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in victory over West Page 15

Venues & trends

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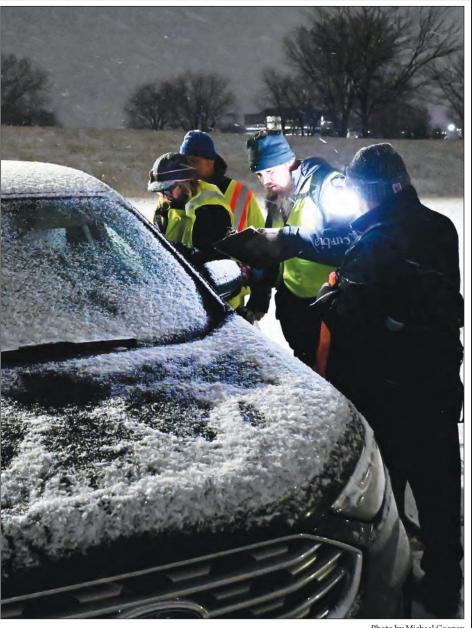


Photo by Michael Cooney

Homeless update

A local volunteer team found a mother and her child spending the night in their car in the back corner of a hotel parking lot late last week while they were conducting the city's annual Point-in-Time count, an effort to assess homelessness across the region. Five teams canvassed key areas of Oshkosh. See a story about the survey on Page 5.

Stormwater, sewer rates up this month

Capital improvement, water projects cited

By Jonathan Richie OSHKOSH HERALD

City residents will see their monthly utility bill go up between \$3 and \$5 due to recent rate increases for storm and sewer approved by the Common Council.

Stormwater rates have risen 2.5% and sewer rates went up 6.2%. Public Works director James Rabe said these are consistent increases compared with recent years.

Residents began seeing the rate increase in bills that went out earlier this month. City officials said it will help pay for capital improvements projects as well as keep the city up to date with government regulations.

Rabe said the city works with municipality consulting firm Ehlers Inc. to forecast capital improvement projects, such as street repairs and building renovations, that the city would like to complete in the next 10 years. That forecast then shows how the utility rates can be adjusted to ensure capital projects remain funded.

These rates were approved with no opposing votes from the council during its Dec. 10 meeting. The increase comes at a time when the council is handling calls regarding new tax bills that were sent out with many residents seeing higher bills after city officials said taxes wouldn't go up. Residential properties' assessed value

SEE **Utility bills** ON PAGE 7

Governor seeks input on new budget priorities in city visit

Oshkosh Herald

Gov. Tony Evers listened to community advocates from the nonprofit and public sector describe some of their challenges in gaining some needed funding and resources for family and housing programs a day after the governor delivered his State of the State address.

Evers stopped in Oshkosh to host a community discussion as part of a press tour the day after delivering his seventh annual address to the Legislature that laid out proposals for his upcoming 2025-27 budget.

"I know the area well," Evers told the group, noting his family was here for about eight years when two of his children attended Oshkosh West High. He worked for the regional nonprofit Cooperative

Educational Service Agency (CESA) 6 based here.

Evers told the small group representing a cross-section of program leaders at New Moon Cafe in Oshkosh that he will be pushing record investments into education and mental health care among other initiatives in his "Year of the Kid" focus on children of all ages.

With expected pushback from Republican leaders who control the Assembly and Senate against some of those budget initiatives, Evers said he hoped to gain public input on how to gain bipartisan support for children's issues as a whole.

He said there is no way current child care providers and other nonprofits can keep up with the need for affordable ser-

SEE **Evers visit** on Page 8



Oshkosh Herald

Gov. Tony Evers held a roundtable discussion with community members Thursday at New Moon Cafe. Shown with the governor are Habitat for Humanity executive director Tom Simon (left), Assembly Rep. Lori Palmeri, Menasha Mayor Austin Hammond, Sustainability Advisory Board chair Margy Davey and county public health supervisor Alana Erickson.



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Advertising deadline is noon Wednesday for the following Wednesday.

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

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Corrections

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

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Members of the Baksteen Valken team include (front row, from left) Max Schmiedel, Aisha Akineye, Gus Smiltneek, Ellen Volkening, Andrew Trinklein; (back row) Yui Watanabe, Jonathan Czarnota, Cora Volkening and Cora Jones.

First LEGO League team advances to nationals

Oshkosh Herald

Oshkosh FIRST Lego League team Baksteen Valken has qualified for another national competition with a strong showing at the Jan. 19 state championship in Waukesha.

Baksteen Valken student members demonstrated to judges their innovative solution, the Baksteen Buoy, which can save beach explorers' lives by detecting rip currents. They also gave a presentation on their robot design process that emphasized their teamwork.

"During the robot matches we were thrilled to complete a perfect run, scoring all of the missions the students built and programmed their robot to do," said Amy Hardy, a team coach along with Nick Jones.

The team won a Core Values award and

benefit Saturday night at the Pio-

will represent Wisconsin at the American Robotics Competition on May 17-18 in Jersey City. Baksteen Valken will be organizing some community fundraisers to help support travel expenses.

The team qualified for the state championship after competing at the sectional level Dec. 14 with 25 other teams, where it took a first-place innovation Project Award.

Berlin man killed in crash with Amazon van

Oshkosh Herald

A 30-year-old Berlin man is dead after a crash with a delivery van in the Town of

Around 6 p.m. Jan. 22, Winnebago County dispatch received a call regarding a truck versus Amazon delivery van crash on State 21 west of Leonard Point Road.

Deputies from the sheriff's office, state patrol and Omro police responded to the crash along with the Algoma Fire Department.

The pickup truck was heading west on State 21 when it collided with an eastbound Amazon van. The van was driven by a 30-year-old Appleton woman.

When authorities arrived the pickup truck was engulfed in flames. Two bystanders were able to pull the man from the truck. Lifesaving measures were made but he was pronounced dead at the scene.

The sheriff's office is delaying releasing the name until family members have been notified.

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history by the Winnebago County Historical

Jan. 31, 1966

Celeste Holm Ends Visit to Oshkosh - Departs for Hollywood: Movie star Celeste Holm left Oshkosh from the Winnebago County Airport yesterday afternoon to return to her Hollywood home. Her mink coat served to conceal a brace she wore to prevent recurrence of the pinched nerve in her neck which sent the actress to Mercy Hospital shortly after appearing at the "Save The Grand Theater"

neer Inn. Before leaving, Miss Holm expressed some final thoughts about the Grand project. "The thing I want to stress is that this theater cannot be replaced. We no longer build theaters with perfect acoustics," she stated, comparing the former Grand Opera House to New York City's new Lincoln Center. Described as an ideal patient by the Mercy Hospital staff, Miss Holm praised the care she received there. Leaving the hospital, Holm stopped on her way to the elevator to thank a fellow patient who had presented her with several handmade gifts.

> Source: Oshkosh Northwestern, Jan. 31, 1966





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Greg Stelter (left) with Mike Stanley following Stelter's appointment as interim fire chief.

Interim fire chief named as search begins for city

By Jonathan Richie Oshkosh Herald

Oshkosh's assistant fire chief Greg Stelter has been named interim fire chief as the city searches for a replacement for Mike Stanley, who announced his departure earlier this month to be closer to his family in Colorado.

Stelter was named interim chief at the Jan. 21 Police and Fire Commission. He started with OFD in 1997. Under Stanley's tenure, Stelter was promoted to lieutenant in 2018, battalion chief in 2021 and assistant chief of operations in 2022.

"I will do my best to make sure the department continues to function smoothly to serve the community," Stelter said.

He also thanked Stanley and interim city manager John Fitzpatrick for their confidence in appointing him to the leadership role.

The Police and Fire Commission is the hiring body for the position that will be posted locally and nationally as part of the recruitment process.

HR manager Michelle Behnke said two surveys will be developed by the commission to get input from the community and city employees on the preferred qualities, skills and abilities for the next fire chief.

The city plans to hold a meet-and-greet for finalists similar to the one held at the Convention Center for recent city manager finalists.

Grant supports hygiene products for students

Oshkosh Herald

The Oshkosh Southwest Rotary Club has received a \$3,000 Rotary District Grant to provide cabinets stocked with feminine hygiene products at Oshkosh North and West high schools benefiting female students with limited financial re-

The project aims to enhance their ability to succeed in school. Period poverty, defined as the lack of access to menstrual products, education and safe sanitation facilities, affects millions in the U.S. and worldwide. Poor menstrual hygiene can lead to serious health conditions and adversely impact education, self-esteem and mental health.

The Southwest Rotary Club's initiative will establish feminine hygiene stations at both high schools, providing discreet and accessible supplies. Rotarians will be involved in setting up the stations, ensuring the ongoing replenishment of supplies, and maintaining open communication with school staff to support educational opportunities.

"The need for this project became evident during discussions by our grant committee on impactful ways to support Women's Health Month," said Michael Raymond, who is leading the project. "After consulting with school social workers, we recognized that providing feminine hygiene products would make a significant difference for many girls in our community."

