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Middle school green space plan settled

Memorial corner will honor former mayor

By Jonathan Richie
OSHKOSH HERALD

The site of the former Merrill School will be converted into an athletics space that will be used for Vel Phillips Middle School physical education classes, after-school activities and recess. It will also be a green space area for the community to use.

The second time was the charm for the zoning change and plans to be approved

by the council after it was defeated earlier this month with council members expressing concerns about how much the space would be used. The council also discussed other options for the former school building even though it is not under the city's purview and owned by the Oshkosh Area School District.

The zoning change and plans passed 5-1 with Paul Esslinger being the only opposing vote.

Mayor Matt Mugerauer pointed out that in the central part of the city there is a deficit of large green space areas where children, families and the community can

gather.

"It's six acres of space that welcomes the entire community," he said.

The general development plan includes a running track with grass football/soccer field inside the track. There will be three 100-seat bleacher units, fenced-in basketball courts and a storage building.

The plan does not include any scoreboard, field lights or public address system.

Council member Joe Stephenson had initially voted against the zoning change citing

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FVTC dedicates new construction space
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School budget
District approves new spending plan
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Prep football
Lourdes comes away with win over Westfield
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Photo by Michael Cooney

Strumming students

Ukefest was a daylong program at the Oshkosh Seniors Center on Saturday put together by program supervisor Jane Wells and Aaron Baer, a local ukulele performer and teacher who with other performers shared their knowledge about playing the ukelele. The event drew about 80 participants, mostly seniors but was open to all ages in the community and is part of the ongoing weekly classes offered.

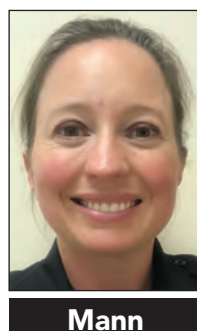
City officers, shelter connecting homeless with resources

By Jonathan Richie
OSHKOSH HERALD

There are rising concerns within Oshkosh regarding behavior of the homeless community and the police are stepping in, not to strictly enforce the law but help connect the people with valuable and helpful resources.

"Officers will engage individuals with empathy and respect, aiming to build trust," Oshkosh Police Department public affairs officer Kate Mann told the Herald. "Officers will conduct regular patrols in areas with high homeless population and other assigned areas. They will offer sup-

port rather than initiating with enforcement."



Mann

Mann said officers will be providing information for people with long-term housing solutions, health care and other services.

Concerns over homelessness have grown over the last couple of months with many residents taking to social media to express their concerns with the homeless population.

During these patrols, officers who encounter ordinance or law violations will use discretion and possibly issue warnings, Mann said.

There are several places in Oshkosh for the unhoused community to seek shelter and get a hot meal. One of those is the Day By Day Shelter, which opened a new 50-bed facility last spring that had operated with a daily lottery system and would often have to turn people away because they reached capacity most every night.

In December, the shelter stopped the daily lottery for beds and now all 50 are reserved for guests in the 30-60-90 program

that sets goals for guests with the ultimate goal of getting them out of the shelter.

The Herald spoke with shelter executive director Molly Yatso-Butz and assistant director Denise Holz. They said guests appreciate knowing they have a place to stay.

"Our guests appreciate having that stability in knowing they have a place to stay for the night," Holz said.

With the lottery system, guests would get a number and then wait and see if they get a place to stay for the night.

For those in immediate need there often

SEE **Homelessness** ON PAGE 7

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Publisher

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

Editor

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

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An E-edition of the newspaper can be accessed at www.oshkoshherald.com.

Search for new city manager underway

Oshkosh Herald

For almost 16 years Oshkosh has been led by City Manager Mark Rohloff, who announced his retirement earlier this year. The city is in the process of filling the position ahead of Rohloff's departure in January.

Mayor Matt Mugerauer recently gave the council an update on the recruitment process. The city has contracted consult-

ing firm GovHR to lead the search and is finalizing the job description after meeting with council and senior staff members.

The job will be posted and the deadline for resumes is Oct. 16. By Nov. 1, GovHR will have narrowed the field to between eight and 10 candidates.

The council will conduct interviews with candidates in mid-November and after Thanksgiving start working on an em-

ployment agreement.

The new city manager is expected to start by mid to late January.

The city has an online survey out that ends Thursday to gauge what residents are looking for in the next city manager. The survey at polco.us/oshkosh asks what type of leader the city should have as city manager, what are positive trends in Oshkosh and challenges the new manager will face.

Immunization, vaccine clinics scheduled through November

Oshkosh Herald

ThedaCare will be hosting immunization and vaccination clinics through November in northeast and central Wisconsin. Individuals can receive any needed vaccines for themselves or family members from a mobile team that will travel on a rotating basis.

This includes flu, COVID-19, RSV and pneumonia, as well as needed child or adult routine vaccines. At ThedaCare Physicians-Neenah, clinics will be offered from 8 a.m. to noon Tuesdays, 8:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Saturdays (Sept. 28, Oct. 12, Oct. 26), and noon to 4 p.m. Sundays

(Sept. 29 and Oct. 13):

ThedaCare Physicians Pediatrics-Neenah will have a clinic from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Wednesdays.

ThedaCare Physicians-Oshkosh will host clinics from 1 to 5 p.m. Mondays (Oct. 7, Oct. 21, Nov. 4 and Nov. 18) and 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Nov. 18.

Based on community needs, more dates and locations might be added. People can schedule ahead or just walk in for vaccinations. Most are free or low cost with qualifying insurance.

For more information, visit ThedaCare.org/immunizations.

First West Nile virus case reported in county

Oshkosh Herald

The first human case of West Nile virus has been reported in Winnebago County, with local health officials advising residents to continue to protect themselves against mosquito bites. The case is among several others reported in Wisconsin this year.

West Nile virus is spread through the bite of a mosquito that has been infected by feeding on infected birds. The illness is most common in Wisconsin during August and September.

Most people infected with the virus do not get sick and usually experience mild symptoms such as fever, headache, muscle ache, rash and fatigue. Fewer than 1% who become infected get seriously ill and older adults and those with compromised immune systems are at greater risk of developing severe illness that can be fatal.

Winnebago County health officials ask that people contact a health care provider if they suspect they have a West Nile illness. For more information, contact 920-232-3000 or visit co.winnebago.wi.us/health.

Back in the Day



Oshkosh history by the Winnebago County Historical & Archaeological Society

Oct. 3, 1911

Jefferson Bust is Unveiled – Gift to City:

The memory of Thomas Jefferson was honored this afternoon at the school which bears his name. Attending the ceremony were the Rev. R.T. White from the Second Methodist Episcopal Church which is located across the corner from the school, who delivered the invocation. Oshkosh attorney Edward J. Dempsey delivered the keynote address and Miss Dorothy Dehde had the honor of pulling the

cord to unveil the sculpture which was donated to the city by one of Oshkosh's most spirited citizens, Col. John Hicks. The song "America" was sung by the children of the school. Oshkosh Mayor John Banderob accepted the gift on behalf of the city followed by the children who sang "The Star-Spangled Banner." The bust rests on a shaft of granite which is unpolished. The stone has the appearance of strength and naturalness, exonerating the characteristics of the far-seeing statesman. The stone is engraved with the word "Jefferson" with the inscription "Presented to the city of Oshkosh by John Hicks, 1911." Jefferson School is formerly known as the Eleventh Street School.

Source: *Oshkosh Northwestern*, Oct. 4, 1911

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Reduced school budget approved by board

District points to more state aid, reassessments

By Jonathan Richie
OSHKOSH HERALD

The Oshkosh Area School District Board of Education approved a 2024-2025 budget, a 5% decrease from the previous year's spending plan as the district is getting more money from state aid.

The total school-based tax levy will be \$65.8 million for the next school year, which is about \$3.5 million less than last year's \$69 million budget. Superintendent Bryan Davis said that is partially due to concerns for taxpayers with the 5% decrease expected to result in a 5% decrease in the tax levy.

"This is a really important time for us across our community and certainly as a taxpayer and a resident on Monroe Street when I'm talking to my neighbors," Davis said. "I know it's a time there's a lot of questions about the reassessments across the city and across many of our municipalities. This work for this budget shows a decrease that's going to provide direct relief to our taxpayers and acknowledges our current environment."

Davis was referring to the city completing reassessments of all commercial and residential properties where homeowners saw their property value increase by an average of 75%. He called the 5% decrease a deliberate move because of the ongoing uncertainty with reassessments.

Over the last three years the district has

saved about \$40 million in interest payments, according to Davis. Paying off that interest has led to the increase in state aid.

Part of the budget calls for \$12.5 million to be spent on debt payments.

"That's contributing significantly to increases within our state aid, which is reducing the amount of money we are locally taxing for the budgets," he said.

Drew Niehans, executive director of business services, gave an overview of the 2024-25 budget that he said is driven by enrollment that continues to see declines.

Niehans reported the district is expected to receive \$81.8 million in state aid, an increase of \$7 million from this year.

Board members Tim Hess and Kelly DeWitt voted against the budget, which was approved 4-2. DeWitt said the spending plan did not give the taxpayer a big enough break while Hess didn't agree with Niehans and the approach to pay off the low-interest debt early.

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FVTC construction center completed for hands-on training

By Jonathan Richie
OSHKOSH HERALD

On a sunny and breezy morning Fox Valley Technical College officials, students and supporters grabbed markers and signed the ceremonial steel beam that was the final piece of the college's new construction training center.

The FVTC construction training center (CTC) will see students get real-life experience of being at and working on a construction site while learning what goes into putting up a commercial or residential building.

FVTC President Chris Matheny said the experience students will gain from this new site is immeasurable.

"They were operating out of a small lab and now they've got this great, open space to experience a real-life construction setting," he told the Herald. "Students will get to understand what the day-to-day of the job is while employers will get workers with that real-life construction experience on day one."

In remarks made before the official ribbon-cutting ceremony, Matheny called the CTC an 'exceptional learning lab.'

The CTC was built on 2.6 acres of college-owned property on Waupun Road in Oshkosh. The site includes a 5,000-square-foot building to store reusable materials and equipment, a field office and site storage typically seen on a commercial construction site.

The college broke ground on the unique \$1.4 million outdoor training facility in September 2023. In May, the modular field office was delivered by Boldt to serve as a break area as well as an office to mimic the type of field office that is common on construction sites.



FVTC staff, students and supporters were invited to sign the final steel beam before it was lifted into position at the new construction training site on Waupun Road.

Oshkosh Herald

The new facility allows students in the Construction Management Technology (CMT) associate degree program to fully construct and deconstruct a one-story, 1,000-plus foot mock building each semester.

"We are developing project managers; the premise of the CTC is to introduce students to building products, site sequencing, logistics and installation methods," says Rich Cass, department chair of

construction management technology. "When students are budgeting, scheduling and managing the work they will be better equipped to do so after building it themselves in a controlled, realistic environment."

The CMT program has seen consistent growth since it launched in 2009 and has outgrown the indoor lab it uses at the S.J. Spanbauer Center in Oshkosh. The new CTC has enough room for 16 students to work together at one time at the job site.

Graduates of this program continue to be in high demand in the workforce. According to the Bureau of Labor Statistics, the construction management profession is projected to grow by 9% between 2023 and 2033, surpassing the national average. FVTC's program boasts a 100% placement rate for students within six months of graduation.

Chris Dragosh, FVTC dean of manufacturing, agriculture and construction technologies, said this is the only offering of this type of training in all northeast Wisconsin.

Students will be building up and tearing down the same type of commercial or residential building every semester. Cass said students will oversee everything from exterior masonry to installing interior windows and doors.

