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School projects get voter go-ahead

Referendum passes with 471-vote margin

By Jonathan Richie
OSHKOSH HERALD

Voters within the Oshkosh Area School District approved a nearly \$200 million referendum last week to update facilities throughout the city.

The \$197.8 million in spending approved by district taxpayers will help the district build a new middle school, expand and renovate Carl Traeger, Franklin and

Inside: Local and school positions selected / Page 6

Oakwood elementary schools, install air conditioning at Emmeline Cook, Lakeside and Read elementary schools, build a new auditorium at Oshkosh North High School and lastly repurpose Perry Tipler Middle School for a prekindergarten center and recreation department.

A total of 27,445 votes were cast by voters for the ballot measure and a difference of just 471 pushed it through for the district to move forward with the facility

upgrades.

"We are incredibly grateful to our community for supporting and trusting in our vision for the future of Oshkosh schools," Superintendent Bryan Davis said. "This investment will provide our students with safe and effective learning spaces while maintaining our commitment to fiscal responsibility."

This is the second OASD referendum voters have approved in five years, with potentially two more coming in the next

SEE **School projects** ON PAGE 9

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Photo by Michael Cooney

Public square rally

Hundreds rallied in downtown Oshkosh on Saturday as part of what was called a Hands Off National Day of Action in reaction to what organizers called threats to democracy, health care and social services. Many with handmade signs lined Opera House Square and surrounding corners while speakers included 54th District Assembly Rep. Lori Palmeri, D-Oshkosh, shown here.

County explores central facilities plan for services

Early proposals seeking improved public access

By Bethanie Gengler
OSHKOSH HERALD

Winnebago County is considering a space needs study and facility master plan that could centralize county services on a single campus, potentially saving millions in long-term maintenance costs while improving efficiency.

The county has about 1,000 employees who work out of more than 138 buildings. Money from the county's Spirit Fund to

evaluate the buildings was approved by the County Board of Supervisors in 2023 and 2024, including \$300,000 for a county-wide building condition assessment study and another \$300,000 for a comprehensive space needs assessment and facility master plan.

County executive assistant Ethan Hollenberger said that over the past several years the county has been embarking on



Hollenberger

building maintenance best practice planning, starting with the facilities condition assessment.

"That report and long-term capital planning tool assessed the conditions of our buildings and key mechanicals in each facility," he said. "This did not take into account whether or not the buildings were configured to provide the highest use for our county clients."

With the information from the facilities condition assessment, Hollenberger said the county started the space use and master planning process. Venture Architects was selected to complete the assessment

and plan, which kicked off in December.

In January, all county department heads met with the architects to talk about needs, which revealed varying space requirements, with some departments experiencing significant growth projections. Human Services, for example, anticipates a potential 25% staffing increase over the next decade.

A discussion on the options for county buildings at a committee meeting last week was part of the planning process to work toward a draft study and master plan

SEE **County facilities** ON PAGE 10

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www.oshkoshherald.com.

Vehicle safety advocate being honored by West

Oshkosh Herald

This year's Oshkosh West High School's Distinguished Alumni Award winner founded and leads a nationally recognized group dedicated to preventing injuries and fatalities of children and pets in and around motor vehicles, a cause that shaped her 30 years ago with a life-altering event.

Janette Fennell, who was part of the last graduating class at Oshkosh High School in 1972, is a consumer advocate and leading voice in child safety who is credited with significant contributions to lifesaving vehicle safety standards. She will be honored in an April 16 ceremony at the school.

"I'm genuinely touched to be recognized by the school and community that shaped such an important chapter of my life," Fennell said by email.

"Growing up in Oshkosh and attending high school there gave me a strong sense of community and purpose – qualities that have guided me ever since. I'm especially grateful to the many teachers and mentors

who nurtured my curiosity and resilience and whose influence is still with me today.

That foundation has been instrumental in my work advocating for child and vehicle safety."



Fennell

Kids and Car Safety has become a leading authority on nontraffic incidents, accounting for many child injuries and fatalities. Fennell lends expertise to congressional testimony, speaking engagements, media interviews and collaborations with organizations such as the United Nations, Consumer Reports and American Academy of Pediatrics.

After graduating from the University of Wisconsin-Oshkosh with a bachelor of business administration in marketing, she began a career with Eastman Kodak for 12 years before joining Helene Curtis in 1988.

In 1995, a life-altering event shaped her

future when she and her family were kidnapped and locked in the trunk of their car. She said that experience drove her to dedicate her life to saving others with a campaign to make car trunks escapable and also focus on the dangers children face when inside or outside a vehicle.

Fennell's work on glow-in-the-dark trunk release mechanisms has been standard in vehicles since 2002, an innovation credited with preventing any trunk deaths since that time.

Her contributions to public safety have earned her awards that include the Esther Peterson Consumer Service Award from the Consumer Federation of America, the Department of Transportation Safety Champion Award, and the Public Service Award from the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration.

"This (West alumni) recognition means so much to me, not only because of what it represents but also because it comes from a place that will always be home for me," Fennell said.

Chancellor finalists visit UW-Oshkosh

Oshkosh Herald

The University of Wisconsin-Oshkosh is hosting finalists for its next chancellor this week after Universities of Wisconsin president Jay Rothman announced the four candidates last week.

A special Regent Committee selected the four from a list provided by a 14-member search and screen committee led by regent Ashok Rai and UW Oshkosh associate professor Andrew Smock.

The finalists are Robert Brinkmann, dean of the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences at Northern Illinois University in DeKalb; Amy Hietapelto, dean of the Labovitz School of Business and Economics at the University of Minnesota-Duluth; Manohar Singh, interim president at Western Connecticut State University; and Joe Whitehead, senior adviser for Regional Science Initiatives at Bowling Green State University in Ohio.

Rothman and the committee, composed of regents Rai, Desmond Adongo, Haben Goitom, Jim Kreuser, Timothy Nixon, Karen Walsh, will interview the finalists and recommend a candidate to the Board of Regents, which must approve the appointment to replace outgoing Chancellor Andrew Leavitt.

For more information about the candidates, public conversations and search process, go to uwosh.edu/chancellor/search.

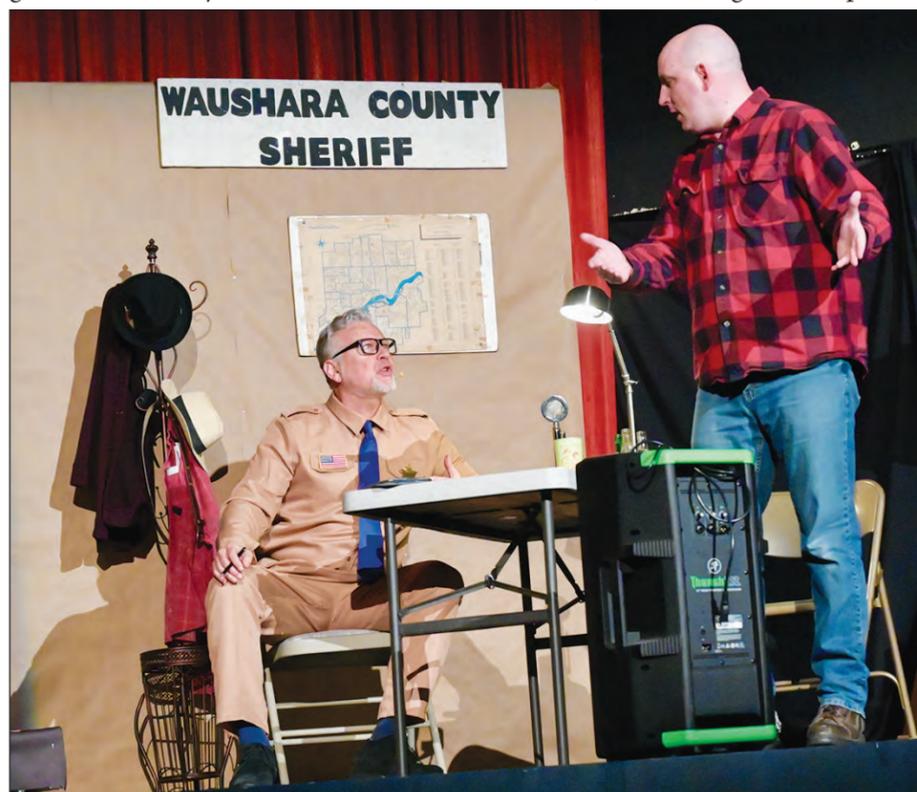


Photo by Michael Cooney

Infamous character

"Ed Gein, the Musical" had its premiere last weekend at the Time Community Theater, 15 years after the original film was released about the notorious Wisconsin murderer. Shown are Dan Davies as Sheriff Murdock and Ezekiel Drews as Gein in the opening scenes of the stage production.

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Back in the Day



April 8, 1896

Nathan Paine and Miss Kimberly to Wed: A wedding hosted by two locally prominent families will take place this evening at the Kimberly residence in Neenah. Nathan Paine, whose family founded the Paine Lumber Company, will wed Jessica Kimberly, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. J.A. Kimberly. Kimberly is one of the co-founders of what would one day become the Kimberly-Clark Corporation. Nathan and Jessica would eventually build a Tudor Revival Style mansion on Algoma Blvd in 1927 that would one day become an art museum known today as The Paine.

Source: Oshkosh Northwestern, April 8, 1896

Five candidates vying to become city's next fire chief

By Jonathan Richie
OSHKOSH HERALD

The Oshkosh Fire Department needs a new fire chief and there are five candidates who have been selected after a search by the Oshkosh Police and Fire Commission.

Former Fire Chief Mike Stanley resigned from the position at the end of January to take a role with the Greeley Fire Department in Colorado. Greg Stelter has since been serving as interim chief.

Stelter, one of the five candidates, has served as assistant chief under Stanley and has been with the Oshkosh Fire Department since 1997.

He is completing his bachelor's degree in fire and emergency response management from UW-Oshkosh and has an associate degree in fire science technology from Milwaukee Area Technical College.

Tim Heiman serves as division chief of training for the Oshkosh Fire Department. He has more than 20 years of fire and emergency management experience and 10 years as a command-level officer.

"I want to be fire chief to lead and sup-

port our dedicated team of firefighters while ensuring the highest level of safety and service for the citizens and visitors of Oshkosh," he said.

Heiman has a bachelor's degree in criminal justice from Carroll University and an associate degree in fire science from Milwaukee Area Technical College.

Erik Jonas, deputy chief for Marshfield Fire and Rescue, has about 18 years of fire and emergency management experience with seven years' experience as a supervisor and command level officer.

"The Oshkosh Fire Department is a progressive department with a long-standing reputation of excellence within the fire service and within the

community of Oshkosh," Jonas told the Herald. "I applied for the position of fire chief because I want to be a part of that culture of excellence and I believe my leadership experience, along with my education and collaborative nature, will help lead the OFD in accomplishing current and future organizational/community focused goals."

Jonas has a master's degree in public administration from the University of New Haven, a bachelor's degree in organizational leadership from UW-Green Bay and an associate degree in paramedicine from Inver Hills Community College.

Andrew Wienchowski is deputy fire chief for the Long Grove Protection District in Long Grove, Ill. He has more than 30 years of experience in fire and emergency management with almost 20 years as a supervisor and command-level officer.

"I want to be the Oshkosh fire chief because I am driven by a servant's heart and a deep desire to make a positive impact on our community," Wienchowski told the Herald. "My commitment is to lead with humility, prioritize the well-being of our firefighters, and deliver exceptional service that ensures Oshkosh remains a safe, resilient and caring place for everyone."

Wienchowski has a master's degree in homeland security and fire administration, and a bachelor's degree in fire service management from Southern Illinois.

Kurt Zellman is the fire service coordinator at Milwaukee Area Technical College. He previously served as deputy chief for the Southern Ozaukee fire department in Mequon. He has more than 20 years of

fire and emergency management experience with about 15 years as a supervisor and command-level officer.

"During my time in Oshkosh I have learned how vibrant the neighborhoods are and how supportive the community is of the Fire Department," Zellman said. "I believe that Oshkosh just fits my skill set, having previous experience in a similarly sized city. I would look forward to both strengthening existing relationships and cultivating new ones between the Fire Department and it's stakeholders."

Zellman has a degree in fire service administration from Columbia Southern University and an associate degree in mechanical engineering technology from the Milwaukee School of Engineering.

The day after the meet-and-greet the candidates met with three additional groups; a community panel, a technical/peer panel and an employee panel.

Assistant City Manager John Fitzpatrick said a candidate should be hired by June.



Heiman



Wienchowski



Jonas



Zellman



Stelter

Crane-counting volunteers urged to sign up

Oshkosh Herald

New volunteers interested in taking part in the 49th Annual Midwest Crane Count from 5:30 to 7:30 a.m. Saturday should contact Winnebago County coordinator Evelyn Meuret of Winnebago Audubon for instructions at 920-573-7828 or evelynmeuret57@att.net.

The International Crane Foundation sponsors the annual survey with more than 2,000 volunteer participants from throughout Wisconsin and portions of Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Michigan, Ohio and Minnesota. Information is gathered on the abundance and distribution of cranes

in the upper Midwest.

The International Crane Foundation sponsors the annual count to conserve the world's 15 species of cranes and the natural communities on which they depend.

