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INSIDE



Spartan victory
North beats Kaukauna
in early FVA matchup
Page 18

Funding help
County approves
ARPA distributions
Page 4



Photo by Michael Cooney

Season's greetings

Downtown Oshkosh's tree lighting ceremony and holiday parade highlighted activities centered around Opera House Square on Thursday night. The community Christmas tree is in its second year and growing.

Annexation leads to big street bills

Some assessments called 'totally insane'

By Jonathan Richie
OSHKOSH HERALD

Residents formerly in the Town of Algoma and now living in the recently annexed section of the city voiced their opposition to the special assessments they've been given as the city plans to install water and sewer lines on Clairville Road.

The special assessments are for 12 land parcels on Clairville from State 91 to West 20th Avenue. The public works project includes installing the main line and laterals for water, sanitary sewer and storm sewer. The project includes concrete pavement, asphalt pavement and driveway aprons as part of the construction project.

Public Works director James Rabe said when a property is annexed into the city it is policy to hook those properties up to the city sewer lines. It is often the same with water, but if a property uses a water well they can continue using that well water, but all properties need to be connected to the public sewer.

"This assessment is totally insane," said Steve Foust, who lives on Clairville Road.

Foust explained the properties on Clairville have state-approved water and sanitary sewer already. He said he expects his water bill and sanitary sewer bills to triple in costs after the switch.

SEE **Assessments** ON PAGE 12

New public library director puts focus on Oshkosh

Regional leadership role ends with selection

By Jonathan Richie
OSHKOSH HERALD

The Oshkosh Public Library will have a new director next year.

Darryl Eschete will begin his new role Jan. 15 and comes to Oshkosh from Iowa, where he has served as director at West Des Moines Public Library since 2012.

"I'm very grateful to the Oshkosh Public Library Board and the city of Oshkosh for trusting me with their library, which, to me, is like a town's heart," Eschete said. "I hope and expect that we will all make a most productive and effective team for

this beautiful city and that we will serve the citizens with focus and creativity."

The library's board of trustees met to confirm the decision last week after discussing the position Nov. 16 when three finalists gave presentations on how they would serve as director.

Jeff Gilderson-Duwe served as director of the library and Winnefox Library System for 18 years. The positions have been separated and now the Oshkosh director will focus his attention on the city's library.

The board of trustees set up a director



Eschete

selection committee and worked with Bradbury Miller Associates to help with the search after Gilderson-Duwe announced his retirement in May. During the interim period assistant library directors Ruth Percy and Lisa Sumter Voss served as co-directors.

Baron Perlman served on the search committee and told the Herald the committee went from 17 candidates down seven then to three finalists. On Nov. 15, the three were asked to give 30-minute presentations to the library board and members of the public.

Perlman said the board was unanimous in its decision to pick Eschete. He added that the Oshkosh and West Des Moines communities are similar in size and library

needs.

"The board was unanimous when we met to consider three finalists after their talks and meeting with us. It was a closed ballot that he was the best fit and the candidate best positioned to lead us forward," Perlman said.

Board president Bill Bracken, who also served on the selection committee, noted Eschete formerly worked as the director of the Chippewa Falls Public Library and is knowledgeable on Wisconsin statute as it pertains to library operations.

"Darryl has an impressive track record of putting patrons first and finding innovative ways to connect with the commu-

SEE **Library director** ON PAGE 26

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Corrections

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Changing temperatures make ice unpredictable

Oshkosh Herald

The public is being reminded to practice ice safety on all area and Wisconsin waterbodies as early ice is forming.

Frigid overnight temperatures often leave a thin layer of ice across smaller bodies of water, which the state Department of Natural Resources warns is not strong enough to support the weight of a person or machine.

"After we have these first cold nights, we start to see the early ice forming. It may look solid to the naked eye, but it's not," said Lt. Jacob Holsclaw, DNR off-highway vehicle administrator. "There can be cracks and changes in the ice thickness that you won't see until it's too late."

Temperature swings, strong winds, currents, underground springs feeding lakes and rivers vary widely across Wisconsin, and even across a given lake or river. These factors and more are why no ice is ever considered safe, especially not this early in the season.

The DNR does not monitor ice conditions. If plans to access or use of an ice-covered waterbody, contact an organization like the Otter Street Fishing Club, along with bait shops or outfitters, for ice conditions.

"These places routinely check ice conditions and can give you the best and most current conditions," Holsclaw said. "If you can plan your outing without any

travel over ice, do it. And if you are going to be on some ice, let someone know your plans and follow them."

Each waterbody can have its own characteristics. Check if the lake has inlets, outlets, narrows that have currents or is spring-fed, all of which can thin the ice. Some smaller lakes can have aerators that are run throughout the winter, either covering a large area toward the center of the lake or may have smaller aerators placed by private property landowners adjacent to their shore and piers.

It is equally as important to stay alert for pressure ridges or ice heaves. These can be dangerous due to thin ice and resulting open water. They are often created, move or grow with changes in temperatures and high winds. Pressure ridges and ice heaves can happen on Lake Winnebago, the popular home to sturgeon spearkers, and the Bay of Green Bay.

A few basic ice safety tips:

- Carry a cellphone and let people know where you are going and when you'll return.
 - Wear proper clothing and equipment, including a life jacket or a float coat, to help stay afloat and help maintain body heat.
 - Wear ice creepers attached to boots to prevent slipping on clear ice.
 - Carry a spud bar to check the ice while walking to new areas.
 - Carry a few spikes and a length of light rope in an easily accessible pocket to help pull yourself – or others – out of the ice.
 - If you fall in, remain as calm as possible. While attempting to get out of the water, call for help. Anyone who attempts to rescue you should use a rope or something similar.
 - Do not travel in unfamiliar areas or at night.
- Have a plan in place noting where you will be and when you plan to return. Check out the DNR's Ice Safety webpage for more information.

Correction

NOV. 29, PAGE 2: The Pearl Harbor Remembrance ceremony by Oshkosh AMVETS Post 7 will start at 7:55 a.m. Thursday at the Elks Lodge, 175 W. Fernau Ave. The start time listed in the story was incorrect.

HOLIDAY EARLY AD DEADLINES



Oshkosh Herald Dec. 27 issue

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NOTICE OF CITY OF OSHKOSH SNOW SHOVELING REQUIREMENTS

Residents are reminded of the following snow removal regulations:

PER SECTION 25-68 OF THE MUNICIPAL CODE –

Property owners are required to clear sidewalks abutting their property of snow and/or ice within 24 hours after the end of precipitation or accumulation. These requirements include all handicap ramps/crosswalk accesses which are adjacent to their property.

When ice cannot be removed, the sidewalk and handicap ramps/crosswalk accesses shall be kept sprinkled with material(s) to accelerate melting and prevent slipping. The ice must be removed as soon as possible.

Depositing snow from private property onto any public right-of-way, public property, or fire hydrant is also prohibited.

PER SECTION 25-69 OF THE MUNICIPAL CODE –

Failure to clear the sidewalk or handicap ramps/crosswalk accesses will result in the City completing the work and invoicing the property owner for the snow or ice removal.

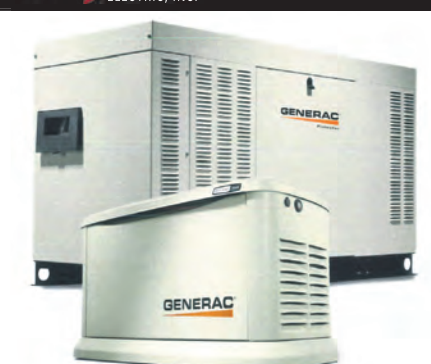
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Judge rejects sentence modification in elderly theft case

By Jonathan Richie
OSHKOSH HERALD

A Florida man's attempt to have his sentence modified or possibly be resentenced was quashed by a Winnebago County Judge who said there isn't enough new information to modify the sentence.

Alejandro JD Garcia, 32, of Miami, was sentenced to a year in prison for theft-false representation between \$5,000 and \$10,000 with modifiers on the count of increased penalty for elder person victim and party to a crime in September.

Garcia's new attorney Greg Petit argued in court Thursday that he was requesting Garcia's sentence be modified and possibly be released on probation that day due to the level of cooperation and information gained from that cooperation with law enforcement.

During the plea and sentencing hearings in this case, Garcia was represented by Ryan Van Ells, who withdrew as attorney from the case after he filed a motion for a hearing on modifying Garcia's sentence on Oct. 16.

In that motion, Van Ells stated that information was not available to the court.

"There was additional information about Mr. Garcia's involvement with law enforcement that neither defense nor the state brought to the court's attention," Van Ells wrote in his motion. Van Ells withdrew as Garcia's attorney two days after filing the motion. That same day Petit entered the case as Garcia's new attorney.

The criminal complaint outlines that Garcia was involved in a fraud scheme. In May 2022, a 92-year-old Oshkosh woman received a phone that her daughter was in jail and she would need to provide \$10,000 for her bail. The caller said a bondsman would be at her house later.

Garcia arrived at the residence to collect

the money and was later arrested in Marathon County for a similar scam. Garcia is facing similar charges in Kewaunee, Marathon and Shawano counties. Authorities traced his position by the GPS in his rental car that placed him at the residence of the 92-year-old.



Garcia

He is currently serving his one-year sentence at the Winnebago County Jail. He appeared via video from the jail at last week's hearing. Van Ells argued in his motion that the new information was a new factor and should be considered by Judge John Jorgensen.

Petit, District Attorney Eric Sparr and Jorgensen spoke off the record before the hearing began last week and when on the record Petit explained the conversation revolved around how much he was going to reveal when talking about Garcia's cooperation in several cases at the state level and involving the federal government.

Petit said Garcia is continuing to cooperate with ongoing investigations and added there is a good chance that in the federal case Garcia will be indicted and could be handed a two-year sentence.

Sparr said that he had conversations with a federal prosecutor in Vermont regarding the case at one point and was in favor of the court modifying or resentencing Garcia due to his cooperation. He added that he wanted the court to know about the level of involvement Garcia has had with law enforcement and that was the reason behind the plea deal presented at the September sentencing hearing.

At that hearing assistant district attor-

ney Amanda Nash and Van Ells had agreed upon a recommended sentence of 24 to 30 months. Jorgensen disagreed and said there was a need to protect the public. At the hearing Jorgensen gave Garcia a one-year prison sentence with Huber work release privileges available after six months.

Last Thursday, Jorgensen pointed out Nash did mention Garcia's involvement and cooperation with law enforcement during the sentencing hearing. Jorgensen reiterated what he had said during the sentencing hearing about the need to keep the public safe and the potential for Garcia to victimize someone else.

"And as to your character, that you are willing to victimize a 92-year-old lady with her husband in the hospital, preying on her daughter, then I don't know who you would not be willing to victimize in this community," Jorgensen said during Garcia's sentencing hearing.

He continued to explain why Garcia needed to serve time in prison instead of just probation.

"I think you need to know and anyone else needs to know that if you are willing to roll the dice to see what the cost will be, you and others need to know it will be significant," he said.

In court last week, Jorgensen also questioned why he was being asked to modify his sentence if the federal government, which he is cooperating with, is not going to give him any leniency and will still most likely indict him on federal charges and sentence him to two years in prison.

Jorgensen denied Petit's motion for a modified sentence, stating it was a close but didn't meet the legal standard because he was made aware of Garcia's involvement.

"(This) does not meet the burden of proof and even if proven would not change the mind of this court," Jorgensen said.

Back in the Day



Oshkosh history by the Winnebago County Historical & Archaeological Society

Dec. 2, 1978

Firefighters Beat Police In Pizza Eating Contest: Members of the Oshkosh Police and Fire Departments squared off last evening in a benefit pizza-eating contest held at Pizza Hut on Murdock Avenue. A 15-minute time limit was set for four members of each team. When time expired, the firefighters came out on top by eating two more ounces of cheese and sausage pizza. The prize

was a check for \$100 given to the winning team's preferred charity, which in this case was the Salvation Army. The firefighting team included Dave Grunwald, Thomas Kutscher, Russ Schlichting and Kevin Gerarden. Police officers David Rapp, Jerry Forseth, Mike Novotny and Tom Voelker represented the "boys in blue." Each department's mess was accounted for and pizza not eaten was weighed and subtracted from the starting amount. Estimates were that the firefighters gobbled 5½ pizzas and the police team swallowed 5¼. Reports say that police officer Forseth was reaching for some antacid tablets as he exited the event.

Source: *Oshkosh Northwestern*, Dec. 2, 1978

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Federal funds distributed to county entities

Fire equipment, abuse services help included

By Bethanie Gengler
OSHKOSH HERALD

Winnebago County continued the process of allocating more than \$33 million received in federal COVID-19 relief last week, funding county departments and nonprofit projects.

The county received the money under the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) and started deliberating on how to use it last year. The process stalled for several months while the county renamed its ARPA Commission the Spirit Fund Commission and established a new Spirit Fund for the ARPA dollars to circumvent federal auditing requirements.

Counties have until the end of next year to allocate the funds and until the end of 2026 to spend them. Just over \$3 million of the ARPA dollars are earmarked to be dispersed equally among each of the 21 municipalities or towns primarily within Win-

nebago County.

