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Vel Phillips preparing for third year

By Jonathan Richie
OSHKOSH HERALD

The summer break is coming to an end and soon students will be back in classrooms across Oshkosh.

A number of those classrooms will be at Vel Phillips Middle School, which first opened in September 2023. The school has had numerous challenges in the first two school years and recently has shown growth and success as a new principal took over.

Amanda Patza was named as the school's principal last summer and spent her first year in the position getting to know the

staff and students. She is focused on bringing more collaboration into the building to create a better environment for everyone.

"When I got the job in August, the first thing I did was had one-on-one talks with every member of staff to go over challenges and barriers," Patza said.

Vel Phillips was the first school built as part of the 2020 facilities referendum. Voters approved the \$107 million facilities referendum, which allowed for Vel Phillips and Menominee Elementary School to be built.

Before being hired as Vel Phillips principal, Patza was the principal at Jefferson

Elementary School. Patza and Oshkosh Area School District Superintendent Bryan Davis said there have been challenges and lessons learned from the first school built as part of the referendum.

One challenge was staff turnover. From the 2023-24 school year to 2024-25, the school had 26% turnover in teachers and support staff. That compares with a 13% turnover rate the school experienced going into this school year, which is below the national average of around 16%.

"That's a point of pride for us," Patza said.

SEE **Vel Phillips** ON PAGE 8

INSIDE



Building boom

Construction continues on downtown complex

Page 4

Fire study

Oshkosh, Algoma units team up to learn

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Healthy again

Ridenour looks to be a force for Knights

Page 17



Photo by Jim Koepnick

Friday night lights

The high school football season kicked off last week and Oshkosh West fans turned out in full force at Titan Stadium Friday for the Wildcats' season opener against Green Bay Preble. West came up short 10-3 in the hard-fought game. For more information on all of the games from last week, see pages 16 and 18.

Landscape designs for clearwell system net approval

By Jonathan Richie
OSHKOSH HERALD

An advisory board has approved landscape designs for the clearwell system replacement project.

The clearwell project is a major infrastructure project the city has been working on for years. The goal of the project is to bring Oshkosh's potable water tanks up to DNR regulations.

The park advisory board during its Aug. 11 meeting was shown two landscaping options from Saiki Design for Lake Shore

Drive and made a recommendation that will go through other committees.

The water tanks will be housed in large buildings on Lake Shore Drive on the shores of Lake Winnebago. Residents and nearby property owners raised concerns that the buildings won't fit into the area.

The decision was made to hire a landscape architect after it was suggested by a number of residents and property owners. The plans include a 10-foot wide multi-use pedestrian path, educational features, native prairie perennial planting area and

the Carl Schurz Monument remaining at the end of Washington Avenue.

Both concepts involved removing trees in the area and planting new ones. Plans for concept 1 include removing 13 trees and planting 21 new trees. Concept 2 would remove 21 trees and plant 20 new trees.

Julia Schilling of Saiki Design went to the advisory park board meeting to explain the concepts.

Schilling worked with city staff from the parks department, public works and

the water filtration site to develop the proposed concepts.

"We tried to preserve as many existing trees as possible," Schilling said.

Of the trees that would be removed, six of them are declining ash trees which would likely need to be removed in the future.

There are five memorial trees in the area and concept 1 would preserve them all with concept 2 removing three of the me-

SEE **Designs approved** ON PAGE 10

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Advertising deadline is noon Wednesday for the following Wednesday.

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

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Corrections

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www.oshkoshherald.com.

United Veterans Honor Guard completes veterans honor tribute

Oshkosh Herald

A ceremony providing funeral military honors for 18 veterans who had not received the honors at time of burial was held earlier this month at the Marine Corp League No. 357 in Oshkosh.

Each of the veterans' sponsors was presented with a memorial medallion and a spent shell from the 21-gun salute at the ceremony.

The Honor Guard was formed in 2000 and has provided funeral honors for more than 2,500 veterans throughout Winnebago County. Members of the United Veterans Honor Guard are members of American Legion, AMVETS, Disabled American Veterans, Marine Corps League, Military Order of the Purple Heart, Veterans of Foreign Wars or the Vietnam Veterans of America.

The Marine Corp League is planning on providing funeral honors for 15 deceased veterans each year who died prior to 2000 and did not receive honors at burial. The ceremony will be held annually and families in Winnebago County are encouraged to submit an application by July 31, 2026 to be considered for the 2026 ceremonial honors.

For an application or to learn more contact Susan King at 920-379-5041 or Todd Schumacher at tjcas90@new.rr.com. Veterans interested in becoming a member of the Honor Guard are also encouraged to contact King or Schumacher.



Photo by David R. Schuhart - DRS

The United Veterans Honor Guard held a veterans honor tribute Aug. 16 at the Winnebago Detachment Marine Corps League Clubhouse.



Photo from EAA Museum

Clyde Lee stands beside the Green Mt. Boy as he prepares for his historic flight to Norway.

Back in the Day



Oshkosh history by the Winnebago County Historical Society

Aug 31, 1932

Oshkosh Aviator Deemed Lost At Sea: The search for Oshkosh aviator Clyde Lee and his co-pilot John Bohton have been called off and the pair have unfortunately been listed as missing and lost at sea. The Green Mountain Boy piloted by Lee took off from Barre, Vermont on August 23 in a Stinson aircraft headed for Norway. There, an Oslo newspaper was offering \$10,000 to the first person to fly non-stop from North America to Norway. It was a race against another

team of flyers from the US destined to grab the purse for themselves. Along the route travel was difficult as they encountered severe weather. Their competitors were stopped when extreme weather conditions forced them to ditch their plane into the icy waters of the Atlantic where they were rescued by fishermen. Lee and Bohton continued. But on August 26, the anticipated hour of arrival had passed with no sign of the Green Mountain Boy. Searchers combed the areas of the route but no sign of the plane or aviators was found. On August 31, the plane and its crew were determined to be lost at sea. The fate of the famous local 24-year old stunt pilot is left to speculation.

Source: Oshkosh: Land of Lakeflies, Bubblers and Squeaky Cheese by Randy R. Domer

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Hmong Labor Day Festival coming up this weekend

Oshkosh Herald

The Hmong National Labor Day Festival will take place Saturday and Sunday at Winnebago County Community Park.

Admission is \$8 per person and will be from 7 a.m. to 6 p.m. both days. Children under 36 inches tall are free.

No entry after 6 p.m. and no pets are allowed.

Activities include soccer, volleyball, stage competition and topspin. An opening ceremony will take place at 9:30 a.m. Saturday.

Holiday car show, picnic to be held at South Park

Oshkosh Herald

The Labor Day Car Show and Picnic will be Monday at South Park.

The event from 1 to 5 p.m. is put on by the Winnebago County Labor Council and Fox Valley Area Labor Council. It will feature a car show, music, food, beer and soda.

The Fork In The Road Band will provide the music. The group plays rockin' country and classic dance favorites with a bit of fiddle for some "southern foot-stompin' fun."

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Truffle Pig opens in renovated downtown building

By Jonathan Richie
OSHKOSH HERALD

A small part of Oshkosh could be turning Italian.

Oshkosh has a new Italian restaurant offering authentic cuisine from the peninsula including classic Italian dishes and wood-fired oven baked pizza.

Truffle Pig, 224 State St., is located inside the newly renovated Oshkosh Northwestern building that has sat vacant for years. The grand opening was held over the weekend, and a ribbon cutting ceremony took place on Monday morning.

The restaurant is Oshkosh native and Silicon Valley venture capitalist T.J. Rodgers' newest venture in the city after purchasing the Northwestern building in 2021.

Two years ago, Rodgers unveiled his plans for the building. Those plans included building a hotel, a space for small shops, a bar and an Italian restaurant.

Rodgers owns the Oshkosh Country Club including TJ's Highland Steakhouse inside, which is open to the public. He also owns TJ's Harbor Restaurant and Ardy & Eds. TJ's Destination Oshkosh is another venture that operates similar to Airbnb with Fox Valley locations.

The new restaurant has imported talent from Italy with Riccardo Lupi as general manager and executive chef Cristiano Bassani. Lupi has over 40 years of hospitality experience and comes from Genoa and has worked in Miami Beach and California.

Bassani is from Bergamo and during his 36-year career he has worked in New York, Chicago and the Virgin Islands.

Both men thanked the team that turned the former newspaper building into an Italian restaurant.

"We are thankful for the opportunity to



Oshkosh Herald

Above: A ribbon cutting was held Monday as Truffle Pig opened in the newly renovated Oshkosh Northwestern building.

At right: Truffle Pig's executive chef Cristiano Bassani and general manager Riccardo Lupi talk about the opening of the new restaurant.

bring Italian food, drink and culture to the area," Lupi said.

Truffle Pig's grand opening was held on Saturday night for a select number of invited guests and on Sunday opened to the public.

The restaurant is open from 4 to 9 p.m. Monday, Wednesday, Thursday and Sunday and from 4 to 10 p.m. on Friday and Saturday.

"We hope to see you soon," Bassani said.



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Corridor apartment construction continues downtown



Oshkosh Herald

The Corridor will bring 55 new apartments to downtown Oshkosh and the first two-shift day care in the city. The complex will consist of two townhouse style buildings on Jefferson Street (shown here) and a third building that will house the day care center and other apartments on Main Street.

By Jonathan Richie
OSHKOSH HERALD

A new apartment complex in downtown Oshkosh is being built to breathe new life into an underutilized city block.

The Corridor is a 55-unit apartment community currently being constructed on the 600 block of North Main Street and Jefferson Street in the city's Midtown neighborhood.

Construction began earlier this year, and officials are hopeful people will be moving in next spring.

The Corridor has partnered with Oshkosh Child Development Center (OCDC) to bring two-shift child care to Oshkosh.

The Commonwealth Construction Corp. is the lead contractor on the project. It is set to cost \$19 million to build, and the project received \$1.6 million in housing tax credits from the Wisconsin Housing & Economic Development Authority (WHEDA).

WHEDA awarded \$32.5 million in federal and state housing credits last year. The goal of these credits is to advance affordable housing and economic recovery efforts.

The Corridor will be three buildings – a three-story building and two townhouse buildings. There will be a mix of layouts to fit the needs of the residents in Oshkosh. There will be one, two and three-bedroom options when the Corridor opens.

Commonwealth plans to offer premium amenities including a community room, fitness center, working space for work-from-home residents and an outdoor lounge.

The new apartments are classified as

affordable housing, meaning there are income restrictions for residents. The restrictions are based on the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) statistics on area median income (AMI).

The HUD data breaks county data down and sets the AMI for Winnebago County. The Corridor is broken down into three groups: extremely low income (30% of the AMI), very low income (50% of the AMI) and low income (80% of the AMI).

HUD data shows that the AMI for Winnebago County is \$103,600 and the limits the department puts out are based on a family of four. This means a family of four that earns less than \$82,900 would qualify as low income; if that same family earns less than \$32,150 annually, they would qualify as extremely low income.

The Corridor is using those same numbers. Extremely low households rent will be set at \$620, very low income family rent will be between \$874 and \$1,208 and low income households' rent will range from \$1,268 to \$1,458.

These rent price ranges all come from Impact Management Group, which is in charge of leasing the units. The application fee will be \$25 per adult in the household and the security deposit on all units will be \$500 with approved credit.

For example, a single adult earning less than \$36,300 will qualify as very low income just as a family of eight with annual earnings of less than \$60,100.

Impact will not be reviewing any applications until the project is 90 days from completion. Impact said the income limits and rent prices are subject to change.

Jobless rate remains steady throughout county

Oshkosh Herald

The Oshkosh-Neenah metropolitan area (MSA) and Winnebago County saw their unemployment rates remain the same at 3.1% over the year, while slightly increasing from 3.0% between June and July, according to preliminary data from the state Department of Workforce Development.

The preliminary July unemployment rate decreased in one metropolitan area over the month: Sheboygan. Unemployment rates increased in seven metropolitan areas over the month and stayed the

same in the five remaining metropolitan areas. Jobless rates decreased in three metropolitan areas over the year, increased in four metropolitan areas and stayed the same in the six remaining metropolitan areas.

Jobless rates decreased in 11 of Wisconsin's 35 largest cities over the month, increased in 14 cities and stayed the same in the remaining 10 cities. Rates decreased in 16 cities over the year, while increasing in 15 cities and staying the same in the remaining four cities.

