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Coming back
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Photo by Michael Cooney

Ready to catch

Angelo J. Cozzola, left, a fisheries biologist with the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources, leads the spring stocking of catchable-size rainbow trout at the South Park ponds in Oshkosh. Sam Stenson, 11, of Oshkosh, right, volunteered to help release trout into the ponds on stocking day. The stocking effort is a put-take fishery, and the DNR encourages anglers to harvest fish. All stocked waters opened for harvest on Saturday, with a daily bag limit of five fish.

Contractors looking at lawsuits

Filings allege over \$1
million in unpaid work

By Jonathan Richie
OSHKOSH HERALD

A new housing development is facing ten construction lien lawsuits after allegedly not paying contractors and subcontractors for work done at the property over the last three years.

Oshkosh has waited four years for the former Miles Kimball building to be transformed into apartments on South Main Street. Court records show the project is now facing over \$1 million in construction lien lawsuits for not paying subcontractors.

Court documents filed in Winnebago County show that MK Lofts is facing nine construction lien lawsuits totaling \$1.08 million and a civil lawsuit over \$319,000 in unpaid services. MK Lofts has already settled one civil lawsuit outside of court with a contractor.

MK Lofts LLC and Helfrich Enterprises LLP own MK Lofts. Helfrich is a rental business based in La Crosse and MK Lofts is the developer for the project and has the same address as the CR Structures Group in Appleton. CR Structures, which is listed as a defendant in the civil case, is now owned by Minnesota-based Rice Companies.

In Wisconsin, the construction lien law creates a statutory payment remedy when a contractor, subcontractor, suppliers, service providers or design professionals do not receive payment for work at a proper

SEE **MK Lofts** ON PAGE 10

District adopts new curriculum for youngest readers

By Jonathan Richie
OSHKOSH HERALD

The Oshkosh Area School District Board of Education has approved a new reading curriculum for its youngest learners.

It is a move discussed by administrators for almost two years and passed the school board with no opposing votes.

The Amplify Core Knowledge Language Arts (CKLA) curriculum will be taught to elementary students across the Oshkosh Area School District starting next year. Amplify, a K-12 curriculum company, is used in more than 150,000 classrooms by 4 million students in all 50 states.

OASD field tested the CKLA curriculum at several schools during the 2024-25

school year. The curriculum is for students in kindergarten through fifth grade. The OASD website promotes the CKLA as "a significant shift in how we approach reading instruction. Unlike traditional methods, this curriculum emphasizes a knowledge-building, science-based approach to teaching reading. It's not just



Coleman

about decoding words, but about creating a rich, engaging learning environment that connects reading with deep comprehension and critical thinking."

OASD assistant superintendent of instruction Sam Coleman said it was important for the district to invest in reading in a radical way.

The district has struggled to improve reading outcomes, with annual scores from the past two years showing fewer than 50% of students in grades 3 through 8 are reading at a proficient level in OASD schools.

Coleman said the district is in the very

early stages of a significant transformation with the new curriculum. Literacy coach Cindy Smith worked with first and second graders at Read Elementary School over several months with the new curriculum. She said the curriculum motivates the students and builds their confidence as they learn more words.

"Student confidence grows for readers and writers as they demonstrate their ability to give examples of what they know and how they understand the context. They believe they can because we include

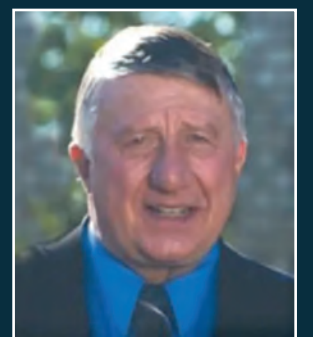
SEE **New curriculum** ON PAGE 10

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General information/customer service: Julie Vandenberg
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Phone: 920-385-4512
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Advertising deadline is noon Wednesday for the following Wednesday.

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

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

Editor
Chris Lusvardi, 920-508-0027
editor@oshkoshherald.com

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www.oshkoshherald.com.



Submitted photo

College students at UW Oshkosh did their part in the recent Cans for Hope campaign. The initiative raises funds to support housing issues.

Cans for Hope keys on homeless issues

Oshkosh Herald

Christopher Blake had been collecting aluminum cans for more than a year and a half to raise funds in support of housing issues in Oshkosh before creating a Cans for Hope campaign with the support of other local entities.

“I’ve been using the funds for making meals, rental applications, backpacks, tents, hygiene supplies, et cetera,” Blake said. “However, I needed more help.”

The help came from interfaith social-justice organization ESTHER, the

local Circles of Support organization and Fox Valley Iron & Metal, and participation by area businesses and college students in a recent two-week event that collected more than 400 pounds of cans.

Blake is ESTHER’s lead housing organizer and a small business owner who said Fox Valley Iron & Metal “jumped at the opportunity to be involved.”

Local businesses that took part, by hosting drop-off locations included Northside Bar & Grill, Boots Saloon, My41auto, McGovern Auto, The Gathering Place, 2nd

Chance Foods, Salvation Army and Wisconsin Ordnance Works.

The money will be used for the unhoused and housing difficulties in the city.

“This subject is close to my heart because of lived experience and I am blessed with friends, family and ESTHER to be able to do my part,” Blake said in an email.

Blake is planning another Cans of Hope collection in the fall and will accept cans and monetary donations made out to ESTHER throughout the year. He can be reached at 920-718-0488.

Oshkosh Herald names new editor

Oshkosh Herald

Chris Lusvardi has joined the Oshkosh Herald, Neenah News and Winneconne News as editor.

Lusvardi was most recently editor of Seed Today, an agricultural trade publication based in Decatur, Ill.

Before that, he spent 11 years as a reporter for the daily Herald & Review newspaper in Decatur.

Lusvardi has a master’s degree in public affairs reporting from the University of



Lusvardi

Illinois at Springfield and a bachelor’s degree from St. John’s University in Collegeville, Minn.

He has lived in Oshkosh since July 2022 with his wife Amber and daughter Chloe.

Lusvardi can be reached at editor@

oshkoshherald.com.

School district training grant funds available

The Department of Workforce Development (DWD) has announced a new round of grant funding available to Wisconsin school districts to help train students for the future and fill critical workforce needs. Up to \$1,021,363 million in grant funds is available through the Expanded Wisconsin Fast Forward program.

The funds support projects to train students to use advanced manufacturing tools and equipment. Award amounts will range from \$5,000 to \$50,000 and will be available

for school districts to ready high school students in technical fields to ensure Wisconsin has a skilled workforce for the future.

Technical Education Equipment Training grants reimburse school districts for the costs of buying and installing technical education equipment used for vocational training and technical education in advanced manufacturing and construction fields. Funds also cover the cost for equipment operation software and instructional materials. Applications must be emailed by 3 p.m. May 15.

UWO students offer short films at Time Theater

Oshkosh Herald

Students from the University of Wisconsin-Oshkosh will be premiering their cinematic creations at Clash At The Theater, a student short film showcase set for May 18 at the Time Community Theater.

Doors open to the free public event at 5:30 p.m. featuring a diverse lineup of short films – dramas, comedies and experimental pieces – written, directed and produced by UW-Oshkosh students.

The short films will begin showing at 6 p.m.

Back in the Day



Oshkosh history by the Winnebago County Historical Society

May 2, 1974

Music Director Fred Leist to Retire:
Fred Leist, a long-standing member of the Oshkosh Public Schools music program, announced plans to retire at the end of the school year. Leist, age 57, is currently director of the a Capella choir at North High School, and will direct his final performance this Saturday at the annual “Sounds of Spring” concert at the Civic Auditorium. A member of the Oshkosh Public School staff since 1946, Mr. Leist directed high school bands and choirs and was musical department head from 1962 until his appointment of director of music education in 1969. Awards received include “Distinguished Citizen of the Year” by the Jaycees in 1963 and named outstanding music educator by “The School Musician” magazine. He served as choir director at Peace Lutheran Church for 15 years and also as president of the congregation. Leist has been associated with the Oshkosh Symphony Orchestra for 25 years.

Source: Oshkosh Northwestern, May 2, 1974

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College flight competition coming back to Oshkosh

By Jonathan Richie
OSHKOSH HERALD

The National Intercollegiate Flying Association (NIFA) is returning to Oshkosh next week for the annual SAFECON flight competition.

SAFECON stands for safety and flight evaluation conference and is a nation-wide competition of collegiate aviation excellence in aviation performance and safety. It will be held at Wittman Regional Airport from May 12-17.

“It’s where the future leaders of the aviation industry gather to prove their mettle, showcase their skills, and leave their mark on a long-standing tradition,” according to NIFA’s website.

SAFECON brings together several hundred competitors from the top collegiate flight teams in the nation to compete in several aviation skills including: navigation, landings, flight planning, preflight inspection, IFR simulated flight, crew-based simulations, safety and aircraft recognition.

Wittman Regional Airport hosted the NIFA SAFECON in 2023 and the competition will utilize the EAA convention grounds, the museum and the proficiency center. The competition was held last year in Janesville at the Southern Regional Airport.

The competition dates back to the 1920s but was put on hold during WWII with no competition being held from 1941-1951. At SAFECON 2024, the University of North Dakota was the top collegiate team, defeating schools like Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University, Ohio State and the United States Air Force Academy.

Wittman Regional Airport director Jim



Air Force Academy Precision Flying Team

An Air Force Academy pilot trains in 2021 in Arizona. The Air Force Academy is one of several teams that will be in Oshkosh next week for the NIFA SAFECON event at Wittman Regional Airport.

Schell said the event will feature 30 flight teams from across the country with over 700 people attending including flight team competitors, coaches, judges and NIFA staff.

There will be 100 visiting aircraft for the

annual competition. The primary aircrafts that will be competing are Cessna 152’s and 172’s, Piper Archers and Cirrus SR20, amongst others. Tickets are not sold for the event as it is not open for spectators, but area residents will be hearing and seeing

an increase in aircraft activity around the airport.

“Those around the area will see increased flight activity in the vicinity of the airport and in neighboring communities throughout our region,” Schell said.

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Mother’s Day 5K Run/Walk 8th annual! The course is non-competitive, encouraging for all fitness and activity levels. Winnebago County Park • 7 AM -3 PM	MAY 11
Mother’s Day at the Paine FREE admission! Stroll through thousands of tulips, relax on the patio, and explore the mansion, including the <i>Weaving a Legacy: Ho-Chunk Black Ash Basketry</i> exhibition. Paine Art Center and Gardens 9 AM -4 PM	MAY 11
Oshkosh Flea Market Celebrate Mom with a day of treasure hunting! Originals Mall of Antiques 8 AM -2 PM	MAY 11



Check it all out & make plans now.



Submitted photo

Hats off to Moms

Lakeside Packaging Plus held its inaugural Hats Off to Moms event April 27 at the Gibson Social Club in Oshkosh to honor mothers and caregivers while raising funds for Lakeside's day programs for adults with diverse abilities in the Oshkosh and Neenah area.

School district pitches changes to Xcel Academy

By Jonathan Richie
OSHKOSH HERALD

Several students recently raised concerns they have surrounding changes proposed to the Xcel Academy at Oshkosh West High School.

The Xcel Academy is one of the alternative learning opportunities the Oshkosh Area School District provides to students who may not learn in the classic classroom dynamic and need a more personalized lesson plan to help students learn in their own way.

A group of students came to the April 23 Board of Education meeting to voice their concerns about potential changes coming to the program. Xcel has four teachers covering the four topics – English, math, science and social studies/history. The program could be shifting from four teachers to one case manager.

One student told the school board that she has reached out to administrators, and they have told her, “Xcel isn’t going away; it’s just changing.”

The Herald also asked the OASD administration why these changes were being proposed. Katie Nieman, OASD communication director, said the district’s executive team is meeting with teachers and students about the program to engage all sides of the discussion.

“We are committed to engaging directly with our students and staff about their concerns regarding Xcel Academy. The Oshkosh West principal and OASD superintendent and assistant superintendent of instruction will be meeting with students and staff to listen carefully to their perspectives and engage in meaningful dialogue about their needs,” Nieman said.

