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Updated transit center to open next month

By Jonathan Richie
OSHKOSH HERLAD

Construction at the new transit center in downtown Oshkosh continues and is expected to be completed by the end of October.

The new GO Transit Center will have many updates to make the experience of riding the bus better for everyone.

Transportation director Jim Collins said the new transit center will add a second platform with the capacity for six buses, a climate-controlled waiting area and public

restrooms.

"These improvements will allow all transit passengers to board and exit buses off-street," Collins said. "The waiting area is planned to include real-time arrival and departure information, route schedules and a ticket vending machine where passengers can purchase fares and add value to their accounts"

GO Transit will continue to use the existing platform that is used now by the city buses.

The \$2.5 million project is primarily

being funded by federal grants from the Federal Transit Administration. Collins said the FTA grants are funding 85% of the project costs.

"The project is essential to improving the comfort, safety and security of GO Transit riders, staff, guests and visitors," Collins said.

The former building at 222 Pearl Ave. was the offices for The Grand Oshkosh. However, the Grand offices are now lo-

SEE **Transit center** ON PAGE 9



Photo by Michael Cooney

Starting school

Principal Scott Johanknecht (by the door) and Oshkosh Area School District Superintendent Bryan Davis greeted students Sept. 1 for the first day of the school year at Oaklawn Elementary School. OASD welcomed nearly 9,000 students across 10 elementary schools, four middle schools, two high schools, an early learning and 4K program, and a K-12 eAcademy.

Addiction recovery work personal for those on front lines

By Michael J. Cooney
HERALD CONTRIBUTOR

People gathered last week at Solutions Recovery in Oshkosh for International Overdose Awareness Day with a message that was both hopeful and difficult: Recovery is possible but helping someone get there can require patience through repeated setbacks and loss.

For many of those doing the work, the message was deeply personal.

Megan Edwards, executive director of Solutions Recovery and a person in long-term recovery, spoke during the Aug. 31

event about losing her best friend Sarah to an overdose in 2021. The two women had gotten sober together and lived together during early recovery.

"She was with me when I, for the first time, had hope that recovery was actually something possible for me," Edwards said. "We were supposed to make it out together. And she didn't."

Edwards said she still sometimes wonders why she found recovery and her friend did not.

"I feel forever indebted to helping the next person, using my experience, my

voice and whatever time I have in recovery to be there when someone needs it," she said.

The short program brought together people whose connections to addiction and recovery come from different directions, including recovery services, government, public health, law enforcement and the faith community. Their experiences repeatedly returned to the importance of seeing the person behind the addiction.

For Kurt Leibold, that understanding came painfully late.

His brother Eric died of an overdose

June 22, 2023, at age 57 after struggling with addiction for much of his life. Kurt, whose career was in law enforcement, spoke candidly about distancing himself from his brother as Eric's addiction worsened and eventually led him to prison.

Kurt said he was embarrassed by his brother, angry about the pain Eric caused their parents and concerned about how his brother's behavior might affect his own career.

Eventually he cut Eric out of his life. He

SEE **Recovery work** ON PAGE 8

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Museum opening new exhibition this fall

The Oshkosh Public Museum is bringing historically significant jewelry exhibition to the community with the opening of “Chicago Collects: Jewelry in Perspective.”

The exhibition that will run from Sept. 19 through March 20 features 200 pieces from Chicago museums and private collectors, including works connected to Fabergé, Lalique, Louis Comfort Tiffany and major design movements from the 19th century through today. The exhibition is organized by Richard H. Driehaus Museum and guest-curated by Elyse Zorn Karlin.

“The exhibition offers both beauty and historical context,” said Emily Rock, the museum’s chief curator and assistant director. “Visitors will see sparkling gemstones, fine metalwork, colorful enamel and decorative art objects while learning how jewelry reflects broader artistic movements, cultural trends and design history.”

The exhibition is accessible to both jew-

elry enthusiasts and general visitors. Rock said guests do not need specialized knowledge to enjoy the show; the exhibition is designed to be visually stunning while also educational.

The presenting sponsor for “Chicago Collects: Jewelry in Perspective” is Jewelers Mutual, which is based in Neenah.

“As a company rooted in Wisconsin for more than a century, we are honored to help bring the stories of artistry, history, and jewelry craftsmanship to life for the community,” said Scott Murphy, CEO at Jewelers Mutual. “Supporting exhibitions like this one reflects our broader commitment to elevating the love of jewelry and supporting the arts in the communities we serve.”

The exhibition brings together the glamour of gemstones and precious metals with the deeper story of craftsmanship and artistic movements.

The “Chicago Collects: Jewelry in Perspective” is supported by Travel Wisconsin.



Photo by Michael Tropea

Pendant, circa 1900, Levinger & Bissenger (German, 1904–1909), Silver, plique-à-jour enamel, pearl, paste from the The Richard H. Driehaus Collection.

Fundraiser to be held after group loses federal funding

Oshkosh Herald

The Winnebago Area Literacy Council (WALC) will host its annual fundraiser, Spellbound for Literacy, after losing \$120,000 in federal funding this year that supports its free adult literacy programs.

The event will be from 5 to 8 p.m. Sept. 24 at the Oshkosh Convention Center. Presented by Amcor, this year’s event marks 37 years of providing free adult literacy services to the community and

comes at a critical time for WALC and the adults who rely on its programs.

The loss of federal funding creates a significant gap for an organization that provides literacy services at no cost to adults throughout the Winnebago County area.

This year, organizers said support from Spellbound for Literacy is more important than ever. Every dollar raised will help WALC sustain its programs and minimize disruption to the free services available to community members working to strengthen their literacy skills, improve their workplace readiness and build stronger connections within the community.

“Behind this \$120,000 funding loss are real people who rely on WALC to help them reach their goals — whether that’s getting a better job, supporting their children in school or becoming more confident in their daily lives,” said Chu May Paing, WALC executive director. “We are determined to continue providing these

services for free, but we need our community’s help.

Spellbound for Literacy gives us an opportunity to come together and make sure that a loss in federal funding doesn’t become a loss of opportunity for the adults and families we serve.”

Attendees can look forward to an evening featuring team spelling games, cultural and language trivia, a silent auction, raffle baskets, a wine wall, a chocolate wall, heavy hors d’oeuvres and a cash bar. Teams of six to eight players will compete in two rounds of word-related challenges, all while supporting WALC’s mission.

Founded in 1989 by the Oshkosh branch of Altrusa International Club to support literacy, WALC has grown to offer a wide range of free adult literacy services at three Oshkosh locations.

Tickets for individuals and tables are available online at winlit.org/spellbound-for-literacy.

Back in the Day



Oshkosh history by the Winnebago County Historical Society

September 19, 1933

County Fair Opens to Record Crowd:

Opening day at the Winnebago County Fair saw an estimated 25,000 persons pass through the gates, shattering the

old record. Many attendees were kids from nearby rural areas and cities who received free admittance on Children’s Day. It was estimated that half the crowd were children who apparently were not frightened away by the brisk shower early this morning. Tomorrow is Oshkosh Day and once again big crowds are expected with many businesses closing early to allow their employees a half holiday to attend the fair.

Source: Oshkosh Daily Northwestern, September 19, 1933

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Haliburton Family Foundation expands year-round support

Local students provided with essential supplies

A new partnership between the Haliburton Family Foundation and local community organizations will expand support for Care Closets throughout the Oshkosh Area School District (OASD), creating a more sustainable systems to provide students with essential supplies throughout the school year.

The partnership grew from conversations surrounding the Oshkosh Back 2 School Fair, powered by the Haliburton Family Foundation and the Oshkosh Community. Over the past year, those conversations broadened as the Haliburton Family Foundation asked community partners how it could expand its support for local students beyond the annual Fair and where additional investment could have the greatest impact.

The answer emerged from work already underway.

Members of the Hygiene Task Force and Back 2 School Fair Committee worked with school social workers to better understand the year-round needs of individual schools and explore a more sustainable approach. The resulting process leverages the Oshkosh Area United Way Community Vault and coordinates deliveries through the Oshkosh Area Community Pantry's School Pantry Program.

“The Back 2 School Fair is an incredible example of what this community can do when people come together for kids,” said Tyrese Haliburton, an Oshkosh North High School graduate who now plays for the Indiana Pacers. “We wanted to find a way to build on that support beyond one

event, and the Care Closets allow us to serve schools and students throughout the year. I'm excited to work with our community partners to see what we can accomplish together for students across Oshkosh."

With the Foundation's commitment in place, representatives from the Back 2 School Fair Committee met with Matt Kaemmerer, OASD director of pupil services, to align on a shared vision for the Care Closets across the district.

“When students have access to the basic supplies they need, it removes one more barrier that can get in the way of learning,” Kaemmerer said. “Haliburton Family Foundation Care Closets give our school social workers a way to respond quickly and discreetly when a student needs support. Having a more consistent system across the district will help us meet those needs throughout the school year and allow students to focus on what matters most—learning and reaching their full potential.”

The partnership is rolling out first at Vel Phillips Middle School, with plans to expand support to Care Closets throughout OASD as the 2026-27 school year begins. Care Closets will provide access to items such as personal hygiene products, laundry detergent, and other essential supplies based on the needs identified by each school.

The work will continue beyond the initial rollout. The Foundation and key community partners will continue to serve as the initiative's steering committee, evaluating its effectiveness, identifying opportunities for improvement and adapting the approach as the needs of students and schools evolve.



Photo by Zach Massung

Tyrese Haliburton visits the Haliburton Family Foundation Care Closet at Vel Phillips Middle School in Oshkosh. The Care Closet provides students with access to essential items, including hygiene products and other supplies and is part of a new partnership supporting Care Closets across the Oshkosh Area School District.

For Oshkosh Area United Way, the partnership demonstrates what can happen when community organizations bring together their resources, relationships and expertise around an identified need.

“No single organization could do this work alone,” said Heidi Thomas, president and CEO of Oshkosh Area United Way. “What makes this partnership so exciting is that everyone brings something different to the table—from understanding what students and schools need, to coordinating resources and deliveries, to

providing the investment that makes this possible. By working together, we can create something that will serve students not just today, but throughout the school year and for years to come.”

Supported by the Haliburton Family Foundation's investment and built on months of collaboration among community partners, the long-term goal is to create a sustainable system that provides every Oshkosh Area School District student with reliable access to essential supplies when they need them.



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Sheriff’s candidates have differing opinions on ICE, THC

By Jonathan Richie
OSHKOSH HERALD

The two candidates for sheriff that are currently both working for the Winnebago County Sheriff’s Office recently shared their views on the position with the public.

The League of Women Voters of Winnebago County hosted the candidate forum Sept. 2 at Oshkosh City Hall with Republican Darin Rice and Democrat Jason Rippl.

Voters will go to polls to cast their ballot for several partisan races on Nov. 3, including sheriff. John Matz is not seeking reelection after being sheriff for the last 16 years in Winnebago County.

Rippl currently serves in the patrol division of the Winnebago County Sheriff’s Office while Rice is the field services captain.

Rice said the sheriff’s budget is \$32 million, which is approximately 68% of the City of Oshkosh’s total budget. Winnebago County’s budget is \$238 million.

One of the first topics during the forum that there was a clear disagreement on with the two candidates was the sheriff’s contract with the federal government’s Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE). The sheriff’s department currently has a 287(g) agreement with ICE that puts a detainer on individuals in the Winnebago County Jail.

Rice stated in 2025 the department had over 4,800 bookings into the jail and 17 had ICE detainees placed on an undocumented individual.

“It is a relatively small portion of the people brought into our Winnebago County Jail,” Rice said.

“I believe the warrant service officer



Winnebago County Sheriff’s candidates Darin Rice (left) and Jason Rippl participated Sept. 2 in a League of Women Voters of Winnebago County forum at Oshkosh City Hall.

should remain in place,” Rice added about the 287(g) agreement.

Rice said he was not in favor of adding any agreements with ICE. He stated bluntly that he was not in favor of street level enforcement of immigration agents in the county and did not support turning the county jail into an ICE holding facility.