Preliminary June 2025 jobless rates decreased in 16 counties over the month, stayed the same in 19 counties and increased in 37 counties. Unemployment rates decreased in 28 counties over the year, increased in 19 counties and stayed the same in the remaining 25 counties.

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



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- Ensure the safety and security of children and families that you come in contact within your assigned Center
- Ensure the implementation of all ADVOCAP HS Operational Procedures within the scope of your assigned classroom and spaces within the facility
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- Provide strategies to support children who are English language learners and their families
- Attend professional development and ongoing training as required
- Complete all required paperwork

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County sales tax resolution delayed until September

By Bethanie Gengler
OSHKOSH HERALD

A resolution proposed by Supervisor Chuck Farrey directing staff to draft an ordinance for a proposed 0.5% countywide sales tax was pulled from the Winnebago County Board agenda on Aug. 19 by Farrey, who said he plans to bring it back to the board in September.



Farrey

The resolution introduced by Farrey was pulled to allow time for additional comments from the public and municipalities, according to Board Chair Tom Egan.

County Executive Gordon Hintz gave an informational overview on a county sales tax at the meeting. The board also discussed the possibility of implementing a sales tax ordinance and is expected to vote next month on Farrey's resolution directing staff to draft the ordinance. That ordinance would then go to the board for a final vote in October to meet the April 1, 2026, effective date listed in the resolution.

The sales tax would apply to the same items taxed under Wisconsin's 5% state sales tax, bringing the total rate to 5.5% in Winnebago County.

Public comments at the meeting were split, with speakers both supporting and opposing the tax. Supporters, including former Menasha Mayor Don Merkes, argued it would help reduce property taxes and capture revenue from non-residents

who use local services. Opponents argued it's a regressive tax that will impact the poorest residents the most.

With an additional 0.5% sales tax, a household spending an estimated \$20,000 per year on taxable purchases would pay about \$100 more annually, which is approximately \$8.33 per month or 27 cents per day.

Hintz's office projected the tax could generate about \$17 million annually, while Farrey's resolution estimated \$20 million. About 20-30% of the revenue generated from the sales tax would come from non-residents, according to Hintz, amounting to between \$3.4 and \$5.1 million.

Under Farrey's proposal, 30% of revenue from the tax would be shared with municipalities, an unusually high percentage, as no other county in Wisconsin shares more than 10%.

The sales tax revenue could be used for property tax relief, balancing the budget, debt service, capital projects and master planning, municipal revenue sharing and local project funding.

Following the meeting, Hintz told the Herald this week that he wants the county board to understand the fiscal condition of the county when considering the sales tax now and in the future.

"We have healthy reserves and have budgeted deficits for years that are balanced with reserve funds," he said. "I'm committed to more accurate budgets, reducing the planned use of fund balance, and maintaining the quality of services. I believe we can accomplish these without a sales tax."

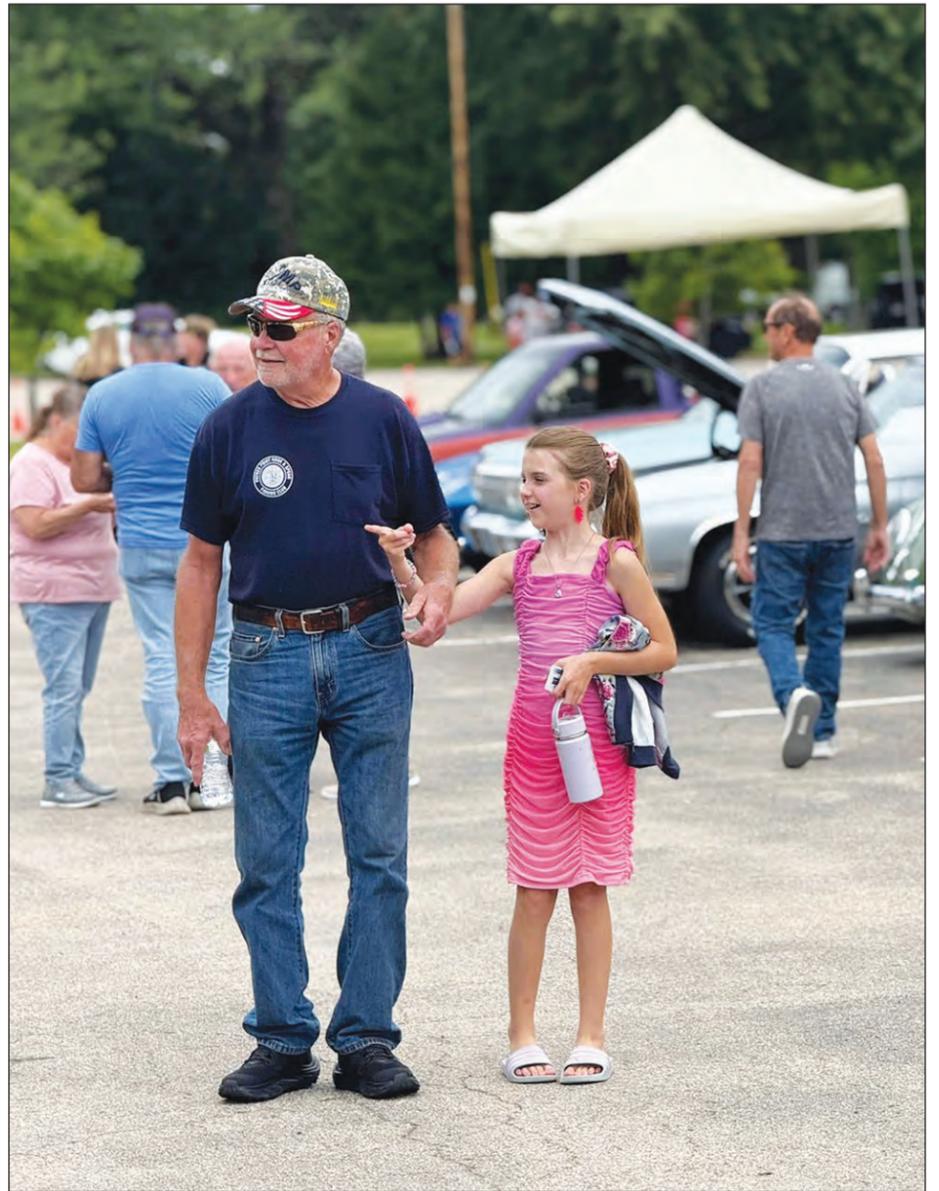


Photo from Park View Health Center

Smiles all around

Park View Health Center hosted a car show Aug. 20 with more than 70 vehicles for residents, families and community members to enjoy. DJ Sonny provided music and ice cream was served during the event for all the attendees.

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Oshkosh teen charged with attempted homicide

Oshkosh Herald

An Oshkosh teen is facing multiple felony charges in Winnebago County as police allege he shot a man in the arm on the afternoon of Aug. 9 on Franklin Street.

Vautrell J. Section, 18, is facing charges of attempted first-degree intentional homicide, concealing a stolen firearm, throw or discharge bodily fluid at a public safety worker and two counts of felony bail jumping.

If convicted of attempted homicide, Section faces a potential prison sentence of 40 years followed by up to 20 years of extended supervision. Section also faces misdemeanor counts of resisting an officer and criminal damage to property.

During an initial appearance in front of Court Commissioner Eric Heywood, Section's cash bond was set at \$200,000. Online records show he remains in custody as the case progresses.

According to the criminal complaint, officers were dispatched to the 700 block of Central Street for reports of shots being fired. While officers were heading to the scene, one officer saw a man at Wisconsin Street and Amherst Avenue.

The man, identified as V1 in the complaint, was holding a towel around his right arm. He told officers he was driving down Franklin Street when he was confronted by the alleged shooter.

The victim told the officer he could not identify the shooter or say how many shots were fired.

"V1 stated that he saw who shot him but would not identify him or describe him," the complaint states.

The victim was taken to Aurora Medical Center for treatment.

The investigation continued with officers checking surveillance cameras of residents in the area. One resident reported hearing six to eight gunshots at 1:43 p.m. on Aug. 9.

The videos showed the victim get into a vehicle, a blue Nissan Altima, then drive

away with another man running east behind houses in the neighborhood.

Officers went to the victim's residence and found the Altima. The vehicle had a bullet hole in the passenger side door, a flat tire on the passenger side and blood in the passenger area of the vehicle.

Police spoke to a witness, who is the victim's brother, who provided his phone to police showing communications between the witness and Section.

There were several calls and text messages sent to the victim.

During one phone call, Section allegedly said, "I tried to warn him. I tried to warn him."

At the time of the calls and messages the witness did not know what Section was referring to. But a short time later the victim arrived at the witness' house with a gunshot wound.

Officers also found social media posts that police believe are related to the shooting. One of the posts was Section holding a gun with a caption stating, "They say doaaaaa," seemingly a reference to dead on arrival.

Medical staff at the hospital believed the injuries were consistent with a through-and-through gunshot wound. Police believe the shot entered the back of the victim's elbow and exited his forearm.

The victim was interviewed at the Oshkosh Police Station. He said his brother was having issues with Section. The victim, who said he had no weapons with him, saw Section while driving around and walked up to him and within 10 to 15 seconds Section allegedly pulled a gun from his waistband and began shooting.

Due to heavy rainfall in the area police believe shell casings from the incident may have been washed away with the storm.

Officers eventually located Section and chased him for a while before he was taken into custody and interviewed by police.

During the interview Section got upset and threw a police laptop to the ground and picked up a printer and threw it at officers. Section allegedly threw punches at the officers and spit in the face of an officer during the incident.

Section eventually began answering the questions and told police he got rid of the firearm by putting it in a storm drain. An effort was made to locate the firearm, including additional help from the water department. However, a firearm was not located.

Section did provide a statement to police stating he was cutting lawns in the area when he saw a blue car drive past

him, then do a U-turn. He explained there was a history between the victim, witness and Section over a stolen handgun.

The victim allegedly threatened Section multiple times over the stolen gun in the past.

The victim approached Section and was recording him before the gunshots.

"I know that when they do that they are maybe going viral and trying to embarrass me," Section allegedly told police.

Section is also facing felony retail theft charges. Court records allege Section and another man attempted to steal two electric scooters at the Oshkosh Walmart in July.

Man receives probation for terrorist threats

Oshkosh Herald

A man has been found guilty of making terrorist threats in Oshkosh.

Patric J. Olson, 36, received three years of probation after pleading no contest to a single count of terrorist threats – create risk of causing result. Judge Michael Rust found Olson guilty following his plea.

Last December a number of churches and private religious schools in Oshkosh were on high alert after social media posts were made by a man in Oshkosh threatening these institutions.

Olson made these posts, which led law enforcement to post officers at various churches and schools in Oshkosh as they searched for Olson. He was arrested and taken into custody.

Olson was experiencing a schizophrenic episode when he made those posts.

"I'm glad someone took the wheel," Olson said. He added he felt almost blessed the police arrested him and got him out of that space.

Olson, who is originally from Brazil, made these remarks during his sentencing last week. He spent the last eight months in jail as the case proceeded.

During that time his mother passed away, but due to the seriousness of the crime, he was not able to attend the funeral.

Olson made several social media posts in December which ranged from praising school shooters and threats to kill Chris-

tians and burning churches. Oshkosh Police learned of the posts on Dec. 12.

He was arrested later that day and told an OPD detective he did not have any intention of carrying out the acts described in the posts.

During the hearing last week, District Attorney Eric Sparr said that probation was the proper sentence after Olson spent about 250 days in jail.

Sparr said it's important that Olson learned that words can have a tremendous impact on the community. He also noted Olson would receive a prison sentence if probation "doesn't go well."

Olson told Rust the person who made those Facebook posts is "not the person I actually am."

While in jail Olson has taken his prescribed medication to get a handle on his mental health.

Rust commended Olson on his remarks and was happy to hear that in the future Olson will take those feelings to his therapist to work them out.

Olson's attorney Michael Lim was requesting a probation period between 18 and 24 months. However, Rust felt it was important to hand down a longer sentence to ensure his mental health needs are addressed.

"You created panic in our community," Rust said. "It's important to address these issues through therapy and counseling."

