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School board passes budget early

\$10 million short-term borrowing approved

By Jonathan Richie
OSHKOSH HERALD

The Oshkosh Area School District has approved a budget for this school year.

Following the passing of the budget, the school board voted unanimously to approve short term borrowing in the amount of \$10 million.

OASD executive director of business services Drew Niehans told the Board of Education that if the line of credit was not approved, the district would be out of cash this week.

Niehans explained that because the district needs cash on hand to pay salaries, the district needs to approve a budget earlier than other districts. With the budget approved by the school board 4-2, the district was able to open a line of credit to bridge the gap between the start of the

school year and when state aid numbers are finalized.

Board members Kelly DeWitt and Tim Hess did not support the budget. They were the only opposing votes to the budget. Board president Beth Wyman was not at the meeting.

DeWitt stated the taxpayers are facing enough hardship and she has not seen the changes promised by the administration

SEE **Budget passed** ON PAGE 10

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Photo by Michael Cooney

Welcoming fist bump

Oshkosh Area School District Superintendent Dr. Bryan Davis greets students Sept. 2 on opening day at Oakwood Elementary. He noted that district enrollment appears steady compared to last year, with final numbers expected in the coming weeks.

Housing book used as guideline for potential developers

By Jonathan Richie
OSHKOSH HERALD

Oshkosh has introduced a new tool to share with developers, aiming to increase the number of homes built in the city.

The Oshkosh Housing Book will be used by the city to show potential developers what is possible in the different-sized lots.

These odd-sized lots are described by the Oshkosh Community Development department as infill lots. They are often smaller, narrow lots that are vacant. The Oshkosh Redevelopment Authority (RDA) has purchased a number of these infill lots

over the years while the design book was in development.

The City of Oshkosh's Planning Services Division worked to develop the book in collaboration with the office of Jonathan Tate, a design and urban planning company based in New Orleans. The book will be shown to developers who are interested in building single family houses on the RDA infill lots.

"The intention of the book is to provide guidance as to how to create a home that blends with our community here in Oshkosh," said Sara Rutkowski, who is leading

the community development department as the interim director.

One goal of the book is to ensure the houses built on the RDA infill lots match other homes in the area. City staff has been making the point since the design book idea was introduced years ago that the new houses need to match the neighborhood they are being built in.

One example of infill lots that will utilize the Oshkosh Housing Book is the former Washington School site. Last year the Oshkosh Area School District sold the school to the city, then the city partnered with

Habitat for Humanity of Oshkosh.

The approximately 2.6 acre lot will be divided into 18 lots for single family houses. Nine of the lots will be designated for Habitat for Humanity homes and the remaining nine lots will be sold to private developers who will utilize the housing book to chose the right house for the area.

"The book itself will not be attached to the bid for the work on the former Washington School site, but the housing specs that were created and passed by the RDA

SEE **Housing book** ON PAGE 10

Watch Local Attorney GEORGE CURTIS discuss your rights and freedoms every week!

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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

It is the policy of the Oshkosh Herald to correct all errors of fact. For correction information, call 920-385-4512.

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Library hosting entertainment programs

Oshkosh Herald

Guests are invited to step back in time and experience the grit, spirit and song of the Great Depression era as Oshkosh Public Library hosts an evening of historical storytelling and live performance.

The program will be from 6:30 to 7:30 p.m. Sept. 18 under the iconic Dome.

Author, historian and performer Bill Jamerson brings history to life in Dollar-a-Day Boys, his one-man show that celebrates the legacy of the Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC), a New Deal program that reshaped America's landscape and its future. Dressed in authentic CCC uniform, Jamerson's multimedia performance blends original music, dramatic readings and firsthand accounts from CCC veterans collected over three decades.

Jamerson's engaging style and theatrical flair illuminate the lives of the young men who joined President Franklin D. Roosevelt's Tree Army, planting billions of trees, building parks and restoring natural resources across the country. In Wisconsin, 92,000 members helped shape landmarks like Rib Mountain, Devil's Lake and Copper Falls state parks.

Through toe-tapping jigs and heartfelt ballads, Jamerson's songs evoke the camaraderie, hardship and humor of camp life.

Railroad memories

A presentation about railroad memories in Oshkosh will be held Sept. 16 at Oshkosh Public Library.

Local historian Paul Spanbauer will

Library building project gets underway

Oshkosh Herald

Oshkosh Public Library will delay opening until noon on Monday to begin building improvements.

Modular glass walls will be installed in two areas of the library as the first step to improve spaces and services for teens and job seekers. This phase of the project is expected to be completed by Sept. 26 and no additional building closures are planned.

This installation is part of a larger effort to refresh the first floor Teen Zone and create a JobPod on the library's second floor. JobPod is a self-contained unit with a complete menu of reliable resources and



Submitted photo

Bill Jamerson will be performing at 6:30 p.m. Sept. 18 at Oshkosh Public Library.

share a trip through time with stories and a collection of images, including the trains, locomotives and rail lines that once powered the city's growth.

Local history buffs and railroad enthusiasts are invited to enjoy the presentation, which will start at 6:30 p.m.

Gaelic harpist

An Evening with Gaelic Harpist Jeff Pockat from 6 to 7:30 p.m. Sept. 15 will showcase the beauty of Irish tradition under the library's Dome.

Pockat is a Wisconsin musician and composer who will take listeners on a

tour through the history of the Gaelic harp in Ireland and Scotland. As both a talented performer and passionate historian, Pockat will share the traditions, players and history that shaped this ancient instrument.

Guests can enjoy live music and storytelling that illuminate the harp's role in Gaelic culture, from its origins to its enduring legacy. This program is ideal for music lovers, history enthusiasts and anyone interested in Celtic heritage.

Admission is free and no registration is required. For more information, visit oshkoshlibrary.org or call 920-236-5205.

Back in the Day



Oshkosh history by the Winnebago County Historical Society

Sept. 4, 1901

Local Men Arrested for Illegal Fishing:

A father and son from Oshkosh and a Menasha man were captured by a team of Deputy Wardens at Paine's Point, north of Oshkosh at six o'clock this morning for illegal fishing. The men had in their possession ten gill nets and 300 pounds of fish. The men offered no resistance and appeared in municipal court this afternoon. Each of them was issued a fine of \$29.36. The value of the property captured by the wardens equaled \$125. Game Warden Knudsen said he has been aware of the illegal fishing operation of the group all summer long. He and his colleagues captured the trio at the first opportunity by lying in wait all night long in the vicinity of their fishing shanty.

Source: Oshkosh Northwestern, Sept. 4, 1901

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September 20th
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Photo from Discover Oshkosh

New monument

A celebration was held Aug. 30 to Aug. 31 at the Hmong National Labor Day Festival honoring the 50th anniversary of Hmong resettlement in the United States. A new monument was unveiled and will be a permanent memorial at Winnebago County Park.

Walk to Defeat ALS to be held at Menominee Park

Oshkosh Herald

Registration for the 2025 Walk to Defeat ALS Northeast Wisconsin is now open. The event to support living with ALS will be held at 10 a.m. Sept. 20 at the Menominee Park - Kiwanis Shelter.

ALS, or amyotrophic lateral sclerosis also known as Lou Gehrig's disease, is a progressive neurodegenerative disease affecting nerve cells in the brain and spinal cord. ALS robs people of the ability to walk, talk and eventually breathe. Through an extensive network, the ALS Association is on the ground in all 50 states providing support for people living with ALS and their loved ones by ensuring they have access to critical care programs and services.

Walk to Defeat ALS is the world's largest signature event focused on supporting people living with ALS and their families. This year marks the 25th anniversary of the annual Walk to Defeat ALS. Through

Walk to Defeat ALS fundraising efforts, the ALS Association has been able to accelerate the fight against ALS by funding the development of new ALS treatments, by discovering new ALS genes, by creating new global research collaborations and by significantly expanding access to ALS care.

Walk to Defeat ALS events are more than fundraisers - it's a movement that organizers say unites the community in support of those affected by ALS. Many who participate have a loved one battling ALS while others participate in memory of a loved one who has lost their fight. Some participate simply because they want to make ALS a livable disease for everyone.

Participants are encouraged to fundraise to advance the fight against ALS. Registered participants who raise \$100 or more will receive a commemorative T-shirt. To learn more, to register or donate, visit als.org/WalkNortheastWisconsin.

African Violet Show and Sale scheduled

Oshkosh Herald

The Wisconsin Council of African Violet Clubs will hold its annual show and sale Sept. 20 and Sept. 21 at St. Jude the Apostle Church Hall, 531 Knapp St. in Oshkosh.

This year the council will have special guest Randy Deutsch from South Dakota giving a presentation on judging gesneriads at 4 p.m. Sept. 20. For anyone who has ever wondered how plants are judged in a show, the council said this will be a great opportunity to learn.

As always, there will be a large selection of African Violets and related plants available for purchase as well as on exhibit. President Doug Kindschuh noted that the event will be open at 10 a.m. Sept. 20 and will close at 4 p.m. The hall is open 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. Sept. 21 and admission and parking is free both days.

Member Cathy Heider says anyone interested in growing African Violets is welcome to attend the show. Wisconsin Council of African Violet Clubs is affiliated with the African Violet Society of America.



We remember.

SEPT 10
Last of '25!

Brews by the Waterside
Menominee Park • 5-9pm
Live music, food trucks, craft beer, and more. Free & open to all ages.

SEPT 11

EAA Speaker Series: Remembering 9/11
EAA Museum • 7pm
A special evening reflecting on the events of Sept 11, 2001. Honored guest: David Norman, a first responder that fateful day. **Free for first responders, veterans, and EAA members. \$5 for nonmembers.**

SEPT 12

Inside Out Movie
The Time Community Theater 7pm
Doors open at 6:30pm
A Pixar favorite in the historic theater in Downtown Oshkosh. \$5 admission

SEPT 13

Oshkosh's Funniest Comedian Finale featuring headliner Josh Blue
Oshkosh Arena • 7pm
Feel the spirit of competition as five locals take the stage for their chance to earn bragging rights as "Oshkosh's Funniest Comedian."

SEPT 13

House of Heroes 30th Anniversary • 5-8pm
Enjoy pizza, sodas, and all of your favorite House of Heroes crew as we celebrate 30 years of business downtown!



Scan here for the full list of community events this weekend and beyond.

Discover oshkosh
DiscoverOshkosh.com

County Board considers \$3.5M housing loan program

ARPA funds could support new home construction

By Bethanie Gengler
OSHKOSH HERALD

Winnebago County commissioners are moving forward with allocating \$3.5 million from the county's Spirit Fund to a revolving loan program aimed at boosting local housing development.

Two ARPA (American Rescue Plan Act) Strategy and Outcomes Commission meetings last month included discussion about the best use of the Spirit Fund and the county's role in dealing with a growing housing shortage.

At an Aug. 22 meeting, Housing Grants Specialist Lu Scheer wrote in a committee item report that there is a severe shortage of housing, with Wisconsin needing nearly 227,000 new units and the U.S. facing a shortfall of more than 12.5 million homes.

In Winnebago County, "we will need to create around 10,000 new housing units in the next decade," Scheer wrote.

Tricia Rathermel, president and chief executive at Greater Oshkosh Economic Development Corporation, told the commission that the county's housing supply isn't meeting the needs of the workforce.

"We are recruiting people to our area that cannot find housing here, and either they're working here and living other places, or they're just simply leaving our communities because they can't find affordable housing," she said.

Other counties have committed significant ARPA dollars to housing. Milwaukee County dedicated \$15 million

in ARPA funds to affordable housing, including gap financing for tax credit projects, rehabilitating tax-foreclosed homes and emergency energy assistance. Outagamie County invested \$3.5 million in ARPA funds for affordable housing through a grant program, creating 98 new housing units for low- to moderate-income households

Under the proposed revolving loan program, Winnebago County will offer low-interest loans to developers and communities for housing projects, covering costs like property acquisition and pre-development expenses. Loans will be repaid and recycled into future projects, creating a revolving fund, with interest supporting administration and potential community grants or reinvestment into the fund.

The program comes with a requirement that municipalities contribute to early-stage costs, such as engineering or environmental studies. Priority will go to projects that provide true affordability rather than just developer profit, according to Scheer. An advisory board will oversee applications, evaluate risk, and report regularly to ensure transparency and alignment with county priorities.

The Spirit Fund is a special account created under former County Executive Jon Doemel to hold federal ARPA pandemic relief dollars. The county reclassified the ARPA money as "lost revenue" from the pandemic and moved it into the Spirit Fund to be spent on local projects

that reflect the original intent of ARPA.

The county was awarded \$33.3 million in ARPA funds, split between payments in 2021 and 2022. As of Aug. 22, about \$11.7 million remained, including about \$3.5 million in accrued interest. The funds are held in a money market account earning 4.1% interest monthly.

County Executive Gordon Hintz told commissioners last month that the county has been working to develop the revolving loan program for a year. In June, the Industrial Development Board (IDB) committed \$1 million to the proposed program.

Hintz said the \$3.5 million the county would commit comes from the interest earned on the ARPA dollars.

"The amount that we're earmarking for this new revolving loan initiative is interest that was accrued on the dollars, and allows us to experiment with a program where the risk is lower because the money comes back, is leveraged with IDB money and helps us accomplish new housing needs, net new construction, and meet some of the economic goals of the county," he said.

