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Taking flight
AirVenture sets themes for this summer
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Bunny connections
The Oshkosh Area Humane Society hosted an Easter EggVenture Egg Hunt and educational event Saturday where children learned how to properly care for a real pet rabbit, including appropriate housing, nutrition, veterinary care, microchipping and introducing them to other pets. Maddy Schroder, 6, of Neenah is shown with both a real bunny rabbit and her adopted “pre-loved” stuffed bunny. OAHS takes in and adopts out 50-60 rabbits annually.

Washington School served generations as it nears closure
One of first students recalls its early years
By Dan Roherty
Oshkosh Herald

With the imminent closure of Washington Elementary School as part of an ongoing school district reorganization, at least one family will carry with them memories that span the 67-year history of the grade school.

Debbie Laffin was a first-grader in the first year of the new Washington School in 1957 after her kindergarten year in the former Washington school site at Otter Avenue and Bay Street where her father, Joe Rahn, taught. She remembered stepping into the new building and being excited with other students and staff.

“It was a huge deal, it was so modern and so neat, because the old school was just yucky,” Laffin said. “I remember the gym was in the basement.”

She also fondly recalled some of her teachers, including Miss Marie LaBudde who often wore a cardigan sweater over her shoulder.

“I begged my mother to get a sweater like that so I could wear it like Miss LaBudde,” she said. “She was a very well-loved teacher.”

An Oshkosh Northwestern photo captured her portraying Betsy Ross with

We take TOUGH cases.

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City progress and projects highlighted

State of the City marks efforts in community
By Jonathan Richie
Oshkosh Herald

In an annual statement to the community, City Manager Mark Rohloff said he is optimistic about Oshkosh’s future and added important work continues to progress in the city.

“This year’s State of the City address was not held in person but instead released as a video narrated by Rohloff. During the video he speaks about Oshkosh as a dynamic city with bright prospects. “2024 is shaping up to be one of our best years yet,” Rohloff said.

City officials used a survey to ask what residents want the government to focus on this year. Rohloff said there were requests to fix the streets, update infrastructure, add affordable housing and invest in green spaces and parks.

The city has several capital projects that will improve streets and deal with drainage issues. These include reconstruction of parts of Waupaca Avenue, Cherry Street and Grand Street.

There is also a block of streets, including Iowa Street from 6th to 5th Avenue; Michigan Street from 5th to 7th Avenue; West 5th from Michigan to Iowa; and West 7th from Michigan to Iowa. This work is set to fix some of the drainage problems that occur in the South Park area.

The Waupaca Avenue project could have cost property owners around $22,800 in special assessments but the Common Council voted earlier this year to initiate a vehicle registration fee for passenger vehicles along with an increase in utility rates that will eliminate special assessments for street and sidewalk projects.

To deal with housing demand, Oshkosh is seeing apartment complexes going up on the south side of the city on Ripple Avenue, adding to the first phase of that project.

Oshkosh will also see improvements and additions to the Menominee Park Zoo with the new bear and fox enclosures set to open this year. There are also plans to extend the Riverwalk Trail to loop around Pioneer Island.

State funding

Oshkosh will receive an additional $1.9 million in state shared revenue annually. Rohloff has said the state has remained stagnant on increasing shared revenue over the past 30 years.

There is more work to be done when it comes to getting financial assistance from the state. The municipal services payment program is in place for the state to help fund the operations of state-owned properties such as the Oshkosh Correctional Institution and Wisconsin Resource Center.

Oshkosh ranks third in state-owned buildings, behind Milwaukee and Madison. The state is currently only covering 40% of the associated costs.

“We are currently underfunded by $2 million annually,” Rohloff said. “That needs to improve.”

Private developments

The State of the City also highlighted private developments including a hotel on The Avenue.

Meth drug trafficking brings sentence

Oshkosh Herald

The first of three men charged in connection with a drug trafficking place. He was sentenced to 18 months of probation in front of Winnebago County Circuit Branch 1 Judge Teresa Basilier.

Oshkosh police reported in December that several individuals were arrested after a search warrant was executed at an Oshkosh home.

Noah M. Cuttill and Nicholas S. Damman were both charged with possession of methamphetamine.

According to the criminal complaint, a search warrant was executed Dec. 6 at Dieh- ner’s home on Walnut Street. The next day investigators returned to the residence to speak with him.

Dammann gave an investigator permission to search his phone. During the search they discovered several conversations about purchasing narcotics.

The complaint states Diehner admitted knowing someone else living in the house, Damann, was selling drugs.

Diehner also admitted that he uses drugs inside his home.

Dammann’s case is scheduled for a plea/sentencing hearing April 22 in front of Judge Bryan Keberlein. Cuttill was in court Monday where Judge Scott Woldt set his plea/sentencing hearing for June 13.

About the newspaper

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

Oshkosh Arena on market after seven-year ownership

Oshkosh Herald

The Oshkosh Arena is up for sale as its owners seek a new group to take over the facility.

Located at 1212 S. Main St., the Arena listing appears on Loopnet.com as for sale with the page stating the property has been on the market since March 12. The listing does not include an asking price.

The Oshkosh Arena has been home to the Wisconsin Herd since 2017 when it first opened. It is owned by Fox Valley Pro Basketball with the Herd, the G-League affiliate of the Milwaukee Bucks, as the main tenant.

The lease with the Herd runs until 2026 with an option to extend the agreement until 2038. The Herd played their final home game of this season on March 27. The Arena is also home court for the GWBA Wisconsin GLO.

Fox Valley Pro Basketball president Greg Pierce said the arena was built with private capital through an equity raise in 2017 with Pierce said the arena was built with private capital through an equity raise in 2017 with

The Oshkosh Arena sits on 80,000 square feet in Oshkosh’s Sawdust District on the site of the former Buckstaff Furniture factory and is part of the city’s Tax Incremental District No. 31.

Last summer there were issues at the facility with fire codes and the paying of annual property taxes.

The listing says the 24 Herd games with a capacity of 4,000 seats generate $78,733 annual revenue. There is also an agreement that The Oak View Group will manage the facility over the next 10 years. The Oak View Group advertises as the “largest developer of sports & live entertainment venues in the world” on its website.

Grade will translate into a higher-profile event schedule for the community and integrate the Oshkosh metropolitan area into the national entertainment scene.

“As this transformation is taking place the time is right for new ownership to step in to take the Arena to the next level.”

The arena has held several sporting events, performances and music concerts since opening in 2017, including Nelly, Ludacris and Blue Oyster Cult.

The Oshkosh Arena has been home to the Milwaukee Bucks, as the main tenant.

The lease with the Herd runs until 2028. The Herd played their 2026 with an option to extend the agreement until 2028. The Herd played their final home game of this season on March 27. The Arena is also home court for the GWBA Wisconsin GLO.

Jobless rate rises in region for February

Oshkosh Herald

The Oshkosh-Neenah metropolitan area and Winnebago County saw a jump in its unemployment rate from 2.3 percent to 2.8 percent between January and February, according to preliminary data from the state Department of Workforce Development.

Last February’s jobless rate in Oshkosh-Neenah and the county was at 2.5 percent.

The non-seasonally adjusted data shows jobless rates in Metropolitan Statistical Areas increase in all of Wisconsin’s 12 metro areas over the month and year. The rates decreased or stayed the same in eight metro areas.

Unemployment rates increased in Wisconsin’s 35 largest cities and 72 counties over the month.

YOU SHOULD ATTEND IF YOU:

☐ Have a retirement account (IRA, 401k).
☐ Want to learn how current laws affect your estate plan.
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☐ Have a Will that is more than 3 years old or it was created in another state.

WE WILL DISCUSS:

☐ New retirement account law changes that affect every estate plan.
☐ Proposed changes to the Federal Estate and Capital Gains Tax laws.
☐ How to provide for your own care and wellbeing, and that of your loved ones even if you become incapacitated.
☐ Why you shouldn’t add a child to your bank account and how beneficiary designations might ruin your will.

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Oshkosh Herald

with nursing college

UWO sees opportunities

A new hospital at 6th Avenue and Oregon Street will make an emergency room visit within 15 minutes away for most city residents.

The $84 million project is already under construction and scheduled to open in 2025. Renderings released last year show a sleek and modern design similar to the health care campus also being built in Fond du Lac.

Aligned Medical Oshkosh is a partnership between Froedtert and ThedaCare that was first announced back in 2022 as a joint venture. The merger of the two Wisconsin-based health care companies was completed in January and now is called Froedtert ThedaCare Health Inc.

University of Wisconsin Oshkosh Chancellor Andrew Leavitt spoke to the Herald about how the hospital will be another opportunity for nursing students to work after graduation.

“We have a very large and powerful college of nursing that supplies nurses for this region,” Leavitt said.

The Froedtert ThedaCare Health campus will provide a new opportunity for UW Oshkosh graduates to work and allow them to stay in the area.

“We’re very proud of our nursing graduates and I’m delighted with this partnership bringing this hospital to the area,” Leavitt said. He added that UW graduates of the nursing college work at many Wisconsin-based health care companies.

City Manager Mark Rohloff spoke on the history of the site. Since the 1860s it was an industrial site for Morgan Door Co. and in the early 1900s there were more than 1,000 people working at the site.

