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School facilities on 10-year plan

Administrators map out consolidation strategy

By Jonathan Richie
OSHKOSH HERALD

Oshkosh public schools have developed a plan to be better prepared for upgrades to facilities across the district.

The Oshkosh Area School District is wrapping up the first of a four-phase consolidation plan that will see the district go from 20 school buildings down to 15. The new schools are being built with the intention of remaining in the district for 80

years with proper maintenance.

OASD Superintendent Bryan Davis calls it an ambitious plan that remains fiscally responsible.

"This will make a significant difference for our community," Davis said. He said it will attract more professionals to the area and that the students will have some of the best educational spaces in the area.

"When we get done with this plan, I will put our spaces up against anywhere, certainly in our region," Davis said.

Planning for this long-range project began in 2017 when an outside company did a study on the buildings and the district's

long-term plans.

"We are building a legacy of high-quality facilities that has a long-term sustainability that is fiscally conservative," Julie Conrad-Peters said.

Conrad-Peters, assistant superintendent of operations, said the goal of the 10-year-outlook is to keep track of how the district is maintaining school buildings and to define the life cycle of the buildings.

"(The district) needs to be safeguarding its assets and follow preventative maintenance

SEE **School facilities** ON PAGE 15

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Oshkosh Herald

Welcome to the club

Children and board members watch as Boys & Girls Club of Oshkosh chief executive Tracy Ogden and a young club member cut the ribbon to officially open the Bergstrom Automotive Learning Center and renovated Head Start building Friday at the Oshkosh club. See the story on Page 8.

Victims' rights law keeps names out of crime accounts

Marsy's Law puts limits on incident reporting

By Bethanie Gengler
OSHKOSH HERALD

A 37-year-old Oshkosh man was inside a Neenah gas station last month when he was approached by two officers from the Lake Winnebago Area Metropolitan Enforcement Group (MEG) unit.

The man had outstanding warrants and was the subject of an undercover investigation. The officers entered the gas station

and attempted to take him into custody. The details of what followed have not been publicly released, except that officers responded with deadly force and fatally shot the man.

The Sheboygan County Sheriff's Office was called in to investigate and issued a statement that a preliminary investigation suggested the man may have displayed a weapon.

More than seven weeks have passed since the shooting, but the names of the man who was killed and the two officers involved are being withheld by officials,

citing the constitutional amendment Marsy's Law, intended to protect crime victims.

The Winnebago County District Attorney's Office, Neenah Police Department and MEG unit all declined to release information about the shooting, referring a reporter to the Sheboygan County Sheriff's Office.

Sheboygan County Sheriff Cory Roessler declined to release any of the names of those involved.

"There's a lot of victims' rights with Marsy's Law and stuff like that and you're

going to see that a lot more in the future where people are reluctant to release the details because in the situation the person is the victim at this point depending on how the district attorney looks at it," Roessler said.

He noted that depending on the results of the investigation, the person who was shot may no longer be considered a victim and may be a suspect.

"You know, it just gets very confusing and at this point in time we're going to

SEE **Marsy's Law** ON PAGE 10

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UWO faculty push education priorities

By Jonathan Richie
OSHKOSH HERALD

The University of Wisconsin Oshkosh Faculty Senate has sent a letter to the chancellor and provost with a list of expectations aimed to rebuild trust between faculty and administration.

The letter with seven points was addressed to UWO Chancellor Andrew Leavitt and Provost Edwin Martini. The Advance-Titan reported last week that the letter was unanimously endorsed by the Faculty Senate before being sent to Leavitt and Martini.

The communication comes after Leavitt announced an \$18 million deficit the university is facing. The chancellor's office said they will review the document before commenting.

"We appreciate the Faculty Senate's letter of expectations, and we are taking the time provided to thoughtfully review

it before providing a response," said Alex Hummel of the chancellor's office.

The letter asks for prioritizing cuts to administrative positions and salaries over cuts to instructional/student support positions and salaries. It also notes increased teaching loads and the harm it does to academic quality.

"No faculty member should be required to teach in an area outside of their expertise," the letter states.

The letter asked for a viable part-time option for faculty in a voluntary effort to reduce payroll. The senate also asked the administration to "provide full and clear budgetary information to faculty and staff leaders from now on, so that the warnings can be sounded and steps taken well before we face another fiscal disaster."

The Faculty Senate also expects Leavitt and Martini to recognize "instructional

academic staff are indispensable necessary to realize a research-enhanced university."

Faculty Senate president Pascale Manning offered clarification of the letter to the chancellor and provost.

"I want to stress that this is not an adversarial document. Its aim is to consolidate in one place certain key faculty concerns. It is not a comprehensive document, as there are other points that could have been made or ways in which the document could have offered more detail on individual points," Manning wrote in an email to the Herald. "I would like to emphasize that Chancellor Leavitt and Provost Martini are already collaborating with faculty and staff in their communications with Shared Governance leadership, and the chancellor has signaled his willingness to respond in writing to this document by October 1st, which is the date cited in the letter."

UWO's Clow Academic Complex updated for education space

By Laurie Schlosser
UW OSHKOSH TODAY

A \$27 million renovation of the education building at the University of Wisconsin Oshkosh's Clow Academic Complex is complete and providing the latest in teaching and learning.

A ribbon-cutting and rededication of the Clow building at 845 Algoma Blvd., is planned Thursday with university leaders, students, faculty and staff joined by regional and state dignitaries as well as UW System President Jay Rothman.

Renovation of the portion of Clow that houses the College of Education and Human Services began in spring 2022. The remodeled area, more than 48,000 square feet referred to informally as "Clow North," created space and facilities to educate the 21st century teacher.

Linda Haling, dean of the College of Education and Human Services, said members of the college are "excited and grateful" to start the academic year in a newly renovated building with classrooms, offices and student spaces that feature state-of-the-art designs, equipment and furniture.

"The Clow Academic Complex is such



UW Oshkosh Today photo

Clow Academic Complex is being rededicated this week to mark its completed renovation.

a welcoming environment that emphasizes the value the University places on providing high-quality teaching and learning spaces," she said.

The upgrades feature simulation labs modeled after elementary school classrooms.

Improvements include a room dedicated to literacy so teacher candidates can observe, through one-way glass, a live one-on-one session with an experienced classroom teacher and a young reader.

Modern spaces will enhance professional practice in the renovated Clow.

In another update, the counseling and human services department's new practi-

cum laboratory is modeled after a clinic and enhances instruction through real-time live supervision. Students can view their recorded sessions and assess their skills directly in the video.

The project impacted areas from the basement to the sixth floor and includes new lecture halls and classrooms with new flooring, walls and windows, as well as a new roof. There are electrical, mechanical and technical upgrades throughout the building.

"This latest renovation to a now completely modernized Clow brings into clearer focus the unified, futuristic academic complex UWO always planned and worked hard to realize," said Chancellor Andrew Leavitt. "We are grateful to our university's legislators, the State Building Commission, C.D. Smith Construction and the project's many contractors, UW System capital planning staff members and the UW System Board of Regents. They have not only provided UWO students, faculty and staff a modern, outstanding educational asset, they have created a state-of-the-art talent generator to benefit school districts, health care partners and other organizations for decades to come."

Modernization of the education wing was long anticipated after it was initially part of a 2011 budget request that called for renovation to both the College of Nursing and the College of Education and Human Services areas. The nursing project was completed in 2016, but the second half of the project was delayed at the state level for more than five years.

The latest Clow project was linked to redevelopment of nearly 10,000 square feet within Swart Hall, creating a Dean's Suite, faculty offices, a math tutoring lab, general access classroom and a forensics lab.

Construction was capped with a repaved commuter parking lot and faculty lot adjacent to Clow. The construction over the past 16 months follows an \$8.3 million city of Oshkosh project in 2022 to reconstruct Algoma Boulevard in front of the building.

Back in the Day



Oshkosh history by the Winnebago County Historical & Archaeological Society

Sept. 4, 1970

Cassius Clay To Be Here: Mohammed Ali, once known as Cassius Clay, the

controversial former heavyweight boxing champion of the world, will speak on Sept. 4 at 8 p.m. at the Oshkosh High School Civic Auditorium. The boxer will offer a question-and-answer period following the program. The program is sponsored by the Afro-American Society of Wisconsin State University-Oshkosh.

Source: *Oshkosh Northwestern*, Sept. 4, 1970

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Business news

Marketing and digital consulting firm **Blue Door Consulting** has expanded its team to include web development company wisnet.com. Owners Rick Kolstad, wisnet.com, and Heidi Strand and Brenda Haines, Blue Door Consulting, began a collaborative merger two years ago that led to the teams merging under the Blue Door Consulting name with all five members from wisnet.com transitioning to Blue Door. The resulting 53-person agency offers brand and design, content marketing, web and digital and design thinking. Founded in 1996, wisnet.com brings nearly three decades of experience in web and application development.

Berkshire Hathaway HomeServices, a global real estate brokerage franchise network, announced the launch of Berkshire Hathaway HomeServices Water City Realty in Oshkosh. The new brokerage office will be led by managing partner Patty Wohlt. "We know Patty will be a wonderful steward for our brand in the Oshkosh area and we are very excited for her to grow her business and to continue her legacy with us," said Christy Budnick, Berkshire Hathaway chief executive. Wohlt has been a full-time real estate professional for more than 27 years.

Former Air America pilot and author **Neil Hansen**, Oshkosh, and co-author Luann Plamann Grosscup were awarded a bronze medal at the national Military Writers' Society of America awards dinner held recently for their book, "Flight: An Air America Pilot's Story of Adventure, Descent and Redemption." The book, published by History Publishing Co., details the 11 years Hansen spent in Southeast Asia with Air America, the CIA's covert airline.

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Supervisors approve new pay structure for board

Chair, per diem rates based on wage study

By Bethanie Gengler
OSHKOSH HERALD

The Winnebago County Board of Supervisors approved a new pay structure for its members at its recent regular meeting.

Under the existing policy, the county board chair is paid \$5,000 per year and the vice chair is paid \$1,500 per year. Supervisors are not paid a salary but are reimbursed \$50 per committee meeting they attend and \$75 for each board meeting. They may also be reimbursed for mileage, meals and lodging.

Each supervisor is responsible for reporting per diem expenses for reimbursement. The per diem reimbursement adds up, with some supervisors claiming thousands more than others.

A task force of seven supervisors appointed by the board chairman was approved in March to examine the per diem compensation and determine if there are changes that could be made to better suit the county. The panel com-

pared the supervisor compensation of 16 other Wisconsin counties and found the majority offer a salary, with some offering a salary in addition to per diem reimbursement.

The board Sept. 19 approved the recommendation to replace per diem reimbursements with salary increases for the chair and vice chair and setting a \$6,000 annual salary for supervisors.

Starting in April, the board chair salary will go to \$16,800 per year; and the vice chair to \$8,400 per year. The increase is because "their work is typically more burdensome and requires many more hours," according to the task force's report.

Committee chairs will be compensated an additional \$75 per month per committee addition. Mileage reimbursement will remain the same.

