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COVID, Act 10 cited in teacher turnover

Policy Forum examines why educators leave

By Jonathan Richie
OSHKOSH HERALD

Teacher turnover surged in Wisconsin in 2023 as record numbers of teachers moved between districts, and the most teachers since 2012 left public school classrooms altogether, a new Wisconsin Policy Forum report found.

Turnover from 2009 to 2023 was more prevalent among teachers of color than their white counterparts, in districts serv-

ing vulnerable student populations, and among rural school districts as well as those with the lowest enrollment. Turnover was caused to a greater extent by teachers exiting public school classrooms altogether rather than moving between districts.

The Wisconsin Policy Forum report suggests teachers are leaving schools for other schools or simply leaving the professions for two major

reasons: COVID-19 and Act 10.

ACT 10 was signed into law by former Gov. Scott Walker, which gained national attention for stripping collective bargaining from state and local government employees, including teachers. It was signed by Walker in 2011.

"When examining teacher turnover rates on a year-by-year basis, one might expect the years affected by the COVID-19 pandemic to stand out," the report says. "Various sectors saw elevated worker turnover during the pandemic years, and many



Davis

SEE **Teacher turnover** ON PAGE 10



Oshkosh Herald

Jazzing it up

Stuck on Blue jams during their set Saturday at the annual Oshkosh Jazz Festival on North Main Street.

Refugees find way to success through regional team

World Relief helps put new lives together

By Anya Kelley
OSHKOSH HERALD

As of 2018, 5% of Wisconsin's population was composed of immigrants, while that number has been steadily increasing since then. Many come to America ready to work and build a new life for their families.

It's never easy coming to a new country where everything from customs to the language is different. World Relief, a global Christian humanitarian organization, makes that transition smoother.

World Relief is one of 10 resettlement

agencies in the nation helping refugees from all over the world find a home here. The Fox Valley branch has been in operation for 11 years and resettled almost 300 people last year.

That number seemingly increases yearly as World Relief Fox Valley has resettled around 315 people this year and is estimating about 350 more in 2024.

World Relief, with offices at 404 N. Main St. in Oshkosh and 510 E. Wisconsin Ave. in Appleton, provides services as diverse as applying for green cards, community engagement and family reunification. Director Tami McLaughlin oversees a staff of 27 as the organization

SEE **World Relief** ON PAGE 15



Photo from World Relief

Amcor hired more than 70 of the World Relief organization's clients to fill needed positions.



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Winnebago Bicycle at 10 years and rolling

Downtown bike shop celebrates anniversary

By Jennifer Parmley
HERALD CONTRIBUTOR

Winnebago Bicycle recently celebrated its 10-year anniversary and owner Sean Lynch and crew have been enjoying the ride every step of the way.

The shop, located at 502 N. Main St., sells several brands of bicycles and accessories, as well as provides services, but in recent years has become known for the events it holds.

"It's not enough for a bike shop to just sell people a bike," Lynch said. "You have to give them the opportunity to ride as well."

One event it's involved in is Slow Roll Oshkosh, which occurs on the third Tuesday of the month May through September. The free, social and slow-paced ride is open to people of all ages and rider levels. With a different starting point each month, the group wends its way throughout the city, often with stops at various establishments for refreshments.



Lynch

"We can get 100 to 300 people," Lynch said, adding that the event coinciding with the Gibson Club opening downtown attracted nearly 350 participants. "Leading that many people down Main Street was a trip."

Winnebago Bicycle and Discover Oshkosh also host the Alleycat Race Series, a series of scavenger hunts on Saturdays over seven weeks. Riders pay \$5 each to receive a list of Oshkosh-based checkpoints to visit along routes planned by individuals or teams. The noncompetitive, 20-25-mile event starts at Opera House Square and concludes with a party and prizes.

"We just tell them where the finish line is," Lynch said. "When we stop at these places the patrons of those businesses see us having fun. Everyone asks what we're doing, and they see us having a great time and want to join in."

Rebecca Nichols of Appleton has been biking since the early 2010s and has attended several Alleycat races. "It's a huge blast," Nichols said. "I have recruited so



Photo by Jennifer Parmley

A backpacking bicycle is shown at Winnebago Bicycle on North Main Street.

many friends to do Alleycat races with me."

Lynch is also into bikepacking, a mix of all-terrain biking and backpacking. Riders bring enough gear for extended trips, including food, tents and hammocks, tools and clothes. His shop offers the technology and equipment to make those rides more enjoyable and safer.

Nichols became interested in bikepacking in 2020 and assembled the gear for her own bike before she discovered Winnebago Bicycle.

"I didn't realize there was a shop that really focused on that," she said. "They looked at the crazy setup that I had cobbled together and helped me put it into a more reliable and professional arrangement that I can now bring all over."

Bikepacking is a great way to see and experience places, Nichols said.

"It allows you to be in the places rather than just flying by in a car," she said. "I've seen parts of Wisconsin from the trail or road on my bike at a slower pace that I wouldn't have noticed or witnessed had I been in a car."

Lynch, originally from Oshkosh, received his bachelor's degree in vocal performance from UW Oshkosh and a master's degree in voice from the University of Iowa. He worked in bike shops while in school, jobs that offered him the flexibility he needed for auditions and touring.

A stint at World of Bikes in Iowa City exposed him to adventure biking.

"That really appealed to me and the Boy Scout that I was," he said. "I cut my teeth

at that shop, and they taught me a lot."

He brought that knowledge to a job at Oshkosh Cyclery & Fitness (previously on 20th Avenue and now in Fond du Lac) before landing at Winnebago Bicycle in 2016, then owned by Ben Rennert, who mentored Lynch in the day-to-day business.

Things went smoothly until March 2020 when the pandemic hit. Many companies were shutting down, and Lynch took the opportunity to buy the business. While more people wanted to get outside and revisit or even start biking, getting inventory was a challenge.

"Even repairs were a challenge, because we couldn't get parts," said Lynch, who ran the shop solo for the last few months of the year.

Things eventually turned around and Lynch was able to hire more staff and get things back on track.

"This is the first year since we're finally able to feel like a real bike shop," he said.

Lynch will continue to grow the business and provide reliable service. He's currently into wheel building using Dynamo hubs fitted with a small electric generator to power lights, phones and GPS. They also focus on brakes, suspension work and custom-built frames, especially for adventure-oriented bikes.

His favorite part of the job is the people he works with.

"The boys and I will go out and ride after work and stop at Fifth Ward or Oblio's or someplace," he said. "It's a nice little friend group and community."

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UW Oshkosh's budget challenges will affect all of us

If you are a regular reader of the Herald you no doubt are aware that the University of Wisconsin Oshkosh is facing some major fiscal challenges. Specifically, an \$18 million deficit. To put that into context, UWO's total spending in 2023 was about \$241 million.

The immediate actions in the wake of the deficit are furloughs for most employees, staff layoffs, a hiring freeze, and higher teaching loads for faculty.

As a UWO employee and believer in its mission, news of these challenges and subsequent actions was deflating. I asked myself how is this going to work. I am lucky to teach in a stable program whose biggest challenge in recent years has been staffing our courses with limited faculty. How will we do even more with even less?

My second reaction was frustration. How could a public university not see this coming and deal with fundamental issues earlier? Who or what is responsible?

My third reaction was to make sure my resume was updated, harkening back to some early career advice from a mentor who told me institutions will not love you back, no matter how much you give to them.

After a few days and a few conversations, the shock wore off and I put on my



Michael Ford
Oshkosh
Common Council

public administration hat to try to make sense of the situation. The challenges facing the UW system, and UWO specifically, are complex. Complex challenges tend to have complex causes.

So how did we get here? The first part of the puzzle is declining state support for the UW system. In 2003 30.9% of the UW system budget came from state funds. By 2013 that percentage declined to 19.2%, and today is down to 18%. The reduction in state support is directly linked to increased reliance on tuition, which supported 17.9% of the UW system budget in 2003, and 21.6% and 24.1% in 2013 and 2023 respectively.

Given the increasing reliance on tuition rather than state aid, UWO needed to either raise its tuition or increase enrollments. State legislative action in 2013 froze tuition, taking any increases for in-state undergraduates off the table. Efforts to increase enrollment did not work, as total enrollment fell from 13,902 students

in fall 2013 to 12,851 in fall 2022.

The failure to increase enrollments is not at all surprising given 1) The number of K-12 students in Wisconsin is declining (public school enrollments dropped from 858,833 in 2019 to 822,804 in 2023), and 2) Every UW system school had the same strategy to increase enrollment; there was no way it could work for everyone. Hence it is also not surprising that other UW system schools are facing their own deficits.

The second piece of the puzzle is, in my opinion, a function of being a large bureaucracy. Large rule-driven organizations, be they public, private or nonprofit, are slow to change. In the past 20 years political support for the UW system plummeted, UWO (and other system schools) absorbed the struggling two-year campuses, technology (and the pandemic) altered student expectations of higher education, and a bureaucracy designed to serve an institution that no

longer exists hummed along as usual.

The elephant in the room is Wisconsin's unprecedented budget surplus. Couldn't the Legislature choose to invest some of that into the UW system? Yes. But they did not. And nobody can be surprised with that decision after the past 20 years of the aforementioned plummeting political support for the UW system.

Though I find that lack of support shortsighted, I am focused on the larger question of where UWO goes from here. As painful as the current situation is, it presents an opportunity to position UWO as a vital state and community asset focused on solving our region's most pressing social and economic needs. I am hopeful, with strong community partners, we will get there.

Michael R. Ford is an associate professor of public administration at the University of Wisconsin Oshkosh, where he teaches graduate courses in budgeting, state and local government, and nonprofit management. He also serves on the Oshkosh Common Council.

Day by Day Shelter plans cultural fundraiser

Day by Day Shelter is holding an inaugural Streets of Hope fundraiser Oct. 13 at Becket's Center Atrium, which will be an interactive arts fundraiser that will connect to the heart of street culture.

Shelter executive director Molly Yatso Butz said many shelter guests suffer the emotional stigma of their experiences on the streets. She said they want to honor the creativity that rises from street culture in a way that highlights resilience, vitality and diversity.

Day by Day Shelter opened in a new facility in May that came with additional operational commitments and challenges. As they work to establish a new income

stream from the event, Yatso Butz said they are looking for community partners to ensure the success of Streets of Hope for 2023 and for years to come.

"We are excited to bring a new fundraiser event to Oshkosh, with a fresh style," she said. "Streets of Hope deeply connects to our guests, our organization and shares our story."

The event will run from 6 to 11 p.m. Tickets are available at www.streetsofhope.art.

There is currently an open call for artists and volunteers and openings for additional sponsors. More information on the event can be found at www.streetsofhope.art or contact Molly@daybydayshelter.org.

ArtSpace's Gallery Walks to resume downtown

ArtSpace Collective Inc. will be launching monthly Gallery Walks starting Saturday from 6 to 9 p.m. with nine businesses and galleries in the downtown area featuring the work of local artists.

Businesses participating are Tempo Music & Art Gallery, Tara Rudy Photography, Elsewhere Coffee House, ArtSpace Collec-

tive, Gardina's, Fire Escape, Jambalaya Arts, New Moon Cafe and Becket's. Maps will be available at participating establishments. All businesses are in the DORA (designated outdoor refreshment area) district.

For additional information, contact 920-426-3232 or go to facebook.com/groups/OshkoshGalleryWalk.



Discover big fun this weekend.

UWO Football Game vs Texas Lutheran University JJ Keller Field at Titan Stadium Kickoff: 1:05 p.m.	SEPT 2
Hmong National Labor Day Festival Sport tournaments, festival activities, and marketplace. Winnebago County Park	SEPT 2-3
Flea Market An eclectic mix of antique and vintage collectables and more. Originals Mall of Antiques 8 a.m.-2 p.m.	SEPT 4
Winnebago County Labor Day Picnic & Car Show Family fun! Food, drinks, free music and a car show. South Park 10 a.m.-5 p.m.	SEPT 4
Brews on the Bay featuring Plastic Knives Live music, yard games and food trucks. Admission is free. Leach Amphitheater 5-9 p.m.	SEPT 6



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Council approves capital projects for 2024

Riverwalk expansion, Grand construction OK'd

By Jonathan Richie
OSHKOSH HERALD

The city is moving forward with a plethora of projects set to begin next year. These projects include several street projects, expanding the riverwalk to wrap around Pioneer Island and a planned renovation at The Grand Oshkosh.

The 2024 Capital Improvement Plan (CIP) projects budget will still need to be approved by the Common Council during the budget process in November.

Mayor Matt Mugerauer said this was the first step in getting projects underway next year.

"We're giving blessing to projects totaling almost \$120 million for 2024 in terms of public works, police, fire, museum and everyday amenities in the city of Oshkosh and trying to improve those for those who live here," he said.

