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## INSIDE



**Tourney loss**  
Knights fall to Pirates  
in sectional final  
Page 16

## Oshkosh Media halts television coverage

By Jonathan Richie  
OSHKOSH HERALD

Longtime producers are feeling blindsided by the decision to make changes to Oshkosh Media.

Oshkosh Media will dissolve in May but will continue to film meetings for the Oshkosh Common Council, Winnebago County Board of Supervisors and other boards and committees that can be viewed on YouTube.

However, it will no longer help local producers with their productions that have been a staple in the community for years, going back to when it was called Oshkosh Community Media. The channels, Gov TV and Life TV, will cease operations, and the public access channel will no longer operate or accept content for air.

John Nieman has produced two award-winning shows for Oshkosh Media

SEE **Oshkosh Media** ON PAGE 15

## WMG begins new chapter of journalism

By Karen Schneider  
FOUNDER AND PUBLISHER

When I started the Oshkosh Herald, the goal was simple: make sure our community had a strong, independent local newspaper focused on the people and stories that matter here.

Local journalism is essential to healthy communities. It helps residents understand what is happening in their neighborhoods, their schools, their local governments and their businesses. It celebrates the successes of our community and shines light on the challenges we face. An informed community is a stronger and

healthier community.

Over the past several years, that commitment to local journalism has grown. What began with the Oshkosh Herald expanded to include the Neenah News and the Winneconne News. Together, these newspapers now reach over 55,000 households each week across Winnebago County.



Schneider

Earlier this year we announced the cre-

ation of Winnebago Media Group, bringing our family of community newspapers together under one organization. That step helped strengthen our ability to serve multiple communities while maintaining the local identity of each publication.

Today, we are sharing the next step in continuing our mission.

Our newspapers are transitioning to a nonprofit structure.

Personally, this wasn't an easy decision. Some days it felt as if I would be giving away my first born. This decision was

SEE **WMG begins** ON PAGE 2



Photo by Michael Cooney

Keynote speaker Mark Sanders presents "The Secret Sauce: Five Secret Ingredients for Helping Clients Sustain Substance Use Recovery Long Term" during the We Heart You: Recovery in Our Community event March 4.

## Community connects with those living in recovery

By MaryBeth Matzek  
OSHKOSH HERALD

With a focus of breaking the silence, reducing stigma and saving lives, the 2026 We Heart You: Recovery in Our Community event shined a spotlight on how personal connections are essential to help people living in recovery from alcohol and substance use disorder.

Held at the University of Wisconsin-Oshkosh Culver Family Welcome Center on March 4, 550 people attended the event, which was led by the Overdose Fatality Review Team and supported by the Winnebago County Health Department. Emceed by Tom Farley, the brother of the late comedian Chris Farley, the event featured local and state speakers along with keynote speaker and author Mark Sanders.

"The most important ingredient in re-

covery is love," said Sanders, a behavioral health consultant whose work helped shift recovery from the acute model solely toward a recovery-oriented system of care. "Connectivity, which means having a great support system, is important in recovery. When you involve the family, a person's chances for success goes up three times."

Sanders shared his "secret sauce" of helping clients sustain substance use recovery for the long term, calling it his Chime model: Connection, hope and optimism, identity, meaning and purpose, and empowerment.

"Those five ingredients right there are what you need for sustained recovery," he said.

A big part of a successful recovery is celebrating the success of others, Sanders said.

"When you celebrate what others are doing, you begin to believe that you can get better, too," he said.

Growing connections with those in recovery has proved successful for someone who normally has quite a different relationship with those addicted to drugs and alcohol — Winnebago County District Attorney Eric Sparr. A big believer in the county's drug court programs, he wanted to learn more from people living in recovery and was invited to attend a narcotics anonymous meeting.

"The person who invited me didn't come so things were a bit awkward but after I explained who I was and why I was there, I was welcomed in," Sparr said.

That meeting led to an invitation to play

SEE **We Heart You** ON PAGE 10

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

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# Oshkosh Herald

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Advertising deadline is noon Wednesday for the following Wednesday.

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

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### Corrections

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

### About the newspaper

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36 Broad St., Suite 300, Oshkosh.  
An E-edition of the newspaper can be accessed at [www.oshkoshherald.com](http://www.oshkoshherald.com).

# Winnebago Media Group wins statewide awards

Oshkosh Herald

Oshkosh Herald staff writer Jonathan Richie was recognized with three awards in the Wisconsin Newspaper Association (WNA) Foundation's 2025 Better Newspaper Contest.

Among Richie's awards announced Friday at the WNA annual convention in Madison was first place for Investigative Reporting, second place for Reporting on Local Education and third place for Ongoing/Extended Coverage.

The Herald also was recognized with

third place awards for All-Around Newspaper Photography and Best Special Section (Advertising).

The Herald's awards were among 13 overall for the Winnebago Media Group, which includes the Neenah News and Winneconne News.

The Neenah News was recognized with a third-place award for General Excellence in its division.

Former Neenah News staff writer Bethanie Gengler won first place awards for Health Coverage and Feature Story

(non-profile). Gengler also earned third place for Business Coverage, Reporting on Local Education and Feature Story (profile) along with honorable mention for General News Story.

Former Winneconne News staff writer Anya Kelley received honorable mention recognition as Rookie Reporter of the Year.

The newspapers of the year were The Lakeland Times, Minocqua (weekly) and the Wisconsin State Journal, Madison (daily).

## WMG begins

FROM PAGE 1

made with one goal in mind: ensuring the long-term sustainability of independent local journalism in our communities. After all, local news is not just a business. It is a public service.

Across the country, many local newspapers have disappeared or been absorbed by large national chains. This year there have been several news stories of newspapers closing their doors and leaving a community basically in the dark. When that happens, communities lose something important – a trusted source of local information that reflects their own voices and stories.

More than 2,500 newspapers in the United States have closed in the past two decades, and many communities now find themselves living in “news deserts,” places with little or no reliable local news coverage. When that happens, civic engage-

## Law enforcement panel focuses on starting careers

Oshkosh Herald

FLIPS (Future Leaders in Public Service) Academy is a new initiative by the University of Wisconsin Oshkosh and the Whitburn Center designed to actively expose high school and college students to the diverse, rewarding and essential career paths available across the public sector.

A “Beyond Enforcement: Reimagining Public Safety with Community” meeting with panelists will be held March 18 at Sage Hall 1210, 835 High Ave. Socializing, networking, pizza and drinks will be from 5:30 to 6 p.m. The program will follow from 6 to 7 p.m. with panelists explaining their careers plus a Q&A.

Panelists are scheduled to include members of the Winnebago County District Attorney's Office, Winnebago County State Public Defender's Office, judicial staff, Winnebago County Sheriff's Office, Oshkosh Fire Department and Oshkosh Police Department.

Because this program is grant-funded by the Tommy G. Thompson Center on Public Leadership, there is no cost or fee to participate. RSVP by March 16. More information is available at [uwosh.edu/whitburn-center/upcoming-events](http://uwosh.edu/whitburn-center/upcoming-events).

ment declines, misinformation spreads more easily and communities lose an important connection to one another.

I believe our communities deserve better.

By transitioning to a nonprofit model, we are creating a structure that allows these newspapers to be sustained by the communities they serve. It opens the door for partnerships with readers, businesses, foundations and community supporters who believe that strong local journalism benefits everyone.

Currently Oshkosh and Neenah are advertising supported newspapers and with increases in newsprint and postage, this model is just not sustainable for us or the businesses that support us and enable us to carry on our mission of providing local news and information. The new model will essentially help us close that gap and remain viable.

While the ownership structure is changing, the mission remains exactly the same.

The Oshkosh Herald, Neenah News and Winneconne News will continue to focus on the people, decisions and events that shape our communities. Our team will continue covering local government meetings, schools, businesses, nonprofits

and the many stories that make our communities unique.

In short, the work will continue just as it always has — with a deep commitment to local reporting and community engagement.

What changes is our ability to ensure that work continues for generations to come.

These newspapers have always belonged to the community in spirit. Today we are simply making that official.

I am deeply grateful to our readers, advertisers, contributors and supporters who have helped make this possible. Your belief in the importance of local journalism has allowed these newspapers to grow and thrive.

As we begin this new chapter, we invite the community to learn more about this effort and how you can help sustain independent local journalism. If you would like to support the mission of Winnebago Media Group, visit [winnebagomediagroup.com](http://winnebagomediagroup.com) to learn more about our nonprofit initiative.

Together, we can make sure that the stories of Oshkosh, Neenah and Winneconne continue to be told for generations to come.

## Back in the Day



Oshkosh history by the Winnebago County Historical Society

### March 7, 1963

**‘Tallest Man’ Will Be In City:** Corn King, billed as the world's tallest man, is making a stop in Oshkosh on Thursday. The ‘giant’ will appear at the Krambo Food Store on Jackson Street from 9:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. *Corn King's* birthname is Henry Mullens. He reportedly stands at 8 feet – 3 inches tall and uses the “stage name” *Corn King* as he is under contract with Wilson Meats promoting the *Corn King* Brand. The unusually tall man has toured four continents as star of his own vaudeville team, according to Krambo publicists. And be sure to keep out from under his feet – they're size 22.

Source: *Oshkosh Northwestern* March 5, 1963



Submitted photo

Henry Mullens, also known as Corn King, shakes hands with a little admirer.

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To our Grandson BENTLEY TONEY who is turning 13 (his Golden Birthday) on Friday March 13th. We wish you a very Happy Birthday and hope it is a very special day for you. We have made us very Proud.

- Love Mamma and Bumpa

His Great Grandma also had her 13th birthday on Friday March 13th.

# Dublin's Pub brings Irish fun, fare for St. Patrick's Day

By Cassidy Johnson  
HERALD CONTRIBUTOR

St. Patrick's Day is on its way, and Oshkosh has some fun events scheduled to celebrate this global commemoration of Irish culture.

One of the most well-known St. Patrick's Day celebrations in the area has been happening at Dublin's Pub every year since the pub's opening in 2009.

Though the event has grown in the past 17 years, guests can almost always rely on their Irish fare, traditional Irish Dancers and live music at their yearly Tent Party.

The festivities will start with their Tent Party at 11 a.m. Saturday when drinks will be served by celebrity bartenders from the Oshkosh Fire Department as a fundraiser for its charitable trust fund.

Traditional Irish fare such as corned beef and cabbage, fish and chips, Shepherd's pie, bangers and mash (sausage and potatoes) with sausages locally sourced from Wagner's Market and more will also be served from 11 a.m. to 10 p.m., or while supplies last. Appetizers, burgers and sandwiches will also be served during this time.

Live music begins at 2 p.m. with Ask Your Mother, a Wisconsin-based cover band known for high-energy performances of a variety of music from country and classic rock to pop and hip-hop.

The entertainment will include a performance of Irish dancers from Richard's School of the Dance.

"People always enjoy that," said Mark Rotkowski, co-owner of Dublin's Pub. "It's great to bring in some of the Irish traditions, let the youth show their skills. And they're very good, so it's pretty fun."

Live music begins again at 6:30 p.m.



Submitted photo

A tent party will highlight the activities at Dublin's Pub held to celebrate St. Patrick's Day. The festivities are set to begin at 11 a.m. Saturday.

with Star Six Nine, a country-rock group based in Oshkosh. The band will rock out until around 10 p.m., at which point the tent will close down.

Those who want to keep the party going can head inside until bar-close at 2 a.m., Rotkowski said.

Though St. Patrick's Day is known for drinking, Rotkowski emphasized that guests don't need to drink to have fun at Dublin's.

"There's a lot of people who just come out to enjoy the music, too," Rotkowski said. "It's not all about drinking."

Dublin's Pub will be "Dublin" the St. Paddy's-Day fun with another event on the actual day of the holiday, March 17.

The party that day will include a traditional Irish breakfast and live music at 8 p.m. from Dublin's Live, a band of professional musicians who play at Dublin's regularly.

The St. Patrick's Day breakfast will feature a variety of Irish fare, from a traditional Irish breakfast, to Bailey's Irish Cream pancakes and corned Beef Hash, served from 6 to 9 a.m.

The traditional Irish breakfast comes

with fried eggs, sausage from Wagner's, bacon, potato farl, grilled mushrooms and tomatoes, baked beans, soda bread and black/white "pudding," a type of traditional Irish sausage, all for \$16.

A variety of traditional Irish fare will also be available from 10 a.m. to 9 p.m.

"I don't know any other places [in Oshkosh] who do a large event like this [for St. Patrick's Day]," Rotkowski said.

Between live music, Irish dancers and traditional Irish food, Rotkowski hopes Dublin's is the place to be for "Dublin" the amount of fun this St. Patrick's Day.



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# County board to consider Wittman hangar rent increase

By MaryBeth Matzek  
OSHKOSH HERALD

The Winnebago County Board of Supervisors could decide next week whether to increase hangar fees at Wittman Regional Airport.

Airport Manager Jim Schell said a market-based analysis completed last September showed hangar rates have not kept pace with market conditions. The consultant, Airport Business Solutions, also recommended the airport increase its fees annually equal to 3% or changes in the area's Consumer Price Index, whichever is greater, on a consistent basis.

"We are doing a market reset now and then our goal is to look at the prices every three years," Schell said during a presentation last week to the county board.

Previously, rate increases were done sporadically. The last time rates increased was in 2022. Prior to that, rates increased in 2016, 2011 and 2001.

Hangars at Wittman range from those built in the 1970s and 1980s to those built just a couple of years ago. Ranging in different sizes, Schell said there are 12 different hangar types and rates at the airport with monthly rents increases ranging from 2.7% to 29% per month.

The airport leases 94 hangar units and 31 land leases. Construction will begin this spring on a new nine-unit T-hangar, which should be finished later this year.

"We have a waiting list with 88 people on it who are looking for hangar space," Schell said.

In addition to raising hangar rents, the airport will increase its fuel flowage rate from 10 cents to 15 cents. It was last changed in 2011. The statewide average at general aviation airports is 19 cents.

Between the hangar fee and fuel flowage rate increases, the airport looks to raise an additional \$102,899 annually, with \$62,899 coming from the hangars and

\$40,000 coming from fuel.

"The amenities at the airport are second to none. It's one of the top four general aviation airports in the country," County Executive Gordon Hintz said. "It has four paved runways, a control tower and its own on-field fire and rescue."

Supervisor Tom Swan, who sits on the facilities and property management committee, said he's opposed to hangar rent increases.

"Those with the older hangars are complaining the loudest about the price increases," he said. "It's difficult for me to support these rent increases based on how the appraiser hired from North Carolina got to these rent prices."

Schell noted he did not use all the values recommended by the consultant. He lowered some of the price increases.

Supervisor Andy Buck, a member of the facilities and property management committee, said the board needs to take the step

now and approve the rent increases.

"We're where we are today because the county boards before us kept kicking the can down the road on this," he said. "It's time we look at facilities and make some of these decisions."

Some pilots may leave their hangar space in Oshkosh for airports in Fond du Lac or Waupaca if hangar rates increase, said Supervisor Maribeth Gabert, chair of the aviation committee.

"I'm against this," she said. "The pilots like the airport and expected an increase but didn't expect this."

Supervisor Steven Binder encouraged other supervisors to go out to the airport and view the hangars before deciding.

"I believe these rents are reasonable," he said. "Go see what some of these hangars look like and I think you'll then vote for this. We need to start somewhere."

The board is expected to vote on whether to increase hangar fees on March 17.



Oshkosh Herald

The Advocap child care incubator project construction continues on Jackson Street. The project could lead to hundreds of spaces for low-cost child care in the next 10 years.

## Progress continues at child care incubator

By Jonathan Richie  
OSHKOSH HERALD

Construction of the Advocap child care incubator project in Oshkosh is moving along and on schedule. The building is set to open later this year with the hopes of providing child care services for dozens of children and their families.

Advocap is developing the incubator because the organization's local child care resources and referral office has a list of over 60 people who want to start a child care business but lack the right spaces and resources.

Child care businesses have closed in Oshkosh, including the Christian Community Child Center which is located just to the north of the incubator site.

The incubator will provide a low-cost space for different business owners. Advocap will charge every business \$800 a month, but \$400 of that will be placed

into a savings account for the business owner. The idea is that after two years the business owner will have almost \$10,000 to move out of the incubator and start a business elsewhere.