Rippl disagreed and stated the office involvement in the 287(g) program should end.

“I would end it on day one,” Rippl said.

One question posed to the candidates was the possibility of decriminalizing marijuana. Wisconsin remains one of the few states with marijuana prohibition laws in place as states in the region have legalized the substance for medical and recreational purposes.

Rippl called marijuana prevalent and that it can be devastating to young people caught with it.

“To criminalize that and have that crime follow them for the rest of their life isn’t necessarily appropriate,” Rippl said of

young people that get caught with marijuana.

Rice pointed out that the county board is not in favor of decriminalizing marijuana.

“I don’t know if decriminalization is a reality that we’re going to see,” Rice said. “Our county board has not been in favor of decriminalization in the past and quite honestly decriminalization would put our local ordinance in conflict with state law.”

Rice and Rippl agreed that when children or young people get caught with marijuana there is an opportunity for the deputy to use discretion and possibly not make an arrest and write a ticket and instead have the child’s parent handle the situation.

Another issue facing the county is the homeless population. Rice and Rippl were asked about the potential for designating a place for people that are living in their cars to safely park their cars overnight.

Rippl was in favor of the initiative and said there is an opportunity for a pilot pro-

gram in the county to see what works and what doesn’t.

“I think this is a relatively low-cost opportunity,” Rippl said.

Rice disagreed and had some concerns with how the staffing worked and questioned if it was effective.

“I don’t know if the parking opportunity is the end all be all solution the homeless issue that we have within Winnebago County,” Rice said.

The candidates were asked about retention and how they will keep employees at the sheriff’s office. Rice said that every time an employee leaves the department, it’s the training that Winnebago County has paid for that is walking out the door.

“Retention has been an issue in the past,” Rice said. “We made some internal changes and addressed our disciplinary procedures and not have as many full internal investigations occur which helped alleviate some of the stress for the employees.”

He added that a coaching mentality was put in place for “simple mistakes.”

Rippl countered that leadership is the solution to the retention problem facing the department.

“I think that leadership that focuses on each individual deputy goes a long way to staff retention,” Rippl said. “And staff retention is the key to everything.”

Dani Falsenik also ran a campaign for sheriff but ended it three days before the forum. As an independent, her name will still appear on the ballots in Winnebago County.

The forum is available to view on the City of Oshkosh YouTube channel. For more information about what will be on the Nov. 3 ballot, go to myvote.wi.gov.

Sheriff’s office to end use of Flock cameras

Oshkosh Herald

The Winnebago County Sheriff’s Office announced Friday the immediate suspension of all Flock cameras that the agency uses.

“This decision follows recent information obtained that Flock Safety released data in bulk in response to FOIA requests in other states, where public records laws are different than public records laws in Wisconsin,” Sheriff John Matz said in a statement. “Protecting the integrity of investigative data, safeguarding personally identifiable information, and maintaining public trust are paramount for the Sheriff’s Office.”

Flock, a privately owned tech company, has automatic license plate reader cameras in communities across the country. But it has recently been hit with an abundance of criticism over the last few months re-

garding privacy.

“In light of this recently discovered information, the Sheriff’s Office is conducting an internal review of any investigations that may have been affected,” Matz said. “We are also evaluating internal security measures to ensure continuity of operations without compromising the privacy of Winnebago County motorists.”

The Sheriff’s Office has also contacted other agencies in the county, all of which are ending their use of Flock. This includes Neenah Police, Menasha Police, Fox Crossing Police, Winneconne Police and the UWO Police Department.

“The Sheriff’s Office is in communication with other partnering agencies to gather additional information,” Matz said. “Pending the outcome of those discussions and our internal assessment, all Flock Safety related services will remain suspended.”

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City introduces nuisance party ordinance to battle pub crawl

By Jonathan Richie
OSHKOSH HERALD

The Oshkosh Police Department is hopeful that a new ordinance will help limit the liability that comes with the bi-annual pub crawl near the University of Wisconsin-Oshkosh.

During the spring pub crawl this year there were 65 calls for service. There was also a shooting that resulted in 10 people being taken into custody and OPD wrote 41 ordinance citations.

Oshkosh Chief of Police Dean Smith reported there have been weapons incidents associated with the last three pub crawls. OPD officers are routinely issuing underage drinking and open intoxicant citations.

“Many incidents arise from large house parties, where more than 50 persons may congregate inside and outside a residence,” Smith said.

The Oshkosh Common Council was expected to discuss the ordinance Tuesday during its meeting. The ordinance creates a new section prohibiting nuisance parties. Smith wrote in a memo to the council explaining the ordinance.

“The proposed ordinance would establish a nuisance-party enforcement tool for alcohol-related social gatherings that result in violations of the Oshkosh Municipal Code or Wisconsin Statutes,” Smith said in the memo. “The ordinance

would apply when violations occur at the gathering location or on adjacent public or private property. Whether a gathering qualifies as a nuisance party would be determined based on the totality of the circumstances.”

Smith outlined what conduct would determine a nuisance party:

- Unlicensed alcohol sales
- Providing alcohol to underage or intoxicated persons
- Underage drinking or possession of open intoxicants
- Excessive noise
- Overcrowding or fire-code violations
- Obstructing streets, sidewalks, entrances, stairways or other access points
- Disorderly conduct, property damage or littering
- Battery
- Dangerous-weapon or reckless-endangerment offenses

“When an officer determines that a nuisance party is occurring, the officer may issue a verbal order requiring participants to cease the nuisance activity and disperse,” Smith said. “Individuals who do not reside at the premises must leave immediately. A person who fails or refuses to comply with a lawful cease-and-disperse order commits a separate violation.

“The ordinance would also establish responsibility for individuals who host, control or facilitate nuisance parties. Ten-

ants, occupants and other persons with possession or control of the premises may be cited when they host or are otherwise responsible for a gathering that becomes a nuisance party. Property owners would be strictly liable for nuisance parties occurring on their property. More than one responsible person may be cited for the same nuisance party.

“A nuisance party under the proposed ordinance would also qualify as a countable nuisance activity under the City’s chronic nuisance premises ordinance. This would allow the City to use the ordinance in conjunction with existing chronic-nuisance enforcement tools when nuisance-party activity repeatedly occurs at the same property.”

The proposed fine for adult violations

would be \$100 or \$263.50 including court costs. The proposed fine for juveniles would be \$50 or \$55 to include court costs.

“The ordinance would provide officers with an additional tool to promptly address large house parties before they escalate into more serious public-safety incidents,” Smith said. “It would also allow the City to hold participants, tenants or other persons in control of the premises, and property owners accountable, as appropriate. Although public education and advance notice are expected to encourage voluntary compliance, officers need an effective means to stop unsafe gatherings when voluntary compliance does not occur.”

The next Oshkosh pub crawl is expected to be held Oct. 10.

Church to serve community meals through October

Oshkosh Herald

Community cookouts are planned through the end of October at Trinity Lutheran Church.

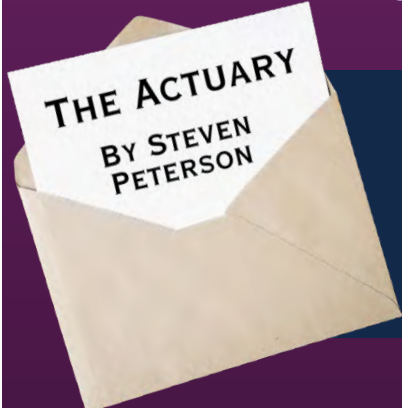
Hot Diggitty Dog Wednesdays will take place in the church parking lot at 370

Bowen St. The meals will be served inside the fellowship hall in case of inclement weather.

Free dinner will be served from 4 to 7 p.m. Wednesdays through Oct. 28 and Oct. 31 for Halloween.

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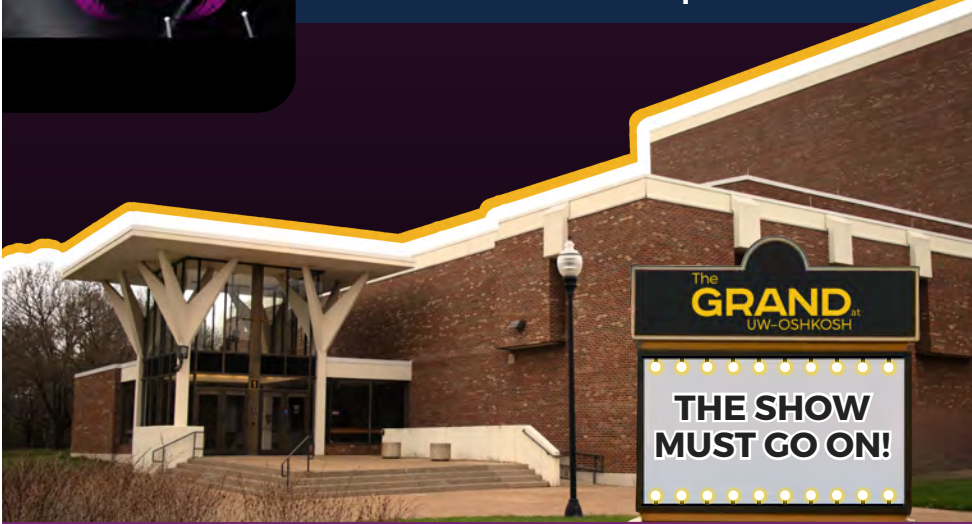
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Joint fire/police training center gets another price jump

By Jonathan Richie
OSHKOSH HERALD

For years the Oshkosh Police Department and Oshkosh Fire Department have been pushing the Oshkosh Common Council for money to build training centers.

The issue over the last several years for the council has always been funding. First, the council set aside \$5 million in the capital improvement plan, then it jumped to \$10 million and this year for the fifth straight year the costs of building a training facility in Oshkosh has jumped to potentially \$27 million.

The new plan is a joint training facility and will include an emergency operating center.

"I feel like I'm on an episode of Punk'd," Mayor Matt Mugerauer said during the Aug. 31 council workshop. "I'm waiting for someone to jump out and say 'I got ya' but that's not going to happen because you guys are serious sitting at this table at \$21 million, potentially pushing to \$26 or \$27 million if we add a track on here. I can't absorb that."

Mugerauer said he was struggling with that number since it was announced to the council.

Mugerauer also called the \$10 million that was in the 2026 CIP as an "imaginary placeholder."

Public safety officials in Oshkosh have stated the new training center could be a

recruitment tool for both departments.

"We also compete across the region for police officers and for firefighters and public safety employees," OPD Chief Dean Smith said during last week's council workshop.

Smith said his reasoning comes from a study the department did seven years ago.

"When Fond du Lac has a training center and Neenah has a training center and Green Bay has a training center and we don't," Smith said. "It's not a 'my backyard has one and we want one.' It really impacts our officers and when they look at what they have."

In 2023, there was \$5.6 million designated for a fire training facility. Then the next year there was \$7 million designated in the CIP. For the 2025 CIP, OFD and OPD presented a joint training facility originally priced around \$14 million, but the council decided to just set aside \$10 million.

Carly Farrell from FMG Architects (FMGA) presented a brand-new plan that could cost between \$21 million and \$26 million.

One change from previous plans is the location. Other plans had the Armory on North Sawyer Street as the site for the facility. That idea has been tabled.

It is now unclear what will happen to the Armory as the plans shift to a different site.

The city is currently looking at develop-

ing 24 acres of land the city already owns off of Global Parkway and Atlas Avenue in the southwest industrial park for the training facility.

Farrell explained FGMA was contracted by the city to study the potential for an emergency operations center. The facility is designed to enhance fire and police training that will be a modern, purpose-built facility.

The facility would include a new firing range, padded rooms for tactical training, a fitness center and the site would include a burn building for outdoor training purposes.

Farrell said this would likely be a multi-year project going from the study to the design, bidding it out and then construction – the project could take more than two years to complete.

One example is that OFD currently sends

firefighters to train in Appleton for mandatory FFA training before EAA AirVenture. These employees cannot do the training on the clock, so the department has to pay overtime to get the training done.

