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Red Arrow Park course
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Decline in district's enrollment continues

Officials planning solutions for statewide problem

By Jonathan Richie
OSHKOSH HERALD

The Oshkosh Area School District is facing a continued decline in student enrollment, mirroring other districts in the state dealing with this continued trend.

District officials have discussed solutions

to address the declining enrollment, which includes expanding full day 4K and child-care services. The district is also planning initiatives to address school safety, bullying and dysregulated students who are overwhelmed at school, leading to behavioral and physical reactions to stress and frustration.

OASD assistant superintendent of operations Brian Yerkey during the Oct. 14 board meeting noted many factors for declining

enrollment with one of the biggest ones being large graduating classes leaving and small kindergarten classes entering. The Class of 2026 was 792 students, and the class of 2039 is 505 students, according to Yerkey.

Yerkey said the difference of 287 students is something the board should get used to and it's due to factors not entirely unique to Oshkosh. He explained that overall, the dis-

SEE **OASD enrollment** ON PAGE 10



Photo by Michael Cooney

Cultural remembrance

Laura Abraham, an exchange student from Germany, viewed the Oshkosh Public Museum's ofrenda, an altar of remembrance, which remains on display through Halloween. The museum was celebrating culture, community and remembrance Saturday, with its annual Día de los Muertos event featuring music, dance, art, storytelling, food and hands-on activities. Día de los Muertos, or Day of the Dead, honors loved ones who have died while bringing families and communities together.

From Antarctic ice to the cover of National Geographic

By Grace Lim
HERALD CONTRIBUTOR

When Dexter Davis moved to Oshkosh at the end of August, he knew a photograph of him diving beneath the Antarctic ice might appear in National Geographic.

He didn't know it would be on the cover.

The 26-year-old benthic ecologist had just completed his master's degree at the University of California, Santa Barbara, after three years that included two months in Antarctica and research expeditions to some of the world's most remote marine environments.

Davis is taking a breather from the rigors of research to spend time in Oshkosh, where his parents, Sandi and Jeff Davis, have lived since 2022. The Davis' own a North Main Street building that is home to Can Can, a recording studio and store, apartments and other spaces.

On Oct. 3, Davis got a text from his master's adviser, Dr. Andrew Thurber, who had taken the underwater photograph.

"You're on the cover," Thurber wrote. "Better update your resume."

For Davis, the surprise was an unexpected version of a childhood dream.

"I actually wanted to be a National Geographic photographer when I was a kid," he said.

His father subscribed to the magazine, so copies were always around the house. Davis got into photography in middle school, taking pictures for his yearbook and becoming the family photographer when they traveled.

"I'm not in it as the photographer, but as the photographee," Davis said of the special issue titled "Our One Ocean," which will be available in November. "It's still as

SEE **Magazine cover** ON PAGE 8



Photo by Grace Lim

Dexter Davis, center, holds the November special issue of National Geographic featuring him diving beneath the Antarctic ice. Davis, 26, is spending several months in Oshkosh with his parents, Jeff Davis, left, and Sandi Davis. The cover photograph was taken by Davis' master's adviser, Dr. Andrew Thurber, during a research expedition in Antarctica.

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

About the newspaper
A 501c3 newspaper published weekly and mailed free of charge Tuesdays for Wednesday delivery (may vary based on U.S. Postal Service and holidays) to more than 31,000 homes and businesses in the Oshkosh area.

Winnebago Media Group, Inc.
36 Broad St., Suite 300, Oshkosh.
An E-edition of the newspaper can be accessed at
www.oshkoshherald.com.

Project to upgrade disc golf course completed

Oshkosh Herald

Thomas Urben’s goal to upgrade Red Arrow Park’s disc golf course has been completed.

Urben started working on the project in 2023 when he moved back to Oshkosh after graduating from college and started playing disc golf at Red Arrow Park.

“Noticing the older conditions of the course, I wanted to make a difference to improve the course and community around me,” Urben said.

Urben said he met with Oshkosh Parks director Chad Dallman and talked to him about ideas to improve the course, first starting by adding new tee signs to all 18 holes. Dallman worked with Urben to order 18 new tee signs in March 2025.

“This was just the start for the course,” Urben said.

Over the next two years, Urben ran five different fundraiser tournaments (two in 2025 and three in 2026). Three tournaments were at Red Arrow Park, one at the Winnebago County Park disc golf course and another at O’Hauser disc golf course in Neenah.

Throughout these five tournaments, Urben said they had over 175 total participants, raised over \$6,000 for 18 new baskets that cost \$382 each and raised an additional \$345 to the United Way Menasha Tornado Relief Fund after they surpassed their financial goal for purchasing all 18 baskets.

“All of this would not have been possible without the help of local businesses that donated to our raffles,” Urben said. “This was a huge goal of mine for the past three years, so to go through the process of running five different tournaments, three of which ended up raining, and to see the fruits of our labor is incredibly satisfying.”

Urben said the Oshkosh Parks Depart-



Submitted photo

Thomas Urben led efforts to install 18 new tee signs at the Red Arrow Park disc golf course.

ment and the Oshkosh Area Community Foundation helped with donations in addition to purchasing and installing the new baskets at the course.

“I hope this can be an inspiration to anyone in the community who wants to make a change to know that it can be done,” Urben said. “All you need is a group of peo-

ple willing to support you and to be passionate about achieving your goal. I hope this course continues to entertain people for years to come. And to all of those who came to any of these five tournaments or made donations directly to the Oshkosh Area Community Foundation for purchasing baskets, thank you so much.”

Community For Hope announces executive director search

Oshkosh Herald

In 2001, a group of people in Oshkosh made a decision that probably seemed small at the time. Teen suicides in the community were rising, and they chose not to wait for someone else to act. Twenty-five years later, that decision has a name: Community For Hope.

Executive director Sarah Danahy, who has been with the organization for nearly

Community invited to donate during sweatpants drive

Oshkosh Herald

The Oshkosh Kids Foundation is inviting community members to help local children stay warm and comfortable this winter through its “A Soft Place to Land” Sweatpants Drive, running Nov. 1 through Jan. 31.

The drive will collect new sweatpants for kids, with requested sizes ranging from 4T through Adult XL. All donated items will be distributed directly to kids in the Oshkosh School District, helping provide warm, com-

fortable clothing to those who need it most. The sweatpants will be given to the social workers to distribute as they see fit.

Community members can support the drive by donating new sweatpants during the collection period. Those interested in learning more about donation drop-off locations can follow the Oshkosh Kids Foundation on Facebook for additional information.

Monetary donations are also welcome through Venmo.

flexibility. To read the full job description and apply, visit communityforhope.org/careers.

For anyone wondering how to help right now, there is a place to start. Community members are invited to attend Hope Rising: Celebrating 25 Years of Hope, an evening dedicated to suicide prevention and mental health awareness. The community will gather to raise funds, share stories and support those affected by suicide.

The event is from 5:30 to 8 p.m. Nov. 12 at the Culver Family Welcome Center, 625 Pearl Ave. Tickets, which cost \$35, are available at tinyurl.com/25yearsCFHoshkosh.

Back in the Day



Oshkosh history by the Winnebago County Historical Society

October 27, 1958

The Pizza Parlor Celebrates Grand Opening: A new pizza parlor, conveniently named The Pizza Parlor, opened its doors for business at 711 Oregon Street. Owners Charles “Red” Lawler, John “Schnockeye” Neustifter and Lee Bradley were partners and ran the business until 1962. It was then that Lawler and Neustifter split off and headed out separately in their own direction. Lawler opened Red’s Pizza and Neustifter started West End Pizza – two of the longest running and best pizza houses in the city of Oshkosh.

Source: Yesterday in Oshkosh, My Hometown by Randy R. Domer

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Veterans Day Early Deadlines

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Highway 21 between Oshkosh, Omro reopens to traffic after six-month closure

Oshkosh Herald

The 8.8 miles of Wisconsin Highway 21 from Oshkosh to Omro that had been closed since April reopened to traffic over the weekend.

Highway 21 was closed and detoured from the south edge of the Fox River Bridge in Omro to just west of Washburn Street in Oshkosh as part of a resurfacing level project.

The Wisconsin Department of Transportation (WisDOT) Northeast Region said drivers can anticipate various single lane closures along the corridor as crews complete punch list items and final project cleanup.

The project included the following improvements:

- Concrete pavement repair and asphalt overlay from Fox River Bridge to east city of Omro limits and from Leonard Point Road to just west of Washburn Street.
- Concrete pavement repair only from east city of Omro limits to just west of

- Leonard Point Road.
- Upgraded curb ramps within City of Omro for ADA compliance.
 - Multi-lane roundabout at the Leonard Point Road intersection.
 - Single-lane roundabouts at the County FF/Reighmoor Road and Sand Pit Road intersections.
 - Slotted left-turn lanes at the Oakwood Road and Westhaven Drive intersections.
 - Replaced beam guard along corridor.
 - New pavement marking throughout corridor.

The project included safety improvements with new roundabouts at the Highway 21 intersections with Leonard Point Road, Sand Pit Road and County FF/Reighmoor Road. It also included slotted left-turn lanes at the Highway 21 intersections with Oakwood Road and Westhaven Drive.

The remainder of the project included pavement repair and resurfacing along with new pavement marking to improve the overall ride quality and safety.

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Humane society continues to work for the animals

By Jonathan Richie
OSHKOSH HERALD

When visitors first walk into the Oshkosh Area Humane Society, they'll notice all the cats that are around.

"People like to be able to see all the cats," said Ieva Engel, the executive director of the Oshkosh Area Humane Society.

Engel recently provided the Herald a tour of the Oshkosh Area Humane Society for an update on what the shelter is doing. The tour included seeing the facility, seeing all the animals and getting an insight on what the hundreds of volunteers do.

Engel said you cannot talk about the cats without talking about the dogs. Dogs are often kept in kennels that have access to a fenced-in area to do their business. With the limited space, Engel said the shelter does its best to get the dogs enrichment outside of the shelter.

Engel said this includes the dogs playing in the dog runs or the large fenced-in area on the property.

"We also take the dogs out to Sniff-spots," Engel said.

Sniffspots is a website that has a plethora of off-leash dog parks as a way for dogs to get lots of exercise. This includes private backyards that are fenced in, large fields and indoor play spaces that can be booked by the hour.

Engel said it's not just cats and dogs at the OAHS; there's also a group of small animals, which includes a lot of rabbits, and at times guinea pigs, birds and even exotic pets like snakes.

In mid-October the shelter had 163 cats, 23 dogs, 16 small mammals and one reptile for a total of 203 animals in its care.

In 2025, the shelter saw 1,551 animals

adopted.
From Jan. 1 to Sept. 30, 2026, OAHS has provided vaccine and microchip clinics to 954 owned animals. In that same time, there have been 681 owner-surrendered animals taken in by OAHS and 556 stray animals taken in.

This year an average of 16% of stray cats are picked up by their owners compared to 85% of stray dogs.

The top reasons people surrender their animals to the OAHS are too many animals in the home, moving and they can't have animals or an unwanted or unplanned litter.

"Being a part of the happy ending for these animals is great," said Bre Basler, a cat team member at the OAHS.

"We love getting updates on the pets and especially when they tell us how happy they are," she added.

This is a part of their mission. The OAHS is a matchmaker shelter.

"We know what the animal needs, and we're working to figure out what the people who come in need," Engel said. "As a matchmaking shelter we want someone that wants to have a pet."

This means that if someone is looking for an active dog, they will match them with an active dog. And the same goes if they're looking for a couch potato.

The tour continues with showing off the parts of the shelter that are not accessible to the public but are very important.

Engel said the shelter includes a laundry room, which does approximately 35 to 40 loads of laundry every day. There's also the state-of-the-art dental suite, the exam room and the surgical room.

Engel said volunteers help the shelter



Oshkosh Herald

The Oshkosh Area Humane Society has many cats like this one available for adoption.

remain operational.

Engel said there are 339 active volunteers working at the shelter along with a number of work-release workers. They clean out the spaces where the animals stay along with other cleaning of the shelter.

When OAHS renewed its contract with the City of Oshkosh last year there was a bit of outcry from the residents and supporters of the shelter. The city dropped annual funding from \$100,000 to \$50,000 and \$100 for every animal brought in after the first 500 animals of the calendar year.

Engel said the new contract is going well, which ends in December 2028.

"We worked through some logistics and worked out with how animals are dropped off overnight, but we're working closely with the city and the police department to make sure the contract works for all of us," Engel said.

There has also been a recent uptick in activity in the OAHS pet food pantry. The pantry is available to people in the community. They can contact the shelter and make an appointment to get pet food for free.

"We've seen a lot more people needing the service recently," Engel said.

About 85% of the OAHS funding comes from private donors. One popular way those donations come is from memorial donations. Obituaries will often tell people to not send flowers to the funeral for a loved one, but instead that they should make a contribution to the Oshkosh Area Humane Society.

"We do get a lot of donations from those obituaries," Engel said.

More information on how to support the Oshkosh Area Humane Society can be found at oahs.org.

No issues with OASD short-term borrowing

By Jonathan Richie
OSHKOSH HERALD

After an Oshkosh Area School District board member brought a legal concern to the district, it was found that the district's short-term borrowing practices were legal.

Oshkosh Area School District Board of Education member Tim Hess stated in September that he believed the district's short-term borrowing practice was illegal.

Board president Mike Ford brought the issue from the Sept. 23 meeting for discussion at the board's Oct. 14 meeting.

Allison Buchmann, a public finance attorney at Quarles and Brady, and attorney Ron Stadler stated OASD was within its legal rights.

Buchman and Stadler both confirmed earlier this month with OASD Superintendent Bryan Davis that the actions taken by the school board in August was completely legal.

Hess questioned whether the district could borrow for the next school year. State statute outlines that school districts can short-term borrow.

The school board approved short-term borrowing \$20 million from Nicolet Bank to cover daily expenses until more state funds come in later this year. The short-term borrowing is expected to cost the district around \$113,000.

Hess did not provide further comment at the Oct. 14 meeting.

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Simply Mints (Select Varieties)
was 3.49

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Lumen Protein Lemonade
was 3.79

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Skipjack Wild Tuna (Select Varieties)
3 oz was 3.49

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Organic Peace Coffee (2 flavors)
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City officials proposed balanced budget

By Jonathan Richie
OSHKOSH HERALD

City of Oshkosh officials have announced the proposed 2027 budget will eliminate the nearly \$4 million deficit despite recent news that state funding is being cut by \$500,000.