"It brings reality to the study. Students will experience what they would see on a worksite," Dragosh said.

After the final beam was signed it was lifted into position and a group of FVTC students secured it into place.

The project was made possible, in part, from donors who made in-kind contributions. They include CR Meyer, Boldt, Omni Glass & Paint and Wells Concrete.

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Details: www.fvtc.edu/OpenHouse

Salary scale for county's executive post approved

By Bethanie Gengler
OSHKOSH HERALD

The annual salary for the Winnebago County executive position has been set through the end of 2028 after the county board recently passed a resolution that fixes the compensation for the upcoming four-year term.

Under state statute, changes in compensation for elected officials must be established at least 90 days before an election. The county executive position will be on the ballot in April.

County Executive Jon Doemel's current annual salary is \$122,896. He also receives health, dental, life insurance and long-term disability insurance benefits, and participates in the Wisconsin Retirement System.

Doemel was elected in 2021, replacing Mark Harris who held the position for 16 years. At the time he was elected, the county executive's annual salary was \$107,188.

Doemel initially faced some criticism after hiring a chief of staff without county board approval, with an annual salary of \$52,000. He also created a department of administration and implemented a new director position, with an annual salary of

\$135,890-\$150,989.

Of all Wisconsin counties that have county executives, Dane and Racine have the largest populations and pay their executives annual salaries of \$146,692 and \$131,950, respectively.

Bordering Brown and Outagamie counties, which both have larger populations than Winnebago County, pay their county executives annual salaries of \$107,330 and \$113,422, respectively.

Historically, Winnebago County has increased the salary of the county executive position by 2% each year since 2015. This year, director of human resources Mark Habeck recommended increasing the executive's salary in 2025 by 3% and by 2.5% each year from 2026-2028.

Under the approved schedule, the position will come with an annual salary of \$126,583 through March 2026. It will increase that April to \$129,747; increase in 2027 to \$132,991 and in 2028 to \$136,316.

Several supervisors spoke in favor of the pay increase at a September meeting before voting it in, noting that competitive salaries are necessary to attract well-qualified candidates to elected positions.

Pet blessing, remembrance service set

The Animal Ministries Group of First Congregational Church will hold its 11th annual interfaith Pet Remembrance and Pet Blessing service at Trinity Episcopal Church, 203 Algoma Blvd., at 10 a.m. Saturday.

Well-behaved and vaccinated pets can be brought to this special service being

held in honor of St. Francis of Assisi, the patron saint of animals and the environment. Those who have lost a pet can bring a picture or special possession so they can be honored at the service.

Donations of cash and most-needed items for the Oshkosh Area Humane Society will be accepted.



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Input heard on future of UWFC buildings, campus

Pleas made to maintain community facilities

By Bethanie Gengler
OSHKOSH HERALD

With the clock ticking on the closure of the University of Wisconsin-Fox Cities next year, officials are no closer to determining what will become of the campus infrastructure after a meeting last week, while residents continued to advocate for its community resources to stay open.

Amid shrinking enrollment and budget challenges, UW Oshkosh recently announced that following its 2024-2025 school year, classes at the Fox Cities campus in Menasha will cease.

UW Fox Cities will be the sixth two-year campus to close after a statewide merger of two-year campuses with four-year campuses in 2018.

The real property on the 41-acre campus in Menasha is owned equally by both Outagamie and Winnebago counties, while much of the infrastructure is owned by the university.

Representatives from both county boards have been meeting regularly to discuss the next steps with the impending closure. Representatives from the UW system have withdrawn from the discussions.

The bulk of Monday's board of trustees meeting was taken up by public comment, as citizen after citizen expressed support for the continued operation of the Barlow Planetarium, Communication Arts Center (CAC), University Children's Center and Weis Earth Science Museum.

Cindy Duckert of Neenah has been a volunteer at the museum since 2002 and

a board member for 15 years.

While self-supporting, the planetarium and museum have been under the control of UW since opening in 1998 and 2002, respectively, according to Duckert.

"We must – you must – regularize employee status, affirm the museum's control over its own endowments and transfer it from the Fox Cities campus foundation and reestablish a 501c3 or other method for it to do its own fundraising," she told trustees.

Beth Brown of Menasha, who has worked at the Weis as a tour guide, spoke on the importance of keeping the museum operating. As a social worker, Brown said the museum has ignited a passion for geology.

"I visit High Cliff nearly daily now and wonder at the marvel of the beauty which is so close by," she said. "And this official state meteorology museum is right here in Menasha. Not in Madison, not in Milwaukee, but here in Menasha, and we should be proud to have it here and fight for it to remain."

Richard Beal of Winneconne reminded the trustees that the Barlow Planetarium, constructed in 1997, is in need of a significant upgrade of equipment, sound system and lighting.

In 2022, both county boards approved funds for a feasibility study on upgrading the equipment. The results of the study were sent to UW Oshkosh for bids. Beal said that to date, the university has taken no action on it.

"If we're going to save the Barlow, that upgrade will need to happen and pushing off the feasibility study further and further just delays when any upgrades could eventually happen," he said, while encourag-



UW Oshkosh photo

Public officials and community members are looking at options for the future of the UW Fox Cities campus property.

ing the trustees to consider the feasibility study at the next meeting in October.

Ashley Heiser, who is a mother of three, advocated for the Children's Center, stating there's a world of difference in the level of care her son receives there, "and I left knowing he was in such knowledgeable and capable hands, something that is echoed a lot by all the parents of the university child care center," she said.

Neenah resident Jim Morganstern said he has concerns about the CAC with the separation of the campus from the university and said that items purchased during construction of the 51,000-square-foot facility, which opened in 2009, should be owned by the counties and stay with the CAC.

"If none of it is (owned by the counties), what can we do to keep it? Because an empty shell is not functional," he said.

Morganstern said the Fox Valley Concert Band recently became established as a nonprofit and is prepared to fundraise and support the CAC.

"The CAC is a very important cultural venue for the counties," he said. "It's very important to me personally because I've performed there a lot and we want to keep it going and we can't keep it going without all of the other things that make a theater and performance space a theater and performance space."

Outagamie County corporation counsel Kyle Sargent said there was some initial concern that the university would begin removing items and tearing out fixtures and he said the university has reassured them that's not going to happen and nothing will be removed without agreement

from all parties.

"I think we're all under the understanding of that," he said. "At the end of the day, we all want to keep these things going if we can, so we're going to try to find a way to make it happen if it's possible."

Outagamie County Executive Tom Nelson said there's been some progress and he recently had a meeting with a potential community partner, who he did not name, and will be conducting an upcoming tour of the facility; specifically of the museum, planetarium and CAC.

In addition, Nelson said he and Winnebago County Executive Jon Doemel have been working to complete a personal property inventory of the campus and have identified and collected all of the property deeds dating back to the 1960s.

"I think we all agree that this is something that we want to have resolution (on) sooner rather than later, so that we can give the workers and we can give the community some certainty," he said.

Menasha Mayor Austin Hammond said the city will lose about \$100,000 in revenue each year due to the closure.

"So I just ask that we work collaboratively with the city – that you do – and you look for ways in which this property will build the tax base, be revenue generating and meets the needs of this region," he told the board of trustees.

Classes will end at UW Fox Cities on June 30, with the campus officially closing next December.

Current students were given the option of continuing classes in Menasha through the spring semester, studying online or transitioning to the Oshkosh campus.

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Firefighter training grant promoted

Oshkosh Herald

The Oshkosh Fire Department, Firefighter's ABCs and Fox Valley Technical College are partnering on a grant program to remove financial and other barriers that hinder individuals from pursuing careers in the fire service.

"Something that we are striving for is to create opportunities to join our department," stated Oshkosh Fire Chief Michael Stanley. "By being able to help supplement funding for tuition we help remove an obstacle that may limit someone's potential to pursue their dreams and goals of joining the fire department."

Thirteen tuition assistance grants of \$1,000 were issued last fall to students enrolled in fire and emergency medical services programs with many of them volunteering at their local departments.

The majority have continued their studies in pursuit of a career in fire service. One of the recipients recently graduated from her recruit academy and is now employed full time with the Oshkosh Fire Department.

More information is available by emailing mstanley@ci.oshkosh.wi.us or calling 920-236-5240. Grant applications can be made at oshkoshfd.com.

Area's jobless rate for August falls to 2.5%

Oshkosh Herald

The Oshkosh-Neenah metropolitan area and Winnebago County saw its unemployment rate drop from 3.1% to 2.5% between July and August, according to preliminary data from the state Department of Workforce Development.

Last August's jobless rate in Oshkosh-Neenah and the county was 3.3%.

The preliminary, nonseasonally adjusted

data shows jobless rates in metropolitan statistical areas decreased in all Wisconsin metropolitan areas over the month and compared to the previous August.

Unemployment rates decreased in all the 35 largest cities over the month; rates decreased in 34 cities over the past year.

Estimates of unemployment and employment statistics are from the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics.

Firewood awareness month keys on invasives

The state Department of Natural Resources (DNR) urges Wisconsinites and state visitors to think twice before giving invasive species or harmful hitchhikers a ride in their firewood this fall.

October is National Firewood Awareness Month, reminding people that tree-killing hitchhikers found on or inside firewood include the spongy moth, emerald ash borer, the fungus that causes oak wilt and many other invasive insects and fungi.

When untreated firewood is transported away from the tree where it was harvested, those pests and fungi can later emerge to attack trees at the new location. This can happen whether that new location is in the next town or hundreds of miles away.

Although infestation rates in 2024 were not as high as the record-setting summer of 2023, many areas in the state still saw high caterpillar numbers. That means in-

creased numbers of egg masses and an elevated risk of spreading those egg masses to less-infested areas through firewood.

A state spongy moth quarantine prohibits the movement of firewood and other products that can carry spongy moth eggs to counties on and near Wisconsin's western border or other states where the pest is not established. Uncertified firewood from more than 10 miles away is prohibited from entering state parks, state forests or other DNR properties.

The DNR's Don't Move Firewood website urges people to purchase firewood on-site instead of bringing it from home or picking it up along the way. It's also strongly recommended that campers leave any unused firewood behind. It's not worth bringing a pest home to infest your property.

The same guidelines stand for those who use wood to heat their cabin or home.

Winnebago County also has the Homeless, Eviction and Loss Program (HELP) program designed to aid people before they lose their homes and gets people connected to area resources.

For more information or to speak with a HELP specialist, email HELPProgram@winnebagocountywi.gov or call 920-509-7629. HELP also takes walk-ins at the Oshkosh Human Services Building, 220 Washington St., third floor.

Business news roundup

David Rucker has joined Bank First as vice president of retail banking with more than 20 years of experience in the banking industry, with a recent focus on mortgage lending. He will support the bank's new and existing retail customers in Oshkosh and surrounding communities.



Rucker

Rucker has a master's degree in leadership from Marian College in Fond du Lac and a bachelor's degree in business management from Concordia University. He serves on the board of trustees for the Oshkosh Public Library and Winnefox Library System and is a member of the Kiwanis Club.

The U.S. Army has placed a \$72.9 million order with Oshkosh Defense for additional Family of Medium Tactical Vehicles (FMTV). The order for more of the next generation FMTV A2 vehicles is the fourth this year, including a \$108.9 million order in May for the U.S. military and its international partners. The company also has submitted its prototype proposal to the second phase of the U.S. Army's Robotic Combat Vehicle (RCV) program. Oshkosh Defense delivered two RCV platform prototypes as part of the Phase I Ground Vehicle Systems agreement it was awarded in 2023. Phase II consists of a base award of \$118.9 million and calls for contractors to deliver nine RCV production representative prototypes in early 2026.

