jim Collins. department 20 years," Hollenberger said. "We are still hopeful and will recruit for a finance director. We want to get that hire right, but I think Mike's goal is to provide some continuity for a while."

Having some continuity at those positions was an important factor heading into the upcoming elections where the board is likely to experience heavy turnover.

"I think that was part of the logic," Hollenberger said. "We knew we were heading to this board transition, and we wanted to make sure we had (some stability)."

Hollenberger credited Collard's versatility and range of knowledge to make these moves possible.

"Mike is still advising and has his fingers dipping into HR in an advising role," Hollenberger said. "A lot of counties have a role for someone who can cover all of administration duties and I think Mike does cover that for us. That's the strength of Mike Collard."

In other county news, a special meeting for the County Board of Supervisors was scheduled for Tuesday night where the board was set to approve acceptance of a \$10.3 million Neighborhood Improvement Grant. It will likely be the final meeting of the board before the April 5 election.

Correction

March 23, PAGE 20: In a photo caption about the building being razed at 309 Washington Ave., the structure was built in 1891 according to the real estate company that had the listing.



Editor

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

Corrections

It is the policy of the Oshkosh Herald to correct all errors of fact. For correction information, call 920-508-9000.

About the newspaper

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Oshkosh Herald LLC, 923 S. Main St. Suite C, Oshkosh. An E-edition of the newspaper can be accessed at www.oshkoshherald.com. the amount of any assessment unless, at least 48 hours before the scheduled meeting of the board (May 9, 2022 by 9:00 a.m.) or at least 48 hours before the objection is heard if the objection is allowed under sub. (3)(a), that person provides to the Clerk of the Board of Review notice as to whether the person will ask for removal under sub. (6m) and if so which member will be removed and the person's reasonable estimate of the length of time that the hearing will take.

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State funding for local projects considered

By Kaitlyn Scoville Oshkosh Herald

The Common Council paved the way for staff to pursue city projects not otherwise considered due to prior financial constraints that could be mitigated through external funding.

A memo from city staff states that the state Department of Transportation requested local governments to review existing project opportunities and submit applications to be funded under the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law (BIL).

The BIL was enacted in late November and increased funding for infrastructure in municipalities across the state.

City staff came to the council with a

proposal to amend the 2023 CIP plan to include three projects from the 2022 fiscal year "to show the state of Wisconsin that the city is serious about completing these projects," the memo stated.

The city's Department of Public Works came forward with the three projects that are not part of the current capital improvement program (CIP). They include South Washburn Street from Dickinson Avenue to West 20th Avenue, South Washburn Street from West Waukau Avenue to State 26 and Osborn Avenue from about 1,540 feet east of South Koeller Street to Knapp Street.

"The only reason these projects were

Spring brush cleanup hours set

The Oshkosh Sanitation Division has notified residents that regular monthly curbside brush collection begins next week.

The facility on Third Avenue between Idaho and Ohio streets will be open starting Friday with hours from 11 a.m. to 7 p.m. weekdays and 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. weekends. Permit holders are asked to empty bags and containers at the center.

The cost of a single vehicle permit for a city resident is \$25; the cost to a nonresident is \$125. Permits are valid from Jan. 1 to Dec. 31 of the year issued. Permits can be purchased at the collections counter at City Hall or Kitz and Pfeil Ace Hardware, 427 N. Main St.

Yard waste from commercial operations – tree trimmers, landscapers and apartment buildings – is prohibited. All yard waste being transported in trucks or trailers to the dropoff center must be properly secured with a tarp. Curbside collection of brush is also scheduled on garbage collection day during the first full week of each month that does not contain an observed holiday.

The annual spring cleanup, an extended brush collection schedule to help residents dispose of yard waste, is set for April 25 through May 13. Brush is defined as tree branches, leaves, hedge clippings and garden debris (no grass, dirt, root balls or stumps). Brush should be placed in biodegradable bags or bundled and tied. Bundles can be no longer than 4 feet in length and have no branches greater than 3 inches in diameter.

Bags and bundles can't exceed 50 pounds and should be placed on the terrace or driveway apron no later than 7 a.m. on the scheduled collection day. Plastic bags, other containers or loose leaves will not be collected.

For more information, contact the Sanitation Division at 920-232-5383.

not previously included in the CIP is due to funding balance for projects," the staff memo reads. "Typically, an asphalt overlay project would be included in the CIP but due to funding considerations, one was not included in the 2023 CIP. With the influx of money from the BIL, it's possible for the city of Oshkosh to complete some projects through the state of Wisconsin."

The council did approve the proposal under the consideration that only 20% of the state-approved projects will be paid for by local tax dollars.

The group also reviewed and unanimously approved the Oshkosh Housing Needs Assessment and Strategy Plan prepared by RDG Planning and Design.

Completed in February after about a year, the needs assessment outlines and sets forth short- and long-term recommendations for housing.

"The plan focuses on housing gaps for the entire city, with future growth and long-term needs in mind," a memo to the council reads. "The purpose of the plan is to provide guidance to the elected officials, city staff, area public/private partners and the private development community for future initiatives, funding for housing and when project opportunities present themselves."

City Manager Mark Rohloff gave an update to the council about bidding for the construction of the new parks department headquarters, where costs were projected to be higher than originally planned.

The lowest bid came in at just over \$8.5 million. Rohloff said staff was expecting the lowest bid to come back at \$5 million. With the current lowest bid in mind, Rohloff said the total project cost would now be about \$10.1 million.

A total of \$6.6 million has already been approved by the group over the past two years. Rohloff said the remaining \$3 million could be obtained through additional funding that would have to be approved by the council.

In other action, the council unanimously voted to end the city's state of emergency brought on in response to the pandemic that has been in place since March 18, 2020. The resolution notes that county vaccination rates exceed 60% and Winnebago County is listed as low-risk.

Dental facility gains federal funding

The Partnership Community Health Center was awarded \$600,000 in federal funding to expand its Oshkosh dental facility from among \$187 million in state-directed spending in the Omnibus Appropriations Legislation.

The funding is targeted to deal with the unmet need at the dental facility and better provide oral health care to the surrounding population with fewer capacity constraints. The U.S. Senate Appropriations Committee that includes Wisconsin Sen. Tammy Baldwin forwarded the legislation to fund projects on behalf of public and nonprofit entities in the state. The funding legislation was signed by President Biden earlier this month as part of the \$1.5 trillion omnibus spending package.



• April 2	Amelia Ford Part of the Downtown Saturday Night Series
• April 7	The Linda Ronstadt Experience Presented by BruMar Productions
• April 9	James Garner's Tribute to Johnny Cash

• April 22

2 TUSK

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 Part of the Downtown Saturday Night Series
- April 29 Tim Harmston & Mary Mack Husband & Wife Comedy Duo Available Live or LiveStream!

Farewell Angelina

April 30 The Cheese Doodles
 Part of the Downtown Saturday Night Series



Opioid settlement fund feedback reviewed

A review of public feedback from listening sessions and a survey on best uses of funding received through national settlements with opioid distributors and manufacturers, the state Department of Health Services (DHS) will begin finalizing its plan to invest the funds to save lives and deal with the epidemic.

DHS held 12 regional listening sessions early this year. Nearly 600 people living with an opioid use disorder, their families and friends, and providers of opioid prevention, treatment and support services participated and nearly 900 comments were submitted through the online survey.

"The flexibilities offered by these settlement funds will give us an opportunity to be ever more innovative in our response to the opioid epidemic so we can help people who are currently struggling with an opioid use disorder, as well as work to prevent more individual and community heartbreak over

the loss of lives to opioid overdoses," said DHS Secretary-designee Karen Timberlake.

Over the past several months, DHS also analyzed opioid data and surveillance, reviewed current state and federal funds for opioid use prevention efforts, and met with current grant recipients.

"The big takeaway from what we heard was that supporting policy and systems change is essential to success," said DHS opioids initiatives director Paul Krupski. "We also heard that investments are needed across the continuum of care in order for Wisconsin to reduce the dangers of opioids and their impact on our communities."

Based on the feedback, five major themes emerged:

•Deal with the social determinants of health, including education, income, and housing. Improve access to mental health services. Bolster family stability. Reduce individuals' exposure of initial trauma and impact of trauma.

•Provide evidence-based substance use prevention education, especially in K-12 schools, as well as in communities. Consider including voices of those with lived experience in educational campaigns and community events to reduce stigma in communities.

•Maintain and expand harm reduction strategies, including needle exchange, safe use sites, increased access and use of naloxone/Narcan and fentanyl test strips.

•Increase the accessibility and availability of all forms of treatment that follow best practices. Ensure equity in the location and delivery of treatment options.

•Support individuals in recovery with targeted wraparound services. Provide direct support to families with a loved one with substance use disorder.

Wisconsin is expected to receive funding from four settlements. Two have been finalized and the state will receive more than

\$400 million from separate settlements with three opioid distributors (Cardinal, McKesson, and AmerisourceBergen) and opioid manufacturer Johnson & Johnson. The effective date of the settlement is Saturday. Wisconsin expects to receive the initial payment this year and payments will continue over 18 years.