The proposed 2027 budget raises the tax levy and tax rate. The tax levy is set to go up \$1.5 million to \$48.5 million, and the average homeowner can expect an increase on their tax bill, according to information released on Friday.

The Oshkosh Common Council along with the city manager's office and department heads held numerous workshops this month. The city was hit with an unexpected update two weeks ago when the state announced funding for the city would be cut by \$500,000 from the Municipal Services Program, which reimburses municipalities for services provided to state facilities.

"Despite the challenges created by incomplete State funding of the Municipal Services Payment and continued cost increases, City staff developed a budget that supports the organization's priorities and long-term goals," City Manager Rebecca Grill said. "The budget also reflects ongoing efforts to realign services, maintain high-quality service delivery, and keep a strong focus on the customer experience."

The city manager's office has stated the 2027 budget will balance the budget that was facing a potential \$4 million deficit, which was first identified in June.

The communications and engagement (OCE) division said the drop in MSP payments led to the city raising the tax levy. The city eliminated three positions in the effort to balance the budget and will keep

two positions vacant. Before the budget process began, both Grill and Mayor Matt Mugerauer stated personnel cuts were likely to come in the 2027 budget.

There is also \$23.5 million in the \$82 million capital project's budget related to purchasing and redeveloping City Center over the next three years.

Under the proposed budget the average monthly increase of property tax bills will be \$3.45 for an annual increase of \$41.35. This is based on the proposed tax rate of \$7.95. These figures are based on the Oshkosh median home value of \$225,000.

The city manager's office stated, "The 2027 budget implements efficiencies to help deliver high-quality services residents expect – including police, fire and EMS; economic development; garbage and recycling collection; and high-quality parks and roads."

Along with the \$48.5 million operating budget the city has numerous capital improvement projects the council will vote to approve next month.

City documents show capital projects will cost \$82.8 million next year. The capital improvement plan (CIP) outlines the next ten years of projects that will cost \$642.8 million.

The CIP includes \$12.5 million to purchase City Center in 2027 and \$5.5 million in 2028 and 2029. The funding source for this is general obligation debt, which is the funding source for \$43.7 million of the 2027 CIP budget.

A budget hearing was scheduled to be held Tuesday before the council meeting. The final budget is expected to be approved at the next meeting on Nov. 17.

A full version of the budget is available at oshkoshwi.gov/2027budget.

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Changes to OASD’s healthcare plan set to save \$1.3M

By Jonathan Richie
OSHKOSH HERALD

As the Oshkosh Area School District continues to tackle numerous issues related to a structural deficit, a recent move will tackle a portion of that deficit.

The Board of Education voted at its Oct. 14 meeting to increase how much district employees pay into the self-funded healthcare program. The move is estimated to save the district \$1.3 million by requiring district employees to pay more in monthly premium costs.

The district needs to cut about \$7 million to balance the 2026-27 budget.

OASD Superintendent Bryan Davis explained there was some urgency with approving the 2027 healthcare plan as it goes into effect on Jan. 1, 2027, and the sign-up period for district staff starts in early November.

Currently, employees on the district healthcare plan pay \$50 monthly for single coverage and \$100 for family coverage. On the new four-tier system monthly costs will be \$99 for single coverage, \$216 for employee coverage and children, \$254 for employee and spouse, and \$380 for family coverage.

Under a proposed two-tier system, single coverage would cost \$99 monthly and family coverage would be \$337 per month. The remaining healthcare costs will be paid by the district.

Board member Tim Hess suggested decreasing the employee contribution from 12% down to 10%. That idea was not supported by the board, in part because of the drain the district is seeing on the fund balance.

During the 2021-22 fiscal year the end

of year balance was \$24 million. The fund balance at the end of the 2025-26 fiscal year was \$8 million.

Board president Mike Ford said this step is necessary to put the district in a better place financially even if it costs the board potentially during an election.

“It’s no fun to increase healthcare contributions,” Ford said. “Any time an employee has a reduction in their take home pay and that’s what this is, for reasons unrelated to job performance. It risks hurting morale, and it certainly has an impact on everybody’s bottom line.”

Ford continued, “I also know that necessary reform like this comes at a political cost and we’ve been making a lot of difficult reforms lately and I fully expect to pay those political costs and frankly I’m OK with that because the cost of not making these decisions are going to be paid by everybody, future generations and OASD students.”

Board member Barb Herzog voted against the healthcare plan. She stated she could not support the plan as support staff like paraprofessionals who get paid over 10 months and the premium payments must be made during those 10 months.

Paraprofessionals would have to pay the 12 months of premiums over 10 months instead of other staff members like teachers that can pay it over 12 months.

“I know the money’s the same, but budgeting is an issue,” Herzog said. “So I will not support this unless we have a provision that allows for our 10-month employees to have that money spread over to 12 months.”

Herzog said she received a legal opinion that the district can pay 10-month employees over 12 months, but Davis said he’d like to run the proposal by the district’s legal counsel.

The issue could be something the board looks at again in a year when they approve the 2028 healthcare plan.

Board member Molly Smiltneek did not mince her words when talking about health insurance, saying “it sucks.”

“Our entire healthcare system is a

mess, and we all should fight for changes to make healthcare equitable and more accessible to people,” Smiltneek. “In the past years there has been fiscal mismanagement in this district, and it’s important to acknowledge this and that we are not in a healthy position financially.”

She added that the previous insurance premiums of \$50 per month for single coverage and \$100 per month for families “seem to have been set without much intentionality or logic.”

Library calendar

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

Monday, Nov. 2

Preschool Storytime, 9:30-10:30 a.m.
Read to a Dog, 4-5 p.m., grades K-5
Write On! Curtains Up on Fall Writing, 6-7:30 p.m., adults and teens

Tuesday, Nov. 3

Teen Tuesday, 4:30-5:30 p.m.

Wednesday, Nov. 4

Baby and Toddler Storytime, 9:30 and 10:15 a.m.
Teen Advisory Board, 4:30-5:30 p.m., teens

Thursday, Nov. 5

Baby and Toddler Storytime, 9:30 and 10:15 a.m.
Chess Club, 5-7 p.m., all ages

Friday, Nov. 6

PreTeen Book Club, 4:30-5:30 p.m., grades 3-5
Teen Book Club, 4:30-5:30 p.m., grades 6-8

Saturday, Nov. 7

Oshkosh Community Jam, 11 a.m. to 12:30 p.m., adults and teens
Unplug and Play Games, noon to 2 p.m., all ages

Sunday, Nov. 8

Reading the Rainbow, 2-4 p.m., adults

Monday, Nov. 9

Preschool Storytime, 9:30-10:30 a.m.
Read to a Dog, 4-5 p.m.
Write On! Curtains Up on Fall Writing, 6-7:30 p.m., adults and teens

Tuesday, Nov. 10

Tunes and Tots, 10-11 a.m., babies and toddlers
Craft in Company, noon to 1 p.m., adults
Fraud Prevention Lunch and Learn, noon to 1 p.m., adults (lunch provided)
Teen Tuesday, 4:30-5:30 p.m.
Craft in Company, 5:30-6:30 p.m.
Adult DIY – Floral Hoop Wreath, 6-7 p.m.

Wednesday, Nov. 11

Baby and Toddler Storytime, 9:30 and 10:15 a.m.
“Did you finish the book?” Club, 10:30-11:30 a.m.

Thursday, Nov. 12

Baby and Toddler Storytime, 9:30 and

10:15 a.m.

Second Thursday Book Club, 1:30-3 p.m., adults
Adult AniManga Club, 4:30-5:30 p.m.
Chess Club, 5-7 p.m., all ages

Friday, Nov. 13

Elementary Book Club, 4:30-5:30 p.m.
Young Adult Book Club, 4:30-5:30 p.m., grades 9-12

Saturday, Nov. 14

Read to a Dog, 10-11 a.m.
Gather and Glow, 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m., grades K-5
Buy Now! Documentaries After Dark, 6-9 p.m., adults and teens

Monday, Nov. 16

Preschool Storytime, 9:30-10:30 a.m.
Read to a Dog, 4 – 5 p.m.
Write On! Curtains Up on Fall Writing, 6-7:30 p.m., adults and teens

Tuesday, Nov. 17

Teen Tuesday, 4:30-5:30 p.m.
Free Legal Clinic, 4:30-6:30 p.m., adults
Thankful for Trees: Rooted in Reading, 5-6 p.m.

Wednesday, Nov. 18

Baby and Toddler Storytime, 9:30 and 10:15 a.m.
Makerspace Ribbon Cutting, 3 p.m.
Discover Service Oshkosh, 4-6 p.m.
Teen Advisory Board, 4:30-5:30 p.m.

Thursday, Nov. 19

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

Friday, Nov. 20

PreTeen Create and Chill, 4:30-5:30 p.m., grades 3-5

Saturday, Nov. 21

Puzzle-Rama, 1-4:30 p.m., all ages

Sunday, Nov. 22

Winter Portraits, 1-4 p.m., all ages

Monday, Nov. 23

Write On! Curtains Up on Fall Writing, 6-7:30 p.m., adults and teens

Tuesday, Nov. 24

Teen Tuesday, 4:30-5:30 p.m.
Banned Book Club, 6:30-7:30 p.m.

Wednesday, Nov. 25

Elementary Explorers, 4:30-5:30 p.m.

Thursday, Nov. 26

Library closed for Thanksgiving

Friday, Nov. 27

Gather and Glow, 2-3 p.m., grades K-5

Saturday, Nov. 28

Adult DIY, 11 a.m. to noon
Superheroes’ Adventure Time – a TTRPG, noon to 2 p.m., all ages

Sunday, Nov. 29

Gingerbread Galore: A Holiday House Showdown, 1-5 p.m.

Monday, Nov. 30

Write On! Curtains Up on Fall Writing, 6-7:30 p.m., adults and teens



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Halloween display draws nightly visitors to historic home

By Michael Cooney
HERALD CONTRIBUTOR

The lights weren't on yet, but a young boy and his father were already outside Tara and Travis Zochert's home, making their nightly visit to the couple's Halloween display.

When Tara Zochert pulled into the yard and offered to turn on the lights, the father explained that his son already knew what to expect.

"The dad says, 'Well, we're here every single night,'" Zochert said. "So he knows what it looks like even without the lights on and with the lights on."

The father and son are among the visitors Zochert calls "frequent flyers" at the couple's home at 1149 Algoma Boulevard. Their first Halloween display includes 46 animatronics or other moving pieces, along with projected images, lighting and a fog machine.

Visitors should be prepared for moving figures and sudden, startling sounds, sometimes when they least expect them.

The idea grew out of a conversation with neighbors around a patio table.

"We just have the most loving neighborhood," Zochert said.

She preferred a whimsical approach to Halloween. Her husband wanted something scarier.

"Since I decorate for Christmas, he got the Halloween one," she said.

The display eventually outgrew their yard. With a neighbor decorating in a skeleton theme, the Zocherts added a giant skeleton in that yard, too.

The William Waters designed 1888 house itself contributes to the setting, which is the former home of Jessie Jack Hooper, a suffragist, peace activist and

first president of the Wisconsin League of Women Voters.

Zochert said an exterior restoration is planned for 2028. For now, chipped paint and a broken window lend themselves to Halloween.

"So we might as well use it when we can," she said. "The inside of the house is stunning."

Travis Zochert built a stone wall that provides a platform for the display. Tara Zochert said it was his first attempt at building a wall.

The decorations came from big-box retailers, small shops, antique stores and Facebook Marketplace. Some of the smaller pieces, including rats and mice, are decades old.

"I think people who are creative pull design from everywhere," Tara Zochert said.

Putting it all together has been a household effort.

An exchange student from Vietnam staying with the family along with his brother, assembled many of the animatronics while Travis Zochert was working. The brothers also placed a clown high on the house.

One troll took the exchange student about two hours to assemble. He has added a few surprises of his own, positioning completed figures so they stare at Zochert when she comes downstairs.

The Halloween collection, combined with Christmas decorations that include more than seven indoor trees, prompted Zochert to rent a storage unit to reclaim space on the home's top floor.

"It's one of my fun passions," she said.

With a few more Halloween touches still to come, Zochert expects the display to grow in future years. The home's loca-



Photo by Michael Cooney

Tara and Travis Zochert's Halloween display includes 46 animatronics or other moving pieces, along with projected images, lighting and a fog machine.

tion across from an elementary school gives children a close look at the decorations.

"Those kids love this stuff," she said. "So, we like to do what's good for the community."

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Governing in Oshkosh: Embracing our thought diversity

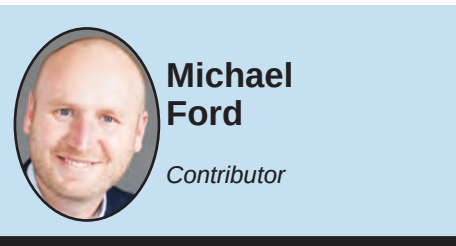
Oshkosh is a tough place to govern. It is a statement I have heard for years, and if I am honest, it is something I have said when people ask how things are going.

We are in a place that seems increasingly rare in the modern United States. In an era of political sorting where people speak of blue and red cities and states, we remain purple. Or perhaps a better way of describing it, we have a whole lot of red and whole lot of blue that live in the same community.

Our political diversity creates challenges. There is a huge spectrum of what people want out of their city, county and school district.

Take the issue of appropriate student discipline. In my position on the school board, I am often asked by constituents to address student discipline, but those requests are evenly split between people complaining that the school district is over-disciplining students and people who think the district is under-disciplining students.

When I was on the Oshkosh Common Council, I experienced similar splits in opinion on the appropriate policy



responses to the city’s unhoused population, among other issues.

When a candidate for local office asks me what to expect if they win a seat, I tell them to prepare to be wrong a lot. In a divided place any decision will have many detractors.

But that does not mean we cannot do hard things in Oshkosh. It does not mean we cannot govern here. The diversity of thought and opinion in Oshkosh is a positive that gives our community a competitive advantage, should we choose to embrace it.

I have worked in public service in some capacity for about 20 years, and I have learned at least one valuable lesson during that time: I am not always right. I have also noticed that some of the best

outcomes occurred when my preferences were challenged and my mind changed.

We are in a political moment where changing one’s mind, or even not being all in on one side of a specific issue, is viewed as weakness. From a practical standpoint, being unable to change one’s mind only guarantees a person will embrace bad ideas at some point (unless you truly believe someone can always be right about everything). Similarly, not waiting to form an opinion before all the facts are known can be downright dangerous.

