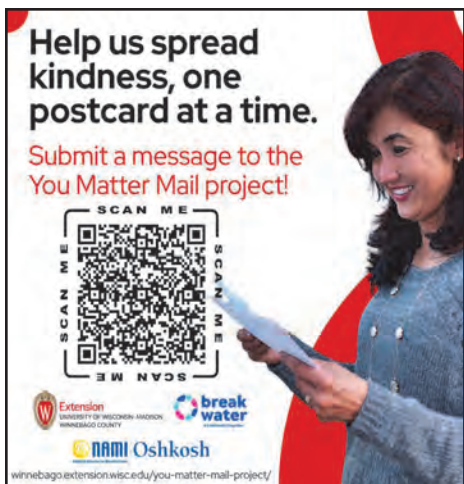




Solar project planned on over 1,000 acres

By Jonathan Richie
OSHKOSH HERALD

An energy company is proposing to build a large solar project in Winnebago County.

Plans suggest the energy project will cover up to 1,000 acres across the towns of Algoma, Nekimi, Utica and Omro.

Alliant Energy is proposing the solar project that would consist of at least 142,000 solar panels. If approved by the Public Service Commission of Wisconsin (PSC), the project could produce enough

energy to power over 20,000 homes annually.

The PSC is the regulatory body that approves solar projects that are 100 megawatts or larger. The Alliant project is called Oshkosh Solar even though none of the solar panels are proposed to be in the city.

Alliant serves communities across Wisconsin and Iowa by providing electric and gas services. The company has added approximately 1,500 megawatts of solar energy in the two states since 2022.

The project area is a total of about 1,000

acres. Alliant has been contacting landowners in the area since 2019. The project encompasses about 30 different landowners.

Justin Foss, who is leading the Alliant team that is developing the solar project, said there is a potential for \$19.5 million of money to enter the local economies from the project, which includes shared revenue funds and the money landowners will be making from the leases.

SEE **Solar project** ON PAGE 8

INSIDE



Holding court

Knights' Quandt eyes another stellar season

Page 16

Scary fun

Haunted history walk coming to Oshkosh

Page 4



Photo by Michael Cooney

Street dancing

A little rain wasn't enough to dampen the enthusiasm Saturday as the Oshkosh Jazz Festival returned to downtown Oshkosh, bringing international performers, local musicians and an enthusiastic audience together on Main Street. The festival featured a varied lineup culminating with Swedish jazz performer Gunhild Carling as headliner. For Jazz Festival President Erin Boehme, the goal is to make jazz approachable while creating an event that brings the community downtown to support local businesses following the farmers market.

School board approves new strategic plan, district KPIs

By Jonathan Richie
OSHKOSH HERALD

Oshkosh school officials have taken feedback from community members to develop a new strategic plan with specific goals for the next five and 10 years.

The Oshkosh Area School District Board of Education has recently been discussing the strategic plan and the district key performance indicators (KPI). The previous strategic plan had almost 20 KPIs and the board wanted to narrow the focus and make the goals more clear.

These KPIs along with the strategic plan were developed by the OASD adminis-

tration with the help of the board and the Oshkosh school summit that was held in



Davis

May. During the summit over 150 community members took three days to discuss what they want to see the district work toward over the next five years.

OASD Superintendent Bryan Davis said the 2026-27 strategic plan is shaped by the district and the community. Davis added the plan also

provides stability with the clearly defined five-year goals.

"(This) validates community feedback," Davis said.

The strategic plan outlines four community priorities for 2036: staff support, cultural connections, communication and student growth and achievement. Those were taken from the school summit and the work that community members contributed.

The plan passed by a vote of 6-1 with board member Tim Hess being the sole opposing vote.

There are also renewal goals that the dis-

trict will focus on for the next five years. The vision of the district is "all students are community, career, and college ready."

The mission outlines in this section is "to provide rigorous and engaging learning environments for student success." The values are represented as I.S.E.E., which stands for integrity, safety, engagement and excellence.

The district's guiding principle remains the same – students first.

OASD outlined 19 KPIs in the 2025-26 strategic plan; for the 2026-27 strategic

SEE **Strategic plan** ON PAGE 4



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www.oshkoshherald.com.

Sheriff’s candidate forum to be held today

Oshkosh Herald

Voters are invited to a forum today featuring candidates for Winnebago County Sheriff.

The forum will be held from 7 to 8 p.m. at Oshkosh City Hall, 215 Church Ave., fourth floor. The forum will air live on Oshkosh Gov TV, which can be found at oshkoshmedia.org/govtv.aspx.

The forum will feature two candidates hoping to take the seat currently held by John Matz, who is not seeking reelection, after Independent Danielle Falesnik withdrew from the race Sunday. The two candidates vying for the position are Jason Rippl (Democrat) and Darin Rice (Republican).

In withdrawing, Falesnik cited concerns about splitting the progressive vote.

This forum is sponsored by the Winnebago County League of Women Voters and co-produced by the City of Oshkosh. Public policy questions may be submitted in advance to wcLWVinfo@gmail.com, to Margy Davey at 920-233-5055 (leave a message) or at the forum.

New book helps families move from genealogy to story

Oshkosh Herald

Who were your parents before they were your parents?

That simple question is at the heart of a new book by Oshkosh author, photographer and educator Michael J. Cooney.

“Capturing Your Family History” is a practical guide to helping people move beyond names, dates and family trees to preserve the people and stories behind them.

“Genealogy tells us who our ancestors were and when they lived,” Cooney said. “Family history asks the next questions: What were they like? What happened to them? What did they care about? And how did their lives help shape ours?”

The book is now available locally at Caramel Crisp Corner in Oshkosh.

Cooney said many people want to preserve their family history but are intimidated by the idea of writing a book. His approach is to start smaller.

“One thing most children eventually want to know is who their parents were before they were born,” he said. “The answer can be as simple as a timeline, a few photographs and a couple of turning-point memories. You don’t have to begin by writing 300 pages.”

“Capturing Your Family History” offers ideas and techniques for organizing photographs and memories, conducting family interviews, adding historical context and turning scattered information into readable stories. It also introduces ways artificial intelligence can assist with research, transcription, editing and working with old photographs.

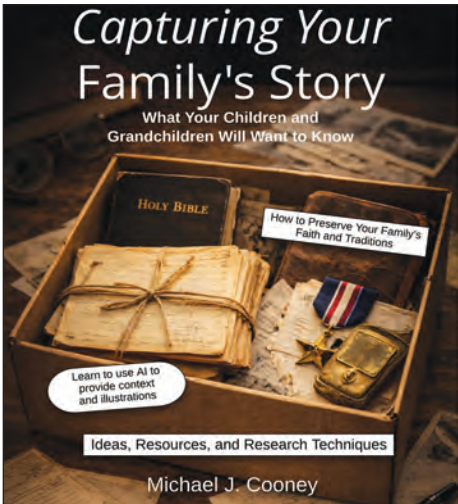
Cooney emphasizes that using the new technology does not require advanced computer skills.

“If you can send an email, you have the computer skills necessary to use the AI tools I introduce,” he said.

The book grew out of Cooney’s own family history work. He is the author of six family history books, including his most recent work focusing on his family’s immigrant generation and their journey to Wisconsin.

Cooney is also taking the subject into the classroom this fall, teaching Capturing Your Family History through Fox Valley Technical College. The introductory course, which combines an in-person session with an online follow-up, will be offered at FVTC locations in Oshkosh, Waupaca, Wautoma, Clintonville and Chilton.

Family history has become a passion for Cooney, who has spent decades telling stories through photography, writing and publishing. His goal with the new book is not to turn readers into professional genealogists or historians, but to convince



them that their own family stories are worth preserving, and that creating a family history is something they can do.

Editor’s note: Michael Cooney is a contributor to the Oshkosh Herald.

Back in the Day

Oshkosh history by the Winnebago County Historical Society



The Krambo Food Store was located on Jackson Ave across from the Winnebago County Courthouse.

September 11, 1953

Krambo Store Manager \$24,000 Hold-up Victim: Oshkosh police were searching today for a well-dressed, good-looking bandit who robbed the Krambo grocery store on Jackson Street last night of \$24,000 in cash and checks. The holdup man forced the Krambo store manager, Victor Helstrom and his wife Arlene from their Irving Street home at gunpoint around 11:45 p.m. last evening. He held Mrs. Helstrom hostage in the car while her husband went into the store to retrieve the cash and checks. Then the bandit ordered Helstrom to drive to the Sacred Heart Cemetery located on the southside outskirts of this city and tied them both to a tree. The bandit then escaped using the Helstrom’s car. The car was later recovered on Grove Street. The Helstroms were able to free themselves unharmed. After receiving a tip, the kidnapper bandit was captured by authorities the following April, in front of a small-town bank in Iowa with two loaded revolvers in his belt.

Source: Oshkosh Daily Northwestern, September 11, 1903 ; “It Seems Like Only Yesterday,” by Randy R. Domer

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Oshkosh moving forward with data center moratorium

By Jonathan Richie
OSHKOSH HERALD

The Oshkosh Common Council is expected to make a decision next week on the future of data centers in the city.

There are currently no data centers in Winnebago County or Oshkosh. There are also currently no official plans or proposals for data centers. However, municipalities across the state have taken steps to pause data centers to allow time to study the environmental effects of these facilities.

Wisconsin offers lucrative tax breaks and incentives for data centers. The state will lose approximately \$2 billion in sales tax revenue to subsidize data centers built by companies like Microsoft and Meta, according to Wisconsin Public Radio.

The Oshkosh Plan Commission last week approved an ordinance that would create a temporary moratorium on data centers. Data centers are defined in the ordinance as, “any facility or building in which the storage, management, or processing of digital data is the primary or principal use, and which occupies a floor area of 10,000 square feet or more, including associated mechanical, electrical, cooling, and backup power infrastructure.”

This comes after council member Alec Lefebber brought the topic to the council

in July. All members of the council were in favor of a moratorium to study the potential adverse effects of a data center in the region.

“The moratorium shall be in effect for a period of 12 months from the date of publication or until this moratorium is terminated by action of the Common Council, whichever is earlier,” the ordinance states.

The council discussed the importance of protecting Lake Winnebago and the Fox River watershed from potential harms that could come from data centers. For that reason, the council directed city staff to look for regional partners.

“Data centers are rapidly being built across Wisconsin,” Lefebber said in July. “They are enormous facilities filled with computer servers that operate around the clock and generate tremendous amounts of heat. Keeping those servers running and preventing them from overheating can require extraordinary amounts of electricity and, depending on the cooling systems, significant amounts of water.”

A report from the city staff states additional study is needed to “evaluate the potential impacts of data center development and to determine whether amendments to the City’s zoning code, comprehensive plan, utility planning efforts, or other municipal regulations may be

warranted.”

By allowing new data center development applications to proceed “before such review is completed may undermine the City’s ability to establish an appropriate and coordinated regulatory framework.”

The Winnebago County Board of Supervisors on Aug. 18 passed a moratorium for four towns across the county. The

moratorium covers the towns of Algoma, Omro, Neenah and Nekimi.

During the 12 months of the moratorium, county staff will evaluate the potential impacts of a data center on utility infrastructure, transportation systems, emergency services, land use patterns, agricultural resources, environmental resources and neighboring property owners.



Photo by Michael Cooney

Labor Day picnic, car show set to be held at South Park

Oshkosh Herald

The annual Oshkosh Labor Day Picnic and Car Show will be held at South Park.

Guests will be able to enjoy an afternoon of classic cars, live music, food and refreshments while supporting the Fox Valley Area Labor Council and Winnebago County Labor Council.

The event is from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday.

Admission is free, with donations welcome.

New sport

Sixteen teams took to the water Saturday for Oshkosh’s Dragon Boat Festival, but some of the most enthusiastic competitors had never been in a dragon boat before.

Amy Otte of the Fox Valley Dragon Boat Club said youth participation was one of the highlights of the festival, with enough young paddlers to fill three boats.

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Haunted history walking tour coming to Downtown Oshkosh

By Emme Hornung
HERALD CONTRIBUTOR

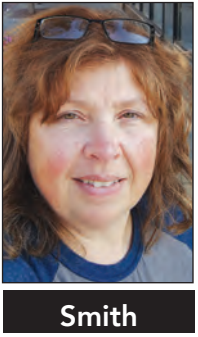
Beginning this month, Oshkosh is going to get a bit spookier as Ghosts of Oshkosh Past LLC kicks off a new walking tour that will take guests through the streets of downtown, highlighting local lore, mysterious deaths and hauntings with a fair share of history along the way.

Founded by Tracy Smith, a local teacher who lives in Oshkosh, she was inspired to start the tour by a life-long — and at times reluctant — connection to the spiritual side of things. Raising her family in a house where many experiences can be best explained as a haunting, her two now-adult children, Caeden and Alaine, became interested in the paranormal as well.

“I travel a lot with my kids, so every time we go somewhere, once they got a little bit older, we started going on ghost tours,” Tracy said. “First, it was just more for fun, but then we started getting really interested in the paranormal part of it.”

