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OASD photo

Valentines for veterans

The Oshkosh Area School District answered the Wisconsin Department of Veterans Affairs' call to action as Oshkosh West and Lakeside Elementary students created custom-made Valentine's Day cards to show veterans how much they appreciate their service. More than 19 classes and multiple clubs and groups contributed 585 handcrafted cards that were delivered to Network Health, who will be sending them to the DVA.

Early voting underway in primary races

County executive, state superintendent on ballot

By Jonathan Richie
OSHKOSH HERALD

Voters have started early voting in the spring primary, which includes just two races – Winnebago County executive and Wisconsin state superintendent.

Early voting continues this week from 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. and then Friday hours shift to 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. ahead of the Feb. 18 primary election. In-person absentee voting for Oshkosh residents is ongoing at 19 E. Irving Ave. to decide the candidates who will face off April 1.

County Executive Jon Doemel has held the position for one term and is being challenged by former state Assembly Rep. Gordon Hintz and Winnebago County Sheriff John Matz.

There are three people running for state superintendent, who is responsible for leading 2,190 public schools and 421 school districts along with teacher licensing and disbursement of federal aid. The office was formerly held by Gov. Tony Evers, who served in the position from 2009 to 2019.

The position is a four-year term and incumbent Jill Underly is being challenged by two educators in the primary. Underly won the 2021 election for the seat. She worked for the Wisconsin Department

SEE **Early voting** ON PAGE 9

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Bricks from Merrill School will form memorial garden

By Jonathan Richie
OSHKOSH HERALD

As plans move forward with the Vel Phillips Middle School athletic facility, the district is dedicating a memorial space to the former Merrill School it replaced that will use bricks and other materials from the century-old building.

The district plans to build a track on the site as part of an outdoor recreation space to serve Vel Phillips Middle School students and the community.

Plans have already been approved by the city's Common Council to build the track and include a small memorial space recognizing Merrill School. Last week the Plan Commission approved an amendment to the plan that includes details on the memorial garden.

The garden section of the memorial will

be revitalized with new mulch, plantings and a tree to honor a former Merrill student. Christine Fredrick passed away from cancer in 2010 when she was in seventh grade and her family chose to honor her with a tree and commemoration plaque.

The garden also will pay tribute to the history of Merrill School with materials from the building, including a large stone panel "M" that was a landmark of the school on its southwest corner.

Memorial plans include a new flagpole, two benches and three piers. The benches and piers will be constructed with salvaged materials from the school's masonry work. Each of the piers will be just under 6 feet tall with plaques giving some of the history of Merrill School.

SEE **Merrill site** ON PAGE 9



OASD photo

A rendering shows the memorial garden to be built on the site of the former Merrill school using bricks from the school.

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Indigenous findings at park to be discussed

Oshkosh Herald

A road construction project in Menominee Park sparked an archaeological investigation in 2023 that identified a Native American village dating between A.D. 900 and 1600. Highlights from those findings and how they relate to indigenous history and today's cultural heritage will be discussed in a series of presentations and workshops starting Feb. 23.

The city engaged archaeologists from the University of Milwaukee's Cultural Resource Management before the Pratt Trail work began in August 2023 to ensure compliance with historic preservation regulations. The Wisconsin Historical Society, state Department of Natural Resources and associated tribal nations also were consulted in developing a plan to protect the site.

The Oshkosh Public Museum and Friends of the Oshkosh Seniors Center have partnered on a project called Bridging Past and Present: Exploring Native American Cultural Heritage, to give the public a look at the archaeological work while highlighting Native American art and cultural.

The series kicks off at 2 p.m. Feb. 23 at the Oshkosh Convention Center with a panel consisting of UWM Cultural Resource Management program director Jennifer Haas, Menominee Indian Tribe of Wisconsin historic preservation officer David Grignon and Ho-Chunk Nation historic preservation officer William Quackenbush. They will share their involvement and perspectives about the recent archaeological work.

The city allocated \$169,000 to fund the investigation of archeological and uncatalogued burial sites in the city's largest park on the shores of Lake Winnebago that were documented and tested. The Native American village was dated to the late Woodland period and found to be preserved intact beneath the roadbed.

Oshkosh ran into a similar situation in 2018 when UWM researchers found artifacts that included pottery, spear tips and human remains when work began for Oshkosh Corp's global headquarters and development of Lakeshore Park on Lake Butte des Morts.

The program received funding through the Wisconsin Arts Board and the Friends



Oshkosh Herald

Findings from an archaeological dig on the shores of Lake Winnebago at Menominee Park will be the subject of presentations starting this month.

of the Oshkosh Seniors Center. As the series took shape, Discover Oshkosh became a sponsor and the Oshkosh Public Library agreed to develop a program.

Visit www.oshkoshwi.gov/SeniorServices for more information and to register for the program.

Officer-involved death investigation ongoing

Oshkosh Herald

A Wisconsin Department of Justice investigation into the Dec. 10 shooting death of a man inside a home by an Oshkosh police officer has not provided any public updates.

A representative from the DOJ told the Herald the incident is still under investigation and would not be releasing any additional information at this time. Oshkosh police reported at the time that officers in-

involved in the incident were placed on paid administrative leave per policy, but have not released any further information.

According to the DOJ, an officer entered a residence in the 400 block of West 10th Street after a 911 call reported a stabbing in the area. Inside the home an officer, who has not been identified, encountered someone with a bladed weapon.

The subject was allegedly ordered to drop the weapon but when he failed to comply he was shot by the officer. Life-saving measures were performed and the man was transported to a hospital where he was pronounced dead.

Officers located one stabbing victim outside the home and another victim inside the home. Both were transported to a local hospital. The shooting victim's

identity has also not been released to the public.

The DOJ's Division of Criminal Investigation (DCI) is leading the investigation. As the DCI reviews the evidence, it will turn the investigative reports to the Winnebago County District Attorney's office for potential charges.

It has been the policy of OPD to not release the names of officers involved in these types of shootings citing that the officer is a victim and is protected by Marsy's Law. Marsy's Law was adopted into the Wisconsin constitution by voters in April 2020. The law is designed to expand and strengthen the rights of crime victims.

It is unclear if the DOJ will release the name of the officer or the person who was killed when their investigation concludes.

Back in the Day



Oshkosh history by the Winnebago County Historical Society

Feb. 6, 1990

Fishing Club announces Fisheree winners: The Otter Street Fishing Club announced the winners for biggest fish at last Sunday's event on Lake Winnebago. The largest fish was a 7lb

13oz Northern caught by Matt Deringer. Rhody Platta won the walleye category with a 3lb 9oz fish. Perch honors went to Arnie Wesner with a 1lb 3oz catch. Mark Zillges snagged the largest White Bass weighing in at 1 lb 10oz and Ron Tellock won the Sauger category with a 1lb 13oz sand pike. Tournament officials reported the overall catch was light due to a bountiful number of "baitfish" available this year.

Source: Oshkosh Northwestern, Feb. 6, 1990



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Major drug bust suspects headed to plea hearings

By Jonathan Richie
OSHKOSH HERALD

Three individuals facing multiple drug-related charges stemming from a six-month investigation are on track to plea hearings in the coming months. Two have been charged with maintaining a drug trafficking place on 7th Street.

The investigation included controlled drug buys that led to the arrests at an Oshkosh home where more than 65 pounds of marijuana, six pounds of cocaine, and methamphetamine and firearms were found.

Carrie J. Daniels, 46, and Cody P. Holden, 31, both of Oshkosh, are each charged with four counts of manufacturing and delivering THC, possession with intent to sell cocaine and methamphetamine, and maintaining a drug trafficking place.

Jamie L. Hardel, 24, of Berlin is facing two counts of manufacturing and delivering THC.

Court records show Daniels and Hardel have plea/sentencing hearings scheduled this month and Holden will be back in court in April for his plea/sentencing.

Daniels and Holden face more than 70 years in prison if convicted on all counts and potentially at least 45 years of extended supervision. Hardel faces up to six years of prison time followed by up to six years of extended supervision.

All three entered not-guilty pleas in January. Plea/sentencing hearings on the court's calendar do not mean a plea deal will be reached between prosecutors and defense attorneys and the cases could still go to trial.

According to the criminal complaint, on June 3 investigators introduced a confidential informant to an officer who would be

working in an undercover capacity during controlled buys.

The informant did not know the man who was their source for marijuana but knew he could sell pounds of marijuana and was known as "Dank," later identified as Hardel. The informant and officer left the parking lot at the same time Hardel and Daniels drove away and were followed by investigators to a home on 7th Avenue.

On July 24, another controlled buy was set up to buy a pound of marijuana. During the third controlled buy in November, Daniels, Holden and Hardel arrived to talk with the informant and undercover officer. The officer asked if he could meet Hardel's source and he allegedly responded, "You can meet him, he's right here."

Holden then spoke to the undercover officer about other potential buys.

On Nov. 18, a third controlled buy of marijuana was arranged and Holden told the officer he has access to "designer quality" marijuana that would cost \$2,400 a pound.

A search warrant executed at the home Nov. 25 found drug contraband and drugs in plain view in almost every room of the home. During the search, a 16-year-old and 11-year-old were located and turned over to Winnebago County Child Protective Services.

In total, the MEG unit seized 13 firearms along with more than 6 pounds of cocaine, just under a half pound of methamphetamine, almost a pound of psilocybin and more than 65 pounds of raw marijuana, liquid marijuana, marijuana wax and edibles. The complaint states the drugs were packaged in a manner consistent with drug dealings as opposed to personal use.

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DiscoverOshkosh.com

Lifesaving drug-reversal boxes installed across district

By Jonathan Richie
OSHKOSH HERALD

The Oshkosh Area School District now has 18 overdose aid kits installed in its middle and high schools. As the state continues to tackle the opioid epidemic, more than 900 of these OAK boxes have been placed.

The OAK boxes will have nasal naloxone, the drug that can reverse an opioid overdose. Sandy Shaffer of Collaborative Wellness said the boxes will have stickers with QR codes that will take people to resources.

Shaffer said it's important to have these resources available at the middle schools because that is the time in students' lives when they start experimenting.

"They're experimenting, they're not trying to overdose," she said.

Nine of the boxes were donated by the Fritz family and nine were donated by the Clinton Global Initiative. The district held an event last week to promote the boxes with a panel of community members, elected officials and personal stories of recovery. The event also gave the community a chance to see how to deliver naloxone in case of an overdose.

State Sen. Jesse James (R-Thorp) attended the event to lend his voice to the issue. He often hears his colleagues tell him there is no problem or that the OAK boxes and naloxone encourage drug use.

"I want to encourage those that think this is not a problem in our state, it's not a problem in our schools, or that we're worried about reputation or worried about image - we gotta get past that," James said. "Because how are you going to deal with it when a youth that may not even be a user is subjected to it and dies."



Oshkosh Herald

Jesse Klapa gives his personal story of how he spent a third of his life incarcerated before starting his recovery. As an Oshkosh West grad he has seen many friends die from substance use and promoted the new OAK boxes at schools as a lifesaving measure for potential overdoses.

James asked the law enforcement in the room if they had used naloxone or defibrillators more when on duty.

"Here are four law enforcement officers from across the state saying that we've administered more naloxone than we have AEDs," he said.

James also pointed out there is no study that links access to naloxone to increased drug use.

The perspective of students was also present at the event with East Troy High School senior Savanna Kawleski talking about a project she led that got OAK boxes in her school and inside the police station.

"In today's society, teens have unlimited

access to pills but barely know what naloxone is or have access to it. My generation is dying by the thousands due to the critical opioid epidemic plaguing our country," Kawleski said. "It's crucial for youth to understand the risks that we're being exposed to."

OASD director of pupil services Matthew Kaemmerer said the district has not had to deal with the devastation of an overdose. But former students are often involved in overdoses and substance use.

Jesse Klapa, an Oshkosh West graduate, is a youth engagement coordinator for Breakwater and told the audience he spent a third of his life incarcerated and in March 2021 was able to realize how important

life is. He was able to get into Winnebago County drug court and is now working with youth dealing with substance use.

Behind the panel of speakers were two quilts with the faces of those who have died from overdoses. Klapa said he has lost many friends to substance use and noticed two of his high school friends were on the quilt. He shares his story to honor the friends he has lost.

"Making (naloxone) available in schools and just breaking down the stigma attached to it," he said, "so that if it is ever needed it is so critical."

U.S. Sen. Tammy Baldwin made a video congratulating the district for installing the OAK boxes. She said society wouldn't question having fire extinguishers or AED defibrillators in public spaces.

"An essential step in tackling the opioid crisis in our country is to make lifesaving drugs like naloxone more accessible," Baldwin said. "Just as we have fire extinguishers and defibrillators in schools, office buildings and malls, we should also have access to naloxone because it saves lives."

The 18 boxes will be installed in the middle schools and high schools. Students will monitor the boxes to ensure they are stocked with naloxone and the district is working with Winnebago County Public Health to keep the boxes stocked.

Kaemmerer also stated that an anonymous survey given to students indicates drug use is down but that drugs are very different than they were 10 years ago with students taking a pill that may not be what they were told as fentanyl becomes prevalent.

After the event, community members and district staff were shown how to administer nasal naloxone.