One new project has been added for The Grand renovation. Finance director Russell Van Gompel said the project's design costs, projected at \$473,000, were added to the 2024 list and the construction is slated for 2025 to cost around \$5.5 million.

City Manager Mark Rohloff said The Grand is set to fundraise about \$3 million of the total construction costs. The remaining funds will be covered by general obligation borrowing. He added that the theater has plans to only be closed for one season, but that doesn't mean there won't be a Grand season.

The renovation includes upgrades to

modernize the buildings infrastructure, increase efficiency and updating bathrooms and dressing room, said Grand president Joseph Ferlo.

The main lobby bathrooms will be renovated, and the dressing rooms updated – spaces that have not been changed since 1986.

"Everyone will be happy about the bathrooms being renovated," Ferlo said. "The people that use The Grand the most will notice the dressing rooms will be larger with better bathrooms and more privacy."

Another big upgrade will be replacing the loading doors and upgrading the loading area to be more efficient. The current loading doors were installed in 1883. The Grand will also be more wheelchair accessible once the renovations are complete.

"There will be a new secondary entrance added," Ferlo said. "This will all improve wheelchair access throughout the building."

Separate from this project are other upgrades to The Grand such as replacing seats in the theater and replacing doors and windows at the main entrance. Ferlo said those projects can be done concurrently with other projects.

The Grand will be utilizing the next couple of months to reach out to potential donors and get a feel in the community for where their support is and make a plan from there to reach the fundraising goal of more than \$3 million.

Ferlo said the staff is continuing to work with city staff on this partnership as the city owns the building and the nonprofit Opera House Foundation operates the building. When asked about closing for a year, Ferlo said it would probably be the 2025-2026

season. The Grand had to go digital with online performances during COVID and that could return during renovations.

"We're looking at other venues possibly in the area to hold shows," Ferlo said. "Anything is possible."

The CIP also included using \$3.5 million of American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funds to extend the riverwalk to Pioneer Island.

Mugerauer made a motion at the meeting to change the funding source for the expanded riverwalk from ARPA funds to now be "TBD," or to be determined. Initially the \$3.5 million project would be funded by ARPA funds, but after the council vote last week the funding source is now TBD.

"It's a valuable project, along with several other extensions of the riverwalk that we have," Mugerauer said. "I don't think this is the best and highest use of these funds at this time."

He added there are higher-value priorities as far as city infrastructure is concerned. Community development director Kelly Nieforth said staff is continuing to look at grant options to fund the extension of the riverwalk, including 50/50 or 80/20 matching grants.

Nieforth explained this section of the riverwalk would be near the railroad tracks and the vehicle bridge and would go all the way to the breakwater.

"We would be doing multiple segments because we'd need to get people to the island and then put it on the island," Nieforth said.

Rohloff told the Herald earlier this year that the city has a plan to get the riverwalk extended onto Pioneer Island because it is such a great asset to the city.

Council member Mike Ford asked how this 2024 CIP fits in with city plans for debt policy. Van Gompel said the city could be issuing just more than \$18 million in debt to help fund CIP projects next year.

Other projects include a few street projects. This includes a large storm sewer project running along 6th Avenue be-

tween Michigan and Iowa streets. There is also planned road construction projects on Cherry Street and Waugoo Avenue.

The council will vote on these projects and their potential costs when the budget is voted on and approved in November.

Property donated

A home is set to be razed at 1429 Fox St. The property was donated to the Oshkosh Redevelopment Authority and city staff believe the property will be key as an infill lot for a new home.

Council member Joe Stephenson asked if the house was "too far gone to save at all" and was informed there was a fire at the house.

Nieforth said an insurance company said that due to the fire at the home it will need to be razed. She said the owner did not wish to rebuild on the site and instead decided to donate it to the RDA.

"The lot size is a pretty decent size so we thought it'd be a great infill lot development," Nieforth said. The city has started acquiring undesirable lots or infill lots as a way to get more affordable housing into Oshkosh.

Council member Paul Esslinger asked what the city's intention is to do with the property. Nieforth said the goal would be to sell the property to a developer to build a single-family home there.

Girl Scout FASD project

Members of Girl Scout Troop 2414 kicked off the meeting by leading the council in the Pledge of Allegiance. The troop also spoke about awareness of fetal alcohol spectrum disorders (FASD).

Mugerauer read a proclamation declaring Sept. 9 to be FASD Awareness Day in the city.

FASD can occur in people that are exposed to alcohol before they are born, the mother consumes alcohol and goes from her blood to the baby through the umbilical cord. According to the Centers for Disease Control, about 1 in 20 school children may have FASD.

The CDC website states, "Alcohol can cause problems for a developing baby throughout pregnancy, including before a woman knows she's pregnant. All types of alcohol are equally harmful, including all wines and beer."

The Girl Scouts will have an informational booth at the farmer's market on Sept. 9 where people can learn more about FASD as part of their silver award project. The troop spoke about FASD education, pointing out that FASD is more prevalent than autism, but there are no dedicated supports or services for these children or adults.

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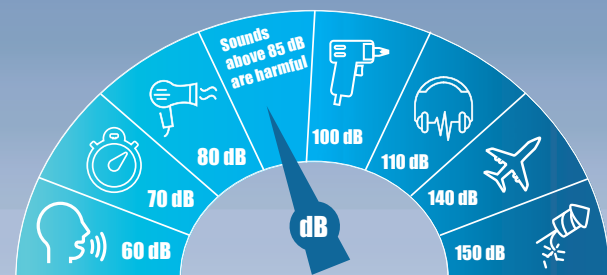
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Teachers' Closet goes deeper with new space, steady demand

Oshkosh Herald

The Oshkosh Teachers' Closet has been getting an expected surge in new and familiar visitors this month at its new location with the fall semester approaching and education supplies always in demand.

Director Kay Kuenzl-Stenerson, husband Alan and son Matt Stenerson have been working to get their expanded location rejuvenated at 530 Bay Shore Drive since early June ahead of their August opening when teachers start to figure out what their classrooms and students are lacking.

Founded 12 years ago at its former Peace Lutheran Church location, the Oshkosh Teachers' Closet has been supporting teachers looking to provide students with needed supplies beyond what their families can afford, along with other teaching tools for often sparsely furnished classrooms.

"Anything that you can imagine would be in a classroom – that's what we provide," said Matt.

A grant from the JK Foundation made the move from the church basement and fix-up of the former Grow Oshkosh space possible, Kuenzl-Stenerson said, but ongoing rent support will be needed through financial donations and other grants.

Kuenzl-Stenerson said they had about 1,200 visits last year spread out through the school year, not just when summer ends. She is also seeing more middle school and high school teachers looking for supplies as they often get less support than earlier grades that may have more PTO support for supplies.

"We get really busy in January and February, because that's when the kids' stuff starts to run out – the markers don't work anymore or we need more spiral notebooks – we're supplying teachers with stuff all year round for kids so our need is constant," she said.

There were 38 new teachers at the Teachers' Closet on Aug. 16, a day desig-



Oshkosh Herald

Kay Kuenzl-Stenerson shows the giving tree in the Oshkosh Teachers' Closet where donors can recognize special people in their lives.

nated for them, followed the next day by other teachers who more than doubled that number. Teachers must either live or teach in Winnebago County to use the service.

"Our main goal is to reach the kids whose families can't afford the supplies that they need to come to school with. The second goal is so that teachers don't have to buy those supplies out of their own pocket," she said.

"What adds to that is we become kind of a clearinghouse for all the stuff that retired teachers or teachers moving grades – instead of the stuff going into the landfill it comes here and it gets recycled."

As a retired teacher who taught in Berlin and at Merrill School in Oshkosh, Kuenzl-Stenerson knows the common experience of needing to either buy or find

supplies for students and classrooms that schools don't provide and some families don't have the budget for. She said her first classroom had an old, rickety desk where the drawers would hardly open, the top too carved up to write on, no desk chair and a scissors that couldn't cut paper.

"I brought all of the bookshelves, because I'm a reading specialist, and put the books that I bought on them so that kids would have a classroom library," she said.

The Winnebago Detachment Marine

Corps League held a bingo fundraiser where players brought in school supplies that filled two large boxes, one of the ways community groups help support the Teachers' Closet.

Financial donations are equally welcome either through a partnership with the Oshkosh Area Community Foundation's Designated Fund or given directly by going to teacherscloset.org. Matt said they can make cash donations stretch much further than an individual who buys and donates supplies.

"We can buy things at a fifth of the price from different places ... between bulk and other sources that the public can't buy from," he said, such as markers, dry erasers and some art supplies. "We can do that because we're a nonprofit."

Kuenzl-Stenerson said the new location, beyond the added warehouse and work space, should offer more visibility to draw more support and add to the about 10 volunteers who are mostly retired teachers. They can now take in bigger items – they don't take desks while shelving is welcome.

"We have donation days and we get a lot of things from retired teachers or people just interested, and they will bring us classroom type stuff like bulletin boards and games and stuff like that," she said, adding that most of that flies off the shelves.

There is also a special request fund for people donating to a specific need, with the requests reviewed by a committee.

The Closet is open on Wednesdays and Thursdays, along with one Saturday morning a month. They can be contacted at 920-426-5480 or execdir@theteacherscloset.org.

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Oshkosh Herald

A new Tiki Bar called Sometimes at Pioneer Island opened earlier this month.

Tiki bar opens on Pioneer Island

By Jonathan Richie
OSHKOSH HERALD

There's a new tiki bar recently launched on Pioneer Island as developers continue with plans for the island mostly known for its marina.

Sometimes at Pioneer Island is a tiki bar and is the first step for developers on the island, which used to be the home of the Pioneer Resort.

Art Dumke of Artron Properties said the name comes from the fact that sometimes the bar will be open and sometimes it won't.

"It will be open depending on the weather," Dumke said. He is president of Sometimes LLC, which operates the bar and explained they will be using social media to inform people when the bar is

open. Last week when the Herald spoke to Dumke, he said the Sometimes at 1000 Pioneer Drive was ready to be a new place for people to have fun on Lake Winnebago. He said opening weekend went well.

"It's going to be a very casual outdoor experience with the bar being primarily outside on the lake," he said. "Sometimes is going to be big on fun and having that fun factor."

This is just the first step, a baby step for what Dumke has planned for Pioneer Island. There will be a food truck at the bar to add to the outdoor experience.

The Common Council approved a class B beer and class B liquor license for Sometimes at its June 27 meeting.

Public library calendar

Some programs require registration. Visit oshkoshpubliclibrary.org for details.

- Sept. 1**
Archive Dives: The Mark Gruenwald Collection, 9 a.m., YouTube
LEGO Wall Open Build, 3-5 p.m.
Teen Book Club, 4:30 p.m., grades 6-8
Young Adult Book Club, 4:30 p.m., grades 9-12
Tween Book Club, 4:30 p.m., ages 9-11
- Sept. 5**
LEGO Wall Open Build, 3-5 p.m.
- Sept. 6**
Job Search Assistance, 1-4 p.m., adults
LEGO Wall Open Build, 3-5 p.m.
- Sept. 7**
LEGO Wall Open Build, 3-5 p.m.
- Sept. 8**
LEGO Wall Open Build, 3-5 p.m.
Elementary Book Club, 4:30 p.m., ages 5-8
- Sept. 9**
LEGO Wall Open Build, 3-5 p.m.
Henry Auler: Premiere 20th Century Oshkosh Architect, 1 p.m., adults
- Sept. 11**
Family Storytime, 9:30 a.m., preschoolers
LEGO Wall Open Build, 3-5 p.m.
Read to a Dog, 4-5 p.m., ages 5-12
- Sept. 12**
Smart Starts Play Stations, 9-11 a.m., ages 1-4
LEGO Wall Open Build, 3-5 p.m.
Adult DIY, 6 p.m., adults
- Sept. 13**
High Hopes Early Literacy Storytime, 9:30 and 10:15 a.m., ages 1-4
Job Search Assistance, 1-4 p.m., adults
Memory Cafe, 1:30-3 p.m., adults
LEGO Wall Open Build, 3-5 p.m.
What a Way to Go: Death in Oshkosh in the 1880s, 6 p.m., adults
- Sept. 14**
High Hopes Early Literacy Storytime, 10:15 a.m., ages 1-4
Afternoon Book Club, 1:30 p.m., adults
LEGO Wall Open Build, 3-5 p.m.
Echoes of the Past: History of the Foote Mansion in Eureka, Wis., 6 p.m., adults
- Sept. 15**
Librarian Learns: Pioneer Inn, 9 a.m., YouTube
LEGO Wall Open Build, 3-5 p.m.
Tween STEAM, 4:30 p.m., ages 9-12