Tracy has been long interested in starting a tour herself, so she started digging into Oshkosh history and talking with downtown business owners, and she discovered a trove of mysterious and ghostly stories.

“I’ve lived here forever, but I did not realize how many really interesting stories there are,” she said. “I started seeing all these mysterious deaths, and differ-



ent stories about the fires and prohibition, and I thought, wow, I could tie all that into something really interesting.”

On the roughly 1.5-mile, 90-minute tour, guests will be taken on a journey through time, learning about the five Great Fires of the 1800s, prohibition-era bootlegging, active hauntings of downtown buildings, and much more.

Rain or shine, tours will be held from 6 to 7:30 p.m. every Friday and Saturday, with additional later tours closer to Halloween, through the second weekend of November before taking a pause for the holidays. But the tours don’t end there.

In addition to bookable private tours, Tracy intends to host at least monthly ghost tours year-round, and during the frigidly cold months of January and February, she will be taking guests indoors to experience a paranormal investigation.

“I’ve got the OK from a couple different places, so that would be more of an intensive ghost-type experience,” she said.

Tracy has already guided a few trial tours, but the real kickoff of Ghosts of Oshkosh Past will happen from 6 to 7:30 p.m. Saturday at Bleak Boutique, 513 N. Main St. during the Gallery Walk. Visitors are invited to come meet their tour guide Tracy and her family, enjoy light refreshments and maybe even get lucky in merch and tour ticket giveaways.

She said to let the ghoulish times roll in Oshkosh this fall and enjoy some spine-tingling entertainment. To book a tour or to learn more, visit GhostsOfOshkoshPast.com.



Submitted photo

Tracy Smith and her kids, Caeden and Alaine, have gone on many ghost tours around the country and are bringing a similar experience back to Oshkosh. They recently traveled to Colorado for the infamous Stanley Hotel Ghost Tour. Smith will take participants through the haunted history of Downtown Oshkosh.

Strategic plan

FROM PAGE 1

plan there are eight KPIs. Those are related to math and reading proficiency and growth across grade levels, staff retention, student sense of belonging, community information reach and fund balance.

“The stabilization of that five-year plan, I think, helps keep us on target as we’re moving forward and provides explicit targets in our five-year plan for our key performance indicators,” Davis said.

The five-year plan includes goals such as improving math proficiency in grades three through 11 from 45% in 2026 to 55% in 2031.

Board member Molly Smiltneek asked if the board would be approving a new strategic plan. Davis stated the plan will be approved every year but will be revised based on updates to the goals.

Smiltneek was concerned that the structure is only in place for one year and in three years a different board may not approve of the steps this board has taken.

Board member Chris Wright said that in his time on the board these KPIs have been what the community has been asking for.

The plan also includes four initiatives that, Davis said, could run one to three years. Those initiatives are to support student behaviors, implement instructional resources consistently, improve external communication and reduce operational expenses.

“I’m not excited,” Hess said. “We’ve got eight KPIs and I can’t support a single one.”

He accused the district of “cherry-picking” data and said the district is in a “downward spiral.” Hess called for more drastic changes to the district.

“I look at this and I go ‘well, what’s going to change within this next year’ and I don’t see our district being any different if we achieve all of these next year results,” Hess said. “I don’t see anything happening.”

“I feel like this is a strategic plan to justify future failure,” Hess added.

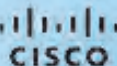
Davis responded that the 2025-26 strategic plan was not a failure and the district exceeded expectations of that plan for the first time in over five years.

“To all the staff that has worked hard and prepared for this year – You are not a failure,” Davis said. “I just want to make sure that as we start a new school year, as we have this framework set, we are not set for failure; we are set for progress. It might not be as fast as everyone would like, but we are set for progress.”

OASD assistant superintendent of instruction Sam Coleman said he disagreed with Hess’s assessment of the plan.

“I want every teacher in this system to hear me loud and clear – we are going forward,” Coleman said. “We have bright students with so much potential and we owe it to them, we owe it to our parents and we owe it to each other as educators to commit to the ambitions that we’ve set. It is not reasonable to suggest that we are going to flip a switch and overnight the type of prompts and outcomes that we want to see is going to occur without the hard work and the time and energy it takes to get there.”

The OASD 2026-27 strategic plan will be available to view on the district website at oshkosh.k12.wi.us/district/strategic-plan.



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PROUDLY SERVING THE OSHKOSH COMMUNITY

District seeking names for new middle school

By Jonathan Richie
OSHKOSH HERALD

In September 2028, a new middle school will be opening in Oshkosh. Oshkosh Area School District officials are asking for help in naming the school.

The district is launching a two-part community survey process to name the new westside middle school.

The school is set to open before the 2028-29 school year and was part of the 2025 facilities referendum. Initially the school was set to be built on the site of South Park Middle School but is now planned for the site of Shapiro School.

The school will consolidate Perry Tipler and South Park middle school students

First responders receive grants from energy companies

Oshkosh Herald

The charitable foundations of Wisconsin Public Service (WPS) and We Energies are giving first responders new tools to keep their communities safe.

The foundations are awarding a total of \$225,000 to help police, fire and emergency medical services (EMS) agencies acquire lifesaving equipment and improve safety in communities across Wisconsin.

“We are honored to support the everyday heroes in our communities and their relentless dedication to keeping everyone safe,” said Beth Straka, president — WPS and We Energies foundations.

WPS and We Energies focus on safety for their employees, customers and communities every day. The foundations’ Rewarding Responders Grant programs support local first responders who share this

into one building.

The first part of the community survey will run from Sept. 9 to Sept. 28 when students, staff, families and community members are invited to suggest initial name suggestions.

The facilities and finance committee will then choose three to four finalists. A second community survey will be available from Oct. 8 to Oct. 21 for people to vote on their favorite of the finalist.

A final name will be officially approved by the OASD Board of Education in November.

“An exciting time as we’re looking forward to engaging our community to shape our future together,” OASD Superintendent Bryan Davis said at the Aug. 26 board meeting.

commitment to keeping everyone safe.

Each program helps police, fire and EMS agencies acquire lifesaving equipment or important training to improve public safety. This year’s grants are helping first responders receive dozens of critical tools, from pedestrian safety signs and protective clothing to heavy-duty rescue saws.

This year, nearly 120 first response agencies in Wisconsin received grants. The 2026 grant recipients from northeast Wisconsin include University of Wisconsin-Oshkosh Police Department — mobile safety monitoring trailer, Winnebago County Emergency Management — integrated emergency preparedness and response training and Wittman Regional Airport Aircraft Rescue and Fire Fighting — heavy-duty rescue tools.



Submitted photo

Social studies teacher Rick Leib eight years ago embedded the National 9/11 Day of Service directly into the annual curriculum for Oshkosh North High School’s Communities program.

Oshkosh debut set for 9/11 Day movie

By Jonathan Richie
OSHKOSH HERALD

This year marks the 25th anniversary of the September 11th attacks and the film “9/11 Day” shines a light on the shift from the day being defined by tragedy and remembrance to a National Day of Service.

While researching service initiatives across the country, the filmmakers discovered Oshkosh North’s Communities program, where social studies teacher Rick Leib embedded the National 9/11 Day of Service directly into the annual curriculum eight years ago.

Last school year, camera crews brought their production into local classrooms — filming lessons, conducting interviews and following Communities students into the city as they executed local service projects. The students’ passion and impact earned them a central role in the finished film.

Before the hometown screening, Communities educator Gina Munig and two

program alumni - a recent graduate and a returning senior – were planning to travel to New York City to represent the district at the film’s National Premiere on Tuesday at the Intrepid Museum.

Producers are also actively working to secure global streaming distribution on a major streaming platform.

“This recognition highlights the heart of our entire district and the incredible impact our students make every single day,” said OASD Superintendent Bryan Davis. “Seeing our young people recognized on a national stage proves that our educators inspire excellence and that Oshkosh students are leading meaningful change far beyond our district.”

The film will premiere on Sept. 9 at the Time Community Theater in Oshkosh. Doors open at 6:30 p.m. and the film starts at 7 p.m. After the film, there will be a Q&A session with the film’s executive producer, Greg Jacobs.

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Police thwart two contraband attempts at prison

Oshkosh Herald

Authorities recently thwarted two attempts to bring illegal items to inmates in Oshkosh Correctional Institute (OSCI).

Three people are currently facing felony charges linked to the two incidents that were investigated by Oshkosh police officers and prison staff.

Jessica L. Whiting, 42, and Isiah J. Johnson, 35, are both facing one count of conspiracy to commit – deliver illegal articles to inmate. Johnson is currently serving a 12-month sentence at OSCI after being found guilty of possession of burglarous tools in Racine last September.

Court documents allege Whiting brought Johnson tobacco and Percocet pills, an opioid pain reliever.

“These interdiction efforts reflect an ongoing partnership between the Oshkosh Police Department and OSCI focused on preventing illegal drugs and other contraband from entering the institution,” OPD said in a press release. “Introducing controlled substances into a correctional facility creates significant safety and security risks for both staff and inmates.”

Whiting, who lives in Cleveland, Ohio, allegedly brought 14 oxycodone pills and 21 nicotine pouches into the OSCI with the intent of delivering them to Johnson.

According to the criminal complaint, officers had been conducting surveillance on Johnson’s communications with Whiting, who had been visiting Johnson at OSCI since November.

OPD officers conducted surveillance on Whiting for a visit on June 13. Officers at that time decided not to make con-



Photos from Oshkosh Police Department

Oshkosh Police allegedly seized contraband items brought into Oshkosh Correctional Institute.

tact with Whiting and wait for the next visit, which was on June 28.

Officers made contact with Whiting after she went through OSCI security. Whiting told the officers she was bringing things to Johnson. She allegedly admitted to having concealed tobacco and Percocet pills on her wrist in two square bundles under a white tennis wristband.

Whiting told officers she has been visiting Johnson since November. She didn’t pass him any items during the 2025 visits. However, she allegedly began bringing items to OSCI in February.

It started with tobacco and then brought Percocet to the prison in February, May and June.

She would allegedly pickup the Percocet from her brother but if he didn’t have enough pills she would pick up pills from an individual in Milwaukee.

Johnson has an initial appearance in his case set for Sept. 21. Whiting is set to be back in court on Sept. 28.

In a separate investigation Kristine M.



Mayle, 58, is facing two counts of deliver illegal articles to an inmate, possession of a controlled substance and one count of possession with intent to deliver non-narcotics.

Oshkosh police released a statement that outlined the arrests and stated that a 35-year-old male was also referred to charges related to receiving these items. However, that man has not been charged in Winnebago County.

Court documents allege Mayle ingested three packages that resulted in Mayle being monitored at a hospital, but only two of the three packages were recovered from her bowels.

According to the criminal complaint,

Mayle met OSCI inmate Dustin Lussier, 30, through the pen pal program and told an officer at OSCI that Lussier was her boyfriend.

Lussier is currently serving a 10-year sentence for armed robbery in Eau Claire County. He is scheduled for release on that charge in 2027.

Mayle was scheduled to visit Lussier at OSCI on Aug. 18. Officers spoke with her after she went through the OSCI security check point. She told officers numerous times that she did not have illegal items on her person and consented to searches.

A letter from Lussier to Mayle allegedly gives in-depth details about how to package the contraband with specific instructions for marijuana, pills and suboxone strips. These strips are prescribed to treat opioid use disorder. They contain two chemicals: one reduces drug cravings and the other blocks the full opioid effects, according to drugs.com.

The letter states that if Mayle brings in THC wax he could make \$900 by selling it in the prison.

Mayle was taken to Mercy Medical Center. Patrol officers were sent to assist by keeping Mayle in custody and to “collect evidence that came out of her.”

Mayle allegedly said she had ingested three packages. OPD was able to recover two of the packages. The first was in a tied-off balloon that contained 17 suboxone strips. The second package contained 18 Suboxone strips.

Mayle was in court on Aug. 21 for her initial appearance. Her case bond was set at \$3,000. She was ordered to have no contact with OSCI and Lussier.

Oshkosh man sentenced to prison for possession of child pornography

Oshkosh Herald

Shawn P. Black will be spending the next three years in state prison for possession of child pornography.

Judge Bryan Keberlein last week sentenced Black to three years in state prison followed by three years of extended supervision. Black pled no contest and was found guilty of two of the five counts of possession of child pornography he was facing, with the three remaining charges being dismissed but read in to the record for sentencing purposes.

When police first searched Black’s home earlier this year they found more than 90 firearms, a laptop with child pornography



Black

on it and a sex doll.

Court documents state 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 informed OPD on June 8, 2024, about an individual using a Bing image search to search for a suspected CSAM image.

An administrative subpoena shows the IP address belongs to Black at his apartment on Moreland Street in Oshkosh. A similar incident occurred a year later on June 4, 2025, when NCMEC reported another CSAM image.

OPD officers executed a search warrant at Black’s apartment on Feb. 11. Officers told Black they were there related to his internet activity. Black showed officers his laptop.

Black told officers there were “images and videos” of girls between the ages of 6 and 14. He estimated there was over a thousand images and videos on the laptop.