The Xcel Academy, formerly the Empower Program, started in 2016 to provide targeted support for students who need additional assistance, serving ninth and tenth grade students at West High

School. There are currently 42 students in the program with 36 students projected to be in the program in 2025-2026.

“While we understand the need for varied approaches and recognize the unique strengths each student brings, we firmly believe that all students are capable of engaging with rigorous, grade-level standards and achieving academic success,” Nieman said.

There is a similar program at Oshkosh North High School called Project Phoenix. That program has evolved over time to make sure students receive the targeted support they need and get to take elective courses with students not in the program.

Xcel student Amiyah Thomas said that the program changed her entire viewpoint of teachers and peers in school after she had difficulty learning in middle school.

“They gave me opportunities I never thought I’d do,” Thomas said. “My grades are better than I ever thought they would be.”

She said she struggled with her grades in middle school but when she got into Xcel it was a different environment, and she thrived.

“I really hope that you guys can re-consider getting rid of Xcel. Maybe trying different approaches to fix it if there’s an issue with it,” Thomas said.

She added that having a student representative work with the board or administration to find out how Xcel can be better may be one approach.

“What can we do better? What can teachers do better?” Thomas asked. “Instead of taking it away. This is home for so many kids that might not have a home outside of school or might not know a home outside of school.”

Following the statements from the students, Board of Education president Beth Wyman said she wanted the topic to be heard at the education committee so the board can learn more about the decisions being made regarding the Xcel program. That meeting is scheduled for May 7 with a full update to the Board of Education planned for May 28.

“We recognize that students learn in different ways and at varying paces, which is why we provide differentiated instruction, intervention periods, and specialized support services within the general education setting,” Nieman said. “Rather than creating separate programs, we focus on creating learning environments where all students can succeed with their peers with appropriate supports tailored to their individual needs.”

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Welcome Spring!



Winnebago County leadership program seeks youth advocate

Oshkosh Herald

The Miss Rural Winnebago program, which has been offering opportunities for young women to develop leadership skills, learn about agriculture and connect with rural communities since 1969, is seeking applicants to be its 57th Miss Rural Winnebago.

Girls ages 13-17 who live or attend school in the county are eligible to apply. Applicants don't need to have rural or agricultural background but are willing to serve in their community.

Applicants will participate in a committee interview and communication training June 7. The crowned candidate will have the opportunity to go on tours to learn more about Winnebago County, volunteer at local events, and develop personal and professional skills during her yearlong term. Those interested can email missruralwinnebago@gmail.com or visit missruralwinnebago.wixsite.com/mrwwi to obtain the application. The deadline to apply is May 31.

Program coordinator Jodie Weyland said the reigning Miss Rural Winnebago has the freedom to shape her year through her interests while gaining professional and personal skills that can be applied for her benefit.

The Waukau Youth Group organizes the program every year and hosts several family-friendly events at its location, 2711



Submitted photo

Kylie Kempen is the reigning Miss Rural Winnebago.

State 116. During the Waukau Youth Days Chicken Barbeque set for June 8, the program will crown the 57th Miss Rural Winnebago.

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Carlin departs school board after serving for nine years

By Jonathan Richie
 OSHKOSH HERALD

Stephanie Carlin attended her final Oshkosh Area School District Board of Education meeting on April 23.

Carlin served on the school board for nine years over three consecutive terms. In that time, she served on a number of committees, boards and in other roles representing OASD.

“Serving on the board has been an honor and a privilege,” she said.

Carlin started her journey getting involved in the OASD when she found out the school board voted to close Green Meadow Elementary School six weeks before her son was starting Kindergarten.

She began attending board meetings and noticed that facility needs across the district were being “put on the back burner.” She helped get the long-range facilities plan in place and remains passionate about it.

Carlin said the facilities plan “benefit students and communities for generations.” The plan has been used as a template for the two recent facility referen-

dums in 2020 and this past April. During her time on the school board Carlin remained focused on students and student mental health. All three of Carlin’s children attended OASD from kindergarten to graduation and credits the teachers for their growth.



Carlin

“When I talk about the success of my children, I take no credit because the credit goes to the teachers in our district,” Carlin said. “Every employee, even if they don’t teach, has an impact on our students.”

School board president Beth Wyman spoke of Carlin’s service to the district, teachers and students.

“She would never say ‘no’ to any project, but rather ‘how can I help?’” Wyman said.

Carlin paraphrased a Greek proverb in her final statement about the service the school board should strive for.

“Sometimes leadership is about planting trees under whose shade you’ll never

sit,” Carlin said. “During my tenure we built three – almost four – schools and I’m proud of that. The shade that the board created over recent years will be enjoyed by many, and the opportunity to serve is something I will cherish forever.”

Dialogue series gets students in same room

UW-Oshkosh Today

A new dialogue series encourages University of Wisconsin students to talk through differences in a space where they won’t feel judged.

Bridging the Divide began as a pilot project last spring on four UW campuses: Oshkosh, Eau Claire, Green Bay and Parkside, on discussing difficult subjects in a polarized society.

This past fall, it expanded to all 13 four-year UW campuses.

The gatherings occur monthly, with a different topic each time – abortion, climate change, affirmative action, immigration among them – and led by student facilitators.

UW-Oshkosh’s Mike Lueder, outreach affiliate for the Thompson Center who oversees the project and director of UWO’s Center for Civic and Community Engagement, came up with the slogan: “replacing snark with conversation, tweets

Mike Ford won the seat vacated by Carlin, who did not run for re-election, in the April 1 election.

He began his three-year term on the board on April 28 at the board reorganization meeting.

with talk, and scrolls and likes with face-to-face dialogue.”

Students apply to be the trained facilitators. Those who are selected are paid the equivalent of in-state tuition. Each campus has at least one facilitator.

“They are all go-getters and high achievers,” Lueder said. “And they’re doing really hard work. Getting people to talk about difficult issues in this political environment is not easy.”

There’s no partisan aspect to the project, Lueder said.

“I couldn’t tell you the political leanings of any of the student facilitators,” he said. “At no point do we ask.”

The Oshkosh campus has been drawing larger crowds.

Lueder said the gatherings are playing out differently across the state – on some campuses, conservative students are outnumbering liberal participants, and vice versa at others.



Oshkosh Herald

Angling in Oshkosh

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Investing in future leaders through Chamber programs

By Shannon Seaman
CHAMBER EDUCATION AND TALENT
DEVELOPMENT DIRECTOR

If you are told to imagine the future, what comes to mind? Robots? Talking houses? Flying cars?

All exciting and likely possible ideas, but our guaranteed future wakes up every morning (some easier than others), gets dressed, has breakfast, brushes their teeth and heads off to spend their day in a classroom.

The future is our children, who are doing more than just learning. They are preparing to be the architects of tomorrow, poising themselves to shape the world with their ideas, creativity and determination.



The Oshkosh Chamber, in collaboration with our local educational systems, is dedicated to nurturing these future leaders, ensuring they are equipped with the skills and knowledge to succeed in an ever evolving landscape.

Throughout the years, the Oshkosh Chamber has shown its dedication to education and talent development through programs and partnerships, even recognizing it as one of the four pillars of who they are.

Through innovation programs and partnerships, the Chamber is helping to transform education, creating pathways

that connect students with real-world experiences and opportunities.

Experiences like FutureYou, which has welcomed over 1,400 local students in the last 2 years to participate in hands-on activities to explore future career options. Opportunities like Link2Learn, which connects local industry directly to educators in the classrooms.

Programs that focus on business partnerships and support positive learning environments, like Adopt-A-School all have the same goal in mind: to empower our youth and set them up for success.

As we invest in their education, we are investing in the future of our community, fostering a generation that will lead with confidence, compassion, and ingenuity.

In the classrooms of our local schools, the future is being written every day. With the support of the Chamber, local businesses, and our local educators, our students are not just dreaming of a better world - they are building it.

Your involvement, as an individual or business, can make a significant difference, whether through volunteering, mentorship, internships, or sponsorship of educational programs. Join the Oshkosh Chamber and our local schools to ensure that our youth are prepared to lead us into a brighter future.

Shannon Seaman is the education and talent director for the Oshkosh Chamber of Commerce. Contact her at shannon@oshkoshchamber.com or 920.303.2266, ext. 15.

Writers gather at Lakefly Writers Conference to hone craft

By Michael J. Cooney
HERALD CONTRIBUTOR

Writers from across the Midwest gathered at the Oshkosh Convention Center this weekend for the annual Lakefly Writers Conference, a two-day event aimed at helping authors build their craft and connect with readers.

Now in its 12th year, the conference drew more than 160 attendees and featured 26 speakers, including best-selling authors and publishing professionals. A concurrent book fair hosted 68 writers showcasing and selling their work.

“The Lakefly Writers Conference started in 2013 when the library director wanted to create something for writers,” said Ruth Percy, head of circulation at the Oshkosh Public Library and organizer of the event. “There were festivals like the Fox Cities Book Festival for readers, but not much for people who wanted to learn how to write.”

Percy also leads the Oshkosh Area Writers Club, one of the conference’s co-sponsors.

“Our workshops are designed to help beginning and aspiring authors develop the skills they need to succeed. Writing the book is one skill. Publishing and selling it is another,” she said.

The event welcomed authors with a range of experience, including Eau Claire-based novelist Nickolas Butler, author of the acclaimed Shotgun Lovesongs.

“I started writing when I was 10,” Butler said. “It was kind of easy to find a publisher for Shotgun Lovesongs, but that’s not always the case. Every book is different.”

Asked about the ups and downs of a writing career, Butler was candid.

“You’re never assured the next one’s going to be published. I never feel that way,” he said. “But the best part is that I don’t have a boss. I get to daydream. That’s the secret sauce – I just write what I want to write.”

Milwaukee author Patricia Skalka, best known for her Dave Cubiak Door County Mysteries, shared a similar passion for the craft.

“I’ve been a professional writer my entire adult life,” said Skalka, who is traditionally published by the University of Wisconsin Press and previously worked for Reader’s Digest. “My favorite part of writing is seeing the final product – after all the agony of writing, rewriting and researching.”

Skalka, who has seven mysteries and several non-fiction titles to her name, said inspiration comes from many places: news articles, personal experiences, even imagination.

For some, like Appleton resident Fallon Buchholz, the conference was a chance to connect with other writers and explore future opportunities.

“I love books, and I am a writer,” said Buchholz, who has published short sto-

ries in literary magazines. “I literally just walked in, and I already bought a book. These writers are convincing.”

Even attendees who aren’t writers found something to enjoy.

“I came with friends to check out the book fair,” said Cheyenne Vervoort of Appleton.

Percy said moments like that are what make the event worthwhile.

“Meeting people and seeing them succeed – getting book contracts, sharing their stories – that’s the most rewarding part,” she said.

And for Skalka, the support shown by the Oshkosh community stood out.

“I think Oshkosh does a fantastic job of supporting literacy and writing,” she said. “You set an example for the rest of the state – and certainly the country.”



Author Patricia Skalka meets readers Kate Penndorf and Sarah Dubois at the Lakefly Writers Conference Saturday at the Oshkosh Convention Center.



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Oshkosh woman faces additional drug, fraud charges

Oshkosh Herald

An Oshkosh woman has been arrested for the third time in less than a year, adding new drug-related charges to the financial and fraud-related charges she is already facing in Winnebago County.

Katie M. Niemuth, 41, is facing charges in three felony cases ranging from theft in a business setting over \$100,000, to possession of methamphetamine, to identity theft.

Court Commissioner Eric Heywood set her cash bond at \$20,000 in the recent case at a hearing last week.

In Aug. 2024, Niemuth was arrested on allegations that she made fraudulent billings totaling almost \$300,000 from a clinic in Oshkosh. Then during a traffic stop in January, methamphetamine was found inside Niemuth's car. In both cases she has

received signature bonds which have allowed her to remain out of custody while facing these charges.