Fake IDs lead to 50 underage drinking citations

By Jonathan Richie
OSHKOSH HERALD

Oshkosh police cited a large number of underage drinkers at a downtown bar last month, many with fake IDs that the business owner said they are having difficulty detecting.

Police records state 50 people from 16 to 20 years old were cited for underage drinking and many had falsified identification that led police to confiscate 30 fake IDs from multiple states.

Reports obtained by the Herald show police were tipped off that there were several juveniles and young adults in The Underground Saloon, 539 High Ave., on Jan. 9. Around 10:15 p.m. officers went inside and one "immediately observed approximately 30, 40 to 50 underage persons

throughout the bar."

More officers arrived on the scene to identify all the people in the bar who were underage.

The door bouncer told police he used a scanner to check IDs of everyone that entered the bar that night. Officers noted there is a disclaimer on the scanner that states the device might not be able to detect all false IDs.

Kyle Faust has owned The Underground for about three years and said he has worked to change its atmosphere after the establishment's violent history when it was called the French Quarter. He said the issue of fake identification cards has been ongoing.

"This is a battle we're continuing to fight," he said. "We certainly don't want

to be known as the college bar that allows underage drinkers."

Faust said he is continuing to work with police to make sure his staff gets properly trained.

"IDs are getting more advanced," he said.

Faust said that despite being so close to UW Oshkosh he does not want a reputation of being an underage bar.

The underage citations will result in fines. Court records show the bouncer is facing one count of an adult permitting underage drinking, which would bring a \$358 fine.

No formal actions are taken against bars in these instances until the establishment incurs a certain number of these types of violations, according to city clerk Diane Bartlett.

Bartlett said police will take action against the owner if violations continue.

Police records show that when officers did a walkthrough of The Underground a week later they cited six more individuals for underage drinking and four were cited for knowingly carrying a false ID.

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Program continues seven meals but limits delivery days

By Jonathan Richie
OSHKOSH HERALD

Inflation and rising food costs have forced regional support agency Advocap to shift from delivering meals every day to just three days a week. Participants in the program still receive seven meals a week with the changing delivery schedule.

Last year, the program delivered more than 130,000 meals to Winnebago County residents. The home-delivery meal program relies on federal and state funding, along with local donations. It does not turn anyone away who meets the requirements, such as living in Winnebago County, being 60 or older and being homebound.

These deliveries are often much more than just a meal; they are often a time when participants can talk to someone. and in the age of social isolation contact is pivotal to people's well-being.

"One of our biggest concerns with the changes is that participants will have less contact with people because we don't just drop off meals and go," Dawn Paterson said. "In most cases, the driver is the only person they will see. We have quite an impact on these people and they become more like friends and family."

Paterson is nutrition director for Advocap. The agency recently announced in a letter to recipients there would be changes to the program to deliver meals three days a week instead of five. She noted, however, that much of the program isn't about the meals but the built-in wellness checks.

One participant fell at her home and was on the ground until the meal delivery driver arrived on Wednesday to help her. Another participant took too much medication and collapsed into the delivery driver's arms when they got to the house.

Instead of delivering meals for every day of the week along with two frozen meals for Saturday and Sunday, the new schedule will have meals delivered on Monday, Wednesday and Friday. On Monday and Wednesday, a hot meal will be delivered along with a frozen meal for Tuesday and Thursday. On Fridays, a hot meal will be delivered along with two frozen meals for the weekend.

The meals are approved by an Advocap nutritionist and follow dietary guidelines from the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services and Department of Agriculture. The meals change so that participants do not receive the same menu every day.

Winnebago County has a contract with Advocap and receives federal funds through the Older Americans Act. Paterson said those funds along with county funds support the meal program. Advocap also receives funds from program participants.

"Advocap and Winnebago County are doing the best we can to meet the nutritional needs of our seniors with the resources available to us," Paterson said.

Changes in Advocap funding come from rising inflation and food costs along with the costs of having vehicles that make the deliveries, including fluctuations in gas prices and higher vehicle maintenance costs.

Funding cuts have led Advocap to eliminate staff at meal sites across Winnebago County and the sites are now staffed by volunteers.

"COVID really hurt us and totally changed things," Paterson said.



Advocap photo

Advocap meal delivery driver Maureen Debyl packs meals for the agency's program.

During the pandemic, people became worried about eating at the meal site and that is when the grab-and-go option gained popularity. Paterson said three meal sites will shift from congregational locations to meal pickup sites as they were seeing fewer than 10 people daily.

"It's nice to see that smiling face every day, for the drivers and the people receiving the meals," Paterson said.

Those interested in volunteering at meal sites can call 920-725-2791 and ask for Melissa. To donate, go to advocap.org/Donate-2.

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Oshkosh Herald

Weathering the elements

Ice fishing enthusiasts are shown on Lake Winnebago north of Oshkosh on Friday morning after gusty winds were pushing loose shanties across the ice. Activity on the Winnebago system was in full force last weekend as the annual sturgeon spearing season got underway.

Help for the Homeless hygiene drive to kick off

The Family's 33rd annual Help for the Homeless Hygiene Drive will run from Feb. 23 through March 16, collecting personal hygiene and cleaning products for more than 130 Wisconsin crisis agencies in 22 communities.

All donations and financial support remain in the communities where they are collected with the goal of supplying a year's worth of products to each participating agency.

John Nieman is the chairperson of the Oshkosh group and can be reached at 920-279-9873 or jnieman@appletoncots.org for more information.

The Family Radio Network Inc. partners with area homeless and crisis agencies by inviting participating communities to donate hygiene and cleaning products and allow the agencies to dedicate their limited financial resources to personnel, education, counseling, safe housing and nutritious food to those they serve. Hygiene and cleaning products are not covered by the Wisconsin FoodShare program.

Supplies can be donated at Festival Foods, Walgreens or other participating workplaces, churches or schools.

PB&J food campaign returns to region through end of March

Oshkosh Herald

With hunger statistics for Wisconsin continuing to show an increase in food insecurity among children, Feeding America Eastern Wisconsin is kicking off its 22nd annual two-month fundraising, donation and awareness campaign aimed at providing nutritious food to children.

The campaign that runs through March 31 encourages supporters to make monetary donations or collect jars of peanut butter and jelly to donate to help Feeding America Eastern Wisconsin stock the shelves at food pantries, meal programs and shelters for families.

Serving as the ambassador for a third consecutive year is Milwaukee Bucks forward Bobby Portis Jr., who has partnered with the organization to raise funds and awareness of childhood hunger.

Supporters can also make a difference at Pick 'n Save and Metro Market locations by asking their cashier or scanning a card at self-checkout to donate \$5 worth of peanut butter and jelly.

Residents, companies and organiza-



Photo from Feeding America

Bobby Portis Jr. of the Milwaukee Bucks returns as the PB&J Challenge campaign's ambassador.

tions can support the campaign by visiting FeedingAmericaWI.org/PBJ.

In addition to being shelf-stable and packed with protein and nutrients, peanut butter and jelly are two of the most requested items from pantry partners across eastern Wisconsin.

Old Glory Honor Flights set for this year

Oshkosh Herald

Old Glory Honor Flight and Appleton International Airport are announcing flights this year for veterans to Washington, D.C., to visit war memorials erected in their honor.

Since its inception, the organization has hosted more than 6,400 veterans and the Appleton airport has been hosting the flights since 2009.

Mission 73 takes off April 16, Mission 74 is set for May 27, Mission 76 is Sept. 2 and Mission 77 is Oct. 28. The Yellow Ribbon Honor Flight that takes off from the EAA grounds during AirVenture each year is set for July 25 for Vietnam War veterans.

The event travels with trained volunteers who plan the daylong trip to give veterans a red-carpet treatment. The organization provides escorts, a medical team, professional photographers and plans the

itinerary in Washington. Family members and the community participated in a welcome-home celebration at the airport.

"We could not celebrate these heroes without the commitment of our sponsors and partners and the overwhelming support of the community," said Diane MacDonald, executive director of Old Glory Honor Flight.

Veterans on active duty in any branch of the service between Dec. 7, 1941, and May 7, 1975, qualify for the flights. Registration is open at oldgloryhonorflight.org. Currently, Old Glory Honor Flight has a waitlist of about 12 months for senior veterans.

"Our staff is dedicated to honoring our veterans and looks forward to each of these events as a way to celebrate the veterans and their families," said airport director Abe Weber.

Jesuit Retreat House speaker series announced

The Jesuit Retreat House on Lake Winnebago in Oshkosh, 4800 Fahrwald Road, is offering a series of guest speakers that are open to the public and run from 6:30 to 8 p.m. They include:

Today (Wednesday): Father Joe Mattern, "The World Will Be Saved by Beauty." This favorite quote of Dorothy Day inspires a trio of jazz/classic musicians presenting Day's vision in real time.

March 12: Sister Elise Cholewinski, "Original Baptism - Original Sin." Enter

into Lent from a new perspective on the season: baptism.

April 9: Father Jim Flaherty, "Catholic Social Teaching: The Church's Best Kept Secret." Highlighting several key principles addressing social and political issues, as well as "the seamless garment," "just war theory" and "the principle of subsidiarity."

May 14: Tanya Hielke, "The Many Stages of Grief Following Divorce." Eye-opening perspectives from a divorce recovery group facilitator.

Summer camp registration opens at local YMCA

Oshkosh YMCA summer camp registration is now open to YMCA members and non-members.

The camps feature themed weeks, hands-on activities and academic enrichment as children build skills, make friends

and create memories.

Go to oshkoshymca.org for information about the camp offerings, including Preschool Camp (ages 4-5), Summer Fun Club (ages 5-12), Camp Winni-Y-Co (ages 5-12) and the Youth Adventure Program (ages 11-14).

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2025 Chamber business survey shows positive trends

By Rob Kleman
OSHKOSH CHAMBER PRESIDENT AND CEO

Each year, the Oshkosh Chamber conducts a Business Outlook Survey of local CEOs, business owners and managers. The results are utilized as a barometer to gauge the confidence of our business leaders as we move into the new year.

Recent results indicated area CEOs and business owners are overall confident heading into 2025 despite some uncertainty about workforce availability, inflationary pressures, tariffs and interest rates.

Overall, there is a growing degree of optimism among local business leaders with 78% rating their company's outlook as good to excellent in the next six months and 94% rating their outlook as good to excellent in the next one to three years.

Looking back at 2024, 70% reported that sales increased over the previous year, 63% indicated profits were up, and



79% increased wages. This past year, 35% of reporting companies added staff to their payrolls. Additionally, 72% of the respondents indicated that their companies met or exceeded profitability expectations, up from 59% in 2023.

When asked for their forecasts for 2025, 87% believe sales will outperform the previous year's level and 63% expect sales to increase in the first quarter of 2025 compared with the same quarter in 2024.

Looking at employment, 50% of area CEOs expect to hire more people in 2025. While this is excellent news, business leaders report that finding qualified workers remains somewhat of a challenge. The percentage of respondents indicating that they have unfilled job openings has

gone from 47% in the previous year, to 27% now. Additional information from the survey results also indicates a bit of a softening in the job market.

Manufacturers plan to increase their raw material inventories in the first quarter of 2025 compared with the same quarter one year ago, according to 52% of Oshkosh-based manufacturers. Also, in Q1 of 2025, 67% of retailers, wholesalers, and manufacturers anticipate a higher volume of finished goods inventory over 2024 Q4 levels. These are lead indicators of an expected sales volume increase in the coming months.

We also asked CEOs about their perception of the Oshkosh region. Overall, they felt very positive about the area's quality of life. Responding companies indicated that the region has excellent community institutions, with 97% indicating the health care system is good to excellent, 84% indicating the K-12 ed-

ucation system was performing well, and 89% believed the region has great public safety departments.

89% indicated that Oshkosh is a great place for raising a family, and 86% said it is a great place to start a business.

In 2024, Oshkosh experienced new investment in commercial and industrial property of \$30 million, and based on current project construction and announcements, we anticipate over \$100 million in 2025. SmartAsset ranked Oshkosh No. 10 among the Most Livable Small Cities out of 281 small cities across the country, and the results of our survey confirm this ranking.

With steady interest rates, an election in our rearview mirror, and strong employment levels, 2025 should include more growth and expansion as businesses continue investing in Oshkosh.

Go to www.oshkoshchamber.com to view the full results of the survey.

Bella, Vida Medical Clinic partner on free services

Oshkosh Herald

Bella Parent Support Services has a new partnership with Vida Medical Clinic to bring free medical services to Oshkosh, including well-woman visits, sports physicals, STD testing and treatment, pregnancy testing, and limited obstetric ultrasounds.

The two organizations plan to begin the initiative later this summer at the new Oshkosh clinic at 1484 W. South Park Ave. that will feature a new ultrasound machine to enhance the ability to support women and families.

"We are thrilled to bring Vida's free medical services to the Oshkosh community," said Anne Tretinyak, executive director of Vida Medical Clinic and Support Services. "This expansion allows us to meet growing needs with trusted, professional medical services."

Bella's leadership emphasized the importance of the partnership for the community.

"We are overjoyed to partner with Vida Medical Clinic to bring expanded medical services to the Oshkosh community," said Beth Nemecek, executive director of Bella.