In the first year Advocap expects eight to 12 providers to serve a total of 64 children in the incubator.

There is no time limit for when providers will be allowed in the incubator, but it is expected that after two years a business will be ready to "graduate" from the program.

As more business owners leave the incubator and move their businesses into the community, Advocap believes that over the next 10 years around 600 new child care slots will open across Oshkosh.

Anyone interested in learning more about the incubator project can go to [advocap.org/services/childcare-incubator](http://advocap.org/services/childcare-incubator).

## Funding sought for larger county highway building

By MaryBeth Matzek  
OSHKOSH HERALD

Winnebago County is seeking nearly \$2.6 million in Spirit Funds to design an expanded highway department and move the county facilities department to the same complex.

Mike Elder, director of the county's facilities and property management, recently made a presentation to the Winnebago County Board of Supervisors about plans to update the county's highway facility and move its facilities department to the site on County Road Y.

The first step is getting a design for a new, combined facility, which would cost an estimated \$2,568,384. County Executive Gordon Hintz said after the county appropriated funds from the Spirit Fund for the county's new Revolving Loan Fund that the board decided to make one-off decisions going forward about the use of funds.

The expanded highway facility with the addition of the facilities department would better suit the needs of the county, Elder said.

The total cost of the project is an estimated \$32,104,800, with \$17,065,000 for expanding the highway department and \$15,039,800 for moving the facilities department.

The facilities department is currently located in downtown Oshkosh.

In 2024 and 2025, Elder said a facility condition assessment and space needs assessment were conducted on the building and determined the highway facility was

in good condition overall but that more space was needed.

"The highway building is a good building to put an investment in and it will serve the county well for the next 50 years," he said. "The space needs there are pressing. The maintenance bays, for example, are too small for today's larger vehicles."

Besides not having enough room for its vehicles, Elder said the highway building needs a larger conference room, the truck wash is poorly located and the salt shed is not large enough.

"We have to park some of our vehicles at the covered arena at the fairgrounds," Elder said. "Without having enough room, there are consequences including safety risks, equipment risks and operational delays."

Relocating the facilities department to a larger highway department complex will also create efficiencies since it will be closer to several county facilities, including county offices in Neenah.

Supervisor Ralph Harrison said it was time the county increased the size of its highway building to better house its vehicles.

"You need to go there and look at it," said Harrison, who is on the Highway Committee. "Vehicles change and what (Elder) is saying on how they are parked in there tightly is true."

If the ARPA Strategy & Outcomes Commission approved using Spirit funds for the design project on Tuesday, the county board will vote on setting aside the funds at its next meeting on March 17.

## Thank You

To all who supported Finderland and helped raise funds for the Marble Park Reimagined Community Project. A special thank you to the donors and volunteers:

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# University plans to demolish dorms for green space

By Jonathan Richie  
OSHKOSH HERALD

More green space could soon be created at the University of Wisconsin-Oshkosh, with three dormitory buildings slated for demolition as enrollment continues to decline.

UW-Oshkosh has plans to demolish Radford, Webster and Donner halls on Algoma and High Avenue and build a new parking lot and green space.

UWO's facilities and planning director Chadwick Shaw told the City of Oshkosh Plan Commission last week that the buildings are set for demolition because the university is dealing with declining enrollment.

"With declining enrollment we no longer have the need for these old dormitories," Shaw said. "We've consolidated students in other dorms. We are looking to reduce our overall square-footage of buildings and reduce our energy load and maintenance costs."

Shaw added that future plans for the site could be a STEM building or a residence

hall, but that is not in the plans right now. For now, the university is set to make it a green space.

The buildings sit on a single parcel of 16 acres. The Pollock House also sits in this area but is not part of the planned demolition. The Pollock House is set for renovation and when that project is complete there will be parking added to the space.

The Plan Commission voted to recommend that the Oshkosh Common Council approve the general development plan and site implementation plan for the multi-building demolition. The university would also be removing all the utilities associated with the buildings.

The plan for the parcel will be for two diagonal sidewalks connecting High Avenue and Algoma Boulevard. There will also be a parking lot with 41 uncovered stalls on the northwest portion of the parcel with access from High Avenue.

The plan will now go to the council for final approval of the general development plan and site implementation plan.



Oshkosh Herald

Radford Hall along with two other dormitories on UWO's campus are set to be demolished to create more green space on the campus.

## Candidates forum slated to be held at The Grand on Monday

Oshkosh Herald

Oshkosh Common Council and Oshkosh Area School District Board of Education candidates will participate in a candidate forum on Monday.

The forum will be held on stage at The Grand Oshkosh, 100 High Ave. from 6 to 8:45 p.m. The public is invited. Doors open at 5 p.m. A cash bar in the lobby will be available all evening. Organizers said the new venue will provide an opportunity for voters to have informal dialogue with the candidates after the forum.

The forum is co-hosted by the Winneba-

go County League of Women Voters and the Grand. Public policy questions may be submitted in advance to [wclwvinfo@gmail.com](mailto:wclwvinfo@gmail.com), to Margy Davey at 920-233-5055 (leave a message) or at the forum. LWV reserves the right to edit submitted questions for clarity or brevity. Questions must be directed to all candidates. There may not be time to ask all questions submitted.

Karen Schneider, publisher of Winnebago Media Group, will serve as a panel member.

The forum will air live on Oshkosh Me-

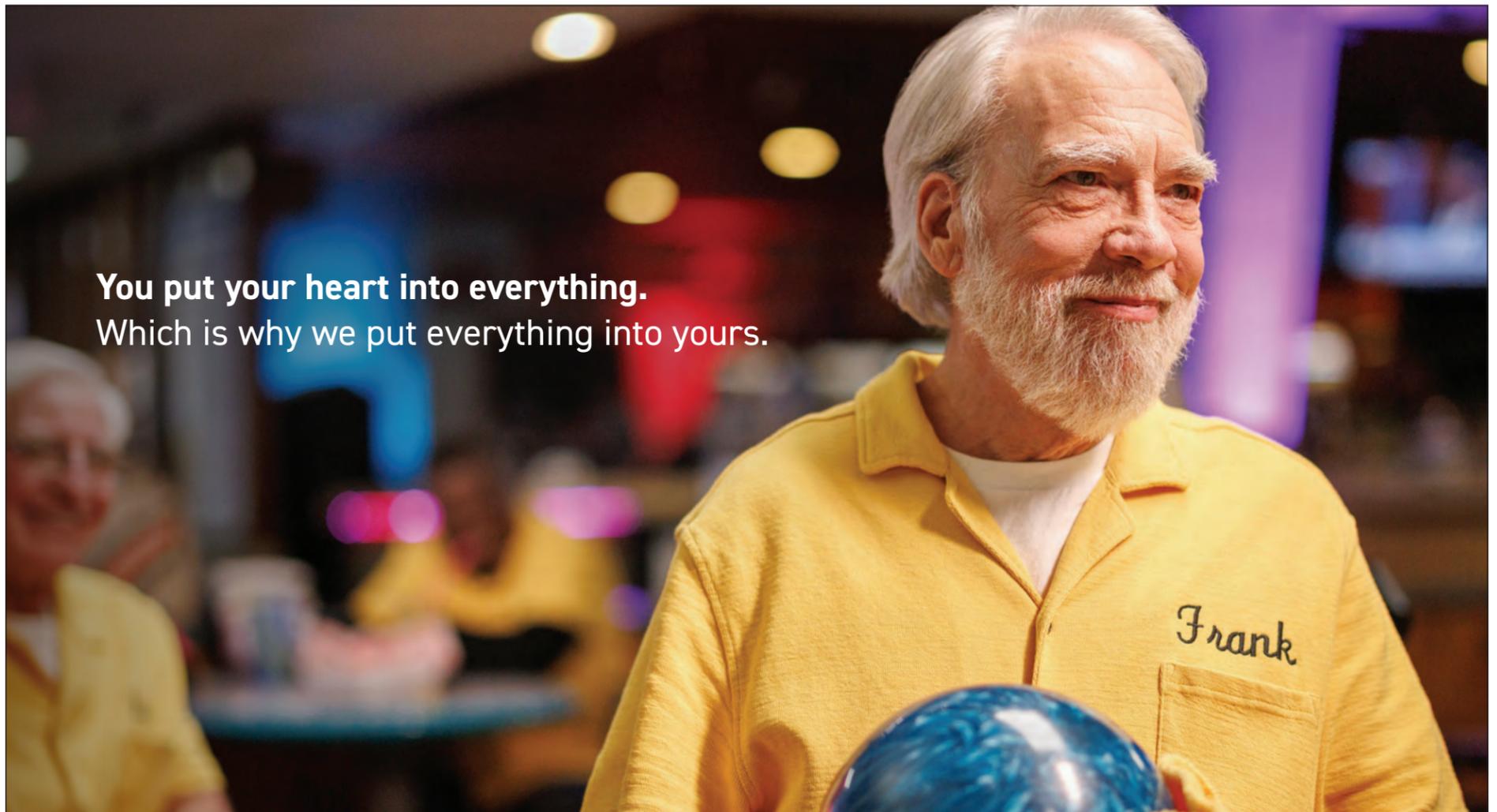
dia Gov TV, which can be found on Spectrum Cable channel 10 in the City of Oshkosh and channel 99 on AT&T U-verse. It will also stream live on the Oshkosh Media YouTube channel and the free Oshkosh Media apps on Roku, Amazon Fire TV and Apple TV. The forum will be available on demand on the Oshkosh Media YouTube channel and will re-air several times on Gov TV before the April 7 election.

The common council segment from 6 to 7:30 p.m. includes six candidates for three seats: recently appointed incumbent

Jacob Amos, Paul Esslinger, Logan Jungbacker, Alec Lefeber, Tim Neubauer and Meredith Scheuermann.

The school board segment from 7:45 to 8:45 p.m. includes four candidates for two seats: incumbent Barbara Herzog, and challengers Mallory Schneider Birschbach, Paul Molitor and Jacob Wolf.

The mission of the League of Women Voters is to inform citizens about major public policy issues and about candidates seeking office. The League of Women Voters neither supports nor opposes candidates or political parties.



You put your heart into everything.  
Which is why we put everything into yours.

Helping our patients follow their passion inspires us to give 110% in everything we do. That's why our heart care is nationally recognized for excellence — and still offers the comfort you expect from a local team, taking care of our neighbors.

Choose the team that's all in for you. Visit [ThedaCare.org/heart](http://ThedaCare.org/heart)

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# Candidates compete for county board seats

Oshkosh Herald

All 36 seats on the Winnebago Board of Supervisors are up for election this year. The Herald is focused on the seats within its coverage area, which are districts 11 through 25 and 31.

The supervisors in districts 13, 15, 18, 20, 21 and 25 are running unopposed this spring. In districts 16 and 22, the incumbents did not seek reelection and only one candidate is running for those two seats.

In the competitive races, the Herald sent surveys to each candidate to learn more information about them.

## District 11

**Name:** Jacob Klaameyer

**Age:** 31

**Occupation:** Mechanical engineer, Oshkosh Tool librarian, cycling instructor and mechanic and shelter advocate

**Education:** Bachelor's degree in mechanical engineering from University of Alaska-Fairbanks and Leadership Oshkosh Class of 2024

**Previous experience in elected office:** Financial officer with limits of the Oshkosh Tool Library and appointed by the Oshkosh mayor to the Sustainability Advisory Board in 2023.

**Why are you running for a seat on the county board?** Winnebago County and District 11 residents deserve to be represented by an active community member who listens to constituents and works to better our area, not just argues against county government initiatives. We the people must strive to meet each other's basic human needs, not just our own, to be successful together. It is the stated mission of Winnebago County to meet basic human needs and I will whole-heartedly work to bring new solutions to the Winnebago County Board of Supervisors.

**What do you see as the most important issue facing Winnebago County?** Housing is undeniably a basic human need whose price is outpacing wages. Our county government can unlock real solutions by lowering square footage requirements for homes and parking, lending unused county land to alternative housing pilots and programs, soliciting and removing barriers for building technologies that reduce material cost and improve energy efficiency like cob and rammed earth, and incentivizing the repair, maintenance and utilization of our existing buildings. I'm already working at the Oshkosh Tool Library and with community partners to bring truly affordable housing solutions to our area and I'll continue and expand this effort as your representative.

**Name:** Tim Paterson

**Age:** 59

**Occupation:** Current County Board Supervisor/semi-retired

**Education:** Bachelor's degree in business from Excelsior University

**Previous experience in elected office:** Elected to Winnebago County Board in 2024

**Why are you running for a seat on the county board?** I was not happy with the direction that the County Board was going in during COVID. That's when I decided that it was time to get involved in local politics. Once I got involved with the committees, I was surprised at just how many emerging issues there were within the county. Some of the issues I have observed include emerging veteran's issues, PFAS contamination, capital improvements and airport funding. Proper consideration to these problems requires someone who can weigh the balance between services provided and property tax impact on residents of Winnebago County.

**What do you see as the most important issue facing Winnebago County?** The most important issue facing Winnebago County is the capital improvement plan. Winnebago County has over 100 buildings, many of them are either old and in disrepair, or have outlived their usefulness or intended purpose. In addition to that, the county has also inherited UW-Fox Valley. It is currently uncertain what the potential costs could be to support or sell that facility moving forward. Based on current estimates, repairs to county facilities could be in excess of \$60 million, whereas new construction to replace some of these buildings could run as high as \$300 million.

## District 12

**Name:** Maribeth Gabert

**Age:** 76

**Occupation:** Retired

**Education:** Bachelor's degree in social welfare from UW-Oshkosh

**Previous experience in elected office:** 1976-2016 – Town of Oshkosh treasurer. County supervisor since 2008.

**Why are you running for a seat on the county board?** To continue my unbiased decisions for the people of Winnebago County.

**What do you see as the important issue facing Winnebago County?** All county departments need to be cost effective.

**Name:** Toby Vanden Heuvel

**Age:** 59

**Occupation:** Engineer/project manager (retired)

**Education:** Bachelor's degree in industrial engineering, minor in business administration from Milwaukee School of Engineering.

**Previous experience in elected office:** (Appointed) Winnebago County Board of Health (2020-26), Town of Algoma Planning & Zoning (2008-09), regular attendee/participant at county and town board meetings, Wisconsin Hospitals Association State Legislator(s) Advocate.

**Why are you running for a seat on the County board?** All my life, I have been interested in civic governance, public policy and dare I say, politics. Now recently retired, I am taking the opportunity afforded to me to get involved and serve at the local level. I plan to apply my time, energy and knowledge in a thoughtful, genuine, logical and non-partisan way to improve the community. I personally would like to see our county government run more efficiently, effectively and within budget, without letting partisan politics get in the way. When it comes down to it, I care and am willing to put in the time.

**What do you see as the most important issue facing Winnebago County?** The elephant in the room is the recent and presumed ongoing, budget deficits we face due to federal and state budget cuts. In the past, Winnebago County has relied heavily on federal and state funding to help pay for the provision of core services. With these funding sources being significantly cut, our county will need to figure out how we can do more with less. Hard decisions will need to be made. But it can be done!

## District 14

**Name:** Richard Norenberg

**Age:** 64

**Occupation:** Licensed professional counselor

**Education:** UW-Fond du Lac, Ealing Art College (London, England) UW-Oshkosh.

**Previous elected experience:** Elected to Student Senate at UW-Fond du Lac, 1980

**Why are you running for a seat on the County Board?** I am running to serve the people of District 14. Winnebago County is my home, and through my work in social work, education and mental health, I have spent decades serving people in this community. I would be honored to continue that service as a county supervisor. My goal is to listen carefully to constituents, work collaboratively and help guide

practical, evidence-based decisions that strengthen our community and support the well-being of those who live here.

**What do you see as the most important issue facing Winnebago County?** The biggest issue facing Winnebago County is identifying evidence-based, effective methods that ensure equitable access to housing, food, health care and education. When people have stability and opportunity, families and communities grow stronger. Through my professional work and my experience owning and managing housing that provided stable, affordable living options, I have seen how critical housing stability is to overall well-being. By focusing on what works and working collaboratively, we can make thoughtful decisions that support long-term stability and keep Winnebago County healthy, safe and resilient.

Jon Doemel, the former county executive, did not return a survey.

## District 17

Current County Board Supervisor Billy Halbur is seeking another term and is being challenged by Caden McCartney. Neither Halbur nor McCartney returned their candidate surveys.