Since 2009 the industrial buildings have been demolished and more recently the site was used for Oshkosh Corp. vehicle storage.

Another amenity in the area is the extended Riverwalk Trail, which Rohloff noted could be used by hospital employees as well as residents who can view the waterfront hospital.

Rohloff said the hospital will have the opportunity to serve not just as a health care facility but an economic development opportunity as housing is being built and new businesses and restaurants come into the area. Just down the street, the Mill on Main apartments are being constructed and the Miles Kimball building is being transitioned into apartments under the name MKLofts.

The Common Council approved an agreement that will help Froedtert ThedaCare Health pay for site remediation due to the high amounts of contaminants in the soil.

Rohloff explained that soil contamination and remediation have been necessary for much of the riverside properties due to the history of industrial use along the Fox River.

Froedtert ThedaCare Health officials noted the importance of the hospital that will focus on “improving health and well-being in the community.”

Andrabi said Aligned Medical Oshkosh will have a drive-through pharmacy on the south side.

The hospital is expected to have computed tomography (CT) scans, X-rays, ultrasound, mammogram, MRI and lab services.

“More services could be added in the future to meet the community needs,” she said.

Froedtert Health CEO and president Cathy Jacobson said the hospital, which will be at 250 Sixth Ave., will provide better and more seamless care to the community.

“We’re reinventing health care,” Jacobson said.

“When designing this health campus, our patients and families were at the forefront of our planning to develop services around them,” she said. “Our health system is committed to ensuring patients receive the care they expect and deserve while empowering each person to live their unique, best life.”

ThedaCare CEO and president Iman Andrabi said Aligned Medical Oshkosh will focus on “improving health and well-being in the community.”

ThedaCare and Froedtert officials have noted the importance of the hospital that will serve Oshkosh’s east-side residence as other hospitals – Aurora Medical Center of Oshkosh and Ascension NE Wisconsin – are situated on the west side of Interstate 41. Most Oshkosh residents live on the east side of I-41.

“We look forward to the opportunity to offer additional access to all levels of care in one coordinated system, close to home in Oshkosh,” Andrabi said. “This campus naturally extends the trusted medical care we currently provide the people of this area.”

Aligned Medical Oshkosh will have a single-story micro hospital attached to a two-story ambulatory surgery center and medical office building with both buildings able to expand. There will also be a drive-through pharmacy on the south side.

“Nobody’s going to be more than 15 minutes from a hospital or emergency room,” Andrabi said. “People will have access to care right in their neighborhood.”

The site is already in a TIF district created in July 2016, and the maximum amount Froedtert ThedaCare Health can receive is $3 million.

A similar hospital broke ground in mid-February in Fond du Lac with renderings of the building looking similar to those for Aligned Medical Oshkosh.

Aligned Medical Oshkosh will be open all hours, 365 days a year with 18 beds and about 60 employees, according to Jenny Nikolai, who was named vice president of the new hospitals in November.

Nikolai explained the hospital is expected to have computed tomography (CT) scans, X-rays, ultrasound, mammogram, MRI and lab services.

April 3, 2024
EAA continues to unveil features and performers

The Experimental Aircraft Association (EAA) will pay tribute to the heroes and sacrifices made during the Normandy landings on D-Day and throughout the year 1944 during World War II with an 80-year Turning the Tide commemoration at EAA AirVenture on July 23 and 24.

"As the number of veterans from WWII who are still with us are dwindling, it is important to commemorate the events of 1944, and the importance of the campaigns in both Europe and the Pacific to preserve freedom," said Rick Larsen, EAA vice president of communities and member programs. "This year’s programming during AirVenture week will connect the human events and aviation history of that year so those of us today have a better understanding of those times."

A collection of C-47s from the D-Day Squadron will be on display as part of the commemoration. The squadron features unique C-47 aircraft from throughout the United States. Many will be part of a commemorative mission to Europe in May and June. The C-47 played a vital role in transporting more than 13,000 paratroopers from Utah Beach in Normandy.

Afternoon air shows July 23 and 24 will feature warbirds from both the Pacific and European theaters including the World War II Airborne Demonstration Team. The team will be jumping from their own C-47 using traditional round canopy parachutes, reminiscent of the paratroopers of the 82nd and 101st Airborne divisions who risked their lives in Normandy.

A Theater in the Woods presentation July 23 will also focus on 1944 and split into two parts, the first retelling the story of 1944 and the second going into detail about the aircraft. Additional aircraft that played key roles in 1944 have also been invited to participate, and EAA and the EAA Warbirds of America continue to plan activities as part of the commemoration.

Other AirVenture highlights that were previously announced:
- Three World War II-era warbirds – the Supermarine Spitfire, Hawker Hurricane and North American P-51 Mustang – will represent Canadian wartime aviation as Vintage Wings of Canada brings those aircraft as part of the “Victory Flight.”
- The aircraft will be part of the centennial celebration for the Royal Canadian Air Force to be featured this summer. They will join the Canadian Forces Snowbirds aerial demonstration team in attendance.
- The Freccia Tricolori, the military aerobatic team representing the Italian Air Force, will be making its first Oshkosh appearance since 1986. The Italian team, formally known as the 333th Aerobatic Training Squadron, is scheduled for July 23 as part of the third North American tour in its history. With the Canadian Forces Snowbirds, it marks the first time that the fly-in will have two military demonstration teams in a single year.
- The aerial art form of lighted drones will take to the sky for the performance, offering light displays and captivating illustrations.
- Some of the world’s top air show performers have made commitments to fly at AirVenture as part of the afternoon and night air show lineups. The event features nine air shows over seven days, including night air shows on July 24 and 27. Daily afternoon air shows are presented by Daher and Pratt & Whitney, while night air shows are presented by Covington Aircraft and PenFed.

C-47s from the D-Day Squadron will be part of the Turning the Tide commemoration at this summer’s AirVenture.
Watermark47 carries on family firm's history
By Jennifer Parmley
Herald contributor

The new owners of a longtime Oshkosh business have expanded their offerings to position the company for continued success well into the future.

Watermark47 president Heather Winscher and vice president Jayson Bochinski purchased the company in 2021. The printing, packaging and finishing business at 650 E. Murdock St. was founded in 1947 as Advertising Letter Service (ALS) by Winscher’s grandfather, Roy Bartel. Winscher’s father, Bruce Bartel, took over in 1979.

Winscher, who graduated from the University of Wisconsin Oshkosh with a degree in journalism, said running the family business initially wasn’t on her radar.

“But growing up in a family business, you’re always helping out with the family business in one way or another,” Winscher said.

When one of the company’s sales reps decided to retire, Winscher learned the business and discovered she enjoyed the work.

Bochinski started at the company after graduating from high school and eventually ended up managing the production side of the operation.

“I didn’t envision business ownership when I started with the company in 1998,” he said. “After 20 years in the industry, I was presented with the opportunity to buy into the business.”

Winscher said Bochinski’s knowledge of presses and other equipment meshes well with her sales and front-office skills.

“It ended up working out perfectly,” she said. “The duo decided to rebrand the business from ALS to Watermark 47 about four years ago because they expanded their offerings from print products such as business cards, catalog, labels and the like to packaging products and finishing services such as kitting, assembly and specialty bindery projects.

In the printing industry, a “watermark” signifies a name or trademark integrated into a piece of paper during the manufacturing process. It is then visible when held up to light. The “47” signifies the year the company was founded.

Winscher said the addition of several services was prompted by customer requests, some of which are different than what they had done thus far. They are equipped with a digital press for quick-turn, short-run projects, a four-color press, book assembly equipment and more, and employ about a dozen people to accomplish those jobs.

“We have a great group of employees who are willing to adapt with the changes,” Bochinski said.

“It’s been a very busy couple of years between buying the business, rebranding and promoting these other services,” she said. “It’s opened new opportunities for us and expanded what we’re able to do.”

Winscher would love for her grandfather—she worked for Miles Kimball and was encouraged by Kimball to start his own company—to see what the company has grown to.

“It is different, but I think he’d be really proud of where we are. Seventy-seven years in business is not something you see every day,” she said. “I’m really proud of where we are and where we’re going.”

DNR, Conservation Congress sets spring hearings

The Wisconsin Conservation Congress (WCC) and Department of Natural Resources (DNR) invite the public to attend open houses at 6 p.m. Monday in all Wisconsin counties to learn about resource-related topics as part of the hearing process either online or using paper ballots available at the in-person meetings.
Understanding affordable housing leads to solutions

By Joe Stephenson

I was elected a little over a year ago to the Oshkosh Common Council and one of my key interests is housing. In my professional life I’ve worked for the past decade in the public sector, planning cities throughout the Fox Valley. I also serve on the American Planning Association as Wisconsin’s northeast representative.

I’ve always had a keen interest in housing and bringing new life to many of our tired neighborhoods. Over the past decade I’ve learned a lot about housing but I’ve also learned how we all think of housing in different terms, to our detriment.

Affordable housing is one of the most misunderstood words in the English language. Everyone seems to have a different definition of what “affordable” means. There are folks who think affordable means low income or government run housing. There are other folks that think affordable is whatever rent or mortgage they personally find to be reasonable. I’m here to tell you both are wrong.