Observations of sandhill cranes can lend insight into threatened crane species, including the whooping crane. There are now about 75 whooping cranes in the reintroduced population in central Wisconsin.

All counters are invited to meet for breakfast immediately after the count to share their experiences at the Delta Restaurant in Oshkosh. Additional information on the count is at cranecount.org.



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Workers strike at Cummins plant enters third week

By Jonathan Richie
OSHKOSH HERALD

More than 90 workers at the Cummins plant in Oshkosh have been on strike since March 18 after the company's contract proposal was rejected by union officials.

UAW Local 291 members have picketed outside the Indianapolis-based company that manufactures engines and generators after its union bargaining committee began what they call an unfair labor practice strike alleging the company has refused to bargain in good faith.

"Despite the UAW Local 291 bargaining team's continued efforts, Cummins management has refused to offer a contract that addresses our members' priorities: fair wages, affordable health care and job security," said UAW Region 4 director Brandon Campbell. "Cummins is holding our members' economic proposals hostage by their continued refusal to bargain, while demanding harmful concessions. That's not bargaining in good faith."

The Cummins proposals include expanding the use of temporary workers, changing inventory procedures and increasing mandatory Saturday shifts for workers, according to union officials.

"We're not creating tiers at Cummins - period. They need to back off their temp worker proposals," said UAW Local 291 president Ryan Compton. "This company is making billions in profits while many of our members struggle to make ends meet. We won't stand for it."

Compton told the Herald the biggest issues with the proposed contract are using temporary workers and adding mandatory Saturday shifts. Compton and vice president Chet French said the strike was due to the "unfair labor practice" Cum-

mins is engaging in.

Workers have continued to draw supporters outside the facility at 1005 High Ave., since the strike began who have dropped off food and water along with visits from politicians such as Assembly Rep. Lori Palmeri and newly elected County Executive Gordon Hintz, who has been the director of a labor management trust.

Cummins' director of external communications Melinda Koski said the company is continuing to negotiate with union officials.

"We have been engaging in ongoing, good-faith negotiations with union representatives at our plant in Oshkosh," Koski said in an email. "We remain committed to exploring all available options to reach a mutually acceptable agreement while maintaining transparent communication with employees, customers and stakeholders."

Koski said negotiations will continue later this month.

Compton said Cummins is practicing delay tactics for contract negotiations.

"The biggest issue we've had is the lack of meeting times," he said. "They've used these tactics to delay negotiations and to frustrate people."

Compton said the contract ended Jan. 29 and Cummins only began negotiating Jan. 28. Cummins and union representatives met for three days in January, three days in February and three days in March.

The previous contract a few years ago had negotiations starting in November that were completed in three months.

On Friday, Compton and other union members said spirits remain high among the approximately 90 workers as the strike enters its third week.

"It's pretty upbeat out here," French said.



Oshkosh Herald

Cummins workers Rachel Weiss (left), Ashley Lucas and Conner Cornetti were on strike outside the manufacturing facility Friday morning.

Goodwill NCW recognizes Financial Literacy month

With the deadline for Americans to file their taxes being Tuesday, April is also National Financial Literacy month.

Goodwill North Central Wisconsin (NCW) sees financial literacy as part of its overall mission of elevating people by eliminating barriers to employment and offers services such as personal and bankruptcy counseling, practical budgeting guidance

and help navigating student loans.

This month, Goodwill NCW will be participating in Money Smart Week - Fox Cities, a public awareness initiative to help individuals build financial knowledge by offering workshops on topics including a planning for college simulation.

Go to goodwillncw.org/financial-wellness-services for more information.

Warning sirens back on Saturday noon test schedule

Winnebago County's outdoor warning sirens are being tested starting this month at noon Saturdays through September, designed to warn people who are outdoors that a severe weather situation is occurring or likely to happen soon.

Tests will be canceled if severe weather and other serious conditions are imminent.

For more information, contact the Winnebago County Office Emergency Management at 920-236-7463.



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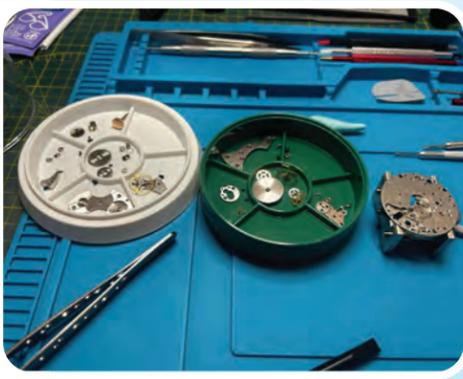
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Suspect in armed guard attack case pleads not guilty

By Jonathan Richie
OSHKOSH HERALD

An Oshkosh man has pleaded not guilty by reason of mental disease or defect three months after being arrested for attempting to disarm an armed guard at a gas station last fall.

Jaymin C. Blankinship, 23, is charged with attempted first-degree intentional homicide, attempted armed robbery and three counts of second-degree recklessly endangering safety.

Blankinship allegedly attacked an armed guard servicing an ATM at an Oshkosh gas station in September. Court records state Blankinship attempted to take the guard's gun before three bystanders were able to take him to the ground and restrain him until police arrived.

If convicted on all counts, Blankinship faces up to 80 years in prison.

In December, he entered a plea of not guilty by reason of mental disease or de-

fect also known as the insanity defense. Judge Michael Rust accepted the plea and ordered an evaluation, then in March ordered a competency examination be completed before the case moves forward.

A competency hearing will likely be held after the examination is completed. Rust will then rule if Blankinship is competent to stand trial.

It is unclear what would happen if Blankinship is found not competent and unlikely to regain competency. State statute outlines, "No person who lacks substantial mental capacity to understand the proceedings or assist in his or her own defense may be tried, convicted or sentenced for the commission of an offense so long as the incapacity endures."



Blankinship

There will likely be an update on the case at a hearing scheduled in May. Blankinship remains in custody at the Winnebago County Jail.

According to the criminal complaint, on Sept. 6 police responded to the business at West 20th Avenue and Oregon Street around 1 p.m., where they spoke with the three individuals who helped detain Blankinship as well as the guard and station manager.

The guard told police he had been servicing the two ATMs inside when Blankinship entered the station and gave the guard a "funny feeling." When the guard shut the door to the ATM, Blankinship allegedly attacked him and attempted to get his gun.

The gun holster has a retention feature that locks it in place. As the guard struggled with Blankinship, bystanders helped to get him off the guard, who was then able to hold Blankinship at gunpoint un-

til police arrived.

The bystanders kept Blankinship immobilized on the ground in a chokehold. The bystanders are part of the three second-degree counts of recklessly endangering safety against Blankinship.

One of the victims told police Blankinship was shouting while detained that he would have shot everyone in the station if he got the gun. Another victim told police Blankinship said, "You're lucky I didn't kill you; I should have just robbed the store."

The store manager told police that Blankinship had been living in a car in the service station parking lot for about a week and earlier that day they put a note on the car that it needed to be moved or would be towed. Blankinship entered the store to complain about it and ripped up the note.

DC-8 headlines salute to humanitarian aviation

Oshkosh Herald

Public benefit flying will be a prominent theme at EAA AirVenture this summer as the event spotlights the aircraft, crews and organizations that supply aid to victims of natural disasters, war, famine and other emergencies around the globe.

The last DC-8 registered in the United States, owned by the Christian relief organization Samaritan's Purse, will spend the week of July 21-27 at Wittman Regional Airport as the anchor of the display. The airplane has carried nearly 9 million pounds of cargo on 200 missions since

2016.

As part of the Boeing Plaza display, Samaritan's Purse will also bring a field hospital and a water purification system used in developing nations.

Situated near the DC-8 will be a selection of general aviation aircraft also involved in public benefit flying. These aircraft will represent a variety of pilot groups.

The Air Care Alliance (ACA) is also scheduled to appear, which is a nonprofit organization that represents more than 50 volunteer pilot groups.



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Voters pick new council, school board members

By Jonathan Richie
OSHKOSH HERALD

This spring there will be new faces on the Oshkosh Common Council and Oshkosh Area School District Board of Education after last Tuesday's election. Voters also passed a \$197.8 million referendum to update school district facilities.

Council member Paul Esslinger lost his re-election bid, coming in fourth among the candidates running for three open seats. Incumbents Karl Buelow and Joe Stephenson were able to secure their re-election.

The largest vote-getter in the council contest was challenger Brad Spanbauer, who received 11,699 votes, ahead of Stephenson's 10,376 votes. Buelow came in third with 9,454 votes with Esslinger at 8,578.

"It has been a pleasure to serve the city of Oshkosh and all its citizens," Esslinger said. "There are many tough issues that must be dealt with and I hope that moving forward our representatives make good decisions."

The winners, who will each serve two-year terms, took to social media to congratulate their opponents and thank supporters.

"Absolutely humbled by the results tonight. I'm honored and grateful for the opportunity to continue serving on the Oshkosh Common Council and to help move our community forward," Stephenson said. "Thank you to everyone who participated in our democratic process, and to all the candidates who stepped forward. Running for office isn't easy – it takes courage and commitment – and I truly believe every candidate in our local elections cares deeply about our community."

Matt Mugerauer will start another two-year term as mayor in April after running unopposed for a second term. Mugerauer and the three council members will be sworn in Tuesday at City Hall.

On the Board of Education, incumbent Molly Smiltneek collected the most votes in the three-person race for the two seats. Smiltneek was appointed to the position when Liz Szilagyi resigned last summer.

Former council member Michael Ford

won the other seat on the school board vacated by Stephanie Carlin, who announced she was not seeking re-election after three terms on.

Smiltneek and Ford will each serve three-year terms.

The spring ballot's major question was a \$197.8 million facilities referendum to build a new middle school, renovate elementary schools, build a new auditorium at Oshkosh North High School and install air conditioning at elementary schools.

The measure passed by just 471 votes, 13,958 to 13,487.

At the county level, voters elected a new county executive in Gordon Hintz. The former state representative defeated one-term incumbent Jon Doemel by 3,458 votes.

Doemel, whose last day in the office will be Monday, said in a video post that serving county residents for the past four years has been an honor and congratulated Hintz and his campaign.

"I am getting out of government with my soul intact, never compromising on my principles, never compromising on my integrity and never compromising on doing what I believe is right," Doemel said.

Hintz also thanked his supporters and said he was ready to work with Doemel on the transition.

"I would like to thank the people of Winnebago County for putting their trust in me to serve as their county executive. It is a responsibility I take seriously and I look forward to getting to work. We ran a

strong campaign and worked hard to engage voters throughout the county and I hope to take that same approach when in office. I want to thank Jon Doemel for his service and look forward to working with him on the transition."

The results in Winnebago County for statewide races matched overall results with Supreme Court Justice-elect Susan Crawford defeating Waukesha County Judge Brad Schimel.

In Winnebago County, Crawford received 34,605 votes compared with 30,047 votes for Schimel in the race that garnered national attention. Part of the attention was due to billionaire businessman Elon Musk spending more than \$20 million in support of Schimel.

"Today Wisconsinites fended off an unprecedented attack on our democracy, our fair elections and our Supreme Court," Crawford said in her victory speech. "And Wisconsin stood up and said loudly that justice does not have a price, our courts are not for sale."

The nonprofit law institute Brennan Center for Justice reported that more than \$90 million was spent on the Supreme Court race, far above the previous record amount.

In the state superintendent of schools race, incumbent Jill Underly defeated challenger Brittany Kinser by more than 2,000 votes in Winnebago County. Statewide results show Underly won just 22 counties but was able to get almost 53% of the total vote.

Patience urged amid road work

The Wisconsin State Patrol's April Law of the Month encourages drivers to help create a safe space for crews who work on and alongside the road as construction season ramps up.

"Construction crews and county highway personnel often work within feet of traffic," said Superintendent Tim Carnahan said. "These people need to be able to rely on drivers to do their part to ensure a safe work zone. The Wisconsin State Patrol is working to combat unsafe driving in work zones with the help of troopers on the road and overhead with our Air Support Unit. Last year, we issued over 7,000 citations and warnings for traffic law violations in work zones."

Speeding, following too closely and distracted driving cause most work zone crashes. There were 2,174 state work zone crashes in 2024, resulting in 10 fatalities and 779 injuries.

Wisconsin's laws further protect road workers, with penalties for traffic violations doubling in work zones.

Retired county educators and staff set meeting

The Winnebago County Retired Educators' Association invites all retired school employees who live in or have worked in Winnebago County to its April 17 meeting at Jeff's On Rugby in Oshkosh.

Registration starts at 11 a.m. followed

by a short business meeting at 11:30 before lunch. The program will feature Cori Laux, resident coach at Tiny House Village in Oshkosh.

Those interested may email rolson3430@aol.com by Friday.



Submitted photo

Center supporters

Winnebago Community Credit Union team members raised \$600 to contribute to a community donation fund by giving a small weekly donation and being able to wear their favorite team's apparel during the football season. The 32-member team raised funds for the annual "Give Back for the Pack" day with its chosen charity being the Christine Ann Center of Oshkosh.

