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Clearwells project receives approval

By Jonathan Richie
OSHKOSH HERALD

The city has been working on replacing its drinking water tanks for almost 20 years.

The project has been awarded to a construction company, and the over two years of construction is set to begin in the coming months.

Oshkosh received notification from the DNR 19 years ago that the city's clearwell tanks did not meet current code. This came after an inspection of the clearwell tanks that are old, so old that city staff is not sure when it was built but it could be

as old as 150 years.

James Rabe, the former director of public works and current director of the department of engineering, infrastructure and utilities, said the city has gone through numerous studies, designs and public forums over the two decades before being ready last week to award the bid for the project.

"It's been a very long process," Rabe said. "We are excited to finally move past (the design phase) and get construction started."

C.D. Smith Construction of Fond du Lac has been awarded the bid, and con-

struction is scheduled to start in the spring for the almost \$50 million project. Since the city will need to provide water during the construction process the project will be completed in phases.

Rabe said by building the tanks in phases the city will be able to store water in the existing tanks while the new ones are being built.

The city's clearwell tanks are underground. The DNR does not allow municipalities to have these tanks underground so the new ones will be built above ground

SEE **Water tanks** ON PAGE 9

INSIDE



Girls hoops
Oshkosh North collects lopsided victory
Page 16

Spring fun
Oshkosh Arena announces schedule
Page 10



Submitted photo

Colorful addition

The STAR program mural project was completed last week at the Winnebago County Jail. The mural is intended to provide a lasting reminder in a relatively colorless room of both the darkness of addiction and the hope that participants are working toward. STAR, which stands for Sobriety Treatment Assisted Recovery, helps individuals booked into the jail by offering a recovery pod if they're wishing to get sober.

Full-service cocktail bar pops up on Lake Winnebago

By Dave Gill
OSHKOSH HERALD

Latitude: 44.01959.
Longitude: -88.49672.
Altitude: 741 feet.
Attitude: Spirited.

Those are the coordinates of and the demeanor at Wisconsin's first legal full-service cocktail bar. The bar, on the ice one mile east of Oshkosh off Merritt Avenue on Lake Winnebago, launched by Sturgeon Spirits Craft Distillery during the first weekend of sturgeon spearing.

Sturgeon Spirits founder and owner Karl Loewenstein said having a cocktail bar on Lake Winnebago has been a dream of his even before his hobby became Sturgeon Spirits Craft Distillery about three years ago.

"This has been a dream I've had from the very beginning," Loewenstein said. "I love sturgeon season, I love the lake and to be able to take my hobby - which became my new second business - is just amazing and exciting."

"When we opened in February 2023, it

wasn't just a business launch," Loewenstein continued. "It was a deliberate alignment with a 94-year-old calendar. To celebrate three years by finally 'cutting in' our own place on the ice feels like a homecoming. It's a nod to the patience and persistence that both the sturgeon and this community have shown for generations."

On a very busy Sunday afternoon, a couple of Bar on Ice patrons braved their first ever sojourn onto a frozen lake to soak in the atmosphere and a couple cocktails.

"Never, I'm still scared," said Nick Trapp

when asked if he'd ever been on a frozen lake before. "But when I heard there was a pop-up bar a mile out on Lake Winnebago, we had to give it a shot."

"I've never ice fished before," said Trapp's girlfriend Bailey Winters.

But that didn't stop her and Trapp from driving to Bar on Ice to order some Bloody Spears (cranberry vodka and Sprite) and taking a few minutes to enjoy a relatively warm Sunday on two feet of Lake Winnebago.

SEE **Ice bar** ON PAGE 20

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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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Grant supports expanded services for caregivers

Oshkosh Herald

Valley VNA Senior Care has been awarded a \$25,000 StartUP Respite Grant through the Respite Care Association of Wisconsin (RCAW) to launch an Enhanced Respite Program designed to address an unmet need for family caregivers in the community.

The Respite Care Association of Wisconsin supports programs that provide relief and resources for family caregivers across the state.

The Enhanced Respite Program is offered on the first and third Friday of each month from 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. The pro-

gram provides personal care support for seniors, including assistance with meals, medication reminders and bathroom needs. Because the program spans a full day, participants will also receive lunch and snacks, with accommodations made for dietary needs.

Valley VNA Senior Care has offered shorter, two-hour respite programs in Neenah and Oshkosh for several years. Expanding respite services to a full-day format allows caregivers extended time to rest, attend appointments or manage personal responsibilities, helping reduce caregiver burnout.

Funding from RCAW has also allowed Valley VNA to create a new Respite Coordinator position to oversee the program, coordinate engaging activities, and ensure participants receive the exceptional, compassionate care Valley VNA is known for.

Valley VNA Senior Care is a nonprofit organization providing independent living, assisted living, in-home care and community programs supporting seniors and families throughout the Fox Valley. For more information about the Enhanced Respite Program, contact Valley VNA Senior Care at 920-727-5555.

Mom Prom slated to return to Oshkosh on March 14

Oshkosh Herald

The Mom Prom is officially back, inviting ladies from Oshkosh and the surrounding communities to dust off their old prom, bridesmaid, homecoming or wedding gowns for a night of “glitz and giving.”

The event is scheduled from 7 to 11 p.m. March 14 at The Gibson Social Club. While the name says “Mom Prom,” guests do not need to be a mom to attend — all ladies 21 and older are welcome to join the fun.

Organizers said this year’s event is bigger and better, featuring a full lineup of entertainment designed for a night out with friends.

Activities include high-energy dancing, food and drinks, games and prizes, a photo booth, raffle baskets and the Royal Court.

Every ticket purchased supports pdsF.U.S.I.O.N. INC Kicks for Kids Foundation and their fee waiver scholarship program. The community initiative provides youth and families in the Oshkosh

area with financial assistance for health and wellness programs, including Kids Crew and Oshkosh Summer Fun Runs, BAGO - Be Active, Go Outside, and Community Fun Runs and Road Races.

Individual tickets are \$40 or a group of five or more people can purchase tickets at \$35 per person. Payment methods include cash, check or Venmo.

Use the registration link for more details. To register, visit eventbrite.com/e/mom-prom-2026-registration-1278528115009?aff=oddttdcreator.

Artists invited to submit work for April art show

Oshkosh Herald

Altrusa International Club of Oshkosh invites participants to its 18th people’s choice Art in the Garden Art Show and Sale at the Hilton Garden Inn April 11 and 12.

Organizers are looking for artists with original photography, oil, watercolors, fiber, jewelry, glass, wood and other art media.

Artists do not need to be professionals and all entries are juried for admission. The deadline for submissions is March 11. The public will determine the winners vying for ribbons and cash awards.

Participating artists may purchase a vendor space to display additional work for sale. For additional information, send a message to [facebook/altrusaofoshkosh](https://facebook.com/altrusaofoshkosh) or call 920-379-5713 for additional information and application forms.

There will also be a display of outstanding high school art with students vying for awards. Altrusa fundraising proceeds benefit literacy, local non-profits and programs.

Back in the Day



Oshkosh history by the Winnebago County Historical Society

Feb. 15, 1958

Local Grocer Relocates Business

Four Miles North: Franklin E. Priem, operator of Priem’s Grocery located at 1006 S. Main St., has decided to move his business from the southside to the northside. Priem will celebrate his new location just north of Oshkosh in the township of Winnebago with a Grand Opening on Saturday, February 15. The new store is located on the corner of Butler Ave. and County Road A, one block west of the Winnebago State Hospital. The new store will proudly feature Smith Ice Cream and Fairmont and Morning Glory Dairy products. The special grand opening event will feature free milk, hot chocolate and



Randy Priem photos

Top: Franklin “Bud” Priem moved his business to this location on Butler Avenue, formerly owned and operated by Elmer Ter Horst.

Bottom: Priem’s delivery truck.

balloons for the kids. The store also is a stop for the Greyhound Bus Line

Source: *Oshkosh Northwestern*, February 14, 1958

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West side subdivision expansion receives approvals

By Jonathan Richie
OSHKOSH HERALD

A subdivision expansion has received several approvals in time for the land to be developed this spring.

The Oshkosh Common Council approved several items at last week's meeting to allow for the construction of 30 new single-family homes in the Casey's Meadow south subdivision. The subdivision is north of 20th Avenue and east of Clairville Road on Oshkosh's west side.

Chet Wesenberg of Wesenberg Homes, the developer for the project, has plans to build 90 new single-family homes in the Casey's Meadow South subdivision. The plan is to accomplish this in three phases; the first will build 30 homes.

The council approved special assessments for the development. The developer will be in charge of all costs associated with installing the public infrastructure for the new development.

The city has shifted from special assessments for road work projects with

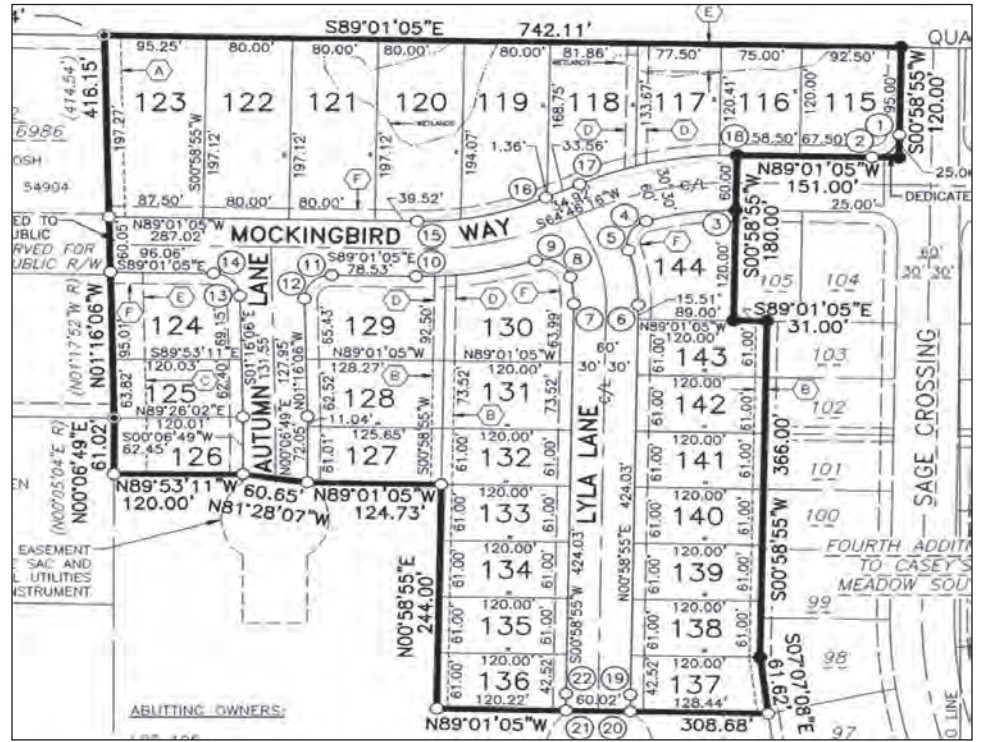
the vehicle registration fee but for new constructions the property owner is responsible for the costs associated with the installation of water utilities, sidewalk and concrete paving.

Another aspect of the first phase is the city will be paying to connect the existing subdivision to Clairville Road to give residents a new entrance and exit. The city is set to build the road this spring that will connect Mockingbird Way in Casey's Meadows to Windsong Terrace.

This connection will allow residents to access the expanding subdivision from Clairville Road. Currently the only way to access the subdivision is on West Ninth Avenue or South Oakwood Road.

The new homes will sit on 8.6 acres of former farmland. The lots range from 7,320 square feet to 15,770 square feet. Wesenberg spoke to the Herald following the approvals at last week's council meeting.

"I'm thankful for the approval from the council," Wesenberg said. "We're expecting new lots to be ready this spring."



City of Oshkosh photo

The final plat for the newest addition to Casey's Meadow will include 30 single-family homes on 8.6 acres of former farmland.

Noon Optimist Club presents high school contest winners

Oshkosh Herald

The Oshkosh Noon Optimist Club hosted its annual High School Essay and Oratorical Contest earlier this month.

The event gave local students a chance to improve their writing and public speaking skills and compete for a college scholarship.

This year the topic for the oratorical contest was "The Moment I Realized I Belonged - My Definition of Community." The topic for the essay contest was "How My Acts of Service Help Me Understand What My Community Means to Me."

The winners presented their work and

received cash prizes along with a certificate of appreciation on Feb. 11 at the Delta Family Restaurant.

The winners include Adessa Schoening (Omro) second place Oratorical, Kaia Matthies (Omro) third place Essay, Dylan Thomas (Omro) second place Essay, Macaylen Moore (Omro) third place oratorical, Jayden Dalton (Omro) first place Oratorical and Madaline Weiss (Valley Christian) first place Essay.

Optimist President Mike Domer told contestants they all did an incredible job this year.

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Plans for new Valley Christian high school moving forward

By Jonathan Richie
OSHKOSH HERALD

If everything goes to plan, Oshkosh will be home to a new high school just in time for the 2027-28 school year.

The Oshkosh Common Council approved the general development plan and site implementation plan for a Valley Christian High School to be built along a soon-to-be constructed road.

The private high school's initial phase will be 39,000 square feet. Officials are expecting 300 students to attend the school, along with 40 employees working at the school. The plan calls for 318 stalls in the parking lot.

The school operates the main campus in Oshkosh at 3450 Vinland St., an early education campus in Oshkosh and a campus in Neenah.

Plans show there are two planned expansions to be built on the school's north

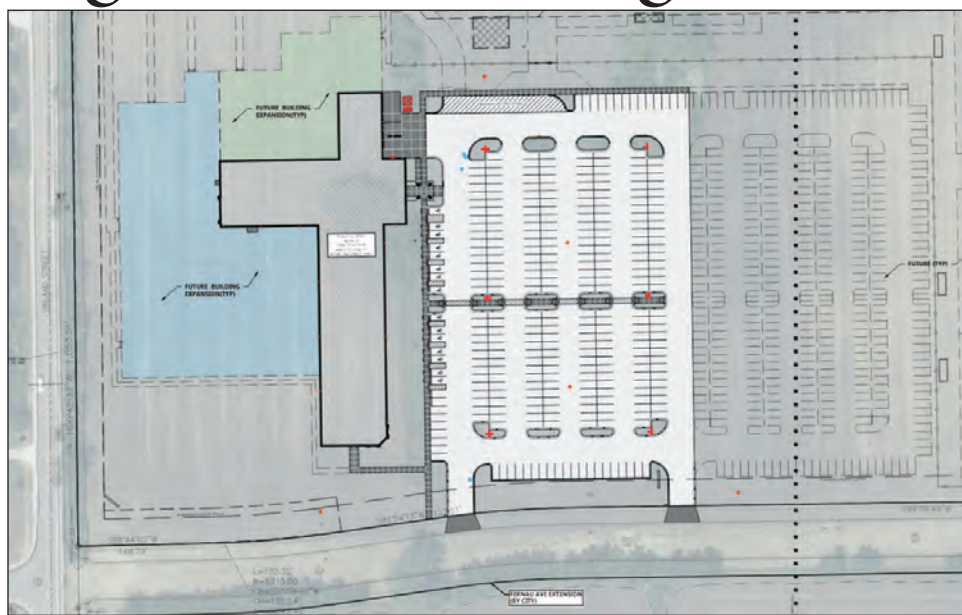
and west sides. The new school will be built on 34 acres of former farmland. It is unknown when the additions will be built.