Oaks Chocolate Liqueur from Sturgeon Spirits in Oshkosh was named among the 16 products advancing in competition for the Coolest Thing Made in Wisconsin. Wisconsin Manufacturers &

Commerce announced last week that the distiller's special liqueur was seeded No. 7 in the contest that drew almost 40,000 votes cast for 130 nominated products. The 16 products were placed in a tournament-style bracket to determine the eventual winner through voting that ends at 5 p.m. today (Wednesday).

Kowboi Kitchen, a Chicago style take-out restaurant specializing in Italian beef, gyro, gyro cheeseburger, Chicago dogs and pizza puffs, had its grand opening Sept. 11 at 803 Otter Ave. in Oshkosh, the former location for Parm restaurant and Three One Four Pizza.

A new military hiring portal providing access to the military talent pipeline is available now for companies in the region. A talent-attraction tool of New North Inc., the portal can be found at thenewnorth.com/military-hiring-portal. A partnership with Mission: Workforce Alliance, businesses in the New North region are able to create a profile in the hiring portal, along with having access to additional resources that can enhance their hiring practices.

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Homelessness

FROM PAGE 1

isn't a place for them at the shelter. They can join a waiting list however, that list can have between 30 and 50 people who are also in need.

Yatso-Butz said that despite the waiting list the shelter remains the lowest-barrier emergency shelter in the city.

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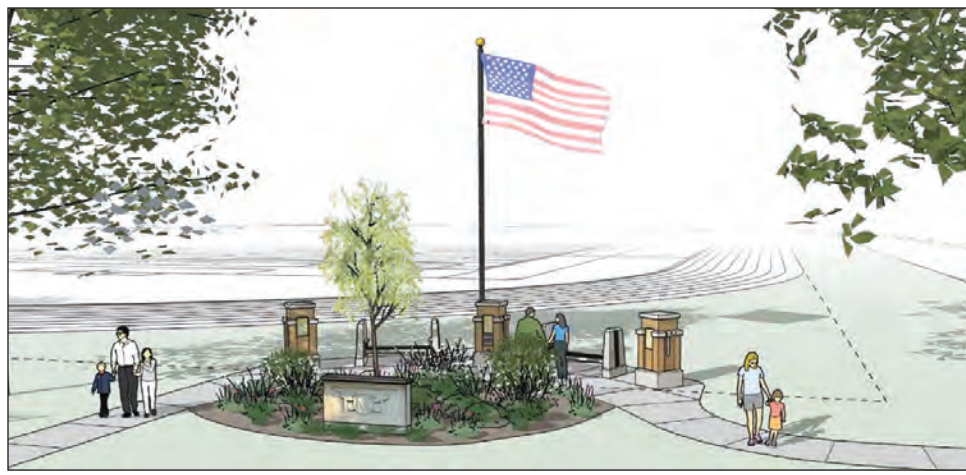
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Oshkosh Area School District

A rendering shows the proposed Memorial Corner that will honor former Oshkosh Mayor James Merrill.

School grounds

FROM PAGE 1

the lack of landscaping, the size of the track and potential use of the facility at the Sept. 10 meeting. Last week he said he approved of the plan because there were more trees added to the plan and less fencing.

“We do need green space in the central city and I want to be very clear, this is going to be more of a public space,” he said.

Despite an effort from a group of residents to keep the Merrill School building standing, the Board of Education has already voted to demolish the school for a green space for students.

Currently, Vel Phillips students are using the small space around the building to play on before school and during recess. Deputy Mayor Karl Buelow noted how children are trying to play at the school now.

“These school playgrounds become meeting spaces for the whole neighborhood,” he said.

Buelow added that he often drives past Vel Phillips in the morning and will

see students trying to play football while avoiding others playing soccer and kids outside trying to do schoolwork.

“There really isn’t a place for them to play and run before, after or during school,” he said.

The Board of Education voted in June to remove the former school to build a space for outdoor recreation. The district is set to pay about \$900,000 for the demolition. District documents show the school will be razed by Thanksgiving and the new athletic facility built next year.

“This is not just an athletic site, this is a site specifically for the students of Vel Phillips Middle School,” said James Fochs, facilities director/project manager. “We expect to see them all throughout the day for phy ed classes. This is a site they can utilize after school for track and we may be able to host other middle schools that don’t have that particular land amenity to practice various aspects of track.”

Fochs also spoke of a memorial that will be on the southeast corner of the site. The memorial to honor James Merrill, a former Oshkosh mayor, will be reviewed by the Plan Commission.

Health product machines made available in county

Oshkosh Herald

Winnebago County’s first ever Public Health Vending Machines, aimed at combating the opioid epidemic by increasing access to the overdose-reversing medication Narcan, are now available in Oshkosh and Neenah.

The machines are in the outdoor courtyard at the David W. Albrecht Administrative Building at 112 Otter Ave. in Oshkosh and outside the Human Services building at 211 N. Commercial St. in Neenah.

Instead of dispensing snacks and drinks, the vending machines dispense Narcan, which is the brand name for naloxone, a nasal spray or injection that when administered promptly reverses and blocks the effects of opioids such as heroin, fentanyl, oxycodone, hydrocodone, codeine and morphine, according to the National Institute on Drug Abuse.

The climate-controlled vending machines also carry fentanyl test strips, drug deactivation systems, basic hygiene kits and menstrual kits, all free of charge. The items are in discreet brown boxes to reduce or prevent any stigma people may feel accessing the machine, according to the Health Department.

Users scan a QR code or call a confidential phone number to receive a PIN code that they enter into a keypad to use the machine. Each unique PIN code allows the user to access three items.

Bringing the vending machines to Winnebago County was more than a year in the making. Early last year the county was approved for an \$80,000 grant from the state Department of Health Services (DHS), awarded from the state’s \$40 million opioid settlement funds.

Although the county was approved for the grant, the Board of Supervisors in January failed to pass a resolution to accept the funds by the majority required.

In March, after lobbying by residents and county officials, the resolution to accept the grant was brought to the board again for a vote and narrowly passed. With approval to accept the grant funds, the machines began operating Sept. 20.

Community health strategist Maddie Breager, who was influential in bringing the vending machines to Winnebago County, said people with substance use disorders face discrimination and stigma, which is often a reason for not seeking treatment.

“Our goal is to reduce barriers to access public health prevention items so that people don’t feel embarrassed about the fact they have a loved one who’s struggling or doesn’t know how to get prevention items, or how to afford the cost of these items, as well,” she said. “We aim to promote wellness, reduce harm and prevent death and serious injury.”

Michelle Haese, policy initiatives adviser in the office of the secretary with DHS, said 17 state agencies are actively distributing harm reduction supplies through public health vending machines funded by the grant opportunity. About 60 machines in the state dispensed more than 13,000 supplies in this past quarter.

“These machines are in areas of high need, dispensing lifesaving tools such as the opioid reversal medication Naloxone, fentanyl test strips and other vital resources,” she said. “Many operate 24 hours, seven days a week, providing confidential, judgment-free, low-barrier access to these supplies, which can literally mean the difference between life and death.”

Haese said a partner agency reported that Naloxone from a public health vending machine was recently used to save the life of someone who was experiencing an overdose. She added that following an overdose in a different community, an agency reported that fentanyl test strips were distributed in that community.

Leading up to the installation of the machines, the county held a contest asking people to submit designs that let those struggling with substance use know “they are not alone, we care about them and we want them to be safe.”

Designs submitted by Tracy Miller, Kelly Reyer and Beth Staton were selected to incorporate on the machines.

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- GLOW YOGA: OCT. 21 | 6:00 P.M.**
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Chamber announces new hirings

Oshkosh Herald

The Oshkosh Chamber of Commerce has named Sean Fitzgerald as its economic development director and Grace Burdick as its marketing and communications coordinator.

Fitzgerald is an economic development professional and business journalist whose background includes 20 years as the founder of a northeast Wisconsin business media and publishing company.

He previously was interim director for

Wisconsin Small Business Development Center at UW Oshkosh, where he assisted small businesses launch, obtain financing, add employees and improve their operational efficiency. Before this role, he worked in economic development posts for the cities of Oshkosh and Wausau.

During his 24-year career as a business journalist, Sean launched and served as publisher and president of New North B2B magazine, a business news periodical serving northeast Wisconsin. He founded the Oshkosh-based media company in 2002 after earlier stints as business editor for daily newspapers in Oshkosh, Fond du Lac and Rhinelander.

Originally from Ripon, Burdick has a bachelor's degree in marketing from UW Oshkosh and several certificates displaying her expertise in design, SEO and analytics. She will be at the forefront of marketing projects and goals for the chamber.

With a background in brand development, design, advertising, web development and event planning, Burdick will help promote chamber programs such as Propel, Leadership Oshkosh, Link2Learn and Amplify.



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Calendar of events

Wednesday, Oct. 2

Fox Valley Take Back the Night, 5 p.m., Culver Family Welcome Center, 625 Pearl Ave.

Thursday, Oct. 3

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

History Buffs Book Club, 6:30 p.m., Morgan House, 234 Church Ave.

Friday, Oct. 4

Vintage Shop Hop (statewide), 10 a.m., Bowenstreet Market, 2837 Bowen St.; Fabulous Finds, 811 Oregon St.

Morgan House Evening Tours, 6 p.m., Morgan House, 234 Church Ave.

Franki Moscato and "Inside Out," 6:30 p.m., Father Carr's Place 2B, 1062 N. Koeller St.

Saturday, Oct. 5

Downtown Oshkosh Farmers Market, 8 a.m.

Vintage Shop Hop (statewide), 10 a.m., Bowenstreet Market, 2837 Bowen St.; Fabulous Finds, 811 Oregon St.

Auto Show, noon, Sunnyview Expo Center

Beaming Ranch open house, 1 p.m., 2692 County GG

Haunted Illusions, 2 and 7 p.m., The Grand Oshkosh

Oshkosh Gallery Walk, 6 p.m., downtown

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

Sunday, Oct. 6

Family Friendly Ghost Tours, 2 p.m., The Grand Oshkosh

Thursday, Oct. 10

Vietnam Veterans Memorial, noon, Sunnyview Exp Center

Angelica Contreras artist talk and reception, 5 p.m., Allen Priebe Gallery, 1001 Elmwood Ave.

Spirits of the Grand tours, 7 p.m., The Grand Oshkosh

Friday, Oct. 11

Downtown Oshkosh Farmers Market,

8 a.m.

Vietnam Veterans Memorial, Sunnyview Expo Center

Streets of Hope, 6 p.m., Becket's Atrium, 2 Jackson St.

Sawdust City Fright Fest, 7 p.m., Time Community Theater, 445 N. Main St.

Spirits of the Grand tours, 7 p.m., The Grand Oshkosh

Saturday, Oct. 12

Downtown Oshkosh Farmers Market, 8 a.m.

Vietnam Veterans Memorial, Sunnyview Expo Center

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

Family Discovery Days, 11 a.m., Oshkosh Public Museum

Oktoberfest at Fletch's, 4 p.m., Fletch's Local Tap House, 566 N. Main St.

Oshkosh Symphony Orchestra: Pumpkin Spice, 7 p.m., UW Oshkosh Arts & Communication Building

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

Spirits of the Grand tours, 7 p.m., The Grand Oshkosh

Sunday, Oct. 13

Vietnam Veterans Memorial, until noon, Sunnyview Expo Center

Oshkosh Photo Walk, 4 p.m., Becket's, 2 Jackson St.