About 18 months ago Black received an email about a subscription service for nude images. The subscription takes the subscriber to a web page to either view or download the images.

OPD officers reported finding a sex doll in the spare bedroom of Black’s apartment. He told officers he wished the doll were taller.

Area unemployment rate remains steady

The Oshkosh-Neenah metropolitan area (MSA) and Winnebago County saw their unemployment rate stay the same at 3.3% in July as it was in June but up from 3.1% a year ago, according to preliminary data from the state Department of Workforce Development.

Preliminary July 2026 unemployment rates increased in one metropolitan area over the month: Appleton. Rates decreased in four metropolitan areas over the month and stayed the same in the remaining eight metropolitan areas. Rates increased in 12 metropolitan areas over the year and stayed the same in one area:

He also told police the children’s underwear they found in his apartment was for the doll.

Officers observed a large number of firearms in the apartment along with a large amount of ammunition. The complaint states approximately 91 firearms were in the apartment.

The complaint outlines and details three videos found on Black’s laptop. All three videos depicted prepubescent females, not wearing underwear, between the ages of 6 and 12.

Fond du Lac.

Preliminary July 2026 unemployment rates increased in 10 of Wisconsin’s largest cities over the month. Rates decreased in 19 cities over the month and stayed the same in the remaining six cities. Unemployment rates decreased in four cities over the year and stayed the same in the remaining five cities.

Preliminary July 2026 unemployment rates increased in 22 counties over the month. Rates decreased in 25 counties over the month and stayed the same in the remaining 25 counties.

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July tornado caused \$13.3 million in damage to area

By MaryBeth Matzek
OSHKOSH HERALD

The July 27 tornado caused nearly \$13.3 million in damage, according to Gov. Tony Evers’ official aid request to the federal government.

Evers sent in a formal request Aug. 26 to President Donald Trump asking for disas-

ter declaration assistance. “The combination of powerful winds and a strong EF3 tornado caused extensive damage across multiple counties, leaving families without homes and businesses unable to operate,” Evers wrote. Evers’ letter covers Outagamie and Winnebago counties where the tornado hit as well as Forest and Vilas counties, which

also experienced storm damage on July 27. A total of 2,346 residential structures were reviewed.

- In the four counties:
- 84 structures were destroyed
 - 412 structures had major damage
 - 1,331 structures had minor damage
 - 519 structures others were affected

The total structure damage cost was estimated at \$8.2 million.

In Menasha, 663 homes were damaged, 140 of which were hit hard enough to be deemed unsafe. Three single-family homes were destroyed in Fox Crossing while 79 suffered major damage, 261 suffered minor damage and another 25 structures listed as “affected.”

In Outagamie and Winnebago counties,

an estimated \$13,861,378.38 was reported in public sector damage.

The damage in private and public sector in just Winnebago County totaled \$13.3 million.

In his letter, Evers pointed out that Winnebago County was impacted by severe flooding in April.

“The same governmental personnel, emergency-management systems, public works resources, community organizations, equipment and financial reserves are now being called upon to respond to a second major disaster in a short period,” Evers said in the letter. “This cumulative burden has significantly reduced the communities’ ability to finance and manage recovery through ordinary means.”



Oshkosh Herald

Structure fire

The Oshkosh Fire Department responded to a structure fire Monday on High Avenue near the University of Wisconsin-Oshkosh campus. High Avenue was closed at the intersection with Wisconsin Street while crews put out the fire. Details on what happened were not immediately available.

Nonprofit formed to support planetarium

By MaryBeth Matzek
OSHKOSH HERALD

A new organization has launched to help fund the Barlow Planetarium.

The Future Barlow Foundation recently received its Internal Revenue Service paperwork allowing the organization to accept donations. The foundation’s goal is to help the planetarium become financially self-sufficient to maintain its operations long term.

Rick Beal, the president and treasurer of the Future Barlow Foundation, said when the University of Wisconsin-Oshkosh announced it was closing the Fox Cities campus that planetarium supporters began discussing ways to support it. They decided launching a foundation was the best decision.

In July 2025, Winnebago County took over the campus, including the planetarium.

The foundation is working in partnership with NEWSTAR (Northeast Wisconsin Stargazers), said Beal, a member of NEWSTAR.

Hintz to share proposed county budget on Sept. 17

Oshkosh Herald

Winnebago County Executive Gordon Hintz will share the proposed county budget in two public presentations on Sept. 17 at the Sunnyview Expo Center.

The presentations will be held from 8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. and 5 to 9 p.m. The same information will be shared at both presentations.

“The Barlow needs new equipment and without the new equipment, we can’t have new content,” he said. “The equipment is so old that if something breaks, I don’t know if we can find a part to fix it.”

The foundation’s next steps include finding additional board members, setting up a website that can accept donations and fill out grant applications to earn funds for the planetarium. Beal said the Future Barlow Foundation will also work on a comprehensive fundraising and community engagement strategy, including identifying an experienced consultant who can assist the organization in establishing a sustainable long-term development program.

The foundation plans to hold events to raise awareness. It will host a free public presentation at the Neenah Public Library at 6:30 p.m. Dec. 2 on the Star of Bethlehem.

Besides Beal, other board members include attorney Kathryn Blom as secretary and Matt Zimmerman as director.

Hintz and county department staff members will discuss their proposed budgets for next year. After Sept. 17, county committees will take a closer look at department budgets, discuss and make changes.

The County Board of Supervisors will approve a final version of the budget this fall.

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Calendar of events

Saturday, Sept. 5
Oshkosh Farmers Market, 8 a.m., Downtown Oshkosh
Hmong National Labor Day Festival, 8 a.m., Winnebago County Park
Oshkosh Gallery Walk, 6 p.m., Downtown Oshkosh
Party on the Point featuring Ask Your Mother, 6:30 p.m., Sometimes at Pioneer Island

Sunday, Sept. 6
Hmong National Labor Day Festival, 8 a.m., Winnebago County Park

Monday, Sept. 7
Flea Market, 8 a.m., Originals Mall of Antiques, 1475 S. Washburn St.
Labor Day Picnic and Car Show, 11 a.m., South Park

Thursday, Sept. 10
The Salvation Army of Oshkosh presents Feuding For Families, 5 p.m., La-Sure's Hall, 3125 S. Washburn St.
Dean Johnson Concert, 7 p.m., Beckett's

Friday, Sept. 11
9/11 Community Memorial Gather-

ing, 5 p.m., Opera House Square
EAA Remembers 9/11, 7 p.m., EAA Aviation Museum

Saturday, Sept. 12
EAA Chapter 252 Fall Pancake Breakfast and Young Eagle Rally, 7:30 a.m., Wittman Regional Airport Terminal
ReThink Addiction 5K, 7:30 a.m., Solutions Recovery, 621 Evans St.
Oshkosh Farmers Market, 8 a.m., Downtown Oshkosh
Oshkosh Area Humane Society Walk for the Animals: Get Colorful for the Cause, 8:30 a.m., Sunnyview Expo Center's Barn A
Walk to Defeat ALS, 8:30 a.m., Menominee Park
Kickball Tournament benefitting Oshkosh Kids Museum, 9 a.m., Revs Bowl Bar and Grill
Rockin' For Recovery presented by Unity Recovery Services, noon, Winnebago County Community Park

Thursday, Sept. 17
Friends of the Oshkosh Seniors Center 40th Anniversary Celebration, 4 p.m., 200 N. Campbell Road
Oshkosh Community Players presents The Actuary, 7 p.m., The Grand at UW-Oshkosh

Friday, Sept. 18
Oshkosh Community Players presents The Actuary, 7 p.m., The Grand at UW-Oshkosh

Workshop at library provides tools for caregivers

Oshkosh Herald

A Powerful Tools for Caregivers workshop will be held from 1:30 to 3 p.m. Mondays for six weeks beginning on Sept. 14 at the Oshkosh Public Library.

This free workshop is designed to help caregivers meet their own needs while caring for a loved one, whether that loved one lives with them or lives in a care facility, if they are distant caregivers or are helping a friend or neighbor.

Powerful Tools for Caregivers can help caregivers identify and manage stress,

manage difficult feelings due to losses, schedule changes, increased responsibilities, trying to manage work and caregiving.

They will also learn effective communication tools and several relaxation techniques that can help ease the challenges of caregiving.

Call Alisa Richetti at the Aging and Disability Resource Center of Winnebago County at 920-236-1227 or email at arichetti@winnebagoctywi.gov with any questions.

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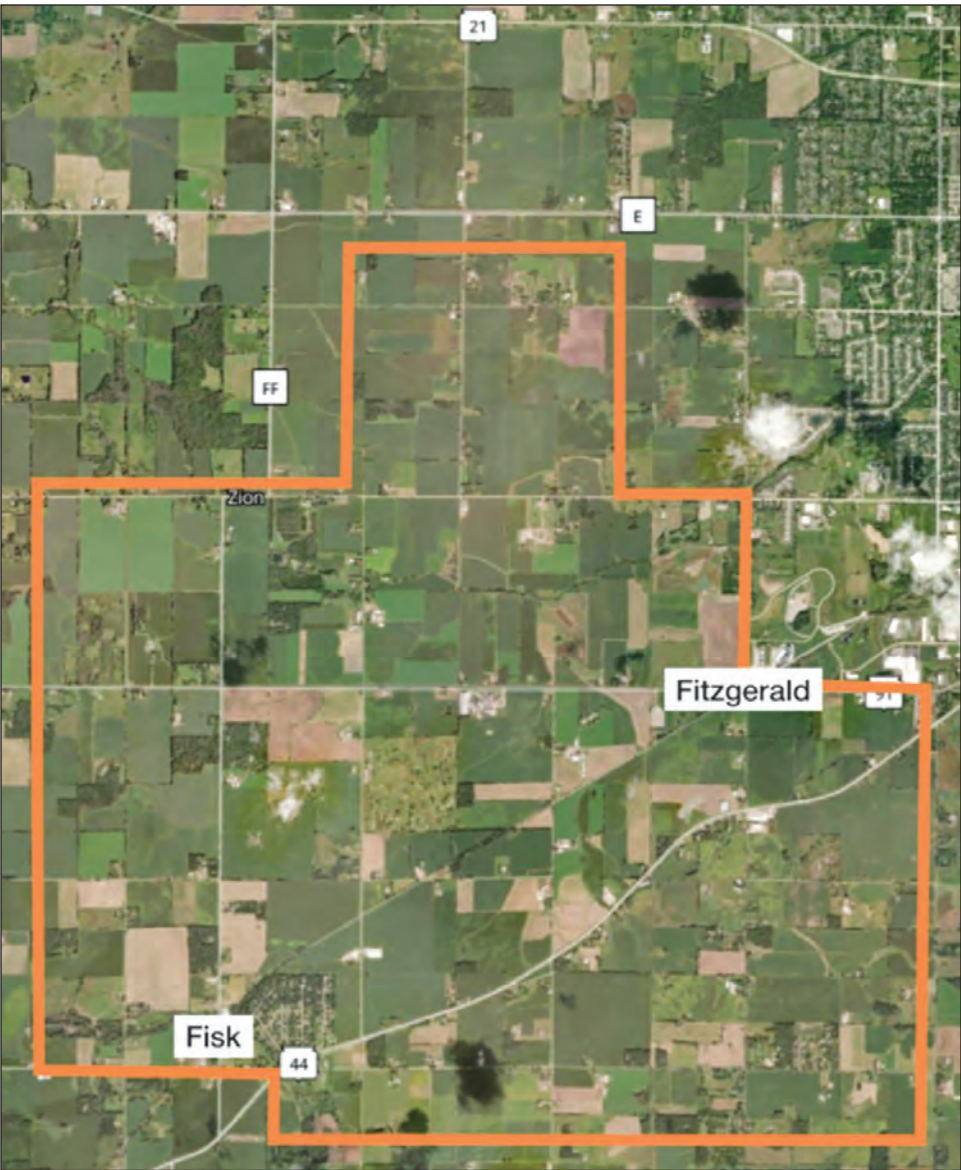


Photo from Alliant Energy

The Oshkosh Solar project boundary map shows the outer limits of the overall area under consideration. Not all the land shown will be used for solar panels as the outer limits are where the panels can be placed.

Solar project

FROM PAGE 1

Wisconsin State Statute states that these projects have to share revenue with local municipalities where the solar panels are put up. The money is also shared with the county.

Those payments would go to the towns of Algoma, Nekimi, Omro, Utica and Winnebago County, Foss said. The payments are \$1,000 per megawatt produced. Alliant estimates local municipalities will be paid \$19.5 million over the next 30 years.

The amount of the payment is linked to how many solar panels are in the municipality.

The other primary benefit is that adding renewable solar energy to the grid is a way to keep up with increasing energy needs across the region.

Dan Pearson, who is on Foss's team, said that farmers are excited about the project getting started. He said that current prices and tariffs have contributed to some landowners signing up to lease their land because the money from the leases will allow them to keep their land.