This project has support from the Oshkosh Herald and Women's Fund of the Oshkosh Area Community Foundation. The Women's Fund Bare Essentials Campaign, launched in May, complements this initiative by raising awareness and advocating for menstrual equity in the community.

Menards accepting food donations for pantry

Menards' Oshkosh location at 2351 Westowne Ave. will be serving as a drop site to support the Day by Day Shelter in

Oshkosh through March.

Menards also has nonperishable food items for purchase that can be donated.

Business news roundup

Reimer Jewelers has named Jack Barta as its new in-house watchmaker as part of its professional team. Barta recently graduated from Gem City College in Quincy, Ill., with a diploma in watchmaking. He will be handling in-store watch services on mechanical and quartz movement watches along with watch crystals, stem and crowns, and bracelet adjustments at the 11 Waugoo Ave. location.

Settlers Mill of Oshkosh, which has featured miniature golf and games during

the spring and summer months, will not be opening in 2025 after more than 30 years in operation. The land at 3025 S. Washburn St. is now owned by Woshkosh LLC, according to city tax records. Woshkosh is the group that purchased The Shops at Oshkosh outlet mall last year and is owned by the Woodman's Markets. Settlers Mill owners posted on Facebook, "After over 30-plus years in Oshkosh, our family is saddened but also incredibly grateful that we were able to be a part of this community."



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January 29, 2025

Pig fountain could become new sidewalk attraction



A bronze pig statue similar to one in Florence, Italy, could be installed on the sidewalk in front of an Italian restaurant that will open at 224 State St.

Chamber cites individuals and groups

Oshkosh Herald

The Oshkosh Chamber of Commerce recognized 14 individuals and organizations for their contributions to the chamber and community at its 117th Annual Meeting at the Oshkosh Convention Center.

Award winners included:

- Outstanding Chamber Volunteer: Nathan Krohn, Teriyaki Madness
- Propel Young Professional of the Year: Abby Zubella, Behnke Financial
- Ambassador of the Year: Tina Fillmore, Cedar Yard Greetings
- Distinguished Service: Dennis Lewandowski
- Lynne Webster Leadership Award: Mark Rohloff, former city manager
- Alberta S. Kimball Community Service: Oshkosh Farmers Market
- Horizon Award: XRoads41 Music
- Enterprise of the Year: 4imprint
- Small Business of the Year: Lakeside Plastics
- Stephen Mosling Commitment to Education: Experimental Aircraft Association

By Jonathan Richie Oshkosh Herald

The city's Plan Commission approved plans for a new statue to be installed outside an Italian restaurant set to open in a historic downtown building.

The Truffle Pig is a restaurant set to open later this year inside the former Oshkosh Northwestern newspaper location, owned by Oshkosh native and Silicon Valley entrepreneur T.J. Rodgers.

When Rodgers spoke to the Rotary Club last year, he unveiled plans to open a bar and restaurant in the 57,000-square-foot building. The pig statue and fountain will welcome people into the restaurant and add to the city's growing public art.

Rodgers noted the importance of pigs for truffle hunting.

"No other animal can do it," he said.

The building at 224 State St., built in 1930 and added to the U.S. National Register of Historical Places in 1982, is being renovated to include a restaurant, bar, hotel and some small shops. The southern portion of the building will be the Truffle Pig and in front will be the statue and fountain.

The fountain is proposed to be 5 feet from the building for ADA compliance and 18 inches from the curb.

Kelsie Lally of Team SNW LLC is the applicant for the swine statue and fountain as part of the Rodgers team.

"This bronze pig is an exact replica of Il Poricilino Tartufo, which is the bronze pig of Florence," Lally said. "Our intent is put it on the sidewalk so people can be greeted by that upon their entrance into the restaurant."

The statue in Florence is a famous landmark there with origins dating back to 16th century Baroque and Renaissance artwork.

The base of the statue will be concrete block wrapped in limestone to match the building's facade.

"It's new for the community, having a statue ... in the right of way," Lally said.

Commission member Karl Lowenstein asked about the regulations for planters on Main Street and how that compares to the space for the proposed statue.

Justin Gierach, public works engineering division manager, did not voice any concerns with the space being taken up by the statue. He said on Main Street the city requires a 2-foot gap between the street and an obstruction, sidewalk cafe or planter.

"This is a unique situation and the uniqueness of it is the underground electrical that needs to be installed from the building to the pig," he said of the electrical work that will power the fountain.

Rodgers has several investments throughout the city, including TJ's Harbor, the Oshkosh Country Club and Ardy & Ed's Drive In, and is a major contributor to the Tiny Homes Village on West Packer Avenue.

The pig statue will be on an upcoming Common Council agenda for final approval.

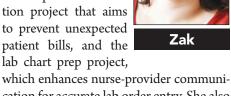
Aurora nurse in Oshkosh cited for efforts

Oshkosh Herald

Amber Zak, a certified oncology nurse at Aurora Medical Center – Oshkosh, was selected as a 2024 Nurse of the Year for demon-

strating core nursing values and delivery of best-in-class care.

Zak has led several process improvement initiatives, including the lab prior authorization project that aims to prevent unexpected patient bills, and the



which enhances nurse-provider communication for accurate lab order entry. She also serves as a mentor and preceptor while actively engaging in professional governance.

She additionally chairs the Vince Lombardi Cancer Clinic journal club, which focuses on evidence-based practices, and recently helped lead an article on central line maintenance that aligns systemwide protocols. "I have been drawn to nursing for as long as I can remember," Zak said. "My path to oncology started early in my health care career while working as a certified nursing assistant. During that time, I had the fortunate opportunity to be introduced to the cancer and end-of-life care population. These are the people I feel most called to serve."

Jane Dus, senior vice president and chief nursing officer for Advocate Health – Midwest Region, stated, "Advocate Health nurses are committed to delivering exceptional, evidence-based and equitable care for all. It is a true honor to witness the remarkable impact they make in transforming lives through innovative and compassionate care every day."

More than 1,200 nominations on behalf of nurses from a variety of specialties were received from clinicians and teammates and reviewed according to each nominee's passion for patient care, commitment to service, solution-oriented abilities and evidence-based practice.



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olunteers conduct annual homeless count across city

By Michael Cooney HERALD CONTRIBUTOR

Volunteers from the community came together late Wednesday night to conduct the city's annual Point-in-Time (PIT) count, a critical effort to assess homelessness across the region. The count, which began after 11 p.m. Wednesday, saw five teams of volunteers canvassing key areas of Oshkosh, including local parks, parking lots, under bridges and other structures commonly frequented by those without stable housing.

Twenty individuals, including some with children, were located. After completing the survey, volunteers offered participants water, snacks, sandwiches and information on community resources they could utilize.

"Many of the unhoused individuals we found were in their cars, often parked in the more isolated areas of parking lots, while others were found on the street," said Becky Heldt, homeless prevention director for the regional support agency Advocap. "It's a reminder of how many

people are struggling with homelessness in ways that may not always be immediately visible."

The PIT count is part of a national snapshot of homelessness in communities, with the data feeding into the Annual Homelessness Assessment Report (AHAR) submitted to the U.S. Congress. This information also contributes to the Housing Inventory Chart, a resource used by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD). The findings help secure funding for local homelessness services.

"The data we gather directly impacts funding for local programs and services," Heldt said. "Without an accurate count, we risk not receiving the resources needed to support the growing number of individuals and families facing homelessness in our community."

The count wrapped up at 2 a.m. with volunteers focusing on unsheltered individuals and those staying in emergency shelters, transitional housing or domestic violence shelters. The collected data helps



A local volunteer team meets ahead of conducting a Point in Time survey last week to connect with the city's homeless population.

Meeting offered ahead of annual bird count

Oshkosh Herald

An informational meeting ahead of the Great Backyard Bird Count organized by Winnebago Audubon is being presented at 6 p.m. Feb. 6 in Oshkosh Food Co-op Community Room at 155 Jackson St. in Oshkosh.

The in-person meeting and presentation will discuss the bird count and how to enter GBBC sightings online using eBird through the account setup and protocols. More information about the GBBC is at www.birdcount.org.

Winnebago Audubon will hold its bird count Feb. 15 starting at 9 a.m. at Kimberly Point in south Neenah with a focus on ducks, mergansers and eagles, then moves to Wilderness Park to look for finches, woodpeckers and other winter birds with the count continuing until 11 p.m.

Viewing birds near the lighthouse at Kimberly Point can be accomplished from a vehicle or by taking a short walk to the nearest vantage point. At Wilderness Park there is a quarter-mile walk on a level trail.

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Child pornography case brings 15-year sentence

By Jonathan Richie OSHKOSH HERALD

A former Oshkosh resident and owner of a Menasha dog grooming business has been sentenced to 15 years in state prison after being convicted of possession of child pornography.

Assistant District Attorney Amanda Nash said when Jacob Boudreau was arrested he was in possession of extremely disturbing child pornography material. She added in her opening remarks for sentencing that Boudreau committed bold criminal acts as part of a child pornography ring operating in the community.