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10:30 AM - Spirit of Hope Contemporary Worship

Maundy Thursday with First Communion

6:30 PM

Good Friday

9:30 AM - Children's Service
Noon - Seven Last Words Worship
6:30 PM - Traditional Worship

Easter Sunday

6:00 AM - Sunrise Worship
6:45-9:15 AM - Easter Breakfast
9:00 AM - Traditional Worship with Choir
10:30 AM - Spirit of Hope Contemporary Worship



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St. Vincent 12:30 pm*
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HOLY SATURDAY APRIL 19
8:15 pm
St. Vincent
EASTER SUNDAY APRIL 20
7:30 am Sacred Heart
9:30 am St. Vincent*
11:00 am Sacred Heart
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Area business development finds its way through Chamber

By Sean Fitzgerald
CHAMBER ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT DIRECTOR

The Oshkosh Chamber of Commerce has been the front door to Oshkosh's business community since 1907. For nearly 120 years, the chamber served as an integral partner to privately owned companies to help grow and develop the economy driving Oshkosh.

When an aspiring entrepreneur is seeking assistance launching her business, she turns to the Oshkosh Chamber to help that dream become a reality.

When a manufacturer is looking to grow its operations in Oshkosh and needs assistance navigating state and local government regulations – even accessing financial incentives to make that expansion see the light of day – that company seeks out the Oshkosh Chamber.

When a national restaurant chain is considering Oshkosh for its next location, it first contacts the chamber to gather local demographic data and identify pos-



sible real estate to develop.

For these and many other purposes, Oshkosh Area Economic Development Corp. was established in 1978 as a wholly owned entity of the chamber charged with carrying out the economic development activities that have driven transformative changes in the city's landscape.

During the two-decade span from 2000 to 2020, a recent study from UW-Oshkosh extrapolated chamber economic development activities generated and supported an incredible \$1.5 billion in combined economic impact and helped create more than 13,400 jobs during those 20 years.

While the sole focus of the chamber's impact is local, it's our national network of well-curated relationships that help bring the best opportunities from across

the country and around the world to Oshkosh.

As one example, this past February the chamber joined peers from Green Bay, Sheboygan and Fond du Lac to stage an event in Atlanta promoting development opportunities in northeast Wisconsin to some of the nation's leading site selectors contracted by Fortune 100 companies to identify locations for their client's next manufacturing facility, corporate headquarters or data center. We left these site selectors with a strong impression of northeast Wisconsin, but more importantly, we established genuine, in-person relationships and we've had follow-up communications since that mission trip.

In another example, the Oshkosh Chamber will attend the International Council of Shopping Centers annual convention in Las Vegas in May to meet and promote Oshkosh to real estate representatives for national retailers such as Kohl's, Trader Joe's, Best Buy and

Chick-fil-A. The relationships established at these engagements produce results in the long run as these companies think of Oshkosh as an upcoming expansion opportunity for their franchises.

In total since 2010, the Oshkosh Chamber has attended more than 40 industry-specific trade shows and site selector events similar to these two listed to market the Oshkosh area to a national and global niche audience of the very people responsible for locating businesses here.

The Oshkosh Chamber is proud of its economic development results and looks forward to continuing the work with local and state partners to advance development. If you have questions about starting a business or developing real estate in Oshkosh, feel welcome to contact me.

Sean Fitzgerald is the economic development director for Oshkosh Chamber of Commerce. Contact him at sean@oshkoshchamber.com or 920.303.2266, ext. 20.



City of Oshkosh

Seven Brew Drive-Thru Coffee could be coming to town at 1120 S. Koeller St.

Drive-thru coffee shop up for approval

Oshkosh Herald

The people of Oshkosh may soon have another place to get caffeinated with a cup of coffee pending a vote from the Common Council.

The Plan Commission recently recommended the council approve a drive-thru coffee shop at 1120 S. Koeller St. Seven Brew Drive-Thru Coffee has stores across the Midwest with several in southeast Wisconsin. There is a location in Bellevue

and a new location in Appleton scheduled to open later this month.

Plans call for two drive-thru lanes to wrap around the building with access to the coffee shop coming from the shared parking lot off South Koeller. There will be no inside service.

1120 S. Koeller is currently the site of a Pizza Hut restaurant. MillBrew Holdings is the applicant for the project and has estimated the cost of the project will be \$1.5 million.

Defense gains \$95M FHTV contract

Oshkosh Herald

Oshkosh Defense has secured a U.S. Army contract order valued at \$95 million for its Family of Heavy Tactical Vehicles (FHTVs) that includes the modernized, autonomy-ready Palletized Load System (PLS) A2.

The advanced driver assistance and autonomy-ready technologies of the PLS bring improvements to soldier safety and broadens battlefield awareness. Company officials said that integrating by-wire and active-safety systems supports the Army's vision for a technology-enabled logistics force capable of executing missions in

contested environments with reduced risk to the warfighter.

Officials said the flexible architecture of the heavy fleet allows significant room for growth and integration of new technology to support unit innovation as threats and requirements evolve.

"As the U.S. Army advances its 'transformation in contact' initiatives, we remain committed to engineering mission-critical solutions that deliver technologies that can be rapidly integrated within existing operational units," stated Pat Williams, Oshkosh Defense chief programs officer.

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GOOD FRIDAY
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EASTER VIGIL
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EASTER SUNDAY
9:30 am Sunday 4/20

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New North region promoted in new digital, print publication

Oshkosh Herald

A digital and print publication that highlights the New North region as an optimal place to live and work has been produced by Livability Media and New North Inc., which the regional marketing and economic development corporation encourages it be used as a talent and recruitment tool.

"Livability Northeast Wisconsin-New North Region" looks at the people, places and organizations that make the region special with engaging photos and profiles on individual areas and companies.

"It showcases our high quality of life, thriving business environment and the welcoming nature of our communities, no matter the audience: a relocating professional, an entrepreneur seeking new opportunities, a corporate executive evaluating potential business sites, or a curious prospective resident," stated Renee Torzala, New North's vice president of marketing and investor relations. "They should find great value in the in-depth insights it



shares."

The content is available by visiting livability.com/northeast-wisconsin, through the digital version of the magazine at bit.ly/livenewnorth or in print by contacting renee.torzala@thenewnorth.com.

Easter EggVenture set at Humane Society

The Oshkosh Area Humane Society (OAHS) is holding an Easter EggVenture from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. April 19 at its shelter building at 1925 Shelter Court.

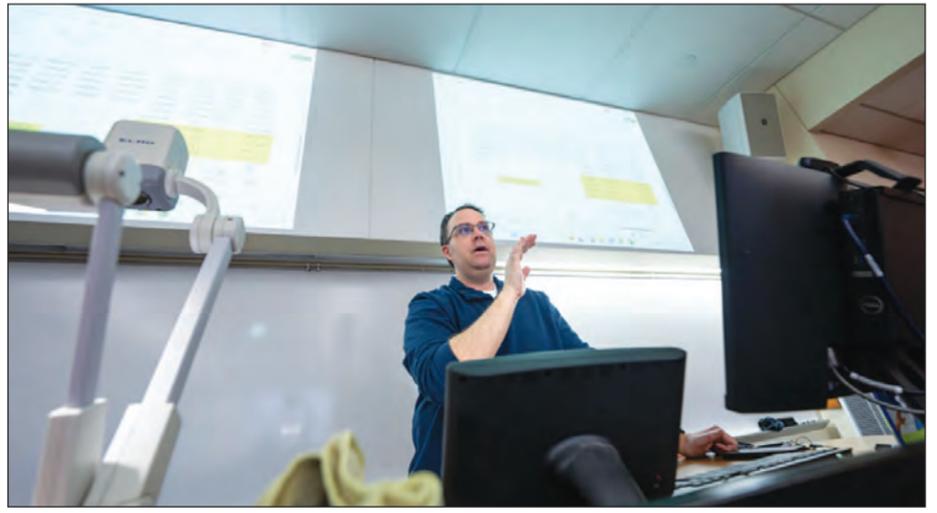
The family-fun event allows guests to get their photos taken with the Easter Bunny and enjoy an egg hunt and kids games with prizes. They can also visit educational stations to learn about how to properly care for pet rabbits, including appropriate housing, nutrition, veterinary care, microchipping and how to correctly

introduce them to other pets.

OAHS takes in, cares for and adopts out 50 to 60 rabbits annually.

Children will also be able to adopt a "pre-loved" stuffed bunny to take home with them; each secondhand bunny was "rescued" from a thrift store, washed and sanitized, and given any additional care needed, such as sewing on a missing button or adding stuffing.

Event attendees can reserve their free entry tickets for one of four time slots at <https://givebutter.com/easter25>.



UW Oshkosh photo

Professor and economics department chair Benjamin Artz at the head of the class in the spring Economics 472: Time Series Analysis and Forecasting course. UWO launches a new Business Analytics major in the fall.

UWO Business Analytics class responds to regional data demands

UW Oshkosh Today

The future is data (making both sense and solutions out of it). And Matt Larsen, '21 and '24, is not only prepared to command that future, but he also likes what he sees developing for future Matt Larsens who choose the University of Wisconsin-Oshkosh.

In fewer than five years from earning his business degree in finance and economics from UWO, Larsen, who "holds UWO's College of Business close to my heart," is in the data driver's seat, serving as a finance analyst in global product innovation at Wisconsin-based juggernaut Kohler Co. He has also earned a Data Analytics Certificate and his MBA from UWO.

So, the UW Board of Regents' December approval of a new, highly responsive UWO Business Analytics degree certainly got Larsen's attention.

"Business analytics are used in nearly every entry level job, and development of analytical skills will set graduating students ahead of their peers," he said, enthusiastically endorsing the new College of Business program launching this fall. "At a large company such as Kohler, we have many systems that utilize business analytics, and the more you know about them, the less you need to rely on others to assist with reporting."

Larsen joins a growing chorus of students, faculty, staff and regional business partners applauding the upstart Business Analytics program at UWO.

Most new academic programs earning a green light these days are responsive to industry and workforce appetites for specific and futuristic talent. Business Analytics takes the buzz to an entirely new level.

UWO's case to the Board of Regents is compelling:

Sky-high demand: "The new major will serve the growing demand in the Oshkosh and Fox Cities regions for trained professionals in Business Analytics as well as the long-standing demand for analytics programs by UW-Oshkosh students."

Remarkable job growth expected: "According to the Bureau of Labor Statistics, these typical occupations are expected to grow by 36% between 2023 and 2033 nationwide and by nearly 27% in Wisconsin by 2030." UWO's December program proposal adds that "regionally, the labor market within 100 miles of UW-Oshkosh currently contains more than 200 jobs requiring 'data analysis skills,' all of which have starting pay above \$65,000 (Indeed.com; accessed March 15, 2024). In fact, these skills are in demand throughout the state with more than 300 high-paying jobs available."

Mixing majors: Business Analytics will easily dovetail with several existing UWO majors and academic departments "includ-

ing economics, information systems, marketing, and supply chain management. Additional courses from other disciplines can be added based on faculty input, relevance to the program learning objectives, and to ensure flexibility in the job market."

And equally powerful is the fact that UWO already has the faculty expertise in the College of Business ready to drive the teaching and learning within the new program.

The degree prospectus approved by the regents notes "students will be trained in basic statistical analysis, spreadsheet analysis, data visualization skills, basic programming knowledge in Python, database management skills in SQL, supervised learning in regression and forecasting, unsupervised learning in text analysis, and applications to business including how to communicate analytical interpretations to peers and managers in business."

Translation: The resulting knowledge and skillsets are expected to produce waves of sought-after, career-ready business, financial, market research and operational research analysts.

But what about the inputs – prospective students?

UWO College of Business associate dean and professor of information systems Jakob Iversen said there's a population of learners who have some "gateway interests" that are very much a perfect fit for business analytics.

"Students who have an interest in fantasy sports or gaming, for example," Iversen said. "It's the opportunity to solve interesting problems."

The College of Business is also approving changes to its Business Analytics minor to help students easily access the new major's curriculum, Iversen said.

Law Lykins is all in. The program's fall launch couldn't be better timed for the current UWO Information Systems student and accomplished UWO swim team member.

Lykins said he's excited by the opportunity to dive in, earning the Business Analytics degree alongside his current major and making himself even more marketable as he strides toward graduation in a year or so.

"I like numbers. I like statistics," Lykins said. "It appeals to me a lot more, and I'm sure a lot of people feel the same way. With business analytics, students can apply it to finance and many other things."

Larsen said Business Analytics is powerful education and experience for students either wanting a more behind-the-scenes role and career or want to be more front-and-center—the "business thinkers who strive to understand systems."

"I love this major," he said. "It sounds like it will be very forward thinking and set many UWO students ahead."

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School projects

FROM PAGE 1

decade. In 2020, the voters passed a \$107 million referendum for phase one of the district's long-range facilities plan that made it possible to build Vel Phillips Middle School and Menominee Elementary School.

Leading up to the vote, multiple board members spoke personally about the referendum and their positions. School board president Beth Wyman called it a "pivotal referendum" and said it will shape the future of the community.

"By casting your vote, you are not just addressing a single school issue but making a significant statement about our collective priorities and values for our entire district," Wyman said.

Board vice president Chris Wright said that if the referendum would pass it will be better for Oshkosh, the students and teachers in OASD, and the district will be in a good place for long-term finances.

Board members Kelly DeWitt and Tim Hess opposed the referendum.

"I personally do not believe that new shiny schools will help improve academic achievement," DeWitt said. "Let's look at Vel Phillips for an example. According to the most recent DPI ratings, that school currently meets few expectations. While we can't look at Menominee yet, I guess I will say let's wait and see."