A couple years ago I developed a class on free speech and taught 19th century philosopher John Stuart Mill’s Trident. Mill’s Trident stated that every opinion is either completely correct, partially correct or completely wrong. However, without diversity of thought represented through dissenting opinions there is no way to confirm a correct opinion, tease out the parts of an opinion that are false or reject an incorrect opinion.

Mill’s ideas may read like abstract philosophy, but they play out in the real world. If I bring a bad budget assumption to a

school board meeting and nobody is there to challenge it, it makes for bad policy.

If I bring a flawed school safety proposal forward that has some merits and there is no disagreement, it is not improved. If staff presents a new reading strategy and nobody on the school board asks any questions about it, how do we know it is the right strategy? Good governance demands disagreement. It demands conflict.

Conflict, especially when it plays out in a public meeting of a governing body, can be uncomfortable. It can be uncomfortable to watch, and uncomfortable to participate in. And certainly, conflict for the sake of conflict can be harmful.

It creates coalitions and divisions that can work against critical thinking and compromise. But if Oshkosh can lean into our disagreements, use the diversity of thought in our community to improve our local governments and reject drama for the sake of drama, we can thrive.

Michael R. Ford is a professor of Public Administration at UW-Oshkosh and currently serving as the president of the Oshkosh Area School District Board of Education. This column reflects his own personal views.

Magazine cover

FROM PAGE 1

much an honor.”

The cover image showed Davis about 45 feet beneath the ice at a site called Cinder Cones in McMurdo Sound, Antarctica.

Davis and his research team were studying methane seeps, areas of the seafloor where methane is naturally released. Because methane is a potent greenhouse gas, scientists want to understand what happens to it as it moves through the Antarctic ecosystem and what that could mean for a changing climate.

Davis’ research focused on animals living in the sediment. He collected sections of the seafloor and later studied the worms, clams, crustaceans and other animals living there, looking for evidence of how methane moves through the food web.

Getting beneath the Antarctic ice required extensive training. But Davis’ diving career had a much less auspicious beginning.

As a teenager, Davis and his father planned a trip to Australia that included diving the Great Barrier Reef. To do that, they first needed to become certified. Their training took place in the cold, murky waters of Puget Sound near Seattle, where visibility could be measured in single-digit feet.

Davis remembers his first open-water dive vividly.

“I cried after my first,” he said. “It was terrifying.”

He was only about 20 feet underwater, but a group of inexperienced divers churned up the bottom, making the already limited visibility even worse.

“It’s dark and cold and scary,” Davis said. He surfaced, saying he didn’t want to do it again. An instructor persuaded him to make another dive, this time away from the chaos. Then father and son eventually made it to the Great Barrier Reef.

Jeff Davis remembers the difference. “It was like diving into an aquarium,” he said. “Warm water, crystal clear. You could see everything.”

Less than a decade later, his son was diving beneath Antarctic ice. There, divers enter through a hole cut through ice roughly six feet thick. Davis remembers descending through what looked like a white tube before emerging into an expansive underwater world.

Above the ice, Antarctica could appear almost monochromatic – ice, snow and rock. Beneath it, Davis saw bright pink sea stars and an abundance of life.

“You kind of get a sense of awe that I think trumps all the fears that you have,” he said.

Back in Oshkosh, his parents were following his adventures from thousands of miles away. Sandi Davis was happy to hear about the dives – once they were over.

“I’m his mom. So terrified,” said Davis, a local artist. “I mean, proud and terrified at



Submitted photo

Dexter Davis, left, dives with his father, Jeff Davis, at the Great Barrier Reef in Australia in 2017

the same time.”

She had one request for her son. “Don’t call me until after your dives,” she told him. “I don’t want to know when you’re down there because I’ll just stress about it. Tell me when you’re back.”

Davis knew Thurber was taking photographs and video in Antarctica for National Geographic, but he had no idea one of those photographs would eventually put him on the cover.

Months later, National Geographic contacted Davis asking him to sign a photo release for its November special edition. He agreed, still not knowing where or how prominently the photograph might appear.

Even then, Davis wasn’t entirely convinced. The diver’s face was obscured by his gear. When an advance copy of the issue arrived Oct. 5, Sandi Davis flipped through the magazine looking for confirmation.

“There it is, there it is,” she remembers saying. “It’s you. It’s you. This is your name right there.”

Mother and son celebrated accordingly. “We squealed,” she said. “Jumped around.”

For now, Davis is having fun hanging out with parents and working on his art. He is a scientific illustrator who uses colored pencils to draw the unusual marine animals he studies. Mom Sandi Davis is the featured artist in Can Can this fall. Davis hopes eventually to work as a research technician, combining hands-on science

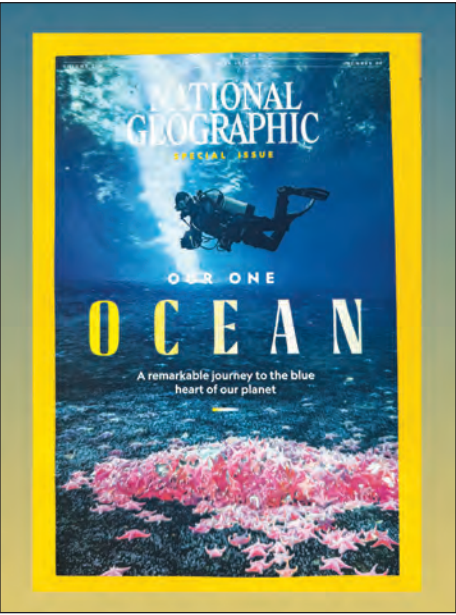


Photo by Andrew Thurber/National Geographic

Dexter Davis dives beneath the Antarctic ice on the cover of National Geographic’s November special issue, “Our One Ocean.” The photograph was taken by his master’s adviser, Dr. Andrew Thurber, at Cinder Cones in McMurdo Sound, Antarctica. Davis was about 45 feet beneath the ice.

with science communication.

At 26, after seven deep-sea research expeditions, two months in Antarctica and a National Geographic cover, even Davis isn’t quite sure what adventure could top the ones he’s had so far.

He considered the possibilities. Grinning, he said, “I guess I need to go to space or jump inside an active volcano.”

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The Power of Local





Submitted photo

Community champion

Create Wisconsin has honored the City of Oshkosh for its exemplary concern for and investment in the city’s arts and cultural development, infrastructure, community access and civic engagement. The city was recognized for its outstanding long-term support in and commitment to the re-imagination and stability of The Grand Oshkosh, support for the Oshkosh Public Museum, the creation of a city department dedicated to cultural development and access and support of the Museum, Arts and Culture Board as a public committee concerned with arts and cultural opportunities for all city residents.

Panel evaluates former UW Fox campus

By MaryBeth Matzek
OSHKOSH HERALD

Winnebago County continues to work through plans for the future of the former University of Wisconsin-Oshkosh campus in Menasha.

After UW-Oshkosh left the 43-acre campus, Winnebago County purchased the campus from Outagamie County for \$1 in 2025. The campus currently houses a daycare center, the Barlow Planetarium, the Communication Arts Center theater and field house — the latter two which are open to the community for rental.

A Technical Assistance Panel (TAP) made up of experts in real estate, development, planning, finance and community

development met last month to tour and discuss options to guide future campus programming and planning at the campus.

TAP is currently working on a report that will make some redevelopment recommendations and share some possible options for the site. In December, those findings and recommendations will be presented to the county board.

In early 2027, Winnebago County Board Executive Gordon Hintz said the county board can evaluate the options, set campus goals and begin longer-term programming and plans for the campus.

The county board was scheduled to meet Monday and Tuesday to discuss and potentially approve next year’s budget.

Local authors to sign Halloween-themed books

Oshkosh Herald

Local authors Ursula Klein and Charlotte Greene will be doing a book signing from 10 a.m. to noon Oct. 31 during the Oshkosh Farmers Market at Author Apothecary bookstore.

Klein’s novel “Enchanted Autumn” is a Halloween- and autumn-themed romance between a witch and an avowedly anti-magic researcher, set in the very witchy city of Salem, Massachusetts.

It’s got shenanigans involving love potions, a jealous vampire ex-girlfriend and a haunted house with a sassy ghost along with a slow burn romance.

The follow up to “Enchanted Autumn” is a winter themed novel “Winter’s Spell,” but they are both standalone stories and can be read independently. “Winter’s Spell” is set

on Cape Cod and involves a lost mermaid, a magic spell and a Shakespeare play along with lots of kisses and yearning. Both novels fall into the category of “romantasy.”

Greene has written thrillers and romances, but by far her favorite genre is that of horror. “Gnarled Hollow” is a stylish haunted house story with similarities to the haunted stories of Henry James and Shirley Jackson, while “From the Woods” is a camping themed horror novel about strange things happening in the woods.

“It feels like a Stephen King novel crossed with the ‘Blair Witch Project,’” Greene said.

“Legacy” is her other ghost story, set in a haunted cabin in Rocky Mountain National Park. Each of them are standalone stories.

OASD enrollment

FROM PAGE 1

tract has gone from 8,925 students last September to 8,555 students a month ago.

“There is a lot to that number,” Yerkey said. “To summarize it that simply ‘Oshkosh is an anomaly across the state when it comes to attendance and we lost 370 kids and that makes us some awful place’ is not accurate. And I think that’s a dangerous place to be.”

These numbers are based on the third Friday in September headcount of students. There is a similar count in January that is also used to decide how much state aid the district receives.

Board member Chris Wright said the district could lose 40% of its population over 15 years if steps are not taken to address the decline. He noted that in 2015 the district had 10,400 students and if the trends continue at this pace, in four to six years the district could have between 6,500 and 7,000 students.



Yerkey

The district has 542 students that are open enrolled outside of the district for this school year. It breaks down to 386 attending another school in person and 156 attending a virtual school. Yerkey said most of these students were already open enrolled out of the district before this school year.

For the 2025-26 school year that figure was 505, meaning there has been a 37-student increase. Over that same time period, the district has seen fewer students open enroll into the district.

Last year there were 193 students that open enrolled into OASD and for the 2026-27 school year that number has dropped by 30, with just 163 students open enrolling in.

Yerkey also noted that over 400 students left the district between June 1 and Oct. 2, 2026, with 129 leaving for private schools or home schooling. The majority of the exits were from students who moved out of Oshkosh.

OASD officials reached out to 147 families that applied for open enrollment and 122 families responded. Yerkey reported that work and childcare were the top two reasons why people open enrolled out of OASD.

Thirteen respondents said safety, bullying and behavior was the reason and 13 respondents said it was due to class sizes. A total of 18 respondents stated it was due to district trust, budget, district communication, special education needs and test scores.

Board vice president Beth Wyman asked Yerkey if the drop is linked to the large number of refugee students the district takes in and if federal program cuts have contributed to enrollment numbers dropping.

Yerkey said that his office looked at that and that those numbers had been dropping in previous years but they did not see a drop when looking at the enrollment numbers this year.

Another issue Yerkey discussed was the

budget implications. He did the quick math during the meeting for the school board, asking if the district loses 370 students and the district receives \$12,000 per pupil, did the district just lose \$4.4 million in funding?

“That is not accurate,” Yerkey said.

The per pupil aid is based on the third Friday in September count and the second Friday in January count and uses those numbers to build a three-year average and that number.

Based on those two counts, OASD had 8,627 students in 2026 and a three-year average of 8.991 students. In 2024, the count was 9,254 and in 2025 it was 9,091.

Yerkey estimates that due to declining enrollment there could be an estimated \$141,722 drop in per pupil aid coming into the OASD. The district will likely be headed toward a “fiscal cliff,” Yerkey said, if enrollment does not improve in the next few years.

Board member Jacob Wolf said that he believes drastic changes are needed and that small changes will not help the negative perception that people in the community already have about the district.

“I see people not sending their kids here for those reasons,” Wolf said. “And that’s a hard pill to swallow, because there’s awesome students here, there’s awesome teachers. But perception is huge.”

Yerkey and Hess noted that private schools and other schools benefit from the voucher program. Over the last five years \$33 million of Oshkosh tax dollars have gone to the voucher program.

“There’s certainly work to do and we certainly have a declining enrollment and we have open enrollment and that’s a concern,” Yerkey said. “Some items to note, declining enrollment is a problem across the state of Wisconsin.”

District officials have stated for a few years that this is not an Oshkosh problem and that it is happening all over the state. Yerkey explained that 82% of Wisconsin schools are using the declining enrollment exemption, which helps districts that see a sudden drop in their three-year average count.

Yerkey added that all schools in the Fox Valley Association (FVA) are experiencing a decline in enrollment. He stated that Appleton Area School District is estimated to have its enrollment dip by 310 students.

Under the new aid estimate, 261 school districts, or 62%, will receive less general aid for the 2026-27 school year than they did during 2025-26, while 151 districts, or 35.9% will receive more aid. Nine districts are expecting no change.

According to the DPI, 261 of the states 421 school districts will receive less aid for the 2026-27 school year compared to the previous school year.

Yerkey also added that across the state when looking at county data, 68 of 72 counties across the state saw a decrease in enrollment. This is linked partially to declining birth rates and students being homeschooled.

DPI released its aid numbers on the same day Gov. Tony Evers office announced the state ended the fiscal year with \$2.1 billion in the state’s “rainy day” fund.

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Photo by Michael Cooney

Paranormal investigation

Ghost hunters, including Greg Kelly and Amy Merrow, put electronic equipment into visitors’ hands at Oshkosh’s Morgan House Oct. 23-24, inviting them to search for spirits while supporting the preservation of Winnebago County history.

Play provides journey through seasons

Oshkosh Herald

Panorama Arts Collective is presenting the play “The Bench, A Play in Four Seasons” written by Fox Valley resident Carrie T. Gruman-Trinkner in a unique manner with four different directors: one for each of the four seasons.

Each director brings their own perspective to the piece. And every one of the directors is either a founder or a board member of Panorama Arts Collective.

Directors are Kaitlynn Herb of Appleton, Leah Demske of Oshkosh, Belle Sander of Fremont and Alex Bartel of Fremont.

“The Bench: A Play in Four Seasons” is an award winning play in four scenes set at a bench in Central Park with stories corresponding to spring, summer, fall and winter. The changing seasons are a metaphor for personal growth and life transitions.

Each season has a dedication bringing even more depth to the meanings behind the words.

“The Bench: A Play in Four Seasons” premiered at a one act play festival in Weyauwega where it won the “Audience Favorite Award.” It has since won other awards including a “Social Awareness Award.”