Thirty percent of the payments are allocated to DHS, which plans to invest in prevention, harm reduction, treatment and recovery, and plans to award funds to communities statewide. The other 70 percent goes to communities that joined the litigation.

Earlier this year, DHS, in collaboration with the state Department of Justice, relaunched the Dose of Reality initiative to change the conversation about the opioid epidemic with tools to prevent or reduce the risk of opioid use through open and honest talks.

western division crown. Leading the

way for Oshkosh was forward Mar-

shall Hawkins with 19 points. Center

Postal service makes first vehicle order

Oshkosh Herald

The U.S. Postal Service (USPS) has placed its first order of 50,000 Next Generation Delivery Vehicles (NGDV) with Oshkosh Defense valued at \$2.98 billion.

Oshkosh Defense will manufacture both zero emission battery electric vehicles and low-emission internal combustion engine vehicles for the USPS in the factory being built in Spartanburg, S.C.

About 20% of the first order will be electric vehicles, the company announced, noting that the contract allows the flexibility to increase that percentage after an order is placed depending on funding.

"We're incredibly proud to build the USPS NGDV. It is designed to be the modern, safe, dependable vehicle the carriers have been waiting for," said John Bryant, Oshkosh Defense president and Oshkosh Corp. executive vice president. "Facility preparations in South Carolina are well underway and hiring of team members has already begun."

Oshkosh won the postal vehicle contract in February 2021. Production is expected to begin in 2023 in Spartanburg while recent resolutions by the Oshkosh Common Council and Winnebago County Board urged the company to consider a local production facility.

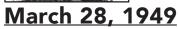


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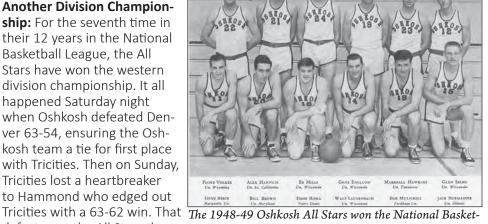


Oshkosh history by the Winnebago County Historical & Archaeological Society

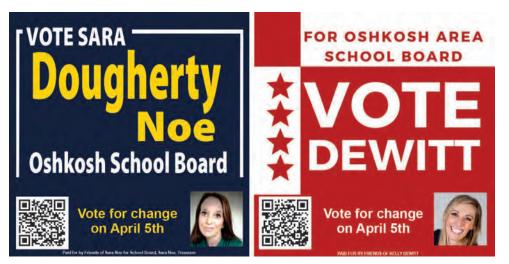


Oshkosh All Stars Cinch Another Division Champion**ship:** For the seventh time in their 12 years in the National Basketball League, the All Stars have won the western division championship. It all happened Saturday night when Oshkosh defeated Denver 63-54, ensuring the Oshkosh team a tie for first place with Tricities. Then on Sunday, Tricities lost a heartbreaker to Hammond who edged out defeat gave the All Stars the

Gene Englund aided the effort with 16 points and Bob Carpenter rimmed 13. Source: Oshkosh Northwestern, March 28, 1949



ball League's western division title.



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Nursing home challenges discussed with senator

Miravida Living hosted state Sen. Dan Feyen on March 18 to discuss challenges faced by nursing homes and their employees across the state.

Kelly Fitzpatrick, administrator at Bethel Home, led the presentation that focused on the leadership exodus of licensed nursing home administrators and directors of nursing, acute staffing needs, regulations and funding shortfalls.

Fitzpatrick used current data to illustrate the unsustainability of agency costs and usage, cost of care surpassing reimbursements, and the need for care exceeding available staff.

The panel discussion had representation from the Miravida Living board of directors, family members and staff. Board

chair Mary Murken, shared experiences from a board perspective and as a family member.

Recent accounts of staff extending themselves beyond their job duties were shared by a husband whose wife resides at Bethel Home. Staff members contributed their viewpoints and Feyen engaged them in a conversation to gain further perspective and shared a story about the necessity of obtaining skilled care for a family member.

Feyen, the area's District 18 senator, toured Bethel Home and Eden Meadows

Rehabilitation Suites and Green House Homes. Miravida Living has been serving the

community since 1963, employs 375 people and cares for more than 700 residents.

State 76 rebuild earns DOT design award

The highway rehabilitation work on State 76 in Winnebago County was among the Department of Transportation's selections for a 2022 Excellence in Highway Design Award.

MSA Professional Services received the Consultant Rural Design Award for the work nominated by the DOT Northeast Region office.

The project transformed a 3.5-mile section of roadway between Oshkosh and Greenville to deal with pavement and drainage deficiencies, safety and operational performance for vehicle and largetruck commercial traffic. The solution rehabilitated the roadway surface and involved construction of roundabouts at three major intersections to minimize accidents and resolve efficiency concerns.

The project also widened shoulders along the entire stretch of roadway, upsized culverts, added storm sewer and pipe underdrain, and installed truck aprons at some overrun areas of the roundabouts to accommodate turning movements of large trucks and oversize-overweight vehicles.

The work also accommodated the local fire department and property owners and mitigated impacts to several adjacent wetland areas.

Award winners were selected by a jury of judges and formally recognized March 9 during the 13th annual ACEC/Wis-DOT Improvement Conference.

Victim of Oshkosh apartment fire identified

A 62-year-old Oshkosh woman who died in a fire that broke out in the early morning of March 21 in an apartment in the 100 block of West 24th Avenue was identified as Margarita G. Ainsworth.

Oshkosh police and fire officials responded at 12:10 p.m. to a report of heavy smoke

inside the apartment in the 100 block of West 24th Avenue. Ainsworth was transported to a hospital and pronounced dead.

The cause of the fire and death remain under investigation. There were no other injuries and no one else in the apartment complex was displaced.



Emmanuel Lutheran volunteers work with Advocap to collect commodities at the Oshkosh Area Community Pantry.

Food pantry coordinates steady help effort

What started as a collaboration of local churches has transformed into an operation that serves thousands of families each year with the Oshkosh Area Community Pantry helping those experiencing food insecurity in southern Winnebago County.

The pantry's new executive director Ryan Rasmussen said the organization continues to welcome anyone who would like to support its mission as either a volunteer, donor of food or donor of funds.

Each month, the pantry distributes more than 80,000 pounds on average to families using the St. Vincent de Paul building at 2551 Jackson St. The pantry also works with other area pantries to redistribute goods from programs such as The Emergency Food Assistance Program (TEFAP) and Feeding America Eastern Wisconsin.

TEFAP is a federal program that distributes government commodities to food banks and food pantries. With the pantry's access to an industrial-size walkin cooler and freezer, it works as a drop site for the other TEFAP partners in the county. The commodities provided allow local pantries and organizations to distribute food to the community and make up about 23% of the pantry's food distribution.

The pantry also functions as a redistribution site for Feeding America Eastern Wisconsin, a nonprofit that is part of 200 food banks and 60,000 food pantries nationwide that serve an estimated one in seven Americans.

At the Oshkosh pantry alone, Feeding America Eastern Wisconsin makes up over 67% of the food distributed. The pantry works with 10 other Feeding America partners to assist in storage of goods.

Visit oacptoday.org or call 920-651-9960 for more information.



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Winnebago County, like the rest of the state, is vulnerable to a variety of disasters. Wisconsin has incurred disaster-related damages totaling \$3 billion in the last three decades but future losses can be reduced through mitigation activities. A recent study by the Multi-hazard Mitigation Council shows that each average dollar spent on mitigation saves society in excess of \$6.

Since 1993, more than 400 disasters have occurred in the U.S., costing more

Hilbert

Health Care Credit tabs president

Health Care Credit Union has named Danielle Hilbert its new president and chief executive, replacing Derek Growth.

Hilbert assumes the leadership role after serving as vice president and chief loan officer since 2018. She is a certified financial counselor and a Wisconsin Licensed Mortgage officer.

Originally from Merrill, Hilbert has an associate degree in business management from Fox Valley Technical College and started with the credit union in 2008.

Health Care Credit Union at 429 N. Sawyer Ave. was established in 1960 to serve employees in the health care field.





than \$500 million per week and killing more than 24,000 people.

Mitigation actions either reduce or eliminate the long-term risk to human life and property from hazards. Preventive actions can be as simple as elevating a furnace in a basement that sometimes has water on the floor.

Mitigation can also have a comprehensive approach such as relocating buildings out of a floodplain or strengthening critical facilities to prevent wind damage and provide stronger shelter. In an effort to better prepare against disasters, Winnebago County Emergency Management applied for, received and has completed a Pre-Disaster Mitigation update planning grant. This plan update will serve as a roadmap that outlines potential cost-effective mitigation activities, some of which might be available for grant funding.