Businesses plan open house celebration

Oshkosh Herald

A collection of luxury business suites is celebrating its one-year anniversary with an open house.

The event from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Sept. 6 at COAST, 463 N. Washburn St., will feature giveaways, good vibes and grati-

tude. The beauty and wellness businesses include Sisters, Not Twins; Salon Fusion; Luz's Beauty Studio; C + Co; Moxie Rose and Glow Aesthetics by Courtney.

Pop-up vendors at the event are scheduled to be Weld + Arrow, Stitch & Brim Hat, Amore Gelato and Chelsee's Mobile Cafe.

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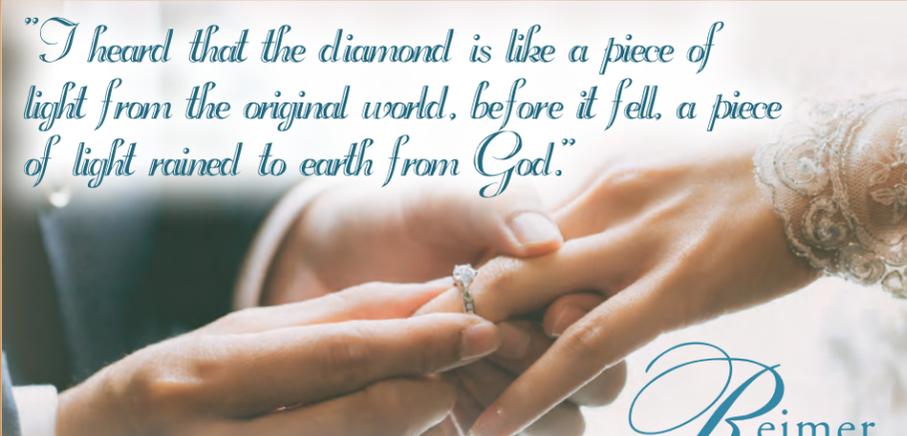
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Oshkosh teams with Algoma for fire department study

By Jonathan Richie
OSHKOSH HERALD

The City of Oshkosh and the Town of Algoma are partnering on a fire department study to look at the possibility of creating one fire department to cover both municipalities.

McMahon Associates, Inc. has been contracted to compile the study. The company specializes in working with municipalities.

“We’re looking at them studying the feasibility of us joining with the town,” City Manager Rebecca Grill said. “There’s certain benefits to that. They’ll be doing the study and telling us what those are.”

Grill said this is the first step in deciding if combining the Algoma Fire Department with the Oshkosh Fire Department is a good option for the city.

The city recently had to end the contract with several municipalities in an area that was covered by the Oshkosh Fire Department EMS services. However, due to staffing issues the city decided in June to end the contract for seven of the 10 municipal-



Grill

ities including the towns of Winneconne, Poygan, Rushford, Utica and Omro along with the city of Omro and village of Winneconne at the end of 2025.

The remaining municipalities – Algoma, Nekimi and Utica – remain under contract until the end of 2026. The municipalities that will no longer be covered by Oshkosh EMS have formed a group and have started talks with a private EMS service provider.

The combined Algoma and Oshkosh fire department would have to cover approximately 35 square miles for fire coverage and EMS coverage.

McMahon will take a look at the current EMS and fire services operations, staffing and administration for Algoma and Oshkosh. They will also look at potential budget issues, major equipment needs, economic development plans, facilities and long-term sustainability.

The study is set to cost \$35,000, of which \$25,000 will be paid by Oshkosh and the remaining \$10,000 will be covered by Algoma. The analysis is scheduled to be completed in four to five months.

When completed, representatives from McMahon will present the analysis to the Algoma Town Board and the Oshkosh Common Council.

New traffic signage installed near fire station

Oshkosh Herald

The City of Oshkosh has recently installed flashing traffic signs on Ceape Avenue near Oshkosh Fire Department Station 15 as a reminder that drivers need to stop and yield to fire trucks that are backing into the firehouse.

The signs were installed at this station due to the close proximity of the entrance of the fire truck bays and the roadway. Firefighters usually exit the fire truck to ensure that the truck is safely backed into the station.

The Oshkosh Police Department said it is crucial for drivers to remain clear of the area until the trucks have completely exited the roadway. Vehicles should not attempt to pass near the front or back of the truck prematurely.

The driver and firefighters are focused on the blind spots of the truck, not on

vehicles that may mistakenly believe that there is a safe gap between the moving vehicle and the curb. Following the signs and stopping for the fire truck is essential in maintaining the safety of the firefighters - ensuring they remain ready to respond to the next emergency situation in the city.

Drivers who choose not to stop for fire trucks while they are driving backwards into the fire station may receive a citation, police said. There are several cameras stationed around the fire station to monitor the security of the area.

Police officers will have an extra presence in this area as well.

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Photos from The Teachers' Closet

Back to school supplies

The Teachers' Closet at 530 Bay Shore Drive held its pre-season days to provide area teachers an opportunity to look for supplies. The organization served 116 teachers during the three-day event, giving them supplies and teaching materials for their classrooms. Regular hours starting today are 3:30 to 5:30 p.m. Wednesdays and Thursdays along with 9:30 to 11:30 a.m. every third Saturday of the month. For information, visit the Teachers Closet Inc. on Facebook.



Applications open for paid fellowship position

Oshkosh Herald

The Wisconsin Alliance for Civic Trust, which is hosted by the Whitburn Center for Government and Policy Research at UW-Oshkosh, is seeking applications for the 2025-2026 Y-ACT Fellowship.

Anyone between ages 18 and 25 who is passionate about democracy, civic engagement or community leadership can apply for the paid position. It is a way to build real-world skills, connect with civic leaders and make a difference across the Fox Valley.

The position is a 22-week fellowship

running from September to May 2026 designed to fit a typical college schedule, though applicants don't need to be a student. The pay is a \$1,100 stipend for mostly remote work with flexible hours, plus monthly in-person events at UW-Oshkosh. It provides hands-on experience with event planning, social media content, research and civic reporting, plus training in leadership, cross-partisan dialogue and community organizing.

No experience is needed. The deadline to apply is Sept. 5. For more information, email whitburncenter@uwosh.edu.

Vel Phillips

FROM PAGE 1

"Having the same staff in the building is huge. It provides consistency for the students while developing and building that trust with everyone in the building."

She is working on increasing that consistency and trust in her second year.

"Having that school culture sets the expectations," Patza said. "Students then know what is expected of them. They know the bar isn't being lowered for them and we have high expectations. This all helps the students remain engaged in learning."

Davis admitted there were issues with student expectations in the first year at Vel Phillips. These issues came when combining the students and staff from Merrill and Webster Stanley middle schools. This included basic issues such as bathroom passes for students and how students are organized before going to lunch – simple things, but he said if there isn't a uniform expectation, different staff members may have different expectations than others.



Patza

The challenges turned into lessons OASD administration learned in the first year at Vel Phillips and were used as the building blocks for Menominee Elementary School, which opened in September 2024.

Staff from three elementary schools - Merrill, Washington and Webster Stanley - met before the school year started. Those conversations led the staff to be on the same page with student expectations going into the school.

Another issue the school saw in the first year involved disciplinary actions and the school resource officers.

The Oshkosh Police Department, who provides school resource officers, released a report on what the officers are doing in the schools along with data regarding incidents in the schools.

The 2023-2024 school year report states there were 11 juvenile complaints at Carl Traeger Middle School, 29 juvenile complaints at South Park Middle School and 84 juvenile complaints at Vel Phillips.

This included students skipping class who were receiving a police citation for trespassing on school grounds instead of being walked back to class.

"We are working on making clarifications with the school resource officers. We are seeing progress in our referrals," Davis said.

Vel Phillips is introducing a house system

where eight houses will be set up with students from all three grades. The houses will collaborate on service projects and other activities to build up the community spirit within a school.

Patza and Davis both refer to Vel Phillips as a state-of-the-art building. However, the district has learned that providing the right people inside the building is just as important.

That's where the group VelCRO comes into the picture. VelCRO is the parent resource organization linked to the school. Earlier in the summer, VelCRO member Adam BellCorelli talked about the accessibility of the school and the upgraded learning environment.

"It's a place where you can learn and discover something new," BellCorelli said.

VelCRO held a number of events throughout the school year including a family night, after school programming and a Girls Go Forward group that met twice a week to discuss strengths, courage, honesty and communication.

There are other groups in the school community such as the Vel ESOL (English for Speakers of Other Languages) team who were able to experience a Wisconsin Herd game.

"All these things add to the Vel Phillips community," BellCorelli said.

During the lead-up to the 2025 referendum vote, there was talk in the community about OASD shifting from neighborhood schools to mega schools.

"The numbers don't support that," Davis said. "The schools are built to fit the needs of our district and provide the resources the students need."

He noted Winneconne's elementary school has 850 students, while Oshkosh's biggest elementary school has 600 students. In Neenah, the former high school is now the middle school and that building has 1,900 students. Vel Phillips, OASD's largest middle school, has 850 students.

"These are comparable districts, our peers, and those schools are much bigger than what Oshkosh is building," Davis said.

Both Davis and Patza commented that they are excited and ready to start the new school year on Tuesday.

As for Vel Phillips, another school year will start next month and hopefully bring more opportunities for students.

"There's a community in the school and that's what makes it a great place," BellCorelli said. "It's not just about the building; it's about the students and the teachers and everyone else that makes it a spectacular learning space."



Davis

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- AUG 31ST**
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Grant adds accessible personal training offerings for seniors

Oshkosh Herald

About one-third of Oshkosh's population is over 50. While many 50-year-olds wouldn't call themselves "seniors," they'd still be eligible to use the Oshkosh Seniors Center (OSC).

And many do — because aging well isn't just about getting older; it's about staying active, connected and engaged. The OSC serves around 5,000 people annually through a robust schedule that promotes proactive, connected and healthy aging.

Among the most in-demand offerings? Fitness classes and one-on-one personal training.

"It's all about every day, functional movement," said Cierra Boutelle, the center's healthy lifestyles coordinator. "They ask me for homework."

At around \$13, these personal training sessions are seen as affordable, especially for those with fixed incomes.

A recent grant from the Ladies Benevolent Society: Advocates for Older Adults Fund at the Oshkosh Area Community Foundation made it possible to expand personal training services, increasing available sessions by 50%.

"Even after increasing our offerings with this grant, we still have waiting lists of 5-10 people long, constantly," Boutelle said. "We're looking to expand again this year."

Most clients seek one-on-one training following a health event, but others use it proactively to maintain strength and mobility.



Photo courtesy of Oshkosh Area Community Foundation

Healthy lifestyles coordinator Cierra Boutelle leads a fitness class at the Oshkosh Seniors Center.

Some regular visitors credit the fitness offerings at OSC with eliminating age-related aches and pains, preventing falls and injuries and keeping them ac-

tive. Others sought personal training sessions to reduce the risk of falls and the serious injuries that often accompany them.

Healthy aging isn't just worthwhile for the 50 plus crowd; it's good for everyone. Fewer falls reduce community costs for emergency response. More active seniors stay engaged in the community longer as volunteers, neighbors, citizens and inter-

generational inspirations.

"They teach me as much as I teach them," Boutelle said. "It's so meaningful to see your work making a difference in the daily lives of others."

The Ladies Benevolent Society: Advocates for Older Adults Fund is currently accepting grant applications through Oct. 15. For more information, visit oshkoshareacf.org/apply-for-grants.

Fair to promote brain health, wellness

Oshkosh Herald

The Oshkosh Seniors Center will host an upcoming Brain Health and Wellness Fair.

The event that promotes healthy aging is for those interested in brain health, psychology and lifestyle interventions to improve health and longevity. It raises awareness about brain health and wellness education.

The fair gathers local businesses, health care providers and wellness experts to share resources, offer screenings and facilitate interactive sessions for older adults age 50 and older. Attendees can access

information on cognitive health, wellness programs, nutrition, mental health and more. The event aims to help older adults maintain health, independence and community ties.

The event will be from 8:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. Sept. 10. Free presentations, live demos, Q&A rooms and more than 20 vendors will be featured from 8:30 a.m. to noon. Following that, a concert featuring the J+ Band will be from 1:30 to 3 p.m. Concert tickets are \$8 and are available at one of the Seniors Center front desks.