- Sept. 16**
LEGO Wall Open Build, 3-5 p.m.
- Sept. 18**
Family Storytime, 9:30 a.m., preschoolers
LEGO Wall Open Build, 3-5 p.m.
Read to a Dog, 4-5 p.m., ages 5-12
- Sept. 19**
LEGO Wall Open Build, 3-5 p.m.
Winnebago Free Legal Assistance Clinic, 4:30-6:30 p.m., adults
Banned Book Club at Planet Perk, 5 p.m., adults
- Sept. 20**
High Hopes Early Literacy Storytime, 9:30 and 10:15 a.m., ages 1-4
Job Search Assistance, 1-4 p.m., adults
LEGO Wall Open Build, 3-5 p.m.
- Sept. 21**
High Hopes Early Literacy Storytime, 10:15 a.m., ages 1-4
Not Your Classic Book Club, 6 p.m., adults
Wonderlab: The Wonder of Bubbles, 6:30 p.m., ages 5-8
- Sept. 22**
Creature Carnival Contest Drop-in & Create, 10:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m., ages 2-18
LEGO Wall Open Build, 3-5 p.m.
- Sept. 23**
LEGO Wall Open Build, 3-5 p.m.
Everyday Tech: Drop-in Tech Help, 10-11 a.m., adults
- Sept. 25**
Family Storytime, 9:30 a.m., preschoolers
LEGO Wall Open Build, 3-5 p.m.
Read to a Dog, 4-5 p.m., ages 5-12
- Sept. 26**
LEGO Wall Open Build, 3-5 p.m.
- Sept. 27**
High Hopes Early Literacy Storytime, 9:30 and 10:15 a.m., ages 1-4
Job Search Assistance, 1-4 p.m., adults
LEGO Wall Open Build, 3-5 p.m.
- Sept. 28**
Freedom to Read Video Series: History of Banned Books Week, 10 a.m., YouTube
High Hopes Early Literacy Storytime, 10:15 a.m., ages 1-4
LEGO Wall Open Build, 3-5 p.m.
- Sept. 29**
LEGO Wall Open Build, 3-5 p.m.
Creature Carnival Contest Drop-in & Create, 3:30-5:30 p.m., ages 2-18
- Sept. 30**
LEGO Wall Open Build, 3-5 p.m.
Mark Gruenwald Comic Book Creation Challenge Awards Ceremony, 1 p.m., all ages

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GO Transit Free Ride Day offered this Friday

GO Transit will offer a Free Ride Day on its fixed-route transit service Friday to thank its current riders and encourage the public to discover public transit options. The promotion also falls on the first day of school for students in the Oshkosh Area School District.

WEEKDAYS 8:30 - 11:00 AM

Judge denies change of venue in boat crash case

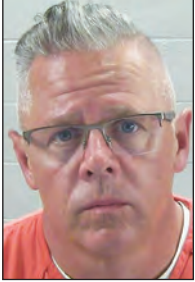
Hearing offers details in July 2022 incident

By Jonathan Richie
OSHKOSH HERALD

A Winnebago County judge told attorneys that a Winnebago County jury will hear the case of an Oshkosh man and his involvement in a boat crash last summer – if the case goes to trial.

Jason Lindemann's attorney, Scott Ceman, recently filed a motion requesting a change of venue along with other motions.

A criminal complaint alleges Lindemann was intoxicated when he drove his speedboat into a large paddleboat operated by On the Loos Cruises on July 9, 2022.



Lindemann

Lindemann, 53, pleaded not guilty to two felony counts of second-degree recklessly endangering safety along with 15 misdemeanor counts of boating accident/fail to render aid in February. In a separate case he is facing a count of operating a boat while intoxicated. There is also a personal injury civil suit pending against Lindemann filed by the cruise owner.

Ceman filed several other motions that were heard last week in front of Judge Michael Gibbs. The motions ranged from compelling more discovery, suppressing witnesses and having health care records made public.

Assistant attorneys general Tara Jenswold and Emily Thompson are pro-

secuting the case after Winnebago County District Attorney Eric Sparr requested a special prosecutor in the case last August.

The prosecutors and Ceman were in favor of a change of venue. Ceman said that due to media coverage of the case and social media comments it would be difficult for Lindemann to receive a fair trial in this county.

"Due to the overwhelming bias nature of the comments and the factual misinformation that was reported repeatedly by the media, Mr. Lindemann's guilt has already been locally determined," Ceman wrote in his motion for venue change.

The defense conducted a survey of 33 Winnebago County residents and all but one of them had heard of the case and almost 90% had the opinion that Lindemann was guilty. Ceman also presented information referencing several negative comments about Lindemann on social media.

The prosecutors agreed and did not argue against the change of venue. Gibbs disagreed and said a larger jury pool would be used to ensure an unbiased jury in Winnebago County.

"So, I believe that Winnebago County is able to produce an impartial jury," Gibbs said before he denied the motion.

In court last week, James Megna of the Winnebago County Sheriff's Office was questioned about the cameras that collected footage the night of the crash. Ceman questioned Megna on how the cameras operate and if they are motion activated, which Megna did not know.

Jenswold objected to some of Ceman's questions and stated the line of questioning was not appropriate for the hearing but would be appropriate at trial when an

expert could be brought in.

Oshkosh police officer Trey Johnson also testified about an interaction, captured on body cam footage, the officer had with Lindemann's daughter the night of the crash.

One of Ceman's motions was to dismiss the interaction between Lindemann's daughter and Johnson. Gibbs did not find any police misconduct when reviewing the body camera footage and dismissed the motion.

There was a final motion filed by Ceman in a separate case where Lindemann is charged with operating a boat while intoxicated.

Jenswold and Thompson were not aware of this motion and Gibbs announced during the hearing he had only just seen it. Another motion hearing is scheduled in the case for Sept. 26.

According to the criminal complaint, on July 9, 2022, Lindemann allegedly drove his large speedboat into the On the Loos Cruise ship on the Fox River and then headed toward Lake Winnebago. Law en-

forcement spoke with numerous witnesses and victims on the boat during their investigation.

One victim, who was captaining the cruise ship, told authorities he was unable to get out of the way before the speedboat collided with his ship but honked the horn of the vessel. The captain then maneuvered safely to shore along the Fox River.

After the crash, Lindemann allegedly fled the scene with the boat's lights off, according to witness statements included in the complaint. His boat was found at the Pioneer Marina the next day. Law enforcement reported finding dried blood and a decoration from the On the Loos on the boat.

A DNR warden reported the GPS data from Lindemann's boat reached a top speed of 46 mph and allegedly was traveling around 31 mph when it struck the On the Loos, which was traveling between 4-5 mph, the captain told officers.

Victims reported neck, back and knee injuries. One victim thought the cruise ship might sink and feared people were seriously injured or could die.

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Oshkosh woman pleads no contest in stabbing case

Oshkosh Herald

An Oshkosh woman pleaded no contest to charges of stabbing her former partner in their home in February.

Morgan T. Lund, 22, was charged with attempted homicide in February and pleaded not guilty to the charge in March by reason of insanity.

She pleaded no contest Aug. 21 to aggravated battery with intent of great bodily harm and second-degree recklessly endangering safety. She was found guilty by Winnebago County Judge Brian Kerberlein.

Court documents show the state plans to argue for Lund to serve 7.5 years in prison for aggravated battery followed by five years of extended supervision and five years of extended supervision for second degree recklessly endangering safety to run consecutively.

Lund could face up to 20 years of imprisonment for aggravated battery and 10 years imprisonment for reckless endangerment. She could also face up to

\$75,000 in fines.

The victim chose not to speak at the hearing.

According to the complaint, an Oshkosh police officer was called to a home in 500 block of Jefferson Street on Feb. 18. They entered the scene to find Lund covered in blood and her former boyfriend bleeding from apparent stab wounds.

The victim was transported to a hospital, where staff said he had 19 stab wounds to his back, right shoulder, chest, face and both hands. Police say those wounds came from a pair of scissors.

Lund told police she had been seeing a "figure" that was dark but not an actual person for between six months and a year. She told the officer she thought she saw something, was afraid and that there was something wrong with her head.

She said she didn't realize she was attacking the victim and not the figure until he started fighting back and screaming.

There is a sentencing hearing set for Nov. 3.

Metro area jobless rate drops to 2.9% in July

The Oshkosh-Neenah metropolitan area and Winnebago County saw a drop in its unemployment rate from 3.2% to 2.9% between June and July, according to preliminary data from the state Department of Workforce Development.

Last July's jobless rate in Oshkosh-Neenah and the county was also at 2.9%.

The non-seasonally adjusted data shows jobless rates in Metropolitan Statistical

Areas declined in all of Wisconsin's 12 metro areas over the year and decreased or stayed the same in six of those areas over the past year.

Unemployment rates declined or stayed the same in all but one of Wisconsin's 34 largest cities and 48 of 72 counties over the year.

Estimates of unemployment and employment statistics are from the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics.



Boys & Girls Club photo

Golfers support club

The Boys & Girls Club of Oshkosh Alumni Association held its second annual golf outing fundraiser Aug. 13 at Far Vu Golf Course that raised \$15,000 to support the club's youth. All funds raised will go to support providing outdoor experiences and taking care of the club's Camp Radford.

District set for three years of school resource officers

Oshkosh public schools and the Oshkosh Police Department have entered into a new contract that will keep five school resource officers in district schools for the next three school years.

Last week, as part of the consent agenda, the Oshkosh Area School District Board of Education approved a memorandum of understanding with OPD beginning Sept. 1 that runs through Aug. 31, 2026.

The three-year agreement states the district will be covering half of the wages for school resource officers (SRO) at

\$200,000 the first year, \$204,000 the second year and \$208,000 for the third year.

The five SROs will be at North and West high schools along with Vel Phillips, Carl Traeger, Perry Tipler and South Park middle schools, with intermittent coverage at elementary schools across the district.

District documents show there is an upcoming proposal for an additional SRO starting in January. If OPD and OASD agree to terms, the pact approved last week would need to be amended.

Powerful Tools for Caregivers workshop planned

A Powerful Tools for Caregivers workshop will be held on Mondays from 4 to 5:30 p.m. for six weeks beginning Sept. 18 at the Oshkosh Public Library.

The free workshop helps caregivers meet their own needs while caring for a loved one. Caregivers identify and manage stress, manage difficult feelings due to losses, schedule changes, increased re-

sponsibilities, trying to manage work and caregiving.

They will also learn communication tools and relaxation techniques.

Contact Alisa Richetti at the Aging and Disability Resource Center of Winnebago County at 920-236-1227 or at arichetti@winnebagocountywi.gov for more information.

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Back in the Day

Oshkosh history by the Winnebago County Historical & Archaeological Society

Aug. 31, 1961

Lennon Sisters Headline Show at County Fair: Oshkosh area residents filled the grandstands to capacity last evening to welcome the famous Lennon Sisters to Oshkosh. The well-known stars of the Lawrence Welk Show were in top form with their unerring sense of harmony and

pitch, along with their lovely blend of voices and perfect rhythm and phrasing which makes their music unmistakably their own. The girls opened the show with "I Can't Give You Anything But Love" and "Sugar In The Morning." The program was interlaced with various songs familiar to fair goers, finishing up the set with "Kisses Sweeter Than Wine" and a particularly moving performance of "Ave Maria." The Lennon sisters will return to the grandstand stage again tonight with a final performance at 8 p.m.

Source: *Oshkosh Daily Northwestern*, Aug. 31, 1961

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UW Oshkosh receives \$500,000 to train water scientists

UW Oshkosh Today

Freshwater Collaborative of Wisconsin has awarded nearly \$4.3 million to fund 22 projects across the University of Wisconsin System aimed at increasing research and training for the state's biggest water challenges.

UW Oshkosh's Greg Kleinheinz is the principal investigator on a \$505,000 Freshwater Collaborative training effort at the Environmental Research and Innovation Center (ERIC), where he serves as director. He also is involved in two other projects funded by the collaborative.

"UWO is thrilled to be part of the Freshwater Collaborative, grateful for the funding and excited about these projects," said UWO Provost Ed Martini. "Our faculty and students are passionate about protect-

ing and preserving the freshwater resources of the state and the region for generations to come. These efforts will support transformative experiential learning opportunities for a wide range of learners tackling problems from PFAS to algal blooms that are critical for northeastern Wisconsin and the entire Great Lakes region."

Funding will support expansion of summer research programs that allow students from Wisconsin and across the nation to conduct freshwater research at one of the UW System campuses; summer programs for high school students to educate them about careers in the water industry; and university-led research projects that help fulfill community and government agency needs for water quality monitoring.

Several projects will deal with PFAS,

"forever chemicals" used in everyday products that have been shown to cause significant health issues in humans and which have been identified at high levels in drinking water throughout the state.

At UWO, Kleinheinz leads the \$505,000 Comprehensive Freshwater Collaborative of Wisconsin Training, Community Engagement, Business Enterprise, Research and Recruitment Program, which offers student training opportunities at ERIC.