"We often hear, we want Oshkosh to become a destination district and by building great new schools we will draw families here. In my opinion, new schools do not mean great schools. Student achievement does and if we look at our current overall achievement scores, sadly we are failing."

DeWitt and Hess were also operating fake Facebook profiles under the names

Missy Greene and Mike Melter, an investigation by the district found. The pair received no recourse for this action and their comments, under their real names, also spotlighted the shortfalls the district is experiencing in literacy and math scores.

"Our focus needs to be laser focused on increasing achievement," Hess said. "We have seen only modest, at best, gains in reading, and no gains in math. Just over a decade ago, we were nearly in the top 20th percentile in the state in math and now we have dropped to the bottom third."

In November, district administrators reported fewer than half of students in grades 3-8 are proficient in math literacy. Only 48.7% of students in those grades are proficient in math, and just 47.3% of students are proficient in literacy in 2024, based on testing data.

"We've set rigorous goals and policy for reading and we also have rigorous goals established for math and we're supporting the growth towards those goals with the focus on rigor and engagement in our professional development and our culture," assistant superintendent of instruction Sam Coleman told the school board.

South Park issues

There was one issue the district ran into at the site of the new middle school when proposing the referendum. The district initially intended to build a new school at South Park Middle School. A county zoning change linked to the airport made the site no longer a possibility.

The zoning change was intended to avoid large gatherings of people within two miles of the Wittman Regional Airport runway. The district shifted plans and now will build on the site of Jacob Shapiro school.

Leading up to the referendum the district purchased several homes surrounding South Park to allow for more green

space in the area for children. District officials bought and razed the homes for about \$1.2 million.

The district can sell the lots it purchased around South Park to developers or the city for homes to be built, but it is unclear what can be done with the school lot.

Oshkosh community development director Kelly Nieforth told the Herald that if there were homes on the site before the school was built, it may be possible to build homes there.

City property records show that in 1984, the city sold the school and lot to the district for \$1. South Park Middle School was built in 1904 and originally called 13th Ward school with major renovations and additions in the 1940s, 1960s and 1990s.

The AIR-2 zoning that South Park is situated in states prohibited uses of the land, mostly to deter large gatherings in line with the centerline of the runway. This is because, according to the National Transportation Safety Board, the immediate area of the extended centerline of the runway is where the majority of aircraft accidents occur.

AIR-2 specifically prohibits new residential uses, nursing homes and educational facilities unless they are aviation related. Permitted uses include group day care centers, golf courses and existing residential expansion.

Winnebago County zoning administrator Cary Rowe said it is unlikely the land can be divided into separate lots if the city cannot prove there were homes on the site historically.

What's next

The referendum is part of the long-range facilities plan, passed in 2020 by the school board, laid out in four phases to deal with the age and size of buildings across the district. The plan calls for

phases three and four to focus on updating the two high schools.

District communications director Katie Nieman said district officials met with Bray Architects for a preliminary meeting two days after the election. Bray was contracted by the district for the Vel Phillips Middle School and Menominee Elementary School projects.

The district is in the design phase of the projects. In the coming weeks the OASD core planning team will establish a meeting schedule to review the scope of each project, review schedules for each as well as possibly touring other school districts to see recently completed projects.

Nieman said the team will also discuss the process of allowing staff input for developing building designs and plans.

In May, the Board of Education will receive a high-level overview of the project, with plans for the elementary school projects to be unveiled in June at the earliest.

Most of the air conditioning installation at the elementary schools will begin in the summer of 2026 at Emmeline Cook, Lakeside and Read. The remaining schools will have air conditioning installed while renovations are taking place during the 2027-28 school year.

The district is expecting to start accepting bids for projects in October that includes the planned renovations for Carl Traeger Elementary School, and project bids are expected to come in September.

Bids for the renovations of Franklin and Oakwood elementary schools are expected to come in early 2026. The bid schedule continues with Oshkosh North's new auditorium next July and the new middle school will be bid out in November.

Construction of the new middle school is scheduled to begin the summer of 2027 and be completed in time for the start of the 2028-29 school year.



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Clinic institute welcomes ticks for second year of study

Marshfield Clinic Research Institute is again asking Wisconsin residents to send in ticks they find while working and recreating outside this year.

The institute launched the Tick Inventory via Citizen Science (TICS) last year in an effort to identify ticks found in the state to help assess risk of encountering a tickborne disease and learn who is being exposed and diagnosed.

More than 6,000 ticks were submitted in 2024. About 4,200, or more than 70%, were the American dog (wood) tick and the majority of the remainder were the deer (blacklegged) tick. Much of that difference is likely due to the larger wood ticks being easier to spot than the smaller deer ticks.

“We had overwhelming support from people who are curious and invested in helping better identify the health threats associated with ticks,” said Jennifer Meece, institute executive director. “We had many calls last year from people who told us about the impact tick-borne disease had on their lives.”

Deer ticks carry pathogens that may cause diseases such as Lyme disease, anaplasmosis, ehrlichiosis and babesiosis.

The large number of ticks submitted allowed the research team to detect an influx of ticks from typically warmer climates, including the lone star tick that spreads ehrlichiosis and could cause Alpha-gal Syndrome (also known as the meat allergy), and Brown

dog ticks that spread Rocky Mountain spotted fever.

“With new tick species becoming more prevalent in Wisconsin, the risk for potential newly introduced diseases increases,” Meece said. “We are trying to determine the extent and significance of this spread and the potential health effects.”

For more information or to request a pre-paid collection kit, contact tics@marshfieldclinic.org or 715-389-7796 (extension 16462).

Parks and nature centers interested in having kits available for their visitors also are encouraged to contact Marshfield Clinic Research Institute.

New this year inside the kit will be additional survey questions. Optional ques-

tions include the types of precautions the person is taking to avoid ticks, if they’ve ever been diagnosed with a tickborne disease and if the Research Institute can follow up with the person for potential future studies.

Thomas Boyce, a pediatric infectious disease physician with Marshfield Clinic Health System, said, “If you remove a deer tick that is attached and engorged, a single dose of an antibiotic (doxycycline) can reduce the risk of contracting Lyme disease ten-fold.”

To reduce the risk of bites, spray insecticide such as permethrin on clothing, sleeping bags and tent fabric, and wear clothing that covers the skin.

Calendar of events

- Thursday, April 10**
Just Between Friends Sale, 10 a.m., Sunnyview Expo Center
- Friday, April 11**
Just Between Friends Sale, 10 a.m., Sunnyview Expo Center
“Professor Marston and the Wonder Women” 10 a.m., Time Community Theater, 445 N. Main St.
- Saturday, April 12**
Oshkosh Farmers Market, 9 a.m., Oshkosh Arena
Run Away to the Bay 55-mile spring relay race, 6:30 a.m., Menominee Park
WRAP Art Show, 9 a.m., The Waters
Just Between Friends Sale, 10 a.m., Sunnyview Expo Center
EAA Chapter 252 pancake breakfast, 7:30 a.m., 525 W 20th Ave.
Oshkosh Art Collective Show, 6 p.m., Gibson Social Club, 537 N. Main St.
Dwight Simmons comedy show, 7 p.m., Time Community Theater, 445 N. Main St.
Power Play Trio, 7 p.m., Fountain Tavern, 3696 Stearns Drive
- Sunday, April 13**
Lenten Meditation Concert, 3 p.m., Good Shepherd Lutheran Church, 2450 W. 9th Ave.
The Singing Zoologist, 2 p.m., The Grand Oshkosh
- Saturday, April 19**
Oshkosh Farmers Market and Spring Bazaar, 9 a.m., Oshkosh Convention Center

- Ruby’s Pop-up Pantry, 9:30 a.m., St. John’s Lutheran Church, 491 Old Oregon Road
Fox Cities Roller Derby, 5 and 7 p.m., Oshkosh Arena
- Sunday, April 20**
Easter Sunday Dinner, noon, Father Carr’s Place 2B, 1062 N. Koeller St.
- Tuesday, April 22**
High School Preview, 3:30 p.m., FVTC Riverside Campus, Room 101
- Thursday, April 24**
Bridging Past and Present: Needles workshop, 1 p.m., Oshkosh Seniors Center
Pups on the Runway, 5 p.m., Becket’s, 2 Jackson St.
- Friday, April 25**
Wisconsin State Arm Wrestling Championship & Expo, 7 p.m., Oshkosh Arena
- Saturday, April 26**
Wisconsin State Arm Wrestling Championship & Expo, 8 a.m., Oshkosh Arena
4imprint Oshkosh Half Marathon, Relay & Loop the Lake, 8 a.m., Fox River Brewing Co.
Grown Up Book Fair for Indie Bookstore Day, 10 a.m., Caramel Crisp Bookstore
Feels Like the First Time, 7 p.m., The Grand Oshkosh
“Legally Blonde” (Love the Mess fundraiser), 7 p.m., Time Community Theater, 445 N. Main St.
- Sunday, April 27**
The Beat Goes On, 2 p.m., The Grand Oshkosh
Oshkosh Card Show, 10 a.m., Oshkosh Convention Center
Hats off the Moms, 11 a.m. Gibson Social Club, 537 N. Main St.
Oshkosh Repair Cafe, 12:30 p.m., Downtown YMCA, 324 Washington Ave.

County facilities

FROM PAGE 1

for presentation to the full board.

Currently, county services are spread across multiple aging buildings in Oshkosh and Neenah with significant infrastructure challenges.

“Conceptually, the architects provided addition needs if the county were to remodel current facilities,” Hollenberger said. “They also looked at what the space and site needs would be for new construction. If the committee chooses to pursue new construction, the architects did review currently owned county property for potential locations of new facilities.”

One of the proposals involves creating a 10-acre centralized campus in Oshkosh on County Y near the county jail and Highway Department building, or north of the James P. Coughlin Center.

The campus would move departments including Administration, Human Services, Public Health and Information Technology to one location, with Hollenberger noting consolidation of facilities would allow the county to decommission for other use about 250,000 square feet of space.

Preliminary estimates suggest maintenance costs for existing buildings will top \$167 million over the next 10 to 15 years, which could reach \$300 million over 20 years with inflation. In comparison, constructing new, efficient buildings could potentially cost \$100-\$200 million.

County Executive Jon Doemel said the county is exploring all potential possibilities for county spaces.

“We want to look at all options,” he said. “We want to consider all options. We want to evaluate what the overall cost is on 20 years and what the best way is.”

The proposed consolidated site offers several advantages, including existing in-

frastructure, the potential for future expansion and proximity to emergency services.

Concerns were raised about accessibility, with facilities director Mike Elder noting the location of some of the buildings may be a barrier for public use.

“We have people that may be living out into the rural areas that are not partaking of the services because it’s too hard to get here,” he said. “... when my dad died, there was no way for my mom to get to the ADRC (Aging and Disability Resource Center) ... it’s basically a two-hour commute.”

Shuttle services and exploring new public transit routes to improve access were among topics discussed at the meeting.

Hollenberger highlighted potential improvements in employee wellness and career development with a centralized campus that would allow easier interdepartmental interactions and shared amenities.

“That has been the benefit of, we can do things in recruitment and retention that we could not do in old and other buildings because, you know, and I was there in COVID and out of campus in a different county, and we had a food truck rally, and we had CNAs crying because they got to see their fellow co-workers,” he said.

Supervisor John Hinz said the project could spur commercial development in the surrounding area near Interstate 41, creating additional economic opportunities for the region.

“You would have so many people out there,” he said. “I mean, you might end up with ... a restaurant or two, probably another Kwik Trip ... so (it) will be good for the city, which is good for the county.”

Hollenberger said a more refined committee presentation with additional financial data and cost estimates will take place later this month, followed by a County Board presentation and tour in May. Adoption of the study and plan could occur this summer.

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 Jack Doemel 920-379-6843 Outstanding Agent	 Michelle Hansen 920-292-4041 Outstanding Agent	 RE/MAX ON THE WATER 814 Knapp St, Oshkosh • 920-230-8880 www.oshkoshrealty.com Each Office Independently Owned and Operated	

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1.49 2000 pig points
 14 oz Onion Rings or 19-26 oz McCain Potatoes
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 48 oz Select Kemp's Ice Cream
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 LIMIT 20

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2.99
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2.99
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3.99
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2/\$5
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4.99
8 pk, 20 oz Bottles Powerade



3/\$9.99
8 pk, 12 oz Cans Polar Seltzer



6.99
12 pk, .5 ltr Bottles Lipton Tea



3/\$9
6 pk, .5 ltr Bottles Coke, Sprite or Diet Coke



3/\$15
8 pk, 12 oz Bottles or 12 pk, 12 oz Cans 7UP, RC Cola or A&W Root Beer



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2.99
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2/\$4
64 oz Indian Summer Apple Cider or Juice



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Kerrygold
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I Can't Believe It's Not Butter
15 oz Country Crock Spread...3.29

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Pint
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or 12 lb Match Light

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6 oz Stove Top Stuffing
or 12 oz Heinz Gravy

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24 pk, 12 oz Cans or Bottles Coors Banquet or Coors Light



17.49
30 pk, 12 oz Cans Keystone Light



13.79
12 pk, 12 oz Bottles Miller High Life



7.19 ea
6 pk, 12 oz Cans or Bottles Leinenkugel's Craft



13.29
12 pk, 12 oz Cans Arnold Palmer Spiked



24.99 ea
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8.99
1.75 ltr Bottle Badger Claw Vodka



13.99
750 ml Bottle Fireball Cinnamon Whisky



14.99
3 ltr Box Bota Box Wines



15.99
1.75 ltr Bottle Admiral Nelson's Spiced Rum



25.99 ea
750 ml Bottle Bulleit Bourbon



14.99
750 ml Bottle Kim Crawford White Wines



Photo by Doug Sasse

Lourdes Academy shortstop Parker Slusarski fields a ground ball against Winneconne last week.