The city annexed land from the Town of Oshkosh to build the road, and construction on the West Fernau connection is set to begin this spring. The city owns the lot that will sit south of West Fernau near Vinland Street, and a retention pond will be built on that approximately eight-acre parcel.

"We are excited about the new high school building for Valley Christian," said Brad Dunn, Valley Christian head administrator.

Dunn said they plan on having the school built for fall 2027.

"Our goal is to have it fully funded by the time the building is complete in the fall of 2027," Dunn said. "That means our current sophomore class will be seniors, and they will be the first graduating class for the new building."



City of Oshkosh photo

The plans for a new Valley Christian High School show two future expansions for the school that will be built north of the soon-to-be-built West Fernau Avenue, which will connect Vinland Street and Jackson Street.



Oshkosh Herald

Goodbye wooden train tracks

As the City of Oshkosh prepares for a new amusement train later this year, city staff took advantage of the sunshine and warmer temperatures last week to start dismantling the wooden train tracks that run through Menominee Park. The Oshkosh Common Council last month approved spending \$100,000 for a trackless train to be used in the park.

UWO seeing positive trends

Oshkosh Herald

University of Wisconsin-Oshkosh administrators are looking to stabilize trends that have recently been impacting the campus.

Chancellor Manohar Singh said last week during a campus forum that the university is showing signs of trending in a positive budget and enrollment direction.

Corey Finkelmeyer, interim vice chancellor for administration and compliance and chief operating officer, said as of December, the university is tracking lower expenses and aligning to where it should be as the unrestricted funds balance is \$5.3 million. The balance had been negative \$1.3 million in 2024.

Singh said the goal is to be responsible with taxpayer dollars used to serve a regional comprehensive university looking to make a global impact.

"We made some strides," said Singh, who became chancellor in July. "We are on a positive trajectory and are seeing a rebound on a path to resurgence. We are ready to take on the challenges as we figure out what needs to be done."

The university is looking to depend less on state funding and more on making business-savvy decisions, Singh said.

The fall to spring student retention rate is at 91%, Singh said.

He's hoping recent success in athletics helps to yield continued gains in enroll-

ment as athletes are among the biggest brand ambassadors of the university.

"We are doing the work," Singh said. "That is where change is happening."

Provost Ed Martini said the university is exploring partnerships with other schools in the area to create seamless pathways for transfer students. Martini said UWO is flattening the curve of what has been declining enrollment for the past eight to nine years as the rate of decline is slowing.

Singh said declining enrollment leads to decreased revenue for the university, which is why he wants to reverse recent enrollment trends and be more prudent with resources.

Enrollment for spring 2024 compared to spring 2025 decreased 5.8%. The mid-year drop has been as high as a 7% decline at times, Martini said.

After the curve flattens, he said they could begin to see an upward trajectory in growth starting as soon as the fall semester.

"We are poised to break through with growth," Martini said. "It will be a team effort, and I'm confident we can do that."

Despite talking about the need for cost savings, Singh said he does not currently see a need to cut workforce.

"Instead of having to lay them off as the technology changes, we will be supporting them to rediscover their talents, retrain, reskill, retool, upscale if you would and come back with their rejuvenated professional contributions," Singh said. "That way we will not have need to lay off staff. When I say we want to be cost costing, we will be becoming more efficient. Laying off will be the last possible option."



Singh

UWO student dies in skiing crash

Oshkosh Herald

A University of Wisconsin-Oshkosh student was killed in a skiing crash Feb. 5 at Granite Peak.

The campus community is mourning the loss of Alexandria J. Blattner, 20, of Neenah, who held roles in various clubs and organizations.

"On behalf of the University of Wisconsin-Oshkosh, I extend our heartfelt sympathies to Ally's family, friends, classmates, and all who knew her," Chancellor Manohar Singh wrote in an email to students and staff. "We share in the profound sense of loss felt across our campus, and we stand ready to support Al-



Blattner

ly's family and loved ones in any possible way we can during this incredibly difficult time. This loss is felt deeply within our community. I encourage each of you to take care of yourselves and to look out for one another as we grieve together."

Sigma Sigma Sigma National Sorority said that Blattner was a member of the Epsilon Kappa Chapter.

"She inspired others through her leadership and service, holding roles within Tri Sigma, UWO's College Panhellenic Council, and the Oshkosh Student Government," the sorority wrote in a social media post. "Our hearts are with our Epsilon Kappa sisters and Ally's loved ones during this difficult time."

Blattner was a 2024 graduate of Neenah High School. She was a sophomore at UWO studying pre-nursing and psychology.

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FVTC Foundation awards 460 new scholarships

By Joy Wick
FOX VALLEY TECHNICAL COLLEGE

The Fox Valley Technical College Foundation is celebrating a season of impact.

Following the fall 2025 application cycle, the Foundation has awarded \$378,195 in scholarship support to students.

Out of nearly 930 applicants, 460 students were selected to receive funding. These scholarship awards are made possible through the support of donors who understand the vital role of technical education in the community.

This funding arrives just in time for the upcoming spring 2026 semester, alleviating financial stress and allowing FVTC students to focus on what matters most: their education and their future careers.

One of the students who received a scholarship is Lauren Stettbacher, who is studying aviation management.

"I've always been fascinated with airplanes, and attending the airshows at (EAA AirVenture Oshkosh) every summer really sparked my love for aviation," Stettbacher said. "Ever since my first discovery flight, I knew that being in the air and flying any type of aircraft was what I wanted to do for the rest of my life."

With this vision, Stettbacher took bold steps as a teenager to launch into private pilot training. She is well on her way to becoming a professional pilot. Stettbacher is pairing her learning with a full-time schedule at Fox Valley Technical College in the Aviation Management associate degree program and a part-time job at the Fond du Lac County Airport.

It's a dream that comes at a high cost. Stettbacher's tuition bill for her first semester was four times what she was of-



Photo from Fox Valley Technical College

Lauren Stettbacher received the Sean Paul Gonia Aviation Scholarship from the FVTC Foundation as she strives to begin a career in aviation.

ferred in financial aid.

Receiving the Sean Paul Gonia Aviation Scholarship from the FVTC Foundation brought her well-deserved relief and encouragement to keep going.

Paying back help

"The difference that it made for myself and Sylvia — both of us had scholarships to the University of Illinois and North Carolina State University," Laur Gonia said. "We benefitted from scholarships. And, so, it's paying back. I guess a lot of

people talk about paying forward, but I look at it as paying it back."

Gonia knows well the financial commitment it takes to receive an education in aviation. His son Sean worked hard to apply for and receive many scholarships as he pursued his pilot training at St. Cloud State University in the 1990s.

His untimely death on Sept. 11, 2004, accelerated a plan Laur and Sylvia Gonia had made to establish a scholarship with his name. Sylvia Gonia's passing on Nov. 17, 2023, prompted a second scholarship,

the Sylvia B. Gonia ELL Endowed Scholarship for English language learners.

While not alumni of FVTC, the connection is a strong one. When St. Cloud State ended its aviation program, the Gonias transferred the scholarship in Sean's name to FVTC for the reputation of its aviation program, professionalism of the FVTC Foundation as well as Sean's ties to the Oshkosh area through EAA AirVenture and Explorers.

They also valued FVTC's commitment to serving immigrants by assisting them to assimilate to life in the United States through ELL classes. A first-generation Lithuanian, Sylvia learned English in grammar school and taught her mother to speak and read English.

Meeting recipients like Lauren Stettbacher is deeply meaningful, says Laur Gonia, and enriches the legacy that he and his daughter, Tara, and two grandchildren celebrate when they remember Sean and Sylvia.

Role model for future aviators

Stettbacher expects to graduate from FVTC next May. Meanwhile, she has achieved several milestones on her path to earning a pilot's license and is a proud volunteer pilot for the EAA Young Eagles program. She has taken 17 young people on their first flights so far.

"Receiving this scholarship has made a huge difference for me," Stettbacher said. "It helped ease some of the financial burden, but more importantly, it encouraged me to know that others believe in my potential and want to support my education. That support has given me a big boost of confidence and motivation to keep working hard and moving toward my goals."



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OSHKOSH

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- Monday, February 16 at 10:00 a.m.
- Wednesday, February 25 at 1:00 p.m.

Location: Evergreen Worship & Performing Arts Center
1130 North Westfield Street, Oshkosh, WI 54902

NEENAH

- Thursday, February 12 at 10:00 a.m.
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New Witzke's owners receive liquor license approval

By Jonathan Richie
OSHKOSH HERALD

Witzke's is an Oshkosh icon that has been closed for six years. A new owner and manager are hopeful to bring the historic bar back to life.

The Morth family has been working on the neglected property at 1700 Oregon St. for two years and are almost ready to unveil the progress to the community.

Chris and Linda Morth bought the building in April 2024 with two goals: the first was to bring the celebrated bar back to life, and the other was to lure their grandkids back to the area. Thanks to an approval from the Oshkosh Common Council, both goals can be achieved.

The council approved a liquor license for Witzke's at its meeting last week with no opposing votes.

"There's been a lot of time and effort and energy that's gone into this historic property," council member Jacob Floam said. "It's a landmark in Oshkosh, and I'm glad to see it up and running again in the future."

Renovations

The Morth family has been working on the building, which can trace its roots as a saloon back over 150 years. The renovations include gutting the entire bar, the upstairs apartment and the banquet hall just south of Witzke's.

"Everything was taken out down to the studs," Chris said.

A new roof was installed over the bar building, and a new floor was installed inside the bar area. The Morth's also redid a lot of work, including replacing the gas lines, redoing all the electrical work and adding all new plumbing lines.

"We didn't want to have any ongoing issues with old lines," Chris said. "The lines have all been 100% replaced."

One item that will not be replaced is the bar front and the bar back that have been refurbished. Chris said it is the same bar that has been at Witzke's since the 1870s.

"It's a real eye-catching piece when you walk in," he said.



Submitted photos
Top: A street view of Witzke's circa 1900s.

Bottom: Former Witzke's owner Fuddy Witzke stands behind the bar in this photo from 1915.

Chris admitted part of the reason for bringing Witzke's back was to lure their son and grandkids back to the area. It seems to have worked as their son, Brett Morth, his wife and their kids did move back, and Brett is set to run the bar as he has bartending and bar management experience.

Brett said he's planning on bringing food and beverages to Witzke's, including pizza and wings. He plans for the space to be a neighborhood bar and restaurant.

"We want to bring it back to its glory days," Brett said. "It's a big thing, and we really want to bring back the history of the place."

Oshkosh's historic bar

The story of Witzke's goes back to 1873, when the property was purchased by German immigrant Henry Schmidt, who established a saloon at the corner of Oregon Street and 17th Avenue. It became a venue



Submitted photo
The historic bar back and bar front that have been in the building since the 1870s when the building was first used as a saloon.

known for having music, boxing matches, roller skating and Oktoberfest celebrations as the century came to an end.

The saloon changed owners a number of times before August "Fuddy" Witzke became the owner in 1930. He was at the helm through prohibition and retired in 1966. Fuddy's son, Ken, then ran the bar for the next 30 years.

Ken retired in 1996 and sold the family bar. Several owners led the bar through the 1990s with renovation plans coming in 2003. Restorations were made and a banquet hall was built on the property.

Financial struggles hit the owners in 2017, and the bar's closure was ultimately announced with a handwritten note in September 2019.

The site was vacant for years, with lots of community chatter about what would happen with it. When Chris Morth went into city hall to get a permit to renovate

Witzke's the city staff thought he was planning on tearing it down.

"Nope. That's not our plan," he said. "We're looking to renovate."

The Morth's are living in the former banquet hall, which has been converted into a house. The apartment on the second floor has been renovated and has a tenant.

The plan, according to Brett and Chris is to open in early April, two years after the family purchased the property.

The family's work at Witzke's so far can be summed up in the last line of the liquor license application, where the question states – any other information you'd like to share with council regarding your business?

Brett Morth wrote, "Looking forward to bringing Witzke's back to life."

Historical Witzke's information provided by Lee Reischer's Oshkosh Beer blog, oshkoshbeer.blogspot.com.

Business news roundup

Fox Legacy Tax Service, a new tax preparation office, has opened at 230 N. Koeller St. in Oshkosh. The business was founded by Cari Best, who worked with the late Al Bleser at Fox Tax for more than 20 years, and Heidi Tannarat, Al Bleser's oldest daughter, who returned to the area after managing a children's foundation overseas for nearly two decades. Both hold IRS Annual Filing Season Program

credentials. The firm prepares individual, small business and rental property tax returns.

The Ambulatory Surgical Center has remodeled and moved from its Doctors Court location to a new state-of-the-art facility at the beginning of the month. The facility is located at 2120 S. Washburn St.

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Photo from Winnebago County Land and Water Conservation

Farmer roundtable

Winnebago County hosted the fifth annual Oshkosh Farmer Roundtable on Feb. 5. The event brought together local farmers for a day of learning and conversation with a panel of speakers.

Wiowash Trail upgrades estimates come in

By MaryBeth Matzek
OSHKOSH HERALD

The Winnebago County Parks Commission received initial cost estimates for making improvements to the Wiowash Trail in Oshkosh.

When looking at the improvements, the parks department divided the trail from the University of Wisconsin-Oshkosh to Butte des Morts Drive into three segments. The first segment is from the university to Rockwell Avenue, \$162,489; Rockwell Avenue to New York Avenue, \$229,597; and River Mill Road to Butte des Morts Drive, \$688,755. The cost to replace a small parking lot is \$81,061. All costs include a 20% contingency fee for any unexpected cost increases.

The trail will be converted from crushed

limestone to a paved surface in segments two and three. The segment by UW-Oshkosh is already paved and will be redone. The trail segment by Cummins will also be relocated closer to the river.

The estimated cost for the entire project is more than \$1 million. The county worked with Graef on the estimates.

Parks & Expo Director Adam Breest said during the Parks Commission meeting Feb. 12 that the county will be looking for grants and funds from community partners to help pay for the improvements. The goal is to complete the work in 2027.