The Wisconsin statutory definition of affordable housing is housing that costs no more than 30 percent of a household’s monthly income, meaning a household that brings home $100,000 a year can spend $30,000 a year on their house. It also means a family that makes $1,000,000 a year is in an affordable home if they spend $300,000 or less on their home.

Anyone can see this definition is problematic when talking about housing developments, especially from a city council perspective.

That is why we use other housing terms, like market rate, workforce or low income. These terms have firm definitions, unlike the more flexible definition of affordable. Still, these terms are often misunderstood words in the English language. Having the definitions helps humanize the project. The average firefighter in Wisconsin makes about $58,000. Each of the housing types discussed above could be for one of these folks.

For a recent example, The Corridor, a mixed-income project on North Main and Jefferson streets has a proposed 55 units. Eighteen units are set aside for 30% AMI, 12 units for 50% AMI and 25 units for 80% AMI. That means 45% of the units in an affordable housing project are workforce housing. The remaining units are for low income and very low income categories.

This is smart planning. Having a mix of different people, with different backgrounds and incomes, has been proven to create successful projects. It also means that as people go through phases of their life, potentially earning more as they advance in their career, they can stay in the same place and not risk losing their housing if their household income rises.

Now armed with the proper housing knowledge, next time you hear someone complain about workforce housing or use the nebulous “affordable” word, kindly correct them. Because words matter, and having a common understanding of housing is going to help us all solve this dire issue our city and state are facing.

Fire teams in training

The Oshkosh, Fox Crossing and Neenah-Menasha fire departments participated in training at Station 31 on Breezewood Lane in Neenah last week. The location is the future home of a $1 million emergency training facility, funded in part by a $500,000 award from Winnebago County’s Spirit Fund.

Chemical Society sets Earth Week programs

The Northeast Wisconsin Section of the American Chemical Society and the Oshkosh Public Library will mark Chemists Celebrate Earth Week with two days of programs at the Oshkosh Public Library. Wonderlab for grades K-2 will be from 5 to 6:30 p.m. April 18 and TWEEN S.T.E.A.M. for grades 3-5 is from 4 to 5:30 p.m. April 19, both programs in the lower level of the library.

The importance of chemistry in everyday life will be celebrated with hands-on activities under the theme Get A Charge Out Of Chemistry, with a focus on batteries, electricity and their importance in the transition to clean energy.

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Italian Pasta Salad (May 9, 2024)

$1.99/lb.
Organic Texas Apples

$2.99
Uncured Center Cut Bacon

$3.99
Toppling Goliath River Truck Oatmeal Stout - 4-pack

$7.99
Bar Diar (Ready-to-Serve) - White Russian, Sparkling Margarita, Old Fashioned

$4.99
Lakefront Brewery Noche Mexican Dark Lager - 6-pack

$12.99/dozen
Smoked Wings

$2/$6
Bing Energy Juice - Raspberry, Apple, Blueberry & Boysenberry, Cherry, Blackberry - 12 oz.

$2/$7
Just Bare Chicken Breast Fillets - 36 oz.

$2/$1
LEMONS

$2/$4
Big Energy Juice - Raspberry, Apple, Blueberry & Boysenberry, Cherry, Blackberry - 12 oz.

$2/$6
Niman Ranch Fully Cooked Brats - 12 oz.

$2/$7
Niman Ranch Applewood Smoked Uncured Center Cut Bacon - 12 oz.

$5.99
Just Bare Whole Chicken

$4.99
Italian Pasta Salad (May 9, 2024)

$1.99/lb.
Organic Texas Apples

$2.99
Uncured Center Cut Bacon

$3.99
Toppling Goliath River Truck Oatmeal Stout - 4-pack

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Mpox virus at slow but steady pace in region, state

By David Hall

Herald contributor

Pox viruses are a scourge to many vertebrates, including humans.

Mpox, formerly known as monkeypox, is caused by a virus related to the virus that causes smallpox, according to the Winnebago County Health Department.

The current mpox epidemic that emerged from Africa in 2022 is the latest of many. Wisconsin has been affected with 96 total cases to date. There have been 50 from Milwaukee County, while Winnebago, Outagamie, Brown and Calumet counties have accounted for 13 cases total.

With an incubation period of two to four weeks, the mpox virus infection presents with a skin rash covering any part of the body with lesions that look like bumps, warts, sores or scabs. These lesions are how virus particles get back out into the environment.

According to the Centers for Disease Control, people must have close, sustained contact with an infected person to get the virus. That includes close contact with the lesions or clothing that has been in contact with the lesions.

Conquerors of the New World spread smallpox to indigenous people by trading them clothing coated in the virus. Smallpox killed 300 million people in the 20th century before being eliminated through vaccination in the 1970s.

A vaccine was developed by Edward Jenner in 1793 but the concept of vaccination was not fully accepted until the 20th century. Jenner realized that the closely related cowpox (vaccinia virus), proved capable of triggering immunity against smallpox. This suggested that pox viruses are closely immunologically related, thus vaccination against one is protection against most.

Mass vaccination for smallpox ended in 1972, with smallpox declared eliminated in 1980. The elimination of a virus is an exception and not the norm. Smallpox and polio are a handful of viruses that only infect humans; if the entire population is vaccinated, the virus will effectively become extinct. However, most viruses like SARS-CoV-2, influenza and yellow fever can never be eliminated because they can hop back and forth, evolving between different animals.

Mpox has a natural reservoir in non-human primates and can jump to humans through their consumption of bushmeat. The CDC reports it can also be spread to people from animals through bites, scratches or use of a product from an infected animal.

Since the end of mass vaccination, the world population has exploded and few have been vaccinated against pox viruses, leading to the success of mpox spreading beyond Africa.

The Wisconsin Department of Health Services reports mpox primarily affects gay, bisexual and other men, but there has been an increase in new mpox cases in other populations. The Winnebago County Health Department recommends those at risk of contracting the virus get vaccinated to stop the spread.

About 70 doses of the pox vaccine JYNNEOS have been administered in Winnebago County since 2022. The vaccine is a two-dose regimen, with the first dose giving some protection and a second dose 28 days later providing stronger protection. The Winnebago County Health Department noted that the number of vaccines administered is not an indication of how many people are fully vaccinated because it is not required that someone completes the series at the same location.

Winnebago County is currently offering the JYNNEOS vaccine by appointment. It is not required that someone is a resident of Winnebago County to receive the vaccine at the health department. To make an appointment, contact Public Health at 920-232-3000 or email wchd.cd@winnebago County Wi.gov.

Those vaccinated against mpox will get lifetime immunity against many other pox viruses, including smallpox, providing a measure of protection in the future.
Laffin laments the closing of Washington and other smaller neighborhood schools with students close enough to get there on foot.

“I walked to school when I was in first grade, kindergarten,” she said. “I walked to Webster Stanley as well. We walked through the lakeflies, and there was no dropoff/pickup like there is now.”

Fast forward to this school year, Laffin was in attendance at Washington’s final spring concert March 19 with her oldest granddaughter Stevie Buehner, daughter of Ted and Christina Buehner, taking part. Principal Kathryn Noble and music teachers noted the school’s closing and the audience was encouraged to participate in a song as some tears were shed.

“It’s a big deal to my sweet little second-grader because she really loves her school like a lot of kids do, and she’s sad that she’s not going to be going there anymore,” she said.

The school property at 929 Winnebago Ave. is in the process of being sold to the city as most of its estimated 169 K-5 students transfer to the newly built Menominee Elementary School.

Habitat for Humanity has a plan to build private houses on the lot that will fit into the surrounding area.

“This will be a great re-use of the property that goes along with our housing goals,” City Manager Mark Rohloff said.

Washington School became a Student Achievement Guarantee in Education (SAGE) school in 2010, allowing for small class sizes in grades K-3 with parental involvement opportunities. The school earned a 21st Century Community Learning Center Grant that funds Lighted School House, which includes academic assistance and enrichment programming, and was a nine-time Wisconsin School of Recognition.

Farewell tours of Washington are set from 1 to 3 p.m. April 28 and 6 to 8 p.m. May 1.
Lead pipe loans

from Page 1

council amend the ordinance will allow changing the funding source to the DNR safe drinking water program, according to City Manager Mark Rohloff.

City attorney Lynn Lorenson said the city has been waiting for answers from the DNR and federal officials to get all the correct information related to the amended ordinance.

The new program is eligible to anyone with a lead service line. Gohde said most private lead lines were installed at the start of World War II, making them about 80 years old.

Gohde explained that if lead laterals are discovered during construction they must be replaced.

The city is not forcing properties with lead laterals to replace them in the immediate future but any lead lateral identified during road construction will be removed. Gohde said as soon as a lead pipe is dug up it has been disturbed and would need to be replaced.

Exposure to lead in drinking water through plumbing materials can cause health problems ranging from stomach distress to brain damage, according to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency. Last year the Public Works Department ran an extensive campaign to get Oshkosh property owners to have their pipes checked. This was to create an inventory of how many lead laterals existed checked. This was to create an inventory of how many lead laterals existed.

Kosh property owners to have their pipes ran an extensive campaign to get Oshkosh property owners to have their pipes checked. This was to create an inventory of how many lead laterals existed.

