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## District shifts on school location

### South Park site could be developed for housing

By Jonathan Richie  
OSHKOSH HERALD

As the Oshkosh Area School District prepares for a potential \$198 million facilities referendum, officials have had to change its plans for a new middle school due to zoning restrictions.

The district intended to build a new \$88.3 million middle school at the site of South Park Middle School but airport zoning regulations passed in 2023 do not allow new educational buildings in the area near the airport runway.

At a December Board of Education meeting it was announced the board had just learned about the zoning issue earlier that month. District officials later acknowledged they were notified of the is-

sue in September and began looking at the potential impact.

District documents state Superintendent Bryan Davis contacted Bray Architects to check the zoning with city staff and at the time there were no zoning restrictions identified by former city services manager Mark Lyons.

County documents show the request to

SEE **School location** ON PAGE 7

## INSIDE



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Ruedinger's talent runs in the family  
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City manager pay package approved  
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Photo by Michael Cooney

### Early risers

On Lake Winnebago's Asylum Bay there were about 20 fishermen on the ice at sunrise Saturday. The ice was considered safe for walking but not for ATVs or other vehicles.

## Land acquisitions set stage for Oshkosh Ave. intersection

By Jonathan Richie  
OSHKOSH HERALD

The city has been acquiring property in the area of North Sawyer Street and Oshkosh Avenue in hopes of redoing an intersection that has caused headaches for drivers and officials for years.

Over the last 10 years the city has acquired seven properties in the area of the confusing and difficult intersection. Six of the properties are in the 1200 block of Oshkosh Avenue and the remaining address is 1415 Rainbow Drive.

The land acquisition will allow the city to realign Rainbow Drive with the Oshkosh Avenue/Sawyer Street intersection to create a four-legged traditional cross intersection. The project is currently in the city capital improvement plan for construction in 2028.

Community development director Kel-

ly Nieforth told the Herald that all the properties were either acquired when they went up for sale or the property owner contacted the city about selling the property.

"None were acquired with eminent domain," she said.

The properties spanned from blighted properties to vacant homes.

The city and the Oshkosh redevelopment authority own seven properties and are in the process of purchasing another four parcels on Oshkosh Avenue. At the Dec. 10 meeting, the Common Council voted to acquire the properties of 1226, 1232, 1236, 1240 Oshkosh Ave. for \$800,000.

The seven previously acquired properties were acquired for \$549,171, bringing the

SEE **New intersection** ON PAGE 10



Oshkosh Herald

The Oshkosh Avenue/North Sawyer Street intersection could be redesigned and reconstructed in the coming years. The sometimes-confusing intersection could be replaced by a standard cross intersection that will add Rainbow Drive to the mix.

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# Free community newspapers offer real value

Oshkosh Herald

Have you ever paused to think about the “free” newspaper that lands in your mailbox each week? It’s more than just pages of ink and paper – it’s the heartbeat of your community. Here in Oshkosh, the Oshkosh Herald isn’t just a publication, it’s a vital connection that keeps neighbors informed, engaged and united.

Community newspapers like ours tell the stories that larger outlets overlook. We highlight the achievements of local students, profile small businesses, share upcoming events and shine a light on the issues that matter most to local residents. These stories are what strengthen our sense of belonging and make us proud to call this place home.

But while the newspaper is free to read,

## NAMI Oshkosh names new executive director

Oshkosh Herald

The National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI) Oshkosh has promoted Bob Poeschl to be its next executive director, succeeding Mary Janness, who held the position for eight years.

Poeschl joined NAMI Oshkosh in September as its program director and brought 25 years of experience in non-profit leadership, program development and grassroots advocacy in Oshkosh and Wisconsin.

“We are thrilled to have Bob Poeschl at NAMI Oshkosh,” said Vince Pawlacyk, president of the NAMI Oshkosh board of directors. “Bob’s vision and dedication align perfectly with our mission to provide education, advocacy, and support for those affected by mental health challenges. His leadership will strengthen our

it’s not free to produce. Behind every edition is a team of dedicated journalists, editors, designers and mail carriers. There are printing costs, mailing fees and countless hours spent gathering and crafting the stories you care about. Every dollar we invest in the Oshkosh Herald is an investment in the well-being of our community.

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programs and broaden our reach in the Oshkosh community.”

Poeschl will oversee the organization’s operations, strategic initiatives and community partnerships for NAMI’s efforts on the behalf of individuals and families navigating mental health challenges.

“I am honored to expand my role at NAMI Oshkosh and work alongside such a dedicated team,” Poeschl said. “Together, we will continue to break down barriers, reduce stigma and create a community where everyone feels supported in their mental health journey.”

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## Back in the Day



Oshkosh history by the Winnebago County Historical & Archaeological Society

### Jan. 4, 1918

**Ice Harvest Starts:** The local ice harvest began on January 3rd with ice thickness this year being reported at sixteen inches. A crew of fifty men have been organized to make the harvest which the Oshkosh Pure Ice Company is estimating to be around 10,000 to 12,000 tons. The ice is reported to be of “ideal quality” and the first harvest will go into the main house on the southside which should be filled to capacity by next week. Then the harvest will then move to the Otter Street house and fill it to capacity. Oshkosh Pure Ice reports the capacity of the two ice houses will hold 16,000 tons, but there is a 4,000-ton carryover from last year.

Source: Oshkosh Northwestern, Jan. 4, 1918

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# Candidates line up; board member stepping away

By Jonathan Richie  
OSHKOSH HERALD

Another election is on the horizon and the candidates have announced their intentions.

In the spring there will be several elected offices on the ballot, including Oshkosh Area School District Board of Education member, Oshkosh Common Council member, Oshkosh mayor and Winnebago County executive.

All incumbents are seeking re-election to their seats besides one member of the Board of Education. Stephanie Carlin recently announced she will not be seeking re-election for the seat she has held for nine years.

"As I step aside, I am confident that this is the right time for new leadership to bring fresh perspectives and continue the important work of supporting our schools," Carlin said in a social media post. "I remain deeply committed to the success of our district and look forward to seeing its continued growth and progress under the guidance of new board members."

Carlin said she is proud of the efforts the board made developing a comprehensive facilities plan that has led to the construction of Vel Phillips Middle School and Menominee Elementary School.

"These achievements were only possible through unwavering support of our community," she said.

Molly Smiltneek and Michael Ford have announced their plans to seek seats on the school board and were endorsed by Carlin in her social media post.

District officials reported Jacob Wolf has also submitted paperwork as a candidate for one of the board member seats.

Board of Education members serve three-year terms and are sworn into their positions in April.

On the city side, three seats are up for election on the Common Council along with the mayor's position. All of these positions have two-year terms.

For Oshkosh, council members Karl Buelow, Paul Esslinger and Joe Stephenson have filed papers to run for re-election. Mayor Matt Mugerauer has also filed his papers to be on the ballot as he runs for a second term as mayor after serving five years on the council.

The race for Winnebago County executive looks to be headed for a primary vote in February with former state Rep. Gordon Hintz and Winnebago County Sheriff John Matz declaring their candidacies to challenge one-term incumbent Jon Doemel.

As of press time, there appears to be not enough candidates to require a primary election for the council or school board positions.

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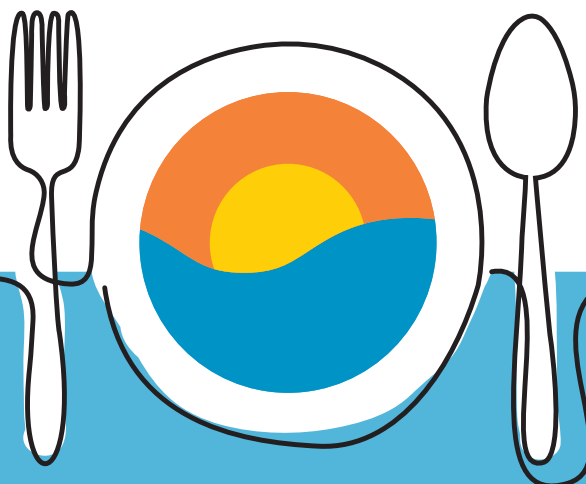
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Submitted photo

The Baksteen Valken team is shown at the Oak Creek sectional with a prototype of their buoy.

## FIRST Lego League team advances to state

Oshkosh Herald

Oshkosh FIRST Lego League team Baksteen Valken is heading to the state championship Jan. 19 in hopes of earning an international bid after successfully competing in regional and sectional events.

Baksteen Valken competed Nov. 17 among 18 teams in the FIRST Lego League Regional Tournament at Lakeshore Technical College in Cleveland, earning top scores in all three categories: Innovation Project, Robot Design and Programming, and Core Values. The team placed third in the robot matches and earned the Tournament Champions Award.

At the Dec. 14 sectional tournament in Oak Creek, the students impressed the

judges with their prototype of the Baksteen Buoy, which can save lives by detecting rip currents. Competing with 25 other teams, it received the first-place innovation Project Award and qualified for the state championship in Waukesha.

The team is now working on a full-size working prototype of the Baksteen Buoy.

Team members include Ellen Volkening (grade 5), Gus Smiltneek (grade 6), Cora Volkening (grade 7) and Yui Watanabe (grade 8) from ALPs Charter School; Cora Jones (grade 6), Jonathan Czarnota (grade 8) from Perry Tipler; Andrew Trinklein (grade 4) and Aisha Akinyele (grade 5) from Carl Traeger; Max Schmiedel (grade 6) from Vel Phillips. Coaches are Amy Hardy and Nick Jones.

# City manager agreement approved for new leader

## Rebecca Grill starts position in February

By Jonathan Richie  
OSHKOSH HERALD

Oshkosh's new city manager's employment agreement has been approved by the Common Council and Rebecca Grill will start in her new role in February.

The agreement lays out Grill's duties, compensation, performance evaluations and other terms as she becomes the next CEO of Oshkosh.

The council met Dec. 23 to vote on the employment agreement between the city and Grill, who formerly served as the city administrator for West Allis. She replaces Mark Rohloff, who retired after 16 years in the role.

The agreement states Grill will receive a pro-rated salary of \$210,000 and if her midyear review is satisfactory the salary will be adjusted to \$216,300 for the remainder of 2025. City records show over the last 20 years the city manager salary has more than doubled.

City Manager Richard Wollangk was hired in 2005 at an annual salary of

\$100,505. Rohloff was hired in 2008 and his employment agreement shows an annual salary of \$125,000.

The council approved an updated employee agreement for Rohloff in 2017 and 2021. The 2021 agreement lays out salary increases of \$170,000 in 2021 and as of Jan. 1, 2024, the salary increased to \$185,750, according to the 2021 employment agreement.

City policy covers reasonable costs for relocation and if Grill moves to Oshkosh, all of the moving costs will be covered and if she resides outside the city half of those costs will be covered. Grill's agreement also states the city will contribute \$10,000 to be used toward purchasing a home in the city. There are repayment obligations if Grill leaves the job after less than two years.

Grill will also receive a monthly car and phone allowance as part of the agreement.

"I'm leaving a great community, but I believe I'm coming to a great community," Grill said moments after her agreement was approved by the council. "I can't wait to start and work collaboratively with all of you and the community members and the departments."

## Winter warm-up locations offered in county

As winter weather sets in, Winnebago County Public Health notes there are county locations available for those who need a place to warm up or find refuge from extreme weather. Call 911 for those experiencing signs of hypothermia or frostbite.

The following heated locations wel-

come residents who need a place to warm up or find safe refuge during their established business hours. If possible, call before going to confirm they are open. Other sites may become available on an as-needed basis.

Neenah Public Library, 240 E. Wisconsin Ave. (920-886-6315)

Omro Public Library, 405 E. Huron St. (920-685-7016)

Oshkosh Public Library, 106 Washington Ave. (920-236-5203)

State Street Center, 206 State St., Oshkosh (920-232-3320)

Winneconne Public Library, 31 South 2nd St. (920-582-7091)

For more information on warming locations, hot meals, winter clothes or other community resources, dial 2-1-1 or TTY 7-1-1 (available 24/7) or text ZIP code to 898211 (M-F, 8 a.m.-5 p.m.), or visit 211wisconsin.org.

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# Annual human trafficking awareness rally at square

Oshkosh Herald

Volunteers from Damascus Road, in partnership with the Oshkosh Police Department, will gather at Opera House Square from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Saturday to hold signs for the 15th annual Stop the Traffick: Make Some Noise Human Trafficking Awareness Day Rally.

There will be two opportunities to attend one of the awareness trainings leading up to the event from 6-8 p.m. Thursday or 9 to 10:30 a.m. Saturday at the 1528 Oregon St. office. The training class is appropriate for ages 11 and older and are not required in order to attend the rally but encouraged.

National Human Trafficking Awareness Day was set by the 110th Congress and passed by the Senate on June 22, 2007, and January is known as National Slavery and Human Trafficking Prevention Month.

Human trafficking generates \$150 billion in illegal profits each year, according to the International Labor Organization,

and involves exploitation of a person through force, fraud, or coercion for the purpose of commercial sex or forced labor.

Victims are often manipulated through promises of love, food, shelter, fear, fame, a sense of belonging or employment, then coerced or forced into manual labor, prostitution or sexual exploitation. Children are especially targeted by traffickers via social media, mobile devices and interactive gaming that provide venues to host anonymous conversations.

Damascus Road began in 2009 to raise awareness and assist victims of human trafficking in the Fox Valley and throughout Wisconsin by presenting prevention education in schools and community groups, partnering with police to uncover victims and provide after-care resources. Additional information is at [damascus-roadproject.org](http://damascus-roadproject.org).

Those interested can register for the rally or training by scanning the code at [bit.ly/htawarenessday](http://bit.ly/htawarenessday).



Oshkosh Herald

A human trafficking awareness rally will be held at the Opera House Square in Oshkosh on Saturday.

## Radon awareness emphasized this month

Oshkosh Herald

Radon Action Month is underway as a time to encourage action to protect families from the colorless, odorless, and tasteless gas that is naturally present in soil and rocks and common in Winnebago County.

Seeping into homes and buildings through cracks and openings, radon is the second leading cause of lung cancer in the United States. The only way to know the level of radon in a home or business is to conduct a radon test.

Test kits can be purchased at Winnebago County Public Health offices in Oshkosh and Neenah, city or town clerk offices, and at home improvement stores. Testing is recommended in winter in the lowest living space away from doors, windows and vents.

Test kits are \$5 when purchased at the public health offices in January. Public health officials also will be at the Oshkosh Farmers Market this Saturday at the Oshkosh Arena and Jan. 25 at the Oshkosh Convention Center.

## Business news roundup

The **Cherith Clothing & Resource Center's** indoor fundraiser has a new location at 738D Main St. with hours from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Monday through Saturday. Formerly on Sawyer Street, the fundraiser offers quality new or gently worn clothing featured at reasonable prices, and is not accepting used clothing or other donations. Funds raised go to assisting vetted refugees who are in a government-funded resettlement assistance program and low-income families referred by Winnebago County departments, the school district and local agencies. For more information, contact [info@cherithintl.org](mailto:info@cherithintl.org).

The annual **Wisconsin Governor's Business Plan Contest**, which encourages entrepreneurs in the startup stage of tech-enabled businesses, is now open for applications through Jan. 31. Up-and-coming entrepreneurs gain a statewide network of community resources, expert judges, mentors and possible sources of capital through the program produced by the Wisconsin Technology Council and other partners led by the Wisconsin Economic Development Corp. State residents 18 and older are eligible, as are teams from businesses, schools and organizations. For more information visit [govsbizplancontest.com](http://govsbizplancontest.com).

POST-HOLIDAY THOUGHT:

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# Democrats sought extended voting hours during election

By Jonathan Richie  
OSHKOSH HERALD

In an attempt to get more voters to cast their ballots, Democrats looked to the legal system to extend voting hours on Election Day. After a late-night hearing involving both political parties, the petition was denied.

Court documents show the Democratic National Committee used the courts to try to get Oshkosh polling locations to extend voting hours on Nov. 5. A prominent local Democrat filed a statement regarding what was going on in the city.

Former state representative Gordon Hintz alleged people had been discouraged by voting due to the long lines on Election Day.

"I spoke to citizens of Oshkosh who indicated that they had visited their polling location in Oshkosh but left without voting as the line was so long, they were discouraged. They had no plan to vote again as the lines were growing," Hintz said in the court statement.

"I had the opportunity to speak with a member of the City Council who also voiced concern at the extremely long lines outside many polling places in the city," his

statement continued. "I believe that the long lines now evident and reported widely on social media are discouraging voter from exercising their right to vote in this important election."

The request was made through a preliminary injunction against city clerk Diane Bartlett. Wausau attorney Christine Bremer-Muggli filed a petition extending polling hours at seven of the 14 polling locations across the city to 10 p.m.

The request was denied on Election Day by Winnebago County Branch 1 Judge Michael Rust during a hearing at 9 p.m. State and federal law allow voters to cast their ballot as long as they are in line at 8 p.m.

The DNC requested that voting hours be extended to 10 p.m. for voters at the American Legion, UW Oshkosh Culver Welcome Center, Oshkosh Public Library, Father Carr's Place 2B, Calvary Lutheran Church, Living Water Lutheran Church and St. Judge the Apostle Church.

The petition seeks an emergency order to extend voting hours as the DNC alleged there was inadequate staffing "and insuffi-

cient numbers of Badger Books due to the unprecedented turnout."

New Berlin attorney Kevin Scott filed a response asking the court to deny the request on behalf of the Republican National Committee. Scott's response stated the court doesn't have the authority to extend voting hours and that the DNC was playing politics on Election Day.