Alliant is not purchasing any farmland in Winnebago County. Instead, the company is doing what often happens with similar large solar projects, which is to lease the land for an extended period of time.

For this project, the contracts are 30-year leases with the ability to extend the leases.

The 142,000 solar panels will be put on steel racks that will be driven directly into the ground without any concrete. DNR regulations state there must be 8-foot-tall fencing around the solar panels to allow for smaller animals to get through the fencing panels but not larger animals like deer.

High-voltage cables will be placed under the ground and after the lease is ended all cables will be removed that are less than four feet deep. Cables deeper than four feet will be left in the ground.

Foss said that is standard practice.

There will be no storage of the electricity on the site such as large batteries. Instead the energy will go from the solar panels to inverters that convert the electricity from direct current to alternative current and then it is transported onto the power grid.

One of the hazards of the solar project is the potential for fires. Foss said that Alliant works with local fire departments to ensure they are educated and prepared if a fire were to start within the project.

The goal for the project is to keep the vegetation short underneath the solar panels to lessen the amount of potential fuel beneath the solar panels.

There is also a slight hum that may be coming from the inverters, but Alliant has done studies to try and mitigate the noise.

Alliant has stated there is a potential for up to 200 construction jobs associated with the construction of Oshkosh Solar, which could begin in 2028. The first step in the project will be taken in the next few months, which is submitting a Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity (CPCN) to be filed with the PSC and the DNR.

Once that application is deemed complete by the PSC, which is scheduled to occur in the fourth quarter of 2026, then Alliant will need to submit a regulatory review for approval with the PSC.

If the project is approved by the PSC, then Alliant could start construction in early 2028 and have the site generating energy by the third quarter of 2029.

Alliant has also said they are committed to working with the local farmers, labor groups, landowners and environmental groups to "minimize the effect of water, land and wildlife."

There are two opportunities for community members to hear from the Alliant team from 8 a.m. to noon Sept. 22 and Oct. 27 at Dauntless Soul Brew Co, 113 Alder Ave. in Omro.

Additional information on the project and other Alliant solar projects can be found at alliantenergy.com/our-energy/solar.



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Public library calendar

Some events require registration. Visit oshkoshlibrary.org to register or call 920-236-5203.

Wednesday, Sept. 2

Teen Advisory Board (TAB), 4:30-5:30 p.m.

Thursday, Sept. 3

Chess Club, 5-7 p.m.

Friday, Sept. 4

The Community Blood Center – Blood Drive, 9 a.m. – 1:30 p.m.
PreTeen Book Club, 4:30 p.m., grades 3-5
Teen Book Club, 4:30 p.m., grades 6-8

Saturday, Sept. 5

Oshkosh Area Writers Club, 10 a.m. – noon
Oshkosh Community Jam, 11 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.

Monday, Sept. 7

Library closed: Labor Day

Tuesday, Sept. 8

Tunes and Tots, 10 a.m.’
Craft in Company, noon and 5:30 p.m., adults
Teen Tuesday, 4:30 p.m.
Adult DIY, 6 p.m.
Oshkosh Memorabilia Club, 6:15 p.m.

Wednesday, Sept. 9

Baby and Toddler Storytime, 9:30 and 10:15 a.m.
“Did you finish the book?” Club: In Five Years by Rebecca Serle, 10:30 a.m., adults

Thursday, Sept. 10

Baby & Toddler Storytime, 9:30 and 10:15 a.m.
Second Thursday Book Club: The God of the Woods by Liz Moore, 1:30 p.m.
Adult AniManga, 4:30 p.m.
Chess Club, 5-7 p.m.

Friday, Sept. 11

Elementary Book Club, 4:30 p.m., grades K-2
Young Adult Book Club, 4:30 p.m., grades 9-12

Saturday, Sept. 12

Read to a Dog, 10-11 a.m., ages K-5
Documentaries After Dark: Song Sung Blue, 6-9 p.m.

Monday, Sept. 14

Preschool Storytime, 9:30 a.m.
Read to a Dog, 4 p.m., grades K-5
Learn American Sign-Language (ASL) Together, 5 p.m.
Accountabilibuddies Writing Group, 6:30 p.m.

Tuesday, Sept. 15

Aging in Place: What to know, what to think about, 10 a.m.
Teen Tuesday, 4:30 p.m.
Winnebago Free Legal Assistance Clinic, 4:30 p.m.

Wednesday, Sept. 16

Baby and Toddler Storytime, 9:30 and 10:15 a.m.
Teen Advisory Board (TAB), 4:30 p.m.
Around the World with Polka, 6 p.m.

Thursday, Sept. 17

Baby and Toddler Storytime, 9:30 and 10:15 a.m.
Chess Club, 5-7 p.m.
Not Your Classic Book Club, 6 p.m.

Friday, Sept. 18

PreTeen Create and Chill: Decorate a pencil case, 4:30 p.m., grades 3-5

Saturday, Sept. 19

Halloween Costume Swap – check website for details (through – Friday, Oct. 2)
Oshkosh Area Writers Club, 10 a.m. - noon
Unplug and Play Games, noon – 2 p.m.

Monday, Sept. 21

Preschool Storytime, 9:30 a.m.
Read to a Dog, 4 p.m.
Learn American Sign-Language (ASL) Together, 5 p.m.
Scroll Less, Live More, 6-7:30 p.m.

Tuesday, Sept. 22

Tunes and Tots, 10 a.m.
The Bubble | Community Open House, 4:30 p.m.
The Gettysburg Address and the U.S. Constitution, 6-7:30 p.m.
Banned Book Club, 6:30 p.m.

Wednesday, Sept. 23

Baby and Toddler Storytime, 9:30 and 10:15 a.m.
Elementary Explorers, 4:30 p.m.
Volga Germans of Sheboygan, 6 p.m., adults

Thursday, Sept. 24

Baby and Toddler Storytime, 9:30 and 10:15 a.m.
Elementary Explorers, 4:30 p.m., grades K-5
Oshkosh Public Library Board Meeting, 4-6 p.m.
Chess Club, 5-7 p.m.

Friday, Sept. 25

Meet the Zoo Animals presented by Friends of the Oshkosh Zoo, 10 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.
Crafternoon, 1-4 p.m.

Saturday, Sept. 26

Adult DIY: Autumnal wall hanging, 11 a.m. – noon
DC/Marvel Superheroes Adventure Time TTRPG, noon – 2 p.m.
Oshkosh Skies: A Photo Exhibit, Under the Dome

Monday, Sept. 28

Preschool Storytime, 9:30 a.m.
Read to a Dog, 4-5 p.m., grades K-5
Learn American Sign-Language (ASL) Together, 5 p.m.
Accountabilibuddies Writing Group, 6:30 p.m.

Tuesday, Sept. 29

Teen Tuesday, 4:30 p.m.
MANHATTAN SHORT Film Festival: You Be the Judge, 5-7 p.m.

Wednesday, Sept. 30

Baby and Toddler Storytime, 9:30 and 10:15 a.m.

Event supports addiction recovery services

Oshkosh Herald

The ReThink Addiction 5K is set for Sept. 12 at Solutions Recovery Center, 621 Evans St.

The event begins at 7:30 a.m. The cost is \$35. It will feature a timed run and untimed walk. All ages and fitness levels are welcome.

Other activities include live music, food truck, local vendors and community partners, and kids activities.

The family-friendly event aims to raise awareness, celebrate recovery and bring

Event supports those recovering from addiction

Oshkosh Herald

An event will highlight that recovery from addiction is possible.

The Rockin’ for Recovery Event presented by Unity Recovery Services will be from noon to 4 p.m. Sept. 12 at Winnebago County Community Park.

Unity Recovery Services offers free, peer-based recovery support to individuals and families impacted by addiction. Through recovery coaching, peer recovery centers, sober living support and justice-involved programs, people are connected to the resources they need to achieve and sustain recovery.

Walk provides support to defeat ALS slated for Sept. 12

Oshkosh Herald

The ALS Association is organizing the Walk to Defeat ALS.

Participation in the Walk to Defeat ALS has a direct impact on people living with ALS and their families at the local level. Through education, support groups, access

the community together in support of individuals and families affected by substance use disorders.

Funds raised support Solutions Recovery programs, including the Recovery Center, sober living homes and the Peer Response team. The services provide housing, recovery coaching, 24/7 peer support, transportation and connection to treatment for individuals and families across the Fox Valley.

Registration is open at runsignup.com/Race/WI/Oshkosh/RecoveryFest.

The organization provides recovery meetings throughout the event and additional recovery meetings after the event. All meetings are peer-led and open to everyone.

The event will feature a pig roast with all the sides, soda and water, live music by Rings of the Fox Valley, family-friendly games and kids’ activities. Tickets for raffle baskets and a 50/50 raffle will be sold. T-shirts and mugs will be for sale.

Admission is \$20 per person. Children under 10 receive free admission. Tickets and information are available at unityrecoveryservices.harnessgiving.org/events/3763.

to care and advocacy, the organization is working to defeat ALS and provide hope to people living with ALS and their families.

The event will be from 8:30 to 11:30 a.m. Sept. 12 at Menominee Park. More information is available at shorturl.at/5STXq.



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Locally owned K-Pop store opens in Oshkosh

By Hope Hahn
HERALD CONTRIBUTOR

K-Pop, short for Korean Popular music, is a performance style from South Korea that incorporates a mix of pop, hip-hop, R&B and electric sounds with sharp group dancing and bold styles.

In order to celebrate her Korean heritage, June Vang has opened up a K-Pop store in Oshkosh. The store, which she named Idol Haus, is located at 2100 W. Ninth Ave. It is a locally owned K-pop and Asian pop-culture store.

The store carries a variety of K-pop albums, official light sticks, photo cards, merchandise, blind boxes, anime collectibles, snacks and more. Beyond being a retail store, it was created as a welcoming place where fans can meet, trade photo cards, attend events and connect with others who share the same interests.

Idol Haus officially opened on June 27. The idea grew from June’s own love of K-pop, which began in the early 2000s.

“As a longtime fan, I noticed that people in Oshkosh and the surrounding Fox Valley area had very few local places, where they could shop for K-pop products or meet other fans,” Vang said. “Most people had to travel to larger cities or order every-



Submitted photo

Idol Haus on West Ninth Avenue carries a variety of K-pop items in addition to hosting events for fans.

thing online.”

Vang wanted to create the type of store that she would have loved having as a fan – a fun, welcoming space where people could discover new groups, find merchandise from their favorite artists, and feel part of a local K-pop community.

“I decided to open Idol Haus because I saw a need for something like it in our community,” Vang added. “K-pop has a large and passionate fan base, but there were very few dedicated stores in this area. I wanted

fans, especially younger fans and families to have a local place where they could see products in person, make friends and enjoy the excitement of K-pop together.”

Even though Idol Haus is still new, Vang said the support and enthusiasm from the community is incredibly encouraging.

“My favorite part is seeing how happy and excited customers are when they find an album, photo card or light stick they have been searching for,” Vang said. “I also love watching customers connect with one

another over their favorite groups. Some people walk into the store feeling shy, but once they realize they are surrounded by others who share the same interests, they begin opening up and making connections. Seeing Idol Haus become more than a store and grow into a community for local fans has been the most rewarding part for me.”

Vang said fans of K-Pop will love the variety of albums, as well as the other merchandise the store carries.



Photo from Oshkosh Arena

Memorial golfing

The Wisconsin Herd organized the second annual Joe Wolf Memorial Golf Outing Aug. 26 at Lake Breeze Golf Course in Winneconne. The event supports the Joe Wolf Foundation in honor of the team’s former assistant coach, who passed away in 2024. The foundation supports youth development, food distribution and health research.

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Walk for animals benefits medical care fund

Oshkosh Herald

The Oshkosh Area Humane Society is organizing the 2026 Walk for the Animals: Get Colorful for the Cause event.

The walk will be from 8:30 to 11 a.m. Sept. 12 at the Sunnyview Expo Center’s Barn A.

This year’s event will feature art activities including a T-shirt tie-dye station, kids’ activities, a dog kissing booth, dog games, dog portraits, a DJ, prizes, the Brewing Futures food truck, vendor booths, goodie bags, raffle baskets and more.

Every year, the humane society relies heavily on this fundraiser to generate the funding needed to replenish its medical care fund. This supports the costs of providing a medical exam for each animal, including vaccinations, testing, blood work, medications, spaying and neutering, and

other veterinary care as needed.

These funds ensure OAHS can compassionately care for the more than 3,200 animals in need who come through its doors each year and to provide low-cost vaccination and microchipping clinics to the community.

The goal for this event is to raise \$70,000.

Pledges can be brought from 2 to 6 p.m. Sept. 9 or Sept.10 to the shelter at 1925 Shelter Court in Oshkosh. While turning in pledges, participants can collect their Walk T-shirt and goodie bag in advance.

Dogs are welcome to join in the walk. They need to be leashed and monitored at all times. They also need to be current on vaccinations. Participants are asked not to bring any dogs with a history of aggression, and no dogs in heat.

EAA chapter hosting pancake breakfast

Oshkosh Herald

EAA Chapter 252 is hosting a pancake breakfast and Young Eagle Rally.