In June, County Executive Jon Doemel issued a press release and application for organizations seeking funding from the ARPA dollars. About 65 government organizations, nonprofits and community members submitted applications, with requests totaling more than \$34 million.

The applications were evaluated by the Spirit Fund Commission, with those requests deemed to meet the criteria for the federal funds sent to the full County Board of Supervisors for a vote. Last week the board voted to disperse \$3.4 million to nonprofits and county departments. Here's where the money is going:

Fire Chiefs Association

\$2.1 million of the county's ARPA dollars were appropriated for the Winnebago County Fire Chiefs Association to purchase radios and radio equipment.

The Winnebago County Sheriff's Office operates and maintains the county's only public safety dispatch center. More than a decade ago the county upgraded its system

and purchased all the radios needed. The planned obsolescence of the radios is seven to 10 years.

With the radios needing to be replaced, the association surveyed the 15 fire districts across the county and received requests from 14 departments for 436 portable radios and components, 82 mobile radios and components, and two DVRS radio repeaters and components.

Quotes for replacing the radios and components ranged from \$2 million to \$3.2 million. The radios and radio equipment purchased will be distributed equitably among the fire departments.

Domestic Abuse Services

\$500,000 was appropriated for Christine Ann Domestic Abuse Services as part of a larger \$6.3 million initiative to acquire the Beach building at 240 Algoma Blvd. in Oshkosh for use as an emergency shelter, transitional housing and providing space for expanded community partnerships.

Christine Ann's current building has one bedroom that sleeps seven, two bedrooms that sleep five, and seven bedrooms that are limited to a maximum of four individuals. Only three of the 10 bedrooms are ADA (Americans with Disabilities Act) accessible. The configuration limits the number of large families, disabled, older and pregnant survivors it can accept.

The Beach building is three-stories, 36,000 square feet and is ADA compliant. The first floor will include a waiting room, reception desk, staff and community partner offices, conference and meeting rooms, and a community kitchen and dining area.

The second floor will feature 11 apartments for emergency shelter, increasing bed

capacity from 37 to 60. Eleven apartments on the third floor will be transitional housing for up to two years, along with case management "to help survivors build the life skills and self-sufficiency they need to break generational cycles of abuse and poverty," according to a memo.

The Beach building will become the new home to Christine Ann next fall.

St. Vincent de Paul food pantry

\$500,000 will go toward renovating and expanding the St. Vincent de Paul Neenah/Menasha food pantry, now called Vinnie's Pantry, with the entire project coming in at just over \$1 million.

Vinnie's Pantry supports more than 2,000 families, supplying an average of 50,000 pounds of food per month to residents of northern Winnebago County. The nonprofit held a grand opening last month on an expansion that moved the food pantry from the St. Vincent de Paul thrift store's retail space to a 27,000-square-foot location next door.

The new pantry is designed like a grocery store, with an area for bread, canned and dry goods, fresh produce, meat and perishable foods. The location includes a reception and waiting area, separate room for hygiene items and an expanded storage area with a 40-foot walk-in cooler and freezer.

Winnebago County Jail

\$314,600 was appropriated for engineering, demolition, relocation and construction at the Winnebago County Jail to remove the existing officers' stations and combine the area in the existing programs

SEE **Federal funds** ON PAGE 5

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Little Free Library map project completed

Oshkosh Herald

A senior economics major at the University of Wisconsin Oshkosh has created a way to help residents more easily access the city's growing network of Little Free Library boxes.

Ethan Cutts' Moving the Needle project for his capstone college course has organized and verified the Little Free Library locations by neighborhood on a map that complements the existing Facebook page and a Google Doc listing some locations.

The interactive map can be found at tinyurl.com/4a96bj52 and there is a QR code also available that will be promoted in the boxes.

Cutts, an Oshkosh North High gradu-

ate who this month will receive his bachelor's degree that includes a data analytics certificate, became interested in Little Free Libraries while pursuing his Eagle Scout rank. He led a group of Boy Scouts to build and put in five of the library boxes as well as stocking the boxes with books.

He is caring for two of the boxes while the new Menominee Elementary School is being built and will reinstall them.

The Little Free Library Organization offers a map feature but Cutts noticed that many aren't registered and he has one specific to the Oshkosh area. He is communicating with the Oshkosh Little Free Library Facebook page to get the link to the map posted.

Federal funds

FROM PAGE 1

room.

According to a memo, the jail has six housing pods; with three considered indirect supervision, where the inmates are separated from the deputy by glass and lockable cells in each smaller unit within the pod, and three units that are direct supervision, where a deputy is stationed with up to 68 inmates without separation.

During the pandemic, the jail experienced an increase in deputy vacancies due to illness, partially attributed to the inability to separate from inmate populations, according to a memo.

Moving the officers' stations to the current programs room adds a layer of separation and protection.

Although it wasn't written in the memo or resolution submitted at the meeting, it was noted that the proposal is to expand the Solutions Recovery Sobriety Treatment As-

sisted Recovery (STAR) program, available to inmates with substance use disorders.

The STAR program provides Vivitrol, an FDA-approved injection to treat substance use disorders, to eligible jail inmates. The program also offers recovery coaches, peer support and a recovery hotline. Inmates can continue the program after they are released from jail.

Captain of corrections Dave Mack told the board the county is seeing a 46% sobriety rate in inmates who continue the program for six months after being released from jail. Mack said the STAR program ties into the resolution because one of the pods being relocated will be used as a recovery pod.

The plan will eliminate one existing officer station from the jail, although it was noted that the population in that section is classified as minimum security. Mack said constructing and relocating the pods will result in a \$40,000 reduction in overtime pay because deputies will be able to cover each other's breaks when they're leaving that pod.



Photo by Michael Cooney

Master of ceremonies

The Downtown Oshkosh Holiday Parade presented by Oshkosh Corp. featured an hourlong procession Thursday night that featured Santa and Mrs. Claus.

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Witzke's made it into a third century then faded fast

By Lee Reiherzer
HERALD CONTRIBUTOR

The origin of Witzke's Bar traces back to 1873. That's when a German immigrant named Henry Schmidt bought the property at 17th and Oregon to establish a saloon there. What Schmidt set in motion was still going strong 100 years later.

But in 1973, there was no centennial celebration at Witzke's. By then, no one could recall how it all got started.

The forgetting began long before the 1970s. A 1948 article in the Oshkosh Daily Northwestern said the tavern's "early history has been lost from memory." What memories remained resided with the man who ran the place in the 1970s. Kenneth Frederick Witzke had been there all his life.

Ken Witzke was born in 1924. His father, August "Fuddy" Witzke, had just finished a jail sentence for serving moonshine in the speakeasy bearing his name. Ken grew up amid a criminal enterprise in the apartment attached to the speakeasy. None of this was especially unusual in the Roaring Twenties. Prohibition made a lot of Oshkosh parents into outlaws.

Witzke's became a legal bar again after Prohibition ended in 1933. In 1942, Ken Witzke turned 18, got drafted into an Army infantry unit and was sent to fight in the South Pacific. He came home four years later with a Bronze Star for bravery.

"We were in a lot of the thick of it," Witzke later said.

Back in Oshkosh, Witzke went to work tending bar at his father's tavern. And when Fuddy retired in 1966, Ken Witzke took over. He ran the place for the next 30 years and launched a few traditions of his own. They were informed less by the past than by Witzke's droll humor.

At Christmastime, he would stand a fresh cut balsam in the barroom. After the 1980 holiday, Witzke decided to reuse the same tree next year. Each year thereafter, the increasingly brown evergreen, trimmings and all, was dragged up from the basement and propped in a corner by the pool cues. Bartender Cliff Sweet gave the tree a shot of vodka every morning to keep its spirits up.

"The needles are petrified," Sweet said in 1995. "They don't even fall off anymore."

Older yet was the ossified moose head mounted on the wall opposite the bar. The head was said to have been separated from its source sometime around the turn of the century. It became a rite of passage for newlyweds to come in and kiss the snout of the hoary totem. The moose head became the perennial symbol of Witzke's.

Ken Witzke retired in the summer of



Photo from Dan Radig

Patrons are seen inside Witzke's Bar on the city's southside in this 1983 photo.

1996 and sold the family bar. For the first time in 82 years, there was not a Witzke pouring beer at 1700 Oregon.

The new owner, Harold Salzer, played a transitional role. He was a 34-year-old Oshkosh native who had recently started a home siding business. Salzer's partner at Witzke's was John Rasmussen. He was 35 and had been working at the Morgan Company mill. At the end of the 1990s, Rasmussen became the sole owner of Witzke's, leading the tavern into its third century.

Rasmussen was eager to emphasize Witzke's significance to Oshkosh. "The history of the bar is so interesting," he said in 1997, "so we've tried to accent that."

But the history had a downside. There had been little investment in the property over the previous three decades. The place looked worn out. Rasmussen promised to address that.

In 2003, he began sharing his renovation plans. Rasmussen met with local preservationists and the Oshkosh Landmarks Commission to assure them that he would retain the character of the property.

He was true to his word. The tavern Rasmussen started with was a ramshack-

le offcut of its past glory. The Witzke's of 2008 was an eye-catching homage to enduring Southside traditions. Witzke's hadn't looked this good since its first remodeling in 1901.

In addition to the restoration, Rasmussen added a banquet hall and video archery range behind the original saloon building. It took five years and more than \$300,000 to complete the project. Witzke's appeared poised for another successful run. But it wasn't to be.

In July 2017, Wells Fargo Bank filed a notice of intent to foreclose on the property. Later that summer, the Wisconsin Department of Revenue began issuing tax warrants against the business. Over the next two years, Witzke's Tavern, LLC was hounded by creditors baying for payment. Initially, Rasmussen was able to navigate the storm. But by 2019, his options had run out.

Rasmussen announced Witzke's closing at the end of September 2019. A handwritten sign was taped to the front door: "CLOSED until further notice. Thanks for your understanding! Management." The "further notice" never came, and the "understanding" was in short supply among

those Rasmussen was indebted to.

He renewed the tavern's liquor license in 2020. The 2021 application was more closely scrutinized. Rasmussen told the Common Council that he hoped to have Witzke's back in business by the end of 2021. There was little chance of that. The delinquent taxes remained unpaid. And since closing, the tavern "had sustained significant water damage."

Rasmussen couldn't say how he would address the issues. The liquor license was revoked. And on Oct. 19, 2023, the title to the property was transferred to Winnebago County for nonpayment of taxes.

This year is the sesquicentennial of Witzke's founding. But like the tavern's centennial, this anniversary passes without celebration. One of the Southside's most historically significant properties sits vacant, neglected and moldering – an abandoned Oshkosh landmark at the edge of oblivion.

This is the last of three parts on the extensive history of the Witzke's location. Lee Reiherzer has been writing about Oshkosh's beer and brewing history since 2010 when he launched the Oshkosh Beer website. He is co-author of "The Breweries of Oshkosh" and author of "Winnebago County Beer."

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Defining governance leads to success for community

If you asked 100 people if they were in favor of good government, all 100 would likely say yes. If you asked those same 100 people what good government looks like, you will likely get quite a few different answers.

In my professional capacity I define good government as government that is efficient, effective and equitable. In other words, a government that is able to meet the needs of those it serves in a fair, transparent and cost-effective manner. Accomplishing good government is harder, and is where the concept of governance comes into play.

But what is governance? I break it into two categories, the macro and the micro. The macro deals with questions of who should be in charge of what, what services should be public versus private, and the general ways in which publicly funded services are delivered to residents.

Macro questions are important, but it is the micro-governance questions that are most relevant to the work of a city council, school board or county board. At the micro level, effective governance is all about establishing a group dynamic capable of translating community needs into tangible action.

Think of it as a game of telephone. In the case of the city council, we are trying to translate the values of the public we represent into clear direction to the city manager. The city manager must then communicate that message to city staff, who in turn implement policies, processes, programming and services.

When clear applicable guidance is given to the city manager, it makes success possible. Of course a city manager still must implement that guidance, but without that guidance, failure is guaranteed.



Michael Ford

Oshkosh
Common Council

Governance is about people

Governance is a human-driven enterprise. At its core a governing board is a small group of people collectively making decisions on behalf of the people they represent. Thus members of a governing board must first listen to their stakeholders as individuals, and then be able to communicate what they have learned with their board colleagues.

This is where group dynamics come into play. Conflict, cooperation, misunderstandings, emotion and everything else it means to be human will be part of board deliberations. A healthy board can recognize negative conflict and minimize it, respect the legitimacy of their colleagues and their opinions, and be willing to compromise so as to create group buy-in for a course of action despite divergent interests.

Governance is about numbers

Governing boards oversee organizations serving people, and hence must be strong if they are to meet the needs of those they serve. While it can feel dehumanizing to focus on numbers during the governing process, setting quantifiable goals and benchmarks, tracking progress toward those goals, and communicating successes and failures to stakeholders based on goals and benchmarks is how

a governing board manages the performance of an organization. Examples include budgeting, annual setting of performance metrics around service delivery, staffing levels and communitywide goals.

