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INSIDE



It's electric

Trends, expectations for EVs aired at event

Page 4

Threats against school board draw restraint

By Jonathan Richie
OSHKOSH HERALD

An Oshkosh man has been ordered to stop making threats against members of the Oshkosh Area School District Board of Education.

Court documents filed in Winnebago County show that Daniel Hagen, 35, made threats on social media "to kill the school board." The Facebook post included threats to other school faculty members.

William Fischer of von Briesen & Roper filed temporary restraining orders on behalf of all seven members of the Board of Education and executive director of administration Andrew Jones in Winnebago County on May 4.

"While instances of needing to obtain a restraining order are uncommon, the district takes its commitment to employee safety very seriously and responds to concerns swiftly and thoroughly," Jones said.

Fischer wrote in the attachment for the

SEE **Board threats** ON PAGE 15

Special assessment projects OK'd

Council discusses how to better handle costs

By Jonathan Richie
OSHKOSH HERALD

The Common Council voted last week to approve contracts for several special assessments. The projects allow the city to update roads, water lines and sidewalks with the property owner paying a portion of the costs since they will be benefiting from the improvements.

The council discussed the special assessments process and how it can be changed to not price people out of owning homes

in Oshkosh.

Kathryn Williams was one of two people who spoke during the public hearing before the council voted to approve the special assessments. She had concerns about how the assessments are handled.

"I was not prepared for this," Williams said. "Getting a bill from the city for \$12,000 was a little bit startling. I just wish there was a better way for this to be done."

"These are real consequences of how this is handled. I would just urge city council (members) to look at options, so it doesn't hit residents this hard."

Kathy Kietz said she had not been told about the resolution to approve the spe-

cial assessments.

Council member Esslinger said each of the property owners should have received correspondence from the city about setting up payment plans to pay the assessment over many years.

James Rabe, director of Public Works, said the city started sending letters out about this project as far back as last August and sent four or five letters to each property owner notifying them of the project and assessment. He added that all assessments listed in the meeting packet were just estimates.

SEE **Assessments** ON PAGE 15



Oshkosh Herald

Menominee ceremonial dancers mark the rededication of the Chief Oshkosh monument in Menominee Park on Friday.

Chief Oshkosh statue adds perspective

Five new plaques add history to the legend

By Dan Roherty
OSHKOSH HERALD

A years-long effort to add informational plaques at the 112-year-old Chief Oshkosh statue in Menominee Park was completed Friday with an official rededication of the monument to the 19th century Menominee tribal leader.

City officials, Gov. Tony Evers and

Menominee Nation officials and members gathered at the memorial to mark the added historical background that had been lacking at the site originally dedicated to the Bear Clan descendent who led his people from 1827 until his death in 1858. The tribal nation's territory extended over the Oshkosh area and most of eastern Wisconsin during his time before federal treaties and land swap agreements moved the Menominee to their current home that became a county in 1959.

"Thank you to the Menominee for your

historic and ongoing stewardship of this land that we are now standing on. It has been a long journey to get to this point and this is a significant moment," Lynnsey Erickson, the city's deputy mayor, said at the dedication attended by hundreds. "We are acknowledging our complicated and difficult history as a city and the land that we now occupy."

The inscriptions explain the life of Chief Oshkosh, the Menominee Tribe and their

SEE **Chief Oshkosh** ON PAGE 17



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Middle school project on schedule

By Jonathan Richie
OSHKOSH HERALD

School district officials are confident that construction of Vel Phillips Middle School will be completed on time and within the budget.

Last week the board met and heard a report from director of facilities and project manager James Fochs. He has been updating the Oshkosh Area Board of Education regularly throughout construction. The new middle school is part of the \$107 million referendum voters approved in November 2020 as the district modernizes its buildings.

“We are on schedule and on budget,” Fochs said. “We are still tracking our date of August 8th for substantial completion.”

He added furniture should be arriving soon.

“It’s all coming together,” Fochs said.

Work completed over the last 30 days includes ceiling and ceramic tile on the sec-

ond floor of the academic tower, fire protection devices installed, academic tower painted and wood floor installed for fieldhouse floor.

Fochs outlined over the next 30 days work that will be done to install food service equipment and flooring in the academic tower. The fieldhouse’s wood flooring also will be sanded, painted and stained. The crews have also started to do their quality assurance punch list items.

“That’s really the last thing they do is punch list,” Fochs said. “As we start to see them going through buildings, punching it out is basically inspected and noting anything that is wrong. That’s when you start to see projects wrap up.”

School board member Barbara Herzog noted that the chain link fence around Vel Phillips has been removed.

“You can actually see that building without looking through a fence,” Herzog said.

“It’s very exciting to see the progress.”

Fochs included several interior and exterior photos of Vel Phillips in his presentation. One of the photos was of a curtain wall on the third floor from the outside.

“I can tell you from the inside it’s pretty amazing when you’re standing in that collaboration space just a full glass wall. It’s just an awesome place for the kids to be,” he said.

Bray Architects consultant Nate Considine said he couldn’t hold back a smile when looking at the glass wall. He was recently at the building and ready for the public to see inside.

“It’s an exciting building and we can’t wait for everyone to see it,” Considine said.

The public will have a chance to look inside in September. Fochs said details on the open house will be released in the future.

Superintendent Bryan Davis said, “We look forward to welcoming students and staff (to Vel Phillips) at the start of the 2023-2024 school year.”

There also has been work done at Oakwood Elementary’s new secure vestibule with doors and walls completed and a new steel roof installed. The existing office will be turned into a nurse’s office.

At Read Elementary, asbestos abatement is almost complete. There are interior spaces being demolished to allow for a vestibule renovation. The previous office will become classrooms.

Back in the Day



Oshkosh history by the Winnebago County Historical & Archaeological Society

June 14, 1950

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Photo from Randy Domer

As this sign illustrates, billiards wasn’t the only thing The Magnet was famous for.

18 MUST Be Accompanied by Parent – THE PLADIUM COMPANY – Frank Hayes and Frank Hayes Jr. Operators.

Source: Oshkosh Northwestern June 14, 1950

Correction

JUNE 7, PAGE 20: Oshkosh West’s Ethan Pinkerton was omitted from the state track and field participants. He finished 13th in the pole vault, clearing 13 feet, 6 inches.

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Neighborhoods group enhances work against loneliness

GO-HNI director wants more civic engagement

By Anya Kelley
OSHKOSH HERALD

This year, the U.S. surgeon general declared loneliness and isolation a national epidemic. In 2015, a study published in "Perspectives on Psychological Science" stated that prolonged isolation has similar health risks to smoking up to 15 cigarettes per day.

Oshkosh Healthy Neighborhoods (GO-HNI), a nonprofit community organization, is committing to reducing the harm of loneliness and advocating for social connection all over the city.

GO-HNI's stated mission is "dedicated to strengthening Oshkosh neighborhoods by engaging residents, encouraging reinvestment and elevating community pride."

Executive director Tom Fojtik has witnessed the impact of loneliness in Oshkosh firsthand.

"Prior to taking this job, I'd been on the board for five years. So, I've been very familiar with what we do," Fojtik said. "I worked for just over three years at the Oshkosh Area Community Food Pantry, so there I saw the impact of COVID and the response to COVID."

Fojtik could tell it was a challenging time for not only clients but for volunteers.

"They were pretty much isolated at home, and that's dovetailed into what we do here because a big part of what we do is try to connect people," he said.

One initiative GO-HNI has been doing for a few years now is the welcome bag program. The leader of a neighborhood association will contact GO-HNI to let them

know a new person has moved in. GO-HNI puts together a package of items for them and the leaders will hand-deliver it.

"The neighborhood people will actually greet these individuals," said Fojtik. "When I first took this job, it looked like a nice thing to do, you know? But as I got into it, especially with kind of coming out of COVID... (these were) the first neighbors they had actually physically met."

Fojtik wants to emphasize how important that connection is for people.

"Formally welcoming someone to your neighborhood has a real kind of positive social impact on those people," he said.

Through a partnership with the city, GO-HNI receives funds for neighborhoods to do community building engagement.

"Those are any kind of activity or event or program that the neighborhoods plan and implement in their (area)," said Fojtik.

Some choose to do birdhouse painting for Mother's Day. The Millers Bay group does a happy hour for neighborhood residents. Others have coffee get-togethers and concerts.

"We really try to support those kinds of things," said Fojtik. "I think it really helps kind of break down barriers."

That being said, it's not always easy to get people involved and engaged with their communities.