According to the criminal complaint in the most recent case, Niemuth was pulled over in the Town of Oshkosh on April 25 by a sheriff's deputy for illegal window tint. After Niemuth identified herself, the deputy realized she had a suspended license.

A K9 unit was called to the stop for a sniff test of the vehicle. The K9 gave a positive indicator of a controlled substance. Officers found a substance that tested positive for methamphetamine in the car along with medical



Niemuth

documents.

During the court hearing last week, assistant district attorney Stephanie Stauber pointed out that Niemuth got a job at a medical group, identified as V1 in the complaint, by using a different name. Niemuth attended the hearing virtually from inside the Winnebago County Jail.

Niemuth was ordered as part of one of her pending felony cases to disclose the theft in a business setting charges to any potential employer and give them a copy of the criminal complaint.

The employer did not know about the case. The medical group's chief legal officer told officers that Niemuth should not be in possession of any documents with individuals' medical information or personal identifying information.

Stauber said based on the medical records in Niemuth's car this could be "just the tip of the iceberg."

Niemuth's attorney for the hearing was Matthew Goldin and he argued for a high signature bond or a much lower cash bond, in part, because all of the crimes Niemuth is accused of are non-violent offenses.

Heywood stated that due to the severity of the drug, financial and fraud crimes, paired with Niemuth's consistent non-compliance with bond, the cash bond would be set at \$20,000. Online records show Niemuth has posted her cash bond and is no longer in custody.

Niemuth's 2024 case is set for a plea and sentencing in August and her recent case has a preliminary hearing scheduled Thursday.

Retired county judge honored by State Bar

Oshkosh Herald

Retired Winnebago County Judge Barbara Key, a leader in judicial education that has shaped initiatives to enhance fairness and effectiveness in the justice system, has been honored with the State Bar of Wisconsin's 2025 Lifetime Jurist Award.

Granted by the State Bar of Wisconsin's Bench Bar Committee, the award honors judges who exemplify fairness, impartiality, high personal character and long-term dedication to the justice system.

Key served as chief judge of the 4th Judicial District from 2017 to 2022 and was instrumental in advancing judicial educa-



Key

tion and professional development. She contributed to several Wisconsin Supreme Court committees, including those on judicial conduct, jury instructions, the bench book and language translation. She was an associate dean of the Wisconsin Judicial College and held several leadership roles.

"Judge Key spent a significant part of her judicial career enhancing the education and professionalism of her colleagues on the bench," the committee wrote in its nomination.

A graduate of the University of Wisconsin and elected to the bench in 1998, Key also dedicated time to organizations such as Big Brothers Big Sisters, the Exchange Club Center for the Prevention of Child Abuse, Nova Counseling Services, Confront Addictions Now, Oshkosh Southwest Rotary Club and Regional Domestic Abuse Services.



Oshkosh Herald

NAMI 5K turns 15

The 15th Annual NAMI Oshkosh 5K for Mental Health & Suicide Awareness was on Saturday. This year's event included 425 participants with the start/finish line at Oshkosh North.

4-H scholarship, award winners named

Oshkosh Herald

Winnebago County high school students recently received scholarships and awards from the county's 4-H program.

They include:

Hannah Dobish, a senior at Oshkosh West High School, earned a Winnebago County 4-H Leaders Association Scholarship. She has been a member of 4-H Friends 4-H Club for 12 years where she has been an active 4-H youth leader in the dog project and as a club officer. She plans to attend UW-Oshkosh majoring in kinesiology.

Madison Oeftger, a Neenah High School senior, received the Ashton Simpson Memorial Scholarship. She has been a

member of Ridgeway 4-H Club for eight years where she has been active in youth leadership holding various club officer positions, a 4-H camp counselor, a 4-H ambassador, and a youth board member. She plans to attend UW-Oshkosh majoring in elementary education.

Finn Lettau, a Neenah High School senior, received the Stevenson Memorial Scholarship and 4-H Key Award. He has been a member of Winchester 4-H Club for 13 years where he has been active in youth leadership holding various club officer positions, a member of the WI 4-H Leadership Council, a 4-H Ambassador and a 4-H Camp Counselor. He plans to attend Ripon College majoring in biology.

Madelynn Poppy, an Omro High School senior, won the Judith Gruszynske Memorial Scholarship. She has been a member of Newcomers 4-H Club for 13 years where she has been active in the beef, swine, photography and foods & nutrition projects. She plans to attend UW Stevens Point majoring in family and consumer sciences.

Tanner Piper, a junior at Omro High School, was a 4-H Key Award winner. He has been a member of Newcomers 4-H Club for 12 years where he has been active in youth leadership holding a club officer position, project mentor and a 4-H summer camp counselor.

Emily Hunter, a Ripon High School junior, was a Key Award winner. He has been a member of Golden Oak 4-H Club for 10 years where she has been active as a youth leader holding various club officer positions and a 4-H summer camp counselor.

Business news roundup

Ren Scott has been promoted by the Experimental Aircraft Association to vice president for business development, sales and events. He also will be joining EAA's senior leadership team. A graduate of Averett University in Virginia with a degree in aviation/airway management and operations, Scott joined EAA in July 2021 as a partnership development manager. He was promoted to director of business de-

velopment in December 2022 and since then, has led his team in growing EAA's business partnerships both during the EAA AirVenture Oshkosh fly-in convention and year-round.

Covey, a non-profit organization serving the Fox Valley, has announced a leadership transition. Pam Schutz, Covey's longtime CEO, is retiring effective October 1. The organization said that Tony Gonzalez, Covey's current Chief Operating Officer, has been appointed by the Board of Directors as her successor.

AI Trading Card Gallery has opened at 716 Ohio St. The store specializes in Pokémon cards and accessories.



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- Cotinine, found in tobacco, is linked to greater risk of hearing loss.

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Photo from NACL 173

Oshkosh mail carriers collect food donations in the annual Stamp Out Hunger drive.

Letter carrier food drive set for Saturday

Oshkosh Herald

Oshkosh mail carriers and sponsors are participating in the annual Stamp Out Hunger nationwide food drive Saturday to help restock the shelves at local food pantries.

Last year, the community donated 52,900 pounds of food that was distributed to local food pantries, about 3,000 pounds less than collected in 2023, according to food drive coordinator Ginny Klein of the National Association of Letter Carriers No. 173.

Residents can use any bag they have available for their food donations that should be placed by their mailbox for the letter carrier or a volunteer to collect on Saturday morning. Donations can also be left by cluster boxes at apartment buildings.

Organizers are requesting that residents avoid scheduling grocery deliveries that morning to avoid having those orders mistakenly collected.

Klein said that on curbside mail routes, food should not be placed inside mailboxes. Most rural carriers have Metris vans that are not convenient for picking up a lot of food so they rely on volunteers taking care of those pick-ups.

Among the volunteer groups that help each year are the United Way, Salvation Army, Catholic Charities, National Guard units, veterans groups, Boy/Girl Scouts, Rotary clubs and AARP groups.

The national effort to help fight hunger started in 10 cities in 1991. In 2010, the drive surpassed the 1-billion-pound mark in food collected over its history.

To the Moms who make every house a home Happy Mother's Day!

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Calendar of events

Wednesday, May 7
“Remember When” with Randy Domer, 6 p.m., Oshkosh Public Library

Thursday, May 8
Wisconsin Poet Laureate Dasha Kelly Hamilton, 5:30 p.m., Caramel Crisp Bookstore, 200 City Center

Friday, May 9
Oshkosh West Forensics Team Showcase, 5 p.m., Copper Hall, 203 Otter Ave.
Rotary Flower Sale, 10 a.m., Oshkosh Convention Center

Saturday, May 10
Valley Vinyl Music Festival, noon, Leach Amphitheater
Family Discovery Days, 11 a.m., Oshkosh Public Museum
Lourdes Booster Flower Sale, 8 a.m., 110 N. Sawyer St.
Winnebago Unit Marine Corps League Auxiliary taco dinner, 1 p.m., 4715 Sherman Road
50th Anniversary of “Monty Python and the Holy Grail,” 3 p.m., Oshkosh Public Library
New Generation Singers concert, 6 p.m., Peniel Welsh Chapel, W9644 Zoar Road
Midwest Dueling Pianos, 7 p.m., The Grand Oshkosh
Oshkosh’s Funniest Comedian preliminary round, 7 p.m., Oshkosh Arena
“The Mummy” (1999), 7 p.m., Time Community Theater, 445 N. Main St.

Sunday, May 11
Mother’s Day at Paine Art Center & Gardens, 9 a.m.
“Mamma Mia,” 7 p.m., Time Community Theater, 445 N. Main St.

Thursday, May 15
Carden International Circus, 7 p.m.,

Oshkosh Arena

Friday, May 16
Bike to Work Day, 7 a.m., Opera House Square
Bare Bones Comedy Night, 7:30 p.m., Bare Bones Brewery, 4362 County S

Saturday, May 17
Oshkosh Garden Club Plant Sale, 8 a.m., Oshkosh Public Museum grounds
Wisconsin Water City Wrestling Con, 3:30 p.m., Oshkosh Convention Center
BikeOsh 2025, 9 a.m., Lakeshore Park
Festival of Spring, Paine Arts Center & Gardens, 9 a.m.

Sunday, May 18
Distinguished Gentleman’s Ride For Men’s Mental Health and Cancer Research, 10 a.m., Becket’s Restaurant
Clash at the Theater – UWO Student Short Film Showcase, 6:30 p.m., Time Community Theater, 445 N. Main St.

Tuesday, May 20
Oshkosh Silent Book Club, 5:45 p.m., Planet Perk Cafe, 100 City Center C

Wednesday, May 21
EAA AirVenture Hiring Event, 4-7 p.m., EAA Aviation Museum
Modern Jungles: A Hmong Refugee’s Childhood Story of Survival, 6 p.m., Oshkosh Public Library
Glenn Miller Orchestra, 7 p.m., The Grand Oshkosh

Thursday, May 22
Climate Reality, 6 p.m., Oshkosh Public Library
EAA Aviation Museum Speaker Series: The 1st Air Cavalry in Vietnam, 7 p.m., EAA Aviation Museum

Saturday, May 24
Hmong National Memorial Day Festival, 7 a.m., Hmong Service Center, 726 N. Main St.
Menominee Park Zoo opening day, 9 a.m.
Quad Con Oshkosh Toy and Comic Show, 10 a.m., Oshkosh Arena

Sunday, May 25
Hmong National Memorial Day Festival, 7 a.m., Hmong Service Center, 726 N. Main St.

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Community invited to UWO chancellor farewell

Oshkosh Herald

The community is invited to join students, faculty, staff and alumni from 3-6 p.m. May 14 on the Leffin Family Terrace between Reeve Memorial Union and Albee Hall on the Oshkosh campus for a farewell reception recognizing and celebrating more than a decade of Chancellor Andy



Leavitt

Leavitt's service and leadership at the University of Wisconsin-Oshkosh. The event is an opportunity to gather and share appreciation for Leavitt and his wife Karen as they prepare for a July 1 transition away from UWO. A short program will take place at 4:30 p.m. Refreshments will be provided. Parking is available in Lot 15 off Algoma Boulevard from Reeve Union. The event will move to Reeve Union's Ballrooms in the event of inclement weather.

New curriculum

FROM PAGE 1

them all," Smith said. "Their future as young readers looks bright." Smith was the first of a group of teachers who spoke to the board in April about the benefits of shifting to a new reading curriculum. Teachers Leah Leclair and Taylor Thompson used CKLA over the school year with fourth graders at Lakeside Elementary School. Thompson, a first-year teacher, said she expected the literacy curriculum to be a lot of work, but found that how the lessons are laid out is practical. "That structure has allowed me, and others, to focus on how we are teaching things rather than spending hours worrying and figuring out what we are teaching," Thompson said. Leclair has been teaching in the district for 20 years and told the board she was excited to use the new curriculum. "This is the first time I've taught from a comprehensive literacy curriculum," Leclair said. All the materials and curriculum is in one place for teachers and instructors. Emmeline Cook fifth-grade teacher Kim Lotten has spent 25 years working in the district and said she was surprised by how much she appreciated the new curriculum as it was being field tested in her classroom.

