



**COUNTY CORNER**

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Student turns fishing knowledge into career  
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**Wildcats win**  
Big inning lifts West softball to victory  
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Photo by Michael Cooney

## Artist at work

Area artists, including William Millonig, drew the community together for a weekend of creativity and giving back at the Hilton Garden Inn for Art in the Garden. The event featured a special exhibit with art from Valley Christian, Oshkosh West and Oshkosh North high school students. Proceeds from Altrusa of Oshkosh's Art in the Garden are reinvested into community projects such as literacy support.

## Woodman's pursuing new store

By Jonathan Richie  
OSHKOSH HERALD

The Oshkosh outlet mall could see a lot of changes over the next few years if plans go through to build a new Woodman's Market on the site.

Woodman's Markets, which is based in Janesville and operates 20 stores in Illinois and Wisconsin with the nearest in Grand Chute, bought the 36-acre property, 3001 S. Washburn St., in 2024 for \$12 million.

City documents obtained by the Herald show the early stages of the plan call for a 272,000 square-foot grocery store with a gas station and car wash also on the site.

The plan shows the store including 140,300 square feet for mercantile or shopping space and 131,700 square feet of warehouse space. The store will be on the west side of the parcel, and the gas station and car wash area will be built on the northeast corner of the lot.

Meredith Scheuermann, who sits on the Plan Commission, attended a workshop held on the potential of Woodman's building a store on the outlet mall site. Scheuermann said Woodman's representatives have set a tentative opening date for 2028.

"I am excited that a quality company like Woodman's, that pays a nice starting wage, wants to come to Oshkosh," Scheuermann told the Herald after the January workshop.

There were no notes taken by city staff and no minutes taken during the workshop, according to city officials.

City staff reviewed working through the initial plans with Woodman's and provided feedback before an official application was submitted.

One issue was that Woodman's was at-

SEE **Woodman's** ON PAGE 8

## Oshkosh voters elect new leaders, some familiar faces

By Jonathan Richie  
OSHKOSH HERALD

The spring election saw some first-time candidates win elections, along with familiar faces that have won elections in the past.

In the non-partisan spring election, voters elected three members to the Oshkosh Common Council.

Jacob Amos, Paul Esslinger and Alec Lefebber will be the newest members elected to the council. Amos is currently serving on the council after being appointed to an open seat last year.

"Each vote is a sign of support, confidence and partnership," Amos said. "I commit to continuing the work of building on what I've learned from community members and earning the trust of those whose vote I didn't earn. Last night was special and today is about continuing the work in the direction I've started."

This was Lefebber's first time running for public office. His campaign focused on reaching young voters with the help of TikTok.

"They say first-time candidates don't win," Lefebber said following his victory.

"Last night, we proved them wrong."

Esslinger also will be getting back into local government after serving on the council from 2023-2025. He served as mayor from 2009 to 2011 and in 2023 was elected to serve as a council member. Esslinger lost his reelection bid in 2025.

"Now to get to work," he said in a social media post after thanking his supporters.

Logan Jungbacker, Tim Neubauer and Meredith Scheuermann all made it past the primary but were unable to gain enough votes to earn a seat on the council. Jungbacker finished 85 votes behind

Esslinger. There were 266 votes separating Esslinger, who finished in third with 4,754 votes, and Scheuermann who received the fewest with 4,488 votes.

### School board

The Oshkosh Area School District's Board of Education will have one new member and one returning following last week's election.

Incumbent Barb Herzog was elected to serve another three-year term on the

SEE **Election results** ON PAGE 12

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

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An E-edition of the newspaper can be accessed at [www.oshkoshherald.com](http://www.oshkoshherald.com).

# Activities planned for National Library Week

Oshkosh Herald

Oshkosh Public Library invites the community to rediscover the power of stories during National Library Week, April 19-25, with a self-guided scavenger hunt and checkout challenge.

An annual tradition, National Library Week highlights the important part libraries play in connecting people to information, creativity and each other. This year, the library is emphasizing its role as a free, welcoming place where everyone belongs and community stories come together.

Beginning Sunday, visitors can take part in a self-guided scavenger hunt that leads them on an adventure through the library.

## Church to host farewell to food distribution service

Oshkosh Herald

Oshkosh area residents will be able to pick up food from Ruby's Pantry one final time.

The Ruby's Farewell Pantry will be held from 9:30 to 11 a.m. Saturday at St. John's Lutheran Church of Nekimi, 491 Old Oregon Road.

Ruby's Pantry, a faith-based nonprofit that ran 80-plus pop-up food distribution sites including the one hosted by St. John's, announced earlier this month it is closing. St. John's hosted its food pantry the third Saturday morning each month.

At the Ruby's Pantry sites, people paid \$25 and received more than \$100 worth of food, including protein, fresh produce, canned and frozen produce and a lot of miscellaneous groceries. The pantry was open to everyone.

St. John's hosted Ruby's Pantry for more than five years and is organizing the event.

Scavenger hunt sheets will be available at the service desk and will feature clues that encourage participants to explore spaces, services and items available for checkout in the building.

Completed scavenger hunt sheets can be returned to the service desk to receive a custom library sticker. The hunt runs through April 25.

The library will also host a checkout

challenge to encourage community members to explore the library's collection of materials.

Patrons who check out at least one physical or digital item during the week can enter a drawing for one of five Hydro Flask water bottles. Patrons checking out an additional item from the library's Stories R Us catalog can earn a bonus entry in the drawing.



## Back in the Day



Oshkosh history by the Winnebago County Historical Society

## April 12, 1922

**Fox River Rising – Flooding Sections of the City:** Heavy rains has caused major flooding in parts of the city with waters reaching their highest point on the Fox and Wolf Rivers since 1881. Many parts of the city were flooded; however, the most serious conditions

exist in West Algoma where citizens on Catherine Street, were forced to abandon their homes and businesses fronting West Algoma have water up to their back doors. Sawyer Creek – which is a small stream in the summer months – has overflowed its banks becoming a veritable river yesterday. Some homes found their basements flooded with waters surrounding coal bins and coal furnaces. Only homes with oil heaters are able to provide heat to their homes.

Source: Oshkosh Northwestern  
April 12, 1922

## NOTICE OF CITY OF OSHKOSH GRASS CUTTING REQUIREMENTS

Residents are reminded that blowing or placing grass clippings, leaves, or other debris onto the street is prohibited. Storm water runoff carries grass clippings and other debris on the street pavement surfaces into the storm sewer system. The City of Oshkosh's storm water runoff drains directly to local lakes, rivers, and streams. Storm water runoff is not treated at the Wastewater Treatment Plant.

Debris carried by storm water runoff can cause inlets and storm sewers to plug and this can lead to flooding. Additionally, grass clippings and leaves contain nutrients that help feed algae blooms on adjoining waterways.

### PER MUNICIPAL CODE CHAPTER 25 / STREETS & SIDEWALKS

#### Section 25-26 Obstructions in Street prohibited

This code indicates that no person shall place or deposit any substance in any sidewalk or street without a permit. In addition, no person may obstruct or stop the flow of water in any ditch, sewer, gutter, or culvert along or across any street, lane, alley, public grounds, or sidewalk in the City.

### PER MUNICIPAL CODE CHAPTER 14 / STORM WATER MANAGEMENT

#### Section 14-30 Discharge Prohibitions

This code indicates that no person shall throw or discharge any pollutants to the municipal storm sewer system.

Property owners face a potential citation for violation of the Municipal Code.

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School Board

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Thank you for supporting my candidacy and allowing me to serve another term on the Oshkosh Area School District Board of Education.

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I am ready to continue working to improve the school district for all students, staff, and the community.

**Barb Herzog**

Paid for by Herzog for School Board

# Local student turns fishing know-how into career

By Michael J. Cooney  
HERALD CONTRIBUTOR

In many social media fishing feeds a familiar pattern can be seen: a proud angler, a big fish and not much else.

That's exactly what Oshkosh's Matthew Crawford set out to change.

"I don't just want to say, 'Look at me; I caught this fish,'" Crawford said. "I want to show people exactly how I did it, so they can go out and do it themselves."

At 21, Crawford has built a growing following by doing something deceptively simple: sharing not just the catch, but the process behind it. With about 14,000 Facebook followers and monthly views reaching into the millions, his steady stream of fishing reports has become a trusted resource for anglers across north-east Wisconsin.

Now in his final semester at UW-Oshkosh, he plans on making helping others catch more fish his career.

Crawford's approach stands apart in a space often driven by ego and highlight reels.

"A lot of people post a big fish, and it's all about them," he said. "For me, it's more about, 'Here's what worked. Here's where I was. Here's what you can try.'"

That transparency has earned him credibility and influence. Locally, he's seen lures he features quickly sell out, even when he's not being paid to promote them.

"I don't want to be a product pusher," he said. "If I'm sharing something, it's because it actually helped me catch fish."

Crawford's success isn't built on expensive electronics. Until recently, he fished without sonar, relying instead on observation and a growing understanding of fish



Photo by Michael Cooney

Matthew Crawford looks for fish to catch last week in Asylum Bay off the lighthouse north of Oshkosh.

behavior.

A key insight: follow the food.

"Windblown shorelines are one of my favorite places to fish," he said. "The wind pushes insects and baitfish in, and that brings in bigger fish."

Structure — points, reefs, bridges — also play a role, along with water temperature and seasonal shifts. It's a system built on time, patience and pattern recognition. It doesn't always work.

"There are still days you come home

with nothing," he said. "It's rare, but it happens."

Starting out Crawford delivered those insights from a modest setup.

"I've loved sharing fishing reports from my 1960s Mirrocraft 11 foot aluminum boat with a 25 hp motor," he said.

That small boat, leaks and all, became part of his identity and his connection to followers. But growth has brought change.

"Thanks to the incredible support I have received for my fishing adventures, I'm

now able to upgrade from the beloved tin can," he said.

His new ride, a Yamaha FSH 190, 19-foot fiberglass, with a 200HP jet drive motor, offers more space and stability, especially for the photo and video work that fuels his platform.

"It has a lot more space, making it easier for me to create content," Crawford said.

Crawford began posting on Instagram in 2020 but found his audience on Facebook, where local anglers were more active. Over the past two years, he's posted nearly every day, offering real-time updates on what's working on area lakes and rivers. For weekend anglers, that consistency matters.

"If someone only has a day or two to get out, they don't want to go in blind," he said. "I can at least give them a starting point."

His reach now extends to in-person audiences as well. Crawford regularly speaks at fishing expos and clubs across the state, sharing both techniques and perspective, often with anglers decades older than he is.

"I'm still learning every day," he said. "There are people in those rooms who know a lot more than I do."

That humility, paired with practical insight, has helped him connect across generations.

For Crawford, the challenge isn't just building a career, it's protecting the joy that started it.

"I always want to keep it fun," he said. "If it's not fun, then why am I doing it?"

It's a mindset that keeps him grounded, whether he's posting a report, speaking to a crowd, or simply casting a line.

**find your spring vibe!**  
it's just the beginning...







**See what else Oshkosh has blooming!**  
Scan to discover a full calendar of events.



**DiscoverOshkosh.com**

**April 18 | Oshkosh Farmers Market**  
Oshkosh Arena | 9am-12:30pm  
Browse local crafts, produce, and visit the WRAP Art Show!

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**April 18 | Spring Flea Market**  
Originals Mall of Antiques | 8am-6pm  
Discover one-of-a-kind vintage and antique finds.

**April 19 | Spring Craft Fair**  
Oshkosh Convention Center | 10am-3pm  
Shop handmade goods, seasonal décor, treats, gifts + more.

**April 19 | Bloom + Bargain Bash**  
Poplar Creek Barn | 9am-2pm  
Craft + rummage sale!

# Another gas station bar gains gambling machine approval

By Jonathan Richie  
OSHKOSH HERALD

Oshkosh will soon be home to two gas station bars that exist to allow illegal gambling machine operators avoid felony charges.

Roast and Toast, 305 N. Sawyer St., will be built onto the existing gas station. A total of 325 square feet will accommodate a bar area and five video gambling machines that will have a separate entrance.

The establishment's class B liquor license was approved March 31 by the Oshkosh Common Council. That license will allow Roast & Toast to sell beer and fermented malt beverages for on-premise consumption.

Before the vote by the council was taken Mayor Matt Mugerauer reiterated his point from the last time this application was in front of the council.

"I don't believe that it's in the best interest of this community to be having the potential that every gas station, convenience store and grocery store turns into a casino," he said. "I don't believe that's best for this community."

The license was denied earlier this year when a vote on it resulted in a tie. Roast & Toast submitted a new application that met

all municipal code requirements except that the bar won't have its own bathroom.

This is another precedent set by the council with these gambling machine bars, which is that now applicants can point to this application and not have to put in a separate bathroom. This could lead to more interactions of customers of the bar and the convenience store.

"No standalone development would be allowed to occur without a bathroom," Mugerauer said.

Council member DJ Nichols responded, "They're not using the bathroom for the liquor license."

Mugerauer then stated, "They're not using the liquor license at all. They're using it to subvert state law so they're not felons."

The license was approved by a 5-2 vote with Mugerauer and deputy mayor Joe Stephenson being the opposing votes.

The Quick Pantry Pub at 403 N. Sawyer St. was the first of these operations approved during a meeting in January. At that meeting some council members stated they were in favor of approving the license because it's an issue created by the state.

All video gambling machines are illegal in Wisconsin. The only exception is ma-

chines in establishments regulated by the Office of Indian Gaming and Regulatory Compliance.

The OIGRC oversees casinos operated by the 11 federally recognized tribes in the state, like the Oneida Casino in Green Bay.

Lobbying efforts by the Tavern League of Wisconsin in 2003, the penalty for having these machines in bars and restaurants was reduced from a felony to a misdemeanor.

Some Oshkosh gas stations had these machines until last year when state agents began warning businesses that the Department of Revenue's Department of Alcoholic Beverages would be coming in and removing machines and the business owners could face felony charges if the machines were not removed.

The businesses with gambling machines then found a loophole to build a bar on to the gas stations premise would obfuscate the felony charges and the business would only be liable for a misdemeanor charge and a potential \$500 fine per machine if

they have the class B license.

Without the class B license, it would be a felony charge that could lead to a \$10,000 fine and possibly three and a half years in state prison.