Hintz said there was indication from the County Board that the remaining Spirit Fund money would be used for county projects and not for municipal or nonprofit projects based on the previous allocation of the ARPA funds.

"I would suggest that a county initiative, especially one that replenishes the funding, and that it doesn't go away, is something that supports the mission of the county and goals that we're trying to accomplish," he told commissioners.

Among the discussion was whether the Spirit Fund should be used for housing

or reserved for deferred maintenance and capital projects. The county faces \$67 million in deferred maintenance and \$350 million in Master Plan proposals.

Hintz said allocating a portion of available funds to immediate needs would reduce project costs, but very minimally, and the county needs to act proactively on new construction and housing, or risk falling behind neighboring counties.

Commissioner Don Merkes, who is the former mayor of Menasha, told commissioners to look at the big picture, stating that the only way to fix and balance the county budget is to grow the county.

"So we should really be looking for things that help grow that value of our county, and help our cities and other municipalities grow the value of their communities, which in fact increases the value of the county," he said at the meeting.

Merkes made a motion to amend the revolving loan program resolution to specify that in awarding funds, additional consideration should be given to projects that promote the building of homeowner equity, incorporate mixed-income housing and provide workforce housing opportunities for households earning up to 140% of the county median income. His amendment also noted that the \$3.5 million allocation comes from the Spirit Fund's accrued interest. Both the amendment and resolution were approved by the commission.

The County Board is expected to consider the resolution authorizing the revolving loan program at its Oct. 21 meeting. Once the program is approved, the county plans to hire a nonprofit to manage the new housing loan fund.



Rathermel

Tickets available for Altrusa Club's Quarter Rama

Oshkosh Herald

Altrusa Club of Oshkosh will hold its Quarter Rama at LaSure's Banquet Hall, 3125 S. Washburn St. from 9:30 a.m. to 2 p.m. on Oct. 5 with brunch served at

10:30 a.m. and bidding at 11:30 a.m.

Tickets cost \$30 and must be purchased by Sept. 24 and are available at Travel Leaders, West Pointe Bank and from Oshkosh Altrusa members.

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School goes on lockdown for BB gun incident

Oshkosh Herald

Oshkosh West High School went on lockdown Friday after a group of students reported seeing what they believed to be a handgun near the school.

Students reported to staff and police they believed they saw two students handling a handgun around lunch time at the skate park across the street from the school.

The school went into secure status per district policy and as a precaution. Secure status means all students and staff remain inside while school activities continue.

Oshkosh Police responded to the scene and quickly determined it was not a real firearm, Sgt. Kyle Roberts said. A BB gun/facsimile firearm was recovered, and Roberts said four juveniles were identified as the ones who displayed the BB gun/facsimile firearm.

The juveniles are being referred on criminal charges, Roberts said.

"We are incredibly proud of the students who did the right thing by immediately reporting this concerning behavior to police and our staff. Their quick actions allowed us to respond swiftly and ensure the safety of our campus," West Principal Becky Montour said in an email to parents regarding the incident.

"Please talk with your children about the importance of never bringing any type of weapon, including facsimiles like BB guns, to school or near school grounds," Montour said. "Remind them that any object that looks like a weapon can cause fear and lead to serious consequences."

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As Titans resurge, UWO has promises to keep

The University of Wisconsin-Oshkosh stands today at the threshold of a remarkable transformation. I write not just to mark our opening weeks as we welcome the new Titans Class of 2029 but to also express two profound sentiments: gratitude for the resolve that has carried us through formidable challenges and a bold embrace of what's to come, defining the future of higher education in Wisconsin and beyond.

Over the past decade, our university has weathered challenges that tested our resilience — financial deficits that once reached \$18.5 million, declining reserves and the uncertainty of shifting demographics. Yet, through unity, determination and unflinching resolve, UW-Oshkosh has emerged stronger. This year marks the first time in recent memory that we have not only closed the budget gap but also set our course toward a financially sustainable and fiscally stable future.

Such progress is not merely financial. It reflects the grit of our community — the faculty whose scholarship inspires, the staff whose dedication sustains us, the students whose brilliance of mind and pursuit of dreams gives purpose to our lives, the alumni whose affection and support remains steadfast, and the elected leaders and Board of Regents whose partnership and guidance affirms our mission and enables our progress towards achieving that mission. Together, we have proven that the Wisconsin spirit is not defined by obstacles, but by the courage with which we overcome them and boldly surge to greater heights.

The class of 2029 joins a university in



Manohar Singh

UWO Chancellor

resurgence. They step into a community where morale is soaring, pride is palpable and opportunity abounds. They enter a campus that is reshaping itself — not for survival, but for assuming leadership to shape the future of our world. Our new academic structures, restored financial stability, and bold strategic vision position UWO to be at the forefront of reimagining public higher education for the 21st century and the role it will play in keeping the promise foundational to the “Wisconsin Idea.”

We will soon embark on a new strategic planning process that will unite voices from across and beyond our campus. It will be inclusive, ambitious and action-oriented — designed to make our education more accessible, affordable and purposeful serving all in achieving their livelihood, dignity and pride. It will prepare students not only for meaningful careers but for lives focused on leaving a positive impact. It will align our work with the emerging social, economic and technological realities of our time.

We envision UWO as a community that educates for both prosperity and purpose. This means pioneering programs in emerging fields like artificial intelligence, cybersecurity, homeland security, precision medicine, advanced manufacturing, and sustainable and economically

rewarding agriculture. It means ensuring that every community — urban and rural alike — benefits from our innovation, whether through telehealth, early college access or partnerships. We will extend opportunity to underserved school districts, to businesses of every type and size, to family farms and innovative agricultural enterprises.

It also means preparing students for the revolutionary transformations ahead. As the World Economic Forum reminds us, the coming decade may displace 92 million jobs, even as it creates 170 million new ones. Our responsibility is clear: to equip our students for the jobs of tomorrow, to provide reskilling opportunities for today's workforce, and to ensure that change brings not despair, but revitalization and prosperity for all.

Our strategic pillars are clear: bringing education to more households through enrollment growth, ensuring sustainable financial stability through prudent financial management and being more relevant to our communities by forging meaningful community partnerships. We will expand access to higher education among Wisconsin students studying in high schools representing rural and remote areas, focus on economically underserved and first-generation learners. We will also accelerate our efforts towards launching graduate and international programs to diversify enrollment and revenues. We are already creating new pathways through executive education, summer institutes and nontraditional learning. We believe in investing in student success initiatives — from scholarships to mental health resources to academic support — ensur-

ing that no student's dream is broken by financial hardship or personal struggle.

Equally, we will deepen our commitment as a partner to Wisconsin's workforce. From advancing dairy and agricultural innovation to addressing water quality and environmental challenges, our research will remain rooted in community relevance. Our commitment is to be present in every corner of the region and state — supporting health, education, technology, industry and tourism — so that together, we build a more prosperous Wisconsin and a stronger nation.

The resurgence of UWO is not the work of one leader, one office or even one campus. It is the work of a community bound together by shared vision, love for our state, and pride for this nation's promise and potential. It is the work of Titans, mighty in spirit, clear in vision and unyielding in resolve.

We are building more than a university. We are shaping a future in which education is a catalyst for economic growth, social mobility and national strength. We are forging a Wisconsin that thrives and a nation that leads. And we are doing it together.

As we begin this new chapter, let us carry forward our mission of education and discovery, not as an end in itself, but as a torch that lights the path toward a stronger, more prosperous and more united future.

The University of Wisconsin-Oshkosh has endured. The University of Wisconsin-Oshkosh is rising. And now, the University of Wisconsin-Oshkosh will be leading.

Retired County Educators and staff set meeting

Oshkosh Herald

The Winnebago County Retired Educators' Association invites all retired school employees who live in or have worked in Winnebago County to its meeting Sept. 18 at Delta Restaurant, 515 N. Sawyer St. in Oshkosh.

Registration starts at 11 a.m. followed by a short business meeting at 11:30 before lunch. At about 1 p.m. the program will feature Michael McArthur, local history and genealogy librarian from Osh-

kosh Public Library. He will speak about the history of the Athearn Hotel, a prominent landmark in Oshkosh known as one of the largest hotels in Wisconsin back in the late 1800's.

The chapter includes retired teachers, administrators, secretaries, custodians, instructional aides, counselors, bus drivers, cooks and school nurses.

Those interested can email rolson3430@aol.com by Friday for more information.

Local college graduates

The University of Wisconsin-Stout graduated 1,174 students May 10, with 952 undergraduate and 222 graduate school students. The students from Oshkosh include Matthew Bishop, EdD in career and technical education leadership; Julia Jacques, BFA game design and development-art and Riley Wuest, BS computer science.

Students from Oshkosh who graduated from Milwaukee School of Engineering

this spring include Sean Cook who received a bachelor of science in computer science, Dylan Konop who received a master of science in engineering management and Brayden Pluchinsky who received a bachelor of science in electrical engineering with honors.

Nkechi Miriam Nwaogaraku of Oshkosh graduated this summer from Iowa State University with a master of engineering in mechanical engineering.



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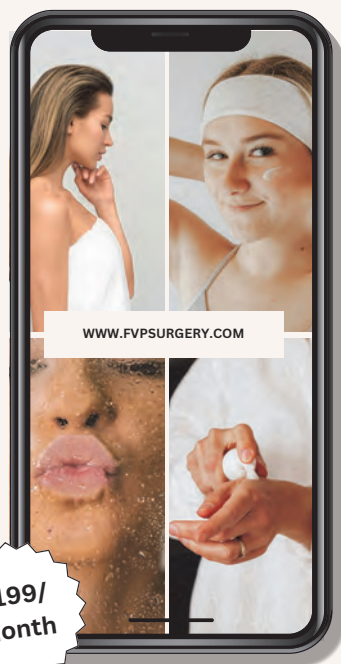
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New school year brings opportunities to shape Oshkosh's future

By Shannon Seaman
OSHKOSH CHAMBER EDUCATION AND TALENT DIRECTOR

As school bells ring in a new academic year, Oshkosh is stepping into a season full of promise — and possibility. With students returning to classrooms and programs ramping up across the city, now is the perfect time for businesses and individuals to get involved in shaping our future.

The Oshkosh Chamber together with the Oshkosh Area School District (OASD) is leading a variety of initiatives that connect education, innovation and workforce development. These programs are not only enriching students' lives but also strengthening the local economy and talent pipeline.

New this fall is Amplify's Tech & Tell from 3:30 to 6:30 p.m. Oct. 8 at Lakeshore Park. This celebration of innovation invites tech creators, entrepreneurs and curious minds to showcase their cool tech in a fun, interactive environment. With live music, local food and hands-on tech displays, it's a great way to connect the community with the future of technology. Exhibitors and guests are welcome.

Also on the horizon is the return of the Future YOU Career Expo Nov. 11 at the



Sunnyview Expo Center. Oshkosh Chamber is inviting businesses to take part in this hands-on event that introduces Oshkosh's eighth grade students to a wide range of career paths through interactive exhibits and real-world engagement. For the first time, high school students will be included as well, expanding the reach and impact of this already powerful experience.

Beyond events, the Adopt-A-School program continues to build meaningful partnerships between local schools and businesses. Schools submit wish lists of needed items — from classroom supplies to equipment upgrades — and businesses can choose to support individual items or adopt an entire school. These partnerships help meet immediate needs while fostering long-term relationships that benefit students and the broader community. The goal is to have all schools matched up for the school year and there are lots of open opportunities to participate at this time.

Covey slated to hold first open house on Sept. 20

Oshkosh Herald

Covey, a nonprofit organization dedicated to helping adults with disabilities and their families, is hosting its first open house at Eastman Respite House.

The event will be from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Sept. 20 at 1325 Eastman St.

The organization invites community members to learn more about Covey's

care programs, services and resources — all while participating in fun, family-friendly activities.

All are welcome to grab a bite to eat, listen to a live DJ and enjoy outdoor games and activities. Come see what Covey has to offer, and experience the culture of caring between staff members, volunteers and participants.

But the need goes deeper than donations. Oshkosh schools are facing critical staffing shortages in Career and Technical Education (CTE) programs — especially in areas like construction, manufacturing and engineering. These programs provide students with hands-on experience and real-world skills, but they cannot continue without support.

The Oshkosh Chamber and OASD are calling on our community to help — not just as sponsors, but as mentors, guest speakers and classroom partners. Your presence in the classroom can make a lasting impact, helping students gain confidence, direction and the skills they

need to succeed.

Whether you're a business owner, tradesperson, tech expert or simply someone who cares about the future of Oshkosh, there's a place for you in this work. We are actively seeking participation in all of these programs — to share knowledge, offer support and help build a stronger, more connected community.

This school year brings more than just new classes and fresh notebooks — it brings a renewed opportunity to invest in the next generation. Let's work together to make it count.

Email Shannon@oshkoshchamber.com to learn more.

FVTC receives workforce training grants

Oshkosh Herald

Fox Valley Technical College (FVTC) is the recipient of multiple Workforce Advancement Training (WAT) grants from the Wisconsin Technical College System.

These grants, totaling nearly \$950,000, are part of the state's \$5 million annual investment in workforce development and will support customized training programs designed to upskill employees and enhance business performance across Northeast Wisconsin.

