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INSIDE

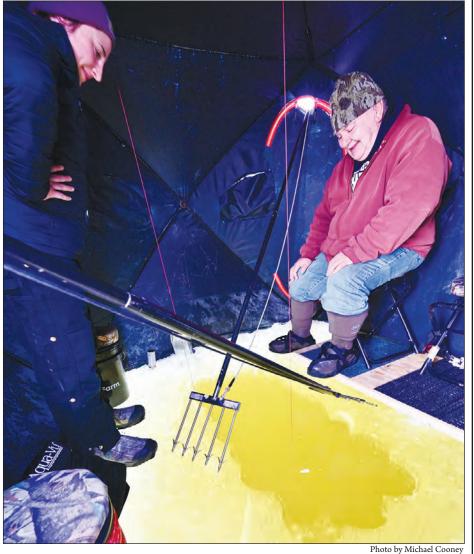


Helping out

School district holds volunteer event Page 2

Shipping service

Transload facility marks five years Page 4



Ready for action

Katie Couhlin and her father, Joel Warner, spear fish Sunday on Lake Winnebago near the 24th Street boat landing. Warner said he left his shanty at home and like many was using a tent on about 8 inches of ice. A few took their ATVS out on the ice while most were on foot. Lake Winnebago System fisheries biologists Angelo Cozzola said Saturday's registrations were far lower than previous years.

Vehicle fee, utility plan aired

Special assessment replacement in discussion

By Jonathan Richie OSHKOSH HERALD

In an attempt to eliminate some special assessments, Oshkosh officials have been informing residents as much as possible leading up to a potential vote on establishing a vehicle registration fee (VRF) while also increasing utility rates.

The Common Council directed City Manager Mark Rohloff and city staff to come up with alternatives to special assessments for road and sidewalk projects for more than a year. He has been on a public information campaign the last few weeks meeting with various groups and businesses with the new plan.

Rohloff and finance director Russ Van Gompel held a pair of listening sessions recently for residents to hear the proposal and ask questions they may have on utilities rates and the VRF.

Over the last 15 years, street paving costs have increased almost 150%. In 2008 the average cost assessed to a 60-foot frontage lot would be \$3,360 on a 32-foot-wide street;

SEE Vehicle fee plan ON PAGE 9

City's new library director promotes a welcoming place

OSHKOSH HERALD

Darryl Eschete took over as director of Oshkosh Public Library in January and has been learning a lot about the institution and community. He hopes to see the library continue to grow on its own as part of the community.

He grew up in Houma, Louisiana, where he first started going to the local library because it was a short bike ride from his house. People may know Houma from the TV show "Swamp People," which features some city residents.

"Those people represent the wildest and roughest people in Houma," Eschete said. Houma was where he first found a friendly place to go in the local library.

"It was a place to be cool and sit inside the air conditioning and check out books on football teams," said Eschete, who was a young reader learning under the tutelage of his older sister and teachers who noted

his deep interest in reading and libraries.

Eschete graduated from Nicholls State University with a bachelor of arts in mass communication. He then attended Louisiana State University in Baton Rouge, earning a master's in library and information science, before being named director of the Chippewa Falls Public Library.

Eschete had been working for almost 12 years as director of the West Des Moines Library in Iowa before accepting the position in Oshkosh, where he will be closer to family as his wife is from Wisconsin and has relatives in Marshfield and Green Bay.

"(West Des Moines) used the department heads as a sort of brain trust," he said. "We worked on a variety of projects like facilitating work groups or solving problems."

Eschete sees libraries as a welcoming source of reliable and trusted information.

SEE Library director ON PAGE 10

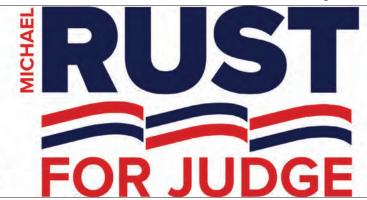


Oshkosh Herald

Oshkosh Public Library's new director Darryl Eschete stands outside with "Harris" the lion, which has stood with its identical partner "Sawyer" in front of the library since 1912.







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Superintendent Bryan Davis explains key performance indicators in the 2024 strategic plan that include a focus on reading and math.

District encourages volunteer assistance

By Jonathan Richie OSHKOSH HERALD

'We need your help."

That was the message from Oshkosh Area School District Superintendent Bryan Davis at last week's Volunteer Fair as the district continues to work on better reading and math scores.

Last year it was reported 40-50% of students in grades 3 through 8 were not proficient in both subjects in regard to iReady diagnostic testing.

There were also positive highlights from the report such as both North and West high schools scoring strong among area high schools.

"Two out of the top three high school report card performances come from Oshkosh. That's a fantastic accomplishment for both West and North," Davis said.

Davis said the event had two goals: Share updates on the district strategic plan and connect community members with volunteer opportunities across the all district schools. The strategic plan outlines 19 key performance indicators (KPI) across four core areas: learning and academics, finance and operations, safe and healthy schools, and engagement and communication.

Community members had the opportunity to tour the new Vel Phillips Middle School and then hear a brief presentation from Davis. There was time for people to talk to school principals, staff members and administrative staff about volunteering to help in the schools.

"We believe that reading improvement in our district is the number one issue that we need to be able to address," Davis said. "So right now we are not meeting standards as well as we need to for our students as we move forward in reading achievement."

The OASD created a new committee that will oversee the new reading curriculum for K-5 for the 2025-26 school year.

"This process is about more than selecting classroom resources - it is about building the skills and passion for reading that become the foundation for future success," said Sam Coleman, assistant superintendent of instruction. "Our district is fully committed to making radical improvements in literacy outcomes, and this committee will help steer us toward curriculum choices that make that vision

A new KPI in the 2024 strategic plan is on equity, currently being developed by administrators that will be unveiled in



Community members had an opportunity to see Vel Phillips Middle School and hear about how they can help and volunteer within the Oshkosh Area School District.

April. The district is diverse with students from families that speak 60 different languages while almost half of all students come from economically disadvantaged households.

Davis also spoke about the Net Promoter Score (NPS), the lowest score of all the KPIs, which is a measurement of people in the community or stakeholders in the district to promote OASD. The district concluded its first districtwide NPS survey in spring 2023.

The survey asked one question: "On a scale of 0 to 10, how likely are you to recommend the Oshkosh Area School District to a friend?" 834 parents/guardians completed the survey with about 20% answering 9 or 10 - identified as promoters, 31% answered 7 or 8 - identified as passives, and 49% answered 0 to 6 - identified as detractors.

"It's an area that we need to continue to work on and we need to continue to bring community members into our schools to be able to work with our students and staff," Davis said. "We can get the survey out year after year and see how we're building on that."

Back in the Day



Oshkosh history by the Winnebago County Historical & Archaeological Society

Feb. 15, 1936

One-Room Nordheim Home Destroyed by Fire: A one-story, single-room framed home located on Ashland Avenue in Nordheim was completely destroyed by fire last evening. Although it was a short distance outside the city limits, firemen from Oshkosh answered the alarm around 9:15 p.m. Water from two

booster tanks was emptied on the blaze to prevent it from spreading to surrounding houses. Firemen retired when there was no more danger and no further water supply was available. As firemen left, the fire was still burning, resulting in the building be leveled. It is believed an overheated stove was the cause of the fire. (Note: Nordheim was not fully annexed into the city until 1956. Therefore, in 1936 there was no access to city fire and police services, nor were there any fire hydrants or city water supplies in Nordheim in which to finish fighting the fire.)

> Source: Oshkosh Northwestern, Feb. 15, 1936

Sheriff's office moves forward on adding K9

By Bethanie Gengler OSHKOSH HERALD

The Winnebago County Sheriff's Office is moving forward on adding another police dog to its team to replace one of the county's K9s that is nearing retirement.

The Judiciary and Public Safety Committee voted last week to accept a donation of \$17,000 from Thomas and Penny Harenburg for an additional K9 unit, equipment and training. The resolution will go to the Personnel and Finance Committee on March 7 and County Board March 19 for a final vote.

In a memo submitted at the meeting, Sheriff John Matz wrote that the Harenburgs previously donated \$17,500 to purchase a police canine in 2015 and \$14,700 for another in 2022.

"They fully supported the K9 program and wanted to help public safety and law enforcement in Winnebago County by expanding our existing program," Matz wrote.

The K9 Unit includes four dogs and handlers. German shepherds Tim, Athos and Haimo are considered dual purpose and trained in narcotics detection, tracking, apprehension work and area, building and

article searches. A black labrador named Skylar is used for explosives detection.

The dogs are also used in traditional patrol work, SWAT applications, search warrants, school and correctional facility searches, and public demonstrations. The K9s are called to respond to all areas of the county and bordering counties if requested.

"The deployments of the K9 units have greatly increased the efficiency and effectiveness for drug-related patrol work," Matz wrote. "Likewise, our K9 units have also proven effective tracking fugitives, locating missing persons and security work."

Gracie, a 7-month-old standard poodle who completed six weeks of training in Schofield, was recently added and will provide comfort to correctional and police officers, civilian and professional staff, victims, witnesses and inmates to reduce anxiety and stress during times of crisis. Gracie also will be part of the STAR program, a sobriety assisted treatment program.

Gracie was introduced to the committee members at the Feb. 5 meeting.

The Sheriff's Office noted in its annual report that 2023 was the first time the agen-



Oaldard Madia

Sheriff's Deputy Devin Wilson introduces facility K9 Gracie to committee members at a meeting last week.

cy utilized four K9 teams for the entire year, with more than 180 deployments.

The K9 Unit is overseen by Lt. Chris Braman, who said the new K9 hasn't been selected yet and deputy Alec Fenrich has been chosen as handler, with training in New Mexico from March 25 to May 3.

The dog will be replacing K9 Tim, who is 12 years old and retiring. Tim's longtime handler, Deputy Kyle Schoonover, will purchase him from the Sheriff's Office for \$1.

"He'll get to retire with the family that he spent the last decade with and he's been an outstanding dog for us," Braman said.

Business news roundup

Oshkosh Venture Home, in partnership with the Venture Project and University of Wisconsin Oshkosh, has been launched by WiSys, a network of startup hubs that provide local entrepreneurs access to startup resources in their community. They also welcome established businesses that have used the services to "venture home" and contribute to their communities. The Oshkosh hub joins those in Green Bay, Eau

Claire, Platteville and Superior. Services offered include a concierge service to the statewide system, entrepreneur toolkits, access to research and technologies coming out of the UW System, intellectual property and legal assistance, and seed funding.

Fremorah, a boutique store with designer, custom and vintage pieces, had its grand opening over the weekend at its

578 Main St. location. Business owner Mason Weigand, a recent Oshkosh West High graduate, posted on Facebook that store offerings include women's and men's clothing with plus-size options, urban streetwear, handbags and crossbody bags.

Moraine Park Technical College and the University of Wisconsin Oshkosh have reached a transfer agreement to support students affected by closure of the UWO Fond du Lac campus. Students pursuing an associate degree can continue in-person classes at Moraine Park with a guaranteed transfer of all their UW associate degree credits. The two institutions also have a post-graduation transfer program that will allow local students to return to UWO to pursue a bachelor's degree at junior status.



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Transload terminal keeps economic engine moving

Facility marks five years serving area businesses

By MaryBeth Matzek
Herald Contributor

Railroads play a crucial role in Wisconsin manufacturing. Many heavily industrial areas often had train trucks running through, providing customers with easy access to their raw products and a quick way to move their products to market.

As cities and industrial corridors expand, easy rail access is no longer a given,



Rathermel

which is why the city created the Oshkosh Transload Facility in the Southwest Industrial Park five years ago. All businesses can use the facility's rail line where they can pick up raw materials or ship out their finished products.

