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### JANUARY 22, 2025 | OSHKOSHHERALD.COM



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Trash support Oshkosh Corp. cited at tech convention Page 6

### Housing help Former school property development advances Page 3



### Card collectors

The Wisconsin Herd's third annual sports card show at the Oshkosh Arena attracted more than 1,500 attendees and 56 vendors from Wisconsin, Illinois, Michigan and Minnesota in partnership with Cardboard Legacy in Oshkosh. A diverse selection of vintage and modern cards offered collectors opportunities to buy, sell and trade. Nostalgia and renewed interest in card collecting, which surged during the COVID-19 pandemic, brought hobbyists together to share stories and build personal collections.

## County seeks options for homeless

Homelessness issues draw collaborative ideas

By Bethanie Gengler Oshkosh Herald

As communities across the country continue to grapple with a lack of affordable housing and a surge in homeless residents, Winnebago County officials and nonprofits are collaborating to come up with creative solutions.

A meeting on the topic earlier this month presented by the Winnebagoland Housing Coalition is the second in the past three months after the Winnebago County Board of Supervisors in October considered two ordinances targeting the homeless that would ban camping and loitering on any county right of way or property.

The ordinances were introduced by District 26 Supervisor Conley Hanson and supported by county sheriff John Matz and deputy district attorney Christian Gossett, who said unhoused people were camping on the west side of the Orrin King building in Oshkosh and causing challenges by using drugs and relieving themselves in public.

It followed an ordinance passed by Neenah early last year that bans camping on city-owned property and prohibits outdoor cooking and recreational fires in

SEE County homeless on Page 14

## Humane Society continuing lifesaving role in community

# Organization updates city on ongoing needs

By Jonathan Richie Oshkosh Herald

Workers and volunteers at the Oshkosh Area Humane Society are continuing their role in the community as a lifesaving shelter with the Oshkosh Common Council recently hearing stories showcasing the no signs of long-term damage and has found a permanent home.

Another example is Marian, a senior, diabetic, blind and deaf cat. Because of these challenges she wasn't seen as a lov-

ing companion. Once her chronic conditions were under control and began receiving affection from the staff, it was easier to place her in her forever home. "She had a lot of attention at the shelter. We treat every animal ter covered in matted hair.

"We were able to get all these mats off Floyd and again, took care of Floyd, managed his conditions and found Floyd a home," Engel said. "That's the work we do at the shelter."

The OAHS cares for dogs, cats and small mammals – rabbits, guinea pigs, rats, mice and sometimes birds – in the area that need a place while they're looking for a home. The OAHS is celebrating



power of the shelter.

Hershey was a puppy when she came to the shelter, where she received her vaccines and was a typical happy puppy bouncing around until staff noticed she was having trouble walking and sitting up. Staff realized she had distemper, which is fatal in 80% of puppies.

The staff worked quickly to get Hershey into a foster home and started distemper treatment. She eventually recovered with



as our own animal,"

OAHS executive director Ieva Engel said. "Now she's enjoying her senior days in her best home."

One more story came from the small mammal side of the shelter about a cute bunny named Floyd. He came to the shel20 years at 1925 Shelter Court this year.

The council had requested to hear from the society last year to get an update on its operations and Engel was able to share the shelter's mission.

"We take every animal as an individual and we fight for every animal," she said.

The shelter made the pledge to be a lifesaving, or no-kill, shelter in 2009. Engel

SEE Humane society ON PAGE 14

Photo from OAHS

Hershey was just a puppy when she came to the Oshkosh Area Humane Society. Staff quickly learned she had an often-fatal illness but acted quickly and now Hershey is living in her forever home.





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Advertising deadline is noon Wednesday for the following Wednesday.

The classified line ads deadline is 4pm Friday for Wednesday.

#### Publisher

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

## Denver man charged with human trafficking, drugs

By Jonathan Richie Oshkosh Herald

A Colorado man is facing multiple felony charges linked to an undercover human trafficking investigation.

Romon A. Mitchell, 32, is facing one count of human trafficking and one count of keeping a place of prostitution. He is also facing two counts of possession of a firearm by a felon.

When police searched his hotel room they allegedly found cocaine, fentanyl and methamphetamine, for which Mitchell is charged with possession with intent to sell.

The most serious charge is human trafficking, which comes with a possible jail sentence of up to 15 years and an additional 10 years of extended supervision.

Mitchell, who lives in Denver, allegedly arrived in Oshkosh with the victim via Greyhound bus just two days before he was arrested after officers found an advertisement on a website commonly used to arrange prostitution meetings.

The criminal complaint does not include any interview with Mitchell and it remains unclear why he chose Oshkosh.

Mitchell was in court Thursday for his

initial appearance in front of Court Commissioner Eric Heywood. His cash bond was set at \$200,000, he was ordered to maintain absolute sobriety and is not to use websites affiliated with prostitution.

Records show he remains in custody at the Winnebago County Jail.

According to the criminal complaint, an Oshkosh police officer saw a prostitution ad on megapersonals.com with naked pictures of a woman and included the services offered in Oshkosh.

The officer set up a meeting for Jan. 10 for various services for \$200. The officer met the female at the Motel 6 on South Washburn Street after giving the officer information on the hotel she was staying at and the room number.

After arriving, the officer saw Mitchell exit the room. The victim told the undercover officer Mitchell was her "weed man."

The victim told the officer it was her first time in Wisconsin and was from Oklahoma but living in Colorado. The officer put the \$200 on a table and shortly after opened the hotel room door to allow other officers into the room. At this point the victim said she was just there to give a massage.

Three officers made contact with Mitchell outside the hotel. During the interaction Mitchell allegedly confessed to using a lot of cocaine and was being resistant while refusing to identify himself.

Mitchell had a handgun in his pocket that was reported stolen in Colorado. A second pistol was found inside a backpack in the hotel room.

Back at the police station the victim said Mitchell had been her pimp for about three months. She estimated she did about 25 prostitution dates a week and that all the money went to Mitchell.

The victim stated Mitchell would give her a couple of grams of methamphetamine a day. She alleged Mitchell sells methamphetamine and fentanyl and uses the money made from prostitution to buy drugs.

Mitchell had been out on bond on a charge of first-degree kidnapping in Colorado. Records show he was sentenced to five years in prison for possession with intent to deliver dangerous drugs in Denver in 2021.

Mitchell is scheduled back in court Monday for his preliminary hearing.

### School district looks at complaint about fake accounts

By Jonathan Richie Oshkosh Herald

The Oshkosh Area School District is investigating a complaint regarding fake social media accounts potentially linked to Board of Education members.

The school district's legal team is investigating a complaint received last week that alleges two board members are using pseudonyms to post information and opinions on district topics such as Title IX regulations and the upcoming funding referendum.

The Herald obtained a copy of the complaint and is not naming the alleged board

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members at this time. The Herald reached out to each member named in the complaint – one did not give any comment and the other did not return phone calls.

It is not illegal for an elected official to have a fake social media account but could be a violation of board policy po0144.5 relating to member behavior, communications and code of conduct.

"Establish and maintain a high level of honesty, credibility and truthfulness in all matters dealt with by the board," the policy states under general expectations of members. "At all times conduct themselves in the best interest of the school district, including avoiding implicating the district in unlawful activity or supporting or encouraging efforts to harm the reputation, legal standing, or to bring other material harm to the interests of the district or the board."

Board president Beth Wyman did not respond to a request for comment on the policy and implications of violating the policy.

The profiles of Mike Melter and Missy Green are the alleged fake accounts cited in the complaint; both accounts were deleted since the Herald reached out to board members for comment and the district confirmed the investigation. Both had posted about the district with Melter often urging people to vote against the April 1 referendum.

The Herald reached out to several people who are listed as friends with the profiles, including city and county elected officials, and was told they do not know the people personally and believe the names to be fictitious.

### Back in the Day



Oshkosh history by the Winnebago County Historical Society

### <u>Jan. 19, 1949</u>

**Slug Pierces Gas Tank of Airplane:** The rifle slug which brought S.J. Wittman and his midget plane, "Bonzo," down near Spring Hill Tennessee on January 11, was found in the plane's gas tank late yesterday afternoon while repairs were being made. Wittman said the bullet, which crashed into his plane while he was on his way back to Oshkosh after taking first place in the Continental air races at Miami, Florida, was a .22 caliber. The round has been sent to Tennessee state police who are investigating the incident. Wittman was able to land safely and was not injured.

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#### Editor

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

#### Corrections

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

#### About the newspaper

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Name, mailing address and contact information – or call 920-385-4512 between 10am-4pm - by February 14, 2025.



www.oshkoshherald.com

*Source:* Oshkosh Northwestern, Jan. 19, 1949

### Correction

**JAN. 15, PAGE 18:** The best start in UW Oshkosh women's basketball program history was in 1995-96 when the team went 31-0. The Titans started 17-0 in 1994-95 and 20-0 in 1998-99.

## Washington School housing development moving forward

By Jonathan Richie Oshkosh Herald

The city has struggled to add many single-family homes in recent years and continues to deal with a shortage across all types of housing. The former Washington Elementary School site will address some of those needs with 18 new homes in the coming years.

Habitat for Humanity of Oshkosh and the city entered an agreement last year to build nine homes on the site and the city will sell the remaining nine lots to private developers.