"I think what we're learning and what I'm learning is every neighborhood needs some champions," said Fojtik. "Those are the people that are willing, usually the extroverts, to sort of break the ice."

Fojtik said the most successful and effective neighborhood associations have a group of devoted people.

"It might be one, it might be 10, it might be 15," said Fojtik. "But they're willing to kind of take the risk of getting out there to meet those people that may be less willing to be engaged."

Fojtik said the Good Neighbor grant program has notably improved community engagement in the past two years.

"We provide up to \$750 for curb appeal programs or curb appeal projects after the homeowner spends the first \$250," said Fojtik.

To apply, all they ask is for a description of what improvements will be made and before-and-after photos. The only eligibility requirement is living within a neighborhood association.

"You can say 'Hey, your porch needs to be painted and there's a way for you to get that done,'" said Fojtik. "Maybe someone's front door is just terrible and they're 75 years old and can't do the work themselves; they do everything from that to giving grants to churches and businesses."

Some will do the work themselves but the grant can be used to hire out for help. As long as GO-HNI confirms the work, the money is free to use for improvements.

Oshkosh has 23 recognized neighborhood associations. The goal is to establish one new one per year.

"First of all, neighborhood associations have to be free and they have to be voluntary," said Fojtik. "They create a simple set of bylaws and we have a template for that. Then, they talk about borders and how big the boundaries of the neighborhood association will be."

GO-HNI asked that each association

have five or six people in leadership positions, including a social media person. Once each of those steps has been completed, as well as choosing a name for the association, they will be formally recognized.

"One of the challenges we have is that while we have 23, not all are active," said Fojtik.

GO-HNI is approaching these "dormant" neighborhoods with a modified neighborhood creation process to help them select a new leadership team and rejuvenate their association.

"In the next three or four years, I think we're going to be doing a lot of that," said Fojtik. "Because again, it's one thing to create it; sometimes your momentum stalls."

The next place GO-HNI wants to refocus its attention is how they identify, train and support the neighborhood champions.

"There is a bit of a succession planning problem because they started it and they feel like they can't reduce their level of commitment because it's hard to find other people that are willing to take it on," said Fojtik. "I think we need to do more to make their jobs as easy as they can (be) and then support them even if that means how do we find your replacement."

Fojtik worked at the University of Wisconsin Oshkosh for 35 years and served on the city's Plan Commission for 15 years, 12 of them as chair. His other roles in the city have made a huge impact on the decisions he makes in his current role.

"I think what I've learned about Oshkosh - once you get engaged in the place, it starts to grow on you," he said. "I think that my engagement in the city helped me sort of appreciate that a lot of neighborhoods look different depending on where you are and that's fine."



Fojtik



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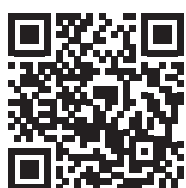
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Electric vehicle trends, expectations aired at session

Public will begin to shift mindset away from gas

By Jonathan Richie
OSHKOSH HERALD

More electric vehicles are coming to Wisconsin due to several federal and state actions. An Oshkosh company is offering helpful information for people interested in educating themselves about the market and what to know about charging.

Community residents and Oshkosh Chamber of Commerce members were at the Shea Electric & Communications facility on Atlas Avenue during a rainy evening to learn more about electric vehicles (EVs).

Dan Shea of Shea Electric & Communications said one big thing consumers will need to do is shift their mindset from filling up to topping off. This means drivers will focus on topping batteries off and not focus on driving until the car needs to be filled with gas.

Shea explained that EVs are “coming like a freight train” due to changing federal regulations. He added that the Wisconsin electric grid can handle the increase of EVs needing to be charged.

Shea Electric is an electrical contractor that has one of the few EV charging stations in Oshkosh. He explained there are three levels of charging, spanning from 120 volts to up over 400 volts.

Shea said there is a good chance that in the future, but not in the near future, there will be a sin tax on gasoline similar to taxes for cigarettes and alcohol.

Rob Dresen of Homan Automotive also spoke at the chamber event about what the consumer can expect when purchasing, driving and maintaining an EV. He said that

as a kid he had a radio-controlled car – the RC10.

“So now I drive basically the same thing, but bigger,” Dresen said when describing his electric Mustang.

Similar to how Shea said the EV mindset needs to change from filling up to topping off, Dresen told the audience that instead of miles per gallon the electric car owner will need to think in terms of miles per kilowatt-hour (kwh).

His car gets 3.5 miles per kwh and the battery has storage of 91 kwh.

“I can drive 300 miles for \$11,” Dresen claimed.

Overall, he said owning an EV, if you understand how to maximize the battery, “ain’t that bad.”

Other benefits for owning EVs include no oil changes and a smaller carbon footprint.

Dresen was asked about that footprint and said the carbon expenditure is larger to build an EV compared with a gas-powered car.

“But two to three years into driving the EV, it will become carbon neutral,” he said.

Dresen was also asked about safety of EVs compared with other cars. He said EVs have five-star safety ratings and larger crumple zones, which are designed to have the energy from a crash stay in the front end and not transfer to the occupants, because there aren’t all the internal combustion engine parts.

The downside for safety is that if a battery sets on fire, local authorities don’t have an easy remedy for putting out the flame.

“If you put water on a battery fire, that will make it worse,” Dresen said.

Dresen added that the average internal combustion engine car is owned for 3.7 years and the average Tesla for about seven years. Part of that is the warranty that comes



Oshkosh Herald

People get a look at electric vehicle charging units at Shea Electric last week.

with gas-powered cars.

One of the current negatives of EV ownership is maintenance because it can take sometimes two months for a Tesla to get fixed due to the lack of servicing outlets.

Dresen said he doesn’t advise people to do their own maintenance because of the complexity of the system. The diagnostic machine for an electric vehicle can cost up to \$15,000.

When asked about how winter affects the battery, he said the key is conditioning it so that it’s warmed up and at 100% charge.

“The car and battery are more efficient when it’s warm,” Dresen said. He said it takes about seven minutes for his car battery to condition in the morning and can be done in the garage while being charged because there are no emissions.

Shea spoke briefly about the state’s plan to add EV charging to the state’s infrastructure – mainly through alternative fuel corridors that would run along major interstate roads like I-41 and I-39. The state’s plan includes other alternative fuel corridors along state highways 29 and 8 in northern Wisconsin.

The Wisconsin DOT 96-page infrastructure plan outlines several goals for electric vehicle charging stations. One is to have 85% of the Wisconsin State Highway system within 25 miles of a National Electric Vehi-

cle Infrastructure (NEVI) compliant fast-charging station.

According to the plan, published in September, there were 306 total public charging stations, 164 charging stations within a mile of an alternative fuel corridor, and only four NEVI-compliant charging stations. Data from 2022 states that Wisconsin had 9,339 electric vehicles registered with the DOT and 193 in Winnebago County.

The state estimates by 2027 the total number of electric vehicles registered in Wisconsin could top 217,000, just over 4% of all vehicles. The report estimates there could be more than 1.86 million registered EVs in Wisconsin or 31% of all vehicles by 2050.

Shea stated that most charging will be at home for people commuting to work and driving around town for running errands. These charging corridors will be used for people making trips across the state.

Dresen said one thing that comes with EV ownership is range anxiety.

“It’s not about the distance I have left. It’s the worry about, ‘Do I have enough time to get where I’m going, recharge and then get back?’”

After the presentation, there were several EVs that people were able to test drive to get a feel for how they handle. There is a charging station at Shea Electric.

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Two Fox Valley area children get special EV cars

Two Fox Valley area children received their very first cars last Friday – electric, ride-on cars fitted and modified by Children’s Wisconsin and Fox Valley Technical College to help these kids with special health needs.

The partnership is part of a national program called Go Baby Go!, where Children’s Wisconsin physical and occupational therapists work with FVTC’s Engineering Technologies and Health Sciences faculty and students to determine modifications for each child’s specific mobility needs. Faculty and students then build each car, which are provided to the families for free.

“These cars benefit kids and families in so many ways,” said Amy Van Donsel, therapy manager for Fox Valley, Children’s Wisconsin. “It helps increase a child’s in-

dependence, encouraging them to explore and interact with others, building their confidence and resiliency. We are excited to see this program grow.”

The Hill family came from their home in Clintonville to Fox Valley Technical College to take delivery of an electric Lamborghini ride-on car for Myles.

Aaron Daane, electromechanical technology instructor at FVTC, said students have enjoyed using their engineering skills to modify the vehicles and experience the joy it brings the children as they explore independent mobility.