"With the terminal, your business does not need to be on a rail line to have access to rail transport. Rail transport is a real cost savings for many businesses but your company needs to have a lot of usage to justify having your own rail system," said Tricia Rathermel, president and CEO of Greater Oshkosh Economic Development Corp. "With the transload facility, you don't have to worry about your usage and if it's cost-effective."

The 11-acre facility includes two spurs off the main rail line, each measuring more than 1,200 feet with a ramp at the end. A loading area is on each side of the spurs.

The creation of the transload facility originated from a noise complaint in 2018



The Oshkosh Transload Facility in the Southwest Industrial Park was created five years ago.

related to Oshkosh Corp. loading its vehicles near a residential area, according to Rathermel.

"Their rail access was near a neighborhood so we needed to look at other options for them," she said, adding it soon became apparent that other manufacturers in Oshkosh and beyond could benefit from a transload facility — a location where trucks can have their loads shifted to a train and vice versa.

Oshkosh community development director Kelly Nieforth said the city turned to its Southwest Industrial Park since there was a rail line nearby. While the city owns the facility, Watco Cos., a single-source transportation and supply chain services company, manages it. Companies interested in using the terminal work with Watco to get on the schedule.

The \$2 million terminal was funded by the city, Watco and a Wisconsin Department of Transportation grant, which provided \$1 million to the project. Wisconsin & Southern Rail, a division of Watco Cos., serves the terminal.

"Our facility is unique since it's the only publicly owned transload terminal in Wisconsin," Nieforth said. "We have had a lot of good experiences with the terminal and it's going well. Our rail lines are well connected. You can go from Oshkosh to the Gulf of Mexico or to either coast."

While the transload facility was originally conceived to help Oshkosh Corp., Rathermel said it soon became apparent that other businesses in Oshkosh and beyond without rail spurs would benefit.

"Transporting by rail is more cost-efficient, especially when you figure in the cost of fuel and the truck driver shortage," she said.

Nieforth said businesses up to 60 miles away are taking advantage of the terminal.

"We knew it would help with Oshkosh's economy but it is having a regional impact as well," she said. "This is another tool in our economic development toolbox to help retain and attract businesses. Our businesses are so grateful they have access to the terminal. It's made a real difference."

Rathermel said a variety of businesses from Appleton to Fond du Lac currently use the terminal, which can serve additional customers since it is not running five days a week.

"Some businesses are using it for shortterm projects where they can really benefit from having their raw materials brought in by rail or if they need to send out large products," she said. "All they need to do is contact the terminal and schedule a time to utilize it."

Having access to the terminal has allowed some companies to win projects since they have been able to save on transportation costs, Rathermel said.

"Their bids are more competitive since they can use the rail to transport raw materials or the finished product, providing them with an opportunity they might not otherwise have had," she said.

Diabetes prevention program offered

Network Health has expanded its diabetes prevention program that can curb type 2 diabetes and improve overall health by offering it free to Oshkosh residents.

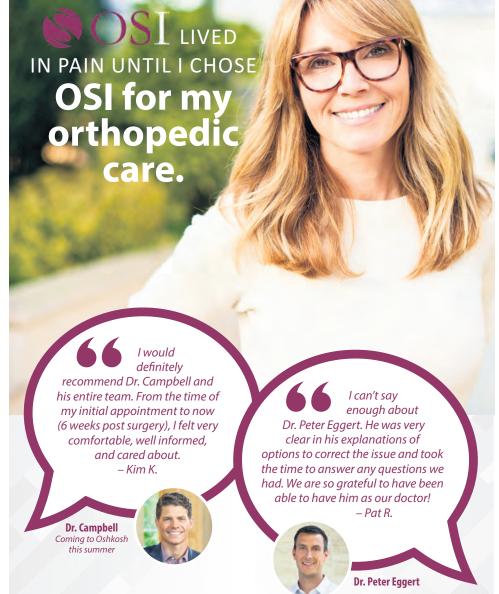
The program is part of the National Diabetes Prevention Program led by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). Those who have participated are reported to have experienced weight loss of 5-7% and have maintained their weight loss.

Lifestyle coaches work with participants in a group setting to reduce the risk

of diabetes by helping with losing weight through healthy eating, becoming more physically active, and identifying barriers to healthy eating and physical activity.

Weekly classes at the Oshkosh Seniors Center, 200 N. Campbell Road, from 9 to 10 a.m. Thursdays and will be offered weekly starting March 5 at the Thompson Center on Lourdes in Appleton on Tuesdays.

Network Health will continue to offer more classes every other month in 2024 and eventually every month in 2025.



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Former youth pastor sentenced in sex assault case

By Jonathan Richie
OSHKOSH HERALD

Jordan R. Huffman will be in prison until he is 78 years old after being sentenced Friday in Winnebago County court where he said, "I'm the author of this tragedy."

Huffman, 52, plead guilty to child enticement with sexual contact and felony bail jumping in November after the most serious offense of first-degree sexual assault of a child was dismissed but read in for sentencing purposes.

He was sentenced to six years in prison followed by six years of extended supervision that will run concurrently with the bail jumping sentence of two years in prison and two years of extended supervision by Winnebago County Branch 6 Judge Daniel Bissett.

Huffman is currently serving a 20-year sentence for repeated sexual assault of a child in Portage County. His Winnebago sentence will run consecutively to that charge and Huffman would be released in 2049

The criminal complaint in this case explained a 12-year-old victim told police he had been kidnapped and taken to a hotel where they were sexually assaulted. The victim called police and gave them their location. Police then made a traffic stop and Huffman was taken into custody.

At the time, Huffman was out on bond

living in Oshkosh when he picked up the victim from Appleton and drove them to a hotel in Fox Crossing.

Huffman's attorney Andrea Winder noted that Huffman was taking the victim home when he was pulled over by police. She also said that Huffman was intoxicated and didn't want to pick up the child but the victim repeatedly asked to be picked up.

During the sentencing hearing both assistant district attorney Tracy Ann Paider and Winder pointed out flaws in the criminal complaint. Paider explained the victim initially told authorities Huffman knew the victim's location from a feature on Snapchat, but a subsequent investigation by Fox Crossing police found the victim told Huffman the address and gave a phone number.

This subsequent investigation also found that the victim was using a dating app that showed their age as 19. The victim, 12 at the time, did tell Huffman they were 15, which both Paider and Winder said Huffman should have stopped the interaction at that point.

Winder said there was a joint recommendation with the state to sentence Huffman to three years in prison to run consecutively with the Portage County sentence and have Huffman released when he was 75 and then on extended supervision for the rest of his life.



Oshkosh Herald

Jordan Huffman speaks to the court last week during his sentencing hearing after his conviction for sexual assault of a 12-year-old in Fox Crossing.

Bissett said it is not the court's role to factor in if a defendant will die in prison for sentencing purposes. He weighed the seriousness of the offense, the character of the defendant and the need to protect society.

"My actions were evil," Huffman said during his sentencing hearing. He told the court he had been drinking a lot when he was out on bond for his Portage County case. He said he was in AA and was taking steps to deal with his attraction to teenag-

Huffman said he has an "attraction to a category of people I shouldn't."

He said he takes full responsibility for his actions but said he didn't have the answers for why he did what he did with the victim.

"I'm an unhealthy person," Huffman said. He apologized to the victim, their family and his own family.

He said since being incarcerated he has been actively seeking help.

Before delivering his sentence, Bissett explained he believed Huffman was remorseful for his actions but also stressed the need to protect the public, saying, "(It's important to) make sure children are protected."

Father sentenced in abuse case

Oshkosh Herald

Michael R. Ormond will spend the next seven years in prison for abusing his 2-month old child last year after being sentenced Monday.

Ormond, 39, was initially charged with two counts of physical abuse of a child – intentionally causing great bodily harm in September that could have led to 25 years in prison. He plead no contest to the lesser charge of child abuse-recklessly causing great harm and was found guilty in December.

The criminal complaint states Ormond hit and squeezed the child Sept. 7 after having thoughts of hurting the infant. He told police he got something like a "runner's high" from hurting the child. The 2-month-old was taken to Children's Hospital in Milwaukee via Flight for Life after suffering a subdural hematoma, vast bruising and injuries consistent with abusive head trauma.

Winnebago County Branch 5 Judge John Jorgensen called Ormond's actions horrific, horrendous and disturbing. During the presentence investigation it was determined that Ormond had physically abused his two older children.

Jorgensen noted that Ormond is a trained firefighter and EMT worker whose professional career was devoted to saving people and questioned how someone with that background could cause this type of harm.

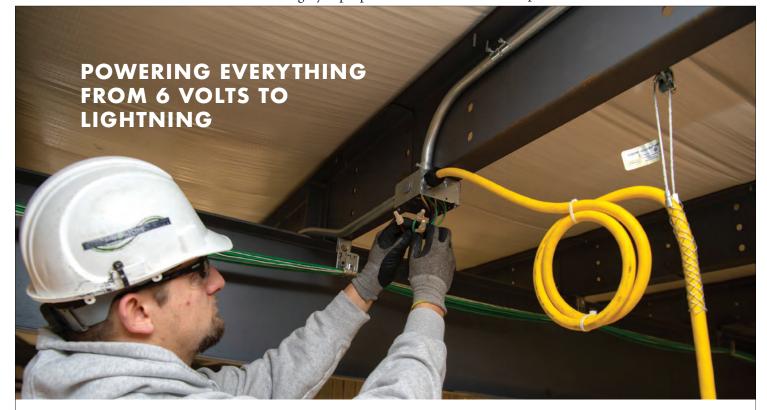
Assistant district attorney Amanda Nash spoke of the seriousness of the offense and said the victim is "as vulnerable a victim as the state can imagine." She said someone with Ormond's profession would understand the results of shaking a baby.

Ormond had been a firefighter with the Oshkosh Fire Department before this incident but was fired after charges were filed. He has been in custody at the Winnebago County Jail since September when he was arrested and subsequently held on \$50,000 cash bond.

Ormond read a statement in court Monday where he apologized to all three

children. "I'm ashamed and disappointed in myself," he said.

Ormond was sentenced to seven years of initial confinement followed by five years of extended supervision.



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Local business leaders report having strong outlook

Despite ongoing labor and supply-chain challenges, there is strong optimism in the local business community going into 2024, according to the Oshkosh Chamber of Commerce's annual outlook survey of chief executives, business managers and

Among local CEOs and business owners, 76% of those participating in the survey rated their company's outlook as good to excellent in the next six months, 89% rate the next 12 months as good to excellent and 93% rate their outlook as good to excellent in the next one to three years.

Fifty-eight percent of CEOs and owners reported that sales increased in 2023 over the previous year, 65% indicated profits were up, and 81% increased wages. This past year, 48% of reporting companies added staff to their payrolls and 59% indicated their companies met or exceeded profitability expectations. Those companies missing the mark on profitability expectations cited a slowdown in the economy as the largest factor, followed by a lack of employees, sales shortfall, higher operating costs and rising interest rates.

When asked for forecasts for 2024, 70% believe that sales will outperform the previous year's sales level. Overall, participating firms expect sales gains in the first quarter of 2024 compared with the previous quarter, while 30% anticipate no

While 57% of area CEOs expect to hire more people this year, business leaders report that finding qualified workers remains a challenge, with 47% indicating they have unfilled job openings. This is down from 55% in 2023.

From a business climate perspective, 75% feel the state is heading in the right direction, up significantly from 42% in 2023. Only 34% indicated the nation is heading in the right direction regarding the business climate, but up from 31% in

Oshkosh has a position of strength in the marketplace amid some lingering inflationary pressures, the Chamber reported. This past year, the local unemployment rate stayed below the national unemployment rate of 3.5% at 2.4%. That compares with a rate of 14.3% in April 2020.