## District 19

**Name:** Bob Poeschl

**Age:** 50

**Occupations:** Executive director of NAMI Oshkosh; shelter advocate at Day by Day Shelter; consultant; dabble in some stagehand work with the local IA-TSE 470.

**Education:** Bachelor's degree in religious studies from UW-Oshkosh.

**Previous experience in elected office:** I have served a total of three terms (6 years) on the Oshkosh Common Council; 1.75 terms (5.5 years) on the Oshkosh Board of Education --1.5 years as board president; and partial term representing District 19 on the county board. Partial terms are due to a resignation related to new employment where I was not allowed to be an elected leader.

**Why are you running for a seat on the county board?** I am running to continue my commitment to public service and community leadership. My prior experience on the Oshkosh Common Council, Oshkosh Area School District Board of Education and the Winnebago County Board has shaped my understanding of

SEE County Board ON PAGE 7

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# County Board

FROM PAGE 6

how local government decisions impact families, neighborhoods and taxpayers. I bring practical knowledge and experience of budgeting, public services and community priorities, and am motivated to address issues such as infrastructure, responsible spending and overall well-being. I offer experienced, steady leadership and a strong voice for District 19 residents on the Winnebago County Board.

**What do you see as the most important issue facing Winnebago County?** The most important issue facing Winnebago County is maintaining essential services while ensuring responsible, transparent use of taxpayer dollars. Residents deserve to know how decisions are made and how funds are allocated. The board will be tasked with the local implementation of the Big Beautiful Bill Act. The board must implement fair, accountable measures to uphold taxpayer expectations, reach out to communities and focus on priorities that need to be maintained and supported. Balancing infrastructure needs, public safety, mental health services and economic growth require disciplined budgeting and long-term planning. Strong oversight, transparency and responsible spending will be critical to protecting taxpayers and strengthening Winnebago County's future.

Micah Graf did not return a survey.

## District 23

**Name:** Cameron Crandall

**Age:** 18

**Occupation:** Student / church musician

**Education:** Lourdes Academy High School; attending the UW-Oshkosh for business beginning fall 2026.

**Previous experience in elected office:** None

**Why are you running for a seat on the county board?** I am running to build a transparent and communicative relationship between constituents and their county board representative, specifically in District 23. I believe we must address issues by actively reaching out to constituents and putting these decisions in their hands. After all, we are elected to represent them.

**What do you see as the most important issue facing Winnebago County?** Long-term building needs are a major issue in Winnebago County. We must develop a formal, long-term plan that does not place the government's building needs solely on the shoulders of taxpayers.

**Name:** Brenda Pluchinsky

**Age:** 52

**Occupation:** Treasurer for Town of Omro

**Education:** Bachelor's degree in architectural engineering and extensive continuing education focused on local government and public service.

**Previous experience in elected office:** I am the incumbent District 23 supervisor and serve on the Park View Health Center Committee. I was appointed deputy clerk for the Town of Omro in 2022 and appointed town treasurer in 2023.

**Why are you running for a seat on the county board?** Winnebago County has been my home for 26 years, including 19 years living in District 23. I care deeply about the future of our county and the well-being of the people who live here. In conversations with residents, I've found many understandably aren't fully aware of what the county board of supervisors does or the range of services the county provides. That's something I want to change. I want to continue to serve my constituents by keeping them informed on what is happening at the county level, making sure they are heard and helping them access the resources and support available to them.

**What do you see as the most important issues facing Winnebago County?** Winnebago County is facing several challenges: the rising cost of living, a shortage of affordable housing and aging infrastructure. When I talk with residents, taxes remain one of the biggest concerns. People are feeling higher costs in every part of their lives, and one of the most meaningful ways we can support them is by being responsible stewards of their tax dollars. That's experience I bring from my work as treasurer for the Town of Omro, where careful budgeting and long-term planning are essential. I've also seen the impact of strong financial oversight on the PVHC community, where the facility has reached financial stability and will not require tax dollars to fund its operations this year. Those are the kind of results I want to continue delivering for Winnebago County.

## District 24

**Name:** Andy Buck

**Age:** 45

**Occupation:** Field representative with IUPAT DC 7

**Education:** MATC glazing apprenticeship program.

**Previous experience in elected office:** Elected in 2018, served on the Facilities and Property Management Committee 2018-present; IDB Board; ARPA strategies committee; Fox Valley Workforce Development Board; and Advocap.

**Why are you running for a seat on the county board?** I grew up here in Winnebago County and my wife and I are raising our kids here. I want to do everything I can to make sure Winnebago County is a place people want to live, work and have opportunities. I would be humbled to continue my service to our county.

**What do you see as the most important issue facing Winnebago County?** Aging infrastructure in our county buildings. I'm proud to have authored legislation directing a countywide facilities assessment alongside a space needs study. I currently serve on the committee evaluating the findings and developing recommendations for a long-term master

facilities plan. Now the board must act. Delaying implementation only increases costs for taxpayers and pushes necessary investments further down the road.

Lorenz Scherzer did not return a survey.

## District 31

**Name:** Brian Noe

**Age:** 53

**Occupation:** State building inspector for the Department of Safety and Professional Services

**Education:** Civil structural engineering

**Previous experience in elected office:** Town of Omro Town Chairman since 2007

**Why are you running for a seat on the county board?** I am a lifelong county resident and lived in the district for 27 years. I have been involved with town government for many years, interacting with many departments and services of Winnebago County. I believe local government that is closest to the people can best provide for the most effective and efficient services, and rather than growing government, efficiencies should first be sought to maintain an affordable tax rate while maintaining essential services. During the years I have been in town government, I have been able to build consensus with a diverse group of people and work to balance spending while keeping taxes as low as possible and maintaining essential service.

**What do you see as the most important issue facing Winnebago County?** The county is looking at the implementation of a facilities plan, and this will have major impact on finances and how services are provided for years to come. These decisions need to balance wants and desires

and the needs of essential services along with the ability of the citizens to not only afford the initial costs but also manage the long-term operational costs. Choices made with the implementation of this facilities plan will shape how Winnebago County functions for generations.

**Name:** Glenn David Vogelsang

**Age:** 68

**Occupation:** Family medicine physician with ThedaCare East

**Education:** Associates Applied Science and Natural Resources Conservation; bachelor's in biology; master's in toxicology, PhD in physiology and biophysics, and MD in medicine.

**Previous experience in elected office:** None, only participated in campaigns, canvassing and meetings.

**Why are you running for a seat on the county board?** I feel that I have a lot to offer in life experience and knowledge. I feel that I have a moral compass and understand the concept of government — of the people, by the people, for the people. Our taxpayers' funds should be utilized to help the community.

**What do you see as the most important issue facing Winnebago County?** Health care, immunization education as the people have been fed disinformation for years and are hesitant to get vaccinations, help with mental health and controlled substance abuse, clean, uncontaminated water; clean energy (windmills and solar energy), education; make sure that our teachers and students are getting the financial support and the uncensored education which is important for our children to know the truth about history. There may also be some issues with drainage systems and sitting water that should be addressed.

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# Grand Gala to raise money for art education, outreach programs

Oshkosh Herald

A Grand Night Gala is a celebration that gives back, with proceeds supporting The Grand Oshkosh's art education and outreach programs — ensuring students, families and community members of all ages continue to have access to inspiring performances and creative opportunities.

The event starts at 5 p.m. Saturday at the Oshkosh Country Club. At the heart of this evening is a promise: Every Child, Every Grade, Every Year. Organizers say they believe every student deserves the chance to experience the transformative power of live

## Library event spotlights local women business owners

Oshkosh Herald

As part of Women's History Month, area residents will have the chance to sit down with the women shaping downtown Oshkosh's business scene and hear firsthand how they continue to build their dreams.

The "Making It Work: Women Entrepreneurs of Oshkosh" event is set to be held from 5 to 7 p.m. March 16 under the Dome at Oshkosh Public Library.

The interactive program invites community members into a human library ex-

perience, where local entrepreneurs serve as living books. Attendees can meet one-on-one with women who own and operate a variety of downtown businesses, asking questions and listening to candid accounts of the challenges, breakthroughs and lessons that have shaped their journeys.

performance — not just once, but throughout their entire educational journey. From first field trips to senior year standing ovations, the community's support helps remove financial barriers, expand access and bring meaningful arts experiences to thousands of local students annually.

The evening of jazz will feature live music, silent auction items, a celebration with purpose and a direct impact on arts education in the community.

The silent auction is available online until 8:15 p.m. Saturday. More information is available at [thegrandoskosh.org](http://thegrandoskosh.org).

Making It Work highlights the creativity and leadership of women business owners while fostering meaningful conversations within the community.

For library visitors that need an elevator, staff can help with using alternative elevators in the building.

## Main library elevator closed for maintenance

Oshkosh Herald

Patrons planning a trip to the library will most likely be using the stairs in the next few weeks.

The Oshkosh Public Library's main elevator will be closed to the public until the end of March for mandatory maintenance and upgrades. All areas of the library will remain open to the public with

staff available to help patrons navigate the building.

All library programs and events will continue as scheduled throughout the project. The library will also continue to offer curbside pickups for all patrons.



Photo from The Grand Oshkosh

Kevin J. Ralofsky, president and CEO of Verve, a Credit Union, and Joseph Ferlo, president and CEO of The Grand Oshkosh, stand in the current Grand Lounge.

# The Grand Oshkosh unveils plans for new lounge space

Oshkosh Herald

The Grand Oshkosh has announced the largest gift received in the theater's more than 140-year history that will be used as part of the historic facility's expansion.

The \$1 million contribution from Verve, a Credit Union, is part of the ongoing "Our Grand Moment" campaign. With this gift, The Grand Lounge will be more-than-doubled-in-size and reimagined as The Verve Lounge.

The redesigned space will continue serving audiences of shows in the historic Grand Opera House auditorium, while also serving as a flexible second venue offering a new slate of programming. When complete, The Verve Lounge is expected to host more than 150 events each year, including comedy, cabaret, live music, open mic nights, student workshops and daytime meetings for local businesses.

"At Verve, we believe in people helping

people — and that means investing in the places that bring our community together," said Kevin J. Ralofsky, president and CEO of Verve, a Credit Union. "The Grand is one of those places. We're honored to support its next chapter through The Verve Lounge — a welcoming, flexible space that will create new opportunities for connection, help local artists thrive, draw more people downtown and strengthen the cultural and economic heartbeat of Oshkosh."

The Verve Lounge will allow the theater to engage a broader range of patrons — especially younger audiences — and further diversify its programming and revenue model, said Joseph A. Ferlo, president and CEO of The Grand Oshkosh.

"The Grand is more than a theater — it's a gathering place, the centerpiece of a vibrant downtown, and a keeper of local history," Ferlo said. "This exciting partnership with Verve, a Credit Union empowers us to realize our vision to expand access and beautifully demonstrates how history and innovation can coexist at The Grand."

The "Our Grand Moment" effort includes infrastructure upgrades, improved accessibility and new community spaces that will keep the theater vibrant and sustainable. This gift from Verve, a Credit Union represents the largest, record-setting gift to-date, and the seventh received so far for The Grand Oshkosh's efforts, raising the bar for arts philanthropy not just in our region, but for historic theaters statewide.

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[OSHKOSHYOUTHSYMPHONY.ORG](http://OSHKOSHYOUTHSYMPHONY.ORG)

# The importance of getting to four board members to agree

I spend a decent amount of my professional energy working with governing boards that are struggling to enact change in their organization.

Members of a board often share frustrations that I have experienced firsthand as an elected official. When something goes wrong individuals will say, "I told everyone this would happen." Or when a city manager or superintendent fails to take action on something, individual board members will say they are being ignored.

The same situation occurs with members of the public. Residents bring up issues to a municipal executive, often times loudly on social media, yet the change they seek does not occur. Naturally people claim leadership is incompetent, or worse yet, just does not care.



**Michael Ford**  
Contributor

I respond to these complaints with questions. I ask, "Did a majority of the board give the city manager or superintendent clear direction? Was there a vote?"

I ask members of the public if they are working with board members, or if they are simply contacting the city manager or superintendent. More often than not I find there was not a vote, or members of the governing board were not engaged. When this happens, I remind board

members that bringing something up at a meeting, or posting something on social media, does not constitute direction.

If I am a board member on the Oshkosh council or school board, I am 1/7<sup>th</sup> of the equation. None of my personal policy preferences mean much if I cannot get a coalition of my fellow board members to agree and give formal direction to the city manager or superintendent.

I have a right to share my opinion, but I have no right to expect action to be taken simply because I alone asked for it. To put it another way: the boss overseeing a city manager or superintendent is the board as a collective, not the board as individuals.

Unfortunately, the failure of a governing board to speak with a collective voice is often how local governing bodies grow inefficient or ineffective. If a board functions as a collection of individuals making requests and complaints, the city manager or superintendent has no guidance and instead must simply act without clear direction.

Naturally, this makes accountability difficult, and more problematically shifts power away from the board and towards the municipal executive. The municipal executive will do what they think is best absent direction from the collective, but such a governing dynamic is not sustainable. The board exists to represent the values of the community and if the board

is sidelined those values are not being represented. It is a recipe for frustration and failure.

So how does a board speak with a collective voice? There is no one perfect way. It requires a board having accepted processes for giving direction that both the board, and the municipal executive, accept. To be clear, speaking with a collective voice does not mean speaking with a unified voice.

In a place as diverse as Oshkosh, it would be surprising if any of our local governing boards were consistently unified on all policy specifics. But a vote giving direction from a board to a municipal executive, even if it is 4-3, is a clear expression of the collective will of the board. Everything short of majority direction is simply discussion.

I think (and hope) this column is particularly relevant to voters in advance of the local spring elections. What a candidate hopes to achieve is crucial, but so is the question of how they hope to achieve it. Ultimately the candidates who understand the need for coalition building are the ones most likely to succeed in achieving their stated policy goals.

The path to local policy changes often feels vague and confusing, but it need not be; it is all about getting to four.

*Michael R. Ford is an Oshkosh school board member and director of the Wisconsin Institute for Citizenship and Civil Dialogue.*

## Music store donates to support local schools

Oshkosh Herald

More than \$33,000 in music instruments, equipment and educational resources will be awarded to school music programs this month as part of Big 10+, an annual initiative hosted by Heid Music in celebration of Music In Our Schools Month (MIOSM).

Observed each March, Music In Our Schools Month is a national advocacy effort led for more than 40 years by the National Association for Music Education (NAfME) to raise awareness about the importance of music education for every child and to reinforce that schools are where all students should have access to high-quality music programs.

Running March 1-31, Big 10+ invites students, educators, parents and community members to submit original, music-inspired photos that highlight the impact of their school music programs. Participants are encouraged to rally their communities to vote daily, with cumulative votes determining which programs receive first selection from the prize pool.

The Big 10+ prize pool includes a wide range of instruments, classroom equip-

ment, accessories, printed materials and educational experiences, ensuring multiple schools benefit from the initiative.

As a company rooted in music education since 1948, Heid Music believes music is an essential part of a well-rounded education, supporting academic achievement, attendance, social-emotional growth, creativity, and confidence. Music In Our Schools Month provides an important opportunity to spotlight the work of music educators and to remind families and community leaders that protecting and strengthening school music programs requires ongoing advocacy, especially in a state where arts funding remains critically low.

Participants are encouraged to share submissions on social media using #MusicInOurSchools and #Big10Plus, and to tag @HeidMusic to help amplify awareness and participation. Anyone may enter by submitting one photo per day, and voting is open daily through 11:59 p.m. CST March 31.

Full contest rules, prize details, photo submissions and voting information are available at [HeidMusic.com/Big10Plus](http://HeidMusic.com/Big10Plus).

## Winnebago County Retired Educators sets meeting

Oshkosh Herald

The Winnebago County Retired Educators' Association invites all retired school employees who live or worked in Winnebago County to their next meeting on March 19 at Pizza Ranch, 1051 S. Washburn St.

Check-in and social hour begins at 11 a.m. Following a short business meeting at 11:30 a.m., attendees will help themselves to the buffet.

At approximately 1 p.m. the program

will feature Winneconne's non-fiction children's author Kelly Nelson who will share her newly published children's book "The Carpenter and the Cat." Nelson's first book "Brownie the War Dog" is a true story that was published in 2024.