Non-supervisors appointed to serve on committees, boards or commissions who are not acting within the scope of their employment are eligible for a \$50 payment for a half-day meeting but not more than \$75 per day and expense reimbursements.

The current budget for supervisor wag-

es is \$125,000. The annual cost of the new compensation package is estimated to be just under \$253,000.

At a meeting Sept. 5, Supervisor Doug Zellmer said he doesn't think constituents would be in favor of such a big pay increase.

"This is a pretty steep increase and I think the voters of Winnebago County would not like what we're doing because of the big increase, so I think all of us should rethink this in our own heads on what are our constituents are going to say and I bet most of them would say, 'No, keep what you got,'" he said.

Supervisor Morris Cox agreed. He said the county board needs to limit spending, adding that eliminating per diem reimbursements may also remove an incentive for supervisors to attend meetings.

At the start of Tuesday's board meeting, chair Tom Egan announced that District 29 Supervisor Rachel Youngquist

resigned from the board, citing the inability to continue committing to attending the lengthy meetings, which often stretch from three to five hours.

Supervisor Steven Binder said the suggested compensation was based on a wage study to determine how to fairly compensate supervisors.

"If you don't think that you're worth what the average supervisor makes, then vote it down; apparently you don't think you're worth much," he said. "You should be worth what the average supervisor gets paid."

Supervisors Conley Hanson and Jim Wise said the compensation change may encourage people to run for a supervisor position who may not have considered it before.

The board voted 28-5 to approve the compensation package, with Zellmer, Cox, Julie Gordon, Timothy Ernst and Jeffrey Beem voting against.

New city parks offices open to public

The Oshkosh Parks Department's administration office is now open in its new building at 805 Witzel Ave.

Residents can continue using the many online services on the Parks Department's webpage or conduct business at the new building.

The new facility replaces an aging and inefficient 1960s building that was at the same location. Office hours will remain

from 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Monday through Friday, closed for lunch from noon to 1 p.m.

The field operations portion of the building remains under construction and expected to be completed before the end of the year.

For any questions relating to the new facilities, contact Parks director Ray Maurer at 920-236-5080.

Historical society president stepping down

Oshkosh Herald

Randy Domer has announced plans to retire as president of the Winnebago County Historical & Archaeological Society effective Oct. 31.



Domer

Domer was elected to the society's board of directors in 2012 and became president in 2015. He said he plans to remain active with the society and their activities in retirement.

The Oshkosh native has authored four books on local history, the most recent being "It Seems Like Only Yesterday: More Stories From Oshkosh's Historic Past."

The organization has its annual meeting set for 1 p.m. Oct. 8 at the historic Morgan House, 234 Church Ave., Oshkosh. Society members and the public are invited to attend.

Officers will be elected during the annual meeting with terms to begin Jan. 1. Vice president Austin Frederick will assume the role of interim president for the rest of this year.

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LIST WITH US

Legal support helps Afghan evacuees get on right track

Those who worked for U.S. face status lapse

By Dan Roherty
OSHKOSH HERALD

The lingering uncertainty of Afghan refugees who worked with U.S. interests during the conflict that ended with the American departure in 2021 and still trying to obtain legal immigration status is interfering with job, education and housing opportunities.

Relief organizations have been offering legal help in that area among their support services that get new immigrants a fresh start in the region depending on their needs and goals. The Fox Valley took in about 200 of the new arrivals from among the estimated 900 to 1,000 who were placed statewide.

Molly Norton Smiltneek, a contracted attorney with World Relief-Wisconsin's Oshkosh office – which took on the needs of about half of the area's Afghan evacuees – has been helping those refugees who entered the United States with a two-year grace period, or parole, gain a reprieve that will let them move toward permanent immigration status.

“Getting people here doesn't mean that they can just start their lives over. Immigration status really does matter,” she said in an interview. “They have kind of moved into this life of uncertainty for a long time.”

Others in World Relief's Legal Services Department help those attempting to receive green cards under the special immigrant visa program because they can prove they worked for the United States during the long-running conflict in Afghanistan.

“Both groups of evacuees face a great deal of uncertainty due to Congress inaction in providing an immigration path for the people the U.S. evacuated,” Smiltneek said. “Instead, our allies have to navigate the overburdened U.S. immigration system that is collapsing under the stress of their applications.”

Earlier this summer the Biden administration said it would individually review and extend parole and work authorizations, which started to come in for her clients as those authorizations began to expire. She estimates that all but about 10% have received those reprieves.

The last-minute process overlooked some people who Smiltneek is now trying to help, some of whom are the only breadwinners in their families.

“Even more frustrating, we have two college-age Afghans who have been admitted to UW Oshkosh this fall. Most of their family members received the extension of their parole, but somehow these two, from two separate families, did not,” she said.

Lawyers like Smiltneek were brought on to help World Relief, Catholic Charities USA and other resettlement groups, with support from the State Bar of Wisconsin and American Immigration Lawyers Association, to deal with the specific legal challenges of extending and securing legal immigration status that can qualify Afghan

evacuees for a permanent resident green card.

Other legal help is directed at gaining special visas for those who can prove they worked for the U.S. in Afghanistan for at least a year, which involves multiple detailed interviews with applicants before they can be advanced toward green card status.



Smiltneek

Smiltneek said one goal of the legal coalition was that no Afghan refugee in Wisconsin would have to file for asylum without lawyer assistance.

“There are great things that people are doing to help people out, but it feels like it's not enough,” she said, “because we're all working within a system that's not quite set up to help us or help them.”

Other evacuees wait anywhere from six months to more than a year after the initial interview process to learn whether they gain asylum and can pursue a green card, five years after which citizenship can be sought.

“World Relief is one of the many refugee resettlement agencies that decided very quickly after the evacuation that, that's how we were going to accommodate the Afghans. But all resettlement agencies are used to working with refugees, not people who were evacuated,” she said. “In this situation they were paroled into the United States.”

Refugees need to show they qualify to come here and have a well-founded fear of persecution based on the five legal grounds

of race, religion, ethnicity, political opinion or particular social group. Afghan evacuees were processed at military camps around the country, including Wisconsin's Fort McCoy, before they were resettled in late 2021 into communities similar to the process for other emigres but without the legal status of an accepted refugee.

Those now employed around the Fox Valley – such as at Amcor in Oshkosh – are likely to be sending money back home to their families in a country that has a devastated economy with few work or education options.

“They want to be reunified with their families, but the Afghanistan they left doesn't exist,” said Smiltneek, who noted one high school teen she works with whose family was not able to make it to the Kabul airport. He now works at least 40 hours per week on multiple jobs so he can support himself and separated family members.

A worst-case scenario of removal from the country is possible but unlikely with legal and political barriers to that, but Smiltneek said the immediate need is to remove uncertainties over their work and education opportunities as they establish themselves here.

“Our employment people have to get involved because (for) most of these Afghans their employment authorization cards are expiring so employers are contacting us,” she said, where they have had to assure businesses that the employees have a reprieve on their status and still authorized to work.

The lack of permanent immigration status also can create housing and education obstacles, including to financial aid opportunities needed to pursue college ed-

ucation. Students cannot be approved for financial aid without proof of their parole being extended.

Smiltneek said two UW Oshkosh students she has been working with gained some ground with federal documentation that supports their parole being extended, which should give them continued immigration status, work eligibility and eligibility for financial aid. She said one of those students is still trying to get university approval for financial aid eligibility.

She said one student's father was in the Afghan military, working in partnership with U.S. forces and the other's sisters worked for the U.S. Embassy in Kabul.

Local educational institutions such as the Oshkosh Area School District, UW Oshkosh and Fox Valley Technical College have been adding or expanding their multicultural services in recent years to take on the need for helping refugees become positive additions to the community. Smiltneek said Ayak Deng, the school district's multicultural outreach navigator for students with refugee backgrounds, has worked directly with Afghan students and their educational pursuits.

“She can help kids who are new here, who are bright and ready to build terrific lives but just don't have the right resources to understand how to advance themselves in their families,” she said.

Other area groups add to the overall effort to help refugees adapt to their new environment. The Winnebago and Outagamie literacy councils help provide English classes, Goodwill has provided skills training and World Relief is looking to partner with FVTC on manufacturing classes for refugees in their native language.

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Photos by Michael Cooney

Sailing into fall

The last day of sailing school offered by International Youth Sailing of Oshkosh was last Wednesday using Hobie Wave catamarans on Millers Bay. Jefferson and Traeger elementary school fourth-graders participated in what organizers Steve and Sara Eliassen call their "best day ever water sport adventure." The program is run in tandem with the Fire Escape, which provides a sailing-related art project and set up in the shelter by the volleyball court. Steve said that while their time on the water is brief, each student crew got to sail on their own after being trained by one of the volunteers.



County policy on electronics misuse adds censure options

By Bethanie Gengler
NEENAH NEWS

The Winnebago County Board of Supervisors approved a policy outlining consequences for supervisors who misuse county-owned electronic devices at a meeting last week.

The resolution was brought forward by Supervisor Kay Horan after it was determined that a supervisor was using a county-owned iPad to access pornographic websites early this year. Board chair Tom Egan said at that time that there was little disciplinary action he could take because county supervisors are elected.

The initial resolution included wording that unethical or illegal use of county-owned electronic devices would result in reprimand, censure or expulsion from the county board.

That wording was removed after the May county board meeting when several supervisors spoke against expulsion for misuse.

Some of the supervisors questioned what is considered "unethical or illegal" conduct, noting that viewing porn is a "victimless crime" and the supervisor who accessed the websites may have done so by accident.

The new resolution states that the county board may take action allowed by state statute including a resolution of censure against any supervisors who ignore the rules of the county's use policies, general code, ethics handbook, electronics resolution and state statute.

Supervisor Karen Powers said she's against changing the policy because the supervisors' rights are being eroded.

"Deciding which ditch we're going to die in over morality is going to nullify or overturn the constitutional democratic vote of the people," she said. "If people don't like what someone has done, let them vote their own supervisor out or let them have a recall election, but this is

overreaching."

Supervisor Nate Gustafson said the policy will help clarify what supervisors can and cannot do on their devices.

"This isn't about the morality of what conduct is done, it's that the conduct is done on county-issued property and at the end of the day you are accountable to, yes, your constituents, but you're also accountable to everybody else in the county if that device was issued to you from the county," he said.

Supervisor Bryan Stafford said the policy doesn't impede someone's ability to express their opinion.

"This is about doing it on government property," he said. "It is the county's property, not the person's, and I think the county has every right to ensure that their property is being utilized effectively and to mitigate any potential issues that the county might be held accountable for in the misuse of the devices."

Supervisor Jacob Floam said the IT department has been trying to pass a similar policy since 2014.

At a meeting in May, director of information systems Patty Francour confirmed there have been other incidents of supervisors misusing devices and she has been trying to get a similar rule passed for years.

"The point is that if you're running for county office, specifically county board supervisor, you should be able to hold yourself to a higher standard on county property and county issued property," Floam said. "That's all this resolution is explaining and going over so if you believe you can do that you should have no problem with this."