Roast & Toast brought its lawyer, Alexander Ullenberg, to explain that the council should approve their Class B license because it has met all the criteria. He added the council has already set the precedent allowing these licenses if the business follows the rules set by the council.

"There appears to be no basis, really, to deny the application," Ullenberg said.

The city has a quota for on-premise liquor licenses like a class C license. That license allows an establishment to serve beer, wine and liquor on-premise. The city has 132 of those quota licenses and is currently dipping into the \$10,000 reserve liquor licenses.

There is no limit for the number of class B beer only licenses that the city can approve for establishments.

## Groundbreaking celebrates upcoming elementary school expansion, renovations

Oshkosh Herald

A groundbreaking ceremony for an expansion and renovation project at Oakwood Elementary School marks the next milestone in the Oshkosh Area School District's long-range facilities plan.

The projects in Phase 2 of the district's long-range facilities plan are designed to improve student safety by addressing aging buildings, improve services for students and save money on operations through building consolidation. Supported by the April 2025 capital referendum, the Oakwood project will involve renovations, construction of new academic wings and a larger gymnasium, as well as air conditioning.

Projects are also beginning at Franklin

Elementary School and Carl Traeger Elementary School.

The Oakwood event will begin with a formal groundbreaking ceremony at 2:30 p.m. Friday featuring district leadership and student representatives. Immediately following the ceremony, the public is invited to a Community Open House from 3 to 6 p.m. to tour the building and share memories before renovations begin.

The event will take place at Oakwood School, 1225 N. Oakwood Road. Attendees may enter the site from the school's back parking lot.

The groundbreaking ceremony will be held outdoors near an active construction site. In the event of inclement weather, the ceremony will be moved indoors.

## Oshkosh Arena show benefits honor flights

Oshkosh Herald

The Blossoms & Bombshells Burlesque Show will provide a night of glitz, glamour and sultry performances as the Certified Sexy Burlesque troupe honors veterans.

The show harkens back to the times of pin-up models.

The event is a fundraiser show in which Missions of Honor and Old Glory Hon-

or Flights, which fly veterans to New York and Washington, D.C., will be honored and appreciated.

The show is at 7:30 p.m. April 18 at Oshkosh Arena. Attendees are encouraged to go early to visit and check out raffles and vendor tables. Doors open at 6:30 p.m.

Guests must be 21 years or older to attend the burlesque event.

## Omro man arrested for role in pub crawl shooting

Oshkosh Herald

Oshkosh's spring pub crawl has led to another weapons-related arrest.

Oshkosh Police said a 23-year-old Omro man was arrested Saturday following the incident. A 17-year-old Oshkosh resident was transported to a hospital with non-life threatening injuries as a result of the shooting.

OPD received reports multiple shots fired just after 7 p.m. Saturday in the area of McKinley Street and John Avenue, one block east of the UW-Oshkosh campus. There were officers in the area that were working during pub crawl.

Pub crawl is an unsanctioned event held in April and October every year. A heavy

police presence was in the area this weekend as OPD has handled a number of incidents during pub crawl over the years.

On Saturday night OPD was assisted by the Winnebago County Sheriff's Office, the UWOPD Police Department and troopers from the Wisconsin State Patrol. Police also deployed multiple K-9 units and a drone to locate the suspect.

At 7:58 p.m. the suspect was seen attempting to leave the area. Officers conducted a high-risk traffic stop at Jackson Street and Irving Avenue, and the 23-year-old was taken into custody without incident.

OPD reported the investigation remains open and criminal charges are pending.

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## Oshkosh Spring Craft & Vendor Fair

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# New York Ave. property earns landmark status from city

By Richard C. Green  
OSHKOSH LANDMARKS COMMISSION



was a senior executive at Oshkosh Truck Corporation — now Oshkosh Corporation — and was personally credited with manufacturing innovations behind military vehicles including the HEMTT heavy tactical truck and the Patriot Missile Launcher.

“The Landmarks Commission reviewed this nomination carefully, and the case was compelling on every criterion — architecture, craftsmanship, and the remarkable succession of families who shaped this city from within these walls,” said Shirley Brabender Mattox, Landmarks Commission chair. “We voted unanimously because the evidence was overwhelming.”

The nomination was submitted by the current owner, Richard C. Green, son of David and Mary, who returned to Oshkosh in 2025 after 13 years as board president of the Palo Alto History Museum.

Green, who serves on the Landmarks Commission, nominated the property under a provision of the Municipal Code that allows any owner to initiate the landmark process. The nomination cleared every stage — Landmarks Commission, Plan Commission and Common Council — without a single dissenting vote.

The Landmarks Commission was established in 1980 by the Oshkosh Common Council and charged with:

Fostering the protection, enhancement and perpetuation of historic improvements and of districts which represent

The property at 404 W. New York Ave. — known as the L. Frank Gates House — has been designated as an official City of Oshkosh Local Landmark. It is the third property in the city to earn that distinction, and the first in more than a decade.

The Oshkosh Common Council voted unanimously on March 31 to approve the designation.

Designed by William C. Klapproth and built in 1902 by master craftsman Joseph T. Raycraft at a cost of \$7,000, the two-story Georgian Revival home at the corner of New York Avenue and Jackson Street has stood for 124 years as one of the finest examples of classical residential architecture.

The Wisconsin Historical Society describes it as the best example of Georgian Revival design in Oshkosh. The architecture and construction speak to a level of craftsmanship that would be nearly impossible to replicate today.

The home takes its historic name from L. Frank Gates, the manager of Oshkosh’s Diamond Match Company — at its peak, the largest match factory in the United States. Gates was also a prominent figure in the Oshkosh Yacht Club and a charter member of the Inland Lake Yachting Association, helping develop the racing scow that Lake Winnebago sailors still race today.

After Gates, the home passed to Frank Sullivan, founder of Triangle Manufacturing Company (1922), and then in 1963 to David G. and Mary L. Green, who lived there for 57 years. David Green



Submitted photo

The property at 404 W. New York Ave. has earned Oshkosh Local Landmark status, only the third property in the city to receive the designation.

or reflect elements of the City’s cultural, social, economic, political and architectural history.

Safeguarding and fostering civic pride in the City’s historic and cultural heritage as embodied in its landmarks and historic districts.

With three local landmarks now on the books, the Landmarks Commission is encouraging owners of other historic Oshkosh properties to consider nominating their buildings. For more information visit [oshkoshwi.gov/LandmarksCommission](http://oshkoshwi.gov/LandmarksCommission).

## IMAGINE THE POSSIBILITIES

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### OSHKOSH:

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- Tuesday, April 7 | 1 p.m.
- Monday, April 13 | 1 p.m.
- Wednesday, April 15 | 1 p.m.
- Wednesday, April 22 | 1 p.m.
- Thursday, April 30 | 1 p.m.

### NEENAH:

DoubleTree by Hilton Neenah  
123 E. Wisconsin Ave., Neenah, WI

- Thursday, April 2 | 10 a.m. | 2 p.m.
- Wednesday, April 29 | 10 a.m. | 2 p.m.



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# Counseling agency extends help, hope to survivors of assault

By MaryBeth Matzek  
OSHKOSH HERALD

Started as a nonprofit to offer advocacy and support to victims of sexual assault, Reach Counseling has grown over the last 50 years to provide long-term, outpatient clinical counseling services, prevention education and offender treatment programs along with its advocacy services.

“We’ve created a systemic approach of prevention, response and treatment in our community,” said Marianne Radley Welhouse, Reach’s director of community relations and special events. “We hit the issue of sexual violence head-on from several angles.”

Headquartered in Neenah, Reach covered Winnebago County from its founding until 2022 when it received a federal grant to also become the designated sexual assault support service provider in Calumet and Outagamie counties.

Reach Counseling is in a period of transition. The organization recently announced a new CEO — Missy Pickett. She comes to Reach from Lakeland Care Plus where she most recently served as vice president of consulting.

Reach’s previous CEO, Kristin Trimberger, will move into a new role, chief consulting officer. She will lead the launch of Reach Forward, the organization’s capacity-building and consulting initiative designed to strengthen other nonprofits and community-based organizations. This new initiative will help diversify the organization’s revenue, which has been affected by significant federal funding cuts.

Reach was founded as the Winnebago County Sexual Assault Response Team in 1976 before going through a name change



Submitted photo

Reach Counseling provides sexual assault support services throughout Winnebago County.

in the 1990s. Last year in Winnebago County, Reach made 87 advocate visits to area hospitals, had 209 counseling clients, served 33 sexual offender treatment patients and made 426 presentations to 5,993 students.

“People don’t understand, realize the scope of sexual violence in our community so it’s important to talk about these issues,” said Welhouse, adding that April is Sexual Assault Awareness Month.

When a victim arrives at a local hospital after being sexually assaulted, the hospital contacts Reach, who sends an advocate to walk with the victim through dealing with the aftermath, including crisis counseling

and dealing with law enforcement and the judicial system if the victim decides to pursue charges, Welhouse said. Advocacy services are offered free of cost and provide safe planning, skill building and culturally specific services.

Reach partners with local hospitals, such as Aurora Medical Center in Oshkosh, which has Sexual Assault Nurse Examiners (SANE) who work with victims after they arrive at the hospital. Brenda Doolittle, the forensic nursing department manager at Aurora Medical Center, said when a victim comes in, they contact Reach.

“We explain to them that Reach is here as an advocate for them, and I would say

patients welcome their help about 98% of the time,” Doolittle said. “They appreciate having someone there, helping to answer questions.”

Doolittle said the nurse examiners collect evidence and take photographs, which can be used in court — if the victim decides to report the crime. The only time the victim does not have a choice is if they are 17 and under.

“We are mandatory reporters, so we have to contact the police in those cases,” she said, adding assault victims are cared for in a special treatment area in the hospital’s emergency department.

Welhouse said Reach’s in-house therapy team is a differentiator.

“We’ve put together an integrated system of care,” she said. “One aspect that really sets us apart is offering mental health therapy to assault victims to aid them in their healing and their recovery.”

Welhouse said Reach provides individual therapy and child and adolescent therapy to victims of sexual assault to help them through the recovery process. Support groups are available for culturally specific groups including the Latinx community, the Asian community and people with disabilities; for youth and teens; for students at the University of Wisconsin-Oshkosh and Lawrence University; and survivors of human trafficking.

Reach is active in area schools providing age-appropriate presentations from kindergarten through 12<sup>th</sup> grade, Welhouse said.

“We start out in kindergarten talking about good and bad touches and having a trusted adult and then by the time we’re in high school, we’re talking about healthy relationships,” she said.

The nonprofit also provides sexual offender treatment, which provides voluntary and court-mandated treatment for individuals who have committed sexual offenses. By using evidence-based group and individual therapy to promote accountability, empathy and healthier behaviors, Welhouse said recidivism rates can be lowered to less than the national average (7% vs. 31%).

Due to deep funding cuts to the Victims of Crime Act, Reach lost more than \$400,000 in funding in 2025 and was forced to cut some staff members. Welhouse said Reach is now looking for more volunteers to help as advocates.

“We want to provide 24-7 coverage at the hospitals, and we provide the training that the volunteers need,” she said.

For more on Reach, visit reachcounseling.com.

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# Calendar of events

## Wednesday, April 15

OASD Jazz Jam Concert, 7 p.m., Alberta Kimball Auditorium

## Thursday, April 16

EAA Speaker Series: The B-1 Program, 7 p.m., EAA Aviation Museum

## Friday, April 17

Valley Academy for the Arts presents "excerpts from Sleeping Beauty," 7 p.m., The Grand Oshkosh

Northwoods Nonsense, 7 p.m., Lourdes Academy Middle School

Bare Bones Comedy Night featuring Dean Berg, Zach Peterson and David Vox Mullen, 7:30 p.m., Bare Bones Brewery

## Saturday, April 18

Oshkosh Kennel Club Dog Show, 6 a.m., Sunnyview Expo Center

Oshkosh Farmers Market featuring Wisconsin Regional Art Program Show, 9 a.m., Oshkosh Arena

Greater Oshkosh Healthy Neighborhoods Spring Rally, 9 a.m., Lakeshore Park Four Seasons Building

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

Author Michael J. Cooney Meet and Greet, 10 a.m., Caramel Crisp Bookstore "Into the Woods with Chemistry" Earth Week Program, 11 a.m., Oshkosh Public Library

Valley Academy for the Arts presents "excerpts from Sleeping Beauty," 2 p.m., The Grand Oshkosh

Northwoods Nonsense, 7 p.m., Lourdes Academy Middle School

Blossoms & Bombshells Burlesque Show, 7:30 p.m., Oshkosh Arena

## Sunday, April 19

Oshkosh Kennel Club Dog Show, 6 a.m., Sunnyview Expo Center

12:34 Concert Series featuring Sam

Ness and the Other Natural Flavors, 11:30 a.m., Algoma Boulevard United Methodist Church, 1174 Algoma Boulevard

Northwoods Nonsense, 2 p.m., Lourdes Academy Middle School

The Great DuBois, 7 p.m., The Grand Oshkosh

## Tuesday, April 21

High School Preview, 1 p.m., FVTC Oshkosh Riverside Campus, Room 101

## Wednesday, April 22

The Asian-Latino Borderlands with Dr. Lucero Estrella, 4:30 p.m., WALC Learning Center, 111 N. Main St. Suite 202

## Thursday, April 23

Pups on the Runway, 5 p.m., Becket's Atrium

## Friday, April 24

UWO Chancellor Manohar Singh Inauguration, 11 a.m., Kolf Sports Center

Oshkosh West High School Drama presents Deadline, 7 p.m., Alberta Kimball Auditorium

Christian Band PETRA Concert, 7 p.m., Calvary SonRise Church

## Saturday, April 25

Indie Bookstore Day, 10 a.m., Caramel Crisp Bookstore

Oshkosh West High School Drama presents Deadline, 2 and 7 p.m., Alberta Kimball Auditorium

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

Free Community Night, 5 p.m., Oshkosh Community YMCA - 20th Avenue B2wins- Farewell to The Grand (For Now), 7 p.m., The Grand Oshkosh

## Sunday, April 26

Oshkosh West High School Drama presents Deadline, 2 p.m., Alberta Kimball Auditorium

Oshkosh Symphony Orchestra: Belonging, 3 p.m., Fredric March Theatre, 1010 Algoma Boulevard

## Monday, April 27

CommUnity Conference, 9 a.m., UWO Reeve Union Ballroom 227

## Church concert features food, music

Oshkosh Herald

The 12:34 Concert Series this weekend features Sam Ness and the Other Natural Flavors.