This is also the annual meeting when food pantry items are collected.

Potential new members or visitors are always welcome. Interested persons may email [rolson3430@aol.com](mailto:rolson3430@aol.com) no later than Friday for more information.

## Business news roundup

The **Eddie Bauer outlet** at the Shops at Oshkosh is closing as its operator filed for bankruptcy. The more than 170 Eddie Bauer stores in the U.S. and Canada are expected to close by May as Catalyst Brands has not been able to find a buyer for the clothing retailer amid its bankruptcy proceedings.

**Silver Star Brands**, a multi-brand, direct-to-consumer catalog and internet

retail company, announced that it has acquired two established brands from Winston Brands, a Chicago based company: Collections Etc. and Better Senior Living. The acquisition closed in October with the brands fully transitioned to Oshkosh earlier this year. This strategic acquisition follows the company's earlier purchase of the assets of Paula Young in June 2025, marking significant growth for the Oshkosh-based retailer.

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# Two people turned over to ICE in February

By Jonathan Richie  
OSHKOSH HERALD

As tensions remain high across the nation regarding the actions of the U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) agency, the Winnebago County Sheriff's Office continues to provide updated information on how the county is working with the federal agency.

Winnebago County Sheriff's Captain Amber Rozek presented the most recent information last week at county government meetings.

The county has an agreement with ICE through the 287(g) program under the warrant service officer model.

Two residents spoke out March 2 against the actions of ICE during the Judicial and Public Safety Committee meeting. Numerous people spoke against ICE's actions at the JPS committee meeting in February and also spoke Feb. 24 and March 3 at the County Board of Supervisors meetings.

During the Feb. 24 meeting, the board declined to vote on a resolution condemning the actions of federal agents in Minneapolis. The resolution was removed from the agenda by voice vote.

In February, Rozek said there were 361 bookings into the Winnebago County Jail.

## County reports suicide, overdose death numbers

Oshkosh Herald

The Winnebago County Medical Examiner's Office provided an update last week during the Judicial and Public Safety Committee meeting on county suicide and overdose death numbers.

Deputy medical examiner McKenzie Repinski reported at the March 2 meeting that there have been nine suicides this year, a third of the total suicides in the county in 2025.

Repinski said the department asks families about the deceased party to find out if they are a veteran or homeless for record keeping purposes. Of the nine suicides this year, one was a veteran, one was homeless and one was a prison inmate.

## Deceased individual located in drainage area

Oshkosh Herald

A deceased individual was located last week in a drainage area south of the on-ramp to southbound Interstate 41 and West Ninth Avenue in Oshkosh.

According to Oshkosh Police, the deceased individual was identified as Frederick Ellis, 59, who had been reported missing in January.

Police said it appeared that the individual had been deceased for a lengthy period of time after being found at approximately 7:43 a.m. March 3.

No identification was located near or on this person. Police said the identification was made based on numerous iden-

Of those, 21 were born outside the U.S. with nine notifications to ICE made and three people getting detainees placed on them. Two people were turned over to ICE and two were transferred to another agency.

Rozek reported that in January, the Winnebago County Jail had a total of 407 bookings. Of those bookings, 25 were people not born in the U.S. ICE was notified about 13 of the individuals and detainees were placed on three individuals. Those detainees through the 287(g) program allow the jail to hold people for an additional 48 hours.

In 2025, there were 4,893 bookings into the jail, 228 were born outside the U.S. During that time, 151 notifications were made to ICE, 17 had a detainee placed on them with 10 turned over to ICE officials and four were transferred to another agency.

Of the people who had detainees placed on them, 13 were born in Mexico. The others were from Ecuador, Honduras, Nicaragua, Peru, Sudan, Guinea and Romania.

There are no financial incentives as part of the 287(g) agreement. However, the county receives about \$20,000 annually as part of the State Criminal Alien Assistance Program (SCAAP), which the county has participated in for over 25 years.

Of the 27 suicides in 2025, five were veterans, one was a jail inmate and one was homeless.

Some committee members were concerned by these statistics and requested to continue the suicide prevention discussion at a later date.

Repinski also had updated data for overdose deaths. The county has recently seen a decline in overdose deaths across the county.

There has been one confirmed overdose death in the county this year, and there are two pending investigations.

This is compared to 26 overdose deaths, including one pending toxicology testing, in 2025, 24 in 2024 and 43 in 2023.

tifying marks. Preliminary results from an autopsy conducted March 5 indicated no observed injuries. Final autopsy and toxicology reports are pending.

Officers were contacted Jan. 10 by family members concerned they had not heard from Ellis since October. Officers had followed up on several leads but had not located him. Ellis was homeless and did not have a current address.

The last known contact with Ellis was Oct. 25. During the course of the investigation, police conducted numerous ground searches at numerous locations and deployed the police department drone in an effort to locate Ellis.



Oshkosh Herald

Cutting the ribbon on the remodeled first responders lounge at Ascension Mercy Oshkosh were, front row behind the ribbon left to right, Christine Larson, chief nursing officer; Robin Kobilic, ER manager; Ellen Kenny, ER nurse and Courtney Shears, director of nursing, along with, back row left to right, Aaron Dressler, Oshkosh Fire Department EMS Division chief; Eric Adar, ER medical director and Tim Heiman, Oshkosh Fire chief.

# Hospital dedicates remodeled lounge for first responders

By Dave Gill  
OSHKOSH HERALD

No one ever wishes for emergency medical services assistance, but when it becomes needed in the worst of times, people can realize how indispensable those brave and courageous souls are to the fiber of their beings and lives.

To honor their service, the Ascension Mercy Oshkosh staff recently dedicated a new and improved EMS Lounge to give the hardworking and selfless first responders a well-deserved break between calls.

"To our EMS colleagues – you are the first clinical touchpoint for so many of our patients," said Chief Nursing Officer Christine Larson at the Feb. 27 event. "You meet people on what is often the worst day of their lives. You stabilize them in unpredictable environments. You make rapid decisions with limited information. And you entrust those patients to us."

Aaron Dressler, division chief for EMS for the Oshkosh Fire Department, expressed gratitude on behalf of all EMS first responders for Ascension Mercy's efforts to provide respite to those serving on the front lines.

"We've always had a great relationship

with Ascension Mercy," Dressler said. "But this makes a big difference, and we really appreciate it."

Aubin Muszytowski, Ascension's pre-hospital relationship manager based out of Ozaukee County, said Ascension Mercy Oshkosh marks the eighth hospital in Wisconsin where dedication to EMS support via a renovated EMS lounge was undertaken.

"We have a concerted effort across Wisconsin to ensure our first responders get the rest that they need between calls," Muszytowski said. "This represents our effort for Oshkosh."

"We needed to show our support for our EMS crews," said Robin Kobilic, ER services manager at Ascension Mercy.

In her address to those gathered at the dedication, Larson said the new EMS lounge is a small but meaningful way to demonstrate the respect for the first responders who bring human beings in their worst of times to Ascension Mercy Oshkosh.

"On behalf of our hospital leadership team and Ascension Wisconsin executive leadership, thank you for everything you do and welcome to your new home within our emergency department," Larson said.

recovery community with the larger community to break the stigma around addiction and save lives, said Jennifer Skolaski, the day's organizer and the county's Overdose Fatality Review facilitator.

"There's a lot of stigma out there about addiction," she said. "We can break that stigma if we tell stories of lived experiences and help people connect. So many people see the ugly side of addiction and they don't see the success people can have in recovery. Sharing these stories helps change that."

## We Heart You

FROM PAGE 1

on a baseball team and other events with the recovery community.

"It's been a welcoming community — especially if they let me in — and everyone is pulling for one another to be successful," he said.

Held every other year, We Heart You provides an opportunity to bridge the

On April 7 Re-Elect

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**26.99** 750 ml Bottle  
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**3/\$13** 8 pk, 12 oz Bottles or 12 pk, 12 oz Cans  
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**3.99** 48 oz  
**Oreo or Edy's Ice Cream**

**10/\$6** 4-6 oz  
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**2/\$5** 5-9.375 oz Lay's or Lay's Kettle or 10-13 oz Tostitos Cantina

**3.99** 19-32 oz Select  
**Ore-Ida Potatoes**

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

**2.99** 9-16.1 oz Select  
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**4/\$5** 8 oz  
**Food Club Cream Cheese**

**2/\$4** 16 oz  
**Food Club Sour Cream**

**2.99** 4 lb Bag  
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**4/\$5** 10.5-11.5 oz Select  
**Campbell's Condensed Soup**

**6 Mega Roll Cottonelle Bathroom Tissue** or **6 Double Roll Scott Paper Towel**  
**6.99** SALE PRICE  
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**Celebrate Pi Day**  
**3.14 ea** on Saturday March 14th only  
**193-27 oz Tombstone Pizza** Regular Sale Price...2/\$8  
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**Shamrock Savings**  
Classic Reuben Sandwich Recipe  
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**2.99** 16 oz  
**Kraft Salad Dressing**

**3.49** 16 oz  
**Irish Soda Bread**

**2.99** 16 oz  
**Cleveland Kraut**

**49¢ lb**  
**Fresh Green Cabbage**

**3.99 lb**  
**Pearl Valley Swiss**

**4.49** 8 oz  
**Kerrygold Butter**

**Ore-Ida Potatoes**  
Select 19-32 oz.  
**\$2.99** each

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**Tru-Moo 1% Milk**  
Half gallon

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Links or Patties  
Select 5.02-6.4 oz

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**Kendal Jackson Wines**  
750 ml bottle  
**\$9.99** each  
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**From the Meat Department**

**Pork Steak**  
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**\$2.49** per pound

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**\$7.99** 16 oz.

**From the Deli**

**Sandwich Spread**



**\$5.99** per pound

**Homemade Pizza**



**\$8.99** per pound

**From the Bakery**

**Jumbo Bismarks**



**\$3.49** 4 count

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**2.99** lb  
Red or Green  
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**1.99** lb  
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3 lb Bag  
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**4.49**  
2 lb Bag  
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**2/\$7**  
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**15.99**  
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**5.99**  
4 inch  
Oxalis  
Plant



**3.99**  
24 oz Little Potato Co.  
Baby  
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**beverage center**



**12.99**  
24 pk, 12 oz Cans  
Coke, Sprite,  
Diet Coke, Pepsi  
or Mtn Dew



**4.99**  
6 pk, 5 ltr Bottles  
Pepsi or  
Mtn Dew



**2/\$12**  
6 pk, 12 oz Cans  
Bubbl'r



**2/\$5**  
64 oz V8 Splash  
or 46 oz Campbell's  
Tomato Juice



**2/\$5**  
64 oz  
Indian Summer  
Apple Juice  
or Cider



**2/\$5**  
2-ltr Bottles  
Pepsi or  
Mtn Dew



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7.49 Chloraseptic Spray

1.79 TopCare Cough Drops

5.49 Crest Toothpaste

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7.99 Head & Shoulders Shampoo

6.99 Kleenex Facial Tissues or 4 pk or 168 ct Refill Cottonelle Flushable Wipes

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**5.99**  
Bellatoria 11.81-19.41 oz Ultra Thin Pizza or 13.09 oz 4 Cheese Garlic Bread

**6.99**  
13.3-25.49 oz Connie's, Stranger Things, Urban Pie or Cheez-It Pizza



**2.59**  
16 oz Food Club Alfredo Sauce

**2.49**  
8 ct Food Club Jumbo Biscuits

**4.99**  
96 oz Blue Diamond Almond Milk

**6.99**  
Gallon Piggly Wiggly Ice Cream

**11.99**  
130 ct Totino's Pizza Rolls



**7.49**  
36 oz Nestle Toll House Cookie Dough Tub

**2.69**  
32 oz Food Club Yogurt

**4.99**  
7-11 oz Rana Pasta or Sauce

**3.99**  
10 pk Trolli Gummi Pop or 6 ct Ice Cream Candy Bars

**3.49**  
24-28 oz On-Cor Entrees

**3.79**  
32 oz International Delight Creamer

**2.99**  
8 oz Food Club Parmesan

**2/\$4**  
10 oz Green Giant Simply Steam Vegetables

**4.99**  
4 ct Hot Pockets



**4/\$5**  
5 oz Starkist White Albacore

**1.99**  
Individually Wrapped 10.66-12 oz, 2%, Sharp, Fat Free or Swiss Food Club American Singles

**1.99**  
10 ct Azteca Super Tortillas or 4 ct Shells

**1.99**  
5.02-6.4 oz Select Brown 'N Serve Links or Patties

**5.99**  
4-10 ct Jimmy Dean Breakfast Sandwiches



grocery essentials

WITH REWARDS All Items Are With Rewards

**2.99**  
20 oz Sara Lee Artesano Bread or 8-10 ct Sunbelt Bakery Bars

**3.49**  
16 oz Village Hearth Rye Bread

**13.99**  
23-30.5 oz Select Hills Bros. Coffee

**7.99**  
12 oz or 10 ct Green Mountain or McCafé Coffee



**2/\$7**  
11.5-14 oz Banquet Mega Bowls

**2/\$5**  
8 pk or 15.5-16 oz Jif Peanut Butter or 10-32 oz Select Smucker's Jam or Spreads

**8.99**  
26.5 oz Nutella

**2.99**  
11-18 oz Select Post Cereal

**2/\$7**  
12-18.2 oz Select General Mills Cereal

**2.99**  
4-9 oz Keebler Graham Crusts

**6.99**  
16 oz Pompeian Olive Oil

**2.79**  
29-30 oz Food Club Fruit

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



**3.14**  
2 pk Single Serving Edwards Pies

**3.49**  
24-32 oz Select Vlasic Pickles

**2/\$3**  
20 oz Hunt's Ketchup or 12 oz Gulden's Spicy Brown Mustard or 18 oz Open Pit BBQ Sauce

**4/\$5**  
4-5.8 oz Knorr Pasta or Rice Sides

**5/\$5**  
16 oz Select Food Club Pasta or 23.5-24 oz Food Club Pasta Sauce...1.99



**1.99**  
12 oz 1/2 Loaf or 4 pk Buns

**4.49**  
8 oz Better Than Bouillon Base

**2/\$3**  
32 oz Select Food Club Broth

**4/\$5**  
4.6-4.7 oz Food Club Potato Classics

**4/\$3**  
5.5-7.25 oz Food Club Macaroni & Cheese

**4/\$5**  
Food Club 4 oz Mushrooms or 15 oz Sloppy Joe Sauce

**1.79**  
10 oz Ro\*Tel or 14.5 oz Hunt's Tomatoes, 15 oz Sauce or 24 oz Pasta Sauce

**3.79**  
12 oz Spam

**1.99**  
18.5-19 oz Select Food Club Chunky Soup



**3.99**  
1 Ltr TopCare Mouthwash

**3.99**  
11.78-18.71 oz Select Nutter Butter or Oreo Family Size

**2/\$5**  
5-12 ct Select Nature Valley, General Mills, or Fiber One Cereal Bars

**4/\$5**  
1.69-2.17 oz Mars Candy Bars

**2/\$6**  
8-13 oz Old Dutch Tortilla Chips

**3.99**  
10.8-11.04 oz Select Nilla Wafers or Ritz Sandwich Crackers

**4.99**  
8-10.3 oz Planters Mixed Nuts or 8 oz Cashews

**3.99**  
6 pk Jolly Time Popcorn

**2/\$5**  
6.3 oz Combos



**5.99**  
16 ct TopCare Day or Night Cold & Flu Relief

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**Pork Butt  
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Angus beef at its best. CertifiedAngusBeef.com  
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**Beef  
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Certified Angus Beef  
Beef Cube Steak...7.99lb



**2.79 lb**  
Fresh  
**Whole Fryer  
or Cut Up Fryer**



**3.99 lb**  
**St. Louis  
Ribs**



**9.49**  
24 oz Select  
**Smithfield  
Boneless Quarter Hams**



**7.99**  
18-26 oz Select  
**Rosina Italian or  
Homestyle Meatballs**



**5.99**  
16 oz Select  
**Premium  
Sliced Bacon**



**4.99**  
12-14 oz Select  
**Johnsonville Smoked  
Sausage Ropes or Links**



**5.99**  
8-24.6 oz  
**Mrs. Paul's or  
Van de Kamp's Breaded Fish**



**8.99**  
8.7-10.5 oz  
**Sea Cuisine  
Assorted Seasoned Fillets**



**4.49**  
7-9 oz Select  
**Hillshire Farm  
Thin Sliced Lunch Meat**



**10.99 lb**  
Fresh Wild Caught  
**White Fish  
Fillets**



**9.99**  
13 oz  
**Wholey Tuna Steaks**



**3.99**  
16 oz  
**Wholey Pollock**

150/250 ct, 12 oz Wholey Salad Shrimp...6.99 WITH REWARDS 12 oz Wholey White Perch Fillets...6.99 WITH REWARDS