The WAT grants will fund training in high-demand areas such as manufacturing, leadership development, health care, transportation, maintenance and quality operations. Programs will focus on technical skills, safety, automation, data analytics and strategic planning—tailored to meet the evolving needs of local industries.

"These grants allow us to deliver high-impact, industry-specific training that directly supports the needs of our

regional employers," said Kari Meixl, director of business and industry services at FVTC. "They also greatly help employers offset the cost of high-quality training, making it more accessible to invest in their workforce and stay competitive in today's fast-changing environment."

Global technology company Valmet is one of more than 100 local employers who have already benefited from training facilitated by FVTC's Business & Industry Services.

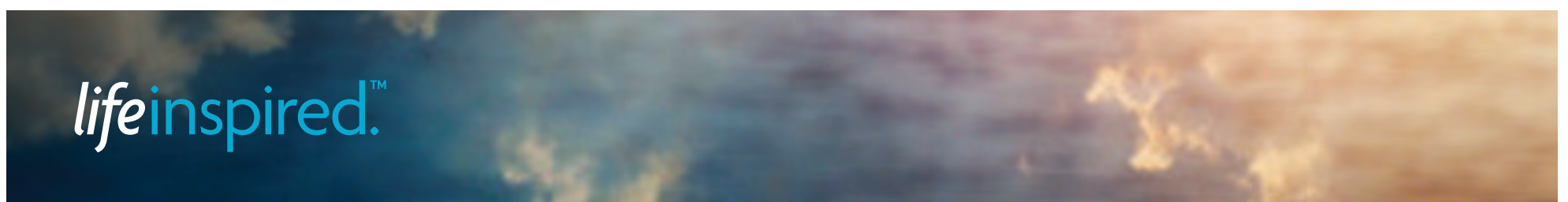
"The knowledge and skills which our employees have gained at FVTC to teach classes (Train-the-Trainer Course) have met and exceeded our expectations," said Marc Grassel, Valmet training manager. "In addition, the cost is considerably less than other options, making FVTC a great value."

For more information about training opportunities through FVTC's Business and Industry Services, visit fvtc.edu/bis, call 920-735-2525 or email bi.services@fvtc.edu.



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Oshkosh woman adds to extensive list of charges

Oshkosh Herald

An Oshkosh woman's criminal woes continue as she balances four open felony cases while in Winnebago County Jail.

Katie M. Niemuth sat in Judge Michael Gibbs courtroom recently in a blue Winnebago County Jail uniform. She entered a plea of not guilty to the newest charges she is alleged to have committed. In all four cases, Niemuth faces a total of 20 felony charges.

Niemuth, 41, on Aug. 19 entered not guilty pleas for a number of felony bail jumping charges and theft charges in her two newest cases. A plea/sentencing hearing is scheduled in November in an effort to resolve the cases.

Niemuth was first arrested and charged in July 2024 on allegations she made dozens of fraudulent billings totaling almost \$300,000 from her former employer, Oshkosh Wellness Center.

While out on bond and waiting for the case to progress, Niemuth was arrested on additional theft in a business setting charges. She was also charged with possession of methamphetamine and posses-

sion/illegally obtained prescription last February.

In April and June of this year, Niemuth was charged with several counts of felony bail jumping. Other details from these cases include Niemuth allegedly hired an attorney with money stolen from a previous employer. Once the attorney learned of where the money came from, he recused himself from the case and returned the money.

During one of Niemuth's arrests, she was allegedly found to be in possession of medical documents that her former employer said she had no right to possess. These documents allegedly had client medical information and personal data like social security numbers.

Niemuth is represented by attorney Michael Lim in these cases.

In June, Niemuth posted bond and told the court she was in treatment at a facility. A letter from the treatment facility, which

was fake, eventually led to Oconto County officials arresting Niemuth on a warrant.

Niemuth was placed back into Winnebago County Jail after posting bond and fleeing the county.

During a June 25 hearing, District Attorney Eric Sparr argued Niemuth's bond should be raised based on jail communications between her and another man. Sparr said Niemuth promised the man sexual favors and five acres of land if he paid her bond.

Sparr said Niemuth was a "tremendous risk to anyone in her path and says whatever is necessary" and that her actions "make a mockery out of the criminal justice system."

The land was actually half an acre and belonged to Niemuth's boyfriend. The man did eventually post her bond, and the two traveled to Townsend, where he lived.

In two of the four open felony cases Niemuth told the court her address was on Sky Ranch Avenue in Oshkosh. However, in the cases involving methamphetamine Niemuth's address was in Redgranite.

Sparr added he believes this was to avoid the drug-free monitoring. Niemuth's boy-

friend told authorities that address in Redgranite is not a residence but a hunting cabin.

The letter the court received from the treatment facility was forged and Niemuth was not in treatment, Sparr said.

Due to these recent events the district attorney argued Niemuth's bond should be raised to a more substantial amount.

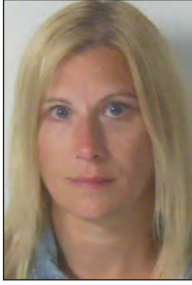
"She will victimize whoever she needs to stay out of custody," Sparr said.

As a result of the hearing Court Commissioner Eric Heywood raised Niemuth's bond from \$50,000 to \$250,000.

In July, Niemuth wrote a letter to Heywood requesting Lim be removed as her attorney. She wrote that she had time to talk to Lim about the cases and that she was not receiving adequate legal defense.

Niemuth later withdrew that request and Lim continues to represent Niemuth on her four felony cases. During last month's hearing Lim requested 90 days to work on a plea deal.

Niemuth is scheduled to be back in court for a plea hearing for all four cases in November.



Niemuth

Oshkosh man found guilty in 2024 hit and run case

Oshkosh Herald

An Oshkosh man has been found guilty of killing a pedestrian and fleeing the scene in his vehicle while delivering pizzas in January 2024.

Mark P. Radley, 71, pled no contest to one count of hit and run involve death and one count of felony bail jumping. Tim Hogan, Radley's attorney, stated for both charges the defense was seeking proba-

tion, 10 years for the hit and run and three years for the bail jumping.

Judge Michael Gibbs found Radley guilty and advised him of his rights before setting a sentencing hearing. Gibbs also explained he can sentence Radley to the maximum sentence for both counts, which would be 15 years in prison followed by 10 years of extended supervision.

Radley struck Zachary Hagar, 38, with his vehicle near the intersection of Ohio Street and Third Avenue just after 6:30 p.m. on Jan. 10, 2024. When EMS personnel arrived, they attempted lifesaving measures, but Hagar was declared deceased shortly after.

Authorities were able to review surveillance camera footage and identify the silver minivan with a license registered to Radley. Officers located the vehicle and noted damage to the front.

Radley was a pizza delivery driver and his manager reported he had several deliveries that day. Video shows Radley leaving with pizza boxes at 6:11 p.m. and returning at 6:40 p.m. with "significant damage" to the front end of his vehicle. He got out of the vehicle and inspected the damage before going into the restaurant.

Police asked Radley about damage to the van, and he acknowledged striking

something while driving. When officers asked what happened after he hit the object, Radley responded, "Just kept going, I guess, didn't know what it was."

In June 2024, Radley was spotted drinking at a bar and authorities were told he comes in weekly. Police later came to the bar, and he was arrested after admitting to drinking alcohol, a violation of his bond.

Radley then picked up an additional felony bail jumping charge in Winnebago County.

Hagar's family has filed a wrongful death lawsuit against Radley, his insurance company and Radley's employer at the time of the crash – the pizza restaurant in Winnebago County. The suit alleges Radley was negligent while driving and that his former employer should have known about his prior drunk driving convictions as well as his dangerous and escalating driving history.

Both the criminal case and the civil case are being held in Gibbs' courtroom.

Radley is scheduled to be sentenced in the criminal cases on Nov. 21.



Radley

Motorcyclist killed in Sunday crash

Oshkosh Herald

Police are investigating a fatal crash on Sunday evening that claimed a 27-year-old Appleton man's life.

The Oshkosh Police Department said the incident between a motorcycle and light truck occurred at 6:39 p.m. at the intersection of High Avenue and Wisconsin Street.

The motorcycle was traveling eastbound on High Avenue and the light truck was southbound on Wisconsin Street when police said the crash occurred.

The motorcycle driver was pronounced deceased at the scene. According to police, two others were transported to a local hospital for treatment due to injuries sustained from the accident. The investigation is ongoing.

The intersection was closed for approximately four hours following the incident. Members of the OPD crash investigation team, criminal investigation division, and auxiliary police responded to the crash. The UW-Oshkosh Police Department also provided assistance at the scene.

US 45 bridge work slated to begin Monday

Oshkosh Herald

A project to improve the US 45 Brooks Road overpass in the towns of Vinland and Oshkosh is scheduled to begin Monday. Construction is expected to finish by early November.

Brooks Road at US 45 will be closed during the work. US 45 will have lane and shoulder closures.

The project will replace the existing retaining wall on the east side of the Brooks

Road overpass at US 45. According to the Wisconsin Department of Transportation, the retaining wall is deteriorating. Repairs to the retaining wall system will extend the service life of the structure and decrease future maintenance costs, WisDOT said.

Gov. Tony Evers earlier this week signed a \$950,000 contract for the project. Lunda Construction from Hilbert is the prime contractor.

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County provides information about vaccinations

By Anya Kelley
OSHKOSH HERALD

The Center for Disease Control has confirmed 1,431 cases of measles in the U.S., the largest outbreak since it was declared eliminated in 2000.

Wisconsin has 24 confirmed cases as of last week. All of the current cases are in Oconto County and have been confirmed to be unvaccinated people. Two cases have resulted in hospitalization, but no deaths have been reported yet.

As childhood vaccination rates continue to decline across the country, Wisconsin ranks as the state with the third lowest vaccine uptake rate leading public health offices to gear up for a potential public health crisis.

Jaci Grignon, the communicable disease supervisor for Winnebago County Public Health, said the number one goal for the county is to not see vaccine rates decrease.

"It's different for each disease when we're looking to get herd immunity," Grignon said. "Mainly our main goal is just, at this point, not to have rates decrease. At least to not have a decrease."

Winnebago County Public Health offers two federally funded programs to assist low-income people and families access vaccinations, the Vaccines for Children

(VFC) and the Vaccines for Adults (VFA) programs. Vaccines can be administered onsite for no cost and appointments can be made by calling the office.

Last year, Winnebago County Public Health used the Routine Immunizations Through Community Engagement (RICE) grant to help increase vaccine accessibility by partnering with clinics around the county. Those clinics allowed people who didn't have access to their provider or had multiple children to get appointments that worked around the work and school day. Grignon said the highest risk population is always lower income groups.

"Sometimes, low income doesn't just mean you don't have insurance," Grignon said. "The low income might mean that you're in a position where you can't take off work."

At the state level, Wisconsin offers a few helpful tools to survey the public health landscape. By going to dhs.wisconsin.gov/immunization/child-adolescent-vaccine-data.htm, anyone can see the percentage of vaccine uptake split up by each county and specific vaccine. Currently, 83.4% of 24-month-olds in Winnebago County have received one or more doses of the MMR vaccine.

The Wisconsin Immunization Registry

allows each person to enter their name and social security number to access their history of vaccinations negating the need for vaccination cards in the state of Wisconsin. The registry also allows records to be printed at home to eliminate needing to wait for a doctor to provide them.

"Not every state has that," Grignon said.

Grignon emphasized vaccines' safety and efficacy, and their ability to prevent more than just disease. Antibiotic overuse is a major issue in the US, and vaccinations can help reduce their need.

"You don't always think about the influenza and all the thing that come in pneumonia and all that," Grignon said. "The ear infections that come with[out] the HIB vaccine ... you don't realize all the strep throats and the ear infections that come

from that and all the antibiotics you're taking over the years from all of this."

Grignon said vaccines keep people out of the emergency room and away from taking unnecessary doses of antibiotics that can be hard on the kidneys.

"Vaccines have to be even safer than say, a cancer medication or a medication for someone who's got pneumonia and is very sick, who's got renal disease and such because they're giving [them] to someone who's healthy," Grignon said.

To learn more about Winnebago County Health's immunization initiatives or to schedule an appointment, call 920-232-3000. Anyone who suspects they may have been exposed to measles or have symptoms should stay home and call their doctor immediately.

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- SEPT 12**
FRIDAY FISH FRY... until 8pm
- SEPT 13**
CALEB and EMILY... 3-6pm
- SEPT 14**
DYLAN THOMAS... 2-5pm

TH-SUN 11AM - CLOSE
1000 PIONEER DRIVE
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Filmmaker to sign books at Caramel Crisp

Oshkosh Herald

Tick Town author, filmmaker and UW-Oshkosh alum Christopher Micklos brings his love of horror to the page with a new novel.

Micklos was inspired to write a novel in the style of the pulpy horror flicks of the 70s and 80s and see ticks as the perfect

Midwestern monster.

Micklos will be on hand Sept. 18 at Caramel Crisp Corner, 200 City Center to talk with readers about his new novel. Meet the author will be from 5:30 to 6:30 p.m., providing an opportunity to ask questions about his ideas.



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Budget passed

FROM PAGE 1

and that is why she would not support the budget.

Hess said he didn't like it and would not be supporting it, but he was hopeful it was going to pass.

"We need to see that return on investment in terms of the academic achievement, the reductions disparities, the KPI and all the things we're talking about," Hess said. "I'm willing to invest in things that work."

