Removal of Merrill approved

School preservation effort falls short

By Kaitlyn Scoville
OSHKOSH HERALD

The Oshkosh Area School District Board of Education voted unanimously to raze the entirety of Merrill School after a months’ long discussion with community members vying to preserve the historic architecture.

The resolution also states that no more than $50,000 will be going toward a memorial to recognize the school and those involved in its creation, including James Merrill, for whom the building was named; architect Henry Auler and Harold Schumeth, the namesake of the athletic field that was the site of the current Vel Phillips Middle School.

Since the school board’s initial presentation earlier this year of the plan to add a running track there, a group of residents — known as Save Historic Merrill School on Facebook and yard signs — banded together to try to preserve the early 1900s structure.

On the ballot in November 2020 was a $107 million referendum to implement the first phase of the district’s long-term facilities consolidation plan, which included construction of a new middle school and the “possible removal” of the current building.

This verbiage allowed for communication between district officials and the Merrill decision on Page 12

Herd set to open fifth season in Oshkosh

By Steve Clark
OSHKOSH HERALD

The Wisconsin Herd will be entering its fifth season and tip off the 2022-23 campaign Friday night against the Windy City Bulls at the Oshkosh Arena.

The team has thrived since its inception and team president Steve Brandes expects another strong year for the franchise.

“We couldn’t be more excited for the season,” Brandes said. “Right now our season-ticket sales are about the same in year-over-year, but our sponsorship support and our group sales have been really strong.”

One of the reasons for the optimism is that for the first time in a couple of years the franchise won’t have to endure added health and safety protocols due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Although the Arena still institutes mindful cleaning policies, the lack of additional protocols brings a feeling of normalcy.

“It will feel good to be back to normal,” Brandes said. “The restrictions and protocols we had were lifted during the midpoint of last year so people are looking to get back at it and enjoy the games.”

On the court, head coach Chaisson Allen returns for his second season at the helm.

Check it out

Be sure to check out today’s edition for a four-page special section on the Wisconsin Herd’s 2022-23 season. It includes the schedule, roster and more.

Citizens training

Lt. Tyler Sleeter explains SWAT equipment to participants in the Winnebago County Sheriff’s Department’s Citizens Police Academy session held last week. Residents receive training similar to that of police officers through lectures, simulated activities and hands-on experience. Lt. Tim Richman, who administers the 13-week program, said it is part of the department’s transparency efforts that can build relationships and better inform residents about the reality of police work.

See Herd opener on Page 10

New distillery

UWO professor set to open Sturgeon Spirits

Page 6

State meet

Area runners compete at state cross country

Pages 18-19
Unruly students on buses discussed

By Kaitlyn Scoville
November 2, 2022

While student ridership is set to break record numbers this year, it hasn’t come without its challenges for the Oshkosh Area School District and the city in managing some students’ poor behavior.

The Board of Education met with the city’s Common Council to discuss ongoing relationships between the two parties, specifically with some arising issues from a student ridership program with GO Transit.

The student ridership program began under a three-year contract in 2019 between the city and school district to allow more accommodations for students across the city, and is set for renewal this budget season.

In October alone, there have been more than 17,000 rides from students in the district, city director of transportation Jim Collins said. And for all of 2022, it’s projected that the city will have given 147,000 rides to students.

That’s 58% over projections and 70% overall of 2021’s total student ridership, he said.

Amid those increases, GO Transit operations manager Steve Tomaski told board and council members there have been more disruptive behaviors among students in the first two months of the 2022-23 school year than all of last year.

Tomaski said some middle school students on one occasion assaulted someone on their commute to work, and described “borderline riots” when loading and unloading buses.

Particularly, these issues persist on the city’s north side, according to Tomaski.

To help mitigate some of these issues, Collins said GO Transit added a “tripper bus,” or additional route on the path that passes by Oshkosh North High School.

If students were found being disruptive on public buses, the city has the right to suspend their use of the service as a disciplinary action and, Collins said, to show they don’t tolerate such behavior.

With this, Tomaski and Collins said in reviews of cities of similar size and ridership programs, there have been times in which students had to register with the transit system for identification purposes should anything happen.

This is not in place in Oshkosh but council members expressed general approval for something like this if the contract is renewed.
Oshkosh Herald

The city of Oshkosh’s comprehensive quality-of-life survey is open to residents who are invited to complete the survey at polcaus/22/oskosh through Nov. 15. The survey includes questions about community characteristics, services provided and priorities for the future. Some residents have randomly received the survey by mail as part of the statistically valid sample.

City staff have been working with independent consultant Polco to develop the National Community Survey (NCS), which allows cities to compare results and benchmark residents’ opinions against other communities. The NCS is a scientific survey used in more than 350 jurisdictions across 46 states.

Municipalities have reported the tool improves service delivery, strengthens communications with community stakeholders and helps leaders identify priorities for strategic planning and budget development.

Survey results are expected in mid-December.

Volunteer needs

Ascension Mercy Hospital is looking for volunteer help in the outpatient testing area. Openings are available on Monday and Tuesdays from 7:30 to 11 a.m. Volunteers assist Outpatient Services reception staff with various duties, such as assisting patients in gowning for tests and escorting patients to the location of their procedure. Volunteers also are needed in assisting nursing staff and patients on the inpatient rehabilitation unit. For more information, contact 920-223-0225 or MHVolun@ascension.org. Apply online at ascension.org/ascensionmercyvolunteer.

The Community Blood Center is looking for cafe attendants to serve refreshments, supervise post-donation recovery process and partake in conversation with donors. Volunteer for a minimum of one 3-hour shift per month at donor centers in Oshkosh, Little Chute or Appleton. Must be 18. Contact Jessica at 920-312-4283 or jklingberg@communityblood.org.

Santas needed for COL

Celebration of Lights is looking for a few Santas to work a minimum of five nights from Nov. 25 through Dec. 23 in the trailer with no contact with children. Nights from Nov. 25 through Dec. 23 in the trailer with no contact with children. Must be 16. Contact Jessica at 920-410-4624 or Norm Reichenberger at 920-223-0225. To learn more, contact Leon Thompson at 920-424-0876. Visit uwosh.edu/lir for more information.

Correction

In the story about Buckstaff’s history, it was incorrectly stated that the intellectual property of the company was signed over to Moss Designs by 2012. It was signed over with the bank’s acquisition of the business when it closed in 2011.

The League of Women Voters of Winnebago County will celebrate its centennial as an organization Saturday at the Oshkosh Public Museum, the same location where it first organized in 1922 at the Sawyer House.

The first public meeting held in the Oshkosh Public Museum 100 years ago – and centennial of the Oshkosh League of Women Voters – will be celebrated with a short historical program at 1 p.m. Saturday at the museum.

The Oshkosh League was organized in 1922 and held its first meeting in the library of what was then the Sawyer House. The League advertised the program was to be the first in a series of 10 lectures on “Women and Government” by professor F.E. Mitchell of the Oshkosh Normal School, which became the University of Wisconsin Oshkosh. It was emphasized that “it is the aim of the League to be entirely nonpartisan and therefore the lectures will have nothing to do with partisan politics.”

The Sawyer House was not yet prepared for public meetings as the city had just taken charge of the Sawyer Foundation, but League officers Mrs. H.B. Os good and Mrs. G.A. Buckstaff had been granted special permission to hold the meeting.

As there were no chairs in the house, League members spread the word to “bring your own chair.” There was no charge for the lecture and those interested in attending could “take the street car right to the door.”

Overflow parking during street construction is available at the River Valley Church, 1331 High Ave.

Former Governor Thompson to speak at LIR meeting

Former Gov. Tommy Thompson will speak at a Learning in Retirement public event set for 1-3 p.m. Nov. 10 at the University of Wisconsin Oshkosh Culver Family Welcome Center. Thompson is the longest serving Wisconsin governor. In 2001, President George W. Bush appointed him as secretary of Health and Human Services, a position he held until 2005. He has since held positions in the private sector and served on many boards of directors.

His most recent public service position was as interim president of the UW System.

To attend, register by emailing lir@uwosh.edu or calling 920-424-0876. Visit uwosh.edu/lir for more information.


From LWV Winnebago County
Student exam results show gains, ongoing goals

By Kathryn Scoville

Students in the Oshkosh Area School District (OASD) measure between fall- ing behind and exceeding state averages, according to Wisconsin Student Assess- ment System (WSAS) exam results.

Each year, students participate in stan- dardized testing to help determine how they’re progressing toward grade-level ex- pectations and to assess how well schools prepare them to be college and career ready. WSAS results are a component of the state-legislated school and district re- port cards issued in November.

The Department of Public Instruction ( DPI) stated that testing results statewide showed strong signs of recovery and prog- ress as students continue to work through learning disruptions and challenges caused by the COVID-19 pandemic.

The DPI urged caution when making cross-year compar- isons in assessment results between 2019, 2021 and 2022, due to differences in tested populations. No as- sessments were com- pleted for the 2019-20 school year due to the COVID stay at home order.

WSAS exams include the Forward Exam, the American College Testing (ACT) Aspire, ACT and Dynamic Learn- ing Maps, which are given to students with significant cognitive disabilities.