The partnership allows students from any UW campus the opportunity to work at ERIC field research sites (or take a field course) each summer, which embeds students in communities to study surface, well and groundwater.

Funding also will allow for an on-campus STEM high school camp next summer for 20 students; provide resources for faculty-student research and student-industry projects; expanded opportunities through the UW Oshkosh Freshwater 101 course; partial support for a summer field sampling and analysis course open to all

UW students; and continued access to a research and teaching boat on the Lake Winnebago system at no charge to Freshwater Collaborative partners.

Kleinheinz and ERIC staff Carmen Ebert and Hannah Seefeldt also are involved with two additional Freshwater Collaborative projects:

- \$11,400 awarded for Continuation and Expansion of the Red Cedar Watershed Monitoring Project, where the watershed experiences frequent blue-green algae blooms due to phosphorus pollution. Efforts have been implemented to reduce runoff and restore stream channels and buffer areas.

- \$5,560 for Freshwater Science Across the Curriculum: Linked Outreach and Advanced Educational Activities in Western Wisconsin. The ongoing project supports two freshwater science field courses in western Wisconsin: one targeting junior and senior high school students and the other an advanced course designed for upper-level college students.

Fox-Wolf Watershed Alliance launches agriculture projects

The Fox-Wolf Watershed Alliance is excited to announce the launch of two groundbreaking Climate Smart Agriculture projects designed to foster sustainable agriculture farming practices. These projects, totaling over \$12.8 million in funding from the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA), signify a great step towards sustainable agricultural practices that will not only help contribute to climate resiliency but will also take the next steps in ensuring Northeast Wisconsin Farmers can compete in the changing demands of the agricultural industry.

Modern agriculture faces unprecedented challenges due to shifting climate patterns, extreme weather events, and resource limitations. Meeting these challenges requires innovative approaches to ensure the health of both farming operations and the surrounding environment. The Fox-Wolf Watershed Alliance recognizes the urgent need for a comprehensive approach that harmonizes agricultural productivity with environmental sustainability.

The Climate Smart Agriculture projects are designed to empower farmers with innovative tools, knowledge, and resources to adapt to the evolving climate and industry landscape while reducing their carbon footprint.

One of the projects, made possible through a subaward agreement with Edge Dairy Cooperative, will focus on the implementation of farming techniques that sequester carbon and reduce runoff to our local waters through improved soil health. To meet the goals of this project, Fox-Wolf partnered with eight counties to increase staff capacity at the Land Conservation

Departments in order to provide technical assistance to farmers interested in participating in the program. Partnering counties include Brown County, Calumet County, Fond du Lac County, Outagamie County, Shawano County, Waupaca County, Waushara County, and Winnebago County.

The second project, supported directly by USDA, will focus on reducing runoff, sequestering carbon, and ensuring that Northeast Wisconsin farmers and conservation professionals stay up to date on quickly-changing environmental and market conditions. Fox-Wolf will work with underserved and minority farmers to gather data that firmly establishes the connections between healthy lands and the quality of the end products that consumers purchase. Farmers will be empowered to make an economic analysis of the productivity of their farmland in order to implement targeted climate adaptation strategies for long term economic and environmental sustainability.

"We are excited to embark on these Climate Smart Agriculture projects that demonstrate our commitment to conservation and the sustainable future of farming in our region," said Jessica Schultz, Executive Director of the Fox-Wolf Watershed Alliance. "With the collective efforts of our partners, including counties, organizations, and dedicated farmers, we aim to foster an agricultural landscape that thrives in harmony with nature."

For more information on the Climate Smart Agriculture projects and Fox-Wolf Watershed Alliance, please visit www.fwwa.org/FarmClimateSmart.

Local college graduates

The following Oshkosh students completed degree requirements at the University of Wisconsin-La Crosse in May.

Carson Beyer, Bachelor of Science, Political Science major

Lauren Fine, Bachelor of Science, Exercise and Sport Science major: Exercise Science - Pre-professional Track, Honors

Meg Grahl, Bachelor of Science, Biochemistry major with American Society for Biochemistry & Molecular Biology (ASBMB) Certification, Honors

Natalie Haag, Master of Science, Physician Assistant Studies

Benjamin Huizenga, Bachelor of Science, Physics major: Biomedical Concentration

Peyton Kurtz, Bachelor of Science, Biology major: Cellular and Molecular Biology Concentration, Honors

Sarah Lairson, Bachelor of Science, Biology major: Cellular and Molecular Biology Concentration

Kayla Larson, Education Specialist, School Psychology

Cameron Thews, Bachelor of Science, Finance major

Crystal Zessin, Bachelor of Science, Psychology major

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Photo from ThedaCare

Keeping children up to date with their vaccinations is an important part of a back-to-school plan.

Vaccinations urged as kids return to school

As families are preparing for another school year, ThedaCare is helping with a back-to-school series. The series will feature topics that can help students gear up for a healthy and successful year. In this article, Dr. Ann Jones, a Pediatrician with ThedaCare Physicians Pediatrics, reminds parents and guardians to ensure kids are up to date on vaccines and preventive care.

Childhood vaccination is essential because it helps provide immunity before kids are exposed to potentially life-threatening diseases. Adhering to the recommended vaccine schedule is an important piece of that.

In addition to those not following the vaccine schedule, overall childhood vaccination rates are declining. During the 2020-21 school year, national coverage with state-required vaccines among kindergarten students declined from 95% to approximately 94%, according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC).

Parents' reasons for choosing not to vaccinate or diverging from the schedule can vary. The decision may come down to worries about the safety of vaccines, concerns about the schedule itself, or simple busyness. No matter what causes parents to deviate from the vaccine schedule, choosing to do so can carry negative consequences.

Why to vaccinate

"Advancements in vaccine development have helped keep children from getting many serious illnesses," said Jones. "As a result, today's generations can help avoid childhood bouts of chickenpox, measles, and other deadly illnesses, because they're

vaccinated."

Vaccination helps prevent serious illness and death, even for some vaccines that aren't as effective, Jones noted. For example, studies show that vaccinated children are less likely to need hospitalization or to die from the flu, even if they get sick.

"We also think of it from a public health standpoint," Jones said. "Increased vaccination rates can reduce the spread of vaccine-preventable illness. This can help protect those who aren't vaccinated, either by choice or because it's not safe for them to receive vaccines."

Stick to the schedule

Especially for infants and young children, parents often wonder whether it's safe for kids to receive multiple vaccines at one time. This may lead to a desire to follow a different schedule.

Experts have conducted many studies to evaluate the safety of multiple vaccines. None has shown that multiple vaccines cause a problem.

"Over the past 24 years I've been a pediatrician, I've seen children get very sick or die from complications of several vaccine-preventable illnesses," Jones noted. "It is rare that a child experiences a serious vaccine reaction."

Beyond that, spacing out vaccines or separating them will require more frequent visits to the doctor for shots. Studies show that children experience a similar amount of stress whether they get one vaccine or several vaccines in the same visit. For this reason, having more "shot visits" at the doctor increases children's stress, but it does not protect them, Jones noted.

Teacher turnover

FROM PAGE 1

policy observers and practitioners expected teachers to follow suit, particularly given the pressures associated with the shift to remote learning and the subsequent return to school buildings."

The report relies on a sweeping analysis of public school staffing data from the Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction (DPI) going back to 2009, which researchers used to determine teacher turnover rates for individual districts and the state as a whole. The analysis examined nearly 116,000 teachers at roughly 450 school districts and other K-12 entities over a 15-year period.

From 2009 to 2023, an average of 11.5% of the state's teachers turned over each year. Coming into the 2022-23 school year (referred to as 2023 in the report), turnover rose to 15.8% – the highest percentage during the years studied. The 2023 rate included the highest levels on record of teachers moving between districts and the second-highest levels of teachers leaving Wisconsin public school classrooms for some other pursuit.

"This effect is especially concerning given our findings that turnover is highest in precisely those schools where students face the biggest challenges and might benefit the most from a stable environment in which to learn," the report states. "As students recover from the worst of pandemic disruption, that stability may be even more important."

To further understand statewide teacher turnover, we broke it down into two categories. The first is "moves," or teachers who move from one Wisconsin district in one year to teach in another Wisconsin district the next year. The other is "leaves," or teachers who are present in the state public school data one year but do not show up as teachers in the data at all the next year.

Oshkosh Area School District Superintendent Bryan Davis said teacher turnover is a critical issue with potential effect on the stability and quality of education.

"We firmly believe that public educators, especially our Oshkosh Area School District teachers and staff, are some of the best, brightest, and most dedicated professionals. However, we also know that this is hard work. Public education is a challenging and demanding profession," Davis said.

In Oshkosh the turnover rate was close to the statewide average with a teacher turnover rate of 11.37%. The leave rate over the last 14 years is 7.73%. The move-out rate for teachers is 3.64% with a move-in rate of just 2.61%. This leaves

the district with a net rate loss of just over 1%.

Davis said the district is focused on staff engagement and creating an empowered group of staff for an environment for every student to succeed.

"These initiatives reflect our dedication to not only reducing teacher turnover but also attracting high-quality educators to our district and ultimately enhancing the educational experience for all students," he said.

Davis added the district needs help to get a handle on the amount of teachers leaving the profession.

"Public education exists for the betterment of our entire community. We deeply need our community to join us in supporting public education and our educators, lifting up the incredible work they are doing, and inspiring the next generation of educators to enter this field."

The report explains during the 14-year span for the study, the leave rate continued to climb from 1.1% in 2010 to 4.7% in 2023.

"In that 14-year span, only three years saw a decline in the move rate from the previous year. This overall rise is likely also related to Act 10, which diminished the role of seniority in teachers' work arrangements and compensation," the report states. "In 2012 and thereafter, teachers who may otherwise have remained in the same district for years could instead switch districts without sacrificing as many advantages associated with the length of their tenure."

Additional findings:

Teacher leaves outnumber moves:

The average teacher move rate was 2.9%, while the average statewide leave rate was 8%. Wisconsin's leave rate ranged from a low of 6.4% in 2011 to a high of 10.4% in 2012. This 2012 high was tied to Act 10 and was likely driven by a one-time increase in retirements. The leave rate in 2023 was nearly as high at 10.1%.

Rural, urban retention challenges differ:

The report highlights how teacher retention strategies may need to vary depending on their location. Urban districts' primary concern may be teachers leaving the public school classroom or the state entirely.

Teachers of color most affected:

Turnover among white teachers, who make up the great majority of the state's educator workforce, was slightly below the overall state average during the period studied. Meanwhile, turnover among teachers of color was substantially higher. This may reflect, in part, the fact that the state's Black teachers are concentrated in districts with high turnover rates for teachers of all races.

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<p>16-oz. - Jaffa Pico de Gallo or Salsa \$4.99</p>	<p>7.5-10-oz. Wholly Guacamole \$2.99</p>	<p>16-oz. - Little Potato Co. Oven/Grill Ready Baby Potatoes 2/\$5</p>	<p>14-oz. Package - Fresh Express Old Fashioned or Deli Style Cole Slaw 2/\$3.50</p>

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Cape Cod
Chips
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WITH CARD

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Fisher
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2/\$5
WITH CARD

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8-Pack, 12-oz. Bottles
Coke or 7Up
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Chex Mix,
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Potatoes
2/\$3
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30 to 3.90-oz.
Jell-O Gelatin
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5/\$5
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Popcorn
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WITH CARD

18.60 to 21.40-oz.
Heinz
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12-oz.
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 <p>16-oz. - Assorted Varieties Farmland Bacon \$4.99 <small>WITH CARD</small></p>	 <p>5-7-oz. - Assorted Varieties - Frozen Jones Dairy Farm - Breakfast Sausage, Links or Patties \$2.99 <small>WITH CARD</small></p>	 <p>14-16-oz. - Assorted Varieties Old Wisconsin Snack Sticks \$9.99 <small>WITH CARD</small></p>	 <p>22-26-oz. - Homestyle or Italian - Frozen Rosina Meatballs \$6.99 <small>WITH CARD</small></p>
 <p>12-oz. - Assorted Varieties Johnsonville Summer Sausage \$4.99 <small>WITH CARD</small></p>	 <p>12 to 14-oz. - All Varieties Johnsonville Smoked Sausage Links \$3.99 <small>WITH CARD</small></p>	 <p>16-oz. Oscar Mayer Bologna \$2.99 <small>WITH CARD</small></p>	 <p>16-oz. - Assorted Varieties Kingsford Pulled Pork & Chicken \$7.99 <small>WITH CARD</small></p>
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World Relief

FROM PAGE 1

works with Good Neighbors volunteers from local churches.

Nicole Gerow, the employee service manager at World Relief Fox Valley, got her position after falling in love with a volunteer opportunity.

"I was a volunteer to start with – we welcomed a family of nine from Afghanistan in 2021," Gerow said. "It was such a life-changing experience for me that I left my comfortable job in health insurance and came over to something completely new."