Most school districts across Wisconsin wait until after the state funding numbers are confirmed to approve a budget. But districts cannot short-term borrow without a budget in place. By Oshkosh passing a budget now, it means these are all guesses and estimations without firm financial numbers.

"This is our best guestimate at this time," Niehans said.

All the numbers regarding the budget will be approved at the state level on Oct. 15. That is when the district will know exactly how much aid is coming from the

state. "We don't want to have a situation where it comes in way lower and then we have a blank check here for the levy to be whatever it is," board member Mike Ford said.

The school board does have the ability to make amendments to the budget if they are needed.

Niehans said the budget was based on the best guestimate he could give at this time. Those guesses by the district administrators proposed a budget with \$240.5 million in expenditures and \$297.5 million in revenue.

The district is anticipating \$84 million in state aid, an increase of about \$1 million. However, the state's biennial budget did not include any additional increases in state aid. Per pupil costs have raised \$325 per pupil and those increases will have to be paid by local tax dollars.

Funding from the state relies on many factors, with one factor being the Third Friday Count when all public schools count the students in each of the schools.



Niehans



Hess

Niehans said that about 65% of the district's budget comes from state aid with the remaining 35% coming from local taxpayers. According to those numbers, local taxpayers will contribute \$44 million to the district with an additional \$21.5 million paying referendum debt.

There are other factors the district is facing such as 46% of OASD students receiving free or reduced lunch and increasing salary costs including rising health care costs. Niehans said about 80% of the operational budget is salaries and benefits for district employees.

The tax levy is expected to increase by 3.27% or approximately \$2.1 million. There were no public comments made during the budget hearing.

Niehans expects the mill rate to be \$7.86. The number comes from the total levy of around \$68 million divided by the equalized property value, within the district, of \$8.6 billion, and multiplied by 1,000.

This is a four-cent drop in the mill rate

from last year.

"If all of these numbers hold accurate, we would see a slight decrease in mill rate," Niehans said.

However, Niehans added taxpayers should look at the school levy, which went up, and that could signal homeowners property taxes will likely go up.

Board vice president Chris Wright concluded the conversation by saying passing the budget is the easy part.

"If we don't invest in things that matter, they will wither away," Wright said. "If we don't invest in the school district in the right places and the right facilities, good families will wither away from here because there are tons of options in this area."

Wright noted the board has made difficult decisions while he was on the board like not filling teacher positions and consolidating staff. He added the board will need to work together and "not play politics" with discussions on the future of the school district.

"We have to do hard things," Wright said. "There's going to have to be really hard things done by this board soon and over the next year."

Housing book

FROM PAGE 1

will be shared with developers interested in the site," Rutkowski said.

Not every lot the RDA owns or purchases will end up being a house from the housing book. Some of the infill lots are purchased in anticipation of the city needing space for a future construction projects.

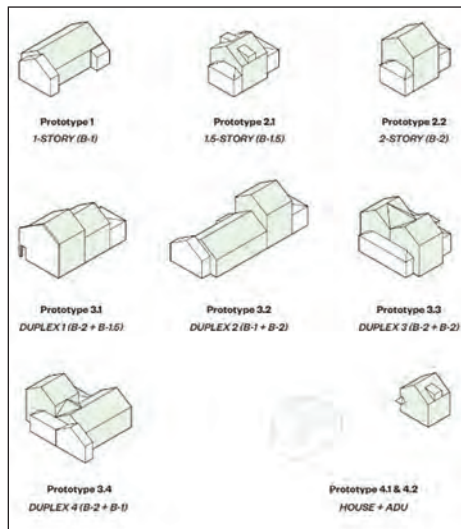
One example of this is the lots the city purchased for the planned reconstruction of the Oshkosh Avenue and North Sawyer Street intersection. For that project, the city purchased a number of lots in the area to allow space to reconstruct the intersection.

The housing book has several houses from the past that highlight a number of houses in Oshkosh are catalogue homes. The book has side-by-side comparisons of catalogue home advertisements next to Oshkosh homes based on those homes.

In the early 20th century Oshkosh's lumber industry was thriving amid advancements in building technology that led to the development of standardized housing. This gave working and middle class families the opportunity to buy a full kit house that grew in popularity in the 1910s and 1920s.

These examples are to highlight the types of homes already in Oshkosh and the materials used to construct the homes.

The book has a variety of different floor plans with simple shapes like rectangles and squares. The floor plans can then be



City of Oshkosh photo

A selection of prototype housing is shown as examples from the Oshkosh Housing Book.

matched with how many floors the developer is planning on building; one story, one and a half stories, or two stories.

Then there are options for adding on a front porch and other additions that developers can look at for getting the most out of the available space.

The city is focusing on seven neighborhoods for new house development, leveraging infill lot opportunities. These are Stevens Park, River East, Menominee South, the Historic 4th Ward, Marina District and Sacred Heart neighborhoods, which the city believes can most benefit from new housing and developments, from single-family to multi-family housing.



City of Oshkosh photos

Top photo: This is an ad from the early 20th century showing the affordability of a single-family house that includes six rooms and a bathroom for the low price of up to \$55 in monthly payments.

Bottom photo: This house on North Main Street appears to have been built with the kit or was inspired by the kit. The home has since received renovations and was awarded with an Acanthus Award by the Oshkosh Landmarks Commission.

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with separate \$75.00 purchase, limit one

Offer expires 9/16/25

Offer expires 9/16/25 PLU 27206

McCain Potatoes or Onion Rings

Select 14 or 19-26 oz

\$1.99

each

Limit one with separate \$25.00 purchase

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

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prices in this ad good wednesday 9/10/25 through tuesday 9/16/25

more GREAT savings In-Store

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85% Lean Ground Beef Patties...5.48 lb

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BUY ONE GET ONE FREE 12 oz Cherrywood Smoked Bacon

99¢ Per lb Jumbo Roma Tomatoes, Sweet Onions or ea Large Hass Avocados

2/\$5 6 oz Blackberries, Raspberries or Blueberries

2/\$4 5.5-8 oz Crystal Farms Shredded or Chunk Cheese

2.99 8 pk, 12 oz Bottles or 12 pk, 12 oz Cans Coke, Sprite or Diet Coke

2.99 9-10.75 oz Doritos, 5.5-8.5 oz Ruffles, 6.25-7.625 oz Baked, or 15-15.75 oz Lay's or Tostitos Dips

1.99 When you redeem 2000 pig points

11-18 oz Select Post Cereal

Regular Sale Price **2.99**

7.99 When you redeem 2000 pig points

12 oz or 10 ct Cups Starbucks Coffee

Regular Sale Price **8.99**

4.99 When you redeem 4000 pig points

Piggy Wiggly Very Own Rotisserie Chicken

Regular Sale Price **6.99**

5/\$5 12-16 oz Creamette Pasta

1.99 15-24 oz Select Classico Pasta Sauce

FREE 10-13 oz Old Dutch Tortilla Chips

2.99 14 oz Onion Rings or 19-26 oz McCain Potatoes

4/\$10 6.49-12.75 oz Select Smart Ones or Stouffer's Entrees

3.99 13-33 oz Select Palermo's or Ragu Pizza or 10 oz Raybern's Sandwich

4/\$7 18.6-19 oz Campbell's Chunky Soup

3/\$5 8.9-10.7 oz Select Oscar Mayer Lunchables

3.99 13.88-19.5 oz Family Size Chips Ahoy!

7.99 Cottonelle Bathroom Tissue or Viva Paper Towels

4/\$12 48 oz or 4-24 pk Select Dean's Ice Cream or Novelties

4/\$12 6pk, 16.9 oz Bottles Pepsi, Mt Dew, 7UP or A&W Root Beer

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5/\$4 10-15.5 oz Select Food Club Canned Beans, Tomatoes or Vegetables

2/\$6 4-6 ct Pillsbury Toaster Strudel or Scrambles or 11.5-14 oz Banquet Mega Bowls or Entrees

4/\$3 2.5 oz Pouches or 3.75-5 oz Cans Chicken of the Sea Select Tuna or Sardines or 3.5-7.25 Food Club Mac & Cheese

2/\$6 4 lb Bag Food Club Granulated Sugar

2/\$4 Food Club 5 lb Bag Flour

2/\$5 2 lb Powdered or Brown Sugar

Offer expires 9/6/25 PLU 27207

Campbell's Chunky Soup

18.6-19 oz

4/\$6

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

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

Offer expires 9/16/25 PLU 27208

Gala Apples

3 lb. bag

\$2.99

each

Limit one with separate \$25.00 purchase

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

Offer expires 9/16/25 PLU 27209

Food Club Granulated Sugar

4 lb. bag

2/\$5

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

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

Select Robert Mondavi Vint Wines

750 ml bottle

\$5.99

each

While supplies last!

From the Meat Department

Pork Steak
Family Pack



\$1.99
per pound

Vollwerth's Brats



13.75 oz.

2/\$7
When you buy two!

From the Deli

**Nuts & Bolts
Snack Mix**



\$7.99
per pound

**Cheese and
Sausage Trays**



\$6.49
per pound

From the Bakery

Eclairs



\$2.49
2 count

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1.69 lb
Juicy-Ripe
**Bartlett
Pears**



4/\$2
Wisconsin
Bi-Color
Sweet Corn



3.99
3 lb Bag Wisconsin
Gala
Apples



3.99 ea
Extra Large
Honeydew
Melon



4.69
2 lb Bag Imported
Sweet
Seedless
Clementines



2.49 lb
Extra Large
Green
Seedless Grapes



4/\$5
Jumbo
Navel
Oranges



2/\$5.50
8 oz Whole or Sliced
Baby Portabella
Mushrooms



3.99
4 ct Alsum
Griller Baking
Potatoes



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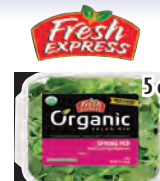
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Photo from Wisconsin State AFL-CIO

Holiday festivities

The Labor Day Car Show and Picnic was held Sept. 1 at South Park. The event put on by the Winnebago County Labor Council and Fox Valley Area Labor Council featured a car show, music, food and drinks. The Fork In The Road Band provided the music.

Halloween movie season starts at Time Theater

Oshkosh Herald

The Halloween movie season is starting with a Mihmiverse Movie Marathon at the Time Community Theater which culminates in the Wisconsin premiere of Three Bad Girls Who Find a Gun and Become Vampires.

Writer and director Christopher R. Mihm and several Mihmiverse stars such as Michael Kaiser, Alice Mihm, James Norgard and others will be in attendance to sell and sign DVDs and other Mihmiverse merchandise. The event is free.

The third annual Mihmiverse Movie Marathon will take place Saturday at the Time Community Theater located at 445 N. Main St. The schedule includes at 2 p.m. Guns of the Apocalypse, 3:35 p.m. Danny Johnson Saves the World — 10th anniversary screening, 4:50 p.m. The Phantom Lake Kids in The Beast Walks Among Us, 6:15 p.m. dinner break, 6:45 p.m. Weresquito: Nazi Hunter and 8:15 p.m. Three Bad Girls Who Find a Gun and Become Vampires — Wisconsin premiere.

Kickball event benefits Oshkosh Kids Foundation

Oshkosh Herald

The Oshkosh Kids Foundation will be holding a charity kickball tournament at 9 a.m. Saturday behind Revs Bowl, 275 N. Washburn St.

The event will feature raffle prizes, plus

chefs from local restaurants outside cooking.

A large kids tent will include face painting and bounce houses.

All donations will benefit the Oshkosh Kids Foundation.

Calendar of events

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

Remarkable Talent Takeover, 5 p.m., Oshkosh Convention Center

Inside Out, 7 p.m., Time Community Theater

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

Oshkosh Kids Foundation Charity Kickball Tournament, 9 a.m., Revs Bowl, 275 N. Washburn St.

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

Mihm Marathon, 7 p.m., Time Community Theater

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

Wednesday, Sept. 17

Music on Main featuring Sundae & Mr. Goessl, 5:30 p.m., Opera House Square

Thursday, Sept. 18

Fantastic: A Tribute to Elton John, 7:30 p.m., The Grand Oshkosh

Friday, Sept. 19

Back in Black, 7:30 p.m., The Grand Oshkosh

Saturday, Sept. 20

Downtown Oshkosh Farmers Market, 8 a.m.

Ruby's Pantry, 9:30 a.m., St. John's Lutheran Church of Nekimi, 491 Old Oregon Road

Touch A Truck, 10 a.m., Leach Amphitheater

Red Arrow Disc Golf Fundraiser Tournament, 10 a.m., Red Arrow Disc Golf Course

Walk to Defeat ALS Northeast Wisconsin, 10 a.m., Menominee Park - Kiwanis Shelter

Covey Open House, 10 a.m., 1325 Eastman St.

Rocky Horror Picture Show, 7 p.m., Time Community Theater

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Senior Spotlight is brought to you by: **Nicolet**
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High-scoring Rucinski brings international flair to pitch

By Tim Froberg
HERALD CONTRIBUTOR

Germans are known to value precision, efficiency and reliability.

Guys like Isaak Rucinski fit right into German culture.

Rucinski is also a good fit for practically every game plan created by Lourdes Academy/Valley Christian soccer coach Abraham Gutierrez.

Rucinski – a native of Germany – is the Knights' top player. The senior forward is a three-time all-Flyway Conference selection and the team's leading scorer the past few years.