Friday, Oct. 18

Riverside Cemetery tours, 4:30 p.m.

Brews in the Zoo, 5 p.m., Menominee Park Zoo

"A Nightmare on Elm Street 3," 7 p.m., Time Community Theater, 445 N. Main St.

Paranormal Investigation at Morgan House, 6 p.m., 234 Church Ave.

Saturday, Oct. 19

Zooloween Boo, 11 a.m., Menominee Park Zoo

Downtown Oshkosh Spooky Stroll, 2 p.m., North Main Street

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

Sunday, Oct. 20

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

Run With the Herd, 8 a.m., Oshkosh Arena

Community Kids Fall Fest, 2 p.m., Oshkosh Community Church

Library director featured at LWV luncheon

Oshkosh Herald

Oshkosh Public Library director Daryl Eschete will speak at the monthly Food for Thought lunch hosted by the League of Women Voters of Winnebago County starting at 11:30 a.m. Oct. 9 in the Oshkosh Food Co-op community room, 155 Jackson St.

Eschete will explain his vision for the public library as a community connector and its role in bridging gaps between people and groups.

Reserve a lunch for \$11 by emailing wcLWVinfo@gmail.com or leave a message at 920-233-5055.

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Machiros brings net prowess from Kenya to Oshkosh

By Tim Froberg
HERALD CONTRIBUTOR

Senior Spotlight

Sabur Machiros had to laugh when asked if the meaning of her first name fits her personality.

“Sabur means patience,” she said with a chuckle. “I can be (patient), but I don’t think that describes me a lot of the time.”

Lourdes’ volleyball opponents know how to describe Machiros. She’s six feet of major trouble at the net.

The senior middle blocker/hitter is one of the top players on a strong Knights’ squad. A second-team all-conference pick in 2023, Machiros leads the 2024 team in total blocks (64 through 23 matches) and is third in kills (116).

“Sabur is our go-to person when we need to change direction in a game,” said Lourdes coach Rachel Laehn. “She will come up with a big solo block - or a hit that goes straight down that really helps fire up our team.”

A third-year varsity starter, Machiros topped the Knights in both blocks (29) and kills (102) her junior year. She was the team leader in blocks (27) and finished second in kills (62) as a sophomore.

“I love playing volleyball with this team,” said Machiros, whose first name is pronounced ‘Sa-Boar.’ “It feels like a family. It’s so much fun getting to do something you love with people you love. That’s my favorite part of volleyball.”

Machiros’ production isn’t hard to figure out. She’s tall, athletic and has been playing the game since the fifth grade. Laehn is thrilled to have a player of Machiros’ skill level, but feels that her warm upbeat personality provides an even bigger benefit.

“Sabur is one of those players that you are excited to coach, not only due to her ability and athleticism, but because she has the kindest heart,” said Laehn. “The plays she makes causes jaws to drop and she does it with a smile every time.”

A three-sport athlete, Machiros plays basketball during the winter and runs track in the spring. Machiros was a valuable member of coach Ali Starr’s rotation in basketball, playing in 26 of 27 basketball games last season and averaging 3.5 points and 3.0 rebounds.

“Basketball, like volleyball, has that team aspect that I like so much,” Machiros said. “For me, personally, if team members aren’t loving and caring for each other - if they’re not supporting one another and helping each other out - I don’t want to play because you can’t grow as an individual that way. You need the support of others in order to grow.”

Machiros ran relays and the 200-meter dash in track and field and was a member of the Knights’ state-qualifying 800 relay team.

“I just enjoy being able to put energy into something that’s not just school,” said Machiros. Volleyball is my favorite sport and track is a close second.”

Machiros grew up in a different environment than her teammates and schoolmates. She was born in Kenya and spent

the first seven years of her life in the city of Nairobi. She moved to the United States in 2015 with her mother, Alor Majok, two sisters, a brother and a cousin.

“My mom came here for a better life - with more opportunity,” Machiros said. “It was different when I first came here. I wasn’t used to seeing so many people who came from a different culture. It was really kind of like a reality awakening. It was very cool.”

Machiros quickly picked up the English language and it didn’t take her long to adjust to an American way of life.

“I grew up watching American shows and movies on TV and was able to kind of teach myself some English before I even came over here,” she said. “So I think it was a lot easier for me to learn English and to write than my mom and my siblings. Writing and English are two of my favorite subjects.”

“I’m very glad I was able to come here. Living here just provides a lot more opportunities.”

Machiros played some volleyball in Kenya before relocating to the U.S.

“Both my mom and dad played volleyball and I played a little, too, but there wasn’t really a lot of focus on sports in Kenya,” said Machiros. “It’s a totally different way of life. In Kenya, there are always crowds of people constantly - like at the market with people selling products. It’s kind of like a big community and people spend a lot more time outside.”

Machiros dazzles in the classroom just like she does on the court. She carries a 3.8 grade point average and plans to attend college next year and major in psychology.

“I want to be a psychotherapist,” she said. “I want to be able to help people. I want to be someone people can come to. I want them to feel like they have a purpose and are loved and cared for. I want to help people feel good about themselves and good about life.”

Machiros feels good about her Lourdes’ volleyball team which entered the week with a solid 16-9 match record and a 3-1 mark in the Trailways East.

“So far, this has been a really good year,” she said. “We’re really good at communicating with one another and fixing any problems that come up. We’re hoping to get to state and win it all.”

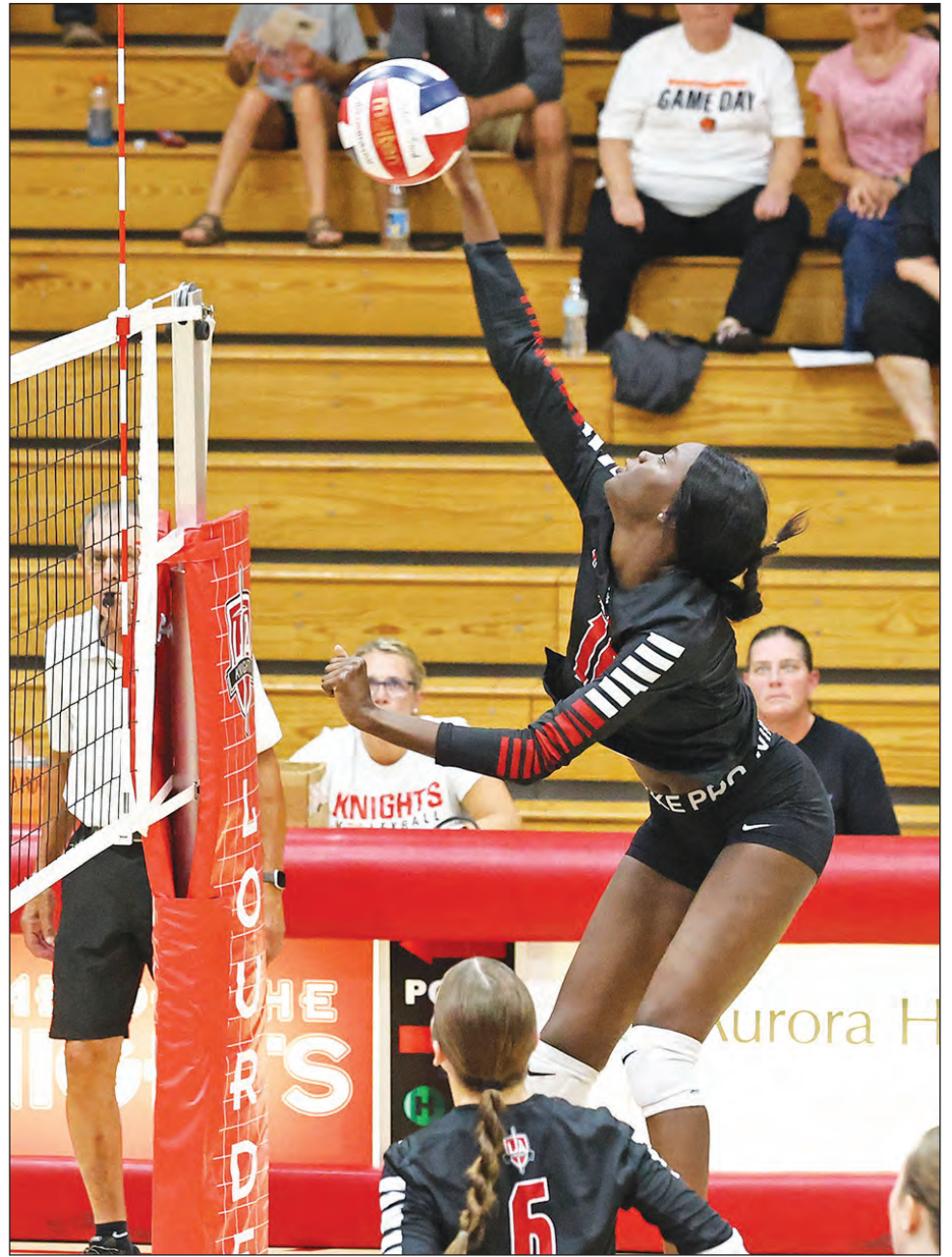


Photo by Andy Ratchman

Sabur Machiros is a dominant force at the net for the Lourdes Academy volleyball team where she earned second-team all-Trailways East honors last season.



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Knights topple Pioneers to bring stop to losing skid

By Steve Clark
OSHKOSH HERALD

After four straight losses, it was almost like Lourdes Academy football coach Kevin Wopat was able to dispel a huge sigh of relief following Friday night's 26-12 win over a pesky Westfield squad at Titan Stadium.

"I told the kids I haven't seen them smile for a month," Wopat said. "(The win) feels good. We've had a long month."

Having played four likely playoff teams the past four weeks, the Knights haven't been getting blown off the field. Lourdes Academy suffered one-score losses on the road at Reedsville and Randolph before falling at home to Johnson Creek and on the road at Cambria-Friesland - each time by 11 points.

The common thread in those losses is that Lourdes Academy never led in any of those games.

"We've been playing from behind against good teams," Wopat said. "The kids have been fighting. Nobody has put their heads down."

That wasn't the case against the Pioneers as the Knights were able to get on the scoreboard first.

The Lourdes Academy defense sacked Westfield quarterback Sam Berruecos on a fourth-down pass attempt to turn the ball over to the Knights' offense and Wade Lindahl responded with a 51-yard scoring pass to Mat Yaggie.

Yaggie sprinted up the seam in the Pioneer defense and hauled in the pass just as



Photo by Andy Ratchman

Lourdes Academy's Brady Bauer (left) and Tristan Gomez combine to bring down a Westfield ball carrier on Friday night.

a Westfield defender attempted to knock it away. He then ran untouched into the end zone.

"That was huge. We got a turnover and that immediately led to that touchdown so that was two really nice plays in a row and I think that got our adrenaline going," Yaggie said. "I feel super energetic when I get open and I'm always looking to score."

The Knights added to their lead just before halftime when Lindahl scored on a 16-yard touchdown run behind a jet sweep fake handoff. Adam Dinnegan provided the key block on the scoring run that gave the Knights a 13-0 lead.

Westfield had a chance to answer before intermission driving the length of the field in the final 40 seconds, but on the last play of the half from the Lourdes Academy 4-yard line, the Pioneers botched the snap and were unable to run a play.

After Lindahl and Yaggie connected for a 57-yard touchdown pass three plays into the second and Westfield answered with a

scoring drive to make the score 20-6, both teams had trouble hanging onto the ball.