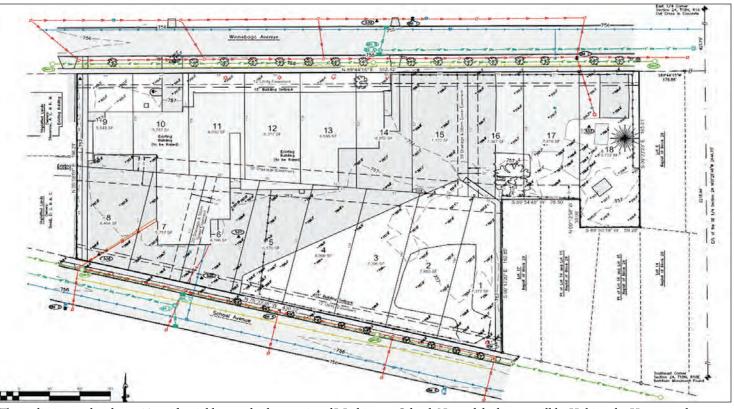
Those developers will be reviewing an architectural design book that the city's community development team has put together featuring more than 140 home variations. This is intended to ensure the lots will not have cookie-cutter homes with the exact same style.

The Oshkosh Area School District attempted to sell the school but didn't receive any proposals, and that's when Habitat partnered with the city to purchase the land. The Habitat and privately developed houses will be mixed in the area, meaning they won't be grouped separately on School and Winnebago avenues.

"I'm incredibly excited about this project," council member DJ Nichols said.

Oshkosh director of community development Kelly Nieforth told the Herald there will be a workshop with council members to go over the details to ensure the nine private developed homes are workforce housing and will remain within that price category.

"That's teachers, firefighters, police officers, plumbers, electricians – people that are our community," Nichols said of



The preliminary plat shows 18 residential lots at the former site of Washington School. Nine of the houses will be Habitat for Humanity homes and the other nine will be built by developers for workforce housing.

the residents that will be in need of workforce housing.

Workforce housing is not low-income or affordable housing, but defined as 80% to 120% of the area median income (AMI). The AMI is based off county data – which for Winnebago County is a median of \$94,600 – meaning a household with a total income between \$75,600 and \$113,500.

Nieforth is also looking at similar programs such as the Sheboygan County Economic Development Corp., which is planning a 32-acre development in Plymouth. "There's a lot of other communities we're looking at that have similar programs," she said. "There's quite a few across the nation."

Nieforth said there are a few more steps needed before houses can be built on the site, including final plat approval. The city is working on getting utilities installed for the new homes, including water laterals to hook up to the main water lines. Those plans could be approved this winter and installed in the spring.

Nieforth told the council the homes will be a great addition to the Stevens Park neighborhood in the central city area. "This is a great partnership," she said. "It will be a great opportunity for folks to live close to many amenities and live in a wonderful neighborhood."

She hopes that the city will be able to replicate this strategy in other areas.

Council members Jacob Floam and Joe Stephenson also spoke of the importance of adding more houses to the community and expanding the housing stock in Oshkosh.

The preliminary plat passed with no opposing votes last week. The final plat with more of the final details will need approval, which could come to the council in February.



Restaurant Week, but reservations are recommended.



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## Bond modification denied in hit-and-run death case

By Jonathan Richie Oshkosh Herald

An Oshkosh man accused of striking and killing a man with his vehicle and fleeing the scene was recently in court asking for his driving privileges to be reinstated.

Drake J. Dodge, 21, is facing one count of hit and run involving death and as part of his bond he is not allowed to drive. The courtroom was packed on both sides as Winnebago County Circuit Judge Scott Woldt denied his attorney's request to reinstate his driving privileges.

Dodge is accused of hitting Ethan Luaders with his car in October. Court documents allege he fled the scene and went back to his parent's house to sleep. When Dodge woke up he saw the news and told his parents he needed to turn himself in. Luaders was pronounced dead at the scene Oct. 5 after lifesaving measures were attempted by first responders.

Dodge is out on a \$20,000 cash bond and ordered to maintain absolute sobriety, is not to be on the premise of any bar or tavern and is not allowed to drive. Defense attorney Erik Johnson filed the bond modification to allow Dodge to drive to work.

Luaders' mother and grandmother spoke in opposition to the modification. His mother said it was a slap in the face that Dodge was asking to drive after killing her son.

Luaders' grandmother said Dodge has been out on bond for more than 95 days and been able to spend that time with his family and celebrate the holidays while



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54th Assembly District

#### Friends & Neighbors,

As Representative to the 54<sup>th</sup> Assembly District, I am honored to return to the capitol on your behalf, as the 107<sup>th</sup> Legislative Session begins.

I remain committed to working tirelessly on your behalf, advocating for policies and legislation that improve our quality of life and ensure every voice is heard. If you have questions, concerns, or ideas, please connect. Your input is valuable as we move forward together.

I look forward to what we will accomplish in this new legislative session as we have more in common than we often know.

Warm regards and here's to a great new year!

#### 2025–26 COMMITTEE ASSIGNMENTS:

#### **Ranking Member**

- Committee on Environment
- Committee on Forestry, Parks & Outdoor Recreation

#### Member

- Committee on Local Government
- Wisconsin Council on Forestry

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her family was mostly unable to celebrate the holidays because of their loss.

Assistant District Attorney Adam Levin argued that driving in Wisconsin is a privilege and not a right. He also cited two traffic tickets Dodge received in 2024 before the fatal incident with Luaders.

Court records show Dodge was found guilty in July of failing to yield at a stop sign and red traffic light in August. Both incidents resulted in Dodge paying a fine.

Woldt said it was clear that Dodge's recent history shows he is negligent when operating a motor vehicle. He also reiterated that driving is a privilege and not a right in Wisconsin and denied the motion.

According to the criminal complaint, Oshkosh police were dispatched to New York Avenue and Algoma Boulevard after a 911 caller stated there was a man lying in the middle of the road just before 3 a.m. Oct. 5. Luaders shoes were found about 30 feet from his body.

At 11:20 a.m. that day, Dodge went to the Oshkosh Police Department with his parents to turn himself in for his involvement in the accident. He told police he had been out with friends the night before and had been to a couple of Oshkosh bars where he said he had two beers and four rum drinks.

His friends went to bed around 2:30 a.m. but Dodge decided to drive from his friend's house on Wright Street back home on Omro Road. Dodge told police, "A dude came out" and "he was just there" and hit him with his parents' vehicle.

### Grothman's Fond du Lac office damaged in fire

Oshkosh Herald

A 19-year-old Menasha male is in custody after a fire was set at a Fond du Lac office space used by U.S. Rep. Glenn Grothman on Sunday, according to Fond du Lac police.

Police and Fond du Lac Fire Rescue responded to 525 N. Peters Ave. at 1:02 a.m. Sunday to a structure fire at a strip mall that has space leased to Grothman, who represents the state's 6th congressional district. Police used fire extinguishers to hold the fire in check until firefighters arrived and extinguished it.

The building was unoccupied and no injuries were reported.

Officers located a man near the strip mall who told them he started the fire in response to recent talks of a nationwide TikTok ban. He is being held at the Fond du Lac County Jail and a charge of arson.



#### Photo by Molly Templin

### Magic messages

The Grand Oshkosh hosted a residency last week by teaching artist and illusionist Kevin Spencer, shown last Tuesday at Lakeside Packaging Plus, whose magic tricks engage students, patients and educators on the potential of the arts to impact people. Spencer also presented at the Oshkosh Police Department, schools in the Oshkosh Area School District and Caravel Autism Health. He also had two sensory-inclusive performances at The Grand.





### **OFFICE HOURS:**

Rep. Palmeri hosts office hours monthly. Our next office hours will be

<u>February 21</u> at the <u>Oshkosh Public Library</u> from 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. & at the <u>Oshkosh Seniors Center</u> from 1:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m.

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## Oshkosh Corp.'s automated trash collection system cited

#### Oshkosh Herald

Making its debut at Consumer Electronics Show (CES) earlier this month, Oshkosh Corp. demonstrated its electrification, artificial intelligence, autonomy and connectivity solutions to help firefighters, soldiers, postal carriers, and construction and airport workers.

The company demonstrated an all-electric refuse and recycling front-loader vehicle with AI and electrified technologies, an autonomous robot designed for on-demand refuse collection, an AI-enabled Collison Avoidance Mitigation System (CAMS) for fire and emergency vehicles, and other self-driving vehicles and connected solutions to improve operations at airports and job sites.

Oshkosh Corp. was selected as a winner in the annual CES Picks Awards within the TWICE category for its Hail-able Autonomous Refuse Robot – Electric or HARR-E.

Judged by a panel of industry experts, Picks Award winners are recognized for the best new products on display.



The Hail-able Autonomous Refuse Robot – Electric (HARR-E) was recognized at the recent

HARR-E is an autonomous, electric refuse collection robot for on-demand refuse and recycling pickup via a smart-

Consumer Electronics Show in Las Vegas.



phone app or virtual at-home assistant. ItsAI-enabled navigation and sensors collectthe trash and return it to a central collec-

### **Business news roundup**

**Freddy's Frozen Custard & Steakburgers,** which opened an Oshkosh location at 525 Washburn Ave., has a ribbon-cutting ceremony with the Oshkosh Chamber of Commerce set for Wednesday. The American fast-casual restaurant chain based in Wichita, Kan., was co-founded in 2002 by brothers Bill and Randy Simon and Scott Redler, and has nearly 500 locations in 37 states.