The Winnebago County Board approved \$500,000 in SPIRIT Funds two years ago for Wiowash Trail improvements in unincorporated areas so those funds cannot be used on this project.

County receives \$4.4M grant to fund Lead-Safe Homes Program

By MaryBeth Matzek
OSHKOSH HERALD

Winnebago County received a \$4.4 million federal grant to remove lead from homes.

The four-year U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development grant supports the county's Lead-Safe Homes Program, said Wanda Tracy, multimedia and public relations coordinator for Winnebago County Public Health.

"We hope to remove lead from more than 40 homes this year," she said.

Lead is toxic to everyone, but children under age 6 are at greatest risk and exposure can lead to behavioral issues, decreased academic performance and slowed physical growth, hearing and speech problems. Lead is mostly commonly found in lead-based paint, which was outlawed in 1978. Children are typically exposed to lead when they put things in their mouths that are contaminated with lead dust or eat paint chips.

"Two areas where we find a lot of lead paint are windowsills and porch floors — which are both areas where children typically play. We have very old home stock in Winnebago County, so a lot of homes have paint from before 1978," Tracy said. "Lead can be in more than paint. It can be wood paneling and other housing materials, for example. Sometimes, it's on old toys and we even found it once on cookware."

Under the Winnebago County Health Department's Lead-Safe Homes Program, homes are made safe by removing lead hazards to ensure that kids do not experience the long-term effects of lead exposure.

After contacting the health department, a program representative comes into the

home to identify the source of the lead exposure. A plan is then made to remove the lead from the home. While a contractor removes the lead from the home, the family is relocated at no cost to a hotel until the work is finished.

For homeowners, the program covers up to 100% of the costs to make the home free of lead. For landlords, the program covers 85 to 100% of the costs to remove lead from the property. There are no costs to renters, Tracy said.

To qualify for the program, the residence needs to have children or a pregnant woman living or visiting regularly who are on, or eligible for, Medicaid or BadgerCarePlus.

Most families discover their home has lead paint or another lead component when their child tests positive for having lead in their blood. Children are tested at ages 1 and 2 by their primary medical providers for lead. If parents suspect their children might have been exposed to lead, the health department's nurse can also test for lead exposure.

Tracy said the grant will also provide the county with the resources to train more contractors to become certified in removing lead from homes. She said there is a limited number of contractors who work in that area and that "we could work on more homes if we had more contractors trained in this work."

The county also has a grant from the Wisconsin Department of Health Services for its Lead-Safe Home Programs, which allowed it to work on about 23 homes annually. Those funds will still be used in conjunction with the HUD grant.

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Photo by Michael Cooney

Successful haul

Ryan Zernzak, a Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources fisheries technician, explains to Jace and Jensen Pepler of Pickett the sturgeon registration process Saturday at Jerry's Bar after they speared a sturgeon on Asylum Bay. Zernzak measured and weighed the fish at 64.3 inches and 48.5 pounds. Zernzak also scanned the fish for an embedded tag and explained the biology of lake sturgeon, including their age, growth patterns and why the annual harvest is carefully regulated.

Neighbor, police help save resident from house fire

Oshkosh Herald

The Oshkosh Fire Department continued its busy winter with a call last week to a structure fire on Oshkosh's north side.

The house fire in the 4400 block of Island View Drive started in the garage, then spread to the attic over the garage and into the home's living space, according to Oshkosh Fire Marshal Jack Clark.

The fire department reported there were no injuries related to the fire. Crews were dispatched to the home at 3:19 p.m. on Friday. The lone occupant of the house was unable to evacuate the home. This re-

sulted in Oshkosh police and a neighbor working to help the individual safely exit the home.

"First arriving fire department crews found smoke coming from the eaves of the attached garage," Clark said. "Fire crews entered the garage for an interior fire attack and were able to control the fire quickly."

The home sustained heavy smoke, fire and water damage. The estimated cost of the damage is approximately \$150,000. OFD reported the cause of the fire was accidental.

Plans set for Winter Battle on Bago this weekend

Oshkosh Herald

The 19th annual Winter Battle on Bago is set with activities this weekend.

Fishing will take place on Lakes Winnebago, Butte des Morts, Winneconne and Poygan. Anyone fishing in areas that are off-limits will be automatically disqualified from the tournament.

The tournament headquarters is located on Miller's Bay in Menominee Park. The heated tent will include music, food and prizes with free admission. No fishing tickets are required to join the fun in the tent.

Over 425 fishing prizes are scattered throughout the rankings and 130 raffle prizes with winnings such as a brand new truck, cash prizes, gift cards and more – totaling over \$475,000 in prizes between the two raffles.

The tournament begins at 6 a.m. Friday when ticket sales end. Scales will be open for weigh in from 4 to 8 p.m. A fish fry will take place from 5 to 10 p.m. with live music featuring Glam Band from 7:30 to 11 p.m.

Scales will be open at 8 a.m. Saturday and participants must be in line by 2 p.m. Music will be from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. with fishing prizes announced at 4 p.m. and raffle prizes announced at 5 p.m.

In 2007 five members of the Oshkosh Southwest Rotary came together to create the event after seeing the growing issue of youths being stuck behind a television or computer screen. They decided to rally the community to help fund efforts to get youths up, outdoors and involved in local conservation efforts. Since its inception, Battle on Bago has generated net proceeds of nearly \$2.6 million.

With over 12 different service groups and organizations working the fish fry and bartending, it's an event that includes a wide range of organizations. In addition, Battle on Bago donates fish to many local organizations and nonprofits within the area such as the food pantry and the Christine Ann Center.

More information is available at battleonbago.org.

Fire department reminds about ice safety

Oshkosh Herald

The Oshkosh Fire Department is providing ice safety information and details about its preparations with the sturgeon spearing season underway and Battle on Bago coming up this weekend.

The fire department said it wants everyone to enjoy a safe season on the ice.

Its crews have been training since early December, starting with shore-based ice rescue. From late December through mid-January, the crews trained on the new 1000 Island Ice Boat. Last week, it was conducting ice dive training to be ready for emergencies on the ice.

Over the past three years, the department has handled 96 water-related calls for service (an average of 32 calls per year). In 2025 alone, it responded to 41 calls. On average, its teams assist 7-9 people out of the water each year.

Before heading out on the ice, the fire department said:

- No ice is 100% safe — conditions can change quickly.
- Check ice conditions often, especially near current, pressure cracks, bridges and shorelines.



Photo from Oshkosh Fire Department

Oshkosh Fire Department crews have been training since December for emergencies on the ice.

- Let someone know the plan and bring safety gear (ice picks, rope/throw bag, life jacket, and a charged phone in a waterproof case).

A reminder for fish shacks and ice shanties: When moving ice shacks, all holes must be clearly marked for the safety of first responders and the public.

Winnebago ice report

By Jim Nobbe

PAYNE'S POINT HOOK & SPEAR FISHING CLUB

As of Monday, we are seeing 18-21" of ice still with the warm weather.

We have our truck bridges out in the same general locations as last week. The landing at Payne's Point is holding up pretty well with the warm weather we are seeing.

Stop in to the clubhouse for daily updates

on the ice conditions during the spearing season and this weekend for Battle on Bago. Parking for trucks and trailers is suggested north of the clubhouse on the ice.

Remember to support your local fishing club and that ice is never 100% safe.



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Oshkosh man charged with multiple burglaries

Oshkosh Herald

An Oshkosh man allegedly burgled one business three times in a single day taking over \$2,000 in merchandise the day after attempting to steal an ATM.

Cody J. Malouf, 35, is facing felony charges of retail theft, between \$500 and \$5,000, burglary of a room, burglary of a building and possession of burglarious tools.

Court documents allege Malouf burgled one Oshkosh business multiple times in one day and also burgled another business on the other side of the city.



Malouf

Online records show Court Commissioner Eric Heywood set a \$1,000 signature bond in the case. Malouf remains in custody at the Winnebago County Jail.

Heywood ordered Malouf to not have contact with the two businesses involved in the case, and he cannot have contact with any pawn or consignment type stores.

According to the criminal complaint, the manager of a business in the 2300 block of Westowne Avenue reported that a man stole two vehicle jump starters during two visits to the business that morning.

The man, later identified as Malouf, entered the store at 9:54 a.m. Feb. 3.

Surveillance video allegedly shows Malouf entering and exiting the store as well

as his movements in the battery charger aisle. The manager told police that the camera did not catch Malouf taking items off the shelf.

However, the manager said he checked the aisle at 11 a.m. and noted a jump starter was missing.

Malouf allegedly entered the business again around 11:36 a.m. Video allegedly shows Malouf enter the battery charger aisle again. The manager noted two jump starters were then missing.

The manager reported the total value of the products was \$549.

The complaint outlines that at 11:10 a.m. officers were dispatched to a business in the 700 block of Nicolet Avenue. The owner told police there was damage to his property and that it appeared someone attempted to gain entry into one of the backrooms of the business.

Surveillance video from this business shows a man wearing a ski mask with a grey hood pulled over his head. The man entered the business at 10:21 p.m. Feb. 2 and went to the ATM. He then allegedly pulled out a crowbar-like tool and attempted to open the ATM.

The business owner said the doorframe was damaged when Malouf entered the business.

Then at 11:53 p.m. Feb. 3 officers were dispatched to the business on Westowne Avenue for an alarm being triggered.

Malouf was allegedly able to enter a security shack on the northeast side of the

building and then enter the business.

Officers noted next to the building was a yard containing building supplies and other merchandise. Staff told police Malouf stole \$1,495 in merchandise from the business just before closing. Police believe Malouf stole \$2,044.60 in total from the business over the three instances.

OPD was tipped off that Malouf was in Grand Chute. Malouf was detained by Grand Chute Police.

Malouf spoke with police and admitted to stealing from the stores. He told police he had recently been released from jail. Online court records show Malouf was found guilty of felony strangulation and

suffocation along with disorderly conduct and misdemeanor bail jumping.

He said he was living in Waupaca until he got a car. Then he borrowed a car from someone and came to Oshkosh to steal from stores. Malouf told police he was planning on having a friend pawn the stolen merchandise.

Malouf also allegedly admitted to attempting to steal the ATM. He told police his plan was to drag the ATM out of the business and load it into his trunk. However, the machine was bolted to the ground.

A hearing in the case is set for Thursday in front of Court Commissioner Heywood.

Two plead to lesser charge in drug homicide

Oshkosh Herald

Two Oshkosh men initially charged with reckless homicide by delivery of drugs have pled to lesser charges in Winnebago County.

Joshua Dumke and Kenyatta McClure were both charged in relation to a drug overdose death in February 2024. If convicted on the initial charge, both men faced a maximum sentence of 60 years.

Court documents alleged Dumke and McClure were involved in getting the drugs to the victim that led to his death. Due to a delay from the state crime lab, the charges were not filed until 17 months after the overdose.

Both men were in custody at the time the charges were filed. Dumke was in the Winnebago County Jail for a charge of possession of methamphetamine, and McClure is serving a state prison sentence for five counts of manufacture/deliver amphetamine.

Dumke, 41, was found guilty last week, after pleading no contest, of a single count of manufacture/deliver cocaine- less than 1 gram. Judge Scott Woldt sentenced him to three years probation.

McClure, 52, also was able to plead to a lesser charge. He was found guilty of one count of manufacture/deliver fentanyl - less than 10 grams and two counts of felony bail jumping. Woldt sentenced McClure to four years in state prison followed by five years of extended supervision.

Homicide by delivery of drugs cases are often called Len Bias law cases. This is named after former basketball player Bias, who died as a result of a cocaine overdose two days after being selected in the 1986 NBA draft.

District Attorney Eric Sparr said that these cases present more challenges than other cases.

"For a Len Bias charge, though, we not only have to prove delivery, but also that

the drug had a role in causing the person's death," Sparr said. "Often, individuals are purchasing drugs from multiple sources, and it can be challenging to rule out other sources that could have supplied drugs around the time of the death. Or sometimes we have been able to confirm there were multiple sources, and then we need to be able to prove whether the drugs coming from one particular source actually caused the death."

Sparr added, "Ultimately, we evaluate all these factors, which can apply differently depending on the case, and consider also that a delivery charge itself comes with a very significant maximum penalty."

According to the criminal complaint, a man was found deceased inside his home after his family called police for a welfare check on the man. He was found with a glass pipe near him on Feb. 19, 2024.

An autopsy report states the cause of death was an acute mixed drug intoxication of amphetamine, cocaine, fentanyl, para-fluorofentanyl and ethanol.

Text messages from the victim's phone appear to show the victim was attempting to buy crack cocaine. Text messages and data from the digital wallet Cash app show the transaction was completed sometime on Feb. 18, 2024.



City photo

The area near Washington Avenue and Lake Shore Drive will be very busy over the next couple of years as new clearwells will be constructed at the water filtration plant. The clearwells hold the city's drinking water. This artist rendering shows the two tank areas with the pumping station in the middle.

Water tanks

FROM PAGE 1

and housed in large brick buildings, one for each of the reservoir tanks and one for the pumping station.

There will be two, one-million-gallon reservoirs built and two 16-million-gallon-per-day pump stations. It is considered a massive upgrade from the old tanks the city is currently using. The youngest of the current tanks was built in 1961, another was built in 1915 and the oldest tank is believed to have been built in the 1880s.

The large brick buildings will have graphic panels featuring sturgeon and wild rice to honor the history of Lake Winnebago. The tanks will be installed at the corner of Washington Avenue and Lake Shore Drive.

With Menominee Park to the north and The Waters event venue to the south there was a lot of public interest in the project as there will now be buildings as tall as 16 feet in the area where people are used to not seeing the underground tanks.

Residents urged the city to hire a landscape architect to ensure the area is aesthetically pleasing. Rabe said the landscaping work has been approved with a paved walkway, newly planted trees and historical markers.

That work will start when construction on the tanks and the pumping station are complete.

The city will be using funds from the Safe Drinking Water Loan Program. The project is currently budgeted to cost \$47.6 million.

In the last three years the cost of the project has jumped from around \$36 million to over \$47 million. The city has spent years working on the designs and permits with the DNR and the Public Service Commission. Those designs have changed over the years. For example, the current plans are for rectangular tanks, but in 2017 the plan was to build circular tanks.

"We're excited to have this kickoff, get it done," Mayor Matt Mugerauer said. "We've been talking about this for as long as I've been on council. It's nice to see this one moving forward."

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Oshkosh Arena rolls out diverse entertainment for spring

By Cassidy Johnson
HERALD CONTRIBUTOR

From a comedy show, to classic British rock bands and cover bands of classic rock to a rodeo, the Oshkosh Arena has a diverse lineup of events coming this spring to cater to a wide audience.