The play is newly published by Pioneer Drama of Engelwood, Colorado. It has been performed nationwide over the past few years and is available for both amateur and professional productions through Pioneer Drama.

Performances are 7 p.m. Nov. 12, 2 and 7 p.m. Nov. 14 and 2 p.m. Nov. 15 at the Time Community Theater. Tickets are \$15 for early purchase and \$20 at the door. Tickets can be purchased at panoramaartscollective.org.

There will be a moderated talk-back with the playwright after each of the performances free of charge.

Each ticket holder will also receive a discount coupon for Panorama Arts Writing Workshops in 2027.

Concert features jazz pianist, vocalist

Oshkosh Herald

The next First Tuesday at First Congregational Church is on Nov. 3.

Jazz pianist John Harmon and vocalist Paula Steinert will perform songs from The Great American Songbook. These songs were mostly composed from the 1930s to 1950s for Broadway and the movies, such as “All the Things You Are,” “Blue Skies” and “Can’t Help Lovin that Man of Mine.”

The public is invited for music at noon,

followed by homemade soups, salad, dessert, coffee and four kinds of fresh homemade bread, including the signature Tomato bread. The suggested donation is \$11 per person. The church is located at 137 Algoma Boulevard.

Harmon will play the church’s 1906 Steinway Model D concert grand piano. The piano is noted for its powerful bass notes and its rich, engaging sound. Generations have listened to this historic piano during the church’s historical role as the Oshkosh community’s meeting house.

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Calendar of events

Friday, Oct. 30

Cirque Macabre, 7 p.m., Oshkosh Arena
The Late Night Double Feature at Friday Fright Night, 7 p.m., Time Community Theater

Saturday, Oct. 31

Oshkosh Farmers Market, 8 a.m., Downtown Oshkosh
TedxOshkosh, 8 a.m., The Grand at UW-Oshkosh
StoryTime Event: Meet Sara Bargaehr, Author of “Let’s Meet at the Dog Park,” 10 a.m., Caramel Crisp Bookstore
Winnebago Area Model Classic, 10 a.m., LaSure’s Banquet Hall
Trick-or-Treat, 4-7 p.m., City of Oshkosh
The Howling 2: Your Sister is a Werewolf, 7 p.m., Time Community Theater

Sunday, Nov. 1

Author Talk with Greta Kelly, 2 p.m., Morgan House, 234 Church Ave.
Oshkosh Chamber Singers presents 1791: Music from Mozart’s Final Year, 3 p.m., Most Blessed Sacrament Parish, St. Mary’s site, 605 Merritt Ave.

Tuesday, Nov. 3

First Tuesday Concert, noon, First Congregational Church

Thursday, Nov. 5

Celebrating Oshkosh Neighborhood Heroes, 5 p.m., Venue 404, 404 N. Main St.

Friday, Nov. 6

Northeast Wisconsin Gameapalooza

Board Game Convention, 9 a.m., Culver Family Welcome Center
Morgan House Tour, 6 p.m., 234 Church Ave.

Saturday, Nov. 7

Northeast Wisconsin Gameapalooza Board Game Convention, 9 a.m., Culver Family Welcome Center
Mihm Movie Marathon, 2 p.m., Time Community Theater
Oshkosh Sings, 3 p.m., Oshkosh North High School
Winnebagoland Barbershop Chorus presents Malt Shop Melodies, 3 p.m., St. John’s Lutheran Church, 808 N. Main St.
Oshkosh Gallery Walk, 6 p.m., Downtown Oshkosh
Feel Like the First Time - Foreigner, 7 p.m., The Grand at UW-Oshkosh
Oshkosh Area Community Band Fall Concert, 7 p.m., Alberta Kimball Auditorium

Sunday, Nov. 8

Oshkosh North Communities Program Autumn Craft Fair, 9 a.m., Frank Schade Fieldhouse
Northeast Wisconsin Gameapalooza Board Game Convention, 9 a.m., Culver Family Welcome Center

Tuesday, Nov. 10

Veterans Day Ceremony, 8:45 a.m., Oshkosh North High School

Wednesday, Nov. 11

Veterans Day Breakfast, 8 a.m., Military Veterans Museum

Thursday, Nov. 12

Hope Rising: Celebrating 25 Years of HOPE, 5:30 p.m., Culver Family Welcome Center
Panorama Arts Collective presents “The Bench: A Play in Four Seasons,” 7 p.m., Time Community Theater

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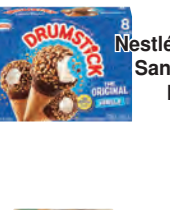
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Senior Spotlight is brought to you by: **Nicolet**
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Kuehn proves to be double trouble for Knights' foes

By Tim Froberg
HERALD CONTRIBUTOR

Size and athleticism are a coveted combo on the gridiron.

Guys who bring both to the table are often beasts for opponents to deal with.

Harlan Kuehn fits that hard-to-handle description.

The 6-foot-4, 230-pound Lourdes Academy senior creates all sorts of game-day havoc with his long, powerful frame. The two-way starter matches his height with a high level of athleticism that has made him a basketball star at the school.

Senior Spotlight

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Kuehn is one of the few area athletes to receive all-conference honors in two major sports as a junior. He was a second-team all-Trailways (East) Conference selection in basketball and received two all-Trailways honors in football, landing on the first-team defense and the second-team offense.

Football, though, is Kuehn's preferred sport. He is a third-year starter who also played some varsity snaps as a freshman.

"Harlan has come a long way as a football player since his freshman year," said Lourdes coach Kevin Wopat. "He is the ultimate utility guy on offense and a standout edge player on defense. Harlan is also an exceptional teammate. He knows everyone, cares for everyone and is the type of kid everyone enjoys seeing succeed."

Kuehn is a force on defense at an outside linebacker (edge) position. He is a strong run defender and is excellent at setting the edge. Kuehn can also bring the heat in the passing game and has double-digit career sacks, including three this season. Kuehn holds the Lourdes' school record with five career forced fumbles.

"He's an elite player at that edge position and has improved every game," said



Harlan Kuehn, diving into the end zone in a Lourdes Academy game earlier this season, is a three-year varsity starter for the Knights and causes problems for opponents with his size and athleticism

Wopat.

Kuehn delivered a team-high 7.5 sacks as a junior and had 67 tackles, including 35 solo and 20 for loss. Kuehn's favorite NFL player is New Orleans' edge rusher Chase Young, the second overall pick in the 2020 draft out of Ohio State.

"He's been my favorite ever since he came out of college," said Kuehn. "He just causes a lot of disruption. That's what I pride myself on – causing disruption. I try and cause disruption inside the gaps and get some push back on that front line. But a big thing is just setting that edge to stop the running game."

Kuehn is also a handful on the opposite side of the ball at tight end. He's a top-notch blocker and a major threat in the red zone, using his height and length to a major advantage against shorter defensive backs and linebackers.

"Harlan's ability to play multiple spots offensively allows us to be a diverse running team," Wopat said. "He is an excellent blocker and complements that with smooth hands to be a great possession and contested ball kid."

Kuehn has caught a handful of touchdown passes this year from quarterback Brady Bauer, the majority on fade routes and jump ball situations. He finished the regular season with 15 receptions for 137 yards and five touchdowns.

"I think at least four of those touchdowns came on fades," Kuehn said. "Brady likes to throw those jump ball passes. He can throw whatever ball he wants and I'm going to come down with it. But I feel like I'm a good blocker, too. I'm kind of a combo tight end."

Kuehn is back in the Knights' lineup after missing two games late in the season with a finger injury on his left hand that needed surgery. He returned for the regular-season finale against Cambria/Randolph and made a major impact on defense with seven tackles, two forced fumbles and a sack. He did that while wearing a club-like protective device on his left hand that he will have to wear the rest of the season.

"I tore the tendon off my ring finger," he said. "I couldn't even move that finger. That's when I knew something was wrong."

Kuehn has played tight end and outside linebacker since his early days in football. He was inspired as a child by the gridiron feats of his uncle, Mike Michalovitz: a record-setting quarterback at Horicon High School, who was one of the state's best signal callers in 2009.

"My uncle Mike was a really good quarterback and he's the one who got me excited about playing football," said Kuehn. "I remember watching video of him as a kid."

Kuehn's prep athletic career won't end at the close of the football season. He will be one of the top returnees for the Knights' basketball team after averaging 11.2 points, 8.2 rebounds and 1.3 assists

last season, while shooting an impressive 49.3 percent from the field.

Football, though, is where his future is and he tries to bring that rugged mentality to the court.

"You always play physical in football, right, so I try to bring physicality to basketball," said Kuehn. "When it comes to going up with the ball, you can't be soft. If you play basketball, I think you should at least try playing football just to experience that physical nature which you can bring to your (basketball) game."

Kuehn plans to play college football and has already received at least two Division 2 (scholarship) offers.

"Playing college football has always been my goal," said Kuehn. "It's going to be a blessing and I'm really excited about it."

Kuehn is a fine student with a 3.4 GPA and is interested in pursuing a psychology-related field - possibly sports psychology - as a major.

"Psychology is something I've wanted to do since middle school," he said. "There are just so many different branches of psychology that it gives you lots of options. I've always wanted to work in sports and don't know if I'll ever be ready to leave the sports world."

"I'm more interested in the mental health side of sports psychology. It would be nice to be able to talk with other athletes and reflect off what I've experienced."

A team captain, Kuehn hopes to experience another deep run for the Lourdes football team. The Knights were a state semifinalist in Division 7 last season and are hoping to take another step and reach the WIAA state finals at Camp Randall Stadium. The Knights finished the regular season with an 8-1 overall record and captured the Trailways Conference with a 6-1 mark.

"I see us going really far into the playoffs," said Kuehn. "This team was really good last year and there hasn't been a dropoff. We have pieces at every spot. You need seniors to win football games and I feel that our class is really special."

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Photo by Andy Ratchman

Lourdes Academy's Michael Santiago hauls in a pass behind a Pecatonica-Argyle defender during Friday night's WIAA Division 7 first-round playoff win.

Bauer fuels Knights' playoff win

By Zachary Bellin
HERALD CONTRIBUTOR

Brady Bauer continued to throttle the Lourdes Academy Knights offense as he accounted for 310 yards and five touchdowns in the 35-7 win against the Pecatonica/Argyle Vikings in a WIAA Division 7 first-round playoff game at Titan Stadium last Friday night. .

Four of the five touchdowns Bauer scored came on the ground, which included a 98-yard dash to the end zone after the Vikings had pinned the offense on their own 2-yard line.

"In my head I'm thinking 'Gosh, if we could just get a first down or two' to flip the field or get close to halftime," Knights head coach Kevin Wopat said. "If we had got a big play, we would've gotten really aggressive. But as soon as he (Bauer) got to the 8-yard line, I thought he was gone because he's a lot quicker than people give him credit for."

Wide receiver Michael Santiago had six receptions for 82 yards and caught the only passing touchdown of the game.

On the other side of the ball, the Knights defense continued to hold strong. Harlan Kuehn led the way with two and a half sacks while Bauer followed with two sacks himself. Maximus Behnke was also successful at getting to the Vikings quarterback as he finished with one sack.

"The biggest thing was the overreach of the offensive line," Kuehn said. "They were so worried about me getting to the

outside, that I noticed it and started to use my inside moves like a wash or rip. I created a lot of pressure off that and it really worked."

Wopat said that going into the game, he knew the front four would be an unfamiliar opponent for the Vikings offensive line.

"Our front four set the tone for this game tonight," Wopat said. "We defended the run well with them and Max (Behnke) at middle linebacker and we were able to rush most of the time with just four guys and get underneath them (Pecatonica/Argyle) and force their quarterback to float balls and throw off rhythm."

Elwin West Jr., led the Knights with eight total tackles and six other defenders tied for second on the team with four tackles each.

Neither team mounted much offense on their first possessions and the Knights were able to stop the Vikings on downs for a second time midway through the first quarter.

Lourdes then drove the length of the field for the game's first score on a Bauer touchdown run.

The Knights then forced a third consecutive turnover on downs and turned the change of possession into points again. This time, Bauer found Sanitago in the endzone from 15 yards out and scored the Knights' second touchdown of the first quarter.

SEE **Lourdes football** ON PAGE 19

Spartans can't keep pace with powerhouse Ghosts

By Joe Matzek
HERALD CONTRIBUTOR

After winning five of its last six games to close the regular season, Oshkosh North met its match against Kaukauna in the first round of the WIAA Division 2 playoffs.

The Ghosts scored on five consecutive drives and held the Spartans to just 65 yards of offense to win 40-0 at Bank of Kaukauna Stadium last Friday night.

After Oshkosh North forced Kaukauna to punt on two of its first three drives, the Ghosts scored the next four times to close the first half with a 33-0 lead.

Kaukauna (8-2) was successful both running and throwing, with Muhammad Jobe scoring on runs of 49 and 2 yards and Ryan Carrel tossing touchdown passes of 24 yards to Anthony Reischl and 13 yards to Grant Van Eyck.

After the Spartans held Carrel to a 1-for-8 start, the junior completed his next seven passes.

"They're a really good football team. Hats off to them," Oshkosh North coach Alec Gulan said. "They brought a lot of different things, a lot of different formations. They were really difficult to defend tonight."

Oshkosh North's offense started slowly, going three-and-out on its first four drives. Even after getting a first down on its next possession and crossing midfield, the Spartans were stopped on fourth-and-5 at the Ghosts' 41 when Tyler Urban dropped Tre' Chapman for a 4-yard loss.

Although it was their first shutout of the season, the Ghosts have given up only 10

points in their last three games.

"We knew it was going to be tough offensively," Gulan said. "We tried to take it outside, we tried to spread it out, we tried to bring it in and load the box, we tried to run it inside, (but) they're a really good football team. They made it difficult to move the ball."

Oshkosh North lost the field position battle, starting three drives inside its 20-yard line while Kaukauna started three drives in Spartans territory.

"It's always difficult when you're backed up," Gulan said. "In the second half we started inside the 5 and in the first half we were inside the 10. It's tough when you go three and out. It's hard to get something going. We were never really able to get anything going consistently tonight to get that confidence back and get a score on the board."

Starting quarterback Talen Oesterreich and Julian Rew – who led the Spartans' final drive - were a combined 5-of-18 for 21 yards with one interception, and Oshkosh North ran for only 44 yards on 26 carries, including three quarterback sacks.

Oshkosh North finished 5-5 in its third straight playoff appearance. The Spartans lose just nine seniors, though after the game Gulan reflected on their contributions.