The program expects to build two cars a month during the next year. Families can see if they qualify and apply to the Go Baby Go! Fox Valley program by visiting childrenswi.org. The program is solely funded through donations.

NAMI gains matching funds for building

NAMI Oshkosh is the recipient of an anonymous matching donation through the Oshkosh Area Community Foundation. This potential gift of \$25,000 comes after the organization completed extensive repairs to its building at 525 N. Main St.

“Hopefully, donations will come in to allow us to receive the total amount of the matching grant,” said board member Vince Pawlacyk.

Severely deteriorated ceiling joists had to be repaired, insulation was added and the necessary updating of heating and electrical was completed. The one-story building was built in 1929.

“We thought we were all set until this pre-

carious situation was discovered,” said Mary Lord Janness, the group’s executive director.

An outdoor mural and art wrap has been added to the exterior while the interior was recently painted by volunteers. An accessible bathroom also was added.

NAMI Oshkosh is a local affiliate of a national organization dedicated to supporting, educating and advocating for those affected by mental illness. They provide resources, classes, support groups, and educational and advocacy events in the community.

Donations can be sent to NAMI Oshkosh, 525 N. Main St., Oshkosh, WI 54901, or by going to namioshkosh.org.

JLTV contract renewal challenge fails

A challenge from Oshkosh Defense over the awarding of a contract for the U.S. military’s Joint Light Tactical Vehicle, which the company has been producing since 2016, has been denied by the General Accounting Office.

Oshkosh Defense filed a protest in February after AM General based in South Bend, Ind., was awarded a \$9.7 billion,

five-year deal to build 20,862 of the vehicles and 9,833 trailers. Oshkosh Defense has produced more than 20,000 of the vehicles under its contract.

An Oshkosh Defense spokesperson said the company is “disappointed with the decision and we firmly believe our proposal was the lowest risk, best value solution for the young men and women serving our nation.”



Photo from FVTC
The Hill family came to Fox Valley Technical College to take delivery of an electric Lamborghini ride-on car for Myles.

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On pride and death: supporting LGBTQ youth

By Jerry Thomas
UW OSHKOSH PROFESSOR

June is Pride Month, when we celebrate lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, and queer (LGBTQ) people and their contributions to society. Celebrations are marked by substantial social, political and legal gains.

But the backdrop for this particular Pride Month is misunderstandings and, in extreme cases, hate. Regardless of how we individually understand LGBTQ issues, we share responsibility to signal LGBTQ youth that they are dignified and worthy – because they are.

LGBTQ people are accepted much more than they were 50 years ago. Being gay used to be understood as a mental illness, illegal and morally corrupt. Let's note a few milestones from the past half century.

The U.S. Supreme Court struck down as unconstitutional all laws criminalizing consensual, adult, intimate activities in private spaces. Wisconsin was the first state in the nation to enact employment protections for gays and lesbians. Now nationwide, LGB and T individuals have legal protections against employment discrimination. Same-sex couples can marry. LGBTQ lives are seen prominently in media and society as regular people, heroes and fabulous superstars.

Queer people went from being society's most reviled group to among its most revered. This happened relatively quickly due to the AIDS crisis (1980-90s). Men were "outed" by a disease that revealed how common homosexuality and bisexuality were. Gay and bisexual

men died from AIDS complications, many with visible cancerous markings on their faces, no matter how poor or rich. No one was immune to AIDS because of party, race or religion.

When AIDS made sexuality more visible, people realized that LGBTQ people existed in their own families, churches, workplaces, schools and communities. Undeniably, gayness was (is) everywhere, not just New York and San Francisco. People were forced to reckon with their own misinformation, lies and hate.

For a while, a majority of political leaders and society turned blind eyes to AIDS. Some people even believed that dead gay men received what was coming to them. Eventually with lots of pressure, a majority of political leaders and individuals stepped forward to right these wrongs. Today, being HIV+ is a treatable condition, not a death sentence. And, the LGBTQ Hate Crimes Prevention Act exists.

We have come a long way since gay and bisexual men were treated this horribly.

If there is a silver lining to AIDS, it is that people stepped forward, some quickly, others eventually. They built systems of care, research, and support. Once the AIDS crisis settled, the infrastructure remained. Today, it solidly supports LGBTQ+ movements with a large majority of society being allies.

Just last year, Republicans and Demo-



Thomas

crats together passed a bill in Congress protecting marriage rights. This effort was championed by Wisconsin U.S. Sen. Tammy Baldwin, the first and only openly lesbian in the Senate. The president signed into law this social commitment, on top of the 2015 Supreme Court pronouncement that same-sex marriages are constitutionally protected.

During Pride, it is right to acknowledge the tough work and advances from the past 50+ years. Make no mistake, though: LGBTQ work is incomplete. Visibility has downsides.

Transgender people experience violence at much higher rates than any other group. Transgender people of color experience the most. In the past two years, more than 500 anti-trans bills have been introduced nationwide.

Because misguided understandings about gender are common and deep, incomplete work involves speech and convincing majorities. I am optimistic about where this is headed. The motto during the AIDS crisis was Silence = Death. LGBTQ people know how to speak.

I can talk at length about physical and mental effects on people whose civil rights are publicly debated and put to a vote. As society learns more about transgender issues and discusses them openly (a healthy thing for democracy), know that we sometimes signal young LGBTQ people that they are second-class citizens, unworthy of love, support, respect, dignity, liberty and equality. LGBTQ youth continue being at much higher risk for suicide than other peers.

To be clear, there are political forces hellbent on using transgender issues as a wedge to win elections. However, it has been my experience that the people of Oshkosh, Winnebago County, Wisconsin and the nation, by and large, are loving, caring people who want to preserve the dignities, liberties and equalities promised to all of us in our constitutional

LGBTQ resources

PFLAG

Nation's largest organization dedicated to supporting, educating and advocating for LGBTQ+ people.
pflag.org/resource/support-hotlines

Trevor Project: 866-488-7386

Crisis intervention and suicide prevention services to LGBTQ people ages 13–24.

Crisis Text Line: Text START to 741-741

Free, 24/7 support for those in crisis

democracy.

The vast majority of us are kind people making our way through life. We don't stay awake at night plotting how to hate and ruin other people's lives. Most of us aren't haters.

As a gay man coming of age sexually in the 1980s, I watched the nation grapple with AIDS. Ugly. For years, I understood my life as worthy of only death. I know what it is like to be suicidal.

How we talk about people is powerful. How we see other people responding to us is powerful.

As we celebrate Pride, nothing replaces visible outpourings of love and support. People want and need to know they are safe, valued, and respected in their communities. Commit to supporting LGBTQ community members in visible ways.

Note to all uncertain LGBTQ readers: Even if you don't see it, Oshkosh has your back. Hang in there. It gets better. I promise.

Jerry Thomas is associate professor of political science at the University of Wisconsin Oshkosh. He researches and publishes in the areas of sexuality law and politics. He is faculty adviser to the College Republicans on campus.

Pride event moves to Leach this year

By Jenny Grunwald
OSHKOSH HERALD

Hope Fridge, United Action Oshkosh, Arquera Designs and Shark Studios are hosts for Oshkosh's fourth annual Pride event at the Leach Amphitheater from 1 to 8 p.m. on Sunday. These and other local organizations will have tables set up for accessible resource information to anyone interested.

Those who attended in the past will notice much has changed this year, especially the venue location from South Park to the Leach, a space upgrade for the event.

Organizer TJ Hobbs said private security will be on-site this year due to ongoing threats toward the LGBTQ+ community nationally.

"Our security team will be patrolling in and around the amphitheater premises to help ensure the safety of our attendees," Hobbs said.

The event includes performances, including the Khob Li Cua, a Hmong dance team, Dark Arts Circus, drag queens and other performers, including a surprise musical guest. Activities include yard bowling and cornhole. There will also be themed selfie stations and a time for drag queen question-and-answer.

Organizers encourage the public to check out the event and all it has to offer with an emphasis on empowerment, visibility and community education.

"Pride is a celebration of the diversity of the human experience," Hobbs said.



Submitted photo

The fourth annual Pride event is Sunday at the Leach Amphitheater.

"The building and networking of Pride fests from city to city creates connection, chosen family and expands our resources," said volunteer Kora Acebear. "As cities and towns Pride (events) grow, they strengthen our resolve and love, and they help ensure that future generations of LGBTQIA2S+ folks can thrive."