The ordinances approved allow property owners to have to replace lead laterals to be reimbursed by up to 50%. Some may qualify as low income and get all of the replacement funded.

Mayor Matt Mograuer said public education would need to be offered with the new system. Gohde said there are mailings going out to property owners as early as this week.

More information regarding the lead service replacement program or to schedule a free service line inspection can be found at oshkoshwater.com.

\[\text{Paid for by the city after a property owner Gohde, was that 50% of the project was standing of how many lead laterals existed checked. This was to create an inventory of how many lead laterals existed.} \]

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### Red’s 3-DAY SALE

**3-DAYS ONLY! FRIDAY, SATURDAY, SUNDAY, APRIL 5, 6 & 7, 2024**

Prices in this ad good Friday, Saturday & Sunday, April 5, 6, 7, 2024. Only at the Omro & Oshkosh Piggly Wiggly. www.shopthepig.com

#### Beef Tenderloins
- Whole in the Bag Untrimmed
  - $7.99 lb
- Trimmed Beef Tenderloins
  - $9.99 lb

#### Pork Tenderloins
- Whole Pork Tenderloins
  - $2.99 lb

#### StoneRidge Old-Fashioned Quality
- 16 oz. Brats & Brat Patties
  - 2/$4

#### From Our Own Troyer Off-The-Bone Ham or Honey Ham
- Troyer Ham
  - $3.99 lb
- Troyer Honey Ham
  - 2/$5

#### piggly wiggly
- 10 oz. Bacon
  - 2/$5

### 8 pack - Berry ONLY
#### Juicy Juice
- 8 pack - Berry ONLY
  - 2/$3

### 10 ct. pack Funables Barbie Fruit Snacks
#### 30 oz. Ore-Ida French Fries
- Country Style or Waffle ONLY
  - 2/$4

### 15 oz. Kraft Miracle Whip
#### 6-8 oz. Weyauwega Shredded Cheese
- Kraft Miracle Whip
  - 2/$5

### 3 lb. Naval Oranges
#### 2 lb. Seedless Mandarins
- Naval Oranges
  - 2/$5

### 20-29.25 oz.
#### Luige’s Thin Crust Pizza
- Luige’s Thin Crust Pizza
  - $4.99 ea

### 21.5 oz.
#### TJ Farm's Frozen Hash Brown Patties
- TJ Farm’s Frozen Hash Brown Patties
  - $3.49 ea

### Additional Offers
- 2% 1%, Skim - Gallon Milk
  - 2/$5
- 2 lb. Beef Tenderloins
  - 2/$5
- 2 lb. Seedless Mandarins
  - 2/$5
- 10 ct. pack Funables Barbie Fruit Snacks
  - 2/$4
- 6-8 oz. Weyauwega Shredded Cheese
  - 2/$4
- 20-29.25 oz. Luige’s Thin Crust Pizza
  - $4.99 ea
- 21.5 oz. TJ Farm’s Frozen Hash Brown Patties
  - $3.49 ea

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3/14-16 oz Select
Food Club
Quarters
7.61-8.46 oz
Daisy
Cheese Spread
2/6
Piggy Buns
Loved & Bars or Cones
12 pk
Outshine Bars ... 5.99

Snack Shack!
4.99
3.61-8.46 oz
Dove
Chocolates
2/6
20 oz
Sara Lee
Artesano Bakery Bread

everyday savings
2/1
That’s Smart
Macaroni & Cheese
1.99
16 oz
Food Club
American Singles
2/5
16-16 oz Select
Food Club
Premium Vegetables
1.69
16 oz
Food Club
Instant Rice

Grocery Essentials
3.29
26 oz
Village Hearth
Cottage Bread
2.99
10-13 oz Select
Quaker Cereal
2/$6
20 oz
Sara Lee
Artesano Bakery Bread

Oreo Favorites
1.79
3 oz
Just Crack an Egg Scramble Kit
2/7
8 oz
Flip or Creations
Lean Cuisine Entrees
2/5
9.5-16 oz
Food Club
Jumbo Biscuits
5.99
25 oz
Birds Eye Voila!
2/5
16 oz or 18 ct
Food Club
Steam Fresh Vegetables
2/5
4 oz
Food Club
Snickers’ Uncrustables
7.49
10 oz
Nestle Drumsticks
3.99
4 pk
Daisy
Quarters
7.61-8.46 oz
Daisy
Sour Cream
2.29
10 oz

Wake Up With Breakfast!
2.99
32 oz Select
Piggy Wriggly Bacon

3.49
16 oz or 24 oz
Kellogg’s Cereal
10/9
Tropicana Orange Juice

4/5
Kraft
Macaroni & Cheese
3.49
28 oz
Betty Crocker
Mashed Potatoes
2/5
10 pk Mott’s or
Betty Crocker Fruit Snacks
2/5
10 pk
Chef Boyardee
4.99
4 pk
Newman’s Own Pasta Sauce
2.79
24 oz
Newman’s Own
Salad Dressing
3.99
16 oz
Newman’s Own
Stew
5/15
Green Giant
Canned Vegetables

4/7
Oscar Mayer
Kielbasa
2.99
5/40 ct
TGI Fridays
Bacon

2/5
5-40 ct
Eggo Waffles or Pancakes

2/8
4-6 ct
Betty Crocker Bacon
5.99
1-4 ct
Jimmy Dean Delights
Breakfast Sandwiches
meat & seafood

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| Digital Coupons |

- 4/$5 Snack Pack Pudding
- 2/$15 Nature Valley 5-12 oz
- 2/$15 General Mills Bar
- 2/$4 General Mills Bars
- 2/$15 Nature Valley 5-12 oz

- 2/$15 Tide Pods 25 oz
- 19.99 5-8 pk Dean’s Sherbet
- 2.99 1 qt Downy Liquid Fabric Softener
- 1.19 1 qt Tide Pods 25 oz

- 1.99 lb M&M’s Chocolate
- 2.49 lb Honey Maid Cereal
- 3.49 lb Dannon Lowfat Yogurt

- 9.99 lb Kretschmar Bavarian or Black Forest Ham
- 7.99 lb Bistro Bread
- 3.99 lb We Guac Guacamole

- 19.99 lb 24 pk, 12 oz Cans or Bottles Busch or Miller 64
- 19.99 lb 24 pk, 12 oz Cans or Bottles Coors Banquet or Bud Light
- 19.99 lb 24 pk, 12 oz Cans or Bottles Miller Lite, MGD or Miller 64

- 16.49 lb 24 pk, 12 oz Cans or Bottles Budweiser or Bud Light
- 16.49 lb 24 pk, 12 oz Cans or Bottles Michelob Ultra
- 13.98 lb 10 pk, 12 oz Cans Miller Lite or Miller 64

- 11.99 lb 4.79 lb 16 oz 8-12 Oz Polo Buns in 40 oz Bag
- 4.79 lb 8 oz Select Deli Sliced Lunchmeat
- 5.99 lb 5.99 lb 1 lb Lunch Turkey Breast

- 1.99 lb 5.49 lb 8 oz Select Deli Sliced Lunchmeat
- 7.99 lb 5.49 lb 8 oz Select Deli Sliced Lunchmeat
- 4.49 lb 10 pk, 12 oz Cans Miller Lite or Miller 64

- 12.99 lb 12-16 oz Select Reser’s Ultra Bistro Sides
- 12.99 lb 12-16 oz Select Reser’s Ultra Bistro Sides
- 12.99 lb 12-16 oz Select Reser’s Ultra Bistro Sides

- 4.99 lb 20 oz Select Reser’s Main St. Bistro Sides
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- 15.94 lb 15.94 lb 10 pk, 12 oz Cans Miller Lite, MGD or Miller 64
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The Rotary Youth Exchange program provides opportunities for students from Europe, Asia, Africa and South American countries to come to the United States as ambassadors of their countries and learn about life here. Rotary clubs recruit local families – three during the student’s stay – who share their homes and lives during the school year.

For more information contact Karen Schible at karen@insurance servicesby-karen.com.

Ongoing

Craft Beer Week, Thursday through April 14

Thursday, April 4
Oshkosh Community Players’ “Death of a Salesman,” 7:30 p.m., The Grand Oshkosh

Monday, April 8
Girls on the Fly, 8:30 a.m., EAA Youth Girls on the Fly Program Oshkosh Campus, 234 Church Ave.

April 14

Community Players play “Death of a Salesman, 7 p.m., The Grand Oshkosh

April 17

Jolly Jester Community Theater will hold tryouts for its spring production of the musical “Bye Bye Birdie.” Full cast rehearsals will begin Aug. 15, 2014.

April 19

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April 20

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April 21

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Ongoing

Kitchen fire extinguishers distributed
Oshkosh Herald
The Oshkosh Fire Department and Oshkosh Area Community Pantry distributed free self-activating kitchen fire extinguishers at the pantry Tuesday to guests ages 60 and older.

StarTrac Fireproofs are designed to extinguish stove fires without any action being taken by the resident of the home. They are a pair of cans filled with a fire extinguishing agent and magnetically attached to a range hood. They are activated by a fuse on the underside of the can when flames are present.