March 30, 2022

The completed draft update is available during business hours (8 a.m. to 4 pm) at the Winnebago County Clerk's Office at 112 Otter Ave., Oshkosh, for review and public comment until April 8.

Fox World Travel names Bloom VP

Oshkosh-based Fox World Travel announced the promotion of Brianne Bloom

as the company's vice president of vacation travel. Bloom will be re-

sponsible for the overall operational performance and strategic direction of the retail vacation travel team. Her initial focus

will be continuing a

strong recovery and enhancing workflows to improve customer and associate experience.

Bloom joined Fox World Travel in 2020 and has played an integral role in navigating the vacation travel team through

Renewable energy leader is next EIL speaker

Bloom

Neumann Cos. president Matt Neumann will speak on leadership, renewable energy and Christian stewardship at the April 19 Excellence in Leadership luncheon at the Oshkosh Convention Center.



COVID and launching process improvements including virtual consultations, agent chat and the implementation of new air booking technology.

In addition, Bloom partnered internally on many initiatives including Fox World Travel's first ever Vacation Travel Institute. Bloom brings more than 10 years of leadership experience in the retail space with a focus on associate engagement and business line growth.

"Brianne is a tremendous asset to Fox. Her dedication and drive to continuously move Fox forward has led to many positive results," said chief executive Beth Marino. "I'm excited to partner with her strategically as our vice president and continue to elevate Fox in the vacation travel marketplace."

Neumann's Pewaukee-based business teams have been recognized for their success, being named seven times on the list of fastest privately owned companies in America by Inc. 5000 Magazine. Neumann was also a recipient of the 2018 Wisconsin Way Future Leader of the Year, and the 2015 Builder/ Developer of the Year from his peers in the Metropolitan Builders Association.

He has a business degree from Wisconsin Lutheran College and a master's in marketing and finance from Marquette University. In addition to building more than 4,000 homes and developing more than 5,000 homesites across 40 municipalities, his family of companies includes SunVest Solar, which serves more than 1,000 customers with 250,000 solar panels in 11 states.

Registration for the 11 a.m. lunch and 11:45 program can be found at eilgroup.org.





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Honor the history of your home or business

By Kristopher Ulrich Oshkosh Landmarks Commission

The city of Oshkosh has many historically significant residential, commercial and institutional buildings. To recognize these properties in the present and their place in our collective past, the Oshkosh Landmarks Commission has instituted a Historic Plaque Program to share the history of these buildings and our community.

In our last column from February we

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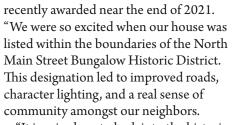
outlined the beginnings of what researching the history of your building can look like. This is the kindling that starts

the fire of historic preservation.

Over the last decade, three dozen plaques have been placed all over the city. Chances are you've seen the plaques on notable buildings in and around downtown on the side of buildings like Wagner Market (Wagner Opera House), City Hall (Oshkosh High School), Oblio's (Schlitz Beer Hall), etc. We're proud to feature plaques on private homes as well.

Much of the information needed to research your property may be self-explanatory or common knowledge of the property owner, family or neighbors. Other sources of information utilized to research your property may include state, city or county records, the Oshkosh Public Museum, or the Oshkosh Public Library.

Homeowners who put in the effort to learn about their homes are able to order a plaque to mount outside their homes, after a thorough review by the Landmarks



"It inspired me to look into the historic plaque program to continue these efforts."

Audrey applied for a plaque under the qualifier of her house being a modest example of an architectural style - in this

case, Tudor Revival. In addition to architecture, other eligibility criteria include: cultural significance, site of an

historic event, work of a master builder or architect, or residence of an important local historical figure.

Eligible plaque structures should generally be 50 years or older. Properties should retain sufficient architectural detail to qualify as having characteristics of an architectural style.

The Landmarks Commission has denied several applications over the years for homes that have been altered too much beyond the extent of their original facade. For example, homes with original wide cedar siding that have all been replaced by thin vinyl siding may not qualify. The same goes for the replacement of too many original wood frame windows with synthetic frames, or additions to a home that are out of sync with the original intent of the architectural style.

We encourage anyone in Oshkosh who is interested in honoring the history of their commercial, residential or instituof currently recognized buildings, and an





Audrey Spanbauer, owner of the Riegel House, was awarded a plaque from the Oshkosh Landmarks Commission to place on her home.



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compassion. We advocate risk reduction

through prevention and education, and

The Fire Department's 2027 vision

statement includes "being known as an

internationally accredited agency that

supports the pursuit of a safe and vibrant

community." Part of that focus will in-

clude recruiting and retaining a trained,

diverse and healthy workforce with en-

hanced management of physical resources

level from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturdays and

"We're excited to bring back these

shared activities that encourage imagina-

tive play, which is an important building

block for literacy and learning," said Marie

Boleman, head of Children's and Family

and expanded use of technology.

from 4 to 7 p.m. Wednesdays.

we provide leadership in times of crisis."

Local brew history expert dies

By Lee Reiherzer Herald contributor

Ronald Akin, a leading figure in the field of Wisconsin breweriana and the

preeminent collector of breweriana related to Oshkosh, passed away March 21.

Akin was born and raised in Hortonville. He came to Oshkosh in 1955 to attend UW Oshkosh where he excelled as an athlete. He would later become



AKIN

a full professor at UW Oshkosh while coaching several sports.

His interest in breweriana was instigated by sons Dan and David after they began collecting beer cans in the early 1970s.

"So, I became a collector too, collecting anything related to any of the closed Oshkosh breweries," Akin once explained. "Back then, there was so little information available on those breweries. I wanted to know more. Collecting breweriana became part of that and as I learned more, I discovered how important the breweries were to the history of Oshkosh."

The collection Akin built was unrivaled. His fellow collectors came to know him for his tenacity.

But he was equally generous in sharing his discoveries. He often invited inquisitive strangers into his home to acquaint them with the incredible pieces he was dedicated to preserving.

As his knowledge and collection grew, Ron began publishing articles in breweriana journals. People started asking him to give talks about Oshkosh brewing history, which he was always happy to oblige.

FVTC student ambassador named

Kimberly Martin has been named the 2022 Wisconsin Technical College System Ambassador for Fox Valley Technical College.

The Oshkosh native, who is a double-major in wildland firefighter and natural resources, will serve as a leader and advocate for FVTC by raising awareness about the importance of technical education in Wisconsin.

The atmosphere and friendliness of faculty and staff is what Martin said initially drew her to attend FVTC during a campus visit. She has since been active in campus activities.

She has served multiple leadership roles



in clubs and also worked as a peer leader and a student life intern.

"FVTC makes sure you're not only getting an education in the classroom, but that there are opportunities to learn outside the classroom as well," she said.

Martin said she will spread the word about what a great choice FVTC is for an education.

"There are many programs and supports available to help students succeed from all walks of life and faculty and staff are very understanding of circumstances sometimes getting in the way of education," she said. "The people here truly care about the students." Fire Department shares mission focus

The Oshkosh Fire Department has developed a strategic plan that it shared last week after soliciting public input as part of an ongoing quality improvement process.

"As an organization, we listened to your input," Fire Chief Michael Stanley said. "As a result, we have developed a new mission statement, a vision for the future and identified our values to guide us along the way as we implement the nine initiatives in our five-year strategic plan.

The department's mission statement reads: "The City of Oshkosh Fire Department is a highly trained team that adds val-

Learning toys, activities back at library

Toys, games and other hands-on activities are again available at the Oshkosh Public Library, offering play and learning opportunities for children and families.

A decline in COVID-19 activity in the community led the library to bring back popular activities including a train table, play kitchen, Duplo building table, puppet theater and puzzles during regular library hours. LEGO Wall Open Build sessions for kids will also be offered in the lower

g table, puppet Outreach. regular library On the library's second floor, a chess set

crochip for \$20.

and community puzzle will be set up for adults.

ordinator Tawana Hanamann. She said

microchips have been instrumental in re-

The clinic will be first come, first served

and pet owners can choose from options

such as a rabies vaccination for \$15 or mi-

uniting lost animals with their families.

Humane Society sets vaccination, microchip clinic

The Oshkosh Area Humane Society will hold its first low-cost vaccine and microchip clinic of the year for community-owned cats and dogs from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. Sunday at its 1925 Shelter Court location.

"There's a big need for affordable and accessible services such as basic pet vaccinations," said community outreach co-

Dyslexia specialist to appear on 'Project Pitch It'

An author and dyslexia specialist is one of 24 entrepreneurs who will be featured on the Wisconsin-based show "Project Pitch It" where business ideas are presented to a panel of five Wisconsin moguls.

Dr. Shawn Anthony Robinson, a University of Wisconsin Oshkosh graduate, is the author of a series of graphic novels called "Dr. Dyslexia Dude," a story of an African-American boy who is also a super-



Paid for by Szilagyi Campaign

The full list and other information can be viewed at oahs.org. ear on 'Project Pitch It'

hero with dyslexia. The caped character is autobiographically based on his painful, early life experiences.