Several supervisors voiced concerns that the policy is only dealing with county board supervisors when, in their opinion, it should encompass all elected officials in Winnebago County, including the sheriff and county executive.

Supervisor Jim Wise acknowledged the concerns but said maybe the change needs to start with the county board.

"Start with us first and show that we are able to address this issue and put rules and regulations on ourselves first and maybe then it will give some teeth to it for the IT committee," he said.

The board voted 26-7 to approve the policy, with Powers, Steven Binder, Rebecca Nichols, Julie Gordon, James Ponzer, Andy Buck and Morris Cox voting against. The new policy on use of county-owned devices went into effect immediately.



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TEDx Oshkosh brings 13 speakers to Grand stage

TEDxOshkosh 2023: Untamed Imagination presents 13 speakers who will challenge conventional thinking and inspire with presentations Nov. 4 on The Grand Oshkosh stage.

The full-day conference highlights live speakers and select TED videos. The day is designed to build community and conversation, allowing audience members to engage with speakers and attendees during breaks and during a catered lunch.

For this year, the TEDxOshkosh team took the titles of all the speakers' talks and supplied them, along with goals for theme, to artificial intelligence tools and requested the AIs generate the theme. With that assist, TEDxOshkosh selected Untamed Imagination.

Using another AI tool, the team developed a visually abstract graphic that supports the theme and reflects the global reach of TEDxOshkosh talk videos once released.

"Over the seven years of TEDxOshkosh events, our team has consistently been impressed and inspired by the dedicated people who seek to present their ideas — for no financial compensation — on the TEDxOshkosh stage," said co-organizer Craig Burnett.

"Our team's task of speaker and talk selection is a large one. In 2023, for instance, the 13 talks selected were drawn from over 340 candidates. Their breadth of ideas will make for an extremely engaging and enlightening day for our audiences."

TEDxOshkosh is a locally organized nonprofit produced by a core group of volunteers. The event is open to the public and registration is required by Oct. 29. Prices range from \$69 to \$99 for seats in

different areas of the theater, or \$39 for up to 30 high school or college students.

This year's speakers:

Keydi Bognar: The Undocumented Experience: Unintended Consequences explores how there is more than meets the eye when it comes to the issue of undocumented immigrants, especially those who accompanied their parents as infants or young children.

Amanda Bauer-Frisch: In Defense of Participation Trophies explores how acknowledging small achievements magnifies the power of setting and celebrating goals.

Mai Lee Chang: Artificial Intelligence That Helps Seniors Stay in their Homes talk explores the needs of the senior population and how artificial intelligence (AI) has the potential to fill this gap.

Gina Glover: The Heart of Connection, in 10 Simple Steps demonstrates the power of expanding connections with others and how even the smallest action can make a difference.

Brian Kinghorn: Is the Dress Blue or Gold? The Psychology of Perception

delves into what we perceive may not be reality or that our realities may be different from other individuals' realities because of how we perceive the world around us.

Sadaf Lodhi: Sex Education for Doctors: Lessons from a Muslim Gynecologist explores the deficit in many physicians' education in treating sexual health, and proposes solutions that will benefit doctors and their patients.

Caitlin Looby: Rebuilding (or Building) Public Trust in Science proposes ways to build (or rebuild) the public's trust in science, and scientists, through improvements in how the scientific community communicates with the general public.

Kary Oberbrunner: Blockchain: The Future of Intellectual Property Protection shares the idea to protect intellectual property that's faster, easier and cheaper, all made possible through blockchain technology.

Karen Schneider: The Power of the Printed Press in a Digital World has much to say about a paper renaissance in the

news industry, from the emphasis on local news to the physical comfort and ease-of-use of a printed paper.

Jordan Schroeter: Are We Asking the Disabled to be Better than the Rest of Us? explores the reality that people living with disabilities are just as fallible as other people.

Cody Schuhart: Nothing Matters, so Everything is Possible: How Nihilism Can Save a Life asks philosophical questions about significance, the discovery of freedom for those who feel lost, trapped or in a void when they see their situation from a new vantage point.

Estelle Song: From Soundwaves to Brushstrokes: Predicting Art Taste from Musical Preference delves into the intriguing realm of art preference and its predictability, with research and examples drawn from selecting art based on music taste.

Juliette Sterkens: Hearing Loss: Beyond Hearing Aids explores new and little-known advances in technology well beyond the simple hearing aid that lead to better outcomes and day-to-day lives for those with declines in their hearing.

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Boys & Girls Club celebrates learning center expansion

By Jonathan Richie
OSHKOSH HERALD

The parking lot at the Boys & Girls Club of Oshkosh campus was packed with community members Friday for a ribbon-cutting ceremony as they helped open an expanded Bergstrom Automotive Learning Center and renovated Head Start building.

The ceremony celebrated completion of a more than \$8 million project that includes three new classrooms in the learning center that will allow 40 more elementary students every day, said Boys & Girls Club of Oshkosh CEO Tracy Ogden.

Ogden said construction workers from CR Meyer did a wonderful job working around the kids who were fascinated by the construction and asked a lot of questions about what was happening and a few asking, "Can I help?"

Peter Radford, eldest son of former club president Bill Radford, said his 101-year-old father wanted to be at the ribbon-cutting but couldn't make it.

Radford explained the club opened in 1970 at Merritt Avenue and Main Street with humble beginnings of just a pool table. On Friday he said he was struck by what the staff and Ogden have been able to do in recent years by adding a gym, teen center and now expanding the learning center.

He said the club has seen "amazing growth" with efforts led by a "tremendous staff" and a lot of volunteers.

Bergstrom Automotive chief executive John Bergstrom also made comments during the ceremony, thanking staff and



Oshkosh Herald

UW Oshkosh Chancellor Andrew Leavitt talks about the relationship between Head Start and the university that goes back more than 50 years.

volunteers at the club who "make Oshkosh a better place for young people."

"This is really an important direction for all of us to go in - to help these kids have mentors and a safe place and some days even food," he said.

The organization at 501 E. Parkway Ave. also was celebrating the reopening of the J. Wilcox Head Start building after renovations added two new classrooms.

Jamie Wilcox serves as facility director for the Boys & Girls Club of Oshkosh

and has worked with the club for decades. His mother, Joyce, served as director of Head Start for more than 25 years.

Wilcox explained that the club and Head Start share spaces, and noted the healthy partnership between the two groups.

"There's no one more passionate, more dedicated of this program and this building. The pride you have in carrying out your mom's legacy is a true gift that we are all better for," Ogden said. "The J. Wil-

cox Head Start building is to honor Joyce and her son Jamie for the dedication to our mission and so future generations will always know the impact that both of you had."

Lynn Hammen is director of the UW Oshkosh Head Start program that serves almost 400 children and families with 130 employees across four counties. She said the program has been around for almost 57 years.

UWO Chancellor Andrew Leavitt spoke about the importance of the UWO Head Start program and its partnership with the Boys & Girls Club.

"UW Oshkosh and the Wilcox Center Head Start continue our 25-year relationship with the Boys & Girls Club of Oshkosh to serve children and families in the Oshkosh community," Leavitt said. "This major renovation provides a safer and healthier environment and more classroom space for children and families, including two additional classrooms bringing the total to six, which creates enriching environments for more children and more families."

He said there have been improvements made to the parking lot and transit along with two new playgrounds that are part of the \$2.3 million project with the cost shared by UWO Head Start and the Boys & Girls Club. It was partially paid for by federal COVID relief dollars.

"This is truly an outstanding partnership," Leavitt said. "I think it represents UW Oshkosh's commitment to collaborating in the community and to advance education even in the early years helping students achieve their greatest potential."

Metro area jobless rate rises to 3.9% in August

The Oshkosh-Neenah metropolitan area and Winnebago County saw a jump in its unemployment rate from 2.9% to 3.4% between July and August, according to preliminary data from the state Department of Workforce Development.

Last August's jobless rate in Osh-

kosh-Neenah and the county was at 2.9%.

The non-seasonally adjusted data shows jobless rates in Metropolitan Statistical Areas rose in all of Wisconsin's 12 metro areas over that period. Unemployment rates also rose in all of Wisconsin's largest cities and counties.

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Photo from VVA Chapter 437

South Park ceremony

Retired Maj. Gen. Daniel Ammerman, who was commander for multiple combat deployments overseas, speaks at the Vietnam Veterans of America, Chapter 437 of Oshkosh, annual POW/MIA Remembrance Ceremony on Sept. 16 at the South Park War Memorial. The ceremony honors those that served and are still listed as prisoners of war or missing in action from all wars, along with those who were prisoners of war and returned.

African Violet Clubs plan annual show

The Wisconsin Council of African Violet Clubs is hosting its annual show and sale Oct. 14 and 15 at St. Jude the Apostle Church hall in Oshkosh.

This year will celebrate various life milestone events.

There will be floral arrangements featuring African violets as the main component, including a category for underwater flower arrangement. There will also be dish gardens and terrariums as well as other ways to display them in a home or office.

There will be individual African violets competing for awards like best of class and show champion as well as other prizes based on sponsorship.

The show will also include plants closely related to African violets, often referred to as cousins, including Streptocarpus, Primulina and Epescia.

The organization oversees all African violet clubs in the state as well as membership.

Members of any club can exhibit at the show. Hours are from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Oct. 14 and 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. Oct. 15.

More information is available by emailing WiCouncilofAVClubs@gmail.com.

Initial hearing waived in infant abuse case

By Jonathan Richie
OSHKOSH HERALD

A former Oshkosh firefighter was in court last week in the case where he is accused of abusing his two-month-old son.

Michael R. Ormond, 39, is facing felony charges of physical abuse of a child – intentionally cause great bodily harm, and physical abuse of child – intentionally cause bodily harm.

Ormond appeared in court last week via video from the Winnebago County Jail. His attorney Christine Bruen explained that Ormond was waiving his right to a preliminary hearing.

Court Commissioner Eric Heywood said after reviewing the criminal complaint he found probable cause. Bond continues for Ormond until his arraignment hearing Oct. 2. Ormond's employment

with the Oshkosh Fire Department was terminated after the charges were filed.

If convicted on both counts, Ormond faces up to 28 years in prison followed by up to 18 years of extended supervision.

According to the criminal complaint, filed Sept. 12 in Winnebago County, an Oshkosh police officer was dispatched to the Children's Wisconsin-Fox Valley Hospital in Neenah at the request of Winnebago County Juvenile Intake.

A social worker at the hospital told an officer that the 2-month old infant had substantial bruising all over his body and a brain bleed. The child was later taken to Children's Hospital in Milwaukee via flight for life.

The officer saw the infant before he was taken to Milwaukee and noted extensive bruising.

A detective with OPD spoke with Ormond, who allegedly admitted to having thoughts of harming the infant since they brought him home.

He said on the morning of Sept. 7 he was triggered by the infant's crying and hit him.