More bluntly, a governing board cannot meet the needs of the humans it serves without focusing on the numbers.

Governance is about process

A democratic governing body must recognize that every resident owns an equal share in their government, and is thus entitled to a voice, and the same access and opportunity as others who own a share. Respecting process means creating policies for mundane-sounding tasks like getting items on the meeting agenda, communicating with the city manager or superintendent, considering budget requests, and just about anything else that comes up.

While making decisions is a huge part of the governance process, creating the structure in which those decisions are made is important if those decisions are to have legitimacy and buy-in.

Governance is cumulative

Most things governments do take time. Leader development, economic and community development, improving performance, debt management and so

much more do not occur along the same timelines as elections. Council members and board members come and go, but strategic priorities remain. That is why it is so important for governing boards to understand the actions taken by previous councils and boards, to respect the legitimacy of those actions and to build upon them.

Every election season there will be a new governing group that is standing on the foundation of all the councils/boards that came before it. Like the foundation on a house, it may have cracks that need to be shored up. However, tearing down the foundation, especially after significant turnover, can undermine long-term strategic goals while alienating organizational staff.

A high-functioning council or board does not in and of itself guarantee that all strategic goals will be realized. But, governance is an enabling action that makes success possible. Perhaps more important, a healthy governing board will be able to adapt as circumstances change. No, governance is not all that exciting, but it is the key to good government.

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

Salvation Army sets first Red Kettle match day

The Salvation Army of Oshkosh is having its first match day of the holiday season Thursday with the Oshkosh Corporation Foundation, which will match up to \$5,000 donated at the Red Kettles.

The matched funds will support for Sal-

vation Army programs and services that assist individuals and families in need throughout the area.

Volunteers are being sought to serve as bell ringers on this first match day and can sign up at RegisterToRing.com or contacting 920-232-7660.

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Asphalt paving scams targeted local homeowners

By Bethanie Gengler
NEENAH NEWS

A Texas man dubbed the "Asphalt Gypsy" is facing 30 criminal charges in eight counties for contractor fraud targeting elderly homeowners across Wisconsin.

The state Department of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection (DATCP) issued a consumer alert in September that stated traveling asphalt crews were reported in the southeastern portion of Wisconsin.

The traveling scammers show up unsolicited and offer a low price to sealcoat or blacktop a driveway, according to DATCP. Sometimes they claim to have leftover asphalt that needs to be used up. After agreeing on a price, the scammers typically begin the work and then demand a much larger final payment to finish.

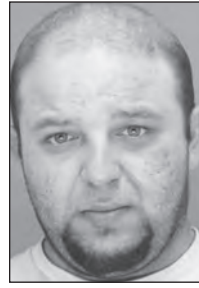
In some cases, only a base coat is applied and not a top coat. In others, the work is botched. DATCP reports some scammers may take payment up front and run off with the money without completing any work. The scammers are often from out of state, unlicensed and move quickly from town to town, making it difficult to track them.

Mico Miller, 29, is currently facing 19 felonies and 11 misdemeanors in Winnebago, Brown, Shawano, Calumet, Dane, Waushara, Outagamie and Columbia counties for the scams. He was convicted of a felony count of theft by false representation in Waupaca County in 2021 and ordered to pay \$5,500 in restitution.

According to criminal complaints, on July 27, 2020, Miller and another male showed up at a home in Brown County and offered to seal the driveway for \$600.

After starting on the driveway, Miller demanded a new payment of \$10,500 before settling on \$3,000.

The next day, Miller approached a couple in Winchester and offered to seal their driveway for \$500. Miller and a partner began sealing the driveway and halfway through informed the victim that the front end of the driveway already cost \$5,000 and if he wanted the driveway finished he would have to pay an additional \$6,000.



Miller

The homeowner said they argued over the price and Miller commented that the victim and his wife had nice stuff and lived in an expensive home. The victim said at that point he felt threatened that if he didn't pay, Miller would come back and take his belongings. He said he knew he had been scammed and just wanted Miller off his property so he paid him \$5,100 cash.

Three days later, Miller allegedly approached a 77-year-old Omro man and his wife who were sitting in their garage. A younger male was with Miller and stayed in the vehicle. Miller presented a business card with the name Jets Asphalt & Sealcoating Repair and an Appleton address. He informed the couple he would like to do work on their driveway, offering a deal of \$38 per gallon of sealant.

Miller spent 45 minutes working on the driveway and then requested \$7,500 as payment, claiming he used 241 gallons of product. The victim said he was embarrassed and scared and felt he owed Miller

money for the service he provided.

The victim gave Miller \$500 cash and wrote a check for \$7,000. Miller tried to cash the check the next day but the bank was suspicious of the transaction and told Miller it didn't have the funds on hand. The victim later met Miller at the bank and consented to the funds being dispensed.

Investigators noted the asphalt sealing was poorly done and was peeling and sticking to the tires of vehicles five days after it was applied. A local sealcoating business was consulted and sent out an employee who could not determine what product was used as it didn't appear to be a sealant of any kind. The employee stated on the high end the driveway would take about 20 gallons of sealant and cost at most \$500.

Brown County officials subsequently arrested Miller and the boy who was with him in Grand Chute on Aug. 4, 2020. Authorities found \$7,000 cash on Miller. The boy was identified as Miller's 12-year-old nephew who was in Wisconsin for about 30 days to work.

Keep Wildlife Wild poster contest opens

The 2024 Keep Wildlife Wild poster contest is open to students in fourth, fifth and sixth grades enrolled in public, private, parochial or home schools in Wisconsin.

The state Department of Natural Resources program began in 2014 to create a poster that teaches the importance of enjoying and observing wildlife in the wild

In a statement to investigators, Miller allegedly admitted he was misrepresenting how much product he was putting down and overcharging people. He said the information on his business card was made up with a random address.

Warrants for Miller's arrest were issued in three counties in 2021 for missed court appearances.

He was arrested this July and incarcerated at the Calumet County Jail on similar charges. He's due back in court for sentencing Dec. 28 in Brown County and Jan. 11 in Winnebago County.

DATCP advised residents in need of driveway resurfacing to contact local contractors, to gather multiple bids and never pay the full price of a project up front.

If approached for unsolicited asphalt paving or sealing services, residents are recommended by DATCP to turn the workers away and contact law enforcement with a description of vehicles and license plate numbers.

Residents who have been scammed by a transient asphalt crew can file a complaint at ConsumerProtection.wi.gov.

and not keeping wildlife in homes or pets.

Judging will take place in February. All submissions must be received electronically via email or by mail and must include the student's entry form and artwork by Feb. 16. Details can be found at dnr.wisconsin.gov or emailing KeepWildlifeWild@wisconsin.gov.

Business news roundup

The Israeli Ministry of Defense (IMOD) has placed two orders for Oshkosh Joint Light Tactical Vehicles (JLTV) for the Israeli Defense Forces (IDF), **Oshkosh Defense** announced last week. A total of 75 JLTVs were purchased via foreign military sale and dozens more were purchased via direct commercial sale. Earlier in November, Oshkosh Defense received a \$208 million order from the U.S. Army for additional JLTVs, JLTV trailers, and associated kits as well as a \$160 million order for JLTVs for international allies. Oshkosh Defense also announced that the U.S. Army Contracting Command's Detroit Arsenal has awarded a \$342 million production contract for its medium equipment trailer (MET) in partnership with Holland-based Broshuis B.V. The five-year contract includes the option for two additional years and calls for Oshkosh to produce an estimated 557 trailers. The MET is a six-axle trailer designed to be pulled by the Oshkosh Enhanced Heavy Equipment Transporter (EHET) M1300 Tractor with the ability to obtain European road permissions at required payloads and negotiate highway overpasses. Oshkosh Defense will deliver the first trailers in May.

CKB (Custom Kitchen and Bath Creations) has moved into an expanded showroom at 2211 Oregon St., Suite Q, that triples its previous space at 2665 Oregon. Certified kitchen designer John A. Lieske said the new design center features the latest in cabinet design, countertop materials such as quartz, Dekton quartz and porcelain, and laminate. They are factory distributors for three different manufacturers: Showplace, Waypoint and Woodland. CKB is owned by Ronald Mack and originated from Kitchen Specialists, who started in 1982 in Oshkosh.

Good Yolk Pancake and Cafe is preparing to open at 1009 W 9th Ave. at the former site of Fields and Sisters Pizza. The business is currently hiring for all staff positions.

Fox World Travel has appointed **Robert Tokar** as global sales director. With more than 12 years of experience in the travel industry, Tokar will be responsible for expanding Fox World Travel's sales efforts on an international scale. He will work with prospective customers to develop individualized solutions, driving business growth and increasing the company's market share.

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Former pastor pleads guilty in sex assault case

By Jonathan Richie
OSHKOSH HERALD

A former youth pastor already in prison for sexually assaulting a 12-year-old in Portage County was in the Winnebago County Courthouse on Tuesday to plead guilty in a separate case of sexually assaulting a 12-year-old from Appleton at a Fox Crossing hotel.

Jordan R. Huffman, 52, plead guilty to first-degree child sexual assault and felony bail jumping. He committed this offence while out on \$100,000 cash bond in the Portage County case. He was found guilty by Judge Daniel Bissett on Tuesday morning and will have a sentencing hearing next year.

Online court records show Huffman was living in Oshkosh while out on bond.

Huffman was sentenced in Portage County in October to 20 years in prison followed by 20 years of extended supervision for two counts of repeated sexual assault of same child. In that case first-degree child sex assault was dismissed on prosecutors motion and three counts of child enticement with sexual contact were dismissed but read in for sentencing purposes.

The most serious offense Huffman is facing in Winnebago County is the felony B count of first-degree sex assault – sexual contact or sexual intercourse with a person under age 13. The maximum penalty is a \$100,000 fine or 40 years in prison followed by up to 20 years of extended supervision or both.

Huffman's attorney Andrea Winder told Bissett that a plea deal had been reached with the state in the case and agreed to by Assistant District Attorney Tracy Paider,



Jordan Huffman sits with his attorney Andrea Winder in a Winnebago County courtroom.

who is prosecuting the case for the state.

Winder said the deal included Huffman serving three years of initial confinement followed by three years of extended supervision to run consecutively with his Portage County case. Huffman could be serving the Portage County case prison sentence until 2043, meaning he could be in prison until 2046 and then spend the next 23 years on extended supervision.

Huffman is currently serving his sentence in Dodge Correctional Institution.

Bissett does not need to follow the parameters of the plea deal and could hand down the maximum sentence. He explained to Huffman that by pleading guilty to these serious offenses he will have a strike on his record toward Wisconsin's Three Strikes laws.

Wisconsin's three-strike and two-strike laws are in place for serious repeat offenders. Serious sex crimes, which include first-degree sexual assault of a child, are in-

cluded in both two- and three-strike laws.

Individuals with a strike on their record could face added penalties for subsequent felony charges with a third strike potentially leading to 25 years to life sentence without parole if convicted.

The two-strike law states if the person is a "persistent repeater" for a second serious child sex offence they should receive life in prison without the possibility of parole or extended supervision.

A sentencing hearing in the case is scheduled for Feb. 9. Bissett said several letters supporting Huffman have already been submitted to the court for sentencing. Paider said she doesn't anticipate a restitution hearing.

According to the criminal complaint, on May 19 a juvenile called 911 stating he was in a vehicle at a hotel after being kidnapped and needed help. Fox Crossing police arrived at the hotel on Holly Road and saw a vehicle leaving the parking lot. Officers

then initiated a traffic stop.

As the officer exited the squad car, the victim exited the front passenger door of the suspect's vehicle and Huffman was arrested.

The victim told officers he was communicating with Huffman through Snapchat earlier that day and Huffman sent him nude photos. The victim had the Snapchat location on and a short time later Huffman showed up at his house. The victim stated he went with Huffman because he was "going to probably kill me or something."

Huffman began assaulting the victim during the drive to the hotel. When they arrived, Huffman went inside to rent a room and the boy called 911. When Huffman returned to the vehicle, he brought the victim inside where he continued assaulting him.

Surveillance footage showed the victim exiting the hotel room and running to the car, with Huffman behind. The victim dialed 911 again while in the vehicle and police initiated the traffic stop and arrested Huffman.

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Longtime board member honored by music educators

By Jonathan Richie
OSHKOSH HERALD

Barbara Herzog, a longtime advocate for education and the overall community, was recently honored by the Wisconsin Music Educators Association with an Outstanding School Board Member Award.

WMEA president Brad Schneider presented the award to Herzog at last week's school board meeting. He said Herzog is an incredible asset to the district, adding it was with great pleasure he was able to present the award to her.

Along with Schneider was WMEA vice president for Northeast Wisconsin Bridget Duffy-Ulrich, who is the director of choirs at Oshkosh North High School. WMEA represents music teachers throughout the state from pre-K through high school with more than 1,000 members.

"Dr. Herzog's career has spanned the entirety of education," Schneider said.

Schneider joked that when listing Herzog's accomplishments, it could be more efficient to list educational boards, foundations and leadership positions she has

not held over her career.