Over the next few months, the Oshkosh Arena will welcome the Wildhorse Productions & Sandburr Rodeo and comedian Bert Kreischer, along with concerts featuring Majesty – the UK’s premiere tribute band of the classic British rock band Queen – and another show by the classic British rock band Bush.

Rodeo

As Chris LeDoux sings, “They’ll be roarin’ all night till the dawn’s early light /

When the big rodeo comes to town.”

Although LeDoux was likely referring to the rodeos in the south, the Oshkosh Arena in partnership with Wildhorse Productions & Sandburr Rodeo will be bringing the rodeo up north to Oshkosh Feb. 27 and 28.

The two days of shows begin at 7:30 p.m. Feb. 27 with doors opening at 6:30 p.m. The two-hour show will include classic rodeo events such as Bareback, Saddle and Ranch Bronc Riding, Bull Riding, Barrel Racing and Mutton Bustin’ for kids ages 2-7 who weigh less than 60 lbs. Sign-ups for Mutton Bustin’ will take place each performance day from 5-7 p.m.

The next day, Feb. 28, will be the designated Kids Night, featuring the same events but with an added bonus: free pony rides.

Comedy show

Comic Bert Kreischer will be performing stand-up at 7 p.m. March 12 as part of his “Permission to Party” tour, the only stop in Wisconsin on his 2026 tour.

Kreischer is an American stand-up comedian, podcaster, actor and reality TV host, although some may tack “professional partier” onto that list as well. If anyone can give you “permission to party,” it’s Kreischer.

In 1997, Rolling Stone named him the “Top Partier” at Florida State University, which is known as being the “Number One Party School” in the country.

He’s also made some waves up north here in Oshkosh during his last tour in 2023, sending the crowd to an unofficial “after-party” at Pete’s Garage Bar. Pete’s Garage is a dive bar in Oshkosh known for its good food, drinks, a fun atmosphere and cheeky banter with customers – and for their “Number One Dive Bar in the USA” title given to it last year by Dive Bar Road Trip.

Queen tribute

The arena will be transformed the next day from a stand-up comedy show to a rock concert for Majesty: A Tribute to Queen starting at 8 p.m. March 13.

Described as the UK’s premiere touring Queen tribute band, Majesty has made a name for itself by often being called one of the best Queen tribute bands in the world.

With Rob Lea at the forefront as Freddie Mercury, the band is dedicated to hon-

oring and recreating Queen’s many iconic concert moments for over a decade.

The group was “the best tribute band I’ve ever seen,” according to Bass Beats Productions. “Rob Lea gave an absolute master class in performing as Freddie Mercury.”

Performing some of Queen’s most iconic songs from “Bohemian Rhapsody” to “We Will Rock You,” this show is sure to have fans asking themselves: “Is this the real life? Is this just a fantasy?”

Bush

The grunge rock band Bush from the 90s will be performing at 7 p.m. May 6 amid their “The Land of Milk and Honey” tour in support of their 10th studio album “I Beat Loneliness” – the only Wisconsin stop on their tour.

“That concert in particular is one we’re probably the most excited about with our team,” said Maria Turner, marketing and sales manager for the Oshkosh Arena. “This concert is definitely for all the rock fans out there.”

Opening for them will be James and the Cold Gun, an “up-and-coming UK-based rock band,” according to Turner with more of a “garage punk” sound.

Following them will be Mammoth WVH, a band founded in 2015 by Wolfgang Van Halen, son of Eddie Van Halen.

With some modern rock bands for openers and an iconic 90s band headlining, Turner said the concert will likely draw an “international crowd” that they are “very excited” about.

Tickets for all of these events are available online through the Oshkosh Arena Ticketmaster page or in person at the box office at the Oshkosh Arena, 1212 S. Main St. at Gate A.



Kreischer

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Since our first issue, the Herald has told the stories of Oshkosh. We’ve covered decisions that shape daily life, celebrated local businesses and nonprofits, and amplified the voices of people who care deeply about this place. Along the way, one thing has remained consistent: this community values trusted, local reporting that is thoughtful, fair and grounded in facts.

Today, we are proud to be part of the newly formed **Winnebago Media Group**, strengthening our commitment to independent local journalism and ensuring these stories continue to be told for generations.

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11.81-19.41 oz Bellatoria Ultra Thin Pizza

3.99
12 Roll Irresistible Bath Tissue or 6 Roll Paper Towels

12.99
22.6-25.9 oz Select Folgers Coffee

21.98
30 pk, 12 oz Cans Busch or Busch Light

Offer expires 2/24/26

PLU 27202



Village Pub Pizza
22.45-33oz.

2/\$12

When you buy two or \$6.99 each
Limit two with separate \$25.00 purchase

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

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PLU 27203

Dean's Ice Cream
48 oz.



\$2.99 each

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

Offer expires 2/24/26

PLU 27204

Navel Oranges
3 lb. bag



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

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PLU 27205

Chips Ahoy
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1.99 lb
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19.99
Pisces Bouquet

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3.99 SALE PRICE When you Buy 5
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2/\$3 2.05 oz Kraft Easy Mac or 2.39 oz Velveeta

2/\$3 4.3-6.9 oz Rice-A-Roni or Pasta Roni

2.79 24 oz Pasta Sauce or 16 oz Salsa

2.99 9.5-13 oz Chips Ahoy!

3.99 17.8-20.5 oz Ritz Crackers

2/\$7 12 pk Honey Bunches of Oats

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2/\$3 4 pk or 24 oz Indian Summer Applesauce

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2/\$5 7.5-8.5 oz Jay's Potato Chips, Krunchers! or O-Ke-Doke Popcorn

3.49 18-30 oz Select Food Club Mayonnaise or Whipped Dressing

2.49 32 oz Hunt's Ketchup

4/\$3 14.5 oz Food Club Broth

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16 oz Food Club Taco Sauce...2.79

2.99 20 oz Select Sara Lee Bread

2.99 20 oz Village Hearth Italian Bread

2.99 8.9-12 oz Select General Mills Cereal

2/\$7 12 pk Kellogg's Pop-Tarts

2/\$3 2.05 oz Kraft Easy Mac or 2.39 oz Velveeta

2/\$3 4.3-6.9 oz Rice-A-Roni or Pasta Roni

2.79 24 oz Pasta Sauce or 16 oz Salsa

2/\$5 16 oz Garlic Bread, 8 ct Texas Toast 6 ct Breadsticks

3.49 12-16 oz Select Food Club Frozen Fruit

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3.99 FINAL COST 10-24 pk Select Nature Valley, Fiber One Bars or Betty Crocker Gushers or 10 ct Cups Wide Awake Coffee

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9.49 lb

Select Varieties Seasoned Turkey Breast



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Corned Beef or Roast Beef



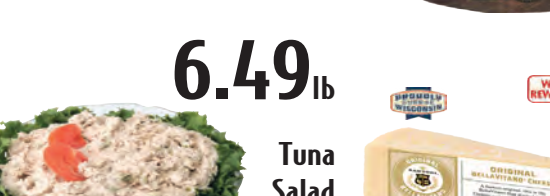
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5.99

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11.99

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14.79

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18.79

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17.49

30 pk, 12 oz Cans Keystone Light



24.99

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20.99

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19.93

30 pk, 12 oz Cans Pabst Blue Ribbon or Pabst Light



17.99

1.75 ltr Bottle Kessler Whiskey



5.99

750 ml Bottle André Sparkling Wines

9.99

750 ml Bottle Cavit Pinot Grigio

Calendar of events

Wednesday, Feb. 18

History Wars: Teaching Truths About America's Past in a Time of Political Polarization, 3:30 p.m., UW O Sage Hall 1214

Thursday, Feb. 19

EAA Speaker Series: Jolly Green Giant: Rescue in Vietnam featuring John Duffy, 7 p.m., EAA Aviation Museum

Friday, Feb. 20

Battle on the Bago, 6 a.m., Miller's Bay in Menominee Park

Jolly Jesters Children's Theater presents Disney's Newsies Jr., 7 p.m., Alberta Kimball Auditorium

Hypnotized: Fleetwood Mac Tribute & Eagles Tribute, 7 p.m., The Grand Oshkosh

Wisconsin Herd vs. Greensboro Swarm, 7 p.m., Oshkosh Arena

Saturday, Feb. 21

Battle on the Bago, 8 a.m., Miller's Bay in Menominee Park

Echoes of the Past Historical Trade Fair, 9 a.m., Sunnyview Expo Center

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

Elephant and Piggie Friendersary Celebration, 11 a.m., Caramel Crisp Bookstore

Jolly Jesters Children's Theater presents Disney's Newsies Jr., 2 and 7 p.m., Alberta Kimball Auditorium

The Wizard of Oz, 7 p.m., Time Community Theater

Wisconsin Herd vs. Greensboro Swarm, 7 p.m., Oshkosh Arena

Wisconsin Herd vs. Greensboro Swarm, 7 p.m., Oshkosh Arena

Sunday, Feb. 22

Echoes of the Past Historical Trade Fair, 9 a.m., Sunnyview Expo Center

Oshkosh Cabin Fever Market Show, 10 a.m., Oshkosh Convention Center

Jolly Jesters Children's Theater presents Disney's Newsies Jr., 2 p.m., Alberta Kimball Auditorium

Wednesday, Feb. 25

Religious Faith and the Founders of the USA, 6:30 p.m., UW O Culver Family Welcome Center

Thursday, Feb. 26

UW-Oshkosh Jazz Ensemble: "Elington's Harlem - A Jazz Portrait," 7:30 p.m., Theatre Arts Center

Friday, Feb. 27

Charlie Chaplin's The Circus, 7 p.m., Time Community Theater

Battle for the Lake Rodeo presented by Wildhorse Productions and Sandburr Rodeo Productions, 7:30 p.m., Oshkosh Arena

Saturday, Feb. 28

Meet Poet James Hamilton, 1 p.m., Caramel Crisp Bookstore

Candlelit Hike, 5 p.m., Winnebago County Community Park

Back to the Future, 7 p.m., Time Community Theater

Battle for the Lake Rodeo presented by Wildhorse Productions and Sandburr Rodeo Productions, 7:30 p.m., Oshkosh Arena

Sunday, March 1

Oshkosh Seed Savers Spring Seed Swap, 2 p.m., Culver Family Welcome Center at UW-Oshkosh



Photo by Thompson Photo Imagery

Classic storytelling

The Oshkosh North High School Music Department's presented "Hadestown: Teen Edition" over the weekend at The Grand Oshkosh. This adaptation of classic Greek myths follows two intertwining love stories - that of young dreamers Orpheus and Eurydice, and between immortal King Hades and Lady Persephone. This was set to be North's final musical at The Grand as the venue is expected to be under renovations and a new auditorium is being built at North.

Jolly Jester presents Disney's Newsies, Jr.

Oshkosh Herald

The Jolly Jester Children's Theater performances of Disney's "Newsies, Jr." are taking place this weekend.

Shows are set for 7 p.m. Friday, 2 and 7 p.m. Saturday and 2 p.m. Sunday. Each performance is in the Alberta Kimball Auditorium at Oshkosh West High

School.

Admission is \$6 per person. Tickets are available online at justagame.com or at the door.

Jolly Jester is a musical theater opportunity through the Oshkosh Recreation Department for children in first through eighth grade.

Advance tickets available to Waterfest

Oshkosh Herald

Advance tickets are available for the first Waterfest concert of the upcoming summer season.

The 40th season of the concert series starts June 18 with Hairball! and American English, a Beatles tribute band. Teachers receive free admission on opening night at the Leach Amphitheater.

Event prepares gardeners for spring planting

Oshkosh Herald

Oshkosh Seed Savers (OSS) is holding its annual Spring Seed Swap from 2 to 4 p.m. March 1 in the Culver Family Welcome Center at UW-Oshkosh.

Local gardeners, experienced and novice, are all invited to this free public event where Oshkosh-grown seed for locally adapted varieties of food crops will be shared.

Free store provides items to those in need

Oshkosh Herald

The Oshkosh Vagabond Network is hosting a free store event at 2 p.m. Saturday in Opera House Square.

At that event, the group tries to give out basic needs and care items as well hot coffee and hot cocoa.

The items range from battery packs to

Farmers market will be cancelled for this weekend

Oshkosh Herald

The Oshkosh Farmers Market that had been scheduled for Saturday at the Oshkosh Convention Center is cancelled.

The next farmers market will be at 9 a.m. March 14 at the Oshkosh Arena, which will coincide with the Spring Arts and Crafts Show.

Arts and crafts vendors will be showcasing handmade goods.

More dates will be announced soon. Season passes are scheduled to go on sale May 1. Veterans are free all season.

VIP tickets costs \$30 with general admission \$15 for the first show of the season. A VIP four-pack is \$100 with a general admission four-pack \$50.

More information is available at waterfest.org.

OSS is run entirely by volunteers and operates as a nonprofit organization. Its invites volunteer participation and offer opportunities to learn organic food growing and seed saving methods in the OSS Seed Garden.

For more information or to be added to its mailing list, email oshkoshseedsavers@gmail.com or visit oshkoshseedsavers.org.

socks, backpacks to duffle bags, and soap to shampoo.

The group is asking for those in the community to participate in the event by either taking what they need for the next month or by bringing certain items to give out to those in need.

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Oshkosh Herald

Bringing Oshkosh news home

We have an opportunity for an **ADMIN/SALES ASSISTANT**

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Our next team member has computer experience and is comfortable working with Word and Excel. The candidate is detail-oriented and deadline focused. Creative/design skills is a plus.

Responsibilities include:

- Working well within a team environment
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- Other duties as assigned

The position is part-time (30ish hours per week). **Starting pay is \$13-\$15/hr DOE.** Experience is not required. We will train.

If interested please email resume or qualifications to **Karen@oshkoshherald.com**

North pummels West Bend West for third straight win



Photo by Jim Koepnick

Oshkosh North's Navi Lao-Facundo goes up for a shot against West Bend West last Thursday.

By Zachary Bellin
HERALD CONTRIBUTOR

Awut Alic's 28 points and eight steals powered the Oshkosh North to a dominant 67-13 win against the West Bend West Spartans in a nonconference girls basketball game last Thursday inside Frank Schade Fieldhouse.

"We wanted to come into this game putting pressure on them (West Bend West) so that our defense can identify us and help us on the other end," Alic said. "That can help us by creating more shots and running the floor on offense also."

To say Oshkosh North only put pressure on West Bend West would be an understatement.

The Spartans collected 19 steals, 24 deflections and five blocks while West Bend West turned the ball over a total of 25 times in the contest.

"As they get more experience, we're becoming more connected defensively. We know what each player is doing and they know everyone will have each other's back," assistant coach Christopher Hansen said, who was serving as head coach with Rick Leib away from the team for a family event.