"By trying to extend the hours of strategically selected polling place where they believe their preferred candidates have an advantage, petitioners unfairly attempt to gain additional votes while polling locations for other wards that are less favorable for them are closed," Scott said. "Petitioners are asking this court to politicize the otherwise straightforward issue of polling place operating hours to skew the vote count in their favor at the expense of the legitimacy of the electoral process."

Scott also suggested that extending polling hours would not make lines shorter but would instead simply benefit people who failed to arrive at the polling location by 8 p.m. State law allows anyone that is in line to vote when polls close the right to cast their ballot.

"(The petitioners) cannot demonstrate that any voters have been unable to vote, been disenfranchised, or were otherwise harmed. The 8 p.m. deadline set by the Legislature is widely known and strictly enforced, and there is no justification for disregarding it here."

Issues reported on Election Day prompt-

ed the city to explore purchasing 10 more Badger Books on Election Day. Bartlett reported some delays were due to voters registering at the polls. One out of every nine voters had to register to vote on Election Day, which caused delays for poll workers.

Mayor Matt Mugerauer said after the election that he didn't enjoy seeing the results so late.

"But I'd rather have them accurate than inaccurate," he said.

Online court records show the DNC made similar requests in Dunn and Walworth counties targeting university polling locations at UW-Stout and UW-Whitewater. The petition was denied in Dunn County, but voting was extended to 10:30 p.m. at two polling location in Whitewater in Walworth County.

The Nov. 5 election was seen as a red wave that broke across the nation, Wisconsin and Winnebago County. Democrats won the U.S. Senate seat with incumbent Tammy Baldwin but she lost in Winnebago County by 2,500 votes.

The results were similar in the race for president with Republicans Donald Trump and JD Vance defeating Democrats Kamala Harris and Tim Walz by 4,500 votes in Winnebago County.

The election also saw the highest turnout across Wisconsin since 1948 with nearly 3.4 million people casting their ballots out of a voting-age population just under 4.7 million. November saw 72.6% voter turnout, the highest in 76 years.



UW Oshkosh photo

Members of the UWO biology faculty, along with a pair of alumni employed at Kimberly-Clark, pose for a photo at the Neenah Kimberly-Clark plant.

## Kimberly-Clark donates microscopes to UWO

UW Oshkosh Today

University of Wisconsin-Oshkosh biology students will study with advanced microscopes, thanks to a generous donation from the Kimberly-Clark Corporation.

Several members of the UWO biology faculty—Andrew Bosma, Lisa Dorn, Courtney Kurtz and Greg Potratz—traveled recently to Kimberly-Clark headquarters in Neenah, to accept the donated microscopes, including computers and software. Lyndsay Poeschl, an alumna of UWO Biology and current employee of Kimberly-Clark, led and helped drive the donation partnership.

Members of the department say they look forward to training students on the

confocal and fluorescent microscopes through coursework and independent research projects.

Kurtz noted that faculty are already discussing ways to use the new equipment in the classroom and are very excited about the donation's teaching-and-learning potential.

"UWO Biology is excited to accept another donation from Kimberly-Clark, a company that has generously donated advanced research equipment to us in the past," Kurtz said. "These new microscopes will not only advance research at UWO but will provide opportunities for students to learn how to use advanced histology equipment for research and diagnostics."

## Holiday string light drive underway

Public drop-off locations are available to properly dispose of holiday string lights away from other recycled items.

String lights need to be kept out of recycling carts, as they tangle in the high-speed sorting equipment used to process boxes, bottles and cans and cause unnecessary downtime, increase program costs, injure workers and damage equipment.

String lights, extension cords and power strips will be accepted for free at these drop-off locations in Winnebago County through Jan. 31:

Town of Algoma, 15 N. Oakwood Road

Town of Black Wolf, 380 E. Black Wolf Ave.

Village of Fox Crossing Municipal Building, 2000 Municipal Drive

Neenah's City Hall first floor, 211 Walnut St.

Town of Neenah, 1600 Breezewood Lane, Neenah

City of Oshkosh Field Operations, 639 Witzel Ave, Oshkosh

Oshkosh City Hall, 215 Church Ave.

Town of Vinland, 6085 County T

Winnebago County Solid Waste, 100 W. County Y

## Unemployment rate holds at 2.3% for county

Oshkosh Herald

The unemployment rate for the Oshkosh-Neenah metropolitan area and Winnebago County remained at 2.3% between October and November, according to preliminary data from the state Department of Workforce Development.

Last November, the jobless rate in Oshkosh-Neenah and Winnebago County was 2.4%.

The non-seasonally adjusted data shows jobless rates in Metropolitan Statistical Areas increased by 0.1% in seven of Wisconsin's 12 metro areas over the month and decreased in 16 of Wisconsin's 35 largest cities over the month.

Unemployment rates stayed the same in 12 counties over the month and increased elsewhere; rates decreased or stayed the same in 63 counties.

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# EV owners to pay more taxes to recharge on the road in 2025

## State gas tax was 32.9 cents per gallon last year

By John Davis  
WISCONSIN PUBLIC RADIO

People who recharge their electric vehicles at public charging stations will pay a new tax this year.

Legislators created the new 3 cents per kilowatt tax and Gov. Tony Evers signed it into law earlier this year. Businesses, including hotels that offer EV chargers, will have to register with the Wisconsin Department of Revenue.

In a release, Revenue Secretary-designee David Casey said the new tax will help maintain the state's roads.

"It will help ensure continued fund-

ing for road repairs and construction as Wisconsin drivers increasingly make the switch to electric vehicles, while creating a more equitable system in which all drivers contribute to road maintenance costs," he said.

Revenue officials said the projected revenue from the new tax is about \$3.35 million for 2025 and about \$3.85 million for 2026, much less than the state's gas tax provides to the transportation fund.

The tax will not apply to residential EV charging stations.

"That's where the vast majority of your charging happens. Our day-to-day driving, we are charging in our garage," said Libby Belden of Verona. She and her husband have owned an electric Rivian pickup truck for more than a year.

"Really, the impact on a tax is going to be when we are doing our road trips," she added.

Belden said paying a tax to charge her electric vehicle will be much less than paying for gas and the state's tax on the gas.

"I'm not concerned about this tax. I think it's our duty to figure out ways that if we're going to continue to switch Americans to driving electric vehicles, we need to make sure we're still supporting our infrastructure in the way we need to," she said.

Electric vehicle owners will still pay much less in taxes to recharge compared with people who pay the state's gas tax. An EV with a battery capacity of 50 kilowatt hours will pay \$1.50 to recharge. Meanwhile, the state's gas tax was 32.9 cents per

gallon in 2024, the 20th highest in the nation. The tax to fill a 15-gallon gas tank is almost \$5.

Belden said her family hasn't had a problem finding EV chargers on trips to visit people in Minnesota and Indiana, but Wisconsin needs more chargers up North. The state plans to add more than 50 new fast chargers in 2025.

"I think more companies are catching on to the fact that they have an opportunity to get people's wallets when they are spending time charging," she said.

"When we were charging after a Packers game, I went and bought some Christmas decorations in a store that I would not have bought otherwise. I think that has more of an impact on your wallet than a 3 cent tax does."

## School location

FROM PAGE 1

repeal and request zoning changes at the airport were made by the city in January 2023 with Lyons as the agent on the request. Lyons left the position in October and now works for an engineering firm in the private sector.

Lyons said during a county Planning and Zoning committee meeting in January 2023 that plans to adjust the zoning around the airport started in 2018 as the city sought to develop the area west of the airport.

Last month Davis met with county and city officials to go over options for the new middle school site, which included getting the county zoning amended or picking a new site for a middle school.

The district announced a new proposal

last week to build a new middle school at the site of Shapiro STEM Academy, 1050 W. 18th Ave., which would consolidate Perry Tippler and South Park middle schools. The new school would still cost \$88 million, according to Davis.

"The core elements of our middle school plan remain the same, regardless of location. If a referendum is approved, we will engage in our full design process, working with staff and stakeholders to ensure the new building meets our educational needs and community expectations," Davis told the Herald.

A pre-kindergarten center would be established at Perry Tipler under the plan.

Since 2021, the district has spent more than \$1 million to purchase six properties on West South Park Avenue and Georgia Street in the South Park school area. In October 2022 there was a public meeting regarding the zoning change jointly host-

ed by the city and county at which no one from the school district attended.

Davis said the district has since improved how it receives notices like zoning changes so this kind of oversight does not happen in the future. This includes having the notices forwarded to members of the district administration while school officials also communicate with county and city officials for zoning questions.

Davis said there are no known issues with any other part of the proposed referendum. He said the district will look to close and sell South Park Middle School and work with developers along with county and city officials to deal with housing needs.

"The goal will be to support community housing needs through collaboration with local developers, county administrators and city administrators," he said.

Davis also said the district did not seek

a zoning amendment as it is an issue of safety.

"Given these safety implications, rather than pursuing zoning appeals that would still raise safety concerns, we chose to develop an alternative solution," he said. "We do not believe that getting the zoning amended for a school expansion at South Park is consistent with our priority on safety."

The Board of Education is set to discuss the topic at its meeting tonight (Wednesday) and would need to approve the referendum question before the Jan. 21 deadline to get it on the April 1 election ballot.

The proposed referendum includes renovating three elementary schools to accommodate more students as the district seeks to close and sell Roosevelt Elementary School, and also includes building a new auditorium at North High School.

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# UWO senior overcame challenges, shares a love of art

By Laurie Schlosser  
UW OSHKOSH TODAY

Resilient and persevering are words that describe University of Wisconsin-Oshkosh art education major Krista Loest.

The graduating senior who currently is student teaching at Carl Traeger Elementary School in Oshkosh, never imagined her college journey would be upended by a medical crisis. During her sophomore year, her mom was diagnosed with an aggressive form of leukemia.

A commuting student from Fond du Lac, Loest helped care for her elementary-age brother and spent time at the Ronald McDonald House supporting her mom while maintaining a top GPA in her classes.

"It was really hard," Loest said. "I was full-time in college and my dad drove over-the-road. My brother was in fourth grade at the time, and I had to take on almost a parental role and pick him up after school and help him with his homework."

"I was trying to be that person in the family to hold things together," she recalled. "We ended up living with our grandparents. My mom had to live in the hospital a year and a half (receiving care and treatments including a bone marrow transplant)."

The good news, Loest said, is the transplant was a success and her mom is "doing great now."

Her mom and dad, brother, older sister, grandparents and boyfriend will be at Commencement Saturday, cheering from the bleachers.

A 2020 graduate of Winnebago Lutheran Academy in Fond du Lac, Loest knew she wanted to go to college. Undecided on her goals, she enrolled locally at UWO-Fond du Lac and connected with an art teacher she describes as "inspiring" and "who saw talent in me."

Michael Wartgow, an art lecturer who served on that campus, encouraged her to pursue art.

"I always loved art as a hobby and I didn't want to (ruin) that," Loest recalled, adding she was told if you love it, it should never feel like work. Loest found that she really wanted to be an art teacher.

Now an elementary school student



UW Oshkosh photo  
UW Oshkosh graduating senior Krista Loest (right) enjoys a light moment in the car with her mom and her younger brother.

teacher, Loest needs to be ready to lead students in everything from paper mache to various methods of drawing and painting to ceramics.

Her current fourth-graders at Carl Traeger Elementary School in Oshkosh are working with clay—making boxes and learning about the habitat they've chosen to decorate—rain forest, marine or arctic. She loves to see their excitement and energy.

Loest's professors at UWO were aware of challenges in her personal life and were impressed at her ability to persist in her educational journey.

"Krista's dedication to her studies is evidenced by the fact that even when her mom was in the hospital with leukemia and she was taking on extra duties with her siblings at home, she still kept up with the work in my class and completed compelling and well-crafted paintings," said Trina May Smith, assistant professor of painting, in a nomination for Chancellor's Award for Excellence, an honor Loest received earlier this year.

Smith noted that Loest, as an art educa-

tion major, was not required to do a senior art exhibition, but proved she was able to take on the challenge. Her exhibit, A Scarlet Reminiscent, was so titled as a look back on the trauma of her mom being sick.

JaeHan Bae said he worked with Loest as her professor and as her supervisor during her clinical teaching experiences.

"Throughout this period, I witnessed her exceptional growth and unwavering commitment to art education," he said, describing her as a genuine and dedicated teacher-candidate.

He said in her first course with him, she excelled while they covered a wide range of topics including the history of art education, differentiated instruction strategies, choice-based visual arts curricula, diverse assessment techniques and the develop-

## UW Oshkosh wins another energy challenge

UW Oshkosh Today

The University of Wisconsin Oshkosh earned its second win in the Higher Education Kit Challenge sponsored by Focus on Energy.

By rallying students and staff around energy-saving initiatives, UWO nearly tripled its participation this year, with more than 660 energy efficiency kits ordered compared with 240 kits two years ago when it won its first challenge.

UWO's success stemmed from a refined outreach strategy focused on off-campus students and targeted emails. The effort included three campus-wide announcements, with the final email emphasizing the university's near-lead position just days before the Oct. 31 deadline.

"This approach drove engagement and boosted orders significantly," said UWO's sustainability director Bradley Spanbauer.

A recent waste audit revealed improvements in recycling habits, demonstrating the impact of consistent messaging. Prize

ment of teaching philosophy.

Bae said Loest would enrich classroom discussions with "depth and insight." He recalled that she developed an art-centered unit plan for kindergarten students focused on exploring different cultures through the theme of flags. Students would learn about flag-making traditions, their authentic meanings and their contemporary uses.

"This innovative art unit was refreshing and expanded our perspective on teaching art in schools—encouraging students to apply their prior experiences and knowledge from other subjects to this art project," he said.

Loest said she's open to moving where she finds a teaching job and she'll be searching from Oshkosh to Milwaukee when postings for fall positions start appearing in a few months.

She said she loves the different abilities and attributes her students bring each day. Her current elementary students have high energy and enthusiasm and "keep me super busy" on her feet; the middle school students are a little more advanced and she thinks she understands them as her brother is currently in this grade level; and high school students bring more technical skills and conceptual thinking.

As Loest moves on from college, she knows she'll miss her knowledgeable professors and the art community she found on the UWO campus. She appreciates their help and understanding, like the times associate professor Craig Clifford allowed her to work in the ceramics lab sometimes until 6 or 7 p.m. when she needed to adjust her schedule.

And Loest will recall great memories of being with fellow art students, having fun and enjoying each other's company as they created art.

"What's better than making cool mugs while laughing with your friends?"

funds from the challenge will be used to support energy efficiency projects, such as facility upgrades designed to deliver long-term energy savings.

"We established a Focus on Energy fund in 2022 to finance projects that reduce energy consumption. This win enables us to continue driving down costs and emissions," Spanbauer said.

With its second victory, UWO plans to further its goals by exploring renewable energy technologies and upgrading infrastructure, including its heating and chiller plant.

"Partnerships like the one with Focus on Energy are critical to achieving these goals," Spanbauer said.

To other institutions considering similar challenges, Spanbauer emphasized starting small and adapting strategies over time.

"Develop a baseline, take it step by step, and tailor efforts to busy and quieter periods on campus," he advised.

## Candlelight hike offered at Community Park

Oshkosh Herald

A candlelight night hike is set from 5 to 7 p.m. Jan. 18 at Winnebago County Community Park beginning at the park pavilion.

Participants should bring a flashlight and follow along with the kid-friendly storybook posted along the way. A campfire with hot chocolate and s'mores awaits at

the end of the 1-mile trail.

Preregistration is required for the free event [winnebagocountywi.gov/parks](http://winnebagocountywi.gov/parks) or on the Parks Department Facebook page.

Community Park shelter reservations are now open to the public and can be made online or in-person at the parks office. Shelters 1 and 2 will be under construction and unavailable until May 27.

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Photo from The Grand

Illusionist Kevin Spencer will have a residency at The Grand Oshkosh this month.

## Illusionist to visit Grand for educational residency

Oshkosh Herald

The Grand Oshkosh is hosting a residency by teaching artist and illusionist Kevin Spencer, whose magic tricks engage students, patients and educators on the potential of the arts to impact how people live, learn, work and heal.

Throughout the residency from Jan. 13-17, Spencer will present at the Oshkosh Police Department, Lakeside Packaging Plus, schools in the Oshkosh Area School District, Caravel Autism Health and other locations, as well as two sensory-inclusive performances at The Grand Oshkosh.

Spencer and his wife, Cindy, toured the world for more than 25 years with one of the largest and most successful theatrical illusion productions in the United States.

Earlier in his career, a serious car accident put Spencer's performances on hold

while his recovery generated a need for him to make therapy more fun and motivating.

Spencer's residency concludes with two performances at 10 a.m. Jan. 17 as part of the 2024-2025 Amcor Student Discovery Series and at 11 a.m. Jan. 18 at The Grand. The performances are sensory-friendly, suitable for all ages and open to the public.

This residency is sponsored by Community First Credit Union with additional support from the Oshkosh Area Community Foundation, Wisconsin Arts Board, Amcor and the John E. Kuenzl Foundation.

Tickets for both shows are on sale at TheGrandOshkosh.org or can be purchased through The Grand Oshkosh box office.

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# New intersection

FROM PAGE 1

total spent by the city in anticipation of re-designing the intersection to \$1.3 million.

Council member DJ Nichols commented that acquiring the most recent properties received overwhelming support from the Plan Commission that recommended the acquisition.

"It's a mess," he said of the intersection.

Even Oshkosh's public works director James Rabe admits there are issues with the intersection that hasn't changed too much since the 1940s.

"The intersection has always been a pain, especially when traveling west-bound," he said.

The land acquisitions have been fundamental to designing the intersection and Rabe said there is still a little bit more land acquisition that needs to be done but the city continues to work on plans for re-designing the intersection.

During the analysis of the area, the idea of putting in a roundabout was looked at but rejected due to the lift bridge east of the intersection and pedestrian safety concerns.