Rucinski began playing the game in Germany where he spent the first 13 years of his life. He was born in Heidelberg and lived there for five years (2007-2012) before moving with his parents and three brothers to Niedernhausen: a small village located between Wiesbaden and Frankfurt.

Isaak's father, Robert Rucinski, worked as a child psychiatrist for the U.S. Army as a civilian. Robert is an Oshkosh native who is a Lourdes graduate.

Isaak attended German schools during his childhood years, starting in kindergarten. English was the language spoken at the Rucinski household, but Isaak spoke German to his friends, classmates and teachers.

Issak's mom, Rede, signed him up for soccer at the age of five and he quickly picked up the sport.

"Soccer is THE big thing in Germany and pretty much everywhere in Europe," Rucinski said. "It's huge over there and I loved it. Every single boy in my school played it. We would always have soccer practice at a local club. If we didn't have practice that day, my friends and I would go to a local playground where they had this cement field. We would play until we had to go home and do chores and homework."

Rucinski said the European game is more rough and tumble than in the U.S. where speed and finesse are more significant factors.

"It was definitely more physical," said Rucinski. "You would get some kids who were just super passionate about playing it. I mean, you get that here, too, but not as much. A lot of the kids I played were immigrants from places like Turkey and Morocco and they were really aggressive. Fights would often start on the field and sometimes you would get like a total brawl where the refs would have to break it up."

Senior Spotlight



Rucinski has fond memories of his days in Germany and took a trip back to Niedernhausen a few years ago.

"It was a really nice place to grow up," he said. "We lived in a small village and it was beautiful – a little hillier than here in Oshkosh. The architecture was nice and there were a lot of cross timber houses and some really nice ice cream shops and bakeries. Bakeries are big in Germany. Germans just love their bread."

"There was a public swimming pool that my friends and I always went to during the summers. We lived near the forest and we'd take walks and bike rides into the forest."

The Rucinski family moved back to the Oshkosh area in 2021 and Isaak kept playing soccer, joining the Oshkosh United club team in the eighth grade. Rucinski made an immediate impact at Lourdes his freshman year, landing second-team honors on the all-Flyway Conference team.

Rucinski has been a first-team all-Flyway selection the past two seasons and has generated 92 points in that time span, contributing 46 (on 18 goals and 10 assists) in both the 2023 and 2024 seasons.

"Isaak has been a jewel to our program," said Gutierrez. "His name is well respected in the Flyway Conference. His talent is well developed for our division and our opponents have to modify their game plans for him. He has my blessing to do whatever it takes to keep our team moving forward. He has enriched our program and we're honored to have him."

Rucinski, who attends Lourdes Academy, plays a striker position. Despite frequently finding the back of the net, Rucinski doesn't consider himself to be great shooter.

"I'm more of a dribbler – a guy who gets the ball and dribbles it up past people and then tries to get it past the goalkeeper," he said.

Rucinski's leadership skills are almost as valuable as his scoring ability. He is a team captain who helps guide his teammates on the field.

"It's a team sport and I love helping my teammates," he said. "I don't want to sound



Photo by Andy Ratchman

Isaak Rucinski is a three-time all-Flyway Conference selection for the Lourdes Academy/Valley Christian soccer team and has been an offensive force for the Knights during his career.

too bold here, but I think I probably know a little more about the game than some of my teammates. There are game situations in which certain passes are probably better for the situation and I'm more than happy to share my knowledge with them."

Rucinski has a strong connection with Gutierrez, who has coached the team since the 2022 season.

"He is very passionate about the sport," said Rucinski. "You can tell that just by the way he teaches us skills and technique. He wants us to do it the right way. He always tells us that off the field we should be nice to our parents. And he always emphasizes that he came from a third-world country and that we should appreciate all that we have."

Rucinski is also an elite performer in the classroom, carrying a dazzling 4.02 grade point average. He plans to attend

college next year, but hasn't yet settled on a school. He is open to the possibility of playing college soccer if he decides to attend a smaller school. Rucinski plans to major in biochemistry.

"I love the sciences," he said. "I'm thinking about eventually going to med school. If I go to a bigger school, I will focus on academics. If it's a Division 3 school, I would love to play soccer."

Until then, Rucinski is focusing on a strong finish to his prep soccer career. The Knights are coming off a rock-solid 2024 season in which they went 11-3-5 overall and a second-place 6-0-3 in the Flyway.

"I don't think we've won conference since 1984, but this team might have a pretty good chance at it," Rucinski said. "We have a lot of kids out and this is a deep team with talent. I think we're going to have a real good season."

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Prep sports roundup

FOOTBALL

Run game keys easy win for Spartans

Jamond Thompson-Schreck and Jamare Scott each churned out more than 100 yards rushing as Oshkosh North racked up 310 yards on the ground in a convincing 32-14 win over Manitowoc Lincoln last Friday.

Thompson-Schreck finished with 138 yards on 13 carries, while Scott added 124 yards on 18 carries with the duo combining for four of North's five touchdowns.

Scott reached the end zone three times, all in the first half, scoring on runs of 2, 5 and 5 yards. Thompson-Schreck scored on a four-yard run in the third quarter.

The Spartans also scored on a 7-yard touchdown pass from Bryce Ott to Amaree Davis.

Ott finished 12-of-24 for 162 yards, while also chipping in 48 yards rushing. Max Rohr totaled 38 yards on five catches, while Davis finished with three catches for 65 yards.

Andrew Oehler led the Spartan defense with five tackles, including a sack, and forced a pair of fumbles.

The week before, North scored a 28-9 win over rival Oshkosh West as Ott threw for two TDs and Scott rushed for two touchdowns.

Knights ground Rockets to stay unbeaten

Brady Bauer rushed for three touchdowns as Lourdes Academy racked up seven scores on the ground in a 49-14 win over Randolph in a Trailways Conference



Photo by Andy Ratchman

Lourdes Academy's Lucas Neuens sprints through the Randolph defense for an 88-yard touchdown run on Friday night.

game at home on Friday.

Randolph scored on its opening possession but the Knights responded with the next five scores to break the game open.

Brady Ridenour opened the scoring for the Knights with a 21-yard touchdown run, while Bauer followed scoring runs of 44 and 5 yards. Lucas Neuens then scored on an 88-yard run to send the Knights into halftime leading 28-6.

Ridenour added an 8-yard touchdown run in the third quarter, before Bauer and Nolan Gibson tacked on touchdown runs in the final period.

Bauer finished with 144 yards on 17 carries, while Ridenour racked up 123 yards rushing on 17 carries. Bauer was also 5-of-9 for 33 yards passing.

Ridenour paced the Knights' defense with six tackles, while Andrew Syson recovered a fumble.

Warriors improve to 3-0 with rout of Lancers

Sam Gludemans rushed for 102 yards and four touchdowns and Valley Christian improved to 3-0 with a 54-6 thrashing of St. John's Northwestern Military Academy on Friday.

Valley Christian scored 20 points in each of the first two quarters en route to the win.

Derek Wallace added 71 yards rushing and a touchdown for the Warriors, while Jay Parish also scored a rushing touchdown in the win.

Mason Everts connected on 4-of-6 passes for 97 yards with two touchdowns, with Wallace and Mathias Behling each securing touchdown catches.

Gludemans also had seven tackles to lead the Warriors' defense, which forced

five turnovers in the game. Behling finished with a pair of interceptions and a fumble recovery.

Wildcats blanked by powerhouse Kimberly

Oshkosh West held Kimberly in check for one quarter but the highly-touted Papermakers pulled away for a 44-0 Fox Valley Association win at Titan Stadium last Thursday.

The Wildcats were limited to 104 yards of total offense in the game.

Melvin Byes led the West defense with eight tackles, while Cade Heiman finished with seven.

The week before, West fell to rival Oshkosh North, 28-9, as the Wildcats got three field goals from Elliott Reed. Reed booted a pair of 37-yard field goals and a 27-yard field goal.

VOLLEYBALL

Wildcats take second at Middleton Tournament

Oshkosh West finished 4-1, including a sweep of its pool play matches, to take second among 16 teams at the Middleton Spike Out Cancer Invite on Saturday.

The Wildcats toppled Waterford (25-11, 25-11), Milton (25-18, 18-25, 16-14) and Madison Memorial (25-18, 25-16) to advance into the Gold Bracket of the tournament where they downed Sauk Prairie 25-16, 26-24 to reach the title match. West fell to Brookfield east, 25-13, 25-23 in the finals.

Sydnee Nelson paced the Wildcats with 53 kills in the five matches, while Emma

SEE **Prep roundup** ON PAGE 18

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November 30	10 a.m. - 3 p.m.
December 1	Closed
December 2	10 a.m. - 6 p.m.
December 3	10 a.m. - 2 p.m. / 6 p.m. - 8 p.m.
December 4	Closed (holiday parade)
December 5	10 a.m. - 2 p.m. / 6 p.m. - 8 p.m.
December 6	10 a.m. - 4 p.m. / 6 p.m. - 9 p.m.

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 Festival of Trees

Prep roundup

FROM PAGE 17

Liebergen finished with 28 and Kayana Turner added 23.

Elaina Butz posted team highs in digs (36) and aces (9), while MaKaelyn Clark finished with 73 assists. Olivia Xiong added 24 digs and Nelson chipped in 20.

The night before, the Wildcats dropped a Fox Valley Association match on the road at Fond du Lac, 25-21, 23-25, 25-23, 25-19.

Nelson had 23 kills for West, while Liebergen finished with 13. Butz finished with 29 digs to lead the Wildcats, with Clark posting 35 assists.

Warriors pull out five-set victory

Valley Christian rallied from a 2-1 deficit in sets to claim a 23-25, 25-23, 22-25, 25-21, 15-9 win over Central Wisconsin Christian last week.

The Crusaders edged the Warriors for the Trailways East championship last season.

Valley Christian had three players finish with double-digit kills in the match led by Laila Gostas-Sims with 16. Anna Giannopoulos added 13 kills and Lizzie Fink finished with 12.

Gostas-Sims also totaled a team-high five aces.

Lydia Hardy and Bella Birr finished with 21 and 20 assists, respectively, while Emma Malczewski totaled a team-best 31 digs, followed by Ellie Demler with 17 and Giannopoulos with 15.

North swept by Kimberly

The Spartans couldn't keep up with the Papermakers in losing an FVA match last Thursday, 25-8, 25-17, 25-12.

CROSS COUNTRY

Crowe, Moran lead area runners at invite

Oshkosh West's Carter Crowe and

Abby Tercha were the top area finishers at the Neenah Invitational on Friday.

Crowe finished 12th overall in the boys race to lead the Wildcats to a fifth-place finish among the 12 complete teams.

Dominic Moore was the next runner to finish for the Wildcats in 21st place, followed by Arjen Karns in 35th, Alex Decker in 58th and Owen Moon in 64th place.

Oshkosh North, which placed 10th overall, was paced by Jay Weber in 23rd place, while Reid Anderson, Campbell Harrison and Mason Gumz were 65th, 66th and 67th, respectively. Blake Ludwig rounded out the scoring runners for North in 76th place.

Valley Christian placed 11th among the 12 teams in the mostly Division 1 meet, as Jack O'Brien and Jonah Menet led the team in 48th and 49th place, respectively. Simon Menet and Zachary Werner came in 69th and 70th place, while Silas Johnson added a 72nd place.

West was the only area school to field a complete team in the event and placed fifth overall, led by Abby Tercha's 14th place. The Wildcats grouped their next three runners as Coraline Strebelski, Hayliee Hullar and Gwen Liptow were 20th, 21st and 22nd, respectively, while Rowen Stellflug finished 28th.

Valley Christian's Mya Moran was the top local individual finisher in the girls race placing 12th overall, while Valley Christian also had McKenzie Murphy place 44th and Merian Getz place 68th.

Khloe Bunton in 23rd place and Annie Moore in 30th led Lourdes Academy, while the Knights also had Tessia Mroczkowski take 49th and Allison Stromske finish 51st.

Oshkosh North had a pair of competitors in the race as Tianna Hayes placed 26th and Adri Clark finished 42nd.

Moran posts victory at Markesan Invitational

Valley Christian junior Mya Moran finished more than 40 seconds ahead of the rest of the field to win the girls title at the Markesan Invitational last Tuesday.

McKenzie Murphy joined Moran in

the top 10 with a sixth-place finish as the Warriors finished second to Laconia in the team standings.

Kendra Sandahl in 17th place, Merian Getz in 19th place and Madline Weiss in 23rd place rounded out the scoring runners for Valley Christian.

The Valley Christian boys collected the team title with Jack O'Brien and Jonah Menet placing second and third, respectively.

Joining that duo in the top 10 were Simon Menet in sixth place, Silas Johnson in ninth place and Zachary Werner in 10th place as the Warriors finish 24 points ahead of Horicon to take the title.

SOCCER

West splits pair of FVA matches

Oshkosh West posted a win and a loss in two Fox Valley Association matches last week.

The Wildcats beat Fond du Lac, 1-0, last Tuesday, while falling to Appleton North, 2-0, on Thursday.

North collects tie, loss in two matches

Oshkosh North earned a 2-2 tie with Kimberly in its Fox Valley Association opener last week.

The Spartans were then edged by Hortonville, 2-1 and are currently 1-2-1 on the season.