Unemployment rate rises in December for metro area

Oshkosh Herald

The Oshkosh-Neenah metropolitan area saw an increase in its unemployment rate from 2.3% to 2.6% between November and December, according to preliminary data from the state Department of Workforce Development.

Last December's jobless rate in the Oshkosh-Neenah MSA was at 2.5%; Winnebago County was also at 2.5% percent.

Winnebago County's jobless rate rose from 2.3% to 2.6% in December, compared with 2.5% a year ago in December.

The non-seasonally adjusted data shows

jobless rates in Metropolitan Statistical Areas increased between 0.1 and 0.5 percentage points in 11 metropolitan areas over the month while staying the same in one; rates decreased or stayed the same in seven areas over the year.

Unemployment rates decreased or stayed the same in 13 of Wisconsin's 35 largest cities over the month; rates decreased or stayed the same in 22 cities over the year.

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

Historical trade fair weekend set at Sunnyview

Oshkosh Herald

One of the Midwest's largest indoor historical trade fairs returns to Sunnyview Expo Center on Feb. 22 and 23.

The Brian Bradley Memorial Echoes of the Past Historical Trade Fair presented by the Fox Valley Muzzle Loaders features period costumes and trade goods that are bought

and sold. Merchants and craftsmen offer historical clothing, books, patterns, tinware, pewter, beads, leather, fur, forged iron, pottery, firearms and knives among other items.

The 42nd annual event runs from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Feb. 22 and 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Feb. 23. Admission is \$6 and children under age 10 get in free with an adult.

Business news roundup

Oshkosh Corp. reported its 2024 fourth-quarter net income of \$153.1 million, or \$2.33 per diluted share, compared with net income of \$150.8 million, or \$2.28 per diluted share, for the fourth quarter of 2023. Adjusted net income was \$169.3 million, or \$2.58 per diluted share, for the fourth quarter of 2024 compared with \$169.4 million, or \$2.56 per diluted share, for the same quarter in 2023. Consolidated sales in the fourth quarter increased \$156.6 million, or 6.3 percent, to \$2.62 billion primarily due to higher volumes as well as improved pricing in the Vocational segment. Consolidated operat-

ing income in the fourth quarter increased 3.9 percent to \$223.9 million, or 8.5 percent of sales, compared with \$215.4 million, or 8.7 percent of sales, in the fourth quarter of 2023.

Winnebago County Public Health announced that **Kaytlin Kuettner** has been named a community health strategist and drug-free communities coordinator. She graduated from the University of Wisconsin-La Crosse with a major in public health and community health education, along with a minor in business administration.

flash sale

Flash Sale

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 2/\$3 Sprecher Charged Lemonades Glendale, WI	 \$6.99 Crooks Canned Cocktails - 4 pack	 2/\$9 Wildness Alaskan Cold Beer - 6 pack	 \$10.99 Stemmari Wines - 750 ml., Assorted Variety


Offers valid 2/13-2/16/2025, while supplies last. Must be 21+ to purchase alcohol.

fresh deals

 2/\$7 Organic Blueberries - 6 oz.	 \$3.99 Organic Romaine Hearts	 \$1.99/lb. Organic Ruby Red Grapefruits
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Co-op deals

 BO GO Virgil's Sodas	 BO GO Jeff's Garden Pickled Peppers	 BO GO Bitchin' Sauce Almond Dips
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Wisconsin's top 10 consumer complaints last year detailed

From Wisconsin DATCP

The Wisconsin Department of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection (DATCP) responded to 11,374 written consumer complaints in 2024. The resulting mediations, enforcement actions and settlements returned more than \$23 million to consumers through refunds and restitutions directly returned, and civil forfeitures deposited into the state's common school fund for the benefit of public education.

"I am proud of the team's hard work and dedication in serving Wisconsin consumers," said DATCP Secretary Randy Romanski, "and encourage anyone facing consumer issues in Wisconsin to access DATCP's free online resources or contact our Consumer Protection Hotline.

The top 10 complaint categories of 2024:

1. Landlord-tenant issues

With 2,525 complaints filed, landlord-tenant issues remained DATCP's No.

1 complaint category. The most common disputes include failure to maintain the premises, security deposit returns, unauthorized entry, mold and infestation, inadequate disclosures, and unsatisfactory service. DATCP received other housing-related complaints, including 45 about manufactured housing and manufactured housing community concerns.

2. Telemarketing

Telemarketing issues drew 1,513 complaints, including phishing and spoofing, imposter scams, robocalls, harassment and Do Not Call Registry violations. While complaints in this category have generally decreased over the last few years, consumers are using tools like the Do Not Call Registry and anti-spam technologies built into the latest cellphones to reduce those calls.

3. Home improvement

There were 664 consumer complaints filed with top concerns including quality of work, delays in performance, failure to

provide services and materials, failure to honor warranties, deceptive and misleading representations, and failure to disclose lien rights.

4. Identity theft

DATCP received 618 complaints of identity theft, an increase over the previous year. The top issue remains online account takeovers, with many of the complaints involving compromised Facebook accounts. Other major issues include fraud, data breaches and compromised identification documents.

5. Telecommunications

DATCP received 527 complaints from consumers on billing disputes, customer dissatisfaction, agreed-upon terms not being followed, deceptive and misleading representations, refund and adjustment policies, and denial of cancellation requests.

6. Medical services

Consumers filed 439 complaints with the top issue being medical billing disputes. Other topics include unsatisfactory service and misleading representations.

7. Motor Vehicle Repair

There were 341 complaints with consumers reported issues such as unsatisfactory quality of work, damage and loss of property, failure to honor agreements or perform work, performance delays, and charges for work not permitted by the vehicle owner.

8. Motor vehicle sales

DATCP received 297 complaints, the

most common issues cited being inadequate disclosures, prize notice mailers and untrue, deceptive and misleading representations. DATCP works closely with the Wisconsin Department of Transportation on motor vehicle complaints.

9. Travel

DATCP received 244 complaints in areas such as airlines, hotels and lodging, auto rentals, and travel service bundles, with common complaints including billing disputes, refund and adjustment policies, failure to provide services, failure to return deposits, and unsatisfactory service.

10. Motor vehicle accessories

There were 141 complaints received regarding refunds, failure to deliver products, and deceptive and misleading representations.

More issues, resources

The agency also highlighted complaints in the categories of entertainment and recreation, warranties and extended warranties, major appliances, timeshares and timeshare resellers, furniture and home furnishings, and medical devices. Following some of these complaints, DATCP's mediation resulted in consumers receiving thousands of dollars in refunds on products and services like timeshare memberships, malfunctioning refrigerators, and concert tickets.

For more information or to file a complaint, visit ConsumerProtection.wi.gov. DATCP's Consumer Protection Hotline is 800-422-7128 or DATCPHotline@wisconsin.gov.

Chinese New Year to be celebrated at event

Oshkosh Herald

A Chinese New Year celebration marking the Year of the Snake with cultural performances, authentic cuisine and vibrant bazaar will be held by the Northeast Wisconsin Chinese Association (NEWCA) from 2 to 6:30 p.m. Saturday at Becket's in downtown Oshkosh.

The evening will open with performances by local children, youth dance groups and individual artists showcasing traditional Chinese arts. An interactive Lion Dance will be performed during dinner where attendees will have a chance to engage.

Also featured will be a selection of traditional Chinese dishes and cultural bazaar with vendors and artists offering arts, crafts and unique gifts.

The nonprofit group NEWCA also organizes the Northeast Wisconsin Dragon Boat Festival in the fall at the Leach Amphitheater. All proceeds from both events support local cultural community programs.

Tickets are available at Eventbrite. Young children and seniors attend for free. For volunteer opportunities, group discounts and vendor participation, contact admin@newca.org.

Waterfest lineup begins to take shape

Oshkosh Herald

Music acts are lining up for Waterfest's 39th season with perennial opener Hairball starting the season June 12 on its 25th anniversary tour along with the Michael Weber Show.

Organizers announced Monday that Marcia Ball will top the July 10 lineup with The Jimmys, Alex McMurray Band and Rising Phoenix.

Big Bad Voodoo Daddy, a longtime

swing revival band from Southern California, headlines the July 17 show.

Australian jazz and funk band the Cat Empire was previously announced to head the June 26 show at the Leach Amphitheater while on its "Bird in Paradise" album tour. Area bands Copper Box and Kate Voss & The Hot Sauce will be the opening performers that evening.

Advance VIP and general admission tickets are available with more information on the Waterfest Facebook page.

County Forests Association special plate offered

The state Division of Motor Vehicles (DMV) is offering a new specialty license plate from the Wisconsin County Forests Association, a nonprofit organization that works to educate and sustain more than 2.4 million acres of healthy and productive forests for recreation and to provide materials to the state's forest products industry.

To receive the special plate, Wisconsin-

ites commit to a \$25 annual donation that is used to advocate for and promote sustainable forest management in the state.

The new plate joins the list of 61 special license plates that can be viewed and ordered at wisconsin.gov/specialplates or ordered by mail.

Specialty and regular license plates can be ordered and renewed at wisconsin.gov.

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Oshkosh Herald will be making a change due to a high percentage of newspapers being undeliverable in route C002.

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If you live in this area and wish to continue receiving the Oshkosh Herald weekly newspaper please email subscribe@oshkoshherald.com with C002 in the subject line with your Name, mailing address and contact information - or call 920-385-4512 between 10am-4pm - by February 14, 2025.



www.oshkoshherald.com

Game Over: Ending Corporate Agriculture's Game of Monopoly

Monday, February 24



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Nursing students learning, practicing, leading on telehealth

By Laurie Schlosser
UW OSHKOSH TODAY

Talking to a nurse or doctor can be as convenient as getting out a phone or laptop. And it is increasingly the norm for many patients, not some way around an office visit.

At a time when telehealth appointments are becoming increasingly common, nursing students at the University of Wisconsin Oshkosh have been mastering skills needed to connect with patients in today's health care environment, especially with those living in the state's less populated areas who could benefit from a remote visit option.

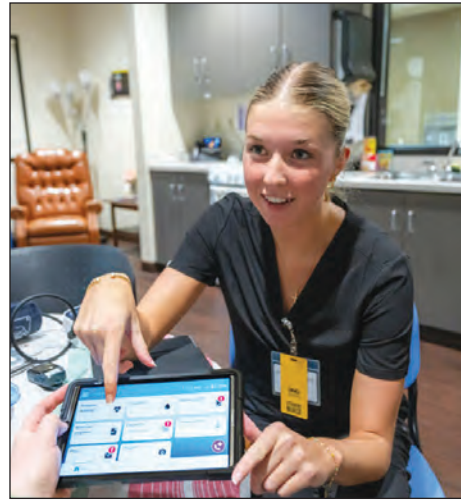
Over the summer, a program was initiated with 32 accelerated bachelor of science in nursing (BSN) students. They completed modules and received a telehealth "badge." Seven students completed 13 home visits and provided telehealth education to 19 community members.

This fall, telehealth education was offered to traditional BSN students in their senior year.

"The purpose of this innovative project is to reduce barriers to accessing health care in rural Wisconsin by providing residents with a well-prepared nursing workforce to meet their telehealth needs," said Debbie Walrath, college of nursing (CON) clinical associate professor and curriculum design coordinator. "Through an academic-practice partnership between the University of Wisconsin Oshkosh College of Nursing and ThedaCare, the future nursing workforce will be educated on telehealth skills to improve rural chronic illness outcomes."

Leah Wicklund, a Senior 1 nursing student from Rockton, Ill., said the telehealth education and training involved learning a patient's health background (mental, physical, emotional and social), understanding their preferences for their health care as well as goals for improving/maintaining their health and finally, learning any barriers they currently face.

The next step was educating patients—many from rural and underserved communities — about the use of telehealth



UW Oshkosh Today photo

Carly Redman, a senior nursing student, takes part in telehealth training in the UWO nursing simulation lab.

and the benefits of the service and provide references to appropriate community/health care resources.

"I personally helped one patient set up an account with his health care organization through their website, from the comfort of his own living room," Wicklund said. "This gave him a whole bunch of resources that he previously did not

know existed to better manage his appointments, consults, medications, communication with his provider and at-home monitoring — among other things."

Telehealth took off as an effective, remote appointment option when the coronavirus pandemic hit in 2020.

UW Oshkosh has turned out hundreds of nurses to staff hospitals and clinics in the region and has a reputation for graduating students with the skills sets needed in today's work environments.

Wicklund, who is set to graduate in spring with a bachelor of science degree in nursing, said her longtime professional goal is to become a certified nurse midwife.

A registered nurse, she said she plans to work in a labor and delivery setting and to continue her education working toward a master's degree in nurse midwifery.

She believes her clinical telehealth experience at UWO will help her provide better care to patients in her future career.

"I have gained more confidence speaking with patients outside of the hospital setting," she said, "and practiced active listening to better understand their situation and unique health care needs."

Early voting

FROM PAGE 1

of Public Instruction and then for the Pecatonica Area School District based in Blanchardville before becoming the district superintendent.

She will face Sauk Prairie School District Superintendent Jeff Wright and Milwaukee-based education consultant Brittany Kinser.

Wright's campaign website touts him as a nonpartisan problem solver who will restore credibility and reform the DPI.

"Leadership failures have driven away

longtime staff, strained relationships with the Legislature and the governor, and left Wisconsin's public schools without a clear vision for the future," he stated.