Robinson and his wife and co-author, Inshirah Robinson, are parents whose goal is to empower students in special education to stay encouraged and know they can achieve greatness.

He is a senior research associate in Wisconsin's Equity and Inclusion Laboratory (Wei LAB) at UW-Madison and serves on the board of directors with the International Dyslexia Association.

The show begins its sixth season next week and can be seen locally on WBAY. Robinson will appear on the seventh of eight episodes at 5 p.m. May 15.

Send business bits

Our readers are interested in what businesses are doing in Oshkosh. Help us share the news by emailing businessbits@oshkoshherald.com or calling 920-508-9000.

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Aging bridge

FROM PAGE 1

full rehabilitation of the bridge, four options for a bridge with a lift and four for a fixed height without a lift.

All proposed courses of action will include a 6-foot sidewalk for pedestrian traffic and a separate 5-foot bike lane. Some options will also allow for Riverwalk pathways to continue under the bridge on both sides of the Fox River.

A couple of the alternatives may require additional work on Division Street and Marion Road to alleviate any confusion and to shift parking at the City Center. One of these options includes possibly ending Division Street with a cul-de-sac, thus removing access from Jackson Street.

Several benefits to the replacement also were listed, including improved safety, traffic flow and boat passage, and a proposed 75-year lifespan before any major improvement is required. The current bridge has lasted 65 years.

The four fixed height alternatives will have a water travel navigation clearance of more than 20 feet, whereas the lift options may increase clearance by 2 or 3 feet.

A public input session outlining the options will be held virtually at 5 p.m. Mon-

The bridge that connects Jackson and Oregon streets in Oshkosh is 65 years old and nearing the end of its service time.

day. The link can be found at ci.oshkosh. wi.us under the Hot Topics section.

City of Oshkosh photo

W Extension mapping community gardens for Fox Valley area

The University of Wisconsin Extension for Winnebago and Outagamie counties is collecting information and mapping out community gardens in the greater Oshkosh-Fox Valley area.

The project, coordinated by community development educator Mia Ljung, is in its second year.

"The need for community gardens serves many purposes in our communi-

Easter children's events offered by city

The Easter season will be celebrated with the city's annual Breakfast with the Bunny and Egg-Citing Day at the Zoo events April 9.

The breakfast event from 8 to 11 a.m. is at a new location this year at Webster Stanley Middle School. The meal includes pancakes, sausages, juice, milk and coffee.

There will be children's crafts, visits with the Easter Bunny and coloring contests. The cost is \$3 for ages 2 to 17 and \$5 for adults. Tickets need to be purchased online on the city's website.

Later begins Egg-Citing Day at the Zoo from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. in the Menominee Park Zoo where children can search for eggs, play games and visit the animals.

The cost is \$3 per child or a combo ticket for both events is \$5 that must be purchased online or at the Oshkosh Parks Department by April 6. Egg-Citing Day at the Zoo tickets will also be available at the gate.

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SUNDAYS 7:30 am, Sacred Heart 9:30 am, St. Vincent

ties, such as food safety, social interaction, beautification and increased neighborhood safety," Ljung said. "After receiving many phone calls from residents about community garden availability, the Ex-

tension is hoping that finding community garden spaces will be easier using this Community Gardens map, while also providing a better understanding of where more gardens may be needed in future community efforts."

This map is available as a public directo-

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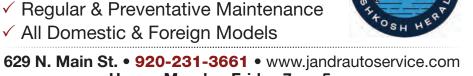
EST. 1957

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INE OF AUTO REPAIR

ry for residents to find garden spaces. The Extension is not providing garden coordination services with the exception of the Sunnyview Garden Partnership. The map can be found at outagamie.extension.wisc. edu or on the Extension Winnebago website.

Anyone wishing to add a community garden to the map or need to change existing information should contact 920-232-1974 or fill out the form on their website.



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Ongoing

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

Thursday, March 31

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

Friday, April 1

ACW Wisconsin Pro Wrestling, 7 p.m., Oshkosh Masonic Center, 204 Washington Ave.

Antique Sporting and Advertising Show, 10 a.m., Sunnyview Expo Center

Father Carr's Place 2B drive-thru food pantry, 10 a.m., 1062 N. Koeller St.

Downtown Art Walk, 5 p.m., 100-700 blocks of North Main Street

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

Saturday, April 2

Winefeast, 5 p.m., Oshkosh Convention Center

Antique Sporting and Advertising Show, 9 a.m., Sunnyview Expo Center

7th Annual Free School at UW Oshkosh, 10 a.m., Sage Hall

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

Rising Phoenix, 8 p.m., Revs Bowl Bar & Grill, 275 N. Washburn St. 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.

Monday, April 4

Oshkosh Craft Beer Week, through April 10 (various locations)

Wednesday, April 6

Business Expo 2022, noon, Oshkosh Convention Center

Thursday, April 7

The Linda Ronstadt Experience, 7:30 p.m., The Grand Oshkosh

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

Friday, April 8

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 9

Egg-Citing Day at the Zoo, 11 a.m., Menominee Park Zoo

Breakfast with the Bunny, 8 a.m., Webster Stanley Middle School

Mac 'n Brew, 6 p.m., Sunnyview Expo Center

James Garner's Tribute to Johnny Cash, 7:30 p.m., The Grand Oshkosh

"Silence of the Lambs," 7 p.m., Time Community Theater, 445 N. Main St.

Sunday, April 10

Lenten Meditation, 3 p.m., Good Shepherd Lutheran Church. 2450 W. 9th Ave.

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James Garner and his band bring the Man in Black's music to life at The Grand.

Legendary music of Johnny Cash coming to The Grand

The nation's leading music tribute to Johnny Cash is coming to The Grand Oshkosh on April 9 after two years of postponements.

James Garner and his three-piece band have been touring for 15 years, performing more than 500 shows celebrating Cash's life and his biggest hits. The tribute has been referred to as "the closest experience to seeing Johnny Cash in person today." The performance was originally scheduled for March 2020 but was delayed due to the pandemic. The concert also kicks off The Grand at Home's Spring 2022 Live-Stream lineup.

This show is part of the Alberta S. Kimball Foundation Series and is sponsored by First Business Bank. Tickets can be purchased at TheGrandOshkosh.org or through the box office.

Mac n' Brew event returns to Sunnyview

The Oshkosh Southwest Rotary Club is hosting its second annual Mac n' Brew fundraiser starting at 6 p.m. April 9 at Sunnyview Expo Center.

Sampling will take place until 8 p.m. followed by entertainment featuring Audiochonk. The event for ages 21 and older costs \$30 in advance and \$40 at the door. Samplings include mac and cheese from Oshkosh restaurants and wine and beer from local breweries and wineries. After the sampling, beer will be available for purchase and pizza will be served.

Proceeds benefit projects in the community. Online tickets are available at macandbrew.rsvpify.com.



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Photo by Michael Cooney

Tundra swans visit

Tundra swans were clustered in the bay north of Murdock Avenue and in the waters around Hickory Lane late Saturday morning. A resident there said he had never seen this many swans in his 50 years of living there. Earlier in the week a large flock also gathered in Miller's Bay but were gone by Saturday. Tundra swans breed and nest in the tundra and in sheltered marshes on the Alaskan and Canadian coast near the Arctic Circle. They pass through Wisconsin on their way north in early March through May.

Gender gap in job burnout analyzed in study

By Natalie Johnson UW Oshkosh Today

Workers' perspectives on women's role in society may explain a gender gap in job burnout, according to a new study led by a University of Wisconsin Oshkosh economics professor.

"Women are more likely than men to report physical and emotional exhaustion related to paid work," said Benjamin Artz. "While this gender gap in job burnout is common in the literature, the mechanism is yet to be thoroughly understood."

Artz teamed with researchers Ilker Kaya and Ozgur Kaya from the American University of Sharjah on the study published recently online in the Review of Economics of the Household.

The researchers used U.S. survey data from the National Study of the Changing Workforce that is rich in job and personal information to test whether theoretically relevant factors explain the gender gap in job burnout, which can include a lack of energy and feeling overwhelmed.

The researchers found that the gender gap in burnout remained after they accounted for other factors, such as income level, a spouse's ability to work and a flexible work schedule.

"Our study offers a novel, and admittedly provocative, explanation for the difference in burnout between men and women," Artz said. "We find that workers' perspectives regarding women's role in society drive a large gender gap in job burnout."

Specifically, only women with "traditional" gender role perspectives on work



are significantly more likely than men to report job burnout, he said.

Women who hold a traditional perspective but nevertheless find themselves working for pay in the labor force may experience an expectations mis-

match. Those with a more progressive perspective may consider having a career to be an important role in their life and prefer spending more time in paid work.

Artz said employers should recognize that both of these perspectives exist and should avoid passing women up for advancement by assuming they may experience burnout. On the other hand, they should be aware that men may be more reluctant to seek help if they are experiencing burnout.