According to the DPI, “beginning in spring 2016, the Wisconsin Forward Exam was administered in English lan- guage arts and mathematics in grades 3 through 8, in science in grades 4 and 8, and in social studies in grades 4, 8 and 10. The Forward Exam is a computer admin- istered assessment which is used to deter- mine how well students are mastering the Wisconsin State Standards.”

Forward Exam English/Language Arts (ELA) results show Oshkosh lagging with 30.9% of examined students scoring proficient, versus the state’s standings at 37%.

ACT results in the state revealed an av- erage score of 17.9, while OASD students rose slightly above with an average score of 18.4 in ELA. The state’s average profi- ciency on the ACT was at 35%, whereas the OASD’s proficiency is 41.6%.

The ACT Aspire scores in ELA showed a 27.7% proficiency across the state ver- sus the OASD’s 39.7%. However, 21.6% of students in Wisconsin scored “below basic” on this test, and in Oshkosh, 23.7% scored as such.

Julie Conrad, district director of cur- riculum and assessment, said that while some of these tests reveal a below-average score, she and the district recognize that students are more than numbers and data points.

“We strive every day to help students reach their potential and become college, career and community ready,” Conrad said. “The latest results indicate the dis- trict’s ability to positively impact student growth and build upon their learning year after year. The longer students are enrolled in the Oshkosh Area School Dis- trict, the better they perform.”

She added that the district is committed to using a multifaceted and strategic ap- proach to ensuring every child succeeds, especially as it works through learning disruptions and challenges caused by the pandemic.
Future of county diversity panel left in doubt

By Bethanie Gengler
Oshkosh Herald

Infighting among county supervisors regarding the potential dissolution of the Winnebago County Diversity Affairs Commission (DAC) continued at the most recent Board of Supervisors meeting.

District 1 Supervisor Rachael Dowling most recently chastised District 25 Supervisor Karen Powers at the board’s Oct. 18 regular session for implying that members of the DAC were racist and accusing a member of being a part of QAnon, a right-wing conspiracy theory.

Powers said she didn’t accuse a DAC member of being a part of QAnon but said she relayed information that she was told by a resident that a committee member was a part of QAnon.

“No one has insulted anyone and certainly have not insulted Supervisor Dowling in any way whatsoever and if she has something written or something recorded that she can prove me wrong, bring it on,” Powers said.

Board chair Thomas Egan said the person of concern was warned about what could happen next time.

“Remember, we’re all grownups here,” he said.

The fate of the DAC has been a heated topic in recent months, with the commission adopting a resolution to dissolve itself at a meeting in August.

County Executive Jon Doemel said during the September Board of Supervisors meeting that he was considering disbanding the commission, stating he has struggled to maintain a full commission and the DAC has become political.

The DAC is overseen by the UW Education, Extension and Agriculture Committee. That committee discussed dissolving the DAC last month.

According to the resolution, the commission is ineffective and the relationship with the Agriculture Committee is dysfunctional. Some members of the Agriculture Committee disagree, expressing that they fear the push to dissolve will affirm that diversity has taken a step back in the county.

District 13 Supervisor Steven Binder said during the discussion that Doemel has done everything in his power to dismantle the DAC. He said he offered Doemel many qualified candidates to be on the commission and Doemel didn’t appoint any of them. The committee voted to table the dissolution vote until November.

At the Oct. 13 DAC meeting, member Kathryn Noll-Arias questioned the motives behind dissolution.

“I personally do find it extremely curious that two new members, almost brand-new members, joined this committee, one of them volunteering to be chair, only to immediately request at the exact same meeting that this committee be dissolved,” she said, referring to the August meeting where Jared Longsine was elected as chair and Dowling as vice chair, after which Longsine motioned to dissolve the DAC, which Dowling seconded.

At the October meeting, two other people interested in becoming members attended. If the DAC is not dissolved, it will vote on the new members in November. If their membership is affirmed, the DAC would send the recommendation to Doemel for approval.

Part of the DAC’s meeting was spent discussing the September Agriculture Committee meeting. Longsine addressed the comment about a DAC member being a part of QAnon.

“There are multiple believers of QAnon, so if any of us five are members of QAnon, that’s crazy talk,” he said, adding that QAnon is a conspiracy group that he doesn’t believe.

District 5 Supervisor Kay Horan said she feels the commission causes distress and if the DAC continues, she hopes other committees provide some oversight and direction.

Dowling and Horan are bringing the resolution to dissolve the DAC to the county board meeting Nov. 15. If the board votes against dissolution, Longsine said they will be updating the DAC’s bylaws, strategic plan and future speakers.

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COVID-19 VACCINE CLINIC

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3:30 - 5:00 P.M.
Oaklawn Elementary School
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FREE GAS CARDS!
Anyone receiving their 1st, 2nd, or booster dose at this clinic will get a $25 gas card while supplies last!
Spirited venture pays homage to local tradition

By Dan Roherty

Oshkosh Herald

November 2, 2022

UL Oshkosh professor set to open distillery

A UW Oshkosh professor’s passion for the art of distilling and how it connects to local history has been fueling those energies into the city’s first liquor manufacturing facility since the 1930s.

Sturgeon Spirits Craft Distillery plans to be up and running in mid-November at 2663 S. Oregon St. with a tasting room and distillery operation that Karl Loewenstein has been crafting with the same focus he intends to bring to alcohol spirits.

As with similar business ventures that combine production with a public element, there was a variety of permits to secure and custom materials to order amid supply-chain bottlenecks that Loewenstein has patiently assembled to get his craft spirits ready to pour and enjoy.

Production will start with vodkas and gins, which can be bottled straight away. Ten new whiskey barrels he was able to acquire recently to the bourbon needing a longer finishing period.

The distillery’s production capacity can reach up to 500 bottles a day.

The custom-made bar is topped with repurposed 19th-century wood from the former Appleton Tractor Co. foundry over a frame using tin from an old starch factory since the 1930s.

By Dan Roherty

Above, Karl Loewenstein has his distillery room prepared for production of his Sturgeon Spirits products. A mid-November opening is planned for the business at 2663 S. Oregon St.

owners picking up and moving to California. Once he gets regular production flowing in the circa-1965 building that he renovated – complete with a blast-proof room for alcohol storage – Loewenstein hopes to explore some of those former Oshkosh brands that included a rye whiskey and an Irish-style malted barley.

The city’s background with liquor production goes back to the 19th century and Silver Springs Distillery, originally on Washington Street and later expanding to Snell Road. Loewenstein said newspaper reports described how the facility happened to burn down at the same time Prohibition arrived with the same focus he intends to bring to alcohol spirits.

A Russian history teacher since 2002 at the university, Loewenstein said it was time for him to add a second career that incorporated other local interests he has enjoyed. His also serves on the city’s Plan Commission and is a former Board of Education member.

His business partner also happens to be his wife, Ripon College biology professor Memuna Khan, whose brother has been helping with product development as a flavor scientist.

The distillery’s name carries a connection for Loewenstein with the rare fish species found and maintained in Lake Winnebago. Research on his family’s history room for alcohol storage – Loewenstein has been super fascinated with. And distilling is something I’m super excited about. And distilling is history, too.”

The city’s background with liquor production goes back to the 19th century and Silver Springs Distillery, originally on Washington Street and later expanding to Snell Road. Loewenstein said newspaper reports described how the facility happened to burn down at the same time Prohibition arrived with the city of Eureka and its Pure Class vodka is the other distillery operation in the Oshkosh area.

“We’ve got a very small statewide (distillery) organization but they are all super friendly and helpful, and if I ever have any questions or problems they are there to help me out,” he said.

Holding to his teaching background, Loewenstein will be conducting Saturday classes on distilling and history that will involve his smaller 40-gallon copper fermenter that can produce micro specialty batches.

Loewenstein said he will be establishing Thursday through Sunday hours when the doors open.

Spirited venture pays homage to local tradition

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Author Edward Patrick Bentley has released a paperback book that showcases articles and obituaries from 19th-century Oshkosh titled “What a Way to Go: Death in Oshkosh in the 1880s.”

Before photography was common-place, newspaper writers used a unique, graphic style of writing to allow readers to visualize the sometimes horrific and tragic events that occurred in their cities and neighborhoods,” an Amazon book description reads.

The Grand Rapids, Mich., based writer began research on The Daily Northwestern in the mid-1890s on another subject before focusing on the steadily reported loss of life in the community during the 1880s.

“My intention in assembling these life-ending stories – the ultimate in reality – is to share that fascination with, and the appreciation for, journalism in the 1880s,” Bentley writes in the introduction.

Business news roundup

The Doggie Paddle is relocating from 1335 Planetary Drive to 2201 Oregon St. in the Oregon Trail Commerce Center. Owner Mike Mokler said reservations are being postponed until they make the move and set up operations. Follow The Doggie Paddle and Curve Crest Kennels on Facebook for more updates.

S.C. Swiderski held a ribbon-cutting ceremony Wednesday to mark completion of its first multifamily project in Oshkosh at 4105 State 91. The construction and property management business is celebrating 30 years by donating $1,000 of that amount to the Oshkosh Humane Society.