The event will be from 7:30 to 11 a.m. Sept. 12 at the Wittman Regional Airport Terminal, 525 W. 20th Ave.

Breakfast includes pancakes (all you can eat), sausages, scrambled eggs, coffee, milk and juice. Admission is \$8 for adults

and \$4 for kids under 10. Pilots of home-built aircraft who fly in eat free.

Free Young Eagle flights will be offered from 8:30 to 11 a.m. for youth age 8-17 who sign up, weather permitting. Pre-registration for flights is required by going to shorturl.at/iXyel. Space is limited.

No pre-registration is needed for the breakfast, which will take place rain or shine.

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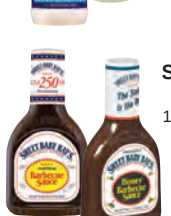
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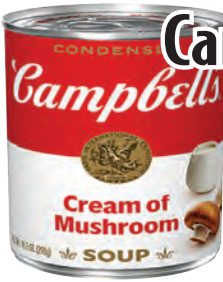
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Kufel helps Wildcats end drought against rival Spartans

By Steve Clark
OSHKOSH HERALD

Nate Wara notched plenty of wins for Oshkosh North as a player for the Spartans.

Now, he's a got a win over the Spartans, too.

Carter Kufel ran for two scores and threw for another and Wara picked up his first win as a head coach as Oshkosh West rallied from an early deficit to beat rival Oshkosh North 21-6 at Titan Stadium on Friday night.

"It feels good. The guys worked hard to-night. You could see they took some steps forward this week," Wara said. "This week they improved and that's the No. 1 thing to get better every week and that's exactly what we did."

West regained the Harold J. Schumerth Traveling Cup with the win after the Spartans had held it for the past two years. West's last win in the series came in 2023 when the Wildcats posted a 41-0 win over North.

"It feels amazing. It's the first time beating North on varsity in a couple of years," said West senior defensive back Elijah Wilder. "I'm happy for our team, our school, our coaches, everyone."

Wilder made the defensive play of the game midway through the second quarter with West holding a slim 7-6 lead.

Keyed by a 20-yard pass from Julian Rew to Brendyn Sawall, North marched to the Wildcats' 8-yard line and faced a third-and-4. But when Rew made a throw to the left corner of the end zone, Wilder intercepted the pass to thwart the Spartans' potential scoring drive.

"The slot (receiver) ran a corner route and I just stayed underneath it. The quarterback threw it and I just picked it off," Wilder said. "Coach prepared us all week for this and he put us in positions to make the play and I just made the play."

The turnover definitely gave the Wildcats a boost.

"It was a big play," Wara said. "He's been doing an unbelievable job in practice. He was in the right position at the right time and then he was able to catch the ball."

After the interception, the West offense picked up one first down before a penalty left them facing a third-and-long.

But Kufel, under pressure and rolling to his right, flicked a 41-yard completion to Henry Weis for a first down in Spartan territory. On the next play, Kufel picked out Christian Johnson for a 36-yard touchdown to give the Wildcats a 14-6 lead – an advantage they would carry into halftime.

"The receivers were running to their locations on the field and getting open. They were just doing their jobs," said Kufel, who finished 8-of-14 for 170 yards. "The adrenalin was pumping and we're hyping each other up every time (the offense went) out. It was a next play mentality and it wasn't done until the scoreboard read zeroes. It felt good."

Neither team scored on its first posses-



Oshkosh Herald

Oshkosh West quarterback Carter Kufel runs away from Oshkosh North's Brendyn Sawall on a 27-yard touchdown run in the third quarter last Friday night.

sion of the second half before West was able to add to its lead late in the third period.

After having a touchdown called back because of a penalty, Kufel dropped back to pass on the next play, side-stepped the pass rush and raced across the field for a 27-yard touchdown run.

"Honestly, I thought the play was going to get blown up right away because their big guy came through and rushed me. But I got free and just found some open field and ran there," said Kufel, who was making his first start at quarterback after playing running back last week. "I've been pretty good at escaping the pocket if there is pressure."

Wara agreed that Kufel's escapability is something that can benefit the Wildcats' offense.

"He's very elusive and he gives this offense a little spark and I think he did a really good job, especially with his legs," Wara said. "There are some things he needs to work on but I thought he did a really good job getting thrown in there. Especially with his legs."

North was forced to punt on its next possession but drove in to Wildcats' territory late in the fourth quarter.

Rew connected on a screen pass to Dominic Wyrwicki to move North to the Wildcats' 19-yard line, but the West defense got a tackle-for-loss from Wilder and fourth-down sack from Weis to end the drive.

The Wildcats were then able to run out the clock.

"It feels good especially after last week

when we didn't get a touchdown," Kufel said. "We were able to get the ball in the end zone tonight. To be able to get three (touchdowns) on the board it felt good, especially against our cross-town rival."

"We worked harder in practice, extended it a little bit last week. We were pushing everyone. Focusing on the minor details

because it's the details that help you win the games."

The Spartans took the opening kickoff and drove the length of the field to get the early lead in the game.

North marched 63 yards on eight plays – seven of which were runs – and got a three-yard run from Wyrwicki to cap things off for a 6-0 lead.

"I knew we wanted to play a physical game," North first-year head coach Alec Gulan said. "The plan early on was to come out and pound the rock. We came out in our heavy set and we ran it the whole length of the field."

West responded just before the end of the first quarter following a fourth-down stop of the Spartans at the Wildcats 34-yard line.

Kufel connected with Weis on a 29-yard gain on the first play of the drive and then – after a couple of short runs – plowed into end zone to take its first lead at 7-6.

After allowing the opening touchdown drive, the West defense bent but didn't break the rest of the way. The Wildcats twice stopped North drives in Wildcat territory and finished with a pair of interceptions in the game.

"I thought our defense responded really well," Wara said. "They didn't put their heads down (after the touchdown). They got right back to it. I thought they did a really good job."

Gulan said his offense just couldn't get rolling after the game-opening drive.

"They were throwing some different stuff at us," Gulan said. "They made a good adjustment to us. They saw where we wanted to go, that we wanted to run the

SEE **Prep football** ON PAGE 20



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Senior Spotlight is brought to you by: **Nicolet NATIONAL BANK**

Quandt aiming to add final touches to stellar career



Photo by Andy Ratchman
Lourdes Academy senior Sasha Quandt is a three-time placewinner at the WIAA State Tennis Tournament, including a runner-up finish at last year's event.

By Steve Clark
OSHKOSH HERALD

Tennis just clicked for Sasha Quandt. As a youngster she had tried some different sports and activities like gymnastics, ice skating and dance and all were enjoyable to some extent. Yet, at six-years-old when she got that racquet in her hand, that was it.

"My parents put me in a lot of sports when I was younger just to try things and then one day I just tried out tennis and it just sparked for me," the Lourdes Academy senior said. "I ice skated for a year and did tennis, but I dropped that because I wanted to play competitively and see who I could become as a tennis player."

It was a natural connection with the sport and the skills came pretty easily for Quandt, who started playing tennis in Appleton at the Odgen YMCA.

Yet, it wasn't as much about dominating opponents when she first started stepping on the court. It was more about how she took in the experience.

"I had so much fun where all I would do is smile on court," Quandt said. "I have seen videos of me playing and I could hit the ball. It wasn't always pretty but I had that hand-eye coordination and I would run for every ball just because I was having so much fun."

Quandt credits her parents, John and Darya, for supporting her blossoming tennis career and always supporting her choice to keep playing.

"My parents were always a big role model for me," Quandt said. "They have given me everything I needed and always been on my side."

Quandt started playing competitive events in the United States Tennis Association when she was nine and has continued to move up the rankings since she started. She is currently in the top 20 in the Wisconsin girls 18 division, sitting at No. 19.

That led to her taking the court for Lourdes Academy where she has made trips to the state meet in each of her first three years of high school and stood on the podium each time.

Last year, she was the Division 2 state runner-up, losing a heartbreaking title match, 4-6, 6-0, 10-8, to top-seeded and defending state champion Susanna Hundt of the Chesterton Academy.

"It was disappointing because I was right there. It was a coin flip in that match because we were back and forth the whole time," said Quandt, who finished fourth as a sophomore. "I just had some drive that kept me going. Walking off court was tough but it gave me the motivation and opened my eyes to know that I can do it."

Quandt said her goal this year is to stand on top of the podium at the Nielsen

Senior Spotlight

Nicolet NATIONAL BANK

Tennis Stadium.

"Honestly, it's going to take a lot of self-confidence. Just believe in myself. That's what I have been doing all of these years and that's why I have been raising on the podium because of that," Quandt said. "I know how state works now so it's just playing my game, hitting that ball and focusing on myself on the court."

Despite having her goals so entrenched with what happens at the end of the season, Quandt doesn't mind the early-season matches where there isn't necessarily a lot for her to play for.

She enjoys the opportunity to be out on the court in less pressurized situations and really take on the team aspect of tennis.

"I get excited for this time of year because I know I can play fun matches. I just take it as a nice, easy match and have team bonding with my friends," Quandt said. "Then when (the postseason) comes, really lock down and focus on strategies."

Although Quandt is focused on what her senior season holds, she also has an eye on the future.

She plans to continue her playing career at the collegiate level but has not decided on a landing spot for next fall. With her USTA ranking continuing to rise, she hopes to take some college visits after the season and have a decision by the fall signing period in November.

"I'm still seeing what school can give me the best with scholarships and team bonding and environment. I'm looking around the U.S. to see where I will feel the best," said Quandt, who hopes to go to a medical or dental school in the future. "With the progress I have been making with these schools, I think I will have a great list to choose from."

And what lies beyond college as far as tennis goes?

Well, she would like to coach – something she has done for fellow high school players over the summer – but there is the dream of one day turning pro and stepping onto the same courts that her favorites Serena Williams, Coco Gauff and Jan-nik Sinner now play on.

"That's always been the dream and that's always the goal I want," Quandt said. "I think college will help a lot. It's a big step from high school tennis and all of the tennis I have been playing so I think it will be a great step to going pro hopefully one day."

SEE **Senior Spotlight** ON PAGE 18

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Prep roundup

FOOTBALL

Lourdes Academy rolls past Reedsville

The Knights put up 35 points in the first half and didn't allow a score until the fourth quarter as they plowed past Reedsville, 35-6, last Friday.

Brady Bauer ran for 143 yards and four touchdowns on just nine carries to lead Lourdes Academy. The senior quarterback also completed 7-of-8 passes for 88 yards and a touchdown.

Lucas Neuens, who left the Knights' opener with an injury, returned to action with four catches for 64 yards and a touchdown.

Maximus Behnke led the Lourdes Academy defense with eight tackles, while Bobby Geck finished with six.

The Knights open Trailways Conference play next Friday at home against Johnson Creek.

Warriors upend state-ranked Sevastopol

Valley Christian topped the 40-point mark for the second straight week as the Warriors throttled sixth-ranked Sevastopol, 42-22, on Friday night.

Sam Gloudemans rushed for 140 yards and three touchdowns to pace the offense, while Liam Clayton added 99 yards on seven carries. Mason Everts completed 10-of-11 passes for 97 yards – including a touchdown to Jay Parish – while also running for two scores in the win.

Xander Osinga led the Valley Christian receivers with seven catches for 63 yards.

The Warriors forced three turnovers and held the Pioneers scoreless for the first three quarters of the game. Ian Kramer led the team with nine tackles while Cole Highfill finished with eight.

Valley Christian will play at Oneida Nation on Thursday.

VOLLEYBALL

Wildcats drop three close matches at quad

Oshkosh West opened their season at the Kimberly quadrangular last week and suffered losses in all three matches.

The Wildcats fell in three sets to both Manitowoc Lincoln and Kimberly while getting swept by Brookfield East.

Kayana Turner led the West hitters with 20 kills, while Emma Liebergen had 13 and Kinslee Nelson added eight. Liebergen also led the team with 23 digs with Turner adding 16 and both players fin-

ished with a team-high three aces.

Adalynn Her totaled 23 assists in the match with Brooklyn Rowe chipping in 19, while Halle Stern also finished with 12 digs.

Knights open season at Laconia tourney

Lourdes Academy finished 2-3 as the Knights began their season Saturday at the Laconia Invitational.

Lourdes Academy beat Bonduel and Coleman, while falling to Green Bay NEW Lutheran, Laconia and Pacelli.

Kennadie Fronek led the Knights with 25 kills, 13 aces and 41 digs in the five matches.

Sarah Hafemeister added 19 kills and Naomi Liabwill finished with 17 for the Knights.

Katelyn Potratz led the Knights with 45 digs, while Grace Martin finished with 59 assists.

Warriors win both matches at triangular

Valley Christian opened its season with a home triangular and won both matches, topping Elkhart Lake-Glenbuelah 25-14, 26-24 before edging Winnebago Lutheran Academy 25-27, 25-17, 15-10.

Laila Gostas-Sims paced the win over the Resorters, finished with 12 kills and seven digs.