"When you only lose nine seniors and you bring back a core of your juniors and sophomores that started this year, there's a lot of good things for next year, but this one's tough to take right now," Gulan said. "They were nine seniors that gave a lot to this program. I think a lot of them spent two or three years in this program."



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Warriors topple Tigersharks in tourney, fall to Wolverines

By Steve Clark
OSHKOSH HERALD

Valley Christian’s volleyball team felt the range of emotions over a span of just three days.

The Warriors felt the joy of earning a WIAA tournament win over a pesky Princeton/Green Lake squad on Thursday night at home and then suffered the disappointment of seeing the season come to an end with a loss to Crivitz in a WIAA Division 4 regional final on Saturday.

Head coach Lizzy Potratz felt there was important experience to be gained with each of the matches and with her entire roster able to return next season, the tournament play should serve the Warriors well next season.

“You think you know playing aggressive volleyball but playoffs are completely different. The mental game is different. The effort is different. People are just playing so hard for their seasons,” Potratz said after Saturday night’s loss. We told the girls that if you can go to work this off-season and learn from the things this season, you can have an amazing next year.”

Valley Christian had beaten Crivitz twice this season already in three-set tournament matches, but were unable to make it three-in a row, falling 25-21, 25-21, 25-18 in front of a high-energy and loud crowd.

The Warriors got off to a fast start against the Wolverines, building a 9-3 lead on the serve of Addy Lehman in the first set. Lehman had a pair of aces in the run and Mady Busch added a kill and a block to spark the strong start.

But Crivitz answered back by scoring nine of the next 10 points to take the lead and remained in front the rest of the way.

Laila Gostas-Sims drove a spike through a block to cap a three-point run for the Warriors that got them as close as 18-16, but the Wolverines then rattled off six of the next eight points to get to set point.

Gostas-Sims notched a couple of points on her serve, including an ace, to keep the set alive before Crivitz closed out the win.

Valley Christian trailed almost the entire second set before a run of four straight points by the Warriors tied the set at 19. But Valley Christian scored just two more points – both on Crivitz errors – as the Wolverines closed things out.

Crivitz broke a 3-3 tie early in the third set and stayed in front the rest of the way as the Warriors were unable to string together scoring more than two consecutive points the entire set and were swept by the Wolverines.

“It was one of those things where we had some errors at the end and they didn’t. They were clean at the end of the (sets),” Potratz said. “And that’s a part of being young. We are going to make more errors than a team that has more seniors.

“I know it stings to lose this one especially because we had beaten them this year. Crivitz is playing their best volleyball right now. They are on a roll.”

Valley Christian advanced to the regional final with a hard-fought 25-21, 25-22, 25-15 win over a pesky Tiger-shark squad.

Princeton/Green Lake’s defense proved to be a thorn in the side for the Warriors as they kept digging up balls and extending sets to test the Warriors.

“They played great defense and clearly deserved to be here,” Potratz said after beating the regional’s No. 11 seed.



Photos by Jim Koepnick

Above: Lily Ochowicz slams a spike past a Princeton/Green Lake blocker during a WIAA Division 4 regional semifinal match last Thursday.

At left: Bea Schmidt (17) and Mady Busch (2) go up for a block against Princeton/Green Lake last Thursday.



“I like that they challenged us. We need to learn how to play through tough teams and not being able to put a ball down right away.”

The Warriors scored six of the final eight points to take the first set, getting a big kill from Brielle Birr and an ace from Ella Urban to spark the charge with Lily Ochowicz smashing a kill for the final point of the set.

Valley Christian faced another deficit at the end of the second set but once again came up with a charge to finish things off.

Busch got a block to earn a sideout with the Tigersharks leading 22-20 and Gostas-Sims served the final five points of the set as a couple of Princeton/Green Lake errors, a kill from Ochowicz and a perfectly placed dump set by Lydia Hardy coming out of a timeout put the Warriors ahead 2-0.

“I was proud of the team and how they were able to come together and finish out strong,” said Hardy, who finished with 22 assists in the match. “Coming back from

being down in the second set and winning that set and bringing that into the third set.”

Potratz said it was crucial to take the second set and keep the momentum on the Warriors’ side.

“I think we might have gone a lot longer if we hadn’t pulled that one out,” Potratz said with a laugh. “That makes them believe and puts us in a tough spot. To finish it was huge and it showed again that they have the ability to lock in and finish, it’s just that youth and trying to gain that knowledge of how we do that.”

Coming off the win in the second set, the Warriors were in control the entire way in set three.

Ellie Demler and Lehman helped serve Valley Christian to a 12-2 lead at the outset and the Tigersharks never got closer than eight points the rest of the way.

“In the third set, we were able to come out and play well,” Hardy said. “It is an important part of the playoffs to show that we didn’t need to go to a fourth set and that we can finish it in three sets. I’m proud of how our team came together.”

Gostas-Sims led the Warriors in the match with 10 kills and 17 digs, followed by Birr with nine kills. Birr and Busch each had three blocks.

“I’m super proud of the season that they had. I think we surprised a lot of people who thought it was going to be a rebuilding year. I’m proud of what they were able to do,” Potratz said. “I’m proud of them and I want them to have their heads up.”

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Oshkosh West falls short against Neenah in tourney tilt

By Steve Clark
OSHKOSH HERALD

Oshkosh West gave third-seeded Neenah all it could handle in a WIAA Division 1 regional final on Saturday evening.

The Rockets just had a little more fire-power than the Wildcats.

Neenah survived two close sets to pull out a 25-22, 25-12, 27-25 sweep of the Wildcats as Oshkosh West saw its season come to an end.

“Those two sets could have gone either way,” said Oshkosh West head coach Will Brydon, referring to the first and third sets. “I’m so proud of how our team hung with them and pushed them to the limit. I thought we played some of our best volleyball tonight. I couldn’t ask for more from them.

“I just have to credit Neenah. They are well coached, well trained and executed tonight.”

Neither team scored more than three consecutive points in the back-and-forth first set but the Wildcats trailed the entire way.

A Brooklyn Rowe ace tied the set at 9 while a tip from Noelle Prickett before a Neenah hitting error left the Wildcats trailing by just a point at 16-15. The Rockets stretched the lead as they closed in on the first set, taking a 24-19 lead.

But a couple of Neenah errors around an Emjay McConnell kill brought the Wildcats within two before Neenah earned the final point of the set.

The Rockets dominated the second set, although Oshkosh West did have a four-point run midway through. Prickett’s spike through a block, followed by two aces by Kinslee Nelson and a Neenah hitting error

cut the Rocket lead to 13-9. Neenah responded by winning four of the next five points and pulled away from there.

West led for the first time in the match early in set three as Addison Benesh’s block helped stake West to an 8-5 lead before a spike from McConnell and another Nelson ace stretched the lead to 11-6.

An ace from Adalyn Her gave the Wildcats a 17-12 advantage before Neenah rattled off five straight points to erase the West lead. The teams exchanged points until it was 25-25 when the Rockets were able to score back-to-back points and end the match.

One of the ways the Rockets were able to keep things close against the Wildcats was being able to weather the barrage of hitters Neenah can send to the net.

Emma Liebergen finished with eight digs and Lucy Jolin had six in the match for West to lead the defense.

“We knew if we got against Neenah, we knew where their hot zones were and we put bodies in those hot zones and we were just ready to go,” Brydon said. “These ladies balled out tonight and got a ton of touches on some fantastic hitters.”

Although West will lose a handful of seniors from this year’s roster, Brydon is expecting a strong nucleus of players returning to hopefully keep the Wildcats challenging the Fox Valley Association’s top teams.

“We’re going to miss the heck out of our seniors but this program is on the up and up. We’re going to go back to work,” Brydon said. “My planning for next season starts tomorrow morning and I believe this group is ready to go.”

Oshkosh West earned its place in the



Photo by Jim Koepnick

Oshkosh West’s Noelle Prickett goes up for the block in a WIAA Division 1 regional final at Neenah on Saturday.

regional final with a convincing 25-14, 25-21, 25-22 win over Menasha on the Wildcats’ homecourt in the regional opener.

Liebergen finished with nine kills to lead a balanced West offense that saw six players finish with at least four kills in the match. McConnell chipped in six kills and Prickett finished with five.

West also had a strong serving night against the Bluejays, totaling 14 aces in the match led by five from Prickett and three from Liebergen.

Rowe finished with 12 assists and Jolin had 10 in the match for the Wildcats, while Nelson and Jolin each finished with a team-high eight digs.

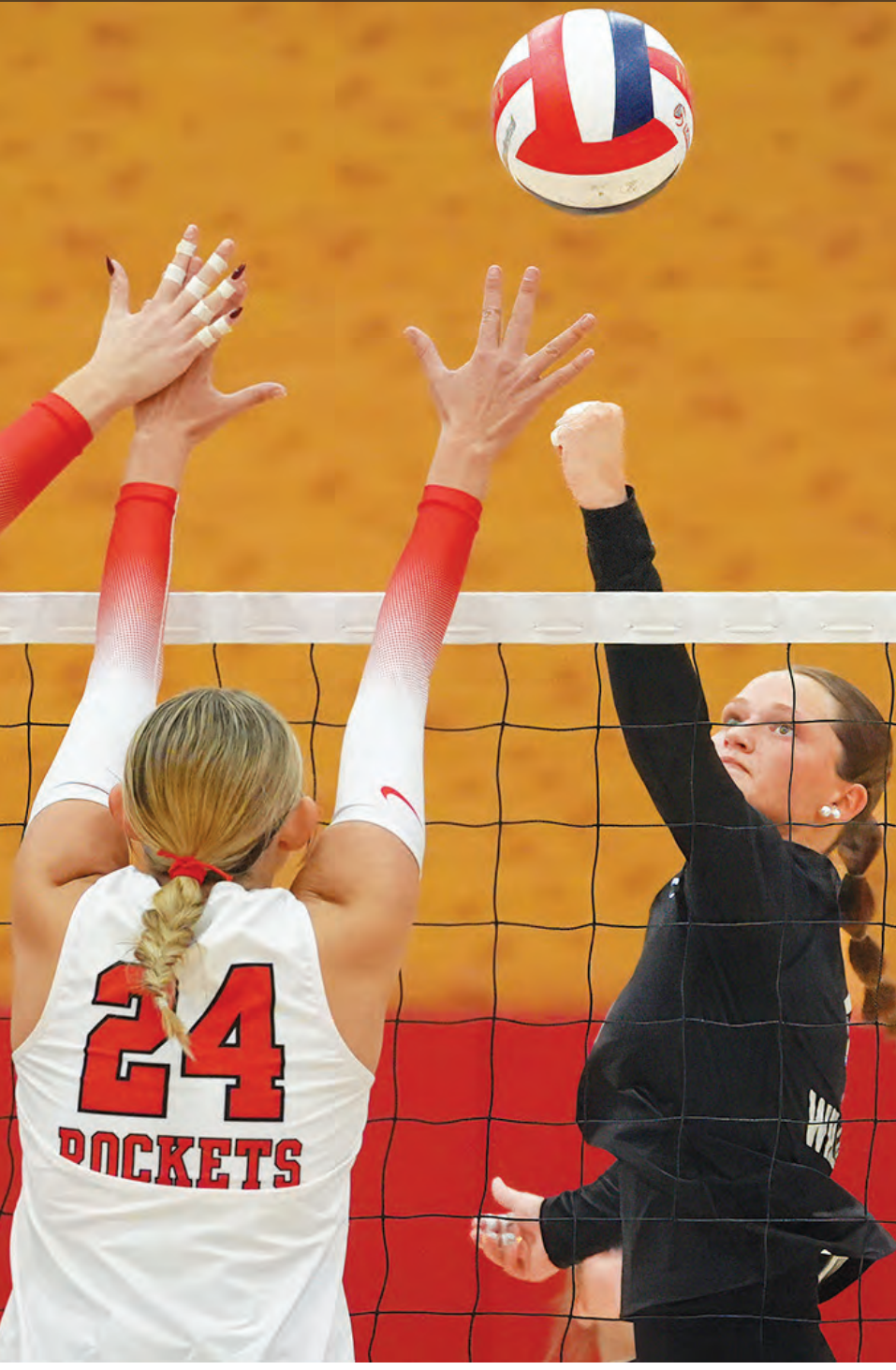


Photo by Jim Koepnick

Oshkosh West’s Kinslee Nelson punches the ball over a Neenah block attempt on Saturday.

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Photo by Andy Ratchman
Lourdes Academy defenders Reagan Needham (24), Nolan Gibson (67) and Jacob Thelen (20) combine to stop a Pecatonica/Argyle ball carrier on Friday night.

Lourdes football

FROM PAGE 15

Lourdes Academy forced a punt on the Vikings’ next drive and would march 76 yards - led by the running of Bauer and Behnke - for another score and a 21-0 lead. Bauer’s 98-yard run followed to extend the Knights’ lead further before the Vikings were able to get on the board just before halftime. The Knights ate up nearly 10 minutes of the third quarter with a pair of possessions, capped by Bauer’s fourth touchdown run of the game. Wopat said that the intention wasn’t to eat up that much clock, but the coaching staff was happy with the results. “Honestly, we just wanted to score, but we were happy to have a time-consuming drive,” Wopat said. “Pecatonica/Argyle deserves as much credit to that as we do. They made us earn the yards we got and held us scoreless.” The final touchdown was set up by a 31-yard pass from Bauer to Santiago and was one of Bauer’s 18 pass attempts in the

game - the most passes he’s thrown in a game since facing Deerfield in early October. Kuehn said that even though the Knights don’t throw it much, the team enjoys working on sprint passes. “It opens up the offense a lot because they start to become worried about us throwing the ball,” Kuehn said. “Then we can run it with Bauer and Max (Behnke) as the lead blocker. It’s money every time.” Another key piece to Lourdes running game is Sanitago as a blocker on the outside. Wopat said that the blocking he’s seen out of Santiago is the best receiver blocking he’s seen all year. “He (Santiago) helps spring a lot of Bauer’s plays,” Wopat said. “He’s a big Cubs fan so we like to pick on him and say ‘Santiago actually produced in October unlike the Cubbies.’ He’s done a great job and the team needs that threat.” The 35-7 win means Lourdes is moving on to Level 2 of the WIAA Division 7 playoffs, where they’ll play the Hilbert Wolves (7-3) at Titan Stadium on Oct. 30 at 7 p.m.