Gerow

Along with volunteers, World Relief partners with other agencies to fulfill refugee needs.

Fox Valley Technical College (FVTC), Winnebago Area Literacy Council and Fox Valley Literacy Council all help provide English classes, Goodwill has done skills training in the past and World Relief is looking to partner with FVTC to provide manufacturing classes for refugees in their native language in the near future.

Refugees coming to the Fox Valley are from all over the world, with the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Syria, Myanmar, Afghanistan and Ukraine make up the majority.

"They all come with certain barriers, and it's our job to help them through those barriers and get to solutions," Gerow said.

She works on the employment side of World Relief. Between helping new mothers through the Family and Medical Leave Act (FMLA) process and finding new employer partners, Gerow helps refugees learn how to become an asset in the workplace.

Right now, Gerow is searching for new employer partners. Since the beginning of the pandemic, the U.S. has been experiencing a labor crisis. In 2022, Gerow was regularly receiving emails and calls from employers looking to use refugee hiring as a solution to the labor shortage.

"We had one employer – Amcor in Oshkosh – they hired over 70 of our clients," Gerow said. "There's another place – Orbis in Menasha – that was saved by a

group of refugees that were able to come in and get them back to a place where they are able to send out their sales requests and things like that in a timely manner."

Over the last year, Gerow has noticed the urgency for refugee hiring has slowed. With inflation, the willingness and openness to give refugees a chance has decreased.

"It's been a lot tougher to get our clients into jobs," she said. "Do I think it's a great solution (to the labor shortage)? Absolutely."

Gerow has found that refugees are some of the hardest-working employees once hired.

"Our clients come with an attitude of 'I need to work because that's how I better my life,'" she said.

That's the answer she gets from almost every client when she asks why they want to start working in the U.S. Most of World Relief's clients spent the majority of their lives in refugee camps, unable to work, waiting for their turn to come here.

"They're excited to work and they're eager to work," Gerow said. "And they're motivated

"I think it's absolutely a solution. It's just getting people on board and to think differently. It takes an open mind of 'how can we make things work' rather than looking at all the reasons why it might not work."

The benefits of hiring refugees are not one-sided. Retention rates for refugee employees trend higher, which saves companies money, and refugee hiring brings a more diverse population to the workplace, which leads to new perspectives and a new culture that brings people together.

"Refugee employment is a really great option," Gerow said. "It's just being willing to maybe put in a little bit of work at the front end to get things going."

World Relief wants people to understand that refugees are among us even if they aren't seen often.

"They live among us, they're human, just like we are," Gerow said. "They want connection, they want to be successful, they want to be able to support their families, and they want a good life."

For volunteer opportunities and employers looking to get involved, visit worldrelief.org/fox-valley.

Oshkosh High School's class of 1964 plan reunion

The Oshkosh High School class of 1964, the first to attend all three years at the new high school built in 1961, will celebrate its 59th class reunion Sept. 9.

Now named Oshkosh West High School, at that time it was the only public high school in Oshkosh. The reunion will be at Fox River Brewing Co. starting at 4 p.m.

Calendar of events

Ongoing

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

Wednesday, Aug. 30

Music on Main: Kate Voss & The Hot Sauce, 5:30 p.m., Opera House Square
Bingo, 7 p.m., American Legion Hall, 1332 Spruce St.

Thursday, Aug. 31

Live at Lunch: Franki Moscato, noon, Opera House Square

Friday, Sept. 1

Marine Corps League bingo, 5:30 p.m., 4715 Sherman Road
RedFish, 5:30 p.m., Fox River Brewing Co.

Saturday, Sept. 2

Oshkosh Farmers Market, 8 a.m., downtown
Hmong National Labor Day Festival, 7 a.m., Winnebago County Community Park
Mike Sullivan, 5:30 p.m., Fox River Brewing Co.
PP3, 6 p.m., Dockside Tavern
Minus One and Sixx Guns Loaded, 4 p.m., Twisted Roots

Sunday, Sept. 3

Hmong National Labor Day Festival,

7 a.m., Winnebago County Community Park

Mandy Mae, 5:30 p.m., Fox River Brewing Co.

D'Fusion Jazz Band, noon, Parker John's BBQ & Pizza, 30 Wisconsin St.

Monday, Sept. 4

Winnebago County Labor Day Picnic and Car Show, 10 a.m., South Park

Kate Voss & The Hot Sauce, noon, Parker John's BBQ & Pizza, 30 Wisconsin St.

Wednesday, Sept. 6

Brews on the Bay, 5 p.m., Leach Amphitheater

Music on Main: Erin Krebs, 5:30 p.m., Opera House Square

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

Friday, Sept. 8

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

Saturday, Sept. 9

Oshkosh Farmers Market, 8 a.m., downtown

Alley Art Market, 8 a.m. Algoma Alley
Jazz in the Gardens, 5 p.m., Paine Art Center and Gardens

Feed the Dog, Traveling Suitcase, Horace Greene, 6:30 p.m., Bare Bones Brewery

Sunday, Sept. 10

Recovery Fest, 7 a.m., Solutions Recovery, 621 Evans St.

Caramel Crisp 90th Anniversary event, noon, 200 City Center

Becket's Bike Night, 5 p.m., Becket's, 2 Jackson St.

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Wildcats' setter Martin thrives in selfless role

By Tim Froberg
HERALD CONTRIBUTOR

Volleyball setters are pass-first players, but the good ones are never passive.

They are confident, communicative, take-charge individuals.

Add a wicked serve to the mix and that's Kierstin Martin.

The Oshkosh West senior has been a setter her entire varsity career and she's a stabilizing force and a glue player for the Wildcats. Martin led the Wildcats in assists last season and is a team captain.

"I love setting so much," said Martin. "I always compare it to being a quarterback on a football team. I love taking on that leadership role. There are so many things you're thinking about, like, 'Who's on the other side? Where do I need to get the ball?'"

Martin usually gets the ball to the right place at the right pace. She's a third-year varsity setter who knows how to take control of on-court situations.

"Her ability as a setter is paralleled with her ability to command a court," said West coach Gillian Pakula. "Kierstin is strong in her leadership ability and runs an effective offense, while also having a strong serve."

"She has what most coaches call 'intangibles.' She is a strong communicator, has a strategic mindset and a positive attitude."

Martin does more than just set up others for success. She has an exceptional serve which was a primary reason why she finished second on the Wildcats in service aces last season.

"A lot of people in high school have jump serves, but I have a standing float serve," she said. "I worked a lot on it during my club season and I think it's pretty wicked."

Martin plays the game year-round. She competes for the Appleton-based Impact Volleyball Club during the lengthy club season and plays beach volleyball during summers. Her regular partner in the two-person game is Kenzie Ullrich: a senior member of the Neenah girls' volleyball team.

Senior spotlight

"Beach volleyball is so different, but so much fun," Martin said. "It's just the two of you out there, trying to figure out things like what strategy to use, when to take a timeout and what can you do to help your partner. There are no coaches. You have to really rely on your partner."

Martin is thrilled to be back on the court, playing the game at full speed again. She missed her entire sophomore season with a broken right ankle which she suffered while playing club volleyball.

"I tried playing middle and it did not work out so well for me," said Martin with a laugh. "I ended up getting a plate with four screws in my ankle, so coming back from that was a little tough. It took about six months to recover and was just a huge bummer."

Martin didn't waste time pouting about her circumstances. She stayed positive and remained part of the team, becoming the Wildcats' statistician for the 2021 volleyball season.

"Taking stats really gave me a different perspective," Martin said. "It helped me see the game differently and I learned a lot during that time period."

Pakula was impressed with how Martin dealt with the frustrating injury.

"Kierstin overcame the injury, stayed positive and contributed in ways off the court that benefited the team," Pakula said. "She ultimately came back even stronger to assume a key role."

Martin has been playing volleyball since the sixth grade. Her club volleyball coach for the past several years has been her father, Kevin Martin: a former prep star at Racine Case High School who has coached at the prep and collegiate levels and served as a referee.

"I've learned a lot from him through the years," Kierstin Martin said. "When we're working together in volleyball, though, it's like he's not really my dad. He's just this guy who knows a lot about volleyball. A



Submitted photo

After missing her entire sophomore season due to injury, Kierstin Martin returned to the court last season to lead Oshkosh West in assists.

lot of the other players in club didn't even know that he's my dad. When they found out they were like, 'What? He's your dad? Really?'"

"But it's awesome. We get to talk about volleyball and how to attack this or that. I love it."

Martin doesn't plan on playing the game at the next level, but is preparing for a new exciting phase of her life. A high-honors student with an outstanding 3.992 grade-point average, Martin will attend the University of Wisconsin-Platteville next year and major in engineering.

She'll enter her engineering studies well prepared. Martin is serving an engineering apprenticeship this year at Oshkosh

Corporation.

"I'm working with engineers and it's super cool," Martin said. "I love the math and science part of engineering. Those are my two favorite school subjects and I love being able to apply them to what I'm doing."

Until then, Martin will focus on her school studies and team captain responsibilities at Oshkosh West. The Wildcats are coming off a 3-6 season in the rugged Fox Valley Association (12-24 overall) and Martin has high expectations.

"I love this team," she said. "We have such hard workers and with the great coaches we have, I think we're going to be unstoppable."

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Knights can't overcome second-half swoon in loss

By Steve Clark
OSHKOSH HERALD

One of the things talked about by Lourdes Academy football coaches in the underbelly of Titan Stadium during the weather delay last Friday night was learning how to finish off games against talented opponents.

At the time the storms hit, the Knights were leading perennial playoff competitor Reedsville, 14-7, with the game having reached halftime. And a strong second half would certainly deliver Lourdes another win.

Unfortunately for the Knights, things went the other way and some second-half struggles led to a 21-14 loss in the team's final nonconference contest.

"We will learn from this. We are going to have a lot of tough games, including next week, and at halftime we talked about being able to finish games against tough opponents," Lourdes Academy head coach Kevin Wopat said. "I'm proud of how we played. I know the final result is not what we wanted, but I think there are plenty of learning opportunities for us."

The Knights will open Trailways Conference play at home Friday night against Cambria-Friesland, one of the favorites to finish atop the league.

If Lourdes Academy is going to contend for a conference title, a win against the Pirates would be a big boost. And, after the loss, the Knights were looking to get back to work to make sure they were ready.

"We have to practice harder and pay attention to the coaches more. We just have to finish it out," said senior Mitchell Wing. "It's just small details, but we have to do better as a team. We will fix it for next week."

Wing had a big night offensively with 11 catches for 66 yards, while also getting the Knights their first touchdown.

After pinning the Panthers deep in their own territory and forcing a punt, Wing burst through a large opening at the start of the return and then fought through two defenders inside the 5-yard line to cap the 40-yard punt return.

"There was some great blocking out there. My teammates blocked it perfectly and it was wide open for me. It's all them," Wing said. "I just wanted to get in. I was

just focused on getting into the end zone."

The Knights had a great chance to extend their lead just minutes later after Jok Machiros deflected a Reedsville pitch and then came up with the loose ball for a turnover.

Lourdes Academy marched toward another score but the Knights were stuffed on fourth-and-goal from the 1 and Reedsville answered with a 99-yard touchdown drive to even the score.

"If we had gotten the touchdown that would have been big," Wopat said. "Since we didn't take advantage of that opportunity our margin for error was much smaller in the second half and it kind of came back to bite us. I thought our energy was good the whole game but if we score there, it certainly takes the roof off."

Lourdes Academy regained the lead just before halftime after a fumble recovery by Anthony Behnke gave the Knights the ball at the Panthers' 23-yard line.

On the first play after the turnover, Wade Lindahl lofted a pass to Dominic Bauer in the end zone for a touchdown and a 14-7 lead.

The Knights, who were outgained 284-177, never got the offense going in the second half after the extended break because of the weather. Lourdes picked up only four first downs – one on a Reedsville penalty and one a fake punt run by Riley Zernzach – and ran only one play in Panther territory over the final two quarters.

Reedsville knotted the score with its first possession of the third quarter and then broke the 14-14 tie late in the fourth when Lindahl's deflected pass was intercepted and returned for a touchdown.

"(Reedsville) was a big part of why we struggled. Their five-man front gave us a ton of trouble, especially with some of the size they have," Wopat said. "Getting into second-and-5 or second-and-7 was a lot tougher in the second half and it changed the complexion of the game for us."

Lindahl finished 22-of-32 for 114 yards, while also racking up a team-high 47 rushing yards. Both Bauer and Nathan Lewan added four catches, while Mat Yaggie had three.

"We were ready to play but (Reedsville) is a real good opponent," Wing said. "We will get back to work and take back the Trailways."



Photo by Andy Ratchman

Mitchell Wing looks for running room during his 40-yard punt return for a touchdown in the first quarter against Reedsville on Friday night.