The event featuring free food and a free concert will be held at Algoma Boulevard United Methodist Church, 1174 Algoma Boulevard.

A potluck starts at 11:30 a.m. Sunday, with music starting at 12:34 p.m.

Organizers said they recognize there are pockets of food scarcity in Oshkosh, as well as a lack of spaces for live, original music outside of the bar scene. 12:34 was created as an opportunity for community members to connect through music and share a meal with their neighbors.

The 12:34 name comes from the concert start time, 12:34 pm.

## Christian band plans upcoming concert

Oshkosh Herald

Christian band PETRA is coming to Calvary SonRise Church for an upcoming concert.

The performance will be at 7 p.m. April 24. Having sold more than 10 million records and toured extensively overseas, the

group has performed before more fans, have more record sales and more airplay than any Christian band in history. It has even been honored by Hard Rock Cafe.

See the Christian Events Ministry Facebook page for more information or call 920-252-5483.

## Conference at UWO focuses on civic engagement

Oshkosh Herald

The CommUnity Conference is a day-long meeting for dialogue and learning about civic engagement and civic health in Wisconsin.

The event April 27 is hosted in Oshkosh by the Whitburn Center for Governance and Policy Research at UW-Oshkosh as part of its Wisconsin Alliance for Civic Trust (WisACT) project.

The first event of this kind includes a collaboration with the UW-Madison Center for Community and Nonprofit Studies on some of the day's activities. The conference will bring together expert speakers, leaders from national nonprofits, students, scholars and community members.

More information is available at uwosh.edu/whitburn-center/communityconference. The registration deadline is Sunday.

## Presentation focuses on migrant stories

Oshkosh Herald

The Winnebago Area Literacy Council is planning an upcoming presentation about The Asian-Latino Borderlands with Lucero Estrella.

The event will be from 4:30 to 6:30 p.m. April 22 at the WALC Learning Center, 111 N. Main St. Suite 202.

Estrella will speak about why Asian migrant and Asian-Latino histories at the U.S.-Mexico border are rarely heard and who is responsible for telling the stories. Through collaborations with communities across northern Mexico and Texas, Estrella will highlight efforts to preserve the stories.

## Parents, children invited to online safety event

Oshkosh Herald

Community members are invited to a community awareness event about online safety.

Anti-trafficking organization 5-Stones is organizing the event featuring John DeMay, a Michigan father who lost his 17-year-old son, Jordan, to online sextortion. DeMay is sharing his experience to help others understand this crime, spark meaningful conversation and protect families from similar harm.

Organizers said the presentation is blunt and powerful and is recommended for attendees over age 13. They said it is especially impactful for parents and children to attend together.

The event will be from 5:30 to 8 p.m. Tuesday at Fox Valley Technical College - Oshkosh Riverside Campus, 150 N.

Campbell Road.

The Oshkosh Area School District is partnering with 5-Stone to share information about the event.

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## FVTC to host high school preview event Tuesday

Oshkosh Herald

A high school preview event will be held from 1 to 6 p.m. Tuesday at the Fox Valley Technical College Oshkosh Riverside Campus, Room 101.

Students will have the opportunity to meet with staff to talk about program interests, take a campus tour and apply to an FVTC program.

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# Spring season brings with it severe weather awareness

By MaryBeth Matzek  
OSHKOSH HERALD

While the weather is still making up its mind if it's spring, the calendar clearly indicates that spring has sprung and with it, comes reminders about severe weather conditions and how to prepare for it.

Spring and summer severe weather can range from thunderstorms and tornados to flash floods, hails and high winds. Being prepared and informed about changing weather conditions are important, said Winnebago County Emergency Management Director Eric Rasmussen.

"People need to have a way to get information about the weather. There are multiple ways — notifications on your phone, a NOAA Weather Radio — and

the sirens, if you're outside," he said. "The sirens are designed to alert people who are outside that severe weather is on its way and take action. It's not something you're meant to hear in your house."

This week is designated as Severe Weather Awareness Week in Wisconsin and Rasmussen said it is a good time to remind people about severe weather basics. The county began testing its sirens in late March at noon on Saturdays and will continue testing them through mid-October, Rasmussen said. He said the sirens are not tested the Saturday before EAA AirVenture begins (July 18) and the Saturday during EAA AirVenture (July 25).

As part of the week, Winnebago County will participate in the statewide mock tor-

nado drill on Thursday.

With a tornado watch, the conditions are favorable for severe weather and the development of tornados in your area. If a watch is issued, pay extra attention to the weather conditions and notifications. If a tornado warning is issued, it means a tornado has been sited or indicated by radar and you should immediately take shelter in the basement or in a windowless room interior room on the lowest level.

"Knowing how to act whether a warning or watch is issued is important," said Rasmussen, adding having an emergency kit is key part of the preparation.

An emergency kit should include the following items:

- Three days' worth of nonperishable food and water.
- First-aid supplies, three days' worth of prescription medication and any necessary medical supplies.
- Safety items such as flashlights, batteries, a battery-powered or hand-cranked radio, whistles for signaling and a battery-powered charger for your phone.
- Copies of personal documents such as insurance documents and identification in waterproof containers. Also include a copy of important phone numbers in case

your mobile phone with its stored numbers is not working.

- Clothing and blankets to protect you against cold or wet conditions.
- Necessary supplies for pets.
- Special needs items for babies or elderly family members.

Store the kit in a waterproof container in a convenient location that everyone can reach in an emergency. Rasmussen said it may seem like a lot to put an emergency kit together but if something happens and you need to leave your home or lose electricity, you'll be grateful the kit is pulled together.

People should also put together an emergency kit for their car in case they become stranded due to weather, Rasmussen said. This kit should include water, nonperishable, high-energy foods, rain poncho, portable phone charger, flashlight with extra batteries, basic first aid kit and blanket.

Rasmussen said some people purchase generators to provide some power to their homes in case they lose electricity as another way to prepare for emergencies.

"Severe weather can happen at any time, anywhere so it's good to always be prepared," he said.

## Symphony orchestra presents season finale concert

Oshkosh Herald

Oshkosh Symphony Orchestra (OSO) offers the community the season finale to its 84<sup>th</sup> season with music inspired by the architecture and people in the community. This season's title has been Home.

The concert at 3 p.m. April 26 at the Theatre Arts Center, 1010 Algoma Boulevard will explore the profound feeling of Belonging. This is installment three of the group's Antonin Dvořák symphony cycle.

Belonging was inspired by Romanesque architecture in Oshkosh. Examples are Trinity Episcopal Church and United Methodist Church, both on Algoma Boulevard.

Music director Dylan Chmura-Moore said this architecture embodies belonging through its monumental design and purpose, to create central gathering places,

imposing presences to offer physical and spiritual refuge. The structures are intended to embrace the public, facilitating communal worship or unity.

"Rooted in our commitment to meaningful community connection, this performance is inspired by the collective efforts of organizations across Oshkosh working to address homelessness," Chmura-Moore said. "We are proud to align this concert with their work, using music as a way to uplift, acknowledge and support the broader impact happening throughout our community."

Individual tickets are \$15 general admission. Anyone 18 and under and UWO students with Titan ID are free. Tickets can be purchased in advance at oshkoshsymphony.com.

Parking is free on the UWO campus for OSO concerts.

## Area unemployment rate increases to 3.3%

Oshkosh Herald

The Oshkosh-Neenah metropolitan area (MSA) and Winnebago County saw their unemployment rate increase to 3.3% in January, up from 2.7% in December 2025 and 2.9% a year ago, according to preliminary data from the state Department of Workforce Development.

The preliminary January unemployment rates increased in all 13 metropolitan areas over the month. Rates increased in all 13 metropolitan areas over the year.

Preliminary January 2026 unemployment rates increased in all of Wisconsin's 35 large

est cities over the month. Unemployment rates decreased in two cities over the year. Rates increased in 32 cities over the year and stayed the same in the one remaining city.

Preliminary January 2026 unemployment rates increased in all 72 counties over the month. Unemployment rates decreased in seven counties over the year. Rates increased in 61 counties over the year and stayed the same in the four remaining counties.

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

## Main Street bridge to open Friday

By Jonathan Richie  
OSHKOSH HERALD

After six months of traffic using alternative routes, the Main Street bridge in Oshkosh is set to open on Friday.

The bridge, which spans over the Fox River, closed in September to allow workers to preserve the operation of the structural, mechanical and electrical components of the structure.

The Wisconsin Department of Transportation (WisDOT) made the announcement recently stating that the bridge will open on April 17. However, there will be continued testing on the bascule span all next week. The bascule span is the movable portion of the bridge that lifts to allow boat traffic to traverse the Fox River.

Pedestrians and motorists should expect frequent openings of the bridge from April 20 to April 24. There will be other finishing tasks that workers and crews will

be doing on the bridge after Friday, but that work will not affect traffic.

WisDOT reported the work that has been done will extend the life of the bridge and address some rehabilitation such as removing and replacing the steel grid deck of the movable span of the bridge. The project also replaced deteriorated and worn-out components of the bridge.

The Wisconsin Street bridge is set to close this fall and open again in spring 2027. This project will focus on removing the deteriorating paint system, repainting the structural steel members of the bridge and replacing the existing gate arms of the bridge.

Bridge work will continue in Oshkosh in 2028 as WisDOT has plans to build a new high-level fixed bridge to replace the current Jackson/Oregon Street bridge. The high-level fixed bridge will allow for all boat traffic to pass under the bridge similar to the Interstate 41 bridge.

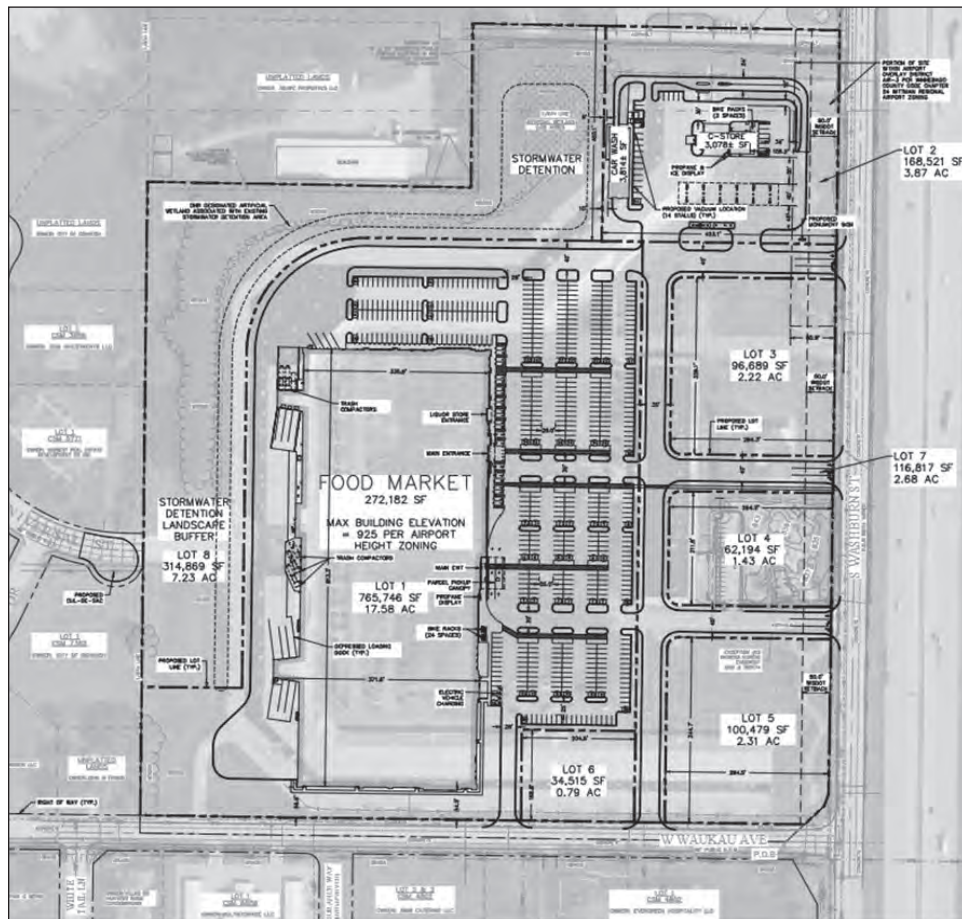


Photo from City of Oshkosh

A Woodman's Market could be coming to the site of the Oshkosh outlet mall in the coming years. Initial plans show a 272,000 square-foot store and a gas station and car wash on the site.

## Woodman's

FROM PAGE 1

tempting to have five access points for the store and the city's public works department stated that due to municipal code there could only be four access points.

Woodman's submitted an application that included rezoning requests, a preliminary plat, a general development plan and site implementation plan. However, after discussions with the city Woodman's decided to withdraw the application that was supposed to be on the April 8 Plan Commission agenda.

Oshkosh's principal planner, Brian Slusarak, sent a letter to Woodman's representatives saying the application was still not approved. The letter included a number of planning issues involving landscaping and stormwater issues.

"We at the city are excited to continue working with Woodman's on this project," a statement from the city said.

When Woodman's submits its final plans, those will be discussed by the Plan Commission.

The Plan Commission will recommend or not recommend to the Oshkosh Common Council for final approval or denial of the site plan.

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# Assault case faces another delay after attorney withdrawn

Oshkosh Herald

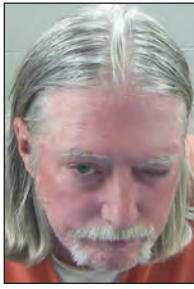
A 2023 case continues to crawl through the Winnebago County court system after a defendant had his attorney withdraw from the case less than a week before a three-day jury trial was scheduled.

Jackie A. Parish, 61, has been in custody at the Winnebago County Jail since July 2023 for alleged crimes that took place 20 years ago. He is facing one count of repeated sexual assault of a child and one count of child enticement-expose sex organ.

Last week in court Parish's attorney, John Wallace, explained to Judge Daniel Bissett that while reviewing potential witnesses there was a conflict of interest. Wallace said he had previously represented two of the witnesses.