Prep roundup

FROM PAGE 15

Olszewski and Irtisam Umar each finishing with six. Calvin Vang and Shaw Yang finished with 18 and 12 assists, respectively to lead the squad. North/West also got 12 digs apiece from Abel Lo and Calvin Vang, while Arthur King finished with six. North/West then fell to top-seed Neenah 25-13, 25-7, 25-7 last Friday night to end their inaugural varsity season.

SOCCER

Wildcats collect tourney triumph

Oshkosh West got a goal from Brady Ott and collected a 1-0 win over Fond du Lac in a WIAA Division 1 regional match last week. Jake Klingbeil assisted on the goal, while Jacob Allen posted a shutout in net. Head coach Matt Callahan also credited the defensive backline play of Carson Choiniski, Tyler Nimis, Evan Danahay and Cole Jennings in the win. West then fell to top-seeded Arrowhead in a regional final match on Saturday.

North ousted in penalty kicks

The Spartans played to a 2-2 tie at the end of regulation with Sheboygan

North, but lost 5-4 on penalty kicks as the fifth-seeded Golden Raiders were able to escape with the win.

Knights post win, tie in tournament

Lourdes Academy/Valley Christian secured a 1-0 win over Clintonville in a WIAA Division 4 regional semifinal match at home. The Knight then fell to third-seeded Xavier, 7-2, in a tussle for the regional final.

SWIMMING

Booms, relay post wins in dual meet

Avery Booms was part of both wins for Oshkosh West in a 121-65 Fox Valley Association dual meet loss to Neenah last week. Booms finished first in the 100-yard backstroke before teaming with Molly Dudzinski, Rylee Coppernoll and Rose Yonke to take first in the 200-yard freestyle relay. Yonke and Molly Dudzinski each added a pair of runner-up finishes at the meet. Yonke’s second places came in the 50-yard freestyle and 100-yard freestyle, while Molly Dudzinski took second in the 200-yard individual medley and 100-yard butterfly. Coppernoll in the 500-yard freestyle, Emma Dudzinski in the 100-yard backstroke and the 200-yard medley team also took seconds for the Wildcats.

Pioneers deal Titans fourth straight loss on Homecoming

UWO Sports Information

UW-Oshkosh football hosted UW-Platteville on J. J. Keller Field at Titan Stadium on Saturday. The Pioneers jumped out to an early four-score lead before winning Oshkosh’s 101st homecoming game, 38-6, in front of a season-high 3,031 fans. Oshkosh (2-5, 0-4 WIAC) fell to 48-44-9 in its Homecoming series and 55-51-4 against Platteville (7-0, 4-0 WIAC) since the programs’ first meeting in 1911. The Homecoming loss was Oshkosh’s first since 2011.

The Pioneers, who are ranked second in NCAA Division III by both D3football.com and the American Football Coaches Association, held a 421-230 advantage in total offensive yards including a 201-46 edge in rushing yards. Demir Ashiru passed for 184 yards on Saturday by completing 15 of 30 passes with one touchdown and an interception. He also paced the Titans’ rushing attack with 28 yards on 12 attempts. His favorite target was Jackson Brush, who finished the day with seven catches for 119 yards and a touchdown. Defensively, Ty Adams recorded a team-high five tackles (four solo). Drew Holzhueter, Kanaan Jewett, Cade King and Bryce Manders all sat second with four each. Following a scoreless first quarter, Platteville scored four times in the second period on an 8-yard rush, passing scores of 30 and 14 yards, and a 2-yard run to take a 28-0 lead headed into the half. Oshkosh broke up the shutout with



Photo by Jim Koepnick
UW-Oshkosh running back Ammiel Jackson tries to get around a UW-Platteville defender on Saturday in WIAC matchup at JJ Keller-field at Titan Stadium.

10:07 remaining in the third quarter when Ashiru escaped a series of tackles behind the line of scrimmage to find Brush wide open in the back left corner of the end zone, capping off an 8-play drive that covered 55 yards in 3:51. Axel Vera Trejo missed the point-after kick to keep the score at 28-6. The Pioneers added three points in the first play of the fourth quarter and added another seven points on a 2-yard rush while their defense held Oshkosh outside their 30-yard line for the remainder of the contest. The Titans travel to Whitewater to face the No. 5/4 Warhawks at Perkins Stadium for a Halloween night matchup on Saturday, Oct. 31. Kickoff is scheduled for 7 p.m. due to UW-Whitewater also hosting the WIAC Cross Country Championships on campus next Saturday.

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Obituaries

Lawrence M. Gallert

Lawrence M. Gallert, Age 93, passed away on Sunday, October 18, 2026, at his home. He was the oldest child born to the late William and Hazel (Anklam) Gallert on March 6, 1933 in Green Lake County. When he was four years old, his family moved to the Pickett area. Lawrence attended Outlet School and graduated from Omro High School. Shortly after high school, he started working for Page Family Farms near Ripon. That is where he learned to enjoy farming. It was hard work, but Lawrence loved watching the plants grow to their maturity. That is how he spent his last days, looking out the big picture window, gazing at the fields filled with ripe corn and soybeans. Members of the Page family were his friends to the end.



In 1965, Lawrence married Shirley Hoffman and started working at Brickham Stamping Company as a punch press operator. He worked there until his retirement in 2000. His love for the land and what it could produce never left him. Lawrence was very excited when he purchased his first 80 acres. It meant working inside during the day and farming in the evening and weekend; but to Lawrence it was worth it.

Throughout his life he enjoyed fishing, hunting, bowling, dancing to polka and waltz music, and in his later years, golfing. Lawrence also developed a close, cherished, relationship with his great-nephew, Dylan Hielke after his retirement.

Lawrence is survived by his wife of 61 years; a brother-in-law, Robert Hoffman; nieces, nephews as well as great-nieces and nephews.

In addition to his parents, Lawrence was preceded in death by his brother, Donald (Margaret) Gallert; sister, Gloria (Warren) Bohn; and a niece, Debbie.

A special thanks to Sherry Muskavitch, Dawn Anklam, Kayla Clemons, and Dylan Hielke; who interrupted their busy schedules to take Lawrence to appointments, pick up pills, and run errands for him.

A funeral service for Lawrence will be held at Lake View Memorial Park on Thursday, October 29, 2026, at 2PM. A visitation will take place from 1PM until the service with an entombment to follow.

A memorial is being established.

KONRAD-BEHLMAN
FUNERAL HOMES

Janice Ann Freeman

Janice Ann "Mema" Freeman, (née Rains), of Oshkosh, Wisconsin, died peacefully, surrounded by her family, on October 20, 2026. She was 82. She was a cherished mother, grandmother, great-grandmother and friend, and will be deeply missed.



Janice was born to George and Vesta Rains, in St. Louis, Missouri, on October 27, 1943. Growing up with three brothers and a sister, Janice developed a strong sense of independence and a caring nature that would remain part of who she was throughout her life.

After graduating high school, Janice lived an adventurous life that took her to Missouri, Illinois, Wisconsin and Nevada. Through her earlier marriages, she became the loving mother of April, Tina and Robert.

A new chapter began in the northern woods of Wisconsin, where Janice met Walter "Gene" Freeman while she was working at a restaurant and he was a customer. The two hit it off, and on February 14, 1975, they married at a chapel in Las Vegas, Nevada. Gene was the love of Janice's life. Together, they welcomed daughters Melinda, Bonnie and Amy before settling in Oshkosh, where Janice eventually retired from Oshkosh Corporation.

Janice made time for the things that brought her joy. Her adventures included countless road trips with her daughters, beach visits, flower festivals and soaring through the sky in a helicopter, hot-air balloon, or parasailing. But most of all, she enjoyed making memories with her husband, children and grandchildren at the family's cottage on Pine Lake in Hiles, Wisconsin.

Janice took great pride in her family's accomplishments and talents. Her walls were adorned with her grandchildren's artwork and her evenings and weekends were filled with swim meets, dance recitals, graduation ceremonies, family celebrations and countless sleepovers with a granddaughter or two. She loved being there to watch her family grow and succeed.

Janice had many passions, including baking, cooking, sewing, fishing, reading and spending time with her grandchildren. These interests became special ways for her to connect with the people she loved. Whether sharing a tradition of Christmas tea, spending a Saturday teaching her granddaughters how to cook/bake a family recipe, or passing down her father's technique for tying a lure knot, Janice created memories and traditions her children and grandchildren will carry with them.

Janice is survived by her children, April (Charlie) Skarban, Tina (Mike) Gehl, Robert (Janet) Spain, Melinda (Mike) Freeman, Bonnie Freeman and Amy (Keith) Moon; her brother, Gilbert Rains; her cousin and best buddy, Judy Boles; her grandchildren, Jessy, Kristen, Crystal, Amanda, Nathan, Mitchell, Brandon, Brianna, Lindsey, Kalie, Tessa, Madelynn and Piper; her 11 great-grandchildren with another due in February; Bonnie's beloved feathered and furry babies; and so many extended family and friends.

She was preceded in death by her husband, Walter Eugene "Gene" Freeman; her brothers, Fred and Bruce Rains; her sister, Patricia Weil; her father, George Rains; her mother, Vesta Rains; and her best friend, Barb Gerlach.

The family extends its deepest gratitude to the compassionate, caring staff at Serenity Villa in Oshkosh and Cherry Meadows Hospice in Appleton.

She is survived by her children, Steven Sielemann (Susan Tuchscherer), Karin Kahler (Nate) and Susan Holmes (Ron); grandchildren; great-grandchildren and relatives in Canada and Germany.

The family would like to thank the staff at Evergreen. Thank you to Moments Hospice, especially Mary, Marissa and Allison for their dedication, compassion and loving care. Your kindness will always be remembered.

She is survived by her children, Steven Sielemann (Susan Tuchscherer), Karin Kahler (Nate) and Susan Holmes (Ron); grandchildren; great-grandchildren and relatives in Canada and Germany.

The family would like to thank the staff at Evergreen. Thank you to Moments Hospice, especially Mary, Marissa and Allison for their dedication, compassion and loving care. Your kindness will always be remembered.

She was preceded in death by her husband, Werner; parents; sister and in-laws.

She was preceded in death by her husband, Werner; parents; sister and in-laws.

A memorial service for Sue will be held at Konrad-Behelman Funeral Home-Eastside, 402 Waugoo Ave. Oshkosh, WI 54901 at 11:00 a.m. on Wednesday, November 4, 2026, officiated by Rev. Maggie Berndt-Dreyer. Visitation will take place from 10:00 a.m. until the time of the service. Interment will take place at Peace Lutheran Cemetery.

Special Thanks to Moments Hospice, and the wonderful staff of Eden Meadows, especially Andrea Bowers.

KONRAD-BEHLMAN
FUNERAL HOMES

Roger Arthur Jacobsen

Roger Arthur Jacobsen, age 79, of Oshkosh, passed away peacefully at Evergreen Retirement Community on October 22, 2026, after a courageous battle with cancer.



He was an excellent dentist, an avid outdoorsman, and an honorable person. Roger is lovingly survived by his wife, Judy; his sons, Jeffrey and J. Eric; his grandchildren, Adele,

Reed, Cayden, and Eller; as well as his brothers, David (Renee), Richard (Julie) and James. He was preceded in death by his parents, Arthur and Dorothy Jacobsen.

In honoring Roger's wishes, cremation will take place. Roger loved introducing children to the outdoors and taking them fishing. Memorials may be made to the Otter Street Fishing Club or to the charity of your choice. No formal services will be held.

May Roger rest in peace.

KONRAD-BEHLMAN
FUNERAL HOMES

Gisela Margarete Sielemann

Gisela "Geezy" Margarete Sielemann (nee Birgel), passed away on October 23, 2026. Born on May 19, 1929, in Allenstein, Germany, to Paul and Margarete (nee Wedig) Birgel, she immigrated to the USA in 1951.



She was preceded in death by her husband, Werner; parents; sister and in-laws.

She is survived by her children, Steven Sielemann (Susan Tuchscherer), Karin Kahler (Nate) and Susan Holmes (Ron); grandchildren; great-grandchildren and relatives in Canada and Germany.

The family would like to thank the staff at Evergreen. Thank you to Moments Hospice, especially Mary, Marissa and Allison for their dedication, compassion and loving care. Your kindness will always be remembered.

She is survived by her children, Steven Sielemann (Susan Tuchscherer), Karin Kahler (Nate) and Susan Holmes (Ron); grandchildren; great-grandchildren and relatives in Canada and Germany.

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Suzanne J. Lannbrecht

Suzanne J. Lannbrecht, age 86, passed away peacefully on October 24, 2026.



Born and raised in Oshkosh, Wisconsin, she was the daughter of Clarence and Frances Luedtke. She graduated from the University of Wisconsin, Oshkosh with a Bachelor of Science Degree in 1962. After graduating she took a trip to West Berlin, Germany where she visited a friend of hers who was married to a Russian Language Interpreter with the US Air Force. She also visited Holland, France and England.

For 30 Years, from 1962 to 1992 she was a dedicated teacher at Washington Elementary School in Waupun, Wisconsin. She married Merlin Lannbrecht on

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November 1, 1975. They were married for 50 years, Merlin preceded Sue in death in 2025. Sue and Merlin enjoyed many trips to Nashville, Tennessee to attend the Grand Old Opry. They also took a vacation trip to Hawaii and a Cruise to Alaska. She was a spirited lifelong fan of both the Milwaukee Brewers and Green Bay Packers. She attended many Brewer Baseball Games and had season tickets to the Green Bay Packer games.

She was a member of Peace Lutheran Church of Oshkosh her entire life. She was a Classic League bowler where she achieved many Six Hundred Series. Sue was a member of Winnebago County Retired Educators Association.

Sue is survived by her brother Lawrence Luedtke and his wife Melinda of Fernandina Beach, Florida. Sue and the Luedtke Family have a close lifelong friend Jay Menzel of Oshkosh Wisconsin.

A memorial service for Sue will be held at Konrad-Behelman Funeral Home-Eastside, 402 Waugoo Ave. Oshkosh, WI 54901 at 11:00 a.m. on Wednesday, November 4, 2026, officiated by Rev. Maggie Berndt-Dreyer. Visitation will take place from 10:00 a.m. until the time of the service. Interment will take place at Peace Lutheran Cemetery.

Special Thanks to Moments Hospice, and the wonderful staff of Eden Meadows, especially Andrea Bowers.

Obituaries

James B. Thomas

James B. Thomas, 51, passed away on Tuesday, October 20, 2026, at Park View Health Center.