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**13.99 lb**  
**Deli Fried Cod...**



**8.99 ea**  
**2 pc Cod Dinner...**



**37.99 ea**  
**Family Fish Fry...**



**2/\$5**  
**Fish Sandwich...**



**8.99 lb**  
Select  
**Off the Bone  
Ham**



**9.99 lb**  
Select  
**Turkey  
or Chicken**



**4.99 lb**  
**Sharp or Mild  
Cheddar**



**2.49**  
10-14 oz Select Varieties  
**Joseph's  
Pita Bread or  
Lavash Flatbread**



**3.99 lb**  
**Cheddar & Pea  
Salad**



**3.49 lb**  
**Cowboy  
Caviar**



**5.99 lb**  
**Garlic Lovers  
Pasta Salad**



**8.99 lb**  
**General TSO's  
Chicken  
Lunch Bowls...5.99lb**



**2.49**  
16 oz  
**Rye  
Bread**



**7.49**  
10.2 oz  
**King's Hawaiian  
Pretzel Bites**



**2.99**  
6 ct  
**Brat Buns**



**4.49**  
14 oz Select  
**Sabrina's  
Strip Danish  
Coffee Cake**



**4.49**  
6 ct Select  
**Cupcakes**

# beer, wine & spirits

**12.29**  
12 pk, 12 oz Cans or Bottles  
**Michelob  
Ultra**

**AFTER \$2 INSTANT SAVINGS!**  
**LOWEST LEGAL RETAIL**

**3.99**  
48 oz  
**Edy's  
Mint Chip**

**St. Patrick's Day  
Shake Recipe**

**WITH REWARDS**

**22.99**  
750 ml Bottle  
**Bailey's  
Irish Cream**

**AFTER \$3 INSTANT SAVINGS!**

**12.99**  
Select 750 ml Bottle  
**Josh Cellars  
Cabernet Sauvignon**

**19.93**  
30 pk, 12 oz Cans  
**Pabst Light or  
Pabst Blue Ribbon**

**LOWEST LEGAL RETAIL**

**7.99**  
1.75 ltr Bottle  
**Fleischmann's  
Vodka**

**AFTER \$2 INSTANT SAVINGS!**

**10.99**  
750 ml Bottle  
**Korbel California  
Champagne**

**10.99**  
1.5 ltr Bottle  
**Sutter Home  
Assorted Wines**

**21.49**  
30 pk, 12 oz Cans  
**Miller  
High Life**

**LOWEST LEGAL RETAIL**

**17.99**  
1.75 ltr Bottle  
**Kessler  
Whiskey**

**22.99**  
1.75 ltr Bottle  
**Bacardi  
Rum**

**17.99**  
3 ltr Box  
**Black Box  
Assorted Wines**

**21.98**  
30 pk, 12 oz Cans  
**Busch or  
Busch Light**

**LOWEST LEGAL RETAIL**

**17.99**  
8 pk, 12 oz Cans  
**Lucky One  
Vodka Lemonade**

**19.99**  
1.75 ltr Bottle  
**E&J VS  
Brandy**

**5.49**  
750 ml Bottle  
**Barefoot  
Wines**

## Care fair showcases community resources

Oshkosh Herald

Unity Oshkosh is bringing families, students and community members together into one trusted, school-based space.

A free community Care Fair will be held from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. March 21 at Vel Phillips Middle School.

During the event hosted by the Vel Phillips Community Resource Organization (VelCRO), families will find food and refreshments, hygiene and household essentials, employment and workforce resources, and community organizations ready to

listen and support.

Materials are multilingual. Conversations move at a human pace. Children can laugh and play in a dedicated engagement area, giving caregivers time to ask questions, make connections and breathe.

Unity Oshkosh is not about who needs help most. It is about recognizing that everyone deserves access, dignity and belonging. It is about neighbors supporting neighbors. It is about meeting people where they are and making it easier to move forward.

## Community band concert celebrates America

Oshkosh Herald

The Oshkosh Area Community Band will celebrate America during its spring concert this month.

The free, family event will be at 7 p.m. March 21 in the Alberta Kimball Auditorium at Oshkosh West High School, 375 N. Eagle St.

The band will present a concert with the theme “Celebrate America” and will feature music by American composers or about noted Americans in celebration of the 250<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Declaration of

Independence.

This is the first of a series of six concerts that will cover the calendar year 2026. It is not a comprehensive review, but it will be an attempt to highlight the wide variety of American citizens and influences on the culture of American music.

The band is led by Music Director David Berndt.

The concert will last about one hour and forty-five minutes, including an intermission. Donations will be accepted at the door.

## Oshkosh art show celebrates local creativity

Oshkosh Herald

Art, music and community will come together under one roof for the return of the annual Oshkosh Art Collective Show taking place from 6 to 10 p.m. March 21 at The Gibson Social Club.

Now in its fifth year, the OAC Art Show continues to grow as an annual celebration of local art highlighting the depth and diversity of the area’s creative talent while foster-

ing meaningful community engagement.

Guests can expect over 30 artists showcasing work from across the greater Fox Valley region, interactive art installations and demonstrations, music with local DJ Jay Be ILL and a welcoming, high-energy environment filled with inspiration and connection.

The event is free to attend and open to the public.

## Youth symphony orchestra presents spring concert

Oshkosh Herald

The Oshkosh Youth Symphony Orchestra will present its Masterworks spring concert.

The performance will be at 1 p.m. Sunday in the Alberta Kimball Auditorium at Oshkosh West High School.

The group will be premiering a recently commissioned piece by local composer Theresa Martin.

Tickets are \$10 and are available at the door and online at oshkoshyouthsymphony.org. Student tickets are \$5 and are available at the door only.

## Oshkosh Media

FROM PAGE 1

over the last 20 years. He currently produces “The Place To Be Oshkosh,” which has been on the air for the last four years.

Nieman and other producers were notified of the dissolution of Oshkosh Media on Thursday in an email from the city’s newly formed communications and engagement division under the city manager’s office.

“It was out of the blue,” Nieman said of the email. “I’m very disappointed this was done through an email without any community input.”

Drew Bailey, the newly hired head of the communications and engagement division, said the move to dissolve Oshkosh Media is due to the city cancelling third-party vendor contracts, and that staff needs to focus their time on new tasks instead of helping producers with Oshkosh content.

Those third-party vendors include a marketing firm based out of Milwaukee that was posting social media updates for the public works department for posts like holiday reminders that garbage doesn’t get collected on Memorial Day.

“As part of this transition, the City will no longer be able to house or oversee any community media services, including the radio station, TV studio, and other media services currently operating under Oshkosh Media within our building,” Bailey said in the email to producers.

Bailey stressed this was not a move made

because of the quality of the programming and said the decision was not made to save money in the budget.

Mike Hert was part of the group that received an email last week explaining that Oshkosh Media will cease operations for Life TV. Hert produces and hosts “The Outpost” that supports the veteran community in Oshkosh.

“I was in shock when I got the email,” Hert said. “I don’t think they have a sense of how strong this community is.”

In February, “The Outpost” had two Disabled American Veterans (DAV) service officers to explain how veterans can get access to VA care and make benefit claims as part of the program.

“That’s important information for the community,” Hert said.

Hert, Nieman and other concerned citizens planned on attending the Tuesday night council meeting to voice their opposition.

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# Calendar of events

### Thursday, March 12

Rock Infused Orchestra presents Celtic Vibes – A Celtic Celebration, 6:30 p.m., Venue 404, 404 N. Main St.

Bert Kreischer Permission To Party World Tour, 7 p.m., Oshkosh Arena

### Friday, March 13

The Wizard of Oz presented by Lourdes Academy High School, 7 p.m., The Grand Oshkosh

Friday the 13<sup>th</sup> Part 7: The New Blood, 7 p.m., Time Community Theater

Majesty - A Tribute to Queen, 8 p.m., Oshkosh Arena

### Saturday, March 14

AmazSpring Shopping & Craft Show, 9 a.m., Sunnyview Expo Center

Oshkosh Farmers Market, 9 a.m., Oshkosh Arena

Fox Cities Roller Derby, 5 p.m., Oshkosh Arena

Free Community Night, 5 p.m., Oshkosh Community YMCA – 20<sup>th</sup> Avenue  
A Grand Night Gala, 5 p.m., Oshkosh Country Club

The Wizard of Oz presented by Lourdes Academy High School, 7 p.m., The Grand Oshkosh

Snow Day, 7 p.m., Time Community Theater

Mom Prom, 7 p.m., Gibson Social Club

### Sunday, March 15

Oshkosh Youth Symphony Masterworks Spring Concert, 1 p.m., Alberta

Kimball Auditorium

The Wizard of Oz presented by Lourdes Academy High School, 2 p.m., The Grand Oshkosh

### Monday, March 16

Oshkosh Area Community Foundation Celebrate Education, 5 p.m., Oshkosh Convention Center

### Tuesday, March 17

Immigration Learning Circle, 4:30 p.m., 111 N. Main St. Suite 202

### Wednesday, March 18

Oshkosh Chamber Business Expo, 2 p.m., Oshkosh Convention Center

### Thursday, March 19

EAA Speaker Series: The Art of Flying Historic Aircraft featuring Doug Rozendaal, 7 p.m., EAA Aviation Museum

UW-Oshkosh Jazz Ensemble: “Vocal Flair – A Night of Latin Jazz,” 7:30 p.m., Theatre Arts Center

### Friday, March 20

Wisconsin HER Day, 8:30 a.m., Oshkosh Arena

Wisconsin Herd vs. Motor City Cruise, 7 p.m., Oshkosh Arena

The Revolutionists – A Play by Lauren Gunderson, 7 p.m., Time Community Theater

### Saturday, March 21

Unity Oshkosh Care Fair, 11 a.m., Vel Phillips Middle School

Opening Reception for “Crowned in Tradition Quinceañeras in Wisconsin,” 1 p.m., Oshkosh Public Museum

Oshkosh Art Collective Show, 6 p.m., Gibson Social Club

Oshkosh Area Community Band Spring Concert, 7 p.m., Alberta Kimball Auditorium

Wisconsin Herd vs. Motor City Cruise, 7 p.m., Oshkosh Arena

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# Lourdes Academy falls one win shy of state return

By Steve Clark  
OSHKOSH HERALD

A teary-eyed Aubrey Schettle emerged from the locker room at Markesan High School following Saturday's 58-48 loss to Fall River in a WIAA Division 5 sectional final.

The Lourdes Academy senior – one of two on the Knights' roster along with Kylie Rietz – had just played her final high school game and saw the hopes of making a second straight state tournament come crashing down.

Yet, beneath the disappointment and heartbreak, there was an underlying note of pride and satisfaction for what this group had been through and accomplished over the past few months.

"I don't think anyone but us thought we would be here (at the start of the season). From November to now we have seen so much growth," Schettle stammered out. "We had highs and lows but we have really come together. It has been really fun.

"I can't wait to see what they do with the leadership I tried showing them over the next few years."

With a playing rotation consisting of



Photo by Andy Ratchman

Lourdes Academy's Avianna Wihlm goes up for a layup against Fall River on Saturday.

mostly freshmen and sophomores, the Knights put on quite a show the second half of the season. Lourdes Academy had won 13 of their last 15 games heading into Saturday's sectional final and led briefly in the first half against the Pirates.

But a cold stretch midway through the first half forced the Knights to play from behind and they just couldn't find their rhythm on the offensive end to make a run at Fall River.

"We were just kind of hesitant. We were catching hesitantly and passing hesitantly and therefore when we did get looks, they weren't smooth like they normally are," head coach Ali Starr said. "We could never get the rhythm that we have been very used to in previous games.

"We saw what they were capable of in November. I'm so grateful to God that our kids get to experience this because there are so many kids who do not get to experience it."

The Knights trailed 29-18 after scoring just four points in the final 8:32 of the first half and spent nearly the entire second half trailing by double digits.

Down 15 with just more than a minute to play, the Knights would make a final push at the Pirates getting free throws from Adi Saucedo and Adhieu Liabwill before a 3-pointer from Schettle narrowed the margin to 56-46 with 53 seconds to play.

Ellie Koch then calmly hit two free throws with 34 seconds left before the Knights forced a turnover and had the chance to inch even closer.

Yet, Koch's free throws would be the final points of the season for the Knights as the Pirates were able to close out the win.

"We all gave what we could on the court and they just wanted it a little more today," said Schettle, who finished with nine points. "(The emotions) show how much we all cared and how much we wanted it. Not for ourselves, but for each other."

Lourdes Academy had a nice run early in the second half to get within 37-27.

Adhieu Liabwill started the surge with a 3-pointer followed by a steal and lay-up from Avianna Wihlm. After a Koch free throw, Sarah Hafemeister hit a basket to cap the 8-1 spurt but the Knights were unable to keep things rolling.

"We had a lot of nice looks and it just



Photo by Andy Ratchman

Lourdes Academy's Naomi Liabwill looks to make a move to the basket in the second half against Fall River in a WIAA Division 5 sectional final at Markesan High School on Saturday.

felt like the shots were hanging on the rim. It just felt like the rolls weren't there for us," Starr said. "It was some of the unforced turnovers and some of the missed shots that we normally make set the tone. We just needed to settle in a little more. Once a team like that goes up, they are really tough. That's a good team."

Adhieu Liabwill finished with a team-high 12 points and was the only Knight in double figures, while sister Naomi Liabwill finished with eight.

All four freshmen who played in the game – Naomi Liabwill, Wihlm, Saucedo and Grace Martin – scored in the game and finished with 21 of the team's 48

points. "I looked at (assistant coach Reed Tyrivier) and smiled and just said these minutes for these kids are so valuable," Starr said. "We had freshmen hitting big 3s, hitting jumpers, being at the free-throw line with the crowd so loud you can barely hear your own thoughts. That's great experience."

Schettle and Rietz combined for 12 points in their final game and Starr has seen how the senior duo affected this young roster.

"The foundation those two have set is now indelible. It cannot be tampered

SEE Lourdes girls ON PAGE 17

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# Lourdes girls

FROM PAGE 16

with," Starr said. "These young kids have been welcomed and loved and respected and expected to perform."

The Knights advanced to the sectional final with a hard-fought 45-42 win over top-seeded Sheboygan Lutheran on Thursday night at Central Wisconsin Christian High School in Waupun.

Lourdes Academy used a stifling defensive effort to key the win over the Crusaders, who were held to just 11 points in the first half. Sheboygan Lutheran had been held under 45 points just three times in their final 16 games and opened the tournament with a 108-point explosion in a win over Stockbridge.

"We have gotten so good at communicating with each other on defense and we did a good job," Hafemeister said. "We held some of their shooters to very few points which helped us a lot."

One of the keys for the Knights is that after taking the lead at intermission, they never trailed in the second half.

Sheboygan Lutheran was able to tie the game at 32 midway through the period but were never able to jump ahead of the Knights.

"That was huge. We talked at halftime that we had to play like we were down and we could not get comfortable," Rietz said. "All of us had to stay dialed and stay locked and that's exactly what we did. There are moments when it gets close, but you trust your team."

After the Crusaders pulled even in the second half, Naomi Liabwill scored four straight points to push the Knights back in front and then added another basket after two free throws by Sheboygan Lutheran.

The freshman, who finished with a team-high 12 points, scored another basket after the Crusaders had pulled within a point with 2:37 remaining, while the final five points came for the Knights came at the free-throw line in the final two minutes.

Koch made a pair of free throws before Rietz stepped to the line and knocked down a pair of foul shots with 1:05 remaining for a 44-37 lead.

"I have been struggling a lot with my shooting and my free throws I think at the moment I was trying not to overthink it," Rietz said. "I was excited and I was grateful I got to be put in that position and make those two. That was a good confidence boost for me because I don't put the ball in the net that often. When I do it's fun."