The Wisconsin Resource Center has been honored as the 2022 R. Scott Chavez Facility of the Year by the National Organization on Disability. Launched in Oshkosh, the center is managed in Oshkosh, the center is managed under the Wisconsin Department of Health Services in partnership with the Wisconsin Department of Corrections. It has been accredited since 2006.

Oshkosh Corp. has been named a leading disability employer this year by the National Organization on Disability. The Oshkosh Corp. Abilities Network (OCAN) is one of seven employee business resource groups at Oshkosh.

Oshkosh Corp. subsidiary Pierce Manufacturing had its electric fire truck named the 2022 Coolest Thing Made in Wisconsin out of more than 150 submissions. The Volterra pumper is the first zero-emission electric fire truck in service in North America. The truck was developed to provide the environmental benefits fire departments have requested such as reducing emissions, minimizing fuel and producing less noise.

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Oshkosh
Herald
Bringing Oshkosh news home

Main Street art gallery looks for creative boost

Jambalaya Arts is looking to acquire its building at 413 N. Main St. through a fundraising effort.

Local not-for-profit Jambalaya Arts has an ongoing fundraiser to have community members help them purchase and repair the building they’ve been renting out at 413 N. Main St.

When building owner Jeff Krumrich decided to sell the property, he gave Amie Brownfield and her team of volunteers the first chance to buy it. The organization is hoping to sell the property, he gave Amie Brownfield and her team of volunteers the first chance to buy it. The organization is hoping to sell the property, he gave Amie Brownfield and her team of volunteers the first chance to buy it. The organization is hoping to sell the property, he gave Amie Brownfield and her team of volunteers the first chance to buy it. The organization is hoping to sell the property, he gave Amie Brownfield and her team of volunteers the first chance to buy it. The organization is hoping to sell the property, he gave Amie Brownfield and her team of volunteers the first chance to buy it. The organization is hoping to sell the property, he gave Amie Brownfield and her team of volunteers the first chance to buy it. The organization is hoping to sell the property, he gave Amie Brownfield and her team of volunteers the first chance to buy it.

Brownfield said. “If we are not able to purchase the building and it is bought by another party, the chances of us being able to either stay or afford rent under new ownership are slim to none,” Brownfield said.

Jambalaya Arts has been part of the Oshkosh and Fox Valley art and music scene for more than two decades, allowing hundreds of artists and musicians to become members and give them the opportunity to perform or sell their work. There is no juried process and anyone with original art is welcome.

The gallery also has events, classes and workshops throughout the year. The biggest is the annual Art in the Alley festival. Held the second week of July, the alley behind the gallery is closed to traffic and there are live art demonstrations, community participation murals, crafting tables and live music all day and into the evening.

Other past events include Open Mic Poetry Jam, introduction to oil painting, mask painting, ornament crafting and pour painting. Jambalaya is also a regular in the monthly gallery walks, wine walks, downtown Oshkosh First Fridays and at the summer farmers market.

For those interested in contributing to the fundraiser, visit gofund.me/d94d36cc. Other ways to contribute are to visit the gallery and buy member-donated art, vintage resale art or tax-deductible donations in Jambalaya Arts’ name to Arts Wisconsin. Contact the gallery if donating through Arts Wisconsin on their Facebook page or at jambalaya.arts.inc@gmail.com.
Milos cleanup cause gets recognition
Oshkosh Herald

Mayor Lori Palmeri and the city issued a proclamation for second-grader Milo Cruz and his cleanup efforts around Oshkosh.

Earlier this year, the boys mother, Michelle, had posted on a local Facebook page asking if someone had a hand-me-down wagon for him to use to transfer litter he picks up.

This post caught the eye of local Firehouse Subs Oshkosh owner Steve Ahrens, who messaged Michelle asking for her to call him the next day to learn more about who messaged Michelle requesting for her to house Subs Oshkosh owner Steve Ahrens, used one that she'd be able to spruce up kind gesture. She said she never expected to get a free wagon, but rather was hoping used it as an opportunity to help Milo.

The single mother and caretaker at a local eye has been over in the neighborhood and stormwater runs on the adjacent properties, according to city documents.

The two properties are part of Tax Incremental District No. 35, according to Community Development Director Kelly Nieforth. She said it was created to collect increment from the Oshkosh Corp. development to use for future public projects in the area.

Council member Mike Ford and Deputy Mayor Matt Mugerauer expressed the viewpoint that the development should be part of a greater comprehensive area plan.

On Oct. 20, 2022, the city issued a proclamation on behalf, emphasizing what Milo said: “They’re trying to help someone they don’t even know.”

At the second council meeting of Oct. 20, Palmeri issued a proclamation on behalf of the city. She said it was created to collect increment from the Oshkosh Corp. development to use for future public projects in the area.

Milo Cruz was cited by Mayor Lori Palmeri and the city at last week’s Common Council meeting.

“Milo Cruz was cited by Mayor Lori Palmeri and the city at last week’s Common Council meeting. The city issued a proclamation for second-grader Milo Cruz and his cleanup efforts around Oshkosh. Cruz had picked up trash near the corridor since Oshkosh Corp. began the construction of its global headquarters.

The lots at 1529-1539 Oshkosh Ave. are adjacent to ongoing developments along the corridor since Oshkosh Corp. began the construction of its global headquarters in 2018.

Bock had approached the city in July about converting the single-family homes to office space, for which commissioners were supportive as the external architecture matched the surrounding households.

Once a public meeting was held in August, however, neighbors had generally expressed discontent with the proposal and have “voiced concerns related to traffic, parking, proximity of the development to residential properties, change of the character of the neighborhood and stormwater runoff on adjacent properties,” according to city documents.

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“Milo Cruz was cited by Mayor Lori Palmeri and the city at last week’s Common Council meeting. He also noted that if all 19 budget enhancement requests were approved, it would lead to a 6% levy increase and higher utility rates in 2023.

A public hearing on the 2023 operating budget is tentatively set for 5 p.m. Wednesday, Nov. 2.

In other items at the meeting:

- A development plan was approved for a Scooter’s Coffee drive-thru at 2101 W. 9th Ave.
- The Miles Kimball building redevelopment project completion deadline has been extended from its original planned completion of Sept. 1 to April 1 due to supply chain issues. In 2021, work began to transform the space into apartments.
- Mayor Lori Palmeri issued proclamations recognizing both Native American Heritage Month in November and Take Back the Night, which was held in early October.

Milo Cruz was cited by Mayor Lori Palmeri and the city at last week’s Common Council meeting for his cleanup efforts.

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Winnebago County COVID-19 Vaccine Clinics

- Offering Pfizer and Moderna vaccines.
- Offering a boosted system available!
- Available to anyone 6 months or older. Parent or guardian must be present if under 18.
- Just walk in! No appointment required.
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Winnebago County COVID-19 Vaccine Tour

Updated boosters available to those over the age of 5!

Tuesdays
3:00 - 5:00 p.m.
Fox Crossing Fire Department (1326 Cold Spring Rd, Neenah)

Wednesdays
1:00 - 6:00 p.m.
Sunnyview Expo Center (500 E Cy Tre Y, Oshkosh)

Thursdays
9:00 - 11:00 a.m.
Oshkosh Public Library (106 Washington Ave, Oshkosh)
- Pre-registration recommended. Please call 448-4654. See
- Offering Pfizer, Moderna, Novavax and Johnson & Johnson vaccines.

Winnebago County COVID-19 Vaccine Tour

Pooyan Town Hall
Thursday, Nov 10, 11 a.m. – 1 p.m.
1862 Town Hall Rd, Winneconne

Winneconne Town Hall
Thursday, Nov 10, 11 a.m.– 1 p.m.
6494 County Rd M, Winneconne

OMRO Town Hall
Tuesday, Nov 15, 11 a.m. – 1 p.m.
4015 Rivermoor Rd, Omro

www.wcvaccine.org/countytour
920-232-3026
Herd opener  
*From Page 1*

Allen spent time during the offseason with Bucks head coach Mike Budenholzer and his staff in preparation for this year and that certainly will help the 33-year-old as he continues to look to grow as a coach.

“It’s another year of growth for me,” Allen said. “Last year, it felt like I coached two seasons. We had more than 35 players that I coached. Just learning from Bud and those guys, I was able to grow a lot over the summer and hopefully I can continue to carry it on to our season.”

The Herd will have some familiar faces on its roster with the likes of two-way players Lindell Wigginton and Sandro Mamukelashvili. Brandon Randolph also returns to the squad.

Among the new faces that were on the Herd’s training camp roster included Alex Antetokounmpo, the younger brother of Giannis and Thanasis; Joe Wieskamp, who was the No. 2 pick in this year’s G League Draft; and former Oshkosh North standout Blake Marquardt.

“We have some versatile guards who can get in the paint, we have some lob threats and then we have some shooting that can open things up,” Allen said. “We have a versatile group this year that can play fast and they do a good job of playing together.”

Following the home-and-home series with the Windy City Bulls on consecutive nights, the Herd will be home for four straight games, including two against the Cleveland Charge on back-to-back nights.