The Knights fumbled at the Westfield 24-yard line on their next possession, but Nolan Gibson intercepted a pass on the first play of the ensuing drive to give the ball back to the Knights.

Lindahl and Yaggie connected again for a 57-yard touchdown pass on the third play of the third quarter to extend the lead, but Westfield answered with a scoring drive to make it a two-score game. The Knights were driving to extend the lead, but fumbled inside the Pioneer 5-yard line.

Westfield was able to pick up three first downs to move the ball to near midfield on the next possession, but Ryder Mullen intercepted a Berruecos pass to thwart the drive and the Knights drove 50 yards in 10 plays to extend the lead. Lindahl found Dinnegan for a 10-yard gain on fourth down to extend the drive, which Lindahl capped with a five-yard scoring run for a 26-6 lead.

"We knew they would want to take some shots downfield throwing the ball so we're there to make plays and get those turnovers," Mullen said. "It was crucial

because we gave up the ball and they had momentum but then we steal it right back from them."

Westfield scored on its next drive, cutting the Knights' lead to 26-12 with still nearly four minutes to play, but Donovan Hemminghaus pounced on the Pioneers' inside kick attempt and Lourdes was able to hang on from there.

Lindahl threw for 213 yards while hitting an impressive 17-of-19 passes. He also led the team in rushing with 23 carries for 115 yards, much of that damage being done in the second half.

"We told Wade we were riding him to the finish line," Wopat said. "Our line did a great job. We were outnumbered but still picking up yards. Proud of Tristan (Gomez), Remy (Force), Vinny (Force), Lane (Bradley) and Henry (Geck) up front opening holes and (Brady) Ridenour leading through. Wade picked up a lot of tough yards, especially in the fourth quarter and allowed us to salt this game away a little bit."

Brady Bauer finished with nine tackles to lead the Knights' defense, while Harlan Kuehn picked up seven tackles and one of four sacks for Lourdes Academy.

"On defense, we did a good job of taking away what they are good at," Wopat said. "I thought we tackled well, which I think was a key for us."

The Knights will travel to winless Dodgegeland next week before a road game at Palmyra-Eagle.

Lourdes Academy closes out the regular season at home against Parkview-Albany and the Knights will have to win all three to make the WIAA playoffs.

"It feels really good to get back to winning. Our whole team played well as a group together and I think that really showed," Yaggie said. "I think we take advantage of this game and move on to the next one and the next one and run the table."

In order to have the chance to win out to make the postseason, the Knights needed to beat the Pioneers.

In that respect, the playoffs have already started for Lourdes Academy.

"That's exactly what it feels like," Mullen said. "We just have to fight for every win, every game, one game at a time."

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Strong second half for West not enough against Ghosts

By Steve Clark
OSHKOSH HERALD

After playing the top four teams in the Fox Valley Association the first four weeks of the conference schedule, Oshkosh West seemingly gets a bit of a reprieve with its upcoming slate.

The Wildcats next three opponents – Appleton East, Hortonville and Fond du Lac – have won just a combined two games in the FVA this season so the road appears to get a bit easier for West.

But that doesn't mean the wins will come for the Wildcats.

"I told our kids at the beginning of the season that we don't have an easy game on our schedule," West football coach Joe Ray said after last Friday's 41-14 loss to Kaukauna. "I like to think we respect every opponent. Appleton East is a very good football team, Hortonville is a very good football team and Fondy is a good football team. We still are going to have to do things well and we are still going to have to do all of the little things right, but it is different (than playing the top teams in the FVA)."

Against the Ghosts, ranked fifth in Division 2, the Wildcats overcame a rough first half to put on a strong showing in the final two quarters.

West mounted a pair of scoring drives, forced two turnovers and outscored Kaukauna 14-7 in the second half but couldn't erase the 34-point halftime deficit.

The turning point came early in the fourth quarter after the Wildcats had trimmed the lead to 34-14 and then recovered an onside pounce kick at the Ghosts' 24-yard line.

A 15-yard run by Chase Brandl gave the Wildcats a first-and-goal at the Kaukauna 9-yard line. But two short runs and an in-

complete pass on the first three plays netted only three yards and Landon Ubrigg's fourth-down pass fell incomplete to give the ball back to the Ghosts on downs.

"If we get that (touchdown), we get the momentum and I think that momentum is a big thing in high school football," Ray said. "If we had gotten to within two scores there, there is still a lot of hope left. When we didn't get that I think that it was tough for our kids."

Kaukauna responded to the goal-line stand by marching 94 yards in 14 plays to extend its lead with just more than four minutes to play and the Wildcats weren't able to get any closer.

The West defense came out firing in the second half, starting with the Ghosts' first play from scrimmage when Caleb Christensen picked off a Bron Schaefer pass.

Kaukauna's next drive was stopped when the Wildcats' Christian Kunde stuffed Kyle Kress on a fourth-and-1 run to give West the ball on downs.

The Wildcats turned that stop into their first points of the game when Brandl scored on a three-yard run.

An Ian Reichenberger interception halted the next Kaukauna drive, which West turned into points when Ubrigg scrambled into the end zone from 12 yards out on fourth down – diving for the pylon to reach the end zone to complete the drive.

"We talked about that first half and how that was not us and how we played. It's disappointing obviously, but I was extremely proud of how they refocused and came out in the second half," Ray said. "Our kids have a lot of pride. A lot of them worked their tails off and have done the right things, but we're just not there yet."



Photo by Jim Koepnick

Oshkosh West's Landon Ubrigg (0) dives for the end zone to score a touchdown against Kaukauna as teammate Owen Heim (13) celebrates.

The second half put a silver lining on the game for the Wildcats after West struggled mightily in the first half against the Ghosts.

Kaukauna scored touchdowns on all five of its possessions – including one after recovering an onside kick late in the first quarter – while West totaled just 57 yards of offense and four first downs in the first two quarters.

Brandl finished as the team's top rusher and receiver, carrying the ball six times for 40 yards, while adding four catches for 37 yards. Jaiden Fronczak added 35 yards on the ground on 10 carries with Jake Balog picking up 32 yards on six carries. Ubrigg finished 9-of-21 for 94 yards.

Defensively, the Wildcats were led by Eddy Schroeder and Zach Bartels, who each finished with nine tackles.

West slips to 0-4 in FVA play (1-5 overall) but still has an outside shot at making the WIAA playoffs. The Wildcats would need to win their final three games and then get into the postseason field via tie-breakers with other schools with a sub-.500 conference record.

Ray said that is the big picture for the Wildcats but that is not what the team's focus will be for the immediate future.

"We are going to keep focusing on what we do and trusting the process. They have that pride of we are just going to focus on what we do and continue to battle," Ray said. "It's hard not to be discouraged. I've coached kids in better situations who have given up in easier situations and so I'm just proud of the kids that they do keep fighting."



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Prep sports roundup

FOOTBALL

Spartans notch shutout

Bryce Ott threw for two touchdowns and Jamare Scott ran for a pair of scores as Oshkosh North improved to 4-2 overall with a 38-0 trouncing of Green Bay East on Friday.

Scott rushed for 40 yards on nine carries with the pair of scores to lead the offense, while Ott completed 8-of-11 passes for 105 yards. Ott threw touchdown passes to Jackson Anderson for 17 yards and Jayk-won Jones for six yards.

Dalton Clark led the Spartans with four catches for 44 yards while also returning a punt 55 yards for a touchdown.

Clark and Eli Ott led the defense with six tackles apiece, while Jones and Harrison Bell each had interceptions in the win.

Bad quarter bites Warriors

Oakfield erupted for 22 points in the second quarter, which was too much for Valley Christian to overcome in a 43-14 loss to the Oaks on Friday.

Ethan Millar scored on a 1-yard touchdown run late in the first quarter as the Warriors trailed just 8-6, but Oakfield would take a 24-point lead into halftime and led by as much as 43-6.

Millar capped the scoring with a 14-yard touchdown run in the fourth quarter for the final margin.

Millar finished with 13 carries for 48 yards, while Sam Gloude-mans carried the ball three times for 30 yards.

Matthias Behling threw for 121 yards, with Millar catching four passes for 48 yards to lead the Warriors.

GOLF

North, West compete at FVA championships

Oshkosh North finished ninth and Oshkosh West took 10th at the Fox Valley Association meet held last week at Chaska Golf Course.

The Spartans finished 16 strokes ahead of the Wildcats led by Maggie Lynch's round of 99. Willow Standke and Brooke Peters shot 104 and 108, respectively, and Sammie Leib carded a round of 128.

West was led by Lyla Wesenberg with a score of 109 followed by Kennedy Footit with a 112, Hailey Hammen with a 116 and Ava Wesenberg 118.

Kaukauna won the team title with a 325 - 35 shots ahead of Hortonville - led by meet medalist McKenna Lowe with a 73.

SWIMMING

West fifth at Neenah invite

Kiersten Dietschweiler was a part of three victories and Oshkosh West finished fifth among the 11 teams at the Neenah Invitational on Saturday.

The Wildcats won five events overall at the meet, led by Dietschweiler's victories in the 200-yard freestyle and the 500-yard freestyle. She won the 200-yard freestyle by a little more than a second but the winning margin in the 500-yard freestyle was nearly 12 seconds.

Dietschweiler also teamed with Etta Yonke, Samara Zeinert and Molly Dudzinski to win the 400-meter freestyle relay.

West also got wins from Zeinert in the 100-yard freestyle and Yonke in the 100-yard freestyle, while Zeinert was second to Yonke in the 100-yard freestyle and Yonke added a second place in the 200-yard freestyle behind Dietschweiler.

Oshkosh West also finished second in the 200-yard medley relay with a team of Zeinert, Yonke, Dietschweiler and Sarah

Draxler.

Grace Penzenstadler took second in the 100-yard backstroke and third in the 100-yard butterfly, while Addison Perzentka added a fourth place in the 100-yard backstroke for Oshkosh North/Lourdes Academy, which finished ninth overall.

North/Lourdes drops dual

Grace Penzenstadler and Ashlynn Anderson each won individual events but Oshkosh North/Lourdes Academy fell to Neenah 113-71 in a Fox Valley Association dual meet.

Penzenstadler posted her win in the 100-yard butterfly, while also picking up a second place in the 200-yard freestyle.

Anderson scored her victory in the 100-yard breaststroke, while she added a second-place finish in the 500-yard freestyle.

Also earning second-place finishes for North/Lourdes were Teya Zinth in the 50-yard freestyle and Addison Perzentka in the 100-yard freestyle.

North/Lourdes also picked up a first place in the 400-yard freestyle relay with a team of Penzenstadler, Anderson, Perzentka and Lucy Schade.

VOLLEYBALL

West downs Fond du Lac

The Wildcats overcame a loss in the first set to knock off Fond du Lac last Thursday, 19-25, 25-17, 25-15, 25-21 in a Fox Valley Association match.

Sydnee Nelson finished with 16 kills to lead the Wildcats, while Maeve Lasky added 12 kills on a .550 hitting percentage. Kirsten Klatt chipped in eight kills and Emma Liebergen finished with six.

MaKaelyn Clark led the team with 48 assists. Clark and Nelson had a team-high five aces, while Rylin Polakowski finished with four.

Elaina Butz led the defense with 24 digs, while Clark had 11 and Emma Polishinski added 10.

Knights breeze to win

Lourdes Academy kept Wayland Academy to single digits in two of the three sets and picked up a 25-6, 25-16, 25-8 win last week.

Delaney Ruedinger finished with 12 kills to lead the Knights, while Anika Leitch had 10 and Sabur Machiros finished with nine.