The state and the defense both prepared presentence investigations leading up to the sentencing last week. The state's investigation recommended eight to 10 years in prison followed by up to six years of extended supervision. The defense recommended the minimum jail time of three years followed by three years of extended supervision.

Boudreau's attorney, John Carroll, asked for the minimum sentence of three years by noting Boudreau doesn't have a criminal record and was taken advantage of by others. He was arrested in connection with former Neenah city attorney Adam Westbrook and former Racine County Sheriff's deputy Preston Kite, both arrested in early 2024.

Winnebago County Circuit Branch 1 Judge Michael Rust disagreed with the defense's recommendation and called it "laughable," noting that Boudreau seems to have taken no responsibility for his ac-

In character letters received by the court, Boudreau was noted as taking part

in the STAR program at the Winnebago County Jail, which is a recovery pod for people handling substance abuse. He also took part in group sessions, was an active participant with one person writing Boudreau goes "above and beyond the minimum requirements" during sessions.

Westbrook has pleaded guilty to federal charges of distributing child pornography. Kite has plead guilty to a plethora of felony charges in Racine County ranging from possession of child pornography to sexual exploitation.

Nash said Boudreau's actions in the case show "the defendant's willingness to act on his sexual deviance, which places him at a higher level of dangerousness than someone just downloading child pornography alone."

Another link to the Boudreau case is his former roommate Noah Theil, who recently pleaded guilty to two counts of bestiality/sell/publish obscene materi-

The plea deal between the state and defense was that Boudreau would plead no contest to two counts of child pornography and the remaining 10 counts of possession of child pornography would be dismissed but read into the record.

Before sentencing, Boudreau said he was part of the cycle of abuse.

"Likely more than anyone else in this room, I am aware of the impacts of child sex abuse and child porn, as I was victimized by these very crimes," he said. "The embarrassment and shame and self-blame still continue to this day. Turning to drugs and alcohol has long been my solution."

Boudreau pleaded no contest and was found guilty in October. Rust said the

gravity of the crime, Boudreau's character and the need to protect the public all made the sentence in this case more important than a minimum sentence. He sentenced

Boudreau to 90 months in prison for each possession of child pornography followed by 90 months of extended supervision with the counts running consecutively.

State 'frustrated' with defense mistake in hit-and-run case

By Jonathan Richie OSHKOSH HERALD

Attorneys for an Oshkosh man who are attempting to prove their client is not competent to stand trial made the error of not telling a doctor the correct date for

their client's competency hearing.

Mark Radley, 70, is facing one count of hit-and-run involving death for striking and killing a pedestrian with his car while delivering pizzas last winter. Radley then was charged with felony

bail jumping for violating the terms of his bond over the summer.

Radley's attorney Timothy Hogan stated he failed to notify the doctor that had done a competency examination of Radley of the date to testify as the defense asked to have their own competency report along with the state's two competency reports.

Assistant District Attorney Adam Levin said the state was frustrated with the defense's doctor having the wrong date for the hearing. The doctor who has done the competency report for the state was prepared to testify at the scheduled hearing Jan. 16.

Levin said the prosecution was ready to proceed but said it would be best to have the doctors and all competency reports at one hearing instead of two.

Winnebago County Circuit Branch 4 Judge Michael Gibbs agreed and scheduled

a new competency hearing, where the defense and prosecution have the opportunity to get testimony and ask questions of doctors on the mental state of the defendant to ascertain if he is able to stand trial.

The judge will then make a decision on how the court will proceed. If the defendant is found not competent the judge will have to decide how the case will proceed.

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

Authorities were able to review surveillance camera footage and identify the silver minivan with a license registered to Radley. Officers located the vehicle and noted damage to the front.

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

In June, Radley was spotted drinking at a bar and authorities were told he comes in weekly. Police later came to the bar and he was arrested after admitting to drinking alcohol, a violation of his bond.

Court Commissioner Eric Heywood ordered a new competency hearing for Feb. 12 in front of Gibbs.











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Restitution ordered from crash with paddleboat in 2022

Oshkosh Herald

An Oshkosh man has been ordered to pay more than \$10,000 to victims of a 2022 boat crash on the Fox River in the city.

Jason Lindemann was found guilty after a jury trial over the summer of two counts of second-degree recklessly endangering safety, a misdemeanor count of negligent operation of a boat and 11 misdemeanor counts of failing to render aid.

Judge Michael Gibbs sentenced Lindemann to five months in the Winnebago County Jail with work-release privileges in August. Lindemann was also ordered to

complete 50 hours of community service and will be on probation for three years.

The high-profile case started in July 2022 after Lindemann was operating his boat on the Fox River and it crashed into the On the Loos Cruises paddleboat. Testimony during the trial revealed Lindemann struck the paddleboat, dropped off several passengers from his boat and then spent the evening on Lake Winnebago.

Months later he was charged. The Winnebago County District Attorney's office passed the case on to the Wisconsin Department of Justice due to a perceived conflict of interest in the case. After an eight-day jury trial a guilty verdict was

Aquatic invasive species persist in winter

cases.

will collect.

The state Department of Natural Resources (DNR) is asking anglers to help prevent the spread of aquatic invasive species while fishing this winter.

In court last week, victims told their sto-

The hearing concluded with Gibbs or-

dering Lindemann to pay \$10,638.90 to

the victims. There is also a victim witness

surcharge of \$1,063.89 that the county

ries and were asked to explain why they

returned on several counts.

were seeking restitution.

Even in winter conditions, anglers can transport aquatic invasive species and fish diseases from one lake or river to another by emptying water from bait buckets and fish containers.

Diseases such as viral hemorrhagic septicemia or critters such as tiny spiny water fleas and zebra mussel larvae may be along for the ride.

Drain all lake and river water from bait buckets on site before leaving. Putting used bait back into a container could also increase

the risk of spreading aquatic invasive species.

Initially the victims were requesting

more than \$500,000 in restitution with

the cruise operators asking for \$460,000.

Lindemann is also being sued by On the

Loos Cruises owners Jeff and Steven Loos

along with other plaintiffs in separate civil

Wisconsin fishing regulations state that up to 2 gallons of water may be used for transporting minnows. As long as no lake or river water has been added to the container, minnows may be used on a different waterbody.

If lake or river water was added, the minnows cannot be used at other fishing locations and should be disposed of before going to a new site.

Minnows can only be purchased from a licensed Wisconsin bait dealer. No other fish can be held in the minnow container, and dead bait must be preserved in ways that do not require freezing or refrigeration.



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League sets online town hall for state legislators

State legislators representing the Fox Valley have been invited to participate in a virtual Legislative Town Hall meeting from 6:30 to 8 p.m. Monday hosted by League of Women Voters chapters of Appleton-Fox Cities and Winnebago County.

Utility bills

Registration is required at lwvappletonfoxcities.org by clicking on the Legislative Town Hall listing under Upcoming Events.

The town hall is intended to be a twoway conversation among legislators and the audience.

FROM PAGE 1 increased by 53% and the council made the move to lower the levy by 1.17% and reduced the tax rate to \$8.14. This was done after the council directed moving \$3.6 million from the general fund to cover the

The increased rates are also linked to updated regulations linked to the Clean Water Act of 1972. The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency is responsible for implementing the Clean Water Act and at the state level the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources oversees the regulations.

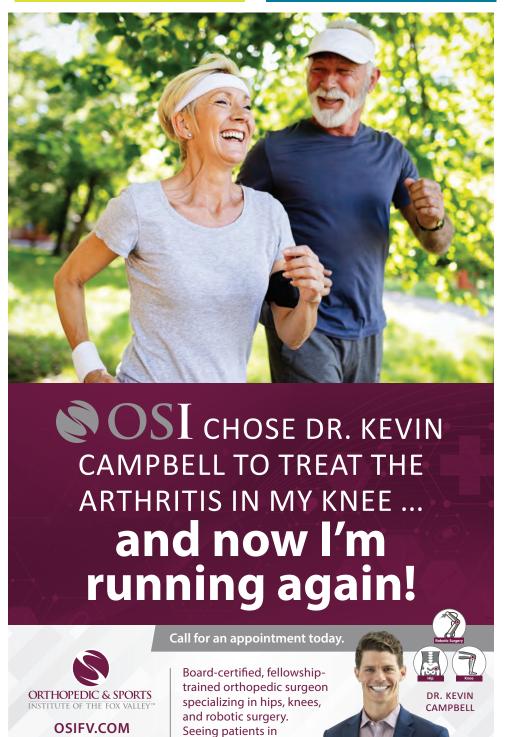
A new regulation under the Clean Water Act aims to bring several bodies of water into quality standards, and for Oshkosh that's the upper Fox River basin that includes Lake Winnebago. The city currently has too much phosphorus in those waters and pay a perpound fee as it works on a tertiary treatment filtration plant that must be operational by Jan. 1, 2028.

