

POSTAL CUSTOMER

PRST STD U.S. POSTAGE PAID OSHKOSH, WI PERMIT NO. 111

VOLUME 7, ISSUE 2

JANUARY 10, 2024 | OSHKOSHHERALD.COM



# INSIDE



Team players Service, therapy dogs fill critical roles Page 6

Dark stores Cities have been facing Walmart lawsuits Page 4

# Jail program sees recovery success

STAR made available to everyone in need

By Jonathan Richie Oshkosh Herald

The Winnebago County Jail has been utilizing a new program aimed at tackling addiction. Several groups are working to keep the program a success and keep the success rate high for people in recovery.

The STAR (Sobriety Treatment Assisted Recovery) program is available to all inmates 24/7. People in the program have access to recovery coaches and other ad-

diction-related resources throughout the community.



The program started as Medication-Assisted Treatment (MAT) and has transformed into the STAR program to offer more to people struggling with addiction. The jail partnered with Solutions Recovery, based in Oshkosh, in September 2022 to

bring in recovery coaches and other programming for people dealing with substance use problems.

Lt. Amber Rozek works in the jail and said people are offered the chance to join the STAR program as soon as they enter the jail in the booking process and may just start with a phone call later that day. They can join the program at any time during their stay for no cost. The program is voluntary as is every step in the program.

"It's great to have that wrap-around care so people have somewhere to go or someone to talk to when they are in here

SEE **STAR program** ON PAGE 7



#### Photo by Michael Coone

### **Central figure**

Simply Yoga classes in the Planet Purrrk cat area of Planet Perk Coffee House feature cats sharing the therapeutic space. Simply Yoga's Stephanie Wilburn Duwe describes the class as being "a mindful and intentional yoga practice" with the cats intuitively recognizing the calming effects yoga has on humans. Classes are from 6:30 to 7:30 p.m. today and every other Wednesday in January.



# West student slides way into wild winter sport

Luge talents land Palecek on U.S. natural track team

By Tim Froberg Herald contributor

Mason Palecek is a busy multisport ath-



Palecek

Track Luge Team announced recently by USA Luge, the national governing body for luge. Palecek is one of five sliders who departed Christmas Eve for an eight-week swing through Austria, Italy and Romania to repre-

Europe for competition and training. Palecek is a member of the U.S. Natural Track Luge Team an-

Submitted photo

U.S. Natural Track Luge team member Mason Palecek races in the first round of World Cup competition in Europe recently.

lete at Oshkosh West.

That doesn't mean you will find him on a basketball court, wrestling mat or diving board during the winter months.

Palecek's activity is a completely different animal – one that can be described as a true winter sport.

The 15-year-old sophomore is a luger, and he's showing such advanced skills in the difficult and dangerous sport that he's now in sent the U.S. in natural track luge World Cup competition that runs through February.

SEE Local luger on Page 9





36 Broad Street, Suite 300 Oshkosh, WI 54901

#### General information/customer

service: Julie Vandenberg julie@oshkoshherald.com Phone: 920-385-4512 Website: www.oshkoshherald.com

#### News tips and story ideas

submit@oshkoshherald.com businessbits@oshkoshherald.com

#### Support the Oshkosh Herald

#### Membership

A \$50 annual membership supports receiving the newspaper weekly. Call 920-385-4512 or visit www.oshkoshherald.com/store /membership.

#### Subscribe

For \$70 annually the Oshkosh Herald is mailed to non-delivery areas via first-class mail. Go to www.oshkoshherald.com/shop /subscribe or call 920-385-4512.

#### **Advertising**

advertise@oshkoshherald.com Mike Sohm: 920-508-0084 Andrew Beulen: 920-508-0119

#### **Classified advertising**

classifieds@oshkoshherald.com 920-385-4512

All advertisements are subject to the applicable rate card, copies of which are available from our Advertising Department. All ads are subject to approval before publication. Oshkosh Herald reserves the right to edit, refuse, reject, classify or cancel any ad at any time. Errors must be reported in the first day of publication. The Herald shall not be liable for any loss or expense that results from an error in or omission of an advertisement. No refunds will be given for early cancellation of an order.

Advertising deadline is noon Friday for the following Wednesday. The classified line ads deadline is 4 p.m. Friday for Wednesday.

#### Publisher

Karen Schneider, 920-858-6407 karen@oshkoshherald.com

# Newspaper building renovation advances

By Jonathan Richie OSHKOSH HERALD

First steps have been taken for remaking a former downtown newspaper building into an upscale hotel after the city's Plan Commission approved a facade alteration at the 216 State St. location.

Silicon Valley investor and Oshkosh native T.J. Rodgers announced plans last year to renovate the Oshkosh Northwestern building into a hotel with commercial and retail space, including a bar and restaurant.

Rodgers bought the building for \$2 million in 2021 and told the Rotary Club recently that he has been putting plans together for the building since then.

The city staff report presented to the Plan Commission noted the modifications will be complimentary to other buildings in the center city area.

The plans were submitted to the city and reviewed by staff, who recommended approving the facade modifications. The plans include removing existing metal panel to showcase the original brick exterior of the building.

Storefront style windows will be added to the facade where they previously existed and the entrance to the building will be modified for ADA accessibility.

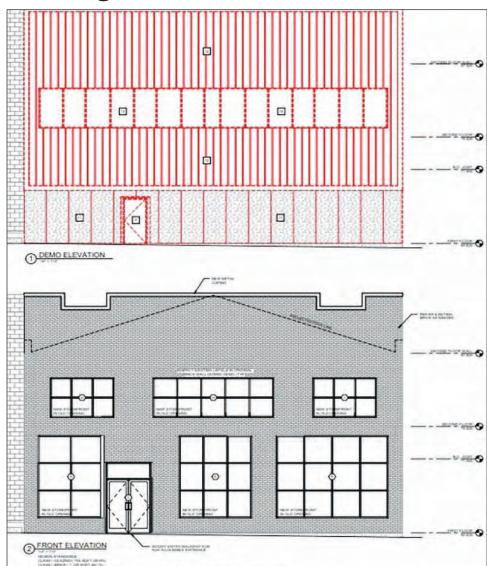
The Daily Northwestern building, built in 1929, was added to the U.S. National Register of Historic Places in 1982.

The commission approved the plans without any opposing votes. Member Kathleen Propp said she supported the plan and called it a "good design alteration."

The facade modifications will need final approval by the Common Council.



Saturday, January 13



ELEVATION FOR MATERIAL REFERENCE. BUILDING ELEVATIONS TO BE SUBMITTED TO PLAN COMMISSION AFTER FACADE DEMOLITION.

The Northwestern building's outside renovations will include removing the existing metal panel (top drawing) to showcase the brick exterior while adding storefront style windows.

#### Back in the Day



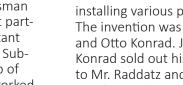
Oshkosh history by the Winnebago County Historical & Archaeological Society

### Jan. 12, 1899

ЦШ

咁

**Oshkosh Man Disposes of His Share** in Raddatz Submarine: It was just learned that Oshkosh businessman William Konrad, Jr. was a silent partner, part owner and also assistant builder in the famous Raddatz Submarine. Raddatz, with the help of local cooper August Schultz, worked together during the past ten years to construct what would be hailed as the first navigable submarine. Konrad was



Ь

曲

Source: Oshkosh Northwestern, Jan. 12, 1899



Photo from Ed Tiedje One of the first submarines built in Oshkosh is shown in 1897.

a machinist and assisted in making and installing various parts for the craft. The invention was funded by William and Otto Konrad. Just two days ago, Konrad sold out his interest in the boat to Mr. Raddatz and a group of investors from Milwaukee.

#### Editor

Dan Roherty, 920-508-0027 editor@oshkoshherald.com

#### Corrections

It is the policy of the Oshkosh Herald to correct all errors of fact. For correction information, call 920-385-4512.

#### About the newspaper

Published weekly and mailed free of charge Tuesdays for Wednesday delivery (may vary based on U.S. Postal Service and holidays) to more than 31,000 homes and businesses in the Oshkosh area.

Oshkosh Herald LLC, 36 Broad St., Suite 300, Oshkosh. An E-edition of the newspaper can be accessed at www.oshkoshherald.com.

#### Anytime 11 AM-2 PM

It's time to have some fun with time! Join us for making slap-bracelet watches and sundials as we learn about all things chronological.

Children 3 & under receive free admission. Family Discovery Days are free with Museum admission and for Museum members.



1331 Algoma Blvd, Oshkosh, WI 54901 Tue-Sat 10am-4:30pm • Sun 1-4:30pm 920.236.5799 • oshkoshmuseum.org

Lakshmi Deep, MD and the Elcho Aspirus Clinic

The family of Kathy Wolf is

deeply grateful for the care

given to her by the following:

Jennifer Nordin, MD - ThedaCare Physicians Neenah

> **Right At Home** Oshkosh

**Fox Valley Memory Project** Menasha

Mosaic Family Health RCI REACH Program Appleton

> Winnebago County ADRC Oshkosh

> > Lakeland Care Oshkosh

**Bethel Home Serenity Gardens** Oshkosh

**Compassus Hospice Services** Neenah Office

Natasha Garbe, NP and Kelsey Kienert, MD Fox Valley Ascension Medical Group

Konrad-Behlman Funeral Homes Oshkosh

Home of handcrafted Meads, Wines, & Ciders made from locally sourced honey & fruits. Dog-friendly outdoor seating!

G Like on FB © Instagram Rushmw99

920-468-6323 | rushmw.com 8389 Liberty School Road, Omro

# No primary needed in Common Council election

# Feb. 20 vote set for judge, county supervisor races

#### By Jonathan Richie Oshkosh Herald

Candidates have filed the proper paperwork and the ballots are just about ready for April.

The spring 2024 election on April 2 will have races for Common Council and Oshkosh Area School District Board of Education on the city level. There are also county supervisor seats and the Winnebago County Circuit Court branch 1 judge position on the ballot.

For Oshkosh's council there are five people running for three seats with none of the incumbents running for re-election. City Clerk Diane Bartlett reported that Thomas Asuma, Jacob Floam, Kris Larson, DJ Nichols and Kristopher Ulrich have all filed the necessary paperwork to run for council.

The Board of Education also will have three seats available with all three incumbents running: Kristopher Karns, Chris Wright and Beth Wyman, and challenger Timothy Hess.

For Winnebago County Circuit Court Branch 1, court commissioners Eric Heywood and Michael Rust have filed paperwork along with former circuit judge LaKeisha Haase. There will be a primary election Feb. 20 to bring the top two vote-getters on the April ballot.

The Herald is focused on a selection of the 36 county supervisor seats – district

11-25 and District 31. County Clerk Julie Barthels reported last week that District 11 will require a primary election to narrow the field from three to two candidates as Supervisor David Albrecht is being challenged by Tim Paterson and Jeffery Schettl.

In districts 12, 13, 14, 18, 22, 23 and 31 the incumbent supervisor has no challengers. In District 17, there are no candidates running as Supervisor Julie Gordon is not seeking re-election.

In District 15, E. Michael Robinson is seeking another term with Amber Gilbertson challenging for the seat. District 16 Supervisor Jacob Floam is not running for the county seat as he is running for Common Council. Robert Knudsen and Christian Mueller are seeking the District 16 seat in April.

Supervisor Joshua Belville is running for another term to represent District 19 and will be running against Larry Lautenschlager. District 20 Supervisor Timothy Ernst filed his noncandidacy papers in December and Timothy Macho Sr. and Eric Vlach are running for the seat. In District 21, incumbent John Hinz will have Jeff Lawrence challenging for the seat.

In District 24, incumbent Andy Buck is running against Sarah Nelson. Supervisor Karen Powers is hoping to secure her re-election but will have to defeat Scott Perzentka in April.

All 36 county supervisor district maps can be seen at winnebagocountywi.gov/ county-board/supervisory-districts.

# Private school expansion sought in Town of Vinland

#### Oshkosh Herald

A private education institution is planning to expand with the purchase of about 10 acres at County A and Indian Point Road in the Town of Vinland adjacent to its current location pending Town Board and city of Oshkosh approval.

Acton Academy Oshkosh has completed a new campus plan to expand into middle school and high school education while keeping its elementary education at its current location that opened in September 2020, with anticipated completion by the end of this year. The school currently has about 60 students ages 4-7.

The Acton Academy Network has more than 250 affiliated academies in 30

states and 20 countries worldwide that promotes a "one-room schoolhouse" approach to learning. Acton Academy Oshkosh founder Carey Sharpe, who also launched The Howard entertainment venue at the former Eagle Club in 2017 with siblings Jenna Golem and Ben Johnson, said the school's enrollment draws from both the Oshkosh and Neenah school districts while being open to a wider geographic range.

A public hearing was set for 6:45 p.m. this Monday before the Town Board meeting after Plan Commission members asked about current zoning, traffic concerns, potential annexation of the land to the city of Oshkosh and whether the property would be tax exempt. The site borders the Town of Oshkosh on Indian Point Road north of the city.

Commission members heard a presentation at their Dec. 18 meeting from Andrew Iverson of Ganther Construction Architecture, who said Atlas Capital Group is financing the project on the land it owns and will lease to Acton.

He said the rural location is ideal for Acton's expansion as students do handson learning projects outdoors such as working on gardens and greenhouses, and there is also a wooded area along with green space.

### Free Fishing Weekend offered statewide

The state Department of Natural Resources (DNR) is hosting Free Fishing Weekend Jan. 20-21 where no fishing license or trout and salmon stamps are required.

Anglers can fish in state waters where there is an open fishing season.

All other fishing regulations apply, including limits on the size and number of fish that can be kept and any seasons when anglers must release certain fish species.

Anglers cannot fish spring trout ponds during the winter Free Fishing Weekend. If planning to keep fish, review the DNR's Safe Eating Guidelines to stay informed of potential consumption advisories affecting some waterbodies.

JAN 18-28 · OSHKOSH RESTAURANT WEEK TO GOOD TIMES & GREAT FOOD

January 18-28, during Oshkosh Restaurant Week, chefs create innovative menus offering a unique and elevated dining experience. It's the perfect time to explore a variety of restaurants—from casual to fine dining—that you might not have tried otherwise. No tickets or pre-registration are required for Restaurant Week, but reservations are recommended. Get into FEASTMODE!

#### **\$12** BREAKFAST SPECIALS • **\$17** 3-COURSE LUNCHES • **\$29** 3-COURSE DINNERS

Eat out 3 or more times during Restaurant Week to win this awesome tumbler!

Win this fun new 2024 Restaurant Week tumbler! While supplies Go to **discoveroshkosh.com** and download the Oshkosh Restaurant Week digital pass, or collect receipts from participating restaurants and turn in to 100 N Main St/Ste 112.





oshkesh

Tumbler sponsor:

i'm herefor the

DCOMA #NOSHKOSH #FBOS

4 imprint.

Follow Oshkosh Restaurant Week on FB & IG for the latest details. 📑 🗿 DiscoverOshkosh.com

# Walmart continues challenges over tax assessments

# Retailer uses loophole to lower real estate tax

By Bethanie Gengler Oshkosh Herald

The cities of Oshkosh and Neenah have been dealing with multiple lawsuits in recent years from Walmart over what the corporation calls "excessive" real estate taxes, the most recent suit filed against Neenah over its Winneconne Avenue location.

This is the fourth lawsuit Arkansas-based Walmart has filed against Neenah in as many years in an effort to lower its share of property taxes. Oshkosh has been hit with six such lawsuits, filed by the same attorneys representing Walmart in the Neenah litigation.

In the latest lawsuit filed by Walmart attorneys Mallery S.C. out of Milwaukee, the retailer argues that the value of its Neenah storefront at 1155 W. Winneconne Ave. is no more than \$6.5 million, just over half of the \$11.6 million value assigned by the city assessor's office. The lower assessment would reduce Walmart's 2023 tax burden for the Neenah location by about \$81,000.