Hansen liked the way the team played together, especially with how the starters went out and set the tone early.

Off the opening tip, Alic and Navi-Lao Facundo were already in conjunction as Facundo gathered the team's first steal that led to a lead-taking lay-up by Alic, which would be a frequent occurrence.

West Bend West actually tied the score at 2, but North didn't let them hang around too long. North rattled off a 21-2 run before West Bend West could find the net again.

At halftime North was ahead 40-6 led by Alic's 18 points and the second half would go on to be a similar story. North outscored West Bend 27-7 and held the visitor to under 10 points until around five minutes left in the game.

Outside of Alic's 28 points in the contest for North, Lao-Facundo scored 10 while both Brinna Paulson and Nelly Harrison added eight points.

Alic, Lao-Facundo and Alai Awak each had five rebounds to lead Oshkosh North in the game.

Alic believes the team could've done a better job at rebounding and gotten more aggressive because she recognizes the significance of playing well going into the approaching playoffs, but is happy with the way the score turned out.

"Overall, I thought the score did a good job identifying how we played," said Alic, who finished 3-of-7 from 3-point range in the game and 12-of-19 overall from the floor. "We still have stuff to work on to really get ready for the tournament, but right now we're focused on ending the regular season confident."

Oshkosh North's win in the contest extended a winning streak to three and improved their regular season record to 6-15.

"We're starting to put all the little pieces that we needed together to properly play with each other," Alic said. "The chemistry is starting to fit in and the leadership is coming. If we can keep this going into the playoffs, we'll see where we go."

Oshkosh North will wrap up the regular season at home on Friday night against rival Oshkosh West as part of a girls/boys doubleheader. The girls game is slated to tip off at 6 p.m. with the boys game to follow.

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Defenseman Kraft has knack for finding the net

By Tim Froberg
HERALD CONTRIBUTOR

Preventing goals is a high priority for defensemen.

Producing them is just as important.

Defensemen like Brennon Kraft that can do both are valuable hockey players.

The Oshkosh Ice Hawks senior defenseman has evolved into a dual threat on the ice. In addition to protecting his goalie with his top-notch defensive skills, Kraft has shown a knack for finding the back of the net. He is second on the Ice Hawks in goals scored with 11 (through 23 games) – just three behind team leader Andy Toonen. Kraft has three assists and is third in team points with 14.

Senior Spotlight



Defensemen who are high-volume scorers are rare. Ice Hawks coach Clint Zumer knows he is working with a special player.

“Brennon is an incredible hockey player,” said Zumer. “His talents are some of the best in the state.”

A fourth-year player, Kraft has nearly tripled his goal output from last season when he scored four and had four assists for eight points.

“I guess I’ve been in the right place at the right time,” Kraft said. “That’s how it’s been this year. I was a forward when I started playing hockey as a kid and kind of flip-flopped between forward and defenseman. I think my experience as a forward has helped me as a scorer.”

Kraft’s favorite all-time player is Paul Coffey: the National Hockey League Hall of Fame defenseman who played 21 seasons in the league and was known for his speed and scoring prowess. Coffey ranks second all-time among NHL defensemen in goals, points and assists. Coffey retired in 2001 before Kraft was born, but Kraft has watched his game highlights online.

“He was a guy who could just turn a game as a defenseman,” Kraft said.

So can Kraft with his exceptional scoring skills. He has great instincts for the game and a feel for when to unleash his shot.

“Brennon is highly intelligent and has a remarkable ability to control a game,” said Zumer. “He’s elite in terms of puck handling, vision, poise and shot and phenom-



Photo by Jim Koepnick

Brennon Kraft, who attends Lourdes Academy, is a four-year player for the Oshkosh Ice Hawks who has successfully made the switch from forward to high-scoring defenseman.

enal as far as positioning in our defensive zone. Whenever we need a big play, there’s no doubt that Brennon is a player we can count on to accomplish that.”

As assistant team captain, Kraft received all-Badgerland Conference honorable mention as a junior. He was also named as the team’s most valuable player.

Despite getting more limited scoring opportunities than a forward or center, Kraft prefers being a defenseman.

“I like being back and helping out our goalie,” he said. “Being back allows you to see the game better. You can see who’s open and what’s open.”

Kraft has been playing the sport since the age of five when he started at the Mite level. He comes from a hockey family. His father, Brian, played the game while growing up in the Madison area.

Kraft began playing travel hockey in the fifth grade, competing on AAA-level teams like the Green Bay Junior Gamblers

and the Madison Junior Capitols. Travel hockey was a terrific experience for Kraft, allowing him to see much of the country while sharpening his game

“It was awesome,” Kraft said. “I got to see a lot of different places and do a lot of different things. We’d travel all over the United States. I remember being in Colorado – seeing those mountains was just beautiful. We also went to Maine and Canada, all over. It was high-level competition, too. I got a lot better.”

Kraft is the only Lourdes Academy student on an Ice Hawks co-op team that draws players from Oshkosh West, Oshkosh North, Berlin, Omro, Winneconne, Ripon and Weyauwega.

“I don’t think one player from Lourdes would be enough to field a hockey team,” said Kraft with a laugh. “So, I see it as a good thing. I don’t get a chance to connect with the rest of the guys during school, but that’s the way it goes.”

Kraft scores in the classroom as well. He’s an honors student who carries a 3.5 grade-point average. Kraft will attend college in the fall and is considering finance as a major.

“I’ve always enjoyed handling and working with money,” he said. “It’s something that has always been in the family.”

Kraft doesn’t plan to compete in hockey at the next level, but isn’t about to put his skates away for good. He’ll continue to play club or rec hockey in the future.

In the meantime, he’s doing everything he can to help the Ice Hawks close the season on a strong note. The Ice Hawks have played competitive hockey all season, posting a 9-14-0 overall record and a 3-5-0 Badgerland mark through 23 games.

“I’m definitely going to miss it,” Kraft said. “I’ve played hockey for a long time and it’s been such a good experience. I’ve had so much fun and met so many great people.”

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Prep sports roundup

SWIMMING

West, North/Lourdes notch state qualifiers

Both Oshkosh West and Oshkosh North/Lourdes qualified competitors for the WIAA Division 1 state meet at Saturday's sectional meet in Neenah.

North/Lourdes will send a pair of divers to the state competition, which will be held Saturday at the Waukesha South High School Natatorium.

Seniors River Reeves and Everix Blessent will both be competing in the diving competition at the state meet.

Reeves, who has placed third at the last two state meets, won the sectional title with a score of 545.70, less than two points off the sectional record. He will be the top seed in the field of 24 divers at the state meet.

Blessent finished fourth at the sectional meet and will be making his first trip to the state meet. He will be seeded 22nd in the state field.

The Wildcats will also be represented at the state meet for the first time in six years as senior Caleb Bergin advanced in two events and will be joined by the team's 200-yard freestyle relay.

Bergin finished third in both the 200-yard freestyle and 500-yard freestyle at the sectional meet and qualified for state in both events. He will be seeded 22nd out of 24 swimmers in both events.

The last West swimmer to qualify for state was Andrew Groth, who swam the same two events at the state meet in 2019.

Bergin also anchored West's 200-yard freestyle relay which finished second at sectionals to earn a spot in the state field. Fellow seniors Carter Crowe and Sam Roblee and sophomore Evan Booms rounded out the relay.

Crowe nearly joined Bergin as an individual qualifier. He finished third in the 50-yard freestyle, a little more than three-tenths of a second short of advancing, and was sixth in the 100-yard breaststroke where his time was about two-tenths of a second shy of qualifying.

Booms added a seventh place in the 50-yard freestyle and was ninth in the 100-yard butterfly, while Roblee was 10th in the 50-yard freestyle.

Bergin, Booms, Crowe and Reid Potter also took seventh in the 200-yard medley relay.

The best individual finish in the pool for North/Lourdes came in the 500-yard freestyle where Blake Ludwig placed 11th, while Ludwig, Sully Snow, Drake Lauritch and Zayden Yenter placed ninth in the 200-yard medley relay.

The Wildcats finished eighth overall at the sectional meet, while North/Lourdes placed 11th.

BOYS WRESTLING

Thompson-Schreck, Schneider headed to state

Oshkosh West's Preston Schneider and Oshkosh North's Jamond Thompson-Schreck each qualified for the state wrestling meet at the WIAA Division 1 sectional meet in Fond du Lac on Saturday.

The WIAA individual state meet will be held Feb. 26-28 at the Kohl Center in Madison.

Schneider captured the sectional title at 138 pounds, pinning all three of his opponents en route to the crown.

He beat Cedarburg's Gage Slaven in 3:05 in his quarterfinal match and then



Photo by Jim Koepnick

The Ice Hawks' Maxtyn Hammermeister skates the puck up the ice against Sauk Prairie on Saturday at the 20th Avenue YMCA Ice Arena.

stopped Manitowoc Lincoln's Hadien Schmitz in 2:55 in the semifinals. In the title match, he topped top-seeded Wyatt Sandoval of Arrowhead, winning with a pin in 3:26.

Thompson-Schreck, who missed the Fox Valley Association meet because of injury, also went 3-0 on the day to claim the 165-pound sectional title.

Schreck topped Gabriel Matteson of Oconomowoc by a 17-1 score in the quarterfinals and then won a second straight match by technical fall in the semifinals, earning a 19-4 win over Manitowoc Lincoln's Malakai Munoz. In the title match, he topped Slinger's Maximili Gehring in a 13-6 decision.

Oshkosh North also had a pair of fifth-place finishers in Stephen Nash (120) and Dominic Wyrwicki (150), while Sa'meir Nash (106) was sixth at 106 pounds.

West also got a sixth place from Colden Searles at 132 pounds.

The Spartans finished 11th in the 16-team sectional meet, eight points ahead of the Wildcats.

Knights' Warwick fifth at regionals

Lourdes Academy's Jeordie Warwick wrapped up his season by placing fifth at the WIAA Division 3 sectional meet at Omro on Saturday.

Warwick pinned Omro's Jaxon Eslinger in 2:33 in the fifth-place match to finish his season with a victory.

Warwick totaled 20 wins in his sophomore season as the Knights' lone wrestler.

GIRLS WRESTLING

Oshkosh co-op team sends four to sectionals

The Oshkosh North/West co-op squad had four wrestlers finish in the top two at the regional meet hosted by Valdres last Friday to advance to this week's sectional meet in Waupaca.

Madelyn Diehls was the only competitor in the 235-pound division and earned the regional title in that weight class, while Kaylee Beck (107), Marissa Bustillos

(114) and Nola Uecker (120) each took second in their respective weight classes.

Beck and Uecker each finished 1-1 with a pin on the day, while Bustillos finished 2-1 with a pair of pins, including a victory over Savannah Britton of Laconia in 2:34 in a wrestleback for second place.

Laura Klinger added a third place at 126 pounds, while Sarah Mrazek (132) and Elizabeth Draxler (145) were each fourth.

BOYS HOCKEY

Ice Hawks suffer pair of losses

The Oshkosh Ice Hawks wrapped up their regular season with a pair of losses last week.

Zander Crook and Andy Toonen each scored goals in a 10-2 loss to Wisconsin Rapids last Thursday. Grant Magnuson and Trent Krueger had assists in the game.

Chase Magadanz finished with 34 saves. Oshkosh trailed just 4-1 after two periods but Wisconsin Rapids erupted for six goals in the third period.

The Ice Hawks then lost to Sauk Prairie 11-1 on Saturday with Dayton Briski tallying the only goal for Oshkosh. William Beck and Grant Magnuson had assists in the game.

GIRLS BASKETBALL

Spartans hang close with Lightning

Brinna Paulson knocked down six 3-pointers and finished with 20 points but Oshkosh North came up short against Appleton North on Saturday, 69-60.

Awut Alic added 17 points and Navi Lao-Facundo finished with 14 points and nine rebounds for the Spartans, who outscored the Lightning 46-45 in the second half. Nelly Harrison added nine points off the bench for North.

Earlier in the week, North picked up a 67-45 win over Appleton West as three Spartans posted double-doubles in the game.

Alic totaled 28 points and 10 rebounds, while Lao-Facundo finished with 20

points and 11 rebounds in the win. Paulson also had a double-double with 15 points and 10 rebounds. Paulson and Alic combined for nine 3-pointers in the win.

Alai Awak chipped in 10 rebounds in the game.

Warriors run win streak to 12

Valley Christian extended its winning streak to 12 games with a pair of road wins last week.

The Warriors topped Dodgeand 73-43 on Friday.

Earlier in the week, Valley Christian stopped Oakfield 64-29 with Mya Moran leading the way with 27 points. She also picked up seven steals in the win.

Paige Boevers and Lizzie Fink each scored nine points, with Boevers also grabbing a team-high 13 rebounds in the win.

Schettle's hot hand leads Knights

Aubrey Schettle knocked down eight 3-pointers and finished with 24 points to lead Lourdes Academy to a 78-39 win over Wayland Academy last week.

The Knights finished with 17 3-pointers in the game as a team, with five different players hitting at least one.

Adi Saucedo had four 3-pointers and added 12 points in the win. Adhieu Liabwill and Sarah Hafemeister each scored eight points in the game for Lourdes Academy.

Oshkosh West drops pair of FVA contests

The Wildcats fell to both Hortonville and Kimberly in conference games last week.

Kamryn Stauffacher scored 12 points and Ava Strasser added 11 points and seven rebounds in a 44-42 loss to Hortonville last Tuesday. West led by 10 points at halftime but managed just 15 points in the second half in the loss.

Wildcats tripped in tight FVA tussle with Cardinals

By Steve Clark
OSHKOSH HERALD

Oshkosh West boys basketball head coach Dan Weisse was fine with his team's effort in a 56-53 loss to Fond du Lac last Thursday.

It was the execution where he felt the Wildcats fell a bit flat.

"It is a disappointing loss because there are things we can control and things we cannot and we didn't handle the things we could control very well tonight," Weisse said. "It's not an effort thing. Our guys are fighting."

One of the things that stung the Wildcats was finishing 9-of-17 from the free-throw line in the game, including just 7-of-14 in the second half.

By contrast, Fond du Lac finished 9-of-12 from the foul line in the second half and made 8-of-9 in the final two minutes to keep the Wildcats from launching a late rally.

West also struggled with shots around the rim as Fond du Lac was able to muscle the Wildcats into some close misses.

"Give them credit, they are a physical team and I don't think we handed their physicality very well," Weiss said. "We do need to execute better and do a better job with things we can control."

West led 30-28 following a Joey Ware steal and thunderous dunk with 11:10 left to play but Fond du Lac was able to seize control the rest of the game.

The Cardinals hit the Wildcats with a 13-1 run to build a 10-point lead with just under five minutes to play and West was unable to climb back in front.