Prep sports roundup

BASEBALL

Spartans open season with pair of wins

Jackson Anderson and Zach Kiffmeyer each hit home runs and Oshkosh North opened the season with an 11-3 win over Marinette last Thursday.

Anderson finished 2-for-4 with a pair of RBIs in the win, while Kiffmeyer drove in three runs in the contest. Keegan Kinzfohl also chipped in a pair of hits and three RBIs.

Braydan Frank earned the win on the mound for the Spartans.

Oshkosh North followed that up with a 6-4 win over visiting Winneconne on Friday at EJ Schneider Field.

The Spartans erased an early 2-0 deficit with a three-run second inning and led the rest of the way.

Anderson and Connor Palmquist each drove in runs in the game for North, while Isiah Jackson had a double and scored a pair of runs.

Kiffmeyer earned the win on the mound for North, while Kinzfohl fanned six in three innings of work.

Offense comes alive in Wildcats' victory

Evan Johnson went 3-for-5 and drove in three runs while Landon Ubrig picked up a couple of doubles and three RBIs to fuel Oshkosh West's 13-7 win over Wautoma last Thursday.

The Wildcats fell behind early but took the lead with a four-run second inning and then added another run in the fourth to go ahead 5-3. After the Hornets pulled within a run in the top of the fifth, West answered with five runs in the bottom of the inning to break the game open.

West took advantage of 11 walks to go along with nine hits in the game.

Johnson also scored three times and picked up a double in the game.

Owen Ervin allowed two earned runs and struck out three in four innings to earn the win on the mound for West.

West was coming off a 10-0 loss to Wau-pun to open the season as Bryce Reichenberger and Cade Heiman tallied the lone hits in the game. Avery Mosloski struck out six and allowed only two runs in 3 2/3 innings but took the loss for the Wildcats.

Lourdes Academy drops two to open season

The Knights rallied back from a 5-0 deficit but couldn't complete the comeback in a 7-4 loss to Winneconne to open the season last Tuesday.

Lourdes Academy scored three runs in the top of the fourth to cut the Wolves' lead to 5-3 but Winneconne answered with two runs in the bottom of the inning and kept the Knights at bay the rest of the game.

Adam Dinegan finished 3-for-3 and drove in a run for the Knights, who finished with eight hits in the game. Michael Santiago finished with a pair of RBIs.

The Knights also dropped a 12-7 decision to Omro on Friday.

Ryder Mullen finished 2-for-4 and scored a pair of runs to lead the Knights. Nolan Gibson, Henry Acterberg, Brady Bauer and Johnny Santiago all drove in runs in the game.

SOFTBALL

Wildcats tripped up by Stevens Point Panthers

West scored five runs in the bottom of the second inning to tie the game but Stevens Point outscored the Wildcats 6-1 over the final five frames to collect a 12-7 victory.

Colleen Fitzpatrick and Emmy Reichenberger each finished 3-for-4 and drove in two runs to lead the West offense, which totaled 12 hits in the game. Izzy Kramer added two hits and two RBIs but the Wildcats left nine runners on base in the loss.

Avery Tritt took the loss in the circle for West, which committed five errors that led to eight unearned runs in the game.

Peters, defense strong in win for North

Brooke Peters allowed just two hits over seven innings and the Spartans' defense backed her up in a 3-1 win over West Bend East in a nonconference softball game at the UW-Oshkosh Rec Plex last Friday.

Peters struck out one and walked one and allowed the Suns a run in the second inning before shutting them out the final

SEE **Prep roundup** ON PAGE 19

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North's Niemczyk proves to be center of attention

By Tim Froberg
HERALD CONTRIBUTOR

Emma Niemczyk doesn't secretly work for NASA, but she certainly knows how to handle herself in space.

The speedy Oshkosh North senior covers considerable ground in center field for the Spartans' softball team and has established herself as a two-way weapon with her substantial offensive and defensive skills.

Niemczyk is one of the Oshkosh area's top returning players. She has been a first-team all-Fox Valley Association selection the past two seasons and is the Spartans' team leader and linchpin.

"She is our leader, our tone setter and a mentor for our young players," said North coach Keith Koslowski. "She has worked really hard in the offseason, so our expectations for her are even higher this spring."

Niemczyk's production has been stellar the past three years. A right-handed hitter with power to match her speed, Niemczyk batted .450 last season with an on-base percentage of .470 and a slugging percentage of .662. She added eight steals and 16 RBI.

As a sophomore, Niemczyk topped the Spartans in almost every offensive category, batting .532 with a .553 on-base percentage, a .797 slugging percentage, 12 steals and 25 RBIs.

"At the plate, she is always thinking and when she gets on base, she will find a way to get into scoring position," Koslowski said. "She is always aggressive. I love that about her."

Koslowski also loves her spectacular defense in center field.

Senior Spotlight

"In 20 years of coaching softball, I have never seen an outfielder attack the ball like she does," said Koslowski. "She has great instincts in the outfield and will always get a great jump on a ball."

"She has a very strong arm, so many teams do not try to score on her. And she can run down any type of ball in the gap."

Few enjoy playing their position more than Niemczyk: a varsity starter in center field since her freshman year when she landed second-team all-conference honors after hitting .412 with a .407 on-base percentage, a .700 slugging percentage, 14 RBI and eight stolen bases.

"I feel like I have found a home there," Niemczyk said. "I love being by myself out there and doing short sprints. I'm really good at getting a jump on the ball and kind of sensing where the ball is going to be hit."

"Playing center has allowed me to be a leader in the outfield and someone who can help direct the whole infield because I can see the entire field."

Niemczyk played first base earlier in her softball career before coaches decided to capitalize on her explosiveness and let her run and roam in center field.

"I was a little taller than everyone when I was younger, that's why they played me at first base," said Niemczyk. "Then my travel team coaches realized that I was super duper quick and put me in the outfield. I love it out there."

At the plate, Niemczyk's top priority is simply to get on base...and she usually accomplishes that.

"I'm a pretty versatile hitter, she said. 'I



Photo by Jim Koepnick

Oshkosh North's Emma Niemczyk is a two-time first-team all-Fox Valley Association selection and the leader of a talented Spartans' roster.

can hit it over the fence or get on base with a bunt. It all depends on the situation."

Niemczyk keeps her diamond skills sharp by playing summer travel ball with the Fire Pro fast pitch team, based in Stevens Point.

"Softball has always been my sport," she said. "I love the fact that it's a fast-paced sport and a team sport. I have made a lot of my best friends through softball."

Softball isn't the only sport that Niemczyk excels in. She was a varsity tennis player for four years at North, teaming with Liv Borowitz in doubles play. The

tandem was North's No. 1 doubles team in 2024 (placing fourth in conference play) and the Spartans No. 2 doubles duo in 2023 (placing third in conference action).

"Liz and I grew up together playing softball and basketball, so we just have great chemistry," Niemczyk said. "Tennis was kind of my break sport (from softball) where I could stay active and also be super competitive."

Niemczyk also played varsity basketball her freshman and sophomore years

SEE **Senior Spotlight** ON PAGE 19

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Oshkosh West aims to challenge again in the FVA

Oshkosh Herald

Oshkosh West lost its top scorer and veteran goalkeeper from last year's squad but have several key returnees around the field as the Wildcats look to be competitive again in the Fox Valley Association.

The Wildcats finished third in the FVA last season behind state runner-up Kimberly and Appleton North and had its winningest season since 2011, according to head coach Abe Nelson, finishing 12-3-5 overall.

West does return two of its top four goal scorers from last season, which should bolster the team's attack.

Senior forward Taylor Heiman, who earned second-team all-conference honors last year, posted six goals in nine games a year ago, while senior midfielder Elliana Noe provided an offensive presence in the midfield.

Nelson also believes that freshman forward Mya Johnson could be a contributor up front this season.

On defense, junior Elaina Butz returns after earning second-team all-FVA honors last season, while newcomer Andrea Czerwinski, a sophomore, should also help along the backline.

The Wildcats will have to replace Hannah Wolf, who started the last three years in goal for West, who anchored the backline for the squad.

Senior Grace Senkbeil and sophomore Sophie Kalka each saw limited varsity action in net last season and could compete for the starting spot this season.

"This team has an incredible work ethic and belief in themselves and each other," commented Nelson. "The team is looking to build off a great season last year with a combination of experienced and new players. Being competitive in the playoffs and competing for a top conference place is always something we will be striving for."

Oshkosh North

A talented and veteran backline mixed with some newcomers in the attacking positions has the Spartans looking forward to an improved season in 2025.

Senior Hallie Trochinski at center back along with junior Ellie Auler at outside back lead the experienced Spartans' defense. Trochinski earned second-team all-FVA honors a year ago, while Auler was an honorable mention honoree.

Junior Ava Duran also returns at outside back giving the Spartans a solid foundation to build around.

"Their soccer IQ, work ethic and leadership have been invaluable in the past and we're optimistic they will continue to shine this season," commented head coach Nicole Palmquist.

Junior Olivia Dennis, a newcomer at goalkeeper, will anchor the defense behind that back line and Palmquist likes the confidence and leadership in the net so far this season.

Two other newcomers are expected to highlight the midfield play for the Spartans this season.

Freshmen Emaly Duran and Gabi Perea Da Silva will bring some speed and quickness to the pitch that should help spark the Spartans' offense.

"These newcomers add a lot of energy to our squad and should elevate our team's performance as we work together," Palmquist commented. "I believe our camaraderie will foster strong communication and possession on the field. This dynamic will also encourage everyone to improve daily during practice, translating our hard work into games."

The Spartans posted just one win in conference play last season but finished .500 on their nonconference slate.

Palmquist hopes the team can build on the successes it experienced last season and finish better overall.

"As coaches, we are eagerly looking forward to this season," Palmquist commented. "Our goal is to start strong and continuously evolve as a unit, aiming to secure several wins beyond our record from last season. We want each game to be competitive, with the ultimate aim of finishing

above .500."

Lourdes/Valley

The Knights have advanced to the sectional final in each of the past two seasons and are looking to continue that success this year.

Both tournament runs the past two seasons ended against powerhouse Kiel, but the Raiders have been elevated to Division 3 this season leaving the door open in the Knights' sectional.

Lourdes Academy/Valley Christian's efforts this season will be bolstered by the return of its top two scorers from last season.

Senior Delaney Ruedinger, a four-year varsity starter, and sophomore Ellie Koch anchored the Knights' offense with 15 and 14 goals, respectively, last year. The duo also finished as the top two in assists on the season with Ruedinger tallying seven and Koch adding six.

Although the Knights lost some key players on the defensive side, they return experience in goal where sophomore Kenzie Grammer stepped into the netminder role last year and emerged as a standout in goal.

Grammer posted 10 shutouts a year ago and didn't allow a goal in the first three games of the WIAA tournament before the Knights fell to Kiel.

Lourdes/Valley finished tied for third in the competitive Flyway Conference and will likely compete with North Fond du Lac United, St. Mary's Springs and Mayville at the top of the league once again.

Local martial arts team takes state award

Oshkosh Herald

Impact Martial Arts in Oshkosh, representing Team Rodrigo Vaghi BJJ, took first place in the Adult Team Awards at the Grappling Industries tournament held March 22 in Wisconsin Dells.

Competing against 62 other teams, Impact BJJ brought home six gold medals, six silver medals and two bronze medals. The team earned the first-place team award based on the overall medal count from its Adult Team.

Adult competitors representing Impact Martial Arts were Manon Allard, Nick

Matiash, Tyler Buechel, Jeff Berzowski, Rodger Manock, Kyle Lemke and Kyle Weber. The youth team included Britta Baardsen, Jayla Gies, Emmet Good and Murphy Good.

Coaching the team were Chris Baardsen and Bill Krieg, whose guidance helped the athletes reach their full potential.

Impact Martial Arts offers training in Brazilian Jiu-Jitsu, Krav Maga and kickboxing. For more information about training or about upcoming events, visit impactmartialartswi.com or contact Baardsen at 920-282-2413.

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Oshkosh North golfers hoping to rise in rugged FVA

Oshkosh Herald

With three golfers returning from last year's regional lineup and a couple of freshmen expected to compete for varsity spots this season, the Oshkosh North boys

Golf PREVIEW

Owen Weber, who was an individual sectional qualifier a year ago. Weber finished tied for sixth at last year's regional meet and placed 30th at the sectional tournament.

Senior Warren Seeley also returns after nearly advancing to sectionals a year ago, while junior Jack Anderson was also a part of last year's regional tournament lineup.

Junior Sullivan Snow and sophomore Clayton Paquette are also back from last year and will be competing for spots in the lineup.

Joining that group will be a pair of freshmen that North head coach Bryan Dorn

believe could be contributors to the squad this season. Wesley Loewe and Brady Anderson could both find themselves in the Spartans' top five and adding depth to the roster.