Rabe said there would be potential for



Oshkosh Herald

The intersection at Sawyer and Oshkosh streets could get a new look.

the roundabout to be full and prevent traffic from moving through the intersection when the Oshkosh Avenue lift bridge is up. Roundabouts also pose an issue with foot traffic and bicyclists, especially with two parks in the vicinity.

"It's a very difficult intersection for pedestrians," Rabe said.

Plans for the intersection include a pedestrian refuge island, often on raised concrete, to give people a place to stand and wait for the signal to cross.

Rabe said the design that city staff like the most includes a left-turn lane for traffic eastbound on Oshkosh Avenue to turn onto Rainbow Drive, which will be shifted to line up with the Sawyer/Oshkosh inter-

section.

The plans call for a left-turn lane that will be big enough to have two cars with boats to turn onto Rainbow Drive.

"The goal is to move the boat (traffic) through the intersection and get them to the Rainbow Park lot," Rabe said.

Rainbow Park is a popular destination to launch vessels onto the Fox River and the area can become congested with the current configuration that has not changed since at least 1941.

Aerial survey photos from 1941 show the intersection being offset and the city has been looking to redesign the intersection for quite a while.

"It's been decades. The city has been

looking at this for decades," Rabe said.

The city saw an opportunity in 2018 when tax incremental district 35 was created to help develop Oshkosh Avenue into a thriving corridor with new developments. The TID does not include Oshkosh Corp. global headquarters, which is in TID 34.

Funds generated by the TID are expected to pay for the project – currently estimated to cost around \$6 million. Once construction is completed the city will look to develop the area on the north side of Oshkosh Avenue as all of the land acquired by the city will not be needed for the intersection.

The project will be discussed at an upcoming transportation committee meeting. The city will also get input on the project from several advisory committees, including the Advisory Park Board. The council will also need to approve the project as part of the CIP.

Since Oshkosh Avenue is also State 21, the state Department of Transportation will weigh in on the project.

"As a lifelong resident of Oshkosh, it's a difficult intersection to deal with," Rabe said. "As an organization we're excited to see change and make the intersection more accessible."



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Kitz & Pfeil 427 N. Main St. (920) 236-3340	Kitz & Pfeil 780 Green Tree Mall (920) 361-0424	Kitz & Pfeil 1212 Appleton Rd. (920) 722-2877	Kitz & Pfeil 1919 E Calumet St. (920) 739-9481	Kitz & Pfeil 40 E 1st St. (920) 923-8262

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## Calendar of events

**Thursday, Jan. 9**  
Oshkosh Community Players: "Now & Then," 7 p.m., The Grand Oshkosh

**Friday, Jan. 10**  
Oshkosh Community Players: "Now & Then," 7 p.m., The Grand Oshkosh

**Saturday, Jan. 11**  
Oshkosh Winter Farmers Market, 9 a.m., Oshkosh Arena  
Winnegamie Dog Club Show, noon, Sunnyview Expo Center  
Oshkosh Community Players: "Now & Then," 2 and 7 p.m., The Grand Oshkosh

**Sunday, Jan. 12**  
Wisconsin Herd vs. Osceola Magic, 12:30 p.m., Oshkosh Arena  
Winnegamie Dog Club Show, noon, Sunnyview Expo Center

**Thursday, Jan. 16**  
Oshkosh Restaurant Week (through Jan. 26)  
Murder Mystery Dinner Theater: "Death Beneath the Ice," 6 p.m., Sturgeon Spirits, 2663 Oregon St.  
Speaker Series: Tomcats Over the

Gulf, 7 p.m., EAA Aviation Museum

**Friday, Jan. 17**  
The Magic of Kevin Spencer, 10 a.m., The Grand Oshkosh

**Saturday, Jan. 18**  
The Magic of Kevin Spencer (senior-friendly performance), 11 a.m., The Grand Oshkosh  
Wisconsin Herd Card Show, 10 a.m., Oshkosh Arena

**Thursday, Jan. 23**  
Greg Warren comedy show, 7 p.m., Time Community Theater, 445 N. Main St.

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

**Saturday, Jan. 25**  
Oshkosh Farmers Market, 9 a.m., Oshkosh Convention Center  
Whole-Hearted Wellness Fair, 10 a.m., Father Carr's Place 2B, 1062 N. Koeller St.  
Indoor Rummage and Craft Fair, 9 a.m., Sunnyview Expo Center  
"Tailspin" author John Armbruster, noon, Military Veterans Museum and Education Center, 4300 Pobereznay Road  
Wisconsin Herd vs. Capital City Go-Go, 7 p.m., Oshkosh Arena  
Cold Water Classic Ice Fishing Tournament, 11 a.m., Menominee Park  
Missoula Children's Theatre: "The Wizard of Oz," 3 and 7 p.m., The Grand Oshkosh

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Let us put ink to work for You!

- Overhaul **Company Logo**
- Refresh **Business Card**
- Update **Resume/Letterhead**
- Revamp **Product Brochure**
- Improve **Services Flyer/Menu**



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908 E. Main Street • Winneconne



# Red's piggly wiggly

**FREE**  Save **\$5** when you spend **\$75 or more**  **FREE**

Offer expires 1/14/25 \*\*\*Does not include purchases of tobacco products, lottery, gas or other service desk services PLU 27201

Offer expires 1/14/25 PLU 27202  
**California Seedless Navel Oranges**   
 3 lb. bag

**2/\$6**

Must buy two. Limit two with separate \$25.00 purchase  
 Good at Red's Piggly Wiggly in Omro and Oshkosh only

**New Year... New Savings!** **piggly wiggly** *Check-Out more GREAT savings In-Store*  
 shopthepig.com  
 prices in this ad good wednesday 1/8/25 through tuesday 1/14/25

**4.49 lb** Boneless **English Cut Roast or Steaks** 

**1.99** 6oz **Blackberries or Pint Blueberries** 

**3.99 lb** 80% Lean **Ground Beef** 

**99¢ lb** Garden Fresh **Yellow or Zucchini Squash, Sweet Onions or Roma Tomatoes** 

**3.99** 16 oz Select **Sliced Bacon** 

**3/\$5** 18.6-19 oz **Campbell's Chunky Soup** 

Offer expires 1/14/25 PLU 27203  
**Powerade**  
 8 pack, 20 oz. bottles 

**\$5.99** each

Limit one with separate \$25.00 purchase  
 Good at Red's Piggly Wiggly in Omro and Oshkosh only

Offer expires 1/14/25 PLU 27204  
**Skippy's Peanut Butter**   
 15-16.3 oz.

**2/\$4**

Must buy two. Limit two with separate \$25.00 purchase  
 Good at Red's Piggly Wiggly in Omro and Oshkosh only

**1.49** **2000 pig points**   
 15 oz Wishbone or Western Salad Dressing or 9-11 oz Fresh Express Garden Blends **2.49**

**1.49** **2000 pig points**   
 14-24 oz **Prego Pasta Sauce** **2.49**

**FREE** **2000 pig points**   
 16 oz **Food Club Pasta** **99¢**

Offer expires 1/14/25 PLU 27205  
**Campbell's Chunky Soup**   
 18.6-19 oz.

**3/\$4**

Must buy three. Limit three with separate \$25.00 purchase  
 Good at Red's Piggly Wiggly in Omro and Oshkosh only

**4.99** 13.1-13.3 oz **Fresh Express Hot or Cold Salad Kits** 

**3.49** 16 oz **Food Club Shredded or Chunk Cheese** 

**4/\$10** 8-11.5 oz Select **Lean Cuisine Entrees** 

**2.99** 24 oz **Food Club Cottage Cheese** 

**2/\$3** 4.8-8.7 oz **Hamburger Helper** 

**2.39** 19-26 oz **McCain Potatoes or 14 oz Onion Rings** 

**2/\$6** 59 oz **Minute Maid Orange Juice** 

**3/\$6** 9.6-12.6 oz **Kellogg's Special K Cereal** 

**9.99** 23-30.5 oz **Hills Bros. Coffee** 

**14 Hands Sparkling Rose Wine** 

**\$2.99** each

**5/\$5** SALE PRICE **5/\$4** **Chobani Yogurt**   
 FINAL COST LIMIT (1) OFFER PER CARD

**4/\$11** 5.5-8.5 oz **Ruffles Doritos or 15-15.75 oz Tostitos or Lay's Dips** 

**7.99** 6 Mega Roll **Cottonelle Bath Tissue or 168 Refill Flushable Wipes** 

750 ml bottle

While Supplies Last!  
**OSHKOSH AND OMRO LOCATIONS**



**From the Meat Department**

**Farmland Bacon**  
16 oz.



**\$3.99** each

**Vollwerth's Summer Sausage**  
16 oz.



**\$5.69**

**From the Deli**

**Sandwich Spread**



**\$5.99** per pound

**Cheese and Sausage Tidbit Trays**



**\$5.99** per pound

**From the Bakery**

**Half Pies**



**\$3.49**

OSHKOSH ONLY DEALS

**fresh favorites**



**3.99**  
3 lb Bag California Seedless Navel Oranges

**3.99 ea**  
Golden Pineapple

**3.99**  
3 lb Bag Wisconsin Evercrisp or Fuji Apples

**2.99 ea**  
Jumbo Cantaloupe or Honeydew Melon

**99¢ ea**  
Hass Avocados

**3.99**  
6 oz Fresh Raspberries

**2.49 lb**  
Premium Honeycrisp Apples

**99¢ ea**  
California Jumbo Navel Oranges

**99¢ ea**  
Fresh Green Bell Peppers  
Garden Fresh Green Beans...1.79 lb

**1.29 lb**  
Garden Fresh Eggplant  
**2/4.50**  
8 oz Whole White Mushrooms

**4.99**  
8.5 oz Stuffed Baby Portabella Mushrooms  
**1.69**  
2 lb Bag Medium Yellow Onions

**2.99**  
5 lb Bag Wisconsin Red or Russet Potatoes  
**2/\$3**  
14 oz Fresh Express Old Fashioned Cole Slaw

**fresh floral**



**11.99**  
Beautiful Bloom Bouquet

**14.99**  
Spirit of Spring Bouquet

**16.99**  
6 inch Assorted Foliage Plants

**19.99**  
Winterlude Bouquet

**beverage center**



**6.99**  
12 pk, 12 oz Cans Pepsi or Mtn Dew

**6.99**  
12 pk, .5 ltr Bottles Lipton Ice Tea

**6.99**  
8 pk, 20 oz Bottles Powerade

**2/\$5**  
2-ltr Bottles 7UP, RC Cola or A&W Root Beer

**3.99**  
8 pk, 12 oz Cans Bubly

**3/\$5**  
28 oz Bottle BODYARMOR

**5.99**  
6 pk, .5 ltr Bottles Coke, Sprite or Diet Coke

**4.99**  
4 pk Frostie

**health, home & pet**



**14.99**  
4 Triple Roll Bounty Paper Towel or 9 Mega Rolls Charmin Bath Tissue

**5.99**  
3 pk, 120-160 ct Kleenex Facial Tissue

**132 oz Tide Detergent**  
SALE PRICE **20.99** Less Digital Coupon Offer **16.99**

**76 ct Tide Pods**  
SALE PRICE **19.99** Less Digital Coupon Offer **15.99**

**7.99**  
Lysol 19 oz Disinfectant Spray or 10 oz Air Sanitizer

**2.49**  
90 ct Simply Done Double Zipper Sandwich Bags

**2.99**  
28-48 ct Simply Done Zipper Freezer or Storage Bags

**18.2 oz Downy Unstoppable or 48 oz Downy or Tide Rinse**  
SALE PRICE **12.99** Less Digital Coupon Offer **9.99**

**7.99**  
15.4 lb CharKing Briquets

**5.49**  
2-8 ct AA, AAA, C, D, or 9-Volt Simply Done Batteries

**6.99**  
4 pk Drinks or 5 pk Bars Atkins Fabric Softner

**77 oz Downy Fabric Softner**  
SALE PRICE **8.99** Less Digital Coupon Offer **6.99**

**3.49**  
32 oz CharKing Lighter Fluid

**5.99**  
3.15 lb Purina Cat or Kitten Chow

**29.99**  
15-16.5 lb Purina ONE Dog Food

**80 ct Bounce Dryer Sheets**  
SALE PRICE **4.49** Less Digital Coupon Offer **3.49**

**SAVE \$3 When You MIX OR MATCH Any 3** Items listed below in a Single Transaction. While Supplies Last. Sorry No Rainchecks.

**45 ct Vicks VapoCOOL**  
SALE PRICE **4.99** When You Buy 3 **3.99 ea** FINAL COST

**4-6 oz Chloraseptic Sore Throat Spray**  
SALE PRICE **7.69** When You Buy 3 **6.69 ea** FINAL COST

**10-32 ct Select Airborne**  
SALE PRICE **6.99** When You Buy 3 **5.99 ea** FINAL COST

**12 oz Select NyQuil Liquids**  
SALE PRICE **11.49** When You Buy 3 **10.49 ea** FINAL COST

**12 oz Select NyQuil Liquids**  
SALE PRICE **11.49** When You Buy 3 **10.49 ea** FINAL COST



## dairy & frozen



**digital coupons**

8 pk Yoplait Yogurt **2/\$4.50** SALE PRICE Less Digital Coupon Offer

12-24 ct or 16.5 oz Pillsbury Cookie Dough **2/\$7** SALE PRICE Less Digital Coupon Offer

**2/\$3** FINAL COST LIMIT (1) OFFER PER CARD

**2/\$6** FINAL COST LIMIT (1) OFFER PER CARD

 <b>3.49</b> 32 oz International Delight Creamer	 <b>2.99</b> 64 oz Silk Almond Milk	 <b>2/\$5</b> 7-9 oz Jimmy Dean Breakfast Bowls	 <b>2/\$11</b> 18.35-25.49 oz Connie's Classic, Urban-Pie or Surfer Boy Pizza
 <b>2/\$3</b> FINAL COST LIMIT (1) OFFER PER CARD	 <b>3.99</b> 24 oz Greek Gods Yogurt	 <b>2.79</b> 4-6 ct Pillsbury Toaster Scrambles or Strudel	 <b>2/\$10</b> 8.15-28.45 oz Orv's Pizza, Brew Pub 9' Pizza or Pizza Bowls or Serio's Dessert Pizza
 <b>2/\$6</b> FINAL COST LIMIT (1) OFFER PER CARD	 <b>2.79</b> 2-4 pk Jell-O Pudding or Gelatin	 <b>3.99</b> 24-28 oz On-Cor Entrees	 <b>2/\$5</b> 6-8 ct Select Furlani Texas Toast or Garlic Knots
 <b>2.99</b> 16 oz Individually Wrapped Food Club American Singles	 <b>3.99</b> 10 oz Owl's Nest Cheese Spread	 <b>1.79</b> 12 oz Old Orchard Frozen Juice	 <b>1.99</b> 10 oz Pictsweet Vegetables
 <b>2.49</b> 1 lb Parkay Quarters	 <b>2/\$5</b> 32 oz Food Club Blended Yogurt	 <b>5.99</b> 12-24 ct Family Pack Eggo Waffles	 <b>9.99</b> 19.8-22.2 oz HomeBake Entrees
 <b>4.29</b> 6 pk Outshine Bars	 <b>6.99</b> 4 Qt Dean's Ice Cream	 <b>3.79</b> 4 ct Kemps Ice Cream Bars	 <b>2/\$9</b> 14 oz Ice Cream 3 ct Bars

## STOCK UP SAVINGS!

**2/\$5**  
15-16.3 oz Skippy Peanut Butter

**2/\$8**  
25-27 oz Jack's Rising Crust Pizza

**2/\$3**  
64 oz Old Orchard Healthy Balance or Cocktail Juice





## grocery essentials



**digital coupons**

11-12 oz Select Ground or 12 ct K-cups Eight O' Clock Coffee Flavored Coffee Creamer... **4.69**

10.2-15 oz Food Club Flavored Coffee Creamer... **4.69**

 <b>2/\$6</b> 64 oz Juice or 4.73-4.8 oz Apple Sauce	 <b>2/\$4</b> 12-14.5 oz Barilla Pasta, 24 oz Sauce or 6.2-6.5 oz Pesto	 <b>2/\$5</b> 6-10 pk Betty Crocker or Mott's Fruit Snacks	 <b>2/\$6</b> SALE PRICE Less Digital Coupon Offer
 <b>3.19</b> 15 oz Village Hearth Select Light Bread	 <b>2/\$6</b> 20 oz Sara Lee Artesano Bread	 <b>3.49</b> 13 oz Nutella	 <b>2/\$5</b> SALE PRICE Less Digital Coupon Offer
 <b>2.99</b> 1.62 oz Country Time, Mio, Crystal Light or Kool-Aid Water Enhancers	 <b>2/\$5</b> 6-8 pk or 128 oz Hawaiian Punch	 <b>3.99</b> 64 oz V8 Juice	 <b>3.49</b> 7.1-13.7 oz Keebler Club Crackers or 5.75-12.4 oz Cheez-It
 <b>2/\$3</b> .75-1.25 oz McCormick Seasoning or Gravy Mix	 <b>2.99</b> 5.5-6.25 oz Kinder's Seasoning	 <b>2/\$4</b> 15.3-15.8 oz Kinder's BBQ Sauce or Marinade	 <b>1.69</b> 32 oz Food Club Ketchup
 <b>3.69</b> 8.4-11.5 oz Bear Creek Soup Mix	 <b>2.69</b> 16 oz DaVinci Pasta	 <b>3/\$4</b> 4 oz Mrs. Cubbison's Tortilla Strips or 5 oz Olive Garden Croutons	 <b>3.49</b> 12 pk Kellogg's Pop-Tarts
 <b>1.89</b> 10 ct Frescados Burrito Tortillas	 <b>3.49</b> 18-20 ct Bigelow Tea	 <b>2/\$3</b> 32 oz Food Club Broth	 <b>4/\$5</b> 5 oz Bumble Bee Tuna
 <b>4/\$5</b> 16.5-18.3 oz Food Club Cake or Brownie Mix	 <b>2/\$4</b> 10 oz That's Smart Canned Chicken	 <b>7.49</b> 12 pk Pouches GoGo SqueeZ Applesauce	 <b>89¢</b> 4 oz Select Beech-Nut Baby Food
 <b>2.99</b> 6 pk Food Club Popcorn	 <b>2/\$6</b> 8-9 oz Dutch Crunch Chips	 <b>3.49</b> 8.5-12 oz Keebler or 4.6 oz Nutella B-Ready Cookies	 <b>2/\$5</b> 4-4.4 oz Hershey's XL Bars

## BUY 3 GET 2 FREE

**4/\$11**  
8.38-12.75 oz Select Stouffer's Entrees

**4/\$12**  
6 pk, .5 ltr Bottles 7UP, RC Cola, or A&W Root Beer




**digital coupon**

8.9-12 oz Select General Mills Cereal **2/\$5** SALE PRICE Less Digital Coupon Offer

**2/\$4** FINAL COST LIMIT (1) OFFER PER CARD

4-5.8 oz Knorr Pasta or Rice Sides **4/\$5** SALE PRICE Less Digital Coupon Offer

**4/\$4** FINAL COST LIMIT (1) OFFER PER CARD

While supplies last. We reserve the right to limit quantities and correct all printed errors. Not all varieties available at all locations. Prices subject to state and local taxes, if applicable. No sales to dealers. Purchase requirements are calculated after promotional discounts, and before tax, and does not include: gift cards, lottery, tobacco, bottle deposits or other service desk services. All prices with card are discounted by using your Piggy Wiggly Rewards Card. Free promotions will be applied to item of least value. Gluten free information comes direct from the manufacturer (Always check the label, as ingredients may change. Contact the manufacturer with additional questions).