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Group of divers to help bolster Oshkosh West lineup

Oshkosh Herald

The Oshkosh West girls swim team is ready to dive into the 2023 season in a big way.

A very big way.

The Wildcats will sport the Fox Valley Association's largest contingent of divers to go along with some talented swimmers as head coach Kelly Wayne looks forward to a successful campaign.

"We are excited for the upcoming season and have a lot of new faces in swimming and diving," Wayne wrote in an email to the Herald. "Our biggest goal remains to get as many people to state as

possible and we are hoping that our FVA dual meets are great practice to put that perfect lineup together."

Oshkosh West will boast a pair of returning state qualifiers from last year in senior Carly Salzer and junior Samara Zeinert.

Salzer qualified in the 100-yard butterfly, while also swimming on all three state-qualifying relays for West last year. Zeinert went to state in the 100-yard backstroke - where she finished 13th - and 200-yard individual medley, while also swimming on two state-qualifying relays.

"We are excited to see what they can do again this year," Wayne said.

Also returning from last year will be senior Cameron Rucinski and juniors Kate Horejs and Sarah Draxler, who all competed at the varsity level a year ago.

Wayne also expects newcomers Kayleigh Rau, a senior, and Rylee Coppernoll, a freshman, to help round out the varsity lineup this season.

The Wildcats did not field any divers at the sectional meet last season, but will have eight diving competitors on the roster this year.

Seniors Lily Van de Hey and Michele Flores, juniors Jazmine Blustin, Andree Cardinal and Henna Kaiser, sophomores Neva Schlies and Arey Williams and freshman Lauren Borgen will make up West's diving crew.

"Some of them have a gymnastic background which we are hoping will translate well to the pool," Wayne said. "We are hoping they can master 11 dives and really be able to help us during the champion-

ship season."

Oshkosh North turns to young swimmers

The Spartans were a senior-led squad a year ago and will look to some returning underclassmen to lead the way this year.

Based on last year's sectional lineup, the Spartans' top returning swimmer will be junior Grace Penzenstadler, who earned a pair of top 15 individual finishes at last year's sectional meet.

Junior Izzie Eschenbach also returns after being a part of the varsity lineup a year ago, while sophomores Mya Sonnleitner, Ashlynn Anderson and Addison Perzentka swam on relays at the sectional meet last year for the Spartans.

Prep sports roundup

FOOTBALL

Oshkosh West wins second straight on road

Jaiden Fronczak rushed for 133 yards while the defense pitched a first-half shut-out and scored a touchdown as Oshkosh West improved to 2-0 with a 28-14 win at West Bend West on Friday night.

Chase Brandl opened the scoring for the Wildcats with a 61-yard run in the first quarter, while it was the West defense that added to the lead early in the second quarter.

Mason Klinger sacked West Bend West quarterback Jack Dahlberg, forcing a fumble which Andrew Blair scooped up and returned for a touchdown.

Fronczak then made it 21-0 with an 11-yard scoring run late in the second quarter before picking up a 2-yard touchdown run in the third quarter.

Oshkosh West outgained West Bend West 210-102 on the ground.

Brandl finished 8-of-11 for 134 yards, while also rushing for 61 yards on five carries. Alex Dyken had four catches for 35 yards to lead West's receivers.

The Wildcats will face powerhouse Kimberly on Thursday night at Titan Stadium.

Spartans notch first win of the season

Oshkosh North blanked Green Bay Southwest for the first three quarters and rolled to a 35-6 win over the Trojans last

Thursday night.

The Spartans finished with 357 yards of total offense, while holding Green Bay Southwest to just 172 yards.

Bryce Ott completed 11-of-16 passes for 224 yards and a pair of touchdowns, both to Dalton Clark who finished with four catches for 114 yards. Logan Schettle also scored a pair of touchdowns and led the Spartans with 67 yards rushing on 14 carries, while Jamare Scott added eight carries for 42 yards.

The Spartans' remaining touchdown came on a 33-yard interception return by Roy Freeman, who also finished with six tackles. Liam Murphy led the Spartans with nine tackles.

North will open up Fox Valley Association play Thursday at Kaukauna.

VOLLEYBALL

Wildcats tie for fifth at UW Stout Sprawl

Oshkosh West went 6-1 to finish tied for fifth among 40 teams at the UW Stout Sprawl last weekend.

The Wildcats beat Mosinee twice along with Elk Mound, Baldwin-Woodville, Eau Claire North and Cadott. West's lone loss was to McDonnell Central in two close sets, 25-23, 27-25.

Sydnee Nelson paced the Wildcats with 53 kills and 14 aces, while also adding 43 digs.

Avery Pakula added 39 kills, followed by Maeve Lasky with 28 and Paige Seckar with 22, while both Seckar and Lasky totaled seven blocks at the tournament.

Elaina Butz led the team with 63 digs, followed by Pakula with 47.

Kierstin Martin racked up 70 assists to lead the Wildcats, while MaKaelyn Clark added 58.

Earlier in the week, Oshkosh West opened the season by going 3-2 at the FVA classic in Fond du Lac.

The Wildcats picked up wins over Appleton West, Appleton East and Kimberly. West lost to Fond du Lac and Neenah.

Nelson led the way with 33 kills, while Pakula added 19. Martin and Nelson each had seven aces to lead the team with Butz and Pakula, totaling 36 and 33 digs, respectively. Martin with 49 assists and Clark with 35 led the team, while Seckar posted a team-best four blocks.

TENNIS

Lourdes Academy splits matches at invite

Lourdes Academy's tennis team edged St. Mary's Springs, 4-3, while falling to



Photo by Andy Ratchman

Lourdes Academy No. 1 doubles player Melanie Tushar returns a shot during a match last week.

Ripon, 5-2 at the St. Marys Springs invite.

The Knights' No. 1 doubles team of Melanie Tushar and Siya Pharma along with the No. 2 tandem of Avery Halla and Monse Luquin each went 2-0 on the day.

Ailish Mains at No. 1 singles and Lucy Foss at No. 3 singles added wins in the victory over the Ledgers.

On Thursday, the Knights dropped a close dual meet to Mayville, 4-3.

Lourdes Academy swept the doubles matches with Pharma and Tushar at No. 1 doubles, Halla and Luquin at No. 2 doubles and the No. 3 pairing of Aoife Mains and Claire Trofka all posting straight set wins.

The Knights lost all four singles matches, however, Foss nearly pulled out a win at No. 4 singles but came up short 7-6, 7-6 in a match that lasted more than 2 1/2 hours.

Lourdes Academy picked up a win against New London winning all three doubles matches, while also getting a win from Foss at No. 4 singles.

SOCCER

Rucinski has big game in Knights victory

Isaak Rucinski finished with a goal and three assists to lead the Lourdes Academy/Valley Christian soccer team to a 6-0 win over Pacelli on Thursday.

Rucinski set up Jackson Buttke for the only goal in the first half as the Knights took a 1-0 lead.

SEE Prep roundup ON PAGE 21

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Photo from ORD

Coed softball title

T&O Lanes defeated Revs Lanes 3-1 to claim the 2023 City Coed Softball Championship that was held Aug. 17. Pictured for T&O Lanes are (front row, from left) Emily Miller, Cheryl Jirschele, Shea Thull, Hannah Cruz, Kennedy Footit and Ben Jirschele; (back row) Kiera Carpenter, Lacey Cruz, Paul Binder, Nick Jirschele and Lucas Pinkerton.

Herd names former Buck as new head coach

The Wisconsin Herd has hired Beno Udrih, former NBA veteran and Milwaukee Bucks player, as its fourth head coach in team history.

Udrih brings more than 13 years of experience playing in the NBA, including two seasons with the Bucks, and three years of coaching in the NBA and NBA G League. Most recently, Udrih served as a scout for the Atlanta Hawks.

“Beno brings a wealth of basketball knowledge from his playing career in the NBA and internationally as well as coaching experience at the NBA and NBA G League levels,” said Bucks General Manager Jon Horst. “Beno’s collaborative approach and passion for teaching the nuances of the game will make him a great fit for this position.”

Udrih started his coaching career in the

NBA G League as an assistant coach with the Westchester Knicks during the 2019-20 season. He received a call-up to the New Orleans Pelicans, where he served as an assistant coach for two seasons before joining the Atlanta Hawks as a professional NBA scout during the 2022-23 season.

The Slovenia native spent more than 21 years playing professional basketball in the NBA and overseas. Udrih played eight seasons in Europe before joining the San Antonio Spurs after being drafted with the 28th overall pick in 2004. He joined the Sacramento Kings from 2007-2011 and later spent his remaining six seasons with stops at the Bucks (2011-13), Orlando Magic (2013), New York Knicks (2013-14), Memphis Grizzlies (2014-15), Miami Heat (2015-16) and Detroit Pistons (2016-17).

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Jennings eyes connection between Titans, community

By Steve Clark
OSHKOSH HERALD

Peter Jennings has a vision for the University of Wisconsin Oshkosh football program he oversees as head coach.

First off, it includes re-establishing the Titans as one of the powerhouse programs in NCAA Division III where the team is a meaningful player at a national level. That's on Jennings and his coaching staff.

But the second-year head coach also sees establishing a connection between the program and the Oshkosh and Fox Valley community that will make Titan Stadium a gathering place on Saturday afternoons in the fall.

That's where Jennings is hoping to get some help.

"For our program to continue to be nationally prominent we have to continue to grow our program and the support for our program organically," Jennings said. We need as much support as we can get. Sometimes that's financial support, sometimes that's just fans in the stands and people at the tailgate having fun at Titan

Stadium."

Jennings said one of the priorities since taking over the UWO program was to increase the team's presence in the community.

The goal is that by being involved outside of the gates of Titan Stadium, it will draw members of the community inside.

"For us to grow our program, we have to be active in the community and we have to be great partners to the groups in the community and show that we are more than just a football team," Jennings said. "We are very proud to be in the Fox Valley and in Oshkosh and we want to make sure our presence is felt. And not just on Saturdays in the fall but throughout the course of the year.

"By being more and more active in the community and displaying what our vision is, I think there will be people who



Jennings

will come out with us on a Saturday."

Building a connection with the community is something that Jennings has had on his mind since taking the job in the spring of 2022.

But now, with a year of coaching in Oshkosh under his belt, it has become even more of a focus.

"Growing in the community and creating an environment where we have great community support, that's always been a priority," Jennings said. "We were probably able to sink our teeth into those opportunities a little more this spring and summer as opposed to last spring and summer with the transition."

The past two fall camps under Jennings, the program has engaged in service projects around Oshkosh as well as assisting with the honor flight at EAA AirVenture and with local food pantries. The team has also had more involvement in youth camps as well as taking advantage of volunteer opportunities around the city.

Some of the connections to the community were things that had been established under the previous coaching staff or by others in the athletic department. Having those inroads already set up was something that made the position more attractive.

"It was one of the most appealing parts about this job when it did come open was the strong foundation Coach (Pat) Cerro and his staff set here, not just with the product on Saturday but with their impact to the greater Fox Valley area," Jennings said. "I think that was a huge part for why it was easy for me to say I was all in. Some of these inroads were already made and it was just on me to continue to try to excel

in giving back to the community."

Jennings also knows that in order to have the community support, the Titans must also play at a high level, which is something he is intent on making happen.

"The better we are, the more people will want to come," Jennings said. "There is pressure on us to put a great product on the field. But I love that. I'm confident that the product is going to be very strong."

And he is hoping that the reward for a high-level product is a special environment on Saturday afternoons.

"I want that game-day atmosphere to mimic (the players) work and that experience should be 10,000 people in the stands," Jennings said. "Our average attendance last season was the best it had been in a quarter century but I want to double it, triple it. I want Chancellor (Andrew) Leavitt and (Athletic Director) Darryl Sims to have to put in more bleachers."

The Titans open the season Saturday against Texas Lutheran University and Jennings hopes to have a strong community turnout since university classes have not started yet so there may not be a large number of students at the game.

But when UWO opens Wisconsin Intercollegiate Athletic Conference play Sept. 30 against rival UW-Whitewater, he hopes to have the stands full of Titan supporters.

"I fully expect to have a sell-out crowd that weekend," Jennings said. "Put a great product on the field, have a great experience pregame with the Titan Tailgate and the Titan March and then have 10,000 people in the stands screaming for the Titans."

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Obituaries

Eugene F. Kubasta

Eugene F. Kubasta, age 94, passed away peacefully at his residence on the morning of Friday, August 25, 2023 surrounded by his family. He was born to the late John and Mary (Matschi) Kubasta on March 5, 1929, in Oshkosh. Gene proudly served his country in the United States Marine Corps (1948-52). Gene married Kathleen Embs on March 3, 1962, at Saint Peter Catholic Church in Oshkosh. Together they had six children and enjoyed 61 years of marriage together.