OFD Chief Tim Heiman said it cost the department \$6,000 for 19 employees to get four hours of training.

"But to actually provide training really a purpose-built facility is the gold standard," Heiman said.

Deputy mayor Karl Buelow asked Smith to look into the potential for sponsorships for raising funds to help pay for the training center.

Mugerauer said the conversations regarding the training facility will continue in the weeks ahead.

The training center will likely be on the 2027 CIP that will be voted on by the council in November.

Documentaries series brings discussion to library

Oshkosh Herald

Oshkosh Public Library invites community members to Documentaries After Dark, a new after-hours series featuring documentary films, refreshments and guided discussions.

The series will be held at 6 p.m. on select evenings in the library's lower level. Registration is required for all programs. Because the events take place after regular operating hours, standard library services will not be available during the screenings.

The series kicks off on Saturday with Song Sung Blue (2008), the emotional story of Lightning & Thunder, a Milwaukee husband-and-wife musical duo known for their Neil Diamond tribute performances. The documentary inspired the 2025 biographical film starring Hugh Jackman and Kate Hudson.

On Oct. 23, the library will screen The

Librarians (2025), a documentary directed by Kim A. Snyder that explores the challenges librarians face as they defend intellectual freedom and access to information amid rising book bans across the United States. The event is presented in partnership with fsm, an independent arts review journal and publishing platform based in Appleton. Representatives will introduce the film and lead a panel discussion following the screening.

The series concludes on Nov. 14, with Buy Now! The Shopping Conspiracy (2024), a documentary that examines the marketing strategies and business practices used by major brands to encourage consumer spending.

To learn more or reserve a spot, visit Oshkosh Public Library's events calendar and select the event listing, or call 920-236-5203.

Retired educators to meet in Winneconne

Oshkosh Herald

The Winnebago County Retired Educators' Association invites all retired school employees who live in or worked in Winnebago County to their next meeting.

Registration for the meeting starts at 11 a.m. Sept. 17 in the Winneconne Public Library's meeting room. The library is located at 31 S. Second St.

Following a short business meeting at 11:30 a.m., lunch will be served at the library at noon. The menu is a welcome

back lunch featuring chicken salad with a fruit, meat and cheese platter.

At approximately 1 p.m. the program will feature Sandy Toland, community engagement librarian from the Oshkosh Public Library, covering the topic of banned books.

In addition, school supplies are being collected for the Teachers' Closet.

Potential new members or visitors are always welcome. Interested persons may email Lisa at rolson3430@aol.com no later than Monday for more information.

Program focuses on men's spiritual development

Oshkosh Herald

A program is returning in Oshkosh beginning today, marking the start of the 12th year of That Man Is You.

That Man Is You is a men's program focused on the development of men in the modern world. It combines scripture, research and a little fun to help men become authentic leaders capable of transforming themselves, their families and greater society.

This year's title is "The Revelation of the Father," and it builds on the first 11 years of That Man Is You. New members are welcome, and anyone can begin at year 12 without having first attended the previous years. This year's new program features eight speakers.

This all-city, all-parishes program is held in-person from 5:20 to 6:50 a.m. Wednesdays at Father Carr's Place 2B, 1062 N. Koeller St. The early start is designed to be family-friendly for working fathers, but men of any age and marital status are welcome.

There is also the option of watching the week's video presentation online and attending a virtual (Zoom) small group session from 7 to 7:30 a.m. on Wednesdays.

There is no homework, and it works to miss sessions if necessary. There is no charge to participate.

More information and registration are available through the Most Blessed Sacrament, St. Jude or St. Raphael Parish offices or at any one of the sessions or call/text Joe Thiel at 920-279-4243.

Luedtke wins Fox-Wolf IMPACT Award

Winnebago County farmer Jim Luedtke has received the 2026 Fox-Wolf IMPACT Award.

Luedtke, a fourth-generation farmer just north of Larsen, is a founding member and president of the Muddy Bottom Farmers Producer-Led Watershed Group. He has spent years proving that conservation and productive farming go hand in hand through no-till and cover-crop practices on his NRCS Upper Fox-Wolf Demonstration Farm.

As leader of Muddy Bottoms, Luedtke has helped build culture of farmers learning from farmers, turning real questions into on-farm research that protects the soil and water of the Fox-Wolf Basin.

The Fox-Wolf Watershed Impact Award is presented by the Fox-Wolf Watershed Alliance to recognize individuals, organizations, businesses and communities that make significant contributions to clean water, conservation and environmental stewardship in the Fox-Wolf River Basin.



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Homicide by delivery of drugs case moving forward

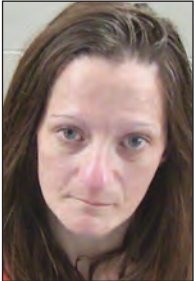
Oshkosh Herald

An Oshkosh woman facing homicide by delivery of drugs charges in Winnebago County has violated her bond multiple times since being arrested earlier this summer.

Jennifer M. O'Connor, 41, is facing one count of first degree reckless homicide/deliver drugs and is facing a potential 60-year sentence for her role in the death of a man in February.

O'Connor is also facing one count of possession with intent-amphetamine and maintaining a drug trafficking place.

Casey A. Radetski, 36, who was also named in the investigation, lived at the South Sawyer Street home with O'Connor and their now deceased roommate. Radetski was initially charged with pos-



O'Connor



Radetski

session with intent-cocaine and maintaining a drug trafficking place.

Court documents allege the pair were living with another roommate at a house on South Sawyer Street when the man died of an overdose. O'Connor allegedly gave him the substance.

O'Connor remains out of custody on \$32,000 cash bond.

Radetski pled no contest to the drug trafficking place charge, and the cocaine charge was dismissed but read in to the record during

an Aug. 10 hearing. Radetski was sentenced to spend four months in the county jail and would be on probation for three years.

On Aug. 27 a bench warrant was issued for Radetski's arrest. Radetski was given 72 hours to report to the Winnebago

County Jail, and when he failed to do so, a bench warrant was issued for his arrest.

Radetski was picked up on Aug. 29 and placed in jail to serve his four-month sentence. Online court records show O'Connor has violated her bond multiple times since being arrested in June.

She was cited for two bond violations on July 17 and Aug. 5, both for failed urinalysis tests.

O'Connor continued to fail tests until recently when she started treatment and has been clean for multiple tests.

According to the criminal complaint, Radetski called 911 on Feb. 17 regarding an unconscious man in the bathroom in a house in the 800 block of South Sawyer Street.

Radetski told officers he found the victim in an upstairs bathroom slumped over on the ground. After he immediately called 911, dispatchers helped him administer CPR to the victim.

When EMS personnel arrived on the scene, they were able to get a pulse from the victim using Narcan and transported him to Ascension Northeast Wisconsin Mercy Hospital.

Officers asked Radetski about the man, and Radetski said he didn't know him as the man only moved in about a month before that.

The man was pronounced dead on March 8. The autopsy was conducted by Fond du Lac County Chief Medical Examiner, Dr. Adam Covach. Covach reported the cause of death was cocaine and methamphetamine toxicity.

A month after the overdose, police returned to the South Sawyer Street residence and executed a search warrant.

Officers noted suspected drug paraphernalia in the house and eventually got

a search warrant to search the house. Drug paraphernalia was allegedly found all over the house, including over a dozen suspected crack pipes, a digital scale in O'Connor's purse, THC and THC paraphernalia.

In a bathroom, officers allegedly found a syringe full of suspected methamphetamine in the same bathroom where a rubber tourniquet-style tie, commonly associated with injecting illicit drugs, was found.

The complaint alleges that every adult living in the building was using cocaine or methamphetamine.

One person, who is not facing criminal charges linked to the incident, that lived in the house stated she cooks her cocaine into crack in her bedroom inside an ice cream scooper.

When officers searched the phones of Radetski and O'Connor they found evidence that shows they were both selling drugs.

Radetski told officers during an interview he hasn't sold any drugs recently.

However, the complaint alleges it was apparent when reviewing his phone, "Radetski was purchasing and selling illegal drugs on numerous occasions with multiple different people."

Text messages allegedly show Radetski was telling people to come to his house after they had asked about obtaining illegal drugs.

O'Connor's phone allegedly tells a similar story. Her records allegedly shows "extensive evidence of drug distribution activities."

The complaint alleges O'Connor was selling methamphetamine, cocaine, heroin, fentanyl, Xanax, Suboxone and marijuana.

High Avenue house fire under investigation

Oshkosh Herald

The Oshkosh Fire Department spent hours suppressing a house fire last week on High Avenue.

The home at 533 High Ave. was the site of a structure fire around 10:47 a.m. on Aug. 31. Smoke was coming from the eaves and ridge vent of the home and firefighters were able to get the fire under control around 11:50 a.m., but crews remained on the scene until 5:30 p.m.

No injuries were reported and all occupants of the home were safely accounted for.

The estimated cost of the damage is around \$150,000. All four occupants of

the home were displaced by the fire.

The Oshkosh Fire Department was assisted by the Town of Algoma Fire Department, Appleton Fire Department, Neenah-Menasha Fire Rescue, Omro-Rushford Fire Department, North Fond du Lac Fire Department and Town of Vinland Fire Department.

The origin of the fire is under investigation by the Oshkosh Fire Department. The department continues to ask people to maintain working smoke alarms on every level on their homes and to have and practice a home fire-escape plan with all household members.

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Workshop focuses on regional commercial development

Oshkosh Herald

From major development projects and site selection strategies to municipal incentives and regional economic trends, this year's InDevelopment conference will give attendees an inside look at the forces shaping growth across Northeast Wisconsin.

Registration is open for the 17th annual event, which will be held from 11:30 a.m. to 6 p.m. Tuesday at UW-Oshkosh.

InDevelopment brings together developers, business leaders, economic development professionals, municipal leaders, investors and industry experts for an afternoon of practical conversations about the trends, challenges, partnerships and resources that move development projects from concept to completion.

The event is presented by Insight Publications in partnership with New North, Inc., the regional economic development organization serving the 18 counties of Northeast Wisconsin.

The program will spotlight development underway in Oshkosh, the host city

Chamber organizing business panel discussion

Oshkosh Herlad

The Oshkosh Chamber of Commerce is organizing a panel discussion featuring local developers, industry professionals and a representative from the Wisconsin Department of Transportation.

The discussion will take place from 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. Sept. 24 at Oshkosh Arena. The cost is \$30 per attendee, which includes lunch.

of InDevelopment 2026. Following opening remarks from UW-Oshkosh Chancellor Manohar Singh, the session will begin with an update from City of Oshkosh Community Development Director Sara Rutkowski, followed by a panel discussion moderated by Greater Oshkosh Economic Development Corp.'s Alicia Wenger and the Oshkosh Chamber's Josh Koteski.

Panelists Rob Jafek of Volare Hangars at Oshkosh Aviation Park, Todd Hutchison of White Label Lofts and Tanya Marcoe of ADVOCAP will explore the vision behind these investments, the partnerships and creative approaches helping move them forward, and what they mean for Oshkosh's continued economic and community growth.

Registration and networking begins at 11:30 a.m., followed by lunch and programming beginning at noon. The networking reception begins at 4 p.m., with the event concluding at 6 p.m.

Additional event details and registration information are available at insighttonbusiness.com/indevelopment.

Panelists will share updates on major development projects, discuss challenges and opportunities shaping Oshkosh, and offer insight into what's ahead for our community.

Topics to be discussed include project details, economic and community impact, challenges and solutions and future outlook.

This event will offer perspective for business leaders, investors, community stakeholders or those interested in Oshkosh's future.



Photo by Michael Cooney

Winnebago County Overdose Fatality Review Team's Project Manager Jennifer Skolaski talks with County Executive Gordon Hintz on Aug. 31 during an International Overdose Awareness Day event at Solutions Recovery in Oshkosh.

Recovery work

FROM PAGE 1

never visited him in prison and once told his brother that he was worthless.