Kinser said she would promote high standards for Wisconsin children.

"This is simple: We need to refocus education on teaching reading, writing and math," she stated. "These fundamental skills are the foundation of lifelong success, enabling students to pursue meaningful jobs, attend college or master a trade."

More information on registering to vote, where to vote and what is on the ballot can be found at myvote.wi.gov.

Merrill site

FROM PAGE 1

One plaque will tell the story of James H. Merrill, a Civil War veteran who moved to Oshkosh and served as county supervisor, superintendent of schools, circuit court commissioner, justice of the peace, municipal judge and mayor of Oshkosh.

Another plaque will be dedicated to the story of the Jackson Street athletic field, the site of Vel Phillips Middle School.

In 1989, the school board renamed it Schumerth Field after Harold Schumerth, an Oshkosh High School football coach from 1943-1972.

The third pier will have a plaque that tells the story of Henry Auler, an Oshkosh native who in 1932 designed an extensive remodel of the school. Auler started his architecture firm in 1907 and has works throughout Oshkosh and Winnebago County.

The city council is expected to approve the amended plans at an upcoming meeting.

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UWO talent leads nonprofits responding to city challenges

College alumni a big part of local organizations

By Alex Hummel
UW OSHKOSH TODAY

Name the community challenge: addiction, abuse, food insecurity, housing instability, neighborhood cohesion.

In Oshkosh, often not too far from the physical borders of the University of Wisconsin Oshkosh campus, Titans are helping agencies in the community confront them. And, in several cases, its graduates are leading these organizations, teams and missions.

A quick scan of the UWO neighboring nonprofit landscape with agency ribbon cuttings and expansions, reveals an array of organizations brimming with, if not led by, Titans alumni. Key agencies comprising the community's and region's "safety net" – nonprofits founded and supported to help individuals and families struggling with food insecurity, homelessness, domestic violence, addiction and other challenges – rely on Titans talent.

"A good majority of the folks that work at Christine Ann Domestic Abuse Services were not originally from the Oshkosh area but were drawn to the city for college at UW Oshkosh," said Alicia Wenger, '16, executive director of Christine Ann Domestic Abuse Services Inc. (CADASI) and a UWO Human Services Leadership alumna.

The Oshkosh nonprofit centered several blocks from UWO and serving Winnebago and Green Lake counties moved into an expanded homebase in 2024, now operating a 64-bed emergency shelter for individuals and families fleeing abuse while continuing to provide a 24-hour help line and outreach services for teens/children and community education. CADASI's shelter provided nearly 8,000 safe nights to more than 130 clients in 2023 while fielding more than 1,000 hotline calls.

"With each year passing of undergrad, Oshkosh slowly began to feel like home, and a lot of folks decided to plant roots after graduation," Wenger said. "They ended up at CADASI somewhere along their journey, whether that was through a college internship at CADASI which turned into a position, volunteered while they were going to school, or they worked part time as a crisis advocate supporting survivors throughout their college career. Whichever avenue landed them at CADASI's door, a lot of those point back to UW Oshkosh, and I am very grateful."

From the class of 2022-23 alone, 48 UWO graduates signaled career launch in "social assistance," according to the uni-

versity's "First Destination" survey of new alumni. Of those graduates, nearly 90 percent indicated UWO "prepared me for the next step."

Human Services Leadership alone has produced nearly 330 graduates over the last five years, according to the new alumni reports. UWO director of career and professional development Jaime Page-Stadler said social work and psychology graduates, too, commonly enter social assistance careers throughout the region and beyond. But an expanding array of degrees are proving valuable to nonprofits and their missions.

"Titans and the multifaceted knowledge, talent and leadership they provide are clearly a big part of the nonprofit ecosystem in the region," Page-Stadler said. "And it's not solely social-assistance-centered degree holders the many organizations draw from. They also need finance, human resources, marketing and other expertise. UWO and its many academic programs have long histories of developing relationships with nonprofits and helping develop the team members and leaders that continue to drive organizations vital to delivering some of the most fundamental services throughout the Fox Valley and beyond."

In many cases, nonprofit internships that naturally draw upon the preparation within UWO majors transform into career-launch opportunities for students serving in the agencies. By graduation, talent developed becomes talent retained in both the organization and the community. That's a factor in UWO's strong hired-before-graduation rate, which, over the last few classes, has topped 81 percent.

Wenger is just one example of local organization's team members ascending as leaders of the many flourishing, modernizing nonprofits.

Under the leadership of chief executive officer Tracy Ogden, '01, the organization successfully opened a \$18.5 million expansion and renovation of the Boys & Girls Club of Oshkosh. Seven of its 22 full-time staff members are Titans, and 70 of the organization's 100 part-time staff are current UWO students, Ogden said.

"We are eternally grateful to have UWO in our backyard," Ogden said. "We would

not be able to operate all of our sites and serve as many kids as we do without them."

In December, Oshkosh Healthy Neighborhoods announced the hiring of Elizabeth Last, '05, to lead the nonprofit, founded in 2016 "focus on building, enhancing and sustaining healthy neighborhoods in the greater Oshkosh area." That small but mighty nonprofit's crew is now entirely composed of Titans.

The Day by Day Shelter has been in operation since 2011 and, in 2023, moved into new, modern facility offering 50 beds for clients experiencing homelessness and in need of temporary shelter.

Day by Day executive director Molly Yatso Butz, '99, is among the five of 24 employees on the nonprofit's team with UWO degrees, three serving on the agency's administrative team. Their knowledge and expertise draw from a spectrum of UWO programs, from exercise science/fitness management to journalism, graphic design, human services leadership and Spanish.

"Having students from UWO interested in working and volunteering at the Shelter is extremely beneficial to our organization," Yatso Butz said.

"We appreciate (UWO students') enthusiasm for giving back and for many times stepping outside of their comfort zone to work in an environment that is new to them. I believe it is just as impactful for the student as it is for Day by Day Shelter."

Megan Edwards, '18 and '21, never imagined herself as a nonprofit executive. But as the nonprofit she volunteered and worked at since 2018 – Solutions Recovery Inc. – weathered growth and change over the last year, an opportunity to lead emerged. The double-alumna began her tenure as the addiction and recovery services agency's executive director in October.

"When I think about my college duration, undergrad was basic and general, but I learned about critical thinking skills, organizational skills, deadlines, professionalism," Edwards said. "For my master of social work program, I learned more detailed content about systems-change and mezzo-and-macro-level social work. In my role, I'm able to work between systems, and my social work background from UWO has prepared me for this and is so beneficial for my role."

Edwards started her own recovery a decade ago as a patron at Solutions. The "peer-led" organization draws from its volunteers' and staff members' lived experiences in service to others. A volunteer-driven agency just six years ago, the nonprofit's services and reach have since flourished. Solutions Recovery has grown from offering four sober living beds to 80, most recently acquiring the former Christine Ann Center shelter as a transitional housing resource, Edwards said.

She now leads an agency continuing to innovate, managing a rapid response program able to deploy recovery coaches to substance use crises "anywhere (in Winnebago County) within 30 minutes or less." The agency has also created a successful collaboration with the Winnebago County Jail, trailblazing programs that

offer recovery coaching and meeting with inmates, serving more than 400 inmates in their first year, she said. The jail now integrates "recovery pods" to better support its population overcoming addiction.

"We are absolutely on the map where we kind of weren't before," Edwards said.

The Oshkosh Area Community Pantry employs a team of Titans, too, and it's equally reliant on a steady supply of second-year UWO students who log service-learning hours with the nonprofit in fulfillment of their required general education "Quest III" community experience.

"Being able to get some UWO students, and quite frankly those students who have participated through internships or Quest with us – we consider that a great victory," said Ryan Rasmussen, Oshkosh Area Community Pantry executive director.

The pantry's five-person staff includes two Titans, Elizabeth Ahnert, '19, the nonprofit's program manager, who graduated with a degree in political science, and Izzy Thomann '23, its operations manager, who graduated from UWO with a bachelor's degree in human services and a certificate in coaching.

Not lost is the fact four of the nonprofit's 12 board members are also UWO graduates.

"Having Elizabeth coming directly from UWO—she was part of the Quest program—we loved it," Rasmussen said. "Izzy was also an intern and signed on full time. It's huge. That piece of it alone is great. The Quest program is invaluable to us. I wish I could put a dollar amount to it."

Rasmussen said the pantry has also developed partnerships with the UWO student-led, student-serving on-campus pantry called The Cabinet. And the nonprofit has also leaned on UWO Political Science and Finance programs, "having the students come over, take a tour, learn about us, take a look at our financials and do some analysis."

"For them it was some great line of sight on how nonprofits work but also identifying whether a nonprofit is stable, growing, doing well or not," he said. "Having that in our backyard is phenomenal."

The value of UWO as both a talent generator and a nonprofit resource isn't lost on Julie Keller, '92, who previously served as executive director of CADASI and, for the last six years, has led the Women's Fund for the Fox Valley Region, Inc.

"I think even in my other roles, you find people who went to UWO have great skills," said Keller, who earned a finance degree from UWO. "They wanted to have an impact on our community and gravitated to those types of (nonprofit) roles. That was a big surprise for me personally, finding I could take a finance degree and work in a nonprofit. Hopefully more Titans are realizing that no matter what degrees you have, they can parlay into the nonprofit sector very easily."

With 20 years in socially centered nonprofit leadership throughout the Fox Valley, Keller said rich opportunities make career launch easy for students, "from the environment to human services." And those same students are vital to agencies consistently in need of volunteers, interns and solutions.

"I don't know if people realize how key it is to have a university in the region for nonprofits," she said. "They have resources for you. They have people who can facilitate strategic planning and students who can undertake projects. They have marketing groups to help you. That's another key people don't realize that we have here. A lot of communities can't say that. We can... It's a win-win."



Ahnert



Wenger



Edwards



Yatso-Butz

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2/\$3 3.5 oz Beech-Nut Pouches

2/\$5 1.48 oz Gerber Puffs or Lil' Crunchies

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 <p>9.99 lb</p> <p>Fresh Farm-Raised Salmon Fillets</p>	 <p>3.99</p> <p>16 oz Wholey Mussels</p>	 <p>6.99</p> <p>10.6 oz Wholey Seafood Risotto Mix</p>
 <p>12.99 lb</p> <p>Fresh Walleye Fillets</p>	 <p>9.99</p> <p>26-30 ct 16 oz Wholey Cooked Shrimp</p>	 <p>9.99</p> <p>16-20 ct 16 oz Wholey EZ Peel Raw Shrimp</p>

deli & bakery

 <p>8.99 lb</p> <p>Kretschmar Premium Selected Seasoned Turkey Breast</p>	 <p>5.99 lb</p> <p>Garlic or Original Eckrich Bologna</p>	<p><i>Fresh Baked</i></p>  <p>4.49</p> <p>4 ct Piggy Wiggly's Very Own Muffins</p>
 <p>7.99 lb</p> <p>Deli Sliced Pearl Valley Swiss Cheese</p>	 <p>3.49 lb</p> <p>Red Potato & Herb Salad</p>	<p><i>Fresh Baked</i></p>  <p>1.99</p> <p>14 oz French Bread</p>
 <p>2.99</p> <p>5 oz Select BelGioioso Italian Cheese Cups</p>	 <p>4.69 lb</p> <p>Summer Coleslaw</p>	<p><i>Fresh Baked</i></p>  <p>2.99</p> <p>12 ct Butter & Egg Dinner Rolls</p>
 <p>7.99 lb</p> <p>BBQ Pulled Chicken</p>	 <p>5.49 lb</p> <p>Greek Poppysed Pasta Salad</p>	<p><i>Fresh Baked</i></p>  <p>6.99</p> <p>8 in Cherry or Blueberry Pie</p>
 <p>6.99</p> <p>16 oz Father's Table Cheesecakes</p>		

beer & liquor

 <p>13.39</p> <p>8 pk, 14.9 oz Cans or 12 pk, 11.2 oz Cans Guinness</p> <p><small>AFTER \$2 INSTANT SAVINGS</small></p>	 <p>12.79</p> <p>12 pk, 12 oz Cans or 12 pk, 11.2 oz Bottles Stella Artois</p> <p><small>AFTER \$2 INSTANT SAVINGS</small></p>	<p>LOWEST LEGAL RETAIL</p>  <p>21.98</p> <p>30 pk, 12 oz Cans Busch or Busch Light</p>
 <p>29.99</p> <p>750 ml Bottle Jameson Irish Whiskey</p>	 <p>9.99</p> <p>1.75 ltr Bottle Mr. Boston Vodka</p>	 <p>16.99</p> <p>1.75 ltr Bottle Ryan's Irish Cream</p>
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		 <p>17.69</p> <p>12 pk, 12 oz Cans Simply Spiked</p>
		 <p>17.49</p> <p>1.75 ltr Bottle Canadian Club Whisky</p> <p><small>AFTER \$5 MAIL-IN REBATE WHEN YOU BUY TWO</small></p>
		 <p>18.99</p> <p>3 ltr Box Black Box Wines</p> <p><small>\$7 DIGITAL COUPON AVAILABLE SEE DISPLAY FOR DETAILS</small></p>

Calendar of events

Wednesday, Feb. 12

Father Joe Mattern: "The World Will Be Saved By Beauty," 6:30 p.m., Jesuit Retreat House, 4800 Fahrwald Road

Thursday, Feb. 13

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

Friday, Feb. 14

Battle on Bago fishing tournament, 6 a.m., Millers Bay at Menominee Park
"Catch Me If You Can" by Oshkosh North, 7 p.m., The Grand Oshkosh

Saturday, Feb. 15

Battle on Bago fishing tournament, 6 a.m., Millers Bay at Menominee Park
Oshkosh Farmers Market, 9 a.m., Oshkosh Arena
Oshkosh Public Museum Auxiliary 100th anniversary, 10 a.m., Oshkosh Public Museum
Ruby's Pop-up Pantry, 9:30 a.m., 491 Old Oregon Road
Downtown Oshkosh Chocolate Stroll, 1 p.m., downtown businesses
Spaghetti dinner, 1 p.m., Winnebago Detachment 357 Marine Corps League Clubhouse, 4715 Sherman Road
"Catch Me If You Can" by Oshkosh North, 7 p.m., The Grand Oshkosh

Sunday, Feb. 16

Wisconsin Coin Expos annual convention and show, 9 a.m., Oshkosh Convention Center
"Catch Me If You Can" by Oshkosh North, 2 p.m., The Grand Oshkosh

Thursday, Feb. 20

EAA Speaker Series: Flying the A-6 Intruder, 7 p.m., EAA Aviation Museum
Wisconsin Herd vs. Capitol City Go-Go, 6 p.m., Oshkosh Arena

Friday, Feb. 21

Crystal Gayle, 8 p.m., The Grand Oshkosh
"February," 7 p.m., Time Community Theater, 445 N. Main St.