Adhieu Liabwill made a final free throw with 12 seconds left to give the Knights the three-point cushion, while the defense smothered the Crusaders on the ensuing possession. Sheboygan Lutheran was only able to get off a desperation heave as the final buzzer sounded.

"We are used to high-pressure games and I think that helps us a lot. It helps us stay calm," Hafemeister said. "We had a lot of support (from the fans) tonight and that helped us a lot."

Starr admitted it wasn't a perfect performance against the Crusaders, but it was a perfect end to the game – and that's all that matters.

"That wasn't one of our best performances and I'm sure it wasn't one of theirs either. But when things weren't going our way, we found a way and I couldn't be more proud," Starr said. "My kids love defense. This is one of my first teams in a long time that love defense and I am grateful for it. While we didn't have as much offense as we would have liked, but it was enough."



Photos by Andy Ratchman

The senior duo of Kylie Rietz (left) and Aubrey Schettle helped lead a young Knights roster to Saturday's WIAA Division 5 sectional final.

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# Schlies headlines Oshkosh gymnasts at state meet

Oshkosh Herald

Neva Schlies capped her outstanding prep career with a strong showing at the WIAA State Gymnastics meet over the weekend.

The senior for the Oshkosh West/North program highlighted her final weekend of prep competition finishing tied for seventh place on the uneven bars with a score of 8.933.

Schlies also finished 14<sup>th</sup> in the vault with a score of 9.25 and tied for 14<sup>th</sup> on the floor exercises with a score of 9.033. She finished 15<sup>th</sup> in the all-around competition with a total of 35.8166.

Schlies also finished 15<sup>th</sup> in the all-

around a year ago but improved on her score this season finishing more than three points higher over last season's score.



Schlies

Schlies also was awarded all-state honors on the vault, which is an honor based on season-long performances. She was all-state on the floor exercises last season.

Schlies was the lone Oshkosh gymnast to compete in the individual state competition however she was joined by her teammates for the team

competition at the state meet.

Oshkosh had its best showing on the vault where the team posted a score of 34.4666, while also topping the 34-point mark on the floor exercises.

Schlies led the team with a score of 9.2667 on the vault, followed by the scores of freshmen Aubrey Goyke (8.4833) and Abbey Grose (8.3833). Sophomore Mia Drexler rounded out the scores for Oshkosh with an 8.3333.

On the floor, Schlies posted a team-high 9.4667 followed by sophomore Joy Wheel (8.500) and juniors Kendall Irwin (8.2333) and Joselyn Macias (8.0).

Schlies and Drexler posted the top two

scores for Oshkosh on the balance beam with marks of 8.5667 and 8.4333, respectively, and on the bars with scores of 8.45 and 8.4.

Senior Parker Asen and sophomore Ahna Schlies also competed in the team event for Oshkosh.

The squad finished 10<sup>th</sup> overall with a total score of 134.6165. It was the second straight year the Oshkosh co-op program has advanced to the state meet. The team finished eighth last season.

Arrowhead won the Division 1 team title, claiming their fourth state gymnastics championship. Dodgeville won the Division 2 team title.

## Prep sports roundup

### BOYS BASKETBALL

#### Oshkosh North rolls though tourney foes

The Spartans continued their late-season surge topping a pair of opponents on the road in the WIAA Division 1 tournament.

Oshkosh North won at Bay Port on Friday, 82-64, in a regional semifinal and then captured a regional crown with a 60-52 win at second-seeded Arrowhead on Saturday night. The Spartans have won seven of their last eight games.

Bryce Ott paced North in the win over the Pirates, finishing with 22 points and eight rebounds. Brady Anderson added 19 points, including five 3-pointers, and Jackson Anderson finished with 18 points and seven assists. Tylan Lister also reached double figures with 10 points.

The Spartans finished a whopping 28-of-39 from the free-throw line in the game, while Bay Port was just 12-of-24. The two teams combined for 49 fouls in the game.

North used a big second half to rally past Arrowhead, outscoring the Warhawks 41-26 after intermission to erase a seven-point deficit.

Jackson Anderson led the way with 23 points, while Ott contributed 19 points and 15 rebounds in the victory. Lister chipped in nine points.

North, which is seeded 10<sup>th</sup> in the sectional, will face third-seeded Brookfield East in a sectional semifinal on Thursday at Hartford High School.

#### Oshkosh West suffers tourney loss

The Wildcats finished with three players in double figures but were unable to knock off third-seeded Brookfield East, suffering a 71-54 in a WIAA Division 1 regional semifinal on Friday.

Joey Ware led the Wildcats with 16 points, followed by Carter Kufel with 12 points and Malakai Herlihy with 11.

Tyler Moderson chipped in seven points off the bench and Brayden Kufel finished with six points.

#### Big second half lifts Knights to win

Lourdes Academy pulled away in the second half to roll past Niagara, 66-44, in a WIAA Division 5 regional game last week.

The Knights led by just three points at halftime before outscoring the Badgers 41-22 in the second half to notch the win.

Henry Achterberg hit four 3-pointers and finished with 16 points to lead the Knights and was one of three players in double figures in the win.

Brady Bauer finished with 12 points and Jackson Buttke added 11 points, nine rebounds and five assists for the Knights.

Harlan Kuehn and Parker Slusarski chipped in nine and seven points, respectively, in the win.

The Knights then fell to top-seeded Reedsville, 66-39, in a regional semifinal on Friday.

Kuehn was the lone player in double figures for the Knights with 13 points. Buttke and Achterberg each finished with nine points.



Photo by Andy Ratchman

Lourdes Academy's Brady Bauer puts up a shot over a Niagara defender during last week's WIAA Division 5 regional tournament game.

Warriors fall short in tournament contest

#### Warriors fall short in tournament contest

Valley Christian had its season end with

a 62-45 loss to Laconia in a WIAA Division 4 tournament opener last week.

Matthias Behling was the lone player to reach double figures for the Warriors, finishing with 18 points to lead the team.

Xander Osinga added eight and Titus Weyenberg finished with seven.

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# Titans' Seckar named Player of the Year in the WIAC

Oshkosh Herald

UW Oshkosh sophomore Paige Seckar was named the Player of the Year in the Wisconsin Intercollegiate Athletic Conference it was announced last week.

The Oshkosh West alum leads the Titans in scoring (13.6 ppg) and rebounding (7.2 rpg) and has registered six double-doubles on the season. She also leads the team in steals and blocks and ranks second on the team in assists.



Seckar

Seckar is shooting 49.4 percent from the field, 44 percent from 3-point range and 75 percent from the free-throw line.

Seckar becomes the fifth player in program history to earn Player of the Year in the conference, joining two-time winner Leah Porath, Taylor Schmidt, Holly Spoo and Wendy Wangerin.

Seckar was named the WIAC Newcomer of the Year as a freshman last year and becomes the second player ever to win both Newcomer of the Year and Player of the Year awards.

Seckar, one of three Titans named to the

all-WIAC first team, helped lead UW Oshkosh to its third straight regular-season conference title. The Titans are the first team to win three straight outright titles in the league since UW-Green Bay did it from 1980-82.

Seckar was one of two former Fox Valley Association players named to the first team as she was joined by teammate Sammi Beyer, who played at Appleton East.

Titans' head coach Brad Fischer was named the conference's Coach of the Year. It was the record-tying sixth time Fischer has garnered the honor.

UW Oshkosh will host the NCAA Division III Sectional Round this weekend at the Kolf Sports Center and will play Washington University in St. Louis at 8 p.m. on Friday in the second of two third-round games.

Hope College will face the University of Chicago in the other game on Friday with the two winners meeting on Saturday at 8 p.m. for the right to advance to the Final Four.

On the men's side, the Titans' Reed Seckar, an Oshkosh North alum, was named to the league's all-Sportsmanship Team.



Submitted photo

## Dennis heading to England

Oshkosh North senior Olivia Dennis recently signed her letter of commitment to attend Leeds Beckett i2i International Soccer Academy in Leeds, England next year. Pictured with Olivia are her dad, Kris, and mom, Robin.



Submitted photo

## Vang signs NLI

Oshkosh North senior Kurtuis Vang recently signed his National Letter of Intent to attend Mount Mercy University in Cedar Falls, Iowa, to play men's volleyball next year. Mount Mercy is an NAIA Division 2 program. He is pictured with dad, Koua, and mom, Mary.



Submitted photo

Former professional soccer player Ronald Zubar recently led a five-day camp at the Oshkosh United training facility "The Lab."

## Former pro soccer player leads camp

Oshkosh Herald

Oshkosh United hosted a special soccer camp in February at its training facility, "The Lab," featuring former professional soccer player Ronald Zubar.

Zubar played professional soccer for over a decade at clubs such as Olympique de Marseille, Wolverhampton Wanderers (English Premier League) and New York Red Bulls (MLS).

The camp was five days long during which various age groups from 8 years old all the way to 17 participated in small group training sessions. Zubar instructed

kids on the different tactics of playing soccer.

With Zubar's experience at a high level of playing soccer, club leaders said players learned a lot in the short amount of time he was here. He donated a few of his jerseys to the new Lab space as well.

"Hosting this camp was an amazing way to open up 'The Lab,'" Director Matt Callahan said. "It's incredibly rare for players to learn from a coach with the playing experience Coach Zubar has. We look forward to utilizing this facility to elevate the level of Oshkosh soccer."

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# Obituaries

## Francis Gwinn

It is with heavy hearts that we share that Fran passed away February 25, 2026 surrounded by family. He was born May 19, 1941 in Radisson, WI. Fran grew up in Butternut on a small farm, attending grades 1-3 in a one room school (Elmer School) and graduated from Glidden High School in 1959. Fran earned his Bachelor of Science degree in 1964 and Masters of Science degree in 1979 from UW-Stout.

At Stout, Fran met Lois and they were married August 15, 1964 (61 years). They moved to Oshkosh where Fran taught Industrial Technology in the Oshkosh Area School District for 33 years, retiring in 1997. Fran was a natural teacher, both in and out of the classroom. He had a curious nature and was always learning new things.

Fran was old-school in the best ways. He was genuine, very practical and led by example with hard work, a strong sense of integrity and always with humor.

We were blessed to have him as a husband, father, grandpa, uncle, brother, teacher and friend. We are all his legacy and his advice, stories, jokes and strength lives on through each of us.

Fran enjoyed nature, hunting and fishing, especially trips to Isle Royale National Park. He and Lois retired to Butternut, and Fran started CPA Forest Products,

logging, sawing with his Wood-Mizer sawmill and selling boughs and wreaths until 2019. He did more manual labor in retirement than most people ever do.

Fran served the community as a Director for Price Electric Cooperative (2000-2018), Town of Peeksville Supervisor (4 years) and Chairperson (4 years). Fran treasured the friends and experiences he made in these roles.

He is survived by his wife Lois, son Douglas, daughter Andrea (John) Oman and 5 grandchildren: Mikala (Ben) Talbot, William (Abby) Gwinn, Mary Oman, Jack Oman, Sam Oman. In addition, he is survived by his siblings Nancy Ziebell, Barbara Hollrith, James Gwinn and David (Mary) Gwinn; in-laws Duane (Kendra) Kostman, Charlotte Gwinn and many nieces and nephews, relatives and friends.

Fran was preceded in death by his parents William and Mary (Golob) Gwinn; brother William Gwinn; sister, Patricia Gwinn; sister-in-law Patrice Gwinn; and brother-in-laws Ronald Ziebell and Paul Hollrith.

Please join us in celebrating Fran's life-well-lived on Saturday, March 14th at First Congregational Church, 279 North 1st Ave, Park Falls, WI. Visitation will be 10:00 am to the time of the service at 11:30 am. Lunch will be served at the church immediately following the service. A private burial will take place at a later date.

Wear your favorite flannel in his honor and bring your favorite story! Come as you are!

## Thomas John Lorrigan

Thomas "Tom" John Lorrigan passed away peacefully on March 6, 2026. Thomas was born on December 10, 1951, in Manitowoc, WI to the late John and Elaine (Meissner) Lorrigan.

Tom graduated from Reedsville High School and shortly after began his career at Brillion Iron Works where he worked for 38 years. He also enjoyed a post retirement job at 4-Imprint until 2025.

Tom loved watching the Packers, WWE wrestling, vacationing with family, going out for Friday night fish, and would enjoy a Bud Light at various establishments. He cherished time spent with family and friends.

Tom is survived by his children; Nicholas (Terry) Lorrigan, Ashley (Troy) Schoblaske, and Brandon Lorrigan. He is further survived by two brothers, Don (Faye) Lorrigan and Rick (Amy) Lorrigan; Four

sisters, Joan (John) O'Leary, Sal (Gary) Tisler, Diane Lorrigan, Ann (Jan) Willman and three grandchildren; Carson, Blake and Hannah who were the joys of his life.

Tom was preceded in death by his parents, John and Elaine Lorrigan; his brothers John Lorrigan and Dennis "Flea" Lorrigan; his sister Judy Eichhorst; his nieces, Carrie Grall and Lori Eichhorst; and his granddaughter Rosalie Schoblaske.

A memorial service will be held for Tom at Konrad-Behlman Funeral Homes West Side (100 Lake Pointe Dr.) on Wednesday, March 18, 2026, at 4PM. A visitation will take place from 2:00 PM until the time of service.

Our family would like to extend a heartfelt thank you to the staff at Aurora Oshkosh, Aurora St. Luke's, and Aurora Hospice. Your compassion and care for Tom during such a difficult time did not go unnoticed.

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## Mary D. Abitz

Mary D. Abitz, 91, of Oshkosh, WI passed away on February 26, 2026 at Parkview Health Center. She was born on October 21, 1934 in Kimberly, WI to parents William and Emma Maas, one of 11 children. Mary married Raymond F. Abitz on December 30, 1953 in Kimberly, WI. They were parents to 5 children.

Mary loved to go on bus trips to the casino, traveling, including a trip abroad to Russia. She also enjoyed people watching, dancing and her beloved parakeets. Mary was a Foster Grandparent for Oaklawn Elementary and a volunteer to other organizations.

Mary was an Oshkosh resident for most of her life and a homemaker. She also managed Mary's Mini Mart which was located near the UW Oshkosh campus.

She is survived by her sons, Michael (Deb) Abitz of Nekoosa, WI, Daniel (Christa Van Fleteran) Abitz of Oshkosh, WI and Terry (Judy) Abitz of Appleton, WI; two daughters, Susan (Kevin) Otto of Oshkosh and Debbie Abitz; brothers, Jerry, Lyle and William; sisters, Millie and Rosalie; she is further survived by many grandchildren, great-grandchildren, nieces and nephews.

Preceding her in death were her parents; husband Raymond F. Abitz; brothers Raymond, Donald, Robert and Thomas; sisters Darlene and Baby Maas; her son Gary Abitz, and her granddaughter Sarah Otto.

A private ceremony will be held. Special thank you to Aurora Health Center of Fond du Lac, WI, Aurora Hospice at Home, and Parkview Health Center of Oshkosh, WI. You are all angels walking on earth!

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## Delores M. Berger

Delores M. Berger, age 95, of Fond du Lac, formerly of Oshkosh, passed away on March 6, 2026 at Eden Vista in Oshkosh. She was born on September 27, 1930 in North Fond du Lac a daughter of the late Oscar and Mildred (Skinner) Arnold. Delores married John Berger on October 8, 1960 in Oshkosh. John preceded her in death on September 3, 1979. Delores had been a member of Wesley United Methodist Church in Oshkosh and has resided at Woodlands in Fond du Lac for the past 7 years.

Delores loved playing sheephead, trav-

eling to the casinos, dancing and polka music. She also traveled extensively throughout the world and was a Docent at EAA.

She is survived by a niece, Sandra (Donald) Rennhack and a nephew, Greg (Sue) Arnold; special friends Shirley (Keith) Krueger and Stephanie (Randy) Swan; other relatives and friends. She was preceded in death also by a brother and sister-in-law, Eugene and Jean Arnold.

Per Delores wishes a graveside service will be held on Thursday, March 12, 2026 at 11 am at Riverside Catholic Cemetery in Oshkosh. Special thanks is wished to the staff and friends at Woodlands Senior Park in Fond du Lac for their care of Delores.

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## Andrew L. Perrie

Andrew L. Perrie passed away peacefully on March 6 at the age of 83. He was born June 15, 1942, in Detroit, Michigan, a son of Paul (nee Parinello) Perrie and Rose (nee Pavich) Perrie.