Downtown trick-or-treat

Mickey and Minnie Mouse and their friends greet children who were trick-or-treating at the Oshkosh Saturday Farmers Market in cooperation with downtown merchants. Market manager Michelle Schmid-Schultz said the attendance exceeded expectations and was close to the first summer market in June. The first indoor market of the season will be held Saturday at the Oshkosh Arena.
Holiday warmup

Azure Memory Care reached out to the Oshkosh Seniors Center’s Wisconsin Warmers, a group of volunteers that has sewn and donated quilts to the community for more than 25 years, to provide quilts and knitted hats and mittens for holiday gifts. Wisconsin Warmers reached out to another knitting group at the center and within a month, they had 19 sets of hats, mittens, scarves and a cozy quilt ready to deliver. The center is looking for monetary donations to support the group’s work. Contact services manager Jean Wollerman at 920-232-5300.
Merrill decision

FROM PAGE 1

community for what exactly to do with the site, which school board member Liz Szilagyi said was intentional.

Several members of the Save Historic Merrill School group attended the Oct. 26 school board meeting for one last chance at persuading the group to preserve the original parts of the school. What prevailed over the board discussion, however, was the notion of equity and the amount of green space students at the new Vel Phillips Middle School would be getting compared with other schools in the district.

Merrill School features early 1900s art deco architecture, which is described on Wikipedia as representing “luxury, glamour, exuberance, and faith in social and technological progress.”

New materials such as chrome plating and stainless steel made its debut in art deco during the Great Depression. This style was directed at embodying the modern age.

Schools Superintendent Bryan Davis said Vel Phillips, should the entirety of Merrill be torn down, would have 5.9 acres of green space for an estimated 803 students in its first year, which would give space to about 53 students per acre.

Vis said Vel Phillips, should the entirety of Merrill be torn down, would have 5.9 acres of green space for an estimated 803 students in its first year, which would give space to about 53 students per acre.

Removing Merrill allows us to have green space for students is far more valuable and matches the district’s “students first” approach. They also thanked everybody in the community who had approached the board and administration with alternative plans to consider, even though the vote did not favor the Save Merrill School group.

Vel Phillips Middle School, currently under construction, is set to open in the fall of 2023. The new school is situated adjacent to the current Merrill building at the corner of Kentucky Street and Nevada Avenue.

Once open, Vel Phillips Middle School will be home to students currently enrolled at Merrill and Webster Stanley middle schools. The new school is one component of the first phase of the district’s long-range facilities plan, which received voter support through the success of the district’s 2020 capital referendum.

To learn more, visit oskosh.k12.wi.us/facilities.

“I believe in the long-term best benefit for our students,” board president Barb Herrig said. “Sometimes it’s not possible to satisfy everyone. It is our hope that as a community, we can respectfully move forward and continue to put our students first while being fiscally responsible and keeping the cherished memories of Merrill alive for years to come.”

Oshkosh Herald

Merrill School buildings will be removed to make room for the new middle school campus being constructed.

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West soccer falls to Hudson in sectional final

By Steve Clark

Oshkosh West’s Collin Carsen delivered what appeared to be the perfect header in the 33rd minute of a scoreless WIAA Division 1 sectional final Saturday.

But instead of ducking under the crossbar as it passed into the net or at the very least skimming the bottom of the bar before becoming a goal, Carsen’s header smacked soundly into the crossbar, keeping the Wildcats from grabbing the lead.

It was a great shot off a great corner kick from Iban Heredia, it just didn’t go in. That’s the kind of day it was for Oshkosh West.

The Wildcats saw their season end on the turf at the Marshfield High School football field in a 2-0 loss to state-ranked Hudson, preventing West from making its first trip to the state tournament.

“We had a lot of good chances but couldn’t put one on the back of the net. It was a great game,” West head coach Matt Callahan said. “I think if we could have gotten one in, I think it would have greatly changed the outlook of the game. Unfortunately, it just didn’t happen today.”

Carsen’s header opportunity may have been the closest the Wildcats came to scoring but it wasn’t their only narrow miss.

Heredia drilled a shot just wide from about 25 yards out early in the match, while Max Meszaros, Cameron Cumber and Carson Gerlach also registered shots that were just off the net. Gerlach also glanced a lofted shot off the crossbar.

Carsen also added a long shot that forced the Hudson keeper to make a leaping save.

“We talked at halftime about just trying to calm down and possess the ball a little bit and try to create some high-quality opportunities because we were definitely frazzled at the start,” Callahan said. “This, for a lot of these guys, was the first time they had been to this point.”

Like West, Hudson also found the back of the net difficult but the Raiders had to calm down and possess the ball a little bit and try to create some high-quality opportunities because we were definitely frazzled at the start,” Callahan said. “This, for a lot of these guys, was the first time they had been to this point.”

Both teams faced different obstacles to overcome — Wildcats’ back of the net difficult but the Raiders had trouble getting one on the scoreboard. It wasn’t their only narrow miss.

Hudson finally solved Godfrey with 18 seconds left in the first half and then added their second tally midway through the second half.

West did have opportunities to score after falling behind by two goals, but just couldn’t manage getting one on the scoreboard. It was just the second time West suffered a shutout loss this season.

“Although disappointing, the Wildcats can look back on an 11-4-3 season, which included a Fox Valley Association title and a trip to the sectional final. “It was the best season I have ever had. I had the most fun. We kept pushing and we kept exceeding people’s expectations, and we kept winning,” Godfrey said. “When I think back on it, I can’t believe that we had as many great opportunities as we had.”

Oshkosh West’s John Munson rises to head a ball forward during Thursday’s sectional semifinal win over Wisconsin Rapids.
Lourdes girls rack up runner-up finish at state meet

By Steve Clark
Oshkosh Herald

The hill to the finish line on the state cross country course at The Ridges Golf Course has claimed its share of runners.

On Saturday, the hill had to share its workload with the Lourdes Academy girls.

All of the Knights finished the race passing runners on the last couple of hundred yards as Lourdes Academy pulled off a second-place finish in Division 3 at the WIAA State Cross Country Meet in Wisconsin Rapids.

“I think we did excellent,” head coach Tim Moore said. “On a state day, you just don’t know what’s going to happen. I’m proud of them. They did awesome.”

The Knights finished with 138 points on the day, just six behind Division 3 state champion Cochrane-Fountain City. Valders was third with 151 points.

It was the second time Lourdes Academy grabbed the runner-up spot – the other time was in 2016. It also marks the ninth top-three finish in the team’s 15 appearances at the WIAA state cross country meet.

Last year, the Knights finished third in Division 3.

“From last year, we had it in our hearts that we wanted to win,” Dasha Averkamp said. “We wanted to send the seniors out the same way they came in by winning a state championship.”

All three of the top finishers, along with fourth-place Dodgeville, were in the running for the team and battled atop the leaderboard throughout the race.

With the caliber of teams in the field, Moore said the team took an aggressive strategy into the race and executed it very well.

“Our plan was to get through the first mile aggressively and then get with groups we wanted to be with and then just hold,” Moore said. “There’s a price for doing that, but we were prepared for it and the girls did great.”

Expending energy early in the race also means there can be little left for the final hill.

But the Knights had a plan for that, too.

“Every week, our coach has us run up and down Garbage Hill and do push-ups at

See Lourdes Academy on Page 28
Young Oshkosh West squad makes its mark at state

By Steve Clark
Oshkosh Herald

Oshkosh West cross country coach Steph Polak seemed excited enough to go make a run around the course at The Ridges golf course herself following her team’s performance at the WIAA Division 1 State Cross Country Meet on Saturday.

With a team that had a majority of its runners competing at the state meet for the first time, the Wildcats placed 12th overall among the 20 teams in the Division 1 field totaling 288 points on a crisp, sunny day in Wisconsin Rapids.

“We are so beyond excited with this,” Polak said. “We exceeded our expectations going into today.”

Polak said the team would have been happy with a 15th-place finish and had the group seeking that spot.

The team just overshot the plan.

“Going in, we were ranked 16th, so our goal was just to race strong as a team. It’s definitely satisfying,” said senior Faith Galica. “We made it here as a team, we wanted to finish as a team and have fun while we were doing it.”

Galica and junior Braelee Jodarski once again led the way for the Wildcats.

The duo has been running side-by-side much of the season and found themselves next to each other around the two-mile mark in the state race. Both runners ended up in the top 50 as Jodarski led West in 46th place and Galica took 50th.

“I knew they would stick together and they kept an eye on each other and they kept progressing throughout the entire race,” Polak said. “Having two finish like that helps the team score tremendously.”

Both Jodarski and Galica were deeper in the field at the two-mile mark but they – along with all of the West runners – used a strong final mile to move up through the field. That’s an impressive accomplishment considering the final mile at the state meet course contains multiple hills and the finishes off with a uphill run.

Yet that didn’t bother West.

“I felt really strong going up the hill and just picked girls off,” Jodarski said. “Our whole team, we trained hills hard this year and then our sectional race was at Slinger which is a true test of hills and I think we are all are super strong on hills. That’s kind of our strength as a team.”

Behind the lead duo, Rowen Stellpflug finished 91st, Gwen Liptow was 124th and Katie Elliott was 151st, to round out the scoring runners for Oshkosh West.

Laina Hammen finished 175th and Meredith Stellpflug took 178th for the Wildcats.

“We kept it really relaxed this week. It was just another meet, even though it was state. We really kept focusing on its another meet,” Polak said. “Our upperclassmen kept those freshmen relaxed and in line and they just raced beautifully again. I’m so proud of them.”