**18.99**  
15 pk, 16 oz Aluminum Pints  
Miller Lite

**\$10 QR CODE COUPON OFF TWO 15 PK, MILLER COORS FAMILY OR TWO 12 PK, 12 OZ CANS COCA COLA. SEE DISPLAY FOR DETAILS**



**8.79**  
6 pk, 11.2 oz Bottles  
Peroni

**\$5 INSTANT SAVINGS WHEN YOU BUY TWO PERONI 6 PK'S AND ONE SCREAMIN' SICILIAN PIZZA. WITH CARD**



**8.99**  
6 pk, 12 oz Bottles  
Blue Moon Craft

**SAVE \$3 WHEN YOU BUY (1) 3LB BAG ORANGES & ONE 6PK BLUE MOON CRAFT. WITH CARD**



**21.49**  
30 pk, 12 oz Cans  
Miller High Life

**LOWEST LEGAL RETAIL**



**14.79**  
12 pk, 12 oz Cans or Bottles  
Leinenkugel's Craft



**9.59**  
12 pk, 12 oz Cans or Bottles  
Miller Extra Light

**AFTER \$2 INSTANT SAVINGS**



**17.49**  
30 pk, 12 oz Cans  
Keystone Light

**LOWEST LEGAL RETAIL**



**14.39**  
12 pk, 12 oz Cans or Bottles or 15 pk, 12 oz Cans  
Redd's Hard Apple

**AFTER \$2 INSTANT SAVINGS**



**meat & seafood**

**79¢ lb**  
Sold in 10 lb Bag \$7.90  
Chicken Leg Quarters

**2.49 lb**  
Prairie Fresh  
Center Cut Bone-In Pork Rib Roast or Rib Chops

**3.49 lb**  
Prairie Fresh  
Whole Pork Tenderloin



**3.99 lb**  
Gerber's Amish Farms  
Fresh Ground Chicken

**4.99 lb**  
Fresh Boneless/Skinless  
Chicken Breast or Tenderloins

**2.49 lb**  
Fresh Hand Cut Split  
Turkey Breast  
Thighs or Drumsticks...1.99 lb

**2.99 lb**  
Prairie Fresh  
Stuffed or Seasoned Bone-In  
Center Cut Pork Chops




**4.99**  
16 oz Select  
Oscar Mayer Ham or Turkey Lunchmeat

**2/\$6**  
7-9 oz Select  
Buddig Sliced Lunchmeat

**4.29**  
12 oz Select  
Johnsonville Breakfast Sausage Links or Patties

**6.99**  
24 oz Select Wholely Premium  
Shrimp, Chicken or Beef Skillet Meals



**2/\$5**  
14-16 oz Select  
Oscar Mayer Wieners

**3.99**  
12-14 oz Select  
Eckrich Li'l Smokies

**4.99**  
22 oz  
Tyson Cornish Hens

**1.99 lb**  
Sold in 3 lb Bag \$5.97  
County Line Pride Chicken Wings



**3.29**  
12 oz  
Farmland Braunschweiger

**2/\$5**  
3-4 oz Select  
Oscar Mayer Lunchables

**2.99**  
Select 12 oz Piggly Wiggly  
Breakfast Sausage Links or Patties

**12.99**  
24-32 oz Select Just Bare  
Breaded Chicken Strips and Nuggets



**8.99 lb**  
Fresh Farm-Raised  
Tilapia Fillets

**7.99 lb**  
Wild Caught  
Sole Fillets

**10.99**  
16 oz  
Wholey Cod Fillets

**5.99**  
26-30 ct 16 oz  
Wholey EZ Peel Raw Shrimp

**8.99**  
16-20 ct 16 oz  
Wholey Cooked Shrimp



**deli & bakery**

**8.99 lb**  
Select  
Badger Ham

**FREE!**  
Joseph's  
Pita or Lavash Flat Bread  
with the purchase of 1 lb  
Badger Ham or Butterball Turkey

**9.99 lb**  
Select  
Butterball Turkey Breast



**6.99 lb**  
Buholzer Brothers  
Gouda, Brick or Muenster Cheese

**4.99**  
6 oz  
Athenos Feta Crumbles

**1.99**  
14 oz  
Italian Bread

**2.99**  
4 ct  
Sub Buns



**3.49 lb**  
German  
Potato Salad

**6.99 lb**  
Kale Breeze  
Salad

**4.49**  
4 ct  
Large Turnovers

**5.49**  
10 ct  
Meurer Mini Danish



**7.99 lb**  
Cranberry/Almond  
Chicken Salad

**7.99 lb**  
BBQ  
Pulled Chicken

**3.49**  
12 ct  
Piggly Wiggly's Very Own Cookies

**6.99**  
8 in  
Dutch Apple Pie



**beer & liquor**

**13.49**  
12 pk, 12 oz Cans  
Michelob Ultra Zero

**15.79**  
8 pk, 12 oz Cans  
Nütrl Vodka Seltzer

**21.49**  
30 pk, 12 oz Cans  
Busch or Busch Light

**14.99**  
30 pk, 12 oz Cans  
Hamm's



**8.99**  
1.75 ltr Bottle  
Burnett's Vodka

**16.99**  
1.75 ltr Bottle  
Christian Brother's VS Brandy

**9.99**  
1.75 ltr Bottle  
Admiral Nelson Spiced Rum

**27.99**  
1.75 ltr Bottle  
Evan Williams Bourbon



**17.99**  
8 pk, 12 oz Cans  
Fresca Mixed Variety

**14.99**  
750 ml Bottle  
Kim Crawford White Wines

**11.99**  
750 ml Bottle  
Roscato Wines

**10.99**  
1.5 ltr Bottle Assorted  
Sutter Home Wines





# Knights' Ruedinger carries on family tradition

By Tim Froberg  
HERALD CONTRIBUTOR

Some people spend their lives jumping through hoops, while others invest considerable time launching basketballs at them.

Put Delaney Ruedinger in the latter category.

Ruedinger grew up in one of Oshkosh's most prominent basketball families.

The bounce of a rubber ball, the squeak of sneakers and the shrieks of a whistle served as the soundtrack for her childhood and the local gym was a second home.

With that type of background, it's no surprise that she has developed into one of the best girls' basketball players in the Oshkosh area.

Ruedinger is a fourth-year starter at Lourdes Academy and has been a first-team all-Trailways East Conference selection each of the past two seasons.

Ruedinger, a 5-foot-9 forward, teams with another outstanding player, Hailee Bauer, to give the Knights a formidable one-two scoring punch. But Ruedinger does more than just fill up a scorebook. She is a solid rebounder, passer and exceptional defender who can be both a facilitator and a game-changer.

Nine games into the 2024-25 season, Ruedinger is averaging 16.1 points, 4.4 rebounds, 2.4 assists and 2.6 steals with 15 3-pointers.

"Delaney can create offensive opportunities for herself and her teammates, which is very powerful for us on that end of the floor," said Lourdes coach Ali Starr.

Ruedinger quickly broke into the starting lineup as a freshman, averaging 5.4 points, 2.7 rebounds, 1.3 assists and 1.1 steals with 21 3-pointers. She bumped those numbers to 9.9 ppg, 5.3 rpg, 1.7 apg and 2.7 spg with 34 threes her sophomore season.

Ruedinger continued to progress as a junior, averaging 12.4 points, 4.7 rebounds, 2.9 assists and 2.8 steals while sinking a career-high 35 trifectas. She has scored 884 career points (according to Wissports.net stats) and is expected to hit the 1,000-point mark at some point this season.

"Delaney has expanded her game exponentially every single year," Starr said. "She is remarkable on defense. We often ask her to guard the other team's strongest offensive players, whether it's a guard or post. Her defense often creates her offense, which is a dream for any coach."

One of the reasons Ruedinger is such a quality defender is her attitude. She relishes the challenge of trying to lock down an opponent.

"I love playing defense," Ruedinger said. "It's one of my favorite parts of the game. This year, I'm really focusing on defense. We've lost some size, so I've been getting matchups against the bigger girls. Defense is so important for this team. It allows us to be successful on the other side of the

## Senior Spotlight

floor."

Ruedinger is a versatile scorer with an inside-outside game. She is tall enough to score inside the lane and a threat from the perimeter (102 career 3-pointers).

"Depending on matchups, you might find me inside the paint a little more this year, but I also have a midrange game and can play on the perimeter," Ruedinger said. "But basketball is more than just scoring and defense. I also try to be a facilitator and leader. We have some young girls on this team. I try and make sure everyone is on the same page and that we're doing things how we practice them."

Starr appreciates Ruedinger's take-charge leadership ability and the way she handles herself and represents Knights' basketball.

"Delaney is a vocal leader and a fierce competitor," Starr said. "She embraces our culture and invites her teammates to embrace it as well. She's one of the main reasons I got back into coaching. I love coaching her and will certainly soak up every moment we have this season. She's a phenomenal player and a phenomenal human."

Ruedinger is no one-sport wonder. She's a three-sport athlete who was a second-team all-Trailways East Conference selection in volleyball in 2024 and a Wisconsin Flyway Conference first-team choice in soccer.

"I've had great coaches in all three sports, so that helps a lot," Ruedinger said. "I also think that because we're such a tight-knit group of kids here at Lourdes that when we get to the fields and the courts, it's so much easier to have a connection and have good chemistry. That just makes it easier to play with one another and really enjoy the sport."

Still, basketball is Ruedinger's preferred sport and it's easy to see why. Her father, Dennis, was the longtime Lourdes' boys' basketball coach, guiding the Knights for 19 seasons and leading the program to its first state title in 2021. Dennis also made a major impact on the court. He played college basketball at the University of Wisconsin-Oshkosh from 1993-97 and is the program's eighth all-time leading scorer with 1,595 career points. Dennis was inducted into the UW-Oshkosh Athletic Hall of Fame in 2009.

Delaney's brother, Preston, has also made a name for himself on the court. Preston was a prominent member of the 2021 Division 4 state championship team – coached by his father – and landed Associated Press all-state first team honors after averaging 25.8 points, 6.9 rebounds, 5.0 assists and 2.5 rebounds. Preston, who ranks 12th on Wisconsin's all-time boys' basketball scoring list with 2,349 career points, is currently a redshirt junior and the starting point guard for the UW-Green Bay basketball team.

"I was maybe 3 when I first picked up a



Photo by Andy Ratchman

Delaney Ruedinger is a three-sport standout for Lourdes Academy, who has starred on the varsity basketball court the last four years, earning all-Trailways East recognition the past two seasons.

basketball and I've been playing on teams since the third grade," said Delaney. "I would go to my dad's practices and was always around the gym."

"I looked up to my brother and he was always in the gym. His work ethic in this sport is crazy. It's inspiring to see how much he loves this sport. Just watching him play and how much he enjoyed it made me want to get into the gym. His work ethic really rubbed off on me."

Dennis never pushed Delaney into basketball but she quickly gravitated toward it.

"He told me that if I wanted to play, he'd support me, but playing basketball was al-

ways my decision," Delaney said. "He's always been really supportive. If I was struggling with my shot, he'd bring me to the gym and rebound for me."

"He's the one who really taught me how to play defense, although coach Ali and coach Reed (Tyriver) and some of our other coaches have really helped me defensively, too. I grew up watching my brother play defense and he's an exceptional defender. That's another reason why I like playing defense so much."

Delaney and Preston stay in touch regularly and try to attend one another's games

SEE **Senior Spotlight** ON PAGE 17



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# Strong start helps West girls hold off Cardinals

By Steve Clark  
OSHKOSH HERALD

After an 0-3 start, the upstart Oshkosh West girls basketball team is starting to find a groove.

The Wildcats jumped out to a 12-1 lead against Fond du Lac last Friday night and rolled up a 55-42 win over the Cardinals to notch a third straight win and sixth in the last seven games.

"We've come a long way already. We've grown together on and off the floor and it really shows on the court," said senior Maddie Rasmussen, who led the team, with 17 points. "Before we would fall apart when things didn't go our way but now I feel like we've grown stronger and stronger and it's definitely helping."

Rasmussen knocked down a pair of 3-pointers in the opening surge, while Colleen Fitzpatrick added a 3-pointer and Rowan Tigert scored an inside basket. Ava Strasser capped the run with a free throw just over four minutes into the game.

Head coach Kenisha Goss said the fast start was something that hasn't been a strength for the Wildcats this season.

"Typically we are a team that struggles to get going so it's always nice when you see those first ones go in," Goss said. "It keeps you energized to play defense and get stops so that fast start is really important to us especially because we had some big lulls in the middle of the game. Getting the lead and getting us a little cushion is always helpful, especially with such a young team."

The Cardinals got as close as seven points midway through the first half before a driving layup from Kinslee Nelson and a 3-pointer from Joely Schelfhout boosted West's lead back to double digits.

West kept its lead above 10 points the rest of the half and took a 30-14 lead at intermission on Strasser's basket in the lane just before the halftime buzzer.

Rasmussen paced the team with 10 points in the first half, including eight in the first five minutes to help set the tone for West.

"(My scoring) helped us with the lead but I think that mainly it just helped us get the momentum and helped other people hit their shots, too," Rasmussen said.

West never trailed in the second half but had to fend off a Fond du Lac as the Cardinals pulled to within 38-29 with 9:30 remaining.

But Strasser, who chipped in 12 points, knocked down a 3-pointer to ignite a 10-0 run that gave the Wildcats a comfortable cushion again. Strasser also hit a free throw and scored on a layup in the surge.

"She has made some big steps. We have been working hard on being aggressive taking it to the basket and taking the shots when you're open," Goss said. "With her, I think it's been confidence and it's been the last week or so that it's been building. She's definitely been taking it to the hoop harder and taking those open shots."

The overall confidence of the team has also been on the rise since those early games and Goss believes it's a reflection of the roster getting used to the varsity level of play.

Only two players – Schelfhout and Tigert – played in a majority of the games at the varsity level last season and with a pair of freshmen in the regular rotation, it's been an adjustment for the young roster.

"I think for them it was about just getting a taste of (the varsity level)," Goss said. "As much as you talk about it in practice that this is going to be physical and this is going to be fast, you can't simulate it in practice like it will be in a game. They came out and got knocked around a bit for the first few games, but I think they responded really well. You start getting some wins and winning some close ones, you start to build that confidence."



Photo by Jim Koepnick

Oshkosh West's Joely Schelfhout drives past a Fond du Lac defender during Friday's Fox Valley Association contest.

Fond du Lac would make one more run at the Wildcats, pulling to within eight points with 2:40 still remaining.

But after two free throws from Fitzpatrick with 2:05 to play, Rasmussen went 3-of-4 from the foul line in the final 1:07 to close out the victory.

"Obviously it was a little frustrating that they came back but we kept our heads up, calmed down, brought the ball up slow and just ran together," Rasmussen said. "That's our thing. We always like to speed

up so slowing down is a big thing. Our coaches always say to just calm down."

Goss, whose team went 12-of-16 from the free-throw line in the second half led by Hailey Marchant's 4-of-4 performance, was pleased that her team was able to finish things out.

"If this would have been our first game, we don't pull that game out. Every day, they are learning and helping each other grow," Goss said. "We have made such huge progress. It's awesome."

## Wildcats can't get past Fondy in FVA tussle

By Steve Clark  
OSHKOSH HERALD

Oshkosh West struggled to adjust to Fond du Lac's pressure defense and by the time they did, the Wildcats were in too deep of a hole to crawl out of.

West scored just seven points in the first 11 minutes of the game and never recovered in falling at home to the Cardinals, 59-43, in a Fox Valley Association boys basketball game last Friday night.

"Their denying our wings, denying our entrees really bothered us. We were struggling to enter our offense, start our offense," Oshkosh West head coach Dan Weisse said. "I need to do a better job of finding ways to get guys open and we have to find ways to get ourselves open and we need to be a little more tough to get to our spots."