Gene attended St Peter School (1935-43), graduated from Oshkosh High School in 1948, and briefly attended Oshkosh State Teachers College. He held various jobs, beginning in his youth, but Gene was a true entrepreneur who built his first marina on Pearl Ave in 1956, then his current marina directly across the river in 1967. He also owned and ran Kubasta Pool Center (a real family business) for many years alongside his wife.

Gene was also proud of his community service as a member of the County Parks Board, the Traffic Review Board, and various lay-ministries at St. Peter's. He was an avid collector of BB guns and pump 22's, and truly enjoyed his decades of collecting



and world-class displays. His property on the river was his castle, and always took the time to enjoy every bit of it, whether it was landscaping work or viewing it from his scooter. His ducks, squirrels, chipmunks, birds, and critters will surely miss him, too.

Gene is survived by his loving wife, Kathy; six children, Marlene (Steve) Verwiel, Julie Kubasta, John (Kristine) Kubasta, Angie (Fred) Eichmann, Kurt Kubasta, and Keith Kubasta, as well as 14 grandchildren and five great-grandchildren. Gene is further survived by his two younger sisters, Jackie Knutowski, and Elaine Statz.

In addition to his parents, Gene was preceded in death by his older sisters, Margaret (Ev) Randal, Natalie (Eddie) Mattioli, and Sr. Alessandra "Lulu" Kubasta; as well as his brothers-in-law, Ted Knutowski and Chuck Statz.

A memorial service for Gene will be held at Most Blessed Sacrament-St. Peter's (435 High Ave) on Wednesday, August 30, 2023 at 11:30 AM. Visitation will be held from 10 AM until the time of service. A burial will follow at the Catholic section of Riverside Cemetery. A special thank you to the care professionals of Compassus hospice care for their considerate care of Gene and family.



Edward W. Elandt

Edward W. Elandt, age 91 of the Town of Dupont, Waupaca County passed away Wednesday August 23, 2023 at his home.



Edward was born on May 26, 1932 in Winegar as the son of the late Albert and Margaret (Hunt) Elandt. He grew up in Marion where he delivered newspapers

as a boy and knew everyone in town. Edward graduated from Marion High School and went on to serve his country in the United States Navy. Serving during the Korean War, Edward was all over the Pacific Ocean. He was discharged and later married to Beverly Papendorf on May 12, 1956 at St. Mary's Catholic Church in Oshkosh. The couple resided in Oshkosh while Edward worked for Gilbert's Paper Mill and then spent 30 years working for the Winnebago County Highway Department. When time allowed he enjoyed working on the farm in Dupont with his son Patrick who was later killed in a tragic automobile accident. In 1998 the couple moved to Dupont where Edward enjoyed deer hunting with both bow and gun, and in general spending time outdoors. He was very proud of his vegetable garden and a member of St. Mary's Catholic Church in Marion.

Survivors include: His Sons: Benjamin (Greta Angle) Elandt & Christopher (Casey Phillips) Elandt. A Granddaughter: Carissa Elandt. Sisters-in-law & Brother-

in-law: Mary Elandt, Yvonne "Blondie" Elandt, Susan Stuhr, and Thomas Papendorf. Also numerous nieces and nephews as well as his beloved dog Zippy.

Edward was preceded in death by his parents, his wife Beverly in 2012, son Patrick, a sister Catherine Elandt, brothers Albert & Dan Elandt, nephews Kevin and Daniel Elandt, and by brothers-in-law and sisters-in-law Gordon (Darohl) Papendorf, Janice Papendorf, and Evan Stuhr.

Edward's memorial service will be held Tuesday August 29, 2023 at 11am at the Eberhardt-Stevenson Funeral Home & Crematory, 53 NORTH Main Street, Clintonville with Rev. Matt Cornelius officiating. Visitation will be held at the funeral home (North location) on Tuesday from 9am until the time of service. Inurnment will follow at the Roseland Cemetery in Dupont with military honors conducted by members of the American Legion Post #198 of Marion. Edward's family would like to extend their appreciation to the team at St. Elizabeth Hospital as well as to the Compassus Hospice nurses and Chaplain Matt for his visits and pastoral care. www.eberhardtstevenson.com.



Prep roundup

FROM PAGE 18

Lourdes/Valley scored less than a minute into the second period when Kaleb Richardson finished off a corner kick from Ethan Reinke. Caden Anderson then scored off a Rucinski assist before Rucinski found the net himself.

Bennett Pecore's goal off a shot from the top of the 18-yard box gave the Knights a 5-0 lead, while Walker Dlugolenski finished off the scoring with two minutes to play off an assist from Rucinski.

Will Loker (four saves) and Micah Humiston (one save) combined for the shut-out in goal.

Lourdes/Valley scored an 8-0 win over Berlin earlier in the week with Kaleb Richardson leading the way with four goals. Matthew Loker, Will Loker, Buttke and Rucinski also scored in the match as the Knights outshot the Indians, 22-4.

Wildcats open season with victory over King

Three second-half goals helped boost Oshkosh West to a 4-0 win over Milwau-

kee King in the Wildcats' season opener last Tuesday.

Max Meszaros tallied the lone first half goal for the Wildcats, while Colin Carns, Jarrett Alger and Brandon Palomaki scored in the second half for West. Meszaros, George Miller, Jeevan Ambati and Iban Heredia each picked up assists in the win.

West came up short in a nonconference match Thursday, falling to Homestead 1-0.

CROSS COUNTRY

West boys and girls take fifth at invitational

Braelee Jodarski and Delson Troedel each posted top-10 finishes to lead their respective squads to fifth-place finishes at the season-opening Appleton West Invite.

Jodarski finished in 10th place to lead the girls, with Abigail Tercha (20th), Kate Elliott (32nd), Rowen Stellpflug (34th) and Kylie Triebold (45th), rounding out the scoring runners for West.

For the boys it was Troedel leading the way in seventh place followed by Jerry Sowers (13th), Celso Collins (16th), Carter Crowe (31st) and Juan Collins (42nd).

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Obituaries

Carol Helmer

Carol (nee Glasshoff) Helmer, age 86, went to eternal peace while at The Residence in Oshkosh, WI on Wednesday, August 23, 2023 with family by her side.



She was born at ThedaClark Hospital in Neenah, WI on September 21, 1936 to Ernest "Ernie" and Nelda (nee Thorson)

Glasshoff. Carol grew up and lived most of her life in the Fox Valley area, mainly Winneconne and Oshkosh. She briefly lived in Wichita, KS in her adult life. She graduated from Winneconne High School and soon married Ellwyn "Al" Helmer. They were married 65 years. They had five daughters. Family was very important to Carol and so was her faith. She was baptized, confirmed, and married in the Lutheran faith. She attended St. Paul Evan-

gelical Lutheran Church in Winneconne and later when they moved to Oshkosh, she became a member of Zion Lutheran Church. She became involved with the Sunday School and youth groups while her children were growing up.

Carol worked various jobs during her lifetime. She was a skilled secretary, medical center specialist; worked at Western State Bank (later named M&I Bank) while earning a banking degree and later finished up her working career as an Accounts Payable office worker for Time Warner Cable (now Spectrum). She enjoyed being a mother, sewing, quilting, gardening, traveling, cooking, Bingo, and playing cards. She even sewed Barbie Doll clothes for her girls. Many family members were the recipients of her beautifully made with love quilts and Afghans. While she wasn't busy with the above, she would try to watch her beloved Packers and attend Family sports events.

Carol is survived by her sister, Judy

(Guy) Poisson; daughters, Deb (Steve) Jungwirth, Sharon Schrank, Sue (Bob) Green, and Laura Rebeck; grandchildren, Jeremy (Erin) Jungwirth, Amanda (Russ) Bernal, Stacey Jungwirth, Joshua (McKenzie) Berndt, Ryan (Katie LaCombe) Berndt, Danielle Canchola, Stephanie (Greg) Brooks, Robbie Gorschels, Corey (Rachel Davis) Berndt, Linsey Schrank, and Matthew Rebeck; 16 great-grandchildren; 1 great-great grandchild; sister-in-law, Char (Jeff) Zielieke; brothers-in-law, Ben (Virginia Wodjac) Helmer and Norm (Anne) Helmer and many nieces, nephews, and cousins.

She is preceded in death by her parents, Ernie and Nelda Glasshoff; her in-laws, Carol and Fern Helmer; sister and brother-in-law, Lyla and Ozzie Hanold; brothers-in-law, Robert, DuWayne, Dave Helmer and Dave Grainger; sisters-in-law, JoAnn Grainger and Judy Clere; daughter, Pattie Berndt; sons-in-law, Keith Schrank, Dennis Berndt, and Jerry Rebeck.

A celebration of Carol's life will be held at Zion Lutheran, 400 N. Sawyer St., Oshkosh, WI on Wednesday, August 30, 2023 with visitation beginning at 9:00am and lasting until time of service at 11:00am. Memorials may be sent to Zion Lutheran Church.

The family would like to thank the staff at Mercy's Wound Clinic, Eden Meadows, The Residence, ADRC and Compassus Hospice for taking such compassionate care of our mother. The family would like to further thank Pastor Jeffrey Knoll for his time and caring comfort shown to us all.

Your family will miss you mom so much, but we know that you are at peace with Dad, Pattie and all our other family members there to greet you. We were truly blessed to have you as long as we did here. Go Pack Go! All the way to the Super Bowl!



Todd G. Kempinger

Todd G. Kempinger, age 58, of Oshkosh, passed away peacefully at home on Sunday morning, August 27, 2023, from complications associated with Multiple System Atrophy (MSA).



Todd was born the eldest of three children on July 8, 1965, in Oshkosh, to the late Theodore (Ted) Kempinger, and Kay (Blau/Kempinger) Keough. He grew up in Oshkosh and graduated from Oshkosh North in 1983. Upon high school

graduation, Todd served his country as a member of the Army National Guard and earned his Bachelor of Arts degree from the University of Wisconsin-Stout in 1987. He had a long career as an entrepreneur working in the fields of graphic arts, marketing, and promotional design. Todd was also an active member of the Oshkosh Rotary, Kiwanis, Boat Club, and the YMCA.

Todd was a family man whose happiest moments were spent out on the water boating with his wife, daughters, and close friends. His immense pride he had for his girls was evident. He also loved music and playing the guitar.

Todd is survived by his wife of nearly 22

years, Leanne Kempinger (Ihlenfeldt) and two daughters, Rachel and Samantha. He is further survived by his sisters, Kari (Mike) Mapes and Kelley (Armando) Cantú, his mother-in-law, Ruth Zeamer, sisters-in-law, Connie (Tom) Soderlund and Ellen (Jim) Ingish, as well as many nieces, nephews, cousins, and other relatives and friends.

Todd was preceded in death by his parents, Theodore (Ted) Kempinger and Kay (Blau/Kempinger) Keough.

Funeral services will take place on Wednesday, August 30, 2023, at Martin Luther Evangelical Lutheran Church, 1526 Algoma Boulevard, Oshkosh, with the Rev. Tom Voss officiating. Visitation

will begin at 1:00 p.m. and will be held until the time of service at 2:30 p.m.

In lieu of flowers, a fund has been put in place to support future educational expenses of Todd's children.

~ Quote from Todd on Facebook, July 16, 2022...

As I sit here and Bob Marley's "Don't Worry About a Thing" comes on the speakers, it makes me laugh because it's true...all is good. If you see me using a walker or my speech is a little impaired, please remember I am still the same person inside!



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Obituaries

Matt Wirth

Matt Wirth, age 87, of Oshkosh passed away peacefully on August 25, 2023, at Aurora Medical Center.



He was born on November 25, 1935, in Vecses, Hungary, immigrating to Germany after WWII and finally to the U.S. and Oshkosh in 1952.

Matt was the devoted son of the late Martin and Elisabeth Wirth. He married Rosa Neumeier on February 13, 1960, enjoying 63 years of marriage. She was the love of his life and best friend.

He was an exceptional employee ending his work life with 15 years at Oshkosh Truck retiring in 2000. He was a member of St. Raphael the Archangel Catholic Church.

He was an athlete throughout his life: an all-star for the Oshkosh soccer team in early adulthood and later an avid bowler and golfer where he enjoyed the camaraderie of friends as much as the sport. He enjoyed many memorable vacations with Rosa, traveling the US and abroad. His

happiest times were when surrounded by family.

He is survived by his wife Rosa, sons Matthew (Linda) Wirth and Mark (Cynthia) Wirth. Grandchildren Nicole (Andrew) Buckoski, Terri (Kyle) Schutz, Megan (Nate) Regal, and Wesley Wirth. Great grandchildren Brianna, Bennett, Lennon, Maddox, Knox, Logan, Griffin and number eight soon to be born.

Preceded in death by his parents Martin and Elisabeth, brother Martin Jr. and sister Elizabeth. Loved and remembered by a brother-in-law and sister-in-law and many nieces and nephews.