The Seniors Center is located at 200 N. Campbell Road.

Downtown YMCA to host Repair Cafe

Oshkosh Herald

Repair Cafe Oshkosh will be hosting an event on Sept. 6.

Everyone is invited to bring their broken or torn items to the Downtown YMCA from 12:30 to 4:30 p.m.

Volunteers will be in the basement fixing clothing, computers, household appli-

ances, any electronics, jewelry and furniture.

Bicycles and small engines will be repaired in back of the YMCA building.

Bring replacement parts and fixers will do their best to install them.

This is a free service for the community. Free coffee will be served.

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Community for Hope finalist for award

Oshkosh Herald

Community for Hope has been selected as a finalist for the CareSource Foundation Support Challenge in Wisconsin.

The organization could receive up to a \$50,000 award. Community for Hope and other finalists are taking part in a public voting stage. Supporters of each group can vote for the organization they believe is making the biggest impact.

The public can vote once a day for the voting period, which continues until Sept. 6. Awards between \$2,500 and \$50,000 will be distributed with the top-vote getter receiving the \$50,000 grand prize.

The CareSource Foundation Support Challenge was established to recognize organizations and programs that are mak-

ing significant impacts on communities' toughest health issues. Through the new initiative, the CareSource Foundation aims to inspire innovation on reducing health disparities and moving the needle on health equity. Similar competitions are held in various states with the focus varying from state to state.

Community for Hope is in its 24th year of providing mental health awareness, suicide prevention education and grief support to Oshkosh and surrounding communities.

"A grant of this size would significantly add to our ability to reach more community members and offer hope," executive director Sarah Danahy said.

Vote through this link form.jotform.com/243093777489171.

Fundraiser to support Boys & Girls Club slated

Oshkosh Herald

A partnership between Carter's and the Boys & Girls Clubs of America is intended to combat youth learning loss and enhance community impact.

Customers at the Oshkosh Carter's location can make a monetary contribution at checkout to support the Boys & Girls Club

of Oshkosh's early learning and arts programs. The fundraiser runs through Oct. 18.

Money raised will directly support the club's mission of equipping Oshkosh area youth with the tools they need to succeed in school and in life.

To donate or learn more about the campaign, visit BGCA.org/Carters.



Photo from the City of Oshkosh

The park advisory board chose this concept for the landscaping around proposed new clearwell water sites.

Designs approved

FROM PAGE 1

memorial trees. Also as part of the plans, all of the memorial benches in the area will be relocated along the new path.

The parks department will work with the families for the memorial trees that could be removed.

Concept 1 plans for 25 parking spaces on Lake Shore Drive with one ADA parking stall. Concept 2 would have 27 parking spaces on the road and 2 ADA stalls.

Public work staff are still going over the details of the Washington Avenue and Lake Shore Drive intersection. Delivery trucks need to be able to access The Waters and Public Works is double checking those trucks won't have issues navigating a new intersection.

Public Works has also reviewed the plans to ensure snow removal will not be a problem with either concept.

Concept 1 was chosen by the board after a brief discussion at its meeting. Parks Director Ray Maurer said the parks department staff also favored concept 1.

"Having that larger green space along the water really felt more like a park setting," he said.

The city uses three underground potable water tanks at the water filtration plant on Lake Shore Drive. The three tanks are underwater and old; both of those reasons make them non-compliant with DNR regulations.

The youngest tank was built and installed in 1961, another was built in 1915 and the third is believed to have been built in the 1880s. The project is set to cost almost \$39 million and will be funded by Safe Drinking Water program funds.

Current plans are that the system has the capability to pump 13.4 million gallons of water a day. There will be two square million-gallon tanks with two pumping stations between the tanks.

Public Works Director James Rabe said the project is wrapping up the design phase as the design team is using comments made in the review process by the Wisconsin Public Service Commission.

The project will likely be out for open bids in October with the construction bid being awarded in January. Rabe said construction is likely to start next spring.

Rabe referred to the landscape project as the 'outside the fence' project and the clearwells are the 'inside the fence' project. The clearwell project will be completed before much of the outside-the-fence work begins.

"That allows us to take the input from the community and work it into the design of the landscaping on Lake Shore Drive," he said.

Rabe noted public works projects struggle to receive public feedback. At the first informational meeting for the clearwell



Photos from the City of Oshkosh

The new clearwell buildings may not be built yet, but the landscape around the buildings is receiving approval.

project there were less than 10 people. That grew to dozens of people giving their input on the project, pushing the city to hire a landscape architect.

One of the additions to the Lake Shore Drive project that came from public input is the informational/educational/heritage sites planned for the project. The Oshkosh Museum, Arts and Culture board is currently developing a policy for public art to select Native American and Indigenous artists.

"We are reserving that space for when those pieces are commissioned," Rabe said.

There are a number of spaces along the Lake Shore Drive project that are being reserved to have these informational/educational/heritage sites.

The city has time to sort out those details because construction of the clearwell will take three years and will be completed in phases. Rabe said the first phase will be completed and then there will likely be a gap of a couple months before the second phase begins.

"We need to make sure what was built in the first phase is operational before we start on the second phase," he said.

The first phase includes building the first tank, the pump station and the electrical components. Then Public Works officials need to make sure everything is working before completing phase two, which is primarily building the second tank.

There is also the need to keep potable water storage for the city drinking water.

This is a project the Public Works Department has been working on for almost 15 years since the city was notified the clearwells were no longer compliant with DNR regulations.

The park advisory board is the first committee the plans will need to go through before being approved by the Common Council.

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Photo by Michael Cooney

All that jazz

Benny Benack III served as emcee for the Oshkosh Jazz Festival held Saturday in Downtown Oshkosh. Dressed in a navy pinstripe suit, he sang and played on his horn, while entertaining the crowd with charm and humor. Emmet Cohen was the headliner for the event, which featured a celebration of the legacy of local musician John Harmon.

Pancake breakfast, Young Eagle rally planned

Oshkosh Herald

EAA Chapter 252 is holding a pancake breakfast, fly-in and Young Eagles rally.

Breakfast will include sausage, scrambled eggs, milk, juice, coffee and all you can eat pancakes.

The price for adults is \$8, free for pilots of homebuilt aircraft that fly in and \$4 for children under age 10. The event will be

from 7:30 to 10 a.m. Sept. 13 at Wittman Regional Airport, 525 W. 20th Ave.

Free airplane rides for kids ages 8-17 will be offered, with parents' signed consent, weather permitting.

Preregistration for flights is required with limited spots available by visiting events.eaachapters.org/event-details/YE1162938.

Youth Choir holding auditions for upcoming season

Oshkosh Herald

The Oshkosh Youth Choir is holding auditions for members to join this season.

The auditions will take place Sept. 9 in the choir room at South Park Middle School, 1551 Delaware St. Enter through Door 6.

The group is expanding this year to in-

clude a fourth choir, Prelude, which will be for students in kindergarten through second grade. Times for kindergarten through fifth grade are 5 to 6 p.m., grades six to eight 6 to 7 p.m. and high schoolers 7 to 8 p.m.

No preparation is necessary. Call 920-235-8313 with questions.

Calendar of events

Wednesday, Aug. 27

Wisconsin Herd Joe Wolf Memorial Golf Outing, 8 a.m., Lake Breeze Golf Course, 633 Ball Prairie Road, Winnebago

Brews by the Waterside featuring A-Town Unplugged, 5 p.m., Rainbow Park

Music on Main featuring Alex Wilson Duo, 5:30 p.m., Opera House Square

Friday, Aug. 29

Night of the Living Dead at Friday Fright Night, 7 p.m., Time Community Theater

Saturday, Aug. 30

Hmong Labor Day Festival 7 a.m., Winnebago County Community Park
Downtown Oshkosh Farmers Market, 8 a.m.

Galaxy Quest, 7 p.m., Time Community Theater

Sunday, Aug. 31

Hmong Labor Day Festival 7 a.m., Winnebago County Community Park

Beatles vs. Stones – A Musical Showdown, 6 p.m., The Grand Oshkosh

Monday, Sept. 1

Labor Day Car Show and Picnic, 1 p.m., South Park

Wednesday, Sept. 3

Music on Main featuring Brady Lee, 5:30 p.m., Opera House Square

Friday, Sept. 5

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

Saturday, Sept. 6

Downtown Oshkosh Farmers Market, 8 a.m.

Repair Cafe, 12:30 p.m., Downtown

YMCA

Oshkosh Gallery Walk, 6 p.m., Downtown Oshkosh

Sunday, Sept. 7

Arena Mayhem Car Show and Motorcycle Stunt Show, 9 a.m., Oshkosh Arena

Wednesday, Sept. 10

Brain Health and Wellness Fair, 8:30 a.m., Oshkosh Seniors Center, 200 N. Campbell Road

Brews by the Waterside featuring Jacob Fannin, 5 p.m., Menominee Park

Music on Main featuring Natural Satellite, 5:30 p.m., Opera House Square

Thursday, Sept. 11

EAA Speaker Series: Remembering 9/11, 7 p.m., EAA Aviation Museum

Sons of Serendip, 7 p.m., The Grand Oshkosh

Friday, Sept. 12

Lakeside Packaging Plus Talent Takeover, 5 p.m., Oshkosh Convention Center

Saturday, Sept. 13

ReThink Addiction 5K, 7:30 a.m., 621 Evans St.

EAA Chapter 252 Pancake Breakfast & Young Eagle Rally, 7:30 a.m., Wittman Regional Airport, 525 W. 20th Ave.

Downtown Oshkosh Farmers Market, 8 a.m.

Walk for Animals, 8:30 a.m., Sunnyview Expo Center, Barn E

Josh Blue Headlining Oshkosh's Funniest Comedian Finale, 7 p.m., Oshkosh Arena

Sunday, Sept. 14

End of Summer Bash, 10 a.m., Jeff's on Rugby, 1005 Rugby St.

Monday, Sept. 15

Boys & Girls Club of Oshkosh Alumni & Friends Golf Outing, 8 a.m., Westhaven Golf Club

Tuesday, Sept. 16

Live at the Leach featuring Copper Box, 5:30 p.m., Leach Amphitheater

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Youthful Wildcats come up short in season opener

By Steve Clark
OSHKOSH HERALD

It sometimes comes down to the little things that decide a football game and Oshkosh West head coach Joe Ray knows his team needs to improve in that area.

The Wildcats turned in a strong defensive effort and mounted a couple of solid drives but couldn't crank out enough points and dropped a 10-3 decision to Green Bay Preble in their season-opener on JJ Keller Field at Titan Stadium last Friday.

"We talk about five plays in a game is what it comes to and the little things matter," Ray said. "As a team that's trying to learn to win, we have to learn to win those moments instead of lose those moments."

West, which will face Oshkosh North at Titan Stadium on Friday, tallied its lone points on a 47-yard field goal from Elliott Reed midway through the third quarter, taking advantage of a short field.

Drew Abitz's punt pinned Preble at its own 8-yard line and after stuffing the Hornets on a first-down run, Ethan Bowman intercepted a pass. Bowman returned the pick for a touchdown but the score was nullified by a holding penalty after the interception.

The Wildcats were unable to gain any yards on the possession but Reed's kick put West on the scoreboard.

"They ran that play earlier in the game and it was open so it was something we talked about at halftime," Ray said. "That's one of the strengths of these kids, they are very coachable and they recognized (the play) when they saw it and made the play. But again, we have the holding penalty and then with a short field like that, we



Photo by Jim Koepnick

Oshkosh West's Joey Ware sacks Green Bay Preble quarterback Harrison Selk in the first half on Friday night in the Wildcats' season opener at Titan Stadium.

have to score (a touchdown)."

Getting on the scoreboard invigorated the West defense, which forced a Preble punt on the next possession.

Junior linebacker Mevin Byes said the

team did get a boost when Reed booted the long field goal.

"It really helped us out to come out with energy," said Byes, who led West with seven tackles. "We just have to do that more often even when we don't come out with scores."

The Wildcats marched back into Hornets territory following the punt.

Stuart Suwalski gained seven yards on a fourth-and-1 run near midfield to extend the drive while West also picked up a first down on a roughing the passer penalty.

Owen Heim's 18-yard burst gave West a first down at the Preble 23-yard line but on fourth-and-3, Zander Crook's pass fell incomplete and the Hornets took over on downs with just less than seven minutes remaining.