Collin Carns opened the scoring in the game but Fond du Lac rattled off the next 11 points to seize control.

A three-point play by Tyler Moderson and a layup from Noah Gelhar stemmed the tide but the Cardinals then scored 13 straight points to take a 26-7 lead with 7:13 left in the half.

Gelhar's jumper from the elbow ended the Cardinals run and West capped the half with an 8-2 spurt capped by a Moderson 3-pointer, but the Wildcats still trailed



Photo by Jim Koepnick

Oshkosh West's Sam Gibson goes up for a layup in the second half against Fond du Lac on Friday.

34-21 at intermission.

"Early in the game, their pressure bothered us and they were able to create some separation in the score," Weisse said. "Every time we punched back, they were able to answer."

Oshkosh West played more even with

the Cardinals in the second half but never threatened Fond du Lac's lead.

The Wildcats got as close as 11 points twice – the last coming after a Moderson 3-point play with 2:27 remaining – but

## Knights notch non-conference win over Orioles

By Joe Matzek  
HERALD CORRESPONDENT

After two rough outings over the holiday break, the Lourdes Academy boys' basketball team found some direction in practice and transferred it to its first game of 2025.

The Knights battled through a tentative first half with confident play and outlasted North Fond du Lac 55-49 in a non-conference game Friday night to earn its second win of the season.

Lourdes was coming off two lopsided losses in the St. Mary's Springs Holiday Tournament, falling 78-33 to the host team and 52-30 to St. Mary Catholic. But the Knights didn't lose faith and responded with what senior guard Braden Studinski said were its two best practices of the season.

"Things are starting to click and it feels good," said Studinski, who scored a game-high 23 points against the Orioles. "We're playing basketball, we're just hooping, we're thinking less. We're just attacking more."

Lourdes never trailed, but its largest lead was 10 points as the Orioles (0-7) kept coming back by scoring in the lane and playing gritty defense.

Although the Knights (2-8) led 30-26

SEE **West boys** ON PAGE 18

SEE **Lourdes boys** ON PAGE 18



# Prep sports roundup

## BOYS BASKETBALL

### Wildcats split two games at Sentry Classic

Oshkosh West beat Watertown 62-57 but fell to Beaver Dam, 68-64, at the Sentry Classic in Stevens Point over the holiday break.

Four Wildcats finished in double figures in the win over Watertown, with Tyler Moderson leading the way with 17 points. Collin Carns added 12 points, followed by Brayden Kufel with 11 and Joey Ware with 10.

Against Beaver Dam, Moderson matched his season high with 20 points. Carns chipped in 13 points, while Ware and Noah Gelhar each had nine.

### Spartans drop FVA tilt with Rockets

Oshkosh North was held to a season-low point total in a 51-44 loss to Neenah last Friday.

Xzavion Mitchell finished with 28 points and 10 rebounds to lead the Spartans, who were held more than 22 points below their season average in the loss.

North finished 16-of-18 from the free-throw line, including an 8-of-8 performance from Mitchell, but were 0-of-7 from 3-point range.

The Spartans did pick up a 71-64 win over Arrowhead in their second game of the Rick Majerus WBY Shootout on Dec. 27.

Mitchell finished with 44 points – his third 40-point game of the season – to lead North.

Jon Coleman added nine points and 11 rebounds.

### Knights drop two games at Holy Buckets tourney

Lourdes Academy lost to both St. Mary's Springs and St. Mary Catholic during the Holy Buckets Tournament hosted by St. Mary's Springs over the holiday break.

Harlan Kuehn was the lone player in double figures with 11 points in the Knights' 78-33 loss to the host Ledgers.

Braden Studinski finished with 12 points and nine rebounds in a 52-30 loss to St. Mary Catholic.

Kuehn finished with a game-high 11 rebounds.

### Rough second half sinks Warriors in loss

Valley Christian trailed Hilbert by only three points at halftime but the Wolves pulled away in the second half to hand the Warriors a 71-45 loss on Friday.

Mathias Behling led Valley Christian with 13 points, with Joshua Johnson chipping in 10 points. Brady Patterson added seven points and a team-high nine rebounds.

Over the holiday break, Valley Christian dropped a 62-34 decision to Sevastopol.

## Senior Spotlight

FROM PAGE 15

whenever possible.

"He tells me that high school and college ball are totally different and to enjoy it (the high school basketball experience) and have fun because it goes by quickly," said Delaney. "We're pretty close. We're always texting one another good luck before games. It's tough to always get up to Green Bay games when our teams are going at the same time, but I do my best to get to



Photo by Andy Ratchman

Gavin Poquette skates around a defender in the Oshkosh Ice Hawks game against Ashwaubenon on Jan. 3. Results of the game were not available.

## GIRLS BASKETBALL

### Neenah overpowers Oshkosh North

The Spartans allowed a season-high point total and fell to Neenah, 87-53, in a Fox Valley Association game last Friday.

Awut Alic poured in 30 points for the Spartans, while also leading the team with six rebounds and four steals. Morgan Kolodzick was the next highest scorer with six points.

Alic tallied a career-high 37 points in a 68-64 overtime loss to Green Bay Preble in the first game of the Green Bay Preble Holiday Tournament on Dec. 27. Alic and Naviana Lao-Facundo each finished with 10 rebounds in the game.

The following night the Spartans lost to Mosinee, 64-35, with Alic finishing with 12 points and rebounds and Lucy Houseworth adding six points.

### Wildcats finish 2-0 at Marshfield tourney

Rowan Tigert scored 16 points and Maddie Rasmussen added 15 as Oshkosh West topped the host Tigers, 61-32, in the second game of the Marshfield Holiday Classic on Dec. 28.

Colleen Fitzpatrick scored 13 points with Rasmussen and Kinslee Nelson adding 11 points each in a 59-53 victory over Wausau West in the first game of the event. Nelson also grabbed 11 rebounds.

On Saturday, West had its three-game winning streak snapped in a 46-38 loss to Divine Savior Holy Angels.

### Bauer leads Knights to easy win over Orioles

Hailee Bauer finished with 28 points, seven assists and five steals as Lourdes Academy scored a 55-38 win over North Fond du Lac last Thursday.

Delaney Ruedinger finished with 13 points and seven assists in the win, while

most of them."

Ruedinger has some interest in college basketball but isn't sure if she will get the opportunity. If she doesn't, Ruedinger will focus on academics. She is a terrific student who carries a stellar 3.8 grade point average.

"I would consider it if someone offered, but I think my basketball career is probably coming to an end," she said. "Ideally, I would love to go to Madison and major in social work."

Before heading off to college, Ruedinger has some unfinished business to deal with.

Aubrey Schettle chipped in six points.

The Knights picked up a 54-42 win over Pardeeville at the Oshkosh Arena with Ruedinger leading the way with 26 points. Bauer chipped in 16 points, while Hannah McDowell and Sabur Machiros finished with 12 and 11 rebounds, respectively.

### Moran, Fink spark Warriors past Wolves

Mya Moran finished with 27 points and six steals and Lizzie Fink added 20 points and nine rebounds as Valley Christian snapped a four-game losing skid with a 63-35 thumping of Hilbert last Friday.

Paige Boevers added nine points, 10 rebounds and 10 steals in the game for the Warriors.

The Warriors fell to Sheboygan Christian on Dec. 30, 66-52, despite getting 24 points from Fink.

Moran added 10 points and Boevers grabbed 13 rebounds in the game for Valley Christian.

## BOYS WRESTLING

### Schneider leads Wildcats at On The Water

Ryland Schneider claimed the 175-pound title at the On The Water Classic held at the Kolf Sports Center over the holiday break.

Schneider finished 5-0 with a pin and two technical falls in the tournament. He won his final three matches by a combined 49-4 margin, beating Braylon Stegall of West De Pere, 16-3, in the title match.

Eddy Schroeder at 144 pounds and Nelson Fournier at 215 pounds, each finished second in their weight classes. Schroeder picked up one pin while finishing 4-1 in the two-day tournament, with Fournier getting three pins among his four wins at the tournament.

Jaiden Fronczak was the only other Wildcat to place at the tournament, taking ninth at 165 pounds.

She's hoping to lead the Knights, currently 4-0 in the Trailways East and 7-2 overall, to a third straight conference title and a deep tournament run. Lourdes has gone 71-18 the past three seasons with Ruedinger and Bauer leading the way, but hasn't reached the state tourney.

Closing her prep career at Green Bay's Resch Center would be the perfect way for Ruedinger to exit.

"We have a good number of seniors, so we have good leadership and experience," Ruedinger said. "This team has a lot of potential. We're looking to go deep."

Oshkosh North's Anthony Berger came within one win of placing, posting a 4-2 record at 138 pounds to lead the Spartans. Dominic Wyrwicki earned a pair of wins at 144 pounds but did not place.

Lourdes Academy's lone entrant in the tournament, Jeordie Warwick finished 0-2 at 106 pounds.

## GIRLS WRESTLING

### North's Ketola places at Holiday Invite

Oshkosh North's Maddy Ketola posted a pair of wins and took fourth at the Sheboygan South Girls Holiday Invite held Dec. 28 at Lakeland University.

Ketola, the lone Spartan wrestler at the meet, notched pins in both of her victories.

## SWIMMING

### Reeves takes third at Marquette Invitational

Oshkosh North/Lourdes diver River Reeves placed third in a field of 24 divers at the Marquette Invitational held on Saturday.

Reeves finished with a total score of 470.60 and was one of only three divers in the field to finish with at least 410 points on the day. He finished about 29 points behind individual winner Brady Huettl of Waukesha South/Catholic Memorial.



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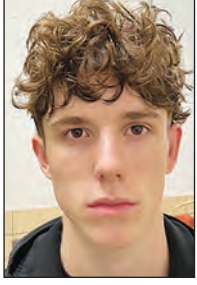
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## Lourdes boys

FROM PAGE 16

at the half, they also turned the ball over 18 times as they struggled to figure out how to attack the Orioles' press and 2-3 half-court zone. Several passes from the high post to the basket resulted in steals or blocked shots.



Studinski

"We're not quite to the point where we have the experience to play with one another, so that leads to tentative turnovers where we're unsure and we're playing off our back foot instead of being the aggressors, and we

let the other team decide what we're going to do with the ball," Lourdes coach Brett Baehman said. "That's one thing we're trying to keep at a minimum, but that's going to be a process with such a young team, knowing that we have to be patient."

Baehman said much of the talk at halftime was about desire and being the more aggressive team, and the Knights respond-

ed by attacking the rim and playing tough defense.

"Everything we talked about at halftime, definitely there were some Xs and Os, our press break, our 2-3 offense, but at the end of the day, it was just about us wanting it more than them, knowing the work that we put in the last few practices," Baehman said.

Lourdes opened the second half with back-to-back three-pointers by Studinski and Parker Slusarski to expand the lead to 36-26. Although North Fond du Lac scored 11 of the next 15 points, Lourdes responded with a 7-0 run to go up 47-37.

The Orioles threatened in the last minute when Jesus Juarez made a layup to cut the Knights' lead to 53-49 with 17.8 seconds remaining, but Studinski made two free throws for the final margin.

Baehman and Studinski both credited junior reserve guard Brett Maki for his work in slowing down Juarez in the second half. Maki, who had played in only two games before Friday, helped hold the speedy Juarez to six points after a 12-point first half.

"He just goes crazy on defense. He hounds people, just a total dog on D," Studinski said.

Studinski also gave credit to guard Quin Ruark for his work on Juarez, and to 6-foot-1 forward Brady Ridenour, who was out-sized against Landon Barber in the low post. The Knights tried to send one or two players to help Ridenour against Barber, who was listed as a 6-6, 245-pound center on North Fond du Lac's football roster this year, and held him to eight points.

Harlan Kuehn added 10 points and 11 rebounds for Lourdes, while Juarez led the Orioles with 18 points and Camryn Lewis added 11.

This season is unfamiliar territory in the Knights' storied tradition of boys' basketball. The last time they finished with a losing record was in the 2003-04 season, and they were the 2021 Division 4 state champions and 2019 state runner-up.

But after going 20-8 last year and advancing to sectionals, they lost all five starters and their top four scorers.

"We had a tough go at it over the holiday tournament, but they came ready to go (in practice)," Baehman said. "They knew that there was a standard to still be upheld at Lourdes. They really bought in this last week and they had a glimpse of what it takes to win a basketball game."

## West boys

FROM PAGE 16

West never got the deficit to under double digits.

"This one will fall on my shoulders because I don't think I put our guys in successful situations enough," Weiss said. "I learned a lot in this game and hopefully the next time we play them we will have a few more things to set ourselves up for success."

Moderson led the Wildcats with 11 points, while Gelhar finished with 10 points and four assists. Joey Ware chipped in nine points.

Sam Benesh led West with seven rebounds off the bench, with Sam Gibson adding six.

All five Fond du Lac starters scored at least eight points with four reaching double figures.

"They are a great team with tremendous balance. Our guys played really hard and what kept us in the game was our defense," Weiss said. "I love our leadership with this group and our guys have stayed together. We are definitely making strides."

## Obituaries

### Robert George Springborn

Robert George Springborn, age 92, passed away on January 4, 2025, at Lakeshore Manor with his children by his side.



Robert was the second of seven children born to the late George and Mildred (Johnson) Springborn on February 3, 1932, in Winchester, Wisconsin. Robert

graduated from Oshkosh High School in 1950 and attended the University of Wisconsin, Oshkosh for one year. During his time in high school and college, he enjoyed playing football at the team's center. Robert was joined in marriage to Ruth Wojahn on May 16, 1953, at Grace Lutheran Church in Oshkosh and they were married for 66 years until the time of her

passing in 2019.

Robert served his country and the Army National Guard for several years, being stationed at Fort McCoy in Wisconsin, Fort Saylor in Minnesota, and Fort Lewis in Washington during the Berlin crisis. He spent his career working for Paine Lumber, Morgan Doors, and Georgia Pacific before purchasing part of W. W. Electric Motors in Oshkosh before retiring in 1998. Bob loved music, especially polka music, big band, and hymns. Bob could be found in his garage, listening to his radio working on a project or picking hickory nuts to give to friends, family, and neighbors. Serving his church was a big part of his life, Bob was president of AAL branch 6 for many years, church council member, usher, and on Monday nights, money-counting team captain for many years. During his retirement, He and Ruth enjoyed going to casino trips

and playing dominoes with good friends, Don and Barbara Williams. Bob played cribbage tournaments and enjoyed bowling in the Lutheran league at T&O Lanes and the Tuesday afternoon, senior league at Shoreview Lane. He loved spending time with his family, whether it was going to eat on Saturday night, attending a sporting event, or family get together. Labrador retrievers play the big role in his life and Bob owned seven during his lifetime. At first, they were hunting dogs, but later his dogs were his companions and walking buddies. His last companion was a little terrier mix named that Ladie, who he adopted through a local rescue.

Bob is survived by his son, Tom (Kathy) Springborn, and Carol (Terry) Beck; grandchildren, Craig (Katie), Chad, Terrence "TJ" (Carley), Zachary (Aalyha), Amanda, and Annie Beck, Katie Anders, Kerri (Kris) Brodale, and five great grand-

children; Cole Anders, Ryan, Addison, Colton, and Terrance (Trey) Beck; sisters, Jackie Parthie, and Joanne Kunde; brother-in-law, Robert (Karen) Wojahn. He is further survived by several nieces and nephews.

A funeral and Christian burial for Robert will be held at Grace Lutheran Church (913 Nebraska St., Oshkosh) on Saturday, January 11, 2025, at noon. Reverend Colin Rieke will be officiating. A visitation will be held from 10 AM until the time of service. A burial will take place at Lake Memorial Park.

Memorials will be established with Grace Evangelical Lutheran Church.

The family would like to Mercy Hospital in the compassionate staff at Lakeshore Manor for their loving care of Bob.

**KONRAD-BEHLMAN**  
FUNERAL HOMES

### Myron Marske

Myron "Mike" Marske was born in Cumberland, WI, on June 25th, 1940, to Richard Marschke and Florence Marske (Abbott).



Mike passed away on January 2nd, 2025, in his home in Oshkosh, WI.

Mike is survived by his sons Clint Marske, Oshkosh WI; Matt (Tracy) Marske, Holmen WI; daughters Marsha Rankin,

Omro WI; Michelle (Stuart) Knight, Oshkosh WI; April (Mike) Buckarma, Omro WI; stepdaughter Leah (Gary) Luke, New Lisbon WI; brother, Roy "Bud" Marske, Cumberland WI; sisters Elaine Smith, Cumberland WI and Judith (Roy) Sullivan, Cannon Falls MN; grandchildren Mick Marske, Dylan O'Laire, Dantana (Nate) Rankin, Lexus (Jack) O'Laire, Jared (Roree) Rankin, Victoria (Dillon) Nikolas (O'Laire). 7 great grandchildren and several beloved nieces, nephews, and cousins.

Mike was preceded in death by both of

his parents; brothers Marvin Marske and Donald Marske; and sisters-in-law Gloria Marske and Sue Marske.

Mike proudly served in the US Army and was stationed in Munich, Germany for a time. After discharge, Mike moved to Oshkosh and eventually Omro. Mike was a tinkerer, enjoyed welding in his home shop, and took a turn at hobby farming. After retiring from Muza Metal Products with 36 years of service, he moved back to his hometown of Cumberland, where he enjoyed hunting, riding 4 wheelers and just being in the great

outdoors. While generally a quiet man, he was known to roll out a corny pun whenever the moment presented itself. Mike cherished his time with family and friends. In March of 2023, challenging medical conditions brought Mike back to Oshkosh where he could be closer to his children.

There will be a Celebration of Life to be held later this summer, date to be determined.