Cooking fires are the leading cause of home fires and fire injuries in the United States, according to the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA). Unattended cooking is the leading factor contributing to these fires and injuries.

According to the NFPA, people over the age of 65 are twice as likely to die or be injured in a fire when compared with the general population.

Theater auditions to be held for ‘Bye Bye Birdie’
Jolly Jester Community Theater will hold tryouts for its summer production of the musical “Bye Bye Birdie” from 1 to 3 p.m. Saturday and Sunday in the Oshkosh Recreation Department Gym, 425 Division St.

Any adults and youth ages 7 and up who have ever wanted to be a part of community theater are encouraged to audition. Participants will be asked to sing a song with a karaoke track or acapella for one minute and recite a one-minute monologue (poem, short story), preferably memorized.

“Bye Bye Birdie” is a send-up of 1950s small-town America, teenagers and rock ‘n’ roll. Full cast rehearsals will be held primarily at the Oshkosh Recreation Department Gym with the schedule yet to be determined beginning June 10. Performances will take place Aug. 15-17 at Albert Kimball Auditorium.

Information is available at oshkoshrecdept.com.

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Paine exhibition features hand-sewn art

By Grace Lim

UW Oshkosh Today

Two University of Wisconsin Oshkosh faculty members helped create an important exhibition featuring the first Hmong solo artist in the Paine Art Center and Gardens.

Chong Ntxoo Moua, assistant professor of UW-O Hmong Studies, co-curated “Mao Lor: A Journey through Hmoob Paj Ntaub,” an exhibition that showcases more than two dozen of Lor’s hand-sewn and embroidered artwork, and Choua Xiong, assistant professor of Hmong Studies, helped develop and coordinate the K-12 curriculum for students who visit the exhibit.

Moua and Xiong said that the exhibition is more than just another art installation because of its historical significance.

“I was happily emotional and very proud of all the work we put in,” said Moua, who worked with co-curator and artist Ger Xiong/ Nitxawg Xyooj. “I got all the feels because it was so amazing to see Hmong art occupy the gallery space. We were able to turn that gallery, which most recently hosted Rodin sculptures, into a Hmong space. That contrast is not lost on me.”

Moua was born in Laos before her family fled to Thailand. Her family came to the U.S. as refugees in 1989 and settled in California where she grew up. Xiong, born in Ban Vinai Refugee Camp in Thailand, grew up in Appleton.

“Hmong art is historically not seen or valued as having the history and/or value of some pieces that have previously been featured at the Paine, but this exhibition definitely demystifies those dominant ideas,” Xiong said. “My hopes are that people can reorient themselves to see and recognize Hmong artists as valuable knowledge producers and contributors to their own lives. Hmong people are not just victims of the Secret War or worthy of recognition because they ‘helped’ Americans during the Vietnam War.”

Xiong said Lor’s work tells stories of the Hmong people other than those associated with war.

“The works shown in this exhibition…featuring Mao’s life and her craft does not focus on the Secret War, but that Hmong paj ntaub has always existed before Americans encountered Hmong people,” Xiong said. “Thus, this exhibit does not exoticize Hmong people in the Fox Valley but recognizes that Hmong talent is a norm in the Fox Valley. By featuring Mao, we get to name and associate Hmong textile with an artist rather than a faceless, nameless Hmong person.”

Moua added that the exhibit is a celebration of people in the community.

“One thing I love about this exhibit is that it’s both a Hmong story and also a very local Fox Valley story,” she said. “It shows the vibrancy of both and how both stories can be told and celebrated together. Mao Lor has been a vendor at the art/craft fair hosted by the Paine for 20 to 30 years now, so this exhibit is really about bringing Mao from the outside of the Paine to the inside – to be a featured artist that deserves the honor of a solo exhibit to showcase her life’s work.”

The exhibition also features a documentary by filmmaker Soua Vang about Lor’s art.

Aaron Sherer, executive director of the Paine, welcomed the partnership with Moua and Xiong, as well as the other Hmong professionals who contributed to the project.

“The Paine had the impulsion to present Mao Lor’s textiles in a major exhibition, but we didn’t have the cultural perspective or expertise to ensure it would be done well,” Sherer said. “Fortunately, the faculty in UW-O’s Hmong Studies program, Chong Moua and Choua Xiong, were willing to bring their full selves to shaping the project.”

Sherer said the educational program led by Xiong will continue to have an impact beyond the walls of the Paine.

“We already have more than 40 school groups, from lower elementary to college, who are planning to participate in educational activities centered around the exhibition,” he said. “After the exhibition, we will create a module with some of the clothes, the documentary film, and variety of educational activities that can travel to schools for years to come.”
North’s Angell brings multiple tools to diamond

By Tim Froberg
Herald contributor

Two-way players in professional baseball like Shohei Ohtani are the rarest of cats.

However, there are plenty of athletes at the high school level who make multiple contributions with their arm, bat and glove.

They identify as baseball players and good ones like Colton Angell don’t get caught up with labels and definitions.

The Oshkosh North shortstop-pitcher is gearing up for a big senior season at the plate, on the mound and in the field.

Angell is expected to be one of the better pitchers and overall players in the Fox Valley Association after missing a good chunk of the 2023 baseball season due to a knee injury.

“I’ve always considered myself to be more of a hitter and infielder, but I’ve shown development as a pitcher and I’ll be going to college as a two-way player,” Angell said.

Angell is just happy to be playing the game again. He missed nearly four weeks of a short 2023 Wisconsin prep baseball season after tearing the meniscus in his left knee. He was able to avoid surgery and return for late-season play.

“I collided with our center fielder on a fly ball and hyperextended the knee,” Angell said. “I got a little down because it was the first time in my life that I had an injury and it kept me from doing something I love.

“But I definitely lucked out with the healing process and not needing surgery.”

The injury limited Angell to 22 1/3 innings on the mound and just 25 plate appearances. He finished with a 2.2 pitching record and a 2.19 earned run average, striking out 22. He compiled a .240 batting average with five RBIs.

“Colton is a gamer and one of the most competitive players I’ve ever been around,” said North coach Robert Loeper. “He hates to throw away at bats on offense and when he’s on the mound, he wants to strike everyone out.

“He showed me a lot by grinding through the injury to come back and help his team for our playoff game when he wasn’t 100 percent.”

Baseball is Angell’s athletic focus. He’s a single-sport athlete who has played travel ball the past three years for Wow Factor National, based in Millington, Tennessee.

“Ever since I was a very young kid, I always knew that baseball was my passion,” Angell said.

“Travel ball has been a great experience. I’ve been able to meet guys from all around the country who are good players as well. It’s pretty cool to travel down south to places like Georgia, Florida and Alabama and play in these big tournaments.”

Angell appreciates the support he’s received from his family.

“My college coach sees a lot of potential in my pitching,” Angell said. “I really like the way Coach Schulte looks at the game. I just felt that working with him could really help my development. I would definitely like to go on to a four-year college, hopefully a bigger D-1 school.”

Angell will head to Iowa as a two-way player who may contribute both on the mound and as a positional player. At 6-foot-3, 205 pounds, Angell has the type of size and arm power that could project well on the mound. He throws a four-seam fastball along with a slider, curve and circle changeup. Angell’s heater usually clocks in the 85-86 mph range.

“My college coach sees a lot of potential in my pitching,” Angell said. “I think it’s something that could be really good for me. We’ll see what happens.”

YMCA offering summer tennis camps

The Oshkosh Y Tennis & Pickleball Center is hosting summer tennis camps for ages 9 through adults from June 4 to July 18.

Adult tennis camp will be held from 8:30 to 10 a.m. Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays. The elementary/middle school camp will be held from 10 to 11:30 a.m. Tuesday through Thursday. The high school varsity section will be from 11:30 to 1 p.m. Tuesday through Thursday.

The high school varsity section will be from 11:30 to 1 p.m. Tuesday through Thursday at Oshkosh North High School.

Camp will be led by the Oshkosh Y’s two new tennis professionals, Brian Hornburg and Bob Downey Jr.

Senior spotlight

been given in baseball by his parents, Jesse and Michelle. Jesse was a talented pitcher, shortstop and all-around athlete during his prep days at Winneconne High School.

“My dad has been a big influence on me in terms of baseball knowledge and IQ,” Angell said. “My mom has always been really good with helping me on the mental side of the game.

“I appreciate what they’ve done for me. They do a lot of traveling with me throughout the summer. They do a lot of different things to help make my dreams come true.”

Angell has made a commitment to play junior college baseball next year at Southeastern Community College in West Burlington, Iowa. He received the offer after impressing Southeastern coaches Justin Schulte at one of the summer tournneys.

Angell is a solid student who plans to major in business-marketing.

“The facilities and coaching staff are what I’m hoping will take me to another level,” Angell said. “I really like the way Coach Schulte looks at the game. I just felt that working with him could really help my development. I would definitely like to go on to a four-year college, hopefully a bigger D-1 school.”

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The Oshkosh Herald contributor

April 3, 2024
Oshkoshherald.com | Page 17
Area baseball teams look to improve entering 2024 season

Despite finishing with a 5-17 overall mark and 4-14 in conference play, this was a team that found themselves in several close games with some of their opponents coming against some strong opponents.