Those interested in volunteering can go to the Oshkosh Pride Facebook page or send an email to info@hopefridge.com.



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Discarded fishing line a real hazard for wildlife

By Memuna Khan
FOR THE HERALD

There was a strange cry out in the yard and I grabbed my binoculars to look. What I saw was a ring-billed gull with one leg hanging down hovering over an 80-foot elm tree on the shoreline.

It appeared as if the gull was attempting to land in the tree, which was strange behavior; gulls are typically seen walking on lawns or nesting on flat rooftops in downtown Oshkosh, not perching in trees.

I noticed the bird was caught in a mess of monofilament fishing line that was wound up in the branches. The gull became entangled and eventually remained suspended in the tree where it died almost two days later. This is the first time I witnessed such a tragedy firsthand, but this scene repeats itself along our waterways taking its toll on our precious wildlife.

Plastic pollution, including monofilament fishing line, is a growing threat to wildlife because it does not degrade and accumulates in the environment. Fishing gear has been recognized as a threat to marine wildlife, particularly birds for over two decades. Programs administered by the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration and partners have been in effect since the early 2000s in which they attribute 320,000 seabird deaths annually to fishing gear.

Avian entanglement in fishing line is not a problem unique to our oceans. Wildlife around our local lakes, rivers and streams is also in danger of entanglement resulting in limb amputation or in the tragic case I observed, sure death. Many types of birds are at risk, some that you might expect,



Fox-Wolf Watershed Alliance photo

Oshkosh North students installed three fishing line receptacles in Winnebago County.

like common loon, various species of gulls and swans, but also species like Baltimore oriole, American robin and barn owl.

Some species, like the Eastern Phoebe, may use fishing line in their nests, resulting in entanglement and death of nestlings. REGI (Raptor Education Group Inc.), a wildlife rescue group in Antigo, said "many birds have fishing line tangles, usually for us it is loons, herons, bald eagles, eaglets still in the nest, osprey and geese, ducks and interestingly enough robins

that get tangled in line that is caught up in trees."

Lori Bankson from Bay Beach Wildlife Sanctuary said, "We get several each summer and species have ranged from mallard ducks to Canada geese, gulls – both ring-billed and herring – to pelicans and even eagles. We have a resident eagle that survived a fishing line and lure injury but broke his beak in the process so cannot be released back to the wild."

The impacts of human-caused mortal-

ity, like those caused by monofilament fishing line, on bird populations are cumulative and alarming. The American Bird Conservancy estimates 600 million birds die annually from window collisions and 2.4 billion by cat predation. According to the Cornell Lab of Ornithology there are 3 billion fewer birds supported by our planet today than 50 years ago.

Avian populations are in crisis because of humans; we hold the key to their persistence and every little action we take can make a difference.

The Fox-Wolf Watershed Alliance (FWWA) has already started dealing with the problem. Kelly Reye, program coordinator for Trash Free Waters of the FWWA, also partners with Oshkosh North Communities students. This year they built and installed three fishing line receptacles in Winnebago County, one at Asylum Point Park, one at Ken Robl Conservancy and one at the Butte des Morts boat launch at State 21. These three installations are just a drop in the bucket, as there are 20 boat launches around Lake Winnebago.

What can we do? Clean up after ourselves. Do not leave fishing line near the shore or entangled in vegetation. Find opportunities with the FWWA, such as their Trash Free Waters program, and an Adopt a Boat Launch Program, or with the Winnebago Audubon Society.

Like so many environmental issues, the solution is clear; we just need to take the appropriate actions to reduce the problem.

Memuna Khan is an Oshkosh resident and chairman of the Biology Department at Ripon College.

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Adopt-a-School in Oshkosh draws attention to student success

By Julie Davids
EDUCATION AND TALENT MANAGEMENT DIRECTOR

In the fall of 2022, after the pandemic, the Oshkosh Chamber of Commerce relaunched talent and workforce development initiatives with our educational partners that include all levels from elementary education all the way through post-secondary.

Specifically, we have been partnering with our local schools both public and private on business and education partnership programs. Our joint efforts include programs such as Youth Leadership Oshkosh, Adopt-a-School, School-to-Work, youth apprenticeships, career expos, soft-skills, resume/interviewing workshops and professional development for teachers. We believe these programs will help narrow the gap between education and the Oshkosh area workforce.

We are specifically partnering with the



Oshkosh Area School District (OASD) on the Adopt-a-School Program, formally known as PALs (Partners at Education). I will focus here on this program that will be implemented in the fall.

Adopt-a-School is a joint effort between the Oshkosh Chamber of Commerce and OASD where businesses and community organizations, including nonprofits, service clubs and faith-based organizations are matched to specific schools with the objective of filling a school's specific need. This need could be anything from Oshkosh leaders reading to children who are struggling in reading to mentoring high school students to

helping out at recess or lunch hour.

The Chamber and OASD are very excited to see where this could go – it is a win-win-win for the students, school administrators/teachers and Oshkosh organizations.

The three main goals of Adopt-a-School are to improve student success, promote community understanding and support for Oshkosh schools, and channel volunteers and resources to meet school needs. The vision is that every school in Oshkosh will be “adopted” by an organization.

The program seeks to benefit both students and the local community by enhancing the continual improvement of the education of our students. Organizations have a ground-level opportunity to impact the quality of Oshkosh's future leadership and workforce. Organizations also benefit by enriching employee engagement and connectivity to the Oshkosh community.

Schools benefit by improving the understanding of how skills and attitudes learned in the classroom can be applied to the work environment. Adopt-a-

School also fosters personal interaction with role models in the community and creates a better understanding of citizenship and success principles.

Propel Oshkosh, a development and networking group for young professionals, is a prime example of an organization helping fill a need for a school. Propel adopted Washington Elementary not by reading to the students, but by the students reading to Propel members!

Southwest Rotary adopted Roosevelt Elementary. They work with students on both reading skills and math concepts. They also provide winter gear for students in the winter and other clothes for their “clothes closet,” snacks for students in the classroom, and donate money to help purchase birthday books for each student. Roosevelt celebrates at the end of every year by hosting a cookout.

If interested in learning more about Adopt-a-School or would like to participate, contact Julie Davids at Julie@OshkoshChamber.com or call 920-303-2265, extension 15.



Oshkosh Herald

Rail crossing repairs

Some motorists took a scenic route last week when repair work on the railroad tracks on Broad Street shut down Ceape Avenue. Kevin Donahue with Canadian National Railway said the work was part of regularly scheduled maintenance. The work was finished Friday.

DHS awards funds to nonprofit dental clinic

The Wisconsin Department of Health Services (DHS) has awarded \$5.1 million in grants to 14 nonprofit dental clinics, including Tri-County Community Dental Clinic, to increase access to dental care statewide.

Grant awards range from \$59,000 to \$150,000 per clinic over three years and will enable the selected clinics to serve more children and families in need, including Medicaid members, people who have low income, people with disabilities, and people who are uninsured.

Tri-County Community Dental Clinic, working with Fox Valley Technical College and Marquette University School of

Dentistry, serves residents in Winnebago, Outagamie and Calumet counties at its 9 Tri-Park Way offices in Appleton and with its mobile clinic. It is open for scheduled appointments from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Monday through Thursday and 8 a.m. to noon Friday.

“This funding creates more access to important oral health services,” said Dr. Russell Dunkel, Wisconsin state dental director. “In 2021, only one in three Wisconsin Medicaid members ages 3 to 20 received a preventive dental service and, in that same year, seven out of 10 Medicaid members didn't receive dental care.”

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Calendar of events

Ongoing

“Rodin: Contemplation and Dreams” exhibit, Paine Art Center & Gardens

Wednesday, June 21

Brews on the Bay, 5 p.m., Menominee Park

Miss Wisconsin Scholarship Competition, 6:30 p.m., Alberta Kimball Auditorium

That’s What She Said, 6 p.m., Water City Pub, 216 N Main St.

Bingo, 7 p.m., American Legion Hall, 1332 Spruce St.

Thursday, June 22

Miss Wisconsin Scholarship Competition, 6:30 p.m., Alberta Kimball Auditorium

Waterfest: Hairball, Tuff and Michael Weber Show, 6 p.m., Leach Amphitheater

Brewery Comedy Show, 7:30 p.m., Bare Bones Brewery, 4362 County S

Live at Lunch: Michelle, LL and Danny Jerabek, noon, Opera House Square

Friday, June 23

Devin Munson, 8 p.m., Becket’s, 2 Jackson St.