**FISS & BILLS - POKLASNY**  
FUNERAL HOMES  
& CREMATORY

### Joyce Emma Beulen

Joyce Emma Beulen, age 88, of Oshkosh, died Friday, January 3, of natural causes.



She was born on April 26, 1936 to Martin and Bertha (Gehrke) Carpenter. In 1956 she married David Beulen in Oshkosh.

Joyce grew up on farms and went to schools in Allenville, Winneconne and Seymour. Joyce attended Constance School of Cosmetology and was a self-employed beautician while being a stay at home mom. Later, she worked at Parkview Retirement Home and ultimately retired from Winnebago State

Hospital. Our mother attended many of our youth sporting events and was our Cub Scout Den Mother, Pack 144, for several years. She loved to cook holiday meals for our family and work in her gardens, but what she really enjoyed was sewing. She and Connie made many beautiful patchwork quilts that we have as a memory of one of her talents. She got her work ethic from her childhood years on the farm, hence, she would often remind us, that were lucky not have to pick rocks from the fields during our summer vacations, as she once used to do. However, we still had our "summer chores" every morning, and she would not let us leave our yard until the afternoon. Of course, if we complained there would be the ever-ready admonition

"quit your complaining or I'll give you something to complain about!" J R.I.P. Mom, You Were Awesome!

Joyce is survived by three sons, Gene (Tina) of Menasha, Michael of Oshkosh, Keith (Ellen) of The Villages FL, Sister Donna (Robert) Kalbus, of Oshkosh. She was preceded in death by her, husband, daughter, Connie Beulen, sister, Bernice Zehner-Felper, brother, Russell Carpenter, and several small pet dogs.

Grandchildren include; Ryan (Katie) Feucht (Kimberly), Lindsey Feucht (Hortonville), Jessica (Erik) Kamrath (La Habra, CA), Jaclyn (Justin) Trapp (Rosemount, MN), Benjamin (Hailley) Beulen (Farmington, MN), Andrew Beulen (Oshkosh), Peter Beulen (Menasha), Alyssa Beulen (Rochester, MN). Great grand-

children include; Anna, Mason, Madelyn, Eli, Ian, Henry and Roman. Great-great grandchild, Avayah.

Last but not least, our family would like to extend a Sincere Thanks to the staff at Evergreen Manor and Generation Hospice for their caring hand for the past six months and Especially in her final days.

Visitation will be at Fiss & Bills-Poklasny Funeral Home (865 S. Westhaven Dr. Oshkosh) on Saturday, January 11, at 12:00 with a service at 1:00 (Skip Smith, Generations Hospice). Interment at Lake View Memorial Park 2786 Algoma Blvd., Oshkosh, will be at a later date.

**FISS & BILLS - POKLASNY**  
FUNERAL HOMES  
& CREMATORY



# Obituaries

## Raymond Francis Panske

Raymond Francis Panske died peacefully at home on December 28, 2024 in Oshkosh, Wisconsin.



Ray was born in Oshkosh, Wisconsin on July 30, 1931, to the late August and Catherine Panske (nee Yungwirth). He married the love of his life Barbara Panske (nee Binder)

on June 30, 1956. Ray was the only Panske of his seven siblings to graduate high school. He worked at Reimer Sausage, Panske Construction (for his brother Gerald), Binder Beverage (for his late father-in-law Dick Binder) and Rockwell International where he retired after 30 years in 1992. A fun fact is the Binder house on Knapp St, where Barb grew up (now owned by EAA), was built by the Panske men.

Ray had a strong faith in God and never missed an opportunity to go to Mass.

He enjoyed playing cards, dart ball, fishing and golfing and had many good friends. A favorite destination was "up north" to Boulder Lake since 1961 where countless family memories were made at the trailer around the campfire and at the lake. Ray was a member of the Knights of Columbus, President of the St. Vincent school board and an usher at St. Vincent's. Ray also volunteered as a coach, den leader for scouts, at the EAA and anywhere else someone needed a helping hand. Ray was always well dressed thanks to Barb sewing many of his suits by hand. He was an avid Green Bay Packers fan and wouldn't miss watching a game (and he even played semi-pro football for the Oshkosh Comets back in the day). Ray loved his kids, their spouses, grandchildren, great grandchildren and great, great, grandchild and was always there for them.

Ray is survived by his wife, Barb, children Sue (Gary) Davies, Ray (Susie) Panske, Jane (Tim) White, John Panske, Joan

(Steve) Schwartz, Kathy (Dave) Rockhill, Rick (Gina) Panske and Tom (Christa) Panske, his grandchildren Laura (Mike) Cmeyla, Michelle Davies, Eric (Kelly) Davies, Nicci (Cory) Schmidt, Andy (Katie) Panske, Jason Panske, Amanda (Justin) Eslinger, Richard (Chealse) Panske-Zombor, Tyler (Secelie) Panske, Jacob Panske, Alex (Deagan) Schwartz, Kyle (Emma) Schwartz, Katie Meyer, Lexi Meyer, Alison (Jake) Casper, Abby (Connor) Miller, Adam Panske, Aaron Panske, Emma Panske, August Panske and Sammy Panske and his 25 great grandchildren and one great, great grandchild. Ray is also survived by sister-in-law Beatrice Tank and many nieces and nephews. Ray was predeceased by his grandchild Cheyenne, great grandchild Robert, siblings Syl and wife Lorraine, Arnie, Gerry and wife Jane, Jim and wife Mary, Mercedes and husband Norm Poklasny, Tony and wife Opal, Vince and wife Barbara and his parents August and Catherine and in-

laws Dick and Mary Binder (nee Mateyka), Tom and Pat Binder, Dick and Dora Binder and Gene Tank.

A visitation for family and friends will be on Friday, January 3, 2025 from 10:00 until 12:00 at St. Vincent De Paul Catholic Church 1225 Oregon St. Oshkosh, WI and followed by Mass. A luncheon for extended family will follow. Ray's internment will follow at Sacred Heart Cemetery, Oshkosh. Poklasny Funeral Home is assisting the family. If you wish please submit online condolences to [fissbillspoklasnyfuneralhome.com](http://fissbillspoklasnyfuneralhome.com). Thank God for keeping Dad at home under the loving care of his wife and children. We love you Dad.

In Lieu of flowers Ray's family has asked that any donations should be directed to St. Vincent De Paul at 2551 Jackson St. Oshkosh, WI 54901

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## Angeline Samster

May 23, 1942 - December 29, 2024

It is with profound sadness that we announce the passing of Angeline "Angie" Samster on December 29, 2024, at the age of 82. Angie was the devoted wife of John G. Samster, with whom she celebrated 61 years of marriage just one day prior to her passing. She was a beloved mother to Patricia (Rick) Lipka and Jonathan Samster, and a cherished Yiayia to Aaron Lipka and Wyatt (Jared) Decker Lipka. A most treasured daughter-in-law of the late Peter and Patricia Samster.

Born in Merrill, Wisconsin, Angie was the daughter of the late John and Georgia Barros. She met the love of her life at a Greek church harvest dance, and a year

later they were married at Annunciation Greek Orthodox Church in Milwaukee, Wisconsin. Together, they built a life deeply rooted in faith, family, and community.

Angie is lovingly remembered as a devoted sister to Betty (Barros) Dr. Nick Claditis and Helen Barros, and as a caring sister-in-law to James Samster. She is also survived by numerous nieces, nephews, godchildren, and cousins. A friend to many, Angie was known for her boundless generosity and warm hospitality, often bringing home-cooked meals to those she loved.

A lifelong sports enthusiast, Angie enjoyed fishing, hunting, and cheering for her Packers, Brewers, and Bucks.

The Samster family extends their heartfelt gratitude to the many individuals who

supported Angie during her final days. Special thanks go to neighbors David and Joanie, Greg and Sharri, and Ron and Jenn; the Compassus care team—Nicole, Katie, Jessica, and Heidi; the dedicated nurses on the second floor of Ascension Mercy Hospital in Oshkosh; Cathy and Ron Wenzel for their compassionate care; and Jim Mueller for brightening Angie's days with flowers from the Garden of Edna.

The family is especially grateful to Rev. Fr. Panteleimon Dalianis of Saints Constantine and Helen Greek Orthodox Church and Fr. Paul of Holy Trinity Greek Orthodox Church in Fond du Lac for their spiritual guidance and support.

Family and friends are invited to celebrate Angie's life on Friday, January 10,

2025, at Saints Constantine and Helen Greek Orthodox Church, 2160 North Wauwatosa Avenue, Wauwatosa, Wisconsin. Visitation will take place from 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m., followed by a funeral service at 12:00 p.m. Interment will follow at Wisconsin Memorial Park.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to Holy Trinity Greek Orthodox Church in Fond du Lac, Wisconsin, or Saints Constantine and Helen Greek Orthodox Church in Wauwatosa, Wisconsin.

Matthew 25:23: "His lord said to him, 'Well done, good and faithful servant; you have been faithful over a few things, I will make you ruler over many things. Enter into the joy of your lord.'" May her memory be eternal.

## Kenneth W. Potterton

Kenneth W. Potterton, 95, known by many as Coach, peacefully passed away



on January 4, surrounded by his loving and cherished family. He was born on August 30, 1929, on the kitchen table of his home in Milwaukee, WI to Wilbur and Esther Potterton.

His legacy is rooted in his generosity and skills as an educator, mentor, and multi-sport coach. Honored to hold these positions, he took his work seriously but never himself. He valued honesty and compassion. He led with kindness. He saw opportunity in even the toughest losses. He believed in the inherent goodness in people and invited others to do the same.

Born a natural athlete, Ken pursued his talents at UW-La Crosse, obtaining an undergraduate degree in Physical Education and a Master's in statistics. While there, he was a beloved friend, fraternity member, and teammate, serving meals to the community at a local diner. Here, he met the love of his life, Marie (Molstad) Potterton, whom he called upon and escorted home from a dance one evening. They were happily married for 72 years.

They say that when you love your job, you never work a day in your life, which was true for Ken. He taught Phys Ed, was the department head, and coached in the Oshkosh School District at the original high school, Webster Stanley Jr. High, and Oshkosh West High School. He was also an avid supporter of Camp Hiwela, accompanying his girls for many years and lending a hand wherever needed. Watch-

ing him with a golf club, on a sideline, or feeding a young person's potential was a masterclass in motion. Many former students and players credit his guidance, counsel, and fairness as the building blocks for their leadership and success.

In retirement, he could be found teaching his peers skills in the gym at the Oshkosh Senior Center, traveling around the world, finding a new golf course to conquer, watching the Packers, Badgers, or a grandchild's sporting event, helping out in various ways at First Presbyterian Church in Oshkosh, visiting an ailing friend, or tending to his beautiful gardens.

He is survived by his wife, Marie Potterton; two daughters, Pamela (Howard) Moody, Braselton, GA, and Penny (Kevin) Buckley, Appleton, WI; grandchildren, Kyle (Laura) Moody, Jonathan (Amy) Moody, Rachel Buckley, and Lauren (Kaleb) Buckley-Williams, adored him, as did his five great-grandchildren and niece Lisa (Mark) Hilgendorf and her children, Green Bay. His parents; brother, Harold; in-laws, Earl and Ethel Molstad; and niece, Sandra Potterton preceded him to Heaven.

To pay respects to Coach Ken's memory, he and his family would ask you to take a child to a driving range/golf course/basketball game, get out in the driveway for a game of horse, work on a collaborative zigsaw puzzle, or turn on a Packer game and cheer like nobody's watching.

His family extends their love and appreciation to the remarkable staff at Primrose Retirement Community, Silverlace Memory Care, and Moments Hospice in Appleton.

A private family memorial will be held at a later date.

## Christine R. Grimm-Kirk

Christine R. Grimm-Kirk passed away on 25 Dec 2024 after battling cancer for



more than a decade. She was born on 10 Jan 1947 in Oshkosh, WI. She attended the historic Allenville School, and Ball Prairie School which were one room schoolhouses. Then at Winneconne School District she was in the graduating class of 1965.

Christine graduated from UW-O in 1976 with a degree in social work. She began her career with Fond du Lac County Protective Services. She served the community for 25 years with the Winnebago County Association of Retarded Citizens ARC/ RCDD. Before her retirement she worked at Valley Packaging/Outagamie County Family Support where she wrote grants and supported the Birth to 3 Program. Throughout her career she had guardianship of several wards to whom she was saddened to resign as she continued to fight cancer.

In 1979 Christine built her own home in Winneconne through the Self-Help Housing Program. She loved music and took an annual summer vacation to the Great Northern Bluegrass Festival in Mole Lake, WI.

She was married to her second husband, Arnold C. Kirk on Valentine's Day 1992, at the Wee Kirk o' the Heather Wedding Chapel in Las Vegas, NV. She had a passion for riding Harleys and owned 3 different ones during her time riding. She had wonderful memories of all the rides, benefits, great scenery (es-

pecially Big Falls), and friendships made along the road.

Christine also enjoyed local history and genealogy research. She had many adventures with Mary, Alice and Christa Lee visiting archives, libraries, cemeteries, and historical societies around the state and US. On 5 Nov 2023 she was admitted as member of the National Society of Daughters of the American Revolution, National Number 1047253 under Revolutionary War patriot, Robert Allen of Vermont. She also made recordings with Mary Alice for the history of Vinland Township.

Christine was preceded in death by her husband, Arnold C. Kirk; parents, Roland S. Grimm and Ruth M. (Albright); sister, Catherine H. Bolton; brother-in-law, George Bolton. She is survived by daughter, Christa Lee R. Brynwood (Thomas II); and son, Jay D. Fleck; grandchildren, Brittian A. Henderson; Thomas L. Brynwood III, Forrest H. Brynwood; and great-granddaughter, Scarlett R. Henderson all of Oshkosh. She is further survived by Gary L. Fleck (Fran), the father of her children; cousins, Mary Alice Klemp (Dave) of Butte des Morts, Dale Swenson (Marlys) of Winneconne, Tim Teld (Albright), Michael Frederick Fox Lake, Keith Frederick (Joan) of Markesan, David Albright of Chicago, Steven Albright of Pickett, and Karen Albright of Berlin.

A Celebration of Life will be held on Saturday, January 18, 2025, from 3:00pm-7:00pm, at the Fin n' Feather 22 W Main St, Winneconne, WI 54986. Interment will be privately held at a later date at Bell Cemetery in Winneconne.

**Seefeld**  
Funeral and Cremation Services

**Seefeld**  
Funeral and Cremation Services



## Obituaries

### Linda Burke Youngquist

Linda Burke Youngquist passed away January 2, 2025 after a long illness. She



was the daughter of Leonard C. and Helen Wheaton Burke and was born in Ravenna, Ohio on February 5, 1948. She was 76 years of age. The family moved to Shorewood, Wisconsin in January 1958.

Linda is preceded in death by her parents and two brother, Tom and Tim. May they rest in peace together. She is survived by her sister, Maureen.

Linda married James Youngquist on September 7, 1968. Shortly after the wedding his father told Jim he was going to be drafted into the Marines, so Jim decided to enlist in the Navy. Linda and Jim spent the next 4 years in California.

### Kenneth C. Scholl

Kenneth Charles Scholl, age 87, of Oshkosh, passed away peacefully with his family at his side at Elijah's Place on January 1, 2025. He was born on February 5, 1937 a son of the late LaVerne and Dorothy (Stoltz) Scholl. Ken proudly served his country in the US Navy from 1955-1959. He married the former Eileen Marie Thomas on March 1, 1960 in Baraboo, WI.



Ken worked for and retired from the University of Wisconsin-Oshkosh having been the power plant superintendent. He greatly enjoyed hunting and fishing, golf, camping, gambling and card playing. Ken had served on the Town of Algoma volunteer fire department for many years and was a past member of the Otter Street Fishing Club, the Oshkosh Fishing Club and Hank's Club.

Ken is survived by and his memory will be cherished by his wife of 64 years, Eileen; two sons, Gerald (Dawn) Scholl of Oshkosh, Scott Scholl of Van Dyne; a daughter, Lori (Todd) Schneider of Oshkosh; a brother, Marvin Scholl of Fond du Lac; five grandchildren, Tyler (Danielle) Scholl, Ryan (Sydney) Scholl, Alex Scholl, Jamie Stenson and Kaci Hansen; three great-grandchildren, Brianna, Bailey and Paisley. He is further survived by other relatives and many dear friends. He was preceded in death by two sisters, Jeanette

### Chad Laehn

Chad Laehn, my dear son, who is 50 years old, died on Tuesday, December 31, 2024 after a life-long battle with alcoholism.



I want you to know my son. Chad is a smart, trivia-minded, hard-working jokester, who gives big hugs. He loved feeding birds with his five birdfeeders. Through the years,

Chad was an excellent bowler, who traveled around the state, and celebrated "cranking out" a 290 game several years ago. Chad worked at Triangle Manufacturing in high school, and he worked summers at EAA for 20 years (since age 15).

To view the full obituary, please visit: [www.konrad-behlman.com](http://www.konrad-behlman.com).

Linda made a home for Jim in the various cities where they lived- La Crosse, Eau Claire, Racine, Lake Tomahawk, and Oshkosh. When Jim became the director of Camp American Legion from 2006-2009, Linda was unofficially the co-director and Jim's right-hand "man", although she was a woman.

Linda graduated from UW-Stout and was a "wiz" with numbers following in her dad's footsteps. She worked at Bonetti Co. in Racine as an administrative manager for 8+ years, handling the accounting. In La Crosse, she worked at various accounting jobs and for H&R Block during tax season.

Linda had a beautiful cone plant garden which she attended before becoming ill. She enjoyed watching the Brewers, Bucks, and Packer, was an accomplished seamstress, and did extensive genealogy research on the Burkes and Wheatons in Ancestry.com. She loved their rescue dog,

Chesney and Mary Klemm; three brothers, Gerald, Walter and Robert.