"I didn't know I was going to love it this much until I heard parents telling me that their kids are coming home and talking about the Aztecs or the Incas or Don Quixote or Shakespeare," Lotten said. Lotten held back tears as she said how the student test scores were improving after starting to use the new curriculum. "My newcomer, who started the year with minimal English, grew 419% in literacy. And at the very same time my highest readers grew 338% and 286%," Lotten said. "That's never happened before. Not like this." Lotten was impressed by how the curriculum helps readers wanting to learn more and it helps students that need extra support. "While I am proud of where we are and what our experiences have been, I also note that we have very much ground ahead of us to cover and we will do so with the commitment and the promise in mind that we make to our community and that is every student in this district has a right to read," Coleman said. The district will enter a six-year license agreement with Amplify to use its CKLA curriculum. District documents show the 2024-25 school year was the first of the six years, which means the agreement will need to be revisited before the start of the 2030-2031 school year. The materials and the license will cost \$353,000 annually.



Oshkosh Herald

MK Lofts recently started leasing units in the former Miles Kimball building that has been converted into 28 apartment units. Several contractors and subcontractors have filed construction lien lawsuits against the property after alleging the companies have not been paid for work.

MK Lofts

FROM PAGE 1

ty. It is used to ensure companies receive payment for services provided. The former Miles Kimball building, 851 S. Main St., took several years to get converted from an industrial building into 28 apartments. It is one of several housing developments that city staff and council members have promoted as part of ongoing efforts to build more housing in the Sawdust District. Other developments in the Sawdust District include the Mill on Main housing project, which broke ground last fall after receiving approval from the city back in 2022. The Oshkosh Arena was an early addition to the Sawdust District and is also facing financial issues as the arena's owner is currently fighting a foreclosure lawsuit filed last summer. In 2021, the Oshkosh Common Council approved creating a tax incentive district for MK Lofts which included incentives of \$1.5 million to the property owners. At that time the city projected the project would lead to land improvements of almost \$3.5 million. Court documents show ten different

construction liens have been filed against MK Lofts by Alpine Insulation, Builder Services Group, Corcoran Glass and Paint, Hoheisel Painting, Keldermen Plumbing, Northeast Asphalt, Outdoor Living & Landscapes, Side x Side Construction, Suburban Enterprises and Van Vreede TV & Appliance. The liens total \$1,085,815.07 of services not paid to the ten companies. The lien amounts range from \$14,590 to \$299,962. The lawsuits were filed in Winnebago County starting last November and continued until April 30 when Outdoor Living & Landscapes filed a lien in the amount of \$26,135. Each of the lien lawsuits outlines that the business either has not been paid at all or has been paid partially by MK Lofts. Each of the ten companies outline when they did work for MK Lofts going back to 2022 with most work completed in 2024. MK Lofts recently started leasing studio, one- and two-bedroom apartments ranging in monthly rents from \$999 to \$1,375. In the civil case the plaintiff, Wisconsin Window Concepts, and MK Lofts have both demanded a jury trial. There are no scheduled hearings in any of the lien lawsuits or the civil case.

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1.49

When you redeem 2000 pig points

8.9-12 oz Select General Mills Cereal

Regular Sale Price 2.49



4.99

When you redeem 2000 pig points

16-34 oz Sara Lee Pound Cake, Cheesecake or Pies

Regular Sale Price 5.99

8 oz Food Club Whipped Topping...1.29



3.49

WITH CARD

16 oz Food Club Shredded or Chunk Cheese



2/\$5

6-8 oz Crystal Farms Sliced Cheese



5.99

WITH CARD

20-26.82 oz Brew Pub Lotzza Motzza or Packers Pizza



12 oz or 10 ct Cups Starbucks Coffee

digital coupons

8.99

SALE PRICE

WITH CARD

Less Digital Coupon Offer

7.99

WHEN YOU BUY MULTIPLES OF 2

FINAL COST

LIMIT (1) OFFER PER CARD



6.99

WITH CARD

64 oz Coffee mate Creamer



2.99

WITH CARD

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7.25-8.5 oz Ruffles

9-10.75 oz Doritos

5.3-8.5 oz Simply

15-15.75 oz Lay's or Tostitos Dips



2/\$6

WITH CARD

24 oz White or Wheat Country Hearth Bread



Offer expires 5/13/25

PLU 27206

Brew Pub Lotzza Motzza or Packers Pizza

20-26.82oz.

\$4.99

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Limit one with separate \$25.00 purchase

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Offer expires 5/13/25

PLU 27207

Hostess Snacks

Select 5-10 count

2/\$5

Must buy two. Limit two with separate \$25.00 purchase

Good at Red's Piggly Wiggly in Omro and Oshkosh only



Offer expires 5/13/25

PLU 27208


Strawberries

1 lb.

2/\$3

Must buy two. Limit two with separate \$25.00 purchase

Good at Red's Piggly Wiggly in Omro and Oshkosh only



Offer expires 5/13/25

PLU 27209

McCain Potatoes or Onion Rings

19-26 oz. Potatoes or 14 oz. Onion Rings

\$1.99

each

Limit one with separate \$25.00 purchase

Good at Red's Piggly Wiggly in Omro and Oshkosh only



Offer expires 5/13/25

PLU 27209

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Prep sports roundup

GOLF

Oshkosh North tops West, Lourdes/Valley

The Spartans posted three of the top four scores at Westhaven and finished ahead of Oshkosh West and Lourdes Academy/Valley Christian at the Oshkosh City Invitational last Wednesday at Westhaven.

Oshkosh North finished with a team score of 321, followed by the Wildcats at 333. Lourdes/Valley finished with a score of 382.

The Spartans' Warren Seeley earned medalist honors at the meet with a 77, which included a 35 on the first nine. Sully Snow of North and Tyler Mellgren of West tied for second place with rounds of 80, while the Spartans' Jack Anderson was the next finisher at 81.

Brady Anderson and Wesley Loewe rounded out the North scoring golfers with each shooting an 83.

Lincoln Houle and Tyler Moderson each shot to 82 for West, while Jaxen Lloyd and Parker Gerlach each carded 89s.

Lucas Neuens shot an 88 to lead Lourdes/Valley, while the Knights other scoring golfers were Ian Simmons with a 92, Kaden Okon with a 100 and Conner Hamill with a 102.

Spartans down Wildcats in FVA dual meet

Owen Weber earned medalist honors with a 40 as Oshkosh North edged Oshkosh West 171-176 at a Fox Valley Association match at Oshkosh Country Club last week.

Warren Seeley was the next North finisher with a 43, followed by Wesley Loewe



Photo by Jim Koeppnick
Oshkosh West's Lincoln Houle rolls a putt toward the hole during last Wednesday's meet between the three Oshkosh high schools at Westhaven.

and Sully Snow, who each shot 44s.

Jaxen Lloyd and Parker Gerlach paced Oshkosh West with rounds of 43, one shot better than Lincoln Houle. Tyler Mellgren was the next Wildcat finisher with a 46.

Oshkosh West edged by Appleton East

The Wildcats came up one shot short of

earning a win over Appleton East at Reid Municipal Golf Course last week.

West finished with a score of 181, while the Patriots posted a team total of 180.

Lincoln Houle led the Wildcats with a 43, followed by Jaxen Lloyd with a 45, Eli Gelhar with a 46 and Parker Gerlach with a 47.

Oshkosh West also dropped a FVA meet to Fond du Lac at the Oshkosh Country Club on Friday as the Wildcats finished with a team score of 186, compared to a 161 for the Cardinals.

Parker Gerlach paced the Wildcats with a 43, followed by Houle with a 46 and Eli Gerlach with a 47. Tyler Moderson rounded out the West scoring golfers with a 50.

Kaukauna posts close win over North

Warren Seeley and Wesley Loewe earned a share of medalist honors with rounds of 41 but the Spartans came up short against Kaukauna, 171-176, at Westhaven last week.

Owen Weber finished with a 44 and Jack Anderson had a 50 for North.

The Ghosts' Mav Kelderman also earned a share of medalist honors at 41.

Buttke earns medalist honors at mini-meet

Lourdes Academy/Valley Christian's Jackson Buttke fired a 40 at The Rock Golf Club in Waupun to earn medalist honors at a Trailways Conference mini-meet last week.

Buttke's round was three shots better than the rest of the field as the Knights finished one shot behind Randolph in fourth place at the meet.

Ian Simmons added a 53, while Kaden Okon finished with a 54 for Lourdes/Valley. Rounding out the lineup was Conner Hamill and Donovan Hemminghaus, who each shot 57s.

TRACK AND FIELD

West girls take third at Neenah Invite

Sydnee Nelson won two events and Kylie Triebold also picked up a victory as Oshkosh West finished third among 10 teams in the girls standings at the Neenah Invite last Friday.

Nelson finished first in the 200 meters and the 110-meter hurdles, while Triebold picked up her win in the 400 meters.

Camille Phillips added a second place in the 300-meter hurdles and took third in the 100-meter hurdles for the Wildcats. West also had Kayana Turner take fourth and Emma Liebergen finish fifth in the triple jump, while Abby Terch in the 1,600 meters and Coraline Strebelinski in the 3,200 meters were each fifth.

West also placed second in the 800-meter, 1,600-meter and 3,200-meter relays.

North's best finish at the meet came from Noelle Dutschek, who took seventh in the shot put.

On the boys side, North finished sixth among 12 teams, three places and six points ahead of West.

Devon Williams picked up a first place in the 200 meters and added a second place in the 400 meters to lead the Spartans, while Jamare Scott added a win in the 100 meters.

Andrew Oehler also had a top finish,

SEE **Prep roundup** ON PAGE 19



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Kiffmeyer has emerged as elite pitcher for Spartans



Zach Kiffmeyer was a second team all-Fox Valley Association selection last season who will continue his baseball career at Upper Iowa University next year.

By Tim Froberg
HERALD CONTRIBUTOR

Zach Kiffmeyer has always packed plenty of thunder in his valuable right arm. However, one of the most important lessons the Oshkosh North senior has learned in his baseball journey is that power arms can take a pitcher only so far. Just like rockets need fuel to launch, arm strength must be matched with proper mechanics.

“I’m a guy who is always really dialed into my mechanics,” Kiffmeyer said. “I really try to focus on mechanics and I trust my mechanics. When my mechanics are good and everything is moving right, things will work out the way they’re supposed to.”

Things are working out quite well for Kiffmeyer. He is considered to be the top high school pitcher in the Oshkosh area and may be one of the best in the state.

Kiffmeyer was a second-team all-Fox Valley Association selection as a pitcher in 2024 and will likely be a repeat all-conference pick in 2025. He entered weekend play with a 2-2 record and a microscopic 0.55 earned run average with 29 strikeouts in 25 1/3 innings.

Kiffmeyer, who plays first base when not pitching, is also doing damage with his bat. He’s hitting .282 with a home run, five RBI and four stolen bases.

“Zach is always looking for ways to improve his craft,” said North coach Jared Anderson. “That desire is what makes him the dominant pitcher he is.”

Kiffmeyer compiled a 3-3 record with an impressive 1.78 earned run average as a junior. He also led North in most offensive categories including hits (20), batting average (.247), total bases (26) and on-base percentage (.358).

Baseball is Kiffmeyer’s athletic focus at North and the Spartans’ senior won’t be abandoning the diamond any time soon. Kiffmeyer will take his pitching skills to Upper Iowa University in the fall where he will play Division 2 baseball for the Peacocks.

Kiffmeyer throws a full arsenal of pitches, including a four-seam fastball, a sinker, a slider and a change-up. The slider is his go-to pitch.

“It gets late movement and it’s definitely more east to west,” said Kiffmeyer. “It’s almost like a sweeper.”

Senior Spotlight

Kiffmeyer touches the high 80s in terms of velocity and has no problem blowing his fastball past prep hitters. He struck out 42 in 43 1/3 innings pitched last season.