Andrew was a graduate of Detroit Catholic Central High School, Michigan Tech (BS Mathematics) where he was a proud member of Phi Kappa Tau fraternity, Michigan State University (MS Mathematics) where he met his loving wife, Margaret, of nearly 60 years, and the University of Oregon (PhD Mathematics). He began his career by teaching for five years in the Math Department of the University of Wisconsin-Oshkosh and then for 31 years in the Computer Science Department of UW-Oshkosh. He retired June 2005. He enjoyed golfing, playing bridge, and traveling, especially to Italy. He was flabbergasted when he went to Marsala, Sicily seeking genealogy information and was introduced to a cousin at the records office.

Andrew was preceded in death by his parents. Survivors include his beloved

wife Margaret (nee Roney); three cherished daughters: Judith (Martin) Daly of Mystic, CT, Janet Perrie of Wauwatosa, WI and Dianna (Peter) Welch of Brookfield, WI; five adored grandchildren: Aileen Herman, Camille Herman, Conor Daly, Ciara Daly, and Abigail Welch; and his brother Robert (Linda) Perrie of Augusta, MI.

Funeral services will be at 11:00 a.m. at Fiss & Bills-Poklasny Funeral Home (865 S. Westhaven Dr.). Visitation will be from 10 :00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. on Thursday March 12, 2026 at Fiss & Bills-Poklasny Funeral Home. A private burial will be at Riverside Cemetery.

In lieu of flowers, memorial donations may be made to the "Michigan Tech Fund" and earmarked for the Dr. John Lowther Endowed Scholarship Fund, Michigan Technological University, Houghton, MI 49931 - link here: Colleges & Schools | College of Computing | Donate (or [https://give.mtu.edu/project/38146/donate?des\\_id=601250](https://give.mtu.edu/project/38146/donate?des_id=601250)).

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## Stephanie Lianne Rhyner

Stephanie Rhyner of Milwaukee, Wisconsin, passed away Feb. 25, 2026, at age 35. She died as she lived: surrounded by loved ones.



The tragedy of her early passing is tempered by the fullness of the life she led. Stephanie wore enough titles for two lifetimes: wife, daughter, art history lecturer, pharmacy technician, Oshkosh expat, Ripon College alum, UWM Master's graduate, MIAD icon, PowerPoint whisperer, welcoming neighbor, adoring aunt, collage artist, wreath maker, snuggler of cats, doer of crafts, harvester of pinecones, determined gardener, beach lover, cross-stitcher, crystal connoisseur, Ren Faire cosplayer, opinionated eater, unrivaled thank you note writer, and overly generous gifter.

Stephanie was the best sister you could hope to have and the best friend you could hope to meet, the liveliest voice in any conversation and the brightest smile in every photograph. She made the Walgreens pharmacy kinder, Renaissance art more approachable, and the holidays more

bountiful.

She was selflessly devoted to the people she loved most: her parents Chris and Nancy Rhyner, sisters Sarah Rasheed (Meer) and Alicia Rytlewski (Evan), her uncles Dan Hartman (Sandy), Peter Hartman (Mary) and Joseph Hartman (Victoria), nephew Clay Rytlewski, niece Elise Remley, mother-in-law Evangeline Remley, sister-in-law Anastasia Remley (Nathaniel), lifelong best friend Lisa Koslowski, and especially the love of her life, Maria Remley.

It was at the notoriously chaotic Walgreens on Brady Street that she met her future wife. Stephanie was head over heels before their first date. That such love could take root at the least romantic place on the planet is proof that it would have bloomed anywhere. Together, Stephanie and Maria built a home, filling their shelves with art books, their walls with collectibles, their closets with craft supplies, and their days with creature comforts.

Stephanie led a life of incredible vibrance. She loved. She is loved. She will always be missed.

A remembrance celebration is planned for Saturday, April 11, from 12-6 p.m. at Freight 38, 838 S. First St., Milwaukee, Wis. RSVP here: <https://partiful.com/e/JugBV9ORCC4y8i0qZiQn?>

Brandon and Willa Alberts, Destiny and Owen Jennings; great-grandchildren, Carson, Aiden, Evalynn, Nicholas, Vivienne, Lillian and Legand; brother, Timothy Stevens; sister, Elberta Jarosinski; several cousins, nieces, nephews and friends.

Preceding her in death were her parents; and sisters, Vicky Pingel, Judy Sauer and Debbie Stevens.

A celebration of life is in the process of being planned for July 2026.

In lieu of flowers, donations to assist in Donna's final arrangements can be made to her son, Jason's cash app at \$JasonAlberts3.

The family would like to thank the staff at Ascension Mercy Medical Center Hospital- Oshkosh, WI and Fox Cities Funeral and Cremation Services for their care and compassion at this time.



## Christine Ann Weston

Christine Ann Weston, age 73, died March 4, 2026 of Glioblastoma Multi-



forme, 14 months after diagnosis. Compassus Hospice saw to it that she experienced the comfort and dignity she deserved. Chris was born April 24, 1952 at St. Vincent Hospital in Green Bay to parents Theodore John and Marian Ann (Nellis) Campshure the second of five children. She graduated from Green Bay West High School and furthered her education by spending two years at UW-Green Bay and transferring and graduating from the UW-Milwaukee School of Nursing. She was employed in Milwaukee at Mt. Sinai Medical Center for eight years. There she met and married Robert L. Weston in June of 1978.

After her husband's training in Internal Medicine was complete the couple moved to Oshkosh, WI where they spend the rest of their lives.

Chris accepted a position at the UW-Oshkosh School of Nursing as a teaching assistant. She spent three years there and liked to say she paid off the mortgage of their home.

Chris loved to volunteer and belonged to many organizations including the Infant Welfare Seat Program, glaucoma screening, hospice, VNA Board where she evaluated policies and procedures, St. Vincent de Paul, Ascension Mercy Hospital, Miller's Bay Neighborhood Association, Lakeside Quilters and the Winnebago Medical Alliance. Chris was a master gardener, member of the Symphony Association, numerous book clubs and always had fun with her friends, be it the Monday Club or Busy Fingers. She liked to comment to Bob before the internet if he asked her a question, "look it up at the library then tell the class."

She enjoyed sports and bicycling and was an owner of the Green Bay Packers. A proud moment was when she completed a century ride in Door County. Chris enjoyed traveling with her husband and his parents and kept fit walking her four dogs she owned over the 47 years of marriage to Bob.

## Paul N. Grandl

Paul N. Grandl, age 67, passed away at Aurora Medical Center in Oshkosh, WI on Sunday, February 22, 2026. He was born to the late Ludwig and Marilyn (Madson) Grandl on July 31, 1958, in Denver, CO.



Paul graduated from George Washington High School and went on to earn a bachelor's degree in finance from Metropolitan State in Denver. After discovering his dislike for trading stocks and bonds he bought a semi-truck and began his career as over the road trucker, taking many trips from Denver all over the country. His family was a huge priority; so, after retirement, he moved to Oshkosh to be closer to his family.

Paul is survived by his sisters, Toni Horne, Marta (Gary) Hoch, Gretchen (Steve "Brownie") Grandl-Brown; nieces and nephews, Morgan (Scott) Vanderloop, Jake (Jacqueline) Horne, Nicholas Grandl; four great-nieces and one neph-

ew. Over the years Chris donated monies to various causes including the K9 Kare fund at the Oshkosh Police Department and to the Oshkosh Area Humane Society. She exercised at and gave monies to the Oshkosh Senior Center as well as Wisconsin Public Television, Wisconsin Public Radio and the Fox Valley Memory Project.

Chris is survived by her husband, Bob, a brother Steve (Sue) Campshure, sister Carolyn (Christopher) Sampson, and four nephews, Zach (Chanda) Campshure, Jake (Kim) Campshure and his children, Kevin (Kate Schneider) Sampson and William Sampson. She is further survived by Bob's four siblings and their children (seven nieces and nephews and two great nieces).

Chris was preceded in death by her parents, two brothers, Gerald and Thomas and numerous aunts and uncles, as well as Clayton and Everly Weston.

The family wants to thank the staff of the Michael D. Wachtel Cancer Center, Kyle, Holly, and the volunteers at the Fox Valley Memory Project and the incredible staff and caregivers at Compassus Hospice.

Kudos to Carol Beth Weston for keeping the refrigerator full, to Carolyn Jean Sampson for faithful weekly visits and participating in the "Oshkosh restaurant tour," and to the many neighbors, friends and family who brought food, companionship, shoveled sidewalks and driveway and many who delivered thoughts and prayers. These gestures were heartfelt and deeply appreciated.

In lieu of flowers a scholarship has been established at the UW-Oshkosh Foundation as the Christine Ann Weston Graduate Nurse Scholarship.

A celebration of life and service will be held in Chris' memory at Konrad-Behlman Funeral Home-Westside, 100 Lake Pointe Dr. Oshkosh, WI 54904 on Tuesday, March 17, 2026 beginning at 9:00 AM with 90 minutes of visitation followed by a service with music and memories shared. Cremation has occurred and interment will be held at a later date in Riverside Cemetery.

May God bless you Chris.



ew.

In addition to his parents, Paul was preceded in death by his sister, Lisa Grandl; brother-in-law, Rex Horne.

A service for Paul will be held at Konrad-Behlman Funeral Homes (100 Lake Pointe Dr) on Saturday, March 14, 2026, at 11:30AM. A time of visitation will be from 10:30AM until the time of service.

In lieu of flowers, donations in Paul's name may be sent to St Jude Children's Research Hospital, Tunnel to Towers, Mercy Ships.

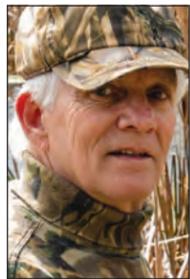


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# Obituaries

## John T. Wagner

John T. Wagner age 84 passed away at Aurora Medical Center Oshkosh on Thursday, March 6, 2026 after a short illness.



John was born on June 15, 1941 to George E. Wagner and Marian G. (Williamson) Wagner in Westfield, Massachusetts.

John attended Oshkosh High School and graduated in 1959. After graduation, John entered the U.S. Army and served as a Paratrooper with the 82<sup>nd</sup> Airborne Division which made him extremely proud. John also successfully completed his advanced individual training as

an "Honest John" Rocket Launcher Crewman. John completed his military service in June of 1962. During the next several years he worked at Rockwell International, Morgan Doors and several other local businesses.

John began attending college at Wisconsin State University Oshkosh as it was called in 1964. He worked his way through college graduating June 1, 1968 with a Bachelor of Science Degree in Secondary Education.

John started his teaching career at Webster Stanley Junior High and the following year was hired as an 8th grade Social Studies and English teacher at South Park Middle School. He later focused on 8th grade Social Studies. John was blessed with a talent to communicate with his students.

Early in his teaching career, he coached Track and Wrestling. For 10 years, John took his students to Washington D.C. over Spring Break for a 3 day educational field trip. He also spent many lunch hours playing the game Risk with groups of students. John conducted Civil War re-inactments with students at South Park and one year even brought his canoe. He spent 29 years teaching before his retirement.

John had an active life outside of school. He was a Black belt in FU Jow PAI (Tiger Claw Karate) and taught classes at AM-DO-TAO Kung Fu Tiger Claw Self-Defense in Oshkosh. John also had a Paintball outfitting business.

He was an avid Sportsman with a passion for Waterfowl hunting and spent many hours in the marsh. He also loved

Bow Deer season, having shot many Bucks over the years.

John is survived by his close friends, Ky & Kelly Rasmussen, Pam Persick, Barb Spellman, Tom & Linda Moore, Kathy Schlichting, Arlene (Mert) Kroll, Andy & Janelle Kroll and their children.

Special thanks to Stephanie and Kelly and the staff at Country Villa Assisted Living in Omro for their care during his short stay with them.

Visitation for John will be held on Thursday, March 12, 2026 from 4-6pm with a service to follow at Konrad Behlman Funeral Home, 100 Lake Point Dr. Oshkosh.



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# Obituaries

## Dorothy L. Proehl

Dorothy L. Proehl, age 78, passed away on December 15, 2025, at Cherry Meadows in Appleton, Wisconsin, surrounded by the love of her family.

A memorial service for Dorothy will be held on Wednesday, March 25, 2026, at St.

Paul's Lutheran Church, 8 S 4th St, Winneconne, WI, at 1:30pm. A time of visitation will begin at 12:30 and continue until the start of the service.



## Ruth A. Vorpahl

Ruth A. Vorpahl passed away peacefully on October 29, 2025.

A memorial service for Ruth will be held on Saturday, March 14, 2026, at Peace Lutheran Church, 240 W 9th Ave,

Oshkosh, beginning at 12:00 p.m., A time of visitation will be held from 11:00 a.m. until the start of the service.



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ESTATE SALE - 2226 Plymouth St, Oshkosh Fri 3/13/26 and Sat 3/14/26: 9am-2pm Antiques, Furniture, stereo console, electronics, Kitchen items, tools, lawn & garden, Vinyl LP's, misc.

## Miscellaneous

BUYING BASEBALL CARDS. 1950's 1960's 1970's No 80's or Junk Wax. No Memorabilia. Cardboard Legacy, 923 Oregon St Oshkosh (920) 744-9297

Consumer Cellular - the same reliable, nationwide coverage as the largest carriers. No long-term contract, no hidden fees and activation is free. All plans feature unlimited talk and text, starting at just \$20/month. For more information, call 1-855-748-6332

Eliminate gutter cleaning forever! Leaf Filter, the most advanced debris-blocking gutter protection. Schedule a FREE Leaf Filter estimate today. 20% off Entire Purchase. Plus 10% Senior & Military Discounts. Call 1-877-920-3533

Prepare for power outages today with a Generac Home Standby Generator. Act now to receive a FREE 5-Year warranty with qualifying purchase. Call 1-855-294-2679 today to schedule a free quote. It's not just a generator. It's a power move

Reimer Jewelers has a Full-Service Watchmaker on Staff. 11 Waugoo Avenue, Oshkosh

YOU MIGHT AS WELL trash your Old-Home-Movies? Or transfer VHS, 8mm, and all formats to DVD or FD?Gene DVD Productions 715-827-2302

## Real Estate/Rental

For Sale: Commercial Building on High Ave Near Downtown. Ideal for Photography or Coin Shop. Also for Real Estate Office. Two Half Baths. Finished Basement with Room Safe. Parking Lot and Newer Storage Shed. \$185,000.00 920-757-3957

## Legal Notices

STATE OF WISCONSIN, CIRCUIT COURT, DANE COUNTY

MADISON GAS AND ELECTRIC COMPANY V. BNL TRUCKING LLC Case No. 2026SC000613

Plaintiff(s): Madison Gas and Electric Company 133 S. Blair St. Madison, WI

-VS-

Defendant(s): BNL Trucking LLC 8418 County Road M Larsen, WI

Publication Summons and Notice of Filing

TO THE PERSON(S) NAMED ABOVE AS DEFENDANT(S):

You are being sued by the person(s) named above as Plaintiff(s). A copy of the claim has been sent to you at your address as stated in the caption above. The lawsuit will be heard in the following small claims court: Dane County Courthouse, Telephone Number of clerk of court: 608-266-4311, Courtroom/Room Number: Dane County Clerk of Court, Address: 215 S. Hamilton St., Madison, WI 53703, on the following date and time: Date: 3/20/2026 Time: 9:00 a.m. If you do not attend the hearing, the court may enter a judgment against you in favor of the person(s) suing you. A copy of the claim has been sent to you at your address as stated in the caption above. A judgment may be enforced as provided by law. A judgment awarding money may become a lien against any real estate (property) you own now or in the future, and may also be enforced by garnishment or seizure of property.

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

If you require reasonable accommodations due to a disability to participate in the court process, please call 608-266-4311 prior to the scheduled court date. Please note that the court does not provide transportation.

Plaintiff/Attorney Connor Peterson Date 02/20/2026 Law Firm and Address DeWitt LLP Plaintiff's/Attorney's Telephone Number 608-255-8891 Attorney's State Bar Number 1122638 25 W. Main St. Suite 800 Madison WI 53703

Runs: February 25, 2026, March 4, 2026 and March 11, 2026.