Herd announces upcoming season schedule

Oshkosh Herald

The Wisconsin Herd announced the schedule for its 2025-26 season with its first home game on Nov. 11 against the Windy City Bulls with tip-off set for 6 p.m. at Oshkosh Arena. Prior to the home opener, the Herd will tip off the 2025-26 season on the road against the Windy City Bulls at 7 p.m. on Nov. 8.

Home games will tip off at 6 p.m. on weekdays (Monday-Thursday) and 7 p.m. on weekends (Friday, Saturday and Sunday) except for noon Dec. 13 against Grand Rapids Gold, noon Dec. 14 against Iowa Wolves, the Herd's Annual School Day Matinee at 11:30 a.m. Jan. 22 vs. Noblesville Boom and 6:30 p.m. March 9 against the Valley Suns.

The Herd will be hosting teams for the first time, including the Mexico City Capitanes March 6 and 7, Valley Suns March 9 and Noblesville Boom Jan. 22 and 24.

The NBA G League schedule will continue to be divided into two parts: a 14-game Tip-Off Tournament, followed by a 36-game regular season. All 31 NBA G League teams will compete in at least 50 games during the 2025-26 season.

The Tip-Off Tournament, which marks the start of the 2025-26 season, begins on Nov. 7 and culminates when a champion is crowned during the 2025 NBA G League Winter Showcase in December. For the Tip-Off Tournament, teams are placed into four regions to play 14 games exclusively against each other. The teams

Lourdes/Valley posts pair of easy wins

The Knights improved to 3-0 on the season with a pair of wins last week.

Lourdes/Valley scored a 4-0 win over Howards Grove and then tallied an 11-0 win over Campbellsport.

GOLF

Leib earns medalist honors to lead North

Sammie Leib fired a 48 at Reid Golf Course to score the low round in the Fox Valley Association dual meet against Appleton East last week but the Spartans fell to the Patriots, 210-218.

Leib edged East's Ella Baier by one shot for medalist honors.

Willow Stanke added a 53 for North, followed by Mai O'Loughlin with a 57 and Ashling Lynch with a 60.

TENNIS

Spartans blanked by potent Rockets

Oshkosh North was overpowered by Neenah in a Fox Valley Association dual meet, 7-0, last week.

Anna Lyngen won three games at No. 4 singles to lead the Spartans, while the No. 2 doubles team of Lilli Ames and Olivia Baer also won a game in their match.



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<p>WORSHIP WITH COMMUNION SUNDAYS 9:30 AM 203 ALGOMA BLVD., OSHKOSH, WI 54901 OSHKOSH-EPISCOPAL.ORG (920) 231-2420</p>	<p>St. Andrew's Lutheran Church 1100 E Murdoch 9:30 AM Worship & Communion standrewsoshkosh.org (920) 235-6616 <i>All are Welcome at God's Table</i></p>
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<p>Trinity Ev. Lutheran Church (LCMS) Worship: Sun. 9:00 am; Thurs. 7:00 pm Christ-Centered Education for children and adults 370 Bowen St. (920) 235-7440 www.trinityoshkosh.org</p>	<p>Good Shepherd Lutheran Church 2450 W 9th Ave • Oshkosh • 54904 920-231-0530 Sunday Worship: 8:00 AM & 10:30 AM Thursday Worship: 6:30 PM <i>Proclaiming Christ's Word Through Truth, Innovation & Fellowship</i> goodshepherdinoshkosh.com Good Shepherd Lutheran Church-Oshkosh</p>
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<p>emmanuel SUNDAY WORSHIP 9:00AM INFORMAL WORSHIP 6:30PM (THURSDAY FEBRUARY - NOVEMBER) 1306 MICHIGAN STREET OSHKOSH, WI 920.235.8340 emmanueloshkosh.org</p>	<p>Immanuel Lutheran Church WELS • 338 N. Eagle Street, Oshkosh, WI We are a traditional, small church FAMILY. Come and join us for Worship Sundays at 9:00 a.m. We continue to use the "Red" Christian Worship 1993 Hymnal immanuel-oshkosh.org</p>
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Lourdes Academy happy to be returning to Division 3

Oshkosh Herald

The Lourdes Academy girls cross country team is back where it belongs.

After bumping up to Division 2 for the WIAA sectional and state meets, the Knights will be returning to Division 3 this season and head coach Tim Moore is

Cross Country PREVIEW

happy to have his squad back where it feels most comfortable and competitive.

"It's where we belong," Moore commented. "Our kids work just as hard as every program in the state and to be pushed up and down based on our work ethic when 33 percent of the schools in the state do not have the same outcome is just wrong. We deal with it, but it's good to be in our home division."

The Knights had their string of competing at the state meet interrupted by last year's move to Division 2 and Lourdes Academy will look to start a new streak this season.

Lourdes Academy will have to replace its top two runners from a year ago but that is something that is going to happen with a talent-laden program.

"Losing key athletes in any program is tough but with any loss means opportunity for others," Moore commented. "Our program wants kids to step up and take their opportunities. We have athletes who have been waiting for their opportunity to lead the program and I'm excited for them."

Leading the list of returning runners for the girls are juniors Annie Moore, Tessia Mroczkowski and Allison Stromske, all of whom ran at the state cross country meet

as freshman.

Fellow junior Elizabeth O'Connor also returns from last season, while sophomore Khloe Bunton will be one of the top runners on the squad.

Moore will also be counting on sophomores Evelyn Heinzen and Ana Schneidewend as well as freshmen Ella Laib and Lydia Thorson to compete for spots in the varsity lineup.

For the boys, the Knights return a strong nucleus to build around in juniors Henry Spanbauer, Zack Foster and Cameron Kapral and sophomore Mason Piechowski.

Spanbauer qualified for state last year and finished 66th in the Division 3 boys race.

"Henry and all the guys had a great summer of training and we are getting the new guys comfortable with the efforts we need from them," Moore commented. "It will be an exciting year for the boys."

Moore also expects sophomore Connor Salm and freshman Kody Neitzel to round out the roster this season.

Oshkosh West

Both the girls and boys rosters will be anchored by a strong core of returning runners as the Wildcats again could be a challenger in the Fox Valley Association.

The girls return their entire varsity lineup from last year and will be led by junior Abby Tercha and sophomore Coraline Strelinski, who narrowly missed advancing to the state meet as individuals at last year's sectional meet.

Seniors Gwen Liptow, Kate Elliott and Rowen Stellflug are entering their fourth year as varsity runners, while juniors Mila Crowe and Hayliee Hullar and sopho-

more Ellie Trebiatowski are also back from last year.

Head coach Stephanie Polak also believes sophomore Mya Johnson will be competing for a varsity spot.

For the boys, senior Carter Crowe led the Wildcats last season and will be joined by fellow seniors Juan Collins, Owen Moon, Mason Palecek and Isaac Gelhar, while junior Arjen Karns and sophomore Andy Toonen were all a part of the varsity lineup a year ago.

Senior Alex Dedecker and freshman James Schiek are also expected to bolster the lineup for the Wildcats.

"I believe our young runners will greatly benefit from their experience as they head into this season," commented Polak. "Having participated in big meets over the past few seasons, they not only understand the pressures that come with competitions but also have developed a better understanding of racing strategies and preparedness. Their ability to work together has fostered an excellent team dynamic - they truly feed off each other's energy and support."

Oshkosh North

Spartans head coach Steve Danza is hoping for continued growth and improvement from his batch of runners this season.

Leading the boys squad will be returning runners Reid Anderson, a junior, and Jay Weber, a sophomore. Weber led the squad as a freshman last year.

Junior Cam Harrison and sophomore Mason Gumz will be newcomers to the varsity squad this season.

On the girls side, senior Tianna Hayes will be the top returning runner for the Spartans, while team also returns junior Adri Clark and sophomores Gabi Pereira Da Silva and Alice Cummings.

Junior Quetzali Burmeister and sophomore Nahla Whitley are also expected to contribute at the varsity level.

Valley Christian

Both the girls and boys squads for the Warriors will have some familiar faces

SEE **Cross country** ON PAGE 20

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Titans stymie nationally ranked Wildcats in opener

Oshkosh Herald

The UW-Oshkosh football team jumped out to a 10-point lead and knocked off Linfield University, 31-14, in the season-opener on Saturday in McMinnville, Ore.

It was the second straight season the Titans have knocked off Linfield, who were again ranked in the top 25 entering the contest. The Wildcats were ranked 15th this season.

UW-Oshkosh got a 33-yard field goal from Axel Vera Trejo on its opening possession of the season before scoring a touchdown on its second drive late in the first quarter. Clayton Schwalbe powered in on a 1-yard run as the Titans took a 10-0 lead at the end of the period.

After Linfield got on the scoreboard early in the second period, the Titans answered with 11 straight points to go into halftime leading 21-7.

Vera Trejo booted a 36-yard field goal midway through the quarter while Kellan Mella caught a 4-yard touchdown pass from Quentin Keene with 14 seconds left in the half and the Titans added the two-point conversion for the 14-point lead.

The second quarter touchdown was set up by an interception by Kaleb Brooks that set the Titans up at the Linfield 36-yard line.

Keene connected with Schwalbe for a 48-yard touchdown in the third quarter to stretch the lead to 28-7 entering the fourth quarter where Vera Trejo added the final

points of the game on a 25-yard field goal with 1:56 remaining.

The Titans finished with nearly 450 yards of total offense, led by Keene who was 17-of-26 for 285 yards and the two touchdowns. Londyn Little was the Titans' leading receiver with 114 yards on five catches.

On the ground, AJ Korth led the way with 53 yards on 15 carries.

The UW-Oshkosh defense stifled the Wildcats the entire game, holding Linfield to just 162 yards of total offense, including only 22 yards on 25 carries.

Kyle Dietzen and Ben Wellhoefer each had six tackles to lead the Titan defense, while former Oshkosh North standout Dayshawn Henry finished with four tack-

les and a half sack.

UW-Oshkosh will face a ranked opponent for the second straight week this Saturday when the Titans travel to Naperville, Ill., to faced top-ranked and defending national champion North Central College. The programs have split their only two previous meetings.

The Cardinals won the first contest at home in 1930, and the Titans defeated North Central, 42-21, in the second round of the 2017 NCAA Division III Championship.

The Titans will play their first home game on Saturday, Sept. 20 against Roosevelt University and will open the WIAC schedule on Saturday, Oct. 4 against nationally ranked UW-River Falls.



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Cross country

FROM PAGE 19

leading the way this season.

Junior Mya Moran is back to lead the girls squad after narrowly missing out on a trip to the state meet a year ago. Moran won the individual title at the season-opening Markesan Invitational last week.

Senior McKenzie Murphy and junior Merian Getz also return for the Warriors, while senior Maura Willis and freshman Evangeline Bratton Wesner will help bolster the squad.

Senior Jonah Menet and junior Jack O'Brien will anchor the boys efforts this season, while sophomores Simon Menet, Silas Johnson and Zachary Werner are expected to be key runners for the Warriors.

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Obituaries

Leonard B. Madel

Leonard (Lenny) B. Madel, age 87, passed away on Sunday, August 31, 2025 at The Courtyard in Oshkosh surrounded by his loving family after a long battle with Alzheimers Disease.

He was born in Oshkosh on March 21, 1938 to Joseph and Arvilla (Olson) Madel. Lenny was united in marriage to Patrica Madel on September 3, 1960 they shared 60 wonderful years of marriage before Pat passed away in 2021.

Leonard served his country in the US Army beginning in 1955 he was an MP (Military Police Officer) serving in Korea during the Korean War. He was honorably discharged in 1958 after an injury while serving his country. Once returning home he met his future wife, Patricia (Pat) Ilk and married on September 3, 1960. He was employed at Hoffmaster for the majority of his adult life until his retirement.

Lenny was a man of his word, maybe that's why he was so lucky at the casinos and with scratch off tickets. He would do anything for his family and lend a helping hand to anyone in need.

He will be missed by many.

Lenny is survived by his children, Paul (Veronique) and Becky Madel; two granddaughters Taylor (Dylan Lathrop) and Payton Madel. Other surviving rela-



tives; sister-in-law Priscilla Gluth, brother-in-law, Herbert Ilk and several nieces and nephews. He was preceded in death by his parents, Joseph and Arvilla Madel; daughter, Jenny Madel; sister-in-law Rosayn Knudsen; mother-in-law and father-in-law Herbert and Josephine Ilk; brothers, Gerald, Herman and Alvin, sisters, Lorraine, Betty and Gloria.

A private service for Lenny will be held by family.

Special thanks to the staff at The Courtyard in Oshkosh and Preceptor Hospice Care for all their care and compassion for Lenny. And a special thanks to Jennifer at The Courtyard for singing "Soft Kitty" when Len was having a difficult day.

Grandpa - Thank you for being at every one of our softball games whether it was 100 degrees or -20 you and Grandma never missed one and it will never be forgotten! You always walked us over to Kwik Trip and let us pick out whatever we wanted including lottery tickets! We love and miss you! -Taylor and Payton

Dad - Thanks for instilling your work ethic and family values in me to become the person I am today.