“Strikeouts are always nice, but quick innings on the mound are even better,” said Kiffmeyer who has good size for a pitcher at 6-foot-1, 215. “Just putting zeroes on the board is always my biggest goal as a pitcher.”

Kiffmeyer’s favorite MLB pitchers are both fireballers: Pittsburgh’s Paul Skenes and Texas’s Jacob deGrom.

“I love watching those two guys pitch,” Kiffmeyer said. “I know they are pretty big names, but they’re big names for a reason. They’re two of the best at what they do.”

Kiffmeyer is no newcomer to the mound, but had a late start as a pitcher. He was a catcher for most of his pre-prep baseball days before he was given a trial on the bump by his summer travel team - the Waukesha-based GRB Stiks - and has never looked back.

Kiffmeyer enjoyed his days as a catcher, but the switch to the mound has been life-changing, leading to an opportunity to attend college on a partial scholarship and play ball.

“I had been a catcher for years, but I just kind of hopped on the mound one day and the Stiks coaches saw my potential as a pitcher,” he said. “My Stiks’ coaches (Sean Smith and Nate Burns) really helped me. They taught me a lot about mechanics and how to become a pitcher and not just a thrower.”

Kiffmeyer’s competitive nature translates well to the challenging art of pitching where he is basically competing one-on-one against hitters every time he releases the ball.

“I’ve always enjoyed competing - that’s what really drew me to pitching,” said Kiffmeyer. “I just love that competitive part of it. I’m competitive in just about everything I do in life. I really think my best asset as a pitcher is my competitiveness. I’m comfortable making all my pitches. I have full confidence in myself to make whatever pitch I need to make at the right moment.”

Pitching is not for the meek and Kiffmeyer’s firm belief in his pitching skills has taken him to another level as a high school pitcher.

“When he’s on the mound, Zach has an aura of confidence that is unmatched,” said Anderson. “Even if he doesn’t have his best stuff that particular day, Zach knows he has good enough stuff to shut the other team down.”

Kiffmeyer’s confidence and composure has helped him become what Anderson calls “the perfect senior leader.”

“We had a team full of seniors last year and Zach asserted himself early as one of the team’s leaders, even though he was a

SEE **Senior Spotlight** ON PAGE 17



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Senior Spotlight

FROM PAGE 16

junior,” Anderson added. “If things started to unravel for one of our pitchers, Zach would take it upon himself – without us prompting or asking him - to call a timeout. Then, he would go talk to the pitcher and give him a moment to reset.

“I’ve seen that leadership quality and rapport with his teammates flourish this season, especially earlier in the year when things didn’t always go smoothly. When he talks, his teammates listen and they look to him for guidance. He’s passionate about everything he does and his excitement, energy and enthusiasm are contagious.”

Kiffmeyer is excited about his upcoming opportunity to play college baseball at Upper Iowa in Fayette, Iowa.

“The minute I stepped on campus, everything just felt like family - the coaches, the players,” Kiffmeyer said. “Even though it was a busy time for the coaches, they made me feel like I was already part of the team. That’s why I decided to go there.”

An exceptional student with a 3.89

grade-point-average, Kiffmeyer is considering majoring in chemistry with a minor in criminal justice.

“I’m not 100 percent sure yet, but I’ve always been interested in chemistry and seeing how different things are created in this world and their composition,” he said. “Forensics, detective work – those are the type of chemistry-related things that interest me.”

But first Kiffmeyer is looking to close out his prep career on a high note. When he’s finished with high school baseball and has graduated, Kiffmeyer will tune up for his college baseball career by playing summer ball for the Waukesha Foxes. The Foxes compete in the Dairyland League which is comprised solely of college and college-bound baseball players.

“It will be a great opportunity to face college hitters before I actually get to Upper Iowa,” said Kiffmeyer. “I’m excited about that and I’m looking forward to the rest of the season with my (North) team.

“One of the great things we have going for us is that we all believe and have trust in one another. This team is always ready to go out there and compete – every single day.”

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By Steve Clark
OSHKOSH HERALD

"They place a few key hits out there and got up 9-0 and we had to fight back," Oshkosh North head coach Keith Koslowski said. "It's tough to do at that point, but

Izzy Kramer blasted an RBI-triple in the first inning and scored on a North error on

West was able to get out of the jam when Morgan Kolodzik lined out to right field and the Wildcats turned it into a dou-

"She made some adjustments and did a nice job of finding her rhythm on the mound and that's what we needed. She's done a really good job for us all year," Koslowski said. "We're always looking at what we can do better but we are also looking at what are we doing positively out there that we can build on and do more of."




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Prep roundup

FROM PAGE 15

placing second in the discus for North, which finished second in the 800-meter relay and third in the 400-meter relay.

The Wildcats’ best event at the meet was the triple jump where Clark Howell finished second and Jackson Kasper placed third.

Landen Egnoski added a second place in the pole vault, while Carter Crowe was third in the 1,600 meters and Alex Dedecker was fourth in the 400 meters.

Relays lead West boys at quad

Oshkosh West won a pair of relays in posting a close third-place finish at a Fox Valley Association home quadrangular meet last week.

Alex Bolton, Adler Butt, Carson Chinski and Noah Cardinal teamed up to win the 400-meter relay for the Wildcats, while Juan Collins, Celso Collins, Owen Moon and Carter Crowe teamed up to finish first in the 3,200-meter relay.

Celso Collins added a first place in the 3,200 meters with teammate Eli Maloney taking second. Alex Dedecker in the 400 meters and Juan Collins in the 1,600 meters each finished second.

The Wildcats finished two points behind Kaukauna for second place at the meet, which was won by Kimberly.

Nelson paces Wildcats at FVA quad

Sydnee Nelson won two individual events and helped fuel a relay win as Oshkosh West finished third behind Kaukauna and Kimberly at an FVA quad in Kimberly last Tuesday.

Nelson won the 200 meters and the 110-meter hurdles before joining Camille Phillips, Kayana Turner and Kylie Triebold on the winning 800-meter relay team.

Triebold also picked up a win in the 100 meters, while Coraline Strebelinski and Gwen Liptow finished first and second, respectively, in the 1,600 meters.

West also placed first in the 1,600-meter relay with a team of Triebold, Abby Tercha, Turner and Samantha Panske.

North boys dominate sprint events at triangular

The Spartans had the first place finishers in both the 100 and 200 meters and then won both sprint relays at a Fox Valley Association triangular meet at home last Monday.

Logan Schettle won the 100 meters for the Spartans while Jamare Scott took first and Devon Williams finished second in the 200 meters. Scott and Schettle joined Evan Auler and Josh Zietlow to win the 400-meter relay, while Auler, Zietlow, Tyler Farnsworth and Jaykwon Jones finished first in the 800-meter relay.

Andrew Oehler picked up a win in the discus and finished second in the shot put, while Harrison Bell was second in both the 110-meter hurdles and long jump.

Noelle Dutschek paced the North girls at the meet placing first in the discus and second in the shot put.

Lehna Mitchell added a win in the 800 meters while Savannah Rust was second in the 300-meter hurdles. The Spartans also took second in the 800-meter relay.

Knights dominate Trailways duals meet

Both the Lourdes Academy girls and boys track and field teams finished 4-0 at the Trailways Duals hosted by Horicon

last week.

The girls had seven different individuals win events and swept all four relays on the day.

Christian Agosto in the 100 meters, Kylie Rietz in the 200 meters, Dasha Averkamp in the 800 meters, Erin Moore in the 1,600 meters, Annie Moore in the 3,200 meters and Lucy Schade in both the 100-meter and 300-meter hurdles won events on the track.

Bree Kane finished first in both the high jump and triple jump to round out the individual winners for Lourdes Academy.

Sabur Machiros in the 200 meters, Annie Moore in the 800 meters and Averkamp in the 1,600 meters added second-place finishes.

In the relays, Abby Ridenour, Anika Leitch, Monse Luquin and Machiros combined to win the 400-meter relay, while Agosto, Rietz, Schade and Luquin posted the victory in the 800-meter relay. The winning 1,600-meter relay team consisted of Averkamp, Rietz, Machiros and Erin Moore, while Khloe Bunton, Finley Coats, Annie Moore and Allison Stromske won the 3,200-meter relay.

Henry Spanbauer led the Lourdes Academy boys efforts, winning the 800 meters, 1,600 meters and 3,200 meters on the day. Cameron Kapral added first places in the 200 meters and 400 meters, while Quin Ruark in the 300-meter hurdles and Isaak Rucinski in the long jump also finished first.

Adding second-place finishes were Rucinski in the 100 meters, Zach Foster in the 800 meters, Tristan Gomez in the shot put and Matthew Loker in the 110-meter hurdles and triple jump.

Winning relay teams for the Knights were: Connor Salm, Brett Maki, David Mueller and Johnny Santiago in the 400-meter relay; David Agosto, Maki, Ruark and Andrew Syson in the 800-meter relay; and Kapral, Henry Geck, Maki and Rucinski in the 1,600-meter relay.

Knights, Warriors compete at Omro invite

Lourdes Academy finished second in the girls standings and third in the boys standings, while Valley Christian was fourth in both at the Omro Invitational on Friday.

Cameron Kapral in the 400 meters and Henry Spanbauer in the 3,200 meters posted wins for Lourdes Academy. Kapral also added a second place in the 200 meters.

Other top-five individual finishes for the Knights were: Mat Yaggie, second in both the 110-meter hurdles and 300-meter hurdles; David Agosto, third in the 100 meters and fourth in the 200 meters; Matthew Loker, fourth in the triple jump; Henry Geck, fifth in the 200 meters; and Tristan Gomez, fifth in the shot put.

Lourdes Academy also finished second in the 400-meter relay, third in the 800-meter relay and fourth in the 1,600-meter relay.

Valley Christian was led by Joshua Johnson, who took second in the triple jump and third in the long jump. Ben Curtis was third in the discus and Jonah Menet was third in the 3,200 meters, while Brady Patterson in the 400 meters and Simon Menet in the 1,600 meters were each fifth.

The Warriors were also second in the 1,600-meter relay and third in the 3,200-meter relay.

Erin Moore posted wins in the 400 meters and 800 meters to lead the Lourdes Academy girls, while Sabur Machiros in the 200 meters and Annie Moore in the 3,200 meters also added wins.

Lourdes Academy also won all four relays with Christina Agosto, Kylie Rietz, Monse Luquin and Machiros winning the

400-meter relay; Machiros, Rietz, Bree Kane and Agoston winning the 800-meter relay; Rietz, Dasha Averkamp, Natasha Konop and Erin Moore winning the 1,600-meter relay; and Averkamp, Annie Moore, Finley Coats and Khloe Bunton winning the 3,200-meter relay.

Other top five finishers for the Knights were: Allie Winchester, third in the 100 meters and second in the long jump; Luquin, fifth in the 200 meters; Allison Stromske, second in the 800 meters; Tesia Mrockowski, fifth in the 800 meters; Konop, second in the 300-meter hurdles and fifth in the 100-meter hurdles; Kane, second in the high jump and fourth in the long jump; and Kate Lynn, fourth in the high jump.

The Warriors had one individual winner on the day as McKenzie Murphy finished first in the pole vault and had three finishers in the top five in the 400 meters in Mya Moran (second), Anna Sawicki (fourth) and Haley Hill (fifth).

Other top-five finishers for the Warriors were: Hill, fourth in the 100 meters; Moran, fourth in the 800 meters; Murphy, fourth in the 1,600 meters; Lizzie Fink, third in the 100-meter hurdles and fourth in the 100-meter hurdles; Anna Giannopoulos, second in the discus and fifth in the shot put; and Pyper Burns, fifth in the long jump.

TENNIS

Doubles sweep lifts Wildcats past Spartans

Oshkosh West won all three doubles matches in straight sets to help pull out a 4-3 win over rival Oshkosh North in a FVA dual meet last week.

Yosef Edsell and Kole Stauffacher highlighted the doubles sweep at the No. 1 flight by posting a 6-0, 6-0 win. Reid Potter and Gavin Steiner dropped only two games in winning at the No. 2 flight, while Isaiah Wilson and Jacob Lemke scored a 6-0, 6-3 win at the No. 3 flight.