It joins suits Walmart brought in 2019, 2020 and 2021 against the city which were consolidated into one case that's still actively being litigated, with a court trial scheduled for April. The retailer is challenging the tax assessments for its Neenah location each year from 2019-2023.

It also mirrors civil suits the retail giant has lodged across the state despite a 2023 Wisconsin Supreme Court ruling that was expected to close what's commonly referred to as the "dark store" loophole.

Chain retail stores including Target, Walmart, Woodman's, Meijer, Walgreens,



Retailers statewide use a dark store loophole to lower property taxes.

Menards, Home Depot and Lowes use the dark store loophole to try to reduce property tax assessments by arguing the value of their active stores should be based on the value of "dark" storefronts, including closed and vacant properties in unpopular areas.

Oshkosh city attorney Lynn Lorenson wrote in a letter to the Common Council that assessing large box stores is complicated because the value tends to be based on the square footage of the main retail center only, without considering other structures or site amenities on the property. In addition, she said there's a tendency for large retail stores to sell only after they're no longer being used for their original purpose.

"These 'dark sales' do not provide ideal comparable properties on which to rely and must be significantly adjusted for various differences in age, location and other factors; making precise valuation of a site more difficult," she said.

The League of Wisconsin Municipali-

ties (LWM), which supports legislation to close the dark store loophole, wrote that the strategy shifts more of the tax burden from commercial property owners to homeowners and small businesses. LWM noted a study of 12 communities where the tax loopholes were fully implemented resulted in residential tax bills increasing on average by 8%.

On the other side, the statewide business association Wisconsin Manufacturers & Commerce has repeatedly opposed efforts to close the dark store loophole, writing on its website that a loophole doesn't exist and the efforts are a "cloaked attempt at raising taxes on small-town manufacturers and main street businesses throughout Wisconsin."

Last February, the state Supreme Court issued a decision in Lowe's Home Centers v. City of Delavan, ruling Delavan's assessments of the Lowes location were not excessive and the value of dark and distressed properties is not comparable to an occupied, operating property. Despite the ruling, big box retailers have continued to lodge similar lawsuits across the state and the country.

While Walmart has failed in some of the dark store lawsuits, it has also reached settlement agreements with municipalities, particularly due to the resources required for the lengthy court battles.

Oshkosh entered into settlements with Walmart to resolve the six lawsuits the retailer brought challenging the property assessments. In 2019, Oshkosh agreed to lower the tax assessments for 2017-2019 and reimburse Walmart a total of \$141,000. This past August, Oshkosh agreed to reimburse Walmart a total of \$50,400 for tax years 2020-2023. Four months after settling with Oshkosh, Walmart filed the latest lawsuit in Neenah.

Lorenson noted Oshkosh is insured through the League of Wisconsin Municipalities, so the city had no out-of-pocket costs for outside counsel to defend the claims. While Neenah has similar insurance, city attorney David Rashid noted the self-insured retention necessitates hiring outside counsel paid for by the city.

Walmart's 2023 property taxes based on Neenah's assessment are \$185,189. The retailer is asking for a judge to reduce the property value and require the city to issue a refund for the taxes paid on the portion of the assessment considered "excessive," plus interest. It's the same request Walmart is making for each of the past five years of tax bills.

In its response, the city contends Walmart fails to state any facts supporting the allegation that the assessment of the Neenah property is not uniform with other properties in the city and throughout the state.

# Conservation poster winners announced, advance to state competition

#### Oshkosh Herald

Fifty-two local youth participated in the Conservation Poster Contest sponsored by the Winnebago County Land & Water Conservation Department, competing at county and area competitions with winning posters moving on to state competition.

First-place winners – second-grader Easton Edmunds from Lakeside Elementary in Oshkosh and fifth-grader Rose Lauer from Lourdes Academy – advanced to the Area Contest to be held Jan. 19. They will



be competing with top winners from eight other counties in the Lake Winnebago Land & Water Conservation Association Area.

First-place posters from the state competition will represent Wisconsin at the National Association of Conservation Districts' (NACD) annual meeting. The 2024 contest theme is "May the Forest Be With You Always" and is open to kindergarten through 12th-grade students.

Other Winnebago County winners:

Second place: Autumn Laehn, grade 5 – Lourdes Academy

Third place: Celia Yang, grade 5 – Read Elementary, Oshkosh

Honorable mentions: Kennedy Olig, grade 5 – Lourdes Academy; and Willa Cass, grade 5 – Valley Christian Oshkosh





#### Family Owned and Operated Since 1978

#### **Fast and Reliable!**

- General Maintenance
- Heating & Cooling
- Electrical
- Towing
- Brakes
- Tires
- Alignment
- Engine and Transmission

**920-231-1023** 2200 Montana St., Oshkosh, WI 54902



#### WE HAVE YOUR NEXT AUTO LOAN!

With rates often the lowest in the area, we can save you money on your vehicle loan. Plus, our team goes the extra mile, ensuring your credit report is in strong financial shape. Stop in, or visit our website today to refinance or shop for

your next car and learn more. 429 North Sawyer St. • 920.233.1140 • www.healthcarecu.org

"Your Financial Health is our Future"



#### Submitted photos

Easton Edmunds (left photo) from Lakeside Elementary in Oshkosh and fifth-grader Rose Lauer from Lourdes Academy took first place honors in the annual Conservation Poster Contest for Winnebago County.



Receive \$2 off your order with the donation of a non-perishable food item. Donations benefit the Oshkosh Area Community Food Pantry.

# Citywide projects, events on horizon for coming year

By Jonathan Richie **Oshkosh Herald** 

A new year brings new opportunities to become excited about in the community throughout 2024.

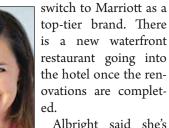
The Herald reached out to several groups to ask what are they looking forward to in the new year. Here are some of the responses with other stories coming this month from other groups on what's in the works for 2024.

Oshkosh Convention & Visitors Bureau executive director Amy Albright said the organization is looking forward to a couple of construction projects and the new Xroads 41 Music Festival in August on the former grounds of Country USA and Rock USA.

"We are thrilled about the addition of this event to our Oshkosh summer," Albright said. Festival headliners include Journey, Old Dominion and Brooks & Dunn along with a growing list of other groups.

Albright said other annual events in Oshkosh will continue to grow in 2024 such as EAA AirVenture, the Waupaca Boatride and Battle on Bago fishing tournament.

Renovation and rebranding of the downtown hotel and convention center is already underway this year. The group that owns the hotel, Scarlett Hotel Group, purchased the hotel last year and plans to



Albright said she's also excited about the new Tru by Hilton Ho-

tel under construction on Oshkosh Avenue as the corridor continues to expand.

Albright

Boys & Girls Club of Oshkosh chief executive Tracy Ogden said the group is focused on a year of growth and opportunity for young people in the city.

"The Boys & Girls Club will be opening its doors to a new middle school center and teen center," she said. "We have committed to serving more kids, offering more programs and also opening the doors to the Hyde Family Community Center where 24 agencies will come together to help families in need."

The group has set a ribbon-cutting ceremony and open house for May 5.

Oshkosh Area School District Superintendent Bryan Davis has events on the calendar that include the opening of Menominee Elementary School in the fall. Students currently enrolled in Merrill, Washington, and Webster Stanley Elementary schools will be the first to learn in the building on the site of the former Webster Stanley Elementary and Middle School.

The OASD Education Foundation will hold its annual fundraiser gala May 3 with a Kentucky Derby theme and the event supporting student career and technical education across the district.

"All proceeds will be used to enhance career and technical education experiences for Oshkosh middle and high school students," Davis said. "Career and technical education - or CTE - prepares a highly skilled, sustainable workforce with the technical expertise, work ethic and

employability skills American businesses and industries need to remain globally competitive."

The district will be holding a school showcase and volunteer connection fair Feb. 7 where Davis will give a presentation on key initiatives and goals for the district. Each principal will present information on how parents, grandparents, neighbors and even business owners can support students' growth and success.

The Day By Day Shelter will mark one year at its new location at 420 Ceape Ave. in 2024. As the shelter has shifted from seasonal to 365 days a year, the organization provides 1,500 meals and 1,200 loads of laundry a month. Executive director Molly Yatso Butz said this allows guests access to nutritious food and clean bedding, towels and personal laundry every day.

"I'm looking forward to the continued support and confidence of our community to be able to grow our programs and services to connect individuals we serve with the resources they need to rebuild their lives and work towards a brighter future," she said.



With more experience than any other area roofer, we stay up-to-date and involved in the everchanging world of residential roofing products and services. We provide the best results, because roofing is all we do! Voted best of Winnebago/Oshkosh for 15 years running.

920-426-4008 •1427 Broad St. • Oshkosh, WI. 54901

# Lourdes Academy planning athletic facilities on school site

By Jonathan Richie OSHKOSH HERALD

Lourdes Academy of Oshkosh is at the early stages of bringing new athletic facilities to its campus.

John Dinegan, Lourdes system president, spoke to the city Plan Commission about the project allowing Lourdes athletes to have the same experience as other student athletes.

"The outdoor space for spring athletics is very limited," Dinegan said. "Many of our student athletes travel - for baseball practice is out at Winnebago County (Community Park). We have students jumping in cars after school driving eight miles on a daily basis."

The project could cost up to \$4 million and the group was looking to get initial approval of a plan before they start fundraising for the fields, which would be north of the school on Witzel Avenue.

The plans include a football and soccer field with bleachers and a press box along Josslyn Street.

The fields will have six stadium lights about 55-feet tall, similar to the lights recently installed at Oshkosh West High School. There would also be a baseball field and softball field.

The entire area would be surrounded by an 8-foot fence.

## **Business news roundup**

The Oshkosh Chamber of Commerce has named Ashlynn Schreiner as its new marketing and communications coordinator. Schreiner will promote and

communicate Chamber-related events, programs, services and membership development activities. Formerly working in multimedia coordination for University of Wisconsin Oshkosh Athletics and most recently as talent

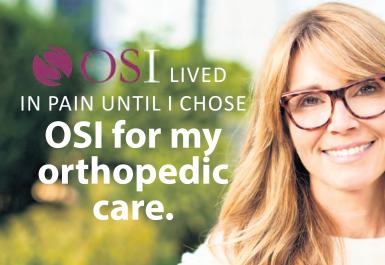


Schreiner

marketing specialist at Employment Resource Group, she has a bachelor's degree from UW Oshkosh. "I am eager to contribute to the Chamber's mission and be part of the positive impact we can make in our community," Schreiner stated. 'I look forward to connecting with our many members and enhancing the visibility of their incredible work."

CBD and THC products to help people and pets manage pain, anxiety, sleep issues and for relaxation. Owners are Tess Domnie and Tony Alvarez, who have been USDA-approved hemp producers and own a hemp farm in Berlin where they grow hemp for their CBD products. Store hours are from 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. Tuesdays through Saturdays. More information is at rcolehemp.com.

MACS Macaroni and Cheese Shop is opening its 10th location this spring at 1650 Oshkosh Ave. Keller Inc. has been chosen as architect and general contractor on the building project. Nick and Jackie Morse founded MACS in Wisconsin Dells in 2013 and has since opened eight locations throughout Wisconsin and one franchised unit at Kalahari Resorts in Round Rock, Texas. MACS specializes in signa ture macaroni and cheese dishes, grilled cheese melts and salads.



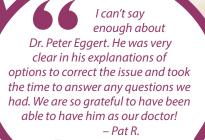
R. Cole Hemp Care, an alternative and holistic health service business, has opened a dispensary at 2954 Jackson St. in Oshkosh with full-spectrum hemp

Associated Bank at 2330 Westowne Ave. is planning a 2,074-square-foot addition and remodeling project and has chosen Keller Inc. as its general contractor.



I would definitely recommend Dr. Campbell and his entire team. From the time of my initial appointment to now (6 weeks post surgery), I felt very comfortable, well informed, and cared about. – Kim K.

**Dr. Campbell** Coming to Oshkosh this summer







Call now to schedule your appointment.

1498 W. South Park Ave. | Oshkosh CALL 920-560-1000 TODAY | OSIFV.COM

# Service, therapy dogs filling critical needs in society

# Agencies, organizations rely on trained help

By Cheryl Hentz Herald contributor

We've all seen service dogs and the people for whom they help. But many don't understand what a service dog is and does.

These special canines are specifically trained to assist people with disabilities of one kind or another. One person may have a disability that affects one or more of their limbs, another may experience seizures, someone else may be blind or have hearing loss, yet another may be autistic.

Service dogs can open doors, turn lights on and off, pick up large or small objects, get



things off shelves, pull a wheelchair, or act as a brace for someone who has fallen and needs help getting up. Then there are other

dogs, such as in the case of Journey Together Service Dog LLC, that serve people with anx-

Cirricione

iety or post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD). They are taught behaviors that help to ease the trauma associated with triggering events. They can provide a physical barrier between the person they're partnered with and the public, giving gentle pressure against their partner to help reduce stress; or serve as a conversation starter that helps lessen their partner's stress level.

Journey Together is now training dogs for people with Type 1 diabetes to alert them when their blood sugar levels are too high or low.

"We are currently working with a potential client on diabetic alert. I have six dogs that are doing well in that program right now. They're all young so they're not ready for placement just yet. But we will be working on placing at least one next year," said Brenda Cirricione, Journey Together's founder and current director of training. "We're interested in (hearing from) other people with Type 1 diabetes that might be interested in participating with us. I have multiple dogs that are turning out to be doing a really good job at it."

Since Journey Together is new to training for diabetic alert work, they're taking it slow in these early stages.

"We're trying to go very deliberately and very carefully through the process. We're also dependent on Type 1 diabetic alert samples from people to be able to do it," Cirricione said. "Our dogs are alerting right now to both blood sugar highs and lows. What we'll next be looking for is we're doing some proofing exercises so that the dogs



K9 Magic is shown with behavioral health officer Scott Sopata and mental health crisis specialist Kayla Rodriguez.

don't alert when it's not a high or a low. We're making sure that they're understanding the ranges that we're looking for, for them to alert to."

Journey Together has 16 dogs in training and looking at placement possibilities for 2024. They also placed a couple of dogs just before the year's end so that some with anxiety or PTSD had a wonderful Christmas gift.

Therapy dogs – also called emotional support dogs – also play a huge role in today's society as the number of people diagnosed with mental illness has been growing.

According to Stress in America 2023, a nationwide survey conducted by the Harris Poll for the American Psychological Association, people ages 35 to 44 experienced the highest increase in mental health diagnoses in recent years: 45% reported a mental illness in 2023 compared with 31% in 2019, with adults 18 to 34 still reporting the highest rate at 50%.

As a result, working in emergency services has become more challenging, leading these agencies to add both facility and therapy dogs to their teams.

These dogs work at police, fire and emergency departments, where staff can receive comfort and relief from stress but also go out on calls when mental health issues are involved.

"There is something very powerful that happens when a human connects with

an animal. The stress of the day can melt away as your hands stroke the soft fur of a gentle dog," said Lynsie Bernier, a therapy dog trainer and member of the Alliance of Therapy Dogs. "A warm conversation with a welcoming stranger can turn into a lasting friendship. This is the therapy dog experience.

"The Fox Valley is lucky to have an active community of certified therapy dog volunteers. Many travel throughout the Valley and spend time bringing joy in a variety of settings."

Though not a member of the Alliance, one such dog was K9 Magic, a facility/emotional support dog donated to the Oshkosh Police Department by Journey Together.

Not quite 4 years old when she joined the department in March 2022, the golden retriever had 364 deployments before becoming ill and passing on Nov. 27 of last year. She worked closely with partner and behavioral health officer Scott Sopata and mental health crisis specialist Kayla Rodriguez. Together they responded to behavioral health-related calls and highly sensitive calls for service.

K9 Magic also emotionally supported employees of the Oshkosh Police Department after they were involved with and affected by critical incidents.