"Providing support and resources to transform perceptions and attitudes regarding gender roles may help to reduce job-related burnout resulting from a mismatch between expectations and paid work experiences," he said.

Artz, who serves as chair of UW Oshkosh's economics department, earned the John E. Kerrigan Endowed Professorship Award in 2017. He earned a bachelor's degree in business economics from Wisconsin Lutheran College and master's and doctoral degrees in economics from UW-Milwaukee.

Think Oshkosh event draws community

What might happen if dedicated community members, teachers, researchers and nonprofit professionals came together to tackle the challenges facing our local community?

The University of Wisconsin Oshkosh invites the community to take part in Think Oshkosh, an evening of networking, idea sharing and partnership building from 5 to 7 p.m. Thursday at Becket's, 2 Jackson St.

Community collaborators will be on hand for participants to learn about what is happening at UW Oshkosh and in the city. All who are interested in building connections and exploring ways to work together on research, community projects, classes, internships and more are welcome.

The event is sponsored by UW Oshkosh's Center for Civic and Community Engagement and the Sustainability Institute for Regional Transformations.



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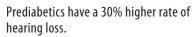
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Herd comes up short on comeback against Gold

Oshkosh Herald

The Wisconsin Herd fell to the Grand Rapids Gold 111-107 in their last home game of the season Sunday after coming back from a 31-point deficit in the first half.

The loss continues a late-season swoon for the Herd. Wisconsin has lost nine straight games and 15 of their 16 contests.

Wisconsin made a 15-4 run to put them within 14 points and got within five points at the end of the third quarter.

Tiwian Kendley scored seven straight points for the Herd capped by a 3-pointer that tied the game at 98 with about six minutes to play.

Sandro Mamukelashvili's tip in with 1:36 to play tied the game again at 104, but the Herd could not regain the lead and the Gold held on from there.

Frank Mason III led the Herd with 22 points while Rayjon Tucker added 21. Kendley chipped in 16 points but the Herd were outscored 29-15 off the bench in the loss.

Petr Cornelie led the Gold with 35 points followed by Quade Green with 20.

For Sunday's game the Herd partnered with the Oshkosh Area Community Foundation to raise money for the Oshkosh Area School District and its Education Foundation.

The Herd wore jerseys designed to resemble the Oshkosh City logo during the fan appreciation game and the worn jerseys are up for auction at herd.cbo.io until noon Monday.

The Herd is on the road against the Delaware Blue Coats on Friday night and will wrap up the 2021-22 regular season the following night against the Blue Coats.



The Herd's Tiwian Kendley puts up an off-balance shot over a Grand Rapids defender in the second half of Sunday's loss to the Gold.



North graduate wins NAIA swim title

Alexandra "Ali" Pecore from Oshkosh recently won the 500 freestyle as a freshman for the University of the Cumberlands at the NAIA College Swim and Dive Championships earlier this month in Columbus, Ga.

The Oshkosh North graduate was the second seed going into the final and was six seconds behind the leader at the halfway mark of the race before winning by 0.09 seconds. She became the university's seventh individual winner and fourth freshman to win a swim and dive national



title in school history.

Pecore also competed in the 200-yard freestyle where she placed 12th overall.

Pecore was also a key member of the Patriots' relays, participating in three relays that placed, including two that set school records. She swam on the 400- and 800yard freestyle relays and on the 400-yard medley relay.

The University of Cumberlands finished fourth in the final team standings at the meet with 324 points. Keiser won the title with 785 points.



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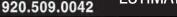
At UWO, we honor our commitment to a more sustainable world by celebrating Earth Month with a full slate of activities from birding at Asylum Bay to collecting e-waste and planting trees for Arbor Day.

> Check out all the events for March 28 to April 30 at uwo.sh/earth-month.

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Guenther

from Page 1

it one day at a time."

"It was kind of a growing-up experience as far as understanding that you need to have yourself in order every day. If you don't, every single day is going to wear you out."

Guenther fractured his wrist late during his final season at TCU in 2019 following a collision with a baserunner at first. Regaining full strength and getting his pre-injury swing back has been a gradual process, complicated by the lost 2020 that wiped out the entire minor league season and kept Guenther from rehabbing at organizational facilities.

"After breaking my wrist and then going through COVID, I never had a chance to fully rehab it and then I was traded, so it was a crazy year," Guenther said. "When you break your wrist and aren't able to do certain things, you can lose a little part of yourself, a little identity.

"Last year, I would find myself wondering why I wasn't doing certain things with the ball. I wasn't as direct with the ball as I needed to be. I'm just trying to get back to being the contact guy that I am and staying ready to hit the fastball. Last year I was just a little behind with that."

Switching franchises was initially tough for Guenther, but he's comfortable being a part of the Rangers organization.

"Tampa is one of the best organizations out there – if not the best," he said. "You get to know the guys. It's kind of like a graduation class where you come in together with your freshmen buddies and go up a level with them each year. So that was sad.

"But at the same time, ask any player what team they'd like to get traded to and it's probably either the Yankees or the Rangers. I'm just trying to follow the curve and carve out a new identity and become part of this organization."

Rangers players and minor league prospects interact regularly at the organization's spring training complex and share a weight room. It doesn't take much for a prospect like Guenther to get a tip or two from a big-



league star like shortstop Corey Seager, who signed a 10-year, \$325-million free agent deal with the Rangers over the winter.

"I was working out right next to Seager the other day and you basically walk by them on the practice fields every day," he said. "They (the Rangers organization) encourage you to talk to them and maybe pick their brain a little. It's pretty cool."

Guenther has yet to learn of his assignment for the season. He hopes to climb another step and play at the Double A level with the Frisco RoughRiders.

"The goal for this year is to just have fun and be the guy that I know I am," he said. "It can get really hard when you're struggling, but you always have to remind yourself that you're doing something you really like. This is your dream and you have to make sure you enjoy it."

Guenther started his high-level baseball career as a left-handed pitcher at Sacramento City College. But he struggled initially with an arm injury before being switched to first base and the outfield. That gave him the opportunity to show his substantial skills with the bat. He played two seasons of junior college ball at Sac City before transferring and playing a single season at TCU.

In a 2019 story, Derek Sullivan, Guenther's coach at Sac City, told Carlos Mendez of the Press Box (in the Dallas-Forth Worth area) that Guenther's work ethic was a major reason for his development as a hitter.

"He had this insane work ethic," Sullivan said. "We really pride ourselves on what we do, but we didn't teach that kid to hit. We suggested some things that are important. We've given similar information to some really good players over the years, but Jake has done more with it than maybe anybody."

Guenther spends part of his off-season in Oshkosh each year. Before returning home, he and his father, Chris, take an elk hunting trip to Colorado.

"I love Oshkosh," Guenther said. "When you move away, you forget what a beautiful place it really is. And it's cool to see the area developing. I always make sure to say hi to Tony Gerharz (his former coach at Oshkosh West). He usually opens the gym up for me. It's always fun coming home."







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Winter sports all-conference teams

BOYS BASKETBALL

North freshman Mitchell first-teamer

Oshkosh North has a bright spot in Xayvion Mitchell, a freshman who had a spectacular season for the Spartans.

Mitchell led the team in points (21.8) and rebounds (8.4) per game, helping the Spartans (19-8) reach the WIAA Division 2 sectional semifinals before falling to Ashwaubenon.

Mitchell, who finished fourth in the tough Fox Valley Association in scoring, was named to the first-team all-conference for his efforts this season. He also was named to the conference's all-defensive team.

Joining Mitchell with honors was sophomore Steven Clark, who made second team. Clark was right behind him in scoring at 19.6 points per game and grabbed 5.6 rebounds a game.

Oshkosh West senior Ethan Shefchik was named to the league's second team as well.

Earning honorable mention were West junior Tristan Johanknecht and North senior Reed Seckar.

Liabwell leads Lourdes with first-team honors

Lourdes had a few named to the Trailways-East all-conference teams, the league recently announced.

Senior Malith Liabwell led the way for the Knights, earning first-team all-conference after he finished second on the team in scoring (14.3) while grabbing a teamhigh 6.5 rebounds per game. Earning second team was senior Dominic Kane, who led the Knights in scoring at 14.9 points per game as well as 3.5 assists per game.

Jack Seibold added honorable mention honors.

Valley Christian senior Alexandros Giannopoulos earned second team all-Trailways East.

GIRLS BASKETBALL Oshkosh West's Seckar receives two honors

The Fox Valley Association girls basketball all-conference teams were announced recently and Oshkosh West's Paige Seckar earned two honors.

Seckar, a sophomore, was named to the second team while earning all-FVA defensive team honors as well.

Oshkosh North had one girl named to the honorable mention team in junior Mallory Ott.

Lourdes' Bauer named Player of the Year

The Lourdes team had four named to the Trailways-East All-Conference team, the league announced recently.

Leading the way was freshman Hailee Bauer, who led the Knights (19-8, 10-2) in scoring with 15.8 points per game, while grabbing 5.8 rebounds and dishing out 4.1 assists per game – earning her Player of the Year honors.