Local companies now employ 41,735 people in Oshkosh, up from 41,411 last year. Oshkosh saw investment in commercial and industrial property of more than \$57.3 million last year, compared with \$44.4 million in 2022, and more than \$100 million of new development anticipated for 2024.

Oshkosh continued to experience exceptional commercial growth, the Chamber report noted, especially along the Oshkosh Avenue corridor with new hotels, restaurants and office space. The industrial sector continued to see several expansions, new multifamily housing growth is booming, and we continue to experience robust growth in the downtown and central city area.

To see the Business outlook survey results, go to oshkoshchamber.com under the Community tab.

lember connections keep Chamber businesses thriving

By Connie Carmical Member relations coordinator

As member relations coordinator, I am proud to be a part of the Oshkosh Chamber team. I consider it my primary responsibility to act as a "Member Agent" with the goal of helping our member businesses grow and thrive.

Whether our first meeting is in person or via phone, we want to find out more about you, your business and your journey for growth.

Business owners need the confidence, connections and resources that the Oshkosh Chamber provides. We can help through a variety of opportunities including monthly networking events such as Business After Hours, OC Connection Breakfast, AM Oshkosh and more. We



have found these events are a great way to gain exposure to your business and make it a point to make personal introductions for all our new members.

We find that a healthy supply of business cards is a must for these events. In addition to new connections made, these events also serve to help our members through referrals.

Another great opportunity to meet more Chamber members is to sign up and be a part of our newest networking opportunity, Oshkosh Chamber Network Builder (sponsored by Elsewhere Market and Rise & Grind). Once you sign up you

will start to receive email introductions connecting you to other business owners.

We are also proud of our signature events, such as the annual meeting and recognition program in January, and our Economic Outlook Breakfast in February, as these events attract hundreds of attendees. The upcoming Business Expo – presented by the Oshkosh Chamber of Commerce and Network Health – on Wednesday, March 20, is one of our largest annual events and is open to the public starting at noon, followed by the Taste of Oshkosh event, which includes catered offerings from 10 or more area restaurants later that evening.

Upon becoming a new member, you'll enjoy a Chamber Welcome featured across all our social media platforms, showcasing your business and brand. Additionally, you'll gain access to premium discounts on group health insurance, an extensive Chamber mailing list, complimentary advertising and other benefits.

I love that we are a network of business professionals with the purpose of promoting and safeguarding the interests of its members. We serve as the bridge connecting businesses, community members and local government. What I find particularly gratifying about the Oshkosh Chamber is the level of community engagement and

receive by becoming a member, please contact me at connie@oshkoshchamber. com or at 920-303-2265, extension 32.

I look forward to connecting with you



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West Side developments

Oshkosh Herald publisher Karen Schneider (left) moderates the West Side Association Oshkosh's annual business developers panel Thursday where area initiatives and projects were highlighted at Oshkosh Corp. headquarters.



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Golf course has new owner, year-round plan

Westhaven club to add Greene's Pour House

By Dan Roherty Oshkosh Herald

Westhaven Golf Club is changing hands and undergoing a makeover to add a yearround restaurant and bar space along with other amenities to expand on the 18-hole course experience that the Stauffer family started in the late 1960s.

Discovery Properties owner Randy Schmiedel said he is committed to the spirit of the neighborhood golf course while making it a destination for both golfers and other visitors on the west side of the city. He is making that happen with the help of Greene's Pour House bringing its Oshkosh and Neenah dining experience to both a refurbished indoor space and an expanded outdoor patio area overlooking the course.

"The Stauffers have run the course for 50-plus years – three generations – so we appreciate and thank them for handing us the baton," Schmiedel said. "They have provided some really good golf and a lot of relationships and friendships that were made over the years.

"Our vision is to take it where it currently is and enhance it, first and foremost for the golfer, but we also want to make it a recreational facility for non-golfers or families to come out."

Besides full-service dining and drinks, other plans to draw a general clientele year-round include a golf simulator that can offer lessons and year-round leagues while opening the grounds to some winter activities.

"We have a beautiful property and we want to make the most out of it for the golfers but also for nongolfers, so we're



looking at other activities such as in the winter maybe some snowshoeing or cross-country skiing," he said.

The only golf course within the city, Westhaven is situated on the residential west side where Schmiedel sees an area underserved by restaurants and bars while taking on most of the city's growth. He said Greene's Pour House owners Bobby Greene and Dave Richter are a perfect fit for bringing a thriving restaurant back to the clubhouse.

"They have such a great following with their food and beverage (restaurants), but they are also avid golfers and have a family and network of golfers, and so they are bringing that all together," he said, "and they are the ones who are going to be running the golf course and the food and beverage, so they're really the key people behind the scenes."

Schmiedel said they are in the midst of off-season preparations for the golf course while the clubhouse facility gets updated for the bar and restaurant, which includes moving the pro shop back to its original lower-level location.

"We are working very diligently to make that happen and we are planning to be open sometime in early to mid-April," he





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Page 8 I oshkoshherald.com FEBRUARY 14, 2024

Bond lowered in hit-run that claimed pedestrian

OSHKOSH HERALD

An Oshkosh man accused of striking and killing a pedestrian with his vehicle and leaving the scene has plead not guilty in the case and had his bond lowered at a hearing last week.

Mark P. Radley plead not guilty to the single count of hit-and-run involving death at the bond hearing. If convicted, he faces up to 15 years in prison followed by up to 10 years of extended supervision.

Winnebago County Branch 4 Judge Michael Gibbs set a new cash bond at \$5,000. Radley is also ordered to maintain absolute sobriety, cannot operate a motor vehicle without a valid license and must keep an ignition interlock device in all vehicles.

Defense attorney Timothy Hogan said Radley is not a flight risk and has strong ties to his family and the community. Hogan noted several of Radley's family members were in court to support the bond modification.

Radley entered the courtroom last week in a wheelchair and part of the reason for reducing the bond is related to his deteriorating health, Hogan said.

Assistant District Attorney Adam Levin said the state had initially argued for a bond of \$5,000. Online records show that at an initial appearance Jan. 12 court commissioner Eric Heywood set cash bond at

Records show Radley is no longer in custody and is set to be back in court May 13 for a pretrial conference.

According to the criminal complaint, police were dispatched to the area of

Ohio Street and Third Avenue just after 6:30 p.m. Jan. 10, where an officer located Zachary Hagar, 38, in the southbound lane of Ohio Street with a head injury. When EMS personnel arrived with the Oshkosh Fire Department, they attempted lifesaving measures but Hagar was declared deceased shortly after.

Authorities were able to review surveillance camera footage showing a vehicle traveling south on Ohio approaching Third. Officers were able to identify the silver minivan with a license registered to Radley.

Officers located the vehicle and noted damage to the front. Radley told police he did not drink alcohol and was not under the influence of any drugs.

Radley was a pizza delivery driver and his manager reported Radley had several deliveries that day. Video shows Radley leaving with pizza boxes at 6:11 p.m. and returning at 6:40 with "significant damage" to the front end of his vehicle. He allegedly got out of the vehicle and inspected the damage before going into the restaurant.

Police asked Radley about damage to the van and he acknowledged striking something while driving.

Palmeri sets office hours

Assembly Rep. Palmeri, D-Oshkosh, is holding office hours from 10 a.m. to noon Friday at the Oshkosh Seniors Center in classroom A in the South Building.

The session is an opportunity for residents to advocate for issues important to them, receive information and resources, and speak directly with Palmeri.



Community Bike Program member Steve Sagmeister is shown in the group's current space at Sadoff Recycling in Oshkosh.

Bike Program seeks new home

Oshkosh Herald

Launched in 2010, the Oshkosh Community Bike Program currently housed at Sadoff E-Recycling on 10th Avenue is seeking a new location to operate.

Initially funded by a grant from the Oshkosh Area Community Foundation through the Wisconsin Interfaith Needs Response (WINR), the initiative provides vehicle distribution, repair services and bicycle access for those without the means or eligibility for a driver's license. In its first year, the program distributed 100 bicycles. That number grew to 576 last year.

WINR dissolved in 2012, prompting the program to integrate with St. Vincent de Paul at various locations, starting from current residence at Sadoff E-Recycling, courtesy of the Lasky family.

Sadoff will be expanding its business operations and eventually need the space back where the program operates in about 5,000 square feet with no rental cost.

"Each relocation, driven by necessity and opportunity, has reinforced the program's commitment to remain accessible to its beneficiaries," Jason Lasky said in promoting continued support for the pro-

Longtime program member Steve Sagmeister said the Laskys have been generous for the past eight years and understands their business needs.

"This community has stepped up over and over again since our founding and I have no doubt that we will find another location for this program," Sagmeister said.

The program receives bike donations from individuals, apartment complexes, the Oshkosh Police Department and businesses, and relies on a team of volunteers who bring their time and skills to restore bicycles, ensuring they are safe and ready for use. The refurbished bikes are distributed through a referral system involving schools, religious institutions and social service agencies.

For more information or if able to help with donations or their need for relocation, contact Sagmeister at ssagmstr@aol. com.



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Vehicle fee plan

FROM PAGE 1

in 2023 that same lot would be assessed \$7,440. This rise in costs is in part due to inflation but it is also linked to material costs increasing over those 15 years.

City officials believe it will require \$3.75 million to get the capital improvement plan projects funded and completed this year. This includes road projects on Waugoo Avenue and Cherry Street. Van Gompel said the \$3.75 million was based on recent years' costs for annual road work and 2023 construction expenses.

The plan is to fund those projects with about \$1.5 million from the VRF and \$2.25 million from utilities, taking \$750,000 each from water, sanitary sewer and storm sewer utilities.

The council could vote on the VRF later this month and could be in place by July 1 since the state Department of Transportation (DOT) would need at least 90 days to implement it. It will be administered by the DOT and added to the vehicle registration bill each owner receives when renewing their license plates.

Van Gompel said if the VRF is approved it will only apply to vehicles registered in the second half of the year and the city plans to borrow money and take on debt to cover those costs.

Rohloff told the Herald that if the council does not approve of the proposal, staff would start working on putting together special assessments for 2024 projects.

The proposal is to set the VRF or wheel tax at \$35 per automobile under 8,000 pounds per state statute; it does not include motorcycles but does include auto-cycles, which are three-wheel vehicles. Rohloff explained during the listening sessions that in Wisconsin the VRF started in Beloit with officials trying to make money from students at Beloit College. When the law was written it specified only vehicles under 8,000 pounds or passenger vehicles.

Rohloff acknowledged the VRF is not perfect with larger vehicles having a larger impact on deteriorating roads but the city must follow what's outlined in the current law.

"The state has not changed the rule in 60 years. The vehicles that have the most impact on the streets are the big trucks," Rohloff said. "It's a built-in inequity."

There are 38 municipalities using VRFs in Wisconsin along with 10 counties. The proposed \$35 fee in Oshkosh is on the high end with Appleton, Green Bay and Manitowoc having a VRF of \$20 and Janesville being the highest at \$40. Funds generated need to be used for transportation purposes.

Rohloff said the \$35 would be in place, ideally, for about three years then could be

adjusted. He added any change in the VRF would need to be approved by the council.

The DOT informed city officials that 46,772 vehicles would qualify to pay the VRF, which would equal about \$1.6 million. There is an administrative fee the DOT has in place and Rohloff said each vehicle registered in Oshkosh will amount to the city receiving \$34.83.

The VRF would only account for about 42% of the needed \$3.75 million with the remaining coming from utilities. Van Gompel said an annual increase in utility rates would be between 0.25% and 0.5%, so a \$100 monthly utility bill would rise 25 to 50 cents a month.

Rohloff said the VRF will primarily affect residents and small businesses, with utility rates having a greater impact on larger businesses in Oshkosh.