Ormond allegedly spanked the child in the morning and in the afternoon squeezed his legs, arms and allegedly shook the infant because he was crying. When the infant went limp and pale from head to toe, Ormond called 911.

He allegedly admitted that hurting the infant gave him something like a "runner's high."

Medical records show the infant had a subdural hematoma, vast bruising and injuries consistent with abusive head trauma.

Career Focus Program aims at minority careers

Pointters Community Initiatives, a non-profit organization that empowers minorities in northeast Wisconsin through workforce development, skills training, health care and mental health initiatives, is presenting a Career Focus Program set for Oct. 2 at Fox Valley Technical College's Oshkosh Riverside campus.

The program is designed to empower minority students with essential skills and knowledge, equipping them for successful career journeys. Highlights include:

Resume building: Guidance on crafting resumes that stand out to employers.

Interviewing skills: Practical strategies and tips for job interviews and making a lasting impression.

Career planning: Expert insights and

guidance on planning a career path.

Hands-on career workshops: Students will have the opportunity to interact with leaders from Winnebago County's health care, information technology, law enforcement and aviation industries.

Career mentoring: Helping students navigate career paths and strategize to achieve goals.

Pointters Community Initiatives, founded in 2019 by Dimeji Tomori, was born out of his experiences as a Black African American navigating the challenges of finding a job in northeast Wisconsin. Following a highly successful pilot of the Career Focus Program in 2022 in collaboration with the Appleton Area School District, PCI has received demand from

community leaders to extend the program to Oshkosh this fall.

Winnebago County, with a diverse population where 23.4% of its residents identify as Black, African American or belonging to other minority groups, represents an ideal setting for the Career Focus Program.

"In order to create meaningful change in the hearts and minds of our minority community, we must first empower people with resources and knowledge. Then they are in a position to change their situation to better themselves and our communities," Tomori said.

In addition to the FVTC event, Pointters will host a second program for Fox Valley residents Oct. 24 at FVTC in Appleton.



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Marsy's Law

FROM PAGE 1

wait to release the names until we get everything all reviewed," he said.

He estimated it could be another month or longer before the Sheboygan County district attorney completes the review.

The officers involved were a 42-year-old with the Appleton Police Department and a 31-year-old with the Outagamie Sheriff's Office. Both were placed on administrative leave pending the outcome of the investigation.

Marsy's Law is named after 21-year-old Marsalee Nicholas, who was stalked and killed by her ex-boyfriend in California in 1983. One week after her death, her mother was confronted by her daughter's killer at a grocery store. She was unaware that he had been released on bail days after the murder, according to the Marsy's Law website.

The well-funded effort to pass the law in states across the country is led by Marsy's brother, tech billionaire Henry Nicholas. A dozen states have passed similar versions of Marsy's Law and in Wisconsin it was approved by 75% of voters in the 2020 spring election.

Margo Kirchner is director of the Wisconsin Justice Initiative, an organization that raised legal challenges to Marsy's Law, first trying to keep it off the ballot and then bringing a lawsuit challenging its validity in court.

Kirchner said that buried in Marsy's Law are provisions that erode the rights of those accused and allow the law to be fashioned as a tool to restrict the release of information in police shootings.

Wisconsin defines a victim as "a person

against whom an act is committed that would constitute a crime if committed by a competent adult." The victim label attaches before there's been any determination of facts.

If the victim is deceased, the victim label moves to the person's spouse, parent or legal guardian, sibling, child, person who resided with the deceased at the time of death or other lawful representative.

Marsy's Law provides victims the right to privacy and to "not have his or her personal identifiers ... used or disclosed by a public official, employee, or agency," according to the Department of Justice.

A Department of Corrections administrative directive issued in 2020 notes personal identifiers include the victim's Social Security number, telephone number, street address, post-office box, ZIP code and email address.

In the Neenah shooting, the Sheboygan sheriff's interpretation appears to be that both the officers who shot the man and the man they shot could potentially be victims.

"If the police are claiming to be acting in self-defense, then they're claiming to be the victim," Kirchner said, "and if the person shot is claiming that he or she was wrongly shot, that person is claiming to be a victim. So you've got competing people claiming to be victims, and the Marsy's Law language in the constitution doesn't really address what happens in that situation."

The vaguely written constitutional amendment and the question of who qualifies as a victim under Marsy's Law are leading to inconsistencies in its application.

In Oshkosh, the officer who shot Montreal Clark in March and the officer who shot Benson Thao in June have not been

identified, while the men who were shot were publicly identified within weeks of the shootings. Clark and Thao both survived.

In Grand Chute, both Pierce Don Lee Folkerts' name and the name of the officer who shot him were released the day after the incident last month. Folkerts survived the shooting.

In Kaukauna, both the name of the officer and the 28-year-old Oshkosh man who was shot last week are being withheld by police. The man was taken to a hospital where he was listed in stable condition.

Winnebago County District Attorney Eric Sparr said that before Marsy's Law, most criminal complaints would have victims' names.

"That changed with Marsy's Law," he said. "We immediately changed our process. I think there were a few counties that were not using victim names even before that; but we shifted significantly when that happened. And I don't mean just for officer involved shootings, I mean for any offenses."

Sparr said his office weighs whether those involved are classified as victims when deciding on releasing information, but that isn't what every department does. He said the lack of guidance in implementing the law is a challenge.

"Marsy's Law is something where people can be sanctioned for violating it and it would be nice for people to know whether they're violating it when they're making the decisions about what to do," he said. "So to know that, hey, if I do this, I'm doing something wrong. But it's very hard to know that right now."

Sparr acknowledged the reasons the public may want to know about those involved in a police shooting. Having an

officer's name out in the public may make officers less likely to shoot someone in the future and allows the public to monitor whether there's a pattern of behavior, he said.

"Now, the other problem, though, is if we look at it from the other side, is there an increased risk that a victim is going to suffer negative consequences as a result of a disclosure when that victim is a law enforcement officer that shot somebody?" he questioned. "And I think the answer to that is yes, as well."

Kirchner questioned whether the officers themselves are claiming to be a victim or if departments are applying a blanket rule to police shootings.

Police officers are public servants expected to have greater transparency. Allowing the officers to claim victim status under Marsy's Law could reduce accountability and restrict public disclosure.

"These are all things that are just not answered by Marsy's Law itself by the text of it and are going to be worked out in courts in the future by law enforcement departments, prosecutors, defense attorneys trying to figure out what it really all means," she said.

Kirchner said the lesson to be learned is for the public to know what they're passing when they vote on an amendment because voters may not have been in support of Marsy's Law if they had known it would restrict the rights of the accused and prevent the release of information in police shootings.

"Media groups and nonprofits that are very concerned about open records and things like that - if we rewind three or four years from now, would things be different? I think that had people known how Marsy's Law was going to play out, they may have voted differently."

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6.99 8-20 pk Select Nestle Drumsticks

2/\$5 8 oz Select Crav'n Flavor Appetizers

2.99 32 oz Creamer or 52 oz Planet Oat Oatmilk

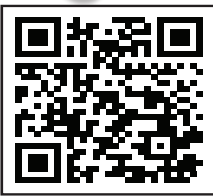
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Calendar of events

Ongoing

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

Wednesday, Sept. 27

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

Hot Diggity Dog Wednesday, 4 p.m., Trinity Lutheran Church, 370 Bowen St.

Friday, Sept. 29

Twelve Pack Tour of Riverside Cemetery, 5 p.m., 1901 Algoma Blvd.

Oshkosh at Night Paddle, 6 p.m., 362 Michigan St.

Uptown, 7:30 p.m., The Grand Oshkosh

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

Saturday, Sept. 30

Oshkosh Farmers Market, 8 a.m., downtown

Alluring Art: Collection Highlights, 1 p.m., Oshkosh Public Museum

UW Oshkosh vs. UW-Whitewater football, Hall of Fame Recognition, 1:05 p.m., Titan Stadium

Star Six Nine, 8 p.m., Revs Bowl Bar & Grill, 275 N Washburn St.

Jane Daugherty book signing: “Shadows in the Night,” 10 a.m., Caramel Crisp Bookstore, 200 City Center

Sunday, Oct. 1

Kip’s Grand Escape, 10 a.m., The Grand Oshkosh

Tuesday, Oct. 3

Time of Your Life Senior Expo, 9 a.m., Oshkosh Convention Center

Haunted Happenings: Ghost Tours, 5 p.m. (through October) The Grand Oshkosh

Wednesday, Oct. 4

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

Hot Diggity Dog Wednesday, 4 p.m., Trinity Lutheran Church, 370 Bowen St.

Thursday, Oct. 5

Trapper Schoepp, 7:30 p.m., The Grand Oshkosh

Friday, Oct. 6

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

Oshkosh Into the Night, 5 p.m., Caramel Crisp & Cafe

Titan Bistro, 7:30 p.m., UW Oshkosh Arts and Communication Building

Saturday, Oct. 7

Oshkosh Farmers Market, 8 a.m., downtown

EAA Space Day, 10 a.m., EAA Aviation Museum

Charlie Biggs outdoor concert: Road Trip, 7:30 p.m., 1429 S. Main St.

Copper Box, 8 p.m., Sometimes at Pioneer Island

Dublin’s Oktoberfest, 11 a.m., Dublin’s Irish Pub, 2070 W. 9th Ave.

Fletch’s Oktoberfest, 3 p.m., Fletch’s Local Tap House, 566 N. Main St.

Sunday, Oct. 8

Fall Craft Show, 10 a.m., Oshkosh Convention Center

Siegmann Family Band, 12:30 p.m., Countryside Christian Church, 1483 Burr Oak Road

Wednesday, Oct. 11

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

Hot Diggity Dog Wednesday, 4 p.m., Trinity Lutheran Church, 370 Bowen St.

Thursday, Oct. 12

Civil War Soiree, 4 p.m., Venue 404, 404 N. Main St.

Spellbound for Literacy, 5 p.m., Oshkosh Convention Center

Friday, Oct. 13

Northeast Wisconsin Gameapalooza, 9 a.m., Culver Welcome Center, 625 Pearl Ave.

Sawdust City Fright Fest, Time Community Theater, 445 N. Main St.

“Buddy Melges, The Wizard of Zenda,” 6 p.m., The Waters, 1393 Washington Ave.

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

Saturday, Oct. 14

Northeast Wisconsin Gameapalooza, 9 a.m., Culver Welcome Center, 625 Pearl Ave.

Sawdust City Fright Fest, Time Community Theater, 445 N. Main St.

Sunday, Oct. 15

Northeast Wisconsin Gameapalooza, 9 a.m., Culver Welcome Center, 625 Pearl Ave.

School facilities

FROM PAGE 1

nance or replacement plans,” Conrad-Peters told the Board of Education at its Sept. 13 meeting. She added that putting the facilities plan in place can avoid costly maintenance costs like the district was dealing with five years ago.

Board member Barbara Herzog gave background on the plan that started in 2017 when the board was notified that both high school athletic tracks needed to be replaced. The tracks had gotten so bad, with cracks throughout the surface, that area schools refused to participate in events at the schools.