These utility rate increases do not include water rates as those go through a different process with the Wisconsin Public Service Commission and take months to complete.

Rabe said the city will start that process in the coming months in hopes of having new water rates approved by the PSC on Jan. 1,







Oshkosh and Appleton.

Page 8 loshkoshherald.com

January 29, 2025

Evers visit

FROM PAGE 1

vices without more state support, especially with public funding related to the pandemic phasing out.

"We've had that assistance, which we have been very, very grateful for, but now we're looking where do we go forward with that?" asked Patti Weissling, financial development director for the Oshkosh YMCA, one of the largest child care providers in the city. "And will this drive some of the smaller places that don't have the resources we do out of business; and then there will be more children on that wait list trying to find child care. So for us it is a genuine concern."

Lisa Cruz formed the Multicultural Coalition based in Menasha in the wake of the pandemic and has seen a surge in families looking for basic food items, clothing and hygiene products since they started a Walk-in Wednesday program last spring that went from serving 40 to more than 200 families. While not a designated food pantry, she said the needs served by the four-person staff reflect the overall demand for family services.

"We are running as fast as we can to serve our communities," Cruz said.

Another ongoing and related family-focused need – affordable housing – was expressed by local Habitat for Humanity executive director Tom Simon. He told the governor his organization and others can financially leverage any public support they get into the housing industry by generating jobs and homes for residents.

"We can build things and we can sell. All I'm asking is that we be part of this conversation," he said. "We took two and a half million dollars and we turned it into about \$12 million."

Simon said any state support for low-cost financing and down payment assistance would help serve some of the people mentioned among Evers' budget priorities who are important to children, such as care workers and teachers.

Karl Lowenstein, who heads the Vote Yes committee promoting the April 1 school district facilities referendum, also related those efforts to the overall needs of children. He asked the governor to seek increases in per-pupil state funding and more transparency on private voucher programs.

"We have very old buildings," he said. "If you remember during your time here they were old ... and they've gotten even older. We're trying for a little catch-up action. I think that's part of the funding problem for education in the state of Wisconsin is that we have to go to referendum every time to keep our facilities up to date."

Menasha Mayor Austin Hammond made a general appeal to the governor to help municipalities gain more state-shared revenue that has been restricted in recent years and can help cities better serve the families that live there.

Evers' annual address promoted what he called historic investments in K-12 education and public education overall, including a \$300 million plan for mental and behavioral health care in schools, providing free school breakfasts and lunches, continuing the Child Care Counts Program in support of the child care industry, and dealing with lead contamination in schools and communities.

Evers' visit was one of three statewide that day that started in Rhinelander and ended in Milwaukee as part of his ongoing community visits to promote his 2025-27 executive budget proposals.

Calendar of events

Wednesday, Jan. 29

Tony Jackson, 7 p.m., The Grand Oshkosh

Wisconsin Herd vs. Delaware Blue Coats, 6 p.m., Oshkosh Arena

Thursday, Jan. 30

Wisconsin Herd vs. Delaware Blue Coats, 7 p.m., Oshkosh Arena

Friday, Jan. 31

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

Saturday, Feb. 1

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., down-

"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_t" 5:30 p.m., Caramel

Crisp Bookstore, 200 City Center History Buffs Book Club, 6:30 p.m., Morgan House

Kenny James and Rev. Fish, 6 p.m., Corner Bar, 2090 W. 9th Ave.

Friday, Feb. 7

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

Morgan House tours, 6 p.m., 234 Church Ave.

Saturday, Feb. 8

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

EAA Winter Flight Fest, 8 a.m., EAA Aviation Museum

Vintage Valentine Event, 11 a.m., Morgan House, 234 Church St.

gan House, 234 Church St.
Fall in Love urban craft fair, 10 a.m.,
Becket's, 1 City Center

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

"Godzilla Minus One," 7 p.m., Time Community Theater, 445 N. Main St.

Sunday, Feb. 9

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

Thursday, Feb. 13

"Catch Me If You Can" by Oshkosh North, 7 p.m., The Grand Oshkosh

Friday, Feb. 14

Battle on Bago fishing tournament, 6 a.m., Millers Bay at Menominee Park

"Valentine's Vendetta," mystery dinner theater, 6 p.m., Oshkosh Arena

"Catch Me If You Can" by Oshkosh North, 7 p.m., The Grand Oshkosh

Saturday, Feb. 15

Battle on Bago fishing tournament, 6 a.m., Millers Bay at Menominee Park

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

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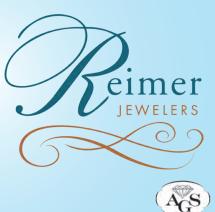
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750 ml Bottle Wollersheim Wines JANUARY 29, 2025 OSHKOSHHERALD.COM | Page 13

Prep sports roundup

WRESTLING

Wildcats mount huge rally to top Neenah

Oshkosh West trailed 27-0 and 31-6 but came roaring back to claim a 41-37 win over Neenah in a Fox Valley Association dual meet at home last Tuesday.

The Wildcats won six of the final seven bouts in the dual meet, starting with Lauren Klinger's 49-second pin of Carson Finch at 106 pounds. Xavier Vang (113) and Yylah Yang (120) followed with backto-back pins before Preston Schneider earned a technical fall win over Cashtin Tiedt at 126 pounds.

After Neenah won at 132 pounds, Eddy Schroeder won by forfeit at 138 pounds to bring the Wildcats within two points before Jaxen Lloyd finished off the comeback in the final match of the night, pinning Neenah's Dan Granditzke in just 38 seconds at 144 pounds.

Nelson Fournier was the only other West wrestler to win, posting a pin at 215 pounds.

Last Friday, the Wildcats participated in the Highlander Invitational hosted by Homestead High School and placed seventh among the 33 teams at the event.

Ryland Schneider led Oshkosh West, going 5-0 to claim the 175-pound championship. The senior pinned his first three opponents – all in the first period – before beating Homestead's Brady Stammer, 8-7, in the semifinals and Isaiah Guerrero of Waukesha West, 7-5, in the title match. Guerrero entered the match 42-1 on the season.

Eddy Schroeder (144) and Jaiden Fronczak (165) each finished fourth on the day, with each posting 3-2 records. Schroder registered a pin, technical fall and major decision before forfeiting his last two matches because of illness, while Fronczak had a pin and a technical fall among his three wins.

Nelson Fournier (215) took sixth and

Jaxen Lloyd (144) finished seventh.

Knights' Warwick places at invite

Lourdes Academy's Jeordie Warwick finished in 10th place at the Wausau East Lumberjack Invitational on Saturday.

Warwick finished 2-1 at 106 pounds on the day, picking up a pin over Menasha's Ousainou Manneh to account for his win.

GIRLS WRESTLING

Ketola places sixth at Bonduel invite

Oshkosh North's Maddy Ketola finished 2-2 and took sixth at 132 pounds at the Brawl at the Bears Den hosted by Bonduel High School last Friday.

Ketola won both of her matches by pin to improve to 12-7 on the season.

SWIMMING

Oshkosh West collects FVA dual meet win

Caleb Bergin and Carter Crowe each won a pair of individual events to lead the Wildcats to a 99-81 win over Appleton North/East last week.

Bergin finished first in both the 200-yard individual medley, while also picking up a first place in the 500-yard freestyle.

Crowe picked up a win in the 50-yard freestyle and then won the 100-yard breaststroke, with teammate Reid Potter taking second. Evan Booms and George Suwalski finished first and second, respectively, in the 100-yard freestyle.

The foursome of Bergin, Crowe, Booms and Sam Roblee won both the 200-yard medley and 200-yard freestyle relays, while the quartet of Alex Dedecker, Dominic Moore, Archie Mugerauer and Suwalski finished first in the 400-yard freestyle relay.

Evan Parfitt in the 200-yard freestyle, Alex Fanshaw in the 100-yard butterfly and Eddie Tornow in diving each finished second for West.

BOYS BASKETBALL

Valley Christian notches first win of season

Mathias Behling and Xander Osinga each scored 20 points and the Warriors earned their first win of the season by beating Montello, 83-70, at Dodgeland Middle School as part of the Trailways Crossover.

Valley Christian led by 10 points at halftime and were able to hold off the Hilltoppers in the second half, despite finishing just 11-of-26 from the free-throw line.

Joshua Johnson added 16 points for the Warriors, while Brady Patterson also reached double figures with 11 points, including three 3-pointers.

Behling also finished with 10 rebounds in the game, while Derek Wallace finished with seven points and a team-high seven assists

Big second half not enough to lift North

The Spartans rallied from a 16-point halftime deficit but couldn't overtake Kaukauna and suffered a 103-94 loss to the Ghosts in a Fox Valley Association game last Friday night.

Xzavion Mitchell finished with 50 points in the loss and helped the Spartans outscore the Ghosts 58-51 in the second half.