Open Jam Benefit with The Knobs, 7 p.m., Anjie’s Bar, 413 Ohio St.

BAGO920 Field Day, 5:30 p.m., Winnebago County Community Park Shelter 3

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

Family Movie Night: “Puss in Boots,” 6:30 p.m., Leach Amphitheater

Wayne Neuman, 5:30 p.m., Fox River Brewing Co.

Saturday, June 24

Oshkosh Farmers Market, 8 a.m., downtown

Miss Wisconsin Scholarship Competition, 4 p.m., Alberta Kimball Auditorium

Handbell Choir of Covenant UMC, 6 p.m., Peniel Welsh Chapel, W9644 Zoar Road

D.B. Rouse, 5 p.m., Anjie’s Bar, 413 Ohio St.

“Zootopia,” 7 p.m., Time Community Theater, 445 N. Main St.

Sunday, June 25

Oshkosh Pride 2023, 1 p.m., Leach Amphitheater

Oshkosh Century bike ride, 10 a.m., Oshkosh YMCA, 20th Avenue

Second Hand Stereo, noon, Parker John’s BBQ & Pizza, 30 Wisconsin St.

Tuesday, June 27

Kenny James Duo, 6 p.m., The Hangar, 1485 W 20th Ave.

Wednesday, June 28

American Patriotic summer concert, 7 p.m., Alberta Kimball Auditorium

Bingo, 7 p.m., American Legion Hall, 1332 Spruce St.

Plastic Knives, 6 p.m., Water City Pub, 216 N. Main St.

Thursday, June 29

Live at Lunch: Hannah Rose, noon, Opera House Square

Taylor Jacobson, 5:30 p.m., Fox River Brewing Co.

Waterfest: 38 Special, Mt. Olive and Bound for Branson, 6 p.m., Leach Amphitheater

Friday, June 30

Kids’ Field Day, 8:30 a.m., St. Jude the Apostle Church

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

“History of the World (Part 1),” 7 p.m., Time Community Theater, 445 N. Main St.

Kenny James, 5:30 p.m., Fox River Brewing Co.

Saturday, July 1

Oshkosh Farmers Market, 8 a.m., downtown

Chris Okkerse, 5 p.m., Fox River Brewing Co.

Fourth of July weekend, 6 p.m., Jerry’s Bar, 1210 Ceape Ave.

Sunday, July 2

Mike Sullivan, 5:30 p.m., Fox River Brewing Co.

Noah James Hittner, noon, Parker John’s BBQ & Pizza, 30 Wisconsin St.

Steve & Mark Band, 2 p.m., TJ’s Harbor Restaurant

Jazz Orgy, 9 p.m., Fletch’s Local Tap House, 566 N. Main St.

Tuesday, July 4

Festival Foods Fireworks event, 3 p.m., Menominee Park

Oshkosh Fourth of July Parade, 9 a.m., downtown



Photo by Michael Cooney

Waterfest opening night

A new Waterfest season got underway last Thursday on a cool night with a modest crowd who enjoyed being together at the Leach Amphitheater for Steely Dane (shown), Grand Union and headliner Bob Schneider. The summer concert series runs through Aug. 17 with this Thursday’s show topped by the return of Hairball.

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Altrusa scholarship winners honored

Altrusa Club of Oshkosh has announced its 2023 scholarship winners with five students each awarded \$1,500.

Logan Frank is a recent graduate of Oshkosh North High School, an academic and baseball notable with plans to attend Glenville State University in Virginia to study physical therapy.

Karla Leggett is pursuing a doctorate in educational leadership and policy at the University of Wisconsin Oshkosh as a nontraditional student. She is an academic instructor in the Reading and Study Skills Center at UWO.

Josie Matiash is a recent graduate from Valley Christian High School and plans to attend Wisconsin Lutheran College in Milwaukee. Inspired by her time as a volleyball player, she will major in sports and

exercise science.

Sarah Pizon is a recent graduate from Oshkosh West High School as valedictorian and recipient of the Certificate of Global Competence. She will be attending UW-Stevens Point to double major in Spanish and education. Sarah has participated on West's mock trial team and led the school's Spanish Club for the past two years.

Alec Bricco is a recent graduate from Winneconne High School and plans to attend UWO and pursue a nursing degree with a minor in theater performance.

Area students interested in applying for 2024 scholarships can check for information at districtseven.altrusa.org/oshkosh in January.



Submitted photo

Oshkosh Century Bike Ride participants will take off from the 20th Avenue YMCA on Sunday.

Century Bike Ride features route options

The second annual Oshkosh Century Bike Ride set for Sunday will start and finish at the 20th Avenue Oshkosh YMCA with fully supported routes on the metric century course.

Participants can choose to ride one of four routes: 30, 50, 62 or 100 miles. All offer a scenic ride on back country roads south and west of Oshkosh. The 100-mile route takes riders around Green Lake. Six rest

stops along the way will include restrooms, water, food and mechanical support.

All riders will receive a moisture wicking T-shirt and a catered meal with beverages after the ride.

Printed maps will provide the location and time of operation for each rest stop and can be downloaded to a GPS device.

All proceeds support the For All Financial Assistance Program.

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The Oshkosh Community Back to School Fair provides 1,000 low income Oshkosh students with backpacks and school supplies needed for them to start the school year prepared to achieve academic success. We really need your help!

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Assessments

FROM PAGE 1

“The final numbers and certifications were not to occur until next year,” Rabe said. He added when those final assessments are released property owners can choose which repayment option they wish to utilize.

“Those letters will go out likely around August of next year,” Rabe said. Property owners were first notified about the estimated assessments when the letters were sent out before last week’s meeting.

Esslinger asked what the council can do about the special assessments and noted his property once was part of this process.

“You get whacked over the head with this thing and it’s very expensive,” Esslinger said.

Council member Karl Buelow and City Manager Mark Rohloff both said that the city and council have talked about these special assessments before.

“There isn’t a single assessment in there that I would want to pay,” Buelow said. “And I know that’s true for every citizen here.

He added he is committed for the city to find a better way to handle special assessments.

“I think we need to do better in the future,” Buelow said. “I don’t think \$12,000 or \$13,000 is acceptable.”

Council member Mike Ford said there are 190 cities in Wisconsin and more than 140 use special assessments. Oshkosh is top 5 in per capita cost of special assessments statewide.

“To me that’s what the problem is,” Ford said. “I continue to hope to see some various proposals to cap special assessments.”

Ford said by having a cost cap on the special assessments it could solve two problems – bring down the averages so the city isn’t an outlier for cost per capita assessment level and allow homeowners to stay in their homes.

“But more importantly we’re not having these instances where we price somebody out of house and home with these nightmare assessments,” Ford said.

Rohloff said the decision to change spe-



Photo from Oshkosh Media

Public Works Director James Rabe explains to the Common Council how property owners are notified about special assessments.

cial assessments lies with the council and it’s something he has discussed with a few members.

The first of eight resolutions for special assessment contracts, which Kietz and Williams spoke against, were for concrete pavement, asphalt pavement, sidewalk, driveway aprons, sanitary sewer lines, water main lines and storm sewer lines that affect more than 50 properties on portions of Wisconsin Street, Annex Avenue and West Bent Avenue.

City documents show the estimates for 52 property owners will total about \$658,000 with each property assessed between \$10,000 and \$18,000 for the three street project.

All eight of the resolutions were passed with no opposing votes.

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Board threats

FROM PAGE 1

petition that Hagen “has engaged in a course of conduct and committed acts which harass or intimidate the OASD and members of its faculty and student population.

“There exists a credible threat to OASD’s faculty’s physical safety as well as physical safety of the district’s school population in general.”

Fischer added that Hagen does not have any children that attend the school district and no discernable ties to the district but that he does live near district buildings.

“There exists a credible threat to (board member) physical safety as well as the physical safety of (board member) family,” Fischer wrote in each of the eight temporary restraining orders filed earlier this month.

At an injunction hearing May 12, Court Commissioner Michael Rust ruled that Hagen must cease harassing members of the school board, cannot contact any of the petitioners or be near their homes and must also cease threatening behavior on social media. The injunctions for the eight

harassment restraining orders are in place until May 2027.

An attorney for Hagen’s family wrote a letter to Fischer stating that Hagen has a history of mental illness. His family believes Hagen is “currently suffering from an active schizophrenic episode, and they want to assist with this difficult situation.”