Saturday, Feb. 22

Echoes of the Past Historical Trade Fair, 9 a.m., Sunnyview Expo Center
Wisconsin Herd vs. Motor City Cruise, 7 p.m., Oshkosh Arena
Winnebago County Farm Bureau Community Night, 2 p.m., Brighton Acres, 4057 Fisk Ave.
Good Co Electro-Swing Band, 7 p.m., The Grand Oshkosh

Sunday, Feb. 23

Echoes of the Past Historical Trade Fair, 9 a.m., Sunnyview Expo Center
OAC Art Supply Swap & Donation, noon, Oshkosh Food Co-op, 155 Jackson St.
Bridging Past and Present: Exploring Native American Cultural Heritage, 2 p.m., Oshkosh Convention Center

Tuesday, Feb. 25

Wisconsin Herd vs. Windy City Bulls, 6 p.m., Oshkosh Arena

Wednesday, Feb. 26

Sister's Easter Catechism, 7 p.m., The Grand Oshkosh

Friday, Feb. 28

Christine Ann Fundraiser: Men Who Cook, 5:30 p.m., Oshkosh Convention Center

Listen to Her Heart: The Tom Petty Experience, 7 p.m., The Grand Oshkosh
Wisconsin Herd vs. Raptors 905, 7 p.m., Oshkosh Arena

Saturday, March 1

Oshkosh Gallery Walk, 6 p.m., downtown galleries and businesses
Fasching celebration, 5 p.m., Poplar Creek Barn, 4541 County K
Miss Oshkosh and Miss Oshkosh Teen Scholarship Competition, 7 p.m., Alberta Kimball Auditorium
Wisconsin Herd vs. Raptors 905, 7 p.m., Oshkosh Arena

State-based pianist releases first album

Oshkosh Herald

Oshkosh native and Milwaukee-based composer and pianist Alicia Rytlewski has released her debut album "When We Were Bears," a work composed over eight years across Wisconsin chronicling the rhythms of the seasons and the heart.

Rytlewski, a Ripon College graduate and piano teacher in Milwaukee, also provides vocals and strings on the album and is accompanied by Ben Kalb on cello and Abigail Peterson on violin.

The release has drawn praise from Up-roxx magazine, the Journal Sentinel and Wisconsin Public Radio, which has played songs from the album on its classical stations. It can be found on streaming sources and purchased on Bandcamp.

An album release show was held Saturday at the Pabst Theater in Milwaukee.

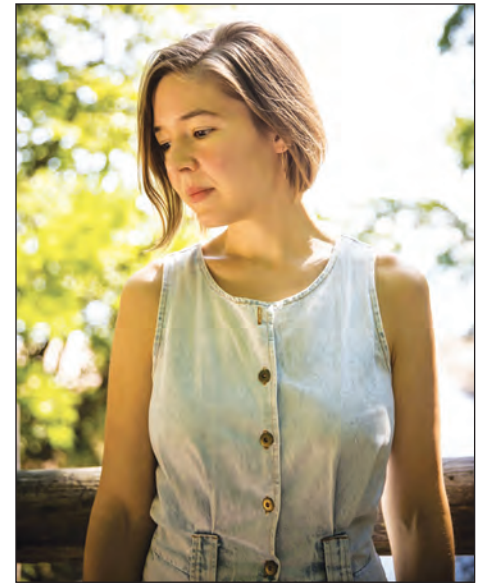


Photo courtesy of Alicia Rytlewski

Pianist Alicia Rytlewski has released her debut album "When We Were Bears."

Superfortress bombers returning to EAA

The only two flying examples of the Boeing B-29 Superfortress will be back at EAA AirVenture Oshkosh this year, supporting the 80th anniversary of the end of World War II and postwar aviation technology.

Each airplane will spend time featured on EAA's Boeing Plaza. FIFI will be on display July 21-23 while Doc will take centerstage for display July 24-27. The airplanes are also scheduled to make a formation flight at the beginning of the July 23 night air show.

When not on display at Boeing Plaza, flight experiences on Doc July 21-23 will be based at Appleton International Airport, while FIFI will be in Appleton for flight experiences July 24-27.

FIFI is owned and operated by the Commemorative Air Force's B-29/B-24 Squadron of Dallas. Doc was built in 1944

and was part of a squadron known as the Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs.

Flight experience information for Doc at Oshkosh is available at b29doc.com/rides.

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Oshkosh West's Fournier is no nice guy on mat

By Tim Froberg
HERALD CONTRIBUTOR

Matt Cuadra sees a dramatic change in Nelson Fournier whenever he steps onto the mat.

As soon as the whistle shrieks, the soft-spoken senior shifts into beast mode.

This Wally Cleaver-to-werewolf transformation is usually bad news for Fournier's opponent.

"Nelson is one of the nicest kids off the mat, but he knows how to flip that switch when he steps onto it," said Cuadra, the Oshkosh West wrestling coach.

Fournier is one of the area's best big men. A fourth-year wrestler who competes in the 215-pound weight class, Fournier has already racked up 30-plus wins this season and has generated more than 100 career victories. He was the Fox Valley Association runner up at 215 in last Saturday's FVA meet and was the conference champion in the same weight class at the 2024 FVA meet.

Fournier was a sectional competitor last season and hopes to take another step and become a first-time WIAA state meet qualifier. Boys' regional competition starts Saturday followed by sectionals on Feb. 22. The WIAA state individual meet is set for Feb. 27 through March 1 at the Kohl Center.

"It was definitely frustrating not getting to state last year because I had beaten two of the kids that finished ahead of me," Fournier said. "If I could have done a little better there, I would have went to state. Getting so close gives me a lot of motivation for this year."

Fournier has an excellent work ethic and gets well prepared for meets by wrestling in practice against Cuadra, a former standout wrestler at the University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point who is similar in weight to Fournier.

"Nelson has been a great kid to coach," Cuadra said. "He's one of the first kids to come and ask me what went wrong in a position or how he can improve in a position. Whatever Nelson's next steps are in life, he is going to be very successful because of his work ethic."

Fournier is no late bloomer. He's been wrestling since first grade and was inspired to compete in the sport by his uncle, T.J. Rayburn, a former West wrestler.

"He's the main reason I started wrestling," said Fournier. "He bought me my first headgear."

Fournier enjoys the one-on-one challenge of perhaps the most grueling of high school sports.

Senior Spotlight

"Every time you go out there, you can control what happens in the match," he said. "But at the same time, you're also helping your team."

"It's a fun sport with lot of good people. You learn so much. Wrestling against coach (Cuadra) in practice has helped me a lot. He's taught me a lot of technical stuff. He's really good to work with."

Fournier is more than just a quality wrestler. He was a 2024 all-FVA second-team selection in football as an offensive lineman. Fournier, a guard, was a three-year varsity letter winner who played at roughly 245 pounds.

"I think body positioning in football definitely helps in wrestling," he said. "I can see how they connect and are similar, at least at my position."

Fournier's favorite NFL player is Detroit Lions' All-Pro offensive tackle Penei Sewell.

"He's a great player and he plays for my favorite team," said Fournier. "My dad (Bryan) has been a Lions fan since Barry Sanders was there, so I guess I take after him. They've been bad for so long. It's been nice to see them winning the past two years."

Fournier doesn't participate in a WIAA-sanctioned sport during the spring months, but keeps busy with another sport: trap shooting. He competes in trap as part of a school club activity at West. Fournier is an avid hunter who hunts ducks and deer.

"I started it my sophomore year because some of my friends were doing it," said Fournier. "It's a lot of fun and it definitely helps me with hunting, especially duck hunting. It has taught me to keep your eye on the bird and follow through."

Fournier hit targets in the classroom, too. He's an outstanding student who carries a 3.8 grade-point average. Fournier hasn't yet decided on a college but hopes to get an opportunity to play college football. Fournier is considering mechanical engineering as a major.

"Math is something I've always enjoyed and been good at it," he said. "I think I would really enjoy the design aspect of mechanical engineering."

But first Fournier will look to close out his prep wrestling career in style at the Kohl Center.

"I'm just trying to get better and get to Madison," Fournier said. "The goal is to get to state and place."



Oshkosh Herald

Nelson Fournier has been a force in the upper weights for the Oshkosh West wrestling team during his high school career and has his sights on making a trip to Madison for the state meet later this month.

Schroeder claims title to lead Wildcats at FVA tournament

Oshkosh Herald

Eddy Schroeder captured the 138-pound title to lead Oshkosh West at the Fox Valley Association tournament Saturday at Appleton East.

Schroeder was one of four Wildcats to reach the finals as West tied Kimberly for fourth place in the final team standings. Oshkosh North finished 10th.

Schroeder needed to win just two matches to claim the title and breezed through both of his opponents.

He pinned Hortonville's Ethan Drury in 3:13 in the semifinals and followed it with a 17-1 technical fall win over Kimberly's Daniel Grey in the title match. It was Schroeder's first FVA title after finishing second as a freshman and a junior and taking third as a sophomore.

"It was awesome for Eddy," West head coach Matt Cuadra said. "He's had to go up against some great guys in past years and it finally shook out his way."

The three other West wrestlers to make the finals were Preston Schneider at 126 pounds, Ryland Schneider at 175 pounds and Nelson Fournier at 215 pounds, with all three earning runner-up finishes.

Preston Schneider pinned Oshkosh North's Liam Torres in his first match before edging Kaukauna's Nolan Micke, 9-7, in the finals. He lost to Appleton North's



Schroeder

Jackson Esser in the title match.

Ryland Schneider pinned his first two opponents – Appleton East's Aiden Pack and Hortonville's Brock Schmidt – each in the first period but fell short against Kaukauna standout Liam Crook in the championship bout.

Fournier also registered pins in his first two matches, beating Kimberly's Noah Wendels in just 21 seconds before stopping Kaukauna's Zach Winnekens in 3:07. Fournier was edged 7-6 by Hortonville's Austin McHugh for the title.

"They all lost to some really tough guys," Cuadra said. "These are guys who we will see at regionals and sectionals so we can make some adjustments with what we need to do on the mat."

Jaiden Fronczak went 4-1 to finish third at 165 pounds for the Wildcats, while Xavier Yang (113) and Zach Bartels (190) were each fourth. Yang posted both of his wins by pin.

Adding fifth-place finishes for the Wildcats were Yylah Yang (120), Colden Searles (132) and Jaxen Lloyd (144), while Arthur King was sixth at 106 pounds.

Oshkosh North had a pair of wrestlers place on the day with Jamond Thompson-Schreck placing fourth at 165 pounds and Tyler Farnsworth taking sixth at 157 pounds.

Both Oshkosh West and Oshkosh North will be heading to the WIAA Division 1 regional meet at Kaukauna on Saturday, where seven of the eight schools competing are from the FVA. Only Appleton North and Hortonville will be at a different regional, while Menasha rounds out the eight-team field.

With so many conference schools in the regional tournament field – Appleton

North and Hortonville will be among the Wildcats and Spartans' foes at sectionals – Cuadra said that the conference tournament was a chance to see and go up against opponents they will face this weekend.

"It was a great opportunity to see who we could be wrestling against and helps with the mentality of going against them," Cuadra said. "Early in the week we will have some more physical practices and get our bodies back to where we want to be and then later in the week we will talk more about the mental aspect."

In the girls division of the tournament, Oshkosh West finished fourth and Oshkosh North took seventh.

The Wildcats were led by a pair of champions and Lauren Klinger claimed the 107-pound title and Kait Lundt was first at 185 pounds.

Klinger won her title by pinning Neenah's Maya Ives in 41 seconds, while Lundt was the only entrant in her weight class.