Jacob Stinski earned the lone singles win for the Wildcats at the No. 1 flight.

Nicolas Flandin at No. 2 singles, Kallum Larson-Poeschel at the No. 3 flight and Allen Koji at the No. 4 flight picked up the wins for North, with Koji rallying from a first-set loss in his win.

Potter, Steiner lead West at tournament

Oshkosh West’s No. 2 doubles team of Reid Potter and Gavin Steiner finished 3-1 to take fifth place to lead the Wildcats at the Nicolet Invitational over the weekend.

Jacob Lemke and Isaiah Wilson finished in eighth place at No. 3 doubles, while Yosef Edsell and Kole Stauffacher also went 3-1 at the event and were the consolation champs, taking ninth place.

Jacob Stinski at No. 1 singles, Jace Koepsell at No. 3 singles and Colin Smith at No. 4 singles each posted a win at the tournament.

SOCCER

Wesenberg’s goals lift Wildcats past Patriots

Lyla Wesenberg scored a pair of first-half goals and Oshkosh West made them stand up in a 2-1 win over Appleton East last Thursday.

Ellen Skriver and McKenzie Blair each notched assists in the game, while Emma Last earned the win in goal with one save.

The Wildcats improved to 3-0 in the Fox Valley Association and 5-3-1 overall.

Duran’s hat trick lifts Spartans to win

Emaly Duran tallied a hat trick and



Photo by Andy Ratchman

Lourdes Academy/Valley Christian Sarah Hafemeister tries to control a ball during the Knights’ win over Omro on Friday.

Elaina Wojahn added two goals as Oshkosh North scored a 5-0 win over Ripon on Thursday night.

Gabi Pereira Da Silva and Ava Duran notched assists in the win, while Olivia Dennis (1 save) and Autumn Shelton (2 saves) combined for the shutout.

Earlier in the week, the Spartans suffered a 4-0 loss to Neenah in an FVA match.

Knights pull out close win over Omro

Evelyn Heinzen scored the lone goal as Lourdes Academy/Valley Christian notched a 1-0 win over Omro in a Flyway Conference contest last week.

Younhee Isom assisted on the goal for the Knights.

Kenzie Grammer earned the shutout in goal for Lourdes/Valley.

BASEBALL

Kiffmeyer pitches Spartans past Wildcats

Zach Kiffmeyer scattered seven hits over seven innings and struck out four in leading Oshkosh North to a 6-2 win over Oshkosh West last Tuesday.

Jackson Anderson and Brayden Frank each finished with two hits in the game, while Connor Palmquist and Mayson Feaval each drove in two runs in the win for North.

The Spartans took a 3-0 lead after four innings and then plated three runs in the sixth to break the game open. West scored both of its runs in the bottom of the seventh.

Landon Ubrig and Jaxon Prill each had two hits in the game for West, while Gavin Ruh drove in a run.

Avery Mosloski struck out 10 in 5 2/3 innings for the Wildcats. He allowed six hits and five runs, two of which were unearned.

Knights post pair of wins over Wayland

Lourdes Academy/Valley Christian posted a pair of wins over Wayland Academy last week, highlighted by a 20-9 victory on Friday.

Ryder Mullen finished with a pair of hits, while Parker Slusarski drove in a team-high four runs in the win. Michael Santiago, Nolan Gibson and Adam Dinneegan each had three RBIs in the game as

Prep roundup

FROM PAGE 19

the Knights benefitted from 19 walks. Earlier in the week, Lourdes Academy won a 7-1 decision with Henry Achterberg and Brady Bauer combining on a three-hitter. Gibson and Bauer had the only hits in the game for the Knights.

North collects win over Rapids

A four-run fourth inning staked the Spartans to a six-run lead as North rolled to a 6-1 win over Wisconsin Rapids on Friday. The Spartans tallied just five hits in the game but were aided by six walks in collecting the win.

Connor Palmquist, Andrew Brockman, Keegan Kinzfohl and Mayson Feaval all drove in runs in the win. Jackson Anderson allowed just three hits and struck out four to earn the win on the mound. North fell to Kimberly, 10-0, on Saturday with Charlie Clark picking up the only hit in the game for the Spartans.

Wildcats can't get past Hortonville

Cade Heiman had a strong outing on the mound but West was held to just two hits in a 1-0 loss to Hortonville on Saturday. Landon Ubrig and Austin Albrecht had the only hits in the game for the Wildcats. Heiman allowed just three hits, while striking out four over six innings but was saddled with the loss.

SOFTBALL

Jaber paces Knights win over Wayland

Reagan Jaber finished 4-for-4 with a double, two triples and five RBIs as Lourdes Academy topped Wayland Academy 20-1 on Tuesday. Libby Guerrero, Nomi Bolorsukh and Grace Meyers each had two hits in the game, while Bolorsukh and Aubrey Schettler each finished with three RBIs. Maggie Kilde, Jaber, Bolorsukh and Meyers each scored three runs in the win. Annika Hitchcock got the win in the circle for the Knights. The Knights lost the first game of the doubleheader against Wayland, 23-12. Schettler finished 5-for-5 with four RBIs, while Jaber finished 4-for-5 and drove in three runs. Kilde, Guerrero and Izzy Mugerauer each chipped in two hits. Lourdes Academy also suffered a 22-6 loss to Berlin, with Mugerauer, Jaber and Schettler collecting hits in the game for the Knights. The Knights also lost to Oakfield, 17-0 with Schettler notching the only hit for Lourdes Academy.

Cummings tosses gem in Spartans' win

Kara Cummings hurled a three-hit shut-out as Oshkosh North collected a 2-0 win over Hartford on Saturday. Cummings struck out four and walked only three to earn the win. Emma Niemczyk, Brooke Peters, Dory Butzlaff and Sophia Housworth each had two hits in the game for North, which scored single runs in the first and fifth innings. Anna Borst picked up the only RBI in the game for North. The Spartans also dropped FVA games to Kimberly (13-2) and Hortonville (5-3) last week. In the loss to Kimberly, Borowitz finished 3-for-3 with a double and had the only RBI in the game for the Spartans.

Wildcats pull out win over Polar Bears

Oshkosh West scored three runs in the top of the seventh to rally from a 2-0 deficit and then plated two more in the top of the eighth to claim a 5-4 win over Hortonville last week. Alexia Monroe finished with two hits and drove in two runs in the game, while Colleen Fitzpatrick added two hits and drove in one run. Lilly Peterson also had two hits in the game for West with Kylie Hielsberg adding two RBIs. Izzy Kramer pitched seven innings, allowing one earned run, while Averie Tritt pitched the eighth inning and surrendered one unearned run to get the win. West came up short against Neenah on Friday, falling 7-2, to the Rockets. Fitzpatrick belted a solo home run and finished with two hits to lead the Wildcats' offense. Emmy Reichenberger and Monroe also chipped in two hits apiece.

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Obituaries

Dean Thomas Patterson

In the early afternoon of May 3, 2025 and surrounded by family, Dean Thomas



Patterson was swept away from this earth into the glorious presence of his Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. Dean was born at home in Alexis, IL to Thomas and Justina (nee Davis) Patterson on January 30, 1933. He would later spend most of his adult life living and raising a family in the same home he was born in. Dean was preceded in death by a baby sister, Sharon, his father, Thomas, his mother, Justina, and a grandson, Hans Anderson.

Dean graduated from Monmouth High School in Monmouth IL. He operated the farm adjacent to the home where he was born in Alexis, IL for most of his life. In addition, he also worked at Gambles in Monmouth, IL and after retirement en-

Jack Edward Frohn

Jack Edward Frohn, age 88, passed away shortly after his wife, joining her on a higher



journey on April 30, 2025, in Appleton, WI. He was born on April 25, 1937, to parents, Charles Edward and Blanche Irene (Nelson) Frohn, in Ladysmith, WI.

He graduated from St. Charles high school and worked as a short order cook to put himself thru college in Aurora, IL. This is where he met the love of his life, Dorothy Cottrell.

After receiving a bachelor’s degree, he became an ordained minister and graduated Seminary at Northwestern Baptist. April 25 was not only for his birthday, but in 1959, became the day he got married. Jack and Dorothy moved among the states of Kansas, Illinois, Wisconsin and Iowa and where they were needed the most. Jack was also a police chaplain for a period. Aside from various church missions, he held positions at a Church in Newton, KS, Aurora, IL, Juda, WI, Mauston, WI, Omro, WI, Phillipsburg, KS, Green Lake Assembly Ground, WI, UCC in Grand Marsh, WI and UCC in Waukon, IA. He retired in the late 1990’s but Ministry is never something you finish doing. He called himself a “small town minister,” but his big heart and teachings reached around the world.

Jack could run an entire camp nearly by himself, everything from cooking, leading

John Gonsalves

John Gonsalves of Neshkoro died April 28, 2025 after a lengthy illness.



John, also known as “Gunner” was raised in Winneconne by his amazing foster family, Bea and Al Lippert. John remained close to Bea and Al well into his adult life.

John was employed by Square D company of Oshkosh as a machine set up operator for over 20 years. John was actively involved in the union while at Square D and acted as a chairman of the Executive board.

John loved to fish and hunt as well. He particularly enjoyed a week away each year with his hunting buddies. He was an avid Green Bay Packer fan and enjoyed watching the games on Sunday night. He enjoyed watching deer, turkey and an ar-

joyed selling cars at Essig-Uftring, Aledo, IL.

Dean had a strong faith in Jesus Christ as his Savior. That faith influenced every part of his life. He began teaching adult Sunday School classes at 18. He was a board member at every church where he attended as a member. Dean joined the Gideons in 1988 and regularly passed out New Testaments to anyone he met. His greatest hope in life was to see all of his children love and follow Jesus as Savior.

Dean is survived by his dearly beloved wife of 73 years, Carolyn (nee Beaty) Patterson. Their many years of marriage is a result of their common goal: Each for the Other and Both for the Lord. Also surviving are his children, Deborah Anderson (Terry Moreland) of Midvale, ID, Mark (Karen) Patterson of Three Lakes, WI, and Daniel (Kim) Patterson of Oshkosh, WI; surviving grandchildren, Jennie Kotula, Erin Sharp, Dane Patterson, Taylor Patterson, Natalie Tahtinen, Leah Patterson, and Brady Patterson; In addition, there

events and grounds keeping. Some of the camps included Camp Tamarack in Chain O’ Lakes, WI, Camp Christy in Kansas, and Pilgrim Camp in Green Lake, WI. In his free time, Jack liked to tell “Dad” jokes, collect antiques, cook baked Alaska for a crowd with friends to keep his chef skills sharp, and was a published author. He could think on his feet and stayed calm in emergencies, by writing sermons in 2 hours and whipping up lunch for 200 hungry campers.

He is survived by his son, Edward “Martin” James (Partner) Frohn; daughter, Joyce Elizabeth (Anthony Hengst) Frohn; granddaughter, Elizabeth Gwendolyn Frohn Hengst; brother, David Frohn; and many nieces, nephews and friends.

Preceding him in death was his beloved wife, Dorothy Frohn; parents, Charles Edward and Blanche Irene (Nelson) Frohn; brothers, Gary Frohn, and Richard (Toni) Frohn; sister, Shirley Frohn; sister-in-law, Fern Elizabeth (Vinay) Likhite; and brothers-in-law, Keith Leslie (Claudia) Cottrell and Alson Barney Cottrell.

Service will be at a future date.

In lieu of flowers, make donations in his honor to someone in need.

The family would like to thank Compassus Hospice, Mercy Medical Center and St. Elizabeth Hospital staff as well as Pastor Julie for their care and support during this difficult time.



ray of wildlife from his deck.

He also enjoyed spending time just hanging out with his English Mastiffs Aubrey and Vivi (and Phil).