**Tropical Smoothie Cafe** has opened at 2312 Westowne Ave. as a new Fox Valley location for the smoothie and juice bar franchise based in Atlanta. The cafe offers a breakfast and kids menu, Wi-Fi access, delivery and in-story pickup options. Hours are from 7 a.m. to 9 p.m. Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. to 9 p.m. Saturdays and 10 a.m. to 8 p.m. Sundays.

**Oshkosh Defense** was awarded a \$29.9 million contract modification to integrate next-generation autonomous technology into the Remotely Operated Ground Unit for Expeditionary Fires (ROGUE-Fires) with deliveries beginning this year. The award from the U.S. Marine Corps Systems Command aligns with its mission to seize and defend maritime terrain. Oshkosh Defense will work with groundbased autonomy partner Forterra on the self-driving technology of ROGUE-Fires that will offer increased flexibility, scalability and resilience in contested environtion area.

"Self-driving technology will play an increasing role in our daily lives. HARR-E is a great example of how autonomous technology can make chores like taking out the trash a thing of the past," said Jay Iyengar, Oshkosh Corp. executive vice president, chief technology and strategic sourcing officer.

Oshkosh's Pratt Miller business unit developed a prototype system with advanced AI and robotics to complement traditional refuse collection services and redefine collection for planned communities and businesses.

"Technology is only as valuable as the positive impact it has on our lives and within our communities," said Oshkosh Corp. president and chief executive John Pfeifer. "Oshkosh works closely with customers to design and develop solutions for difficult and challenging jobs — from protecting firefighters to reducing pollution to keeping workers safe at heights and even more routine tasks such as performing weekly chores."

ments. By reducing the need for human driving in high-risk combat, the technology enhances battlefield lethality in the U.S. Indo-Pacific Command.

**Chris Handrick** of CliftonLarsonAllen LLP and **Kelly Hurt** of Froedtert ThedaCare Health have been named to the board of directors of New North Inc. In addition to joining the board, Handrickis, a principal with CLA, will be the organization's treasurer as a member of the executive committee. He replaces Ken Zacharias, who retired from CLA and served in the role over the past six years. Hurt is senior vice president of human resources for the North Region of Froedtert ThedaCare.

Horicon Bank has named Terry O'Connor as its new chief lending officer and Steve Leaman as chief banking officer. Horicon has 24 locations in 18 Wisconsin communities, including at 2251 Omro Road in Oshkosh.

**X-Golf Oshkosh**, featuring indoor golf simulators using camera systems, infrared lasers and advance gaming software, is having a ribbon-cutting ceremony with the Oshkosh Chamber of Commerce at 10 a.m. Jan. 31 at its 2135 S. Koeller St. location. Brian Jankowski said X-Golf will also offer golf lessons and host leagues, events and parties.

ATTENTION ADVERTISERS!

Please take note of our NEW production deadlines EFFECTIVE JANUARY 1, 2025:



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## hamber events include noted economist

A new year means big things for the Oshkosh Chamber. Signature events will take place in the first three months of the year, and exceptional attendance is anticipated at each.

One highly anticipated event is the Economic Outlook Breakfast on Feb. 11. Featured speaker is economist Danielle DiMartino Booth, CEO and chief strategist of QI Research. She is an author and former employee of the Federal Reserve.

A distinguished global thought leader in monetary policy, economics and finance, DiMartino Booth will bring a wealth of knowledge and insight to this year's event. As the founder of QI Research, she has led a #ResearchRevolution, redefining how market intelligence is conceived and delivered. Since its inception in 2015, QI Research has been featured in esteemed financial outlets such as Bloomberg, CNBC, Fox Business, Institutional Investor, Yahoo Finance,



The Wall Street Journal, MarketWatch, Seeking Alpha, TD Ameritrade and TheStreet.com.

DiMartino Booth's commentary is widely respected, and her publications, The Daily Feather and The Weekly Quill, have become essential resources for financial professionals.

Danielle holds no questions, opinions, or ideas back. She will give a new look to Oshkosh Chamber's Economic Outlook Breakfast this year, and everyone is invited to take a seat at this upcoming event. Tables and individual tickets can be purchased through the Oshkosh Chamber's website.

March 19 marks the next date for another Chamber signature event. The Business Expo will be held at the Oshkosh Convention Center and include

the State of the Community address in the morning, expo event and giveaways during the afternoon, and the Taste of Oshkosh Business After Hours in the evening. Featuring more than 90 exhibitors and vendors, there will be something for everyone at this year's expo.

The 2025 theme is "Retro Expo," and all exhibitors are encouraged to decorate and dress to impress. Winners of the three best-themed booths will be chosen and given a prize from the Chamber.

Oshkosh Chamber has a lot in store for 2025. The spring and summer golf outings are scheduled for May 19 and Aug. 18, respectively. Education and talent development events such as Senior Talent Track and FutureYOU will also be put on by the Chamber in 2025.

For information about any of these events or others, please contact Oshkosh Chamber marketing & events director Grace Burdick at grace@oshkoshchamber.com.

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# Get organized this year with decluttering tips

January has been declared National Get Organized month, and Goodwill North Central Wisconsin (NCW) makes it easy for people to declutter and start the year with a cleaner slate.

Donating gently used items creates more room in people's homes and helps many start fresh by supporting programs that teach job skills and puts them on a path to sustained employment and improved financial stability.

Goodwill NCW has some tips to help people get organized:

**Reimagine living space:** The new year is the perfect time to spruce up a home and make room for new furniture or decor that fits your current style.

Make a list and check it twice: As you work, create a list of items you own and separate them into two columns, specifying those you want to keep and those you want to donate. Make sure that if you keep an item, it has a designated spot in your home. Then, you'll know where to put it each time you clean.

Start a keepsake collection: When updating your space, you will inevitably find items you just cannot part with because they are family heirlooms or other special items you want to hold onto. Save those special items in a keepsake box.



Out with old and in with new: When you drop off your items, go into the store to see if there's anything that fits your new aesthetic. You never know what you'll find, and shopping secondhand is better for the environment and the people in our community.

"Donating is a win-win for donors and the thousands of people Goodwill NCW helps each year," said Kris Rihn, director of merchandise and planning at Goodwill NCW. "The average donation of gently used items provides about 3 hours of job training. That can be life-changing."

## Beaming acquires its Town of Vinland property

#### Oshkosh Herald

to participate in its services which focus second organization in the nation to offer the Riding in the Moment program for on equine-assisted therapy. A nonprofit organization that spe-Programs are led by clinical director individuals with dementia and memory cializes in equine-assisted learning and loss and partnered with the University therapeutic horsemanship has purchased Janet Hagen and chief executive Katie Samuelson and supported by board memof Wisconsin-Madison to develop an improperty in the Town of Vinland near bers and certified staff members. plementation manual and trademark the Neenah. Beaming programs facilitated 4,014 program. Beaming, which has rented its ranch at equine experiences in 2023, serving se-Beaming Ranch is expanding its services 2692 County GG for 14 years, is now the niors with dementia and Alzheimer's, for veterans this year with free overnight owner of the 16.5-acre property and plans children and adults with diverse abilities. equine experiences in its bunkhouses and to bring in a broader range of community organizations, businesses and individuals veterans and at-risk youth. It became the other monthly free veterans' events. Homeowners! **Ready to sell?** 100s of buyers are waiting for YOUR home. Don't Delay -ST. RAPHAEL THE ARCHANGEL List with Chris Today! - CATHOLIC PARISH Truth Be Told, Weekend Mass times I Get It Sold! Experience • Dedication • Personalized Service Saturday 5:00 pm 920.642.0980 Chris McPhetridge **Contact me Today REALTOR®** | Broker/Ov Sunday 8:00 am, 10:00 am & 5:00 pm 511W. Murdock Ave. Oshkosh 830 S Westhaven Dr. • 920-233-8044 • www.raphael.org Realty, u

## WISCONSIN PUBLIC RADIO SANTÉ COMMUNITY FIRST



# Civil rights leader's message of justice shows power of faith

By Kainat Maryam OSHKOSH WEST HIGH JUNIOR

Faith played a major role in Martin Luther King Jr.'s journey toward justice and equality. In his faith-driven work, King's beliefs weren't just part of his personal life – they were at the core of everything he stood for. His faith gave him the strength to keep fighting for what was right, even when it felt like the odds were stacked against him.

What's interesting is that many of the values King believed in – equality, justice, love – align closely with other cherished faith traditions, including the teachings of Islam. These spiritual traditions emphasize the same core ideas about how we should treat one another with respect and work toward a better world.

King's fight for racial equality was built on the idea that all people are created in God's image. This wasn't just an abstract

#### Conservation farming roundtables scheduled tershed Alliance. "It's about sharing what

Oshkosh Herald

Farmers in the Fox-Wolf River Basin are continuing their discussions about conservation, water quality and soil health solutions with their next meetings set from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Feb. 18 at Van Abel's of Hollandtown and 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Feb. 19 at Brighton Acres in Oshkosh.

Keynote speaker will be Barry Fisher, a nationally recognized leader in soil health who now works as a consultant and trainer through Fisher Soil Health helping farmers build sustainable systems.

"These roundtables provide real solutions farmers can take home and use right away," said Tim Burns, climate smart agriculture coordinator for the Fox-Wolf Wa-

#### Martin Luther King Jr. Day was observed Monday.

concept to him; it was the reason he believed every person – regardless of their race - deserved dignity, respect and equal rights. This principle pushed him to take action against the systemic racism that was so deeply embedded in society.