Court documents allege that Parish

sexually assaulted a child from age 10 to about 15. Parish would get the victim to use drugs and alcohol before the assaults, according to prosecutors, and reported being assaulted by Parish between 30 and 40 times over six years starting in 2003.



Parrish

The victim in the case was allowed to speak on Wallace's withdrawal. They stated the allegations took place over 20 years ago and that the case needs to be over so they can move on.

"I can't put this behind me until this is over," the victim said. "I deserve that after

20 years."

When Parish was charged in July 2023, his bond was initially set at \$400,000 but was later dropped to \$300,000. Parish has remained in custody the entire time. In 2023, the public defender's office was attempting to find counsel for Parish and initially made 262 contacts attempts before attorney Scott Ceman was appointed by Bissett.

Soon after this appointment, the first competency report was completed in the case and Parish was found not competent to stand trial. However, the competency report stated Parish could be competent at a future date if he receives treatment. That was in December 2023.

Parish was moved from the county jail to the Wisconsin Resource Center. Six

months later another competency report was filed in the case stating Parish was now competent to stand trial in the case.

The case appeared to be moving forward, but then in January 2025 Ceman withdrew from the case.

Online court records show over the next six months the state public defender's office made over 1,000 contacts to find Parish an attorney.

Wallace took over the case last August and was preparing for a three-day jury trial to start April 13. The trial has now been canceled.

If convicted on both accounts, Parish faces 40 years in state prison followed by up to 25 years of extended supervision.

A status conference is scheduled for May.

# Oshkosh man enters not guilty plea in child pornography case

Oshkosh Herald

An Oshkosh man remains in jail after police found child pornography and almost 100 firearms during a search warrant in February.

Shawn P. Black, 53, entered not guilty pleas to five counts of possession of child pornography through his attorney on Thursday afternoon. If convicted on all charges he faces a maximum of 75 years in prison, followed by up to 50 years of extended supervision.

Black sat in the Winnebago County Jail while attending the hearing via zoom. He is in custody on a \$20,000 cash bond.

Court documents allege Black's activity and interactions with child sexual abuse materials (CSAM) goes back to June 2024 when the Oshkosh Police Department was first informed by the National Center

for Missing and Exploited Children (NCMEC).

According to the criminal complaint, the NCMEC first informed OPD of Black's involvement with CSAM in June 2024. A similar incident occurred a year later in June 2025.



Black

OPD executed a search warrant on Black's apartment on Feb. 11. When officers located Black's laptop he allegedly admitted to having images and videos of girls between the age of 6 and 14. Black estimated at the time there were over 1,000 images and videos on his laptop.

The complaint outlines and details three videos police say they found on Black's

laptop. All three videos depicted prepubescent females, not wearing underwear, between the ages of 6 and 12.

Officers found girls underwear in Black's apartment, which Black said were for his sex doll that officers found in the

spare bedroom of the apartment. Police also located 91 firearms in the apartment with a large amount of ammunition.

Black is scheduled to be back in court on June 1 in front of Judge Bryan Keberlein for a potential plea date.

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# Dodge sentenced to five years in hit and run case



Oshkosh Herald

Drake Dodge enters the courtroom before his sentencing hearing on Friday while wearing his jail uniform and handcuffed in the front. The case received so much interest a second overflow courtroom with a video feed played Dodge's hearing.

Oshkosh Herald

On Oct. 5, 2024, around 2:55 a.m. Oshkosh police officers were dispatched to the 1400 block of New York Avenue for a call of a man lying in the middle of the street, possibly hit by a car.

That man was Ethan Lauders, who had been hit by a car driven by Drake J. Dodge. Lauders died as a result of the crash, and Dodge will now spend the next five years in prison for his role in Lauders' death.

Dodge learned his fate in a Winnebago County Courtroom on Friday afternoon, 18 months after the crash.

Judge Michael Gibbs sentenced Dodge to spend the next five years in state prison followed by five years of extended supervision for hit and run resulting in death. Gibbs also ordered Dodge to maintain absolute sobriety, and he must do 20 hours of community service for each of the five years he is on extended supervision.

Dodge was facing a potential 25-year bifurcated sentence with the first 15 years in state prison. Gibbs reviewed numerous letters in support of Dodge and Lauders leading up to Friday's hearing.

The courtroom was full and a second courtroom was opened with a video feed playing the hearing.

Assistant district attorney Anthony Prekop recommended a sentence of five years in prison followed by five years of extended supervision. Erik Johnson, Dodge's attorney, argued for probation.

Dodge said the night before the crash that he had two beers and four rum drinks. Prekop stated that number was likely inaccurate because he had information that Dodge had two mixed drinks and three shots at one bar alone.

Johnson countered that claim stating that college bars often water down drinks to sell more to students.

Johnson stated that whenever Dodge had been drunk before he would call for a ride or spend the night at someone's house and that this incident was the first time he had driven drunk.

Dodge had been of legal drinking age for five weeks before the crash.

Lauders' mother, brother and grand-

mother spoke at the hearing. They each said Ethan was a proud father, brother and son.

His mother said, "A little girl now has to grow up without a father."

Dodge admitted to police that he saw Lauders lying in the road and noticed he wasn't moving. He said he didn't get out of his vehicle to check on Lauders but instead left the scene and went to his parents' house.

After the crash, Prekop said that Dodge didn't call 911, but instead he called a friend. Then when he got home and again did not call 911 but instead looked up how to bend metal.

Dodge drove around Lauders' body instead of helping, Prekop said.

Prekop stated that Dodge's actions appear that he was aware he was drinking and driving. Therefore, instead of stopping to check on Lauders, Dodge drove away thinking the charge for fleeing the scene and turning himself in later would be a lesser charge than staying and getting caught drinking and driving.

The message for the community in this case, Prekop said, is that drinking and driving will not result in a better deal for someone who leaves the scene. Prekop said part of his recommendation of five years in prison comes from that being the minimum sentence for Operating While Intoxicating Homicide.

When Dodge got to his parents' house he checked the front of the car and noted a large dent on the front passenger side of the vehicle and the grill was broken.

Dodge waited until the next morning to tell his parents what had happened after he saw a media release from OPD stating the crash occurred and the victim was dead. Then Dodge went with his parents to the police station.

At that time, 8.5 hours after the crash, his preliminary blood test results were 0.00.

Lauders' grandmother asked Gibbs to hand down a sentence that would serve as a stiff warning to the community.

"If you hit and run, you will be dealt with harshly," she said.

She added, "Ethan was screwed out of 40 years."

## Author to host presentation looking into Wisconsin's history of dangerous gangsters

Oshkosh Herald

Wisconsin was once a playground for America's most dangerous gangsters, and their blood stained stories come roaring back to life during "Wisconsin's Gangster Past with Chad Lewis" from 6 to 7:30 p.m. April 23 in the library's lower level.

The presentation walks the path of some of America's most infamous gangsters as they turned Wisconsin into a personal crime vacation land.

Filled with stories of deadly bank robberies, explosive shootouts, brutal murders and daring kidnappings, the program

takes audiences on a wild ride to the locations where the state's gangster history happened.

Lewis is a researcher, author and lecturer who explores strange and unusual history.

With an academic background in psy-

chology, Lewis has spent nearly 30 years traveling the globe in search of bizarre stories and forgotten history, sharing his findings through books, presentations and media appearances.

The program is free and open to the public.

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# Dog fashion show slated to benefit homeless shelter dog

Oshkosh Herald

Day by Day Shelter and Becket's Restaurant are hosting a one-of-a-kind fashion show designed to raise money for Phoenix, the facility dog at Day by Day Shelter.

The family-friendly event features models from 143 Expressions, Periwinkle Poppy, Soire, The Turquoise Door, and Ubloom Florist and Gift Shop all accompanied by the most adorable four-legged pooches as they strut their stuff on the "cat walk."

New this year will be dogs from Un-leashed Manners working the runway as

they do tricks and model doggy fashions.

Pups on the Runway will take place from 5 to 8 p.m. April 23 at Becket's Atrium. There is a suggested donation of \$20 per adult and all kids are free. The first 300 adults will receive a copy of one of author Carmen Leal's books: "I Chose You, Imperfectly Perfect Rescue Dogs and their Humans" and "When Love Wags a Tail."

All proceeds will be donated to the Phoenix Fund for food, vaccinations, vet care, and emergency care if needed.

Phoenix is a purebred boxer trained by

Journey Together Service Dog based here in Oshkosh.

"Phoenix provides guests and staff with social interaction, recovery motivation, comfort, and a feeling of safety and support," executive director Molly Yatso-Butz said. "We know the value of having Phoenix as part of our team, but his veterinary care, food and other supplies have a price tag. We are grateful to have a portion of

his annual needs met through this fun and unique community event."

The event features a fashion and dog expo, a variety of raffle baskets, silent auction items and a 50/50 raffle. Well-behaved, leashed dogs are welcome.

Free refreshments will be provided by Becket's Restaurant, GameTime Sports, Rocky Rococo, The Taqueria, Parm, and Firehouse Subs.

## Church hosts interfaith scholarly discussion

Oshkosh Herald

First United Methodist Church of Oshkosh, in partnership with the Stephen & Lauren Brown Foundation, will host an interfaith scholarly conversation from 6 to 8:30 p.m. April 22 as part of the ongoing Questions of Faith series.

The event titled "How Do Jews and Christians Read Scripture Differently?" will feature two biblical scholars — one Jewish, one Christian — exploring the shared texts and divergent traditions that shape how each community understands the Bible.

Attendees will gain a fresh perspective on some of Scripture's most beloved and contested passages — discovering not only what these texts meant in their original contexts, but how centuries of Jewish and Christian interpretation have shaped their meaning.

One of the featured speakers is Amy-Jill Levine, who studies the New Testament in historical context. She is Rabbi Stanley M. Kessler Distinguished Professor of New Testament and Jewish Studies,

Hartford International University for Religion and Peace; University Professor of New Testament and Jewish Studies/Mary Jane Werthan Professor of Jewish Studies (Emerita), Vanderbilt University and a member of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences and Studiorum Novi Testamenti Societas.

Seth Whitaker holds a PhD in New Testament from the University of St Andrews and specializes in eschatology and the use of the Old Testament in the New Testament. He currently teaches at Oral Roberts University and Carey Theological College and serves as Episcopal campus minister at the University of Wisconsin-Oshkosh.

Levine will also present a public lecture titled "Jesus' Parables as Jewish Stories" examining familiar parables such as the Good Samaritan and the Prodigal Son within their historical setting. The lecture will be at 6 p.m. Tuesday.

Each of the events is at First United Methodist Church of Oshkosh, 700 W. Linwood Ave.



Photo from The Women's Fund of the Oshkosh Area Community Foundation

## Valuable insights

The Women's Fund of the Oshkosh Area Community Foundation has kicked off its Girls Granting Group, which is an initiative that welcomes junior and senior girls from four Oshkosh area high schools. Every two years organizers said this program provides valuable insights as well as a memorable experience for the participants as they experience philanthropy and learn how to become life-long philanthropists.



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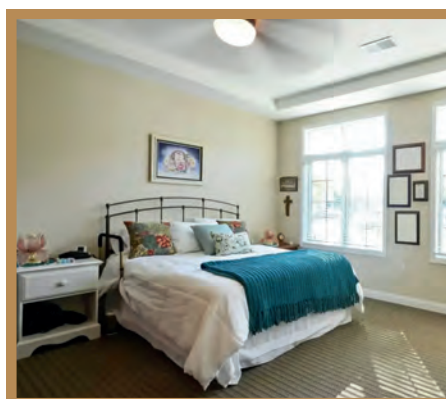
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# New look county board works through first meeting

By MaryBeth Matzek  
OSHKOSH HERALD

The Winnebago County Board of Supervisors — including its new 13 members — were set to get to work Tuesday night, just one week after the spring elections.

The board's 36 members were expected to gather at the courthouse for their planned orientation meeting, which provides incoming and returning board members with a look of what they can expect in the weeks and months to come.

The meeting's schedule included department heads providing brief overviews, a presentation from Corporation Counsel Mary Anne Mueller on ethics and a brief overview from County Executive Gordon Hintz of the county's capital improve-

ment plan and strategic improvement plan. Board members will also learn about the technology available to them and the board room's electronic voting process.

The meeting will prepare them for an organizational meeting on April 21 and their first working meeting on April 28.

The new board will have a full slate of issues to work through in the coming months.

The future of the 43-acre Winnebago Fox campus — the former University of Wisconsin-Oshkosh site in Menasha — continues to loom. When the campus closed in July, Winnebago County became its sole owner after buying out Outagamie County for \$1. Faith Technologies Inc. initially expressed interest in the property as a possible training location but earlier

this year declined to move ahead.

Currently, the Menasha School District operates a child care facility onsite while the county operates the Barlow Planetarium. The county is preparing to open the Communications Arts Center and field-house for rental use while looking at other options for the rest of the site.

Housing affordability and availability remain important issues in the county. The board created a \$3.5 million revolving loan fund (RLF) from Spirit Funds last December. In its strategic plan, the county set a goal to "ensure housing for all" and to build strong community support for the policies and investments to make that happen. The RLF would establish low-interest gap financing for housing development; the county would work with mu-

nicipalities to help projects move forward efficiently.

Winnebago County has a capital improvement plan to address the county's aging collection of buildings. At its meeting last month, the county board agreed to spend \$2.6 million from the Spirit Fund on a design and engineering plan to expand the county's highway building and relocate the facilities department to the same campus.

The new county board would need to include how to pay for the project in its next budget. 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.

## Election results

FROM PAGE 1

board, while challenger Jacob Wolf won the other seat on the board. Board member Kelly DeWitt did not seek reelection after one term on the board.

"I never thought I would run for any position, especially as important as our children's future," Wolf said after his victory. "I am incredibly grateful for all of your support, and I am ready to get to work for this district."

This is the second time Wolf has run for a seat on the board. He unsuccessfully campaigned for a seat that was up for election in 2025.

There was a 490-vote gap between Wolf and third place finisher Mallory Schnieder Birschbach. There were 18 votes separating Schnieder Birschbach and Paul Molitor.

## County board

All 36 Winnebago County Board of Supervisors seats, including those in the Herald's coverage area, were up for election and winners will now serve two-year terms.