Herzog said the board was having these discussions in 2017-18.

“We need to have a long-range plan. We can’t be just reactionary; we have to be proactive and looking long range at the needs,” she said.

“It’s like with your house. If you let repairs go, then you’ve got to replace your roof at the same time as the heating systems and maybe the cracks in the driveway.”

The district set up an advisory committee and then came up with a plan for budget and building needs.

That plan was put into action when the district went to referendum in 2020. The facilities study was conducted along with an enrollment study that will give administrative staff insight on how enrollment might change over the next 10 years.

Another role of the facility plan is to avoid the current situation of having a four-phase plan in place to replace school buildings.

“It’s an ongoing process that has fiscal support, so we can maintain our buildings,” Davis said. The plan is in place to

extend the life of the buildings.”

Conrad-Peters also said that new facilities such as Vel Phillips Middle School have improved service and efficiency within the district, such as staff no longer needing to travel between Merrill and Webster schools.

District officials estimate Vel Phillips will have an operational efficiency savings of about \$609,500 annually. This comes from reducing classroom and support staff positions.

“Sometimes when we think efficiencies, we think of downsizing or reduction, and that’s not it,” Conrad-Peters said. “How can we be efficient and improve our services and facilities for kids?”

Phase two would include consolidating middle and elementary school sites on the city’s west side. The plan could cost upward of \$175 million, including:

- Replace/rebuild South Park Middle School.
- Convert Perry Tipler Middle School into a district professional building.
- Expand Oakwood, Carl Traeger, Franklin Elementary schools to each accommodate 600 students.
- Convert Shapiro STEM Academy into OASD Pre-K Center.
- Close/sell Roosevelt Elementary School.
- Build North High School Performing Arts Center.

Conrad-Peters said the district would be planning to go to referendum in 2025. Davis said the district could be going to the public again in 2029 for operational and capital project referendums.

Phases three and four of the plan include updates and improvements to Oshkosh North and West high schools.

More information on the facilities plan can be found at oshkosh.k12.wi.us/facilities.

Comic book contest winners set to be named

An annual contest honoring a hometown comic book legend is wrapping up its 2023 challenge.

The Mark Gruenwald Comic Book Creation Challenge honors the late Oshkosh native who drew and edited numerous volumes for comic giant Marvel from 1978-1996, including Captain America. Gruenwald served as Marvel’s executive editor from 1987 until his death in 1996.

The challenge tasks individuals and teams to create an original comic that is

judged on originality, artwork, story and character development. There are six age categories for entry, and this year 34 completed comics were submitted.

The program, in its fifth year, is organized by the Winnebago Area Literacy Council, Oshkosh Public Library, House of Heroes and EAA.

The public prize ceremony will take place at the Oshkosh Public Library at 1 p.m. Saturday and the submissions will be put on display.

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Valley Christian tops Montello in four-overtime thriller

By Dustin Riese
HERALD CONTRIBUTOR

Matthias Behling connected with Josiah Lehman for an 18-yard touchdown in the fourth overtime to lead Valley Christian to a 42-36 win over Montello in an 8-player football game Thursday night at Xavier Middle School in Appleton.

The Warriors responded in the extra periods after the Hilltoppers rallied from a 22-6 deficit in the fourth quarter to force overtime.

"I am so proud of the kids for what they accomplished tonight," head coach Dan Birr said. "We faced a ton of adversity and we could have easily let that get in our heads late in the game. We never quit and stayed together despite playing through some unique challenges."

Montello used a late score and two-point conversion pass to force overtime, but neither team could find the end zone in the first two overtime periods.

Valley Christian then struck in the third overtime when Derek Wallace scored from 1-yard out but the conversion failed.

Montello, however, answered with a touchdown but the Valley Christian defense thwarted the two-point conversion play to keep the game tied at 36 and force a fourth overtime.

Valley Christian again surged ahead on the Behling-to-Lehman touchdown pass and this time the defense made the points stand up, stopping Montello on downs to secure the win.

"Wins like this don't happen too often as this is the definition of a character building win," Birr said. "As a coach, I have been in plenty of overtime games and even a few double overtime games. Never in my career



Photo by Jim Koepnick

Valley Christian quarterback Matthias Behling hands the ball to Jackson Martin during last Thursday's win over Montello.

have I been involved in a four-overtime game like tonight. These are the types of games you love to be a part of, but at the same time you hate to see a team lose as Montello played their hearts out."

Dennis Thur opened the scoring for the Warriors with a 46-yard touchdown run in the first quarter, but that and the ensuing two-point conversion were the only

points in the first half for Valley Christian, who led 8-6 at intermission.

Valley Christian got its offense going in the third quarter and regained the lead.

The Warriors' first score came on another Behling to Lehman connection, this time from 19 yards out, while Thur added a five-yard scoring run to give Valley Christian a 16-point lead entering the

final quarter.

"We talked about being more aggressive and getting back to our style of play at the half," Birr said. "Credit the kids for taking that to heart and carrying out what we talked about. They set the tone in that third quarter and we started to look like

SEE **Valley Christian** ON PAGE 21

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Photo by Jim Koepnick

Oshkosh North's Jamare Scott fights for yardage against a pair of Kimberly defenders Friday.

Oshkosh West outlasts Fondy in FVA showdown

Oshkosh Herald

Momentum can have such a strong influence on a volleyball match that once it starts rolling in one direction, it can be difficult to change.

That was a problem for Oshkosh West.

After winning the first two sets against Fond du Lac last Thursday, the Cardinals came back to take the next two to tie the match and grab the momentum heading into a decisive fifth set. But instead of getting rolled over by the Cardinals' surge, the Wildcats were able to turn the tide, win the fifth set and collect a 25-15, 25-22, 19-25, 21-25, 15-10 victory.

Both teams entered the match with a 3-1 conference record and in a logjam behind league-leading Appleton North. With the win, the Wildcats moved into a three-way tie for second place in the conference with Hortonville and Kaukauna. West plays at Kaukauna on Thursday.

Oshkosh West had a chance to end the match in the fourth set as the Wildcats scored three straight points to take a 21-20 lead only to see Fond du Lac rattle off the next five points to take the set and head to the fifth set on a high note.

The Wildcats opened the final set strong getting a kill from Sydnee Nelson, another spike through a block from Maeve Lasky and an ace from Kierstin Martin to grab the early lead. The Wildcats would take a 5-1 advantage only to have the Cardinals rattle off four straight points to even the set.

Instead of buckling, though, the Wildcats took off.

Avery Pakula tallied back-to-back kills to push the Wildcats back in front and then, after a sideout, MaKaelyn Clark serve six straight points to put West in control of the set. Nelson and Pakula each had two kills in the stretch and Josie Berg added a stuff block as the Wildcats took a 13-6 lead and forced a Fond du Lac timeout.

An exchange of missed serves got the Wildcats to match point before the Cardinals scored three straight points to narrow the margin to 14-10. But after a West timeout, Nelson ripped a spike off a Fond du Lac block attempt for the final point to seal the win.

Oshkosh West looked like it might roll to the win at the start as Martin served the first eight points of the match, before a block from Kristin Klatt and kills from Lasky and Pakula gave the Wildcats an 11-1 lead.

Fond du Lac got as close as seven points midway through the match and narrowed the margin to 22-14 late in the set, but a kill from Paige Seckar and two more from Nelson finished off the win.

The Cardinals took their first lead of the night to open the second set but both teams took turns leading early on. Fond du Lac's biggest run came late in the set when the Cardinals scored four straight to take a 22-21 lead.

Nelson's spike through a block

SEE **Volleyball** ON PAGE 21

Prep sports roundup

FOOTBALL

Wildcats fall just short of upsetting Kaukauna

Oshkosh West gave state-ranked Kaukauna all it could handle Friday night – including a 28-point second quarter – but the Ghosts registered the final touchdown and were able to edge the Wildcats 42-35.

Chase Brandl ran for two touchdowns and threw for another to lead the Oshkosh West offense, which put up more than 320 yards in the game. His 22-yard touchdown run late in the second quarter sent the Wildcats into halftime with a 28-21 lead.

Jaiden Fronczak and Jake Balog also had touchdown runs in the second quarter, while Brandl and Jeevan Ambati connected on a 32-yard touchdown pass.

Kaukauna, which was ranked fifth in Division 2 entering the game, regained the lead in the third quarter with a pair of touchdowns before West tied the game early in the fourth quarter on a 14-yard run by Brandl.

The Ghosts, however, answered with a 73-yard touchdown pass to break the tie and held on for the win.

Brandl finished 10-of-20 for 135 yards and added a team-high 89 yards on the

ground. Balog and Fronczak combined for 87 yards rushing. Ambati led the Wildcat receivers with five catches for 108 yards.

Defensively, West was led by Isaiah Koepfen with 11 tackles, while Zach Bartels finished with seven.

Oshkosh West will host Appleton East in its annual homecoming game at 7 p.m. Friday on its new turf field on campus.

Powerhouse Kimberly too much for North

Second-ranked Kimberly scored 27 points in the first quarter, Oshkosh North trailed 41-0 at halftime in a 48-13 loss to the Papermakers on Friday night.

The Spartans scored a pair of second-half touchdowns in the game, getting a 75-yard touchdown run from Jamare Scott and a touchdown pass from Bryce Ott to Pahlavan Senam.

Scott finished with 110 yards on nine carries, while Ott was 5-of-9 for 81 yards. Senam led the team with three receptions for 47 yards, while Dalton Clark finished with 53 yards of total offense.

Defensively, Liam Murphy led the team with nine tackles, while Roy Freeman added six.

SEE **Prep roundup** ON PAGE 19

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West's Salzer aims to make fourth appearance at state

By Tim Froberg
HERALD CONTRIBUTOR

Carly Salzer is a skilled, self-motivated swimmer who makes the difficult 100-meter butterfly race look like a casual paddle.

Relays, though, are what really gets Salzer's heart thumping.

Salzer always seems to hit her highest gear in the four-person events and has been a key part of seven Oshkosh West relay teams that have competed at the WIAA Division 1 state swimming and diving meet the last three years.



Salzer

Salzer, a team captain and one of the area's best all-around swimmers, will look to make her fourth consecutive state meet appearance later this fall.

A year ago, Salzer competed in four state events: the 100 fly along with the 200 and 400 free relays and the 200 medley relay. She finished among the top 25 in all four. Salzer swam the anchor leg on the 200 free relay and leadoff on the 400 free relay.

As a sophomore, Salzer swam at state in the 200 medley and 200 free relay teams, placing 15th in both. Her most memorable state performance came her freshman year when she teamed with her sister, Claire, along with Lillie Arps and Addie Hirsbrunner to claim a medal with a sixth-place finish (1:49.32). Carly also took 15th in the 100 fly (59.83) and the Salzer sisters were part of a 200 free relay that placed 13th.

"Carly has made a huge impact on our team since her freshman year," said West

Senior spotlight

coach Kelly Wayne. "She's a great leader and has been putting in a lot of work in the weight room, so she's stronger than ever. We're excited to see what her senior season brings."