The Qur'an says that all humans were created from a single soul (4:1), highlighting our shared humanity and the idea that no one is inherently better than anyone else. The prophet Muhammad (peace and blessings be upon him), in his farewell sermon, said, "All of you are equal. No Arab has any superiority over a non-Arab, nor does a non-Arab have any superiority over an Arab," pointing to the idea that race or ethnicity shouldn't be the basis of how we treat each other. This is a powerful message of human equality, one which King leaned

works and learning from each other to

Farmers, agronomists and conservation

professionals are invited to the round-

tables that have been held for the last 10

years and built around practical strategies

to boost yields, profitability and resilience

through sustainable farming. Organizers

said the event has grown into a trusted

space for peer-to-peer learning and shar-

Seats can be reserved at bit.ly/Farmer-

For questions, contact Tim Burns at

tim@fwwa.org or 920-840-0104.

Roundtable or register at the door. Space

ing real-world experiences.

is limited.

keep improving."

on throughout his activism.

One of the most important aspects of King's approach to justice was his commitment to nonviolence. He was deeply inspired by the teachings of Jesus (peace be upon him), especially in the Sermon on the Mount. Jesus' message of loving your enemies (Matthew 5:44) and overcoming evil with good (Romans 12:21) shaped King's belief that nonviolence was the most powerful tool for social change.

Islam shares that same emphasis on nonviolence and love. The Qur'an advises, "Repel evil with that which is better" (41:34), encouraging people to respond to harm with kindness, patience and forgiveness. The Ahmadiyya Muslim Community, a peace-loving community and revival movement within Islam, devoted to promoting peaceful coexistence and service to humanity, believes responding to hatred with love is one of the most powerful ways to bring about real change. For King, his faith gave him the hope

to keep going, even when it seemed like change was impossible. His belief in a loving and just God kept him grounded and reminded him that justice would ultimately prevail. His "I Have a Dream" speech captures this hope - King believed that with God's help, a better, more just world was possible. Islam, as well as other rich faith traditions, emphasize patience and hope in the face of adversity. The Qur'an says, "Indeed, with hardship comes ease" (94:6), offering hope to those struggling that things will improve, even when life seems tough. This kind of hope, rooted in faith, gives people the strength to keep pushing forward.

When looking through the lens of spiritual traditions, we see a common message: True justice comes from love, faith and the willingness to stand for what is right. King's work shows us how faith can be a powerful tool for change, helping us build a world where justice and compassion guide us.

### Air show performers commit to AirVenture

Oshkosh Herald

Some of the world's top air show performers have made commitments to fly at EAA AirVenture Oshkosh 2025 as part of the afternoon and night lineups.

The 72nd Experimental Aircraft Association fly-in convention, scheduled for July 21-27 at Wittman Regional Airport, features nine air shows over seven days, including night shows July 23 and 26. Daily afternoon air shows are presented by Daher and RTX, while the July 23 night air show is presented by Covington Aircraft.

Among the performers and aircraft on the schedule:

Randy Ball (MiG-17) Vicky Benzing (P-51) Bob Carlton (Jetfox twin-engine sailplane)

The Chuters (skydiving) Class of '45 (Corsair/P-51) Greg Colyer (T-33) Jerry Conley (de Havilland Vampire) Susan Dacy (Stearman) Erik Edgren (Taylorcraft) Kyle Fowler (Long-EZ)

Kyle Franklin (Super Cub) Michael Goulian (Extra) RJ Gritter (Decathlon) Greg Koontz (Decathlon) Nathan Hammond (Super Chipmunk) Rob Holland (MXS-RH) International Aerobatic Club demo Jerry Kerby/Trojan Thunder (T-28s) Jarrod Lindemann (Jet Waco) David Martin (Pinto jet) Misty Blues (skydiving) Northern Stars (Pitts Specials) Jim Peitz (F-33 Bonanza) Ken Rieder/Redline Airshows (RV-8) Bill Stein (Edge 540) Philipp Steinbach (GB1 Gamebird) Skip Stewart (Prometheus 2) Titan Aerobatic Team (T-6s) U.S. Army Golden Knights (skydiving) Bernie Vasquez (Warbird) Matt Younkin (Beech 18) These early confirmations are in addition to the previously announced F-22 and F-35B military demos. More performers will be announced, including some on-





ly-in-Oshkosh performers and aircraft.



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Tony Jackson, 7 p.m., The Grand Osh-

Wisconsin Herd vs. Delaware Blue

Wisconsin Herd vs. Delaware Blue

Coats, 6 p.m., Oshkosh Arena

Coats, 7 p.m., Oshkosh Arena

## **Comedian excited for Time show**

By Jonathan Richie Oshkosh Herald

Greg Warren brings his comedy to the Time Community Theater tomorrow night for a night of laughs as the St. Louis comedian makes his first Oshkosh appearance.

Warren toured with the Bob & Tom Show about 20 years ago that went all over Wisconsin, but not in Oshkosh. He's excited for the chance to play at a new venue.



"It's always great to do a show where I hav-

en't been before," Warren told the Herald. His show will include material from a

new special he taped in November along with some older material and 10 to 15 minutes of new jokes that he's been working on since the special was taped.

"It's an exciting time for me," he said. "I'm chomping at the bit to get back out there."

Warren said the industry has changed

### Repair Cafe returns with public library visit

Oshkosh Herald

Repair Cafe Oshkosh returns for its sixth session from 1 to 5 p.m. Sunday at the Oshkosh Public Library as a community-focused event offering to give new life to broken items with the help of volunteer fixers free of charge.

The fixers can assist with a wide range of

a lot over the last 20 years but is also the same in a lot of ways.

"You still have to write jokes," he said. "I love the process, and it can be difficult, but in the last five years it has gotten easier."

One of the biggest changes is the reach that comedians can have with the internet and social media platforms such as Instagram. Warren's most recent special "The Salesman" came out in 2023 and is available on several platforms, including YouTube.

He also hosts a podcast - The Consumers - with his friends Tim Convy and Sean O'Brien. The podcast dives into the history of popular brands like Heinz, Pringles and Energizer.

Warren is always writing and working on new material as he continues to craft jokes. When he spoke with the Herald he mentioned he was ready to test out some new ones.

"There's the Funny Bone comedy club in St. Louis that I'll be going to tonight for open night trying out new ideas," Warren said. "What's great about standup is that you know pretty quickly if the material works or it doesn't."

### items, including clothing, jewelry, watches, appliances, electronics, furniture and

computers. A maximum of five items per person can be checked in for repairs. The welcome table closes at 4:30 p.m. to

allow enough time for repairs and cleanup. There will not be an outdoor station for engines and bicycles but can be brought to the next event in the spring.

Submitted photo



### **Donation to OAHS**

Taco Johns staff in Oshkosh worked hard for the animals over the holidays by raising \$4,278 for the Oshkosh Area Humane Society. Lee Anne Robertson (left) and Nickie Wright (right) delivered the check last week to executive director Ieva Engel.



#### Thursday, Jan. 23

Greg Warren comedy show, 7 p.m., Time Community Theater, 445 N. Main St.

Oshkosh West Music Department: "Footloose," 7 p.m., Alberta Kimball Auditorium

Wisconsin Herd vs. Osceola Magic, 11:30 a.m., Oshkosh Arena

#### Friday, Jan. 24

Oshkosh West Music Department: "Footloose," 7 p.m., Alberta Kimball Auditorium

#### Saturday, Jan. 25

Oshkosh Farmers Market, 9 a.m., Oshkosh Convention Center

Indoor Rummage and Craft Fair, 9 a.m., Sunnyview Expo Center

Whole-Hearted Wellness Fair, 10 a.m., Father Carr's Place 2B, 1062 N. Koeller St.

Cold Water Classic ice fishing tournament, 11:30 a.m., Millers Bay at Menominee Park

'Tailspin" author John Armbruster, noon, Military Veterans Museum and Education Center, 4300 Poberezny Road

Wisconsin Herd vs. Capital City Go-Go, 7 p.m., Oshkosh Arena

Cold Water Classic Ice Fishing Tournament, 11 a.m., Menominee Park

Oshkosh West Music Department: "Footloose," 7 p.m., Alberta Kimball Auditorium

Missoula Children's Theatre: "The Wizard of Oz," 3 and 7 p.m., The Grand Oshkosh

#### Sunday, Jan. 26

Repair Cafe, 1 p.m., Oshkosh Public Library

Wisconsin Herd vs. Windy City Bulls, 5 p.m., Oshkosh Arena

Oshkosh West Music Department: "Footloose," 2 p.m., Alberta Kimball Auditorium

Friday, Jan. 31 Steely Dane plays "Aja," 7:30 p.m., The Grand Oshkosh

#### Saturday, Feb. 1

Wednesday, Jan. 29

Thursday, Jan. 30

kosh

Otter Street Fisheree, 10 a.m., Menominee Park

4-H Fun Day, 8:30 a.m., Perry Tipler Middle School, 325 S. Eagle St.

Oshkosh Community Jam, 1 p.m., Oshkosh Public Library

Galentines Giveaway Boutique Hop, 10 a.m., downtown shops

Oshkosh Gallery Walk, 6 p.m., downtown

"Assisted Living: The Musical, 2 and 7 p.m., The Grand Oshkosh

Wisconsin Herd vs. Salt Lake City Stars, 7 p.m., Oshkosh Arena

#### Monday, Feb. 3

First Tuesday at First Congregational: Sean Lynch and Marty Vajgrt, noon, 137 Algoma Blvd.