John leaves behind Carole, his wife of 45 years and eight amazing children, Ben (Sarah Lane) Gonsalves of South Carolina, Jessie (Beau) Schrage of Oshkosh, Michael Gonsalves of Oshkosh, Christina Gonsalves of Neshkoro, Greg Gonsalves of Florida, Hanna Gonsalves of Neshkoro, Jacob Gonsalves of Berlin, Marcus (Erin) Gonsalves of North Freedom; seven incredible grandchildren, Landon, Kensie, Aiden, Caleb, Riley, Savannah and Bella, as well as one to come. He is further survived by sisters, Pam Klug and Debbie Oaks.

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



are 11 great grandchildren with number 12 arriving very soon.

Visitation for Dean will be held on Thursday, May 8, 2025, at Plymouth Church, 1325 Georgia St, Oshkosh, from 1:00 pm until 2:00 pm. A funeral service for Dean will follow at Plymouth Church at 2:00 pm.

Interment will be held on Monday, May

Darlene Ann Kumbier

Darlene Ann (Wilde) Kumbier, age 82, passed away with her family by her side on



May 2, 2025, in Oshkosh, WI. She was born on December 5, 1942, to parents, Alton and Rhea (Janke) Wilde in Oshkosh, WI.

She graduated from Oshkosh High School in 1960. After high school, she married the love of her life, Robert M. Kumbier on July 21, 1961, in Oshkosh. Together, they raised four children.

Darlene was a homemaker until all of the kids went full time to school. She then took on a position at SNC. Then went on to work at Oshkosh B’ Gosh, Badger Lumber, Lenox, WG & R, and the Oshkosh School District even after retirement.

She enjoyed baking, watching stock car racing and watching wrestling with her grandsons. Family meant everything to her, she loved her grandchildren just as much as her own children.

She is survived by her children, Tam-

Susan Garthwaite

Susan K. Garthwaite, age 71, passed away on April 28, 2025, in Fond du Lac,



WI. She was born on September 17, 1953, to parents Robert Lee and Betty Jane (Snell) Burdick, in Oshkosh, WI.

She graduated from Oshkosh West High School. On July 12, 1975, she married the love of her life, John Garthwaite in the Algoma Boulevard United Methodist Church.

Susan worked as a caterer, seamstress and doing many different tasks at an adult care center. She met many great friends and clients along the way.

Dean James Kloiber

Dean James Kloiber, age 62, passed away in Oshkosh, Wisconsin on April 28,



2025. He was born September 2, 1962 to parents Inez Kloiber(Gutsmeidl), Bill Kloiber, paternal father Bill Phillip.

Dean graduated from Oshkosh West High School in 1981. He then went on to work as a welder/machinist at Oshkosh Truck and Kingsbury, Inc.

Dean enjoyed country music, karaoke and watching NASCAR, Green Bay Packers and the Brewers. Dean was known for his many “Deanisms”, and the Unknown Comic usually showed up now and then. He loved watching Mr. Ed and Rodney

12, 2025 11:00 am, at Warren County Memorial Park, 1325 N 11th St, Monmouth, IL.

In lieu of flowers the family asks that memorials be made to Plymouth Church, Oshkosh WI or the Gideons.



my (Bob) Hansen, Brian (Cindy Berg) Kumbier and Karen (Dan) Bramer; Adrienna (Drew), Camille, Kaleb, Jared (Michelle), Greg (Charisma), Colten(Ashley), Mckenzie (Nate H.), John (Ashley), Cameron (Jaden), Nathan, Noah; 11 great-grandchildren; twin brother, Dale (Judy) Wilde; brother-in-law, David (Kathy) Kumbier; sister-in-law, Beverly Kumbier; numerous nieces, nephews and cousins; special neighbors- Henke Family and Studinski Family.

Preceding her in death was her husband, Robert M; son, Gregory; parents, Alton and Rhea; sisters, Lois (Frank), Donna (Elvin) and Virginia (Harold); brothers-in-law, Darwin (Arlys), Dennis and Donald.

A Celebration of Life will be held on Friday, May 9, 2025, at Nekimi Town Hall, from 3:00pm until it is finished. Please bring memories to share.

The family would like to recognize and thank her grandsons, Nathan and Kaleb as well as her Compassus Hospice Family-especially Jessica, Casey, Jenna and Chris for their care and compassion.



In her free time, she enjoyed reading, gardening, making crafts and doing crochet projects.

She is survived by her daughter, Katie (Adam) Comens; sisters, Patricia (Michael Flood) Schroeder, and Mary Burdick; brother, John Burdick; as well as many nieces and nephews.

Preceding her in death was her husband, John Garthwaite; parents, Robert Lee and Betty Jane (Snell) Burdick; sister, Bonnie Webb; niece, Amber Bushman; and nephews, Robert Lewellyn and Kyle Schroeder.

Service details will be determined at a later time.

The family would like to thank SSM Health ICU nurses and staff.



Dangerfield and last but not least, his 4 finger high 5.

Dean is survived by his daughters Martina (Roy) Ales, Lindsey-Kay Kloiber (Sam Slabe). Sister Kelly (Rodney) Klick, Brothers Bill Kloiber and Scott(Julie) Kloiber and his extended Sobojinski family. Also his dear friends/neighbors Joe and Caity and Jeff Stang and many more dear friends and family.

Dean was proceeded in death by his parents, grandparents, special nephew Nick, Father in Law Ed Sobojinski.

A service for Dean will be held Monday May 19, 2025 at 2pm, St. Raphael’s, Oshkosh, WI. Following the service, a Celebration of Life will be held at Fox River Brewing Company in the Tap Room.

We would like to thank Erin with Hospice, Joe and Caity for all your help during this difficult time.

To advertise in the Oshkosh Herald, call 920-385-4512.

Obituaries

Paula (Zentner) Riley
Another angel received her wings, Paula (Neubauer/Zentner) Riley, age 84 of Oshkosh, Wisconsin passed away on Sunday, April 27, 2025 with complications from Pulmonary Fibrosis. She was born on October 14, 1940 in Oshkosh-the only daughter of Paul O. and Louise M. (Schroeder) Neubauer.

Paula attended Sacred Heart School thru 1955 and graduated from Oshkosh High, the Class of 1958. She loved spending time with family and friends, monthly get togethers' with classmates at The Roxy, cooking, baking, gardening, canning, quilting and many other crafts. She enjoyed sharing all her talents by generously gifting them to others. She cherished companionship with all of her dogs throughout the years. Paula was employed by Gateway Transportation, Deltox, Oshkosh Truck and retired after 20 years from the EAA Maintenance Dept Office. She enjoyed talking

and working with volunteers and visitors from all over the world. On September 16, 1989, Paula was united in marriage to David J. Riley at the EAA Fergus Chapel in Oshkosh. They enjoyed weekends at their Door County home and traveling until his passing in 2016. She is survived by her three children, David (Amy) Zentner, Lynn (John) Hirte and Kathleen (Robert) Borgardt. Eight grandchildren-Jacob, Nathan, Danielle, Isaac Zentner, Nick (Mel) Hirte, Josh Hirte, Ben (Rachel) Borgardt, Andy (Special Friend Samantha) Borgardt. Four great grandchildren- Sutton & Sloane Hirte, Easton & Ellie Borgardt. Further survived by her mother in-law, Dorothy Riley (104), brother/sister in-law Gary (Rita) Riley, niece Casey Riley -all of Fish Creek, WI. Sister in-law Donna Zentner of Lakewood CO, cousins and nieces. Proceeded in death by her parents, Russell Zentner and husband David Riley. Brother in laws -Tim Riley, Gary McNinch, Kenneth Zentner and Reid (Judy) Zentner, sister in laws-Sandy Riley

and Colleen Riley. She will be sincerely missed by all of her family & friends. Thank you to the teams from Aurora Medical Center for their care and comfort. As per Paula's request, there will be no visitation or funeral service. A memorial will be established in her

honor. All memorial funds can be sent to: Paula Riley c/o Fiss & Bills - Poklasny Funeral Homes 865 S. Westhaven Drive Oshkosh WI 54904



Melanie Poznoff Hillenbrand
Melanie Poznoff Hillenbrand, a voracious reader, crossword puzzle enthusiast and political aficionado passed away on March 28, 2025 at the Preserve in Pompano Beach, Florida.

She was born on September 7, 1949 to H Melvin and Anne Burns Hillenbrand in St Louis, Mo. Melanie grew up in Oshkosh, Wisconsin and attended Lourdes Academy where she graduated valedictorian of her class. Evidencing her adventurous spirit, Melanie chose to attend Creighton University in Omaha, Nb. and received her BA in Journalism from Boston University. Melanie loved large cities and education. Her next adventure was living in Chicago where she obtained an MA in English and later an MBA in Human Resources. Melanie used her expertise with several large insurance companies as she trained agents in sales tactics and new products for over 20 years. While in Chicago, she met and married Glen Poznoff whose career as an industrial psychologist led them eventually to live in New York City. Being close to airports allowed them to explore the world's many intriguing and beautiful places which they did whenever possible. Melanie, who was often teased about her driving skills (or lack thereof), found cities such as Chicago and New York easy to maneuver and a charming means to enjoy her hobby of people watching. NYC lost its charm for Melanie on 9/11 when she helped a colleague down 70 flights of stairs in the South Tower at the World Trade Center. They made their exits minutes before the Tower collapsed. Within a year, Melanie and Glen moved to Florida for its warmer climate and slower pace. Melanie was predeceased by her brothers Eric Hillenbrand and Christopher Hillenbrand (Janet), her parents Anne and Mel. Her husband Glen died in 2011. After Glen's death, she was fortunate enough to be embraced and loved by a special group of friends in whom she found friendship, compassion, conversation, and great loyalty. Patrick, Darryl, Kathy and Barbara brought joy to her life throughout its later challenges. She is survived by her brother Roch (Carol) of Charleston, S.C., and her sisters Monica White (Leland) of Dallas, Tx and Karola Jungbacker (J, Peter) of Oshkosh, Wi as well as her stepdaughter Nancy Poznoff of Seattle, Wa. and many nieces and nephews.



Virginia Evans
Virginia "Ginny" Evans, age 93, of Oshkosh, passed away on Thursday, May 1, 2025. Services are currently pending. A full obituary will be published at a later date. Arrangements are being handled by Konrad-Behlman Funeral Home. 920-231-1510.



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Obituaries

Gilbert E. Blechl
Gilbert E. Blechl, age 98, of Oshkosh, WI died Monday, April 28, 2025 at Country Villa in Omro, WI.
He was born on January 21, 1927 in Oshkosh, WI, the son of Frank and Clara Blechl. He married Emogene B. Clow on July 17, 1948 at St. John's Catholic Church. He was employed as a machine repairman, at Rockwell International and as a mail sorter at the Oshkosh Post Office. He was a proud member of the Merchant Marines during WWII, at the young age of 17, on the USS Donner Lake Tanker as a seaman. He enjoyed golfing, bowling, racquetball, fishing, playing cards and pool. He was able to fix just about anything and was lovingly known to his family as Mac-Gyver.
He was a faithful and wonderful husband to the love of his life Emogene to the very end. He had 7 children, 14 grandchildren, 17 great-grandchildren, and 2 great-great grandchildren.
Survivors include his 6 daughters, Susan (Thomas) Dillie of AZ, Janette (Greig)



Fennell of PA, Karen Blechl of TX, Terry (Bruce)Dittmer of TX, Linda (Donn) Bartelt of WI and Laura (Chris) Jacobsen of CO.
He was preceded in death by his wife, Emogene (Clow-Blechl), his son, John Blechl, his parents, Frank and Clara (Traxler)Blechl, his siblings, Wilma Kalous, Frank, Gerald, James Blechl and great-grandson Benedict Johnson.
Visitation will be held at St. Jude the Apostle Parish (Sacred Heart Church) 519 Knapp St., Oshkosh, WI from 10:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.to be followed by a funeral mass, on Thursday, May 8, 2025.
The family would like to express a loving thank you to all the wonderful caregivers at Country Villa who provided such loving care to him the last few years of his life. Also, many thanks to St. Croix Hospice, especially Melissa, who had a way with Gibby like no other.
Gib-issims were "I always tried to treat people like I wanted to be treated", "Anything worth doing is worth doing right" and "Drive slow and aim straight". He was forever a die-hard Cub Fan.