Aubrey Schettle and Hannah McDowell each had three aces to lead the Knights, while Celia Ralofsky and Grace Meyers each chipped in 21 assists in the match.

Warriors go 4-1 at invite

Valley Christian went 4-1 at the Algoma Invitational over the weekend, posting three of its wins in three sets.

The Warriors went the distance to beat Bonduel, Algoma and Shiocton while earning a sweep of Two Rivers. Valley Christian's lone loss came against Pacelli.

On Thursday, Valley Christian bounced back from a rough first set to collect a 5-25, 25-21, 25-18, 25-16 win over Sheboygan Christian.

Anna Giannopoulos led the Warriors with 13 kills, while Lizzie Fink had 12. Maliha Demler posted 33 assist in the win, while Giannopoulos led the team with three aces and 17 digs.

The Warriors also picked up a win over Hustiford last week winning, taking the match 25-12, 25-12, 25-17.

Giannopoulos again led the way with 10 kills and six aces, while Fink had seven. Demler added 28 assists and five aces in

the win.

North falls to Neenah

The Rockets came out red hot and swept the Spartans in an FVA matchup.

Neenah won the match 25-17, 25-6, 25-13.

CROSS COUNTRY

Crowe, Collins lead West

Carter Crowe and Celso Collins each finished in the top 15 to lead Oshkosh West at the Len Nikolai Invitational hosted by Manitowoc Lincoln on Saturday.

Crowe led the way by finishing 11th out of 166 runners, while Collins placed 15th for the Wildcats.

Juan Collins was the next Wildcat to finish in 43rd place, followed by Owen Moon in 106th and Mason Palecek in 110th.

The Wildcats were 10th among the 20 teams in the race, edging fellow Fox Valley Association member Kaukauna by 19 points for the top-10 finish.

The girls finished seventh overall, 10 points behind host Manitowoc Lincoln.

Abby Tercha led the way for the Wildcats by finishing in 24th place, while Rowen Stellflug was 31st and Coraline Strelinski was 41st. Mila Crowe in 49th place and Gwen Liptow in 64th place rounded out the scoring runners for West.

Mitchell takes title at invite

Oshkosh North senior Lehna Mitchell took home top individual honors by taking first at the Winneconne Invitational on Tuesday.

Mitchell was one of two runners to break 20 minutes at the meet, while finishing four seconds ahead of the second-place finisher in a time of 19:39.7.

The Spartans finished fourth as a team at the meet with Gabi Pereira da Silva placing 18th overall, followed by Tia Hayes in 35th, Alai Awak in 38th and Allison Cummings in 50th.

The North boys finished seventh among 12 teams led by Jay Weber placing seventh overall.

Davante Kieya was the next North runner to finish in 19th place with Blake Lederhaus taking 31st and Reid Anderson placing 38th. The Spartans' scoring runners were rounded out by Konrad Bowlus-Jasinski in 49th place.

Valley Christian got a top-10 individual finish in the girls race as Mya Moran placed 10th overall. McKenzie Murphy was the next Warrior runner to finish in 28th place with Merian Getz in 66th, Kendra Sandahl in 76th and Eavie Heffernan in 79th rounding out the scoring runners for Valley Christian.

The girls finished 11th out of 12 teams. The Valley Christian boys were led by Jonah Menet's 11th-place finish as they finished 11th in the team standings.

The rest of the scoring group consisted of Jack O'Brien in 48th place, Silas Johnson in 55th, Simon Menet in 66th and Zachary Werner in 69th.

Lourdes girls take seventh

Erin Moore took second place overall and the Knights finished seventh at the Rosholt Invitational on Saturday.

Annie Moore was the second Knights runner to finish, coming in 26th place, followed by Khloe Bunton in 68th place and Allison Stromske in 69th place.

The boys, who finished 14th overall, were led by Henry Spanbauer in 18th place, with Mason Piechowski in 70th place, Zach Foster in 84th place, Cameron Kapral in 109th place and Henry Achterberg in 123rd place rounding out the scoring runners.

SOCCER

Spartans' offense erupts

Mto Wasekye Jean notched a hat trick and Oshkosh North used a strong finish to pull away for a 7-2 win over Appleton West last week.

The Spartans got goals from Malek Mustafa, Shepherd Johnson and Kiza Lukoko to take a 3-0 lead at halftime, but the Terrors scored two goals in the first 13 minutes of the second half to pull within 1.

Jean then rattled off three goals in a span of 14 minutes to give North back control of the match.

Yohana Bikyeombe tallied the final North goal in the last minute.

Gerome Mtabi picked up an assist in the win for North, while Geteme Hakizimana made two saves in goal.

On Thursday, the Spartans fell to Kaukauna, 2-1, with Bikyeombe tallying the lone goal for the Spartans.

West notches pair of ties

George Miller scored two goals in two matches as Oshkosh West earned a pair of 1-1 ties last week in Fox Valley Association play.

Jaxen Lloyd assisted on Miller's goal in a 1-1 tie against Hortonville on Tuesday, while Everett Pickart picked up the assist when Miller scored in a 1-1 tie at Appleton North on Thursday.

Owen Ervin made eight and seven saves in the two matches, respectively.

Knights post two shutouts

Lourdes Academy/Valley Christian posted a pair of Flyway Conference wins last week, scoring a 3-0 win over Lomira on Thursday after knocking off Campbellsport, 8-0, on Tuesday.

Isaak Ruchinski, Kaleb Richardson and Quin Ruark scored the goals in the win over Lomira, while Will Loker needed to make just one save to earn the shutout.

In the route of Campbellsport, Ruchinski led the way with three goals and two assists, while Richardson notched two goals and Noah Bolorsush and Jackson Buttke each had one goal.

Richardson, Matthew Loker, Buttke and Isaiah Hyvonen each had assists in the match, while Loker and Blake Busby combined for the shutout in net.

TENNIS

Doubles sweep leads Lourdes Academy to win

The Knights won all three doubles matches in straight sets as they picked up a 4-3 win over Menasha on Thursday.

Monse Luquin and Maya Hawi won at the No. 1 flight, with Jasmine Saiyed and Lila Geffers posting a victory at No. 2 doubles and Aoife Mains and Abby Ridenour winning at No. 3 doubles.

Sasha Quandt posted a 6-0, 6-0 win at No. 1 singles in the dual meet.

Earlier in the week, Lourdes Academy dropped a 6-1 dual meet to St. Mary's Springs with Quandt picking up the lone win at No. 1 singles. Quandt won the match without dropping a game.

The Knights also fell to Kewaskum last week, 4-3, with Quandt and Claire Trofka posting singles wins, while Luquin and Hawi earned a victory at No. 1 doubles. Trofka plays at No. 4 singles for the Knights.

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Obituaries

Bruce Alan Eichhorst

Our dad Bruce Alan Eichhorst (Oct. 10, 1956 - Sept. 18, 2024) would have liked to



live another 20 years, but cancer had other ideas. He peacefully died at home with hospice care.

He was born in Oshkosh, WI to Lyle and Millie (Meyer) Eichhorst where he grew up with 2 younger brothers, Bart and Dean, and 1 sister, Barbara. As a kid he did the usual stuff, except for perhaps putting some popcorn up his nose that greatly concerned his first grade teacher who recommended he might not be mature enough to advance to second grade. Dad joined the US Navy after graduating from Oshkosh North High School. Assigned to a carrier out of Key West, FL, he cruised to Cuba, the Mediterranean, and the North Sea. His aversion to alcohol *might be* attributed to drinking warm beer in Germany and taking an unpleasant Liberty Boat ride back to the carrier where he

remained in bed for the next 2 days.

Dad met mom, Jean Marie Patterson, on a University of Wisconsin-Oshkosh combined Biology-Geography Departments field trip. He was concerned she might fall into a bonfire one night during some partying, but mom strongly refutes that assertion. A little more than a year later they were married on June 22, 1985. They lived in Grand Forks, ND for 12 years, where he received a Biology PhD from the University of North Dakota. They had the 3 of us, too, Connor (Lincoln, NE), Phoebe Marr (Jared) (Austin, TX), and Ciara (Seattle, WA).

A passionate field biologist and teacher, he started out studying the American Coot, turned to Western and Clark's grebes, and ultimately became enamored with skinks! He liked the field so much that his honeymoon with mom was a Minnesota camping trip featuring National Wildlife Refuges. She was a good sport. As a teacher, he wanted his students to call him Bruce and was known to wear topic-coordinated t-shirts of animal poop, SpongeBob SquarePants or a favorite

Green Bay Packers or StarWars one.

Our Kearney neighborhood friends called him Biology Bruce. We had mist nets in the yard to catch and band birds, turtles, snakes, bats, and other types of 'rescued' creatures until they could be returned to a more appropriate environment. We loved it.

One of my favorite memories of dad was watching the Simpson's with him when I was little (mom didn't really approve) and going to a Green Bay Packers game (Connor). I loved that he indulged us anytime we wanted ice cream, was silly, and cheered us on in our interests (Phoebe). Mine is that he always loved to watch

TV with me, go to the movies, and taught me about animals, especially our turtles Berry, Lemon, and Francine. Plus, he helped me with math even if I would cry and scream (Ciara). We all loved our dad. I treasure his joyful, loving smile when we married and he first saw his beautiful babies (Jean).

We will be having Bruce's life celebration Saturday, October 12, 2024 at Harmon Park Activity Center (3100 5th Avenue, Kearney, NE) from 10am to 1:00pm. No flowers, please. Memorials may be made to a charity of your choice.

Connor, Phoebe, Ciara, and Jean Eichhorst

Sharon C. Jones

Sharon C. Jones, age 75, passed away at her residence on Thursday, September 26,



2024. She was born to the late Joseph and Florence (Petrie) Vowels on October 3, 1948, in Oshkosh.

She worked at Festival Foods in Oshkosh since it opened many years ago as a Pricing Specialist and

was able to retire this past March. She had many dear and cherished friends while working there, especially Julie and Jay.

Sharon loved planting flowers and sitting on the deck in an umbrella rocker with her dog Griffin. She enjoyed feeding the birds while her and Griffin alike, had it out with the squirrels! Sharon also enjoyed the time spent with her dear friends Wendy and Cathy (along with a few others) as they went on day and overnight ad-

ventures. She was also very grateful for the close relationship with her niece, Denise over many years.

Sharon is survived by her children, Scott (Lynn) Beck and Kirstin Binner along with grandchildren Alaina & Ava Sapp, Madison & Matthew Binner, Shaed Buech and great-grandchildren Adilynn Cobb-Buech, Hunter & Aspen Buech. She is further survived by sister-in-law, Betty Vowels and brother-in-law, Roger Chapin

In addition to her parents, Sharon was preceded in death by husband John Jones and son Jonathan Beck. Also, her brothers Richard (Birdie) Vowels, Joseph (Grace) Vowels, Mel Vowels, and sister Arlene Chapin.

Per Sharon's wishes, a cremation has taken place. A private memorial gathering will be scheduled in the spring (2025) with notification to those close to her.

KONRAD-BEHLMAN FUNERAL HOMES

Carol Radley

Carol Radley, age 82, of Oshkosh, passed away Saturday September 28, 2024 at Lakeshore Manor in Oshkosh.

A Memorial service for Carol will be held on Saturday October 5, in Poklasny Funeral Home (870 W South Park) 12:00PM with

Deacon Ingala officiating. Burial will be in Sacred Heart Cemetery. Family and friends may call at the funeral home on Saturday from 10:30 AM until the hour of services.