#### Thursday, Feb. 6

Author Mike McCabe: "Miracles Along County Q." 5:30 p.m., Caramel Crisp Bookstore, 200 City Center

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

#### Friday, Feb. 7

Fox Cities Golf Expo, 1 p.m., Sunnyview Expo Center

Morgan House tours, 6 p.m.

#### Saturday, Feb. 8

Fall in Love urban craft fair, 10 a.m., Becket's, 1 City Center

Fox Cities Golf Expo, 10 a.m., Sunnyview Expo Center

#### Sunday, Feb. 9

Fox Cities Golf Expo, 10 a.m., Sunnyview Expo Center



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### **Humane society**

#### from Page 1

said there are instances when euthanizing the animal is the only option.

The city has a contract with OAHS and receives funds annually for services provided to Oshkosh, including taking in stray animals and law-mandated bite holds, quarantines and impounds.

City records show the contract for 2024 was \$104,958. There's an additional payment every year that OAHS receives from dog and cat licenses and last year's payment was \$10,613.

The council approved a 2.5% increase for the OAHS for 2025 and the shelter will receive the contractual payment of \$107,582, according to finance director Julie Calmes.

The organization is not affiliated with the Wisconsin Humane Society or National Humane Society and does not receive funding from either group. OAHS receives donations from community partners to account for its approximately \$2 million operating budget with its 47 full-

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time and part-time employees.

Last year the shelter served 3,009 animals, which includes clinic appointments and assisting with spaying and neutering animals. It took in 918 stray animals, 683 surrendered animals, placed 1,362 animals into homes and reunited 276 strays with their families.

OAHS is not a first-come, first-serve shelter. Instead it uses behavior/temperament-based matchmaking based on the look of the animal and how it would fit into a home to assure it is a permanent match. There is post adoption support for those who may need help after the adoption process.

There are challenges facing the shelter that are not acute to Oshkosh such as a veterinarian shortage, increased pet care costs, lack of affordable pet-friendly housing and staff burnout.

'We so often see the best of humanity at the shelter," Engel said. "But we also see the worst of humanity as well. Everybody is so dedicated to the welfare of these animals that a lot of time the staff are giving so much of themselves and that includes volunteers and our fosters as well."



### **County homeless**

#### from Page 1

rights of way, passed in response to concerns that unhoused people were camping in the right of way in front of businesses in the 900 block of South Green Bay Road.

In response to the ordinances targeting unsheltered people, local leaders, law enforcement and service providers have been gathering to discuss strategies and resources, with a highlight of the board's discussion being the Oshkosh Police Department's announcement of a program set to launch later this year.

Capt. Brian Schuldes said the program includes a dedicated community outreach supervisor, a social worker from Winnebago County and a team who will work out of a downtown Oshkosh building to connect homeless people to resources.

"We are going to be addressing homelessness, unsheltered, and we're going to have a team to help go out and provide resources; identify our unsheltered, so we can get them the resources that they need," he said.

One special initiative discussed by the group was implementing a safe parking program for unhoused people who are living out of their vehicles.

Julia McLester and Kandis Smith with Wise Women Gathering Place provided an overview of the Safe Place Parking program that the organization has operated in Green Bay since 2020. It was started out of a parking lot in an industrial area behind a Walmart and Festival Foods leased from the Oneida Nation during the COVID-19 pandemic using ARPA (American Rescue Plan Act) funds.

The program provides a space for people living in their vehicles to park overnight with porta-potties, a mobile washing



station, and an RV on site that holds supplies, a microwave, and is used for intake meetings. Volunteers and local organizations also provide meals.

JANUARY 22, 2025

The lot is open from 6 p.m. to 8 a.m., has a capacity of 46 vehicles and is set up with numbered parking spots. There are 18 electrical outlets for plugging in heaters or fans and 11 portable power stations for people who can't reach the outlets.

Those using the safe parking go through an intake process and sign agreements about program rules and expectations. Visitors, campers or trailers are not allowed on the lot. Three safety monitors work four-hour shifts in the evenings and mornings to oversee the lot, and a program coordinator and supervisor manage the program.

The program has been operating for about four years and relies on grant funding, donations and community support to cover the \$12,500 per month average operating costs, which includes garbage disposal, electricity, internet, security cameras, porta-potties, wash stations, staffing and \$5,000 per month for insurance.

The program has faced some challenges with drug use, parties and unauthorized visitors, and staff have had to implement policies such as locking the porta-potties during the day and not allowing property checkouts the first night.

On a more basic scale, the Janesville Police Department offers safe parking and a porta-potty in a municipal lot across from the police department building. Deputy chief Mark Ratzlaff said the safe parking was relocated after initially operating at the public library, which led to significant issues.

"We really haven't had any complaints about it and when we had the parking area at our public library, it became like a tent city and abandoned vehicles ...," he said.

Several attendees expressed interest in





# Wildcats' Rasmussen has been model of resiliency

By Tim Froberg HERALD CONTRIBUTOR

The roadblocks have been removed in Maddie Rasmussen's basketball journey. She is finally on the highway to hoops success.

The Oshkosh West forward has put together a strong senior year and made up for lost time after missing much of the past two girls' basketball seasons with knee problems.

Fourteen games into the 2024-25 season, the 5-foot-11 Rasmussen leads the Wildcats in scoring (9.7 points per game), 3-pointers (15) and steals (2.1 per game) and is tied for the team lead in assists (1.9). She is shooting a solid 44 percent from the floor and is the squad's second-leading rebounder (5.1 rebounds per game).

Rasmussen appreciates every second she's on the floor after back-to-back injury-shortened seasons. She's undergone three surgeries the past four years on both knees – including two on the right one.

Rasmussen's problems started as a freshman when she underwent surgery on her left knee. She was limited to a single varsity game her sophomore season when she needed surgery on the right knee. Rasmussen's bad luck streak continued her junior year when she was limited to 10 games before being shut down again by surgery: a second procedure on the right knee.

Rasmussen has a knee condition known as osteochondritis dissecans (OCD), a situation in which a portion of the bone or cartilage separates from the surface of the joint, creating pain.

"Basically, it's a genetic thing passed onto me in which the cartilage in my knee is more prone to tear," said Rasmussen. "A lot of people think I've had ACL injuries just because that's the most common, but that's not the case. Prior to the surgeries, some of the cartilage broke off and would get caught underneath my kneecap. It made it really hard to move."

It also made for an aggravating high school hoops experience. She could have called it a prep basketball career at that point, but Rasmussen had no intention of abandoning the game she loves.

"It was really frustrating," she said. "I worked so hard to get back from previous injuries and then every year something would happen and I would find myself back on the sidelines. It was tough, but my teammates were a huge help in making me feel that I was still a part of the team."

West coach Kenisha Goss has been impressed with Rasmussen's play and wowed by her patience and resiliency.

"Maddie is truly an amazing kid on and off the floor," Goss said. "She's someone



Photo by Jim Koepnick

Oshkosh West senior Maddie Rasmussen has bounced back after missing most of the last two basketball seasons to lead this year's Wildcats in scoring, steals and assists.

that gives 100 percent every time she gets on that floor because she realizes how much of a gift it is to be out there with her teammates after the past two seasons being cut short due to injury.

"She's always checking on teammates to make sure they're doing all right. She's someone who cares about the people around her."

Rasmussen hasn't experienced any knee problems this season and has been a team leader and a rock-solid all-around performer.

"Everything is good right now - no pain," Rasmussen said. "I did my share of physical therapy to be ready for this year, but I still had to earn the respect from the other players on this team just because I

### **Senior Spotlight**

had been out so long. I've worked hard to get here."

Rasmussen credits family and friends for their encouragement through her trying prep career. Her parents, Eric and Karen, were especially supportive.

"My family has been my No.1 supporter," she said. "They have been through everything with me and I have some really good friends and teammates. It's obviously not real fun to be around someone who can't really do too much. But everyone was really inspiring and helpful. My parents would tell me that God has a plan for me and that no matter what happens, I'll get through this."

Rasmussen's resiliency and mental toughness make her a perfect choice for team captain.

"I really like it because I'm the main communicator out there," she said. "That makes me feel vital to the team. It's a cool experience."

Rasmussen saves her best work for the classroom. She's a high-honors student who carries a 3.9 grade-point-average. Rasmussen plans to attend college next season at the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee.

"I'm looking at getting into either kinesiology to become a physical therapist or something in the biology field," Rasmussen said. "I feel like my personal experience has helped me grow fond of that field. It's something I've been quite interested in and sadly I've had to go through some things related to it, but it's really helped me grow."

Rasmussen is part of a competitive West squad (4-6 FVA, 6-9 overall) that is hoping to put together a strong finish in the second half of the season.

"I just hope we can continue to build a strong bond together and grow our friendships and improve our teamwork," she said.



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### **Prep sports roundup**

#### **GIRLS BASKETBALL**

### **Bauer sets scoring** mark in Knights' win

Senior Hailee Bauer etched her name in the Lourdes Academy record book in impressive fashion.

Bauer poured in a season-high 31 points to become the program's all-time leading scorer in a 66-53 victory over Dodgeland last week.

Bauer surpassed the previous mark of 1,565 points held by Katie Van Scyoc. She finished the game with a total of 1,582 points. She also added five assists in the game and finished 5-of-13 from 3-point range.

Delaney Ruedinger added 16 points while Sabur Machiros chipped in eight points and 10 rebounds for the Knights, who pulled away in the second half after leading just 27-25 at halftime.