Zoey Sims finished second at 120 pounds, while Samantha Bryant finished 2-1 to take second at 132 pounds.

Oshkosh North's lone girl entrant, Mad-dy Ketola, went 2-1 to finish third at 132 pounds.

Prep sports roundup

GIRLS BASKETBALL

Knights' Ruedinger hits 1,000-point milestone

Lourdes Academy's Delaney Ruedinger became the latest member of the program's 1,000-point club after reaching the milestone in a 70-21 victory over Wayland Academy last Tuesday night.

Ruedinger finished the game with 13 points to surpass the plateau. She finished the week with 1,026 points.

Hailee Bauer led the Knights with 22 points and nine assists in the win over the Big Red, who were held to just six points in the second half. Hannah McDowell added 13 points and a team-high nine rebounds while Aubrey Schettle chipped in 12 points.

The Knights followed the win with a 91-31 thumping of Wautoma in which Lourdes Academy built a 53-14 lead at halftime before coasting in the second half.

Bauer nearly posted a triple-double in the win finishing with 23 points, 12 assists and seven rebounds.

McDowell notched a career-high with 19 points, while Ruedinger added 16 points, seven rebounds and five steals. Schettle and Sabur Machiros also reached double figures for the Knights with 12 and 10 points, respectively.

Moran's career high fuels Warriors win

Mya Moran poured in 35 points and Valley Christian roared to a 62-50 win over Horicon at home Friday night.

Moran was an impressive 16-of-21 from the field and drilled a pair of 3-pointers in notching her second 30-point game of the season. She had 33 points against Palmyra-Eagle earlier this season.

Lizzie Fink totaled 14 points and six assists in the victory, while Paige Boevers led the team with 13 rebounds to go along with nine points.

Valley Christian came up short the night before, falling to Dodge Land 47-42. The Warriors led 19-16 at halftime but couldn't hold off the Trojans in the second half.

Moran led the Warriors with 21 points. While Boevers finished with 10 points and 10 rebounds. Anna Giannopoulos chipped in seven points.

Spartans can't slow down Rockets

Awut Alic and Brinna Paulson each scored 12 points for Oshkosh North but the Spartans came up short against Neen-



Photo by Andy Ratchman

Lourdes Academy senior Delaney Ruedinger joined the 1,000-point club for her career last week as the Knights won a pair of games.

ah, 79-41, on Friday.

Lucy Housworth added eight points for the Spartans.

Paulson also added six rebounds and four steals.

Earlier in the week, the Spartans fell to Appleton North 62-33.

Alic finished with 16 points and 14 rebounds for the Spartans.

Rough second half stings Wildcats

Oshkosh West held a two-point half-time lead against Fond du Lac but couldn't hold off the Cardinals in the second half in a 49-38 loss Friday.

Maddie Rasmussen scored 12 points to lead the Wildcats, while Rowan Tigert and Ava Strasser each chipped in eight.

Earlier in the week, West fell to top-ranked Kimberly, 77-28, with Kinslee Nelson leading the team with nine points. Rasmussen added seven points.

BOYS BASKETBALL

Oshkosh North overpowers Neenah

Xzavion Mitchell finished with 31 points and nine rebounds as Oshkosh North stifled Neenah in a 69-41 in Fox Valley Association action Friday night.

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Three former Titans going into WIAC Hall of Fame

Three people with ties to the UW-Oshkosh athletic department will be part of the Class of 2025 for the WIAC Hall of Fame, it was announced recently.

Wendy Meka, Gary Varsho and John Zupanc will be part of the 25-member class to be enshrined in a ceremony this summer. The WIAC Hall of Fame was established in 2012-13 and this year's group of inductees will join the 114 members who have already been enshrined.

The induction dinner will be held at UW-Stout on July 26.

Meka played three sports for the Titans. She was a member of the basketball team from 1993-96, played on the softball team from 1996-97 and represented the golf program in 1996.

Basketball was the sport in which Meka earned the most accolades, highlighted by being named NCAA Division III Player of the Year after helping the Titans win the national title that season. Meka is the only player in program history to earn all-WIAC recognition four times and ranks fourth on the league's all-time scoring list with 1,743 points.

She was selected to the WIAC Women's Basketball All-Time Team as part of the conference's Centennial Celebration and was inducted into the UW-Oshkosh Athletics Hall of Fame in 2009.

Varsho helped lead the Titans to three

straight NCAA Division III World Series appearances from 1980-82 and was a member of the 1981 All-World Series Team. He was a part of three conference champion baseball teams during his tenure and helped the program compile an 82-21 overall record.

Varsho stole 56 consecutive bases as a Titan, a mark that ranks as the third longest in NCAA Division III history.

Following his career at UW-Oshkosh, Varsho played in 571 games at the Major League Baseball level for four different teams and led the National League in pinch-hitting in 1988.

Varsho was inducted into the UW-Oshkosh Athletics Hall of Fame in 1992 and in 2012 was named to the WIAC Baseball All-Time Team.

Zupanc led was a highly successful cross country and track and field coach for the Titans. He was inducted into the U.S. Track & Field and Cross Country Coaches Hall of Fame in 2012 and was enshrined in the UW Oshkosh Athletics Hall of Fame in 2013.

Under Zupanc's leadership, the Titans' men's cross country program won four national titles and seven conference titles, while he coached 20 different athletes to a total of 37 All-America performances.

He also led the indoor and outdoor track and field teams to the NCAA Division III titles in 2009.

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Prep roundup

FROM PAGE 17

The 41 points were the fewest scored by the Rockets all season.

Bryce Ott added eight points for the Spartans, while Jackson Anderson and Stefan Stolijovic each chipped in six points.

Earlier in the week the Spartans came up just short against Appleton North, falling 67-61 on the road.

Mitchell finished with 24 points and 11 rebounds for the Spartans, while Stolijovic added 10 points and nine rebounds. Ott also reached double figures with 10 points.

Appleton North finished 12-of-23 from 3-point range in the game, while the Spartans were 6-of-24.

Wildcats drop pair of conference tilts

Noah Gelhar scored 20 points and Joey Ware added 17 points but Oshkosh West came up short against Fond du Lac, 63-52, Friday night in Fond du Lac.

Collin Carns added 15 points as the three players combined for all of the Wildcats' points in the game.

West also fell short against Kimberly, 80-66, last Tuesday despite having four players finish in double figures.

Ware finished with 18 points to lead the team and is averaging 15 points per game over the last eight contests. He has reached double figures in seven of his last eight games.

Gelhar and Malakai Herlihy each added 12 points, while Tyler Moderson finished with 10 points.

Knights suffer pair of close conference losses

Lourdes Academy took a seven-point halftime lead against Dodgeland on Friday but ended up falling to the Trojans, 52-51, in a Trailways East game at The Castle.

The Knights had three players finish in double figures led by 17 points from Braden Studinski. Harlan Kuehn added 11 points and Jackson Buttke finished with 10 for Lourdes Academy.

The Knights also lost a close game to Wayland Academy earlier in the week as the Big Red scored a 61-57 overtime win over Lourdes Academy.

Studinski finished with 15 points and seven assists in the game for the Knights, while Kuehn posted a double-double with 12 points and 14 rebounds.

Buttke also reached double figures with 10 points.

Valley Christian drops pair of games last week

The Warriors surrendered 80 points – the second highest total they have allowed all season – and fell to Horicon 80-54 in a Trailways East game Friday.

Joshua Jackson finished with 18 points to lead the Warriors, while Mathias Behling finished with 17 points, including an 11-of-13 performance at the free-throw



Photo by Jim Koepnick

The Oshkosh co-op gymnastics team beat Valders/Roncalli last Monday night in a Eastern Valley Conference matchup.

line. Xander Osinga grabbed a team-high nine rebounds in the game.

Valley Christian also fell to conference-leading Oakfield last week, losing a 65-34 contest.

Behling scored 11 points to pace the Warriors, while Derek Wallace finished with seven points.

HOCKEY

Ice Hawks finish 0-3 at Badgerland tourney

The Oshkosh Ice Hawks dropped all three games of the Badgerland Conference tournament last week.

The Ice Hawks opened the tournament with a 15-0 loss to eventual champion Neenah/Hortonville/Menasha last Tuesday and then fell to Fox Cities Stars, 12-1 on Friday, Zander Crook had the lone goal for the Ice Hawks, while Chase Magadzani made 40 saves in the game.

Oshkosh then lost to Appleton United, 1-0, with Appleton scoring with about four minutes left in the third period. Gage Bauer stopped 27 of 28 shots in the game for the Ice Hawks.

SWIMMING

Reeves, Bergin notch titles at conference meet

Oshkosh North/Lourdes Academy's River Reeves and Oshkosh West's Caleb Bergin each won events at the Fox Valley Association meet held Saturday at Appleton North.

Reeves win came in the diving competition, where his score of 535.40 points was just 10 off the conference meet record. He finished more than 170 points ahead of the second-place finisher.

Teammates Everix Blessent finished fourth and Shepherd Johnson was fifth in the event.

Bergin's win came in the 500-yard freestyle where the junior finished about 20 seconds ahead of the rest of the field. He also picked up a runner-up finish in the

200-yard freestyle for the Wildcats.

Carter Crowe added a pair of top-five finishes on the day, taking second in the 50-yard freestyle and fourth in the 100-yard freestyle. He then teamed with Bergin, Evan Booms and Sam Roblee to take second in the 200-yard freestyle relay.

The Wildcats also finished third in the 200-yard medley relay and fifth in the 400-yard freestyle relay.

Other top individual finishers for the Wildcats were: Booms, sixth in the 100-yard freestyle and seventh in the 50-yard freestyle; Roblee, seventh in the 100-yard backstroke; Reid Potter, seventh in the 100-yard breaststroke; and Jordan Schroeder, eighth in the 100-yard breaststroke.

North/Lourdes posted a third-place finish in the 400-yard freestyle relay with a team of Trip Kujawa, Sam Lenz, Sul-

ly Snow and Dave Tjugum, while taking sixth in the 200-yard freestyle relay.

Sawyer Sharratt added a fourth place in the 100-yard breaststroke and a sixth place in the 50-yard freestyle, while Kujawa was seventh in the 100-yard freestyle.

Oshkosh West finished third behind Neenah and Appleton North in the final team standings. North/Lourdes finished sixth overall.

GYMNASTICS

Schlies paces Oshkosh in dual meet win

Neva Schlies finished first on three of the four apparatus and in the all-around to lead the Oshkosh co-op gymnastics team to a 136.425-131.375 win over Valders/Roncalli last week at Oshkosh West.

Schlies placed first on the uneven bars (8.85), balance beam (9.35) and floor exercises (9.4), while teammate Lydia Barr was second in all three events.

Barr and Ja'nyiah Ford tied for second place on the vault.

In the all-around competition, Schlies finished with a score of 35.8 points, while Barr was second at 35.175.

WRESTLING

Warwick takes fourth at Trailways tourney

Jeordie Warwick led Lourdes Academy by placing fourth at 106 pounds at the Trailways Conference tournament held Saturday.

Warwick pinned Markesan's Ayden Wustrack in 34 seconds in his quarterfinal match before dropping his next two bouts to take fourth.

Peytyn Leinweber added a seventh-place finish at 126 pounds for the Knights.

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Sturgeon spearing starts slow on Winnebago system

By Matt Harp
HERALD CONTRIBUTOR

Reports from sturgeon spearkers indicate Lake Winnebago and the Upriver Lakes were experiencing a shift in water clarity. Areas with clear water Saturday were murkier Sunday, even with the sun shining through the ice.

Despite the less-than-ideal conditions, spearkers overcame the adversity and were successful. On Sunday, 121 lake sturgeon were speared throughout the system, including 25 juvenile females, 34 adult females and 62 males. Those numbers declined Monday to a total of 65 lake sturgeon harvested throughout the entire Winnebago System.

There were 3,340 shanties counted on Lake Winnebago over the weekend. Most of the shanties were located off the west-central portion of Lake Winnebago near the Oshkosh area. This observation is reflected in the number of fish registered at the downtown Oshkosh and Neenah registration stations, with 19 each. These stations continue to register the highest number of harvests for Lake Winnebago.

The southwest Winnebago registration station continues to have the most fish weighing more than 100 pounds, with five for the season as of Sunday. A total of 74 lake sturgeon were harvested on Lake Winnebago, with 30 males, 30 adult females and 14 juvenile females. Based on reports, finding those clear pockets of water is a spearker's best bet at success.

Access issues continue to plague the Upriver Lakes (Butte des Morts, Poygan and Winneconne) with lower-than-normal harvest for an opening weekend. Still, that doesn't mean all spearkers had issues. A total of 134 sturgeon were speared on these shallower and clearer lakes over the weekend, which accounted for almost half of the Winnebago total, with only 500 spearkers.



Photo by Jim Koepnick

Oshkosh has a second city on Lake Winnebago as sturgeon spearing season started Saturday morning.

Notable harvests included Paul Kasuboski of Berlin, who registered the first fish of the season at Critter's at about 8:40 a.m. His first fish ever was taken at about 7:30 a.m. in the Captain's Cove area. He waited nine years for his tag and harvested

a 52-inch male that was 22.3 pounds.