SEE Prep roundup ON PAGE 14



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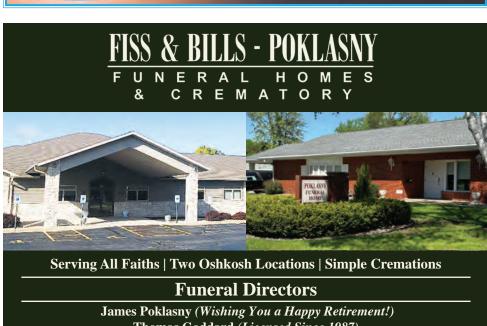
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JANUARY 29, 2025



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Prep roundup

FROM PAGE 13

Jon Coleman added 14 points, while Owen Weber and Tylan Lister chipped in nine and seven points, respectively.

Carns fuels balanced West attack in win

Collin Carns scored 21 of his career-high 26 points in the second half as Oshkosh West erased a three-point halftime deficit to earn an 86-75 win over Appleton West last Friday.

The Wildcats erupted for 54 points in the second half.

Joey Ware finished with 18 points, including 12 in the second half, while Tyler Moderson finished with 17, with Malakai Herlihy and Noah Gelhar both reaching double figures with 11 and 10 points, respectively.

Lourdes Academy falls

GIRLS BASKETBALL

Valley Christian tops Wayland twice last week

The Warriors notched a pair of wins over Wayland Academy to extend their winning streak to three games.

On Thursday, the Warriors won a 67-46 decision behind 21 points apiece from Mya Moran and Lizzie Fink. Paige Boevers also reached double figures with 12 points, while also adding nine rebounds and eight steals.

Anna Giannopoulos chipped in eight points and a team-high 13 rebounds for the Warriors, who led 34-23 at halftime.

Earlier in the week, the Warriors topped the Big Red, 61-52 behind 22 points from Moran and 18 from Fink, who finished an impressive 10-of-14 from the free-throw line. Boevers chipped in 13 points.

Mackenzie Grammer paced Valley Christian with 11 rebounds, while Giannopoulos finished with nine.

just 10 points in the first half in bolting to a big lead and collected a comfortable 62-25 win last Friday to get the Wildcats back in the win column after five straight losses.

Kinslee Nelson paced the Wildcats with 14 points, while Rowan Tigert added 12 points in the win.

Spartans fall at home to Kaukauna

Awut Alic had a huge night but Oshkosh North couldn't keep pace with Kaukauna in a 67-37 loss at home last Friday.

Alic scored 24 of the Spartans' 37 points and also grabbed a team-high 12 rebounds on the night. She also picked up four steals and three blocks.

Big second half lifts Knights to win

Lourdes Academy outscored Horicon 26-14 in the second half to break a tie score and collected a 47-35 win last week.

Delaney Ruedinger finished with 16 points and seven rebounds, while Hailee Bauer chipped in with 14 points and five

Sabur Machiros chipped in seven points and a team-high nine rebounds.

BOYS HOCKEY

Ice Hawks drop pair of contests last week

The Oshkosh Ice Hawks lost a pair of games last week, falling to Fond du Lac 9-1 on Tuesday and 6-1 to Beaver Dam on Friday.

Dayton Briski scored the Ice Hawks' goal against Fond du Lac with Brennon Kraft picking up the assist. Gage Bauer and Chase Magadanz combined for 18 saves in net for Oshkosh.

Against Beaver Dam, Clay Poquette had the lone goal for Oshkosh with Mason Monhen collecting the assist on the tally. Bauer finished with 35 saves in the game.

GYMNASTICS

Oshkosh collects win over Sheboygan co-op

The Oshkosh co-op gymnastics team scored a 132.25-102.075 win over Sheboygan North/South in the team's first conference dual meet of the season last week.

Leading Oshkosh were Lydia Barr, Neva Schlies and Ja'niyah Ford according to head coach Wendy Schlies.





JANUARY 29, 2025 OSHKOSHHERALD.COM | Page 15

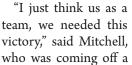
Mitchell's 51-point effort drives North past West

By Steve Clark
OSHKOSH HERALD

Xzavion Mitchell came out with a purpose on Saturday night and there was little that Oshkosh West could do to stop him.

Mitchell scored 38 of Oshkosh North's 49 points in the first half and finished with

a total of 51 points – one short of matching the school record – to lead the Spartans to a comfortable 86-50 win on the Wildcats' home floor.





Mitchell

50-point effort the night before in a loss to Kaukauna. "We came out and played a good second half (on Friday night) and we wanted to have a game with both halves being that way. That was my motivation and doing it was a big step for us."

It was Mitchell's third game of at least 50 points this season and he leads the talent-rich Fox Valley Association with his scoring average of nearly 39 points per game.

"Mitchell is an extremely special player," Oshkosh West head coach Dan Weisse said. "I thought our kids did some nice things with him. We made him shoot jump shots ... he just made them."

Mitchell scored seven points in a 12-0 run to open the game with Tylan Lister adding a basket and Jon Coleman knocking down a 3-pointer.

West's Malaikai Herlihy stemmed the

tide with a 3-pointer that cut the Spartans' lead to 10 points before Mitchell scored seven points in a 44-second span – including the first of his four 3-pointers in the game – to push the lead to 22-5 less than six minutes into the game.

"(Making 3-pointers) opens everything up," Mitchell said. "My mid-range game has improved so much that if my 3 is falling that means everything is going right. Opening up all three levels of my game is so important."

North maintained its double-digit lead for much of the first half before finishing with a flourish.

Mitchell scored 11 points in a 13-2 run over the final five minutes of the half to give the Spartans a 49-20 lead at intermis-

"We had a real good second half against Kaukauna (on Friday) and we talked at the end of the game about how we had to build off of that momentum," Oshkosh North head coach Brad Weber said. "We had to take where were at the end of that Kaukauna game and take another step forward and I think we did that."

In addition to Mitchell's exploits, the Spartans' efforts were aided by the team's perimeter shooting.

North finished 11-of-27 from behind the arc and had eight different players finishing with at least one 3-pointer in the game.

"For sure it stretches the floor and it makes it tougher to shade to Zay's side or double him," Weber said. "We put a ton of time into shooting and they are all very capable shooters. We continue to find of our

spots and how we can utilize each other."

One of the highlights for West was the play of junior Joey Ware, who finished with a career-high 20 points.

Ware had half of West's total in the first half and reached double figures for the fifth straight game with his team-leading effort.

"I thought he was one of the more consistent players out there tonight. Joey played hard no matter where the game was," Weisse said. "Joey raised his level of play and we're proud of him for that and we have to get other guys to do that."

Sophomore Henry Weis was the only other player in double figures with 13 points for West, who will look to bounce back from the loss.

The Wildcats will play at Appleton North on Friday before hosting Kimberly next Tuesday.

"We got punched in the mouth tonight by our crosstown rival and they are a really good team," Weisse said. "The story we are going to write from this one is how we are going to pick ourselves up from this one and how are we going to respond. You can learn a lot from adversity and we just went through a lot of it."

Owen Weber added 10 points in the win for North with Coleman and Lister chipping in seven and six, respectively.

North, which could get junior Bryce Ott back from injury soon, will host Appleton East on Friday before a road contest at Appleton North on Tuesday as the Spartans are looking ahead to what awaits them in the postseason.

"That's what we have been emphasizing



Photo by Jim Koepnick

Oshkosh North's Tylan Lister goes up for a shot between a pair of Oshkosh West defenders Saturday night.

and preaching in practice," Mitchell said. "We are going to continue to build as a group and use this as another step to get ready for the postseason."

And at full strength, the Spartans could be a tough team to face in the tournament.

"March doesn't care what your record is," Weber said. "It cares about how good of a team you are at that point and that is our focus."

Strong first half boosts Wildcats to win over Spartans

By Steve Clark

The opening few minutes of a game haven't always been when the Oshkosh West girls basketball team operates at its best.

That was the case again on Saturday afternoon when the Wildcats went the first four minutes without a field goal and trailed rival Oshkosh North by a 6-2 margin.

"The start is always a little hard for us and we've been trying to improve that," Wildcats' head coach Kenisha Goss said. "Once we get going, once we see a big shot then they can relax and play their game."

That was also the case on Saturday.

Colleen Fitzpatrick and Kamryn Stauffacher hit 3-pointers on back-to-back possessions to ignite a 23-2 run and the Wildcats went on to collect a 63-47 win over the Spartans on Steven L. Randall Court at Oshkosh West.

"They needed a few shots to go in so they realized they could do this. It helps them play looser," Goss said. "Our bench was amazing tonight when the shots went. They were really energetic and that energizes the girls on the floor."

Ava Strasser's putback basket capped a string of 10 straight points for the Wildcats before a Maddie Rasmussen 3-pointer – after two North free throws – kicked off a run of 13 straight points that Samantha Panske capped with a 3-pointer.

Kelsey Williamson added another 3-pointer for West with about a minute left in the first half to help the Wildcats take a 35-12 lead at intermission.