In District 11, incumbent Tim Paterson defeated challenger Jacob Klaameyer by 119 votes. The District 12 contest went to incumbent Maribeth Gabert, who defeated challenger Toby Vanden Heuvel by 170 votes.

District 14 was the only county supervisor contest that held a primary. Incumbent Thomas Swan lost the primary, which led to challenger Rich Norenberg, 604 votes, defeating former County Executive Jon Doemel, 467 votes, in last week's election.

Just eight votes decided the District 17 race as challenger Caden McCartney defeated incumbent Billy Halbur.

In District 19, incumbent Josh Belville

## Election results

### Oshkosh Common Council

Jacob Amos.....	5,812
Alec Lefeber.....	5,261
Paul Esslinger.....	4,754
Logan Jungbacker.....	4,669
Tim Neubauer.....	4,634
Meredith Scheuermann.....	4,488

### OASD Board of Education

Barb Herzog.....	8,823
Jacob Wolf.....	6,716
Mallory Schnieder Birschbach.....	6,226
Paul Molitor.....	6,208

did not run for reelection, which led to Bob Poeschl defeating Micah Graf by 198 votes. Incumbent Brenda Pluchinsky defeated challenger Cameron Crandall in the District 23 race by 295 votes.

The District 24 contest was decided by 352 votes in favor of incumbent Andy Buck, who collected 753 votes. Buck's challenger, Lorenz Scherzer, gathered 401 votes. In District 31, Brian Noe defeated Glenn David Vogelsang by 141 votes. Noe will replace incumbent Ralph Harrison, who did not seek reelection.

Several districts in the region were uncontested. Casen Frassetto is the new supervisor for District 16, along with Cullen Bettin in District 22.

Six of the seats were won by the incumbent, including Steven Binder in District 13, Amber Lynn Gilbertson in District 15, James Ponzer in District 18, Tim Macho in District 20, John Hinz in District 21 and Karen Powers in District 25.

In the sole statewide race, Chris Taylor defeated Maria Lazar for a 10-year term on the Wisconsin Supreme Court. The results for the race in Winnebago County mirror the state results with Taylor receiving 58% of the votes in the county and 60% of the votes across the state.



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Select 24.5 oz



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6 pk, .5 Ltr Bottles  
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1.62 oz  
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 6-24 ct or 16.5 oz Pillsbury Cookie Dough <b>3.99</b>	 16 oz Daisy Dip <b>2.99</b>
 8 oz Food Club Parmesan <b>2.99</b>	 32 oz Wide Awake Creamer <b>3.29</b>
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 2/\$5 Cedar Crest pint Ice Cream or qt Sherbet	 10-12 oz Select Food Club Vegetables <b>4/\$5</b>
 5.02-6.4 oz Banquet Breakfast Links or Patties <b>1.99</b>	 10-14 oz Marie Calender's Pot Pies or Banquet Mega Bowls <b>2/\$7</b>
 4-6 ct Pillsbury Toaster Strudels or Scrambles <b>2/\$6</b>	 6-8 ct or 16 oz Food Club Garlic Bread, Texas Toast or Breadsticks <b>2/\$5</b>

 8 ct or 10-12 oz Frigo String Cheese <b>3.99</b> SALE PRICE WITH REWARDS -1.00 When you Buy 5 <b>2.99</b> FINAL COST
 1 Dozen Select Eggland's Best Large Eggs <b>3.99</b> SALE PRICE WITH REWARDS -1.00 When you Buy 5 <b>2.99</b> FINAL COST
 17.7-21.9 oz Luige's Pizza <b>6.99</b> SALE PRICE WITH REWARDS -1.00 When you Buy 5 <b>5.99</b> FINAL COST

### grocery essentials

 20 oz Select Butternut Bread <b>2/\$5</b>	 26.5 oz Nutella Hazelnut Spread <b>8.99</b>
 24 oz Brownberry Bread <b>2/\$7</b>	 4 pk Go-Go Squeeze Applesauce <b>2/\$6</b>
 Select 11.78-19.5 oz Oreo, Chips Ahoy!, Nutter Butter or Nabisco Snack Crackers <b>4.99</b>	 13-20.5 oz Select Post Cereal <b>3.99</b>
 8-13.8 oz Town House or Toasteds <b>3.49</b>	 46-48 oz Food Club Applesauce <b>2/\$5</b>
 30 oz Food Club Mayonnaise or Whipped Dressing <b>3.49</b>	 32 oz Food Club Ketchup <b>1.99</b>

WITH REWARDS All Items Are With Rewards

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 15-16 oz Manwich <b>2/\$3</b>	 6-8 pk Select Rice Krispies Treats, Nutri-Grain or Special K Bars <b>2/\$5</b>
 2.25 oz Maruchan Ramen <b>59¢</b>	 4 pk Snack Pack <b>1.69</b>

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 52 oz Florida's Natural Orange Juice, 24 oz Chobani Creamers 16-19 oz Louisa Toasted or Original Ravioli, 10.2-15 oz Coffee mate Creamer 10-24 pk Select Nature Valley or Fiber ONE or 10 ct Cups Wide Awake Coffee <b>3.99</b> FINAL COST	 4 ct Select Pretzella Burger Bun <b>2.99</b> FINAL COST	 41 oz Parkay Spread <b>4.29</b> FINAL COST
 12-40 pk Select Betty Crocker, Jamba or Mott's Fruit Snacks <b>4.99</b> FINAL COST	 20-40 pk Select Welch's Fruit Snacks <b>8.99</b> FINAL COST	 12 oz Heinz Gravy or 6 oz Stove Top Stuffing <b>1.99</b> FINAL COST
 8-16 oz Creamette Lasagna, Protein or Egg Noodles <b>1.69</b> FINAL COST	 6-10 oz Select Connie's Pizza, Screamin' Sicilian or Stromboli Singles <b>2.49</b> FINAL COST	 1 Dozen Select Eggland's Best Large Eggs, 8 ct or 10-12 oz Frigo String Cheese, 15.3-15.8 oz Kinder's BBQ Sauce or Marinades or 12-14 oz Kraft Deluxe or Velveeta Shells & Cheese <b>2.99</b> FINAL COST

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Beef  
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**5.49 lb**  
Boneless/Skinless Chicken Breast or Breast Tenders



**12.99 lb**  
Semi-Boneless Leg of Lamb



**1.79 lb**  
Family Pack Chicken Thighs or Drumsticks



**3.99 lb**  
Frozen Whole Ducks



**4.99**  
16 oz Select Jimmy Dean Roll Sausage



**4.49**  
12-24 oz Select Bob Evans Premium Side Dishes



**4.99**  
20-32 oz Select Clausen Pickles



**8.99**  
18-26 oz Select Rosina Italian or Homestyle Meatballs



**10.99**  
15 oz Wholey Shrimp & Surimi or Surimi Tray



**11.99 lb**  
Fresh Wild-Caught Cod Fillets



**8.99**  
9-14 oz Select Gorton's Breaded Fish or Shrimp



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Wholey Shrimp Trays



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## deli & bakery

\*Available Wednesday and Friday

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**13.99 lb**  
Deli Fried Cod



**8.99 ea**  
2 pc Cod Dinner



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**2/\$5**  
Fish Sandwich



**7.99 lb**  
Select Butterball Turkey Breast



**7.99 lb**  
Bavarian, Black Forest or Cherrywood Smoked Ham



**4.99 lb**  
Swiss Cheese



**2.99**  
7-9 oz Select Pine River Cheese Spreads



**4.99**  
5.3 oz Select Sartori BellaVitano Cheese



**2.99 lb**  
Chopped or Shredded Cole Slaw



**5.49 lb**  
Taco Dip



**5.99 lb**  
Cajun Krab or Tuna Salad



**6.99**  
Select Suzy's Quarter Cheesecakes



**4.49**  
4 ct Select Piggly Wiggly's Very Own Muffins



**5.99**  
8 inch Dutch Apple Pie



**2.99**  
12 ct Select Dinner Rolls or Petite Kaiser Rolls



**2.69**  
6 ct Hot Cross Buns

## beer, wine & spirits

**26.48**  
30 pk, 12 oz Cans Michelob Ultra

**LOWEST LEGAL RETAIL**

**30.99**  
1.75 ltr Bottle Tito's Vodka

**Tito's Bloody Mary**

**11.99**  
750 ml Bottle Kendall Jackson Chardonnay

**21.49**  
24 pk, 12 oz Cans or Bottles MGD, Miller Extra Light or Coors Banquet Miller Lite or Coors Light

**LOWEST LEGAL RETAIL**

**28.99**  
1.75 ltr Bottle Captain Morgan Spiced Rum

**12.99**  
750 ml Bottle Kim Crawford Sauvignon Blanc

**15.69**  
12 pk, 12 oz Cans or Bottles Corona or Modelo

**LOWEST LEGAL RETAIL**

**20.99**  
1.75 ltr Bottle Korbel Brandy

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

**17.43**  
30 pk, 12 oz Cans Pabst Light or Pabst Blue Ribbon

**AFTER \$2.50 INSTANT SAVINGS!**

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**17.99**  
1.75 ltr Bottle Kessler Whiskey

**14.99**  
750 ml Bottle La Marca Prosecco

# Discount grocery store gets new owners, new name

By Emme Hornung  
HERALD CONTRIBUTOR

South Main Street's 2nd Chance Goods is getting its own second chance as it becomes Moxon Market, with new owners Dakota and Noah Moxon.

While the Oshkosh-native brothers are making some slight changes to make it their own, they intend to keep the same philosophy as previous owners and, most importantly, keep it a place where community members can save money on groceries and essentials.

First opening its doors in 2015, Laurie and Kirt Schmidt founded 2nd Chance Goods, creating a warm, welcoming atmosphere based on faith and service all while providing the community with a dependable source for affordable groceries.

As the original business name would suggest, groceries and other goods are given a second chance on these shelves. When items like dried or canned goods, juices, and other shelf-stable foods are dented or damaged, or near expiration, big stores will send them to wholesalers, who then sell them at a discount to stores like the newly named Moxon Market.

The Moxon brothers are no strangers to Main Street, however. Dakota, 31, and Noah, 27, grew up just down the road.

"We used to come in here all the time when it was a bait and tackle shop, and were heartbroken when it closed down," Dakota said. "But then Kirt and Laurie came in, and it was like it was meant to be here. It helps out the community a lot. We lived two blocks down and came in all the time."

Three years ago, Dakota and Noah launched their lawn care and snow removal business, Moxon Brothers, which held their full attention as they built it to where it is today.

Two years ago, Laurie and Kirt put 2nd Chance Goods up for sale, but they waited until they had a buyer committed to their same mission. Now that the lawn care and snow removal business was stable, Dakota

got the ball rolling with just a simple text to Noah back in December.

"We knew Laurie and Kirt wanted to keep the same business rather than just selling the building and it becomes who knows what," Noah said. "It was originally Dakota's idea to get the place. I always had it rumbling around in my head, but I always thought someone would eventually buy it. And that somebody ended up being us."

"We did it because we knew this place had to stay in Oshkosh. We know the number of people that rely on it, and we didn't want to see it go," Dakota added.

The transition from running just Moxon Brothers to now also a grocery store has taught the brothers a lot, and they have more to learn, but thankfully an incredible support system is behind them.

"When we first bought it, I thought it was just going to be me and then Noah coming in after work to help stock shelves after hours," Dakota said. "But right after we closed, both sisters, Mom, Dad, my best friend, everyone has chipped in."

"Anything they can do. Stocking shelves, getting new ideas. Every time I come in after work, they've got a new device," Noah said.

"Our dad Rory is Facebook Marketplace king. He finds something good for the store, and we rearrange to make it work. Our nieces and nephews, they've got plenty of drawings on the chalkboard for some art. My mom and sisters are the organizational people," Dakota added.

Another member of the family, Hopper, a well-mannered three-legged dog, helps around the store by simply being a very good boy.

The new faces, name, and the eye-catching displays are the primary differences customers will notice when shopping at Moxon Market. Even longtime employee, Lisa, will still be a friendly face you can count on. "She is like family, and the customers to her are family. She is a staple of this place, and we are so glad she wanted



Submitted photo  
New owners Dakota and Noah Moxon purchased the discount grocery store from founders Laurie and Kirt Schmidt.

to stay on with the transition of ownership," Dakota said.

The business will also remain a resource people can rely on for affordable groceries as prices seem to be skyrocketing elsewhere.

"We're still ordering from the same places, prices are all the same," Dakota explained. "You could go to a grocery store and drop the same amount of money you'll spend here, but you'll get double if not triple the amount you'd get elsewhere. A lot of our customers have kids and families. If you're stressing about putting food on the table, this store is a godsend for some people."

Some customers may be put off at first by the idea of "secondhand" food goods, but the discount grocery store has always, and will continue to, guarantee quality.

"We have the same agreement Laurie and Kirt did: If you ever get something that is stale or bad, bring it back and we'll give you credit."

As Laurie and Kirt enter retirement, Dakota and Noah intend to stay close as they have the last 11 years.

"They're the best of the best people, and we hope to live up to their legacy to what they created," Dakota said. "I want to have a big impact on the community. ... We love people, we love God, we love family, and we love helping."

"That's just how we make it in the world," Noah added. "No one can make it by themselves, you can try, but it's going to be a real big pain in the butt."

Dakota, Noah, Hopper, and the whole family will be at the 1605 S. Main St. business for the grand reopening on April 25.



Submitted photo  
At Moxon Market, shoppers can find groceries and other good that are given a second chance to be sold.

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# Clothing initiative focuses on patient comfort, dignity

ThedaCare

When patients are rushed to the hospital for trauma or an emergency, their clothing may be damaged as a result of procedures related to their medical care. And if no family or friends are available to help provide replacement clothing, patients may sometimes leave the hospital with simple, serviceable attire.

Team members at ThedaCare recognized this and used the opportunity to help enhance this aspect of patient care.

“Some of our patients didn’t have acceptable clothing to wear after discharge,” said Amy Mitchell, Care Management Social Work Lead at ThedaCare. “We saw an opportunity to help address that.”

Mitchell led the creation of The daCARES Clothing Closet. The initiative “aims to ensure that all patients have access to essential clothing items, promoting dignity and comfort as they leave our hospitals,” she said.