The Wildcats had one of the youngest varsity rosters in the league a year ago, so a winning experience last year could help this group surprise some teams this season.

“We did have several close games last year and did beat some quality opponents, but we needed to be more consistent in all aspects of the game,” Gerharz said. “We did start four sophomores for most of the season last year and they got valuable experience in the FVA.”

Now that his team has taken some of the lumps they took last season, the Wildcats are eager to make some noise in 2024.

“That won’t come easy considering the quality of opponents they see, but Gerharz knows the best way to get wins is to play with more consistency in every aspect of the game. “

“Our goals and expectations for this season are the same as always,” Gerharz said. “We need to compete in the always tough FVA and improve as the season goes on. “

One of the key players returning for the Wildcats will be senior pitcher Ryan Williamson, who missed all of last year due to injury but picked up his new sophomore year. West will count on a group of 15 juniors to lead the way, with most of that group already having gained varsity experience. “Juniors Eddy Schroeder, Landon Ubrig and Jaxon Prill started as sophomores last year and give the Wildcats a nucleus to build around entering the season. “

Add in sophomores Evan Johnson and pitcher/infielder Avery Mosloski, who have both looked good in practice this season along with seniors Ricky Ludwig, Trevor Davis and Williamson to round out this team, and the Wildcats may be young, but will have plenty of talent at their disposal.

What they do with that talent is on them, but for them to compete in this league and do what they feel they can do, it starts with their defense and goes from there. “For the Wildcats to challenge in the FVA and beyond, they need to compete solid defense, get consistent pitching and improve our hitting from last year by getting guys on base and driving them in,” Gerharz said. “We also need to have great team chemistry and every player being a positive contributor to the team in whatever role they play”

Lourdes/Valley

When Matthew Armatocki took over the Lourdes Academy/Valley Christian baseball program in 2023, he knew there would be challenges along the way.

After graduating a talented class following the 2022 season, the Knights entered 2023 as one of the least experienced teams in the Trailways and finished the season 5-15 overall and 3-13 in conference play.

The final record wasn’t what the team planned on, but the single biggest takeaway from last year was the experience that was gained. Improving skills is one valuable aspect of getting time on the field but game experience can’t be coached as that is going to be a massive key to the Knights season.
Lourdes Academy girls to return experienced group

There is plenty of state meet experience returning to the Lourdes Academy girls track and field team as the Knights look to be a title contender in Division 3 in La Crosse later this spring.

Head coach Tim Moore returns five athletes that competed at the state meet in either relays or individual events last year and that group will form a strong nucleus the team can build around and be a force in the Trailways Conference and beyond.

“We are looking to be competitive in our conference to battle for a team title,” Moore commented. “We have a lot of state experience over the last two years. … We are excited about our opportunities to continue in those events and hoping to bring a few others to state as well.”

Lourdes Academy will return half of its state title winning 3,200-meter relay team from last year in juniors Erin Moore and Da- sha Averkamp and the Knights have plenty of returnees to round out the group from its state-qualifying cross country squad. Freshmen Annie Moore, Tessia Morock- ski, Allison Stronmise and Elizabeth O’Con- nor all ran for the Knights this fall and should help fill out the two longest relays, while also adding to the individual lineup in the middle distance and distance races.

Lourdes Academy also qualified for state last year in the 800-meter and 1,600-meter relays and will have a number of individuals in those two races as well. Junior Nata- sha Konop and Averkamp are back from the 1,600-meter relay team that placed fifth, while junior Sabin Machiro, sopho- more Kyle Rietz and Konop all ran on the 800-meter relay.

Konop and Erin Moore are the two re- turning state-qualifying individuals. Konop is the team’s top hurdler and placed eighth in the 300-meter hurdles at the state meet, while Erin Moore qualified for state in the 800 meters and nearly qualified in the 1,600 meters as well.

Coach Moore also believes that soph- omore Lucy Schade and freshman Celia Ralofsky will contribute to the team this year in the sprints and sprint relays.

The Lourdes Academy boys do not have any returning state qualifiers but will be led by seniors Jok Machiro and Joshua Rucins- ki, who will anchor the team’s relays. Soph- omore Isaak Rucinski also returns and will also be a part of the relays as well as running anywhere from 100 meters to 400 meters.

Mat Yaggie missed last season due to inju- ry but is expected to compete in the hurdles event, while junior Wade Lindahl is a new- comer to the team and could help out in the 200 and 400 meters.

Coach Moore also has a trio of freshmen in Henry Spanbauer, Cameron Kapral and Zach Foster, who will share the middle dis- tance duties after running cross country in the fall.

“We have an influx of new upperclassmen and a large group of freshmen contributors. We are a young team so competing at a high level at every meet will get us on track for the postseason,” Tim Moore commented. “We are excited to compete at a high level in conference which will lead our boys to getting a few events to state.”

Baseball preview

this year.

“Although the season didn’t unfold as we hoped, there were plenty of positives,” Armatoski said. “We had a very young team that gained valuable varsity experience. All of our starters from last year are returning, so we are looking to build off what we started.”

That is a rare position to be in and when it comes to the Knights, having every start- er back will be crucial to the teams success this season.

Whenever something like that happens, it makes your job easier as a coach know- ing where everyone will be one day to the next. After seeing the team improve as the sea- son went on, Armatoski is expecting even bigger things this season as the Knights could be one of the surprise teams in the Trailways North.

“Not only are we returning all of our starters from last year but we are also add- ing a few new players that should make an immediate impact,” Armatoski said. “Our ultimate goal is to compete for a top spot in the conference.

For the Knights to accomplish that goal, it will take a collective team effort, but that will all start and stop with their duo of Hunter Stelzer and Josiah Lehman on the mound.

Both are expected to have great sea- sons on the mound to set the tone for the Knights, while Lehman will also see some time in center field.

Other players who will contribute on the mound and in the field include Eli Hu- miston and Parker Slusarski as they were some of the bigger names from last year’s roster.

If this team wants to take that next step offensively and really make some noise, it will have to come from Michael Roberts, an honorable mention all-Tailways North selection a year ago.

Looking to build off his impressive 2023 showing, Roberts was the best offen- sive player for the Knights last season and Armatoski is looking for a similar showing this season.

Should that happen, and should the overall experience from this team come together, Lourdes is poised to have an incredible season anchored by what they hope will be a conference title and lengthy postseason run.

“All I know is that we have a dedicated group of players who have high expecta- tions and are willing to work hard,” Arma- toski said. “I look forward to seeing what this team is capable of achieving this year.”
Prep sports roundup

SOFTBALL

Oshkosh West opens season with pair of wins

The Oshkosh West softball team opened the 2024 season by dispatching a pair of opponents inside the UW-Oshkosh Dome last Thursday. The Wildcats knocked off West De Pere 14-4 in six innings in the first game and then topped Green Bay Notre Dame 9-6 in the second game.

Chloe Tritt fueled the win in the first game going 4-for-4 with a pair of doubles and three RBIs. Alexia Monroe added three hits and a pair of RBIs, while Laina Hammem added a pair of hits. Both Hammem and Tritt also scored three runs in the game.

Emmy Reichenberger also belted a three-run home run in the win. Alayna Sadowska earned her first win of the season allowing just one hit in five innings.

In the second game, the Wildcats scored on three runs in the bottom of the third inning after Notre Dame had pulled within a run with three runs in the top of the frame. Hammem finished 3-for-3 to lead the offense, while Sadowska chipped in a pair of RBIs and three RBIs.

Monroe earned the win in the circle striking out five in 5 1/3 innings before striking out five in 5 1/3 innings before Sadowska pitched the final 1 2/3 innings to get the save.

SOCcer

Wildcats rally to win opener over Redwings

Oshkosh West scored a pair of goals in the second half to upend Sheboygan South, 2-1, in a nonconference game last Thursday. The Wildcats trailed 1-0 at halftime but got a goal from Elliana Nove less than three minutes into the second half to tie the score. Morgan Toman assisted on the tally.

West scored the game winner with less than two minutes to play as Taylin Heiman delivered the game-winning goal. Hannah Wolf made two saves in goal for West.

TRACK and FIELD

Konop posts victory to lead Lourdes Academy

National Konop darted to a win in the 60-meter hurdles to lead the way for Lourdes Academy at the Rosholt-Web- kolo-Polivko Invitational hosted by UW-Ste- vens Point on Saturday.

Konop, who was seeded first ahead of the preliminaries, finished with a winning time of 9.71 seconds in the finals, which was more than six-tenths of a second ahead of the rest of the field.

University of Wisconsin-Oshkosh women’s basketball player Kayvee Call has been named to the Women’s Basketball Coaches Association (WBCA) NCAA Division III All-America Honorable Mention Team. Cape, from Green Bay, followed up her first All-Region recognition from D3hoops.com with her first career All-America honor from the WBCA.

She finished the 2023-24 season ranking second in the WIAC with 8.2 rebounds per contest and 1.5 blocks. Cape was named to second team All-WIAC at the conference tournament.

Erin Moore earned a pair of runner-up finishes for the Knights, taking second in both the 800 meters and 1,600 meters, while the Lourdes Academy 800-meter relay team also took second. Kylee Rietz added a third place in the 60 meters with Bree Kane fifth in the long jump and seventh in the high jump at the meet. Dasha Averkamp added a sev- enth place in the 400 meters, while Annie Moore was eighth in the 800 meters. On the boys side, Matt Vagge had the top finish for the Knights taking third in the 60-meter hurdles.