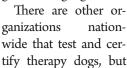
Sopata and K9 Magic also made impactful regular appearances in the community such as at the Day By Day Shelter, Solutions Recovery, local emergency rooms, Winnebago County Crisis Center and Sheriff's Department Dispatch.

Christine Ann Domestic Abuse Services' emotional support dog is a 7-year-old mixed breed named Ross who joined the center in 2019 and provides support to abuse survivors.

"It's really common for schools, nursing homes, care facilities, hospice settings and so on to want to have a therapy dog program to support their clients. But they're not always sure how to go about that," Bernier said. "The Alliance of Therapy Dogs lines their certified teams up with places looking to have a therapy dog program."

Any organization wanting a therapy dog to help with clients or patients can contact the Alliance at TherapyDogs.com. Likewise,

if a person who owns a dog they think would make a good therapy animal, they can get information on how to get their dog registered.





the Alliance has been around for several decades and also provides registration, support and insurance for members who volunteer their dogs in animal-assisted activities.

While service and therapy dogs both provide a wonderful and much-needed service, there are distinct differences.

A therapy dog is trained to provide comfort and affection to people in hospice, disaster areas, retirement homes, hospitals, nursing homes and schools.

A service dog is certified and trained to help people with disabilities – visual impairments, mental illnesses, seizure disorders, diabetes, etc. Service dogs must be allowed into businesses and it is illegal to ask about a handler's disability. They can be asked if the pet is required due to a disability or what tasks the dog is able to perform.

There are also emotional support animals (ESA) that provide owners with therapeutic benefits through companionship. They do not require training but their human companions may need to be screened by a mental health professional to see if they qualify.

The lines among these three types of dogs can sometimes get blurred. For assistance about any of these services, talk to a physician, mental health provider or professional organization to see which kind of dog could best help and how to go about getting one, or having one's own pet declared an ESA.

Whether a person has a service, therapy or emotional support dog, they all contribute to a more full life for their companions.

#### 0 1 0 11



# Radon threat in buildings gets focus during January

During National Radon Action Month, the state Department of Health Services (DHS) is encouraging home and building owners, along with child care providers, to test buildings the odorless, radioactive gas.

Radon is naturally present in the ground and found across Wisconsin, entering buildings through their foundations. About one in 10 homes in the state have elevated radon levels.

The Environmental Protection Agen-

### **STAR program**

#### from Page 1

and eventually get released," Rozek said. The program is beginning a new year and Rozek said the jail staff is always learning new things.

"It's a learning experience every day," Rozek said. "We are tweaking and making changes all the time as we continue with this program."

2023 was the first year of the program, and Rozek and Sheriff John Matz were both excited by its first-year success and it's why they are hoping to expand and continue the program.

Matz said 399 inmates initially inquired about the program who were dealing with all types of addiction ranging from opioids to methamphetamine to alcohol. He said alcohol is the most abused substance in the area.

"Alcohol is huge; it's still the number one most abused drug we have in Winnebago County," Matz said.

Of those almost 400 people, 63 returned and continued with the program. Matz said 29 of the people are still in recovery, which is a success rate that Matz and Rozek are both happy with. The success rate for inmates remaining sober outside of the jail from when the MAT program began in September 2022 through October 2023 is 46%.

County Executive Jon Doemel supports the STAR program and said his goal for addiction in the county is to work on sobriety, recovery and related services.

"To get people into recovery is always the goal. To get people sober is always the goal," Doemel said.

Solutions Recovery is working on a better way to keep track of people when they are released and that includes better data collection and more follow-up calls, texts and visits to see how someone is doing in recovery.

"Solutions Recovery is a great partner on this program," Matz said.

Megan Edwards, program director at

cy's action level for safety is 4 picocuries per liter (4 pCi/L). Last March, Wisconsin Department of Children and Families enacted rule changes that require licensed family and group child care providers to test for radon and install a mitigation system if radon levels exceed the EPA action level.

Radon is the second leading cause of lung cancer, and it is estimated to cause more than 21,000 deaths each year in the United States, about 962 of them in Wis-

there to help the transition," Edwards said.

It's often noted that mental health and addiction are connected. Rozek said there are resources for mental health, but the STAR program is focused on substance addiction.

"These people are at their lowest point when they come to jail," Matz said. "The first 10 days is when the withdrawal happens and if we can help them with addiction that's the goal."

Solutions Recovery has some recovery coaches that are also peer-support specialists. Where the recovery coaches work with people on addiction, the peer-support specialists have a focus on mental health.

"If we're working with someone in the jail and we think there should be more focus on the mental health we can get them working with one of our peer-support specialists."

Solutions Recovery is made up of people who are in recovery from addiction. Edwards said the recovery coaches use their own life experiences to help others.

Matz said this type of programming is needed due to the amount of overdoses Winnebago County is seeing. He said there were 50 overdoses in the county last year, which is 13 more than the most the county has ever seen in a year.

"It's not a record I want to break," Doemel said.

"We have to think differently. There still has to be consequences, there still has to be accountability. But there also has to be services available to end the lifestyle," Matz said.

Edwards, Doemel and Matz all mentioned when people are in the jail and they have reached that low point, they are more open and susceptible to thinking about changing their lifestyle.

The STAR program is funded by grants and the National Opioid Abatement Settlement fund. The County Board approved using \$52,500 of the opioid abatement funds to contract with Solutions Recovery. The program is funded through this year and Matz said staff are working to find funding to support the program for the coming years.

"There are grants we are looking at and there is also more opioid settlement money coming over the next couple of years," Matz said. Doemel said he would like to continue focusing on grant funds for the STAR program and use the opioid abatement funds for the Connect program that was recently consin. High radon levels are especially dangerous for people who smoke; their risk of lung cancer is 10 times higher than non-smokers.

The cost of radon mitigation can be a barrier for some families and businesses. Residents can visit lowradon.org to find contact information for the East Central Radon Information Center serving Winnebago County or speak with local public health department radon experts by calling 888 LOW-RADON to discuss avail-

moved into the Orrin King building. The program is available to anyone in Winnebago County looking to get connected with resources to get sober.

"Opening that first door is always the hardest," Doemel said. He noted that his brother, now three years sober, battled with a heroin addiction, and would often remind his brother about the people that care about him.

"You have no idea how many people are waiting for you to get better," Doemel said. "That's the key. Some of these people have no idea how instrumental they could be in so many others live when in recovery."

In the jail there are a few renovations going on to convert one of the spaces into a recovery pod. This area, Rozek said, will have several program options available like life skills classes and followups on how to get insurance and housing when no longer in the jail. It will be more open and more comfortable than general population pods.

"Whatever their needs are for success, we'll try to provide that," Rozek said of what the STAR program can provide.

Matz mentioned that even though these people will get a more comfortable space,

able options.

Test kits are available from hardware stores and local public health agencies, available year-round for \$10 at the Winnebago County Public Health Department's Oshkosh and Neenah offices, but only \$5 this month at the Health Department and Oshkosh Farmers Market.

There are more than 100 radon mitigation contractors in Wisconsin that are nationally certified to install radon mitigation systems.

they are still in jail.

"This isn't a vacation. It's still jail," Matz said. Inmates in the program still need to follow all procedures or rules for being in the jail and if they violate them they would be removed from the recovery pod.

"It will be a piece of accountability for them. If you want to be here, it's on you to keep yourself here," Rozek said.

Deputies are getting specialized training for handling situations that may arise within the recovery pod or recovery stages for these people. The jail also plans on getting a therapy dog that will not just visit with the STAR program but with all inmates.

Edwards said a major reason the STAR program works is the community mentality for dealing with addiction is shared by all inmates involved – Solutions Recovery, Department of Health Services, Public Health and the jail staff with the sheriff's office.

Matz is excited to see how the program goes this year and beyond.

"The program is really going to make a difference in our addictive population," he said. "I'm excited to see what the numbers are now that we've got more experience with the program."



Solutions Recovery, said MAT started in September 2022 and has transitioned into the STAR program with Solutions Recovery.

The prescription medicine Vivitrol is used within the STAR program, designed to block opioids and alcohol. It is offered in pill form as the most effective daily dose and upon release people are offered an injection of vivitrol that can last 30 days.

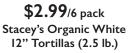
Edwards said that if someone has had Vivitrol and they take an opioid they will not get the euphoric high as the medicine blocks the opioid receptors.

One important aspect of the STAR program is transportation from jail to another facility where the recently incarcerated person can work on their recovery.

"We call it door-to-door service. Developing that relationship while they're incarcerated and then helping them find treatment outside the jail or a sober living house or it could be an emergency shelter – we are







2/\$6/~1 lb. Mary's Free-range Chicken Breast Tenders







0 pack \$18.9 olls Seafood

**\$18.99**/20 pack Seafood Rangoon

**\$11.99** CàMaiol Lugana D.O.C. or CàMaiol Giomè (Reg. \$19.99)



**\$4.99**/lb. Lemon Garlic Pasta Salad



\$13.99/24 pack

Minhas Craft Brewery Mountain Crest Beer

Offers valid 1/11-1/14/2024, while supplies last. Must be 21+ to purchase alcohol.



Mon. - Fri. 8:30 AM - 8 PM Sat. 7:30 AM - 8 PM Sun. 10 AM - 6 PM

155 Jackson Street, Suite 101, Oshkosh



# Making season brighter

The Boys & Girls Club of Oshkosh was filled with gifts from donors to its Adopt a Family Program where 77 organizations and individual donors contributed Christmas gifts and baskets filled with toiletries, hygiene items and dry goods. The holidays were made brighter for 91 families with 241 children. During the week of Christmas, the club's alumni group served dinner to 200 children and their families during the annual Christmas party. More than 2,700 runners and hundreds of volunteers participated in the annual Festival Foods Turkey Trot benefiting the club and Oshkosh YMCA.

# **WILLS vs TRUSTS**

It's not about the documents. It's about the results.

#### FREE SEMINAR

**Culver Family Welcome Center** 625 Pearl Ave, Oshkosh, WI 54901

Wed. Jan. 17, 2024 2:00 pm and 6:00 pm

Participants may attend either session. Please RSVP at 920-299-5519 or OshkoshEstatePlanning.com seating is limited.

#### **YOU SHOULD ATTEND IF YOU:**

- $\Box$  Have a retirement account (IRA, 401k).
- □ Want to learn how ▶ Proposed changes current laws affect your estate plan.

#### WE WILL DISCUSS:

- New retirement account law changes that affect every estate plan.
- How you can protect your childrens' inheritances from predators, greedy non-family

# Man charged with sexual assault deemed incompetent

#### Oshkosh Herald

An Oshkosh man has been deemed incompetent and his child sexual assault case has been suspended. He will be committed for treatment because he could become competent if treated, according to court documents.

Jackie Parish, 59, remains in custody at the Winnebago County Jail with his case suspended as he waits for a bed to open up at the Winnebago Mental Health Institute. He is charged with felony counts of repeated sexual assault of a child and child enticement.

The criminal complaint alleges Parish sexually assaulted a child from age 10 to about 15.

Parish would get the victim to use drugs and alcohol before the assaults, according to prosecutors, and reported being assaulted by Parish between 30 and 40 times over six years starting in 2003.

Court records show a doctor's report stating he is currently not competent to

#### stand trial but could become competent with proper treatment. This was discussed during a court hearing Dec. 20 after an attorney was appointed for Parish. Parish is indigent and qualifies for a

public defender. The state's public defender's office made 148 contacts in attempts to find Parish an attorney to represent him. The court appointed attorney Scott Ceman on Dec. 1 to represent Parish.

Parish has been in custody since July on a \$400,000 cash bond.

After the Dec. 20 hearing, Winnebago County Circuit Judge Daniel Bissett filed an order for commitment for treatment. The document states that since Parish was charged and probable cause was determined, he will remain in custody of the Department of Health Services.

"The defendant is incompetent but if provided appropriate treatment is likely to become competent," the document states, adding that the process could take up to 12 months.

Participants can connect with mis-

sion-oriented nonprofits, businesses and

organizations in the vendor area, pick up

helpful resource materials and bid on si-

Details on speakers, fees and registra-

tion can be found at foxvalleyarea.wil-

dones.org. A virtual option is available.

Email wildonesfoxvalley@gmail.com for

#### Toward Harmony with Nature Fair set also will be presented by five other expert

speakers.

lent auction items.

more information.

Oshkosh Herald

Wild Ones Fox Valley Area presents its Toward Harmony with Nature Fair on Jan. 27 at the Culver Center in Oshkosh featuring keynote speaker Emily M. Stone, naturalist and education director at the Cable Natural History Museum.

Stone writes a weekly Natural Connections column and has earned multiple Excellence in Craft awards from the Outdoor Writers Association of America. Diverse topics on the natural world

# State's Public Access Lands Atlas available

The state Department of Natural Resources (DNR) has the 2024 Public Access Lands Atlas now available for purchase.

From state natural areas to state trails, lakeshores to rivers, Wisconsin has a wealth of public lands for everyone to enjoy. Updated every two years, the atlas can be purchased from the University of Wisconsin Bookstore (uwbookstore.com) for \$104.95.

### Marine Corps auxiliary sets spaghetti dinner

The Winnebago Unit Marine Corps League Auxiliary is sponsoring a spaghetti dinner from 2 to 7 p.m. Jan. 20 at the league clubhouse at 4715 Sherman Road. The cost is \$10 per person and \$5 for veterans.

Drawing for a cash raffle with only 500 tickets being sold will take place at 6 p.m. Tickets can be purchased at the Ma-

The atlas contains 441 maps covering statewide public lands, roads and waterways that help locate a state park, county forest or lake for a hike, hunting or fishing outing.

Atlas information and maps can also be accessed by DVD, individual county booklets, downloadable county PDF maps and the Public Access Land online mapping application.

rine Corps League Clubhouse on Friday nights, from auxiliary members or at the dinner.

Money raised will support veterans and their families as well as making donations within the community.

For further information email winnebagomcla.events@gmail.com or call 920-235-2222.



- $\Box$  Are concerned that Nursing Home or long term care costs will deplete your life savings.
- $\Box$  Wish to learn more about Probate and how to avoid it.
- $\Box$  Have a Will that is more than 3 years old or it was created in another state.
- to the Federal Estate and Capital Gains Tax laws.
- How to provide for your own care and well-being, and that of your loved ones even if you become incapacitated.
- Why you shouldn't add a child to your bank account and how beneficiary designations might ruin your will.
- members, and bad marriages.
- How veterans or their spouses can receive money to help pay for medical expenses.
- Why signing your home over to your kids might be a huge mistake.

AS FEATURED ON



# Auto Accident

Surgery may be overkill, while medication may not be enough. The doctors of Strong Chiropractic Office can offer guidance on auto injury treatments.

Treatments are custom suited and may include spinal adjustments, laser therapy, and therapeutic exercise.



"Strong on Health" **Complimentary Consultation** Must bring coupon at the time of visit.

Expires 1/31/24 Limit one coupon per NEW PATIENT

www.strongchiropractic.com

**OSHKOSH OFFICE** 2100 Omro Road STE. B (920) 426-9898

IKO

**NEENAH OFFICE** 1426 S. Commercial St (920) 725-0800

APPLETON OFFICE 1801 N. Richmond St (920) 831-4110



**Practicing Since 1996** 



Oshkosh West student Mason Palecek (left) is competing in the Luge World Cup in Europe with the U.S. National team.

# Local luger

#### from Page 1

Palecek placed 29th overall and second for the U.S. team in the first World Cup competition.

The World Cup series is part of an international circuit that also consists of regional, national and world championship events.

"I'm really excited," Palecek said. "I'll get to see Europe and take in all that great scenery at the Alps and places like that. I'll get to meet and compete against people who are way better than me which can only help me improve my times. There's so much more involved with luging in Europe than in America, with better equipment and things you can do to improve your sled. I'm really looking forward to it."

There are two different types of luging: Palecek's sport of natural track and artificial track. In natural track, sliders guide a sled through unbanked curves down a flat, twisting natural track of packed snow and ice. In artificial track, athletes zip down high-tech, artificially refrigerated courses with high-banked curves.