Named to the second team were juniors Addy Hafemeister and Molly Moore while sophomore Charley Mullen was named honorable mention.

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BOYS SWIMMING

Pecore leads area swimmers in honors

The Oshkosh North/Lourdes and Oshkosh West swimming and diving teams had a couple of individuals make the all-Fox Valley Association team, which was announced recently.

North/Lourdes' Chase Pecore, a senior, led the way as he was named to the honorable mention team in two events – the 200 free and 500 free.

Oshkosh West had one swimmer make honorable mention in Carter Roloff – also a senior – in the diving competition.

Neenah's Austin Henderson and Appleton North/East's Ian Ridlehoover were named co-swimmers of the year while North/East's Drew Schmitz was named diver of the year.

GYMNASTICS

Okon earns second-team all-Eastern Valley

Oshkosh North/West's Rayleigh Okon was the lone gymnast to make the Eastern Valley all-conference teams.

Okon earned second team as the sophomore finished with 41 points on the year.

WRESTLING Wildcats land two on all-FVA second team

Oshkosh West had another great season and the Wildcats had three land on the Fox Valley Association all conference teams, the league announced recently.

The Wildcats had two earn second team in freshman Edwyn Schroeder at 120 pounds and senior Roman Martell at 195 pounds.

Earning honorable mention was senior Max Carlin at 138 pounds.

North had two wrestlers make the all-FVA teams in senior Jeremiah Chmielewski (220 pounds) and junior Jamaul Ragland-Schreck (170).

West finished fourth in the FVA while the Spartans were ninth out of 10 teams.

Carpenter named Trailways top wrestler

The Lourdes team didn't have many wrestlers this season, but was represented well as Mason Carpenter was named the Trailways wrestler of the year in the Boys North division.

Carpenter capped his season at the WIAA Division 3 State Tournament, where he finished second at 120 pounds. **GIRLS HOCKEY**

Spies is one of six all-conference selections

The Fond du Lac girls co-op team had a great season and it was evident as six Warbirds made the Eastern Shore Conference teams, the league announced recently.

Leading the Warbirds was junior Ella Spies, who made the first team on defense. Making second team, also on defense, was senior Emily Brown while freshman Allison Waara and sophomores Josie Kooima and Kristi Binder all made honorable mention as forwards.

Junior goalie Hailee Scheier also made honorable mention.

BOYS HOCKEY

Three Ice Hawks earn honorable mention

The Oshkosh boys team had three members land on the Badgerland Conference all-conference team.

Earning those honors included senior Ethan Hoodie, freshman Armani Fisher and junior Winston Knobloch. Also earning co-Coach of the Year was John Thomson.

Hoodie finished with 20 goals and 13 assists this year, Fisher had 17 goals and 16 assists while Knobloch had 20 goals and 15 assists.

Marshall Koch and Michael LaMore earned Scholar-Athlete awards as well.

The Ice Hawks finished 8-13-2 this season and were fifth in the conference with a 3-5-2 mark.





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Wildcats soccer looking to build on strong 2021

By Dustin Riese

HERALD CONTRIBUTOR

The 2020 season was supposed to be one of optimism for the Oshkosh West program. Instead, it turned into a lost season as COVID prevented the spring season from even starting. A year later, soccer returned and the Wildcats couldn't have asked for a better season.

They put together a strong 10-4-2 showing, including 6-2-1 in Fox Valley Association play, and the Wildcats advanced to the sectional round of competition before falling to conference

SOCCER PREVIEW

champion Appleton East. "It was so great to get on the pitch

last year," head coach Jim Jungwirth said. "I'm so proud of the girls for our 2021 season. We accomplished some great things, third in conference and regional champs. We lost to Appleton East in the sectional game in overtime. It was a very close game. It was a very compact season that went by quickly. We had a big group of seniors.'

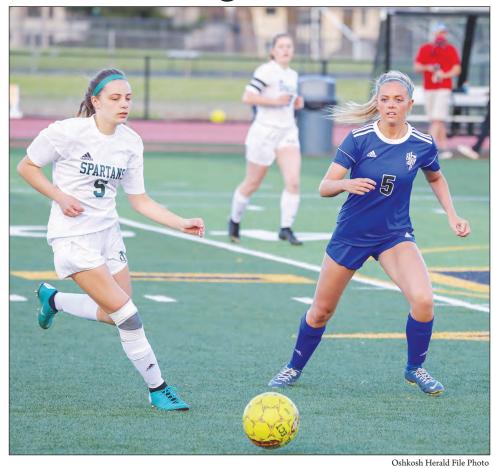
Unlike last year where everything was condensed, this season brings a normal off-season to the equation. Even with a large cast of seniors gone from last year's team, Jungwirth has high expectations.

"You always have the goal to finish one place higher in the conference and go to the sectional final game," he said. "We will be working hard to accomplish those goals. I am looking forward to seeing Appleton East again and this time hopefully being the ones to come away with the win."

While the defense may take a little time to gel, offensively is a different story as the Wildcats will have a lot of fire power returning. Look for captains Alaina Palomaki, Sabrina Pickart and Shaye Rob to continue to lead the way. They have been the vocal leaders of this group and spent time this off-season setting up open gyms for the team.

They will be joined by Meredith Poanski in the center midfield position and Taylor Guido and Lauren Best, who are also expected to take on bigger roles. West will also benefit from a sophomore class that is talented with several players that could land on the roster and give the team significant minutes on the field.

Teams like Kimberly, Appleton North and Appleton East are expected to be contenders once again, but there could be a few surprise teams. Fond du Lac and ever-improving Kaukauna come to mind as the FVA appears as wide open as ever. Competitive games bode well for the postseason. "Our team will need to work very hard to get into a strong run," Jungwirth said. "We have to play a little faster, and a little cleaner. We will have to possess and finish better. If we can do that, I like our chances this season."



Both the Oshkosh North and Oshkosh West girls soccer programs have their sights set high entering the 2022 season.

Lourdes set to avenge its loss in regional

If there was ever a team with motivation on their mind, the Lourdes Academy/ Valley Christian team could be it. Coming off a regular season that saw them go 11-6-1 and 5-3 in Trailways play, the Knights dropped a tough regional game to Kiel in which they felt like they played better than what the results showed.

"The coaches and the girls knew right away what style of play we were going to play last season," head coach Juan Gutierrez said. "My takeaway from last year is that we are capable of competing at a higher level these coming years."

This is a team with plenty of experience coming back with talented underclassmen thrown into the mix that bring a new sense of energy. That alone is something Gutierrez loves and is hoping to use to his advantage.

"We have a great number of players that will surprise more than one out there," he said. "They will be very interesting to see; these girls have a great spirit of competitiveness. Natalie Edwards, Allie Huizenga, Delaney Ruedinger and Hailee Bauer, all freshmen; Alish Mains, Charley Mullen, Melanie Tushar (sophomores); junior Addy Hafemeister and senior Cielo Gutierrez Kuhaupt are among the names of a young team but will bring intense energy of competition." For the Knights to continue competing at that level, they need to replace threeyear goalie Paige Droessler. Mullen and Kuhaupt did a great job guiding the team last year and are ready to lead again. Look for Clare Foss, Addy Hafemeister and Ailish Mains to contribute in a variety of ways as their presence and leadership qualities will be crucial.

Spartans hoping youth movement brings success

The 2021 season was a bit of a struggle for Oshkosh North, but a struggle worth taking. After a year in which there was no season, North returned for an abbreviated spring season going 3-9 overall and 2-7 in FVA play.

Not an ideal record, but when you look at the youth movement, it shouldn't come as a surprise.

"Last season we were young, having only four seniors, one who did not play due to an injury," head coach Nicole Palmquist said. "We were a mix of all different levels of skill and really focused not only on improving on the field but improving our team chemistry. We had some other hiccups along the way with shortened seasons and injuries but made the most of it."

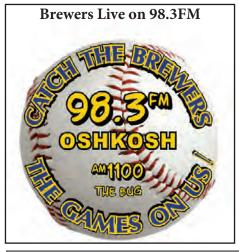
Palmquist is expecting that with more experience comes more competitive games.

"Our main goal this year is to compete in each and every game, hopefully ending with a regional title," she said. "We must replace a senior that was in our backline and a senior up front, which we have a handful of freshmen coming into the program this year. I am looking forward to this season and am excited to see what the freshmen can bring to the team."

Perhaps the best part of only having four seniors is that a large portion of the roster and starters will be returning. That is the case for the Spartans as they will be leaning heavily on returning players. Mia Salbego (forward), Lindsay Porst (goalie) and Klara Stelzer (defender) will be looking to take on a more vocal role.

"We need to continue to improve our team chemistry and believe in each other and ourselves," Palmquist said. "Lastly, just focusing on taking one day at a time and taking care of our bodies so come playoff time we are healthy and ready to go."