The race was the high school finale for Galica, the varsity team’s lone senior. She was happy with the way she capped her career.

“It was my last race so I wanted to leave...
Antetokounmpo happy to be back in Wisconsin with Herd

By Steve Clark

The Wisconsin Herd are glad to have an Antetokounmpo on its roster entering the 2022-23 NBA G League season.

“I was very excited to join the Herd. I was ecstatic,” Antetokounmpo said during the team’s Media Day last week. “I came here to watch my brother (Thanasis) play and play against this team. Now it’s a new chapter and I want to be a part of it. It’s definitely a blessing. It’s kind of different being on this side of it.”

Antetokounmpo, who played at Dominican High School as a high schooler, went to Europe to start his professional career and played against this team and now to the U.S. where he landed a spot on the Sacramento Kings summer league team. Antetokounmpo’s younger brother Alex was acquired in trade with the Toronto Raptors since 2017 and began working to continue and scale up technology to convert dairy farm waste into renewable fuels,” UW Oshkosh Chancellor Andy Leavitt said.

“Antetokounmpo was not sure what his role will be on the team but believes he is a different player than any of his three brothers – Giannis, Thanasis and Kostas. He said he is the best shooter of the brothers but more likely to fill a guard role for the Herd than a forward/post position. That’s not to say he hasn’t been influenced by his bloodlines. Antetokounmpo said, “I feel like I have the ability to shoot the ball, which makes me slightly different.”

“I went through the process, Antetokounmpo said. “After playing with my brothers – Giannis, Thanasis and Kostas. I thought we could make a difference and now being so close to Milwaukee, he’s hoping that his brothers can better monitor his play. "If not, then they are only a phone call away.”

“I can call them for advice. I can say I’m going through this, what did you guys do at as far as life and basketball,” Antetokounmpo said.

UW Oshkosh Today

The University of Wisconsin Oshkosh launched a new effort with biogas partner AgrAbility to build Wisconsin’s first commercial facility to turn dairy farm waste into renewable biofuel.

The $20 million facility at Dairyland Power (GF) + $3

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Calzone

Ricotta Cheese, @Blend Cheese, Choice of 4 Toppings, Classic Sauce

$8.92

Pie-Zone

Cookie or Brownie

$7.92

Ice Cream Cone

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Calzone

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Pie-Zone

Cookie or Brownie

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Start Your Own Campaign

Can’t vote? Start a “Don’t Forget to Vote” Campaign! Here’s how:

1. Get out the “Don’t Forget to Vote”ameda on this page and wear it proudly!
2. On Election Day, ask every person you see who is over 18 if he or she has voted yet. Ask your teacher, your parents, the school secretary, and clerks at stores.

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Clara Smith
- is a U.S. citizen
- is 79 years old
- retired 10 years ago
- has not registered to vote

Maria Marino
- is 50 years old
- is a U.S. citizen
- has registered to vote
- does not read English

Tom Jackson
- is an Army veteran
- is a native of Germany
- is 22 years old
- is a U.S. citizen
- has registered to vote

Paul Chornoff
- born in Nov 1, 2022
- is a U.S. citizen
- does not have a job
- has registered to vote

Throw Your Hat into the Ring

Unscramble each election word on the hat. Then look for an article in the newspaper that uses one of these terms. Read the article and then use your own words to explain what you think the word means.

GANGNAP
GAMPAF
FATPOLRM
PATRPY
TECLION
TOEY
TECNOVIN
LACPIPTOL

Double Word Search

Find these words in the puzzle below:

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CITIZEN
FORGET
RING
VOTE
ELECTION
START
CLERKS
FOLLOW
BADGE
PILOT
PATH
FIND

Extra!

Election ABC’s

Look through the newspaper for 10 words about this coming election. Cut them out and glue them onto a piece of paper in alphabetical order.

Bonus Challenge: Can you find an election word for each letter of the alphabet?

Write On!

Write an article for the newspaper with words that show why it is important to vote. Make a Don’t Forget to Vote poster and find a place in town to put it up!

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SWIMMING

Salzer, Zeinert post wins at FVA meet

Carly Salzer and Samara Zeinert each won the conference titles to help lead Oshkosh West to a four-place finish at the Fox Valley Association meet held Saturday at Appleton North High School.

The Wildcats finished with 332 points, trailing only Appleton North (588), Neenah (560) and Appleton West-Kimberly (413). Oshkosh North/Lourdes Academy finished sixth with 179 points.

Salzer posted a win in the 100-yard butterfly as she was the only competitor in the field to finish under a minute. She posted a time of 59.85 seconds.

Zeinert edged Neenah’s Emma Bot tensen by four-tenths of a second to finish first in the 100-yard backstroke.

West started the meet strong getting a second place from the 200-yard medley relay team of Zeinert, Caitie Schneider, Salzer and Jade Laibly. The Wildcats then grabbed second and third places in the next two races as Laibly and Schneider were second and third, respectively, in the 200-yard freestyle, while Zeinert and Salzer were second and third, respectively, in the 200-yard individual medley.

Schneider and Laibly finished second and third, respectively, in the 500-yard freestyle.

Kathryn Bergin also had a strong day for the Wildcats did add third-place finishes in both the 200-yard freestyle relay and 400-yard freestyle relay.

North/Lourdes was led by a trio of top-10 finishers. Grace Penzenstadler also added a fifth place in the 100-yard butterfly, while teammate Kaitlyn Dietschweiler was seventh in the event.

The only other top-10 finisher for North/Lourdes came in the 400-yard freestyle relay where the foursome of Grace Penzenstadler, Ashlynn Anderson, Addison Perzentka and Kallman placed fifth. North/Lourdes was also eighth in the 200-yard medley relay.

Both teams will be back in action Friday and Saturday, taking part in the WIAA Division 1 sectional meet at Neenah. The diving competition will be held Friday, with the swimming portion of the meet set for Saturday.

Six Oshkosh West golfers earn state academic honors from GCAW

Six members of the Oshkosh West girls golf team were named to the Golf Coaches Association of Wisconsin Academic All-State team, it was announced recently.

Kylie Gibbs, Morgan Toman, Hailey Hamman, Kennedy Footit, Marin Bell and Tessa Whitcomb were all awarded the honor after competing for the Wildcats in the fall 2022 season.

In order to earn the honor, student-athletes are nominated by a GCAW member coach if they meet the following criteria:

grade-point average of at least 3.25; participate in at least 75 percent of their team’s varsity matches; and are in grades 10-12.

A total of 441 girls from 109 different high schools in Wisconsin have been honored with the Academic All-State award.

According to the GCAW, the cumulative GPA of this year’s honorees is 3.837.

An academic team award honoring high school teams with the highest cumulative GPA will be announced in February.
Titans lose heartbreaker to Eagles, slip to 4-4

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UWO roundup

WOMEN’S SOCCER

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Wisconsin workers show renewed energy

Formerly unionized employees switch tactics

By Jacob Resneck
Wisconsin Watch

Kevin Gundlach, president of the South Central Federation of Labor in Madison, said his office phone has been ringing constantly from workers seeking advice on unionization. He estimates employees from some 20 private sector workplaces in his 11-county region around Madison have sought to organize this year.

“This is the first time we’ve seen this level of interest,” he said. “There is no doubt. We’ve never seen this before.”

A wave of Republican laws over the past decade cratered union membership in Wisconsin, but recent private and public sector worker mobilization has demonstrated the staying power of organized labor.

Labor membership in Wisconsin fell dramatically after the passage of Act 10, the anti-public sector collective bargaining bill in 2011, with the sharpest decrease in the nation over the next decade. As of 2021, Wisconsin reached a new low just shy of 8% of the total workforce unionized. Over the past decade, Wisconsin unions lost 124,000 members, or about a third of their ranks, driven largely by the death of public sector unions.

“I don’t think any other state lost almost half their membership in one fell swoop the way Wisconsin did,” said University of Wisconsin-Madison professor emeritus David Nack, who specializes in labor issues.

But amid a labor shortage, private and public sector workers are notching wins across the state as they organize against outsourcing, budget cuts and what they consider threats to academic freedom in local schools.

Gundlach said private sector workers are complaining of worsening conditions with the proceeds of their labor padding executive salaries and enriching corporate stock investors.

“They’re making record profits,” he said.

And they’re not helping out the workers and the families within our communities.”

Gundlach was once a unionized Dane County employee. But Act 10 changed all that, stripping his union of many of its core powers and limiting its ability to bargain for raises, benefits and safe working conditions. The law requires a majority of all employees to vote to re-certify their union each year, a frustrating hurdle that caused many public sector unions to disband.

In Madison, the American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees (AFSCME) lost more than half of its membership in the past five years going from 11,062 in 2016 to just 4,848 this spring.

But rather than fade away, some unions have found new life. Many public sector employees are now members of Dane County Employee Group 720, a move endorsed by the Dane County Board, which codified the right for county workers to self-organize in an ordinance.

There continues to be friction: the Wisconsin State Journal reported this summer that Shawn Tessman resigned abruptly from the county’s Department of Human Services and criticized elected officials for siding with organized employees who called into question the judgment of management.