"She has experienced education from multiple perspectives – from time as a classroom teacher and principal, at both middle school and high schools, to administrative leadership positions at both the school district and state level – Dr. Herzog influenced and assistance to the greater education community has been nothing short of extraordinary," Schneider said.

Her colleagues on the board echoed Schneider's words.

"I think the community is extremely appreciative for the efforts that you've put in to, not only this board, but all of the music learners and appreciators in the community of Oshkosh," Board of Education president Beth Wyman said.

In the application for the award, Schneider said an administrator with the district wrote, "Her tireless efforts and support have contributed to the growth of our music programs for the benefit of our OASD students."

Herzog's career roles have included teacher, administrator, professor and



Oshkosh Media

Barbara Herzog (center) was recently honored by the Wisconsin Music Educators Association WMEA president Brad Schneider and WMEA Northeast vice president Bridget Duffy-Ulrich.

statewide offices. Schneider said this was intriguing because she has always been more than willing to return to Oshkosh.

"There is no doubt with her experience, energy and commitment to the community the OASD has an incredible asset in Dr. Barbara Herzog," he said.

Herzog thanked several staff members and expressed how much the recognition means.

"This means a lot to me, not just because it's an award, but because it's given by people I have such respect and admiration for and I know what you do each and every day to benefit kids in our community and

in our state," Herzog said. "You've all heard me say that music touches the soul and I've been to your concerts and my soul has been touched and those words you shared tonight touched my soul again."

Herzog has served on the Board of Education since 2013, currently as vice president. She is also the Region 7 director for the Wisconsin Association of School Boards.

The WMEA "supports music education by representing the shared interests and needs of Wisconsin music educators and fostering their professional growth in a global society," according to its website.

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Retiree thanks veterans, others with warm appreciation

By Dan Roherty
OSHKOSH HERALD

When Carol Kaufmann isn't hosting travel tours to Branson or other destinations or driving her motorcycle in the summer months, the 76-year-old always makes time for creating quilts for the special people she knows.

The Town of Oshkosh resident recently marked Veterans Day by giving one of her warm creations to a U.S. Navy veteran and to family members who have served. After that a couple taking her most recent Carol's Country Tours to Branson, Mo., were surprised with a signature quilt commemorating their anniversary and signed by all 46 people on the tour.

Whether the quilt is for a veteran, baby shower or a token of friendship/appreciation, Kaufmann tries to represent the person through the material, colors and artwork of the stitched blanket that she hopes they use and not just put away as a keepsake.

The former 4-H educator at the University of Wisconsin Extension-Winnebago County didn't get involved in quilting until about 15 years ago when she was taking a wood-carving class at the Oshkosh Seniors Center with her son. During a break, she noticed a group sewing quilts in the lobby that was led by then-FVTC instructor Ann Sievert.

Kaufmann said "that was more up my alley" than wood carving and took up Sievert's quilting class.

"I learned to sew when I was 10; my sister and I lived with our grandparents because our dad had died and my mom was in an accident," she recalled, "and grandma sewed on a treadle sewing machine and she taught me how to sew."

She didn't do any sewing through high school but when she married a dairy farmer and had four children, she picked it up again to make children's clothing, mending and patching work clothes.

Beyond learning the process, quilting is about having the materials that represent the intention of the work and whatever the theme might be.

"You can talk to any person that's quilted - it's referred to as your stash," Kaufmann said. "You see some pretty fabric and you buy it and might have an intention for it."

Kaufmann has gifted quilts to bus drivers on her Carol's Country Tours, a business she started after her husband, Dave, passed away in 1997. One of the drivers was a Vietnam veteran from Green Bay and another was a Mississippi native who had no idea the quilt Kaufmann was working on was meant for her.

"Miss Carol, I just love those colors," Kaufmann recalled Ernestine saying as she watched her work on it.

Other recipients have been her pastor at Most Blessed Sacrament to mark his 25th jubilee as a priest, a volunteer firefighter who had worked with her husband, and to health care providers for their efforts during the pandemic. She even made a quilt for Sievert, now retired from FVTC but still

offering private quilting classes.

"Even though she can probably make all the quilts she wants, it's the idea of just thanking her for being a teacher because I probably would have never done it if she hadn't been doing it," she said, "plus (for) all the ladies who have been in her classes that she has affected."

Fifteen years of 4-H teaching also created many friendships with her students who stay in touch through Facebook.

"Now I can keep in contact with lots of them. I get invited to baby showers and wedding receptions," she said, and usually has a quilt gift ready when invited to those occasions.

Military veterans, including many who are also family members such as her daughter (Navy) and a son (Army), have a special place in Kaufmann's heart when creating one of her warm gifts.

"Usually when I give the quilt, I always tell them it's just a thank-you from all of us quilters," she said. "Always think of it as getting a hug from us and thank you for your service."

Kaufmann recognizes veterans wherever she goes, including through another retirement hobby - motorcycling - in the late 1990s that took her around the country. She has her current Harley-Davidson Trike with the help of an Appleton Harley dealer who also happens to be an Afghanistan veteran.

He became another appreciative recipient of a veteran-themed quilt that brought him to tears.

"They're just so surprised that anybody thinks of them now anymore these days," she said. "More people are saying thank you to the veterans."



Photo from Carol Kaufmann

Carol Kaufmann recently presented one of her quilts to U.S. Navy veteran and Link Computing Solutions owner Ray Reinders as a gift of appreciation.



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Assessments

FROM PAGE 1

“Not a single landowner along (Clairville Road) needs it and you’re destroying our lives,” Foust said.

The border agreement between Algoma and Oshkosh, approved by both municipalities in 2003, outlines Clairville Road in Zone C as “mostly farmland” that would be a “logical next tier of growth for the City of Oshkosh” within 20 years.

Half of the 12 parcels are owned by individuals with assessments ranging from \$18,864 to above \$57,000. One property owner has two parcels on Clairville and their combined amount from the parcels is more than \$100,000.

“What are we going to do?” resident Carol Foust asked. She expects to pay \$500 a month for the next 15 years to pay off the special assessment.

“I want each one of you to think about that,” she said as she looked at the council members. “Take \$500 of your money every month for 15 years and just throw it in the garbage.”

Steve Klinger said he cannot pay for his

children to go to college, can’t take vacations and can’t replace his older vehicle because of the burden that the special assessment will have on him financially.

“The numbers are outrageous,” Klinger said of the special assessment he has received.

“None of us asked to be annexed into the city, none of us wanted to be annexed into the city,” said Jeff Foust, telling the council his bill is for \$170,000. “You guys think about how you’d like to get a bill for something you didn’t want, you didn’t ask for, don’t need – for \$170,000.”

City Manager Mark Rohloff said the reason these assessments are so large is that the properties are larger than the average lot size therefore have more road frontage. He said a developer would subdivide these lots and pass the cost on to the homebuyer.

Mayor Matt Mugerauer said the assessments are a “massive financial impact” for the property owners but said this is similar to a new development installing water lines.

City documents show there is one business, United Cooperative, that will receive a special assessment for this project. There

are five parcels owned by the city.

These assessments are based on the previous year’s construction costs, according to city engineer Justin Gierach, who said the contractor with the Clairville project has already begun putting in a retention pond. Storm sewer and water laterals will be installed in February, depending on weather.

The assessments were approved by a vote of 4-2 with Deputy Mayor Lynnsey Erickson and council member LaKeisha Haase voting against the resolution. Council member Paul Esslinger was not at the meeting.

The council has discussed special assessments and how to help property owners cover the costs when their road will be under construction several times this year. Those discussions have included adding a ceiling or a floor to the assessment total that would mean they couldn’t exceed a certain dollar amount for any single property as a ceiling while an example of a floor plan would be the city covering the first \$5,000 of the project.

Other options considered have included a wheel tax and looking at how other cities handle special assessments, but the council has yet to put anything in writing to vote on as they continue to discuss alternatives.

State rate bill opposed

The council voted unanimously to formally oppose a state Senate and Assembly bill that would give a group of non-elected officials in Madison control over storm sewer rates and services.

State Sens. Dan Feyen (R-Fond du Lac), Joan Ballweg (R-Markesan) and Mary Felzkowski (R-Tomahawk) introduced a Senate bill, SB 455, in September that would give the Wisconsin Public Service Commission (PSC) full authority to

regulate storm water utility rates and services. The PSC is made up of three commissioners appointed by the governor and approved by the state Senate for six-year terms with one of the commissioners appointed by the governor for a two-year term as chairperson.

Rohloff wrote in the meeting materials that city staff asked the council to formally oppose the bill. He added the League of Wisconsin Municipalities has been encouraging cities and villages to oppose SB 455 and its Assembly counterpart AB 457. Council member Mike Ford spoke in favor of opposing SB 455 at last week’s meeting pointing out three issues with the bill.

The first was that this bill would “erode local control,” Ford said. He also noted, as Rohloff did in the meeting materials, there is already a process in place for people to appeal stormwater fees directly to the PSC.

Ford said the third and final point was most important for people who want to build homes or a business in Oshkosh.

“This action, if this state legislation would pass, would create a new layer of regulatory hoops that could impact timelines for projects in Oshkosh. It’s definitely the opposite of efficiency,” Ford said. “It promises to make things harder for everyone.”

New subdivision

The council approved a site implementation plan for a new subdivision proposed on West 20th Avenue. The subdivision would include 208 units in 16 buildings on the north side of 20th Avenue across from the YMCA. The plans show ten 16-unit buildings, six 8-unit buildings and a clubhouse that will have a coffee shop with a drive-thru.



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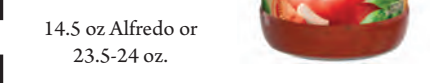
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6.99
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2/\$3
32 oz - Select Food Club Broth

3.49
5 lb Pillsbury Flour

3.69
4 lb C&H Granulated Sugar

3.59
22-24 oz White or Multigrain Artisan Hearth Rustic Bread

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120-160 ct KLEENEX FACIAL TISSUE

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7.37-10.80 oz - SELECT HERSHEY SHARE PACK CANDY

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5-8 oz Clusters
Alaskan
Snow Crab

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10 oz With Sauce
Wholey
Shrimp Ring

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8 oz
Hoffman House
Seafood Sauce

7.99
31-40 ct, 16 oz
Best Yet
Cooked Shrimp

13.99 lb
8 oz & Up Clusters
Alaskan
Snow Crab Clusters

1 lb Piggly Wiggly Butter.....**2.99**

9.99
26-30 ct, 16 oz
Wholey
Cooked Shrimp

11.99
16-20 ct, 16 oz
Wholey
Cooked Shrimp

Equivalent to **\$31.97 lb.**

9.99 ea
4-5 oz
Cold Water
Lobster Tails

25.99 lb
10-12 oz
Warm Water
Lobster Tails

8.99
41-50 ct, 16 oz
Wholey
Cooked Shrimp

5.99
10 oz With Sauce
Wholey
Shrimp Ring

29.99 lb
14-17 oz
King
Crab Legs

14.99 ea
16 oz
Sea Best
Jumbo Scallops

8.99
16-20 ct, 16 oz
Wholey
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7.99
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Wholey
Raw Shrimp

24.99 ea
40 oz With Sauce
Wholey
Shrimp Ring

11.99 ea
16 oz With Sauce
Wholey
Shrimp Ring

While supplies last. Selection varies by store. See store for details. Sorry, no rain checks.

Calendar of events

Ongoing

Oshkosh Celebration of Lights, 5:30 p.m., EAA AirVenture grounds and expo hangars, through Dec. 31

Wednesday, Dec. 6

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

Thursday, Dec. 7

For Kids from 1 to 92, 7:30 p.m., The Grand Oshkosh

Friday, Dec. 8

Wisconsin Ice Fishing Expo, 1 p.m., Sunnyview Expo Center

Christmas Gala with Mara's, 6 p.m., Becket's 2 Jackson St.

EAA Wright Brothers Memorial Banquet, 6:30 p.m., EAA Aviation Museum

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

Blind Date with a Book, 4 p.m., Caramel Crisp Bookstore, 200 City Center

Saturday, Dec. 9

Wisconsin Ice Fishing Expo, 9 a.m., Sunnyview Expo Center

Cookie Walk of the United Women in Faith, 9 a.m., United Methodist Church, 1174 Algoma Blvd.

Holiday Market and Bazaar, 9 a.m., Oshkosh Arena

Cocoa and Canvas Social, 9:30 a.m., Oshkosh Country Club

"Elf," 7 p.m., Time Community Theater, 445 N. Main St.

Christmas Spectacular, 6:30 p.m., La

Sure's Banquet Hall, 3125 S. Washburn St. The Presidents, 8 p.m., Revs Bowl Bar & Grill, 275 N Washburn St.

Sunday, Dec. 10

Wisconsin Ice Fishing Expo, 9 a.m., Sunnyview Expo Center

Oshkosh West Madrigal Singers, 1 p.m., Calvary Lutheran Church, 2580 W. 9th Ave.