Eric's response stayed with him. "You don't have to tell me I'm worthless," Eric told him. "I already know that."

It took Kurt years to understand what those words meant. He eventually came to see his brother as more than his addiction.

"He was funny. He was generous. He was caring. He was incredibly gifted," Kurt said. "He was a good person who happened to be a drug addict."

Kurt rebuilt his relationship with Eric during the last years of his brother's life, but said he regrets the years they lost.

"I can't get those years back," he said. "And I will always regret that."

The idea of looking beyond the addiction also shapes the work of Jennifer Skolaski, project manager for the Winnebago County Overdose Fatality Review team.

The team brings together partners from law enforcement, public health, health care, treatment and recovery organizations, social services, faith organizations and people in recovery. They meet monthly to confidentially review the circumstances surrounding overdose deaths and look for opportunities where the community might have responded differently.

"It's never at fault of the individual who died, but how did our community fail them and how can we do better?" Skolaski said.

The team then uses what it learns to recommend changes and develop efforts aimed at preventing future overdose deaths.

Winnebago County Executive Gordon Hintz said the county's response to substance use has increasingly brought government, health care, law enforcement, recovery organizations and people with lived experience together.

"Every number in a report represents a person, a parent, a child, a brother or sister, a friend, a neighbor, a colleague," Hintz said. "We should never lose sight of that."

Edwards said one of the important changes has been bringing people who have experienced addiction and recovery directly into that work.

"You have invited people with lived experience into the frontlines of this epidemic, not as an afterthought, but as partners and assets in the fight against overdose," she said.

But working with people struggling with addiction can also wear on those trying to help.

The Rev. Joe Erinson spoke directly to people who have answered calls in the middle of the night or sat with the same person repeatedly, only to see another relapse.

"You've sat with the same person over and over and over again. And you've had the same conversation over and over and over again," Erinson said.

Over time, he said, a sense of futility can creep in.

His message to them was simple. "Nobody's too far gone," Erinson said. "Not after the 10th time, not after the relapse that nobody saw coming, not the guy that everybody quit on years ago and wrote off."

Those doing recovery work may never know when something they said or did made the difference, Erinson said.

"Somebody's alive today because of a conversation that you don't even remember having, and that you will never find out about," he said.

For Edwards, who found recovery while losing others she loved to addiction, that uncertainty has not changed the mission.

"We remember every single person we have lost," she said. "We fight for every person who is still here."

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County Emergency Management shares storm update with Board

By MaryBeth Matzek
OSHKOSH HERALD

It's been a busy year for the Winnebago County Emergency Management. The department led the response to three major weather events this year — the mid-March snowstorm that dumped more than two feet of snow on the county, the April flooding of the Wolf River and the July 27 EF-3 tornado that struck northern Winnebago County. Emergency Management Director Eric Rasmussen discussed what the county did in each disaster during the County Board of Supervisors special orders meeting Sept. 1. The presentation from Rasmussen, who spoke for about 90 minutes, was the agenda's main item.

"Emergency managers are the first responders. Although we're not physically entering a burning structure, we are activated at the start of the incident and are integral to the immediate response framework," Rasmussen said. Emergency Management provides structure when an incident occurs, he added. For example, when the tornado happened, the county opened an emergency operations center, which became a central point where different agencies, such as the cities of Neenah and Menasha, the village of Fox Crossing, law enforcement, different Winnebago County departments, such as Solid Waste Management and Planning and Zoning, gathered, shared information and plotted plans going forward.

Communication with the public was a big part of the tornado response, Rasmussen said. The county used social media to share information about the initial boil water order, where tornado victims could go for emergency supplies, how people could help and more. The county also launched a website with information,

which had 30,000 hits. "One struggle we had was the lack of power and internet so we came up with the idea of putting up sign boards to communicate with those who couldn't see what we were posting online," Rasmussen said, adding it was a struggle to find translators so information could be shared with non-English speakers. GIS mapping played an essential role after the tornado since it allowed the county and other partners to determine road closures, damage assessments and locations where to hand out resources, Rasmussen said. Rasmussen said the county met the criteria for the Federal Emergency Management Agency to receive a federal disaster declaration for the tornado, but that does not mean an order will be declared.

As for what's next, he said the county faces a long-term recovery, which will be led by the Winnebago County Community Organizations Active in Disaster (COAD). The virtual Multi-Agency Resource Center (MARC) will continue, and organizations will continue to help those dealing with the emotional impacts of the storm.

Flooding update: The April floods received FEMA federal disaster declaration, Rasmussen said. He said it was a long process, with the funds finally released in July. In Winnebago County, there were 127 valid registrations and 122 inspections were completed. A total of \$555,979 was awarded, with an average of \$4,378.

The Town of Wolf River was the only county municipality to qualify for funds from the Wisconsin Disaster Fund. The emergency government management department has three employees — an increase of .5 over 2025.

"We have an incredibly talented staff, and that third full-time position has made a big difference for us," Rasmussen said.



Oshkosh Herald

GO Transit's new transit center is scheduled to open by the end of October. It will have an indoor space for riders to wait for the bus and that space will have real-time arrival and departure information for the bus routes across the city.

Transit center

FROM PAGE 1

cated directly across the street from the Grand. GO Transit operates nine routes across the city Monday through Saturday. Most routes run from 6:15 a.m. to 6:45 p.m. GO Transit is primarily funded with federal and state funds making up over 50% of annual funding. The city, Winnebago County and passenger revenue make up the rest of the annual funds. In 2025, GO Transit had 828,190 riders and so far this year GO Transit has had 408,343 riders. Due to a partnership between the city and the Oshkosh Area School District,

students across Oshkosh can ride the bus for free. In 2025, GO Transit provided over 117,652 rides for students, Collins said. This was a slight drop from 2024 when 126,707 rides were provided for students. GO Transit also offers free rides to Fox Valley Technical College students with a current student ID, disabled veterans with ID and children under the age of six. There are reduced fare options for riders over the age of 60 and with a qualifying disability. GO Transit recently unveiled a new service called GO Connect. The microtransit service gets people from the Oshkosh Transit Center to the Neenah Transit Center. GO Connect operates the same hours as GO Transit with rides between the transit centers costing \$5 for a one-way trip.

Dodd appointed District 33 supervisor

Oshkosh Herald

Winnebago County Board of Supervisors Chair Frank Frassetto appointed Butch Dodd of Rushford to be the new District 33 supervisor at the board's Sept. 1 meeting. Dodd fills the seat, which was vacated by the death of former board chair Tom

Egan. Dodd is currently a safety and security manager at EAA. Prior to that, he worked for the Wisconsin Department of Corrections in Red Granite. District 33 covers the areas around Utica, Rushford and Nepeuskun, extending toward the Omro area.

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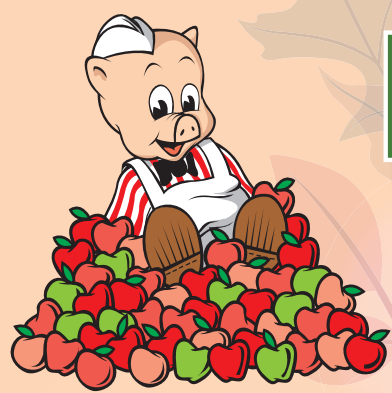
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Calendar of events

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., Beck-et'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 Termi-nal
ReThink Addiction SK, 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 Cen-ter's Barn A
Walk to Defeat ALS, 8:30 a.m., Menominee Park
Kickball Tournament benefitting Os-hkosh Kids Museum, 9 a.m., Revs Bowl Bar and Grill
Rockin' For Recovery presented by Unity Recovery Services, noon, Win-nebago County Community Park
The Bad Guys, 7 p.m., The Time Com-munity Theater

Thursday, Sept. 17

Friends of the Oshkosh Seniors Cen-ter 40th Anniversary Celebration, 4 p.m., 200 N. Campbell Road
Oshkosh Community Players pres-ents The Actuary, 7 p.m., The Grand at UW-Oshkosh

Friday, Sept. 18

Oshkosh Community Players pres-ents The Actuary, 7 p.m., The Grand at UW-Oshkosh

Saturday, Sept. 19

Oshkosh Farmers Market, 8 a.m., Downtown Oshkosh
Red Arrow Disc Golf Rebuild Tourna-ment, 9 a.m., Red Arrow Park
Pie on the Porch, 9 a.m., Morgan House, 234 Church Ave.
Oshkosh Ukefest on the Fox River, 9 a.m., First Congregational Church, 137 Algoma Boulevard
Roads and Runways, 10 a.m., EAA Aviation Museum
Touch A Truck, 10 a.m., Leach Am-phitheater
Oshkosh Card Show, 10 a.m., Sunny-view Expo Center
African Violet Show and Sale, 10 a.m., St. Jude the Apostle Church, 531 Knapp St.
Oshkosh Community Players pres-ents The Actuary, 2 and 7 p.m., The Grand at UW-Oshkosh
Leggiero Wind Quintet's Concert, 6 p.m., Peniel Welsh Chapel, W9644 Zoar Road
Rocky Horror Picture Show, 7 p.m., Time Community Theater

Sunday, Sept. 20

African Violet Show and Sale, 11 a.m., St. Jude the Apostle Church, 531 Knapp St.



Submitted photo

Milestone celebration

Members of the Oshkosh High School class of 1954 celebrated their 90th birthdays during a gathering Aug. 23. The celebration was held at The Roxy Supper Club.

Walk aims to bring an end to Alzheimer’s

Oshkosh Herald

The Alzheimer’s Association is inviting Oshkosh and other Winnebago County residents to join the fight to end Alzheimer’s by participating in the Alzheimer’s Association Walk to End Alzheimer’s – Oshkosh.

The event will take place Sept. 26 at Lakeshore Pavilion, 1875 Punhoqua St. in Oshkosh.

“This is a pivotal moment in the fight against Alzheimer’s. With new treat-ments and proven lifestyle habits that support brain health, there is real hope,” said Reid Meisner, general manager for Senior Strides and executive event chair for this year’s walk. “Together, we can build a brainhealthy future and help end this disease. We invite everyone to join us by forming a team to raise awareness and funds for families facing Alzheimer’s to-day.”

On Walk Day, participants honor those affected by Alzheimer’s with the poignant Promise Garden ceremony — a mis-sion-focused experience that signifies our solidarity in the fight against the disease. During the ceremony, walkers will carry flowers of various colors, each color rep-resenting their personal connection to the disease.

More than 7 million Americans are liv-ing with Alzheimer’s disease – a leading cause of death in the United States. Addi-tionally, nearly 13 million family members and friends provide care to people living with Alzheimer’s and other dementias. In Wisconsin, there are more than 110,900 people living with the disease and 206,000 caregivers.

To register and receive the latest up-dates on this year’s Walk to End Alzhei-mer’s, visit alz.org/walk

Seniors Center sets 40th anniversary event

Oshkosh Herald

Community members are invited to cel-ebrate 40 years of friendship, support and community with the Friends of Oshkosh Seniors Center.

The event Sept. 17 will feature an after-noon of food, entertainment, conversa-tion, raffles and fun in recognition of four decades of supporting programs, activities and services for older adults in the com-munity.

Performances are scheduled by the J+ Band from 4 to 4:45 p.m. and The Come-dy Magic of Mike from 5:45 to 6:30 p.m., plus food trucks, raffles and more at the Oshkosh Seniors Center, 200 N. Camp-bell Road.

Tickets are \$5 and are on sale at both OSC front desks.

Local college graduates

Students from Oshkosh were among the nearly 679 graduates receiving degrees from the University of Wisconsin-River Falls during spring commencement in May.

Goodness Ajao, BS, neuroscience and psychology
Lauren Best, BS, health and human per-formance, magna cum laude
Suzette Lain, BS, criminology and psy-chology, senior merit

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Chamber focuses on economic development to support businesses

By Josh Koteski
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT DIRECTOR

Economic development is often associated with new construction, major business announcements and ribbon cuttings. While those are certainly visible signs of growth, much of the work happens long before a project reaches that point.