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Obituaries

William Nickel

William 'Bill' Nickel, aged 65, peacefully passed away on September 18th, 2024, with his family by his side. Bill was a Husband, Father, Brother, Coach, Colleague, and Friend. Bill was a source of strength and support to many; always willing to help where needed. His delightful sense of humor, wonderful laugh and smile will be greatly missed.

Born December 4th, 1958, in Oshkosh, WI, Bill was the son of Arthur (Art) and Lois Nickel (Hielsberg) and the youngest brother to Nancy Merrill, Jay Nickel, and Bruce Nickel.

In his early years, Bill was an avid high school basketball player and later in life he enjoyed playing pickup basketball at the YMCA and local park with friends. He enjoyed watching high school basketball and regularly attended home games at Brookfield Central.

After graduating from high school, Bill worked in construction with his father for two years, building homes and apartments in the Fox Valley area. Throughout the rest of his life, he used his carpentry skills to tackle every home improvement project and remodel two homes; welcoming the excuse to buy new tools and use the opportunity to pass his craftsman knowledge onto his son.

While living in Oshkosh, Bill met his wife, Judy, at Mable Murphy's. They were married on April 24th 1982. After marriage to Judy, Bill attended college at the University of Wisconsin Milwaukee; graduating with a Bachelor of Science Degree in Business Administration. While living in New Berlin, WI, Bill and Judy had two children, Erik and Elise. Bill was a constant presence in his children's lives. He never missed a chance to support and cheer his kids on at their sporting events. Bill enjoyed coaching Elise's youth soccer and basketball teams, and during family Christmas gatherings, he would serve as one of Santa's beloved assistants.

In May of 1985, Bill began working at MGIC, helping people achieve home mortgages. He was loyal to his company and always spoke highly of those he worked with. In April of 2024, Bill retired from a career that spanned 38 years and touched the lives of so many of his colleagues with kindness, humor, and expertise.

In retirement, Bill and Judy enjoyed attending local concerts, specifically The Love Monkeys, and dubbed themselves

the newest groupies. He would take his grand-dog, Brooks, for a weekly trip to the dog park in Menomonee Falls for a good run and squirrel chase. Bill and Judy would also regularly meet up with Elise and her husband Luke, for a beer at the local Milwaukee breweries. Bill was planning to travel the United States with his wife Judy, visiting national parks and monuments in a recreational vehicle. Bill was also inspired to continue his father's legacy by taking up woodworking, where he envisioned crafting chairs, tables, and other pieces that Judy would beautifully upholster.

Bill had a deep passion for fitness, dedicating himself to both weightlifting and running. His home gym was always well-equipped, and for many years, he enhanced his workouts by visiting the YMCA. You would always catch him in an old cotton t-shirt, tall white socks, and black running shorts. In retirement, he maintained his active lifestyle, exercising daily at the Brookfield WAC or Lifetime Fitness.

He was preceded in death by his mother (Lois Nickel) and father (Art Nickel). Bill is survived by his wife Judith Nickel, son Erik (Kelly) Nickel and daughter Elise (Luke) Menges, and grandson Benjamin William Menges, due in November 2024.

Dad, we will forever miss your light-hearted and kind spirit. You taught us to be fiercely present, to find joy in small daily routines, and to be compassionate and grateful to those that surround us, especially family. Your support never wavered. We intend to live by your mantra, "Always stay humble and kind." We love you indefinitely and may you rest in peace.

In celebration of Bill's life, a memorial service will be held at 3PM Sunday, September 29, 2024, at Krause Funeral Home, 21600 W Capitol Dr, Brookfield, WI 53072, with visitation starting at 1PM.

Jean Ellen Sitzberger

Jean Ellen (Heroux) Sitzberger, age 83, passed away peacefully on September 21, 2024. Jean was born in Menasha, Wisconsin to the late Annette and Laurence Heroux. Jeanie attended St. Patrick Catholic Church and School in Menasha, Wisconsin; and graduated from St. Mary Catholic High School in Menasha, Wisconsin. She married Ralph Sitzberger of Oshkosh, Wisconsin at St. Patrick Catholic Church in Menasha, Wisconsin on May 5, 1962.

Jeanie worked with her husband, Ralph, at Oshkosh Glass Company in Oshkosh, Wisconsin. When not working at the glass shop, you would find Jeanie volunteering at St. Vincent de Paul Catholic Church and School, where she and Ralph were members after marrying. Jeanie loved to golf, garden, spend time on the water boating and kayaking, and ice skating. She also loved to scrapbook, something her family is even more appreciative than ever now. They built and lived in their dream house on Lake Winnebago for more than 30 years, a place they lovingly named "Ein Sommer Platz" after Jeanie's favorite movie, A Summer Place, which was also Jeanie and Ralph's first date. They threw the best picnics and parties. Most Sundays in the summer, you could find the entire family gathered on the dock and in the water.

Jeanie and Ralph spent their retirement years in the Red Pine Cabin as they called it, in Land O' Lakes, Wisconsin; she loved every season in "The North Woods". She loved being in the middle of all the goings on and was very involved in the Land O' Lakes Community; including St. Albert Catholic Church where she sang in the choir. She was the Deputy Town Clerk for Land O' Lakes. Her favorite place to be was anywhere her family was gathering. Jeanie was a very special lady to many; and most special wife, mother, grandmother,

great-grandmother, and now the best Guardian Angel in Heaven.

Jean is survived by and her memory will be cherished by her husband, Ralph J. Sitzberger, and her children: Jana (John) Carrick of Cedarburg, Wisconsin, Susie (Robert) Whittaker of Oshkosh, Wisconsin, Dan (Desiree) Sitzberger of Corydon, Indiana, and Andrea (Josh) Stenz of Port Washington, Wisconsin. She is also survived by her grandchildren: Kyle Carrick, Ben Sitzberger, Kevin (Brianna) Carrick, Rachel (Jake) Grose, Abigail (Jarrett) Simonson, Katie (Christian) Goodwin, Tommy (Olivia) Whittaker, Peyton Mueller-Stenz, Ada Mueller-Stenz, Teaghan Mueller-Stenz, Annette Stenz, Joshua Stenz Jr. and great granddaughters: Lily Grose and Sofia Simonson. She is also survived by her siblings: Sue Bombinski, Kimberly, Wisconsin, Thomas Heroux, Menasha, Wisconsin, Michael (Patty) Heroux, Oshkosh, Wisconsin; sister-in-laws, Delores (Ralph) Neumueller Neilson, Oshkosh, Wisconsin, and Fran (Gary) Weber, Oshkosh, Wisconsin, along with many nieces and nephews other relatives and many dear friends. She was preceded in death by aunts, uncles, brothers in law and sisters in law, and other relatives.

Mass of Christian Burial will be celebrated for Jean on Thursday, October 3, 2024 in St. Jude (St. Vincent Site) Catholic Church in Oshkosh, Wisconsin, where friends and family will gather to celebrate the life of this special woman. Visitation will begin at 9:00 a.m. with the funeral mass at 11:00 a.m. Private burial will follow.

The Family of Jeanie would like to thank Silver Lake Manor in Wautoma, Wisconsin and ThedaCare Hospice for taking wonderful care of her during this past year. No words can express their heart-felt gratitude for the loving way you cared for her. Memorials may be given to Alzheimer's Association Wisconsin.

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Obituaries

Wesley W. Schwartz

The world lost one of the great ones as Wesley Schwartz of Oshkosh, WI passed away peacefully at Azura Memory Care on Friday, September 20, 2024.



Wes will be remembered for his love of spending time with family and friends, always with an infectious smile and sincere interest in each and every one of us.

He was known for the beautiful 427 Cobra kit car that he built by hand and could often be seen cruising the countryside or winning awards with at the car shows. His formidable patience and persistence were always on display as he produced amazing pieces of woodworking throughout his life. Wes loved all forms of music - a John Phillip Sousa award winner with the trombone, he sang in his church choir and even could play some hot licks on the banjo!

Wes was born on February 18, 1939, in Lebanon, WI. He was the first of five children born to William and Eldora Schwartz. He graduated from Watertown HS (prom king, if you can believe it!), achieved a degree in electrical engineering from MSOE and then set his sights on winning over a young woman from his hometown, who would become his beloved wife of 58 years, Barbara Schlueter. They were married on October 8, 1966, in Watertown, WI and immediately set off in his Corvette on their honeymoon to Cape

Cod ... which was completely closed for the season when they arrived. Yes, Wes found out early what it was like to be in the doghouse. They had three awesome and worry-free kids, John, Tevi and Anne. Wes then took his family and career at Square D up to Oshkosh. He successfully managed the electrical engineering division over a 35-year career that spanned facilities in the U.S. and Mexico. Throughout these years, for "fun", Wes and Barb would lug their perfectly behaved kids on massive family road trips to California, around the Great Lakes and countless other destinations. Some might say Wes was a glutton for punishment, but he truly enjoyed it.

Wes hung around with a great group of friends who helped share with him his love of golf, Badgers football or knocking back a couple of his preferred Manhattan cocktails. His family would eventually be rounded out with the great additions of spouses to his kids and 4 amazing grandkids.

Wes is survived by his wife of 58 years, Barbara Schwartz; children, John (Brenda) Schwartz, Tevi (Han) Tekisalp and Anne (Scott) Hawley; grandchildren, Parker, Aysha, Eli and Nola; siblings, Wayne (Shannon) Schwartz, Jim (Mary) Schwartz and Diane Hicks; and many more family and friends.

Wes was preceded in death by his parents along with his infant sister Joan.

A time of visitation will be held at Lake View Cemetery Mausoleum - 2786 Algoma Blvd in Oshkosh - on Sunday, October 6, 2024, from 12:00-1:30 followed by a memorial service at 1:30. We will then have a party to celebrate Wes's life at the

Paine Art Center's Conservatory - 1408 Congress Ave in Oshkosh - from 2:30-5:00.

The family would like to thank the Fox Valley Memory Project, Azura Memory Care and Moments Hospice for everything they did to help Wes navigate the last stage of his truly blessed and wonderful

life.

In lieu of flowers please consider donating to the Fox Valley Memory Project in Wes's memory at <https://foxvalleymemoryproject.org/donate/>



Russell Martin Carpenter

Russell Martin Carpenter, of Oshkosh, was born in Borth, Wisconsin on August 5, 1937, to Martin and Bertha (Gehrke) Carpenter. He died on Wednesday, September 25, 2024, at the age of 87.



Russ grew up on farms and went to school in Oakdale, Alleville, Winneconne, and Seymour. For 4 years he served in the Air Force. Then he worked at Coca-Cola and Leach Company. Russ was a construction worker and welder for 33 years and worked for C.R. Meyer, Boldt, and Ganther. He could repair just about anything. After retirement he did wood working making shelves and bird houses.

He and Shirley babysat their grandchildren when small and Russ was always building things for them to play on while at their house. He was a great dad and an even better grandpa. Russ was a hard worker and was always doing yard work and shoveling snow. He really enjoyed riding around on his John Deere.

Russ and Shirley were married on October 17, 1964, and were married for 58 years until her death in September 2023.

Russ is survived by sons, Scott (Renee), Brian, Chris (Danna); daughter, Catherine (Joe Urban); two granddaughters, Kiera and Courtney; two sisters, Joyce Beulen, Donna (Bob) Kalbus; and other relatives and friends.

He was preceded in death by his parents; his wife; sister, Bernice Zehner Felper; and a daughter-in-law, Judy.

Russ' family extends special thanks to the Park View Health Center staff for their kindness and care these past few months.

A private service, military honors, and burial were held at Lake View Memorial Park, Oshkosh.