"When we have opportunities to make plays, we have to make them," Ray said. "I think we did a lot of good things. Once we got rolling, we had some good runs there in the second half once we got the front figured out. We just have to keep finding

ways to get our playmakers the ball."

West would get one more possession starting at its own 29-yard line with just under three minutes to play but were forced to punt. Preble was then able to run out the clock.

"Our challenge as we grow as a team is that it's easy to have energy it's easy to be excited when you have success," Ray said. "The challenge is when you don't have that success to find that energy because it's easy to tell when you don't."

West had a chance to get points on the board on the opening possession of the game as Wyatt Marten returned the kick-off 36 yards as West started near midfield.

Crooks scramble gained six yards on first down however West was unable to get a first down. From a punt formation though, Abitz connected with Byes on a 24-yard pass on fourth down to move the ball to the Preble 27-yard line.

But after losing four yards on three plays, Reed's 48-yard field goal attempt was just wide and the game was scoreless.

Preble took the lead on the final play of the first half, taking advantage of an interception to notch a field goal for a 3-0 lead at intermission. The Hornets then used two big plays to key a touchdown drive to start the second half but West's defense stood firm the rest of the way.

Of Preble's 211 total yards in the game, 80 of them came on the one scoring drive, including a 28-yard pass and a 30-yard touchdown run.

"I think the defense played with good chemistry and high energy," Byes said. "That's our goal every time to be the most physical team and have the highest energy and just pursue to the ball."

Ray was also impressed with the play of the defense, which also got a fumble recovery from Eli Bancroft.

"Our defense played well," Ray said. "We knew that would be our strength and they played really well and solid."

Marten led the team with 37 yards rushing on 11 carries, while also averaging 33 yards on a pair of kick returns.

Crook finished 13-of-24 for 105 yards, while Heim and Micah Finley each had four catches to lead the offense.

The Wildcats will now turn its attention to the rival Spartans, who beat West 41-22 in last year's meeting.

"We're just going to come out and have a great week of practice and get ready for Oshkosh North and the rivalry next weekend," Byes said. "We're excited."



Photo by Jim Koepnick

Oshkosh West's Wyatt Marten looks for running room against Green Bay Preble on Friday night.

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Senior Spotlight is brought to you by: **Nicolet**
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Healthy Ridenour gearing for big season with Knights

By Tim Froberg
HERALD CONTRIBUTOR

No pain, big gains.

That is Brady Ridenour's mindset for what should be a highly productive senior season.

The Lourdes running back and outside linebacker missed a good chunk of the 2024 slate with a painful shoulder injury, but is healthy again and looking to close his stellar prep football career with a slam-bang finish.

Ridenour - a two-way starter - has the size and speed to deliver game-changing plays on offense and the instincts on defense to stop them. He received second-team all-Trailways Conference honors as a running back last season and all-conference honorable mention as a linebacker in 2023.

But just staying on the field this fall might mean more to Ridenour than any postseason honors or gaudy statistics. He was sidelined with a torn labrum in his left shoulder early last season and missed multiple games. Ridenour returned to play the final four regular-season games and all three of Lourdes' playoff contests.

Ridenour - a multi-sport athlete who plays basketball during the winter - tried to get through the hoops season, but the pain was too much. He underwent surgery 17 games into the basketball season and missed the rest of the year. Weeks of tedious rehab on the shoulder followed along with physical therapy, before Ridenour was cleared for football activities.

That was the past and Ridenour is looking ahead. He and the Knights got off to a strong start Thursday night in a 42-14 nonconference rout of Living World Lutheran. Ridenour rushed for 59 yards on eight carries and scored a touchdown. He also contributed three tackles on defense.

"Feels perfect," said Ridenour. "The range of motion is little less, but I don't really notice it much and I'll probably get that back. It's just nice to be out there playing football."

"Just being pain-free makes the surgery and all the rehab worth it. I didn't want to miss any of my senior year of football. I'm just looking to put it behind me."

Ridenour was Lourdes' second-leading rusher last season with 638 yards. He averaged 8.7 yards-per-carry, caught 13 passes for another 102 yards and scored eight touchdowns. Defensively, he played in six games and had 23 tackles.

Ridenour is a fourth-year varsity starter



Photo by Andy Ratchman

After an injury-plagued junior season, Lourdes Academy's Brady Ridenour is back healthy and ready to lead the Knights.

who made an immediate impact at middle linebacker his freshman year with a career-high 55 tackles. He followed up with a strong sophomore season, delivering 53 tackles with two forced fumbles, a sack and an interception. He also rushed for 326 yards - averaging 4.6 ypc - and scored three touchdowns.

"I remember coming in that freshman year and the seniors and all the coaches

were so nice to me," Ridenour said. "I'm still friends with quite a few of the guys from that senior class."

Lourdes coach Kevin Wopat is thrilled with the return of a healthy Ridenour. Lourdes struggled through a four-game losing streak in the early part of the 2024 season without Ridenour, but won six of its last seven games with him.

"He will be the heartbeat of this year's

Senior Spotlight

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team," said Wopat. "We struggled mightily without him last year and it's no coincidence that our season got corrected when he came back from that injury."

Losing Ridenour's playmaking skills were a major blow when he was sidelined last season, but his high character and leadership were missed even more.

"Brady is the definition of a role model," Wopat said. "He never causes a problem, never complains. He just plays. As a coach, you come to appreciate a kid like Brady. In this day and age where everyone likes to promote themselves, he just shows up and works. He's going to be an incredibly successful human because of his humbleness, smarts and work ethic."

The 6-foot-1, 200-pound Ridenour doesn't want to miss a snap this season. He enjoys being a two-way player and making an impact on both sides of the ball.

"I definitely prefer playing both ways," Ridenour said. "It can be a little tiring but it's really not that big of a deal. As a running back, I just try and run hard - be a north to south runner who is hard to bring down. But to be a decent running back you need a good offensive line which we have here. Those guys make a huge difference."

"Defensively, I feel like I have pretty good instincts and can get a good read at what they're doing."

Brady won't be the only Ridenour on the Lourdes sideline this fall. Quinn, one of his two little brothers, will be the team's water boy.

"It's going to be fun to have him around," Ridenour said. "He's in the fifth grade and he'll be playing tackle football this year for the first time, so I'm looking forward to watching him play. I have six siblings and they're my biggest cheerleaders. They go to all my games."

Expect Ridenour's family cheering section to also be in the bleachers at basketball games this winter as Brady plans to return to the court. Missing the finish of the 2024-25 hoops season was a major disappointment, but something Ridenour felt was necessary to salvage his senior year

SEE **Senior Spotlight** ON PAGE 20

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Prep sports roundup

FOOTBALL

Spartans open season with victory

Bryce Ott threw for 249 yards and three touchdowns and Dalton Clark had a huge all-around game as Oshkosh North rolled past Ashwaubenon, 34-21 on Friday night.

Clark led the team with seven catches for 135 yards and one touchdown, while racking up 10 tackles and two interceptions. North forced four turnovers in the game as Eli Ott also had an interception and Everix Blessent recovered a fumble caused by Cole Meiselwitz.

North held Ashwaubenon to just 55 yards rushing in the game with defense

being led by Eli Ott and Manny Tlatelpa who each finished with 12 tackles.

Bryce Ott finished 18-for-25 on the night, while connecting on touchdown passes to Clark, Andrew Oehler and Xavier Waters. Bryce Ott also finished with 61 yards rushing.

Jamare Scott led the ground attack for North with 65 yards on 22 carries, including a touchdown, and also caught eight passes for 61 yards.

Big first half carries Knights to win

Lourdes Academy built a 42-0 halftime lead and coasted in the second half to a 42-14 victory over Living Word Lutheran last Thursday.

Brady Bauer ran for a pair of touchdowns and threw for another, while Lucas Neuens highlighted the win with a 102-yard interception return for a touchdown to cap the 42-point first half.

Bauer scored on an 18-yard run to open the scoring and then powered in from three yards out early in the second quarter. He added a 3-yard touchdown pass to Mat Yaggie later in the second quarter.

Brady Ridenour led the Knights with 59 yards on eight carries, including a two-yard touchdown run. Andrew Syson also scored for the Knights, reaching the end zone on a four-yard run.

Bauer finished with 41 yards rushing and 10-of-11 passing for 136 yards. Neuens led the Knights with four catches for 80 yards.

Defensively, Harlan Kuehn led the team with seven tackles, while Max Behnke and Syson each finished with six. Neuens had a pair of interceptions in the game.

The Knights will play their first home game of the season on Thursday night when rival Reedsville comes to Oshkosh for a matchup at Titan Stadium.

Valley Christian rolls in opener

Sam Gloudemans and Derek Wallace each rushed for two touchdowns and Valley Christian pounded Princeton/Green Lake in its season opener, 41-0, on Friday.

Gloudemans needed just four carries to rack up 110 yards and notch his two touchdowns, while Wallace added 75 yards rushing on seven carries and collected his pair of touchdown runs in the game.

Mason Everts completed just one pass

– on only three attempts – but it resulted in a touchdown, connecting with Matthias Behling on a 34-yard strike.

Carter Belville also added a rushing touchdown for the Warriors.

Gloudemans also led the defense with 10.5 tackles, while Liam Clayton finished with 7.5 tackles.

Valley Christian will play its home opener at Xavier Middle School on Friday against Wonewoc-Weston.

GOLF

Leib leads North's golfers at dual meet

Sammie Leib finished with a 54 to lead a trio of Spartans in the 50s as North came up short against Appleton West, 226-236, in a Fox Valley Association dual meet at Westhaven.

Leib finished one stroke shy of the medalist score, while Nelly Harrison and Maci O'Loughlin each carded 58s on the day. Willow Standke rounded out the scoring golfers for North with a 66.

TENNIS

Spartans post win over Fond du Lac

Oshkosh North collected a win over Fond du Lac in a busy week to open the season last week.

The Spartans scored a 6-1 win over the Cardinals on Saturday before losing a tight match to Beaver Dam, 4-3.

Earlier in the week North fell to Appleton East and West Bend East by identical, 5-2, margins while losing to Menasha by a 4-3 score.

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Veteran-led West looks to challenge again in FVA

Oshkosh Herald

Oshkosh West has become a staple near the top of the Fox Valley Association volleyball standings.

The Wildcats certainly don't expect that to change this season.

With three four-year varsity starters set to lead a talented and experienced roster, West should once again be battling for one of the top places in the talent-rich FVA.

"The FVA is one of the toughest conferences in the state, and we will not underestimate any opponent," commented head coach Will Brydon. "If we work hard and focus on ourselves instead of the other side of the net, I think we will be a very difficult team to beat. Our coaching staff has high expectations for this group, but, more importantly, they have high expectations for themselves. We expect to bring it every single match."

Leading the group of returning players for the Wildcats will be senior outside hitter Sydnee Nelson, a three-time first-team all-conference selection in the FVA. Nelson racked up a whopping 393 kills last season – more than double any other player on the team – and finished the season with a hitting percentage over .300. Sophomore Emma Liebergen finished second on the team with 174 kills, but no other returning player finished with more than 60. Nelson and Liebergen will give the Wildcats a good 1-2 punch, but Brydon knows that the key to the Wildcats suc-

cess over the past few years has been a balanced attack and he believes his hard-hitting duo will have plenty of support.

"Finding balance is incredibly important. We say it a lot in our program and we mean it," Brydon commented. "The best teams are deep teams, ones that can pick each other up when someone is struggling and I feel like we have a group of hitters that can do that."

Senior Olivia Warren, junior Addie Benesh and freshman Noelle Prickett will give the Wildcats options at the middle hitter spot with senior Nora Pakula, junior Kylah Scott and Sophomore Kayana Turner mixing in at the pin position.

Feeding the hitters will also be a familiar face in MaKaelyn Clark, who is also a four-year varsity starter.

Clark finished with a team-leading 822 assists last season, while ranking second on the team in digs and third in aces.

"There is no better teacher than experience, and Mak has learned so many lessons over the years that will make her even stronger on the court this season," commented Brydon. "She is a natural leader and someone that has the complete trust of her teammates and coaches."

Rounding out the returning four-year starters for West is libero Elaina Butz, who paced the team in digs (396) and aces (69) a year ago.