Jim was born on January 17, 1975, in Kenosha, Wisconsin, to James Thomas and Theresa Mierow (Gordie). On July 21, 2007, he married the love of his life, Amy Lieske, in Oshkosh. Together they built a life centered on family, love, and lasting memories.

Above all else, Jim cherished his role as a husband and father. His greatest joy came from spending time with Amy and their children, Taylor and Logan. Whether celebrating holidays and birthdays, going on family vacations, or simply en-

joying everyday moments together, Jim found happiness in being surrounded by those he loved most. His devotion to his family was evident in all that he did, and the memories they created together will be treasured forever.

Jim was a man of many interests and passions. He enjoyed golfing, playing volleyball, bowling, fishing, hunting, listening to and making his own music, and photography. A dedicated Wisconsin sports fan, he enthusiastically supported the Milwaukee Brewers, Green Bay Packers, Wisconsin Badgers, and Tennessee Volunteers. He delighted in sharing his hobbies and interests with family and friends and was always ready to cheer on his favorite teams.

Soccer held a particularly special place in Jim's heart. His passion for the sport extended well beyond the field through his dedicated involvement with Oshkosh

United Soccer Club. As a coach, volunteer, and Club President, Jim devoted countless hours to supporting players, families, and the broader soccer community. His leadership, commitment, and generosity left a lasting impact on the organization and the many lives he touched. He will be remembered not only for his love of soccer but also for the kindness, encouragement, and selflessness he shared with others.

Jim dedicated more than 20 years of service to Kimberly-Clark Corporation, building a career that spanned planning, contract manufacturing, supply chain operations, and external manufacturing. He will be remembered for his contributions to the business, his support of others, and the lasting impact he made on colleagues throughout the organization.

Jim's life was defined by the relationships he nurtured and the positive influence he had on those around him. He was a loving husband, devoted father, caring son, brother, uncle, and loyal friend whose presence enriched the lives of many.

He is survived by his beloved wife, Amy; his children, Taylor and Logan; his parents, James and Theresa (Gordie) Mierow; his brothers, Curtis (Kelly), Clint, and Craig; his sister, Becky (Peter); his parents-in-law, John and Nancy Lieske;

and numerous nieces, nephews, extended family members, and friends.

He was preceded in death by his grandparents.

A Celebration of Life service for Jim will be held at 12:00 p.m. on Saturday, October 31, 2026, at Emmanuel United Church of Christ (1306 Michigan St. Oshkosh, WI 54902), with Rev. Andi Wolf officiating. Visitation will take place from 3:00 to 7:00 p.m. on Friday, October 30, 2026, at Konrad-Behlman Funeral Home-Westside (100 Lake Pointe Dr, Oshkosh, WI 54904) and again on Saturday at the Church from 10:00 a.m. until the time of service. Interment will follow at Loper Cemetery in Ripon.

A memorial fund has been established in Jim's honor.

The family extends their heartfelt gratitude to the staff of Park View Health Center and the members of Oshkosh United Soccer Club for their care, compassion, friendship, and support during this difficult time.

Jim will be deeply missed and lovingly remembered by all who had the privilege of knowing him.

KONRAD-BEHLMAN
FUNERAL HOMES

Nelson A. Hinz

Nelson A. Hinz, age 79, of Pickett, WI, passed away unexpectedly on Monday, October 19, 2026 at St. Elizabeth Hospital in Appleton, WI.



Nelson was born on October 2, 1947 in Ripon, the oldest of four boys to Arthur and LaVerna (Zimdars) Hinz. He graduated from Ripon High School in 1965, and went on to complete a Farm Short Course at UW Madison. On April 28, 1973, he married Shirley Rabe at Grace Lutheran Church in Ripon. Nelson worked at Bohn Implement for many years, and later worked for Pickett Cooperative. He was also a cash crop farmer. He took pride in what he did and worked hard over the years.

Nelson was a devoted and involved member of Grace Lutheran Church. He was the Sunday School Superintendent for over 40 years; an usher; a member of the Property Committee and the Men of Grace; and a past church council member. The church was a very important part of his life. In addition, Nelson was a past Town Board Chairman and Supervisor of the Town of Utica, a member of the Liberty Prairie Cemetery Board, and an active FFA Ripon Alumni member. He was

a kind and gentle man, always willing to help anyone who needed it.

Nelson is survived by his loving wife of 53 years, Shirley Hinz; three brothers, Mike (Karen) Hinz, Lynn (Sue) Hinz, and Keith (Karen) Hinz; an aunt, Marlene Scott; brothers-in-law, Jim (Sally) Rabe, Lester (Linda) Rabe, and John (Pat) Rabe; sister-in-law, Mary Sue Rabe; and numerous nieces; nephews; cousins; other relatives; and dear friends. He was preceded in death by his parents, Arthur and LaVerna Hinz; father and mother-in-law, Monroe and Doris Rabe; and a brother-in-law, Monroe Rabe, Jr.

Visitation for Nelson will be held on Saturday, October 31, 2026, from 9:00 until 11:00 am at Grace Lutheran Church, 430 W. Griswold St., Ripon, WI 54971.

Funeral service for Nelson will be held at 11:00 am on Saturday, October 31, 2026 at Grace Lutheran Church in Ripon, with Rev. Clay R. Salmela officiating. You may view a livestream of the service at 11:00 am by visiting www.ButzinMarchant.com. Interment will take place at Liberty Prairie Cemetery, Pickett, WI. A memorial is being established in his name.

Please visit www.ButzinMarchant.com to share online condolences.

Butzin-Marchant
Funeral Home & Crematory

Wayne Wallace

Wayne Wallace died at home on Tuesday, October 13, 2026.



He was born in Oshkosh, Nebraska to Conrad and Lila Wallace. He grew up on a farm and attended a one-room school.

He attended Hastings College, earning a Bachelor's in Mathematics, and varsity letters in football. He met and married Jeanette Aabel, both graduating Hastings College in 1959.

Wayne taught junior high Math and coached in Burwell, Nebraska.

Wayne was awarded a National Science Foundation fellowship to study Mathematics at Western Michigan University and University of South Dakota, earning a Masters in Mathematics. He completed advanced study at UW-Madison, earning a PhD in Numerical Analysis.

He taught Applied Mathematics and Computer Science at UW-Oshkosh-including the university's very first computer programming course in 1964-serving as a professor and department chair.

Wayne enjoyed sports of all kinds, play-

ing tennis, golf, and even running a half marathon. Wayne and Jeanette traveled to all 50 states.

He served his community and church as the Scoutmaster of Troop 682, committee chair for Young Life, ABUMC stewardship, and has served on 14 Habitat for Humanity build projects in 5 states.

He is survived by his wife Jeanette, children David Wallace, Steve Wallace, and Carrie (John) David, grandchildren Aimee (Jon) Cadena, Hannah (Justin) Moore, Ciara and Kenzie Wallace, Peter and Levi David, and great-grandchildren Isaac and Gabriel Cadena.

A memorial service will be held at Algoma Boulevard United Methodist Church on November 7, 2026. Visitation at 10 AM. Service at 12 PM noon, In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to: Habitat for Humanity - Oshkosh, Algoma Boulevard United Methodist Church, or Evergreen Retirement Community.

Fiss & Bills - Poklasny Funeral Homes
865 S Westhaven Dr.
Oshkosh, WI 54904
(920)-235-1170

FISS & BILLS - POKLASNY
FUNERAL HOMES
& CREMATORY

Thomas Harold Weitz

Thomas Harold Weitz, Age 62, of Oshkosh, Appleton, and Armenia, passed



away peacefully after a long battle with Dementia on Thursday, October 22, 2026, with his Armenian family and loved ones by his side.

He is survived by his wife, Lusine Weitz of Armenia, his mother Jewel (Dick) Kempinger of Oshkosh; his sister Sue Weitz (Fred) of Oshkosh; his 4 children Terri (Tristan) Shepherd of Bend, Oregon, Conrad Weitz of Minnetonka, Minnesota, Emily Weitz (Pete) of San Diego, California, and Jason Weitz of Schofield, Wisconsin; 2 grandchildren, Max and Tessa Shepherd of Bend, Oregon; stepbrother Greg Kempinger of Oshkosh; stepsister Vickie (Shawn) Kempinger-Diamond of Omro; 2 nieces Ashley Schlosser (Jordan) of Oshkosh, and Sam (Austin) Paulick of Omro; 1 nephew, Alec (Claire) Struensee of Oshkosh; and many others in Armenia.

He was preceded in death by his grandparents, Mabel and Harold Hafemann, his father Harold Weitz, and many aunts, uncles, cousins, and friends.

Tom was born on January 30, 1964, the son of Harold Weitz and Jewel Boushele Weitz. He married Bonnie Borrmann in July 1984. He later married Lusine Mkhitarian in October 2007.

Tom was a graduate of Oshkosh West High School in 1982 and opened Neat n' Clean Janitorial Services in 1985 where he owned and operated the company for nearly 35 years. Always a true entrepre-

neur, Tom had many pursuits throughout the years and was always deeply passionate about his work.

An avid collector, Tom enjoyed collecting motorcycles, weapons, cars, and other historical memorabilia. He was often happy to show off his latest toy in his pole building playfully coined "Fleet Farm". Tom was an intelligent, lifelong learner who loved to read and learn how things worked. Always asking "Who, what, where, when, why, and how", he was never short of historical facts or trivia tidbits. He also never missed an opportunity to tell a perfectly timed, off-color joke to make others chuckle and maybe shake their heads.

When Tom did take the time to unwind, he enjoyed his downtime at his cabin in Lakewood, then later in life at Little Silver Lake in Wild Rose. Throughout the years, Tom and Lusi eventually built their home in Gyumri, Armenia, where Tom will be laid to rest.

We would personally like to thank everyone over in Armenia - Lusi Weitz, Hripsime Mkhitarian, Shavarsh Mkhitarian, Gaya Mkhitarian, Little Hripsime Mkhitarian, Sergei Mkhitarian, Ham Muradyan, and all the other family members and friends who opened up your hearts to our Tom and took such wonderful care of him during the last 3 years. He loved you all so much and our family can't thank you enough for your love and kindness.

We will be having celebration of life event open to all friends and loved ones on Sunday, November 22, 2026 at Cooligans Bar & Restaurant, 4731 US Highway 45 S, Oshkosh, WI from 2:00-5:00pm.

Karen Stone

Karen Stone, a beloved mother, and grandmother, peacefully passed away on



October 19, 2026, after a long and courageous battle with Multiple Sclerosis and heart disease. Born on October 27, 1945, in Oshkosh, Wisconsin, Karen was the cherished daughter of the

late Arthur and Erna (Wokosin) Juedes.

A visitation for Karen will be held on Friday, October 30, 2026, at Konrad-Behlman Funeral Homes-Eastside, 402 Waugoo Avenue, Oshkosh, starting at 9:00am and continuing until the start of the service at 11:00am. Interment will follow at Lake View Memorial Park, Oshkosh, Wisconsin.

KONRAD-BEHLMAN
FUNERAL HOMES

Classifieds

Employment

Amcor Flexibles North America Inc. seeks a Technical Service Representative III. Position reports to company HQ in Oshkosh, WI. Must reside and telecommute within 50 miles of Boston, MA. Duties: Provide efficient and timely technical assistance to assigned customers in matters relating to their packaging equipment operations and facilitate customer quality and packaging performance improvement. Service customer equipment, where applicable, to maintain optimum performance of equipment, packaging films and shrink bag materials. Requires: Bachelor's degree in a technical field such as Packaging or an Engineering field related to packaging (e.g., Chemical, Mechanical, Industrial or Electrical Engineering) and 5 years of progressively responsible experience in an occupation related to engineering or technical service in the food packaging industry. Position requires 80% domestic travel to customer sites (60% of travel will be in the Boston, MA area. 20% of travel will be to other sites in the Northeast.) Salary: \$135,325/year. See a complete job description & list of requirements and apply at: amcor.com/careers/job-details/REQ_94362

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We're seeking reliable and detail-oriented individuals to clean and maintain Airbnbs. Starting at \$16/hour, flexible hours – experience preferred but not required. Must be 18. Apply today by emailing us at info@tjsdestinationoshkosh.com

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Prepare for power outages today with a Generac Home Standby Generator. Act now to receive a FREE 5-Year warranty with qualifying purchase. Call 1-888-355-6955 today to schedule a free quote. It's not just a generator. It's a power move.

Miscellaneous

Wanted: local wood duck decoys. Carved by Oshkosh area carvers, also duck hunting wood ammo boxes (920-235-4717)

Real Estate/Rental

3 bed, 2 bath ranch home for sale in Town of Algoma. 4070 Meadow View Ln., Oshkosh, WI 54904. 1,632 sq. ft. 2.5-car garage. Screened porch. FSBO. (920) 267-2808 See Facebook Marketplace listing http://www.facebook.com/share/1CpInrfjCB/

Legal Notices

STATE OF WISCONSIN, CIRCUIT COURT WINNEBAGO COUNTY IN THE MATTER OF THE NAME CHANGE OF: Lucille Margalene Strauss By (Petitioner) Lucille Margalene Strauss

Notice of Name Change Hearing
Case No. 2026CV000929

NOTICE IS GIVEN:
A Petition was filed asking to change the name of the person listed above:
From:
First – Lucille
Middle – Margalene
Last – Strauss
To:

First – Lucille
Middle – Margalene
Last – Strauss-Muckerheide
Birth Certificate:
First – Lucille
Middle – Margalene
Last – Strauss

This Petition will be heard in the Circuit Court of Winnebago County, State of Wisconsin:
Judge's Name: Michael S. Gibbs
Place: 415 Jackson Street, Room 211, Oshkosh, WI 54901
Date: October 21, 2026
Time: 3:30 p.m.

If you require reasonable accommodations due to a disability to participate in the court process, please call 920-236-4868 prior to the scheduled court date. Please note that the court does not provide transportation.

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

BY THE COURT:
DATE SIGNED: September 17, 2026
Winnebago County Circuit Court Judge, Branch 4

Runs: October 14, 2026, October 21, 2026 and October 28, 2026.

STATE OF WISCONSIN, CIRCUIT COURT WINNEBAGO COUNTY IN THE MATTER OF THE NAME CHANGE OF: GABRIEL TIMOTHY KILLIAN Notice of Name Change Hearing
Case No. 26CV988

NOTICE IS GIVEN:
A Petition was filed asking to change the name of the person listed above:
From:
First – Gabriel
Middle – Timothy
Last – Killian
To:
First – Reyna
Middle – Luchterhand
Last – Killian
Birth Certificate:
First – Gabriel
Middle – Timothy
Last – Killian

This Petition will be heard in the Circuit Court of Winnebago County, State of Wisconsin:
Judge's Name: Hon. Daniel J. Bissett
Place: Winnebago County Courthouse
415 Jackson Street, Room 531, Oshkosh, WI 54901
Date: November 13, 2026
Time: 1:15 p.m.