Salzer is hoping that 2023 will bring another state medal. She's a good bet to return to state in the 100 fly and possibly the 200 IM along with the relays. Salzer's name can be found on the Wildcats' record board as a member of two record-setting West relay teams.

"The 200 fly is probably my best race, but I just love the relays," said Salzer. "They're just so much more energetic. In a relay, you have all your teammates cheering you on. It's just makes for a more exciting atmosphere."

Perhaps the highlight of Carly's career was getting the opportunity to swim with Claire on West relays her freshman and sophomore years. Claire is now swimming collegiately at St. Cloud University in Minnesota.

"It's crazy being a part of only two or three sibling duos on the record board at West," Carly said. "It was so nice to have Claire there with me, because it was something we grew up doing together. I loved swimming with her. It was great to be able to get up on the podium with her at state my freshman year."

Carly and Claire began swimming during their early years in elementary school.

"My mom (Lori) ran track in high school and my dad (Mike) did all kinds of sports, but neither were swimmers," Carly said. "When we first moved into our



Submitted photo

Oshkosh West senior Carly Salzer is a three-time state qualifier for the Wildcats and is one of the leaders on the squad this season.

house, our neighbors were on the swim team and they encouraged us to try it. We both did different strokes. I'm a butterfly and Claire did the breaststroke, but there were times in high school when we'd compete against each other in the 200 IM and that was a lot of fun. We'd go back and forth in terms of beating one another."

The Salzer sisters swam year-round, competing in club swimming for years on the OSHY Dolphins swim team.

"Oh gosh, we were not naturals," Carly said. "Claire and I were not that good early on. We were actually some of the worst ones there. But once we started growing up, we began pushing each other more. We both worked so hard to get where we are."

Carly is trying something different in 2023. For the first time in years, she didn't compete in club swimming.

"I think I had a little bit of burnout because I had been in club swimming for 13 years," Carly said. "I took about nine months off. I've noticed that I have more energy throughout the day. I'm excited to be able to be able to live my life without having to practice every night year-round."

Salzer makes a splash in both the pool and classroom. She's a high-honors student who carries an exceptional 3.99 grade-point average. Salzer will attend college next fall and plans to major in bio-medical engineering. The University

SEE **Senior spotlight** ON PAGE 21

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Prep roundup

FROM PAGE 17

Powerhouse Bluejays tackle Knights

Lourdes Academy was dealt its first Trailways Conference loss of the season as conference-leading Johnson Creek handed the Knights a 43-0 defeat Friday.

The Knights were held to just 80 yards of total offense by the Bluejays, who have scored 215 points in its first four conference games.

Wade Lindahl finished 14-of-21 for 78 yards, while Dominic Bauer led the Knights with five catches for 40 yards.

Brady Ridenour and Max Behnke each had seven tackles to lead the Knights.

SOCCER

Rucinski's hat trick boosts Knights to win

Isaak Rucinski tallied a hat trick and Lourdes Academy remained undefeated in Flyway Conference play with a convincing 6-1 win over Campbellsport last week.

Rucinski scored both goals in the first half as the Knights took a 2-0 lead at intermission, while he picked up his third goal to complete the hat trick early in the second half to push the lead to 4-0.

Kaleb Richardson added a pair of goals in the second half and Matthew Loker capped the scoring with about six minutes left in the match. Loker also added an assist in the game along with Caden Anderson and Quin Ruark.

Will Loker made six saves in the win for the Knights, who improved to 6-0-1 in Flyway Conference play and 9-1-2 overall.

West, North post conference wins

Oshkosh West and Oshkosh North each collected FVA wins last Thursday.

The Wildcats scored a 1-0 win over Appleton North to remain atop the conference standings. West improved to 6-1-0 in the FVA and 7-3-2 overall.

The Spartans collected a 5-1 win over Kaukauna.

Individual results were not available for either match.

VOLLEYBALL

Oshkosh West takes fifth at Pewaukee invite

The Wildcats finished 3-2 to claim the silver bracket championship – fifth place overall – at the Pewaukee Invitational.

West opened the tournament with a win over Greendale before suffering losses to

Muskego and Pewaukee. The Wildcats then lost the first set to Wauwatosa East but rallied for a three-set win and then finished things off by beating Neenah.

Sydnee Nelson led the Wildcats with 30 kills on the tournament with Maeve Lasky and Kristin Klatt adding 19 and 17, respectively.

Kierstin Martin led West with 45 assists and 10 aces, while MaKaelyn Clark followed with 39 assists and Avery Pakula added six aces.

Defensively, Paige Seckar totaled 8.5 blocks in the tournament and Elaina Butz finished with 45 digs.

Valley Christian drops non-league match

The Warriors came up short in a non-conference match against Berlin on Friday, falling to the Indians 25-18, 25-14, 25-22.

Stella Wright finished with eight kills to lead the Warriors followed by Anna E. Giannopoulos with six kills and Anna Y. Giannopoulos with five.

Maliha Demler posted a team-high 19 assists, while Katie Wallace finished with 15 digs.

Earlier in the week, the Warriors rolled past Hustisford 25-16, 25-10, 25-16.

Anna Y. Giannopoulos finished with 13 kills, with Wright adding 10 kills and Lizzie Fink finishing with eight. Demler totaled 37 assists, while Aubryn Lehman and Anna Y. Gianopoulos each had four aces. Lehman also led the team with nine aces.

Lourdes Academy nets win over Wayland

The Knights easily dispatched the Big Red in a Trailways match last week, 25-12, 25-9, 25-16.

Anika Leitch had nine kills and Sabur Machiros had seven to lead the Knights, while Celia Ralofsky finished with 30 assists and nine aces.

Reagan Jaber led the team with 14 digs.

TENNIS

Doubles sweep keys Knights victory

Lourdes Academy won all three doubles matches to bolster a 4-3 win over Menasha in a dual meet Thursday.

Melanie Tushar and Siya Pharma won at No. 1 doubles, while Avery Halla and Monse Luquin posted a win at the No. 2 flight. Anika Wellens and Jasmine Saiyed completed the sweep at No. 3 doubles, with all three victories coming in straight sets.

The Knights also got a victory from Sasha Quandt at No. 1 singles as Quandt won her match without dropping a game.

CROSS COUNTRY

Oshkosh West boys take fifth at Manitowoc

With three runners in the top 25 the Oshkosh West boys finished fifth among 18 teams at the Len Nikolai Invitational hosted by Manitowoc Lincoln on Saturday.

Delson Troedel led the Wildcats with a 20th-place finish, while Jerry Sowers and Celso Collins, placed 23rd and 24th, respectively. Carter Crowe in 34th place and Preston Bokath in 56th place, rounded out the scoring runners for the Wildcats.

The girls finished ninth as a team and were led by Abby Tercha in 25th place. Rowen Stellpflug was the next West finisher in 47th place, while Kate Elliot was 67th.

Moore leads Lourdes Academy at invitational

Erin Moore scored a top-10 finish to lead the Lourdes Academy girls cross country team at the Rosholt Invitational on Saturday.

Moore placed eighth among the 120 runners in the field to pace the Knights. Dasha Averkamp was the next Lourdes runner to finish in 37th place, followed by Annie Moore in 63rd place.

The Knights finished 11th overall in the team standings.

Valley Christian also participated in the event and placed 16th.

Mya Moran led the Warriors in 29th place while McKenzie Murphy was the next Valley Christian finisher in 67th.

On the boys side, Valley Christian's Jonah Menet was the top area finisher in 45th place, while teammate Michael Roberts was 65th.

For Lourdes Academy, which placed 15th in the team standings Henry Span-

bauer led the way in 61st place, with Joshua Rucinski placing 77th.

GOLF

North edged West for ninth place at FVA meet

Oshkosh North finished 23 shots ahead of rival Oshkosh West to place ninth at the Fox Valley Association meet held last week at Chaska Golf Course.

The Spartans shot a 424, while the Wildcats finished with a 447.

Oshkosh North's Jena Von Holzen turned in the lowest score for either team with a 83, while teammate Maggie Lynch finished with a 97.

Lyla Wesenberg and Hailey Hammen led West as each carded a 110.

SWIMMING

Dietschweiler leads North/Lourdes

Kristin Dietschweiler posted a pair of top five finishes to lead the Oshkosh North/Lourdes swim team at the Neenah Invitational on Saturday.

Dietschweiler finished third in the 200-yard freestyle and placed fourth in the 100-yard butterfly to lead the squad, which placed seventh among the nine teams at the meet.

The Spartans strongest event was the 100-yard backstroke where Addison Perzentka finished seventh and Grace Penzenstadler took eighth for North/Lourdes. The team also got a top-10 finish in the 100-yard breaststroke from Ashlynn Anderson, who placed 10th.

The best finish in a relay for North/Lourdes was the 400-yard freestyle relay quartet of Penzenstadler, Lucy Schade, Perzentka and Dietschweiler, who placed sixth.



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What's a Reporter?

Reporters, also called journalists, gather facts to tell people what is happening.

Some reporters work for newspapers. Some work for online news. Some work for television news or radio news. There are many ways to be a reporter.

PAGE 2A

Fairyland Morning Post

SHOE FOUND: PRINCE SEARCHES FOR OWNER

By I.B. Curious
 STAFF WRITER



His majesty Prince Kevin III.

Captain Turret revealed that Prince Kevin III discovered a single glass slipper on the staircase moments later.

"His majesty has declared that he will lead the search to find the young woman, visiting every house in the kingdom to find the woman whose foot fits this tiny shoe," said Turret.

"Prince Kevin III met a young woman last evening at the Royal Ball," said Captain Turret. "His majesty wished to ask her out on a date. But the young woman suddenly ran off, just as the clock struck midnight."

Several guests reported seeing the mysterious woman speeding off in a beautiful, golden coach pulled by a team of white horses. Dozens of witnesses said that she appeared to be wearing only one sparkling shoe.

An official announcement from the Prince's assistant requested that anyone with any information about the identity or location of the unknown woman contact the nearest Palace guard immediately.

Your News Report

Follow the steps below to write a news report about an event in your classroom, at your school, or in your neighborhood.

STEP 1

Pick something to report about. It should be about an upcoming event. Answer each of the following questions about the event.

1. What is happening?
2. When will it happen?
3. Where will it happen?
4. Why will it happen?

STEP 2

Ask people about this event. Write down what they say. You might find a way to include a quote from one or more in your news report.

STEP 3

Use your notes to write a report about the event. Fill in the blanks or write it on another piece of paper.

_____ announced that _____
WHO WHAT

will be happening at the _____
WHERE

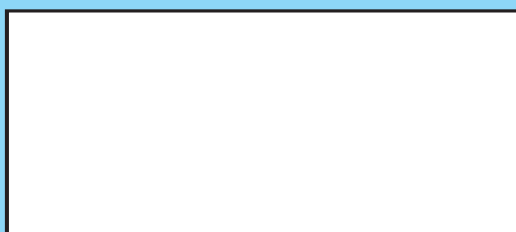
on _____ said, "
WHEN (DAY OR DATE) WHO

QUOTE SHOULD BE ABOUT WHY THE EVENT IS HAPPENING

STEP 4

Draw a picture or take a picture.