Junior Lucy Jolin could also see some time at setter this season behind Clark.

Senior Rilyn Polakowski also returns as a defensive specialist with juniors Halle Stern and Olivia Xiong also competing for playing time at those positions.

Valley Christian

The Warriors return a pair of all-conference players as the squad looks to once again challenge in the Trailways East.

Anna Giannopoulos was a first team selection a year ago, while fellow senior Lizzie Fink earned second-team honors for Valley Christian.

Giannopoulos finished second on the team with 263 kills as an outside hitter, while also leading the team in digs (365) and aces (96). Fink, who predominantly hit from the middle, led the team with 306 kills.

Adding to the hitting group for the Warriors will be freshmen Brielle Birr and Laila Gostas.

One of the key spots for the Warriors will be at setter where Valley Christian graduated first-team all-conference selection Maliha Demler. Senior Bella Birr and sophomore Lydia Hardy are expected to fill in the spot this season.

"Setting is one of the hardest positions on the volleyball court and it takes time to develop new hitter/setter connections," commented head coach Lizzy Potratz. "We are excited about the moments we are seeing and will be working these new connections and being consistent."

The Warriors finished second in the conference behind Central Wisconsin Christian last season and are just one year removed from advancing to the Division 4 sectional final.

Potratz believes this team can continue that success.

"Our success will come from players accepting their roles, trusting the process and being patient and cultivating a posi-

tive mindset," Potratz commented. "There will be a lot of players contributing on the court and being able to make an impact. The team has strong defensive players and we are excited to see 'our little' go after it."

Lourdes Academy

The Knights lost a pair of all-conference players from last year but have a strong nucleus to build around as the team looks to challenge in the Trailways East.

Leading the group of returning players is senior outside hitter Anika Leitch, who led Lourdes Academy in kills last season and was an honorable mention all-conference performer.

Fellow seniors Aubrey Schette at outside hitter and Libby Guerrero at libero also return to bolster the Knights' lineup with junior Celia Ralofsky coming back for her third varsity season as the team's setter.

Head coach Rachel Laehn will also look to sophomore Adhieu Liabwell and freshman Naomi Liabwill to contribute to the squad this season.

"I have six seniors with many of them playing together since fifth grade. Their drive and team chemistry on the court is fantastic," commented Laehn. "We have a talented group of players this year that are stepping up and we are hoping to be in the top three for the conference this year."

Oshkosh North

The Spartans finished without a win in the Fox Valley Association last year but will be looking to make their mark this season.

No other information was available about the team.

Volleyball PREVIEW

underestimate any opponent," commented head coach Will Brydon. "If we work hard and focus on ourselves instead of the other side of the net, I think we will be a very difficult team to beat. Our coaching staff has high expectations for this group, but, more importantly, they have high expectations for themselves. We expect to bring it every single match."



2025 Oshkosh High School Volleyball Schedules

*Invitationals are not included in here. Check the school athletic calendars for additional competitions.

VALLEY CHRISTIAN 	LOURDES ACADEMY 	OSKOSH WEST 	OSKOSH NORTH 
Sep 2 @ Central Wisconsin Christian 7:00 PM	Sep 2 Hustisford 7:00 PM	Sep 4 @ Fond Du Lac 7:00 PM	Sep 4 Kimberly 7:00 PM
Sep 9 Wayland Academy 7:00 PM	Sep 9 @ Oakfield MS/HS 7:00 PM	Sep 9 @ Appleton West 7:00 PM	Sep 11 @ Hortonville 7:00 PM
Sep 11 @ Oakfield MS/HS 7:00 PM	Sep 11 Central Wisconsin Christian 7:00 PM	Sep 11 Appleton North 7:00 PM	Sep 16 Neenah 7:00 PM
Sep 23 Hustisford 7:00 PM	Sep 23 @ Wayland Academy 7:00 PM	Sep 18 @ Neenah 7:00 PM	Sep 18 Appleton East 7:00 PM
Sep 25 @ Horicon 7:00 PM	Sep 25 Dodgeland 7:00 PM	Sep 25 Kaukauna 7:00 PM	Sep 23 @ Menasha 7:00 PM
Sep 30 Sheboygan Christian 7:15 PM	Oct 2 @ Horicon 7:00 PM	Oct 2 @ Kimberly 7:00 PM	Sep 25 @ Fond Du Lac 7:00 PM
Oct 2 @ Dodgeland 7:00 PM	Oct 7 @ Valley Christian High School 7:00 PM	Oct 7 Hortonville 7:00 PM	Oct 2 Appleton North 7:00 PM
Oct 7 Lourdes Academy 7:00 PM	Oct 14 @ St Mary Catholic 7:00 PM	Oct 9 @ Oshkosh North 7:00 PM	Oct 7 @ Appleton West 7:00 PM
Oct 14 Berlin 7:15 PM		Oct 16 Appleton North 7:00 PM	Oct 9 Oshkosh West 7:00 PM
			Oct 14 Green Lake/Princeton 7:00 PM
			Oct 16 @ Kaukauna 7:00 PM

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Lourdes/Valley brings plenty of experience, talent to field

Oshkosh Herald

A potent 1-2 offensive punch and a solid nucleus of experienced players to build around looks to be a recipe for a successful season for the Lourdes Academy/Valley Christian boys soccer team.

The squad finished 11-3-5 last season and won a regional title and the Knights look to build on that success this season.

Leading the way for Lourdes/Valley will be seniors Isaak Rucinski and Kaleb Richardson, who were both first-team all-conference selections in the Flyway Conference a year ago. Rucinski led the team with 18 goals and 10 assists, while Richardson finished with 17 goals and eight assists as duo formed one of the highest scoring pairs in the conference.

Senior midfielder Quin Ruark also returns for the Knights with senior Brett Maki coming back to anchor the defense.

Jackson Buttke and Matthew Loker combined for nine goals last season and are both returning to bolster the Knights' attack.

Rounding out the list of returning starters for the Knights is Elijah Troiber.

One key newcomer for the Knights will be Micah Humiston, who will step into the net full time this season. Loker played the majority of the games at goalkeeper last season with Humiston seeing limited action.

"(We have a) very versatile and fast team. We have a good large group of experienced players," commented head coach Abraham Gutierrez. "We have some solid incoming freshmen and new addi-

tions that will help us grow as a squad in strength, experience and numbers."

Lourdes/Valley finished second in the rugged Flyway Conference last season, finishing behind only North Fond du Lac United.

Gutierrez believes the Knights have the potential to win the conference title this season and hopefully to advance to the state tournament. He knows it won't be easy but believes there is a path for the Knights to take to achieve their goal.

"Great treatment of the ball when we have it, hard work and discipline when we don't (will make it a successful season)," commented Gutierrez. "(It will take) all the small but fine details that win tight games."

Oshkosh West

After the wealth of talent that has paraded through the Oshkosh West program the past couple of seasons, the Wildcats look to be a little younger than in season's past.

West graduated five seniors who earned all-conference honors last season and over the past three years, the program has seen 15 different players receive recognition from the conference before finishing up their time at West.

The Wildcats have also had two of the last three Players of the Year in the conference.

Longtime head coach Matt Callahan will have some experience to build around this season in seniors Brayden Kufel and Cain Gelhar as well as junior Carson Chinski.

"This year we are going to have a younger team with sophomores starting," commented Callahan. "I am excited for this

season. The group we have this year is going to be young, but the young players are very talented and the returning players we have are incredibly talented so we'll do our best to represent the school well."

Callahan said that junior Jacob Allen will be taking over in goal for the Wildcats this season, while fellow juniors Tyler Nimis and Asher Connelly will also be key contributors for the squad.

Oshkosh North

The Spartans will have plenty of new faces on the roster this season as head coach Sean Johnson looks to have the Spartans challenging again in the Fox Valley Association.

North finished in fifth place in the FVA last season and will look to move up in the standings this year.

The Spartans will have a pair of returning seniors to count on for experience in

midfielder George Mtabi and defender Benjamin Justin. Juniors Cooper Snell in the midfield and Chakabuta Nesoro at defender.

Johnson also said that junior Msewa Sumaili and sophomores Wapole Misembo and Ryan Guenther are also expected to step into the mix.

North will have to replace goalkeeper Lunge Ramadhani, an honorable mention all-FVA selection last year, but the Spartans have a couple players competing for time at the position heading into the 2025 season.

"It's been another year of changes, and the FVA is a challenging conference. If we can find some cohesion early on and get into a rhythm, we can compete with just about anyone," Johnson commented. "We have a talented group. We just need to find the chemistry that helps us move forward and improve."

Senior Spotlight

FROM PAGE 17

of football. Ridenour played in 17 games during the 2024-25 basketball season – starting 14 of them – before undergoing the surgery. He averaged 3.6 points, 5.5 rebounds and 0.9 assists. The lefty played in 26 of 28 varsity games as a sophomore and 20 as a freshman.



Ridenour

"Sports mean a lot to me and I didn't want to miss part of the basketball season," Ridenour said. "But with the injury being on my dominant arm, well, basketball just doesn't work. And it hurt a lot."

Ridenour's skills in the classroom are even more impressive than those on the gridiron. He is a high honors student with a perfect 4.0 grade-point-average.

Ridenour will attend college next year, but hasn't yet nailed down his choice of school. He is open to the possibility of playing college football and plans to major in a science-related field.

"I'm a math, science kind of guy, so I'll pursue something in science," he said. "Football is a possibility. We'll see how the season goes."

Ridenour is hoping that Lourdes (7-5 overall last season) will make a deep post-season run like last year when the Knights advanced to Level 3 of the WIAA playoffs before being ousted by Edgar. This time, though, Lourdes wants to close the season at Camp Randall in a state championship game... and the Knights have the talent and experience to get there.

"We were pretty close to making it state last year and everyone wants to get there this year," Ridenour said. "We're going to be really competitive. This is going to be a really good team. Our senior and junior classes are really talented and we get along really well."



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Obituaries

Donna Rae Campshure

Donna Rae (Fischer) (Mackin) Campshure, 90, Green Bay, passed away Saturday, August 23, 2025. She was born March 6, 1935, in Green Bay to Roland H. A. and Viola L. (Anderson) Fischer.



Donna graduated from Green Bay West High School, Class of 1954. Donna married Wayne O. Mackin, and he preceded her in death on March 27, 1971. She was a dedicated wife, and mother. Donna lived in the heart of Green Bay for many years until moving to Townsend. She married William Campshure on May 10, 1991. He preceded her in death on October 9, 2007,

and Donna returned to Green Bay. She was an active member of the Ladies Circle at St. John's Lutheran Church Missouri Synod in Townsend.

She is survived by her children, Rory (Sue Ann) Mackin, Maureen (Peter) Moon, Owen Mackin, Kevin (Ruth) Mackin, Laurie (special friend, Victor) Mackin, Patrick (Melody) Mackin and Marguerite Mackin; grandchildren, great-grandchildren; great-great-grandchildren; sister, Beverly Anderson; many of William's relatives, nieces, nephews, cousins and friends.

Donna was preceded in death by first husband, Wayne Mackin; second husband, William F. "Bud" Campshure, Sr; granddaughter, Tracy; great grandson, Luca; parents, Roland and Viola; brother, James Fischer; brother-in-law, Lloyd An-

derson.

Friends and family will gather at Blaney Funeral Home, 1521 Shawano Ave., from 10:30 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. (NOON) on Wednesday, August 27; Service to follow at 12:00 p.m. (NOON). Inurnment will be in Fort Howard Memorial Park. To send online condolences, please go to www.BlaneyFuneralHome.com.

Donna's Family would like to extend a

special thank you to the staff of The Residence at Oshkosh Assisted Living, especially Nurse Lisa and Doctor Steph for their kindness, love, and compassionate given to Donna. Special thanks also to the staff of Aurora Hospice for their gentle, heartfelt care of Donna in her final days.



James Charles Skroski

James (Jim) Charles Skroski (87) joined his Heavenly Father in his eternal



home on August 16, 2025. Jim was born to Charles and Agnes Skroski on September 15, 1937, in Milwaukee, Wisconsin. He lovingly took on the role of big brother to Richard (Judy) and Thomas (Maureen).

Jim graduated from Marquette University and its NROTC program. Following graduation, he proudly served our country in the Navy for four years.