Natural tracks have more curves and put a greater emphasis on driving skills, but the slope is higher in artificial track and it's much faster. Artificial track sliders can hit speeds up to 90 mph compared with 60 mph for natural track athletes.

"The steering is a lot different," Palecek said. "In natural luge, you have 180-degree turns and there's a lot more steering involved. You use your strength to turn. In artificial, you just sit on the sled and use the kufens (steel runners that are the main steering mechanism of the sled) to turn. luge – which came to Appleton four years ago. He traveled to Lake Placid for further training before things were put on hiatus due to the global pandemic.

Palecek eventually returned to natural luge and has trained and competed the last two winters at Lucy Hill in Negaunee, Mich., where all members of the U.S. Natural Track Luge team train. Lucy Hill offers the only flat natural track in the U.S., spanning a half-mile and featuring a 280foot drop.

Palecek and his father, Todd, make the three-and-a-half-hour trek to the Upper Peninsula each winter weekend for Mason's training.

"It has involved a lot of travel for our family, but I'm very excited for him," said Mason's mother, Melissa. "As a parent, I'm definitely a little nervous sending my 16-year-old to Europe for eight weeks and in a bit of a risky sport. But he enjoys it so much and it will be an experience of a lifetime."

So will Palecek eventually switch to artificial luge and pursue the Olympics?

"We'll see where it all goes," he said. "I'm hopeful natural luge will be added to the Olympics because I really prefer natural luge. Artificial luge just isn't as much fun. You're going faster, but you know nothing really bad will happen to you. The best of natural luge is the thrill you get when you are so close to hitting the wall.

"The speed and precision involved in natural luge - the way you drive the sled - there's nothing like it. That one minute you do it feels like a really long time. You're thinking five seconds ahead of what is happening. You're like, 'OK, I need to sit up right here and reach my arm out this much and pull on the reins and the kufens this much.' It's all going by so fast, yet you're still able to think about what you're doing." Luging – natural or artificial track – involves high speed and isn't recommended for the meek. Palecek says he's had his share of spills, but nothing that's caused any major injuries. His athletic background has been a major factor in picking up luge so quickly. Palecek is a cross country and track and field athlete at West, who competes in the 800 and the long jump in the latter. He's athletic, fit and tough both mentally and physically. "Breaking your sled or breaking yourself is really uncommon when you crash," said Palecek with a chuckle. "If you realize you're going to hit the wall, you have spikes on your shoes and you can usually dig your feet into the ground and slow it all down.

# Alice in Dairyland applications sought

The state Department of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection invites individuals with a passion for promoting agriculture to apply to be the 77th Alice in Dairyland.

Alice in Dairyland travels extensively promoting Wisconsin's agricultural industry and its impact on the state economy, serving as a full-time spokesperson, cultivating relationships with media outlets, writing and delivering speeches, and using social media to tell the stories of Wisconsin agriculture.

Female applicants ages 21 and older 8 should have an interest in Wisconsin agri-

culture, public speaking experience, and at least three years of experience, education, or training in communications, marketing, education, or public relations. The application deadline is Jan. 31

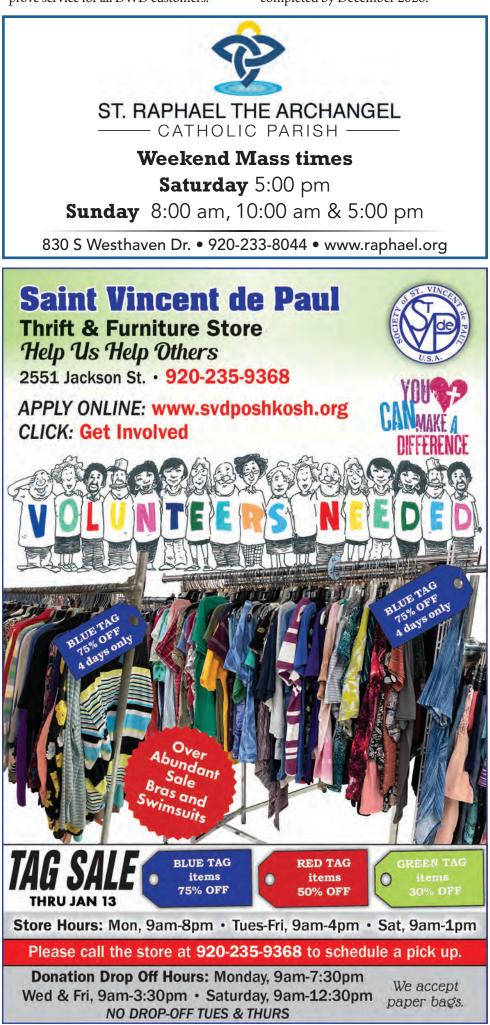
The one-year contractual position starts July 8. To apply, provide a cover letter, completed application form, resume and contact information for three professional references to DATCPAlice@wisconsin. gov or PO Box 8911, Madison, WI 53708-8911. Application materials are available on the Alice in Dairyland website.

#### Unemployment insurance process updated

The state Department of Workforce Development (DWD) is launching a project to upgrade the Unemployment Insurance employer portal while working on new tools to calculate benefits for claimants.

"The new employer portal will offer significant efficiencies and streamline processes for employers," said DWD Secretary Amy Pechacek. "Greater efficiency for employers will also speed processing times for claimants, reflecting our priority to improve service for all DWD customers." Employers and others interested in learning more about the development of the employer portal project and other UI system upgrades can visit the UI Modernization webpage on dwd.wisconsin.gov and sign up for notifications.

DWD began working on modernizing its UI system in 2021 through a contract with Madison-based Flexion Inc. The UI modernization system development and infrastructure work is estimated to be completed by December 2026.



In my opinion, natural luge is a lot harder to do and it's more fun."

The Winter Olympics aren't yet a goal or a possibility for Palecek. Artificial track is the only luge competition in the Olympics. There is some hope that natural track luging will eventually become an Olympic sport, but it's not scheduled to be an event in the 2026 Winter Olympics in Italy.

Natural track is part of the USA Luge's recruitment and development program, however, and is considered to be a steppingstone to artificial track. One of USA Luge's main goals is to introduce young athletes like Palecek to luging with hopes of getting them to move on to artificial track.

Palecek has been luging for only a few years. He skied regularly as a child and gave luging a shot when he fared well as a sixth-grade student in the USA Slider Search – a USA Luge traveling program designed to introduce young athletes for

"I've crashed many times. Usually, it just hurt a little bit and that's it. You get up and try it again."

Aviation Adventure Speaker Series:

Wisconsin Herd vs. College Park Sky-

Comedy Night, 7:30 p.m., Bare Bones

Steely Dane: The Ultimate Steely Dan

Ski, Snowshoe and Hike, 6 p.m., Win-

nebago County Community Park pavil-

Ruby's Pop-up Pantry, 9:30 a.m., 491

BAGO: Candlelight Cross-Country

Wisconsin Herd vs. Indiana Mad

The Wisconsin Wedding Showcase, 1

Ski, Snowshoe and Hike, 6 p.m., Winneba-

go County Community Park pavilion

p.m., Oshkosh Convention Center

Ants, 7 p.m., Oshkosh Arena

Tribute, 8 p.m., The Grand Oshkosh BAGO: Candlelight Cross-Country

Archaeology and MIA Recovery Missions, 7 p.m., EAA Aviation Museum Student Jam, 6:30 p.m., The Waters,

1393 Washington Ave.

Brewery, 4362 County S

Friday, Jan. 19

Saturday, Jan. 20

Old Oregon Road

Sunday, Jan. 21

ion

hawks, 6 p.m., Oshkosh Arena



Submitted photo

# **Football boosters**

Oshkosh youth football teams the Flyers and Raptors received \$1,000 checks from the Oshkosh Tavern League recently. Shown are (from left) Flyers president Brent Thompson and secretary Beth Thompson, fund chair Robert Sawitzki, Tavern League vice president John Popp and league secretary Crystal Mulvey.



Round 1 Balloting Begins Jan. 24

BALLOT STUFFING

**MULTIPLE VOTES** 



#### Thursday, Jan. 11

Oshkosh Garden Club with speaker Julia Chybowski, 5:45 p.m., Delta Restaurant, 515 N. Sawyer St.

#### Saturday, Jan. 13

Piano Men II: Still Rock 'n Roll to Me, 7:30 p.m., The Grand Oshkosh

#### Sunday, Jan. 14

Movies with Friends: "Up," 1 p.m., Oshkosh Public Library

#### Wednesday, Jan. 17

Tierney Sutton with pianist Christian Jacob, 7 p.m., The Howard

Wisconsin Herd vs. College Park Skyhawks, 11:30 a.m., Oshkosh Arena

#### Thursday, Jan. 18

Oshkosh Restaurant Week begins (through Jan. 28)

#### Annual human trafficking awareness rally at square

Oshkosh Herald

Volunteers from Damascus Road, in partnership with the Oshkosh Police Department, will be gathering at Opera House Square from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Thursday to hold signs for the 14th annual Stop the Traffick: Make Some Noise Human Trafficking Awareness Day Rally.

This year will feature a community awareness training from 9 to 10:45 a.m. at Venue 404 across from the square at 404 N. Main St.

National Human Trafficking Awareness Day was set by the 110th Congress and passed by the Senate on June 22, 2007, and January is known as National Slavery and Human Trafficking Prevention Month.

Human trafficking generates \$150 billion in illegal profits each year, according to the International Labor Organization, and involves exploitation of a person



Personability, and success in selling homes! • Flexible office duty • Respectable office space • Fraternity, not a competition • Rewarding commission splits + More Call **920-642-0980** 

Chris McPhetridge Broker/Owner or stop in at 511 W Murdock Ave, Oshkosh through force, fraud, or coercion for the purpose of commercial sex or forced labor.

Victims are often manipulated through promises of love, food, shelter, fear, fame, a sense of belonging or employment, then coerced or forced into manual labor, prostitution or sexual exploitation. Children are especially targeted by traffickers via social media, mobile devices and interactive gaming that provide venues to host anonymous conversations.

Damascus Road began in 2009 to raise awareness and assist victims of human trafficking in the Fox Valley and throughout Wisconsin by presenting prevention education in schools and community groups, partnering with police to uncover victims and provide after-care resources.

Additional information is at damascusroadproject.org.



#### I V ONLINE VOTING.

#### Campaign to be Oshkosh's City Pick for Best of! Winners announced in the April 17, 2024 Oshkosh Herald

#### City Picks is a 2-phase contest

#### Phase 1

Readers nominate their favorite in each category in the Oshkosh Area School District boundaries. **Phase 2** Readers vote for their favorite finalist 1 nominee

\*Each eligible ballot must include a min. of 30 category votes.

#### Contact your ad rep to begin your City Pick campaign today! Call: 920-385-4512 or advertise@oshkoshherald.com





Page 12 | Oshkoshherald.com





From the Bakery **Mini-Cookies** 





24 oz

**Prairie Farms** 

**Cottage Cheese** 



LEK GOA,



**3.79** 

24 oz

Greek Gods

Greek Yogurt











4 ct



**OSHKOSH ONLY DEALS** 

24-count

3.29 french 9-12 oz toast Food Club **String or Stick Cheese** 



Comfort Cravings, Features or Protein Kick

2.99



JANUARY 10, 2024

OSHKOSHHERALD.COM | PAGE 13



Page 14 | Oshkoshherald.com

JANUARY 10, 2024



While supplies last. We reserve the right to limit quantities and correct all printed errors. Not all varieties available at all locations. Prices subject to state and local taxes, if applicable. No sales to dealers. Purchase requirements are calculated after promotional discounts, and before tax, and does not include: gift cards, lottery, tobacco, bottle deposits or other service desk services. All prices with card are discounted by using your Piggly Wiggly Rewards Card. Free promotions will be applied to item of least value Gluten free information comes direct from the manufacturer (Always check the label, as ingredients may change. Contact the manufacturer with additional questions).

# Defense drives Spartans win over Polar Bears

By Steve Clark Oshkosh Herald

Oshkosh North's offensive burst late in the first half against Hortonville on Friday night helped key the Spartans' 93-76 win in the Fox Valley Association matchup.

But as much as the tide-turning 18-4 run to close the half was about putting the ball in the basket, it was even more fashioned by North's play at the other end of the court.

The "organized chaos" that Spartans' head coach Brad Weber had been preaching in practice leading up to the game took shape on the floor against the Polar Bears and once North got rolling on defense, it made the offense come a lot easier.

"We emphasized speeding them up and forcing them to go fast and just not let them do what they normally want to do," said junior Xzavion Mitchell. "(Coach) Weber keeps emphasizing organized chaos where we are able to speed them up and play fast but we have to be organized at the same time. I think we came out tonight, executed well and did that."

North was clinging to a 28-25 lead with about five minutes left in the first half when Stevie Clark started the game-breaking burst with a pair of baskets.

Iban Jennings then converted a threepoint play off a drive from the wing to give the Spartans their first double-digit lead at 35-25.

"That and-one in the first half was huge," Clark said.

Jennings finished with a season-high eight points on the night and thrived in the chaotic style of defense the Spartans played against the Polar Bears.

"That full-court pressure package plays right into his style of game. Then on offense, it creates space. He's really quick and great at attacking space," Weber said. "That's the beauty of the depth that we have. We can utilize a lot of different packages and a lot of guys understand to be ready when their name is called."

Bryce Ott also reached double figures with 13 points, while Carter Strange joined Jennings with eight points in the win.

That kind of production is a welcome sight for North, who are a better team when they can spread the offense around and not just rely solely on Clark and Mitchell.

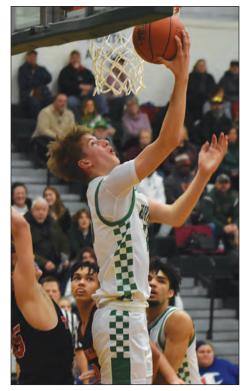
"Having other guys score is a big thing for us to have and I'm glad we had that tonight," Clark said. "Just taking that load off of me and Zay is important."

Mitchell, who led the Spartans with 31 points and 13 rebounds, and Clark, who added 30 points and six assists, scored nine of North's 11 points to finish off the half, with Max Rohr chipping in two free throws for a 46-29 halftime lead.

The Spartans kept the lead in double figures nearly the entire second half, but the Polar Bears were able to drop the margin to 84-73 with two minutes remaining. That would be as close as Hortonville would get though as the Spartans went 7-of-8 from the free-throw line to close out the game.

Although the Polar Bears never got close to catching the Spartans in the second half, the fact that North was unable to pull away left a lukewarm feeling resonating through the team.

"It goes with the territory. We have a lot of inexperience and we are doing a lot of learning," Weber said. "We've had a lot of first halves that look like that and then we put it together in the second so we have





Oshkosh Herald

Oshkosh North's Bryce Ott (left) scores at the rim in the first half against Hortonville on Friday night. Xzavion Mitchell (right) goes up for a shot in heavy traffic against the Polar Bears.

INSIDI

yet to put two full halves together, which we know we have to do."

Mitchell also said the Spartans have yet to be at the top of their game for a full 36 minutes.

We have to be more consistent. We haven't been consistent the whole year so I feel like we haven't played our best," Mitchell said. "We have to play two good halves. That's something we are working on for March. Being consistent and playing two full halves at the level we know we can and executing at that level we can, if we can do that, hopefully we'll start blowing out teams."



# Herald Display the state of th

#### Support the Oshkosh Herald

For less than a dollar a week you can support the Herald's mission of providing local, relevant community news delivered to your mailbox.

Our members recieve special emailed offeres during the year. Join today and support our mission on being a well informed community.