The Spartans nearly qualified for sectionals as a team a year ago, finishing fifth at the regional tournament, just 13 points out of the fourth spot. This year the group has the potential to make up that margin.

"The coaches are excited to see where Owen and Warren can take the 2025 season. The leadership and skill level should give us a chance to improve our standing in the Fox Valley Association," Dorn commented. "If Jack, Sullivan and Clayton make a jump in improvement and with the two talented freshmen (we've added), we will surprise some of the top teams in our conference."

Oshkosh West

The Wildcats return their top two golfers in the regional lineup from last season and should get an influx of young talent as

they look to climb up the FVA standings.

Seniors Jaxen Lloyd and Parker Gerlach will look to lead the squad as they were the only two returning from regionals a year ago. Lloyd finished just short of advancing to sectionals.

The Wildcats also welcome back sophomore Tyler Mellgren who saw some varsity action a year ago and will be competing for a spot in the lineup. Sophomore Tyler Moderson and freshmen Lincoln Houle and William Berg are also expected to be in contention for varsity spots.

"We think we can surprise a few teams this year," coach Nick Brandl commented. "If we can stay consistent throughout the year, we could crack the top half of the conference. We will be young, but there's a ton of potentials."

Lourdes/Valley

A pair of golfers that were on the Knights' Division 2 sectional qualifying team last season will return to lead the squad this season.

Sophomore Jackson Buttke and senior Donovan Heminghaus will be the most experienced golfers on the roster for head coach Greg McLaughlin as the Lourdes Academy/Valley Christian squad once again hopes to challenge for a top finish in the Trailways.

In addition to Buttke and Heminghaus, the Knights will have some other players with varsity experience going for them.

Seniors Olivia Gelhar and Ben Hooper along with junior Connor Hamill all saw some time golfing at the varsity level. Fellow seniors Kaden Anderson and Brett Maki could also compete for varsity playing time, while sophomores Noah Boldersukh and Walker Dlugolenski are also expected to contribute.

McLaughlin also has promising freshmen Ian Simmons, with potential to contribute on the varsity level, while other first-year players Mason Piechowski, Chris Bailey and Adrian Thostenson will also add to the team's depth.

Valley Christian/Lourdes Academy squad eyes success

Oshkosh Herald

Numbers are no longer an issue with the Valley Christian/Lourdes Academy tennis team.

Head coach Breck Speers said he had just three high school players when he took over the program in 2022 with the team also using an eighth-grade player to help fill out the lineup.

This season, the team opens the season with 22 players on the roster and plenty of depth and experience to work with.

Leading the list of returning players is No. 1 singles player Danny Kunde, who went undefeated last year in the regular season and fell just short of a trip to the state tournament. Kunde, now a junior, was the eighth grader who played in 2022

Tennis PREVIEW

and has been a fixture in the lineup since.

Sophomore Brady Day also returns and will likely play at the No. 2 singles slot this season, while senior Maliha Demler is projected at No. 3 singles with freshman Joseph Foss getting the nod at No. 4 singles.

In doubles, Valley/Lourdes will have a new pairing at the No. 1 flight as senior Ethan Millar will move from singles to doubles and will join junior Dawson Miller, who was part of the top doubles pairing last season.

Juniors Sam Vilski and Zikri Kallio are slated for the No. 2 doubles spot, while Sebio Maldonado and Bella Birr are expected to team up to fill the No. 3 doubles flight.

Speers said the hope is that either Kunde or the top doubles pairing can advance to the state tournament this season.

Oshkosh West

The Wildcats welcome back a pair of state qualifiers and look to be one of the contenders in the Fox Valley Association again.

Senior Jacob Stinski is a three-time state qualifier in singles and will likely hold down the No. 1 singles flight for the fourth straight year. Fellow senior Yosef

Edsell played at state in doubles last season and could return to the top doubles pairing with a new partner or make the move to singles.

Junior Kole Stauffacher reached the sectional final at No. 2 singles last season and returns for the Wildcats, while juniors Gavin Steiner and Reid Potter teamed up at No. 2 doubles and reached the sectional level a year ago.

The Wildcats will likely be chasing Neenah and Kimberly again this season after both teams qualified for the team state tournament.

Oshkosh North

The Spartans had only one senior among the 10 players that competed at sub-sectionals last season and could return a very experienced group as they look to challenge for some wins in the FVA.

Oshkosh North had just two doubles flights win matches at the sub-sectional tournament a year ago and only one of those pairings were made up of two underclassmen – the No. 3 tandem of George Tapia and Quasi Alqawasmi.

The Spartans could also return its No. 1 doubles pairing of David Tjugum and Kallum Larson-Poeschel, while Konrad Bowlus-Jasinski is expected to return after playing at No. 1 flight the past two seasons.

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Prep roundup

FROM PAGE 15

five frames. North scored two runs in the bottom of the second to take the lead and then tacked on an insurance run in the sixth for the final margin.

Emma Niemczyk finished 2-for-3 with an RBI to lead the Spartan offense, while Olivia Borowitz also drove in a run in the win.

It was the first win of the season for North, which dropped a pair of games earlier in the week.

The Spartans fell to Green Bay Preble 6-2 Tuesday with Niemczyk tallying two hits while Anna Borst and Kara Cummings drove in runs.

On Thursday, North lost to Menasha, 6-1. Niemczyk and Morgan Kolodzik each had two hits in the game with Borowitz driving in the lone Spartan run.

SOCCER

Ruedinger, Koch carry Knights to win

Delaney Ruedinger finished with four goals and Ellie Koch chipped in three as Lourdes Academy/Valley Christian breezed to a 7-0 win over Ripon in its season opener Tuesday.

Hadassah Gutierrez-Kuhaupt finished with two assists in the win, while Ruedinger, Koch and Evelyn Heinzen each had one.

Kenzie Grammer needed to make just one save to earn the shutout for the Knights, who lead 4-0 at halftime and outshout the Tigers 16-1.

TRACK AND FIELD

Moore, Konop win events to lead Knights

Erin Moore and Natasha Konop each placed first in events to lead Lourdes Academy at the Girls Small School Indoor meet held at the Kolf Sports Center last week.

Moore finished first in the 1,600 meters, while Konop earned her victory in the 60-meter hurdles with the Knights competing in the Division 3 individual events.

Lourdes Academy also posted a win in the 1,600-meter relay with a foursome of Konop, Moore, Dasha Averkamp and Kylie Rietz.

Annie Moore added a second place in the 800 meters with Averkamp placing fourth in the 400 meters. Christina Agostino picked up a fifth place in the 60 meters with Alison Stromske adding a sixth place in the 1,600 meters.

Bree Kane led the Knights' field athletes

In addition to starring on the diamond, Niemczyk shines in the classroom as well. She carries a perfect 4.0 grade-point average and plans to major in either business administration or management-marketing at Drury.

"Being a student has always been my No. 1 priority," said Niemczyk. "I have prioritized my studies over athletics and have made that known to the coaches. They have been great with it. I will tell Kos (Kosowski) that 'Hey, I have a lot of homework or a test to study for, so let's get this practice going.'"

Niemczyk hopes to close out her prep softball with a big finish. North is looking to improve on last season's sixth-place showing (9-9) in the FVA and 11-13 overall mark.

"We have some strong hitters all the way through our lineup," Niemczyk said. "A lot of us grew up together. Our senior class has been playing softball and basketball together since the third grade. So our team chemistry is insane. That should really help us."



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Photo by Jim Koepnick

Oshkosh North's Sophia Housworth tags out a West Bend East runner headed toward first base in a nonconference game Friday night at the UWO Rec Plex.

by tying for ninth in the high jump and placing 10th in the long jump.

Lourdes Academy also took fourth in the 3,200-meter relay with a team of Averkamp, Annie Moore, Khloe Bunton and Tessia Mroczkowski.

The Knights placed sixth in the team standings, which combined the Division 2 and Division 3 schools.

Oshkosh North boys take ninth at invite

Logan Schettle and Jamare Scott each placed in the top six in the 60 meters and boosted the Spartans' 400-meter relay to a third place as the Oshkosh North boys

placed ninth among 16 teams at the Red Hawk Challenge in Ripon last week.

Schettle was second in the 60 meters and Scott was sixth, while the duo was joined by Evan Auler and Joshua Zietlow on the relay.

Devon Williams in the 400 meters and Harrison Bell in 60-meter hurdles each picked up fourth places, while Jay Weber was eighth in the 3,200 meters and Bell added a ninth place in the triple jump.

The North girls finished 14th among 19 teams with Lehna Mitchell scoring a win in the 1,600 meters to highlight the day for the Spartans. Tianna Hayes was 10th in the event.

Senior Spotlight

FROM PAGE 16

and was a Spartans' starter, averaging 7.3 points and 6.6 rebounds per game in 2021-22 and 9.3 points and 5.1 rebounds during the 2022-23 season. But she decided to focus on softball and forgo hoops her junior and senior seasons.

"I was a little prone to getting hurt in basketball and had a pretty bad ankle sprain in summer league basketball going into my junior year," she said. "I felt like my future was in softball and that I had a chance to play it at a higher level. I didn't think it was worth it to risk it by playing basketball."

Niemczyk does indeed have a future in softball. She will play the game at the next level after accepting a Division 2 scholarship to play softball at Drury University in Springfield, Missouri.

"I love the coach there (Brooke Gajewski)," said Niemczyk. "I met her over the summer and she's from this area. One of my travel ball teammates (Claire) Nelson is also going to play there and that made my decision a little easier."

Niemczyk knows there is plenty of work ahead for her on the diamond, but can't wait to get started.

"I've already put so much work into softball," she said. "I'm always in the gym, taking extra reps after practice and encouraging my teammates to do the same. But I just have to keep my head down and keep working for sure."

"I know it's going to be a jump. Division 2 softball is very competitive. I have to keep grinding every single day."

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Obituaries

Deborah Chitel

Deborah Loretta Haidlinger Chitel June 27, 1971 - April 5, 2025



Deborah Chitel passed away April 5, 2025, after a courageous battle with Cancer. She passed away at home with loved ones by her side. Deb was a nurse for many years.

She is survived by her daughter, Hailey Chitel and son, Nick Chitel (Stephany). She is further survived by her parents, Jim and Dianne Senderhauf; brother, Dar-

ren Haidlinger; and sister, Heather Beck (Ryan); brothers, Greg (Terye) and Jim jr. Senderhauf, grandchildren and numerous nephews, nieces, and cousins and a special aunt Deborah Heidel (Mark).

Deborah was preceded in death by her daughter, Tianna and a brother, Eric Senderhauf.

She is sorriely missed by her companion and fiancé Ike J.Kurczek and his daughter Lily Kurczek. They were planning a wedding for July of this year.

There was a private funeral for the immediate family at Konrad Funeral Home.

KONRAD-BEHLMAN
FUNERAL HOMES

Milton L. Hershberger

Milton "Milt" Lee Hershberger, age 83, passed away on April 3, 2025, in Oshkosh, WI.



He was born on October 26, 1941, to parents Donald and Freda (Stocker) Hershberger, in Bussey, Iowa.

Milt moved with his parents to Wisconsin, where he attended Redgranite Grade School. In 1959, he graduated from Wautoma High School. In 1964, he entered the Army National Guard followed by the Army Reserves for a total of six years.

On August 12, 1965, he married the love of his life, Diane Schendel. Together, they raised three children. He enjoyed fishing, hunting and traveling with Diane.

Milt worked at University Foundry, Oshkosh, the Berlin Foundry, and retired from Curwood-Bemis after 18 years in 2008 as a machine operator.

He is survived by his wife, Diane Her-

shberger; children, Chris (Margo) of Oshkosh, Tim of Spring Lake, and Karen (Isidro) Garza of Oshkosh; 10 grandchildren, Dylan Hershberger, Brianna Hershberger, Josh (Sarah) Hershberger, Alex Hershberger, Nathan Hershberger, Katlyn Hershberger, Zach Garza, Nick Garza and Brittany Garza; 2 great-grandchildren, Skylar and Raelyn. He is further survived by his sisters, Maxine (Tom) Mertens of Berlin and Jane (Dale) Schaumberg of Fond du Lac; sisters-in-law, Linda Hershberger and Kathy Hershberger; as well as several nieces, nephews, other relatives and friends.

Preceding him in death were his parents; brothers, Donald Hershberger, Larry Hershberger, Lonnie Hershberger and Tom Hershberger; and sister-in-law, Carol Hershberger.

Per his wishes, no formal services will be held. In lieu of flowers, please feel free to donate to a charity of your choice in his honor.



Janice Irene Nitschke

Janice Irene Nitschke, 84, of Oshkosh, WI passed away following a short battle with cancer and a broken back from a fall.



Jan graduated from Oshkosh High School and worked for Dr. Joseph Petersik and many years for Kimberly-Clark Corp., where she made many

lasting friendships.

Jan loved crocheting, word search puzzles, spending time at her cabin on Lily Lake, vacationing in Florida on the Gulf Coast, spoiling several felines over the years, and playing cards with family and friends.

She was preceded in death by her father (Charles Reed); mother (Daisy L. A. Reed-Wolff); sisters-in-law Betty Nitschke and Dorothy Achterberg; brothers-in-law Carl Potratz, Ivan Achterberg,

and Donald Nitschke; and fur-babies Sara, Bambi, Smokey and Shadow.