Oshkosh Area Community Band Christmas Sing, 7 p.m., The Grand Oshkosh

Piano Christmas concert with Lily Topolski, 6 p.m., Plymouth Church, 1325 Georgia St.

Monday, Dec. 11

Oshkosh North Madrigals, 7 p.m., Becket's, 2 Jackson St.

Tuesday, Dec. 12

Deck the Runway Holiday Fashion Show, 5 p.m., Oshkosh Country Club

A Swinging Christmas with Erin Krebs and Friends, 7 p.m., The Waters, 1393 Washington Ave.

Wednesday, Dec. 13

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

Friday, Dec. 15

The Nutcracker Ballet, 7 p.m., The Grand Oshkosh

Wisconsin Herd vs. Grand Rapids Gold, 7 p.m., Oshkosh Arena

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

Saturday, Dec. 16

The Nutcracker Ballet, noon and 7 p.m., The Grand Oshkosh

Elvis Tribute Christmas Show, 6 p.m., Anjie's Bar, 413 Ohio St.

Wisconsin Herd vs. Grand Rapids Gold, 7 p.m., Oshkosh Arena

"National Lampoon's Christmas Vacation," 2 p.m., Time Community Theater, 445 N. Main St.

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Spartans take down Ghosts in FVA showdown

By Dustin Riese
HERALD CONTRIBUTOR

Now that is how you start a high school basketball season.

In a matchup of top five teams playing in an incredible atmosphere, the fourth-ranked Oshkosh North Spartans held off hard-charging Kaukauna, 67-64, in an early-season Fox Valley Association showdown Friday night.

Spartan standouts Steven Clark and Xzavion Mitchell combined for 50 points and helped North build a 58-44 lead midway through the second half before the Spartans closed out the win.

"This is a very good win for us and something our group needed," head coach Brad Weber said. "Normally we have a few non-conference games under our belt before conference play, but we didn't have our holiday tournament this season. Knowing that we didn't have those games on our schedule, this was one of those games that made you wonder about the type of team that you have. I loved this game as a coach because we faced a really good program and were able to teach the kids the right way."

The Spartans offense went as far as their dynamic duo took them, and Mitchell and Clark definitely shined.

Clark overcame a slow start to finish with 20 points, 16 coming in the second half.

Mitchell ended up with 30 points – 15 in each half – while also grabbing a team-high seven rebounds.

"You can see the numbers these kids put up and understand why they are D-1 talents," Weber said. "However, it isn't about the numbers when it comes to these guys as they are some of the easiest kids to coach and two of the hardest workers on the floor.



Photo by Dustin Riese

Oshkosh North's Bryce Ott dumps a pass inside against Kaukauna last Friday.

You are going to have plenty of D-1 talent around the state, but the ones who are the most coachable are the ones that are going to have the most success."

Had it not been for a couple of Bryce Ott buckets early, Mitchell would've been the entire offense as he scored both outside and in the paint.

A long 3-pointer from the left wing by Mitchell gave the Spartans a 22-9 lead, but the Ghosts answered with an 18-7 run

capped off by a half-court heave from Carson Awe to take a 27-26 lead into intermission.

Although not happy to be down one at the half, the door was open for North to take over and they went right to work in the second half. Ott and Jackson Anderson each hit a basket as part of a 7-0 run to take a 33-27 lead.

The Ghosts fought back to regain the lead at 34-33 but that was the final lead

Kaukauna would have.

Clark and Mitchell scored 12 of the team's next 14 points with Mitchell accounting for seven of those 12. He would then go on to hit a pair of free throws to give the Spartans their largest lead of the game as they were in command 51-39.

"I can't have the game I had tonight without giving my teammates all of the credit," Mitchell said. "Without them and their efforts none of this would be possible. As a player, I know what I am capable of doing and they can read that when we are on the floor. Without them, I don't have games like this because all of those points come from the plays they make to get me the ball."

Stefan Stolicovic found his way into the score column on a great pass from Clark leading to another easy bucket from Ott on the ensuing possession as the Spartans stretched to a 58-44 advantage.

The Ghosts got as close as 60-57 and then cut the margin to 62-60 but could not get any closer.

"As a group, we want to face the best competition we can and these are the environments I love to be in," Mitchell said. "With us not having our holiday tournament, we have had three weeks to practice together and build the chemistry we needed to prepare for Kaukauna. They are an incredible team and we always have great battles with them. In the end we came together as a group and made the plays we needed to make."

The Spartans defense stepped up when it needed to and made things as tough as possible for Kaukauna at the buzzer as a

SEE **North boys** ON PAGE 24

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Knights can't find rhythm in loss to Trojans

By Steve Clark
OSKOSH HERALD

Lourdes Academy boys basketball coach Brett Baehman knows what his team this year can look like when things are clicking offensively.

Last Friday against Dodgeland, he never quite saw it.

Dodgeland's pressure defense kept the Knights out of their rhythm for much of the night as Lourdes Academy dropped a 57-51 decision at The Castle in an early-season Trailways East tussle.

"We have to find a way to get easy hoops and get into a rhythm and we never really found that," Baehman said. "Their pressure got us out of our game and that's been our story. Give credit to them."

The Knights led much of the first half but a late Dodgeland surge gave the Trojans the lead and Lourdes Academy could never climb back on top.

Dodgeland led by as many as 14 points in the second half before a late flourish by the Knights narrowed the gap to five with just less than a minute to play. That would be as close as Lourdes Academy would get.

"We scrambled them a little bit in that final minute, but we just couldn't get over that hump. Maybe one or two shots away," JJ McKellips said. "We will get in the gym and get better as a team and we will see them down a road."

McKellips was one of the bright spots in the loss finishing with 27 points and four rebounds. He scored 16 of the Knights' 23 points in the first half to keep Lourdes Academy in the game.

The senior knocked down three

3-pointers in the game, but it was in the lane where he did most of his damage. McKellips went 10-of-11 at the free-throw line as his aggressive play inside routinely drew fouls on the Trojans.

"It's something that has grown in my game the past couple of years for sure. From being a 3-point shooter to trying to get in the paint and get to the line and draw fouls," McKellips said. "It's just setting screens. Setting screens is so dynamic for me because they either have to help off of me or guard the guy coming off the screen. Trying to spark the offense from there."

McKellips' performance at the foul line highlighted a big advantage the Knights had in the game. Lourdes finished 18-of-19 from the foul line as a team, while Dodgeland finished just 10-of-21.

Baehman liked the way his team was able to generate free throws with the aggressive play.

"It shows that we are aggressive and we are getting to the line but now we have to start using that," Baehman said. "We have to know that free throws can be just as big as a 3-pointer. Our mentality seems to be we need that 3-pointer for a big shot - free throws can be big shots, especially with the way we were rolling."

Dominic Bauer's 3-pointer midway through the first half gave the Knights' their biggest lead of the night at 14-7. Two free throws from McKellips and a layup by Braden Studinski answered an 8-0 Dodgeland run to push the Knights ahead by three points before the Trojans outscored Lourdes Academy 14-5 over the final

SEE **Lourdes boys** ON PAGE 24



Photo by Andy Ratchman

Lourdes Academy's JJ McKellips (55) gets fouled while putting up a shot against Dodgeland last Friday night.

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Veteran Wildcats have sights set high entering season

Oshkosh Herald

With a handful of wrestlers who won at least 30 matches a season ago returning, including a pair of state qualifiers, the Oshkosh West wrestling team is primed for a big season in 2023-24.

Head coach Matt Cuadra will be sending an experienced group to the mat and he is hoping that the Wildcats will be a force in the Fox Valley Association.

"This year, Oshkosh West has many opportunities to do some things that haven't been done here before at West," Cuadra commented.

Wrestling OUTLOOK

"If the team stays focused like they are right now, I believe we will capitalize on those opportunities."

Even with the high level of competition in the Fox Valley Association – headlined by defending state champion Kaukauna – Cuadra believes that the Wildcats can compete with the best the conference has to offer.

"I believe that we will be one of the top teams in the FVA this year," Cuadra commented. "We have our goals set high and I anticipate our team achieving those goals."

Headlining Oshkosh West's group of returnees this season will be senior Garth Martell and junior Ryland Schneider, both of whom advanced to the state tournament last year.

Schneider posted a win at the Kohl Center in his trip last year before bowing out, while Martell was knocked out in the preliminary round. Still, there is definitely a benefit to wrestling at the state

tournament for both the wrestlers and the team.

"Having the experience of what it's like to get to go and see it benefits them greatly," Cuadra said. "Getting to see what the competition is like there will allow them to push themselves and the team this year."

Martell finished with 40 wins last year, while Schneider posted a 36-17 record and the two are expected to be leaders of the team once again.

Joining that duo from last season are juniors Edwyn Schroeder (40-6), Jaiden Fronczak (31-15) and Nelson Fournier, who finished one victory short of the 30-win plateau.

With Schneider making the jump to 157 combined with the shift in weight classes this season, the heavier weights should be a strength of the team with Schneider, Fronczak (165), Fournier (215) and Martell (285).

But the Wildcats will have experience and depth in the lighter weights as well making for a formidable lineup.

"There are many guys returning that are going to help us this year," Cuadra said.

Oshkosh North

The Spartans graduated 12 seniors from last year's squad and will turn to plenty of new faces as they compete in the FVA this season.

Senior Hunter Gruse will be one of the leaders of the young group, while sophomore Anthony Berger is the lone sectional qualifier returning for head coach Michael Kositzke's squad.

"We are a very young team, but I am

very excited by the hard work and dedication I have seen so far," Kositzke commented. We have 15 new wrestlers out this year. With that youth, I expect some growing pains and mistakes. We are focused on working hard, getting better and building a foundation for the future."

With such a young team, Kositzke knows that competing in the traditionally strong FVA will be a difficult road.

"The FVA is a very tough and deep conference. We are currently focused on working hard each day to get better and keep improving," Kositzke commented. "I am excited for our numbers in the lower grades as they show athleticism and a good work ethic."

Lourdes/Valley Christian

With one state tournament veteran and another wrestler on the verge of making it to Madison, the Lourdes Academy/Valley Christian squad has a pretty formidable 1-2 punch.

But there will be much more to the Knights' lineup this season.

Leading the way, though, is senior Mase Carpenter, a three-time podium finisher at the state tournament including the last two seasons as a state runner-up. He has already signed to continue his wrestling career at St. Cloud State next year but could end his prep career by making the top step of the awards podium at the Kohl Center.

"The talent and skills have always been there, but Mase seems to be more relaxed this year and having fun," head coach Steve Heinzl said. "He's always wrestled his best when he's been relaxed and having fun. If that continues all season he's

going to be scary to wrestle. I can't wait to see it."

Hunter Stelzer also returns for the Knights after winning 23 matches last year and qualifying for sectionals in his first year of varsity wrestling. Heinzl believes the heavyweight is on track for an even bigger season and has the potential to join Carpenter at the state tournament.

The Knights also return senior Riley Zernzach, juniors Remy Force and Vinnie Force and sophomore Johnny Santiago, who were also first-year varsity wrestlers last season.

"I expect to see a huge jump from last year to this year from those four," Heinzl said. "Last year, they were just learning and now with a year under their belts we can start to build on it."

Heinzl said the Knights will have a roster of 10 entering the season and he hopes that the senior leadership he has in the room will help build the program for the future.

"We have a great mix of veteran leadership and new young guys with a lot of potential. Having the opportunity for the young guys to watch and follow the lead and example of guys like Mase and Hunter will be important for them to be able to carry that on in the future when they're the leaders of the team," Heinzl said. "We're still a little on the inexperienced side with most of the guys being first- or second-year high school wrestlers so the beginning of the season may be a little rough but by the end of the season I expect to see great things from all of them."

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Prep sports roundup

BOYS BASKETBALL

Taylor's big night delivers win to West

Senior Dylan Taylor put up a huge double-double to lead Oshkosh West to a 76-50 win over Appleton West in a Fox Valley Association contest on Friday.

Taylor erupted for 31 points and 13 rebounds – both career-highs – to key the Wildcats' win. He finished 13-of-25 from the floor in the game.

Taylor was the lone player in double figures for West, which led 32-22 at the half. Drew Blair and Tyler Moderson each chipped in seven points.

Valley Christian suffers pair of losses

Vally Christian dropped two games on

back-to-back days, losing a nonconference game at Marion 50-37 last Thursday, before falling at home to Oakfield, 68-34, on Friday.

Joshua Johnson finished with 10 points and eight rebounds against Marion to lead the Warriors, who were held to just nine points in the first half.

Derek Wallace paced Valley Christian against Oakfield with 11 points, while Dennis Thur and Johnson each chipped in seven points.

GIRLS BASKETBALL

North girls dealt first loss by Kaukauna

Oshkosh North played a strong second half at home against Kaukauna last Friday but couldn't overcome a 14-point halftime deficit in a 70-56 loss to the Ghosts.

Awut Alic scored 18 points and Ava Hanson added 15 points for the Spartans, who played even with Ghosts in the second half as each team scored 37 points. Brinna Paulson added eight points and Nyedeng Awak added seven for the Spartans.

Earlier in the week, North beat Appleton West 62-43 behind 19 points from Alic and 13 from Hanson.