-Love Paul

Dad - Thanks for being a wonderful Dad and always being there when I needed you. Life is going to be difficult without you - I miss you already! -Love Becky

KONRAD-BEHLMAN
FUNERAL HOMES

Elizabeth Helen Grover

Elizabeth Helen "Betty" Grover, age 86 of Oshkosh passed away on August 30, 2025 at Aurora Medical Center surrounded by her family. Betty was born on June 24, 1939 in Cecil, WI to Max and Sophie (Wasielewski) Borowski. Betty graduated from Bonduel High and from Gale

Institute in Minneapolis, MN. She was employed at Shawano National Bank where she met her future husband, James Grover. On September 8, 1962 they were married. Jim's profession was with the State Patrol so that caused them to live in several areas before eventually settling in Oshkosh.

Betty is survived by her husband Jim Grover; her son, David Grover; and her daughter, Anne (Greg) Francis. She leaves behind her grandchildren, Matt, Holly (Chris) Barnett, Kelly, Mike, and Jacob, as well as nine great-grandchildren and



her brother, Clem. Betty was very active in her children's, grandchildren's, and great-grandchildren's lives. Betty was an active member at their Parish Church; the Oshkosh Franciscans Seculars, Prayer Shawl services & volunteering her time at St. Raphael's. She loved spending time at their cottage in Cecil, WI and loved snowmobiling. Retirement brought Jim and Betty to the warm climate in the south, mostly in Arkansas for over 10 years.

Mass of Christian Burial will be held on Thursday, September 11, 2025 at 11 am at St. Raphael's Catholic Church in Oshkosh, WI. Father Thomas Long will be the celebrant. Visitation will be held on Thursday at the church from 9:30 am until the time of Mass. Committal services will be held at Calvary Catholic Cemetery.

In lieu of flowers the family kindly requests donations to be made for Mass intentions at St. Raphael Catholic Church. 830 S. Westhaven Drive, Oshkosh, WI 54904.

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in-law, Bich du Einerson; three nephews, Dean (Kaija Webster) Einerson, Patrick Winn, Eric Einerson; two nieces, Clarissa (Mike) Gaulke and Emily Einerson; great nieces, AnnaBella Winn, Veda and Morgan Gundrum and great-nephews, Brayden Gaulke and Michael McIntyre.

A private service and burial will be held at the Old York Memorial Cemetery near Blanchardville, WI.

Paul will be remembered by those close to him for his gentle disposition and ready smile.

Paul Einerson

Paul Einerson died on August 30, 2025 at Mercy Medical Center after a brief illness.

Paul, the third child born to Dean and Mary Lou Einerson, was born on February 3, 1954. He grew up in Janesville and graduated from Parker High School in 1972.

He served in the US Naval Construction Battalion. Paul majored in Special Education at UW-Oshkosh and retired from Winnebago County Human Services in 2018.

Paul was preceded in death by his parents; two brothers, John Einerson and David Einerson; sister-in-law, Ellen Williams; and his niece, Catherine McIntyre.

He is survived by his brother Dean (Barbara) Einerson of Milwaukee, his sister, Margaret (John) Winn of Oshkosh; sister-



KONRAD-BEHLMAN
FUNERAL HOMES

John Samuel Bullock Jr.

John Samuel Bullock Jr, 72, of Oshkosh, Wisconsin, passed on August 30th, 2025.



He was born in Oshkosh in 1952 to John Bullock Sr and Joanne Bullock(Dahse). John was educated at Oshkosh High School. He worked with his stepdad, Bill, at his tree trimming business. He later went on to work at Pluswood, eventually making a switch to corrections where he retired as a correctional officer from Oshkosh Correctional. He served time in the military in the Army.

John loved nature and the outdoors, spending time planting trees and working around the property. He also was an avid motorcycle rider and enthusiast. He and his friends went on rides and to motorcy-

cle rallies every year. In his earlier years, he had a passion for weight-lifting and boxing. He was a loving and generous man and was someone you could always count on when you needed him. He had an enormous love for his family and friends.

John was preceded in death by his father John Bullock Sr, his mother Joanne Dahse, and his step-father Bill Dahse. He is survived by his wife Linda Bullock, his children Zachary Bullock and Rachael Starks(Adam), his grandchildren Taylor, Carmen and Hunter Starks, and his sisters Sue Bessert(John) and Jean Holland.

A visitation will be held on Monday, September 15th from 10:00-11:00am, with a service following at 11:00am at Westgor Funeral Home (205 W Doty Ave, Neenah, WI, 54956).

WESTGOR FUNERAL HOMES

Cindy Mason Govani

Cindy Mason Govani died.

She grew up poor, died poor and had a great life. She never flew on an airplane, never took a cruise, she loved to work in her yard, loved her dogs, and truly loved her daughter Shaheda.

She loved having people over, her wonderful Roosevelt grade school friends, and her neighborhood picnics.

She always wore jeans and tennis shoes, liked working with stained glass, didn't mind getting dirty and drove around in her old pick-up truck.

It was a great life.



Dear Mom

You have taught me what matters most in life is people and how you treat them.

That time is the most valuable thing.

To have gratitude for loved ones, friends and nature.

Listening to music that moves your body and soul.

To embrace the senses: sight to experience nature, taste to enjoy a meal with

someone you love, touch to feel the warm sun on your back.

You have taught me to embrace life in all of its imperfections because a great life is one that is lived with no limits.

Hug those that matter and feel joy for all that is today.

Give of your heart and take chances.

I love you, Shaheda

Cindy will be missed

By her daughter, Shaheda Govani, her son-in-law Neil Dekarske, who was like the son she never had and her granddogs.

She will be greatly missed by her close friends, and family.

Cindy lived her life like an amusement park ride, full of fun, laughter, and adventure.

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

In lieu of flowers a scholarship fund has been established in Cindy's honor.

Cindy Mason Govani Scholarship Fund

Oshkosh Area Community Foundation
https://oacf.fcsuite.com/erp/donate/create/fund?funit_id=5664



Harry W. Kluge

Harry W. Kluge, age 84 of Oshkosh, passed away at his residence surrounded by his family on August 30, 2025. Born on May 8, 1941, to Harry and Myrtle (Thew) Kluge, Harry lived a life full of love, family, and faith. He was a devoted husband to Shirley, who passed away in 2018, and together they raised four wonderful kids.

After graduating from Oshkosh High School, Harry proudly served in the United States Navy before embarking on a fulfilling career at Universal Foundry and later at Oshkosh Truck, where he would retire.

Harry had a passion for bird watching and could often be found in his yard, tending to his plants from sunrise to sunset. He and Shirley loved going antiquing and thrifting together, collecting treasures along the way. A lifelong member of Plymouth Church, Harry held strong in his faith, attending men's bible study throughout the years. He formed a special friendship with Martha in his later years.

Harry is survived by his children, Wanda (Kevin) Lipp, Holly, Steve and Ken Kluge; five grandchildren; six great-grandchildren; sisters, Valerie Kempinger and

Faye (Dennis) Behnke.

In addition to his parents, and wife, Shirley Kluge, Harry was preceded in death by his great-grandson, Delton, and brother-in-law, Ted Kempinger.

A funeral service with Military Honors to follow for Harry will be held at Plymouth Church, 1325 Georgia St. Oshkosh, WI 54902 on Thursday, September 11, 2025 at 12:00 pm officiated by Rev. Rick Hopkins. Visitation will be held at the church from 10:00 am until the time of the service. Interment will take place at Lake View Memorial Park.

In lieu of flowers, memorials may be made to Gideons International In memory of Harry.

Harry's family would like to thank the exceptional staff of Heartland Hospice for the wonderful care they provided to Harry and his family.

Dad, when you get there, look for us. We'll be right behind you.



KONRAD-BEHLMAN
FUNERAL HOMES

Obituaries

Beverly Joan Olsen

Beverly Joan Olsen, 85, of Oshkosh, WI, passed away peacefully at home on September 3, 2025, surrounded by her loving family. Born on August 6, 1940, to the late John and Marion Sanders, Beverly's joyful spirit and warmth touched the lives of everyone she met.



Beverly graduated from Oshkosh High School in 1958 and went on to work in various roles, including a brief stint with an accountant in Appleton and as a secretary at Kimberly Clark Corporation in Neenah. However, it was her beloved role as the parish secretary for St. Peter's Church in Oshkosh, a position she held for over 25 wonderful years, that truly brought her joy and fulfillment.

On September 6, 1996, Beverly married the love of her life, Peter Olsen, creating a partnership filled with laughter and love. Together, they built a beautiful life enriched by friendship and family.

A talented musician in her youth, Beverly was a certified accordion teacher and shared her passion for music with those around her. She loved spending time outdoors, from playing badminton and croquet with friends to snowmobiling at the family cottage during winter months. Beverly also had a creative side. Her ce-

ramics brought smiles to many, as she gifted beautifully hand-painted treasures to family and friends. In her later years, she loved baking all different types of holiday cookies with her grandchildren. She also enjoyed playing sheephead and cribbage. Like her mother before her, she had a knack for winning!

Beverly is survived by her husband, Peter Olsen; daughter, Mindy (Jon) Burns, of Manitowoc; step-sons, Todd and Shane Olsen, of Key West, FL; grandchildren, Ryan Burns, of Manitowoc, Nicholas Burns of Kiel, and Emily (Fiancé Michael Lemmens) Burns, of Appleton; brother, James (Judy) Sanders, of Green Bay; sister, Marianne Golay of Oshkosh; nieces & nephews, Christina (Brian) Gilkes, of Oshkosh, Jeff (Kim) Sanders, & Janet (Joe) White of Green Bay, and many grand nieces and nephews.

In addition to her parents, Beverly was preceded in death by her brother, Ronald Sanders; brother-in-law, Paul Golay; and nephew, Matthew Golay

A private service was held at Trinity Episcopal Church with a burial that took place at Lake View Memorial Park.

A special thank you to the Aurora Hospice Team who took excellent care of mom when she needed them the most. Especially Whitney, Erica, Jessica, Lisa, & Tammy.

KONRAD-BEHLMAN
FUNERAL HOMES

Linda Lou Feutz

Linda Lou (Marcellis) Feutz 78, of Winneconne, passed away peacefully at



Mercy Medical Center on Wed Aug 20, 2025, with her loving daughters by her side. Linda was born in Oshkosh, WI on March 11, 1947, where she was also raised. She was born the daughter of Clarence Milton

Marcellis and Alma Alice "Dolly" (Carpenter) Marcellis.

Linda was the loving mother of two daughters, Rhonda (Andy Gurkowski) Feutz, and Robin Feutz; loving sister to Clarence (Sandy) Marcellis and Cheryl (Jeff) Beck Lapak; a cherished grandmother to Cory (Samantha) Lewis, Dylan and Keana Feutz; great-grandmother to Chassia Geshke, Axton Feutz, Salone and Theodore Lewis; a cherished aunt to Randy, Thomas, and Christopher Marcellis, Michael (Brenda) Beck, Daniel (Laura) Beck; and great-aunt to Brandon Beck, Autumn Beck, Natalie Beck, Sophie Beck, Maranda and Madilyn Marcellis; also a beloved friend to many.

Linda was most known for her love of her family and animals, her kindness, generosity, sense of humor and of course her stubbornness. She enjoyed time with her family and friends, crocheting, cross stitching, sudoku, playing cards and doing

puzzles.

Over the years Linda held numerous jobs. She tended bar, worked at Stannard Cleaners, worked in food service at Mark's Big Boy and Burger King, seasonal work at Naas Foods and Miles Kimball, and in housekeeping at Bethel Home, Theda Clark and Aurora.

Linda will be remembered for her love of family and friends, always being there for others, willingness to help others, her joking nature, being a great cat mom, and her warm smile and hugs.

Linda is survived by her two daughters, a sister, a brother, three grandchildren, four great grandchildren, a number of cousins, nephews, great nieces and nephews, and her loving cat Abby.

She was preceded in death by her parents, Clarence Milton Marcellis and Alma Alice "Dolly" Jones; her step-father, Elgene Thomas "Tom" Jones; granddaughter Francis Cameron Feutz; her grandparents; two aunts and one uncle.

Per her request, Linda was cremated and no formal services are being held. If you would like to make a donation in her name, for her love of animals please donate to WisCares University of Wisconsin-School of Veterinary Medicine. They provide care for animals of homeless and low income people at no or low cost.



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Obituaries

David J. Riese Sr.

David J. "Dave" Riese Sr. passed away peacefully at Valley Presbyterian Hospital on Saturday, August 23, 2025, with his daughter and son-in-law by his side. He was 88 years old.

David was born July 23, 1937, in Oshkosh, Wisconsin, to the late Kenneth E. and Lois J. (Maurer) Riese. Growing up in Oshkosh, he fell in love with sports and played baseball and football at Oshkosh High School. David graduated in 1955 and spent a year at the University of Wisconsin-Madison before taking a job at Bergstrom Paper Company in Neenah, Wisconsin. While working at Bergstrom, he met Florence ("Flo") Fukumi Matsuyama, a student at Mercy Hospital Nursing School in Oshkosh. They married following her graduation in 1958. Shortly thereafter, David enrolled in the University of Wisconsin-Oshkosh, where in 1962 he earned a bachelor's degree with honors in Economics and Business Administration.

David then began a distinguished and fulfilling career in the insurance industry. David worked at Heritage Mutual Insurance Company (Sheboygan and Wausau, Wisconsin) and Foremost Insurance Company (Indianapolis, Indiana). From 1976 to 1997 he worked at Indiana Lumbermen's Mutual Insurance Company (Indianapolis, Indiana), where he rose to the position of Vice President of Claims. Thereafter, David founded and directed a thriving consulting business that specialized in property and casualty insurance litigation.