This will not eliminate all special assessments but is aimed to get rid of assessments for street and sidewalk projects. New developments or properties needing city water, sanitary sewer and storm sewer laterals installed would still be assessed.

Over the years the council has approved special assessments for road and sidewalk projects that would be split between the property owners on the street and the city.

If approved projects started on or after Jan. 1, 2024, they will not be special assessed. The city does not plan to give relief to property owners who have received special assessments in the past. Rohloff and Van Gompel explained that there isn't a mechanism in place to give some people relief from the VRF or the increase in utility rates.

"Look-back provisions are, feasibly, extremely difficult – it creates more problems," Rohloff said. "The difficult challenge for the council is where do you cut it off."

Those interested in giving opinions on the VRF can send them to VRFcomments@ oshkoshwi.gov and there is also a FAQ sheet on oshkoshwi.gov under Hot Topics.

An ordinance introducing the VRF and using utility fees to replace certain special assessments was on the agenda for Tuesday's (Feb. 13) council meeting for the first reading. The second reading is set for Feb. 27 after which council members will vote on it.

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Submitted photo

"Matilda' at Grand

The Oshkosh North High School Music Department presents "Matilda the Musical" with four performances starting Thursday through Sunday on The Grand Oshkosh stage. Go to the grandoshkosh.org for ticket information.



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SUNDAYS

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Page 10 I oshkoshherald.com FEBRUARY 14, 2024

Merged hospital group names directors

Froedtert ThedaCare Health Inc., the legal entity that now encompasses the combined organization of Froedtert Health and ThedaCare, has announced its board of directors.

Building on a commitment to balanced local decision making, the board is composed of members from both organizations. The new board includes:

Judson Snyder, board chair, regional president, Midwest BMO Wealth Management

James Kotek, vice chair, retired president and CEO, Menasha Corp.

Catherine Jacobson, CEO, Froedtert ThedaCare Health

Dr. Imran Andrabi, president, Froedtert ThedaCare Health

Kurt Bechthold, director, CEO, The Walbec Group

John Bere, director, executive vice president for growth and strategy, Alta Resources

Marc Chini, director, retired, Kohl's Corp. and General Electric

Robert W. Clarke, director, principal, The RJ Clarke Group

Ice report

By Jim Nobbe

PAYNE'S POINT HOOK AND SPEAR FISHING CLUB

In the area of the fishing club, I am finding 7 to 9 inches of ice. It is honeycombed and not very good for this time of year. I

would recommend foot traffic and light small ATV traffic. I wouldn't recommend leaving an ice shanty out overnight.

Last Thursday the main

lake ice shifted from the high winds causing multiple areas of open water 50 to 100 feet wide and large ice shoves along the east shore. Remember the ice is never 100% safe.

Charles Dallas, director, vice president, Cornerstone Business Services

Jacquelyn Fredrick, director, retired CEO, Versiti Inc.

David Lubar, director (serves concurrently on the Medical College of Wisconsin board of trustees), president and CEO, Lubar & Co.

Jose Olivieri, director, senior partner, Michael Best

John Pfeifer, director, president and CEO, Oshkosh Corp.

Joan M. Prince, director, vice chancellor emeritus, University of Wisconsin-Mil-

Mary Ellen Stanek, director, co-chief investment officer, Baird Advisors and president, Baird Funds

Terry Timm, director, retired chief administrative officer, Thrivent Financial

Kim Underhill, director, retired group president, Kimberly-Clark/Boston Consulting Group

City seeks proposals for ARPA funding

Oshkosh Herald

The city of Oshkosh is inviting local entities that serve residents to submit funding proposals for projects and initiatives to make use of American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funds.

The council has allocated \$2,775,480, leaving about \$2,350,000 in remaining ARPA funds.

The application deadline is March 1. Criteria for applicants' evaluation and the ARPA Funding Application are in the Hot Topics section of www.oshkoshwi.gov.

Three informational sessions are set for 6 p.m. Thursday and 10 a.m. Friday at City Hall, and a live question-and-answer session on Oshkosh Media at 2 p.m. Friday.



Echoes of the Past returns to Sunnyview Expo Center for its 41st annual expo fair.

Historical trade fair presented at Sunnyview

Echoes of the Past Historical Trade Fair, one of the Midwest's largest indoor historical exposition fairs, is scheduled for Feb. 24-25 at Sunnyview Expo Center.

The 41st annual event features supplies for the historical re-enactor, muzzle loading enthusiast and general public. Merchants and craftsmen stock historical clothing, books, patterns, tinware, pewter, beads, leather, fur, forged iron, pottery, firearms,

knives and hundreds of other items.

Civilians and soldiers are represented in time periods that include the mid-1700s through the Civil War and Western frontier eras.

Show hours are from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Feb. 24 and 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Feb. 25. Admission is \$6 for adults, children under 10 get in free with an adult. Food will be available on site.

Library director

FROM PAGE 1

"People still trust libraries to find information," he said.

A topic popping up across the country at public and school libraries is book banning – which books should be banned and what is acceptable to have available in a public library?

Eschete said it usually starts with a conversation to see if the issue can be mitigated through discussion.

"A lot of times, I've found, just having a brief discussion can turn that aside," Eschete said. "Look for reasons to keep it instead of looking for reasons to get rid of a certain written work.

"Libraries are a free and open space for the entire community. You can usually find issues in the community inside the library based on the space," he said. "Just as we should be thinking of how to get rid of books, we shouldn't be trying to get rid of people. Anyone abiding by our behavioral policy is welcome and can stay in the library."

There are a few goals that Eschete has already set and hopes to accomplish at the library, including improving the processes of library staff, figuring out the specifics of the library funding and having a strong connection with the public.

Eschete is the first director of the Oshkosh Public Library in almost 50 years who isn't also given the responsibilities of directing the Winnefox Library System, which includes 30 libraries across five counties. He said this split will allow him to focus on taking care of Oshkosh's library.

As someone who has worked in libraries for many years, he certainly knows his favorite books, including his favorite fiction, "The Cruel Sea" by Nicholas Monsarrat.

"You can almost hear the accents," he said when reading about a group of sailors in the Battle of the Atlantic during World War II. His favorite nonfiction is "The Culture of Narcissism" by Christopher Lasch, which explains the shift in America to a more self-obsessed population.

"The book teaches you to be empathetic towards other people and moves away from selfishness," he said.

"I'm grateful to be here," Eschete said. "I genuinely hope to create a library where everyone can feel welcome, safe and have a sense of pride when they walk in."







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Cardiologist explains heart disease risks for women

ThedaCare Communications

There is a common misconception that heart disease is more of a problem for men than women. In reality, heart disease is the leading cause of death for both men and women.

Stereotypes are just one part of the problem. For a variety of reasons, women often dismiss their heart attack

symptoms. That's a dangerous situation, given that nearly 45% of women 20 and older are living with some form of heart disease, according to the American Heart Association (AHA) as it recognizes American Heart Month.



Kabour

"Women spend so much of their time and energy caring for others," said Dr. Ameer Kabour, a cardiologist and senior medical director of Cardiovascular Services for ThedaCare Cardiovascular Care. "It's vital for them to also prioritize their own well-being and care, including tracking and managing their heart health."

Several heart disease risk factors are common among both women and men. These include obesity, smoking, diabetes, sedentary lifestyle, high blood pressure, family history, metabolic syndrome and inflammatory diseases such as rheumatoid arthritis and lupus.

"At the same time, women experience unique life stages, including pregnancy and menopause, that can put them at an increased risk for heart disease," Kabour said

Some heart disease risk factors specific to women:

• Women with diabetes are more like-

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ly to develop heart disease than are men with diabetes. Also, because diabetes can change the way women feel pain, there's an increased risk of having a silent heart attack.

- Stress and depression affect women's hearts more than men's hearts. In addition, depression may make it difficult to maintain a healthy lifestyle and follow recommended treatment for other health conditions.
- Smoking is a greater risk factor for heart disease in women than it is in men.
- Low levels of estrogen after menopause increase the risk of developing disease in smaller blood vessels.
- High blood pressure or diabetes during pregnancy can increase the mother's long-term risk of high blood pressure and diabetes.
- Family history of early heart disease appears to be a greater risk factor in women.

"It's critical for women to stay on top of routine care to help them understand and manage their risk," Kabour said. "Your primary care provider can recommend lifestyle modifications and tests you might need."

"When it comes to heart attack symptoms, it's important to understand that chest pain is the most common symptom for men and women alike. Beyond that, though, women have a longer list of heart attack symptoms than men."

If a person is experiencing heart attack symptoms, it's crucial to act quickly. Call 911. Don't attempt to drive yourself to the hospital.

"Through education and awareness, we can achieve better outcomes," Kabour said. "That starts with women understanding their personal risk factors and working to address them where possible."





Calendar of events

Wednesday, Feb. 14

Valentine's Bash with Wisconsin Jazz Orchestra, 7 p.m., The Howard, 405 Washington Ave.

Jos Earl & Chemical Mary, 6 p.m., Water City Pub, 216 N. Main St.

Thursday, Feb. 15

Oshkosh North High School presents "Matilda: The Musical," 7 p.m., The Grand Oshkosh

The Magic of Air Show Flying, 7 p.m. EAA Aviation Museum

Friday, Feb. 16

Battle on Bago, 5 p.m., Menominee Park Oshkosh North High School presents "Matilda: The Musical," 7 p.m., The Grand Oshkosh

Saturday, Feb. 17

Oshkosh Winter Farmers Market, 9 a.m., Oshkosh Arena

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

Battle on Bago, 11 a.m., Menominee Park Sturgeon Spirits 1st Anniversary Bash, 1 p.m., 2663 Oregon St.

Oshkosh North High School presents "Matilda: The Musical," 7 p.m., The Grand Oshkosh

Jet Pack Stereo, 7 p.m., Water City Pub, 216 N. Main St.

Power Play Trio, 7 p.m., Fountain Tavern, 3696 Stearns Drive

"The 40-Year-Old Virgin," 7 p.m., Time Community Theater, 445 N. Main St.

Sunday, Feb. 18

Wisconsin Coin Expos 41st annual convention and show, 9 a.m., Oshkosh Convention Center

Oshkosh North High School presents "Matilda: The Musical," 2 p.m., The Grand Oshkosh

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

Thursday, Feb. 22

Wisconsin Herd vs. Rip City Remix, 6 p.m., Oshkosh Arena

Friday, Feb. 23

Oshkosh Southwest Rotary Bowling Fundraiser, 6 p.m., Revs Bowl Bar & Grill, 275 N Washburn St.

Friday Fright Night: "Manos: The Hands of Fate," 7 p.m., Time Community Theater, 445 N. Main St.

RV and Boat Main Sales Event, 11 a.m., EAA Aviation Museum

Saturday, Feb. 24

Echoes of the Past Historical Trade Fair, 9 a.m., Sunnyview Expo Center

American Girls: 1920s History with Claudie, 1 p.m., Oshkosh Public Museum Men Who Cook, 5:30 p.m., Oshkosh Convention Center

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

Wisconsin Herd vs. Rip City Remix, 7 p.m., Oshkosh Arena

Sunday, Feb. 25

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

Echoes of the Past Historical Trade Fair, 9 a.m., Sunnyview Expo Center

Monday, Feb. 26

Water City Jazz Orchestra: Women in Jazz, 8 p.m., Fletch's Local Tap House, 566 N. Main St.



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Clark, Mitchell propel Spartans past Papermakers

By Steve Clark OSHKOSH HERALD

With the talent that Oshkosh North's Stevie Clark and Xzavion Mitchell bring to the court, the duo can be fun to watch when they both are clicking at each end of the court.

It's not so fun for their opponents, though.