“This initiative helps us better ensure that people in our care do not need to worry about something as fundamental as having clean, appropriate clothing when they transition from one of our hospitals,” Mitchell said. “The Clothing Closet supports our commitment to holistic patient care. It helps address our patients’ social and emotional needs, supplementing the care provided to treat their medical issues.”

The ThedaCare Family of Foundations supported the launch of ThedaCARES Clothing Closet with a \$25,000 grant. The funding helped with start-up costs for necessities such as brand new clothing including several sizes of undergarments, shirts, pants, sweatshirts, jackets, socks, sneakers and boots, storage bins, and resealable plastic bags used to create cloth-



Photo from ThedaCare

Amy Mitchell, Care Management Social Work Lead at ThedaCare, stands in front of storage bins filled with individual packets of clothing. The bins are part of ThedaCARES Clothing Closet, an initiative that aims to ensure that all patients have access to essential clothing items, promoting dignity and comfort as they transition from the hospital.

ing packages.

“We were able to support such a meaningful and impactful initiative thanks to the continued support of our generous donors,” said Barbara Beuscher, CFRE, Senior Vice President and Chief Philanthropy Officer, ThedaCare Family of Foundations. “When we are able to offer our patients clean, comfortable clothing when they leave one of our facilities because their own clothes may no longer be suitable, we’re helping them leave our hospitals with the dignity and the respect they deserve. This seemingly simple gesture is directly related to the Foundation’s ceaseless efforts to help improve the health and

well-being of people in the communities we serve.”

Access to the closet is generally initiated by team members.

“Our teams have been engaged and responsive in this,” Mitchell said. “They’re assessing each patient situation and offering potential assistance. For example, they may notice that a person has come to the emergency department for medical help in winter, clearly underdressed for the weather. When team members observe such a scenario, the hope is we’re acknowledging the situation and talking it through with the person to see if we can assist them with appropriate clothing.”

All 10 ThedaCare hospitals offer a Clothing Closet.

“The Clothing Closet represents more than shirts or shoes,” Mitchell said. “It highlights the belief that healing goes beyond medicine, that feeling warm, clean and seen can make an enormous difference during some of life’s hardest moments. With every clothing item given, we’re telling our patients, ‘You matter, you are cared for, you are not alone.’”

## UWO set to host Special Olympics state tournaments

Oshkosh Herald

More than 1,000 basketball and swimming athletes from across the state are expected to visit the University of Wisconsin-Oshkosh Friday through Sunday for the Special Olympics Wisconsin Spring Games.

The Spring Games will feature competition in Basketball Skills, 3-on-3 Half Court Basketball, Team Basketball and multiple Swimming events throughout the three-day slate.

An Opening Ceremony at the Kolf Center will welcome all athletes, coaches, family and fans at 5 p.m. Friday. Basketball Skills and 3-on-3 competition will tip off immediately afterward. Team Basketball and Swimming will begin competition at 8 a.m. and 12:30 p.m. Saturday, respectively.

Volunteers are needed for multiple roles, from timekeepers to awards. A link to register can be found at [shorturl.at/W2aHo](http://shorturl.at/W2aHo).

Complementing Spring Games, Special Olympics Wisconsin will host a series of health-focused activities. Performance Station (fitness and strength education) will kick off Friday night. Saturday offers include Special Smiles (oral health screenings and education), Healthy Hearing (audiology screenings), Strong Minds mental and emotional wellness), and FUNFitness (flexibility, strength, and balance assessment).

All SOWI Health events are provided free of charge thanks to grant and community funding, and all SOWI athletes — not just those competing at Spring Games — are welcome to attend all Healthy Athletes events.

For more information about Spring Games and Special Olympics Wisconsin, visit [SpecialOlympicsWisconsin.org](http://SpecialOlympicsWisconsin.org)

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 <b>\$4.99</b> Grab & Go Sushi	 <b>\$4.99</b> Mary's Organic B/S Chicken Thighs per package	 <b>\$5.49</b> OFC Sweet Bowtie Pasta Salad was \$9.95	 <b>2/\$6</b> Organicville Salad Dressings 8 oz was 7.29
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# Nine-run inning propels Wildcats to win over Ships

By Steve Clark  
OSHKOSH HERALD

When Manitowoc Lincoln scored three runs in the top of the fifth inning against Oshkosh West's Avarie Tritt, it would have been easy for the Wildcat ace to get a little frustrated.

The Ships didn't pound the ball in that inning, but a couple of seeing-eye single ground balls and a little bloop into no-man's land in the outfield was enough to put the runs on the board and tie the game with West.

As she walked into the dugout after getting out of the inning, Tritt – who was leading off the bottom of the inning – didn't feel frustration, though. She felt some motivation.

"Yeah, a little bit," she said with a bit of a smile.

Tritt opened West's fifth inning with a ringing double that sparked a nine-run outburst that carried the Wildcats to a 12-3 win in the nonconference game on Friday afternoon.

"I just had to concentrate and keeping things positive," Tritt said of her at bat to start the bottom of the fifth. "My teammates were cheering me on and just having that confidence we would be able to come back. Just staying strong and keeping on going on."

Once Tritt got on base, the rest of the Wildcats carried on the momentum.

Izzy Kramer followed with an RBI-single, advanced to second on a wild pitch and then scored on Alexia Monroe's base hit. Monroe later scored on a wild pitch.

Sam Frank's single and a walk to Lillie Peterson helped turn things over to the top of West's batting order and Colleen Fitzpatrick, Lia Lipinski and Tritt – bat-

ting for the second time in the inning – all had run-producing hits. Kramer also picked up her second hit of the inning to drive in another run while the final tally of the inning scored when Frank reached on a Ships' error.

"It's super important for us to come back and score after they did," West head coach Tim Kohl said. "It was nice for us to put a string together and get the runners going around the bases. Certainly, that boosts your confidence for the rest of the game getting a lead like that."

The Wildcats had taken the lead with a three-run third inning as Fitzpatrick led off the frame with a triple followed by an RBI-double from Lipinski and a single by Tritt. Lipinski scored on the back end of a double steal for the second run of the inning while Peyton Dorn – the courtesy runner for Tritt – later scored on a sacrifice fly by Monroe.

Lipinski finished 4-for-5 in the game to pace the West offense, while Fitzpatrick had three hits – including two triples – and Tritt finished 3-for-3 with a walk.

Kramer also added a pair of hits in the game as the top five batters in the West lineup combined to go 13-for-20 with five extra-base hits, seven RBIs and combined to score 10 of the team's 12 runs.

"Everybody is looking for that and that's something we have expectations for for those girls," Kohl said. "They have to do it on the spotlight on the big diamond when the big girls are pitching. That's going to be the difference in how we play this year."

A day earlier, things didn't go West's way as the Wildcats were held to one hit by Appleton North's Charlotte Radke.



Photo by Jim Koepnick

Oshkosh West's Avarie Tritt threw a complete game with five strikeouts in a win over Manitowoc Lincoln last Friday.

SEE **West softball** ON PAGE 25



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## Prep sports roundup

### SOFTBALL

#### Wildcats double up Fond du Lac in FVA win

A four-run fourth inning carried Oshkosh West to a six-run lead and the Wildcats held on for a 6-3 win over Fond du Lac in the team's Fox Valley Association opener last week.

Izzy Kramer and Sam Frank each finished with two hits in the game for West, while Colleen Fitzpatrick and Avarie Tritt each drove in two runs in the game. Tritt had a home run in the game for West.

Alexia Monroe and Skylin Quella also drove in runs for the Wildcats.

Tritt also got the win in the circle, scattering eight hits and a walk while striking out two. She allowed all three runs in the bottom of the sixth after West had built a 6-0 lead.

Also last week, the Wildcats fell to Appleton North, 5-0.

Tritt had the lone hit in the game for the Wildcats.

Kramer struck out four in four innings, allowing two runs to take the loss.

#### Reichenberger's walk-off lifts Knights

Elliana Reichenberger hit a two-run home run in the bottom of the seventh inning to lift Lourdes Academy to a 14-12 win at home against Horicon last Tuesday.

Reichenberger finished 3-for-5 at the plate in the game, while also starting the contest in the circle and striking out five over four innings.

Zella Tidemanson added a 4-for-5 night at the plate with a pair of RBIs with Sar-



Photo by Andy Ratchman

Lourdes Academy's Elliana Reichenberger gets ready to stomp on home plate after hitting a game-winning two-run home run in the bottom of the seventh inning against Horicon.

ah Hafemeister and Brynn McKone each chipping in two hits and three RBIs in the win.

The Knights trailed 9-2 entering the bottom of the fourth inning, but scored six runs in that inning to narrow the margin and then scored six runs in the next three frames – capped by Reichenberger's blast – to rally for the win.

Tidemanson got the win in relief.

The Knights also picked up an 18-0 nonconference win over Berlin last week, with Reichenberger and Tidemanson each finishing with three hits in the game. Reichenberger added a home run and six RBIs in the game, while Tidemanson drove in a pair of runs and struck out 10 to earn the win.

Halle Nebl chipped in a pair of RBIs for the Knights while Alejandra Feuerhelm also drove in a run.

The Knights also dropped an 11-6 decision to Hilbert last week, despite Reichenberger going 3-for-4 at the plate with a grand slam. She drove in all six runs for the Knights.

### BASEBALL

#### Knights sweep Trailways twinbill

Lourdes Academy picked up a pair of wins last week, sweeping a doubleheader from Dodge/land/Hustisford. The Knights won the first game 6-1, while taking the second 12-4.

Lourdes scored three runs in the top of the seventh inning in the first game to help seal the win behind a strong outing on the mound from Eli Halla.

Halla went the distance allowing just four hits and a walk, while striking out nine. He blanked Hustisford/Dodge/land for six innings before allowing a run in the bottom of the seventh.

Michael Santiago went 3-for-4 with a pair of doubles, while Brady Bauer drove in three runs and finished with two hits in the game.

In the nightcap, the Knights rallied for 10 runs in the top of the seventh, taking the lead on Halla's two-out, two-run single. Lourdes Academy trailed 4-0 after three innings and were down 4-2 entering the seventh.

Santiago finished 2-for-3 in the game, while Halla chipped in two hits and drove in three runs. Nolan Gibson added two hits and reached base four times, while also driving in three runs in the win.

JT Schultz got the win in relief for the Knights, striking out five in four shutout innings.

On Saturday, the Knights fell to undefeated Omro 11-0 in six innings, tallying four hits in the game.

The Foxes were aided by four Knights' errors and nine walks in the game.

#### Wildcats rout Lomira for nonconference win

Evan Johnson finished 4-for-5 with a pair of doubles and three RBIs to lead Oshkosh West to a 15-3 victory over Lomira in a nonconference game on Friday.

Wyatt Martin chipped in a pair of hits and two RBIs, while Caleb Lee drove in four runs in the game and Avery Mosloski had a pair of RBIs in the victory.

Kenden Todd pitched all five innings in the win, scattering five hits while allowing just one earned run. He finished with a pair of strikeouts.

The Wildcats were coming off a 14-4 loss to Appleton North on Thursday.

Johnson was 3-for-4 to pace West in the win, while Nolan Cheever, Noah Muehrer and Parker Jungwirth each drove in runs in the game.

Also last week, West fell to Fond du Lac 7-1, with Cheever and Cade Heiman collecting the only hits in the game for the Wildcats. Heiman also picked up the lone RBI.

#### Spartans drop pair of FVA contests

Oshkosh North couldn't hold off Hortonville as the Polar Bears rallied for two runs in the bottom of the seventh to squeeze past the Spartans, 6-5, last Thursday.

North held leads of 1-0 and 4-1 before taking a 5-4 lead into the bottom of the seventh, only to have Hortonville pull out the win.

Jackson Anderson and Brayden Frank had the only two hits in the game for North, which benefitted from eight walks to score their runs.

Anderson also allowed just one unearned run with eight strikeouts on the mound but did not figure in the decision. All six runs Hortonville scored were unearned as North committed five errors in the game.

Earlier in the week, the Spartans lost 6-0 to Kimberly with Griffin Resop picking up the only hit in the game for North.

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# Experienced Wildcats look to challenge again in rugged FVA

Oshkosh Herald

Led by a pair of returning first-team all-Fox Valley Association selections, Oshkosh West looks to once again be a contender for a high finish in the talent-laden conference.

Seniors Ava Pamer and Elaina Butz both return to lead the Wildcats, who lost only one conference match a year ago and finished tied for third in the league. Pamer is a speedy forward who was one of the Wildcats top scorers, while Butz helps anchor a stingy defense that allowed less than a goal per game last year.

West will look to Emma Last and Sophie Kalka to handle much of the time in goal this season, while Ellie Trebiatowski could also step into the net while also playing in the field.

“Our defense will be a great strength

again for us this season,” commented head coach Abe Nelson. “Credit to our defense and goalkeeping obviously, but it starts up with the forwards and midfielders relentlessness to closing down the ball and willingness to get stuck in to win it.”

Being one of the top defensive teams in the conference will likely allow the Wildcats to challenge the top teams in the league and be in the hunt to earn a top finish.

West has never won an FVA title in girls soccer, but are a regular finisher at the top of the standings.

“We finished in the top 3 the past two years, a couple points off the top,” commented Nelson. “We are looking to be competitive and the goal is always to win the conference with a team that has the talent and work ethic like this.”

In addition to a strong returning crew, Nelson is looking for sophomores Kam Stauffacher and Taytum Shufelt and fresh-

man Brookelyn Kufel to contribute this season. Stauffacher plays in the midfield, while Shufelt and Kufel are forwards.

## Oshkosh North

The Spartans will return some key pieces from last year’s squad and will look to build a solid foundation under head coach Nicole Palmquist.

Leading the list of returning players are a pair who earned honorable mention all-FVA honors a year ago in senior Ava Duran and sophomore Emaly Duran.

Ava Duran has filled multiple roles for the Spartans during her career but will help anchor the defense in the middle of the back line for North. Emaly Duran burst onto the scene as a freshman last year and was one of the leading scorers for the Spartans.

Also returning for the Spartans will be senior goalkeeper Olivia Dennis, who has helped lower the team’s goals against and

Palmquist is hoping that trend continues this season.

“We have added a few new faces to our roster this season. Joining us are a few seniors as well as freshmen and sophomores but we are looking forward to seeing what they can bring to the team,” commented Palmquist. “We lost a couple of key seniors last season but still have a solid group with soccer experience. I am hoping our team chemistry can start us out on the right foot having players who have been together for a few seasons.”