Ellie Demler led the team with nine digs while Jael Picker added seven. Lydia Hardy finished with 19 assists and two aces.

In the victory over the Vikings, Brielle Birr led the way with nine kills, followed by seven from Gostas-Sims.

Gostas-Sims finished with a team-high 12 digs, while Addy Lehman had nine and Demler added eight. Hardy finished with 26 assists.

Ella Urban led the team with four aces.

Valley Christian also went 1-3 at a tournament at Central Wisconsin Christian over the weekend.

The Warriors' lone win came over Sheboygan Lutheran.

North splits matches at triangular

The Spartans opened their season by going 1-1 at the Notre Dame triangular last week.

North beat New London in three sets, while getting swept by the host Tritons.

North also participated in a tournament at JustAGame Fieldhouse in Wisconsin Dells over the weekend and finished 1-5, with the lone win coming in three sets

over Rio.

SOCCER

Oshkosh North outduels Lourdes Academy

The Spartans racked up a 4-1 win over the Knights in a nonconference matchup between the two schools last Tuesday.

The Knights also dropped a 3-0 decision to Kohler later in the week, while the Spartans fell to West De Pere, 3-1.

Wildcats open season with pair of ties

Oshkosh West started its season with a pair of ties last week.

The Wildcats played to a 1-1 draw with DC Everest in the opener while recording a scoreless tie with Wisconsin Rapids Lincoln last Thursday.

GOLF

Leib earns medalist honors to lead North

Sammie Leib fired a 47 at Winagamie Golf Course to earn medalist honors in a Fox Valley Association dual meet against Appleton West.

The Spartans finished with a team score of 221, while the Terrors shot 205.

Becca Kolodzik and Kendall Juedes each shot rounds of 57 for the Spartans, while Ashling Lynch added a round of 60.

Leib also led the Spartans in dual meets against Neenah and Kimberly, although the Spartans weren't able to field complete teams.

Leib notched a 47 at Westhaven against Neenah, while Lynch added a score of 62 and then had a 49 against Kimberly, with

Lynch following with a 60.

Oshkosh West drops pair of FVA dual meets

The Wildcats came up short in two dual meets last week, falling to Hortonville on Thursday and Kimberly on Wednesday.

Hailey Gibbs paced West against the Polar Bears with a round of 57 at Grandview Golf Course. Delaney Anderson, Taylor Van Beek and Mia Drexler each finished with scores of 58 for the Wildcats.

Drexler had the low round for West against Kimberly with a 60 at the Oshkosh Country Club.

Lauren Klinger and Samreen Chahal each added 64s with Gibbs and Olivia Weigandt each adding 67s.

TENNIS

Lourdes Academy edges Kewaskum in dual meet

The Knights won three of the four singles matches and edged Kewaskum 4-3 last week.

Sasha Quandt and Maya Hawi each won 6-0, 6-0 at the No. 1 and No. 2 flights, respectively, while Nadia Hesse earned a three-set win at No. 3 singles, bouncing back after a first-set loss.

Lourdes Academy also got a win at No. 2 doubles with Izzy Mugerauer and Raya Fisher pulling out a close three-set victory.

CROSS COUNTRY

Moore collects win at Terror Invite

Oshkosh West junior Dominic Moore

SEE Prep roundup ON PAGE 20

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Oshkosh Herald

With five of the seven runners returning from last year's state qualifying team, the Oshkosh West girls are looking forward to following up last year's experience with another strong season.

Cross Country

PREVIEW

work pay off and cherished the chance to represent Oshkosh West together at,” commented head k. “That experience ed and united as we. Even better, the les- about preparation, ling pressure — are with our younger

Leading the cast of returning runners for the Wildcats will be senior Abby Tercha, who finished 74th at the state meet last year. Tercha has been a varsity runner since her freshman year and is expected to once again lead the squad.

Fellow seniors Haylie Hullar and Mila Crowe also return after running at state last year, while juniors Coraline Strebelinski and Ellie Trebiatowski are also back for the Wildcats.

Freshmen Haddie Wara and Reese Wickman will be newcomers expected to help bolster the varsity lineup.

"We are incredibly lucky to have so

many runners returning this year. Their experience and mentorship will be critical to the season, both for race-day performance and for bringing along our younger athletes," Polak commented. "Overall, the girls are shaping up to be competitive in the tough FVA."

The West boys lost some key seniors from last year's squad, however, the Wildcats do have a returning state qualifier to lead the squad.

Junior Dominic Moore was an individual qualifier for last year's meet and finished 85th – out of 190 runners – and will be counted on to lead the squad this season.

Senior Arjen Karns, junior Andy Toonen and sophomore Will Schiek are also back from last year's team that finished fifth at the sectional meet.

Sophomore Kypen Turner is expected to be a new face in the varsity lineup for the Wildcats.

“Our returning varsity athletes have stepped up admirably. They are doing a great job leading the younger and newer runners, setting a positive tone at practice and helping build consistency,” Polak commented. “The boys are running hard, working well together and responding positively to our workouts. I’m excited to see how they develop and perform as a group season.”

Lourdes Academy

The Lourdes Academy boys will potentially return its entire state-qualifying team from last season as the Knights look to repeat that level of success.

Led by No. 1 runner Henry Spanbauer, who finished 31st at the state meet a year

ago, the Knights are looking to defend their Trailways Conference championship along with improving on their 14th-place finish at Wisconsin Rapids.

"I think our boys realized that they can compete. Last season they stepped up and believed in each other and figured out how to win," head coach Tim Moore commented. "Winning the way they did - exactly how we talked about it - made these boys realize that working hard and believing in each other has huge benefits. It isn't easy for our small group but I think they now understand what it takes to make it to State."

Seniors Zach Foster and Cameron Kapral, juniors Mason Piechowski and Conor Salm and sophomore Kody Neitzel also ran on the state meet team, while Moore also expects freshmen Kush Pharma, Nolan Piechowski and Emmett Klein to contribute at the varsity level this season.

The Lourdes Academy girls will also look to defend their Trailways Conference title from last year and will have an experienced roster ready to run this season.

Seniors Annie Moore and Allison Stromske are both entering their fourth years at the varsity level, while juniors Khloe Bunton, Ana Schneidewend and Evelyn Henizen also bring plenty of experience to the squad.

Freshman Zoe Heinzen could also fit into the varsity lineup for the Knights, who finished fourth at the sectional meet a year ago.

"Our girls are looking to work toward improving our sectional finish from last season," commented Moore. "Our goal is

always to make it to state and this group of girls have the experience to get us back to the state meet."

Oshkosh North

The Spartans boys and girls squads will attack the 2026 season from different perspectives.

The boys return a wealth of experience to this year's squad, while the girls have nine underclassmen among their 12 runners as they open up the season.

“We are looking for strong leadership out of our upperclassmen and growth and improvement throughout,” commented head coach Steve Danza. “The boys are led by experience and we are looking forward to that experience and hard work to put us around the top five in the FVA.”

The North boys return their top runner from a year ago in junior Jay Weber, while seniors Reid Anderson, Clay Poquette and Cam Harrison also return for the squad.

Junior Mugisha Sebuhinja is a newcomer that Danza is expecting to contribute to the varsity lineup.

Leading the way for the girls will be senior Adri Clark – who missed qualifying for state as an individual by one place last year. Juniors Allison Cummings and Savannah Rust also ran on the varsity squad last season.

Valley Christian

The Warriors will feature one of the top girl runners in the area in senior Mya Moran, who will be attempting to make her third trip to the state meet.

The boys will be led by senior Jack O'Brien and junior Simon Menet.

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Senior Spotlight

FROM PAGE 16

But whether she's playing at the U.S. Open or Wimbledon or simply knocking the ball around on the courts where she is living, she believes that tennis will always be there.

“It’s something that’s never going to leave me. It’s always going to be a part of me,” Quandt said. “Tennis is my life. Without tennis I don’t know what I would be doing. Tennis is one of those sports where I can just go on court and be myself. It’s like my safe spot.”



Quandt

Quandt has won more than 50 matches in her high school career and is looking forward to making one last run at WIAA gold.

But she knows that when that last high school match comes this fall, it's going to be tough to put that Lourdes Academy racquet away for the final time.

"I think it will be tough knowing it was my last high school match. I will know I have many more matches to go through but the past three going on four years has just gone so fast. It's given me so many memories, so many friends," Quandt said. "Tennis has taught me to be myself and it's all on you for who you want to be and that you really can do anything."

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Momont named interim head coach for UWO cross country teams

UWO SPORTS INFORMATION

UW-Oshkosh Assistant Chancellor for Intercollegiate Athletics Darryl Sims announced on Friday (Aug. 7) that Sylviann Momont will serve as the interim head cross country coach this fall.

“I am excited to announce Sylviann as our interim head cross country coach,” said Sims, “and I want to thank her for stepping up and into this role to support our student-athletes as we look to move forward during this transitional time.”

Momont, who will also be entering her fifth season as an assistant coach with the track & field programs this winter, joined the staff at UW-Oshkosh as the full-time assistant coach ahead of the 2023 indoor season, focusing on the multi and high jump events.

“I am honored to step in as the interim head cross country coach for this upcoming season,” Momont said. “I deeply appreciate Darryl and [Deputy Director of Athletics] Abby Gildernick for reaching out and providing this opportunity. Being involved with the program here at UWO for the past four seasons, I have

been fortunate to build a strong foundation amongst the athletes and staff. We have an amazing cast of seasoned returners and motivated incomers that are ready to take on this upcoming season. I am excited to get to work and grow the program as we continue the search for this position after the season.”

Momont graduated from UW-Stevens Point with her bachelor’s degree in 2021 and her master’s in 2022. A six-time All-American in the indoor pentathlon, outdoor heptathlon, and indoor and outdoor high jump, Momont also captured five WIAC individual titles and was named the league’s field performer of the meet following the 2019 indoor championship.

Momont has already added to her staff naming Hyden Hunt as an assistant coach.

“I am excited to be adding Coach Hunt to the staff!” Said Momont. “His background and passion for building into a college coaching career made him stand out in the candidate pool. We are excited to welcome him to UWO and ready to start this next chapter together!”

Hunt, who will also assist the track & field programs, comes to Oshkosh from Carnegie Mellon University (Pa.), where he had served as an assistant cross country and track & field coach since 2024.

While with the Tartans, Hunt helped guide the cross country programs to four top-25 finishes at the Division III Championships and four individuals to All-America honors. Carnegie Mellon won one regional crown while the U.S. Track & Field and Cross Country Coaches Association awarded 25 All-Region honors to runners between 2024 and 2025.

On the track, Tartans collected four individual University Athletic Association titles and five Division III All-America medals.

A four-year student-athlete in the

NCAA Division II Shippensburg University (Pa.) men’s cross country and track & field teams, Hunt was a member of eight total Pennsylvania State Athletic Conference championships, won the indoor 5,000-meter run title in 2023 and the outdoor 10,000-meter title in 2024, earned 11 overall All-PSAC First Team awards and was named the league’s cross country freshman of the year in 2021.

Hunt qualified for the Division II Cross Country Championship twice – 2021 and 2023.

Hunt graduated from Shippensburg in 2023 and 2024. He received his bachelor’s degree in business management and master’s degree in business administration. He also holds a level one certification with USA Track & Field.

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Obituaries

Audrey Heruth

Audrey Heruth, age 97, passed away at Bella Vista on Sunday, August 23, 2026. She was born to the late Ray and Mary (Lingenfelter) Odekirk on May 7, 1929, in Fond Du Lac. She married Leslie Heruth on June 7, 1947, and they were together until his passing in 2002.

Audrey worked for 18 years at J.C. Penney as a service merchandiser and 20 years at Miles Kimball Company.

Audrey enjoyed volunteering at her church, First English Lutheran Church, as well as the Elks Club and Mercy Hospital; as well as traveling to see shows at the Fireside Theatre.

Audrey is survived by her daughters, Deborah Lemke and Cindi (Michael) Jungwirth; grandchildren, Adam Jungwirth, Jared (Corey) Jungwirth, Jordan (Brynn) Jungwirth, and Michael (Heather) Lemke; great-grandchildren, Violet, Hudson, Ryleigh, & Carson Jungwirth and Hailey and Benjamin Lemke. She

is further survived by her sisters-in-law, Jenny Odekirk, Beverly Heruth and many nieces and nephews.

In addition to her parents and husband, Audrey was preceded in death by her brothers, Donald (Lucille), Lowell (Betty), and Eldon Odekirk and sister-in-law, Barbara (Richard) Schmitz; and brothers-in-law, Richard and Ronald Heruth.

A memorial service for Audrey will be at Konrad-Behlman Funeral Homes-West (100 Lake Pointe Dr) on Tuesday, September 8, 2026 at 12PM. A time of visitation will be held from 11AM until the time of service. A burial of cremated remains will take place at Estabrooks Cemetery at a later date.

The family would like to thank the staff at Bella Vista and Heartland Hospice for the wonderful and loving care they gave to mom, especially Hallie, Alyssa, Marin, Lynn, Emily, Jennifer, Kerri, Leslie, Pao.