Lourdes Academy suffered just its third loss of the season, coming up short against Deerfield, 52-38.

In all three losses for the Knights this season they have been held to fewer than 40 points. The team is 9-0 when scoring at least 40 points.

### Moran's big night lifts Warriors to victory

Sophomore Mya Moran poured in a career-high 32 points as Valley Christian throttled Palmyra-Eagle, 80-56, in the Trailways Crossover Tournament game Friday.

Moran, who has reached double figures in all but one game this season, was one of four players in double figures for the Warriors. Paige Boevers finished with 20



Lourdes Academy senior Hailee Bauer became the all-time scoring leader in the program's history with a 31-point effort against Dodgeland on Monday.

points, while Anna Giannopoulos had 14 points and Lizzie Fink chipped in 10.

Valley Christian erupted for 44 points in the first half to take a 15-point lead at intermission.

On Thursday, the Warriors outscored Central Wisconsin Christian 25-22 in the second half but couldn't make up a half-



time deficit in a 55-42 loss.

Moran paced Valley Christian with 17 points with Fink adding 11 points.

### Spartans pick up pair of wins last week

Oshkosh North overcame a tough first half and a 12-point halftime deficit, erupting for 48 points in the second half for a 54-31 win at home over Appleton West.

Awut Alic nearly had a triple-double against the Terrors, totaling 17 points, 13 rebounds and seven steals in the win.

Brinna Paulson added 15 points and Morgan Kolodzik finished with four 3-pointers and 12 points. Naviana Lao-Facundo picked up 11 rebounds for the Spartans.

Earlier in the week, the Spartans picked up a 60-44 road win at Fond du Lac, jumping out to a 33-16 halftime lead before cruising in the second half.

Paulson hit four 3-pointers and finished with a season-high 22 points, with Alic added 20 points, eix rebounds and five assists.

### Wildcats drop road game to Polar Bears

Oshkosh West was held to just 14 points in the first half and fell on the road to state-ranked Hortonville, 75-41, Friday.

Rowan Tigert finished with nine points to lead West, which failed to have a player reach double figures. Samantha Panske added seven points.

The Wildcats also fell at home to Neenah earlier in the week, despite 17 points from Kamryn Stauffacher.

Maddie Rasmussen added 13 points and seven rebounds, while Ava Strasser finished with eight points.

### **GYMNASTICS** Schlies has record-setting effort at invitational

Neva Schlies set one program record and tied another as the Oshkosh West/ North gymnastics team finished first in the Gold Division at the Madison East Purgolder Invitational on Saturday.

Schlies set the program in finishing first on the balance beam with a score of 9.4, while she also tied the program record in placing first on the floor exercises with a score of 9.4. Schlies also finished first on the uneven bars with a score of 8.75 and topped the field in the all-around with a score of 35.7.

Lydia Barr finished second in the allaround with a total of 33.75, while taking second on both the uneven bars (8.4) and floor exercises (9.025).

Ja'niyah Ford also picked up a first place on an apparatus with a score of 8.475 on the vault. She also placed fifth on both the uneven bars (7.8) and floor exercises (8.5).

#### **BOYS BASKETBALL**

### **Spartans** dominate Terrors to even record

Oshkosh North evened its record at 7-7 on the year by rolling past Appleton West, 86-47, Friday night.

Xzavion Mitchell led the way for the Spartans with 25 points, while Tylan Lister knocked down five 3-pointers and finished with a season-high 21 points.

Stefan Solijovic added 14 points and a team-high 13 rebounds, while Jackson Anderson chipped in nine points on three 3-pointers in the win.

The Spartans lost at home to Fond du Lac last Tuesday despite 32 points and eight rebounds. Mitchell is averaging 37.8 points per game this season.

Anderson added 15 points for Oshkosh North, which finished just 1-of-11 from 3-point range.

### Wildcats tripped up on road by Neenah

Oshkosh West was held to its second-lowest point total of the season in falling, 55-41, on the road at Neenah last Tuesday. The Wildcats were held to 37 points in the season-opener.

Joey Ware finished with 13 points and nine rebound to lead the Wildcats. Collin Carns added seven points in the loss.

On Friday, the Wildcats fell behind early and never recovered in a 74-49 loss at home to Hortonville.

Ware reached double figures for the second-straight game with a team-high 12 points.

Sam Benesh added eight points and Malakai Herlihy finished with seven for the Wildcats.

### Lourdes Academy held in check by Oakfield

The Knights couldn't get its offense cranked up as they dropped a Trailways East contest to Oakfield last Thursday, 73-37.

Lourdes Academy had 10 different players score in the game, but did not have a player finish in double figures.

Parker Slusarski led the Knights with six points.

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### Prep roundup

FROM PAGE 16

## Warriors drop close contest to Hustisford

Valley Christian tallied a season-high point total but couldn't pull out a win in dropping a 64-61 decision to Hustisford last Thursday.

Isaiah Hyvonen and Joshua Johnson each scored 11 points to lead the Warriors, who hit 10 3-pointers in the game.

Mathias Behling and Brady Patterson each had nine points in the win, while Derek Wallace and Sam Gloudemans chipped in eight points apiece.

The Warriors then lost to Elkhart Lake-Glenbeulah, 62-43, on Friday, despite only allowing 10 points in the second half.

Johnson scored 14 points and Patters added 12 in the game for Valley Christian. Xavier Osinga chipped in 11 points and 10 rebounds.

#### <u>SWIMMING</u>

## West's Bergin posts win at sprint invite

Oshkosh West's Caleb Bergin finished first in the 100-yard freestyle to lead the way for the Wildcats at the Neenah Sprint Invite on Saturday.

Oshkosh West finished second to host Neenah at the eight-team meet. Oshkosh North/Lourdes finished second overall.

Bergin's victory was West's only win in the 11 events, but the Wildcats had a number of top finishes.

West's 200-yard freestyle relay team of Bergin, Carter Crowe, Sam Roblee and Evan Booms finished second, while Crowe picked up a third place in the 100yard individual medley.

Bergin in the 50-yard butterfly, George Suwalski in the 25-yard freestyle and Booms in the 50-yard freestyle were each fourth along with the Wildcats' 100-yard freestyle relay team. West was also fifth in the 200-yard medley relay, while Robley was sixth in the 25-yard freestyle and Crowe was seventh in the 50-yard breaststroke.

Sawyer Sharratt had the top finish for North/Lourdes, placing fourth in the 50yard breaststroke. He also took sixth place in the 50-yard butterfly.

Trip Kujawa finished eighth in the 50yard freestyle, while the best finish in a relay for North/Lourdes was a sixth place in the 200-yard freestyle relay.

#### <u>HOCKEY</u>

### Ice Hawks drop three games last week

On Saturday, the Ice Hawks built a 3-1 lead early in the third period against Pacelli but couldn't hold on for the win as the Cardinals scored four goals in the final 13 minutes to hand Oshkosh a 5-3 loss.

Jake Koller, Briski and Kraft all scored goals for the Ice Hawks, while Mason Monhen and Zander Crook notched assists.

Chase Magadanz made 27 saves in net for Oshkosh.

#### **BOYS WRESTLING**

## Wildcats split pair of conference duals

Oshkosh West knocked off Appleton North, 54-24, but fell to Hortonville, 50-27, at a Fox Valley Association double-dual event held at Kaukauna on Thursday night.

The Wildcats registered four pins in the win over the Lightning. Preston Schneider (126), Eddy Schroeder (138), Ryland Schneider (175) and Nelson Fournier (215) all won by pin, while Eskander Koko (150) and Zach Bartels (190) won by technical fall.

Jaxen Lloyd (144) and Jaiden Fronczak (165) won by major decision against Appleton North with Xavier Vang (113) and Will Dailey (157) winning by forfeit for the Wildcats.

Against Hortonville, Preston Schneider (126), Schroeder (144), Ryland Schneider (190) and Fournier (285) all won by pin, with Fronczak (175) also picking up a win for West.

### Spartans drop pair of FVA dual meets

Oshkosh North went 0-2 at a Fox Valley Association double dual meet at Kaukauna last week.

The Spartans were shut out by the host Ghosts, 82-0, whole losing to Appleton West, 50-26.

Everix Blessent registered the lone pin for Oshkosh North against the Terrors, stopping Cornelius Tate in 43 seconds in the 215-pound match. Andrew Brockman (175) won by technical fall, while Jamond Thompson-Schreck won a wild 20-19 match at 165 pounds. Alex Barrera (113) and Carter Zick (132) won by forfeit.

On Saturday, the Spartans participated in the Bark Memorial Invite hosted by Markesan.

Brockman led the way for Oshkosh North by going 5-0 with four pins to finish first at 175 pounds, while teammate Arthur Hildebrand picked up a second place

## Obituaries

#### **Mary Ann Huebner**

Mary Ann Huebner, age 91, passed away at Bethel Home on January 12, 2025 after



a short illness. She was born July 5, 1933, the 9<sup>th</sup> of 11 children, to the late Stanley and Gertrude Marhefke. Mary married Harold Huebner on July 20, 1963. They resided in Oshkosh until 1993

when a move was made to build a home on Pelican Lake in Wisconsin.

She graduated from Wisconsin State College in Oshkosh in 1961, with a degree in elementary education. After graduation she taught in: Manitowoc Public Schools, Appleton Public Schools, and lastly Central School in Ripon, retiring in May 1992.