Winneconne's Dana Woods also got in the action with her own harvest of a 48-pound, 58-inch M2 male. "This one was enough for me, the spear head didn't detach as expected and it made it more complicated and the pole was hitting the roof of the shack." She had to throw on an angle too, as the fish was exiting the far side of the hole.

One of the directors of the Lake Poygan Sportsmen's Club also tagged out at Boom Bay Bar and Grill. Just Loehrke got a 62.5-inch, 47.3-pound M2 male. As he put it, "I waited eight years for the tag and

took 22 minutes."

The big fish of the Upriver Lakes goes to Tim Sommer, the newest member of the 100-pound club with a 108.8-pound F4 female, speared on Poygan and registered at Critter's.

Margaret Stadig, DNR sturgeon biologist, commented, "Spearkers seemed to be ecstatic to take to the ice again this year despite the slow start due to poor water clarity on Lake Winnebago and access issues on the Upriver Lakes. There have already been some incredible fish speared with plenty more season to go."



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Obituaries

Theresa Edgell

Theresa "Tessie" Edgell, age 98, passed away peacefully on January 31, 2025, at



Mercy Medical Center. Born on May 4, 1926, in the township of Peck, Langlade County, Tessie was a beloved wife, mother, grandmother, great-grandmother and great-great-grandmother.

She is now reunited in spirit with her loving husband, Vernon "Choppy"; her parents, Thressa and Percy Gardner Sr.; her sisters, Verna Plugger and Rose Schardt; her brothers, Percy Jr., Joseph, Roy, Kenneth and Nile; and her grandson, Mathew Wiese.

Tessie dedicated 40 years of her life to the Pioneer Inn and Resort in Oshkosh, where her warmth, kindness, and

dedication left a lasting impression on all who had the pleasure of knowing her. A true matriarch, Tessie is survived by her daughters, Sharon Wiese and Vickie Edgell; along with her three grandchildren; nine great-grandchildren; and five great-great-grandchildren.

A passionate cook, Tessie found immense joy in preparing meals for her family, creating many cherished memories around the dinner table. She loved the outdoors, particularly fishing, traveling and time spent with family and friends, sharing her witty sense of humor and love for life.

In accordance with Tessie's wishes, there will be no funeral service. Her final resting place will be at Lake View Memorial Cemetery, Oshkosh, Wisconsin.

She will be greatly missed and lovingly remembered by her family and friends.





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Obituaries

Lillian L. Williams

Lillian L Williams age 93 of Oshkosh passed away peacefully on Thursday, February 6, 2025, at Evergreen Retirement Community, and has been reunited with her loving husband Arthur, who preceded her in death January 8, 2010, after almost 59 years. She was born in Oshkosh on August 17th, 1931 and lived here her entire life.



On June 30th, 1951, she married Arthur H. Williams at First Presbyterian Church in Oshkosh and remained a member until passing. She graduated from Oshkosh High School in January of 1950 while working summers at Hoffmaster.

Together they built their first home in Oshkosh, then the move came to build on the farm where they built their second beautiful home and lived there for the next 38 years. Lillian worked on campus at UWO for twenty years. In 1990 when she retired and was a caregiver for family members. Lillian was a great homemaker to her family and loved each one dearly. She was a loving and compassionate per-

son, always there for others, and had a great love of nature and animals. She was proud of her accomplishments in life and never gave up on anything she put her mind to. The word "can't" was not in her vocabulary. She loved dancing, all kinds and jitter bugging in her younger years, Big Band and Classical music.

Lillian was an excellent cook, baker, seamstress, gardener, home decorator and more. She enjoyed preserving from their huge vegetable gardens and fruit beds. Through the years she made wines, jams, helped plant lots of trees and had gorgeous displays of flowers for a near like park atmosphere. When her husband built her a greenhouse, she was in seventh heaven. They loved the serenity of their huge yard and nature. Filling feeders and supplying homes for their many feathered friends. They took great pride in working together, doing whatever had to be done. They made a great team. When she found time she loved reading and jigsaw puzzles.

In 1979 her husband retired from his job in Oshkosh and quit farming. At that time a cottage was purchased near Pelican Lake. It was there they continued their active lifestyle cross-country skiing, snowmobiling and exploring the countryside. Great memories were made with neighbors,

Howard, and Jane Dobzil. Lots of fishing and frying up the catch. They remained lifelong friends along with others, Jeanett and Owen Kester and their relatives. There it was card playing and lots of laughter. When Lillian had summers off from UWO they traveled by car, trailer, and air visiting 38 states, Canada, Mexico, Bahamas and seven European countries. In 2004 the farm was sold (in the family since 1858) and moved back to Oshkosh. On January 8th, 2010 when Arthur passed, Lillian moved to Evergreen. All through the years she continued sending cards and letters to friends, family, and EAA lodgers. This gave her much pleasure and contentment. Her thoughtfulness was greatly appreciated.

Preceding her in death was her husband, parents, John and Annie (Lang) Noe; sister Betty Meyer; stepson James Williams and Patricia Worm.

She is survived by her daughter Linda H; son Clyde (CJ) Williams; stepson R. W.; granddaughter Jill and her sons Holden, Cal and numerous step grandchildren and step great grandchildren. Lillian was

sincerely grateful to her daughter Linda son C.J. and special friends, Renee Schweitzer, April Hinke, Bill and Jodi Leu, as well as Dennis and Carol Bostwich. Also grateful to her three step granddaughters, Kim Hoffman, Beth Lux, and Sue Ullman for their help to make her feel special. Lillian was also very happy to reconnect with her step grandson Johnathan and wife Belinda and their children Jacob and Hannah for all they did for her from Alabama.

The family would like to express our thanks for the wonderful companionship, compassion, help and care given by Evergreen Retirement Community while Lillian was a resident there and all the others who helped her later in life.

A celebration of life will be held at 11:00 a.m. on Saturday, February 15, 2025 at the Evergreen Retirement Community chapel- 1130 N. Westfield St. Visitation will be held from 10:00 a.m. until the time of the service. Then she will join her husband at Lake View.



Lowell H. Kalmerton

Lowell Hayes Kalmerton, 95 of Oshkosh, passed away on February 3, 2025. He was born on May 11, 1929 in Omro, WI to Earl and Jennifer Kalmerton.

Lowell enjoyed traveling, hunting and fishing in his youth, and married Iva May Dorsey on May 28, 1949 and together they shared nearly 70 years of marriage. Together they raised a family and saw the beginning of a second and a third generation. Lowell was a man of few words and was content to follow along with what Iva had planned. He owned and operated Sommerfeld Welders Supply. He will be missed by all of the family and friends who knew him.

He is survived by his children, Gail Kalmerton of Chicago, IL, Donald Kalmerton of Oshkosh, Karen (Jerry) Krsnich of Winneconne, Alan (Cyndi) Kalmerton of Oshkosh, Lorna (Mitch) Adams of Oshkosh and Keith (Lisa) Kalmerton of Ajijic, Mexico; brother, Elwin; sister, Mary Sheppard; sisters-in-law, Arlene Gudden and Pat Dorsey; grandchildren, Kristin Kalmerton, Kelly (Tim) Tesser, Kathryn (Jeremy) Vils, Sara (Tyler) Trampe, Samatha (Nathaniel) Baker, Marina (Sam)

Clifford, Danielle Burt, Kyle (Kelly) Kalmerton, Grant (Melanie) Kalmerton, Alana Kalmerton, Karlee (Matt) Swenson, Andrew (Melissa) Krsnich; great-grandchildren, Kiera, Boone, Bennett, Lincoln, Adalyn, Reagan, Clara May, Cam, Jackson, Lily, Eddie, Jollie, Lucas; he is further survived by many nieces, nephews, and other family.

Preceding Lowell in death, his beloved wife, Iva May Kalmerton; parents, Earl and Jennie Kalmerton; siblings, Alice Daggett, Eleanor German and Donna Kalmerton; grandson, Brandan Kalmerton; great-grandson, Camdon Baker; as well as other family.

A gathering will take place at Kwiatkowski Funeral Home, 425 Jefferson Ave., Omro, WI on February 6, at 1:00pm and Lowell will be laid to rest next to his wife, in Eureka Cemetery at 2:00pm.

The family would like to thank the staff at Evergreen Manor Nursing Home and Ascension Hospital for the loving care they provided to Lowell during his stay there.



Gordon L. Krebs

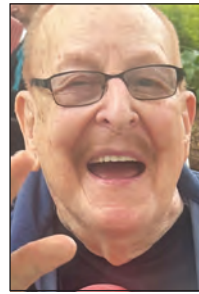
It is with a mix of sadness and celebration that we announce the passing of Gordon L. Krebs, who left this world on December 18, 2024, at the age of 87. Gordon was born on March 6, 1937, in Berlin, Wisconsin, and spent much of his life in Oshkosh, Wisconsin, where he made countless memories and cherished friendships.

Gordon, known for his big heart and even bigger personality, was a man of simple pleasures. He loved spending time with his daughter, Loene Krebs, and filled his days with gardening, cooking, and the joy of scratch-off tickets. Gordon was no stranger to good times; whether it was gathering with friends for a beer, engaging in spirited card games, or finding new ways to drive his wife crazy, he embraced life with humor and zest.

As a skilled carpenter at Morgan Doors, Gordon poured his creativity and craftsmanship into every project, leaving behind a legacy of quality work and dedication. But it was his playful spirit and genuine love for his animals that truly defined him.

Gordon is survived by his daughter, Loene Krebs; sister-in-law, Edna Gipp as well as many nieces, nephews, cousins, and friends.

He was preceded in death by his parents, Leroy and Lois Krebs; wife, Lousene; sister, Elaine (Arthur) Tetzke; and many



other in-laws.

Family and friends are invited to join us in celebrating Gordon's life. Memorial services will be held at Konrad-Behelman Funeral Homes-Eastside (402 Waugoo Ave) on Saturday February 15, 2025 at 11AM. A time of visitation will be held from 9AM until the time of service. Let's gather together to share our favorite stories, raise a toast to his memory, and remember the laughter and love he brought to our lives.

The family would like to thank the staff at Moments Hospice and Bethel Home and all of Gordons friends from Wylde-wood Baptist church for the care they gave to him and the time they spent with him.

Indeed, Gordon Leroy Krebs will be missed, but his spirit will continue to live on in all who knew him. Rest in peace, dear Gordon.

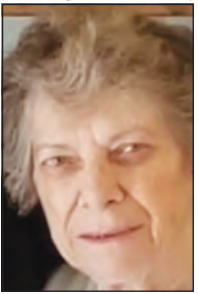


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Janet Volkman

Janet Volkman, 86, formerly of Oshkosh, passed away peacefully on Wednesday January 29, 2025 at Traditions at Pine Meadows, Mosinee, WI, with family by her side. She was born on January 22, 1939 in Fond du Lac, WI, the daughter of the late Donald and Myrtle Bell. She married Tom Volkman on January 24, 1959 in Fond du Lac. Shortly after their marriage they settled in Oshkosh. Tom preceded her in death October 13, 2007.



Early in life Janet was a devoted mother and homemaker. She enjoyed baking, knitting, quilting, sewing, upcycling antiques and flower gardening. Janet and Tom owned and operated Jan's Upholstery in Oshkosh. Janet was very generous and kindhearted, always willing to provide a helping hand to anyone. She will be sad-

ly missed by all who knew and loved her.

Survivors include: children; Gregory (Gina) Volkman, Gary (Amy) Volkman, Sue (Dean) Highland, Sally Hoeft, Gordon Volkman, Sandy (Joe) Huerta. Grandchildren; Tara (Andy) Elmer, Trista (Codey) Graham, Stephanie (Kirk) Tiffany, Randy Hoeft, Ryan Hoeft, Kimberly Huerta, Joseph Huerta; 9 great-grandchildren; and her sister Joanie Bell.

Besides her parents and her husband, Janet is preceded in death by 3 brothers, James, Gerald and David, 1 sister Geraldine, and her son-in-law Brian Hoeft.

Janet's family would like to thank the staff of Traditions at Pine Meadows, Mosinee and Interim Hospice for their compassionate care.

Per Janet's wishes there will be no visitation, a private family service will be held and will be officiated by the Reverend Richard Collier.



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Obituaries

Dinah Henry

Dinah Henry (Kaushal), 39, passed away on February 2, 2025, in Oshkosh, Wisconsin.



She was born on November 28, 1985, in Pune, India to Sunil Kaushal and Ruth Kaushal (Avale). She and her brother Rev. Dr. Jonathan Kaushal spent their early years in Tel Aviv and emigrated to Chicago in 1991.

Dinah grew up on the North Side of Chicago and was involved in the local South Asian community there. She graduated with honors from Lane Tech Prep High School in 2004 and received a B.A. in Communications from Moody Bible Institute in 2008. She held a variety of jobs in different sectors, most notably working as a Flight Attendant in 2010.

Dinah was an active church member at Moody Church as well as several South

Asian churches in Chicago. She had a deep desire to serve the Lord and traveled to India and Uganda to aide in missions and to spread the gospel. She continued her education and received her second degree, which was in Cybersecurity and Digital Forensics, in 2020. She found fulfillment in this field as a Digital Forensics Analyst.