One of the contributing factors in North's struggles in the first half was the foul trouble of leading scorer Awut Alic. The sophomore got two fouls in the first two minutes and then picked up a third shortly after returning midway through the first half and was held without a point

COCATS NORTH

Photo by Jim Koepnick

Oshkosh West's Kinslee Nelson looks to make a move around Oshkosh North's Allie Leib during the second half on Saturday.

in the first 18 minutes.

"It does change things. It's not that we are a team totally focused on Awut but our counters off of Awut are important because we understand that teams are going to double team her. We have to play off of it and that scheme pretty much went out the window," North head coach Rick Leib said. "We're good enough that we should be able to make those changes but we had a slow time adjusting to that."

With Alic returning in the second half, West was prepared for the push North was going to put on.

"We know they never give up. Especial-

ly with Awut in foul trouble in the beginning, we knew she was going to be coming out hot the way she did," said senior Joely Schelfhout. "It was really good for us to put two halves together."

Alic scored six points and Morgan Kolodzik knocked down a pair of 3-pointers to help Oshkosh North slice the deficit down to 13 points about six minutes into the second half, but West never let the Spartans get any closer.

Strasser scored six points in an 11-4 run for the Wildcats that boosted the lead back to a comfortable margin and the Wildcats were able to close out the win.

"We knew Awut was going to get them back in that game and they were going to make a push," Goss said. "We did our best to stop her and do whatever we needed to do to get the ball out of her hands." Rasmussen was the lone West player in

double figures with 12 points, however, the Wildcats had 10 different players score in the game and had eight players finish with at least five points.

Kinslee Nelson and Strasser finished

Kinslee Nelson and Strasser finished with eight points apiece, while Schelfhout and Stauffacher each chipped in seven.

"(The balanced scoring) means we are moving the ball and finding the open girl and not relying on one person to do it all for us," Goss said. "It's always different people stepping up every night."

The Wildcats also moved the ball effectively in the win finishing with 18 assists on 22 field goals.

"We need to pass the ball better and play better team basketball and we did that tonight," Schelfhout said. "It's so exciting. It's really fun when we get those fast breaks like we got in the second half there."

Alic finished with eight points for the Spartans, but it was Brinna Paulson that highlighted North's efforts.

The junior scored eight of the team's 12 points in the first half and finished with 19 points in the game – the third time in the last four games she's scored at least 15 points. She also led the Spartans with nine rebounds.

"Brinna has put together a string of games together and has been playing really well the last two or three weeks and it's not just scoring, which I am really proud of," Leib said. "We won the second half in points and that is a great thing about this group, these kiddos have this grit. We have to continue to work on the scheme and skill because the grit is there."

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January 29, 2025

Obituaries

Eileen M. Raymond

Eileen M. Raymond, died 21 of January peacefully at home after a brief illness,



with her loving family members at her side. Eileen was born in 1937 in Lakewood, Ohio to Mary and Leo Wojtowicz. She graduated from Lakewood High School in 1955 and then worked as a book-

keeper for White Sewing Machine Company until she met and married the love of her life, James Raymond M.D. in 1959. As a wife of an Army Surgeon she traveled to several Army Posts including Walter Reed Army Hospital in Washington, D.C.; Fort Belvoir Hospital in Falls Church, VA; U.S. Military Hospital at the U.S. Military

Academy at West Point N.Y.; and Fitzsimons Army Hospital in Denver, CO. After her husband left the Army, she and her family lived in Lafayette, IN and Midland, MI before moving to Oshkosh in 1973 where she resided until her death.

She is survived by her husband, James with whom she shared a beautiful journey of 65 years; her loving and grateful children, Todd (Joan) Raymond, Mary (Greg) Erickson and Jeffrey (Charlie) Raymond as well as grandchildren, Katie (Brian) Neitzel, Adam Erickson and Rae (Cameron) Erickson; and great grand-children, Brody and Bennett Neitzel. She is also survived by a sister, JoAnn Traum. She was preceded in death by her parents and sisters, Genny, Dorothy and Pauline. Eileen's family rightfully believes she should be posthumously be inducted into 4 "Halls of Fame"; #1.

Cooking Hall of Fame- she was master cook making all her food from scratch. She was particularly known for her chocolate chip cookies and for her fabulous holiday meals which looked as good as they tasted. #2. Decorating Hall of Fame; while she had no formal training she mastered her decorating skills by studying a multitude of decorating magazines, allowing her to decorate her home in a professional manner which drew praise from all who visited her. #3. "Messaging Hall of Fame"; Eileen could write the most moving, poignant heartfelt notes whether it was sympathetic, congratulatory or a simple "thank you". She was often told she should work for a greeting card company since her efforts were so moving. In addition to the wonderful messages, her hand writing was also beautiful as well. #4. "Kindness Hall of Fame"- Her kindness and empathy to others (friends and strangers alike) knew no bounds. She unselfishly devoted her life to her family and received pleasure when they benefited from her efforts. Eileen will be remembered not for her death but for the joy and happiness she bestowed on her family and friends. If there is one word that defines her life it is "caring" which came to her naturally. Rest in peace our dear Eileen. The world is a sadder place without you but you will remain forever in our hearts.

As per her wishes, there will be no formal funeral services. A joyous family day of recollection will be privately held at a later date.

FISS & BILLS - POKLASNY FUNERAL HOMES & CREMATORY

Tammy Ording

Tammy M Ording, age 49, passed away peacefully on January 25, 2025, after a



hard-fought battle with cancer at Aurora Medical Center Oshkosh, surrounded by her loving family. She was born on September 25, 1975, to the parents of Peter Ording and Mary Lee Hardrath in San Cle-

mente, California.

Tammy grew up in Manitowoc, WI and later moved to the Fox Cities, then settled and established her roots in Oshkosh. After high school, Tammy went on to earn her degree at Fox Valley Technical College on the Phi Theta Kappa Honor

Roll

Tammy enjoyed camping with her friends and family and rarely missed an invitation. Crandon, Michigan and Wolf River were her favorite camping spots. Along with camping, Tammy looked forward to her yearly trips with her family to the Nascar race in Michigan followed by a stop at the sand dunes for some 4-wheeling fun. Tammy was independent, strong willed and lived life to the fullest. She loved her circle of friends and was the first to plan a night of fun. She also enjoyed spending time with her children and grandson. One of her proud accomplishments was being a five-year Cub Scout Leader for pack 3706 in which her son Cayden was a scout.

Along with her love for her family, Tammy had a special place in her heart for an-

imals and had many pets over the years who enjoyed life beside her as loyal companions. There was nothing she wouldn't do for a dog or cat in need. Her dogs Kilo, Remy and Marley were lucky to have her and will truly miss her.

Tammy is survived by her parents, Peter (Grace) Ording and Mary Lee (Delvin) Hardrath; her children: Kaleb Wunderlich (Alex) and Cayden Carlson; grandson: Lynkin Wunderlich; siblings: Kristine (James) Kopp, Matthew (Brittany) Hardrath, Jacob (Rebecca) Ording, Sarah (Gabriel) Ptasienski, Bryan (Connie) Denk, Rececca Wiesner, and Daniel Hardrath; Grandmothers: Adelaid Ording and Beverly Novak, Grandfather: Richard Novak; nieces: Brooklyn (Richard), Morgan, Nicole, Magnolia, Thea and Jayna; nephews: Erik, Isaiah, Ronin

and Cole; as well as many aunts, uncles and cousins.

Tammy is preceded in death by her daughter, Kaitlynn; uncle: William Rodewald; cousin: Brad Rodewald; grandparents; Sandra (Kermit) Bennett, Rita Junk and John Ording.

A service for Tammy will be held at Konrad-Behlman Funeral Homes-East-side (402 Waugoo Ave) on Monday, February 3, 2025 at 1PM. A time of visitation will be held from 11AM until the time of services.

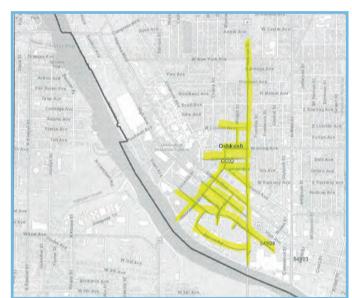
May Tammy be welcomed with open arms into the gates of Heaven and be at peace alongside her daughter, Kaitlynn.



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Obituaries

Tula Dovalis

October 19, 1934 – January 20, 2025 Panagiota "Tula" Dovalis (nee Athana-



soulis), 90, of Neenah, WI, passed away peacefully on Jan. 20, 2025, in her home in Hartland, WI. Her Lord Jesus welcomed her to heaven where she once again embraced the love of her life, George, who she

has missed desperately since he passed twenty-six years ago. Independent and fiery until the end, Tula is remembered by family and friends as a woman of deep faith, a loving and supportive wife, and wonderful mother and Yiayia.