Hagen’s family attorney, Beth Osowski, offered provisions to the injunction that could get it lifted before 2027. Those include Hagen having a psychological assessment and following all the recommendations from that assessment. Hagen must also seek mental health care, take prescribed medications and finally cannot “engage in any threatening behavior toward the district or board whether in person, on social media or in any other forum.”

“If a legitimate threat is made against an employee or school board member the district works with law enforcement to investigate it,” Jones said. “If the threat is verified and confirmed to be legitimate, the school district works with its legal counsel to ensure the safety and protection of impacted employees or board members. This can include filing a petition for a temporary restraining order.”

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Blanche Rahr's beer life was ahead of her time

By Lee Reiherzer
HERALD CONTRIBUTOR

Blanche Rahr was not the first woman to take ownership of an Oshkosh brewery. But she was definitely the woman most identified with the beer business here.

Blanche was part-owner and secretary-treasurer of Rahr Brewing from 1917 until 1956. She was the public face of Oshkosh's longest-lived, family-owned brewery.

The Rahr brewery at the foot of Rahr Avenue was established in 1865 by Charles Rahr, Blanche's grandfather. Blanche was born in 1892 and was 4 when her father, Charles Rahr Jr., became head of the brewery. The business of making and selling beer was a constant presence throughout her life.

Blanche grew up doing the simple brew-house chores that every child named Rahr had been performing since the brewery's founding. It turned out she was good with numbers, and by the age of 14 worked her way into managing the brewery's accounts. Blanche was 17 and still in school when her name went on the brewery's ledger as its bookkeeper.

She was outspoken and determined. She had to be. Part of her job was to bring to account delinquent saloon keepers, men twice her age who were unaccustomed to receiving ultimatums from a woman. But Blanche often held the trump card. Her family owned many of the saloons that sold Rahr's beer. The young lady could put you out of business if she cared to.

Her influence increased in 1917 when her father retired from the brewery. He transferred ownership of the business to Blanche and her two younger siblings; brother, Charles, and 17-year-old sister Lucille. Charles, three years younger than Blanche and fresh off his service in World War I, became the brewmaster at Rahr's. Blanche, all of 24 years old, managed the brewery's day-to-day business affairs.

Blanche's plucky reputation preceded her. She was a fitting choice for a role in a 1921 promotional film that called for a woman to take an unusual drive with an Oshkosh Motor Truck Co. vehicle.

To prove it wasn't a fluke, she let the truck roll back down the steps, shifted into gear, and then drove it up again. Four months later, she was crowned Queen of the Mardi Gras by the American Legion at its 1921 summer frolic.

But back at the brewery, there wasn't much to celebrate. Blanche and her siblings were stripped of their livelihood when Prohibition arrived in 1920. They scrambled to keep the business afloat and began producing and bottling fruit juices, soda, and

malted milk.

The Rahrs also made non-alcoholic beer. The other Oshkosh breweries – Peoples and the Oshkosh Brewing Co. – followed a similar path. But to a unique degree, the Rahr brewery became the subject of persistent rumors that some of its production bypassed the dealcoholization process. According to the gossip, that beer got funneled to bootleggers.

Blanche heard those rumors for the rest of her life. She consistently denied them. In any case, Rahr Brewing of Oshkosh was among just a handful of breweries of its size to survive the dry years.

Beer became legal again in 1933. But things didn't get a lot easier. Rahr was Oshkosh's smallest brewery, producing up to 20,000 barrels of beer annually – about half as much beer as their cross-town competitors made.

Especially troubling was a new set of laws that forbade the Rahrs from operating their brewery in conjunction with the saloons they owned. Before Prohibition, the Rahr family had used their tied-house saloons to insulate themselves from their larger competitors. But that arrangement was made illegal in the aftermath of repeal. The struggle to survive became a never-ending ordeal.

You wouldn't have known that if you were following Blanche. When she wasn't at the brewery, she led a social life that was a regular feature of the Daily Northwestern's "Women's World" page. She participated in civic groups, became an excellent bowler, and was fanatic about the local baseball scene.

Blanche had far-flung friends and she traveled to be with them. Among her better-known confidants were Hollywood actress Edna Bennett and Broadway stage actress Beth Merrill.

Blanche was also the person reporters went to when they were looking for news about the brewery. But her typical bluntness began to wane as the fortunes of her brewery declined. She was evasive when asked for a summary of Rahr's 1953 business. "About the same as 1952," she said and then went on to complain about the tax on beer.

In fact, the brewery was coming undone. Annual production had fallen well below the 10,000-barrel mark. 1954 was worse. By 1955, production had dropped to just 3,660 barrels. And in the summer of 1956, the Rahrs closed their brewery. Again, it was Blanche who shared the news. She said that, if nothing else, they could be proud that even through the leanest of years there was never a layoff.

Blanche was 63 when the brewery shut down. She had lived all her life in a home two doors west of the brewhouse. And there she remained.

Her life seems to have narrowed after the brewery went under. She became somewhat infamous for her severity when driving off wandering children attracted by the prospect of sneaking into a dormant brewery. Other explorers remembered her gruff demeanor giving way to a smile and a piece of candy.

Demolition of the brewery began in 1964. Blanche was 72 then and still living in the house two doors down. She stayed there until the summer of 1979 when she fell ill and was moved to Evergreen Manor. Miss Blanche Rahr, aged 86, died there on the Monday morning of Aug. 13, 1979.

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



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Chief Oshkosh

FROM PAGE 1

ancestral land, which later became the city, incorporating their language and traditions.

There is a biographical plaque, a statesman plaque, steward plaque and land plaque. Wording on a fifth inscription, which had been a topic of contention during the approval process, adds the tribe's perspective on the Italian sculptor Gaetano Trentanove's depiction of the Menominee leader.

The "metaplaque" includes a portrait of the Menominee leader and explains the significance of adding the other information to the monument and how the original didn't accurately depict the chief's history.

"The original accompanying plaque serves as an example of the colonial tendency to reduce and erase Indigenous strengths and achievements," the fifth plaque states in part.

Evers praised the effort and emphasized the intergovernmental nature of the project that came together over time.

"It's great to see the result of so many individuals' hard work to better represent the significant accomplishments of Chief Oshkosh, who he was, his impact in Wisconsin and as a leader of the Menominee Nation," he said.

"As one of my several hometowns, it's also really important to me to see this happen."

Evers said it was a special opportunity to share the event with descendants of Chief Oshkosh, including his great-great-granddaughter Catherine Oshkosh Pyawasay, who spoke of her famous ancestor's legacy.

"As our tribe celebrates our 50th anniversary of the (federal sovereignty) restoration this year, it is without a doubt we humbly acknowledge my grandfather, for thinking of the next generation during treaty negotiations and keeping us here," Pyawasay said.

Tribal Chairwoman Gena Kakkak led the delegation of Menominee County visitors that included ceremonial dancers, a drum circle and members of the Wolf River Singers, all sharing their traditional culture at Menominee Park.

"(Chief Oshkosh) was an excellent negotiator, statesman and our tribe will always be grateful for his historic leadership. It is a great honor to invite his descendants here today and see the many family members that carry on his legacy," Kakkak said.

"These plaques will add a better understanding to a great leader of our people, and we welcome that."

They were co-written by two Menominee Nation members – historic preservation officer David Grignon and former Wisconsin Humanities Council chairman Arnold Chevalier – and UW Oshkosh English professor Pascale Manning, who specializes in indigenous literature. They introduced the five plaques to the city in May 2021.

The monument additions were originally endorsed by the Landmarks Commission in 2015 as part of a larger project. A special committee was formed in 2018 by Mayor Steve Cummings to further include the tribe's history to the city.

"The statue presents a generic image of a stoic warrior rather than seeking to remember Oshkosh the person," Manning said of the monument dedicated in June 1911. "It limits the subject to a set of stereotypes."

Drafts of what was to be engraved onto each plaque went to a printing company a year ago and had to wait for backed-up services before they returned and were given final approval.

Legion falls to Kaukauna in extra innings

The Oshkosh Legion rallied for two runs in the bottom of the seventh to force extra innings but couldn't pull out the victory, falling to Kaukauna, 6-4, in 10 innings at EJ Schneider Field on Thursday.

Shaun Gavin singled and scored in the first inning to stake Oshkosh to the lead before scoring again in the fifth inning to tie the game at 2. Kaukauna then scored two runs in the top of the sixth and held the lead until the bottom of the seventh.