How far Act 10 goes to limit the power of organized labor in higher education is still playing out more than a decade later. In Oshkosh, about 100 university custodians and groundskeepers faced the threat of layoffs after UW Oshkosh signaled it intended to outsource the work to a Tennessee-based company.

“Recruitment and retention of dedicated custodial and groundskeeping employees remains difficult in this economy,” Chancellor Andy Leavitt wrote in an open letter to students and workers, explaining why the university had been exploring the move to a private vendor.

But after students and faculty picketed and delivered multiple petitions, with at least 1,000 total signatures, the university administration abandoned the idea.

One of the forces behind the effort was a local chapter of the American Federation of Teachers-Wisconsin that doesn’t have legal standing to collectively bargain for contracts for faculty members due to Act 10.

“We have broad First Amendment rights to organize and advocate for our working conditions,” said AFT-Wisconsin Vice President Jon Shifton, an associate professor at UW-Green Bay. “And so we’ve been able to do a pretty interesting things to build power on our campuses in the past few years.”

The custodians and groundskeepers had once been unionized but lost certification several years back, said David Siemers, a UW Oshkosh professor and co-president of an AFT-Wisconsin affiliated union on campus. A major fear was that the workers would lose their state benefits, including health care coverage, if their jobs were privatized.

“If we hadn’t spoken up and if others hadn’t spoken up, I think they’d have liked to simply wash their hands of a management problem,” Siemers said.

He attributed the lack of retention to the wider problem of stagnant wages for state employees despite a multibillion-dollar budget surplus.

“The state needs to understand that it needs to pay more money in order to hire successfully,” Siemers said.

Another union-led effort helped scuttle a similar outsourcing plan at UW-River Falls.

“Our locals are being creative about how to build power,” said Shifton of UW-Green Bay. “It’s not like, ‘Oh, we can’t collective-
Wisconsin workers

stance, asking the Wisconsin Employment

UW Health administrators softened their

Evers intervened to broker a resolution —

day strike — and Democratic Gov. Tony

said. “It’s in our code of ethics that we have

have a voice in the hospital wards and to ad-

that goes: nowhere. ”

reviews it. So I’m sure you can see where

the same person who disciplines you, that

sanctioned and want to challenge it, “it’s

disciplined by a manager. And if they are

an advocate in the room if they’re being

completed control over their section with nurses

since 2017. She said managers have com-

plete control over their section with nurses

unable to speak up if they have concerns.

She said employees have no right to have

an advocate in the room if they’re being
disciplined by a manager. And if they are

sanctioned and want to challenge it, “it’s

the same person who disciplines you, that

reviews it. So I’m sure you can see where

goes: nowhere.”

The end result, she said, is that nurses

have few protections and find it difficult to

have a voice in the hospital wards and to ad-

vocate on behalf of their patients.

“That’s a huge part of a nurse’s job,” Burns

said. “It’s in our code of ethics that we have
to advocate for patients, and it makes it re-

solutely hard to do that.”

After employees threatened a three-

day strike — and Democratic Gov. Tony

Evers intervened to broker a resolution —

UW Health administrators softened their

stance, asking the Wisconsin Employment

Relations Commission to rule on whether

the nurses can organize under Act 10.

Unionization has increased across the

nation, but it’s unclear whether Wisconsin’s

private sector is following that trend.

The National Labor Relations Board an-
nounced a 58% increase in petitions na-
tionwide this summer over a nine-month

period.

But an analysis of petitions filed in Wis-
consin over the same period show the in-
crease was modest — 21 petitions filed

compared with 17 during the same period
a year earlier. Eight of those recent petitions
were by Starbucks coffee shop employees
in places including Madison, Milwaukee
and Appleton.

Indeed, since 2011, the rate of petitions
has mostly decreased. It spiked with 44
workplace petitions in 2014 but since then it
has been less than 30 a year.

Gundlach, with the South Central Fed-
eration of Labor, said these figures aren’t
keeping pace with the activity he’s seeing in
his region.

“It took one group of workers six to eight
months with me meeting with them,” for
them to be willing to approach a union, he
said. “The actual vote that will occur could
take a year or longer, because there’s a lot
of organizing that gets done within the work-
place before they even go public.”

Coming out of the pandemic’s lock-
downs has caused many workers to reassess
their value as front-line essential workers in
services, trades and manufacturing.

“Workers have a sense of the leverage and
the value they have,” said labor economist
Laura Dresser, an associate director for the
center on Wisconsin Strategy (COWS) at
UW-Madison. “You can see that in the high
rate of churn.”

In its State of Working Wisconsin report
for 2022, COWS sought to dispel the no-
tion that Wisconsinites are staying out of
the workforce.

Obituaries

Deborah Sue Neustifter

Deborah Sue “Deb” Neustifter, age 71, of
Oshkosh, passed away on Tuesday Oc-
tober 25, 2022, at Aurora Medical Center
in Oshkosh. She was born in Oshkosh on
August 23, 1951, the daughter of the late
Elbert Wiles and Joan Sweet Wiles. Deb
attended Oshkosh High School. She mar-
ried Jerry “Knife” Neustifter in Oshkosh on
October 15, 1976. Deb began work-
ing as an in-home daycare provider, then
worked with family at Moe’s Marina. She
worked in various positions at Cub Foods
in Oshkosh, retiring as the Cake Decora-
tor and Bakery Manager. After retirement
she worked as a housekeeper for several
families in the Fox Valley.

Deb was a fan of the Milwaukee Brew-
ers and live music/concerts. She also very
much enjoyed annual trips to Fort Myers
Beach and re-connecting with the num-
ber of friends that she and Jerry had made
there throughout the years.

Deb is survived by her husband, Jerry
“Knife” Neustifter, of Oshkosh, one son;
Chad (Brittany) Neustifter, Oshkosh,
one daughter; Christine (Greg) Weitz,
Oshkosh, three grandchildren; Samuel
(Nicole) Weitz, Oshkosh, Lucas Weitz,
Oshkosh, Madeline Weitz, Oshkosh, two
sisters; Linda Schabloski, Oshkosh, and
Jackie Harrington, North Carolina, one
brother; Rick (Pam) Wiles, Oshkosh. Deb
is further survived by many nieces, neph-
ews, other relatives, and friends.

Deb was preceded by death of one
niece, Andrea Schabloski.

Deb brought an abundance of passion
and love to the world, and an energy for
what she believed was right. Her many
friends will always be touched by the pure
passion she had for living life to the
fullest. She was always the life of the par-
ty on vacation and at concerts and she
will be missed by those whose lives she
has touched. From their vacation spot in
Florida, to her many family members and
friends, Deb was easy-going, quick with a
laugh (especially at inappropriate times)
and always knew how to bring a smile to
everyone’s face. Deb never turned down a
request from anyone that needed help. In
particular, she would drop whatever she
was doing any time one of her grandkids
needed or wanted her!

Deb, you were so much more than you
thought you were, and you did so much
more than you thought you did. You were
important to more people than you know,
simply by being you. Losing you hurts
beyond belief. Our love will never die.
Obituaries

Steven J. Sitter

Steven J. Sitter passed away on Saturday, October 15, 2022 in Czernowitzka-Leszczyn, Poland where he has lived since 2006. Born February 17, 1956, son of Hon. James V. and Jean Sitter. He attended St. Mary’s, Washington, Webster Stanley, and Oshkosh North class of 1974.

While in high school and participating in a new organization in Oshkosh called the Boys Club, he became interested in photography. He was always good with math, science, and art. Amazingly, photography was a perfect fit for all three subjects. After high school, he attended photography and art classes at the University of Wisconsin and worked at Miles Kimball until securing a position at a professional photo lab FJ. Pechman in Kaukauna. There he continued high school, he attended photography and Boys Club, he became interested in photography.

In 1986, before the internet and dating sites, Steve met the love of his life Gabriela Ciolek. She was in the Organism Choir group that performed in Poland that was touring the United States. Through Bill and Mary Lynne Rasmussen and others, housing was set up in local homes for the choir. Gabriela was staying with Hugh and Kat Hughes for a couple of days when they met. The romance started with letters and phone calls, Steve’s travels to Poland and Gabriela’s visits to Oshkosh. Finally he asked her to join him in the US. She was ready! They were married in the Oshkosh living room, trying to get everyone to join her, often receiving an eyeroll from family and friends instead. Char also enjoyed camping, mainly because of the quality time that was spent with family and friends. Her family and friends were everything to her. She was a very religious person which was very important to her, she tried to best this up to her children, though it was not easy, she continued trying.

Steve continued his education, he attended Oshkosh West High School. She went on to be a CNA and working in different nursing homes. She loved to help people and had a very caring giving nature. Char had a green thumb, she loved her plants and gardens. She also loved to dance, often putting one of her favorite CDs in the stereo and would dance around and detail. He also worked for professional photo labs in Madison and Appleton, WI. At that time, his photography focused on the outdoors and the environment. He had several publications published in Midwest magazines such as Wisconsin Trails. While at Filmmasters, Appleton, he learned that John Thompson of Thompson’s Studio in Oshkosh was contemplating retirement. Steve purchased the business, renaming it Thompson Photo Imagy. He learned the business from John Thompson as he continued to hone his art during travel and transition.