She was born in Sparta, Greece in 1934. At 17, after witnessing the horrors of fascism firsthand during World War II, she crossed the Atlantic Ocean by herself with a single piece of luggage and less than \$20 in her pocket. Once in the land of opportunity and freedom, she made her way to Chicago where some extended family resided and she found a job at a sewing factory. She worked tirelessly to sponsor and bring the rest of her family from Greece to America.

While attending the wedding of a friend, one of the groomsmen caught her eye. For George and Tula, it was love at first sight. A few short weeks later, they were married in 1957. They ran a grocery store in Chicago with George's brother until 1971 when they bought Jimmie's White House Inn supper club from George's godparents. The supper club in Butte des Morts, WI was an institution. With George behind the bar and Tula running the kitchen, customers were friends and friends were family. They retired in 1988 and moved to Neenah, WI. She loved tending to her yard, while she and George enjoyed golf, bowling, playing cards, and cooking her special Greek recipes for family and friends.

Tula remained in Neenah until 2018 when she moved to Hartland, WI to be closer to her daughter, Georgia.

A member of Holy Trinity Greek Orthodox Church in Fond du Lac, WI, Tula she was deeply involved in the women's Philoptochos Society. She enjoyed helping with the Church's Greek Festival every year she was able. Tula's church and her faith were always front and center. She often returned to Fond du Lac to attend service at Holy Trinity.

She is survived by her beloved daughter, Georgia Maxwell and her steadfast son-inlaw Michael, and the grandchildren she adored, Aristotle, Thanos, and Evangelia. She is also survived by her son-in-law, Mark Faase, and numerous cousins, nieces, nephews, grand and great grand nieces and nephews. She was preceded in death by her beloved husband, George, her parents, Evangelos and Eleni Athanasoulis, and all her siblings, Aphrodite, Georgia, Yiannis, Demetrios, and Athena.

The family would like to extend special thanks to Melissa Plotz for the incredible care and love she offered to Tula daily. She started her time with Tula as a caregiver, but ended as part of Tula's family.

Tula is also survived by her daughter, Demetra Faase and son, James Dovalis.

In lieu of flowers, donations can be made to The Tula Dovalis Memorial Fund which has been established to support her church and the organizations close to her heart. Memorial contributions and or cards can be sent to 3270 Sylvester Drive, Hartland, WI 53029.

Krause Funeral Home in Brookfield,

414-464-4640, is assisting with arrangements. Visit online at https://krausefuneralhome.com/.

Funeral services will be Thursday January 30, 2025, at Annunciation Greek Orthodox Church, 9400 West Congress Street, Wauwatosa, Wisconsin, with Father Ciprian Sas officiating. Visitation will be from 11:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m., Service starting at 12:00 p.m. Luncheon will follow. A graveside burial service will be held Friday January 31, 2025 at 1:00 p.m. at the Elmwood Cemetery, River Grove, Illinois.

Rest in peace, Yiayia. You will be deeply missed and never forgotten.



Virginia T. Schmidt

Virginia (Jean) T. Schmidt, 97, passed away peacefully with her family by her



side on Sunday, January 19, 2025. She was born on August 13, 1927 in Oshkosh, the daughter of Joseph and Margaret (Reinert) Frank. She married Robert (Bob) Schmidt on November 4, 1950. She loved

taking care of her family. She was a wonderful cook, loved reading, taking trips with her friends and just being there for her family. She worked 40 years at Mondl Manufacturing.

Survivors include daughter Kathy Gill, granddaughter Jody A. Kemp, her special grandsons, Colin and Ethan Kemp, four step-grandchildren, six step-great-grandchildren, four step-great-great-grandchildren and one half brother, Joey Frank.

Virginia was preceded in death by parents, the love of her life, husband Robert, son Michael (Donna), infant son, sister Dorothy (Gordon)Blanchette, brothers Ken (Flo) and Richard (Vera)Frank and son-in-law Robert Gill.

Funeral services for Jean will be held on Thursday, January 30, 2025 at 12 noon in the Poklasny Funeral Home, 870 W. South Park Ave. in Oshkosh with Deacon Pat Gelhar officiating. A time of visitation will be held at the funeral home from 11 am until the time of service. Burial will follow in Sacred Heart Catholic Cemetery.

Great-grandma always appreciated everything Colin and Ethan did for her. "The world changes from year to year, our lives from day to day, but the love and memory of you shall never pass away".

FISS & BILLS - POKLASNY FUNERAL HOMES & CREMATORY

Michael Arthur Walsh

Michael Arthur Walsh, age 71, of Oshkosh, Wisconsin, passed away on January



24, 2025. Born on July 1, 1953, to the late Arthur and Mary-Ann (Frank) Walsh, Michael's life was a testament to dedication, compassion, and the enduring power of family.

Michael was a devoted husband, first to Vicki, with whom he raised two beloved sons, Aaron and Erik, and later to Judith. Michael's family was the center of his world, and he was an incredible father and grandfather, unwaveringly present at his sons' sporting events, school plays, and band concerts. He was an encouraging teacher who helped with homework and never missed a chance to bring his boys to work on weekends, sharing valuable life lessons along the way.

After proudly serving in the United States National Guard, Michael earned his Master of Business Administration from the Lubar School of Business at the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee. Michael's professional journey be gan with humble beginnings as a cook at Butch's Anchor Inn, where he learned invaluable lessons about hard work and perseverance. He transitioned to a certified public accountant before ultimately ascending to the role of President at the esteemed Radford Company, marking the pinnacle of his career in the millwork industry.

Throughout his life, Michael was an enthusiastic sportsman, enjoying softball and participating in a golf league. His passion for sports extended to his role as a baseball and basketball coach, where he not only taught the fundamentals to his children and others but also instilled the values of teamwork and sportsmanship. As a lifelong runner, he completed numerous half marathons, demonstrating his commitment to staying active.

A devoted member of Grace Evangelical Lutheran Church, Michael served

as Treasurer and an elder, dedicating his time to the spiritual nourishment of his community. His compassion extended further through his involvement in the jail ministry for Green Lake and Fond du Lac counties.

Michael is survived by his wife, Judith Walsh; previous wife and mother of his children, Vicki Walsh; sons, Aaron (Amy) and Erik (Charity) Walsh; grandchildren, Caleb Spangenberg, Kain (Alannah) Walsh and Cecilia Holdorf; great-grandson, Theo Walsh; siblings, Marlene, Richard and John Walsh. He is further survived by many much-loved nieces and nephews.

Michael was preceded in death by his

In honor of Michael's life, a service to celebrate his remarkable journey will be held at 6:00 p.m. on Saturday, February 1, 2025, at Konrad-Behlman Funeral Home-Westside, 100 Lake Pointe Dr. Visitation will take place at the funeral home from 4:00 p.m. until the time of the service.

In lieu of flowers, the Walsh family requests that memorials in Michael's name be made for the St. Jude Children's Research Hospital, a cause he deeply cared about. Additionally, special thanks are extended to Unity Hospice for their compassionate care and support during his fi-

Michael's kindness, integrity, and zest for life will forever remain in the hearts of all who knew him. He leaves behind a legacy of love, mentorship, and community service that will inspire future genera-

Terry L. Wohler

Terry L. Wohler, age 76, of Oshkosh, passed away unexpectedly on Saturday, January 25, 2025 at Aurora Medical Center. A complete obituary and celebration of life time and place will be announced

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Obituaries

Barbara Gene Gusick

Barbara Gene (Velin) Gusick, age 86, flew home with her angels on 26 Dec.



2024. She was born 19 March 1938 to Eugene and Marian (Smeeth) Velin in Ironwood, MI.

graduated She from Ironwood's Luther L. Wright High School in 1956, work-

ing summers at resorts in Wisconsin and Michigan's north woods to pay for college.

Barb attended Northern Michigan University (NMU), where she received her Bachelor's in Education. At NMU, Barb fell in love with George Gusick. They married in June 1960 and made Iron Mountain, MI their home for 14 years.

Barb and George both earned advanced Education degrees. When George became a school administrator in 1974, their young family moved to Hilbert, WI and

then to Oshkosh in 1977. Barb taught English and Language Arts at the Omro Middle School from 1977 until her retirement in 2000.

During her 40-year teaching career Barb helped thousands of students learn to appreciate the English language and literature. She was faculty advisor to the Builder's Club, and was also an award-winning forensics coach. Throughout her career, she was a staunch member of the Wisconsin Educator's Association.

A life-long Presbyterian, Barb served as an elder and deacon at Oshkosh's First Presbyterian Church, and lent her soprano voice to its choir for years.

Barb was a member and officer in the PEO sisterhood in Iron Mountain, Appleton, and finally in Oshkosh (Chapter AG), and a member of Delta Kappa Gamma, a national honorary society for female educators. She served on NMU's alumni association board for 20 years, and was named a distinguished alumnus. In retirement, she delivered Meals on Wheels; volunteered at the Ecumenical Food Pantry (now Oshkosh Area Community Pantry); and helped administer eye exams to preschoolers with Child Screening Services.