A Ware layup and two Carter Kufel free throws brought the Wildcats to within four at the two-minute mark but Fond du Lac hit four straight free throws to push the lead back to eight.

The Wildcats then finished the game on a 7-2 run, including a 3-pointer from Malakai Herlihy and a buzzer tip-in from Ware but they could not get any closer than the final margin.

Ware finished with 17 points to lead the Wildcats, while Kufel added 11 points. Herlihy scored eight points, while Brayden Kufel also added eight – all in the second half as he was able to get to the rim and convert some drives.

"We put the ball in his hands and we trust him," Weisse said. "If we have a certain matchup we will ask him to get to the rim and he listened and made some plays at the rim and that opened some other things up as well. I'm happy with how Brayden played, but we just need more guys to step it up."

Oshkosh West opened the game with momentum, scoring the first five points of the contest before taking an 11-4 lead on the first of two first half Tyler Moderson 3-pointers.

A Herlihy drive kept West's lead at seven points with 7:47 remaining, but the Wildcats wouldn't make another field goal the rest of the half tallying only a Ware free throw with less than a second remaining before intermission.

The Cardinals took advantage of the near eight-minute drought by the Wildcats to take a 19-17 lead at halftime.

West tied the game at 24 early in the second half but trailed 28-24 before baskets from Brayden Kufel and Carter Kufel tied the game. Ware then gave West its last lead with the breakaway dunk.

The Wildcats, who slipped to 5-10 in Fox Valley Association play, will be back in action on Friday against rival Oshkosh North. The boys game will be the second half of a girls/boys doubleheader beginning at 6 p.m. inside Frank Schade Fieldhouse.

16 points to lead the Spartans, who out-scored the Lightning 35-21 in the second half to earn the win.

Brady Anderson also reached double figures with 12 points, while Owen Weber finished with nine points.

Papermakers too much for Wildcats

Oshkosh West fell behind 40-22 at halftime and couldn't rally in the second half in a 77-59 loss to Kimberly on Friday night.

Ware finished with 19 points to lead the Wildcats on Senior Night. He also grabbed a team-high four rebounds.

Carter Kufel was the only other player in double figures with 10 points with Drew Abitz adding eight points.

Kimberly shot 62 percent from the field in the win.

Warriors can't get past Oaks

Valley Christian was held to less than 39 points for just the third time this season in falling to a potent Oakfield squad in a 59-38 loss last Thursday.

Matthias Behling was the lone player in double figures with 11 points, while Liam Clayton chipped in nine for the Warriors.

Valley Christian also suffered an 89-56 loss to Elkhart Lake-Glenbeulah last week despite having three players finish in double figures.

Behling again led the way with 16 points, while Titus Weyenberg and Xander Osinga each finished with 14 points.

Prep roundup

FROM PAGE 18

On Friday, the Wildcats fell to FVA-leading Kimberly 65-25.

BOYS BASKETBALL

Knights notch two wins over Big Red

Lourdes Academy scored a pair of victories over Wayland Academy last week, earning an 85-56 win on Tuesday before collecting a 71-60 triumph on Thursday.

Henry Achterberg spearheaded Tuesday's win with 24 points, which included a 7-of-11 performance from 3-point range. Achterberg also grabbed a team-high 11 rebounds.

Jackson Buttke finished with 16 points and nine assists, while Parker Slusarski and Brady Bauer also reached double figures with 13 and 12 points, respectively.

Achterberg once again led the Knights with 19 points and was one of four players in double figures in Thursday's win.

Buttke added 15 points, followed by Slusarski with 14 and Bauer with 13.

Lourdes Academy led 34-23 at halftime.

Spartans rally to take down Lightning

Oshkosh North erased a 10-point half-time deficit and pulled out a 61-57 win over Appleton North last Friday.

Bryce Ott and Tylan Lister each scored



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Oshkosh Herald

Sturgeon Spirits General Manager Todd McLean serves up a cocktail on the ice of Lake Winnebago over the weekend as the sturgeon spearing season got underway.

Ice bar

FROM PAGE 1

go ice on comfortable outdoor furniture.

Loewenstein said Bar on Ice hours will resume this weekend at the same location for the 19th annual Battle on Bago, with hours scheduled from 6 a.m. to 2 p.m. with free coffee from 6 to 9 a.m.

But if last weekend is any indication, those hours could be extended due to popular demand. Last Saturday Loewenstein said they were open past 4 p.m. and at one point even ran out of cups to necessitate a trip back to shore to re-supply.

To get permission to have the first legal cocktail bar on Lake Winnebago was an adventure unto itself, with Town of Oshkosh Board Chairman Jim Erdman and the town board coming to the rescue.

"I must have put more than 100 miles on my car," Erdman said.

He was trying to figure out whether the Town of Oshkosh had jurisdiction to issue such permission.

So, after many miles, phone calls and re-

search, Erdman and the Town of Oshkosh board gave its stamp of approval, which allowed Sturgeon Spirits to officially apply for a temporary license from the State of Wisconsin Department of Revenue to make Bar on Ice a reality.

As crowds gathered at Bar on Ice over the weekend, a separate entrepreneurially spirited enterprise set up nearby with a big red and yellow sign that read "Hot Food." The outfit, called The Snack Shack (brats, hot dogs, hamburgers), even had a mini billboard on the lake road pointing toward the "Hot Food" and the Bar on Ice.

At the Bar on Ice, customers had many sturgeon spearing themed cocktail options to choose from, including Bloody Spear (cranberry vodka and Sprite), Sturgeon General (bourbon and Coke), Ice Hole (blood-orange gin and Squirt), Fish Whistle (chocolate liqueur and root beer) and Bottom Feeder (blackberry brandy or vodka, honey and root beer).

"It is the perfect moment to have the first Bar on Ice in Wisconsin," Loewenstein said. "This is fulfilling a dream I've had from the moment I got the idea for the distillery."

Obituaries

Heidi Rose Steuck

Heidi Rose Steuck, age 48, passed away with her family by her side on February 10, 2026, in Oshkosh, WI. She was born to parents, Mark Roffers and Debra (Miner) Gallatin, on January 24, 1978, in Milwaukee Wisconsin.

She was raised in Milwaukee, where she enjoyed spending countless hours with family and lifelong friends. She moved to Oshkosh in 1993 and attended Oshkosh North High School where she developed a love for writing poetry. Heidi met the love of her life, Christopher Steuck while volunteering at Rebel Alliance Theatre. They were married in Appleton WI, on October 18, 2003. Together, Heidi and Chris raised two children.

Heidi enjoyed traveling, site-seeing, camping, playing board games, watching (and re-watching) her favorite movies, and creating craft projects with her kids, who were everything to her. She cherished spending time with family and friends.

She is survived by her husband, Chris

Steuck; children, Emmaline Rose and Aiden James; mother, Debra Gallatin; father, Mark Roffers; paternal grandfather, Gaylen Roffers; siblings, Becky, Amy, Sarah, Khristina, Kathrina, Amelia, Shannon and Cody; parents-in-law, James and Nancy Steuck ; sisters and brothers-in-law, and many cousins, nieces, nephews and friends.

Preceding her in death was her stepfather, Edwin "Ed" Gallatin; maternal grandmother, Barbara Miner; paternal grandmother, Patricia Roffers; and cousin, Christina (King) Thomas.

A dual celebration of life for Heidi and Ed is being planned for Friday, April 10th, 2026, from 3:00pm to 5:00pm at the Lakeshore Park Pavilion in Oshkosh. In lieu of flowers, please feel free to donate, in honor of Heidi, to the Ronald McDonald House Charities of Eastern Wisconsin. <https://rmhc-easternwi.org/>

The family would like to thank all the nurses and doctors at the ThedaCare Oncology and Cancer Centers, as well as the staff at ThedaCare at Home Hospice, for all of their care and kindness.



Joan M. Sheehy

May 30, 1935 – February 11, 2026

Joan Mae Sheehy passed away on February 11 after a long and blessed life of 90 years.



Joan was born on May 5, 1935 at home in Oconto Falls, Wisconsin to Gottlieb and Emma (Freitag) Tisch.

After graduating from Oconto Falls High School in 1953 she attended Wisconsin State College, Oshkosh, graduating in 1957.

Joan started her teaching career in 1957 as a Physical Education teacher at Pulaski High School in Pulaski, WI, and continued her career at Grafton High School in Grafton, WI before returning to teach at Pulaski H.S. once more.

It was in Pulaski where she met a fellow teacher, John Sheehy, whom she would marry on June 11, 1962. They celebrated their 61st Wedding Anniversary in 2023.

After the birth of their son Jonathan in 1963, John and Joan relocated often.

The first stop was Madison, WI, where their son Frederic was born in 1967. Then it was off to Aspen, CO, where John was principal of Aspen High School.

They returned to Wisconsin in 1969 where they settled in West Bend. While in West Bend, Joan taught Adult Basic Education and ESL classes at Moraine Park Technical College.

The family came to Oshkosh in 1979, when John accepted the position of Principal at Oshkosh West High School.

Joan was the Restorative Exercise Coordinator at Evergreen Manor in Oshkosh. She also taught adult exercise classes for many years, and served as a seminar coordinator for the Wisconsin State Bar Association, retiring in 2012.

Joan was a natural athlete and often bemoaned the fact that girl's athletics during her high school and college years did not have the support that they do today. She especially enjoyed the Wisconsin State Basketball Tournament and was delighted to see the athleticism displayed by the young ladies who were fortunate to enough to be able to compete at the highest level.

She enjoyed swimming, tennis, and golfed at Westhaven in the Thursday Women's league for many years. Even a knee replacement couldn't keep her off of the golf course!

She loved to watch Packers and Badgers football and high school and collegiate basketball.

Joan was a member of AAUW and served as chairwoman of their annual book drive for many years.

In retirement Joan and John enjoyed traveling, and enjoyed staying in Elder Hostels around the world. They spent many winters in Gulf Shores, AL, where they met new friends among the large contingent of Wisconsin snowbirds that traveled there each year.

She was a member of both St. Raphael the Archangel Catholic Church and All Saints Lutheran Church of Oshkosh, and made many good friends among the members of her bible study group.

Joan is survived by her sons, Jonathan and Frederic (Anne) of Woodbridge, VA.

Also surviving are her grandchildren Madylin Sheehy, Grace Sheehy and Cooper Sheehy, Step granddaughter Kelly (Enzo) Diomeda, and her step great-grandson, Gianni.

She is survived by her brother, Norland "Buddy" Tisch, and her sister, Colleen (Ken) Marcussen and many cousins and nieces and nephews. She will especially be missed by her niece Susan (Roger) Paulson and nephews Scott (Sheri) Krueger, and Mark (Glenda) Krueger.

She was preceded in death by her husband John, her parents, her brother, Allen Tisch, and sisters, Mavis Dickerson, and sister and best friend, Lorraine Krueger.

The family would like to thank the Evergreen Garden Heights nursing staff for the excellent care that she received while living there.

A farewell celebration will be held at a later date.

Doris Marie Petersen

Doris Marie Petersen, age 90, went on to her next adventure on February 14, 2026, in Oshkosh, WI. She was born to parents, Christian and Edna (Sucher) Petersen, on July 24, 1935, in Neenah, WI. Per her wishes, no formal services will be held. Please visit the Fox Cities Funeral and Cremation Website at <https://www.foxcitiesfuneral.com/obituaries> for the full obituary.



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Obituaries

Gerald G. Gumz

Gerald G. "Gerry" Gumz, 82, passed away peacefully on Monday, February 9, 2026, surrounded by the love of family and friends, after a prolonged and courageous battle with multiple cancers. Gerry was born in Oshkosh, Wisconsin on September 23, 1943, the son of Harold and Lorraine (Schwartz) Gumz. As one of six children, he and his brothers and their sister often shared countless stories about their "adventures" while growing up in Oshkosh. Gerry attended Oshkosh area schools' graduating from Oshkosh High School in 1963. After graduation he worked at Mercy Hospital before joining the United States Navy which was the beginning of his distinguished military career. Upon being honorably discharged, he returned to Oshkosh in 1968 and married Marie Bloechl. Together they raised their two daughters, Carole and Theresa. A lifelong "Oshkoshian", Gerry held various jobs in the area. He was part of the original Oshkosh McDonald's restaurant crew. Later on, he was employed by Mercy Hospital, Rockwell International, Winnebago Mental Health Institute and the City of Oshkosh in the transportation, sanitation, street, and parks departments until his retirement. As a proud Vietnam War Veteran, Gerry served in the United States Navy and the Wisconsin Army National Guard Red Arrow Division, retiring as a Master Sergeant (MSG) with more than 25 years of service.

Gerry is survived by and his memory will be cherished by his wife Marie; daughters, Carole Sindlinger and Theresa Wilson; siblings, Harold (Julie) Gumz, Carl (Ann

Sandra K. Angle

Sandra K. Angle, age 83 of Oshkosh, passed away on February 12, 2026 at Aurora Medical Center.



Sandra was born December 3, 1942 to the late Norman and Dorothy (Wiegandt) Jordan in Oshkosh. She married David Angle on June 30, 1962 in Oshkosh. She had a special gift of

cooking and baking for her family; no one ever went home hungry. She also enjoyed spending time outside in her flower beds and working in the garden. Sandra worked at various food service locations.

Survivors include her children Timothy (Lynne) Angle, Michael Angle, Amy (David) Zentner and Corey Angle; nine grandchildren, Zachery, Jared, Samuel,

Keith R. Cory

Keith R. Cory, age 72, of Oshkosh, Wisconsin, was called home February 10, 2026, due to cancer and renal complications which led to severe heart failure.

A memorial service will be held at 4PM on February 20, 2026, at Emmanuel at United Church of Christ (1306 Michigan St). A visitation will be held from 2:30PM until the time of service. A burial at Resthaven Cemetery will take place in the springtime and a celebration of life will be announced at a future date.

A full obituary can be found on Konrad-Behlman.com



Kennedy) Gumz and Laurel Reichenberger; brothers-in-law, Paul (Mei) Bloechl, and Philip (Peggy) Bloechl; sister-in-law Christine Grafstrom; and mother-in-law, Margaret Bloechl. He is further survived by many beloved nieces, nephews, and friends, including all the guys in "Group" at the Appleton Veterans Center. He was preceded in death by his parents; brothers, Ted (Jane) Gumz and John Gumz; his father-in-law, Myles Bloechl and his special car ride buddy, Gus.

Our family would like to express our heartfelt appreciation to ThedaCare Cancer Center and the entire ThedaCare family, Froedtert Medical Center Surgical Oncology and Aurora Radiation Oncology for the kind and compassionate care that Gerry received.