Wildcats collect easy win over Terrors

Oshkosh West held Appleton West to just 16 points in the first half and cruised to a 72-35 win over the Terrors last Friday.

Laina Hammen led Oshkosh West with 12 points, followed by Charlee Martin with 11 and Grace Lenz with 10.

The Wildcats were coming off a 71-46 loss to Hortonville last week. West trailed

37-28 at halftime and were held to just 18 points in the second half.

Bralee Jodarski scored 12 points and Paige Seckar added 10 points and six rebounds for the Wildcats.

Warriors can't keep pace with Oaks

Trailways East powerhouse Oakfield held Valley Christian in check last Thursday, handing the Warriors a 61-39 loss.

Anna Y. Giannopoulos finished with 16 points and 10 rebounds to lead the way for the Warriors, who trailed 29-17 at halftime. Mya Moran and Lizzie Fink each added seven points.

The loss followed a 58-51 win on the road at Central Wisconsin Christian where four Warriors reached double fig-

SEE **Prep roundup** ON PAGE 22

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Prep roundup

FROM PAGE 21

ures. Fink led the team with 20 points, while Anna E. Giannopoulos finished with 14 points and 10 rebounds. Anna Y. Giannopoulos added 10 points and 10 rebounds, while Moran also kicked in 10 points.

BOYS WRESTLING

Carpenter, Stelzer lead Knights at invite

Mason Carpenter dominated the 138-pound field and Hunter Stelzer took second place in the heavyweight division to lead the Lourdes Academy/Valley Christian wrestling team at the Sgt. Nick Mueller Memorial Tournament in Little Chute on Saturday.

Carpenter needed a combined 1-minute, 50 seconds to record pins in his first two matches of the tournament and then scored a 13-0 win over Wrightstown's Louis Hock in the 138-championship match.

Stelzer reached the title match by pinning his first two opponents in 37 and 27 seconds. Stelzer lost in the finals to Weyauwega-Fremont's Vanden Hoffman.

Riley Zernzach went 1-2 on the day at 190 pounds but did not place.

Thompson-Schreck leads North at Invitational

Jamond Thompson-Schreck went 3-1 to place fifth at 150 pounds at the 16-team Gunslinger invitational on Saturday.

Thompson-Schreck posted a pair of pins in the win, while also pulling out a sudden-victory win.

Alex Barrera (106) and Andrew Brockman (144) each added eighth-place finishes, while Anthony Berger (132) and Antonio Thompson (190), who was injured at the tournament, each placed 10th.

Spartans split pair of FVA dual meets

Oshkosh North came away with a win and a loss in a Fox Valley Association double dual last week, falling to powerhouse Appleton North 66-9, before rebounding for a 48-18 win over Appleton East.

In the win over the Patriots, Hunter Gruse started the match with a pin, followed by Carson Johnson's win by forfeit at 190 pounds. The Patriots came back to tie the match at 12, but Alex Barrera scored a pin at 106 pounds to boost the Spartans back in front and North won six of the seven final matches.

Anthony Berger (132), Jamond Thompson-Schreck (150) and Mohammed Aljassim (165) each won by pin for the Spartans, while Camden Watson (138) and

Anthony Nguyen (157) won by forfeit. Tyler Garland (126) also picked up a forfeit win for North.

Against Appleton North, Nguyen won by pin and Berger collected a decision win to account for the Spartans points.

Oshkosh West drops dual meet to Ghosts

The Wildcats won just three matches in a showdown with the defending state champions.

Nelson Fournier highlighted the dual meet for West by pinning Sam Weber in 2:47 in the 215-pound bout, while Edwyn Schroeder won by technical fall at 144 pounds.

The Wildcats also got a win from heavy-weight Garth Martell who topped Nehemiah Lendobeia 6-1 in overtime.

GIRLS WRESTLING

Oshkosh West sends duo to Papermaker Invitational

Samantha Bryant went 2-3 to finish in eighth place for Oshkosh West at the Kimberly Papermaker Girls Invitational on Saturday.

Bryant (128) won her first two matches, including one by pin.

Sarah Mrazek also placed eighth at 120 pounds.

SWIMMING

West, North/Lourdes compete at West invite

The Oshkosh West and Oshkosh North/Lourdes swim teams were separated by just nine points in the final standings of the nine-team Oshkosh West invite on Saturday.

The Wildcats finished seventh with 141

points, while North/Lourdes totaled 132 points to take eighth.

Caleb Bergin posted a pair of top-five finishes to lead Oshkosh West, placing third in the 200-yard freestyle and fourth in the 500-yard freestyle. Dane Dodge added a third-place finish in the 50-yard freestyle and Carter Crowe was fifth in the 100-yard freestyle.

Other top 10 individual finishes for the Wildcats were: Crowe, seventh in the 100-yard breaststroke; Isaac Palomaki, ninth in the 100-yard butterfly; and Jack Loper, 10th in the 50-yard freestyle.

West also placed fifth in the 400-yard freestyle relay with a team of Crowe, Dodge, Palomaki and Bergin.

Leading North/Lourdes was Sawyer Sharratt, who placed ninth in the 100-yard breaststroke and Emilijus Daubaras and Dylan Anderson who were both 10th in the 100-yard butterfly and 100-yard freestyle, respectively.

North/Lourdes' best finish in a relay came in the 200-yard freestyle relay where the team of Sharat, Daubaras, Trip Kujawa and David Tjugum took seventh.

BOYS HOCKEY

Ice Hawks tripped by Waupun last week

The Oshkosh Ice Hawks tied the game up three different times but never took the lead in a 4-3 loss to Waupun last week.

Evan Neitzel tallied a pair of goals and Nolan Thurn had another for Oshkosh, who tied the game at 1 after the first period, while pulling even at 3 after two periods.

Neitzel and Evan Paulick picked up assists in the game.

Gage Bauer made 46 saves in goal for the Ice Hawks.

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Oshkosh North's Clark is one of state's elite players

By Tim Froberg
HERALD CONTRIBUTOR

A fun fact about Steven Clark is that he has experience as a beekeeper.

Clark has been stung more than a few times, but he's done the same to countless Oshkosh North opponents.

Clark's stinger is his prolific scoring ability and it's a major weapon.

The North standout is one of the premier players in the Oshkosh area, the Fox Valley Association and the entire state. A 6-foot-6 guard/forward, Clark is a fourth-year starter who was a first-team all-FVA selection last season after averaging 23.6 points, 4.8 rebounds, 3.4 assists and 2.7 steals for a solid 16-9 (12-6 FVA) Spartans team. He drained 46 3-pointers and shot 50.5 percent from the floor and 75.4 percent from the foul line.

"Steven is an elite scorer," said North coach Brad Weber. "He has more scoring tools than any player I've coached in 25 years."

That's quite a statement considering that Weber coached the likes of Indiana Pacers star point guard Tyrese Haliburton, who led the Spartans to the 2018 WIAA Division 1 state title.

"This (Clark's scoring ability) doesn't just happen by accident," Weber said. "Stevie is a gym rat. He's constantly in the gym honing his craft and finding new approaches to enhance his game."

Clark made an instant impact with the Spartans' program. He quickly earned a starting position as a freshman and averaged 11.9 points, 4.8 rebounds and 2.1 assists with 18 3-pointers. As a sophomore, Clark bumped those numbers to 19.6 ppg, 5.6 rpg and 2.3 apg with 29 threes.

Clark entered Friday's season opener at Kaukauna with 1,396 career points and has an opportunity to make state history this season. Barring injury, Clark has a decent chance to reach 2,000 career points. If he hits that prestigious mark, he'll join his father, Brad, in the exclusive club and make the Clarks the first fa-

Senior spotlight

ther-son duo in Wisconsin prep basketball history to score 2,000 career points.

Brad, the all-time leading scorer at Markesan High School and Wisconsin's Mr. Basketball of 1996, ranks 14th on Wisconsin's all-time boys' basketball scoring list with 2,269 career points. Brad took his scoring skills to the University of Wisconsin-Oshkosh where he became a three-time all-Wisconsin Intercollegiate Athletic Conference first-team selection. He is the Titan's sixth all-time leading scorer with 1,692 career points.

Brad went on to guide the Oshkosh West boys' basketball team from 2001-2012 as both an assistant and a head coach. He was an assistant coach at Ripon from 2012-15 before returning to the prep ranks as a head coach for four years at Lourdes Academy. Brad, who is now an assistant coach at Oshkosh North, is a member of the Wisconsin Basketball Coaches Association Hall of Fame.

Athletics run deep in Steven's family. His mother, Erin, was a top-notch prep volleyball player, while Erin's father, Steve Randall, was the long-time boys' basketball coach at Oshkosh West where he turned a struggling program into a powerhouse before passing away unexpectedly in 2004.

"It would mean a lot to me to be able to join my dad (as a 2,000-point scorer)," said Steven. "I know I'm not going to score more than he did. He was pretty dominant."

So is Steven, a left-hander who can score from practically anywhere on the court. He's a slasher who consistently gets in the lane and scores off the dribble, but has good mid-range shooting ability.

"I'm more of a finesse, go-by-you type of guy," said Steven. "My dad was just a complete all-around guy. He would shoot from the outside, but not as much



Oshkosh Herald

Oshkosh North senior Steven Clark will be headed to Colgate University next year after leading the Spartans this season.

SEE **Senior spotlight** ON PAGE 24

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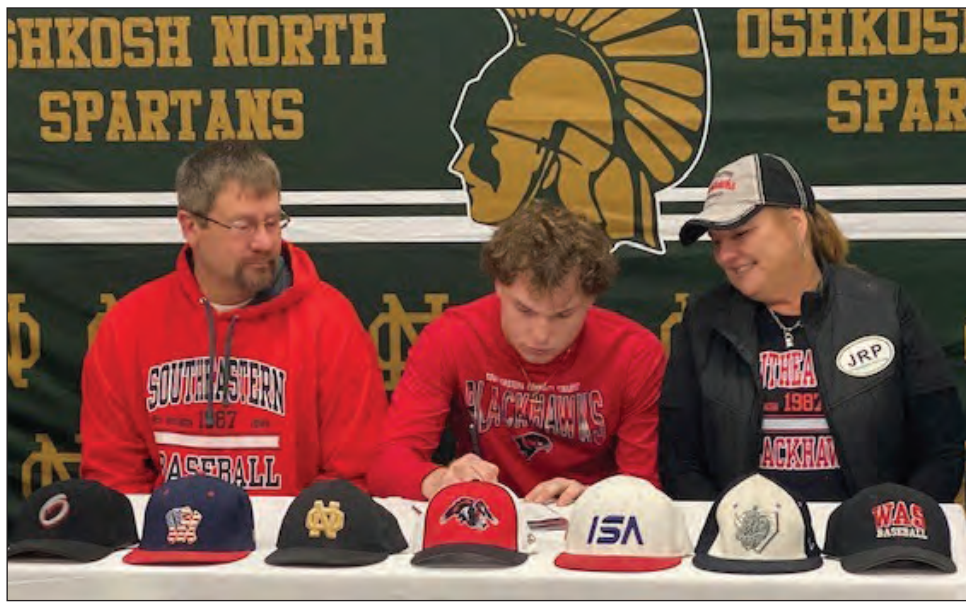
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Angell signs

Oshkosh North senior Colton Angell, flanked by his parents Jesse and Michelle, signed his National Letter of Intent recently to continue his baseball career at Southeastern Community College in Iowa. Southeastern finished second at the JUCO World Series last season.

Lourdes boys

FROM PAGE 19

three minutes of the first half to take a 29-23 lead at intermission.

Dodgeland scored the first five points of the second half to take a double-digit lead but a three-point play from Mitchell Wing started a 7-0 Knights' run to narrow the margin to 34-30.

But Lourdes Academy managed just one field goal – a 3-pointer from Bauer – over a nine-minute span as Dodgeland built its lead to 53-39 with just under five minutes to play.

"We just have to find a way to play our ball when someone is trying to force us to play a pressure game," Baehman said. "I never really felt that urgency of we were doing something."

McKellips then scored seven straight points for the Knights to pull within seven before another three-point play from Wing with 1:24 to play kept Lourdes Acad-

emy within striking distance.

After Dodgeland missed two free throws, Wing – who added 10 points – made two foul shots with 40 seconds left to pull the Knights to within 56-51 but Dodgeland was able to keep Lourdes Academy from adding to its total and held on for the win.

"They sped us up and we couldn't hit shots. It's a bad formula for us right there," McKellips said. "This game was a gut check for us to find out who we are. I'm excited for the grind with all of these guys."

Although disappointed with the loss, Baehman agreed that there were positives to take from the game and it was a contest that this group could build on.

"We told the guys, they played hard but now we have to play hard in the right way," Baehman said. "That's the best part – it's still early and it's good to have a game like this right away. We have the talent, it's just missing that mentality right now. We have to find that urgency of wanting to put teams away, especially at home."

Senior spotlight

FROM PAGE 23

as I do. He was more of a back-you-down guy who could shoot the fader. We have totally different games."

The most common characteristic the Clarks share is a fierce competitiveness.