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Lourdes baseball team looking for encore

By Dustin Riese Herald contributor

The 2021 baseball season couldn't have gone much better for now third-year Lourdes head coach Cole Boge, as his team played at an elite level. After finding out his first season at the helm would be taken away due to COVID, no one knew what to expect out of the Knights last season.

What they got was an inspired team that saw themselves reach the regional final, posting a 17-7 overall record to go with an 8-1 mark in Trailways play. That was good

BASEBALL Preview

 for second place.
 "Last season was interesting early on as we got acclimated
 to the new COVID rules for the confer-

ence," head coach Cole Boge said. "I don't know that last year was all that much different due to COVID though."

Unlike a lot of teams coming off great seasons, Lourdes still has plenty of talent returning. Guys like Jack McKellips, Nathan Slagter, Jayden Lewan and Fisher McKenzie may not be back, but that doesn't take away from the core returning in 2022.

For that reason, look for expectations to be high once again as Boge and his team may have an unfinished business mindset.

"Goals for this year's team would be to compete in every game we play in," he said. "We need to practice championship reps every day in practice as well. If we do that, the end results will fall into place."

Look for Dominic Kane to be one of the catalysts on offense. He was a spark at the top of the lineup and provided some speed to go with elite contact rate making him a leadoff threat. Marshall Koch is another player to watch out for as he will be looking to take on a bigger role.

In terms of pitching, the loss of McKenzie will be huge, but ace Gavin Stelter will be back. He was the stopper a season ago and whenever they needed a win Stelter often delivered. Isaiah Humiston is another arm that will step up and look to establish himself in the rotation in 2022.

"We need to put the ball in play more than we did a season ago," Boge said, "not be overly aggressive at the plate. Throw quality strikes. We will also need to figure out who to play where as we are losing four starters from last year's team."

Experienced Spartans look to move up in FVA

The Oshkosh North program has gone through a roller-coaster in recent seasons after having their 2020 season canceled and introducing a new head coach in 2021, the third in three years.

Despite that and despite having one of the youngest teams in the state, Robert Loeper saw his team go 11-14 on the season including 8-10 in FVA play.

"Last year we were one of the youngest teams in the conference and possibly the only one without a player who had varsity playing experience," Loeper said. "I felt at times we exceeded expectations and at other times we were a play/pitch away from pulling out a victory, which could be attributed to the lack of varsity game experience."

With the 2022 season set to begin, North may be young in terms of varsity standards, but they will have a ton more experience coming back. You get a sense the conference sees that also as they are predicted to finish in the middle of the league standings this season. The FVA is always a grind, but Loeper wants his group to remain focused throughout the season and the results will take care of the rest.

"Our goal this season is to not get (to) points during a game where that one play/ pitch will determine the outcome of that game," he said. "Instead of relying on the other team to make mistakes to win, do enough over the course of the game to win it on our own. We are predicted fifth in the conference so the expectations are to finish above that prediction."

Look for second-team all-conference catcher Ethan Bennett to play a huge role offensively as will honorable mention outfielder Jake Kese. North will also have the privilege of having several productive arms returning as Max Bittner, Logan Frank and Colton Angell will anchor a deep staff that theoretically has five guys who can step in and start.

"We need our leaders to lead and lead by example," Loeper said. "Our senior group is an excellent group of kids. We also need the upcoming group to push the upperclassmen. Constant competition will only make us stronger. If we push each other during practices, that carryover should help during games."

Wildcats hope late season surge is a sign

Wins were hard to come back last year for Oshkosh West, but the way they finished gives them optimism heading into 2022.

"Even though we did struggle last season with the sports overlap, the Wildcats finished the season winning four of the last six games and getting to the regional final," head coach Tony Gerharz said. "This season we are back to a normal practice/game schedule and having to deal with the unpredictable spring weather in Wisconsin. Our preseason open gyms were well attended and have a good number of players out for baseball."

Winning games is always tough in the FVA, but if this team stays competitive, Gerharz feels the winning ways will return.

"Our goals and expectations are always to be competitive for the FVA championship and beyond," he said. "Both the players and coaches are very good and it is an enjoyable experience to be part of."

They will need to replace six talented seniors in Colton Tirpe, Andrew McCoy, Zach Rebholz, Aiden Berndt and Cole Krueger. Tripe and McCoy provided a huge lift on the mound, while Krueger finished second on the team in RBIs.

Even with so many graduating from the program last season, the success of the Wildcats hinges on their returning class. Brady Block will anchor the team at third base. Ben Buehring will be the starting catcher and in the middle of the lineup looking to do a lot of damage.

Mason Freund will be at second base and was one of the top hitters last season. Mason Rohr, Xavier Gauthier and Roman Martell are also returning starters and will play a significant role in their offensive success.

In terms of pitching, the Wildcats do have to replace two arms. Look for Chase Bauer, Samuel Heidl, Zach Cornell, Preston Vaughan and Gauthier to all see time on the mound and anchor down much of the Wildcats innings. Also look for newcomer and speedster Riley Taylor to have an important role after qualifying for the state track meet last season.



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Titan gymnasts capture fifth national title

The University of Wisconsin Oshkosh gymnastics program is back on top.

After two seasons without a national meet, the Titans topped the six-team field

to capture the National Collegiate Gymnastics Association title this past weekend in Ithaca, N.Y.

It is the Titans third NCGA championship and fifth national title overall in the program's history. The Titans last won the

crown in 2007 with their other NCGA title coming in 1989.

UW Oshkosh finished with a school



record score of 194.100, which edged out defending champion SUNY-Brockport's score of 192.600. Two other WIAC programs competed in the NCGA

> championships with UW-La Crosse taking third (192.575) and UW-Whitewater finishing fifth (191.875). The Titans finished fourth at the last NCGA meet held in 2019. The event was canceled the last two years for health and

safety protocols.

Emily Buffington and Trinity Sawyer led the way for the Titans as each earned

individual all-American honors.

Buffington tied for first on the uneven bars finishing as one of four gymnasts at the meet to score 9.800. It was the 18th individual national title in program history.

Sawyer collected her all-American honors by placing third in the floor exercises with a school-record score of 9.80 and taking fifth on the vault with a score of 9.75.

Other UWO gymnasts to earn all-American honors were: Rahdea Jarvis, fifth on the uneven bars (9.75); Olivia Keller, sixth on the balance beam (9.775); and Emily Gilot, eighth on the vault (9.70).

UWO went unbeaten against all of its NCAA Division III competition this past season.

Ruedinger steps down as Lourdes boys coach

Dennis Ruedinger has stepped down as the boys basketball coach at Lourdes Academy.

The highly successful coach led the Knights for a total of 18 seasons, coaching from 2000-14 and then again from 2019-2022. He finishes his career with a 285-175 record.

Ruedinger, who was an all-American player for UW Oshkosh, led the Knights to the WIAA State Tournament five times during his tenure, including the 2021 Division 5 state title when he led them to a 25-5 mark. He was also an assistant coach on the program's 1998-99 WISAA Division 2 state title team.

This past season, Lourdes Academy finished 18-9 and tied for second place in the Trailways East.



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Obituaries

Ruth Ann Doner May

Ruth Ann Doner May, 73, of Shallotte, NC peacefully passed away on December



25, 2021, after a heroic battle with cancer. Ruth grew up in

Oshkosh, Wisconsin and was a 1966 Oshkosh West graduate. Ruth participated in many activities and was known for her artistic talent including

her love for music and her roles in school musicals. Ruth remained in touch with the Oshkosh community and thought fondly of her hometown.

Ruth was an artistic, adventurous, tal-



ented woman who was passionate about games and having fun with friends. Her outgoing personality served her well as a Chamber of Commerce Director where she promoted and protected the interests of the business community.

Ruth May was predeceased by her husband, Kenneth May, of Lakeland, Georgia; her parents Peg and Jack Doner, Leesburg, Florida, formerly of Oshkosh, Wisconsin. She is survived by her devoted son Jeffrey M. Strasser, and his wife, Chris Strasser, of Supply, North Carolina along with 5 grandchildren and 2 great-grandchildren.

A private family memorial was held. Memorial messages can be sent to Jeffrey Strasser at Ihateflooring@gmail.com.



Michael Paul Saray

Michael Paul Saray, age 45, of Oshkosh, went to be with his Lord on Sunday, March



20, 2022. Michael passed away very unexpectedly. He was born on December 7, 1976 in Neenah, WI to Paul Saray and Susan (Schiefelbein) Saray. Michael graduated from Oshkosh West High School in 1995.

Shortly after high school Michael and his girlfriend, Mary Jo (Bahr) Crooks were blessed with their son, Andrew. Later Michael went on to marry Michelle Schoenberger on August 15, 2000, Currently Michael was living up north in Mercer, WI. Michael worked his entire life in retail sales, starting at a young age at the Piggly Wiggly stores and later at Shopko, Bed Bath and Beyond and Dollar General. Retail sales and helping people was a passion in Michael's life. Michael's son Andrew was the light of his life and always kept him striving to be the best Dad he was capable of being. He loved his time with his son just hanging out and being silly. Michael was so proud of the man Andrew grew up to be. Throughout Michael's life he enjoyed playing baseball, bowling and most of all being up north. He loved the outdoors, riding the trails on his ATV, hiking and hunting in northern Wisconsin. Michael touched the lives of everyone he met and was loved by all.