Jackson Hill led off the inning with a double before back-to-back singles from Dominic Kane and Cormac Sammons plated a run to tie the game. After a single by Ben Boelter loaded the bases, Gavin grounded into a double play that plated the tying run.

A walk to Jeramiah Housworth was followed by an intentional walk to Ben Buehring to load the bases, but Oshkosh was unable to score the game-winner.

Oshkosh had a runner thrown out at the plate in the eighth inning and left two runners on base in the ninth before Kaukauna scored two runs in the 10th to take the lead. Oshkosh was retired in order in the bottom of the 10th.

Gavin finished 3-for-5 to lead the offense, while Housworth was 2-for-4 and Sammons – who entered the game in the seventh inning – finished 2-for-2. Buehring went just 1-for-3 but was intentionally walked twice both times with runners in scoring position.

The Legion's next home game will be Monday when Oshkosh hosts Green Bay Southwest at EJ Schneider Field at 7:30 p.m.

Golf outing returns to support foundation

The DC Villars Foundation of Hope, which helps local families dealing with cancer or loss of a loved one, is presenting its third annual golf outing July 15 at Lake Breeze Golf Club in Winneconne.

The fundraiser is hoping to raise at least \$38,000 for the Kositzke family, this year's focus, after raising more than \$38,000 for the Carlson family last year.

Foundation president is Nicole Villars, wife of Doug Villars, who is the namesake of the organization created in his memory after losing his battle with esophageal cancer. He was owner of Re/Max On The Water for years after his mother, Kris Villars, ran the company previously.

The DC Villars Foundation of Hope has had other fundraising events as it grows but the golf outing is its major event for the year.

"Since we've been growing, we've been able to give additional funds to other individuals dealing with cancer, besides just our recipient family this year," said Jason Davis, a foundation spokesman.

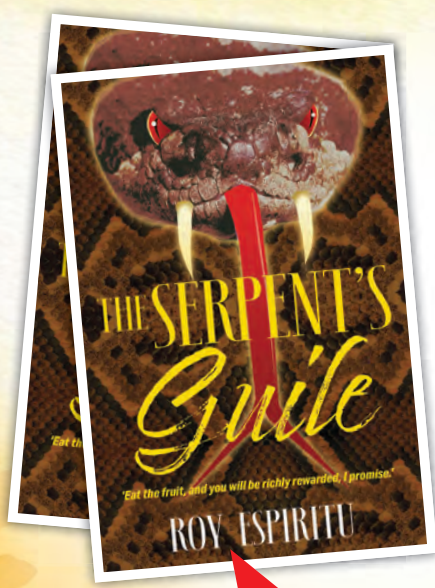
More information can be found at www.facebook.com/groups/dcvillars.

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Submitted photo

Valley Christian tennis coach Breck Speers and his mixed doubles partner Cathy Palesse will participate in the 2023 Senior Games in Pittsburgh in July.

Speers, Palesse to play in Senior Games

Valley Christian tennis coach Breck Speers and his mixed doubles partner Cathy Palesse will represent Wisconsin at the 2023 National Senior Games to be held July 7-18 in Pittsburgh.

Speers and Palesse will compete against 18 other mixed doubles pairings in the 70-74 age division at the games. The tournament will be a round-robin format and take place over a 7-10 day span.

Speers and Palesse earned the opportunity to participate in the games by winning the mixed doubles title in their age division at the 2022 Wisconsin State Senior Games.

Speers, who lives in Ripon, has coached high school and college tennis for more than 30 years and just finished his second

season leading the Valley Christian program. He credits working with the Valley Christian players for helping him prepare for the national games.

The National Senior Games is an event normally held every two years for men and women ages 50 and over. It is the largest multi-sport event in the world for seniors.

This year's event will feature competition in 21 different sports and will likely draw more than 10,000 athletes to the competition. The 2022 Senior Games – delayed a year because of the pandemic – was held in Fort Lauderdale, Fla., with more than 12,000 athletes competing in 21 different sports.

More than 1,100 medals will be awarded.

Four Lourdes/Valley golfers garner WGCA Academic All-State honors

Four members of the Lourdes Academy/Valley Christian golf team were named to the Wisconsin Golf Coaches Association Academic All-State list, it was announced recently.

Seniors Lucas Schettle, Garrett LaMore and Chas Muhlbauer, along with junior Cooper McLaughlin, were honored by the association for their accomplishments on the golf course and in the classroom.

In order to qualify for the Academic All-State list, players must have a cumulative grade point average of at least 3.25 and

participate in at least 75 percent of their teams varsity matches. The Academic All-State list is open to sophomores, juniors and seniors.

A total of 432 students from 125 different high schools have been honored this year.

The Lourdes/Valley golf team won the Northern Division title in the Trailways Conference this season as well as qualified for a WIAA Division 3 sectional meet. McLaughlin earned a second-straight trip to the state meet as an individual, where he placed eighth overall.

West's Grey tabbed for all-star games

Oshkosh West senior Erik Grey has been selected to participate in the Wisconsin Baseball Coaches All-Star games which will be held in Oshkosh on June 30 and July 1 at EJ Schneider Field.

The event involves 72 of the top high school senior baseball players in the state.

Grey will be a member of the North All-Stars, one of four all-star teams at the event. The teams will play a round-robin tournament over the two days.

Grey was a second-team all-Fox Valley Association selection this spring after lead-

ing the Wildcats with a .298 batting average, including a team-high five doubles.

Grey will be one of seven players from the FVA competing on the North squad, which will be coached by Joel Kramer of Fox Valley Lutheran, Rocky Modello of Waupaca and Greg Yeager of Hortonville.

Games will begin at 4 p.m. Friday, June 30, with two contests slated for the opening day.

Play will resume Saturday at 10 a.m. with the final game scheduled to start at 4:30 p.m.

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Kid Scoop

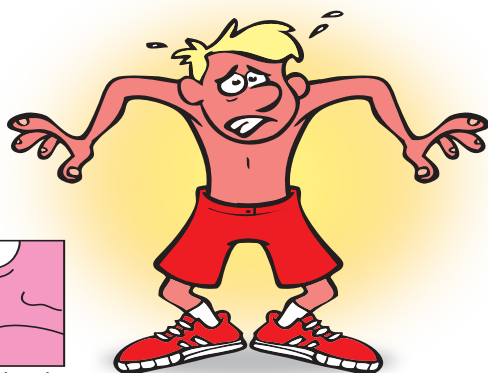
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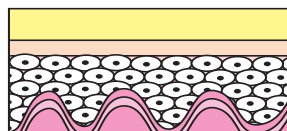
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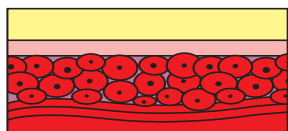
OUCH! Hot fun in the summertime can be painful! Too much fun in the sun can burn your skin.



How does the sun burn skin?



Normal skin cells.



Cells that get too much sunlight swell and fill with blood.



This turns the skin red and makes it hurt.

Find: • banana • watermelon • moon • dolphin • car
• bat • bowling ball • crocodile • ice cream • octopus

To burn or not to burn?

Everybody has tiny grains of color called **melanin** in their skin.

Melanin grains are like a screen. They protect the body from the burning rays of sunlight. Everybody's skin makes melanin. Melanin grains are brown. When your skin is exposed to the sun, it makes more melanin. That is why your skin gets darker when you play in the sunshine.

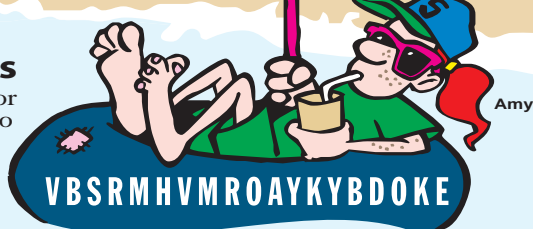
Different skin types

Tanya has a lot of melanin in her skin. Andy and Melody have a little. Amy has very little. Some parts of Amy's body make more melanin than others. These dark spots are called freckles.

Everybody needs to protect their skin from the sun. Even people with lots of melanin will burn. Their skin won't burn as fast as Amy's, but it will burn.