"It was his competitive nature to will his team to win," Steven said. "I'm the same way. I don't like to lose."

Steven's success on the court is no surprise. As the son of a basketball coach, he tagged along with Brad to team practices and shot hoops on the sideline while his father coached.

"I was maybe two or three when I actually understood what to do with a basketball and started shooting at those Little Tykes hoops," said Steven. "I'd go to practices with my dad and just shoot, shoot and shoot. I have all kinds of memories of being a ball boy with my dad's teams and watching the games from the bench."

Brad has always been a major influence in Steven's life and he listens when his father speaks.

"He's coached a lot of teams and scored a lot of points," Steven said. "He has that extra knowledge that you appreciate. He's made such a big impact in my life. I went to the gym with him pretty much every day as a kid and we still find time to get to the gym in our spare time and get some shots up."

Steven is more than just an elite basketball player. He's also a high-honors student, carrying an impressive 3.7 grade-point average. Stevie will take his athletic and academic skills to Colgate University next year, where he has accepted a full Division 1 basketball scholarship after receiving numerous offers from more than 30 suitors, including D-1 offers from UW-Green Bay, Murray State, Valparaiso and St. Thomas (Minn.)

"Just the way that Colgate program has consistently won and produced so many players – that's what made a difference," Stevie said. "They have made five or six March Madness appearances in a

row and I really liked the coaching staff. Everyone on their coaching staff played Division 1 ball which is super rare and I really liked their personalities."

Stevie is considering astrophysics as a possible major.

"I've always liked physics and space," he said. "It's just nice to get the recruiting part done. A lot of people don't understand recruiting. I wouldn't say it's super stressful, but it can be overwhelming. Recruiting is a different dog."

In his final year at North, Clark will team with another outstanding player, Xzavion Mitchell, to form a two-headed monster that should make the Spartans a serious contender in the rugged FVA.

"We have four guys who are 6-5 or taller, so the height is there and we have shooters everywhere," said Steven. "We have a lot of good experience and our younger players are super competitive guys who want to win – just like me. Everyone always questions our depth, but I think this will be a really good team."

Steven can handle more than just a basketball. He actually knows his way around a beehive.

"My grandma lives close to us and I've gone there and removed hives and done everything a beekeeper does," Steven said. "I've tended to the bees and have harvested the honey from the hives and sold it."

"It's something I really don't have to do. I've just done it for fun. It's more of a hobby, but I might have to let it go because I developed an allergy last year after having been stung so many times."

Weber is going to miss coaching Clark and not just because of his incredible knack of rifling one shot after another through the hoop.

"As good as a player as he is, Steven is so much more than a basketball player," Clark said. "He's a phenomenal brother, student, sports enthusiast, friend, teammate and beekeeper. I have really appreciated getting to know him better and seeing how his investment in his teammates has brought this team closer together."

North boys

FROM PAGE 18

3-point attempt was off the mark

"Our message coming into this game was to set the tone for the season," Weber said. "We needed to show that we could be a defensive team and we did that tonight. That hasn't been our mantra the past few seasons and it has been spoken about. Tonight we proved that a strong defensive effort is part of our team and we are going to build off of that for the rest of the season."

Obituaries

Nancy L. Leivian

Nancy L. (Marine) Leivian, 91, died peacefully in her sleep on Saturday December 2, 2023, after a long battle with Alzheimer's. She had been wonderfully cared for at Park View Health Center, Parkside 2, memory care unit for 6 1/2 years. Nancy was born in Detroit, MI on March 5, 1932, to Aileen Marine. She lived in her younger years in Trenary, MI raised by her grandmother and aunts and uncles, especially Uncle Toivo Mariin. After graduating high school, she moved to Denver CO. where she met her loving husband, Julius (Jay) Leivian and they married on December 27, 1951. In January 1959 they moved to Oshkosh, WI where they lived the rest of their lives raising their 4 children.

Nancy worked outside the home in the Oshkosh area school district as a food service cook for 20 years. In retirement, Nancy worked for EAA in the finance department as support staff. She was also very active with the Lourdes Ambassadors, Mercy Hospital volunteer, and loved making crafts for many church functions. She always was busy either knitting, crocheting, crafting home decor and visiting local casinos. She loved gardening and having many flowers around their home. Her greatest interest was watching and going to Green Bay Packers games as well as following all her grandchildren's sporting events. Green and Gold were her favorite colors.

Nancy is survived by 1 daughter-in-law: Karen Leivian, 3 children: Steven (Cyndi) Leivian, Teresa (Paul) Prond, and Mary (Ste-

ven) Taylor, 11 grandchildren, and 9 great grandchildren.

She was preceded in death by her husband, Julius (Jay), 1 son: Michael Leivian, parents, grandmother, aunts, and uncles.

A Memorial Service for Nancy will be held on Saturday December 9, at 12:00 PM in Fiss & Bills-Poklasny Funeral Home (865 S Westhaven Oshkosh). Inurnment will follow in Sacred Heart Cemetery. Family and friends may call at the Funeral Home on Saturday from 10:30 AM until the hour of services.

In lieu of flowers, please offer donations to Park View Health Center in Oshkosh WI or the charity of choice in memory of Nancy Leivian.

The Leivian Family would like to extend special thanks to the Parkside 2 staff, at Park View Health Center, especially Annie and Kim who knew Nancy's "sassy" side the best. We really appreciate your loving care.

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Guy Alan Redlin

Guy Alan Redlin, age 52, of Oshkosh, passed away unexpectedly after a brief illness on Saturday, December 2, 2023. He was born on August 4, 1971 in Oshkosh a son of Peter Lee and Joan Elizabeth (Griedl) Redlin. He married Kim Marie Tierney on July 23, 2005. Guy greatly enjoyed disc golf, coaching his son's soccer team, was a fantasy football fanatic, loved halloween, comic collecting and collecting vintage owls. He will be sadly missed by all who knew and loved him. He is survived by and his memory will be cherished by his wife, Kim; his son, Grayson; his father, Pete Redlin of Pickett; a brother, Jason (Reynette) Redlin; a sister, Wendy (Dan) Buehring both of Oshkosh. He is further survived by a brother-in-law, Jim Tier-

ney and a sister-in-law, Nicole Tierney; aunts, uncles, nieces, nephews, other relatives and many dear friends. He was preceded in death by his mother, Joan Redlin; father and mother-in-laws, Dennis Andrew and Grace Jean Tierney. A memorial service celebrating his life will be held on Thursday, December 7, 2023 at 6:00 pm in First English Lutheran Church, 1013 Minnesota Street in Oshkosh with the Rev. Jon Wills officiating. A time of visitation and support will be held at the church on Thursday from 4 pm until the time of service. Relaxed attire requested, anything blue, or super hero or star wars. In lieu of floral expressions a memorial fund will be established. The family wishes a special thank you to St. Luke's ICU in Milwaukee and Versiti for the amazing care of both Guy and his family. Guy, "may the force be with you!" With love, your family.

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Obituaries

Janice A. Peerenboom

Janice "Jan" Audrey Peerenboom, devoted wife, mother, grandmother, great-grandmother, and great-great-grandmother, passed away at Aurora Medical Center on Monday, November 27, 2023. She will be sadly missed by all who knew her. She was born February 10, 1925 to the late Louis and Pearl Wegner. She married Raymond Peerenboom on December 21, 1944 in California where he was stationed in the Navy. They were married 49 years.

Jan was a lifelong member of St. John's Evangelical Lutheran Church. She was a devoted Christian and was an active member of St. John's. She was a faithful participant in the Altar Guild, Martha Circle, and assisted with counting the weekly offerings.

Jan enjoyed playing cards, line dancing until age 92, but most of all, spending time with her family. Jan always said her greatest accomplishment in life was being a mother to her six wonderful children.

Jan is survived by her children: Lonnie Peerenboom of Green Bay and his daughter-in-law, Sydney Peerenboom of Colorado. Susan (Norris II) Krohn of Florida and their children, Kelly (Mark) Northway and Norris Krohn III. Kelly and Mark with their son, Travis, live in Iowa. They also have a son Garrett of Oregon, and daughter, Morgan (Alain) of Vienna Austria. Travis has one son, Hayes. Norris III (Keila) has one daughter, Lauren, all three of Georgia. Rene (Byron) Malsin of Oshkosh, Rene's son, Adam



(Holly) Hackbarth of Ripon with their children, Emily and Austin. Daughter, Ann (Jon) Stephens and daughters Elliot and Emma of Greenville, WI. Byron's daughters, Rebecca of California and Elizabeth of Milwaukee. Lisa (Ridge) Stumpf of Oshkosh, and Ridge's daughter, Molly, of Milwaukee. Jodi Komorowski has two daughters, Jaime and Jessica, and one son, Jacob. Jaime (Eric) McGuan and children, Gavin and Charlotte of Menasha. Jessica (Rick) Van den Bloomer and children Lilly and Hunter of De Pere. Jacob (Brianne) Komorowski of Oshkosh. Beth Peerenboom and son Tyler (Ashley Hinz) Rumlow of Oshkosh. She is further survived by her brother Gary Wegner of Washington, as well as nieces, nephews and friends.

In addition to her parents, Jan was preceded in death by her husband Raymond, who passed away January 2, 1994. Also, Grandson, Ryan Peerenboom as well as infant brother Keith Wegner, and sisters Faye Mix and Maxine Pomerening.

A memorial service for Jan will be held at St. John's Ev. Lutheran Church, 808 N. Main St. on Saturday, December 9, 2023 at 11:00 AM. Visitation will be held at the church from 10:00 AM until the time of the service.

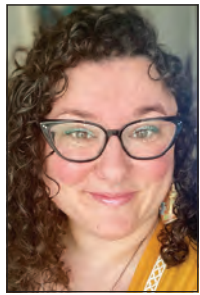
It would be appreciated, if in lieu of flowers, memorials be made to St. John's Ev. Lutheran Church.

The family would like to express their deepest thanks to the staff of Evergreen Retirement Community for their kind and compassionate care.

KONRAD-BEHLMAN
FUNERAL HOMES

Kylie Alexandra Montee

The life of a brilliant light was snuffed out too soon when Kylie Montee's physical body lost the battle with Ovarian Cancer on Tuesday, November 28, 2023. Her spirit was strong to the end; she kept her sweetness and sense of humor throughout all her hardships.



Kylie was born on March 30, 1988 in Fairfield, California. At the age of 13 she moved with her family to New Plymouth, Idaho. She earned her bachelor's degree at the University of Idaho before moving to Oshkosh, Wisconsin in 2013 with her immediate family. She would call Oshkosh Home for the rest of her life, where she made many connections and dear friends. She became heavily involved in theater at The Grand Oshkosh, where she spent time in both personal and professional capacities.

Kylie excelled at many different things in life, and loved cooking, singing, playing the violin and guitar, acting, knitting, reading, and making wonderful homeo-

pathic remedies. Her smile sparkled, her laugh was infectious and her voice was uplifting. She warmed the hearts of so many people. Kylie will live on in the hearts of her parents Claudia and James, brothers Tucker and Graham, sister Madison McCarney, brother-in-law Mark McCarney, nieces Claire, Aideen and Everly McCarney, and partner in life Abbi Dusing, as well as all of those who knew and loved her.

A Celebration of Kylie's Life will be held on Saturday, December 9 at 2:00pm at The Grand Oshkosh. Donations may be made in the form of flowers for her Celebration of Life, or as monetary donations in Kylie's name to The Grand Oshkosh.

KONRAD-BEHLMAN
FUNERAL HOMES

Wendy F. Rodman

Wendy Fredrick Rodman, age 84, of Oshkosh, WI left us on November 27th 2023.

She is survived by her husband Robert Rodman, three sons Scott Rodman (KS), Michael Rodman (CA), Jeff Rodman (TN), and five grandchildren Bridgette, Madeleine, Dylan, Saji and Ishan Rodman.

FISS & BILLS - POKLASNY
FUNERAL HOMES
& CREMATORY

Vern Klicko

Vern Klicko, 96, of Oshkosh, passed away on November 23rd, 2023. He is survived by his daughter Lori Klicko as well as extended family and friends. Details at Konrad-Behlman.com.

KONRAD-BEHLMAN
FUNERAL HOMES

Debra L. Ramminger

Debra L. Ramminger, age 72, of Oshkosh, died on Tuesday November 28, 2023 at Evergreen Retirement Community. She was born on January 8, 1951 in Oshkosh a daughter of Willis and Barbara Boede Manthey. On July 23, 1999 she married Sylvester "Sonny" Ramminger.



Debra loved gardening, fishing, spending time with her grandchildren, her dogs, cross stitch and vacationing in Vilas County on Palmer Lake. Debra had worked at Miles Kimball, Putzers Big & Tall and eventually retired from Bemis.

She is survived by her husband Sylvester "Sonny" Ramminger, son Shane Worden,

daughter Kimberly(Chad) Kremer, step-son Scott(Marcia) Ramminger, four grandchildren Corey Kremer, Ryan Kremer, Summer Ramminger, Makenna Ramminger, brother Randy(Sara) Manthey, five sisters Lisa(Jen) Manthey, Peggy Miller, JoAnn(Lowell) Opper, Connie(-Terry) Kelly, and Pamela(Chuck) Schneider.