If you require reasonable accommodations due to a disability to participate in the court process, please call 920-236-4912 prior to the scheduled court date. Please note that the court does not provide transportation.

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

BY THE COURT:
DATE SIGNED: October 8, 2026
Winnebago Cty Circuit Court BR6
Runs: October 14, 2026, October 21, 2026 and October 28, 2026

WNAXLP

STATE OF WISCONSIN, CIRCUIT COURT WINNEBAGO COUNTY IN THE MATTER OF THE NAME CHANGE OF: Courtney Elizabeth Maron By (Petitioner) Courtney Elizabeth Maron
Notice of Name Change Hearing
Case No. 26CV1013

NOTICE IS GIVEN:
A Petition was filed asking to change the name of the person listed above:
From:
First – Courtney
Middle – Elizabeth
Last – Maron
To:
First – Courtney
Middle – Elizabeth
Last – Dowling
Birth Certificate:
First – Courtney
Middle – Elizabeth
Last – Dowling

This Petition will be heard in the Circuit Court of Winnebago County, State of Wisconsin:
Judge's Name: Hon. John A. Jorgensen
Place: Winnebago County Courthouse, 415 Jackson St, Oshkosh WI 54901, Courtroom #320
Date: November 30, 2026
Time: 11:15 am

If you require reasonable accommodations due to a disability to participate in the court process, please call 920-236-4866 prior to the scheduled court date. Please note that the court does not provide transportation.

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

BY THE COURT:
DATE SIGNED: October 13, 2026
Winnebago County Circuit Branch 5
Runs: October 21, 2026, October 28, 2026 and November 4, 2026

WNAXLP
Notice of Public Hearing

The Specialized Transportation Assistance Grant Application for 2027 is scheduled for public hearing on Monday, November 9th, 2026, at 3pm at Winnebago County Department of Human Services, 220 Washington Avenue, Room 033(lower level), Oshkosh, Wisconsin.

The Public hearing will be held to receive public comment on Winnebago County's proposed plan for spending \$429,192.00 authorized under Section 85.21 of Wisconsin State Statute to implement elderly and disabled transportation services in Winnebago County.

Proposed 2027 projects requesting 85.21 funds include GO Transit specialized transportation services (\$214,596) and Valley Transit specialized transportation services (\$214,596).

For those persons unable to attend the hearing and wishing to submit comments in advance may do so by mailing their comments to:
Nicole Hecimovich, Adult and Aging Program Supervisor

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

Winnebago County Department of Human Services
P.O. Box 2187
Oshkosh, Wisconsin 54903-2187
877-886-2372
nhecimovich@winnebago-countywi.gov

Runs: October 21, 2026 and October 28, 2026.

WNAXLP
STATE OF WISCONSIN CIRCUIT COURT WINNEBAGO COUNTY Case No. 25 CV 653

In Re the Matter of:
NICOLET NATIONAL BANK, Plaintiff,
vs
SCOTT J. SOPER et al Defendants.

NOTICE OF SHERIFF'S SALE
Pursuant to an Amended Order for Default Judgement, Judgement on the Pleadings and Judgement of Foreclosure in the above-entitled action filed on October 7, 2026, I shall expose for sale and sell the following described property (or so much of it that is sufficient to pay the amount due upon said Judgement, plus interest and costs) at public auction, at the following date, time, and place:
Date: January 19, 2027
Time: 9:00 a.m.
Place: Winnebago County Courthouse Lobby, 415 Jackson Street, Oshkosh, WI 54901

Property: Lot 2 of Certified Survey Map No. 7673 recorded in Volume 1 of Certified Survey Maps on Page 7673 as Document No. 1830007 of the Winnebago County Registry; said Certified Survey Map being all of Lot 1 and Lot 2 of Certified Map 4761, being part of Government Lot 2 of Section 1, Township 18 North, Range 15 East, Town of Omro, Winnebago County, Wisconsin.

Tax Key No. 016-008906

Address: 4515 Sand Pit Road, Oshkosh, Wisconsin 54901

Amount of Judgement: \$743,349.94 plus interest, fees and costs

TERMS OF SALE

Cash or certified check (10% down payment at sale, balance due within 10 days of court approval). Property will be sold "As Is" and subject to real estate taxes. A third-party purchaser is responsible for payment of the Transfer Fee (Purchase Price x .003)

Dated this 15th day of October, 2026.
/s/ John Matz
Sheriff for Winnebago County
OLSON LEGAL GROUP LLC
21 W. New York Avenue
Oshkosh, WI 54901
(920) 230-7020 Phone
(920) 230-7021 Fax

This letter is an attempt to collect a debt and any information obtained will be used for that purpose.

Runs: October 21, 2026, October 28, 2026 and November 4, 2026.

WNAXLP
STATE OF WISCONSIN CIRCUIT COURT WINNEBAGO COUNTY NOTICE TO CREDITORS (INFORMAL ADMINISTRATION)

CASE NO. 26PR270

IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF
Robert A. Wipijewski
PLEASE TAKE NOTICE

- An application for informal administration was filed.
- The decedent, with date of birth May 12, 1971 and date of death July 11, 2026 was domiciled in Winnebago County, State of Wisconsin, with a mailing address of 325 Grant Street, Winneconne, WI 54986.
- All interested persons waived notice.
- The deadline for filing a claim against the decedent's estate is January 19, 2027.
- A claim may be filed at the Winnebago County Courthouse, Oshkosh, Wisconsin, Room 242

DATE SIGNED: October 7, 2026
Electronically signed by Sara Henke, Register in Probate, Probate Registrar
Form completed by: Samantha J. Emro, Esq.
Address
Emro Law, LLC
3501 E. Evergreen Dr., Suite B
Appleton, WI 54913
Telephone (920) 750-5758
Bar Number 1123918

Runs: October 21, 2026, October 28, 2026 and November 4, 2026.

WNAXLP
STATE OF WISCONSIN CIRCUIT COURT WINNEBAGO COUNTY Case No. 25 CV 122 In Re the Matter of:

RIPPLE CREDIT UNION
f/k/a HEALTH CARE CREDIT UNION,
Plaintiff,
vs
EDDIE REIERSON et al
Defendants.

NOTICE OF SHERIFF'S SALE
Pursuant to an Order for Default Judgement, Judgement on the Pleadings and Judgement of Foreclosure in the above-entitled action filed on September 8, 2006, I shall expose for sale and sell the following described property (or so much of it that is sufficient to pay the amount due upon said Judgement, plus interest and costs) at public auction, at the following date, time, and place:
Date: December 15, 2026
Time: 9:00 a.m.
Place: Winnebago County Courthouse Lobby, 415 Jackson Street, Oshkosh, WI 54901

Property: Lot One Hundred Twenty-nine (129) in E.M. CRANE'S ADDITION to Algoma Park Plat, in the Twelfth Ward, City of Oshkosh, Winnebago County, Wisconsin
Tax Key No. 912-1298
Address: 2028 Plymouth Street, Oshkosh, Wisconsin 54901
Amount of Judgement: \$142,596.70 plus interest, fees and costs

TERMS OF SALE
Cash or certified check (10% down payment at sale, balance due within 10 days of court approval). Property will be sold "As Is" and subject to real estate taxes. A third-party purchaser is responsible for payment of the Transfer Fee

(Purchase Price x .003)

Dated this 22nd day of September, 2026.
/s/ John Matz
Sheriff for Winnebago County
OLSON LEGAL GROUP LLC
21 W. New York Avenue
Oshkosh, WI 54901
(920) 230-7020 Phone
(920) 230-7021 Fax

This letter is an attempt to collect a debt and any information obtained will be used for that purpose.

Runs: October 21, 2026, October 28, 2026 and November 4, 2026.

WNAXLP
STATE OF WISCONSIN CIRCUIT COURT WINNEBAGO COUNTY Case No. 2026CV000896

MARK WORTHINGTON BEL-LAMY, and WRS PROPERTY MANAGEMENT LLC, Plaintiffs,
v.
DYLAN A. DIERSEN, and WISCONSIN RENTAL SOLUTIONS LLC, Defendants.

SUMMONS
THE STATE OF WISCONSIN
To each person named above as a Defendant:
You are hereby notified that the Plaintiffs named above have filed a lawsuit or other legal action against you. The complaint states the nature and basis of the legal action.
Within forty (40) days after October 28, 2026, you must respond with a written answer to the complaint as provided in Chapter 802 of the Wisconsin Statutes. The Court may reject or disregard an answer that does not follow the requirements of the statutes.

The answer must be filed with the Winnebago County Circuit Court, whose address is: Clerk of Circuit Court Winnebago County Courthouse 415 Jackson Street Oshkosh, Wisconsin 54901

You must also send or deliver a copy of your answer to the Plaintiffs at the address stated below.
You may have an attorney help or represent you.
If you do not provide a proper answer within the required time, the Court may grant judgment against you for the award of money or other legal action requested in the Complaint, and you may lose your right to object to anything that is or may be incorrect in the Complaint. A judgement may be enforced as provided by law. A judgment awarding money may become a lien against any real estate you own now or in the future and may also be enforced by garnishment or seizure of property.

Dated this 15th day of October, 2026.
/s/ Mark Bellamy
Mark Bellamy, Plaintiff, Pro se
2945 Island View Drive NE
Salem, OR 97303
503-999-9090
mark.classact@gmail.com

Runs: October 28, 2026, November 4, 2026 and November 11, 2026

WNAXLP

The Towers, LLC proposes to construct a 195' self-support tower (199' overall) along

Runs: October 28, 2026

The proposed permanent access structure is to provide a barge access option for construction and maintenance of offshore breakwater structures in the entire Lake Butte des Morts waterbody. The access structure is designed as 15ft out from shore and 55ft long in

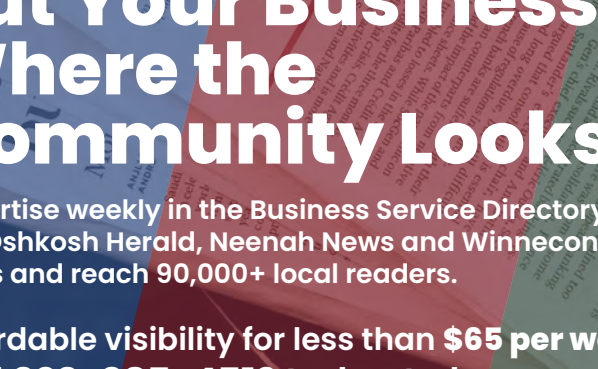
Reasonable accommodation,
including the provision of infor-

If you would like to request a public informational hearing, the request must be submitted or postmarked within 20 days after the date on which the Department first publishes the notice on our Internet website.

Runs October 28, 2026.

WNAXLP

Call 920-385-4512 or email advertise@oshkoshherald.com to include your business and reach over 31,500 households every Wednesday.



Put Your Business Where the Community Looks.

Advertise weekly in the Business Service Directory in the Oshkosh Herald, Neenah News and Winneconne News and reach 90,000+ local readers.

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Kid Scoop

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RENNING
LEWIS & LACY

What scares you?

Halloween PHOBIAS

A phobia (pronounced FO-bee-uh) is an extreme fear of something. Are these things you should really fear, or are they things that just need a little more understanding?

A fear of pumpkins is called **cucurbitophobia!**

A fear of ghosts is called **spectrophobia!**

Follow the maze. The letters along the correct path spell the word for the fear of bats!

GO

Write the letters in these circles.

END

Clowning Around

Clowns are all about silliness and fun, right? **Right?** Well, if clowns freak you out, your fear is known as **coulrophobia**. Set your fears aside and see if you can find the two identical clowns!

Kid Scoop Puzzler

Catoptrophobia is a fear of mirrors. How many differences can you find between this creature and its reflection?

Double Double Word Search

PUMPKINS
HALLOWEEN
CLOWNS
VAMPIRES
CREEPY
GHOSTS
LUCK
BATS
VENOM
CAT
COAT
WEB
FEAR
WORRY
LOT

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

Is the number 13 bad luck?

Some people consider the number 13 to be bad luck. They worry whenever the 13th of the month falls on a Friday. Floor buttons in some elevators skip the number 13, going right from 12 to 14. Use the code at left to discover the name for this phobia.

Web Walkers

They're creepy and crawly. And every one of the 40,000 types of spiders (arachnids) in the world have fangs and venom. But most spider venom won't really harm people. The fear of spiders is called **arachnophobia**.

If you just can't stand spiders, there's really only one continent on Earth that is spider-free. (You'd better bring a heavy coat, though). Circle every third letter to find out the name of this continent.

Unscramble the letters!

Vampires have a lot of phobias! **Alliumphobia** is the fear of:

IRAGLC

How many bats are on this page?



Kid Scoop Together:

Great Big Words

Work with a parent to fill in the missing letters on each line. The circled letters spell the gigantic word that means the fear of gigantic words!

1. Y

2. T K

3. S C

4. A

5. Y

6. L O

7. L

8. O O

9. E

10. O Y

11. L W

12. E

13. I E

14. G A

15. A

16. T

17. H

18. L

19. N

20. M

21. N S T S

22. L

23. U H

24. W P

25. C E

26. G I N

27. W

28. N W

CLUES

1. Opposite of SAD

2. What your brain does

3. Credit cards are made of this

4. Opposite of WORK

5. The color of lemons

6. A heavy musical instrument

7. Opposite of SHORT

8. Main ketchup ingredient

9. You sweep it with a broom

10. Another word for MOTHER

11. Opposite of LEADER

12. Opposite of SOME

13. The sound a snake makes

14. Lives above the beanstalk

15. Short name for automobile

16. You sleep on this

17. Actors in a show

18. Large mammal with a trunk

19. Fragile drinkware

20. Female royalty

21. Use this when it rains

22. You write or draw with this

23. Opposite of DOWN

24. Werewolves, vampires, etc.

25. Moving to the music

26. Largest U.S. state

27. Caused by something funny

28. A lot of this during storms

29. Eight-armed sea animal

30. Short name for telephone

31. Opposite of LOW

32. Where Dracula sleeps

33. Short name for a bicycle

34. Opposite of LOSE

35. Response to a question

ANSWER: Hippopotomonstrosesquippedaliophobia



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What a Treat!

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