Mitchell went 4-of-5 from 3-point range in the first half and finished with 36 points, while Clark put together a big second half and ended up with 26 points, five rebounds, seven assists and three steals as the Spartans fended off hot-shooting Kimberly, 86-76, in a Fox Valley Association boys basketball game on Friday.

"When those two are going, we're at a whole different ballgame, we're at a whole different level," Oshkosh North head coach Brad Weber said. "It's really fun."

Mitchell fueled the Spartans in the opening half, totaling 20 points – including 11 straight at one stretch – before half-time.

It was highlighted by his 3-point shooting as he drained 3-pointers on three straight possessions and finished with four treys in the first half – matching his high for the season.

"I had a pre-game workout and it just felt good and then we had a shootaround and my jumper was just feeling good," said Mitchell, who highlighted his teammates for setting screens and getting him the ball in shooting positions. "I figured I might as well start shooting them so I did and they were falling. I've been working on sprinting to my spots and elevate over my defenders. I feel like If I am in rhythm, I think I can make 90 percent of my shots."

Despite Mitchell's best efforts, North only led briefly in the first half – Bryce Ott's reverse layup gave the Spartans a 20-18 lead – and trailed 35-34 at halftime.

That deficit wouldn't last long, though.

The turnaround started with the Spartans' turning up the defensive pressure in their 1-3-1 zone. That forced Kimberly into multiple turnovers which North turned into a 13-4 run to start the half, highlighted by a pair of Mitchell breakaway dunks.

"(The defense) did get us going. I don't think they had an answer for it," Clark said. "Down at the half made us make sure we came back with more energy. I think the 1-3-1 and switching (defenses) kind of messed with them."

With each steal the Spartans would get, the defensive intensity would amp up that much more on the next possession.

"That's the biggest thing when we get those tips and dunks – it brings so much





Photos by Jim Koepnick

Xzavion Mitchell (left) poured in 36 points and Stevie Clark (right) added 26 to help carry Oshkosh North to a key win over Kimberly last Friday. The Spartans have won six of their last seven games and remain in first place in the Fox Valley Association.

energy to our team. Steals like that can lead to easy buckets and that will make the game so much easier for us," Mitchell said. "We have so many defenses that we work on constantly that we can throw at every team and whatever defense works we are going to stick to it."

The 1-3-1 has been a staple of Oshkosh North for many years but being able to play an array of defenses well helps the Spartans find a spark when they may be lagging.

Plus, it makes North a difficult team to prepare for.

"Every team, one of our defenses will give them problems," Weber said. "Early in the game, they were shooting the ball so dang well that a zone probably wasn't the right answer. But then you build a couple of stops and no matter what defense you are in it gets better."

With the defense having pushed the

Spartans in front, it was Clark's turn to make sure the lead stayed on North's side.

Clark scored 22 points in the second half converting both on drives to the basket, knocking down mid-range jump shots while also draining a couple of 3-pointers. He also went 6-of-7 from the free-throw line.

"I thought maybe I wasn't as aggressive as I could have been (in the first half) but Zay was really hitting," Clark said. "When I was attacking and drawing three, four (defenders), guys were open and I was able to find them. That gave (Kimberly) something to think about in the second half."

Ott finished with 14 points and Carter Strange added 10 points in the win for the Spartans, who certainly were aided by the rotation of players anchoring the defense.

Yet, Friday's win revolved around Clark and Mitchell.

"When they first got here, they needed

to score to get themselves going at every level. Now, that's not it. That's the maturity they both have gained," Weber said. "That's the fun part I think, watching these guys evolve and start to understand they can impact the game on so many levels."

The 86 points scored was the fourth-highest total of the season for the Spartans, who maintained sole possession of first place in the FVA with the win.

In fact, led by Clark and Mitchell, the Spartans have scored at least 80 points in five of their last six games as they continue to execute at a high level offensively.

But it may take more than just ringing up the points to accomplish the goals the team has set for itself. And they know it.

"Scoring is pretty fun. We score a lot of points but maybe we should keep teams from scoring as many," Clark said. "That may be pretty fun, too."



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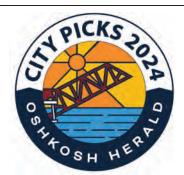
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Oshkosh's voice on the Best in Oshkosh

VOTING

Voting will take place in two phases.

Phase 1 is open nominations between

January 31 - February 19

Vote for at least 30 categories

Phase 2 is the top 3 nominees in each category.

RULES

Rules are simple: Nominees must be located in the Oshkosh Area School District, the Herald's coverage area. One ballot per person per phase.

No photocopies. No ballot stuffing.

City Pick 2024 Categories

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Museum/Art Gallery	lce Cream/Frozen Treats	Used Furniture/Antiques
New Restaurant (restaurants opened after	Desserts	Gift Shop
Feb. 2023)	Cheap Date	Garden/Nursery
Sub/Sandwich Shop	Meat Market/Butcher Shop	Florist
Late-Night Food After 10pm	Kids Party Place	
Patio	Child Care	
Brewery	Summer Camp/Youth Program	
Coffee Shop	Birthday Cakes	
Breakfast	Family Restaurant	
Soup		
Chili		Necola/ Music
Bakery		Arts & Claits
Fine Dining		Shoes
Steak		Barbersnop
Vegan/Vegetarian	Old Fashioned	Salon/Spa
Juice/Smoothie		
Pizza	Place for Sober Socializing	Tattoo
Pancakes	Jukebox	Wedding Venue
Omelette		Place to Hang With Your Pet
Burger		Golf Course
Tacos		Gym
Barbecue		Yoga
Fish Fry		Alta wasting Coorts
Noodles/Ramen		N. Call. L. L. D.
Sushi	Men's Clothing	Live Music Venue
Italian		
Mexican		Home Improvement
Chicken		Auto Service
Wings	Furniture/Accessories	Bank/Credit Union

Nominees in each category that appear on the final ballot are chosen by the amount of nominations received from our readers during Phase 1.

Nominations will be accepted from Jan. 31 - Feb. 19, 2024. Ballots must be at the Oshkosh Herald's office by **5pm on February 19, 2024**. Nominations are limited. You can name one nominee in each category during Phase 1 of Oshkosh Herald City Picks voting. Your name and address must appear on the ballot.

Phase 2 will have the top 3-5 nominees per category and open a new wave of voting. Again, only one vote per name and address. This does mean that if you and your honey don't agree, you both can vote.

Voting is just limited to one vote per person per phase. **No ballot stuffing.** In the appearance of ballot stuffing the person, place, thing or business may be disqualified. The Oshkosh Herald reserves the

right to determine if ballot stuffing has transpired. And yes, you can nominate yourself or your own business.

Once Phase 1 of the nomination period concludes, the final ballot and voting will commence for Phase 2. The top 3-5 nominees from Phase 1 will move on to Phase 2. Final voting will run Feb 28 - March 15.

Ballots must be at the Oshkosh Herald's office by 5pm on March 15, 2024. Our office is located at 36 Broad St., Suite 300, Oshkosh WI 54901. Off-site ballot boxes will be picked up by noon on the

Vote on as many categories as you'd like, but your ballot must include a **minimum of 30 category nominations** for your ballot to register.

Totals registered by our analyst will be considered final. This is a paper ballot contest. No funny stuff can happen online nor will photocopied or downloaded ballots be accepted. Please find a paper issue of the Herald with a ballot.

ANNOUNCEMENT OF THE WINNERS

Winners will be announced in the April 17, 2024 Oshkosh Herald.

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February 14, 2024

Wildcats fall to Ghosts

By Dustin Riese
HERALD CONTRIBUTOR

Oshkosh West erased a 13-point halftime deficit early in the second half but couldn't hold off Kaukauna down the stretch in a 60-50 loss to the Ghosts in a Fox Valley Association girls basketball game Friday.

"We settled for early 3's in the first half instead of working the ball for an easy shot at the rim," head coach Kenisha Phillips said. "In the second half we chipped away and tied it up; but couldn't find a way to get the ball in the hole at the end. We came out flat on D, unable to contain the dribble leading to wide-open shots and they could not miss, it felt like."

Paige Seckar and Charlee Martin were able to keep Oshkosh West within striking distance despite a cold-shooting first half for the Wildcats.

Kaukauna scored 10 of the first 12 points in the game and led the entire first half, although West cut the deficit to 18-17 on a Seckar basket late in the period.

The Ghosts answered with 3-pointers on three of the next four possessions to take a 30-19 lead. Overall it was an 18-7 run by Kaukauna to end the half as West faced a 37-24 deficit.

West got started early in the second half as Brenna Gehri scored on a layup before a Martin triple. Gehri connected for a triple of her own as part of the 11-0 run to begin the second half and later tied the game at 39.

The Ghosts scored the next seven points but that was followed by the Seckar and Martin duo combining for nine straight points.

Six of those points came from Seckar as the Wildcats continued to battle back and



hoto by Dustin R

Charlee Martin puts up a shot in the second half of Friday's game.

pulled within 51-48 late in the second half.

"Paige is someone that is the focus of every other team in the conference so she works her tail off to find shots and contribute in the offense," Phillips said. "Charlee is a huge spark for us with a killer stepback. She is someone that challenges the other team's ball handlers with her speed and athleticism."

Seckar finished with 16 points and 10 rebounds to lead the Wildcats, who were never able to overtake the Ghiosts in the second half.

Martin added 14 points and Gehri finished with nine.

Prep roundup

SWIMMING

North/Lourdes' Reeves headed back to state

Oshkosh North/Lourdes Academy sophomore River Reeves is headed back to the WIAA Division 1 state swimming and diving meet after an impressive performance at the Neenah sectional last weekend.

Reeves won the sectional title with a total of 478.70 points, which was more than 100 points ahead of the runner-up finisher. That total will mean Reeves – who finished eighth in last year's state meet – will be seeded second among the 24 divers who will be competing at state.

The state meet will be held at Waukesha North on Saturday.

Reeves will be the only Oshkosh representative at the state meet but both Oshkosh West and North/Lourdes had some strong finishes at sectionals.

Oshkosh West finished sixth in the final team standings among the 12 participating schools.

Caleb Bergin led the way for the Wildcats with a pair of top-five finishes. He took fourth in the 200-yard freestyle and fifth in the 500-yard freestyle.

Dane Dodge added a fifth place in the 50-yard freestyle and was sixth in the 100-yard freestyle, while Isaac Palomaki was eighth in the 100-yard butterfly and 10th in the 200-yard individual medley and Carter Crowe was eighth in the 100-yard breaststroke and ninth in the 50-yard freestyle.

The Wildcats also placed fifth in two relays. The foursome of Dodge, Palomaki, Crowe and Bergin finished fifth in the 200-yard medley relay, while Dodge, Crowe, Bergin and Jack Loper were fifth in the 200-yard freestyle relay.

For North/Lourdes, Sawyer Sharratt had the team's only top-10 individual finish in a swimming event, placing ninth in the 100-yard breaststroke.

The best finish in a relay for North/ Lourdes was an eighth place in the 400-yard freestyle relay with a team of Dylan Anderson, Trip Kujawa, Emilijus Daubaras and Sharratt.

 $North/Lourdes\ finished\ 10th.$

WRESTLING

Oshkosh West qualifies eight for sectionals

Oshkosh West will send a total of eight wrestlers to the sectional meet after finishing fourth at the WIAA Division 1 regional hosted by Beaver Dam on Saturday. The sectional meet will also be held at Beaver Dam this weekend.

Leading the way for the Wildcats was a trio of regional champions. Edwyn Schroeder claimed the 138-pound title while West dominated the upper weights as Nelson Fournier and Garth Martell were the champions at 215 pounds and heavy-

weight, respectively.