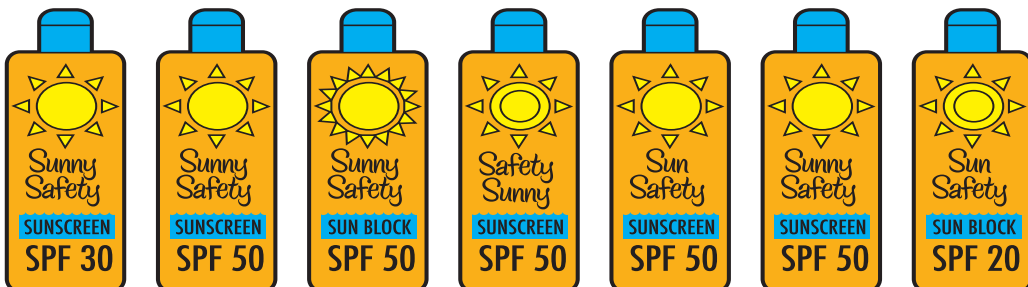
Lifesaver Letters

What should you look for when you are getting too much sun? Cross out every letter that is printed twice on the innertube. The five letters left spell your answer!



Standards Link: Reading Comprehension: Follow simple directions; identify common sight words.

Which two bottles of sunscreen are exactly the same?



Extra! Extra!

How Hot Are You?

How many words can you find in today's newspaper that mean the same as **HOT**?

Score yourself:

1-3: Pretty Cool

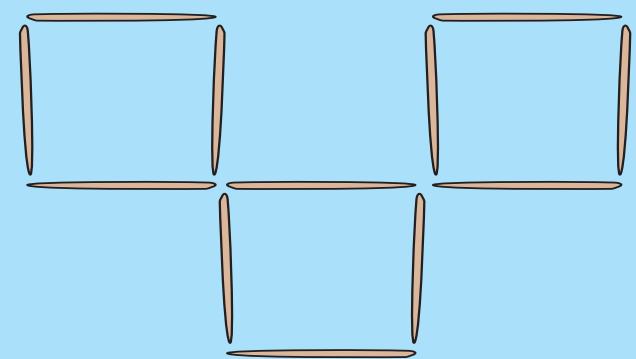
4-6: Hot Stuff!

7+: Steamin' Hot!

Standards Link: Language Arts: Identify synonyms in reading.

Kid Scoop Puzzler

Using 12 toothpicks, try this puzzle. Lay out the toothpicks as shown below. Can you make **four** squares by moving only **three** toothpicks?



Standards Link: Math: Problem solving. Make a model to solve a puzzle.

Double Double Word Search

BURN
LIFESAVER
SKIN
MELANIN
SUNSHINE
DARKER
BEACH
BODY
COOL
SPOTS
HOT
RAYS
BROWN
TINY
HURT

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



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



Kid Scoop Together: SAFE FUN IN THE SUN

Think about important summer safety tips for kids (bike safety, pool safety, sun safety, etc.)

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STEP 3



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This section will inspire you to explore the many cultural offerings in our communities and support the arts from the professional touring companies to the local recitals and concerts.

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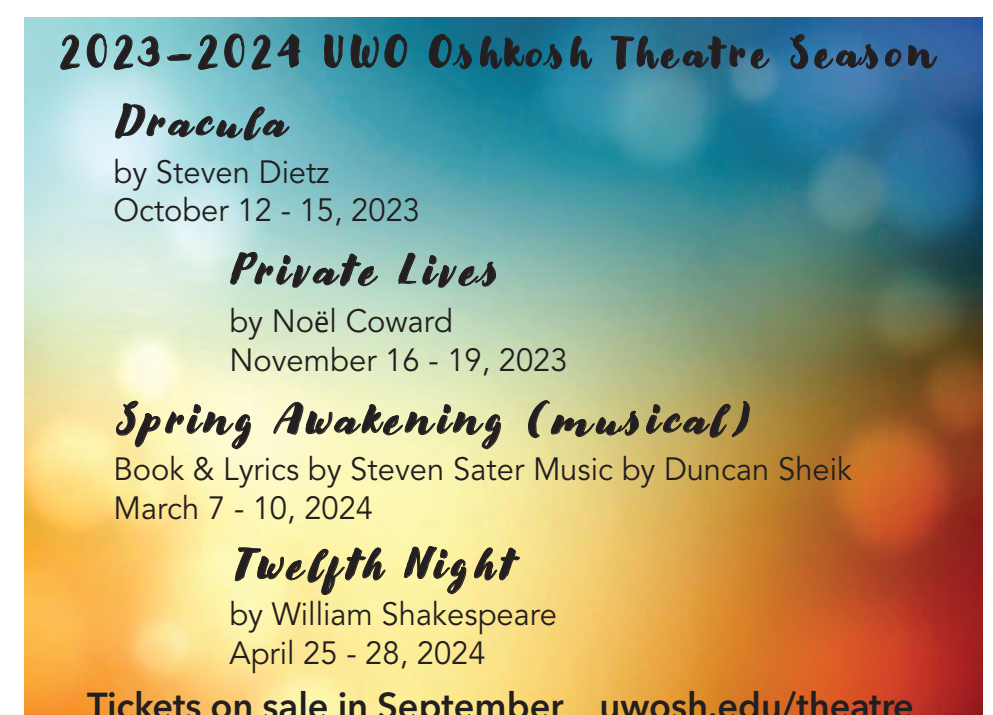
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www.valleyacademyarts.org

Valley Academy of the Arts

Programs that empower dancers through classical training by providing opportunities to people of all ages interested in learning ballet.
www.valleyacademyarts.org

Neenah Arts Council

Promoting and enhancing the arts for everyone.
Neenah Arts Council on Facebook

Neenah Community Band

Providing the opportunity for adult volunteer musicians to contribute their musical talents in performing music that serves the community.
www.ci.neenah.wi.us
Neenah Community Band on Facebook

Bergstrom-Mahler Museum of Glass

Provides unique glass experiences to ignite fun, creativity and learning from children to adults.
www.bmmglass.com

Jubricosa Arts Academy

A ministry to share God-given talents and with hopes these talented performers will share their talents with others as they go into the world and continue to grow spiritually.
www.jubricosa.org

R. Harder Gallery of Gems & Minerals

Located off the lobby of Jewelers Mutual Group, The R. Harder Gallery hosts a display of gems and minerals in their natural forms.
www.jewelersmutual.com

Rooster Dreams Visual Arts

Leave one of their visual arts sessions confident that your creativity will continue and know that the next class will be even more inspiring.
www.roosterdreams.com

Riverside Players

A unique and entertaining outdoor theater experience to its audience.
www.ci.neenah.wi.us



OSHKOSH AREA COMMUNITY BAND SUMMER CONCERT SERIES

- Admission is Free -

MADE IN AMERICA
@Alberta Kimball Auditorium
Wednesday, June 28th, 7 P.M.

ON BROADWAY
@Oshkosh North High School Auditorium
Wednesday, July 12th, 7 P.M.

POTPOURRI CONCERT
w/ Children's conducting Competition
@Oshkosh North High School Auditorium
Wednesday, July 26th, 7 P.M.

JOIN THE BAND!

Our rehearsals are on Monday evenings. We rehearse in the Oshkosh West High School band room at 7 pm and if you are a "post high school" adult, you are welcome to join us! You may enter directly into the bandroom through "Door 34" located on Eagle Street just South of the Alberta Kimball Auditorium. There are no fees and no auditions to join. We hope some of you will consider joining us!

oshcomband@yahoo.com
P.O. Box 2931 • Oshkosh, WI 54903-2931.

"MUSIC SHOULD BE FOR LIFE!"



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The Magic of Kevin Spencer



FEB 10

Embrace the fun of storytelling and stage magic in this sensory inclusive performance for the whole family.

JESSICA VOSK



FEB 17

Returning to your Fox Cities P.A.C. where she first appeared in 2017 as Elphaba in Broadway's WICKED, it's celebrated singer Jessica Vosk.

Makin' Cake with Dasha Kelly-Hamilton



FEB 27

Join us for layered storytelling about race, culture and class through the eyes of baking and American history.

San Jose Taiko



MAR 14

Where the contemporary meets tradition, travel to Japan with San Jose Taiko and explore the beauty of the taiko art form in an innovative drumming experience.

Alice



APR 9

You'll find yourself enthralled when you travel down the rabbit hole and experience illusions, acrobatics, magic and whimsy in this creation inspired by Lewis Carroll's classic "Alice in Wonderland."

HEREDEROS



APR 13

Experience the energy of this musical style performed by these Mexican American musicians as they honor the past, celebrate the present and create the future of mariachi music.

VIEWPOINT SPEAKER SERIES

inspire • connect • grow



Through the Lens: Creating a Ripple

NOV 14



How to Astronaut

JAN 23



Into the Canyon: Exploring a National Treasure

APR 30

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