A Mass of Christian Burial will be held for Gerry at 11:00 a.m. on Saturday, February 21, 2026 in Most Blessed Sacrament Parish-St. Mary's Site, 605 Merritt Avenue, Oshkosh, Wisconsin. Visitation will be from 9 a.m. until the time of service. Burial with full military honors will take place at Lakeview Memorial Park Cemetery in Oshkosh, immediately following the Mass. In lieu of flowers we kindly ask that you make a donation in memory of Gerry to Project K-9 Hero, Semper K9 or the charity of your choice.

"Gerry, we know that you needed to go on ahead and can imagine you at the shack "Up North", sitting on the porch and feeding the deer while you wait for our arrival. We love you and miss you so "very, very much."



FISS & BILLS - POKLASNY
FUNERAL HOMES & CREMATORY

Jackson, Brady Angle; Jacob, Nathan, Danielle, Isaac Zentner; brother, David (Tracey) Jordan; sister-in-law, Mary (Bob) Garbe; and brother-in-law, Paul Angle.

She is preceded in death by her parents; husband, David Angle; 3 sisters and numerous sister-in-laws and brother-in-laws.

A funeral service for Sandra will be held at Konrad-Behlman Funeral Home-Westside, 100 Lake Pointe Dr. on Tuesday, February 24, 2026 at 6:00pm with Rev. Jeffrey Knoll officiating. A time of visitation will be held from 4:00pm until the start of the service.

Interment will take place at Lake View Memorial Park in Oshkosh on Wednesday, February 25, 2026 at 1:30pm.

The family would like to thank the staff at Aurora Medical Center for all their care and compassion during this difficult time.

Sandra will be deeply missed by her family and friends.

"We don't say goodbye, we say see you later."

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Kenneth D. Veith

Kenneth D. Veith, age 82, of Arena, Wi. formally of Oshkosh passed away on Tuesday, February 3, 2026. He was born on September 11, 1943 in Oshkosh the son of Louis and Emma (Krueger) Veith.



Ken grew up in Oshkosh, Wi. and was the 11th of 13 children. He served in the United States Army from Aug. 1961- Aug 1964. Ken was an avid outdoorsman who enjoyed hunting everything from quail to elk and fishing for anything with fins! He also enjoyed visits to the casino to make bets on horses, cheering on (and placing bets) sport teams, playing euchre and poker and singing along to most any 70's songs.

He also was very active in anything to do with Veterans. A wonderful event for both Ken and daughter, Pauline, was the honor of attending the Badger Honor Flight in Madison with other Vietnam Veterans.

Ken was first and foremost, a proud and loving father and grandfather. Second was a veteran and 3rd a brother, uncle, friend to any that he could share countless jokes and a drink with. He loved outings, talking about his cabin, family, trips, fishing in Costa Rica and living in Henderson, NV where he soared being a part of the VFW there including being Commander in 2005 and bar manager until 2017. He still spoke of wanting to go back to visit friends in Vegas, hoping to fish in Mexico and being with friends and family but his body

was too tired and the Good Lord called him home to be with the many loved ones that went home before him including his parents, all but 2 remaining siblings and step daughter, Shannon.

Survivors include his daughter, Pauline (Rick) Konitzer; grandchildren, Alexa, Kayli, Jessica, Cora; step sons, Tyrone and Steven Beall; brother, Ed (Josie) Veith and sister, Rosemary Veith, nieces, nephews, and countless other relatives and friends.

Special thanks to friends Doris, Chuck, Hiram and Janice in Vegas, along with countless others that he missed dearly when moving back to Wisconsin. And dear friends Doyle and euchre partner, Ken here in Wi. Ken truly would speak of and remember fondly, those that he crossed paths with.

A memorial service will be held Saturday, February 21, 2026 at 11:00 A.M. at the West Middleton Lutheran Church in Verona with military rites conducted by VFW Post #113. Visitation will be held on Saturday at the church from 10:00 A.M. until the time of the service.

In lieu of flowers, Ken would be SO very honored if you would donate to Badger Honor Flight, your local VFW or any veteran organization.

Rest easy, dear Dad. Thank you for all of your love and for always taking care of us. Always your daughter. I will miss you every day until we are together again.

Online condolences available at www.staffordfuneralhomes.com The Richardson- Stafford Funeral Home is assisting the family with the arrangements.

Audrey Marie Moreman

Audrey Marie Moreman, born Nov. 26, 1924, died February 10, 2026 at the age of 101 and 3 months. Born in Oshkosh WI to Helmuth Victor Wuerch and Marie (Schultz) Wuerch.



After graduating from high school she moved to Racine, WI and worked for North

Shore Railroad. She met her husband Percy Moreman, Jr. during World War II when he was at Fort Sheridan, located in Lake County Illinois. Audrey witnessed many prisoner-of-war soldiers while they were transported to the induction center at Fort Sheridan. She married her husband on January 5, 1946 and relocated to his hometown of Danville Illinois where he was a plumber for the veterans hospital. They moved to Oshkosh Wisconsin in 1947 because her husband became a plumbing apprentice for M.P.

Kelly. They raised three children; Pamela (Joseph) Schmelzle of Mt. Morris WI, Susan (David) Hawk of Chesterton IN and the late Charles Moreman. She has 7 grandchildren, 20 great-grandchildren 14 great-great-grandchildren and 7 nieces and nephews. She worked for Wisconsin Bell as a long distance operator, retiring after 40 years of employment.

She was preceded in death by her husband; Percy Moreman Jr., her brother; Helmuth Victor Wuerch and his wife; Janey, sister; Lois Zwicky and her husband; Lavern Zwicky.

Audrey was a member of Most Blessed Sacrament Parish, St. Mary's site. She enjoyed ceramics, knitting and traditional rug hooking.

In lieu of flowers, please make your donations to Father Carr's.

A private funeral service will take place at Fiss & Bills- Poklasny Funeral Home.

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Obituaries

Lee Siebold

Lee Siebold, a devoted husband of 65 years, dedicated father, proud farmer, and lifelong tinkerer, died peacefully surrounded by his family on February 9, 2026, at the age of 86. He was born on October 20, 1939, in Oshkosh, Wisconsin to Jacob and Lucille Siebold.

For 65 years, Lee shared a life with his wife, Faye, built on hard work, humor, and deep love for family. Together they created not only a farm, but a home that became the heart of countless gatherings. Just last year, they celebrated their 65th wedding anniversary with a joyful party at the farm, surrounded by family and friends.

Lee worked at Universal Foundry for 20 years before pursuing his dream of owning his own farm. For the next 30 years, he raised veal calves and built a life rooted in determination and practicality. He wasn't afraid of long days or dirty hands, and there was little he couldn't fix. From carpentry and welding to plumbing and mechanical repairs, he handled it all himself — often alongside his two close friends, Bill and John, his "partners in crime," who could tackle just about anything with him. He loved restoring cars, fishing, and watching NASCAR and football. Whether in the shop or the field, Lee took pride in doing things the right way and leaving things better than he found them.

He took special pride in maintaining a beautiful yard and truly loved cutting grass. He enjoyed tending his garden and watching what he planted grow. Even after long days of farm work, he could often be found outside making sure everything looked just right. Over the years, he loved and cared for many faithful dogs, most recently Fin Again and, before that, Finnigan.

Though he often said he "wasn't much of a hunter," Lee looked forward to hunting season for another reason — hosting family and friends at the farm. With hunting land and a well-loved shack, he welcomed everyone to play cards, share meals, and "solve the world's problems." He and Faye delighted in bringing people together, whether for a simple bonfire, a family celebration, or just an excuse to gather. As much as he liked to joke that he "didn't like people," he cherished seeing the farm filled with family, friends, and laughter. In retirement, Lee and Faye discovered a shared love of travel. From bus trips to adventures with their children, they enjoyed exploring new places and making memories together. Lee was always looking forward to the next adventure, and those trips became some of their most treasured times, filled with laughter, stories, and the joy of being together.

Lee will be dearly missed by many. While we are now missing a piece of the family puzzle, he will live on in our hearts until we join him again in heaven.

Lee was preceded in death by his parents, Jacob and Lucille Siebold; his father-in-law and mother-in-law Russell and Loretta O'Neil; his brother-in-law, Tom

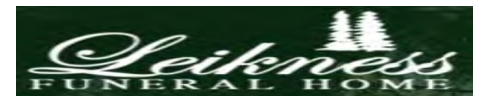
O'Neil; and his sons-in-law, Larry Michalski Jr. and Ross Shefchik.

He is lovingly survived by his wife of 65 years, Faye; his sister, Joan (Dave) Schultz; his children, Kathryn (special friend Dan) Shefchik, Amy (Terry) Whitmore, Michael (Anita) Siebold, Patrick Siebold, and Jacob (Andrea) Siebold; his grandchildren, Jim (Becky), Ashley (Ryan), Levi (Danielle), Kyle (Nicole), Anthony, Nathaniel, Chandler (Madalynn), Erika, Tyler, Garrett, Olivia, Violet, and Claire; his great-grandchildren, Easton, Wyatt, Stella, Carter, Grayson, and Isla; and his siblings-in-law, Steve and Shirley O'Neil, Mary and David Sales, and Carol Jean O'Neil.

The family extends a special thank you to the compassionate staff at Compassus Hospice for their loving care at the end of his life.

Services will be held on Saturday, February 21, 2026, at the Wautoma World War II Memorial Building, 440 W. Main St. in Wautoma, Wisconsin. Visitation will be from 11:00 a.m. until the service at 1:00 p.m., with lunch served following the service. Father Walter Stumpf will officiate.

The Leikness Funeral Home of Wautoma is assisting the family with arrangements. www.leiknessfuneralhome.com



Richard Hein

Richard (Dick) Hein, age 80 of Omro, Wi, passed away Monday, January 26, 2026 at Aurora Medical Center in Oshkosh, Wis.



Dick was born March 28, 1945 to parents Nina and Edgar Hein. He graduated from Rosendale High School in 1963.

He was a proud union man, working at Rockwell manufacturing in Oshkosh for 30 years.

In his free time, Dick could be found on his boat fishing, in his sunroom, watching the news or sports, frying fish in the garage for visitors or making old-fashioned at family gatherings. He was a man

with opinions, strong as iron. He could sit down and talk with anyone for hours, especially if the topic with sports, work, or politics. It wouldn't be a proper family gathering without hearing his chuckle across the room.

He was a devoted father and grandfather, always making sure to show up anytime his presence was requested. He had a love for animals and a soft spot for the family pets.

Richard is survived by his wife of 49 years Donna; his four kids, Rob, (Lisa) Hein, Scott, (Lisa) Hein of Rosendale, Wi. Tami, (Tim) Lont of Waupun, Wi and Mark, (Heather) Hein of Pickett, WI and his brother David in Casper Wy. He had nine grandchildren and seven great grandchildren, along with many nieces and nephews.

He was preceded in death by his parents.

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Obituaries

Margaret Laurice Steckbauer

Margaret "Maggie" Laurice Steckbauer, died on February 7, 2026, following years of health challenges. She was born on April 21, 1933 in Oshkosh, Wisconsin, to William and Mary (Binder) Steckbauer. Except for 2-1/2 years in Quantico, Virginia where her father was stationed with the

Marines, Margaret attended school in Oshkosh. After high school graduation she worked at the local telephone company until she left there to attend UW-Oshkosh. With an English degree in hand, Margaret began her career as an educator and librarian, taking her to high schools in Weyauwega, West Allis (Nathan Hale), and Appleton (West), along with a stint at Einstein Junior High School in Appleton. Along the way, she earned her Master's Degree in Library Science.

After 30 years in the education system, Margaret retired to more fully pursue her passions for travel and the arts. She circled the world. She had an insatiable interest in everything and everyone. Margaret soon knew the names of any person she met, along with the names of their spouse and their kids, and interesting facts about them. She was a fan of musicals both as

an actress in productions at Attic Theater and from her prime seat in the audience. Margaret was convinced that the actors on stage at the PAC in Appleton were speaking directly to her while she sat in her seat front and center. She loved movies and could always be counted on to know detailed facts about the lives of her favorite movie stars, and was never shy about approaching them to get an autograph and express her admiration for their work.

Margaret was the 2nd oldest of 4 sisters and 3 brothers and is survived by: JoAnn "Jo" Hammen, Virginia (Ernst) Lisek, and Jim Steckbauer. She was the loving aunt to 23 nieces and nephews: Tim (Lynn) Thompson, Jeff Thompson, Ann (Mike) Prudlo, Cori (Dan) Romenesko, Beth (Scott) Schuh, Meg (Dennis) Steinke, Bob (Karen) Macke, Dan (Regina) Macke, Carolyn (Dean) Baumann, Christine (Ryan) Nielsen, Kathy Otero, Ann Lathrop, Suzy (Bill) Carter, Angel (Dan) Heilman, Paul (Michelle) Steckbauer, Steve Steckbauer, Tom Steckbauer, Ernst (Michelle) Lisek, Amy (Paul) Schuster, and Tim (Lisa) Jaekels. She is further survived by Beth Steckbauer Beyer.

She was preceded in death by her parents; siblings and in-laws: Mary and Lou Thompson, Rita and Tom Medland, Bob Macke, Gene Hammen, Bill Steckbauer, Carol Lewis, Angelika Steckbauer, and Paul and Mary Steckbauer; and neph-

ews Billy Steckbauer, Joe Steckbauer, and Tony Thompson.

The Funeral Mass for Margaret was held at 11:00 AM on Tuesday, February 17, 2026 at Most Blessed Sacrament Catholic Parish (St. Peter's Site), 435 High Avenue, Oshkosh, Wisconsin, 54901. Visitation was held from 10:00 AM until the hour of the Mass at the church. Interment will take place in Calvary Catholic Cemetery in Oshkosh.

We would like to thank the many healthcare professionals who cared for Margaret through the years, so we were able to have these last 5 years with her. We would like to especially recognize Dr. Rebekah Schroeder and her team at Aurora. To the angels at Evergreen Retirement Community on Garden Heights, Rehab, and Creekview units—thank you is not enough to truly convey our appreciation

for you. You created a home for Margaret, from her admission during Covid through to her peaceful death. We are grateful for the care, concern, love and respect you showed not only to Margaret but also to us, especially in the final days of her life.

The "MLS MLS" license plate has been retired. The entertainment world has lost its biggest fan. We lost our major influence, responsible in large part for our love of music, movies, musicals, and travel. Thank you for being at every birthday and special event in our lives. You are already missed.

Kessler-Fahrenkrug Funeral Home
304 S. Commercial St.
Neenah, WI 54956
(920) 722-6464



Donald "Pat" Donahue

Pat Donahue passed away on February 11, 2026. He was 93 years old. Born August 5, 1932 in Ashland, Wisconsin to the late Donald W. and Mildred Donahue.