Schroeder wrestled less than three minutes in winning two matches to claim the title, pinning Oconomowoc's Brody Ernst in 1:03 and Slinger's Grant Dickerson in 1:49.

Fournier pinned his first two opponents and then scored a 6-4 win in sudden victory over Ayden Grulke of Hartford.

Martell earned a 28-second pin over Drake Shepherd of Oconomowoc in his first match then won an ultimate tiebreaker with Hartford's Weston Jaeger to claim the regional title.

West also had three wrestlers advance with third-place finishes as Michael Mueller (144) and Jaxen Lloyd (150) each finished 2-2 on the day, while Ryland Schneider (157) was 1-2 on the day.

Rounding out the sectional qualifiers for the Wildcats were Jaiden Fronczak (165) and Iban Heredia (190) who each finished fourth.

Oshkosh North will also be represented at sectionals as 150-pounder Jamond Thompson-Schreck finished second to advance.

Thompson-Schreck won by technical fall in his first-round match and then pinned Oshkosh West's Lloyd in the semifinals. He lost in the title match to take second.

Knights' Carpenter collects regional title

Lourdes Academy's Mason Carpenter improved to 46-2 on the season by posting three wins at the WIAA Division 3 regional tournament on Saturday and claiming the 132-pound title.

After a first-round bye, Carpenter pinned Kewaunee's Trevor Gauthier in 2:34 and then needed just 49 seconds to beat Seth Race of Cedar Grove-Belgium. In the title match, Carpenter pinned Southern Door's Mason Molquin in 3:17.

Riley Zernzach added a fourth place at 165 pounds but didn't advance.

GIRLS BASKETBALL

Balanced attack carries Wildcats to win

Three players finished with 16 points and Oshkosh West rallied from a halftime deficit to beat Appleton East, 63-60, last week.

Paige Seckar, Brenn Gehri and Laina Hammen paced the offense for the Wildcats, while Seckar added 10 rebounds and Gehri finished with a team-best four assists.

The Wildcats trailed 25-18 at halftime.

Spartans can't recover from rough first half

Oshkosh North scored only 19 points in the first half against Kimberly and couldn't rally from the 24-point halftime

SEE **Prep roundup** on Page 20



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Knights' Slusarski is mix of athletics, academics

By Tim Froberg

Four-sport athletes are like four-leaf

They're tough to find and usually bring good fortune.

Ella Slusarski's athletic teams at Lourdes Academy would readily agree. All have benefitted significantly from Slusarski's presence on the court, track, cross country trail and diamond.

The do-it-all Knights' senior is one of the busiest and most productive prep athletes in the Oshkosh area.

Basketball is her current focus and she's playing at a high level. But there is a lot more to her life than just hoops. Slusarski is a cross country runner during the fall and actually plays two sports – softball and track and field – in the spring.

She saves her best work, though, for the classroom, carrying an impeccable 4.048 grade-point average which has earned her valedictorian honors for Lourdes' class of 2024.

"She's a pretty remarkable kid," said Lourdes coach Ali Starr. "She's one of those kids who finds interest in a lot of different things and Lourdes is the type of community that encourages that. She's always trying to be the best she can be in everything she does. That includes the classroom as well as every athletic field she chooses to play on."

Basketball is her favorite, but Slusarski enjoys the challenges involved in being a multi-sport athlete.

"It can be a little stressful at times, but I love doing all of them," Slusarski said. "My coaches have been super understanding about letting me play all of them. The more sports you play, the more people you get to know and that's what makes it fun."

Basketball is her current focus and she's been a rock-solid performer for a strong Lourdes team that opened the week with an 18-2 overall record and a first-place 12-0 mark in the Trailways East Conference. A 5-foot-8 shooting guard, Slusarski is the Knights' rebounding leader at 6.7 rebounds per game and is second in scoring (12.7 points per game) and assists (3.5 per game), and third in steals (2.6 per game).

"She is so much more than a scorer," said Starr. "She rebounds and defends well. She can guard a guard or guard a post and she's a tremendous cutter, who will make a great cut at the right time and her teammates will find her."

Slusarski is a fourth-year varsity player, but this is her first year as a full-time starter. She was a super sub who played starter's minutes in the past for balanced Lourdes teams that used her as a weapon off the bench. Slusarski was the team's third-leading scorer (8.0 ppg) and rebounder (4-3 rebounds per game) as a junior and received all-conference honorable mention, despite starting just one game.

"Talk about sacrifice," said Starr. "This kid has deserved to start beyond this year. Last year she could have started on any team in our conference and on many teams in the state. But I thought it was best for the team that we bring her off the bench because whenever we subbed her as the sixth person we would go up by 10 or more in the next three-to-five minutes.

"We talked about that with Ella and her parents. She may not have loved it, but she accepted that role and it made us a better team."

Senior spotlight

Slusarski has been playing basketball since the first grade. Her younger brother, Parker, is a member of the Lourdes' junior varsity team.

"My dad (Jeff) is a really big sports fan and his love of sports has always reflected on me," Slusarski said. "I feel like I've played for such a long time. Middle school is when I really started to love the game. I've also played AAU ball over the years and that's helped me get to know the game better. It's also taught me to be more aggressive and intense."

Slusarski is a dangerous outside shooter and is second on the team in 3-pointers made (28) after sinking 29 last season and 16 as sophomore.

"Shooting is a lot of repetition," Slusarski said. "I shoot a lot with the shooting machine we have here at Lourdes. I definitely think I'm a scorer, but it's just as important to be good on the defensive end and to rebound and just be a senior out there."

Slusarski won't get much rest following the hoops season. She's one of the rare Wisconsin prep athletes to play two spring sports. She has been an infielder in softball who hit .311 last season, but is expected to be the Knights' top pitcher this spring after pitching in just two games in 2023.

"I've never been a full-time pitcher and it's going to take a lot of work and repetition," Slusarski said. 'I've looking forward to it."

Slusarski runs the 400 and 800-meter runs in track along with the distance relays.

How does she make two sports in the same season work?

"It's definitely a really different experience, but fun to be a part of both teams," Slusarski said. "In the spring, softball is my main sport but our track coach (Tim Moore) is really flexible when it comes to practices and things like that. My coaches make it really easy for me to do both."

Slusarski's life will change dramatically when she starts college next year. She hasn't yet committed to a school, but is strongly considering the University of Minnesota. She plans to major in biol-

"I want to be a pediatrician," Slusarski said. "I've always been interested in science and took an anatomy class last year that I really enjoyed. The medical field has always appealed to me. I want to try and help people in that area."

Slusarski has no intention of trying to play college sports, but will be active at the intramural level.

"That's definitely going to be a little weird - a big change," she said. "But I know I'll still be doing something with either intramurals or club. That will help me meet people."





Ella Slusarski is a four-sport athlete at Lourdes Academy and currently a key member of the Knights basketball team. She was also recently announced as the Class of 2024 valedictorian.



ARPA Funds Available



The City of Oshkosh is soliciting proposals from local non-profits and other organizations for ARPA funds.

Learn more at these informational sessions.

LIVE on Oshkosh Media Gov TV

- ♦ Thursday, Feb. 15 @ 6:00 pm at City Hall
- Friday, Feb. 16 @ 10:00 am at City Hall
- Friday, Feb. 16 @ 2:00 pm Live Q&A on City Of Oshkosh Government

Email questions or comments to: ARPAcomments@oshkoshwi.gov

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Submitted pho

Hall of Famers

Oshkosh North inducted four new members to its Athletic Hall of Fame at halftime of Friday night's boys basketball game. Enshrined were (from left) Nick Bauer, Samantha Berger, Lauren (Neveau) Derenne and Ryan Revolinski. The Class of 2024 brings the total number of inductees to 72.







Semaglutide/Tirzepatide for Weight Loss Available Now at Fox Valley Plastic Surgery

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Prep roundup

from Page 18

deficit in a 70-39 loss to the Papermakers last Friday.

Ava Hanson finished with 12 points and nine rebounds for the Spartans but was the lone player in double figures. Brinna Paulson chipped in eight points.

Earlier in the week, the Spartans fell to Hortonville 66-44 despite a double-double from Hanson who totaled 18 points and 10 rebounds.

Paulson added 11 points and Awut Alic finished with nine.

Lourdes Academy stays atop Trailways East

The Knights improved to 12-0 in conference play and stayed a half-game ahead of Oakfield in the Trailway East standings following a 63-37 win over Horicon last week

Hailee Bauer scored 16 points and Delaney Ruedinger had 15 to lead the way for the Knights. Charley Mullen also reached double figures with 11 points.

The Knights outscored Horicon 33-17 in the second half to pull away for the win.

Valley Christian drops pair of games

The Warriors lost back-to-back games for the first time this season, suffering a rough second half in a 57-50 defeat to Sheboygan Christian last Thursday.

Valley Christian was held to just 18 points in the second half after taking a 32-24 halftime lead in the loss to Sheboygan Christian.

Anna Y. Giannopoloulos scored 19 points to lead the way for the Warriors while Mya Moran chipped in 12.

Earlier in the week the Warriors lost a 58-54 heartbreaker to Wayland Academy despite having three players finish in double figures.

Giannopoulos and Moran each finished with 15 points in the game for Valley Chrisian while Lizzie Fink added 14. Giannopoulos also pulled down a game-high 19 rebounds.

BOYS BASKETBALL

Oshkosh West tripped by Kaukauna

The Wildcats trailed by just three points at halftime but the Ghosts pulled away in



the second half for a 76-59 win.

Sam Gibson and Joey Ware each scored 12 points to lead the Wildcats, while Dylan Taylor finished with nine in the loss.

The Wildcats attempted just three free throws in the game.

Knights cap busy week with win over Coleman

Lourdes Academy played three games in the span of five days last week, capped by a 69-51 win over Coleman.

Mitchell Wing finished with 17 points, eight rebounds and eight assists in the win over Coleman, while JJ McKellips added 14 points and Calvin Tollard scored 12.

The Knights jumped out to a 39-15 lead at halftime in the win.

Lourdes Academy dropped a 61-51 nonconference game to Omro last Tuesday despite 19 points from McKellips and 18 from Tollard.

Tollard scored 15 points to lead the way in a 71-56 loss to Randolph while Braden Studinski finished with 12.

Rough first half stings Warriors in loss

Valley Christian was held to just nine points in the first half against Dodgeland last Thursday and fell 74-40 in the Trailways East game.

Cade Krause scored 10 points and Joshua Johnson added nine for Valley Christian, who were outscored only 34-31 in the second half.

On Tuesday, the Warriors had three players finish in double figures in a 69-50 loss to Wayland Academy.

Brady Patterson led the way with 17 points, followed by Johnson with 13 and Krause with 11.

GIRLS HOCKEY

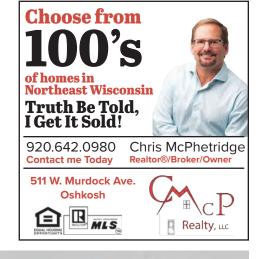
Binder scores in Warbirds' loss

Kristin Binder scored late in the second period to give the Warbirds a 4-1 lead but the Brookfield Glacier answered with four goals in the third period to claim a 5-4 win last Thursday.

Callie Rottman added a pair of goals in the game and picked up an assist of Binder's tally.

Binder now has seven goals on the season for the Warbirds.

Earlier in the week, the Warbirds came up short against Arrowhead, falling by an 8-2 margin.





Obituaries

Judith Ann Abitz

Judith Ann Abitz, 83, passed away with her family by her side after a short battle



with cancer on Friday, February 9, 2024. She was born December 21, 1940, the daughter of Joseph and Margaret (Youngwirth) Miller. On June 14, 1958, Judy married Ronald E. Abitz in Oshkosh, and they

on Friday, February

9, 2024. He was born

to the late Wenzel

and Rose (Bernhard)

Matschi on February

11, 1939, in Oshkosh.