In lieu of flowers memorials may be sent to St Jude Children’s Research and the Wounded Warrior program or a charity of your choosing



Luella M. Rummel

Luella M. (Haase) Rummel, 96, left her earthly home on Saturday, August 22, 2026, at Aurora Medical Center in Oshkosh. She was born to Albert and Hattie (Kriesel) Haase on November 20, 1929, in Borth, WI. Luella graduated from Omro High School in 1946.

Luella married her “one and only Raymond E. Rummel”. They were blessed with three daughters. Luella worked in the Northeast Association UCC office in Appleton for 27 years.

Luella loved music, singing harmony, especially hymns, in choirs or with family. She will be remembered for her love of flowers and gardening. She loved to bake, making donut balls and pies for her family, and she was known as The Evergreen Pie Lady.

Luella is survived by daughters, Patty (William) Martin, Michele (Scott) Pakenham, Lori (Steven) Reich; grandchildren, Jennifer (Michael) Durkin, Nicole (Thomas) Phillips, Matthew (Jennifer) Martin, Andrew (Whitney) Pakenham, Katherine (Justin) Sunderland, Annaka (Jordan) Companari; twelve great-grand-

children; two great-great-grandchildren; and sister-in-law, Margie (Jerry) Jankowski.

Along with her parents, Luella was preceded in death by her husband, Raymond Rummel; a son at birth; grandson, Riley Reich; siblings and in-laws, Raymond and Gertrude Rummel, Robert Haase, Merlin and Evelyn Haase, Melvin and Donna Albright, Gaylord and Ina Mae Rummel, Robert and Audrey Rummel, Donald and Doris Rummel.

The Celebration of Life will be held at Evergreen Retirement Community Chapel 1130 N. Westfield St. Oshkosh on Thursday, September 10, 2026, with Pastor/Chaplain Steve Wood officiating. Visitation at 1:00 p.m. and service at 2:00 p.m. A private inurnment will be held at the Borth Cemetery.

In lieu of flowers memorials may be given to the Evergreen Foundation Benevolent Fund or Ethnos360 <https://ethnos360.org/give> Asia Pacific Helicopter Fund.

Mueller Funeral Home-Winneconne is assisting the family. If you wish, please submit online condolences/memories to muellerfh.net.



Marcia Ann Rasmussen

Marcia Ann Rasmussen, born on March 15, 1939, in Oshkosh, Wisconsin, passed away in the comfort of her home on August 27, 2026. She was a woman who lived life with fierce determination, boundless curiosity, and a spirit that simply refused to miss out on anything.

Born in Oshkosh, Marcia was the daughter of the late Clarence and Agnes Youngwirth. After graduating from Oshkosh High School, she attended the Milwaukee Accredited School of Beauty Culture, a path that sparked her entrepreneurial spirit. She founded and successfully operated Marcia’s Beauty Salon. On August 20, 1960, she married Kenneth Rasmussen at St. Vincent Catholic Church. As family was important to them, they built a house next to Marcia’s aunt and uncle, Marion and Thomas Kinney, and raised their children there. Together, they later owned and managed Rasmussen’s Heating and Air Conditioning and eventually built their dream home on the Fox River.

Marcia’s natural charisma and commanding presence left a lasting mark on her community. She notably broke barriers by becoming the first female Commodore of the Oshkosh Boat Club, leading with the same no-nonsense confidence she brought to everything in her life.

Marcia was competitive in the best possible way. She played hard but was always a good sport. Golf was one of her great loves, and she was fond of saying that nine holes was only half a game. During her sixties, she recorded not one but two holes in one, a feat she was rightfully proud of. She was also an avid card player, with Bridge sitting at the very top of her list. Marcia was quick-witted, funny, and always ready with a joke. She had a gift for making people laugh and feel welcome.

Her wanderlust was legendary. Marcia was on a mission to explore the world, and she did just that, traveling extensively with Ken, her family, and her treasured friends. She was a planner and a doer, someone who lived with a no-regrets spirit and an impatience that came from knowing

life was too short to sit still. She was also deeply involved in the Oshkosh Sno-Riders Club, adding yet another adventure to her already full life.

Most of all, Marcia was a devoted wife and mother. She took great pleasure in spending time with her grandchildren and was overjoyed to become a great-grandmother, or “GG,” to Scarlett. It was difficult for her to let go because, true to form, she had FOMO right up until the end.

Marcia is survived by her loving husband, Kenneth Rasmussen; her daughter, Amy (Todd) Johnson; her son, Brian (Julie) Rasmussen; her cherished grandchildren, Taylor (Jalin) Lutze-Johnson, Jacob (Emilee Roschen) Johnson, Kayla Rasmussen, and Rachel (Alex Kellman) Rasmussen; and her great-granddaughter, Scarlett Lutze-Johnson. She was preceded in death by her parents, Clarence and Agnes Youngwirth, and her sister, Maribeth Youngwirth.

The family takes comfort in believing that Marcia has been reunited with her beloved mum, whom she missed tremendously, and other family members who preceded her in death. May she find peace, joy, and all the adventure her beautiful spirit deserves.

There will be a private celebration of life per Marcia’s wishes. No formal funeral services are planned. Arrangements were entrusted to Konrad-Behlman. The family wishes to thank Generations Hospice, Evergreen at Home and Visiting Angels for the compassionate care given to Marcia. In lieu of flowers, memorials may be made to the Alzheimer’s Association and the Oshkosh Senior Center.





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Edward Clarence Wilcox

Edward “Eddie” Clarence Wilcox, 79, passed away on August 24, 2026, in Oshkosh, WI. He was born on March 6, 1947, to parents, George and Betty Wilcox in Oshkosh, WI. Eddie graduated from Fox Valley Technical College with a certificate as a Diesel

Mechanic, working for Ryder Truck Rental and Kimberly Clark. He was also an entrepreneur as well as a landlord in Oshkosh for many years.

He served proudly in the U.S. Air Force and on July 30, 1966, he married the love of his life, Dianne Strong for 55 years. Together they raised four children. Eddie enjoyed camping, fishing, photography, watching the Green Bay Packers with Dianne, building and generally making things with his hands.

Eddie is survived by his children, Ann (Lance) Thern, John (Wendy) Wilcox, Mary (Jimmy Phillip) Wilcox and Robert (Kristalee) Wilcox; grandchildren, Jessica (Aaron) Tobison, Lucas (Julia) Henlsin,

Michael Wilcox, Noah Henslin, Mitchell Wilcox, Erik (Arizona Lynn Hinz) Thern, Edward, Ryelee, Simeon and Jaylee Wilcox; great-grandchildren, Anthony Tobison, Bentley Henslin, Aria Henslin, Haisley Grey Marie Thern, Amaya Tobison and Esconar Tobison. He is further survived by brothers, Dan (Dolores) Wilcox and Joe (Julie) Wilcox; and sister, Rena (Robert) Gomach; as well as many other friends and family.

He was preceded in death by his wife, Dianne Wilcox; parents, George and Betty Wilcox; as well as a miscarried child and grandchildren, who the Lord has named.

The family would like to extend a special thank you to the staff at Aurora Medical Center of Oshkosh as well as Dr. Jafri and the Vince Lombardi Cancer Center.

There will be an 1pm to 2pm visitation before the memorial service at 2pm on Sunday, September 13, 2026, at Martin Luther Ev. Lutheran Church, 1526 Algoma Blvd., with Rev. Tom Voss officiating.

Although this is tough for us that Eddie has left this earth, we can rejoice that he has been reunited with Dianne in heaven.



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Obituaries

Lewis J. D’Andrea
Lewis J. “Lou” D’Andrea of Oshkosh passed away on August 26, 2026, at the age of 94.

Lou was born in Niles, Ohio, on March 28, 1932, the son of the late Raymond and Ann D’Andrea. On April 14, 1956, he married Donna Grunwald, the love of his life, at Zion Lutheran Church in Readfield, Wisconsin. They recently celebrated 70 years of marriage.

Lou spent his entire career in the retail shoe business, beginning at the age of 15, when his mother helped him get his first job selling shoes. In August 1953, he came to Oshkosh to manage Nobil Shoes. In 1962, he purchased the O.A. Haase Shoe Store, and in later years, he worked as

both a manager and employee of Rogan’s Shoes. Lou loved interacting with people, and never considered his job to be work. He looked forward to going in each day and continued working until the age of 90.

A longtime member of St. John’s Lutheran Church in Oshkosh, Lou was also active in the Oshkosh Downtown Association and the Oshkosh Chamber of Commerce and was a past member of the Rotary Club and Elks Club.

Lou is survived by his wife, Donna D’Andrea, and his daughters, Dr. Lynn D’Andrea (Dr. Santosh Krishnan) of Brookfield, Wisconsin, and Julie D’Andrea (Rob Hudson) of New York City.

Above all, Lou was devoted to his family. He was a loving husband and father who took great pride in his daughters and treasured the life he and Donna built together over 70 years of marriage. His optimism, generosity, and kindness were at the heart of

who he was, especially with those he loved most. And throughout his life, he found joy in some of his favorite things—music, from the Italian crooners to Lawrence Welk; his beloved New York Yankees; and his ever-growing collection of ducks.

Lou is also survived by his brother and sister-in-law, Larry and Lucille D’Andrea of Warren, Ohio; his sister-in-law, Joyce Thomas of Appleton, Wisconsin; and nieces, nephews, and many friends.

He was preceded in death by his parents; his brother and sister-in-law, James and Patricia D’Andrea; his sister and brother-in-law, Lucille and Faust D’Annunzio; his brothers- and sisters-in-law, Wallace and Janice Grunwald and Laverne and Charlotte Grunwald; and his brother-in-law, Terry Thomas.

The family is deeply grateful to Dr. Ammar Alzoubi, as well as the caregivers at Home Instead and Aurora Hospice for the

kindness, compassion, and care they provided to Lou.

Private family memorial services will be held.

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Kristine L. Flack
Kristine L. Flack was born to Arthur and Beatrice Scheller. She passed away surrounded by family. Per her wishes, no funeral services were held, she was cremated and wanted to be buried beneath a hosta. For those who knew her, she had a passion for flowers. She is lovingly remembered by her daughter, Brittany (Josh) Webb, her grandsons, family and friends.

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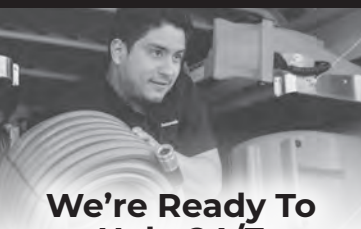
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Obituaries

Janet E. Schmude

Janet “Jan” E. Schmude, 87, of Oshkosh, passed away on Wednesday, August 26, 2026, at ThedaCare in Neenah, surrounded by her children.

She was born on July 25, 1939, in Sutton, Nebraska, to Edmund and Clara (Traudt) Ochsner. Jan graduated from Sutton High School in 1957 where she was a cheerleader, the cartoonist for the school newspaper, a drummer in band, and queen of the high school dance. During Jan’s senior year, she created a painting that won the national Hallmark award and represented the state of Nebraska in Washington D.C.

On November 22, 1958, she married Ervin Schmude in Council Bluffs, Iowa. They were married for 67 years before his passing on June 2, 2026. Together, they had three children.

Jan worked a number of part-time jobs while raising her family, the longest at Miles Kimball in Oshkosh from where she retired. She was a faithful member of St.

Paul’s Lutheran Church in Winneconne. Jan enjoyed flower gardening and bird watching. Each year, she anxiously awaited Spring so she could purchase flowers to plant at their home in Winneconne and later on the patio of their apartment in Oshkosh. Jan loved decorating for the holidays especially Halloween. Never learning to drive, she appreciated the many road trips with her daughter, Candy, searching for antiques and collectibles. Before health issues prevented many activities, Jan and Erv filled their retirement years by attending local stock car races, displaying their 1947 Mercury Coupe at car shows and parades, selling at flea markets and toy shows, polka dancing, lunching with friends, and supporting their grandchildren at many sporting events. Jan was a devoted fan of the Nebraska Cornhuskers and Golden State Warriors. She enjoyed watching Dancing with the Stars, American Idol, and western movies and shows, especially Gunsmoke. She is survived by her loving family, daughters, Candy (Warren) Luce and Cheri Reese; son, AJ (Deanna) Schmude; grandchildren, Becky Mueller, Jenny (Jeremy) Case, Chrissy Reese, Colby

Schmude and Grayson Schmude; and great-grandchildren, Gibson Mueller, Frehley Mueller, Marshall Mueller, and John Case; as well as other relatives and friends. In addition to her parents and husband, Erv, Jan was preceded in death by her brothers, Donald, Milton and Gerald Ochsner; her sisters, Aldine Griess and Ramona Linblad; her parents-in-law, Roy and June Schmude; and sister-in-law, Betty (Schmude) Loos. A memorial service will be held at 11:00 AM, on September 3, 2026, at St. Paul’s Lutheran Church (8 S. 4th St., Winneconne, WI 54986). The visitation will be held from 10:00 AM to 11:00 AM at the

church. In lieu of flowers, a memorial for Jan has been established with St. Paul’s Lutheran Church in Winneconne. The family would like to thank the caregivers at Bella Vista in Oshkosh where she lived for the past year, as well as the staff at ThedaCare 2nd floor neurology and hospice for their kindness and compassion shown to Jan during her final days. “Remember me with smiles and laughter, for that is how I will remember you all. If you can only remember me with tears, then don’t remember me at all.” Michael Landon



Dr. Dennis Milton Bathke

Dr. Dennis Milton Bathke, 78, of Chicago, Illinois passed away on August 15, 2026 at his beloved family farmhouse in Berlin, Wisconsin.