WNAXLP

STATE OF WISCONSIN CIRCUIT COURT

Case No. 2026CV000095 Code No. 30301, 30303

Jay Page and Kay Page W12875 Cork Street Road Ripon, WI 54971

Plaintiffs, v. Scott Soper Revocable Trust c/o Scott Soper, Trustee 4515 Sand Pit Road Oshkosh, WI 54904, Scott Soper, Individually 4515 Sand Pit Road Oshkosh, WI 54904 Defendants.

SUMMONS THE STATE OF WISCONSIN To each person named above as a Defendant:

You are hereby notified that the plaintiff named above has filed a lawsuit or other legal action against you. The Complaint, which is attached, states the nature and basis of the legal action.

Within twenty (20) days of receiving this Summons, you must respond with a written answer, as that term is used in Chapter 802 of the Wisconsin Statutes, to the Complaint. The court may reject or disregard an answer that does not follow the requirements of the statutes. The answer must be sent or delivered to the court, whose address is Clerk of Courts, Winnebago County Courthouse, 415 Jackson Street, Oshkosh, WI 54901, and to MENN LAW FIRM, LTD., plaintiffs' attorneys, whose address is: 2501 E. Enterprise Avenue, P.O. Box 785, Appleton, Wisconsin 54912-0785. You may have an attorney help or represent you.

If you do not provide a proper answer within twenty (20) days, the court may grant judgment against you for the award of money or other legal action requested in the Complaint, and you may lose your right to object to anything that is or may be incorrect in the Complaint. A judgment may be enforced as provided by law. A judgment awarding money may become a lien against any real estate you own now or in the future, and may also be enforced by garnishment or seizure of property.

Dated at Appleton, Wisconsin this 28 day of January, 2026. Clerk of Circuit Court Winnebago County, WI Honorable Bryan D. Keberlein, Branch 3

MENN LAW FIRM, LTD. Attorneys for Plaintiffs BY: Electronically signed by William Sandberg Brian P. Beisenstein State Bar No. 1025831 William Sandberg State Bar No. 1138427 Jansen Vandaalwyk State Bar No. 1126876 MAILING ADDRESS 2501 East Enterprise Avenue P.O. Box 785 Appleton, WI 54912-0785 Phone: 920.731.6631 Facsimile: 920.734.0981

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

WNAXLP

STATE OF WISCONSIN WINNEBAGO COUNTY CIRCUIT COURT

Case No. 2026CV000095 Code No. 30301, 30303

Jay Page and Kay Page W12875 Cork Street Road Ripon, WI 54971 v. Scott Soper Revocable Trust c/o Scott Soper, Trustee

4515 Sand Pit Road Oshkosh, WI 54904, Scott Soper, Individually 4515 Sand Pit Road Oshkosh, WI 54904 Defendants.

COMPLAINT

NOW COMES the above-named plaintiffs, Jay and Kay Page (the Pages), by their attorneys, Menn Law Firm Ltd., and as for a complaint against the defendants, alleges and shows the Court as follows:

PARTIES, JURISDICTION, AND VENUE

- The Pages, husband and wife, are adult residents of the State of Wisconsin, residing at W12875 Cork Street Road, Ripon, WI 54971.
- Scott Soper is an adult resident of the State of Wisconsin, residing at 4515 Sand Pit Road, Oshkosh, WI 54904. Soper is the trustee of the Scott Soper Revocable Trust.
- The Scott Soper Revocable Trust (the Trust) is a Wisconsin Revocable Trust. The Trust has been named as a Defendant because it holds title to Soper's residence at 4515 Sand Pit Road (the Residence).
- This Court has personal jurisdiction over Soper because he is a resident of Wisconsin.
- Winnebago County venue is appropriate because that is where Soper resides.

BACKGROUND ALLEGATIONS

- On May 22, 2023, Soper entered a contract (the Loan Agreement) with the Pages to borrow \$500,000. A true and correct copy of the Loan Agreement is attached hereto as Exhibit A.
- The Pages sent Soper the entire loan balance shortly thereafter.
- Under the terms of the Loan Agreement, Soper was obligated to pay back the principal in full by October 1, 2023.
- Soper has not paid back the principal as required by the Loan Agreement.
- The Pages financed the loan to Soper by putting \$500,000 on their business' line of credit.
- The Pages have been paying interest on that credit balance due to Soper's failure to pay back the principal.
- The Loan Agreement specifies that Soper was obligated to secure the loan by taking out a second mortgage on his Residence.
- A Letter Report dated December 26, 2025, a true and accurate copy of which is attached hereto as Exhibit B, shows that Soper never took out the second mortgage as required by the Loan Agreement.
- Under the terms of the Loan Agreement, Soper agreed "to pay all costs of collection, including reasonable attorney fees, whether or not a lawsuit is commenced as part of the collection process."
- Since taking the loan, Soper has communicated with

the Pages via text message on multiple occasions.

16. In one of those text messages, Soper admits that he owes the Pages money and assures them that he will pay them back. A true and accurate copy of that text message is attached hereto as Exhibit C.

COUNT 1: BREACH OF CONTRACT

17. The Pages reallege the preceding paragraphs of this Complaint as if fully set forth herein.

18. Soper entered a valid and enforceable contract with the Pages to borrow \$500,000.

19. The Pages fulfilled all their obligations under the Loan Agreement.

20. Soper breached the Loan Agreement by not paying back the principal in full by October 1, 2023, and by not taking out a second mortgage on his Residence.

21. As a direct result of Soper's breach, the Pages have sustained damages in an amount to be determined at trial.

COUNT 2: UNJUST ENRICHMENT

22. The Pages reallege the preceding paragraphs of this Complaint as if fully set forth herein.

23. The Pages loaned Soper \$500,000.

24. The loan benefited Soper.

25. Soper had full knowledge and appreciation of the fact that the Pages were providing him with a \$500,000 loan.

26. It would be inequitable for Soper to accept and retain the benefit of the loan without paying the Pages back for its value in an amount to be determined at trial.

COUNT 3: ACCOUNT STATED

27. The Pages reallege the preceding paragraphs of this Complaint as if fully set forth herein.

28. Soper signed the Loan Agreement on May 22, 2023.

29. Soper did not object to the Loan Agreement, and, in fact, he sent a text message to the Pages acknowledging the debt and promising to pay it back. (Exhibit C).

30. Soper is indebted to the Pages in an amount to be determined at trial for the account stated he created by failing to object to the Loan Agreement and by affirmatively acknowledging his debt and promising to pay it back.

WHEREFORE, the Pages demand the following relief:

- A money judgment for the full principal of \$500,000, plus interest, costs, and attorneys' fees.
  - An order requiring Soper to take out a second mortgage on his Residence as stated in the Loan Agreement.
  - Any other relief that the Court deems just and equitable.
- Dated this 28 day of January,

2026. Clerk of Circuit Court Winnebago County, WI Honorable Bryan D. Keberlein, Branch 3

MENN LAW FIRM, LTD. Attorneys for Plaintiff, BY: Electronically signed by William Sandberg Brian P. Beisenstein State Bar No. 1025831 William Sandberg State Bar No. 1138427 Jansen Vandaalwyk State Bar No. 1126876 MAILING ADDRESS: 2501 East Enterprise Avenue P.O. Box 785 Appleton, WI 54912-0785 Phone: 920.731.6631 Facsimile: 920.734.0981

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

WNAXLP

STATE OF WISCONSIN, CIRCUIT COURT WINNEBAGO COUNTY

IN THE MATTER OF THE NAME CHANGE OF: Grayson Michael Kealey By (Petitioner) Jacob Lee Dahse By (Co-Petitioner) Samantha Jean Kealey

Notice of Name Change Hearing Case No. 2026CV000226

NOTICE IS GIVEN:

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

From: First - Grayson Middle - Michael Last - Kealey To: First - Grayson Middle - Lee Last - Dahse Birth Certificate: First - Grayson Middle - Michael Last - Kealey

IT IS ORDERED:

This Petition will be heard in the Circuit Court of Winnebago County, State of Wisconsin: Judge's Name: Michael S. Gibbs Place: 415 Jackson Street, Room 211, Oshkosh, WI 54901 Date: 4-9-26 Time: 1:30 pm If you require reasonable accommodations due to a disability to participate in the court process, please call 920-236-4868 prior to the scheduled court date. Please note that the court does not provide transportation.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED: Notice of this hearing shall be given by publication as a Class 3 notice for three (3) weeks in a row prior to the date of the hearing in the Oshkosh Herald a newspaper published in Winnebago County, State of Wisconsin.

BY THE COURT: DATE SIGNED: March 3, 2026 /s/ Michael S. Gibbs Winnebago County Circuit Court Judge, Branch IV

Runs: March 11, 2026, March 18, 2026 and March 25, 2026

WNAXLP

# Kid Scoop

THE AWARD-WINNING PRINT & ONLINE FAMILY FEATURE



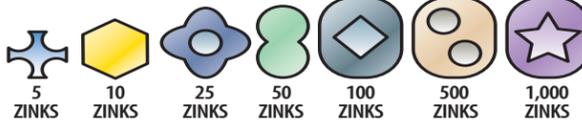
## A VISIT TO PLANET MOOLAH

On the Planet Moolah, the money doesn't look like ours. But the inhabitants have their own money and they use it the same way we do to pay for stuff.



Zeekor and Stasko are traveling to the Supply Station to do some shopping. They'll need your help to figure out what things they can afford to buy. They'll also need your help counting out the money to pay.

Here is what money looks like on Planet Moolah. They don't have paper money. Instead, Moolahians use metal coins in different shapes. Below each coin, its value is shown.



## PET PROJECT

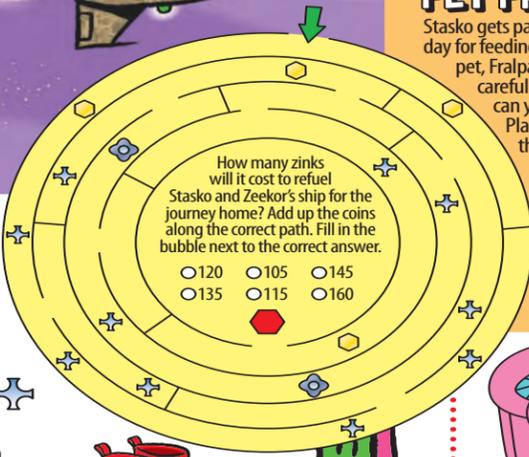
Stasko gets paid 130 zinks each day for feeding her neighbor's pet, Fralpar. While she is carefully feeding Fralpar, can you circle some Planet Moolah coins that add up to 130 zinks? Have a family member check your math.

There's got to be easier ways to make money!



## FANCY FOOTWORK

Zeekor and Stasko need new boots. Add up all the money they have saved and circle the two pairs of boots that cost exactly that much.



How many zinks will it cost to refuel Stasko and Zeekor's ship for the journey home? Add up the coins along the correct path. Fill in the bubble next to the correct answer.

- 120
- 105
- 145
- 135
- 115
- 160

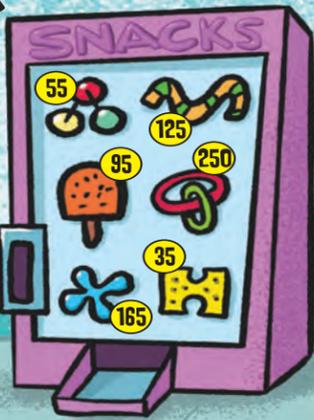


Do you have a piggy bank? Kids on Planet Moolah save their money in schneekflet banks. Find the two that are the same.

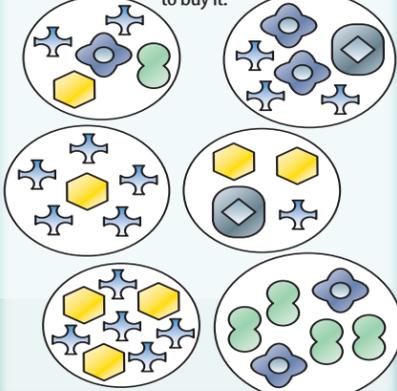


## SNACK ATTACK

Zeekor is ready for a tasty snack. But he needs your help sorting his money before he decides which of these out-of-this-world Supply Station snacks to buy!



Draw a line from each snack in the vending machine to the circle that contains that exact amount of Planet Moolah coins needed to buy it.



Extra! Extra!

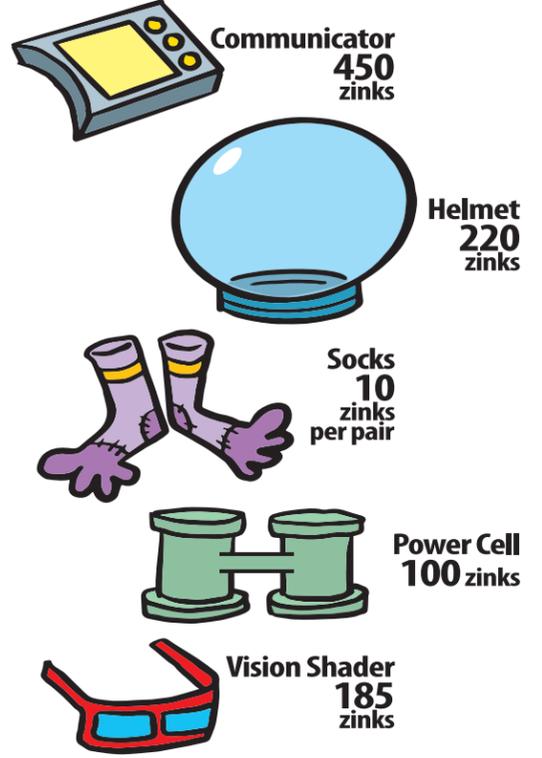
## Wants and Needs

Look through the newspaper to find examples of things people NEED to survive. Then find examples of things you WANT but don't need. Cut them out and glue them onto a poster showing Needs and Wants.

Standards Link: Social Science: Students understand basic economic concepts.

## Kid Scoop Together: Shopping List

Zeekor made a list of things his mom asked him to buy. She gave him 1,000 zinks. Add up the cost of the items on the list. Then write a new list to spend as close to 1,000 zinks as possible without going over that amount.



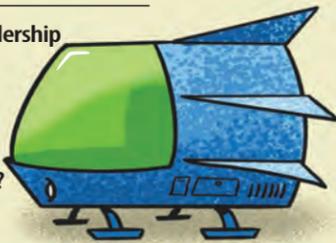
4 VISION SHADERS \_\_\_\_\_  
 8 POWER CELLS \_\_\_\_\_  
 1 COMMUNICATOR \_\_\_\_\_  
 10 SOCKS \_\_\_\_\_  
 2 HELMETS \_\_\_\_\_  
 TOTAL: \_\_\_\_\_

— VISION SHADERS \_\_\_\_\_  
 — POWER CELLS \_\_\_\_\_  
 — COMMUNICATOR \_\_\_\_\_  
 — SOCKS \_\_\_\_\_  
 — HELMETS \_\_\_\_\_  
 TOTAL: \_\_\_\_\_

## Kid Scoop Puzzler

Stasko would love to buy a new Supernova Ultra ship. It costs 12,000 zinks. After giving the dealership 2,000 zinks, she has to pay it off in monthly payments.

- How much would she have to pay per month to completely pay for the ship in 50 months?
- Or, if Stasko gave the dealership 5,000 zinks for the first month's payment, and made payments of 500 zinks per month, how many months would it take to pay for the ship?



## Double Double Word Search

CAREFULLY MOOLAH VENDING MONEY SNACK COINS BANKS PAID FIGURE KIDS BOOTS BUY PATH VALUE OUT

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



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

**FREE DOWNLOAD:**  
**KID SCOOP TEACHER ACTIVITY PACK!**  
 With hundreds of topics, every Kid Scoop® printable activity pack features six-to-seven pages of high-interest extra learning activities for home and school! Get your free sample today at:  
[kidscoop.com/activity-pages/](http://kidscoop.com/activity-pages/)

**Write On!**  
**A Penny Saved is a Penny Earned**  
 "A penny saved is a penny earned" is a common saying. What do you think it means? Give an example of a time you saved money.



**DO GOOD.  
 HAVE LUNCH.  
 REPEAT.**

Oshkosh Noon Kiwanis meets Tuesdays at noon at The Bar Oshkosh

Come for engaging speakers, community inclusion and unique and innovative service projects and fundraising initiatives.

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 or visit [oshkoshnoonkiwanisclub.org](http://oshkoshnoonkiwanisclub.org)  
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