Barb was an inveterate tourist—with countless car trips around the United States, and multiple adventures in Europe, the Middle East, Mexico, the Caribbean, and Hawaii. In addition to being a passionate reader, she loved golf; bridge; salty jokes about Ole and Lena; Wisconsin Public Television; progressive politics; a good, long happy hour; and—thanks to 15 winters in Dunedin, FL— spirited games of Mexican Train dominoes (whining loudly when losing). Each summer she loved to entertain in her "gorch" (garage + porch), and was proud of her well-tended yard and roses.

Barbara is survived by her son Jay Gusick of Palm Springs, CA, and daughter Julie (Todd) Pohjola of Oshkosh, WI along with three beloved grandsons: Kyle (wife,

Tori, and great-granddaughter, Hadley), Zack, and Nick Pohjola. She was preceded in death by her husband, George, her mother, Marian, and father Eugene.

The family would like to thank Evergreen's ShareHaven Memory Care staff, and the AseraCare Hospice staff for the tender, compassionate care they provided. God bless each of you, and the work that

A memorial service and celebration of Barb's life will be held on Saturday, Feb. 8 in Evergreen's Worship & Performing Arts Chapel in Oshkosh, WI — informal time for family and friends to visit at 9:30 am, with a service at 11 am. In lieu of flowers, the family would appreciate contributions made in her name to either her beloved Wisconsin Public Television or the Oshkosh Area Community Pantry where she



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JANUARY 29, 2025 OSHKOSHHERALD.COM | Page 19

Obituaries

Elizabeth Thompson

Elizabeth "Betty" (DeLand) Thompson, passed away peacefully at the age of



94 years young on January 21, 2025 surrounded by her family. Betty was born on December 4, 1930, the daughter of the late Robert and Mildred (Sherman) DeLand. She married her high school sweetheart,

Terry Thompson on June 27, 1953, he preceded her in death in April of 2012.

Betty was raised in Appleton WI and graduated from Appleton West High School in the class of 1949. Betty and Terry lived in several cities and ultimately moved to Oshkosh in 2001.

Betty was an extremely social person, she enjoyed Friday night fish fries with her friends, line dancing, camping, sew-

Benjamin E. Noffke

Benjamin "Ben" E. Noffke, age 39 of Minneapolis, passed away of natural caus-



es at his residence on Wednesday, January 8, 2025. He was born in Neenah, WI on June 14, 1985 to Gregory and Sandra (Metz) Noffke.

Ben was a proud graduate of Winneconne High School.

His thirst for knowledge led him to St. Norbert College, where he earned his Political Science degree in 2008. Subsequently, he obtained his law degree from St. Thomas Law School in Minneapolis, MN in 2011 and was a member of the State Bar of Wisconsin. Ben's dedication to his studies was matched only by his passion for the outdoors and his love for adventure.

He cherished the moments spent deer hunting with his father, embracing the thrill of the hunt surrounded by nature. His love for fishing and boating reflected his deep appreciation for the water, while his adventurous spirit found joy in snowing, Sudoku, jigsaw puzzles and water activities up to her passing. She enjoyed volunteering at church and meals on wheels.

Betty was strong in her faith and attended St. Raphael's Catholic Church every Saturday night and had her group of friends and her favorite pew. Betty was a stay at home mom while her 6 kids were young, making sure she was there for them before and after school every day. When her youngest was 9 years old she went to work part time at several businesses in Berlin WI. She was always proud of her children and grandchildren, making sure she kept up on what was going on in their lives.

Betty is survived by 4 of her 6 children, Rae (Bill) Ryan Appleton, Jackie (Tim) Lundquist Oshkosh, Beth (Jeff) Wesner Neshkoro and Kyle (Angie) Thompson in Oshkosh and Mission Texas. Her 11 grandchildren, Jason (Nichole) Clark, Justin (Kari) Clark, Jeremy (Angie) Clark, Kelsi

boarding. An avid reader, Ben could often be found immersed in a good book, constantly seeking new perspectives and experiences. His loyal companion, Chester, his beloved English bulldog, was always by his side, providing comfort and companionship.

Ben is survived by his parents, Gregory (Erin Abercrombie) Noffke and Sandra (Steve) Halron; grandmothers, Marion Noffke and Rose Metz; sister, Natalie (Keith Tillmann) Noffke; niece, Calliope. He is further survived by aunts, uncles and cousins.

Ben was preceded in death by his grandfathers, Henry Noffke and Ronald Metz.

A funeral service for Ben will be held at Konrad-Behlman Funeral Home-West-side, 100 Lake Pointe Dr. on Friday, January 31, 2025 at 5:00 p.m. Visitation will be held at the funeral home from 3:00 p.m. until the time of the service.

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions in Benjamin's name may be made to the Oshkosh Area Humane Society, reflecting his love for animals and his caring spirit.

KONRAD-BEHLMAN

Ricky L. Weidner

Ricky L. Weidner, 68, Oshkosh, passed away Wednesday, January 15, 2025, with



is family by his side. He was born May 13, 1956, to Lawrence and Thelma (Nowak) Weidner.

From 1982-1984 Ricky served with the National Guard.

Throughout his life he worked at

various jobs. Ricky enjoyed fishing and many outdoor activities, going to the dog park, playing lottery tickets, and more recently doing diamond dots pictures. He was always doing good for others; driving them to doctor's appointments, getting groceries, etc.

Ricky is survived by his children, Timothy and Wendy; sisters, June (Dean) Larsen, Karen Stephens, Sally Weidner; and other relatives and friends.

Preceding Ricky in death were his parents, Lawrence and Thelma Weidner; brother, Roger; sister, Bonnie; as well as several other extended family members.

Per Ricky's wishes there will be no visitation, funeral, ceremonies, or celebra-

In honor of Ricky any donations in his

memory can be sent to the Oshkosh Humane Society.

Ricky's family wishes to thank the staffs of Compassus Hospice and Meadowbrook-Appleton for their care of him.

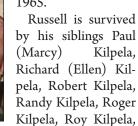
Mueller Funeral Home-Winneconne is assisting the family. If you wish, please submit online condolences/memories to muellerfh.net.



Russell Lee Kilpela

Russell Lee Kilpela, aged 59, of Oshkosh, WI, passed away on January 8, 2025.

Born on May 31, 1965.



Merriann Willi, Sharon (Rick) Ferguson, Priscilla (Bruce) Runyon, and Jessica Grundstrom, along with many nieces and nephews. He was preceded in death by his parents, Raymond and Angeline Kilpela, his brother Allen Kilpela, and his sisters Laurie Collins and Nancy Kilpela.

(Brian) Jodarski, Kain (Jessica) Schuster, Cory (Corinna) Lundquist, Cody (Lesley) Lundquist, Amy (Andy) Ebeling, Ali Wesner, Stephanie Wood and Kailey Wood. She is also survived by her brother Gerald (Jerry) DeLand, as well as 22 great grandchildren. She was preceded in death by her husband Terry in 2012, daughter Lynn 2003, son Rex 1985 and siblings Phyllis, Donald, Robert, Joan and Patricia.

Betty's strong faith, bright smile and dedication will be cherished by those who knew her. May her memory bring comfort and peace to all whose lives she touched.

The family deeply appreciates the loving care she received from Sara Kolell APNP, the staff from Interim Healthcare and the staff from Compassus Hospice.

A memorial mass for Betty will be held Friday, January 31, 2025, at St. Raphael the Archangel Catholic Church, 830 S Westhaven Dr, Oshkosh, at 11:00am, with Fr. Tom Long officiating. There will be a time of visitation starting at 9:00am till the start of the service.

KONRAD-BEHLMAN FUNERAL HOMESN

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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. 10th 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 Courthouse

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

Courtroom/Room Number: Intake Court Room 2nd Floor

Address: 160 S. Macy St. Fond du Lac WI 54935

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.

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 PedahEI To: Taya Savannah Raybern Birth Certificate: Taya Savannah PedahEI

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 Date: February 10, 2025

Date: February 10, 2029 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

WNAXLP

January 29, 2025



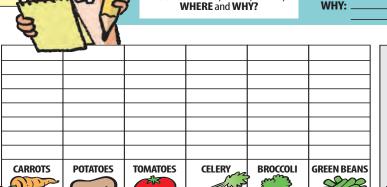
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Find the words by looking up, down, backwards, forwards, sideways and diagonally.

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

EVENT CORRECT NAMED Early in the ____ _ every February 2, attention turns to Gobbler's Knob, Pennsylvania, and a groundhog Punxsutawney Phil. Legend states that if Phil sees his shadow when coming out of his ___ it means he predicts six more weeks of wintery ___ _. But if he doesn't see his shadow, it means Phil predicts an early spring, according to the legend. that began in the It's a big ___ late 1800s and gets lots of _ in the news. Phil's predictions are not always . But that's okay, because it's all in the spirit of fun. A group of people called the "Inner Circle" dress up in long black coats and top hats for the big Groundhog Day announcement of Phil's prediction. The president of the Inner Circle is said to

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Missina Words

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