Pat was married (May 29, 1953) for 72 years to Barbara (Zinth) Donahue. He is survived by his wife and 2 daughters; Deborah Schure of



Neenah Wisconsin and Pamela Cascarano of Greensboro, North Carolina.

Over the years Pat worked for American Excelsior Corp., Thilmany Pulp & Paper Corp., and Green Bay Packaging Inc.. He liked to go on picnics, work with his computers and read Sherlock Holmes stories. There was joy in the little dogs that were part of his and Barbara's life.

No visitation or services to be held.



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Call 920.385.4512 to place your ad
Private party ads deadline is 4 p.m.
Friday. \$15 for first 20 words

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Legal Notice

WNAXLP

STATE OF WISCONSIN
CIRCUIT COURT
WINNEBAGO COUNTY
Case No. 2026PR000047

Notice to Creditors
(Informal Administration)

IN THE MATTER OF THE
ESTATE OF
Reuben L. Stache
PLEASE TAKE NOTICE:

1. An application for informational administration was filed.
2. The decedent, with date of birth 05/05/1958 and date of death 11/30/2025, was domiciled in Winnebago County, State of Wisconsin, with a mailing address of 1325 Rahr Avenue, Oshkosh, WI 54901.
3. All interested persons waived notice. The deadline for filing a claim against the decedent's estate is May 19, 2026. A claim may be filed at the Winnebago County Courthouse, Oshkosh, Wisconsin, Room 242.

DATE SIGNED: February 11, 2026
Electronically signed by Sara Henke, Register in Probate, Probate Registrar
Form completed by: Attorney Nathan P. Olson
Address
OLSON LEGAL GROUP, LLC
21 W. New York Avenue,
Oshkosh, WI 54901
Telephone
920-230-7020

Bar Number 1059348

Runs: February 18, 2026,
February 25, 2026 and March
4, 2026.

STATE OF WISCONSIN
CIRCUIT COURT
WINNEBAGO COUNTY
Case No. 26PR26

Notice Setting Time to Hear
Application and Deadline for
Filing Claims
(Informal Administration)

IN THE MATTER OF THE
ESTATE OF
Edward R. Lambert
PLEASE TAKE NOTICE:

1. An application for informational administration was filed.
2. The decedent, with date of birth 12/22/1948 and date of death 11/05/2025, was domiciled in Winnebago County, State of Wisconsin, with a mailing address of 4985 Broderick Road, Omro, WI 54963.
3. The application will be heard at the Winnebago County Courthouse, Oshkosh, Wisconsin, Room Join Zoom Meeting <https://wicourts.zoom.us/j/88686786577>

Meeting ID: 886 8678 6577
One tap mobile

- +1 312 626 6799 US (Chicago), before Sara Henke, Probate Registrar, on February 24, 2026 at 11:15 a.m..
You do not need to appear unless you object. The application may be granted if there is no objection.

4. The deadline for filing a claim against the decedent's estate is May 5, 2026.
5. A claim may be filed at the Winnebago County Courthouse, Oshkosh, Wisconsin, Room 242.
6. This publication is notice to any persons whose names or address are unknown.

If you require reasonable accommodations due to a disability to participate in the court process, please call (920) 236-4833 prior to the scheduled court date. Please note that the court does not provide transportation.

DATE SIGNED: January 26, 2026
Electronically signed by Sara Henke, Register in Probate, Probate Registrar
Form completed by: Attorney Nathan P. Olson
Address
OLSON LEGAL GROUP, LLC
21 W. New York Avenue,
Oshkosh, WI 54901
Telephone
920-230-7020
Bar Number
1059348

Runs: February 4, 2026, February 11, 2026 and February 18, 2026.

WNAXLP

CIRCUIT COURT
WINNEBAGO COUNTY

IN THE MATTER OF THE
NAME CHANGE OF:
Zalakai Joseph Sonnleitner
By (Petitioner) Katelyn Rose Sonnleitner

Notice of Name Change
Hearing
Case No. 26CV92

NOTICE IS GIVEN:
A Petition was filed asking to change the name of the person listed above:
From:
First – Zalakai
Middle – Joseph
Last – Sonnleitner
To:
First – Chase
Middle – Joseph
Last – Schimmer
Birth Certificate:
First – Zalakai
Middle – Joseph
Last – Sonnleitner

This Petition will be heard in the Circuit Court of Winnebago County, State of Wisconsin:
Judge's Name: Scott C. Woldt
Place: Winnebago County Courthouse, 415 Jackson Street, Oshkosh, WI 54901
Date: 2/26/26
Time: 8:30 AM

If you require reasonable accommodations due to a disability to participate in the court process, please call 920-236-4828 prior to the scheduled court date. Please note that the court does not provide transportation.

NOTICE TO NEWSPAPER
AND PETITIONER:

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

BY THE COURT:
DATE SIGNED: January 28, 2026
/s/ Scott C. Woldt
Winnebago County Circuit Court Judge, Branch II

Runs: February 4, 2026, February 11, 2026 and February 18, 2026

WNAXLP

CIRCUIT COURT
WINNEBAGO COUNTY
Case No. 26PR29

Notice Setting Time to Hear
Application and Deadline for
Filing Claims
(Informal Administration)

IN THE MATTER OF THE
ESTATE OF
Margaret M. Verkuilen
PLEASE TAKE NOTICE:

4. An application for informational administration was filed.
5. The decedent, with date of birth 05/25/1936 and date of death 09/04/2025, was domiciled in Winnebago County, State of Wisconsin,

with a mailing address of 225 N. Eagle Street, Oshkosh, WI 54902.

6. The application will be heard at the Winnebago County Courthouse, Oshkosh, Wisconsin, Room Join Zoom Meeting <https://wicourts.zoom.us/j/88686786577>
Meeting ID: 886 8678 6577
One tap mobile
• +1 312 626 6799 US (Chicago), before Sara Henke, Probate Registrar, on March 3, 2026 at 11:05 a.m..

You do not need to appear unless you object. The application may be granted if there is no objection.

4. The deadline for filing a claim against the decedent's estate is May 5, 2026.
5. A claim may be filed at the Winnebago County Courthouse, Oshkosh, Wisconsin, Room 242.
6. This publication is notice to any persons whose names or address are unknown.
If you require reasonable accommodations due to a disability to participate in the court process, please call (920) 236-4833 prior to the scheduled court date. Please note that the court does not provide transportation.

DATE SIGNED: January 28, 2026
Electronically signed by Sara Henke, Register in Probate, Probate Registrar
Form completed by: Attorney Nathan P. Olson
Address
OLSON LEGAL GROUP, LLC
21 W. New York Avenue,
Oshkosh, WI 54901
Telephone
920-230-7020
Bar Number
1059348

Runs: February 4, 2026, February 11, 2026 and February 18, 2026.

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GOLD MEDAL DICTIONARY

Fall Line: _____

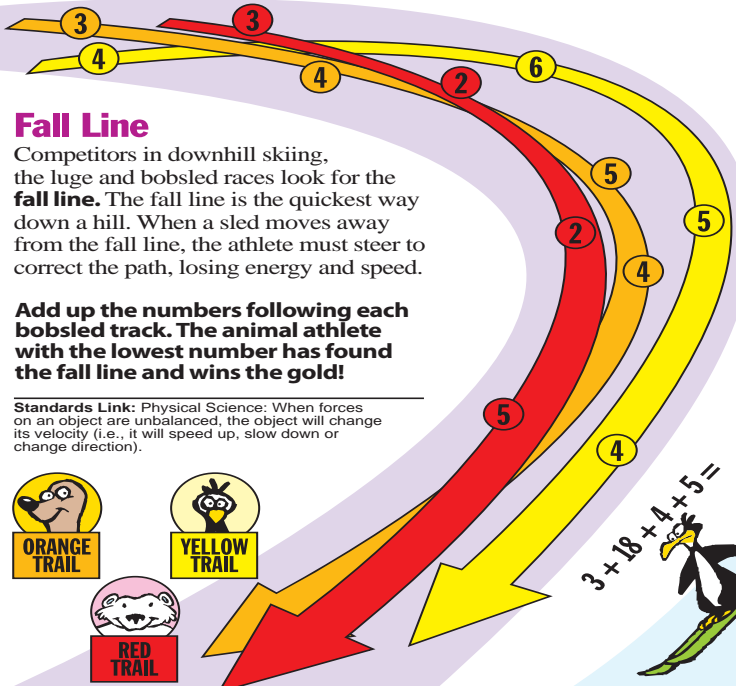
Friction: _____

Drag: _____

The people who compete in the Winter Olympics are more than great athletes. They are also masters of science. Gold Medal athletes know about the science of a **fall line**, **drag** and **friction**.

Find the definition of each of these words on the page. Write the definition in the Gold Medal Dictionary.

Standards Link: Vocabulary Development: Use a dictionary or context clues to find the meaning of words.



Fall Line

Competitors in downhill skiing, the luge and bobsled races look for the **fall line**. The fall line is the quickest way down a hill. When a sled moves away from the fall line, the athlete must steer to correct the path, losing energy and speed.

Add up the numbers following each bobsled track. The animal athlete with the lowest number has found the fall line and wins the gold!

Standards Link: Physical Science: When forces on an object are unbalanced, the object will change its velocity (i.e., it will speed up, slow down or change direction).



Cutting Down on Drag

While we don't always feel air, we are always moving against it. The faster we move, the more we can feel the air rushing past us. Air is actually slowing down our motion. This is called **drag**.



Downhill skiers crouch with their chests to their knees. They try to be very small, so that only a little of their body is in contact with the air. This lessens the drag. Skiers who have the least amount of drag will ski faster.

Drag Racers

Look at the three skiers. They are all skiing down the fall line. The one with the least drag will win. Circle the skier you think will win.

To find out each skier's time, add up the numbers above each skier. The skier with the fastest time wins the gold!

Standards Link: Number Sense: Calculate sums to 30.

What is Friction?

Friction is the rubbing of one object or surface against another.



Place your two palms together with your palms only lightly touching each other. Slide your palms back and forth against each other. There is only a little friction and your hands move easily.

Push your palms tightly together and try to move them back and forth. It will be harder to move your palms because there is a lot of friction and that slows the motion.

Now put soap and water on your hands. This will reduce the friction and your hands should move together faster. Athletes wax skis, boards and runners to lower friction and help them go faster.

Standards Link: Science: Identify forces that can act on an object, including friction.

SNOWBOARD CHALLENGE

The athlete who did the best job waxing their board will win this race. (The lowest number is the fastest time.)

11	10	12
6	2	3
+ 5	+ 1	+ 5

Extra! Extra!

Faster, Higher, Stronger

Look through the newspaper to find pictures and words that represent the above words. Make a Spirit of the Olympics poster with your findings.

Standards Link: Visual Arts: Understand and apply media techniques and processes.

Kid Scoop Puzzler

Each of these animal athletes won an event on this page. Draw a line from each gold medal to its winner.

Standards Link: Life Science: Reading Comprehension: Follow simple written directions.

Double Double Word Search

- SCIENCE
- MEDAL
- ATHLETES
- OLYMPICS
- BOBSLED
- SKIER
- SPIRIT
- FRICTION
- DRAG
- FALL
- LINE
- GOLD
- LUGE
- KNEES
- RACERS

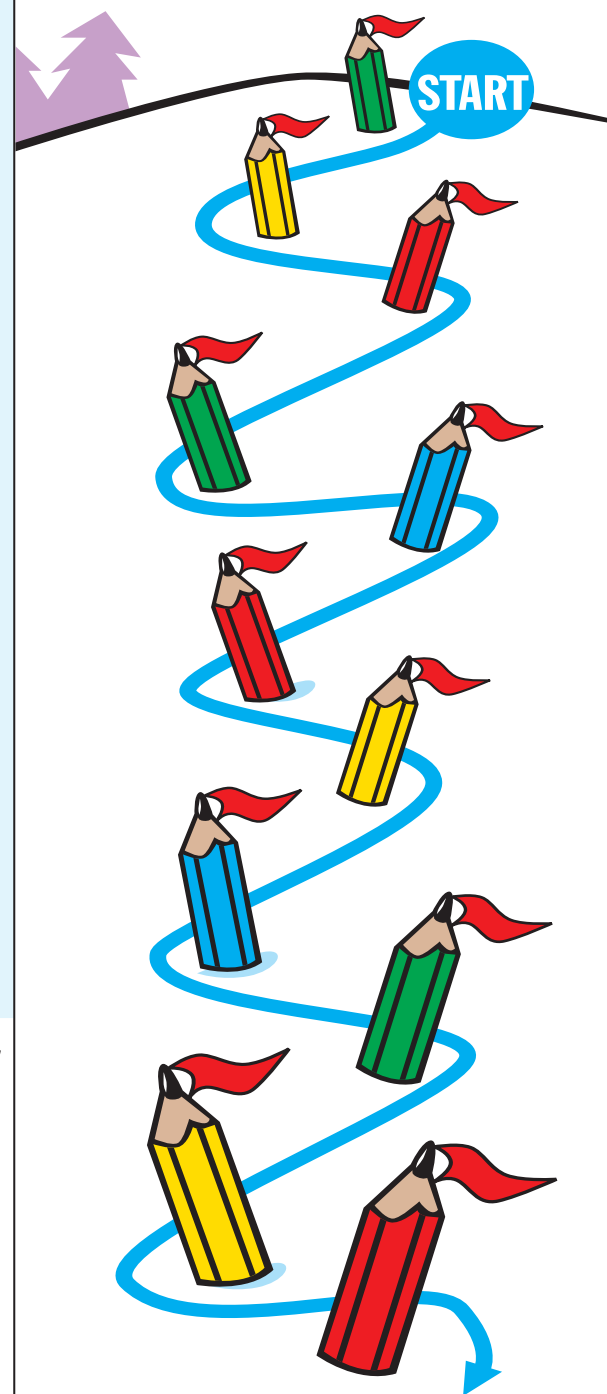
Find the words by looking up, down, backwards, forwards, sideways and diagonally.

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

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

Kid Scoop Together: Slalom Racers

Place a pencil on **START**. Close your eyes. Trace the curving path down the slalom run. Score **1 point** for each slalom flag cleared. Now have a friend try. Who scored highest?



Standards Link: Reading Comprehension: Follow simple written directions.

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Write On!

My Olympic Achievement

Write about a time you achieved something that made you very proud.

SAVE THE DATE: AUGUST 1, 2026
 for the 2nd Annual Oshkosh Noon Kiwanis Children's Day parade

Visit <https://oshkoshnoonkiwanisclub.org/oshkosh-children-s-parade> to learn more about the parade or scan the QR code to register!

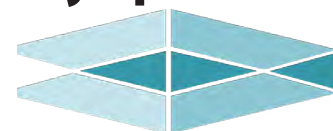


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