Cameron Kapral was fourth in the 400 meters, while the Knights’ 800-meter relay team was sixth.

Spartans compete at Red Hawk Challenge

The Oshkosh North boys track and field team had three top-five finishes among high-light the performance at the Red Hawk Challenge held last week at the Wilmore Center at Ripon College.

Joshua Zietlow posted the highest finish for the Spartans taking third place in the 400 meters. Bryce Ott tied for fourth in the high jump, while Logan Schellene fin- ished fourth in the discus and added an eighth place in the 200 meters.

North’s 1,600-meter relay team of Zis- etlow, Cooper Snell, Tremaine Chapman and Clayton Sagatow picked up an eighth-place finish.

The top finisher of the girls team was the 1,600-meter relay team of Aliak Awok, Han- nafan Flanagan, Anabel Mitchell and Dably- lah Darden, which placed third at the meet.

Awok and Anabel Mitchell added fifth and seventh place finishes in the 4000 me- ters, respectively, while Lehna Mitchell was seventh in the 1,600 meters.

Wildcats post top finishes at showcase meet

Both the Oshkosh West girls and boys track and field teams had strong showings at the Ripon College Showcase meet held recently.

The girls team had a pair of second-place finishes in Kylee Tisebold in the 400 me- ters and Marissa Dutschke in the shot put.

Allison Simmons posted a pair of fifth places in the 60-meter hurdles and the tri- ple jump, while Kyana Williams was sev- enth in the 200 meters and Hailey Mynyk and Catherine Barwald tied for seventh in the pole vault.

For the boys, Antoni Olszewski in the 60-meter hurdles and Ethan Pinkerton in the pole vault each finished second to lead West.

Chase Brandl added a fourth place in the 200 meters and Clark Howell picked up an eighth place in the triple jump.

Alai Awok in sprints and jumps and Shylle Yenter in throws also returned.

Head coach Michelle Carbiener also looks for freshmen Promise Shehi, Elise Geppert and Dahyla Darden to add depth in the sprints and jumps, while fellow freshman Adir Clark will compete in the distance races.

“This year we have more depth in the sprints which will help us fill more events without sacrificing the relays,” Carbiener commented. “I look forward to seeing what this team can accomplish. I foresee a big step forward for our team this season.”

Oshkosh West

Senior thrower Marissa Dutschke and senior sprinter/jumper Kyana Williams re- turn for the Wildcats after qualifying for the state meet last season.

Dutschke qualified in the shot put, while just missing out competing in La Crosse in the discus and should be one of the top throwers in the Fox Valley Association this season.

Williams qualified for state in the long jump and also competed at state in the Wildcats’ 400-meter relay.

Oshkosh West had two other athletes compete at state last season in sophomore Sydnee Nelson and junior Stella Pahlke, but neither competed as individuals at a recent meet in Ripon.

Senior Allison Simmons in the hurdles and jumps has also gotten off to a fast start this season.

The boys have two returning state qualifi- ers in senior hurdler Antoni Olszewski and senior pole vaulter Ethan Pinkerton.

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Stress management crucial to maintain heart health

ThedaCare Communications

Maintaining a healthy weight, eating right and exercising are all important to heart health – and so is managing stress. According to the American Heart Association, chronic stress can contribute to heart disease – the leading cause of death in the United States.

Everyone experiences stress, and it’s not all negative. Some forms are positive and can motivate change when it isn’t serving us. At the same time, long-term, unmanaged stress can pose health risks. It may lead to high blood pressure, which can pose a risk for heart attack and stroke.

Stress can also prompt the release of cortisol, a hormone that can increase blood cholesterol, triglycerides, blood pressure and blood platelets. Those are all common risk factors for heart disease. According to Michele Moldenhauer, a licensed professional counselor with The DaCare Behavioral Health, who also works with cardiac and pulmonary rehabilitation patients.

Stress can lead to irritability, anger, impatience, anxiety, racing thoughts, depression and feeling overwhelmed. When people feel these emotions regularly, they’re more likely to develop poor lifestyle habits or other unhealthy coping strategies, according to Moldenhauer.

Unmanaged stress can lead to behaviors that can affect heart health:

• Poor eating habits due to a lack of motivation to cook or eat nutritious meals

• Emotional eating that leads to consuming foods high in sodium, sugar and fat

• Smoking

• Use of nonprescribed drugs

• Excessive drinking

• Disrupted sleep

Other factors can arise as well. Exercise and connecting with other people are important factors in lowering stress and improving heart health. However, when a person is overwhelmed from chronic stress, they are less likely to exercise and engage with other people, Moldenhauer noted.

“People may begin to isolate and have negative self-talk, which can lead to more depressive feelings,” she said. “When there is low motivation and lack of interest in life, people may decide to quit taking their medications or not take them consistently as prescribed. This can result in compromised physical and mental health.”

Research also shows that people with depression can have sticker plates, making it more likely that a person with a heart disease will have a heart attack, according to an article by Johns Hopkins Medicine. By treating the depression, the platelets can become less sticky again, Moldenhauer noted.

In addition, high levels of stress can lead to anxiety, which can promote inflammation in the body. This can include damage artery linings and setting the stage for the buildup of coronary plaque, according to a Harvard University study. Both can lead to heart disease.

While high levels of chronic stress can lead to both physical and mental health problems, it’s important to note that stress is very treatable. Moldenhauer shares some strategies:

• Treat physical illness. Take all medications as prescribed and seek medical attention when needed.

• Eat regular, healthy meals. Good nutrition is essential for healthy physical and mental functioning. Avoid foods with too much sugar, including high-carbohydrate foods that can make people feel overly emotional by causing rapid rises and crashes in blood sugar levels.

• Avoid nonprescribed, mood-altering drugs. This includes coffee and other caffeine beverages. Caffeine can keep a person with sleep and lead to feeling jittery and anxious.

• Develop a sleep/wake routine. A consistent sleep/wake routine helps signal the brain that it’s time for sleep. Go to bed and get up at the same time every day.

• Practice good sleep hygiene. Stop using electronics two hours before bed, as the blue light emitted interferes with the body’s ability to produce melatonin, which is needed for good sleep. Avoid evening exercise, as this can lead to a second wind and that makes it harder to get to sleep.

• Get regular exercise. Physical activity can burn off nervous energy, help with relaxation and release feel-good endorphins.

• Stay engaged. Connect with others and healthy activities, such as hobbies, that may bring enjoyment.

• Seek professional help from a counselor. If the above tips don’t lower your stress levels, seek help. Sharing your concerns with a counselor can help you feel better.

For those who have experienced a heart attack or other cardiac event, it’s important to seek out specialized help to manage the stress and trauma that often follow.

After a heart attack, managing stress and mental health issues is just important as going through the physical aspects of cardiac rehab, Moldenhauer said. A National Institutes of Health study found that depression affects up to 40% of patients after they have suffered an acute cardiac event, while 50% of patients deal with anxiety. Meeting with a counselor after a cardiac event can be a crucial part of the healing process.

“Counselors can listen to an individual’s experiences and struggles,” Moldenhauer said. “Sharing problems with a counselor means that the person doesn’t have to work through this on their own. Counselors also can help people learn skills or strategies for coping with stress, anxiety, depression, or post-traumatic stress disorder in healthy ways.”

Obituaries

Patsy Ann Creapo

Patsy Ann Kellett Creapo transcended on Sunday, March 24.

Born February 6, 1936, ahead other time, she lettered in basketball at Weyauwega High School; she was an avid hunt, but the day JFK was assassinated she put her rifle down. Loving the ocean, Pat would swim off Coronado Beach when she and her husband, Ralph William Creapo (preceded her), where Ralph served as a Naval deep-sea diver in San Diego, CA; Believing in equality, justice and freedom, Patsy fought for the Equal Rights Amendment. A County Hunter, she contacted every county in the US via code on her ham radio. She enjoyed camping, natural waterways, her pond, birdwatching, reading, music and loved her cats.

Raising 3 independent women, she taught their daughters to stand up against all odds for their beliefs: Jane Creapo Hamilton (Jesse Martinez), Kent Johnson, and Janet Creapo, Grandchildren: Heather Creapo (GC Kyle DiLeonardo & Felicity DiLeonardo; GGC are Chris-CJ & Alessandro), Jeremiah Johnson, Sean Johnson (Heather, GCC Ava & Cade), and Kelsey Johnson Sallam (GCC Ajoden, Autumn, Lincoln, River). Special thank you to caregivers Felicity DiLeonardo, Kristi Redmond and Judy Buchanan.

Patsy lived well.

Vernon Russell Staerkel

Vernon "Vern" Russell Staerkel, age 55, passed away on March 23, 2024, in Oshkosh, Wisconsin. He was born to parents, Vernon W. and Shirley Staerkel on May 16, 1968, in Oshkosh, Wisconsin.

After high school at Oshkosh West, Vern attended UW Oshkosh and was part of the Sigma Pi fraternity (21T). He received his bachelor’s degree and went on to an over 25-year career in radio advertising at Midwest Communications as well as a co-owner of Star Rental Properties with his brother, Bill.