After retirement she and Harold traveled throughout the United States in a "fifth wheel" until his death in 2003. Mary then moved back to Oshkosh to be near family and friends. She found joy in continuing to travel through senior center trips, gardening, attending Red Hat meetings and avidly supporting the Packers

ings and avidly supporting the Packers. Mary is survived by her sister, Elenore

#### James W. Schoonover

James W. Schoonover, 80, passed away January 15, 2025, in Oshkosh, WI. He



was born September 15,1944 to parents, Hazel (Flanagan) and William Schoonover.

Jim married Betty Ann Boening on June 5, 1965, in Berlin, WI and together they had two children, Cheryl and Jeffrey. Betty

passed away on June 10, 1992, after 27 years of marriage. After High school, Jim worked at Mercury Marine and then later went on to work at C.D. Smith in Fond du Lac and was a longstanding member of the Ironworkers Union, Local 383. He loved going hunting, especially for pheasant and deer. Jim enjoyed spending time outside with his family and working on the family farm.

Jim is survived by his children, Cheryl (Peter) Rausch and Jeffrey (Jill) Schoonover; grandchildren, Nathan (Reghan Berg) Rausch and Matthew Rausch; sisters and brothers, Susan (Philip) Kratz, Vicki Behm, Michael Schoonover, Patrick (Connie) Schoonover, Gerald Schoonover and John (Debora) Schoonover; sisters-in-law, Jeanette Boening, Connie Boening and Jean Ann Boening; he is further survived by many cousins, nieces, Francis; brother, Stan (Mary) Marhefke; stepson, Randy (Cathy) Huebner; Randy and Cathy's sons, Kraig and Kyle; grandchildren, Kennedy and Kasen. To them she was affectionately known as "Grandma Mary". There are 27 of 32 nieces and nephews currently living. She is preceded in death by her parents; brothers, Raymond, Cliff, Ralph, and Bernie; sisters, Regina, Helen, Gertrude, and Joanie.

The family would like to extend a Thank You to her special friends: Jean Kabat and Dona Rager and a deep appreciation to Moments Hospice.

The day which we recognize as our last is but our birthday into eternity with the Lord.

A memorial service for Mary will be held Saturday, January 25, 2025, at St. Raphael the Archangel Catholic Church, 830 S Westhaven Dr, Oshkosh, at 10:30am, with Fr. Tom Long officiating. There will be a time of visitation starting at 9:00am till the start of the service.

A memorial is being established in Mary's name.

KONRAD-BEHLMAN

Preceding Jim, his wife, Betty Schoonover; parents, William and Hazel Schoonover; father and mother-in-law, Edward and Margaret Boening; sisters-in-law, Jodie Schoonover and Catherine Hopperdietzel; brothers-in-law, Carl Boening, Richard Boening, David Boening and James (infant) Boening; as well as several other extended family members.

A visitation will be held at Kwiatkowski Funeral Home, 425 Jefferson Ave. Omro, WI on Thursday evening, January 23, from 4pm to 8pm, and again the following morning, Friday January 24, at St. Mary's Catholic Church, 730 Madison Ave. Omro, WI from 10am to 11am, with mass to follow. Jim will be laid to rest next to his wife, Betty in Omro Cemetery following services.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made in Jim's honor to the Oshkosh Area Humane Society or Wisconsin Alzheimer's Association.

His family would like to extend a thank you for the love and support from extended family and friends, a huge thank you to the wonderful staff at Bethel Home who treated him with dignity and helped him with his needs.

~Dad, remember that there is a link death cannot sever love, and remembrance will last forever -Pudge



Zander Crook tallied the only goal for the Oshkosh Ice Hawks as they dropped a 6-1 decision to South Central on Friday in Madison.

Crook's goal came on a power play early in the second period to tie the game at 1. South Central broke the tie a little more than two minutes later and added two more goals in the period to take a 4-1 lead.

Evan Burger assisted on the goal for the Ice Hawks. Gage Bauer finished with 45 saves in goal.

The Ice Hawks dropped a 3-2 contest to Appleton United earlier in the week with Brennon Kraft posting a goal and an assist in the game.

Frank Ulrich also scored for the Ice Hawks, while Dayton Briski was credited with an assist.

Bauer totaled 25 saves in goal in the loss for the Ice Hawks.

in the same weight class.

Barrera (113) and Blessent (190) each finished second with Xavier Ruchinsky and Thompson-Schreck each taking third at 150 and 165 pounds, respectively. Dominic Wyrwicki was fourth at 144 pounds.

#### **GIRLS WRESTLING**

### Bryant, Mrazek lead Wildcats at tournament

Oshkosh West had a pair of wrestlers place in the top five at the Warrior Women's Challenge held at Wausau West High School on Saturday.

Samantha Bryant was the top finisher, going 3-1 with a pin to take third in the 132-pound Silver division. Sarah Mrazek notched a pair of pins in going 2-2 to take fourth in the 114-pound Silver division. nephews and friends.

#### **Evan Marcus Williams**

Evan, son of Anna (Gruenberg, Williams) Barbian and Corey Williams, 16,



passed away on Friday, January 17 after a long battle with cancer.

There will be a funeral service on Saturday, January 25 at Valley Funeral Home on Richmond St., Ap-

Full obituary online.





Omro, Wisconsin 54963

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### **Obituaries**

#### Arlyn C. Schwartz

Arlyn Carl Schwartz, age 95, passed away peacefully on January 11, 2025.



Arlyn, known by many as Skip, was born on December 7, 1929, in Fond du Lac, WI to Carl and Bernice (Lohse) Schwartz. Arlyn attended

St. Peter's Lutheran Grade School

and Winnebago Lutheran High School graduating in 1948. He served in the US Army from 1951 until 1953 with the 118<sup>th</sup> Combat Engineers in Germany. He was a lifetime member of St Peter's Lutheran Church.

Arlyn and Audrey were introduced by best friends George (Jr) and Ardis on a blind date. On January 27, 1951, he married Audrey Cook before entering the service. Arlyn was employed by Kiekhaefer Mercury and Mercury Marine from 1948-1992.

Survivors include his wife, Audrey and children: Renee (Thom)Bigler of Surprise, AZ, Kevin Schwartz of Oshkosh, Lori Graves of Oshkosh, Mark (Kelly) Schwartz of Oshkosh, and Steven (Joan) Schwartz of Oshkosh; grandchildren: Sarah (Shaun) Graham, Courtney Baier, Jarred Graves, Joel Graves, Adam (Melissa) Schwartz, Ross (Morgan) Schwartz, Erica (Andrew) King, Alex (Deagan) Schwartz, Kyle (Emma) Schwartz. He is also survived by four great-grandchildren.

Arlyn was preceded in death by his parents, in-laws, Wayne (Estelle) Cook, sonin-law Perry Graves, brothers-in-law: Richard Cook (Lorraine) and Russell Cook (Selma); friends George Jr (Ardis) Smith.

VISITATION: 10:00 AM – 12:00 PM, on Saturday, February 1 at St Peter's Lutheran Church, 1600 S Main St, Fond du Lac. SERVICE: 12:00 PM with Rev. Fred Toppe officiating. Kurki Funeral Chapel & Crematory is serving the family.

Arlyn was a carpenter, a mechanic, a handyman, a plumber, and an inventor. Throughout our lives, Dad was always loving, steady, humble, fun, and there for us without drama .... now he leaves us in the same way. Thank you, Dad. We love you and miss you.

#### **Thomas E. Pucci**

Thomas E. Pucci, age 67, passed away on Monday, January 6, 2025 in Oshkosh.



He was born to the late Raymond T. and Ruth Mary Pucci in Oshkosh on November 11, 1957.

He married Christine Gerber on June 3, 2000. He retired from Oshkosh Truck after

35 years of service. Tom is survived by his loving wife, In lieu of flowers, memorials may be given to St Peter's Lutheran Church.

Kurki Funeral Chapel & Crematory is serving the family, on-line guestbook can be found at www.kurkifuneralchapel.com. 920-921-4420



Chris; son, Justin Pucci; sister, Carla Krisbaher; brother, Gary (Gail) Pucci. Extended family: stepson, William (Jennifer) Bodenbach; stepdaughter, Christina (Jim) Smith; 6 grandchildren and 10 great-grandchildren.

He was preceded in death by his brother-in-law, 'Al' Krisbaher; and his best friend, Jeffrey Tellock.

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



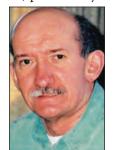
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### **Obituaries**

#### **Raymond Gorschels Jr.**

Raymond "Butch" Gorschels Jr., age 75, passed away on January 9, 2025 with



his loving wife by his side in Oshkosh, WI. He was born on November 20, 1949 to parents Raymond and Lorraine (Gauger) Gorschels Sr. in Oshkosh, WI. He graduated in

1968 from Oshkosh

High School. Butch served his country in the United States Army, during the Vietnam War, from 1968 to 1972.

He drove semi, and sometimes his cat Panther would go along. He also worked

William H. Henschel

William "Bill" H. Henschel, age 68, of Oshkosh, WI, passed away on Saturday,



January 18, 2025. He was born to the late Howard and Jeanette (Bidwell) on September 15, 1956.

Bill married Debbie Redlin on July 30,1983. He last worked at WMHI Canteen and was a

proud alumni of the Boys and Girls Club for 50 years. He loved to spend time swimming at the YMCA and later spent time swimming at our special friends Gary and Linda's.