In 2015, Steve was diagnosed with multiple Myeloma. He was lucky to be select as one of 50 people in Europe to try a new experimental drug from America. The treatments were hard to handle but he was able to achieve a complete remission for his last few years. He got better but had several complications of COVID-19. He passed away peacefully on October 2, 2022, knowing that it may be difficult for him, but was likely his last trip. He was so excited to see his happy places in Wisconsin and friends, enjoy a Saturday Reunion in Milwaukee, and hear everyone speaking English 24/7.

Sadly, on Saturday, October 15th, his heart stopped in his sleep, surrounded by Gabriela, with Gabi at his side. Steve is survived by his beloved wife Gabriela, and two daughters Hanna Sitter and Maria Sitter of Czernowitzka-Leszczyn, Poland, his father- and mother-in-law Kazimierz and Aniela Ciolek. His sister, Kat Hughes of Greendale, brothers Tom (Robin) Sitter of Ripon, and David (Amy) Sitter of Oshkosh.

Sandra S. Geen – Eichorst

Sandra Eichorst of Oshkosh, WI passed away peacefully on October 21, 2022. She was born on September 28, 1959 in Syrinx, (nee Marks) and Robert E. Jones in Waukesha. Cha’s father was in the NAVY and the family moved around a bit before settling down in Oshkosh, WI, where she lived most of her life.

Char attended Oshkosh West High School. She went on to be a CNA and worked in different nursing homes. She loved to help people and had a very caring giving nature. Char had a green thumb, she loved her plants and gardens. She also loved to dance, often putting one of her favorite CDs in the stereo and would dance around.

Though she was very religious, she attended Oshkosh”s Sacred Heart to follow funeral mass. She is preceded in death by her parents, twin brothers T om (Robin) Sitter of Ripon, and Oleg. Her sister, Kat Hughes of Greendale, Wisconsin, her father- and mother-in-law Kazimierz and Aniela Ciolek. His sister, Kat Hughes of Greendale, brothers Tom (Robin) Sitter of Ripon, and David (Amy) Sitter of Oshkosh.

Sandra worked for many years as a certified veterinary assistant and was a member of Andrews Lutheran Church who supported what she cared about. She was a devoted mother and beloved Pastor, with Gabi at his side. Steve is survived by his beloved wife Gabriela, and two daughters Hanna Sitter and Maria Sitter of Czernowitzka-Leszczyn, Poland, his father- and mother-in-law Kazimierz and Aniela Ciolek. His sister, Kat Hughes of Greendale, brothers Tom (Robin) Sitter of Ripon, and David (Amy) Sitter of Oshkosh.

Sandra was an outstanding and accomplished professional photographer specializing in high school seniors, sports teams, weddings, babies, families, and events. Her legacy hangs in many homes and businesses on both sides of the pond. He will be greatly missed by his loving family and many friends. As an old proverb goes... “Mourn not too long that he is gone, but rejoice forever that he was.”

Sandra attended Oshkosh North High School and was a member of Future Farmers of America. She found joy in raising chickens, guinea pigs, pets, and showing them at the Winnebago County Fair. She grew up caring for animals; caring for pets was a lifelong passion of hers. She was a devoted mother, raised her family, and was a devoted friend, with all of her heart, and enjoyed spending time with them “more than anything in the world”.

She is survived by her children; Robyn Kortz (Joe) of Hortonville, WI, Tina Eichorst (special friend), Cinti of Oshkosh, WI, Bart Eichorst Jr. of Scenic, WI, Gretchen Geen, and Neal Geen (Shirley), niece; Richard Jr., nieces, grandchildren, and many more cousins, nieces, and nephews.  She was so excited to see his happy places in Wisconsin and friends, enjoy a Saturday Reunion in Milwaukee, and hear everyone speaking English 24/7.

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Sally A. Wilde

Sally A. Wilde, age 90, passed away on Sunday, October 23, 2022, at Bethel Home in Oshkosh. She was born on April 18, 1932, in Oshkosh to the late Henry and Helen (Reiner) Taylor. Sally was united in marriage on January 16, 1954, to William Wilde in Oshkosh. He preceded her in death on September 18, 1997.

Sally was remembered as loving, vibrant, and fun. An easy talker who loved conversation with all, she cherished friendships and welcomed strangers much the same. She was known to many as Wild Sal or Sal of Saucy.

Her favorite role was being “Gramps” or “Grandma Sally.” She rarely missed a sporting event or concert of her grandchildren. She was the bonds of planet Earth on October 23, 2022, at Bethel Home in Oshkosh. She graduated as salutatorian of her class and had two family businesses: Chex mix or cookies to share. Her favorite role was being “Grams” or Grandma Sally. She loved conversation with all, she cherished hugs, and invariable smooch.

She is survived by her children, Mary (John) Kiickefer, Bill (Jane) Wilde, Sandy (Ron Kundinger) Sr. Pratt, grandchildren: Rebecca (Luke) Rickert, Melissa (Ken) Det, Andra (Kip) Prast, Andra’s children and many more; great grandchildren: Claire, and Oshkosh.

Sally was preceded in death by her son, Steven (Jeannine) Wilde; daughters, Mary and Sue (Jim) Schoenbroer; three sisters: Roxanne (Jim) Erickson, Andrea (Carson) Fruth; and dear friend: Peter Pratt.

A funeral service will be held at 12:00 pm on Tuesday, November 1, 2022, at Konrad-Behnke Funeral Home, 404 Waugoo Avenue, Oshkosh with the Rev. William Witzke officiating. Visitation will take place on Tuesday at the funeral home from 10:00 am until the time of service.

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Valley Christian’s Patterson finishes 10th at state meet

By Steve Clark

Valley Christian’s Leah Patterson capped her prep cross country career with her best finish at a state meet on Saturday. Patterson, who was running in her fourth state meet, finished 10th overall in the Division 3 race at the WIAA State Cross Country Championships held on a beautiful Saturday afternoon at The Ridgex Golf Course in Wisconsin Rapids.

“It felt really good,” said Patterson, the lone qualifier for the Warriors. “I definitely had to push it, but it felt really good to be in this atmosphere again. I always enjoy it and it’s always good competition.”

Patterson finished with a time of 19-minutes, 37-seconds and edged out Cochrane-Fountain City-City’s Reese Ehrat by less than two seconds for the final spot in the top 10. The 10th-place finish was the best in her previous three trips to state. She placed 31st last year at The Ridges and was 40th as a sophomore. She finished 16th at state as a sophomore, but that race was held at Monona Grove because of the COVID-19 pandemic.

Patterson said her goal was to make it toward the finish line where she took 10th in Valley Christian’s Leah Patterson races toward the finish line where she took 10th in the Division 3 race at the WIAA State Cross Country Meet on Saturday, the hard work in practices all paid off. It’s just an honor to be here again.

The one negative of the day was that it meant a lot. “The senior knew she had hit the mark were here cheering me on today. It really son said. “I was excited that my teammates were here cheering me on today. It really meant a lot.”

Patterson said “that was exciting.”

“My plan was to stick with top 10 as long as I could and I did,” Patterson said. “That was exciting.”

The senior said she had hit the mark when she finished and was all smiles as she congratulated other runners in the cool-down area.

“It felt really great to finish this way,” Patterson said. “The meets I’ve done and

Lourdes Academy

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the top,” Averkamp said. “I think that helps our legs get built up and run these hills.”

Molly Moore saw Averkamp run past her on the final hill.

“I think Dasha caught like 10 girls at the end,” Molly Moore said. “She ran by me and I’m just like ‘Keep going.’”

Erin Moore led the Knights by placing 16th overall on the day. She finished 41st as a freshman last season.

“It was hard judging where I was time-wise in the first and second mile, but overall I think I ran pretty good,” Erin Moore said.

Averkamp was the next Lourdes runner to finish, placing 34th, while Molly Moore was about six seconds behind her in 39th.

The other two scoring runners for the Knights were Mary Husman in 79th and Mackenzie Stelter in 84th, while Addy Hafemeister finished 139th and Ella Slu-
The Wisconsin Herd, the NBA G League affiliate of the Milwaukee Bucks, has been running the hardwood in Oshkosh since 2017 and will be tipping off their Fifth Season Anniversary this Friday, Nov. 4 at Oshkosh Arena. The impact of the 30-team league on the quality of the game that fans witness in Oshkosh cannot be overstated. The NBA G League is the second-best league in the world as a true NBA talent pipeline. All 30 NBA teams currently feature at least 4 players with NBA G League experience. A record 234 players with 47% NBA G league experience were on the 2022-23 NBA opening-night rosters.

Over the past four years Herd fans have been delighted with rim-rocking excitement with appearances on the court by notable Bucks players including Brandon Jennings, DJ Wilson, Donte DiVincenzo, Christian Wood, and Gary Payton II. This season will be no different as the Herd continues to develop future stars of the NBA through a 50-game season from Nov. 4, 2022 through Mar. 23, 2023.