Vern and the mother of his children, Monica Ceisel, raised three wonderful children, Morgan, Jakob and Riley. His proud accomplishment were them and how proud he was of all three.

He was an avid Green Bay Packers football fan, he never missed watching or frequently attending games, especially when Brett Favre was leading the team. Vern was able to travel the world and fulfill his passion for scuba diving and exploring. His travels brought him anywhere from the Northern and Eastern parts of the world to Walt Disney World. Nothing compared to what Maui, Hawaii meant to him and his family, which is why part of his ashes will be scattered there by his children in the future.

Vern is survived by his children, Morgan, Jakob and Riley Staerkel; mother, Shirley Staerkel; sister, Victoria Staerkel; brother, Kent (Jodi) Staerkel; nephews, Courtney Kraut, Tyler Staerkel, Cody Staerkel and Dawner Kraut; as well as many friends.

Preceding him in death was his father, Vernon W. Staerkel, in 2023.

Visitaton will be held at Zion Lutheran Church, 400 N. Sawyer St., Oshkosh, Wisconsin, on Friday, April 12, 2024, from 10:00am to 11:30am, with service to follow by Pastor Jeffrey Knoll. His final resting place will be at Lake View Memorial Park Cemetery, 2786 Algoma Blvd., Oshkosh, Wisconsin.

In lieu of flowers, a memorial fund is being established in his honor.

Jennifer Czarnecki, Oshkosh, WI
Neil C. Starke Jr.
On Thursday, March 21, 2024, Neil C. Starke Jr. died unexpectedly at his home. Neil was the son of Glady’s (Schuster) and Neil Starke Sr. He attended South Park elementary and middle school, and graduated from Oshkosh High School. Neil was preceded in death by his parents and foster niece Pay-ee. He is loved and will be missed by his sister Ellen (Bruce) Mueller, nephew Wade Mueller, nieces Megan (Shyan) Kan- tara, Trisha (Simon Troup) Tiffany, Eliz-abeth (Chee Vang) and Mai Der Muell-er, and Alli (Miles) Oney. He also leaves behind his ex-wives, Lorrie Starke, Judy Brouillard, former fiancée Teresa South- er, grandniece Lydia and Greta Troup, Esmy Kantara, and Aleah Oney, his cat Zeke, along with many cousins and close friends.

As a lifelong lover of music Neil played drums and guitar, sang in numerous choirs, and after retirement began piano lessons. Neil also enjoyed his Harley Davi-son motorcycle, spending time with loved ones and friends, and caring for his cat Zeke. A big fan of animals in general, over the course of his life Neil had two poodles, a monkey, hamsters, a parakeet, rabbits, a dog, a chicken, turtles and sev-eral cats as pets. Neil’s Christian faith was important to him and matched his huge heart and desire to do good in this world. Neil will be remembered as a good and kind person who was quick with a joke and always willing to help others. A Celebration of Neil’s life will take place on Saturday, March 30, 2024, at the Havenwood Heights Club House at 333 North Westhaven Drive, Oshkosh. Vis-iting begins at 11:00 a.m. service at 12 noon, lunch to follow. Mueller Funeral Home-Winneconne is assisting the family. If you wish, please submit online condolences/memories to muellerfh.net. Obituary submitted by Ellen Mueller.

Jeffrey W. Pitz
Jeffrey W. Pitz, age 57 of Oshkosh, passed away on March 31, 2024. He was born on May 24, 1966 to the late Bernard “Bernie” and Nancy (Davies) Pitz.

Funeral arrangements are currently pending with Konrad-Behman Funeral Homes, 920-231-1510.
Classifieds

NEIL STARKE

Neil Starke was unexpectedly Thursday, March 21, 2024. He was born September 27, 1951, to the late Neil Sr. and Gladys (Schuster) Starke.

Neil attended West High School, graduating in 1971. For 25 years he worked at Park View Health Center in various roles, and then at Pacur Manufacturing for 10 years before retiring. Neil loved spending time with his family and friends. He was a very fun and loving person. He will be missed by many.

Funeral services will be held at Evergreen Retirement Community on April 13th at 10:30 a.m. led by the Rev. John Wills, pastor at First English Lutheran Church of Oshkosh. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to the American Lung Association.

Funeral arrangements are pending and under the direction of the JACUZZI BATH REMODEL w/the best looking & longest lasting material, steel from 1-888-686-1458 (WCAN)

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For Sale

Harvey K. Jacobson

Harvey K. Jacobson, 93, of Oshkosh, died December 8, 2023 in Oshkosh, WI. Dr. Jacobson was professor emeritus of journalism at the University of Wisconsin-Oshkosh.

Jacobson was born Sept. 19, 1930 at Langdon, ND, to Carl and Helen (Swenson) Jacobson. He served in the U.S. Army Signal Corps, 1952-1954. He earned bachelor's and master's degrees from the University of North Dakota and the Ph.D. in mass communication at the University of Wisconsin-Madison. Jacobson married Borghild Schoberg June 10, 1962, at Moorhead, Minn. and they lived in Madison, Wis., Grand Forks, N.D., and Ann Arbor, Mich., before moving to Oshkosh in 1984.

Jacobson’s career was devoted to journalism, higher education, teaching and research. He reported and edited for the Fargo Forum in the 1950s. He served on committees and professional leadership and authored more than 130 journal articles and publications. Jacobson was a member of First English Lutheran Church of Oshkosh.

Over time, he served on committees and boards of Lutheran congregation in North Dakota, Michigan and Wisconsin, and served on committees and task forces of the American Lutheran Church at synod and national levels.

Jacobson was preceded in death by his wife of 32 years, Borghild, who died in 1994, and three brothers, Neil, Robert and Floyd, and a sister, Gloria Soll. Survivors include a son, (Anne) Jacobson, Fernndel, Mich.; a daughter, Maren (Robert) Zuleger, Chicago, Ill.; and two grand- children, Jorund and Jacob McCue, Chicago, Mich.

Funeral services will be held at Evergreen Retirement Community on April 13th at 10:30 a.m. led by the Rev. John Wills, pastor at First English Lutheran Church of Oshkosh and the Rev. Steve Wood, Evergreen Chapel. In lieu of flowers, donations will be at Evergreen from 9:00 a.m. until the service. A reception at Evergreen will follow the service. Burial will be at Evergreen Cemetery, Church Lawn, Township, rural Langdon, N.D., on June 7th. Email kbjurlin@gmail.com for further burial details.

The family requests that those wishing to give memorials direct them to the Evergreen Foundation Benevolence Fund.

The obituaries were written and edited for the Fargo Forum in the 1950s. He served in the U.S. Army Signal Corps, 1952-1954. He earned bachelor’s and master’s degrees from the University of North Dakota and the Ph.D. in mass communication at the University of Wisconsin-Madison. Jacobson married Borghild Schoberg June 10, 1962, at Moorhead, Minn. and they lived in Madison, Wis., Grand Forks, N.D., and Ann Arbor, Mich., before moving to Oshkosh in 1984.

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Classifieds
How often does a total eclipse happen over land?

Standards Link: Understand the cyclical nature of eclipses.

A total eclipse is visible on land. To find out how often it happens over land, use the letters and numbers found along the correct path through the maze to reveal how often a total eclipse will be visible on land.

During a solar eclipse, people and animals sometimes get a little confused!

During an eclipse, the corona shines around the outside of the Sun. The corona is very dim. It's usually hard to see because the Sun is so much brighter. You can see the corona during a total eclipse. This layer is called the corona.

It's easiest for people to see a solar eclipse during a total eclipse, when it happens over land.

Animals curl up to go to sleep and the sky begins to darken. Imagine, it is daytime and suddenly the birds stop chirping. Whoa! It's the middle of the day. Why is the sky dark?

During a solar eclipse, the Moon blocks the Sun's light. This is called a partial solar eclipse. Sometimes the Moon only blocks part of the Sun's light. These are called partial solar eclipses.

Where can I watch a solar eclipse?

The only people who will see the total solar eclipse will be people in the path of totality. In that path, the Moon completely blocks the Sun's light for a few minutes. It gets so dark that it looks like nighttime!

How often does a total eclipse happen over land?

It's easiest for people to see a solar eclipse when it happens over land. Use the letters and numbers found along the correct path through the maze to reveal how often a total solar eclipse is visible on land.

A solar eclipse is visible on the Earth's surface approximately:

Standards Link: Understand the cyclical nature of eclipses.

Surprising Corona

The Earth is surrounded by a layer of gases that are hard to see until a total eclipse. This layer is called the corona. The corona is very dim. It's usually hard to see because the Sun is so much brighter. During an eclipse, the corona shines around the outside of the moon's shadow. Use the code to discover what the word "corona" means.

Corona reveals the missing words:

Blocks, fire, shadow, dark, path, notes, corona

What is a partial solar eclipse?

Sometimes the Moon only blocks part of the Sun's light. These are called partial solar eclipses.

A solar eclipse happens when the Moon passes between the Sun and Earth. The Moon blocks all of the Sun's light. This is called a total solar eclipse.

How often does a total eclipse happen over land?

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