She was preceded in death by her parents, a grandson Anthony Ramminger, one brother Marvin Manthey, and one sister Linda Manthey.

A funeral service for Debra will be held on Tuesday December 5, 2023 at 6:30 p.m. at Konrad-Behlman Funeral Homes-Westside. Visitation will be held on Tuesday at the funeral home from 4 p.m. until the time of the service.

In lieu of flowers a memorial has been established.

The family would like to thank the staff at Evergreen and Compassus Hospice.

KONRAD-BEHLMAN
FUNERAL HOMES

Gail A. Lee

Gail A. Lee, age 66, passed away on the morning of Friday, November 17, 2023, at Park View Health Center. She was born to the late Lewis and Harriett (Weymouth) Harrington on January 29, 1957, in Oshkosh.



Gail graduated from Oshkosh North in June of 1976. She married on August 28, 1976, at Algoma Boulevard United Methodist Church. She worked at Caroline Soap and Candle until her son, Brian was born. She then worked at Hour Bar and Restaurant as a waitress where she enjoyed meeting people from all over the world, especially during EAA. She also worked at Schoenbergers Pastry, a school lunch server and at Morgan Doors as a Door Clamp operator from 1996 until Morgan Doors Closed.

Gail enjoyed roller-skating, and bowling, as well as camping, swimming fishing, waterskiing, and boating. She also enjoyed cooking baking and family gatherings as well as working in craft and ceramic classes. She liked to spend time at the cottage on Lake Poygan. In her later years Gail

enjoyed playing BINGO. She also helped in the nursery at church during one of the services. She also helped with Campfire Girls activities. After her Father-in-law suffered a stroke, she was very helpful with taking care of him during his time of need.

Gail is survived by one son, Brian Lee; two daughters, Jenny and Stephanie Lee; five grandchildren, Madison Taylor, Alisa, Lional Ava and Preston Lee; three great-grandchildren, Cloe, Lyla, Nouxeng; brothers, George (Shirley), Robert, and Steve Harrington; sisters, Debbie (Tim) Liebert, and Pat (Chuck) Nitz.

In addition to her parents, Gail was preceded in death by her brothers, Roger, Jon, Gary, Doug, Keith, and Danny, as well as her sister, Betty Covey

A memorial service for Gail will be held at Konrad-Behlman Funeral Homes-Westside (100 Lake Pointe Dr) on Saturday, December 16 at 3PM. A time of visitation will be held from 1PM until the time of service.

The family would like to thank the staff at Park View Health Center for their amazing care they gave to Gail.

KONRAD-BEHLMAN
FUNERAL HOMES

Michael James Perdue

Michael James Perdue, proud father of two, passed away December 1, 2023 at Mercy Oakwood hospital. He was born in Milwaukee on September 3, 1956 to the late Orval and Judith (Kosmer) Perdue.



Mike spent his career as a retail manager, and even owned his own grocery store, Perdue's Red Owl. Mike enjoying spending his time traveling in his RV, gold pros-

pecting, camping, and collecting guns.

Mike is survived by his children Justin (Serena) and Nicole Perdue, as well as siblings Steve, Linda (Dan), Janet (Mike), as well as many nieces, nephews, and cousins. In addition to his parents, Mike is also preceded in death by his brother Jim and baby sister Teresa.

A time for visitation will be held at Konrad-Behlman Funeral Home-Westside, 100 Lake Pointe Dr. on Monday, December 11, 2023 from 4 pm to 6 pm.

KONRAD-BEHLMAN
FUNERAL HOMES

Library director

FROM PAGE 1

nity," Bracken said. "I am confident that he will be a dynamic advocate for literacy and learning, positioning the library as a vital resource and leader in building community."

Eschete graduated from Nicholls State University with a mass communications

degree. He then attended Louisiana State University in Baton Rouge, earning a master's in library and information science.

In addition to leadership roles in the Iowa Library Association Foundation, Eschete has been a featured blogger for the American Library Association Intellectual Freedom Roundtable. He also led his library's involvement in several West Des Moines community initiatives.

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HometownBroadcasting.com

Obituaries

Betty Lou Carter

Betty Lou Carter left this world on November 29, 2023 at the age of 97 surrounded by God's merciful love and peace. She was born on November 19, 1926 to William and Elsie (Lautenslager) Esslinger of Oshkosh. Betty was baptized and confirmed at Christ Lutheran Church and currently a member of the new Christ Our Savior Lutheran Church in Oshkosh. She attended and graduated from Oshkosh High School in 1945. In 1959 at the Roxy Bar of Oshkosh she met the love of her life Charles Carter and they were married on June 13, 1959. They made their home in



Pulaski, Wisconsin for the first 10 years of marriage where Charlie had founded the Carver Boat Company and built Carter Airport. In 1969 they moved to Florida, first to the East coast and then to Central Florida where along with nephew Mark Backus founded Carter Aircraft Corp. After 44 years of Florida life, they returned to Oshkosh to be with family.

Betty Lou, or lovingly nicknamed "Betts" had a very full and vibrant life. In her early years she worked as a bookkeeper for an appliance store and then went on to become the bookkeeper for her husband's business ventures. She was the president of the Christ Lutheran Church Businesswomen's Club of Oshkosh as well as the president of the Women's Golf Association in Sebring, Florida. She became an Elks Club member later in life. Golfing,

boating, shopping, traveling and playing bridge were her favorite activities. They belonged to several Country Clubs wherever they made their home and loved to throw parties for many of their life-long friends as well as family that often came to visit. She also loved to go to the casino and have weekly scratch off sessions with family and friends.

Betty had a very generous heart and always shared that with her family of stepchildren Gary/Karen Carter, Chuck/Pat Carter as well as her many nieces and nephews throughout her life. She was incredibly grateful for and loved all of them, especially for Chrissy Esselman, Mary and Mark Backus who were blessed to be her caretakers in her final years.

Betty Lou was preceded in death by the love of her life Charlie and his son Chuck and Granddaughter Toni Gayle. Her dear sisters June, Jane, and Germaine, nephews- Rick McGraw, Dennis McGraw, William (Billy) Faulk, niece- Cheryl (Faulk)

Spalding and great nephews Brandon and Nathan Backus and Mark Spalding.

A special Thank You to all the staff at Aspire Senior Living and Eden Meadows of Oshkosh, including the Doctors and Nurses at Aurora for the care and love you provided her.

Visitation for Betty will take place on Thursday, December 7, 2023 at Christ Our Savior Lutheran Church 1860 Wisconsin St. in Oshkosh from 10:00am to 12:00pm with service at 12:00pm officiated by Rev Connie Weiss. Luncheon to follow in the Fellowship Hall.

In lieu of flowers memorials can be made to: Christ Our Savior Lutheran Church Rise Against Hunger Fund

"FEAR NOT FOR I HAVE REDEEMED THEE, I HAVE CALLED YOU BY NAME THOU ART MINE"

Isaiah 43:1



Lynn J. Cuske

Lynn J. (Stowe) Cuske, age 87, passed away at home on Tuesday, November 28, 2023. She was born to the late William and Beatrice (Hewitt) Stowe in Oshkosh, WI on January 10, 1936.



Lynn attended the Slough Bridge School and Oshkosh High School. Lynn worked

at the 44 Outdoor Theatre for a while and then worked at Miles Kimball until she retired. While at Miles Kimball, she became the belt line supervisor.

Lynn Loved to go on vacations. One of her favorites was to rent a cottage by a lake with her family. She also enjoyed going on rides for the day and stopping at different places to look around.

Lynn liked having company over to play Dominos and other games. One of Lynn's

favorite hobbies was to bake. She was excellent and would give it away. Lynn would also make beautiful quilts which she gave to family members.

Lynn is survived by her children: Jackie (David) Wagner, Steve (Cindy) Cuske, Jim Cuske; grandchildren: Jenn (Mike) Dunn, Tracy (John) Feavel, Kimberly (Emily) Wagner, CJ Wagner, Cheyanne Wagner; 10 great grandchildren; brothers, Willard (Sandy Eble) Stowe and Larry (Arlene) Stowe; and many nieces and nephews.

In addition to her parents, Lynn was preceded in death by her husband, George and nine brothers and sister.

A service for Lynn will be held at Konrad-Behlman Funeral Homes-Westside (100 Lake Pointe Dr) on Saturday, December 9, 2023, at 4PM. A time of visitation will be held from 3PM until the time of service.



Richard A. Martens

Richard A. Martens, age 86, passed away at Ascension Mercy Medical Center in Oshkosh, WI on Sunday, November 19, 2023. He was born to the late Otis and Marguerite (Steinhoff) Martens on July 19, 1937, in Platteville, WI.



Richard went back to school to earn his bachelor's degree in 1991. He went on to teach and retired from teaching at Oshkosh Correctional. He loved to play cards, fish and do woodworking.

Richard is survived by his daughters Gina

(Jose) Perez, Molana Brewer, Loranda (John) Kimple, and son Warren (Amber) Brewer. He is also survived by seven grandchildren and five great-grandchildren.

In addition to his parents, Richard was preceded in death by his wife Lois, his parents, Otis and Marguerite Martens, and eight brothers and sisters.

A service for Richard will be held at First English Lutheran church in Platteville, WI on Wednesday, December 27th at 10:00am, with a luncheon to follow.

In lieu of flowers, please consider a donation to the American Heart Association.



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goodshepherdinoshkosh.com Good Shepherd Lutheran Church-Oshkosh

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You want to protect your loved ones from pain and doubt during a time of loss, but you may not know where to start. During this informative session, you will have the chance to learn about advance funeral planning options and how these decisions can help your loved ones at a time of loss. You will also learn how to avoid mistakes families sometimes make during times of grief. Plus, you will receive information about our exclusive **Guaranteed Funeral Plans**, which will benefit both you and your family. With the knowledge gained, you can make decisions you feel good about today and bring peace to your family when they need it most.

Advance registration is appreciated to assist us in preparations. Please call 920.231.1510 to make a reservation as there is limited seating or to get more information about our **Guaranteed Funeral Plans**.

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THE NUTCRACKER

It started as a story called "The Nutcracker and the Mouse King." A little more than 100 years ago, this beloved tale was made into a ballet called "The Nutcracker." It has become one of the most popular ballets.



A Special Gift for Clara

Herr Drosselmeyer brings a special gift for Clara—a nutcracker in the shape of a soldier. Her brother, Fritz, wants the nutcracker, grabs it and breaks it.

Help Herr Drosselmeyer fix the nutcracker.
 Draw the nutcracker's missing arm and leg, then color them.

ACT 1

In a small village, guests are arriving for a Christmas Eve party at the home of Dr. and Mrs. Stahlbaum and their children, Clara and Fritz.

Clara's godfather, Herr Drosselmeyer, brings toys for all the children.

Help Clara find these toys.



Standards Link: Reading Comprehension: Understand story elements: plot, conflict, resolution and structure.

The Midnight Battle

That night, an excited Clara cannot sleep. She sneaks downstairs to be with her new nutcracker doll. As the clock strikes midnight, strange things begin to happen ...

The Christmas tree grows to an enormous size and a great battle begins between the Mouse King and the Nutcracker, who comes to life to lead an army of toy soldiers.

Clara uses her  to kill the Mouse King and save the Nutcracker's life.

Standards Link: Reading Comprehension: Follow the sequence of events in a story.



Find at least 10 differences between the two pictures.

Extra! Extra!

Holiday Hunt

- Look through the newspaper for:
- 5 holiday pictures
 - 5 holiday words
 - 3 five-digit numbers
 - something sweet
 - 1 gift for a special person

Standards Link: Classify objects according to common attributes.

Standards Link: Recognize similarities and differences; visual discrimination.

CODE: A= E= H= O= S=

ACT II

The Nutcracker takes Clara on a fantastic journey, which ends at the Sugar Plum Fairy's palace in the Land of Sweets.



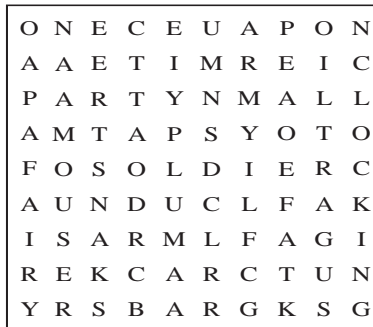
Can you find the sweets that match?

Standards Link: Visual discrimination.

Double Double Word Search

- NUTCRACKER
 MOUSE
 BALLET
 TOYS
 SOLDIER
 CLARA
 PLUM
 SUGAR
 FAIRY
 CLOCK
 TREE
 PARTY
 KING
 ARMY
 GRABS

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



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

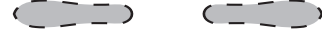
Kid Scoop FIT & FUN

Ballet Moves
 Can you match each kid to their ballet position?
 Can you stand in these poses, too?

First Position



Second Position



Third Position



Fourth Position



Fifth Position



Standards Links: Physical Education: Demonstrate a sense of balance and endurance.

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