A memorial service celebrating his life will be held on Friday, January 10, 2025 at 11:00 am in the Fiss & Bills-Poklasny Funeral Home, 865 S. Westhaven Drive in Oshkosh. Burial will be in Riverside Cemetery. A time of visitation will be held at the funeral home on Friday from 10:00 am until the time of service. In lieu of floral expressions a number of memorials will be established in his name. The family wishes to thank the staff at Elijah's Place and Preceptor Hospice for the wonderful compassionate care that Ken received.

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### Gretchen A. Leach

Gretchen Ann Leach, 61, of Pickett, WI, passed away peacefully on December 24, 2024.



Gretchen is survived by her long-time friend Dr. Ralph F. Kalies, Jr.; children Elizabeth (Craig) Olive and Peter Leach; parents Jim & Shirley Hanna; and siblings Danelle (Jon) Schure

and Jamey (Chris) Hanna. Gretchen was preceded in death by her grandparents Lester & Betty Hanna and Leslie & Caroline Powell.

The family will hold a celebration of life at a later date. Further details will be shared once arrangements are made.

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### Nancy A. Mather

Nancy A. Mather, age 78 of Oshkosh, passed away Saturday, January 4<sup>th</sup> at St Luke's Medical Center, Milwaukee, Wisconsin. She was born on March 15, 1946, in Oshkosh to the late John and Marian (Golz) Harra.



To leave online condolences or view the full obituary, please visit [www.konrad-behlman.com](http://www.konrad-behlman.com). Sympathy cards or memorials may be sent to Konrad-Behlman Funeral Home, 402 Waugoo Ave. c/o the Nancy Mather Family.

Reba, who was very distressed the day before her death by her condition.

After her father Leonard's early death from mesothelioma in 1984, Linda was like a "rock" for the remaining Burkes as well as being a "rock" to Jim. Jim and Maureen are going to have to move forward without her.

A service for Linda will be at Konrad-Behlman Funeral Homes- Westside (100 Lake Pointe Dr) on Saturday, January 11, 2025 at noon. A time of visitation will be held from 10 until the time of service.

### Dennis L. Leatherman

About 2 years ago, Dennis was diagnosed with aortic stenosis. Long story short, surgery would not be possible without major risks. We decided to forego the surgery and ride it out. That ride came to an end 12/27/2024.



In June, Dennis was placed on Hospice with a life expectancy of about 6 months. When

he retired from the Air Force, he wasn't expected to make it past 70, so he had 12 extra years.

A Celebration of Life was held September 7 so Dennis could visit with family and friends.

Dennis Lyle Leatherman 82 died at home, peacefully, on December 27.

He was the first of 4 sons born to Lyle & Margaret Leatherman. In 1961 he joined the Air Force, serving his country for 28 years. He retired as a Senior Master Sergeant. When he returned to the Fox Valley he went line dancing, met, and married his wife, Karlene. For 20+ years, they taught line and square dancing throughout Wis-

### Kim George Robinson

With great sadness, we announce the passing of our beloved brother, father and



friend Kim George Robinson, who left us on December 28, 2024. Kim was born on September 11, 1956, to Muriel and David Robinson. He graduated from Oshkosh North High School and went on to

share a career in painting, a craft he learned from his father and continued for decades. He worked with Sherwin Williams and Tower Paint before starting his own business, Robinson Painting. Kim was a man of many passions, with music being at the heart of his life. A guitarist and songwriter, he loved writing worship songs and sharing his love of music by teaching others to play the guitar. His creative spirit and love for music brought joy to all who knew him.

Kim is survived by his children: Sara

### Karen J. Redlin

Karen J. Redlin, of Oshkosh, joined her parents Harvey and Leona (Luebke) Redlin and brother, Russell J. Redlin on 12/31/2024.

She is survived by her niece, Debbie (Bill) Henschel; nephew, Jim Redlin; great nephews, Gary Henschel, Aaron (Kayla) and Shaun Redlin; great nieces, Nicole (Greg) Brewer, and Elizabeth (Logan) Will; great-great nephew Tripp Brewer; and great-great nieces Jade Brewer and Elly Redlin as well as many cousins.

Her life was enriched by extended families of "her kids": Bryce, Ed, and Gloria Davis; Jaci, Aiden, and Shea Thull; Stacey Kind, Alyssa, Jackson, Lillian, Carson, Kinsley Olson; Avah, Addilyn, Abigail, Alyssah, Travis, and Jamie Smithlin.

Internment will be at Wisconsin Memorial Park in Brookfield, where her parents are buried.

The family would like to thank Compassus Hospice for two days care, Pastor Eric Holmgren and the emergency staff at Mercy Hospital early New Year's morning.

In lieu of flowers donations may be made to the Oshkosh Area Humane Society or the Alzheimer's Society.

**KONRAD-BEHLMAN**  
FUNERAL HOMES

consin. It was line dancing that took them to the Oshkosh Saturday Farmers Market where they entertained for 4 years, and ultimately took over the market as managers. They moved the market in 2011 to its current location on Main Street and continued managing for 8 years. Five of those years were as volunteers. Dennis' health encouraged their retirement from the market in 2018.

Dennis was preceded in death by his parents; and special pets Rudy, Maggie and Max.

Dennis is survived by his wife, Karlene of 34 years; brothers, David (Faye), Tom (Cheryl) and Phil (Brenda); children, Russell, Michael (Heather) and Amanda (Brian); daughter-in-law, Debrah; grandchildren, Devin, Mackenzie, Morgan, Hunter, Ava, Eddie, Carmen and Talia; great-granddaughter, Keira; and pets, Winnie, Bullet and Lulu.

Thanks to Aurora Hospice, Hospice nurses and volunteer Adam.

Happy Trails Dennis.

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3026 JACKSON ST  
OSHKOSH, WI 54901

Tremby, Tanner (Kylie) Robinson-Harwell, Jason (Fransiska) Hill, and Angie (John) Hansen; his siblings: Judy (Richard) Schutz, Rick (Faith) Robinson, Debra (David) Collier, Wendy (Mitchell) Frank, Mark Robinson, Kevin Robinson, Tami (John) King, Brian (Melissa) Robinson, Christopher (Julie) Robinson, and Cory Robinson. He is preceded in death by his parents, David and Muriel Robinson, brothers Paul Robinson and Jeffery Robinson, and sisters Susan Mundinger and Lorna Robinson.

Kim's infectious smile and kind spirit left an indelible mark on all who had the privilege of knowing him. Now at peace with his heavenly Father, free from pain, he will be dearly missed but forever remembered for the love and joy he brought to this world.

In memory of Kim, the family will hold a private celebration of life.

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Oshkosh Public Museum, Manpower Temporary Services, EAA, and Home Instead were the highlights of more than 20 jobs. The cottage, traveling, reading, music, and cribbage were some favorite past times.

She appreciated being part of the Simeanna one community.

The steward of her family history, their person to call with news, the curator of photos and memories. She will be missed.

Per Karens wishes, no services will be held. A private burial will take place at Lake View Memorial Park.

In lieu of flowers donations may be sent to the Oshkosh Boys and Girls Club.

**KONRAD-BEHLMAN**  
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**KONRAD-BEHLMAN**  
FUNERAL HOMES

**KONRAD-BEHLMAN**  
FUNERAL HOMES



# Obituaries

## Constance A. Cook

*"My flesh and my heart may fail, but God is the strength of my heart and my portion forever"* (Psalm 73:26).



Constance (Connie) Ann Cook, 78, of Oshkosh, was called home to the Lord on December 10, 2024.

Connie was born on October 8, 1946 to Thomas and Myrtle (Dell) Cook in Appleton, WI. At the age of seven, Connie - a natural teacher - taught her younger sister, Betty (aged 5), how to read. Growing up, Connie also held an innate passion for music; at thirteen years old, she instructed her youngest sister, Joyce (aged 4), how to play piano. After Connie graduated from Appleton West in 1964, she went on to study music at North Central Bible College before getting her certificate in Elementary Education in 1968 at Outagamie County Teachers College. Connie further

pursued her studies at Oral Roberts University, graduating with a bachelor's degree in social work in 1978.

After completing her schooling, Connie became a teacher and interpreter at Oshkosh North High School, closely working with hard-of-hearing students. She left a tangible impact on the lives of many of her pupils; likewise, they left an impact on her as well.

As devoted as she was to her education and career, Connie was even more dedicated to her only daughter, Michelle. Connie built their relationship on a foundation of love, and when she needed a listening ear, advice, or comfort, Michelle was her confidant - never more than a phone call away (and almost always around dinner-time); likewise, Michelle relied on Connie for the same support. Michelle recalls how Connie was always able to recite Bible passages by heart, instilling within her their shared faith in Jesus Christ. Connie was blessed with seven grandchildren, allowing for her to step into another one

of her most coveted roles - as a loving and dependable grandmother.

After retiring in 2003, Connie continued her passion for social work in a variety of settings such as with the Winnebago County Department of Veterans' Services, working with youths in the Truancy Prevention Program, leading outreach projects as a coordinator for the Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation, serving her community with the Salvation Army, providing freelance sign language interpreting for the hard of hearing throughout the area, and volunteering as a poll worker.

In her free time, Connie continued to pursue her lifelong love of music, especially honing her skills with the piano, guitar, and ukulele. She shared her penchant for music with her grandchildren, often arriving to family events with her ukulele strung over her shoulder, ready to strum the chords to "Happy Birthday". Connie was a reliable face at every family function from musical performances to sports

games; her consistent support is treasured by her loved ones, and any time spent with her family was a source of great joy for Connie as well.

Connie was preceded in death by her parents Thomas and Myrtle (Dell) Cook. She is survived by her daughter, Michelle (Alonzo) Leflore; her seven grandchildren Victoria (Angel) Lopez, Jennifer Chapin, Kayla Tollard, Tramonte, Trinity, Alonzelle, and Alondriella Leflore; her two sisters Betty Cook and Joyce (Dan) Graham; her eight great-grandchildren; and the rest of her family and friends.

If interested in attending the upcoming Celebration of Life for Connie, please contact Michelle at [leftflavor1@gmail.com](mailto:leftflavor1@gmail.com).

The family of Connie Cook would like to thank Aurora Hospice, Fiss & Bills-Poklasny Funeral Home, and all of Connie's family, friends, and former students who have reached out with their kind words and condolences.

As Connie often reassured, "Everything - yes, everything - is going to be alright".

## Diane Kay Larsen

Diane Kay Larsen passed away with her family by her side on December 27, 2024,



at The Residence in Oshkosh WI at 81 years old. Diane was born October 30, 1943, in Sioux Falls, SD to Burdette and Dorothy Sheldon. On November 18, 1961, she married her high school sweetheart

and love of her life Charles H. Larsen.

Diane had a career as a beauty operator in Sioux Falls before she and Chuck had children. Diane and Chuck moved to Cottage Grove, MN where Chuck taught elementary school and they started a family. Diane went to work as a school bus driver when her children began school. She later worked for 3M as a keypunch operator. In

1980 Chuck and Diane moved their family to Wisconsin and Diane worked as a keypunch operator at the USBC in Milwaukee. In 1984 the family moved again to Oshkosh along with the EAA. She was employed as a data entry clerk at Oshkosh B'gosh until her retirement. After retirement, Diane and Chuck enjoyed several years traveling the USA in their motor home.

Diane's children and grandchildren were her top priority and joy in life. She was there to celebrate every achievement and to provide unconditional support in the tough times. She made friends with most people she met and has many friends that became family. Our beautiful, sassy, funny lady will be forever loved and missed.

Diane is survived by her daughter, Jennifer (Robert) Wahl; son, Mark (Brenda) Larsen; grandchildren, Alyssa (Wes) Doberstein, Dustin Drexler, and Austin Larsen; great grandchildren, Easton Doberstein and

Cara Doberstein; brother, Richard (Denise) Sheldon; brother, Jim Sheldon; sister, Linda (Gary) Shaw. Diane is also survived by numerous cousins, nieces, nephews, in-laws, bonus children, and friends. Diane was preceded in death by her husband Chuck, her parents Burdette and Dorothy Sheldon, and grandson Dylan Drexler.

Thank you to the special staff at The Residence in Oshkosh and Heartland Hospice for their exceptional care of our sweet and pretty lady Di. She felt your love and talked about it often.

A Celebration of Life for both Diane and Chuck will be on Saturday, March 1

at the Lakeshore Park Four Seasons Building, 1875 Punhoqua Street, Oshkosh, WI from 1:00 to 7:00. Please come and celebrate these two very special people with us. Friends and loved ones can also visit [www.fissbillspoklasnyfuneralhome.com](http://www.fissbillspoklasnyfuneralhome.com) and share a memory.

Diane will be remembered for her sense of humor, strength, forever young heart, and love of turtles. The best way to honor her memory is to live in the moment and keep laughing.



## Frederick J. Paepke

Frederick John Paepke, age 87, of St. Cloud, died on Sunday, December 22, 2024 at the St. Cloud Hospital.



Memorial services were held on Friday, January 3, 2025 at Bethlehem Lutheran Church, St. Cloud, MN. Arrangements are with Benson Funeral Home, St. Cloud.

Fred was born on August 1, 1937 in Milwaukee, WI to Elmer and Ruth (Friedrich) Paepke. He earned a Bachelor of Art degree from the University of Wisconsin-Oshkosh and went on to work in sales for 60 years. Fred was united in marriage to Mary McCabe on February 7, 1959 at St. Patrick's Catholic Church in Menasha, WI. He enjoyed karaoke, watching the Vikings, Timberwolves, Twins, and wintering in Lake

Havasu City, AZ. Fred loved playing piano, singing, and spending time with friends and family. He believed that his musical talents were a gift from God and he felt privileged to be able to share those gifts with others, which he did through singing in Barbershop Harmony Society Quartets and playing piano for special public and family events, particularly at Café Renaissance. Fred was a member of Bethlehem Lutheran Church for over 50 years.

Fred is survived by his wife, Mary of St. Cloud; children, Julie (Rick) Knapp of Brooklyn Park, MN, Jayne (Robert) Merila of Nevis, MN, Michael (Melissa) Paepke of Plymouth, MN, Mace Paepke of St. Cloud, MN and Mark (Sara) Paepke of Otsego, MN; grandchildren, Martin Knapp, John Merila, Jordan Paepke, Anna Paepke, Sophia Paepke; and great-grandson, Jace Paepke.

He was preceded in death by his parents and sister, Marcia Ogden.

## Milt Hassel

Milt Hassel was born January 3, 1942, in Cook, Minnesota. Three years later his family moved to International Falls, Minnesota, where they lived in a house that was heated by a large wood-burning cookstove and had an outdoor privy.



When Milt was twenty, he'd saved enough money to move south to Minneapolis where he earned his Bachelor's degree in Science Education at the University of Minnesota. After his graduation he was hired to teach science in Oshkosh, and from 1967 - 1999, he taught first at the new Perry Tipler Middle School, then at the new Oshkosh North High School. Along the way he earned his Master's degree at the University of Northern Iowa.

Milt met his wife Linda in a folk dancing class at the University of Minnesota in 1965. They married in 1966, and were blessed with their daughter, Michelle (Miki) in November of 1967.

Milt loved teaching and after his retirement he worked with the EAA Aeroscholar program, teaching high school students the science of flight.

He also loved traveling and camping in his VW pop-top campers with Linda, Miki, and their Airedale, Rolly, throughout the United States.

Milt was gifted musically, and was happiest when he shared time with friends, playing his guitar, singing old folk songs,

and drinking beer.

Milt died at home on January 2, 2025, one day short of his 83<sup>rd</sup> birthday. He was preceded in death by his mother, Margaret (Johnson) Hassel; father, Irwin Hassel; sister, Loyla (Hassel) Waskul; and many other dear relatives and friends. He is survived by his wife, Linda of Oshkosh; daughter, Michelle (Hassel) Holbeck; son-in-law, Christopher Holbeck; and granddaughters Audrey and Mara Holbeck, all of Omaha, Nebraska. He is further survived by sister-in-law, Rhonda Mueller-Warrant; and brother-in-law, George Mueller-Warrant, both of Corvallis, Oregon, and many wonderful nieces and nephews.

A memorial gathering is planned for this spring.

His family would like to send special thanks to the Aurora Hospice team, who did so much to help us at this very difficult time.

Memorial donations may be made to the charity of your choice in remembrance of Milt.



## Violet L. Tews

Violet L. Tews, age 88, of Oshkosh, WI, passed away on December 28, 2024 at The Residence. A memorial service will be held in the future.



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# Obituaries

## Katie M. Hassler

Katie Marie (Baerwald) Hassler 50 of Winona, MN passed away unexpectedly on December 30, 2024.



Katie was born on April 3, 1974 in Oshkosh, WI to Lee & Linda (Grable) Baerwald.

Katie attended Sacred Heart School and Oshkosh West

High School, graduating in 1992, and then attended Winona State University where she played softball. Katie then pursued her passion by earning her cosmetology license and began a successful career as a hair stylist, building a loyal client base and opening her own salons. Her clients were invaluable to her and she cherished many close relationships built over the years.

Katie had a deep love of reminiscing and laughing about funny stories with both family and friends. Katie was the family "historian," recalling details and memories with great joy and ease. She had the ability to light up a room with her smile, laughter, and warm affection.

Katie enjoyed music, boating, and being near the water; most recently soaking up the sun and living the "Mexico life" with her loving and devoted partner, Bruce Loken of Winona, MN. She had a big heart, full of gratitude that she so commonly shared with those near to her. Among her passions and interests, being a mother was what she cherished the most. Regardless of life's challenges, her love for her children never wavered.