He married Pamela

Nigh on October 12,

2002, at South Park in

celebrated over 60 remarkable years together until Ron's passing in 2018. She was employed at Mercy Medical Center, in the food service department, for 47 years.

In her free time, Judy enjoyed bowling, golfing, and trying her luck at different casinos around the country. She loved traveling and spending time with family especially the winters in Laughlin with Ron, spending time with her sisters, and family reunions at Marl Lake that brought everyone together.

Judy will be remembered for creating a home where people wanted to gather. Her door was always open to visitors, and she was a great listener and confidant. She enjoyed having an old fashioned and was always making new friends with her loving spirit. She was an amazing mother and had great compassion for her family and friends. We were so lucky.

Judy is survived by her children: Randy (Sue), Renee (Dave) Neitzke, Stacey Haidlinger, and Rhonda (John) Hansen; grandchildren: Lucas (Chrissy), Matthew (Jamie), and Joshua (Kristi) Neitzke, Michael (Molly) and Amy (Tripp) Haidlinger, Nicholas (Taren) and Joseph (Jess) Hansen, Emily (Thomas) Poeschl, and Allison (Alan) Hansen; great-grandchildren: Jordan, Emerson, Marissa, Austin, Jackson, Landon, Abigail, Lachlan, Aspen, Ivan, Miles, Reese, Paige; brother: Joe (Judy) Miller; sisters: Mary (Jerry) Allen, Bonnie Viertel, Vicky (Don) Haedt, Peggy (Russ) Rilling, Sandy Craig, and sister-in-law: Mary Abitz. Judy was preceded in death by her loving husband Ron, her parents, son-in-law Jeff Haidlinger, brothers-in-law: John Viertel, Dennis Craig, and Ray Abitz; sister-in-law Mary-Jane (Bob) McPeake.

Visitation will be held from 10:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m., Saturday, February 17, 2024, at St. Vincent Church (St. Jude the Apostle Parish), 1225 Oregon Street, Oshkosh, WI. A mass of Christian burial will follow at 1:00 p.m. Interment will be in Lake View Memorial Park in Oshkosh.

The family would like to thank the exceptional care given to Judy by Compassus especially Crystal and Chris.

KONRAD-BEHLMAN

Joseph J. Matschi

Joseph 'Joe' J. Matschi, age 84, passed away at Ascension Mercy Medical Center



Ochkoch

Oshkosh.

Joe attended grade school at St. Vincent DePaul and was also a 1957 graduate of Oshkosh High School. He looked forward to spending time with his former classmates from his 9th grade class that would meet for lunch throughout the

Joe worked many years at the Universal Foundry until it's closure and also drove truck. He also worked at Square D and became a licensed Realtor.

Joe was an avid Milwaukee Brewer, Green Bay Packer and Wisconsin Badger fan and had been to over 200 Packer games throughout his lifetime. Joe loved all thing Peanuts/Snoopy and because of family and friends, he had quite the collection. He loved old classic cars, especially the Ford Mustang. He loved cooking and baking and had a recipe book that he referred to as the Recipe Bible. Joe also enjoyed bowling camping and hunting. He loved to cookout and listen to Country Music especially Willie Nelson who was his favorite. Above everything, Joe loved to spend time with his Family and Friends. He was loved by many and will be greatly missed. Life will not be the same without him.

Joe is survived by his wife, Pam; children, John Matschi, Karon Matschi, Kenneth Matschi & family, and Michael Matschi & family; grandchildren, Katelyn and

Kai Matschi as well as Christopher Mats-

In addition to his parents, Joe was preceded in death by his sister, Rose Mary (Ed) Woller; and daughter-in-law, Cassie Verkuilen- Matschi.

A memorial service for Joe will be held at Konrad-Behlman Funeral Homes-Westside (100 Lake Pointe Dr) on Saturday, February 24, 2024, at noon. A visitation will be held from 10AM until the time of service.

A Celebration of Life will take place at a later date this Summer.

In lieu of flowers a memorial has been set up.

The Matschi family would like to thank the Medical Staff at Ascension Mercy Hospital and Compassus Hospice Care RN Nicole.





Darrell L. Tritt

Darrell L. Tritt, 83, of Omro, died Friday, February 9, 2024, at home. He was



born April 16, 1940, to the late James Sr. and Hazel (Feavel) Tritt. Darrell was a 1959 graduate of Omro High School. On August 7, 1982, he married Judy (Peck) Faust. For over 30 years, Dar-

rell worked at Mercury Marine until his retirement. He also farmed on the Tritt family farm. Darrell enjoyed camping, hunting, shooting pool, and golfing. He was a member of St. Paul's Ev. Lutheran Church in Winneconne.

Darrell is survived by children and their families, Rick (Carol) Tritt, of Omro, and granddaughter Madyson; Anthony (Glynne) Faust, of Fond du Lac, and granddaughter Lauren (Frank) Graumann and great-grandson Clayton; Steven (Maggie) Faust, of Oshkosh, and grandchildren Mimi and great-grandson Koda, Carson (Abby); Natalie (Troy) Engelman, of Oshkosh; his special friend, MaryAnn Johnson; sisters, Faye Hoffman, Phyllis Silverthorn; sister-in-

law, Norie Tritt; brother-in-law, Eugene Allen; and nieces, nephews, other relatives and friends.

Along with his parents, Darrell was also preceded in death by his wife, Judy; his daughter, Tammy Armstrong; brothers, sister, and in-laws, Harlan and Tootie Tritt, James Tritt Jr., Peggy Allen, Bernie Silverthorn, and Art Hoffman.

A visitation for family and friends will be on Wednesday, February 14, 2024, from 4:00 to 7:00 p.m. at Mueller Funeral Home 904 E. Main St. Winneconne, and will continue on Thursday, February 15 from 10:00 to 11:00 a.m. at St. Paul's Ev. Lutheran Church, 8 S. 4th St. Winneconne. A funeral service will be held on Thursday at 11:00 a.m. at the church with Pastor Ben Berger officiating. Burial will follow in the Oak Hill Cemetery, Town of Poygan.

In lieu of flowers, donations in Darrell's name can be made to St. Paul's Ev. Lutheran Church, Compassus Hospice, Disabled American Veterans, or the Shriners

If you wish, please submit online condolences/memories to muellerfh.net.



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Obituaries

Judith A. Bartels

Judith A. "Judi" Bartels, age 75, formerly of Shawano, passed away peacefully



on Sunday morning, January 28, 2024, surrounded by her loving family.

Judi was born January 17, 1949, in Shawano, a daughter of the late Arleigh and Elnora (Carlson) Roloff. She attended St.

James Grade School followed by Shawano High School where she graduated with the Class of 1967. After high school Judi attended beauty school in Green Bay, then became a hairdresser at Spurgeon's Department Store in Shawano. On January 16, 1971, Judi was united in marriage to Thomas J. Bartels at Sacred Heart Catholic Church in Shawano. She continued working at Spurgeon's until her first daughter, Lisa, was born. Judi then stayed home to care for her family.

Judi was a member of Sacred Heart Catholic Church in Shawano where she was active with the Emmaus Group and was the secretary at Sacred Heart Catholic School. She then worked for the Shawano School District as a computer aide at both the middle school and the high school. Judi's family was incredibly important to her, and she strived to create family traditions for her family to continue. Judi attended her grandchildren's activities as much as possible. She enjoyed reading, puzzles, cooking, baking, and canning. Her husband preceded her in death on August 4, 2015.

Survivors include her loving daughters, Lisa (fiancé Joe Hurst) Andreas of De-Pere, and Danielle (Nat) Hoeper of Oshkosh; her grandchildren, Carson and Ava Andreas, Cadence, Benjamin, and Brooke Hoeper, and Indiah and Kade Hurst; her brother, Jeff (Mary) Roloff of Shawano; her brother-in-law, Larry Bartels of Reedsburg; her sister-in-law, Lynn Bartels of Reedsburg; her uncle, Jim Carlson of Shawano; and several nieces, nephews, relatives, and friends. She was preceded in death by her brother-in-law, Jim Bartels, and her sister-in-law, Joan Bartels.

A Memorial Mass for Judi will be celebrated on Saturday, February 17, 2024, at 11:00 am at Sacred Heart Catholic Church in Shawano. Fr. Edward Looney will be the Celebrant. Inurnment will take place at Woodlawn Cemetery in Shawano. Visitation will begin at 9:30 am at the church and continue until the time of Mass.

In lieu of flowers and plants, the family prefers memorials in Judi's name to the Shawano Community Schools Fine Arts or the Shawano County Humane Society.

Mickelson Funeral & Cremation Service of Shawano is assisting the family with arrangements. Please share online condolences at www.mickelsonfs.com.

"We would like to thank the staff at Bella Vista Assisted Living in Oshkosh, and Lexie, Angie and Niki from ThedaCare Hospice for the loving and compassionate care they provided to mom and our family throughout her illness."



Scott William Lorenz

Scott William Lorenz (1962-2024) was given rest and relief on January 30, 2024,



when he passed away at his parent's home after a long battle with cancer. Courageous to the end, Scott rarely complained about his condition or any pain he might be having, and he was always gracious and interested

in how the people around him were doing. Scott was born on January 16, 1962, in

Oshkosh, Wisconsin, to parents Bob and Betty, and joining his sister Renee.

He graduated from Oshkosh West High School and attended the University of Wisconsin-Oshkosh majoring in Music. A highlight of his college years was being a featured performer on stage with Bobby Shew.

Scott's considerable talent in music was evident even as an adolescent, and he was playing professional gigs from the age of sixteen, a career that blessed him for most of his life.

He started his career playing clarinet, saxophone and flute in his Dad's combo.

He was a member of the Roger Bright

Band from New Glarus and the Green Bay Packers Tailgate Band. Many musical highlights include performing with Joey Miskulin, Frankie Yankovic, Steve Meisner and Jimmy Sturr among many others.

As a duet, Scott and his Dad recorded authentic Swiss laendlers together on "Swissconsin, My Homeland" which was selected by the Library of Congress American Folklife Center as the best traditional recording issued in 1988. Scott's work in music studios resulted in him being featured on numerous albums and CDs through the years.

While playing music gigs, Scott traveled

the world, including Europe, esp. Switzerland and Slovenia, Hawaii, Mexico, Las Vegas and throughout the Midwest.

Scott is preceded in death by his grandparents. He is survived by his parents, Bob and Betty Lorenz, sister Renee (Tim) George, son Brandon (Katie) Quast, and grandchildren, Olivia, Annie and Max.

Plans for a private memorial will be shared with family and close friends.

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Obituaries

Sharon R. Clark

Sharon R. (Thill) Clark, age 79, passed away on January 30, 2024, surrounded



by her family, at Aurora Medical Center, in Oshkosh. She was born to parents, Carroll "Buster" and Catherine (Gonyo) Thill on June 11, 1944, in Oshkosh, Wisconsin.

After high school, Sharon met the love of her life, James "Jim" Clark. They married on September 16, 1961, at St. John's Church in Oshkosh. The two shared many passions including bowling, family trips with their children, occasional trips to a casino or two, and spending winters in Bullhead City, Arizona. Very

often these activities were shared with their very special friends, Gary and Sherri Wuest. The four of them spent many years traveling the country and bowling in a couples league for more than 25 years. Sharon also made many close friends during her more than 31 years working at Winnebago Mental Health Institute, where she retired as a Food Service Supervisor.

Sharon always loved spending time with her family. She particularly enjoyed watching her children, grandchildren, and great-grandchildren participate in sporting events and various school activities. E.J. Schneider Field became a special place for watching countless innings of baseball over 35 years.