Jan is survived by her best friend and husband, Roger; daughter Michelle (Ross) Bielema; granddaughter Kalispell Bielema; sister-in-law Arleen Potratz; and many cousins, nieces and nephews.

A celebration of life will be held for Jan at Konrad-Behelman Funeral Homes- West (100 Lake Pointe Dr) from 2-4PM with a memorial service at 4PM on April 12, 2025. A burial will be held at Lake View Memorial Park at 11AM.

In lieu of flowers, please consider a donation to the Oshkosh Area Humane Society.

The family would like to thank the angels at Lake Pointe Villas and Compassus Hospice for your kindness to Jan in her final days.

KONRAD-BEHLMAN
FUNERAL HOMES

Sandra Schaefer

Sandra Schaefer, age 78, of Oshkosh passed away peacefully at home on Sunday, April 6, 2025. Sandra was born in Oshkosh on January 30, 1947 the daughter of the late DeLloyd and Vivian (Molash) Anderson.

She is survived by her two sons, Craig (Andria) Schaefer of Oshkosh and Cory

(Lisa) Schaefer of Neenah. Four grandchildren, Blake, Sara, Brian and Jody. Eight great grandchildren, Drake, Skyleigh, Liam, Ozzy, Everest, Arwen, Finnius and Sirius.

Private family services will be held.

FISS & BILLS - POKLASNY
FUNERAL HOMES
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John R. Burr

John R. Burr, age 91 of Oshkosh, passed away on Friday, March 28, 2025. He was



born in Oshkosh on July 18, 1933 to the late Lester and Dorothy (Hoffman) Burr. John was united in marriage to Marjorie Bakirakis on July 4, 1963, and had three children.

John was a remarkable individual who dedicated his life to philosophy and education. After earning a Bachelor of Arts from the University of Wisconsin-Madison in 1955, he continued his studies at Columbia University, where he received both his Master's and Doctorate in Philosophy, 1956 and 1959 respectively.

His academic career was extensive, including his first teaching position in 1959 as the adjunct professor at Franklin and Marshall College, to becoming the assistant professor at Hood College in 1961, before finding his home at the University

of Wisconsin-Oshkosh (UWO) in 1964. John made significant contributions to the philosophy department, being appointed as Chairman from 1966-1976 and again in 2000, and co-editing the journal "Philosophy and Contemporary Issues" for over thirty years. In 1976, John became the Assistant Dean of Letters and Science at UWO. In 2015, he authored "Philosophy in the Shadow of Tomorrow". He retired in 2018, leaving behind a legacy of thought and inspiration.

John is survived by his wife, Marjorie Burr; his children, Michael (Kimberly Nowak-Burr) Burr, Christopher Burr (Nicole Daggett) and Kara Burr; granddaughter, Ava Sophia Burr; sister, Charlotte Burr.

A memorial service for John will take place at Konrad-Behelman Funeral Home-Eastside, 402 Waugoo Ave. on Friday, April 11, 2025 at 5:00 pm. Visitation will be held at the funeral home from 4:00 pm until the time of the service.

KONRAD-BEHLMAN
FUNERAL HOMES

Lee J. Keller

Lee J. Keller, age 77, passed away on Saturday, March 29, 2025, after battling multiple sclerosis since 1994. He was born on July 19, 1947, in Hortonville, WI to the late Lucile (Kluge) and Joseph Keller. On May 4th, 1968, he was united in marriage to his high school sweetheart and love of his life Barbara Willenkamp with whom he spent roughly 60 beloved years together.

Lee is survived by his wife, Barbara; son, Russ (Bev) Keller; granddaughters, Jamie (Kevin) Cottrell and Lindsey Keller; brother-in-law, Dennis (Debbie) Willenkamp, sister-in-law, Bonnie Ulman, nephews, Kyle (Tara) and Brendan (Jill) Willenkamp, Denise Barnack and Darcie (Bruce) Tangney, and their children. Lee was preceded in death by his parents Lu-

cile and Joseph Keller, his twin sister, Lola Keller; and his mother-in-law and father-in-law, Marvin and Margaret Willenkamp.

Lee graduated from Hortonville High school in 1965 and was a 3-sport varsity letter winner. He served 4 years in the Air Force, with the last year spent in Vietnam. After his time in Vietnam, he went on to further his education at the University of Wisconsin-Oshkosh and graduated with a Bachelor's Degree in Business. He proudly worked at Omni Glass & Paint and retired after 39 years.

Lee was passionate about many sports, one in which was a world record that he held for 20+ years. He enjoyed bowling, in which he scored a perfect 300 and won the Oshkosh City Tournament. Lee also enjoyed biking, fishing and listening to music.

Lee was a devoted husband, father, and grandfather, who loved spending time with his family and grand-dog, Tilly (whom he affectionately called the "Big Brown Dog") and his great grand-dog Rollie. He was known as the neighborhood grandpa who always kept a stash of dog treats in his pocket for dogs walking by.

Per his wishes, the family will honor him privately. In lieu of flowers, any donations can be made to the charity of your choice.



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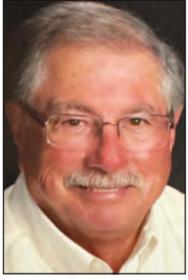
Mother's Day
Sunday, May 11th 12-8pm

TAKIZA
MEXICAN CUISINE

Obituaries

Charles Kenneth Riese

Charles Kenneth Riese, 84, of Oshkosh passed away peacefully on April 2, 2025, in his dream home on Lake Winnebago surrounded by his family. Chuck was born February 7, 1941, in Oshkosh to Lois and Kenneth Riese.



Chuck graduated from Oshkosh High School in 1958. He went on to work for Oshkosh Motor Truck for 10 years and continued to have a long career in industrial equipment sales. The day after he attended the Ice Bowl in 1968, Chuck and Judy moved to Ohio where they raised their family for 25 years. In 1994 the Rieves returned to Oshkosh to live on Lake Winnebago. Chuck enjoyed all aspects of living on the lake, but primarily the fishing. He spent many years taking annual fishing trips to Canada with his sons, grandsons, and close friends. Chuck fished whenever and wherever he could, including during the many years he and Judy had a home in Stuart, Florida. After a day of hunting or fishing, you could find Chuck in front of a Packers, Brewers, or Badgers game enjoying a bloody mary.

Chuck is survived by his loving wife of 63 years, Judy. He will be sorely missed

by his large, and loud, family. His children Charles (Crystal) Riese Jr., Roxanne (Dan) Whisman, Paul (Karen) Riese and grandchildren Jonathan (Yalonda) Riese, Scott (Ashley) Riese, Dani (Seth) Ickowitz, David (Emily) Boulton, Morgan Riese, Macey (Nathan) Gross, Kaylee Whisman and great grandchildren. Chuck's close-knit group of surviving siblings will be missing a piece, David (Flo) Riese, Bob Riese, Lynn (Jim) Zentner, Steve (Kim) Riese, Mike (Marlene) Riese. Chuck is also survived by many loving in-laws, nieces, nephews, and dear friends. He was preceded in death by his parents, Lois and Kenneth Riese, infant brother Harry, and sister-in-law Jo Riese.

Visitation will be held on April 11, 2025, at St. John's Evangelical Lutheran Church, 808 N Main St. Oshkosh, WI 54901. Viewing hours will be held from 9-11am with service conducted by Pastor Kevin Heffernan to follow. A private burial will take place at Riverside Cemetery. In lieu of flowers, please send donations to Lord of the Lakes Evangelical Lutheran Church, St. John's Evangelical Lutheran Church, or ThedaCare Hospice.

The family would like to thank Theda Appleton and Thedacare Hospice staff for their compassionate care.

KONRAD-BEHLMAN
FUNERAL HOMES

Dorothy A. Muza

It is with deep sorrow and much love that we mourn the passing of Dorothy A.



(Fleming) Muza of Oshkosh on April 3, 2025 at the age of 95 at Evergreen Retirement Community. She was born in Minneapolis, Minnesota on October 11, 1929, to parents Harry and Irene (Hanish) Fleming.

Dorothy "Dottie, Dot" was raised in the Park Falls/Phillips Wisconsin area, graduated Phillips High School in 1947, and then graduated from St. Joseph School of Nursing in Marshfield, Wisconsin in 1950. She worked as a Registered Nurse at Mercy Medical Center in Oshkosh.

She met John J. Muza (deceased August 8, 2011) when a friend needed a second person for a double date. Dot volunteered, and then Dot and John married on June 14, 1952 at St. Thomas Catholic Church, Beloit, WI. Together they raised five children.

Dottie was part of Most Blessed Sacrament Parish at the St. Mary site. She was an active member of the Most Blessed Sacrament Ladies, Oshkosh Meals on Wheels, Lake Shore Ladies' Golf League, St. Joseph School of Nursing Alumni and Learning in Retirement group at Evergreen. She and her husband John were avid golfers! Dottie enjoyed her travels with John, her children, grandchildren

and friends. She enjoyed church activities, sewing, knitting, reading, and did we mention she loved golfing? She also enjoyed years of watching football, basketball, baseball, softball, soccer games, musicals, softball games, dance competitions and plays.

She is survived by her children, James Muza of Sierra Madre, CA, Mary Muza of Oshkosh, Barbara (Paul) Muza Reed of Oshkosh, Mike (Lexine) Muza of Oshkosh, Dan Muza of Oshkosh; grandchildren Patrick (Meghan) Muza, E-S Sam Muza, Amie (Darrin) Muza Teskey, Dr. Katie Reed, Dr. Madeline (Nathan) Reed Jones, Michaela (Tyler) Muza-Hendrix, Jensen Muza; great-grandchildren Henry Hendrix and Ellie Muza; sister-in-law Sylvia Fleming of Janesville, WI, and many nieces and nephews. She was preceded in death by her parents, husband John Muza, brothers Keith and John Fleming, sisters-in-law Mary Ann Fleming, Helen Schuster, Mary (Choppy) Rutz, and Elaine Muza, brothers-in-law Leo Muza, Herbert Rutz, and Alois Schuster and granddaughter Vanessa Muza Teskey Hawkins.

A memorial mass will be held at the St. Mary's site of Most Blessed Sacrament Church, Oshkosh on Friday, April 11, 2025 at 11:00 am. Visitation will be at St. Mary's Church at 9:30 am until Mass.

The family wishes to send a special thank you to the staff at Evergreen Retirement Community for their care and compassion.

In lieu of flowers, Dorothy requested donations be made to St. Mary Parish of Oshkosh or the American Cancer Society.

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Douglas Roger LaPoint

Douglas Roger LaPoint died on March 30, 2025 in his sleep while spending a weekend with old friends reminiscing their good times together during Canada fishing trips. Doug leaves behind his wife Pascale (Plietzsch) LaPoint, sister Danielle (LaPoint) Weber, niece Julie Weber, parents-in-law Peter and Ute (Wagner) Plietzsch, brother-in-law Sven Plietzsch, and many aunts, uncles and cousins. He was preceded in death by his parents, Roger and Alegra (Soper) LaPoint.

Doug was born in Oshkosh, WI in 1962. After graduating from Oshkosh West high school, he joined the Marine Corps and served four years as a tuba player in the Marine Corps band stationed on Okinawa, Japan. He went to college at UW Stout in Menomonee, WI where he graduated with a bachelor's degree. His first job took him to the Twin Cities, MN and then he moved to California for a few years. After returning to the Midwest, Doug's career spanned many opportunities in computer support, network engineering and technical writing.

Doug and Pascale married in 1998. The couple first made their home in Minneapolis, MN and then in Fridley, MN. They

have two dogs, Sam and Didi. Doug and Pascale retired from their corporate jobs in 2022 to enjoy the things in life that really count.

Doug was fiercely loyal, kind, and compassionate. He had a wonderful sense of humor and told great stories of his many exploits. He stayed in touch with countless friends from different phases of his life. He was a member of the B-Squad softball team for the last 25+ years. He loved computer projects, making videos, taking pictures, creating music play lists, playing with his dogs, traveling, hiking, and spending time with his many friends and relatives. In his later years he joined his wife in leading kirtan (sacred chanting), becoming an accomplished hand drummer and singing with a beautiful and stirring voice. He gave wonderful long hugs - one could sink into his warm and loving embrace.

Doug leaves a hole in our lives too great to begin to describe. He will be missed terribly but his love and warmth will stay forever with us. A celebration of his life will take place at a later date. Stahl Funeral and Cremation Services assisted the family with arrangements, www.stahlfuneralhome.com

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Obituaries

Randall N. Procknow

Mr. Randall N. Procknow, age 75, died at his residence April 2, 2025, as a result of a long struggle with health issues.

Randy was born August 11, 1949, in Oshkosh, Wisconsin. His parents were Roy W. "Doc" and Dorothy E. (Kunde) Procknow. His sister was Jeanne Kostmerchok and his brothers were David R. Procknow and Steven H. Procknow. Randy grew up in Oshkosh in a house on Ohio Street built by his great-grandparents. He remembered the wooden sidewalks on Delaware Street that led him to South Park Elementary and Junior High Schools. Randy graduated from Oshkosh High School in 1967. He also graduated from the Mercy Medical Center School of Nursing in June of 1973. He was named student nurse of the year there in 1972.

Randy married Kathryn "Kay" Heidl on May 11, 1973, at Trinity Lutheran Church in Oshkosh. Randy was Lutheran by faith but as a kid attended and was confirmed at Emmanuel United Church of Christ, Oshkosh, where a number of his dad's relatives had attended.