She is survived by her three children, Kalin Hassler (23) of Stevens Point, WI, and twins Isabella Hibbard (19) of Osh-

kosh, WI, and Vincent Hibbard (19) U.S. Navy. Other survivors include parents Lee and Linda Baerwald of Oshkosh, WI, and sisters Sadie (Chad) Jensen of Oshkosh, WI, Natalee (Todd) Mueller of Sheboygan, WI, Jamie (Ryan) Neabling of Winneconne, WI, and six nieces and a nephew.

Katie's end of life was filled with much love, gratitude, and happiness. It feels fitting to close with her own words from a post that she shared very recently with friends and family on social media: "Loving Mexico life! But boy do I suck at taking selfies. I added them as to not gain attention but simply to show how happy I am. This amazing man has chosen me to accompany him in these "golden years." My gratitude is overflowing, Bruce Loken!!! A lot of you out there whether you are friends, family, clients, or all of the above, have been there and seen me through my

best times and my worst times. I thank you for your continued support. Your loyalty has no bounds."

Mom, you are loved beyond words and missed beyond measure. ~ Your Children

A Mass of Christian Burial will be held at St Jude Parish, Sacred Heart site, 519 Knapp St. in Oshkosh on Friday, January 10, 2025 at 11:00 AM. The family will receive visitors at the church on Friday starting at 9:00 AM.

Katie will be laid to rest at Sacred Heart Cemetery in Oshkosh.

In lieu of flowers, please consider making a donation to the Sacred Heart Perpetual Adoration Chapel fund, checks payable to St. Jude Parish with memo "Adoration Chapel."

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# Obituaries

## Maurene Christensen

Maurene Christensen, age 95, passed away at Evergreen Retirement Community on Thursday, January 2, 2025. She was born in Oshkosh, October 28, 1929, the daughter of Albert and Helen Volp. She graduated from Oshkosh High School in 1947, and attended Madison Business College, Madison WI. On August 26, 1949, she married her High School sweetheart, Earl Christensen Jr., and they were blessed with two children, Jeffrey and Susan. Earl and Maurene were very fortunate to share more than 72 years of marriage. He passed away 10/27/2021.

She began her nearly 40-year career as a legal secretary in March, 1948 with the firm of what was then Keefe, Patri, Stillman & Nolan, and remained with that firm through various name changes, retiring 12/31/1987.

Maurene dearly loved traveling, and was never happier than when planning their next adventure! They traveled in all U.S. states, and all but two of the Canadian Provinces. Hawaii and Alaska were favorite destinations, and they made numerous trips there for extended stays. Another travel preference was river cruising. Particularly special to them were the 19 trips on the River Explorer Passenger Barge, plus cruising on paddle-wheelers

and other small cruise ships (all on many, many rivers across the country). They always loved the shore trips to the interesting little river towns along the way. Planes, trains, automobile and motor coach trips, they enjoyed doing them all! Overseas travel included Australia and New Zealand (twice), Ireland, the Scandinavian countries, middle Europe, Fiji and French Polynesia (the islands of Tahiti, Moorea and Bora Bora).

She was very active in the National Association of Legal Secretaries, on local, state and national levels. Locally, she was twice President of that chapter, served as Wisconsin State President, and on the National level, was National Director and Treasurer (two terms). In addition, she chaired and was active in numerous committees on all levels. In 1975, she had the honor of being chosen as National Legal Secretary of the Year at the annual National convention in Portland, Oregon.

She was a 1997 Charter member of the Learning in Retirement organization (affiliated with UW Oshkosh), which provides excellent programs at various venues each semester. It was a real plus to have many of these programs taking place at Evergreen Retirement Community. Continuing to learn and experience new things was also a large part of their travels, and she and Earl participated in 37 Elderhostel (now Road Scholar) programs throughout the U.S. Later, when Earl could not do so, her daughter Susan accompanied her to various programs. Maurene loved

attending these events as long as she was able.

Maurene was an avid reader, and also enjoyed working crossword and other word puzzles. In earlier years, she participated in golf, bowling and bike riding. She and Earl were fascinated by lighthouses, and many of their travels were either centered around or included visiting these most interesting structures. She estimated they must have climbed or viewed more than 125 lights! She also was a "Waterfall Nut", and more than once, seeking out a particular waterfall led to rutted dirt roads or a dead end, but they usually found the one they were looking for!

For the past four years, Maurene was a member of the "Eye on Evergreen" committee. It is a bi-monthly newsletter, and she thoroughly enjoyed writing poems and articles for each issue.

She is survived by son Jeffrey (Sharlene) Christensen, Oshkosh; daughter Susan Harnois, Washburn IA; Grandchildren: Kimberly (Anne Erickson) Christensen, Minneapolis MN; Kyle (Kelli) Christensen, Lawrence KS; David (Kristy) Harnois, Waterloo IA; and Andrew (Nicole) Harnois, Cedar Falls IA. There are

five Great-Grandchildren: Easley, Wren, August and Archer Harnois, and Violet Christensen. She is also survived by sister-in-law Joanne Hady, Iron Mountain MI, and niece Desire' Christensen, Oshkosh. She was preceded in death by her husband Earl, her parents, father and mother-in-law Earl Sr. And Lillian Christensen, and brother and sister-in-law Raymond and Ann Christensen and brother-in-law Patrick Hady.

At Maurene's request, there will be no funeral service. Memorials may be sent to Evergreen Foundation—Employee Appreciation Fund, Oshkosh Public Library, or Friends of Wisconsin Public television.

The family wishes to thank Evergreen Retirement Community for providing the wonderful independent living lifestyle that Maurene loved and participated in these past seven years. There are no words to describe the outstanding and caring staff, who always go above and beyond for the residents! They love what they do, and that is evident each and every day!



rad-Behlman Funeral Homes on Tuesday, January 7, 2025, at 3PM. A time of visitation was held from 2PM until the time of service.



## Charles S. Young

Charles S. Young, passed away peacefully on January 3rd surrounded by those he loved most.

To view the full obituary, please visit, [www.konrad-behlman.com](http://www.konrad-behlman.com).



## Audrey Felker

Audrey Felker, age 92, passed into the arms of her Lord in the early morning of Monday, December 16th, 2024. Surrounded by her children and Elwyn, her devoted husband of 72 years, she leaves behind an enduring legacy of faith, love, and family. Born on September 7, 1932, at Mercy Medical Center on Hazel Street, Audrey was the middle child of Clarence and Dorothy (Kempinger) Swanke. A lifelong Oshkosh resident and homemaker, she spent her final days at Bella Vista Senior Living—located at the same place of her birth—a reminder of a joyful life coming full circle.

She graduated from Oshkosh High School, where she was a member of the women's bowling team. It was during this time that she met the love of her life at a baseball game. On July 5th, 1952, she married Elvie at Sacred Heart Catholic Church. Together, they built the first home on Faust Avenue, laying the foundation for a growing family that now spans five children, 11 grandchildren, and 13 great-grandchildren. Audrey enjoyed sharing recipes and photos, summer picnics, her patio swing, traveling (especially to the casino and Florida), playing

games on her tablet, and above all, the company of her many grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

She is survived by her husband Elwyn; children, Debra (Jeff) Berndt, Cheryl (Tim) Clark, Ron (Patty) Felker, Patti Spaid, and Tim (Cari) Felker; grandchildren, Joseph (Missy) Berndt, Bryan (Sara) Berndt, Scott (Kim) Berndt, Holly (BJ) Ertmer, Tami (Joel) Swenson, Josh Felker, Justin Kubasta, Jaimee (Nick) Radloff, Kyle (Colleen White) Felker, Marisa (Jake Dylla) Felker, Jarod Felker; and her 12 great-grandchildren.

She is preceded in death by her parents, her four siblings, Gen, Lois, James, and Marjorie; son-in-law Jake Spaid; and great-granddaughter Adalyn Swenson.

The family extends heartfelt gratitude to the staff of Bella Vista Senior Living and the nurses of Preceptor Home Health & Hospice for their compassionate care of Audrey.

The family will be holding a private celebration of life in the summer. Fiss & Bills-Poklasny Funeral Home is assisting the family. Those wishing to share condolences or memories are invited to do so online at [fissbillspoklasnyfuneralhome.com](http://fissbillspoklasnyfuneralhome.com).

"Now at peace forever, Safely home in Heaven at last."



## Richard D. Mentzel

Richard "Dick" D. Mentzel, age 72, of Oshkosh, WI, passed away at his home unexpectedly on December 28, 2024.

Dick was born on August 27, 1952, in Wisconsin, son of Donald and Frances (Rothe) Mentzel. Dick graduated from Oshkosh High School and later worked at Morgan Doors in manufacturing until its closing.

Dick is survived by his brother, Charles (Joann) Mentzel; and his sister, Bonnie (Dan) Guyette. He is preceded in passing by his father, Donald; and mother, Frances; brothers, Fred (Barbara) Mentzel and

Donald Jr. (Cindy) Mentzel.

Dick is the uncle to many nieces and nephews in both the Mentzel and Rothe families. Dick liked to fish and enjoyed taking care of his favorite 60's car.

A private memorial gathering of immediate family members for Dick will be held in the future.

The family would like to thank the Oshkosh Police Department for their compassion and service.



## Patrick Ryan

Patrick "Pidge" Ryan, age 73, passed away at Ascension Medical Center on Sunday, December 29, 2024. He was born to the late Don and Carol Ryan in Oshkosh on July 27, 1951. Pidge married Debra Gradl on September 23, 1989, at Most Blessed Sacrament.

After graduating from high school, Pidge joined the U.S. Army in 1970.

Pidge is survived by his wife, Debbie; brothers, Matthew, Peter, and John Ryan.

In addition to his parents, Pidge was preceded in death by his brothers, Michael and Joseph Ryan.

A service for Pidge was held at Kon-



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## Miscellaneous

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# Kid Scoop

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A2 The Spottville Bugle

## Fortune Shines on Freckled Faces

SPOTTVILLE, USA – The Spottville school board passed a new rule last night giving Spottville children with freckles more privileges than children without freckles.



Student Myron Fleming feels the new rule is "long overdue."

Freckled children will always sit at the front of the classroom and be first in line. They will get to use new pencils and the finest white paper. Children without freckles will have to sit at the back of the room or on the floor. Grocery bags will be used as paper for their assignments.

Many non-freckled children find the Freckle Rule unfair. "This rule stinks!" cried Alison Smythe, age 11. "I can't help it that I don't have freckles. Why can't I eat in the same cafeteria as my friends with freckles?"

Many children with freckles also disagree with the new Freckle Rule. "I plan to fight against this dumb idea," said Dottie Darling, a student at Spottville Elementary School. "Dr. Martin Luther King's message is that discrimination is always wrong, and this new rule is discrimination."

"Disgruntled nonsense," said school board president Spatz McDotter. "The rule is fair to the people that really matter most – people with freckles."

This story may seem a bit silly. Sadly, there is some truth to it. For many years, groups of people in the United States were treated differently just because of the way they looked.

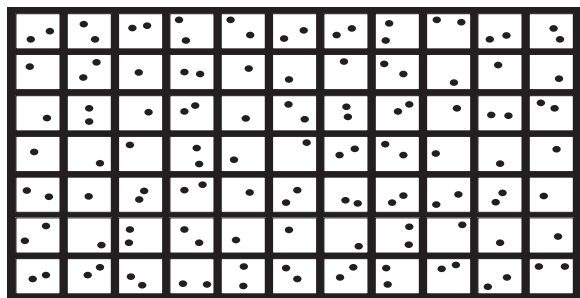
## Dr. King's Dream of Equality

Dr. Martin Luther King knew what it was like to be discriminated against. He had been called names and told he could not do all of the things other people could do. It wasn't because of freckles that Dr. King had these problems. It was because his skin was black.

In the 1950s and 60s, many Americans, Black and white, spoke out and even fought against unfair laws that discriminated against Black people. Dr. King was one of the leaders of this struggle called the Civil Rights Movement.

Standards Link: History: Students understand the importance of individual action and character.

Did Dottie and her friends get rid of the Freckle Rule? To find out, color the spaces with two dots RED and the squares with one dot BLUE.



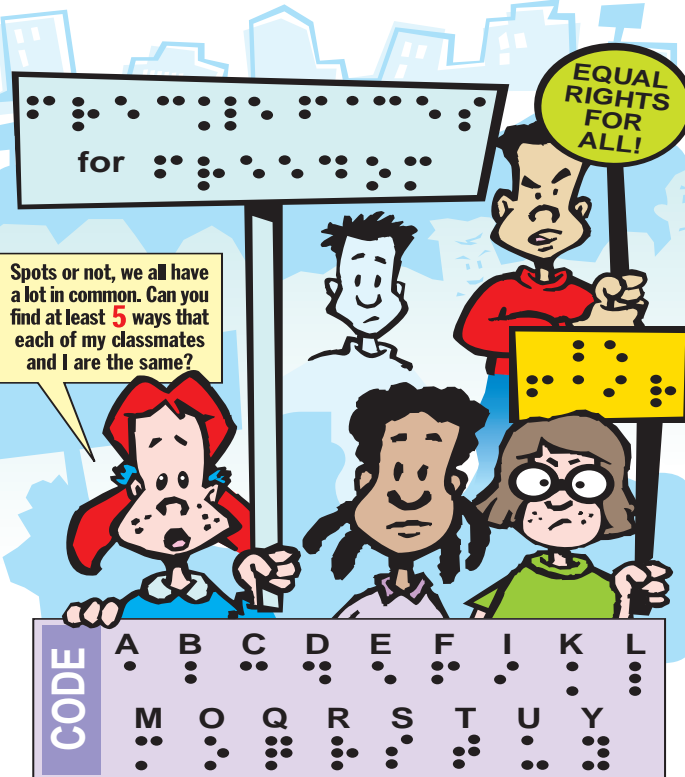
Standards Link: Follow simple directions.

## Could this be true?

What if this news story were true? Are the schools in Spottville treating all children equally?

## Dottie Darling Disagrees

Dottie and lots of kids from her school are speaking out against the Freckle Rule. Use the code to see what their signs say.



Standards Link: Reading Comprehension: Follow written directions.

## Extra! Extra! Spirit of Freedom

Look through the newspaper for pictures and stories that show the freedoms Americans enjoy. Cut these out and make a poster called: "The Spirit of Freedom—The Spirit of America!"

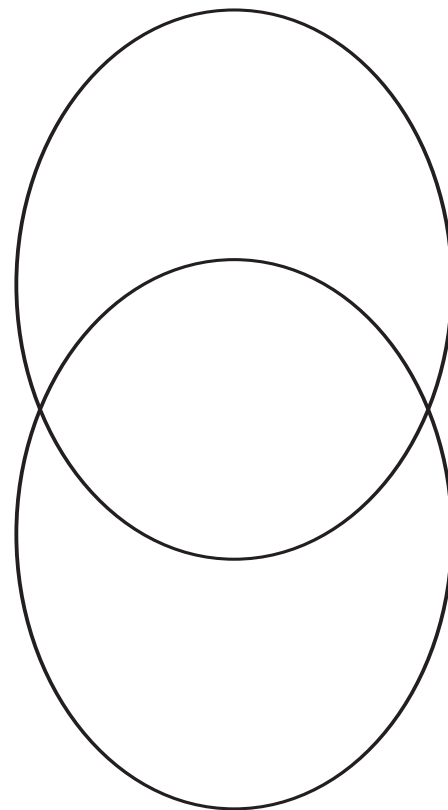
Standards Link: History: Students understand the rights of citizenship.

## Kid Scoop Together Diagram Fun!

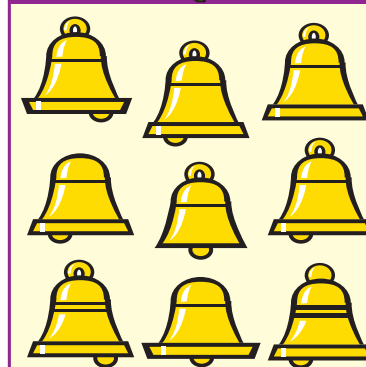
Work with a partner at home to complete the following diagram.

1. Look at the list of traits. In the upper part of the top oval, write all of your traits.
2. Write your partner's traits on the lower part of the bottom oval.
3. In the area where the two ovals connect, write the traits you BOTH have.

- |                   |               |
|-------------------|---------------|
| DIMPLES           | DARK HAIR     |
| NO DIMPLES        | LIGHT HAIR    |
| CAN ROLL TONGUE   | CURLY HAIR    |
| CAN'T ROLL TONGUE | STRAIGHT HAIR |
| RIGHT HANDED      | FRECKLES      |
| LEFT HANDED       | NO FRECKLES   |



## Kid Scoop Puzzler



### Let Freedom Ring

After years of struggle, the Civil Rights Act made discrimination against the law. However, Dr. King knew it would take more than a law to change people's hearts and minds. He continued to teach people that discrimination was unfair.

Each year on his birthday, Americans remember this man who believed the dream of equality and freedom should ring true for all.

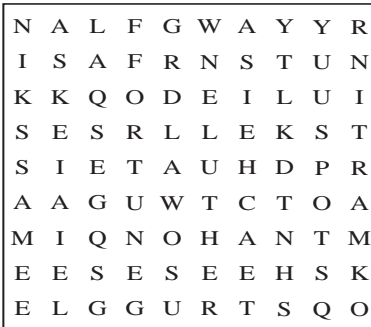
Find the two bells that are exactly the same.

Standards Link: Visual discrimination: Follow written directions.

## Double Double Word Search

- EQUALITY
- FORTUNE
- SIGNS
- FREEDOM
- MARTIN
- LUTHER
- KING
- DREAM
- TEACH
- STRUGGLE
- SPOTS
- SKIN
- RULE
- SAME
- LAW

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



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

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