David was passionate about the five loves of his life: God, his family, sports, food, and travel. He was a lifelong Lutheran whose faith was nurtured by regular church services. He gave back to the church, as he was a founding member of

New Joy Lutheran Church in his longtime home of Westfield, Indiana.

David was a loyal fan of the Green Bay Packers, the University of Wisconsin Badgers and the Auburn University Tigers. He proclaimed this loyalty by wearing shirts and jackets of these favorite teams. He enthusiastically watched sports on TV, but he also loved to see sporting events live, attending games at such iconic venues as the Rose Bowl, the Horseshoe, Notre Dame Stadium, Hinkle Fieldhouse, Jordan-Hare Stadium and Camp Randall Stadium.

David loved to travel, particularly to Hawaii, where he was a beloved in-law to Flo's family and delighted in the unique culture, cuisine, history, and geography of Hawaii. David was a history buff who visited numerous Civil War battlefields and collected Civil War books and memorabilia.

David enjoyed great food. David's palate embraced the pickled herring, creamed onions, braunschweiger, perch, and bratwurst of his Wisconsin roots, as well as the sushi, seafood, moco loco, and teriyaki beef of Flo's family.

But David's greatest love was his family. David loved to spend time with his family, particularly if sports were involved. David loved to send flowers, gifts, cards, and notes to celebrate weddings, graduations, birthdays, and anniversaries. But David also embraced modern modes of communication; he regularly shared stories via email and his real-time text message commentaries of sporting events were legendary among his family.

David is preceded in death by his parents, infant brother Harry Riese, brother Chuck Riese, sister-in-law Carol (husband Bob) Riese, and sister-in-law Jo (husband Bob) Riese. He is survived by his wife, Flo; son David J. "DJ" Riese II (wife Gail);

daughter Stephanie Riese (husband Tony Smithson); brothers Bob Riese, Steve Riese (wife Kim), and Mike Riese (wife Marlene); sister Lynn Zentner (husband Jim); sister-in-law Judy Riese (late husband Chuck); and numerous nephews, nieces, and other family members.

A celebration of David's life will be held at noon on Friday, September 12, at St. John's Evangelical Lutheran Church, 808 N. Main St., Oshkosh, Wisconsin. Attendees are encouraged to enjoy a late lunch afterward. To honor David's loves, casual at-

tire is strongly recommended, particularly Hawaiian wear and items that celebrate attendees' favorite sports teams.

In lieu of flowers, please consider a donation to the University of Wisconsin-Oshkosh Foundation (625 Pearl Ave., Oshkosh, WI 54901); St. John's Evangelical Lutheran Church (808 N. Main St., Oshkosh, WI 54901); Wisconsin Ascension Foundation (19333 W. North Ave., Brookfield, WI 53045); or Shepherd of the Valley Lutheran Church (4191 Cochran St., Simi Valley, CA 93063).

Constance J. Kunde

Constance "Connie" J. Kunde, age 67, of Oshkosh, passed away at ThedaCare Regional Medical Center-Neenah on August 25, 2025. Born on October 22, 1957, to Frank and Pauline (Murray) Monroe, Connie was a devoted wife, mother, grandmother, and friend, whose kindness and spirit touched all who knew her.



Connie was a devoted wife, mother, grandmother, and friend, whose kindness and spirit touched all who knew her.

In 1985, Connie married Roger Kunde, and together they embraced the joys and challenges of raising two sons, Bryan and Aaron. Her journey began in Oshkosh, where she graduated from Oshkosh West High School and embarked on a career that showcased her dedication and work ethic. From her early days as a machine operator at Oshkosh B'gosh to nurturing young minds at Davis Day Care and the YMCA childcare center, and eventually honing her craft at 4-Imprint as an embroiderer, Connie exemplified resilience and passion in every role she took on.

Family was at the heart of Connie's life. She cherished every moment spent with her grandchildren, Ruby and Owen, and delighted in creating memories during family gatherings, especially at their beloved retreat in Phillips. Her talent for

crafting and love for shopping were not just hobbies—they were expressions of her creativity and zest for life.

Connie is remembered for her radiant smile, which lit up every room she entered, and for her generous nature. She was always ready to lend a hand or offer support to those in need. Her legacy will endure in the hearts of those she touched throughout her life.

Connie is survived by her husband, Roger Kunde; her sons, Bryan (Nica) Kunde and Aaron (Amy) Kunde; her grandchildren, Owen, Ruby and Leo; as well as her sister, Pamela (Darel) Wesenberg; brothers, Steve (Cindy) Monroe, Gary (Chris) Monroe, and Randy (Anna) Monroe; and sister-in-law, Christie (Chuck) Chandler. She is also survived by numerous nieces, nephews, and dear friends who will miss her deeply. Connie was preceded in death by her parents, Frank and Pauline Monroe.

A memorial service honoring Connie's life will be held at Konrad-Behlman Funeral Home-Westside, located at 100 Lake Pointe Dr., on Saturday, September 13, 2025, at 3:00 p.m. Prior to the service, family and friends will have the opportunity to gather for visitation from 1:00 p.m. until the start of the ceremony. In lieu of flowers, a memorial will be established.

KONRAD-BEHLMAN
FUNERAL HOMES

Vernon Moldenhauer

Vernon "Butch" Moldenhauer, age 86, died in Oshkosh, WI, on September 6, 2025. He was born on June 16, 1939, in the township of Rushford WI, the son of Arden and Verna (Deyoe) Moldenhauer.



He was married to Julie Ellis, of Omro, WI, on December 6, 1958. He is survived

by his two daughters, Traci (David) Morrison and Piper Moldenhauer of WI. He has four grandchildren, Abby (Taylor) Bahn, Michael Moldenhauer, Justine (Caleb) Roesler and Seth (Emma) Morrison; 6 great-grandchildren and numerous nieces and nephews. He is further survived by his one sister, Ardene (Effie) Kopper of GA; two half-sisters, Bernice (David) Freng and Myrna Moldenhauer of CO; and stepsister, Marjorie (Dennis) Luker of WI.

He was preceded in death by his wife, Julie Moldenhauer; sons, Marty Moldenhauer and Timothy Moldenhauer; both parents; stepfather, Frank Ginnow; two brothers, Harold and Kenneth; one half-sister, Myra Moldenhauer; one half-brother, Anthony "Skip" Moldenhauer; two stepbrothers, Russell Ginnow and Edward Ginnow; and one stepsister, Edyth Schreindl.

He graduated from Omro High School and attended college at University of Wisconsin-Oshkosh, and was raised in the First Presbyterian Church of Omro. While living in Omro, he was president of the Omro Jaycees and a member of Elk Lodge #2559. In 1992, he continued his education to become a UBC building

inspector and an IBC building inspector. He tested and carried the State Concrete Contractors License for Arizona, California and Nevada.

After working many years as a carpenter for Harold Barber Builders, he purchased the business and started Moldenhauer Construction Co. from 1969 to 1985-building and remodeling many homes in the Oshkosh and surrounding areas. In 1985, he moved to Casa Grande, AZ, to work for Precast Concrete Specialties (of Omro) at their Arizona Precast plant as a Project Manager/Estimator for seven years until their closing. He then took a job in San Juan Batista, CA, with Wilis Construction Co. as a Precast Project Manager for 11 years. He then worked at Structure Cast Precast in Bakersfield, CA, for two years until his retirement in June 2005. During his twenty years out West, he worked on many high-profile projects throughout California, Nevada and Arizona, meeting and working with many interesting people.

He enjoyed his children and grandchildren, golfing and traveling with his wife, remodeling their home, making furniture, tending his roses and yard.

Celebration of Life will be held Saturday, September 13th, 2025, at Kwiatkowski Funeral Home, 425 Jefferson Avenue, Omro, WI, from 10:00a.m. to 11:00a.m., with the service starting at 10:30a.m. In lieu of flowers, a memorial will be established in his honor.

The family would like to thank the staff at Compassus Hospice for their care and compassion during this difficult time.

 **Kwiatkowski Funeral Home**
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Classifieds

Private party ads deadline is 4 p.m.
Friday. \$15 for first 20 words

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Encouragement is free! It never costs us anything to say a few encouraging words to a friend, a classmate, a family member or even a pet!

Encouragement lifts someone's spirits when they are feeling down. It can also help someone reach a goal. Can you think of a time when someone encouraged **you**? Can you think of a time when **you** encouraged someone?



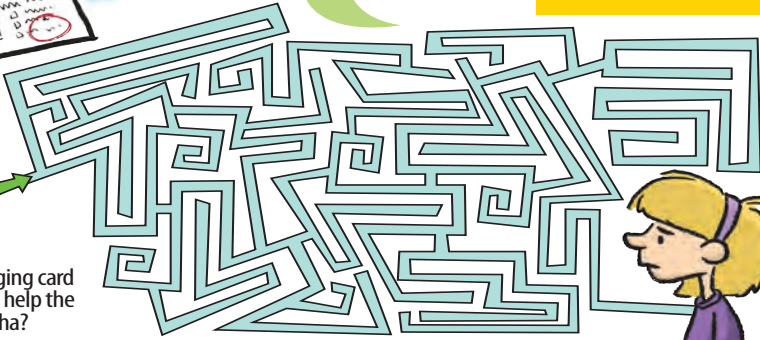
Jeff tried really hard to win the race but came in third place. What would you say to encourage Jeff?



Amy has been working hard in math. When she didn't get an A on her test, she was disappointed. What would you say to encourage her?



Maya is sending an encouraging card to her friend, Sasha. Can you help the card find its way to Sasha?



Standards Link: Language Arts: Follow simple written directions.

How to Be an Encourager



Do you know someone who is feeling a little discouraged?

Make a list of five positive things about this person. Send it to them or read it to them!

Include things that you appreciate about them and things they are good at. Here are some ideas:

Believe in yourself!

You're such a great friend!

You're super kind and helpful!

You are worth it!

You can do it!

You are important!

You're unique and special!

You're very smart!

You're really good at drawing!

You'll see a really BIG difference once you've helped them feel encouraged!

Extra! Extra! Encouraging Words

Look through the newspaper for words that make up one or more encouraging sentences. Cut these out and glue them onto note paper.

Standards Link: Language Arts: Spell grade-level appropriate words correctly.

Kid Scoop Puzzler

Use the code to reveal some words of encouragement to use with friends and family.

SECRET CODE

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23=D	10=Q
22=E	9=R
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20=G	7=T
19=H	6=U
18=I	5=V
17=J	4=W
16=K	3=X
15=L	2=Y
14=M	1=Z

B	9	18	L	15	15	18	26	13	7
25	3	24	C	22	15	15	22	13	7
21	26	13	7	26	8	7	18	24	
26	4	22	W	8	12	14	22	E	
14	26	9	5	22	15	12	6	8	
8	6	11	U	22	9				

Standards Link: Reading Comprehension: Spell grade-level appropriate words correctly.

Double Double Word Search

FEELING
FRIEND
GOAL
GOOD
GREAT
IDEAS
KIND
NICE
PET
POSITIVE
TEST
THINK
TRIED
WORDS
WORTH

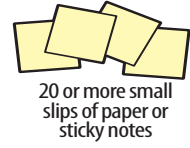
Find the words by looking up, down, backwards, forwards, sideways and diagonally.

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

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

Kid Scoop Together Make an Encouragement Jar

STUFF YOU'LL NEED:



DIRECTIONS:

1. Write an encouraging phrase on each of the slips of paper.
2. Decorate your jar or container.
3. Fold up the slips of paper and put them in the jar.
4. Each day, take one out and read it!
5. Smile! Remember, smile, and others will smile with you!

IDEAS FOR NOTES:

I am confident.	I am brave.
I am kind.	I can make a difference.
I am creative.	I can be a good friend.
I'm a problem solver.	I'm a good sport.
I cheer for my friends to succeed.	I'm nice to people at school.
I'm a problem solver.	I learn new things every day.
I help friends feel happy.	I learn from my mistakes.

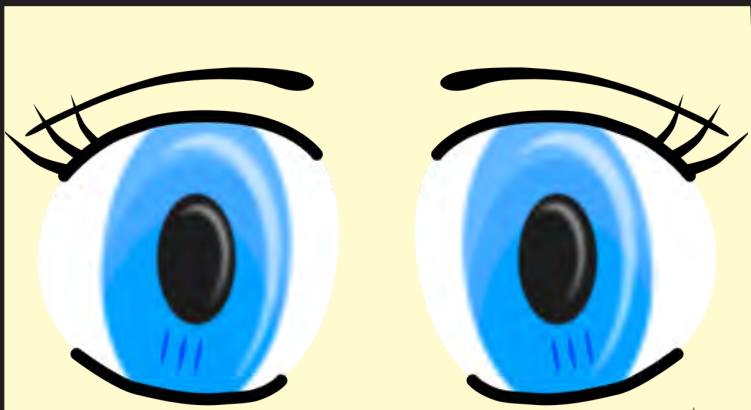
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Write On! Be an Encourager!

Write an encouraging sentence to give to a friend.



ARE YOU READING THIS?



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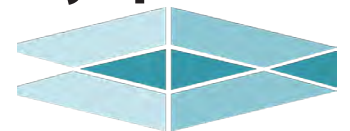
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