Visitation will be held at Fiss & Bills-Poklasny at 865 S. Westhaven Dr. Oshkosh from 12:00 p.m. to 2:00 p.m. Sunday, September 3, 2023. A memorial service will follow at 2:00 p.m.

The family would like to extend a special and heartfelt thank you to the nurses and 2nd floor staff at Aurora for their compassionate care. In lieu of flowers please consider a donation to the Advocate Aurora Health Foundations.



(Denise) Johnson Jr., Linda (John) Pintar, Barbara (Brian) Schulze; grandchildren, Amy (Chris) Peterson, Bob Johnson, John (Jenny) Pintar, Michael (Jolene) Pintar, Brian (Jessica) Schulze and David (Katie) Schulze; along with 14 great-grandchildren.

Our mother is now safely and happily in arms of her Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. We would like to thank everyone at The Courtyard of Oshkosh Assisted Living Facility, especially Cathy and Melissa for the kind and loving care they provided her throughout her stay; Promedica (Heartland) Hospice, Jody, Lynn and John, for their focused, loving care throughout the last 5-months of Mom's life and the very special friends she made at The Courtyard - you meant more to her than you know, and the Pastors and lay people from Grace Lutheran Church who regularly came to visit her, talk faith and share the sacraments.

It was Muriel's wish for a private service of only immediate family members after her passing.

A memorial is being established.



Neil Clarence Harper

Neil Clarence Harper, 76, passed away unexpectedly on August 17, 2023. Neil was born in Oshkosh.



He went to school, lived and worked in Winneconne early on.

Neil is survived by his brother, George Charles Harper; sister-in-law, Carol Harper; niece, Michelle (Sean) Angell; brother-in-law, Jeffery Hanson; nephews, Matt Harper, Jeffery J. Hanson, Jason Harper; close cousin, Sandy (Van Dun) Farwell; as well as many cousins and friends.

He is preceded in death by his parents, George Joseph Harper and Mary Ann (O'Neil) Harper; brothers, John William Harper, Gene Walter Harper; sister, Judy May Harper (Hanson); half-brother, David Jakubowski; niece, Jerilyn Harper; grandmother, Minnie (Ruske) Harper; aunt, Doris Harper (Van Dun); uncles, Walter Harper and Clarence Harold Harper.

Neil was a farm hand most of his working year. This led him to farms in Wisconsin, Oklahoma and Georgia until his health no longer permitted. Neil was a volunteer for ADVOCAP for many years receiving numerous awards and certificates for his service.

Neil enjoyed Friday Night Wrestling, BINGO, playing cards, and his daily exercise group. He loved music and was an excellent dancer. He was always upbeat and friendly to everyone he met.

Neil was a donor to the Lions Eye Bank of Milwaukee.

In lieu of flowers, a memorial has been established to the Lions Eye Bank.

The family would like to give special thanks to Patrick and Steve and also to Arborview Manor for making Neil's time there so good, especially Tim and Angie.

Prayers and blessings were officiated privately by Pastor Bryan Schmidt of St. Andrews Lutheran Church of Oshkosh.



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Garage/Estate Sales

ANNUAL GARAGE SALE: 1507 Rush Ave, Oshkosh. Thursday-Friday-Saturday, Aug 31, Sept 1 & 2, 9am to 4pm. Name Brand Women's, Men's, Infant Girl Clothes, Purses, Shoes, Longaberger Baskets, Household items, Linens, & much more.

Miscellaneous

46TH ANNUAL AUTO PARTS SWAP MEET & CAR SHOW! Sept. 22-24, Jefferson Co. Fair Park, Jefferson, WI. 3 Day Swap Meet & Car Corral! SHOW CARS (Sat/Sun Only) ADM \$ 15 Fri/Sat \$10 Sun **DEMO DERBY Sun. Sept 24th NOON; Adm \$10, No Pets. Fri 10-6pm, Sat, 6-4pm, Sun 6-3pm 608-244-8416 madisonclassics.com (WCAN)**

BAUCTION-LIVE & ONLINE for BEAR RENOVATIONS N10954 CTH A, Tomahawk, WI **SEPT. 9th* 11AM.** Vehicles, Trailers, Equipment, Inventory, Many Misc. Items. www.nolansales.com for details. **NOLAN SALES LLC**, Marion, WI* **715-754-5221** Reg. WI Auctioneers Lic #142 & #165 (WCAN)

BONDUEL CONSIGNMENT AUCTION SAT. SEPT. 2. 8:30am BAKE SALE 8AM Quilts-Furniture-Crafts-Tools- Machinery-Antiques. **N4310 Hill Rd. Shawano** For info call **715-524-2605**

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Public Notices

STATE OF WISCONSIN CIRCUIT COURT WINNEBAGO COUNTY Case No. 23 CV 509

DANIEL D. KINGSLEY and PAULA KINGSLEY Plaintiffs, VS. **ADAW D. DENG, et al** Defendants, and **POMP'S TIRE SERVICE, INC.** EMPLOYEE BENEFIT PLAN by its administrator, **AUXIANT, et al** Involuntary Plaintiffs.

Publication Summons

TO: ADAW D. DENG 200 Merritt Ave., Apt 202 Oshkosh, WI 54901

You are hereby notified that the Plaintiff named above has filed a lawsuit or other legal action against you.

The complaint, which is also served on you, states the nature and basis of the legal action. Within Forty (40) days after August 23, 2023, you must respond with a written answer, as that term is used in Chapter 802 of the Wisconsin Statutes, to the complaint. The Court may reject or disregard an answer that does not follow the requirements of the statutes. The answer must be sent or delivered to the Court, whose address is: CLERK OF COURTS, WINNEBAGO COUNTY COURTHOUSE, 415 JACKSON STREET, P.O. BOX 2808, OSKOSH, WISCONSIN, 54903-2808, and to Apex Accident Attorneys, LLC, Plaintiff's attorney, whose address is 3475 Omro Road, Ste. 200, P.O. Box 2845, Oshkosh, WI 54904. You may have an attorney help or represent you.

If no complaint accompanies this summons you must respond within the 40 day period with a written demand for a copy of the Complaint by mailing or delivering said written demand to the court and to the Plaintiffs attorneys at their respective addresses listed above. If you do not provide a proper answer to the Complaint or provide a written demand for said complaint within the 40 day period, the Court may grant judgment against you for the award of money or other legal action requested in the Complaint, and you lose your right to object to anything that is or may be incorrect in the complaint. A judgment may be enforced as provided by law. A judgment awarding money may become a lien against any real estate you own now or in the future, and may also be enforced by garnishment or seizure of property.

Dated: August 14, 2023 APEX ACCIDENT ATTORNEYS, LLC Electronically signed by /s/ George W. Curtis George W. Curtis Attorney for Plaintiff 3475 Omro Road, Ste. 200 P.O. Box 2845 Oshkosh, WI 54903-2845 (920) 233-1010 State Bar No: 1008548

Runs August 23, 2023, August 30, 2023 & September 6, 2023.

Kid Scoop

THE AWARD-WINNING PRINT & ONLINE FAMILY FEATURE
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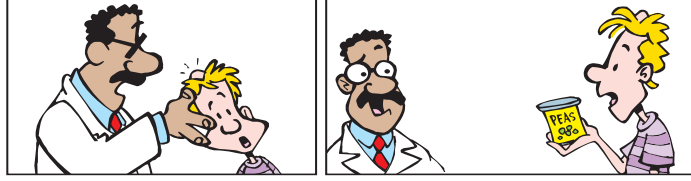


SMILE POWER

Smile and the world smiles with you! Smiles have the power to make people happy. Maybe that is why millions of people use the smile emoji when sending messages. And with a smile, people from different countries who speak different languages can communicate.

Just What the Doctor Ordered

Doctors even tell us that laughter can help sick people heal more quickly. All in all, a smile is very powerful.



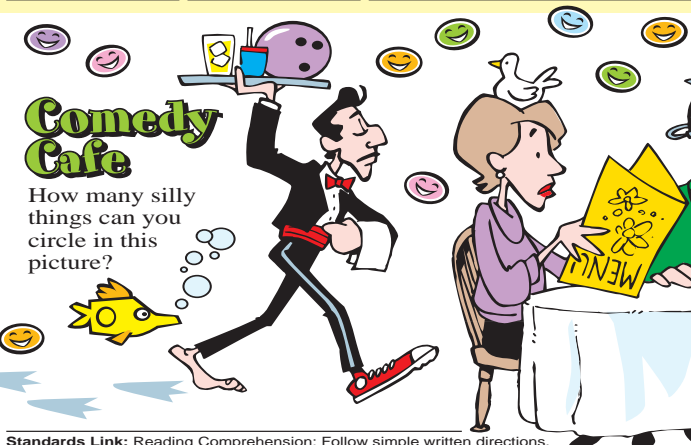
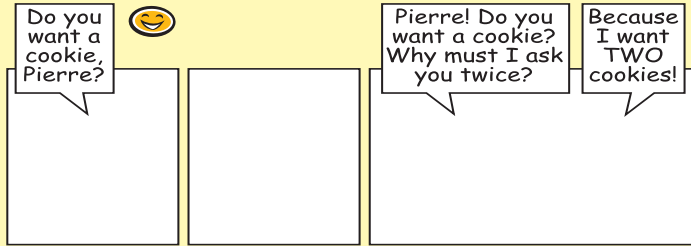
Cut out the word balloons below and paste them in the correct order on the comic strip above.



Standards Link: Health: Identify activities and actions that promote or enhance emotional health.

Laughter! The Universal Language!

There are jokes from all over the world. What can you learn about people by reading their jokes? Draw your own comic strip using this joke from Martinique.



Standards Link: Reading Comprehension: Follow simple written directions.



These riddles are from all over the world and the answer to each one is the same thing. Can you guess what it is?

Spain

What is a small, white chest that all know how to open and nobody knows how to close?

Jamaica

What is more useful when it is broken?

Peru

In a pot there are two kinds of food. What is it?

Zambia

What is an entire little house without a door?

Malawi

I have built my house without any door. What is it?

Afghanistan

In a bowl of china fixed, two liquids with colors unmixed. What is it?

Have you figured out the answer? If not, color all the boxes with odd numbers. Read the letters that are left and you will know the answer.

2	7	9	6	5	8	4	3	2
A	H	T	N	W	E	G	P	G

Standards Link: Social Science: Compare life in different places and recognize that some aspects of cultures are similar.

How many smiles can you find on this page?

Extra! Extra! Superlative Fun

Look through the newspaper for three happy pictures. Label one "Happy," one "Happier," and one "Happiest." Repeat this game with other words.

Standards Link: Vocabulary Development: Understand comparative and superlative case.

Kid Scoop Puzzler

Why does a crane raise one leg when he stands in the water?

Put the words in the right order to discover the answer to this joke from Poland.

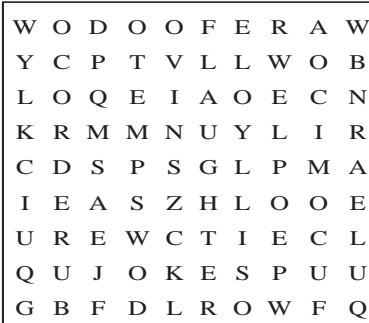


Standards Link: Reading Comprehension: Follow simple written directions.

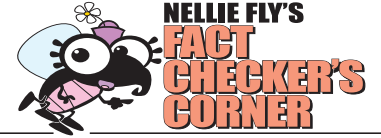
Double Double Word Search

- OPEN
- COMIC
- SMILE
- LAUGHTER
- FOOD
- JOKES
- WORLD
- QUICKLY
- GUESS
- ORDER
- PEOPLE
- SILLY
- BOWL
- LEARN

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.



With so much information available in print, on TV and online every day, it is important to know that some information is **true** and some is **false** or misleading.

Sometimes news reports make a mistake. Good journalists will let readers and viewers know of the error as soon as possible. Other times, false information is designed on purpose to make you feel a certain way.

How do you tell the difference between fact and fiction?

1. Read beyond the story's headline. Headlines can't tell the whole story.
2. Do some research! Go to the library and look up more information. Your librarian can help you.
3. Look for more information online. Be sure to check more than one online site as some sites simply repeat false information.
4. Make sure the publications and websites you use to check facts are trustworthy.
5. Ask a parent or family member to help you understand more about the story.

FACT CHECKER CHALLENGE OF THE WEEK

One of these statements is true and one is false. Do the research and find out. Then share what you learned with your friends and family!

Smiling makes us feel happier.

TRUE FALSE

Smiling is contagious.

TRUE FALSE

Was it easy or difficult to find out if the above statements were true or false? It's not always easy being a News Fact Checker. But it's important to always try to get the **whole** story!

Standards Link: Research: Locate and check information about a given topic using multiple resources.

Write On!

What makes you smile?

Write a paragraph about what makes you smile. Give at least three details about this.

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