### Join at www.oshkoshherald.com/store/membership.

Or complete this form and return with a check or credit card information to: Oshkosh Herald Subscriber Membership 36 Broad St. Suite 300, Oshkosh, WI 54901

Full Name (First and Mailing Address:	Last):		Reve tow
	Email:		
$\bigcirc$ \$50 Annual Memb	h Herald weekly and want to join! ership o receive the Oshkosh Herald weekly.		
Check:	Credit Card:	Exp:	CSV:

# oshkoshherald.com | 36 Broad St. #300 | 920-385-4512 👎 🮯 💥



# Wildcat wrestlers stay on roll with win over Terrors

By Steve Clark Oshkosh Herald

Coming off an impressive fourth-place finish at the On The Water Classic and taking the mat for one of just two home meets this season, Oshkosh West wrestling coach Matt Cuadra was a little concerned about how his Wildcats would show up against Appleton West last Thursday night.

Would his team be a little overconfident after the display at the prestigious invite and distracted wrestling at home or would the wrestlers carry on the momentum from On The Water and focused in front of their home fans?

"We wrestled really well," Cuadra said after the team won 13 of 14 weight classes in a 74-6 victory. "We were hoping (the momentum) would carry over but it was definitely a speech we gave the kids that we have new business and whatever happened before, it's a new year."

West left little doubt as to which team

was showing up seizing control right from the start.

Jaiden Fronczak started a string of four straight pins to start the match, sticking

Kassius Daniels in 4:32 at 165 pounds. Zach Bartels (175), Iban Heredia (190) and Nelson Fournier (215) followed with pins before forfeits to Garth Martell (285) and Joshua Booth (106) staked the Wildcats to



a 36-0 lead. "We get a lot of momentum off of that. We get rowdy," senior Damarrion Williams said. "When you stack pins on top of pins, our team loves that."

Cuadra said the way the match started -Heredia and Fournier both stopped their opponents, while Bartels got the win just 17 seconds into the second period - set the tone for the rest of the team to follow.

"The way it started really gets it going and rolls throughout the whole night and you saw that in the progression of the matches," Cuadra said. "It was great seeing different guys step up and showing us what they are made of."

Two of the highlights for Cuadra followed Appleton West's lone win of the night at 113 pounds.

Benediction Kakola dominated his 120-pound match with Brendan Shepherd for a 12-4 major decision, while Wyatt Folske pinned Long Nguyen in 1:29 at 126 pounds in his first varsity dual meet match.

"Wyatt Folske getting a pin for us and Benediction, he went out there and got the bonus points for us. We talk about that all of the time," Cuadra said. "Getting those extra points for the team, you never know when those are going to make the difference. Those guys really stepped up

right there."

Williams then took the mat and earned in a pin in his 132-pound match in the third period. Not that he wasn't in control the whole way.

The senior registered 12 takedowns in the match - by design - before finishing off Nash Baeten.

"The goal was to go out there and get as many as I could. The original goal was 10 because that would get me on the (leaderboard in the wrestling room) but I wanted to keep going," Williams said. "I got to 12 and I was like, I'm tired. I'm just going to pin him. I was ready to get it over with."

Jacob Schultz (138) and Edwyn Schroeder (144) followed with pins for the Wildcats before a Jaxen Lloyd (150) major decision win and a Ryland Schneider (157) pin closed out the match.

"I think this team is really inspired right now," William said. "We're rolling."

# Prep sports roundup

#### **BOYS BASKETBALL**

#### Wildcats down Patriots

Drew Blair scored 20 points to lead three players in double figures as Oshkosh West downed Appleton East, 72-64, on the road last Friday.

Dylan Taylor added 15 points and Collin Carns had 11, going 6-of-6 from the free-throw line in the final 1:20 to help close out the win.

The Wildcats led by 10 at halftime and were up by as many as 17 points in the second half before the Patriots got as close as 64-59 with 1:45 remaining.

#### **Knights suffer loss**

IJ McKellips had 15 points and seven rebounds but Lourdes Academy couldn't get past Trailways East rival Oakfield in a 45-42 loss at The Castle on Friday.

Mitchell Wing added nine points, while Dominic Bauer and Calvin Tollard each scored seven.

#### Valley Christian falls

The Warriors fell behind 32-17 at halftime and couldn't recover in an 80-50 loss at Horicon.

Joshua Johnson scored 13 points to

lead Valley Christian, while Cade Krause chipped in eight.

### **GIRLS BASKETBALL**

#### **Polar Bears down North**

Oshkosh North scored just 11 points in the first half but played nearly even with Hortonville in the second in falling 71-43 on Friday.

Ava Hanson had 16 points in the loss to lead the Spartans, while Brinna Paulson had eight.

#### West upends East

Paige Seckar scored 22 points as Oshkosh West knocked off No. 10 Appleton East 65-63 on Friday.

Charlee Martin chipped in 16 points, while Laina Hammen and Brenna Gehri each finished with nine.

#### **Bauer lifts Knights**

Hailee Bauer scored 20 points, including the go-ahead layup with four seconds left, as Lourdes Academy took over sole possession of first place in the Trailways East with a 57-56 win over Oakfield on Thursday.

Delaney Ruedinger added 16 points, while Ella Slusarski scored 13.

#### Warriors split pair

Valley Christian pulled away in the second half to top Horicon 57-45 in a Trailways East game on Thursday night.

Anna Y. Giannopoulos led the Warriors with 18 points and 11 rebounds, while Lizzie Fink scored 14 points and Mya Moran had 12.

teams at the Raider Relays on Saturday.

The team was led by the 400-yard individual medley relay team of Caleb Bergin, Dane Dodge, Isaac Palomaki and Carter Crowe which took first. The foursome also took third in the 750-yard freestyle relay and the 200-yard freestyle relay.

#### WRESTLING

#### Trio leads Wildcats

Edwyn Schroeder (144), Ryland Schneider (157) and Garth Martell (285) each captured individual titles to lead Oshkosh West to a second-place finish at The Duffy tournament hosted by Port Washington.

Jaiden Fronczak (165) and Nelson Fournier (215) were each third, while Joshua Booth (106), Damarrion Williams (132) and Zach Bartels (175) were each fifth.

#### North battles Kimberly

Alex Barrera (106) and Everix Blessent (165) each recorded pins to highlight a 54-23 dual meet loss for Oshkosh North to Kimberly last week.

Camden Watson (138) and Jamond Thompson-Schreck (150) added major decision wins, while Andrew Brockman (144) also picked up victory for the Spartans.

#### **Carpenter wins title**

Lourdes Academy's Mason Carpenter won the 132-pound title at the prestigious On The Water tournament held Dec. 29-30.

Carpenter went 5-0 and beat Kewas-



Some items may require assembly. Ace is not responsible for printing or typographical errors

On Friday, Valley Christian lost to Hilbert 58-46, despite 23 points from Giannopoulos.

#### SWIMMING

and Discover Accepted at Participating Ace stor

#### West fifth at relays

Oshkosh West finished fifth out of eight



According to the nationally known audit firm Circulation Verification Council (CVC the Oshkosh Herald has an average readership of 47,322 per issue Audited numbers are numbers you can trust.

kum's Ethan Immel in the title match.

Edwyn Schroeder led the finishers for Oshkosh West by placing second at 144 pounds, while Ryland Schneider (157) and Garth Martell (285) were each third. Nelson Fournier (215) was sixth and Damarrion Williams (132) placed seventh.

Oshkosh North didn't have any placewinners but saw Antonio Thompson finish 4-2 at 190 pounds. **BOYS HOCKEY** 

### Ice Hawks roll to win

Isaiah Koeppen scored two goals as eight different players found the net as the Ice Hawks beat Shawano/Bonduel 9-2 last Thursday.

Leo Ulrich, Evan Neutzel, Brennon Kraft, Owen Moran, Dayton Briski, Reid Polak and Mason Monhen also scored in the game.

# Healthy McKellips takes on leading role for Knights

#### By Tim Froberg HERALD CONTRIBUTOR

Jaden John is his given name, but the top scorer for the Lourdes Academy boys' basketball team prefers to be addressed by his initials.

Knights' opponents have another name for J.J. McKellips: Trouble.

McKellips is one of the elite players in the Oshkosh area and figures to be a solid candidate for the Trailways East Conference's Player of the Year award.

The 6-foot-4 McKellips is an accomplished scorer who can get to the rim and drain the perimeter jumper. But points aren't on McKellips' mind when he steps onto the court. His focus is getting Ws and he's a smart, savvy team-oriented player who has been a Knights' captain the past few years.

"J.J. is the type of player that a coach dreams of," said Lourdes coach Brett Baehman. "His basketball IQ is topnotch, but he's also learned how to lead by example and use his voice when we need extra energy.

"His play on the court and volunteering throughout the Lourdes community makes him someone the younger kids in our program look up to."

Eleven games into the 2023-24 season, McKellips led the Knights' in scoring (17.9 points per game) and 3-pointers made (30). He was also among the team leaders in rebounding (5.4 per game), while averaging 2.0 assists.

McKellips was a first-team all-Trailways East selection as a junior after averaging 17.7 points, 5.2 rebounds and 2.5 assists with 53 3-pointers.

"I feel like I'm an all-around player," McKellips said. "I would describe my game as a stretch-the-floor, high-IQ player that makes plays at all levels of the game, whether it's shooting the ball, getting down on the low blocks and posting up, or taking a big charge on defense."

McKellips takes his captain's role and the leadership responsibilities that come with it seriously.

"My biggest role is to lead the team – to positively impact the team in as many ways as I can," he said. "I like doing that. Positively impacting others and seeing others succeed is something I really enjoy. I care a lot about my teammates."

McKellips is starting to feel more comfortable on the court and is rounding back into form after undergoing knee surgery last spring. He had MPFL (medial patellofemoral ligament) reconstruction on his left knee: a major operation designed to stabilize the knee. In MPFL reconstruction, a new medial pa-

### **Senior spotlight**

lowing MPFL surgery is generally threeto-six months and it gave McKellips plenty of down time.

"There were some positives and negatives," McKellips said. "I got to spend time at home with my friends and family and had an awesome summer. A negative was that I missed out on an opportunity to play AAU ball and that affects your recruiting."

Before the surgery, McKellips' left knee had been a problem for years.

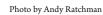
"I've played with a brace on my knee since the eighth grade and have been favoring it for about four years," McKellips said. "The knee is feeling better and I'm glad I had the surgery. I'm getting my wind back and my legs back underneath me. I'm just trying to get back to being the player that I was."

McKellips is a fourth-year varsity player who was part of the Knights' 2020-21 WIAA Division 4 state championship team. He was just a freshman, but made a solid contribution off the bench, averaging 4.1 points and 2.3 rebounds, while sinking 28 3-pointers.

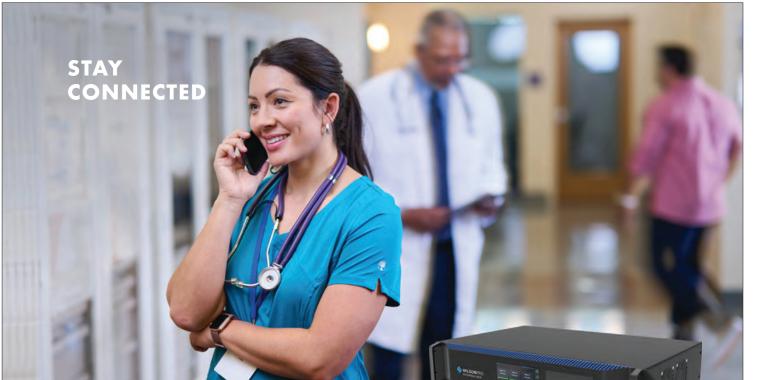
"That was a dream come true – a life-changing experience that I'll carry with me, not only in basketball, but life as well," McKellips said. "We made it all the way and accomplished everyone's goal which was pretty cool."

What made the state championship season even more special was that J.J. was able to share the experience with his older brother, Jack, a senior starter on the Knights'. Jack is currently attending

SEE Senior spotlight ON PAGE 18



Lourdes Academy senior JJ McKellips is the leading scorer for the Knights this season and was a first team all-Trailways East selection a year ago.





tellofemoral ligament is created to add support and strength to the knee and protect the joint from further damage.

"My kneecap kept dislocating." McKellips said. "It's basically getting a new ligament placed in your knee to hold your kneecap together."

The recovery and rehab period fol-





Gail & Grant Schwab

For information on our New Listings & Open Houses, please go to www.FirstWeber.com

Walk-Ins Welcome! Agents available on site Monday-Friday from 8am until 4pm

660 Oshkosh Ave., Suite 100, Oshkosh 920-233-4184 fwoshkosh@firstweber.com

We've all been there. A dropped call or a missed text while you're inside a building. While certain construction materials can block cell signals, a 5G booster can help employees or visitors stay connected. An exterior antenna on the building captures cell tower signals and transfers them to the booster where it's amplified 32 times, providing a solid 5G signal throughout an entire building.

Connect with Shea Electric & Communications today to see how a 5G booster can improve communication inside your building.



3175 Atlas Ave., Oshkosh WI 54904 920-303-9380

info@sheaelectricllc.com www.sheaelectricllc.com



ILSON



### WineFeast Reservations Include: Cellar Select 5-8 p.m. | Night Cap 8-10:30 p.m.

Cellar Select is a fine wine and five-course dining experience with a champagne reception, short program, and live auction. Follow up dinner with Night Cap, exclusively for Cellar Select guests. Taste a variety of fine wine, brews and tasty bites from area restaurants, listen to smooth jazz sounds, purchase delicious raffle items and bid on over 50 silent auction items.

#### 100% of proceeds benefit the Boys & Girls Club of Oshkosh

### **Reservations Available at:**

bgcosh.org/winefeast or scan the QR Code (920) 233-1414, ext. 129



Individual Reservation - \$150 Table Reservation for 8 Guests - \$1,200



# Senior spotlight

FROM PAGE 17

the University of Wisconsin Oshkosh and is a member of the Titans' baseball team. Jack and J.J's father, Jonathan, was an exceptional high school athlete who played college baseball at Cardinal Stritch College.

"Jack has always been a big influence on my life," said J.J. "We're extremely close and he's been an awesome role model for me."

The McKellips' brothers waged plenty of hoop wars in one-on-one competition in the family driveway and gyms over the years.

"We had lot of battles and he always beat me," J.J. said. "But it really helped my game. I've always played up against older kids and that really improves your game. Being able to beat him the last couple years has been nice. He doesn't want to play me much anymore."

McKellips' skills extend to the class-

# UWO basketball games add beer garden

blows."

to win ballgames.

sure situations."

Alcohol will be available at University of Wisconsin Oshkosh men and women's basketball games in a partnership with Fox River Brewing Co.

There will be a new beer garden at all seven conference home games at the north end of the fieldhouse, after which the UWO Athletics Department will conduct an operational analysis and determine if expansion to other sports is feasible.

Fans that are at least 21 years old will be able to purchase a wristband with three drink tabs on it for \$20. Sales will begin an hour before gametime, the same time gates open, and end 10 minutes into the second half during men's games and at the end of the third quarter during women's games.

# **Obituaries**

#### **Nancy Virginia Ney**

Nancy Virginia Ney, 68, of Oshkosh passed away at home surrounded by her family after a lengthy and courageous battle with cancer on January 5th, 2024 in Oshkosh Wisconsin.

Funeral service will be held at Highland Memorial Park on Friday January 12, 2024, at 11:30AM with Dr. Robert Nix, President of Berean Bible Institute officiating. Burial/Interment will follow at Appleton Highland Memorial Park. A time of visitation will be held from 10AM until the time of service.

Nancy was born in Los Angeles, CA to Delbert and Diane Lange on April 4th, 1955. She grew up on the family farm in Minnesota and graduated from Pine City High School in 1973. Nancy felt from an early age that God wanted her to be a missionary and share the hope of the Good News of salvation through Jesus Christ. She and her late husband met in missionary training with New Tribes Mission. They lived and ministered in the Loko tribe, on the island of New Britain, Papua New Guinea, from 1986 to 1999. It was such a joy to see many tribal people come to know Jesus as their personal Savior. Upon their return to the United States in 1999, Nancy got her CNA certification and worked for a number of years at the Lasata Care Center in Cedarburg, WI. She also had the pleasure of being part of the team opening the Lasata Crossings Assisted Living Center in 2010. She left in 2013 to become a full-time caregiver for her husband. Following the death of her late husband, Nancy moved to Appleton and the Lord brought Scott Ney into her life. They were married November 14th 2015. Daily bible reading and praying together with Scott for their families, friends, and those God-arranged encounters were two daily priorities in her life. Being a mother and grandmother gave her great joy. Widows, widowers, missionaries and parents of missionaries had a special place in her

heart as well. Traveling, biking and enjoying nature were hobbies that she loved doing with her husband and family.