Dennis was born on September 24, 1947, in Oshkosh, Wisconsin, to Milton and Dorthy Bathke. He graduated from Oshkosh High School in 1965 and earned his undergraduate degree in chemistry from the University of Wisconsin in 1969, working summers to pay for his education. Dennis continued his studies at the University of Wisconsin School of Medicine and Public Health, graduating in 1973. He then completed his internship in internal medicine at Penn State Milton S. Hershey Medical Center in 1974 and his residency in anesthesiology at the University of Pennsylvania Health System in 1977, a program renowned for its excellence in the field.

Dennis is survived by his wife, Rebecca (Dickinson) Bathke; his son, John Thomas Dickinson Bathke; his daughter, Lynn Ellen Bathke and her husband, Cary Gallagher; his granddaughter, Iris Day Gallagher; and his sister, Donna M. Klabunde. He was preceded in death by his parents, Milton and Dorthy Bathke.

A dedicated and skilled physician, Dennis placed the well-being of his patients and colleagues above all else. Notably, Dennis served the Peoria, Illinois medical community for 25 years working for

The Associated Anesthesiologies. He was also a gifted teacher. Dennis not only served as junior faculty at Northwestern University Hospital but also as adjunct faculty at the University of Illinois College of Medicine Peoria. Dennis was a member of the American Society of Anesthesiologists and the Illinois State Medical Society. He was also a member of the University Club of Chicago and the Middleton Society of the University of Wisconsin School of Medicine and Public Health. Dennis was also a patron of the Chicago Symphony Orchestra and the Chicago History Museum. Outside of medicine, Dennis loved the water and especially enjoyed sailing. He and Rebecca shared a love of travel and made annual trips to New York City to visit museums and attend Broadway shows. In retirement, Dennis devoted himself to woodworking and designing and creating furniture. In recent years, he took great joy and pride in restoring his family farm in Wisconsin. With the help of local artisans, Dennis and Rebecca spent five years renovating the farmhouse and grounds into a beautiful country retreat, where he enjoyed his final days. Charitable contributions in his name can be made to The Salvation Army and The Nature Conservancy.



Matthew, and Evan. Sandy particularly loved her chocolate – especially Mound bars – and never said no to the crisp refreshment of a Coca-Cola. Whether it was an evening of dining out or watching her favorite show, General Hospital, she truly enjoyed the simple joys of life. Sandy is survived by her children, Nathan (Katie) Ray and Crista (Nick) Piscitelli; grandchildren, Ruby, Matthew and Evan; sister, Carol Zarda, and numerous nieces, nephews, and close friends who considered her family. She was preceded in death by her parents.

A private graveside service took place at Peace Lutheran Cemetery.



Sandra L. Ray

Sandra L. Ray, age 80 of Oshkosh, passed away surrounded by her family on August 24, 2026. She was born on January 19, 1946 to the late Melvin and Caroline (Patzlaff) Koehn.

Sandy was a graduate of the first class of Oshkosh West High School in 1964, moved to California soon after, and returned to Wisconsin to live out her last years at “home”.

Sandy dedicated her life to being a homemaker, pouring her love into raising her children. She was a doting mother, and an adoring grandmother to Ruby,



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Miscellaneous

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Legal Notice

Perry W. Sharpe, Oshkosh, WI, is seeking a divorce from Xie Zhiying, Oshkosh, WI, originally from Chengdu, China.

ESTATE OF Alfred J. Reisler PLEASE TAKE NOTICE:

OSHKOSH, WI 54901 Defendant(s).

Publication Summons and Notice of Filing

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

You are being sued by the person(s) named above as Plaintiff(s). A copy of the claim has been sent to you at your address as stated in the caption above. The lawsuit will be heard in the following Small Claims court: Washington County Court-house Telephone Number of Clerk of Court: 262-365-5133 Courtroom/Room Number: Room 3244 Address: 484 Rolfs Avenue City: West Bend, WI 53090 On the following date and time: Date: Sept. 21, 2026 Time: 9:00 a.m.

If you do not attend the hearing, the court may enter a judgement against you in favor of the person(s) suing you. A copy of the claim has been sent to you at your address as stated in the caption above. A judgment may be enforced as provided by law. A judgment awarding money may become a lien against any real estate (property) you own now or in the future, and may also be enforced by garnishment or seizure of property. You may have the option to Answer without appearing in court on the court date by filing a written Answer with the clerk of court before the court date. You must send a copy of your Answer to the Plaintiff(s) named above at their address. You may contact the clerk of court at the telephone number above to determine if there are other methods to answer a Small Claims complaint in that county.

If you require reasonable accommodations due to a disability to participate in the court process, please call 262-365-5133 prior to the scheduled court date. Please note that the court does not provide transportation.

Filed Washington Co Clerk of Courts on Aug. 28, 2026 Dated: 8/28/26 /s/ Elizabeth G Strozinsky Phone: 414-839-7914

Runs September 2, 2026, September 9, 2026 and September 16, 2026

WNAXLP

STATE OF WISCONSIN CIRCUIT COURT WINNEBAGO COUNTY NOTICE TO CREDITORS (INFORMAL ADMINISTRATION) CASE NO. 26PR216

IN THE MATTER OF THE

Elizabeth G Strozinsky 5050 Roman’s Way Colgate WI 53017 Plaintiff(s) -vs- Heather S Rousseau 108 E Lincoln Ave

DATE SIGNED: August 19, 2026 Electronically signed by Sara Henke, Register in Probate, Probate Registrar Form completed by: Attorney Nathan P. Olson OLSON LEGAL GROUP, LLC Address 21 W. New York Avenue Oshkosh, WI 54901 Telephone (920) 230-7020 Bar Number 1059348

Runs: August 26, 2026, September 2, 2026 and September 9, 2026.

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STATE OF WISCONSIN, CIRCUIT COURT WASHINGTON COUNTY- Publication Summons And Notice Small Claims Case No: 26 SC 1026



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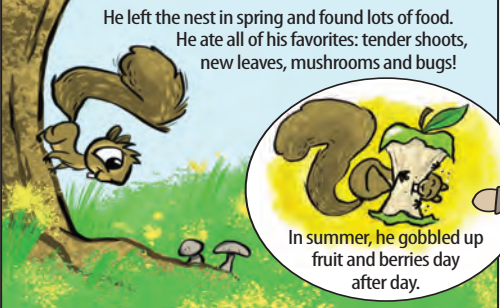
Salvador & Sonia Squirrel

To be money smart, you need to know the importance of saving for later.

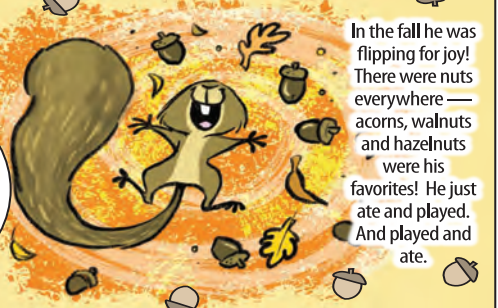
Salvador the Squirrel was born in the winter.



He left the nest in spring and found lots of food. He ate all of his favorites: tender shoots, new leaves, mushrooms and bugs!



In the fall he was flipping for joy! There were nuts everywhere — acorns, walnuts and hazelnuts — were his favorites! He just ate and played. And played and ate.



Salvador's big sister, Sonia, didn't play as much anymore. She was busy saving nuts and acorns to eat in the winter, when food would be hard to find.

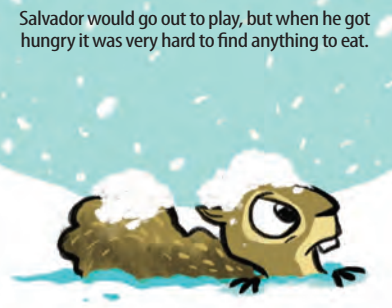


Then the weather started to turn cold and snow began to fall. The nuts on the trees and ground were nearly all gone. They had been gathered and saved by the other squirrels.

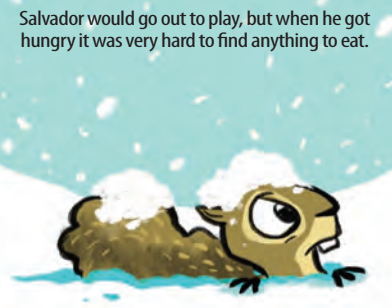
Now Salvador was really worried about the long winter ahead!



Salvador thought Sonia was b-o-r-i-n-g!



Salvador would go out to play, but when he got hungry it was very hard to find anything to eat.



What should Salvador have done differently?

Extra! Extra!

Growing, Growing, GROWING

"From tiny acorns, mighty oaks grow," is a popular saying that means even small things can be great and big one day.

Look at each number in the chart below. Then look through the newspaper to show the next number in sequence when counting by 3's. The first row has been done for you.

3	6	9	12	15
4				
8				
17				

Standards Link: Math: Addition.

Saving Plan

Like squirrels, people also need to save to help with future needs. They also need to save to be able to buy things they don't have the money for in the present.

Is there something you would like to buy, but you don't have enough money? Make a plan to see if you can save enough to buy this at some time in the future!

Write down what you want to buy and the amount of money you need.

MY SAVING PLAN

I need \$_____ to buy _____.

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Weekly allowance I can save: \$_____

Weekly work/chores income: \$_____

TOTAL AFTER ONE WEEK: \$_____

After one week, how much more money do you need to reach your goal? Repeat this plan each week until you have the money you need.

Kid Scoop Puzzler

Match each cap to the acorn with the math problem it answers.

20

14

3 + 2

17

13 + 13

8

8 + 9

26

5

12 - 4

19 - 5

16 + 4

Double Double Word Search

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SAVING
WINTER
SISTER
FRUITS
LEAVES
HUNGRY
MONEY
COLD
FALL
NEST
EAT

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

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

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

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1

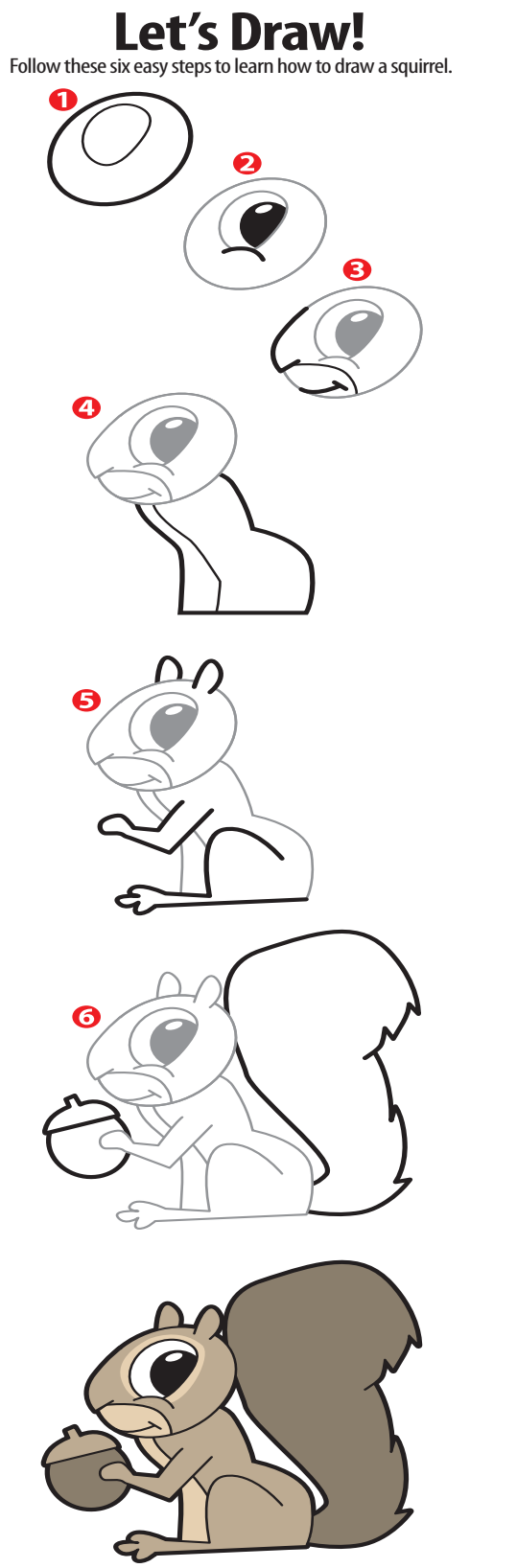
2

3

4

5

6



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