Mueller Funeral Home-Winneconne is assisting the family. If you wish, please submit online condolences to muellerfh.net.



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Obituaries

Fintan M. Flanagan

Fintan Martin Flanagan, 97, of Oshkosh, passed away on Thursday, September 19,



2024, at his residence at River Mill Condominiums surrounded by family. Despite his unique Irish name, Fintan was an Oshkosh native, born January 26, 1927, the youngest of three children to the late Martin

Charles and Mary Ann (Selenske) Flanagan. His early life, marked by the simplicity of growing up without running water, was filled with cherished memories of playing sports on Evans Street- the foundation for his lifelong love of sports and Oshkosh.

Fint attended St. Mary's Grade School and Oshkosh High School, where he served as Senior Student Council President. He graduated high school in June 1945 and immediately joined the US Army. After graduating Officers Candidate School, the 19-year-old 2nd Lieutenant Infantry was sent to Germany. As part of battalion staff, Fintan was in charge of feeding, clothing and sheltering 4,000 former SS German officers awaiting trial. He also commanded a train transporting 130 war criminals from Germany, behind Russian lines through Czechoslovakia to Russian occupied Poland, as he gathered intelligence for the precursor of the CIA. He later continued his service in the Wisconsin National Guard for 14 years, becoming Intelligence Officer of the 2nd Bn, 127 Inf, 32 Division and retiring as a Captain.

After completing his US Army service in May 1947, Fintan returned to Oshkosh

and pursued higher education at Oshkosh State Teachers College (now UW Oshkosh) and Marquette University Law School on the GI Bill. While in college at Oshkosh, he met the love of his life, fellow student and beauty queen, Carol Jean Donovan ("KK"). They married in June 1952 in North Fond du Lac. While at Marquette, Fint proudly represented the Law School in the National Moot Court Contest for two years and was associate editor and contributing author of the Marquette Law Review, earning his JD in June of 1953. The couple returned to Oshkosh, where Fintan began practicing law and they started a family on Mt. Vernon Street. As their family expanded, Fintan and Carol Jean moved to Washington Avenue where they raised their five children, of whom they were both very proud.

Fintan grew his law practice over the years, starting under the wing of Dan Hilderbrand, and later senior partner in his own law practice. He developed the Armory place subdivision and co-developed Westhaven Golf Course and subdivision with Bob Stauffer. Fintan served as Oshkosh City Attorney from 1955 to 1964, involved with the replacement of the Mayor-Alderman system of government to the Council-City Manager system. He practiced law in Oshkosh for over 35 years.

Fintan's Catholic faith was a cornerstone throughout his life. Fintan enjoyed being social and was known to tell stories to his friends, family, coffee group, golf buddies, or whomever would listen. He and Carol Jean enjoyed golf, backyard pool parties, world travel, and especially playing bridge and cards with family and friends. After their children were grown with children of their own, a highlight of each summer

for many years was 'Camp Flanagan' where their children took turns hosting the family gathering in their backyards, complete with tents. In retirement, Fintan and KK delighted in spending 25 winters in sunny Naples, Florida.

An avid athlete throughout his life, Fintan played competitive baseball, basketball and ping pong in his earlier years and played tennis in college. Fintan continued to play tennis and golf into his 90s. His competitive spirit won him many trophies and awards through the years. He had a hole-in-one at Westhaven while in his 90s, and Fint and his fellow Oshkosh tennis partner Bob Luetke were ranked #1 in Wisconsin and #15 nationally in the Double 65+ age division. Fint was ranked #7 in Florida Singles 85+ age division. He continued to enjoy watching the Packers, Bucks, Brewers and Marquette Basketball with family and friends.

Fintan is survived by son Michael Fintan Flanagan (Mary Beth) of Lebanon, New Hampshire, and his children Meghan, Carrie, and Ryan; daughter Kathryn Flanagan Birmingham (John) of Oshkosh, and their children Margaret Birmingham Black (Charles) and John E. "Jack" Birmingham (Lauren); son-in-law J. Kevin Donovan of Ft. Lauderdale, Florida, and his children Sean and Brennan Donovan; daughter Sally Flanagan Cashin (Patrick) of Elm Grove, Wisconsin, and their children Katie Powell (Michael), Shannon Smyczek (Jeffrey), and Luke Cashin; and son James Patrick Flanagan (Angie) of Pewaukee, Wisconsin, and their children Keely, Brian, Logan, Ethan, and Molly

Sue. He is further survived by his sister-in-law, Marion Noffke of Oshkosh, his niece Rosemarie Fuchs Robinson of Traverse City, Michigan, several Donovan and Noffke nieces and nephews, and seven great-grandchildren.

Fintan was preceded in death by his bride of 64 years, Carol Jean (Donovan) Flanagan, their beloved daughter Susan Flanagan Donovan, his parents, his brother Brendan Flanagan and his wife Mary Dale, his sister Colletta Fuchs and her husband Fredrick Jr., his brother-in-law Henry "Hank" Noffke, and brother-in-law Robert and his wife Nanette Donovan. He was also preceded in death by two nephews, and infant great-granddaughter Maria Smyczek.

Fintan's family would like to sincerely thank his angel on earth, Paula Qualley, along with the rest of his care team for their compassion, quality care and friendship.

The family will receive visitors from 9:30 to 10:30 AM on Saturday, October 12, 2024, at St. Raphael the Archangel Catholic Church, 830 S. Westhaven Drive, Oshkosh, WI 54904, followed by a Mass of Christian Burial at 10:30 AM. Burial with military honors will be at Calvary Cemetery in Oshkosh. In lieu of flowers, the family has requested that memorials be directed to St. Raphael the Archangel Church; or The Flanagan Fund at the Oshkosh Area Community Foundation, 302 Ohio Street, Oshkosh, WI 54904, to be used for charitable giving in Fintan's memory.

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Mary J. Juzwiak

Mary J. Juzwiak, age 98, passed away at Evergreen Retirement Community on the



evening of Tuesday, September 24, 2024. She was born to the late Michael and Jennie (Kremski) Juzwiak on March 28, 1926, in Oshkosh.

Mary worked at First Wisconsin Bank for many years, currently U.S. Bank. She started as a teller, personal banker and worked her way up to administrative assistant to the president of the bank. Mary retired early to take care of her elderly parents. Mary was noted for having a sharp mind for finance and was remembered for having a good sense of humor. Mary was a very kind and gener-

ous person, donating to many organizations that were dear to her. The Catholic Church, especially St. Joseph's were a very important part of Mary's life. Mary enjoyed reading and keeping up on current events. One of Mary's favorite things to do was going out to eat with friends, whether it was breakfast, lunch or dinner. Friends knew Mary didn't enjoy cooking but enjoyed spending time over a good meal. Mary will be missed.

A Mass of Christian Burial will be held at Sacred Heart Church (519 Knapp St.) on Friday, October 4, 2024, at 11AM. A private entombment will take place at Lake View Memorial Park.

In lieu of flowers donations may be made to St. Jude the Apostle parish.

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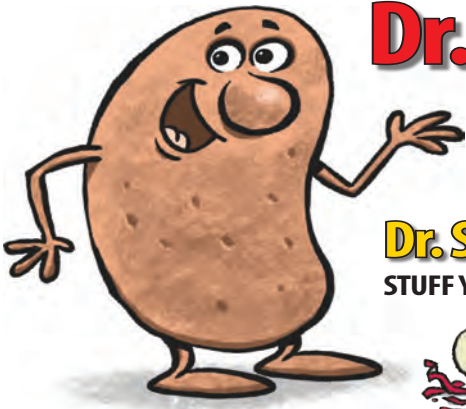
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Can you taste the difference between an apple, a potato and an onion? Believe it or not, it is difficult to taste the difference between a potato and an onion if you can't smell it. Don't believe me? Try my experiment!

Only the nose knows for sure!

Dr. Spud's Tasteless Experiment

STUFF YOU'LL NEED:



1. Grate the apple, potato and onion separately. Wash the grater before grating each of the foods. Put each grated food in a separate bowl.



2. Blindfold a friend or partner. Have your partner hold their nose tightly.



3. Place a small amount (about ¼ teaspoon) of one of the foods on your friend's tongue. Tell your friend not to chew the food, but to roll it around their mouth. Ask your friend to guess which food is in their mouth.



4. Repeat with each of the foods. Be sure to have your friend rinse their mouth between tastings. Do three taste tests with each food item. Use the chart to keep track of the taste tests.

WHAT WAS TASTED	WHAT TASTER THOUGHT IT WAS

Potato Maze

Find your way through this spud-filled maze!



The "Keystone State" could also be called the Potato Chip State, since it's known as the Chip Capital of the World! Dozens of snack food companies got their start in this state. Use the code to find out the name of this state.

SECRET CODE

A =	█	N =	██
E =	█	P =	██
I =	█	S =	██
L =	█	V =	██
M =	█	Y =	██



Extra! Extra! Find 5

Look through today's newspaper to find:

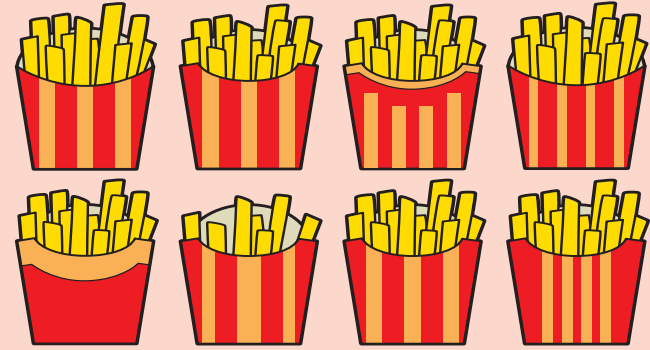
- 5 words that describe a taste
- 5 snack foods
- 5 fruits or vegetables

Standards Link: Use the newspaper to locate information.

Kid Scoop Puzzler

French Fry Fun

Look closely! Can you find the two identical boxes of fries?



Standards Link: Reading Comprehension: Follow simple written directions.

Double Double Word Search

- APPLE
- BOWL
- CHART
- CHEW
- CHIP
- CODE
- FOOD
- NOSE
- ONION
- POTATO
- SMELL
- STATE
- TASTE
- TESTS
- WORLD

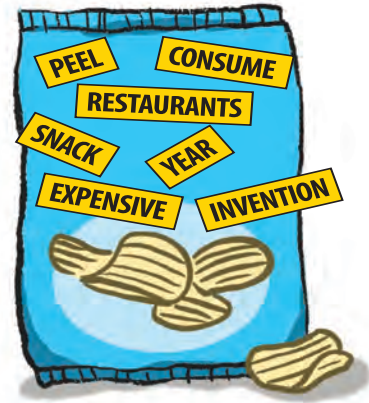
Find the words by looking up, down, backwards, forwards, sideways and diagonally.



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

The Potato Chip Story

Replace the missing words.



The first potato chips were a rare and _____ treat, served only at special _____. That was because it took a long time to _____ potatoes by hand.

Then in 1920, with the _____ of the mechanical potato peeler, potato chips jumped from a special restaurant treat to a top-selling _____ food.

Today, Americans _____ more potato chips than any other people in the world. We eat about 1.85 billion pounds each _____. That's an average of about 6.6 pounds per person!

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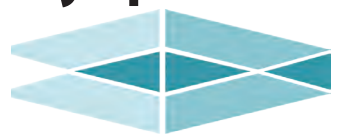
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 Write a poem about a potato or your favorite way to eat one. Be sure to include descriptions using the five senses.



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