Nancy is preceded in death by her late husband, Scott Nichols, her father, Delbert Lange, her mother, Diane Lange, her sister, Lisa Morgenweck, her brother, Larry Lange, both sets of grandparents, Fred and Ruth Nelson, and Julius and Mae Lange.

Nancy is survived by her husband, Scott Ney of Oshkosh, three children, Nathan Nichols of Waukesha, Stacy (Michael) Creech of Waukesha, Steven (Laura) Nichols of Appleton, and two step-children, Dan(Lori) Ney of Oshkosh, and Tricia (Chuck) Olson of Oshkosh, two sisters, Linda Andrews of Anchorage, Alaska, Jeanine Lange of Eagan, MN, one brother, Steven(Kim) Lange of Pine City, MN, sixteen grandchildren, Kelsey Creech, Dylan Creech, Riley Creech, Brynn Creech, Reagan Creech, Edwin Nichols, Charlie Nichols, Audrey Nichols, Elyse Nichols, Stuart Nichols, Margaret Nichols, Jadon Ney, Nathan Ney, Hannah Olson, Emma Olson, and Timothy Olson and numerous nephews, nieces, and cousins.

room. He's an honors student at Lourdes

who carries a 3.63 grade-point average. McKellips plans to attend college next

year and is hoping to get a chance to

"I'm an open book – I'm open to any-

thing right now," he said. My plan right

now is to go to college and hopefully

play basketball. I don't know yet where

that will be - I guess wherever the wind

In the meantime, McKellips is doing

everything he can to get his knee to 100

percent and help the Knights continue

"We haven't won conference since my

freshman year and that's our big goal,"

McKellips said. "I also feel like we're

definitely capable of making a deep run

in the playoffs. We've had some tightly

contested games in the first half of the

season that we've won and that's what

all teams need. You need to figure out

how to execute in close games and pres-

play basketball and major in business.



Salute the Kids Sponsors: Brookfield Badger Insurance, CLA, Game Time Sports Bar, Landscape Solutions by Michael Kirsch LLC, OEC Graphics, Omni Glass & Paint, Renning, Lewis & Lacy, S.C., Rhyme, Sadoff Iron & Metal Co., Sure-Dry



In lieu of flowers, the family is establishing organizations for memorial donations.

The family wishes to extend their gratitude to the staff at the Belville & Associates Chiropractic Clinic, Michael D. Wachtel Cancer Center, and Compassus Hospice Care for their loving and compassionate care.

1 Thessalonians 4:13, 14, 18 (NLV)

"Christian brothers, we want you to know for sure about those who have died. You have no reason to have sorrow as those who have no hope. We believe that Jesus died and then came to life again. Because we believe this, we know that God will bring to life again all those who belong to Jesus.... Because of this, comfort each other with these words."



### **Obituaries**

#### Kay F. Madsen

Kay F. Madsen, age 82, passed away on January 2, 2024, at Mercy Medical Center



in Oshkosh. She was born on October 8, 1941, to the late Ervin and Antonette (Fisher) Malmstadt. She was united in marriage to Richard Madsen on November 24, 1962.

Kay, often described as vivacious and energetic, dedicated much of her time to volunteering for organizations such as the Special Olympics, Pioneers, and Mercy Medical Center. Her selflessness and kind-hearted nature touched the lives of many. When she wasn't lending a helping hand, Kay could be found pursuing her passions. She enjoyed ceramic arts, crafting beautiful pieces that showcased her creativity and attention to detail. Kay also enjoyed the great outdoors, embarking on camping trips and motorcycle road trips with her beloved spouse, Richard Madsen. They created countless memories together as they explored the open roads, cherishing their shared love for adventure. She was an enthusiastic fan of both the Green Bay Packers and the Wisconsin Badgers football teams, finding joy in the

#### **Janeth Hornig**

Janeth "Tootsie" Hornig, age 77, passed away on Friday, January 5, 2024, at Mercy



Medical Center in Oshkosh. She was born on June 18, 1946, to the late Edward and (Schluter) Bernice Weiland. Janet was united in marriage on July 1, 1967, to John Hornig in Wautoma. Janet was an ex-

traordinary woman who effortlessly lit up every room she entered with her vibrant personality and unmistakable laughter. Known for her impeccable sense of style, Janet had a passion for shopping, ensuring she was always dressed to impress. An ardent fan of Elvis Presley, Janet could often be found joyfully singing along to his timeless classics. She always looked forward to her time spent with her husband, John when they would go out to eat. Most



camaraderie and excitement that football brought. Additionally, Kay had a soft spot for dogs (Prince, Bailey, Riley, and Casey) often showering them with love and companionship.

Kay is survived by her husband, Richard Madsen; sons: Rick (Sherry) Madsen, Scott (Amy) Madsen; grandchildren Josh (Bri Markofski) Madsen, Christine (Alex) Rieger, Kyle Madsen, Nicholas Madsen, McKenzie (Grant Carson) Madsen; great-grandchildren: Hannah, Haleigh, Hayden; siblings: Nancy, Gail, Cindy, Susie, Karen, Michael, and Brenda, along with their spouses, brother and sisters-in-law Roger and Judy Lahey, Donna Madsen, and numerous beloved nieces, nephews, and cousins. Kay had numerous friends, she made friends everywhere she went.

Kay's funeral service will be held at 1:30 pm on Saturday January 13, 2024, at Martin Luther Church, 1526 Algoma Blvd, Oshkosh. Visitation will take place at the church on Saturday from 12:30 pm until the time of service. The burial will be at 11:00 am on Monday, January 15, 2024, at Glenwood Gardens Cemetery in Marinette, WI.

#### ONRAD-BEHLMA UNERAL HOMES

importantly, Janet treasured the time spent with her beloved grandkids. She took immense pleasure in creating lasting memories with them.

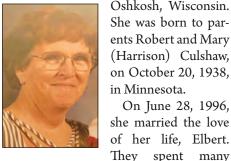
Janet is survived by her husband, John Hornig; daughter, Julie (Trevor) Fink; grandsons: Jordan and Matthew Fink; sisters: Delores (Harvey) Reilly and Barbara Weiland; and numerous in-laws, nieces, and nephews. She was preceded in death by her parents Edward and Bernice Weiland, and sons Jeffrey and Jason Hornig.

A funeral service for Janet will be held at 12:00 pm on Friday, January 12, 2024, at Immanuel Lutheran Church, 338 N Eagle St, Oshkosh with Rev. John Dorn officiating. Visitation will take place on Friday at the church from 11:00 am until the time of service. Janet will be laid to rest at Wautoma Union Cemetery.



#### **Dianne M. Wiles**

Dianne M. (Culshaw) Wiles, age 85, passed away on December 19, 2023, in Oshkosh, Wisconsin.



years together until his passing.

She enjoyed horseback riding, attending rodeos, karaoke, fishing, attending family gatherings and going down to the bar in her basement for refreshments and enjoying the County Western Music. Dianne will be remembered for her kindness, giv-

#### **Janis Beverly Ravy**

Janis Beverly Ravy at the age of 95 went home to Jesus peacefully on January 7, 2024, with family by

her side.



Janis "Jan" was born to Henry and Bernice Repp on December 7, 1928, at home in Oshkosh.

On June 28, 1996,

Jan will be remembered for her witty

humor, one liners and her generosity. The best time of her life was raising her five children and visiting with her grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

Jan collected cookbooks and loved cooking for the family. She enjoyed crocheting for her grandchildren and loved to travel; Paris was her favorite. Also, she enjoyed gambling, with her lucky number being seven. She was a member of various dance clubs and the Oshkosh Boat Club.

Jan worked for the Samuel Heaney Estate for 21 years and volunteered for 13 years at Mercy Medical Center.

Janis is survived by her children: Ron (Ruth) Hoppe, Barbara (Jerry) Durham, ing heart, and being a loving grandmother.

Dianne is survived by her children, Gerald Bawker, Gilbert Bawker; stepchildren, Nancy Larson, Rick (Pam) Wiles, Linda Schablonski, and Jackie Harrington; nephews, Rich Wiles and Stanley Zemke; many grandchildren; a few great-grandchildren; many nieces, nephews, and friends.

Preceding her in death are her parents; husband, Elbert Wiles; stepdaughter, Debbie Neustifter; several siblings; sisters-inlaw, Gloria Wiles, Betty Wiles, and Doris Chartrand; brother-in-law, Jim Wiles; and other family members.

A celebration of life will be held at Lake View Memorial Park on January 12, 2024 at 1:30pm.

Jox Cities

**Funeral & Cremation Services** 

Jeff (Jean) Hoppe, Tom (Ann) Tollard and Tim Tollard; sister, Pamela Walker; grandchildren, John (Carla) Hoppe, Jeremy Durham, Matt (Kelly) Hoppe, Tracy (Bob) Maynard, Tanya (Chance) Astrack, Trisha (Brian) Weinke, Travis Tollard, Luke (Emily) Hoppe; great-grandchildren, Julia Hoppe, Jake and Madeline Maynard, Sienna and Blake Weinke, Claudia and Charlotte Astrack, Thomas and Jack Tollard and Melody Hoppe.

She was preceded in death by her husbands, Ralph Hoppe, Russell Tollard and Harold Ravy; granddaughter, Paula Hoppe; great-granddaughters, Jenna Hoppe and Claire Astrack.

The family would like to thank the nurses, staff, and kitchen at Park View Health Center for all their compassion given.

A memorial service will take place at 11:00 am on Saturday, January 13, 2024, at Konrad-Behlman Funeral Home, 402 Waugoo Ave, Oshkosh. Visitation will be held at the funeral home on Saturday from 10:00 am until the time of the service.





1060 Breezewood Ln, Ste 101, Neenah, WI Ned 9-4 • Thur-Sat 9-12 920.886.9969 子 PyramidFoodsIr



#### JANUARY 10, 2024

# **Obituaries**

#### **Karen Mae Britten**

Karen Mae Britten was called to celebrate Christmas in heaven with her late



heaven with her late husband, Louis Britten and her late son, Michael Britten on Thursday, December 21, 2023. She was 74 years old, born August 4, 1949, in Fond du Lac, WI. She was the daughter of

Charles H. and Ethel

M. (Milner) Kramer.

Karen attended the Fond du Lac schools and graduated from L.P. Goodrich High School in 1967. She attended Sacred Heart School of Practical Nursing to receive her LPN. She graduated from Ferris University in Big Rapids, Michigan to get her RN. Karen's life-long dream was to be a registered nurse since she was three years old and had her tonsils removed at the hospital. While at Ferris University, she met a life-long friend named Char Burke. While working as an RN at the Winnebago Mental Health Institute, Karen found the love of her life, Louis Britten, who was also an RN. They were married on September 6, 1986, and were together 33 years before he died on April 5, 2019. He was the love of her life. Karen always said the birth of their son, Michael Anthony Britten, was the greatest miracle in their life.

She loved to bake, cook, crochet afghans, grow flowers, travel, shop and do things with her family and friends. Some of Karen's long-time friends include Edie Kern, Char Burke, as well as Sue Gallagher and her family. Survivors include her sister, Diane

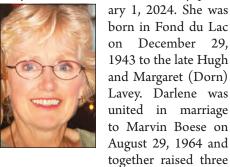
(friend Melvin) Finstad, Fond du Lac; nephew, Fred (friend Angie) Finstad, and his son, Joseph; Dan (Tanya) Finstad and their children, Keshia (Alex) Porter, Kylie (friend Brett) Finstad, Douglas (friend Mandy) Finstad and Dylan Finstad; sister-in-law, Leslie Kramer; nieces, Pam Dougherty and Megahan Hoffmann; step-son, Jeff Britten; and grandchildren, Corein Britten, Lydia, Evelyn and Mauretta Hanson, Autumn Merrick; and godson, Cameron Hoskins. Karen was preceded in death by her husband, Louis A. Britten, on April 5, 2019, and her son, Michael A. Britten on December 29, 2020, sisters-in-law, Mary Romero and Maureen Isom; brothersin-law, Michael Finstad and Paul Bertuleit; nephews, Shawn Isom and Ted Finstad; grandson, Christopher Britten; in-laws, Maurice and Helena Britten; and stepdaughter, Jenny Hanson. Karen'sonlybrother, Duane C. Kramer, died the day after Karen on December 22, 2023. We would like to thank the staff at St. Elizabeth's Hospital and Moments Hospice for their wonderful care shown to Karen and family. Services will be held at Seefeld Funeral Home, 1025 Oregon St, Oshkosh, with visitation on Saturday, January 20, 2024 from 9am - 11am, followed by a Memorial Service lead by Fr. Chris Corbin of Trinity Episcopal Church. Final interment will be a private family service at Ledgeview Cemetery, Fond du Lac. In lieu of flowers donations may be made to Trinity Episcopal Church, Oshkosh.





#### Darlene M. Boese

Darlene M. Boese of Oshkosh, passed away at her residence on Monday, Janu-



children.

Darlene lovingly embraced her role as a mother and grandmother. She cherished her time with her grandchildren and grand puppies.

Darlene had a passion for quilting and was a member of many quilting clubs throughout her life. She spent countless hours meticulously handcrafting beautiful quilts to welcome any newborn babies that came into her life. Her motto was, "quilts are not for hanging, they're for loving".

#### James Edward Paulick

James "Hawk" Edward Paulick, age 82, passed away in Oshkosh, Wisconsin on



December 30, 2023. He was born to parents, Leonard and Martha (Stephany) Paulick, on May 29, 1941, in Oshkosh, Wisconsin.

He attended the University of Wisconsin-Oshkosh and ob-

tained a Bachelor's Degree of Economics. He met the love of his life Beverly Leichtfuss, and they married on August 3, 1968. Together they raised two boys.

Jim loved playing in many bowling leagues, and a mixed league with his wife, Beverly. In 1993, he was inducted into the Oshkosh Bowling Association Hall of Fame. He also enjoyed golfing, blackjack and cribbage.

Jim will be remembered for having a sharp, keen eye, and his open-handed na-

#### Jerome J. Weber

Jerome J. Weber, 79, passed away in Oshkosh, WI on December 23, 2023. He



was born on September 3, 1944, to Agnes (Lacey) and Joseph R. Weber.

Jerry volunteered as a firefighter for Poy Sippi and worked as an EMT for Waushara County. He worked at

Mercy Medical Center in Oshkosh for over

Darlene also enjoyed her daily walks with her neighbors and good friends, Ruby Patt and Rosie Schuster.

Darlene is survived by her husband, Marvin Boese; children, Stuart Boese, Christine (Ethan) Moulden and Doug (Cheryl) Boese; grandchildren, Bailey, Maxwell (Sydney), Baxter and Mia Moulden; siblings, Delmar (Dawn) Lavey and Ruby Wilson; sisters-and-brothersin-law, Greg (Ann) Boese, Pam (Mark) Juedes, Laura Boese, Joan Boese, Val Juedes, Julie Boese; as well as many nieces and nephews.

In addition to her parents, Darlene was preceded in death by her sister, Doris Lavey Evenson; brothers-and-sisters-inlaw, Richard, Robert, Royal, Norman Jr., Helen, Andy, Clifford and Bradley.

Per Darlene's wishes, a private celebration will be held by the family at a later date.

# KONRAD-BEHLMAN

ture.