Barbara E. Rank
Barbara E. Rank, age 87, of Omro, WI, died on April 28, 2025, where she made her home at Country Villa in Omro, WI, surrounded by family.
She was born on November 14, 1937, the daughter of Jewel P. Bolles and Elsie (Powell) Bolles, in Tucumcari, New Mexico. Her family moved around the southwestern U.S. settling in San Bernadino, CA, where she graduated from high school. She met her husband, Russell P. Rank, while he was stationed at Edwards Air Force Base. Their marriage of 58 years began in San Bernadino, CA, in 1957.
Barbara worked with her husband, Russell, running the family farm, until their retirement in the early 2000's. She was an active member of St. Mary's Catholic Church in Omro, and Farm Bureau Association. She hosted Homemakers groups at her home. Barbara and Russell enjoyed snowmobiling and traveling together in the winter to "follow" the snow.
In retirement, they explored several parts of the U.S. on bus tours. She loved



playing cards with friends in Omro and Pickett. She also enjoyed playing Scrabble.
Barb is survived by her children, Theresa (Jim) Granger of Apple Valley, MN, Mike (Cindy) Rank, of Van Dyne, WI, Steven (Ann) Rank of New Richmond, WI, John (Mary) Rank of Omro, WI; grandchildren, Aaron, Melissa, Daniel, Kelsey, Alex, and Elliott; great-grandchildren, Evan, Maya, Vera, Rowan, Hudson, Cohen, Alden, and Mina.
She was preceded in death by her husband, Russell; parents; her brother, Jewel P. Bolles, Jr.; daughter, Cheri Rank Llorens; and son, Kelly Rank.
Visitation will be held on Saturday, May 3, 2025, from 9:00am to 11:00am at St. Mary's Catholic Church, 730 Madison Ave., Omro, WI. A Mass of Christian Burial will be immediately after. A private burial will be at Waukau Cemetery.
Memorials preferred in lieu of flowers to St. Mary's Catholic Church.
Special thanks to the loving and compassionate caregivers at Country Villa Assisted Living and members of Moments Hospice Team.



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Legal Notices

STATE OF WISCONSIN, CIRCUIT COURT WINNEBAGO COUNTY IN THE MATTER OF THE NAME CHANGE OF: Ruthy Karin Blanc
Notice and Order for Name Change Hearing Case No. 2025CV000360
NOTICE IS GIVEN: A Petition was filed asking to change the name of the person

listed above:
From: Ruthy Karin Blanc
To: Ruthy Karin Marsh
Birth Certificate: Ruthy Karin Blanc

IT IS ORDERED: This Petition will be heard in the Circuit Court of Winnebago County, State of Wisconsin: Judge's Name: Hon. Michael D. Rust
Place: Winnebago County Courthouse Room 410
415 Jackson Street, Oshkosh, WI 54901
Date: May 23, 2025
Time: 3:00 pm

If you require reasonable accommodations due to a disability to participate in the court process, please call 920-236-4811 prior to the scheduled court date. Please note that the court does not provide transportation.
IT IS FURTHER ORDERED: Notice of this hearing shall be given by publication as a Class 3 notice for three (3) weeks in a row prior to the date of the hearing in the Oshkosh Herald a newspaper published in Winnebago County, State of Wisconsin.
BY THE COURT: DATE SIGNED: April 16, 2025 /s/ Hon. Michael D. Rust
Winnebago County Circuit Court Judge, Branch I
Runs: April 23, 2025, April 30, 2025 and May 7, 2025

WNAXLP

STATE OF WISCONSIN, CIRCUIT COURT WINNEBAGO COUNTY IN THE MATTER OF THE NAME CHANGE OF: Aurora Michelle Tenut

Notice and Order for Name Change Hearing Case No. 2025CV000344

NOTICE IS GIVEN: A Petition was filed asking to change the name of the person listed above:
From: Aurora Michelle Tenut
To: Rayne Aurora Hartman
Birth Certificate: Aurora Michelle Tenut

IT IS ORDERED: This Petition will be heard in the Circuit Court of Winnebago County, State of Wisconsin: Judge's Name: Hon. Michael

S. Gibbs
Place: Winnebago County Courthouse Room 211415
Jackson Street, Oshkosh, WI 54901
Date: May 15, 2025
Time: 10:30 am

If you require reasonable accommodations due to a disability to participate in the court process, please call 920-236-4868 prior to the scheduled court date. Please note that the court does not provide transportation.
IT IS FURTHER ORDERED: Notice of this hearing shall be given by publication as a Class 3 notice for three (3) weeks in a row prior to the date of the hearing in the Oshkosh Herald a newspaper published in Winnebago County, State of Wisconsin.
BY THE COURT: DATE SIGNED: April 8, 2025 /s/ Hon. Michael S. Gibbs
Winnebago County Circuit Court Judge, Branch IV
Runs: April 23, 2025, April 30, 2025 and May 7, 2025

WNAXLP

STATE OF WISCONSIN CIRCUIT COURT WAUKESHA COUNTY SUMMONS Case No. 25-CV-314 Case Code: 30303

MICHELLE SINCERE
9770 W. Edgerton Ave.
Hales Corners, WI 53130
Plaintiff

v.

JANET MUELLER
4393 Country Club Road
Oshkosh, WI 54902
Defendant.

SUMMONS THE STATE OF WISCONSIN

TO: JANET MUELLER
4393 Country Club Road
Oshkosh, WI 54902

You are hereby notified that the Plaintiff named above has filed a lawsuit or other legal action against you. The complaint, which is also served upon you, states the nature and basis of the legal action.

Within forty (40) days after April 30, 2025, you must respond with a written answer, as that term is used in Chapter

802 of the Wisconsin Statutes, to the complaint. The court may reject or disregard an answer that does not follow the requirements of the statutes. The answer must be sent or delivered to the Waukesha County Clerk of Circuit Court, whose mailing address is Waukesha County Courthouse, Civil Division, Room C-167, P.O. Box 1627, Waukesha, WI 53187 and to the Plaintiffs' attorney, Attolles Law, s.c., whose address is 222 E. Erie Street, Suite 210, Milwaukee, WI 53202. You may have an attorney help or represent you.

If you do not provide a proper answer within forty (40) days, the court may grant judgment against you for the award of money or other legal action requested in the complaint, and you may lose your right to object to anything that is or may be incorrect in the complaint. A judgment may be enforced as provided by law. A judgment awarding money may become a lien against any real estate you own now or in the future, and may also be enforced by garnishment or seizure of property.

Dated this 24th day of April, 2025.

Attolles Law, s.c.
Attorneys for Plaintiff, Michelle Sincere

By: */s/ Electronically signed by Evan N. Claditis*
Evan N. Claditis
State Bar No. 1029666
P.O. ADDRESS:
Attolles Law, s.c.
222 East Erie Street
Suite 210
Milwaukee, WI 53202
Telephone: 414-973-2142

E-mail: ecladitis@attolles.com

Runs: April 30, 2025, May 7, 2025 and May 14, 2025

WNAXLP

STATE OF WISCONSIN, CIRCUIT COURT, BROWN COUNTY Publication Summons and Notice (Small Claims) Case No: 2025SC001386

Kelbe Bros Equipment Co Inc
3101 French Rd
DePere WI 54115
Plaintiff(s)
-vs-

Millennium Construction Inc.
2020 Menominee Dr
OSHKOSH, WI 54901
Defendant(s).

Publication Summons and Notice of Filing

TO THE PERSON(S) NAMED ABOVE AS DEFENDANTS(S): You are being sued by the person(s) named above as Plaintiff(s). A copy of the claim has been sent to you at your address as stated in the caption above.
The lawsuit will be heard in the following Small Claims court: Brown County Courthouse Telephone Number of Clerk of Court: 920-448-4155 Courtroom/Room Number: B Address: 100 S Jefferson St. Green Bay WI 54305
On the following date and time: Date: May 13, 2025 Time: 3:15 p.m.

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

You may have the option to Answer without appearing in court on the court date by filing a written Answer with the clerk of court **before** the court date. You must send a copy of your Answer to the Plaintiff(s) named above at their address. You may contact the clerk of court at the telephone number above to determine if there are other methods to answer a Small Claims complaint in that county.

Dated: 4/22/2025
/s/ Colleen Held
Phone: 262-373-2124
Address: 3101 French Rd, DePere WI 54115

Run April 30, 2025, May 7, 2025 and May 14, 2025

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VENUS FLYTRAP

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YIKES!

Quick! Help this fly escape the Venus flytrap's grip!

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Beautiful but Hungry

The Venus flytrap is a meat-eating, or **carnivorous**, plant. It is also quite lovely. That is why its name includes Venus. That is the name of the Roman goddess of love and beauty.

But don't worry – a Venus flytrap won't eat you. Mostly they eat bugs. They especially love mosquitoes and flies.

Jaws of Doom True or False Quiz

Make a guess about which of these statements are true and which are false. Then read the scientist's notes about the Venus flytrap to check your answers.

1. Venus flytraps have teeth.

☐ TRUE ☐ FALSE

2. Venus flytraps only need bugs to survive.

☐ TRUE ☐ FALSE

3. Venus flytraps eat anything that falls into their mouth-like leaves.

☐ TRUE ☐ FALSE

4. Venus flytraps help keep bugs out of your house.

☐ TRUE ☐ FALSE

5. Its "mouth" shuts in under one second.

☐ TRUE ☐ FALSE

Venus flytraps have little spikes around the leaves. But they are not teeth. They don't chew. The plant uses digestive juices, much like those in your stomach, to eat insects.

Venus flytraps get much of their nutrition from the bugs they eat, but they also need water, sun and soil to survive.

Digestion of real food takes five to 12 days, after which the trap reopens. The insect's exoskeleton blows away in the wind or is washed away by rain.

If something not edible falls into a Venus flytrap, it will close up and try to digest it. But after about 12 hours, it will open its leaves and let the fake food fall out.

Today the plant is threatened in the wild. The draining of bogs for farming and the building of shopping centers and houses has reduced the plant's habitat and numbers. **Less than 5% of the plants are left.**

Snapping Up a Meal

Number the pictures in order.

Sweet nectar around the edges of the Venus flytrap's open leaves attract insects. As a bug moves across the surface drinking up this treat, it touches small, sensitive bristles on the Venus flytrap. These trigger hairs tell the plant when a possible meal has arrived. Then the plant's "jaws" close very quickly, trapping the insect inside. The long *cilia*, hairs along the leaf edges, act like prison bars, preventing the insect from escaping. Several days later, after the insect has been digested, the leaves open and what's left of the insect body blows away.



Extra! Extra! Before & After

Look at a photograph in the newspaper. What do you think happened before the photo was taken? What do you think happened afterwards?

Standards Link: Research: Students predict likely outcomes.

Kid Scoop Puzzler

Flytrap is a **compound word**, made by combining two smaller words: **fly** and **trap**. Look at the pictures below. Draw a line between two pictures to make a compound word. Then write the word.





ARMCHAIR

Standards Link: Follow simple written directions.

Double Double Word Search

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

FLYTRAP
CLIMATE
STOMACH
SURVIVE
BEAUTY
SPIKES
EDIBLE
DIGEST
JUICES
VENUS
LOVE
BOGS
FEAR
WILD

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

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



Kid Scoop Together:

Cause and Effect

When something happens, there is usually something that caused it to happen. The **cause** comes first, the **effect** second. Here are some examples:

When the hairs on the inside of a Venus flytrap's leaves are touched, the plant snaps shut.

Cause: touch the hairs
Effect: plant snaps leaves closed

If a little rock is put inside the mouth-like leaves of a Venus flytrap, the leaves will snap shut. After about 12 hours, the leaves will open so the rock can drop out because it is something the plant can't eat.

Which part of the above is the "cause?"

Which part is the "effect?"

Look through the newspaper for an article that interests you. Can you find one effect and what caused it?

Cause:

Effect:



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