Palmquist is also hoping the team can improve on the offensive end this season.

The Spartans scored just three goals in FVA play last season and she is hoping to add a few more this year.

“We hope (the newcomers) can add a spark on the offensive end and increase

SEE **Soccer preview** ON PAGE 25

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# Oshkosh North bringing deep, veteran team to the course

Oshkosh Herald

Oshkosh North's golf team could be on the verge of one of its best seasons in a while.

With the bulk of last year's varsity lineup returning, including a sectional qualifier, head coach Bryan Dorn hopes to build on the progress the program made last year.

"We had a lot of close matches last year that ended up in losses but we lowered our team score to the point where we are competing with the top teams," commented Dorn. "I am looking forward to seeing the team breakthrough in those matches this year."

The Spartans also had a close call at the WIAA Division 1 regional meet where they nearly advanced as a group to sectionals. North finished fifth at the tournament, just 11 shots behind a strong Neen-

ah squad.

One of the players on that group did compete at sectionals and returns to be one of the leaders of this year's group. Sophomore Wesley Loewe tied for 13<sup>th</sup> at regionals to earn a sectional trip and joins senior Owen Weber at the top of the Spartans lineup this season to give North a solid 1-2 punch.

"Wesley did an awesome job of putting the work and time to his golf game that showed improvement throughout the season. He got hot at the end of the season and became one of our top golfers," commented Dorn. "I am looking forward to seeing Owen and Wesley challenge other top golfers this year."

Also returning from last year's postseason squad will be senior Jack Anderson and sophomore Brady Anderson.

North also brings back senior Sullivan Snow and junior Clayton Poquette with varsity experience, while sophomores

Dillon Gorski and Luke Davis along with freshman Harrison Loewe could also compete for varsity spots.

"This will be the deepest team that I have had at Oshkosh North," commented Dorn, who has coached at the school for 13 years. "I feel there is competition for varsity spots that will make them all better. The goal is to find the top five golfers that will give us the best chance at our conference tournament and regionals."

## Lourdes Academy

With a deep and talented roster, Lourdes Academy will once again take aim at being one of the top teams in the Trailways Conference and will hope to make some waves when the postseason hits.

Leading the list of returning players will be a pair of juniors in Jackson Buttke and Lucas Neuens.

Buttke was the Player of the Year in the Trailways North last year and a sectional qualifier, while Neuens has shown to be one of the top players in the conference when healthy and is coming off a knee injury in basketball. Neuens missed out on a playoff for a sectional spot by one shot last spring.

"We should be very competitive with Jackson back and I know state is in his windshield," commented head coach Greg McLaughlin. "We'll see how it scores out with the rest of the team."

Also returning from last year's postseason lineup will be sophomore Ian Simmons.

Other returning players will be junior

Walker Dlugolenski – one of the top players on the junior varsity team last year – and sophomore Adrian Tostenson.

Adding to the depth will be junior Henry Achterberg and freshmen Liam Buttke, Henry Quandt, Vincent Fett, Dominic Goel and Charlie Dlugolenski.

"Top to bottom there is real good competition," commented McLaughlin. "We're hoping for the best finish in conference."

## Oshkosh West

The Wildcats return a pair of golfers who competed at the regional meet last season and will hope to build on the success the group had last year.

Sophomore Lincoln Houle and junior Tyler Moderson both return to the lineup from last year from a team that finished seventh at the Division 1 regional meet.

Other returning players competing for varsity spots will be junior Tyler Mellgren and sophomores Billy Berg and Eli Gelhar, while sophomores Ray Snyder and Ryan Borgmann could also find their way into the varsity lineup.

"We definitely improved as the season went on last year and are looking to build on that. This group of kids just love to golf and get out on the course wherever they can," commented coach Nick Brandl. "There's no reason we can't finish in the top half of the conference this year, but a lot of that will depend on course management and decision making. We are definitely excited for this season."

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**STATE OF WISCONSIN  
WINNEBAGO COUNTY  
CIRCUIT COURT**  
Case No. 26CV192  
Code No. 30301

Kevin Michael Leiske  
XYZ Unknown Defendant  
Defendants.

### PUBLICATION SUMMONS 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. Within 40 days after April 1, 2026, you must respond with a written demand for a copy of the complaint. The demand must be sent or delivered to the court, whose address is Clerk of Courts, Winnebago County Courthouse, 415 Jackson St, PO Box 280, Oshkosh, WI 54903-2808 and to Justin J. Bates, Plaintiff's attorney, whose address is PO Box 1473, Wausau, WI 54402. You may have an attorney help or represent you. If you do not demand a copy of the complaint within 40 days, the court may grant judgment against you for the award of money or other legal action requested in the complaint, and you may lose your right to object to anything that is or may be incorrect in the complaint. A judgment may be enforced as provided by law. A judgment awarding money may become a lien against any real estate you own now or in the future, and may also be enforced by garnishment or seizure of property.

Dated: March 24, 2025  
Bates Legal Group, LLC  
Attorneys for Plaintiff  
By: /s/ Justin J. Bates  
Justin J. Bates  
State Bar No. 1066128

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Runs: April 1 2026, April 8, 2026 and April 15, 2026.

WNAXLP

**STATE OF WISCONSIN,  
CIRCUIT COURT  
WINNEBAGO COUNTY**

**IN THE MATTER OF THE  
NAME CHANGE OF:  
Keilani Raquel Mateo  
By (Petitioner) Ana Alicia  
Mateo Bustos  
Notice of Name Change  
Hearing  
Case No. 26CV329**

### NOTICE IS GIVEN:

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

From:  
First – Keilani  
Middle – Raquel  
Last – Mateo  
To:  
First – Keilani  
Middle – Rachel  
Last – Hernandez Mateo  
Birth Certificate:  
First – Keilani  
Middle – Raquel  
Last – Mateo

This Petition will be heard in the Circuit Court of Winnebago County, State of Wisconsin: Judge's Name: Scott C. Woldt Place: Winnebago County Courthouse, 415 Jackson Street, Oshkosh, WI 54901 Date: May 13, 2026 Time: 8:45 AM

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

### NOTICE TO NEWSPAPER AND PETITIONER:

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

**BY THE COURT:  
DATE SIGNED: March 30,  
2026  
Winnebago County Circuit  
Court Judge, Branch II  
Runs: April 8, 2026, April 15,  
2026 and April 22, 2026**

WNAXLP

## REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL TO RECONSTRUCT PORTIONS OF CROSS ROAD

The Town of Winneconne is accepting cost estimates to reconstruct portions of Cross Road between County Rd. G and Breezewood Ln., totaling approximately 1 mile. Please provide a detailed description of the work that will be done and submit the proposal by April 24, 2026. For inquiries, contact Town of Winneconne Superintendent of Highways Russ Volp at 920-718-0725.

Send your proposal to:

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Published April 15 and April 22 2026  
WNAXLP

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# Love of the game inspires Lourdes Academy's Slusarski

By Tim Froberg  
HERALD CONTRIBUTOR

Parker Slusarski is a seasoned band member who can make sweet sounds with his alto saxophone.

He's even smoother on the diamond.

The slick-fielding Slusarski is one of the top players for the Lourdes' Academy baseball team.

He anchors the Knights' infield at short-stop and is a tough out for opposing pitchers as Lourdes' leadoff hitter. Slusarski's powerful arm is just as valuable. He's the team's mound ace.

"Parker is a great player for a few different reasons," said Lourdes/Valley Christian coach Cole Boge. "He has great hands and he's a competitor which makes him a strong presence on the mound and in the box."

Slusarski is a two-sport athlete at Lourdes who was a starting guard for the Knights' basketball team.

But baseball is clearly his sport of choice. He's a fourth-year varsity player who is a vocal team leader and communicator. Slusarski has multiple tools as a player, but the intangibles he provides - strong leadership and a keen knowledge of the game - might be even more impactful for the Knights.

"I've been playing for such a long time and feel like I know the game really well because I've been in a lot of different situations," said Slusarski. "We have some freshmen playing this year and I try and help them with just knowing how the game needs to be played."

"I would say that knowledge of the game and just being a leader are my biggest roles on this team. You need to show up every day for the guys, bond with them and let them have fun. I've always understood the game well and I just love helping people and sharing my thoughts with them on what to do."

Slusarski's high baseball IQ gives him a coach-on-the-field type of presence.

"Parker understands the game which gets him into situations and scenarios to succeed," Boge said.

Slusarski is a contact hitter who makes good decisions at the plate and finds ways to get on base. He's played middle infield - either shortstop or second base - most of his baseball career and is fluid in the field with a strong arm.

"As a shortstop, you always want the ball hit to you," said Slusarski, who bats and throws right-handed. "As a shortstop,



Photo by Andy Ratchman

Lourdes Academy senior Parker Slusarski is a two-sport standout who is a key player and leader for the Knights' baseball team this spring.

you're the leader of the infield and I've always liked that."

As a pitcher, Slusarski's focus is throwing strikes. He generally pitches to contact and throws two-and-four-seam fastballs along with a change-up and knuckle curve.

"The two-seam and the knuckle curve are my two best pitches," he said. "I just try to let my fielders do the work because I

have so much trust in them."

Slusarski has been playing baseball since his tee-ball days at the age of five. His father, Jeff, played baseball in high school and coached several of Parker's youth league teams. Parker's sister, Ella, played varsity softball for the Lourdes' program as a third baseman.

"My sister and I would always throw the

## Senior Spotlight



ball in the back yard and she was always helping me with the game," Slusarski said. "But my dad was my biggest influence. He was always pushing and motivating me to be the best that I can. I thank him every day for that. It wasn't always easy, but he made me the player I am today."

Baseball is his favorite sport, but Slusarski held his own on the basketball court as a combo guard who played both point and wing spots.

"Basketball was a great experience for me," he said. "I played with guys from different grades that I hadn't played with before and hadn't built a bond with. But we really built a tight bond the last few years that made us inseparable."

"My role was basically to drive and kick and set things up for others."

Slusarski has been more than just an athlete at Lourdes. He's a high honors student who carries a 3.86 grade-point average.

"I give my mom (Renee) credit for that," Slusarski said. "She's always stayed on me about academics and has helped me study. I wouldn't get high grades if not for her."

Slusarski has also been a school band member since the fifth grade, playing the alto sax.

"I've had a great teacher (Michelle Sorenson) who has always been there for us," said Slusarski. "I've always liked playing the sax and have always been pretty good at it. I started band because I had some friends that were doing it and we just kept coming back every year."

Slusarski will attend college next year at the University of Wisconsin-La Crosse where he is considering a business-related major. He doesn't plan to pursue athletics, meaning that he's in the final weeks of his competitive sports career.

"There is still a little sliver in me that still wants to play, but this is probably it," Slusarski said. "Sports has been great for me. Just all the relationships I've made over the years."

"I've been playing with some of these guys since I was nine. They're not just friends to me. They're brothers. Being able to play ball with them has really meant a lot to me."

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**Prep roundup**

FROM PAGE 20

Keegan Kinzfohl struck out four in 4 2/3 innings on the mound but surrendered four runs in the third and another in the five as the Papermakers built a lead and held on for the win.

**SOCCER**

**Wildcats pick up win over Homestead**

Oshkosh West notched its first win of the season last Thursday, scoring a 2-0 victory on the road against Homestead.

Ava Pamer and McKenzie Blair each scored in the match for the Wildcats, while Riley Mugerauer registered an assist in the win.

Oshkosh West held the Highlanders to just two shots on goal.

Earlier in the week, West opened its season with a 1-0 loss at Green Bay Preble with Emma Last tallying seven saves for the Wildcats.

**Spartans roll past Green Bay East**

Gabi Pereira Da Silva and Ava Duran each notched two goals as Oshkosh North collected a 6-0 win over Green Bay East last Thursday.

Maya Marquardt opened the scoring for the Spartans, while Emaly Duran also tallied a goal in the game for Oshkosh North.

Pereira Da Silva, Quetzi Burmeister and Madrona Larson Poeschl each added assists in the game.

Earlier in the week, the Spartans fell to Manitowoc Lincoln, 3-0, despite getting eight saves in goal from Olivia Dennis.

**Lourdes/Valley scores shutout victory**

Three different players scored for the Knights as they secured a 3-0 win over Amherst last week.

Abby Mroczkowski, Avianna Wihlm and Ellie Koch each scored a goal for the Knights, who led 2-0 at halftime. Hadasah Fe Gutierrez Kuhaupt and Evelyn Heizen were credited with assists.

**GOLF**

**Spartans' Weber earns medalist honors**

Oshkosh North's Owen Weber fired a 75 at Lake Breeze Golf Course to earn medalist honors by one shot at the Lourdes Invitational on Thursday.

Weber shot a 38 on the front nine and a 37 on the back nine to finish one shot ahead of Little Chute's Shaymus Smith for medalist honors. He was one of only three golfers to break 80 at the invite.

North finished second in the final team standings, carding a round of 335 to finish four shots behind St. Mary Catholic. Wrightstown was third with a score of 338.

Oshkosh West placed seventh in the 14-team invite with a score of 350, one shot ahead of Lourdes Academy/Valley Christian.

The Wildcats' Billy Berg joined Weber in the top five, finishing in a tie for fifth place with an 82.

In addition to Weber's round, the Spartans got an 84 from Wesley Loewe and 88s from Brady Anderson and Jack Anderson to round out their scoring golfers.

Lincoln Houle added an 87 for West with Eli Gelhar notching a 90 and Carter Kufel finishing with a 91.

Jackson Buttke led the Knights with an 85, followed by Liam Buttke with an 87, Lucas Neuens with an 89 and Ian Sim-

mons with a 90.

**Knights take first at Trailways mini-meet**

The Lourdes Academy/Valley Christian golf team turned in the four lowest scores to take first at the Trailways Conference mini-meet held at Lake Breeze Golf Course last Tuesday.

Freshman Liam Buttke led the way for the Knights earning medalist honors with a round of 40.

Jackson Buttke finished one stroke back in second place with Ian Simmons taking third with a 42 followed by Henry Actherberg in fourth place with a 44.