He is survived by his children, Nick (Jennifer) Paulick, and Chris Paulick; grandchildren, Draven, Caius, and Zephan Paulick; step-grandchildren, Boston, Keaton, and Campbell Gies; sisters, Jeanne (Larry) Hildebrand, and Barbara Paulick; brother, John Paulick; many nephews and nieces; and an amazing group of friends that would visit him daily and play cards together.

Preceding him in death are his parents; wife, Beverly; and brother, Lenny Paulick.

Visitation will be held at Seefeld Funeral Home, 1025 Oregon St., Oshkosh, Wisconsin on Tuesday, January 16, 2024, from 2:00 pm to 4:00 pm, with service to follow. The family would like to thank the teams at the Vince Lombardi Cancer Center and the Evergreen Community, for their exceptional care and guidance during his transition.



(Christopher Sr.) Nett; grandchildren, Timothy Hoeppner, Katrina Hoeppner, Jordan Rodensal, Cassidy Rodensal, Shayla Rodensal, Amber Nett, and Christopher Nett Jr.; and his beloved dog, Max; he is further survived by his sisters, Judith Kohout and Mary Jo (Stephan) Boller; and brother, Joseph Weber Jr.

Preceding him in death are his parents, Joseph and Agnes Weber; and his brotherin-law, Phil Kohout.

A celebration of life will be held at Fox Cities Funeral and Cremation Services,

# Honor your loved one with the timeless tradition of an obituary

- Provide the community with timely service and memorial details
- Give friends and family a convenient place to offer condolences and make charitable donations
- Have an easy way to share the notice on social media
- Create a permanent record of your family member's legacy for future generations to explore

To place an obituary in the Oshkosh Herald submit through Your Funeral Director • obits@oshkoshherald.com • 920-508-9000 25 years. Jerry enjoyed fishing trips, going ATVing and watching NASCAR. He will be remembered for being stubborn but having great love for his grandchildren. He is survived by his ex-wife, Patti We-

ber; daughters, Sarah (Jeremy Derks) Weber, Toni (Levi) Rodensal, and Amy 3026 Jackson Street, Oshkosh, WI 54901 on Saturday, January 13, 2024, with visitation being held from 11am until 12pm and service being held at 12pm.

Fox Cities

Funeral & Cremation Services



### Obituaries

#### Mary M. Wegener

Mary Margaret (Brennand) Wegener, age 75, of Waukesha, WI, passed away at



St. Elizabeth Hospital in Appleton, WI. She was born in Oshkosh, WI on December 22, 1948 a daughter of the late George and Kathaleen A. (Gafney) Brennand. She grew up on the family dairy farm and at-

tended eight grades at Boyd School. She was a graduate of Lourdes High School and the University of Wisconsin-Oshkosh. Mary received her Master of Arts in Library Science from UW-Milwaukee. Her first job during college was processing new books at the Oshkosh Public Library. She was employed at the Brookfield Public Library (1973-1983) and

#### **Donald G. Kiesow**

Donald G. Kiesow, age 98, passed away on Monday January 1, 2024 at St. Agnes



Hospital in Fond du Lac. He was born in Oshkosh on March 19, 1925 the son of the late Leo and Martha (Reinhardt) Kiesow. Donald was married to his wife, Delores Esslinger, for 74 years prior to her

passing in July of 2021. Until the time of his retirement he was employed by Metalist Industries as a machinist for 42 years.

Donald was a devoted husband, father, and grandfather. When he wasn't spending time with family and friends you could often find him bowling, hunting, and fishing. Donald especially enjoyed fishing for perch and walleye on Lake Winnebago, which he knew like the back of his hand! He was also a very skilled carpenter, building several homes including his daughter's current home.

Donald is survived by his daughter Kim (Hans) Kuster of Oshkosh; grandchildren

#### Patricia Ann Kaminski

Patricia "Pat" Ann Kaminski, age 79, passed away on January 1, 2024, in Oshkosh, Wisconsin. She was born to parents, Joseph and Irene (Mathe) Nemeth Sr., on July 25, 1944.

She worked at Square D for many years, until her retirement.

Pat enjoyed making ceramics and playing Bingo with all her friends.

She is survived by her daughter, Michelle Kaminski; sister, Marlene (James) the Waukesha Public Library from 1983 until her retirement in 2009. She enjoyed her library work, and over the years developed experience in almost every department. As Head of Technical Services, she helped both libraries evolve from the "dark ages" of physical card catalogs to modern on-line databases.

She is survived by her sister, Eileen (Tom Polzin) Brennand of Oshkosh; two brothers, Michael (Teri) of Oshkosh and Patrick Brennand of Winneconne; a niece, Rhea Brennand; nephews, Scott (Sara Thuermer) Brennand and Joshua Brennand; great nieces, Evelyn Mueller and her father, Jon Mueller, McKenna Brennand and Aubrey Brennand; sisterin-law, Ellen Brennand; brother-in-law, Price Zimmerman; other relatives and many very dear friends. She was preceded in death by her father and mother; her aunt and uncle Mary Grace (Gaf-

Grant Kuster of Oshkosh and Hadley (Jeremy) Haney of Oshkosh; great-grandchildren Raylan and Priya Haney; devoted nieces Wendy Neyhard, Judy (Tom) McKenney, Barbara (David) Dougherty; and devoted nephews Terry (Helen) Zuehlke, Ronald (Kathy) Zuehlke, and Steve (Carolyn) Williams.

He was preceded in death by his parents and two sisters (and two brothers-in-law) Viola (Carl) Williams and Helen (Robert) Butts.

Funeral services for Donald were held in The Poklasny Funeral Home (870 West South Park Oshkosh) on Saturday January 6, at 11:00 AM with the Rev. Lou Golamari officiating. Burial was in Lake View Memorial Park. Family and friends were able to call at the funeral home on Saturday from 9:30 AM until the hour of services.

The entire family would like to thank both in-home and in-patient hospice as well as all of the staff at St. Agnes Hospital 5 West for their abundant care and compassion.

FISS & BILLS - POKLASNY FUNERAL HOMES & CREMATORY

Lang; brothers, Joe (Barbara) Nemeth, and Bob Nemeth; and many nieces and nephews.

Preceding her in death are her parents; and sister-in-law Kathy Nemeth.

Per her wishes, no services will be held. The family would like to extend a sincere thank you to the staff at Bella Vista for their

patience and care during her transition.

Jox Cities Funeral & Cremation Services

#### OSHKOSHHERALD.COM | PAGE 21

ney) Vogt and Gerrie Vogt; her aunt and uncle Mary (Brennand) Pederson and Russell Pederson, her uncle, Bill Brennand; her brother, Tom; her sister, Kathaleen "Babe" (Brennand) Zimmerman; a nephew, Lee Brennand; and a niece, Sara (Brennand) Mueller. She was also preceded in death by her long time special friend, John W. "Bill" Espey of Memphis, TN. Mary loved baking and giving away cookies, pies, and her famous "Honey Nut Zucchini Bread". She was the guardian of the family history. After cleaning out her parents' and aunt's houses, she became the repository for five generations of family photos and papers, which she spent years trying to organize and label. Mary had a lifelong interest in reading. She was usually reading or listening to 2 or 3 books at a time. Her love of travel started early, when her Aunt Mary Grace and Uncle Gerrie took her on road trips

#### **Kevin Annis**

Kevin Annis passed away on December 29, 2023, at the age of 56. Kevin was



born on April 7, 1967, to Eugene and Joan (Binder) Annis in Oshkosh, WI where he grew up and eventually graduated from North High School. He was preceded in death by his father,

Eugene Annis, and his sister, Susan Hulet.

He is survived by his mother, Joan, his children Johnathan Annis, Nicholas Annis, and Nicole Calkins, his grandkids Clayton Annis, Peyton Annis, Grayson Annis, Gavin Annis, and Parker Calkins. with them. When her father turned 80, they began a tradition of "Father-Daughter" trips around the US to visit relatives and his WW II army buddies, which continued until he was 96. Mary also loved the fine arts, attending and supporting many of the Milwaukee are theaters and museums.

Funeral services for Mary will be held on Tuesday, January 9, 2024 at 12 noon in the Fiss & Bills-Poklasny Funeral Home, 865 S. Westhaven Dr. in Oshkosh. Burial will follow in Riverside Catholic Cemetery. A time of visitation and support will be held for the family at the funeral home on Tuesday from 10 am until the time of service. Memorials to the Oshkosh Public Library or Waukesha Public Library in her name would be appreciated.

FISS & BILLS - POKLASNY FUNERAL HOMES & CREMATORY

He also leaves behind his siblings; Eugene Marohl, Robert (Renee) Marohl, Dottie (Glen) Durrant, and Brian (Sherri) Annis, his brother-in-law David Hulet, as well as numerous nieces and nephews.

An avid sports fan, Kevin enjoyed playing softball and never missed a Packer game. He liked to press his luck with slot machines and poker. More than anything, he loved spending time with his family, especially his grandkids.

Kevin's life will be celebrated on January 12, 2024, at Konrad-Behlman Funeral Home located at 100 Lake Pointe Dr in Oshkosh. Visitation will be from 3pm-6pm, with a brief service following.

KONRAD-BEHLMAN



# We take TOUGH cases.



With decades of advocacy handling complex and hard-to-win cases, Attorney **George Curtis** will fight for you. You have a right to be heard.

APEX ACCIDENT Attorneys, LLC 3475 Omro Road, Suite 200 Oshkosh, Wisconsin 54904 920-233-1010 www.apexaccidents.com

#### JANUARY 10, 2024

# **Obituaries**

#### **Judith A. Silverthorn**

Judith "Judy" A. Silverthorn, age 66 of Oshkosh, passed away at her residence on



Monday, January 1, 2024. She was born in Wausau on January 25, 1957 to the late Thomas and Phyllis (Trudell) Beacham. As a devoted mother, Judy poured her

heart and soul into raising her daughter, Kate. She was Kate's guiding light, always

there to offer support, guidance, and unconditional love. Her immense kindness extended beyond her family, as she was al-

#### Sonja E. Barlow

Sonja "Sony" E. (Wahlgren) Barlow, age 85, passed away with her family by



her side on January 4, 2024, in Oshkosh, Wisconsin. She was born to parents, Victor and Carrie (Brennand) Wahlgren, on February 25, 1938, in Wisconsin.

She married her high school sweet-

heart Robert Barlow on February 7, 1959, in Oshkosh, Wisconsin. Together they raised two children.

Sonja was considered a "people person," always had an open door for the neighborhood kids. She loved to cook for family and friends. Early mornings she could be found getting her favorite cup of joe at ways ready to lend a helping hand to those in need.

Judy had a heart of gold and was known for her kind and giving nature. Her genuine compassion and selflessness were evident in everything she did. She worked for United Cerebral Palsy earlier in life, and was instrumental in the startup of Camp Sandy Wheels. She later worked as an inhome caregiver where she dedicated years of her life assisting others with the utmost care and compassion.

Earlier in life, Judy enjoyed traveling and skiing. More recently she took up basket weaving, woodworking and painting. She loved sharing her works of art with family and friends. Judy was an avid Neil

Mike's Place. She also enjoyed knitting, playing cards, and going to casinos.

She is survived by her son, James "Jim" Barlow; many nieces; nephews; and close friends.

Preceding her in death was her parents; husband, Robert Barlow; son, Jeffrey Barlow; sisters, Geraldine (Joseph) Duffy, and Marlene (Gerald "Sonny") Polishinski; brothers, Robert (Lois) Wahlgren, and Richard Wahlgren.

Per her wishes, there will be a private graveside service and Celebration of Life will be held at a later date.

The family would like to extend a very special thank you to the staff at Aurora Hospice and Dr. Teresa Lee for all their care and compassion during her transition.

Fox Cities

Funeral & Cremation Services

Diamond fan. Her passion for his music was evident as she and her daughter attended numerous live concerts, including a memorable performance at Summerfest in 2012.

Judy is lovingly survived by her daughter, Kate (Jacob) Urbschat-Satterfield; sisters, Nancy (Ed) Hammes, Catherine (Ralph) Hamilton-Beacham; nephews, Tom and Jay Beacham, Nathan Hammes and C.J. Hamilton; niece, Cara Smith. She is further survived by many dear friends.

In addition to her parents, Judy was preceded in death by her sister, Mary Blakeslee and niece Sara Hammes.

Per Judy's wishes, a celebration of life will be held at a later date.

#### Kerry Lee Schmidt

Kerry Lee Schmidt, age 75, of Oshkosh, passed away on Wednesday December 27,



Mercy Hospital in Oshkosh. He was born in Oshkosh on September 18, 1948 the son of the late Clarence and Hazel Ahrens Schmidt. Kerry married Vickie Eckstein

on June 9, 1972. He graduated from Oshkosh High School and later the University of Wisconsin Oshkosh with a degree in Special Education. Kerry served his country in Viet Nam in the United States Marine Corps.

Kerry is survived by his wife; Vickie Schmidt, a son; Jeremy Schmidt, a daughter; Sandra (Russell Goble) Schmidt,

The family of Judy wishes to express their deep appreciation to her healthcare providers at Aurora and at the UW Health Transplant clinic for everything they've done for her over the years.

Being a kidney recipient, Judy was incredibly grateful and supportive of donors. In lieu of flowers, Judy would have wanted those who knew her to educate themselves about how they can support programs that save lives. If you feel so inclined, you can visit Donate Life Wisconsin, https://donatelifewisconsin.org/ to learn more.

ONRAD-BEHLMAN UNERAL HOMES

three brothers; Burton (Penny) Schmidt, Dennis (Joan) Schmidt, Steve Schmidt, two sisters; Billie Gauthier, Patti Boelke, a brother-in-law Richard (Maureen) Eckstein, two sisters-in-law Judy (Ken) Cram, and Donna Mauk. Kerry is further survived by many nieces, nephews, other relatives and friends.

He was preceded in death by his parents Clarence (Hazel) Schmidt, brother-in-law Barry Gauthier, and his mother and father-in-law, Robert (Rita) Eckstein.

A time of sharing and support will be held on Saturday January 13, 2024 in Fiss & Bills-Poklasny Funeral Home (865 S Westhaven, Oshkosh) from 10:00 AM-12:00 PM. No formal funeral ceremony will be held.





#### OSHKOSHHERALD.COM | PAGE 23

# Obituaries

#### **Gladys V. Veidemanis**

Gladys V. Veidemanis, 93, died peacefully on Dec. 27, 2023, following a stroke



a week earlier, at Evergreen Retirement Community in Oshkosh, where she'd lived since 2018. She is warmly remembered by family and friends locally and around the world as a brilliant, innovative,

and inspiring Honors English teacher, a tireless consumer of and advocate for the arts and humanities, an accomplished musician, a loving wife and devoted mother, an enthusiastic and inquisitive friend, an inveterate Christmas-letter writer, an occasional "martini queenie," a frequent diner at Jimmie's White House Inn, a longtime fan of the Packers and the Brewers with a "fatal weakness" for good soap operas, and so much more. The only areas in which she didn't excel were the kitchen and the athletic field. She was far too busy with everything else.

Gladys Garmager was born Oct. 13, 1930, to Norwegian immigrants in Rockford, Illinois. As a child, she participated in church and school programs as a singer and piano accompanist (which she aspired to do professionally). She accompanied high-school singers and instrumentalists, and performed a Liszt Rhapsody with her high-school orchestra. She attended Augsburg College in Minneapolis (1947-49) and toured the Midwest with the college choir as an accompanist. She transferred to the University of Wisconsin-Madison to complete her English/history major and music minor, graduating summa cum laude and Phi Beta Kappa.

At the Lutheran Student Association in Madison, she met Juris Veidemanis, a refugee from Latvia whose family had lost everything to the Communists during World War Two. They married in 1953. While Juris wrote his dissertation, Gladys taught English and speech and led the a cappella choir and girls' glee club at Mt. Horeb High School for three years. Their son Maris was born in 1954. In 1955 the family moved to Milwaukee for nine years. Gladys taught Honors English, Advanced Literature, and Advanced Composition at the brand-new Nicolet High School and served as department chair from 1960-64. During that time, she earned her master's degree at UW-Milwaukee. She also took her young son to Milwaukee Braves baseball games.