The NBA G League serves as the official minor league preparing players, officials and team staff for the NBA while acting as the league’s research and development laboratory. The season will tip off with an 18-game expanded Showcase Cup that concludes with the annual Winter Showcase Tournament in Las Vegas from Dec. 19 – Dec. 22. Following the Showcase Cup and Winter Showcase Tournament, team records reset and the 32-game regular season officially tips off on Tuesday, Dec. 27, bringing each team’s total games played to 50.

This season, the NBA G League will test Target Scoring during overtime of the Showcase Cup and Regular Season. At the conclusion of regulation time in a tied game, a target score of seven (7) points will be added to the tied score for the overtime period. The first team to reach or surpass that target score in the untimed period will win the game. For example, if the game is tied 120-120, then 127 becomes the target score to win the game. The league will also test the target score at each team’s Winter Showcase Tournament games in Las Vegas but for the entire fourth quarter with a twenty-five (25) point target score being added to the leading team’s score at the end of the third quarter to create a target score for the untimed fourth quarter.

Last season, the Wisconsin Herd won the inaugural NBA G League President’s Choice Award, which recognizes a team that embodies what an NBA G League team should strive to achieve. The award was a true testament to the Wisconsin Herd fan base. Herd Nation we are excited to celebrate our fifth season anniversary with you, the best fans in the NBA G League! Enjoy this Herd Fan Guide. We can’t wait to welcome you back with a warm HERD UP!
Home Arena: Oshkosh Arena (1212 S. Main St, Oshkosh, WI 54902)

Parking: Starting Dec. 1, 2022 Oshkosh Arena will charge $10 per vehicle to park. The first six (6) games of the season will be free parking as consistent with past seasons. The Oshkosh Arena parking lot is available for fans on a first-come first-serve basis. There is additional street parking around the arena. Fans entering from the north who are using the lot will use the Fifth Avenue entrance and fans coming in from the south will enter via the South Park entrance.

Single Game Tickets:
• Bowl Seats for Weekday Games: $10 - $25
• Bowl Seats for Weekend Games: $12 - $25
• Floor Seats: Limited floor seats available per game, call 920-233-HERD (4373) for availability and pricing.

Home Game Times:
Friday & Saturday home games tip at 7pm
Weekday games tip at 6pm
Wed. Jan. 18 & Sat. Mar. 4 tip at 11:30am

Television:
Watch all Herd home and away games all season long on Fox 32, digital station of NBC26, WGBA-TV. Broadcast talent includes Ted Stefaniak, Brian Butch, B.J. DeGroot, Brandon Kinnard and Joe Wolf.

E-Newsletter:
Stay up to date with the Wisconsin Herd by visiting Wisconsin.egleague.nba.com/enews/ and opting into the E-Newsletter.

Social Media:
Follow the Wisconsin Herd on your favorite social media app: @WISCONSINHERD for Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, Snapchat, Youtube, and LinkedIn.

Online:
Stream all Herd home and away games on Wisconsinherd.com or the NBA G League App which can be downloaded via your app store by searching NBA G League. Fans can personalize the NBA G League App’s media feed by selecting the Herd as their favorite team within the app.
MEET THE TEAM

CHAISSON ALLEN
HEAD COACH

John Little will begin his third season as an assistant coach for the Herd. Prior to joining the coaching ranks, he played professionally in Germany for 10 years.

JOHN LITTLE
ASSISTANT COACH

ASSISTANT COACH

Rex Antetokounmpo is the youngest brother of Giannis Antetokounmpo and was acquired by the Herd through a trade with Raptors G55 over the off-season. He played high school basketball at Oconomowoc in Milwaukee, WI and then took his career overseas before joining the G55 Raptors during the 2021-22 season.

Rex Antetokounmpo

IBDU BROJI
#29 CENTER
7-1, 240

JOHNSON
#41 CENTER
7-1, 240

Alex Antetokounmpo is the youngest brother of Giannis Antetokounmpo and was acquired by the Herd through a trade with Raptors G55 over the off-season. He played high school basketball at Oconomowoc in Milwaukee, WI and then took his career overseas before joining the G55 Raptors during the 2021-22 season.

D’ANDRE BERNARD
#22 FORWARD
6-8, 200

D’Andre Bernard earned a spot on the training camp roster through the Herd’s local player trials. Bernard played at Louisiana-Monroe for college and most recently played for Canadian Elite Basketball League and the basketball champions Logostics America during the 2021-22 season.

JORDAN BONE
#3 GUARD
6-2, 180

NATE BRADLEY
#25 FORWARD
6-4, 205

The Herd acquired Jordan Davis through a trade with the Delaware Blue Coats. Bone was acquired 77th overall in the 2022 NBA Draft by the Brooklyn Nets. Bone signed a two-way contract with the Delaware Blue Coats. Most recently Bone played overseas before joining the Herd.

NATE BRADLEY
#25 FORWARD
6-4, 205

ROB EDWARDS
#2 GUARD
6-5, 205

Rob Edwards was selected through a trade with the Oklahoma City Blue. Edwards played with the G55 in the 2020-21 and 2021-22 seasons while making appearances with the Oklahoma City Thunder.

TYAN FLOWERS
#24 FORWARD
6-8, 200

The Wisconsin-Herd selected Tyran Flowers with the 23rd overall pick in the 2022 G League Draft. During the 2019-20 and 2020-21 seasons, Flowers played for Long Island University averaging 14.3 points and 9.8 rebounds.

R.J. GREEN
#20 GUARD
6-4, 190

JONTRAY PORTER
#4 FORWARD
6-11, 240

JONTRAY PORTER is an affiliate player from the Milwaukee Bucks. In 2020 Porter signed with the Memphis Grizzlies and also appeared with the Memphis Hustle. He most recently played with the Carver Nuggets in the 2022 NBA Summer League.

BRANDON RANDOLPH
#11 GUARD
6-6, 174

BRANDON RANDOLPH returns after spending the 2021-22 and 2022-23 seasons with the Herd. Randolph appeared in 55 games for the Herd in 2021-22.

JORDAN SIBERT
#18 GUARD
6-4, 187

JORDAN SIBERT returns for his second season with the Herd. During the 2021-22 season Sibert averaged 8.7 points and 3.0 rebounds with the Herd.

JOE WIESKAMP
#10 GUARD
6-6, 205

Joe Wieskamp was selected with the second overall pick in the 2022 NBA G League draft. Prior to joining the Herd, Wieskamp was drafted by the San Antonio Spurs with the 41st pick in the 2021 NBA Draft. Wieskamp signed a two-way deal with the Spurs but was later converted to a standard contract.

LINDELL WIGGINTON
#28 GUARD
6-6, 189

Lindell Wigginton rejoins the Herd for a second season. Wigginton played for the Herd during the 2021-22 season and received an NBA call-up to a two-way contract with the Milwaukee Bucks. Wigginton played in the 2022 NBA G League Summer League games for the Bucks and averaged 8.6 points and 1.5 rebounds.

SANDRO MANUKELSASIVL
#54 FORWARD
6-10, 240

BLAKE MARQUARDT
#5 FORWARD
6-4, 190

Blake Marquardt was selected from the Herd’s local player trials. The defenseman from Western Michigan High School played college basketball at Lake Superior State University and then joined the Herd.

SANDRO MANUKELSASIVL
#54 FORWARD
6-10, 240

IVERSON MOLINAR
#1 GUARD
6-3, 190

IVERSON MOLINAR joins the Herd as an affiliate player. Molinar played college basketball with Mississippi State, averaging 15.5 points.

ELIJAH HUGHES
#2 GUARD
6-5, 205

Elijah Hughes comes from the Milwaukee Bucks as an affiliate player. Hughes was selected 15th overall in the 2022 NBA Draft by the Brooklyn Nets. Hughes signed a one-way contract with the Milwaukee Bucks.

SANDRO MANUKELSASIVL
#54 FORWARD
6-10, 240

ROB EDWARDS
#2 GUARD
6-5, 205

Scott Marquardt was selected from the Herd’s local player trials. The defenseman from Western Michigan High School played college basketball at Lake Superior State University and then joined the Herd.

SANDRO MANUKELSASIVL
#54 FORWARD
6-10, 240

IVERSON MOLINAR
#1 GUARD
6-3, 190

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TRAINING CAMP ROSTER AS OF 10/27/22

LOOKING FOR A PROFESSIONAL?
To find a local reputable remodeler/builder or anything pertaining to your home...

WHBA.net
Click on a pro or call 920-235-2982

WHBA (Wisconsin Home Builders Association)
Throughout the season at select home games the Wisconsin Herd plays in unique jerseys to highlight a cause, initiative or theme. Proceeds from these jersey auctions benefit local non-profit organizations throughout the Fox Valley and provide fans a unique keepsake of a lifetime. Special theme jersey nights this season include:

- **Fifth Season Anniversary Celebration** (Fri. Nov. 4)
- **Fleet Farm Military Appreciation** (Thu. Nov. 10)
- **Marvel Super Hero Night Featuring Black Panther** (Tue. Nov. 15)
- **4imprint Pride** (Fri. Dec. 16)
- **4imprint “Wisconsin Curd”** (Sat. Jan. 21)
- **BMO “Wisconsin Her” Women’s Empowerment** (Fri. Feb. 3)
- **TDS Telecom Black History Month** (Tue. Feb. 7)
- **BMO Art Theme Jersey** (Mon. Mar. 13)