**TENNIS**

**Valley/Lourdes opens season with win**

The Valley Christian/Lourdes Academy opened the season by pulling out a 4-3 win over Fox Valley Lutheran on the road last week.

Valley/Lourdes netted wins at the top two singles flight from Danny Kunde and Brady Day, respectively.

Doubles wins were earned from Dawson Miller and Sam Vilski at the No. 1 flight and from the No. 3 pairing of Emmett Getz and Will Robson.

**Spartans tripped by Menasha**

Oshkosh North dropped a nonconference dual meet to Menasha, 6-1, last week.

The Spartans' lone win came from the No. 1 doubles team of Kallum Larson-Poeschl and Luka Kovaceic who earned a straight-set win in their match.

**BOYS TRACK**

**Wildcats post relay win at Franklin invite**

The 400-meter relay team of Dylan McDonald, Noah Cardinal, Carson Choinski and Carter Schmidt raced to a win in the 400-meter relay to lead Oshkosh West at the Franklin Invitational last Friday.

The relay victory was the lone win on the day for the Wildcats who placed 13th among the 15 teams.

Colden Searles was the top individual finisher for the Wildcats, tying for third place in the pole vault, while Cameron Crowe added a fifth place in the 1,600 meters.

McDonald in the 100 meters, Choinski in the 200 meters and Juan Collins in the 800 meters each placed seventh, while taking eighth for the Wildcats was Crowe in the 800 meters, Dominic Moore in the 3,200 meters and Liam Otterson in the high jump.

West was also eighth in the 3,200-meter relay.

**GIRLS TRACK**

**Triebold leads Wildcats at invitational**

Kylie Triebold put up a strong showing to lead Oshkosh West at the Franklin Invitational last Friday.

Triebold won both the 200 meters and 400 meters for the Wildcats, who placed eighth among the 18 teams at the meet.

Kayana Turner tied for second in the long jump, while Camille Phillips added a pair of top-five finishes, taking third in the 300-meter hurdles and fourth in the 100-meter hurdles.

Coraline Strebelinski was fourth in the 3,200 meters and Abigail Tercha place eighth in the 800 meters, with the West foursome of Tercha, Strebelinski, Hayllie Hullar and Kate Elliott took fourth in the 3,200-meter relay.



Photo by Jim Koepnick

Skylin Quella lays down a sacrifice bunt in the second inning against Manitowoc Lincoln on Friday.

## West softball

FROM PAGE 19

Tritt said the team was focused on not having a repeat performance against the Ships.

"We really wanted this game," Tritt said. "We had to have the confidence to do it. We came in strong trying to get our hits right away."

Kohl admitted he was a little anxious entering the game after the loss to the Lightning and the way the bats were kept quiet.

"I was a little concerned how we would come back," Kohl said. "Fortunately we hit the ball like we are supposed to and put some runners on and kept the pressure on

which was something that we needed. Hopefully that will be something that will carry on because we have some big games coming up."

Tritt ended up scattering seven hits in the game – four of which came in the Ships' three-run inning – while walking one and striking out six.

She retired Manitowoc Lincoln in order in four of the seven innings and didn't allow a baserunner after the Ships scored their runs in the fifth.

"She's got to stay tough like that because she is going to get the big games," Kohl said. "She's not a strikeout pitcher but she will make them put the ball on the ground or up in the air and that's when she's successful."

## Soccer preview

FROM PAGE 21

our goal total," commented Palmquist. "Overall, we are looking to increase our goals and find the back of the net a few more times than we have in the past. We want to finish .500 on the season and continue to decrease our goals against average."

### Lourdes/Valley

Knights' head coach Abraham Gutierrez has a simple goal for his squad entering the 2026 season.

He wants Lourdes/Valley to climb back to the top of the Flyway Conference.

After winning the conference title in 2023 and finishing tied for third in a tight race in 2024, the Knights slipped a little bit in the standings last year but are looking to climb back to the top of the league.

"Our mission this year is simple but

bold. We want that conference title back in our trophy case," commented Gutierrez. "I am incredibly proud to lead a group of young women who embody the spirit and determination of our two schools."

The Knights will have a host of returning players to build around, starting with seniors Aoife Mains and Younhee Isom who will bring a strong sense of leadership to the squad.

Juniors Hadassah Gutierrez Kuhaupt, Ellie Koch and Rachel Freund along with sophomores Evelyn Heinzen, Julia Miller and Amy Willis also return and will give the Knights a strong backbone for the team and who know what it takes to win in the Flyway Conference.

Gutierrez is also looking for newcomers Alex Douglas, Avianna Wilhm and Abby Mroczkowski to contribute to the success of the squad.

In goal, the Knights will return Miller as the primary goalkeeper but Gutierrez also expects Raya Fisher to see time in net.

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Photo from Oshkosh West High School

# Pod opening stresses jail OT budget

By MaryBeth Matzek  
OSHKOSH HERALD

It is only April, and the Winnebago County Sheriff's Office is already feeling a "crunch" in its overtime budget, according to Sheriff John Matz.

As of the first week in April, 42% of the jail overtime budget has been spent for the year, he said.

The main reason is C-pod, which has not been in regular use at the Winnebago County Jail since 2021, remains open due to high overall jail counts, said Matz, who made his comments about the overtime budget April 6 during the Judiciary & Public Safety Committee meeting.



Matz

The jail began opening C-pod in 2025 at times to deal with rising prisoner numbers. The original plan was to reopen the pod permanently this July once six new deputies are hired but it has been open full-time since February.

For the two weeks prior to the April 6 meeting, the average jail count was above 270 daily.

C-pod remains open because the jail continues to see an increase in the number of inmate bookings.

In 2025, the jail saw 4,823 bookings. At its current pace, Matz said the 2026 number could top 5,800.

"We're hoping with the new positions we can help make up for some of the OT, but we'll have vacations to cover," he said. "This is an FYI at what we're looking at for the fall and the upcoming budget for next year."

With C-pod remaining open, Matz said he planned to ask for four more deputies in next year's county budget.

With the six deputies starting this year and if the jail gets four more next year, that will equal the 10 who were laid off in 2021 when C-pod was originally closed due to a declining jail population.

Matz said there have been years when the department has come close to exceeding its overtime budget but has managed to stay under. He said he hopes that's the same this year.

"We hope we can get the six deputies hired on to start on July 1," Matz said. "Recruiting isn't always easy, but we hope to begin starting interviews next week."

## Top finisher

The Oshkosh West High School Forensics team placed sixth in Division I at the WFCFA state tournament Saturday at Neenah High School. The team brought home an award from state for the first time in nearly two decades. The team will be competing this weekend at the WISDAA Festival in Madison as its season wraps up.

## Student project highlights green space benefits

Oshkosh Herald

Oshkosh North High School junior Austin Housworth will be hosting an Arbor Day event from 1:30 to 2 p.m. April 24 at the Oshkosh North High Conservancy.

Travis Derks from the Oshkosh City Parks Department has partnered with

Housworth, a student in the Communities Program, to enhance this green space. The open-to-the-public event will highlight recent work completed in the nature area, along with tree planting tips.

Those planning to attend should park in the west parking lot and meet by the de-

attention basin.

"The lessons learned, experiences had, connections made, and the peace and tranquility of the forest have the potential to make a huge difference in someone's life," Derks said. "At the very least, it can provide the community a place to reconnect with nature."

Over the last three years, the Communities Program has partnered with the Oshkosh Parks Department to assist them in turning this area into 12 acres of learning.

Housworth is excited about the momentum of this project. He said, "The green space around North High offers a great opportunity for a mental health break."

## Lakefly Book Fair set to feature regional authors

Readers of all ages are invited to attend the Lakefly Book Fair sponsored by Oshkosh Public Library from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. May 2 at the Oshkosh Convention Center.

The free, family-friendly event will feature more than 50 regional authors showcasing and selling their books. Attendees will have the opportunity to meet writers, explore a wide variety of genres and discover their next favorite read.

Families are encouraged to visit the Kids Corner, where story times will take place from noon to 2 p.m.

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# Obituaries

## Ronald Schmutzer

Ronald "Ron" Schmutzer, age 89, of Oshkosh, Wisconsin, passed away peacefully on Monday evening, April 6, 2026.

Ron was born in Berlin, Wisconsin, to Ed and Hattie Schmutzer. He graduated from Oshkosh High School in 1952 and went on to build a life defined by hard work, loyalty, and quiet generosity.

In his younger years, Ron worked as a pinsetter at the Rec, delivered milk, and later did maintenance work for the Northwestern. He eventually found his long-term career at Wald Wire, where

he proudly worked for 37 years, retiring as a respected foreman. His strong work ethic and steady presence left a lasting impression on those who worked alongside him.

Ron truly enjoyed the simple pleasures in life. He loved fishing, tending to his tomato garden, and spending time near the water. These moments brought him peace and happiness throughout the years. Later in life, he became a devoted and compassionate caretaker for his mother and his brother Jim, showing a deep sense of responsibility and love for his family.

Those who knew Ron will fondly re-

member his deep affection for dogs—each one treated like royalty under his care. He also cherished time spent with friends, especially sharing good conversation and many memorable fish fries.

He was preceded in death by his parents; his brothers Jim, Doug, and Ed; and his sister-in-law, Phyllis.

Ron is survived by special friends, Dave S. and Eleanor F.—thank you for the many shared meals, laughter, and lasting friendship.

In keeping with Ron's wishes, his estate will be shared with Make-A-Wish, the Oshkosh Humane Society, and his parish, St. Jude's.

A funeral service for Ron will be held

on Friday, April 17, 2026, at 11:00AM, at Konrad-Behlman Funeral Home—Eastside, 402 Waugoo Ave, Oshkosh, WI. A time of visitation will begin at 10:30AM and continue to the start of the service. Interment will take place at Sacred Heart Cemetery.

Rest well, my good friend. Your kindness to so many people, your conversations, and your phone calls will always be cherished memories. You did well.

-Barb

A special thanks to Barb for being a wonderful friend throughout the years.

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## Michael Meisel

Michael (Mike) Meisel, age 70, of Oshkosh passed away on April 7, 2026 while



surrounded by family after a courageous 15-year battle with cancer. Mike was born on March 23, 1956 in Oshkosh and graduated from Oshkosh West High School in 1974. He worked his entire career as a

mechanical assembler at Arrowhead Conveyor in Oshkosh and retired in 2021 after 40+ years.

Mike was an avid sports fan cheering on the Brewers, Packers, Wisconsin Badgers, and Oregon State Beavers. You could almost always find him wearing clothing or a baseball cap from one of his favorite sports teams. He played recreation league softball for Mabel Murphy's and bowled in leagues for many years with his brother, nephew, sister-in-law, and friends. He was a classic rock fan and attended many live music events including Oshkosh Waterfest. Mike was also an animal lover, having had many pets over the years and enjoyed all the wildlife that visited his yard. He made sure our feathered friends were well-fed.

Mike is survived by his wife of 48 years, Mary Jo; daughters Jennifer Meisel (Ladd Irvine) of Corvallis, Oregon and Theresa Meisel (Chris Riend) of Madison, Wis-

consin; one granddaughter, Sora Irvine; mother-in-law Theresa Reichenberger-Glasnapp; brothers- and sisters-in-law Jack (Deb) Reichenberger and Bob (Nancy) Reichenberger; sister-in-law Lois Meisel; nieces; nephews; and many friends. He is preceded in death by his parents Louie and Ruth Ann (Shrimpie) Meisel and his brother Tom Meisel.

The family would like to thank Dr. Noelle LoConte and the staff at the UW Health Carbone Cancer Center in Madison and Dr. Thomas Klinkhammer at The daCare Cancer Care in Neenah.

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be sent to the Oshkosh Human Society and/or the UW Health Carbone Cancer Center (Greatest Need Fund).

General Donations Oshkosh Humane Society

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Mike will always be in our memories and will be dearly missed by all who knew him.

A celebration of life will be held at Rev's Bowl Bar and Grill on June 26, 2026 from 3:00-5:00 pm.

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## Donald R. Stindt

Donald R. Stindt, age 90, of Oshkosh, passed away peacefully at his home on Monday morning April 13, 2026. A Mass of Christian Burial will be held for Don on Monday, April 20, 2026 at 11 am in St. Jude Parish, Sacred Heart Catholic Church in Oshkosh. A time of visitation

will be held at the church on Monday from 10 am until the time of Mass. Burial with full military honors will follow in Sacred Heart Catholic Cemetery. A full obituary will follow.

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## David G. Schuhart

David "Dave" G. Schuhart, age 68, a proud lifelong resident of Oshkosh, WI, passed away due to natural causes at his home, in March of 2026.

Dave was born to the late G. Gregory and Carol M. (Anderson) Schuhart on August 21, 1957.

David graduated from Oshkosh West High School and was a member of Zion Lutheran Church.

His longest employer was working as maintenance for the two cafeterias through Aladdin, at U.W Oshkosh for over 20 years. David enjoyed interacting with the students and the participants at events taking place at U.W.O, including food service for EAA. He retired on September 1, 2024.

Following in his father's footsteps, Dave was an avid golfer at Lakeshore Municipal

Golf Course and would ice fish on Lake Winnebago and Lake Poygan. David was a major sports fan and was very knowledgeable about sports statistics. He enjoyed every sport, especially the Packers and Brewers.

David is survived by his sister, Mary and her husband Jim and their son, Brett. Two aunts, Nedra Anderson McGonigle and Julia Schuhart Holdren, along with many cousins.

A visitation will take place from 5pm-6pm until the time of service at 6pm, on Tuesday, April 21, 2026, at Konrad-Behlman Funeral Home—Westside, located at 100 Lake Pointe Drive in Oshkosh, WI.

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

Dave was quite the jokester and had the silliest sense of humor. Remember him with the smiles he did his best to share.

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## Barbara Ann Patrie

It is with great sadness that we announce the passing of Barbara Ann Patrie (Bottkol), who left us peacefully on December 17, 2025, at the age of 84. She was born to August and Lorraine (Dittmer) Ruedinger on April 15, 1941. Barb was a vibrant and loving soul who touched the lives of everyone she met.

In celebration of Barb's beautiful life,

we invite friends and family to join us for a visitation at Konrad-Behlman—West on April 17, 2026, at 1:30 PM, followed by a joyful memorial service at 3:00 PM. Let's gather together to share stories, laughter, and cherished memories just as Barb would have wanted.

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