In 1962, he married the love of his life, Shirley Wieland. They grew their family by becoming parents to Karen (Richard), John (Tracy), Sharon (Mitchell), David (Jenny), Michelle (Shawn), and Suzanne (Steve). Over the years, Jim's family tree blossomed by adding 14 grandchildren and 2 great-grandchildren.

Jim's career as a mechanical engineer was divided between J.I. Case and Mercury Marine, where he enjoyed both his duties and his coworkers. Through the years, Jim took pride in his involvement in religious education, Little League softball, and the Boy Scouts of America organization. He was a dedicated member of St. Raphael's Catholic Church, where he volunteered as a reader and could often be found serving meals at Friday night fish fries. In his retirement, he volunteered at Mercy Medical Center in Oshkosh, Wis-

consin, where he happily completed any tasks asked of him.

Jim loved spending time outdoors. Amongst his favorite activities were weekend getaways to the family cottage on the Rock River, where he enjoyed fishing, boating, canoeing, swimming, and waterskiing. Jim especially loved fishing the Chippewa Flowage when given the opportunity. Jim had many cherished memories from family vacations throughout his lifetime, with Treeland Resort being a particularly favored destination. Other hobbies included gardening, traveling, and attending his grandchildren's sporting events.

Jim is survived by his wife, Shirley Skroski, and their six children and their spouses, fourteen grandchildren, and two great-grandchildren. Jim was preceded in death by his parents, Charles and Agnes, his mother-in-law, Marcella, his brother, Tom, and his granddaughter, Anna.

A Mass of Christian Burial will be celebrated for Jim on Saturday, September 6, 2025 at 11 am in St. Raphael Catholic Church, 830 S. Westhaven Drive in Oshkosh with the Rev. Tom Long as celebrant. A time of visitation will be held at the church on Saturday from 9 am until the time of Mass. Full military honors will immediately follow the Mass at church. Burial will be in Sacred Heart Catholic Cemetery in Oshkosh.



William Herbert Sager

December 24, 1934 - August 19, 2025

William "Bill" Herbert Sager passed away peacefully at The Courtyard in Oshkosh. Born on December 24, 1934, in Oshkosh to Harriet (Wright) Sager and Herbert Sager. He graduated from Oshkosh High School in 1954. Bill lived a life marked by hard work, family connection, and a good sense of humor.

He was employed by Paine Lumber, Dunphy Boat Company, and Oshkosh Door Company where he retired, and proudly served in the National Guard. Bill shared a special bond with his mother, Harriet, and together they enjoyed their camper on Pearl Lake in Red Granite. He remained in his childhood home, living independently until recently.

Bill found joy in simple hobbies - bowling, ice fishing, tending to his garden, and cheering on the Brewers and Packers. He had a fondness for cats and cherished spending holidays with his family. Always quick with a smile, Bill's hearty appetite, gentle chuckle and warmth brightened

family gatherings.

Bill was preceded in death by his parents; his beloved aunts and uncles; his sister, Suzanne (Sager) Schneider and brother-in-law, James Schneider. He is survived by his sister, Carole (Sager) Steinert, and brother-in-law, Kenley Steinert, along with his nieces and nephews Lori (Bob) Lohry, Peter (Julie) Steinert, Todd (Lori) Schneider, and Diane Schneider; great-nieces and nephews Sarah (Jeremy) Wise, Matthew (Laura) Lohry, Benjamin (Nicole) Steinert, and Christian Steinert; and great-great-niece and nephews Wyatt and Emma Wise and Damian Nitz Lohry.

He will be remembered with love, gratitude, and fond memories by all who knew him. The family would like to thank the caregivers of both The Courtyard at Oshkosh Assisted Living and St. Croix Hospice.

There will be a private graveside service at Peace Lutheran Cemetery.



Ronald Voskuil

Ronald Voskuil, age 88, of Oshkosh passed away on August 20, 2025 at his residence.



Ronald was born in Waupun on May 9, 1937 the son of Ray and Dorothy (Schouten) Voskuil. Ronald married Eileen (Wuggy) Dushensky on November 3, 1984. Ronald

served his Country in the US Army and was a Truck driver for many years.

Ronald is survived by his wife, Eileen

(Wuggy) Voskuil of Oshkosh. One son, Bruce Lee Voskuil and one daughter, Deborah (Michael) Kremer all of Oshkosh. Three grandchildren and four great grandchildren and of course his beloved cat Rocky.

He was preceded in death by his parents, one brother and one sister.

A visitation for Ronald will be held on Thursday, August 28, 2025 at the Poklasny Funeral Home 870 W. South Park Ave. Oshkosh, WI 54902 from 10 am until 11 am.



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Obituaries

Jean May McKinnon Berger

Jean May McKinnon Berger, 95, of Oshkosh, passed away Sunday, August 17th surrounded by her loving family. She was born in Marinette, WI on May 1, 1930, the daughter of Shirley (Krohn) and Roy McKinnon.

Jean married Gerald J. Berger in Oshkosh Nov. 23, 1950. They had 10 children; Susan Binder, Douglas Berger (Jane), Russell Berger, Nancy Sweet (Terry), Andrew Berger (Julie), Kristi Jones (Scott), Joanne McDowell (Mark), Thomas Berger (Julie), Timothy Berger (Geovana), and Jonathan Berger. They were blessed with 22 grandchildren and 24 great grandchildren.

Jean graduated from Oshkosh High School then attended Oshkosh State Teacher's College. She received a Bachelor of Science degree in Secondary Education. Though she never formally taught, she made education a priority for her children. Jean assisted her husband with his ServiceMaster business. Jean and her husband Jerry both loved music. They met in high school band. Jean played the clarinet, tenor sax, and the bugle. Jerry played the drums. Together they instilled that love of music in all of their children. Jean was a cellist with the Oshkosh Civic Symphony for 25 years.

Jean was a life long member of Our Savior's Evangelical Lutheran Church. She believed strongly in her faith and lived it. She held various positions in WELCA. She belonged to Mary Circle, Church Council, packaged layettes, directed a children's choir, played the bells, and was instrumental in establishing the church library. Jean was also a Camp Fire Girls' leader and taught the girls knitting, embroidery, and sewing. She loved reading, solving puzzles, biking, traveling, camping, playing games, get togethers at the family cottage, and riding her scooter in her later years. A highlight for Jean was her annual trip with her 4 daughters. She loved to research different places and plan for things to do there months in advance. She always brought lots of candy for the drive. Jean and her sister Ashlee had a strong bond. As they aged, they called each other faithfully every Friday until their hearing losses made it too difficult to converse.

Jean was preceded in death by her husband Jerry, her son Russell, her parents Roy and Shirley McKinnon, Step-mother-Velma McKinnon, father and mother-in-law Alfred and Mary Berger, brother and sister-in-law Alfred and Mildred Berger, and brother-in-law Ralph Sell.

Funeral services will be celebrated on Friday, August 29, 2025 at Christ Our Savior Lutheran Church, 1860 Wisconsin St. Oshkosh. Visitation will be held from 9-11 followed by an 11:00 service. Pastor Connie Weiss will officiate. A pri-

vate burial will take place at Sacred Heart Catholic Cemetery. In lieu of flowers, a memorial fund has been established and donations will be made to organizations dear to Jean's heart.

Louis Shawn Campbell

Louis Shawn Campbell, lovingly known as Shawn, passed away on August 16, 2025, at the age of 70. Born on May 18, 1955, in Oshkosh, Wisconsin, he was the beloved son of Normond and Mary Helen (Friedel) Campbell.



Shawn spent 30 years working as a skilled fabricator at United Plastic Fabricating, where his steady hands and strong work ethic left a lasting mark. He had a natural talent for fixing things and could often be found tinkering with projects, using his skill and patience to bring broken items back to life. Beyond his work, he found joy in the outdoors — tending gardens, caring for plants, and remaining ever curious about the world around him.

Though quiet by nature, Shawn had an inquisitive mind, a playful sense of humor, and a gentle spirit that shone brightly. Shawn's children looked up to him with deep respect, admiring his humility, steady strength, and the quiet wisdom he carried through life — even throughout his battle with dementia, where he held on tightly to his humor and memory of his loved ones.

Mom, we miss you already. You will forever be in our hearts.

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& CREMATORY

Shawn is survived by his wife, Rose Ragenoski-Campbell; his children, Brent Campbell, Brian (Melody) Ragenoski, and Tianni Campbell; his beloved grandchildren, Declan, Elijah & Rozlynn Campbell and Mila & Brody Ragenoski; and his siblings, Stephen (Juniette) Campbell, Edward (Jennifer) Campbell, Mary Jo (Jeffrey) Chriske, Carole (Joseph) Dorsch, and Margaret Campbell. He is preceded in death by his parents; Mary Helen (2019) & Normond (2007) Campbell, as well as his brothers, Greyling (1956), Paul (2009), and David (2019).

The family wishes to express heartfelt gratitude to all who cared for Shawn in his final years, offering kindness, compassion, and dignity along the way. Shawn will be remembered with love, laughter, and gratitude for the time we were blessed to share with him.

Visitation for Shawn will be held on Saturday, September 6, 2025, beginning at 12:00 PM and continuing until the start of the memorial service at 2:00 PM, at Konrad-Behlman Funeral Homes—Westside, 100 Lake Pointe Drive. Inurnment will follow at Tice Cemetery.

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Obituaries

Stanley Marhefke

Stanley Marhefke, 87, of Oshkosh, passed away peacefully at his home on



August 15, 2025, following a short battle with cancer. His family was gratefully able to exchange "I love yous" and prayers with him.

He was born May 14, 1938, at home in Oshkosh to the late Stanley and Gerturde (Gronowski) Marhefke, the youngest of 11 children. He attended St Josaphat School, Merrill Junior High, and Oshkosh High School. He enlisted in the US Navy in May 1956. He proudly and honorably served on the USS Bushnell, stationed at Key West, Fla., and operated throughout the Caribbean. He achieved the rank of Petty Officer 2nd Class.

On December 15, 1956, Stan married Mary Staudenraus at St Mary's Catholic Church of Oshkosh. Together they raised five children, have seven grandchildren and four great-grandchildren.

After his Naval service, they returned to Oshkosh, where Stan began a 41-year career as a carpenter. He first apprenticed with A.W. Jeske and attended classes at Fox Valley Technical School. In the late 1960s, he joined Giuliani Construction and helped build Park Plaza Mall. He then joined CR Meyer Construction, where he worked for over 30 years, becoming a superintendent and retiring in 2001. He was a Lifetime Member of the Wisconsin Carpenters Union, with over 50 years of membership.

His carpenter career began with building the former Shoreview Lanes bowling alley and concluded with being a supervisor for the new Jefferson Elementary School in Oshkosh. In between, he did new construction and renovation work for industrial and commercial projects, including building the Oshkosh Main Street bridge, hospitals, schools, banks, churches, paper mills, manufacturing plants, historical buildings, and homes,

including Paine's. His true talent was being a finish carpenter. He was extremely proud to have built the family's two homes.

Stan followed his father and brother, Ralph, into the carpenter trade. He was a natural at engineering and there did not seem to be any piece of equipment or tool he could not fix or adapt for specialized use. This was a hallmark of his strong independence.

Early hobbies included silversmithing, making southwest style jewelry, being a ham radio operator, bow hunting, fishing, and camping with his family. After retiring, he remained active, building a cabin in Tripoli, Wis., hunting, restoring tractors, growing raspberries, doing various building projects, reading mysteries, and woodworking. He was a skilled carver and truly enjoyed making gifts for family and friends, including wood toys for his grand and great-grandchildren. He loved his family and greatly enjoyed spending holidays and time with them.

Preceding him in death were his parents; in-laws Joseph and Marge Staudenraus; brother-in-laws, Philip Staudenraus and David Staudenraus; and nine siblings, Raymond (Violet), Regina (Rich) Knoblock, Clifford, Ralph (Marie & Pearl), Helen (Harold) Bahr, Bernard (Tess), Gertrude (Ted) Jensen, Mary Ann (Harold) Huebner, and Joan (Daryl) Wendt.

He is survived by his sister Elenore Francis; his wife of 68 years Mary; his five children, Cherie (John) Giesfeldt, Michael (Carrie), Lynne (Gary) Fenrich, Doug (Tracy), and Katherine. He was "Papa" to seven grandchildren, Hayley (Max), Josh (Morgan), Lauren (Matt), Emma, Matthew, Nathan, and Anna; and four great-grandchildren, Will, Harrison, Alaina, and Connell.