Sharon had a passion for crafts. She spent countless hours crocheting, knitting, sewing, and creating gifts for others. Her favorite creations were those that she

made for her many grandchildren and great-grandchildren. She always made sure that everyone had a stocking with their name on it to hang for Christmas and hand-created snowflakes and angels to place on the Christmas tree. These special gifts have become heirlooms that will be passed down for many generations and are reminders of her desire to always put others first. Sharon will be remembered for being generous, loving, and kind-hearted.

She is survived by her husband, James Clark; children, John (Pam) Clark, Eric (Kristi) Clark, Dana (Randy) Losse; sonin-law, Gary Powers; grandchildren, Bryan (Samantha) Clark, Jackson (Alicia R) Clark, Shaina (Lukas P) Holtz, Mykala (Nate) Schwarz, Aadyn (Diana P) Holtz, Michael (Emily) Brueske, Christina (Troy) Powers, Patrick (Kirsten) Brueske, Jesse Powers, Andrew (Kerry) Clark, William Clark, Evan Clark, Erica Roberts, Emily (Ben M) Roberts, Stephanie (Matt A) Losse, Jesse (Clara) Losse; great-grandchildren, Gabriel, Eleanor, George, Philip Clark, Oliver Schwarz, Jackson Brueske, Meilani Rigo, Ivanka, Eve, Ivan, Victor,

Classifieds

Ulrik Brueske, Hazel, Ruby Clark, Xander Tomko, and Finnley Losse.

She is further survived by her siblings, Michael (Mary) Thill, Patricia Bonneau, Joyce Saunders, Steven (Lorrie) Thill, Richard (Christy B) Thill; brothers/sisters-in-law, Sharon Clark, Bruce (Glenann) Clark, Thomas (David H), Charles (Dawn) Clark; and many nieces, nephews, and good friends.

She is preceded in death by her parents; daughter, Catherine Powers; brother-in-law Richard Clark and sister-in-law Carol (Mickey) Bloom.

Per her wishes, a private family service will be held. In lieu of other expressions of sympathy, the family asks that donations go to Scleroderma Research in Sharon's name at www.Srfcure.org.

The family would like to extend a very special thank you to the doctors and staff at the Aurora Hospital, Oshkosh, for their care and comfort during her transition.



Scott L. Spiller

Scott Louis Spiller, aged 72, passed away peacefully on January 25, 2024 sur-



rounded by his family and loved ones at his home in Oshkosh, WI. He was born on March 3, 1951 in Wood River, IL to the late Leo and Patricia (Moroni) Spiller.

Scott graduated from Roxana High

School, received his BA majoring in Political Science from Principia College in Elsah, IL and his Doctor of Jurisprudence from Southern Illinois University in Carbondale, IL. Scott began his esteemed career in private practice and then transitioned to corporate law at Winchester Corporation in East Alton, IL. Scott then found his permanent "work home" at Alliance Laundry Systems in Ripon, WI where he served for 30 years before retiring in 2016. He was proud to hold the titles of Chief Legal Officer, VP of Human Resources and Corporate Secretary.

Scott volunteered and served many causes near to his heart through the years including serving as a member of the Boy Scouts Piasa Bird Council Board and as the Bay-Lakes Council Commissioner for several years. He also served on the Prin-

cipia Committee of 70 and the Board of Trustees for Ripon College. Scott coached youth football and basketball and loved the time spent with his children and helping others.

Scott was a devout Christian Scientist and a loving father. He found joy and fulfillment in sharing his life experiences and guiding others toward their goals. His strong, confident, kind and strategic nature allowed him to connect with people, making him a cherished friend and mentor. Scott is survived by his precious children: Michael Spiller and Lauren Spiller; sister Susan Mayes; niece and nephew Brittany Mayes and Colton Mayes and numerous other loved ones.

A Celebration of Life to honor his memory will be held on June 8, 2024 at The Waters in Oshkosh. Feel free to stop by anytime between 2:00-5:00 pm. This will allow all who knew him the opportunity to come together, share stories, and find comfort in one another's company! In lieu of flowers, Scott's family is requesting donations be made to the Boy Scouts (Bay-Lakes Council) and Girl Scouts of America (Northwestern Great Lakes).

"To live in hearts we leave behind is not to die" – Thomas Campbell

KONRAD-BEHLMAN

Henry W. Behm

Henry W. Behm passed away February 7, 2024 at Silverstone Memory Care, Ap-



pleton. He was born July 27, 1933, the youngest of twelve children to William and Minnie Behm, born in the family farmhouse near Fisk,

Hank was a graduate of Omro High

School, lettering in Varsity Football.

He was employed as an ironworker for 35 years, spending most of those years with Griese and Ross Construction, Oshkosh, WI.

Hank married Betty Nietzel in 1957. They were blessed with two children Michael and Laura. Betty preceded him in death in 1981. Laura preceded him in death in 1988.

In 1984, Hank married Dorothy "Dottie" (Ingram) Reeves. They spent 39 years together before her death in 2023.

Hank had a 90th birthday celebration in July of 2023. The afternoon was filled with family, friends, pictures, stories, laughs and love. He will be missed by all who knew and loved him.

Hank always looked forward to visits

from his great grandsons. His face lit up when they came into the room.

While at Silverstone, he enjoyed chatting with the staff as well as many games of Bingo.

Surviving are his son Michael (Gretchen), grandson Slaten (Kayla) Behm, their sons Lawson and Croix, sister-in-law Mildred (Walter) Behm, granddaughter Katrina (Spencer) Ernst, Dottie's children, Kathryn (Patricia) Graves-Farias, Charlie (Anita) Graves, Jeff (Bobbie) Reeves, Bob (Betsy) Reeves. He is also survived by many nieces, nephews and friends.

He was preceded in death by his parents, siblings, wife Betty, daughter Laura, and wife Dottie.

Hank will be remembered for his love of his family, his blue eyes, the love of the outdoors.

A celebration of life will be held at a later date.

Hank's family would like to thank the staff at Silverstone Memory Care and Moments Hospice for their exceptional compassion and care.

A memorial fund has been established. To share a memory, please see Henry's page at wichmannfuneralhomes.com



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visit www.newshowerdeal.com/wcp (WCAN)

Miscellaneous

AUCTION - MARCH 9th -10AM Real estate & personal property of the Brian Jung Estate, W11157 CR-A, Gresham, WI including 253+/- acre Farm, Machinery, & Special items. Open House March 2nd 1-3PM contact NOLAN SALES LLC, Marion, WI 715-754-5221

Lic#165 & 142 www.nolansales.com for details (WCAN)

COIN SHOW: Sunday, February 18, Oshkosh Convention Center. FREE Admission. 9AM-4PM. Buy, Sell, Trade Coins, Gold, Silver, Paper Money & More.

"ECHOES OF THE PAST" 41st HISTORICAL TRADE FAIR! Feb. 24 & 25. Sat 9am-5pm, Sun 9 am-3pm. SUNNYVIEW EXPO CENTER, OSHKOSH, WI. Traditional Colonial Merchants, Craftsmen, Renenactors, FOOD, ITEMS FOR SALE. Adults: \$6. Brian @ 920-233-5332.

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 \$36.0 Call today! Publishers Development Service, Inc. (PDS, Inc.) 1-800-236-0737 www.pdsadnet.com

Garage/Estate Sales

WINNEBAGOLAND SPORTSMAN'S RUMMAGE SALE MARCH 2 Sat. 8am-2pm.

Adm: \$3. New & Used Sporting Items. FOND DU LAC FAIRGROUNDS 920-922-2373 Vendors Welcome!

Lega<u>l Notice</u>

CLAIMS DEADLINE NOTICE

IN THE MATTER OF: Clyde W Zielke

Pursuant to section 701.0508(1), Wisconsin Statutes, Fiduciary Partners Trust Co., as Trustee of the Clyde W Zielke Living Trust, with power to pay the debts of Clyde Zielke, DOD November 17, 2023, hereby provides notice that the deadline for filing claims for payment of debts of Clyde W Zielke with Fiduciary Partners Trust Co. as Trustee of the Clyde W Zielke Living Trust, is , being the date four (4) months after the date of the

first insertion of this Notice.
FIDUCIARY PARTNERS

TRUST COMPANY

3913 W Prospect Ave., Ste. 201 Appleton, WI 54914-8797 (920) 380-9960

By: Mitchell J Peters, Trust Officer

WNAXL

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African American Newspapers

First African American Newspaper

Freedom's Journal was the first African American owned and operated newspaper. The newspaper editors said, "Too long have others spoken for us." They wanted to write about and for their fellow African Americans. Starting in 1827, Freedom's Journal helped lead the way for other Black-owned newspapers in the 1800s.

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1847

Frederick Douglass started a newspape called The North Star in 1847. This was a newspaper where black people could write about their news, ideas and share opinions.

Use the code to find out what Frederick Douglass said about reading.

A = 16	E=12	N = 8	U=4
B = 15	F = 11	0 = 7	V = 3
C = 14	I = 10	R = 6	W=2
D = 13	L = 9	T = 5	Y = 1

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Thicago Agetender

Cut out each piece and paste the paragraph in the correct order in the space below.

so popular that he became one of

African American newspaper.

Abbott started the newspaper

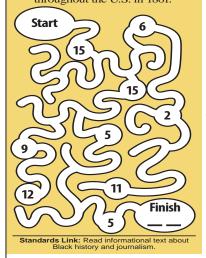
about \$7.30 today. His paper was In 1905, Robert Abbott founded

Chicago's first Black millionaires.

with 25¢. That's the same as The Chicago Defender. It was an

How many papers?

Add up the numbers on the correct path of the maze to find out how many African American owned and operated newspapers circulated throughout the U.S. in 1861.



SUNDAY

Twenty-one years after Robert Abbott founded *The Chicago Defender*, Anthony Overton, an African American millionaire, started The Chicago Bee to compete with The Chicago Defender. It was a remarkable business as the staff was mostly women. That was very unusual in 1926. Olive M. Diggs was one of the newspaper's managing editors. Other female editors included Ida B. Wells. She helped start the civil rights organization known as the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP).

What year did Anthony Overton start *The Chicago Bee*?

Simeon Booker Jr.

In 1952, Simeon Booker Jr. became the first Black reporter for a well-known and well-read newspaper that still publishes today. Circle every other letter below to find out the name of

TRHKEUWBALSVHWIJN P G S T R O H N Y P A O N S B T

Newspaper

On one page of the newspaper, find and circle every letter of the alphabet that you can. Then connect the letters to create a design. Color your design and share! Have fun!

1964

The Washington Informer is a weekly newspaper published in Washington, D.C. It is owned by a woman and reports on the African American community in the D.C. area.

The publisher is Denise Rolark Barnes. Her father, Calvin W. Rolark, founded the paper in 1964.

Fill in the missing vowels to find out something special about The Washington Informer

Standards Link: Language Arts: Spell words correctly.

Double Word Search Find the words in the puzzle.

BEE **CENTS FREE IDEAS** LEAD **NEWS PAPER** REPORTER **RIGHTS** SHE **STAFF** STAR

TODAY

WRITE

WEEKLY

How many of them can you find on this page? S T N E C E G Y T P E H S V M S T A F F AWUTSLBIFH SNYWAETQRS $T\quad P\quad A\quad P\quad E\quad R\quad Y\quad D\quad E\quad W$ HQDKDELAEE GVOMIOKEJN I N T S Y C R L P V REPORTERYW

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

FREE DOWNLOAD: Kid Scoop Teacher Activity Pack

Kid Scoop Together

Look at the timeline dates below. Next to each one, write something you learned from today's **Kid Scoop** page on the lines next to each date.

1827

1847

1861

1905

1926

1964

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kidscoop.com/activity-pages/

What are three things good leaders do? Make a list and explain how each of these things makes a good leader.

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