At the Oshkosh Chamber, our economic development efforts focus on supporting existing businesses, assisting entrepreneurs, attracting new investment and connecting businesses with the people and resources that can help them grow.

The numbers help illustrate the scope of that work. In an average year, the Oshkosh Chamber works on over 100 business cases, responds to 500 business and market support inquiries, assists with nearly 50 startups, and conducts dozens of site tours.

These interactions can range from helping an entrepreneur find resources, to assisting an existing business with an expansion project or working with a com-



pany considering Oshkosh for its next investment. In addition to all of that, we also attend a national site selector event annually, as well as the ICSC national real estate convention to attract new development to Oshkosh.

An important part of that work is recognizing that no single organization can provide every resource a business may need. Partnerships allow us to bring additional expertise directly to the business community.

One example is our partnership with the Wisconsin Small Business Development Center at UW-Oshkosh. On the last Tuesday of each month, from 9 a.m. to noon, the SBDC holds office hours at the Oshkosh Chamber, providing free business consultation. Whether someone is considering starting a business or already owns one and is working through a new

challenge or opportunity, these consultations provide access to professional guidance right here in Oshkosh.

Another resource available to local businesses this fall is the Innovation Foundry at UW-Oshkosh, an eight-week, hands-on program running Sept. 22 through Nov. 10 through a partnership between the Oshkosh Chamber, UW-Oshkosh, the Small Business Development Center, and Greater Oshkosh Economic Development Corporation.

Participating businesses are paired with UWO student innovation teams and receive expert guidance as they develop new products, services or revenue opportunities. Businesses work through market research, customer validation, financial planning, marketing and implementation, ultimately leaving with a launch-ready action plan. Best of all, the program is available at no cost to qualifying businesses.

Another example of what Economic Development can look like is the West Side Association Fall Panel Series from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Sept. 24 at the Oshkosh Arena. This event is coordinated by the Oshkosh Chamber and will feature a panel of downtown Oshkosh business leaders.

Events like this create an opportunity

to hear directly from local businesses about their experiences, challenges and opportunities while encouraging conversations that can lead to new connections and solutions. If you are interested in attending this event, please check the Oshkosh Chamber website.

Sometimes businesses also need access to capital. The Oshkosh Chamber's Revolving Loan Fund is another tool available to support development. Since 2004, the program has closed 41 loans, helped leverage more than \$7.7 million in private investment and supported the creation of more than 300 jobs. Small businesses can receive up to \$50,000 in incentive-based loan funds for start-up or expansion needs.

Contact me anytime at the Oshkosh Chamber at josh@oshkoshchamber.com or 920-303-2266 ext. 20.

At the Oshkosh Chamber, economic development is about understanding the needs and opportunities facing local businesses and connecting them with the tools, information and resources that can help them move forward. Whether a business is starting, expanding, seeking financing or working through a challenge, we want the Chamber to be a place they can turn for support as they continue to grow and invest in Oshkosh.

EAA Museum to host 9/11 speakers

Oshkosh Herald

The September speaker series at the EAA Aviation Museum will feature EAA Remembers 9/11: 25 Years Later.

Members of the FDNY and NYPD will take part in a special edition of the EAA's Museum's monthly Speaker Series where they will reflect on the events of Sept. 11, 2001, and honor those who stood tall at a time when the country needed heroes.

Retired NYPD Chief Pilot Ken Solosky captured some of the first live broadcast footage of the 9/11 attacks and will speak about his experience.

Solosky, who served as a lieutenant, chief pilot and director of training, coordinated the aviation response between several different units.

While flying helicopters that day, he

captured video and photos that became the primary news feed of the attacks in real-time that were used by broadcasts worldwide.

Joining Solosky will be Dr. Mike Fagel, who served more than 100 days with FDNY following the attack after being assigned there by the U.S. Department of Justice. Fagel helped develop plans to keep the fire department operational despite heavy personnel and equipment losses on 9/11.

The presentation will be at 7 p.m. Friday in the Founder's Wing at the museum, 3000 Poberezny Road. Snacks and refreshments will be available for purchase. The cost is free for EAA members and \$5 for non-members. Local firefighters, law enforcement and first responders are invited free of charge.

Tickets on sale for downtown walking event

Oshkosh Herald

Tickets went on sale last week for the third annual Boos + Brews: Cider and Seltzer Stroll in downtown Oshkosh.

The Halloween-themed event will be from 1 to 5 p.m. Oct. 10. Participants age 21 and older will be able to sample a selection of alcoholic ciders and seltzers at participating businesses.

Tickets are \$35. Halloween costumes are encouraged but optional with photo ops available. Tickets include 18 cider/seltzer samples, souvenir beverage glass, map of participating locations and their

offerings and lots of fun games and photo ops along the way.

When purchasing tickets, guests will be asked to select a check-in time. Check-in will be at Elsewhere Market, 531 N. Main St. prior to starting the walk.

All attendees will have to check-in and be present to obtain their wristband. Every attendee will need to bring a valid form of identification to confirm legal drinking age – no exceptions. The check-in location closes at 2 p.m.

For more information, go to shorturl.at/V6YFS.

City organizing Touch-a-Truck event for Sept. 19

Oshkosh Herald

The City of Oshkosh Parks Department is organizing an event to bring big trucks and hand-on adventures to Leach Amphitheater.

A Touch-a-Truck event will be held

from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. Sept. 19. Guests will be able to explore vehicles up close, play in the dump truck sandbox, race remote-controlled vehicles and take a ride on kiddie trucks.

The event features free admission and is sponsored by Oshkosh Corporation.

flash sale

Flash Sale

 5/\$5 Goodpop Organic Fruit Pops	 \$3.99 Mary's Bone-In Chicken Thigh	 \$6.99 Just Bare Whole Chicken was 11.99	 \$6.99 Thousand Hills Beef Stew Meat 16 oz was 14.99
 \$6.99 Mary's Organic Boneless Skinless Chicken Breast	 \$1.99 Cook Stix Instant Cooking Stock was 3.79	 2/\$6 St. Dalfour Jams 6 oz. was 5.99	 \$4.99 Nicholls Organic Pistachios was 6.99
 \$13.99 Amallow 100% Grass-Feed Beef Tallow Deodorants was 17.99	 \$17.99 Amallow Tallow 100% Grass-Feed Beef Whipped Body Butter was 35.49	 \$8.49 Hopwater was 10.99	 \$10.49 Flybird Wine Cocktail was 12.99

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Senior Spotlight is brought to you by: **Nicolet**
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West’s Tercha showcases passion, enjoyment for running

By Steve Clark
OSHKOSH HERALD

Abby Tercha just likes to run. No matter if it’s 90 degrees and humid out. No matter if she has to wake up early before getting into the meat of the day. And no matter if somewhere during the run, her body feels like it wants to stop. Tercha just keeps running and that’s the way she likes it.

“I know I can always count on my run. You don’t need a ball or a court. I can just run,” Tercha said before a practice on a scorching day last week. “I would say running is fun. Not always maybe. It hurts sometimes and it can be uncomfortable, but once you learn to push past that it can be a lot of fun.”

Tercha has certainly been enjoying herself as she enters her senior year at Oshkosh West.

She has been the Wildcats top cross country runner the past three years and helped lead West to the WIAA State Meet last season, where she finished 74th out of 190 runners in her first trip to Wisconsin Rapids.

“I was really grateful to be there because that has been the goal and in my junior year, I finally achieved it,” Tercha said. “I feel like it was a lot of emotions finally being there. The competitive atmosphere I loved. It was a lot of fun.”

Tercha has also been a standout runner in track and field, specializing in the 800 and 1,600 meters. She narrowly missed qualifying for the state meet last year in the 1,600 meters.

Even though both sports are essentially the same thing – cross country and track both consist of running – there is a different approach and mindset for whichever discipline she is doing.

“The shorter races are much quicker. There isn’t as much time to adjust or find your pace but I like the adrenaline of them,” Tercha said. “I have way more adrenaline going into an 800 (meters) than going into a 5K and I just use that.”

She also has a definite favorite between the two sports – although it depends when she is asked to pick.

“Whatever season I am in, honestly that’s my favorite,” Tercha said. “I just try to enjoy the moment and focus on one thing at a time. Right now, I’m really focused on cross country but in track season I will be really focused on track.”

Tercha grew up participating in different fun runs with her family and then started getting more into the competitive side of things when she went out for cross country in sixth grade.

Although she had done different sports growing up, when she started with cross country things just clicked for her.

“It stuck out to me more than other



Oshkosh West senior Abby Tercha is a four-year varsity performer in cross country and track and will be running next year at Winona State University.

sports,” Tercha said. “I just loved how rewarding it felt and I just stuck with it.”

Tercha humbly admitted she had success right from the start when it came to distance running.

Some of the success she had was her natural ability, but it also was a result of the fun she had getting out and going for a run.

“I enjoyed it a lot so I liked the practices,” Tercha said. “I liked being able to go for runs.”

Tercha said that the offseason is when

runners make the most improvement and she certainly likes racking up the miles outside of the cross country and track seasons.

But as much as it is about working on her craft and the physical improvements she makes, there is another side to those offseason runs, too.

“I enjoy offseason work. It’s fun to me,” Tercha said. “Waking up early and starting my day with a run. Then I have my whole day, but I have that little win already that I went for a run.”

Senior Spotlight

Nicolet
NATIONAL BANK

The passion that was discovered in sixth grade has not wavered as she enters her final year in high school.

Being able to run at the state meet last fall also set the stage for her senior season. She said she took a lot from the experience of running in Wisconsin Rapids and hopes that she and her teammates can get back there once again.

“I learned a lot about the mental aspect of running and how that it really is all in your head when you are racing,” Tercha said. “The things that you are telling yourself during a race are ultimately what help you succeed.”

The state meet was obviously the most competitive race the Wildcats competed in last season, but Tercha knows she doesn’t have to venture far to find that level of competition.

The Fox Valley Association put five teams into the field at the Division 1 girls state meet a year ago and Tercha loves lining up against her fellow FVA runners whenever she can.

“When I’m on the starting line of let’s say the FVA meet, I’m thinking, just go out there and see what you can do. This is the best conference in Wisconsin and I’m grateful to be there,” Tercha said. “I love the competitiveness. Even though it makes it harder, I really appreciate it.”

Tercha will be continuing to run next fall as she has already committed to NCAA Division II Winona State University and will compete in both cross country and track and field with the Warriors.

Tercha knows that it will be a step up in competition when she gets to college. But that’s what she is looking forward to.

“I’m excited to run at the next level. I’m excited to see what I can do at the next level,” Tercha said. “I looked at a lot of the (UW System universities) but when I went to Winona State, I knew that’s where I wanted to be.”

Before she gets there, though, Tercha still has her senior season at West to complete and she is looking forward to passing on the traditions and the success that got her started as a Wildcat.

“It does feel weird (being a senior). I feel like I haven’t really processed it yet,” Tercha said. “I love seeing the young runners come in and we do the traditions that we usually do. It brings it back to when I was a freshman and we had a bunch of great upperclassmen that we did the same traditions with. It’s great knowing that these younger girls will keep it going.”

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Prep roundup

FOOTBALL

Valley Christian improves to 3-0

The Warriors rolled past Oneida Nation, 59-0, on Thursday night to improve to 3-0 on the season.

Valley Christian jumped out to a 27-point lead at the end of the first quarter and took a 47-0 advantage into intermission.

It was the second shutout of the season for the Valley Christian defense, while the offense continues to crank out points. The Warriors have totaled 148 points in three games.

No other information was available from the game.

CROSS COUNTRY

Menet, O'Brien lead Warrior runners

Simon Menet and Jack O'Brien finished third and fourth, respectively, to help Valley Christian take fourth place at the Markesan Invitational on Tuesday.

Zachary Werner finished just outside of the top 10 in 11th place as Valley Christian was the only school in the eight-team field to have three runners in the top 11.

Joshua Sandahl in 38th place and Andrew Sandahl in 47th placed rounded out the Warrior scoring runners.