Services for Stan were held on Friday, August 22, 2025.

Donations can be made in his honor to the American Cancer Society.

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FUNERAL HOMES

Rebecca (Riley) Dahlke, Jamie (Greg) Dragolovich, and Stephanie (Lesley) Tavs; 22 great grandchildren; stepdaughter, Barb (Steve) Drossel; and mom's best friend, Jackie Goluba. She is preceded in death by her parents; husband, Jack Leden; son, Daniel Broderick; sister, Beverly (Francis) Schuster; sons-in-law, Carlos (Squeaky) Jewell and Dan Monroe; granddaughter, Jessica; and great-grandson, Tyler.

A mother's dream is to always stay close with her family and she certainly achieved that in this life. We are always going to smile when thinking of "Our Mom". She was an amazing mother, and we all feel so blessed that she made it to age 90.

Special thank you to staff at The Residence Assisted Living in Oshkosh – you always treated our mom like she was family. She also enjoyed all her friends there, it was wonderful to see how they all took care of each other and laughed together. We also would like to thank Bluestone for handling mom's medical needs and Preceptor Hospice for keeping her comfortable.

Per Dianne's wishes there will be a private graveside service at the Eureka Cemetery, followed by a family fish fry at The Farmstead in Eureka.

KONRAD-BEHLMAN
FUNERAL HOMES

Dianne E. Leden

Dianne E. Leden, age 90, passed away on August 22, 2025, at The Residence in Oshkosh, WI.



Dianne was born on June 7, 1935 to the late Archie & Lida (Drews) Johnson in Eureka, WI. In 1978 mom's friend, Dottie, introduced mom to her brother Jack

Leden. On October 13, 1979 Dianne and Jack married, and she moved out to the farm. Together they ran the Fondale Farm in Rogersville.

They enjoyed family gatherings, fishing, golfing, concerts, their lake home in Manitowish Waters, and card games with friends and neighbors. They traveled many miles to always attend grandchildren's sporting events. Dianne always enjoyed cooking, baking, reading & gardening. Later when she could no longer see, she enjoyed listening to audio books.

Dianne is survived by her children, David (Pam) Johnson, Susan Jewell, Russ (Brenda) Broderick, Linda Monroe, and Kathy (Dave) Tavs; grandchildren, Ashley (Tyler) Kasuboski, Paul Broderick, Brian (Tammy) Jewell, MJ Broderick, Sarah (Seth) Freiberg, Tyler (Tina) Broderick, Toni (Don) Broderick, Jackie (Bryan) Whitenack, Jennifer (Al) Foster,

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Garage/Estate Sales

Estate Sale by Midwest - Joyce Anderson: Aug 29th 9:00-5:00 and Aug 30th 9:00-4:00. 357 Sunnybrook Drive Oshkosh, WI.

Vintage glass wear, plus size clothing, furniture and many other items. 407 E River Dr Omro
9 AM - 5 PM Fri, Sat, Sun Aug 29, 30, 31.

HUGE CRAFT SALE: OVER 500 ITEMS FOR SALE, 9-2, FRIDAY & SATURDAY, August 15 & 16, August 29 & 30, 1747 SKYVIEW AVE. OSHKOSH.

Miscellaneous

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Date: 09-10-2025
Time: 2:15 PM

Legal Notice

**STATE OF WISCONSIN
CIRCUIT COURT
WINNEBAGO COUNTY
Case No. 25PR212**

**Notice to Creditors
(Informal Administration)**

IN THE MATTER OF THE
ESTATE OF

Russell L. Kilpela

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE:

1. An application for informational administration was filed.
2. The decedent, with date of birth May 31, 1965 and date of death January 8, 2025, was domiciled in Winnebago County, State of WI, with a mailing address of 1014 Mount Vernon St., Oshkosh, WI 54901.
3. All interested persons waived notice.
4. The deadline for filing a claim against the decedent's estate is November 11, 2025.
5. A claim may be filed at the Winnebago County Courthouse, Oshkosh, Wisconsin, Room 242.

DATE SIGNED: August 4, 2025

Form completed by:
Attorney Brian D. Hamill
Address
Dempsey Law Firm, LLP
210 N. Main Street, Suite 100
Oshkosh, WI 54901
Telephone
920-235-7300
Bar Number
1030537

Runs: August 20, 2025, August 27, 2025 and September 3, 2025

WNAXLP

**STATE OF WISCONSIN,
CIRCUIT COURT
WINNEBAGO COUNTY
IN THE MATTER OF THE
NAME CHANGE OF:
Gabrielle Janae Streeter
By (Petitioner) Gabrielle
Janae Streeter**

**Notice and Order for Name
Change Hearing
Case No. 2025CV000774**

NOTICE IS GIVEN:

A Petition was filed asking to change the name of the person listed above:

From:
First - Gabrielle
Middle - Janae
Last - Streeter
To:
First - Gabrielle
Middle - Janae
Last - Hereford
Birth Certificate:
First - Gabrielle
Middle - Janae
Last - Streeter

IT IS ORDERED:

This Petition will be heard in the Circuit Court of Winnebago County, State of Wisconsin:

Judge's Name: Michael Gibbs

Place: Winnebago County Courthouse, 415 Jackson St. Room 211, Oshkosh, WI 54901

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

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.

**NOTICE TO NEWSPAPER
AND PETITIONER:**

Notice of this hearing shall be given by publication as a Class 3 notice for three weeks in a row prior to the date of the hearing in the following newspaper - Oshkosh Herald.

**BY THE COURT:
DATE SIGNED: August 12,
2025
/s/ Hon. Michael Gibbs
Winnebago County Circuit
Court Judge, Branch 4**

Runs: August 20, 2025, August 27, 2025 and September 3, 2025.

WNAXLP

**STATE OF WISCONSIN,
CIRCUIT COURT
WINNEBAGO COUNTY
IN THE MATTER OF THE
NAME CHANGE OF:
Nicholas Kelly Blomberg**

**Notice and Order for Name
Change Hearing
Case No. 2025CV000785**

NOTICE IS GIVEN:

A Petition was filed asking to change the name of the person listed above:

From:
First - Nicholas
Middle - Kelly
Last - Blomberg
To:
First - Nicholas
Middle - Kelly
Last - Popp
Birth Certificate:
First - Nicholas
Middle - Kelly
Last - Blomberg

IT IS ORDERED:

This Petition will be heard in the Circuit Court of Winnebago County, State of Wisconsin:

Judge's Name: Hon. Daniel Bissett
Place: Winnebago County Courthouse, 415 Jackson St. Room 531, Oshkosh, WI 54901
Date: 09-18-2025
Time: 8:15 AM

If you require reasonable accommodations due to a disability to participate in the court process, please call 920-236-4912 prior to the scheduled court date. Please note that the court does not provide transportation.

**NOTICE TO NEWSPAPER
AND PETITIONER:**

Notice of this hearing shall be given by publication as a Class 3 notice for three weeks in a row prior to the date of the hearing in the following newspaper - Herald (Oshkosh).

BY THE COURT:

**DATE SIGNED: August 13,
2025
/s/ Hon. Daniel Bissett
Winnebago County Circuit
Court Judge, Branch 6**

Runs: August 20, 2025, August 27, 2025 and September 3, 2025.

WNAXLP

Kid Scoop

THE AWARD-WINNING PRINT & ONLINE FAMILY FEATURE



LEARNING IS OUT OF THIS WORLD WITH A NEWSPAPER

Can you save the spaceship Kid Scoop Explorer?

Look through the newspaper and find and cut out a number to glue to each star along the way to an unexplored, hospitable, and friendly planet. If the numbers add up to exactly 72, you have saved the captain, crew, and the Explorer!



MESSAGE FROM THE CAPTAIN:

We've got trouble. Our ship, *Kid Scoop Explorer*, has only enough fuel to travel **72 hours**. This call for help has been sent out to newspapers on Earth. The crew and I are confident *Kid Scoop* readers will rescue us!



Captain's Challenge

Choose one page of the newspaper. On that page find and circle one of each of the letters that spell the word "constellation."

Look at the design you have made. What could it be? Give your design a name.

Connect the circled letters like a dot to dot.

Now do the same thing with each of your spelling and/or vocabulary words.

Standards Link: Spelling: Students spell grade-level sight words correctly.

Alphabet Constellations

Read the above message from the captain. Find each of the letters that spell the word "adventure." Connect the letters with lines. What does your design look like?

Emergency Landing

The *Kid Scoop Explorer* has landed on an unexplored planet. When you open the door of the spaceship, a strange creature greets you.

"Go away!" says the creature. At the same time, it gives you a big hug!

What is going on? As soon as you use the code to learn the name of the planet, you'll understand.



● = A	● = O	□	□	□	□	□	□
● = C	● = S	□	□	□	□	□	□
● = M	● = T	□	□	□	□	□	□
● = N	● = Y	□	□	□	□	□	□

Open and Shut

Launch yourself into the newspaper and find a word that means the opposite of each of these words:

- over
- cold
- weak
- off
- front
- in
- dark

Standards Link: Vocabulary & Concept Development: Students understand and explain antonyms.

Extra! Extra! Homonym Search

Homonyms are words that sound the same but mean different things. Look through the newspaper to find a homonym for each of the following words:

SUN FOR KNEW TWO SAIL KNOT

Standards Link: Vocabulary & Concept Development: Students understand homonyms.

Kid Scoop Puzzler

Take Me to Your Leader!

Use pictures of people in the newspaper to find and cut out different parts of a person's face. Glue the parts here to create the face of the leader of the planet.



Standards Link: Reading Comprehension: Follow simple written directions. Visual Arts: Create collages using a variety of media.

Double Double Word Search

- CAPTAIN
- CODE
- CREATURE
- CREW
- DESIGN
- DOOR
- FUEL
- HELP
- HUG
- OPEN
- PLANET
- RESCUE
- SEARCH
- SPELL
- SUN

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

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

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

Kid Scoop Together:

Make a Scale Model of the Solar System

This activity from NASA explains how to use beads and string to make a model that shows the relative distances between the sun and planets in our solar system. For the full directions go to: jpl.nasa.gov/edu/resources/lesson-plan/solar-system-bead-activity

Start your scale model by cutting a 5.0 meter piece of string and tying the largest "sun" bead to one end using a double knot.

Using the distances in centimeters, measure the distance from the sun on the string to each planet.

Tie a colored bead in place for each planet using a double knot. *Note: The bead colors are rough approximations of the colors of the planets and the sun. However, you can use whatever color of beads you have handy.*

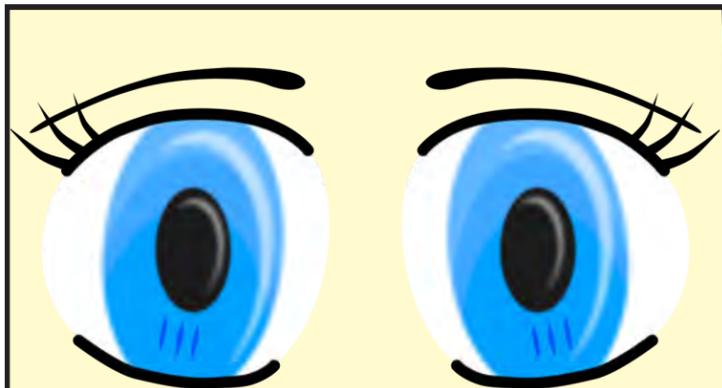
- Sun
0 cm
Yellow
- Mercury
4 cm
Solid Red
- Venus
7 cm
Cream
- Earth
10 cm
Clear Blue
- Mars
15 cm
Clear Red
- Jupiter
52 cm
Orange
- Saturn
96 cm
Clear Gold
- Uranus
192 cm
Dark Blue
- Neptune
300 cm
Light Blue



Write On!

Lift Off!

Imagine you will be traveling in space for a week. Find 10 things in the newspaper you'd like to take along with you.



ARE YOU READING THIS?



So Are 77.2% of your neighbors in Oshkosh

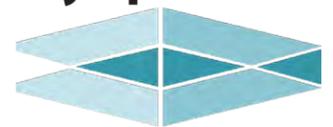
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