Bill is survived by his wife, Debbie Henschel; children, Gary (Lindsay Galica) Henschel and Nicole (Greg) Brewer; grandchildren, Tripp Brewer, Jade Brewer, Kate Butt and Mady Butt; siblings, Jim at 7-Up Bottling Company and Fleet Farm in Appleton, as a forklift driver until retirement.

In his youth, Butch enjoyed hunting and watching baseball, football and racing on TV. On May 2, 2003, he married the love of his life, Shirlee Buskirk in Omro, WI. Shirlee and Butch became inseparable. They enjoyed watching old westerns together and also spent a lot of time outdoors doing gardening and yard work. Their favorite getaway place was Door County. Butch loved woodworking, he built swing sets, sandboxes, birdhouses and even built a treehouse for his grandson, Brett Engel.

He was always willing to help others and had a good sense of humor.

(Bear) Henschel and Jean Henschel; step siblings, Pam, Judy, and Janice; brother-inlaw Jim (Liz Bellin) Redlin, mother-in-law Correen Redlin and is further survived by many cousins, nieces and nephews.

Along with his late parents, Bill is preceded in death by his stepmother, Donna Henschel; and his loving companion, Jasmine.

Services will be held on Saturday, January 25, 2025, at Konrad-Behlman Funeral Homes- Westside, 100 Lake Pointe Drive, Oshkosh, WI, at 5:00pm. A visitation will take place from 3:00pm until the time of service. Interment will take place at Lake View Memorial Park at a later date.

A memorial has been established.

"We know he's up there, telling all those dad jokes, because, well, he had a million of em'!"

KONRAD-BEHLMAN

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He is survived by his wife of 21 years, Shirlee Gorschels; stepchildren Fred Abler Jr. and Missy (Justin) Ditter; grandson Brett Engel. He is further survived by his sisters Betty Luther, Barbara Weidemann and Beverly (Tom) Paulsen; brother Robert "Bob" Gorschels and many nieces, nephews and cousins.

Preceding him in death were his parents Raymond and Lorraine (Gauger) Gorschels Sr.; parents-in-law Gaylord and Fern Buskirk; brother-in-law Tom Luther and nephew Gordy Luther.

Visitation will be held on Saturday, January 25, 2025, at Kwiatkowski Funeral Home, 425 Jefferson Ave., Omro, WI, from 10:00am to 12:00pm with service at 12:00pm. Military Honors will be present immediately following the service in front of the funeral home.

The family would like to thank all of the staff at Mercy Medical Center (including nurses, doctors, the Chaplin and environmental services) as well as the team at Compassus Hospice, especially Nicole, for treating them like family and their great care given to Butch. A very sincere thank you to friends, neighbors and extended family that came to visit Butch while he was in the hospital and lending their support during this difficult time. Your kindness will not be forgotten.

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### Legal Notice

STATE OF WISCONSIN, CIRCUIT COURT, Fond du Lac COUNTY Publication Summons And Notice (Small Claims) Case No: 24 SC 1872

GOCAR, LLC 243 Morris Court

Fond du Lac, WI 54935 Plaintiff(s)-vs-Erin Thompson 1037 W. 10<sup>th</sup> Ave. OSHKOSH, WI 54902 Defendant(s).

#### Publication Summons and Notice of Filing

TO THE PERSON(S) NAMED ABOVE AS DEFENDANTS(S):

You are being sued by the person(s) named above as Plaintiff(s). A copy of the claim has been sent to you at your address as stated in the caption above.

The lawsuit will be heard in the following Small Claims court: Fond du Lac County Court-house

Telephone Number of Clerk of Court: 920-929-3038

Courtroom/Room Number: Intake Court Room 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor

Address: 160 S. Macy St. Fond WI 54901

You may contact the clerk of court at the telephone number above to determine if there are other methods to answer a Small Claims complaint in that county.

Dated: 1/9/2025\ /s/ Frederick Baier Phone: 920-539-3696 Run January 15, 2025, January 22, 2025 and January 29, 2025

WNAXLP

STATE OF WISCONSIN, CIRCUIT COURT WINNEBAGO COUNTY IN THE MATTER OF THE NAME CHANGE OF: Taya Savannah PedahEI

By (Petitioner) ERICKA CHRISTIAN RAYBERN By (Co-Petitioner) DION GARY RAYBERN

Notice and Order for Name Change Hearing Case No. 2025CV000023

#### NOTICE IS GIVEN:

A Petition was filed asking to change the name of the person listed above: From: Taya Savannah PedahEl To: Taya Savannah Raybern Birth Certificate: Taya Savannah PedahEl

#### IT IS ORDERED:

This Petition will be heard in the Circuit Court of Winnebago County, State of Wisconsin: Judge's Name: Hon. Michael D. Rust Place: Winnebago County Courthouse Room 410 415 Jackson Street, Oshkosh, WI 54901

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On the following date and time:

Date: 1/27/2025 Time: 9:00 a.m.

If you do not attend the hearing, the court may enter a judgement against you in favor of the person(s) suing you. A copy of the claim has been sent to you at your address as stated in the caption above. A judgment may be enforced as provided by law. A judgment awarding money may become a lien against any real estate (property) you own now or in the future, and may also be enforced by garnishment or seizure of property.

You may have the option to Answer without appearing in court on the court date by filing a written Answer with the clerk of court **before** the court date. You must send a copy of your Answer to the Plaintiff(s) named above at their address. Date: February 10, 2025 Time: 3:30 pm

If you require reasonable accommodations due to a disability to participate in the court process, please call 920-236-4811 prior to the scheduled court date. Please note that the court does not provide transportation.

#### IT IS FURTHER ORDERED:

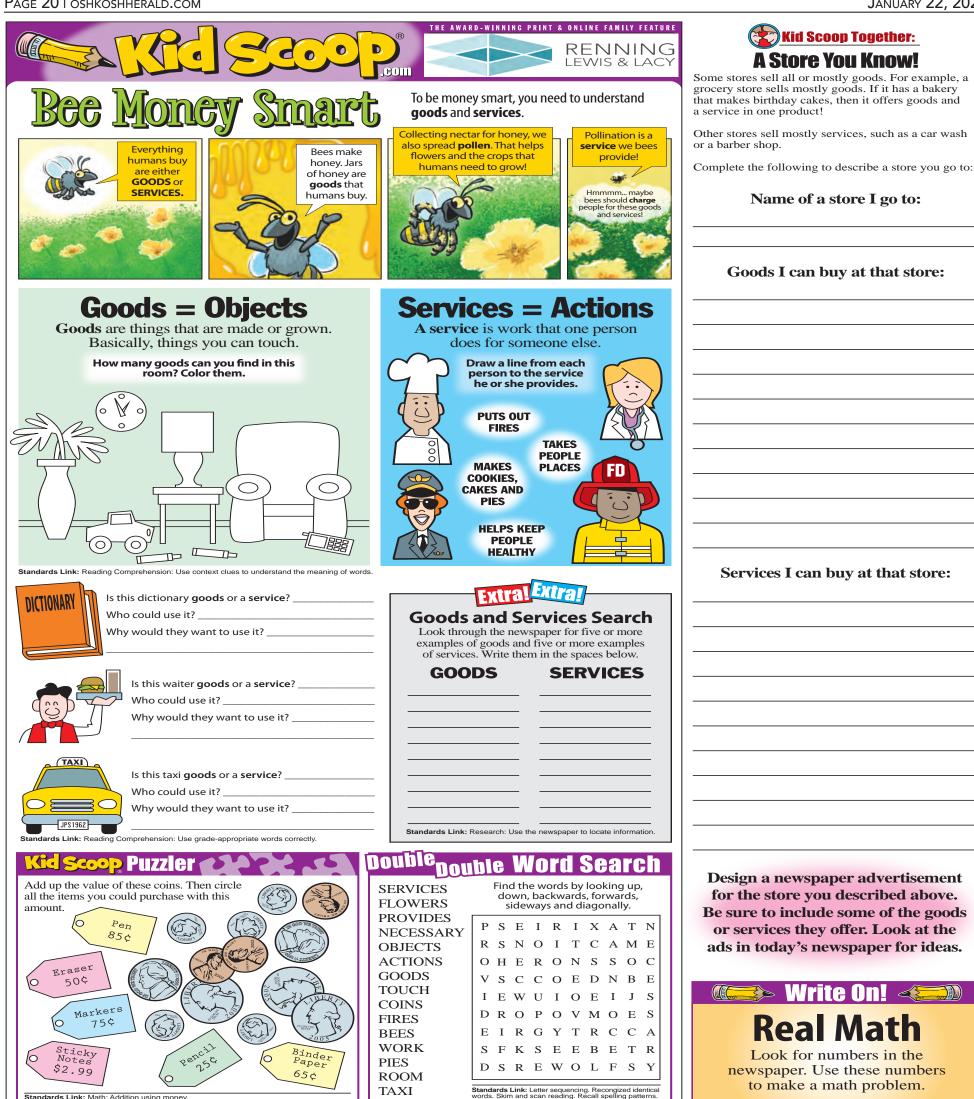
Notice of this hearing shall be given by publication as a Class 3 notice for three (3) weeks in a row prior to the date of the hearing in the Oshkosh Herald a newspaper published in Winnebago County, State of Wisconsin. BY THE COURT:

#### DATE SIGNED: January 9, 2025 /s/ Hon. Michael D. Rust

Winnebago County Circuit Court Judge, Branch I Runs: January 22, 2025, January 29, 2025 and February 5, 2025

WNAXLP

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