The Valley Christian girls were led by Merian Getz and Dede Miller, who placed 33rd and 35th, respectively. The Warriors other three scoring runners were Zara Ekholm in 47th, Vashti Ernst in 48th and Amy Willis in 50th.

Valley Christian finished eighth in the girls standings.

GIRLS VOLLEYBALL

Lourdes Academy nets sweep of Big Red

Naomi Liabwill racked up 12 kills as Lourdes Academy breezed past Wayland

Due to early deadline for Labor Day, we were unable to provide coverage on high school sporting events on Friday and Saturday in this edition.

Academy, 25-18, 25-18, 25-13 last Tuesday.

Kennadie Fronek added seven kills in the win, with Eliana Brandes, Adhieu Liabwill and Sarah Hafemeister each finishing with six. Grace Martin registered 30 assists in the win.

Brandes also led the team with four aces.

On defense, Fronek and Katelyn Potratz each finished with nine digs, while Naomi Liabwill added a pair of blocks.

Valley Christian posts pair of wins

The Warrior opened up their Trailways Conference slate by posting a 25-18, 25-19, 25-20 road win over Dodgeand on Thursday night.

Earlier in the week, Valley Christian toppled Hilbert in a nonconference match, 25-18, 25-16, 25-11.

Oshkosh West falls to Fond du Lac

The Wildcats bounced back after a rough first set but fell short against the Cardinals, 25-10, 25-22, 25-22 in a Fox Valley Association match on Thursday night.

Kayana Turner finished with nine kills to lead the Wildcats, while Addie Benesh finished with seven. Benesh also led the team with three total blocks.

Brooklyn Rowe finished with a team-high 12 assists with Olivia Xiong posting 14 digs to lead the team.

Oshkosh North drops FVA opener

The Spartans never got going against Kimberly in their Fox Valley Association opener, losing 25-12, 25-10 25-13 on Thursday night.

SOCCER

Loker's hat trick fuels Knights' offense

Matthew Loker posted a hat trick to lead a big offensive night for the Lourdes Academy/Valley Christian soccer team in a 10-0 win over Campbellsport.

Thatcher Bratton-Wesner and Josiah Franz each added two goals in the win as six different Knights found the back of the net in the win. Jackson Buttke, Walker Dlugolenski and Ezra Erlich also scored in the game.

Earlier in the week, the Knights lost, 3-0, to Kohler.

Spartans can't get past Polar Bears

Oshkosh North dropped a hard-fought 3-2 contest to Hortonville on Thursday night.

Earlier in the week, the Spartans were blanked by Kimberly, 2-0.

Wildcats dealt first loss of the season

Oshkosh West came up short in a showdown against Appleton North, falling to the Lightning, 2-1, in a Fox Valley Association match. It was West's first loss of the season.

Earlier in the week, the Wildcats played to a 1-1 tie with Fond du Lac.

BOYS VOLLEYBALL

Oshkosh co-op team drops two matches

The Oshkosh North/Oshkosh West

boys volleyball team suffered a pair of losses this week.

The squad opened the season on Tuesday with a 25-11, 25-6, 25-11 loss to Kimberly in a Fox Valley Association match.

North/West then dropped a 25-19, 25-12, 25-14 nonconference match to Sheboygan North on Thursday.

TENNIS

Knights fall to powerhouse Kohler

Lourdes Academy picked up a pair of wins but couldn't knock off Kohler, dropping the dual meet by a score of 5-2.

Sasha Quandt posted a 6-3, 6-2 win over Eila Webber at No. 1 singles for the Knights, while Nadia Hesse added a win at No. 3 singles, beating Eloise Regennitter, 7-5, 7-6.

Earlier in the week, Lourdes Academy fell to Roncalli/Two Rivers, 6-1, with Quandt posting a straight-set win at No. 1 singles for the Knights' lone victory.

GOLF

Knights drop dual meet to Zephyrs

Stella Marschall led Lourdes Academy with a round of 52 but the Knights came up short against St. Mary Catholic, 199-220, in a dual meet held at Winagamie Golf Course on Wednesday.

Marlie Kieckhafer added a 53 and Christina Agosto finished with a 56 for the Knights. Celia Ralofsky and Kenzie Grammer each shot 59s for Lourdes Academy.

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Wildcats, Knights aim for successful seasons on soccer pitch

Oshkosh Herald

The numbers may not be what Oshkosh West head coach Matt Callahan is used to in the Wildcats program.

But it certainly could be a case of quality over quantity.

Anchored by an experienced defensive group, the Wildcats will take aim in the

Soccer
PREVIEW

rugged Fox Valley Association and look to compete with the best the league has to offer.

“I am optimistic about the season. We have a great group of players and they are great players,” Callahan commented. “We have a small roster so our success will be determined by our ability to stay healthy.”

Although the roster may not be numerous, the Wildcats will have eight seniors on the team and that experience should be a benefit.

Topping the list of returning players is senior Carson Choinski, who was a second-team all-Fox Valley Association selection last season. Choinski, the only junior to earn all-FVA first or second team honors last year, will headline what should be

a strong defense for West.

Fellow seniors Tyler Nimis, Cole Jennings and Evan Danahy along with junior McKeon LeClair also return to the defense, while senior Jacob Allen also returns to start at goalkeeper for the Wildcats.

Returning to the midfield are senior Mason Callahan, junior Lincoln Houle and sophomore Gael Bolanos, while senior Asher Connelly is back at forward and will lead the attacking group for West.

Callahan also expects junior newcomers Caden Noe and Jacob Klingbeil to contribute to the squad this season. “Our goalkeeper and back line are all returning and they did very well last year,” commented Callahan. “If we can sort out how to score some goals, we should do well.”

Lourdes/Valley

With a strong veteran presence and some talented new faces, the Knights could be building something special this season.

“The primary strength of this year’s squad lies in our composed defensive foundation, veteran leadership and tactical identity,” commented head coach Abrahan

Gutierrez. “We have a select group of fine players this year who are entirely focused on maintaining our high standards.”

Following last year’s Flyway Conference title and appearance in the WIAA regional final, the Knights will rely on its experience to build on that success.

The team will be anchored by its four co-captains in senior goalkeeper Micah Humiston, senior forward Matthew Loker, senior midfielder Jackson Buttke and junior midfielder Elijah Troiber.

Other returning players expected to again play key roles for the Knights are junior forward Josiah Franz, junior defender Reid Dwyer, sophomore midfielder Elias Gutierrez Kuhaupt and sophomore defender Liam Buttke.

Wisconsin Herd to hold open tryouts in October

The Wisconsin Herd will host an open tryout from 8 a.m. to noon Oct. 3 at the Oshkosh 20th Avenue YMCA, 3303 W. 20th Ave.

Interested players must submit the required registration form and a \$250 (plus fees) non-refundable payment at gofevo.com/event/WiHerdTryouts before arriv-

Gutierrez will also be counting on a promising group of freshmen to help bolster the lineup in Gavin Schreiber, Thatcher Bratton-Wesner, Wesley Andersen, Roman Hefferman, Brady Boyce, Josh Galow and Landon Marschall.

The Knights will rely on its defense which includes a trio of goalkeepers who will see action in Humiston, junior Blake Busby and freshman Drew Bauknecht.

“Tactically, building from the back will be our definite style of play, allowing us to control tempo and dictate matches from the defensive third all of the through our attack,” commented Gutierrez. “We expect to heavily challenge for the top spot in the conference and make another deep push into the postseason.”

ing at the tryout on Oct. 3. On-site registration will not be available.

Participation is limited to the first 75 individuals who submit their completed forms and payment. Players must be at least 18 years of age and will be required to complete a registration form, eligibility form and health waiver before the tryout.

Obituaries

Sharon Stelter

Sharon L. Stelter, age 87, passed away peacefully at Aspire Senior Living on the



morning of Wednesday, September 2, 2026. She was born to the late Frederick and Geraldine (Hable) Stapel on November 15, 1938, in Oshkosh. She met the love of her life, Eugene Stelter, in 1956. They

were united in marriage on May 11, 1957, at St. Josaphat’s Parish in Oshkosh; and were together until his passing in 2023. Sharon grew up wanting only to have a family of her own and to have her children, grandchildren and great grandchildren be her entire world. She was a warm light to all who knew her, including the kind people who cared for her at Aspire. When she was young, Sharon found purpose working in a bakery in Oshkosh, But after she and Eugene began having children, her primary job became tending to the needs of her children. She gladly accepted becoming a stay-at-home housewife, happy to tend to the needs of her family, helping her children with homework, Cub Scouts

and other projects. She insisted that holidays were made a big deal in her house. She lived solely to provide a warm space for her family to gather for holidays, birthdays, and any opportunity to play cards with family.

After her children were in school, she worked at Oshkosh School system in food service. Her kids still remember being able to say “hi” to mom during hot lunch service. Later in life, she worked in the bakery at Cub Foods, warmly greeting anyone who had the pleasure of seeing her first thing in the morning. After her husband retired, she joined him to enjoy a less stressful life.

Sharon loved to work with pottery pieces, painting and glazing them. Sharon loved to cook and bake, her skills surpassed by no one. Christmas cookies were always her specialty. Later in life, she and Eugene spent several early parts of the year in Florida enjoying the warm weather and time with Eugene’s brother and family in Flagler Beach, Florida.

Her children remember her as bringing life, laughter, warmth and joy to a home filled with happiness. Her children live on today in her memory, glad to have had a simple life made remarkable, in part, be-

cause of her spirit. She joins Eugene, the love of her life, in the life ever-after and rests in peace after a job well done.

Sharon is survived by five children: Pam (Jeff) Paulik, Julie (Jim) Lang, Gail (Doug) Hesser, Daniel (Alessandro Raimondi) Stelter, John (Jen) Stelter; grandchildren: Phillip (Marjorie) Paulik, Gregory Paulik, Emily (Matt) Torgorsen, Casee (Ryan) Hawkins, Cam (Cier-ra Meckelberg) Corcoran, Sarah Hesser (James Weincek), Amanda (Patrick Sloan) Hesser, Carter Stelter; great grandchildren: Porter and Barrett Meach and Lillian Paulik and Evelyn Torgerson.

In addition to her parents and husband, Sharon was preceded in death by her in-

fant son Jeffrey.

A memorial service for Sharon will be held at Greenlawn Memorial Park (1451 Green Valley Rd, Neenah, WI 54956) on Thursday, September 10, 2026, at 11AM. A time of visitation will be held from 10AM until the time of service.

The family would like to thank the staff at Aspire Senior Living and Asera Care Hospice for the loving care they gave to Sharon.

In lieu of flowers, memorials may be sent to Oshkosh Day by Day Warming Shelter.

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Sandra Reamer Burton

After a long illness Sandra Reamer Burton, age 79, passed away on August 31,



2026. She was born at Mercy Hospital Oshkosh on November 30, 1946. On October 4, 1969 she married Michael Burton at St. Johns Lutheran Church in Oshkosh. She graduated from OshKosh High School in 1964. After High School she worked over 30 years at Oshkosh Bye Gosh as a credit analyst until her retirement. She had many friends and also enjoyed meeting people and talking with them.

She will be deeply missed, but more im-

portantly, she will be remembered for her wild sense of humor and her passion for life and a big heart.

She is survived by her husband, Michael, her daughter Michele Krokstrom, her two grandchildren Bailey and Kerstyn Krokstrom, her brothers David (Dianne) Reamer, Tom Reamer, and her sister Jo Anne (Jeff) Kohler. She has a sister-in-law Barbara Judson, a brother-in-law Gerald (Sue) Burton, sisters-in-law Sharon (Mark) Gulvan, and Susan (Rick) Polishinski and many nieces and nephews and cousins.

In lieu of a visitation and funeral please send a donation to the Oshkosh Humane Society.

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Brian James Nevins

Brian James Nevins, 70, passed away unexpectedly September 2, 2026 in Os-



hkosh, Wis. Brian was born on August 6, 1956 in New York, New York to James and Kathleen Nevins, the second oldest of four children.