In 2020, through divine providence, Dinah met Dr. Michael Henry and God blessed them with a beautiful wedding on May 22, 2021 in Silver Spring, MD. They bought their first house shortly after they were married and were blessed with their son Joshua Rehan Henry on November 6, 2022. The family then moved to Oshkosh, WI in September 2023.

Dinah loved to travel and in their short time together the family traveled as often as they could to places such as Egypt, the UK and western Europe.

Despite being diagnosed with breast cancer 2.5 years ago, Dinah bravely endured treatments and gave thanks to God

for all His blessings. She enjoyed being surrounded by her family and friends. Her dream was to be baptized in the Jordan River in Israel, however as her condition deteriorated travel was not possible. Consequently she was baptized by her brother at Wyldewood Baptist Church where she attended.

Her greatest joy was to be a wife and mother, and she instinctively filled these roles.

Dinah loved reading, traveling, and South Asian culture. She will be remembered as friendly, caring, outgoing, and adventurous. It was her desire to be laid to rest at the Montrose Cemetery near her late mother and maternal grandmother.

Dinah is survived by Joshua Henry - son, Michael Henry - husband, Sunil Kaushal - father, Jonathan Kaushal - brother, Crystal Kaushal - sister-in-law, Avner Kaushal - nephew, Hadasah Kaushal - niece, Hillel Kaushal - nephew, and many cousins.

Dinah was preceded in death by Ruth

Kaushal (Avale) - mother.

The family gives glory to the Lord for Dinah's life and thanks all her friends and well wishers for their prayers and support during this difficult time. Dinah will be missed greatly.



Gilbert B. Meisinger

On February 4th, Gib lost his battle with cancer. He was born Sept. 16, 1947.



Gib served in the Army from 1967 to 1969. He was in Vietnam for 14 months.

Gib was an excellent softball player, playing for Oregon Clothing and Tommy's Angels.

Gib is survived by his brother Jerry (Mize), Aunt Charlotte and nieces Carrie, Robyn and Molly.

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Obituaries

Steven G. Bilkey

Steven Gene Bilkey, a loving husband, father, son, and friend, passed away on February 1st 2025 at the age of 59. Steve was born on January 16th, 1966, in Ishpeming, Michigan to parents Eugene and Jean. Steve graduated from Ishpeming High School with the class of 1984 and later received a degree in Wastewater Management from Northern Michigan University. After meeting his wife, Lori, in 1990 the couple lived in various cities before set-



ting in Oshkosh, WI. Marrying in 1994, the couple had two children, Alex, born in 1997, and Kaitlyn, born in 2000.

Steve spent his career serving others. Starting as a Wastewater Treatment Operator, Steve worked his way up to the position of Public Works Director over his 30-year career for the city of Omro.

One of Steve's greatest passions was supporting the Michigan Wolverines football team. Self-proclaimed, the best day of Steve's life was traveling to Ann Arbor to see Michigan defeat Ohio State at the big house in 2021. Steve was also an avid fan of the Green Bay Packers and tracking plane routes on his phone.

Teresa Ann Yost

Teresa "Teri" Ann Yost, March 15, 1957 – February 1, 2025.



With heavy hearts, we share the loss of Teresa "Teri" Ann Yost. On February 1, 2025, Teri passed away unexpectedly in her sleep. She was the beloved daughter of Edward and Rita Yost.

Teri was a graduate of Lourdes Academy, class of 1975. She had a gift for making life beautiful. A talented cook, artist, and home decorator, she brought joy to every season with her festive spirit. Her home was always a reflection of her creativity, filled with warmth, love, and a touch of holiday magic. A passionate gardener, she found peace and joy in tending to her flowers, always creating something vibrant and full of life.

Her love for animals was boundless, rescuing 5 dogs and 2 cats. She was a member of the Kennel Club and also dedicated her time volunteering at the humane society, making a difference in the lives of countless furry friends. She also gave generously to her community, volunteering at the Oshkosh Food Pantry and the homeless shelter to help those in need.

Teri saw the best in everyone. Friends would comment that she 'was their Angel' She had an uncanny ability to make people feel welcomed, her personality lit up a room, always greeting friends and new acquaintances alike with kindness and a large smile. She was known to describe every new person she met as "the nicest people," a reflection of her own loving heart. No matter the circumstance, she was always happy to see you, her presence a source of comfort and joy.

Teri's warmth, generosity, and unwavering kindness will be deeply missed by her family, friends, and all those fortu-

nate enough to have known her. While we grieve her loss, we also celebrate the love and light she brought into the world.

She is preceded in death by her father Edward Yost.

She is survived by Will "Jerry" Kerwin, her Forever Fiancé, her mother, Rita Yost, siblings Kathy(Bob) Baker: Denton TX, Mark (Cindy) Yost: Shakopee MN, Lisa (Christopher) Wagner, Oshkosh and many nieces and nephews.

A memorial service was held at Fiss & Bills-Poklasny Funeral Home, Saturday February 8, 2025. In lieu of flowers, a memorial has been established.

Rest peacefully, Teri. You will always be in our hearts.

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Anthony E. Skupas

Anthony "Tony" E. Skupas, age 85 of Manitowish Waters, passed away on February 6, 2025 at Heartland House, Wautoma. He was born on January 4, 1940 in Green Bay, WI, son of Edward and Norma (Goudy) Skupas. On April 29, 1961, he married Judith M. Sharratt in Fond du Lac, WI.



A funeral service for Tony will be held at 11:30 a.m. on Friday, February 14, 2025 at Konrad-Behlman Funeral Home-Westside, 100 Lake Pointe Dr. Oshkosh, WI 54904. Visitation will be held from 10:00 a.m. until the time of the service. Interment will take place at Rogersville Cemetery at a later date.

To view the full obituary, please visit, www.konrad-behlman.com.

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Steve was a dedicated and loving father. He spent much of his time attending youth sporting events and coaching his children's teams, where he will be remembered by many as a light-hearted, caring, and funny coach. Steve selflessly supported his children in all their endeavors and always put their needs above his own.

The love Steve had for his children is only surpassed by the love he had for his wife. In their 30 years of marriage, Steve and Lori were best friends, travel buddies, and partners in crime. Steve and Lori's favorite thing to do together was to travel. Wearing their matching travel shirts, the couple took multiple trips to Disney World, Las Vegas, and went on many Caribbean cruises together.

In addition to Lori, Alex, and Kaitlyn, Steve is survived by his mother, Jean, fa-

ther, Eugene, brother, Michael, sister-in-law, Renee, sister, Susan, sister-in-law, Lynn, brother-in-law, Steve, nephews Jake, Josh, Tommy, and Zak, niece, Amber, one uncle, and several cousins.

In lieu of a funeral, a celebration of Steve's life will be held on Saturday, February 15th from 4-8pm at the Oshkosh Marriott Waterfront Hotel, 1 N. Main Street, Oshkosh, WI 54901.

Steve brought joy and laughter to everyone he met. He was a great person, a better friend, and the best husband and father. The pain and sorrow of losing Steve is overshadowed only by the amount of joy and laughter he imparted onto the people around him. He will be dearly missed.

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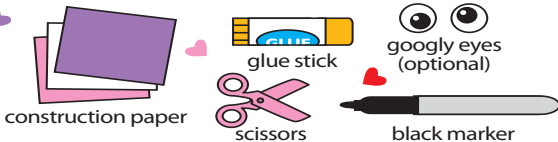
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Valentine's Day Crafts

How many hearts can you find on this page in three minutes? Have a friend try. Who found the most?

Hearty Mouse

STUFF YOU'LL NEED:



STEP 1:



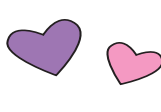
Cut out a big pink heart.

STEP 2:



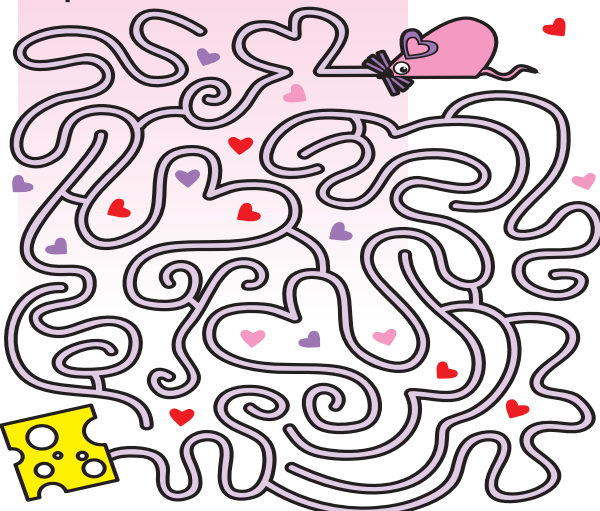
Fold the heart in half.

STEP 3:

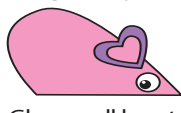


Cut out two smaller hearts.

Help the mouse reach the cheese.



STEP 4:



Glue small hearts to make an ear. Glue on a googly eye or draw an eye.

STEP 5:



Cut out six little strips to make whiskers. Cut out a squiggly tail.

STEP 6:



Glue on whiskers and tail. Use marker to make a black nose.

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STUFF YOU'LL NEED:



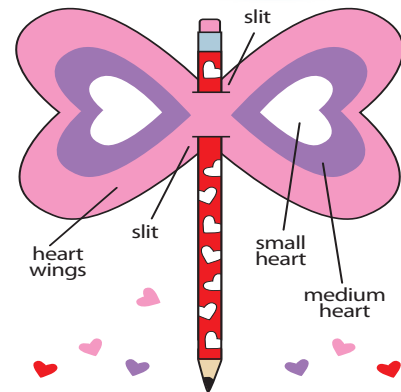
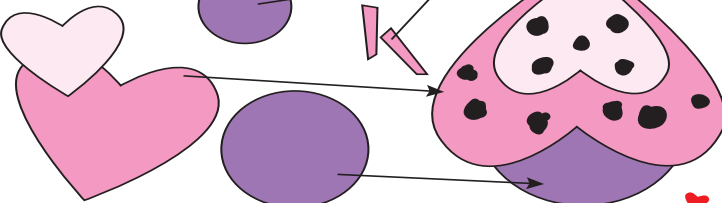
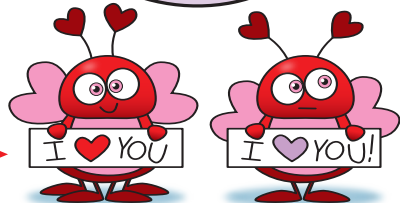
STEP 1:

Cut out a large and a small heart shape, a large and small circle, and two small strips.

STEP 2:

Glue together as shown. Add spots and eyes with marker.

How many differences can you spot between these two love bugs?



Valentine Butterfly Pencil Topper

STUFF YOU'LL NEED:



STEP 1:

Cut out heart-wing shape, two medium sized hearts and two small hearts.

STEP 2:

Glue a medium and a small heart on each wing.

STEP 3:

Make two small horizontal slits at center of heart wings. Insert pencil through slits.

Standards Link: Reading Comprehension: Follow simple written directions.

Happy News

Look through the newspaper for one to three pictures, words or articles that make you feel happy.

Standards Link: Research: Use the newspaper to locate information.

Kid Scoop Puzzler

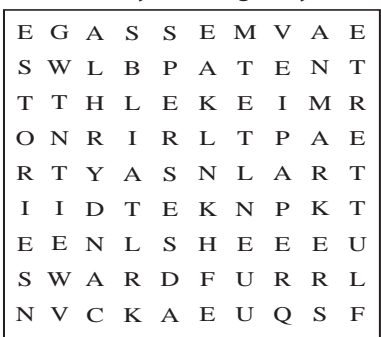
Draw a line from each Valentine's Day message to the animal who wrote it.



Double Double Word Search

VALENTINE
WHISKERS
MESSAGE
STORIES
FLUTTER
HEARTS
PATENT
SQUEAK
MARKER
PAPER
CANDY
TAIL
DARK
DRAW
BELL

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.

Kid Scoop Together: Silly Valentine Game

All you need is a small bag or bowl and three or more friends to play with!

Directions:

- ♥ Cut out the coupons below.
- ♥ Fold them in half and put them into a bag, bowl or box.
- ♥ One by one, players select a piece of paper from the container.
- ♥ Two at a time, the players start performing their actions, without laughing. The first person to laugh is out.
- ♥ Repeat this until only one person is left in the game.

Scratch your armpit and hop on one leg.	Pretend to sink in a huge bin of stinky socks.
Sing your favorite song as if you are underwater.	Pretend to slip on a banana peel in slow motion.
Sing the ABCs backwards in the style of an opera singer.	Flap your arms like a bird and moo like a cow.
Make a silly face and stand still like a statue.	Balance on one leg while singing <i>Happy Birthday</i> .
Lift a pillow, pretending it weighs 1,000 pounds.	Pretend to be a dinosaur stuck in bubble gum.
Rub your tummy and pat your head.	Walk like a robot whose battery is low.
Pick up a pencil with your toes.	Walk like a penguin.
Pretend to swim across the floor.	Touch your nose with your tongue.
Play air guitar while making silly faces.	Pretend to climb a tree that's 1,000 feet tall.

Write On! Animal Valentine's Day Messages

If you were an animal, what would be your Valentine wish? A python might want to be your favorite "squeeze." Or a cat might be purrrr-fect for you.

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