In 1964, Gladys became a proud Oshkoshian, first as English Department chair at Oshkosh High School and then in the same position at Oshkosh North High School (1972-90). She taught advanced-level English and literature classes and oversaw curriculum committees. She also served on school and community committees supporting libraries and media centers, media fairs, planning for the new high school, Summer Symposium, and Tri-City Council for the Humanities, to name a few. Over the years she also held several important positions with the Wisconsin Council of Teachers of English. Meanwhile, Juris Veidemanis served as the highly respected chairman of the sociology-anthropology department at Wisconsin State University-Oshkosh (1964-71). His untimely death left Gladys to raise their teenaged son and care for family elders, in addition to her professional responsibilities.

Despite those considerable challenges she persisted, prospered, and thrived. During her 26-year tenure in the Oshkosh school system, Gladys earned numerous honors, including the Oshkosh Young Educator Award (1966), the Wisconsin Council of Teachers of English Distinguished Service Award (1971), the Wisconsin High School Teacher of the Year Award (1983), and Pomona College's Distinction in Teaching Award (1988). She wrote 40+ articles on literature and teaching, co-authored several English-language textbooks, and consulted on two encyclopedias of literary criticism. She served on numerous national committees and on the Educational Advisory Board of BBC Shakespeare Plays, 1978-86. Additionally, she taught for four summers at Lawrence University and two summers at University of Texas, San Antonio. In the midst of all of that, she joined the "zipper club," undergoing bypass surgery in 1976.

Undoubtedly Gladys's greatest achievement lay in her teaching and mentoring thousands of students (including her daughter-in-law Gail Dobish; by mutual consent, Maris opted out of her classes), guiding legions into top colleges and universities around the U.S. and the accomplished careers that followed. She inspired many to become English teachers and literature professors, professional writers and editors. Others became teachers of other subjects, lawyers, physicians, geneticists, astronomers, engineers, ministers, entrepreneurs, artists, musicians, actors, filmmakers, and professionals in countless other fields. All credited "Mrs. V" with making them better writers, thinkers, readers, and doers. She urged them to "learn to compose at the typewriter" and "attend every cultural event that you can." She ensured they felt seen and supported, and could imagine and pursue futures they hadn't considered. Decades after graduating, scores of her former students visited Mrs. V whenever they returned to Oshkosh, gathering around her Christmas tree in the winter or on her cherished screen porch in the summer to answer her insightful questions about their lives since leaving her classroom.

Several years ago, Gladys wrote: "In Oshkosh, I hope I will be remembered...not only as a dedicated English teacher, but as the person who insisted on a Humanities program in the public schools." She instituted such programs at both high schools. world with Maris and Gail, visiting Paris, Hawaii, New York, Santa Fe, China, Hong Kong, Norway, and Latvia, among other destinations. She truly embodied "Gladeffusion," an utterly apt description coined by one of her many star students.

Gladys served on the board of the acclaimed Green Lake Festival of Music for more than three decades, including several years as board secretary. Living up to her motto, "Each one bring one," she attended virtually every concert each season, always inviting friends to share the experience (and help with the driving). In 1991, she co-founded and chaired Project SOAR (Special Opportunities for Artist Residencies), which fosters and funds hands-on artist residencies throughout the Oshkosh Area School District.

For years Gladys played bridge avidly. She was a longtime member of the Study Class, an Oshkosh women's group that has been around for 66 years; and also of the Lunch Bunch, a group of women devoted to making the best public education available to everyone in Oshkosh. She proudly supported the Oshkosh Symphony, the renovation of the Grand Opera House, the Paine Art Center, and other cultural organizations.

Gladys was predeceased by her parents Conrad and Gudrun (Bjoergen) Garmager, her brother Kristofer Garmager Sr., and her husband Juris Veidemanis.

She is survived by her son Maris Veidemanis and daughter-in-law Gail Dobish; her nephews Kristofer (Linda) Garmager Jr. and Timothy Garmager; as well as her great-niece Emily Garmager and great-nephew Doug (Katie) Garmager, and their children Savannah, Lillian, and Eleanor; and great-nieces and great-nephews Matthew, Mariana, Britton, Travis, and Tricia Garmager. In addition, Gladys is survived by her "adopted" families – the Fite/Brauns and the Moshers; as well as thousands of former students and friends, many of whom count her among the most valued and influential people in their lives.

The family particularly wants to thank the staffs at Evergreen Retirement Community and Moments Hospice, who cared for Gladys so very well in her last years and ensured a peaceful and dignified passing. A special thank you to Kimberly Schiefelbein.

Anyone wishing to honor Gladys via a memorial gift is encouraged to contribute to one of her favorite charities: The Green Lake Festival of Music (greenlakefestival. org), Project SOAR (soaroshkosh.org), or the Oshkosh North High School Class of 1978 Gladys Veidemanis Scholarship Fund (www.oshkoshareacf.org/fund/oshkosh-north-high-school-class-of-1978gladys-veidemanis-scholarship-fund/).

A celebration of Gladys's life will be held in the late spring or summer. Details to follow.

KONRAD-BEHLMAN

# Classifieds Call 920.385.4512 to place your ad Private party ads deadline is 4 p.m. Friday. \$15 for first 20 words

Employment

SHARP 12 hours or less/week

Cost Cutters-Oshkosh (3 locations) Cosmetologist/Barber Flexible scheduling during our business hours. Chris or Lynn 920-215-4600 or text CC76 to 44000

Cost Cutters-Oshkosh (3 locations) Receptionist Preferably late afternoon, evenings, or weekends Chris or Lynn 920-215-4600 or text CC76

to 44000

Kobussen Buses DRIVERS and Bus Aides Flexible hours, up to \$23/hour AKC REG KING CHARLES CAVALIER PUPS 2 Males Vet/shts Ready Now \$600 715-701-2066

CAVAPOO PUPS looking for a new home, Loveable & playful \$700 715-669-3360

COCKAPOOS & POO-SHON PUPS Born 11/25/23 Variety Colors Cute & Cuddly 715-758-6759

DON'T LET THE STAIRS LIMIT YOUR MOBILITY! Discover the ideal solution for anyone who struggles on the stairs, is concerned about a fall or wants to regain access to their entire home. Call AmeriGlide today! 1-888-686-1458 (WCAN)

FOR RENT: 150 ACRES CERTIFIED ORGANIC CROP LAND with possibility of 70 additional organic acres. Marshfield, WI 715-316-7766 (WCAN)

FRITZ BARN PAINTING Rusty Roofs, Metal bldings Free Est 608-221-3510 920-821-6311 vet checked, wormed READY TO GO!!! \$500 715-536-0697 or 715-316-2522 (WCAN)

REPLACE YOUR ROOF w/the best looking & longest lasting material, steel from Erie Metal Roofs! 3 Styles & multiple colors available. Guaranteed to last a lifetime! Limited Time Offer - up to 50% OFF Installation + Add'1 10% off install (for military, health workers & 1st responders) Call Erie Metal Roofs 1-877-845-6606 (WCAN)

The bathroom of your dreams in as little as 1 day. Limited Time Offer - \$1000 off or No Payments & No Interest for 18 months for customers who qualify. BCI Bath & Shower. Many options available. Quality materials & professional installation. Senior & Military Discounts Available. Call today! 1-877-651-1850 (WCAN)

Vintage Metal Coffee Bar \$50; 2 Pottery Barn Lamps, Brown Glass \$100; 50" Round Jute Wall Hanging or Rug \$25; White Christmas Ornaments; Blue Wood Beaded Garland 10 Strings \$20; Blue &

In 2015 a four-year college scholarship was established in honor of Mrs. V at Oshkosh North High School.

But wait, there's more! Gladys's boundless enthusiastic support of her family, friends, students, schools, and professional organizations was matched by her expansive cultural appetites. She loved to read into the wee hours (dubbing herself an owl, even though she had to keep the hours of a lark during her teaching years). She also loved theater (especially Shakespeare) and classical music in all its forms. She thrilled to have traveled the

#### **Rebecca Ann Kohlhoff**

Rebecca (Becky) Ann Kohlhoff (nee: Dick) was born 3/3/1947 and passed peacefully (at 76) in her sleep on December 31, 2023.

She was raised in Milwaukee and moved to Oshkosh in the 1970's.

She is survived by relatives in MN. Sister: Carroll Lea Howland (nee: Dick); Niece: Marlene Schatz-Gaige (Bobby); Grand Nephews: Ted Schatz - Ben Schatz and Alec Gaige; Great Grand Nephews: Milo and Jonas Schatz. No service will be held; feel free to donate to your favorite charity in her name.

#### Roger 920-424-7575

### A&P Technician / Avionics Technician

NewView Technologies, Inc. Appleton / Oshkosh airport locations. Monday -Friday, 8 - 4:30, bruce@newviewtech.com or text 920-420-4496 for details.

OTR TRUCK DRIVERS FT/PT Put Your Career in Gear!! Competitive wages & full benefits. Mileage, Drop pay, Paid weekly Home weekends, NO east/west coast, 28 central states. Van & Hopper Division. Agriculture experience a plus. Fox Valley company since 1958

Call Frank 920-788-6242 or 920-858-0238. Van Groll Trucking, Kaukauna

### For Sale

AKC REG COCKER SPAN PUPS Holiday Special: 2for1 WOW! Sweet Adorable Pets Shots 920-563-3410 mornings #268588 (WCAN)

#### 20-021-0311

JACUZZI BATH REMODEL Can install a new, custom bath or shower in as little as one day. For a limited time, we're waiving all installation costs! Additional terms apply. Subject to change and vary be dealer. Offer ends 12/31/23 1-833-224-4977 (WCAN)

MINI COCK-A-POOS Hypo-allergenic, Nonshed, shots/vet F-\$600, M-\$500; PUREBRED REG COCKER SPANIEL PUPPIES **715-758-2433** 

MINI GOLDENDOODLE PUPPIES Ready to go shots/worm/dews/vet Males \$400 715-229-2942

MINI GOLDENDOODLE PUPS Will be 20 pounds. Cute and Cuddly. 715-409-0533

#### PREPARE FOR POWER OUTAGES TODAY

with a GENERAC home standby generator. Act now to receive a FREE 7-year warranty w/ qualifying purchase\*. Call 1-877-626-1009 today to schedule a free quote. it's not just a generator. Its a power move. (WCAN)

PUREBRED GOLDEN RETRIEVER PUPS Shots/Wormed, Vet Ckd M-\$300, F-\$350 cash only 715-267-6370 No Sunday Calls

REG COCKER SPANIEL PUPS dews, shots,

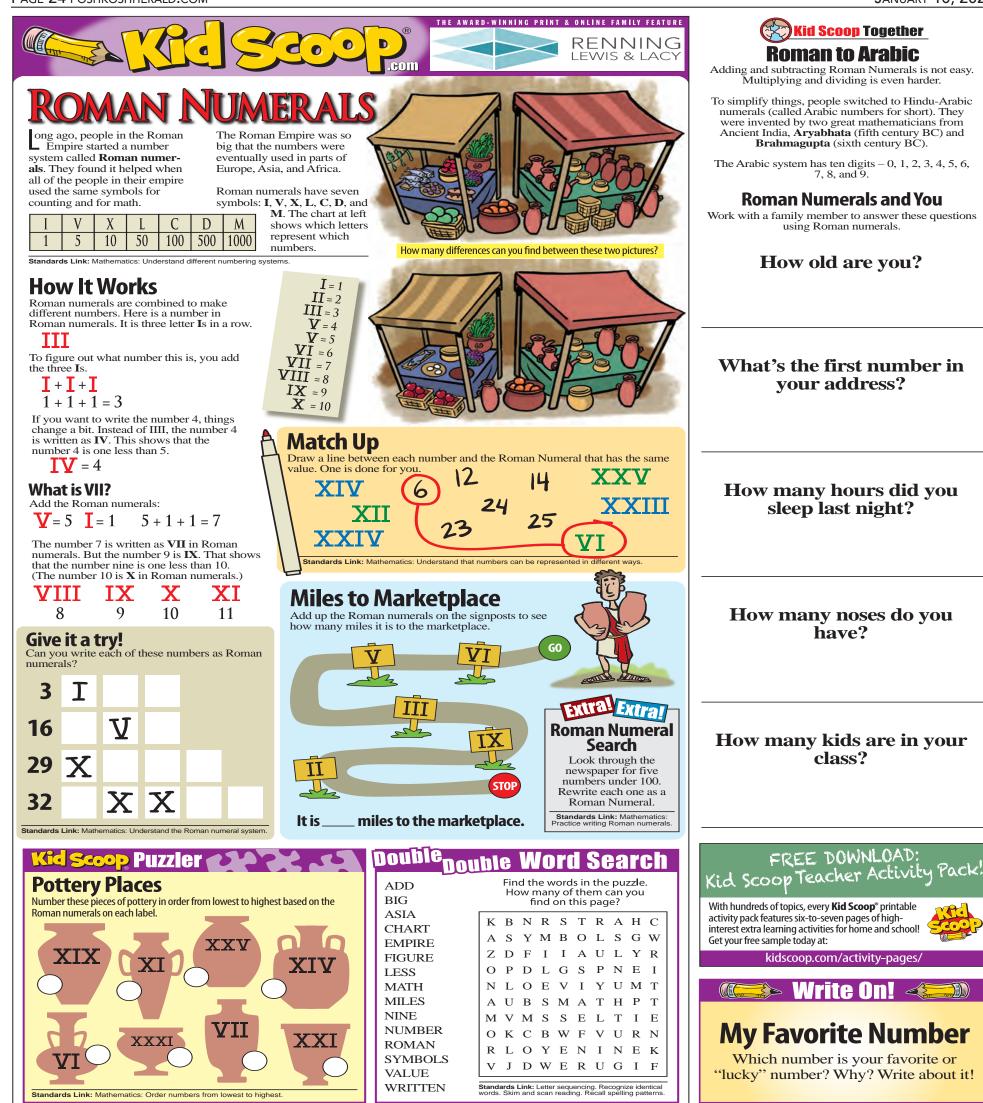
#### Bronze Moroccan Hanging Light \$50. cmwestergard@gmail.com

**FOR SALE:** 1999 Chey Prism, 166,000 miles. Runs great. Needs brakes. \$1000 or best offer. 920-410-3690

#### Miscellaneous

DO YOU HAVE ITEMS TO SELL? .... GET RESULTS! Affordable advertising that fits your budget! Reach OVER 300,000 homes! Place your ad in MANY weekly Wisconsin Shoppers & Buyers' Guide papers for as low as \$36.00 Call today! Publishers Development Service, Inc. (PDS, Inc.) 1-800-236-0737 www.pdsadnet.com

WCAN (Wisconsin Community Ad Network) and/or the member publications review ads to the best of their ability. Unfortunately, many unscrupulous people are ready to take your money! PLEASE BE CAREFUL ANSWERING ANY AD THAT SOUNDS TOO GOOD TO BE TRUE! For more information, or to file a complaint regarding an ad, please contact The Department of Trade, Agriculture & Consumer Protection 1-800-422-7128 (WCAN)



join Kid Scoop today

Call 920-385-4512

Neenah

Serving Neenah & Fox Crossing

Oshkosh

### Oshkosh Herald & Neenah News Provide FREE weekly

Proudly sponsored by

### newspapers to local classrooms in the OASP & NJSP Because:

- Local newspapers play vital roles in communities across the globe.
- Local newspapers keep readers up-to-date on their own communities.
- Local newspapers benefit nearby businesses.
- Local newspapers can strengthen communities.
- Local newspapers can benefit children.

According to Newspapers in Education, students who participated in NIE groups performed significantly better in spelling and vocabulary than nonreaders. Additional studies have indicated that students who use newspapers in the classroom perform better on standardized reading tests than those who do not use newspapers in class,

RENNING LEWIS & LACY