Brian met his wife Mary as a college freshman at Marian University in Fond du Lac, Wis. They dated for five years before marrying in Neenah, Wis. Brian was a lifelong Packer fan, something he was proud to say he discovered as a child growing up in northern Virginia surrounded by Redskins fans. If the game was on TV, you most likely heard him yelling at the TV or clapping in praise. Brian loved all sports including baseball and basketball.

Brian was 100% Irish and let everyone know it. He often gave Mary a hard time

because she wasn’t 100% Irish. He loved to tell stories, gather with friends and family, was loyal and faithful.

Brian is survived by Mary, and his three children, Maureen (Michael) Alley, Waunakee, Wis.; Christopher (Emilie) Nevins, Neenah, Wis.; and Margaret (Michael) Nevins, Sun Prairie, Wis.; and two grandsons, Sean and Patrick Alley. He is also survived by a sister, Kathleen (Greg) Childs, and two brothers James (Maureen) Nevins, and Terence Nevins.

He was preceded in death by his parents James and Kathleen Nevins, in-laws John and Lenore Dunlavy, and his nephew Nicholas Childs.

Visitation was held Tuesday, September 8 at 10 a.m. at Sacred Heart Catholic Church in Oshkosh, Wis. followed by a Mass.

“... until we meet again, may God hold you in the palm of His hand.”

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Phyllis Ann Williams

Phyllis Ann (King) Williams, age 96 of Omro, Wisconsin passed away on Sep-



tember 1, 2026. She was born on April 23, 1930 to the late Ralph and Avis (Hackney) King and was the last surviving member of her siblings. She married Lyle Morris Williams on September 19, 1948. He preceded

her in death on January 3, 2003. Phyllis was a faithful member of the United Methodist Church of Waukau for over 70 years. She retired in 1992 from Oshkosh Truck Corporation (Oshkosh

Defense) as a Director of Human Resources.

In accordance with Mom’s wishes, anyone wishing to make a memorial donation, instead, visit folks who live alone or are in a care center, or whose circumstances may be less fortunate than your own. By doing so, you will carry on her legacy.

We will have some “Pie for Phyllis” on Saturday, September 26, 2026 at the Omro Town Hall, 4205 Rivermoor Rd. Omro, WI 54963, from 1:00 p.m. until 3:00 p.m. We ask anyone who wishes to join us at 2:30 pm to share tributes, stories, and memories of our Mom.

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Obituaries

David F. Ironside

David F. Ironside, age 77 of Oshkosh, passed away at his residence on August 29, 2026. He was born on July 29, 1949 to the late Robert and Marcella (Robl) Ironside.

While serving his country in the United States Air Force during the Vietnam War from 1968 to 1972, he was briefly stationed in Florida in 1971. This is where fate stepped in and led Dave to meet Debra Hudgens, who just happened to be there on vacation. They knew immediately they were meant for each other. So much so that in December of that year and after only 6 dates, they were married back in Debra's hometown of Midland, TX.



Shortly after their marriage, Dave was honorably discharged from the Air Force, and together they began building their life as a family. They welcomed their daughter, Kathy, in 1973, followed by their son, Eric, in 1977. Over the years, their family has continued to grow, with the joy of grandchildren and, later this year, the much-anticipated arrival of their first great-grandchild.

After moving around a bit, they eventually settled back in Dave's hometown of Oshkosh, WI, where he began what would become a long and successful career at Nercon Engineering. He dedicated 38 years to the company, remaining there until his retirement in 2015. His commitment to his work was something his family was always proud of, but as much as Dave valued his career, his greatest joy was always found in the time he spent with the people he loved most.

Dave never missed an opportunity to be there for his family. He proudly attended his children's and grandchildren's events, rarely missing a game, performance, celebration, or milestone. One of his favorite things was planning surprise weekend getaways with his wife, creating special adventures and memories for the two of them to share. He also loved gathering with family and friends for a game of cribbage and it was an extra bonus if there was a Bears or Brewers game on in the background.

Dave was a man who found joy in the simple things. When he had a quiet moment to himself, you might find him with his head buried in a book, reading just about anything he could get his hands on - he would rarely leave the house without a book in his hand. If he wasn't reading, he might be fishing or shooting a game of pool. He was incredibly smart, with a quick wit and a love for solving puzzles and challenging those around him to join in. But more than anything, Dave loved making people smile and laugh...which he always did.

David is survived by his wife, Debra Ironside; children, Kathy (Chris) Rennert and Eric (Amanda) Ironside; grand-

children, Brandon (Breanna), Jake, Liam, Millie, and Emma; sisters, Barbara (Ken) Resop and Sharon (Paul Julka) Berholtz; mother-in-law, Nelda Grigg; sister-in-law, Cindy (Bruce) Styner; step-brother-in-law, Kelly (Deborah) Grigg. In addition to his parents, David was preceded in death by his grandchildren, Jack and Owen.

A funeral service for David will be held at Konrad-Behlman Funeral Home-Eastside, 402 Waugoo Ave. on Friday, September 11, 2026 at 11:30 am. Visitation will take place from 10:00 a.m. until the time of the service. Interment with full Military Honors will take place at Lake View Memorial Park.

Dave's family extends their heartfelt thanks to everyone who has shared kind words, memories, and support during this difficult time. Your thoughtfulness has provided much needed comfort and has meant so much to the family.



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Germaine Harriet Hill

Germaine Harriet "Gerry" Hill, age 96, of Oshkosh, passed away peacefully on August 19, 2026 at Elijah's Place. She was born on March 14, 1930 in Oshkosh a daughter of the late Frank and Beatrice (Young) Ratchman. Gerry married Richard "Dick" Hill on May 6, 1950. They were blessed with a son, Michael (Bonnie Miller). Gerry stated that she had three of the greatest grandchildren this side of Heaven; Josh, Katie and Maggie. Joshua "Josh" (Heidi) of Kaukauna, Katherine "Katie" Hill of Madison and Morgan "Maggie" (DJ) Richmond of Sturgeon Bay; great-grandchildren, Bradyn and Emily Hillll; Dawson, Milo and Ella Bea Richmond.

Gerry's talent was sewing. To quote a friend, "Gerry did everything from re-hemming a handkerchief to making complete weddings". She retired the sewing machine but remained friends with people along the way. At 55 Gerry became a runner and ran 5Ks throughout Wisconsin. She hung up the running shoes in her mid 70's. She won an abundance of medals and trophies, modestly saying..."No competition at my age". For her safety roller blades were taken away in her 80s. Gerry also was an avid fan of the Packers and the Brewers, loved to knit, read and



complete crossword puzzles. She was the grandma who was at every game, recital, pageant and major life event. Gerry was a long time member of St. Jude Parish, St. Vincent Catholic Church in Oshkosh and will be remembered as a good friend along with being a great mother, grandmother, an aunt to many nieces and nephews. We would like to extend a special thank you to her niece, Pat Fashingbauer for her continued support through Gerry's battle with dementia. Gerry was preceded in death by her parents, her husband Dick, her sister Bev and husband Pete Pistohl and brother Bob and wife Joyce Ratchman.

Mass of Christian Burial will be celebrated for Gerry on Saturday, September 12, 2026 at 11:00 am in St. Jude Parish, St. Vincent Catholic Church, corner of Oregon St. and West South Park Avenue in Oshkosh. A time of visitation will be held at the church from 10 am until the time of mass. Inurnment will be in Lake View Memorial Park Cemetery. In lieu of floral arrangements memorials in her name may be made to the Oshkosh Area Humane Society. Special thank you to the wonderful staff at Elijah's Place and the incredible care from Moments Hospice to Gerry and her family.

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Christopher R. Dorsey

Christopher Ray Dorsey (Topher per Grandma) was welcomed into this world on Good Friday, April 17, 1981, weighing in at 8 lbs.,12 oz. He gave his mother a lot of back labor, but it was worth it! As Chris grew, we quickly realized we had a live one on our hands—and he did not disappoint.

His hobbies and interests were many. They included magic and illusion (we still don't know how he did some of his tricks), baseball—Ken Griffey Jr. was his idol—and, of course, the Brewers.

He also enjoyed basketball, Junior Bible Quiz at New Life Church, bowling, and music. He bowled two back-to-back 700 series this past bowling season! His musical tastes were wide-ranging, although death metal was his go-to—heaven knows why! He also enjoyed classic rock, jazz, and hip-hop.

Chris graduated from Oshkosh Christian School, where he confessed faith in Jesus in his younger years. He played on the baseball and basketball teams and won a state spelling bee in first grade! He continued his education at UW-Madison, graduating with a degree in English literature. Chris was a gifted writer and talented artist.

One of the happiest times in his life came when he married Nicolle Belden on August 23, 2012, at a destination wedding in Jamaica. Happy times!

Chris died unexpectedly and accidentally sometime between August 12th and 16th, 2026, at the age of 45. His best

friend from childhood to adulthood, Greg, found him in his apartment.

We will miss so many things about Chris: his artwork and stories, heartfelt text messages, his wit, his knowledge about many, many things, his phone calls and updates, and, of course, the opportunities to be together—which never happened often enough. We will miss hearing about his latest thrift-store find, his play-by-play commentary on the Brewers or Packers games, his latest bowling scores, and even the times he shared his personal struggles and asked for advice. The absence of all those things will be difficult to bear.

Chris is survived by his wife of 13 years, Nicolle; his mom and dad, Mike and Paula Dorsey; his brother, Joel Dorsey; his in-laws, Greg and Marlys Belden; his brother and sister-in-law, Nate and Julie Belden; his grandmother, Patricia Dorsey; and numerous aunts, uncles, cousins, and nieces. A group of his closest friends from high school and college are planning a scattering of ashes at a spot that was meaningful to Christopher and his buddies.

Chris was preceded in death by his grandfather, Ivan Dorsey; his uncle, Kevin (Cathy) Dorsey; his grandparents, Irv and Irene Biesinger; his uncle, Steven Biesinger; and his uncle, Ray (Mari) Mahlke.

A memorial service for Chris is planned for Saturday, September 19th, 2026, at Calvary SonRise, 222 Church Ave, Oshkosh, WI. A time of visitation will take place from 11 AM until 1:00, to be followed by a service and light luncheon.

We loved him so, and he will remain in our hearts forever. We are trusting God with the unanswered questions we still have.



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Obituaries

Donald Wise Jr.
Donald Hooper Wise Jr., age 75, of Oshkosh, finished his earthly race and passed into the presence of his Savior Jesus Christ on August 31st, 2026. Don was born on September 19th, 1950 in Evanston, Illinois, the only child of Donald Sr. and Dorothy (Frey) Wise. He graduated from Evanston Township High School and worked in the credit collection field for 32 years. Don married Kathleen McGowan in 1974 and they were married for 20 years.
In 1996, after attending revival meetings, Don began living for Jesus. His life was exemplified by serving others—something that anyone who knew him will immediately attest to when asked about Don's impact on them. As an active participant in Alcoholics Anonymous, he



enjoyed sharing his story with others, as he himself celebrated being sober for the past 53 years!
In 2002, Don chased a dream and moved to Colorado Springs, where he lived and served others until moving back to Wisconsin in 2015. While in Colorado Springs, he helped to run Men of Valor, a home for those coming out of prison and off of the streets. Don's "no fear" mentality from growing up in the Chicago area served him well in the many ministry opportunities that the Lord gave to him. Those who knew him during his time in Colorado have testified about how he constantly encouraged them to use their God given gifts to serve the Lord and others.
Don moved back to the Midwest in 2015 and landed in Oshkosh, where he remained active, despite his declining health. If you didn't see him at the Second Chance Thrift Store on N. Main St., you would have found him on his scooter down by the river, or in Menominee Park.