He is survived by and his memory will

be cherished by his son, Andrew Saray of Oshkosh; his parents, Paul and Susan Saray; a sister, Melissa (Scott) Wesenberg; a brother, Matthew Saray, all of Oshkosh; aunts and uncles, Janet (Hugo) Paulik, Charles (Deb) Schiefelbein, both of Oshkosh, and Daniel (Teri) Saray of Oconto; cousins, Marty (Julie) Paulik of Oshkosh, Ben (Karen) Paulik, of West Virginia, Jessica Kortbein of Oshkosh, Aaron Saray of Milwaukee, Leigha (Andrew Minster) Saray, of New London, Jordan Saray, Alana (Christopher Beekman) Saray of Oconto, Julie Jansen of Oshkosh, Michael (Chris) Paulik of Winneconne, Tim Paulik of New London and Dan (Kathy) Paulik of Menasha; his Godparents, Patty Schultz of Oshkosh and Charles Schiefelbein of Oshkosh. He was preceded in death by his grandparents Lloyd and Lorraine Schiefelbein of Oshkosh; Nick Saray of Oshkosh, Robert and Betty DeBoth of New Holstein and by many close great-aunts and uncles.

A memorial service celebrating his life will be held on Thursday, March 31, 2022 at 1 pm in the Poklasny Funeral Home, 870 W. South Park Ave. in Oshkosh with the Rev. Chadwick Graham officiating. A time of visitation will be held at the funeral home on Thursday from 11 am until the time of service. Inurnment will be in Ellenwood Cemetery. In lieu of flowers a memorial fund will be established.

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Obituaries

Carla Hansen

Carla Hansen of Oshkosh Wisconsin passed unexpectedly and peacefully in her



sleep at her home on March 22.

She was born Carlene June Gear on January 27th, 1943 to Robert and Margaret Gear in Menasha, Wisconsin. She was

an active student at Menasha High School and took pride in being part of the cheerleading squad.

She started her college career at Illinois Institute of Technology, pursuing a degree in nuclear physics. She put college

Janet A. Kletzien

Janet joined our heavenly family after a long battle of health issues while surround-



ed by loves ones. She was loved and cared for by many and will be greatly missed by all who knew her. Janet loved collecting unicorns throughout the years and even started collecting angels after she won her

fight against pancreatic cancer. She lived a good life with her husband Keith of 25 years. And enjoyed spending time with her grandchildren and taking care of the farm animals.

Preceded in death by her mother and father, Leoda M. Bullock & Frances L. Bullock, sister Marilyn Fritz, brothers Earl Bullock and Lawrence Bullock.

Chieko W. Schwan

Chieko W. Schwan, age 92 of Oshkosh, passed away at her residence on Sunday,



March 27, 2022. She was born on January 5, 1930 in Yokohama, Japan to the late Matutalo and Kikuye (Ichibace) Watanabe.

Chieko moved to the United States in the early 1950's, and married Ralph

Schwan who preceded her in death. Chieko later met Theodore "Ted" Bartels, who

on hold to marry her high school sweetheart, Andy, and start a family. She was the proud mother of 4 beautiful boys; Bruce (and Susie), who live in Hawaii, Richard (and Kandra), who live down the beach, Bob (and Liz) who live in Kiel and Mike (and Erica) who live in New York City. Additionally, she was a proud and happy grandmother to five wonderful grandchildren, Alexis, Eddie, Ally, Christopher and Annabelle.

She was preceded in death by her parents and brothers Thomas, James and Robert and is survived by her sister Annabelle in Long Beach, California and her brother Gerry, and wife Sandy, who live in Wausau, Wisconsin.

In 1985 while raising her four boys,

brother-in-law Charles R. Fritz, and grandson James E. McMahon Jr, (baby JJ).

Survived by her beloved husband Keith C Kletzien Sr., Her daughters, Teresa Slover, Sheila Reed, and Josephine (Jim) McMahon, and son Keith C Kletzien Jr. Her siblings Cecelia (Pat) Peterson, Brenda Fritz, Francis J Bullock, and Mary Krohn. In-laws Kaye Sarwar, Kim Kletzien. Mark (Kristin) Kletzien, Chris (Sue) Snellenberger, and Mother-in-law Roxanne Snellenberger. Also, her 12 grandchildren. And God children, Sean Delabrue and Samuel Snellenberger

There will be a Celebration of Life on July 2, 2022 located at Menominee Park Pavilion 1 in Oshkosh, WI. Hosted by Josie and Mary.



she married on March 8, 1990 in Oshkosh. She retired from Pluswood Industries.

Chieko enjoyed playing cards with her husband and friends, going on casino trips, knitting and crocheting.

She is lovingly survived by her husband, Ted Bartels; stepson, Christopher (Bryna) Bartels; stepdaughter, Rose (Paul) Bruce; step-grandchildren: Anna Bartels, Rachael, Daniel, Nyla and Jennifer Bruce; special niece, Kathy (preceded, Donald) Goodacre.

A private service will be held for family.

KONRAD-BEHLMAN



she completed her college degree from University of Wisconsin - Oshkosh, earning a degree in Accounting with honors. She went on to become a Certified Public Accountant, enjoying a career with Schumaker, Romenesko and Associates and finishing her career as a finance manager with Brickham Stamping.

She loved and cared for many living things and was an active birder. She took great interest in seeing and identifying new birds for her life list, often traveling with her sister Annabelle to see new places and new birds. Her decades long dedication to the Winnebago Audubon Society earned her a Meritorious Service Award.

Her family are lifelong active members of the boat racing community, traveling throughout the country racing. She was dedicated pit crew for her family and was

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responsible for 3 national champions, two of her sons (Bruce and Mike) and her husband Andy, a member of the Racing Hall of Fame. Andy called her the Big Engine because she kept everything moving and working well.

She always looked forward to spending time with her husband, children and grandchildren. She brought people together and made the lives of those around her better. As a loving wife, mother and friend, she will be dearly missed by many. A memorial service and celebration will be held in the late spring.

In lieu of flowers please consider a donation in her name to the Winnebago Audubon Society: winnebagoaudubon. org/donate.

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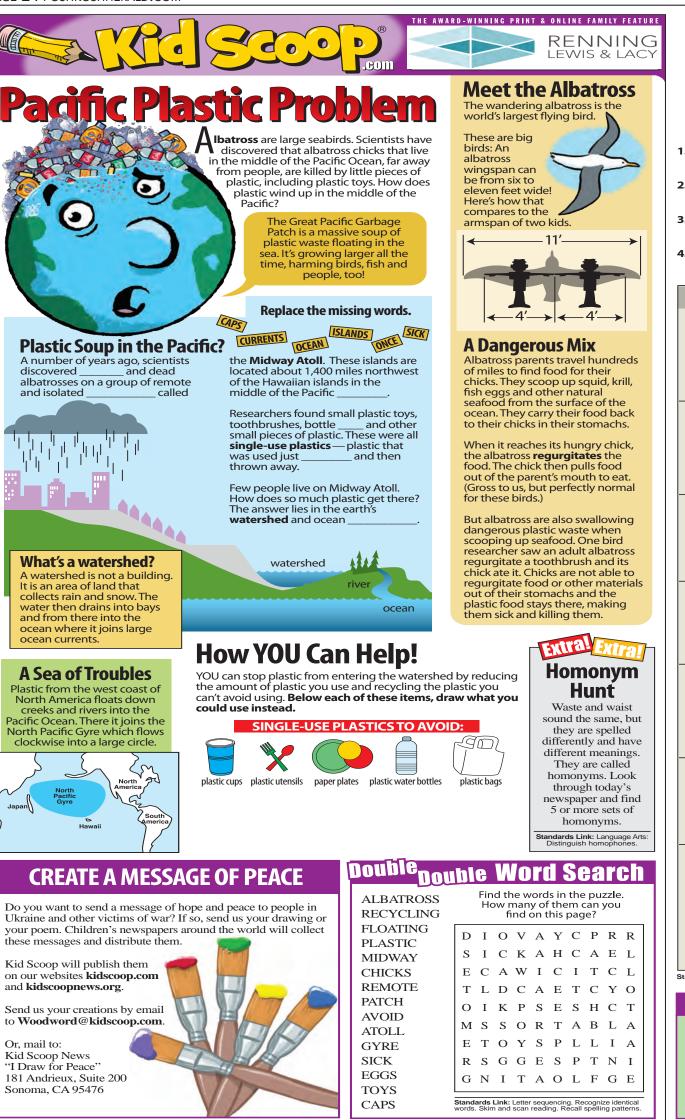
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