Randy was known for his good sense of humor ("Dad, I'm sick." "Are your feet hot?" "Yes!" "Then take your socks off."). He was also known as a great cook. Chicken dumpling soup was a specialty ("Stir from the bottom!"). He also enjoyed keeping up the yard, feeding the birds in favor, and chasing away the birds, chip-

munks, raccoons, rabbits, possums, cats, and squirrels in disfavor ("Git, git, git!").

Randy is survived by Kay Procknow, advocate and friend; his kids, Jason R. Procknow, Erin (Tim) Horejs, Andrea (Tony) Rossi, Ashley (Mark) Manske, and Edward "Ted" Procknow. He is also survived by his grandkids, Calvin Horejs, Kate Horejs, Connor Rossi, Anthony "AJ" Rossi, Jr., and Malcolm Manske. Randy is further survived by his sister-in-law, Carol Procknow; his nephew, nieces, other relatives, good friends, and good neighbors.

Randy was preceded in death by his parents; his sister and brothers; nieces, Carrie MacLachlan and Robin Blythe; and sister-in-law, Nancy Procknow Swiertz.

Private services for Randy will be held. Inurnment will take place at Peace Lutheran Cemetery, Oshkosh. The family wish to thank the staff at Little Chute Health Services for their diligent and thoughtful care during Randy's stay. Their work is greatly appreciated. The family also wish to thank the staff of Moments Hospice who added another level of expertise during Randy's final months. The family are grateful for their attention and concern.

Rest in peace, Dad!
 "I will lift up mine eyes unto the hills, from whence cometh my help." --Psalm 121:1 and Mother Superior, *The Sound of Music*.



Julie Ann Hart

Julie Ann Hart, 75, died on March 30, 2025. She was welcomed by Jane and Jerry,



her Parents, and God who were anxiously waiting for her at the pearly gates with arms wide open to welcome her. Julie passed away, unexpectedly, at Aurora Medical Center surrounded by her family.

Julie was the daughter of Jerry and Jane (Ostertag) Panske. She was born on September 12, 1949 in Oshkosh.

Julie was married to Jim on August 31, 1985 at St. Peter's Catholic Church in Oshkosh.

Survivors include her husband, Jim Hart of Oshkosh, two daughters Amy Hart and Lisa Hart of Green Bay, sister Jean (Richard) Derber of Oshkosh, nieces and nephews Wendi (David) Porior of Tennessee, Loree Nigl of Oshkosh, Scott Derber of Neenah, Lindsey Quednow of Oshkosh. Brother and sister-in-law's Fred Hart of Berlin, Patricia (Larry) Schranck of Idaho, Ed Hart of Berlin, Leanne (Kenneth) Hansen of Berlin, and many nieces and nephews.

Julie was a creative person in so many ways. She was a hairstylist for 45 years, along with owning her own beauty salon for over 30yrs. Doing hair was Julie's passion and she was very good at it. Julie also used her creative skills when it came to cooking and baking. She loved to have a

home cooked meal ready for her family to eat at night, even while working full time and being a business owner. If someone had a party, work event or it was a holiday you could bet on her to whip up a delicious dessert for you. Julie also loved to have her house blooming with flowers and plants. She was very creative when it came to arts and crafts and always handmade gifts, signs and anything and everything you could think of. She loved to travel and sightsee. If she wasn't working hard, she was enjoying herself with her family on vacation. You could always count on her to have a new and adventurous destination each time. And sports, she loved to watch her Wisconsin sports teams. But above all she loved to watch her daughters compete in each of their sporting events. She was their number one fan in sports and in life. Julie was a woman who cared for others, and if someone was in need you could count on her being there.

Julie was preceded in death by her parents Jerry and Jane Panske, grandparents August and Katherine Panske and Michael and Laura Ostertag.

A Celebration of Life and Mass of Christian burial for Julie was held on Monday, April 7, 2025 at St. Raphael's Catholic Church in Oshkosh, WI.

Mom you will always be in our hearts. We love and miss you very much. We will cherish all of the fond memories we have of you.



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Obituaries

Joan W. Smith

Joan W. Smith passed away the morning of Wednesday March 12th at Evergreen Manor.



She was born on March 14, 1938 in Evanston, Illinois to Henry F. and Helen S. Williamson.

Joan grew up in Evanston and at the age of 2, Joan met her friend of 85+ years, Jeannie Depue. Much of Joan's childhood included spending summers with Jeannie at the Depue ranch in Wyoming which developed into a love for horses. The sto-

ries she shared about growing up included many shenanigans in her Evanston neighborhood and lots of reprimands for too much talking and giggling.

While attending college Joan met her future husband, Ed Smith. Upon graduation they married on August 27, 1960. Together she and Ed lived in several cities as Ed finished his graduate studies. Joan supported them during this time by typing papers for fellow graduate students.

After living in Normal, Illinois for 8 years they settled in Oshkosh in 1972.

Joan absolutely loved children and animals. In addition to the 5 children she and Ed had, they were also foster parents to over 30 children. The family always had an

array of shelter dogs to add to the commotion of life at the Smiths.

Her passion for horses was passed down to her daughter Julie and together they spent many years riding together and traveling to horse shows around the country. This was a source of much joy and tons of laughter.

Joan was very active in the Episcopal Church at both the local and diocesan levels. This included Bible Studies, Cursillo weekends and supporting Ed in his ministry.

In addition, Joan was known for her baking and her 'Joanie bars' were always a hit with friends and family. As an avid knitter she created beautiful sweaters, afghans and scarves, many of which were donated to hospitals and shelters. Joan always enjoyed reading and in her later years she also spent time 'puzzling' and playing dominos with friends.

Joan's greatest gift to her family was showing us how to develop friendships. She had numerous friendships spanning 50+ years and cultivated friends of all ages

and backgrounds. You are a blessing to our family and we are grateful for all of you.

Joan is survived by her daughter, Julie Spanbauer (George Thada); sons, Jonathan Smith (Haley) and Richard Smith; granddaughter, Madyson Smith; and extended grandchildren, PJ and Will. In addition to several nieces and nephews.

She is preceded in death by her husband of 62 years Edwin; children, Andrew and MaryAnn; her parents; and sister, Janet Allen.

A Celebration of Joan's life will be held on Tuesday April 29th at St Thomas Episcopal Church Menasha, WI. Visitation will begin at 4:00, Eucharist at 5:00 and a reception to follow.

In lieu of flowers consider making a donation to your local Animal Shelter in her honor.

The Family would like to thank the Angels at Evergreen Manor for your kindness to our mom in her final days.



Brian G. Humbert

Brian G. Humbert, 80 years old, went to his eternal rest on March 23, 2025, with



his former wife and son by his side. He was born to Grace and Raymond Humbert in Evanston, but grew up in Des Plaines, IL.

After serving in the Army in Seoul, Korea, Brian began to study art, attending the Academy of Art and The Art Institute in Chicago. Further studies were of UW-O, where Brian met and married Kathy Dittmer, also receiving his Bachelor's Degree in Studio Arts. Brian then received his Master's Degree of Art at Northern, IL.

In 1972, the couple moved to Tempe, AZ, where Brian obtained his Master's Degree in Fine Arts. The family then moved to Berkeley, CA in 1973. While there, he had a spacious studio in down-

town Oakland. He made many paintings there and was happy to have shown some in San Francisco and Berkeley.

Brian is survived by his now former wife and loving best friend, Kathy; his son Daniel (Danielle) Humbert and their four wonderful children- Natalie, Josiah, James and Micaiah, and the couple's daughter, Lena (Ben) Wood and their four dear children- Elizabeth, Jacob, Franseca and Jonathan of Deerbrook, WI. As well as siblings, Kathy Humbert of Roselle, IL and Kevin (Karen) Humbert of Naperville, IL.

Brian is preceded in death by his parents; and older brother, Roger Humbert.

On April 28th at 11 O'clock, there will be a celebration of his life at River Valley Church, 425 Washburn Ave. In lieu of flowers, please consider a donation to the Oshkosh Senior's Center in his name.



Craig A. Coates

Craig Allen Coates of Oshkosh, 66, passed away Thursday, March 27, 2025.

He was born in Berlin, WI on November 26, 1958 to the late Roger and Marylin (Phillip) Coates.

Despite being diagnosed in infancy with severe Cerebral Palsy, he overcame many obstacles and achieved great success. He was an active participant of United Cerebral Palsy. In 1989 he graduated with a bachelor's degree in Human Services. He ran an independent living class for 5 years, then worked at USbank for 26 years, until retirement.

Craig married Cynthia Paulick on May 19, 1984. They established a wonderful family with 6 children. Craig enjoyed the outdoors on hot days, watching the Green Bay Packers, and drinking his daily Pepsi. He could often be found cruising the neighborhood in his power wheelchair. Also, he was grateful for his annual camping (accessible cabin) trips at WI state parks. He was

incredibly patient and persevering, and had an exceptional sense of humor.

Craig is survived by his wife: Cynthia Coates; siblings: Mitchell Coates (Heidi Witty), Dawn Coates (Tim Teske), Darren Coates; children: Scott Coates (Colleen Riordan), Kacie (Jeremy) Fell, Jesse Coates, David Coates, Sunshine Coates, Sophia Coates; grandchildren: Brooklyn Coates, Keyan, Karsen, and Charlie Fell; Mother in-law: Betty Paulick; siblings-in-law: Patrick (Susan) Paulick, Teri (Mark) Colletti, and Lisa (Jonathon) Salzsieder.

He was preceded in death by his parents; stepmother Ruth Coates; father in-law David Paulick.

In lieu of flowers; gifts may be sent to Covey (formerly, United Cerebral Palsy) of OshKosh; or gifts will be used to establish a tree memorial.

A celebration of life will be at Fiss & Bills - Poklasny Funeral Homes, 865 S Westhaven Dr, Oshkosh, Saturday, April 12, 2025.

Visitation: 10AM - 12PM; Memorial Service - 12PM



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Earth is a planet full of **natural resources** – things that come from nature, like trees, water, air, rocks, and animals that people can use to help them live and make things they need.

These natural resources are kind of like Mother Earth's free gifts!

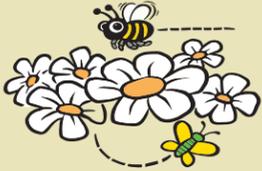
If people waste these gifts, then these natural resources are lost.

Standards Link: Science: Living things need water, air and resources from the land.



What do you love about the Earth?

Look at the pictures of the natural resources Earth provides for us. Put a heart around each of the natural resources that you especially love. Under each one, write a sentence about how you will care for, conserve and appreciate this resource.



I love this because:



I love this because:



I love this because:



I love this because:



I love this because:



I love this because:

Beware!
Taking too many natural resources from the planet means we could run out of them!

Do the math to find out what the different natural resources on this page provide people.

8 + 7 = <u>15</u> SOME CANDLES	7 + 2 = <u>9</u> WINDOWS
4 + 6 = <u>10</u> PAPER	8 + 8 = <u>16</u> GASOLINE
7 + 6 = <u>13</u> PLASTICS	7 + 7 = <u>14</u> COMPUTER CHIPS
8 + 4 = <u>12</u> CARDBOARD	6 + 2 = <u>8</u> MACHINERY
6 + 5 = <u>11</u> GLASS	9 + 9 = <u>18</u> POTS & PANS
9 + 8 = <u>17</u> WOOD	4 + 3 = <u>7</u> WIRE

OIL
13 = PLASTICS
16 = _____
15 = _____

With some friends, pick up litter on your school playground. It's a great way to help the environment!

Extra! Extra! Fun Facts

Look through today's newspaper for five facts. List the facts and circle any you think are fun to know. Whether or not the fact is fun or not would be your opinion.

Standards Link: Science: Identify natural resources. Language: Sort words in alphabetical order.

METAL ORES
7 = WIRE
8 = _____
18 = _____

TREES
12 = _____
17 = _____
10 = _____

SAND
9 = _____
14 = _____
11 = _____

Kid Scoop Puzzler

Recycle After Reading

Put the newspaper in the recycle bin.

Double Double Word Search

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

L	A	T	E	M	G	X	C	Z	R
S	Q	K	S	Y	H	I	M	K	O
E	A	R	T	H	W	L	F	W	C
E	V	R	E	S	N	O	C	T	K
R	H	A	P	P	Y	V	O	J	S
T	E	R	S	F	J	E	A	D	B
X	A	K	U	L	M	O	W	I	Q
C	R	H	D	N	A	S	I	Y	R
M	T	N	A	T	U	R	A	L	T

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

Kid Scoop Together

Amazing Recyclables!

When you recycle, your used items get turned into new products.

Fill in the missing vowels in each word listed below to discover some of the things these items can be made into after recycling.

binder paper



n _ p k _ n s
b _ _ k s
s k _ t c h b _ _ k s
n _ w s p _ p e r

aluminum cans



b _ s _ b _ l l b _ t
a _ t o p _ r t s
a n _ t h _ r _ c _ n
a p p l _ _ n c _ s

plastic containers



s l _ _ p i n g b _ g s
s k i j _ c k _ t s
c _ r p _ t
t _ y s

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Write On!

Love for Planet Earth

Finish this story:
I love the planet Earth because . . .

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