Below the picture, write a caption telling who or what is in the picture.



Extra! Extra! Fact Check

Real news articles report on facts. Look through a page of a newspaper. Underline facts in green. Circle opinions in red.

Standards Link: Reading Comprehension: Follow written instructions.

5. Who is involved?
6. Add additional facts or details.

Kid Scoop Puzzler

Matching Glass Slippers

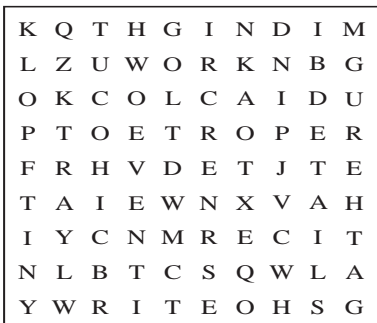
Can you match each pair of glass slippers in under two minutes?



Double Double Word Search

- CLOCK
- DETAILS
- EVENT
- FACT
- GATHER
- MIDNIGHT
- NEWS
- PRINCE
- QUOTE
- RAN
- REPORT
- SHOE
- TINY
- WORK
- WRITE

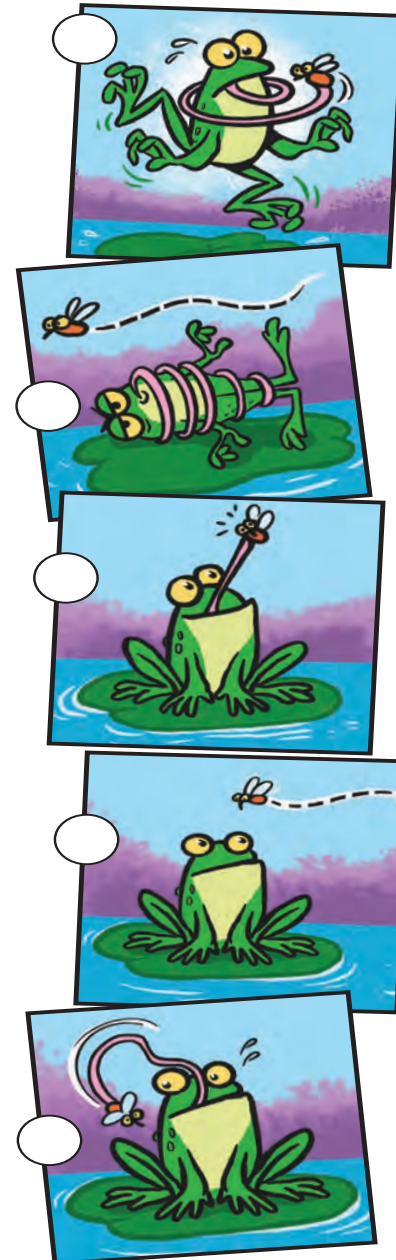
Find the words in the puzzle. How many of them can you find on this page?



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

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Titans, Warhawks set to collide in WIAC opener

Two of the top football programs in the Wisconsin Intercollegiate Athletic Conference will collide on JJ Keller Field at Titan Stadium on Saturday afternoon. Kickoff is slated for 1 p.m.

The 20th-ranked UW Oshkosh Titans will welcome in fourth-ranked and defending conference champion UW-Whitewater in a crucial contest for both teams in the first week of the WIAC season.

Oshkosh and Whitewater are two of the

four WIAC teams ranked in this week's NCAA Division III poll joining UW-River Falls (No. 9) and UW-La Crosse (No. 13). The winner of Saturday's game will have a leg up on the rest of the league having already dispatched one of the ranked foes.

The Titans (2-1) are coming off a 60-7 dismantling of East Texas Baptist University, which saw the team rack up 476 yards of offense with seven different players scoring a touchdown.

kill in the Wildcats' balanced attack. Nelson also led the team with four aces, while Martin finished with three.

Martin also added a team-high 23 assists, while Clark added 16.

Defensively, Lasky had three blocks and Klatt finished with two, while libero Elaina Butz finished with a team-high 30 digs. Martin chipped in 15 digs, while Clark and Nelson each had 11.

Talented quarterback Kobe Berghammer threw for 221 yards and five touchdowns in the win, while Tony Steger and Kaio Harn each had a rushing and receiving touchdown for the Titans.

Berghammer has already thrown for 791 yards and 14 touchdowns in three games, while completing better than 63 percent of his passes. He is also the team's leading rusher.

Trae Tezloff, Steger and Clayton Schwalbe are the Titans leading receivers with a combined 35 catches for 503 yards and 10 touchdowns.

Defensively, the Titans held ETBU to less than 150 yards of offense, while registering seven sacks and two interceptions. Kyle Dietzen led the team with 11

tackles.

The Warhawks enter the game with a 3-0 record having disposed of three ranked teams in John Carroll University, St. John's and Mary Hardin-Baylor, two of which were on the road. Whitewater beat UMHB 17-14 in Texas on Sept. 16, led by running back Tamir Thomas who finished with 111 yards and a pair of scores.

Whitewater leads the series between the two teams 79-30-5 and has won the last two meetings between the two schools. The Titans last win in the series came in 2019 when UW Oshkosh posted a 27-20 win at home.

UW Oshkosh head coach Peter Jennings was formerly a member of the Whitewater coaching staff.

Volleyball

FROM PAGE 17

stemmed the tide and she finished off the set with two more kills as Oshkosh West had its 2-0 lead.

Pakula finished with 17 kills to lead the Wildcats, while Nelson added 15. Seven players finished with at least one

Senior spotlight

FROM PAGE 18

of Wisconsin-Eau Claire and UW-Stevens Point are among the schools she's considering.

"I've always been really interested in the medical field and have always been good with numbers," she said. "Bio-medical engineering allows me to merge that biology focus with math. I want to be a dermatologist."

Salzer is a member of Academy for Global Studies at West, a program for top students that merges some traditional

studies with different language-learning and cultural enrichment opportunities to promote greater global awareness and connect students with others across the world. The program allows students to study abroad and experience different cultures in countries like Spain and Portugal.

"It's helped me have a greater view of what the world is like," Salzer said. "It gave me an opportunity last year to spend three weeks in Portugal. It was amazing because I've never been the most socially outgoing person. To go to a foreign country where I didn't know anyone helped me break out of my shell and explore new things, while also learning about the culture there."

and Wallace (30-119) combined for 266 yards and four touchdowns to fuel the Warriors.

Behling finished 7-of-12 for 85 yards and a pair of scores, while Lehman had both touchdown catches among his five for the game and finished with 71 yards receiving.

Caedmon Golackson led the Warrior defense with 15 tackles and two interceptions, while Lehman and Wallace added 13 and 11 tackles, respectively.

The next three games will be on the road for Valley Christian as it travels to Owen-Withee on Thursday, followed by treks to Abundant Life/St. Ambrose and Elkhart Lake-Glenbeulah.

Valley Christian

FROM PAGE 16

the physical team we know we can be."

Montello, in its first year playing 8-player football, answered in the fourth quarter with a pair of quick touchdowns to tie the game at 22.

Wallace then capped a Valley Christian drive with a one-yard touchdown plunge to pull back in front.

Montello, though, had the answer and pulled back even before the end of regulation setting the stage for the overtime drama.

It was a big night on the ground for the Warriors as Thur (32 carries-150 yards)



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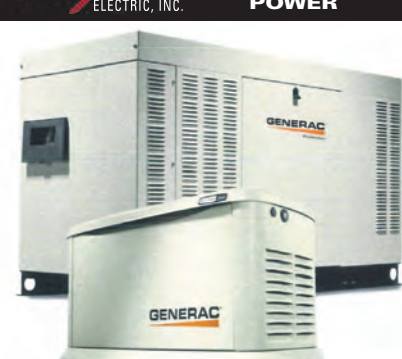
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Obituaries

Mark A. Grunwald

Mark A. Grunwald, also known to many as "Grundy", passed away unexpectedly on September 8, 2023, at home.



Mark was dedicated to his work, and with the help of his wife Susie, created a community- and customer-focused business with Mark and Susie's Piggly Wiggly which they retired last year.

Mark is survived by his wife, Susie, daughters Sara (Aaron Zakowski) Grunwald and Jennifer Grunwald, son Michael (Larissa) Grunwald, grandson Eli and granddaughter Gemma, brothers Tom

(Diane) Grunwald and Tim Grunwald, sister-in-law Christine Grunwald, nephews Eric (Cheryl) Grunwald and Nathan (Taegan) Grunwald, and niece Jill (Carlos) Talbot. He was preceded in death by his parents, brother Jerry, and nephew Matthew.

A celebration of life will be held at Konrad-Behlman Funeral Home, 100 Lake Pointe Drive in Oshkosh, from 11am-2pm on Sunday, October 1, 2023. Stop by anytime, wearing your Milwaukee Brewers attire. In lieu of flowers, monetary or food donations in Mark's name can be made to the Oshkosh Area Community Pantry.



James B. Kraemer

James (Jim) B. Kraemer, 69, of Oshkosh, went to be with the Lord on September 22, 2023 after a long, hard fought battle with cancer.



Jim was born on March 11, 1954 to Virgil and June Kraemer in West Bend, Wisconsin. After Jim graduated from Ozaukee High School in 1972, he went on to earn his technical degree from Gateway Technical College which helped propel his 46 year career in aviation maintenance.

He met the love of his life, Debra A. Parman, in 1977 through good friends. Jim and Debbie went on to have two fabulous children, Katie (Ben) Schlueter of Dousman & Rob (Andrea) Kraemer of Oshkosh. Jim was also the very proud grandfather of six beautiful grandchildren: Owen (15), Sam (13), Tenley (11), Easton (9), Emersyn (7), & Oaklyn (4).

Jim worked as an aircraft mechanic at Basler Flight Service from 1974-1988, MaxAir from 1988 - 2010, and PACC Air from 2010 - 2020. In March 2020, Jim retired from PACC Air, and spent his precious few retirement years traveling with his family and friends, riding his E-bike, camping, and catching up on Star Trek episodes. Early on, Jim enjoyed playing on local softball and dartball teams in the area. Later in life he logged countless hours as the number one fan of his grand-

children watching them golf, dance, wrestle, play baseball, soccer, and football.

Jim loved to help people and fix things. He was always there to help troubleshoot a computer glitch, car malfunction, or general repair issue. He took pride in knowing that if it was broken, he could figure out a way to fix it. He was devastated that the professionals just couldn't figure out a way to fix him before the cancer took over. Our hearts are broken forever, and we will be lost without our "fixer".

Jim was preceded in death by his father Virgil. He is survived by his mother June, brother Dick (Jenny), as well as many family members and friends whom he loved so much.