Don's hat was his unmistakable trademark. It read, "God is good all the time." Don believed that and lived it, and he was unashamed to talk with anyone about the Gospel, and what Jesus had done for him.
Wherever the Lord had Don, and in whatever season of his life, he had an active role in the churches he found himself affiliated with. Don attended Living Stone Church in Oshkosh for a time, until he was physically unable to climb the stairs any longer. He was a blessing to the congregation and remained connected with

them through Facebook—another one of Don's trademarks! He loved a good joke, and could always be counted on for posting something that would brighten someone's day.
Don was preceded in death by his parents.
A funeral service celebrating Don's life will be held at Living Stone Church, 302 Church Ave., Oshkosh, WI on Saturday, September 26th, at 2:00 p.m. Guests are invited to gather for visitation from 1:00 p.m. until the service begins.

Dennis Richard Patrie
Dennis Richard Patrie, 81, passed away on June 28, 2026, in Oshkosh, WI. An original obituary was published on July 8th of this year, and Dennis has been laid to rest at

Lake View Memorial Park in Oshkosh.
"I don't want a funeral or anything fancy. Just throw a party!"
In accordance with his wishes, Denny's family invites those who knew and loved him to celebrate his life on September 13, 2026, at The Roxy Supper Club in "The Lounge", Oshkosh between 3-6pm. Please join us for food and remembrances.

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Obituaries

Judith Elaine Albee

Judith Elaine Albee passed away on August 17, 2026 at Omega House, Houghton, MI after a short illness. She was born in Neenah, Wisconsin June 9th, 1941-the oldest child of Lewis and Patricia (nee Ray) Eckstein. She grew up on a small farm outside of Oshkosh, WI.

After graduating from Winneconne High School in 1959, she attended the State School College - Oshkosh (UW-Oshkosh) graduating with a degree in Elementary Education. On January 26,1963 she married Stephen Albee in Winchester, Wisconsin.

Judy started her teaching career immediately upon graduation, teaching elementary school in Milwaukee and Green Bay while raising 3 boys. Upon moving to Hancock, she continued teaching as a substitute teacher while being a full-time mother. She returned to teaching full time after her boys graduated. She taught early elementary grades in the Hancock School District first at E.L. Wright and then the Hancock Elementary School for 30 years before retiring in 2001. She left an indelible impression on countless Hancock children and maintained those relationships for years afterward. In retirement, she enjoyed traveling with her husband and spending time with her grandchildren.

Judy and Steve continued their community focus and civic duties after retirement playing an active role in numerous

community organizations such as the Keweenaw Land Trust, The Keweenaw National Historical Park, Pine Mountain Music Festival, ADK Teaching Sorority and the Copper Country Community Arts Center.

Judy's life was dedicated to serving others. If it takes a village, Judy was there to lend a hand, whether it be educating its children, sharing the produce of their garden, supporting the arts, protecting the history or wild spaces of the Keweenaw, being an active church member or helping seniors get to their medical appointments. We are thankful that her years of giving and service were reflected in the appreciation, goodwill and love that the community embraced her with years after she retired from teaching, lost her husband and left her home.

Judy is survived by her three sons: Thomas (Tanya) of Brookfield, WI; James of Fairgrove, MI; Mark (Jen) of Duluth, MN; and three grandchildren: Alyssa, Russell, and Lucy. Also surviving are two brothers, Curt Eckstein of Green Bay, WI, and Lewy Eckstein of Oshkosh, WI; a sister Janet (Edward) Fritz, a brother-in-law, Art Merry; a sister-in-law, Carol Eckstein, as well numerous nieces, nephews and cousins.

In addition to her parents, Judy was preceded in death by her husband Steve (in 2020 after 57 years of marriage) by a sister Jean Merry, a brother Everett Eckstein and a sister-in-law, Sandy Friedenberger.

The O'Neill-Dennis Funeral Home is working with the family on arrangements. The family would like to thank the staff

of Portage Health System, White Oasis and Omega House for their compassionate care. In recognition of her service and contributions to the community, the Quincy Mine Hoist Shaft will be illuminated September 5th.

A celebration of her life was held on Sunday, September 6th at the Portage Lake United Church with visitation at 1:00 pm followed by the service at 2:00 P.M. with Pastor Peter Norland officiating followed by a fellowship gathering.

Interment will be in Lake View Memorial Park, 2775 Algoma Blvd, Oshkosh, WI on Sept 18th, 2026. Visitation will be at 11:30 am with the graveside service at noon and interment to follow.

In lieu of flowers, donations can be made in Judy's name to Keweenaw Land Trust, Portage Lake United Church, Copper Country Community Art Center, Omega House or the charity of your choice. To leave online condolences, please go to <http://www.oneilldennisfh.com>.

Classifieds

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Garage/Estate Sales

Annual Craft Sale

Multiple Vendors Located at: 380 N. Westhaven Drive. Sept. 11th & 12th 9AM-5PM & Sept. 13th 9AM-1PM

ANNUAL WYLDEWOOD DRIVE GARAGE SALE!

Friday and Saturday, Sept. 11th and 12th 8:00 AM – 4:00 PM. Condos on Wylde-wood Drive. Off Oakwood or Witzel.

Moving Sale: Everything Must Go! Furniture, Clothes, Households, Wine Stand, All Holiday Items. 413 Stevens Court, Oshkosh (off Merritt). Friday, 11th 5PM-7PM, Saturday, 12th 8AM-3PM and Sunday, 13th 10AM-1PM.

One Day Garage Sale: 1342 N Oakwood Road, Friday, September 11, 8 a.m. - 1 p.m. Kitchenware, housewares, storage bins, clothing, books, luggage, deck chairs, puzzles, electronics

Miscellaneous

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

Legal Notice

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

Run Dates: 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
ESTATE OF
Alfred J. Reisler
PLEASE TAKE NOTICE:

1. An application for informal administration was filed.
2. The decedent, with the date of birth 05/29/1943 and date of death 11/24/2025, was domiciled in Winnebago County, State of Wisconsin, with a mailing address of 3019 Lake Rest Court, Oshkosh.
3. All interested persons waived notice.
4. The deadline for filing a claim against the decedent's estate is November 24, 2026.
5. A claim may be filed at the Winnebago County Courthouse, Oshkosh, Wisconsin, Room 242.

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.

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

Elizabeth G Strozinsky
5050 Roman's Way
Colgate WI 53017
Plaintiff(s)

-vs-
Heather S Rousseau
108 E Lincoln Ave
OSHKOSH, WI 54901
Defendant(s).

Publication Summons and
Notice of Filing

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

You are being sued by the person(s) named above as Plaintiff(s). A copy of the claim has been sent to you at your address as stated in the caption above.
The lawsuit will be heard in the following Small Claims court: 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

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Or obits@oshkoshherald.com, obits@neenahnews.com or customerservice@winneconnenews.com or call 920-385-4512



Legacy.com®

LET'S START A COLLECTION!

Collectors are like treasure hunters! They search for things that are colorful, unusual, funny or meaningful. What kind of treasures will you collect?

What Should You Collect?

You can create an amazing collection from ordinary things. A collection of old keys or colorful buttons are fun to collect. You can gather pens given away by different businesses.

More easy-to-find objects that are great to collect include:

- ☐ state quarters
- ☐ pencils
- ☐ toy cars
- ☐ bottle caps
- ☐ jars
- ☐ dolls
- ☐ erasers
- ☐ rubber bands
- ☐ hats
- ☐ business cards
- ☐ rocks
- ☐ seashells



Sticker Collections

That sticker on your apple could be the start of a super cool collection of fruit labels. Use a notebook to display page after page of stickers from bananas, oranges, avocados, pears, bell peppers and more.



Collect Them All!

Pokémon, baseball players, super heroes and even dinosaurs can all become collectibles.

How can you collect these? Circle every other letter to reveal the answer!

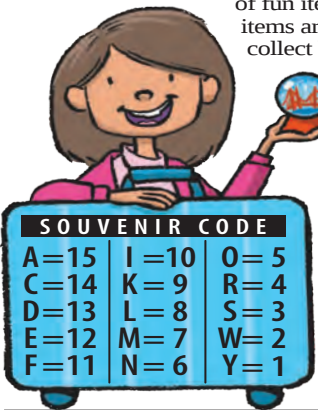
A J S K T N R L A V D Z I H N Y G I C O A Q R M D T S K
A _ _ _ A _ _ G _ _ R _ _

Standards Link: Reading Comprehension: Follow simple written instructions.



Travel Collections

When you travel around town or far away, there are lots of fun items to collect. These travel items are called **souvenirs**. You can collect hotel notepads, postcards, magnets and much more!



Ava collects snow globes whenever she travels. She buys them in airports and tourist gift shops.

Use the souvenir code to reveal where she got each snow globe.



10 5 2 15



7 10 15 7 10



13 15 8 8 15 3



7 15 10 6 12



14 15 8 10 11 5 4 6 10 15 6 12 2 1 5 4 9

Standards Link: Reading Comprehension: Follow simple written instructions.

Make a Museum

Museums are places where you can view collections of art, history and science. Pretend you are creating a number museum. Cut out numbers you see in the newspaper and paste them on a sheet of construction paper in an interesting design.

Standards Link: Visual Arts: Use art supplies to create displays.

Kid Scoop Puzzler

Amelia started collecting paper clips last summer. How many do you see here?



Double Double Word Search

APPLE
COMIC
DISPLAY
FRUIT
FUN
GIFT
HOTEL
KEYS
OLD
PAGE
PAPER
PASTE
PENS
SEE
SOUVENIR
STICKER

Find the words by looking up, down, backwards, forwards and diagonally. Then look for them in this week's *Kid Scoop* stories and activities.

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

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

Kid Scoop Together Silly Story

Ask a family member for each type of word to fill in the blanks. Then read the silly story out loud!

Cousin Evan has a very strange collection.

Believe it or not, he collects

_____!
PLURAL NOUN

He likes to display these unusual treasures in a

_____ ADJECTIVE _____ NOUN. Cousin

Evan even keeps some in a _____ ADJECTIVE

_____. They are protected from

_____ NOUN _____ PLURAL NOUN that way.

Cousin Evan used to collect _____ PLURAL NOUN, but

he was tired of having to _____ VERB so far to

find them.

The collection was featured in a newspaper

story and many _____ PLURAL NOUN wrote letters to

the editor about it. They said the collection

belonged in the local _____ NOUN museum,

next to the _____ ADJECTIVE _____ PLURAL NOUN, the

_____ ADJECTIVE _____ PLURAL NOUN, and the rare

_____ PLURAL NOUN.

But Cousin Evan is happy to keep his collection

at home by his _____ ADJECTIVE _____ NOUN.

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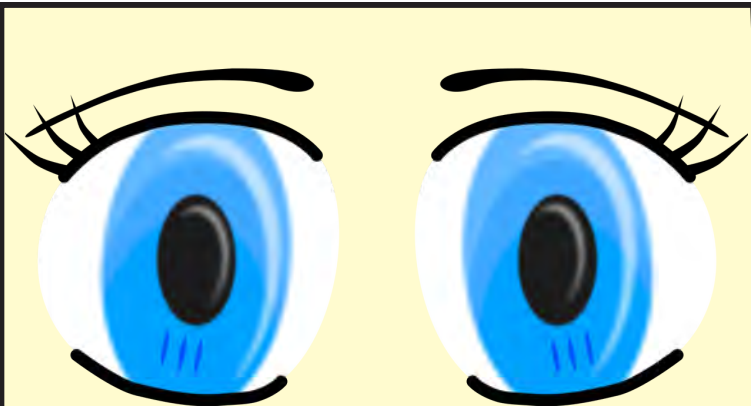
kidscoop.com/activity-pages/

Write On!

My Collection

What do you collect? Write about your collection and describe what makes it special to you.

Standards Link: Language Arts: Write descriptively using supporting details.



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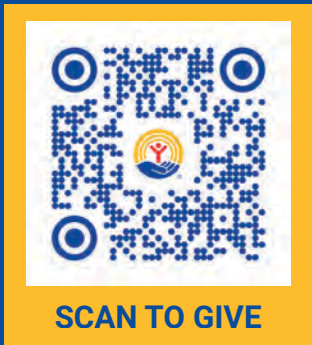
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Pledge must be received by Oshkosh Area United Way on or before December 11, 2026. Visit oshkoshunitedway.org/sweepstakes for full details.

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