Services will be held at Emmanuel UCC in Oshkosh on Thursday, September 28, 2023. A visitation will be held from 9 am - 11 am, with a memorial service following at 11:15 am. In lieu of flowers, Jim requested donations be made to The Melanoma Research Alliance or Kathy's House. Kathy's House is a guest house in Wauwatosa that serves guests who are receiving care at all area hospitals. Jim & Debbie were welcomed at this amazing place with open arms during the course of his treatment.

The family would like to give a very special thank you to Dr. Amy Harker-Murray and her team at The Froedtert Hope Clinic and the nursing staff at Aurora Hospital in Oshkosh.



Karen Kathryn Arreola

Karen Kathryn Arreola, age 73, passed away at Omro Care Center on Thursday, September 21, 2023.



She was born in Oshkosh to the late Raymond and Dolores (Klier) Weitz. She was united in marriage to Edgar Arreola on September 7, 1990.

Karen is survived by her husband Edgar Arreola; two children: Eric (Karla) Fledderman, Stephanie Fledderman; six grandchildren: Isaiah Gray, Noah, Jonah, Charles, Ellis and Lucia Fled-

derman; siblings: Ronald Weitz and JoAnn (Rick) Boehning; and niece, Becky (Gregg) Sitter. She was preceded in death by her parents Raymond and Dolores Weitz.

The family would like to thank Promedica Hospice, especially nurses Jane and Jody and the Omro Care nurses for the care and compassion shown to Karen.

A memorial service will take place at 2:00 pm on Saturday, September 30, 2023, at Lake View Memorial Park in the chapel, 2786 Algoma Blvd, Oshkosh. Visitation will take place on Saturday in the chapel from 1:00 pm until the time of service.



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Obituaries

Janice Ann Holtz

It is with great sadness that the family of Janice "Jan" Ann Holtz, age 62, announces that she passed away unexpectedly on September 20th, 2023, at Aurora St Luke's Medical Center in Milwaukee. She was born December 29th, 1959, in Oshkosh, Wisconsin. She was the youngest child of the late Carl and Loretta (Fretschel) Lippold.



Jan loved to plant flowers, work in her vegetable garden, sit outside, watch the dogs run in the backyard, and just enjoy time with her family. Anytime her two sons, Brian and Tim were together, they would always reminisce about stories from when they were younger, and she would just laugh until there were tears in

her eyes (or streaming down her face). Jan also loved her breakfast and lunch dates with her childhood friends, Wanda, and Tracy; she always looked forward to seeing them.

Jan was always up for a car ride, whether it was to go watch a baseball game, get an ice cream cone at Lamers, or drive through the park. She also enjoyed taking part in the Walk for the Animals every September.

Jan worked as a radiologic technologist for Aurora in Oshkosh, as well as Open MRI. But her favorite job was being a grandma and caring for her two grandsons every day; she loved coming over to their home, waking them every morning, taking them to school, and just spending time with them during the day. She shared those boys were the best part of her day.

Jan was strong and brave, despite whatever life threw at her, she persevered. She

will be missed greatly by her family and friends.

She is survived by her husband of 42 years, Paul; sons Brian (Melissa) and Tim (Meghan) and their two children, Conner and Keston. In addition to her parents, Jan was preceded in death by her stepfather, Kenneth "Ken" Witzke; brother, Gerald "Jerry" Lippold; father-in-law, Donald "Don" Holtz and mother-in-law, Nancy Holtz.

A funeral service for Jan will be held at 11:00 am on Thursday, September 28, 2023, at Konrad-Behlman Funeral Home-Westside, 100 Lake Pointe Drive. Visitation will be held at the funeral home from 9:00 am until the time of the service.

A special thank you to the transplant team, cardiac, and cardiac ICU staff at Aurora St Luke's Medical Center.

The Holtz family welcomes donations to either the Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation (JDRF) and the Oshkosh Area Humane Society (OAHS) as an ex-

pression of sympathy instead of flowers and plants.



Mark A. Dlugolenski

Mark A. Dlugolenski, "Dugo", age 64, of Oshkosh, passed away at his home on Tuesday, May 30, 2023 from natural causes. A celebration of life for "Dugo" Mark Dlugolenski will be held on Saturday, September 30th from 1 pm until 4 pm at Nigl's Chieftain, 556 W. 9th Avenue



in Oshkosh. Come help us celebrate the life of our Brother, Uncle and God Father Mark. His family hopes that you will come and share stories from Lourdes, rugby and hunting and fishing days.

James R. Oppermann

James R. Oppermann, age 55, passed away at his residence on Monday, September 18, 2023. He was born to the late Lynn Oppermann and Carol (Hinz) Smidl on November 24, 1967, in Oshkosh, WI.



Jim worked at Michels Corporation for 27 years as an operator engineer.

Jim enjoyed spending time with his family and friends. He was the highlight of the party. He loved fishing, hunting, and watching his races on tv. Jim loved his grandchildren very much. He had a passion for grilling and fish fries.

Jim was married for 16 years to Lori Oppermann the mother of his stepchildren.

Jim is survived by his children, Elizabeth Meyers, Zach Sitter, Leah Waters, and Tyler Deiss; grandchildren, Carter, Manny, Zamora, and Lilah; siblings, Scott (Kerry) Oppermann, and Michele (David) Laabs. He was also survived by a special friend Michelle Smits. He also had a dog named Little Bastard who he loved dearly. They were inseparable.

A celebration of life will be held from 1:00 pm until 6:00 pm on Saturday, October 28, 2023, at the Elks Lodge, 175 W Fernau Ave, Oshkosh.

Thank you to everyone for your kind words and thoughts.



and many nieces and nephews. She was preceded in death by her husband, Kenneth Wolf, son Daniel Wolf, sisters, Esther Park, Clara Esser, Elsie Spatt, Betty Schertz and brother Douglas Stahle.

Ruth was an incredible cook and homemaker. She loved to garden, shop for antiques and decorate her home.

We would like to thank Sharehaven and Hospice for all their wonderful care and kindness.

Services will be held at Seefeld Funeral Home, 1025 Oregon, Oshkosh, WI 54902 on Friday, September 29, 2023 with visitation held from 10AM until 11:30AM and service to follow. Burial will take place at Riverside Cemetery.



Ruth May Wolf

Ruth May Wolf, age 92, passed away on September 22, 2023.



She was born in Oshkosh on November 4, 1930, the daughter of Jacob and Catherine (Lang) Stahle. She married Kenneth Wolf on Jan 13, 1951.

Ruth is survived by two sons, Patrick (Cynthia) Wolf and Kurt Wolf, grandchildren, Abby (Joey) Chiovaro of Palmetto, FL, Tara Magedanz (Dave) of Neenah, WI, Adam Wolf (Allie) of Washington DC, and great granddaughter, Avery Chiovaro of Palmetto, FL. She is also survived by her sister, Jean Leonard of Oshkosh, brother Leroy (Patsy) Stahle of Ripon, WI

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Students learn research skills while combating algae

By Natalie Johnson
UW OSHKOSH TODAY

Ten student researchers learned how to collect data while discovering the value of a multidisciplinary approach to tackling a serious ecological issue this summer as part of the University of Wisconsin Oshkosh's Winnebago Pool Lakes Harmful Algal Blooms Project. The endeavor is funded by a \$1.6 million National Science Foundation grant.

Throughout the summer, students collected the majority of the biophysical and social science data for harmful algal blooms (HAB) project.

"This information will allow us to answer questions about the factors influencing blooms and what the public thinks about them, which we will use to inform education, outreach and, hopefully, policy to help address the issue," Spehar said. "We are working with a community partner, Fox-Wolf Watershed Alliance, to help ensure that our findings reach a broad range of stakeholders."

As a UWO student researcher, Frances (Frankie) Kerkhoff, a senior anthropology major from Oshkosh, collected

ethnographic and biophysical data and analyzed samples and toxicity levels from the Lake Winnebago Pool System. She also helped create promotional and educational materials to engage the public in the project.

"Being part of a truly interdisciplinary project is rare for undergraduate students. I am grateful to have first-hand experience working on such an important project for the community. Every day was a learning experience," she said.

When talking with people who actively use the water system, Kerkhoff was struck by how deeply people care about the environment they live in.

"HABs aren't only unique to the Winnebago Pool System, but something that affects people around the world," she said. "Hopefully, the research done on this lake system will also help people understand them globally as well as locally."

Biology major Diana Koehler, a junior from Appleton, conducted interviews with the public and collected and analyzed water samples as well. She valued the experience of working with multiple professors from a range of backgrounds.



Photo from UW Oshkosh Today

Student researchers earned some real-life experience combating algae growth as part of the Winnebago Pool Lakes Harmful Algal Blooms Project last summer.

Altrusa Club plans for Quarter Rama

Altrusa Club of Oshkosh will have its Quarter Rama fundraiser at LaSure's Banquet Hall from 9:30 a.m. until 2 p.m. Oct. 13.

Event tickets for \$26 must be purchased in advance at Travel Leaders, West Pointe Bank or from Oshkosh Altrusa members. Reserved tables for six or eight are available. Admission includes a brunch that will be served at 10:30 a.m. and one pad-

dle for bidding that begins at 11:30 a.m. Additional paddles are available for purchase.

There will be a variety of items for bidding such as sports baskets, painted glass, jewelry, food and/or wine and liquor baskets, a charter fishing trip and holiday items.

Proceeds benefit Oshkosh area non-profits and programs.

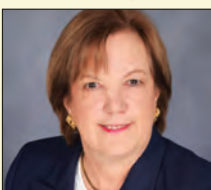
"I think it was a very eye-opening experience, and it felt good to be helping gather data that can be used for future sustainability efforts," Koehler said. "My favorite part of this project was getting to form bonds with so many likeminded people. There is nothing better than doing good things with good people."

No matter where the students are headed in their careers, Spehar is certain they'll make good use of all that they learned this summer.

"Students are getting to take all the

things they've learned in the classroom—theories and different perspectives on issues, disciplinary knowledge about how the world works, research—and apply them to a real, tangible problem," she said. "The students grew so much, not only in their more research skills but in their ability to solve problems, work with others, interface with people from all sorts of different backgrounds, work independently, and to manage a complex project from start to finish."

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Light Breakfast Served From 9-10am



FREE HEALTH SCREENINGS
Flu & Vaccine Clinic by **Walgreens** | Hearing Screening by **Fox Valley Hearing Center, Inc.**

SEMINARS

10AM

Discovering Hope and Relief for Neuropathy

Dr. Eric Koehler, DPT, FAAOMPT
Physical Achievement Center, Oshkosh

Empowering the Working Caregiver

Quinta Caylor, RN-BSN, CCM Owner,
The Homie Hub: Adult Day Care

12PM

The A, B, C, and D's of Medicare

Brian Leonhardt, Vizance Insurance,
Oshkosh

Changing Relationships With Dementia

Sheri Fairman, Dementia Care Solutions

11AM

What Seniors Should Know about Estate Planning and Long-Term Care

Atty. Abigail J. Plankey,
Hooper Law Office

The Dreaded Downsize

Leah Helms, Patriot Partners Removal & Annette Hetrick, Acre Realty, Owners

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